

## Girl student studying class iv along with her mother and teacher slapped with sedition charge for projecting Prime Minister in poor light skit presentation

**IT Correspondent**  
**Mumbai, Feb 2**

A class IV girl student along with her mother and teacher were slapped with sedition charges for projecting Prime Minister Narendra Modi in a poor light while performing a skit play at a school function. The skit was performed during a school function in an Urdu primary school in Bidar in Karnataka. Farida Begum the School principal, Anuja Minsa

(mother of the girl student) and the student have been reportedly booked under 124 (A) and 153 (A) IPC and the offence has been registered against the school. The skit was presented by the school as part of the Republic Day programs organized in the school. However, the skit reportedly contained some dialogues, derogatory to the prime minister. The innocent girl student participating in the skit recited the dialogues as given to her and eventually

faced the wrath of the police. Bidar is located on the Maharashtra-Karnataka border. No sooner the news of police action against the school broke out, there was a strong reaction among theatre personalities in Maharashtra with a host of artists voicing strong protest against the police action. Premanand Gavji, President of the Akhil Bharatiya Marathi Natya Sammelan (ABMNS) condemned the high handedness of police

and called for the need to oppose such attempts with all strength. "This could happen to anyone of us. Article 19 of the constitution bestows freedom of speech to every citizen and such attempts to suppress the voice of the people cannot be tolerated" he said. Veteran actor Pradip Kabre said that certainly, these are not a healthy sign of democracy and such an attempt to throttle the voice of the people must be opposed. Even though the

incident has taken place in neighboring Karnataka it encompasses all the citizens. Maharashtra has a rich stage background and plays are held in Karnataka by Maharashtra artists. In turn, cultural programs are also held by Karnataka artists in Maharashtra. This is despite a long-standing pending border dispute between both the states. In the meanwhile, ABMNS is in the process of sending a memorandum to Karnataka chief minister condemning the incident.

## Jiribam administration launches ILP verification drive

**Agency**  
**Imphal, Feb 2**

The Jiribam district administration in Manipur has launched a massive drive for verification of inner line permits (ILPs) in the district. "All railway construction company authorities, godown owners and landlords in the district bordering Assam's Cachar district have been asked to obtain ILPs for their workers and tenants "mandatorily to avoid any legal consequences," a statement issued by police said. The Jiribam district police led by SP M Mobi launched the drive by deploying five teams in different areas of the district to verify workers, tenants and others at different work sites, base camps and rented the accommodation today, the statement added. "During the drive, about 300

workers and tenants have been verified, out of whom 68 non-local workers who do not possess any ILP were sorted out and issued temporary ILPs on the spot with due verification," it added. Further, managers, supervisors, and those in charge of companies and godowns have been directed to obtain appropriate permits from the authorities concerned as described in the ILP guidelines. The State authorities started issuing ILPs to visitors entering the State from January 1 this year after the enforcement of the ILP system in Manipur following publication of the ILP guidelines, 2019, in the State gazette. Since then the State authorities have set up ILP counters at important entry points of the State including the Mao Gate, Jiribam, Moreh and Behiang.

## Coronavirus: 2<sup>nd</sup> case confirmed

**Agency**  
**New Delhi, Feb 2**

A second positive case of Novel Coronavirus has been reported in Kerala. The patient who has tested positive for the Coronavirus is in an isolation ward in a hospital. Health Ministry said, the patient is stable and is being closely monitored. The patient has travel history from China. State health minister K. K. Shailaja said that Kerala is fully equipped to deal with the situation. The minister said, there is no need to panic as the infection is curable. AIR correspondent reports that 1,793 people are under observation in the state. People who had recently returned from China and other infected regions and those in contact with these people are advised to undergo medical check-up by contacting control rooms and to be in-home quarantine and observation till the incubation period of 28 days is over to avoid the spread of infection.

## Six Indians prevented from returning to India from Wuhan in China

**IT Correspondent**  
**Mumbai, Feb 2**

Six Indians who were wanted to return to India, by Air India's first flight which had gone to Wuhan, the epicentre of coronavirus, were stopped from boarding the aircraft due to ill health and weak condition. All the six displayed above normal or fluctuating temperatures during the screening and were asked to step aside from the immigration line. They comprised four students and two trainees from a Shenzhen-based Chinese electronics company. They were whisked away in local government vehicles to their campuses for displaying, what local authorities felt, could be symptoms of the virulent disease. They were told their return to India would be indefinitely postponed. A message from the Indian embassy on Saturday said "Embassy has formally taken up the issue with Chinese authorities and have requested that adequate and proper health care support is provided to those who have been asked to remain in China till further notice. We request you to follow the advice given by the Chinese authorities so that your health returns to normal at the

earliest," the message said. In another development, India's first coronavirus-infected patient, who returned to Kerala from China last week, was stated to be recovering fast and no fresh cases were reported. The patient, admitted in an isolation ward in Thrissur medical college hospital for the last two days, is responding well to treatment, said a medical bulletin. The girl student left Wuhan after its airport was closed down and travelled to Kunming, the nearest city, to take a flight to Kolkata. Four other students who travelled with her are also under observation. She cleared the screening with thermal imaging at both Kolkata and Kochi airports and developed symptoms of flu and throat pain only on Jan 27, following which she was rushed to an isolation ward at the general hospital. The Kerala health authorities have also tracked 58 persons who came in direct contact with the infected woman and have kept them under surveillance. The Kerala health department has set up 61 isolation wards in which at least 1600 people are under observation and 30 have been admitted to different hospitals. In Maharashtra, of 12 patients (5 each in Mumbai

and Pune, and one each in Nagpur and Nanded), tested the reports of 9 patients have turned out negative and the reports if three were awaited. Three girl students from Khead, (Ratnagiri, Maharashtra) studying in Goa, were stated to be safe. In Goa, two more foreign nationals who arrived in Goa from China, have been quarantined at the Goa Medical College and Hospital after developing flu-like symptoms. Medical college dean Dr S M Bandekar said they will be kept under observation until their samples sent to the National Institute of Virology in Pune are tested. Prior to this, a Serbian national was quarantined at the special ward set up at the hospital but was later discharged after found to have not contracted the deadly virus. Passengers at the Goa International Airport are being screened and asked to declare if they have travelled to China recently and if so, they will be further screened for symptoms and quarantined. On Saturday, the Telangana government said that 11 of the 18 samples tested for the coronavirus, turned out to be negative and results of 7 were awaited. In yet another development, "IndiGo" said that it will

suspend flights on Kolkata-Guangzhou route from Feb 6 to 25, 2020, due to "coronavirus"... On Wednesday, the low-cost carrier had announced suspension of flights on Bengaluru-Hong Kong and Delhi-Chengdu route till 29 February. "In line with the WHO guideline to contain the spread of the disease, "IndiGo" will be suspending its Kolkata-Guangzhou flights from February 6, 2020 until February 25, 2020 and Guangzhou-Kolkata from February 7, 2020 until February 26, 2020," the airline said in a statement on Saturday and added that "These are purely temporary and precautionary measures". While 324 returned to India on Saturday morning, the second Air India flight reached Wuhan on Saturday evening to pick up the rest of the Indians from Hubei province of which Wuhan is the provincial capital. On Saturday, Chinese health authorities announced that the death toll has risen to 259 with total confirmed cases increasing to 11,791, the biggest increase since China began reporting the spread of the virulent virus on January 21.

## Dr. Ranjan Flagged Off Adventure Camp 2020

**IT News**  
**Bishnupur, Feb 2**

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), Bishnupur organized sports material distribution ceremony cum launching of 7 days adventure camp 2020 today at Kiyamba Shangleen, Bishnupur. "Participating as the Chief Guest, Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, launched the '7 Days Adventure Camp 2020' on the occasion. Mr. Bijoy Kakchingtabam, President, Manipur Mountaineering & Trekking Association and Mrs. Jackie Ruivah, State Director, NYKS also graced the function as guest of honour and president respectively. Highlighting the achievements of NYKS in the district in his keynote address, Dr. Dhana Salam, DYC, Bishnupur highlighted the need for establishing a skill

development training center in the district. Encouraging the youths of the present generation to broaden their outlooks, Dr. Ranjan, urged the people to contribute their positive abilities to the society and nation-building. Stating that the role of youth was very crucial, he encouraged the young participants of the 7 days adventure camp 2020 to learn how to struggle for existence, self-confidence and learn to live in one spirit. He also announced to establish one Youth Resource Centre in NYKS campus having enough space and asked NYKS Bishnupur to submit a proposal at the earliest. The focus of the center will be knowledge cum skill development resource center. On the occasion, 109 youth clubs/organizations were given sports materials and 30 youths will participate in the 7 days adventure camp 2020."

## A stand up comedian banned by airlines for unruly behaviour

**By Raju Vernekar**

Four airlines have banned stand up comedian Kunal Kamra for allegedly heckling television anchor Arnab Goswami, during a flight from Mumbai to Lucknow, on an IndiGo flight on Tuesday. While "IndiGo" banned Kamra for six months, Air India and private airlines- SpiceJet and "GoAir" imposed an indefinite ban till further notice on him. While an official at "Vistara" said that they would wait for a written directive from the government before taking action, an "AirAsia" spokesperson said, that their internal committee was reviewing the case and a

decision would be taken as per due process. Other airlines took action against Kamra after Civil Aviation Minister Hardeep Puri asked them to follow "IndiGo". Puri said that he called for a ban as the video evidence was clear and Kamra's actions posed a safety threat. Under the rules, any allegation of mid-air misbehaviour by passengers has to be investigated by an internal committee set up by the carrier concerned. Based on the findings, the DGCA places a person on a no-fly list and other airlines follow the suit. "In this incident, the guy is shooting a video of the person — Arnab. But it can be anyone — and trying to instigate him

and even going to the extent of using four letter words," the minister. The person kept quiet in this case, but if the other person got instigated and there was a case of fisticuffs inside the aircraft, it could have become a safety issue" Puri said and added that "In such cases, the airlines hold an inquiry upon the complaint of a pilot-in-command before banning anyone. That is to ensure that the airlines do not ban passengers arbitrarily. This case, however, is totally different, as there is a video proof". The Civil Aviation Rule (CAR) on such offences "is explicit," a Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) official told IT

that "IndiGo" will have to form a committee and decide on Kamra." DGCA in a statement said "The action taken by airlines is in complete consonance with Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) section 3, series M part VI on handling of unruly passengers. Now the matter is to be referred to the internal committee as prescribed in para 6.1 of the said CAR. Further as per section 6.4 of the CAR, the internal committee is to give the final decision in 30 days by giving the reason in writing, which shall be binding on the airline concerned. Punishment for different type of unruly behavior is also prescribed in the same CAR and the internal

committee has to adhere to the same". In turn Kamra maintained that Right to speech is bestowed upon every citizen under article 19 of the Constitution of India. I was not disruptive and I did not endanger the safety of any passenger on board. The only damage I caused was to the "inflate ego" of journalist Arnab Goswami. I haven't travelled by Spice Jet and Air India in this event". Kamra had earlier shared a video on Twitter where he could be heard asking Arnab Goswami: "Viewers today want to know if Arnab is a coward or a nationalist. Arnab, this is for national interest. I am part of the tukde-tukde narrative. You

should deflate me. You should take the enemy of the states down. Kamra also allegedly heckled Goswami for his "conflicted" news coverage of PhD student Rohith Vemula, who had committed a suicide on 17 January 2016 in a hostel in Telangana, after University of Hyderabad stopped his monthly stipend due to his extra curricular activities. However, Arnab Goswami chose to remain quiet and did not answer back. However the captain who flew Kamra and Goswami wrote to IndiGo management asking why the airline didn't consult him before banning the stand-up comedian. "As captain of 6E317/Mumbai-Lucknow flight on January 28, I found Kamra's

behaviour unsavoury, but was not qualifying of a level I unruly passenger. We pilots can attest to incidents similar and/or worse in nature, that were not deemed unruly," he said in his email to the airline's management. It may be recalled that Shiv Sena MP Ravindra Gaikwad from Osmanabad in Maharashtra was banned from flying by IndiGo, SpiceJet, Jet Airways and GoAir Vistara (part of the Federation of Indian Airlines) and Air India, after he assaulted an Air India staffer on March 23, 2017. The ban was later revoked, after he apologised in a letter to the Then Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapati Raju.