

**CET WATCH**

BANGALORE: The total number of engineering seats available for Karnataka students when counselling by CET cell closed on Saturday was 6,252.

1G: 265; 1R: 62; 2BG: 280; 2BR: 55; 3AG: 160; 3AR: 41; 3BG: 235; 3BR: 48; GM: 1,684; GMR: 320 and PKA: 3,102.

**CITYSCAN**

**Seminar on youth and patriotism held**

BANGALORE: Claretian Seminary, Malleswaram, on Sunday conducted a one-day seminar for Young Students Movement (YSM) on the topic 'Youth and Patriotism'. While inaugurating the seminar veteran freedom fighter and former high commissioner to South Africa, L.C. Jain, told the students to show patriotism by honouring women, being committed to the environment and fighting injustice.

**Ganara Bank essay, painting contest**

Canara Bank is organising an essay competition on the theme 'Year 2000 and after, in my view' in English and Kannada on August 7. Two entries will be permitted in each language from a school. A painting competition too will be held for the age group of 8 to 15 years. Those interested can enroll their names at the Social Action Cell, Canara Bank head office, Bangalore - 2, on or before August 7.

**Self-employment training interviews**

Rural Women Self Employment Training Institute is organising a free residential training programme for women between 18 to 35 years of age. Those interested can attend an interview with original certificates on Monday at the Institute at Harohalli, Kanakapura taluk at 10 am.

**Workshop on standardisation**

The machine tools division of HMT is organising a two-day workshop on 'Company Standardisation for Industries' at HMT Limited on August 27 and 28. For details contact the programme leader, machine tools division, HMT Limited, Jalahalli, Bangalore - 31, Ph. 8382211.

**Ethological meet in city tomorrow**

BANGALORE: The 26th International Ethological Conference opens here on Tuesday with Governor Khurshed Alam Khan declaring it open. At a press conference here, secretary general of the conference Dr Shakuntala Sridhara said about 370 overseas delegates and 33 Indian delegates would participate in this week-long conference. The largest contingent of delegates to the conference would be from the USA followed by the UK, Australia, Japan, Germany, Brazil and others European countries. She said, in a broad sense, ethology addressed the complexity of animal behaviour and study and research on such animal behaviours — from behavioural development at the embryonic stage to conservation of species. According to the scientific programme outlines, overall 20 plenary lectures, 18 symposia and three round tables would form part of the conference. Dr Sridhara said this was the first time the conference was being held in a developing country. "We aim to bring not only the divergent scientific contributions from the traditional strongholds of ethology but would also facilitate ethologists from Asia, Africa, Australia and New Zealand," she said. The symposia were intended to add to a better understanding of using ethology for multipurpose research, management of pests, wildlife and veterinary public health, adaptive behaviour of marine animals, animal communication system, behavioural ecology and social behaviour of different species.

**Rabies capital: strays kill 100 people in city annually**

Allen J. Mendonca and Sriranjana Chaudhuri

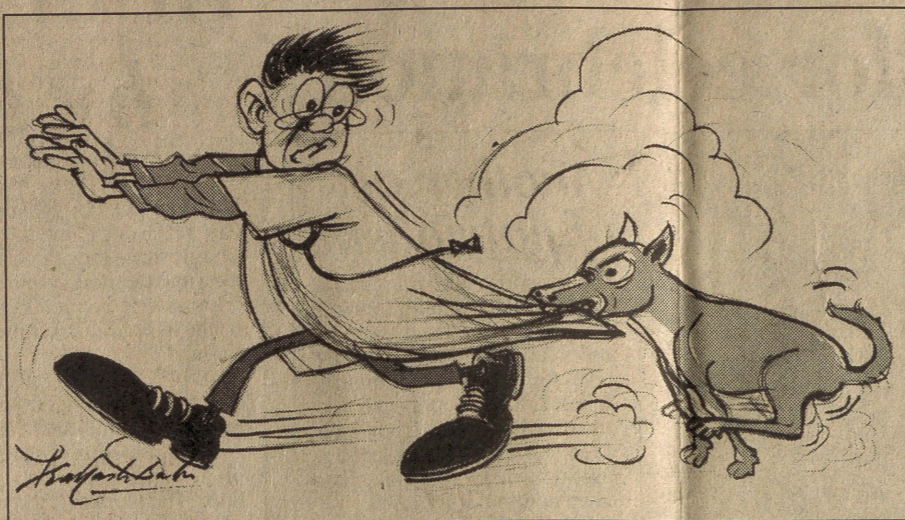
BANGALORE: A primary school student got off the bus on Hosur Road and was walking to his house in Langford Town two weeks ago when a stray dog suddenly pounced on him and bit him. His father, a top executive in a PR company, had to rush the lad to a hospital where doctors prescribed a series of painful injections. "This is terrible. I'm going to try and run over every stray I see in my area," swore the angry father.

Since July 1, strays or 'homeless dogs' have bitten an average of 10 people in Bangalore daily, triggering a run on anti-rabies injections.

Says Dr M.K. Sudarshan, president, Association for the Prevention and Control of Rabies in India and Head of Department, Community Medicine, Kempegowda Institute of Medical Sciences: "The world over, 37,000 cases of rabies are reported annually. The WHO has pointed out that 30,000 of the deaths, 97 per cent of them caused by rabid dog bites, occur in India".

Bangalore has the dubious distinction of leading the rest of the country in rabies deaths with 75-100 cases occurring annually. Many dozen cases go unreported, especially from slums and the less privileged sections of society.

CUPA, People for Animals, the SPCA and animal rights activists are undoubtedly doing a commendable job neutering strays and providing shelter to those injured in accidents or beaten by angry people — the task



is not just Herculean but almost impossible, given the lack of a proper gameplan to reduce the stray dog population.

The BCC has estimated that there are over 2 lakh strays roaming the city centre and over 1 lakh in the suburbs.

The BCC used to have 12 dog vans with staff to go around the city, catch strays and electrocute them. It now has two. And as usual with all things BCC, the electrocution chamber was at its most primitive in technology which meant the dogs died excruciating deaths. Death by chemical injection is unaf-

fordable. All of which caused CARTMAN founder and animal rights activist Prof Ramaswamy to fume: "We've returned to the Dark Ages".

At the national conference of the Association for Prevention and Control of Rabies in Calcutta last week, experts on animal birth control pointed out that sterilising dogs would only work in community zones — slums or residential areas — but not in free, open areas. Some strays had to be got rid of, but in a humane manner.

Delegates also pointed out that a highly ef-

ficious anti-rabies serum was being produced in India. In Bangalore, over 100 BCC medical health officers had been trained on how to inject this serum directly into the wound, but because of the lack of media publicity, people were not aware of its availability in BCC clinics and hospitals as well as in private medical institutions.

Doctors in the city also point out that when Maneka Gandhi recently opened an animal shelter on the city's outskirts, the message that trickled down was: stop killing strays. The BCC being a government organisation goes the other extreme and stops catching strays.

Veterinarians point out that after sterilising strays, animal rights activists normally give the dogs a dose of anti-rabies vaccine. "But that is not enough. The dogs require two doses and a year later, a booster shot. But how will they be able to identify these dogs?"

In the absence of any seriousness on the part of the authorities to tackle the tricky problem of strays, residents of many localities are forced to take extreme steps. Some residents of Grape Garden Road in Ejjipura, Viveknagar, have decided to stone strays to death, with the BCC failing to clear the area in spite of repeated reminders.

When the civic authorities wash their hands off a major civic problem, and animal rights activists are unable to take the majority of the community into confidence, it's these "innocent" dogs that will have to pay a price, one way or another.



LAST RESPECTS: Actor Raj Kumar places a wreath on the body of well-known actor Kalyan Kumar who died in Bangalore on Sunday. Parvathamma Raj Kumar and B. Saroja Devi are also seen.

**Fear of growing bald leads girl to suicide**

Crime Correspondent

BANGALORE: Rishikesh Sahu, 15, son of DM Shrikant Sahu of Orissa, was traced by the police in Malleswaram on Sunday.

Police said Rishikesh ran away from home on May 27 out of fear of his exam results. The matter was reported in *The Times of India* on June 28.

Rishikesh was looking for a job as a waiter in a hotel in Malleswaram when he was recognised by the hotel authorities, who called up the police. He will be produced in court on Monday, the police said.

**Commits suicide:** A teenager M. Gangamma (18), daughter of Maranna, committed suicide by hanging herself at her residence in J.J. Nagar on Saturday. Reports said she was paranoid about her hair loss. Police said she had been worried about it and had confided her morbid fear of balding among her family members recently.

She was married recently.

In another case, Lokesh (20), a resident of K.P. Agrahara, allegedly threw himself before a running train near the city railway station and ended his life on Saturday. Police found his body and sent it for post mortem.

**Book on infanticide, foeticide brought out**

Staff Reporter

BANGALORE: Three students of National Law School of India University (NLSIU) have written the first ever book that provides a comprehensive legal perspective to female infanticide and foeticide in the country.

The perspective prepared by Diya Kapur, Shahrugh Alam and Andal Radhakrishnan under the guidance of Dr Archana Mehen-

**CRIME FILE**

**Dies of burns:** Sudha (11), daughter of a waste paper and gunny bag dealer, died on Saturday morning in Victoria Hospital burns ward. She had suffered serious burn injuries in a kitchen accident recently in her residence.

**Shop raided:** The Silver Jubilee Park police raided a private ball-bearing dealer and seized 570 units of "fake" bearings worth Rs 70,000 bearing the name of a reputed company. Police said investigations are on to trace the manufacturer and to ascertain if there was a nationwide racket in ball bearings.

**Killed in accident:** A truck collided with a moped in Jalahalli Cross killing the pillion rider Lakshman (52) on the spot. The moped rider Lokesh has been hospitalised.

**Gang loots house:** A gang of six armed dacoits attacked a lonely house in Chunchunkatte Subramanyapura in the outskirts of the city and robbed valuables including two gold chains, a tape recorder, gold jewellery and Rs 6,000 cash after threatening the inmates on Saturday afternoon. The gang forced its way into the house of an employee of Bangalore University, Ramesh and threatened to harm his family.

dale, is the first in the planned Avashesh series of books being brought out by the Centre For Child and the NLSIU.

Female infanticide is the intentional killing of baby girls due to the preference for male babies and the low value associated with the birth of females, in certain sections of Indian society.

Female foeticide is the aborting of female foetuses, the foetus.

**Nameboard unveiled**

Staff Reporter

BANGALORE: A board displaying the name B.S. Madhava Rao Circle was on Sunday, unveiled by Mr H. Narasimhaiah, noted educationist and former vice-chancellor of Bangalore University near M.N. Krishna Rao park in Basavanagudi.

Mr Narasimhaiah recalled that the lectures by Prof Madhava Rao were attended by eminent scientists such as Sir C.V. Raman.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr P.R. Ramesh, Basavanagudi corporator, said the board was part of the effort to preserve the cultural and historical heritage of the city.

**BCC all set to blow up Rs 1.25 crore on gifts**

Civic Correspondent

BANGALORE: The BCC completes 50 golden years on September 8. Since the Lok Sabha and state elections are scheduled for the month, celebrations have been put off till October. But before that BCC Mayor K.H.N. Simha — who has been complaining that he has no funds to repair the city's roads — is all set to blow up Rs 1.25 crore on gifts for the 100 corporators, five nominated members, 242 officials and 17,000 employees.

"Mere mementos," the mayor declares when asked about the plan to mint gold-plated silver coins for the corporators, top officials and of course such VIPs as Chief Minister J.H. Patel. Each coin will boast the BCC emblem on one side and the figure of Kempe Gowda, founder of the city, on the other. The 17,000 employees will be given a HMT watch commemorating the golden jubilee.

The move comes in the wake of a meeting of the golden jubilee celebration committee that includes Mr Simha, Deputy Mayor Shahtaj Khanum, former mayor Padmavathy Gangadhar Gowda, opposition leader Gangabai, Commissioner K.P. Pandey and chairmen of the standing committees on health, horticulture, taxation and finance, appeals and town planning.

The BCC will also complete the construction of five welcome arches where national highways enter the city. This will cost another Rs 50 lakh, it is learnt.

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