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EDUCATION

ಸಿಯುಕೆ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ ಡಾ| ರವಿಕಿರಣಗೆ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ

ಆಳಂದ: ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಯ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಸಂಗೀತ ಮತ್ತು ಲಲಿತ ಕಲಾ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ ಡಾ| ರವಿಕಿರಣ ನಾಕೊಡ ಅವರಿಗೆ 2023ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪಂಡಿತ ಡಾ| ಮಲ್ಲಿಕಾರ್ಜುನ ಮನಸೂರ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಯುವ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಘೋಷಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಡಾ| ಮಲ್ಲಿಕಾರ್ಜುನ ಮನಸೂರ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಸ್ಮಾರಕ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳು ಡಾ| ರವಿಕಿರಣ ನಾಕೊಡ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಬರೆದ ಪತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಡಾ| ಮಲ್ಲಿಕಾರ್ಜುನ ಮನಸೂರ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಸ್ಮಾರಕ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್ ಧಾರವಾಡ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷದಂತೆ ಕೊಡಮಾಡುವ ಡಾ| ಮಲ್ಲಿಕಾರ್ಜುನ ಮನಸೂರ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಯುವ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ-2023 ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ 25 ಸಾವಿರ ರೂ. ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಫಲಕ ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಡಿ.31ರಂದು ಧಾರವಾಡದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಪ್ರದಾನ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಪ್ರಸಿದ್ಧ ಸಂಗೀತಗಾರರೊಂದಿಗೆ ತಬಲಾ ನುಡಿಸಿರುವ ಡಾ| ರವಿಕಿರಣ ನಾಕೊಡ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಅನೇಕ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ-ಬಹುಮಾನಗಳು ದೊರೆತಿವೆ. ಅವರು 2007ರಲ್ಲಿ ಹಂಪಿ ಕನ್ನಡ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದಿಂದ ಪಿಎಚ್.ಡಿ, 2018ರಲ್ಲಿ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಆಕಾಶವಾಣಿಯಿಂದ 'ಟಾಪ್' ಗ್ರೇಡ್ ಕಲಾವಿದ, 2006ರಲ್ಲಿ ಧಾರವಾಡ ಆಕಾಶವಾಣಿಯಿಂದ 'ಎ' ಗ್ರೇಡ್



ಡಾ| ರವಿಕಿರಣ ನಾಕೊಡ

ಕಲಾವಿದ, 2019ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಂಡಿತ ಬಸವರಾಜ ರಾಜಗುರು ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಯುವ ಪುರಸ್ಕಾರ, 2019ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪಂಡಿತ ಭೀಮಸೇನ ಜೋಶಿ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಪುರಸ್ಕಾರ, 1999ರಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಧಾರವಾಡದಿಂದ 'ಪ್ರತಿಭಾ ಪುರಸ್ಕಾರ' ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಪಂಡಿತ ಡಾ| ಮಲ್ಲಿಕಾರ್ಜುನ ಮನಸೂರ ಖ್ಯಾತ ಸಂಗೀತಗಾರರು. ಇಂತಹ ಕಲಾವಿದರ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಸಿಗುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ಬಹಳ ಸಂತೋಷ ತಂದಿದೆ. ನನ್ನ ಸಂಗೀತ ಸಾಧನೆ ನೋಡಿ ಕನ್ನಡ ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಡಿಸಿ ಮತ್ತು ಧಾರವಾಡದ ಜನರು ನನ್ನನ್ನು ಈ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ ತುಂಬ ಸಂತೋಷವಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಖ್ಯಾತನಾಮರ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿರುವುದು ನನ್ನ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸಿದೆ.

● ಡಾ| ರವಿಕಿರಣ ನಾಕೊಡ

ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಯ್ಕೆಯಾದ ಡಾ| ರವಿಕಿರಣ ನಾಕೊಡ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಕುಲಪತಿ ಪ್ರೊ| ಬಟ್ಟು ನತ್ಯನಾರಾಯಣ ಹರ್ಷ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ಸಿಯುಕೆ ಪ್ರತಿಭಾವಂತ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕರುಳ್ಳ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದ ಪ್ರತಿಷ್ಠಿತ ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ನಮ್ಮ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕರಿಗೆ ಅನೇಕ ಪ್ರಶಸ್ತಿಗಳು, ಸಂತೋಧನಾ ಪ್ರೋಜೆಕ್ಟ್‌ಗಳು, ಪೆಟೆಂಟ್‌ಗಳು ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ಸಂತೋಷದ ಸಂಗತಿ. ಸಂತೋಧನಾ ಪ್ರಬಂಧ ವಿದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಡಿಸಲು ಪ್ರತಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರಿಗೆ 1 ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂ. ಧನಸಹಾಯ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

Changes in NEET-UG 2024 syllabus

A press note from Akash Byjus details the changes in the revamped NEET UG syllabus. The emphasis is on the collection of study materials for new topics, relying on trusted sources and both old and new NCERT books. Rigorous practice by solving ample questions, embracing experimental learning for comprehension, and maintaining the relevance of omitted topics within chapters are crucial strategies, says the press note. Here are the changes:

Physics

■ **Class XII:** *Experimental Skills* is the only new addition,

with no deletions from the existing syllabus.

■ **Class XI:** *Physical World* has been removed, with no new topics included.

Chemistry

■ **Class XII:** *Principles Related to Practical Chemistry* is newly included, while *The Solid State, Surface Chemistry, General Principles & Processes of Isolation of Elements, Polymers, and Chemistry in Everyday Life* have been deleted.

■ **Class XI:** No new topic has been added, but *States of Matter: Gases & Liquids, Hydrogen, The S-Block Elements, and Environmental Chemistry* are no

longer there in the syllabus.

Zoology

■ **Class XII:** No new topics but deletions include *Reproduction in Organisms* and *Strategies for Enhancement in Food Production - Animal Husbandry*.

■ **Class XI:** *Structural Organisation in Animals - Animal Morphology (Frog)* has been added, while *Digestion and Absorption* has been removed.

Botany

■ **Class XII:** *Biodiversity and Conservation (Sacred Groves)* is a new addition, while chapters such as *Reproduction in Organisms, Strategies for Enhance-*

ment in Food Production, and Environmental Issues have been excluded.

■ **Class XI:** *Morphology of Flowering Plants (Malvaceae, Cruciferae, Leguminosae, Compositae, Gramineae)* is a new inclusion, whereas *Transport in Plants* and *Mineral Nutrition* have been removed.

The changes were made in order to streamline the syllabus and make it more focused on core medical concepts. The excluded chapters are less relevant to medical practice. This will allow students to delve deep into crucial topics and improve their understanding.

- DHNS

BU embeds software to detect plagiarism bug in PhD thesis

BENGALURU, DHNS

From November, the Bangalore University (BU) has deployed the DrillBit software, recommended by the University Grants Commission (UGC), to detect plagiarism in PhD thesis.

The university had deployed the anti-plagiarism software in 2015, but has switched to DrillBit for greater accuracy.

Recently, the varsity's Baba Saheb Dr BR Ambedkar Central Library in partnership with the UGC and INFLIBNET held a regional training on the software for its faculty. More than 90 librarians, PhD guides and other faculty from varsities across Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh participated in the training.

BR Radhakrishna, librar-



ian and coordinator for the programme, said that BU follows the UGC regulation (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) passed in 2018.

Data from the university reveals that around 2,500 candidates are doing PhD and it awards more than 300 PhD degrees each year.

While demand for PhD degrees in science subjects are the highest, the varsity also finds widespread interest in PhDs in management subjects.

Take up a job to get a feel of the corporate world

Dear sir,
I graduated with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. I am confused about my future - whether to pursue MTech in Environmental engineering. I would like to know if the degree holds value in today's job market. Also, I am unaware of 'other' job opportunities or courses I can take as a graduate. Please help.

A confused soul

Dear student,
If you have not had any job experience, take up a job, at least for a short while, to get a feel of the corporate world. Do not jump into a Masters' course unless you are convinced you will pursue that field in the long run. There are opportunities in every field, but it depends on your abilities, personality traits, aptitude and abiding interest. List out all the possible options you have in terms of a long-term career. You can also look beyond civil engineering into many options, but you should base it on your capabilities and inclination. Nothing prevents you from getting into marketing, teaching, data analytics, design, management, or actuarial science — and, of course, Environmental Engineering. Even an internship in a small organisation working in the field you are interested in will get you a pretty good idea of whether you will fit into it. Then, you can think of upgrading your skills and qualifications accordingly.

Dear sir,
Kindly educate me on how many (and

which) languages are mandatory in each board until which standard. Also, what are the pros and cons of IB? We are a non-Kannada-speaking Bengaluru family. When I think about sending my kid to school, Kannada may act as a big boulder to cross. My mother used to oversee my homework and studies, and I intend to do so and not rely on tuition.

Arvind Aksha

Dear Arvind,
It is good that you intend to teach your child personally rather than sending for tuition. It helps the child understand better and builds good child-parent bonding. Rules about different Boards of study, languages etc. should always be checked directly with the relevant authorities since they keep changing and may have different applications for different children. At a young age, children can pick up a language very fast if taught correctly and with compassion for the student's learning pace. Picking up Kannada at this age will help him in academics and communicating, interacting, and dealing with different types of people in Bengaluru and elsewhere. Do not worry whether it is a 'scoring' subject; focus on ensuring the child has good guidance and learning.

Dear sir,
I pursued the science stream with PCMB subjects in Class 12 and got qualified for a marine engineering seat through KCET. But after my father's

advice, I got into a BBM course. Now, I work as an Executive in an Ed-tech company. However, I am unhappy with my current career path. My heart lies in engineering. What are the possibilities for me to get into engineering after completing BBM?

Wasiya Naval

Dear Wasiya,
Though you may find some universities that will accept you in engineering, you will be going back by four years. Since you are dissatisfied with your work, ensure that you will be happy and motivated if you take up engineering now and study for four more years. Evaluate on what basis you have chosen Mechatronics and how much you know about the field. As a BBM graduate, take up an entry-level job in an organisation connected to the Mechatronics industry and visualise how connected you feel. If yes, you can continue working and take up engineering in an evening college open to working professionals.



All Khwaja

is a career counsellor based in Bengaluru.

Send in your queries to us at dheducation@deccanherald.co.in with 'Study in India' in the subject line.



Early career counselling can help youngsters

Students can navigate their interests and abilities to develop an array of career options, with right guidance, writes Ankur Aggarwal



Often, with change comes a lot of confusion, anxiety, and anticipation of what will happen next; every growing child goes through this multiple times until they reach adulthood. It becomes quintessential to guide, support and empower them to become responsible and successful as adults in the future.

Empowering can be fruitful through self-discovery and self-awareness, allowing the child to understand and accept their strengths and weaknesses. The biggest question is- what is that one element that will guide them to become responsible citizens and adults?

The answer is straightforward – career counselling; more often than not, students get confused about their choices in life. This leads to various psychological responses such as – procrastination, anxiety, avoidance etc. To build confidence and self-efficacy, guiding the students from a very young age becomes essential – most kids start talking about careers from 11-12.

During this phase, the students actively observe the surroundings and grasp all the stimuli that shape their perception of the world, making it essential to help them understand how to create

their own space.

Most students know seven career options – medical, engineering, law accounts/finance, computer application, management, and design. Still, we have seen an evolution in career choices, such as interior decorator, stylist, influencer, waste management, etc.

A student must know how to use the skills to fill in the gaps in various industries. A career coach will help them navigate their interests and abilities and, in turn, develop an array of career options that will empower them to work towards achieving their dreams.

Albert Einstein once said, “Everybody is a genius, but if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, people will believe it is quite stupid. The fish’s best ability is to swim in the water.” The takeaway is that every student possesses a unique set of skills, and it takes a mentor or a coach to highlight that skill set in the concerned student.

A great philosopher, John Locke, talked about “Tabula Rasa”, which means a child’s mind is like an empty slate that observes data solely by sensory experiences. Therefore, early career guidance would help the students by filling their minds with the correct data

appropriate for a suitable career choice.

Going digital

The world is technologically evolving, and the career counselling space is becoming digitally advanced, too. From virtual workshops to AR-VR-driven courses, ample new experiences are lined up for the students to trigger their sensory points and allow them to take a deep dive into the world of new careers.

This is not only exciting for the kids, but it also provides parents with a space to discuss and gain knowledge from their kids about the ever-evolving landscape of new-age India. This helps bridge the gap between parents and kids and proliferates into a safe space for both parties to discuss previously unknown topics.

Finally, change is the new normal, and career counsellors must help students develop skills and adapt to change to survive and thrive in this competitive environment. Everyone wants to achieve their job goals, live a purposeful life, and like what they do, and career counselling serves as an excellent support platform for students on this journey.

(The author is co-founder and managing director of a career counselling firm)



Most Important Topics For

Science & Technology

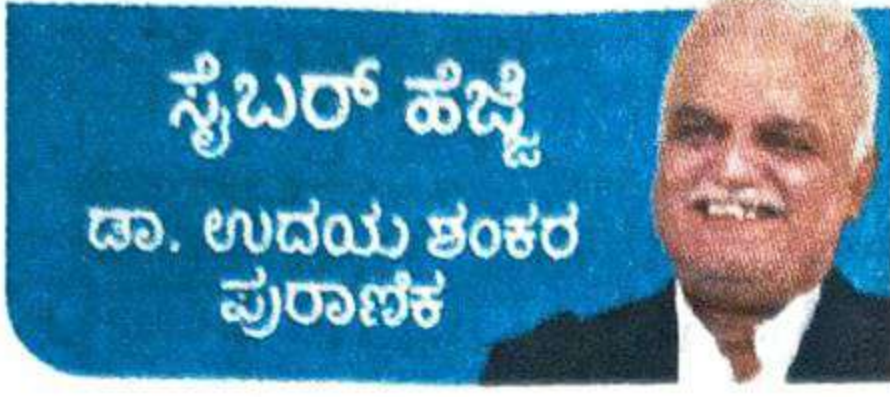
UPSC Prelims & Mains

ವಂಚನೆಯ ಕರೆ ಬಂದರೆ ಸೈಬರ್ ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಮಾಡಿ

ಡಿಜಿಟಲ್ ಅರೆಸ್ಟ್ ಸ್ಯಾಮ್

ಒಂದು ದಿನ ಆರತಿಯವರಿಗೆ, ಅಪರಿಚಿತನೊಬ್ಬ ಕರೆ ಮಾಡಿ, ತಾನು 'ನಕಲಿ ಸಿಮ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಹಗರಣದ ತನಿಖೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ' ಎಂದು ಪರಿಚಯ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾನೆ. ಆರತಿಯವರ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಬೇರೆ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾರೋ ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ಸಿಮ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಖರೀದಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧ ಮಾಡಲು ಈ ಸಿಮ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎಂದು ಈ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾನೆ. ಆರತಿಯವರು ಬೇರೆ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದಾರೆ, ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ಅವರನ್ನು ವಿಡಿಯೋ ಕಾಲ್ ಮೂಲಕ ತನಿಖೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಉನ್ನತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಅನುಮತಿ ನೀಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎಂದು ಈ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾನೆ. ಅವನು ವಾಟ್ಸಾಪ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾಡುವ ವಿಡಿಯೋ ಕಾಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ, ಆರತಿಯವರ ಹೆಸರು, ವಿಳಾಸ ಮೊದಲಾದ ವೈಯಕ್ತಿಕ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾನೆ. ಆರತಿಯವರ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ಸಿಮ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಪಡೆಯಲು ನೀಡಲಾಗಿರುವ ಆಧಾರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ನ ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು ಅವನು ತೋರಿಸಿದಾಗ, ಅದು ತನ್ನ ಆಧಾರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಹೊಂದಿಲ್ಲ, ಬೇಕಾದರೆ ನನ್ನ ಆಧಾರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ನೋಡಿ ಎಂದು ಆರತಿಯವರು ತಮ್ಮ ಆಧಾರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ತೋರಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆಗ ಆ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ, "ನಿಜ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಆಧಾರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಮತ್ತು ನಕಲಿ ಸಿಮ್ ಖರೀದಿಸಲು ಬಳಸಲಾಗಿರುವ ಆಧಾರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಬೇರೆ ಆಗಿದೆ. ನೀವು ಅಮಾಯಕರು ಎಂದು ನನಗೆ ನಂಬಿಕೆ ಇದೆ. ನನ್ನ ಉನ್ನತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಈ ಕರೆ ವರ್ಗಾಯಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ ಮತ್ತು ನನಗೆ ಮನವರಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಟ್ಟಂತೆ ಅವರಿಗೂ ನೀವು ಮನವರಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಡಿ," ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುವ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ, ಆರತಿಯವರ ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಯೆಗೂ ಕಾಯದೆ, ವಿಡಿಯೋ ಕರೆಯನ್ನು ಮತ್ತೊಬ್ಬರಿಗೆ ವರ್ಗಾಯಿಸುತ್ತಾನೆ.

ಉನ್ನತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಎಂದು ವಿಡಿಯೋ ಕಾಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಮಹಿಳೆಯೊಬ್ಬರು, "ಸಿಮ್ ಖರೀದಿಗೆ ಬಳಸಿರುವ ಆಧಾರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಮತ್ತು ಆರತಿಯವರ ಆಧಾರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಬೇರೆ ಆಗಿದೆ ಎಂದ ಮಾತ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಆರತಿಯವರು ಅಮಾಯಕರು ಎಂದು ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದಿಲ್ಲ, ತನಿಖೆಯಿಂದ ಪಾರಾಗಲು ಆರತಿಯವರು ಸುಳ್ಳು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ," ಎಂದು ಆರೋಪ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅವರ ಒತ್ತಡ ಮತ್ತು ಆರತಿಯವರ ಜೊತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅವರ ತಂದೆ, ತಾಯಿ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸದಸ್ಯರ ಮೇಲೆ ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧ ಕುರಿತು ಕೇಸು ದಾಖಲಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ, ಎಲ್ಲರನ್ನೂ ಬಂಧಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎನ್ನುವ



ಬೆದರಿಕೆಗಳಿಂದ ಆರತಿಯವರು ಕಂಗಾಲಾಗುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಉನ್ನತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಮಹಿಳೆ, ಆರತಿಯವರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ವಿವಿಧ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ, ಅವರನ್ನು ಡಿಜಿಟಲ್ ಅರೆಸ್ಟ್ ಮಾಡಲು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ ನೀಡಿರುವ ಆದೇಶದ ಪ್ರತಿ ತನಗೆ ಈಗ ಬಂದಿದೆ ಎಂದು ದಾಖಲೆಯೊಂದನ್ನು ತೋರಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆರತಿಯವರು ವಿಡಿಯೋ ಕರೆ ಕಟ್ ಮಾಡಿದರೆ ಅಥವಾ ಬೇರೆಯವರಿಗೆ ವಿಷಯ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರೆ, ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದ ಆದೇಶದ ಉಲ್ಲಂಘನೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅವರು ಹಾಗೂ



ಅವರ ಕುಟುಂಬದವರನ್ನು ಬಂಧಿಸಲು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ ಆದೇಶ ಮಾಡಬಹುದು ಎಂದು ಮಹಿಳೆ ಹೆದರಿಸಿದಾಗ, ಆಕೆ ಹೇಳಿದಂತೆ ಕೇಳುವುದಾಗಿ ಆರತಿ ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಯಾರದೇ ಬೆದರಿಕೆ ಅಥವಾ ಒತ್ತಡವಿಲ್ಲದೆ, ತಾನು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದ ಆದೇಶದಂತೆ ಡಿಜಿಟಲ್ ಅರೆಸ್ಟ್ ಆಗಿದ್ದೇನೆ ಮತ್ತು ತನಿಖಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಹಕರಿಸುತ್ತೇನೆ ಎಂದು ಆರತಿಯವರಿಂದ ಪತ್ರ ಬರೆಸಿ, ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಅವರು ಸಹಿ ಮತ್ತು ಫಿಂಗರ್ ಪ್ರಿಂಟ್ ಮಾಡುವಂತೆ ಆ ಮಹಿಳೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾಳೆ. ಈ ಪತ್ರದ ಸ್ಕಾನ್ ಪ್ರತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಂಡು ನಂತರ ತನಿಖೆ ವೆಚ್ಚ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಕಟ್ಟಬೇಕಾದ ದಂಡ, ಹೀಗೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಕಾರಣ ನೀಡಿ ಆರತಿಯವರು, ತಮ್ಮ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆಯಿಂದ ಬೇರೆ ಖಾತೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಣ ವರ್ಗಾಯಿಸುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಆರತಿಯವರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಲ್ಪ ಹಣ ಉಳಿದಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಖಾತ್ರಿಯಾದಾಗ, ಆರತಿಯವರು ಅಮಾಯಕರು ಎಂದು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಮನವರಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ಅವರನ್ನು ಡಿಜಿಟಲ್ ಅರೆಸ್ಟ್‌ನಿಂದ

ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಮತ್ತೊಂದು ದಾಖಲೆಯನ್ನು ಆ ಮಹಿಳೆ ತೋರಿಸುತ್ತಾಳೆ. ವಿಡಿಯೋ ಕರೆ ಕಟ್ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾಳೆ. ಮೋಸ ಹೋಗಿರುವುದು ಅರಿವಿಗೆ ಬಾರದ ಬಳಿಕ ಆರತಿಯವರು ತಾವು ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡಿರುವ 11 ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂಪಾಯಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮರಳಿ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಸೈಬರ್ ಪೊಲೀಸರಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರು ದಾಖಲಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ನಿಮ್ಮ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರದ ಊರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾರೋ ಸಿಮ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಪಡೆದು, ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಅಥವಾ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಹೆಸರು, ಆಧಾರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಬಳಸಿ ವಿದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಕೊರಿಯರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾದಕ ವಸ್ತುಗಳು ಪತ್ತೆಯಾಗಿದೆ, ಈ ಕುರಿತು ತನಿಖೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಎಂದು ಕರೆ ಮಾಡುವುದು, ವಿಡಿಯೋ ಕಾಲ್ ಗೆ ಬರುವಂತೆ ಒತ್ತಾಯಿಸುವುದು, ಕೇಸು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಹೆದರಿಸುವುದು, ದಂಡ ಕಟ್ಟಿ ಎಂದು ಹಣ ಕೇಳುವುದು, ಮೊದಲಾದ ಕೃತ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧಿಗಳು ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇದನ್ನು ನಂಬಿದ ಕೆಲವರು, ಲಕ್ಷಾಂತರ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಹಣ ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಅಥವಾ ತಮ್ಮ ಹಸ್ತಾಕ್ಷರ, ಆಧಾರ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಮಾಹಿತಿ, ಫಿಂಗರ್ ಪ್ರಿಂಟ್, ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಫೋನ್‌ಗೆ ಬರುವ ಒಟಿಪಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಮೊದಲಾದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟು ವಂಚನೆಗೆ ಗುರಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ವಾಸ್ತವದಲ್ಲಿ ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ಅಥವಾ ಯಾವುದೇ ಅಪರಾಧ ಕುರಿತು ತನಿಖೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಪೊಲೀಸರು ಈ ರೀತಿ ಕರೆ ಮಾಡುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಡಿಜಿಟಲ್ ಅರೆಸ್ಟ್ ಮಾಡಿ ಉನ್ನತ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಾಗಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯವಾಗಲಿ ಆದೇಶ ನೀಡುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ಇಂತಹ ಕರೆಗಳು ಬಂದಾಗ, ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ನೀವು ನಂಬಿ ಹಣ ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದರೆ, ತಕ್ಷಣ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸೈಬರ್ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಠಾಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ಭಾರತಾದಂತಹ ಉಚಿತವಾಗಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಸೈಬರ್ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ 1930ಗೆ ಕರೆ ಮಾಡಿ ದೂರು ನೀಡಿ.

ನಿಮ್ಮ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಎಷ್ಟು ಸಿಮ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳು ಇದೆ ಎಂದು ಭಾರತ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ <https://tafcop.sancharsaathi.gov.in/telecomUser/> ಜಾಲತಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಯಬಹುದು. ನೀವು ಪಡೆಯದೆ ಇರುವ ಸಿಮ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳೇನಾದರೂ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಹೆಸರಿನಲ್ಲಿರುವುದು ಗೊತ್ತಾದರೆ, ಅವುಗಳನ್ನು ರದ್ದು ಮಾಡಲು ಈ ಜಾಲತಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋರಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.

(ಲೇಖಕರು: ಅಂತಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಸೈಬರ್ ತಜ್ಞರು)

TDK to make Li-ion battery cells for Apple

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

JAPAN'S TDK Corporation will manufacture Li-ion battery cells for Apple in its new plant in Haryana, said telecom and IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Monday.

The minister, in a tweet also said the plant will create 8,000 to 10,000 jobs in the country. "Apple, via its global supplier TDK, will manufacture Li-ion battery cells in a new plant in Haryana. Will create 8,000-10,000 direct jobs. This state-of-the-art plant will further deepen the component ecosystem in India," the minister tweeted.

As per the reports, TDK acquired a 180-acre land near Gurugram, Haryana for ₹550 crore. The commercial production to supply cells to Apple is expected to begin in the next 12-18 months.

TDK will supply battery cells to Apple's Li-ion battery assembler, Sunwoda Electronics, which is already operating in India and at present, imports cells from various global markets.

Key research hub leads global AI ethics debate

Pioneering scientist Yoshua Bengio warns companies about moving too fast on AI without guardrails

Rapid developments in artificial intelligence—and recent turmoil at industry powerhouse OpenAI—have brought fresh attention to a key hub of ethics research related to the technology. The hub is led by the Canadian ‘godfather of AI’, Yoshua Bengio, who says he is worried about technology leapfrogging human intelligence in the not-too-distant future.

Bengio — who won the 2018 Turing Award for work on deep learning with Geoffrey Hinton and Yann LeCun — warned that AI developments are moving at breakneck speed, and risked “creating a new species capable of making decisions that harm or even endanger humans”.

OpenAI’s recent dismissal and then rehiring a few days later of CEO Sam Altman



PIC: AFP

Yoshua Bengio

— who has been accused of downplaying risks in his push to advance its ChatGPT bot — illustrates some of the turmoil in the sector. Bengio, who has previously warned companies about moving too fast without guardrails, reiterated that it’s essential to have “rules that will be followed by all companies”.

AI safety report

At a summit in Britain last month, Bengio was

tasked with leading a team producing an inaugural report on AI safety. The aim is to set priorities to inform future work on the security of the technology. Accordingly, he has brought together a team of over a thousand researchers to his Mila research institute in Montreal, Canada.

Neighbours here include AI research facilities of tech giants Microsoft, Meta, IBM and Google. “This concentration of experts is greater than anywhere else in the world,” is what attracted Google, says Hugo Larochelle, the hoodie-wearing scientific director of the Silicon Valley giant’s AI subsidiary Deepmind.

Back in 2018, consultations with the public and researchers from all disciplines led to a global AI charter called the ‘Montreal Declaration for a Responsible Development of Artificial Intelligence’.

— AFP

OpenAI's Q* is alarming for a different reason

WHEN NEWS STORIES emerged last week that OpenAI had been working on a new AI model called Q* (pronounced “q star”), some suggested this was a major step toward powerful, humanlike artificial intelligence that could one day go rogue. What’s more certain: The hype around Q* has boosted excitement about the company’s engineering prowess, just as it’s steadying itself from a failed board coup. Peaks of AI excitement about milestones have taken the public for a ride plenty times before. The real warning we should take from Q* is the direction in which these systems are progressing. As they get better at reasoning, it will become more tempting to give such tools greater responsibilities. More than any concerns about AI annihilation, that alone should give us pause.

OpenAI hasn’t confirmed what Q* is, with reinstated Chief Executive Officer Sam Altman only describing it as an “unfortunate leak,” but in the media, it sounds similar to another system Alphabet Inc.’s Google is working on. Gemini is the big new competitor to ChatGPT, which won’t only generate text and images but also excel at planning and strategizing, according to Google DeepMind CEO Demis Hassabis. DeepMind famously created an AI model that beat champion Go players, and Gemini will use some of those techniques for problem solving.

With Q*, OpenAI seems to be pushing ChatGPT in a similar direction since, according to multiple reports, Q* can perform grade-school math. That might sound unimpressive, but combining math capabilities with software that can also write text and create imagery is unique, and ChatGPT until now has struggled to do equations correctly. If it could, that might correlate with an improvement in problem-solving. Math requires understanding a problem and figuring out the steps to solve it before carrying out all the right calculations. That process is a little closer to how we humans think and solve problems.



PARMY OLSON

Bloomberg

Early versions of Gemini can already execute some tasks that require planning, according to someone with access to Google’s forthcoming tool who didn’t want to be named due to confidentiality commitments.

Examples of tasks that Gemini can do are hard to come by, but the person who used the model said one could, for instance, ask it to conduct market research for a new product. It could then explore the web and come back with analysis and additional ideas. “With ChatGPT, you still have to hold the hands of the model a bit more,” they added.

As more AI systems are able to independently do things like conducting research, their human operators will likely shift from giving them single tasks, to giving them broader responsibility for several duties. Think coordinating with colleagues over email or managing analysis. That will sound tempting to any company eager to make itself more efficient, but such tools also promise to displace jobs, particularly entry-level positions that ease young recruits into a new field.

Companies that outsource more to AI also risk baking gender and racial stereotypes into their work systems. Most firms must choose from a handful of so-called foundation models from OpenAI, Google or Amazon.com Inc. to upgrade their infrastructure, and such models have been called out for not only showing entrenched bias toward people with disabilities and racial minorities but also for being highly inscrutable. OpenAI and, by extension, Microsoft Corp. have refused to disclose details that independent researchers need to determine how biased their language models are. Forrester Research Inc. has predicted that close to 7 million US knowledge workers will be using Microsoft 365 Copilot in 2024. Meanwhile, Google is rolling out its own competitor, Duet AI, to the more than 3 billion users of its enterprise platform Workspace.

As such tools are imbued with more planning and strategic skills, we’ll talk much more about giving them “responsibility” instead of “tasks.” But we should do so slowly and carefully. Their anticipated disruption could come back to haunt us.

Virtual RAM: More Storage or Gimmick?

Virtual RAM has now become ubiquitous in smartphones. After being present in PCs for years, the technology is being used by smartphone brands to make their products, especially in the entry-level and budget segments, more compelling to customers who treat the amount of RAM as a key factor in making the purchase decision. While most brands are restricted to offering as low as 3GB or 4GB RAM in smartphones priced under ₹10,000, adding another 4GB of virtual RAM — effectively marketing the product as having “4GB+4GB RAM” — gives an impression that the handset is more capable than before. But adding 4GB virtual RAM over 4GB physical RAM is not the same as having 8GB RAM in a mobile phone. At best, the marketing gimmick is good for keeping more apps running in the background, but has little impact in improving the overall performance of the phone or running heavy apps.

HOW DOES RAM WORK?

RAM, or random access memory, is a high-speed storage that stores data on a temporary basis, unlike the internal storage where data is stored permanently till its deleted or overwritten manually. RAM is

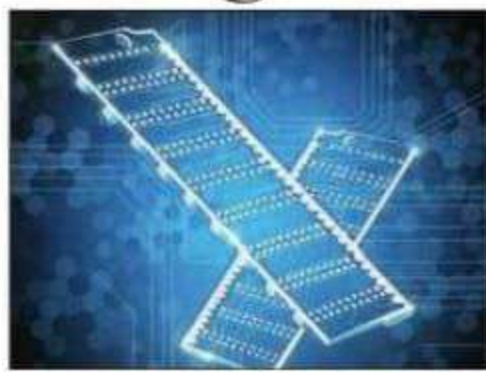
called volatile memory because of its temporary nature, but is much faster than other types of memory such as hard drives.

WHAT IS VIRTUAL RAM?

Virtual RAM is a feature on some Android smartphones that uses a portion of the device's internal storage to temporarily act as additional RAM. It refers to RAM that is not physically present on your device, but is called to action when needed. Virtual RAM is called by different names by brands, such as RAM Plus (Samsung), Dynamic RAM Expansion (Realme), Memory Fusion (Tecno), RAM Expansion (Oppo) and simply Virtual RAM (Vivo). The technology, though, does the same thing: borrow memory from internal storage to provide extra RAM when needed.

MEMORY MANAGEMENT ON ANDROID

Android works on the premise that free memory is wasted memory, and tries to use all of the available memory at all times, resulting in apps being stored in memory long after they have been closed by the user. Some, like the Facebo-



ISTOCK

ok app, do not need refreshing when they are in the background, so they remain static in RAM. Some others, like Spotify, keep running even when the app is removed from the foreground, using RAM dynamically to scale up or down depending on the activity. These dynamic operations are de-

legated to a partition in the memory which Google calls zRAM, where the app is com-

pressed so that it does not overload the phone.

HOW IS VIRTUAL RAM BENEFICIAL?

As budget smartphones already have less amount of RAM to work with (most come with 4GB RAM), virtual RAM is deployed by crea-

ting a zRAM partition out of the internal storage, so as to expand the memory capability in storing more of such dynamic apps. As a result, budget phones become more capable in running more apps on the device, especially those which get refreshed or updated in the background.

IS VIRTUAL RAM A GOOD THING? WHAT NO ONE WILL TELL YOU...

For one, using storage as RAM is not really beneficial as the natures of the 2 components are different. While RAM is non-volatile storage where any byte of memory can be accessed directly without having to read the preceding bytes, hard drives store data sequentially and must be read from the beginning to reach a specific location. Further, RAMs operate at much higher speeds as compared to storage memory. While this means virtual RAM may not work as fast as normal RAM, more importantly, it may reduce the life span of the internal storage as it is not meant for frequent read-write operations required to function as RAM.

Subhrojit Mallick

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ET EXPLAINER

In 2022, Bengaluru saw most cases of cybercrime registered across all metros

City reported 9,940 such cases, according to NCRB data; senior police official says Bengaluru tops the list because of the high concentration of IT professionals in the city, which also reflects in high levels of awareness about cyber laws, prompting better reporting

Crimes reported in Bengaluru in 2022

Type of crime	Number of cases
Causing death by negligence	902
Robbery	603
Hit and run	222
Murder	173
Rape	151
Sexual harassment	120
Dowry death	29
Death due to negligence of civic authorities	21

IPC cases registered in Bengaluru

Year	Total number of cases
2020	19,964
2021	21,548
2022	28,666

Crimes against vulnerable population

Year	Crimes against women	Crimes against children	Crimes against senior citizens	Crimes/atrocities against Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes
2020	2,730	1,103	210	146
2021	3,127	1,342	237	178
2022	3,924	1,578	458	247

Source: NCRB annual report, 2022



Bengaluru has five dedicated police stations to exclusively deal with cybercrime cases and this has also meant ease of reporting. In the current year, the city clocked over 9,000 cybercrime cases by November-end. REUTERS

The Hindu Bureau BENGALURU

Bengaluru has again topped the list in cybercrimes registered across all metro cities in India in 2022. The city has topped the chart of cybercrimes cases for several years now.

However, this time, the city accounts for nearly three-fourths of the cases recorded in 19 metro cities, as per the data released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) on Sunday.

The city reported 9,940 cybercrime cases of the 13,534 cases reported in 19 metro cities during 2022, or 73.4% of the cases registered, the data shows.

A senior official said Bengaluru tops the list in cybercrimes because of the high concentration of IT professionals in the city, which also reflects in high levels of awareness about cyber laws, prompting better reporting.

However, the NCRB data shows Hyderabad, the capital of Telangana, another

4,027 narcotics cases recorded in 2022

The Hindu Bureau BENGALURU

The city has also recorded the most narcotics cases among 19 metro cities across the country, with 4,027 cases, including 570 against peddlers in 2022.

The city police embarked on a special drive against narcotics in the city during the pandemic in 2020 and have kept at it since then.

The Police Commissioner releases data of drug seizures, cases and arrests made in narcotics cases every month.

The city also has the

IT hub in South India, reported only 282 cybercrime cases among the 19 metro cities. Lucknow, Ghaziabad, Noida, and Kanpur reported more cases.

The city, having five

most cases registered under The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, essentially over prostitution. The city registered 403 cases, followed by Chennai which registered 156.

A senior official said that the high number of narcotics and prostitution cases was also an indication of better enforcement.

However, the city also saw the most dowry harassment cases. Of 1,221 dowry harassment cases registered in 2022, 964 were registered in Bengaluru alone. Patna in Bihar registered the second highest number of cases, 228.

dedicated police stations to exclusively deal with cybercrimes, has also meant ease of reporting.

Even in the current year, the city has already clocked over 9,000 cybercrime cases by November-

end.

With the growing number of cases, the City Police Commissioner had asked the jurisdictional law and order police to pitch in and start registering cybercrime related cases at the local police stations to assist their counterparts.

In addition the Commissioner has also set up five Special Investigation Teams (SIT) each headed by a Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) to probe specific kinds of cybercrimes.

Investigation and recovery of money lost in cybercrimes has improved with the Cybercrime Incident Report (CIR) which helps to freeze transactions of stolen money in cybercrimes in real time.

However, the recovery is still only a fraction of the money lost.

Information Technology Minister Priyank Kharge said that the State, on an average, lost ₹1 crore a day to cybercrimes in 2022.

Karnataka also topped the list of States in the number of cybercrime cases reported with 12,549 registered, out of the total 31,908 registered in 2022.

City also has most cases of rash and negligent driving

The Hindu Bureau BENGALURU

Bengaluru has also topped the chart in the maximum number of cases booked against drivers for rash and negligent driving, among 19 metro cities, in 2022, the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data released on Sunday showed.

The data revealed that a total of 2,111 cases were registered against motorists causing grievous hurt to a total of 2,428 people. Kochi comes second with 1,729 cases, ahead of Mumbai and Delhi.

A senior traffic police official said that the highest number of cases indicate better enforcement in the city rather than the driving scenario compared to other cities. However, he added a lack of lane discipline was a big problem.

The city traffic police have brought several mea-

A senior traffic police official said that the highest number of cases indicate better enforcement

asures to ensure discipline among motorists and to contain the number of road accidents.

However, owing to many reasons and the growing number of vehicles, limited road infrastructure, accidents and traffic violations are on the rise, the senior official said.

The traffic police have recently introduced Artificial Intelligence-based enforcement cameras for traffic management.

The Bengaluru Traffic Police have moved to mostly online enforcement and streamlined the traffic situation through strict enforcement over the last two years, an officer with the Traffic Department said.

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HEALTH



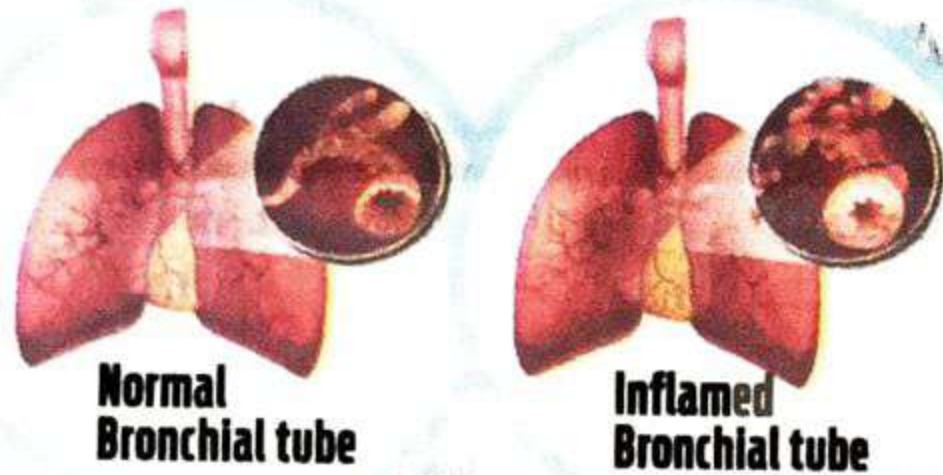
CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE

Don't ignore that wheezing during winters, it may worsen

UNNIKRISHNAN S @T'Puram

CHRONIC obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a chronic inflammatory lung disease that causes obstruction to air-flow to the lungs. Common symptoms include difficulty in breathing, coughing, wheezing and increased production of mucus. These symptoms can worsen during the winter and it is important to take care of the lungs through vaccines and other non-pharmacological interventions, according to doctors. Health experts say that COPD has been largely neglected even though it is the second leading cause of death in the country.

"COPD awareness lags behind compared to diabetes or hypertension. Often, detection occurs long after lung cells get damaged. Protecting lungs is crucial, as even stable COPD



Normal Bronchial tube

Inflamed Bronchial tube

WINTER CARE

- Avoid exposure to extreme cold
- Get vaccinated: Health experts recommend COVID-19, pneumococcal and influenza vaccines to prevent complications
- Maintaining indoor air quality
- Exercising regularly
- Special rehabilitation programmes (pulmonary)

cases worsen during winters," said Dr PS Shajahan, a pulmonary medicine professor at Government TD Medical College, Alapuzha, and vice-chair of IMA Research Cell in Kerala. "Many equate COPD with asthma.

However, their treatment and prognosis differ. While asthma is fully controllable, COPD is progressive with more long-term consequences," he added.

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease worsens during winter due to various reasons. Breathing in cold air can cause the airways to constrict, making it harder for individuals with the

XPLAINER

ailment to breathe. It may also trigger coughing and other respiratory symptoms.

COPD patients are more susceptible to respiratory infections, such as the flu or common cold, which are more prevalent in the winter months. Poor indoor air quality, with factors like heating systems, dust and lack of ventilation can contribute to respiratory issues for individuals with COPD.



Being overweight affects body's response to Covid

Being overweight can impair the body's antibody response to SARS-CoV-2 infection but not to the protection offered by Covid-19 vaccination, according to a study published in the journal *Clinical & Translational Immunology*, builds on the team's existing research on how Covid-19 affects people who are overweight. "We have previously shown that being overweight increases the severity of SARS-CoV-2," said Marcus Tong, a PhD candidate at the University of Queensland in Australia.

Nerve damage, brainstem changes in tinnitus: Study

People with tinnitus, an annoying ringing in the ears, have nerve damage and other physical changes in the ear as well as increased brain activity to try to compensate, researchers reported on Thursday in *Scientific Reports*. The researchers studied 294 volunteers, a group that included people who had never experienced tinnitus, some with a brief bout of tinnitus in the past, and those who had tinnitus for more than six months.

CERVICAL cancer is a global health crisis that sadly goes unnoticed. In India, cervical cancer is the second most common cancer in women, with around 1.2 lakh cases and 67,000 deaths each year. India has made significant strides in improving maternal and child health, but we now need to shift the paradigm in India's thinking towards women's health. By joining hands with the World Health Organization (WHO) to support cervical cancer elimination, India has a golden opportunity to lead the way and eliminate one more disease from our soil.

Cervical cancer is a silent epidemic that has a profound impact on women, families and society. The burden falls disproportionately on women in rural areas, given the limited access to healthcare and poor awareness about preventive measures. There is a glimmer of hope amidst despair: cervical cancer is one of the few cancers that can be prevented through vaccination, as almost all cases are caused by human papillomavirus (HPV). The HPV vaccine, administered to adolescent girls and boys, provides effective protection against future HPV infections and cervical cancer. Additionally, regular screening and early treatment can substantially reduce deaths from cervical cancer.

On November 17, 2020, the world took a historic step by committing to eliminate cervical cancer, adopting WHO's global strategy for cervical cancer elimination. This strategy sets specific targets for vaccination, screening, and treatment, provid-

PULSE
OF THE MATTER

CERVICAL CANCER

ing a roadmap to tackle this disease head-on. By partnering with WHO for a cervical cancer elimination programme, India can leverage its expertise and resources to develop a comprehensive strategy that focuses on prevention, early detection, and treatment.

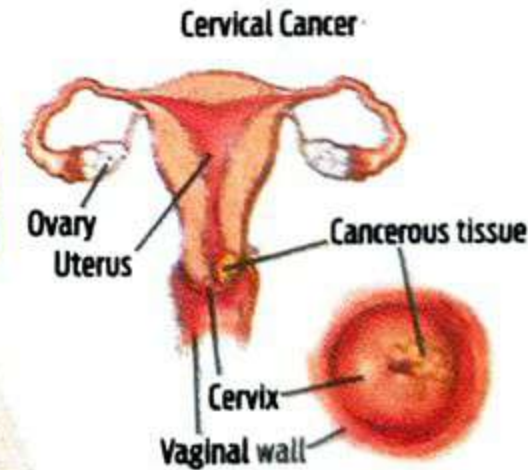
In India, public health is primarily a state matter, allowing states to implement innovative initiatives to combat cervical cancer. Karnataka, a state with a proven record in improving the health of its citizens, is uniquely positioned to lead the charge in eliminating cervical cancer. Karnataka has already demonstrated its commitment to public health through its exemplary work in tobacco control, which earned Bengaluru, the capital city, the prestigious 2023 Partnership for Health Cities Award.

Building on this success, Karnataka has set its sights on achieving WHO's cervical cancer elimination targets and protecting women from this devastating disease. A recent policy consultation, organised by the Karnataka government

Let's make women's health our top priority

STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME CHALLENGES IN RURAL AREAS

- Deploying mobile clinics from screening
- Training and engaging community health workers
- Telemedicine ● Awareness and education
- **Single-visit approach:** Women are screened and treated, if necessary, in the same visit
- Integrating screening with existing health services
- Public-private partnerships
- Explore the use of innovative technologies
- Data monitoring and evaluation



and FIND - a non-profit organization dedicated to improving diagnostic access - brought together state elected representatives, government

officials, experts, academia and civil society to discuss strategies to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer in Karnataka.

As we develop a roadmap for eliminating cervical cancer, our first priority must be early and effective screening. While the current guidelines in India recommend visual inspection with acetic acid for women aged 30-65 years at least once every five years, WHO recommends screening women twice in their lifetime using high-performance HPV DNA-based tests, which are more effective in preventing cervical cancer than traditional Pap smears. Civil society organizations in Karnataka have already piloted these tests, with positive feedback and high acceptance of the tests including self-sampling by women.

Prevention is key in the fight against cervical cancer, but vaccination and screening programmes need to be scaled up nationally to ensure that all women in India have access to these lifesaving initiatives. India has demonstrated its ability to tackle and eradicate diseases before - the successful eradication of polio is a testament to our nation's commitment and capability. It is now time to channel this expertise towards combating cervical cancer and improving women's health, for a healthier and more empowered society.

(The author is dean of Centre of Academic Research; country director of Head Neck Surgical Oncology & Robotic Surgery, HCG Cancer Centre; adjunct faculty of Institute of Public Health (IPH) and member of IPH Bengaluru Society)

EARLY SCREENING CAN SAVE YOUR BREAST

BY SINDUJA JANE

WITH advancements in treatment options, patients diagnosed with breast cancer in early stages need not fear about having to undergo mastectomy (surgery to remove a breast) as the breast can be preserved by only removing the affected area. New methods have also improved survival rates.

"Breast cancer is a curable disease. There is a need to get rid of the fear. If anyone notices changes in the breast whether - a painless lump, nipple discharge, discolouration in the skin, ulcer or wound that is not healing - they must immediately get it checked. The earlier it is diagnosed, the rate of survival and chances of conserving the breast is higher," said Dr Manjula Rao, consultant, breast oncological surgery, Apollo Proton Cancer Centre, Chennai.

"Everyone from the age of 18 and above must perform monthly self-examination. Once a year, they should go and see a doctor. All women above 40 should get a mammogram once a year," she added.

Earlier, health experts viewed breast cancer as a localized disease that affects only the breast, but it has changed with the realisation that it is a systematic disease. It can spread to other organs like bones, liver, lungs and brain.

"Earlier, the treatment accompanied radical procedures in which doctors removed the entire breast and underlining muscle till the bone, as they thought the outcome will be better. It is not true, so the treatment also changed. Systemic treatment includes chemotherapy, targeted

therapy and hormonal therapy," said Dr K Keerthi, associate consultant, breast surgery, Kauvery Hospital, Chennai.

"In zero, one, two and three stages of breast cancer, the survival rates are very good. In zero and stage one, it curable and survival is 100%. In stage two, survival rate is 95% and stage three it is 70-80%. In stage four, if the cancer has spread to other organs, then survival rate is 50% or less. Because of advancement in treatment, survival rate has improved," said Keerthi.

"In systemic treatment, surgery should be first performed and followed by radiation therapy. Surgery includes removing the breast, followed by the lymph nodes near the armpit, if they are affected," she said.

"Earlier they used to remove the entire breast or entire lymph nodes. Now, in a selective set of patients, it is possible to do breast conservation surgery (BCS). There is no need to remove the whole breast (mastectomy)," said Manjula. The breast is removed only when the tumour is big and has spread. "For patients where the tumour is small and not spread to other tissues, oncoplasty can be done without mastectomy. Oncoplasty is a combination of cancer treatment and aesthetic or cosmetic procedure in which the tumour is removed and filled with muscles," said Keerthi.

"Even with mastectomy, now reconstruction options are available like implant in breast or reconstruction using tissues from parts of the body, like the back muscle of the breast can be rotated and brought to the place of the breast. Another method is reconstructing using tissue from the lower abdomen," she added.

Similarly, unlike earlier, all lymph nodes need not be removed. "By doing sentinel lymph node biopsy (SLNB), a test to see which lymph node is affected, surgeons can remove only the affected lymph nodes," added Dr Keerthi.

Dr Selvi Radhakrishnan, founder of Chennai Breast Clinic, said every year around 1.4 lakh new breast cancer cases are detected in India, according to the International Cancer Research Foundation. These numbers

could be more as we don't have a population registry. "Only in 5-10% we know it is hereditary and what gene is causing the cancer. But in 90%, it is lifestyle associated, like obesity, particularly visceral obesity, though we don't know the cause of cancer in some," said Selvi.

"Following good diet, physical exercise and adequate sleep will help. Avoiding stress is also recommended," she added.

"There are different types of breast cancers based on the molecular subtypes, which are based on proteins the cancer cells are expressing - estrogen receptors (ER), progesterone receptors (PR) and Human Epidermal Growth Factor Receptor-2 (HER2)," said Keerthi.

"If it is estrogen receptor positive then it is called hormone type of breast cancer. If these three receptors are negative then it is called triple negative breast cancer. If all three are positive, then triple positive breast cancer. If PR and ER are negative, but HER2 is positive, then it is called HER2 enrich breast cancer," added Keerthi.

Line of treatment

"For hormone positive cancer, first surgery is done, followed by chemotherapy and hormone therapy in the form of tablets for 5-10 years. Again different types of tablets are given based on the patient if she is in pre or post menopausal stage," she added.

If it is triple negative or HER2 enrich breast cancer, usually chemotherapy is given first because these two are aggressive types. To know the response, chemotherapy is given first. After the size of the tumour is reduced by chemotherapy, surgery is done. It will be followed up by plus or minus radiation.

"In HER2, advanced drugs are used to target the HER2 receptor and the treatment goes on for a year. There are 17 cycles, given at an interval of two to three weeks," Keerthi said.

Dr Manjula added that radiation methods have evolved as it can be given only to the affected area so that other adjacent organs are protected.

"This is done using image guided radiation therapy which can concentrate on the tumour areas. In the early stages of tumour, we can place a wire in the tumour area so that radiation is given to only that area. It is called brachytherapy," added Keerthi.



1
Chemotherapy is tailored according to the molecular sub type of cancer

2
Prevention: Screening can pick up signs of cancer early

3
Ultrasound is performed on those below 40 years of age. For those above 40, ultrasound and mammogram are done

4
Genetic testing can be done to identify mutation in genes, that are passed down from parents, which can increase risk of breast cancer



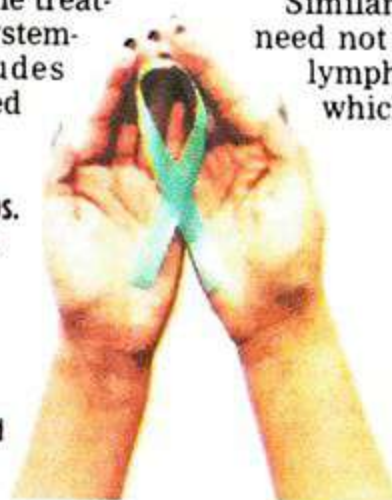
Stage zero or insitu is the point when the tumour has not yet become cancerous. If there is any small white coloured calcification detected in imaging, it is sent for biopsy. If it is positive, it can be completely cured.

Stage 1: If the tumour is less than 2cm lymph nodes are involved

Stage 2: Tumour is 2-5 cm

Stage 3: Tumour is more than 5 cm,

Stage 4: The cancer has spread to other organs and more lymph nodes are affected



+ U.S. approves Granules' copy of drug for a lung condition

The Hindu Bureau

HYDERABAD

Granules has received U.S. Food and Drug Administration approval for its generic version of Viatrix Specialty's Revatio pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH) treatment.

The product, therapeutically equivalent to Viatrix's Sildenafil for oral suspension, 10 mg/ml, is indicated to improve exercise ability and delaying clinical worsening in patients with PAH, Granules said on approval of the ANDA filed by unit Granules Pharmaceuticals Inc.

The current annual U.S. market for Sildenafil for oral suspension is about \$43 million, Granules said.

The need to transform agri-food systems

What did the report from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization say? How is favouring the cultivation of water-intensive cash crops like sugarcane and areca nut affecting the environment? How will diversification of crops help?

EXPLAINER

P. Srinivas Vasu
Karishma Shelar

The story so far:

A groundbreaking report from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), published earlier this month, has laid bare the staggering hidden costs of our global agri-food systems, surpassing an astonishing \$10 trillion. In middle-income countries like India, these costs constitute nearly 1% of the GDP, which manifests as higher poverty, environmental harm, and health-related impacts, including undernourishment and unhealthy dietary patterns. The report blames “unsustainable business-as-usual activities and practices” for these escalating costs, pointing to a need to transform agri-food systems. One way to do so is to shift to multi-cropping systems that have the potential to protect farmers’ well-being, improve nutritional outcomes for our communities, and positively impact ecological health.

What are the impacts of intensive agriculture?

Impressive improvements in agricultural productivity have been achieved in India over the last five decades by mainstreaming mono-cropping systems and chemical-intensive farming practices.

The Green Revolution focused on the marketing of high-yielding varieties of paddy and wheat on agricultural lands, which now constitute more than 70% of India’s agricultural production. The infusion of seeds purchased from multinational corporations and fertilizers undermined seed sovereignty, dismantled Indigenous knowledge systems, and fuelled a shift from diverse crop varieties and staples such as pulses and millets to monoculture plantations. This trend also compromised the nutritional needs of households and resulted in adverse ecological consequences including excessive extraction of groundwater.

This privatisation and deregulation of agricultural inputs also increased indebtedness among agrarian households. In 2013, the debt to asset ratio of a farmer’s household in India was 630% higher than in 1992. Agriculture in India has increasingly become unviable: the average monthly household income of a farming household sits at ₹10,816.

Which are the crops being favoured?

Under the National Food Security Act 2013, 65% of households (around 800 million people) in India are legally assured a right to food at subsidised rates through the Public Distribution System and welfare programmes such as the Integrated Child Development Services and the Mid-Day Meal Scheme.

To meet this requirement, the procurement of food crops is coordinated by the Food Corporation of India (FCI), which is required to maintain a central pool of buffer stock and to procure, transport, and store foodgrain stocks in the country. However, this procurement policy heavily favours rice and wheat. In 2019-2020, the FCI procured 341.32 lakh million tonnes (MT) of wheat and 514.27 lakh MT of rice. Whole wheat and rice also became export commodities. In contrast, the Indian government approved the procurement of a total of only 3.49 lakh MT of coarse grains such as jowar, bajra, ragi, maize, and barley by State governments for the central pool and local distribution, which is less than 1% of total foodgrain procurement. Not surprisingly, the area under cultivation of



Different approach: A farmer spraying pesticides in a paddy field, in Kharak Singhwala, Mansa district in Punjab, on August 21. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

coarse grains dropped by 20% between 1966-1967 and 2017-2018, whereas the area under rice and wheat increased by nearly 20% and 56% respectively.

At the same time, other water-intensive cash crops like sugarcane and areca nut have also flourished under policies favouring investments in dams and canal irrigation (favourable for sugarcane) and free electricity for borewells (favourable for areca nut). This trend threatens food security and the production of nutritional crops. The expansion of sugarcane cultivation affects biodiversity, increases the pressure on groundwater resources, and contributes to air and water pollution. And ironically, small and marginal farmers in India are among the most food and nutrition insecure.

The global food system structure has a direct impact on the last mile – on both farmers and soil. Between 2012 and 2016, large fluctuations in soya prices in the global market and a glut in supply from Latin American countries eroded income for soy farmers and agro-companies in Malwa. Historically as well, global trade relations have influenced food production systems in the Global South. In the pre-independence era, tax systems were introduced to efficiently collect revenue for British-enforced exports of primary raw materials, such as cotton.

How can crop diversification help?

A systemic shift in food regimes, from local to global value chains, is essential. The starting point for addressing these complex systemic issues could arise from local efforts, such as the diversification of farms.

Diversified multi-cropping systems, rooted in agroecology principles, could be a viable solution to revitalize degraded land and soil. Practices known by various

names locally, like ‘akkadi saalu’ in Karnataka, involve intercropping with a combination of legumes, pulses, oilseeds, trees, shrubs, and livestock. This approach enables cash provision from commercial crops, food and fodder production, and offers ecosystem services such as nitrogen fixation and pest traps, and supports the local biodiversity. They also collectively contribute to improving soil health.

Critics have often argued against alternative farming systems, suggesting they may lead to a decline in farmer income even if the environment improves.

But the FAO report says that there are substantial “hidden costs” associated with the current systems which need to be factored into long-term evaluations of income. Moreover, millets, whose yield per hectare is comparable to those of rice and wheat, are also more nutritious, grow in semi-arid conditions without burdening groundwater tables, require minimal input, and provide a diversified food basket.

While crop diversification will involve some loss of productivity using a narrow metric of kg/Ha, it would preserve natural capital and allow farmers to become nutritionally secure. By redirecting subsidies, currently accruing to corporations, we can pay farmers for their contribution to sustaining natural capital, instead of incentivising them to deplete it.

How can farmers transition?

It is unrealistic to expect farmers to shift away from mono-cultivation of rice and wheat overnight. This transition needs to be systematic, allowing farmers to adjust gradually. For instance, moving from chemical-intensive practices to

non-pesticide management, then adopting natural farming practices, can reduce input costs.

Farmers can diversify income through value addition, incorporating livestock and poultry. Some of these practices could be experimented with partially on specific portions of their lands.

Among the various transition pathways, a visual representation of a diversified farm involves allocating 70% for commercial crops, 20% for food and fodder, and 10% for environmental services like oilseeds (acting as trap crops). Over time, the fraction of commercial crops could be lowered to 50% and border crops could be replaced with locally-suitable tree species for fruits and fodder. Integrating livestock rearing could further improve incomes. Some preliminary economic modelling of these pathways indicates the potential to improve ecological outcomes for the landscape and sustain farm incomes in the short run (up to three years) and the long run (up to 25 years).

However, addressing challenges related to local seeds, institutional arrangements for market access, drudgery, and the need for farm labour is crucial when envisioning such a transition.

Scaling up these practices requires collaboration among institutions, policymakers, and social groups to articulate economic incentives for farmers to shift from high-input monoculture to diversified cropping.

P. Srinivas Vasu is the founder of SOIL, a trust that works on rebuilding soil health and promoting sustainable agriculture. Karishma Shelar is a Senior Programme Manager at the Water, Environment, Land and Livelihoods (WELL) Labs, a research centre at the Institute for Financial Management and Research.

THE GIST

A groundbreaking report from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), published earlier this month, has laid bare the staggering hidden costs of our global agri-food systems, surpassing an astonishing \$10 trillion.

Procurement policy heavily favours rice and wheat. In 2019-2020, the FCI procured 357.95 lakh million tonnes (MT) of wheat and 443.99 lakh MT of paddy. Whole wheat and rice also became export commodities.

Among the various transition pathways, a visual representation of a diversified farm involves allocating 70% for commercial crops, 20% for food and fodder, and 10% for environmental services like oilseeds (acting as trap crops).



Business Finance

Govt lays out measures to contain black money menace in real estate

MONIKA YADAV @ New Delhi

IN a bid to combat the circulation of unaccounted money or black money in the real estate sector, the government has implemented a series of stringent measures, ranging from legislative amendments to enforcement actions.

Under the provisions of the Income Tax Act, several key legislative amendments have been introduced, as per the written reply by Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary to the parliamentary question.

Section 43CA and Section 50C of the Income Tax Act now require the adoption of the stamp duty value as consideration if it exceeds the declared amount. Section 50CA, along with relevant Income Tax Rules, mandates the use of the stamp duty value of immovable property to determine capital gains on the transfer of shares in unlisted companies.

To further prevent tax evasion, Section 56(2)(x) has been enacted to tax the difference be-



tween the stamp duty value and the consideration received if it exceeds ₹50,000 in the hands of the recipient. Moreover, Section 194-IA now requires the deduction of 1% tax at the time of payment for any sum exceeding ₹50 lakhs as consideration for immovable properties.

“In order to curb cash dealing in real estate transactions, section 269SS was amended to prohibit receipt of ₹20,000 or more for transfer of immovable property otherwise than by banking channel. Similar restriction is provided under section 269T,” Chaudhary said.

A similar restriction is im-

posed under Section 269T to enhance transparency. Specified entities are required to furnish a statement of financial transactions (SFT) for relevant transactions, including those related to property, as per Section 285BA. Rule 114B and Rule 114E of the Income tax Rules, 1962, mandate the mandatory quoting of PAN and reporting of immovable property transactions above specified thresholds.

“The Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act, 1988 was comprehensively amended through the Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Amendment Act, 2016 to provide for an effective regime for prohibition of benami transactions. Such benami transactions include transactions in real estate sector also,” he added in the written reply. “Appropriate actions as per the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961 include conducting searches and surveys, assessment of income, levy of tax, imposition of penalty, launching of prosecution etc,” he added.

Mkt rises 2% on election outcome

Rally makes investors richer by about ₹6L cr as m-cap of BSE listed firms reaches ₹343.5L cr

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) clinched a victory in three state elections, domestic equity market peaked to a new all-time high.

The benchmark indices – BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty50 – registered one of their sharpest single-day gains in recent time. The rally made investors richer by about ₹6 lakh crore in a single session as the market capitalisation of all BSE-listed firms rose to ₹343.5 lakh crore.

As per market experts, a thumping majority in state elections reinforces the belief that the ruling party will retain power in the 2024 general elections, providing stability and business-friendly policies. The election results coupled with favourable factors such as sharp growth in September quarter GDP numbers, robust GST collections and a fall in consumer inflation have made India an at-



tractive market despite being more expensive than other emerging economies.

Pranav Haridasan, MD & CEO at Axis Securities, said election results have thrown a positive surprise, with the markets now assigning a greater probability of continuation of existing government policies beyond 2024 and decisive elec-

tion mandates.

“This development removes a significant short-term overhang from the markets. We believe the near-term markets are likely to see strong interest, led by a rebound in industrial growth and a benign interest rate trajectory. Sunday’s events have lowered risk for investors in the short term, and they can

expect a good closing for the calendar year,” said Haridasan.

The Sensex surged 1,437 points intraday to hit an all-time high of 68,918.22, while Nifty50 moved 435 points up and hit a fresh peak of 20,702.65. At close, Sensex was at 68,865.12, up 2.05% or 1,383.93 points the braider Nifty50 settled at 20,686.80, up 418.90 points, or 2.07%.

Govt earned Rs 3.41L cr from taxes on petrol, diesel in 6 months

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

The government earned Rs 3.41 lakh crore from taxes on petroleum products, especially petrol and diesel, in the first six months of the current financial year, data released by the union petroleum ministry showed.

Out of this total tax collection, Rs 1.85 lakh crore went to the central government's kitty, while states collected Rs 1.55 lakh crore, as per data provided by Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas Rameswar Teli, in reply to a question in Rajya Sabha, on Monday.

The minister stated that the cess on petroleum products, which is not shared with the states, increased to Rs 21,445 crore in 2022-23 from Rs 10,676 crore in 2020-21. In the first six months of the current fiscal mop-up from cess stood at Rs 8,048 crore.

"Lion's share of the taxes and duties are being collected by the central government. What is more perturbing is the exponential growth of



cess on the crude oil over the years, which doesn't form part of the divisible pool shared with the states," said John Brittas, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, to whose query Teli had replied.

Taxes imposed by the centre and the state governments form a major chunk of the price of petrol and diesel in India. The highest amount of tax is levied in the form of excise duty by the centre. States impose sales tax and value added tax (VAT) on top of it.

During the financial year ending March 2023, the government earned Rs 7.48 lakh crore from taxes on petroleum products. Out of this, Rs 4.28 lakh crore went to the central government's exchequer, while Rs 3.20 lakh crore went to the states' kitty.

'Ending FAME subsidy will lead to 25% surge in EV prices'

FICCI seeks a 5-year FAME-III be rolled out as the ongoing scheme ends in March

GYANENDRA KESHRI
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Discontinuation of incentives offered under the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles in India (FAME) programme will lead upto 25% surge in prices of electric vehicles in the country and may delay transition to cleaner energy, industry body FICCI said on Monday.

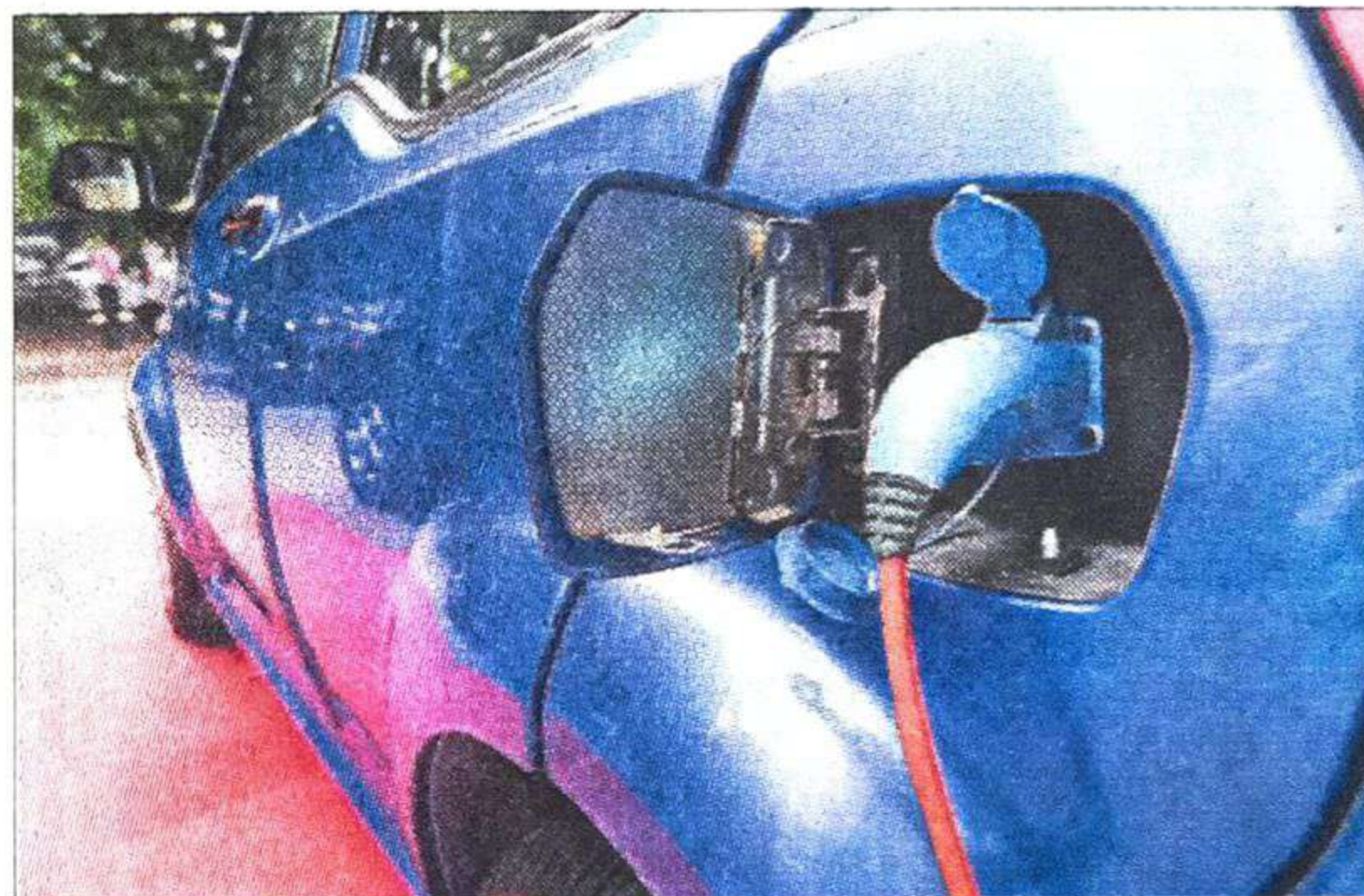
In a proposal submitted to the Union Ministry of Heavy Industries, FICCI has pitched for continuation of the FAME scheme for five years more. The second phase of the incentive programme (FAME-II) is set to come to an end in March 2024.

FAME scheme was launched in April 2015 with a

capital outlay of Rs 895 crore to encourage faster adoption of electric and hybrid vehicles by way of offering upfront incentive on purchase of electric vehicles. The second phase of the scheme was launched in 2019 with a budgetary outlay of Rs 10,000 crore.

FAME-II was initially for a period of three years. It has been extended by one year till March end 2024. Recently the Department of Expenditure approved a proposal to increase outlay for FAME-II by Rs 1,500 crore taking the total outlay to Rs 11,500 crore.

"While we have well begun, we are nowhere close to being half done. Let us not forget that the current price premium of EV vis-à-vis ICE (internal combustion engine) without any subsidy is still



substantial ranging from 40% to as high as 130% for various segments," said Sulajja Firodia Motwani, Vice-Chairperson of Kinetic Engineering.

"Continuation of demand incentive or subsidy is imperative and critical to help reduce this price gap. FAME III is required to spur continued interest from customers in EVs and increase penetration over the next few years," she added.

In its proposal submitted to the ministry of heavy industries and NITI Aayog, FICCI has suggested that the third phase of FAME scheme should be implemented for five years with a provision of "mid-

scheme review at the end of 3 years, to assess the penetration achieved and calibrate the scheme or slabs of incentives."

In addition to supporting demand creation for the priority segments of public transport (eBus, E3W, e-taxi) and E2W (electric two-wheeler), FAME-III may also include segments like MHCV (trucks); personal segment for e4Ws and private buses, the industry body said.

"EV penetration in India is only 5% currently. It is imperative to continue FAME scheme to achieve critical mass towards reaching overall 30% EV penetration targets by 2030," FICCI said.



Nifty, Sensex touch new highs on key wins for the BJP

Both benchmarks logged their best session in 14 months

BENGALURU, REUTERS

Financial and energy stocks led shares to new all-time highs on Monday as key wins for the ruling party in state elections lifted the domestic market, already boosted by strong macroeconomic data and easing global interest rate expectations.

The NSE Nifty 50 index rose 2.07% to 20,686.80 points, notching a record high for second session in a row. The S&P BSE Sensex climbed 2.05% to 68,865.12, a record close.

Both the benchmarks logged their best session in 14 months and settled in the over-bought zone.

India's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) secured key victories in three of the four state assembly elections, results showed over the weekend.

"The party in Indian equity markets will go on," said Gaurav Dua, senior vice president and head of capital market strategy at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas.

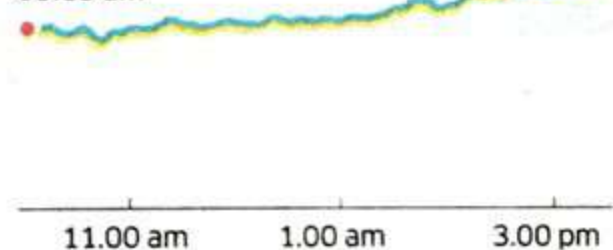
BSE Sensex

68,373.57

09.15 am

68,865.12

03.30 pm



"The strong macroeconomic data, favourable political outcome from state assembly elections and improving global environment has moved sentiment to risk-on from risk-off," Dua added.

Dua expects a further 5%-8% rally in the benchmark Nifty 50 between

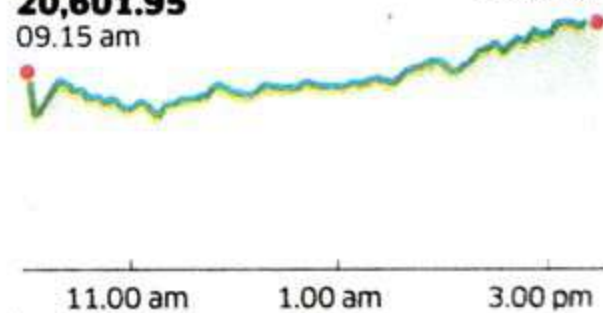
NSE

20,601.95

09.15 am

20,686.80

03.30 pm



now and Lok Sabha elections in May 2024. Eleven of the 13 major sectors hit new all-time highs on Monday. Financial services rose up 3.23% and energy stocks climbed 2.61%, leading sectoral gains. The two indexes account for about 46.5% weightage in Nifty 50 index.

Index heavyweights Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank gained between 1% and 5%.

The Nifty had hit a record high on Friday, on the back of strong quarterly growth and monthly factory activity data.

Larsen & Toubro jumped 3.93% after several analysts identified the company as one of their preferred picks, citing potential gains from the government's focus on infrastructure and welfare spending.

Adani group stocks advanced between 1.4% and 10% and topped gains in several sectoral indexes including metals and energy.

Eicher Motors hit a record high.

Tech capital's cyber-savvy citizens turn capital for fraudsters

At 10,000, Bengaluru saw most cybercrimes than any other city: NCRB

PRAJWAL D'SOUZA
BENGALURU, DHNS

The tech-savvy netizens of Bengaluru were preyed on the most by cybercriminals as the city reported 9,940 cases of cybercrimes in 2022, according to the 'Crime in India 2022' report released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) on Sunday.

According to a senior police officer, cybercrimes currently comprise 28% of the total cases in the city.

The cases in Bengaluru with an estimated population of 85 lakh as per the 2011 census were more than the combined total reported by Mumbai (4,724) and Hyderabad (4,436) ranked second and third, respectively, the annual report revealed.

An analysis of the NCRB data revealed a 54.75% increase in cybercrimes in 2022

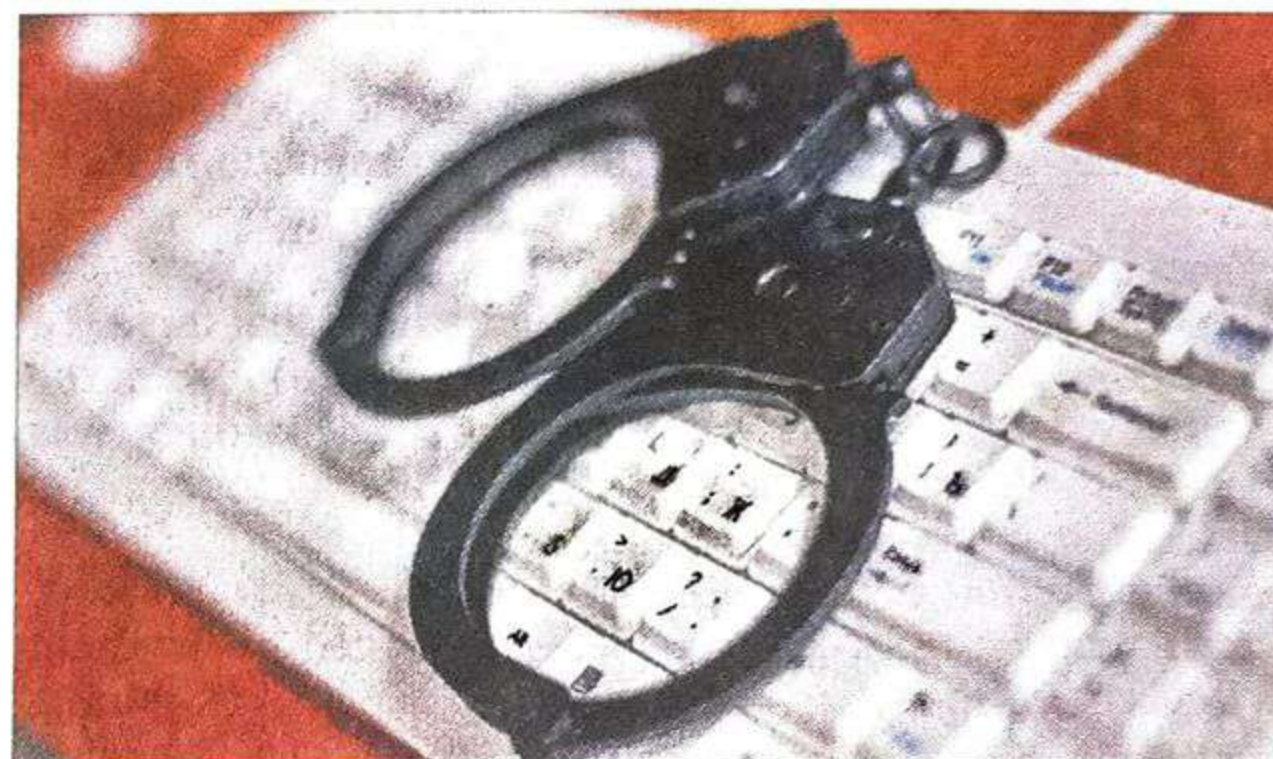
compared to 2021 — showing a worrying trend in the Silicon Valley of India.

In 2020, Bengaluru reported 8,892 cybercrime cases. In 2021, there was a 27.76% decrease as 6,423 were reported, but it rose significantly in 2022 as the total stood at 9,940. The charge sheet rate was at 22.6, the data showed.

Fraud main motive

The report revealed that the motive in 93.45% of the cases was to defraud, followed by extortion (364), sexual exploitation (224), causing disrepute (26), personal revenge (20), emotional motives like anger (12) and others (5).

Around 9,501 cases in 2022 were of computer-related offences, including 6,319 cases of cheating by personation using computer resources. Data showed that 422 cases were related to the publication or



According to a senior police officer, cybercrimes currently comprise 28% of the total cases in the Bengaluru.

the transmission of obscene or sexually explicit acts in electronic form.

Interestingly, the city reported zero cases of online banking fraud, OTP fraud, data theft and cyberstalking or bullying of women and children in 2022.

More netizens, more cybercrimes

State CID chief Dr M A Saleem said that the propensity for cybercrimes was higher in Bengaluru as the population of the 'net citizens' was more and there was an increased dependency on online financial transactions.

"Because of the sheer number, the vulnerability is also high," Dr Saleem, Director General of Police (DGP), Crim-

inal Investigation Department (CID), Special Units and Economic Offences, told *DH*.

"Greed is also a key factor in many cases. Physical crimes like robbery, dacoity and house break-in thefts and chain snatching cases are coming down — giving way for digital crimes."

The city has eight separate police stations dedicated only to cybercrimes and a main cybercrime station, the first in the country to be set up in 2001, at the CID building.

"All police stations are empowered to take up cybercrime cases," Dr Saleem said.

"We are also training the station house officers (SHOs) of all the law and order police stations regarding the inves-

Common types of cybercrimes

- Online/part-time job fraud
- Debit/credit card fraud
- Matrimony fraud
- Lottery scams
- Sextortion
- OTP fraud, phishing
- Cryptocurrency, stock investment fraud

Motive	Cases
Fraud	9,289
Extortion	364
Sexual exploitation	224
Causing disrepute	26
Personal revenge	20
Emotional motive (anger etc.)	12
Others	5

tigation of cybercrimes, handling digital evidence and how to extract data."

The CID boss urged the residents to not respond to dubious messages, secure their digital credentials and mobile phones and never pick up video calls from unknown phone numbers on WhatsApp.

Sensex rises 1,384 pts to new high in bull charge

Nifty50 also takes wing to reach fresh high

SUNDAR SETHURAMAN
Mumbai, 4 December

The Indian equity benchmarks soared to unprecedented heights on Monday. The catalysts were the recent state election results, which further built hopes among investors of continuity of government at the Centre after the Lok Sabha polls next year.

The bulls, already invigorated by the prospect of imminent rate cuts by the US Federal Reserve, bought shares across the board, propelling the combined market cap of all BSE-listed firms by ₹5.8 trillion.

The Sensex climbed 1,384 points (a 2.05 per cent increase) to close the session at 68,865; the Nifty50 rose by 419 points (a 2.1 per cent gain) to end at 20,687. For both indices, this marked the most significant single-day gain in nearly 14 months. Moreover, the Sensex and the Nifty50 reached fresh highs on both intraday and closing bases.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) emerged victorious in three state elections by retaining Madhya Pradesh and wresting Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan from the Congress. The BJP's performance surpassed expectations, as the elections were widely

considered a close fight in three states.

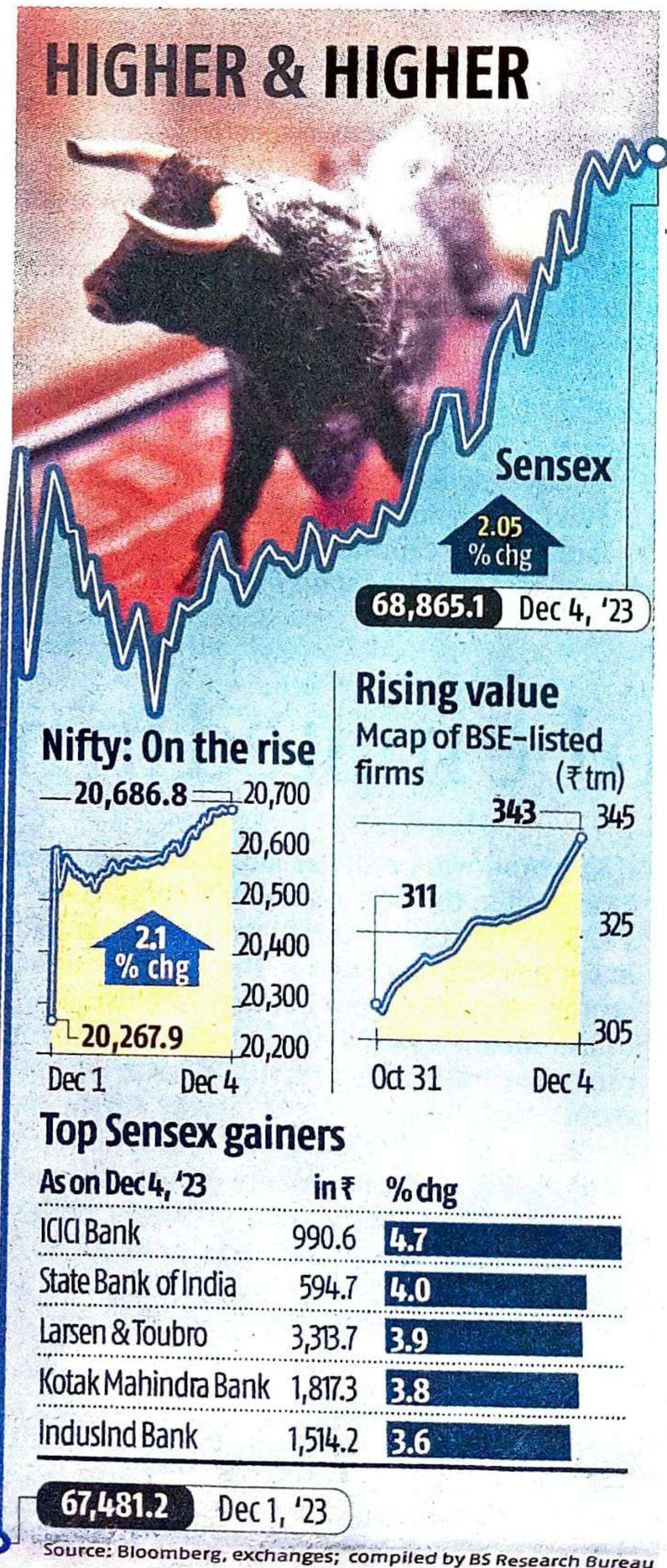
The election results assuaged investor concerns about whether a poor showing by the ruling party would heighten the risk of more fiscal populism. "The equity market looks at how money is being spent effectively, and the sustainability by way of policymaking," said A Balasubramanian, managing director & CEO, Aditya Birla Sun Life AMC. "The market reaction is a clear endorsement of growth and not driven by freebies."

He further said: "The valuation picture is not concerning as long as the cost of capital does not rise, the interest rate trend remains the same, and there is no doubt on the growth outlook of India."

The surge in the market capitalisation of all listed stocks on the BSE marked the highest one-day gain since May 17, 2022, when the state-owned Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) was listed.

Pranav Haridasan, MD & CEO, Axis Securities, said: "The assembly election results have thrown a positive surprise for the markets, with the markets now assigning a greater probability of continuation of existing government policies beyond 2024."

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Indian companies should invest in 'climate vulnerable' nations: Nasheed

Jacob Koshy

DUBAI

More Indian companies ought to be investing in clean energy projects in Maldives and other 'climate vulnerable' countries instead of putting money in "iron and steel" as this would be a "good investment", former Maldives President Mohamed Nasheed told *The Hindu* on Monday.

Currently, the Secretary-General, Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) - a grouping of 58 countries

that are particularly vulnerable to natural disasters from climate change - Mr. Nasheed said India's commitment to installing 500 GW of electricity from non-fossil fuel sources and reducing emissions by 45% suggested that "it was on track" as far meeting its commitments to the Paris Agreement was concerned. The 2015 agreement, to which India is a signatory, seeks to cap global average temperature rise below 2°C and "as far as possible" below 1.5°C. "More than taking on emis-



Mohamed Nasheed

sion cuts, India should be investing more in renewable energy projects in climate-vulnerable coun-

tries," said Mr. Nasheed.

Mr. Nasheed said that he had seen interest from "several Indian investors" in investing in renewable energy projects, particularly solar and wind projects, in countries that are part of the grouping.

Development banks and richer developed countries could play an important role in "de-risking investments", he said while stressing that the vulnerable countries were not really asking for grants but seeking real investments in their economies.

Sensex, Nifty climb 2%, scale new peaks after poll results

BJP's victory in three States lifts sentiment as investors bet on stability post 2024 general elections; ICICI, State Bank of India lead gains in the Sensex, while 44 of the Nifty's 50 stocks post advances

Press Trust of India

MUMBAI

The Sensex and Nifty rose more than 2% to close at record highs on Monday, marking the fifth straight day of gains as the BJP's poll victory in three States boosted investor sentiment.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 1,383.93 points, or 2.05%, to close at a lifetime high of 68,865.12. The benchmark logged its biggest single-day jump since May 20, 2022.

The broader Nifty also climbed 2.07% to an all-



Bulls apace: The Sensex logged its biggest one-day jump since May 20, 2022, with the gauge posting its fifth straight advance. REUTERS

time closing high of 20,686.80. Analysts said BJP's clear majority in Madhya Pradesh, Rajas-

than and Chhattisgarh State polls strengthened the positive sentiment built up last week following ro-

bust macroeconomic numbers and unabated foreign fund inflows. Oil prices hovering below \$80/barrel also lifted sentiment.

ICICI Bank and SBI led the Sensex higher with gains of 4.68% and 3.99%, respectively. Other gainers included Larsen & Toubro and HDFC Bank.

The BJP's landslide win in three States "spurred a rally with an anticipation that the country will witness a stable government post the general elections next year," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

RPL case: SAT nixes SEBI's order against RIL's Ambani

Press Trust of India

NEW DELHI

The Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) on Monday set aside the penalty imposed by SEBI on Reliance Industries' Chairman Mukesh Ambani and two other entities in a case related to alleged manipulative trading in the shares of erstwhile Reliance Petroleum Ltd. (RPL) in 2007.

In January 2021, SEBI imposed fines including a ₹25 crore fine on RIL and ₹15 crore on Mr. Ambani.

GST appeals pile up as new filings near 3,000 till October

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Pending taxpayer appeals over central GST levies have risen by as much as 25% through the first seven months of this financial year, with almost 3,000 new appeals being filed since April, the Finance Ministry informed Parliament on Monday, acknowledging that such appeals have risen significantly in recent times.

As per data shared with the Lok Sabha, the number of taxpayer appeals pending under the GST regime,



have actually seen a higher uptick over the first half of this year than all of fiscal 2022-23, when about 2,100 appeals were added to the pending cases list.

The number of pending appeals over central GST levies stood at 14,897 as of

October 31, compared with about 11,899 on March 31. More than 2,300 of these appeals were filed between April and June and about 660 appeals were filed in the four-month period between July and October.

While the ministry reiterated the Centre's decision to constitute State Benches of the much-awaited GST Appellate Tribunals, as per the recommendations of the GST Council, it did not give an explicit response to members' queries about the anticipated timeline for their operationalisation.



Positives galore as Men in Blue look to build a new T20 core

The leadership of Suryakumar a major plus along with Bishnoi and Jaiswal's top-draw efforts; Ruturaj, Rinku and Mukesh, too, appear capable of delivering the goods; the Axar conundrum needs to be addressed in the lead-up to the World Cup

AUSTRALIA IN INDIA

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

If India's recently concluded five-match T20I series against Australia is to be seen as an audition ahead of next June's T20 World Cup in the Caribbean and United States, the actors in fray seemingly look the part.

From Ruturaj Gaikwad to Yashasvi Jaiswal to Rinku Singh to Ravi Bishnoi to Mukesh Kumar, all players navigated the hurdle with the kind of creative imagination that is a prerequisite in the game's shortest format.

If Ruturaj and Jaiswal's opening salvo of shots set a deafeningly high tone, Rinku's batting prowess in the middle and end overs, Bishnoi's stifling spin in the PowerPlay and Mukesh's exploits at the death gave this Indian side a well-rounded look.

What also stood out was Suryakumar Yadav's maiden captaincy spell. With Rohit Sharma's future as a T20 skipper uncertain, and Hardik Pandya still recovering from an ankle injury, Suryakumar appears to have quietly thrown his hat into the ring. While five matches may be all too small a sample to judge leadership acumen, a positive assessment from a fellow

player is not to be discounted. "Surya has given us a free hand," said pacer Arshdeep Singh, who defended 10 runs off the last over in Bengaluru on Sunday to hand India a 4-1 victory. "He has given both bowlers and batters the freedom to express their capabilities. Wickets were largely batting-friendly, but he told us [bowlers] that where there are challenges, there are also opportunities.

Unobtrusive

"He has played a lot of cricket but he didn't force any plan on us. He backed us 100%. His inputs came only when we had to improve a few things and we were all very receptive to that."

The lone bit of course-correction India may have to do is to accommodate Axar Patel in the T20 set-up. Dropped for the upcoming three-match T20I series in South Africa for reasons unknown, the left-arm spinner turned in a stupendous performance against the Aussies.

Axar bowled 20 overs in all, picked up six wickets and gave away runs at a miserly Econ. rate of 6.2. There is also a view that the 29-year-old offers more bang for your buck as a T20 batter than Ravindra Jadeja, as he showcased with a crucial 21-ball 31 on a challenging track at the



Forceful performance: Axar showed what India might miss in South Africa. K. MURALI KUMAR

M. Chinnaswamy Stadium.

All of which suggests that even though the India-Australia tourney came close on the heels of a draining World Cup schedule, its importance cannot be understated.

As India transitions away from its old guard, the casting directors appear close to identifying a core group. The rehearsals may well begin with coming Sunday's contest versus South Africa in Dur-

India-Australia T20I series in numbers

Batting	Inns	Runs	HS	SR	100s/50s
Raturaj	5	223	123*	159.28	1/1
Suryakumar	5	144	80	160.00	0/1
Jaiswal	5	138	53	168.29	0/1
Bowling	Inns	Wkts	BB	Avg	Econ
Bishnoi	5	9	3/32	18.22	8.20
Behrendorff	4	6	2/32	17.83	6.68
Axar	5	6	3/16	20.66	6.20

ban, the first of six T20Is the Men in Blue will play against the Proteas and Af-

ghanistan in the lead-up to the marquee event next summer.

Scheffler clinches title at Hero World Challenge

A bogey free four-under 68 in the final round does the job for the World No. 1 as he finishes three shots ahead of nearest rival Straka; Fitzpatrick and Thomas fail to mount a challenge

GOLF

Ashwin Achal

NASSAU

Third time's a charm for Scottie Scheffler. After finishing second in the 2021 and 2022 editions of the Hero World Challenge, Scheffler went the distance and claimed the title here on Sunday.

A bogey free four-under 68 in the final round did the job for Scheffler (20-under 268 overall), who finished a comfortable three shots ahead of nearest rival Sepp Straka.

"It was really cool for me two years ago just to get into this tournament. I had seen the Hero World Challenge pretty much my entire life and it seemed like such a fun time. It's definitely nice to win. Finishing second is not nearly as good a feeling as finishing first," Scheffler, the World No. 1, said.

Scheffler will enter 2024 full of confidence. "It's definitely nice to have the momentum of a win as I get into preparing for next season," he said.



Finally! Scheffler went all the way this time around after finishing second the last two years. GETTY IMAGES

Matt Fitzpatrick (70) and Justin Thomas (67) could not mount a challenge as Scheffler claimed

his third win of the year. Tiger Woods returned a 72 to finish in 18th spot. Woods, returning from

an injury, was happy to get through the four rounds.

"I think I have come a long way from being a bit rusty to playing four rounds. Just the physicality of playing and competing again – I haven't done this in a while.

Woods happy

"It was nice to get out there with the guys and have some fun," Woods said.

The 2021 and 2022 champion, Viktor Hovland, made up for disappointing three rounds with a stellar nine-under 63 on Sunday. Hovland (nine-under 279) finished tenth.

Collin Morikawa was assessed a two-stroke penalty for violating Model Local Rule G-11, which restricts players from using green-reading materials other than their yardage book that has been approved for use in the competition. Morikawa finished seventh.

The scores (top four): 268:

Scottie Scheffler (69, 66, 65, 68); **271:** Sepp Straka (72, 67, 68, 64); **272:** Justin Thomas (70, 67, 68, 67); **273:** Tony Finau (67, 71, 68, 67), Matt Fitzpatrick (70, 68, 65, 70).

Barca loan star Felix makes Atletico pay in title race



Joao Felix (R) in action against Atletico Madrid

AGENCIES @ Barcelona

JOAO Felix's superb dinked finish earned Barcelona a vital 1-0 win over Atletico Madrid on Sunday in the La Liga title race. The Portuguese forward, on loan at Barca from Atletico, made no secret of his pleasure to escape the Spanish capital this summer and made his parent club pay at the Olympic Stadium.

Felix was criticised by some Atletico players ahead of the game and Barca coach Xavi Hernandez called on him to use

those words as inspiration, which he duly did.

The forward's goal allowed Barca to reclaim third place from Atletico, now trailing leaders Real Madrid and second place Girona by four points.

"He made the difference for the team again, he gave everything, working hard, stealing the ball back, I am very happy for him," Xavi told reporters.

Earlier winless bottom side Almeria were held 0-0 at home by 10-man Real Betis, seventh, on Sunday.

Spurs hold Man City in thriller

Champions drop to third, three points behind leaders Arsenal

MANCHESTER, AFP

Manchester City were stunned by a depleted Tottenham as Dejan Kulusevski's 90th minute equaliser earned Spurs a thrilling 3-3 draw at the Etihad on Sunday.

Tottenham manager Ange Postecoglou insisted he would not relent from his philosophy of relentless attacking football despite facing the might of City with a mounting injury crisis, and earned his reward.

Spurs captain Son Heung-min scored at both ends inside the opening 10 minutes.

Phil Foden put City in front before half-time, but Giovanni Lo Celso levelled 20 minutes from time.

Jack Grealish restored the home side's lead once more, only for Kulusevski's header to ensure City have now dropped points in five of their last eight league games.

The English and European champions drop to third in the

table, three points behind leaders Arsenal.

A point lifts Tottenham into fifth and snaps a run of three consecutive defeats.

The visitors' daring approach was met with an early reward. Son raced onto Kulusevski's ball over the top and Ederson failed to prevent the South Korean scoring his eighth goal against City.

The lead only lasted three minutes as Son cancelled out his opener at the wrong end.

Julian Alvarez's free-kick was flicked on by Erling Haaland and deflected off the unfortunate Son into his own net.

Spurs started for the second consecutive game without a recognised centre-back and they never looked capable of restricting City going forward.

Pep Guardiola's men should have had the game out of sight before half-time.

Haaland missed two glaring opportunities by his standards, while Jeremy Doku and Alvarez hit the woodwork. Yet, City did



Tottenham Hotspur's Dejan Kulusevski's joy knows no bounds after scoring a last-gasp equaliser against Manchester City during their Premier League tie on Sunday. AFP

produce a move of clinical precision to go in front on 31 minutes. Doku fed Alvarez inside the box and the Argentinian squared for Foden to slot home.

Lo Celso fired in off the post for his second goal in as many games. Tottenham's determination to play out from the

back looked to have cost them 10 minutes from time.

Rodri robbed Yves Bissouma and played in Haaland, who crossed for Grealish to tap home. But the drama was far from over. Kulusevski timed his run perfectly to head in Brennan Johnson's cross.

City were incensed in stoppage time when referee Simon Hooper stopped the game to award the home side a free-kick when Grealish was clean through on goal. Haaland faces possible disciplinary action after complaining about Hooper on social media.

Hithaishree, Laksh enter summit ties

BENGALURU, DHNS

Third-seeded Laksh Chengappa of Karnataka put up a clinical show in the Under-17 boys' category to march into the final following his straight-game win against Gnana Datta TT of Telangana in the all-India sub-junior ranking badminton tournament here.

Laksh, who posted a 21-19, 21-16 win in his last-four bout, will take on top seed Ansh Negi of Uttarakhand in the summit tie.

In the Under-15 girls' category, Hithaishree L Rajaiah overcame stiff challenge from State-mate Aikya Shetty 21-12, 20-22, 21-14 to make the final.

Results (all semifinals): Under-17:

Boys: Singles: 1-Ansh Negi (Utr) bt Prateek Koundilya (Kar) 21-16, 14-21, 24-22; 3-Laksh Chengappa MA (Kar) bt Gnana Dattu TT (Tel) 21-19, 21-16.

Doubles: Bjorn Jaison/ Aathish Sreenivas PV (Ker) bt 4-Divyansh Agrawal (CG)/ Niraj Keshri (Jha) 22-24, 21-10, 21-13; 2-Bala Pranay Pragada (AP)/ Pranit Somani (Mah) bt Showrya Kiran J (Tel)/ Harish Ragavendiran V (Pud) 21-16, 11-21, 21-12.

Girls: Singles: Dianka Waldia (Del) bt Rishika Nandi (Del) 21-12, 21-18; 3-Tanvi Reddy Andluri (Tel) bt Adarshini Shri NB (TN) 16-21, 21-17, 21-8.

Doubles: 4-Deepak Raj Aditi/ Ponnamma BV Vriddhi (Kar) bt Keerthy Manchala (Tel)/ Varna P (TN) 21-15, 21-8; Lakshmi Ridhima Devineni/ Sarayu Suryaneni (Tel) bt Riya Sushil/ Nandita Thomas (Ker) 21-19, 21-16.

Mixed doubles: Niranjaan GN/ Varna P (TN) bt 5-Arn timer Sharma (Raj)/ Dianka Waldia (Del) 21-13, 21-15; Vishnu Kedhar Kode (AP)/ Skieddeep Kour (J&K) bt Sri Aditya Harsha Vardhan Bomakanti/ Sarayu Suryaneni (Tel) 19-21, 21-15, 21-19.

U-15: Boys: Singles: Akhil Reddy Bobba (AP) bt 1-Aksh Singh (Del) 21-15, 21-19; 5-Kiran Noguchi (Ker) bt Prangan Choudhury (Asm) 15-21, 21-12, 23-21.

Doubles: 3-Charan Ram Thippana/ Hari Krishna Veeram Reddy (AP) bt Kiran Noguchi/ Javed Rahman (Ker) 21-16, 21-19; 5-Akhil Reddy Bobba/ Abhishek Bonu (AP) bt Srikar Venkata Praneeth Kornala/ Gowtham Kumar Yandra (AP) 21-18, 21-16.

Girls: U-15 (semifinal): Singles: Hithaishree L Rajaiah (Kar) bt Aikya Shetty (Kar) 21-12, 20-22, 21-14; Rishika Nandi (Del) bt 5-Janika R (Pud) 19-21, 21-19, 21-19.

Doubles: 5-Deepak Raj Aditi/ Ponnamma BV Vriddhi (Kar) bt Pranjal Prashant Shinde/ Gatha Suryawanshi (Mah) 21-9, 21-13; Angel Chaudhary (Utr)/ Shubhangi Chaudhary (Chg) bt Janika R (Pud)/ Hithaishree L Rajaiah (Kar) 21-18, 19-21, 21-16.

Mixed doubles: 6-Mohan Krishna Kursam/ Lakshmi Ridhima Devineni (Tel) bt Sailo Vanlalhruaia/ Zoramthari Renthlei (Miz) 21-11, 21-12; 5-Bapun Rout (Ori)/ Shreya Tripathi (Del) bt Javed Rahman/ Ninu Mariya Thomas (Ker) 21-18, 21-17.



Hithaishree L Rajaiah reacts after winning a point against State-mate Aikya Shetty in the girls' Under-15 semifinals at KBA on Monday. DH PHOTO/ BH

SHIVAKUMAR

Surya comes out of shadows

**Self-styled
Mumbaikar has
infused his fearless
style into youngsters**

SIDNEY KIRAN
BENGALURU, DHNS

A young and fearless Indian team checked most of the boxes in the 4-1 series triumph over Australia. Coming in the immediate aftermath of a heart-breaking defeat to the same opponents in the ICC ODI World Cup final a fortnight ago, one of the highlights of the series was the captaincy of Suryakumar Yadav.

Unlike many of his illustrious ODI colleagues, who could take time out to mourn over a shattering — emotionally and physically — defeats in Indian cricket history, Suryakumar had to pack his bags and head to Visakhapatnam to lead a hungry young side in the five-match T20I series against an Australia who also had a handful of reinforcements. There simply was no time for rest nor recovery, just enough to wipe away the tears, chuck the tissues and carry on for probably his biggest assignment.

Although India have trialled plenty of captains in the recent years, especially in T20Is with Suryakumar being the seventh man for the job since Shikhar Dhawan was handed the reins in 2021, the privilege to call the toss still doesn't come easy. One has to really earn his stripes. Suryakumar, a late bloomer who forced his way into the Indian team following some sensational exploits for Mumbai Indians in the IPL, knows it well.

He's also aware that once his



One of the positives for India from the just-concluded T20I series against Australia was Suryakumar Yadav's captaincy. PTI

MI team-mate Hardik Pandya returns from injury or Rohit Sharma opts to play the shortest format, leadership will be taken away from him as the two are the first choices. The series against Australia was a test of his leadership acumen and the early signs are promising. The 33-year-old Mumbaikar, known for his fearless stroke play no matter what the situation, opposition or conditions are, has let that same attitude percolate to his young batters.

Yashasvi Jaiswal, Ruturaj Gaikwad and Rinku Singh batted with all-out aggression, seldom worrying about their dismissals. Right from ball one, their intention was to find a boundary, none displaying the circumspection that some

celebrated seniors are guilty of often in white-ball cricket. Yes, there were plenty high-risk shots which brought about their untimely dismissals at times but, given the licence to go for the kill, they batted only in top gear without worrying about the fear of failure.

Even the bowlers, who were largely under the pump on batting friendly wickets, held their nerve in crucial moments. Barring the third game in Guwahati where they were blown away by the brilliance of Glenn Maxwell and excess dew which literally turned the ball into a soap, they hit the necessary lengths and lines when it mattered. Spinners Ravi Bishnoi and Axar Patel were exceptional in middle overs, picking

up wickets and stifling the run flow, while pacer Mukesh Kumar was outstanding at the start and death. At tense moments, Suryakumar barely lost his cool and backed his boys to get the job done.

Pacer Arshdeep Singh, who defended 10 runs in the final over of the last game here on Sunday, hailed Suryakumar's captaincy. "Last time in a press conference, Ravi (Bishnoi) had said that Surya gives a freehand to all of us. I also wanted to say the same — he gives a lot of freedom for the bowlers. He allows the batters to express themselves. For us bowlers, even in the first four matches where we had to play on batting-friendly pitches, he just told us to make the most of the opportunities.

"He told us not to worry about the results but follow the right process. As I said he gave us a lot of freedom. He just didn't allow us to come under the pressure of playing international cricket. He told us bowlers that whatever plan we have in our mind, he'll back it."

India's next big assignment is the tour to South Africa where Suryakumar will be leading again in T20Is which start on December 10. Yet again, there's a very little turnaround time but Suryakumar knows with the T20 World Cup just six months away, it's another fabulous opportunity to showcase his leadership skills, strengthen his bond with youngsters and make a case for himself.

Barca's loan star Felix makes Atletico pay

EURO LEAGUES

Agence France-Presse
BARCELONA



The hero: Felix about to dink the ball over Oblak for Barcelona's winner. AFP

Joao Felix's superb dinked finish earned Barcelona a vital 1-0 win over Atletico Madrid on Sunday in the LaLiga title race.

The Portuguese forward, on loan at Barca from Atletico, made no secret of his pleasure to escape the Spanish capital this summer and made his parent club pay at the Olympic Stadium.

Felix was criticised by some Atletico players ahead of the game and Barca coach Xavi Hernandez called on him to use those words as inspiration, which he duly did.

The forward's goal allowed Barca to reclaim third place from Atletico, now trailing leader Real Madrid and second place Girona by four points.

Atletico has not won away against the champion in LaLiga since 2006, a run

now stretching to 18 matches, but arrived thinking this could be the time to snap that streak.

Since crumbling to a defeat in the El Clasico with Real Madrid at the end of October, Barcelona has struggled for form and confidence.

Inter Milan maintained a two-point lead at the top of Serie A on Sunday after running out convincing 3-0 winner at Napoli, whose title defence already appears on its last legs.

Beautifully taken goals from Hakan Calhanoglu, Nicolò Barella and Marcus Thuram pushed Inter back above closest challenger Juventus, which briefly held top spot after beating Monza on Friday.

Napoli is now 11 points off the pace and travels to Juve next weekend.

The results:

LaLiga: Barcelona 1 (Joao Felix 28) bt Atletico Madrid 0.

Serie A: Napoli 0 lost to Inter 3 (Calhanoglu 44, Barella 62, Thuram 85).

East Bengal produces a five-star show against NorthEast United FC

ISL-10

Amitabha Das Sharma
KOLKATA

East Bengal came up with its best performance in the Indian Super League, blanking NorthEast United FC 5-0 at the Salt Lake Stadium here on Monday.

Cleiton Silva and second-half substitute Nandhakumar Sekar found the target twice each after Borja Herrera gave it the lead.

The hosts pressed for the advantage right from the start and scored the opener in spectacular fashion in the 14th minute when Herrera was set up on top of the NEUFC box by a superb assist from the young P.V. Vishnu. The Spanish midfielder unleashed a rasping left-footer that found the corner of the net.

East Bengal doubled the lead in the 24th minute



Piling it on: East Bengal proved unstoppable against NEUFC, scoring goals at will. DEBASISH BHADURI

when Spanish playmaker Saul Crespo used a *rabona* kick to release Mandar Rao Dessai. The East Bengal left-back's sharp lob was nodded home by Brazilian striker Silva. East Bengal had another chance through Vishnu in the 45th minute but goalkeeper K. Mirshad thwarted it.

The Kolkata giant returned after the break with greater resolve and trebled the lead in the 62nd minute

through substitute Nandhakumar, who replaced Vishnu at half-time.

Nandhakumar then assisted Silva in the 66th minute to make it 4-0 before completing the scoring in the 81st minute, flicking home a Naorem Mahesh Singh assist.

The result:

East Bengal 5 (Herrera 14, Silva 24 & 66, Nandhakumar 62 & 81) bt NorthEast United FC 0.

EDITORIAL

NEWS

A dark shadow on New Delhi's credibility

In the shadowy world of espionage, intelligence and covert operations, the only rule is to never get caught carrying out a mission. In the more visible world of public diplomacy, the only rule is to never get caught telling a lie or denying what might turn out to be true. The recent publication of a United States Department of Justice indictment against an Indian national for targeting wanted Khalistani separatists in North America, at the behest of a government official who may or may not have been acting alone, is as yet an unproven allegation that must stand trial, but is one that has nonetheless cast a dark shadow on New Delhi's credibility in terms of both covert capacity and public messaging, which must be addressed.

Other operations in the limelight

The indictment also comes on the heels of a number of intelligence operations that have been challenged in courts in other friendly countries in recent years: from the forcible return of a United Arab Emirates princess, Latifah, by the Indian Coast Guard in international waters in 2018 that has been criticised by a court in the United Kingdom, to the "attempted kidnap" of businessman-on-the-run Mehul Choksi from Antigua to Dominica by British nationals alleged to have been working for Indian agencies in 2021, and the conviction of eight former Indian naval officers in Qatar for espionage, which is now in appeal. While the extra-judicial military court trial against former Indian naval officer Kulbhushan Jadhav in Pakistan since 2016 has been challenged by India at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the fact that he was operating his business from Iran, a friendly neighbour, has no doubt been noted. Meanwhile, the circulation of a list of alleged operations against wanted Khalistani and Pakistani operatives not just in Pakistan but also in Nepal, Italy, the United Kingdom and Thailand, has been hailed in the media as proof of the Indian security establishment's global reach. It must be remembered that the government has so far not accepted that it ordered any of these operations, but is not averse to the larger narrative that security agencies have been "empowered" to carry them out.

It is in this context that the government must engage with the troubling questions thrown up by the latest allegations – by the U.S. of a conspiracy to murder Gurpatwant Singh Pannun in New York, that also indicates a link to the murder of Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada, and the direct allegation by Canada, made by its Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on the Nijjar killing. To begin with, the text of the American indictment unravels two conspiracies – one carried out by the Indian who has been indicted, Nikhil Gupta, who was allegedly directed by a senior government intelligence official, and the other carried out by



Suhasini Haidar

the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Drug Enforcement Administration, to entrap him by providing an undercover officer to him as the hitman. The fact that the U.S. government did not share all that it knew with India questions the claims made otherwise that the two countries have, between them, reached the pinnacle of security cooperation this year. To not have shared them even when Mr. Trudeau made his statement in Parliament might have spared New Delhi the blushes when the details of the U.S. indictment were published. Instead, despite two meetings between U.S. President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, four between Minister of External Affairs S. Jaishankar and U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, and several between National Security Adviser (NSA) Ajit Doval and his U.S. counterpart NSA Jake Sullivan, as well as Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Intelligence chiefs, the U.S. appears to have cautioned India, but not revealed the full extent of information it had gathered.

Trust is still an issue

For the U.S., it is also obvious that it does not trust the information India has shared on Mr. Pannun, Nijjar and the Khalistani separatist movement, and hence is more focused on the plot against them than it is on curbing their activities. For India, given India's deep concerns with Mr. Pannun's radical rhetoric, even broadcasting a threat against Air India flights, and threats to diplomats and embassies, the U.S.'s actions are a breach of trust.

The actions hark back to the nature of intelligence sharing in 2008, when the U.S. warned India about the impending 26/11 terror threat (November 2008 Mumbai attacks), but did not divulge that the source of the information was Lashkar-e-Taiba operative David Coleman Headley, who even re-entered India with another diabolical plan in 2009. After the U.S. arrested Headley, it entered a plea bargain, that meant the man who decided the targets and planned the attacks to precision could never be brought to justice in India, and the government was forced to take his testimony via video-camera for the trial.

What this indicates is that while bilateral ties and strategic ties are growing in different spheres, trust between both countries has not kept pace. While much commentary is focused in the short term on whether Mr. Biden will confirm his attendance at the Republic Day parade and the Quad summit (Australia, India, Japan and U.S.) in January, it is the impact on the longer arc of the relationship that both sides must focus on.

By extension, South Block must also look at the impact of its actions among western allies including the "Five Eyes" intelligence partnership (Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the U.K. and the U.S.). By rejecting Canadian allegations outright,

expelling diplomats and suspending visas, while accepting the U.S.'s allegations more calmly and setting up a high-level inquiry to investigate them, New Delhi has demonstrated a double standard in its international engagements. The difference between India's reactions to Khalistani protests, and the attempted firebombing of the San Francisco consulate, to protests in the U.K., Australia and Canada is also stark: while their envoys have been summoned and Mr. Modi has publicly raised the Khalistan issue and protection of Indian-origin minorities with their leaders, the government has been more discreet in its concerns with the U.S. Conversely, there is a well-recorded double standard from the West when it comes to extra-judicial covert operations and assassinations – the CIA, MI6 and Mossad have often eliminated those they see as a threat on foreign shores, while sanctioning Russia for the Skripal attacks, Saudi Arabia for the Khashoggi killing, and publicly shaming India over the alleged claims on Mr. Pannun and Nijjar, and all Five Eye nations including New Zealand have issued statements criticising India for its actions against Canada. While such double standards are as old as time, it is significant that they have not been whittled down by the significant strengthening of the India-U.S. relationship, billed as the "most consequential partnership of the century".

Impact on the neighbourhood

Further afield, India must address the impact of the case on the neighbourhood. Countries such as Sri Lanka and Bangladesh stood with India on the Canada issue, but as details of the U.S. indictment are revealed, South Asian capitals, and not just Islamabad, will be studying the footprint of Indian agencies in their countries as well. South Block and its embassies in the neighbourhood will have to go the extra mile to assure the neighbours, especially in Kathmandu, Dhaka, Male and Colombo, where reports about India's "hand" in domestic politics is often discussed in exaggerated tones.

Eventually, the lasting impact of the episode will lie in the image India wishes to project to the world – as a "hard power" that is willing to risk international ire and ties in pursuing those it considers a threat in any corner of the world in any manner it deems fit. Or that of an adherent to international law that builds its case through its diplomats, turning global opinion in its favour to achieve its ends, albeit at the risk of being seen as a "soft power". The Ministry of External Affairs has said categorically that covert, extra-judicial assassinations are not this government's policy and that the allegations will be investigated. A deeper investigation would reveal whether India's actions align with its values and interests.

The lasting impact of the episode of the American indictment against an Indian national will lie in the image India wishes to project to the world

CLIMATE JUSTICE IS A MUST, BUT SO IS MEETING GREEN TARGETS

ON the day Narendra Modi chastised the Global North for hypocrisy at COP28, India's national weather forecaster predicted a warmer winter ahead. This November has already been declared the warmest since 1901. It was a cold reminder of sorts for a country that has been made to bleed by extreme climatic events. So the prime minister's call for action based on climate justice, equality and shared responsibility was spot on. He said: "A small section of mankind has exploited nature indiscriminately. But the whole of humanity is paying its price, especially the residents of the Global South. This thinking of 'only my welfare' will take the world towards darkness." India's historical share in global carbon emissions over a century and a half is about 3.21 percent. In contrast, the UK's share in cumulative global emissions is 4.5 percent while the US accounts for over 29 percent.

There is little doubt that climate action must be a global effort, rather than developed nations adopting the position of high priests and leaving the developing countries to pay for their aspirations. After Russia's war in Ukraine started, rich countries were quick to fall back on coal and oil-based energy despite commitments to the contrary. Another marker of their double standards is the \$100-billion Green Climate Fund, which has failed to take off, as Modi pointed out in Dubai. Set up in 2009, it was to be funded by developed nations for helping developing nations move more towards renewable energy.

India's requirements necessitate the use of coal-fired energy to meet its development demands. The country plans to invest over ₹80,000 crore over the next five years to increase coal production to meet the demands of the world's largest population. But it needs to adopt caution at the same time. Climate change's impact on the economically-weaker sections and on infrastructure will only grow sharply if corrective measures are not taken in time. Adopting technology for reducing carbon emissions and doubling down on renewable energy commitments must take priority. Although India skipped the pledge by 110 nations to triple the global renewable energy installed capacity by 2030, it must not lose sight of its own target. India has taken a leadership position in the Global South and must ensure that it walks the talk—but without compromising on national interests.



ಮಹಾಮೇಳಾವ ನಡೆಸಲು ಅವಕಾಶ ಕೊಡುವುದು ಸಲ್ಲ

ಭಾಷಾವಾರು ಪ್ರಾಂತ್ಯ ರಚನೆಯಾದ ಮೇಲೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮತ್ತು ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ ಗಡಿ ನಿಗದಿಯಾಗಿ ಹೋಗಿದೆ. ಇದನ್ನು ಬದಲಿಸುವ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯ ಇರುವುದು ಸಂಸತ್ತಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ. ಇದು ಎಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ ತಿಳಿದಿರುವ ಸಂಗತಿ. ಹೀಗಿದ್ದೂ ಪ್ರತಿ ಬಾರಿ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆ ಅಧಿವೇಶನ ನಡೆದಾಗಲೂ ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದವರು ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆ ನಡೆಸುವುದನ್ನು ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಜನಬೆಂಬಲವಂತೂ ಇಲ್ಲವೇ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೂ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಗೆ ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆ ನಡೆಸುವುದನ್ನು ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಕೊನೆ ಹಾಡಲೇಬೇಕು. ಏನೇ ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆ ನಡೆಸಬೇಕಾದರೂ ಅವರು ತಮ್ಮ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಸಬಹುದು. ಶಾಸನಸಭೆ ಅಧಿವೇಶನ ಸಂವಿಧಾನಬದ್ಧವಾಗಿ ನಡೆಯುವುದರಿಂದ ಅದನ್ನು ವಿರೋಧಿಸಲು ಬರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಆಯಾ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆ ಅಧಿವೇಶನ ನಡೆಸುವುದು ಅಲ್ಲಿಯ ಶಾಸಕರ ತೀರ್ಮಾನ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೊಮ್ಮೆ ಅಧಿವೇಶನ ನಡೆಸುವ ಸಂಪ್ರದಾಯ ಮುಂದುವರಿದಿದೆ. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಅಡ್ಡಿಪಡಿಸುವುದು ಸಂವಿಧಾನವನ್ನು ವಿರೋಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ. ಜನಸಾಮಾನ್ಯರು ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆ ನಡೆಸುವುದು ತಮ್ಮ ಬೇಡಿಕೆಗಳ ಈಡೇರಿಕೆಗೆ ಹೊರತು ರಾಜ್ಯದ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಅಲ್ಲ. ಒಮ್ಮೆ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ಗಡಿ ತೀರ್ಮಾನವಾದ ಮೇಲೆ ಅದನ್ನು

ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ನಮಗೆ ಬೇಕೆಂದು
ಒತ್ತಾಯಿಸಿ ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆ ಸಭೆ
ನಡೆಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಿದ್ಧರಾಗಿದ್ದ
ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದವರಿಗೆ
ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿ
ಅನುಮತಿ ಕೊಡದೇ
ಅವರನ್ನು ಗಡಿಯಿಂದ
ಹೊರಹೋಗಬೇಕೆಂದು
ಹೇಳಿರುವುದು ಸರಿಯಾಗಿದೆ.
ಒಕ್ಕೂಟ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ
ಕಾಪಾಡುವುದು ಎಲ್ಲರ
ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ.

ರಸ್ತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಶ್ನಿಸಲು ಬರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದವರಿಗೆ ಏನಾದರೂ ಗಡಿ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಸತ್ತಿನ ಮುಂದೆ ಅವರ ಸಂಸದರ ಮೂಲಕ ಪ್ರಶ್ನಿಸಬೇಕು. ಇಲ್ಲವೆ ಸುಪ್ರೀಂ ಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಮೆಟ್ಟಿಲು ಹತ್ತಬೇಕು. ಅದನ್ನು ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಬೆಳಗಾವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಾವೇಶ ನಡೆಸಿದರೆ ಜನರ ನೆಮ್ಮದಿಕೆಡಿಸಬಹುದೇ ಹೊರತು ಉಪಯೋಗವೇನೂ ಆಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಿಂದೆ ಎಂಇಎಸ್ ಪಕ್ಷ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಚುನಾವಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಿಸುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಕೆಲವರು ಶಾಸನಸಭೆಗೆ ಚುನಾಯಿತರಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಬಜೆಟ್ ಅಧಿವೇಶನದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿಭಟಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಅವರು ಸೀಮಿತಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದರು. ಈಗ ಚುನಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಗೆಲುವು ದಕ್ಕಿ ಆಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪ್ರಭಾವ ಇಳಿಮುಖಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಈಗ ಜನಪ್ರಿಯತೆ ಬಹಿರಂಗ ಸಭೆಗೆ ಸೀಮಿತಗೊಂಡಿದೆ.

ಒಕ್ಕೂಟ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪಿಕೊಂಡ ಮೇಲೆ ಯಾರೂ ಯಾವ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದಾರೋ ಅಲ್ಲೇ ನೆಮ್ಮದಿಯ ಬದುಕು ಕಂಡುಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಇದೇ ತತ್ವದ ಮೇಲೆ ಹೊರನಾಡ ಕನ್ನಡಿಗರು ಯಾವ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದಾರೋ ಆ ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಹೊಂದಿಕೊಂಡು

ಬದುಕುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅದೇರೀತಿ ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದವರು ಬದುಕುವುದನ್ನು ಕಲಿಯುವುದು ಒಳಿತು. ಇಂದಿನ ಇಂಟರ್‌ನೆಟ್ ಯುಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾರೂ ಎಲ್ಲೆ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಬದುಕಬಹುದು. ಹಳ್ಳಿಯಲ್ಲಿದ್ದರೂ ಅವಕಾಶವಂಚಿತರಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಜ್ಞಾನಾಧರಿತ ವೃತ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಇನ್ನೂ ಅಧಿಕಗೊಳ್ಳಲಿದೆ. ಹೀಗಿರುವಾಗ ಗಡಿ ವಿವಾದ ಕೆಡುವುದು ಹಾಸ್ಯಾಸ್ಪದ. ಇಂದಿನ ಯುವ ಪೀಳಿಗೆ ಹೊಸ ಅವಕಾಶಗಳನ್ನು ಹುಡುಕಿಕೊಂಡು ದೇಶವಿದೇಶಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೋಗುತ್ತಿರುವಾಗ ಗಡಿ ವಿವಾದವನ್ನು ಕೆಡುವುದು ಬಾಲಿಶ ವರ್ತನೆ. ಭಾಷಾವಾರು ಪ್ರಾಂತ್ಯ ರಚನೆಯಾದ ಮೇಲೆ ಎಲ್ಲವೂ ಚೆನ್ನಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಲು ಬರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಾಗೆಂದು ಪ್ರತಿಭಟಿಸುತ್ತ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಎಂಬುದೇ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಇದನ್ನು ಅರಿತು ನಡೆಯುವುದು ವಿವೇಕ. ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದ ಪ್ರಜ್ಞಾವಂತ ಸಮುದಾಯ ಮಧ್ಯಪ್ರವೇಶಿಸಿ ಇಂಥ ವರ್ತನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಇತಿಶ್ರೀ ಹಾಡುವುದು ಅಗತ್ಯ. ಗಡಿ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಶಾಶ್ವತ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಇಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬುದು ಎಲ್ಲ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಪಕ್ಷಗಳಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿದಿದೆ. ಆದರೂ ಈ ಸತ್ಯವನ್ನು ಮುಚ್ಚಿಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಕಾವೇರಿ ವಿವಾದ ಬಂದಾಗ ನಮ್ಮಲ್ಲೇ ಬೇಕಾದಷ್ಟು ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆಗಳು ನಡೆದಿವೆ. ಕೆಲವು ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆಕಾರರು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗಡಿ ದಾಟಿ ಹೋಗಿಲ್ಲ. ತಮಿಳುನಾಡು ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆ ಅಧಿವೇಶನ ನಡೆದಾಗ ಎಂದೂ ನಾವು ಪ್ರತಿಭಟಿಸಿಲ್ಲ. ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಹೋರಾಟಕ್ಕೂ ತಾತ್ವಿಕ ನೆಲೆಗಟ್ಟಿರಬೇಕು. ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ ಗಡಿ ಹೋರಾಟ ಯಾವುದೇ ತಾತ್ವಿಕ ನೆಲೆಗಟ್ಟಿನ ಮೇಲೆ ನಿರೀತಿಲ್ಲ. ನಾವು ಬೆಳಗಾವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸುವರ್ಣ ಸೌಧ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿರುವುದೇ ಶಾಸನಸಭೆಯ ಅಧಿವೇಶನ ನಡೆಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಎಂಬುದು ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟ. ಅಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ಕಚೇರಿಗಳು ಸ್ಥಳಾಂತರಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಅಧಿಕಾರ ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ದೂರದ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಯಿಂದ ಜನ ತಮ್ಮ ಕೆಲಸಕ್ಕೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನವರೆಗೆ ಬಂದು ಹೋಗುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡಬಾರದು. ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜನ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಕಚೇರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ ಅಲೆಯುವುದನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪಿಸಬೇಕು. ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಎಲ್ಲ ನಿರ್ಧಾರಗಳು ಅಲ್ಲೇ ಅಗಬೇಕು. ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದ ಪರ ಕೂಗು ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. ಅರಾಜಕತೆಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ನೀಡಬಾರದು. ■



ದಂಡ ವಸೂಲಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಅಗತ್ಯ

ಟಾರ್ಗಟ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಗೆ ಬೀಳಲಿ ತಡೆ

ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ವಕೀಲರು-ಪೊಲೀಸರು ನಡುವಿನ ಸಂಘರ್ಷ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ಈಗ ಇಡೀ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಗಮನ ಸೆಳೆದಿದೆ. ದ್ವಿಚಕ್ರ ವಾಹನ ಸವಾರ ವಕೀಲರೊಬ್ಬರು ಹೆಲ್ಮೆಟ್ ಧರಿಸಲಿಲ್ಲ ಎನ್ನುವ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಶುರುವಾದ ಕಿತ್ತಾಟ ಅತಿರೇಕಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗಿ ಈಗ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ತಲೆಬಿಸಿಗೆ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಿದೆ. ತಮಗೆ ಅನ್ಯಾಯವಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಆರೋಪಿಸಿ ಎರಡೂ ಬಣದವರು ಪರಸ್ಪರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಬೀದಿಗಳಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ರಾತ್ರಿಯಿಡೀ ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆ ನಡೆಸಿ ಅಲವತ್ತುಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದೂ ಆಗಿದೆ. ಪ್ರಕರಣದ ಒಳಹೂರಣ ಏನೇ ಇರಲಿ; ಸಂಚಾರ ನಿಯಮ ಉಲ್ಲಂಘನೆಗೆ ದಂಡ ವಿಧಿಸುವ ಇಡೀ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಪುನರಾವಲೋಕನ ಮಾಡುವ ಅಗತ್ಯವನ್ನು ಮಾತ್ರ ಈ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ಎತ್ತಿತೋರಿಸಿದೆ. ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳ 10-15 ಕಡೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆಯಿಂದ



ರಾತ್ರಿವರೆಗೆ ನಿಲ್ಲುವ ಟ್ರಾಫಿಕ್ ಪೊಲೀಸರು ತಮಗೆ ನೀಡಿದ 'ಟಾರ್ಗಟ್' ತಲುಪುವವರೆಗೂ ವಿರಮಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಹೀಗೆ ದಂಡ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಆದಾಯ ಸಲ್ಲುತ್ತದೆ. ಹಣದ ಹಿಂದೆ ಬಿದ್ದ ಕೆಲವೇ ಕೆಲವು ಪೊಲೀಸರು ದಂಡದ ಬದಲು ಅರ್ಧಭಾಗ ಹಣ ವಸೂಲು ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಜೇಬಿಗಳಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಆರೋಪಗಳೂ ಇವೆ. ಆದರೆ, ವಾಸ್ತವದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವ

ಪೊಲೀಸರಿಗೂ ಹೀಗೆ ಬೀದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಂತು 'ವಸೂಲಿ' ಮಾಡುವ ಮನಸ್ಸಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಕೊಟ್ಟ ಗುರಿ ತಲುಪುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನದಲ್ಲಿ ಜನರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂಘರ್ಷ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯತೆ ತಮ್ಮದು ಎಂಬುದು ಪೊಲೀಸರ ಅಳಲು.

ಈ ದಂಡ ವಸೂಲಿಯ ಟಾರ್ಗಟ್ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಜನರ ಕಣ್ಣಿಗೆ ಪೊಲೀಸರು ವಿಲನ್‌ಗಳಂತೆ ಕಾಣುವ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯೂ ಕೆಲವೆಡೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣವಾಗಿದೆ. ವಾಹನ ದಟ್ಟಣೆಯ ರಸ್ತೆಗಳು, ಸರ್ಕಲ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಹನಗಳನ್ನು ಅಡ್ಡಗಟ್ಟಿ ದಂಡ ಕಟ್ಟಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ, ಕೇಸು ದಾಖಲಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಿಂದ ಟ್ರಾಫಿಕ್ ಜಾಮ್, ರಸ್ತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜಗಳಗಳು ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಇದೆಲ್ಲಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಪೊಲೀಸರಿಂದ ತಪ್ಪಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಭರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪಘಾತಗಳು ಸಂಭವಿಸಿ ವಾಹನ ಸವಾರರ ಜೀವಹಾನಿಯೂ ಆಗಿವೆ.

ಇಂತಹ ಕ್ಲಿಷ್ಟ ಕ್ರಮಗಳ ಬದಲಿಗೆ ಸಂಚಾರ ನಿಯಮಗಳ ಪಾಲನೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಜನರಲ್ಲಿ ಅರಿವು ಮೂಡಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಮೈಸೂರು, ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಅನೇಕ ನಗರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆಯಕಟ್ಟಿನ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳು, ಸಿಗ್ನಲ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಧಾರಿತ ಐಟಿಎಂಎಸ್ (ಇಂಟಿಗ್ರೇಟೆಡ್ ಟ್ರಾಫಿಕ್ ಮ್ಯಾನೇಜ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಸಿಸ್ಟಮ್) ತಂತ್ರಾಂಶದ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಂಚಾರ ನಿಯಮ ಉಲ್ಲಂಘಿಸುವ ವಾಹನಗಳ ಮಾಲೀಕರ ಮನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಚಲನ್ ಕಳಿಸುವ, ಎಸ್‌ಎಂಎಸ್, ಮೇಲ್ ಮೂಲಕವೂ ಚಲನ್ ಕಳಿಸುವ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತಂದ ಎರಡೂವರೆ ತಿಂಗಳಲ್ಲೇ ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ ನಗರವೊಂದರಲ್ಲೇ 1.52 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ದಂಡ ಸಂಗ್ರಹವಾಗಿದೆ. ನಿಯಮ ಉಲ್ಲಂಘನೆಯ ಪೋಟೊ ಸಮೇತ ರವಾನೆಯಾಗುವ ಈ ಚಲನ್‌ಗಳಿಂದಾಗಿ ವಾಹನ ಮಾಲೀಕರು ದಂಡ ಪಾವತಿಸಲೇಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಎಚ್ಚರಿಕೆಯೂ ರವಾನೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ವಕೀಲ-ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ನಡುವಿನ ಅಹಿತಕರ ಘಟನೆ ಮೂಲಕವಾದರೂ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ದಂಡ ವಸೂಲಿಯ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯನ್ನು ಸುಧಾರಿಸುವತ್ತ ಮನಸ್ಸು ಮಾಡಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಭವಿಷ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂತಹ ಘಟನೆಗಳು ಮರುಕಳಿಸದಂತೆ ಎಚ್ಚರ ವಹಿಸುವ ಅಗತ್ಯವೂ ಇದೆ.



ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳ ಎತ್ತಂಗಡಿ ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಕ್ರಮ ಕಾನೂನುಬಾಹಿರ

ನಗರವೊಂದರ ಸೌಂದರ್ಯವನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸುವ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೆತ್ತಿಕೊಂಡಾಗ, ಅಲ್ಲಿನ ಬಡ ವರ್ಗದವರು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಒಂದಿಷ್ಟು ತೊಂದರೆಗಳನ್ನು ಅನುಭವಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅದರಲ್ಲೂ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ, ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳು ತೊಂದರೆಗೆ ಒಳಗಾಗುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ ದೊಡ್ಡವರನ್ನು ಮುಟ್ಟುವ ಗೊಡವೆಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಸ್ಥರು ಹೋಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಇದೇ ಆಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ನಗರದ ಸೌಂದರ್ಯವನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸುವ ಕಾರ್ಯದ ಭಾಗವಾಗಿ, ಬೃಹತ್ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯು (ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ) ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಇದ್ದಕ್ಕಿದ್ದಂತೆ ತೆರವು ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಈ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾನೂನು ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಪಾಲನೆ ಆಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಈಚಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ರೀತಿ ತೆರವು ಮಾಡುವುದು ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದು ಈ ನಗರದ ಒಳಗೊಳ್ಳುವಿಕೆಯ ಕುರಿತಾಗಿ ಹಲವು ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮೂಡಿಸಿದೆ. ದಶಕಗಳಿಂದಲೂ ಈ ನಗರದ ಅವಿಭಾಜ್ಯ ಅಂಗವಾಗಿರುವ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹದೇವಪುರ, ಜಯನಗರ, ಬನಶಂಕರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರ ಹಲವು ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಿಂದ ಎತ್ತಂಗಡಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಪಾದಚಾರಿ ಮಾರ್ಗಗಳನ್ನು ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಅಂಗಡಿ ಮಾಲೀಕರು ಮತ್ತು ಕೆಲವು ಬಿಲ್ಡರ್‌ಗಳ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಂಡ



ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಕ್ರಮವು ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಆಶಯಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿರುದ್ಧವಾಗಿದೆ

ರಚಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆ ಕೈಗೊಂಡು, ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು. ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯು ವಾರ್ಡ್, ಪಟ್ಟಣ ಅಥವಾ ನಗರದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯ ಶೇಕಡ 2.5ರಷ್ಟಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿರಬಾರದು ಎಂದು ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ. ವಲಯವೊಂದರಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಗದಿತ ಪ್ರಮಾಣಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳು ಇದ್ದರೆ, ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಲಾಟರಿ ಮೂಲಕ ಅಕ್ಕಪಕ್ಕದ ವಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೆಲೆ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಿಕೊಡಬೇಕು. ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆಯು ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳ್ಳುವ ಮೊದಲು ಯಾರನ್ನೂ ತೆರವು ಮಾಡುವಂತೆ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಒಮ್ಮೆ ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆ ನಡೆದ ನಂತರದಲ್ಲಿ, ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಐದು ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಒಮ್ಮೆಯಾದರೂ ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆ ನಡೆಸಬೇಕು. ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಕೈಗೊಂಡ ತೀರ್ಮಾನವು ಯಾರಿಗಾದರೂ ತೃಪ್ತಿ ತರದಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ, ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಮೇಲ್ಮನವಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಕೂಡ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯು ಹೇಳಿದೆ. ಮೇಲ್ಮನವಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಯ ವಾದವನ್ನು ಆಲಿಸದೆ, ಆತನ ಅರ್ಜಿಯನ್ನು ಇತ್ಯರ್ಥಪಡಿಸಲು ಅವಕಾಶವಿಲ್ಲ. ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಇತರರು ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳನ್ನು ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು ಒಂದು ಪಿಡುಗು, ಇದು ಪಾದಚಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ತೊಂದರೆಗೆ ಸಿಲುಕಿಸುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂಬುದು ನಿಜ. ಆದರೆ ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿರುವ ಕ್ರಮವು ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಆಶಯಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿರುದ್ಧವಾಗಿರುವುದಷ್ಟೇ ಅಲ್ಲದೆ, ಮನಸೋಇಚ್ಛೆ ವರ್ತನೆಗೆ ಸಮನಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ವಿರೋಧಗಳು ಬಂದಾಗ ಅಭಿಯಾನಕ್ಕೆ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ತಡೆ ಬೀಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಇಷ್ಟೇ ಸಾಕಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಕ್ಕೆ ತರಬೇಕು. ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಹಾಕರ್‌ಗಳು ಸಮಾಜದ ದುರ್ಬಲ ವರ್ಗಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿದವರು. ಅವರಿಗೆ ಕೂಡ ಜೀವನೋಪಾಯ ಕಂಡುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಹಕ್ಕು ಇದೆ.

ನಿರ್ದರ್ಶನಗಳು ವಿರಳ. ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಸಾಂಕ್ರಾಮಿಕ ತೀವ್ರಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರವೇ ಇಲ್ಲದಂತಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಅವರು ಇನ್ನೂ ಪೂರ್ತಿಯಾಗಿ ಚೇತರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಅವರ ಜೀವನವು ಇನ್ನೂ ಹಳಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿಲ್ಲ. ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಅಲ್ಲಿಂದ ಎಬ್ಬಿಸುವ ಅಭಿಯಾನ ಶುರುಮಾಡುವ ಮೊದಲು ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ನೋಟಿಸ್ ಸಹ ನೀಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಪರವಾನಗಿ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೂಡ ಗುರಿಯಾಗಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಕೃತ್ಯವು ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಕಾನೂನುಬಾಹಿರ. ಏಕೆಂದರೆ ಇದು, ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳ (ಜೀವನೋಪಾಯದ ರಕ್ಷಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರದ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ) ಕಾಯ್ದೆ-2014ರ ಉಲ್ಲಂಘನೆ. ನಗರದ ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳನ್ನು ರಕ್ಷಿಸುವ ಹಾಗೂ ಬೀದಿಬದಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾನೂನಿನ ಚೌಕಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ತರುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತಂದಿರುವ ಈ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯು ಪ್ರತಿ ನಗರ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಕೂಡ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರ ಸಮಿತಿಯನ್ನು

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ

ಸಂಪಾದಕೀಯ

ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಸ್ವಾಸ್ಥ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಮಾರಕ

ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಸ್ವಾಸ್ಥ್ಯ ಉತ್ತಮವಾಗಿ ಇರಬೇಕು ಎಂದರೆ ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಶಾಂತಿ, ಸುವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ, ಸಾಮರಸ್ಯ, ಸೌಹಾರ್ದ, ಸಹಬಾಳ್ವೆಯಂಥ ಮೌಲ್ಯಗಳು ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿಯಾಗಿ ನೆಲೆಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಜನರು ಪರಸ್ಪರ ಪ್ರೀತಿ, ವಿಶ್ವಾಸ, ಬಾಂಧವ್ಯದ ವಾತಾವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಬದುಕಬೇಕು. ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಸರಿದಾರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಗಲು ಈ ಅಂಶಗಳೇ ಪೂರಕ. ಆದರೆ, ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ತದ್ವಿರುದ್ಧವಾದ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಗಳು ಸಂಭವಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಹಿಂಸಾಚಾರ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಹೊಸ ಬಗೆಯ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು ತಲೆಎತ್ತಿವೆ. ಕ್ಷುಲ್ಲಕ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೂ ಗಂಭೀರ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು ಘಟಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಮನುಷ್ಯನ ಜೀವಕ್ಕೆ ಬೆಲೆಯೇ ಇಲ್ಲದಂತಾಗಿದೆ. ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧದ ಲೋಕವಂತೂ ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು ಕರಾಳ. ಬಿಗಿಯಾದ ಕಾನೂನು, ಬಲಗೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಗುಪ್ತಚರ ಪಡೆ ಸೇರಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಿತ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳು, ವಿಭಾಗಗಳು ಕೆಲಸದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದರೂ, ಅಹಿತಕರ ಘಟನೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಏರಿಕೆ ಆಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಇದು ಅಪಾಯಕಾರಿ ಮನೋವೃತ್ತಿ. ಇದನ್ನು ತಡೆಯಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ನಾಗರಿಕ ಸಮಾಜದ ಸಾಮೂಹಿಕ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಅತ್ಯಗತ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ.



ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿರುವ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಕಳವಳಕಾರಿ

ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಅಪರಾಧ ದಾಖಲಾತಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ (ಎನ್ ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ) ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಿದ ವರದಿಯು ಬೆಚ್ಚಿಬೀಳಿಸುವ ಅನೇಕ ಸಂಗತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಅತೀ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವ ನಗರವೆನಿಸಿದ್ದರೆ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎರಡನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 52,974 ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧ

ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 65,893 ಕೇಸ್ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಭಾರಿ ಏರಿಕೆ ಕಂಡಿರುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ನಿದರ್ಶನ. ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ 28,522 ಕೊಲೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ನಡೆದಿದ್ದು, ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ ಸರಾಸರಿ 78 ಕೊಲೆಗಳು ಅಥವಾ ಪ್ರತಿ ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಮೂರಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಕೊಲೆಗಳು ವರದಿಯಾಗುತ್ತಿವೆ ಎಂದು ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ ತನ್ನ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಹಿರಂಗಪಡಿಸಿದೆ. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮೇಲೆ ನಡೆದ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 4.45 ಲಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೂ ಅಧಿಕ. ಕೊಲೆಯ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು (2,930) ಉತ್ತರಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡುಬಂದಿದ್ದರೆ, ಕಡಿಮೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು (9) ಸಿಕ್ಕಿಂನಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಎಫ್‌ಐಆರ್ ದಾಖಲು, ತಪ್ಪಿತಸ್ಥರಿಗೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಕೂಡ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿಯೂ, ಕುಕೃತ್ಯಗಳ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ.

ಕೊಲೆ, ಕೊಲೆಯತ್ನ, ಹಲ್ಲೆ, ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಅಪರಾಧ, ಸೈಬರ್ ಕ್ರೈಂ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಬಹುತೇಕ ಎಲ್ಲ ಬಗೆಯ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ವರ್ಷದಿಂದ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ತೀವ್ರ ಕಳವಳದ ಸಂಗತಿ. ಇದನ್ನು ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ಆಯಾ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳು ಗಂಭೀರವಾಗಿ ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಿ, ಈ ಬಗೆಯ ಕುಕೃತ್ಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಡಿವಾಣ ಹಾಕಲು ಹೊಸ ಯೋಜನೆ, ಕಾರ್ಯತಂತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ. ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ, ಇಂಥ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ನಡುವೆ ಸಮನ್ವಯ ಮತ್ತು ಸಹಕಾರ ಅಗತ್ಯ. ಅಪರಾಧಿಗಳ ಹೆಡೆಮುರಿ ಕಟ್ಟುವ, ಅಹಿತಕರ ಘಟನೆಗಳನ್ನು ತಡೆಯುವ ಕೆಲಸಗಳು ಹಿಂದೆದಿಗಿಂತ ವೇಗ ಪಡೆಯಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದು ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟ.



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