

# THE BEACON

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## 'Children won't be affected by the third wave'

Varsha Benedict

**BENGALURU:** The lifting of lockdown and subsequent relaxation of restrictions in many states comes at a time when the fear of the third wave is looming large, but health experts offer optimistic forecasts.

In the opinion of Dr. Jagat Ram, Director at Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education, the third wave can be delayed if people continue to adhere to certain safety rules, such as wearing masks, sanitizing, avoiding social gatherings, getting vaccinated, and so on. However, surveys and studies indicate that the 3rd wave of COVID-19 won't have a particularly detrimental effect on children.

71 percent of children surveyed by PGIMER, Chandigarh had antibodies developed against COVID-19. This shows that their effect on the third wave will be minimal. During a pediatric study of Covaxin, associate professor Dr. Pradeep N tested Immunoglobulin G (IgG) antibodies on more than 200 children. "Only 88 were eligible for vaccination, as the rest had antibodies," he said. "We know that there is no vaccine available for children. The antibodies have developed due to COVID-19 infection," he added.

## 'Govt. curbing scientific outlook': AISEC

Suhas S Kashyap

**BENGALURU:**

The government of Karnataka has suggested omitting the chapter "Birth of new Religions", from the Social Science textbook of Class 6. In a memo issued by the Government of Karnataka, a committee formed to review such content suggested that the lesson, which summarizes the birth of new religions be removed from the textbook. All India Save Education Committee (AISEC) and various student organizations condemned the move by the government and alleged that they are trying to twist the truth.

V N Raja Shekar, member of Karnataka State Secretariat



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of AISEC alleged that, "The government is trying to remove parts of the textbook that are merely the truth. They are trying to twist the truth to appease communal ideas and are encouraging

blind faith among students. The government is trying to smash the scientific outlook of the students."

He further added that, "History should remain as it is- unbiased. Truth should not

be tinted and it should be taught as it is. Doing so may affect the unity and harmony of the country."

The government of Karnataka said in the memo that chapter seven of the

textbooks of class six contains an essay on "Birth of New Religions" which was suggested to be removed from the academic year 2020-21.

The government claims that the topic is harder to understand for class six students. The mentioned changes are expected to be made in the textbooks across all mediums. The memo also mentioned that the topic should not be considered for teaching or for exams.

It was also informed that the committee should review all textbooks from classes 1-10 of the Department of Public Education and report any content that could affect the sentiments of any community.

## UP CM's Abba Jaan remark upsets public

Vandana Nampoothiri

**BENGALURU:** Netizens, opposition leaders, and journalists were enraged by Uttar Pradesh chief minister Yogi Adityanath's remark on Monday, September 13, in which he referred to the Muslim community as "Abba Jaan" while addressing a public gathering at Kushinagar district.

The remark was made while criticizing the Samajwadi Party's ration distribution scheme, which according to Adityanath was religion-

based.

This is the second time Adityanath has used "abba jaan". Lok Sabha MP Mahua Moitra took to Twitter to express her disappointment. "An elected CM in India guilty of overtly communal incitement, flagrant violation of Section 153 A of IPC. Suo Moto Cognizance anyone? Supreme Court?"

Srishti, an independent journalist, stated that Adityanath's claim that only people saying 'Abba Jaan' was "digesting the ration" is false, saying he "lied from



Representational image

Instagram/myogi\_adityanath

the stage."

Netizens reacted on Twitter by posting pictures with their fathers and the #AbbaJaan. "He can play like a kid, give advice like a friend, and protect like a bodyguard.

Statement of #YogiAdityanath is a communal statement against a particular community. He must apologize for his communal statement," tweeted user Abu Sayed.

## Practitioners share dismay on Engineers' Day

Pranav Shriram

**BENGALURU:** On the occasion of Visvesvaraya's birth anniversary on Wednesday, multiple engineers expressed their opinions on the current scenario of the profession. For IIT (BHU) alumnus Kashyap Iyer, engineering has evolved into an umbrella term. "The market reality that reflects the Indian and global economy is that most of the opportunities lie in the software and IT space," he said.

Priya Khandelwal, a newly graduated software engineer, opined that "engineers are slowly losing their value."

Aditya Nair, a mechanical engineer, commented on those working in the IT field. "Most engineers actually opted for IT companies for the time being," he said. He attributes the drop of job availability of non-CS students to the pandemic.

As a part of reforms, Iyer suggested supporting R&D more. "Taking a cue from China, I would encourage authorities to increase funding and provide other incentives to promote more R&D and manufacturing innovation," he said.

## New iPhone rake mixed reactions

Abhimanyu Sharma

**BENGALURU:**

The recent Apple iPhone launch event has people buzzing yet again. Apple announced four new iPhone models with similar features and prices starting from Rs.69,900 on Wednesday, September 15. Fans immediately took to social media and other platforms in expressing their opinions about the new launch.

Ashad Hussain, a businessman from Kota, Rajasthan owns an iPhone 12, he said, "It's literally the same thing, I'm a huge fan of Apple phones and I'll buy it



New iPhone 13 models

twitter.com/Gadgets360

for sure just for the camera." Milind Singh, a local gadget reviewer, said, "Apple's events these days are more about innovation rather than invention. Every year they try and enhance a feature in

their product and this year they have done it again."

On Twitter, netizens have not been holding back with their punches. There has been a barrage of memes all over Twitter around the event.

## Lasith Malinga retires from all formats of cricket

Shahul Hameed

**BENGALURU:** Sri Lankan pace bowler Lasith Malinga announced his retirement from all formats of the game on Tuesday. "Hanging up my #T20 shoes and retiring from all forms of cricket," he tweeted. Cricket fraternity and fans flourished with their wishes and comments.

Malinga is the only bowler to pick up three hat-tricks in One Day Internationals. Indian Batsmen like Rohit Sharma, Ravichandran Ashwin, and more, and the bowler's Sri Lankan

teammates Kumar Sangakara, Mahela Jayawardena wished him luck and congratulations.

Malinga also posted a YouTube video along with his tweet which had the clip of his famous four consecutive wickets against New Zealand in a T20I match and a Thank-You note to all the teams he had been part of. He has played for Sri Lanka, Mumbai Indians, Melbourne Stars, Kent County Cricket Club in his 16-year career. He still holds the record for the most number wickets in IPL.