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Students and parents are concerned as DPUE converts mid-term into board exam

Subadhra Sarath

BENGALURU: The changes announced by the Department of Pre-University Education (DPUE) to convert the mid-term exams for second year PU students into board exams has left the students high and dry. The board exams will be held from Nov 29-Dec10, 2021. According to a circular released by DPUE, the half-yearly exam marks will be taken into consideration for terminal board exams scheduled to take place in the month of March as a backup plan in case there will be a lockdown due to the third wave of Covid-19.

"It is very hard for us to learn the portions within the given time which is very less and most of the portions are not yet completed," said Meghana N, a second-year



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PU student at EBAC college. She further added that it is very difficult to cope up with the change from online to offline classes.

Another student, Hemakanth Raju of MES college said,

"There are many more portions to be completed and only less time to prepare for the exam. We have also been informed that the marks of the upcoming exam will be taken as the board exam marks if

lockdown comes due to the third wave".

Bhaskara R, a teacher in EBAC college said, "It is difficult for the students to learn within this short time and it is difficult for the teachers to

teach in a rush. This situation puts up a lot of pressure on students as well as teachers." According to the circular, in every district, a nodal committee will be formed to coordinate the half-yearly exam. The committee will consist of five people: two government school faculty, two faculty members from aided schools and one from unaided school. The nodal committee will be in charge of the distribution of question papers and collection and shuffling of answer papers after the examination. Along with the circular, the time table for the half-yearly exam was also released. The exam will begin with languages followed by the core subjects.

The exams will go on with two days break in between.

Rapido witnesses rapid growth in BLR

Arjun PS, Narayan B

BENGALURU: Rapido, an app-based transportation platform based out of Bengaluru, is gaining popularity amongst the customers as well as the drivers, for its feasibility and ease of access in comparison to competitors in the city. Nadeem, a Rapido driver who previously worked for Zomato said, "The best thing Rapido does for the riders is that the company maintains a proper working environment, making it easy to provide better services for the customers."

He recounted the advantages Rapido has over Uber, Ola, and Dunzo, "I'm getting orders much more frequently compared to other apps because Rapido provides multiple services like transportation and delivery services, making it easier for me to earn more in an hour."

"The delivery pay we get from Zomato is half of what we get from Rapido, which makes it a better choice for me," Nadeem added. "There is also no compulsory login timeline for Rapido, while other applications need us to log in during a certain timeline for incentives making it a better for part-timers," he said.

Abraham Dominic, a Rapido customer said, "Rapido provides two-wheelers which are more convenient and cheaper in Bengaluru traffic. They provide proper safety measures and timely drops. The only drawback is that there are not sufficient drivers."

KL colleges scrap dress code

Sharon Anna James



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BENGALURU: The scrapping of the dress code for higher education faculty in Kerala has evoked a positive response from among the teachers' fraternity. Kerala Education Minister R Bindu tweeted, "Though the government had already issued a circular dated 9th May 2014, clarifying this, it has become clear that several institutions in the state continue to practice such policing. Hence, the Higher Education Department is issuing another circular to this effect." Minimol Jimmichen, a teacher from a private institution said that the removal of the dress code is a relief and appreciated the efforts of the Kerala government. A twitter user complained that apart from this issue, teachers are subjected to Audio Visual surveillance in staff rooms. Besides, they haven't seen a hike in pay post pandemic, he said. "Schools have become suppressive.." he added.

Is Delhi in a State to Afford Another Lockdown, ask Delhites The proposal comes after the Supreme Court criticises govt

Niharika Bajaj

BENGALURU: The Kejriwal-led Delhi government has mooted the proposal of a lockdown in the national capital to bring under control the deteriorating Air Quality Index (AQI). This comes in the wake of the observation made by Chief Justice NV Ramana last week, on Delhi's air pollution situation. He termed it as "very serious." Additionally, the Chief Justice questioned the government on how it planned to tackle the smog problem.

Anast Kant, a student of Del-



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hi University explained that the dense population has made the situation miserable post Diwali. He contracted an eye allergy, he said. "They've

put the proposal on the table for namesake, at least for now I don't see it happening because Gurgaon, Noida, Sonapat, Ghaziabad aren't put on

lockdown, but they equally contribute to Delhi's alarming AQI," he said.

Meanwhile, Delhi-based Businessman, Akshay Garg called this move an ill-fated one for the economy. "We have already seen two lockdowns and our profits have already been reduced during this Diwali. Another lockdown will make the situation worse for us and our business won't be able to bounce back to normal which will lead to small businesses shutting down. EMIs and inflation causes additional burden."

Journalists reporting over Tripura violence detained

Pavana J

BENGALURU: Two journalists, Samriddhi Sakunia and Swarna Jha from the HW News Network were detained on Sunday in Silchar by the Assam police. They were detained on the grounds of alleged criminal conspiracy and spread of communal hatred.

Samriddhi tweeted, "We have been detained at the Nilambar police station, Karimganj, Assam. We were informed by the officer-in-charge of Nilambar Police Station that the Gomati district (in Tripu-

ra) Superintendent of Police gave the orders for our detention."

Since October 29, over 102 Twitter users have been charged by the State of Tripura under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act for denouncing communal violence in the state.

Journalist Rana Ayyub, in her newsletter said that the police have not arrested those who attacked a muslim neighbourhoods and a mosque but have charged people for tweeting about the incident.

Turning childhood memories into souvenirs

Afreen Hussain

Often, parents complain about not being able to preserve the memories of their baby's childhood. This prompted Namitha Naveen, a mother and an entrepreneur, to start a unique startup based out of Bengaluru, Mumma's Milklytale Jewels. The company makes unique breast milk jewellery and a wide variety of souvenirs using milk teeth, umbilical cords, newborn infant hair and first-cut hair & nails. The idea of this innovative startup dates back to the time when Namitha gave birth to her son.



Mumma's Milklytale Jewels

Namitha Naveen

Speaking about the venture, Namitha said, "Many parents preserve the first fallen milk tooth or first cut nail of their child in a pouch or something and most of the time they lose it. We make sure that this pre-

cious memory is not lost by turning it into a unique piece of jewellery which you can wear."

"It makes me happy to look at parents wanting to preserve their babies memories."