



DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

LEADING HEALTH, POPULATION AND FAMILY WELFARE STORIES OF THE Day
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¹Why A.P.'s incentive for having more children is misplaced

The recently announced cash incentives in Andhra Pradesh cannot offset the economic barriers faced by people to have larger families

DATA POINT

Sambavi Parthasarathy

In May 16, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu announced a one-time incentive of ₹30,000 for the third child and ₹40,000 for the fourth. He said that these incentives were a part of the State's new population management policy to encourage population growth.

On the surface, the incentives to have bigger families may sound sensible with the latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS-6) report for the year 2023-24 placing the State's fertility level at 1.8, which is below the replacement level of 2.1. However, a closer look warrants questions on at least three fronts: whether such an incentive is adequate for families to have more children; what the key reasons are for the dropping fertility rate; and whether such an intervention is necessary now.

A comparison of this one-time cash incentive against basic expenditures shows that it cannot offset the childcare costs, a concern that is prompting families to rethink having more children (Chart 1).

The government's incentive is about twice the average cost of hospitalisation for childbirth in India, and a far smaller multiple of the cost in Andhra Pradesh. In fact, it is almost the same as the cost of hospitalisation for childbirth in the State's urban area. In a State where more than 50% of births happen in private hospitals and about 52% of all deliveries happen through Caesarean sections, this incentive will just offset the hospitalisation cost in rural areas (Chart 2). It is also inadequate to cover the cost of C-sections in private hospitals in urban areas.

For a family of five (assuming there are two adults and three children), this incentive is about 1.5 times their Monthly Per Capita Expenditure (MPCE) in rural areas and almost similar to the MPCE in

urban areas, as per the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey for 2023-24. This means that the incentive could just help the families meet their consumption needs for one month, provided the same was not already spent in hospital during childbirth.

Cannot afford children

Moreover, the question around family planning has moved from whether families "should" have more children to whether they can afford it. The United Nations Population Fund's (UNFPA) 'State of World Population Report 2025' shows that financial limitations are the prime barrier to having children (Chart 3).

Other barriers included housing limitations, followed by unemployment (or job insecurity), and the lack of quality and affordable childcare options. In many of these indicators, the share of Indians pointing to these concerns was much higher than the average share across the 14 countries that were surveyed for the report.

The survey further pointed out that a larger share of Indian men and women preferred having either one or two children (Chart 4). Less than 10% of Indian respondents said they would prefer to have three, four or more children, which is almost on a par with the share of Indians who preferred having no children.

It is noteworthy that the below-replacement fertility rate in Andhra Pradesh and across India does not mean that the population decline is imminent. The population will continue to increase, then stabilise and eventually begin to decline, which, for India, is likely to happen only in 2063 as per estimates (Chart 5).

For instance, although Japan and South Korea's fertility rates dropped below the replacement level in the late 1970s and the early 1980s respectively, their populations – which are less than 10% of India's – began to decline only around 2010 and 2020.

Wrong incentives

The data for the charts were sourced from the Household Consumption Expenditure Survey 2023-24, Household Social Consumption: Health 2025, NFHS-5, Our World in Data and the UNFPA.



Chart 2: A comparison of A.P.'s new incentives

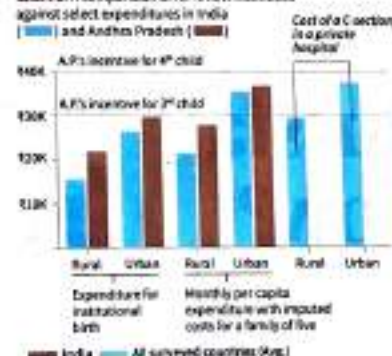


Chart 3: Factors that have led to or are likely to lead the surveyed respondents to have fewer children than initially desired

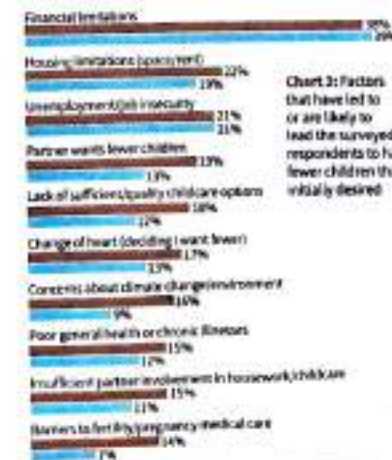


Chart 2: About 50% of institutional births happened in private facilities in 2013-14 in A.P. Among them, more than 60% of the births were delivered by C-sections.

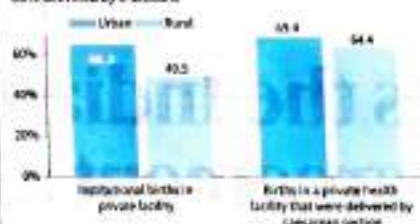


Chart 4: Ideal number of children preferred by male and female respondents as per the LINTA survey

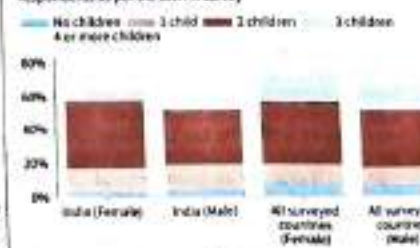
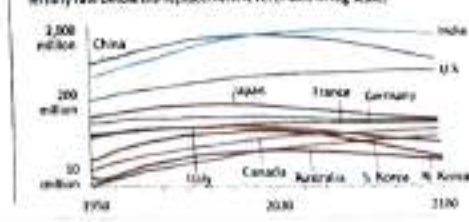


Chart 5: Population figures and projections for select countries with a fertility rate below the replacement level (Y-axis in log scale)



Editorial

Health data must drive action, not just headlines

There is an unsettling paradox in the release of health survey data in India. Survey findings often end up doing exactly the reverse of what they should. They often highlight what we already know, do not take a sufficiently serious view of what has not improved, and rarely lead to immediate programmatic action. The discussion that follows is often ritualistic: the government highlights achievements, newspapers amplify numbers, academics wait for raw data to analyse, and business and industry identify market opportunities.

This seems to be the case with the three recently released health-linked surveys: the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-6), the National Statistical Office (NSO) 80th Round Household Consumption on Health and the National Health Accounts Estimates for India 2022-23.

All three should have offered a moment of national stocktaking. Instead, the two reports on health expenses barely received any attention, while the third, the NFHS-6, and its use by key stakeholders, tells a familiar story. In government communication, improvements have been selected and celebrated. Achievements must, of course, be acknowledged. However, the real value of such surveys is not in confirming what has worked, but in showing where programmes remain weak and old strategies are no longer sufficient.

The business of disease

Industry and business groups have flagged rising health challenges reported in NFHS-6. Rising obesity becomes an argument for weight-loss products, apps, gyms, diagnostics and drugs. Rising diabetes becomes an opportunity for monitoring devices, test packages and private clinics. Rising non-communicable diseases become the market case for more screening, testing and medicalisation. Where public health messaging is weak and private health markets are aggressive, every survey finding can become a business prospect.

The one positive development so far has been the extensive coverage in the print media, which has flagged what matters to citizens: the rise of obesity, diabetes, hypertension and other non-communicable diseases (NCD). Yet, much of this was already known. Obesity and other NCDs have moved from urban and affluent groups to all social and economic groups. The new data merely put fresh numbers to an old warning.

What is grossly missing is critical reflection and policy dialogue around these findings. This should worry us. A health survey is not meant to be a national reminder of familiar problems but an instrument of course correction. If anaemia



Chandrakant Lahariya

Practising physician in preventive and cardio-metabolic medicine and specialist in health policy. He has worked with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN system for nearly 18 years.

has not improved, the response cannot be another paragraph in a report. If out-of-pocket expenditure remains high, the answer cannot be only a headline on a declining percentage share. If obesity is rising among children, the response cannot be a few articles followed by silence.

The NFHS-6 also carries a temporal problem. Its data were collected during 2022-23, but the findings entered public debate in mid-2023. In a political system skilled at both claiming credit and avoiding blame, this lag is convenient. A government can celebrate positive indicators as proof of current policy success while dismissing uncomfortable findings as "old data", influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic, past administrative disruptions or conditions that have since improved. The survey then becomes less a compass and more a weapon. This is unfair to the survey and unhelpful to policymaking.

Academics and public health researchers play a crucial role in interpreting large-scale survey data beyond official reports. In India, however, such analysis is often delayed because raw data are released late. By the time peer-reviewed studies appear, three to five years may have passed since data collection. Policymakers can then dismiss critical findings as outdated and no longer relevant. As a result, data lose their impact: when reports are released, raw data are unavailable for scrutiny; when analysis finally arrives, the opportunity for policy action has often passed.

From data to action

There is a need to reflect on how India continues to miss these opportunities. Data improve health outcomes only when they are linked to timely and relevant policy decisions. Countries that make effective use of health data do not wait years for perfect academic papers or definitive solutions. Instead, they have robust systems and empowered institutions that generate rapid policy briefs, identify lagging districts and regions, conduct regular reviews, compare performance, allocate resources efficiently and adapt programmes as needed. The translation of data into action is not merely a slogan; it is a discipline. India needs to cultivate that discipline if it is to realise the full value of the vast amounts of health data it collects.

First, every major national health survey should be followed, within 30 to 45 days, by a national and State-level action note jointly prepared by the government and independent academic institutions. The note should candidly identify what has improved, what has remained stagnant and what has deteriorated. Each finding should be linked to a specific programme and a clearly accountable authority. If child nutrition has stagnated, the nutrition programme must

respond. If hypertension detection remains inadequate, the primary health-care system must respond. If out-of-pocket expenditure on medicines remains high, the drug procurement system must respond. Data should not merely describe problems; they should trigger accountability and corrective action.

Second, there should be State-level health data review meetings, not ceremonial events but working sessions. Health Secretaries, Finance Departments, District officials, public health experts, civil society representatives, other key stakeholders and independent subject experts should examine the findings together. The question should not be, "What can we highlight?" It should be, "What must we change?"

Third, India needs systems for the optimal and timely use of survey data. It has started developing the Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP), but that is primarily for real-time data. Survey data, Health Management Information System (HMIS) data and IHIP data must be combined to generate analytical information. Fragmented data produce fragmented policy.

Fourth, primary data and source files from surveys should be made available early so that independent researchers and public institutions can produce quick analysis. There is no reason to wait years for serious interpretation. Data should not sit like a guarded file. They should be available as a public good.

Fifth, findings should influence budgetary allocation. If a survey shows rising NCDs, primary care budgets must reflect the need for NCD prevention and treatment. If households are spending heavily on medicines, public facilities must strengthen essential drug availability. If obesity is rising in children, school health, food regulation and urban planning must respond. Data without budgetary consequence are merely information.

Looking ahead

Economist Aaron Levenstein said in 1951 that "statistics are like bikinis. What they reveal is suggestive, but what they conceal is vital". Health data should be like an x-ray. They are useful only when interpreted correctly, discussed honestly and followed by policy actions. Data and statistics are only as useful as their interpretation; interpretation is only as useful as the action it produces. The next time survey findings are released, the real question should not be what the numbers show. The real question should be: what will change in programmes in a month's time, in six months and in a year? Alongside this, India definitely needs more and timely health data. However, what we need even more is accountability.

Health data should guide accountability, budgets and programme reform

L-G orders citywide audit of schools for POCSO compliance

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Lieutenant-Governor (L-G) Taranjit Singh Sandhu has ordered a comprehensive audit of schools in the Capital to assess if they are complying with the provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, according to a statement issued by his office on Wednesday.

At a review meeting attended by senior officials from Delhi Police and the Departments of Women and Child Development, Education and Transport on Tuesday, Mr. Sandhu directed authorities to identify gaps in the implementation of child protection norms and take action against institutions violating guidelines.

The Education Department has been asked to ensure strict compliance with POCSO provisions, and every school has been directed to maintain a dedicated Child Protection Committee that meets regularly to monitor safety-related issues, a statement read.

'Zero tolerance'

To improve security around educational institutions, the L-G directed the



L-G Taranjit Singh Sandhu asked the police to maintain presence near schools. FILE PHOTO

police to ensure a visible presence near schools and major student hubs.

He emphasised a "zero-tolerance approach" towards harassment and molestation of women and children.

Mr. Sandhu also instructed the police to ensure all women police stations handle complaints and cases related to crimes against women and children to enable more sensitive and efficient response mechanisms. Authorities were instructed to observe July as the 'Child Protection Month' and conduct a month-long awareness campaign, including training programmes for teachers, school staff, and parents on child protection measures.

Developed India rests on the youth's well-being

Picture an India where young innovators from small towns are building companies with global customers, where daughters from villages are standing on national and international sporting podiums, and where students from Tier-II and Tier-III cities are presenting ideas on platforms that connect them directly with policymakers, industry leaders and investors. This is no longer a distant aspiration. It is the lived reality of a young nation on the move.

With nearly 65% of its population below the age of 35, India possesses a demographic advantage unparalleled among major economies. Over the past decade, India has steadily expanded opportunities for young people across education, skilling, entrepreneurship, sports, health and civic participation. This is India's Amrit Pechhi, the generation that will lead the journey towards Viksit Bharat by 2047.

Education has been central to this transformation. The National Education Policy 2020 places strong emphasis on experiential learning, skill integration and multidisciplinary flexibility. Higher education enrolment has risen by over 30%, reflecting both expanding access and rising aspiration. Equally important has been the growing inclusivity of the system. Residential schooling initiatives, scholarship schemes, and institutional support have continued to reduce financial barriers and widen the doors of opportunity. Technology has further democratised access to learning. Digital platforms such as SWAYAM, DIKSHA and PM e-VIDYA are bringing quality educational content to millions of students. This has ensured that geography is no longer a barrier as it once was.

Yet, education alone is not sufficient. The ability to continuously acquire and upgrade skills has become equally important. Through the Skill India Mission, more than six crore young people have been trained across sectors. With the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), the focus has shifted towards industry-aligned and future-ready skilling. Jan Shiksha Sansthas have been oriented towards local demand-based skilling, while apprenticeship-based learning has expanded under the National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme, where the government supports partial payment of stipends. Industrial Training Institutes are also being modernised to align with emerging technologies and industry needs.

This convergence of education, skilling and technology is especially significant at a time when new sectors such as Artificial Intelligence, semiconductors and sustainability technology are reshaping the global economy. The challenge before India is to equip its youth to lead in industries that will define the future.

Young Indians are increasingly becoming creators of opportunities rather than merely seekers of employment. Perhaps the most striking transformation in recent years has been the rise of entrepreneurship among young Indians. From just around 350 startups before 2014, India now has over 2.3 lakh recognised startups, making it the world's third-largest startup ecosystem. It also has more than 120 unicorns, reflecting the growing depth and maturity of India's innovation ecosystem.

Initiatives such as Startup India have helped remove regulatory barriers, simplify compliance, support incubation and enable faster formalisation of new enterprises. Young people today are more willing to take ideas to the market, build enterprises and solve local problems

with scalable solutions.

Access to finance has also been significantly strengthened. Through MUDRA Yojana, collateral-free credit has been made available at scale, enabling first-generation entrepreneurs to take their first step into business. Under the scheme, over 57 crore loans worth ₹40 lakh crore have been sanctioned, empowering small entrepreneurs and self-employed youth across the country.

Initiatives such as Stand-Up India have expanded this support further, particularly for women entrepreneurs and marginalised communities, ensuring that enterprise is not limited by social or economic background.

India's digital public infrastructure, ranging from UPI to Aadhaar-enabled services, has reduced transaction costs, improved access to markets and allowed even small enterprises to participate in the formal economy. Digital payments, e-governance platforms and technology-enabled service delivery have helped young people access finance, learning, markets and government services with greater ease. Together with incubation networks, innovation hubs and state-level startup policies, this has created an environment where ideas can be tested, scaled and sustained.

As a result, entrepreneurship is increasingly emerging from Tier-II and Tier-III cities, reflecting a deep democratisation of opportunity. For young India, entrepreneurship is becoming not only a means of livelihood, but also a vehicle for innovation, dignity and self-confidence.

Aspirations are equally visible in sports and in the pursuit of physical and mental well-being. Khelo India has strengthened grassroots sports infrastructure, with more than 1,000 Khelo India Centres now operational across the country, supporting thousands of young athletes. These efforts are reflected in India's improving global sporting performance. Access to mental health support through Tele-MANAS has created an important channel for counselling and assistance. Campaigns such as the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan have reached crores of young people across districts and educational institutions, promoting awareness around substance abuse. A truly developed India rests on the physical, emotional and social well-being of its young citizens.

In his Independence Day address in 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi articulated a vision of bringing one lakh young people from non-political backgrounds into the mainstream of politics. The Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue has emerged as one of the most distinctive and large-scale platforms for youth participation and engagement in the country.

At the same time, MY Bharat has emerged as a powerful movement to inspire a spirit of service and nation-building among young people. Today, it has built a network of over 2.18 crore registered youth volunteers. It reflects a larger shift in which citizenship is understood not only as a set of rights, but also as a responsibility to serve, participate and build.

The future of the country will be written not for young people, but by them. History offers nations only a few moments when demographics, technology and aspiration converge. India stands at such a moment today; the aspirations of its youth will not simply shape Viksit Bharat; they will define it.

Mansukh Mandaviya is Union minister for youth affairs and sports, and labour and employment. The views expressed are personal.



Mansukh Mandaviya

The G7 Summit in France delivered important results for Ukraine... There will be new steps to put pressure on Russia over its war — pressure for the sake of peace

Justice depends on human wisdom, not AI

The Indian legal profession is facing an uncomfortable reality it can no longer ignore. A significant number of those practising law may not be qualified to do so. In the last few days, separate announcements by the Supreme Court and the Bar Council of India (BCI) have exposed two distinct forms of inauthenticity in the legal profession: Doubts about the credentials of those practising law, and doubts about the reliability of the artificial intelligence (AI) systems increasingly being used to assist them.

The BCI's recent verification exercise has exposed a rot that should have been addressed decades ago. By its own admission, a staggering 35-40% of practitioners in court complexes across the country may be operating with fake law degrees. During the verification process, thousands failed to submit the required documentation, confirming suspicions that many

may have entered the profession through fabricated credentials. The scandal prompted the Chief Justice of India to make — and later clarify — his now-infamous "cockroaches" remark. The CJI's critique was not directed at young lawyers generally but at bogus practitioners who had entered the Bar through manufactured means.

The significance of this crisis extends far beyond professional misconduct. Accreditation is the foundation of legal legitimacy. The justice system depends upon the assumption that officers of the court have undergone rigorous legal training and scrutiny. If that assumption begins to fail, public trust in the administration of justice falls with it. It is in the eye of this crisis that AI has entered the profession.

The danger of AI is no longer theoretical. Courts across India have expressed alarm over AI hallucinations that invent citations that appear entirely authoritative. In *Gunnawal Usha Rani v. Sarf Malikarajuna Rao*, an Andhra Pradesh trial court unknowingly relied on four non-existent judgments — complete fabrications that struck at the heart of the adjudicatory process. As courts, lawyers, and law firms increasingly experiment with generative AI, the legal system now confronts a second form of inauthenticity. We have allowed the human gatekeepers to become fraudulent, and now we risk allowing our legal reasoning to become synthetic.

These developments are often discussed as separate problems. But they are not. A profession that struggles to verify its human gatekeepers must now grapple with technologies

capable of counterfeiting expertise itself. As unwitting algorithms enter the legal system, we have not even established whether the men and women in black coats are genuine or fraudulent. The challenge posed by AI is, therefore, inseparable from the erosion of professional authenticity — one concerns fabricated credentials, the other concerns fabricated reasoning. Both threaten public trust, upon which the justice system ultimately depends.

The necessity of a "human in the loop" is now a matter of institutional survival. To stem this tide, the Supreme Court's Draft AI Regulations (2026) have established absolute prohibitions to protect the bench: no algorithmic decision-making, no black-box systems, and mandatory disclosure with no surveillance or profiling of judges, lawyers, or litigants. The regulations recognise an essential principle: Technology may assist legal decision-making, but it cannot replace human judgment.

But AI did not create this crisis; it simply arrived in the middle of it. The response must therefore be broader than AI regulation alone. It requires rigorous verification of advocates' credentials, meaningful reform of legal education, stronger professional oversight, and clear governance of AI-generated material entering and leaving courtrooms. The lawyer of the future must possess verified expertise that is enhanced — not replaced — by technology.

The draft AI regulations represent a progressive milestone toward transparency, yet their efficacy hinges on a critical legal distinction. By categorising these mandates as regulations rather than rules under Article 145, the Supreme Court risks creating a framework without the constitutional teeth required for enforcement.

For the mandatory disclosure requirement to be more than a statement of intent, it must be backed by enforceable oversight that prevents synthetic reasoning from exploiting the current crisis of professional inauthenticity. The BCI, the judiciary, and academia must align now. If we allow the human element to be eroded by bogus degrees and uncritical reliance on algorithms, we will be left with a legal system that may be efficient and automated but utterly detached from the human judgment upon which justice depends.

Ashish Bharadwaj is the pro vice-chancellor of the upcoming WPU Goa. Insiyah Vahanvati is a socio-political commentator and author of 'The Fearless Judge'. The views expressed are personal.

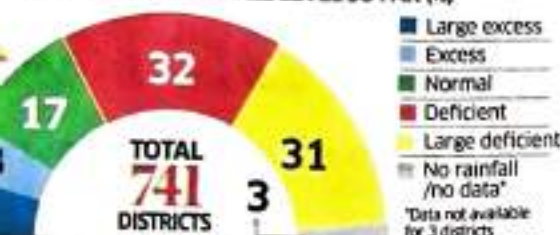


Ashish Bharadwaj



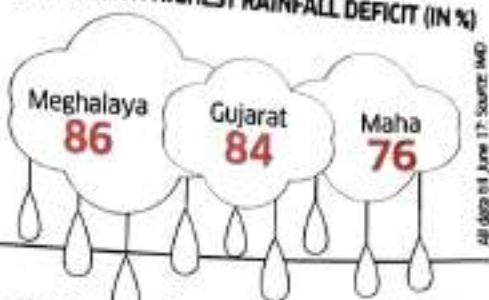
Insiyah Vahanvati

OF DISTRICTS, BY RAINFALL LEVEL SO FAR (%)



Monsoon to advance into some more parts of Telangana, Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar and Chattisgarh around June 23

STATES WITH HIGHEST RAINFALL DEFICIT (IN %)



All data as of June 17. Source: IMD

The Met has predicted lowest rainfall in 11 years & the first to face rough weather could be kitchen staples. At grassroots level, the govt is going all out to mitigate impact on farm incomes

Food Inflation is Up, likely to Only Get Worse with Mounting Monsoon Risks

Kitchen essentials may get more expensive on higher input costs, rising logistics costs

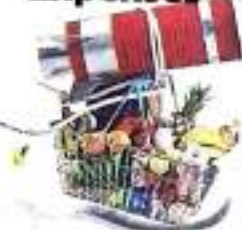
Shambhavi Anand
& Anoushka Sawhney

New Delhi: With food inflation beginning to rise and India staring at a potentially deficient monsoon rains, consumers are likely to pay more for several daily-use kitchen items, including spices, eggs, dairy products, tea and coffee.

Inflation in these categories already ranges between 6% and 12% (see graphic) and economists expect price pressure to increase in the coming months, driven by uneven crop cycles in the upcoming kharif harvest due to likely insufficient rains and heatwaves, higher input costs and rising logistics expenses.

"Looking ahead, the risk to the food inflation trajectory comes from heatwaves in North-Western India, El Nino risk and forecast of a below normal southwest monsoon," said Sakshi Gupta, principal economist at HDFC Bank.

Time to Rework Expenses



Overall food inflation rose to 4.8% year-on-year in May from 4.2% in April.

HDFC Bank estimates food and beverage inflation at 5.8% for the second quarter ending in September and 6% for overall FY27, while Bank of Baroda projects 5.5-6% inflation for FY27.

"Regions affected by lower rainfall will definitely see price pressure because the output will be affected," said Madan Sabnavis, chief economist at Bank of Baroda, adding that an El Niño-related disruption to crop output could prolong price pressures.

INFLATION (YoY, %)

	April '26	May '26
Dry chillies	8.5	11.9
Coriander	6.9	8.8
Turmeric	3.3	3.8
Oilseeds	4.8	4.9
Spices	4.7	6.8
Egg	5.3	5.5
Milk	2.9	2.9
Curd, yoghurt etc	1.8	2.1

Source: MCA

He said coriander and jeera would be impacted in particular "because they are grown in relatively arid regions dependent on the monsoon."

Spice inflation increased to 6.8% year-on-year in May from 4.7% in April, led by dry chillies at 11.9% and coriander (dhanla) at 8.8%. Prices of turmeric and oilseeds rose 3.8% and 4.9%, respectively, on-year in May.

"After two years of unprecedented deflation in spices, we are now witnessing a clear reversal with early signs of inflation returning, with spice prices seeing an uptick of about 6.5% by the end of the year and sharper increases in select categories," said Sanjay Sharma, managing director and CEO of Orkla India, maker of Eastern Spices, citing supply-side constraints, weather variability and uneven crop cycles.

3 critical SII vaccines to cost 20% more ^{TG21}

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Drug price regulator National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) has approved a 20% price hike for Serum Institute of India's BCG, measles and measles-rubella vaccines.

This move is unusual since price hikes are rare when one company dominates the market.

NPPA had fixed the price ceiling in Dec 2024 based on Pharmarack data after applying monopoly reduction of 17.1% under Drugs Prices Control Order, 2013. Serum Institute filed a review application with the department of pharmaceuticals (DoP), which referred the matter to NPPA. Serum Institute had argued that the vaccines were complex, had few alternatives, and costs had been rising.

"The vaccines in ques-

SII argued that the vaccines were complex, had few alternatives, and costs were rising

tion are of critical public health significance, have shown relatively stable price trends, impose minimal financial burden on citizens and are supplied by a single manufacturer at relatively low prices," read DoP's submission to NPPA.

NPPA decided that ceiling price may be revised without applying reduction under monopolistic condition "to address the grievance of the applicant as well as to ensure sufficient availability of the drug in the market", the notification said.

The BCG vaccine now costs Rs 9.9 per dose (up from Rs 8.2), measles-rubella Rs 87.93 (from Rs 72.9), and measles Rs 62 (Rs 51.4).

1 in 3 TB cases in NE screening asymptomatic

Health Ministry Report Flags 'Silent' Infections

Anuja Jaiswal@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: A sweeping tuberculosis screening effort across the Northeast has uncovered a troubling reality — more than one-third of TB cases detected among vulnerable populations showed no symptoms at all. The finding highlights the challenge of identifying "silent" infections that often go unnoticed until they are picked up through active screening.

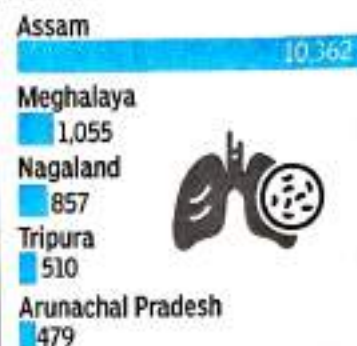
Health ministry's annual report 2025-26 showed that during Jan-Oct 2025, 14,356 of 41,727 TB cases detected among vulnerable populations under National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme (NTEP) in the Northeast — about 34% — were asymptomatic, meaning individuals were unlikely to have sought medical attention on their own.

The findings emerged from an intensive screening exercise that covered 39 lakh vulnerable individuals across the eight Northeastern states. Nearly 6 lakh people underwent chest X-ray screening, helping health authorities detect infections that might otherwise have remained hidden.

Assam accounted for the largest share of asymptomatic TB cases, reporting 10,362 such patients, followed by Meghalaya (1,055), Nagaland (857) and Tripura (510). Arunachal Pradesh reported 479 asymptomatic cases, Manipur 465, Sikkim 380 and Mizoram 248.

42k TB Cases Detected

States with most asymptomatic TB cases



Source: Health Ministry Annual Report 2025-26

Data highlights the growing shift from passive diagnosis to active case-finding as India pushes towards eliminating TB. Experts said asymptomatic patients pose a particular challenge because they often remain undetected for long periods, delaying treatment and increasing the risk of continued transmission within communities.

Over 10.7 lakh presumptive TB patients were screened till Sept 2025 in the region, while presumptive TB examination rate rose by 28%, from 2,062 per lakh population in 2024 to 2,645 per lakh in 2025. The region at present has 1,560 microscopy centres and 562 molecular testing facilities supporting TB diagnosis.

Several Northeastern states have begun deploying artificial intelligence-based screening tools to strengthen early detection. Meghalaya has introduced the "Cough Against TB" application and portable AI-enabled X-ray units, while Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh are using AI-assisted screening approaches in community settings.

Apollo Hospitals pays ₹17.8-cr fine to settle Fema cases

New Delhi: The RBI has allowed termination of ED's FEMA violation cases against Apollo Hospitals and its directors after the hospital and its management sought compounding of offences by paying one-time penalty of Rs 17.76 crore by Apollo Hospitals Enterprises Ltd and Rs 18 lakh each by its five directors/officials, including Preetha Reddy, Suneetha Reddy, and three others.

According to ED, the case against the Apollo hospital pertained to violations of the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) by bringing in FDI in a sector prohibited for it (retail trading) without informing govt. The sum involved was of over Rs 860 crore.

Other violations probed were related to the issuance of foreign currency convertible bonds of Rs 72 crore, receiving Rs 623 crore foreign investment under FII-PIS route, which in aggregate breached the 24% paid-up capital limit under FEMA rules; and breaching overall sectoral cap limit of 51% (for foreign shareholding for multi brand retail trading). TNN

Veena quizzed in laundering case for 8 hrs

Kochi: Veena T, daughter of former Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan, appeared before the ED at its zonal office in Kochi Wednesday in a case of alleged money laundering and was questioned for nearly eight hours.

Veena, who arrived at the office around 10.30am, left at 8pm. She arrived at the ED office along with her MLA husband P A Mohamed Riyas, who left the premises after dropping her off.

The investigation pertains to allegations that Cochin Minerals and Rutile Ltd made payments amounting to Rs 2.78 crore to Exalogic Solutions, a firm linked to Veena, without receiving any services in return.

This was Veena's first appearance before ED, which had initially summoned her on June 12, but she informed the agency that she could not appear due to health reasons. TNN

The Indian Express

DESPITE FORMATION OF SPECIAL POLICE UNIT, CONVICTION RATE AT 1.82%

Accused not identified in 55% cases: Data on crimes against North-East Indians

Sakshi Chand
New Delhi, June 17

MORE THAN half of the accused persons in the FIRs registered in Delhi over the past 12 years for crimes against people from the North-East have remained "untraced", according to Delhi Police data accessed by *The Indian Express*, underscoring persistent gaps in investigations despite the creation of a specialised police unit intended to address such cases.

"Untraced" here refers to accused whom the police could not identify, locate or apprehend despite conducting probes. For more than a decade, the Delhi Police has registered thousands of complaints involving crimes against people from India's North-East. But in most of those cases, data now reveals, investigators have not identified those responsible. Of the 2,656 FIRs filed between 2014 and April 30, 2026, 1,465 — nearly 55% — were classified as untraced. Only 33 cases resulted in conviction, producing a conviction rate of 1.82 per cent.

Sources said that senior police officers have recently directed the ACP Headquarters to

• Majority of crimes reported in 4 of 15 police district in last 12 years

DISTRICT	NO. OF FIRs FILED	PENDING INVESTIGATION	PENDING TRIAL	QUASHED**	UNTRACED	CONVICTED	CONVICTED (IN %)
South	412	15	130	47	219	1	0.37
South East	226	8	85	25	106	2	1.5
South West	982	18	269	101	583	11	1.58
Dwarka	223	10	47	34	129	3	1.8
ACROSS CITY	2,656	74	771	313	1,465	33	1.82

**QUASHED/CANCELLED/COMPROMISED/DISCHARGED/ACQUITTAL, *BETWEEN 2014 TO 30.04.26. SOURCE: DELHI POLICE

review cases in which investigations have remained pending for more than two years.

Data also shows that another 771 cases remain pending trial, while 74 are still under investigation. The concentration of cases is uneven across 15 police districts in Delhi.

South West district recorded 982 FIRs — roughly 37 per cent of all complaints during the period — and also reported the largest number of untraced cases, at 583. South district registered 412 FIRs, including 219 untraced cases. South East district and Dwarka recorded 226 and 223 FIRs respectively. Combined, the four districts account

for nearly 70% of all FIRs involving members of the North-East community.

Outcomes varied sharply across districts.

Outer North recorded the highest conviction rate at 11.7%, followed by Rohini at 11.1%, West district at 7.69% and Dwarka at 7.14%. But those districts accounted for comparatively few cases. South West district, despite recording the highest volume of complaints, reported only 11 convictions. Several districts and specialised units — including North East, East, Railway, Metro, IGI Airport and Special Cell — recorded no convictions

during the period covered by the data.

The figures arrive more than a decade after Delhi Police created its North-East Cell, a specialised unit established in 2014 following recommendations made by the M. P. Bexbaruah Committee. The committee was constituted by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs after the death of Nido Tania, a student from Arunachal Pradesh, and was tasked with examining racial discrimination, harassment and violence faced by people from the North-East in Indian cities. The North-East Cell was intended to serve as a nodal agency: addressing

grievances, monitoring criminal cases, coordinating with district police, maintaining data and conducting outreach among residents from the region living in Delhi.

Its creation, police officers said, reflected an institutional recognition that members of the North-East often faced distinct barriers in reporting crimes and navigating the justice system.

"More than a decade after the death of Nido Tania prompted calls for institutional reform, the data raises broader questions about whether improvements in reporting mechanisms have translated into stronger investigations, faster trials and better outcomes for victims. Yet the latest data suggests that those structural concerns remain unresolved," a senior officer said.

Significantly, this year has seen a rise in crime against people from the North-East. Earlier in 2026, two women from Assam alleged they were assaulted and subjected to racist remarks near South Delhi's Nehru Place. In another case, three women from Arunachal Pradesh alleged racial abuse by neighbours in Mahiya Nagar.

'Step up policing in city's student hubs': LG reviews POCSO Act implementation



LG Taranjit Singh Sandhu and others during the review meeting on Wednesday. X/@LGGOVDELHI

Express News Service
New Delhi, June 17

OVER A month after Delhi emerged as the metropolitan city with the highest number of POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) cases in the country, Lieutenant Governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu reviewed the implementation status of the POCSO Act across the Capital on Wednesday, along with the Commissioner of Police; Secretary, Women and Child Development; and Director, Education department.

Asking authorities to declare July as the 'child protection month', the LG said every school should have a Child Protection Committee that would hold regular meetings. He also directed authorities to hold child protection campaigns and submit reports on the outcome to him.

The Education department has been asked to enforce compliance of POCSO Act norms and initiate action against defaulters and submit a report on the same.

"Directed a comprehensive audit of schools across Delhi to assess adherence to the provisions and guidelines of the POCSO Act. The Education Department has also been instructed to enforce strict compliance and initiate firm action against institutions found lacking in implementation."

Sandhu wrote in a post on X.

He pinned his hopes on all-women police stations regarding "proper implementation" of the POCSO Act. These police stations would soon start to cater exclusively to complaints of crime against women and children.

He also asked Delhi Police to ensure visible deployment of personnel around school premises and prominent student hubs. He stressed that police presence must be intensified particularly during school dispersal hours.

The Education Department has also been instructed to enforce strict compliance and initiate firm action against institutions found lacking in the implementation of these critical measures. Furthermore, he directed that a detailed report must be provided on the exact actions that have been taken, or are planned to be taken, against the defaulters.

Delhi saw over 7,662 cases of crime against children in 2024, slightly lower than 7,731 in 2023. The number, however, was still higher than all metros in India. In only 31.7 per cent of these cases, chargesheets were filed — again the lowest in the country.

Out of the 7,662 cases, 1,553 (20.26 per cent) were filed under the POCSO Act. And of these 1,553, in 1,038 cases, sections of penetrative sexual assault were invoked.

'Partial burning' continues to be key hurdle in tackling farm fire pollution: Study

Sophia Mathew
New Delhi, June 17

Adding to the crop residue management machine (CRM) ineffectiveness in tackling stubble burning, a new study has emerged as a key challenge is adding pollution due to stubble burning, a latest study has indicated.

Titled 'to harvest Change approaches to Tackle Stubble Burning at Scale: Kottapalli (Tamil Nadu) and Maharashtra', a study by Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) study

made available on Tuesday is based on a survey of 102 farmers across Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh, with 36 farmers in Andhra and Karnataka, and consultations with agricultural officials.

As per the CEEW, a non-profit, crop residue (stubble) burning in Northwest India remains one of the most visible contributors to the region's severe seasonal air pollution, accounting for up to 30-35% of Delhi's PM2.5 pollution during the October-November peak season.

According to the latest study, 61% of surveyed farmers reported stopping stubble burning

since 2022. However, 39% of the farmers reported continuing to burn their fields, while 4% still engaged in complete burning, indicating that adoption of crop residue management alternatives remains uneven despite progress. Among farmers who continue to burn residue either partially or completely, 87% cited pest attack prevention as a key reason. However, 87% of them said they had never personally witnessed increased pest attacks, suggesting that pest attacks and harvest residue continue to influence field-level decisions.

According to the study, reported farm fire incidents have declined since 2022, but it has



Stubble burning is a key contributor to pollution in peak season. (i)

various factors need to be read alongside a shift in burning behaviour. Timing of fire, while often limited by weather and rainfall, and adoption of alternatives on the ground.

Following a 2023 study by

the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), the region noted that stubble burning is increasingly occurring in different times of the day, potentially affecting satellite-based monitoring of farm fires. (over reported

for context alone may not fully capture whether farmers have shifted to sustained no-burn practices.

The Punjab government's Unnat Kisan app, meant to support machinery rental, also had low visibility among surveyed farmers. CEEW found that 60% of surveyed farmers had never heard of the app, indicating a gap in providing digital public infrastructure that is directly linked to CRM adoption.

Training has been another weak link. The study found that 70% of surveyed farmers were unaware of CRM training schedules.

Among those who attended training, 23% described them as

largely lecture-based, with limited practical demonstrations.

The study has recommended that Punjab build on existing IIC — Information, Education, and Communication — activities that shift towards a dedicated 'Behaviour Change Communication' strategy under the CRM scheme. This would mean treating farmers not as a single category, but as distinct groups — those who have never used CRM machinery, those who have just started using it, those who use it regularly, those who stopped after negative experiences, and partial burners who are already close to full adoption.

For partial burners, the study

has recommended targeted technical assistance, field demonstrations and pest loss monitoring to address farm-level pest attacks, machine reliability and maintenance costs.

The report has also called for district-specific communication. In low-burn villages, with a low frequency of such incidents, the focus should be on complementing the shift to no-burn practices, it said. In medium-burn villages, communication should target farmers who have adopted machinery but continue partial burning. In high-burn or partial-burning districts, messaging should directly address local fears such as pest attacks, and operational costs.



The Indian Express

Vacancies for doctors acute, MP turns to pvt sector for help in rural healthcare

Anand Mohan J
Bhopal, June 17

CONFRONTED WITH a shortage of specialist doctors across its rural healthcare network, the Madhya Pradesh government has approved a pilot project to hand over the management of 18 Community Health Centres (CHCs) in Rewa, Guna and Dewas districts to private operators, marking one of the state's most significant experiments with public-private partnerships in healthcare in recent years.

The decision, approved by the Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, comes against the backdrop of a vacancy crisis in government-run health facilities. Official figures presented to the Cabinet show that of the 1,320 sanctioned specialist positions in the state's 327 operational CHCs, just 113 are filled.

The crisis has left large parts of rural Madhya Pradesh without access to surgeons, physicians, gynaecologists and paediatricians — specialists that CHCs are expected to provide under national public health norms. Five of the 18 centres selected for the pilot reportedly do not have a single specialist.

Under the new model, the government will continue to provide medicines and infrastructure, while the selected private entity, trust or organisation will be responsible for recruiting



A community Health Centre in Sidhi district.

specialist doctors and other healthcare staff, and managing day-to-day operations.

Officials in the Health Department said the Cabinet had approved the pilot project after identifying facilities where vacancies had made it difficult to provide specialist care.

"The Council of Ministers has approved the pilot project to outsource the management of Community Health Centres in Rewa, Dewas and Guna. A pilot project has been approved to outsource the management of identified community health centres in three districts of Rewa, Dewas and Guna where most of the posts of doctors are vacant," the department said in a statement.

According to the department, the Public Health and Medical Education Department

has been tasked with preparing and finalising tender documents for operating the facilities.

The government has projected the move as an attempt to improve access to healthcare in underserved areas.

"With this decision, health facilities will be more readily available to the general public, and they will not need to come to hospitals for minor ailments," the statement said.

Officials said the outsourcing model would initially be implemented as a five-year pilot project.

"The scheme will be evaluated over five years, and if the results are good, it can be extended to other community health centres in the region," the department added.

The five-year evaluation period is significant because it

suggests the government views the initiative as a structural reform rather than a temporary arrangement to fill vacancies.

Community Health Centres form the backbone of secondary healthcare in rural India, serving as referral facilities for Primary Health Centres and catering to populations that often have no access to private hospitals. Yet in Madhya Pradesh, attracting specialists to remote districts has proven difficult despite repeated recruitment drives, contractual appointments and financial incentives.

The government's decision comes amid a deepening manpower crisis in Madhya Pradesh's public health system. Official data for 2025-26 shows that nearly three out of every four specialist doctor posts in the state are vacant. Of 5,443 sanctioned specialist positions, only 1,495 are filled, leaving 3,948 vacancies. The shortage extends to general medical officers as well, with 2,689 posts lying vacant out of 6,513 sanctioned positions.

Health department reports have repeatedly identified the lack of doctors at village-level facilities and primary health centres as the single biggest hurdle to providing round-the-clock healthcare in rural areas. Rural patients frequently travel hundreds of kilometres to district hospitals or medical colleges for procedures that should ordinarily be available at the CHC level.

In yoga's stress on discipline, a health roadmap for young



SHASHANK
JOSHI AND
SHAMBO
SAMRAT
SAMAJDAR

IN GOOD faith

We speak of Viksit Bharat, demographic dividend, start-ups and Olympic dreams. But a nation's first infrastructure is the bodies and minds of its children

AT EIGHT in the morning, outside a school gate, India's future often arrives half-awake. One child is finishing chips before assembly. Another is rubbing sleepy eyes after a late night. Somewhere, a quiet girl is worried about her body because someone called her "fat". A boy who looks perfectly healthy may be silently anxious. Another child may be brilliant at Mathematics but unable to run for five minutes without breathlessness.

We speak of Viksit Bharat, demographic dividend, start-ups and Olympic dreams. But a nation's first infrastructure is the bodies and minds of its children. Swami Vivekananda's call — *Abhiih* ("be fearless") — must return to the schoolyard. For a student, fearlessness means the courage to leave mobiles and sleep on time, say no to daily junk food, play despite exam pressure, and not mock a classmate's body. It means the courage to choose wisely when the senses are pulling the mind in every direction.

Modern medicine is now saying what Indian wisdom has long taught through yoga: The body, mind, senses and behaviour are not separate compartments. Food is not just calories. Sleep is not just rest. Exercise is not just physical training. Screen time is not just entertainment. Each shapes appetite, mood, attention, metabolism and self-control. A child smells fried food, remembers the taste, watches an advertisement, and the brain begins to negotiate. The *indriyas* (senses) can overpower *mana*, *chitta* and *viveka*. Neuroscience calls it reward circuitry and hedonic drive. Our tradition calls it loss of inner mastery. Obesity is a story of disturbed rhythm: Too much sitting, too little sleep, too many screens and ultra-processed foods, too little play, too little silence.

This is where yoga must be understood as an education in self-governance. Suryanamaskar teaches rhythm. Pranayama teaches pause. Asana teaches balance. Meditation teaches attention. Together, they give a child command over the restless body and mind. Health should be built into the school timetable: Five minutes of breathing, 10 minutes of movement, clean drinking water, sensible canteen choices, playground time, sleep education, body-respect conversations and screen discipline can become India's most affordable public-health revolution.

The message to students should be simple: Eat less, but well; use screens, but do not become their servant; laugh, but never at someone's body; compete, but do not become cruel. Let "*Abhiih*" become the new school health mantra — not as aggression, but fearless self-mastery. Because students' health is India's national capital. The republic is rebuilt every morning in the breath, posture, food plate, playground, sleep and smile of a child.

Joshi is a Mumbai-based endocrinologist.
Samajdar is a clinical pharmacologist and diabetes
and allergy-asthma therapeutics specialist in Kolkata

ECONOMY

Food inflation may creep higher in coming months



HARISH DAMODARAN

ON JUNE 11, the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration declared that El Niño conditions have developed, forecasting a 62-63% probability of that turning into a "very strong" event during October-January.

El Niño is an abnormal warming of the central and eastern Pacific Ocean waters off the coasts of Peru and Ecuador. It is associated with dry weather across India, Southeast Asia and Australia, while inducing heavy rain and destructive flooding in western Latin America, the US Gulf Coast and parts of the Caribbean.

Sea surface temperatures in the east-central equatorial Pacific are currently 0.7 degrees Celsius above their 30-year-average. Any such deviation between 0.5 and 1 degrees is termed a "weak" El Niño. It is "moderate", "strong" and "very strong" for deviations of 1-1.5 degrees, 1.5-2 degrees and above 2 degrees respectively.

What has been the impact on food prices?

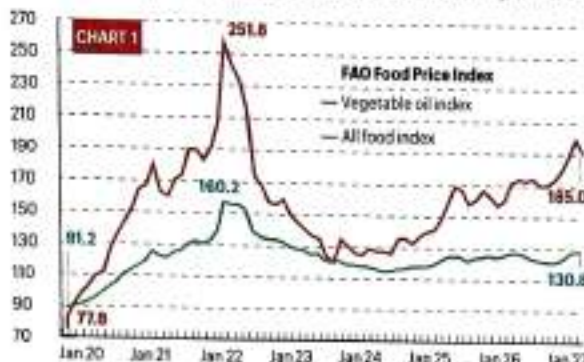
This year is seeing El Niño make a return after 2023-24, when it was a "strong" event that lasted from June 2023 to April 2024. This year has also witnessed a massive energy supply shock from the US-Israel versus Iran war. The closure of the vital Strait of Hormuz waterway since February 28 has led to global fertiliser prices skyrocketing. In April-May, India contracted urea and di-ammonium phosphate imports at port-landed prices of \$935-959 and \$930-936 per tonne respectively, as against their corresponding year-ago levels of \$430-420 and \$700-725.

But neither El Niño nor Iran has really affected global food prices so far.

Export prices of wheat from Argentina, at \$237 per tonne, are marginally higher than the \$233 last year at this time, and flat for Russian (\$242) and European Union (\$229-231) grain. US and Brazilian corn export prices of \$205-208 per tonne, too, are only mildly up over last year's \$200-201. Indian and Pakistani non-basmati rice is now being shipped out at \$340-380 per tonne, down from \$380-395 a year ago.

It's not just cereals. Raw sugar prices in New York, at 14.3 cents per pound, are below the 16.5 cents of a year ago. Prices of

Global food prices are lower than Ukraine war peak...



SOURCE: FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS

butter at New Zealand's Global Dairy Trade fortnightly auction platform have eased from \$7,890 per tonne on June 17, 2025 to \$5,516 on June 16, 2026.

All this is reflected in the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) food price index in May 2026 registering just a 2.9% increase over May 2025. The index — a weighted average of world prices of a basket of food commodities over a base period value (taken at 100 for 2014-16) — hit an all-time-high of 160.2 points in March 2022, immediately after Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The latest reading of 130.8 points is nowhere near that peak.

The behaviour of food prices is a contrast to energy and metals, where the effects of the West Asia conflict are clearly visible. The International Monetary Fund's index for base metals (aluminium, cobalt, copper, iron ore, lead, molybdenum, nickel, tin, uranium and zinc) was 31.9% up in May 2026 over May 2025, while 44.5% for precious metals (gold, silver, palladium and platinum), 62.5% for crude petroleum, 27.9% for natural gas, 34.4% for coal and 24% for fertilisers.

The only food commodity to have posted a notable price surge is vegetable oils. The FAO index for it, at 185 points in May, was 21.5% higher than a year ago, though below the 251.8-point high of March 2022 (see chart 1). Present landed prices of imported crude palm, soyabean and sunflower oil in Mumbai, at \$1,240, \$1,270 and \$1,440 per tonne, are above their corresponding June 2025 average levels of \$1,055, \$1,122 and \$1,209 respectively.

A key reason for vegetable oil prices firm-

Oil oddity

The only food commodity to have posted a notable price surge is vegetable oils.

The FAO index for vegetable oils, at 185 points in May, was 21.5% higher than a year ago.

A key reason for this is their alternative use as biofuels.

ing up is their alternative use as biofuels. When global crude prices harden like they have, there is an additional incentive to divert palm, rapeseed and soyabean oil for the production of fatty acid methyl ester, which can substitute regular petroleum diesel.

Why have food prices not soared despite Iran and El Niño?

Mainly because of bumper crops in 2024-25 and 2025-26, which were both non-El Niño years.

The US Department of Agriculture has estimated all-time record global output of 844.4 million tonnes (mt) for wheat, rice (544.7 mt), corn/maize (1,326.7 mt), sugar (186.1 mt) and even soyabean (429.2), rapeseed (95.6 mt) and palm oil (81.3 mt) in 2025-26.

This situation of ample carryover stocks from back-to-back bumper harvests is unlike that in the run-up to the Russia-Ukraine war. From chart 1, one can see that the FAO food and vegetable oil indices were already rising from their May 2020 lows, following the demand recovery from the lifting of Covid-time lockdowns. Russia-Ukraine merely added fuel to the fire.

India itself had a disastrous 2021-22 wheat crop. That, along with the 2023-24 El Niño, led to wheat stocks in government godowns depleting to 75 mt by April 1, 2024 — the lowest for that date since 2008. But the successive good crops of 2024-25 and 2025-26 helped rebuild those stocks to 21.8 mt on April 1 and 42.8 mt on May 1, 2026.

In other words, the pre-war starting point for food has been less bad this time,

Food prices haven't soared as much as energy, metals and fertilisers amid the West Asia conflict. But a 'super' El Niño could change that

...but India's food inflation is slowly edging up



SOURCE: NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE

compared to Russia-Ukraine in 2022.

But can there be food inflation down the line?

That's very much possible. The signal of it is there in India's annual consumer food price index inflation edging up to 4.8% in May, from 4.2%, 3.9%, 3.5% and 2.1% in the preceding four months and negative rate over June-December 2025 (chart 2).

India's last episode of high food inflation was during July 2023 to December 2024, which was courtesy of the "strong" 2023-24 El Niño event.

El Niño is known to not only suppress rainfall, but also raise temperatures.

If this El Niño turns out to be a "super/very strong" and peak through October-January, it could result in a relatively short and warm winter. The rabi (winter-spring) crops are the ones that would bear the brunt. El Niño spurt, agricultural production can also take a hit from fertiliser shortages due to the West Asia conflict.

An offsetting factor here could be a US-Iran deal to end fighting and reopen the Hormuz maritime chokepoint — through which roughly a third of the globally traded fertiliser products transited before the West Asia war. These expectations from that alone have more than halved the import price (cost plus freight) of urea in the most recent trade to India to \$444.9-449.3 per tonne.

On balance, one cannot rule out high food inflation in the months ahead. It depends on the El Niño's intensity and duration as well as an early and meaningful restoration of global fertiliser flows.

सख्ती : पाँक्सो नियमों की अनदेखी करने वाले स्कूलों पर कसेगा शिकंजा

उपराज्यपाल तन्मजीत सिंह संधू ने शिक्षा विभाग और पुलिस को दिए जांच के आदेश

अमर उजाला ब्यूरो

बुधवार, दिल्ली के स्कूलों में बच्चों की सुरक्षा के लिए पाँक्सो नियमों का कटुता से अंतिम करार। इसमें कोटासी करने वाले स्कूलों के खिलाफ एक्शन कार्रवाई की जाएगी। उपराज्यपाल तन्मजीत सिंह संधू ने शिक्षा विभाग और पुलिस को कड़ा निर्देश दिए हैं कि वे बच्चों की सुरक्षा को अपने सबसे बड़ी प्राथमिकता मानें और इसमें किसी भी स्तर पर कोई हिसाई न करें।

राजधानी में पाँक्सो अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत की सुरक्षा को सुनिश्चित करने



उपराज्यपाल संधू ने शिक्षा विभाग और पुलिस के साथ बैठक की। अमर उजाला

सुरक्षा को प्राथमिकता देकर यह सुनिश्चित करने की अनदेखी करने वाले स्कूलों की पहचान कर

जाए और शिक्षा विभाग की ऐसे स्कूलों के खिलाफ की गई कार्रवाई की पूरी रिपोर्ट देनी होगी।

स्कूलों में बनेगी काल सुरक्षा समिति

एलाजी ने निर्देश दिया है कि जल्द ही स्कूलों में काल सुरक्षा समिति का गठन किया जाए। इस समिति के सदस्यों में एक शिक्षक, एक अभिभावक और एक बच्चा शामिल होना चाहिए। यह समिति स्कूल के अंदर ही होगी, लेकिन इसे स्कूल के बाहर पर कड़ा कानून के तहत निर्देशित रूप से कार्य करने होगी। शिक्षा विभाग की यह सुनिश्चित करने की कड़ा कड़ा है कि पाँक्सो के तहत निर्देशों का हर स्तर में पालन हो, ताकि बच्चों के लिए स्कूल के भीतर एक सुरक्षा वातावरण बन सके।

जुलाई में चलेगा काल सुरक्षा माह

बच्चों की सुरक्षा के लिए सरकार और स्कूल प्रशासन को उत्तरदायी बनाने के लिए एलाजी ने जुलाई माह को काल सुरक्षा माह के रूप में मनाने का फैसला किया है। इस दौरान पूरी दिल्ली में एक बड़े पैमाने का विशेष अभियान चलाया जाएगा। इसी स्कूल के प्रमुख, अधिष्ठाताओं और अन्य सभी स्टाफ को निर्देशित किया जा रहा है कि वे उत्तरदायी बन जाएं। एलाजी ने इस अभियान के अन्तर्गत होने के बाद इसकी समीक्षा और नतीजों पर भी निरीक्षण है।

31-7-2026
छुट्टी के वक़्त स्कूलों के आसपास बढ़ेंगे पुलिस और फिर इस वक़्त की परतदार बलबलें आने हैं कि स्कूल की छुट्टी के बाद कोई भी बच्चा स्कूल के आसपास बचने से बचना चाहिए। इस दौरान बच्चों को सुरक्षा के माह में रखते हुए पुलिस को कड़ा निर्देश दिए गए हैं। स्कूल की छुट्टी के समय जब बच्चे स्कूल निकलते हैं, पुलिस को स्कूलों की ओर बढ़ना होगा। पुलिस को स्कूलों और छात्रों के अंदर-अंदर जाने हटाने (मोबिलिटी) पर विशेष ध्यान देना होगा है, ताकि किसी भी तरह की अप्रिय घटना को रोकना न सके और बच्चों को अधिष्ठाताओं के मन में सुरक्षा का धारणा रहे।

छेड़खानी पर माफ़ी नहीं, जल्द खुलेगी महिला धर्म

एलाजी ने कड़ा कानून में कहा है कि कोलाहल और बच्चों के साथ छेड़खानी, उत्पीड़न या किसी भी तरह की बलात्कार को कानून बंदी नहीं किया जाएगा। साथ ही, एलाजी ने उम्मीद जताई कि जल्द ही कानून बंदी करने और दूसरे पुलिस प्रोडन (बोलाता पुलिस बल) को बोलते निर्देशों की बहाल तब तक में जानू करने और कोलाहल में बच्चों के खिलाफ अपराधों पर तत्काल कार्रवाई में बढ़ोतरी, सुनिश्चित होगी।

लेडीज स्पेशल बसों में तैनात

दिल्ली में 20 की उम्र में दिखने लगे बुढ़ापे के निशान, एआई रिपोर्ट ने चौंकाया

अगर उजाला खुले

वाई दिल्ली: दिल्ली के लोगों की त्वचा देश में सबसे तेजी से अपनी कसावट खो रही है। एक नए एआई आधारित राष्ट्रीय अध्ययन में यह दावा किया गया है कि प्रदूषण, खारा पानी और लंबे समय तक पराबैंगनी (यूवी) विकिरण के संघर्ष में रहने के कारण दिल्लीवासियों में समय से पहले त्वचा के झुड़े होने के लक्षण अधिक तेजी से दिखाई दे रहे हैं।

ये पिजी स्कन हेल्थ कोडिनिवी की, यहाँ के भंडारण रूप से किए

देशभर के 725 शहरों के 21,373 वयस्कों का किया गया विश्लेषण

यह अध्ययन में देश के 725 शहरों के 21,373 वयस्कों का विश्लेषण किया गया।

शोधकर्ताओं ने एआई संचालित स्किनसेंस एआई प्लेटफॉर्म के जरिये चेहरे के त्वचा के आधार पर त्वचा की सेहत से जुड़े 12 मानकों का मूल्यांकन किया, जिनमें त्वचा, ठाँक, कसावट, लचीलापन, डिहाइड्रेशन और पिग्मेंटेशन शामिल थे। यह

पुरुषों में त्वचा की उम्र बढ़ने की गति महिलाओं की तुलना में 22 प्रतिशत अधिक

रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, त्वचा की उम्र बढ़ने की गति महिलाओं की तुलना में 22 प्रतिशत अधिक है और इसमें 23.5 प्रतिशत अधिक यूवी विकिरण का योगदान है। शोधकर्ताओं ने इसका कारण धनधानी का कम उपयोग और अधिक समय तक धूप में रहना बताया है। अध्ययन में अलग-अलग शहरों के बीच त्वचा संबंधी समस्याओं में स्पष्ट अंतर देखा गया। जहाँ दिल्ली में त्वचा की कसावट में सबसे अधिक गिरावट दर्ज की गई, वहीं कोलकाता में त्वचा का ऑक्सीजन सबसे अधिक पाया गया। वहीं पुणे में डार्क सर्कल की समस्या सबसे गंभीर दर्ज की गई।

अध्ययन 2023 से 2025 के बीच त्वचा की उम्र बढ़ने की गति महिलाओं की तुलना में 22 प्रतिशत अधिक

विश्लेषण करने लगी है।

अध्ययन के अनुसार, त्वचा की कसावट में कमी की गंभीरता के मामले में दिल्ली का स्कोर 5 में से 4.11 रहा, जो देश में सबसे अधिक है। राष्ट्रीय औसत 3.62 और कोलकाता का स्कोर 3.49 दर्ज किया गया। शोध में कहा गया कि दिल्ली में त्वचा की कसावट में गिरावट कोलकाता की तुलना में लगभग 18 प्रतिशत अधिक गंभीर पाई गई।

रिपोर्ट में बताया गया कि दिल्ली में त्वचा के लचीलेपन में कमी का स्कोर 3.99 और डार्क सर्कल की

गंभीरता का स्कोर 3.80 रहा। इसके पीछे राजधानी में उच्च वायु प्रदूषण, खारे पानी और लगातार यूवी विकिरण के प्रभाव की प्रमुख कारण माना है। अध्ययन के अनुसार, दिल्ली का वायु गुणवत्ता सूचकांक (एक्यूआई) अक्सर 200 से 400 के बीच रहता है, जबकि कई क्षेत्रों में पानी में टोटल डिहाइड्रेशन स्पीड (टीडीएस) का स्तर 300 से 500 के बीच पाया गया। ये दोनों कारक त्वचा में कोलेजन को नुकसान पहुंचाकर उसकी लचीलेपन और कसावट को प्रभावित कर सकते हैं।

विशेषज्ञों का दावा-जलवायु परिवर्तन के दौर में अल नीनो बना पहेली, ठोस व्यवहार अभी तक स्पष्ट नहीं

अल नीनो के प्रभावों को समझना बड़ी चुनौती... पूर्वानुमान सिर्फ आशंकाएं

अमर उजाला नेटवर्क

नई दिल्ली। बढ़ते वैश्विक तापमान के बावजूद वैज्ञानिक अभी तक यह स्पष्ट नहीं कर सके कि अल नीनो जैसी महत्वपूर्ण जलवायु घटना भविष्य में किस तरह का व्यवहार करेगी। यह भी तय नहीं है कि जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारण अल नीनो की घटनाएं अधिक बार होंगी या नहीं। उनकी तीव्रता बढ़ेगी या उनके प्रभावों का स्वरूप बदलेगा। हालांकि, दीर्घकाल में अल नीनो और ला निना से जुड़ी वर्षा की अनिश्चितता और धरम मौसमी घटनाओं के बढ़ने की आशंका जताई जा रही है।

हाइन दू अर्थ में प्रकाशित रिपोर्ट के अनुसार विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि अल नीनो पर वैश्विक तापन के प्रभावों को समझना इसलिए भी कठिन है क्योंकि इस प्रणाली पर प्राकृतिक जलवायु उतार-चढ़ाव का असर बहुत गहरा है। ऐसे में



**भविष्यवाणी में
इसलिए दिक्कत**

वैज्ञानिक भविष्य में 1.5 या 2 डिग्री सेल्सियस से अधिक ताप वृद्धि की स्थिति में अल नीनो के व्यवहार का अनुमान लगाने के लिए जलवायु मॉडलों पर निर्भर रहते हैं। लेकिन मौजूदा मॉडलों में समुद्री सतह के

तापमान के विवरण और वायुमंडलीय परिसंचरण जैसी प्रक्रियाओं की पूरी सटीकता से दर्शाने में कठिनाई है। यही कारण है कि अलग-अलग मॉडल विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में अल

नीनो से जुड़े प्रभावों के बारे में अलग-अलग परिचाम देते हैं। विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार भविष्य की अधिक विश्वस्तरीय भविष्यवाणियों के लिए जलवायु मॉडलों में सुधार और अतिरिक्त शोध की आवश्यकता है।

मानवजनित जलवायु परिवर्तन और प्राकृतिक परिवर्तनशीलता के प्रभावों को अलग-अलग पहचानना वैज्ञानिकों के लिए बड़ी चुनौती बना हुआ है। संयुक्त राष्ट्र समर्पित जलवायु विज्ञान संस्था अंतर-सरकारी जलवायु परिवर्तन पैनल (आईपीसीसी) की छठी आकलन रिपोर्ट के अनुसार अल नीनो-दक्षिणी दोलन (ईएनडोओ) समेत अधिकतर प्रमुख जलवायु प्रणालियों में अब

तक ऐसे दीर्घकालिक रुझानों के पर्याप्त प्रमाण नहीं मिले हैं जिनसे प्राकृतिक परिवर्तनशीलता से अलग करके पहचाना जा सके। रिपोर्ट के मुख्य निष्कर्ष भविष्य में ईएनएसओ और उससे जुड़े जलवायु प्रभावों पर प्राकृतिक परिवर्तनशीलता का दबदबा बना रहने की संभावना है। हालांकि, लंबी अवधि में ईएनएसओ से जुड़ी वर्षा परिवर्तनशीलता बढ़ने की आशंका है।

**कई अहम सवालों के
जवाब अभी बाकी**

वैज्ञानिकों के सामने सबसे बड़ी अनिश्चितता यह है कि क्या भविष्य में अल नीनो घटनाएं अधिक सक्रियशाली होंगी या उनकी संख्या बढ़ेगी। यह भी स्पष्ट नहीं है कि प्रशांत महासागर में इनके स्वरूप और विस्तार में किस तरह के बदलाव आएंगे तथा दुनिया भर में इनके प्रभाव किस हद तक बढ़ेंगे। विशेषज्ञों का कहना है कि इन सवालों के जवाब पाने के लिए लंबे समय तक एक्टिव उच्च गुणवत्ता वाले आंकड़ों, कम झुट्टियों वाले उन्नत मॉडलों, आंतरिक जलवायु परिवर्तनशीलता की गहरा समझ और उष्णकटिबंधीय प्रशांत महासागर में समुद्र तथा वायुमंडल के बीच होने वाली जटिल प्रक्रियाओं पर गहन शोध की आवश्यकता होगी।

पेशाब में खून आना सामान्य नहीं, किडनी कैंसर का हो सकता है शुरुआती संकेत

विश्व किडनी कैंसर दिवस
(18 जून)

अनूप कुमार सिंह • जागरण

• लगातार कमर दर्द, अचानक वजन कम होना, भूख में कमी भी हो सकते हैं कैंसर के लक्षण

• समय पर जांच और विशेषज्ञ से परामर्श है, रोग की जल्द पहचान और सफल उपचार की कुंजी

नई दिल्ली: किडनी कैंसर एक ऐसी बीमारी है, जो आरंभिक चरण में अक्सर बिना किसी स्पष्ट लक्षण के आगे बढ़ती रहती है। विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार इसका सबसे आम और महत्वपूर्ण चेतावनी संकेत पेशाब में खून आना (हीमेट्यूरिया) है, जिसे लोग अक्सर हल्के में ले लेते हैं, या नजरअंदाज कर देते हैं।

चिकित्सकों की तरफ से ऐसे मामलों में सलाह दी गई है कि पेशाब में खून आना कभी भी सामान्य स्थिति नहीं होती, भले ही वह दर्द के साथ हो या बिना दर्द के। यह किडनी, ब्लैडर या यूरिनरी ट्रैक्ट में किसी गंभीर समस्या का संकेत हो सकता है, जिसमें किडनी कैंसर भी शामिल है।

चिकित्सकों के अनुसार, कमर या साइड में लगातार दर्द, अचानक वजन कम होना, भूख में कमी, थकान और कभी-कभी बुखार जैसे लक्षण भी किडनी कैंसर की ओर इशारा कर सकते हैं।

समस्या यह है कि ये लक्षण शुरुआती अवस्था में बहुत हल्के होते हैं, इसलिए मरीज इन्हें सामान्य

कमर या साइड में लगातार दर्द, अचानक वजन कम होना, भूख में कमी, थकान और कभी-कभी बुखार जैसे लक्षण भी किडनी कैंसर की ओर इशारा कर सकते हैं। पेशाब में खून



को कभी सामान्य न समझें। यह किडनी कैंसर का शुरुआती संकेत हो सकता है। समय पर जांच और विशेषज्ञ से परामर्श गंभीर बीमारी की जल्द पहचान और सफल उपचार की कुंजी है।
डा. गोपाल शर्मा, एचओडी, यूरो आंकोलाजी एवं रोबोटिक सर्जरी, मणिपाल अस्पताल

पेशाब में खून आना कभी भी सामान्य लक्षण नहीं माना जाना चाहिए। यह



कई गंभीर बीमारियों का संकेत हो सकता है, जिनमें किडनी की पथरी, संक्रमण, मूत्र मार्ग की समस्याएं और

कुछ मामलों में किडनी कैंसर भी शामिल है। अक्सर लोग इसे नजरअंदाज कर देते हैं, जिससे बीमारी देर से पकड़ में आती है। यदि यह लक्षण दिखाई दे तो तुरंत विशेषज्ञ संपर्क कर उनकी सलाह पर जांच करानी चाहिए। - डा. संदीप महाजन, प्रोफेसर नेफ्रोलॉजी विभाग, एम्स

थकान या अन्य छोटी समस्याओं से जोड़कर अनदेखा कर देते हैं। विशेषज्ञों को सलाह है कि नियमित स्वास्थ्य जांच और समय पर स्क्रीनिंग से किडनी कैंसर का शुरुआती चरण में पता लगाया जा सकता है, जिससे इलाज अधिक प्रभावी हो जाता है और किडनी को बचाने की संभावना भी बढ़ जाती

है। यदि पेशाब में खून दिखाई दे या उपरोक्त लक्षण लगातार बने रहें, तो तुरंत यूरोलाजिस्ट से संपर्क करना चाहिए। भले ही मरीज खून पतला करने वाली दवाएं ले रहे हों, फिर भी पेशाब में लगातार खून आने की जांच करवा लेना ही बेहतर होता है। ऐसा हो तो तुरंत चिकित्सक की सलाह से जांच करवाना चाहिए।

धूप के बाद भी विटामिन डी कम पाई गई

चिंताजनक

नई दिल्ली, एजेंसी। भारत में साल के ज्यादातर महीने भरपूर धूप खिली रहती है। इसके बावजूद देश के करीब 90 फीसदी लोगों के शरीर में विटामिन डी की भारी कमी पाई गई है।

जर्नल ऑफ फैमिली मेडिसिन एंड प्राइमरी केयर समेत कई रिसर्च रिपोर्ट बताती हैं कि अलग-अलग उम्र, लिंग और इलाकों के 70 से 90 फीसदी भारतीयों के शरीर में विटामिन डी का स्तर जरूरत से कम है। विशेषज्ञों के अनुसार, विटामिन डी हड्डियों की सेहत, मांसपेशियों की मजबूती, रोग प्रतिरोधक क्षमता और मानसिक मूड को ठीक रखने के लिए जरूरी हैं। हमारा शरीर प्राकृतिक रूप से तब विटामिन डी बनाता है, जब त्वचा धूप के संपर्क में आती है, लेकिन आज की आधुनिक जीवनशैली इस प्राकृतिक प्रक्रिया में सबसे बड़ी रुकावट बन गई है।

इस कमी की सबसे बड़ी वजह हमारा घर के भीतर बंद रहना है।

धूप का होना ही काफी नहीं



शरीर में कितना विटामिन डी बनेगा, यह इस बात पर निर्भर नहीं करता कि बाहर कितनी धूप है। इसके पीछे कई बातें भी काम करती हैं, जैसे- दिन का कौन सा समय है, त्वचा का कितना हिस्सा खुला है।

डाइट से पूर्ति मुश्किल



कुछ खाद्य पदार्थ जैसे अंडे की जर्दी, फैटी फिश, मशरूम और कोर्टिफाइड दूध में विटामिन डी पाया जाता है, लेकिन यह मात्रा अक्सर पर्याप्त नहीं होती। डाइट पर निर्भर रहकर कमी को ठीक करना मुश्किल हो सकता है।

आजकल ऑफिस की सिटिंग जॉब, वर्क फ्रॉम होम और हर जगह एयर-कंडीशंड माहौल ने इंसानों को धूप से दूर कर दिया है।

सिकल सेल की आजीवन पीड़ा से राहत, अपोलो में 215 से ज्यादा सफल ट्रांसप्लांट

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बार-बार होने वाला असहनीय दर्द, खून चढ़ाने की मजबूरी, स्टोक और शरीर के कई अंगों को नुकसान पहुंचाने वाली सिकल सेल डिजीज से जूझ रहे मरीजों के लिए राहत की खबर है। वर्ल्ड सिकल सेल डे के मौके पर इंदरप्रस्थ अपोलो हॉस्पिटल ने बताया कि अब तक सिकल सेल रोग से पीड़ित 215 से अधिक मरीजों का सफल बोन मैरो (स्टेम सेल) ट्रांसप्लांट किया जा चुका है। अस्पताल का दावा है कि यह दुनिया के सबसे बड़े सिंगल-सेंटर अनुभवों में से एक है।

भारत में यह बीमारी खासतौर पर मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, छत्तीसगढ़, गुजरात, ओडिशा और राजस्थान समेत कई आदिवासी और ग्रामीण इलाकों में अधिक पाई जाती है। एक्सपर्ट्स के मुताबिक दुनिया में हर साल 3 से 4 लाख बच्चे



सिकल सेल रोग के साथ जन्म लेते हैं। इनमें 10 से 13 फीसदी बच्चे भारत में जन्म लेते हैं।

हॉस्पिटल के सेंटर फॉर बोन मैरो ट्रांसप्लांट एंड सेलुलर थेरेपी के

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क्लिनिकल लीड डॉ. गौरव खार्य ने बताया कि आधुनिक ट्रांसप्लांट तकनीकों और बेहतर मॉनेटरिंग केयर ने बड़ी संख्या में मरीजों के लिए खराब इलाज का समय खोना है।

अस्पताल ने ऐसे कई मरीजों के उदाहरण भी साझा किए, जिनकी ज़िंदगी ट्रांसप्लांट के बाद पूरी तरह बदल गई। 5 साल की भव्य बचपन में सिकल सेल रोग से जूझते थे। उनकी खान में मिले बैक्टीरिया स्टेम सेल की मदद से ट्रांसप्लांट किया गया। इसके बाद वह सामान्य जीवन जी रहे हैं। इसे तरह 23 साल की एक महिला, जो एक दशक से अधिक समय तक इस बीमारी से जूझती रही, ट्रांसप्लांट के बाद आराम से रह रही है।

डॉ. खार्य ने कहा कि नए जन्मे बच्चों की स्क्रीनिंग, कैरियर डिटेक्शन, जेनेटिक काउंसलिंग और समय पर इलाज के ज़रिए बीमारी की गंभीरता को काफी हद तक

क्या है ये बीमारी?

सिकल सेल डिजीज एक जेनेटिक ब्लड डिमार्डर है। इसमें रेड ब्लड सेल्स सामान्य गोल आकार की बजाय हसिया (सिकल) के आकार की हो जाती हैं। इससे शरीर में ऑक्सीजन का प्रवाह प्रभावित होता है और मरीज को गंभीर एनीमिया, बार-बार दर्द, संक्रमण, स्टोक और कई अंगों के खराब होने जैसी समस्याओं का सामना करना पड़ता है।

कम किया जा सकता है। एक्सपर्ट्स के मुताबिक भारत के सिकल सेल एनीमिया उन्मुलन मिशन-2047 को सफल बनाने के लिए शुरुआती जांच, जागरूकता और स्पेशल ट्रेटमेंट सेंटरों की संख्या बढ़ाने की जरूरत है।

शाहबाद दौलतपुर। रमेश नगर। लक्ष्मी नगर। लाजवंती गार्डन। जहांगीरपुरी। वसंत कुंज। वजीराबाद। पश्चिम

सभी स्कूलों का हो सेफ्टी ऑडिट : LG

स्कूलों में POCSO नियमों पर होगी सख्ती, लापरवाही पर सीधी कार्रवाई

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राजधानी में बच्चों और छात्राओं की सुरक्षा को लेकर प्रशासन ने सख्त रुख अपनाया है। एलजी टीएस संघू ने पॉक्सो (POCSO) कानून के लागू करने की समीक्षा करते हुए निर्देश दिया है कि दिल्ली के सभी स्कूलों का व्यापक ऑडिट किया जाए। इसका मकसद सुनिश्चित करना है कि स्कूल बच्चों की सुरक्षा से जुड़े सभी नियमों और दिशानिर्देशों का पालन कर रहे हैं या नहीं।

एलजी ने शिक्षा विभाग को निर्देश दिया कि पॉक्सो कानून के प्रावधानों का सख्ती से पालन कराया जाए और जिन स्कूलों में कमियां पाई जाएं, उनके खिलाफ ठोस कार्रवाई की जाए। साथ ही विभाग को यह भी बताना होगा कि नियमों का उल्लंघन करने वाले संस्थानों के खिलाफ क्या कदम उठाए गए या उठाए जाएंगे।

एलजी ने कहा कि हर स्कूल में अनिवार्य रूप से चाइल्ड प्रोटेक्शन कमिटी सक्रिय होनी चाहिए और उसकी नियमित बैठकें आयोजित



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खासतौर पर स्कूलों की छुट्टी के समय पुलिस की मौजूदगी बढ़ाने पर जोर दिया गया

की जाएं। इसके अलावा जुलाई को 'चाइल्ड प्रोटेक्शन मंथ' के रूप में मनाते हुए पूरे शहर में जागरूकता और प्रशिक्षण अभियान चलाने के निर्देश दिए गए हैं। इस अभियान की प्रगति और परिणामों की रिपोर्ट भी एलजी को सौंपी जाएगी।

स्कूलों और छात्रों की सुरक्षा को और मजबूत करने के लिए

दिल्ली पुलिस को स्कूल परिसरों और प्रमुख केंद्रों के आसपास पर्याप्त जवानों की तैनाती सुनिश्चित करने के निर्देश दिए गए हैं।

खासतौर पर स्कूलों की छुट्टी के समय पुलिस की मौजूदगी बढ़ाने पर जोर दिया गया है। महिलाओं और बच्चों के साथ छेड़छाड़, उत्पीड़न और यौन अपराधों के मामलों पर जीरो टॉलरेंस नीति दोहराते हुए एलजी ने कहा कि छात्राओं और महिलाओं की सुरक्षा से किसी भी कीमत पर समझौता नहीं किया जाएगा।

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TB मरीज की जान को कितना खतरा, बताएगा कैलकुलेटर

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■ नई दिल्ली : टीबी का पता लगने के बाद किसी मरीज की जान को कितना खतरा है, इसका अंदाजा अब इलाज शुरू होने से पहले ही लगाया जा सकेगा। भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद (आईसीएमआर) से जुड़े शोधकर्ताओं ने तमिलनाडु में 56 हजार से अधिक टीबी मरीजों पर अध्ययन कर एक ऐसा डेथ प्रेडिक्शन कैलकुलेटर विकसित किया है जो डॉक्टरों को शुरुआती चरण में ही यह बता सकता है कि किस मरीज को तत्काल विशेष देखभाल, अस्पताल में भर्ती करने या अतिरिक्त निगरानी की जरूरत है।

अध्ययन ब्रिटिश मेडिकल जर्नल ओपन में प्रकाशित हुआ है। चेन्नई स्थित आईसीएमआर के नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ एपिडेमियोलॉजी के डॉक्टर सुशींद्र सनमुगसुंदरम इसके स्टडी के प्रमुख लेखक हैं। शोध के अनुसार टीबी से होने वाली लगभग 68 प्रतिशत मौतें बीमारी का पता चलने के पहले दो महीनों के भीतर हो जाती हैं। ऐसे में जोखिम वाले मरीजों की जल्द पहचान जीवन

- ब्रिटिश मेडिकल जर्नल ओपन में प्रकाशित अध्ययन में जानकारी
- स्वास्थ्य संस्थानों में दर्ज 55,971 वयस्क टीबी मरीजों के आंकड़ों का विश्लेषण किया

बचाने में अहम भूमिका निभा सकती है। शोधकर्ताओं ने साल भर की स्टडी में बीच तमिलनाडु में सरकारी स्वास्थ्य संस्थानों में दर्ज 55,971 वयस्क टीबी मरीजों के आंकड़ों का विश्लेषण किया। अध्ययन में पाया गया कि कुल मरीजों में 7.4 प्रतिशत की मृत्यु हुई। इनमें से 4,141 मरीजों की मौत हुई और इनमें 2,810 मौतें यानी 67.9 प्रतिशत पहले दो महीनों के भीतर हुई। इस मॉडल की खासियत यह है कि इसके लिए किसी जटिल जांच की जरूरत नहीं पड़ती।