



# Society and Economy of Karnataka in News

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## AGRICULTURE

# Groundwater level better as extraction decreases, says report

**17 taluks tagged for salinity, 14 for fluoride**

NEW DELHI, DHNS

**E**xtraction of groundwater has decreased in Karnataka in 2023 compared to last year, says a latest report on status of ground water, prepared by the Central government.

"The groundwater extraction has decreased from 69.93% in 2022 to 66.26% in 2023 indicating improvement in overall groundwater scenario," said the report titled 'Dynamic Ground Water Resources of India-2023'.

As compared to 2022, in 17 assessment units (taluks), groundwater situation has improved mainly due to in-



crease in rainfall and recharge from other sources, whereas 1 assessment unit has seen deterioration due to reduction in rainfall recharge, the report prepared by the Central Ground Water Board, in the Jal Shakti Ministry, said.

The groundwater quality tagging has also been done during the survey. A total of 17 taluks have been tagged for salinity and 14 taluks for fluoride. The report said that the annual groundwater recharge has been assessed as 18.93 bcm (billion cubic me-

tre) and the annual extractable groundwater resource 17.08 bcm. The present annual groundwater extraction was 11.32 bcm and the stage of ground water extraction was 66.26% in the state, the report, which was released on Friday by Union Minister for Jal Shakti Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, said.

Out of the 234 assessment units, 44 units (18.8%) have been categorized as 'over exploited', 12 units (5.13 %) as 'critical', and 32 units (13.68 %) as 'semi critical' and 146 units (62.39 %) have been categorized as 'safe', said the report.

As compared to 2022 assessment, there was an increase in annual groundwater recharge from 17.74 bcm to 18.93 bcm, Annual extractable groundwater resources from 16.04 bcm to 17.08 bcm. This is mainly due to an increase in rainfall recharge, recharge from surface water irrigation, water conservation structures and from tanks and ponds, said the report.

**Source: Deccan Herald, p.4, Dec.2, 2023**



[illegible][illegible]

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಿಂದ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶನಕ್ಕೆ ಆಯ್ಕೆಗೊಂಡ ಸಾಹಿತ್ಯಕ ಕೃತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ.

**ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದ ಯೋಜನೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯಿದೆ ಎ? »**

**ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಪ್ರವರ**

**ಒಳಗೊಳ್ಳುವ ಪಕ್ಷಗಳು**  
 ಕೋಟಾಯಂ, ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಮಾಲ್, ಬೇಗಲೂರು  
 ಕ್ಕಾಡುಮಲ, ರಾಜಾಪುರ, ಕುರುಮಲೂರು  
 ಪಾಂಡಿ, ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಮಾಲ್

<p>ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕೃಷಿ ಪ್ರಶಾಸನ</p> <p><b>24.01</b></p> <p>ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು</p>	<p>ಎಸ್. ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್.</p> <p>ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು</p> <p>6 ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್.</p> <p>527 ಕೆ.ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್.</p>
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<p>ಅವಕಾಶವಿಲ್ಲದ ಅವಕಾಶವಿಲ್ಲದ ವಿವರ</p> <p>12,912</p>	<p>ಅವಕಾಶವಿಲ್ಲದ ಅವಕಾಶವಿಲ್ಲದ ವಿವರ</p> <p>23,251.66</p> <p>ಕೆ.ಎ.ಎ.ಎ.</p>
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<p><b>சார்பு</b> <b>ஆய்வுகள்</b> சீர்தரம், சீர்தரம்</p>	<p><b>சார்பு</b> <b>ஆய்வுகள்</b> சீர்தரம், சீர்தரம்</p>
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**ನೀವೂ ಬರೆಯಬಹುದು**

applied them from my life  
teaching. Let's say you're  
teaching Shakespeare. In class  
they're not understanding what  
Shakespeare is saying.  
You're at a loss. In a pinch, try  
this. Start over.

☎ 836642240

ಮೂರು ಸಮಾಧಾನ

- ಕೆಲವು ಅನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿತವಾದ್ದು ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟವಾದ ಕಾರ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಪರಿವರ್ತನೆಯಾಗಿದೆ.
- ಅದ್ವೈತವು ಯಾವ ನಿಜವು ಅನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿತವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆಯೋ, ಅದ್ವೈತವೇ

- ಭೂಮಧ್ಯರೇಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಹಿಮಾಲಯದ ಪಶ್ಚಿಮಕ್ಕೆ, ಇಂಡೊ-ಆಸಿಯಾದ ಉತ್ತರ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿದೆ.

**ఒండప్పు సమాచారం**

- ಎತ್ತರದೊಳಗೆ ಬಿಡುಬಿಡಾಗಿ  
ನೀರಿನಿಂದ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪದೇ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಬೇಕಾದ  
ಕೌಶಲ್ಯವೂ ಅದೇಷ್ಟು. ಬೇಕಾದುದಾಗಿ  
ಬದುಕಿನೇ ಪುಣ್ಯವು.
- ಅದರೇ, ಇದಿಷ್ಟೇ ಅದರೇ ಮಾಯವು.  
ಮೋಗುವುದರೇ ತಿರುಗು  
ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯವೆಂದೇ ಎತ್ತರ ನೋಡು

- ein **Zeichensatz** (Kodierung) erstellt, der die Zeichen in der Datei darstellt

- **అండ్, ఇంటర్నెట్ సెక్షన్ల** కి ప్రారంభించి, అందు మీద మీరు చేసినట్లుగా,
- **అండ్ ద్వారా మీరు చేసినట్లు** అందు మీద మీరు చేసినట్లుగా, అందు మీద మీరు చేసినట్లుగా.

# ‘Lack of superior fodder affecting India’s milk productivity’

India ranks first in the world in animal population and milk production. However, India's average milk productivity is lower than the world's average, which is a matter of concern. The main reasons are lack of su-

Speaking after inaugurating an international conference on Saturday on 'Feeding the future through sustainable, eco-friendly innovations in rangeland, for-

**Source: The Hindu, p.4, Dec. 3, 2023**

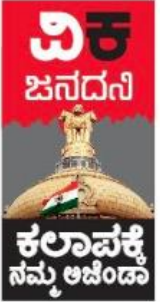
ಅತ್ಯುತ್ತಮ ತಳಿಯ ಭತ್ತ ಬೆಳೆದರೂ, ಕಾವೇರಿ, ಕೃಷ್ಣಾ, ತುಂಗ ಕೊಳ್ಳದ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಸಂಕಷ್ಟ ತಪ್ಪಿಲ್ಲ  
ಮಂಡಳಿ ಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಅನ್ನದಾತರ ಕೂಗನ್ನು ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಅಧಿವೇಶನ ಇನ್ನಾದರೂ ಆಲಿಸಲಿ

# ಬೇಕಿದೆ ಭತ್ತ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ

■ ಶ್ರೀಕಾಂತ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ

shreekantha.akkil@timesgroup.com

ತುಂಗ, ಮೇಣಸು, ಕಾಳು, ಬೇಳೆಗೂ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಮಂಡಳಿ ರಚಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಉಟ, ಉಪಾಹಾರ, ತಿಂಡಿ, ತಿನಿಸು ತಯಾರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ.80ರಷ್ಟು ಪಾಲು ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಭತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಯಾಕಿಲ್ಲ? ಇದರ ರಚನೆಗೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಸರಕಾರ ಮುಂದಾಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ



ನಾಟಿಯಿಂದ 'ಹಿಡಿದು ಕೊಯ್ದು ಹಂತದವರೆಗೆ ಭತ್ತದ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರು, ಸಾವಿರಾರು ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಖರ್ಚು ಮಾಡಿ ಉತ್ತಮ ಇಳುವರಿಯ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆಕಾಲಿಕ ಮಳೆ, ನೀರಿನ ಕೊರತೆ, ರೋಗ ಸೇರಿ ನಾನಾ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದ ಭತ್ತದ ಇಳುವರಿ ಕೈಕೊಟ್ಟು ಹಲವು ಬಾರಿ ಸಂಕಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಸಿಲುಕುವುದು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ. ಇಂತಹ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಿಂದ ರೈತರನ್ನು ಪಾರುಮಾಡಲು ಭತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಮಂಡಳಿ ರಚನೆಯೊಂದೇ ರಹಸ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ. ಮಂಡಳಿ ರಚನೆಯಾದರೆ, ಭತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಮನ್ನಾಣೆ ಸಿಗಲಿದೆ. ವೈಜ್ಞಾನಿಕ ಬೆಂಬಲ ಬೆಲೆ ದೊರೆಯುವುದರಿಂದ ಮುಕ್ತ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯ ಬೆಲೆಯ ಏರಿಳಿತಕ್ಕೆ ಕಡಿವಾಣ ಬೀಳಲಿದೆ. ಸದಾ ನಷ್ಟದ ಭೀತಿ ಎದುರಿಸುವ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರು, ಮಂಡಳಿ ರಚನೆಯಿಂದ ನೆಮ್ಮದಿಯ ಬಾಳು ನಡೆಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗಲಿದೆ.

ರೈಸ್ ಮಿಲ್ ಗಳು, ನೆರೆಹೊರೆಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ಭತ್ತವನ್ನೇ ಕಾಯಬೇಕಾದ ದುಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಿದೆ. ಇಂತಹ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳ ಪರಿಹಾರಕ್ಕೆ 'ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಭತ್ತ ಮಂಡಳಿ' ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಕೂಗು ಹಿಂದಿನಿಂದಲೂ



## ತುಂಗಿಯ ಅನ್ನವೇ ಅನ್ನ

ಭತ್ತದ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ, ದೇಶದಲ್ಲೇ ಮೊದಲ ಮೂರು ಸ್ಥಾನಗಳಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 2000-01 ರಿಂದ 2014-15 ರವರೆಗೆ ಸರಾಸರಿ 13 ಲಕ್ಷ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್‌ನಿಂದ 15.14 ಲಕ್ಷ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್‌ವರೆಗೆ ಭತ್ತ ಬೆಳೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸೋನಾ ಮಸೂರಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿಯ ರುಚಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ತುಂಗಭದ್ರಾ ಅಚ್ಚುಕಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರದೇಶವೇ ಸೂಕ್ತ. ಸಾವಿರಾರು ತೆಳೆಗಳ ಭತ್ತದ ಮಧ್ಯೆಯೂ ತುಂಗಭದ್ರಾ ಅಚ್ಚುಕಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಭತ್ತದ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ ಹಾಗೂ ರುಚಿಗೆ ಬೇರೆ ಭತ್ತದ ತೆಳೆಗಳು ಸಾಟಿಯಲ್ಲ. ತುಂಗಭದ್ರಾ ನದಿಯ ನೀರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಡಗಿರುವ ಕಬ್ಬಿಣಾಂಶವೂ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾರಣ ಎಂಬುದು ತಜ್ಞರ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ.

● ಭತ್ತ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರು ಕೃಷಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಡೆಕೆಯಿಂದ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯವರೆಗೂ ನಾನಾ ರೀತಿಯ ಸವಾಲುಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಿಲುಕಿ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಸಂಕಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಸಿಲುಕಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ ಮಾಡಿದಾಗ ಮಾತ್ರ ಭತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ ಉತ್ತಮ ಹಾಗೂ ವೈಜ್ಞಾನಿಕ ಬೆಲೆ ಸಿಗುತ್ತದೆ. -ಅಗರೆಪ್ಪ ರೈತ ಕೊಟ್ಟೇಕಲ್, ಕಾರಟಗಿ

ಕೇಳಿಬಂದಿದೆ. ಮಂಡಳಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಯಿಂದ ಸರಕಾರ, ಭತ್ತ ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ರೈತರ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗೆ ಸಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಸ್ಪಂದಿಸಲು ನೆರವಾಗಲಿದೆ. ವೈಜ್ಞಾನಿಕವಾಗಿ ಬೆಂಬಲ ಬೆಲೆ ದೊರೆಯುವುದರಿಂದ ಭತ್ತದ ದರ ಏರಿಳಿತಕ್ಕೆ ಕಡಿವಾಣ ಬೀಳಲಿದೆ. ಸದಾ ನಷ್ಟದ ಭೀತಿ ಎದುರಿಸುವ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರು ನೆಮ್ಮದಿಯ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಿಂದ ಬಿಡಲಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಭತ್ತದ ಮೌಲ್ಯ ವರ್ಧನೆಗೂ ಅನುಕೂಲವಾಗಲಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 2000-01 ರಿಂದ 2014-2015

ರವರೆಗೆ 35.61 ಲಕ್ಷ ಟನ್‌ನಿಂದ 66.66 ಲಕ್ಷ ಟನ್ ವರೆಗೆ ಭತ್ತದ ಇಳುವರಿ ಬಂದಿದೆ.

2023-24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಒಟ್ಟು 14.55 ಲಕ್ಷ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಭತ್ತ ನಾಟಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಪ್ರಮುಖವಾಗಿ ಗಂಗಾವತಿ ಸೋನಾ, ಗಂಗಾ ಕಾವೇರಿ, ಎಂಟಿಯು 1001, 1010, ಜ್ಯೋತಿ, ಆರ್ ಎನ್ ಆರ್ ಸೇರಿ ನಾನಾ ತಳಿ ಭತ್ತ ನಾಟಿಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

## ಭತ್ತದ ಸೀಮೆ ಇದು..

- ಕೊಳ್ಳಗಳು: ತುಂಗಭದ್ರಾ, ಕೃಷ್ಣಾ, ಕಾವೇರಿ
- ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳು: 18, ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರು: 20 ಲಕ್ಷ
- ವರ್ಷದ ಫಸಲು: ಸರಾಸರಿ 53 ಲಕ್ಷ ಟನ್
- ನಿರಾವರಿ ಭೂ ಪಾಲು: ಶೇ.70
- ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಬೆಳೆ ಪ್ರದೇಶ: 12 ಲಕ್ಷ ಎಕರೆ
- ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರತ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಗಿರಣಿ: 2 ಸಾವಿರ

## ನಿಮಗೆ ಗೊತ್ತಿರಲಿ

ಏಷ್ಯಾದ ಶೇ.70ರಷ್ಟು ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಭಾರತದ ಶೇ.90ರಷ್ಟು ಜನ ಭತ್ತವನ್ನು ಒಂದಿಲ್ಲೊಂದು ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹಾರವಾಗಿ ಬಳಸುತ್ತಾರೆ.

● ಭತ್ತ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರ ಹಿತ ರಕ್ಷಣೆಗೆ ಭತ್ತ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಅವಶ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಕುರಿತು ಸದನದಲ್ಲಿ ಸರಕಾರದ ಗಮನ ಸೆಳೆಯುವ.

-ಜಿ.ಜನಾರ್ದನ್ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಶಾಸಕರು, ಗಂಗಾವತಿ

● ತುಂಗಭದ್ರಾ ಜಲಾನಯನ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಎಲ್ಲ ಭಾಗದ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರು ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಅನುಭವಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಈ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ನಿವಾರಣೆಗೆ ನಿಗಮ ಮಂಡಳಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ ಕುರಿತು ಸರಕಾರದ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ತರುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವೆ.

-ರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರ ಹಿಟ್ಟಾಳ್ ಶಾಸಕರು, ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ

Source: Vijayakarnataka, p.6, Dec. 3, 2023



# ಜೋಳದ ದರ ದುಪ್ಪಟ್ಟು ಏರಿಕೆ; ಪಡಿತರದಾರರಿಗೆ ಬಂದ್ | ರಾಗಿಯ ಬೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲೂ ಏರಿಕೆ ಸೋನಾಮಸೂರಿಗಿಂತ ದುಬಾರಿ; ರುಚಿಕೆಟ್ಟ ಮುದ್ದೆ, ರೊಟ್ಟಿ!

ನಿ ಹೊವಣಿ ಎ ಎಚ್ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗ ಸೋನಾಮಸೂರಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿಗಿಂತ ಬಿಳಿ ಜೋಳ ಹಾಗೂ ರಾಗಿ ದುಬಾರಿಯಾಗಿವೆ. ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿಯ ಅರ್ಧದ ಬೆಲೆಗೆ ಜೋಳ ಸಿಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ ಅದೀಗ ಸುಳ್ಯಗಿದ್ದು ದರಿದ್ರರಾಗಿ ರೊಟ್ಟಿ ಮುದ್ದೆ ಪ್ರಿಯರು ಸಂಕಟ ಅನುಭವಿಸುವಂತಾಗಿದೆ.

ಪಡಿತರದಾರರಿಗೆ ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ಜೋಳವೂ ವಿತರಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ ಈ ಬಾರಿ ಜೋಳ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ಇರದ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜೋಳ ವಿತರಣೆ ಬಂದ್ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದರ ಬದಲಿಗೆ ಅಕ್ಕಿಯನ್ನೇ ವಿತರಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ವರ್ಷದ ಆರಂಭದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಮತ್ತು ಬಾಸಿಲ್ ಜೋಳದ ಸಗಟು ದರ ಕ್ರಿಟಿಕ್‌ಗೆ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ 3 ಸಾವಿರದಿಂದ ಗುಪ್ತ 4500 ರು. ಇತ್ತು. ಈಗ ಅದು ದುಪ್ಪಟ್ಟಿದ್ದು, 6000-8000 ರು.ಗೆ ಮುಟ್ಟಿದೆ. ಚಿಲ್ಲರೆ ದರ ಮಧ್ಯಮ ದರ್ಜೆ ಜೋಳ 60-65 ರು. ಇನ್ನು ಉತ್ತಮ ದರ್ಜೆ 85-86 ರು. ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಜೋಳದ ಬೆಲೆಗೆ ಉತ್ಪಾದಕರಾದ ಬುಲೆಟ್, ಕೊಲ್ಲೂರು ಅಕ್ಕಿಯನ್ನೇ ಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದು. ಸಗಟು ಕೆಜಿ ಕೊಲ್ಲೂರು ರೈಸ್ 68-72 ರು. ಇದೆ. ಇನ್ನು ಉತ್ತಮ ದರ್ಜೆಯ ಸೋನಾಮಸೂರಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿ 58-62 ರು. ಇದೆ.

ಈ ವರ್ಷ ಹಿಂಗಾರು ಮಳೆ ಇಲ್ಲದೆ ಬೆಳೆ ಇಲ್ಲ,



ಸಮಗ್ರ ರೊಟ್ಟಿ ಉಣ್ಣೆ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಳೆದ 8-9 ತಿಂಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಸರಾಸರಿ ಜೋಳ ಕೆಜಿಗೆ 50 ರು.ಗೆ ಇತ್ತು. ಈಗ 65 ರು. ತಲುಪಿದೆ. ಉತ್ತಮ ಜೋಳಕ್ಕೆ 85 ರು. ಹೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇನ್ನೂ ಬೆಲೆ ಏರಿಕೆ ಆಗಬಹುದು ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಹಿಂಗಾರದ ಸಮಂಥ ಬಡವರು ಜೀವನ ಸಾಗಿಸುವುದು ಹೇಗೆ ಎಂಬುದೇ ಚಿಂತೆಯಾಗಿದೆ.

-ಮೋನಿ, ರಾಯಚೂರು ಗೌರಿ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ

ಇನ್ನೊಂದೆಡೆ ಬೆಲೆ ಇದ್ದರೂ ದರ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳದ ಲಾಭ ಆತ್ಮ ಬೆಳೆದವರಿಗೂ ಸಿಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಾಗೆಂದ ಇತ್ತ ರೊಟ್ಟಿ ಪ್ರಿಯರಿಗೂ ಸಿಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ

ಬಹುತೇಕ ರೈತರು ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಬೆಳೆಗಳತ್ತ ಮುಖ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಜೋಳ ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಬದಲು ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಬೆಳೆಗಳಾದ ತೊಗರಿ, ಉದ್ದು ಹೆಸರು, ಹತ್ತಿ ಬೆಳೆಯುತ್ತ ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೋರಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 70 ಜೋಳದ ಬೆಳೆ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದು ಬೆಳೆ ಏರಿಕೆಗೆ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಿದೆ.

ವಿಜಯಪುರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಎಕಿಎಂಸಿ ಜೋಳದ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿ

ಹಂಗಾಮಿನಲ್ಲಿ 2,50,000 ರಿಂದ 3 ಸಾವಿರ ರು.ಗೆ ಕ್ರಿಟಿಕ್‌ಗೆ ಜೋಳ ಮಾರಾಟವಾಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ, ಈ ಬಾರಿ ದುಪ್ಪಟ್ಟಾಗಿದೆ. ಬಹುತೇಕ ಹಿಂಗಾರು ಬೆಳೆಯಾಗಿ ಜೋಳವನ್ನು ರೈತರು ಬೆಳೆಯುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಗೆ ಜೋಳದ ಆವಕ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದರಿಂದ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ಇಟ್ಟ ರೈತರು ಮಾತ್ರ ಮಾರಾಟಕ್ಕೆಗೆ ತರುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಎಕಿಎಂಸಿಗೆ ಬಿಳಿ ಜೋಳದ ಆವಕ ಶೇ. 60 ರಷ್ಟು ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿ ರುವುದೇ ಬೆಲೆ ಏರಿಕೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಕಾರಣ ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ವಿಜಯಪುರದ ರೈತ ಧಾನ್ಯ ಬಿರಾದಾರ.

ಕುಟುಂಬ ಬೆಳೆ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ: ಹುತೇಕ ರೈತರು ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಬೆಳೆಗಳತ್ತ ಮುಖ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದು ಜೋಳ ಬೆಳೆಯಲು ಹಿಂದೇಟು ಹಾಕುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಜೋಳಕ್ಕಿಂತಲೂ ತೊಗರಿ, ಉದ್ದು, ಹೆಸರು, ಹತ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲಾಭ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಎಂಬ

## ರಾಗಿಯೂ ಆಗಿದೆ ದುಬಾರಿ

ಉತ್ತರಕರ್ನಾಟಕದವರಿಗೆ ರೊಟ್ಟಿ ಉಣ್ಣೆ ಪ್ರಮುಖವಾದರೆ ಹಳೇ ಮೈಸೂರು ಭಾಗದ ಜನರಿಗೆ ಮುದ್ದೆ ಉಣ್ಣೆ ಪ್ರಮುಖವಾದುದು. ರಾಗಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಕೂಡ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ದರದ ಹತ್ತಿರಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ರಾಗಿ ಸಗಟು ದರ ಕ್ರಿಟಿಕ್‌ಗೆ ಕಳೆದ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ 2900-3200 ರು. ಇತ್ತು. ಅದು ಈ ವರ್ಷ 3900-4500 ರು.ಗೆ ಮಾರಾಟವಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಚಿಲ್ಲರೆ ದರ 50-55 ರು.ಗೆ ಮಾರಾಟವಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ರೊಟ್ಟಿ ಪ್ರಿಯರಿಗೆ ಮುದ್ದೆ ಮುದ್ದೆ ಪ್ರಿಯರಿಗೆ ಹಾಳೆ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದೆ.

ಬತ್ತಿನ ಕುಟುಂಬ: ಈ ಬಾರಿ ಜೋಳ, ಬಾದಾಮಿ ಸಾಧಾರಣ ಮಳೆಯಾದರೆ ಆಗಸ್ಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಳೆ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ಇಲ್ಲವೇ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್‌ನಲ್ಲೂ ಇದೆ ಕಥೆ. ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್ ತಿಂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ.80ರಷ್ಟು

ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ರೈತರಲ್ಲಿ ಮೂಡಿದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ಜೋಳ ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ಜೋಳದ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರು.

ಜೋಳ ಹಿಂಗಾರು ಬೆಳೆ ಆಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಈಗ ಬತ್ತಿನ ಆರಂಭವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಬಹುತೇಕ ರೈತರು ಮನೆಗೆ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿರುವಷ್ಟು ಮಾತ್ರ ಜೋಳ ಬತ್ತಿನ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಜೋಳ ಹಾಕಿದರೆ ಬತ್ತಿನ ಬಿರ್ಚು,

ಮಳೆ ಕೊರತೆಯಾದ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ರಾಗಿ ಬತ್ತಿನ ಶೇ. 50 ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಹಲವು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 40 ಸಾವಿರ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇ ಪ್ರದೇಶಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ರಾಗಿ ಬೆಳೆ ಮಳೆ ಕೊರತೆಗೆ ಬಲಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ವರ್ಷ ಮಳೆ ಕೊರತೆಯಿಂದ ರಾಗಿ ಪಸಲು ಕ್ಷೀಣಿಸಿದೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿದೆ. ಪರಿಣಾಮ ರಾಗಿ ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಲ್ಲೇ ಮಾರಾಟವಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಈ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಗೆ ರಾಗಿ ಪೂರೈಕೆ ಶೇ. 60. ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದು ರಾಗಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಏರಿಕೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಿದೆ ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ಎಕಿಎಂಸಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಸಗಟು ರಾಗಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿ ಧರ್ಮರಾಜ್.

ಕಾಮಗಾರ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಟಾವಿನ ಬಿರ್ಚು ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಗೂಡು ಹಾಕಿ, ತೆನೆ ಕತ್ತರಿಸಬೇಕು. ಬಳಿಕ ಮುಷ್ಕಿಗೆ ಹಾಕಬೇಕು...ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣೆ ಕೆಲಸವೂ ದುಬಾರಿ. ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಕ್ರಿಟಿಕ್‌ಗೆ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ 4 ರಿಂದ 5 ಸಾವಿರ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ 3 ರಿಂದ 4 ಸಾವಿರ ರು ಕೈಬಿಟ್ಟು ಹೋಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಜೋಳ ಬೆಳೆಯಲು ಹಿಂದೇಟು ಹಾಕಿದ್ದೇವೆ ಎಂದು ಹಾವೇರಿ ರೈತ ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ.

Source: Vishwavani, p.13, Dec. 6, 2023

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ

## ‘ಬರದ ಭಯ’, ಮೇವು ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ಬೀಜಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಯ್ತು ಬೇಡಿಕೆ | 20-25 ವಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಬೇಕಾಗುವಷ್ಟು ಮಾತ್ರ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ಪಶು ಆಹಾರ ದುಬಾರಿ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಹಸಿರು ಮೇವು ಹೊರೆ

■ ವಿಲಾಸ ಮೇಲಿಗಿರಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ರಾಜ್ಯದ 223 ತಾಲೂಕುಗಳನ್ನು ಬರವೇಡಿತ ಎಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಘೋಷಣೆ ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರಿನ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ತಲೆದೋರುತ್ತಿದೆ. ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಕ್ಷಾಮ ಎದುರಾಗಿದೆ. ಸದ್ಯದ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾನುವಾರುಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೇವಿನ ಕೊರತೆ ಇಲ್ಲದೆ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಮುಂದೆ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಎದುರಾಗಬಹುದೆಂದು ರೈತರು ಅತಂಕಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಪರಿಣಾಮ, ಜಾನುವಾರುಗಳಿಗೆ, ತುಮಕೂರು, ಗದಗ, ಹಾವೇರಿ ಸೇರಿ ಅನೇಕ ಕಡೆ ರೈತರು ಜಾನುವಾರುಗಳನ್ನು ಕಡಿಮೆ ದರಕ್ಕೆ ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಮಾರು 20ರಿಂದ 25 ತಿಂಗಳಿಗಾಗುವಷ್ಟು ಮೇವು ರೈತರ ಬಳಿ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ, ಹಿಂಗಾರು ಕಟಾವು ಈಗ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಮೆಕ್ಕೆಜೋಳ ಕಟಾವಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ರಾಗಿ ಕಟಾವು ನಡೆದಿದೆ. ಭತ್ತದ ಕೊಯ್ಲು ಕೂಡ ಶುರುವಾಗಿದೆ. ಅನೇಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹಿಂಗಾರು ಜೋಳ, ಗೋಧಿ, ಕಡಲೆ ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದೆ. ನೀರಾವರಿ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲವು ಕಡೆ ಅಲಸಂದೆ ಬೆಳೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ ಮೇವಿನ ಕೊರತೆ ಉಂಟಾಗದು. ರೈತರು ಅತಂಕಪಡುವ ಆಗತ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಪಶು ಸಂಗೋಪನಾ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಉನ್ನತಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ.

5 ಲಕ್ಷ ಮೇವು ಬೀಜದ ಕಿಟ್: ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಿಂದೆಲ್ಲ ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ 1ರಿಂದ 2 ಲಕ್ಷ ಮೇವಿನ ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ಬೀಜದ ಕಿಟ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ವಿತರಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. 2023-24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ 5 ಲಕ್ಷ ಮೇವಿನ ಬೀಜದ ಕಿಟ್ ವಿತರಿಸಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಸಜ್ಜಾಗಿದೆ. ಈಗಾಗಲೇ 2 ಲಕ್ಷ ಕಿಟ್ ವಿತರಿಸಿದೆ. ಇನ್ನು 15 ದಿನದಲ್ಲಿ 3 ಲಕ್ಷ ಕಿಟ್ ವಿತರಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಒಳಗೊಂಡಂತೆ ಅನೇಕ ಕಡೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮೇವು ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ಬೀಜದ ಕಿಟ್ ಗೆ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಒಟ್ಟು ರೈತರಿಗೆ 1-2 ಕಿಟ್ ವಿತರಿಸಲಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಬೀಜ ಬೇಕಾದಲ್ಲಿ ರೈತರು ಮುಕ್ತ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಖರೀದಿಸಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.



## ಹಸಿರು ಬರ, ಮೇವಿಗೆ ವರ

ಮೊದಲೆಲ್ಲ ಬರ ಬಂದರೆ ಇಡೀ ಬೆಳೆಯೇ ಒಣಗಿ ಹೋಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಈ ಬಾರಿ ಆಕಾಲಿಕ ಮಳೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಕಾರಣ ಫಸಲು ಬರದೆ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಬೆಳೆ ಹಸಿರಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದೇ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಕೂಡ ‘ಹಸಿರು ಬರ’ ಎಂದು ಘೋಷಣೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಪರಿಹಾರ ನೀಡುವಂತೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಮನವಿ ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ತಂಡಕ್ಕೆ ಮನವರಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಟ್ಟಿದೆ. ಹಿಂಗಾರು ಮಳೆ ಪೂರ್ಣ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೈಕೊಟ್ಟಿದ್ದರೆ ಮೇವಿನ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ತೀವ್ರವಾಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ ಆಕಾಲಿಕ ಮಳೆಯಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ತಕ್ಕಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಮೇವಿನ ಲಭ್ಯತೆ ಇದೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಲಾಗಿದೆ.

## ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಬೆಲೆ

ಮಳೆ ಕೊರತೆಯಿಂದ ಅಲ್ಲಲ್ಲಿ ಹೈನು ರಾಮಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಸಿರು ಮೇವಿನ ಕೊರತೆ ಎದುರಾಗಿದೆ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ ದರ ಕೂಡ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿದೆ. ನಗರ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹೈನೋದ್ಯಮದಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿರುವವರಿಗೆ ಹಸಿರು ಮೇವಿನ ದರದ ಬಿಸಿ ತಟ್ಟಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ರೈತರನ್ನು ಅಷ್ಟಾಗಿ ಬಾಧಿಸಿಲ್ಲ.

ಮೇವು ಬೆಳೆ 45-60 ದಿನದಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುತ್ತದೆ. 30 ದಿನದಿಂದಲೇ ಕಟಾವು ಮಾಡಬಹುದು. ಆದರೆ, ಒಳ್ಳೆಯ ಬೆಳೆ ಬರಲು 45-60 ದಿನ ಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಬೆಳೆ ಬೆಳೆದರೆ ಹಸಿರು ಮೇವು ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ರೈತರು ಕಳಕಳಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಗಾಗುವ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಇಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ತಜ್ಞರು ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯಪಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹೈನು ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆಗೆ ಅಡ್ಡಿ: ರೈತರು ಜಾನುವಾರುಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂರಕ್ಷಣೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಹರಸಾಹಸ ಪಡಬೇಕಾದ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಇದೆ. ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ ಚರ್ಮಗಂಟು, ಕಾಲುಬಾಯಿ ರೋಗದಿಂದ ಸಾವಿರಾರು ಜಾನುವಾರುಗಳು ಸಾವನ್ನಪ್ಪಿದ್ದವು. ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗೆ ರೈತರು ಹೆಚ್ಚು ವೆಚ್ಚ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದರು. ಹೈನುಗಾರಿಕೆಗೂ ಹೊಡೆತ ಬಿದ್ದು ಸಂಕಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೀಡಾಗಿದ್ದರು. ಈಗ ಮೇವಿನ ಅಭಾವದ ಭಯ ಕಾಡುತ್ತಿದೆ.

3ರಿಂದ 4 ರೂ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ: ಮಳೆ ಕೈಕೊಟ್ಟು ಬೆಳೆ ಬಾರದೆ ಇರುವ ಕಾರಣ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಶು ಆಹಾರ ದರ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿದೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಹಾಲು ಮಹಾಮಂಡಳ ಕೂಡ ಪಶು ಆಹಾರ ದರ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸಿದೆ. ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು ಕೆಜಿ ಪಶು ಆಹಾರಕ್ಕೆ 3ರಿಂದ 4 ರೂ. ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದು ಹೈನುಗಾರಿಕೆ ಮಾಡುವ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಹೊಡೆತ ನೀಡಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಜಾನುವಾರು ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 2012ರ ಗಣತಿ ಪ್ರಕಾರ, ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 95,16,484 ಎತ್ತು, 34,70,505 ಎಮ್ಮೆ, 95,83,761 ಕುರಿ, 47,96,147 ಮೇಕೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಕೋಳಿಗಳು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಂತೆ ಒಟ್ಟು 8 ಕೋಟಿಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಜಾನುವಾರುಗಳಿವೆ.



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Source: Vijayavani, p.5, Dec. 7, 2023

ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಕುಂಠಿತ, ವರ್ಷಾಂತ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಮತ್ತಷ್ಟು ದರ ಏರಿಕೆ? | ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಮಾತ್ರವಲ್ಲ, ಜಾಗತಿಕ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಲ್ಲೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ

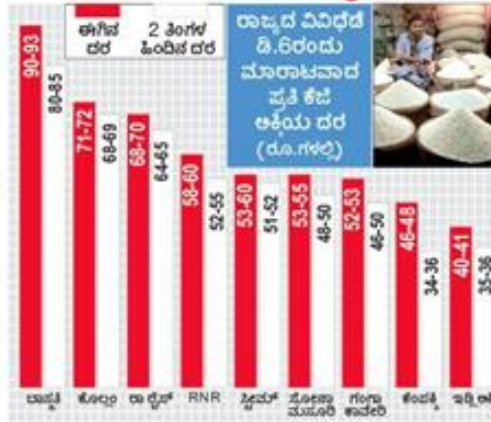
# ಬೆಳೆ ಕುಸಿತ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಜಿಗಿತ

■ ವಿಜಯ್ ಪೂಜಾರಿ ವಿಜಯ್ ಪೂಜಾರಿ@timesgroup.com

ಹವಾಮಾನ ವೈಪರೀತ್ಯ, ಒರ ಆತಂಕದ ನೇರ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಭತ್ತದ ಬೆಲೆ ಮೇಲೆ ಬಿದ್ದಿದೆ. ಒಂದೆಡೆ ವಿಪರೀತ ನೆರೆಯಾದರೆ, ಇನ್ನೊಂದೆಡೆ ಒರದ ಭಾಯ್ ಭತ್ತ ಕೃಷಿರನ್ನು ಹೈರಾಣುಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿಯ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿ ದರವೂ ಏರುಮುಖವಾಗಿ ಸಾಗಿದೆ. ವರ್ಷಾಂತ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಮೂಲಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿಯ ದರ 80 ರೂ. ದಾಟಿದರೂ ಅಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲೇ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 2021-22ರಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ 135.29 ದಶಲಕ್ಷ ಟನ್ ಗಳಿಂದ 2022-23ರಲ್ಲಿ 130.50 ದಶಲಕ್ಷ ಟನ್ ಗಳಿಗೆ ಇಳಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದು ಶೇ.10.34ರಷ್ಟು ಕುಸಿತ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥದಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ.4.54ರಷ್ಟು ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. 2022-23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನವರೆಗೆ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಒಂದೇ ಸಮನೆ ಇಳಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಳೆದ ಬಾರಿಗಿಂತ ಶೇ.2 ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ.

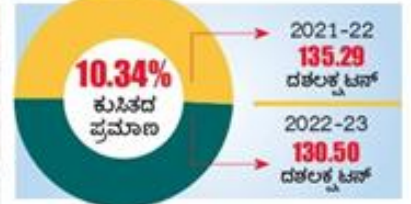
ದೇಶದ ನಾನಾ ಭಾಗಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 12.8 ದಶಲಕ್ಷ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ವರ್ಷ ಭತ್ತ ಬೆಳೆಸಿ ಮೊದಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಲಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿದರೆ ಶೇ.17ರಷ್ಟು ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ನೇರವು ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಾದ ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ, ಕೇರಳದಲ್ಲೂ ಭತ್ತ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಇಳಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವುದು ಮತ್ತಷ್ಟು ಆತಂಕಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕದೆ.

**ಭತ್ತ ಕುಸಿತ ಬೆಲೆ:** 2021-22ರಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಭತ್ತದ ಬೆಲೆ 1,800 ರೂ. ಇದ್ದರೆ ಈ ಬಾರಿ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಭತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ 2,183 ರೂ. ಹಾಗೂ ಎ ಗ್ರೇಡ್ ಭತ್ತಕ್ಕೆ 2,203 ರೂ. ಬೆಂಬಲ ಬೆಲೆ ಘೋಷಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಭತ್ತ ಬೆಲೆ ಕುಂಠಿತವಾದ ಕಾರಣ ಮುಕ್ತ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಂಬಲ ಬೆಲೆಗಿಂತಲೂ ಅಧಿಕ ದರ 2,800-3,000 ರೂ.ಗೆ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾದರಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.



## ಭತ್ತ ಕುಸಿತ, ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಏರಿಕೆ

1975-76ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಲಿಸಿದರೆ 2021-22ರಲ್ಲಿ ಭತ್ತದ ಕೃಷಿಯ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ ಶೇ.77.66 ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿ ರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ಅಂಕಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳೇ ಸಾಬೀತುಪಡಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಆದರೆ ಅಕ್ಕಿಯ ದರ ಮತ್ತು ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ದ್ವಿಗುಣಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಭತ್ತ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶ, ಬಹಾರ, ಚಾಂಪರ್ನ್, ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಬಂಗಾಳಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ಶೇ.45-60ರಷ್ಟು ಭತ್ತ ಕೊರತೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಆ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲೂ ಭತ್ತದ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಘಾತಿ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಳಿಕೆ ಕಂಡಿದೆ. ಈ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭತ್ತ ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಬೇರೆ ಬೇರೆ ಮುಖ ಮಾಡಿರುವುದೇ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಿದೆ.



## ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ 9ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನ

ಭತ್ತ ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 9ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದೊಂದು ಮಹತ್ವ ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಭತ್ತದ ಕಾಣುವುದು ಹೇಳಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲೇ ಅತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಭತ್ತ ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಮತ್ತು ಉತ್ಪಾದಿಸುವ ಕಿರೀಟ ಈ ಎರಡು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲುತ್ತದೆ. ಶಿಶಿರಾಪುರದ ಸಣ್ಣ ಭತ್ತ ಮತ್ತು ಅಕ್ಕಿಗೆ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಘಾತಿ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಇದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಈ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭತ್ತದ ಬೆಲೆ ಗಣನೀಯ ಇಳಿಕೆ ಕಾಣುತ್ತಿದೆ.

## ಕೇಂದ್ರದಿಂದ ರಫ್ತು ನಿಷೇಧ

ಅಮೆರಿಕ, ಚೀನಾ ದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಸುತ್ತುವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ವಿಶ್ವವ್ಯಾಪ್ತ ಆಹಾರ ಸರಬರಾಜು ವ್ಯತ್ಯಯ ಉಂಟಾಗುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆ ಇದೆ. ಬೆಲೆಗೆ ಮುಂಚಾಗುತ್ತಾ ಕ್ರಮವಾಗಿ 'ಫಾರ್ವ್ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ರಫ್ತು ನಿಷೇಧ' ಹೇರಿದ್ದು, ಹಲವು ದೇಶಗಳಿಗೆ ಶಾಕ್ ನೀಡಿದೆ. ದೇಶದ ಆಹಾರ ಸುರಕ್ಷತೆಯಾದ ಅಂಕಿ ಅಂಶದ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಹೊಸದಿಲ್ಲಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಲ್ಲರೆ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಬೆಲೆ ಶೇ.12-15 ಏರಿಕೆ ಕಂಡಿದೆ. 2022-20ರಲ್ಲಿ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 42.12 ಲಕ್ಷ ಟನ್ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ರಫ್ತು ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದಿಂದ ಜಾಗತಿಕ ಆಹಾರದ ಬೆಲೆಗಳು ಏರುತ್ತಲೇ ಇದ್ದು, ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು ಹೆಚ್ಚಳವಾಗುವ ಆತಂಕ ಮೂಡಿದೆ.

Source: Vijayakarnataka, p.1, Dec. 7, 2023



## 2<sup>nd</sup> in 4 mths: Govt may hike prices of Nandini milk to support farmers

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Belagavi:** In a bid to support farmers struggling under escalating input costs, the Karnataka government is seriously considering an increase in the price of Nandini milk—less than four months after it revised the price by Rs3 a litre in August.

Animal husbandry minister K Venkatesh informed the legislative council of a possible second hike af-

**► Panel: 92 Dalit students died in past 5 years, P 4**

ter Congress came to power. Council members cutting across party lines expressed readiness to support the move if it helps farmers.

Following the August price hike, Nandini milk price stands at Rs 42 per litre for toned milk, Rs 43 for homogenized milk, Rs 46 for pasteurized milk, and Rs 48 for Shubham special milk.

### ‘Govt committed to supporting farmers’

► Continued from page 1

Minister Venkatesh said, “We are aware that milk producers need the government’s support at this critical situation as prices of cattle feed have been hiked.” He emphasized that the government would proceed with the hike in retail prices of Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) milk, sold under the brand name Nandini, if it receives support from all stakeholders, including opposition parties.

Congress member K Harish Kumar flagged concerns about the distress faced by milk producers due to the recent hike in cattle-feed prices. Venkatesh said the government is committed to supporting farmers, citing the Congress’s election manifesto promise to increase the incentive given to milk producers by Rs2 per litre. He said, in response to the current challenges, the government has raised the incentive by Rs3 and has an open mind on a further increase in prices.

**Source: The Times of India, p.1 & 4, Dec.7, 2023**

# State to credit ₹2,000 as partial drought relief to farmers from next week

**The Hindu Bureau**

BELAGAVI

Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda told the Legislative Council on Wednesday that the government of Karnataka will begin crediting ₹2,000 as partial drought relief (compensation) to bank accounts of farmers from next week.

Replying to a question by N. Ravi Kumar during Question Hour, the Minister said that earlier Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had announced the partial compensation amount as a temporary relief.

The total loss due to crop damage in Karnataka because of drought has been estimated to be ₹35,162.05 crore. The State government has sought ₹18,171.44 crore from the

Union government from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) to provide relief to farmers.

Seven lakh fodder seed kits have been distributed to farmers to ensure fodder to cattle during the drought. The government released ₹20 crore to the Department of Animal Husbandry Dairying on September 22 for purchasing mini fodder kits. ₹894 crore is available with district administrations in Karnataka to take up relief measures under drought situation.

Not only Karnataka, but 12 States in India faced drought due to scarcity of rainfall during this year's monsoon, and 18 States faced drought due to shortage in North East monsoon.

**Source: The Hindu, p.4, Dec. 7, 2023**



# A film that throws light on the connection between women and millets

*Invisible: Women and the Future of Millets* expands on this idea, draws a parallel between the resilience of these hardy little grains and the women who nurture them

**Preeti Zachariah**  
BENGALURU

It was on another assignment near Kolar that Arjun Swaminathan first met Rajamma. He recounts what the 65-year-old mother of a farmer who practised the Akkadi Saalu farming system, a mixed cropping system often found in the drylands of Karnataka, told him: the seeds that her son used today had been given to her at her wedding. "These were native organic seeds," he says, recalling how Rajamma explained how important it was to preserve them, abstaining from cooking them even during drought. "There were times when she went hungry, but these seeds were preserved," says the Bengaluru-based visual storyteller, the director of *Native* Picture.

The meeting got him thinking about women's crucial role in agriculture, not just the back-breaking tasks of de-weeding and harvesting but something more profound. "There is a culture preservation that happens through women," he says.

**Of women and millets**  
His new short film *Invisible: Women and the Future of Millets* expands on this idea, drawing a parallel between the resilience of these hardy little grains and the women who nurture them.

The film, which will be released on December 12 at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi, captures "the journey of millets from being a lost cause to a superfood, as well as the recognition of the labour put in by women farmers from all sections of the society - especially the marginalised communities," as Arjun, who travelled to the Eastern Ghat's Arakku Valley, Karnataka's Hubli district



and Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh to make this film, puts it.

The film opens with some interesting statistics: agriculture employs nearly 80% of rural women. "Empowering and mainstreaming rural women workforce in agriculture can help bring a paradigm shift towards economic growth," it states before delving into this inherent relationship between millets and women. With perspectives offered by a team of experts and, more importantly, the women who grow and live off the soil, the film delves into many aspects of millet: the effect of the Green Revolution on millet consumption, the nutritional benefits they



Stills from the film *Invisible: Women and the Future of Millets*. ARJUN SWAMINATHAN



offer, how millet seeds are preserved, traded and cultivated, the benefits of mixed cropping and female collectives, why India

tremendous work to grow and process these millets and how this is often ignored in the mainstream narrative. "Historically, you did not have these big mills or processing centres. All processing happened in the village at the household level," points out activist and researcher Sudha Nagavara in the film, adding that while most of this strenuous work is done by women, they are often rendered invisible at a documentation level and denied many agricultural benefits. Arjun agrees. "Women have always been behind-the-scenes workers in everything," he says, pointing out that equality cannot exist in a vacuum, something the film captures, too."

**Invisible women**  
Produced by The Food and Land Use (FOLU) Coalition to mark the International Year of Millets, *Invisible: Women and the Future of Millets* offers a nuanced take on the grain, acknowledging its many benefits

but also avoiding magnifying them. "We need to understand that not all of us can eat millet. They are grown in certain areas, and it is only in those areas that the consumption is fine," says Swaminathan, pointing out that seasonality, culture, aspirations, class and caste play a tremendous role in shaping the millet narrative in this country.

"It is not just about eating more millet. Food is extremely political, and awareness needs to be built around it," he believes. He adds that, in general, knowing where our food comes from is important because it creates a healthier, more conscious community. "All of our foods have stories behind them. There is nothing more fascinating than the history and culture of food."

*Invisible: Women and the Future of Millets* will be released at Juniper, India Habitat Centre in New Delhi on December 12. It will be available on YouTube after the official release.

**Source: The Hindu, p.5, Dec. 7, 2023**

# Govt. of Karnataka announces support for C-CAMP at Bengaluru Tech Summit

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BENGALURU

The Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society, (KITS) and the Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Karnataka has announced a partnership with the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms or C-CAMP at the formal launch of Phase II of two of CCAMP-KTech flagship innovation programs, one in the agriculture domain and the other in the startup acceleration for scale-up of Karnataka's rapidly growing biotech start-up community.

On December 1, at the Bengaluru Tech Summit 2023, Minister of IT, BT & Rural Development, Shri Priyank Kharge and Dr. Ekroop Caur, Principal Secretary, Department of Electronics, IT & BT, Govt of Karnataka launched the Agri Grand Challenge II with problem statements relevant in plant pest and disease mitigation, post-harvest loss, cash crops processing and dairy farming domains.

India is still largely an agrarian economy. Agri &

allied sectors contribute 18% percentage of GDP to Indian economy. But critical gaps remain. C-CAMP K-tech Agri Centre of Excellence set up in 2018 is an effort in mitigating this. By nurturing cutting-edge agriculture solutions, it aims to usher in India's next Agri revolution through scientific solutions for problems at the grass-roots. One of its initiatives is a Grand Challenge call for science-based solutions to address specific problem statements across agri & allied sectors. These problems are selected through thorough deep-dive field immersion and vetted by a nationally & globally represented expert core committee convened by the CoE.

C-CAMP Director-CEO Dr Taslimarif Saiyed said, "With support from Govt of Karnataka, we will provide investment funding of up to 50 lakhs INR and more importantly, help with field trials through our vast network in agricultural sciences ecosystem. I invite agritech start-ups across India to join this effort."

**Source: The Hindu, p.5, Dec. 7, 2023**



# ಕೃಷಿ ಐಪಿ ಸೆಟ್ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳ ನೆರವು ತೀರ್ಮಾನ ಮುಂದಕ್ಕೆ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಎಸ್ಕಾಂ ನೆರವು ಸದ್ಯಕ್ಕಿಲ್ಲ

## ■ ವಿಕ ಸುದ್ದಿಲೋಕ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ

ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಕಂಪನಿಗಳೇ ರೈತರ ಕೃಷಿ ಪಂಪ್ ಸೆಟ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯದ ವೆಚ್ಚ ಭರಿಸುವ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸುವ ವಿಚಾರದ ತೀರ್ಮಾನವನ್ನು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸಚಿವ ಸಂಪುಟ ಸಭೆ ಮುಂದೂಡಿದೆ.

ಸುಮಾರು ಸಾವಿರಾರು ಗುರುವಾರ ಸಿಎಂ ಸಿದ್ಧರಾಮಯ್ಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ಸಂಪುಟ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕುರಿತು ಸುದೀರ್ಘ ಚರ್ಚೆ ನಡೆಯಿತು. ಕೃಷಿ ಪಂಪ್‌ಸೆಟ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವ ವೆಚ್ಚವನ್ನು ಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ರೈತರೇ ಭರಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಕಳೆದ ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್ 7ರಂದು ಸರಕಾರ ಹೊರಡಿಸಿದ್ದ ಆದೇಶ ಹಿಂಪಡೆಯಬೇಕು. ಈ ಮುಂಚಿನಂತೆ ಎಸ್ಕಾಂಗಳು ವೆಚ್ಚ ಭರಿಸುವ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನೇ ಮುಂದುವರಿಸಲು ಸಭೆ ಬಯಸಿತು. ಆದರೆ, ಸದ್ಯ ಎಸ್ಕಾಂಗಳು ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಕೊರತೆಯಿಂದ ಬಳಲುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ, ಸಾಧಕ-ಬಾಧಕಗಳ ಕುರಿತು ಮತ್ತೊಮ್ಮೆ ಚರ್ಚಿಸಿ ತೀರ್ಮಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಬರುವುದು ಸೂಕ್ತ ಎಂಬ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯಕ್ಕೆ ಬರಲಾಯಿತು. ಮುಂದಿನ ಸಂಪುಟ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ವಿಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಿದೆ.

**ಕರಾವಳಿ ಪರಿಸರ ರಕ್ಷಣೆಗೆ ಕೆ-ಶೋರ್:** ಕರಾವಳಿ ಭಾಗದ ಜಲಮೂಲಗಳ ಮಾಲಿನ್ಯ ತಡೆಯಲು ವಿಶ್ವವ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ನೆರವಿನ 846 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ಮೊತ್ತದ 'ಕೆ-ಶೋರ್' ಯೋಜನೆ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಪುಟ ಸಭೆ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿತು.

ಕೆ-ಶೋರ್ ಯೋಜನೆ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಅದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ರಾಜ್ಯಮಟ್ಟದ ಸಶಕ್ತ ಸಮಿತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಶೇಷ ಉದ್ದೇಶಿತ ವಾಹನ (ಎಸ್‌ಪಿವಿ) ರಚನೆ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವಕ್ಕೆ ಒಪ್ಪಿಗೆ ನೀಡಿತು.

## ಸಂಪುಟದ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ನಿರ್ಣಯ

- ಕಲಬುರಗಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರಕಾರದ ಜಂಟಿ ಸಹಭಾಗಿತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಜವಳಿ ಪಾರ್ಕ್ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ ಸಂಬಂಧದ ಒಪ್ಪಂದ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗಾಗಿ ವಿಶೇಷ ಉದ್ದೇಶಿತ ವಾಹನ (ಎಸ್‌ಪಿವಿ) ರಚನೆ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ.
- ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಅನುಸೂಚಿತ ಜಾತಿಗಳ ಉಪಯೋಜನೆ ಮತ್ತು ಬುಡಕಟ್ಟು ಉಪಯೋಜನೆಯ (ಎಸ್‌ಪಿ/ಟಿಎಸ್‌ಪಿ) ಯೋಜನೆ, ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲಗಳ ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಬಳಕೆ (ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ) ವಿಧೇಯಕ -2023 ಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ.
- ಕಂದಾಯ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿನ 'ಗ್ರಾಮ ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿ' ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ನೇರ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು.
- 'ಹಂಪಿ ವಿಶ್ವಪರಂಪರೆ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ (ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ) ವಿಧೇಯಕ -2023'ಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ.
- ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಯುನಾನಿ ಮತ್ತು ಹೋಮಿಯೋಪಥಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ 12.13 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ಮೊತ್ತದ ಪರಿಷ್ಕೃತ ಅಂದಾಜಿಗೆ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ.

■ ತಿವಮೊಗ್ಗದಲ್ಲಿ 80 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ವೆಚ್ಚದಲ್ಲಿ ಉನ್ನತ ಭದ್ರತಾ ಕಾರಾಗೃಹ ಮತ್ತು ವಸತಿಗೃಹಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ. ಜತೆಗೆ, 20 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ವೆಚ್ಚದಲ್ಲಿ ಭದ್ರತಾ ಸಲಕರಣೆಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಒದಗಿಸುವ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಒಪ್ಪಿಗೆ.

■ ರಾಯಚೂರಿನ ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ 'ಮಿಲ್ಲಿಟ್' ವ್ಯಾಲ್ಯೂ ಚೈನ್ ಪಾರ್ಕ್' ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಮೂಲಕ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ.

■ ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕಚೇರಿಗಳ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಸಂಬಂಧ 49 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ಮೊತ್ತದ ಪರಿಷ್ಕೃತ ಅಂದಾಜಿಗೆ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಒಪ್ಪಿಗೆ.

■ ಕುಣಿಗಲ್ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಆಡಳಿತ ಸೌಧ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಸಂಬಂಧ 11.29 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ಪರಿಷ್ಕೃತ ಅಂದಾಜಿಗೆ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ.

■ ಕೆಜಿಎಫ್ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಬಂಗಾರದ ಗಣಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ನಾನಾ ಸರ್ವೇ ನಂಬರ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 962.20 ಎಕರೆ ಜಮೀನನ್ನು ಕೆಜಿಎಫ್‌ಗೆ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ವಸಾಹತು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲು ಮಂಜೂರಾತಿ.

**ಅದರ್ಶ ಪಿಯು ಕಾಲೇಜು:** ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಆಯ್ಕೆ 60 ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಆಕಾಂಕ್ಷಿ ತಾಲೂಕುಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಯೋಜನೆ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಒಟ್ಟು 60 ಸರಕಾರಿ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಪೂರ್ವ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳನ್ನು "ಅದರ್ಶ ಪದವಿ ಪೂರ್ವ

ಕಾಲೇಜು"ಗಳಾಗಿ ಪರಿವರ್ತಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆಗೆ ಸಂಪುಟ ಸಭೆ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ನೀಡಿತು.

ಈ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವದಂತೆ ಪ್ರತಿ ಕಾಲೇಜಿಗೆ 83.30 ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂ.ನಂತೆ ಒಟ್ಟು 50 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ಮೊತ್ತ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

**Source: Vijayakarnataka, p.7, Dec. 8, 2023**

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# Decentralisation

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ

## ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಶಾಖಾ ಕಚೇರಿಗಳಾದ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳು, ಜಾರಿಗೊಳ್ಳದ 2016ರ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಸಾಕಾರಗೊಳ್ಳದ 'ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸರ್ಕಾರ'ದ ಕನಸು

• ಚಂದ್ರಪಾಸ ಹಿರೇಮಠಲಿ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: 2016ರಲ್ಲಿ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸ್ವರಾಜ್ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಗೆ ಏಳು ವರ್ಷಗಳಾದರೂ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಸೂಕ್ತ ನಿಯಮ ರೂಪಿಸದ ಕಾರಣ 'ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸರ್ಕಾರ'ದ ಆಶಯ ಸಾಕಾರಗೊಂಡಿಲ್ಲ.

ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನದ ವಿಳಂಬ ನೀಡಿಯಿಂದಾಗಿ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆಶಯದ ಜೊತೆಗೆ, ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟರು, ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳು, ಮಹಿಳೆಯರಿಗೆ ನೀಡಿದ್ದ ಮೀಸಲಾತಿಯ ಉದ್ದೇಶವೂ ವ್ಯರ್ಥವಾಗಿದೆ. ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಂಡು ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಸೂರಾರು ಸಣ್ಣಪುಟ್ಟ ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳ ಜನರು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಗದ್ದುಗೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಕುಳಿತರೂ, ಸಮರ್ಪಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯ ಸೂತ್ರಗಳಿಲ್ಲದೇ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿಯೇ ಆಡಳಿತ ನಡೆಸುವಂತಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ 73 ಮತ್ತು 74ನೇ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಮೂಲಕ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಲು ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮಹತ್ವದ ಹೆಜ್ಜೆ ಇರಿಸಿತ್ತು. ಮಾಜಿ ಪ್ರಧಾನಿ ರಾಜೀವ್ ಗಾಂಧಿಯವರ ಈ ಆಶಯ 1993ರಲ್ಲಿ ಈಡೇರಿತ್ತು. ಇದಕ್ಕೂ ಮೊದಲೇ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂದಿನ ರಾಮಕೃಷ್ಣ ಖೇಡೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮೊದಲ ಬಾರಿ 1987ರಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಚುನಾವಣೆ ನಡೆಸುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಗಾಂಧೀಜಿಯವರ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸ್ವರಾಜ್ಯದ ಕನಸು ಸಾಕಾರಗೊ-

### ಮೇಲಿನ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲ್ಲ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ

ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸ್ವರಾಜ್ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯಂತೆ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸಭೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಪರಮಾಧಿಕಾರವಿದೆ. ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳು ತಮ್ಮ ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ತಮಗೆ ಅಗತ್ಯವಾದ ಯಾವ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸುವ, ಅನುದಾನ ಪಡೆಯುವ, ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸುವ, ಮೇಲುನುದಾರಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಾನೂನು ಬಾಹ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡ ಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳ ಸಭೆಯ ನಿರ್ಣಯವನ್ನು ತೀರ್ಮಾನದ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಹಾಗೂ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳಿಗೂ ಇಲ್ಲ.

'ವಾಸ್ತವದಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮೇಲು ಹಂತದ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೇ ರೂಪಿಸಿ, ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳ ಒಪ್ಪಿಗೆ ಇಲ್ಲದೇ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಪ್ರವೃತ್ತಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಒತ್ತಡಕ್ಕೆ ಮೇಲೆ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಸಹ ಪಾಲು ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಬೀರಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ಪಣಿಯಲ್, ಧೈರ್ಯ ಬೆಳೆಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಸಹ ಮೇಲಿನ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಖರೀದಿಯಾಗಿ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತದೆ. ಪಿಡಿಎಗಳು ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳನ್ನು ಒಪ್ಪಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಹಣ ನೀಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಶಾಸಕರು, ಸಂಸದರ ನಿಧಿ ಬಳಕೆಯಲ್ಲೂ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳನ್ನು ಕಡೆಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಒಂದು ರೀತಿ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಶಾಖಾ ಕಚೇರಿಗಳಂತೆ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿವೆ' ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ನಲ್ಲೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ಸದಸ್ಯ ಆರ್.ಮಂಜಪ್ಪ.

ಓಸಿಪ್ಪು, ಆದರೆ, ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಸ್ಥಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಮೀಸಲಾತಿ ಇಲ್ಲದ ಕಾರಣ ಅಂದು ಪ್ರಬಲ ಬಾಕಿ ಸೇರಿದವರೇ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಅನುಭವಿಸಿದರು. ಸಂವಿಧಾನ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯ ನಂತರ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 'ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸ್ವರಾಜ್ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ-1993' ಜಾರಿಗೊಳಿಸಲಾಯಿತು.

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 1993ರಲ್ಲೇ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಜಾರಿಯಾದರೂ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದ್ದ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ, ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಗಳ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಹಣಕಾಸು, ಅಧಿಕಾರ, ಮಾನವ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲ ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಾಗಿ

ನೀಡಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಆಯಾ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಅಧೀನಕ್ಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಇಂತಹ ಸ್ಥಾನಗಳನ್ನು ಸರಿಪಡಿಸಿ, ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆಶಯ ಈಡೇರಿಸಲು ಅಗತ್ಯವಾದ ವರದಿ ನೀಡುವಂತೆ 2013ರಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಕೆ.ಆರ್. ರಮೇಶ್‌ಕುಮಾರ್ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸಿತ್ತು.

ಸಮಿತಿಯ ತೀರ್ಮಾನಂತೆ 'ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸ್ವರಾಜ್ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ'ಗೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ತಂದರು. ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳನ್ನು



ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಜನರು ಇತ್ತು ವರ್ಷ ಪ್ರಬಲರಾಗಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ನೀಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳನ್ನು ಬಲಪಡಿಸುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯರ ಖುಷಿ ತೀರಿಸುವ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಮಾಡಬೇಕಿದೆ. **ಡಿ.ಆರ್.ಬಾಪ್ಪ**, ಮಾಜಿ ಕಾರಕ



ಒಂದು ಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ರೂಪಿಸಿದ ಯೋಜನೆ ಮತ್ತೊಂದಕ್ಕೆ ಹೊಂದಿಕೆಯಾಗದೇ ಇರಬಹುದು. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ, ತಮಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ಕ್ರಿಯಾಯೋಜನೆ ರೂಪಿಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳಿಗೆ ನೀಡಬೇಕು. **ಡಿ.ಎಸ್. ಅನಂದ್**, ಪರಿಷತ್ ಸದಸ್ಯ

### ಆಶಯ ಸಾಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಪಿ.ಎಂಗೆ ಪತ್ರ

2016ರ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯಂತೆ ಎಲ್ಲ ಅಧಿಕಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯತಿಗೆ ನೀಡಬೇಕು. ಆ ಮೂಲಕ ಮೀಸಲಾತಿಯಿಂದ ದೊರೆತ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟರು, ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳು ಅನುಭವಿಸಲು ಅವಕಾಶ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಡಬೇಕು. ಎಲ್ಲ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಅಧಿಕಾರವನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಗೆ ವರ್ಗಾಯಿಸಬೇಕು. ಸಂವಿಧಾನ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ಬಂದ ಅಮೃತ ಮಹೋತ್ಸವದ ಗಳಿಗೆ ಆರಂಭಕ್ಕೆ ಒಂದೂವರೆ ತಿಂಗಳು ಬಾಕಿ ಉಳಿದಿದೆ. ಗ್ರಾಮ ಸ್ವರಾಜ್ಯದ ಕನಸು ಕಂಡಿದ್ದ ಗಾಂಧೀಜಿ ಎಂಟು ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆ ವಹಿಸಿದ್ದ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಈ ಅಧಿವೇಶನದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕುರಿತು ಸೂಕ್ತ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಮಾಜಿ ಕಾಸಕ ಡಿ.ಆರ್. ಬಾಪ್ಪ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಸಿದ್ದರಾಮಯ್ಯ, ಉಪ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಡಿ.ಕೆ.ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಸಚಿವ ಪ್ರಿಯಾಂತ್ ಖರ್ಗೆ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಪತ್ರಗಳನ್ನು ಬರೆದಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಸುಲಗೊಳಿಸುವ, ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅಗತ್ಯವಾದ ನೀತಿ, ನಿಯಮ ರೂಪಿಸುವ ಹೊಣೆಗಾರಿಕೆ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳಿಗೆ ನೀಡುವ ಮಹತ್ವದ ಆಶಯವನ್ನು ಕಾಯ್ದೆ

ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದರೂ, ಅವುಗಳ ಸಮರ್ಪಕ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಅಗತ್ಯ ವಾದ ರೂಪುರೇಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ರೂಪಿಸಿಲ್ಲ.

Prajavani 04-12-2023 p.5 Gram Panchayat Act

Source: Prajavani, p.5, Dec.4, 2023



# Building plan fee: Govt saves BBMP from repaying ₹2.5k cr

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

PICS: TOI

**Belagavi:** The state government on Thursday bailed out the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) from repaying close to Rs 2,500 crore to developers from whom it had collected excess building plan fees and cess over the years to the tune of 25%. Ministers privy to the cabinet meeting said the government will be introducing an amendment to the BBMP Act to introduce a retrospective clause. The government had to introduce the amendment as the developers had got a high court respite in August 2021, which quashed all fees that BBMP had collected under its building bylaws.

The cabinet also decided to introduce an amendment to reduce the tenure of mayors and deputy mayors in other urban local bodies on the lines of the Palike by making it a yearly rotation. It was previ-



ously a two-and-a-half-year tenure for the mayor and deputy mayors.

The cabinet also approved the use of World Bank funds to launch a programme called K-Shore to make the three coastal districts of Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, and Uttara Kannada plastic-free.

The cabinet is said to have also approved the formation of Hampi World Heritage Area Management Authority

and Saundatti Yellamma Development Authority.

The cabinet approved the withdrawal of the controversial 7-D clause from the Karnataka Scheduled Caste Sub-Plan and Scheduled Tribe Sub-Plan (SCSPTSP). The withdrawal of the clause will now remove the Deemed Expenditure criteria from all departments, which need to reserve 24.1% of their allocations towards the develop-

**AIMING HIGH:** Providing a recreation facility to school children, the sports and youth empowerment department has set up a wall-climbing facility on the premises of Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in Belagavi. Speaker UT Khader, legislative council chairperson Basavaraj Horatti and minister Nagendra were present at the inaugural

ment of SC and ST communities. The same is scheduled to be tabled at the ongoing winter session and seek the assent of both houses.

## **DKS case: Withdrawal of probe sanction ratified**

On Thursday, the state cabinet also ratified the withdrawal of the sanction given to the CBI for investigating the deputy chief minister DK Shivakumar, in a disproportionate assets case. The previous cabinet had considered the sanction 'not in accordance with the law'.

## **₹5k crore project approved**

The state cabinet approved a Rs 5,000 crore Karnataka multi-sector disaster and climate resilience project with World Bank assistance. While the World Bank shall provide Rs 3,500 crore, the state government will pay the rest. The projects shall look at development of rajakaluves, water way front, STPs and WTPs.

**Source: The Times of India, p.4, Dec.8, 2023**

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## ECONOMY

# CM calls for hard work amid revenue shortfall fears

## Siddaramaiah takes stock of state's tax revenues

BENGALURU, DHNS

The impact of drought and global market fluctuations on taxation has raised fears of a revenue shortfall in Karnataka with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah asking authorities to work harder to meet the targets for the current fiscal, on Friday.

A revenue shortfall will be bad news for Siddaramaiah, the finance minister who has to fund the five guarantees that helped Congress storm to power in the state.

On Friday, Siddaramaiah took stock of the state's tax revenues. In the 2023-24 fiscal, the government wants to earn Rs 1.82 lakh crore which includes Commercial Taxes (Rs 98,650 crore), Excise (Rs 36,000 crore), Stamps and Registration (Rs 25,000 crore), Transport (Rs 11,500 crore) and Mines and Geology (Rs 9,000 crore).

At the meeting, Siddaramaiah was told that about Rs 1.10 lakh crore has been collected so far. The government did not reveal the exact numbers. Only the Transport Department is "on track" to meet its revenue collection target, it is said.

"The revenue growth projection is quite optimistic. But we are slightly falling short," a Finance Department official said.

## Social welfare dept seeks additional grants

Social Welfare Minister Dr HC Mahadevappa on Friday told Chief Minister Siddaramaiah that his department needed an additional Rs 7,605.92 crore to clear pending bills, repair

of hostels, procurement of new equipment and other expenditures. While Siddaramaiah agreed to support the department, he is not likely to grant the entire amount sought.

Karnataka is facing GST losses due to a fall in petroleum and steel prices in the international market. "Steel, for example, has fallen from Rs 91,000 per tonne to Rs 61,000 per tonne, which has led to GST losses," the official said.

The Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) is one of Karnataka's top taxpayers. "Due to crude oil prices falling, we have seen a major tax reduction," the official said.

It could be that the government has fixed unrealistic revenue targets. "But compared with last year, the government has collected Rs 12,000 crore more," the official said.

This fiscal, Siddaramaiah has set aside Rs 39,815 crore for the guarantees. Next year, they will cost Rs 52,000 crore.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.4, Dec.2, 2023

# State sets sight on 500 GW green energy capacity by 2030

## Plans to augment capacity of Pavagada solar plant

N B HOMBAL  
BENGALURU, DHNS

With the objective of scaling up renewable energy production from present 16,322 MW capacity to 500 GW (5,00,000 MW) BY 2030, the state government has formed a high-level committee to oversee the implementation of various green energy projects.

The committee, headed by the Karnataka Renewable Energy Development Ltd. (KREDL) former director G V Balaram, would assist energy department in executing

some of the ambitious projects such as Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), Pumped Hydro-Storage Projects (PSPs), National Mission Green Hydrogen/Ammonia, rooftop solar projects and many others in the state to increase renewable energy production exponentially.

According to the document accessed by the DH from the energy department, the state has so far tapped 16,322 MW of green power out of its potential green energy production production of 1,55,074 MW.

"It has become imperative for the state to reach the target of producing 500 GW green



A file photo of the solar park at Tirumani village in Pavagada taluk of Tumakuru district.

energy by the end of 2030 to meet the growing energy demands of the state. In order to achieve this, the state government is planning to increase the Pavagada solar power plant's capacity by adding 300 MW to its existing 2050 MW capacity. Apart from this, the

state is also planning to set up a new solar power plant with a capacity of 2500 MW soon in the state," the document states.

It further stated that the department was also looking to set up a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in the Pavagada solar power plant.

On PSPs, the document stated that the state has received proposals by various companies for generating 7,830 MW under the public-private-partnership model.

"Work is under progress to set up a 2,000 MW PSP project at Sharavati, while the state has decided to purchase 1,000 MW of power from private entities too," the document said.

The document maintained that the state was planning to bring as many as 4,29,588 irrigation pump sets under the ongoing PM Kusum scheme that aims to provide solar power connectivity to these IP sets.

"The department has already brought 38,782 irrigation pump sets under the PM-Kusum 'B' scheme, while under Phase 1 of the the PM Kusum 'C' scheme, work has commenced to bring 3,37,331 IP sets under this network," the document stated.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.6, Dec.2, 2023



# Festive season boosts GST collection by 15% in November

**GYANENDRA KESHRI**  
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Revenue collection from Goods and Services Tax (GST) in November came in at Rs 1.68 lakh crore, up 15% year-on-year, the highest annual growth so far in the current financial year. Revenues from domestic transactions, including import of services, surged by 20%.

The November figures, however, were lower than the Rs 1.72 lakh crore mop-up recorded in the previous month, official data released on Friday showed. It is for the sixth time that the gross GST collection has crossed Rs 1.60 lakh crore mark in FY24. The highest ever GST revenue collection was recorded in April 2023 when it stood at Rs 1.87 lakh crore.

“The upward trend in GST collections continues as expected on the back of festive seasons and further increase in audits and investigations. This trend is likely to continue for



the remainder of this fiscal as well,” said Pratik Jain, Partner at PwC India.

Cumulative revenue collection from GST in April-November period of the current fiscal stands at Rs 13.32 lakh crore, 11.9% higher than the same period last year, and averaging Rs 1.66 lakh per month.

Monthly GST collection in Karnataka surged to Rs 11,970 crore in November, posting a year-on-year growth of 17%. Revenue mop-up in Tamil Nadu surged by 20%, Maha-

rastra 18%, Gujarat 16%, and Delhi 17%.

“The healthy growth in GST collections is enthralling, although it may partly reflect the later onset of the festive season this year,” said Aditi Nayar, chief economist at ICRA.

Gunjan Prabhakaran, Partner & Leader, Indirect Tax, BDO India, expressed a similar view. “One of the factors, which contributed to the year on year basis growth is the delayed festive season in this year,” said Prabhakaran.

**Source: Deccan Herald, p.12, Dec.2, 2023**

# Centre cuts ₹798 cr from Karnataka's IGST collection

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bengaluru:** At a time when Karnataka is reeling under fiscal pressure due to severe drought in the state and implementation of Congress' election guarantee schemes, the Centre has delivered a rude shock by deducting a staggering Rs 798 crore from integrated goods and services tax (IGST) collected in November.

IGST is a tax that must be transferred from the state a product originated in, to a destination state, via the central government. Karnataka's total collection under SGST, CGST and IGST for November stands at Rs 11,970 crore, a 17% growth compared to the same month in 2022.

Karnataka was due to receive Rs 3,600 crore from the central government under IGST in November. But officials say the Centre claimed there has been "excess input tax credit" to the tune of Rs 34,000 crore, which must be deducted from both the Centre's and the states' share of IGST.

Accordingly, while the Centre will deduct Rs 17,000 crore from its end, Rs 18,000 crore will be deducted from states' share.

"Of this, as a first instalment, Rs 9,000 crore has been deducted from across the country with Karnataka losing Rs 800 crore," said the government official.

Realising that the move could create a huge hole in his balance sheet for the state, chief minister Siddaramaiah, who took stock of the state's fiscal situation on Friday, wrote to Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman seeking an explanation/clarification as to why this deduction has happened "all of a sudden".

In his letter, Siddaramaiah has raised questions over the Centre's explanation under what it calls "adjustment of advance apportionment to make up shortfall in IGST balance as on December 26, 2022".

Siddaramaiah has sought "insights" into the rationale behind the negative balance of Rs 34,000 crore, information on the total amount of negative IGST balance and the methodology employed to distribute this amount

## ₹1k crore more for social welfare dept

**Bengaluru:** Chief minister Siddaramaiah is said to have promised the social welfare department an additional fund of Rs 1,000 crore towards Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society (KRIES) schools and to address other pressing issues in the department.

It is said the CM also promised additional funds if required to implement schemes that aimed at uplifting SC and ST communities in society and for their education.

The department is said to have sought Rs 8,000 crore for the welfare of SC and ST communities under the SCP-TSP funds.

Meanwhile, CMO officials said Siddaramaiah held back-to-back review meetings with all revenue generating departments in the state and urged them to meet their targets for the 2023-24 fiscal to manage development and social welfare schemes launched by the Congress government.

He sought a timely review of all the revenue generating avenues and to implement them to speed up the revenue collection time frame. "The CM expects departments to meet their targets by the end of the fiscal year and we are likely to meet them," said an official. TNN

among states for recovery.

However, considering the nationwide nature of the deductions, Siddaramaiah has also placed a request in his letter to deduct the excess input tax in instalments.

"Given the pressing need for resources and the potential challenges associated with lumpsum deductions, Karnataka earnestly requests the Union government to consider allowing the deductions to be made in instalments. We propose a phased approach, preferably in 10 instalments, to mitigate the immediate impact on state finances," the letter stated.

Finance department officials said, the state government is seeking to pay the excess collection in instalments of Rs 250-Rs 300 crore each month.

**Source: The Times of India, p.4, Dec.2, 2023**



# BTS 2023 concludes with 3.16 cr online reach, 50K footfall

**GoK signed 3 MoUs, launched gaming accelerator during the event**

**ANJALI JAIN**  
BENGALURU, DHNS



**T**he flagship annual tech event of the Silicon Valley of the East concluded on Friday, logging 3.16 virtual visitors and a footfall of 50,000 expo visitors over its three-day run.

Addressing the media, on Friday, Karnataka's IT, BT and S&T minister Priyank Kharge, pointed out that the Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS) 2023 saw participation by 553 exhibitors, out of which 228 were startups. In all 83 sessions with 401 speakers via 5 tracks, graced by 4,773 registered delegates, 18,592 registered business visitors and 8,606 attendees.

The tracks encompassed startups, biotech, deeptech and 2 global innovation alliance tracks with participants from 20 countries including Australia, Denmark, South Korea, Japan, NRW City of Dusseldorf, Thailand, British Deputy High Commission, Finland, Israel, and Russia and 115 speakers.

"We discussed collaboration and establishment of sector specific corridors to catapult our innovation ecosystems. These corridors would help facilitate startup exchange,

knowledge sharing and skilling and market access opportunities," Kharge said. Overall, the summit saw participation from 45 countries.

During the summit, the Government of Karnataka (GoK) signed three MoUs with ecosystem partners. The US-India Business Council and the Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS), GoK signed an MoU to bolster collaboration and communication channels. An MoU with Swissnex was also signed to onboard GoK on the Indo Swiss Innovation Platform that aligns the country in 3 focus areas—health, sustainability and digital transformation. Lastly, an MoU was signed between Opportunities New Brunswick (ONB) and the Association of Biotechnology LED Enterprises (ABLE) which is aimed towards fostering technology and technology based foreign direct investment.

GoK also launched some 37 products from early stage startups that encompassed a wide array of tech solutions in domains ranging from IT and deep tech to cyber security, gaming and healthcare, among many others.

## **Focus on gaming**

The IT & BT Ministry, which organises the event each year, used the summit as a platform to launch draft policies for animation, visual effects, gaming and comics (AVGC) and biotech.

On the last day of the summit, the state government and online gaming platform Games 24x7 jointly launched GameTech Accelerate - The Future of Gaming', a gaming accelerator that will be used to foster innovation. Through the accelerator, Games24x7 will help identify and mentor ventures offering innovative solutions and connect them to investors who are keen to back the sector.

The accelerator will target four key areas, namely new games, real-time analytics, telemetry & personalisation, security and anti-cheating measures and community and social integration, and a shortlist for the same will be revealed during the gaming, animation and VFX (GAFX) event schedules for January 29 next year, which is also when the final AVGC policy will be revealed.

**Source: Deccan Herald, p.12, Dec.2, 2023**



# Jobs for locals: The politics and the economics

AMIT BASOLE

**T**he Haryana State Employment of Local Candidates Bill, 2020, which reserved 75% of private-sector jobs paying less than Rs 30,000 per month in the state for local residents, was recently declared unconstitutional by the High Court of Punjab and Haryana. The court observed that this would lead to “large-scale similar state enactments... putting up artificial walls throughout the country, which the framers of the Constitution had never envisaged.” The court further observed that the Bill curtailed the fundamental right to earn livelihood. Such Bills in other states such as Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have also run into similar troubles.

Much of the commentary on ‘jobs-for-locals’ type laws points to constitutional problems, implementation difficulties or economic inefficiencies. These are legitimate points. However, there are deeper structural reasons behind such attempts which should also be understood. These include the weak capacity of the Indian economy to create aspirational jobs in adequate numbers, growing divergence in income across Indian states and the incentive structure of



**In 2022, 24% of young graduates were unemployed. In pic, youth wait at a job fair in Bikaner. PTI FILE PHOTO**

competitive electoral politics. These reasons have resulted in a political solution to an economic problem that is likely to be counter-productive.

First and foremost, growth has been weakly connected to job creation, particularly jobs that are aspirational in nature. As education levels have risen over the past two decades, we see that a larger fraction of the workforce is willing to wait a few years to see if they get a job that matches their aspirations rather than accepting the first offer that comes along. This is reflected in high rates of open unemployment among educated youth. For example, as of 2022-23, the national unemployment rate for youth with diplomas or degrees stood at 24%. For Haryana, this reached 30%.

► **Job availability, Page 2**

**Continued...**



# Coordinated policy interventions needed in labour market's supply and demand

The hunger for better paying and more secure as well as dignified employment is also seen in the continued and vast over-subscription to public sector jobs. Simply put, available job opportunities are not at par with the expectations of potential workers.

But there are notable differences across states in this respect. This brings us to the second structural reason. The disparities, large to begin with, have become worse over time. For example, around 20 years ago, near the beginning of the high growth period in 2004, Haryana's per capita state domestic product was around five times higher than Bihar's.

By 2022, the gap had grown to more than six times. Similarly, Gujarat was four times as rich as Bihar in 2004 and six times as rich by 2022. More systematic exercises by Arvind Subramanian and others support the observation that unlike China, in India, growth has failed to generate convergence across regions.

Thus, whatever job creation is occurring seems to be concentrated in a few states. For example, in 2004, 21%

of Haryana's workforce was involved in regular wage work (as opposed to being self-employed or in casual labour). Compare this to Bihar's 5% or the national average of 15%. By 2022, this had risen to 39% for Haryana and a mere 9% for Bihar. Especially at the lower end of the regular wage spectrum, namely, jobs that pay a monthly salary in the range of Rs 10,000 or 30,000 per month and include benefits like PF, industrial states such as Haryana, Gujarat, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu have managed to create far more opportunities.

## Labour migration

It is such divergences that create the pressure for inter-state migration. Here, we also need to keep in mind the nature of inter-state labour migration. Setting aside marriage-related migration seen primarily in the case of women, broadly, three types can be distinguished. First, short-term (circular) migration mostly in industries such as construction and mostly for casual wage work; second, longer-term migration for regular wage work at the

lower end of the wage distribution in manufacturing or in service industries such as health and retail; and third, longer-term migration for professional salaried work in IT, banking, education, health etc.

Jobs-for-locals type legislation mostly targets the second type of migration. For example, Haryana's law exempts jobs that pay more than Rs 30,000 per month. And similarly, Karnataka's attempt at such a law a few years ago exempted the IT industry, which has relatively more professional migrants. The bind is this. Local educated youth may not necessarily want the low-end jobs that such legislation seeks to protect. But governments cannot protect higher-end jobs as easily since these risks losing highly productive industries to another state that does not put such restrictions on employers.

But the complexity does not end there. Sub-state regional inequalities may also play a role. States such as Haryana and Maharashtra appear to have high average incomes, but this hides the fact that there are a few high-income, high-growth cities (like Gurgaon or

Pune) along with a large number of smaller towns and villages that are not growing rich nearly as fast. These intra-state divergences, coupled with the cross-state divergences mentioned earlier, create a difficult social and political situation.

## Political impetus

Finally, we come to politics. Youth unemployment and a lack of aspirational jobs have become a salient political issue in the country. In a competitive electoral system, politicians must seem responsive to such core issues. Further, local residents and voters count for more than migrants without a vote.

Going beyond the political system, many states also have strong regional and linguistic identities, as well as a sense of history. There is resentment in the face of a lack of effort to integrate (say by learning the local language) on the part of a visibly privileged working class such as those in IT. Of course, the jobs-for-locals laws do not cover privileged workers and are restricted to relatively lower-wage work. Though here too, when migration is across lin-

guistically different states, tensions can and do arise.

In this respect, the Indian subcontinent is more akin to Europe. Creating a common labour market across economically disparate and culturally diverse European nations has not proved easy. India has the advantage that it is a strong political unit. But that strength can quickly be tested if centrifugal forces gather strength.

Protecting the local market from competition is an often-used economic policy move whose aim is generally to allow domestic suppliers to become competitive vis-a-vis their foreign counterparts. In the context of the labour market, the "suppliers" in question are, of course, workers. Does a similar logic to develop domestic capacity and skills apply in this case? More work is needed to investigate this.

In relatively disadvantaged areas, where local workers face competition from better educated and trained migrating workers, such protection can buy the government some time to improve the quality of its local workforce. But this comes at a cost. In this case, em-

ployers, especially in industries such as manufacturing or IT, are moving to areas with better quality workers. Thereby, they are more fundamentally testing the notion of a common national economy.

With the upcoming delimitation of Lok Sabha constituencies and potential disagreements between the low-fertility and high-fertility states, such tensions can get heightened. Rather than seeing politics as a problem, it is better to think about how these incentives can be used to narrow the gap between migrant-sending and migrant-receiving states, and to quicken the overall pace of job creation such that resentments over stagnating prospects do not take on more divisive tones. This brings us back to the question of how to ensure that growth creates more jobs. This is doable, though it requires a range of co-ordinated policy interventions on both supply and demand sides of the labour market.

(Amit Basole is Professor of Economics and Head, Centre for Sustainable Employment. He is the lead author of the 'State of Working India' report.)

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the fact that there are a few high-income, high-growth cities (like Gurgaon or Pune) along with a large number of smaller towns and villages that are not growing rich nearly as fast. These intra-state divergences, coupled with the cross-state divergences mentioned earlier, create a difficult social and political situation.

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*(Amit Basole is Professor of Economics and Head, Centre for Sustainable Employment. He is the lead author of the ‘State of Working India’ report.)*

**Source: Deccan Herald, p.1&2, Dec.3, 2023**



371(ಜೆ) ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಕ್ಕೆ 10 ವರ್ಷ: ಸಾಕಾರಗೊಳ್ಳದ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳ ಮಹಾಕನಸು

# 'ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ'ದ ಕೈತಪ್ಪಿದ ₹3,544 ಕೋಟಿ

• ಮಲ್ಟಿಪಾರ್ಪಸ್ ಸಾಲದಾತ

ಕಲಮದೇ: ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಭಾಗದ ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ ನಿರ್ದೇಶನಾಲಯದ ಅಧೀನದಲ್ಲಿ ದಶಕದ ಕೋಟಿಗೂ ಮೀರಿ 371(ಜೆ) ವಿಶೇಷ ಸ್ಕೀಮ್ 10 ವರ್ಷಗಳು ಹಿಂದಿನಿಂದಲೂ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವುದರಿಂದ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆಯಾದ ಅನುದಾನವು 'ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ'ದ ಅಕಸ್ಮಾತ್ತಾಗಿ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿತ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಕಾರಗೊಂಡಿದೆ.

ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪ್ರದೇಶಾದ್ಯಂತ ಮಂಡಲ (ಕೆಆರ್‌ಡಿ) ನೀಡಿದ ಅಂಕ-ಅಂಶಗಳ ಪ್ರಕಾರ, ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು 371(ಜೆ) ಅಂಕ ಕೆಳಗೆ 10 ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಡಲಿಗೆ ₹11,878 ಕೋಟಿ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿತ್ತು. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ₹10,228 ಕೋಟಿ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ₹8,333 ಕೋಟಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಖರ್ಚಾಗಿದೆ. ₹1,895.33 ಕೋಟಿ ಅನುದಾನವೂ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಆಗಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ನಿಗದಿ ಪಡಿಸಿದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಅನುದಾನ ಮಾತ್ರ ಖರ್ಚಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದು ಮಟ್ಟವನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಿ ಕೆಳಮಿತಿಯಾಗಿ ₹3,544.98 ಕೋಟಿ 'ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ'ದ ಕೈತಪ್ಪಿದೆ. ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ 2023-2024ನೇ ಸಾಲಿಗೆ ₹5,000 ಕೋಟಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಭೋಜನೀಯವಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಕೇವಲ ₹3,000 ಕೋಟಿ ಕ್ರಿಯಾಯೋಜನೆ ರೂಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

## 'ಪರಿಣತರ ಮೂರು ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸಿ'



'ಅನುದಾನದ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ಬಳಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ ಸುರಕ್ಷಿತವಾಗಿರಲು ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ, ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನದಂತಹ ಮೂರು ಸಮಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ರಚಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ನಿರ್ದೇಶನಾಲಯ ಬಜೆಟ್ ಬರುವಂತೆ ನಿರ್ದೇಶನಾಲಯದ ಮಾನ್ಯತೆಯನ್ನು ಅನುದಾನ ಖರ್ಚುಮಾಡಲು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವುದು ಪರಿಣತರ ನಿರ್ಧಾರವಾಗಿದೆ' ಎಂದು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. 'ಭೋಜನೀಯ ಕೊರತೆ, ರಕ್ಷಣಾತ್ಮಕ, ಕೌಶಲಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕುರಿತು ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅನುದಾನವನ್ನು ಪತ್ತೆಹಚ್ಚಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ. ಖರ್ಚುಮಾಡಲು ನಿಗದಿತ ಸಮಯದ ಬೌಕ್ಕು ಹಾಗೂ ಯೋಜನೆ ಬದ್ಧವಾಗಿ ಹಣ ಖರ್ಚುಮಾಡಲು' ಎಂದು ಸಲಹೆ ನೀಡಿದರು.

## 'ಕ್ರಿಯಾಯೋಜನೆ ತಯಾರಿಸಿ'

'ಮಂಡಲೀಯ ದೀರ್ಘಾವಧಿಯ ಮಂಡಲೀಯಾಚರಣೆ ಅನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿತವಾಗಿ 5 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಗುರಿ ಪಾತಕವಾಯಿತು ₹30 ಸಾವಿರ ಕೋಟಿ ವೆಚ್ಚದ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಬೇಕು' ಎಂದು ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಬುರದ ಸಂಘರ್ಷ ಸಮಿತಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ರತ್ನಾ ದತ್ತಿ ಒತ್ತಾಯಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 'ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಹಿಂದಿನಿಂದಲೂ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ, ಮೂಲಕಾರ್ಯದ ವಂಶಿಕ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳ ಪರಿಣಿತರಾದವರಿಗೆ, ಕೃಷಿ ಮತ್ತು ಕೃಷಿಯೇತರ, ವೈಯಕ್ತಿಕವಾದ ಸಹಿತ ಕೌಶಲ ತರಬೇತಿ ಕೊಡಬೇಕು. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಒಂದು ಮಾರಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಕೊಡಬೇಕು. ಕೇವಲವು ರೂಪಿಸಬೇಕು ಒಂದು ವಿಭಾಗ ಕೆಲವು ಅಲ್ಲಿಯೇ 371(ಜೆ)ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಎಲ್ಲ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಸೂಕ್ತವಾಗಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ' ಎಂದರು.

## ಕೆಆರ್‌ಡಿ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆಯಾದ ಅನುದಾನ

ವರ್ಷ	ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ	ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ	ಖರ್ಚು
(₹ ಕೋಟಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)			
2013-14	153.50	78.97	26.66
2014-15	600	300	322.59
2015-16	1,000	750	493.66
2016-17	1,000	750	960
2017-18	1,000	800	450.32
2018-19	1,000	1,000	1,193.54
2019-20	1,500	1,125	1,246.81
2020-21	1,131.86	1,031.86	925.81
2021-22	1,492.97	1,492.97	1,129.66
2022-23	3,000	2,900	1,584.30
ಒಟ್ಟು	11,878.33	10,228	8,333.35

'ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ'ದ ಬೆರಗಿನ ಮಹಾಕನಸು ಸರಬರಾಜು. ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕವೆಂದು ಹೊಸ ಪದವು ರೂಪು ಪಡೆಯಿತು. ಅನುದಾನದ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣವೇನೂ ಆಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಎರಡೂವರೆ ದಶಕದ ಮನೆ-ಮನೆ ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಸ್ವಯಂಸಹಾಯ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣಗಳನ್ನು ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಿ, ಪ್ರಾಥಮಿಕವಾಗಿ ಹೋರಾಟ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದೇ. ಸಮ್ಯಕ್ ಉದ್ದೇಶಗಳು ಉಳಿದಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಬೇರೂರ ಹೋರಾಟಗಾರರನ್ನು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿವೇಶನವು ಸಾಬೀತುಪಡಿಸಿತು. ನಿರ್ದೇಶನಾಲಯದ ಅಧೀನದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಾಜ, ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿನ ಅಧೀನ, ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಕುರಿತು ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಿ, ಸಮ್ಯಕ್ ಉದ್ದೇಶವನ್ನು ಬಹುಮಟ್ಟವಾದ ಅಂಶಗಳಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಸಾವಿರಾರು ಕೋಟಿ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ನೀರಿನಂತೆ ತುಂಬುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೂ 'ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ'ದ ಬೆರಗಿನ ಬಡತನ, ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಅಧಿವೇಶನವು ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಳೆದ ಅಂಶ ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದು ಬೇರೂರ ಸಂಕಟ, 371(ಜೆ) ಅನುದಾನ ಎಲ್ಲಿಗೆ ಹೋಗುತ್ತಿದೆ? ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ಅನುದಾನ ಎಕೆ ಬರುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬುದು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ತಪ್ಪರ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ. ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ 'ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ ಬಜೆಟ್ ಭೋಜನ' ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳು ಇರುವಾಗ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಯೋಜನೆ ಕೇವಲವು. ಅನುದಾನವಾಗಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯರೂಪಕ್ಕೆ ತರುವುದಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಸಹ ವಿತರಿಸಿದ ತಿಂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ, ಅನುದಾನ ಖರ್ಚಿಗೆ ಹಿಡ್ಡಿದ ಅನುದಾನ ಎಂಬುದು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ವಾದ.

Source: Prajavani, p.5, Dec.4, 2023

# KSDL to launch new soaps, aims to expand its presence in north India

The 107-year-old Karnataka PSU will launch its new products this month

**Nagesh Prabhu**  
BENGALURU

**T**he State-run Karnataka Soaps and Detergents Ltd. (KSDL) is all set to diversify its portfolio by launching new popular soap products to expand its footprint in north Indian market.

The 107-year-old PSU will launch its new products, including Mysore Sandal Aqua, mineral packaged drinking water bottles, this month.

A decision to launch new popular soaps catering to the demand and requirements of the common people in north Indian States was taken at a high-level meeting of KSDL, chaired by Minister for Large Industries, M.B. Patil, recently.

In the soap category, the new products include Mysore Sandal Wave Turmeric, Mysore Sandal Wave Lime, and Mysore Sandal Wave Deo.

The gel category products include Mysore Sandal Shower Gel, Mysore Sandal Gold Shower Gel, and Mysore Sandal Millennium Shower Gel. It will also launch a Transparent Bathing Bar. All these products are likely to challenge the existing players in the north Indian market.

The Mysore Sandal Aqua is produced at the



The KSDL market, which is around 81%, is largely confined to the southern States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

KSDL plant in Shivamogga.

While Mysore Sandal Wave Turmeric soap is made of high quality vegetable oils and natural turmeric, Mysore Sandal Wave Lime soap is formulated with a unique combination of deodorant and refreshing lime fragrances. Mysore Sandal Wave Deo soap is formulated with a rich spicy and minty fragrance.

## Scented candles

It will also launch scented candles. The shower gel products are largely for the youth, a KSDL official said.

The company, known for its soap based on pure sandalwood oil, is all set to launch its own super premium bath soap, Mysore Sandal Millennium Gold. The 100 gm soap is likely to be priced at ₹1,000. The soap would be sold in shops at airports.

With the launch of Mysore Sandal Millennium Gold, KSDL, which is known world over for its pure sandalwood oil based toilet soaps, hopes to further increase its market share in the luxury bath soap market.

Mr. Patil has decided to target the north Indian States market because the KSDL market share in north India was just 2.5% at present. The KSDL market (81%) is largely confined to the South Indian States of Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Tamil Nadu.

It has proposed to set up more of its own outlets in Bengaluru city and other parts of Karnataka. Soaps alone contribute more than 90% of the revenue to the company.

After the Lokayukta's raids on KSDL office during the BJP govern-

ment in connection with alleged financial irregularities, the PSU has moved on and decided to chart out its own pan-India strategy. Currently, KSDL produces more than 50 different products, including soaps, detergents, agarbathis, cosmetics and handwash.

Under the guidance of the Minister, the KSDL administration, led by IFoS officer Prashanth P.K.M., has introduced several measures to increase the work productivity of 1,860 employees by increasing the shifts.

The production has increased from 100 tonnes to 125 tonnes per day in the last few months.

The PSU is expected to reach a turnover of ₹2,000 crore in 2023-24. It recorded a turnover of ₹1,400 crore in 2022-23 as against ₹1104 crore in 2021-22, an increase of 25%.

**Source: The Hindu, p.9, Dec. 4, 2023**



# Curtail unnecessary expenditure: Siddaramaiah

**The Hindu Bureau**

BELAGAVI

Directing the officials to ensure that drought relief announced by the State Government reaches farmers in a week, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday asked officials to curtail unnecessary expenditure and prepare a comprehensive estimate while formulating the tender document.

“Revised estimate is causing cost overruns for the projects,” he lamented, adding that guidelines in this regard were in final stage of preparation.

“The departments should study the administrative reforms committee’s report to improve non-tax revenues,” he said, at a meeting of 65 top bureaucrats in the State here on Wednesday.

Stating that of the 143 announcements in the Budget, the Government Order has been issued for implementation of 83 and the others will be issued soon. He also directed officials to take steps to sort out the violation of court orders by various departments, and to address technical glitches in implementing guarantee schemes soon.

**Source: The Hindu, p.7, Dec. 7, 2023**

# Cabinet to discuss scrapping Section 7D to prevent diversion of SC, ST funds

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BELAGAVI

The State Cabinet that is meeting in Belagavi on Thursday is likely to take a decision on scrapping provision Section 7D in the Karnataka Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan and Tri-

bal Sub-Plan (Planning, Allocation, and Utilisation of Financial Resources) Act, 2013, that entails deemed expenditure.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had earlier announced that the deemed expenditure provision would be withdrawn as

the allocation to SC/ST communities had been diverted citing the provision, and various factions of Dalit Sangharsha Samiti too had demanded withdrawal of the provision.

"In the last fiscal alone, the BJP government diverted ₹10,000 crore, mis-

using the deemed expenditure clause. In all, about ₹20,000 crore has been diverted in the last three years," sources said. The major diversions have taken place in water resources, minor irrigation, public works, and revenue departments.

**Source: The Hindu, p.4, Dec. 7, 2023**

## 'Centre yet to release special grant recommended by Finance Commission'

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BELAGAVI

The Union government's financial grant to Karnataka under the Centrally-sponsored scheme and as GST compensation has come down to ₹40,000 crore in the past five years, Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda told the Legislative Council on Thursday.

Replying to a question by member U.B. Venkatesh during Question Hour, the Minister said the ₹11,495-crore special grant recommended by the Finance Commission to the State

### Central grants received by Karnataka

Year	Centrally-sponsored schemes (in ₹ crore)	Social security schemes (in ₹ crore)
2018-19	9,872	522
2019-20	11,868	522
2020-21	9,375	665
2021-22	12,176	494
2022-23	17,960	447

In addition, Karnataka received ₹4,435 crore in 2022-23 as Finance Commission grant and SDRF/NDRF grant

Source: Answer given to a starred question by U.B. Venkatesh in the Legislative Council

and the GST compensation is yet to be received.

Mr. Gowda said the volume of Karnataka's annual Budget is increasing every year. At the same time, the

State's share in the Central revenue is also on the rise. "When compared to the increasing volume of Karnataka's Budget, the grant which is due to the State

from the Centre has come down," he said adding that it has hit the revenue of the State. He said the State had received grants for some Centrally-sponsored schemes while it is yet to get the fund for some of its schemes.

Mr. Gowda, who replied on behalf of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, said the CM wrote to the Union government on August 19, October 6, and November 27 asking it to release the Finance Commission's special grant, GST compensation, and disaster relief due to Karnataka.

**Source: The Hindu, p.8, Dec. 8, 2023**



# K'taka plans big stamp duty hike, exempts property transactions

## Presents Bill; Hikes More Than Double In Some Categories

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Belagavi:** In a move that could impact the cost of legal transactions, the state government presented a bill in the legislative assembly on Thursday, seeking to amend stamp duties, with the aim to broaden the collection base and increase revenue — barring property transactions.

The proposed amendment entails a substantial revision in non-registrable stamp duty rates that are set to increase by more than double in certain cases across different categories of legal documents, such as adoption, rental or lease agreements, divorce papers,

### ENROLMENT CERT ₹2K

Document	Existing cost	Revised
Adoption deed	₹500	₹1,000
Affidavit	₹20	₹100
Enrolment certificate	₹500	₹2,000
Divorce	₹100	₹500
Power of attorney	₹100	₹500
Trusts	₹1,000	₹2,000

Source: State revenue dept

transfer of shares, and power of attorney.

The revision in stamp duty rates, which have remained the same for 53 years, is expected to come into effect from January 1, sources said.

The proposed increase is maximum in case of enrolment certificates, where stamp duties could go up from the current Rs 500 to Rs 2,000. Most significantly, bank guarantees stand to be affected by

## Excess fees: Govt bails out BBMP

The state Thursday bailed out BBMP from repaying nearly Rs 2,500 crore to developers from whom it had collected about 25% excess fees and cess. A retrospective clause will be introduced in the BBMP Act to facilitate this payout by the government. **P 4**

the proposed change that will impact a slew of other agreements as well, such as mortgage deeds, limited liability partnerships, certified copies of documents, and other contractual arrangements. Officials said Karnataka currently ranks fourth nationally in terms of revenue generated from stamp duty and registration charges (SD&RCs).

► 'Aims to simplify', **P 4**

**Continued...**

# Bill aims to simplify duty structure: Min

► Continued from page 1

**N**on-registrable documents contribute only 11.3% to the total stamp duty revenue of Rs 2,027 crore. With the proposed revision, the government aims to generate more than Rs 4,000 crore annually from non-registrable documents, thereby contributing significantly to the overall target of Rs 25,000 crore, that includes stamp duties and registrations, for the 2023-24 fiscal.

For property partitions converted for non-agricultural purposes, the proposed escalation is anticipated to surge from Rs 1,000 per share to Rs 5,000 per share in urban areas.

For agricultural property partitions, stamp duty has been proposed to be raised from Rs 250 per share to Rs 1,000 per share.

Stamp duty for certified copies has been proposed to be raised from Rs 5 per copy to Rs 20, while those that are currently available for Rs 10 will cost Rs 50. Stamp duty for divorce papers, currently set at Rs 100, is set to be Rs 500.

Priyank Kharge, minister for rural development and panchayat raj and IT, BT, presented the bill on behalf of revenue minister Krishna Byregowda in the assembly. Kharge said the proposed increase aims to address ambiguities and simplify the current duty structure, eliminating multiple slabs.

**Source: The Times of India, p.1 & 4, Dec. 8, 2023**

## Minister raises concern over drastic drop in central aid

Times News Network

**Belagavi:** The state government on Thursday expressed concern over a significant decline in central assistance to Karnataka, indicating financial strain. Responding to Congress member UB Venkatesh's query in the legislative council, revenue minister Krishna Byregowda said the assistance has decreased from 23% in the 2016-17 fiscal year to 17% in

2023. Byregowda highlighted that Karnataka's estimated budget for the current fiscal year is Rs 56,000 crore compared to Rs 30,000 crore in 2016-17. Despite the substantial increase in the overall budget from Rs 1 lakh crore to Rs 3 lakh crore during this period, the central assistance has not proportionally risen, causing a deficit of Rs 20,000 crore, he said.

The minister also pointed

out that the Centre is yet to disburse special grants recommended by the 14th Finance Commission to the 15th Finance Commission, totalling Rs 5,495 crore, along with an additional interim order for grants amounting to Rs 6,000 crore. The Centre has asserted that these funds will be considered post the final order by the Finance Commission.

Moreover, the minister pointed out the pending GST

compensation of Rs 1,141 crore for 2022. Out of the allocated Rs 2,333 crore, the state has received only Rs 1,191 crore.

As of now, the central government has released a grant of Rs 10,337 crore for centrally sponsored schemes, with no funds allocated towards social security schemes. Byregowda emphasized that securing the pending grants is crucial to alleviating the financial stress faced by Karnataka.

**Source: The Times of India, p.4, Dec. 8, 2023**



# K'taka sees ₹44.1k cr GST evasion in four years; only 20% recovered

## Recovery Low Due to Long Adjudication Time: Official

Chethan.Kumar  
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**Bengaluru:** Between April 2019 and October 2023, central tax officials detected GST evasion to the tune of Rs 44,170 crore in Karnataka, leading to the arrest of at least 30 people. However, recovery remains at only Rs 9,187 crore, accounting for only 20% of the evaded amount.

As per data from the ministry of finance, detection and recovery by the central tax administration was irrespective of the administrative jurisdiction of the registrants, which means the errant registrants included both those that come under the Centre as well as the state authorities.

According to the ministry, efforts are undertaken to curb evasion in GST with the help of inputs from the directorate general of analytics and risk management (DGARM). Further, the directorate general of GST intelligence (DGGI) and central GST field formations have initiated various measures, including checking evasion through the e-way bill mechanism and taking action on specific intelligence.

Of the Rs 44,170 crore evasion, Rs 5,043 crore was for the period between April 1, 2023 and October 31, 2023, while the highest evasion (Rs 25,839 crore) was recorded in 2022-23. So far as recovery goes, the first seven months of the current fiscal saw Rs 612.1 crore, and the highest (Rs 4,435 crore) was in 2021-22. In 2021-22, the administration managed to recover 76% of the Rs 5,850 crore said to have been evaded.

A Karnataka commercial taxes official told **TOI**: "This data pertains only to enforcement by the central administration guided by the Central GST Act. Issues pertaining to recovery remain more or less the same. There is a long adju-

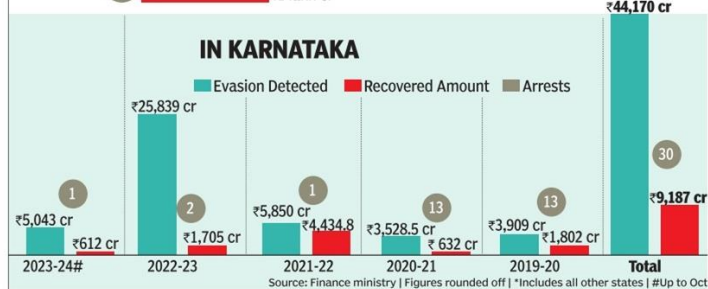
dication process that often delays recovery and in several cases, the initial estimation of evasion is not the same at the end of adjudication as the assessee or registrant would have furnished documents in some cases and the final amount liable for penalty or recovery reduces."

The official said there has been a more efficient enforcement drive both at the central and state level with special focus on organised rackets and that several surprise raids are carried out based on specific intelligence too.

Nationally, the authority detected GST evasion worth over Rs 4.4 lakh crore, of which Rs 1.1 lakh crore or about 25% has been recovered. In Maharashtra, recovery stands at only 19%, while it is around 28% in Delhi. In two other big states, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu, recovery stood at 25% and 39.8%, respectively.

Recovery is by and large less than 50% in most states and union territories for all of the said years with expectations recorded in some states in a year or two.

### TRACKING CASH FLOW



Source: Finance ministry | Figures rounded off | \*Includes all other states | #Up to Oct

**Source: The Times of India, p.5, Dec. 8, 2023**

# At ₹4.8k crore, Karnataka's mop-up from tax defaulters doubles this yr

Chethan.Kumar  
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**Bengaluru:** The state commercial taxes department has collected Rs 4,798 crore between April 1, 2023 and November 30, 2023, from defaulters. It is more than double the amount it had collected during the same period in the previous fiscal.

Commercial taxes commissioner Shikha C said: "We've encountered various tax-evading methods and the department has been aggressive in curbing evasion. The increase in collection this year is only a reflection of that."

She said in November, a probe, targeting over 86 dealers in the iron and steel and scrap sector based out of Bengaluru and its peripheral areas, revealed a web of fraudulent activities and a case in-

volving fake input tax credit (ITC) availing by taxpayers.

"The method employed was systematic availing of ITC from dealers whose registrations have been suspended and cancelled. These entities were found availing ITC from dealers whose establishments don't exist. There were instances of availing ITC from dealers who had obtained registration using

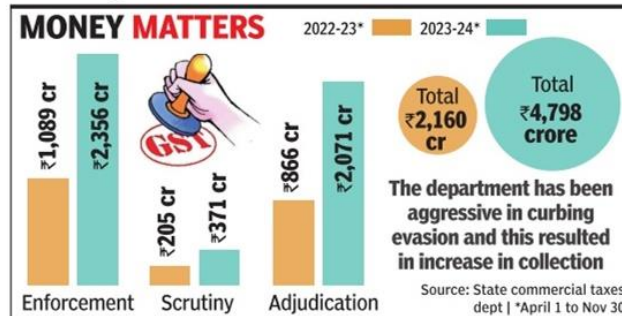
fraudulent documents," she said. The total turnover implicated in the elaborate scheme was Rs 352 crore, with fake ITC involved estimated at Rs 64 crore.

In another operation, the vigilance wing conducted searches in Hoskote, Bengaluru Rural and unearthed a trick adopted by some hoteliers to evade GST.

"Searches were made by a

team of 50 officers on business premises and residences of hoteliers who were mainly engaged in supply of biryani. The modus operandi involved receiving payments by using numerous UPI accounts (in addition to cash) and constantly changing the UPI accounts, so that the actual turnovers are suppressed and taxes are evaded," the department stated.

The Rs 4,798 crore collection this year comes from enforcement (bringing more under the tax net and ensuring those already there don't evade), scrutiny (analysis of those paying taxes to detect evasion and then recover) and adjudication (matters that have been settled by a competent authority). For the same period in 2022-23, the department had collected Rs 2,160 crore.



**Source: The Times of India, p.5, Dec. 8, 2023**

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# EDUCATION

## Why amend varsity Act?

Cosmetic policy changes for political gains will further worsen the state of state varsities

S K SAIDAPUR

In recent days, we have heard that the Karnataka government is planning to amend the KSU Act, ostensibly for greater control over its varsities and the authority to appoint faculty. The government already appoints Vice Chancellors, Registrars, and Registrar Evaluation, the three prime administrative roles. It nominates members of the governing bodies, such as the Syndicate, Executive Committee, or Board of Management. Therefore, enough powers and privileges already rest with the state government, yet there's a push for more control. Only a few vice chancellors, with courage and integrity, resist political pressures. Therefore, it is puzzling why the government machinery seeks greater control over universities and higher education.

It is common knowledge that most state universities are already in bad shape. One fails to understand why an education minister should opt to preside over the further deterioration of these institutions. Instead, why not think of rejuvenating the state universities with a clear and focused vision to make them at least on par with the best premier institutions like the IITs, IISc, and good central universities? In the given situations, we cannot imagine elevating our universities to the level of globally acclaimed ones.

To justify the amendments, first the government should come out with a preamble defining the purpose, strategies, and expected outcome. Firstly, foreseen amendments should help the resurrection of already ailing universities, the closing down of unviable ones, the restructuring of some of them, or the start of new ones with specific focuses. For instance, if a women's university offers women-centric courses rather than traditional ones already available in other institutions, it can make women easily employable or entrepreneurs. Secondly, certain universities (for language, music, folklore, etc.) started in the past need introspection for their academic usefulness and outcome. Thirdly, future amendments should serve to facilitate the recruitment of worthy faculty and the avoidance of inbreeding. Fourthly, a larger objective of education should be to promote i) cross-cultural hybridization by admitting students on a pan-India basis, ii) nationalism, and iii) societal harmony. Amendments make sense only when they meet such objectives.

Ideally, the government should commission a white

paper on 'why and how' our once-good universities have progressively deteriorated rather than reaching zenith and academic excellence and suggest corrective measures needed to raise the status of each university in the state. Such a paper, prepared meticulously based on harsh realities and in consultation with stakeholders, can become an evocative and guiding philosophy for uplifting quality higher education.

A vision document as outlined above can serve as a game changer and enable amendments of great significance, lest it be a futile exercise. Tampering the existing Act with myopic vision will serve no useful purpose. Framing rules should lead to their implementation to forestall chaos. For example, unbridled encroachment of roadsides by street hawkers and the use of pavements for vehicle parking are glaringly visible, and they horrifyingly force pedestrians, including children, the elderly, and physically challenged persons, to mingle with all-time unruly vehicular traffic and risk their lives. It is the result of callous disregard for the implementation of rules by the concerned district administration. Incidentally, any government capable of freeing roadsides for the rightful use of pedestrians can potentially become immortal by winning citizens' appreciation.

Briefly, cosmetic changes in the KSU Act (or scrapping NEP-2020 totally) to have undue control over the education sector may serve political interest in the short term but are sure to create a quagmire that may haunt the state for a long time. Hedging the essence of the new education policy will be a misstep and an injustice to the people of Karnataka. Instead, the policy can be refined to include novel elements. Amending the KSU Act or belittling the NEP-2020 purely on political considerations will be of no avail. Besides, there is a difference between exaggerating faults and being misleading.

A meaningful revamp of the whole education system is unavoidable in the light of unfavourably technology-driven disruption of jobs, especially after IR 4.0 and ever-growing global pressures. Political conveniences serve political ends. Academic concerns and steps to ensure the security of future generations depend on the quality of higher education, which calls for institutional autonomy and accountability. Without first giving freedom and flexibility, people and institutions will only remain unaccountable. It makes sense for the government to remain a facilitator and not a controller of the education system. Is the state government willing to take control and remain accountable instead of leaving these to academicians?

(The writer is a former VC and Founder Director of Karnataka State Higher Education Academy, Dharmavadi)

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*(The writer is a former VC and Founder Director of Karnataka State Higher Education Academy, Dharwad)*

**Source: Deccan Herald, p.8, Dec.2, 2023**



# TRYST WITH TEACHING AT SIXTY

Former art critic **Bansie Vasvani** describes the triumphs and setbacks of teaching English at a government and a private school in Bengaluru

**O**ff a narrow street filled with honking cars, scooters, bicycles, hawkers, shopkeepers and pedestrians, the somewhat newly minted (2019) school I enter is wild with jostling kids. It is lunch time. A tiny quad serves as their playground where they expend their pent-up energy before returning to their afternoon classes.

A few of my 4th graders in the Kannada-to-English medium school grab my hand and usher me into their classroom, as if I might change my mind and leave. Their classroom is crammed with furniture. A stainless steel cupboard, two large wooden desks heaped with dusty old books, and a stack of broken plastic tables compete for space with a few worn metal benches, and faded, rickety preschool furniture, donated many years ago.

Small, cage-like windows remain mostly shut to keep out dust and fumes spewing from periodic bonfires of debris in the adjoining compound. The room feels hot and oppressive. But we settle in despite these minor inconveniences. I find my spot on the teacher's chair and resume my daily venture—teaching conversational and written English in government schools that cater mostly to children from urban slums.

## Galleries to classrooms

It's a long way from New York where I have spent my entire adult life. My short career as a wandering art critic covering biennales all over the world had lost its charm. Deciphering the visual impact of astonishing but often obscure art just couldn't fill a void.

I was at the cusp of turning 60, and I knew there was something more I wanted. The abrupt halt in travel during the Covid-19 pandemic spurred the need to explore a different avenue. It brought me back to Bengaluru where I grew up and went to school.

I was prompted by recurring childhood memories of visiting remand homes and schools in Kolhapur. They were built for the underprivileged by my grandmother in the 50s and 60s. I felt compelled to join an NGO that ran English classes in Tamil and Kannada medium government schools, alongside an after-school programme.

Housed in fairly large compounds, with red oxide floors and gable roofs, these decrepit schools offered little to no proper education in English. In the surrounding area, boys between the ages of 10 and 24 spend their afternoons gambling. But my wide-eyed students with dishevelled hair were clamouring to learn.

## Filling the gap

I had never imagined returning to India and disrupting a perfectly comfortable life in New York with my husband and son. But the long tradition of social work in my family, which began with my great grandfather, had finally come to pass. I knew this is where I belonged. The initial groundwork acquired while volunteering with NGOs revealed a glaring lacuna in basic education for the disadvantaged. I found that local English-speaking teachers with poor understanding of the numerous, mind-boggling rules and exceptions in grammar could not surmount this hurdle. The syntax in English is unlike any

Indian language, which makes it that much more difficult to master. More alarmingly, rote learning, mindless copying of questions and answers from the blackboard, and general listlessness shrouds the method of education for first-generation learners.

I'm consumed by my new-found initiative. I divide my day between a private low-income school, and a government school where children from the poorest backgrounds come for free education.

## Tough audience

My morning routine with the 8th and 9th graders in the low-income school has taken some getting used to. They are overwhelmed with my zealous mission to achieve English competency. My attempt to institute the tried and true method of drill and practice to teach tenses and sentence structure is met with groans, and loud murmurs of rebellion. Quite preposterously, I expect 52 unsuspecting students packed in a stuffy room to engage.

Much like a deluded Henry Higgins, I have set myself up with a roomful of pupils who want to do little.

If the idea of speaking is to communicate, they are puzzled by why their request to "off the fan," is not acceptable. "Mines ma'am," Dhiraaj proclaims loudly, indicative of ownership. They have had it with my strange-sounding pronunciations, and corrections. I try to explain the value of syntax in language learning by slipping into Kannada, the language most of them are familiar with. But it is a poor effort, because my Kannada is basic and shabby. They guffaw, yet I imagine that they are comfortable with has helped explain my point.

On a typical day, it takes at least 10 minutes of my 40-minute class to get my 8th grade students to settle in. Every morning is a social fest, no matter that they have parted company just the previous evening. A new acquisition like a pen must be brandished, or just plain pubescent jockeying keeps them going. Once they calm down, I notice that their bulging backpacks sit right next to each one of them like feckless sentries. Nothing will separate them from their bags. Piffing is rife. I'm told. Yet, despite the vigilance over their belongings, many children like Imran scramble for a pen and basic stationery every morning.

## Need for libraries

Learning an unfamiliar language can be very strenuous. For students like Prameet and Shanaz, English remains an undecipherable foreign language. At the parent-teacher meetings, their parents worry about their lack of exposure to proper English. I lament the absence of good school libraries which obscures the joy of discovering the English language from these students.

The aftermath of the pandemic has magnified slow learners' initial struggle with English, such that 8th grade students are performing at 4th grade-level. For Pranay, for instance, most of the subjects are a blur. He simply cannot follow the class. Drumming the desk, distracting his neighbours, and invariably instigating a shoving match is his modus operandi.

Then just as surprisingly, Rumali blows me away with her fluency in English. Towering over her peers with her astonishing facility in the language, she understands very quickly

what I mean by fleshing out answers. Sequencing and chronology come easily to her. She is the leader everyone turns to when I ask a series of questions in class. "I watch American YouTube shows," she confesses proudly. Such ingenuity is truly heartwarming on particularly distressing days.

## Different levels

Each class is composed of students at dramatically different levels of learning. I have become obsessed with finding a meaningful way to help each group. After basic oral drill work, my students use cues from the board to write their own answers. At first this method of performing independently was too new, and daunting. After fumbling and blindly copying from each other, they have come around with a keenness that amazes me. "On our own ma'am," they ask. "Are you sure ma'am?" they are incredulous with both fear and glee, because I have entrusted them with their own work.

When cajoling does not work, I resort to the conventional technique of delivering threats. Prajitha had failed in her unit test. She begged me to give her an extra mark to pass. She did not want to draw her mother's wrath. I promised I would not report her to her mother on the condition that she came to my daily morning tutorial. Though fear is the worst form of persuasion, I observed this indifferent, often negligent, student turn into a diligent one. The adage, "different strokes for different folks," couldn't have resonated more clearly in this situation.

The sporadic excitement of inter-school competitions brings about a discernible change in mood. Dance trials, recitations, debates and painting contests that test individual skills motivate the students into action. While their last-minute preparation is distressing, witnessing their eagerness to participate is a delight. I'm mobbed on such days. They clamour for ideas and pester me for proper sentences and explanations of aphorisms such as "give a man an inch and he'll take



The writer takes English classes for primary and high school children in urban slums.



"The glamour of travel and reviewing art has segued into the joy of watching kids learn"

a mile", which they are least familiar with. But their spirit is undeterred, and they go to the battlefield pumped up and ready.

## Challenging the norm

The school is ironclad with the demands of state board exams, a practice introduced by the British 200 years ago. Teachers are tormented with completing the syllabus regardless of whether or not it is understood. Most of my students have difficulty reading and comprehending complex narratives in their English textbooks. I am engulfed by my daily struggle to teach my 8th and 9th graders to think, decode, and write. The need to shape logical thinking trumps any creative attempts to build vocabulary and demonstrate the usage of words like spontaneous, spontaneity and spontaneously. The management, utterly confounded by my methods to encourage free-spirited thinking, tries to browbeat me to spoon-feed my students with stock questions and answers.

My journey from interpreting the beauty of abstract brushstrokes has morphed into working with a system entrenched in dogmas of painfully ineffective teaching. But what I have learnt to admire is the resilience of my students. Even though the school might seem like a confinement to some of them, and a mere babysitting outlet to others, their immediate reaction to a pedagogical change is utterly worth the effort. This palpable responsiveness to variation and their willingness to try makes me believe in them. The rush and trial of being knee-deep in the trenches keeps me energised.

Afternoons in the government school amongst 3rd and 4th graders are far more gratifying. My endeavour to make the older children unlearn passivity, is compensated manifold by the little ones' overriding enthusiasm. Like sponges, they soak it all in. While they laugh at my incompetent Kannada, they welcome my impression. They think it's a fair deal to teach me Kannada while they absorb reading and writing skills in English.

Disciplined practice with an experimental group of 11 students has proved to be very successful. Even though they can be just as difficult to manage as my older students, their zeal makes up for their boisterousness. Though in all fairness, I run a bridge programme in the government school, while my older children are constrained by the demands of the curriculum.

Nonetheless, my malnourished, diminutive teenyboppers from urban ghettos, who often survive on just one meal provided by the school, can write perfectly acceptable sentences in three tenses. They have organically understood the syntax of English, though they have no clue what nouns or verbs mean. "Excellent," is what they hunger to hear when they show me their work. I'm elated at their accomplishments, but more importantly, I am able to easily quantify the improvements in this group as opposed to the more amorphous, indeterminate performance of the 8th and 9th graders.

## Beyond labels

My experience in the government school has helped me devise a method of teaching that is devoid of grammatical terms. Reading and written exercises have temporarily exorcised the drudgery of memorising a foreign linguistic system.

Yet none of this would be possible in the government school without the support of its enlightened leader. The principal's unabated assistance and foresight to better the children's grasp of English has propelled me. She is keen that I roll out the programme to grades 1 to 4, which comprise about 95 students. Building a reading library, while accelerating spoken English is certainly high up in her prospects. With the help of two excellent, highly skilled and creative colleagues, I have divided the children from the four grades by ability. Our intention is to work with each group methodically, and bring them up to grade level.

The sea change in my life at 60 has turned out to be much more fulfilling than I anticipated. The glamour of international travel and reviewing astounding artistic creativity has segued into the sheer joy of watching kids learn. For me, being involved with the simplicity of these schools with their bare bones infrastructure, and engaging with children with minimal needs has become a way of life.

Just as I was leaving the government school the other day, one of my students read the last sentence from their afternoon written work. It went, "the mother boasts about her daughter." It best sums up what I have managed to achieve with the younger children. Just have to be patient, I tell myself. The older ones in the low income school will be worthy of boasting about too in due course.

(All names in the article have been changed.)

Like this story? Email: [thomas@deccanherald.co.in](mailto:thomas@deccanherald.co.in)

Source: Deccan Herald, p.13, Dec.2, 2023



# ನ್ಯಾಕ್ ವರದಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಪರದಾಟ

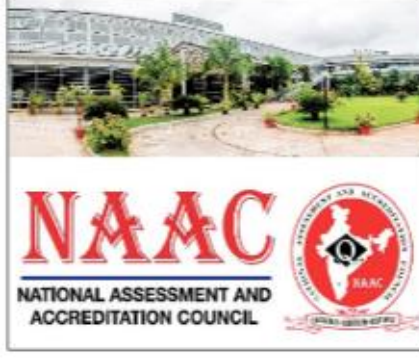
ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕಾರಣದಿಂದ ತಿಣುಕಾಟ | ರಾಜ್ಯದ 430 ಪದವಿ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ

■ ಎನ್.ಎಲ್. ಶಿವಮಾಮ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಪ್ರಥಮ ದರ್ಜೆ ಪದವಿ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ಗಳು ಸರ್ವರ್ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಎದುರಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, 'ನ್ಯಾಕ್' ಹಾಗೂ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ತಮ್ಮ ಸ್ವಯಂ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ವರದಿಗಳನ್ನು (ಎಸ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಆರ್) ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕಾಲೇಜು ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಂಡಳಿಗಳು ಪರದಾಡುವಂತಾಗಿದೆ.

ಪದವಿ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಆಡಳಿತವನ್ನು ಡಿಜಿಟಲೀಕರಣ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ, ಪ್ರವೇಶ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು, ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ, ಅನುದಾನ ಕೋರಿಕೆ, ಬೋಧಕ ಮತ್ತು ಬೋಧಕೇತರ ನಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಸೇರಿ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಆಡಳಿತಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ಡಿಜಿಟಲೀಕರಣ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹಾರ್ಡ್ ಪ್ರತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಳುಹಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ನಿಷೇಧಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಈಗ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳು 2 ಎಂಬಿಗಿಂತ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಪೈಲಟ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾಲೇಜು ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಆಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದರಿಂದ ರಾಜ್ಯದ 430 ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಪ್ರಥಮ ದರ್ಜೆ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ವ್ಯವಹಾರಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಡ್ಡಿಯಾಗಿದೆ.

**ಏನೆಲ್ಲ ಕೆಲಸಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಡ್ಡಿ?:** ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ನವೀಕರಣ ಮಾಹಿತಿ, ಕಾಲೇಜು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ಆಡಳಿತ, ಮಾನ್ಯತಾ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಅರ್ಹತೆಯ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವ ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನ ವರದಿ, ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಮೌಲ್ಯಾಂಕನ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾನ್ಯತಾ ಮಂಡಳಿಯು (ನ್ಯಾಕ್) ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳ ಭೇಟಿಗೆ ನಿಗದಿಯಾಗುವ ಸಮಯ ತಿಳಿಯುವ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ, ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನ ಮಾನದಂಡಗಳ ಅನುಸರಿಸುವ ಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕವೇ ನಡೆಸಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ತಂತ್ರಾಂಶದ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ



ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಯಿಂದ ಕೆಲಸಗಳು ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ನಿಗದಿತ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ತಮ್ಮ ವರದಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸದಿದ್ದರೆ, ನ್ಯಾಕ್ ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ಕೈತಪ್ಪುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಗಳಿವೆ ಎಂದು ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ಪ್ರಾಂಶುಪಾಲರು ಆತಂಕ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. **ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಏನು?:** ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳು ವರದಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ ಬಳಿಕ ಲೆಟರ್ ಆಫ್ ಇಂಟೆಂಡ್ ಅನ್ನು ನ್ಯಾಕ್‌ಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು. ವರದಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ 15 ದಿನದೊಳಗೆ ನ್ಯಾಕ್ ತನ್ನ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯನ್ನು ಆರಂಭಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಅದಾದ ನಂತರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯು ನ್ಯಾಕ್ ತಲುಪಲು ನೋಂದಣಿ ಶುಲ್ಕವನ್ನು ಡಿಡಿ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿ ಅದರ ಚಲನ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಆಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು. ಅನಂತರ ನ್ಯಾಕ್ ತಂಡವು 3 ವಾರದೊಳಗೆ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಲು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿ, ತಿಂಗಳೊಳಗೆ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಒಂದುವೇಳೆ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕೊರತೆಗಳು ಕಂಡುಬಂದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

**ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಗೆ ಪತ್ರ**

ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ನ್ಯಾಕ್‌ಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, 2 ಎಂಬಿಗಿಂತ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಪೈಲಟ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ಗೆ ಆಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ವರದಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ನ. 25 ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನವಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಈ ಕುರಿತು ನ್ಯಾಕ್ ಸಂಚಾಲಕರಿಗೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೇಳಿಕೊಂಡಾಗ ಡಿ.11ರವರೆಗೆ ಗಡುವು ನೀಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ ಆಗಾಗ್ಗೆ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಎದುರಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ನಮಗೆ ಸ್ವಯಂ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ವರದಿ (ಎಸ್‌ಎಸ್‌ಆರ್) ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಆನನುಕೂಲವಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಕೂಡಲೇ ಬಗೆಹರಿಸಬೇಕೆಂದು ಹಲವು ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳು ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಆಯುಕ್ತರಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರ ಬರೆದು ಮನವಿ ಮಾಡಿವೆ.

**ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಉಂಟಾಗಿರುವ ವಿಷಯ ನನ್ನ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ ಪರಿಹರಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.**  
**|| ಜಿ. ಜಗದೀಶ್ ||** ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಆಯುಕ್ತ



# ವಿಸ್ತೃತ ವರದಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತ ಕುಲಪತಿ ಪರಾಣ್ | 5 ಸಾವಿರದಷ್ಟು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಹೊಸ ವಿವಿಗೆ 5 ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬೇಕು 342 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ.

■ ದೇವರಾಜ್ ಕನಕಪುರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

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ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಸಂಕಷ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಳಲುತ್ತಿರುವ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಮಧ್ಯೆ ಒಂದು 'ಮಾದರಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ'ವಾಗಿ ರೂಪಿಸಬೇಕಾದಲ್ಲಿ 5 ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ 342 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ.ಗಳ ಜತೆಗೆ ನೂರಾರು ಎಕರೆ ಜಾಗದ ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆ ಇದೆ.

ಇದರ ಜತೆಗೆ, 4-5 ಸಾವಿರದಷ್ಟು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಪಡೆಯಬೇಕು. ಕನಿಷ್ಠ 25 ಕಾರ್ಯ ಬೋಧಕರಿರಬೇಕೆಂದು ಹೊಸ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಪರಿಷತ್ ಉಪಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಹಾಗೂ ಧಾರವಾಡದ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತ ಕುಲಪತಿ ಪ್ರೊ.ಎಂ.ಪರಾಣ್ ಅವರು ಸರಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿರುವ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಫಾರಸು ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

**ಆರಂಭಿಸಬೇಕಿರುವ ಕೋರ್ಸ್:** ಹೊಸ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳು ಕೋರ್ಸ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆರಂಭಿಸುವ ಮುನ್ನ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪ ಜಾಗರೂಕತೆ

ವಹಿಸಬೇಕು. ಮೊದಲಿಗೆ ಮಾನವಿಕ ಕೋರ್ಸ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆರಂಭಿಸಬೇಕು. ಅನಂತರ ಕಲಾ ನಿಕಾಯ. ಮೊದಲ ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನದ ಕೋರ್ಸ್‌ ಆರಂಭಿಸುವ ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಇದಾದ ಬಳಿಕ



2 ಅಥವಾ 3ನೇ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ಆರಂಭಿಸಬೇಕು. ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ, ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಈ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಂತಹಂತವಾಗಿ ಕೋರ್ಸ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ.

5 ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪದವಿ, ಸ್ನಾತಕೋತ್ತರ ಪದವಿ, ಸಮಗ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ 4 ರಿಂದ 5 ಸಾವಿರ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು 25 ವಿಭಾಗಗಳಿರಬೇಕು. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಧನಸಹಾಯ ಆಯೋಗ(ಯುಜಿಎಸಿ) ನಿಯಮಗಳ

ಪ್ರಕಾರ 10 ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್, 20 ಸಹ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ, 40 ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕರಿರಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಫಾರಸು ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

**ಇರಬೇಕಾದ ಬೋಧಕ ವರ್ಗ**

ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್	10
ಸಹ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ	20
ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ	40

ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಅಂದಾಜು ಲೆಕ್ಕ	
ವರ್ಷ	ರೂ.ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ
1	8,35,92,000
2	6,43,00,000
3	26,65,00,000
4	117,56,00,000
5	183,66,41,000
ಒಟ್ಟು	3,42,66,33,000

**7 ವಿವಿಯ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ**

ವರದಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಸೂಚನೆ ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯು ಮಾದರಿ ವಿವಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಗೆ ತಗಲುವ ವೆಚ್ಚದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆದಿದೆ. ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಆರಂಭಿಸಿರುವ 7 ವಿವಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅನುದಾನವನ್ನು ಮಾದರಿ ವಿವಿಯಂತೆಯೇ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆಯೇ ಎಂಬ ವಿಚಾರದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ವರದಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವಂತೆ ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಚಿವ ಡಾ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಸುಧಾಕರ್ ಅವರು ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗೆ ಪತ್ರ ಬರೆದು ಕೋರಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

**Source: Vijayakarnataka, p.2, Dec.6, 2023**

## 5 ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳ 92 ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಾವು! ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಸತಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಸಂಘದ ದುಃಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಬಯಲು ಮಾಡಿದ ವರದಿ

**ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳೇನು?**

- ಕೈಸ್ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಎಲ್ಲವೂ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಕಚೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ, ತಾಲೂಕು ಮಟ್ಟದ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಲ್ಲ.
- ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎಂಜಿನಿಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗವಿಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಹಲವಾರು ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ತಪ್ಪು ಅಂದಾಜು ಪಟ್ಟಿಗಳು ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿವೆ.
- ವರ್ಷದ ನಂತರ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ಮಾಲೀಕರಿಗೆ ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ನೀಡುವ ಕಾರಣ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್ ಗೆ ನೀಡುವ ಕಾರಣ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್ ಗೆ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ನೀಡಲು ಆನೇಕರು ಹಿಂದೇಟು ಹಾಕುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

**ವಿಧಾನಸಭೆ, ಸುವರ್ಣಸೌಧ:** ಐದು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವ 'ಕೈಸ್' (ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ವಸತಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಸಂಘ) ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬರೋಬ್ಬರಿ 92 ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಮೃತಪಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎನ್ನುವ ಆಘಾತಕಾರಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಬಹಿರಂಗವಾಗಿದೆ.



ವಿಧಾನ ಮಂಡಲದ ಅನುಸೂಚಿತ ಜಾತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಗಡಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಸಮಿತಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿರುವ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಅಂಶ ಬಹಿರಂಗವಾಗಿದೆ. ಕೈಸ್ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹಲವು ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಿದ್ದು,

ಈ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಬಗೆಹರಿಸಲು ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಕೊರತೆ ಇರುವುದಾಗಿ ಹೇಳಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಮೃತ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಪೈಕಿ 29 ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿದ್ದು ಆತ್ಮಹತ್ಯೆ, ಇನ್ನು ಕೆಲವರು ಮನೆಗೆ ಹೋಗುವ ದಾರಿಯಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಅಸುನೀಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎಂಬ ಅನುಮಾನಾಸ್ಪದ ಅಂಶವನ್ನೂ ವರದಿ ಸಾರಿದೆ.

ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಾವಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ನಾಗರಿಕ ಹಕ್ಕು ನಿರ್ದೇಶ ನಾಲಯದಿಂದ ಸಮಗ್ರ ತನಿಖೆಯಾಗಿದೆಯೇ ಇಲ್ಲವೇ ಎಂದು ಪೋಷಕರಿಂದ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಿ, ಕಾನೂನಿನ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೀಘ್ರ ಕ್ರಮವಹಿಸುವಂತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ, ಪೋಷಕರಿಗೆ, ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರಿಗೆ ಇಲಾಖಾ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೌನ್ಸಿಲಿಂಗ್ ಮಾಡಿಸುವಂತೆ ಇದೇ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡಿದೆ.



**ಹಾಸಿಗೆ, ಮಂಚವಿಲ್ಲ!**

ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ, ಪಂಗಡ ಹಾಗೂ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳ ಕೆಲ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗಲೂ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಹಾಸಿಗೆ, ಮಂಚಗಳಿಲ್ಲದೇ ಒಬ್ಬ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ಮಲಗುವ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇಬ್ಬರು, ಮೂವರು ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಮಲಗುವ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಿದೆ. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ಇದೇ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಇರುವುದು ತೋಚನೀಯ. ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಭಾಗದ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 40 ಮಕ್ಕಳಿರುವ ಕಡೆ 100 ಮಕ್ಕಳಿದ್ದು ಸೊಲಭೆ ಒದಗಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಇರುವ ಅನುದಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಅನುಮತಿಗಾಗಿ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಇಲಾಖೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದರೆ ತಿರಸ್ಕೃತವಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬ ಗಂಭೀರ ಅಂಶವನ್ನೂ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾಪಲಾಗಿದೆ.

→ 8

**Continued....**

# ಐದು ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳ 92 ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಾವು!

← ಮೊದಲಪುಟದಿಂದ

ಪಠ್ಯಕ್ರಮವೇ ಇಲ್ಲ! ಕೈಸ್ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಲೆ, ಸಂಗೀತ, ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಕಲಿಸಬೇಕು ಎನ್ನುವ ನಿಯಮವಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟ ಪಠ್ಯಕ್ರಮವಿಲ್ಲ. ಇನ್ನು ಕೆಲ ವಿಷಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರೇ ಇಲ್ಲ ಎನ್ನುವ ಅಂಶವೂ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಹಿರಂಗವಾಗಿದೆ. 10ನೇ ತರಗತಿವರೆಗೂ ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ತರಬೇತಿ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, 11,174 ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿವೆ. 155 ಶಾಲೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಇಂಟರ್ನೆಟ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನೇ ನೀಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಲವು ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರೂ ಇಲ್ಲ. 209 ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ 93ರಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳಾ ವಾರ್ಡನ್‌ಗಳಿಲ್ಲ. ಒಬ್ಬೊಬ್ಬ ವಾರ್ಡನ್‌ಗೆ ಎರಡು ಮೂರು ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆ ಅಧಿಕ ಪ್ರಭಾರ ವಹಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಮಕ್ಕಳ

ರಕ್ಷಣೆಗೂ ತೊಂದರೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂದು ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಹಲವೆಡೆ ಶಾಲೆ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯದ ಕೊರತೆಯಿದೆ. ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆಗೆ ಇಲಾಖಾ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯನ್ನೂ ನೀಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಅನೇಕ ಭಾಗಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹಾರದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆದ ನಂತರ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ನೀಡುವ ಮಾದರಿಗಳಿಗೂ ಮತ್ತು ನಂತರ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡುವ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳಿಗೂ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಒಂದು ಪ್ರಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿದಾಗ ಒಳಗೆ ಪ್ಲಾಸ್ಟಿಕ್ ಪೋಮ್ ಇದ್ದುದ್ದು ಬೆಳಕಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಇಂತಹ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಪ್ರಭಾವಿಗಳ ಕೈವಾಡ ಗಮನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ವರದಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ.

**Source: Vijayavani, p.3-8, Dec.7, 2023**



# UGC nod soon for short-term courses

**R. Sujatha**

CHENNAI

Higher education institutions (HEIs) will soon have the freedom to introduce short-term, credit-linked skill development certificate courses of three to six months.

The self-financing courses may be offered to those who have qualified in the senior secondary exam (10+2) and are eligible for admission to any UG programme of the institu-

tion. The University Grants Commission (UGC), at its meeting on Thursday, approved the guidelines for the HEIs to start such courses. The draft will be published on its website for public comments.

As many as 29 courses have been included. The HEIs could offer courses, provided they have the infrastructure and training capacity. A short-term course in any stream shall be of at least 12 credits and a maximum of 30 credits,

with greater focus on practical learning. The curriculum may be developed in consultation with the relevant sector skill councils or existing accredited bodies or institutions and industry partners. Candidates may take a maximum of two courses during their degree/diploma programmes. Institutions may have a say in how they conduct the theory classes, but the hands-on training must happen in an industry setting or workshop.

**Source: The Hindu, p.11, Dec.8, 2023**

## K'taka saw 18,461 kids out of school in 2022-23

**PURAN CHOUDHARY**  
@ Bengaluru

IN the last six years, 71,945 students in Karnataka have dropped out of school, according to data from the Primary School and Literacy Department. Despite various initiatives by the State and Union governments and the implementation of the Right to Education (RTE) policy, the State is in the 7th position for the highest number of dropouts in schools in the country.

Karnataka's dropout rate has worried experts who want the

authorities to take proactive steps and organise larger awareness campaigns to bring children back to school. They also want the authorities to introduce an early warning system to predict possible dropouts.

As per the data provided by Samagra Shikshana Karnataka (SSK) under the Department of Education, during 2022-2023, 18,461 children dropped out. The highest number of 13,267 for the academic year was recorded for children in the age group of

6-14, who are mandated under the RTE Act. They include children who had either dropped out or never enrolled in school. The rest of 5,194 students were from 9,10 and PU grades.

According to Srikanth, State Project Officer, SSK, the study for 2022-2023 was conducted in January through the School Operation Survey with the help of teachers and the numbers available with the administration.

"Along with teachers, our officers also visit the brick facto-

ries, hotels, slums and other areas where children usually work. Post this, all of them are brought back to school."

"Replying to a question during the winter session in Belagavi on the initiatives taken by the government, Madhu Bangarappa, Minister for Primary School Education and Literacy, said that once students are found to be out of school, notices are issued to their parents and a deadline of one month is given to them to appear before the District Child Welfare Committee.

**CONTINUED ON: P2**

**Source: The New Indian Express, p.1, Dec.8, 2023**

# OOS students: Experts question govt's claims, seek transparency

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

MADHU Bangarappa, Minister for Primary School Education and Literacy, said, "On 1st and 15th of every month, information should be given to the Block Education Officer about the steps taken to mainstream the out of school children." The minister also spoke about special training programmes held for children and migrant families and for teachers. A sum of Rs 208.08 lakh has been released for such initiatives during 2021-2022, he added.

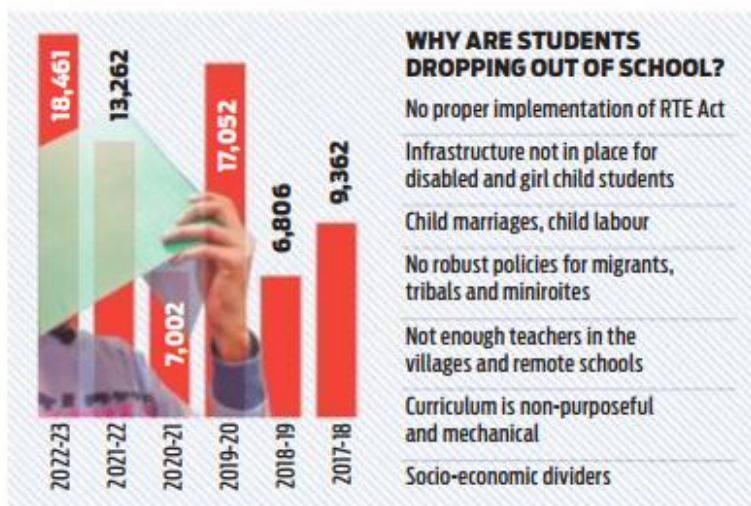
Experts are not convinced with the government's claims and have questioned the transparency of the number recorded. They flagged that the numbers could be much higher than reported. Sheshagiri KM Rao, Education Specialist, UNICEF, said teachers should also be trained to integrate these students into the mainstream. "The last mile" that involves making sure children don't leave schools again, learn and pick up skills still remains a challenge. Rao said migrants are not being

mapped and the administration should adopt robust systems.

Nagasimha Rao, Director, Child Rights Trust (CRT), said students should be provided counselling in the post-Covid era that have made them restless and disinterested in education. "Surveys should be conducted at the end of the year and not beginning to analyse the exact number of dropouts. We need to repeat the benefits of education to parents con-

stantly as public memory is short. Other issues such as child-friendly schools, infrastructure for disabled, rehabilitation measures and coordination among various departments are pressing issues in the system," he added.

KE Radhakrishna, educationist, said the "causal approach" towards education is detrimental and not just stopping dropouts, but also hiring and training teachers.



Source: The New Indian Express, p.2, Dec.8, 2023

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## Environment

# New policy bats for tax cuts, natural gas generators

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bengaluru:** As all major countries in the world gather in Dubai for COP28, Karnataka has come out with a policy that proposes a series of initiatives to promote natural gas — LNG, CNG and PNG — as part of a larger attempt to push for environment-friendly energy sources by the Centre.

While the state cabinet had cleared the policy's cre-

### WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES

- Ensure faster implementation of CGD infrastructure
- Make permissions and charges standardised & uniform in a time-bound manner
- Help CGD entities undertake safe ops & reliable/uninterrupted supply of natural gas
- Promote adoption of natural gas as a green and clean fuel

**Note:** CGD entities are those authorised by GoI or Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board to lay, build, operate, or expand a city or local natural gas distribution network

### GREEN PUSH

ation in October, the infrastructure development department has now notified the State City Gas Distribution (CGD) Policy, a copy of which is with TOI.

Among other things, the policy proposes that telecom towers and apartments that

draw backup power from diesel generators shift to CNG, all government departments aim to have 40% of their vehicles run on CNG, tax cuts on LNG and CNG, and more.

Pointing out that telecom service towers, apartments, and commercial buildings draw backup energy from a conventional source (diesel

generator) which pollutes and leaves a carbon footprint, the policy says with the expansion of CGD network, a readily available alternative is to switch over to natural gas-based generators, especially in urban areas.

As per the policy, to provide user-friendly clean and green fuel CNG and PNG at af-

fordable rates, the Karnataka sales tax rates may be reviewed and rationalised to a uniform rate with a ceiling of 5% or below.

Further, to promote the use of CNG/LNG in the transport sector, state policy thrust will be given by rationalising road tax for factory-fitted CNG/LNG vehicles and making them on a par with electric vehicles.

The policy also states that transport corporations will reserve about 40% for CNG/LNG buses while purchasing new buses and retrofitting the present alternate fuel fleet (which is viable). Efforts will be taken to convert about 40% of vehicles in government departments, municipalities, and corporations to CNG vehicles, wherever CNG infrastructure is available.

"In ecologically sensitive areas like port areas and mining areas, CNG transport vehicles may be promoted as an initiative to improve the environment. Heavy diesel machinery being used in these areas can be converted to CNG/LNG. In coastal and river areas that are also ecologically sensitive, CNG/LNG boats, vessels, machinery may be promoted, for which the government may provide subsidies," the policy reads.

### Investment potential

At present, CGD infrastructure is operational across Karnataka. "...There is an investment potential of Rs 12,000 crore and thousands of employment generation opportunities due to the expansion of CGD infrastructure," the policy reads.

**Source: The Times of India, p.3, Dec.7, 2023**

# Soil dumping puts 330-acre Hennagara Lake at risk

## Trees cut to alter landscape, say residents

BENGALURU, DHNS

**H**ennagara Lake near Electronic City — which was constantly fed with industrial effluents — is in trouble yet again. Hundreds of trucks are making a beeline to the lake on a daily basis, filling the live waterbody with fresh soil. Residents, who live close to the 330-acre lake, are worried that the unchecked dumping of soil could leave their homes flooded.

Over the past year, it's estimated that no fewer than 10,000 trucks of soil were dumped into the water to raise the ground's elevation. This

is also evident as the Jigani-Bommasandra link road has turned muddy and the soil has expanded into the water body at least by 300 metres to half a kilometre. Residents say trees were cut and hyacinth was also cleared in a bid to change the nature of the land.

A glance through the Revenue Department's Dishaank application shows the lake, which falls under Jigani Hobli and Anekal Taluk, has got four survey numbers. Residents suspect the soil is being dumped and leveled on the survey number, which is a part of the lake but shows under the name of Karnataka Indus-



Hennagara Lake is being filled with trucks of soil.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

trial Area Development Board (KIADB).

"When we brought to light the illegal dumping of soil, different authorities have shared contradicting responses. The panchayat has pointed out that it belongs to a prominent builder while records show the KIADB is the custodian of that area. In all possibilities, the

records of lake land have been tampered with," Tushar Chandra, who is part of Vrikshamitra Foundation and a resident of the area, said.

Another resident recounted the number of trucks parked on the lakebed during Ayudha Puja, highlighting the potential impact of soil dumping on nearby areas.

Videos of earthmovers dumping soil into the water body have gone viral on social media, with some netizens questioning the government's commitment to safeguarding the water body.

"Tomorrow if Bengaluru sinks like Chennai then don't cry! This is how it's done! Hennagara Lake, Jigani is being filled by the Real Estate Mafia to reclaim land for a private villa project," Citizens Movement, East Bengaluru, posted on X (formerly Twitter).

When contacted, the panchayat development officer of Hennagara said the tahsildar went to the spot on Thursday and stopped the dumping of soil. "We will have to restore the lake. What happened is just illegal. We will also be booking a case against the encroachers," he said.

Anekal Tahashildar Shivappa Lamani did not respond to calls.

**Source: Deccan Herald, p.2, Dec.8, 2023**



# Forest Minister blames loss of green cover for man-animal conflicts in city

**The Hindu Bureau**

BELAGAVI

Blaming the loss of green cover around Bengaluru for the man-animal conflict cases in the city, Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre called upon MLAs to fight against the encroachment of forest land and protect the animal habitat.

Replying to a question from Satish Reddy, Bommanahalli MLA, in the Legislative Assembly on Thursday, Mr. Khandre said Bengaluru Urban district had over 8,900 hectares of forest land.

Contending that about 2,800 acres of forest area around Bengaluru had been encroached upon, the Forest Minister said the government had registered over 1,000 cases.

While 403 acres of forest land had been recovered, the courts had stayed the proceedings in a few cases.

## Increasing population

Though the population of animals was increasing, the forest area was dwindling on account of rapid urbanisation. This, he said,



Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre has called upon MLAs to fight against the encroachment of forest land and protect the animal habitat. FILE PHOTO

was leading to wild animals straying into human habitats.

After Mr. Khandre's call to the MLAs to oppose encroachment of forest land, Speaker U.T. Khader too intervened in the discussion and said animals too had as much right to live as humans.

Responding to questions raised by Mr. Reddy on the dart that failed to tranquilise the leopard that had entered an apartment complex in Bengaluru in early November, leading to its killing, Mr.

Khandre said only qualified veterinarians take decisions on the amount of tranquiliser needed for an animal based on various parameters, including the animal's weight.

However, on certain occasions, the tranquiliser is not released into the animal's body even after the dart is fired, he said.

Mr. Khandre agreed to a suggestion from Mr. Reddy for equipping Forest Department staff with thermal drones, cages, nets, and safety gear while handling emergencies arising

out of man-animal conflicts.

He said the Leopard Task Force constituted by the State government in the wake of the incident, comprised 59 persons including 40 persons on contract, besides five drivers and officers of the Forest Department.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring it to the NOTICE of General Public, that **Shri. Ashok Ram s/o. Narayan G Lal** aged about 41 years R/at No. 638, I Main Road, Shankarag Bus Stop, Kamalanagar, BANGALORE - 560 079, intending to purchase the property bearing New Municipal No. 762, Kamalanagar, Sy. No. 46, previous

**Source: The Hindu, p.2, Dec.8, 2023**



# No quick fix for man-elephant conflict

Since August 8, six persons have died in elephant attacks in the neighbouring districts of Hassan and Chikkamagaluru. Two were working for the Forest Department



Arjuna, the tusker, was buried in Yeslur range in Sakalespur taluk of Hassan on December 5. The elephant died in a fight with a wild tusker during the elephant capture operation the previous day.



The forest department staff and caretakers of tamed elephants successfully captured a tusker in Belur on November 28.

**Sathish G. T.**  
SHIVAMOGGA

**M**eena, a 32-year-old worker, had just reached the coffee plantation in Galigundi near Aldur in Chikkamagaluru district on November 8 morning, along with fellow workers. She was about to have breakfast when she encountered a wild tusker. She froze in shock and the pachyderm trampled her to death and moved on nonchalantly.

Watching tamed elephants take a stroll on the city streets as part of the Dasara procession inspires awe. But encountering a tusker in the wild or in the coffee estates of Hassan and Chikkamagaluru districts can be very dangerous. Like Meena, many have died in the two districts in the last 20 years. Since August 8 (Elephant Day), six people have died in elephant attacks in the two neighbouring districts. Among them, two were working for the Forest Department.

## Two from Department

H.H. Venkatesh, 67, popularly known as Aane Venkatesh, was trampled to death by a tusker during the elephant capture operation in Alur taluk of Hassan on August 31. Karthik Gowda, 26, who was part of the Elephant Task Force, succumbed to injuries in a similar attack at Byrapura, near Mudigere, on November 22. Both lost their lives in their efforts to minimise man-elephant conflict in the region.

Besides, Kavitha, 37, an agricultural labourer, died in Vadur of Hassan on August 18. Kimi, 60, of Durga village in Chikkamagaluru, died on October 23, and Dipak Ray, 54, a construction worker from West Bengal, died in an elephant attack at Ankihalli in Belur taluk on October 27.

These deaths in a short period highlight the severity of the problem that local people have been facing. Spread over several herds, wild elephants roam in parts of Sakalespur, Alur, Belur, Mudigere, and Chikkamagaluru taluks. Before getting out of the house, people have to check on the latest alert from the Forest Department about the location of the herds. The department sends messages on the location of elephants through WhatsApp. The members of Rapid Response Teams, formed by involving local youths, keep track of herds and inform the people. Similarly, the department has a system to track the movement of herds, as radio collars have been installed on several female elephants that lead the herds.

Yet, conflicts occur and lead to deaths. Given the increasing number of elephants, it has been difficult for the department to keep track of all elephants and alert the public. In the past, there were incidents in which children playing near their houses were killed, schoolchildren were charged, bikers were attacked, and houses were raided.

## Loss to farmers

Besides the threat to human lives, the elephants roaming in the fields have caused a heavy loss to growers. Many farmers have lost their crops



A wild tusker, which was sedated with a tranquilizer, died in Mudigere taluk on December 2. The officers said it was an accident.

despite putting in a lot of effort and money. A stroll by a herd of elephants in an estate uproots coffee plants nurtured for years, impacting the yield. The compensation paid towards crop loss is meagre considering the input cost. Added to that is the time required to cultivate the same again. Local people have staged protests on several occasions demanding the state and central governments capture all elephants and relocated.

However, the laws of the land and the court directions do not support en-masse relocation of elephants. Environmentalists argue that damage caused to the forest cover, particularly the elephant corridor, in the name of widening highways, laying railway tracks, power projects, laying power lines, and mega irrigation projects are the cause of increased man-elephant conflicts. Animal lovers opine that elephants are in their place, while it is human beings who have encroached upon the animals' space.

## Capturing elephants

With this situation on the ground, the Forest Department often takes up the exercise of capturing elephants, particularly those causing trouble, and shifting them to a different places. There have been many such drives in the past. A major drive to relocate 22 elephants was carried out in Hassan in 2013-14. Since 1986, the



The Forest Department staff and caretakers of tamed elephants successfully captured a tusker in Belur on November 28. The department launched the operation on November 24 to radio collar nine elephants in Hassan district.



Arjuna, the tusker, was buried in Yeslur range in Sakalespur taluk of Hassan on December 5.

department has translocated more than 80 elephants. Whenever such operations are conducted, incidents of man-elephant encounters have come down, at least for a few months. However, within a short span, the incidents recur, forcing the department to jump into action again.

The Forest Department gave clearance to capture three elephants in Chikkamagaluru and Mudigere taluks and relocate them to Bhadra Tiger Reserve in November this year. The operation is still going on. Similarly, another operation is going on in Hassan, where the task is to capture nine elephants and fix radio collars. As per the plan, the tuskers would be translocated and female elephants would be freed in the same place. As female elephants lead the herds, it would be possible to track their movements with the help of radio collars.

## A tough task

The department staff and caretakers of the tamed elephants that take part in the elephant capture operations have a tough task. Veterinarians, who accompany the teams, risk their lives to fire tranquillizer darts that help sedate the animals. Dr. Vinay S., veterinarian of Shivamogga Wildlife Division, had multiple injuries after he was attacked by an elephant during one such

operation in Channagiri in April this year. He recovered after spending months in the hospital. H.H. Venkatesh, who was part of the team in Hassan, died during the operation as a tusker trampled him. Similarly, Karthik Gowda, a member of the elephant task force, died in similar circumstances in Chikkamagaluru.

"Darting an elephant is not an easy task," says a veterinarian involved in such operations. One has to study the terrain, understand the weight of the animal, and ensure there is no danger to the animal around. "We can gauge the age by analysing its footprints. One has to ensure there is no water body nearby, as there are chances of animals falling into the water after it is tranquilized. Besides that, there are many factors that deserve attention. There is a set protocol to follow," he said.

## Death of elephants

The officers and veterinarians have attracted a lot of criticism following the two recent incidents that led to the deaths of two elephants. In Chikkamagaluru, a tusker, which was identified for capture, died during the operation at Mekanagadde in Mudigere taluk on December 2. The elephant died after the tranquillizer dart was fired. Even after clear instructions from the senior officers to follow the rules and guidelines, the operation was carried out late in the night, according to sources in the department. However, the officers concluded that it died accidentally.

In the latest case, Arjuna, the tusker, died during the operation at Yeslur Range of Forest in Sakalespur taluk. The incident left thousands of people across the state mourning as the elephant was popular. He had carried the golden howdah of Mysuru Dasara eight times. Besides that, Arjuna had participated in elephant capture operations and led a team of other tamed and trained elephants successfully. He died in a fight with a wild elephant. In the meantime, the department captured another tusker in Chikkamagaluru and shifted the same to elephant camp, though there was clear instruction to relocate it. The officers maintained that the elephant required care as it suffered injuries in the operation.

Such incidents highlight the need for proper training for the officials, the staff, and the caretakers of elephants. Minister for Forests Eshwar Khandre, after these incidents, has said that the department will give importance to training the staff on how to conduct the elephant capture operations effectively.

## No system to train

Interestingly, there is no system to train caretakers of elephants. Only those who are already into handling elephants train their children unofficially. There is no chance for others to enter the field. During the recent recruitments to fill up vacancies for elephant caretakers, it was evident that there were no trained candidates, except for those from the families of people already doing the job. And elephants obey only the orders of their mahouts.

**Source: The Hindu, p.10, Dec.8, 2023**



# Karnataka Cabinet approves climate resilience project worth ₹5,000 cr.

It entails World Bank aid of ₹3,500 cr. and State grants of ₹1,500 cr.; proposal to be sent to Union Dept. of Economic Affairs

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BELAGAVI

**T**he State government on Thursday approved the Karnataka Multi Sector Disaster and Climate Resilience Project, estimated to be ₹5,000 crore and to be implemented with World Bank assistance. The approval of the project was among the many proposals cleared by the Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

The project includes climate resilient infrastructure in Bengaluru by developing rajakaluves, waterway front, construction of STPs and WTPs, restoring lakes, recharging groundwater with flood water, and managing wastewater. Among others, the project envisages institutional strengthening and



The project includes climate resilient infrastructure in Bengaluru by developing rajakaluves, construction of STPs and WTPs. FILE PHOTO

capacity building by reorganising the climate and disaster relief management governance system and re-purpose KSNDMC, sources said.

The project entails World Bank assistance of ₹3,500 crore and State grants of ₹1,500 crore, and the proposal will be sent to Union Department of Economic Affairs for recom-

mending it to World Bank. The project has mainstream flood and drought risk management by updating and operationalising the Karnataka Water policy, 2022, and enhancing climate finance accessibility by leveraging government Budget, programmes, and schemes.

The Cabinet approved the scrapping of the con-

troversial Section 7D of The Karnataka Scheduled Castes Sub Allocation and Tribal Sub Allocation (Planning, Allocation and Utilisation of Financial Resources) Act, and approved moving of an amendment in this regard for the legislature's approval.

Meanwhile, it is learnt that the Cabinet decided to defer the issue of withdrawing the October 7, 2023, order that entailed farmers to invest on the irrigation pumpsets and reverting to the earlier system of Escoms investing on setting up of the infrastructure. While the government decision came under criticism from farmers and legislators for burdening the farmers, the government is learnt to have deferred withdrawing the order owing to financial constraints.

## Strategies discussed

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BELAGAVI

The Cabinet is learnt to have discussed strategies to counter the Opposition attack on Housing Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan for his comments on the Speaker's post and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar over withdrawal of consent given to CBI.

On Thursday, the Cabinet ratified its earlier decision to withdraw consent given to CBI on September 25, 2019, by the then BJP government led by B.S. Yediyurappa, as per Section 21 of Karnataka General Clauses Act, 1899. The Cabinet is learnt to have sought legal opinion from experts in this regard.

**Source: The Hindu, p.11, Dec.8, 2023**

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## Health

# HIV cases on a decline for 10 years

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bengaluru:** Over the past 10 years, the state has witnessed a consistent decline in the number of people testing positive for HIV.

At a World AIDS Day programme at Vidhana Soudha Friday, health minister Dinesh

### WORLD AIDS DAY

Gundu Rao highlighted how the percentage of those testing HIV positive was over 1.7 in 2013-14, and declined to 0.4 in 2022-23. This financial year, as per statistics from the health department, over 0.3% people



Chethan Shivakumar

**A SUSTAINED EFFORT:** Nursing students at the World AIDS Day programme held at Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru, Friday

tested positive till October.

The declining trend was witnessed among pregnant women too. In 2013-14, over 0.1% pregnant women tested positive, while in 2022-23 it was 0.04 per cent. This year, the positivity percentage is 0.03% till October. "We should target zero HIV by 2030, and therefore, we are pro-actively holding programmes," the minister said.

Chief minister Siddaramaiah, in fact, rued that the 2015-2020 objective of bringing cases to zero hasn't been achieved. "This comes not just with the health department's efforts but also with public awareness," he said.

**Source: The Times of India, p.4, Dec.2, 2023**

# 15 ಲಕ್ಷ ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗೆ 2 ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, 53 ಲಕ್ಷ ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗೆ ಒಂದೇ ಒಂದು ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ ಉಪವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಬೇಕಿದೆ ಸುಸಜ್ಜಿತ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಇಷ್ಟೊಂದು ತಾರತಮ್ಯವೇ?

■ ಗುರುದತ್ತ ಭಟ್ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ  
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ಹಳೆ ಮೈಸೂರು ಭಾಗದ ರಾಜಕಾರಣಿಗಳು ಮನಸ್ಸು ಮಾಡಿದರೆ 5 ತಾಲೂಕುಗಳನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿರುವ ರಾಮನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗೆ ಎರಡು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳು ಬರಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯ. ಆದರೆ, ಎರಡು ಲೋಕಸಭೆ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಗಳು, 15 ತಾಲೂಕುಗಳನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿರುವ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗೆ ಒಳ ವರ್ಷದಿಂದ ಹೋರಾಟ ನಡೆಸಿದರೂ, ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ತರಲು ಈ ಭಾಗದ ರಾಜಕಾರಣಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಗಿಲ್ಲ.

ನಿಮಗೆ ಗೊತ್ತಿರಲಿ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಸುಮಾರು 53 ಲಕ್ಷ. ಆದರೆ, ರಾಮನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಬೇರೆ 15 ಲಕ್ಷ! ಬೆಳಗಾವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿವೇಶನ ಕುರುವಾಗಿರುವ ಈ ಹೊತ್ತಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ರಾಜಕಾರಣಿಗಳು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಲೋಕ ಸಮಾಧಿ ಕೊಡಲು ಸಂಗತಿ ಇದೆ.



ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಡಗು, ಯಾದಗಿರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಿಗಿಂತ 3 ಪಟ್ಟು ದೊಡ್ಡದಾಗಿರುವ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಸರಕಾರಿ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸೇವಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವನ್ನು ಮತ್ತಷ್ಟು ಬಲಪಡಿಸುವಂತೆ ಆಗುವ ದೃಷ್ಟಿವಾಗಿದೆ. ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ ಉಪ ವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಕುರ್ತಿದೆ. ಆದರೂ ಆಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ.

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಏಕೈಕ ಸುಸಜ್ಜಿತ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ನಗರ ದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ, ನಿವ್ವಾಣಿ, ಕುಡಚಿ, ರಾಯಬಾಗ, ಅಥಣಿ, ಕಾಗವಾಡ ತಾಲೂಕುಗಳ ಜನರಿಗೆ ಇಲ್ಲಿನ ಅತ್ಯಾಧುನಿಕ ಉಚಿತ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸೇವೆಗಳು ಅಕ್ಷರಶಃ ಮರೀಚಿಕೆ. ಏಕೆಂದರೆ, ಇವರಿಗೆಲ್ಲ ದೂರದ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ದಿನದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೋಗಿ ತಲುಪುವುದೇ ಹರಕಾಹವ.

ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ತಾಲೂಕು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವೈದ್ಯರು, ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ, ಸಲಕರಣೆಗಳು ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಮೂಲ ಸೌಕರ್ಯಗಳು ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಿಲ್ಲ. ಸಣ್ಣ ಕಾಯಿಲೆ ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಯ ಯಾವ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯವೂ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಭಾಗದ ಜನ ತಮಗೂ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಇಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

**ಹುಕ್ಕೇರಿ ಯತ್ಸಿದ್ಧರು:** ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ವಿಭಜನೆ ಬೇಡಿಕೆಯಂತೆ ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಮತ್ತು ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಯ ಬೇಡಿಕೆಯೂ ಹಳೆಯದು. ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ವಿಧಾನ ಪರಿಷತ್ ಸದಸ್ಯರಾಗಿರುವ ಪ್ರಕಾಶ್ ಹುಕ್ಕೇರಿ ಸಚಿವರಾಗಿದ್ದ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಮತ್ತು ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಲಾ ಒಂದು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಹಾಗೂ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಿಸಿದ್ದರು.

**ಕಟ್ಟಡದ ಸ್ಥಿತಿ  
ತತ್ಸಮಾನದಷ್ಟು  
ಹಳೆಯದಾದ  
ಕಟ್ಟಡದ ತಿಥಿಲ**

**450  
ಹಾಸಿಗೆ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯ  
30%  
ತಜ್ಞ ವೈದ್ಯರ ಕೊರತೆ  
3,858  
ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಿಗೆ  
ಮಂಜೂರಾದ  
ಒಟ್ಟು ಹುದ್ದೆ  
1691  
ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಹುದ್ದೆ  
150**

**ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ವೆಚ್ಚದ  
ಸೂಪರ್ ಸ್ಪೆಷಾಲಿಟಿ  
ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಹೊಸ ಸೇರ್ಪಡೆ**

**ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ  
ಒಂದೂವರೆ ವರ್ಷದ  
ಹಿಂದೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ,  
ವೈದ್ಯರ ಕೊರತೆಯಿಂದ  
ಕುರುವಾಗಿಲ್ಲ.**

■ ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ ಉಪವಿಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಬೇಕು. ಅಥಣಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸಜ್ಜಿತ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣದ ಅನುಕೂಲ. ಅಧಿವೇಶನದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾಪಿಸುವ.

- **ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಣ ಸವಡಿ**  
ಅಧೀನ ಶಾಸಕ

■ ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ಕ್ಯಾನ್ಸರ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಆಯುರ್ವೇದ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

- **ಗಣೇಶ್ ಹುಕ್ಕೇರಿ**  
ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ-ಸದಲಗಾ ಶಾಸಕ

■ ಗಡಿ ಭಾಗದ ಜನ ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳನ್ನು ಅವಲಂಬಿಸುವುದು ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯ. ಸರಕಾರ ಆದಷ್ಟು ಬೇಗ ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸಜ್ಜಿತ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು.

- **ಬಸವರಾಜ ಪಾಶ್ವಾಪುರಿ** ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ

**ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ ವೃಥೆ**



**ಜನರ  
ಸಂಕಷ್ಟವೇನು?**

■ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಸುಮಾರು 53 ಲಕ್ಷ. ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ ವಿಭಾಗ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 22 ಲಕ್ಷ ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆ. ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ದೂರವಾಗಿರುವ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಈ ಭಾಗದ 80% ರಷ್ಟು ಜನ ಹೊರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಅವಲಂಬಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

■ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ನಗರ ಅಥವಾ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ತೆಲಸಂಗ ಗ್ರಾಮದಿಂದ 190 ಕಿಮೀ., ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಗಡಿಗಿ ಹೊಂದಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಹೊಸವಾಡದಿಂದ 194 ಕಿಮೀ, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಗಡಿಗಿ ಹೊಂದಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಹಾಲ್ಕಿಯಿಂದ 180 ಕಿಮೀ, ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದ ಸಾಂಗ್ಲಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗೆ ಹೊಂದಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಕೊಟ್ಟಲಗಿಯಿಂದ 185 ಕಿಮೀ ದೂರದಲ್ಲಿದೆ.

■ ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ, ರಾಯಬಾಗ, ಕಾಗವಾಡ ತಾಲೂಕುಗಳ ಜನ ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದ ಮಿರಜ್-ಸಾಂಗ್ಲಿ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ನಿವ್ವಾಣಿಯ ಬಹುತೇಕರು ಕೊಲ್ಲಾಪುರದ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ದುಬಾರಿ ಕುಲ್ಕ ತತ್ವ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಸಂಕಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಸಿಲುಕಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅಥವಾ ಭಾಗದವರಿಗೆ ಮಿರಜ್ ಅಥವಾ ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳೇ ಗತಿ.

ಅದರ ಫಲವಾಗಿ 2008ರಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಯಾಯಿತು. ನಂತರ ಚಿಕ್ಕೋಡಿ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಗೆ ಅವರ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಈವರೆಗೂ ಫಲ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿಲ್ಲ.

**Source: Vijayakarnataka, p.2, Dec.5, 2023**



# Take PMJAY to the next level

The programme has proved stable and durable. It can help move public sector health spending to be outcome-driven, rather than budget-based and automatic

**NACHIKET MOR AND SHUCHIN BAJAJ**

Just over five years have now passed since the Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY), launched in 2018, came into being. During this period, it has issued over 27 crore insurance cards and has financed over 5.75 crore hospital admissions with an average pay-out of about Rs 12,250 per admission, with almost 27,000 empanelled hospitals nationwide. This is an impressive track record and needs to be celebrated. However, any programme or scheme, no matter how well-designed and executed, has both strengths and weaknesses. Five years is an excellent time to review some of them so that the scheme builds further on its strengths and works towards filling any gaps that may exist.

Of the 27,000 hospitals empanelled and about 20,000 that are active, 15,000 are in the public sector. While this has not yet been formally evaluated, anecdotal evidence suggests that these public sector hospitals outperform those not part of the scheme. One of the challenges of the public sector, not just in India but globally, is its non-responsiveness. Starting in the 80s with the UK, governments worldwide, including Thailand, Turkey, and, most recently, Vietnam, have moved to finance the public sector based on outcomes. They have gradually moved away from automatic financing based on annual expenditure budgets. This change has allowed them to improve the performance of the public sector, and it is not surprising that something similar is being seen in India when PMJAY pays government hospitals based on outcomes. Over time, the full power of this can be realised if all financing to the public sector moves in this direction, including at the primary care level.

Given its funding limitations, PMJAY has not yet moved towards total health system financing in any part of the country, but its move towards paying hospitals on a package basis and not on a procedure-by-procedure basis has shown beneficial impacts. For example, increasing the length of stay after a successful surgery in a hospital is often due to poor infection control at hospitals. A fixed package approach has persuaded hospitals to pay particular attention to this and control it so patients can be discharged quickly.

The low package rates offered by PMJAY have come in for much criticism. However, there is global evidence which suggests that merely because package rates are low, it does not mean that quality needs to be low. Hospitals and entire health systems can respond to controlled pricing by innovating, bringing down costs, shedding unnecessary frills, and keeping quality high. When Japan moved to a fixed-price regime, Switzerland enacted its comprehensive health-care legislation, and Germany instituted strict price controls, there was a fear that their health systems would be unable to cope. These proved unfounded. As a negotiating strategy, the approach adopted by PMJAY has been optimal



— start at the lowest point and then revise prices upwards selectively based on actual experience (not lobbying). If they had initially started with higher package rates, these rates would have become sticky, and any downward revisions would have proved impossible.

Over 25% of the empanelled hospitals are inactive, and the number varies significantly across the country—from over 500 active hospitals per crore population in Karnataka to only about 60 per crore in Bihar. As a result, hospitalisations under the scheme have been mainly concentrated in the southern states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala and range from almost 16,000 admissions per lakh population in Kerala to only about 600 in Bihar. The case of UP is particularly noteworthy—at over 18,500 cards per lakh population, it has issued nearly as many cards as Kerala's 21,500. However, it has only about 1,200 hospitalisations per lakh population compared to Kerala's 16,000.

These large differentials are a reflection of the lack of availability of hospitals in lower-income states. This can also be seen from the fact that in over 200 districts of India, all based in the north and the northeast, total C-section rates are well below 10%—these low rates are now the principal reason why pregnant women and their newborns are dying in these districts. To address this, there

is a need to build and staff more public sector hospitals in these districts and, where appropriate, devise incentives for the private sector to set up facilities in these remote regions. The UDAN ("Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik") scheme of the Ministry of Civil Aviation, which has done something similar with private airlines, could provide an excellent learning model. The highly successful Advanced Market Commitment (AMC) schemes that spurred vaccine development in the Indian private sector could also provide helpful lessons.

Putting aside concerns relating to low rates, while the move towards package rates within PMJAY has been a helpful development, it still falls within the ambit of what is referred to as a fee-for-service payment model. The danger of insurance schemes funded in this way, as the US discovered with its own version of PMJAY, Medicaid and Medicare, after it was too late, is that it leads to massive price inflation in the healthcare sector. The only durable way to address this is, with adequate funding, to move towards total health system financing based on population norms, as Thailand has done with the public sector and Israel has done with the private sector. Research suggests that in several Indian states, including Delhi, Goa, Kerala, and Himachal Pradesh, current government expenditures are already adequate to finance all the necessary healthcare. If, in these states, the independent State Health Authorities could be given charge of the entire state health budget, they would have sufficient funding to implement district-level total health systems financing strategies and take responsibility for overall district and state-level health outcomes.

The stage is set for the next big move in the healthcare sector in India—the complete transfer of state health budgets to their State Health Authorities, which will pay the public sector and, where necessary, the private sector, based on defined outcomes and do away entirely with automatic-budget-based financing of the public sector.

There is also the opportunity to develop and launch schemes like UDAN and AMC, which will carefully fill gaps in the availability of hospital care in the more remote parts of India. More than two decades of experience with tax-financed insurance schemes in India has indicated that the availability of insurance schemes is a necessary but insufficient condition for a robust supply response from the hospital sector.

*(Dr Nachiket Mor is a Visiting Scientist at The Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health, Chennai. Dr Shuchin Bajaj is the founder of Ujala Cygnus, a chain of low-cost hospitals operating in the underserved parts of the country. (Syndicate: The Billion Press))*

**Source: Deccan Herald, p.6, Dec.7, 2023**



# New dialysis machines will be installed in govt. facilities, says Health Minister

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BELAGAVI

Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dinesh Gundu Rao said new dialysis machines would be installed in all government facilities in three out of the four administrative divisions in the State in the next one month.

Replying to a question raised by Yashpal Surana in the Legislative Assembly on Thursday on the hardship faced by patients due to improper maintenance of the dialysis machines, Mr. Rao said the govern-



Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao in the Legislative Assembly on Thursday.

ment had not only penalised and blacklisted the private agency managing them, but also finalised a fresh tender for identification of a new agency for

managing the government dialysis centres in three administrative divisions - Bengaluru, Mysuru, and Belagavi.

The government had "retendered" the bid for Kalaburagi division and hoped to finalise an agency to manage the dialysis centres in the division soon. If an agency was not finalised soon, the government would discuss the possibility of managing the dialysis centres on its own, he said.

Mr. Rao said the government will not only ensure technicians at all the dialy-

sis centres, but also use only single-use units. This will prevent cross-infection, he said. Mr. Rao also said that the total number of dialysis centres at district and taluk levels in the State will go up from 168 to 219.

Responding to the plight of cancer patients from Ballari highlighted by Ganesh J.N., Minister for Medical Education Sharan Prakash Patil said he would discuss with Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to include a proposal on setting up a unit of Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology in Ballari.

**Source: The Hindu, p.8, Dec. 8, 2023**

## NFHS-6 state-level mapping in South K'taka nearing completion

### Main survey scheduled to begin in February

**UDBHAVI BALAKRISHNA**  
BENGALURU, DHNS

The state-level mapping and listing of households across 15 districts in South Karnataka under the National Family Health Survey-6 is nearly complete, with Chitradurga likely to be covered by December 10.

This will make way for the main survey to begin in February, providing extensive updated information regarding

the demographics and health of the population in Karnataka in 2023-24.

The NFHS-6 survey is being conducted in two phases, with Karnataka being among the 18 states and union territories being surveyed in the second phase.

In Karnataka, the 15 southern districts are under the purview of the Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru, headed by Dr C M Lakshmana, Project Director,

NFHS-6 South Karnataka, and professor, Population Research Centre, ISEC.

Currently, the core team that is heading the survey in South Karnataka, which includes a demographer, a health coordinator, and an IT coordinator, besides Dr Lakshmana, is attending a training of trainers (ToT) conducted by the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai, at Varanasi.

"The training is expected to conclude by December 18, following which the core team will translate the four standard questionnaires - household, men's, women's, and biomarker - and recruit nearly 125 field investigators in a month for the main survey," he said.

Dr Lakshmana explained

that over one week in September, ISEC trained 80 mappers to conduct the preliminary state-level mapping and listing across a total of 660 primary sampling units (PSUs) across 15 districts in South Karnataka (44 PSUs per district).

Since September 20, mappers have conducted the mapping and listing activity of all households in the 44 PSUs in each district with the assistance of local ASHA workers.

Once this data is submitted to IIPS, it will identify at least 22 sample households within each PSU, two of which are buffer samples, and submit them to ISEC to conduct the main survey. This will amount to 880 households in each of the districts - a total of 13,200 households across 15 districts.

This sampling and mapping occurred in phases, with Kolar, Chikkaballapur, Tumakuru and Ramanagara in phase 1; Chamarajanagar, Mandya, Bengaluru Rural and Bengaluru Urban in phase 2; Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Hassan, and Chikkamagaluru in phase 3; and the ongoing phase 4 covering Mysuru, Kodagu and Chitradurga by December 10.

He added that for the main survey, a team of seven people comprising one supervisor, two health investigators, one male and three female investigators will visit 12 households every day, and 15 such teams will simultaneously cover over 13,200 households across 15 districts within 3 months.

**Source: Deccan Herald, p.3, Dec.8, 2023**

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# Shakti scheme gives more moolah power to BMTC

Daily Earnings  
Up From ₹4.4cr  
To ₹5.3cr This Yr

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bengaluru/Belagavi:**

When the Congress government's flagship Shakti scheme — free bus travel for women — was launched six months ago, there were apprehensions that the move would financially bleed the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), which operates around 5,600 buses in the tech capital. But quite to the contrary, BMTC's revenues have actually shot up!

The average daily earnings of the corporation have touched Rs 5.3 crore this year, compared to Rs 4.4 crore a day in 2022-23. Between June 11 (when the scheme was rolled out) and December 5 this year, around 35 crore women have availed free rides on BMTC buses in the city.

"The general perception was that the free rides would put a strain on the transport corporation's finances. But the model here is different as the state government reimburses the expenditure incurred. Bus conductors is-



Photo for representation

**AT NO COST:**

Between June 11 and December 5 this year, around 35 crore women have availed free rides on BMTC buses

## FERRYING LAKHS OF PASSENGERS DAILY

- BMTC operates in a radius of 25km from BBMP limits
- There are 6,381 buses, of which 5,598 hit the roads daily
- Collectively, the buses clock 11.3 lakh kilometres a day
- All buses together do 57,000 trips a day and ferry 43 lakh passengers

sue tickets to women passengers without collecting money from them. Instead, the government bears the cost and pays BMTC," a BMTC official said.

Moreover, the number of women passengers has increased significantly after the free travel scheme was introduced, the official added. Even those who'd buy concessional passes (both daily and monthly) switched to free tickets, the official said, and pointed out: "To meet the growing demand, BMTC increased the number of daily trips clocked by its fleet."

The free travel scheme al-

so cropped up in the legislative council deliberations in Belagavi on Wednesday, when transport minister R Ramalinga Reddy said the daily earnings of the four state-run road transport corporations (RTCs), including BMTC, had surged from Rs 22.7 crore to Rs 30.5 crore. While the daily earnings of Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) went up to Rs 12.5 crore from Rs 9.2 crore in 2022-23, that of Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC) stood at Rs 5.9 crore, as against Rs 4.3 crore in 2022-23. North West Karnataka Ro-

ad Transport Corporation (NWKRTC) touched Rs 6.6 crore, up from Rs 4.7 crore the previous year.

Reddy said the government has paid the four RTCs about Rs 2,800 crore as fare for women passengers. Referring to concerns about the financial health of RTC employees, he said salaries are being promptly disbursed and there are no outstanding dues in the salary account.

## 'BJP left debt burden'

Reddy, in fact, blamed the previous BJP government for the financial distress of RTCs, pointing to a cumulative debt burden of Rs 5,200 crore, including dues to retired employees, provident fund, and diesel suppliers, as evidence. He said his government is taking steps to address these challenges by proposing the recruitment of about 9,000 employees, especially since no recruitments happened during the BJP rule despite 13,800 employees retiring.

In a forward-looking initiative, Reddy said induction of 900 electric buses is in the pipeline. This move aligns with the government's commitment to modernise and enhance the efficiency of the state's public transportation system, the minister added.

**Source: The Times of India, p.2, Dec.7, 2023**



# 29 ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಕೇವಲ 100 ಕೇಸ್ 14 ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದೇ ಒಂದು ಪ್ರಕರಣವೂ ಇಲ್ಲ ಭ್ರೂಣ ಹತ್ಯೆ ತಡೆಗೆ ನಿರ್ಲಕ್ಷ್ಯ

■ ಹರೀಶ್ ಬೇಲೂರು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಭ್ರೂಣ ಹತ್ಯೆ ತಡೆಗೆ ಕಠಿಣ ಕಾನೂನು ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಿದ್ದ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ ನಿರ್ಲಕ್ಷ್ಯ ತೋರಿದೆ. 1994ರಿಂದ 2023ರವರೆಗೆ ಅಂದರೆ 29 ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ಬರೀ 100 ಕೇಸ್ ದಾಖಲಿಸಿದೆ. 31 ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ 14 ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇದುವರೆಗೆ ಒಂದೂ ಕೇಸ್ ದಾಖಲಿಸಿಲ್ಲ. ಆರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತಲಾ ಒಂದು ಕೇಸ್ ವರದಿಯಾದರೆ, ಉಳಿದ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ಬೆರಳೆಣಿಕೆಯಷ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಇತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು, ಅಂದರೆ 31 ಕೇಸ್ ವರದಿಯಾಗಿದೆ.

» ಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ ತಡೆಗಡೆ

ಸಾವಿರಾರು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ನಡೆದಿದ್ದರೂ ಬೆರಳೆಣಿಕೆ ಕೇಸ್‌ಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ ಬೆಳಕಿಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಉಳಿದವು ಮುಚ್ಚಿಹೋಗಿವೆ.

ಭ್ರೂಣ ಹತ್ಯೆ ತಡೆಗೆ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯಮಟ್ಟದ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ಇದೆ. ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗೆ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಚಿವರು

ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು, ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರಾಗಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸಕ್ಷಮ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳಿವೆ. ಈ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಗೆ 8 ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ವಿವಿಧ ವೈದ್ಯರು ಬರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ತಪಾಸಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚರಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿಯೂ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗೆ ಯೋಜನಾ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಸದಸ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಯಾಗಿ ವೈದ್ಯರು ಇರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಇವೆಲ್ಲಾ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳಾಗಿವೆ. ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳು ಅಲ್ಟ್ರಾಸೌಂಡ್ ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್, ನರ್ಸಿಂಗ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ, ರೋಗನಿರ್ಣಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ದಾಳಿ ನಡೆಸಿ ನಿಯಮ ಪಾಲನೆ ಆಗುತ್ತದೆಯೋ ಅಥವಾ ಇಲ್ಲವೋ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ ಕ್ರಮಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಆದರೆ, ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳು ಪರಿಣಾಮಕಾರಿಯಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೂರು ಸಮಿತಿಗಳಿವೆ. ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸಕ್ಷಮ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿ, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ತಪಾಸಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚರಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳಿವೆ. ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಡಿಎಚ್‌ಎ ಸೇರಿ ಇತರ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಇರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಇವರು 3 ತಿಂಗಳಿಗೊಮ್ಮೆ ನರ್ಸಿಂಗ್ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳು, ಅಲ್ಟ್ರಾಸೌಂಡ್ ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ಗಳ ಮೇಲೆ ದಾಳಿ ನಡೆಸಬೇಕು. ಆದರೆ, ನೆಪ ಮಾತ್ರ ದಾಳಿ ನಡೆಸುವ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಮಾಮೂಲಿ ಪಡೆದು ಸುಮ್ಮನಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಗಂಭೀರ ಆರೋಪಗಳಿವೆ.

ಮೊದಲ ಬಾರಿ ಭ್ರೂಣ ಹತ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿಬೀಳುವವರಿಗೆ ಮೂರು ವರ್ಷ ಜೈಲು ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ, 10 ಸಾವಿರ ರೂ. ದಂಡ, ಎರಡನೇ ಬಾರಿ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿಬೀಳುವವರಿಗೆ 5 ವರ್ಷ ಜೈಲು ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ ಹಾಗೂ 50 ಸಾವಿರ ರೂ. ದಂಡ ವಿಧಿಸಲು ಕಾನೂನಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅವಕಾಶವಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, 100 ಕೇಸ್ ಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ 76 ಕೇಸ್‌ಗಳು ಖುಲಾಸೆಗೊಂಡರೆ, 24 ಕೇಸ್‌ಗಳು ಬಾಕಿ ಉಳಿದಿವೆ ಎಂದು ಅಂಕಿ-ಅಂಶಗಳಿಂದ ತಿಳಿದು ಬಂದಿದೆ.

5 ವರ್ಷ ಜೈಲು ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ



ಶೂನ್ಯ ಕೇಸ್ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳು

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ, ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ, ಕೊಡಗು, ಉಡುಪಿ, ಗದಗ, ಹಾವೇರಿ, ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ, ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ, ಬೀದರ್, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ, ಯಾದಗಿರಿ, ವಿಜಯನಗರ.

ದಾಖಲಾದ ಭ್ರೂಣ ಹತ್ಯೆ ಕೇಸ್‌ಗಳು

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-31, ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ-15, ವಿಜಯಪುರ-14, ತುಮಕೂರು-6, ಮಂಡ್ಯ-6, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ-5, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ-5, ಕೋಲಾರ-4, ಧಾರವಾಡ-4, ರಾಮನಗರ-2, ಮೈಸೂರು-2, ಚಿತ್ರದುರ್ಗ-1, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ-1, ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ-1, ಹಾಸನ-1, ಕಲಬುರಗಿ-1.

6,300 ಅಲ್ಟ್ರಾಸೌಂಡ್ ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 6,300ಕ್ಕೂ ಅಧಿಕ ಅಲ್ಟ್ರಾಸೌಂಡ್ ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್ ಗಳಿವೆ ಎಂದು ಇಲಾಖೆಯೇ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದೆ. ಇಲಾಖೆ ಅನುಮತಿ ಪಡೆಯದೆ ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ನೂರಾರು ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ಗಳು ಅಕ್ರಮವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭವಾಗುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಶೇ.70 ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನಿಂಗ್ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ಗಳು ನಿಯಮ ಪಾಲಿಸುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಣದ ಅಸೆಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಸೆಂಟರ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮೂರು ತಿಂಗಳಿಂದ ಅರು ತಿಂಗಳದೊಳಗಿನ ಭ್ರೂಣವನ್ನು ಪರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿ ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಅಥವಾ ಗಂಡು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನೂ ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಬಳಿಕ, ಹೆಣ್ಣಾದರೆ ಭ್ರೂಣವನ್ನು ಹತ್ಯೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಸಂಘಟನೆಗಳ ಆರೋಪವಾಗಿದೆ.

ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಎಲ್ಲ ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನಿಂಗ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಈ ವರ್ಷಾಂತ್ಯದೊಳಗೆ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಈ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ವೇಳೆ ನಕಲಿ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕ್ ಪತ್ತೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ ತಕ್ಷಣವೇ ಬಂದ್ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿ ದಂತೆ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಜತೆ



ಪೊಲೀಸರು ಕೂಡ ಕೈಜೋಡಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಭ್ರೂಣಹತ್ಯೆ ತಡೆಗೆ ನಿರ್ಲಕ್ಷ್ಯ ವಹಿಸಿದ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಇಬ್ಬರು ವೈದ್ಯರು ಸೇರಿ ನಾಲ್ವರನ್ನು ಸೇವೆಯಿಂದ ಅಮಾನತು ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. | ಡಿ. ರಂದೀಪ್ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು



## *‘Meet to Sleep’ to promote women’s safety in public spaces*

**NAMRATA SINDWANI** @Bengaluru

INTENDING to make women feel safe, fearless and comfortable in public spaces, a unique ‘meet to sleep’ is being organised in Bengaluru on December 10 from 2-5 pm.

Blank Noise, a Bengaluru-based community proposed this idea in 2007, mobilising women to confront their fears

making ‘trust’ a priority over taking measures like carrying a pepper spray around in public spaces. The organisation in association with several feminist allies have been rooting for asserting the ‘right to live defenceless’ and ‘free from fear’.

Founder Director of Blank Noise, Jasmine Patheej, explained that every citizen’s relationship with their city and

public spaces is unique. In common circumstances, when a person is commented at by a stranger in public, feels uncomfortable.

In the case of women, they are exposed to even more uncomfortable experiences, when they are whistled at or stared inappropriately while walking on the streets or sitting in public spaces. Jasmine sharing her experience with TNIE of how

this idea came into existence said, “I wished to sleep in Cubbon Park and despite being with my colleagues I couldn’t.”

When a person is lying down on the ground, they become more alert of the surroundings. These sounds are misunderstood for the presence of a person in their vicinity or a possible threat to them. Hence, it is crucial to build trust among

women and people from different gender minority groups to feel safe in public places even if they are ‘defenceless’ to be saving themselves.

Along with ‘meet to sleep’, the team has initiated campaigns like ‘walk towards healing’, building testimonies of clothes people were wearing when they faced sexual or physical violence.

**Source: The New Indian Express, p.2, Dec.8, 2023**

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# ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತು ಅಧ್ಯಯನ

ನೆಲದ ಹಿತ ಕಾಯಲು ಮುಂದಾದ ಸರ್ಕಾರ | ಐಐಟಿ ತಜ್ಞರ ಬಳಕೆ

■ ರುದ್ರಣ್ಣ ಹರ್ಷಿಕೋಟಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು  
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ- ಅಂಧಪ್ರದೇಶದ ಗಡಿ ರೇಖೆಯನ್ನು ನಿಖರವಾಗಿ ಗುರುತಿಸುವ ಮೂಲಕ ತನ್ನ ನೆಲದ ಹಿತ ಕಾಯಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಜನರಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಗೊಂದಲಗಳ ನಿವಾರಣೆಗಾಗಿ ತಜ್ಞರ ತಂಡದ ಮೊರೆ ಹೋಗಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿದೆ.

ಕೆಲ ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಕಬ್ಬಿಣ ಅದಿರು ಗಣಿಗಾರಿಕೆ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಗಣಿ ಕಂಪನಿ ಯೊಂದು ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಗಡಿಯನ್ನು 400 ಮೀಟರ್‌ನಷ್ಟು ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅರೋಪ ಇದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದೊಳಗೆ ಉತ್ತಮ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದ ಅದಿರು ಲಭ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬ ಕಾರಣ ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತಿಸ ಕಲ್ಪಣೆ ಕಿತ್ತು ನಾಶಪಡಿಸಿದೆ ಎಂಬ ಅರೋಪ ಇದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಒತ್ತಾಯದ ಮೇರೆಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸರ್ವೆ ಆಫ್ ಇಂಡಿಯಾ ಎಲ್ಲ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಪಡೆದು ಎರಡೂ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಗಡಿ ರೇಖೆಯನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸುವ ಕರಡು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿದೆ. ಅದನ್ನು ಈಗ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಮಾಡುವ ಮೂಲಕ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ನೆಲ ಒಂದಿಂಚು ಕದಲದಂತೆ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮೇಲಿದೆ. ಸರ್ವೆ ಆಫ್ ಇಂಡಿಯಾ ಒಮ್ಮೆ ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತಿಸುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿತ್ತು. ಅದರೆ, ಅದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಕೆಲ ಅನುಮಾನಗಳು ವ್ಯಕ್ತವಾದ್ದರಿಂದ ಪ್ರಧಾನಮಂತ್ರಿ ಕಚೇರಿಗೆ ದೂರು ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಪ್ರಧಾನಿ ಸಚಿವಾಲಯದ ಸೂಚನೆ ಮೇರೆಗೆ 2ನೇ ಬಾರಿ ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತಿಸುವ ಕೆಲಸದ ಕರಡು ಸಿದ್ಧವಾಗಿದೆ. **ಖರಗಪುರದಲ್ಲಿನ ತಜ್ಞರು:** ಗಡಿ ರೇಖೆಯ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಕೇವಲ ಸರ್ವೆಯರ್‌ಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ತಜ್ಞರೇ ಬೇಕು. ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಖರಗ ಪುರದ ಐಐಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಸರ್ವೆ ವಿಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ತಜ್ಞರು ಈ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಣತರಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅವರ



## ಕರಡು ಪ್ರತಿಯಲ್ಲೇನಿದೆ?

ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸರ್ವೇಕ್ಷಣಾ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸಿದ್ಧಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಕರಡು ಪ್ರತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಗಡಿ, ಯಾವ ಹಳ್ಳಿ, ಯಾವ ಸರ್ವೆ ಸಂಬರ್ ಯಾವ ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿದೆ, ಆ ಸರ್ವೆ ಸಂಬರ್ ಎಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುತ್ತದೆ, ಗಡಿ ರೇಖೆ ಹೇಗೆ ಹಾದು ಹೋಗಿತ್ತು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸುವ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಸಕ್ಷೆಯ ಸಮೇತ ಇದೆ ಎಂದು ಮೂಲಗಳು ಹೇಳಿವೆ. ಇದೀಗ ರಾಜ್ಯ ತನ್ನ ಬಳಿ ಇರುವ ಸಕ್ಷೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಅಧರಿಸಿ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಮಾಡಿ, ಅಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದರೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ.



ನಿಯಮಗಳ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಕರಡು ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತು ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆಯೇ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಯಲು ತಜ್ಞರ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಖರಗಪುರ ಐಐಟಿ ತಜ್ಞರ ಸೇವೆ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. **! ಕೃಷ್ಣ ಬೈರೇಗೌಡ** ಕಂದಾಯ ಸಚಿವ

ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸರ್ವೇಕ್ಷಣಾ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತಿಸಿದೆ. ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತಿಸಿದ ವಿಧಾನ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಲು ಮತ್ತು ಒಪ್ಪಿದ

ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಬಳಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ತೀರ್ಮಾನಿಸಿದೆ. ಇದೀ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಖರಗಪುರದ ತಂಡ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಸಮರ್ಥ ಎನ್ನಲಾಗಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಸರ್ವೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಹ ಸೇರಿಸಿ ನೋಡಲು ಬಳಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತಿಸುವುದು ಅತ್ಯಂತ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ನಿಪುಣತೆಯ ಕೆಲಸ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದಲೇ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಪರಿಣತರನ್ನು ಹುಡುಕುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದಾಗಲೇ ಖರಗಪುರ ಐಐಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ತಜ್ಞರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಲಭ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಅವರ ಸೇವೆ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

**ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತಾಗಿದ್ದು ಯಾವಾಗ?:** ಮದ್ರಾಸ್ ಪ್ರೆಸಿಡೆನ್ಸಿಯ ಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂದರೆ 1896ರಲ್ಲಿ ಮೊದಲಿಗೆ ಎರಡು ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತು ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಆ ನಂತರ 1954ರಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಷಾವಾರು ಪ್ರಾಂತ್ಯ ರಚನೆಯಾದ ನಂತರ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತಾಗಿದೆ. ಓಬರಾಪುರಂ ಗಣಿ ಕಂಪನಿಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಒತ್ತುವರಿಯ ಅರೋಪ ಇದೆ. ಈಗ ಗಡಿಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಗೊಂದಲಗಳು ಇವೆ. ಆ ಎಲ್ಲ ಗೊಂದಲಗಳಿಗೆ ತೆರೆ ಎಳೆಯಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ.

**ಕರಡು ಅಧ್ಯಯನ:** ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಸರ್ವೆ ಆಫ್

ಇಂಡಿಯಾ ಸಿದ್ಧಪಡಿಸಿರುವ ಗಡಿ ಸಕ್ಷೆಯನ್ನು ತಜ್ಞರ ತಂಡ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಮಾಡಲಿದೆ. ಕರಡು ಪ್ರತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅನ್ಯಾಯವಾಗುವ ಅಂಶಗಳಿದ್ದರೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಅಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲಿದೆ. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಪರಿಣತರಲ್ಲಿದ್ದರೆ ಈ ವಿಚಾರ ತಿಳಿದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು ಕಷ್ಟದ ಕೆಲಸ.

**ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚನೆ:** ಖರಗಪುರದ ಐಐಟಿ ತಜ್ಞರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿದ ನಂತರ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಒಂದಿಬ್ಬರು ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಹಾಗೂ ಹಾಲಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸೇರಿಸಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸಲಿದೆ. ಯಾವುದೇ ಅನುಮಾನಗಳಿಗೂ ಅವಕಾಶ ಇಲ್ಲದಂತೆ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ನಡೆಸಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಮೊದಲಿನ ಗಡಿ ರೇಖೆಯನ್ನೇ ಗುರುತಿಸಿ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವ ಛೇದ ಪಡಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ.

**ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಸಭೆ:** ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಸರ್ವೇಕ್ಷಣಾ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಕರಡು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿರುವ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂದಾಯ ಸಚಿವ ಕೃಷ್ಣ ಬೈರೇಗೌಡ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿಯ ಹಿಂದಿನ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಯ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಕರಡು ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಏನಾದರೂ ಅಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದರೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಅಧ್ಯಯನದ ಅಗತ್ಯತೆಯನ್ನು ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡುಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದೆ.

Background: 2023/12/02  
Date: 02/12/2023 Page No.: 9

Vijayavani 02-12-2023 p.9 Border study

Source: Vijayavani, p.9, Dec.2, 2023



# Lack of live authentication led to cases of Aadhaar-enabled Payment System fraud

In February 2023, UIDAI informed States of its decision to switch over to new modality of fingerprint authentication with effect from March 1

Sharath S. Srivatsa  
BENGALURU

**A**s Karnataka reported cases of fraudulent financial transactions using Aadhaar numbers and thumb impressions downloaded from the public domain recently, it has now emerged that the transactions took place over the non-live fingerprint authentication that led to multiple frauds in the Aadhaar-enabled Payment System (AePS). This is despite the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) in February stating that the live authentication will be rolled out from March 1.

While such frauds by Bihar and Jharkhand-based gangs have been reported in several States across the country before, the frauds that came to light recently is the first in Karnataka, and the *modus operandi* here is also new, the police said. "Fraudsters have used different *modus operandi* elsewhere in a non-live authentication process. There have been similar cases in the MGNREGA system in other places," a senior Bengaluru police official said.

## 3D images

The fraudsters used Aadhaar numbers and thumb impressions from the property registration documents that were available in the domain of the Stamps and Registration Department in Karnataka and created 3D images of the fingerprints. They then used them to draw money through non-live finger-



Fraudsters used Aadhaar numbers and thumb impressions from the property registration documents that were available in the domain of the Stamps and Registration Department in Karnataka.

## The modus operandi

- Documents were downloaded from the Kaveri system
- Aadhaar number and thumb impression in documents were used
- A 3D print of thumb impression found in document was generated
- Fraudulent transactions undertaken using Aadhaar number and 3D print of the thumb to withdraw money using Aadhaar-enabled Payment System

## Centre discusses issue with Stamps and Registration Dept.

The Hindu Bureau  
BENGALURU

The Centre has discussed the AePS fraud based on the documents available in the public domain with officials of the Stamps and Registration Department across the country.

"The Centre suggested that all documents could

be sent to them and they would mask the details before it is put on the public domain. However, the question of possible leakage of information once it leaves the State's domain was raised," sources said.

### 'Not practical'

They feared that this system could lead to delays

since these documents are covered under the Sakala programme that has fixed timelines. "While they do not have a large daily capacity to mask documents, on average Karnataka alone generates about 10,000 documents daily. We feel what the Centre is suggesting is not a practical idea," they said.

also asked removal of the Aadhaar number and thumb impressions from websites.

Sources in the Police Department confirmed that the current fraud had taken place over non-live fingerprint authentication as victims were unaware of the transactions. Though the live authentication process has been rolled out in the country, the UIDAI did

## State masks first eight digits of Aadhaar in registration papers

Sharath S. Srivatsa  
BENGALURU

The State government has asked sub-registrars to mask the first eight of the 12-digit Aadhaar numbers in documents related to registrations and has curtailed the certified copy available on the public domain to one page.

"We have stopped making the full certified copy available. Only the first page that will provide details of the buyer, seller, and the property registered is being made available in the public domain. The government never mandated Aadhaar for property registration. However, if the buyer and seller insist on inserting the Aadhaar in the document, then eight digits

have to be masked," sources said.

### Alternative IDs

"There are multiple alternative identification documents that can be provided during registration. People have voluntarily used Aadhaar during registration," sources said.

Meanwhile, on making available the certified copies online, it is learnt that it has been mandated to provide to those who seek documents under Section 57 (1) of the Registration Act, 1908. As per the provision, the registering authority has to allow inspection of certain books and indexes and provide certified copies to anyone applying for it. "It's a tricky situation too. To maintain transparency, we are man-

dated to upload the documents also. Even the document is made available with a watermark of "for information" a Revenue official said.

While the UIDAI has written to the Union Department of Land Records and State governments to bring suitable changes to the Registration Act, the State government has a very limited role in changing the current system as the Registration Act is a Central law, and the State government has formed only rules to operationalise the Act, sources pointed out.

"The State will highlight concerns, legal impediments, and possible suggestions since the Centre has asked for it," sources said.

not respond to *The Hindu's* request to comment on the Karnataka-related issue. While a detailed questionnaire was sent to multiple authorised email IDs in the UIDAI on November 13, followed by a couple of reminders, *The Hindu* did not receive a response.

### 70 million transactions

In India, about 70 million authentication transactions take place daily and so far over 100 billion authentication transactions have taken place. Interestingly, weeks after the non-

live transaction frauds came to light in Karnataka, a top bank in the country, in a newspaper advertisement warned customers of possible AePS frauds, and asked the customers to lock biometric data on the UIDAI website as per use.

Sources said that banks should not have allowed a single-step authentication since it is a financial transaction. "Ideally, the authentication should be of two steps – one involving biometrics and the other with an OTP. In this case, the fraudsters have been able

to siphon off money because a non-live authentication is available." Though most banks have a live authentication system, sources suspected that this fraud would not have taken place unless the banking correspondents hired/contracted by the banks who operate the AePS connived with the fraudsters.

The National Payment Corporation of India is the payment gateway for the AePS, and mails to its corporate communication ID to elicit its response on the issue went unanswered.

**Source: The Hindu, p.7, Dec. 3, 2023**

# E-khata to be issued for properties across state, to be linked to Kaveri

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**  
@ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka government is keen on digitising all property records in the state to ensure smooth sale and purchase of properties, through which the government can earn appropriate revenue from taxes. The records will be linked with the Kaveri portal.

Senior officials in the revenue department held a meeting with members of the cabinet sub-committee recently, where the sugges-

tion was made to issue e-khata to all properties in the state.

“We want to bring all properties on record. At present, tax payment receipt is digitised, but all property documents are on paper, including in Bengaluru. While digitisation of all property records in Bengaluru is being planned, the same is now being proposed for the entire state. This will be a major move if it comes through,” said a senior official from the revenue department.

BBMP Special Commissioner

(Revenue) and Bidar district in-charge secretary Munish Moudgil held a meeting with Forest, Environment and Ecology Minister Eshwar Khandre regarding the matter, and said that issuing e-khatas to properties across the state will ensure there are no errors in documenting properties, and in taxation.

According to government records, there are over 54.91 lakh properties under the jurisdiction of urban local bodies, of which 20.55 lakh are authorised and 34.35 lakh are unauthorised.

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**Source: The New Indian Express, p.2, Dec. 6, 2023**



# A story of two Indias

Contrasts between north and south signal that political competitiveness is alive and well

SAGARIKA GHOSE

India's political map has cracked further after the recent Assembly polls in five states. While South India is 'BJP-mukt', barring Puducherry, North India is 'Congress-mukt', barring Himachal Pradesh. The BJP controls western India, but the east presents a mixed picture, with Trinamool Congress in Bengal, Biju Janata Dal in Odisha, and a Mahagathbandhan in power in Bihar. With the BJP sweeping to power in the three Hindi heartland states but remaining a distant third in Telangana, the geographical fragmentation of the polity appears even more pronounced.

The personality of Prime Minister Modi dominated the BJP's 2023 campaign in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana. The BJP consciously did not project any chief ministerial face and ran a Modi-centric campaign, which paid off handsomely for the party in the north but not in Telangana.

There are three planks to Modi's immense popularity in the north: One, Hindutva politics and Modi's persona as an unapologetic Hindu nationalist; two, Modi's anti-elite OBC identity, which resonates with the post-Mandal movement backward caste social revolution in North India; and three, projecting Modi as the 'vikas purush' or someone who will usher in blitzkrieg development in long-neglected regions.

All three of these planks face structural barriers in the south. First, the appeal of Hindutva centering around the 'Hindi-Hindu-Hindustan' formula is limited in states with proud linguistic, devotional, and cultural traditions. The imposition of Hindi language is an explosive issue. Anti-Hindi language riots have taken place since the 1930s in Tamil Nadu, where Brahmanical Hindutva also faces serious social interrogation. In Karnataka recently, voices were raised over the fate of Kannada and the teaching of Hindi in schools.

Nor does Hindu-Muslim rhetoric strike a chord in a more harmonious civil society. When BJP rabble-rouser Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma vowed to change the name of Hyderabad to Bhagyanagar within an hour of coming to power, a pushback was inevitable in a city with a large, ed-

ucated Muslim population.

Second, OBC politics in the south long predates the Mandal revolution of the north. In Tamil Nadu, backward caste empowerment through the Dravidian movement was already well-established by the time the Mandal movement of the late 1980s got underway. Modi as a galvanising symbol of an anti-upper caste upsurge does not work because such symbols already exist in plenty.

The appeal of Modi as 'vikas purush' is not so potent either. State leaders in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh have already laid claim to the 'development guru' mantle. Jayalalitha fast-tracked Tamil Nadu's industrial boom. Chan-

entrenched itself against the Congress. Andhra Pradesh saw the rise of the NTR cult for a decade in the 1980 to 1990s but in the 2004 and 2009 general elections, Andhra voters stood with the Congress. Indira Gandhi's "Indiramma" appeal endured in Karnataka even after the Emergency, and she scripted her stunning comeback in 1978 from Chikkamagaluru. In the 1980s, the anti-Congress vote in Karnataka went not with BJP but coalesced around the Ramakrishna Hegde-led Janata Party.

Except for former Karnataka CM B S Yeddyurappa, the BJP has not been able to build mass leaders in the south. In Karnataka, the BJP played Lingayat-centric politics and used a dominant caste to tap into anti-Congressism. Within the Sangh Parivar, many South Indian faces have risen to prominence and RSS shakhas have grown exponentially even in Kerala. Yet, the BJP has no popular mass leaders in the south.

Conversely, the Congress has many South Indian talents, like son-of-the-soil mass leader Siddaramaiah, feisty activists like A Revanth Reddy, and resourceful organisation men like D K Shivakumar. In the north, the Congress talent pool has shrunk badly and is populated by senior citizens. Ashok Gehlot has been the Rajasthan face for decades, as has been Digvijay Singh in MP. There is tremendous irony in Rahul Gandhi pitching for OBC representation through a caste census, but making an upper caste Punjabi Khatri, Kamal Nath, the face of the MP campaign. In the north, the Congress' ground organisation has taken a debilitating hit from counter-mobilisations of Mandir and Mandal. Judging from the two big victories in Karnataka and Telangana in the space of a few months, clearly, Congress' organisational networks in the south remain robust.

North and south are thus on different trajectories, and the divergence may well reflect in the Lok Sabha polls of 2024. The BJP can hope to get only a small share of the seats in the south, although its dominance in the north gives it a huge advantage. The delimitation exercise post-2026 could vastly increase the north's seat numbers and political clout. In this situation of the BJP's northern supremacy, the southern contrast is not at all a bad thing. It means that political and electoral competitiveness remains alive and well, and multi-party democracy at the state level stands as a challenge to the BJP's domineering 'one-nation-one-party-one-leader' campaign.

*(The writer is a senior journalist and commentator based in Delhi)*



drababu Naidu built Hyderabad into an IT powerhouse. LDF and UDF both take credit for Kerala's high health and education rankings.

The BJP's footprint somewhat resembles the ancient Mauryan and Ashokan empires which bestrode north and west but were unable to penetrate far south. This is not surprising given the geographical homeland of the RSS-Jana Sangh-BJP. Founded in Nagpur, the RSS first expanded in the Hindi belt and Punjab. The BJP's political ancestor, the Jana Sangh, grew rapidly in UP and MP, thanks to its general secretary Deendayal Upadhyaya who worked tirelessly in UP. Jana Sangh's political star Atal Bihari Vajpayee hailed from Gwalior, as did its later stalwart Vijaya Raje Scindia.

While the Jana Sangh consolidated itself in North India, the southern states remained Congress bastions or dominated by regional heroes. In the 1977 post-Emergency elections, the Indira Gandhi-led Congress was routed in the north, but won over 120 seats in the south.

In Tamil Nadu, the Dravidian giants DMK and AIADMK have dominated since the 1960s. In Kerala, the Left has

**Source: Deccan Herald, p. 8., Dec. 6, 2023**

# Govt. to reconstitute panel to study Old Pension Scheme

**The Hindu Bureau**

BELAGAVI

The State government will reconstitute within 10 days the committee formed in March to study and submit a report on a proposal to reintroduce Old Pension Scheme (OPS) for government employees in the State, Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda told the Legislative Council on Thursday.

The government had constituted the one man-committee headed by the Additional Chief Secretary on March 1. Its mandate was to study how some

States in the country, which had reverted to the OPS from the National Pension Scheme (NPS), have implemented OPS. It is yet to submit its report.

Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Punjab, and Himachal Pradesh have reverted to OPS.

The Revenue Minister replied to a question by members Marithibbe Gowda, S.V. Sankanura, and Hemalatha Nayak during the Question Hour on behalf of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Mr. Gowda said that the committee had held three sittings since then. It could

not submit its report due to technical reasons. The Chief Minister has instructed to reconstitute it by adding three or five more members.

The members demanded that a deadline be fixed for the committee to submit its report and the terms of reference the committee to be reconstituted should be clearly mentioned. They said that the committee should also ensure that employees of government aided private education institutes are not deprived of OPS. The Minister said their demand would be examined.

**Source: The Hindu, p.8, Dec. 8, 2023**

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## Social Issues

# K'taka govt opposes Centre's proposal to replace IPC, CrPC and Evidence Act

**Says Names Are In Hindi Which Is Unconstitutional**

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**Bengaluru:** The Congress government in Karnataka has opposed the BJP-led Centre's proposal to repeal criminal laws and replace them with new legislations. The state government has opposed the very names of the new laws, pointing out that

### ENGLISH PLEASE

they are in Hindi. It said the names should be in English and naming them in any other language is a violation of the Constitution.

The Centre has proposed to replace the Indian Penal Code (IPC)-1860, the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC)-1973, and the Indian Evidence Act-1872 with new laws —

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita-2023, The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita-2023 and The Bharatiya Sakshya Sanhita-2023 respectively.

In a letter to Union home minister Amit Shah, chief minister Siddaramaiah said the central government's move to name the new laws in Hindi is a violation of Article 348 of Constitution which mandates names of all laws should be in English. He also pointed out that the law stipulates that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and all high courts should be in English.

His letter is based on a report submitted by an expert committee which the chief minister had constituted to study the subject.

"As per Article 348 of the Constitution, the revised names of the new bills are not acceptable as words 'Nyaya', 'Nagarik', 'Suraksha', 'Sakshya' and 'Sanhita' are not English words," said the report of the committee



**REMEMBRANCE:** Siddaramaiah paid tribute to former chief minister Kengal Hanumanthaiah on his death anniversary on Friday

headed by law and parliamentary affairs minister HK Patil.

The report has observed that although the new laws have been titled with the word 'Bharatiya', many sections of the bills use the word 'Indian' indicating the lack of sincerity. For instance, in Section 1 of The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the word In-

dia has been used in 16 places instead of Bharat.

"The Centre has claimed that its move to replace the old criminal laws with new ones is aimed at de-colonising these laws," Patil said. "While we appreciate the need for de-colonisation, the content in the revised laws merely reflect tokenism and ad-hocism. It appears they want change

only for the sake of change."

The Centre introduced the new bill in Parliament during the winter session in August and Jagdeep Dhankar, chairman of the Rajya Sabha, referred them to the house standing committee on home affairs for examination. Meanwhile, the Union home ministry sought opinion from all states on it. Siddaramaiah constituted an expert committee, which submitted its report in October.

### '90% provisions retained'

Besides the names, the panel has also raised various other objections. The panel found that there is very little difference between existing laws and the proposed new laws. Some 90% of the provisions have been retained, it said. "When substantive provisions remain the same, no major purpose is served by merely renaming the Acts," said the report.

The report said there is "no visible effort" to make

the laws relevant to the modern age and it has suggested including cybercrimes, hacking, economic offences, spying of nuclear secrets, stashing of currency deposits in tax haven countries, digital sabotage and other crimes. It says this can be done by amending existing laws and there is no need to repeal them or replace them with new ones.

The Karnataka government has sought to highlight the "duality" of the exercise as it found that section numbers have been changed although the provisions remain the same.

For instance, Section 420 of IPC that prescribes punishment for cheating has been changed to Section 316. "We have suggested to retain the numbers and scheme of sections to avoid unnecessary confusion and preserve legal continuity and smoother transition to the new framework," minister Patil said.

**Source: The Times of India, p.4, Dec.2, 2023**

# 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

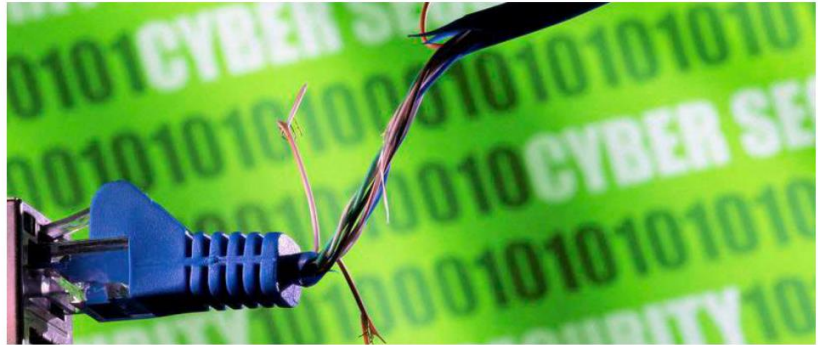
IPC cases registered in Bengaluru

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

**B**engaluru 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**

sures 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.

**Source: The Hindu, p.3, Dec. 5, 2023**



# Use tech to end manual scavenging

KARAMALA AREESH KUMAR  
& SANA Z AHMED

Prime Minister Modi's participation in the Madiga Rally during the election campaign in Telangana strengthened the movement for sub-categorization among scheduled Castes.

Historically, Madigas (Chamar) across the country were subjected to subordination and forced to engage in menial occupations to serve the dominant communities. They are also termed the most marginalised among the marginalised communities. While India celebrates its 77 years of independence, there still exists a section of society that has been treated as the lowest layer of the Indian caste hierarchy. Being born into the lower caste, Madigas are barred from adopting other occupations, which has made manual scavenging a traditional occupation, whereas the Mala (Mahar) community is mostly associated with agricultural labour. Madigas in India are often subjected to social exclusion and violence based on their caste identity; however, manual scavenging is regarded as the "menial job," and what's surprising is how the occupation is linked with the concept of purity and impurity in modern India.

Several organisations and movements, such as Madiga Dandora, Safai Karmachari Andolan, and several others, are fighting for dignity, equality, and justice for lower castes. According to Safai Karmachari Andolan, there are 26,00,000 people involved in community dry latrines, 7,70,000 workers in sewer cleaning, 36,176 manual scavenging at railway stations, and nearly 1,760 individuals have lost their lives due to poisonous gases while clearing the clogs. Manual scavenging was abolished through the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act of 1993, which was again altered by a stronger law, the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and Their Rehabilitation Act, according to which manual cleaning was allowed with precautionary measures only in places where machines cannot be deployed.

PM Modi's government introduced programmes such as Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan and the National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem (NAMASTE) to promote mechanisation by protecting and training workers. However, these schemes are not fully involved and are left half-implemented, as they have been

continued for years and have not been fully abolished. Modi, in his book "KARMAYOG," referred to manual scavenging as a "spiritual experience," but later he changed his stance to abolish manual scavenging in one of the Mann Ki Baat episodes on the 125th birth anniversary of Bhabha Ambedkar. Appreciation and encouragement for manual scavenging will increase caste discrimination and the exclusion of marginal communities. While the PM promised to end the practice of manual scavenging, his *gunthas* have never turned into reality because what has been promised during election campaigns is never fulfilled. It was not necessary to create an emotional moment by washing the feet of the sanitation workers in Prayagraj; fulfilling their rights and bringing them justice to live a life of dignity and freedom from dehumanising work is more important than political interests.

India has achieved technological advancements in the medical sector and has successfully reached the moon; the eradication of manual scavenging is not very impossible. The three-dimensional approach can solve the scavenging community issues in India permanently. First, the social stigma attached to casteism and traditional occupations should be addressed with legal measures. For instance, ragging was one of the major concerns in higher educational institutions across the country, which led to drop-outs and suicides. After adopting stringent anti-ragging laws and legislation, ragging was completely eradicated from universities and colleges.

The second is the implementation of sub-caste reservations. The sub-castes among Dalits were treated as others within the community. They were subjected to intra-exclusion and discrimination. The implementation of reservations within reservations will give access to education and employment. The sub-categorization will lead to the economic and political empowerment of the scavenging community. The third is the use of technology in hygiene and cleaning. State and Union governments should invest in technology to clean public places, roads, and latrines. There are many options available to replace manual scavenging and reduce the death rate.

(Kumar is the Head, Dept. of International Relations, Peace, and Public Policy, St Joseph's University, Bengaluru, and Sana Ahmed is a research scholar at NLSIU, Bengaluru)

**Source: Deccan Herald, p. 9., Dec. 5, 2023**

# Vote Explained Via Voters' Culture

Poor northerners working short-term in the south like BJP championing their cultural ethos, something Congress is unable to do. But that's also a BJP handicap in much of the south

Narendar Pani



The results of four state assembly elections declared on Sunday are more evidence of the wedge in political behaviour between the north and the south of India.

With national elections around the corner, much attention will be paid to the substantial advantage BJP gets from this pattern. But a deep dive into the economics of Indian politics shows these patterns are a comment on the political dynamics of inequality.

**Short-term migrants** | Inequalities of the liberalisation process since 1991 have been dismissed from the political discourse, though their impact can be seen in election after election. As India liberalised, industries moved to areas that were already doing well, largely concentrated in the south and the west of the country.

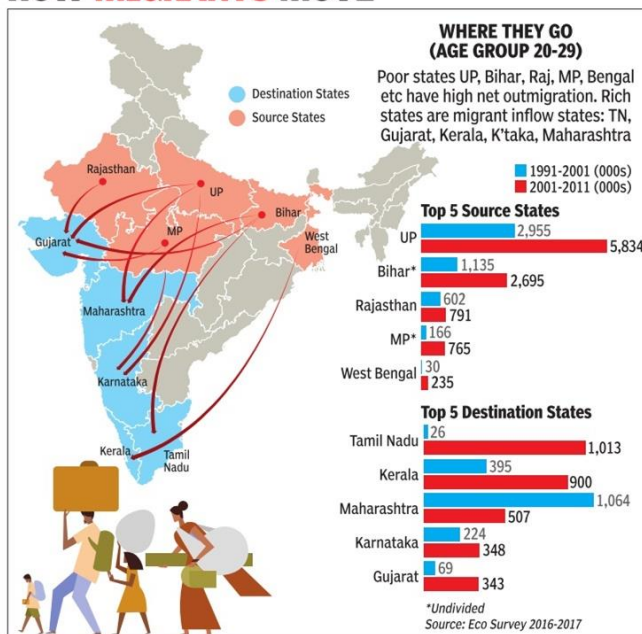
The expensive cities in the south and the west needed workers from the poorer north and the east but did not pay them enough to enable them to migrate permanently. This resulted in the phenomenon of short-term migrants, who leave their families in their villages. These workers carry out assignments in the cultures of the south and the west and use their earnings to improve their status in their villages in the north and the east.

**Transplanting north Indian culture** | Millions of these workers and their kin, all want a party that will take the culture of their home districts to the parts of the country where they work. BJP's aggressive push for a north Indian culture across the country appeals to them. The link between the condition of short-term migrant workers and BJP was evident in a comparison

## Inequality & Elections

- Reforms rewarded rich states
- Migration vital for poor states
- Migrant votes key in north
- Welfare alone won't win polls

## HOW MIGRANTS MOVE



of the map of districts where workers could not get work for more than six months in a year and hence had to take short-term migrant assignments, and the map of BJP's constituency-wise vote in the 2014 parliamentary elections. There was a very substantial overlap. Despite the absence of the 2021 Census, there is no reason to believe that the pattern has changed.

**Where Congress falters** | In appealing to the culture of the migrant workers and the society around them, Congress has fallen far behind. Its leaders, especially in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, earned their spurs in the era before liberalisation. They could not, even if they wanted to, present a picture of a

party that would push the interests of north Indian workers in the south.

It did not also help that it could not compensate for this loss of support by appealing to tribal societies. Its state leadership remains, at best, patronising to tribal concerns. And Congress efforts to overcome this disconnect in everyday work, through welfare schemes, were just not enough.

**Where BJP meets resistance** | The same emphasis on north Indian culture that helps BJP in the north hurts it in the south. The party still struggles to make inroads into southern states. The lone exception is Karnataka, where the local leadership is more associated with local culture.

This resistance to the imposition of a

north Indian culture is better captured by local parties. Congress, after losing to regional parties, has developed a strategy for providing a prominent place for local leaders.

Revanth Reddy was made president of the Congress Telangana unit, and even when he presented a national image of the party, he found a place for local leaders from neighbouring states, including Karnataka chief minister Siddaramaiah.

**Intrastate inequity also matters** | To treat this as just a matter of local versus national leaders would, however, be a mistake, as there was another inequality at work. Telangana's economy is centred around a single city, Hyderabad, much like Karnataka's concentration of economic resources in Bengaluru.

To maintain high growth rates, state governments tend to invest a disproportionate share of resources in these cities. This causes resentment in the rest of the state. As a party of the opposition, Congress tapped into this resentment, though that meant losing support in the city constituencies.

In Karnataka elections, Congress did quite poorly in Bengaluru, even though it won the rest of the state. And though Congress has won Telangana, it has fared poorly in Hyderabad.

**Limits of welfarism** | BJP's wins came despite the flurry of welfare measures Congress implemented in Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh. So, it is tempting to believe that Hindutva and the Modi image conquer all. But the lesson of this set of elections is not that the economy does not matter; but that a few welfare schemes cannot overcome the distress of working under extreme regional inequality, whether between states or within states. Congress pioneered the strategy of growth at any cost, followed by ameliorative welfare measures.

These election results have made it clear that if Congress wants to continue to present an economic case to the electorate, it cannot rely on welfare alone. It cannot tacitly support demands for a 70-hour work-week and then hope workers will be attracted to a welfare measure or two.

The writer is a political economy analyst

Source: The Times of India, p.10, Dec.5, 2023





# ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ, ಮಿಲಾಸೆ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ 3ರಾ ಕಡಿಮೆ



ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ವಾರ್ತೆ

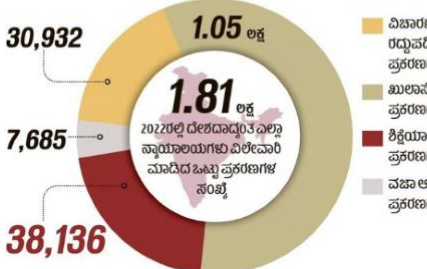
ದೇಶದ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ ವಿವಿಧ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿಯಾದ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು ಶೇ 21ರಷ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ. ದೇಶದ ಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಹೀಗಿದ್ದರೆ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಇದಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಕಳಪೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದೇ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ವಿವಿಧ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿಯಾದ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು ಶೇ 5.21ರಷ್ಟರಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ. ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇರುವ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕವು ಮೂರನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಮೊದಲ ಎರಡು ಸ್ಥಾನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂಧಪ್ರದೇಶ (4.5%) ಮತ್ತು ಗುಜರಾತ್ ಇವೆ (5.1%).

2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ದೇಶದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಕೇಂದ್ರಾಡಳಿತ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 1.81 ಲಕ್ಷ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ, ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು 38,136 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ. ಇದೇ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ವಿವಿಧ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳು 10,351 ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದು, 540 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾಗಿದೆ.

ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಆದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಚಾರಣೆಗೂ ಮುನ್ನ, ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ವಜಾ ಆದ ಮತ್ತು ಆರೋಪಿಗಳು ಮಿಲಾಸೆ ಆದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪ್ರಮಾಣವೇ ಹೆಚ್ಚು. ಅದರಲ್ಲೂ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳು ಮಿಲಾಸೆ ಆಗುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಶೇ 50ಕ್ಕಿಂತಲೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಇದೆ.

2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ದೇಶದ ವಿವಿಧ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಆದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ 58ರಷ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ (1.05 ಲಕ್ಷ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು) ಆರೋಪಿಗಳನ್ನು

ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ 21%



ನ್ಯಾಯದಾನ ವಿಳಂಬ

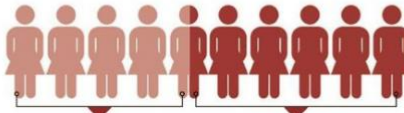
21.84 ಲಕ್ಷ

ದೇಶದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ (2022ರ ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್ ಅಂತ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ)

ದೇಶದ ಎಲ್ಲೆಡೆ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನ್ಯಾಯದಾನವು ತೀರಾ ವಿಳಂಬವಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ದತ್ತಾಂಶಗಳು ಹೇಳುತ್ತವೆ. ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಶೇಷ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಹೀಗಿದ್ದೂ, ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ತ್ವರಿತವಾಗಿ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿಯಾಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತೆಯರಿಗೆ ಮತ್ತು ಬಂಧನದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳಿಗೆ ತ್ವರಿತವಾಗಿ ನ್ಯಾಯ ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಈ ದತ್ತಾಂಶಗಳು ವಿವರಿಸುತ್ತವೆ. 2022ರ ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್ ಅಂತ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ದೇಶದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿದಿರುವ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 21.84 ಲಕ್ಷ. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳು 1.81 ಲಕ್ಷದಷ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದರೂ, ಇಷ್ಟೊಂದು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಇನ್ನೂ ವಿಚಾರಣೆಯ

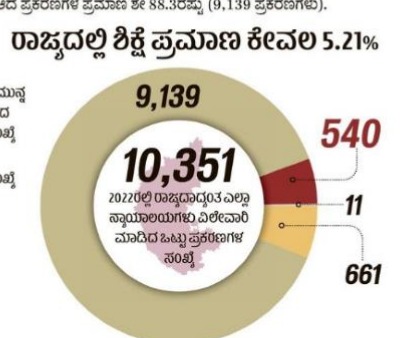
ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಏರಿಕೆ

2021ರಲ್ಲಿ ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೋಲಿಸಿದರೆ, 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 64,863 ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದವು. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 69,546 ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮೇಲೆ ನಡೆದ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳೇ ಹೆಚ್ಚು.



ಮಿಲಾಸೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಇನ್ನೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು. ಈ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ವಿವಿಧ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿಯಾದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಿಲಾಸೆ ಆದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಶೇ 88.3ರಷ್ಟು (9,139 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು).

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಕೇವಲ 5.21%



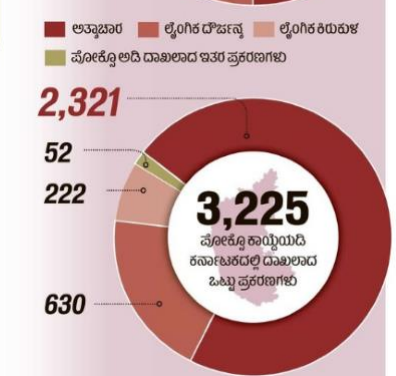
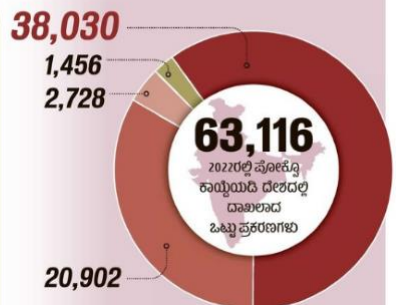
ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಉಳಿದಿವೆ. ಹತ್ತಾರು ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ತ್ವರಿತವಾಗಿ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿಯಾಗದೇ ಉಳಿದಿರುವುದರಿಂದ, ಇಷ್ಟೆಲ್ಲಾ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನ್ಯಾಯದಾನ ವಿಳಂಬವಾಗಿದೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲೂ 2022ರ ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್ ಅಂತ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ 72,455 ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿದಿವೆ.

2022ರ ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್ ಅಂತ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲೇ ಉಳಿದ ಅತಿಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಇದ್ದದ್ದು ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಬಂಗಾಳದಲ್ಲಿ. ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂತಹ 3.58 ಲಕ್ಷ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಇದ್ದವು. ನಂತರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅತಿಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲೇ ಉಳಿದಿದ್ದು ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶ (2.72 ಲಕ್ಷ), ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ (2.71 ಲಕ್ಷ), ಒಡಿಶಾ (1.69 ಲಕ್ಷ) ಮತ್ತು ಮಧ್ಯಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ (1.21 ಲಕ್ಷ). ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ಅತಿಹೆಚ್ಚು ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗುವ ರಾಜಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 1.16 ಲಕ್ಷದಷ್ಟು.

ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣ: ಭಾರಿ ಏರಿಕೆ

ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮೇಲಿನ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ, ಲೈಂಗಿಕ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ, ಲೈಂಗಿಕ ಕಿರುಕುಳದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಲೇ ಇವೆ. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 53,276 ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದವು. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಅಡಿ ದಾಖಲಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 63,116ಕ್ಕೆ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಂದರೆ, 2021ಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಲಿಸಿದರೆ 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 9,840. ಆ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ 18.5ರಷ್ಟು ಏರಿಕೆ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದೆ. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ 2,817 ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದವು. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂಥ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 3,225ಕ್ಕೆ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ.

ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪ್ರಮಾಣವೇ ಹೆಚ್ಚು. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾದ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮೇಲಿನ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 38,030. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂತಹ 33,186 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದವು. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂತಹ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ 14.6ರಷ್ಟು ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ.



- ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಅಡಿ 4,258 ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ.
- ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಅತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ (7,970).
- ಕೆಲವು ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಭಾರಿ ಏರಿಕೆ ಕಂಡಿದೆ. ಅರುಣಾಚಲ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 468. 2022ರ ಹೊತ್ತಿಗೆ ಇಂತಹ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 2,349ಕ್ಕೆ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ರಾಜಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿ 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 580 ಇತ್ತು. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇದು 3,682ಕ್ಕೆ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ.
- ಮೇಘಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇಳಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 100 ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದವು. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇದು 54ಕ್ಕೆ ಇಳಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಗೋವಾದಲ್ಲಿ 2021ರಂತೆ 2022ರಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಯಾವುದೇ ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಿಮಾಚಲ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 8 ಹಾಗೂ 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 6 ಪೋಕ್ಸೊ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ.

ಆಧಾರ: ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಅಪರಾಧ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳ ಬ್ಯೂರೊದಿಂದ (ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ) ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪರಾಧ-2022 ವರದಿ

Source: Prajavani, p.9, Dec.5, 2023

# ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದೇಶದ ಸೈಬರ್ ಕ್ರಿಂ ಕ್ಯಾಪಿಟಲ್

ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ ವರದಿ | ಬಹಿರಂಗ ದೇಶಾದ್ಯಂತ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಶೇ.24 ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ | 65,893 ಕೇಸ್ ದಾಖಲು

■ ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಸುದ್ದಿಬಾಲ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು ಶೇ.24 ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ 2ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿ. ಮಹಾನಗರಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಮೊದಲ ಸ್ಥಾನದ ಕುಖ್ಯಾತಿಗೆ ಒಳಗಾಗಿದೆ.

ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 52,974 ಸೈಬರ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ, 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 65,893 ಕೇಸ್ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದೇ ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಅರ್ಥಿಕ ಅಪರಾಧ (ಶೇ.11), ಹಿರಿಯ ನಾಗರಿಕರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಅಪರಾಧ (ಶೇ.9), ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ (ಶೇ.4) ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚಳವಾಗಿರುವ ಅಂಶ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಅಪರಾಧ ದಾಖಲಾತಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ (ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ) ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಿದ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲೇಖಕಿ ಬಂದಿದೆ.

ತೆಲಂಗಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ 2022ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ 15,297 ಕೇಸ್‌ಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಮೊದಲ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ 12,556 ಮತ್ತು ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 10,117 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿರುವ 12,556 ಸೈಬರ್ ಕ್ರಿಂಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ 11,025 ವಂಚನೆ, 338 ಲೈಂಗಿಕ ಕಿರುಕುಳ, 379 ಸುರಂಗ, 27 ತೇಜೋವಧೆ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಕೇಸ್ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ.

ಇನ್ನೂ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಾನಗರಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಹೊಸಲಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿದರೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಸೈಬರ್ ಕ್ರಿಂ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 6,423 ಕೇಸ್ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 9,940 ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಅನಂತರ ಮುಂಬೈ(4,724) ಮತ್ತು ಹೈದರಾಬಾದ್ (4,436) ಎರಡು ಮತ್ತು 3ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಭ್ರಷ್ಟಾಚಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯ 3ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನ: ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ 749,

ರಾಜಸ್ಥಾನ 511, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ 389, ಮಧ್ಯಪ್ರದೇಶ 294 ಮತ್ತು ಒಡಿಶಾದಲ್ಲಿ 287 ಭ್ರಷ್ಟಾಚಾರ ಸುಗ್ರಹ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯಡಿ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ 3ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದು, 250 ಟ್ರಾಪ್, 56 ಅದಾಯಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಅಸ್ತಿ ಗಳಿಕೆ, 16 ಅಧಿಕಾರ ದುರ್ಬಳಕೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. 60 ಅಪರಾಧಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಒಟ್ಟಾರೆ ಕೇಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ.33 ಮಂದಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

**ಅರ್ಥಿಕ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗತಿ:** ದೇಶದ ಮಹಾನಗರಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 2,715 ಅರ್ಥಿಕ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 3,245 ಕೇಸ್‌ಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, 5ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. 3083 ನಕಲಿ ದಾಖಲೆ, ವಂಚನೆ ಕೇಸ್‌ಗಳು ಮತ್ತು 147 ನಂಬಿಕೆ ದೋಷ ವರದಿಯಾಗಿವೆ. ಇನ್ನೂ ಮೊದಲ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂಬೈ (6,960), ಅನಂತರ ಹೈದರಾಬಾದ್ (6015), ಚೆನ್ನೈ (5332), ದೆಹಲಿ ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ (5007) ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಅರ್ಥಿಕ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು ವರದಿ ಆಗಿವೆ.

**ಸೈಬರ್ ಕ್ರಿಂ ಪ್ರತಿಹತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲಾಸ್:** ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪತ್ತೆಹಚ್ಚುವಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪೊಲೀಸರು ಹಿಂದೆ ಬಿದ್ದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 12,556 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 612 ಪುರುಷರು, 67 ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಸೇರಿ 679 ವಂಚಕರನ್ನು ಬಂಧಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸ್ತು ಆಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಪೊಲೀಸರು 8,249 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 15 ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಸೇರಿ 7,122 ಆರೋಪಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪತ್ತೆ ಹಚ್ಚಿ ಮೊದಲ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಅನಂತರ ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ (2,582) ಮತ್ತು ತೆಲಂಗಾಣ (2,442) ಎರಡು, 3ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ 11ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ.



ಯಾವ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಷ್ಟು ಕೇಸ್

ರಾಜ್ಯ	2021	2022
ತೆಲಂಗಾಣ	10,303	15,297
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ	8,136	12,556
ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶ	8,829	10,117
ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ	5,562	8,249
ಅಂಧಪ್ರದೇಶ	1,875	2,341
ರಾಜ್ಯ (36)	52,974	65,893

ಮಹಾನಗರಗಳ ಸೈಬರ್ ಕ್ರಿಂ

ನಗರ	2021	2022
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ	6,423	9,940
ಮುಂಬೈ	2883	4724
ಹೈದರಾಬಾದ್	3303	4436
ಲಕ್ನೋ	1067	1134
ದೆಹಲಿ ನಗರ	345	685
19 ನಗರ	17,115	24,420

4.45 ಲಕ್ಷ ಮಹಿಳಾ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ

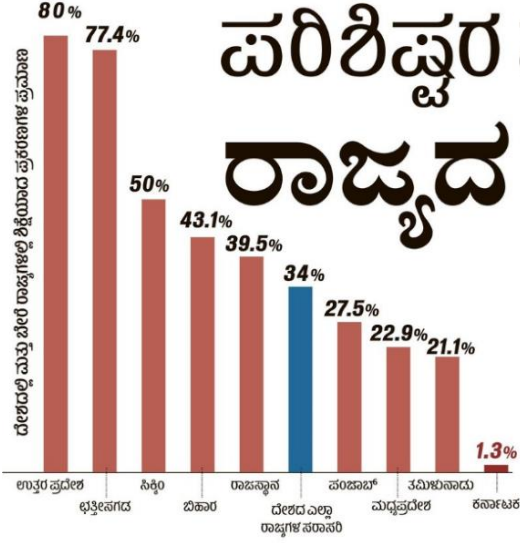
ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 4.45,256 ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮೇಲಿನ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 4,28,278 ಎಫ್‌ಐಆರ್ ಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ, 2020ರಲ್ಲಿ 3,71,503 ಎಫ್‌ಐಆರ್‌ಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದವು. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ವಿರುದ್ಧದ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಪ್ರತಿ ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಸುಮಾರು 51 ಎಫ್‌ಐಆರ್‌ಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಪ್ರತಿ 1 ಲಕ್ಷ ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗೆ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ವಿರುದ್ಧದ ಅಪರಾಧದ ಪ್ರಮಾಣವು ಶೇ.66.4 ರಷ್ಟಿದೆ. ಅಂತಹ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಚಾರ್ಜ್‌ಶೀಟ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಮಾಣವು 75.8 ಪ್ರತಿಶತದಷ್ಟಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ. ದಾಖಲಾಗಿರುವ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ.31.4 ಪತಿ ಅಥವಾ ಅವರ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಕರಿಂದಲೇ ಕ್ರೌರ್ಯ ನಡೆದಿದೆ. ಶೇ.19.2 ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಅಪಹರಣ, ಶೇ. 7.1 ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಾಗಿವೆ.

**ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಕೊಲೆ**

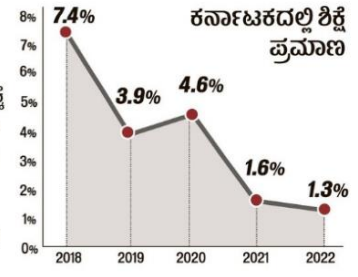
ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ 28,522 ಕೊಲೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಅತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಮತ್ತು ಸಿಕ್ಕಿಂನಲ್ಲಿ ಅತಿ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಕೊಲೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ ಎಂದು ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ ಹೇಳಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ ಸರಾಸರಿ 78 ಕೊಲೆಗಳು ಅಥವಾ ಪ್ರತಿ ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ಮೂರಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಕೊಲೆಗಳು ವರದಿಯಾಗುತ್ತಿವೆ ಎಂದು ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ ತನ್ನ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಹಿರಂಗಪಡಿಸಿದೆ.



# ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟರ ಮೇಲೆ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಶೋಚನೀಯ



ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿಗಳ ಜನರ ಮೇಲೆ ಎನ್‌ಗಲಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಅಪರಾಧಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಲೇ ಇದೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕವೂ ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಹೊರತಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವೀಲಿವಾರಿ ಮಾಡಿ, ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ ನೀಡುವುದರಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕವು ಬೇರೆಲ್ಲಾ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ತೀರಾ ಹಿಂದೆ ಬಿದ್ದಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂತಹ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪ್ರಮಾಣವು 2018-2022ರ ಮಧ್ಯೆ ಕಳವಳಕಾರಿ ಮಟ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಕುಸಿದಿದೆ

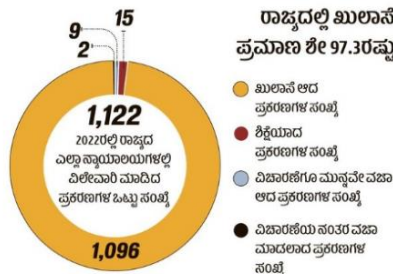


• ಜಯಸಿಂಹ ಆರ್., ಸುಕೃತ ಎಸ್.

ರಾಜ್ಯದ ವಿವಿಧ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳು ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿಗಳ ಜನರ ಮೇಲೆ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ ನಡೆದ 1,124 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ವೀಲಿವಾರಿ ಮಾಡಿವೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು 15 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ. ವೀಲಿವಾರಿಯಾದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೋಲಿಸಿದರೆ, ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಶೇ 1.3ರಷ್ಟು. ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿಯ ಜನರ ಮೇಲೆ ಅತಿಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾದ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇರುವುದು ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲೇ.

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ವೇದಲ ಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಇಷ್ಟು ಕಳವಳಕಾರಿಯಾಗಿ ಇರಲಿಲ್ಲ. 2018ರಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಶೇ 7.4ರಷ್ಟಿತ್ತು. ಅನಂತರದ ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಕುಸಿಯುತ್ತಲೇ ಬಂದಿದೆ. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ ಆ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಶೇ 1.6ಕ್ಕೆ ಕುಸಿದಿತ್ತು. ಈಗ ಅದು ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು ಕುಸಿದಿದೆ. ಈ ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳ ಜನರ ಮೇಲಿನ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ವರ್ಷಾವಾರು ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವುದರ ಜೊತೆಯಲ್ಲೇ, ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾಗುವ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಕುಸಿಯುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ಕಳವಳಕಾರಿ.

ಈ ಜಾತಿ ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳ ಜನರ ಮೇಲೆ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ ನಡೆದ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಪೊಲೀಸರು ಒಟ್ಟು 1,977 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಿದ್ದರು. 2022ಕ್ಕೆ ಹಿಂದಿನ ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಉಳಿದಿದ್ದ 632 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಸೇರಿ, 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 2,609 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಪೊಲೀಸರ ಮುಂದಿದ್ದವು. ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಟ್ಟು ಆರೋಪಗಳು ಎಂದು ಪೊಲೀಸರು 225 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವಜಾ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಜತೆಗೆ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿಗಳ ಜನರ ಮೇಲೆ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ ನಿಜ ಎಂದು ಗೊತ್ತಿದ್ದೂ, ಸಾಕ್ಷ್ಯ ಇಲ್ಲದೇ ಇರುವ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೆ 2 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವಜಾ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ



ಅಪರಾಧ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳ ಬ್ಯಾರೋ (ಎನ್‌ಎಲ್‌ಆರ್) ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಪೊಲೀಸರು ತಾವು ನೀಡಿರುವ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇದನ್ನೇ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇವುಗಳ ಹೊರತಾಗಿ 1,636 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪೊಲೀಸರು ಸಾಕ್ಷ್ಯಗಳ ಆಧಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಆರೋಪಪಟ್ಟ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಸುಟ್ಟು ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಕ್ಷ್ಯ ಇಲ್ಲದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಪೊಲೀಸರ ತನಿಖಾ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲೇ ವಜಾ ಆಗಿವೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಸಾಕ್ಷ್ಯ ಇದೆ ಎಂದು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಕ್ಕೆ ಆರೋಪ ಪಟ್ಟ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲೇ

## ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಏರಿಕೆ

- ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿಗಳ ಜನರ ಮೇಲೆ ಎನ್‌ಗಲಾದ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಅಪರಾಧ ಕೃತ್ಯಗಳು ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿವೆ. 2020ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂತಹ 50,291 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದವು. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 50,900 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದವು. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇದು 57,582ಕ್ಕೆ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ
- 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 15,368 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಇಂತಹ ಅತಿಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ಈ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲೇ
- ರಾಜಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿ 8,752 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಎರಡನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ
- ಮಧ್ಯಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 7,733 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಮೂರನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ
- 2020ರಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಎಲ್ಲೆಡೆ ಇಂತಹ 1,398 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದವು. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 1,673 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದವು. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಇದು 1,977ಕ್ಕೆ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ

ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನವು ಖುಲಾಸೆ ಆಗಿವೆ. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳು ಒಟ್ಟು 1,122 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವೀಲಿವಾರಿ ಮಾಡಿವೆ. ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 1,096 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಖುಲಾಸೆಯಾಗಿವೆ. ಈ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಏಕೆ ಖುಲಾಸೆಯಾಗಿವೆ ಎಂಬುದರ ವಿವರವು ಎನ್‌ಎಲ್‌ಆರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ದತ್ತಾಂಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಲ್ಲ.

## ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮೇಲಿನ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ

ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿಗಳ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮೇಲಿನ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮೇಲೆ ನಡೆದ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು 7,168. ಇದು 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 7,756ಕ್ಕೆ ಏರಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿಗಳ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮೇಲಿನ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಈ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಗಾದ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 821. ಎರಡನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜಸ್ಥಾನವಿದೆ (608). ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯು 296 ಇದೆ. ಇಂತಹ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅತಿಹೆಚ್ಚು ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಒಳಗಾದ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕವು ಐದನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ.

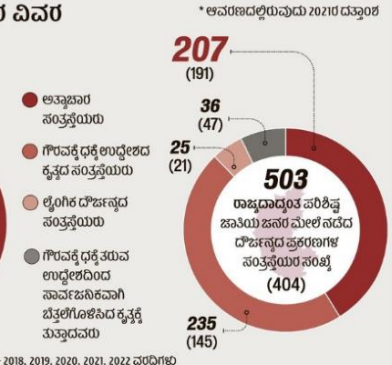
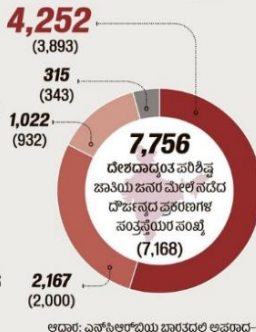
ಈ ಸಮುದಾಯಗಳ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರ ಮೇಲೆ ನಡೆದ ದೌರ್ಜನ್ಯಗಳೆಲ್ಲವೂ ಗೌರವಕ್ಕೆ ಧಕ್ಕೆ ತರುವ ಸ್ವರೂಪದವೇ ಆಗಿವೆ. ಅವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರದ್ದೇ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು. ಜತೆಗೆ ಗೌರವಕ್ಕೆ ಧಕ್ಕೆ ತರುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ

ತೆಗಳುವುದು-ಹಲ್ಲೆ ನಡೆಸುವುದು, ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕವಾಗಿ ಬೆತ್ತಲುಗೊಳಿಸುವುದು, ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಯತ್ನದಂತಹ ಕೃತ್ಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಈ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತೆಯರಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಲೈಂಗಿಕ ಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿದ್ದಾಗ ಕದ್ದು ನೋಡಿದಂತಹ ಮತ್ತು ಗೋಚ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಚಿತ್ರೀಕರಿಸಿದಂತಹ ಕೃತ್ಯಗಳೂ ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇರಿವೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕಕ್ಕೆ ಸೀಮಿತಗೊಳಿಸಿ ವಿಶ್ಲೇಷಿಸುವುದಾದರೆ, ಮಹಿಳೆಯ ಗೌರವಕ್ಕೆ ಧಕ್ಕೆ ತರುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದ ಬೈರಳ ಮತ್ತು ಹಲ್ಲೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯೇ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿದೆ.

## ಬೆತ್ತಲುಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಕೃತ್ಯ

2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯರನ್ನು ಅವರ ಜಾತಿಯ ಕಾರಣದಿಂದ ಗೌರವಕ್ಕೆ ಧಕ್ಕೆ ತರುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕವಾಗಿ ಬೆತ್ತಲುಗೊಳಿಸಿದ 343 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಿಗೆ ದೇಶವು ಸಾಕ್ಷಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದೇ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂಥ 36 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ.

## ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿಗಳ ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತೆಯರ ವಿವರ



Source: Prajavani, p.9, Dec.5, 2023

# With 5 crimes per hour, B'luru worst among southern metros

## IT City Safer Than Delhi & Mumbai

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bengaluru:** In 2022, Bengaluru saw at least five crimes being registered every hour, of which at least three were under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and the rest under special local laws (SLL), making India's IT hub the worst metropolis city in the south, but safer than Delhi and Mumbai.

### NCRB DATA

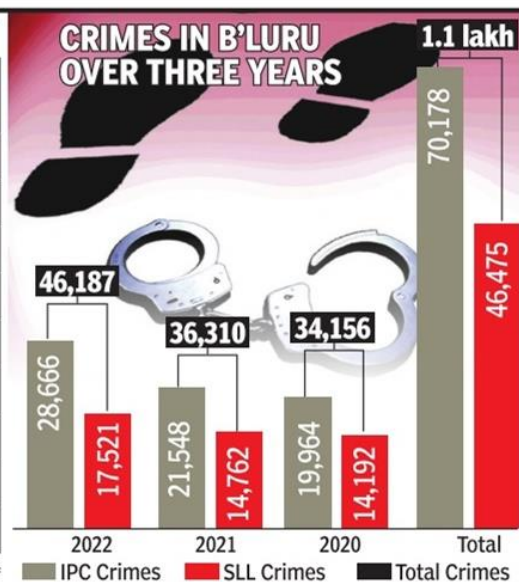
Data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) shows that total crimes in Bengaluru grew by 27% in 2022 to touch 46,187 compared to 36,310 in 2021. In 2020, the same stood at 34,156. IPC crimes grew more in percentage terms (33%) than SLL crimes (18%).

The NCRB's classification of metro cities is based on population data from the 2011 census and has 19 cities, including Bengaluru, Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chennai and Kolkata. And, a comparison of crimes among these cities shows that Hyderabad, Chennai and Kochi, the three major

### CITIES & SAFETY WORRY

Metro city	IPC crimes	SLL crimes	Total
Bengaluru	28,666	17,521	46,187
Hyderabad	20,668	2,515	23,183
Chennai	15,086	24,052	39,138
Kochi	13,273	15,493	28,766
Kozhikode	8,074	3,515	11,589
Coimbatore	4,542	4,708	9,250
Delhi	2.9 lakh	19,567	3.1 lakh
Mumbai	69,289	19,809	89,098
<b>Total cities</b>	<b>6.2 lakh</b>	<b>2.3 lakh</b>	<b>8.5 lakh</b>

Source: NCRB | Figures in lakh rounded off



metros from neighbouring states, are far behind Bengaluru in the incidence of crime, while Coimbatore and Kozhikode are placed even better (see graphic).

Experts point out that from variations in population to a better reporting system, a variety of reasons could be responsible for Bengaluru's high crime rate, which of course pales in comparison to Mumbai (89,098) and Delhi (3.1 lakh).

### Serious crimes

A further analysis of various crimes in Bengaluru shows that of the serious IPC

crimes, in 2022, there were two rapes every five days (151), one murder every second day (173) and at least one attempted murder a day (389). Other crimes against women were more: On average, there were two cases of outraging a woman's modesty each day (757), while more than one woman was assaulted each day (488). There were 120 sexual harassment cases, 63 cases of intent to disrobe and 70 cases of stalking.

A majority of the IPC cases was thefts (7,574), followed by hurt (2,817), kidnapping or abduction (946) and negligence (902).

### 10k cybercrimes

Among the SLL crimes, the city saw more than 10,000 cybercrimes at the rate of more than one every hour, while there were more than four crimes against women every hour (1,660) with a majority of them being booked under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.

There were 468 cases under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Pocso) Act, 2012. There were also 172 cases under the Copy Right Act, 1957 and more than 4,000 cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

**Source: The Times of India, p. 2, Dec.6, 2023**



# ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿತ್ಯ ನಾಲ್ವರು ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಸೇರಿ 53 ಮಂದಿ ಮಿಸ್ಸಿಂಗ್!

ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಬಹಿರಂಗ | ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಣೆಯಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕಕ್ಕೆ 16ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನ

■ ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಸುದ್ದಿವಾಹಿನಿ ವರದಿಯು

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದಿನ್ನೊಂದು ಅರಣ್ಯ ಪ್ರದೇಶ 53 ಮಂದಿ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರದರ್ಶಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ನಾಲ್ವರು ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಇರುವುದು ಅಪರಾಧಗಳ ವಿವರವಾಗಿದೆ.

ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಅಪರಾಧ ದಾಖಲಾತಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ (ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ) ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಿರುವ ವರದಿ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಅಪರಾಧದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಶ್ಲೇಷಿಸಿ ಮಾಡಿದಾಗ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ 7ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮಿಸ್ಸಿಂಗ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ಗಮನಿಸಿದರೆ 16ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದು ಸ್ವಲ್ಪವೇ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿದೆ.

ಮಾನ್ಯ ಕೃಷಿ ಸಚಿವರಿಗೆ, ದಾರಿ ತಪ್ಪಿ ಮರಗೆ ದಾಖಲೆ ಹೊಂದಿರುವುದು, ಕೌಟುಂಬಿಕ ಕಂಠದಿಂದ ದೂರವಾಗುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಭೇದ ವಿವಾದದ ಗುರುವಾಗಿ ಮನೆ ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಹೋಗುವುದು ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಅಪರಾಧದ ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ, ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಮತ್ತು ಅಪರಾಧಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರದರ್ಶಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಭೇದಿಗಳ ಅಪರಾಧ ಮಾಡುವುದರಿಂದ ದೂರವಾಗುವುದು ಪ್ರತಿಪಕ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ತನಿಖಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಕೆಲವೊಂದು ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ದೂರವಾಗುವುದು ಸುಮ್ಮನೆ ಇರುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನವೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿದೆ.

2022ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ 19,372 (ಗಂ-7,090; ಹೆ-12,282) ಅಪರಾಧಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರದರ್ಶಿಸಿದೆ. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ 8,407 ಅಪರಾಧಗಳನ್ನು ಅರಣ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶಿಸಿದೆ. 27,779 ಕೇಸುಗಳು ವರದಿಯಾಗಿವೆ. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ 18,576 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು (ಗಂ-6,791; ಹೆ-11,785) ಪ್ರತಿಪಕ್ಷವಾಗಿವೆ.

18 ವರ್ಷ ಒಳಗಿನವರ ಮಿಸ್ಸಿಂಗ್ ಕೇಸುಗಳನ್ನು ಗಮನಿಸಿದಾಗ 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 1,110 (ಗಂ-157, ಹೆ-953) ಮಕ್ಕಳು ದಾಖಲೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ, ಹಿರಿಯ 607 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಸೇರಿ ಒಟ್ಟಾರೆ 1,717 ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಮಿಸ್ಸಿಂಗ್ ಆಗಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಭೇದಿಗಳು ತನಿಖೆ ಕೈಗೊಂಡು 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 1173 ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು (ಗಂ-568; ಹೆ-605) ಪ್ರತಿಪಕ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಂದು ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರದರ್ಶಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.



ಹಿರಿಯರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು

ಮಾಹಿತಿ	ಪ್ರಕರಣ	ಕೊಲೆ	ವಂಚನೆ
ದೇಶದ ಸರಾಸರಿ	1313	22	136
ಮಂಗಳೂರು	572	5	120
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ	458	17	158
ಪ್ರೇಮದಾಸರು	331	2	86
ಅಹಮದಾಬಾದ್	238	8	29

## ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮೇಲಿನ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮೇಲಿನ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಸಹ ಎದುರಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ. 2020ರಲ್ಲಿ 1,103 ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮೇಲಿನ ಅಪರಾಧ ಸಂಭವಿಸಿದೆ, 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 1,342 ಪ್ರಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 1,578 ಕೇಸುಗಳು ವರದಿಯಾಗಿವೆ. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ದೇಶದ ಸರಾಸರಿ 7400 ಮತ್ತು ಮುಂಬೈನಲ್ಲಿ 3178 ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ದೇಶದ ಎಲ್ಲೆಡೆ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ 9 ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಕೊಲೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ದೇಶದ ಸರಾಸರಿ 22 ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹತ್ಯೆ ಆಗಿರುವ ವರದಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಿರಿಕಾರ್ ಸಿಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 468 ಪ್ರೇಮದಾಸರು ಪ್ರಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು 68 ಸೈಬರ್ ಕ್ರಿಮಿ ಕೇಸು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದೆ.

## ಕಾಣೆಯಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು

ರಾಜ್ಯ	ಅಪರಾಧದ ಮಕ್ಕಳು	ಮಕ್ಕಳು
ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ	70,756	3,069
ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಬಂಗಾಳ	58,871	12,455
ಮಧ್ಯ ಪ್ರದೇಶ	50,344	11,352
ರಾಜಸ್ಥಾನ	33,067	6,194
ತಮಿಳುನಾಡು	27,701	7,009

## ಹಿರಿಯ ನಾಗರಿಕರಿಗೆ ಸುರಕ್ಷಿತವಲ್ಲ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಿರಿಯ ನಾಗರಿಕರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲೆಯಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಶ್ಲೇಷಿಸಿ, ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ಬಿ ವರದಿ ಪ್ರಕಾರ 2020ರಲ್ಲಿ 210 ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ವರದಿ ಆಗಿದ್ದವು. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ 237 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವರದಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 258(458) ಆಗಿದೆ. ಇದು ಅತುಳಿತದ ವಿವರವಾಗಿದೆ. ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ 5ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದ ಕುಖ್ಯಾತಿಗೆ ಒಳಗಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ, ಹಿರಿಯ ನಾಗರಿಕರ ಕೊಲೆ ಕೇಸುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ದೇಶದ ಸರಾಸರಿ (22 ಕೊಲೆ) ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿದರೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ ಅತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಹಿರಿಯ ನಾಗರಿಕರು (17) ಕೊಲೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ವಂಚನೆಯ ಒಳಗಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 158 ವಂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, 19 ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿ ಸಿರಿಕಾರ್ ಸಿಟಿ ಮೊದಲ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಹಿರಿಯ ನಾಗರಿಕರಿಗೆ ದೇಶದ ಸರಾಸರಿ ಸುರಕ್ಷಿತವಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬುದು ಮೇಲ್ನೋಟಕ್ಕೆ ಕಂಡು ಬರುತ್ತದೆ.

Source: Vijayavani, p.13, Dec.6, 2023

# 6 of 10 cybercrimes in B'luru were through impersonation

## Tech Capital Table Topper Among 19 Metros

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bengaluru:** In Bengaluru, which continued to report the highest number of cybercrimes among metro cities nationally in 2022, six out of 10 cases — 6,313 of 9,940 — were related to cheating by impersonation using a computer. Nearly 29% (2,876) of

### NCRB 2022 DATA

the cases were related to identity theft.

According to data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Bengaluru reported the most number of cybercrimes in 2022 across 19 metro cities.

At 9,940 — not including copyright and trademark crimes — Bengaluru clearly has nearly double the number of cases than Mumbai and Hyderabad. While Kolkata reported the least number of

cases (75) in the year, Chennai (271) and Delhi (685) too aren't comparable with Karnataka's capital.

Experts pointed out that from vulnerable victims to absence of mechanisms to take quick action, a variety of reasons contribute to cheating. One of them said that if a more detailed — FIR-by-FIR — analysis is carried out, one would find that in many cases, lack of digital literacy and victims' ignorance about warnings from various stakeholders would have been exploited by criminals.

In fact, India's IT city alone accounted for nearly 41% of the 24,420 cybercrimes reported across met-

ro cities in 2022. And it accounted for more than 83% of the 12,000+ cybercrimes reported in Karnataka.

Other than cheating by impersonation, 477 cases were registered for publishing sexually explicit content, while 292 cases were booked for publishing obscene material. Sixty-seven cases involved publishing sexually explicit content related to children.

As per the NCRB data, fraud was the motive in more than 93% or 9,289 cases, while the city saw at least one cybercrime per day that was carried out to extort. There, however, is no further classification of the nature of extortion.

Aside from fraud and extortion, major motives behind cybercrimes were sexual exploitation (224), causing disrepute (26), revenge (20) and emotional reasons like anger (12).

Further, cybercrime cases in 2022 rose by 55% in the city compared to 2021 (6,423). However, 2021 had seen a 28% dip in cases compared to the previous year, which had reported 8,892 cases.

For the three years together, Bengaluru reported 25,255 cases, which is 42% of the 60,192 cases reported across the metro cities — NCRB's classification of metro cities is based on population data from the 2011 census.



### CRIMINALS AT WORK IN METROS

City	2022	2021	2020	Total
Bengaluru	9,940	6,423	8,892	25,255
Hyderabad	4,436	3,303	2,553	1,196
Mumbai	4,724	2,833	2,433	10,292
Delhi	685	345	166	9,990
Chennai	271	76	186	533
Kolkata	75	220	172	467
All Metros	24,420	17,115	18,657	60,192

Source: NCRB

**Source: The Times of India, p. 3, Dec.7, 2023**



# 16k in 11 months: B'luru sees big cybercrime spike

RISHIKA KASHYAP  
BENGALURU, DHNS

**B**engaluru reported nearly 16,000 cybercrimes in the first 11 months of 2023. Every fourth crime in the city now takes place online.

While the high number of cybercrimes isn't surprising given Bengaluru's pre-eminence as the IT capital of India, an official policy to register every case has contributed to it significantly, a top police officer says.

As per the latest data from the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Bengaluru saw 15,779 cybercrimes, or 23.4% of the total crimes (67,446). Phishing, OTP frauds, extortion and sextortion were the most common of the 46 cybercrimes reported in the city.

The CID shared the data just days after the National Crime Records Bureau's annual report showed Bengaluru reported 9,940 cybercrimes last year,



or twice as many as any other city in the country. Mumbai (4,724) and Hyderabad (4,436) were the distance second and third, respectively.

In all, Bengaluru reported 50,679 crimes last year.

So big is Bengaluru's dominance in cybercrimes that 81% of all electronic

offences in Karnataka were reported in the city.

Going by the high prevalence — and registration — of cybercrimes, Bengaluru is likely to top the country in electronic offences this year, too. Going by the monthly average, the city may well report nearly 18,000 cybercrimes in 2023.

Dr M A Saleem, Director General of Police, CID, Special Units and Economic Offences, gave reasons for the huge numbers. "We register all cases that come to the notice of the police. We have eight exclusive cyber-crime police stations. Even other police stations take up such cases," he told *DH*. "This is one of the reasons why Bengaluru records so many cybercrimes."

► **Cybercrime, Page 9**



**WATCH**  
M A Saleem on the rise in cybercrime cases in the city

## CYBERCRIME, FROM PAGE 1

If the registration of cybercrimes is easy, their detection is as difficult and sometimes impossible.

The hardest to detect are those committed in remote parts of the world, thousands of kilometres away from the city police's jurisdiction. "It's difficult to track down cybercriminals sitting in remote parts of India or elsewhere in the world," Saleem explained.

To improve the investigation, evidence collection and

detection of cybercrimes, the CID is training police officers, prosecutors and the judiciary. It has already trained 6,000 people this year; most of them are police officers. It's also training police station staff across the state in the basics of cybercrime investigation.

Saleem urged citizens not to respond to dubious messages on their phones, secure their digital credentials, update them regularly and never answer video calls from unknown numbers.

**Source: Deccan Herald, p. 1&9., Dec. 7, 2023**



# Untouchability still prevalent in Karnataka: Report

**BELAGAVI, DHNS:** Untouchability is still prevalent in several parts of Karnataka, a legislature committee has said in its report, flagging the resilience of the dehumanising practice of social exclusion in the state.

The committee also raised questions on how much of Rs 2.5 lakh crore given to SC/STs has reached them over the years and sought a new mechanism to ensure the money is used “properly”.

The Legislature Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes, headed by Malavalli Congress MLA PM Narendraswamy, tabled its interim report in the Assembly on Wednesday.

“Even to this day, in several places, the practice of untouchability has not been eradicated completely,” the committee noted, without elaborating.

According to the report, there are 1.8 crore SC/STs in Karnataka. Since 2013, the government has provided Rs 2.5 lakh crore to SC/STs under the Scheduled Castes

## Ruckus over CM assurance

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah’s assurance at a Muslim convention that he wants to increase the



budget for minorities to Rs 10,000 crore created a ruckus in the Assembly on Wednesday.

**Details on Page 5**

Sub-Plan and Tribal Sub-Plan (SCSP-TSP).

The money, the report said, is not reaching them. “A new mechanism is needed to see to it that the money is used properly,” the report stated.

The committee noted that the problem of fake SC/ST caste certificates continues unabated and 175 tahsildars are facing cases.

► **Untouchability, Page 5**

### Untouchability, from Page 1

The committee flagged the deaths of 92 students in the last five years at schools run by the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society (KREIS). This includes 29 students who died by suicide and under mysterious circumstances while going home, the report stated.

“No proper investigation has been done on these deaths,” Narendraswamy said.

In its report, the committee recommended the government to seek information from parents on whether or not the Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement conducted a probe into the deaths.

The committee expressed concern over the safety of girls at KREIS schools, saying that only 93 women wardens are available for girls in 206 schools. The committee has asked the government to appoint lady homeguards to

each school.

Several hostels run by the social welfare department function in rented buildings and are in a horrible condition, the report said. “Without proper toilets and bathrooms, students are forced to bathe out in the open,” it said.

The committee has also recommended the government to issue new CL-2, CL-7, CL-9 and CL-11 liquor licences and provide reservation for SC/STs.

**Source: Deccan Herald, p. 1&5., Dec. 7, 2023**





# ಯುವಪಿಎ ಪ್ರಕರಣ

# ಆಮೆ ನಡಿಗೆಯ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ



ದೇಶದ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಕಠಿಣ ಕಾನೂನುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಯುವಪಿಎ ಮೊದಲನೆಯದ್ದು. ಜಾಮೀನು ಕಷ್ಟಸ್ಥಾಧ್ಯವಾದ ಈ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯಡಿ ಸಾವಿರಾರು ಮಂದಿ ಬಂಧನದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ತನಿಖೆ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳ್ಳದೆ ನ್ಯಾಯದಾನ ವಿಳಂಬವಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವ ಕಾರಣ ಸಾವಿರಾರು ಆರೋಪಿಗಳು ಹಲವು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಸೆರೆವಾಸ ಅನುಭವಿಸುವಂತಾಗಿದೆ. ತನ್ನ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಮಾತನಾಡುವವರನ್ನು ಹತ್ತಿಕ್ಕಲು ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಈ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯನ್ನು ದುರುಪಯೋಗ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬ ಆರೋಪವೂ ಇದೆ

• ಜಯಸಿಂಹ ಆರ್.

**ವಿದ್ಯುಂಸಕಾರಿ ಕೃತ್ಯಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಭಯೋತ್ಪಾದನಾ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ವಿಧಿಸಲಾಗುವ 'ಕಾನೂನುಬಾಹಿರ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆ (ತಡೆ) ಕಾಯ್ದೆ-ಯುವಪಿಎ'ಯು ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಕಠಿಣ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮೊದಲ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಲ್ಲುತ್ತದೆ. ಈ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಅಡಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಿಸಿದರೆ, ಜಾಮೀನು ಸಿಗುವುದು ಕಷ್ಟಸ್ಥಾಧ್ಯ. ಯುವಪಿಎ ಅಡಿ ಬಂಧಿಸಲಾದ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಜಾಮೀನು ನೀಡಲಾರದು ಎಂದು ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಹೇಳುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಅಡಿ ಬಂಧನಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಗಾದವರು, ಪ್ರಕರಣ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿಯಾಗದೆ ದಿಡುಗಡೆಯಾಗುವುದು ಇಲ್ಲವೇ ಇಲ್ಲ ಎನ್ನುವಷ್ಟು ವಿರಳ.**

ಈ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಅಡಿ ಬಂಧನಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಗಾದವರನ್ನು ತ್ವರಿತ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಇಲ್ಲದೇ ಸೆರೆವಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಇರಿಸಿದರೆ, ಅದು ಮಾನವ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಉಲ್ಲಂಘನೆ ಎಂದು ಸುಪ್ರೀಂ ಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಹೇಳಿತ್ತು. 2019-2022ರ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ ಒಟ್ಟು 7,526 ಜನರನ್ನು ಈ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಅಡಿ ಬಂಧಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅದರ ಇವರಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ 90.80ರಷ್ಟು ಆರೋಪಿಗಳು ತನಿಖೆ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳ್ಳದೆ ಸೆರೆವಾಸ ಅನುಭವಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಭೀಮಾ ಕೋರಂಗಾಡ್ ಹಿಂಸಾಚಾರ-ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಪರಿಷತ್ ಸಂಘ ಆರೋಪದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಲವು ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ 2018ರಲ್ಲಿ ಯುವಪಿಎ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಈ ಪ್ರಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತ ಸ್ವಾಸ್ಥ್ಯ ಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಅವರನ್ನು 2020ರ ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಬಂಧಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಸೆರೆವಾಸದಲ್ಲಿ ಇದ್ದಾಗಲೇ ಅವರ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ತೀವ್ರವಾಗಿ ಹದಗೆಟ್ಟಿತ್ತು. ಹಲವು ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳ ಹೊರತಾಗಿಯೂ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಜಾಮೀನು ದೊರಕಲಿಲ್ಲ. ವಿಚಾರಣಾಧೀನ ಕೈದಿಯಾಗಿಯೇ ಅವರು ತೀವ್ರ ಅಸಾಧಾರಣವಿಧದ ಮೃತಪಟ್ಟಿದ್ದರು. ಇದು ದೇಶ ಮಾತ್ರವಲ್ಲ, ವಿದೇಶಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ತೀವ್ರ ಚರ್ಚೆಗೆ ಗುರಿಯಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಅದರ, ಹೀಗೆ ತನಿಖೆ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳ್ಳದೆ 2019-2022ರ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜೈಲಿನಲ್ಲೇ ದಿನಗಳನ್ನು ಕಳೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದಂತಹ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 6,835. ಇವರಲ್ಲಿ ತನಿಖೆಯೇ ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳ್ಳದೆ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 1,874ರಷ್ಟಿದ್ದರೆ, ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 4,961.

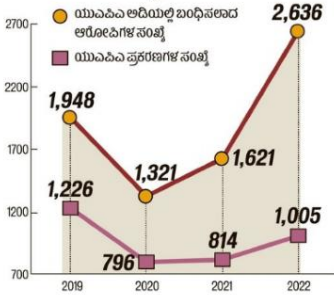
ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಭಯೋತ್ಪಾದನಾ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆ, ಉಗ್ರರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಮತ್ತು ಹಣಕಾಸು ನೆರವು ನೀಡಿದವರ ಮೇಲೆ ಯುವಪಿಎ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ, 2019ರ ನಂತರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ದನಿ ಎತ್ತಿದವರ ವಿರುದ್ಧವೂ ಯುವಪಿಎ ಪ್ರಯೋಗಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದು ವಿರೋಧ ಪಕ್ಷಗಳ ಆರೋಪ.

ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ಪಾಠಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ದಲಿತ ಯುವತಿಯ ಮೇಲೆ ನಡೆದಿದ್ದ ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರ ಪ್ರಕರಣದ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿತ್ತು.

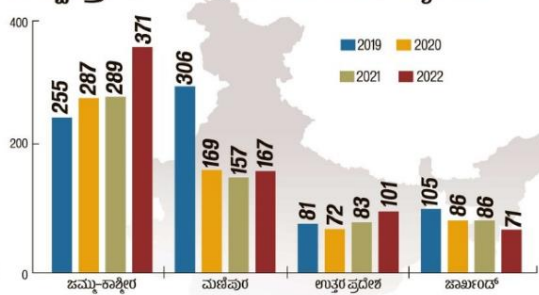
**7,526** 2019-2022ರ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯುವಪಿಎ ಕಾಯ್ದೆ ಅಡಿ ದೇಶದಾದ್ಯಂತ ಬಂಧನಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಗಾದ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳ ಒಟ್ಟು ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ



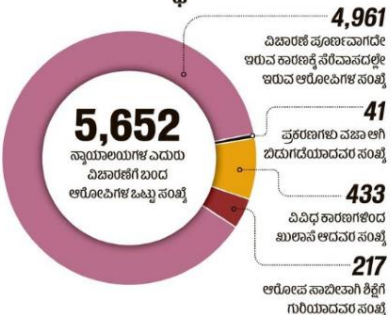
## ಬಂಧಿಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಭಾರಿ ಏರಿಕೆ



## ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾದ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳು



## ಆರೋಪಿಗಳ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗತಿ



ಅತ್ಯಾಚಾರವನ್ನು ತಡೆಗಟ್ಟುವಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ದಿಬ್ಬಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ವಿಫಲವಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್ ವ್ಯಕ್ತವಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಇದರ ಪರಿಣಾಮವಾಗಿ ತೆರವಿದ್ದ ಕೇರಳದ ಪತ್ತೆದಾರ್ ಸಿಬ್ಬಿನ್ ಕಪ್ಪನ್ ಅವರನ್ನು 2020ರ ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಬಂಧಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಅವರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಯುವಪಿಎ ಮತ್ತು ಹಣ ಅಕ್ರಮ ವರ್ಗಾವಣೆ ಆರೋಪಗಳ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಈ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾಮೀನು ದೊರಕು, ದಿಡುಗಡೆಯಾಗುವವರೆಗೆ ಅವರು 846 ದಿನಗಳನ್ನು ಜೈಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕಳೆದಿದ್ದರು. ಹೀಗೆ ಹಲವು ಪತ್ತೆದಾರ್‌ರ ವಿರುದ್ಧವೂ ಯುವಪಿಎ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

2019-2022ರ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪೊಲೀಸರು ಒಟ್ಟು 3,841 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅದರ 2022ರ ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್ ಅಂತ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತನಿಖೆ ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಂಡು ಆರೋಪ ಪಟ್ಟ ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು 2,171 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ. ಈ ಅವಧಿಯ ಅಂತ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 1,670 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ತನಿಖೆಯೇ ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಂಡಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಒಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ 43ರಷ್ಟಿರುವ ತನಿಖಾ ಹಂತದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬಂಧಿತರಾಗಿರುವವರು, ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಕಾಲ ಜೈಲುವಾಸ ಅನುಭವಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈ

## ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 12 ಪ್ರಕರಣ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 12 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. 2019ರಲ್ಲಿ 7, 2020ರಲ್ಲಿ 1 ಮತ್ತು 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ 4 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. 2021ರಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದೂ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ತನಿಖೆ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಚಾರಣೆಯ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗತಿಯ ವಿವರವು ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ದಿಯ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ.

## ಪ್ರಕರಣ ವಾಪಸ್ ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದ ತಮಿಳುನಾಡು

2019ರಲ್ಲಿ ತಮಿಳುನಾಡಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಯುವಪಿಎ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 270 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. 2018ರಲ್ಲಿ ತೂತುಕುಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಾಮ್ರ ಸಂಸ್ಕರಣ ಘಟಕ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಯ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆ ನಡೆಸಿದ್ದ ನೂರಾರು ಜನರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಎವಿಎಚ್‌ಎಂಕೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಯುವಪಿಎ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಿಸಿತ್ತು. ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಈ ಕ್ರಮದ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಭಾರತದ ಇತರ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತೀವ್ರ ಪ್ರತಿಭಟನೆ ನಡೆದಿತ್ತು. ಮದ್ರಾಸ್ ಹೈಕೋರ್ಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಹಲವು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ದೀರ್ಘ ಕಾನೂನು ಹೋರಾಟದ ನಂತರ ಡಿಸಂಕರ್‌ನಾಗಿ ಈ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ವಾಪಸ್ ಪಡೆದಿತ್ತು.

ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆರೋಪ ಪಟ್ಟ ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಎದುರಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದ ಒಟ್ಟು ಆರೋಪಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು ಶೇ 3.8ರಷ್ಟು ಮಂದಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ. ಪ್ರಕರಣ ವಜಾ ಆಗಿ ದಿಡುಗಡೆಯಾದವರು ಶೇ 0.7ರಷ್ಟು ಮತ್ತು ಖುಲಾಸೆ ಆದವರನ್ನು (ಶೇ 7.6ರಷ್ಟು) ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿದರೆ, ಶೇ 88ರಷ್ಟು ಆರೋಪಿಗಳು ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳ್ಳದೆ ಜೈಲುವಾಸ ಅನುಭವಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಇಂತಹ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನ್ಯಾಯದಾನ ಕ್ಷಿಪ್ರಗತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಇದು ಸೂಚಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ನಿಜವಾಗಿಯೂ ಇಂತಹ ಕೃತ್ಯ ಎಸಗಿದ್ದವರಿಗೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ ಭೋಜನೆಯಾಗಲಿ, ಇನ್ನೊಂದೆಡೆ ಹುಸಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸೆರೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವವರಿಗೆ ದಿಡುಗಡೆಯೂ ದೊರಕಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಸುಪ್ರೀಂ ಕೋರ್ಟ್‌ನ ವ್ಯಾಖ್ಯಾನದಂತೆ ಇದು ಮಾನವ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಉಲ್ಲಂಘನೆಯೇ ಆಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಆಧಾರ: ಎನ್‌ಸಿಆರ್‌ದಿಯ 'ಭಾರತದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವಶ್ಯಾ' ವರದಿಗಳು, ಎಟಿಎ

Source: Prajavani, p. 9., Dec. 7, 2023

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## Urban Affairs

HELPING FIX CITY'S WOES

# Sahaaya helps, but can be better

The public grievance system is effective in most cases. However, BBMP needs to fix some glitches to be 100% effective



BENGALURU, DHNS

Citizens of Whitefield in Bengaluru recently decided to do a footpath audit and record the complaints in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) Sahaaya grievance system so that there is a record of the issue. Anjali Saini, an active resident from the Whitefield area, says that she logged about seven complaints, including poorly done optical fibre cable (OFC) chambers where anyone can trip and fall. In another place, cables were lying open, while the footpath was broken fully.

The complaint was assigned to the traffic engineering cell of the BBMP. "It was not big; it would have taken just two hours to fix it," she says, adding that the complaints were marked as resolved without fixing the issues. When she confronted the official, he told her that the issue was a part of a big tender.

Complaints related to OFC remained unresolved. "I don't know why the OFC contractor can't fix this. Nobody is answerable in the OFC department," says Anjali, adding that a call from the ward engineer can quickly fix the issue with a call to the contractor. This is just one example of the problem in BBMP's public grievance system.

**Issues with Sahaaya app**  
BBMP's helpline control room has phone numbers, WhatsApp number and source-

es complaints through multiple sources. One of the main sources is the Sahaaya app.

The app that is supposed to be available for phones with the latest versions of Android phones and iOS app store; hence, users with the latest Android phones or Apple phones cannot use the Sahaaya app.

Sandeep Anirudhan, a citizen activist, crowdsourced issues with the Sahaaya app. One of the issues highlighted is the ease of use with an intuitive user interface. "The menu interface is based on departmental hierarchy and responsibilities, which people who are not working in the dept or engage frequently with, will not be aware of. The average citizen will not know which particular issue comes under which department," says a letter drafted by him to the Special Commissioner (IT), BBMP.

For example, an average citizen does not know Major Roads and Ward Engineering departments take care of different categories of roads and which roads come under which department.

Along with this, some issues are difficult to find, and there are no options for some types of complaints, with no option to mark others, his letter says.

The letter also talks about improvements in the dashboard with status display, chat interaction options with officials, fixing the glitches etc. It also says that the feedback loop inside BBMP is missing, as some de-

### Public grievance system

On Twitter: Tagging @ICCCBengaluru, @BBMPCares, @osd\_cmknataka

On Facebook: tagging relevant handles

WhatsApp: 9480685700

Playstore: Sahaaya 2.0 app

Emails to the offices of chief minister, deputy chief minister, administrator and commissioner

Helpline: 1533, 080-22221188, 080-22660000

BBMP also sources complaints from TV reports and newspapers.

Janaspandana or those directed at the offices of the chief minister or the deputy chief minister are diverted to the Sahaaya redressal system.

When someone tags the Office of the Officer on Special Duty to Chief Minister of Karnataka, known for effective complaint resolution, the complaints that fall under BBMP's purview are assigned to BBMP Sahaaya.

The Sahaaya staff assign every complaint to one of the 24-25 categories and allocate it to the concerned officials in the respective zones or wards. The officials can check and solve the complaints, take photos, and upload them to the portal.

Depending on the nature of the complaints, they are given a timeframe to solve them. For example, street light complaints must be resolved within eight hours. Many issues are given up to seven days to solve.

### Hope amid problems

Citizens complain of complaints getting marked as 'resolved' without actual resolution. Officials are aware of this issue. Swamy says that sometimes, issues like garbage complaints are back in no time, even if the issue is resolved, and people see the issue even after it is marked as 'resolved'. He says the same thing happens with potholes and streetlights, too, while the other issues do not fall so much into this category.

Engineering issues are looked after by the zonal chief engineers. All other issues are looked after by joint commissioners in the zones. The mandate is that 99% of the cases should be solved at the zonal level.

The review meetings are conducted every Tuesday, and the pendency of cases is checked. Every week, the Sahaaya system receives more than 1500 complaints, and the same number of complaints are resolved, too, says Swamy.

A citizen noted that there is no option to reopen the complaint or escalate it to the higher authority if it is closed without resolution or if the complainant is unhappy. Officials agree that there is a need to have an option to reopen the complaint or dispute the resolution.

Another citizen said that a street light issue remained unresolved because the road was on the border of the ward, and

### Towards one helpline for the entire city

Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC), established under the Smart Cities Mission, aimed to bring data-centric solutions to urban challenges, will be at the heart of the citizen grievance system. Now in the trial mode, the ICCC is designed to be one helpline number for the entire city in future.

Out of 14 departments that are supposed to be integrated with ICCC's system, eight have been integrated already: Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore Electricity Supply Company, Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Karnataka State Pollution Control Board, Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre, Karnataka State Remote Sensing Applications Centre and the Health Department (ambulance division).

The call centre is only the front end of the ICCC. BBMP, BWSSB and BMRL have been integrated into it already. BESCOM and BMTCL are upgrading their softwares and are ready to be integrated into this. Once

integrated, a call to 1533 will seamlessly connect a citizen to the public grievance system, encompassing all departments.

The data from these agencies collected at the ICCC is analysed, and insights are presented in such a way as to enable better decision-making, says Krishnakumar, an expert working at ICCC.

He says the air quality index, footfall at various metro stations, power usage and outage data, etc., are examples of the data that will become useful to policymakers and administrators once the ICCC starts functioning at a full scale.

This system comes in handy during disaster management as well. About 80 sensors are installed in stormwater drains located in low-lying areas, and live flood status data is recorded at the ICCC. When there is rain and flood, that data can be used to alert the system and warn people, say officials.

After the successful trial run, the ICCC is now awaiting formal inauguration.

the issue was assigned to an official from the other ward. Finally, he had to fight with the official to get it fixed. Swamy says that today, such issues cannot come up as officials have been asked to either fix issues themselves or co-ordinate with other wards for speedy resolution.

Citizens say the assigned official is sometimes no longer at the job, or the contact numbers are incorrect. Swamy explains that sometimes the transferred official would have carried the phone number, which would not have been updated in the system, which leads to this problem. Officials promised to fix this issue soon.

Data shared by BBMP Sahaaya staff show that most complaints are related to solid waste management, road maintenance and street lights. The other major categories are animal control, tree issues,

health issues, and road infrastructure. Stormwater drains and town planning complaints are also common in some zones. Officials boast of solving 97% of the problems within the stipulated time.

Complaints that come directly to the zonal offices are not shared with Sahaaya, and no one knows how the issues are tracked. Sources feel integrating zonal helplines with the Sahaaya system is better for tracking issues quickly.

What is the biggest challenge faced by Sahaaya staff? "Answering every question patiently without getting offended by the tone of the callers," says Subramanya K, in charge of the Sahaaya control room. He adds that installing more CCTVs in underpasses and integrating CCTVs used by Bengaluru city police will help the system monitor issues like floods better during rains.

### Sahaaya status (January 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023)

Zone	Registered	In progress	Longterm resolution	Resolved	Rejected	Total
Bommanahalli	441	1	169	13,925	284	14,820
Dasarahalli	93	1	101	3,593	45	3,833
East	505	35	246	18,068	182	19,036
Mahadevapura	681	13	289	14,426	418	15,827
RR Nagar	381	1	163	14,141	156	14,842
South	669	4	87	18,226	254	19,240
West	230	5	111	9,868	210	10,424
Yelahanka	245	12	135	10,960	196	11,548
BBMP Total	3,245	72	1,301	1,03,207	1,745	1,09,570

Source: Deccan Herald, p 3A., Dec. 2, 2023



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# BBMP identifies over 1,000 encroachments in 3 months

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Bengaluru:** Following a direction from the high court to find and clear all encroachments on stormwater drains in the city, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) identified 1,134 more suspected encroachments between August 28 and November 30.

BBMP officials said they will clear these encroachments soon after the revenue department conducts a survey and tahsildars concerned issue clearance orders.

BBMP chief commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said the Palike has prepared a scheme to identify and clear the encroachments. The Palike submitted it to the high court, which approved the scheme.

The 1,134 encroachments were identified according to the scheme. The revenue department will identify the encroachers and extent of encroachment, among other details. Later, the tahsildars will issue notices to the encroachers before BBMP starts evicting them.

Meanwhile, Giri Nath has set a deadline of 15 days to clear about 370 encroachments identified across the city before August 28. The tahsildars concerned have issued eviction orders after verifying and hearing the encroachers' version.

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## AFTER HC DIRECTIVE

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The chief commissioner held a meeting with officials from BBMP and Bengaluru Urban district administration Friday. He directed them to clear by December 15 the encroachments for which tahsildars have issued eviction orders.

He said of the 3,147 encroachments identified in the city earlier, 2,247 have been cleared so far. Of the 900 that need to be cleared, 130 are in court and 401 eviction orders are under implementation.

According to BBMP officials, Mahadevapura zone officials started encroachment-clearance drive Friday and cleared a few encroached properties at Kundalahalli. "We'll continue the drive on Saturday too. We'll demolish over 15 properties in Channasandra on Saturday," a senior officer said.

According to BBMP data, of the 370 properties which have received eviction orders, 223 are in Mahadevapura zone, 33 in East zone, one in West, 56 in Koramangala Valley, 29 in Bommanahalli, 21 in Dasarahalli, and seven in RR Nagar. However, Mahadevapura officials said they have already cleared 100 of the 223 properties.

**Source: The Times of India, p.4, Dec.2, 2023**

# Don't bar kids from playgrounds

Bengaluru parks are not inclusive -- they don't provide access to children with disabilities

KRITHIKA SAMBASIVAN

As the garden city of India, Bengaluru is home to about 1,200 parks. For children growing up in cities, parks offer play and recreation opportunities that are important for optimal growth and development. However, not all children have equitable access to parks, play areas and play equipment. A recent survey-based study by Pacta of 32 BBMP parks in Bengaluru revealed that parks (in the sample) scored 55% on external access features (such as paved footpath around the park, gate large enough to accommodate wheelchairs, ramps at entrance) and a dismal 38% on internal access features (such as stone or gravel walkway throughout the park, smooth merging of pathway and sections, and lights in the play area), meaning that much work remains to be done towards enhancing physical access to parks for children with disabilities.

In India, initiatives such as the Accessible India Campaign, 2015, the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, and the Smart Cities Mission, 2015, provided for enhancing the accessibility of public spaces for children with disabilities and the right to play, recreation and leisure activity. These policies led the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) to chart guidelines on 'Creating accessible parks and play spaces: A how-to guide for Indian cities' in 2019. In Bengaluru, an NGO called Killi Killi mobilised civil society action towards making some parks inclusive in the early 2010s. In 2022, Cubbon Park inaugurated a play area exclusively for children with disabilities. While efforts are being made to enable access for people with disabilities across public spaces such as museums in Bengaluru, children with disabilities are left without adequate and accessible spaces to play in the city.

In the study, accessibility of parks was defined through features that allowed ease of mobility, were barrier-free, and provided for usage of a facility. The survey showed that parks on average had 36% features that made them accessible. To elaborate, most parks did not have features to enable access to play areas. For instance, most parks did not have soft floorings and sand pits in the play areas. Similarly, ramps leading into the play area were rare features. Thus, children with disabilities who have mobility restrictions or are dependent on wheelchairs cannot access play areas with ease. Furthermore, considering the other

accessibility features of the park, in most cases, the parks did not include western toilets, spaces for washing hands and drinking water facilities.

Parks fared better on features such as footpaths around them, paved walkways inside, gates large enough for wheelchairs, provision of ramps and railings at the park entrances, and proper fences. Thus, some important aspects of access are already present in many parks. However, much remains to be done to make these parks accessible for children with disabilities. Cubbon Park, located in central Bengaluru, had the best scores for access among the parks surveyed.

For this research study, the concept of inclusion was related to enabling participation and engagement, and non-segregation of spaces within the park. The survey found that, on average, a park in the sample had 57% of the features that enabled inclusion. Several parks in the sample scored above the average score (Udayashankar Children's Park, 3rd Cross Rd Park, Tamarind Tree Children's Park, Domlur SAARC Park, Wipro Park, and so on), highlighting that some parks have created many of the features of inclusion.

However, in many parks, the play equipment was designed to cater to specific age groups of children and did not allow for universal participation. Only a few parks had equipment such as bucket-type seating and only one park in the sample had wheelchair-accessible merry-go-rounds (i.e., Cubbon Park).

Despite the relatively better score of parks on inclusion (57%) than accessibility (37%), the absence of inclusive and accessible components in parks leads to inequality in play, and segregation between typically developing children and children with disabilities. In the past, there have been only a few sporadic initiatives in Bengaluru by the government, civil society and corporate social responsibility funders. But unlike other cities such as Mumbai and Kolkata, Bengaluru's smart city project does not make any commitment towards inclusive parks. Such isolated and sporadic efforts are insufficient to reinvent parks as inclusive spaces and do not provide the minimum critical mass to foster change. The only response to achieving the critical mass is to rework existing parks to become more accessible and inclusive. Philanthropists, urban planners, government actors, citizen groups and civil society initiatives must together create more high-pitched momentum on making parks more inclusive and accessible so that truly, no child is left behind.

*(The writer leads disability research at Pacta, a law firm for the social sector and policy think tank)*

**Source: Deccan Herald, p 10., Dec. 4, 2023**



# 'Unscientific' landfills, not a solid fix for waste management

Unregulated dumping into unscientific landfills within the city has led to a whopping 50 lakh tons of legacy waste. Moves are now afoot by BSWML to call tenders for bio-mining and bio-capping

Rasheed Kappan  
BENGALURU

**A**re 'unscientific' landfills the only way to manage Bengaluru city's massive mountains of solid waste? In the frantic, decades-long struggle to deal with this mammoth issue, why has the focus shifted completely away from waste processing? As more quarries are identified as landfills, the search for a sustainable long-term solid waste management plan has hit rock bottom.

The clarity is clearly missing. The State-owned Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) recently floated a tender to set up two landfill sites in the city, one near Bagalur and another in Kada Agrahara in Mahadevapura. It also proposed to develop two existing ones for the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

This came just weeks after Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar announced that all waste processing plants and landfills would be shifted out of the city soon. The waste, he declared, would go straight to Integrated Solid Waste Management Parks to be set up in 100-acre plots located far away from the city.

## Integrated SWM Parks

On paper, the plan looks grand. The parks are to be equipped with composting units, dry waste aggregation centres, landfills for inert and rejects, generation of refuse-derived fuel and waste energy plants. The assurance to citizens is this: They could forget about all their problems linked to landfills, odour and other health hazards.

But what about the communities living around the



File photos of Mavallipura garbage dumping yard near Doddaballapura.

proposed landfills? "The landfill areas they are talking about, whether it is in Kanakapura or Ramanagara, are all prime agricultural spaces. A hundred acres, with a buffer around it where the water will get spoilt ... I can't imagine how they have the heart to think of it," notes Sandya Narayanan from the Solid Waste Management Round Table (SWMRT). Mountains of muck dumped by trucks laden with upwards of 4,000 tons per day for years have led to extreme groundwater contamination in Mandur and Mavallipura.

"Today, if you walk through Mavallipura, you see everything burnt, dark, brown, the water spoiled.

Mandur too is like that. They have spoiled the land areas around the landfills," she says.

## Not scientific, only dumps

The city's daily solid waste generation, inclusive of bulk generators, now exceeds 6,500 tons. "The buffer area of one or two kilometres around the newly identified areas will be spoilt as well," warns Sandya. The reason is clear: Landfills have never been scientifically structured. They are seen as mere garbage dumps. In the West, scientific landfilling ensures that the waste (leachate) does not percolate down to the groundwater table and contaminate it.

"The layering also ensures that the landfill gases do not escape either. Here, calling it a landfill itself gives a wrong impression. It is nothing but dumping.

They just look for some quarry, dump the garbage and finish it," she points out. Indiscriminate dumping leads to the emission of poisonous methane gas, also sparking fires and extreme air pollution. Unscientific landfills are also a huge health hazard being a storehouse of bacteria and viruses, leading to lung and cardiovascular diseases.

Typically, scientific landfills prevent the leachate from seeping underground by building a base

layer of 90 metres of clay. Atop this layer, a 15-metre drainage layer is built with soil. To minimise soil erosion, a vegetative layer of about 50cm is then applied.

The absence of these layers had the entire groundwater table contaminated in Mandur, forcing the villagers to source water from distant Hoskote. The landfill there also lacked vertical wells, a feature of scientific structures to extract methane that could be used to generate electricity.

Landfills here are seen as a simple, lazy approach. As Sandya says, "They don't want to do it the hard way by fixing the problem through waste processing.



Landfill is an easy fix where, at least for some time, the problem goes away till someone else takes over.

Even the commissioners are here for a year and a half term. Nobody wants to break their heads over it. This is a terrible approach."

## Waste-to-energy: Toxic, expensive

Waste processing is complex, requiring time, effort, pilot studies, deep analysis and scaling up. Currently, one approach being bandied about is waste-to-energy. Many solid waste management experts see this as unacceptable. They find it extremely toxic and very expensive.

"It causes fly ash, residues, suspended air particles, asthma and all the related diseases. When you should be focusing on recovery, you are burning the whole thing. It is a ridiculous exercise."

But why should plastic and e-waste be going to the landfills at all when existing legislation mandates that the producers and brands take the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)? This is the question posed by Wilma Rodrigues, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Saahas Zero Waste.

"Today, you have very good legislation, and EPR regulations are very much in line to ensure that plastic and e-waste are not sent

to the landfills," she says.

**EPR potential to tackle plastic, e-waste**  
The BSWML, which operates under BBMP, had recently registered for EPR, the implementation of which is expected to yield annual revenues of about ₹100 crore. It could now levy a fee on companies to process plastic and e-waste. The collected waste is to be processed and recycled in Bidadi.

So, here is a source of revenue, notes Wilma. "But this revenue has to go into a proper system, which means you have to bring about a behavioural change in people. People have to bring the waste to collection centres, it has to be stored appropriately and properly sorted and then sent to the material recovery facility. There should be a proper system in place to ensure that the waste does not actually go to landfills. We need to see more discussions on this," she explains. Unregulated dumping into unscientific landfills within the city has led to a whopping 50 lakh tons of legacy waste. Moves are now afoot by BSWML to call tenders for bio-mining and bio-capping of four landfills to address this issue. At least on paper, it would take another five years to clear this legacy waste, as cited in the last State Budget.

But bio-mining, too, needs to be done scientifically, as Mandur residents say. Raking up the waste, lying dormant for years, could spark up fresh trouble, odour issues and health hazards. Done with care and sensitivity, this could be tackled, say SWM experts, who also want the odour problem associated with bio-methanation to be fixed. As one of them asserts, "It is not an impossible task."

**Source: The Hindu, p.5, Dec. 5, 2023**

## BBMP must follow the law on street vendors

Whenever a city undertakes a beautification programme, the axe usually falls on the poor, particularly street vendors, while the big fish go untouched. It is the same in Bengaluru, where the BBMP has begun summarily evicting roadside vendors, without following the due process of law, ostensibly to enhance the city's brand. Recent days have witnessed an increase in such evictions, raising questions about the city's inclusivity. Vendors who have been an integral part of the city for decades have been uprooted from Mahadevapura, Jayanagar, Banashankari and many other areas. However, builders, big shopkeepers and outlets that cater to the rich who have encroached upon footpaths and even road spaces go scot-free in the BBMP's scheme of things. Most street vendors who had gone out of business during the pandemic are yet to recover financially and get their lives back on track. While the civic body has not even issued a notice before launching the eviction drive, in many cases, even vendors possessing valid licences have been targeted.

The BBMP's action is illegal as it is in complete violation of the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014. The central legislation, which seeks to protect the rights of urban street vendors and to regulate street-vending activities, mandates the setting up of 'Vending Committees' by every municipality. The committee should conduct a survey and identify all existing street vendors. The number of street vendors should not exceed 2.5% of the population of the ward, town or city, as the case may be. Where the number of street vendors are more than the holding capacity of the zone and exceeds the prescribed percentage, the committee is required to carry out a draw of lots and accommodate the remaining persons in any adjoining vending zone. No person is to be evicted or relocated until the survey is completed and licences are issued to all vendors. Subsequent surveys should be conducted at least once in five years. The Act also provides for an appeal mechanism if a person is aggrieved by the committee's decision, and no such appeal is to be disposed of unless the appellant has been given a hearing.

Unregulated encroachment of footpaths and public spaces by vendors or others causes inconvenience to the public and puts pedestrians at risk. There is hence a need to regulate street-vending activities, a task to which Bengaluru's authorities have failed to apply their minds for years. The current eviction drive, though, was undertaken arbitrarily. Following a backlash, the BBMP has since announced that it would temporarily halt the drive. But this is not enough. The law governing street vendors should be implemented in letter and spirit. Vendors and hawkers who belong to the disadvantaged section of society have a right to livelihood, too.

Beautifying city does not mean driving away its vulnerable

**Source: Deccan Herald, p. 8., Dec. 5, 2023**



# Our Cities: That Sinking Feeling

*Chennai's flooding comes on the heels of Delhi's, Ahmedabad's, Bengaluru's and Mumbai's. India will soon be the world's third largest economy but must it also have third-rate urban infrastructure?*

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Chennai on December 4 and 5 experienced its seventh devastating flooding in the last 50 years triggered by cyclonic activity. It has drawn a comparison with the 2015 floods, which claimed 289 lives and inundated over two million houses.

It's too early to properly gauge the severity of the current flooding but anecdotal evidence suggests it may be more severe in intensity than what the city experienced in 2015.

**Michaung's pounding** | IMD's data showed that in the 48 hours between Sunday and Tuesday mornings, the rainfall in the Chennai sub-division was 39.5 cm, over 19 times the normal.

The rainfall over the last few days has reversed the northeast monsoon's trend. Between October 1 and November 29, there was rainfall deficiency of 21%. By Tuesday morning, it had turned to an excess rainfall of 54%. This gives a sense of the deluge over the last few days and the pressure on the city's infrastructure.

**Plans on paper** | The city receives about 60% of its annual rainfall between October and December. On paper, Chennai's hydrological layout has a semblance of order. Three relatively shallow rivers cut through the Chennai Metropolitan Area (CMA) and flow into the Bay of Bengal.

**Connected water bodies** | The three rivers are linked by a navigation canal. Finally, three large storage tanks that supply drinking water to the city have outlets to the rivers and surplus water can be discharged into them.

Supplementing these water bodies is the Pallikaralai marsh in the southern periphery that plays a critical role in regulating the storage and release of water.



**Times are changing** | Earlier floodings have already showed that the plans on paper remain just that. The challenge, not just Chennai's authorities, but all Indian cities now face is that there's an increasing incidence of extreme weather events in the country.

The Global Climate Risk Index, which captures data on the impact of extreme weather events, showed that the risks facing India have increased recently. In the decade ended 2021, on seven occasions India was ranked among the top 10 countries exposed to maximum risk.

**Riskier Chennai** | Coming to rainfall, an IPCC report based on a study of the Indian monsoon for over a century concluded that extreme rain events have become more pronounced after 1950.

Among major Indian cities, Chennai faces a relatively higher level of risk. A report by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water, ranks Chennai among the country's hotspots for both

extreme flood events and cyclones.

**Urban chaos undermines plans** | Chennai, like other Indian cities, has a life parallel to the carefully designed plans of its authorities. Of course, this can happen only through their connivance.

The 2015 floods catalysed a performance audit of the relevant state government institutions by CAG. Some of the main flaws flagged by the report are very much present even now.

**Encroachment raj** | For example, CAG pointed out that encroachments of water bodies had a devastating effect. Once again, on paper, the state government is aware of the problem and has acted. A law was passed in 2007 to safeguard tanks from encroachments. The 2015 floods showed that after the passage of the law, these encroachments kept increasing.

One can be sure, a post-mortem this time will show that water bodies have further shrunk over the last

eight years.

**Disappearing wetland** | If there's one change that encapsulates the dubious choices authorities in Chennai and other cities often make, it's the state of the Pallikaralai marsh.

This wetland in CMA measured about 5,000 hectares in 1975. By 2016, it had shrunk to 695 hectares.

What's unique is that it's not just illegal encroachments that squeezed this wetland.

**Money can't buy safety** | In a manner reminiscent of what happened to the Mithi river in Mumbai, Pallikaralai's shrinkage was partly on account of a conscious decision to allow the information technology industry to set up infrastructure in the area. Along with it, came many gated communities that are often inundated by heavy rainfall.

As Bengaluru's upper echelons of the technology ecosystem found out last year, expensive investments are washed away when urban planning ignores common sense.

The state government has estimated that between 2001 and 2015, Pallikaralai witnessed a drop of 70% in its water retention capacity.

**False choices over development** | Chennai's floods this year extracted a severe economic cost. Not only were air and rail links to the city disrupted, work stopped in many places including factories. It will take a while to assess the insurance claims for property damage. Inevitably, a lot of people will end up bearing the cost of repairs out of their pockets.

It exposes the senselessness of decisions from the Himalayas to the coasts in assessing environmental risks when permitting the construction of infrastructure and residences.

The false binary between development and environment won't prevent India from soon becoming the world's third largest economy. But we will continue to suffer from third-rate urban infrastructure.

**Source: The Times of India, p.14, Dec.6, 2023**



# Understanding e-waste: Bengaluru's challenges and solutions

With Mumbai and Delhi standing in the first and second places, Bengaluru is the third largest e-waste generating city in India, according to Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

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**T**he rapid expansion of the Information and Communication Technology sector has led to a significant increase in electronic waste (e-waste), making it one of the swiftly growing waste streams in the country, particularly in Bengaluru. The exponential rise in the use of electronic equipment, coupled with the accelerated obsolescence and subsequent upgrading of these products, compels consumers to dispose of their old items.

According to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), with Mumbai and Delhi standing in the first and second place, Bengaluru is the third largest e-waste generating city in India, accounting for about 10.1% tonnes of e-waste per year. Based on the study by the MeitY, considering the growth rate, the volume of e-waste in the country was 0.7 million metric tonnes (MT) in 2015 and is estimated to go up to 2 million MT by 2025.

## Why is e-waste harmful?

Electronic items that have been discarded or reached the end of their lifespan, including computers, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) devices, home appliances, audio and video products, along with their associated peripherals, are commonly referred to as e-waste.

Due to E-waste, soil may suffer from the leaching of hazardous substances from landfills, water sources like rivers and wells can become contaminated, and air pollution can result from emitted gases and the burning of e-waste. Improper recycling processes



People dropping e-waste at a free e-waste collection drive organised by the R.K. Nagar Residents Association in Chennai.

pose risks to human health, including the inhalation of gases during recycling, skin contact with hazardous substances, and exposure during acid treatment in the recovery process.

According to MeitY, hazardous and toxic materials commonly found in e-waste encompass lead (Pb) and cadmium (Cd) within printed circuit boards (PCBs). Lead is typically present in most electronic products, assembly components, and cathode ray tubes (CRTs). Cadmium is found in monitors/CRTs, while mercury may exist in switches, flat screen monitors, CFL bulbs, relays, and specific other products. Cadmium is also used in computer batteries and for plating metal enclosures/parts in subassemblies. Po-

lychlorinated biphenyls are found in capacitors and transformers, while brominated flame retardants are used on printed circuit boards, plastic casings, cables, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) cable sheathing for insulation, and PBD/PBDE in plastic parts of electronics.

## How to dispose of?

Despite being the technological center of the country, Bengaluru shows a lack of awareness regarding the proper disposal and sorting of e-waste. A survey by the Centre for Sustainable Development in 2022, part of its Environment Report Card, revealed that most city residents discard their e-waste along with regular household waste in all eight zones of the city. Only a small fraction of house-

## An important way to reduce the generation of e-waste is to imply the policy of the Right to Repair

holds chooses to sell or recycle their electronic waste.

While this behavior was observed in over 75% of households, in slum areas, only 3% reported using the government-designated bins for e-waste disposal. The survey, encompassing over 1,800 households, highlighted a general inefficiency in waste segregation across many zones, particularly in Bommanahalli and East zones where segregation rates stood at 10% and 18%, respectively. The report notes that electronic goods constitute

about 2% of municipal solid waste (MSW).

E-waste can be disposed of at many authorised e-waste collection centres in Bengaluru whose contacts and addresses are available on the internet, and at the e-waste collection points at Bangalore One centres and at select post offices. Collection centres have been set up by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) for the disposal of e-waste across the city. Licences are also issued to refurbishers, recyclers, and dismantlers of e-waste. There are also several Producer Responsibility Organisations (PRO) working to responsibly recycle e-waste though whom e-waste can be disposed of.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Harish Kumar, Special



E-waste collected during a drive included mouse, keyboards, and mobile phones, laptops, rotameter, cassette players, etc.

Commissioner, SWM, BBMP, said, "E-waste management is the responsibility of the KSPCB. It should not be mixed with municipal waste. There are separate agencies connected with the KSPCB that are responsible for management of e-waste. However the urban local bodies continue to support the agencies and KSPCB through segregation and authorisation of the set-up of the collection centres. There are many such vendors and agencies in Bengaluru that manage e-waste and are very citizen friendly."

## What is a violation

Rajbir Singh, Chief Marshal, BBMP, said that mixing of e-waste along with municipal waste is a violation. "Mixing of e-waste or any kind of waste along with dry waste or municipal waste is an offence and the BBMP is not responsible in management of e-waste. If it is noticed by any BBMP official or a marshal that a citizen or an organi-

sation is mixing e-waste along with its municipal waste, the BBMP can fine the violators. Though BBMP is not directly responsible for managing e-waste, some of our waste collection centres also have the facility to collect e-waste and send it to the agencies responsible. Citizens can drop of their e-waste at these centres, if it is separated from the municipal waste."

## How to reduce e-waste

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Malini Parmar, a SWM expert and founder of Hasiru Dala, said that the focus should be shifted towards reduction of e-waste by using long-lasting electronic devices and the implementation of policies that provide cheaper service devices. "The management of e-waste in the city is well sorted, most apartments have a combined bin in which e-waste is disposed of, and then the agencies or vendors collect it. There are e-waste pick up drives

that happen once a quarter in layouts too. However, what is important is the reduction of the generation of e-waste," she said.

"Generation of e-waste starts right from the manufacturers. We are very much focused on citizens managing waste, and there is not much focus on waste reduction. Many years ago, I started my career with HCL's hardware sales department, when we used to sell computers back then, all computers were expandable. So people used a computer for at least 10 years. However, now the computers that are produced work for not more than a couple of years," she said, citing examples where products do not upgrade even if their hardware is fine, since the new software does not support their products, forcing the user to upgrade to a new device. "We must make sure that we buy electronic gadgets that can run for at least 10 years," said Malini Parmar.

She added that another important way to reduce the generation of e-waste is to imply the policy of the Right to Repair. "Europe had a very key legislation, that is the Right to Repair. This policy aims to make it easier and cheaper for consumers to repair defective goods. In India, if my mobile phone costs ₹15,000 and is damaged, it will cost me around ₹6,000 to get it fixed. The older the mobile phone gets, the costlier its spares become.

In such circumstances, people would prefer to just buy a new device. Switching to user-friendly devices and bringing in a law that allows people to get their devices repaired anywhere, or at a low cost, will help reduction of e-waste enormously," Malini Parmar added.

**Source: The Hindu, p.9, Dec. 8, 2023**

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