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In Brief

President condoles Satyawati's demise



New Delhi, Oct 27 (UNI) President Pratibha Devisingh Patil today condoled the demise of veteran do freedom fighter Satyawati.

"Satyawati was a freedom fighter, who actively participated in our freedom struggle." Ms Patil said in her message.

The President added, "In her death, the nation has lost an eminent personality and a great freedom fighter." Satyawati, mother of the late vice-president Krishan

Abhay Singh for Asian Games

New Delhi, Oct 27 (UNI) Indian Boxing Federation (IBF) president Abhay Singh Chautala was today appointed the chef-de-mission of the country's contingent for the Asian Games in Guangzhou, China starting November 12.

"Mr Abhay Singh Chautala, vice-president of the Indian Olympic Association and president of the Indian Boxing Federation, will be the Chef-de-Mission of the Indian contingent at the Asian Games," the IOA said in a statement.

Cartoon Corner



courtesy indiannetzone.com

K'taka declines to release water to TN



courtesy flickr.com

Bangalore, Oct 27 (UNI) Karnataka today turned down the request of Tamil Nadu to release Cauvery waters to save its 'samba' crop in the delta.

This decision was taken at a meeting of the all-party floor leaders in the Karnataka Legislature which was convened by Chief Minister B S Yeddyurappa this evening.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, he said "We reviewed the current situation of water levels in the reservoir in the Cauvery delta. Karnataka is not in a position to oblige Tamil Nadu's request to release

water at this juncture." The Chief Minister, however, said thanks to continued rainfall in the catchment areas of Wayanad in Kerala and Kodagu Districts, reservoirs across Cauvery and its main tributary Kabini were likely to reach the full level within two days.

Mr Yeddyurappa said the meeting reviewed the rainfall pattern and storage situation in reservoirs under the Cauvery Basin. Taking into consideration the drinking and irrigation requirements of the state, the meeting came to conclusion that at this juncture

the state cannot release water to Mettur dam as requested by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M Karunanidhi.

He said the level at Krishnarajasagar, the main reservoir across Cauvery, stood at 124.7 feet, against the full level of 124.8 ft.

The inflow was at 17,000 cusecs, while outflow was 6000 cusecs.

"The water level at the reservoir should reach the aximum level in a day two," he said.

Opposition Leader in arnataka Assembly Siddaramaiah, Leader in council in Motamma and Janata Dal(S) Floor Leader H D Revanna and Council Leader M C Nanaiah, Irrigation Minister Basavaraj Bommai and senior officials were present at the meeting.

The meeting was held in the backdrop of Tamil Nadu Chief Minister sending a request for release of Cauvery waters to save the standing crops

Disqualified Independent MLAs file fresh petition

Bangalore, Oct 27 (UNI) The Five Independent MLAs, fighting a case against their disqualification by Karnataka Legislative Assembly Speaker K G Bopaiah, today filed a fresh petition in the High Court.

The petition challenged Speaker's action based on a complaint by the voters of their respective constituencies. While disqualifying the five Independent Legislators, the Speaker had cited two complaints—one by the Chief Minister and another by voters based on which he had taken a decision to disqualify them.

The lawyers for the Independent MLAs had earlier challenged the disqualification based on the complaint by the Chief Minister. Today, they filed a fresh petition challenging the complaint by the voters to the Speaker.

Course on Zoo maintenance from next academic year

Mysore, Oct 27 (UNI) The Karnataka Zoo Authority has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University of Mysore to commence a post-graduate diploma course in Zoo Maintenance from the next academic year.

Practical experience and training for the Diploma in Zoo Maintenance course, to be started by the University, will be provided at the City Zoo, as per the MoU signed during the quarterly meeting of the Zoo Authority's Administrative Board, Zoo Authority Chairman M Nanjundaswamy, speaking to newsmen here today, opined that the course would not only provide an opportunity for Zoo enthusiasts to become academically qualified, but also help in better maintenance of the Zoo, at the hands of qualified staff.



courtesy indiannetzone.comite.co

Mr Nanjundaswami said a special team of expert veterinarians will be examining inmates of all the Zoos in the State based on which treatment will be provided to the sick and ailing. Two tigers sent to the Zoo from the European Circus have been rejected and a resolution not to accept circus animals to the Zoo has been passed, he informed.

He said that though the series of deaths of tigers were caused by

the contaminated meat, the leopard that died recently was ailing from partial paralysis.

"The lion that died at the Park had come from the circus. It was 26-years old and had been ailing." As many as 17 felines had died at the Bannerghatta National Park in the past nine months, including two from London. They also include three tigers and two lions from an animal rehabilitation centre.

He said that employees of the Zoo working on contract basis since the past 10 years or more will be paid an additional sum of Rs 500 to Rs 1,000 as monthly honorarium, as per the Zoo Authority's decision. Rotten, sub-standard meat caused tigers' death. He said as per the autopsy reports, the bacteria Salmolin present in the meat consumed by the tigers had caused their deaths.

"The Authority has also suspended Dr Basavarajappa, a retired Veterinarian, who had been appointed on contract basis to take care of the animals health, on charges of dereliction of duty and he has been replaced by Dr Nandini, an animal expert."

Cambridge University announces Dr Manmohan Singh scholarship



courtesy blish in.com

Kolkata, Oct 27 (UNI) St John's College, a leading college under the University of Cambridge, has announced the prestigious "Dr Manmohan Singh Scholarships-2011" for the third year in a row.

First launched at the Prime Minister's residence in New Delhi in 2007, the scholarship programme has been set up exclusively for Indian students for science, technology, economics and social sciences and for those currently based

in India for PhD and MPhil degrees at St John's College in similar areas.

Informing this, sources at the British Council here today said St John's College, where Dr Singh studied economics in late 1950s, would award 35,000 pound scholarships each to three PhD students for up to three years from 2011-12.

Based on merit through a special test in order to ensure maximum effectiveness, the scholarships would be

sponsored by large and renowned organisations like Rolls-Royce-India, BP Foundation and others.

Tata and Sons sponsored this scholarship in the past.

This scholarship programme is being administered by the British Council, which has also managed several other prestigious scholarships like the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan, British Chevening Scholarships and others, the sources said.

A selection committee, comprising a nominee from each sponsor and a panel of academics and others selected by the college, would be set up in India to make recommendations to the college regarding the profile of applicants, the sources said.

For the three scholarships, application forms were being made available from October 15 to December 31, 2010, the sources added.

UID May Help Curb Fake Degrees

New Delhi, Oct 27 (UNI) To minimise such problems as fake degrees, the Human Resource Development Ministry today took a step to create an electronic registry of students.

The HRD Ministry signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Unique Identification Authority of India, a year-old agency assigned to allot each Indian resident a unique identity number.

This number is to be based on



courtesy boing boing.n

an individual's demographic and biometric data, an HRD Ministry statement said.

The proposed registry is hoped to "be helpful in tracking student's mobility" from primary and elementary level through

secondary and higher education as also between institutions.

It said imprinting UID number on students' performance record-- marksheets, migration certificates-- will facilitate dematting of academic certificates, making academic and employment selections easier.

Such an exercise will not only help prospective employers and educational institutions, but also institutions giving education loans and scholarships. Ministry officials said UID numbers would help make the education system more accountable in areas ranging from implementing Mid-Day Meal Scheme to nailing fake degrees.

The statement said the HRD Ministry would cooperate with the UIDAI in conducting proof of concept studies, pilots to test the technology and process of enrolment into the UID database and identify registrars to implement the project.

The MoU was signed by HRD Ministry Joint Secretary Amit Khare and UIDAI Deputy Director General Anil Kachi in the presence of HRD Minister Kapil Sibal and UIDAI chairman Nandan Nilekani.

2nd IAD awards held in capital

New Delhi, Oct 27 (UNI) The second annual Interior and Architecture (IAD) Design Awards '09 were held recently in the capital.

The awards have been instituted for recognising work in the filed of architecture, engineering, construction and town planning in India.

The awards were presented by Sun Event Management Ltd in association with Professionals Club India, a club having more than 3,000 members from the industry of infrastructure, information, technology, medical sciences along with Ayur Living India TV as the media partner of the event.

"The trust of the government in

infrastructure development can only be fulfilled by the support of architects and engineers," said Ayur Living India TV CEO Dilveinder Singh Narang in a statement.

Mr Tushar Chawla Director Sun Event Management Ltd said that architecture, designing and landscaping have become an important aspect of the modern society. Keeping in view the constraints of space available the role of architects has become more important for building modern infrastructure, he said.

All together the awards were presented across 23 different categories during the evening and were broadly classified into architecture, interior, engineering, builder and student awards.

ICC ask BCCI to adopt UDRS



courtesy omite.com

Mumbai, Oct 27 (UNI) The International Cricket Council chief executive officer Haroon Lorgat today called upon the Indian cricket board to adopt the Umpire Decision Review System (UDRS), saying it has been perfected.

Lorgat stressed the importance of India adopting the UDRS, saying that, "the system has been trialed for sometime and we believe we have now got it perfected." "I am confident that in due course the BCCI will join us on a visit to Australia to

explain the technical application of the system and will see the merits of it." Lorgat was speaking at a promotional event here today to mark the ICC's long-term sponsorship agreement with MoneyGram International, the global leader in money transfer.

He said, "India still have their the same." The South African, however, said it is too early to make the system mandatory due to problems like shortage of equipment.

"It is perhaps a bit more complex than you might

understand. There was a shortage of technical equipment, there was a trial period which we went through and there was an experience that the players needed to gain." Lorgat refused to discuss the current controversy surrounding Indian cricketer Suresh Raina, who was seen in the company of a woman, allegedly linked to an associate of an illegal bookmaker, during the team's tour of Sri Lanka earlier this year. In terms of any such reporting around players or ACSU, we do not discuss in a public forum to protect the confidentiality of the players," he said.

"In terms of player agent, there is discussion going to find methods to accredit player agents to avoid any chance of what conspired recently in England. It is a matter for domestic boards, but I can tell you that that all of us in respect to corruption we approach a zero tolerance policy. I have no doubt that as far as that is concerned it will be dealt with immediately," Lorgat added.

Photo Corner



Work is worship

- K.R.Reethesh Kyathaghatta