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Health experts urge K'taka to step up the vigil

Arushi Srivatsav

Bengaluru:

Even though the cases in Delhi and Haryana have doubled in the last two days, the Southern states including Karnataka have not recorded a spate in the daily number of cases. Although as of April 19, Karnataka recorded 57 new positive cases and zero fatalities, health experts are raising their concern.

Captain Dr Gayatri M from Command Hospital expressed her concerns about the new wave. "People will have to follow the standard procedure of taking personal protection against the spread of the virus. It is mandatory to wear a mask, use sanitisers often, and avoid going to crowded places." Sharda, a medical professional who works at Kaveri Hospital said, "It is evident that people are not taking the precautionary measures seriously nowadays and many have not availed of the booster dose. So, it has to be taken seriously otherwise due to the mutation of the virus, the situation will get out of our control." Health Minister K Sudhakar said the government has been taking precautionary measures and intends to ease fears amongst the public as Karnataka has not seen the spike in cases.

Delhi version of Bulldozer Baba adds fuel to the fire

Niharika Bajaj,
Mukesh N

The tension in the national capital owing to the communal violence that broke out in Delhi's Jhangirpuri on Hanuman Jayanti last Saturday has only been exacerbated by an "anti-encroachment" drive by the North Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) on Wednesday. The bulldozing drive continued with razing down of shops and thereby the livelihoods of many and this despite the Supreme Court's order to maintain the status quo.

Apart from the shops, North West Delhi's Jama Masjid's gate and the boundary walls were destroyed during the drive. The administration is criticised for being selective in the target. The



Bulldozer demolishing the shop at Jahangirpuri, New Delhi

Beacon spoke to Shivangi Saxena, a journalist, who is covering the on-ground tension, for the Newslandry. "The issue started when the rally led by the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) and Bajrang Dal reached near the Jama Masjid, as Muslims were about to start their Ramzan prayers at 6 pm. The heated argu-

ment started between the two communities followed by stone-pelting which came from the side of procession," she said. While Hindus defended themselves by saying the violence was started by Muslims, the other narrative is that people in the rally were trying to instal the saffron flags in the mosque.

The Indian Express

The bulldozing drive on the 20th morning started without a warning, leaving people puzzled. Shivangi added, "These shops have existed for the past 30 years and some of them even have a valid Delhi Development Authority (DDA) permit, that I have seen myself." As the people's movement has been restricted

as a pre-emptive measure, they are unable to fend for their basic necessities including portable water. However, officials argue that the drive commenced at 10 am and did not pause immediately as Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) did not produce a copy of the apex court's order. Around 12 noon, Communist Party of India (CPI) leader Brinda Karat arrived here with a copy of the Supreme Court order and was seen stopping a bulldozer. The verdict on the petition submitted by Jamiat Ulama I Hind against the demolition drive was heard on Thursday and the Supreme Court ordered a status quo, said Digant Mishra, an advocate at the apex court to The Beacon.

Clamour to keep Russia out from sporting events grows

In the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, International Sports Federations (IFs) have been following the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) appeal to keep Russian athletes out of sports events. Russian athletes have been banned from competing in various sports events such as international ice skating, skiing, basketball, and many more; freezing them out of the sports world. Should the players feel the brunt of the actions of

their government? Russia has been barred from World Cup qualifiers in soccer, its basketball team has been cut from international play, and Formula 1 has ended its ties with the Russian Grand Prix. World Rugby suspended Russia and Belarus from all international rugby events and suspended the Rugby Union of Russia from World Rugby membership. Russian and Belarusian players have also been banned from The

Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) grass court tournaments. Tennis players like Daniil Medvedev, Andrey Rublev, and Aryna Sabalenka have been ruled out from featuring in the Grand Slam. It seems like the sports community is outraged by the repeated breach of human rights by the President of Russia, Vladimir Putin, and cannot stand to see the violation of fundamental values of sports and fair play. Some people might argue that banning Russian ath-

letes is in contradistinction with the principles of a free society, but aren't these athletes the representatives of the nation they come from? Aren't they representing Putin's 'Special Operation', whether they support it or not? Even though athletes are individuals, they are seen and showcased as representative symbols of a nation. The least these athletes could do is to refrain from blatantly supporting the barbaric acts like war. Moksha Garg

Business Fest, Regalia held successfully

Siddhant Garud

SJC Campus:

Regalia, an Intra-Collegiate Business Fest kicked off at St. Joseph's College, Autonomous on Wednesday, with much enthusiasm and excitement among the students and the organisers. Outside vendors were invited to set up stalls to sell various accessories, and students were able to witness and participate in numerous events during the fest. There were clothing stalls and accessories stalls set up near Magis Block.

Abu, who set up a stall of keychains and decorative items, said, "On the first day the sales were really good, and we sold a lot of products with superhero themes. But, on the second day because of the sports meet the sales did not go smoothly." Harish, a student, said, "I really enjoyed all the stalls set up for two days, and I got to buy some stuff that I had an eye on."

Why all eyes on Cricket?

Sutapa Dhara

For long cricket occupies the centre stage overshadowing the other sports in India. But as the world's second-most populous country we have the ability to excel in any sport, not only cricket.

The popularity of cricket has stunted the growth and popularity of other sports, resulting in a lack of infrastructure opine the people from other

sports. Rishi Hazara, A national-level badminton player told the Beacon, "Hockey, badminton, tennis, chess, boxing, athletics, wrestling, and other sports have all benefited from Indian talent. True, the cricket craze is unrivalled, but that is due to a combination of personal desire and the well-developed infrastructure provided to them. As a result, it is a rewarding

career choice. Cricket is attracting a lot of young people because of the money and celebrity value it may provide". It is worth noting that we did make headway recently in many other areas. R Praggnanandhaa, won the renowned Reykjavik Open Chess Tournament in February. Amlam Borgohain, an Assamese sprinter, set a national record in the men's 200m.

Tough times affect Netflix

Bincy Joseph

Netflix has lost 2 lakh customers for the first time in a decade, during the first three months of the year due to shifting economic conditions, rising competition from other streaming platforms, and the situation in Ukraine. The company's warning that it expects to lose two million customers in the second quarter, set the stock prices down by more than 25 % in after-hours trade

on Wednesday.

Arjun Sundaresan, a YouTuber who collaborates with Netflix said "Compared to various emerging streaming platforms, Netflix today lacks 'must watch' content. Nowadays customers switch to hit shows and don't stick to a platform. There is always a pressure for streaming platforms to maintain well-liked, well-timed programs to constantly attract customers."