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Kerala HC hears NGOs' plea on Med textbooks

Anna Mariam I

BENGALURU: The Kerala High Court on Wednesday directed the Medical Education Board, New Delhi, to consider the plea for removing alleged homophobic and queerphobic content in medical textbooks. The petition was filed by NGOs - Queerhythm and Dhisha.

The court, in its order, directed the Board to obtain remarks and views of the Kerala University of Health Sciences, Thrissur on the representations made by the NGOs. The final decision must be taken within eight weeks of receiving the instant order. The NGOs pointed out several 'discriminatory' remarks and 'inhuman' references made in the textbooks regarding the (LGBTQ+) community. "Although the court has given rights to the LGBTQ+ community, there hasn't been any improvement on how others behave towards them, and acceptance is difficult even today. This step to remove all the homophobic content from the textbooks is great in my opinion," said Anjali Gupta, a 3rd-year medical student from Bidar Institute of Medical Sciences.

Students fear revealing their gender and sexual identity.

BJP undermines Regional languages: Siddaramaiah

Sudarshani

Former Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah slammed the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders for transferring cameramen from regional Doordarshan Kendras to Hindi Doordarshan Kendras. Karnataka's opposition leader alleged that these transfers were an attempt by the ruling party to promote the Hindi language and undermine other regional languages.

Siddaramaiah on Twitter said, "It has come to our notice that many cameramen are being transferred to Hindi Doordarshan kendras from Karnataka & other regional kendras. Regional kendras are being forced to operate with very less than adequate



Former karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah .

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staff."

He explained that regional Doordarshan channels are heavily dependent on cameramen to cover regional events and programmes and

transferring them to Delhi will scale down regional content.

"Regional Doordarshan channels are dependent on camera crew for the content to cover

regional issues & programs. Transferring camera crew to Delhi will lead to reduced programs in regional languages including Kannada," he tweeted.

Siddaramaiah in a series of tweets urged the Union Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Anurag Thakur to annul the transfer of regional cameramen.

He wrote on Twitter, "These transfers by @MIB_India at the behest of @BJP4India leaders are an attempt to promote Hindi & undermine all other languages. I urge @ianuragthakur to immediately withdraw the transfer & strengthen regional Kendras for the promotion of regional languages & content."

DD Chandana was launched in Karnataka in 1994. There are two studios in the state, one is located at Bengaluru and the other one in Kalaburgi.

iD consumers defend brand's reput

Anjali Ram

Several messages were posted on Twitter, alleging that iD Fresh Food products use cow bone in their products to increase the volume.

According to iD Fresh Food, some consumers have received WhatsApp forwards and Twitter messages carrying misleading information about iD Fresh Food using animal extracts in its products. "We would like to specify that iD uses only vegetarian ingredients to



iD Fresh Food

Twitter

make its products. iD Idly Dosa Batter is made from rice, urad dal, fenugreek, and RO water only, which are 100% natural and vegetarian agri-commodities. There are no animal extracts used in any of our products," said iD

Fresh Food on Monday.

The Senior Editor of ET NOW Business News channel, Chandhra R Srikanth tweeted that she visited the factory and people should not believe 'crazy forwards on WhatsApp'.

Cricket Australia Threatens To Scrap Afghanistan Test

Alwin Benjamin Soji

DELHI: Cricket Australia on Thursday said that it would have "No alternative" but to cancel hosting the historic Test match against Afghanistan unless the Taliban allows women to participate in sports.

This has led to various questions on the rights of women in Afghanistan. Talking to The Beacon, Razma Dostyaar, a resident of Kabul said, "After the Taliban took control, our rights have been compromised. It's a scary situation for us. The male members buy all the household things from outside. I recently found out that women won't be allowed to participate in sports and I feel it's going to be a tough situation for all women including me."

Cricket Australia on Thursday said that cricket is a sport for all and it supports the game unequivocally for women at every level. If women's cricket will not be supported in Afghanistan, then it would have no alternative but to not host Afghanistan for the proposed Test match.

Siddharth Chaturvedi, an ardent cricket fan said, "I believe in equality and cricket is for all. It does not matter if you are a man or a woman. Cricket is a game that lets one express themselves. But the Taliban is restricting women from participating in sports which is unacceptable." He further added, "Australia made the right decision today. Threatening to cancel the Test match against Afghanistan, is definitely the way to go."

Bengaluru reacts to Chaturthi protocols

Megha Bhattacharjee

BENGALURU: Every year, Bengaluru witnesses grand Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations. This year, The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner, Gaurav Gupta said in a circular, "Ganesha festival will not be allowed for more than three days in Bengaluru city. There should not be any procession while bringing the idol or during immersion."

Varsha Kashyap, a homemaker who is having a small celebration at home this year, told The Beacon,



Ganesh Chaturthi celebratio

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"Although I cannot celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi with grandeur this year, I feel the

government has made a good decision." Many citizens were not too

happy about the decision. "I feel that the BBMP's decision on celebrating the festival only for three days in public places like last year, against Karnataka government's decision of allowing it for five days was unnecessary, especially with Bengaluru's Covid positivity rate being less than 2%," said another citizen to The Beacon.

The government has prohibited all cultural events and processions, including bringing the idols to the pooja pandals. Many citizens celebrate Ganesh Chaturthi at home this year as well.



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