

UDUPI | MAXIMUM 31 YESTERDAY MINIMUM 19





MangaluruToday 33°C

Light winds are likely. A delightful morning. The sky wi cloudy over the area. A moderately hot day.

National Voters Day on January 25

MANGALURU: The National Voters Day will be celebrated in Uppinangady on January 25, Plays and elocution competition on the subject 'Democracy and Participation of People in Voting', will be held, said a press release.

Autorickshaw fare to be discussed

MANGALURU: Deputy Commissioner A.B. Ibrahim will be chairing a meeting of the Road Transport Authority on Friday at his office to discuss the reduction of autorickshaw fares. The RTA decided to reduce the fare of private city buses in a meeting held on Thursday in light of reduction in the fare of petrol and diesel.

Stress buster

We will be in Mars in 20 years: Rao

ISRO ex-chairman says science should be used for green revolution

Raviprasad Kamila

MANGALURU: The former Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (IS-RO) U.R. Rao said here on Thursday that in the next 15 or 20 years "we will certainly go to Mars".

Speaking on 'science in action - role of academicians and industries at the inauguration of a three-day workshop on 'science in action' at St. Agnes College, he said the moon could provide the resource (helium 3) required for power generation.

He asked people to bury beliefs such as that ancient scriptures mentioned aircraft operations.

Stating that science should serve the needs of people, he said advancements in space research and other areas of science should be used for evergreen revolution and increase agricultural productivity.

Make in India

Mr. Rao said that though



U.R. Rao addressing a workshop on 'Science in Action' at St. Agnes College in Mangaluru on Thursday. - PHOTO: H.S. MANJUNATH

India claimed to have made advancements in science, it had not able to manufacture even a single aircraft domestically.

The cost of purchasing an aircraft from abroad was huge - ranging up to Rs. 500 crore, which was enough to go to Mars.

ery and equipment needed for defence forces were being imported.

Stressing on the need to stop relying on imports and start producing and manufacturing indigenously, he said it would also help in appreciation of the Indian rupee.

If the country continued to He said that even machin- rely more in imports, the rupee could not recover, he said.

Career in agriculture

P. Chowdappa, Director, Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod, told students there was life beyond employment opportunities in the Information Technology sector. Agricultural business and farming offered a large scope as ca-

Referring to tissue-cultured banana cultivation, he said tissue-cultured plants could yield up to 60 tonnes of banana per hectare compared with 30 tonnes by using conventional plants. There was a demand for 50 million seedlings of tissue-cultured banana in the country now, he said.

Mr. Chowdappa said if neera was tapped from coconut palms, a palm could provide an income of Rs. 50,000 per vear.

The three-day workshop would deliberate upon various topics including science for public.