

# THE BEACON

PRACTICE NEWS BULLETIN OF THE PG STUDENTS OF JOURNALISM & MASS COMMUNICATION

Tuesday, 5 April 2022 / St. Joseph's College (Autonomous) / Vol: 16 Issue: 87 / www.sjcdeptcomm.wordpress.com

**Passengers content with the introduction of 1 & 3 day passes in Metro**

Mythri C

**BENGALURU:** Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited has introduced one day and three day passes for its passengers along with a refund of unclaimed online Smart Card top-ups to make it more convenient for everyday users of Namma Metro.

The BMRCL in a press release said the one day and three day passes for Namma Metro passengers will come into effect from April 2. The one-day pass is priced at Rs.200 which also includes a security deposit of Rs. 50 that is refundable, and the three-day pass is priced at Rs. 400 which also includes a refundable security deposit of Rs.50. A person carrying a one day pass is allowed unlimited travel for one whole day and a person having a three-day pass can travel unlimited for three days from the date of purchase.

Passengers can buy the passes at the station ticket counters and the security deposit of Rs.50 will be refunded on the return of the smart card after the completion of their one or three day journey.

Meenakshi, a Namma Metro passenger, says, "It would be useful for passengers who have work near the metro line. Since the metro line does not cover all the places in Bangalore such as Koramangala, I don't think that it is useful."

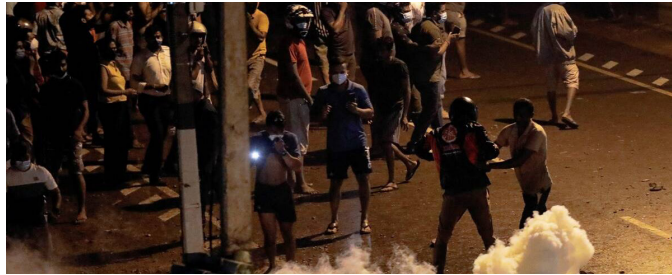
## Poets of the Fall: Taking rock music to the next level

Shriangana Pyne

Finnish rock band Poets of the Fall have returned with a creative video to their brand-new single 'Requiem for My Harlequin', from their upcoming ninth studio album "Ghostlight", released on 1st April. The song is an amalgamation of a fantasy world with the lead character's mind and his tricks and illusions. The video is yet another work of art by the group, touching the deepest recesses of the soul. Poets of the Fall was founded in Helsinki in 2003 by singer Marko Saaresto, guitarist Olli Tuikainen and keyboardist Markus "Cap-

## SL on the brink of economic collapse

Sri Lanka is going through its worst economic crisis in the country's history under the governance of President Gotabaya Rajapaksa who declared an emergency on April 1 Friday, following violent protests outside the president's residence. The economic fall of the island nation happened before the pandemic hit and is a result of multiple reasons including poor economic management and a twin deficit economy. When a country is facing a fiscal deficit as well as, a current account deficit then its economy is termed a twin deficit economy. The emergency was called for ensuring public security, order and the maintenance



Citizens on a war path

The Indian Express

of supplies and essential services. Several protesters were arrested and were attacked with tear gas and water cannons while they chanted "Go home Gota". Rajapaksa made the promise of tax cuts to gain votes during the 2019 election and enacted them before the pan-

dem which instigated the current economic situation in Sri Lanka. Additionally, the tea industry and rice crop production witnessed a major dip because of the ban on chemical fertilisers in 2021. The foreign reserve plunged by 70 per cent and the debt crept up for the island na-

tion. The war in Ukraine did not favour, resulting in higher oil prices which brought on a nationwide power outage that lasted for almost 13 hours at a stretch. India signed a \$1 billion credit line for importing essential items. Rajapaksa has further asked for an-

other round of \$1 billion from India. China was also among the ones who offered help to Sri Lanka. Rajapaksa also sought the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for a loan programme. When a country is already under debt, availing more loans will probably hurt its economic condition in the long run. The government should remove the overambitious ban on fertilisers for the time being and focus on exporting goods. As the pandemic restrictions have been relaxed now, the country can focus on collaborating with friendly countries to improve their tourism industry.

Narayan B

## Right-wing groups propose, citizens dispose

Call to boycott Halal meat proves to be a non-starter

Dolkar Choezom

**BENGALURU:** Following the ban on Hijab in educational institutions of Karnataka, right-wing groups have called for a boycott of halal products in the state. The right-wing Hindu Jagruthi Samithi, Bajrang Dal, Sri Rama Sene and others have demanded the removal of halal certification from the signboards of shops selling meat and have urged the Hindus to buy meat from other establishments. The Beacon spoke to the meat sellers who said they were heartbroken by how



Representational image

The News Minute

their own people started discriminating against them. "Literally we have no life at all. People started to discriminate against us on every

side, first, they are trying to ban hijab, now deprive us of our job," said Hamza, a meat seller from Neelasandra. Another meat seller from

Ejipura, Aadil said, "This is the only job where I earn money and look after my family. I have witnessed everything, like how the government takes action against those discriminating the Muslims and how other religions treated us." The day after Ugadi, Hindus we're seen in large queues in front of the Halal meat shops. This happened despite the attempt of the right-wing groups call to boycott the Muslim community through their campaign to stay away from Halal meat.

Is lifting of mandatory mask policy in K'taka on the anvil?

Fiza Ziyad

The people of Karnataka demand the lifting of the mandatory mask rule in the wake of decreasing number of Covid-19 cases in the state. As there has been a dip in the number of cases in India, several states like Maharashtra, Telangana and Haryana have eased Covid-19 restrictions and have put an end to the imposition of fines for not wearing masks.

"We have been mandated to wear masks for almost two years. Since cases have reduced drastically, it should now be left to the people to decide whether they should wear a mask or not," says Bindhu M, a resident of Bengaluru.

Meanwhile, the state's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) had cautioned people last month to continue wearing masks and follow Covid Appropriate Behaviour (CAB) till at least December. However, people have raised concerns regarding the difficulty of wearing masks during the summer amidst soaring temperatures.

Bhagyalakshmi, a native of Bengaluru says, "It is very suffocating to wear a mask in this weather. Many people are no longer wearing them and the rule is not as strict as it used to be. The government might as well make it official and roll back its policy of enforcing masks."

## Old traditions mark new year: Ugadi brings in joy

Madhu Mitha

As per Hindu mythology, Ugadi is a festival that marks the beginning of a New Year. It is a tradition to start the celebration with a customary oil bath that is followed by a pooja. 'Bevu-bella' is the most popular food that people consume on Ugadi. It symbolises the balance between the ups and downs of life. It also signifies rising above one's experiences of happiness and sorrow, failure and success. The festival marks the arrival of the spring season. One can witness the streets of Bengaluru in full bloom, with colours that perfect-

ly complement the city. "Back then, we used to wake up at 4 in the morning, decorating our doors with toranas (mango leaves that are hung on the frame of the main doors). We would draw rangolis, too," reminisced Jayalakshmi, a 68-year-old housewife. "As life heads into the corporate world, our attitudes are influenced by corporate culture. The youth lose interest in these traditions. We can't really blame them because they move out of their homes and live far from their families for their education," said Priya, a history professor from St. Joseph's College (Autonomous).



'There'll be a time when our hearts beat

Pinterest

Saaresto commented to Rock 'N' Load saying, "Ghostlight is all about dramatic melodic rock and massive, impressive ballads." The song is a blend of rock 'n' roll and melodrama with a blast of vivid imagery and humour.