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Dissecting the essence of Bhagavad Gita

Ashish Bhandarkar

BENGALURU: Bhagavad Gita is a religious text, hence a massive chunk of the Indian population perceives it as a guide to life and wants it to be inculcated in the curriculum for children. This sentiment is against the secular structure of our constitution as it imposes a particular religion in a demographically diverse country like ours, said Dr B R Manjunath, an author, activist and freelance journalist.

'A Glimpse into the Bhagavadgeeta' is a book by Dr G Ramakrishna, a key figure in the progressive movement in Karnataka, an academician and thinker. The book is translated into English by Dr Manjunath and is being published by Navakarnataka Publications. The book launch is set to be held in Dr H N Multimedia Hall on Sunday, March 12 at 4:30 pm, in the presence of renowned musician and scholar T M Krishna.

"Bhagavad Gita is unlikely to be part of the original Mahabharata, most probably it was added in the third century CE to combat the rising popularity of Buddhism. I admire it for its poetic excellence and the morality it preaches, but the notion of it being a philosophy is erroneous," opined Manjunath.

Talking about the author, Manjunath said, "Dr Ramakrishna is known for deciphering the religious texts with a rationalistic bent of mind; demystifying the opinions which are prevalent in the society and that's a commendable prowess he possesses."

Static electricity in Electronic City!

Ashish & Jesbin Sam Mathew

Static electricity is the flow of charged particles from one entity to the other because of the imbalance in positive and negative charges, said Dr Anoop P D, assistant professor at Catholicate College, Pathanamthitta.

Bengaluru's weather is considered to be one of the best in the country, but this year's winter has infused static electricity throughout the city.

Talking to The Beacon, Anoop said, "Moisture assists in conducting electric charges. Hence, the lack of moisture in the air creates a perfect

Seven booked for violence in Tamil Nadu

Jenett Jose & Jesbin Sam

An altercation between Dalits and caste Hindus led to a riot during the Masi Magam celebration in Tamil Nadu, which resulted in the arrest of seven people. The incident is said to have happened after a video that captured a Dalit boy beaten up went viral.

Masi Magam is a major festival in Tamil Nadu. The festival takes place in the Tamil month of Masi, which spans February and March. The celebration is held on that day in the Masi month when the full moon aligns with the Magha Nakshatra (star).

The celebration turned violent between the Dalits and the caste Hindus during the Theerthavari ceremony on Monday, and eight



Representational Image

The Business Post

people were injured.

The incident occurred when the Melamanakudi village residents were on a procession. A member from the Dalit community played an allegedly provocative song from the Tamil film, Karnan, leading

to a verbal conflict between the two communities which quickly escalated into a riot.

While taking the injured to the hospital, a 17-year-old Dalit boy attacked a caste-Hindu boy, leading to another clash between the two

communities. "People got really angry when the 17-year-old boy rushed to the ambulance to treat himself after injuring the caste-Hindu boy," said a reporter at The New Indian Express, who wished to stay anonymous. The source also said that

these two groups are always in conflict in North Tamil Nadu where they are huge in population.

Bhuvanagiri police took immediate action and filed a case against people from the Dalit community and the caste-Hindu community. "Twenty-one people are booked under different IPC sections for involvement in the violence, and seven were arrested," said Karthik, a special branch officer, Bhuvanagiri.

The clash during the Masi Magam festival highlights the deep-seated tension that still exists between the two communities in many parts of India. It is unfortunate that a festival, which is supposed to bring people together, became a flashpoint for conflict.

BJP MP lashes out at woman on Women's Day

Megha Mukundan

Karnataka BJP MP S Muniswamy's derogatory comment on a woman without a bindi on the forehead has kicked up a controversy. The MP was caught on camera, lashing out at the woman, and the video went viral on social media instantly. Incidentally, it happened on the occasion of the Women's Day celebration in Kolar.

Muniswamy, along with other party members, could be seen visiting the stalls at the celebration area. He stops at a stall where the woman was sell-



BJP MP S Muniswamy

Twitter

ing clothes and questions her, "Who allowed you to put up this stall? Where is your bindi? Your husband is still alive, right?"

The video irked social media users immediately

and many dubbed his behaviour as a reflection of the BJP's policies against women. Speaking to The Beacon, Karnataka Congress spokesperson Dhruv Jatti said such things are

practised in the Bharatiya Janata Party and are also endorsed by their Members of Parliament.

"BJP is home to the world's most corrupt, the world's most number of politicians who have cases of sexual assaults, and the world's most uncultured politicians," he said. He also added that the incident should be a reminder to the public in the wake of impending elections in order to save the culture of India. "It is high time that we vote the Bharatiya Janata Party out of power," he stated.

Cubbon Park's most loved attraction is back

Priyanka Gond & Ashish Bhandarkar

BENGALURU: The BBMP High School girls were excited after experiencing the first test ride of the toy train 'Putani Express' on Thursday. The South Western Railways has finally announced the Puttani Express' comeback after a hiatus of three years, as it was closed down in 2019 due to construction work in the park.

On Thursday, 8 March, the government resumed the operations of Putani Express' Cubbon Park. After a few trial rounds, the train is set to continue its commercial rides on its new 900-metre track on March 15. The train consists of five air carriages and a colourful engine. The reconstruction project was done under the Smart City project, with IAS officer K Srinivas as the managing director.

The coming weekend, March 11 and 12, a "happy street" will be organised wherein the zip line, rock climbing, boating, toy train, play area and other activities will be provided free of cost for women visitors, said Srinivas.

Reclaiming the lost legacy

Aileen Raju

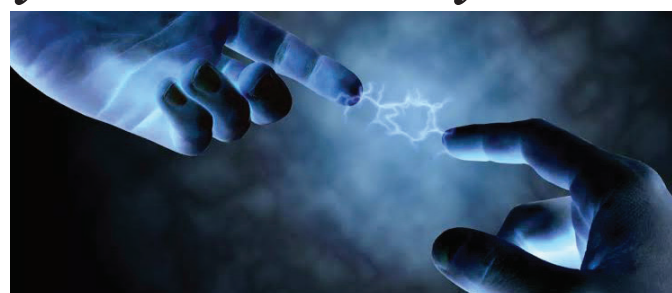
'Do Maargi' highlights the cultural traditions and skills of the local craftspeople, each of whose works are the result of a unique connection with the artist, said Binaifer, one of the owners of the startup.

Do Maargi, which translates to 'two travellers', was created out of love for Indian ethnic crafts. It was started by two friends, Binaifer and Divya, who share a passion for India's indigenous arts and creativity. During their travels, they discovered a variety of handmade works and made connections to

further enhance their business.

"We source materials from a wide range of places, including kala cotton from Gujarat which we often purchase directly during our travels or through other dealers," says Binaifer.

They provide a broad variety of handcrafted items ranging from Khach hand block printing to hand embroidery, the majority of which are done by their artists. They also offer Lambani embroidery in which they design the product in collaboration with many skilled artisans.



Representational Image

Times Now

environment for the buildup of static electricity on objects, people or surfaces. Anti-static blowers are the most versatile equipment to control or remove static electricity."

A tweet from a user named Aakanksha Gaur is going viral after she asked Bengalureans if they have

been experiencing static shocks from touching metal surfaces, inspiring an overwhelming response on the platform. Many who have been experiencing it for a while have said that they ignored it thinking it to be caused by small cuts on their hands.