

† Sunday, January 22, 2012

Metro

Principal held for sexual harassment

BANGALORE: A UK national and principal of a prestigious international school at Sahakarnagar was on Saturday arrested under the Juvenile Act and Information Technology Act for allegedly sexually harassing a 12-year-old male student.

Police said Paul Neekan was staying alone in a flat in Kodigehalli, and during the last few months, he allegedly sent obscene messages to the boy on his cellphone and social networking site Facebook.

Neekan often summoned the boy to his chamber at school and asked him "highly inappropriate" questions. The boy's mother lodged a complaint with the school management and Neekan was dismissed thereafter, said DCP (North East) B R Ravikanth Gowda.

Acting on a complaint filed on Friday, police arrested Neekan and produced him before a court, which granted him bail.

DH News Service

ery Unit II of Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals (MRPL) killed a 25-year-old man and injured five on Saturday. The mishap occurred around 11.15am, said the police. **P 6**

Ex-Lokayukta's house burgled: Burglars broke into the house of former Lokayukta Shivaraj Patil late Friday night and decamped with silver articles, worth Rs 2.5 lakh, kept inside the pooja room. **P 3**

Anaconda dies in Mysore zoo: Raising serious concern over the survival chances of anacondas housed at the Mysore Zoo, a 17-month-old female anaconda died on Saturday. Zoo officials cited heart failure and anorexia as reasons for the reptile's death. **P 6**

Kalmadi's aides get bail: A CBI special court in Delhi on Saturday granted bail to former Commonwealth Games Organising Committee secretary general Lalit Bhanot and former treasurer M Jayachandran. This comes barely two days after former organising committee chairman Suresh Kalmadi was granted bail by the Delhi HC.

Slipper hurled at Team Anna: As Team Anna began their much-publicised election tour on Saturday, a slipper was hurled at them at a rally in Dehradun. **P 10**

THE SPEAKING TREE

- Oprah Winfrey tells Deepak Chopra that India has been on top of her wishlist for a while
- Therapist Brandon Bays gets rid of a tumour by willing her blocked cells open

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which 13 policemen were killed near Garhwa district's Lalmatia village, about 250km from Ranchi, on Jharkhand's border with Chhattisgarh.

This is the second big attack since

► Ops a patchy affair, P 10

last November's killing of Maoist ideologue and chief spokesman Kishenji in Bengal's Jangalmahar area. Eleven security personnel were killed in a blast that targeted the cavalcade of Independent Lok Sabha MP Inder Singh Namdhari in Latehar in December.

The Lalmatia blast, which hit an anti-landmine vehicle carrying the cops around 11.15am, was so powerful that the impact threw the armoured vehicle several feet into the air and it was badly mangled as it crashed back on the ground. The

April 4, 2010 11 men of Special Operation Group killed and 8 injured in landmine blast in Orissa's Koraput

April 6, 2010 75 CRPF men and a state policeman killed in Maoist attack in Chhattisgarh's Dantewada

sound of the explosion echoed as far as Bhandaria village, 4km away. As if to prove again that they had a free run of the place, Maoist guerillas kept local newsmen in captivity for two hours after the blast and even held a press conference.

All the combatants involved in Saturday's attack came without their faces covered, as they usually do during an operation. Eyewitnesses said these men, numbering 30 to 40, were all in their 20s and wore military fatigues. They said police should stop

The damaged police vehicle that was blown in landmine blast

June 29, 2010 27 CRPF men, including an assistant commandant, killed in a Maoist ambush in Chhattisgarh's Narayanpur

Operation Green Hunt, the multi-force operation against Naxals in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. The Maoists also demanded an end to what they called assassinations of "revolutionary leaders" in fake encounters. The guerillas took away all the arms and ammunition the cops were carrying.

Bhandaria BDO Basu Deo Prasad, who the policemen were escorting, escaped unhurt in the attack as his vehicle crossed the spot minutes before the attack.

City principal held for sending dirty messages

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bangalore: Paul Francis Meekan, the British headmaster of Trio World School in Kodigehalli in North Bangalore, was arrested on Saturday for allegedly sending vulgar messages through a social networking site to one of his boy students.

Deputy commissioner of police (north-east) R Ravikanthegowda told STOI the boy is a minor whose identity cannot be revealed as per law. The messages can be called 'dirty', he added, without elaborating on the offence.

The DCP said the accused has been remanded to judicial custody. A case under the Information Technology Act and Juvenile Act has been booked against him.

"The accused used to frequently call

my son to his chamber and talk about sex. He used to force my son to share his views on this subject. He posted sexual remarks on my son's social networking site account," the victim's parents said in a statement to the police.

"We registered a case under Section 27 Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection

► What the law says, P 6

of Children) Act, 2000 and Section 67 of the Information Technology Act," police said.

"Paul has been removed from the post. We received a complaint from a parent saying he had said something on chat. Soon after, they approached the police. It's the first time we have received such a complaint from the parent," Bishwajeet Bhattacharya, PR manager, Trio World School, told STOI.

MP minister gets minor to tie laces

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bhopal: A minister in the BJP-led Madhya Pradesh government got into a messy tangle after he got a young tribal schoolboy to tie his shoelaces as he sat on the podium during a public function in Chhindwara district.

Cooperatives minister Gaurishankar Bisen was videographed sitting with Union minister Kamal Nath at the event on Friday as the kid laced his shoes.

Kamal Nath said he hadn't noticed the boy tying the minister's laces but deplored it.

'Ours is the most peaceful time'

Vikas Singh & Srijana Mitra Das | TNN

Jaipur: We live in violent, turbulent times — perhaps the most dangerous in human history, right? Wrong. At least that's what Steven Pinker would argue.

Flying in the face of conventional wisdom, the Harvard professor of cognitive psychology and author of 'The Better Angels of Our Nature: Why Violence Has Declined' on Saturday held a packed audience at the Jaipur Literary Festival spellbound

with his argument that, in fact, we have the good fortune to be living in the most peaceful period in human history.

That claim may seem bizarre at first, but not once

► Tracking war & peace, P 8

Pinker started listing one interesting statistic after another. He pointed out that death caused by violence as a percentage of all deaths has declined dramatically over the centuries. Tribal warfare was nine times as deadly as war and genocide in the 20th century.

Obstinate BSY splits RSS too

M B Maramkal | TNN

mer CM's tantrums, sources told STOI

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