



Shops shut down in Shivajinagar as tension escalated on Friday after clashes on Thursday evening. TDO Photo

## Biocon boss blasts babus

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That becomes very difficult". On the Dharam Singh government, she said, "Congress-JDS coalition said they are not going to focus on urban development; and they are going to focus on rural development. But the sad thing is they did neither." Mazumdar-Shaw said Chief Minister Kumaraswamy, who assumed charge last month, has made "very good statements" but "If he can't get bureaucracy to implement and support him, how is he going to do all this?" She said most of the IT companies are moving out of Bangalore. "Today, if you ask me if I really had to expand my business, would I do it in Karnataka? No. I would certainly look for opportunities. Any future project, I will not do it in Karnataka. There is no support for industry." Mazumdar-Shaw said, "core of all this is infrastructure. We cannot hope to have that kind of exponential progress of growth unless infrastructural issues are addressed. It becomes very difficult to pursue growth."

### The Daily Observer

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# Shivajinagar under control

Observer Staff

**BANGALORE, March 10:** Six people have been arrested following clashes in Shivajinagar last night. Shops in the area opened today, despite mobs gathering in the area but were later shut down. Five people had been injured in the clashes over a trivial incident last evening. Tension prevailed in the area as mobs gathered all over the Chick road area. The police dispersed them immediately. Inspector S Ramesh, posted in the area said that they were not allowing any mob to gather, because people spread rumors causing more problems. A local shop owner Mr. S Zaheer said "We were asked not to come out of our houses yesterday, but today I saw that the situation was normal and so I opened my shop." Joint Commissioner of Police M.C. Narayana Gowda said " We are taking no chances and have made elaborate arrangements."

Mr. Gowda said that the police reached on time and brought the situation under control.

Trouble erupted on Thursday evening around 6.30 when a petty incident took a communal turn, triggering sporadic violence that left at least six persons wounded. Tension later gripped the area after miscreants threw stones at several vehicles and attacked a few houses and shops. According to the police, the trouble began when two youths from Noah Street were walking near the Milkman's Colony. The stones they hurled at a stray dog reportedly hit two youths from another communitiy. This led to an altercation, which soon turned into fisticuffs.

Later, a group of youths is said to have attacked two houses and thrown stones at some shops and business establishments. As news of the incident spread, miscreants joined in, pelting stones at BMTC buses and autorickshaws near Shivajinagar bus stand.

## Barefoot slumberers in Cubbon Park

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excitement. The grass either waves, listlessly, as it were, or simply exists.

However, there is a lot going on under the seemingly placid surface.

Many of those sitting alone or with a companion, you'd be surprised to know, are waiting to catch a train or a bus. Some others are waiting here to kill some time in peace, before their names are in announced at the high court, which is in the Park. Cubbon Park has come to be a waiting room for many, though, not for all.

Suresh Kale and Male Athaure, from Tamil Nadu, plan to leave for home by the eight-o'clock train tonight. "We have a hearing at the high court at 11 am after which we plan to leave," explains Suresh in Marathi. "We have been asked to wait and have been waiting from nine. This is a better place where we detach ourselves from all that tension," he adds, while Mali nods in affirmation.

Twenty-three year old Chahat, an air conditioning technician with Maruti Udyog Limited in Allahabad has come to Bangalore for the first time. "I am loving this park. You rarely get to see such a big park," says Chahat.

However, not all of them are like Chahat, Suresh or Male. Shurajuddin Ahmed, a sweet shop owner, has been a loyal visitor at the Cubbon Park for the last one year, without missing a single morning.

"I simply love spending time with myself," says Shurajuddin with a smile. "I have retired from my work, passing on everything to my son, who manages my sweet shop at Hosur Road. This is where I read my newspaper every morning," explains the well-humored sexagenarian, getting back to *The Daily Salar*.

As for the others, they still continue to sleep deeply on the cement benches, daring anyone to wake them up. Probably, that's more pleasant than what they live when they open their eyes.

# IN OTHER NEWS

## NATION



**President wows Burmese Generals:** President APJ Abdul Kalam today discussed the restoration of democracy in Myanmar with Senior General Than Shwe but did not bring up the release of Aung San Suu Kyi. The talks also featured increasing trade from \$400 million to \$1 billion besides cooperation in the energy sector.



**Save Bachchan Movement:** With uncertainty continuing over the Rajya Sabha membership of Samajwadi Party's Jaya Bachchan, the Mulayam Singh government in Uttar Pradesh has pushed through a Bill that seeks to take away 79 posts from the list of offices of profit. These posts include that of chairman of the UP Film Development Council held by her, which led to her disqualification.

**Bounty for DMK allies:** The Congress in Tamil Nadu let out a whoop of delight today as it got 48 seats from the DMK's pre-poll bonanza bag. Smarting under Vaiko's walkout, DMK chief M. Karunanidhi made sure his seat-sharing arrangements left most of his partners in the Democratic Progressive Alliance smiling. The Congress has got the lion's share of the 234 Assembly seats for the May 8 polls. The CPM clinched 13 and the CPI got 10 seats.

## WORLD

**India joins ranks of disaster donors at the UN:** India's role as an emerging global power received a major shot in the arm today when New Delhi joined the world's "traditional" donors and pledged \$2 million to a UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), which will rapidly respond to natural disasters such as the Asian tsunami in December 2004 and the earthquake in the subcontinent last year.

**UN council to chastise Iran but may sidestep sanctions:** The five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council weighed proposals last night for an initial response to the Iran nuclear crisis, with Washington urging its allies to consider targeted sanctions and the entire council planning its first meeting on the issue next week.

**Seventh round of Indo-China border talks begins:** A delegation of Chinese representatives will begin today the seventh round of discussions on the India-China border issue here with the Indian leadership. Talks, which are to be stretched till March 13, will also be held in Kottayam (Kerala). The Indian delegation will be headed by National Security Advisor (NSA) M.K. Narayanan, who is India's special representative on the boundary question, while the Chinese side will be led by Dai Bingguo, Executive Vice Foreign Minister and China's special representative.

**One injured in bomb at Hindu temple in Indonesia:** A home-made bomb exploded on Friday outside a Hindu temple on an Indonesian island, wounding a man who was guarding the compound, police said. The blast in the town of Poso in central Sulawesi island was caused by a low-intensity bomb that caused the roof and walls of the temple's guard house to collapse. "Whoever did this wanted to create panic and spread terror here in Poso," a police spokesman said

## BUSINESS

**Blair and Lula calls for summit to rescue Trade Talks:** Tony Blair and President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of Brazil called yesterday for a summit of world leaders to rescue deadlocked global trade talks as they warned that time was fast running out to help poor countries. The initiative sets Britain and Brazil against Pascal Lamy, the director-general of the WTO, who fears a summit involving the G8 developed nations and five leading developing countries — Brazil, India, South Africa, China and Mexico — could end in failure by playing into the hands of the protectionist lobby in the west.



**Why click fraud questions won't stop:** Google has agreed to pay \$90 million in ad credits to get out of an Arkansas suit alleging that its pay-per-click ad system encourages false and fraudulent clicks, which in turn overcharges advertisers. The settlement, which has yet to be approved, covers all advertising back to 2002.

## SPORT

**South wins a thrilling contest:** In a stunning last-ball finish, Ajit Agarkar nearly flattened South Zone with his skillful demolition of the attack but West Zone fell short of the target by two runs in a captivating Deodhar Trophy match here on Thursday.

**Muralitharan bags 600th wicket:** Muttiah Muralitharan became only the second bowler to take 600 Test wickets today in the second innings of the second Test against Bangladesh in Bogra.