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An ex-student of Standard Robarth recounts atrocious experiences

4. One day when it was heavily raining, our boarding campus was completely flooded. The ground was also flooded and most of the wardens were fishing. Just for watching them fish from the verandah, the students were beaten by the wardens.

5. They are those who get pleasure and satisfaction out of beating students, who defame the name of teachers, and who torture students in the name of god. Any female student with good looks, if confessed by a boy, the wardens just beat them. Even when the bones were bleeding or when someone cried "ema-ema" or even when they see the students unable to bear the pain, they beat the students till they are satisfied, all in the name of "caring for the students". Even if the students were in a romantic relationship, it would be better if they had counselled and guided the students of what is right and

wrong, considering that the students were adolescents. They are inhuman who only think beating students for everything as the solution and who mentally and physically torture students.

6. I was severely ill in 2010-2011 and my right hand was also completely paralysed. They sent me for treatment after 3 months, and that too they had let me go after my father got furious. Knowing that my hand was not functioning, a warden made me carry his huge bucket for going to the washroom as a punishment. Since then, the condition of my hand worsened. It took one year of treatment.

7. 4 wardens shamed and labelled by younger sister and her friend as lesbians just for simply spending time together and horribly beat them, like demons, during the study hour while making them lie face down.

8. The wardens did brutally

beat my innocent and studious younger sister by saying that she had a boyfriend.

9. A warden summoned my eldest sister and her friend, asked to "bend down" without asking anything, and horribly beat them to the extend that they were not able to walk later on. The warden ruined their reputation by accusing them for misleading other studious students into flirting with boys, just because they had good looks.

10. We stayed on the top floor and there was a warden next to our room. Next to his room, there was a washroom, where the students kept their buckets and toothbrush. On a first Sunday, a student had lost their money and us roommates were searching for it. Our neighbouring warden had urinated in a mug and kept it at the doorstep.

In the morning, when the students went to get buckets and toothbrush to freshen up, they kicked the mug by mistake since it was dark early in the morning. To this, the warden horribly beat us for not cleaning the mug and for searching for the lost money.

Whatever I am saying are facts and incidents I witnessed. I am sharing these events since I am getting this opportunity. Again, I am requesting to not disclose my identity and pleading to trust what I am saying. I hope my story helps Babysana at least in some way.

As requested, we are maintaining the anonymity of the person's identity.

How is supporting and keeping such an exploitative institution running a protection of Human Rights? What is the purpose of such Right to Education that comes at the cost of students' mental and physical health?

More state news

Neeta Arambam takes charge as the new DC of Bishnupur district



DIPR
Bishnupur, July 24,

Neeta Arambam has taken charge as the new Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Bishnupur District today. She was previously serving as the Joint Secretary (DP/AR/ Economics & Statistics/ACR) and OSD/LRC at Imphal. Neeta Arambam was appointed as DC of Bishnupur on the 8th July, 2019 after the Manipur Government made major changes in its state

bureaucracy with the issue of an order for transfer and posting of 9 bureaucrats in the state.

Meanwhile, an emotional farewell was held for the outgoing Deputy Commissioner Pawan Yadav today at the Conference Hall, DC Office, Bishnupur attended by DLOs and the new DC. Thanking the efforts and cooperation given to him during his tenure, Pawan Yadav credited all the achievements made in the District to the tireless efforts

of the DLOs and employees in his farewell speech. He urged the DLOs to give the same cooperation to the new DC in the time to come.

It might be mentioned that Bishnupur has received the 'Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration', launched district website and mobile apps and has initiated and launched Loktak Livelihood Mission as a project for alternative source of livelihood during the tenure of Pawan Yadav.

National News

Karnataka moves on: BJP's legislature party meets today, will stake claim next

Agency
New Delhi July 24,

After days of political uncertainty and turmoil in Karnataka, the Bharatiya Janata Party is expected to stake claim to form the next government after the legislature party meeting today.

This comes a day after the Congress-JD(S) government in the state collapsed after it lost the confidence vote, garnering 99 votes against the 105 of the BJP in the assembly, ending nearly three-week-long high political drama. The coalition needed 103 votes in its favour to win the motion as 20 MLAs — Congress-JD(S) (17), BSP (1), Independents (2) — skipped proceedings, reducing the effective strength of the House to 205.



"We will have the legislative party meeting today and will wait for the directions from the parliamentary board. It might have come... Next we will stake claim to form the government," BJP state general secretary C T Ravi told PTI.

The party may approach Governor Vajubhai Vala on Thursday and stake claim to form the government, they said.

A large number of BJP leaders and workers thronged the party office here as the lodestone of power shifted from the coalition partners — Congress and JD(S), to BJP.

"We were all waiting for this glorious moment. The voters had BJP as their first choice. Now that the BJP is set to form the government, there is celebration all over the state," actor-turned-politician Tara

told reporters outside the BJP office.

Meanwhile, the rebel MLAs have decided to not return to Bengaluru.

"There are no immediate plans to return to Bengaluru. We will stay here for some more time," rebel JD(S) MLA from Hunsur AH Vishwanath told Agency.

He, however, refused to comment on a query whether the disgruntled legislators were waiting for the BJP government to come to power. On Tuesday, Chief Minister H D Kumaraswamy submitted his resignation to the Karnataka governor shortly after losing the confidence motion in the assembly, capping an intense power struggle triggered by a raft of resignations by rebel MLAs that pushed the government to the brink of collapse.

News from South East Asia

Satellite images show Myanmar's 'minimal preparations' for Rohingya return



Agency
Yangon (Reuters) July 24,

Myanmar has made "minimal" preparations for the return of hundreds of thousands of Rohingya Muslim refugees sheltering in neighbouring Bangladesh, according to an Australian think-tank, despite the country saying it is ready to start repatriation.

More than 700,000 Rohingya were forced to flee northern Rakhine state in western Myanmar during a 2017 military-led crackdown the United Nations has said included mass killings and gang-rapes executed with "genocidal intent". Almost 400 Rohingya villages were burned to the ground during the violence.

While authorities have promised to resettle the refugees, analysis of satellite imagery shows "no sign of reconstruction" in the overwhelming majority of their former settlements while, in some areas, destruction of residential buildings has continued, the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) said in a report released late on Tuesday (July 23).

"The continued destruction of residential areas across 2018 and 2019 - clearly identifiable

through our longitudinal satellite analysis - raises serious questions about the willingness of the Myanmar government to facilitate a safe and dignified repatriation process," Mr Nathan Ruser, one of the researchers at ASPI's International Cyber Policy Centre, said in a statement.

Spokesmen for the Myanmar government did not answer calls seeking comment. Kyaw Swar Tun, deputy director of the Rakhine General Administration Department, declined to comment.

Myanmar has repeatedly said it is ready to take back refugees, blaming Bangladesh for failed efforts to kick-start returns.

A report by the disaster management unit of Asean had praised the country's efforts to ensure "smooth and orderly" returns. The AHA Centre report, leaked to the media in June, predicted that half a million refugees would come back within two years.

Human rights groups said the assessment glossed over atrocities and ignored ongoing conflict in the region. The UN has said conditions in Rakhine are not yet conducive for returns.

Government troops in the

northern part of the state are now battling insurgents belonging to the Arakan Army, an ethnic armed group seeking greater autonomy for the region that recruits from the mostly Buddhist majority. ASPI's report described a pattern of "securitisation" in the region since 2017, with six facilities suspected to be military bases built on top of former Rohingya settlements. A Reuters investigation in December 2018 found that the authorities have built houses for Buddhists in former Rohingya areas. A resettlement map drafted by the government revealed that refugees, rather than returning to their original villages, would be herded into several dozen Rohingya-only settlements.

In early July, the Indian government handed over 250 prefabricated houses in northern Rakhine to Hindu families displaced by the violence. None of the homes were for Rohingya.

"Hindus and Rakhine people lost their houses and we also lost ours," Mr Zuyarman, a Rohingya villager in Maungdaw township, told Reuters at the time. "We Rohingya wish that we would have houses like them."

Sports News

Guwahati likely to host one of India's FIFA World Cup qualifiers

Agency
Guwahati, July 24,

Guwahati is likely to host India's first qualifying match for the 2022 FIFA World Cup against Oman on September 5 after the Assam Football Association (AFA) expressed interest "considering the popularity" of the sport in the region.

"We have got in touch with the All India Football Federation requesting them to give us one of the World Cup qualifying matches and they considered it. There is a chance we might get the September 5 game," AFA general secretary Hemen

Brahma told to a news agency. The match is scheduled to be played at Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium in Sarusajai in Guwahati.

It is to be mentioned that AFA has received a "positive" feedback from the apex body. However, officials from the Asian Football Confederations (AFC) will inspect the venues, including the one in Guwahati, before arriving at a decision.

Besides Guwahati, the Mumbai Football Arena and the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata have emerged as the likely venues to host the home matches of the qualifying campaign.

'At 19-20, we were not even half the players':

Agency
New Delhi July 24,

India skipper Virat Kohli hailed young players like Rishabh Pant, Shreyas Iyer and Shubman Gill and stated that the maturity and confidence they possess is beyond their age. Kohli also hailed the Indian Premier League (IPL) as a stepping stone for young India cricketers to shine on the big stage. The India captain feels rubbing shoulders with the best players in the world help youngsters in honing their skills.

"They are amazing. The level of confidence that they have is amazing to see," Kohli told Times of India. "As I have mentioned so many times before, at 19-20, we were not even half the players these guys are."

"Skills have developed because of exposure to tournaments like the IPL. It's the best thing that can happen to a cricketer."

"They are so confident by the time they come here that they learn very quickly from their mistakes, because they have already played in front of so many people. But the intent has to be that 'I am using this platform to play for my country'. And I think that these guys are in that zone," he added.

Kohli also revealed the atmosphere inside the dressing room and how the seniors players interact with upcoming stars. The India captain stated he tells the young Turks to not repeat the mistakes which he committed during his initial years.