

Vice Chancellor for just 22 days!

By Roushan Ara

The University of Mysore saw the appointment of its fourth Acting Vice-Chancellor in the last nearly 16 months. Prof. Ningamma Betsur took charge as the new Acting Vice Chancellor, this morning at Crawford Hall.

She succeeds acting Vice-Chancellor Prof. C. Basavaraju. She is the Dean of Education Faculty and by virtue of her seniority, she will be in the office for just 22 days as her Deanship ends on May 25.



Prof. Ningamma Betsur

In their haste to appoint the Vice-Chancellor, there was some confusion when the order from the Governor's office came last evening appointing her as the VC. Instead of mentioning that she is the Dean of Education, it was mentioned as Dean of Science and Technology. The University authorities

sent back the order asking for clarification.

The corrected order was sent this morning mentioning Ningamma Betsur, Dean of Education is appointed as Acting Vice-Chancellor of University of Mysore. The moment the order came, she came and took charge.

She has been appointed overlooking the seniority of Science and Faculty Dean Prof. T.K. Umesh though she is not even a Professor but an Associate Professor. It is learnt that only full-time Professors with ten years of teaching experience

are eligible to be the Deans and by virtue of their seniority they will occupy the post of Vice Chancellor when the permanent VC has not been appointed.

The University authorities had written to the Governor explaining to him about the position, clearly stating

that an Associate Professor is not eligible to become the acting Vice Chancellor, said a source in the University speaking to Star of Mysore.

As a result, the University saw its fourth acting VC occupying the chair this morning. The earlier Acting Vice Chancellors who have occupied the post after the tenure of Vice Chancellor Prof. K. S. Rangappa ended on January 10, 2017 are Prof. Yashwanth Dongre, Prof. Dayanand Mane and Prof. C. Basavaraju.

Once the tenure of Ningamma Betsur ends on May 25, the senior most Dean who is eligible to be the Vice Chancellor is Prof. T.K. Umesh. However, insiders in the University strongly feel that his chances again might be scuttled as it has happened twice already.

Students Hold Signature Campaign Against Kathua-Unnao Rape

By Navya Venkatesh

Demanding protection for women in the country and condemning the rape and murder of two girls in Kathua and Unnao, the students of the University of Mysore (UoM) had organised a signature campaign at Manasagangothri campus here yesterday.

The members of the Mysore University Vidyarthi Horata Samithi, AIDSO, AIDYO, Dalit Vidyarthi Vedike and a few other organisations jointly held the campaign near the Round Canteen in the campus.

More than 1,000 students

signed during the Signature Campaign and demanded protection to all the women in the country.

Student leader Sira Somashekar, who led the campaign, said that the women throughout the country are living in an atmosphere of fear and it seems like there is no protection for them.

The accused who have allegedly perpetrated the crime should not be released at any cost and they should be severely punished. Justice Varma's report should be implemented, he urged.

The copies of the signatures were sent to Prime Minister Narendra Modi through the Deputy Commissioner. A copy with signatures was also sent to MP Pratap Simha. Students Chandrakala, Ashia, Madhu, Vasanth Kallal and others participated in the campaign.

Now-a-days there is moral policing going on in University of Mysore. If boys and girls are found talking on the campus then they are looked at with suspicion. This is not a healthy development at all.

JMC declares 'Ee Sala Fun Namde'

By Nehla M

With the academic year 2017-18 coming to an end, it is time for yet another batch to bid farewell to their department. Every year it is the juniors who organize a formal Farewell ceremony for their seniors to wish them luck for the new chapters in life. It was not just a mere farewell function that came but a week packed with fun.

The seniors were invited for the fun week through a creatively done video. It was not just the dressing up that was planned but games to go with each attire of the day. It was a fun filled week singing, dancing, drawing,

selling, shouting, laughing and everything that created good memories. Professors and Research scholars wholeheartedly supported and participated in the positive ambience of the Department.

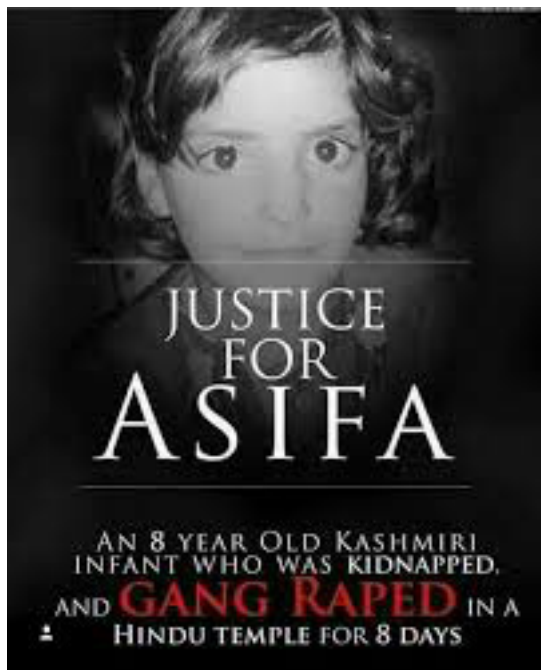
Nevertheless all winners were entertained with prizes on the farewell day, May 02. It had been an emotional atmosphere that day as the realization of parting came closer. But the seniors have left their footprints in the department and in the heart of everyone they met during the 2 year course and everything ended well as all enmity was forgiven.

Editorial...**Why isn't Asifa another Nirbhaya?**

By Navya Venkatesh

It seems there is no end to this shame. And with every new attempt to disrupt the probe into the rape and murder of the 8 year old Asifa, it seems sections of the civil society in Jammu are pushing the boundaries of what can be described as a lumpenist and dishonourable conduct. It was appalling to see the lawyers, the supposed upholders of justice, to prevent the Crime Branch to file charge-sheet in the rape-murder case of an eight-year-old girl in Kathua on Monday. As the Crime Branch entered the court premises, the lawyers led by president of Kathua Bar Association Kirti Bhushan Mahajan blocked its way, raising slogans. The submission of charge-sheet, as a result, was delayed by several hours on Monday. The chief judicial magistrate was finally able to accept the challan against seven of the eight accused around 9.30 pm.

The disgraceful behaviour of the lawyers has appalled the state, including the majority of the people in Jammu. It seems unthinkable and nauseatic that a section of people would rise to the defence of the accused in the rape and murder of a child who was held captive in a temple, drugged, raped and then murdered. But this unthinkable has happened ever since the



crime took place on January 11, not once but almost everyday. What is more, with ruling BJP and sometimes even Congress leaders supporting it and egging it on. Police has so far made eight arrests in the case, among them Sanji Ram, a former revenue official, his son Vishal Kumar, two SPOs and a minor.

The details of the rape and murder are chilling. Forensic tests have revealed she had been held captive under the influence of sedatives in a Hindu prayer hall maintained by Sanji Ram. After the murder, she wasn't allowed to be buried in the graveyard owned by her family and relatives, forcing them to bury her eight kilometres away in another village. Probe so far has revealed that it was a pre-

planned killing geared to instil fear among the Bakarwal nomads residing in the area and drive them out.

Far from becoming an issue which should have brought the people together across the political and religious divide, the rape and murder of the eight-year-old has become

a fresh source of polarization in J&K. Even the coalition partners the PDP and the BJP are not on the same page with some Congress leaders also supporting the BJP line. And this is a tragedy. This means the rape and murder of a minor girl is no longer an issue.

The arrest of the alleged perpetrators is. This state of affairs is disgusting, to put it mildly. The question that needs to be asked is this: why isn't Asifa another Nirbhaya? Why is there silence about her rape and murder in the national media. What explains the absence of outrage on the issue in television studios which otherwise keep manufacturing fake fury over sometimes the non-existent stories to ply a certain agenda or earn more TRPs. Why?

City Lights

By Navya Venkatesh

Light, the thing which awakens the soul, brightens our day and motivates us to follow our passion.

When I hear the phrase city lights, I can relate it to many instances, like the night sky with twinkling stars, the cool breeze that touches my soul and reaches every strand of my hair, rain drops cleaning all dirt away and there, standing all alone I would be listening to my favorite song on loop. After all these little things which makes us happy, we still feel terribly heart broken sometimes.

The dream we dreamt or the hurdles we faced, after being put down by every-

one you still have to show guts to follow the wishes you aspired to come true.

Sometimes, the most important thing you want in your life starts fading away, but a ray of hope always holds your hand and supports you to go through any hurdle and finally reach your state of peace and happiness. "Hamesha apna apna hotha hai, aur paraya paraya!"

When you go out on a vacation leaving your home and your parents far, won't you feel terrible? Am sure, you will. You may enjoy a lot there, but at the end of the end you'll be cribbing to

go back home ASAP! Kyunki "ghar ghar hotha hai!" You'll miss that warmth and comfort you have at home and strive to gain it all over again. Likewise, when you're busy chasing your dreams, make sure you won't lose something which means a lot to you by running behind your new obsession.

Why to worry when you have everything around you? You just have to make a Strong move to win it than a hard move to lose everything else which you've gained till now.

"So wake up, get ready, win hearts, bow down for success and say cheers to ZINDAGI"

Online Retail Flip!

By Ponnamma P. C.



Walmart's controlling stake in Flipkart shows why the government must update policy

India's e-commerce market, which accounts for less than a tenth of its overall retail opportunity, has just got a significant thumbs-up from American supermarket giant Walmart. It has announced a plan to buy a controlling stake of around 77% in home-grown e-commerce firm Flipkart for a sum of \$16 billion.

In the process, Walmart has pipped rival Amazon, which is just behind Flipkart when it comes to its share of the Indian e-commerce pie and has independently been vying to acquire the Bengaluru-based company.

China's Alibaba, with its investment in Paytm Mall, is vying to compete in the space as well, along with the likes of Snapdeal, which around this time last year was being linked to a much-speculated merger plan with Flipkart. But the big battle for Indians' e-tail space, for now, will play out between two of America's biggest companies.

Not surprisingly, traditional retail players have responded with willingness to adapt to this paradigm shift and consider strategic alliances with online rivals. Interestingly, Walmart investors have voted against what they saw as an expensive bet, with the firm losing about \$8 billion in value on the bourses after the deal was finalised.

Though e-tail may have changed shopping habits among swathes of Indians, it remains heavily dependent on discount-peddling. Flipkart, in particular, has reported accumulated losses of ₹24,000 crore.

Walmart is betting on the

future growth it can unlock from this full-frontal entry into a market that has proved difficult despite its best attempts for over a decade.

The company had entered India in 2007 but exited the joint venture with the Bharti group and restricted its operations to cash-and-carry stores, in the face of strict curbs on foreign direct investment (FDI) in the multi-brand retail sector.

These restrictions, ostensibly to protect smaller retailers, have remained in place under the NDA government, belying expectations of a reset.

Facing heat at home from Amazon, which is now moving from online-only to a brick-and-mortar plus e-tail model, this is a vital time for Walmart to get into India's business-to-consumer segment. That this deal doesn't ruffle extant policy restrictions,

in fact, reveals the inefficacy of India's approach to retail FDI in a rapidly changing global marketplace. Local trade lobbies as well as swadeshi advocates are determined to resist the deal, while analysts are wondering how Walmart will turn around Flipkart's cash burn rates.

However, for India's policymakers, neither of these should matter. It is important to assess if, and how, the U.S. firm will integrate Indian suppliers into its international operations.

Most importantly, it is time to nuance the debates that have dominated India's retail FDI policy — big versus small, local versus foreign — to create a truly level playing field where all can compete, without artificial safeguards that can be overcome via such deals

Rukmini Chandran: Iron Lady of Mysuru

By Navya Venkatesh

We are living in a society that used to be orthodox. Now, everyone is thinking of ways to break the norms of the society. Rukmini Chandran has been doing that since a very long time. With her father as her motivation and inspiration, Rukmini Chandran has made everyone look at her with awe and respect.

Rukmini Chandran is an adventure sports instructor who started out as an NCC Cadet. She is the Director of National Adventure Foundation, Karnataka Chapter II. In conversation with Rukmini Chandran, she speaks about her childhood, her inspiration and many more things.

Recalling her school days, Rukmini Chandran says, "I come from an orthodox family. I was just an average student in the matter of studies. My father was a sports person playing Football and Hockey, representing Southern Railways. It was my father who always stood by my passion for NCC and sports. He always encouraged me to play sports, join scouts and guides, and NCC till I graduated."

What was your childhood like? I was born and brought up in Mysuru. I have two younger brothers and one younger sister. I was brought up like a boy. I used to play the traditional game like Lagori, football, go jogging, practice with my father. From childhood, I have always loved the village life, the nature, climbing trees and rocks is something I enjoy. I feel this is when my love for adventure sports started growing.

How did your relatives react about you playing sports and joining the NCC? They were critical and would taunt me from time to time. They would comment about my hair and the trousers and shirts I



Rukmini Chandran

wore most of the times. But all of this never stopped me from doing what I loved.

Who do you think supported you the most? My father was always by side irrespective of what I did or chose to do. Being a sports player, I think he understood my love for sports and NCC. I still remember that he used to come for all my events and support me.

What do you think was the turning point in your life? When my husband was hospitalized because of a major accident, he was admitted into a hospital and we were short of money. That is when I started doing Adventure Sports for both passion and money as I had to take care of my husband and children.

Your time in NCC. NCC has given me lessons for life. It has taught me to be tough in decision-making, face the challenges you get with confidence and overcome all the difficulties no matter what. I participated in a lot of interstate, national level camps, underwent training in trekking, mountaineering, shooting, rock climbing, first aid and map reading etc. In 1980, Air Wing opened for girls, I learnt Glider Pilot, Parasailing, Aero Modelling and Aero Sports Adventure.

Do you think sports/Adventure sports is growing in India? In the West, people know

that how important is the Nature in our life, how important the adventure sports is for person to be physically and mentally fit. Adventure Sports brings discipline in live. We are competing with our own weakness and strengths,

putting ourselves in difficult situation voluntarily, which helps us to

understand our weakness and strengths/limits. But, in India, sports has still not got that importance. The Central Government is supporting, by giving funds to conduct these program. But there is no authentic agency which can give proper technical training, operation and safety guidelines. Insurance agencies are not giving insurance cover Adventure enthusiasts. If given proper guidance, the youth and other citizens of the country also can be motivated to engage in Adventure Sports.

What was the memorable moment for you? I was doing Advanced Parasailing Training at the Mandakalli Air Field. When I was mid-air, the 600-feet towing rope tied to me and a jeep got cut. Luckily, I landed safely without any injuries because our instructor had given us instructions on what to do during emergencies like this.

How is Rukmini Chandran as a person? I have no fear. I love to be in solitude with nature. Adventure is like an addiction to me. I like to help women in need, guide them to show them the way to have their independent financially secured with their own identity.

Everyone has a story: Book Review

By Nehla M

Savi Sharma is credited with being India's first successful self-published author. The book "Everyone Has a Story" is one of her fine work "Everyone Has a Story" is about a young girl Meera who is in search of a story and but has no idea where she might find it. In search of her story, she comes across Vivaan, a young and successful banker who has a secret desire; that to escape the world in which he lives and travel to his heart's content. Then there is a coffee shop manager Kabir, who is a friend of Meera's and is always encouraging her to write. And Nisha is a girl whom Kabir falls in love with and soon proposes.

A story of love and friendship, this book has a hint of suspense to it, but it lacks new element that hasn't been seen or read before.

There could have been some sort of major moves by the protagonist or the characters for their ambitions that would have bought some depth into the story. They talk of their dreams which is left up to that point only and hence, not taken ahead with deep conversations or relat-



able actions or executions.

The writing style of the author is assertive and touching as well. She has woven the story plot with deep, touching & heartfelt emotions which will move the readers inside out. It has the touch of inspiration to it which shows up when the characters talk about their dreams with such honesty.

In a nutshell, this story is not only a driving story encrypted with life's important lessons and intellect, but is highly entrancing yet heart-touching. For someone who has a dream- big or small- can reach out for this book.



In love, less is more: October

By Navya Venkatesh



Shoojit Sircar's 'October' says a lot, without saying too much. Yes, it is a film about love, seen from Dan's pure and simple world-view and Shuili's silent, stoic stares. It's not a story crafted with heavy doses of dialogues, romantic ballads or bombastic episodes common to the genre. The beauty lies in the simplicity of it all.

Dan is a 21-year-old who still has a lot of growing up to do; he's clumsy and careless at work, a tad cocky too, but not with an air of arrogance. He doesn't speak volumes, but he's blunt and straightforward. Dan expresses himself with a rare innocence that makes him lovable. As colleagues, Shiuli and he share nothing more than a few glances and some casual conversation. After the untoward episode, as she lies in bed, Dan is drawn to her agonizing and motionless world. And something flows and flourishes between them. Something called love, maybe?

Shoojit Sircar breathes life in to every scene with his nuanced direction. The film unfolds at a leisurely pace, but never lacks spirit. He gives you a glimpse into the lives of his characters, and artfully takes you into his fold. At times, you forget that you are watching a movie; instead, you become a spectator to the lives of real people, with real, uncorrupted emotions. The scene at the hospital between Dan and Shiuli, where they acknowledge their relationship in their own indescribable way, is skilfully written and enacted. It throbs with emotion and makes you break into a smile.

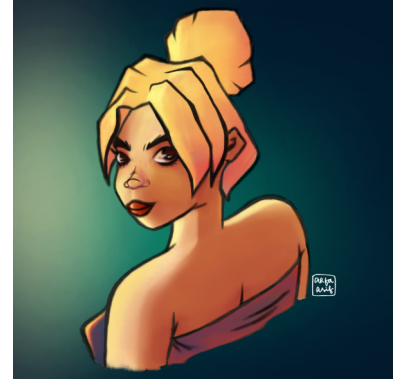
The film is not devoid of light humour, it is slipped into the narrative so seamlessly that it will leave you surprised. The lyrical screenplay, story and dialogues by Juhi Chaturvedi excel in every scene, never losing sight of what the film sets out to achieve. Every emotion in this song-less film is not spelt out; the most overwhelming scenes are laced with lightweight dialogues and silences that leave space for interpretation. Avik Mukhopadhyay (cinematography) sets the frames with poetic beauty and a charm that is inescapable. The background score by Shantanu Moitra softly blends in, adding mood to the drama.

Varun Dhawan drops the Bollywood hero's garb in the most understated and finest performance of his career. Shoojit brilliantly moulds Varun into Dan, making you forget that you ever saw him grooving shirtless on screen before. Debutante Banita uses her beautiful eyes to express emotions, or lack of it. It's an arduous task, as that's the only ammo she has at hand. Gitanjali as Shiuli's mother is a class act.

'October' is not bound by Indian sensibility alone; it is a humane story that will possibly enjoy a much wider appeal across international audiences. It is evident that the director wanted this story about love to find its own life cycle of blossom. But for an audience seeking entertainment, given the languid pace of the story,

it might seem boring. In love and relationships, a lot remains unsaid and undefined. What can't find its way into words, will find a way to flow out. Let it. The fragrant memory of Shiuli (the Bengali name for Night Jasmine) and Dan's unconditional story will linger long after. Go, take it all in.

Artwork Corner



Impact of GOALS in your Life!

By Aishwarya J Akki

People who live without goals have no purpose and it is obvious even in their body language. They are on permanent idle, they slouch, their conversations dawdle, they call you: "Hey, I'm just calling. I wasn't doing anything, so I thought I'd call you." Well, don't call me, I've got things to do.

Many people just muddle through life. They don't read informational material, they don't even pay attention when they see on TV. If you ask them what they are watching, they mumble saying, "Nothing, I'm just looking."

What are your goals for your career? For your relationships? For your spiritual life? Develop a schedule for the next month, the next six

months, the next year, five years and ten years. Write it all out.

Let's take one of the most common goals: You want to make more money. If that is your goal, then take some practical steps toward realizing it.

First, determine specifically how much money you want to make. Then, double that amount and make THAT your goal! Even if you don't reach the higher amount, you will probably still find yourself making more than you originally thought.

Second, decide the amount of energy you are willing to expend to reach your goal.

How many hours are you willing to work a day? How

many jobs are you willing to hold down? What sort of work are you willing to do?

A third step in this process is to develop a practical plan of action and get started immediately.

Chart out where you want to be in relation to your goal in the next month, six months, one year, five years and ten years. Get started today. Go apply for that second job NOW! Go enrol yourself in that career training program NOW! Ask for that raise NOW!

And finally, make sure that you have all of this written down so that you can review it every morning and every night and envision yourself taking these steps, doing them and succeeding!

Picture of The Day

Photographer : Anil A S



"Soaring towards glory!"



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