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'Satisfy all' content is for showbiz, not for standup, say comedians

Sutapa Dhara

BENGALURU: Indian stand-up comedians struggle as their career takes a hit as they are subjected to the politics of intolerance by the right wing fringe groups. Recently at least more than one show of the stand-up comedians were cancelled at the last minute as the police expressed inability to avert possible untoward incidents that could take place during the show.

Numerous performers have been receiving threats and are forced to postpone their performances. In almost all the cases the script seems to remain the same; somebody from the neighbourhood raises a complaint that the show is hurtful to a group and then the police send out a letter to the owners of the venue where the show is to take place.

"It's worth noting that doing agreeable content as a stand-up comedian is unnecessary. Your main goal as a comedian should be to make the audience laugh and think. When it comes to whether or not to laugh at a bad joke, the audience's conscience should be the deciding factor. As a consequence, the comedians will be motivated to change their material. We should examine if we can take a joke seriously before blaming the artist for doing his job", says stand-up comedian Nisarg Avashia.

'The Crown' divides the circle of unity

Pavana J

On December 4, the residents of the Youth Community at Auroville, Tamil Nadu were subjected to violence by workers who were employed by the administration for the 'Model City' project. An earth-mover was brought to clear the Youth Community Centre at 1 AM without issuing any prior notice or taking the community's consent. The residents were protesting over the ongoing illegal deforestation being carried out for the construction of a ring road named 'Crown Road' in Auroville. The Youth Centre residents were allegedly manhandled by the workers when they tried to stop the operation.

Later, the police arrested the teenagers and other members of the centre. The model for the city was laid out by 'The Mother' Mirra Alfassa in 1965. The sketch of the city depicts all of the key activity areas that would help the city achieve its goal of becoming a universal city. Furthermore, she gave Roger Anger, the French architect she had appointed to oversee the city's physical development, a free hand. He explained in interviews with Auroville Today in 1988 and 1992 about how this plan was introduced. "... The city is still to be invented, everything has still to be done through the daily experience and rhythm of the Au-

rovilians. Apart from these lines of force, everything is flexible, nothing is fixed," he said. Despite this, the current administration is following a "fixed" plan approach that perceives 'The Crown' as a perfect circle, regardless of environmental implications.

The residents do not have a problem with the road being built, however, they have a problem with the means being used to clear the area – the attacks and forceful evacuation of the residents. The Youth Centre was completely demolished when they were told that no existing developments would be destroyed. The residents allege that the secretary of the Auroville Foundation offered the

Youth Community a sum of Rs.10 Lakh to relocate the buildings if the community agreed to cooperate. "The Secretary wants to ensure completion of the project while she is still posted here. She does not care about the well-being of the residents," the residents say. "...Let all sides refrain from bringing in external agencies to resolve Auroville's internal issues," the International Advisory Council of Auroville suggested in a statement. However, the administration failed to adhere to it and involved the police and the residents were even threatened, and they were told not to speak to the media about the incident which

angered the residents. A foreign resident's visa was cancelled for sharing pictures and videos on social media last week. A member of the Resident Assembly said that these decisions were taken without their consent and their proposal to organise an emergency meeting has been disapproved by the Working Committee.

The residents argue that freedom of speech, ecological sensitivity, and Auroville's long-standing practice of autonomous collective decision-making are at risk. They believe that Auroville must be built in a spirit of human unity and that the process is just as important as the outcome.

Medical services affected as negotiations hit a road block, impasse to continue indefinitely

Bincy Joseph

KERALA: The PG doctor's issue in Kozhikode Medical college remains unresolved as yet and consequently, the strike continues even after the meeting with Health Minister Veena George was held on Tuesday. The protesting PG doctors said that the solution to the strike was not discussed and hence the strike would continue. At Tuesday's meeting, the government assured that a high-level meeting involving the minister would be held soon to



Let the treating hands not be tired

Special Arrangement

resolve the issue amicably. The Kerala Government is not offering a solution, said the

protesting doctors. "It is not ready to negotiate a solution. However, the new dates for the

negotiation meeting are yet to be announced," said a doctor. Dr. Akhil, Convenor, KMPGA speaking to The Beacon said, "Since the house surgeons are back on duty, and the junior interim resident doctors have also arrived, the service at the medical college is not impeded. The strike is continuing by extending office hours and by postponing the non-emergency services. Knowing that strike is going on, patient inflow to the medical college has come down considerably."

Community policing needed to protect law and order says Inspector

Sathyanarayan KP

Mythri C.
BENGALURU: Community policing could go a long way in streamlining crime in the country, opined Police Inspector Sathyanarayan KP of Yelahanka Station. He was speaking at a webinar organised by the Baduku Balaga on Sunday, where he elaborated on the role of police, as well as citizens in protecting the law and order. He discussed the citizen's duty to abide by the laws as well.

Sathyanarayan KP is renowned for his investigation that was carried out during the Bengaluru bomb blasts. "Crime prevention and crime investigation are the most crucial duties of the police. A society cannot be peaceful without both the law and order. Law and order are parallel lines," he said. He opined that without the cooperation of the citizens it is difficult to protect law and order of the state. "Citizens should keenly observe the system and come forward either to complain or to compliment the system," he said. He stressed on the need for community policing which requires mutual trust and cooperation. "Citizens should become more responsible and start cooperating with the police to protect law and order," he added.

World Chess Championship Review with Grandmaster S L Narayanan

Saishyam Srikanth

In an interview with The Beacon, India's No.5, SL Narayanan shared his experience about the recent World Chess Championship match in which Magnus Carlsen defeated Ian Nepomniachtchi (Nepo).

The Indian Grandmaster stated that the match was pretty equal till the fifth game but then in the sixth game, Nepo tried to be over-ambitious when he sacrificed two rooks for a queen. Narayanan felt that the Russian should have played according to the demands of the position, drawn the game and should've attacked in the future games with white pieces. He felt that the loss really shook Nepo and revealed



The handshake which confirmed the title

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to Carlsen where his chances lay. Speaking about Nepo's collapse after Game 6, "Previously also Nepo had similar issues which were pointed out by many. He has a tendency to give up easily if he loses a game. Magnus on the other hand is super resilient." Narayanan added that the blunders that Nepomniachtchi made

were because of the pressure of the occasion and that of the world's eyes being on him. He said that Carlsen has shown his dominance by winning his fifth world title and through the course of the match, the champion showed extreme resilience, stamina and took over when he was given the chance.

Street-side carollers share the meaning of Christmas

Pushparaj C

BENGALURU: The Rescue Mission Ministries Trust is carolling on the Kammanahalli main road until December 21. It kicked off on December 1. Carollers are distributing breakfast and tea outside the St Charles School as they spread Christmas cheer. Sagar, a 26-year-old who is part of the trust, said that they aim to connect with people through carolling. "By singing in the streets, we share the love of God. With a cup of tea, we strike a conversation with people to introduce them to the love of God that can bring

them from the darkness to the light. I share my story as well, how the power of love set me free from my addictions," he explained. Shivanand, who has been doing this for the past 7 years said, "We pray and engage in social activities as we see so many addicts and alcoholics in Kammanahalli who need deliverance. We are often accused of forcing conversion but we hope for transformation in the hearts of people. I was a sinner, but my life changed because of Jesus Christ. I want to give that Jesus to others, to help them overcome their struggles and temptations."