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➤➤➤ **News Headings**

Education

Science & Technology

Nutrition and Health

Business, Finance & Marketing

Economic News

Event and Celebration

Art & Architecture

Sports & Cultural

Editorial News

EDUCATION

Krishi Mela at Hittinahalli Agricultural College from Jan 21

**Mela to focus
on drought
management**

VIJAYAPURA, DHNS

A three-day Krishi Mela with the theme of 'Drought Management for Sustainable Agriculture' will be organised at Agricultural College in Hittinahalli on the outskirts of the City from January 21.

The basic objective of the Krishi Mela this year is sensitising farmers on take up agriculture activities during the drought situation and also introducing the latest technologies in farming.

The Agriculture College, Agriculture Department and other related departments have started working for the successful conduct of the three-day events. The college is gearing up to disseminate the information on the researches being done in the agricultural institutions on farming practices.

Stalls selling agriculture



Agriculture College in Vijayapura. DH PHOTO

implements, millets and agricultural technology transfer centres, stalls of various research centres, watershed development demonstrations and agriculture consultations to provide on-the-spot relief to the farmers will be arranged in the exhibitions to be organised during the Krishi Mela.

Session on various topics by experts and experienced farmers and various programmes for farmers will be conducted in the afternoon all the three days. Discussions with experts, experiments, demonstration on farm machinery, use of 'Drone' for pesticide spray, lifting of water with solar powered and light weight diesel pump sets, information on automatic micro irrigation system, agro-climatology, dry

farming technology, rabi jowar varieties, rainwater harvesting, production and use of bio-fertilisers, earthworm technology, organic farming, zero-investment natural farming, animal husbandry and seed production will be provided in the stalls to be set up at the Krishi Mela. Information on agricultural marketing and home science will also be provided.

Agriculture Minister H Cheluvarayaswamy will inaugurate the programme. District In-charge Minister M B Patil will inaugurate the exhibition. Agriculture Produce Marketing Minister Shivanand Patil will release the farm booklets. MLA Vittal Katakadond will preside. University of Agricultural Sciences VC P L Patil will be present.

'No intake of students below 16 yrs': Centre's rules for coaching centres

Bid to address complaints received by govt about rising cases of student suicides

NEW DELHI, PTI

Coaching centres cannot enrol students below 16 years of age, make misleading promises and guarantee rank or good marks, according to new guidelines announced by the Ministry of Education.

The guidelines for regulat-

ing coaching institutes have been framed to address the need for a legal framework and manage the unregulated growth of private coaching centres.

It comes following complaints received by the government about rising cases of student suicides, fire incidents, lack of facilities in coaching

incidents as well as methodologies of teaching adopted by them.

"No coaching centre shall engage tutors having qualifications less than graduation. The institutions cannot make misleading promises or guarantee rank or good marks to parents for enrolling students in the coaching centres. The institutes cannot enrol students below 16 years of age. Student enrolment should be only after secondary school examination," the guidelines said.

"The coaching institutes cannot publish or cause to be

REGULATIONS

■ The institutions cannot make misleading promises.

■ Cannot hire the services of any person who has been convicted of any offence involving moral turpitude

■ An institute will not be registered unless it has a counselling system

published or take part in the publication of any misleading

advertisement relating to any claim, directly or indirectly, of quality of coaching or the facilities offered therein or the result procured by such coaching centre or the student who attended such class," it added.

The coaching centres cannot hire the services of any tutor or person who has been convicted of any offence involving moral turpitude. An institute will not be registered unless it has a counselling system as per the requirement of these guidelines.

"Coaching centres shall have a website with updated details

of the qualification of tutors, courses/curriculum, duration of completion, hostel facilities, and the fees being charged," the guidelines stated.

According to new guidelines, due to tough competition and academic pressure on students, coaching centres should take steps for the mental well-being of students and may conduct classes without putting undue pressure on them.

"They should establish a mechanism for immediate intervention to provide targeted and sustained assistance to

students in distress and stressful situations. The competent authority may take steps to ensure that a counselling system is developed by the coaching centre and is easily available for the students and parents.

"Information about the names of psychologists, counsellors and the time they render services may be given to all students and parents. Trained counsellors could be appointed in the coaching centre to facilitate effective guidance and counselling for students and parents," the guidelines stated.

ಪ್ರಪಂಚದ ಬಾರಿಗೆ ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿಯಿಂದ ಸೂರ್ಯನಗರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಮೇಳ | ಎರಡು ದಿನ ಆಯೋಜನೆ ಕಲಬುರಗಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎಜುಕೇಷನ್ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪೋ 23ರಿಂದ

■ ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಸುದ್ದಿಜಾಲ ಕಲಬುರಗಿ
ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ನಂ.1 ಕನ್ನಡ ದಿನಪತ್ರಿಕೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಬೀದರ್ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಕರಡ್ಯಾಳದ ಶ್ರೀ ಚನ್ನಬಸವೇಶ್ವರ ಗುರುಕುಲ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ವಸತಿ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಸಹಯೋಗದಡಿ ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ ಜ.23, 24ರಂದು ಎಜುಕೇಷನ್ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪೋ (ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಮೇಳ) ಆಯೋಜಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ನಗರದ ಶರಣಬಸವೇಶ್ವರ ದೇವಸ್ಥಾನ ರಸ್ತೆಯ ಖೂಬಾ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಮಂಟಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಎರಡು ದಿನ ನಡೆಯುವ ಮೇಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಲಬುರಗಿ, ಬೀದರ್, ರಾಯಚೂರು, ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ, ಧಾರವಾಡ, ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಸೇರಿ ವಿವಿಧೆಡೆಯ 30ಕ್ಕೂ ಅಧಿಕ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಿತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಳ್ಳಲಿವೆ. ತಮ್ಮ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೊರೆಯುವ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ, ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯ, ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಸಾಧನೆ, ಅನುಭವಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕ ವೃಂದದ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ, ರಾಜ್ಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ನೀತಿಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಗೊಂದಲ ಬಗೆಹರಿಸುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಶೇಷ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಗಾರ ಮೇಳದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯಲಿದೆ.

ಮೇಳದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು, ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ಮತ್ತು ಪಾಲಕರಿಗಾಗಿ ಜ್ಞಾನ ದಾಸೋಹ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ನಾಡಿನ ಖ್ಯಾತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ತಜ್ಞರು ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿತ್ವ ವಿಕಸನ, ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಅಂಕ ಗಳಿಸುವ ಮಾರ್ಗೋಪಾಯ, ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ, ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ವೃತ್ತಿಪರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ, ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳ ತಯಾರಿ ಸೇರಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಪೂರಕವಾದ ಎಲ್ಲ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಒದಗಿಸಲಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲೇ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ತಜ್ಞರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂವಾದ, ಚರ್ಚೆ ನಡೆಯಲಿದ್ದು, ಉತ್ತಮ ಸಂವಾದ ನಡೆಸಿದವರಿಗೆ ಬಹುಮಾನ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸಿಕ್ಕ ಸಂಜೆ ಖ್ಯಾತ ಕಲಾವಿದರಿಂದ ಹಾಸ್ಯ ಸಂಜೆ, ಸಂಗೀತ ರಸಮಂಜರಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳು ಪ್ರೇಕ್ಷಕರ

ಭಾಲ್ಕಿ ಹಿರೇಮಠ ಸಂಸ್ಥಾನ ಸಹಯೋಗ
ವಿವಿಧ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಿತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಭಾಗಿ

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ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ
KALABURAGI
EDUCATION EXPO
2024
For The Generation Next

ಮನಸೂರೆಗೊಳಿಸಲಿವೆ. ಒಂದೇ ಸೂರಿನಡಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದ ಸಕಲ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಸಿಗಲಿದೆ. ಇಂಥ ಅತ್ಯುತ್ತಮ ಅವಕಾಶವನ್ನು ಕಲಬುರಗಿ, ಬೀದರ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಯಾದಗಿರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು, ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು, ಪಾಲಕರು ಸದ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕೆಂದು ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಕರಡ್ಯಾಳದ ಶ್ರೀ ಚನ್ನಬಸವೇಶ್ವರ ಗುರುಕುಲ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ವಸತಿ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮನವಿ ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ಕೆಜಿಯಿಂದ ಪಿಜಿವರೆಗೆ ಎಲ್ಲ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಉತ್ತಮ ಭವಿಷ್ಯ ರೂಪಿಸುವ ಕನಸು ಹೊತ್ತಿರುವ ಪಾಲಕರು, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು, ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಂಡು ಸದುಪಯೋಗ ಪಡೆಯಬೇಕು.



ಸಮಾಜದಲ್ಲಿ
ವಿದ್ಯಮಾನಗಳ
ಮೇಲೆ ಸುದ್ದಿಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ
ಬೆಳಕು ಚೆಲ್ಲುವುದರ ಜತೆಗೆ
ಭಿನ್ನ-ವಿಭಿನ್ನ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆ
ಮೂಲಕ ಮನೆಮಾತಾಗಿರುವ
ನಾಡಿನ ನಂ.1 ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ

ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ ಈಗ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಪಂಚದ ಬಾರಿಗೆ ಎಜುಕೇಷನ್ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪೋ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವುದು ಸ್ತುತ್ಯಾರ್ಹ. ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಮೇಳದ ಮೂಲಕ ಈ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಉಜ್ವಲ ಭವಿಷ್ಯ ರೂಪಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ನಾನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಈ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪೋ ಮೂಲಕ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಾಲಕರಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ವೇದಿಕೆ ಒದಗಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

| ನಿತೀನ್ ನಾಯ್ಕ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ
ಶ್ರೀ ಗುರು ಸ್ವತಂತ್ರ ಪದವಿಪೂರ್ವ ಕಾಲೇಜು, ಕಲಬುರಗಿ



ಬಿಡುಕಿನಲ್ಲಿ
ಯಶಸ್ವಿನ ಮೆಟ್ಟಿಲು
ಎರಬೇಕಾದರೆ ಅಕ್ಷರ
ಜ್ಞಾನ ಅತಿ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ.
ಅಂತಲೇ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಕೇಂದ್ರ
ಸ್ಥಾನ ಕಲಬುರಗಿಯಲ್ಲಿ

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ ಮೊದಲನೇ ಸಲ ಎಜುಕೇಷನ್ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪೋ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಕಕ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ, ವಿವಿಧ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಭವಿಷ್ಯ ರೂಪಿಸುವತ್ತ ಇಟ್ಟ ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿ ಹೆಜ್ಜೆ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಜ್ಞಾನ, ಕಲಿಕೆ ಮಟ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಗುಣ ಪಾಠಬೋಧನೆ ಜತೆಗೆ ಪಠ್ಯೇತರ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಕೌಶಲ ವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಒತ್ತು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಈ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪೋ ನೀಡಲಿದೆ.

| ಶ್ರೀ ಡಾ. ಬಸವಲಿಂಗ ಪಟ್ಟದೇವರು
ಸಂಸ್ಥಾಪಕರು, ಶ್ರೀ ಚನ್ನಬಸವೇಶ್ವರ ಗುರುಕುಲ
ಕರಡ್ಯಾಳ

ಎಜುಕೇಷನ್ ಎಕ್ಸ್‌ಪೋದಲ್ಲಿ ಶಾಲಾ-ಕಾಲೇಜು
ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ವಸ್ತು ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನ
ಸಹ ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅತ್ಯುತ್ತಮ ಮೂರು
ಮಾವರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಬಹುಮಾನ ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು.
ಆಸಕ್ತರು ರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರ ಕುಲಕರ್ಣಿ
(88844 32211) ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು.

16 ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಸೇರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವಂತಿಲ್ಲ | ದಾರಿ ತಪ್ಪಿಸುವಂಥ ಭರವಸೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಬ್ರೇಕ್ ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಕ್ಲಾಸ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಹೊಸ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿ

ನವದೆಹಲಿ: ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ದಾರಿ ತಪ್ಪಿಸುವ ಭರವಸೆಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಬೇಡಿ, 16 ವರ್ಷದೊಳಗಿನ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಕ್ಲಾಸ್‌ಗೆ ಸೇರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಡಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಅತ್ಯಧಿಕ ಅಂಕ, ರ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ಗಳ ಗ್ಯಾರಂಟಿಯನ್ನೂ ನೀಡಬೇಡಿ.

ಇವು ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಕ್ಲಾಸ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿರುವ ಹೊಸ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಗಳು. ಖಾಸಗಿ ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ಗಳ ಅನಿಯಮಿತ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಿಸುವ ಜತೆಗೆ ಅವುಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಂದು ಕಾನೂನು ಬಾಹಿರವಾಗಿ ನೀಡುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಗಳನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಆತ್ಮಹತ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ, ಅಗ್ನಿ ಅಕಸ್ಮಿಕ, ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳ ಕೊರತೆ, ಕಲಿಕೆಯ ವಿಧಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿರುವ ದೂರುಗಳ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಅದರಲ್ಲೂ ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಹಬ್ ಎನ್ನಲಾದ ರಾಜಸ್ಥಾನದ ಕೋಟಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ ಸಂಭವಿಸಿದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂಥದ್ದೊಂದು ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಅದು ಹೇಳಿದೆ. **ಬೋಧಕರಿಗೂ ಕಟ್ಟುಪಾಡು:** ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ಗೆ ಸೇರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವಾಗ ಪಾಲಕರ ಬಳಿ ಅತ್ಯಧಿಕ ಅಂಕ ಇಲ್ಲವೇ ರ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ನ ಗ್ಯಾರಂಟಿ ನೀಡಬಾರದು. ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್‌ಗೆ ಸೇರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಸೆಕೆಂಡರಿ ಸ್ಕೂಲ್ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ



ಪಾಸಾಗಿರಬೇಕು. ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕಲಿಸುವವರು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಪದವೀಧರರಾಗಿರಬೇಕು ಎಂಬ ನಿಯಮಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿ ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ, ಫಲಿತಾಂಶ ಕುರಿತು ದಾರಿ ತಪ್ಪಿಸುವಂಥ ಭರವಸೆ ಒಳಗೊಂಡ ಜಾಹೀರಾತುಗಳನ್ನು ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ಗಳು ನೇರವಾಗಿ ಇಲ್ಲವೇ ಪರೋಕ್ಷವಾಗಿ ನೀಡಬಾರದು ಎಂದೂ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯ ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ. ನೈತಿಕ ಅರ್ಹತೆ ಇರದವರು, ಅಪರಾಧ ಕೇಸ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗಿಯಾದವರನ್ನು ಬೋಧನೆಗೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವಂತಿಲ್ಲ. ಬೋಧಕರ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆ, ಕೋರ್ಸ್, ಪಠ್ಯ, ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಅವಧಿ, ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಹಾಗೂ ಶುಲ್ಕದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳಿರುವ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಹೊಂದಿರಬೇಕು ಎಂದೂ ಗೈಡ್‌ಲೈನ್ಸ್ ಹೇಳಿದೆ.

ದುಬಾರಿ ಆಗಿರದಿರಲಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ

ವಿವಿಧ ಕೋರ್ಸ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿಧಿಸಲಾಗುವ ಶುಲ್ಕವು ದುಬಾರಿ ಆಗಿರದೆ, ಕೈಗೆಟುಕುವಂತಿರಬೇಕು, ಶುಲ್ಕ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಿದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ ರಶೀದಿ ನೀಡಬೇಕು. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ಪೂರ್ತಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಪಾವತಿಸಿ ಮಧ್ಯದಲ್ಲೇ ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ಮೊಟಕುಗೊಳಿಸಿ ತೆರಳಿದರೆ ಉಳಿದ ಅವಧಿಯ ಶುಲ್ಕವನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋ-ರೇಟಾ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಹತ್ತು ದಿನಗಳೊಳಗೆ ಹಿಂದಿರುಗಿಸಬೇಕು. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಆ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ನ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ತಂಗಿದ್ದರೆ, ಆ ಕುರಿತ ಶುಲ್ಕ ವನ್ನೂ ಹಿಂದಿರುಗಿಸಬೇಕು. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕೋರ್ಸ್‌ಗೆ ಒಮ್ಮೆ ಶುಲ್ಕ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡ ಮೇಲೆ ಆ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅದನ್ನು ಎಂಥದ್ದೇ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸುವಂತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದೆ.

ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂ. ದಂಡ, ನೋಂದಣಿ ರದ್ದು

ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪಾಲಿಸದ ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಒಂದು ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂ. ವರೆಗೆ ದಂಡ ವಿಧಿಸಬಹುದು ಹಾಗೂ ನೋಂದಣಿ ರದ್ದುಪಡಿಸಬಹುದು. ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳು ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ಬಂದ ಮೂರು ತಿಂಗಳ ಒಳಗೆ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪಾಲಿಸುವಂತೆ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು ಆಯಾ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ.

ಕೌನ್ಸಲಿಂಗ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಕಡ್ಡಾಯ

ಕಠಿಣ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧೆ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಒತ್ತಡದ ಕಾರಣಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ಗಳು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಯೋಗಕ್ಷೇಮಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು ಹಾಗೂ ಅವರ ಮೇಲೆ ಒತ್ತಡ ಹೇರದೆ ತರಗತಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಬೇಕು. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಕೌನ್ಸಲಿಂಗ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೆ ಅಂಥ ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ಗಳು ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವಂತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಹೊಸ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ. ಸಂಕಷ್ಟ ಮತ್ತು ಒತ್ತಡದ ಸಂದರ್ಭ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಹಾಗೂ ನಿರಂತರ ಸಹಾಯ ಒದಗಿಸಲು ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಹೊಂದಿರಬೇಕು. ನುರಿತ ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರನ್ನು ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ನೇಮಿಸಿ ಕೊಂಡಿರಬೇಕು. ಸಮಾಲೋಚಕರು, ಮನಶಾಸ್ತ್ರಜ್ಞರ ಹೆಸರು, ಅವರ ಸೇವೆ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಸಮಯ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಕುರಿತು ಪಾಲಕರು-ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಇರುವಂತೆ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪಾಲಕರಿಗೆ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವಂಥ ಸಮಾಲೋಚನಾ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಕೋಚಿಂಗ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಹೊಂದಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಸಕ್ಷಮ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರವು ಖಚಿತಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು ಎಂದು ಮಾರ್ಗ ಸೂಚಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.



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Should AI models be allowed to use copyrighted material for training?

PARLEY



Cecilia Ziniti

is a San Francisco-based lawyer specialising in technology and start-up companies



Arul George Scaria

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On December 27, 2023, the *New York Times* filed a lawsuit against OpenAI and its backer Microsoft, accusing them of copyright infringement. The *NYT* has alleged that OpenAI used thousands of its articles to train ChatGPT, a large language model, without permission or compensation. The lawsuit says that this has positioned ChatGPT as a competing source of information to the *NYT*, which has implications for the newspaper's business model.

Should AI models be allowed to use copyrighted material for training? Arul George Scaria and Cecilia Ziniti discuss the question in a conversation moderated by P.J. George. Edited excerpts:

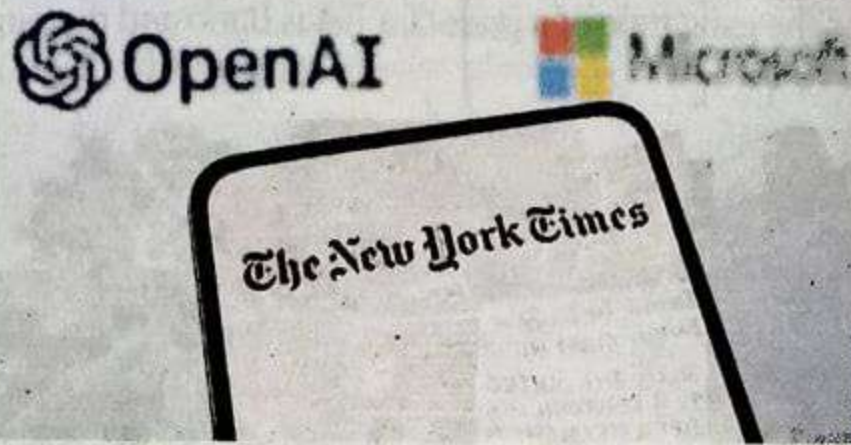
In the context of the *NYT* versus OpenAI case, how does the fair use doctrine apply to the training of AI models on copyrighted material?

Cecilia Ziniti: In U.S. law, fair use is Section 107 of the Copyright Act. Essentially, it's a four-factor test, and it's notoriously difficult to predict. OpenAI has a good case, but so does the *NYT*. The first factor that goes into the fair use analysis is the purpose and character of the use. In other words, how is OpenAI using that content? The second is the nature of the copyrighted work. Is it highly creative? Of course, the *NYT* would say that it is. The third is the amount used. Is OpenAI using all of *NYT*'s content or only as much as they need to effectuate their use? The fourth is the effect of the use on the market value of the original. Does OpenAI's use of *NYT*'s content somehow decrease its (*NYT*'s) market opportunities?

Fair use doctrine calls for the balancing of the factors. OpenAI's argument would be that [its use of the material] is transformative. That is, by using *NYT*'s work to train a model, it's not replacing the use of *NYT*. OpenAI would cite cases about Google Books, thumbnails, or scraping, where works that don't replace the original were found to be transformative and therefore fair use.

Arul George Scaria: This is a unique generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) case wherein both the parties are on strong grounds. *NYT* has produced evidence which shows verbatim reproduction of content that it owns. This makes the fair use analysis even tougher to predict. Another important exhibit is that if prompts were directed in a certain manner, it returned a specific paragraph of an *NYT* article. Would this be considered as a substitute for subscribing to the *NYT*? That's something which the court might have to look into.

However, I take the view that the use of copyrighted material for the purpose of training an AI should not be considered infringement because it comes within the broad ambit of the fair use exception. A word of caution here: the



The *NYT*'s lawsuit against OpenAI has kick-started a global conversation around copyright infringement and the limits of AI inclusion. REUTERS

U.S. fair use analysis is broad in scope because there is no purpose-specific limitation. If you can convince the court through the four factors that Cecilia mentioned or any other additional relevant factors, you might be able to establish that it is fair use. India doesn't have a broad exception like the U.S. What we have is a fair dealing exception complemented with a long list of enumerated exceptions. It is unfortunate that within the enumerated exceptions, we don't have a specific text and data mining exception. This means that if a similar case happens in India, the only way we can justify the training might be in terms of fair dealing.

Here, my view is that the court will have to take a very liberal interpretation of the purposes mentioned if it wants to accommodate training. Ideally, they should be doing that. There are precedents from other parts of the globe, particularly Canada, wherein the courts have made a very liberal interpretation for the purposes mentioned under a similar fair dealing provision.

CZ: Fair use as a doctrine goes back to 1841, to a case about copying the writings of George Washington. A biographer got the copyright to Washington's papers, and another copied 353 pages of them. The court at that time came up with this balancing test that we still use. There are lots of fun precedents we can look at.

There is the case [in 1984] between Sony, the maker of the BetaMax videotape recording technology (VCR), and Universal Studios, which argued that the technology could be used for copyright infringement. The U.S. Supreme Court found that there was a substantial non-infringing use, which was time-shifting [recording a programme to watch later]. Those are the kinds of cases that the courts will look to. It's also possible that there is a legislative solution, such as what happened with the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, which is a way for online providers to manage copyright infringement on their platforms.

AGS: Cecilia, in the *NYT* case, one of the interesting claims is that the digital protection measures that were put in place by *NYT* were overridden when the contents were used for AI



In the case of generative AI, who is the author? If I ask generative AI to edit a paragraph of mine, and then I edit it again, at what point am I the author versus the AI?

CECILIA ZINITI

training. Do you think that would have any influence on fair use analysis in the U.S.?

CZ: One of the rights of a copyright holder is control over how their content is displayed. Stripping the information on who the owner of a particular content is, is an additional claim. However, if it is fair use, then it's not actually part of the copyright and there is no claim. It is not as if there has been a crime and fair use is a defence. If it is fair use, there has been no crime because the copyright does not extend that far. **AGS:** Thanks for that clarification. If you look at the Indian situation, we still haven't seen any specific litigation in the context of text and data mining. But any future litigation will have to be within the ambit of the fair dealing exception, provided under Section 52 (1a) of the Copyright Act. Under the statute, there are three categories of users that you need to fit into for fairness analysis. However, many scholars as well as courts from other jurisdictions, particularly Canada, have shown that the courts can take a liberal approach about the purposes mentioned in the fair dealing provision.

On the specific issue of training-related infringement claims, a strong argument in court could be that it is part of the broader research purpose. Ideally, what India should be doing if copyrighted materials are to be allowed for training purposes is either have a text and data mining exception inserted into the copyright statute or turn the fair dealing exception into a fair use exception. Some jurisdictions which had been following the fair dealing exception have already changed it into fair use exception, particularly to deal with emerging technologies.

What is the law on copyright for AI-generated material?

CZ: In the U.S., the Copyright Office has said that AI-generated material is not copyrightable, which makes sense since the precedents talk about a human needing to be involved. Funnily enough, the case that is the best precedent on this is about a monkey. A monkey in Indonesia took several selfies on a camera set up by a nature photographer. After several disputes over who can benefit from the copyright of these images, it was shown that neither the photographer nor the monkey can. This case stands for the proposition in copyright law that there must be an author, which goes back to the U.S. Constitution.

In the case of generative AI, who is the author? If I ask generative AI to edit a paragraph of mine, and then I edit it again, at what point

am I the author versus the AI? These are tough questions. So far the Copyright Office has indicated that purely AI-generated content is not going to get copyright.

AGS: The Indian Copyright Office has sadly messed up on this matter. There was one application for an AI-generated painting which was initially rejected but when it was submitted again as a jointly authored work by a human and an AI, the Indian Copyright Office accepted it without any deliberation on the consequences or on the question of whether that was allowed under the copyright statute. When the matter became a controversy, it issued a notice saying that it is withdrawing the copyright. But when I was looking at the Copyright Office records recently, it looks like that's still under registration.

If you go by the spirit and letter of the Copyright Act of 1957 in India, there is no way a non-human can be granted copyright protection. One of the important steps taken by the U.S. Copyright Office recently is that they have issued guidelines categorically mentioning that the applicant should disclose whether AI has been used, and if so, in what manner. Such disclosure is necessary in today's context.

How do you see the situation evolving around AI training or AI-generated works and copyright?

CZ: When Napster came out and peer-to-peer file sharing took off, it was clear that there needed to be a market solution where you could pay for music. Enter iTunes, which created a way for us to transact online to buy songs and paved the way for Spotify, Amazon Music and every other music service. I think it will be similar here. As the technology grows and as people want to create fan art or want to be inspired by different things that are copyrighted, you could have a mechanism to pay the artist. A market-based solution is likely here.

AGS: When we talk with the policymakers in India or Europe or elsewhere, one of the most evident things is the fear of missing out. On ownership, many people tend to flag that the Chinese courts are now allowing it. We should step away from that fear and ask, what is the primary purpose of granting copyright protection? If it is promoting creativity, then yes, we need to fine-tune our policies to ensure that the broader objective is met. The use of copyrighted materials for training purposes should generally be considered fair use. At the same time, we should also ensure that if Open AI or anyone else is using copyrighted material for training, they don't seek copyright protection for the content generated by the AI concerned.



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Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com



HERE COMES THE AI PHONE

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

SAMSUNG GALAXY S24 ULTRA

AS AI is making its space in all sectors, mobile companies have also begun integrating artificial technology. Google first introduced it in its Pixel devices, while Samsung incorporated numerous AI features in its latest flagship models, the Galaxy S24 Ultra, Galaxy S24+, and Galaxy S24 launched on Wednesday. Priced at ₹1,59,999 for the 12GB 1TB Titanium Gray model, the Galaxy S24 Ultra has many AI-led features that will amplify its user experience. With its intelligent text and call translation features, the model offers seamless communication to its users. Galaxy's ProVisual enhances creative freedom, and Galaxy's ProVisual Engine sets a new standard for search.

"The Galaxy S24 series transforms our connection with the world and ignites the next decade of mobile innovation," said TM Roh, president and head of Mobile eXperience Business at Samsung Electronics. "Galaxy AI is built on our innovation heritage and deep understanding of how people use their phones. We are excited to see how our users around the world

empower their everyday lives with Galaxy AI to open up new possibilities."

Live translation

The Samsung Galaxy S24 comes with live translation features. The company feels when one needs to overcome language barriers, the Galaxy S24 makes it easier than ever. Chat with another student or colleague from abroad, or book a reservation while on vacation in another country. It's all possible with Live Translate, offering two-way, real-time voice and text translations of phone calls within the native app. It can also function as a live interpreter. The live conversations can be instantly translated on a split-screen view, allowing people standing next to each other to read the text transcription of

what the other person has said. It even works without cellular data or Wi-Fi.

AI-built keyboard

The Samsung Galaxy S24 features an AI-built keyboard that can translate messages in real-time in 13 languages.

On the drive

When you are driving, Android Auto automatically summarises incoming texts and suggests relevant replies and actions, such as sending someone your estimated time of arrival, allowing you to stay connected while staying focused on the road.

For office work

The model comes with Samsung Notes, which includes AI-generat-

ed summaries, template creation for streamlining notes with pre-made formats, and cover creation to make notes easy to spot with a brief preview. For voice recordings, even with multiple speakers, its Transcript Assist comes handy. This feature uses AI and speech-to-text technology to transcribe, summarise, and even translate recordings.

Unleash creativity

The Galaxy S24 series' ProVisual Engine is a comprehensive suite of AI-powered tools that transforms image-capturing abilities and maximises creative freedom. After capturing great shots, innovative Galaxy AI editing tools enable simple edits such as erasing, recomposing, and remastering. For easier and more efficient optimisations, Edit Suggestion uses Galaxy AI to suggest perfectly suitable tweaks for each photo. To give users even more creative control and freedom, Generative Edit can fill in parts of an image background with generative AI. When a picture is crooked, AI will fill in the borders. When an object needs to be slightly moved to be in the perfect position, AI allows users to adjust the subject's position and generate a perfectly blended background in its original spot.

'Organisations use AI for predictive analytics'

UMA KANNAN @Bengaluru

Artificial intelligence (AI) has gained traction in India with companies using the technology for predictive analytics, customised learning paths, and real-time feedback to meet the dynamic needs of the modern workforce, says Derek Laney, Slack APAC Technology Evangelist, Salesforce.

According to a recent State of Work report by Slack, which is a cloud-based team communication platform, AI and automation are freeing up Indian desk workers with 75% using these technologies to boost productivity, saving about 4.9 hours per week.

The impact of AI adoption in India is further underscored by a notable 53% increase in productivity levels reported by AI adopters. "Globally, automation users estimate saving an average of 3.6 hours per week, a significant gain for meaningful work. For example, with AI-powered self-evaluation tools, employees can own their performance and strike a balance between work and life. This approach makes employee development more personalised and data-driven," Laney adds.



Beyond AI, numerous other technologies are also reshaping workplaces and offering avenues for business growth. "Communication and collaboration technology stands as a cornerstone, encompassing software, applications, devices, and messaging systems. These tools contribute to the flexibility of hybrid/remote work models by ensuring efficient communication and project management, increasingly blending video, audio, and written communications," he says.

Cloud adoption continues to increase as it facilitates seamless collaboration and accessibility to data from anywhere, supporting the flexibility needed for businesses to work and connect with people from anywhere in the world. Cloud solutions also enable businesses to scale operations by providing scalable and cost-effective storage solutions, Laney explains.

Slack uses technologies such as identity management and data encryption with private keys that an organisation can manage to keep data safe.

He says creativity is no longer only about brainstorming or toiling in solitude. Instead, employees will learn to use AI to help generate many new possibilities to be tested and tried.

On whether some jobs will be replaced by AI in future, Derek Laney feels there are a set of skills that are likely to be highly impacted by AI automation, such as drafting, laying-out and specifying, monitoring or scheduling. On the other hand, other skills remain at the lower end of exposure and may not be affected by AI. These include establishing and maintaining relationships, resolving conflicts or coaching, and developing others. "The best advice for employees is to understand what brings them motivation and what the current capability is for their job role, seek to automate as new technologies become available, and lean into lower-impact skill areas," he adds.

Stressing on fostering a mindset of continuous learning and upskilling, he says tech skills collectively contribute to preparing employees for a future, where AI plays an increasingly prominent role in the workforce, powering people instead of replacing them.



Using AI to improve sustainability in Indian Smart Cities

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Fifteen consortiums have applied for a chance to set up a centre of excellence in artificial intelligence to help Indian cities achieve demonstrable improvements in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that are relevant to them.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced the setting up of three such centres in agriculture, health and sustainable cities in the Union Budget for 2023-24. Each will get ₹300 crore. These centres are expected to lead and guide cutting-edge interdisciplinary research in coordination with industry, academia, and other stakeholders. They will help create AI-based applications and scalable solutions and products that have a disproportionate societal impact, according to the call for proposals for these centres.

The centre for sustainable cities will be set up by the Education Ministry, in collaboration with the Housing and Urban Affairs

The centre will strive to help the Smart Cities reduce energy consumption in target sectors by 15%

Ministry. "A total of 15 consortiums have applied till January 15 which was the last date. Out of these, the apex committee will select five, who will be given proof of concepts and initial funding for a year," said Kunal Kumar, CEO of the Smart Cities Mission. "After one year, they will be evaluated and then one will be selected to run the project," he said.

The centre of excellence on AI for sustainable cities will strive to help the Smart Cities reduce energy consumption in target sectors by 15%; air and water pollution by 10%; improve sewage and garbage disposal outcomes by 25%, leading to a reduction in pollutant levels in rivers and seas, as well as an increase in the reclamation of water and solid waste; and improve access to transportation, resulting a 20% reduction in commuting time.

D2M technology:

Access video content on smartphones or tablets without internet connection

RAKESH KUMAR @ New Delhi

NDIA will soon have direct-to-mobile (D2M) technology, allowing mobile or tablet users to experience live television without an internet connection.

Trials are already underway with the collaboration of Bengaluru-based Saankhya Labs and IIT Kanpur. The D2M technology is at a mature stage, and after city-wise trials, it can be launched for the general public by next year.

We spoke to Parag Naik, the Chief Executive Officer of Saankhya Labs, the company that designed the chips and dongles for D2M, to know his insights into the technology, costs, and how countries like the United States and South Korea have shown interest in adopting it. The company will first launch the dongle, which will function like a WiFi router, enabling users to connect their devices and enjoy seamless video content or live television. Excerpts:

● What is D2M technology?

D2M is a way of delivering video content to your phone without using the internet, just like you have Wi-Fi offload. Similarly, you also have a way to offload broadcast content. In our country, most of the content that gets carried on the network is video. We, the broadcast network, are traditionally more optimized for carrying video.

● What is in it for the consumer?

From a consumer benefit perspective, there are public use cases and there are private use cases. People can use it without an internet connection. There are about 300-400 million people who have access to devices but cannot pay for them. So, this is a way of reaching out to them by reducing the digital divide. On the higher end, it's a reduced cost for your data plan, depending on how the model works.

● Has any handset maker shown interest in it?

We have been in discussions

INTERVIEW

PARAG NAIK



with several companies, both Indian and foreign. However, I cannot disclose their names at this time.

● What would be its cost?

Any new disruption typically will cost more initially, before it goes down drastically. The 4G phones available before 2016 were priced at around ₹40,000; now the price has dropped to ₹4,000. That's how this technology works. Electronic products are all about volume, and the cost is inversely proportional to the volume or directly proportional to the volume. The dongle will cost ₹600-700, with a certain configuration required, but most Android devices support it. With large volumes, around 5-10 million, the chips will cost less than ₹150, and the external dongles (USB DTV receiver dongle) would be priced at about ₹500-700.

● Do you need any support from a chipmaker to bring out this technology?

We don't need support from a chipmaker. We need support from Original Design Manufacturers (ODMs). At the end of the day, the consumer will decide whether they want to adopt this technology or not. If consumers find it interesting, there will be pressure on ODMs to incorporate the technology.

Japan counts down to precision 'moon sniper' landing mission

The probe will try to land within 100 metres of its target, says space agency

TOKYO, REUTERS

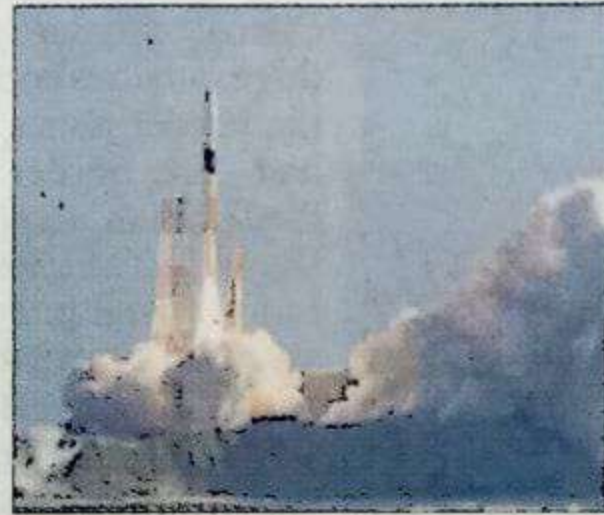
Japan aims to become the fifth country to put a spacecraft on the moon when it attempts a precision landing on Friday, in what would be a boost for a space programme that has suffered a wave of setbacks and been eclipsed by rival China.

Dubbed the "moon sniper",

the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) probe is attempting to land within 100 metres (328 feet) of its target, a technology JAXA says is unprecedented and essential in the search for moon water and human habitability.

Japan is increasingly looking to play a bigger role in space, partnering with close ally Washington to respond to China's military and technological might, including in space. Japan boasts a number of private-sector space startups and aims to send an astronaut to the moon as part of NASA's Artemis programme.

But JAXA has faced multiple setbacks, including a launch failure in March of the new flagship rocket H3 that was meant to match cost-competitiveness against



JAXA will use the same H-IIA rocket to send the lunar probe.

REUTERS FILE

commercial rocket providers like SpaceX.

JAXA's Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM) probe will start a 20-minute touchdown phase on its one-way mission from

midnight on Saturday (1500 GMT Friday), trying to land on a target site roughly the size of two athletic tracks on the slope of a crater just south of the lunar equator.

"No other nation has achieved this. Proving Japan has this technology would bring us a huge advantage in upcoming international missions like Artemis," said Shinichiro Sakai, JAXA's SLIM project manager.

India's Chandrayaan-3 in August made a historic touchdown on the moon's south pole, a major technological feat given the rough terrain, highlighting India's rise as a major player in space.

JAXA stresses its high-precision technology will become a powerful tool in future exploration of hilly moon poles, seen as a potential

source of oxygen, fuel and water. Japan also plans a joint unmanned lunar polar exploration with India in 2025.

"For lunar project development, Japan can't beat the US, China or India in terms of resources," said Kazuto Saiki, a Ritsumeikan University professor who developed SLIM's near-infrared camera that will analyse moon rocks after the landing.

"We should focus on building sought-after technologies like the pinpoint landing and near-infrared cameras which overseas exploration projects will strive to adopt."

JAXA has twice landed on small asteroids, but a moon landing is much more difficult due to its gravity, as seen in a number of recent failures.

ಅಮೆರಿಕದ ಚಂದ್ರಯಾನ ನೌಕೆ ಭೂಮಿಯತ್ತ

ಪಿಟ್ಸ್‌ಬರ್ಗ್: ಅಮೆರಿಕದ ಚಂದ್ರಯಾನ ಲ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ದೋಷ ಕಂಡು ಬಂದಿದ್ದರಿಂದ ಅದನ್ನು ಮರಳಿ ಭೂಮಿಗೆ ಕರೆಸಲು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಭೂಮಿಯನ್ನು ಮರುಪ್ರವೇಶಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅದು ಸುಟ್ಟು ಹೋಗಲಿದೆ ಎಂದು ನೌಕೆಯನ್ನು ಹಾರಿಸಿದ ಪಿಟ್ಸ್‌ಬರ್ಗ್ ನ ಆಸ್ಟೋಬೋಟಿಕ್ ಕಂಪನಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ. ಚಂದ್ರನ ಮೇಲೆ ಇಳಿಸುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ಪೆರೆಗ್ರೈನ್ ಲ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ ಅನ್ನು ಕಳೆದ ವಾರ ವಲ್ಕಾನ್ ರಾಕೆಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಹಾರಿಬಿಡಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ ಲ್ಯಾಂಡರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಗಣನೀಯ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಕಾಣಿಸಿದ್ದರಿಂದ ಅದನ್ನು ವಾಪಸ್ ಕರೆಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಿರಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ಗಳು ಸಫಲರಾದರೂ ಉತ್ಕರ್ಷಣಕಾರಕ (ಆಕ್ಸಿಡೈಸರ್) ನಷ್ಟವಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಚಂದ್ರನ ಮೇಲ್ಮೈ ಮೇಲೆ ಲ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ ಇಳಿಸಲು ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಿಸುವುದು ಸಾಧ್ಯವೇ ಇಲ್ಲ ಎನ್ನಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಗುರುವಾರ ಸಂಜೆ ಸುಮಾರು 4 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಲ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ ಭೂಮಿಯ ವಾತಾವರಣವನ್ನು ಮರುಪ್ರವೇಶ ಮಾಡುವ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಿದೆ.

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HEALTH



Covid: Prison authorities told to track health of prisoners

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Health Department has asked the prison authorities to keep a close watch on the health of the prisoners owing to the large number of Covid cases being reported from the state.

The department has directed the officials to ensure all newly admitted prisoners, above the age of 60 years and showing ILI symptoms, are tested for Covid. Further, all detainees with SARI symptoms should also be tested.

“Provide immediate medical attention to prisoners showing symptoms of respiratory illness, and if they test positive, shift them to the hospital and manage accordingly,” a circular issued by the department said.

Further, the authorities have been told to keep a close watch on prisoners in contact with confirmed positive patients

149 new Covid cases

BENGALURU, DHNS: The state has reported 149 new Covid cases and one death, according to the bulletin released on Thursday.

As many as 7,329 tests were conducted. The positivity rate stands at 2.03% and the state now has a total of 669 active Covid cases. Of the 669 patients, 639 are under home isolation, 21 of them admitted to general beds, one of them admitted to general beds with oxygen support and eight of them are being treated in ICU.

Doctors asked to state reason while advising antimicrobials

Bindu Shajan Perappadan

NEW DELHI

The Union Health Ministry has asked doctors to make it a mandatory practice to write the indication (reason/justification) while prescribing antimicrobials, and directed pharmacists to stop over-the-counter sale of antibiotics, and sell them only with the prescription of a qualified doctor.

The Ministry's latest direction cites the misuse and overuse of antimicrobials, which it said is one of the main drivers of antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

The letter issued by the Ministry to all medical and pharmacist associations and doctors of medical colleges said that it is estimated bacterial AMR is directly responsible for 1.27 million global deaths in 2019.

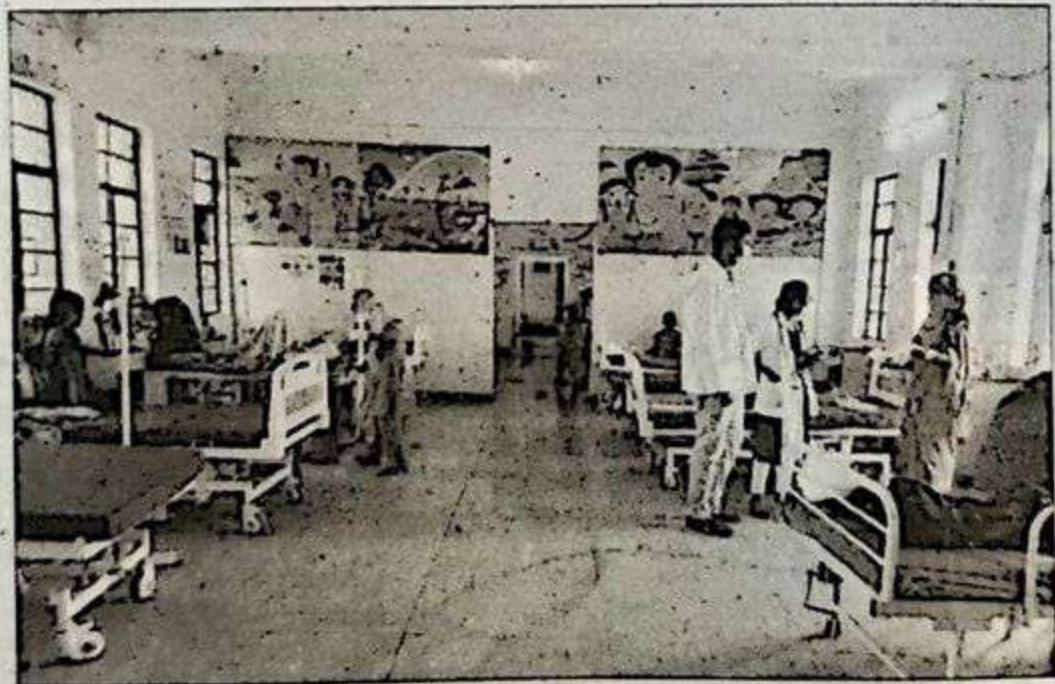
Stating that AMR puts many of the gains of modern medicine at risk, the Ministry said that misuse and overuse of antimicrobials is one of the main drivers in the development of drug-resistant pathogens.

ಜಿಮ್ಮ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಮುಸ್ಸಾನ್ ಗರಿ

ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಸೇವೆಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಣ | ಶೇ.92ರಷ್ಟು ಅಂಕದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ವಿಭಾಗ

• ಕನ್ನಡಪ್ರಭ ವಾರ್ತೆ ಕಲಬುರಗಿ
 ಮಕ್ಕಳವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿನ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಸೇವೆಗೆ ಕಲಬುರಗಿ ಜಿಮ್ಮ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಹೊರರೋಗಿಗಳ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಓಡಿಯಾಟ್ರಿಕ್ ವಾರ್ಡ್, ಎನ್‌ಎನ್‌ಸಿಯು ಹಾಗೂ ಎನ್‌ಆರ್‌ಸಿ ಘಟಕಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯವು ಮುಸ್ಸಾನ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿ ಶೇ.92ರಷ್ಟು ಅಂಕ ದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ವಿಭಾಗವೆಂದು ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸಿದೆ.
 ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಲಬುರಗಿ ಜಿಮ್ಮ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಿಭಾಗ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಶಿರಸಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಲೇಬರ್‌ರೂಂ ಮತ್ತು ಹರಿಗೆ ವಿಭಾಗವು ಕ್ರಮವಾಗಿ ಶೇ.82 ಮತ್ತು 87 ಅಂಕದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಅಕ್ಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಬಯನಗರ

ಜನರಲ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಓಡಿಯಾಟ್ರಿಕ್ ಓಪಿಡಿ, ಓಡಿಯಾಟ್ರಿಕ್ ವಾರ್ಡ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಎನ್‌ಎನ್‌ಸಿಯು ವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಶೇ.83 ಅಂಕ ದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಮುಸ್ಸಾನ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿ ಪುರಸ್ಕಾರ ಪಡೆದಿದೆ.
 ಇದಲ್ಲದೆ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ತಾಲೂಕು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಅಪಘಾತ ಮತ್ತು ತುರ್ತು, ಓಪಿಡಿ, ಐಪಿಡಿ, ಹರಿಗೆ ವಾರ್ಡ್, ಓಟಿ, ಲ್ಯಾಬರೋಟರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಆಡಳಿತ ವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಶೇ.89 ಅಂಕದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಎನ್‌ಕ್ಯೂಎಎಸ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಚೆಲುವಾಂಬಾ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಓಡಿಯಾಟ್ರಿಕ್ ಓಪಿಡಿ, ಓಡಿಯಾಟ್ರಿಕ್ ವಾರ್ಡ್, ಎನ್‌ಎನ್‌ಸಿಯು ಹಾಗೂ ಎನ್‌ಆರ್‌ಸಿ ಘಟಕಗಳಿಗೆ ಶೇ.86 ಅಂಕದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಮುಸ್ಸಾನ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸಿದೆ.
 ಮುಸ್ಸಾನ್ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿ ಪ್ರಮಾ



ಜಿಮ್ಮ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆರೈಕೆ ವಿಭಾಗದ ನೋಟಗಳ
 ಣೀಕೃತ ಗೌರವಕ್ಕೆ ಪಾತ್ರವಾದ ಕಲಬುರಗಿ ಜಿಮ್ಮ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಿಭಾಗದ ನಾಲ್ಕು ವಿಭಾಗಗಳಿಗೆ ಮುಂದಿನ 5 ವರ್ಷದ ವರೆಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಮತ್ತಷ್ಟು ಸೇವೆ

ಸುಧಾರಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಬಲವರ್ಧನೆಗೆ ಅನುದಾನ ಬರಲಿದೆ. ಈಗ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿರುವ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕೃತವು ಮುಂದಿನ ಐದು ವರ್ಷದ ವರೆಗೆ ಚಾಲ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿರಲಿದೆ.
 ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಐದು ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳ ವಿವಿಧ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿನ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಸೇವೆಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕೃತ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದು, ಇದು ಖಾಸಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಎನ್‌ಎಬಿಎಚ್ ಮಾದರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಸುವ ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನಕ್ಕೆ ಸಮ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.
 ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ, ರೋಗಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ವೈದ್ಯರ ಆಪ್ತ ಸಮಾಲೋಚನೆ, ಉತ್ತಮ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯ, ಸೇವೆ ಕುರಿತು ರೋಗಿಯ ತೃಪ್ತಿ, ಮೂಲ ಸೌಕರ್ಯ, ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತೆ, ನೈರ್ಮಲ್ಯ ಸೇರಿ ಇನ್ನಿತರ ಸೌಕರ್ಯಗಳ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ

ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಸೇವೆಯ ಮಾನದಂಡದ ಮೇಲೆ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ವಿವಿಧ ವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನ ಮಾಡಿ ಈ ರೀತಿ ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಕಳೆದ ನವೆಂಬರ್ ಮಾಹೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು.
 ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಐದು ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳ ವಿವಿಧ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಲ್ಲಿನ ಅಂಕಗಳನ್ನು ಅವಲೋಕಿಸಿದಾಗ ಜಿಮ್ಮ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಿಭಾಗವು ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಅರ್ಹತಾ ಷರತ್ತು ಪೂರೈಸಿ ಶೇ.92 ಅಂಕ ಪಡೆದು ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಅಗ್ರಸ್ಥಾನ ಕಾಯ್ದುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದು, ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗೆ ಹೆಮ್ಮೆ ತರುವ ವಿಷಯವಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಶ್ರಮಿಸಿದ ಜಿಮ್ಮ ವೈದ್ಯ ಹಾಗೂ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀತರ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಅಭಿನಂದನೆಗೆ ಅರ್ಹರು ಎಂದು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಬಿ.ಘೋಷಿಯಾ ತರನ್ನುಮ್ ಅವರು ಹರ್ಷ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.



Business Finance

India on diplomatic overdrive as the Red Sea crisis escalates

STRATEGIC MOVE. Foreign Minister reaches out to Iran; PM speaks to Russian President

Amiti Sen
New Delhi

As the crisis in the Red Sea, spurred by the Israel-Hamas war, escalates, India has begun a diplomatic outreach to crucial players to secure the country's trade and strategic interests. The outreach treads a line of neutrality in the conflict between the Western powers and the Islamic world; India has not joined the US-led multinational naval coalition in the Red Sea even while it remains critical of the Houthi violence.

The heightening of the West Asia crisis has impacted global trade and threatens \$235-240 billion worth of India's annual trade through the Red Sea.

The Ministry of External Affairs, on Thursday, made it clear that while the situation in the Red Sea impacting the flow of commerce was worrisome, the Indian Navy was trying its best to secure the sea-lanes and, as of now, the country had no plans of joining any "multilateral arrangement" such as the US-led multinational naval coalition.

"We are looking at the unfolding situation. We are concerned about the deterioration in the security situation. Our



TAKING STOCK. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian

Naval vessels are patrolling the area. We are doing our best to secure the Indian shipping lines, and also giving support to others. We are not part of any multilateral arrangement as of now," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said in response to a question on whether India had plans of joining the US-led coalition to secure its cargo in the Red Sea.

EXPORTS RE-ROUTED

Owing to the heightening conflict, exports to crucial markets in Europe, the US east coast and parts of Africa and West Asia, earlier using the Red Sea, are now being re-routed via the Cape of Good Hope in South Africa, resulting in steep increases in shipping and insurance charges. An important element of India's diplomatic

outreach was Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar's recent visit to Tehran, where he shared with Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian the country's concerns on the havoc caused by the Iran-backed Houthis in the Red Sea.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Russian President Vladimir Putin earlier this week. The MEA is also engaging diplomatically with other countries connected with the crisis, including Western powers, per an official tracking the inter-Ministerial meet on the issue chaired by the Commerce Department on Wednesday.

According to former Foreign Secretary Kanwal Sibal, India can hardly sit back while the war in the West Asia escalates. Sibal looks at the Foreign Minister's recent visit to Iran as part

of the diplomatic efforts that have been stepped up to secure India's interests.

"It is in our interest to engage all parties diplomatically. India now has a stronger voice and while we do not have too much in our hands to change the course of events, we can certainly talk to all crucial players. The Prime Minister had a talk with Putin and now the Foreign Minister has gone to Iran. We are proactive," Sibal told *businessline*.

ISSUES DISCUSSED

About the discussions between Jaishankar and his Iranian counterpart Amirabdollahian, the MEA spokesperson said issues of the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden, and the violence and destabilisation there were among the things discussed as India is "deeply concerned about the whole situation".

According to trade analyst Ajay Srivastava, the conflict will impact most of Asian trade with Europe and may lead to supply chain restructuring focussing on near-shoring with neighbours even at moderately higher costs. As the MEA spokesperson said, "We are watching the situation closely."

With inputs from Poornima Joshi

RBI not discussing rate cuts yet: Shaktikanta Das

HAWKISH STANCE. 'Unless inflation settles at 4%, it's premature to talk of rate cuts'

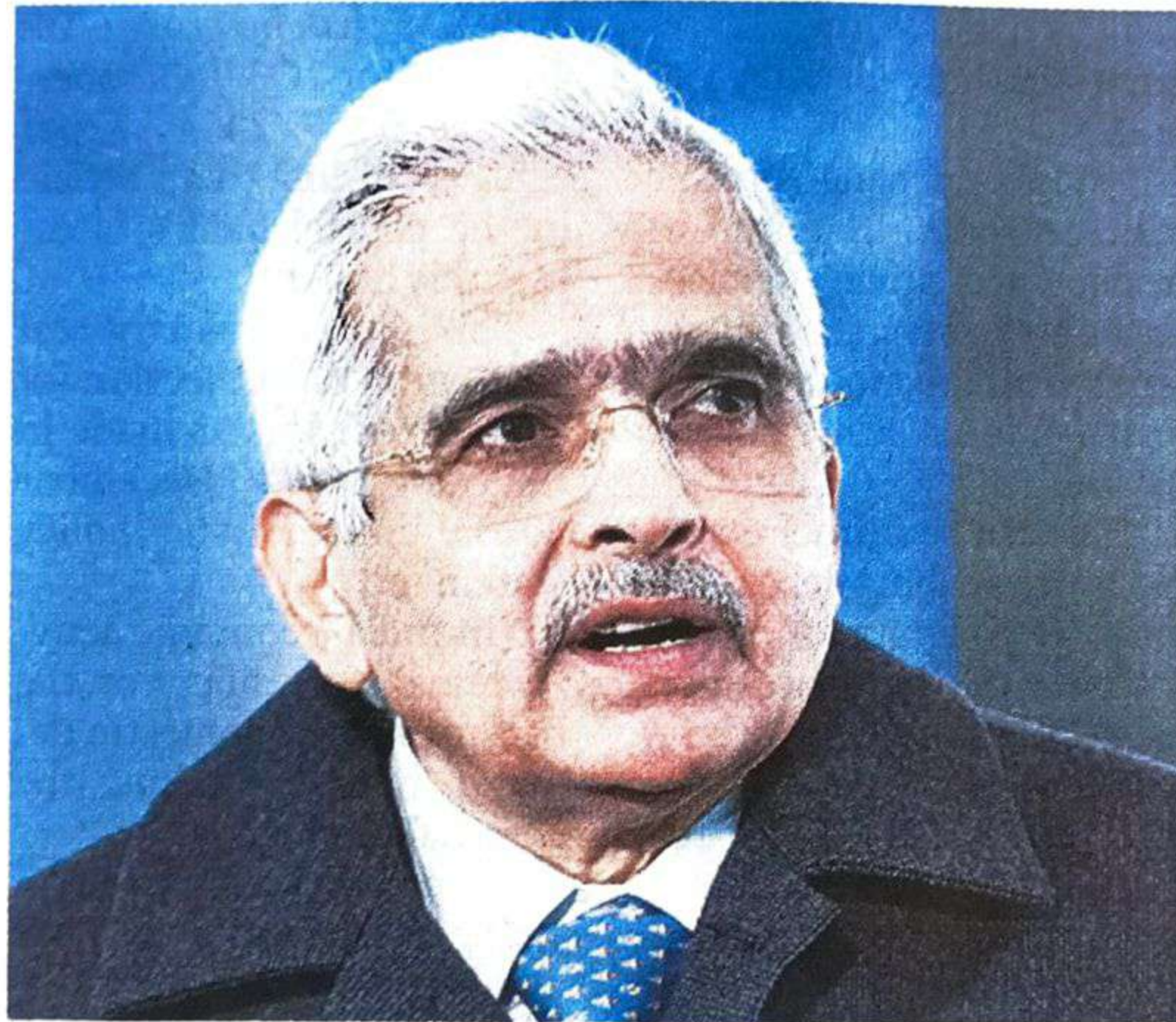
Bloomberg

The central bank won't consider interest rate cuts unless inflation settles firmly around the 4 per cent target, with policymakers not even discussing the topic yet, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said.

While price gains have moderated, "unless we see clear evidence that inflation is going to sustain at that level, it will be premature to talk about rate cuts," Das told *Bloomberg Television's* Haslinda Amin in an interview on the sidelines of the World Economic Forum in Davos on Thursday. "The topic of rate cuts is not even under discussion," he said.

HEADLINE INFLATION

The Reserve Bank of India has kept rates unchanged for five straight policy meetings, while sticking to a relatively



CAUTIOUS APPROACH. Das said rate cuts in India will depend on domestic factors, and reiterated the RBI's policy is to be "actively disinflationary."

hawkish stance as inflation hovers above the target. Economists are projecting the central bank will begin cutting interest rates this year after

the Federal Reserve starts easing. When asked about Fed rate cuts, Das said markets "all over are running ahead of central banks and that should

not happen." He said rate cuts in India will depend on domestic factors, and reiterated the RBI's policy is to be "actively disinflationary."

Inflation in India accelerated to a four-month high in December, largely due to volatile food prices. Stripping out food and fuel costs, the core measure slid below 4 per cent for the first time in almost four years, raising expectations of rate cuts.

The RBI targets headline inflation, which has "come within our target range of 2 to 6 per cent," the Governor said. "But our target being 4 per cent, we are steadily moving towards that."

Economic growth will likely touch 7 per cent in the next fiscal year while inflation will average around 4.5 per cent, Das said. That would put the economy on track to post growth of around 7 per cent or more for four consecutive years, he said.

Lack of domestic capital a hurdle for startups: Murthy

ARYAMAN GUPTA

New Delhi, 18 January

The availability of domestic capital to fund startups and an ability to attract talent in the early days are among the biggest challenges faced by entrepreneurs, Infosys Co-founder N R Narayana Murthy said on Thursday.

"It is desirable to create a policy that makes it attractive for domestic institutions like family offices of HNIs (high net-worth individuals), insurance companies or large corporations to invest in venture capital funding," he said at the T N Chaturvedi Memorial Lecture 2024 in New Delhi's Prime Ministers' Museum and Library.

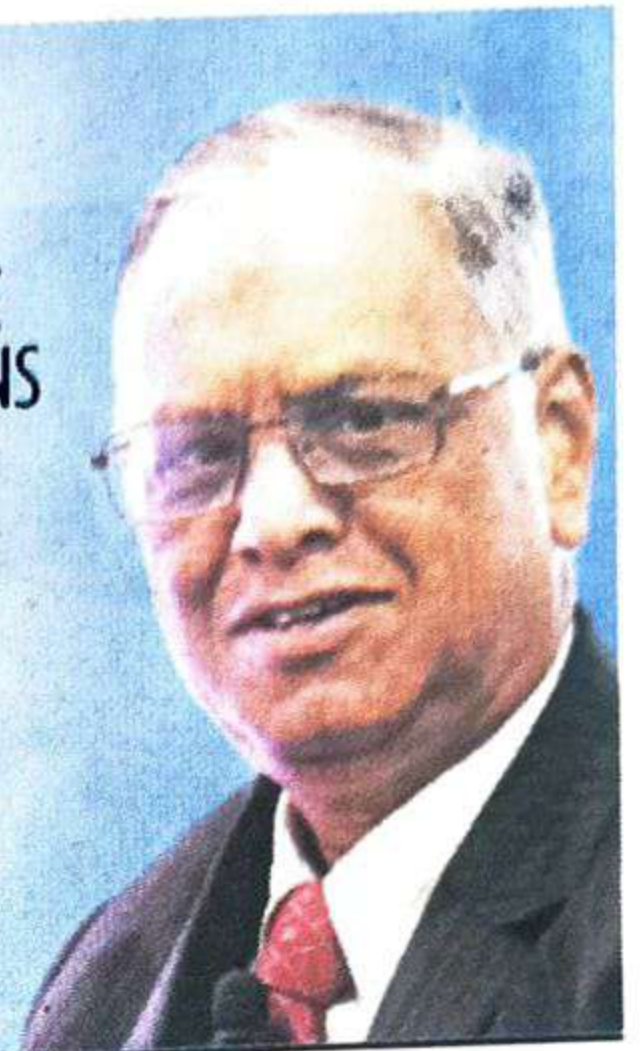
Among the other hurdles that startups and entrepreneurs face is attracting the best talent to form a team of early adopters, due to financial constraints and the lack of brand value, according to Murthy, who spoke on the topic, "Entrepreneurs, Ethics and Good Governance in Creating a More Prosperous India: Lessons of a Practitioner".

He said that budding entrepreneurs need to earn the respect of the government and society by ensuring good corporate governance practices, and stressed that entrepreneurship and innovation were key to bringing about prosperity in a nation.

"Respect from customers enhances repeat business. Respect from employees enhances retention. Respect from investors attracts more long-term investors. Respect from the government gives confidence to the government

“IT IS DESIRABLE TO CREATE A POLICY THAT MAKES IT ATTRACTIVE FOR DOMESTIC INSTITUTIONS LIKE FAMILY OFFICES OF HNIs, INSURANCE COMPANIES OR LARGE CORPORATIONS TO INVEST IN VENTURE CAPITAL FUNDING”

N R NARAYANA MURTHY
Co-founder, Infosys



to create business-friendly policies and regulations," he said.

Murthy added that entrepreneurs can garner respect via good corporate governance practices, adhering to fairness, transparency and accountability with every stakeholder.

"Good governance depends on the quality of the chairman of the board of the company. Any company where the board, or the chairman in particular, are gullible or have been brought up without good training in corporate governance, lack a sound value system," he said.

Murthy advised entrepreneurs to follow a set of golden rules to ensure proper governance. "First, do unto others what you want them to do unto you. Second, remember that the softest pillow is a clear conscience. Third, and most importantly, the most valuable and enduring position for an individual is respect from society and not material wealth."

Murthy claimed that the only way nations can usher in

prosperity is by creating an environment where communities can thrive economically through innovation and entrepreneurship.

Murthy emphasised the importance of the English language in furthering innovation in India.

"It is important to remember that the English language has the largest and fastest growing reservoir of knowledge in science, technology, engineering and management (STEM). If we forsake English, we will fall further behind in our attempt to use STEM to solve the basic problems of our poor and in our desire to make India prosperous," he said.

Murthy also said that government initiatives and policies such as Startup India and the National Education Policy (NEP) had proven "extremely valuable."

"Startup India is likely to yield positive results in the medium term, while NEP will lay a strong foundation to make India an innovative and prosperous nation in the long term," he said.

Inflation must fall for 7% GDP growth in FY25

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE objective of the government should be to sustain the growth momentum by securing real GDP growth of 7% in FY25 in an environment of macroeconomic stability, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said in its December State of the Economy Bulletin on Thursday.

The RBI said to maintain the growth momentum, India needs to align inflation with the target by the second quarter of the year, as projected,

and get anchored there.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Wednesday predicted the FY25 inflation at 4.5%. Speaking at a the World Economic Forum event at Davos, he predicted India's GDP growth will be 7% in FY25. RBI bulletin further says in order to maintain the growth momentum, the ongoing consolidation of fiscal and external balances needs to continue and balance sheets of financial institutions need to



be strengthened and asset quality improved even further.

"The gains of the transformative technological change that is underway must be harnessed for inclusive and participative growth in a sound risk-free environment. The virtuous thrust to investment from government capex must be partnered and even led by the corporate sector, supplemented by foreign direct investment," says the report.

The report says India must take a leap of faith in 2024, recover the losses of years gone by and prevail over the formidable downside risks that are seen over the horizon. "Weak global outlook can be brightened if geopolitical conflicts end and their repercussions through commodity and financial markets, trade and transportation, and supply networks are contained. Inflation must be vanquished, paving way for financial conditions to ease in support of growth," says the report.



India's uncertain road to T20 WC

The fact the core is yet to be identified doesn't bode well

ROSHAN THYAGARAJAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

Here we go again. The Indian management is confused, again. It's obviously attempting to mollify the situation by being consciously vague. But, it has been using these archaic diversion tactics for too long for the truth to lay hidden.

Why then use it, you ask? Well, because it doesn't know any better. Also, 'better' would involve transparency and vulnerability. As we know by now, these factors are not its forte.

Even as these embarrassing, poor-man's Machiavellian strategies reveal themselves on an everyday basis, it becomes painfully clear that the Indian team is not prepared for its next big assignment: the T20 World Cup.

It's in fine shape for the five-match Test series against England. Its desire to win an ICC event, however, is most likely going to remain just that: a desire. Actually, at this point, it's just a desperate dream.

The same can be said about the 50-over World Cup, which they let slip on the final day of the tournament against Australia. This is a bit different though.

For one, we're a few months away from the start of the tournament so we can't for certain predict the trajectory one way or the other. Secondly, the One-

Day International team had identified its core personnel to build around.

The clarity in combination was achieved later than they would have liked, but it eventually manifested a ten-game winning streak. It was excellence irrespective of the end result. And so, the delayed nature of coherence was forgotten, forgiven even.

In this case, they have chosen to complicate the matter by their own volition. Obviously, they're saying they haven't. But, the fact that Indian coach Rahul Dravid announced that they would hinge on the upcoming Indian Premier League to decide the team which travels to the United States of America and the West Indies, reveals enough.

"In general, we have a decent sized (WC probables) pool and it involves guys who have been playing in the past 5-6 months who are in the mix," he said after India scrapped past Afghanistan in the series-ending T20I in Bengaluru. "Obviously, there are some guys who are firmed up and we have got a fair idea of the kind of balance in the squad we are looking at."

But?

"...there is always an opportunity for some other guys as well to put their hand up and be counted. That's really up to the selectors then to see what kind of balance that we take. It's



The fact that a talented youngster like Shubman Gill (right) had to sit out to make way for veteran Virat Kohli says a lot about the management's priorities for the T20 World Cup this June. PTI

hard to answer that question because it really depends on each and every case, individual and the role we are looking for. We have got a fairly decent idea but obviously, there will be spots available over the course of the next few months."

So, what Dravid is actually saying is that he's about as in the dark about the team as the management is.

For starters, India announced that the three-match series against Afghanistan would provide the perfect platform to try out combinations

and give young talent a chance.

Right. They expressed it by including Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli in the playing XI!

Let's face it, for all their greatness, they are past their sell-by date in the shortest format. A century from Rohit doesn't undo the fact that he didn't trust himself with running between the wickets during the Super Over.

Also, their inclusion meant actual young talent such as Shubman Gill and Tilak Verma didn't get a proper run. Basically, they will have to rely on their

exploits in the IPL to bolster their case.

The same pedantic drama will continue to expose itself when it comes to 'keepers because the Indian team has a laundry list of them who are good, and Dravid says everyone is in the mix. Last count, there are five of them who can both 'keep well and bat well!

Perhaps the Indian management has forgotten that the Board of Control for Cricket in India devised the IPL to become a conveyor belt of T20 talent. It was not intended to

be a selection tool, a criteria. That's not the role that a franchise-based league should assume.

It has done that in the past in the case of the likes of Dinesh Karthik and so on, but should it?

In any case, if you present this question to the management, you're going to get an answer so vague, you may as well wait to see what the future holds. But it's plenty obvious that critical mass has been achieved. Now, to see what we get out of it.

Tired Medvedev survives Emil scare

Unseeded Blinkova shocks last year's runner-up Rybakina

MELBOURNE, AFP

Two-time runner-up Daniil Medvedev reached the Australian Open third round with a five-set win over Emil Ruusuvuori which finished at 3:40 am on Friday morning.

World number three Medvedev battled back from two sets down to win 3-6, 6-7 (1/7), 6-4, 7-6 (7/1), 6-0 after more than four hours and 20 minutes on court.

Medvedev had been just two points from defeat when trailing his 53rd-ranked Finnish opponent 4-5 in the fourth set.

eight seed Holger Rune. But the biggest drama was saved until late into the cool, breezy night in Melbourne, when Blinkova converted her 10th match point to beat third-ranked Rybakina 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (22/20).

The first two sets were completely forgotten in an astonishing 42-point tie-break that lasted more than half an hour.

The previous tie-break record at a Grand Slam was 38 points, which happened on two occasions – at the 2007 Australian Open and at last year's Wimbledon.

Blinkova, 25, who saved six match points, said it was the “best day of my life so far”.

“I had so many match points and I tried to be aggressive in these moments, but my hands were shaking, my legs too. I tried to be calm as far as I could and I am super happy to win.”

“I was telling myself ‘go for it’. I was also telling myself ‘just stay solid, stay solid, solid, solid, and just putting the ball in the court, into the court, in the court’, and finally it worked out.”

She will face 26th-seeded Italian Jasmine Paolini in the third round.

The astonishing scenes on Rod Laver Arena overshadowed a remarkable comeback earlier in the day by women's world number one Swiatek.

The Polish player was cruising at a set and a break up against Danielle Collins before faltering badly and slipping to a 4-1 deficit in the deciding set.

But just as she appeared to be heading home, she reeled off five straight games to win 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 and extend her winning run to 18 matches. The four-time Grand Slam cham-



Russia's Daniil Medvedev returns during his five-set win over Finland's Emil Ruusuvuori on Thursday. AFP

pion will face unseeded Czech player Linda Noskova next.

Spanish world number two Carlos Alcaraz matched his best Melbourne result by reaching the third round with a 6-4, 6-7 (3/7), 6-3, 7-6 (7/3) win against Italy's unseeded Lorenzo Sonego.

The two-time major champion, who struck 43 winners, found himself all square at one set apiece despite not facing any break points in the first two sets. But he brushed off the loss of the second set, breaking early in the third set, and came out on top in the fourth-set tie-break in windy conditions.

Alcaraz will meet Chinese wildcard Shang Juncheng next as he ramps up his drive towards a maiden title in Melbourne.

Alcaraz, who missed the 2023 Australian Open due to injury, is aiming to become the third man in the Open Era to win three Grand Slams before the age of 21, after Bjorn Borg and Mats Wilander. He also has the chance to supplant Novak Djokovic as world number one.

Nagal's dream run ends

Chinese tennis prodigy Juncheng Shang blunted Sumit Nagal's challenge to halt the Indian's impressive run at the first major of the season.

Coming into the match after an inspiring win over a top-30 player, Nagal began in the same dominating fashion but the 18-year-old wildcard entrant got better as the game progressed to walk out a winner with a 2-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4 scoreline.

KEY RESULTS

Second round (prefix denotes seeding)

MEN: 3-Daniil Medvedev (Rus) bt Emil Ruusuvuori (Fin) 3-6, 6-7 (1/7), 6-4, 7-6 (7/1), 6-0; 9-Hubert Hurkacz (Pol) bt Jakub Mensik (Cze) 6-7 (9/11), 6-1, 5-7, 6-1, 6-3; Arthur Cazaux (Fra) bt 8-Holger Rune (Den) 7-6 (7/4), 6-4, 4-6, 6-3; 28-Tallon Griekspoor (Ned) bt Arthur Fils (Fra) 3-6, 6-1, 7-5, 6-4; 21-Ugo Humbert (Fra) bt Zhang Zhizhen (Chn) 6-2, 5-7, 6-1, 7-6 (7/3); 13-Grigor Dimitrov (Bul) bt Thanasi Kokkinakis (Aus) 6-3, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4; Nuno Borges (Por) bt 23-Alejandro Davidovich Fokina (Esp) 7-6 (9/7), 6-3, 6-3; 27-Felix Auger-Aliassime (Can) bt Hugo Grenier (Fra) 6-1, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2; 6-Alexander Zverev (Ger) bt Lukas Klein (Svk) 7-5, 3-6, 4-6, 7-6 (7/5), 7-6 (10/7); Alex Michelsen (US) bt 32-Jiri Lehecka (Cze) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4; 19-Cameron Norrie (Gbr) bt Giulio Zeppieri (Ita) 3-6, 6-7 (4/7), 6-2, 6-4, 6-4; 11-Casper Ruud (Nor) bt Max Purcell (Aus) 6-3, 6-7 (5/7), 6-3, 3-6, 7-6 (10/7); 14-Tommy Paul (US) bt Jack Draper (Gbr) 6-2, 3-6, 6-3, 7-5; Miomir Kecmanovic (Srb) bt 24-Jan-Lennard Struff (Ger) 6-4, 1-6, 7-6 (7/5), 1-6, 7-6 (11/9); Shang Juncheng (Chn) bt Sumit Nagal (Ind) 2-6, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4; 2-Carlos Alcaraz (Esp) bt Lorenzo Sonego (Ita) 6-4, 6-7 (3/7), 6-3, 7-6 (7/3).
WOMEN: 11-Jelena Ostapenko (Lat) bt Ajla Tomljanovic (Aus) 6-0, 3-6, 6-4; 18-Victoria Azarenka (Blr) bt Clara Tauson (Den) 6-4, 3-6, 6-2; 1-Iga Swiatek (Pol) bt Danielle Collins (US) 6-4, 3-6, 6-4; Linda Noskova (Cze) bt McCartney Kessler (US) 6-3, 1-6, 6-4; 19-Elina Svitolina (Ukr) bt Viktoriya Tomova (Bul) 6-1, 6-3; Viktorija Golubic (Sui) bt Katerina Siniakova (Cze) 6-3, 2-6, 6-4; 27-Emma Navarro (US) bt Elisabetta Cocciaretto (Ita) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3; Dayana Yastremska (Ukr) bt Varvara Gracheva (Fra) 6-3, 6-2; Anna Blinkova (Rus) bt 3-Elena Rybakina (Kaz) 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (22/20); 26-Jasmine Paolini (Ita) bt Tatjana Maria (Ger) 6-2, 6-3; Anna Kalinskaya (Rus) bt Arantxa Rus (Ned) 6-1, 7-5; Sloane Stephens (US) bt 14-Daria Kasatkina (Rus) 4-6, 6-3, 6-3; 12-Zheng Qinwen (Chn) bt Katie Boulter (Gbr) 6-3, 6-3; Wang Yafan (Chn) bt Emma Raducanu (Gbr) 6-4, 4-6, 6-4; Clara Burel (Fra) bt 5-Jessica Pegula (US) 6-4, 6-2.

AO
australian open

However, he recovered to sprint through the tie-break to level at two sets all and then swept the decider as Ruusuvuori struggled with a right shoulder injury.

Medvedev, the 2021 and 2022 finalist, will face Canadian 27th seed Felix Auger-Aliassime for a place in the last 16.

Earlier, unseeded Russian Anna Blinkova shocked last year's runner-up Elena Rybakina on Thursday, winning the longest tie-break in Grand Slam history as world number one Iga Swiatek came back from the brink.

On a day of striking second-round upsets, women's fifth seed Jessica Pegula also crashed out, along with men's

Leaky India go down to clinical Uzbekistan

DOHA, PTI

Bereft of ideas, a lacklustre Indian football team's woes were compounded by its defensive lapses, resulting in a 0-3 drubbing by a dominant Uzbekistan in the AFC Asian Cup here on Thursday.

This is India's second successive defeat in Group B, having started their campaign with a 0-2 loss to title contenders Australia, in which their spirited performance earned them plaudits.

However, against the central Asian nation at Ahmed bin Ali Stadium, India's performance was a far cry from their display against the Socceroos, a FIFA World Cup regular.

Uzbekistan scored through Abbosbek Fayzullaev (4th minute), Igor Sergeev (18th) and Nasrullaev (45+3) to register their first win in the competition after being held to a stalemate by Syria in their tournament opener.

Hoping to start on a positive note barely days after their promising show against Australia, India, instead, found themselves on the backfoot straightaway and conceded a rather soft goal early on.

The lightning quick Fayzullaev, placed in a favourable position, found the target with a header past the hapless Gurpreet Singh Sandhu after Shukurov headed the ball towards him from a Nasrullaev



Sherzod Nasrullaev celebrates after scoring his team's third goal against India on Thursday. AFP

cross taken at the edge of the Indian penalty area.

Ranked 102 in the world as against their 68-ranked opponents, Igor Stimac's men

found the going tough as Uzbekistan looked to rattle the Indian defence with their attacking play. Unlike the match against Australia, the Indians

could not prevent Uzbekistan from splitting their defence wide open in the early part.

In a mood to stamp their authority further, Uzbekistan again benefitted from sloppy defending from their opponents. Rahul Bheke gave the ball away in the halfway line. Akash Mishra managed to touch the ball but his clearance hit the post before returning to the field of play, and Sergeev did the rest to put his side 2-0 ahead.

Even as the Indians looked to bounce back, there was no letup in Uzbekistan's intensity as they struck their third goal just before the half-time, with Nasrullaev scoring from the rebound as the Indian defence failed to respond to the situation.

Indian eyes bow to Germany in thriller

RANCHI, PTI

The Indian women's hockey team fought with great resolve but lost its nerves in the most crucial phase of the penalty shootout, going down to Germany 3-4 in the second semifinal of the FIH Olympic Qualifier here on Thursday.

The match was stretched to a penalty shootout after the teams were tied at 2-2 in the regulation time. With this win Germany secured a berth in the Paris Olympics later this year.

However, India will also have a crumb of consolation as the hosts have another chance to seal their Olympics berth if they beat Japan in the third-fourth place match on Friday.

The top three sides from this tournament will qualify for the Paris Games. World no.5 Germany will take on the USA in the final of this event on Friday.

Deepika (15th minute) and Ishika Chaudhary (59th) were the goal-scorers for India in the regular time, while Germany's both goals were scored by Charlotte Stapenhorst (27th, 57th).

As expected, the Germans came out attacking from the onset and exerted continuous pressure on the Indian defence on a foggy night, where visibility was a problem.



Skipper Savita Punia was in fine touch on Thursday, but her efforts were not enough. FILE PHOTO

The Germans were right on their money with their strategy and made numerous circle entries.

They earned a penalty corner in the opening minute but it was disallowed after India went for a review. But the visitors kept up the pressure and fetched another penalty corner in the ninth minute but India captain and goalkeeper Savita Punia was up to the task.

The Indians too made a few circle penetrations but lacked in finishing. But egged on by MS Dhoni, the former India cricket team captain who came to watch the game, the home side fought back valiantly to trouble the German defence with their speed.

Just 55 seconds from the end of the first quarter, India secured their first penalty corner and Deepika slammed home with a powerful drag-flick to stun the Germans.

Sudden-death heartbreak for India, faces Japan for Paris spot

Germany and USA punch a ticket to the Summer Games; the former overcomes a spirited home side led by Savita while the latter cashes in on the numerical advantage to turn the tables on the Japanese in a thrilling encounter

OLYMPIC QUALIFIERS

Uthra Ganesan

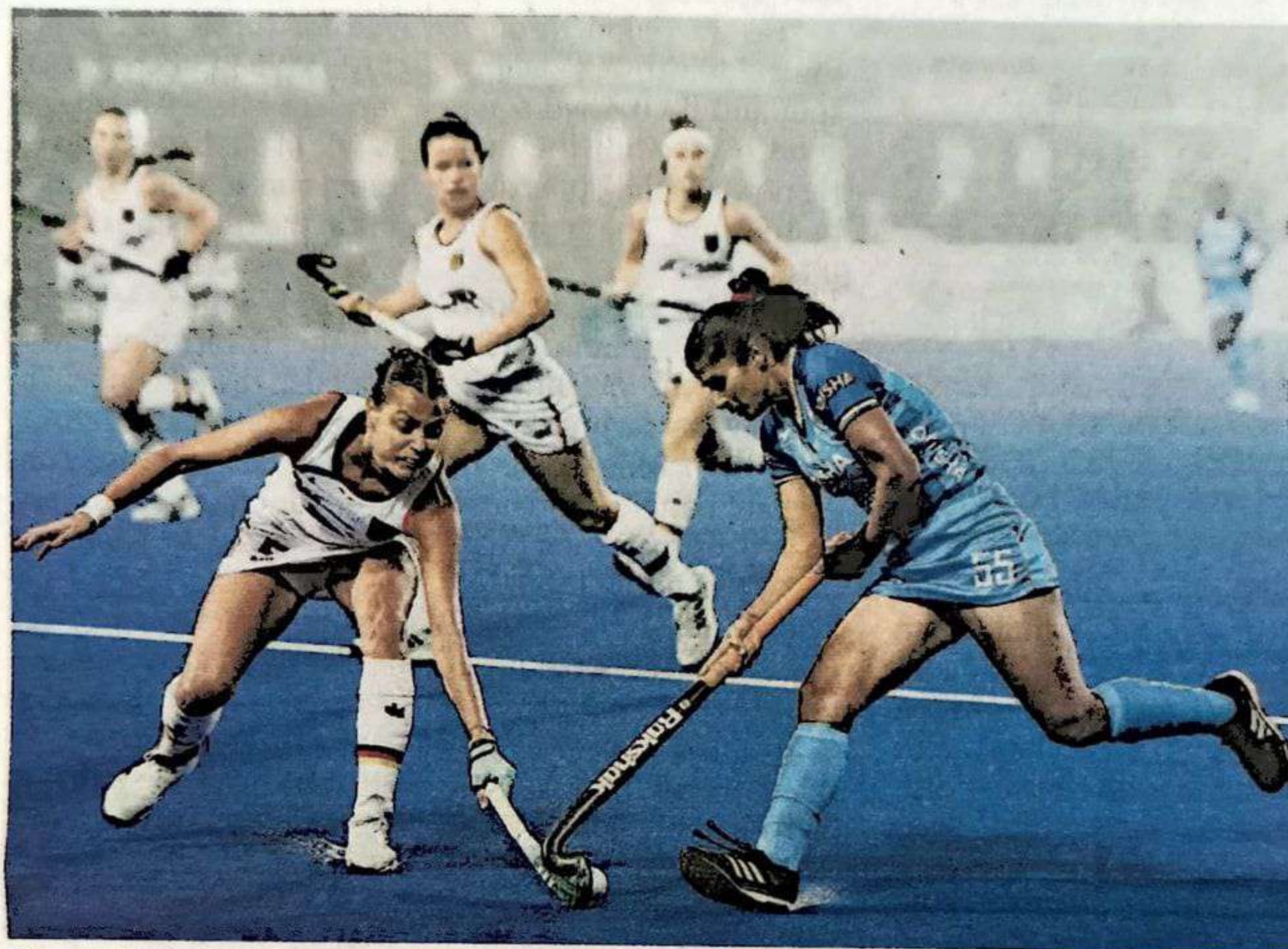
RANCHI

India captain Savita stood teary-eyed in the middle of the field with fellow goalkeeper Bichu Devi as Germany booked a spot in the final of the Olympic Qualifiers and a ticket to Paris with a 4-3 win in sudden-death after being tied 2-2 in regulation time in the semifinals on Thursday.

Starting as the underdog against a team that has made it to every Olympics since its debut in 1984 and everything, including track record and rankings against it, India put up a gallant fight before going down.

It will now play Japan in a must-win game for the third spot as the last remaining Olympic spot is at stake. USA won 2-1 against Japan in the other semifinal.

Though India had more possession, Germany dominated the exchanges. The host's speed and attacking play, the highlight in the last two games, was missing.



Stopped in their tracks: The Indians gave it their all but couldn't get past the Germans. PTI

A penalty corner (PC) in the final minute of the first quarter saw Deepika strike past Julia Sontag and put India ahead. Instead of building on it, the Indian team went on the defensive, allowing the Germans the space to keep pressing hard.

For the next 30 minutes, the game was largely restricted to India's half as Germany kept pushing for an equaliser. India's de-

fence stood firm against a German side that barely allowed breathing space. Relying only on free hits and individual skills to move ahead, the Indian attack did not have the cohesion or penetration seen before.

The Indian defence, which had stalled repeated German attacks, was guilty of conceding two goals after failing to mark Charlotte Stapenhorst inside

the circle and not providing enough back-up for Savita. The second of those came in the 57th minute and just when it looked like the contest was sealed, Ishika managed to deflect a rebound off India's third PC in the 59th minute to take the game into shootouts.

It looked going India's way with Sangita and Sonika scoring and Savita saving two of Germany's first three shots. But India's two

most experienced players in the shootout – Neha and Navneet – hurried and missed their chances, taking the game to sudden-death. Lisa Nolte struck her second of the night to end India's hopes.

Earlier in the day, for 50 minutes, Japan seemed to have the game and a final spot in its control before a yellow card to Chico Fuji-bayashi in the 52nd minute gave USA the numerical advantage. It made the most of it, scoring twice in three minutes to stun the Japanese and return to the Olympics.

In the classification matches for the 5-8 place, New Zealand beat Czech Republic 2-0 with two goals in three minutes while Italy beat Chile in a shootout.

The results:

Semifinals: USA 2 (Ashley Hoffman, Abigail Tamer) bt Japan 1 (Amiru Shimada).

Germany 2 (Charlotte Stapenhorst 2) drew with India 2 (Deepika, Ishika); Germany won 4-3 in sudden-death.

5-8 place: Italy 2 (Antonella Bruni, Federica Carta) bt Chile 2 (Francisca Tala, Paula Valdivia) on penalties.

New Zealand 2 (Samantha Child, Katie Doar) bt Czech Republic 0.

EDITORIAL

NEWS

PEACE EFFORTS SHOULD BE REDOUBLED AS WEST ASIA WAR SPREADS WIDER

THE West Asia war between Israel and Hamas is spreading. The Iran-backed Houthi and Hezbollah militias have already joined the war. Israel has launched attacks on Lebanon and Syria to target these groups and the Hamas leaders based in these countries. The Houthis have taken the war to the Red Sea, one of the busiest shipping lanes of the world, by launching attacks on western commercial vessels. This has brought the US into the war. The US is leading an international patrol mission in the Red Sea to safeguard ships against attacks by the Houthis and has launched missile attacks in Iraq, Syria and Yemen to neutralise the Iran-backed militia groups. The war that was so far confined to West Asia with the players including Iran, Yemen, Syria, Iraq and Lebanon, besides Israel and Palestine, has now arrived at the doorsteps of the Indian subcontinent with Iran and Pakistan launching missile attacks on each other.

Iran and Pakistan have had problems on their 900-km border for a long time. Both countries have accused each other of harbouring militants who have fomented trouble on the other side. Iran attacked Pakistan after nearly a hundred Iranians were killed by a bomb that exploded during an event in the memory of commander Qassem Soleimani, who was killed by the US in 2020. Iran blamed the Pakistan-based Jaish al-Adl group and launched missiles at the group's hideout in Pakistani territory in Balochistan. Pakistan has launched retaliatory missile attacks against what it calls the *sarmachar* or the separatists living inside Iran. While the world was warned, including by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, about the Israel-Hamas conflict turning into a regional war, few expected it to spread outside the West Asian region. The war has already put global connectivity and energy supply at a risk. Any further escalation between Iran and Pakistan is sure to bring other major powers into the game and create instability in the region.

The road to peace is difficult but the dividends are rich. UN Secretary General António Guterres's call for a ceasefire between Israel and Hamas has been ignored. Regional peacemakers such as Qatar, a small country that brokered peace between the US and Taliban, and Egypt, which has had a longest-standing peace treaty with Israel, need to double their efforts to engage the two sides. Israel and Palestine need to be brought back to the table for a lasting global peace.

RASANANDA Bhoi's elder son died of snake-bite and he expected an *ex gratia* payment from the Odisha government. When this was not forthcoming, he filed a writ petition before Orissa High Court. Naturally, there would have to be a post mortem, but the judge could not read the doctor's post mortem report. Peeved, Justice S K Panigrahi observed, "The tendency of writing in a zigzag manner which cannot be read by any common man or a judicial officer has become a fashion among doctors of the state. A substantial number of doctors resort to such handwriting which cannot be read by any ordinary person."

The judge continued, "It is expected that doctors who are dealing with medico-legal issues and writing casually in very poor handwriting, are required to change their attitude and write either in capital letter or in a typed form or in good handwriting so that the judicial system does not suffer from unnecessary fatigue in reading their handwriting." He issued an order to the effect that the chief secretary should issue a directive to all medical centres, private clinics, medical colleges and hospitals requiring that handwriting in prescriptions and medico-legal reports should be legible. (The doctor appeared virtually before the court and explained what he had written. Rasananda Bhoi's son had indeed died of snake-bite and he was thus entitled to compensation.)

This order is from January 2024. But this is not the first time the Orissa High Court and Justice Panigrahi have been upset. There was a similar case in 2020, when the court heard the bail application of a man who wanted to take care of his ailing wife. The wife's medical records were produced, but they were illegible. At that time, the court observed, "Such illegible scrawls composed by doctors creates unnecessary nuisance at the end of the patients, pharmacists, police, prosecutors, judges who are bound to deal with such medical reports."

This is not a problem specific to Odisha. In 2018, in three separate cases from three separate districts of Sitapur, Unnao and Gonda, the Lucknow bench of the Allahabad High Court fined three doctors ₹5,000 each because their reports were illegible. The high court observed in *Fahad and others vs state of UP*, "The doctors have been scribing medico-legal report, injury report, bed head tickets, prescriptions and post-mortem examination reports in such handwriting that it cannot be read by the prosecutor, the defence lawyer or the court.... If such a report is readable by medical practi-

Handwriting has deteriorated for everyone, not doctors alone. But it's a rare profession that still needs a lot to be written by hand. An illegible scrawl could be perilous

AN ODE TO THE DOCTOR'S SCRIBBLE



BIBEK DEBROY

Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister



SOURAV ROY

tioners only, it shall not serve the purpose for which it is made. This is despite the fact that computers are available in all medical facilities. In some of the states, practice is being followed where medico legal reports and post mortem reports are made on computers/printers." Precisely, there are computers everywhere.

Let me mention the September 2016 notification of the Medical Council of India (MCI). "Every physician should prescribe drugs with generic names legibly and preferably in capital letters and he/she shall ensure that there is a rational prescription and use of drugs." This was added to MCI's 2002 (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations. There was a reference to generics in 2002 too. But there was no

mention of legibility and capital letters. It didn't seem to be an important issue in 2002, but became one in 2016.

There are several jokes about bad handwriting of physicians. It is standard stereotyping. Naturally, all generalisations are subject to exceptions and I know doctors with beautiful handwriting, a few who still use fountain pens. Everywhere, calligraphy and good handwriting are now at a discount. Indeed, with the switch to digital, conventional writing itself is at a discount. Handwriting has deteriorated for everyone, not doctors alone. As one moves vertically up the career path, it continues to deteriorate. For example, everyone passes exams, entrance or otherwise. With illegible handwriting, despite the emphasis on

multiple choice questions, it will be impossible to pass. This is equally true of medical entrance exams. Thus, the problem is subsequent. For other professions, in how many instances do we confront something written by the professional by hand, as opposed to digital? Not too many. Doctors are an exception, through prescriptions and reports, a regular interface. That's the reason why whenever we think of bad handwriting we think of doctors.

There is a lot to be said for digitising health records and the numbers under Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission are impressive. How many doctors are there in India? If one sticks to allopathic doctors, the registered number is somewhere in the vicinity of 1.3 million. (The number practising must be less.) Think of whichever doctor you go to, and ask yourself, is the prescription printed through a computer? Does the doctor have access to a printer and a computer, even if the doctor is associated with a relatively fancy hospital? I suspect, with a clear urban bias in the responses, the number won't be that high.

A slightly dated study suggests a primary care consultant—the neighbourhood doctor, so to speak—spends two minutes with the average patient. Ignoring specialists, how many patients does a primary care doctor see per day? Depending on the doctor, and public versus private, the range will be from something like 25 to a number approaching 150. With two minutes or 150, you can't reasonably expect a neat computer printout as prescription. An illegible scrawl is the default template. Besides, who does a doctor write a prescription for? Traditionally, for a colleague or a pharmacist, not for the patient.

The etymology of the word prescription reflects this and explains why doctors often use mysterious acronyms and abbreviations incomprehensible to patients. This is a bit like lawyers and judges unnecessarily using Latin. Had it been for patients, would expressions like "ac", "bid" and "qd" have been used? But as patients have become more demanding and as doctors have themselves become unfamiliar with such Latinic abbreviations, their use has declined.

Greater external scrutiny and possibility of litigation and medical negligence cases probably explains why legibility became important to MCI in 2016, though it wasn't the case in 2002. Did the doctor write Losec or Lasix? There have been actual instances of wrong treatment. Besides, if the hand-written prescription is illegible, which software, or AI, is capable of converting it to a digital prescription? H

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Widening of conflict is not in our interest

Iran's surprising missile and drone attacks inside Pakistan, targeting a Sunni extremist group seeking to break away Iran's Sistan-Baluchistan province, and the retaliatory strikes by Pakistan, targeting purported Pakistani Baloch separatist hideouts inside Iran, has led to an unforeseen escalation of tensions between the two neighbours. This is not the first time that Iran has taken on the Pakistan-based Jaish-ul-Adl, but earlier raids were low-key and took place close to their shared border. This is the first time that Iran has used sophisticated weapons and hit deep inside Pakistan. Tehran has long been issuing warnings to Pakistan against the activities of this group. In February 2019, JuA claimed the killing of 27 Islamic Revolutionary Guards, Iran's elite commando force, by a suicide bomber who drove an explosives-packed vehicle into a security convoy. A month ago, the group claimed an attack on a police station in Sistan-Baluchistan that killed 11 policemen.

Iran has been on edge ever since the Israel-Hamas war started, which, as it drags on, is threatening to draw in Tehran. In Lebanon, its proxy Hezbollah and Israel are engaged in low-intensity battles. In Yemen, the Houthis, another Iranian proxy, have effectively blocked shipping in the strategic Red Sea with their missile attacks on commercial liners. In a move that would have alarmed Iran, the US has gathered a coalition of Western navies to take on the Houthis and the US and UK have hit targets in Yemen. Earlier this month, 97 Iranians were killed in an attack on a memorial event for Gen.

The Iran-Pak flare-up must be contained before it engulfs region

Qassem Soleimani, a celebrated military commander who was assassinated by the US with a drone strike in 2020. Along with the strikes in Pakistan, Iran also carried out strikes against alleged Israeli-Mossad assets in Iraq and Syria, apparently to warn that it has the capability to take on enemies in diverse regions at the same time. The regime might have made some domestic political calculations, too.

The unusual clubbing by Iran of its enemies in Pakistan with those in Syria and Iraq suggests a belief in Tehran that the Pakistani military allows the JuA to flourish at the behest of higher powers. Thus far, Iran and Pakistan had described their ties as "brotherly", and managed their tensions, keeping ties cordial. But the tit-for-tat attacks have exposed the fault-lines. Any further escalation may lead to the targeting of Pakistani Shia by extremist groups like the Lashkar-e-Jhangvi. After its retaliatory strikes, the Pakistani military has called for "dialogue and cooperation". China, friends with both, has also called for restraint. The hostilities may end, but Pakistan-Iran ties have clearly changed forever. How it might affect the fortunes of the deeply unpopular Pakistan Army chief Gen. Asim Munir and the Pakistan Army remains to be seen. This is the third time since 2011 that a foreign power has staged an attack deep inside Pakistan, showing the Pakistani military in unflattering light. But as with the US stealth operation to take out Osama bin Laden, and India's Balakot strike, such actions also tend to help the Pakistani military shore up support. India must exert to prevent a widening conflict that could engulf the whole region, whose larger consequences would outweigh any pleasure obtained from scoring a narrow point against Pakistan.



Motivated litigation

Courts should not allow suits that seek to convert places of worship

In staying the execution of an Allahabad High Court order to appoint a commissioner to inspect the Shahi Idgah Mosque in Mathura, the Supreme Court has stalled for a while a likely move to get the status of the place of worship altered through the courts. The top court has halted the appointment of the commission after finding it was sought on vague grounds without any particular reason. It has also taken into account a recent precedent in which the Supreme Court has ruled that civil courts should not grant any interim relief if there is a question about the maintainability of the suit or if the suit is barred by law. The committee of management of the Shahi Idgah Mosque has questioned the maintainability of the suit in the name of the deity, Bhagwan Sri Krishna Virajman, and other Hindu worshippers on the ground that it is barred by the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991, which prohibits the conversion of the religious character of any place of worship as it was on August 15, 1947. It also bars any fresh suit aimed at altering the status of a place of worship. Hindu devotees have been claiming that the mosque, located adjacent to a Krishna temple there, is standing on the birthplace of Lord Krishna. Several suits are pending in connection with the mosque in Mathura and the Allahabad High Court has transferred all the suits to itself for disposal.

The appointment of a commission to inspect the premises appeared to be an exercise to show that architectural features and artefacts of Hindu provenance could be found. The legal strategy is similar to the one through which Hindu worshippers obtained official sanction for gathering purported evidence to back their case at the Gyanvapi Mosque, Varanasi, where the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has been asked to do a scientific survey. The Mathura dispute, however, was settled through a compromise between the Sri Krishna Janmasthan Seva Sansthan and the Shahi Idgah Trust in 1968, and implemented through a decree in 1973. As part of the settlement, the Sansthan had given up a portion of the land to the Idgah. The current suits challenge this compromise as 'fraudulent' and seek the transfer of the entire parcel of land to the deity. The use of the judiciary to make a concerted attack on Muslim places of worship by claiming that they were built on structures of Hindu origin has become an unfortunately regular feature. Courts must be wary of encouraging such motivated litigation, and determine at the earliest stage whether such suits are maintainable in view of the statutory bar in the 1991 Act.

Inflation continues to be a challenge

The latest data on inflation for December, released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), showed that retail inflation was on the rise and higher than in November. It rose to a four-month high of 5.69%, driven by higher food inflation. It was expected, and the RBI had stated that “the near-term outlook is masked by risks to food inflation which might lead to an inflation uptick.” The Consumer Food Price Index moved up from 8.7% to 9.53% in December, mainly due to the rise in prices of cereals by 9.93%. All cereals, including coarse cereals, have seen steady increases in price in the past few months. The prices of pulses have gained at a faster pace, and were at a 43-month high in December. They may rise further as the Rabi crop may be lower than in the previous year. Cereals and pulses are the most important items in the food basket of ordinary households and the rise in their prices would really hurt.

Vegetable prices have also increased at a high pace in the past few months. Tomatoes and onions saw the highest increases, by over 33% and 74%, respectively, over that in December 2022. But vegetable prices vary in the short term, depending on seasonal factors and the supply situation. Overall, all food items have seen an increase in prices, and that is a challenge. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has said this week that food inflation will be on top of the central bank’s agenda. He said core inflation has been falling, but inflation is difficult to predict because it is subject to many international developments and weather events. The present inflation levels are much higher than the RBI’s tolerance levels. Its latest projection for the current financial year is 5.4% and the expectation for 2024-25 is 5.2%. The present trends indicate that the final figure may go above the projections.

Persistent food inflation can further impact consumption, and thus growth

Next month, the interim Union budget will be presented and the RBI’s Monetary Policy Committee will hold its meeting to evaluate the inflation position. It is unlikely that either event will impact the trend of inflation. The MPC is likely to stick to the status quo on rates. Continuing inflation can hurt the economy and household budgets. It is particularly difficult when inflation is led by food inflation. It leads to suppression of demand and a fall in consumption, as is being seen currently. Consumer demand has been at low levels for many quarters and a further fall could drag growth down.

Smaller citizens

Despite rising enrolment, gaps in India's education system are not closing quickly

The pandemic was difficult for India's youngest citizens, the children, but the true import of its impact is coming to light now. The Annual Status of Education Report, titled "ASER 2023: Beyond Basics" and released on Wednesday, a survey by the civil society organisation Pratham among rural students aged 14 to 18, reveals that more than half struggled with basic mathematics, a skill they should have mastered in Classes 3 and 4. The household survey, the first field-based one in four years, was conducted in 28 districts across 26 States and assessed the foundational reading and arithmetic abilities of 34,745 students. In other findings, about 25% of this age group cannot read a Class 2 level text in their mother tongue; boys are, however, better in arithmetic and English reading skills than girls. Overall, 86.8% in the 14-18 year age group are enrolled in an educational institution, but there are gaps as they grow older – while 3.9% of 14-year-olds are not in school, the figure climbs to 32.6% for 18-year-olds. Also, for Class 11 and higher, most students opt for Humanities; while girls are less likely to be enrolled in the science stream (28.1%) compared with boys (36.3%), only 5.6% have opted for vocational training or other related courses.

The proportion of children opting for private tuition nationwide went up from 25% in 2018 to 30% in 2022. Close to 90% of the youngsters surveyed have a smartphone and know how to use it, though many are unaware of online safety settings. The trends, especially the lag in reading and solving simple arithmetic, give an inkling of what ails the education system, and the corrective measures required. The National Education Policy 2020 says the top priority is to "achieve universal foundational literacy and numeracy in primary school by 2025". The report says all States have made a major push in foundational literacy and numeracy under the NIPUN Bharat Mission, but the numbers show that in a diverse and vast country such as India, there is a lot of catching up to do. While rising enrolment is a good thing, what awaits the students after they finish the compulsory school cycle (Class 8) is not all that rosy, sometimes because they are simply not able to cope with the ambitious curriculum set for the higher secondary level. The Right to Education Act, 2009 may have ensured universal access to education, but there is many a gap to fill before it touches every child in the true spirit of the legislation.

ಪಠ್ಯಬೋಧನೆಯ ಕಲಿಕೆಯು ಅನುಭವಿಸುವುದಾಗದೆ 'ಮುಗಿಸುವ' ಪರಿಕಲ್ಪನೆಯಾಗಿ ಬದಲಾಗಿದೆ

ವಿರಾಮವಿಲ್ಲದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾದೀತು



ವಿಶ್ಲೇಷಣೆ

ಅರವಿಂದ ಬೊಕ್ಕಾಡಿ

ದಿನದಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಹೊತ್ತಾದರೂ ನಿರಾಳವಾಗಿ ಇರಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಅನಿಸದವರು ಬಹುಶಃ ಯಾರೂ ಇರಲಾರರು. ಈ ವಿಚಾರವನ್ನು ನಿದ್ಧೆಗೆ ಅನ್ನಯಿಸದೇ ನೋಡಬೇಕು. ನಿದ್ಧೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಚೇತನ ಮನಸ್ಸು ಕ್ರಿಯಾಶೀಲವಾಗಿ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಸಚೇತನ ಮನಸ್ಸು ಕ್ರಿಯಾಶೀಲವಾಗಿದ್ದಾಗ ದೇಹ ಮತ್ತು ಮನಸ್ಸಿಗೆ ಸಿಗುವ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತಿಯು ಮುಂದೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೂ ಮಾಡುವ ಕೆಲಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ದಕ್ಷತೆಯನ್ನು ತರುವುದಕ್ಕೂ ಪ್ರೇರಕವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ, ವ್ಯಾವಹಾರಿಕವಾಗಿ ಮಾಡಲೇಬೇಕಾದ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿದ ನಂತರ ಸಿಗುವ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತಿಯು ವೈಯಕ್ತಿಕವಾಗಿ ಸೃಜನಶೀಲ ಚಿಂತನೆ, ಸೃಜನಶೀಲ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಉತ್ತೇಜನಕಾರಿಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಿಗಳೂ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತಿಯ ಅವಧಿಯನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸುತ್ತವೆ. ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತಿಯ ಹಕ್ಕು ಮತ್ತು ಆಟವಾಡುವ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳೆರಡೂ ಸೇರಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತವೆ.

ಆದರೆ, ಯಾವುದೇ ಘಟಕವನ್ನು ದಿನದ 24 ಗಂಟೆಗಳೂ ಯಾವ ಯಾವ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಉಪಯೋಗ ಪಡೆಯಬೇಕು ಎನ್ನುವಂತಹ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳು ಜಾಗತೀಕರಣ ನಂತರದ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಸಿದ್ಧಾಂತಗಳ ಧೋರಣೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಇಂದಿನ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣವು ಈ ಧೋರಣೆಯನ್ನು ಬಹಳಷ್ಟು ಪ್ರಭಾವಿಸಿದೆ. ಅಂತಹ ಪ್ರಭಾವದ ಭಾಗವಾಗಿಯೇ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಅಂಕಗಳಷ್ಟೇ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣದ ಗುರಿ ಎಂದು ವ್ಯಾವಹಾರಿಕವಾಗಿ ಎಲ್ಲರೂ ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯೂ ಬಂದಾಗಿದೆ. ಆಗ, ನಿರಾಳರಾಗಿದ್ದಾಗ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಅಧ್ಯಾಪಕರು ಗಳಿಸುವ ಜ್ಞಾನವು ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕವಾಗಿ ಪರಿಗಣನೆಗೇ ಒಳಪಡುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

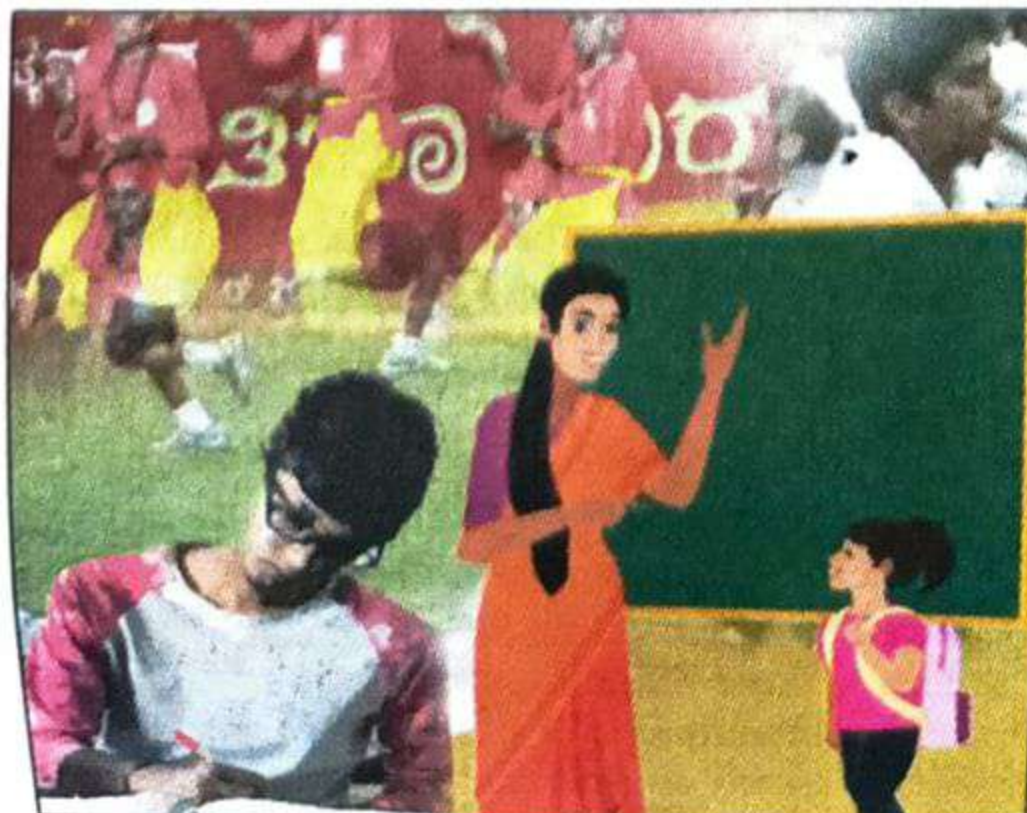
ಶಿಕ್ಷಣದ ಔದ್ಯಮೀಕರಣ ನಡೆಯುವ ಮೊದಲು, ಶಾಲಾ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧ್ಯಾಪಕರಿಗೆ ಬೋಧನಾ ಅವಧಿಯನ್ನು ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡುವಾಗ, ಎರಡು ಬೋಧನಾ ಅವಧಿಗಳ ನಡುವೆ ಒಂದು ವಿರಾಮದ ಅವಧಿ ದೊರೆಯುವಂತೆ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ತರಗತಿ ನಡೆಸುವ ಎರಡು ಅವಧಿಗಳ ನಡುವೆ ಒಂದು ವಿರಾಮದ ಅವಧಿ ಏಕೆ? ಅದು ಎಲ್ಲಾದರೂ ತಿರುಗಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಬರಲು ಇರುವ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲ. ಅದೂ ಕೆಲಸದ ಅವಧಿಯೇ ಆಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಆ ಸಮಯವು ಮುಂದಿನ ತರಗತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಠ್ಯ ವಿಷಯವನ್ನು ಯಾವ ರೀತಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗೆ ತಲುಪಿಸಬೇಕು, ಕಲಿಕಾ ಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ಹೇಗೆ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂಬಂತಹ ಬೋಧನಾ ಸಿದ್ಧತೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಇರುವ ಅವಧಿಯಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಈಗ, ಸಿದ್ಧತೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ತರಗತಿಗೆ ಹೋಗಬೇಕು ಎಂಬ ಚಿಂತನೆ ಇದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಅದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಸಮಯವನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಿಯೇ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ ತಯಾರಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂಬ ಚಿಂತನೆ ಬಹುತೇಕ ಹೊರಟುಹೋಗಿದೆ. ಇದರ ಜೊತೆ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಬೋಧಕರ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಒತ್ತಡಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ,

ಶಾಲಾ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬೋಧನಾ ಸಿದ್ಧತೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಸಮಯ ಬಹುಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಲಭ್ಯವಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಏನಿದ್ದರೂ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಸಿದ್ಧತೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಬರಬೇಕು. ಮನೆಗೆ ಹೋದಾಗ ಮನೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಹಲವು ಕೆಲಸ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಅದರಲ್ಲೂ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ಮನೆವಾರ್ತೆಯ ಕೆಲಸ ಇನ್ನೂ ಜಾಸ್ತಿ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕೊನೆಗೆ, 'ಪಾಠ ಬೋಧನೆಗೆ ಸಿದ್ಧತೆ' ಎಂಬ ಪರಿಕಲ್ಪನೆಯು ಔಪಚಾರಿಕ ಪರಿಕಲ್ಪನೆಯಾಗಿಯಷ್ಟೇ ಉಳಿದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಸ್ವಾರಸ್ಯದ ಸಂಗತಿ ಎಂದರೆ, ಇಂದಿನ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಗುರಿಯನ್ನು ಈಡೇರಿಸಲು ಪಾಠ ಬೋಧನೆ ಸಿದ್ಧತೆಯ ಅಗತ್ಯವೂ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ ಅಂಕಗಳನ್ನು ಗಳಿಸುವ ಏಕಮಾತ್ರ ಉದ್ದೇಶದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಶೋತ್ತರಗಳ ಅಭ್ಯಾಸ ಮಾತ್ರ ನಡೆಯಬೇಕಾದ್ದು. ಆಗ ಪ್ರಶೋತ್ತರಗಳ ಒಂದು ದಾಖಲೆಯನ್ನು ಮಾತ್ರ ಸಿದ್ಧಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡರೆ ಸಾಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಉಳಿದ ಬೋಧನಾ ಸಿದ್ಧತೆಗಳ ಅಗತ್ಯವೇ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ!

ಅಧ್ಯಾಪಕರಿಗೆ ರಜೆಜಾಸ್ತಿ ಇದೆ ಎಂಬ ಭಾವನೆ ಸಾರ್ವತ್ರಿಕವಾಗಿ ಇದೆ. ದಸರಾ ಮತ್ತು ಬೇಸಿಗೆ ರಜೆಯ ವಿಷಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸೀಮಿತವಾಗಿ ಈ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ ನಿಜವೂ ಹೌದು. ಆದರೆ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಗಳು ರಜೆಯಲ್ಲೂ ಇರುತ್ತವೆ. ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಕಾರ್ಯ, ತರಬೇತಿ, ಶಾಲೆಗೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಕರೆತರಲು ನಡೆಸುವ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಕಾರ್ಯ, ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಅರ್ಜಿಯ ವಿತರಣೆ, ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ, ಪ್ರವೇಶ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳ ರಚನೆಯಂತಹ ಹಲವು ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳು ರಜೆಯಲ್ಲೂ ಇರುತ್ತವೆ. ಎರಡೂವರೆ ದಶಕಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಗಳೇ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇದ್ದಾಗ ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ರಜೆಯ ವಿರಾಮ ಈಗ ಅಧ್ಯಾಪಕರಿಗೆ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಅದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ರಜೆಯ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲೂ ಅಧ್ಯಾಪಕರು ಸಣ್ಣ ಸಣ್ಣ ಪ್ರವಾಸ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವುದು, ನಿರಾಳರಾಗುವುದು, ಅಂತಹ ಅನುಭವಗಳನ್ನು ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕವಾಗಿ ಬಳಸುವುದು ಎಲ್ಲ ಈಗ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗದ ವಿಚಾರವಾಗಿದೆ. ದೊರೆಯುವ ಸಾಂದರ್ಭಿಕ ರಜೆಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದಾಗಲೂ ತರಗತಿಯಿಂದ ಹೊರಗಿರಬಹುದೇ ವಿನಾ ನಿರಾಳವಾಗಿರಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ಬರೀ ಗಳಿಕೆಯ ರಜೆ ಅಥವಾ ಶಿಶುಪಾಲನೆಯ ರಜೆ, ವೇತನರಹಿತ ರಜೆ, ಪೋಷಕತ್ವದ ರಜೆಯಂಥವುಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆದಾಗ ಮಾತ್ರ ಶಾಲಾ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಗಳಿಂದ ಒಂದಷ್ಟು ನಿರಾಳರಾಗಿರಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯ.

ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಿಚಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದರೆ, ಶಾಲಾ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿಭಾ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನಕ್ಕೆ ಸಿದ್ಧತೆ, ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆ, ಯೋಜನಾ ಕಾರ್ಯ, ವಾರ್ಷಿಕೋತ್ಸವ, ಸಾಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳ



ತರಬೇತಿ ಪಡೆಯುವುದು, ಪ್ರದರ್ಶಿಸುವುದು, ಕ್ರೀಡಾ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧೆಗಳು, ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಸಿದ್ಧತೆಗಳು ಎಂದಾಗುತ್ತವೆ. ಇದರ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ, ಸಂಜೆ ಜಿಮ್, ಯೋಗ, ಸಂಗೀತ, ನೃತ್ಯದಂತಹ ಐಚ್ಛಿಕ ಕಲಿಕಾ ತರಗತಿಗಳು ಇರುತ್ತವೆ. ರಾತ್ರಿಯಾದರೆ ಅಂಕಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಓದುವುದು ಇರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಬೇಸಿಗೆ ರಜೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬೇಸಿಗೆ ಶಿಬಿರ, ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗಾಗಿ ವಿವಿಧ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳು, ಭವಿಷ್ಯದ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಾಗಿನ ತರಬೇತಿ... ಹೀಗೆ ಯಾವುದೋ ಒಂದರಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರಂತರ ತೊಡಗಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವಿಕೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಔಪಚಾರಿಕ ಪಠ್ಯವನ್ನು ಇಲ್ಲ ಎನ್ನುವುದನ್ನು ದಿಟ್ಟರೆ ಇಂಥ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಲ್ಲೂ 'ಹೋಂ ವರ್ಕ್'ಗಳು ಇರುತ್ತವೆ! ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಆಟವಾಡಲು ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಇದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಅವರು ಯಾವಾಗ ಯಾವ ಆಟವನ್ನು ಆಡಬೇಕು ಎನ್ನುವುದನ್ನು ಕೋಚ್‌ಗಳು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಎಲ್ಲವೂ ಇವೆ. ಆದರೆ ಎಲ್ಲವೂ ಯಾರಿಂದಲೋ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟು ಯಾಂತ್ರಿಕವಾಗಿ ನಡೆಸಲ್ಪಡುತ್ತವೆ. ಸ್ವಇಚ್ಛೆಯಿಂದ ಸ್ವತಂತ್ರ ಚಿಂತನೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಸೃಜನಶೀಲವಾಗಿ ವಿಕಾಸಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಅಧ್ಯಾಪಕರು, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಇಬ್ಬರಿಗೂ ಅವಕಾಶವಿಲ್ಲ. ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಾದರೆ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಕೊರತೆ, ಖಾಸಗಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಾದರೆ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿಯ ಮೇಲಿನ ಅತಿಯಾದ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣದ ಹೇರಿಕೆಗಳು ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಮತ್ತು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಒತ್ತಡವಿಲ್ಲದ ಒಂದು ಸ್ಥಿತಿಯೇ ಇಲ್ಲದಂತಹ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸುತ್ತವೆ. ಈ ರೀತಿಯ ಒತ್ತಡ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಜೀವನದಲ್ಲೂ ಇದೆ. ಒಂದು ಮದುವೆ ಸಮಾರಂಭಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋದಾಗಲೂ ಮದುವೆ ಮುಗಿಸಿ, ಆಚೆ ಮನೆಯವನ ಗೃಹಪ್ರವೇಶಕ್ಕೂ ಹೋಗಿ, ಅಲ್ಲಿಂದ ತಹಶೀಲ್ದಾರ್ ಕಚೇರಿಗೆ ಹೋಗಿ ದಾಖಲೆ ಪಡೆದು ಅದನ್ನು ಮತ್ತೆಲ್ಲಿಗೋ ತಲುಪಿಸಿ, ಸಂಜೆ ದೇವಸ್ಥಾನದ ಜಾತ್ರೆಗೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗಿ ಬರುವುದು ಎನ್ನುವ ಲೆಕ್ಕಾಚಾರದಲ್ಲೇ ಎಲ್ಲವನ್ನೂ ಮುಗಿಸುವುದೇ ವಿನಾ ನಿರಾಳವಾಗಿ ಮದುವೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಿ ನಿಧಾನವಾಗಿ ಬಂದರಾಯಿತು ಎನ್ನುವ ಮನಃಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾರೂ ಇಲ್ಲ. ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಹೀಗಾದಾಗ ಅಲ್ಲಿ, 'ಮುಗಿಸುವುದು' ಎನ್ನುವ ಪರಿಕಲ್ಪನೆಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಮಹತ್ವವಿರುವುದೇ ಹೊರತು 'ಅನುಭವಿಸುವ' ಪರಿಕಲ್ಪನೆಗೆ ಯಾವ ಮಹತ್ವವೂ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಆದರೆ ಸೃಜನಶೀಲ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳು ಕ್ರಿಯೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿಕೊಂಡಾಗ ದೊರೆಯುವ ಅನುಭವಗಳಿಂದ ಬೆಳೆಯುತ್ತವೆ. ಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ನಿರಾಳರಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಇಷ್ಟಬಂದಂತೆ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೆತ್ತಿಕೊಂಡಾಗ ನಡೆಯುವ ಪರಿಪೂರ್ಣ ತೊಡಗಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಗುವ ಆನಂದ ಮತ್ತು ಅನುಭವಗಳು ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಸನ್ನಿವೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ತುಂಬ ಮಹತ್ವವನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತವೆ. ಅದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಧೋರಣೆಗಳ ಜಾರಿಯ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ.

ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗಿರುವ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತಿಯ ಹಕ್ಕು ಎಂಬುದು ಬಯಸಿದಂತೆ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತಿಯ ಹಕ್ಕು ಎಂಬರ್ಥದಲ್ಲಿ, ಆಟವಾಡುವ ಹಕ್ಕು ಎಂಬುದು ಇಷ್ಟಬಂದದ್ದನ್ನು ಆಟವಾಡುವ ಹಕ್ಕು ಎಂಬರ್ಥದಲ್ಲಿ ಮರುನಿರೂಪಣೆ ಆಗಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿಯ ವಿರಾಮದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿ ಇರಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಈಗಿನ ವಿರಾಮರಹಿತ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಬದಲಿಸಲು ಏನಾದರೊಂದು ಮಾಡದೇ ಇದ್ದರೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣವು ಸಂವೇದನಾರಹಿತ ಯಂತ್ರಮಾನವರ ಕೇಂದ್ರವಾಗುವ ಅಪಾಯವಿದೆ.

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ

ಸಂಪಾದಕೀಯ

ಯೋಜನೆ ವೇಗ ಪಡೆಯಲಿ

ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರಿನ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಬಗೆಹರಿಸುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತೀ ಮನೆಗೂ ನೀರಿನ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಮಹತ್ವಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷೆಯಿಂದ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ಸಹಭಾಗಿತ್ವದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಆರಂಭಿಸಿದ ಜಲಜೀವನ್ ಮಿಷನ್ ಬಹುತೇಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾಗಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನವಾಗಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಿಗೆ ವರದಾನವಾಗಿ ಪರಿಣಮಿಸಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪೂರ್ಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ, ಕೇಂದ್ರದಿಂದ ಅನುದಾನ ಬಂದರೂ, ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಪಾಲು ಬಿಡುಗಡೆಯಾಗದಿರುವುದು, ಅವ್ಯವಹಾರ ಹೀಗೆ ಹಲವು ಅಪಸವ್ಯಗಳ ಕಾರಣ ಜಲಜೀವನ್ ಮಿಷನ್ ಕುಂಟುತ್ತ ಸಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಬಾರಿಯಂತೂ ಮಳೆಯ ತೀವ್ರ ಕೊರತೆಯಿಂದ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಲಸಂಕಷ್ಟ ತೀವ್ರಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದು, ಜಲಾಶಯಗಳ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ ಮಟ್ಟ ಕುಸಿತವಾಗಿದೆ.



ನೀರಿನ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ನಿವಾರಣೆಯಾಗಲಿ

‘ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಲಜೀವನ್ ಮಿಷನ್ ಯೋಜನೆಯನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿತ ಗುರಿಯಂತೆ ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾಗಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸಿದರೆ ವಾಂತಿ, ಭೇದಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಂಬಂಧಿತ ರೋಗಗಳಿಂದ ಸಂಭವಿಸುವ 4 ಲಕ್ಷ ಸಾವುಗಳನ್ನು ತಡೆಯಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯ’ ಎಂದು ವಿಶ್ವ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಹೇಳಿರುವುದು, ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಮಹತ್ವಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಕ್ಷಿ. ಆದರೆ, ಯೋಜನೆ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನದ ವಿವಿಧ ವಿಭಾಗಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪ್ರಗತಿ ಸಾಧಿಸಿದ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ರ್ಯಾಂಕಿಂಗ್ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ನಾಲ್ಕನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಒಟ್ಟಾರೆ ಪ್ರಗತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತರಪ್ರದೇಶ, ತಮಿಳುನಾಡು, ಹಿಮಾಚಲ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಮುಂದಿವೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಚ್ಛಾಶಕ್ತಿಯ ಕೊರತೆ, ಸಮನ್ವಯ ಇಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು, ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಣೆಯ ನಿರ್ಲಕ್ಷ್ಯದಿಂದ ಯೋಜನೆ ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಾಗಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನವಾಗಿಲ್ಲ.

ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಜನಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು, ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರು ಅಸಮಾಧಾನ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿದ ಬಳಿಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಎಚ್ಚಿತ್ತುಕೊಂಡಂತಿದೆ. ಗುರುವಾರ ನಡೆದ ಸಚಿವ ಸಂಪುಟ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ನಿರ್ಣಯ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಜಲಜೀವನ್ ಮಿಷನ್ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಅನುದಾನದ ನೆರವಿನೊಂದಿಗೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಕಡೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬಹುಗ್ರಾಮ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರಿನ ಯೋಜನೆ ಕೈಗೆತ್ತಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಮುಂದಾಗಿದೆ. ಮೈಸೂರು, ಹಾವೇರಿ, ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಜನವಸತಿಗಳ ಬಹುಗ್ರಾಮ ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಅನುದಾನ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆಗೆ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ನೀಡಿದೆ. ಇನ್ನಾದರೂ, ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಹಿಡಿದಿರುವ ಗ್ರಹಣ ನಿವಾರಣೆಯಾಚೇಕು. ಸಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆಯಾಗಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು ವೇಗ ಪಡೆಯಬೇಕು ಮತ್ತು ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆಯಿಂದ ನಡೆಯಬೇಕು. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಶೇ.27.31, ಕೋಲಾರ ಶೇ.35.26, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಶೇ.41.22, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಶೇ.49.47 ಮತ್ತು ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ.49.89ರಷ್ಟು ಯೋಜನೆ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದು, ವೇಗ ನೀಡಬೇಕಾದ ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯತೆ ಇದೆ. ಈ ಬಾರಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಆರಂಭಿಸಿದ ಬಳಿಕ ಮತ್ತೆ ಅವು ಅರ್ಧಕ್ಕೆ ನಿಲ್ಲದಂತೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಕಾಳಜಿ ವಹಿಸಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಕಲುಷಿತ ನೀರಿನ ಸೇವನೆಯಿಂದ ಪ್ರಾಣಹಾನಿಯಾದ, ಅಸ್ವಸ್ಥರಾದ ನಿದರ್ಶನಗಳು ಕಣ್ಮುಂದೆ ಇವೆ. ಜಲಜೀವನ್ ಮಿಷನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಜಲಸಂಕಷ್ಟ ಕೊನೆಗಾಣಿಸುವ ಇಚ್ಛಾಶಕ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶಿಸಲಿ.

ಸ್ವಸಮಾಜದ ಗ್ಯಾರಂಟಿ

ಅಪರಾಧಮುಕ್ತ ಜಗತ್ತು ಪ್ರಜೆಗಳ ಹಕ್ಕು

ಅಲಕ್ಷಿತ ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳು, ಮಹಿಳೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮೇಲಿನ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವುದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯನವರು ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗಷ್ಟೆ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಸಿ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಬಿಸಿ ಮುಟ್ಟಿಸಿದ್ದರು. ಈ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳವಾಗದಿದ್ದರೆ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಡಿಸಿಪಿ ಮತ್ತು ಎಸ್‌ಪಿಗಳನ್ನೇ ಹೊಣೆಗಾರರನ್ನಾಗಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು ಎಂದು ಅವರು ಎಚ್ಚರಿಕೆ ನೀಡಿರುವುದು ಸೂಕ್ತ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಕಾಲಿಕ. ನೌಕರಶಾಹಿಗೆ ಇಂಥ ಎಚ್ಚರಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಅವರು ನೀಡುತ್ತಲೇ ಇರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಈಗ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯಚ್ಯುತಿ, ಭ್ರಷ್ಟ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಮಾನತು ಮಾಡಲು ಮಾತ್ರ ಅವಕಾಶವಿದೆ. ಇದನ್ನು ಬದಲಾಯಿಸಿ ಕೆಲಸಕ್ಕೆ ಕುತ್ತು ಎನ್ನುವ ಕಾನೂನನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಬೇಕು. ಇದು ಸಿಎಂ ಅವರ ಹೊಣೆಗಾರಿಕೆ.

ಒಬ್ಬ ನಿಷ್ಠಾವಂತ ಖಡಕ್ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಇದ್ದುಬಿಟ್ಟರೆ ಆತನ ಸುಪರ್ದಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಗಣನೀಯವಾಗಿ ಇಳಿಮುಖವಾಗುತ್ತವೆ. ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾನೂನು ಸುವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಪರಿಪಾಲನೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇಂತಹ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಂದ ಮಾತ್ರ ಜನರು ನಿರ್ಭೀತಿಯಿಂದ ಇರಬಲ್ಲರು. ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿಗಳ ಈ ಮಾತು ಸಂದರ್ಭೋಚಿತವಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಘಟಿಸಿದ ನಂತರ ಅದನ್ನು ಪತ್ತೆ ಹಚ್ಚುವುದು ಕೂಡ ಗುರುತರವಾದ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ. ಆದರೆ ಅದಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ದುರುಳರು ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗಿಯಾಗಲು ಹಿಂದೇಟು ಹಾಕುವಂಥ ವಾತಾವರಣ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಎಲ್ಲಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಸೂಕ್ತವಾದ ಪರಿಹಾರ. ಇದರಿಂದ ರೋಗಕ್ಕೆ ಮೂಲದಲ್ಲೇ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಸಿಕ್ಕಂತಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಸಭೆ ವೇಳೆ ವರ್ಗಾವಣೆಗಾಗಿ ಪೊಲೀಸರು ಜಾತಿ ಬಳಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದರ ವಿರುದ್ಧವೂ ಗುಡುಗಿರುವ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ ಸ್ಥಳದಲ್ಲಿ ವರ್ಗಾವಣೆ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ತಮ್ಮ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಜಾತಿ ವಿಚಾರವನ್ನು ಮಧ್ಯೆ ತರುವುದು ಸರಿಯಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿ ಹೇಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಕರ್ತವ್ಯದ ಸ್ಥಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾತಿ ಲೆಕ್ಕಾಚಾರಗಳಿಗೆ ನಿರ್ಬಂಧ ವಿಧಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂಬ ಸಲಹೆ ಸ್ವಾಗತಾರ್ಹವೇ. ಅದನ್ನು ಅವರು ಸ್ವತಃ ಪಾಲಿಸುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಉತ್ತಮ ನಿದರ್ಶನ ತೋರಿದರೆ ಅದಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಮಿಗಿಲಾದ ಸಂದೇಶ ಬೇರಿಲ್ಲ. ಒಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಾಜದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾನೂನು ಸುವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಪರಿಪಾಲನೆ ಕಾರ್ಯವನ್ನು ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾಗಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಪಾತ್ರ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗಿನ ಸಭೆಯನ್ನು ಕೇವಲ ಒಂದು ಬಾರಿ ನಡೆಸಿ ಸುಮ್ಮನಾಗದೆ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಚರ್ಚೆಗೆ ಬಂದ ವಿಚಾರಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ನಂತರದ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ನಿಗಾ ಇರಿಸಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಆಗ ಮಾತ್ರ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾನೂನು ಸುವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಖಂಡಿತ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಚುನಾವಣಾ ಪ್ರಚಾರ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಘೋಷಣೆ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದ ಸವಲತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಗ್ಯಾರಂಟಿ ಜಾರಿಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಮೂಲಕ 'ನುಡಿದಂತೆ ನಡೆದಿದ್ದೇವೆ' ಎಂದು ಸಾರಿರುವ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಜನರಿಗೆ ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಬೇಕಿರುವ ಸ್ವಸ್ಥ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಪರಾಧ ಮುಕ್ತ ಸಮಾಜದ ಗ್ಯಾರಂಟಿಯ ಜಾರಿಗೂ ಮುಂದಾಗಬೇಕಿದೆ.



ವಿಮಾನಯಾನ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ: ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಹೆಚ್ಚಲಿ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರ ಹಿತರಕ್ಷಣೆಗೆ ಸಿಗಲಿ ಆದ್ಯತೆ

ವಿಮಾನ ಸಂಚಾರ ವಿಳಂಬವಾಗಿದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರೊಬ್ಬರು ಪೈಲಟ್ ಮೇಲೆ ಹಲ್ಲೆ ನಡೆಸಿರುವುದು ಧೂರ್ತನದ ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಅವರ ಮೇಲೆ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿರುವುದು ನ್ಯಾಯಸಮ್ಮತವೇ ಹೌದು. ಆದರೆ, ಹಲ್ಲೆ ನಡೆಸಿದ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರು ಅನುಭವಿಸಿದ ಹಿಂಸೆಯೇನೂ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನೂ ಗಮನದಲ್ಲಿ ಇರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರು ಈ ತಿಂಗಳ 14ರಂದು ಬೆಳಿಗ್ಗೆ ವಿಮಾನ ಹೊರಡುವಿಕೆಯ ನಿಗದಿತ ಸಮಯಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಎರಡು ತಾಸು ಮುಂಚೆ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ವಿಮಾನ ಸಂಚಾರವು ಒಂದು ತಾಸು ವಿಳಂಬವಾಗಲಿದೆ, ಒಂದು ತಾಸು ವಿಳಂಬವಾಗಲಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಲೇ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರು 12 ತಾಸು ಕಾಯುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಯಿತು. ವಿಮಾನಗಳು ವಿಳಂಬವಾಗಿ ಹೊರಡುವುದು ಗಂಭೀರವಾದ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಯಾಗಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಈ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಈಗಲೂ ಮುಂದುವರಿದಿದೆ. ಆ ದಿನ, ರಾಜಧಾನಿ ದೆಹಲಿಯ ವಿಮಾನ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣದಿಂದ ಹೊರಡಬೇಕಿದ್ದ 100ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ವಿಮಾನಗಳ ಸಂಚಾರ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಯಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ನಂತರದ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ವಿಳಂಬ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಮಾನ ಸಂಚಾರ ರದ್ದತಿ ನಿರಂತರವಾಗಿ ನಡೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಬುಧವಾರ 53 ವಿಮಾನಗಳ ಸಂಚಾರ ರದ್ದಾಗಿದೆ.

ವಿಮಾನ ಹಾರಾಟದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಳಂಬ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಚಾರ ರದ್ದತಿ ಪ್ರತಿವರ್ಷವೂ ಚಳಿಗಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ



**ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರಿಗೆ ಆಗುವ
ಅನನುಕೂಲಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ
ವಿಮಾನಯಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು
ಮತ್ತು ವಿಮಾನ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣ
ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ
ಕಳಕಳಿ ಇರಬೇಕು**

ಎಂಬಂತಾಗಿದೆ. ದಟ್ಟ ಮಂಜಿನಿಂದಾಗಿ ವಿಮಾನ ಸಂಚಾರ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ದೆಹಲಿ ವಿಮಾನ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಗಂಭೀರವಾಗಿದೆ. ದೆಹಲಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಮಾನ ಸಂಚಾರ ವಿಳಂಬದಿಂದಾಗಿ ಇತರೆಡೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಸಂಚಾರ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಯ ವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಹವಾಮಾನದಲ್ಲಿನ ಏರುಪೇರಿನ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣವು ವಿಮಾನಯಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಅಥವಾ ವಿಮಾನ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬುದು ನಿಜ. ಆದರೆ ಹವಾಮಾನ ಏರುಪೇರಾದ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಾಗಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬ ದೂರು ಇದೆ. ನಾಗರಿಕ ವಿಮಾನಯಾನ ಸಚಿವ ಜ್ಯೋತಿರಾದಿತ್ಯ ಸಿಂಧಿಯಾ ಅವರು ವಿಮಾನ ವಿಳಂಬದ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಯನ್ನು ಪರಿಹರಿಸಲು ಕೆಲವು ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಗಳನ್ನು ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ದೆಹಲಿ ವಿಮಾನ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಎಟಿ-III ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ನಾಲ್ಕನೇ ರನ್‌ವೇ ಕಾರ್ಯಾರಂಭಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆಯೂ ಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಗೋಚರತೆ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇದ್ದಾಗಲೂ ವಿಮಾನ ಸಂಚಾರವನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸ ಬಲ್ಲ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ರನ್‌ವೇಗಳು ಇರುವುದು ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯ. ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರಿಗೆ ಯಾವೆಲ್ಲ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ

ಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂಬ ಕುರಿತು ನಾಗರಿಕ ವಾಯುಯಾನ ಮಹಾನಿರ್ದೇಶನಾಲಯವು (ಡಿಜಿಸಿಎ) ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿ ನೀಡಿದೆ. ಮುಂಬೈ ವಿಮಾನ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣದ ಟಾರ್‌ಮ್ಯಾಕ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಳಿತು ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರು ಆಹಾರ ಸೇವಿಸಿದ ವಿಡಿಯೋ ವೈರಲ್ ಆಗಿದೆ; ಇದು ವಿಮಾನ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣಗಳ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಗೆ ಕನ್ನಡಿ ಹಿಡಿದಿದೆ. ವಿಳಂಬದಿಂದಾಗಿ ಎದುರಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಹಲವು ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರು ಹೇಳಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳ ಕೊರತೆ ಇದೆ, ವಿಮಾನ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಮಾನಯಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ನಡೆಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬ ಅಂಶಗಳು ಕೂಡ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರು ಹೇಳಿಕೊಂಡ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇರಿವೆ.

ಭಾರತದ ವಾಯುಯಾನ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವು ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾದ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಉಪಯುಕ್ತತೆಯ ಉದ್ಯಮವಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದು ಅಪಾರ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಗಳು ಇರುವ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಕೂಡ ಹೌದು. ದೇಶಿ ಮಾರ್ಗಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 15 ಕೋಟಿಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರು ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಸಿ 2023ರಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಸ ದಾಖಲೆಯೊಂದು ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಗತ್ಯಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿರುವಂತೆಯೇ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯಗಳನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸಲು ಹೂಡಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು. ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಎದುರಾಗಬಹುದಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮನಗಂಡು ಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಹವಾಮಾನದ ಏರುಪೇರಿನ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಮೇಲೆ ವಿಶೇಷ ಗಮನ ಹರಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. 3.6 ಲಕ್ಷ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರು ವಿಮಾನ ವಿಳಂಬದಿಂದಾಗಿ ಕಳೆದ ತಿಂಗಳು ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಅನುಭವಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎಂದು ಡಿಜಿಸಿಎ ಹೇಳಿದೆ. ಅನುಕೂಲ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ ಉಳಿತಾಯದ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಜನರು ವಿಮಾನ ಪ್ರಯಾಣವನ್ನು ಆರಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ, ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರಿಗೆ ಆಗುವ ಅನನುಕೂಲಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ವಿಮಾನಯಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ವಿಮಾನ ನಿಲ್ದಾಣ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಕಳಕಳಿ ಹೊಂದಿರಬೇಕು. ವಿಮಾನಯಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರನ್ನು ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ರೀತಿ ಉತ್ತಮಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಒರಟು ವರ್ತನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅಸಡ್ಡೆ ಕುರಿತು ಗಂಭೀರವಾದ ದೂರುಗಳು ಇವೆ. ಈ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲವೇ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಪ್ರಾಬಲ್ಯ ಇರುವುದರಿಂದ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧೆ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇದೆ ಎಂಬುದು ಕೂಡ ಈಗಿನ ನಿರ್ಲಕ್ಷ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾರಣ ಆಗಿರಬಹುದು. ವಿಮಾನಯಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಎಲ್ಲ ಆಯಾಮಗಳ ನಿಖರವಾದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರಿಗೆ ಸಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ದೊರಕಬೇಕು. ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿಯ ವರ್ತನೆಯು ಸೌಜನ್ಯದಿಂದ ಕೂಡಿರಬೇಕು. ವಿಮಾನ ಸಂಚಾರವು ವಿಳಂಬವಾದರೆ ಅಥವಾ ರದ್ದಾದರೆ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಕರಿಗೆ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿರುವ ಎಲ್ಲ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಬೇಕು.



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