

THE BEACON

PRACTICE NEWS BULLETIN OF THE PG STUDENTS OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION

Friday, 03 February 2023 / St. Joseph's University / Vol: 15 Issue: 54 / www.sjcdeptcomm.wordpress.com

Arab spring wasn't a failure: Fabian

Kaustub B

Bengaluru: I wouldn't say the Arab Spring was a failure, said K P Fabian, the author of the book 'The Arab Spring That Was and Wasn't'. Kalarickal Pranchu Fabian is an Indian diplomat who served in the Indian foreign service and was an ambassador of India. He was speaking at an event at the Bangalore International Centre on Wednesday.

Fabian claimed that the Arab spring was not a failure even though the situation in those countries which had regime change is quite bad right now. He added that it was too quick to write off the Arab spring. He compared it to the French Revolution and pointed out that even though the French Revolution did not immediately succeed as Napoleon came to power, it did succeed in spreading its ideas.

When asked why he wrote the book, Fabian explained, "I wrote the book because it is dedicated to the hundreds of thousands of human beings, some of whom found a watery grave while trying to escape in the Mediterranean, so many millions displaced out of their lives."

Fabian also rebuked the idea that Islam and democracy can't exist together. He pointed out that countries like Malaysia and Indonesia are Islamic countries which are democracies.

The discussion also included journalist Neena Gupta and Latha Reddy, Co-Chair, of the Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace

'Saptarishi' to woo K'taka ahead of elections

Abhirami Nair & Kavya S

With the Karnataka election around the corner, the state has got bountiful in the Union Budget 2023 tabled on Wednesday. The state has been allocated Rs 5,300 crore. The funds are allocated for the drought-prone regions, and to establish new nursing colleges in co-location with medical colleges. Health facilities of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) labs can now be availed by public and private medical establishments for research.

On Wednesday, the Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, unveiled the Union Budget for 2023-24. This year's budget will be the last full budget of the Modi government before the general elections in 2024.

"The first budget of Amrit Kaal is futuristic, growth-oriented and has laid a strong foundation for India at 100 in 2047," tweeted K Sudhakar, Health Minister of the state. "I



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman

Business Today

thank PM Modi and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for central assistance of Rs 5,300 crore for the Upper Bhadra Project. This will immensely benefit the people of Chikkamagaluru, Chitradurga, Tumkur and Davangere districts by providing irrigation facilities to farmers and recharging the groundwater table to provide drinking water in

drought-prone taluks of these districts," he added.

The healthcare sector has gained a major boost as the budget paved the way for 157 medical colleges to be built in conjunction with already existing medical colleges. The budget has also put forth the idea of collaboration between the private-public sectors that could lead India to become a major medical

and pharmaceutical hub in the world. "It is a good idea as many of our government laboratories have a lot of infrastructure which may not be available at medical colleges or smaller research institutions," said Dr Soumya Swaminathan, former WHO chief scientist and ex-Director-General of ICMR.

The education sector has been allocated Rs 1,12,000

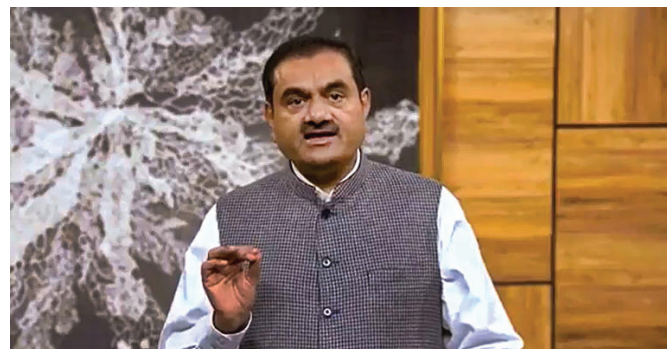
crore this year which is higher when compared to last year but the percentage allocated is less than in the previous budget. "In Karnataka alone, 37 lakh students do not enter higher education," said Ajay Kamath, state secretary, of the All India Democratic Students Organisation (AIDSO). Even when the number of students who are not in higher education is high across the country, no steps such as reducing fees or restricting commercialisation are taken to increase the enrollment of students. No specific allocation is made towards strengthening public education, he added.

The Union Budget focuses on the seven key areas named 'Saptharishi' which include inclusive development, reaching the last mile, infrastructure and investment, unleashing the potential, green growth, youth power and the finance sector.

Adani Group's FPO sold out amidst stocks crash

Joyce Rodrigues

The Adani Group on Tuesday managed to gain a 100% subscription on their FPO (Follow on Public Offer) of Rs 20,000 crore despite the fall in their stock prices following the release of the Hindenburg research report. Hindenburg Research released a report on January 24 accusing the Adani Group of allegations of brazen accounting fraud, stock manipulation and money laundering which resulted in the fall of their stocks. The report also alleged that the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is protecting the perpetrators rather than punishing them. In response to this, on January



Gautam Adani

MSN

25, the Adani group released a press statement stating that the Hindenburg report is a gimmick to mislead their investors from investing in their FPO and termed the allegations baseless. Adani group had come up with the Rs. 20,000 crore FPO offer which was

to be utilized in debt repayment and capital expenditure. Speaking to The Beacon, M.K Singh, a sales executive at Sharekhan said, "Investors still have belief in the Adani Group, as their FPO gains 100% subscriptions on the last day.

Entities such as LIC and SBI, although lost some money, will not be impacted much since their portfolio is good. Adani's business is well diversified and this will have a positive implication on their stocks in future. Falling of Adani stocks will not impact the markets much." The report had a huge impact on the Adani Group's stocks. According to Reuters, Adani Groups shares fell to 86 billion dollars. His ranking on Forbes as the world's richest person also slipped down to the 15th position with an estimated net worth of \$75.1 billion. As Adani's stocks were falling, the Indian markets crashed.

Struggle to end contractualisation

Aasline Dsouza

Bengaluru: The AICCTU-affiliated BBMP Pourakarmikara Sangha held a press conference on Wednesday to demand the immediate withdrawal of a recent notification that seeks to put in place the direct payment system for drivers, helpers, loaders, and cleaners employed in solid waste management. The union also demanded they be given permanent employment. In addition, Pourakarmikas are demanding basic amenities, security, and proper-timely wages.

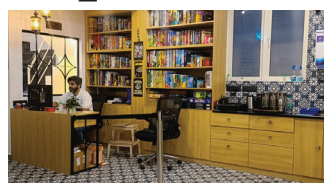
The release stated that despite the chief minister's assurance that all pourakarmikas would be brought under the direct payment system and made permanent in July of last year, the Bangalore Solid Waste Management Ltd, established under the BBMP, had invited tenders for solid waste management on January 21. As a result, pourakarmikas who sweep streets are now covered by the BBMP's direct payment system, but drivers, helpers, loaders, and cleaners are still employed on a contract basis. The release said that the workers in the BBMP Solid Waste Department had been subjected to great injustice and harassment by the officials and contractors and demanded that the system should be abolished.

A journey from passion to success

Anjela Patrick & Chandana

Bengaluru: The 'Now Boarding Cafe' combines eating and board games to create a one-of-a-kind experience for all of its visitors. The cafe has 225+ board games, catering to all sorts of interests and age groups.

The pocket-friendly cafe offers a bunch of dishes and crowd favourites like paneer popcorn and mushroom bomb. Customers receive game recommendations and are accompanied by a game master who explains the rules of the game in more



Now Boarding Cafe Chandana

detail at no extra charge. The cafe was founded by Avikant Bharadwaj, his wife Sweekruthi Kaveripatnam, and Sai Prashanth Kaveripatnam. To pass the time during the pandemic, the couple started playing board games together. The trio then started a board game cafe within 11 months – all while balancing full-

time jobs. "There's a saying, make your passion your profession and you won't regret a single day in your life," Bharadwaj said. While expressing his relationship with the staff, Bharadwaj said to The Beacon, "Our approach to staff is very different. Every single day we check with our staff to see if they're doing well with their families. It's not just a job for them but we are a family. Each member of our staff is equally invested in our success. At our cafe, there is no hierarchy or categorisation."

Naarishakthi at Freedom Park

Meghana S

Bengaluru: Demanding education, employment and security for women, the All India Mahila Samskrutik Sanghatan (AIMSS) held a protest on Wednesday at Freedom Park with women participating from more than 20 districts of the state.

"Women from different strata including peasants, domestic workers, the BBMP workers and students were present in the protest. Women protested in their respective districts and participated in the state-level protest," said a press release of the organisation.

The protestors demanded: Measures to ensure the safety of women, steps to eradicate malnutrition, facilities in the government hospitals, curbing the price rise of essential commodities, increasing the number of fast-track courts, exemplary punishment to culprits, ending the privatisation of electricity and Jal Jeevan mission which encourages the sale of water.

Senior social activist SR Hiremath was the chief guest. AIMSS All India vice president Dr Sudha Kamath, and Karnataka president Aparna B R were also present.