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B'luru hosts AUS trade delegates

Neenu M
BENGALURU: In an attempt to foster international relationships, the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI) and the Rotary Club of Bangalore, joined hands with the Australian delegation. By building such a relationship a lot can be contributed to the world, said Nalini Nanjundia, president of the club.

The FKCCI and the club came together on September 6 at Sir M V Auditorium, Chickpet, to celebrate the collaboration and innovation with Karnataka's micro, small and medium enterprises sector (MSME) and discussed the potential collaboration between Karnataka and the Australian state, Victoria.

The diverse sectors of interests including the opportunities for trade and partnership, with which both nations could benefit and grow together economically and culturally, were discussed. "We have identified many sectors of interest to you, such as IT, software services, biotechnology, aerospace and defence, agro-based industries, and hospitality, renewable energy, film entertainment industry, startup and innovation, and textiles and handicrafts. These sectors have a lot of new opportunities to collaborate, investment and vendor-based trade," said Gopal Reddy, president of the FKCCI.

"Victoria was looking to explore new opportunities to build on existing initiatives and to maximise the potential that exists," expressed Lee Tarlamis, Member of the Victorian Legislative Council.

Twenty four hours kirtan at ISKCON

Kiranmai Basavraj
BENGALURU: On the birth anniversary of Lord Krishna, the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) saw a huge gathering of devotees participating in special Arati and other events for the day.

This year, Janmashtami is being celebrated from September 5-8, while ISKCON festivities are scheduled for September 6 and 7. Preparations commenced 15 days in advance to accommodate

Govt propose, officials dispose: Caste doc

Divya Batavia

BENGALURU: Despite the Tamil Nadu Government's decision to issue caste certificates to the Thurambar community, also known as Puturrai Vannar, they find themselves in a challenging situation. The taluk administration across the state is waiting for the district collectors' approval, leaving the community without the benefits they are entitled to with these certificates.

Rene Jenner, representing the Thurambar Liberal Movement, an NGO dedicated to the community's welfare, highlighted the issue. "The government has issued an order for caste certificates for Puthurrai Vannar, but the Tehsildars responsible for issuing the certificates claim they need assent from collectors," Jenner revealed in an interview with The Beacon.

Many remain unaware of the existence of the Thurambar



Struggle of the unheard

Thurambar Liberation Movement

community, which faces discrimination, as they are often treated as untouchables, unable to venture outside their homes freely. Tragically, they are even denied the right to cremate their deceased at public crematoriums, having to conduct these ceremonies behind their own homes, he elaborated.

The community has also been grappling with incidents of rape, but the police have been reluctant to register FIRs.

Unfairly, the Thurambar community is often grouped with the Aadi Dravida community, allowing others to claim their benefits and certificates. As a result, the Thurambar Liberal

Movement has taken action by seizing several Taluk offices, advocating for the community's rights and recognition. "Earlier, when a couple married, the bride spent her first night with a panchayat member from another caste, only later uniting with her lawfully wedded husband. This practice underscores

the domination of the Thurambar caste by the Aadi Dravida caste," said Jenner.

The Thurambar community's lack of social identity is primarily due to their restricted mobility. To address this issue and obtain the necessary certificates from the Tahsildar's office, Jenner mentioned that the community is receiving assistance from a Catholic priest, a sister, and a nun. The government has allocated Rs 10 crores for the community's development, leading to increased recognition, although some individuals still struggle to obtain their certificates.

Jenner emphasized their role in this movement, stating, "We are the voice of these people." Despite presenting evidence, the Tahsildars remain reluctant to issue the certificates, leaving the Thurambar community in a protracted struggle for their rightful identity and benefits.

Society will be peaceful without caste: CM Siddu

Rhea Sundara Raju

BENGALURU: In society, the caste system is a poison and should therefore be eradicated. If the caste system no longer exists, then society can live in peace, said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah while speaking on the occasion of Shri Krishna Janmashtami.

Sri Krishna Jayanti was celebrated on September 6 at Ravindra Kalashetra. The event was organised by Raja Golla (Yadava) Sangha, a religious organisation in Karnataka, where Chief Minister Siddaramaiah spoke about Lord Krishna and the need for the caste



Siddaramaiah at the Sri Krishna Jayanti event

Ishika S

system to be eliminated from modern society.

"Equality will be served in society. We are all the same in the eyes of God. He doesn't discriminate against us based on caste; everyone is treated equally," stated

opinion that the dream of our freedom fighters was to create a society of love and equality. He said that in a society, 'Satya Sthapana' and 'Dhrama Sthapana' are essential.

The event was presided over by Yadavananda Mahaswami Sri of Chitradurga District. Sri Krishna Yadava Mahasanthan Math, Kannada & Culture Minister Shivraj Thangadagi, Vidhan Parishad Member Nagaraj Yadav, Dheeraj Muniraj, former MLA AV Umapati, MLA DT Srinivas, chief minister's political advisor Naseer Ahmed were also present.

Glimpse of Kottayam from India's longest glass bridge: DTPC

Sonia Sebi

Vagamon has unveiled India's longest glass bridge, adding another gem to its crown. This project is a result of collaboration between the District Tourism Promotion Council (DTPC) and the Bharat-Mata Venture and was inaugurated by Tourism Minister PA Mohammed Riyas.

The Kerala government's approach to encouraging private sector participation in Idukki's tourism sector is a significant driver of this initiative. Visitors to the 40-meter-long bridge can also enjoy adventure rides, such as sky cycling, sky rollers, rocket ejectors, and giant swings.

"The 150-ft hiWgh bridge offers glimpses of Kottayam and the nearby forests. The cantilever model used for its construction creates a sensation of floating in the air," said Jitheesh, DTPC secretary.

The project was completed with a fund of 3 crores. Social media vloggers have lauded the bridge as the new face of Kerala Tourism development, inviting more visitors to the spot.

Ukraine-return students protest

Sherin Johnson

Students and parents appeal for one-time exemption to transfer as life threatening conditions still persist in Ukraine.

Ukraine returned Indian Medical students are protesting in front of National Medical Commission office, New Delhi, to draw the attention of authorities to the issue.

They sought one-time exemption on humanitarian grounds, highlighting the need to continue their education in a safer environment. "During the Russia-Ukraine war in

2014, Indian students were granted permission to transfer to safer locations due to the efforts of the Indian Embassy in Kyiv, permitted under the Erstwhile Medical Council of India Gazette Notification", said Simran Sheikh, a student.

The students emphasized that online classes do not meet the requirements, and are determined to join offline classes to become competent doctors. Unfortunately, the mobility program introduced by some universities is not an option, as it was not offered by all institutions, covers a limited duration.