Society and Economy of Karnataka in News

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Drought: Commodity prices to see steep hike

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @ Bengaluru

DROUGHT has affected various crops across the State, leading to a steep increase in the prices of essential commodities.

Karnataka received 633mm of rain from June to September (southwest monsoon) as against the normal of 839mm. From October to the second week of December (northeast monsoon), the State received 113mm rain as against the normal of188 mm for the period. The State is facing a deficit, although it received some rain in the past few days. Of the 31 districts, 24 are facing deficit.

Sources in the Agriculture Department told The New Indian Express that this year, they expected 148 lakh MT of foodgrains. But due to drought, it is expected to come down by 60 lakh MT. Sowing was not done in many parts of the State. Wherever sowing was done, crops withered or the harvest was poor.

"This means, when there is less production, the demand for foodgrains will increase and prices go up naturally," they said.

An officer said tur dal, which was sold for Rs 7,000 a quintal, now costs Rs 12,000 and the price is expected to increase further. "The common man, who used to buy tur dal for Rs 70 a kg, will have to pay Rs 120. Similarly, the price of urad dal has increased from Rs 85 a kg to Rs 130. The prices of other essential commodities are expected to see a steep increase in the coming days" he said. P4

RAMESH Chandra Lahoti, president of the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI), said there will be 30-40% price variation in rice and pulses. The price rise will continue till new crops arrive in the markets.

Lahoti said hotels and restaurants, which have already increased food prices, may go for further hikes, depending upon the rise in the prices of essential commodities. He said, "We can only blame the drought for this. We have no other choice but to wait for the next monsoon."

Source: The New Indian Express, p. 1& 4, Dec.16, 2023

₹2 crore grants to FPOs: Sudhakar

The state government has decided to grant Rs 2 crore assistance to farmer producer organisations (FPOs) to market agricultural produce. Higher education minister MC Sudhakar, who was responding to MLAs' questions on behalf of horticulture minister SS Mallikarjun in the legislative assembly on Friday, said all required help to FPOs will be provided from the government. "The government will help FPOs financially in setting up warehouses, machinery, collection of produce and other infrastructure requirements. There are 1,262 FPOs functioning in Karnataka," he said. BJP MLA from Karkala V Sunil Kumar demanded that the state government increase grants meant for FPOs.

Source: The Times of India, p. 4, Dec.16, 2023

ಭತ್ತದ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಕುಂಠಿತ: ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಗಿರಣಿಗಳಿಗೆ ತೆಲಂಗಾಣವೇ ಸದ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಆಸರೆ

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಮತ್ತಷ್ಟು ತುಟ್ಟಿ?

• ಕೆ.ಎಚ್. ಓಬಳೇಶ್

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ಪ್ರಸಕ್ತ ಮುಂಗಾರು ಹಂಗಾಮಿನಡಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ತೀವ್ರ ಮಳೆ ಕೊರತೆಯಿಂದಾಗಿ ಭತ್ತದ ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ಪ್ರದೇಶವು ನಿಗದಿತ ಗುರಿಗಿಂತ ಶೇ 35ರಷ್ಟು ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆಯೂ ಕುಂಠಿತವಾಗಿದೆ.

ಹಾಗಾಗಿ, ಮುಂದಿನ ಮೂರ್ನಾಲ್ಕು ತಿಂಗಳಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಧಾರಣೆಯು ಶೇ 10ರಿಂದ 20ರಷ್ಟು ಹೆಚ್ಚಳವಾಗಲಿದೆ ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಗಿರಣಿ ಮಾಲೀಕರು. ಈಗಾಗಲೇ, ದರ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳದಿಂದ ತತ್ತರಿಸಿರುವ ಗ್ರಾಹಕರ ಜೇಬಿಗೆ ಕತ್ತರಿ ಬೀಳುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆ ಇದೆ. ಮತ್ತೊಂದೆಡೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ 'ಅನ್ನಭಾಗ್ಯ' ಯೋಜನೆಗೂ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಪೂರೈಕೆ ಕೊರತೆಯಾಗುವ ಆತಂಕ ಎದುರಾಗಿದೆ. ಸದ್ಯ ಸಗಟು ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು ಕ್ವಿಂಟಲ್ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಸೋನಾ ಮಸೂರಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ದರ ₹6 ಸಾವಿರ ಇದ್ದರೆ, ಆರ್‌ಎನ್‌ಆರ್ ಸೋನಾ ತಳಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಧಾರಣೆ ₹6,500 ಇದೆ.

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ ಸುಮಾರು 11 ಲಕ್ಷ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಭತ್ತದ ಬಿತ್ತನೆಯಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಈ ಬಾರಿ ಸುಮಾರು 7-8 ಲಕ್ಷ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಷ್ಟೇ ಬಿತ್ತನೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದು ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಕುಸಿತಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಲಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಗಿರಣಿ ಮಾಲೀಕರು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ.

'ಈ ಬಾರಿ ಸಕಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಳೆ ಸುರಿಯಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ, ಜಲಾಶಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೀರು ಸಂಗ್ರಹವಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಮಳೆಯಾಶ್ರಿತ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲೂ ಭತ್ತದ ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿತ ಪ್ರಮಾಣಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದು ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಮೇಲೆ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಬೀರುವುದು ಸಹಜ' ಎಂದು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಜಿಕೆವಿಕೆಯ ಅಖಿಲ ಭಾರತ ಸಂಘಟಿತ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಪ್ರಾಯೋಜನೆಯ (ಭತ್ತದ ವಿಭಾಗ) ಬೇಸಾಯ ಶಾಸ್ತ್ರಜ್ಞ ಡಾ.ಜಿ.ಆರ್. ದಿನೇಶ್.

ತೆಲಂಗಾಣದಿಂದ ಭತ್ತ ಪೂರೈಕೆ: ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 2000ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಗಿರಣಿಗಳಿವೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಆಂಧ್ರಪ್ರದೇಶ, ತೆಲಂಗಾಣ, ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ, ತಮಿಳುನಾಡಿನ ಜಲಾಶಯಗಳ ಅಚ್ಚುಕಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಭತ್ತವು ಈ ಗಿರಣಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಪೂರೈಕೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ನೆರೆಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ಈ ಬಾರಿ ಮಳೆ ಅಭಾವದಿಂದ ಭತ್ತದ ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಕುಂಠಿತವಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸದ್ಯ ತೆಲಂಗಾಣದ ಗೋದಾವರಿ ಅಚ್ಚುಕಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಳೆದಿರುವ ಭತ್ತವನ್ನು ನಂಬಿಕೊಂಡೇ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಗಿರಣಿಗಳು ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವಂತಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ರಾಜ್ಯದಿಂದ ರಾಯಚೂರು ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಇತರೆ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಗಿರಣಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ 40-60 ಸಾವಿರ ಚೀಲಗಳಷ್ಟು ಭತ್ತ ಪೂರೈಕೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

'ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೇಸಿಗೆ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿನ ಭತ್ತದ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆಯೂ ಶೇ 25ರಿಂದ 30ರಷ್ಟು ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ, ತೆಲಂಗಾಣದಿಂದ ಪೂರೈಕೆಯಾಗುವ ಭತ್ತವನ್ನೇ ಗಿರಣಿಗಳು ಅವಲಂಬಿಸುವಂತಾಗಿದೆ' ಎಂದು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಗಿರಣಿ ಮಾಲೀಕರ ಸಂಘದ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಸಾವಿತ್ರಿ ಪುರುಷೋತ್ತಮ್ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ರಾಜಮುಡಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ದರ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ

ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ತಿ.ನರಸೀಪುರ, ಕೆ.ಆರ್. ನಗರ ಹಾಗೂ ಹಾಸನ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಸಕಲೇಶಪುರ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ರಾಜಮುಡಿ ಭತ್ತ ಬೆಳೆಯಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. 'ಮೈಸೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಎರಡು-ಮೂರು ತಿಂಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಒಂದು ಕೆ.ಜಿಗೆ ರಾಜಮುಡಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ದರ ₹60ರಿಂದ ₹63ರ ವರೆಗೆ ಇತ್ತು. ಸದ್ಯ ₹ 80ರಿಂದ ₹90ರ ವರೆಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳವಾಗಿದೆ' ಎಂದು ವ್ಯಾಪಾರಿಗಳು ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ.

Source: Prajavani, p.1, Dec.16,2023

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ

ಶೈಶವಾವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೈತ್ಯಾಗಾರ

• ಗಾಣಧಾಳು ಶ್ರೀಕಂಠ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ವಿಜಯಪುರದಲ್ಲಿ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಅಂದಾಜು ಒಂದೂವರೆ ಲಕ್ಷ ಟನ್ ಒಣದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಿಲ್ಲ, ದೀರ್ಘಕಾಲ ಇಟ್ಟು ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡಲು ಅಗತ್ಯ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಇಲ್ಲದೆ, ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರು 60 ಕಿ.ಮೀ. ದೂರದ ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿದ ಸಾಂಗ್ಲಿ– ತಾಸ್‌ಗಾವ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿ ರಕ್ಷಿಸಿಟ್ಟು ಯೋಗ್ಯ ಬೆಲೆ ಸಿಕ್ಕಾಗ ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ!

ತುಮಕೂರು ಸುತ್ತಮುತ್ತಲಿನ ಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೂರಾರು ಎಕರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹುಣಸೆ ಮರಗಳಿವೆ. ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ಟನ್‌ಗಟ್ಟಲೆ ಹಣ್ಣು ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಬೆಲೆಯ ಏರಿಳಿತ ಕಾಯಂ. ದೀರ್ಘಕಾಲ ಕಾಪಿಟ್ಟು ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡಲು ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ರೈತರು ಮತ್ತು ವರ್ತಕರು ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಳೆದ ಹುಣಸೆಹಣ್ಣನ್ನು ಪಕ್ಕದ ಆಂಧ್ರ ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ಹಿಂದೂಪುರದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇಟ್ಟು, ಒಳ್ಳೆಯ ಬೆಲೆ ಬಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ಅಲ್ಲೇ ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡಿ, ತಮಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ಕೃಷಿ ಪರಿಕರಗಳನ್ನು ಅಲ್ಲಿಂದಲೇ ಖರೀದಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಬರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಕೆ.ಜಿಗೆ ಇಂತಿಷ್ಟು ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ಕಟ್ಟುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅಲ್ಲಿ 20ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳಿವೆ.

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಶೀತಲಗೃಹಗಳ (ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್/ಶೈತ್ಯಾಗಾರ) ಕೊರತೆಯಿಂದ ಎದುರಾಗುವ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗತಿಯನ್ನು ಈ ಎರಡು ಘಟನೆಗಳು ತೆರೆದಿಡುತ್ತವೆ.

ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ, ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಸಹ ಭಾಗಿತ್ವ, ಖಾಸಗಿ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕಾ ಮಿಷನ್ ಸಹಾಯಧನದ ನೆರವಿನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ನೂರಾರು ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳು ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿವೆ. ಆದರೆ ಇವುಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಬೆಳೆ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಪ್ರಮಾಣಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕಂತೆ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಶೀತಲ ಗೃಹಗಳ ಬಳಕೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಬಳಕೆದಾರರಲ್ಲಿ (ರೈತರಲ್ಲಿ) ಜಾಗೃತಿಯೂ ಮೂಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಗೆ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ, ಕೃಷಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ (ಕೇಂದ್ರ/ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ) ಯೋಜನೆಗಳಿವೆ.

6ನೇ ಪುಟ ನೋಡಿ

ಒಳನೋಟ

6-8 ಡಿಗ್ರಿ ಸೆಂ. ಉಷ್ಣತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಣ ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ, ಒಣ ಶುಂಠಿ, ಅರಿಶಿಣ, ಹುಣಸೆಹಣ್ಣು, ಹೆಸರು, ಅಲಸಂದಿ, ಗೋವಿನಜೋಳ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಲು ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೊರೇಜ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅವಕಾಶವಿದೆ.

ವಿ.ಎಸ್. ಮೋರಿಗೇರಿ, ಗೌರವ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ, ವರ್ತಕರ ಸಂಘ ಬ್ಯಾಡಗಿ

ಒಣ ದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿಯನ್ನು ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಒಳಗೆ ಬಾಕ್ಸ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿಟ್ಟು ಜೋಡಿಸಿರುವುದು

'ಸೌರ' ಆಧಾರಿತ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್

ತೆಲಂಗಾಣ, ಒಡಿಶಾ, ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ಅಲ್ಲಿನ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳು 'ಸೌರ ಆಧಾರಿತ' ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಅಳವಡಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಇನ್ನೊಂದೆಡೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಬೇರೆ ಬೇರೆ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ರೈತ ಉತ್ಪಾದಕ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ/ಕಂಪನಿಗಳೂ (ಎಫ್‌ಪಿಒ/ಎಫ್‌ಪಿಸಿ) ಸಣ್ಣ ಗಾತ್ರದ ಸೌರಶಕ್ತಿ ಮತ್ತು ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಅಳವಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿವೆ. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಸೆಲ್ಕೊ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ, ಇಂಥ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಕ್ಕೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬೆಂಬಲ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಸೆಲ್ಕೊ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸಹಯೋಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಸಹಜ ಆರ್ಗ್ಯಾನಿಕ್ಸ್ – ರೈತ ಉತ್ಪಾದಕ ಕಂಪನಿ, ತನ್ನ ಕಚೇರಿಯ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಮಾರು ₹ 25 ಲಕ್ಷ ವೆಚ್ಚದ, 10 ಟನ್ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಮೂರು ಕೋಣೆಗಳ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಅಳವಡಿಸಿದೆ. 'ಒಂದೊಂದು ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಕ್ಕೆ ಒಂದೊಂದು ತಾಪಮಾನ ಅಗತ್ಯ. ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಮೂರು ಕೋಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿಸಿದ್ದೇವೆ. 6 ಡಿಗ್ರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಲೂಗೆಡ್ಡೆ, 8 ರಿಂದ 12 ಡಿಗ್ರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಇಡುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಸೀಸನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಆಲೂಗೆಡ್ಡೆ ಖರೀದಿಸಿ, ಆರು ತಿಂಗಳವರೆಗೂ ಇಡುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಹುಳು ಬಾಧೆ ತಡೆಯಲು ಧಾನ್ಯ, ಹುಣಸೆಹಣ್ಣು ಇಡುತ್ತೇವೆ. ತರಕಾರಿ ಇಟ್ಟು ಬಳಸುವುದು ಕಷ್ಟ' ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ಕಂಪನಿಯ ಸಿಇಒ ಸೋಮೇಶ್.

6ನೇ ಪುಟ ನೋಡಿ

Continued....

ಶೈಶವಾವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೈತ್ಯಾಗಾರ

ಒಂದನೇ ಪುಟದಿಂದ...

ಅವುಗಳ ಬಳಕೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಮರ್ಪಕ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಮಾತ್ರವಲ್ಲ, ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳ ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಅದನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸುವ ಕುರಿತು ಈವರೆಗೂ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧ್ಯಯನಗಳಾಗಲೀ, ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳಾಗಲೀ ನಡೆದಿಲ್ಲ. ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಲ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಯಾವ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಪ್ರತಿ ಬಾಸಿಯ ಬಚಿಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಾಗಿ ಕೋಟಗಟ್ಟಲೆ ಹಣ ತೆಗೆದಿಡುತ್ತಾರೋ ಕಾರಣ ತಿಳಿಯದು.

ಎಷ್ಟೆಷ್ಟಿವೆ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್?

ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ರಾಜ್ಯದ 25 ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 162 ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಘಟಕಗಳಿವೆ. ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 152 ಖಾಸಗಿಯವರದ್ದು. 10 ಮತ್ತು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸ್ವಾಮ್ಯದವು. ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಪಿಕೆ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 9 (ವಿಜಯಪುರದಲ್ಲಿ 4, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ, ಧಾರವಾಡ, ಬೀದರ್, ಗದಗ್, ಕೊಪ್ಪಳದಲ್ಲಿ ತಲಾ 1) ಹಾಗೂ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಡಿ 1(ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ). ಉಳಿದಂತೆ 49 ಖಾಸಗಿ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳು ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕಾ ಮಿಷನ್ (ಎನ್‌ಹೆಚ್‌ಎಂ) ಸಹಾಯಧನದ ಆಡಿ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣವಾಗಿವೆ.

ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಲೆಕ್ಕವಲ್ಲದೇ, ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 500ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಬೃಹತ್ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಶೀತಲಗೃಹಗಳಿರುವ ಅಂದಾಜು ಇ.ದೆ. ಕೆಲವು ಕಂಪನಿಗಳು ತಮ್ಮ ಅಗತ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕಂತೆ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಇಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡಿವೆ. ಹೀಗೆ ಬಿಡಿಯಿಡಿಯಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಅಧಿಕೃತವಾಗಿ ಇಂತಿಷ್ಟೇ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳಿವೆ ಎಂಬ ಲೆಕ್ಕ ಸಿಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ವರ್ತಕರೇ ಬಳಕೆದಾರರು: ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಎಲ್ಲ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳ ಬಹುಪಾಲು ಬಳಕೆದಾರರು ವರ್ತಕರು. ಇವರು ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ ಕಾಪಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಶೀತಲಗೃಹಗಳನ್ನು ಬಳಸಿದರೆ, ರೈತರು ಬೆಲೆ ಏರಿಳಿತದ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬಳಕೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ ಮತ್ತು ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರು ಶುಂಠಿ, ಕಾಳುಮೆಣಸು, ಅಡಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಶೀತಲಗೃಹದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ವಿಜಯಪುರದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಣದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿ. ಹಾವೇರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬ್ಯಾಡಗಿ ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ, ಶುಂಠಿ, ಹುಣಸೆಹಣ್ಣು, ಅರಿಶಿಣ ಬೆಳೆಗಳನ್ನಿಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಗದಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಸರುಕಾಳಿನಂತಹ ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಇಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹಾಸನ, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಲೂಗಡ್ಡೆಗಳನ್ನಿಡುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಯಾವ್ಯಾವ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳಿಗೆ ಶೀತಲಗೃಹ?

ಪ್ರತಿ ಸಾರಿ ಟೊಮೆಟೊ, ಈರುಳ್ಳಿಯಂತಹ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳ ದರ ಕುಸಿದು, ರೈತರು ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳನ್ನು ಬೀದಿಗೆ ಚೆಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿಭಟಿಸಿದಾಗ, 'ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್' ಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಮುನ್ನೆಲೆಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಹಣ್ಣು ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಎಲ್ಲ ತರಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು, ಹಣ್ಣುಗಳನ್ನು (ಅದರಲ್ಲೂ ತೇವಾಂಶ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿರುವ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳು) ದೀರ್ಘಕಾಲ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿಟ್ಟು ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ.

ಪ್ರತಿ ತರಕಾರಿ, ಹಣ್ಣು ಅಥವಾ ಹೂವು, ಒಣ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳು... ಹೀಗೆ ಒಂದೊಂದಕ್ಕೂ ಒಂದೊಂದು ಗುಣವಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದನ್ನೂ ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟ ಅರ್ಥತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಉಷ್ಣಾಂಶದಲ್ಲಿಡಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇಪ್ಪತ್ತೈದು ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆಯೇ ನ್ಯಾಷನಲ್ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಚೈನ್ ಡೆವಲಪ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಷನ್ (ಎನ್‌ಸಿಸಿಡಿಸಿ) ಸಂಶೋಧನೆ ನಡೆಸಿ ಯಾವ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನವನ್ನು ಎಷ್ಟು ಡಿಗ್ರಿ ಉಷ್ಣಾಂಶದಲ್ಲಿಡಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಪ್ರಮಾಣಿತ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಚರಣೆ ವಿಧಾನ(ಎಸ್‌ಒಪಿ) ಯನ್ನು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದೆ. ಆ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಶೇ 30 ರಿಂದ 40 ಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ತೇವಾಂಶ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿರುವ ಟೊಮೆಟೊ, ಬಾಳೆಹಣ್ಣು, ಕಲ್ಲಂಗಡಿ, ಈರುಳ್ಳಿಯಂತಹ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳನ್ನು ದೀರ್ಘಕಾಲ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿಟ್ಟರೆ ಕೊಳೆಯುತ್ತವೆ. ಎಲ್ಲ ತರಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ದೀರ್ಘಕಾಲ ಇಟ್ಟು ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಕಷ್ಟ.

ಟೊಮೆಟೊವನ್ನು 14 ಡಿಗ್ರಿ ಸೆ. ತಾಪಮಾನದಲ್ಲಿಡಬಹುದು. ಹೆಚ್ಚುದಿನ ಸಂರಕ್ಷಿಸಿ ಇಡುವುದು ಕಷ್ಟ. ಮಾವು, ದಾಳಿಂಬೆ, ನಿಂಬೆಯಂತಹ ಹಣ್ಣುಗಳನ್ನು, ಬ್ರೊಕೊಲಿಯಂತಹ ತರಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು 8 ಡಿಗ್ರಿ ಸೆ.ನಲ್ಲಿ, ಆಣಬೆಯನ್ನು 4 ಡಿಗ್ರಿ ಸೆ.ನಲ್ಲಿ, ಒಣಗಿದ ಶುಂಠಿ, ಧಾನ್ಯ, ಬೇಳೆಕಾಳುಗಳು, ಒಣ ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿಯಂಥ ಒಣ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳನ್ನು 8 ರಿಂದ 12 ಡಿಗ್ರಿ ಸೆ. ತಾಪಮಾನದಲ್ಲಿಡಬಹುದು. ಯಾವುದೇ ಒಣ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳನ್ನು 4 ರಿಂದ 6 ಡಿಗ್ರಿ ಸೆ.ನಲ್ಲಿ ಇಡಬಹುದು. ಅಲೂಗಡ್ಡೆಯನ್ನು 6 ಡಿಗ್ರಿ ಸೆ.ನಲ್ಲಿ ಇಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಸದ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ದೊಡ್ಡ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸ್ವಾಮ್ಯದ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಬಳಕೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ಶುಂಠಿ, ಒಣದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿ, ಅಲೂಗಡ್ಡೆ, ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ ಮತ್ತು ದವಸ-ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳಂತಹ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳಿಗೆ.

'ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ ಮಾತ್ರವಲ್ಲ. ಯಾವುದೇ ತೇವಾಂಶವಿರುವ ವಸ್ತುಗಳನ್ನಿಟ್ಟಾಗ ತೂಕ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. 30 ಕೆ.ಜಿ. ಚೀಲ ಒಣ ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ ಇಟ್ಟರೆ, ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಒಂದರಿಂದ ಒಂದೂವರೆ ಪರ್ಸೆಂಟ್ ತೂಕ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಬಹುದು. ಆದರೆ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ ಸಿಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೊರಗಡೆ ಇಟ್ಟರೆ, ಇದಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ನಷ್ಟವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಕೀಟಗಳು, ಇಲಿಗಳು ತಿಂದು ಹಾಳಾಗುತ್ತವೆ' ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ಬ್ಯಾಡಗಿಯ ವರ್ತಕರು.

ಕೊಯ್ಲೋತ್ತರ ನಷ್ಟ ತಪ್ಪಿಸಲು

ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್, ಕೇವಲ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳನ್ನಿಟ್ಟು ಬೆಲೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾದಾಗ ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕಷ್ಟೇ ಅಲ್ಲ. ಕೊಯ್ಲೋತ್ತರ ನಷ್ಟದ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ (ಪೋಸ್ಟ್ ಹಾರ್ವೆಸ್ಟ್ ಲಾಸ್) ತಗ್ಗಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೂ ಸಹಾಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ದೂಳು, ಕೀಟಗಳು, ಇಲಿ-ಹೆಗ್ಗಣಗಳ ಹಾವಳಿಯಿಂದ ರಕ್ಷಿಸಿ, ಅವುಗಳ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟವನ್ನೂ ಕಾಪಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತಮ ಬೆಲೆ ಸಿಗಲು ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಸಹಾಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಕೆ. ವೆಂಕಟೇಶ್.

'ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೃಷಿ ಮತ್ತು ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಬೆಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಯ್ಲೋತ್ತರ ನಷ್ಟ ಅಂದಾಜು ಶೇ 18ರಿಂದ 20ರಷ್ಟು. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಸರಾಸರಿ 390 ಲಕ್ಷ ಟನ್‌ನಷ್ಟು ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಬೆಳೆ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ 15 ನಷ್ಟವಾದರೂ, ಕೋಟಿ ಕೋಟಿ ರೂಪಾಯಿಯಷ್ಟು ಹಣ ವ್ಯರ್ಥವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಉತ್ಪನ್ನದ ನಷ್ಟದ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಅದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ವ್ಯಯಿಸಿದ ಬೀಜ, ಗೊಬ್ಬರ, ನೀರು, ಹಣ, ಸಮಯ ಎಲ್ಲವೂ ಪರೋಕ್ಷವಾಗಿ ನಷ್ಟವೇ. ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಕೈಗೆಟುಕುವ ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ದರದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಅವರ ಜಮೀನಿನ ಹತ್ತಿರದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಲಭ್ಯವಾದರೆ, ಈ ನಷ್ಟವನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿದೆ' ಎಂದು ಅವರು ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯಪಡುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಸಹಜ ಆರ್ಗ್ಯಾನಿಕ್ – ರೈತ ಉತ್ಪಾದಕ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಆಳವಡಿಸಿರುವ ಸೌರಶಕ್ತಿ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್

ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಲಿ ಅಲಸಂದಿ ಇಟ್ಟದ್ದೇನೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ನುಸಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಇನ್ನಿತರ ಕೀಟಗಳಿಂದ ರಕ್ಷಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿದೆ
ನಿಂಗಪ್ಪ ತಳವಾರ ಹಾಗೂ ಪಟ್ಟಣಶೆಟ್ಟಿ *ಗದಗ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ*

'ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳು, ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿಯಂತಹ ಒಣ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳು ಗ್ರಾಹಕರಿಗೆ ತಲುಪುವವರೆಗೂ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿರಬೇಕೆಂದರೆ, ಅವುಗಳನ್ನು ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿಟ್ಟು ರಕ್ಷಿಸಬೇಕು. ನಾವು ಈ ಎಲ್ಲ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳನ್ನು ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿಟ್ಟು, ಕಂಪನಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಗತ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ತಕ್ಕಂತೆ ಪೂರೈಸುತ್ತೇನೆ. ಉತ್ತಮ ಬೆಲೆಯೂ ಸಿಗುತ್ತದೆ' ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ಬ್ಯಾಡಗಿಯ ಕಬ್ಬೂರ್ ಎಂಟರ್‌ಪ್ರೈಸಸ್‌ನ ಬಸವರಾಜ್.

ನಮ್ಮ ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಬೆಲೆ ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇರುವ ಗುಜರಾತ್, ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ಬಂಗಾಳ, ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ, ಪಂಜಾಬ್ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತಮ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳಿವೆ. ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಯ್ಲೋತ್ತರ ನಷ್ಟ ಶೇ 5ರಿಂದ 6ರಷ್ಟು ಮಾತ್ರ. ಇವೆಲ್ಲವೂ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳಿಂದ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ತಜ್ಞರು. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ, ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಪಡೆಯುವಲ್ಲಿ 10ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿ ಎಸ್.ಎಲ್. ಜಗದೀಶ್.

ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ, ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಕಠಿಣ

ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್- ಕೃಷಿ-ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದು ಎನ್ನುವುದರಲ್ಲಿ ಎರಡು ಮಾತಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ, ಅದನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವುದು ಸುಲಭವಲ್ಲ. ಸಾಧಾರಣ ರೈತರೊಬ್ಬರಿಂದತೂಂ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ ಎನ್ನುವುದು ತಜ್ಞರ ಅಭಿಮತ.

'ಒಂದು ಸಾಧಾರಣ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಕ್ಕೆ ₹4 ಕೋಟಿಯಿಂದ ₹5 ಕೋಟಿ ಖರ್ಚಾಗಬಹುದು' ಎಂದು ಅಂದಾಜಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ ಹಾವೇರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಹಿರಿಯ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸಹಾಯಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಅಶೋಕ ಕುರಬರ. ಮೂಲದ ಪ್ರಕಾರ, ಅಂದಾಜು ನಾಲ್ಕು ಸಾವಿರ ಟನ್ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಸೋಲಾರ್ ಮತ್ತು ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಕ್ಕೆ ಸುಮಾರು ₹10 ಕೋಟಿ ಬಂಡವಾಳ, ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗೆ ಅಂದಾಜು ಏಳೆಂಟು ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂಪಾಯಿ ಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. 10 ಟನ್ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯದ ಸೌರಶಕ್ತಿ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಸಣ್ಣ ಘಟಕ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಗೆ ಅಂದಾಜು ₹25 ಲಕ್ಷ ಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಷ್ಟೇ ಅಲ್ಲ, ಶೀತಲಗೃಹ ಆರಂಭಿಸಿದ ಮೇಲೆ ನಿರಂತರವಾಗಿ ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಇರಬೇಕು. ವಿದ್ಯುತ್ ಕೈಕೊಟ್ಟರೆ, ಪರ್ಯಾಯ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿರಬೇಕು.

ಇಂಥ ಕಠಿಣ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಗಾಗಿಯೇ ರೈತರು ವೈಯಕ್ತಿಕವಾಗಿ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಹೊಂದುವುದು ಕಷ್ಟ. ಹಾಗಿದೇ, ಸಣ್ಣಹಿಡುವಳಿದಾರರು, ಖಾಸಗಿಯವರ ಶೀತಲಗೃಹಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳನ್ನಿಟ್ಟು ದುಬಾರಿ ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ಕಟ್ಟುವುದು ಕಷ್ಟ. ಇವೆಲ್ಲದರ ನಡುವೆಯೂ ಒಣದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿ, ಮೆಣಸಿನ ಕಾಯಿ, ಶುಂಠಿ, ಕಾಳುಮೆಣಸು, ಅಡಿಕೆಯಂತಹ ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಬೆಳೆಗಳನ್ನು ಬೆಳೆಯುವ ಅಧಿಕವಾಗಿ ಸಬಲರಾಗಿರುವ ರೈತರು ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ಭರಿಸಿ ಶೀತಲಗೃಹಗಳನ್ನು ಬಳಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಪರಿಹಾರ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಗಳು

ಈಗ ರಾಜ್ಯದಾದ್ಯಂತ ಕ್ರಿಯಾಶೀಲವಾಗಿರುವ 800ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ರೈತ ಉತ್ಪಾದಕ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳಿವೆ (ಫಾರ್ಮರ್ ಪ್ರೊಡ್ಯೂಸರ್ ಆರ್ಗನೈಸೇಷನ್ (ಎಫ್‌ಪಿಒ)/ಕಂಪನಿ (ಎಫ್‌ಪಿಸಿ). ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ನಬಾರ್ಡ್, ಕೃಷಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಹಲವು ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಇವುಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಬೇಕು. ಈ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಆರಂಭವಾಗಿದ್ದರೂ, ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ವೇಗ ಕೊಡಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ರೈತರಿಗೆ, ಶೀತಲಗೃಹಗಳಿಂದ ಏನೆಲ್ಲ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನವಿದೆ, ಅದನ್ನು ಬಳಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು ಹೇಗೆ ಎಂಬ ಜಾಗೃತಿಯನ್ನೂ ಮೂಡಿಸಬೇಕಿದೆ ಎನ್ನುವುದು ತಜ್ಞರ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ.

ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಈ ರೀತಿ ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹಿಸಿ, ಅದರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಚರಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಕೊಟ್ಟು, ಆ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಿ, ದರವನ್ನು ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇಡಲು ಸೂಚಿಸಿದರೆ, ಆಗ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಬಳಕೆ ವ್ಯಾಪಕವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಾರೆ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು.

ಇಂಥದ್ದೇ ಬೆಳಗೆಂದು ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸದೆ. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಆ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನಗಳನ್ನೇ ಇಡಬೇಕಿಲ್ಲ. ಸುತ್ತಮುತ್ತಲಿನ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿರುವ ತರಕಾರಿ, ಹಣ್ಣು, ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳು, ಗೆಡ್ಡೆಗಳಂತಹ ಎಲ್ಲ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳನ್ನು ಇಡುವಂತೆ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಮಾಡಬಹುದು. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಮೂಡಿಸುವುದು ಅಗತ್ಯ. ಆಗ ಬಳಕೆಯೂ ವ್ಯಾಪಕವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಅಧ್ಯಯನ, 'ಜಾಗೃತಿ'ಯೂ ಅಗತ್ಯ

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗತಿ, ಅಗತ್ಯಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅಧ್ಯಯನವಾಗಬೇಕು. ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಚೈನ್ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ(ಎನ್‌ಸಿಸಿಡಿ) ಮತ್ತು ನಬಾರ್ಡ್ ಕನ್ಸಲ್ಟನ್ಸಿ ಸರ್ವೀಸ್ ಪ್ರೈವೆಲಿ. ಸಹಯೋಗದಲ್ಲಿ 2014-15ನಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂಥದೊಂದು ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಮಾಡಿ, ವರದಿ ನೀಡಿದೆ. ಆ ನಂತರದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಂಥ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಗಳಾಗಿಲ್ಲ.

ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಕುರಿತು ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಮೂಡಿಸುವ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಾಗಿ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರ, ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಒಂದು ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟ ಇಲಾಖೆಗೆ ವಹಿಸಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಕೃಷಿ, ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ, ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ವಿಭಾಗಗಳು, ಉತ್ಪಾದನೆ, ಮಾರಾಟಕ್ಕಷ್ಟೇ ಸೀಮಿತವಾಗಿವೆ. 'ಶೀತಲಗೃಹಗಳ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಯನ್ನು ಕೈಲುವವರೆಲ್ಲದಂತಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಎಲ್ಲ ಎಪಿಎಂಸಿಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ಶೀತಲಗೃಹಗಳನ್ನು ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಬೇಕು. ಕೈಗೆಟುಕುವ ದರದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಬೇಕು. ಆಕಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ರೈತರಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಮೂಡಿಸಬೇಕು. ರೈತರು ಎಪಿಎಂಸಿಗೆ ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ತಂದು, ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿತ ಬೆಲೆ ಸಿಗದಿದ್ದಾಗ, ಅಲ್ಲೇ ಇರುವ ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿಟ್ಟು ಬೆಲೆ ಬಂದಾಗ ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡುವಂತಹ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಾಗಬೇಕು ಎನ್ನುವುದು ತಜ್ಞರ ಅಭಿಮತ.

ಕೋಲ್ಡ್‌ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್ ಕೊರತೆ; ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ವಹಿವಾಟಿಗೆ ಪೆಟ್ಟು...

ವಿಜಯಪುರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ 25 ಸಾವಿರ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ 4 ಸಾವಿರ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಮತ್ತು ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ 5 ಸಾವಿರ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿ ಕೃಷಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಸರಾಸರಿ 5 ಲಕ್ಷದಿಂದ 6 ಲಕ್ಷ ಟನ್‌ಗೂ ಅಧಿಕ ಹಸಿ ದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿ ಬೆಳೆಯಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಮಾರು 1.60 ಲಕ್ಷ ಟನ್ ಒಣದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿ ತಯಾರಿಸಾತ್ತಾರೆ. ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ₹ 2,500 ರಿಂದ ₹ 3,000 ಕೊಟಾ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಒಣ ಮತ್ತು ಹಸಿ ದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿ ವಹಿವಾಟು ನಡೆಯುತ್ತದೆ. ಇಷ್ಟಾದರೂ ಸಮರ್ಪಕ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಇಲ್ಲ. ವರ್ಷಾನುಗಟ್ಟಲೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಶೈತ್ಯಾಗಾರಗಳ (ಕೋಲ್ಡ್ ಸ್ಟೋರೇಜ್) ಕೊರತೆ ಇದೆ. ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿ ಬೆಳೆಗಾರರು 60 ಕಿ.ಮೀ ದೂರವಿರುವ ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರದ ತಾಸ್‌ಗಾಂವ್, ಸಾಂಗ್ಲಿ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ಅವಲಂಬಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

'ನಾವು ಬೆಳೆದ ಬಹುತೇಕ ಒಣದ್ರಾಕ್ಷಿಯನ್ನು ಪ್ರತಿ ಟನ್‌ಗೆ ತಿಂಗ

Karnataka reported 456 farmer suicides so far this year: Data

Govt has announced interest waiver on crop loans

BHARATH JOSHI
BENGALURU, DHNS

Drought and the burden of loans have driven 456 farmers towards suicide between April and November this financial year - nearly two deaths every day - even as Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's government hopes to reduce distress with its interest waiver scheme.

Almost all of Karnataka is reeling under drought. The government has declared 223 out of 236 taluks as drought-hit.

A third of all farmer suicides were reported from three districts - Haveri, Belagavi and Chikkamagaluru. Haveri has reported the highest farmer suicides at 62, followed by Belagavi (56) and Chikkamagaluru (49).

Farmers who kill themselves due to debt get Rs 5 lakh in compensation and the deceased's spouse gets a monthly pension of Rs 2,000.

Of the 456 suicides reported so far, authorities have disbursed compensation in 354 cases. The thumb rule while deciding to pay compensation is that the farmer must have borrowed a bank loan and death must be due to suicide.

On the last day of winter session of the legislature (Dec 15), Siddaramaiah announced that the government would waive interest payments for all crop loans whose principal amounts are repaid by farmers. This will apply to medium-term and long-term crop loans at cooperative banks.

While the Finance Department is collating data to make provisions for the interest waiver, the total outstanding crop loans amount to Rs 535.43 crore at the Karnataka State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank Limited (KSCARD) alone. This includes Rs 229.32 crore principal and Rs 306.11 crore interest. The interest waiver will also apply to loans at the Karnataka State Cooperative Apex Bank, District Cooperative Central Banks and so on.

"The interest waiver will reduce distress among farmers. It'll help them cope with difficulties due to drought or the general farm distress," Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda told *DH*.

Siddaramaiah was under pressure from farmers groups to waive crop loans. Even the BJP demanded a crop loan waiver up to Rs 2 lakh. However, fiscal pressure due to the guarantees is said to have forced Siddaramaiah to go for an interest waiver instead.

Almost all of Karnataka is reeling under drought. The government has declared 223 out of 236 taluks as drought-hit. DH FILE PHOTO/TAJUDDIN AZAD

Numbers tell all

Year	Farmer suicides	Eligible for compensation
2018	1,084	866
2019	1,091	895
2020	855	718
2021	917	775
2022	968	849
2023 (up to Nov)	456	354

SOURCE: DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE AND REVENUE

Source: Deccan Herald, p.3, Dec.18, 2023

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ

ಉತ್ತರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ: ರೈತರ ಆತ್ಮಹತ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಬರದ ತೀವ್ರತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ, ಬೆಳೆ ಹಾನಿ; ಸಾಲಬಾಧೆಗೆ 8 ತಿಂಗಳಿನಲ್ಲಿ 456 ಅನ್ನದಾತರ ಬಲಿ

• ಬಸವರಾಜ ಹವಾಲ್ದಾರ

ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ: ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಬರದ ತೀವ್ರತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಬೆಳೆ ಹಾನಿ, ಸಾಲಬಾಧೆ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ 456 ರೈತರು ಈ ವರ್ಷ ಏಪ್ರಿಲ್‌ನಿಂದ ನವೆಂಬರ್‌ವರೆಗೆ ಆತ್ಮಹತ್ಯೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಗಿರುವ ರೈತರ ಆತ್ಮಹತ್ಯೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಉತ್ತರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ 259 ಮಂದಿ ರೈತರು ಆತ್ಮಹತ್ಯೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಕಿತ್ತೂರು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ 179 ರೈತರು ಆತ್ಮಹತ್ಯೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಒಟ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 406 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ದಾಖಲೆ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 50 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳಿಲ್ಲದ ಕಾರಣ ಕೃಷಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 'ದಾಖಲೆಗಳ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ನಂತರ ಅರ್ಹವಾಗಿರುವ 354 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, 321 ರೈತರ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸದಸ್ಯರಿಗೆ ₹5 ಲಕ್ಷ ಪರಿಹಾರ ವಿತರಣೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. 33 ರೈತರ ಕುಟುಂಬದವರಿಗೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ ವಿತರಿಸಬೇಕಿದೆ' ಎಂದು ಕೃಷಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ.

ಬಾಕಿ ಉಳಿದಿರುವ 52 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 25 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮರಣೋತ್ತರ ವರದಿ ಬರಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಉಳಿದ 27 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸದಸ್ಯರು ಅಗತ್ಯ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕಿದೆ.

ಬರದ ಬಾಧೆ: ರಾಜ್ಯದ 236 ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕುಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ 223 ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕುಗಳನ್ನು ಬರ ಪೀಡಿತ ಎಂದು ಘೋಷಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ 196 ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕುಗಳು ತೀವ್ರ ಬರ ಪೀಡಿತವಾಗಿವೆ. ಬೆಳೆ ಹಾನಿಯಿಂದಾಗಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ₹35,162 ಕೋಟಿಯಷ್ಟು ನಷ್ಟವಾಗಿದೆ. ಎನ್‌ಡಿಆರ್‌ಎಫ್ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಯಂತೆ ₹18,171 ಕೋಟಿ ಪರಿಹಾರವನ್ನು ಕೇಂದ್ರದಿಂದ ಕೋರಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಲಪ್ರಭಾ, ಘಟಪ್ರಭಾ, ಕೃಷ್ಣಾ ನದಿಗಳು ಹರಿಯುತ್ತವೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಮೂರು ನದಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೀರಿನ ಹರಿವು ನಿಂತಿದ್ದು, ಜಾನುವಾರುಗಳಿಗೆ, ಕುಡಿಯುವ ನೀರು ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡುವ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳಿಗೂ ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೀರಿನ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಎದುರಾಗಲಿದೆ.

'ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಎಲ್ಲ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕುಗಳನ್ನು ಬರ ಪೀಡಿತ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕುಗಳೆಂದು ಘೋಷಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ₹1,997 ಕೋಟಿಯಷ್ಟು ಮೌಲ್ಯದ ಬೆಳೆ ನಷ್ಟವಾಗಿದೆ. ಪರಿಹಾರಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದ್ದ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ತಂಡಕ್ಕೆ ಮನವಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ' ಎಂದು ಕೃಷಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಜಂಟಿ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಣ ಕಳ್ಳೆನ್ನವರ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹರಿಯುವ ಮಲಪ್ರಭಾ ನದಿ ಬತ್ತಿರುವುದು

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾವಾರು ರೈತರ ಆತ್ಮಹತ್ಯೆ* (ಏಪ್ರಿಲ್-ನವೆಂಬರ್)

ಹಾವೇರಿ	62	ಯಾದಗಿರಿ	16
ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ	56	ಕಲಬುರಗಿ	16
ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು	49	ಮಂಡ್ಯ	14
ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ	32	ಬೀದರ್	12
ಮೈಸೂರು	30	ತುಮಕೂರು	12
ಧಾರವಾಡ	29	ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ	11
ವಿಜಯಪುರ	25		
ವಿಜಯನಗರ	18		
ಹಾಸನ	17		

(*10ಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ರೈತರ ಆತ್ಮಹತ್ಯೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ವರದಿಯಾಗಿರುವ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳು)

Source: Prajavani, p.5, Dec.19, 2023

ಎನ್‌ಡಿಆರ್‌ಎಫ್ ನಿಯಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಅವಕಾಶ ಬಳಕೆಗೆ ಮುಂದಾದ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಬರ ಸಂಕಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಅನಪೇಕ್ಷಿತ ಪರಿಹಾರ

■ ರುದ್ರಣ್ಣ ಹರ್ತಿಕೋಟೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ರಾಜ್ಯವನ್ನು ಕಾಡಿರುವ ಭೀಕರ ಬರದ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೃಷಿಯನ್ನೇ ನಂಬಿರುವ ಸಣ್ಣ ಮತ್ತು ಮಧ್ಯಮ ವರ್ಗದ ರೈತಾಪಿ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳ ಜೀವನ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗೆ ಅನಪೇಕ್ಷಿತ ಪರಿಹಾರ (ಗ್ರೆಚುಯಿಟಸ್ ರಿಲೀಫ್) ನೀಡಲು ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಕಡೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ದೃಷ್ಟಿ ನೆಟ್ಟಿದೆ.

ನರೇಗಾ ಕೂಲಿಯನ್ನು ನೆಚ್ಚಿಕೊಳ್ಳದೆ ಕೃಷಿಯನ್ನೇ ಅವಲಂಬಿಸಿರುವ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಭಾಗದ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳು ಜೀವನ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗೆ ಪರದಾಡುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಅಂತಹ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳ ನೆರವಿಗೆ ಹೋಗಬೇಕಾಗಿರುವುದು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮೂಲ ಉದ್ದೇಶವಾಗಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ವರ್ಷ ಮುಂಗಾರಿನಲ್ಲಿ 82.35 ಲಕ್ಷ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಬಿತ್ತನೆ ಗುರಿಗೆ 74.26 ಲಕ್ಷ ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಬಿತ್ತನೆಯಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ ಬೆಳೆ ಕೈಗೆ ಬಾರದಂತೆ ಒಣಗಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರ ಪೈಕಿ ಶೇ.41 ಕೃಷಿ ಕೂಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಅಂಕಿಅಂಶಗಳ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಶೇ.77ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಸಣ್ಣ ಮತ್ತು ಅತಿಸಣ್ಣ ಕೃಷಿಕರು. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದಲೇ ಇಂತಹವರ ನೆರವಿಗೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಧಾವಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ.

ನಿಯಮದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಅವಕಾಶ: ಸಣ್ಣ, ಅತಿಸಣ್ಣ, ಮಧ್ಯಮ ವರ್ಗದ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಅಂದರೆ ಯಾರು 2 ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್‌ಗಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಭೂಮಿಯನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುತ್ತಾರೋ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಎನ್‌ಡಿಆರ್‌ಎಫ್ ನಿಯಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ 90 ದಿನ ಅನಪೇಕ್ಷಿತ ಪರಿಹಾರ ನೀಡಲು ಅವಕಾಶಗಳಿವೆ. ಬೆಳೆ ಇಲ್ಲದೇ ಸಂಕಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಗಾಗಿರುವ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಇಂತಹ ಪರಿಹಾರವನ್ನು ನೀಡಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಈಗ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಕಡೆ ಗಮನ ಹರಿಸಿದೆ. ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಮನವಿಯಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ವಿವರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟಾರೆ 63.19.528 ಕೃಷಿಕರಿದ್ದು, ಅದರಲ್ಲಿ 2 ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್‌ಗಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಭೂಮಿ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ರೈತರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 52,73.736 ಇದೆ. ಇವರಿಗೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ ನೀಡಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಪರಿಹಾರ ಎಷ್ಟು: ಒಂದು ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಇಬ್ಬರಿಗೆ ನರೇಗಾದಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವ ಕೂಲಿಯನ್ನು ಪರಿಹಾರವಾಗಿ ನೀಡಲು ನಿಯಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಳಲಾಗಿದೆ. ನರೇಗಾ ಕೂಲಿ 265 ರೂ. ಗಳಿದೆ. ಇದರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಅನಪೇಕ್ಷಿತ ಪರಿಹಾರ ನೀಡಲು ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ 12,577.86 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ.ಗಳ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಇಷ್ಟು ಮೊತ್ತವನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದರೆ ಸಣ್ಣ, ಅತಿಸಣ್ಣ ರೈತರು ಉಸಿರಾಡುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೆ ಕಷ್ಟ ಎಂಬ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಇದೆ. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಏನು ಮಾಡಲಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದು ಕುತೂಹಲಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಿದೆ.

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ಜೀಆರ್ ಉದ್ದೇಶಗಳೇನು?

- ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಅರ್ಥಕ್ಕೆ ನಿಲ್ಲಬಾರದು
- ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಭಾಗದಿಂದ ನಗರಕ್ಕೆ ವಲಸೆ ತಪ್ಪಿಸುವುದು
- ಇರುವ ಹಳ್ಳಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಜೀವನ ರೂಪಿಸುವುದು
- ಆರೋಗ್ಯದ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಾದರೆ ಶಿಷ್ಟದ ಹಣೆಯುವುದು
- ಜೀವನವರಿ ಆಹಾರ ಧಾನ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಖರೀದಿಸುವುದು

ಸೂಚನೆಗಳೇನು?

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಲ್ಪಾಲ್ಪ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ಗಳು ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಜಪ್ತಿ ನೋಟಿಸ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡುವುದು, ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆದರಿದ ಕೆಲ ರೈತರು ಆತ್ಮಹತ್ಯೆಗೆ ಶರಣಾಗಿರುವುದು ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಟ್ಟದ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕರ್‌ಗಳ ಸಮಿತಿ ರೈತರ ಸಾಲವನ್ನು ರಿಶೆಡ್ಯೂಲ್ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು ಎಂಬ ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡಿದ್ದರೂ ಸಹ ಬಹುತೇಕ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ಗಳು ಪಾಲಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತೊಮ್ಮೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೊಡಿಸುವ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ ಎಂಬ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ ರೈತರ ವಲಯದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಸಾಲವನ್ನು 3 ರಿಂದ 5 ವರ್ಷಗಳ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ವಿಸ್ತರಣೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು ಹಾಗೂ ಬಡ್ಡಿದರ ಶೇ.2 ಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇರಬಾರದು ಎಂಬುದು ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಒತ್ತಾಯವೂ ಆಗಿದೆ.

ಮೊದಲ ಬಾರಿ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ

ಅನಪೇಕ್ಷಿತ ಪರಿಹಾರವನ್ನು ನೀಡುವಂತೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಇದೇ ಮೊದಲ ಬಾರಿಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಮನವಿ ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ಇದುವರೆಗೂ ಇಂತಹ ಮನವಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಎನ್‌ಡಿಆರ್‌ಎಫ್ ನಿಯಮಗಳನ್ನು ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಮಾಡಿ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಮನವಿ ಮಾಡಿದೆ.

ನರೇಗಾ ಕೂಲಿಯಲ್ಲ

ನರೇಗಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೂಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರಿಗೆ 150 ದಿನಗಳ ಅವಕಾಶ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಅನಪೇಕ್ಷಿತ ಪರಿಹಾರಕ್ಕೂ ನರೇಗಾಕ್ಕೂ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸವಿದೆ. ನರೇಗಾದಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತರಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಕೂಲಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ನಬಾರ್ಡ್ ಕ್ರಮಗಳೇನು?

ಬರ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗಾಗಿ ನಬಾರ್ಡ್ ಕೆಲವು ಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಮೂಲ ಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ನಿಧಿ (ಆರ್‌ಐಡಿಎಫ್) ಮೂಲಕ ನೀರಾವರಿ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸುವ ಕಡೆ ಗಮನ ಹರಿಸಿದೆ. ಜಂಟಿ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ಕೃಷಿ ಹೊಂಡಗಳ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಒತ್ತು ನೀಡುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಧಾರವಾಡ ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಕೃಷಿ ಕುರಿತು ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮೂಲಗಳು ಹೇಳುತ್ತವೆ.

ತೀವ್ರ ಸಂಕಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಒಳಗಾಗಿರುವ ಸಣ್ಣ ಮತ್ತು ಅತಿಸಣ್ಣ ರೈತರ ನೆರವಿಗೆ ಹೋಗಲೇ ಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಎನ್‌ಡಿಆರ್‌ಎಫ್ ನಿಯಮಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ ಅವಕಾಶವನ್ನು ಹುಡುಕಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಮನವಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಏನು ಮಾಡಲಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ನೋಡುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಕೈ ಹಿಡಿಯದಿದ್ದರೆ ಕಷ್ಟವಾಗಲಿದೆ. | ಕೃಷ್ಣ ಬೈರೇಗೌಡ ಕಂದಾಯ ಸಚಿವ

ರಾಜ್ಯದ ರೈತರ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ

ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ	ಒಟ್ಟು ರೈತರು	ಸಣ್ಣ ರೈತರು
ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ	5,68,923	4,99,731
ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ	2,36,166	1,85,937
ವಿಜಯಪುರ	3,13,223	2,86,503
ಕಲಬುರಗಿ	3,19,789	2,16,913
ಬೀದರ್	2,15,568	1,69,039
ರಾಯಚೂರು	2,48,440	1,80,683
ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ	1,81,263	1,34,760
ಗದಗ	1,61,471	1,15,657
ಧಾರವಾಡ	1,56,630	1,11,953
ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ	1,83,303	1,75,813
ಹಾವೇರಿ	2,41,357	2,07,491
ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ	1,08,866	83,806
ಚಿತ್ರದುರ್ಗ	2,32,932	1,77,415
ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ	1,83,946	1,53,682
ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ	1,80,303	1,62,221
ಉಡುಪಿ	1,68,330	1,63,479
ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು	1,45,540	1,26,354
ತುಮಕೂರು	3,65,365	3,14,684
ಕೋಲಾರ	1,44,008	1,28,379
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು	55,572	51,459
ಬೆಂ.ಗ್ರಾ.	1,05,783	98,707
ಮಂಡ್ಯ	2,98,333	2,80,764
ಹಾಸನ	3,13,323	2,81,747
ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ	1,78,614	1,71,838
ಕೊಡಗು	58,836	46,614
ಮೈಸೂರು	2,65,496	2,46,055
ಚಾ.ನಗರ	1,19,554	1,07,697
ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ	1,39,170	1,22,679
ರಾಮನಗರ	1,37,516	1,28,689
ಯಾದಗಿರಿ	1,49,677	1,08,644
ವಿಜಯನಗರ	1,46,531	1,13,798

Source: Vijayavani, p.8, Dec.19, 2023

Anger over proposal to move 24 veterinary institutions out of city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has decided to close 24 veterinary institutions in Bengaluru Urban district, along with four in Bengaluru Rural, and shift them to other places in the State where the cattle-to-hospital ratio is very poor.

However, this has drawn the ire of animal rights activists in the city, who have argued that determining the requirement of a veterinary institution only based on the cattle count in a city like Bengaluru and not considering the pet animal population is unscientific.

In an order of the Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department, accessed by *The Hindu*, the department says that according to the guidelines of the National Commission of Agriculture (NCA), for every 5,000 cattle units there needs to be a veterinary institution.

While there are 4,234 institutions in the State, there are 101 and 103 veterinary institutions in Bengaluru Urban and Bengaluru Rural districts, respectively.

The note further adds that there has been a demand from various parts of Karnataka to start veterinary institutions where the ratio is far less than that prescribed in the guidelines.

"As there is no proposal before the department to start new veterinary institutions, it is proposed to shift veterinary institutions - 24 in Bengaluru Urban and four in Bengaluru Rural -, where the ratio of cattle to the veterinary institution is less than 1,300, to places where the ratio is much less and there is a need for more veterinary institutions," the order says.

Arun Prasad, an animal rights activist, said that the proposal was unscientific. "This move will be detrimental to the treatment and care animals in the city get. The Minister should not approve the proposal," he said, adding that calculating the ratio only based on cattle was unscientific as there are other animals, including pets, which are more in number in the city that also require care.

The Jayanagar Canine Squad, a voluntary organisation working on rescuing and treating accident-prone stray dogs, have now written to K. Venkatesh, Minister for Animal Husbandry, taking objection to the proposal to shut down the Veterinary Hospital, Jayanagar.

Source: The Hindu, p.3, Dec. 19, 2023

CM meets PM, seeks ₹18,177.44 crore drought aid and increase of job days to 150 days under MGNREGA

Fund for Upper Bhadra project, environment clearance for Mahadayi, and permit to begin Mekedatu project also sought

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Delhi on Tuesday and placed five demands, including ₹18,177.44 crore as assistance for mitigating drought, before the Central government.

He appealed to Mr. Modi to direct a high-level committee headed by Home Minister Amit Shah to hold an emergency meeting and instruct release funds for undertaking drought relief in the State.

Karnataka has been facing a severe drought in 223 out of 236 taluks and farmers have been demanding compensation for the crop loss during the Kharif season owing to failure of the monsoon. The Chief Minister was accompanied by Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda with Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Four other demands

The four demands placed by Karnataka before the Centre are: increase in the number of days of employment from 100 days to 150 days per job card under the MGNREGA, release of funds for the Upper Bhadra project, environment clearance for the Mahadayi project, and grant of permission to commence work on the Mekedatu reservoir across the river Cauvery.

In a memorandum to Mr. Modi on the drought situation, the State sought input subsidy of ₹4,663.12 crore, gratuitous relief of ₹12,577.86 crore, ₹566.78 crore for drinking water, and ₹363.68 crore for animal husbandry intervention, totalling ₹18,177.44 crore.

Providing details on the extent of drought, Mr. Siddaramaiah said: "Around 48.19 lakh hectares of agriculture and horticulture crops have suffered losses ranging from 33% to 100%, with the majority of area reporting loss of more than 80%. Small and marginal farmers are most affected, as about 83% of the land under cultivation is covered by small and marginal farm holdings." He said the government has assessed the damage to the crops and sought an input subsidy of ₹4,663.12 crore from NDRF.

Defending the State's claim for input subsidy, Mr. Siddaramaiah said: "The land area under cultivation falling under small and marginal farm holdings (SMF) is important to determine the input subsidy payable to the State. Karnataka has a robust digital database of farmers under the system called FRUITS (Farmer Registration & Unified Beneficiary Identification System), which is Aadhaar-enabled and reliable. PMKISAN is using FRUITS identification numbers for making DBT payment in Karnataka. Our request is to consider the area under SMF holdings as per the Aadhaar-enabled FRUITS digital database."

The Chief Minister said the Centre might follow the Agriculture Census of 2015-16, which indicated that 43.94% of land area in Karnataka is covered by SMF holdings. However, as per the FRUITS database of Karnataka, 83% of land is covered by holdings which are small and marginal. He, therefore, requested the Prime Minister to direct the high-level committee to consider the number of and area under SMF holdings as per the FRUITS database of Karnataka.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said the average size of operational holding in Karnataka has decreased from 3.2 Ha in 1970-71 to 1.35 Ha in 2015-16. The average size would have further decreased in the last eight years since 2015-16. Therefore, relying on 2015-16 data would cause great injustice to Karnataka. He said: "It is nearly three months since we submitted our first memorandum and two months since the Central team made its field visits. The farmers of Karnataka are in deep distress. Since crops have failed, it is necessary that we pay the input subsidy to the farmers soon so as to alleviate their hardship and suffering."

Mr. Siddaramaiah also discussed pending irrigation projects in the State and urged the Centre to provide environment clearance for the implementation of the Mahadayi Kalasa Banduri Nala Project.

Speaking to reporters in Delhi, the Chief Minister said the Centre had declared ₹5,300 crore for the Upper Bhadra project in the Union Budget. But not a single rupee has been released so far. He urged Mr. Modi to release funds.

On the Mekedatu project, the CM said the Prime Minister's attention has been drawn towards the project. "The lower riparian Tamil Nadu is opposing the project for its political gains. The project aims to cater the drinking water needs of Bengaluru and surrounding areas of the city". The water would be released to Tamil Nadu after generation of 400 MW of power at the dam site.

Mr. Siddaramaiah said the government is ready to take an all-party delegation to the Centre to seek early clearance and funds for Mahadayi, Upper Bhadra, and Mekedatu projects.

Source: The Hindu, p.6, Dec. 20, 2023

Upper Bhadra project: Delay in getting forest clearance slows down work

Sathish G.T.
SHIVAMOGGA

The work of the Upper Bhadra Project to irrigate drought-prone parts of Chikkamagaluru, Chitradurga, Tumakuru, and Davangere districts has been delayed in Chikkamagaluru district owing to the delay in getting clearance from the Forest Department.

The Tumakuru diversion canal that takes water from the distribution chamber at Ajjampura to Tumakuru, as per the design, passes through the grasslands of Basur Amruth Mahal Kaval Blackbuck Conservation Reserve and Bilvala Kaval in Chikkamagaluru district. The land measuring 1,820.11 acres was designated as a conservation reserve through a notification issued on April 30, 2011, as per the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. The 2.15-km-long canal that intersects the conservation reserve is expected to obstruct the movement of blackbucks, foxes, wolves, and other wildlife, besides the Amruth Mahal cattle.

A file photo of Basur Amruth Mahal Kaval Blackbuck Conservation Reserve in Kadur taluk.

Earlier, environmentalists had filed a public interest litigation against the allotment of Basur Kaval and Bilval Kaval for the project. The petition was dismissed by the High Court in August 2022. However, the court directed the Water Resources Department to seek clearance from the Forest Department.

M.S. Harsha, Assistant Executive Engineer of VJNL (Kadur), told *The Hindu* that the project required 16.2 hectares of land for the total 3.16-km-long canal, of which 1.06 km passes through Bilval Kaval. "The total length of the Tumakuru canal is 159 km. The 3.16-kilometre stretch falls within the initial reach. Hence, we require early clearance to go ahead with the project," he said. The Water Resources Department has approached the Chikkamagaluru district administration to identify suitable compensatory afforestation land so that they could seek forest clearance.

The Tumakuru diversion canal passes through the Basur Amruth Mahal Kaval Blackbuck Conservation Reserve and Bilvala Kaval in Chikkamagaluru dist.

Besides that, the senior officers of the Water Resources Department recently held a meeting with officers of the Animal Husbandry Department on the construction of canals through the grasslands of Bilaval Kaval. The officers of the Animal Husbandry Department have appealed to the VJNL to construct the canals so that they would not affect the movement of the cattle. The animals should get passages, a pond, and chain-link fencing to ensure the safety of the cattle.

What the project entails

The project, with an estimated cost of ₹20,852 crore, has been planned to lift 29.9 tmcft of water from the Tunga river and Bhadra reservoir to irrigate 2.25 lakh hectares and fill up 367 tanks.

The first phase of the work involves lifting 17.4 tmcft of water from the Tunga river to Bhadra reservoir through a 11.26-km-long canal. In the second phase, 29.9 tmcft of water is lifted from Bhadra reservoir to the distribution chamber located at Ajjampura, from where water will be diverted to targeted destinations through the Chitradurga canal and the Tumakuru canal.

Power towers

The implementing agency is facing difficulty installing power towers to make the pump houses operational in the first phase of the project due to the delay in getting forest clearance.

C.R. Prasanna Kumar, AEE, VNJL (Muthinakoppa), said that 11 towers need to be installed in the area that is submerged due to the Upper Tunga Project.

"The work can be done only during the summer when the water level is low in the Tunga river. The most suitable time to take up the work is from February to May. If we miss the opportunity now, we have to wait for another year for a suitable time," Mr. Kumar said.

Shivaprakash K.M., chief engineer of Upper Bhadra Project, told *The Hindu* that the process to get the clearance was on. The work would be taken up as soon as the clearance was obtained.

Source: The Hindu, p.6, Dec. 20, 2023

CWRC asks to give 3,128 cusecs every day to TN; K'taka says no

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: The Cauvery Water Regulatory Committee (CWRC), which met on Tuesday, recommended Karnataka to release 3,128 cusecs of Cauvery water every day to Tamil Nadu till December 31 and 1,030 cusecs per day for the entire month of January, 2024. Karnataka stuck to its stand that it cannot release any water given 52.84% shortfall in cumulative shortfall to its four reservoirs.

The Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA) which will meet in a day or two is expected to accept the recommendation or modify it before issuing directions to Karnataka. During Tuesday's meeting, representatives of Karnataka argued that since the harvesting of both kuruvai and samba crops in Tamil Nadu was over and Mettur and Bhavani Sagar dams have storage over 50 tmc ft of water, there was no need for the state to release water to Tamil Nadu. They said the inflows into Karnataka's four reservoirs- KRS, Hemavathi, Kabini and Harangi - had materially ceased and there was no expectation of any flows in coming days.

Representatives of Karnataka told the committee that as inflow to the four reservoirs had ceased they cannot release any water

"It leaves Karnataka to manage the requirement of crops, drinking water and industrial needs from the existing storage," they argued while expressing inability to release more water to Tamil Nadu. On its part, Tamil Nadu demanded Karnataka to release 14 tmc ft of water including a backlog of 7.6 tmc ft for the current water year.

Source: The Times of India, p. 4, Dec.20, 2023

Drought gives ray of hope for a record mango yield

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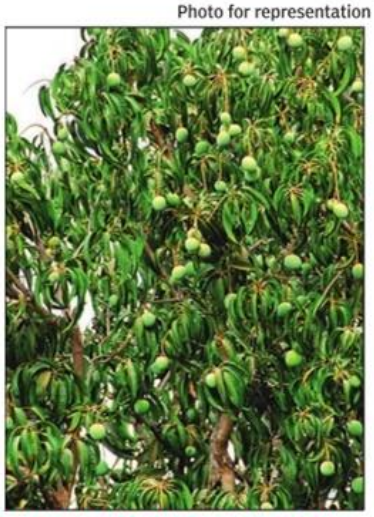
Bengaluru: The severe drought in the state may have induced distress across the farm sector, but has given a ray of hope to mango growers as the prevailing weather condition is seen to be conducive for mango cultivation. The fruit yield is also expected to hit record high this season.

Experts said the upcoming summer may see a bumper harvest of mango if there are no untimely rains in the interim. While the mango crop needs bright sunlight and dry winter weather to grow well, experts said the dry spell being witnessed following three years of excessive rains is ideal at a time when the flowering season has just begun. And they added that 2024 will become an 'on year' (the year when the mango yield is the highest) after three 'off years' when the yield had hit its low.

Mango is grown on around 17 lakh hectares and produces normally around 14 lakh metric tonnes. The yield fell to below 8 lakh tonnes in the 2023 season owing to excessive rains and damp weather coupled with heavy dew. Since a dry spell being witnessed all along this time, the yield is expected to cross 16 lakh tonnes.

Photo for representation



BUMPER CROP ON ITS WAY?

"Normally the 'on year' and 'off year' alternate regularly. Going by this, we should have seen a bumper yield in 2023. But the cycle was disturbed because of excessive rains. We are expecting a reverse trend this time because of the dry weather and mango growers will reap a good harvest if all goes well," said CG Nagaraj, managing director of Karnataka State Mango Development and Marketing Corporation Limited (KSMDMCL).

He said KSMDMCL has called a meeting of the technical committee to issue advisory to mango growers so that the conducive atmosphere is best utilised. While the cultivation is on in all three main mango growing regions including Ramanagar, Kolar and north Karnataka, KSMDMCL will issue guidelines on the usage of fertilisers and pesticides in three months. KV Nagaraj, former chairman of KSMDMCL, said flowering is already being witnessed in Ramanagar from where the first production of mango for the season comes and protection of the crop is imperative at this stage.

The flowering is expected in the Kolar region, which stands number one in terms of fruit production with the coverage of about 46,000 hectares, in mid-January followed by north Karnataka where flowering is expected to start in the last week of January.

"The flowering season is critical as it is important to protect the crop at this stage from pests and the possible dew. So, KSMDMCL will issue guidelines based on the technical committee's recommendation. As we hope that there would not be intermittent rain or cyclonic weather condition till March, the yield will be more than the normal level in 2024," said Nagaraj.

Source: The Times of India, p. 4, Dec.20, 2023

Chicken, egg prices rise; low maize and soya yields could push them up further

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Bengaluru: After a lull in demand during the monsoon season, eggs and chicken are hot in the market as Christmas and New Year's Eve get closer. The increased demand has upped the prices, and poultry breeders and industrialists anticipate a further rise given the low maize and soya yield this harvesting season.

The kharif harvest of maize was low because of scanty and erratic rain. Soya, another important component of bird feed, is also getting dearer after the crop was affected by scanty rain in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

According to the Karnataka Poultry Farmers and Breeders' Association (KPFBA), 60% of the feed that is given to poultry birds is maize, 20% comprises soya, and the rest is a mixture of vitamins, vegetable oil, grains, sunflower extract and so on.

Naveen Pasuparthy, president of KPFBA, told **TOI** 5-6 associations representing the aqua, dairy and poultry farming industries have made continuous representations to the Union ministry of fisheries, animal husbandry and dairying for allowing the import of maize.

"The farmers will begin to sow the crop in January and it will take 120 days before the harvest for us to get fresh produce. Moreover, this is an irrigated crop, not a rain-fed one. So the acreage is bound to be limited. The kharif harvest of maize is 27% lower than that in the previous year, and in just 25 days, prices have increased from Rs 2,100 per tonne to Rs 2,500."

He added that if this trend continues, poultry breeders will face major hurdles to production in February and March. "We've hence requested the central government to consider importing maize. They've been positive in their response so far as their analysis of the situation reportedly matches with our understanding from the fields," Pasuparthy stated.

Sushant Rai, former president of KPFBA, said the price of soya has shot up from Rs 4,600 per tonne to Rs 4,800 in three days.

Hit by ethanol industry

Breeders and industry players also worry the government's push for using maize for ethanol production will make the crop even more scarce for the poultry industry. Rai said the starch and ethanol industries get the best-quality maize, leaving poultry with the leftover stock.

BR Sainath, zonal chairman for Bengaluru's National Egg Coordination Committee (NECC) also confirmed that the cost of raw materials is rising and so is demand, as many are moving from choosing vegetables to eggs because of the former's inflationary nature.

Source: The Times of India, p. 2, Dec.22, 2023

ಬ್ಯಾಡಗಿ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತೆ ಆವಕ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ

ಕಡ್ಡಿ ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿಗೆ ದಾಖಲೆ ದರ

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ವಾರ್ತೆ

ಬ್ಯಾಡಗಿ (ಹಾವೇರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ): ಇಲ್ಲಿನ ಕೃಷಿ ಉತ್ಪನ್ನ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಗೆ ಗುರುವಾರ 13,417 ಕ್ವಿಂಟಲ್ (53,669 ಚೀಲ) ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾರಾಟಕ್ಕೆ ತರಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ನಾಲ್ಕು ಚೀಲ ಕಡ್ಡಿ ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ ₹70,080ರಂತೆ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಬೆಲೆಗೆ ಮಾರಾಟವಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಳೆದ ಗುರುವಾರಕ್ಕಿಂತ ₹5 ಸಾವಿರ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳವಾಗಿದೆ.

ಮೊದಲ ಬಾರಿಗೆ ಕಡ್ಡಿ ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ ದಾಖಲೆಯ ದರದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾರಾಟವಾಗಿದೆ. ಗುಂಟೂರು ತಳಿ ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ ₹19,289ರಂತೆ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಬೆಲೆಗೆ ಮಾರಾಟವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಸ್ಥಿರತೆ ಕಾಯ್ದುಕೊಂಡಿದೆ.

2 ಚೀಲ ಡಬ್ಬಿ ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ ಕ್ವಿಂಟಲ್‌ಗೆ ₹62,399ರಂತೆ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಬೆಲೆಗೆ ಮಾರಾಟವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಕಳೆದ ಸೋಮವಾರಕ್ಕಿಂತ ₹2 ಸಾವಿರ ಇಳಿಕೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಕಳೆದ ಗುರುವಾರ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಗೆ 12,942 ಕ್ವಿಂಟಲ್ (51,765 ಚೀಲ) ಮೆಣಸಿನಕಾಯಿ ಆವಕವಾಗಿತ್ತು. ತೇವಾಂಶ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿರುವ 272 ಲಾಟ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನಮೂದಿಸಿಲ್ಲ.

'ಸರಾಸರಿ ಬೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬ್ಯಾಡಗಿ ಡಬ್ಬಿ ₹43,699, ಕಡ್ಡಿ ₹44,509 ಹಾಗೂ ಗುಂಟೂರು ತಳಿ ₹16,209 ರಂತೆ ಮಾರಾಟವಾಗಿದೆ. ಗುರುವಾರದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಟ್ಟು 292 ಖರೀದಿದಾರರು ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದರು' ಎಂದು ಎಪಿಎಂಸಿ ಮೂಲಗಳು ತಿಳಿಸಿವೆ.

ಗುರುವಾರದ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆ ದರ (₹ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)

ತಳಿ	ಕನಿಷ್ಠ	ಗರಿಷ್ಠ
ಬ್ಯಾಡಗಿ ಕಡ್ಡಿ	3,689	70,080
ಬ್ಯಾಡಗಿ ಡಬ್ಬಿ	3,429	62,399
ಗುಂಟೂರು ತಳಿ	1,629	19,289

Source: Prajavani, p.13, Dec.22, 2023

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Decentralisation

ವಿಶ್ವವಾಣಿ

ಡಿಸಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ನಡೆದ ವಿಡಿಯೊ ಕಾನ್ಫರೆನ್ಸ್ ಕೃಷ್ಣಬೈರೇಗೌಡ ಎಚ್ಚರಿಕೆ |
ಅರ್ಹ ಜನವಸತಿ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳಿಗೆ ಶೀಘ್ರದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಕಂದಾಯ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಘೋಷಿಸಿ

ಪರಿಹಾರ ಸಿಗದಿದ್ದರೆ ಡಿಸಿಗಳೇ ಹೊಣೆ

ವಿಶ್ವವಾಣಿ ಸುದ್ದಿಮನೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಬರ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಎದುರಿಸಲು ಸರಕಾರ ಖಜಾನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುದಾನವಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಸಮಯಕ್ಕೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಹಣ ಸಿಗದಿದ್ದರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೇ ಹೊಣೆ ಎಂದು ಕಂದಾಯ ಸಚಿವ ಕೃಷ್ಣ ಬೈರೇಗೌಡ ಎಚ್ಚರಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ವಿಡಿಯೊ ಕಾನ್ಫರೆನ್ಸ್ ನಡೆಸಿದ ಅವರು, ರೈತರ ಜಮೀನಿನ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣವನ್ನು ಫ್ರೂಟ್ಸ್ ತಂತ್ರಾಂಶದಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸುವಂತೆ ಕಳೆದ ಎರಡು ತಿಂಗಳಿನಿಂದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ನಿರಂತರವಾಗಿ ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಆದರೂ, ಫ್ರೂಟ್ಸ್ ತಂತ್ರಾಂಶದಲ್ಲಿ ರೈತರ ಜಮೀನಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಶೇ.70 ಮೀರಿಲ್ಲ. ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಹೀಗೆ ಮುಂದುವರಿದರೆ ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಅನ್ಯಾಯವಾಗಲಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಆಸಮಾಧಾನ ಹೊರಹಾಕಿದರು.

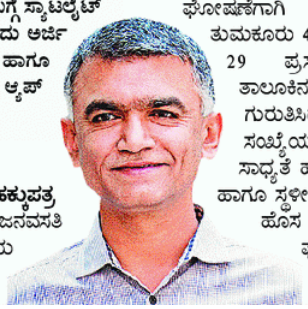
ಇತರೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೋಲಿಸಿದರೆ ತುಮಕೂರು, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ ಹಾಗೂ ಕೋಲಾರದ ಸಾಧನೆ ತೀರಾ ಕಳಪೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಬರ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಹಣವನ್ನು ನೀಡಲು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರಕಾರದ ಸಿದ್ಧವಾಗಿದೆ. ಖಜಾನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹಣವಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಪರಿಹಾರ ಫ್ರೂಟ್ಸ್ ದತ್ತಾಂಶವನ್ನು ಆಧರಿಸಿರುವ ಕಾರಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಮಾಡುವ ಸಣ್ಣ ತಪ್ಪು ರೈತರ ಮೇಲೆ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಬೀರಲಿದೆ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಇನ್ನಾದರೂ ಆಂದೋಲನ ಮಾದರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಶೀಘ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ತಾಲೂಕು, ಹೋಬಳಿ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಸಿ ಎಲ್ಲ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಳ ವೀಕ್ಷಣೆಗೆ ಕಳುಹಿಸಿ. ಡಿ.22ರೊಳಗಾಗಿ ರೈತರ ಜಮೀನಿನ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಫ್ರೂಟ್ಸ್ ದತ್ತಾಂಶದಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ ಎಂದು ನಿರ್ದೇಶನ ನೀಡಿದರು.

ಕಂದಾಯ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಘೋಷಿಸಿ ಹಕ್ಕುಪತ್ರ ನೀಡಿ: ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಜನವಸತಿ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳನ್ನು ಕಂದಾಯ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳನ್ನಾಗಿ ಘೋಷಿಸುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆಯೂ ಚರ್ಚೆ ನಡೆ ಸಲಾಯಿತು. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡಿದ ಸಚಿವರು, ಬಡವರಿಗೆ ಸಹಾಯಮಾಡುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅರ್ಹ ಕಂದಾಯ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳನ್ನು ಶೀಘ್ರ ಘೋಷಿಸಿ ಹಕ್ಕುಪತ್ರ ವಿತರಿಸಿ ಎಂದು ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡಿದರು.

ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿಯಾಗಿ ಹೊಸ ಕಂದಾಯ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳ ಘೋಷಣೆಗಾಗಿ ಕಲಬುರಗಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 174, ತುಮಕೂರು 40, ವಿಜಯನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯಿಂದ 29 ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಪ್ರತಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನಲ್ಲೂ ನಾವು ಗುರುತಿಸಿರುವುದಕ್ಕಿಂತ ಅಧಿಕ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂದಾಯ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳಿರುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿದೆ. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತಹಸೀಲ್ದಾರ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಶಾಸಕರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಚರ್ಚಿಸಿ, ಹೊಸ ಕಂದಾಯ ಗ್ರಾಮಗಳ ಘೋಷಣೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿ ಎಂದು ಸೂಚಿಸಿದರು.

ಬಗರ್ ಹುಕುಂ ಆ್ಯಪ್ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ

ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿರುವ ಬಗರ್ ಹುಕುಂ ಆ್ಯಪ್‌ಅನ್ನು ಸಚಿವ ಕೃಷ್ಣಬೈರೇಗೌಡ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆಗೊಳಿಸಿದರು. ನಮೂನೆ 50, 53, 57ರ ಅಕ್ರಮ-ಸಕ್ರಮ ಯೋಜನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾವಿರಾರು ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳು ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆಯಾಗಿವೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಕೃಷಿಯೇತರ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತೊಡಗಿರುವವರಿಗೂ ಸಾಗುವಳಿ ಚೀಟಿ ನೀಡುವುದು ಆಸಾಧ್ಯ. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ, ಸಾವಿರಾರು ಎಕರೆ ಸರಕಾರಿ ಭೂಮಿ ಅಕ್ರಮ ಸಾಗುವಳಿದಾರರ ಪಾಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಭಾಗಕ್ಕೂ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳೇ ನೇರ ಹೋಗಿ ಕೃಷಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದೆಯೇ? ಎಂದು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವುದು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ತಂತ್ರಾಶದ ಮೂಲಕ ಅಕ್ರಮ ಸಾಗುವಳಿ ಭೂಮಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೃಷಿ ಅಥವಾ ಇನ್ಯಾವುದೇ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸ್ಯಾಟಲೈಟ್ ಇಮೇಜ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆದು ಅರ್ಜಿ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳ ಶೀಘ್ರ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಗೂ ಈ ಆ್ಯಪ್ ಸಹಕಾರಿಯಾಗಲಿದೆ.



ಬರ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಹಣವನ್ನು ನೀಡಲು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರಕಾರದ ಸಿದ್ಧವಾಗಿದೆ. ಪರಿಹಾರ ಫ್ರೂಟ್ಸ್ ದತ್ತಾಂಶವನ್ನು ಆಧರಿಸಿರುವ ಕಾರಣ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಮಾಡುವ ಸಣ್ಣ ತಪ್ಪು ರೈತರ ಮೇಲೆ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಬೀರಲಿದೆ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಇನ್ನಾದರೂ ಆಂದೋಲನ ಮಾದರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ.

- ಕೃಷ್ಣಬೈರೇಗೌಡ ಕಂದಾಯ ಸಚಿವ

Source: Vishwavani, p.8, Dec.19, 2023

ZP/TP elections: Will complete delimitation soon, govt tells High Court

BENGALURU, DHNS: The government on Tuesday informed the high court that the delimitation exercise pertaining to zilla panchayat and taluk panchayat elections will be completed by the end of the day and a draft notification pertaining to reservation of constituencies will be issued in a week's time.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B Varale and Justice Krishna S Dixit disposed of the PIL filed by the State Election Commission (SEC), reserving liberty to initiate appropriate proceedings in case of any breach in the assurance/undertaking given by the government.

At the hearing, Advocate General Shashikiran Shetty submitted that after giving a window period of 10 days for filing objections to the draft notification, the exercise of reservation will be completed two weeks thereafter by way of issuing final reservation notification.

The PIL was filed by the SEC in 2021, challenging the Karnataka Gram Swaraj and Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Act, 2021.

The petition contended that the amendment would delay the taluk and zilla panchayat elections which were already due. The Commission argued that the implementation of the amendment would delay the election process, in view of fresh delimitation exercise.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.3, Dec.20, 2023

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಜನತೆಗೆ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ನಕ್ಷೆ, ಖಾತಾ ವರ್ಗಾವಣೆಯಂಥ ಸೇವೆ ಕೆಲವೇ ಗಂಟೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕೈಗೆ

ಕೇವಲ 12 ಗಂಟೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾತಾ, ಪ್ಲಾನ್ ಲಭ್ಯ!

ನಿ ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್ ಬೆಳ್ಳಿಕಟ್ಟೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರದ ಜನತೆಗೆ ಸೂರು ನೀಡುವ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯಾದ ಬಿಡಿಎದಲ್ಲಿ ಇನ್ನುಮುಂದೆ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ನಕ್ಷೆ, ಖಾತಾ ವರ್ಗಾವಣೆಯಂಥ ಸೇವೆಗಳು ಕೆಲವೇ ಗಂಟೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ದೊರೆಯಲಿವೆ!

ಇದನ್ನು ಅಷ್ಟು ಸುಲಭವಾಗಿ ನಂಬಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ, ಆದರೂ ನಂಬಲೇಬೇಕು. ಏಕೆಂದರೆ, ಇದು ಬಿಡಿಎ ನೂತನ ಆಯುಕ್ತರ ಹೊಸ ಪ್ರಯೋಗ. ಒಂದೊಮ್ಮೆ ಇದು ಯಶಸ್ವಿಯಾದರೆ ಬಿಡಿಎದ ಇನ್ನೂ ಹತ್ತುಹಲವು ಸೇವಾ, ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳು ಕೇವಲ ಗಂಟೆ ಲೆಕ್ಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಒದಗಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಅಂದಹಾಗೆ ನೂತನ ಆಯುಕ್ತರಾದ ಎನ್. ಜಯರಾಮ್ ಅವರು ಬಿಡಿಎ ಚುಕ್ಕಾಣಿ ಹಿಡಿಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದಂತೆ ಆಮೆ ವೇಗದ ಕಡತ ವಿಲೇವಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿಯ ನಿಧಾನ ದ್ರೋಹ ಹಾಗೂ ಸೇವೆ ಬಯಸಿ ಬರುವ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರ ಗೋಳು ನೋಡಿ ಬೇಸತ್ತು ಈ ಹೊಸ ಪ್ರಯೋಗಕ್ಕೆ ಕೈ ಹಾಕಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ಸುತ್ತೋಲೆಯನ್ನೇ ಹೊರಡಿಸಿರುವ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು, ಖಾತಾ ನೀಡುವುದು, ಖಾತಾ ವರ್ಗಾವಣೆ, ಕಟ್ಟಡ ನಕ್ಷೆ ಮಂಜೂರು ಹಾಗೂ ಲೀಸ್ ಮತ್ತು ಸೇಲ್ ಡೀಡ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಸೇಲ್ ಡೀಡ್ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕೇಲವ 24ರಿಂದ 48 ಗಂಟೆಗಳ ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಒದಗಿಸಬೇಕು. ಇದನ್ನು ಪಾಲಿಸದಿದ್ದರೆ, ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನೇ ಹೊಣೆ ಮಾಡಿ ಕೇಲವೇ ಗಂಟೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ವಿರುದ್ಧವೂ ಶಿಸ್ತು ಕ್ರಮಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈ ಮೂಲಕ ಜನರು ಸಣ್ಣ ಕೆಲಸಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಲೆಯುವುದು, ಮಧ್ಯವರ್ತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಲಂಬಿಸುವುದನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪಿಸಲು ಆಯುಕ್ತರು ಈ ಕ್ರಮಕೈಗೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಹಾಗೆ ನೋಡಿದರೆ, ನೂತನ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು ಬಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ಬಿಡಿಎ ಅನುಮೋದಿತ ಖಾಸಗಿ ನಿವೇಶನಗಳ ಖಾತಾಗಳನ್ನು ಮೂರೇ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಹಾಗಿದ್ದ ಮೇಲೆ ಬಿಡಿಎದಿಂದಲೇ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣವಾದ ಬಡಾವಣೆ ನಿವೇಶನಗಳ ಖಾತಾಗಳನ್ನು ಕೇಲವೇ ಗಂಟೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾತಾ ನೀಡಬಹುದಲ್ಲವೇ ಎಂದು ಈ ಪ್ರಯೋಗ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಹಾಗೆ ನೋಡಿದರೆ ಈ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಕಾಲ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಒದಗಿಸಲು 15ರಿಂದ 30 ದಿನಗಳ

> ಜನರು ಸಣ್ಣಪುಟ್ಟ ಕೆಲಸಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಜನರು ಕಚೇರಿಗೆ ಅಲೆಯುವುದು, ಅರ್ಜಿದಾರರ ಅಸಹಾಯಕತೆಯನ್ನು ಮಧ್ಯವರ್ತಿಗಳು ದುರ್ಬಳಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಸುಲಿಗೆ ಮಾಡುವುದನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪಿಸಲು ಬಿಡಿಎ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳು ಕೇಲವೇ ಗಂಟೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಗುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಇದೇರೀತಿ ಇನ್ನೂ ಅನೇಕ ಸುಧಾರಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.
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> -ಎನ್.ಜಯರಾಮ್ ಬಿಡಿಎ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು

ಬದಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಬಿಡಿಎ

ಹಾಗೆ ನೋಡಿದರೆ ಬಿಡಿಎದಲ್ಲಿ ಇನ್ನೂ ಅನೇಕ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು ತ್ವರಿತ ಹಾಗೂ ಸರಳಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಸಿದ್ಧತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ನಡೆದಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಸದ್ಯ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಜನರು, ಅರ್ಕಾವತಿ, ಕೆಂಪೇಗೌಡ, ಶಿವರಾಮಕಾರಂತ ಶೇರಿದಂತೆ ನಾನಾ ಬಡಾವಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹಣ ಪಾವತಿಸಿದರೂ ನಿವೇಶನ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿಲ್ಲ. ಕೆಲವರು ಬಡಾವಣೆಗೆ ಜಮೀನು ನೀಡಿದ್ದಕ್ಕೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ ನೀಡಿ ಎಮದು ಕೇಳಿ ಬರುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅನೇಕರು ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಯಿಂದ ಜಮೀನು ಕೈ ಬಿಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಎನ್‌ಒಸಿ ಕೊಡಿಸಿ ಎನ್ನುವ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊತ್ತು ಬರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಇವುಗಳು ಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಮೆಟ್ಟಲೇರಿವೆ, ಕೆಲವು ವಿಚಾರಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಗೆ ಒಳಪಟ್ಟಿವೆ.

ಹೀಗಾಗಿ ನಿವೇಶನ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಹಾರ ಬಯಸಿ ಬರುವ ಅರ್ಜಿದಾರರಿಗೆ ತಕ್ಷಣದ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಕಷ್ಟ ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳ ಕೇಸುಗಳನ್ನಾಧರಿಸಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇನ್ನುಮುಂದೆ ನಿವೇಶನ ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯಾದ ನಂತರ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗೆ ನಿವೇಶನದ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ದಾಖಲೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಸೀಡಿಯನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಷ್ಟೇ ಅಲ್ಲದೆ, ಅದೆಲ್ಲವನ್ನು ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ಮಾಡಿಸಿ ಡಿಜಿಟಲ್ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ಕಡತಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ದಾಖಲೆಗಳ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕ್ಷಣಮಾತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಪ್ರತಿ ಶುಕ್ರವಾರ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ

ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ತಿರಸ್ಕರಿಸುವುದಾದರೆ, ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಕಾನೂನಾತ್ಮಕ ಕಾರಣಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡಬೇಕು. ಈ ಕೆಲಸಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಜಿದಾರರು ಇನ್ನು ಬಿಡಿಎ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಕಚೇರಿಗೆ ಅಲೆಯಬೇಕಿಲ್ಲ. ಬದಲಾಗಿ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಬಿಡಿಎ ಕಚೇರಿಗಳಲ್ಲೇ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸ ದಾಖಲೆ ಪಡೆಯಬೇಕು. ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ಪ್ರತಿ ಶುಕ್ರವಾರ ಉಪಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಅವರು ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳ ಪ್ರಗತಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ಮಾಡಿ, ವಿಲೇವಾರಿಯಾಗದೆ ಉಳಿದ ಬಾಕಿ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳ ವಿವರ ಪಡೆದು ಅಯುಕ್ತರ ಕಚೇರಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಸುತ್ತೋಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ವರೆಗೂ ಅವಕಾಶವಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಬಿಡಿಎ ಆಡಳತ ಈಗ ಸಕಾಲವನ್ನೂ ಮೀರಿ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ವೇಗವಾಗಿ ಸೇವೆ ನೀಡುವ ಸಿದ್ಧತೆ ನಡೆಸಿದೆ. ಇಷ್ಟೇ ಅಲ್ಲದೆ, ಖಾತಾ, ನಕ್ಷೆ, ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಪತ್ರ, ಡೀಡ್ ಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಪತ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪತ್ರಗಳಂಥ ಅನೇಕ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳ ಸುಲಭ ಲಭ್ಯತೆಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಹಾಗೆಯೇ ಅರ್ಜಿದಾರರು ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯುವ ಮಾರ್ಗ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಧಾನಗಳನ್ನು ಸರಳಗೊಳಿಸುವ ತಯಾರಿ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಯಾವ ಸೇವೆಗೆ ಎಷ್ಟು ಸಮಯ ಬೇಕು?

- ಆಸ್ತಿಗಳ ಲೀಜ್ ಕಮ್ ಸೇಲ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಸೇಲ್ ಡೀಡ್, ನೋಂದಣಿ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪತ್ರ: 12 ಗಂಟೆ
- ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿಗೆ ವರ್ಗಾಯಿತ ಬಡಾವಣೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಬಿಡಿಎ ಅನುಮೋದಿತ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಬಡಾವಣೆಯ ಆಸ್ತಿಗಳ ಖಾತಾ: 48 ಗಂಟೆ
- ಆಸ್ತಿ ಮಾಲೀಕರ ಮರಣ ನಂತರ ಮತ್ತು ಮರಣ ಶಾಸನ (ವಿಲ್) ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾತಾ ವರ್ಗಾವಣೆ: 72 ಗಂಟೆ
- ಬಿಡಿಎ ಅಥವಾ ಅನುಮೋದಿತ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಬಡಾವಣೆಗಳ ಆಸ್ತಿಗಳ ಮಾರಾಟ, ದಾನದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಖಾತಾ ವರ್ಗಾವಣೆ: 48 ಗಂಟೆ
- ಆಸ್ತಿಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ/ಮಾರಾಟ ಒಪ್ಪಂದ ಪತ್ರ, ಶುದ್ಧ ಕ್ರಯ ಪತ್ರಗಳು ಉಪಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ದಿನವೇ
- ಸ್ವಾಧೀನ ಪತ್ರ ನೀಡಿದ ದಿನಾಂಕದಿಂದ ಅರ್ಜಿದಾರರಿಂದ ಕಂದಾಯ ಪಾವತಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಕೇವಲ 48 ಗಂಟೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾತಾ ನೀಡಿಕೆ

Source: Vishwavani, p.2, Dec.21, 2023

ಎಲ್ಲ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಿಡಿಓ ನೇತೃತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್ ಆಯೋಜಿಸಲು ತೀರ್ಮಾನ

ಗೃಹಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಿ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಪರಿಹಾರಕ್ಕೆ 27ರಿಂದ ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್ ಆಯೋಜನೆ

ವಿಶ್ವವಾಣಿ ಸುದ್ದಿಮನೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ಗೃಹಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಹರಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಡಿ.27ರಿಂದ 29 ರವರೆಗೆ ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಯೋಜಿಸಲು ಸರಕಾರ ತೀರ್ಮಾನಿಸಿದೆ.

ಗೃಹಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡರೂ ಸುಮಾರು 2.5 ಲಕ್ಷ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರ್ ಜೋಡಣೆ ಮಾಡದೇ ಇರುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಸುಮಾರು 70,000 ನಿಷ್ಕ್ರಿಯ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರ್ ಜೋಡಣೆ ಮಾಡಿರುವುದು ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ವೇಳೆ ಕಂಡು ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಈ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು ಹೊಸ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆ ತೆರೆಯಲು ಇಚ್ಛಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಜತೆಗೆ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರ್ ಜೋಡಣೆ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ.

ಈ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ನೇತೃತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಯೋಜಿಸಲು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಕುರಿತು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಾನಿಕ್ ಡೆಲಿವರಿ ಆಫ್ ಸಿಟಿಜನ್ ಸರ್ವೀಸಸ್ (ಇಡಿಸಿಎಸ್)ನವರು ಎಸ್ ಎಂಎಸ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಬೇಕು. ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಮಟ್ಟದ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಿ, ಅವರನ್ನು ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಕರೆತರುವ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಬೇಕು. ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್ ಆಯೋಜಿಸುವ ಕುರಿತು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಮಾಧ್ಯಮಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ವ್ಯಾಪಕ ಪ್ರಚಾರ ನೀಡಬೇಕು. ಗೃಹಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಹರಿಸಲು ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಯೋಜಿಸಿ ಯಶಸ್ವಿಗೊಳಿಸುವಂತೆ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸುತ್ತೋಲೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸಿದೆ.

- ಪ್ರತಿ ಗ್ರಾಮ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಂಚಾಯಿತಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ನೇತೃತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಯೋಜಿಸಬೇಕು
- ಗೃಹಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಎಲ್ಲ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಪರಿಹರಿಸಬೇಕು
- ಬಾಪೂಜಿ ಸೇವಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಗಣಕಯಂತ್ರ ನಿರ್ವಾಹಕರು, ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತರು, ಇಡಿಸಿಎಸ್ ತಂಡ ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬೇಕು
- ಇಂಡಿಯಾ ಪೋಸ್ಟ್ ಪೇಮೆಂಟ್ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ನ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು, ಇತರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ಗಳ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳು ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಲ್ಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು

1.17 ಕೋಟಿ ಯಜಮಾನಿಯರು ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದು, ಅವರ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆಗೆ ಪ್ರತಿ ತಿಂಗಳು 2 ಸಾವಿರ ರು. ಡಿಬಿಟ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, 3 ಲಕ್ಷಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆ, ಆಧಾರ್ ಜೋಡಣೆ ಕುರಿತಂತೆ ಗೊಂದಲವಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಸರಕಾರದ ಸಹಾಯಧನ ಲಭಿಸುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಬಗೆಹರಿಸಲು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

– ಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀ ಹೆಬ್ಬಾಳ್ಕರ್
ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಸಚಿವೆ

ಕ್ಯಾಂಪ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳು

- ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರ್ ಜೋಡಣೆ ಮಾಡುವುದು
- ಹೊಸ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರೆದು ಆಧಾರ್ ಜೋಡಣೆ ಮಾಡುವುದು.
- ಇ-ಕೆವೈಸಿ ಅಪ್‌ಡೇಟ್, ಗೃಹಲಕ್ಷ್ಮೀ ಅರ್ಜಿಯ ಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುವುದು
- ಗೃಹಲಕ್ಷ್ಮಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಇತರ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಹರಿಸುವುದು

Source: Vishwavani, p.5, Dec.22, 2023

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ECONOMY

High-powered panel to be formed to study regional imbalances

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday announced that a high-powered committee led by a renowned economic expert of Karnataka would be set up to study regional imbalances again in terms of development.

A high-powered committee led by D.M. Nanjundappa, in its report in 2002, had identified 39 taluks as most backward, 40 as more backward, and 35 as backward. Of the most backward taluks, 26 were in North Karnataka while the Old Mysore region had accounted for 13.

In six months

Announcing the formation of a new high-powered committee, while replying to a debate on the issues related to North Karnataka in the Legislative Assembly on the last day of the winter session of the State legislature in Belagavi, the Chief Minister said the committee would be asked to submit its recommendations within six months.

He pointed out that measures had already been implemented to tackle regional imbalance as per the recommendations of the Nanjundappa committee.

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» PAGE 8

Interest waiver

BELAGAVI
As a drought-relief measure, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday announced a waiver of interest on medium-term and long-term loans availed of by farmers from cooperative banks if they pay up the principal amount. » Page 8

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From Page One

High-powered panel to be formed

The Chief Minister said the ground-level situation, particularly in North Karnataka, had indicated that there were still regional imbalances.

As per the Nanjundappa committee's recommendation, a total of ₹31,000 crore had been spent on backward taluks over eight years from 2007-08. Later, another committee formed by him had put the number of most backward taluks at 40 and funds had been provided for their development, he noted.

Observing that better development of some parts was partially due to the pro-active steps taken by the erstwhile kings of Mysore towards development in their region, the Chief Minister declared that his government would display full commitment in tackling the issue.

He promised to increase the grants for Kalyana Karnataka's development from the present ₹3,000 crore to ₹5,000 crore from next year.

He appealed to all the politicians to desist from raking up the demand for a separate North Karnataka State, by observing that it was not a solution to tackling the backwardness of this region. "Also, it would be a crime against those who sacrificed their lives for the sake of the State's unification," he said.

At the same time, the Chief Minister launched a counter-attack at the Opposition BJP which accused the Congress of being responsible for regional imbalances as it ruled the State for the longest time.

"Who built the dams in north Karnataka?" he shot back at the BJP, indicating that the foundation for development was laid by the Congress. He sought to project the BJP government at the Centre in poor light by stating that the Mahadayi and Mekedatu projects were languishing as the Centre was yet to provide necessary clearances. He took exception to the Centre not releasing the announced funds for the Upper Bhadra project.

Referring to Article 371 J that has helped in providing reservation in jobs and education to those from the backward regions of Hyderabad Karnataka, he said the then Deputy Prime Minister L.K. Advani had opposed the proposal in this regard by the Congress government in Karnataka. However, later, the Congress government at the Centre took the proposal further.

The Opposition BJP staged a walkout expressing dissatisfaction over the Chief Minister's reply.

Source: The Hindu, p.1 & 8, Dec. 16, 2023

Interest waiver on medium-term, long-term coop. loans if farmers pay up the principal

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

In a bid to provide relief to farmers gripped by drought, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday announced a waiver of interest on their medium- and long-term loans availed from cooperative banks if they pay up the principal amount.

The Chief Minister made this announcement while replying to a debate on issues related to North Karnataka on the last day of the 10-day winter session of the State legislature in Belagavi.

Announcing relief: Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar in the Legislative Assembly in Belagavi on Friday.

Counter-attack

Launching a counter-attack at the BJP, which ridiculed him for not announcing any loan waiver scheme, the Chief Minister recalled that the then Chief Minister and BJP leader B.S. Yediyurappa had remarked that he did not have a note printing machine to waive farm loans though loan waiver was part of his party's pre-poll promise.

Taking exception to Mr. Yediyurappa's recent remarks that he would launch a struggle against the government if farm loans were not waived, the Chief Minister sought to know from the veteran BJP leader if he had waived farm loans when he was the Chief Minister.

Pointing out that 14 States in the country were reeling under drought, Mr. Siddaramaiah urged the BJP-led government at the Centre to waive farm loans in these States. Maintaining that he had walked the talk, the Chief Minister told the BJP to learn to keep up its promises.

Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok demanded that the government waive loans of farmers up to ₹2 lakh and provide a drought compensation of ₹25,000 an acre for those whose crops had dried up.

White Paper sought

He demanded a White Paper on the State's finances so that there would be clarity on whether the government would be able to fund it's welfare measures. He also alleged that none of the measures announced for the development of North Karnataka by the Chief Minister in the winter session had a clear financial allocation.

The BJP staged a walkout expressing dissatisfaction that the announcement of schemes without financial support were futile.

Source: The Hindu, p.8, Dec. 16, 2023

SHORT TAKES

10HP power looms will get free power

The state government on Friday clarified that power looms up to 10 HP capacity will be provided with free electricity and generate zero bills. Responding to a question in the assembly, minister for textiles Shivananda Patil said the government has already issued an order. He said, "The government will also offer a discount of Rs 1.25 per unit to power looms with a capacity of more than 10HP and up to 20 HP. The government is also providing capital assistance up to Rs 2 crore for those belonging to SC/STs."

Source: The Times of India, p.4, Dec.16, 2023

Despite Shakti push, BMTC operations continue to be below pre-Covid levels

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Bengaluru: Non-recruitment of staff, especially drivers and conductors, for years has impacted the services provided by road transport corporations though their passenger traffic and revenue have gone up following the launch of the Shakti scheme that provides free travel for women.

For instance, Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) isn't able to optimally utilise its existing fleet because of shortage of staff. The number of services provided in Bengaluru remain lower than that during pre-Covid days.

In the pre-pandemic times, the corporation used to operate 6,185 buses, but currently it is 5,587. At present, BMTC has a fleet size of 6,137 buses, which includes 390 leased electric buses from private operators who provide drivers for the vehicles.

BMTC isn't able to optimally use its fleet because of shortage of staff. Before Covid, the utility used to operate 6,185 buses, but currently the number is 5,587

Owing to various reasons, BMTC could not recruit staff in the past five years. The corporation has 23,163 bus crew members and faces a shortage of 1,857 drivers and conductors.

In the city, 40 lakh passengers rely on buses operated by BMTC. After the introduction of the Shakti scheme, there has been a demand to increase services. An official said: "We're augmenting existing resources to run as many schedules as possible. There has been considerable increase in the number of services before and after the introduction of the Shakti scheme. However, to make optimal utilisation of the fleet size, we need more drivers and conductors. The corporation is on the job of recruiting 2,000 staff in the coming days."

No new buses either

Non-induction of new buses is also a major concern for other corporations.

Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) is facing a shortage of buses and staff. During the pre-Covid times, KSRTC used to operate 8,136 buses; now the number is 7,574. Among the corporations, KSRTC faces an acute shortage of bus crew. There are 24,676 drivers and conductors working in KSRTC, but 3,180 more are needed.

Transport minister Ramalinga Reddy, in his reply to questions raised by legislators at the ongoing legislature session, said RTCs haven't recruited new staff for seven years and barring BMTC, the other three corporations (KSRTC, NWKRTC and KKRTC) have not inducted new buses in the last four years.

The NWKRTC (North Western Karnataka Road Transport Corporation) was operating 4,679 buses prior to the pandemic, but the number dropped to 4,583. However, Kalyana Karnataka Road Transport Corporation (KKRTC) has managed to operate more schedules compared to pre-Covid times. KKRTC now runs 4,395 schedules, an increase of 130.

All the four transport utilities are facing a shortage of 7,062 drivers and conductors. The minister has said the RTCs are already in the process of recruiting drivers and conductors.

Source: The Times of India, p.2, Dec.16, 2023

Crop loan interest to be waived; panel on regional disparity: CM

Industrial clusters to be set up at Belagavi, Dharwad, Vijayapura and Raichur

BELAGAVI, DHNS

On the last day of the Belagavi legislature session and amid protests by the BJP, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday announced measures aimed at North Karnataka, including an interest waiver for crop loans whose principal amount is repaid by farmers.

Siddaramaiah also announced the formation of a new high-power committee to study regional imbalances even as he conceded that development remained lopsided despite expenditure of Rs 32,433 crore to fight backwardness.

To create jobs in North Karnataka, Siddaramaiah said industrial clusters will come up at Belagavi (2,000 acres), Dharwad (3,000 acres), Vijayapura (1,500 acres) and Raichur.

Siddaramaiah made the announcements during his reply to the debate on North Karnataka in the Assembly. He urged lawmakers from the region not to demand a separate statehood. "That will amount to betraying those who fought for the state's unification. Our government is committed to the development of every taluk," he said.

Opposition leader R Ashoka led his BJP MLAs to a walkout accusing the government of making false promises. The BJP demanded a crop loan waiver of up to Rs 2 lakh and a compensation of Rs 25,000 per hectare to drought-hit farmers.

According to Siddaramaiah, the interest waiver will apply to medium-term and long-term crop loans at cooperative banks across the state.

▸ Crop loan, Page 6

Crop loan, from Page 1

The new high-power committee on regional imbalances will be asked to submit its report within six months, Siddaramaiah said. This will be the successor of the D M Nanjundappa Committee which, in its 2002 report, identified 114 out of 175 taluks as backward and recommended funding under a special development plan, which started in 2007.

Siddaramaiah said the government had allocated Rs 46,453 crore against which expenditure was Rs 32,433 crore. "Still, regional imbalances haven't gone," he said.

At Belagavi, a 500-acre foundry cluster will be set up and the government would give "special focus" to attract aerospace-based industries to the district, Siddaramaiah said. The focus in Raichur will be on cotton-based industries, he added.

Siddaramaiah further said that the state government would prepare an action plan to promote tourism across North Karnataka.

Lastly, the government will upgrade the Water and Land Management Institute (WALMI) at Dharwad into a centre of excellence, the CM said.

'All-party delegation'

Siddaramaiah said his government is ready to take an all-party delegation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking drought relief funds and clearances to irrigation projects. "I have asked for an appointment, but haven't received any reply. Why don't you get me an appointment?" he told BJP MLAs.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.1&6, Dec.16, 2023

CM announces a slew of projects for development of NK

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Action plan to promote key tourism destinations in the region, setting up industrial estate on 2,000 acres near Belagavi are among them

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday announced a slew of projects for the development of North Karnataka, including that of preparing a comprehensive action plan for promoting its prominent tourism destinations and developing an industrial estate on 2,000 acres of land near Belagavi.

Making these announcements, hours before the conclusion of the 10-day winter session of the State legislature in Belagavi, the Chief Minister said a foundry cluster would also be set up on 500 acres of land near Belagavi.

Similarly, an FMCG cluster would be set up in Dharwad district with an intention to generate 2,400 jobs. In addition to this, a manufacturing cluster would be set up on 1,500 acres of land in Vijayapura while emphasis would be given to cotton-based industries in the cotton hub of Raichur, he said.

He also announced that the Dharwad-based Water and Land Management Institute would be upgraded as the Centre of Excellence for Water Management. Among other things, the proposed centre would impart water literacy besides creating awareness about ways of handling salinity of soil, he said.

"We will also focus on completing Ballari and Raichur airport projects," he said. He observed that development of backward regions in North Karnataka would help increase the GDP of the State which would further boost the State's growth.

In Council, while Mr. Siddaramaiah was announcing a slew of projects for the development of North Karnataka, BJP members trooped to the Well of the House and staged a dharna demanding that the government announce a special grant of ₹10,000 crore to tackle drought. In addition, it also demanded ₹25,000 per hectare as a relief to farmers affected by drought. The government should waive farm loans up to ₹2 lakh, the BJP demanded.

Adjourned *sine die*

Soon after the Chief Minister concluded his announcements, Chairman Basavaraj Horatti adjourned the House *sine die* even as the BJP members remained in the Well.

The Assembly was also adjourned *sine die*.

Source: The Hindu, p.8, Dec. 16, 2023

Suburban rail project: K-Ride, German bank sign ₹4,552 crore loan agreement

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited (K-Ride) on Friday signed a €500 million (₹4,552 crore) loan and €4.5 million (₹40.96 crore) grant agreement with KfW Development bank, Germany, in New Delhi for the Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP).

According to the press release from K-Ride, this milestone agreement with the German bank will facilitate the invitation of Corridor 1, Corridor 3 and system tenders, further expediting the BSRP.

The flagship BSRP is being implemented by the K-Ride, a joint venture company of the Karnataka Government and the Ministry of Railways, to provide an environment friendly and cost-effective mass rapid transit system in the City. BSRP was sanctioned with the project completion cost of ₹15,767 crore with the loan component of ₹7,438 crore from the multilateral/bilateral financial institutions.

Workers at the construction site of the ongoing Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project — Corridor 2 at Lingarajpuram in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

Source: The Hindu, p.3, Dec. 17, 2023

State plans preferential public procurement policy to fuel growth of start-ups

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka plans to formulate a preferential public procurement policy to help local start-ups, said IT and Biotechnology Minister Priyank Kharge in Belagavi on Saturday.

He was speaking at 'Techceleration 2023', an event organised by the Karnataka Digital Economy Mission to showcase the State's thriving IT, ESDM, and S&T sectors in the Hubballi-Dharwad-Belagavi Cluster.

"Along with our sector-specific ease of doing business initiatives, we are trying to develop a preferential public procurement policy that ensures government support for start-ups with unique intellectual property registered with our start-up cell and if invested and engaged in 'Beyond Bengaluru' initiative of the Government of Karnataka," the Minister said.

Priyank Kharge

State, first customer

For such start-ups, the State government would also become the first customer. "This is a government policy that ensures that your products and services with unique IP can be procured by the government," he added. He said the government understood the journey of entrepreneurs because the government was here to listen, learn, and adapt to meet the needs of the State's dynamic startup ecosystem.

Through this policy, the government was committed to supporting start-ups which were willing to go beyond Bengaluru and deadline for submission of the application would be extended till January 5, 2024, he added.

Commenting on market potential and opportunities for additional job creation in the State, Mr. Kharge said, "We understand that in America, there is a requirement for one million chip designers in the next five years, and we think in India, Karnataka has the potential to address this challenge. Our human resource is highly agile."

Source: The Hindu, p.5, Dec. 17, 2023

Textile sector distress damps wages, sparks worker exodus

The Textiles Committee says in a study that declining exports, flat wages and increased imports adversely affected as many as 2.14 lakh employment opportunities in the sector between 2015 and 2020, which was the pre-COVID-19 period

M. Soundariya Preetha
COIMBATORE

The challenges over the past year at India's textile and apparel sector, the country's second-largest employer with almost 45 million direct jobs, have exposed the vulnerabilities of its workers and the fragile ecosystem they operate in.

The slowdown in the sector has kept wages flat, deprived workers of traditional incentives, pushing arguably lakhs of them into hunting for jobs elsewhere.

While the degree of the impact varies within the sector based on the unit's size, the kinds of textiles they deal with (handloom, power loom, manmade fabric, etc,), there is no comprehensive study indicating the level of stress in the post COVID-19 years. But factory owners and workers *The Hindu* spoke to nationwide, unanimously sought urgent governmental intervention.

Pressed flat: Employees like these women at a textiles exporting unit in Karur say wages have been flat for years. PERIASAMY M

Ghost towns

Electrical posts, factory gates, or tree trunks that used to sport 'tailors wanted'/'workers wanted' boards at Tiruppur, known as India's 't-shirt town', now stand bare. A sweeper at one of the garment factories in the city who took home ₹15,000 as bonus last year received less than a third (₹4,500) this year.

In the nearby weaving centre of Palladam, Velusamy, a power loom weaver, had paid ₹2.5 lakh as bonus to 16 workers and operated 30 looms in 2022. In the last three months, he has had to sell 20 looms, has one worker to man the remaining 10 looms and paid him ₹11,000 as bonus this year. "The workers took ₹7 lakh advance from me and are ready to work to repay the amount. But, I do not have orders to give them jobs," he says.

Sahajan, 32, from West Bengal, was working at a weaving unit at Pongalur. Since he did not receive bonus this year, he moved to another weaving unit. "I want to go back home. I get ₹550 a day for 12 hours of work now. I could get that working as security guard in Bengal and be with my family too," he says.

"There is almost 40% job loss in the garment export units in Tiruppur in the last six months. The (business) owners say they get only 60% work," observes P.R. Natarajan, general secretary of Tirupur District, All India Trade Union Congress.

Garment factories in Bengaluru are short of workers as many have switched to working at shopping malls, and metro rail stations. V.P. Rukmini, President of the Garment Workers' Union, says 90% of workers at garment factories in Karnataka are women. They receive minimum wages and no incentives. They prefer jobs that pay better and "where there is no harassment," she adds.

"Workers who lost their jobs have moved to other sectors," says an exporter in Delhi.

"At least 10 workers who were with me moved to jobs in Gujarat and Telangana," laments Pradeep Natarajan, who operates a textile mill in Coimbatore.

Affecting allied sectors

Such tales abound in textile clusters, especially in the southern States, with distress extending to allied activities. Selvaraj has been operating a mini truck for almost two decades, transporting textile goods at Palladam. His earnings have more than halved from ₹7,000 to ₹3,000 a week in the past year.

Arul (name changed), who rents out his godown to textile producers to store their products is unable to get any occupants. He recently disconnected electricity for his unit, unable to pay ₹37,000 as fixed montly charges.

"I took ₹1 crore loan to buy shuttle-less looms. I had pledged my relative's property. Last month, I moved the loan account to an NBFC pledging my father-in-law's property, because I cannot risk the property of my relative," says Easwaramoorthy.

Reasons for this widespread distress range from loss of orders for garment units, slump in rates for fabric weavers and spinners and an import glut of value added products. The Textiles Committee observes in a study, available on the Ministry of Textiles website, that decline in exports and rise in imports affected 2.14 lakh jobs between 2015 and 2020, in the pre-COVID-19 period.

The industry stares at multi-dimensional challenges: lack of data on the impact of the slowdown post COVID, including those on cottage and micro industries; vast differences in labour profiles and systems between organised and unorganised sectors; migration of workers to better paying jobs if prospects do not improve; and lower labour costs is other textile exporting nations impacting Indian exporters who compete on prices in the global market.

"The industry is so massive that it is difficult to do surveys," said an industry spokesperson, speaking on the condition of anonymity. "A large part of work is done at home and in rural areas and it is difficult to collect data from these places. The Ministry has a portal where migrant workers' details can be registered but it has to be linked to other schemes for better data capture. Moreover, as 90% of the production is in the unorganised sector, there cannot be a uniform approach to address labour conditions."

(This is the second of a four-part series on textile sector. Full report online at: https://bit.ly/TextileWorker)

Source: The Hindu, p.14, Dec. 17, 2023

With wages pending and no work, MGNREGA workers migrate in big numbers

Kumar Buradikatti
KALABURAGI

Amid heated arguments between the Union and State governments over dues payable to the latter under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) and Karnataka's demand for increasing man-days from 100 to 150 because of prevailing drought, rural labourers have launched a letter campaign, addressed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, demanding payment of pending wages and increase in the man-days.

Campaign: MGNREGA workers posting letters to the Prime Minister at a post office in Kalaburagi on Friday, demanding that the latter pay the pending wages and increase the guaranteed wage employment from 100 days to 150. ARUN KULKARNI

Under the aegis of the Grameena Koolikaarmikara Sanghatane (GRAKOOS), which works with rural labourers at the grassroots level, MGNREGA labourers in 16 districts *en masse* wrote letters and dropped them in post boxes on Friday. "The rural labourers are heavily dependent on the MGNREGA as there is little agricultural activity due to drought. The government is neither paying them for the work they have completed nor giving fresh work on demand. Since our repeated requests on both counts went in vain, we have launched the campaign. Labourers have posted letters in the headquarters of 16 districts now. The remaining would continue to post letters in their respective gram panchayats for the next few days," Sharanagouda, a local leader of GRAKOOS, told *The Hindu*.

Extent of dues

The Union government said there are no MGNREGA dues payable to Karnataka in the current financial year. However, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge has made it clear that the Union government is yet to pay ₹468 crore as on December 11, 2023.

The Union government, in response to Lok Sabha member Sumalatha, also claimed that it had not received any request from Karnataka to increase the man-days. Countering this, Mr. Kharge said in the winter session of the State legislature recently that the State wrote to the Centre on September 14 and 16. He said he wrote personally to Union Rural Development Minister Giriraj Singh on September 20 and sent a reminder on October 18, which was, Mr. Kharge claimed, acknowledged by Mr. Singh on October 31.

Meanwhile, MGNREGA labourers in Kalaburagi, Yadgir, Raichur, Koppal, and Ballari districts, contacted by *The Hindu*, were unanimous on two issues – they said they had not received wages for the work they had completed nor had they been provided with work on demand even for 100 days a year as guaranteed by the Act.

Burdened by loans

"My husband and I have only one acre of land where we normally cultivate red gram. It is not enough for us to sustain. With drought this year, the crop is destroyed. The loans we borrowed for the cultivation are on our shoulders. Since we were not paid for the work we did under the job scheme for the last six months, we had to borrow additional loans from the local lenders on inflated interest to survive. The interest is growing and the government is not paying our wages," Neelamma, a labourer from Mahagaon village in Kamalapur taluk of Kalaburagi district, told *The Hindu*. She was among around 30 MGNREGA labourers who posted letters to the Prime Minister from Kalaburagi post office on Friday.

Abhay Kumar, the founder of GRAKOOS, attributes the widespread migration from rural areas in Kalyana Karnataka region to the denial of work and delayed payment of wages under the MGNREGA.

"Drought has left fewer livelihood options in the rural areas of arid Kalyana Karnataka. The job guarantee scheme, if implemented properly, could be a saviour. Unfortunately, the government is showing the least interest in it. As per the MGNREG Act, the government should give jobs to labourers within 15 days of receiving applications. But it is not giving jobs even after six months. Inordinate delay in wage payment is another big issue. So people are now migrating to cities such as Bengaluru in search of work," Mr. Kumar said.

Headed to Bengaluru

Shekhar, an MGNREGA labourer from Wadnalli in Yadgir district, said that 25% of the population in most of the villages have already migrated.

"My father, my mother, and I have been waiting for the payment of back wages for the last two months. Now, we are planning to go to Bengaluru to work as construction labourers. Around 50 families from my village have already left for Bengaluru," Mr. Shekhar said.

Source: The Hindu, p.4, Dec. 18, 2023

422 new e-vehicles hit state roads daily from April to Nov

Up From 302 During 2022-23

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Bengaluru: Registration of new electric vehicles has seen a big increase in Karnataka in the current financial year, with an average 422 new ones hitting the road daily.

From April to November, over 1 lakh electric vehicles were registered in the state. Of these, 90,781 were two-wheelers, 3,463 three-wheelers, and 8,765 four-wheelers.

In the last financial year (2022-23), 1.1 lakh electric vehicles had been registered in the state, on average 302 daily. This year till November, over 2.8 lakh electric vehicles had been registered in the state.

On average, about 4,800 new vehicles, including e-vehicles, are getting registered daily in Karnataka in the current financial year.

Transport commissioner Yogesh AM said: "Over the years, the number of electric vehicles is gradually increasing. Tax exemption for registration of electric vehicles and people shifting to environment-friendly mobility could be factors for increased registration of new electric vehicles. There is a major jump in the number of new two-wheelers hitting the roads."

Photos for representation

GOING THE E-WAY: As of November this year, more than 2.8 lakh electric vehicles were registered across Karnataka

SWITCH TO GREEN MOBILITY

Year	Two-wheelers	Three-wheelers	Four-wheelers	Total
2017-18	97	1,589	236	1,922
2018-19	2,271	2,753	518	5,542
2019-20	6,276	49	449	6,774
2020-21	10,388	403	802	11,593
2021-22	39,382	2,887	1,948	44,217
2022-23	99,465	5,131	5,896	1,10,492
2023-24 (Till Nov)	90,781	3,463	8,765	1,03,009
Total	**2,48,660**	**16,275**	**18,614**	**2,83,549**

Source: Transport department

Data suggests that in the year 2017-18, only 97 electric two-wheelers were registered in the state. The number touched the 10,000-mark in 2020-21. Transport officials are confident that in December (this financial year), it will cross 1-lakh mark.

The official also said that compared to a couple of years ago, multiple brands have entered the market with attractive offers and people purchasing e-scooters is a trend in rural areas, too.

As per the Vahan portal of the ministry of road transport and highways, the highest number of electric vehicles — 18,884 — were registered in the month of May.

No lifetime tax

To accelerate acceptance of electric vehicles, as a promotional measure, the state government has been exempting buyers from paying lifetime tax for registration of such vehicles. However, during the recently held Karnataka legislature session in Belagavi, for the first time, the state government proposed to collect a lifetime tax of 10% on electric cars costing above Rs 20 lakh. But based on the suggestion by the legislators that the move would burden the buyers as well as discourage manufacturers, the state government withdrew the proposal.

"After the lifetime tax of 10% was proposed, legislators suggested that in the interest of promoting the use of electric vehicles the proposal should be withdrawn. The state government took a decision accordingly. The department had made an estimate of generating Rs 27 crore in the current financial year by proposing the lifetime tax," said transport minister Ramalinga Reddy.

Source: The Times of India, p.2, Dec.19, 2023

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ

ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಪಾವತಿಸದಕ್ಕೆ ಬೃಹತ್ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಕ್ರಮ

836 ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೀಗ

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ವಾರ್ತೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಪಾವತಿ ಮಾಡದ 836 ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳಿಗೆ ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಬೀಗ ಹಾಕಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ ವಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಮಳಿಗೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೀಗ ಹಾಕಿದ್ದು, ಪೂರ್ವ ವಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅತಿ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಇದೆ. ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಬಾಕಿ ಉಳಿಸಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದು, ಡಿಮ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ನೋಟಿಸ್ ನೀಡಿದ 30 ದಿನಗಳ ನಂತರವೂ ಪಾವತಿಸದಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಪ್ರಸಕ್ತ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಸ್ತಿ ಸಂಗ್ರಹದಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ 10ರಷ್ಟು ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ ವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ನ.1ರಿಂದ 1.74 ಲಕ್ಷ ಆಸ್ತಿಗಳ ತೆರಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಪುನರ್‌ವಿಮರ್ಶಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಪುನರ್‌ವಿಮರ್ಶೆಯಿಂದಲೇ ಸುಮಾರು ₹400 ಕೋಟಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸುವ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಹೊಂದಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಆಸ್ತಿ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣದ ತಪ್ಪು ಮಾಹಿತಿ, ವಲಯ ಬದಲು ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಲೋಪ ವಿರುವ ಆಸ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಶೋಕಾಸ್ ನೋಟಿಸ್ ಜಾರಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ನ.1ರಿಂದ 12 ಸಾವಿರ ಆಸ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ನೋಟಿಸ್ ನೀಡಿ, 23 ಸಾವಿರಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಆಸ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಡಿಮ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ನೋಟಿಸ್ ಜಾರಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. 233 'ಎ' ಖಾತಾ ಹಾಗೂ 483 'ಬಿ' ಖಾತಾ ಆಸ್ತಿಗಳು ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿ ಬಂದಿವೆ.

'ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳ ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಬಾಕಿಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಸದ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಸತಿ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳ ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಬಾಕಿ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಶೋಕಾಸ್ ನೋಟಿಸ್ ನೀಡಿ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಚರಾಸ್ತಿ (ವಾಹನಗಳು) ಹಾಗೂ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆ ಮುಟ್ಟುಗೋಲು ಹಾಕಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಯೋಜನೆಯೂ ಇದೆ. ಈ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ಗುರಿ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹದ ಜೊತೆಗೆ, ಪುನರ್ ವಿಮರ್ಶೆ ಪೂರ್ಣಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಲು ಯೋಜಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ' ಎಂದು ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಕಂದಾಯ ವಿಭಾಗದ ವಿಶೇಷ ಆಯುಕ್ತ ಮುನೀಶ್ ಮೌದ್ಗಿಲ್ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

'ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ವಲಯದ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳಿಂದಲೂ ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಬಾಕಿ ಬರಬೇಕಿದೆ. ಇದನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಆ ತೆರಿಗೆಯನ್ನೂ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ' ಎಂದರು.

'ಹೊಸದೇನೂ ಇಲ್ಲ'

'ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಕ್ಕೆ ಹೊಸದಾದ ಯಾವುದೇ ಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಕಾಯ್ದೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಆಯ್ಕೆಗಳನ್ನೇ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಮೊದಲು ನೋಟಿಸ್, ಡಿಮ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ನೋಟಿಸ್, ನಂತರ ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೀಗ, ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ ಖಾತೆ ವಶಕ್ಕೆ, ಚರಾಸ್ತಿ, ಸ್ಥಿರಾಸ್ತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಟ್ಟುಗೋಲು ಹಾಕಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ವರ್ಷದ ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಬಾಕಿ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ನಾಗರಿಕರು ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ಯುತವಾಗಿ ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಪಾವತಿಸಿ ನಗರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಸಹಕರಿಸಬೇಕು' ಎಂದು ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಕಂದಾಯ ವಿಭಾಗದ ವಿಶೇಷ ಆಯುಕ್ತ ಮುನೀಶ್ ಮೌದ್ಗಿಲ್ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಪುನರ್‌ವಿಮರ್ಶೆ (ನ.1ರಿಂದ)

- **12,861** ಒಟ್ಟು ಶೋಕಾಸ್ ನೋಟಿಸ್
- **23,868** ಒಟ್ಟು ಡಿಮ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ನೋಟಿಸ್
- **₹400.8** ಕೋಟಿ ಡಿಮ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ನೋಟಿಸ್‌ನಂತೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಮೊತ್ತ

ವಲಯ	ಒಟ್ಟು ಆಸ್ತಿಗಳು	ಶೋಕಾಸ್ ನೋಟಿಸ್ (ನ.1ರಿಂದ)	ಶೋಕಾಸ್ ನೋಟಿಸ್ ಮೊತ್ತ (ಕೋಟಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಡಿಮ್ಯಾಂಡ್ ನೋಟಿಸ್	ಪುನರ್ ವಿಮರ್ಶೆಯಂತೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆ	ಪುನರ್ ವಿಮರ್ಶೆಯಂತೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ	ಆಸ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೀಗ
ಬೊಮ್ಮನಹಳ್ಳಿ	3,05,998	1,882	₹9.21	6,790	₹36.72 ಕೋಟಿ	₹1.82 ಕೋಟಿ	142
ದಾಸರಹಳ್ಳಿ	82,911	395	₹6.48	753	₹16.01 ಕೋಟಿ	₹60.14 ಲಕ್ಷ	44
ಪೂರ್ವ	3,09,231	1,585	₹13.69	2,035	₹37.74 ಕೋಟಿ	₹1.34 ಕೋಟಿ	35
ಮಹದೇವಪುರ	4,00,683	2,273	₹28.84	4,040	₹44.60 ಕೋಟಿ	₹3.82 ಕೋಟಿ	72
ಆರ್.ಆರ್. ನಗರ	2,56,683	1,786	₹18.17	1,080	₹23.03 ಕೋಟಿ	₹1.24 ಕೋಟಿ	130
ದಕ್ಷಿಣ	2,60,291	1,648	₹7.20	2,185	₹33.31 ಕೋಟಿ	₹1.26 ಕೋಟಿ	148
ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ	2,20,172	2,453	₹22.63	5,431	₹202.45 ಕೋಟಿ	₹1.79 ಕೋಟಿ	193
ಯಲಹಂಕ	1,86,394	839	₹27.02	1,554	₹6.93 ಕೋಟಿ	₹1.54 ಕೋಟಿ	72

ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ

- **₹4558** ಕೋಟಿ — 2023-24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಗುರಿ
- **₹3,158** ಕೋಟಿ — 2023ರ ಡಿ.18ರಂತೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ
- **₹2,699** ಕೋಟಿ — 2022ರ ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್ ಅಂತ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ

ಆಸ್ತಿ ತೆರಿಗೆ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ (ಡಿ.18ರಂತೆ)

ವಲಯ	ಗುರಿ (ಕೋಟಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಸಂಗ್ರಹ (ಕೋಟಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ)	ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಲಿಸಿದರೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ (ಶೇಕಡ)
ಮಹದೇವಪುರ	₹1238.00	₹867.85	25.71
ಪೂರ್ವ	₹764.00	₹559.51	11.25
ದಕ್ಷಿಣ	₹624.21	₹456.17	10.43
ಬೊಮ್ಮನಹಳ್ಳಿ	₹501.58	₹340.40	17.39
ಪಶ್ಚಿಮ	₹493.01	₹340.00	15.74
ಯಲಹಂಕ	₹428.71	₹285.08	15.95
ಆರ್.ಆರ್. ನಗರ	₹345.01	₹217.52	17.45
ದಾಸರಹಳ್ಳಿ	₹164.00	₹91.32	16.59

Source: Prajavani, p.2, Dec. 19,2023

ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ದರ ಭಾರಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ

ಆಸ್ತಿ ಖರೀದಿಗೆ ಒಲವು ತೋರಿದ ಶೇ.42 ಬಾಡಿಗೆದಾರರು

■ **ವಿಕ ಸುದ್ದಿಲೋಕ** ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ದರ ವಿಪರೀತ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳವಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದು ನಗರದ ಬಹುತೇಕ ಕಡೆ ಕೇಳಿ ಬರುವ ಮಾತು. ಇದನ್ನು ರಿಯಾಲ್ಟಿಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವರದಿ ದೃಢಪಡಿಸಿದೆ.

ರಿಯಾಲ್ಟಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ

ಮುಂಬಯಿ ಮತ್ತು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಒಂದೇ ತೆರನಾಗಿ ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ದರ ಏರಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ಕಾಣುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಮಾಲೀಕರು ಶೇ.7ರಿಂದ 30ರಷ್ಟು ಬಾಡಿಗೆಯನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಳಗೊಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎಂದು 'ನೋ ಬ್ರೋಕರ್-ರಿಯಲ್ ಎಸ್ಟೇಟ್ ವರದಿ 2023' ಹೇಳಿದೆ.

ವರದಿ ಪ್ರಕಾರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ.52ರಷ್ಟು ಭೂಮಾಲೀಕರು ಬಾಡಿಗೆಯ ಆದಾಯವನ್ನೇ ಅವಲಂಬಿಸಿರುವುದು ಕಂಡು ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ಏರಿಕೆ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ.42ರಷ್ಟು ಬಾಡಿಗೆದಾರರು ಆಸ್ತಿ ಖರೀದಿಸಲು ಮುಂದಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ನಗರದಾದ್ಯಂತ ಮೆಟ್ರೊ ಜಾಲ ವಿಸ್ತರಣೆಯಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಕಾರಿಡಾರ್ ಉದ್ದಕ್ಕೂ ಮನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳದ ಕುರಿತು, ನೋಬ್ರೋಕರ್ ಸಹ-ಸಂಸ್ಥಾಪಕ ಸೌರಭ್ ಗಾರ್ಗ್ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, "ಕೋವಿಡ್-19 ಸಾಂಕ್ರಾಮಿಕ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ರಿಯಾಲ್ಟಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಸ್ಥಗಿತವು ಆಸ್ತಿಗಳ ಪೂರೈಕೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಬೀರಿತು. ಜನರು ನಗರಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರವೇಶಿಸುತ್ತಲೇ ಇರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ ಸ್ಥಳಾವಕಾಶ ಇದ್ದಷ್ಟೇ ಇರುವುದರಿಂದ ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. 2023ರಲ್ಲಿ, ಭಾರತೀಯ ರಿಯಲ್ ಎಸ್ಟೇಟ್ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರವು ಆಸ್ತಿ ಖರೀದಿಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವೇಗ ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದೆ," ಎಂದರು.

ಮೆಟ್ರೊ ನಗರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಜನರು ಗೇಟೆಡ್ ಕಮ್ಯುನಿಟಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮನೆ ಅಥವಾ ಫ್ಲ್ಯಾಟ್ ಹೊಂದಲು ಬಯಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮೀಕ್ಷೆಗೆ ಒಳಪಡಿಸಿದ ಶೇ.63 ಮಂದಿ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ಮನೆ ಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಬಯಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಉತ್ತರ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಗಮನಾರ್ಹ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗೆ ಒಳಗಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ರಿಯಲ್ ಎಸ್ಟೇಟ್ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಯ ಕೇಂದ್ರಬಿಂದುವಾಗಿ ಹೊರಹೊಮ್ಮುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಬಾಗಲೂರು ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಕೆಐಡಿಬಿ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಪಾತ್ರ ವಹಿಸಿದೆ ಎಂದು ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವರಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಜನರು ಏನು ಇಷ್ಟಪಡುತ್ತಾರೆ ?

84% ಭೂಮಾಲೀಕರು ಕುಟುಂಬಕ್ಕೆ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡುತ್ತಾರೆ

84% ಕೆಲಸದ ಸ್ಥಳಕ್ಕೆ ಹತ್ತಿರ ವಿರುವ ಬಾಗವನ್ನು ಬಯಸುವರು

30% ಜನರು ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳದ ಕಾರಣ ಹೂಡಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಬಯಸುತ್ತಾರೆ

55% ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ಮನೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಮೊದಲು ವಾಸ್ತು ಪರಿತೀಲಿಸುವವರು

ಮನೆ ಖರೀದಿದಾರರು ಆಸ್ತಿ ಖರೀದಿಸುವ ಸ್ಥಳಗಳು

ಉತ್ತಮ ಸಾಧನೆ ತೋರಿರುವ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳು

ಹೆಬ್ಬಾಳ	ವರ್ತೂರು	ಬೆಳ್ಳಂದೂರು	ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಾನಿಕ್ಸ್ ಸಿಟಿ ಹಂತ 1	ನೆಲಮಂಗಲ
27%	24%	20%	20%	19%

ಮನೆ ಬಾಡಿಗೆಗೆ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಜನಪ್ರಿಯ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳು: ವರ್ತೂರು, ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಾನಿಕ್ಸ್ ಸಿಟಿ ಹಂತ 1, ಹರಳೂರು, ಚಿಕ್ಕನಹಳ್ಳಿ, ವೈಟ್‌ಫೀಲ್ಡ್

ಕಳಪೆ ಸಾಧನೆ ತೋರಿರುವ ಪ್ರದೇಶಗಳು

ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ನಗರ	ಬಸವನಗುಡಿ	ಕುಮಾರಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಲೇಔಟ್	ಆರ್.ಟಿ ನಗರ	ಅಕ್ಷಯ ನಗರ
00%	01%	01%	02%	02%

Source: Vijayakarnataka, p.10, Dec.20, 2023

States can borrow an extra ₹2 lakh crore this fiscal year

Centre allows 22 States to raise additional borrowings of about ₹61,000 cr. for meeting pension liabilities by NPS contributions; States can also raise ₹1.43 lakh cr. tied to power sector reforms

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

States may be able to tap about ₹2.04 lakh crore as additional borrowings over their net borrowing limits for the year, the Finance Ministry indicated on Tuesday.

The Centre had allowed 22 States to raise additional borrowings of almost ₹61,000 crore this year on top of their net borrowing ceilings of 3% of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), as of October 27, the Ministry said .

Borrowing leeway

States may be able to borrow about ₹2.04 lakh cr. over their net borrowing limits for the year, Finance Ministry indicates

- Govt. had allowed 22 States to borrow almost ₹61,000 crore on top of net borrowing ceilings of 3% of GSDP, as of October 27
- Fifteenth Finance Commission mooted additional borrowing space of 0.5% of States' GSDP as performance-based incentive for power sector reforms

The extra borrowing ceiling was granted to States who met their pension liabilities by making required contributions to the National Pension System (NPS), which oversees the retirement savings of government employees since 2004.

Moreover, States are eligible to raise a little more than ₹1.43 lakh crore this year, based on the recommendations of the Ministry of Power.

This is linked to the Fifteenth Finance Commission's (FFC) suggestion to grant States an additional borrowing space of 0.5% of GSDP as a performance-based incentive for carrying out reforms in the power sector that improve operational and economic efficiency at the State level.

Source: The Hindu, p.15, Dec. 20, 2023

The resource allocation puzzle

The influence of population size on the distribution of resources to states should be neutralised

V VENKATESWARA RAO

Most of the important revenue-generating taxes, such as income tax, customs duty, and excise duty, fall under the Union list of Schedule 7 of the Constitution of India. This has led states to depend on the Centre for financial resources. One of the vexed problems in India's federal polity is the recurring complaints by several states, particularly southern states, about unfair treatment in resource allocation by the Centre.

The revenue gap, defined as states' revenue expenditure minus their own tax revenue, was below 6% between 2005–06 and 2013–14 but jumped to 8% during 2017–18 and 2018–19. So, what is the extent to which tax devolution by the Centre helps to fill up the states' revenue gaps? The tax devolution by the Centre as a percentage of GDP has increased from 2.8% in the late 1980s to 4% of GDP in recent times. Tax devolution or revenue devolution by the Centre helped to fill up the states' revenue gap by about 33% to 38% during the award periods of the 9th to 11th Finance Commissions.

Uttar Pradesh, with a population of 23.15 crore, surpasses the population of many countries. In 2022–23, UP's GSDP was Rs 20.48 trillion, contributing nearly 7.52% to India's nominal GDP (Rs 272.41 trillion). The state's economy is the third largest among all Indian states, with an estimated expenditure (excluding debt repayment) of Rs 5.83 lakh crore in 2022–23.

The adoption of 2011 Census data as the base population by the 14th and 15th Finance Commissions, as opposed to 1971 Census data earlier, has amplified complaints about resource devolution. Southern states had stabilised their populations in line with policy demands. As per the 15th Finance Commission, UP's resource allocation ratio stands at 17.94%, while its contribution to the national GDP (and to the national exchequer) is less than 10%.

The southern states, with a higher contribution to the national exchequer and lower allocation ratios, may not have much complaint about some of their money being routed to the poorer states for better healthcare, education, and basic amenities. But the glaring problem in the resource allocation is that UP is cornering a lion's share of resources by virtue of its population, which seems unfair to other states.

The resource devolution criteria assign 15% weightage to population, with the remaining 85% distributed among factors like area, ecology, income distance, fiscal efforts, and demographic performance. The factors listed above are calculated for each state and then scaled again by that state's population to arrive at the final allocation share. A state's population has a non-linear effect on the eventual allocation ratio. In other words, since multiple factors are scaled by population, the impact of population on the end ratio becomes almost exponential.

States like Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Uttarakhand share similarities with UP but receive proportionately lower resource allocation ratios. A large 45% of the total weightage is assigned to "income distance" in the resource allocation criterion. The income distance of a state is determined by comparing its average per capita GSDP over three years to that of Haryana, which is considered a prosperous state. This income distance is scaled by the 2011 population of each state. The end result makes income distance a metric that is heavily correlated to the population of 2011. Hence, states with similar "income distance" as that of UP do not get the same resource devolution as UP. The state with the highest population ends up getting an outsized share in resource allocation.

Another state that benefits disproportionately from the exponential effect of population on allocation ratios is Maharashtra. As the second-most populous state, Maharashtra has avoided the fate of other industrialised and developed states like Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka, which have experienced a significant reduction in their share of resource devolution.

Populous or large states corner higher resources even when compared to other states with similar development metrics. A useful way to understand this problem is to look at the allocation ratios of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh—states carved out of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh, respectively. The development metrics of Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh are either at par or worse than their parent states. But they have negative residuals (resource allocation/budget expenditure vis-à-vis state GSDP) compared to their parent states.

The exponential impact of a state's population on resource allocation needs to be neutralised. The solution could be either imposing a cap on the population size of a state in the resource allocation criteria or creating smaller states from larger ones.

(The writer is a retired corporate professional)

Source: Deccan Herald, p.8, Dec.21, 2023

State govt. to give additional ₹3.5 lakh per house under PM Awas Yojana

While earlier beneficiaries had to pay ₹4.5 lakh under the scheme, they will now have to pay ₹1 lakh

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In a bid to boost housing for the poor, the State government on Thursday decided to provide additional financial assistance of ₹3.5 lakh per house being built under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. About 1.80 lakh houses allotted between 2015 and 2018 are stuck at various stages of construction as beneficiaries were unable to pay their share.

While the Cabinet that met here on Thursday approved ₹500 crore to immediately complete about 48,700 homes that are nearing completion, the rest of the money would be released in stages. "While about 1.80 lakh homes had been allotted, they could not be completed as the beneficiaries failed to pay their share of ₹4.5 lakh. Some have paid varying amounts, but not exceeding a total of ₹1 lakh. Since 2018, not one house could be sanctioned," Housing Minister B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan told pressmen here after the Cabinet meeting.

Around 1.8 lakh houses allotted between 2015 and 2018 under PM Awas Yojana are stuck at various stages of construction as beneficiaries are unable to pay their share. FILE PHOTO

"In fact, while the beneficiaries had to pay a total of about ₹6,691 crore, a total of ₹110 crore had been received. While earlier beneficiaries had to pay ₹4.5 lakh, they will now have to pay ₹1 lakh. The government will now fund the remaining ₹3.35 lakh besides the ₹1.25 lakh given for general and ₹2 lakh for SC/ST families as financial assistance," he said. He added that over the next two years, the government intends to complete and hand over 1.80 lakh homes.

The Minister also said that the Centre, whose share in the housing scheme is ₹1.5 lakh, took back ₹1.32 lakh as GST charged at the rate of 18%. "The Chief Minister will write to the Centre seeking waiver of GST on housing for the poor," he said.

Illegally parked funds

Among other decisions taken by the Cabinet was studying and framing policy to identify government funds that are parked illegally outside the treasury by various departments. According to Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil, the Karnataka Irrigation Rules, 1965, will be amended to increase the royalty on water supplied to industries through lakes, canals, or reservoirs from the existing ₹50,000 to ₹3 lakh per mcft. The Cabinet also discussed having the joint session of the legislature and Budget session during February, dates of which would be announced later, he added.

Mr. Patil said that the government will now spend ₹120 crore to ensure daily supply of nutritious food to 11 tribes found in eight districts in the State. The tribes that have been identified for the scheme are Koraga, Jenukuruba, Soliga, Erava, Kadukuruba, Malekudiya, Siddi, Hasalaru, Goudalu, Gonda, and Bettakuruba.

Source: The Hindu, p. 8, Dec. 22, 2023

Govt slashes beneficiary share for housing scheme

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: In a significant move aimed at aiding the urban poor, the state government has decided to reduce the beneficiary share of the Pradhana Mantri Awaas Yojane by Rs 3.5 lakh. Currently, beneficiaries contribute Rs 4.5 lakh, while the state and Centre contribute Rs 1.5 lakh each. The cost of a house under the scheme is Rs 7.5 lakh.

CABINET MEETING

The state cabinet approved the reduction, lowering the beneficiary share to just Rs 1 lakh, with the state covering the remaining Rs 3.5 lakh. Housing minister **BZ Zameer Ahmed Khan** said this decision was prompted by the realisation that beneficiaries were struggling with the hefty contribution, as evidenced by the delay in completing the 1.8 lakh houses sanctioned between 2015 and 2018. The minister said that the centre gives Rs 1.5 lakh subsidy per house under the PMAY but collects Rs 1.32 lakh from each house by way of GST at 18%. "It is like giving from one hand and snatching with another. So, we are going to write to the Centre asking bit to waive GST being levied on housing schemes," he said.

Khan said there will be a burden of Rs 5,500 crore on the state exchequer due to this move, to be released in instalments starting with Rs 500 crore. Approximately 48,763 houses are expected to be completed in February if the initial instalment is released promptly.

Chief minister authorised to form three cabinet sub-committees

Among other decisions taken by the cabinet were authorising the CM to constitute three cabinet sub-committees: For Covid management, to study and frame law policy and to identify government funds that are parked illegally outside the treasury by various departments.

Parliamentary affairs minister HK Patil said the Karnataka Irrigation Rules, 1965 will be amended to increase the royalty on water supplied to industries through lakes, canals or reservoirs from Rs 50,000 to Rs 3 lakh per mcft. The cabinet also discussed holding the joint session of the legislature and budget session during February, dates of which will be announced later, he added.

Source: The Times of India, p. 4, Dec. 22, 2023

Fifth 'guarantee' of Cong. set for launch

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The fifth and final guarantee of the Congress government is set for launch, with registration for Yuva Nidhi scheme beginning on December 26 and the Direct Benefit Transfer being rolled out on Vivekananda Jayanti on January 12 at a function in Shivamogga.

Yuva Nidhi, which provides financial assistance to unemployed youth, will be given based on a monthly self-declaration by beneficiaries, said Minister Sharan Prakash Patil. The State government has mapped 5.29 lakh graduates and diploma holders to be eligible to apply.

FULL REPORT ON
» PAGE 8

Continued...

Yuva Nidhi registration to be launched in State on Dec. 26

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Congress government will launch on December 26 the registration for Yuvanidhi, its fifth 'guarantee' scheme that will provide financial assistance to unemployed youth, based on a monthly self-declaration. Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) will be rolled out on Vivekananda Jayanti on January 12 at a public event in Shivamogga.

The State government has mapped about 5.29 lakh graduates and diploma-holders who have passed out during the academic year 2022-23 to be eligible to apply for the scheme that is estimated to cost about ₹250 crore during this financial year. The launch of Yuvanidhi will also mark the implementation of all five guarantees given by the Congress before 2023 Assembly polls.

About 4.81 lakh graduates and about 48,100 diploma holders will be passing out in 2022-23. The government is estimating that the cost of implementing the guarantees will go up to ₹1,250 crore in the next financial year, and will increase to ₹2,500 crore the following year.

The scheme entails monthly financial assistance of ₹3,000 to graduates and postgraduates, and ₹1,500 for diploma-holders who have not found employment six months after graduating. Those who are domicile of Karnataka for a minimum of six years and who have passed out in 2022-23 are eligible. Beneficiaries will receive financial assistance for two years.

Candidates who are self-employed, continuing higher education, and those employed in government or government-aided institutions and in the private sector are not eligible.

"Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar will take part in the event to launch registration in Bengaluru on December 26," Medical Education and Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood Minister Sharan Prakash Patil told reporters in Bengaluru on Thursday.

"We have trust in our youngsters. There is no need to be cynical about registration for the scheme. DBT payment will be based on monthly self-declaration. We are also aware that 100% physical verification is not possible, and we will go for 5% random checking," the Minister said in response to concerns of fraud.

Registration can be done through Grama One, Karnataka One, Bengaluru One, Bapuji Seva Kendra and Sevasindhu portal free of cost. Among the documents required are SSLC and PU marks card, ration card and employment registration card.

Source: The Hindu, p.1& 8, Dec. 22, 2023

Economists push for steep hike in tax on tobacco products

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With consumption of tobacco products claiming the lives of over 13 lakh people in the country every year, economists and health experts suggested a steep increase in the tax rates on tobacco products to disincentivise consumers from purchasing them.

Currently, the Centre imposes 53% tax on cigarettes, 16% on beedi, and 64% on smokeless-tobacco products. Taxes on tobacco products have largely remained unchanged in the post-GST regime. "With Indian people largely price sensitive," they suggested hike in taxes.

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao participating in a workshop on tobacco taxes at ISEC, Bengaluru, on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

'Health tax'

In his remarks at the "Consultation workshop on tobacco taxes: a tool for health and economic gains" at the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru, Health and Family Welfare Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said increase of "health tax" or excise tax on tobacco is one of the most effective tools for reducing tobacco consumption". The department would strictly enforce a ban of sale of tobacco products within 100 metres radius of educational institutions in the State.

Economists S. Madheswaran, ISEC; Rijo M. John of Rajagiri College, Kochi; public health experts Narender Kumar, principal consultant, National Policy, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids (CTFK), New Delhi; and Upendra Bhojani, director, Institute of Public Health, Bengaluru, said that the nexus between various stakeholders and conflicting priorities of various Central Ministers led to stagnation of taxes in the post-GST regime.

They said that India has one of the lowest prices for tobacco products and there is a need to increase taxes. The Parliament Standing Committee on Health in its 139 report (2022) too recommended a hike in taxes, they said. They proposed a tax rate of 75% each on cigarettes and smokeless tobacco and 63% on beedi. More than 40 countries have levied 75% taxes on tobacco to discourage people from its consumption.

Statistics

Mr. Madheswaran said India has close to 30 crore tobacco users - 20 crore smokeless tobacco users and 10 crore smokers - which is 28.6% of the population.

The annual economic costs from all tobacco products for the population aged above 35 was estimated at ₹1,773.4 billion in the year 2017 amounting to 1.04% of India's GDP. "It is found that for every ₹100 that was received as excise taxes from tobacco products, ₹816 of costs is imposed on society through the consumption of tobacco and spending on tobacco use-induced diseases. Tobacco use is also known to impoverish 15 million Indians every year," Mr. Madheswaran said.

Mr. Narender Kumar said reduction in the consumption of tobacco products would increase well-being of the people and would increase economic productivity and demographic dividend to reach the target of a $5 trillion economy in the next five years as envisaged by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It would also achieve the goal of the Swachh Bharat Mission.

Source: The Hindu, p. 8, Dec. 22, 2023

Gruha Lakshmi: 3-day camp to be held from Dec. 27 to resolve issues

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A three-day camp will be organised at all village panchayats from December 27 to resolve issues related to the guarantee scheme Gruha Lakshmi. The scheme, which was launched on July 19 this year, has so far enrolled 1.17 lakh women heads of families for monthly disbursement of ₹2,000.

A release stated that about 1.5 lakh beneficiaries were yet to link their bank accounts with their Aadhaar numbers. Similarly, about 70,000 beneficiaries had linked their Aadhaar with bank accounts that were not in operation. There was a dire need to link bank accounts with Aadhaar for smooth transfer of money through direct beneficiary transfer scheme. Following this Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had instructed the authorities to hold panchayat-level camps, which will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on those days.

The camps, which would be presided by Panchayat Development Officers, and attended byofficials, including Bapuji Service Centres' managers and Electronic Delivery of Citizens Services teams besides India Post Payment Bank representatives, will resolve all the technical issues related to the scheme.

Source: The Hindu, p. 8, Dec. 22, 2023

₹2L insurance for paper vendors & gig workers

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Bengaluru: Nearly three months after announcing an insurance scheme for newspaper vendors and platform-based gig-economy workers across Karnataka, the state labour department on Wednesday ordered labour commissioners and labour inspectors in all districts to start enrolment of beneficiaries for the scheme that provides insurance cover of up to Rs 2 lakh.

The department has asked beneficiaries to enrol on the Union government's 'e-Shram' portal under the 'Newspaper Boy' category, bringing cheer to the thousands fighting for the cover for several years. The state has more than 40,000 vendors, and 3,000 of them have valid ID cards. There are more than 2 lakh gig workers in the state.

ENROLMENT STARTS

- K'taka **govt asks labour dept to start enrolment** of newspaper vendors and gig workers for insurance scheme
- Beneficiaries will get **₹2L insurance in case of death** & up to **₹2L in case of injuries or permanent disability**
- K'taka has **40k+ vendors and 3k of them have valid IDs.** There are **2L+ gig workers**

▶**Enrolment plans, P 3**

Continued.....

Enrolment plans after nat'l vendors' meet

▶ Continued from page 1

The department has published guidelines and circulated them among the beneficiary groups.

"The government has come up with a dedicated application on the Seva Sindhu portal to facilitate registration of platform-based gig workers. Similarly, newspaper vendors will be registered on the Centre's e-Shram portal. We've directed district officials to ensure registration of all eligible beneficiaries in large numbers," HN Gopalakrishna, commissioner, labour department, said in his order.

As per the guidelines, newspaper vendor must be in the 16-59 age group and a citizen of Karnataka. Vendors paying income tax or availing ESI or EPF facilities are not eligible for the scheme. Under the scheme, beneficiaries will get an insurance of Rs 2 lakh in case of death and up to Rs 2 lakh in case of injuries or permanent disability and reimbursement of hospital expenses up to Rs 1 lakh.

Karnataka State Newspapers Vendors' Federation said the government's decision is a result of years of struggle. K Shambhulinga, president, said, "Now, the challenge is in identifying beneficiaries. We'll hold a national convention on December 24 in Tumakuru to chalk out enrolment plans."

Source: The Times of India, p. 1&3, Dec. 22, 2023

IT SECTOR TO COME UNDER THE LABOUR DEPT'S AMBIT

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

ALLEGED unfair trade practices in the information technology (IT)/information technology enabled services (ITeS) sector have led to the State Government to contemplate bringing companies in this segment in Karnataka under the ambit of state labour department.

Several cases of alleged unfair practices in several IT/ITeS companies, like arbitrary termination, ID blockage, mass retrenchment, sexual harassment, and increase in working hours, have come to the notice of the labour department, said Additional Labour Commissioner Dr G Manjunath, who pointed out that they have referred those cases to the labour and industrial courts.

The IT/ITeS firms have been given an exemption from the Karnataka Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act 1946 over many years as they were considered 'sunrise industries'. It was extended for five years on May 21, 2019. But now, the government is thinking of not continuing the same and bringing those companies under the department's purview to protect the interests of those working in such companies.

In Karnataka, nearly 18 lakh people work in 8,785 IT/ITES firms. Post-Covid, many such cases of unfair labour practice have been registered with the department and it is necessary to enforce the Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act 1946 to effectively resolve such grievances and provide job security to those working in the sector, the officer said. P4

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ADDITIONAL Labour Commissioner Dr G Manjunath said that as per the directions of Labour Minister Santosh Lad, they will hold consultations with the stakeholders as the government is contemplating discontinuing the exemption.

Karnataka State IT/ITeS Employees Union General Secretary Sooraj Nidiyanga termed it as a positive step as it would help employees working in the sector. The association, which has 10,000 members, has been fighting against the exemption given to the sector, he said.

Source: The New Indian Express, p. 1&4, Dec. 22, 2023

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EDUCATION

K'taka's MBBS seats highest, medical colleges 2nd in India

11,745 Were Up For Grabs In 2023-24

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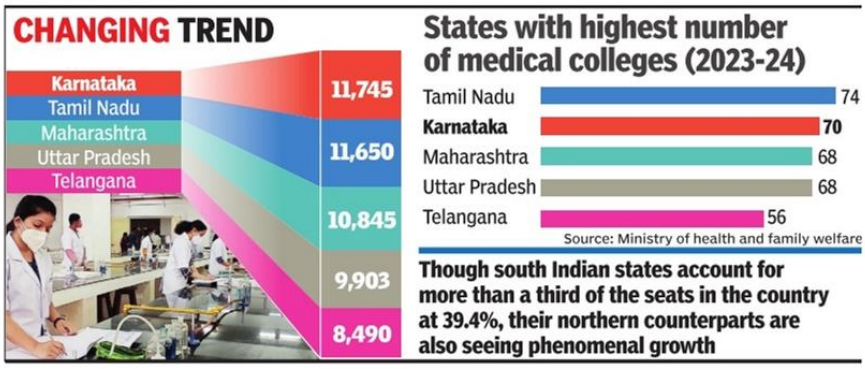

Bengaluru: Karnataka had the highest number of MBBS seats in the country in 2023-24. In fact, the state had the same distinction even 11 years ago in 2013-14. However, Karnataka's distinction as a pre-eminent medical hub drawing students from across the country may be under threat given the stupendous increase in the number of MBBS seats in north Indian states.

According to data from the health and family welfare ministry, 11,745 MBBS seats were up for grabs in 2023-24, an increase from 6,755 in 2013-14. Tamil Nadu with 6,215 seats in 2013-14 and 11,650 in 2023-24 was close a second to Karnataka.

However, Tamil Nadu had the highest number of medical colleges in 2023-24 at 74 and is the second highest in 2013-14 at 45. Karnataka, which had the highest number (46) of medical colleges in the country in 2013-14, was second (70 colleges) 11 years later.

Though south Indian states account for more than a third of the seats in the country at 39.4%, their northern counterparts are seeing phenomenal growth. Uttar Pradesh, for instance, which had about 200 seats in 2013-14, now has 9,903, and tops the growth chart with a whopping 4851% increase. States such as Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan too commanded a growth of more than 200%.

The growth rate of medical seats in UP dwarfs that of Karnataka (73.8%) and Tamil Nadu (87.4%). In fact, bigger and populous states are likely to get more seats given the move, now put on hold for a year, by the National Medical Commission to link sanctioning of new colleges and seats to the population of the state concerned. "There might be some effect, especially with respect to private colleges, where 60% seats are open even to students from outside Karnataka. However, established private colleges will be a top choice for students from across the country and Karnataka has several of them. New colleges may be hit in the process. But there is also the possibility of less preferred colleges reducing their fee, to attract students," said Dr Ravindranath KS, former vice-chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS).

There are 48 private and 22 government medical colleges in Karnataka.

Experts also point out that the race to start new medical colleges by the states is to ensure that the benefits do percolate down to districts where healthcare infrastructure is poor.

Dr Chandrashekar Shetty, former vice-chancellor of RGUHS, told **TOI:** "There is also this understanding that institutes in backward districts will help percolate the doctors in those areas, but that is not happening over the years." He cautioned against increasing medical education infrastructure in different districts without staff and proper clinical material.

Under a centrally sponsored scheme announced in 2018, the ministry of health and family welfare said it is looking to establish new medical colleges attached with existing district/referral hospitals in underserved areas of the country. UP has got about 27 medical colleges in the list. "Karnataka got 18," said Dr S Sacchidanand, former VC of RGUHS.

According to him, the attempts to increase the number of doctors will reach a saturation point in the years to come, with the country on the verge of reaching 1:750 doctor-patient ratio.

Source: The Times of India, p.5, Dec.16, 2023

Unsafe havens: Survey flags 19 BBMP schools as 'dilapidated'

Heads of the institutions urge civic body to raze structures

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

A recent survey by the BBMP's Quality Assurance Cell has uncovered alarming conditions in 19 schools and colleges run by the corporation across the city.

The survey was prompted by the collapse of a 50-year-old nursery school in Shivajinagar on November 27, just hours before 75 students arrived for classes.

This served as a wake-up call, revealing issues ranging from multiple cracks in the walls to leakages on rooftops during the rain and a complete lack of maintenance.

Disturbingly, some schools even lack water supply for maintaining basic hygiene in toilets.

It identifies the 19 institutions as "unstable," rendering them unsafe for continued use.

The report, prepared in consultation with school headmasters, recommends the demolition of these dilapidated structures "as early as possible".

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is providing nursery, high school, pre-university, and degree education across 163 facilities, some of which are rented.

A majority of the facilities are located in the Central Business District (CBD), revealing that the BBMP did not make efforts to provide affordable education in the peripheral areas added to the corporation in 2008.

A 50-year-old building in Shivajinagar, where the BBMP ran a nursery school, collapsed in November, sending shockwaves across the city. DH FILE PHOTO

Zone	Stable buildings	Need repairs	Unstable
East	22	24	12
West	30	32	06
South	06	08	01
Mahadevapura	-	01	-
RR Nagar	15	01	-
Bommanahalli	-	01	-
Yelahanka	-	-	-
Dasarahalli	-	-	-
Total	**73**	**67**	**19**

'Reflects poorly on MLA'

Anil Shetty, who ran the Save Government Schools movement in Karnataka, said the dilapidated conditions of schools reflects poorly on the local MLA. "Elected representatives have enormous powers to (improve) the condition of the schools. Besides public money, he can approach the corporates who will happily adopt (these schools) or (he could) part with his income, which easily runs into several crores," Shetty said.

> **No (corporate) company will come forward on its own (to adopt the schools) unless the BBMP or the local MLA takes the first step. If a legislator cannot set right the schools (or) primary healthcare centres in his or her constituency, what good can he do for the state?.**

Report findings

Besides the 19 institutions functioning in dilapidated structures, the report draws attention to 67 schools in need of repairs and maintenance, with some facing overcrowding issues due to insufficient classroom capacities. The heads of these institutions are requesting additional buildings to accommodate more students.

For instance, the BBMP has been running a nursery school in an incomplete building in Doddakannelli, which was built 10 years ago as Ambedkar Bhavan. The school lacks basic amenities, such as windows, water supply, and electricity connections.

In Ulsoor, a nursery school has been running in a temporary shelter. The problem of unkempt toilets due to a lack of water supply appears widespread, impacting schools in Murphy Town, Walkers Colony in Ulsoor, Benson Town, Corporation Boys' and Girls' High School, Cox Town, among others.

On the brighter side, 73 school teachers reported satisfaction with the facilities.

Speaking to *DH*, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath said not all the 19 buildings will be razed immediately as they are also being used as polling booths. "There is no imminent threat of these buildings collapsing. The teachers and engineers may have been alerted as a precautionary measure. We will undertake one more survey to assess the stability of these buildings before razing them. Until then, students at these schools will be shifted out."

Source: Deccan Herald, p.3, Dec.16, 2023

ವೇದ-ಉಪನಿಷತ್ತು ವಿಚಾರಗಳಿಗೂ ಆದ್ಯತೆ | ಸಂಕ್ರಾಂತಿಗೆ ಪರಿಷ್ಕೃತ ಪಠ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಸಿದ್ಧ

ಪಠ್ಯಪುಸ್ತಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತೆ ಟಿಪ್ಪು?

■ ಎನ್.ಎಲ್. ಶಿವಮಾದು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಶಾಲಾ ಪಠ್ಯ ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣೆ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಅಂತಿಮ ಹಂತಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಈ ಬಾರಿ ದೇಶದ ಇತಿಹಾಸ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿಯನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನದ ಜತೆಗೆ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ವಿಷಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಒತ್ತು ನೀಡಿದೆ ಎಂಬ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಇದ್ದು, ಬರುವ ಜನವರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವರದಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಸಿದ್ಧತೆ ನಡೆಸಿದೆ. ಪ್ರತಿ ಬಾರಿಯೂ ಪಠ್ಯಪುಸ್ತಕ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜಕೀಯವಾಗಿ ಮೈಲೇಜ್ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ವಿಚಾರವಾಗಿ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ವಿವಾದಗಳಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದವು. ಈ ಹಿಂದಿನ ರೋಹಿತ್ ಚಕ್ರತೀರ್ಥ ಮತ್ತು ಬರಗೂರು ರಾಮಚಂದ್ರಪ್ಪ ಸಮಿತಿಗಳ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟಿಪ್ಪು, ಸುಲ್ತಾನ್ ಮತ್ತು ಇತರೆ ಧರ್ಮ ಕುರಿತ ಪಠ್ಯಗಳು ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ಚರ್ಚೆಗೆ ಕಾರಣವಾಗಿದ್ದವು.

ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ ಡಾ. ಮಂಜುನಾಥ ಹೆಗಡೆ ನೇತೃತ್ವದ ಶಾಲಾ ಪಠ್ಯಪುಸ್ತಕ ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣಾ ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ಶೇ.80ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಕೆಲಸ ಮುಗಿಸಿದೆ. ಮಾಸಾಂತ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ಕೆಲಸ ಮುಗಿಸುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಈ ಬಾರಿ ವಿವಾದಿತ ವಿಷಯಗಳು, ಜಾತಿ, ಧರ್ಮಾಧಾರಿತ ವಿಷಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಒತ್ತು ನೀಡದೆ ಆಯಾ ಕಾಲಘಟ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದ ವಿಷಯಗಳನ್ನು ವಾಸ್ತವವಾಗಿ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಇತಿಹಾಸವನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸುವ ವೇಳೆ ಮೊಘಲ್, ಔರಂಗಜೇಬ್, ಟಿಪ್ಪು, ವೇದ, ಉಪನಿಷತ್ತು... ಹೀಗೆ ಆಯಾ ಕಾಲಘಟ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ ಯಾವುದು ಪ್ರಮುಖವೋ ಅದನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸಲು ಸಮಿತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಒತ್ತು ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಮೂಲಗಳು ತಿಳಿಸಿವೆ.

ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಸರಿಪಡಿಸುವ ಕೆಲಸ: ಇದು ಕೇವಲ ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣೆಯಾಗಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ದೊಡ್ಡಮಟ್ಟದ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ಯಾವುದನ್ನೂ ಮರೆಮಾಚುವ ಅಥವಾ ತಿರುಚುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಇರುವುದರಲ್ಲಿ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಸರಿಯಾದ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಳುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಉದಾಹರಣೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಂಗ, ನ್ಯಾಯಾಂಗ ಕಲಿಸಿದ ಬಳಿಕ ಭಾರತದ ಸಂವಿಧಾನ ಹೇಳಿಕೊಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಮೊದಲು ಸಂವಿಧಾನ ಹೇಳಿಕೊಟ್ಟು ನಂತರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಂಗ ತಿಳಿಸಿಕೊಡುವ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ನೂತನ ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಮಾಡಲಿದೆ.

ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಬೇಕಿಲ್ಲದ್ದು ಹೊರಕ್ಕೆ: ಯಾವುದೋ ವಿಚಾರ, ಸಿದ್ಧಾಂತದ ಪಠ್ಯವನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದು ಮತ್ತೊಂದನ್ನು ಸೇರ್ಪಡೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಗೊತ್ತಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ವಿಷಯಗಳದ್ದಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವಯಸ್ಸಿಗೆ ಅನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ತುಂಬ ಕಷ್ಟಕರವಾದ ವಚನಗಳು, ತತ್ವ ಪದಗಳು, ತತ್ವ, ಆದರ್ಶಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಬಿಟ್ಟಿದೆ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿದುಬಂದಿದೆ. ತಪ್ಪಾಗಿರುವುದು ಹಾಗೂ ತಿಳಿಯದಿರುವುದನ್ನು ಕಲಿಸಿ ಒದ್ದಾಡುವ ಬದಲಾಗಿ, ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಥವಾಗುವ ವಿಷಯಗಳನ್ನು ವಯಸ್ಸಿಗೆ ಅನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ವೈಜ್ಞಾನಿಕವಾಗಿ ಅವಶ್ಯವಿರುವಷ್ಟೇ ವಿಷಯಗಳನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸಿಕೊಡುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನವನ್ನು ಸಮಿತಿ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗೆ ಕಾಲ ಪಕ್ವ

ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಪಠ್ಯಪುಸ್ತಕಗಳನ್ನು ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಪಠ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ಚೌಕಟ್ಟು-2005ರ (ಎನ್‌ಸಿಎಫ್) ಆಧಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ರಚಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ಪಠ್ಯಪುಸ್ತಕಗಳು 20 ವರ್ಷ ಹಿಂದಕ್ಕೆ ಹೋಗುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಏನನ್ನೂ ಹೇಳಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ವಿಷಯ ಮತ್ತು ಭಾಷಾ ಕಲಿಕೆಗೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ಸಂಶೋಧನೆಗಳು ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ಸನ್ನಿವೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಬದಲಾದ ವಿಷಯಗಳ ಆಧಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಠ್ಯ ರಚಿಸಿದರೆ ಬೇರೆಯದೇ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರಚಿಸಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಮೂಲಾಗ್ರ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗೆ ಕಾಲ ಪಕ್ವವಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಸದಸ್ಯರೊಬ್ಬರು ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚನೆ ಮಾಡಿತ್ತು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ

ಹಿಂದಿನ ಬಿಜೆಪಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರೋಹಿತ್ ಚಕ್ರತೀರ್ಥ ನೇತೃತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದಿದ್ದ ಮತ್ತು 2023-24ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳು ವ್ಯಾಸಂಗ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪಠ್ಯವನ್ನು ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಉದ್ದೇಶದಿಂದ ಸೆಪ್ಟಂಬರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಡಾ. ಮಂಜುನಾಥ ಜಿ. ಹೆಗಡೆ ನೇತೃತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ 37 ಸದಸ್ಯರನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

> ಕೇವಲ 2 ತಿಂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಏನೇನೋ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ನಮ್ಮದು ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಣೆಯೇ ಹೊರತು ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯಲ್ಲ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಇರುವುದರಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತಮ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಸದ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ವರದಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.
>
> | ಡಾ. ಮಂಜುನಾಥ ಜಿ. ಹೆಗಡೆ
> ಸಮಿತಿ ಸಂಯೋಜಕ

ಮೊಘಲರು, ಟಿಪ್ಪು ಇದ್ದಾಗ ವೇದ-ಉಪನಿಷತ್ತು ಇರಲೇಬೇಕು

ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಇತಿಹಾಸವನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸುವಾಗ ಸರಿಯಾದ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಬೇಕು. ಟಿಪ್ಪು ಸುಲ್ತಾನ್, ಮೊಘಲ್ ಸಾಮ್ರಾಜ್ಯ, ಔರಂಗಜೇಬ್ ಅವರನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸಿದಾಗ ದೇಶದ ಜ್ಞಾನವಾಗಿರುವ ವೇದ-ಉಪನಿಷತ್ತುಗಳನ್ನು ಕೂಡ ತಿಳಿಸಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಯಾವ ಕಾಲಘಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾರ್ಯಾರು ರಾಜ್ಯ/ದೇಶವನ್ನು ಆಳಿದ್ದರು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ತಿಳಿಸಲೇಬೇಕು. ಮತಾಂತರ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದರೆ, ಕ್ರೂರಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದರೆ ಅದನ್ನು ಕೂಡ ಹೇಳಲೇಬೇಕು. ಯಾರೊಬ್ಬರನ್ನು ನಾಯಕ/ಖಳನಾಯಕನನ್ನಾಗಿ ಮಾಡಬಾರದು. ಇಂದು ಇತಿಹಾಸವನ್ನು ತಿಳಿದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಹಲವು ಮಾರ್ಗಗಳಿವೆ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ ಹಿಂದಿನವರು ಮಾಡಿದ ತಪ್ಪುಗಳನ್ನು ನಾವು ಮಾಡಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ. ಸಿದ್ಧಾಂತ ಹೇರುವುದಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ತಪ್ಪುಗಳನ್ನು ಮುಚ್ಚಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದರಿಂದ ಯಾವುದೇ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನವಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಸಮಿತಿ ಸದಸ್ಯರೊಬ್ಬರು ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

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ಆರು ವರ್ಷದೊಳಗಿನ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಬೌದ್ಧಿಕ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಗಾಗಿ ಆ್ಯಪ್ ಬಳಕೆ

ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಪೋಷಣೆಗೆ ಹಲೋ ಪೋಷಕರೇ

■ ಎಚ್.ಪಿ. ಪುಣ್ಯವತಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು
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ಆರು ವರ್ಷದೊಳಗಿನ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಬೌದ್ಧಿಕ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಗಾಗಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಆರೈಕೆಗೆ ಪೂರಕವಾಗಿ ಬಂದಿದೆ 'ಹಲೋ ಪೋಷಕರೇ' ವಿನೂತನ ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ.

ರಾಜ್ಯ ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯು ಪೋಷಕರಿಗಾಗಿ ಪೋಷಣೆ ಕುರಿತು ತಿಳಿವಳಿಕೆ ನೀಡಲು ಆರಂಭಿಸಿರುವ ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಆಧಾರಿತ ವಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಯೋಜನೆ ಇದಾಗಿದೆ. ಸದ್ಯ, ವಿಜಯನಗರ ಮತ್ತು ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಾಯೋಗಿಕವಾಗಿ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತರಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಯುನಿಸೆಫ್, ದೋಸ್ತ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಲಿಕೆ-ಟಾಟಾ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್‌ಗಳು ಕೂಡ ಈ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ನೆರವಾಗಿವೆ.

ಹುಟ್ಟಿನಿಂದ ಆರು ವರ್ಷ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅತೀ ವೇಗದ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಯ ಸಮಯ. ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಮನಸ್ಸು ತುಂಬಾ ಮೃದು. ಈ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಏನನ್ನು ಕಲಿಯುತ್ತಾರೋ, ಏನನ್ನು ರೂಢಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತಾರೋ ಅದು ಅವರ ಭವಿಷ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ನಾಂದಿಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ, ಈ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಪೌಷ್ಟಿಕಭರಿತ ಆಹಾರ ಕ್ರಮದ ಜತೆಗೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆಟ, ಪಾಠ, ಲಾಲನೆ, ಪಾಲನೆ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತುಂಬಾ ಜಾಗ್ರತೆ ವಹಿಸಬೇಕು. ಕುಟುಂಬದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಿರಿಯ ಸದಸ್ಯರಿದ್ದರೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಬೇರೆ ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶಕರು ಬೇಕಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಆದರೆ, ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಭಕ್ತ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳೇ ಮೇಲ್ಪಂಕ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ರುವುದರಿಂದ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಪಾಲನೆ ಮೇಲೆ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಬೀರುತ್ತಿದೆ.

''ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಮಾತು ಕಲಿಸುವುದರತ್ತ ಪೋಷಕರು ಗಮನಹರಿಸಬೇಕು. ಆದರೆ, ಕೆಲವರಿಗೆ ಅನುಭವದ ಕೊರತೆ, ಇನ್ನೂ ಕೆಲವರಿಗೆ ಸಮಯದ ಅಭಾವ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ, ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಆರೈಕೆ ಕ್ರಮಬದ್ಧವಾಗಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದರಿಂದ ನಾನಾ ನ್ಯೂನತೆಗಳನ್ನು ಎದುರಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಜತೆಗೆ ಅಪೌಷ್ಟಿಕತೆ ಕೊರತೆಯೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಇದೆಲ್ಲವನ್ನೂ ನಿವಾರಿಸಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ದೈಹಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಗೆ ಪೂರಕ ವಾಗಿರುವಂತೆ 'ಹಲೋ ಪೋಷಕರೇ' ಸಹಾಯವಾಣಿ ಆರಂಭಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಕನ್ನಡದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಸಿಗುತ್ತದೆ,'' ಎಂದು ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಉಪನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ತಿಪ್ಪಣ್ಣ ಪಿ. ಸಿರಸಗಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಏನಿದು ಹಲೋ ಪೋಷಕರೇ?

ಮಿಸ್ ಕಾಲ್ ಕೊಟ್ಟರೆ ಸಾಕು. ಆ ಕಡೆಯಿಂದಲೇ ಕಾಲ್ ಬರುತ್ತದೆ. ಮಗುವಿನ ವಯಸ್ಸು ಕೇಳುತ್ತದೆ. ನಂತರ ಪೋಷಕರಿಗೆ ಅನುಕೂಲಕರವಾದ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಗುವಿನ ಆರೈಕೆಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಸರಳ ಹಾಗೂ ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನ ಯೋಗ್ಯ ಉಚಿತ ಸಲಹೆ, ಮಾರ್ಗದರ್ಶನ ಮತ್ತು ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡ ಸರಣಿಯೇ 'ಹಲೋ ಪೋಷಕರೇ' ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ.

080-46838292
ಮಿಸ್ಡ್‌ಕಾಲ್ ನಂಬರ್

ಕರೆ ಸಮಯ?
ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 6 ರಿಂದ ರಾತ್ರಿ 10

ಹಲೋ ಪೋಷಕರೇ ಪೋಷಕರಿಗಾಗಿ ಪೋಷಣೆ ಕುರಿತು ತಿಳಿವಳಿಕೆ ನೀಡುವ ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಆ್ಯಪ್ ಮುದ್ರಿತ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ವಾಗಿದೆ. ಸದ್ಯ ಕೆಲವು ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳನ್ನು ರೆಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಮಾಡಿ ಪೋಷಕರಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

-ತಿಪ್ಪಣ್ಣ ಪಿ. ಸಿರಸಗಿ
ಉಪ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಮಹಿಳಾ ಮತ್ತು ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಕೊಪ್ಪಳ

02
ನಿಮಿಷಗಳ ಕಾಲ ಕರೆ ಬಂದ ಮೇಲೆ ಪೋಷಕರಿಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ

ಪೋಷಕರಿಗೆ ಸಿಗುವ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಳೇನು?

- ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಮಮತೆ, ಪ್ರೀತಿ, ವಾತ್ಸಲ್ಯದ ಪರಿಸರ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸುವುದು
- ಹಾಡು, ಆಟ, ಕಥೆ ಮತ್ತು ನೃತ್ಯದ ಪಾತ್ರಗಳ ಅಗತ್ಯ
- ಮಕ್ಕಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಏಕೆ, ಹೇಗೆ ಸಮಯ ಕಳೆಯಬೇಕು
- ಸುರಕ್ಷಿತ, ಅಸುರಕ್ಷಿತ ಸ್ಪರ್ಶ ವಿಚಾರಗಳು
- ಪೋಷಕರ ಮಾನಸಿಕ ಸ್ವಾಸ್ಥ್ಯ
- ಪೌಷ್ಟಿಕತೆ, ಮಕ್ಕಳ ವರ್ತನೆ ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ
- ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಸಮಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ
- ಅನುಭವ ಜನ್ಯ ಕಲಿಕೆ, ಜೀವನ ಕೌಶಲ
- ಒತ್ತಡ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆಗಳ ಮಹತ್ವ

ಮತ್ತೊಮ್ಮೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಬೇಕಾದರೆ...
ಯಾವುದೇ ಪೋಷಕರಿಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಮತ್ತೊಮ್ಮೆ ಕೇಳಬೇಕೆನಿಸಿದರೆ, ಅದೇ ದಿನ ನಿಮಗೆ ಅನುಕೂಲವಾದ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದೇ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗೆ (0804683829 2) ಮತ್ತೆ ಮಿಸ್ ಕಾಲ್ ಕೊಟ್ಟರೆ ಆ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಎಷ್ಟು ಬಾರಿ ಬೇಕಾದರೂ ಕೇಳಬಹುದು.

Source: Vijayakarnataka, p.7, Dec.16, 2023

Class X dropout rate is 21%, Odisha record worst at 50%

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Dropout rate in Class X in India stood at 20.6% as of 2021-22, as compared with 28.4% in 2018-19, with Odisha as the worst performing state with a rate of 49.9%, followed by Bihar (42.1%), among the ten states where dropout rate is more than the national average, the Centre told Lok Sabha on Monday.

In a response to queries from DMK MP Kalanidhi Veeraswamy, Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan stated that 1,89,90,809 students appeared for Class X examination in 2022, of which 29,56,138 students failed to progress to Class XI.

"Reasons for failure of students in exams depends on various factors — not attending schools, difficulty in following instructions in schools, lack of interest in studies, level of difficulty of question paper, lack of quality teachers and lack of support from parents, teachers and schools. Further, education is in concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the domain of respective states and UT governments," said Pradhan.

WORST PERFORMING STATES

TIMES VIEW: It is heartening that the drop-out rate of students has dipped in the past five years. But the current national average of 20.6% is far from acceptable and must be brought down. The larger point is that drop-out rates are also linked to poverty, health and gender. If these social progress indicators improve, drop-out rates will automatically decrease. That apart, states with alarming drop-out rates such as Odisha and Bihar should carefully look into the data, investigate the reasons and work in mission mode to improve the situation.

The Union ministry of education shared the details of statewise dropout rate at Class X for the last four years (2018-19 to 2021-22). Apart from Odisha and Bihar, the other states with high dropouts are Meghalaya (33.5%), Karnataka (28.5%), Andhra Pradesh and Assam with 28.3% each, Gujarat (28.2%), and Telangana (27.4%).

While Assam has shown marked improvement in the last four years from 44% to 28.3%, Odisha witnessed a negative trend from 12.8% to 49.9% in the same period.

The states with dropout rate less than 10% include Uttar Pradesh (9.2%), Tripura (3.8%), Tamil Nadu (9%), Madhya Pradesh (9.8%), Himachal Pradesh (2.5%), Haryana (7.4%), and Delhi (1.3%). Manipur recorded no dropout.

6 states, UTs yet to sign up for PM SHRI

New Delhi: Six states/ UTs namely Bihar, NCT of Delhi, Kerala, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal have not signed MoU with the central government yet, whereas Punjab has proposed to withdraw from the MoU that was originally signed for PM SHRI school scheme. So far 29 States/ UTs along with KVS/ NVS have signed the MoU.

In response to queries from BJP MP Sanjay Jaiswal whether some of the states have not signed MoUs with the Union government for the implementation of the scheme, MoS for education, Annpurna Devi said the cabinet has approved a new centrally sponsored scheme — Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India on September, 2022. "These schools are to showcase the implementation of the National Education Policy 2020 and emerge as exemplar schools over a period of time, and also offer leadership to other schools in the neighbourhood." TNN

Source: The Times of India, p.15, Dec.16, 2023

Education: States miss the mark

Almost 70% of children with disabilities are not in an inclusive education system

SAGARIKA PARAB

Inclusive education is a fundamental human right recognised globally as a means to ensure equitable access to quality education for all individuals. India, as a signatory to various international conventions, is obligated to ensure an inclusive education system that respects the rights and dignity of all individuals, including those with disabilities. To operationalise this, India enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (RPwD Act) — a watershed moment in the disability rights landscape of the country. It set the tone for the National Education Policy, 2020 (NEP) which underscores the importance of gearing policy towards better implementation of inclusive education.

However, despite the RPwD Act cementing the right to inclusive education and the NEP providing a detailed framework for the same, statistics reveal that approximately 70% of children with disabilities of school-going age are not in an inclusive education system. This is because Union-level education policies are not directly enforceable at the state level and states have the option to modify and contextualise such policies as per local requirements. In doing so, if the state education policies do not prioritise capacity building for inclusive education and incorporate a disability rights perspective in state education laws, this gap will only broaden.

The RPwD Act extends to all educational institutions funded or recognised by appropriate government and local authorities. As such, the onus of including a disability rights-based perspective in education policies and implementing inclusive education systems lies with the "appropriate governments", which specifically include state governments. To emphasise this need further, the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities introduced the Draft National Policy for Persons with Disabilities in 2022. It highlights the need for states to ensure that educational institutes comply with the provisions of the RPwD Act and inclusive education norms.

Being a subject of the Concurrent List, the holistic vision and broad principles of educational development are established by the Union government. However, the states separately have a responsibility to prioritise incorporating a disability rights perspective to ensure effective administration and implementation of inclusive education. Judicial precedents have also held that the needs of children with disabilities that manifest in the right to meaningful, inclusive and effective education must be met by all educational institutions funded or recognised by the Union or state government (*Rajneesh Kumar Pandey and ors vs Union of India*). This reading of the extant legal framework indicates that the responsibility of setting up and operationalising inclusive education systems lies equally with the Union and state governments.

Despite the Union government's power to dictate the overarching vision for education policies, the adoption of the NEP has been met with resistance from multiple state governments such as Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala. Though the resistance primarily stems from linguistic and political differences, it has resulted in delays in the implementation of inclusive education policies.

These issues were evident in the first state education policy introduced by West Bengal in 2023 (WB Education Policy). For instance, the NEP directs states to conduct routine school surveys to identify physical barriers faced by children with disabilities, whereas the WB Education Policy is silent on this. On the other hand, the Karnataka government recently extended the scope of applicability of reasonable accommodations to children with disabilities writing class 1-9 examinations. However, this approach relies on government discretion and is not comprehensive in addressing the gaps in policy.

As such, states have either explicitly rejected the provisions of the NEP without implementing viable alternative policies, or have failed to integrate a comprehensive disability rights-based perspective into their education frameworks. The failure of states to incorporate a disability rights perspective in their education policies has far-reaching consequences. It perpetuates educational inequity, denying children with disabilities the fundamental right to inclusive education and impacting their academic growth and socio-emotional development. It also undermines India's commitments to international conventions and its own constitutional mandates.

To implement a clear disability rights perspective at the state level, states need to re-evaluate their current fragmented approach. Primarily, this requires interventions from the state governments at every level, inter alia regular data collection and audits of education systems, focus on early intervention and early education, removing physical and systemic barriers that impede inclusive education, and providing reasonable accommodations on a case-to-case basis. Only by embedding a disability rights perspective in state education policies can India move closer to fulfilling the constitutional promise of an equitable and inclusive education for all.

(The writer is Research Fellow, Disability Inclusion and Access, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy)

Source: Deccan Herald, p.6, Dec.18, 2023

ಪೋಷಕರ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಹತೆಯ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಸಂಗ್ರಹ | ಕುಟುಂಬ ತಂತ್ರಾಂಶದ ಮೊರೆ

ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ 'ಕುಟುಂಬ'ಕ್ಕೆ ಎಸ್‌ಇಪಿ ಕೈ

■ **ದೇವರಾಜ್ ಕನಕಪುರ** ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು
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ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಸ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ನೀತಿ ರಚನೆಗೆ ಮುಂದಾಗಿರುವ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ನೀತಿ (ಎಸ್‌ಇಪಿ)ಸಮಿತಿಯು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ 'ಕುಟುಂಬ'ಕ್ಕೆ ಕೈ ಹಾಕಿದೆ.

ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಮತ್ತು ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರಕಾರದ ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ಸಮಿತಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸುತ್ತಿದೆ. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪೋಷಕರ ಜಾತಿ-ವಿದ್ಯಾಭ್ಯಾಸದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಪ್ರಾರಂಭಿಸಿದೆ. ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಸರಕಾರದ 'ಕುಟುಂಬ' ಎಂಬ ಅರ್ಹತಾ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ತಂತ್ರಾಂಶಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಯ ಆಧಾರ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಪಡೆದು ಅವರ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಕಲೆಹಾಕುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಯಾವೆಲ್ಲಾ ಜಾತಿ-ಸಮುದಾಯದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಯಾವ ಹಂತದವರೆಗೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅವರ ಪೋಷಕರು ವಿದ್ಯಾವಂತರೇ ಎಂಬ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ನೀತಿ ಆಯೋಗದ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಪ್ರೊ. ಸುಖದೇವ್ ಥೋರಟ್ ಅವರು ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಕಲೆಹಾಕುವ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಸದಸ್ಯರಿಗೆ ನೀಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಹೇಗೆ?: ಕುಟುಂಬ ಎಂಬುದು ಸರಕಾರ ರೂಪಿಸಿರುವ ಒಂದು ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರವಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗತಿ ನೋಂದಣಿ, ಸಮಗ್ರ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಣಾ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳ ನೋಂದಣಿ, ಪಾವತಿ ವೇದಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕುಂದುಕೊರತೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿರುವ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಾಗಿ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರಕಾರ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿದೆ.

ಇದು ವಿವಿಧ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಡೇಟಾ ಬೇಸ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ಡೇಟಾ ಬಳಸುತ್ತದೆ. ಕುಟುಂಬ ಐಡಿಯು ನಿವಾಸಿಗಳು ತಮ್ಮ ಅರ್ಹತೆಯನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಲು ಮತ್ತು ಯೋಜನೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಅನುವು ಮಾಡಿಕೊಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಒಂದು ಬಾರಿಗೆ ಕುಟುಂಬ ಗುರುತಿನ ನಂಬರ್ ಒದಗಿಸಿದಾಗ ಜಾತಿ, ಆದಾಯ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ, ಭೂಮಿ ಹಿಡುವಳಿ, ದಾಖಲೆಗಳು ಅಥವಾ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಗಳ ಸಲ್ಲಿಕೆ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲದೆಯೇ ವಿಶೇಷ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯ ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹತಾ ಮಾನದಂಡಗಳಿಗೆ ಡೇಟಾ ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತದೆ.

ವ್ಯಾಸಂಗ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ

14.2%	5.8%	35.8%
ಎಸ್‌ಸಿ	ಎಸ್‌ಟಿ	ಒಬಿಸಿ

ಎಐಎಸ್‌ಎಚ್‌ಇ ಮಾಹಿತಿ

4.13 ಕೋಟಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳು ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ವ್ಯಾಸಂಗ

3.26 ಕೋಟಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಂದ ಪದವಿ ಮಟ್ಟದವರೆಗೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ.

47.16 ಲಕ್ಷ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣದಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಣಿ.

ಪಠ್ಯಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ಜಾತಿ ಏಕೆ ಬೇಕು?

''ಒಂದು ಪಠ್ಯಕ್ರಮವನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಬೇಕಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಅದು ಸರ್ವರಿಗೂ ಸಮಾನತೆ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಬೇಕು. ಯಾವ ಜಾತಿಯ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಯಾವ ಹಂತದವರೆಗೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಪೂರೈಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ? ಅವರ ಪೋಷಕರ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಹೇಗಿತ್ತು? ಎಂಬ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆದು ಇದರ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಪೂರಕವಾದ ಪಠ್ಯಕ್ರಮ ರೂಪಿಸುವುದು ಎಸ್‌ಇಪಿ ಆಶಯ,'' ಎಂದು ಸಮಿತಿ ಸದಸ್ಯರೊಬ್ಬರು ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

Source: Vijayakarnataka, p.13, Dec.18, 2023

Centre urged to release ₹675 cr. to build 19 Morarji Desai schools

Housing and Minorities Welfare Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan on Tuesday appealed to the Centre to release ₹675 crore towards the construction of 19 Morarji Desai residential schools and 50 post-matric hostels in Karnataka. According to a release, Mr. Khan met Union Minister for Minorities Welfare Smriti Irani on Tuesday and said there was demand for 19 Morarji Desai residential schools in Karnataka for which ₹475 crore was required. Similarly, ₹200 crore was needed for 50 post-matric hostels.

Source: The Hindu, p.6, Dec. 20, 2023

State to reduce burden of school bags by 50%

Jayanth R.
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government has taken steps to scientifically reduce the burden of school bags by cutting 50% of textbooks for students of classes I to X from the academic year 2024-25.

Instead of providing textbooks once for the entire year, it has decided to give two books per year, divided into two parts, (Summative Assessment) SA-1 and SA-2. The State government has issued an official order in this regard.

In 2019, a committee comprising education experts, paediatricians, doctors, legal advisers, and officials of the Department of State Education Research and Training (DSERT) conducted a study to reduce school bag burden.

In 2019, a committee comprising education experts, paediatricians, doctors, legal advisers, and DSERT officials conducted a study to reduce the weight of school bags. FILE PHOTO

They concluded that the weight of school bags for students of class I to II could be in the range of 1.5 to 2 kg. For classes III to V, the proposed range was 2 to 3 kg, for class VI to VIII, the proposed range was 3 to 4 kg, and for class IX and X, the recommendation was 4 to 5 kg. However, this order was implemented only in government schools. Complaints about private schools not following this rule persist.

This issue was discussed in a meeting led by the Commissioner of the Department of School Education on October 6, 2023. A committee was formed under the chairmanship of Director, the Karnataka School Examination and Assessment Board. The committee recommended cutting 50% of the textbook size, and submitted its report to the government on October 12, 2023.

Since it is not textbooks that add to bag size, the committee also recommended checking the weight of a school bag of each child at the school level.

Every school should ensure that only subject textbooks and notebooks are carried in the school bag. Necessary steps should be taken to have a rough notebook containing all the other matters.

Financial implication

In the academic year 2023-24, the Karnataka Textbooks Society (KTBS) printed a total of 566 titles, and 6,39,83,899 textbooks in all at a cost of ₹323,31,93,175.

According to the recommendation, the textbooks for SA-1 and SA-2 will be printed separately. Therefore, KTBS expects to print 636 titles with 318 additional titles. Printing of these additional titles will cost around ₹8,45,72,950.

Source: The Hindu, p.6, Dec. 20, 2023

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಸಂ!

ಪ್ರತಿವರ್ಷ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿದ್ದರೂ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳ ಕೊರತೆ ಇಲ್ಲಗಳ ನಡುವೆ ಕಲಿಕೆ ಕಷ್ಟ | ಸಂಕಷ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾವಿರಾರು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು

ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳೆಂಬ ನರಕ

■ ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಸುದ್ದಿಜಾಲ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ, ಪಂಗಡ, ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಜಾಗೃತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾದಂತೆ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್ ಅವಲಂಬನೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿದೆ. ವರ್ಷದಿಂದ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ವಿಪರೀತವಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಬಣ್ಣ ಬಣ್ಣದ ಕನಸು ಕಟ್ಟಿಕೊಂಡು ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆ, ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್‌ಗೆ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಮೊದಲು ಎದುರಾಗುವುದೇ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯಗಳ ಮರೀಚಿಕೆಯ ತೋರಣ. ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಕೋಲಾರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ವಸತಿಶಾಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ಅಮಾನವೀಯ ಘಟನೆ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ರಾಜ್ಯದುದ್ದಗಲಕ್ಕೂ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆ, ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್‌ಗಳ ಕುಂದುಕೊರತೆ ಕುರಿತು ನಡೆಸಿದ ರಿಯಾಲಿಟಿ ಚೆಕ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕರುಳು ಕಿವುಚುವಂಥ ದಯನೀಯ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಬೆಳಕಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಈ ವರದಿಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರವನ್ನು ಎಚ್ಚರಿಸುವ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಮಾಜಕ್ಕೆ ವಾಸ್ತವಾಂಶ ತಿಳಿಸುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಪುಟ 3

ದುಡ್ಡಿಗಿಲ್ಲ ಕೊರತೆ

ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಬೇರೆ ಬೇರೆ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ಖರ್ಚು ಮಾಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಅದರಲ್ಲೂ ಎಸ್‌ಸಿ ಎಸ್‌ಪಿ/ಟಿಎಸ್‌ಪಿ ಅನುದಾನ ಬಳಕೆಗಾಗಿ 2013ರಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾನೂನು ಜಾರಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಕಾನೂನು ಜಾರಿಯಾದ ಕಳೆದ 10 ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 2.5 ಲಕ್ಷ ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ಮೀಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಹಣವನ್ನು ಬಳಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಧುನೀಕರಣಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಹಾಗೂ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಆಗತ್ಯ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ, ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ನೀಡಲು ಅವಕಾಶವಿದೆ. ಇದೇ ಸಂಗತಿಯನ್ನು ವಿಧಾನ ಮಂಡಲದ ಅನುಸೂಚಿತ ಜಾತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಗಡಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಸಮಿತಿ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾಪಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಅನ್ಯ ಉದ್ದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಂಡ ಹಣವನ್ನು ಅಥವಾ ವಿವಿಧ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿಕೆಯಾದ ಎಸ್‌ಸಿ ಎಸ್‌ಪಿ/ಟಿಎಸ್‌ಪಿ ಹಣವನ್ನು ವಾಪಸ್ ಪಡೆದು ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್‌ಗೆ ಬಳಸಿ ಎಂದು ಸಲಹೆ ನೀಡಿದೆ.

ವಸತಿಶಾಲೆಯಾಗಿ ಬದಲಾಗಿರುವ ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಕುರುಗೋಡಿನ ಸಿನಿಮಾ ಟಾಕೀಸ್‌ನ ಮುರಿದ ಕುರ್ಚಿಗಳ ಪಕ್ಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಓದುತ್ತಿರುವ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರು.

ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಕಣ್ಣೀರು ಒರೆಸೋಣ

ಕಾಲಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಯ ಆಳ ಅರಿಯದ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಬೃಹದಾಕಾರವಾಗಿ ಬೆಳೆದು ನಿಂತಿದ್ದು, ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ಸಿಗದೇ ಅಕ್ಷರಶಃ ಶೋಷಣೆಗೆ ಒಳಗಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ವಿ ಕಳಕಳಿ

ಹಾಗೆಂದು ಒಮ್ಮಿಂದೊಮ್ಮೆಲೆ ಬಗೆಹರಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗದಂತಹ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಯೇನೂ ಇದಲ್ಲ. ಇಚ್ಛಾ ಶಕ್ತಿ ಬೇಕಷ್ಟೆ. ಸಮಾಜ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ, ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ, ಅಲ್ಪಸಂಖ್ಯಾತ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳ ಸಚಿವರು, ಇಲಾಖಾ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ತಮಗೆ ಸಿಕ್ಕ ಅಪರೂಪದ ಅವಕಾಶ ಎಂಬ ಅರಿವು ತಂದುಕೊಂಡು ಮೈಚಳಿ ಬಿಟ್ಟು ಅಖಾಡಕ್ಕಿಳಿದರೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಕಣ್ಣೀರು ಒರೆಸಿ ಭದ್ರ ಭವಿಷ್ಯದ ಭರವಸೆ ಬಿತ್ತಬಹುದು.

ಕೊರತೆಗಳ ತೋರಣ

- ವಾರ್ಡನ್‌ಗಳ ತೀವ್ರ ಅಭಾವ
- ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ನೀಡಲು ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್‌ಗಳೇ ಇಲ್ಲ
- ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ಶೌಚಗೃಹಕ್ಕೂ ಪರದಾಟ
- ಸಮಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಕೈ ಸೇರದ ಸೋಪು, ಬ್ರಶ್ ಕಿಟ್
- ಹಲವೆಡೆ ಸುರಕ್ಷತೆ ಆತಂಕ
- ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಆಹಾರವಿಲ್ಲ
- ಕೆಲವೆಡೆ ಮಂಚ, ಹಾಸಿಗೆ, ದಿಂಬು ಕೂಡ ಇಲ್ಲ
- ಕಾಲಕಾಲಕ್ಕೆ ರಿಪೇರಿ ನಡೆಸದೇ ಒಳಚರಂಡಿ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ
- ಹೊಸ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಇಲ್ಲ ಬೆಂಚ್, ಡೆಸ್ಕ್

ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಸೂರು ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ನೂರಾರು

ವಿವರ ಪುಟ 9

ಸದನ ಸಮಿತಿ ಹೇಳಿದ ಐದು ಕಠೋರ ಸತ್ಯಗಳು

ವಿಧಾನ ಮಂಡಲದ ಅನುಸೂಚಿತ ಜಾತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಂಗಡಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಸಮಿತಿ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್ ಕುರಿತು ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗಷ್ಟೇ ವರದಿಯೊಂದನ್ನು ಶಾಸನ ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಡಿಸಿತು. ಆ ವರದಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅನೇಕ ಕಠೋರ ಸಂಗತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರಹಾಕಿದೆ.

1. ಕೆಲವು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿಯಾಗಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇರಿಸಿ ಕೊಂಡಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಕೊರತೆ
2. ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಹಾಸಿಗೆ, ಮಂಚಗಳಿಲ್ಲದೇ ಒಬ್ಬ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ಮಲಗುವ ಸ್ಥಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಬ್ಬರು-ಮೂವರು ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಮಲಗುವ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಇದೆ.
3. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿನಿಯರ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ಸಹ ಇದೇ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಆಗಿರುವುದು ಶೋಚನೀಯ. ವಾರ್ಡನ್ ಕೊರತೆ ಗಂಭೀರವಾಗಿದೆ.
4. ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ಆಹಾರದ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ ಹಾಗೂ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಪರಿತೀಲಿಸಲು ತಾಲೂಕು, ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ಇಲ್ಲ.
5. ಬಾಡಿಗೆ ಕಟ್ಟಡದಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಹಾಸ್ಟೆಲ್‌ಗಳು ದುಸ್ಥಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿವೆ. ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಸರಿಯಾದ ಶೌಚಗೃಹ, ಸ್ನಾನಗೃಹಗಳು ಇಲ್ಲದೇ ತೆರೆದ ಜಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿತ್ಯಕರ್ಮ ಪೂರೈಸಬೇಕಿದೆ.

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Source: Vijayavani, p3, Dec.20, 2023

Karnataka commands highest availability of English talent in India: study

As per the study, Bengaluru and Hyderabad emerged as the top cities on the corporate radar, captivating attention as hubs with the most abundant talent reservoirs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka has the highest availability of English skills with 73.33%, followed by Uttar Pradesh at 68.75% and Kerala at 61.66%, as per India Skills Report 2024 released on Tuesday.

Bengaluru city topped the list of cities with the highest availability of English skills and numerical, while Thiruvananthapuram topped the list with the highest availability of computer skills this year, as per the study conducted by Wheebox, a web-based talent assessment firm.

Business graduates

Among the states with the highest concentration of BBA graduates found employable, Karnataka stood first with 78.85%, Maharashtra at 71.32%, and Uttar Pradesh at 58.33%. Academically, Karnataka stood out with a substantial percentage of test takers scoring more than 60% in the Wheebox National Employability Test (WNET) at 63.33%. Also, Bengaluru came second in the list of cities with the highest computer skills availability. The state also featured among regions expecting increased hiring activity, according to the survey.

Karnataka stood out with a substantial percentage of test takers scoring more than 60% in the Wheebox National Employability Test (WNET) at 63.33% GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Among top cities with employable talent in the age group of 18-21, Bengaluru stood second at 72.18% after Pune at 80.82%. Bengaluru stood third (74.63%) for employability in the age group of 22-25 among top cities while Lucknow came first at 88.89%, followed by Mumbai at 82.45%. Maharashtra, Karnataka, Delhi, and Tamil Nadu are expected to play the lead role in the country in terms of attracting corporates with their pool of talent, as per the study.

Big talent reservoirs

Delving into the urban fabric, Bengaluru and Hyderabad emerged as the top cities on the corporate radar, captivating attention as hubs with the most abundant talent reservoirs. Hiring candidates from these states would remain a strategic and preferred choice across industries, the study predicted.

However, the study also found southern states lagged in General Knowledge. Although Karnataka and Tamil Nadu excelled in future skills, they showed lower scores in general knowledge at 67.33% and 41.09%, respectively.

Source: The Hindu, p.7, Dec. 21, 2023

Govt closing aided schools owing to low admissions, claims RUPSA

BENGALURU, DHNS: The Registered Unaided Private Schools' Management Association (RUPSA) has accused the government of shutting down private aided schools, citing reason that they have low admissions. In a letter written to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, the Association has condemned the closure of aided schools.

The Association has urged the chief minister to intervene and save the aided schools, which are providing education for thousands of children for a nominal fee.

Lokesh Talikatte, president of the Association, said that when it comes to aided schools the School Education and Literacy department insists on minimum student strength and considers it as one of the main criteria for closure.

"Though there are single-digit admissions in government schools, there is no action for closure, but when it comes to private aided schools, the department takes measures to close the school just because it is giving grants," he said, adding that the government has not paid salaries for the teachers in some of the aided schools for the last four months," Lokesh alleged.

When contacted, a senior official of the department said that the closure of aided institutions is a long process and it cannot be done overnight.

"In case of poor admissions, we will shift students to neighbouring schools and even teachers to the other aided institutions," said the official.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.3B, Dec.22, 2023

After NEP, Siddaramaiah govt set to junk NITI Aayog indices

'High-powered committee to study regional imbalances'

BENGALURU, DHNS

After having decided to scrap the National Education Policy (NEP) in Karnataka, the Siddaramaiah-led Congress government is set to junk one more import of the previous BJP regime: the NITI Aayog indicators to measure backwardness.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has announced that a new high-power committee will be formed to study regional imbalances in terms of development.

The new committee will succeed the one headed by economist D M Nanjundappa, whose 2002 report formed the basis of enormous government spending to fight regional backwardness.

According to sources in the chief minister's office (CMO), the new committee will be asked to "assess the impact of development measures since the Nanjundappa report and evolve new criteria for regional under-development." The new criteria will effectively replace the NITI Aayog indicators that was adopted by the Basavaraj Bommai-led BJP government.

> **CMO SOURCE**
>
> "The new committee will be asked to assess the impact of development measures since the Nanjundappa report and evolve new criteria for regional under-development.

In its 2002 report, the Nanjundappa committee had used 35 indicators covering agriculture, industry, trade & finance, economic & social infrastructure and population to identify 114 out of 175 taluks as backward. This included most backward (39), more backward (40) and backward (35) taluks.

The Nanjundappa Committee had recommended a Special Development Plan (SDP) with a total investment of Rs 31,000 crore over an 8-year period. The SDP was launched in 2007 and slated to be completed in 2014-15. However, it was extended. Between 2007 and 2023, the government has spent Rs 32,433 crore against an allocation of Rs 46,453 crore.

In 2022, the BJP government decided to replace the Nanjundappa Committee's indicators with ones developed by the NITI Aayog for an 'aspirational taluks' programme. The NITI Aayog has identified 49 development parameters in five broad categories: health and nutrition, education, agriculture and water resources, financial inclusion and skill development and basic infrastructure.

For this, Bommai had earmarked Rs 3,000 crore to improve education in 93 taluks, healthcare in 100 taluks and fight malnutrition in 102 taluks. Siddaramaiah also kept Rs 3,000 crore for 'aspirational taluks' in his 2023-24 budget.

After coming to power, the Congress decided to rollback NEP in Karnataka. It also decided to withdraw laws regulating religious conversion and liberalising agricultural trading, introduced by the previous BJP government.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.4, Dec.22, 2023

Varsities give a cold shoulder to Centre's PM-USHA scheme

Only 21 among 40 universities apply for funds

BENGALURU, DHNS

Most of the state-run universities have not responded to the PM-USHA (Pradhan Mantri Uchathar Shiksha Abhiyan) scheme announced by the Union government.

Of the 40 public universities, only 21 have applied for the scheme, while only 180 out of the 430 government colleges have opted for it. According to vice-chancellors and officials from the Higher Education department, the main reason for the state-run institutions not applying for funds under the PM-USHA, are its stringent conditions.

"It is mandatory for the universities to have NAAC 'A' and 'A' Plus grade and such universities will get 100% marks. In Karnataka, only two universities have 'A' and 'A' plus grading from NAAC," said a senior official of the Higher Education department.

The Union Ministry of Education provides funds under six different heads under the scheme. Major funding will be under the MERU (Multi-disciplinary Education and Research Universities), for which it has earmarked Rs 3,500 crore and Rs 100 crore per unit. "Under this, around seven universities have applied and 14 have sought grants to strengthen universities." the official explained.

However, the official explained that it is not easy for all the applied institutions to get funds looking at the criteria fixed by the Union government.

The PM-USHA is not a new scheme, the RUSA (Rashtriya Uchatar Shiksha Abhiyan), which was started in 2013, has been renamed as PM-USHA under the National Education Policy (NEP), with revised stringent conditions.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.4, Dec.22, 2023

ಕುಲಸಚಿವ ಹುದ್ದೆಯ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ನಿರಾಸೆ

ವಿವಿ ಕಾಯಿದೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಇನ್ನಷ್ಟು ವಿಳಂಬ

■ **ದೇವರಾಜ್ ಕನಕಪುರ** ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು
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ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ (2000) ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಮಾಡಲು ರಚಿಸಿದ್ದ ಸಮಿತಿಗೆ ಡೆಡ್ ಲೈನ್ ಮುಗಿದರೂ, ಸರಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ವರದಿ ನೀಡದೇ ಇರುವುದು ಹಲವು ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್‌ಗಳ ನಿದ್ದೆಗೆಡಿಸಿದೆ.

ವಿವಿಯ ಕಾಯಿದೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಲಸಚಿವ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಐಎಎಸ್ ಅಥವಾ ಹಿರಿಯ ಶ್ರೇಣಿಯ ಕೆಎಎಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಬದಲಾಗಿ 10 ವರ್ಷ ಪೂರೈಸಿರುವ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್‌ಗಳ ನೇಮಕ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಇದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಕಾಯಿದೆಗೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯಾಗುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿದೆ. ಈ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಯಿದೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ನಿರಾಸೆ ಉಂಟು ಮಾಡಿದೆ.

ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರಕಾರವು ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಮತ್ತು ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಹಿತದೃಷ್ಟಿಯಿಂದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮಕ್ಕೆ(ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಯು) ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಮಾಡುವ ಸಲುವಾಗಿ ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಐಎಎಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸಲು ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಚಿವ ಡಾ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಸುಧಾಕರ್ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಪ್ರಧಾನ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗೆ ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡಿದ್ದರು. ಈ ಸಮಿತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತ ಕುಲಪತಿ, ಕುಲಸಚಿವರು ಮತ್ತು ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕರು ಒಳಗೊಂಡಿರಬೇಕೆಂದು ಹಾಗೂ ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳೊಳಗಾಗಿ ವರದಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವಂತೆ ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು.

ಅಧಿವೇಶನಕ್ಕೆ ಬರಲಿಲ್ಲ

ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚನೆಗೆ ನವೆಂಬರ್ 6ರಂದು ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಅಂದಾಜಿನ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್ ಮೊದಲ ವಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ವರದಿ ಪಡೆದು, ಎರಡನೇ ವಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ವಿಧಾನ ಮಂಡಲದ ಅಧಿವೇಶನದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಡಿಸಿ ಒಪ್ಪಿಗೆ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಆಲೋಚನೆ ಇತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ, ಸಮಿತಿಯು ವರದಿ ವಿಳಂಬ ಮಾಡಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಅಧಿವೇಶನದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಂಡಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲ.

ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್‌ಗಳ ನಿರಾಸೆ

ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಲಸಚಿವ (ಆಡಳಿತ) ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ 10 ವರ್ಷ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್ ಆಗಿ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿದವರನ್ನು ನೇಮಕ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. 2018ರಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಯು ಕಾಯಿದೆಗೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ತರುವ ಮೂಲಕ ಐಎಎಸ್ ಅಥವಾ ಹಿರಿಯ ಕೆಎಎಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾತ್ರ ಕುಲಸಚಿವ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ನೇಮಕ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂಬ ನಿಯಮ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತರಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಆನಂತರದಲ್ಲಿ ಕುಲಸಚಿವ (ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನ) ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ವಿನಾಯಿತಿ ನೀಡಿ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ನೇಮಕ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಇದಕ್ಕೂ ಕೆಲವು ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್‌ಗಳಿಂದ ವಿರೋಧ ವ್ಯಕ್ತವಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ, ಕುಲಸಚಿವ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಐಎಎಸ್, ಕೆಎಎಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನೇ ನೇಮಕ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಬ್ಬರ ಟಾರ್ಗೆಟ್

ಕಳೆದ 20 ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಯು ಕಾಯಿದೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ಚರ್ಚೆಗೆ ಒಳಗಾಗುತ್ತಲೇ ಇದೆ. ಪ್ರತಿ ಬಾರಿ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಚಿವರು ಬಂದಾಗ ಕಾಯಿದೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯನ್ನು ಒಂದು ಅಸ್ತ್ರವಾಗಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಡಾ.ಜಿ.ಪರಮಶ್ವರ್ ಅವರು ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಚಿವರಾಗಿದ್ದ 1999-2004ರ ಸಮಯದಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತ ಕುಲಪತಿ ಪ್ರೊ.ನವೀತ್ ರಾವ್ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಇದನ್ನು ಸರಕಾರ ಒಪ್ಪದ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರೊ.ಎನ್.ಆರ್.ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸನ್ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸಿತ್ತು. ಆರುಂದ ಲಿಂಬಾವಳಿ ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಚಿವರಾಗಿದ್ದ ವೇಳೆ ಪ್ರೊ.ಎನ್.ಆರ್.ಶೆಟ್ಟಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ವರದಿ ನೀಡಿತ್ತು. ಕಳೆದ ಬಿಜೆಪಿ ಸರಕಾರ ಇದ್ದಾಗ ಸಚಿವರಾಗಿದ್ದ ಡಾ.ಸಿ.ಎನ್.ಅಶ್ವತ್ಥನಾರಾಯಣ ಅವರು ಪ್ರೊ.ವಿ.ಕೆ.ಅತ್ರೆ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸಿ ವರದಿ ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದರು.

● ಕುಲಸಚಿವ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಪ್ರೊಫೆಸರ್‌ಗಳ ನೇಮಕ ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂಬ ಬೇಡಿಕೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಅದನ್ನು ಕಾಯಿದೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇರಿಸುವುದು ಅಥವಾ ಬಿಡುವುದು ಸಮಿತಿಗೆ ಬಿಟ್ಟ ವಿಚಾರ. ಸಮಿತಿ ವರದಿ ಕೈ ಸೇರಿದ ಮೇಲೆಯೇ ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯ.

- ಡಾ.ಎಂ.ಸಿ.ಸುಧಾಕರ್
ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸಚಿವರು

ಕುವೆಂಪು ವಿವಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಹ್ಯಾಕ್

ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ: ಕುವೆಂಪು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಅಧಿಕೃತ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಅನ್ನು ಮತ್ತೊಮ್ಮೆ ಹ್ಯಾಕ್ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ದುಷ್ಕರ್ಮಿಗಳು ವಿವರಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇವ್ ಪ್ಯಾಲಿಸ್ತೀನ್ ಎಂದು ಬರೆದಿದ್ದು, ಬುಧವಾರ ರಾತ್ರಿ ಹ್ಯಾಕ್ ಆಗಿರುವುದಾಗಿ ತಿಳಿದುಬಂದಿದೆ. ಕಲಿಮಲಂಗ್ ಬ್ಯಾಕ್ ಹ್ಯಾಕ್ ಟೀಮ್ ಹ್ಯಾಕ್ ಮಾಡಿರುವುದಾಗಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಬರೆಯಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ಹ್ಯಾಷ್ ಟ್ಯಾಗ್ ಮಾಡಿ ಸೇವ್ ಪ್ಯಾಲಿಸ್ತೀನ್, ಇಸ್ರೇಲ್ ಡಾಗ್, ಫ್ರಮ್ ಲ್ಯಾಮ್ಡರ್ ಟೂ ಮಾಷ್ ಘಾ, ಇಕಾರ್ತಾ ಬ್ಯಾಕ್ ಹ್ಯಾಕ್ ಎಂದು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ 2018ರ ಮೇ ತಿಂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವಿ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಹ್ಯಾಕ್ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್‌ನ ಹೋಮ್ ಪೇಜ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾಕಿಸ್ತಾನ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಘೋಷಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು.

Source: Vijayakarnataka, p.11, Dec.22, 2023

'More than 17,000 govt schools lack playgrounds'

BAGALKOT, DHNS: Many state-run schools lag behind in basic facilities like drinking water, toilets and playgrounds. A good 37% of the government schools in the state lack playgrounds.

There are 46,757 government schools in the state. Of which, 17,384 don't have playgrounds while 4,876 schools lack a compound, teachers of government schools, on the condition of anonymity, told *DH*.

In Bagalkot district alone, many schools, including govt boys school No. 1, govt girls' school No 1 and govt school No 3, are deprived of a playground.

Spare a thought for the children who want to make strides in sports. "Where should we play? Because of no playground, we cannot take part in the sports meet, including the zone and taluk level," a girl poured her woes to *DH*.

Admitting that a total of 137 government schools in Bagalkot district lack a compound, DDPI B K Nandanur informed *DH*, "The School Education and Literacy department has sent a proposal to the zilla panchayat to build school compounds under rural employment guarantee scheme."

As per the norms, the schools must have separate toilets for boys and girls, and the facility-to-student ratio is 1:40. But 23 schools in the district are deprived of toilets. The situation is no different in other districts, said a teacher.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.4, Dec.22, 2023

How not to frame education policy

Unlike the national policy, Karnataka must draft a model to foster inclusivity and constitutional values

NAVNEET SHARMA

Karnataka has established a committee to draft the state's education policy. This move is not only a political response to counter the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, drafted at the behest of the central government's ideological leanings, but also an academic initiative. The committee, chaired by Professor Sukhdev Thorat, an acclaimed academician known for his progressive views, is expected to create a draft that could serve as an exemplary model for national policy.

Karntaka's state education policy must embody inclusivity, aligning with the ideals of "sabka sath, sabka vikas" in letter and spirit. It should begin by acknowledging constitutional values comprehensively, avoiding selectivity or evasion of the same. Notably, NEP 2020 omits the value of secularism entirely, without even a single mention in the whole document. By deliberately avoiding the term "secularism," the NEP 2020 not only overlooked a crucial modern value essential for a cosmopolitan society but also rendered its lofty aspirations to make Indians global citizens hollow.

The state policy can learn from NEP 2020 on avoiding the arbitrary creation of new terms. The NEP 2020 neglects the nuanced lessons of social sciences and lumps together Dalits, OBCs, minorities, women, rural and urban poor, differently-abled individuals, and transgenders as Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs), categorising them collectively as minor groups. This approach ignores the fact that combining these diverse groups may result in outnumbering any other major group, if that exists. The NEP 2020 prescribes a uniform solution for all issues without analysing or comprehending the educational status of these groups. Furthermore, it does not formulate specific plans or suggestions for their improvement.

Drawing further lessons from NEP 2020, the state policy should not excessively depend on philanthropy. It must establish clear boundaries for the State to persist and operate as a welfare state, avoiding the delegation of its responsibilities to corporate social responsibility. While private entities contribute significantly to education during these liberal economic times, labelling their efforts as mere philanthropy undermines citizens' right to equitable education and hampers the fostering of self-esteem.

The upcoming policy must address the academic chaos generated by the NEP 2020. It should distinguish between multi-intra-inter-trans disciplinarity, which NEP 2020 fails to discern by using these terms interchangeably and treating them as synonyms throughout the 66-page document, with more than 80 instances of such usage. The new state policy should critically examine the concept of multiple entries and exits in undergraduate programmes. Additionally, it should get its basic arithmetic right, a task overlooked by the NEP 2020 and the subsequent National Higher Education Qualification Framework, leading to graduates earning different credits for the same programmes.

Additionally, it should refine the distinctions between a PG diploma, a one-year PG degree, a two-year PG degree, and an undergraduate programme like BEd/LLB pursued after graduation, rather than placing them on the same level as done by national policy and the NHEQF. In its eagerness to promote Aatmnirbhar Bharat and Amrit Kaal, the national policy excessively emphasises research, infusing every programme with research components. This leaves little room for essential courses and readings at all levels, perhaps in an attempt to bypass the critical step of reviewing related literature, which can only be undertaken when students are adequately educated about it.

The Karnataka education policy must address concerns related to primary education. The national policy suggests relocating first and second standards from 'schools' to Anganwadis. Despite acknowledging that 85% of children's brains develop during this time, NEP 2020 assigns this responsibility to Anganwadi workers rather than trained teachers in schools. Additionally, the national policy proposes 'school clusters' and encourages their adoption by private entities. In doing so, the policy takes a bold shift from philanthropy to privatisation in a brazen manner.

NEP 2020 has proposed the establishment of more than eight new institutions to regulate higher education and school education. It has also recommended the development of more than eight curriculum frameworks. However, having too many recipes, along with too many cooks, can spoil the food. The state's policy must conscientiously address these concerns; otherwise, it may mirror the national policy with inherent contradictions. The failure of the policy could be attributed to the negligence and lethargy of teachers, as they are ultimately tasked with its implementation. The state's policy drafters must recognise that a flawed policy cannot be effectively implemented, regardless of the intentions behind it.

(The writer teaches at the Department of Education, Central University of Himachal Pradesh)

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(The writer teaches at the Department of Education, Central University of Himachal Pradesh)

Source: Deccan Herald, p.8, Dec.22, 2023

KEA set to revamp CET process from next year

To Hold Tests For UG, PG, Diploma On Consecutive Days

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Bengaluru: In an attempt to rebuild its image as a student-friendly exam-conducting agency, the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) is set to revamp its procedures of conducting the Common Entrance Test.

From 2024, the Undergraduate Common Entrance Test (for engineering, Ayush courses, veterinary and agriculture), PG Common Entrance Test (for MBA, MCA, MTech, March) and Diploma CET (lateral entry to second-year engineering) will be held on consecutive days.

APPLICATIONS IN JAN

- Starting next year, **CET for UG, PG & Diploma courses to be held on consecutive days**
- Exams likely to be held **around April 18-21; PG and D-CET on the first two days**
- Application forms will be released in Jan; **4.5L expected to appear** for these exams annually

About 4.5 lakh students are expected to take these exams annually. For the upcoming academic year, the exams are likely to be around April 18-21, with D-CET and PG-CET being held on the first two days.

Until now, the three exams were being held in different months: CET in April, D-CET and PG-CET were in September. Henceforth, the application forms will be released for all exams together in January.

"Our intention is to complete the exams while the students are in the final/qualifying semester. We will be ready to launch the counseling process as soon as the government shares the seat matrix with us," said Ramya S, executive director, KEA.

KEA plans to allow only one application form for both CET and NEET (the entrance exam for medicine and dentistry). "While last year too, there was one application, we allowed them to register for any one exam later on. This resulted in duplication...," she said.

▶'No glitches in site', P 2

▶ Continued from page 1

Many students who had written CET did not mention it in the NEET application or vice-versa. We had to spend a lot of time weeding out the duplicates," she said.

Additionally, the agency plans to do away with the document-verification process, including for CBSE and ICSE students. "We will gain time by using the SATS number provided by the department of school education and literacy to obtain data provided by the students. For the quota and reservations, revenue department numbers will be obtained and verified online. With this, only candidates applying for physically handicapped reservation will have to have an offline verification," said the executive director.

Ramya also expressed confidence in the KEA website taking the load and functioning without any glitches for the next season. As per KEA, the detailed notification for all the exams will be released in a fortnight.

The department, this time, is also training the students at the PU college level on how to fill the application forms. A set of master trainers from all districts will be trained next week, who will, in turn, mentor students.

Source: The Times of India, p.1&2, Dec.22, 2023

A gurukul for rural children steeped in Gandhian values

Gandhi Grameen Gurukul Residential School at Hosaritti in Haveri district combines academic curriculum with life values taught by Mahatma Gandhi

Girish Pattanashetti
HUBBALLI

It is 5 a.m. on Wednesday. The wake up bell for the inmates of Gandhi Grameen Gurukul Residential School at Hosaritti (Haveri district in Karnataka) has already been rung. Like other inmates of the Gurukul, Class VIII students Ravi Lamani, Vijay Karennavar and Yallappa Talawar have completed their daily chores and are ready for the All Religion Prayer at 5.30 a.m.

They have special duties assigned to them for the day. After prayer, yoga and bath, they have to reach the kitchen as early as possible as 'kitchen duty' has been assigned to their 'Vivekananda House'. Likewise the members of various houses named after freedom fighters and eminent personalities have been assigned various duties including serving food, cleaning up premises and other works.

At 8.30 a.m., the breakfast bell rings and within a few minutes children clad in khadi uniforms wearing Gandhi caps assemble at the 'Prasad Nilaya' (Dining Hall) carrying their plates and glasses. The designated kitchen volunteers for the day quickly serve them breakfast and nutrition drinks. Once everyone is served, they recite shlokas in chorus, and bow down to Mother Earth before beginning to eat.

After breakfast, they have time till 9.45 a.m., and then they assemble again for school prayer. But Class X students like Lingaraja Mahabalashettar, Naveengouda Patil, Karthik Mathapati, Balesh Dalawai have to attend special classes.

At the prayer time, the khadi clad students sing patriotic songs, state and national anthem. Chosen students take a minute each to speak about a topic in each subject and languages. Headlines of Kannada and English dailies are also read out. Students then hurry to their classes as they are reminded that only 95 days are remaining for the SSLC examination.

Students of Gandhi Grameen Gurukul Residential School at the daily school assembly.

The Gandhi Grameen Gurukul Residential School at Hosaritti.

The bust of freedom fighter Gudleppa Hallikeri at the entrance of the school.

Off-beat classes

Their classes, however, are very different from how they are in normal schools. Every week they spend five to six hours in the khadi section, vegetable garden, cattle shed and farmland spread over 32- acre campus of the Gurukul, which is the lone school in entire Karnataka, which imparts and practices Gandhian ideas and values.

In this unique school, the students of class V to X learn the lessons of life through farming, dairy farming, spinning, weaving, experimenting along with studying the prescribed curriculum. Imparting education based on Gandhian values was the dream the Gandhian, Congressman and legislator Hallikeri Gudleppa.

Located on the banks of Varada river, at a distance of 28 kms from district headquarter Haveri, Hosaritti was a source of inspiration for freedom fighters from early days of the freedom struggle. Inspired by Mahatma Gandhi, Gudleppa had established 'Gandhi Ashrama' in his native place way back in 1928. And during 1942 Quit India Movement, it was in Hosaritti that freedom fighter Mahadeva Mailar and two others were gunned down by the British during a protest.

Gudleppa, who strived hard to spread the Gandhian values through his Ashram in Hosaritti, was part of Dandi March, non-cooperation movement and consequently spent several years behind bars. Also known as 'Iron Man of Karnataka', he went on to become member of Mysore State Legislative Council. It was during his 60th birthday celebrations that he announced to donate the amount he received as gift for the establishment of a Gurukul founded on Gandhian principles. He later went around the country visiting noted institutions to know the best educational practices suitable for rural students and with the help of Ma. Gu. Handral who was trained in 'Varada Ashrama', he got a special project prepared, which however took few years to get the government approval.

Son fulfills father's dream

It was after his demise that it finally took shape through the efforts of his son and doctor Dr. Deenabandhu Hallikeri and like minded persons like Gopanna Kulkarni and Viranna Chakki of Hosaritti, Basavanneppa Gourimani of Channur and Chittaranjan Kalkoti of Koradur on Gandhi's birth anniversary in the year 1984 with the state government sanctioning required grant-in-aid.

"Gudleppa Hallikeri's dream of Gandhi Gurukul finally materialised through the efforts of his family members and several like minded persons and philanthropists," says M.P. Goudannanavar, the headmaster of the Gandhi Grameen Gurukul.

Viranna Chakki, who is one among the two surviving founding trustees, is still committed to the cause and frequently travels from Hubballi to Hosaratti to be part of the Gurkul 's activities. Post the demise of Dr. Deenabandhu, Gudleppa's another son Rajendra Prasad Hallikeri is officiating as Chairman, while Gudleppa's grandson Dr. Gudlesh, localites Dr. Girish Ankalkoti, Shambanna Arali are the trustees.

"Our objective was clear, we wanted the best Gandhian valued based education imparted to the rural students who are deprived of the opportunities. We offered it free of cost initially with the grants from government and generous donations from philanthropists. We cater to students from various districts across the North Karnataka region", said Viranna Chakki.

Dwindling resources

However over a period of time, Sri Gudleppa Hallikeri Smaraka Pratishtana, which runs the Gurukul is finding it difficult to run the rural residential school due to dwindling resources. The Gurukul which had 29 teaching and non teaching staff appointed on permanent basis is now left with hardly five permanent staff. The grant for food and cloth per student has remained the same despite requests for hike.

The Gurukul has a sanctioned strength of 240 students with a maximum intake of 40 students for each class from class V to X.

"We are managing somehow by mobilising funds through our contacts. Milk produced through dairy farming and vegetables grown in the Gurukul are of great help. In the recent years we were forced to seek help from parents as we have to pay for the staff and 24 sanctioned posts remain still vacant," Dr. Gudlesh said.

Help from alumni

According to Dr. Gudlesh, many among the 1,300 alumni of the Gurukul have extended a helping hand. In fact some among the staff are alumni of the Gurukul like warden Subhash Patil have continued to work in the Gurukul on temporary basis.

"We know what the situation is and what we have learnt from the institution. We are doing our bit and there are many among the alumni who came back with plans to help our alma mater," he said.

Thanks to their generous contribution and other philanthropists, the Gurukul has now seen improvement in infrastructure in the last few years including having smart classrooms. But still it needs more support.

In the last few years, the Trustees have made umpteen pleas to the government authorities seeking approval for filling up posts as it was granted approval as a special school and increase in grants per student on par with the grant given to other residential schools, which actually were modelled on the Gandhi Gurukul. A recent meeting with Minister for School Education Madhu Bangarappa has raised their hopes for an early solution to the long pending issue.

Source: The Hindu, p.10, Dec. 22, 2023

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Environment

So far, December has been city's warmest in a decade

Met Dept Cites El Nino Effect As Reason

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Bengaluru: The average temperature for December so far this year has been 23.7 degrees Celsius. Even though the city's weather seems to be cosy and pleasant, the temperature is nearly two degrees above the normal of 21.6 degrees Celsius for this time of year. The normal minimum and maximum temperatures for December is 16.4 degrees Celsius and 26.9 degrees Celsius, respectively, as per IMD Bengaluru.

The data is based on a 30-year-long average starting from 1990. According to the data, 2018 saw the second-hottest December and 2015, the third. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast too, for the period extending from December 2023 to February 2024, says Karnataka is likely to witness above-normal minimum and maximum temperatures this winter along with most of the rest of India.

"This is the effect of El Nino (a climatic event that causes the warming of surface waters in the eastern Pacific Ocean), which will impact us till March next year. Winter has set in but it is not going to see any days that will be biting cold like they were in 2022," said A Prasad, a scientist at IMD Bengaluru.

The IMD office said they've been recording an average of 18 and 27.4 degrees Celsius as minimum and maximum temperatures, respectively, from four of their stations in the city. Prasad added that winters in the geographical region are characterised by western disturbances, i.e. storms originating in the Caspian or Mediterranean sea that bring rain and snow to the Indian subcontinent. "Since the disturbances are at a low, we aren't going to experience a harsh winter," he said.

Photo for representation

HOW THE WEEK HAS GONE BY

(Figures reported from Bengaluru City station on Palace Road)

Day	Min temp	Departure from (16.4) average	Max temp	Departure from (26.9) average
10/12 (Sunday)	20.2	3.8	29	2.1
11/12 (Monday)	19.5	3.1	29	2.1
12/12 (Tuesday)	19.4	3	28.6	1.7
13/12 (Wednesday)	18.3	1.9	27.5	0.6
14/12 (Thursday)	17.7	1.3	26.5	-0.4
15/12 (Friday)	17.4	1	26.3	-0.6

NOT SO CHILLY: As per IMD, the temperature in Bengaluru is nearly two degrees above the normal of 21.6 degrees Celsius for this time of year

DECEMBER FEEL OVER LAST 10 YRS

Year	Bangalore City (Palace Road) station			Bangalore HAL station		
	Max temp	Min temp	Average	Max temp	Min temp	Average
2013	27.6	15.9	21.8	26.8	15.2	21
2014	27.4	17.6	22.5	26.8	17	21.9
2015	27.9	18	23	27.4	17.6	22.5
2016	28.1	16.7	22.4	27.4	16.3	21.9
2017	27.4	17.1	22.3	26.7	15.7	21.2
2018	28.4	17.8	23.1	NA	NA	NA
2019	26.6	18	22.3	26.5	17.5	22
2020	26.9	17.4	22.2	26.2	15.8	21
2021	27.4	17.6	22.5	26.8	15.9	21.4
2022	26.6	17.7	22.2	26.3	16.9	21.6
2023*	27.8	19.6	23.7	27.4	17.9	22.7

*till Dec 14 | All temperatures in degrees Celsius — Source: India Meteorological Department

CLOUDY DAYS AHEAD IN STATE

An upper air circulation extending from the Bay of Bengal to the adjacent equatorial Indian Ocean will cause cloudy weather in the city in the coming 2-3 days. Light rain is expected in the southern districts of south-interior Karnataka region, such as Chamarajanagar, Mysuru, Kodagu, Mandya, and Ramanagara.

This condition won't result in a drop in minimum temperatures, so the "chilly" feeling might be absent for the next two days, the weather office said.

Source: The Times of India, p.2, Dec.16, 2023

Build early-warning systems

Climate change, from Page 1

The frost attack also shortened the harvesting season as the quality of remaining fruits deteriorated, reducing shelf-life to just a few days, and thereby restricting the market.

Just as the farmers were coping with the loss and hoping to make a recovery in the wheat crop, an unusually hot March put an end to such hopes. The wheat kernels did not ripen fully. The citrus flowers in the new batches of the perennial kinnow plants did not mature into fruits either.

The wheat yield plummeted by around 20% and half of the citrus crop was lost. "Agriculturally the block is the least prone to risk. But with a slight temperature variation, it suffered a loss of about Rs 700 crore," Ajay Vir Jakhar, chairman of the Bharat Krishak Samaj and a resident of the block, wrote in an article.

A shift in weather patterns is the most visible impact of climate change. Ever-expanding summers, shortening of winters, mosquitoes in December in Delhi, dengue outbreaks in Himachal Pradesh, floods in Rajasthan and short spells of high-intensity rains like the one that hit Chennai a few days ago – these are telltale signs of changing weather. However, even though the world recognises the vulnerability caused by changing climate, it has done precious little so far to reverse the trend.

The climate summit

One of the objectives of COP28 was to take stock of the actions that nations have undertaken since the Paris pact of 2015. "The stocktake recognises the science that indicates global greenhouse gas emissions need to be cut 43% by 2030, compared to 2019 levels, to limit global warming to 1.5°C. But it notes parties (nations) are off track when it comes to meeting their Paris Agreement goals," the UNFCCC says, at the conclusion of COP28.

While a few announcements on financial commitments were made at the summit with much fanfare, the UNFCCC notes that such "financial pledges are far short of the trillions eventually needed to support developing countries with clean energy transitions, implementing their national climate plans and adaptation efforts."

Scientists have projected that the guardrails of 1.5 degrees or 2 degrees Celsius will be breached in the foreseeable future if the world continues on the business-as-usual path without drastic cuts in carbon emission. February recorded the highest temperature in India in the past 120 years and according to the World Meteorological Organisation, 2023 is set to end as the warmest year ever recorded.

The impact of rising temperatures will be felt more by low and middle-income countries like India, which is the world's seventh most climate-vulnerable nation. An analysis by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water suggests that three out of four districts in India are extreme event hotspots, with 40% of the districts exhibiting a swapping trend that is, traditionally flood-prone areas are witnessing more frequent and intense droughts and vice-versa.

India's average temperature has increased by around 0.7 degrees Celsius between 1901 and 2018. In a recent 30-year period (1986–2015), temperatures of the warmest day and the coldest night of the year have risen by about 0.63°C and 0.4°C, respectively.

The summer monsoon precipitation (June to September) has declined by 6% from 1951 to 2015, but there has been a recent shift toward more frequent dry spells (27% higher during 1981–2011 relative to 1951–1980) and more intense wet spells in these four months.

As a consequence, storms are becoming cyclones, droughts are affecting more than half of the country and catastrophic floods are striking some parts of the country almost every year.

India suffered an economic loss of $ 4.2 billion in 2022 due to extreme weather events and climatic disasters, most of which were caused by floods, as per the WMO. An analysis by the Centre for Science and Environment shows that India has witnessed an extreme weather disaster almost every day of the first nine months of this year.

Vulnerable populations

While the poor and the marginalised are the hardest hit, women and children are even more vulnerable to climatic variations.

Kalaburagi-based economist Sangeetha Kattimani correlates climate changes to the economic development of north Karnataka, one of the state's most backward regions. "Six of the eight Kalyana Karnataka districts have less than 1% of green cover and five of these districts are suffering from both floods and drought," she says.

She points out that women are the worst affected as a majority are employed as farm labourers and any adverse impact on crops due to floods or drought results in loss of earnings.

The impacts on agriculture are visible in other states too.

Vishwanath K K, vice president of Karnataka Growers Federation, says the state has been witnessing the impact of changing weather patterns since 2016. The coffee-growing districts of Kodagu, Hassan and Chikkamagaluru witnessed two years of drought in 2016 and 2017, followed by three years of heavy rains.

"Rain is not new to us in Western Ghats. However, intense spells of rain in a short period of time, which is a recent phenomenon, is damaging our crops. The natural drains are not equipped to handle such heavy rain, resulting in flooding," he says.

The monsoon showers that used to set in the first week of June are now setting in the last week of June or the first week of July. Monsoon is withdrawing a month late. There are intermittent rains till November or December resulting in a short winter season when flowers need to bloom. "The changing weather impacts the coffee cultivation in a big way," Vishwanath says.

"Floods, cyclones, and heatwaves have intensified, affecting the food, water, and energy security, resulting in the loss of lives and livelihoods. Domestic migration is happening from agriculture-dominated areas of northern states that are facing rainfall deficits to the megacities like Mumbai that are facing increasing climate risks due to heavy rains, cyclones and a rising sea level," says Roxy Mathew Koll, a climate scientist at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune.

Coping strategies

Farmers in Rajasthan have adopted innovative farming methods like "pitcher irrigation" to combat climate change in the dry lands. They also construct embankments, water harvesting structures to capture rainwater and prevent run-off and soil erosion, besides choosing crops like pearl millet that are more suited to the climate.

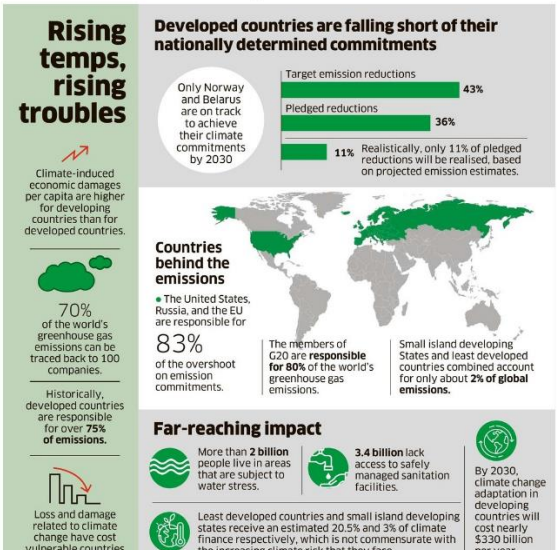
D Sivananda Pai, former director of the Institute for Climate Change Studies, Kottayam says the frequent rough weather alerts result in loss of human-days of work in the fisheries sector as well. The coastal community is suffering damage to properties including houses, fishing boats and equipment due to such weather.

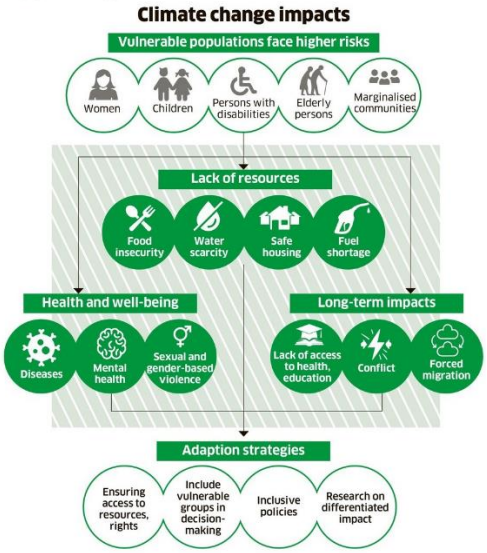
Yet another warning came from Chennai just a few days ago. "Tropical Cyclone Michung caused devastating damages as Chennai received 500 mm of rain in just 36 hours. This is very much on the higher side. The IPCC models suggest rainfall associated with tropical cyclones landfall will increase manifold with global warming," says M Rajeevan, former Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences.

All the impacts seen so far are in response to the one-degree Celsius rise in global warming. The current trajectory of carbon emissions points to a two degrees Celsius global warming by 2050. This would mean that India would face extreme weather events that are more intense, frequent, and cover larger areas. Climate change has a huge impact on a population's physical and mental health and health data is urgently required to build early warning systems into public health care.

"Climate models indicate that a changed monsoon pattern will be more common in the future, particularly the extreme rains that cause floods. The COP28 does not show a global political will to act on that. As a two degrees Celsius global change is closing in, India needs to urgently disaster-proof every village and city," Koll notes.

(With inputs from Zulfikar Majid in Jammu and Kashmir, Rakhee Roytalukdar in Rajasthan, Arjun Raghunath in Kerala and Pavan Kumar H in Karnataka)





Source: Global Climate Risk Index 2021, Climate Change Performance Index 2023, Council on Energy, Environment and Water, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, news reports.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.2, Dec.17, 2023

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

City's green ambitions: trade-offs and challenges

Activists and experts weigh in on priorities

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS

With the launch of the Bengaluru Climate Action Plan (BCAP), Bengaluru became the third city in the country to draw up an elaborate plan to combat climate change. While the launch of the plan is a welcome move, implementation is not as easy because challenges are aplenty. Experts pointed out that there is a need for strong political will coupled with constant monitoring to ensure the plan moves in the right direction.

For a city like Bengaluru, which is a top runner in economic growth and infrastructure development, successful implementation of the climate action plan may also mean prioritising the environment over money or development.

"We have to be ready for the trade-off. Given that the city has always prioritised infrastructure development and economic growth, the plan will not yield results if the stakeholders don't change their priorities," Harini Nagendra, professor, Azim Premji University, told *DH*.

The challenges are manifold because BCAP is a statutory document and is not something that government agencies or private establishments have to adhere to. "Recently, there have been wide discussions over tunnel roads, flyovers, and many infrastructure projects. All these projects and the future projects should be evaluated in the light of climate change. Unless BCAP is used as a guiding document to approve any projects, it will be of not much use," said Ashish Verma, Professor, Indian Institute of Science (IISc). "For instance, the government approved the Bengaluru Metropolitan Land Transport Authority (BMLTA) Bill but the authority is yet to become operational. This should not continue with BCAP. BMLTA should soon be made operational and BCAP should be a guiding document for BMLTA," he said.

Echoing Verma's opinion that the BCAP is only a statutory document, Jaya Dhindaw, Executive Director, Sustainable Cities, WRI India, opined that the success of the plan lies in bringing together a large number of private and public agencies together. "During the preparation of the document, we had to consult over 40 government agencies. If we consider the private agencies, the number of organistions that have to come together to implement this plan is high. Each one of them has to take ownership and be responsible for its implementation," she said.

Harini Nagendra added that it was the government's responsibility to streamline the process. "Many NGOs, civic society groups, and even corporates are trying to fight combat change in their own way. However, all of it has to be streamlined and the government should coordinate with the various agencies to make this successful," she said.

While the plan looks good on paper, it also sets an ambitious target of reaching carbon neutrality by 2050 making it a finance-intensive project. Moving towards the use of green energy, transition to cleaner public transport vehicles and many such initiatives need huge amounts of funds, and pooling in this could be a big challenge pointed out Professor Krishna Raj from the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC).

"Transition towards net zero compels the financially starved state government and BBMP to set aside a huge budget and it also hinges on central grants both in the short and long-term. Both the state and BBMP can demonstrate their political will by announcing a separate budget for city climate action. That apart, the government can also make use of CSR and economic instruments such as carbon credits and pollution taxes to make the plan financially viable," he suggested.

That apart, experts also opined that there is a need to control unplanned growth in the city, which is a major cause of many of the disasters. "The Bengaluru climate action plan is supposed to make Bengaluru more resilient to the impact of climate change. Two major problems that Bengaluru faces are flooding and "urban heat island". Both will become worse as global warming continues unabated. Both problems can be tackled if the land use pattern is changed. This requires that we have more greenery and lakes between different localities. I am not sure how the Bangalore climate action plan will be implemented unless there is a moratorium on the uncontrolled growth of Bengaluru," said Professor J Srinivasan, Distinguished Scientist at the Divecha Centre for Climate Change.

Citizen engagement and knowledge dissemination could also help monitor the implementation of BCAP, said Preeti Sunderajan, a member of the Citizens for Sankey, a collective of residents from Malleswaram, Sadashivanagar, and Vyalikaval.

"The number of sectors involved is huge and no one official can understand the nuances in every sector. Hence, it is important that they constitute an expert committee that can work with citizens to monitor the implementation," she said.

Changing rain patterns, warmer winters, and extremely high temperatures during the summer are clear indications that the city is bearing the stress of climate change. Experts who spoke to this reporter expressed concerns about the implementation of the BCAP and cautioned the government that there was a pressing need to take immediate measures. "It might not be too late. But if we do not act immediately, it might be too late," Verma said.

DH PHOTO/S K DINESH

Suggestions for implementation

- Use BCAP as a guiding document to approve infrastructure projects
- Plan finances and earmark funds in the budget
- Fix accountability of stakeholders
- Focus on planned growth
- Form expert committees to overlook the ongoing works in particular sectors
- Engage citizens

Actions proposed in BCAP

- Promote green buildings and low-carbon buildings with passive and active design strategies
- Improving public transport ridership through multimodal integration and demand management away from private vehicles.
- Divert waste from landfills by better segregation of waste at the source
- Developing a city-level comprehensive Health Action Plan for tackling health risks posed by short-term and long-term exposures to air pollution.
- Enhance access to safe and reliable water and sanitation services for all.
- Promote compact development through mixed-use, walkable neighbourhoods.
- Create a comprehensive spatio-temporal database pertaining to climate hazards, impacts, and vulnerabilities.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.4B, Dec.17, 2023

Poor rain sends groundwater table plummeting in B'luru

It Had Been Recharged In Past Decade

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Bengaluru: Prolonged dry spells owing to weak monsoons and dismal recharge have put the groundwater table across Bengaluru city under tremendous stress. Scanty rain, leading to increased reliance on groundwater for potable purpose and other activities, has resulted in the plummeting of the groundwater table, which had been recharged in the past decade.

According to data made available by the minor irrigation department for 2013-2023, groundwater level in five taluks of Bengaluru Urban district witnessed a sharp decline, ranging from 1-4 metres.

While the drop has been moderate in Bengaluru East, Yelahanka and Anekal taluks, it's alarming in South and North taluks. The groundwater table in Bengaluru South was at 13.4m in 2013 and has since plummeted to 18.7m — the sharpest fall for any region here. Bengaluru North has seen the level dropping from 16.2m to 18.2m.

Sources in the Karnataka Ground Water Authority, under the minor irrigation department, revealed that the water table which had recovered over the past t3-4 years in the IT capital has now again started to drop.

While acknowledging the shift because of the prevailing drought conditions and other activities, NS Boseraju, minister for minor irrigation, clarified that the department has been successful in maintaining the groundwater table across Bengaluru East despite heavy dependence on the same.

"Almost all areas of Bengaluru, barring east, are supplied with Cauvery water. But east is dependent on groundwater and still we've been able to maintain the levels. This is largely due to the KC and HN valley projects through which the state government has been filling up lakes in the region and beyond," Boseraju told **TOI**.

The data showed that the groundwater level in the five taluks of Bengaluru Urban, which was at an average depth of 30-35m, had improved to 15-20m. But the failure of both southwest and northeast monsoons, according to the minister, has had the groundwater level plummeting, especially in Bengaluru South, where the decline is by 5m in just 10 months.

Experts not convinced

Experts, though, are sceptical about the government data. Ram Prasad, convener of Friends of Lakes, said, "The data is difficult to believe given the ground reality. Yet, if the minister is hopeful that the KC and HN valley projects are improving the groundwater table, the state government may have to drop the idea of building Mekedatu reservoir and spend the same money on other infrastructure development works."

The government's reasoning behind east Bengaluru's groundwater table too isn't convincing, say experts.

Anjaneya Reddy, convener of Shashwatha Neeravari Horata Samiti in Bengaluru Rural, Chikkaballapur and Kolar districts, said, "KC and HN valley started only a few years ago and all the lakes are yet to be filled up. As per the meteorological data, the region witnessed heavy rainfall in 2019 and 2020, resulting in floods and overflowing of lakes, aiding recharge of groundwater."

Prof TV Ramachandra, scientist, IISc's Centre for Ecological Sciences, expressed concern over the drop in recharging of Bengaluru's groundwater table. "The only option is to allow percolation/infiltration of rainwater to recharge groundwater sources. Due to the unplanned, senseless and irresponsible urbanisation, there is a more than 1055% increase in paved surfaces (concrete, buildings, roads, etc.,) with 88% reduction in the green cover and 79% loss of wetlands/lakes in the city."

Source: The Times of India, p.2, Dec.18, 2023

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ

ಮೊದಲು ಸರ್ವೆ, ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ತೆರವು, ನಂತರವಷ್ಟೇ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ: ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಆದೇಶ

ಕೆರೆ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಷರತ್ತಿನ ಬಿಕ್ಕಟ್ಟು!

• ಆರ್. ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ಕೆರೆಗಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಆಯೋಗದ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ರೂಪಿಸಲಾಗಿರುವ ಕ್ರಿಯಾಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ನೀಡಿರುವ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಷರತ್ತಿನಿಂದ ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಬಿಕ್ಕಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸಿಲುಕಿದೆ.

'ಕೆರೆಗಳ ಗಡಿಯನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸಿ, ಅವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒತ್ತುವರಿಯನ್ನು ತೆರವುಗೊಳಿಸಿದ ನಂತರವಷ್ಟೇ ಕೆರೆಗಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು' ಎಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಷರತ್ತು ವಿಧಿಸಿದೆ. 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಆಯೋಗದ 2022-23ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಅನುದಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ₹49 ಕೋಟಿಯನ್ನು 14 ಕೆರೆಗಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕೆರೆಗಳ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ದೊರೆತ ಕೂಡಲೇ ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ವಿಸ್ತೃತ ಯೋಜನಾ ವರದಿ (ಡಿಪಿಆರ್) ಸಿದ್ಧಪಡಿಸಿ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆದು ಕಾರ್ಯಾದೇಶವನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಆರಂಭವಾದ ಮೇಲಷ್ಟೇ ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ಗಮನಕ್ಕೆ ಬರುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಅದನ್ನು ಉಳಿಸಿ, ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಿರುವ ಉದಾಹರಣೆಗಳೂ ಹಲವು ಕೆರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿವೆ.

ಈ ಬಾರಿ ಇಂತಹ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅವಕಾಶ ಇಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು 'ಸಂಕಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೆ' ದೂಡಿದೆ. ಕೆರೆಯ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣ, ಗಡಿ ಗುರುತು, ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ತೆರವಿನ ನಂತರವಷ್ಟೇ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಆರಂಭವಾಗಬೇಕಿರುವುದು ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಎಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ಗಳ ಪಾಲಿಗೆ ಸವಾಲಾಗಿ ಪರಿಣಮಿಸಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಈ ಷರತ್ತು ನಗರವಾಸಿಗಳು, ಪರಿಸರ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತರಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂತಸ ಮೂಡಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಕೆರೆಗಳು ಸಮಗ್ರವಾಗಿ ಉಳಿಯುವ ಭರವಸೆ ಮೂಡಿಸಿದೆ.

ಮಡಿವಾಳ ಕೆರೆ ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ತೆರವು ಸಾಧ್ಯವೇ?: ಅರಣ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆಗೆ ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿಗೆ ಹಸ್ತಾಂತರಗೊಂಡಿರುವ ಮಡಿವಾಳ ಕೆರೆ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ₹15 ಕೋಟಿ ಮೀಸಲಿಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. 267 ಎಕರೆ ವಿಸ್ತೀರ್ಣದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಮಡಿವಾಳ ಕೆರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಒತ್ತುವರಿಯೇ 10 ಎಕರೆಯಷ್ಟಿದೆ. ಬಿಡಿಎ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಇತರೆ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಕೊಳೆಗೇರಿ, ಕಟ್ಟಡಗಳು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣವಾಗಿವೆ. ಹಲವು ದಶಕಗಳಿಂದ ಈ ಒತ್ತುವರಿಯನ್ನು ತೆರವು ಮಾಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದು ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸವಾಲಾಗಿದೆ.

'ಮಡಿವಾಳ ಕೆರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಶಕಗಳಿಂದ ಹೂಳು ತೆಗೆದಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯೇ ಅತಿಹೆಚ್ಚಿದೆ. ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ಅತಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಇದನ್ನು ಮೊದಲು ತೆಗೆಯಬೇಕೆಂದರೆ ಪುನರ್‌ವಸತಿ, ಬಿಡಿಎ ರಸ್ತೆಗಳೆಲ್ಲ ಅಡ್ಡಿಯಾಗಿವೆ. ಇವುಗಳನ್ನು ತೆರವು ಮಾಡಲು ಕಷ್ಟಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗಬಹುದು. ಆದರೂ ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ತೆರವು ಮಾಡಲು ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಮಡಿವಾಳ ಕೆರೆ ಬಹಳ ದೊಡ್ಡದಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಅತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಹಣ ಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಮೊದಲು ಡಿಪಿಆರ್ ಸಿದ್ಧಪಡಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ನಂತರ ಎಲ್ಲ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ಆರಂಭವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ' ಎಂದು ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಕೆರೆ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಎಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ಗಳು ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಿದರು.

'ಕಾಚರಕನಹಳ್ಳಿ ಕೆರೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಳೆಗೇರಿಗಳು ನಿರ್ಮಾಣವಾಗಿವೆ. ಇಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆರೆಯ ಸರ್ವೆಕಾರ್ಯವೇ ನಡೆದಿಲ್ಲ. ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ರಾಜಕಾರಣಿಗಳು ಒತ್ತುವರಿಯನ್ನು ತೆರವು ಮಾಡಿಸುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಆರಂಭಿಸಿ ಎನ್ನುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಕೆರೆಯ ಅರ್ಧದಷ್ಟು ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ಇದೆ. ಷರತ್ತಿನ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಅವರಿಗೆಲ್ಲ ಪುನರ್ವಸತಿ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸಿದ ನಂತರವಷ್ಟೇ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ ಆರಂಭಿಸಬೇಕು. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ವರ್ಷಗಳು ಕಾಯಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ' ಎಂಬುದು ಎಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ಗಳ ಮಾತು.

ಹಲಸೂರು, ವೀರಸಾಗರ ಕೆರೆಗಳ ಸರ್ವೆಯನ್ನೇ ಈವರೆಗೂ ಮಾಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಇವುಗಳ ಸರ್ವೆ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಮೊದಲು ನಡೆಯಬೇಕಿದೆ. ನಂತರವಷ್ಟೇ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆ ಆರಂಭವಾಗಬೇಕು. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ 14 ಕೆರೆಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಹಲವು ಕೆರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಒಂದಷ್ಟು ಆಗಿದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಹೇಗೆ ಈ ಷರತ್ತು ಅನ್ವಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂಬುದೂ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ, ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಷರತ್ತು ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ವಹಿಸಿರುವುದಂತೂ ನಿಜ. ಇದು ಪೂರ್ಣ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಗತವಾದರೆ ಪರಿಸರಕ್ಕೇ ಲಾಭ ಎಂಬುದು ಪರಿಸರ ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತರ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ.

ಹೂಳಿನೊಂದಿಗೆ ಜಲಕಳೆ ತುಂಬಿರುವ ಮಡಿವಾಳ ಕೆರೆ — ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ಚಿತ್ರ/ ಕಿಶೋರ್ ಕುಮಾರ್ ಬೋಳಾರ್

ಯಾವ ನಕ್ಷೆಯಂತೆ ಸರ್ವೆ?

'ಕೆರೆಗಳ ಸರ್ವೆ ಮಾಡಿ, ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ತೆರವುಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಾಡಿ ಎಂದು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಷರತ್ತು ವಿಧಿಸಿರುವುದು ಸಂತಸದ ವಿಷಯ. ಆದರೆ, ಯಾವ ನಕ್ಷೆಯ ಆಧಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ವೆ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಾರೆ ಎಂಬುದೇ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ. ಇದಕ್ಕೆ ಉತ್ತರಿಸಿ, ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟ ನಿಲುವು ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಮುಂದುವರಿಯಬೇಕು' ಎಂದು ಫ್ರೆಂಡ್ಸ್ ಆಫ್ ಲೇಕ್‌ನ ರಾಮ್‌ಪ್ರಸಾದ್ ಆಗ್ರಹಿಸಿದರು.

'1974ರಿಂದ 76ರಲ್ಲಿದ್ದ ಕಂದಾಯ ನಕ್ಷೆಯಂತೆಯೇ ಸರ್ವೆ ನಡೆಯಬೇಕು. 2015ರಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ತಮ್ಮಿಷ್ಟಕ್ಕೇ ಕಂದಾಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಭೂಮಾಪಕರು ಮಾಡಿಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಸರ್ವೆಗಳಿವೆ. ಇವುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸವಿದೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ, ಹಳೆಯ ಕಂದಾಯ ನಕ್ಷೆಯಂತೆಯೇ ಸರ್ವೆ ನಡೆಸಿ, ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಾಡಿದರೆ ಕೆರೆಗಳ ಜಲಸಂಗ್ರಹ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಅಂತರ್ಜಲ ವೃದ್ಧಿ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಪರಿಸರ ರಕ್ಷಣೆಯೂ ಆಗುತ್ತದೆ' ಎಂದರು.

'ಸಂಶಯ ಮೂಡಿಸಿದೆ'

ಹೈಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಕೆರೆಗಳ ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ತೆರವಿನ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲಾಗಿರುವ 'ಕ್ರಿಯಾ ಯೋಜನೆ'ಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಡಿವಾಳ, ಕಾಚರಕನಹಳ್ಳಿ, ಹಲಸೂರು, ಅಂಜನಾಪುರ ಕೆರೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸೇರಿಸಿಲ್ಲ. 149 ಕೆರೆಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ ಕ್ರಿಯಾಯೋಜನೆಯಲ್ಲಿದ್ದು, ಉಳಿದ ಕೆರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಅವುಗಳು ಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇಲ್ಲದಿರುವುದು ಸಂಶಯ ಮೂಡಿಸಿದೆ. 'ಕ್ರಿಯಾಯೋಜನೆ'ಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಕೆರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಒತ್ತುವರಿಯನ್ನು ಮಾತ್ರ ತೆರವು ಮಾಡಬೇಕೆಂದೇನೂ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಎಲ್ಲ ಕೆರೆಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ಒತ್ತುವರಿಯನ್ನು ತೆರವುಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ತೆರವಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಥಮ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಿ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಕೆರೆಗಳ ವಿಭಾಗದ ಎಂಜಿನಿಯರ್‌ಗಳು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

Source: Prajavani, p.3, Dec.18, 2023

2023 vs 2022: City's winter air sees drop in pollutants

Sanika.Athavale
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Bengaluru: Breathe easy! Data from Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) for winter this year shows that the city's air quality has been slightly better than 2022. The Air Quality Index (AQI) monitored by KSPCB every day shows that so far this winter, the city hasn't been affected too severely by the phenomenon of 'winter inversion', where warm air settles below cold air, trapping pollutants in the cold atmosphere.

'Winter inversion' is a leading cause for deteriorated air quality in the country during the year end. According to a TOI study of KSPCB data, while transitioning into winter in 2021, Bengaluru's air quality standards dropped by almost half in comparison to the lockdown period in the same year, but Bengalureans have better air to breathe in the winter of 2023.

The city's main pollution triggers are road dust and vehicular emissions, while the main pollutant is particulate matter of diameters less than 2.5 and 10 micrometers. As per KSPCB's data, a comparison of November 2022 and November 2023 shows a drop of PM10 by 20% near Hebbal, Mysuru Road, Central Silk Board and Nimhans. However, stations near City railway station and Saneguruvanahalli registered a spike in PM10 atmospheric presence.

With the exception of the stations at Hebbal and Central Silk Board, that noted a 341.2% and 12.3% increase in sulphur dioxide levels, the other six stations in the city saw a considerable deduction in the presence of these pollutants.

Nitrogen dioxide and carbon monoxide, other commonly found hazardous pollutants, also saw a significant decrease in atmospheric levels, except for a few stations reporting an increase.

POSSIBLE REASONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- **Pre-election road works:** Sources at KSPCB said since 2023 was the year of Karnataka assembly elections, many constituencies saw quick completion of road work and pothole-filling
- **Metro expansion to Whitefield:** PC Ray, member-secretary at KSPCB, said the expansion of Namma Metro to Whitefield may have contributed to reducing vehicular density in the east-west corridor, thereby helping cut down pollutants
- **Attibele tragedy:** Ray added that due to the explosion at the firecracker godown near the Karnataka-Tamil Nadu border in October 2023, the state government was firm on cracking down on the use of hazardous crackers, preventing their production and use

Photo for representation

SHIFT CAPTURED IN READINGS

Monitoring location	PM10			SO_2		
	Nov 2023	Nov 2022	% Change	Nov 2023	Nov 2022	% Change
City Railway Station	86.6	77.4	11.9	11.2	20.3	-44.8
Saneguruvanahalli	49.2	44.8	9.8	4.4	7.5	-41.3
Hebbal	58.2	77.1	-24.5	15	3.4	341.2
Jayanagar	77.7	81.6	-4.8	11.7	6.1	91.8
Mysuru Road	85.5	117.4	-27.2	5	5.9	-15.3
Nimhans	49.5	68	-27.2	3.7	4.5	-17.8
Near Central Silk Board	80.6	101.5	-20.6	6.4	5.7	12.3

* all pollutants average readings in $\mu g/m^3$
Source: KSPCB

Source: The Times of India, p.3, Dec.20, 2023

Seventeen years of Forest Rights Act: ATREE brings out resource materials for laypersons

An ATREE team comprising Adivasi youth has been working in several States for the last five years to help forest villages secure their Community Forest Resource Rights

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

Earlier this week on October 18, the landmark Forest Rights Act (FRA) enacted by parliament in 2006 marked its 17 anniversary.

On the occasion, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and The Environment (ATREE), a Bengaluru-based research institution, released a bunch of resources including four videos on FRA, a documentary on the team's work in Bastar, a webGIS mapping tool and a template for community forest rights management plan prepared in collaboration with TISS Mumbai. The initiative is under ATREE's Forests, Governance and Livelihoods Programme.

The resources draw upon the institution's work in Central India. An ATREE team comprising Adivasi youth has been working in states including Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Eastern Maharashtra and Telangana for the last five years to help forest villages in these states secure their community forest resources rights (CFR).

Public meeting on Community Forest Resource (CFR) rights oragnised by ATREE team .

Videos for laypersons

"The four videos are meant to explain to the layperson the essence of the Forest Rights Act (FRA), why it was introduced and what it tries to do. Made in simple language, they target the Hindi heartland," says Sharachchandra Lele, senior fellow at ATREE. Mr. Lele has been leading ATREE's 'CFR in Central India initiative.' He notes that many people, including urban dwellers, don't understand the purpose of FRA which seeks to rectify the historical injustices committed to forest communities since the time of British colonial rule. The prevalent notion is that the Act is a political gimmick to legalise encroachments of forest land. FRA recognises the forest dweller's rights over their land and the community's rights to manage and conserve the forest. Community Forest Resources Rights and Individual Forest Rights form two integral parts of FRA.

The Community Forest Resources (CFR) Rights recognise the rights of the community over the forest land within village boundaries and allows to collect minor forest produce, use grazing lands and water resources, and protect and regenerate any community resource.

Highlighting groundwork

Phulsingh Nag is a 24-year-old belonging to the Dhurva Tribe in Bastar. He has been working with the ATREE team in Bastar for more than two years as an FRA coordinator. Mr. Nag notes that awareness building among the villagers has been a challenge.

"Initially, when we began the implementation work, many people did not believe that Forest Rights could be granted through the Gram Sabha for their traditional forest lands. However, through a series of meetings targeting women, youth, and other forest-dwelling communities in each village, along with documentary screenings highlighting the implementation and benefits of FRA, belief slowly took root."

The ATREE team has so far facilitated 56 formal title deeds that recognise the CFR rights of the villages in Bastar.

The documentary in Hindi sheds light on such grassroot level work of the team.

"Villages getting the CFR title deeds is a nice outcome of our work in Bastar, but it has been achieved through a certain process of building the capacity of the local Adivasi youth. That's the highlight of the documentary," Mr. Lele explains.

Laxmi Kanth Kashyap who belongs to the Koya tribe in Bastar is testimony to this. Mr. Kashyap who speaks Gondi and Halbi languages had been working independently on the implementation of FRA and PESA prior to his association with ATREE.

Mapping progress

"After joining ATREE, I have enhanced my capacity in terms of tools, technology, and community-building skills," he says.

The team has also come up with a webGIS tool that would allow one to see the terrains of a particular village as captured by Google satellite images with administrative boundaries overlaid on top of it. The ATREE team has also added to the map an estimate of the CFR area that each village could get.

According to Mr. Lele, the mapping tool would allow policymakers to see the areas where CFR rights should be provided and how far they are from reaching the end goal and put pressure on them for the implementation of FRA.

It would also enable the villagers to see their terrain through an administrative lens, he notes.

"One of the biggest lacunae we found was that villagers have almost never seen the village maps or the forest department maps. The two departments also don't talk to each other. They don't know how their area is represented in the other departments' maps."

A template for management

While states like Maharashtra and Odisha have done significant work in terms of issuing the CFR title deeds, Mr. Lele notes that there has been very little guidance from the central ministry on what happens next, although the law requires them to create a management plan.

The Government of Maharashtra notified 'Guidelines for CFR Management Planning' in September 2017. These were drafted with the help of ATREE and TISS.

"We have now brought out an updated version with a wider perspective based on more feedback from the ground. The document is available in Hindi and English. The idea is that activists, NGOs or even villagers themselves could read it and figure it out."

FRA implementation

In Karnataka the situation with respect to FRA has remained complicated. Except in pockets of southern Karnataka, awareness is scarce on community forest rights, says Mr. Lele.

"In B.R. Hills, the Soligas got community rights in 2010. But after that, there has not been much progress, be it in Nagarhole or Bandipur or other such places. In the rest of the State, there has been complete apathy due to lack of knowledge about these rights."

In Shimoga, 'encroachment' continues to be a sensitive issue. The Linganamakki dam constructed in 1964 led to displacement of several people. Many of them, who did not get any compensatory land, simply moved to other parts of the forest and were later labelled as encroachers.

It gets more complicated in other parts of the state.

In the Western Ghats districts for example, some communities within villages have individual rights over forests.

"In Kodagu they are called Bane lands, in Dakshina Karnataka they are called Kumki lands, in Uttara Kannada they are called Soppinabetta lands. So, when the village itself is divided between those who already hold forest privileges and those who don't, it gets complicated. In such situations when you say there should be an application for a community right, the question of which community and which forest it should be applied for arises," says Mr. Lele.

Source: The Hindu, p.9, Dec. 22, 2023

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Health

COVID-19 subvariant JN.1: Karnataka on high alert

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Following rising COVID-19 cases in the neighbouring Kerala and a slight increase in Karnataka, the State is on a high alert.

State Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao, who held a meeting with officials on Saturday to take stock of the situation, said the COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will meet on December 19 to discuss the impact of the new COVID-19 subvariant JN.1, a descendant of BA.2.86, being detected in parts of Kerala. "We have asked the TAC to discuss and recommend precautionary measures to be initiated. The TAC chairman K. Ravi said that the committee will meet on December 19," the Minister told presspersons after the meeting.

58 actives cases

"Of the 58 active COVID-19 cases currently in Karnataka, 11 are hospitalised (five in ward and six in ICU) while the remaining are in home isolation. There have been no deaths reported in the past two months. However, one death of a 64 year old has been reported from a Bengaluru hospital on December 15. The patient had multiple comorbidities and COVID-19 was an incidental finding," the Minister said.

Minister Dinesh Gundurao addressing the media on the COVID-19 situation, in Bengaluru on Saturday.

Asserting that there is no need to panic or ramp up cross border surveillance as of now, the Minister said he had, however, instructed officials to ensure testing of all SARI cases and one in 20 ILI cases for COVID-19 in all private and government tertiary centres including medical colleges. "All border districts have been directed to be vigilant and ensure adequate testing and reporting," he said.

Procurement

The Karnataka State Medical Supplies Corporation Ltd. (KSMSCL) has been directed to procure RTPCR and Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) kits and other required consumables to ensure adequate supply in all the government hospitals for the next three months, he said.

Following the Centre's directions, a mock drill has been initiated in all the government and private hospitals in the State. The exercise started on Thursday to take stock of preparedness to address any surge in COVID-19 cases.

"We are monitoring the availability of health facilities geographically, bed capacities, human resource capacity, referral services, testing capacities, logistics, medical oxygen and telemedicine services. The drill will be completed on December 18 and based on the findings, any shortcomings will be addressed," the Minister said.

"I have also directed the officials to ensure that samples of COVID-29 positive cases with CT value of less than 25 are sent to BMCRI for genome sequencing. This will help us in identifying the prevalent strains in the community," he added.

Source: The Hindu, p.4, Dec. 17, 2023

NIMHANS to roll out NAMAN rural mental health programme

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

NIMHANS, in association with Ashraya Hastha Trust (AHT), signed an MoU with multiple stakeholders to implement a comprehensive rural mental health programme named 'NAMAN' (NIMHANS-AHT Comprehensive Mental-Health-Action-Program for Rural Communities) in two taluks in the country. The programme will cater to the mental health needs of the entire population in Munsiyari taluk of Pithoragarh district of Uttarakhand and Belur taluk in Hassan district of Karnataka. The programme plans to follow a lifespan approach, which would cover the entire population "from womb to tomb".

The national launch of the programme will be held on December 18 at NIMHANS. The proposed programme will be completed within three years. NIMHANS will develop the road map for the overall implementation of the programme, and All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Rishikesh, will collaborate with NIMHANS as a sub-hub for its successful implementation in Uttarakhand, according to a release.

Source: The Hindu, p.4, Dec. 17, 2023

MOSQUITO MENACE

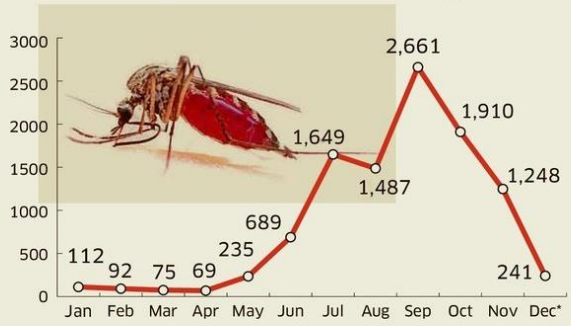
B'luru reports close to 10,468 dengue cases this year

BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru has reported close to 10,468 dengue cases this year, according to the data from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

This is the highest in the last three years, sources said. Four deaths have been reported this year in the BBMP limits. While the number of cases is usually high during the monsoon seasons, they are supposed to come down gradually from November, with the onset of winter.

However, data showed that the city has been reporting over 1,000 cases since July. Experts said that the changes in the weather could have had an impact. "Winter does not usually support mosquito breeding.



*December: (Up to Dec 10)

However, intermittent rains in November and delay in onset of winter conditions may have resulted in an increase in cases," explained Dr Vandana G, a Bengaluru-based general physician.

Senior BBMP officials, however, said that increased surveillance and monitoring may have helped record more cases.

"We have increased monitoring and as a result, the number of cases being reported has increased. For instance, we visit the surroundings of every house that reports a dengue case and test people with symptoms. This way, we are able to identify more cases," a senior BBMP official monitoring the process said.

Owing to the large number of cases being recorded in the city, the BBMP has increased surveillance and preventive measures.

"Fogging is going on continuously. Our officials are also going door-to-door to identify mosquito breeding spots and educate people," B Reddy Shankar Babu, BBMP Special Commissioner (Health), told *DH*. He added that the surveillance has also been stepped up to check houses with backyards and gardens since they are common breeding spots for mosquitoes. "We have been inspecting and levying a fine on those who are not maintaining their gardens well. They could easily turn into mosquito breeding spots and cause diseases," he said.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.4B, Dec.17, 2023

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ

ಕರೊನಾ ಕಿಟ್ ಖರೀದಿಗೆ ಟೆಂಡರ್, ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಸನ್ನದ್ಧತೆ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ಮಂಗಳವಾರ ಮಹತ್ವದ ಸಭೆ, ಡೇಟಾ ಆಧರಿಸಿ ಮುಂದಿನ ಕ್ರಮ

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಅಲರ್ಟ್

■ ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಸುದ್ದಿಜಾಲ ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ

ನೆರೆಯ ಕೇರಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಗಂಭೀರವಾಗುವ ಲಕ್ಷಣ ಕೋರುತ್ತಿರುವಂತೆ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲೂ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಮುಂಜಾಗ್ರತಾ ಕ್ರಮಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಆರಂಭಿಸಿದೆ.

ಶನಿವಾರ ವಿಕಾಸ ಸೌಧದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಸಿ ಸುದ್ದಿಗಾರರಿಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಿದ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಚಿವ ದಿನೇಶ್ ಗುಂಡೂರಾವ್, ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಅನೇಕ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿ ಅನುಸರಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಯಾವೆಲ್ಲ ಮುಂಜಾಗ್ರತಾ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕೆಂದು ತೀರ್ಮಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಯಾವ ಸ್ವರೂಪದಲ್ಲಿದೆ? ಅದರ ಪರಿಣಾಮ ಏನು? ಯಾವ ರೀತಿಯ ಪ್ರಭಾವ ಬೀರುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ನೋಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಸದ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಆತಂಕಪಡುವ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಗಳಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ಸದ್ಯದ ವಾತಾವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ವೈರಲ್ ಫೀವರ್, ಸೈಕೋಸಿಯಾ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿರುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದರು.

» ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಧಾನವಾಗಿ ವೃದ್ಧಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ

ಕೇರಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಕಳವಳಕಾರಿ ಬೆಳವಣಿಗೆಗಳಾದರೆ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಕ್ರಮ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಜನರಿಗೆ ಕೂಡ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಟೆಸ್ಟ್ ಮಾಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಿ ಎಂದು ಸೂಚನೆ ಕೊಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದೇವೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರು. ಈ ಹಿಂದೆ ನಾವು ಜಾಗೃತರಾಗಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ, ಒಂದು ಅನುಭವ ಆಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಬಾರಿ ಪೂರ್ವ ತಯಾರಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಅವಕಾಶವಿದೆ. ಮಂಗಳವಾರ ತಜ್ಞರ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಯಲಿದ್ದು, ಇಲ್ಲಿಯವರೆಗಿನ ಡೇಟಾ ಆಧರಿಸಿ ಮುಂದೆ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಾದ ತಯಾರಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸಲಹೆ ಪಡೆಯಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದರು.

58 ಪ್ರಕರಣ, 6 ಗಂಭೀರ, ಒಂದು ಸಾವು!: ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲೂ 58 ಸಕ್ರಿಯ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಿವೆ. 47 ಜನ ಹೋಮ್ ಐಸೋಲೇಷನ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಸೋಂಕಿತ 6 ಮಂದಿ ಐಸಿಯುನಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಒಬ್ಬರು ಮೃತಪಟ್ಟಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕ್ರಮಗಳು

- ಕೇರಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಿಂದ ತುರ್ತು ಸಭೆ. ಅಗತ್ಯ ತಯಾರಿ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಮತ್ತು ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅವಲೋಕನ
- ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳಿಗೆ ಟೆಸ್ಟ್ ಮಾಡಲು 3 ಲಕ್ಷ ಆರ್‌ಟಿಪಿಸಿಆರ್ ಟೆಸ್ಟಿಂಗ್ ಕಿಟ್ ಅಗತ್ಯ; ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆದಿದ್ದು, ಐದಾರು ದಿನದಲ್ಲಿ ಪೂರೈಕೆ
- ಔಷಧಿ, ಬೆಡ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ, ಆಕ್ಸಿಜನ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು ನೇರ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸನ್ನದ್ಧತೆ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಲು ಸೂಚನೆ
- 3 ತಿಂಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೇಕಾಗುವಷ್ಟು ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಟೆಸ್ಟ್ ಕಿಟ್ ತಕ್ಷಣವೇ ಖರೀದಿ ಮಾಡಲು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಆದೇಶ
- ರಾಜ್ಯಾದ್ಯಂತ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಟೆಸ್ಟ್ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳ ಮಾಡಲು ನಿರ್ಧಾರ. ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಲಕ್ಷಣ ಕಂಡು ಬಂದರೆ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.
- ಕಳೆದ ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳಿಂದ ಸಾಂಕ್ರಾಮಿಕ ಕಾಯಿಲೆಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಿವೆ. ವೈರಲ್ ಫೀವರ್, ಐಎಲ್‌ಐ ಸಾರಿ ಕೇಸ್ ಕಂಡುಬಂದರೆ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಟೆಸ್ಟ್
- ಡಿ. 19ರಂದು ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಡಾ.ರವಿ ನೇತೃತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ತಜ್ಞರ ಸಮಿತಿ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಯಲಿದೆ. ಮುಂದಿನ ವಾರದೊಳಗೆ ಟಾಸ್ಕ್ ಫೋರ್ಸ್ ರಚನೆ

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಸದ್ಯ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಆತಂಕ ಪಡಬೇಕಿಲ್ಲ. ಜೆಎನ್-1 ರೂಪಾಂತರಿ ಒಮಿಕ್ರಾನ್ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಬೀರಲಿದೆ. ಬಹುತೇಕರು ಲಸಿಕೆ ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದು, ಸುರಕ್ಷಿತರಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ ಹೊಂದಿರುವವರು ಎಚ್ಚರಿಕೆ ವಹಿಸುವುದು ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ.

| ಡಾ.ವಿ. ರವಿ ವೈರಾಣು ತಜ್ಞ

ಕೇರಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ಹೆಚ್ಚಳವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಹೊಸ ತಳಿ ಪತ್ತೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ನಡೆಸಿ ವರದಿ ನೀಡುವಂತೆ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದೆ. ಅದರಂತೆ ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಮಾಡಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ವರದಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

| ಡಾ.ರವಿ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ

ಕೇರಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಜೆಎನ್1 ಪತ್ತೆ

ನವದೆಹಲಿ: ಕರೊನಾ ವೈರಸ್‌ನ ಜೆಎನ್.1 ಎಂಬ ಹೊಸ ರೂಪಾಂತರಿ ತಳಿಯೊಂದು ಕೇರಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಪತ್ತೆಯಾಗಿದ್ದು ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ವಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಆತಂಕ ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ನ.18ರಂದು 79 ವರ್ಷದ ಮಹಿಳೆಯೊಬ್ಬರ ಆರ್‌ಟಿ-ಪಿಸಿಆರ್ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಜೆಎನ್.1 ಸೋಂಕು ಇರುವುದು ದೃಢಪಟ್ಟಿತ್ತು. ವೃದ್ಧೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇನ್‌ಫ್ಲುಯೆಂಝಾದಂಥ ಅನಾರೋಗ್ಯದ ಸೌಮ್ಯ ಲಕ್ಷಣ ಕಾಣಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ನಂತರ ಚೇತರಿಸಿ ಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅದಕ್ಕೂ ಮುನ್ನ, ಸಿಂಗಾಪುರದಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾರತೀಯ ಪ್ರವಾಸಿಯೊಬ್ಬರಲ್ಲಿ ಜೆಎನ್.1 ಪತ್ತೆಯಾಗಿತ್ತು. ತಮಿಳುನಾಡಿನ ತಿರುಚಿನಾಪಳ್ಳಿಯವರಾದ ಆ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ ಆ.25ರಂದು ಸಿಂಗಾಪುರಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರಯಾಣಿಸಿದ್ದರು. ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ಸಿಂಗಾಪುರ ಹಾಗೂ ಇಂಡೋನೇಷ್ಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ನಾಗರಿಕರಿಗೆ ಫೇಸ್ ಮಾಸ್ಕ್ ಕಡ್ಡಾಯಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಅಲ್ಲಿನ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳು ಆದೇಶ ಹೊರಡಿಸಿವೆ.

» ಆತಂಕ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸಿದ ರೂಪಾಂತರಿ ತಳಿ

ಪುಟ 3

ಲಕ್ಸೆಂಬರ್ಗ್‌ನಲ್ಲೇ ಮೊದಲು

ಜೆಎನ್.1 ಉಪ-ತಳಿಯನ್ನು ಮೊದಲ ಬಾರಿಗೆ ಲಕ್ಸೆಂಬರ್ಗ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಗುರುತಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಬಳಿಕ ಕೆಲ ದೇಶಗಳಿಗೂ ಹಬ್ಬಿದೆ. ವಾಸ್ತವವಾಗಿ ಅದು ಪಿರೋಲಾ ರೂಪಾಂತರಿ, ಅಂದರೆ ಬಿಎ.2.86ನ ಸಂತತಿಯಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಿಗಳು ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ಜೆಎನ್.1ಗೆ ಅತಿ ವೇಗವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಸಾರವಾಗುವ ಶಕ್ತಿಯಿದೆ. ರೋಗನಿರೋಧಕ ಶಕ್ತಿಯಿಂದ ತಪ್ಪಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯವೂ ಅದಕ್ಕಿದೆ.

| ರಾಜೀವ್ ಜಯದೇವನ್
ಟಾಸ್ಕ್ ಫೋರ್ಸ್ ಸಹ-ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ

Source: Vijayavani, p.1, Dec.17, 2023

ಸರಕಾರ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳದಿದ್ದರೆ ನಕಲಿ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕ್ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವ ಆತಂಕ

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 50 ಸಾವಿರ ನಕಲಿ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕ್

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಈವರೆಗೆ 50 ಸಾವಿರಕ್ಕೂ ಅಧಿಕ ನಕಲಿ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕ್‌ಗಳು ಇರುವುದು ಬೆಳಕಿಗೆ ಬಂದಿದೆ.

ಕೆಲ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಎರಡರಿಂದ ಮೂರು ಸಾವಿರ ನಕಲಿ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕ್‌ಗಳಿವೆ. ಒಂದೇ ವೇಳೆ ಇವರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಸರಕಾರ ಕಠಿಣ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳದಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ದಿನಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬೀದಿ ಬದಿಯಲ್ಲೂ ನಕಲಿ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕ್‌ಗಳ ಹಾವಳಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಲಿವೆ ಎನ್ನುವ ಆತಂಕ ಶುರುವಾಗಿದೆ. ಕೆಎಯುಪಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಒಮ್ಮೆ ನೋಂದಣಿಯಾದ ವೈದ್ಯರು ನಿಧನರಾದರೆ ಹೊರ ರಾಜ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಅಥವಾ ವಿದೇಶಗಳಿಗೆ ತೆರಳಿದರೆ ಅವರ ನೋಂದಣಿ ರದ್ದಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ರದ್ದಾದ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಂಡು ರಿಜಿಸ್ಟ್ರಾರ್‌ಗಳು, ಕೆಲವರು ನಕಲಿ ವೈದ್ಯರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಮಾಣಪತ್ರ ನೀಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈ ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಸರು ನಮೂದಿಸಿ ಮತ್ತು ಭಾವಚಿತ್ರ ಅಂಟಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ನಕಲಿ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕ್ ತೆರೆದಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎಂದು ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಂದ ತಿಳಿದುಬಂದಿದೆ.

ಮಾನ್ಯತೆ ಹೊಂದಿದ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಐದೂವರೆ ವರ್ಷ ಬ್ಯಾಚುಲರ್ ಆಫ್ ಆಯು ರ್ವೇದಿಕ್ ಮೆಡಿಸಿನ್ ಅಂಡ್ ಸರ್ಜರಿ (ಬಿಎಎಂಎಸ್), ಬ್ಯಾಚುಲರ್ ಆಫ್ ಯುನಾನಿ ಮೆಡಿಷನ್ ಅಂಡ್ ಸರ್ಜರಿ (ಬಿಯುಎಂಎಸ್) ಹಾಗೂ ಬ್ಯಾಚುಲರ್ ಆಫ್ ಯೋಗ ಅಂಡ್ ನ್ಯಾಚುರೋಪತಿ (ಬಿವೈಎಎಸ್) ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ಮುಗಿಸಿದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಕಡ್ಡಾಯವಾಗಿ ಕೆಎಯುಪಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಪ್ರಮಾಣಪತ್ರ, ಬಾರ್ ಕೋಡ್ ಮತ್ತು ಗುರುತಿನ ಚೀಟಿ ಪಡೆಯಬೇಕು. ನಕಲಿ ವೈದ್ಯರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಕಾನೂನಿನಡಿ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಮಂಡಳಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತಂದಿದ್ದ ಬಯೋಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಗೆ ಗರ ಬಡಿದಿದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ಮುಗಿಸಿದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಾಗಿ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ.

ಭ್ರೂಣ ಹತ್ಯೆ ಅಡ್ಡ?: ಭ್ರೂಣಹತ್ಯೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕ್‌ಗಳ ಮಾಯಾಜಾಲ ಹೊರಬಿದ್ದಿದೆ. ನಕಲಿ ಕ್ಲಿನಿಕ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭ್ರೂಣಹತ್ಯೆ ದಂಧೆ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದು ಮೆಲ್ನೋಟಕ್ಕೆ ತಿಳಿದುಬಂದಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಭ್ರೂಣ ಹತ್ಯೆ ತಡೆಗೆ ಕಠಿಣ ಕಾನೂನು ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕಿದ್ದ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ನಿರ್ಲಕ್ಷ್ಯ ತೋರಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 1994 ರಿಂದ 2023ರವರೆಗೆ ಅಂದರೆ 29 ವರ್ಷದಲ್ಲಿ ಬರೀ 100 ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 31 ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ 14 ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇದುವರೆಗೆ ಒಂದೂ ಪ್ರಕರಣ ದಾಖಲಿಸಿಲ್ಲ, ಆರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತಲಾ ಒಂದು ಪ್ರಕರಣ ವರದಿಯಾದರೆ, ಉಳಿದ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ಬೆರಳೆಣಿಕೆಯಷ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಇತರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಅತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು, ಅಂದರೆ 31ಪ್ರಕರಣ ವರದಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ ಬೆರಳೆಣಿಕೆ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಮಾತ್ರ ಬೆಳಕಿಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತಿವೆ.

6,300 ಅಲ್ಟ್ರಾಸೌಂಡ್ ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನಿಂಗ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರ

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 6,300ಕ್ಕೂ ಅಧಿಕ ಅಲ್ಟ್ರಾಸೌಂಡ್ ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನಿಂಗ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿವೆ. ಇಲಾಖೆ ಅನುಮತಿ ಪಡೆಯದೆ ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ನೂರಾರು ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನಿಂಗ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳು ಅಕ್ರಮವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭವಾಗುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಶೇ.70 ಸ್ಕ್ಯಾನಿಂಗ್ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳು ನಿಯಮ ಪಾಲಿಸುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಣದ ಆಸೆಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮೂರು ತಿಂಗಳಿಂದ ಆರು ತಿಂಗಳೊಳಗಿನ ಭ್ರೂಣವನ್ನು ಪರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಿ ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಅಥವಾ ಗಂಡು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನೂ ಹೇಳುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಬಳಿಕ, ಹೆಣ್ಣಾದರೆ ಭ್ರೂಣವನ್ನು ಹತ್ಯೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂಬ ಆರೋಪ ಕೇಳಿ ಬಂದಿದೆ.

- **ನಕಲಿ ವೈದ್ಯರ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಜಾರಿಗೆ ತಂದಿದ್ದ ಬಯೋಮೆಟ್ರಿಕ್ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಗೆ ಗರ**
- **ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ಕೋರ್ಸ್ ಮುಗಿಸಿದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಾಗಿ ನೋಂದಣಿ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ**

Source: Vishwavani, p.5, Dec.18, 2023

State to increase COVID-19 testing to 5,000 a day; guidelines issued for genome sequencing

As many as 44 new cases reported in 24 hours, according to the Health Department bulletin. The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is scheduled to hold a meeting with all the States today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State has decided to increase testing and Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) of positive cases, as it gears up to navigate a possible COVID-19 upsurge again due to the JN.1 subvariant prevalent in the neighbouring State of Kerala.

"Presently, the number of COVID-19 tests being conducted in the State is very low. We have decided to increase testing to 5,000 a day," said D. Randeep, Commissioner of Health and Family Welfare.

Guidelines issued by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to all the States on Monday, recommended "ensuring adequate testing in all districts as per COVID-19 guidelines and maintaining RT PCR and RAT tests ratio". The Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is scheduled to hold a meeting with all the State governments through a video conferencing on Wednesday morning. The State government has for one restarted the daily COVID-19 health bulletin on Tuesday, which showed 44 new COVID-19 cases were reported in the State in the last 24 hours. With 35 patients discharged in the last 24 hours, there are a total of 79 active cases in the State as of Tuesday, the bulletin said. Since the Department of Health and Family Welfare hasn't released data of cases reported during the previous few days, it is difficult to say whether there has been an uptick or not.

However, the bulletin showed that the State has only conducted 722 tests – 487 RT PCR tests and 235 RAT tests – in the last 24 hours and 44 tested positive, with a high positivity rate of 6.09%.

In the active cases, 62 are in home isolation, 17 cases are admitted to hospital, while six people are in ICU and 11 are taking treatment in isolation beds, stated in the department bulletin.

The Health Department has given instructions to all the district and taluk hospitals to take stock of the situation and be prepared.
FILE PHOTO

COVID update

New cases: **44**
Total tests: **722**
RT-PCR: **487**
RAT: **235**
Positivity rate 6.09%
* In the last 24 hours

State govt. advisory

People aged 60 and above, those with comorbidities, pregnant women, lactating mothers, and those with respiratory symptoms like fever, cough, cold, and running nose must wear masks, and avoid closed and poorly ventilated spaces and crowded areas.

Guidelines

The Karnataka Health and Family Welfare Department issued a circular and directed the district authorities to conduct Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) in cases such as symptomatic with international travel history, representative samples from clusters or focal outbreaks with severe morbidity or mortality. The Health Department has stated in the circular that the WGS should be done for seriously sick, hospitalised patients, SARI cases, prolonged hospital admission, cases of COVID-19 re-infection, infection of individuals who have been vaccinated with two doses and COVID-19 deaths.

Meanwhile, BIAL officials said no precautionary measures had been taken in the Bengaluru International airport.

Hospital preparedness

In another circular issued on Tuesday by the Health Department has given instructions to all the district and taluk hospitals to take stock of the situation and be prepared.

The department has directed district health officials to check the status of PSA plants, liquid medical oxygen plants, ICU ventilators, oxygen cylinders, oxygen concentrators, medical gas pipeline, and equipment in ICU.

Source: The Hindu, p.2, Dec. 20, 2023

State govt. guidelines advise everyone to wear masks in crowded public spaces that are poorly ventilated

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government guidelines for feared COVID-19 surge issued on Tuesday, advise not only senior citizens, those with comorbidities, and those with COVID-like symptoms to wear masks in public places, but also advises everyone to wear masks in crowded public spaces with low ventilation. It also mandates masks in public spaces for pregnant women and lactating mothers.

"At crowded places, particularly, if not well-ventilated, wearing a mask is advised. When travelling overseas, stay vigilant and adopt relevant travel precautions, such as wearing masks at the airport and inside aircraft, and avoiding crowded areas with poor ventilation," the guidelines states. The advisory issued by Commissioner of Health and Family Welfare Services Randeep D. states: "All elderly (60 years and above), comorbid (particularly with kidney, heart, liver ailments, etc.), pregnant women and lactating mothers, when outdoor, shall wear face masks, and strictly avoid visiting closed, poorly ventilated spaces and crowded areas."

Those with respiratory symptoms like fever, cough, cold, and running nose shall seek medical consultation early, and, they should wear face masks (covering nose and mouth), and avoid visiting closed, poorly ventilated spaces, and crowded areas. The government advisory requests people to follow good personal hygiene, including frequent hand washing. "When unwell, stay at home, and minimise contact with other people, especially seniors and those who are vulnerable.

The Health Department said that given the current COVID-19 situation, the emergence of the JN.1 subvariant, ongoing winter conditions, and anticipated year-end and New Year festivities, the public is urged to follow precautionary measures recommended by the Covid-19 State Technical Advisory Committee (TAC).

Source: The Hindu, p.2, Dec. 20, 2023

After two Covid deaths, BBMP to test 1,500 people a day

Says those without comorbid conditions need not panic

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU, DHNS

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has decided to ramp up Covid-19 tests in the city following the death of two people to the disease.

The state government reportedly set 1,500 tests a day both in the BBMP limits and in Bengaluru Urban, which would be daunting since those who tested positive have only reported minor symptoms.

The latest data shared by private hospitals with the civic body shows 59 people have tested positive for Covid-19 between December 1 and 19.

In the last four days, more people have contracted the sub-variant of the novel coronavirus, possibly due to increased testing in private labs and hospitals. The BBMP is currently testing 350 to 400 people a day.

"As we test more people in the days to come, the number of Covid-19 cases will eventually rise. There is, however, no need to panic as long as the patient does not have any comorbid conditions.

"As per the reports we received from hospitals, the severity among patients has been mild," Bala Sundar, Chief Health Officer (Public Health), BBMP, told *DH*.

So far, the BBMP has reported two suspected Covid-19 deaths, one at a private hospital on Race Course Road and the other in Hebbal.

Health officials said two more are currently being treated in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) at private hospitals as they have comorbid conditions.

Operational readiness

On Wednesday, the BBMP held its first meeting to ensure operational readiness of all healthcare facilities to handle any possible Covid surge.

B Reddy Shankar Babu, Special Commissioner (Health), BBMP, said 450 lab technicians, 350 qualified doctors, 2,000 oxygen concentrators and other equipment are ready to tackle any tasks assigned by the government, including testing suspected patients.

'RAT free of cost'

"We want to do 1,500 rapid antigen tests (RAT) on a daily basis, and it will be free of cost. But we do not know whether people who have mild symptoms will be willing to take the test. That's the concern," Babu said, adding that the tests will be done in 144 health centers and 242 Namma clinics across the city.

"There is no immediate plan to undertake random testing of people in crowded places, including inter-state passengers," Babu said.

Passengers mask up at the KSR railway station on Wednesday. DH PHOTO/BK JANARDHAN

Numbers so far

Date	Covid-19 cases
Dec 19	17
Dec 18	13
Dec 17	04
Dec 16	05
Dec 15	01

Battle-ready: Pvt hospitals well equipped to tackle potential surge

UDBHAVI BALAKRISHNA
BENGALURU, DHNS

Despite the absence of a notable surge in Covid cases, private hospitals in the city are taking pre-emptive measures to address and manage viral infections.

While a few patients are presenting symptoms resembling Influenza-Like Illnesses (ILI), the overall situation remains controlled.

Dr Govindaiah Yatheesh, president of PHANA (Private Hospitals and Nursing Homes Association), stated that hospitals continue to adhere to standard precautionary measures.

"Previously, there were no cases. Recently, we are encountering one or two Covid cases weekly," he mentioned, stressing that the existing scenario does not warrant opening of Covid wards.

He explained that given the widespread vaccination coverage and exposure to the virus through various Covid waves, people may possess antibodies, turning the infection into a milder manifestation akin to a common cold, cough, or fever.

"It will be just like any other cold, cough or fever. Till now, we have not seen any patients' condition worsen or patients who need to be admitted to the ICU. There is no surge in cases; one or two cases are trickling in," he said.

Symptom severity

Several private hospitals have established respiratory triage units within their emergency rooms, complete with an isolation room for patients exhibiting Covid symptoms. Testing is conducted based on symptom severity.

Dr Shailesh Shetty, emergency medical consultant at Aster CMI Hospital, said masking is a primary preventive measure. "Regardless of the flu panel testing for various viruses, including H1N1, Influenza, and Covid, treatment remains symptom-based," he said.

Dr Ravindra Mehta, Founder-Director of VAAYU Chest and Sleep Centre and Head of the Department of Pulmonology at Apollo Hospitals, Bengaluru, noted that although there is no distinctive advisory for private hospitals, they have the necessary infrastructure and equipment for testing and treatment.

"It appears to be a mild infection-causing variant so there is no reason to panic. However, in view of the past experience with the nature of Covid-19, gearing up on the four aspects — prevention, infrastructure, testing, treatment—is the way forward," he said.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.2, Dec.21, 2023

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ನಂ 1

ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆಕ್ಸಿಜನ್, ಐಸಿಯು ಬೆಡ್ ಕೊರತೆ ಉಂಟಾಗದಂತೆ ಕ್ರಮ | ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಚಿವ ದಿನೇಶ್ ಗುಂಡೂರಾವ್ ಸೂಚನೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ನಿತ್ಯ 1,500 ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಮಾಸ್ಕ್‌ಧಾರಣೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ರಾಜಧಾನಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಿಸಲು ನಿತ್ಯ 1,500 ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ, ಸೋಂಕಿತರ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗೆ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಯಾಗದ ರೀತಿ ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆಕ್ಸಿಜನ್, ಐಸಿಯು ಬೆಡ್‌ಗಳ ಕೊರತೆ ಉಂಟಾಗದಂತೆ ಕ್ರಮ ವಹಿಸಲು ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಚಿವ ದಿನೇಶ್ ಗುಂಡೂರಾವ್ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ರೂಪಾಂತರಿ ತಳಿ ಪತ್ತೆ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಚ್ಚರಿಕೆ ಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಈ ಸಂಬಂಧ ಬುಧವಾರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸಚಿವರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಸಿದ ಬಳಿಕ ಆರೋಗ್ಯಸೌಧದಲ್ಲಿ, ಇಲಾಖೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಬಿಬಿಎಂಪಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಜತೆ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಸಿದರು. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಿಸಲು ಈಗಿಂದಲೇ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಿತವಾಗಿ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ಯಾರಿಗೂ ತೊಂದರೆಗಳಾಗದಂತೆ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಸಮನ್ವಯತೆಯಿಂದ ಕಾರ್ಯ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡಿದರು.

ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಜನಸಂದಣಿ ಇರುವ ಭಾಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಸ್ಕ್ ಧರಿಸಿ ಎಂಬ ಸಲಹೆಯನ್ನು ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿಕೃತವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸುವಂತೆ ಆಯುಕ್ತರಿಗೆ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ಜೀನೋಮಿಕ್ ಸೀಕ್ವೆನ್ಸಿಸ್ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ನೆಡೆಸಲು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರವೇ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿದೆ. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿ ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರೂ, ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ರೂಪಾಂತರಿ ತಳಿ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ದೊರೆಯಲಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಸಚಿವರು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಫೈಲ್

ಕೋವಿಡ್ ರೂಪಾಂತರಿ ತಳಿ (ಜೆಎನ್.1) ಸೋಂಕಿತರ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗಾಗಿ ರಾಜೀವ್ ಗಾಂಧಿ ಎದೆರೋಗಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಜ್ಜುಗೊಳಿಸಿದ ಆರೋಗ್ಯಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ.

ವರ್ಷಾಚರಣೆಗಿಲ್ಲ ನಿರ್ಬಂಧ

ಹೊಸ ವರ್ಷಾಚರಣೆ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಬಂಧ ಹಾಕುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಸದ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮುಂದೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾಪವಿಲ್ಲ. ಶನಿವಾರದ ವೇಳೆಗೆ ಒಂದಿಷ್ಟು ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಆಧರಿಸಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ನೋಡಿಕೊಂಡು ತೀರ್ಮಾನ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವುದು ಎಂದು ದಿನೇಶ್ ಗುಂಡೂರಾವ್ ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು. ನಾಳೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಸಲಹಾ ಸಮಿತಿ ಸದಸ್ಯರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಿಎಂ ನೇತೃತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಯಲಿದ್ದು, ಸಮಿತಿ ಸಲಹೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ ಪಡೆದು ಮುಂದಿನ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವುದು ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗೆ ಆರ್‌ಜಿಐಸಿಡಿ ಸಜ್ಜು

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ರೂಪಾಂತರಿ ತಳಿ (ಜೆಎನ್.1) ಪತ್ತೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ನೀಡಲು ಗುರುತಿಸಿರುವ ರಾಜೀವ್ ಗಾಂಧಿ ಎದೆರೋಗಗಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ (ಆರ್‌ಜಿಐಸಿಡಿ) ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿನ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ (ಮೇಕ್ ಶಿಫ್ಟ್) ಸೇವೆಗೆ ಸಜ್ಜಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

2020ರ ಮಾರ್ಚ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಪತ್ತೆಯಾದ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಸೋಂಕಿತರ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗೆ ಆರ್‌ಜಿಐಸಿಡಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಗುರುತಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಸೋಂಕಿತರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಏರಿಕೆ ಆದಾಗ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯನ್ನು ಪೂರ್ಣ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗೆ ಮೀಸಲಿಡಲಾಗಿತ್ತು.

ಎರಡನೇ ಅಲೆ ಕಾಣಿಸಿಕೊಂಡ ನಂತರ ಶೀತ ಜ್ವರ ಮಾದರಿಯ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ (ಐಎಲ್‌ಐ) ಹಾಗೂ ತೀವ್ರ ಉಸಿರಾಟದ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ (ಸಾರಿ) ಇರುವವರಿಗೆ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಆವರಣದಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಪೊರೇಟ್ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಹೊಣೆಗಾರಿಕೆ ನಿಧಿ (ಸಿಎಸ್‌ಆರ್) ಅಡಿ 200 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ವೆಚ್ಚದಲ್ಲಿ 200 ಹಾಸಿಗೆಗಳ ತಾತ್ಕಾಲಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ (ಮೇಕ್ ಶಿಫ್ಟ್) ನಿರ್ಮಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಕೋವಿಡ್ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದ ನಂತರ ಕೋವಿಡೇತರ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗೆ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಇದೀಗ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಹೊಸ ತಳಿ ಆತಂಕದ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮತ್ತೆ ಕೋವಿಡ್ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಗೆ ಗುರುತಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

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Source: Vijayavani, p.5B, Dec.21, 2023

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ

ತುರ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಎಬಿಎಆರ್‌ಕೆ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಸವಾಲಾದ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಸೇವೆ

ಹತ್ತಿರದ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಪತ್ತೆಗಿಲ್ಲ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ

• ವರುಣ ಹೆಗಡೆ

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ವಿಶೇಷ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ಆಯುಷ್ಮಾನ್ ಭಾರತ್-ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ (ಎಬಿಎಆರ್‌ಕೆ) ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಸಾವಿರಾರು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳು ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು, ಸೇವೆ ನೀಡುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳ ಜಾಲ ಗುರುತಿಸಲು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಸೂಕ್ತ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ರೂಪಿಸಿಲ್ಲ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ, ತುರ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ರೋಗಿಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಅವರ ಕಡೆಯವರು ಪರದಾಟ ನಡೆಸುವ ಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಇದೆ.

ವಿವಿಧ ಖಾಸಗಿ ವಿಮಾ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳು ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸಲು ಮೊಬೈಲ್ ಆ್ಯಪ್ ಹಾಗೂ ಜಾಲತಾಣಗಳನ್ನು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಪಡಿಸಿವೆ. ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ತುರ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಲಭವಾಗಿ ಹತ್ತಿರದ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಗುರುತಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯ. ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಈ ರೀತಿಯ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಹೊಂದಿದ್ದರೂ ಹತ್ತಿರದ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಗುರುತಿಸುವುದು ಸವಾಲಾಗಿ ಪರಿಣಮಿಸಿದ್ದು, ತುರ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಸೇವೆ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯಿಂದ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ಅಲೆದಾಡಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ.

ಯೋಜನೆ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭವಾದಾಗ 'ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ' ಜಾಲತಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿತ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ಅಳವಡಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಯೋಜನೆ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಸುವರ್ಣ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಸುರಕ್ಷಾ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್ ಜಾಲತಾಣದಲ್ಲಿಯೂ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳ ಪಟ್ಟಿಯನ್ನು ಹಾಕಿ, ಹುಡುಕುವ ಅವಕಾಶ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಈಗ ಈ ಎರಡೂ ಜಾಲತಾಣಗಳು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಪಿಎಂಜೆಎವೈ (ಪ್ರಧಾನ್ ಮಂತ್ರಿ ಜನ್ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಯೋಜನಾ) ಜಾಲತಾಣ ಹಾಗೂ ಆ್ಯಪ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿಯ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹುಡುಕಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ. ಆ್ಯಪ್ ಕಾರ್ಯವಿಧಾನದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಬಳಕೆದಾರರು ಅಸಮಾಧಾನ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ತುರ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವಕಾಶ: 'ಆಯುಷ್ಮಾನ್ ಭಾರತ್-ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ' ಯೋಜನೆ 2018ರಲ್ಲಿ ಆರಂಭವಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಯೋಜನೆ ಯಡಿ ಬಿಪಿಎಲ್ ಕುಟುಂಬದವರಿಗೆ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ ₹ 5 ಲಕ್ಷದವರೆಗೆ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ವಿಮೆಗೆ ಅವಕಾಶವಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ 62.09 ಲಕ್ಷ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳು 'ಆಯುಷ್ಮಾನ್ ಭಾರತ್' ಯೋಜನೆ ಅಡಿ ಬರಲಿವೆ. ಉಳಿದ ಕುಟುಂಬಗಳನ್ನು 'ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ' ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಸೇರ್ಪಡೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಎಪಿಎಲ್ ಕುಟುಂಬದ ಸದಸ್ಯರಿಗೆ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ₹ 1.50 ಲಕ್ಷ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಾ ವೆಚ್ಚ ನಿಗದಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದು, ಶೇ 30ರಷ್ಟು ಹಣವನ್ನು ಪಾವತಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಲಾಭ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳು ಮೊದಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಿಗೆ ತೆರಳಬೇಕು. ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇವೆ ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಫಾರಸು ಆಧಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಚಿಸಿದ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ಹೋಗಿ, ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು. ತುರ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ನೇರವಾಗಿ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗೆ ದಾಖಲಾಗುವ ಅವಕಾಶವಿದ್ದರೂ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಗುರುತಿಸುವಿಕೆ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಯಿಂದ ಕೆಲವರಿಗೆ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯ ದೊರೆಯುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ.

'ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಸಮೀಪದ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಗುರುತಿಸುವ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ರೂಪಿಸಬೇಕು. ಆಗ ತುರ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಯೋಜನೆ ನೆರವಾಗಲಿದೆ. ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಮುಂದುವರಿದಿದ್ದು, ಕೆಲ ವಿಮೆ ಕಂಪನಿಗಳು ಜಿಪಿಎಸ್ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನದ ನೆರವಿನಿಂದ ಸುಲಭವಾಗಿ ಹತ್ತಿರದ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಗುರುತಿಸುವ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ರೂಪಿಸಿವೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಗಮನಹರಿಸದೆ, ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ವಿತರಣೆಯಂತಹ ಕ್ರಮಕ್ಕೆ ಆದ್ಯತೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ' ಎಂದು ಹೆಸರು ಬಹಿರಂಗಪಡಿಸಲು ಇಚ್ಛಿಸದ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯೊಬ್ಬರು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಇಲಾಖೆ ಸಚಿವ ದಿನೇಶ ಗುಂಡೂರಾವ್ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಕ್ಕೆ ಲಭ್ಯರಾಗಿಲ್ಲ.

ಅಂಕಿ-ಅಂಶ

2,942
ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳು

522
ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳು

1,650
ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿಯ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸಾ ಪ್ಯಾಕೇಜ್‌ಗಳು

ಖಾಸಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳು ನಿರಾಸಕ್ತಿ

ಹೃದಯಾಘಾತ, ರಸ್ತೆ ಅಪಘಾತದಂತಹ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ತುರ್ತು ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಅಗತ್ಯ. ಆಯುಷ್ಮಾನ್ ಭಾರತ್-ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ 3 ಸಾವಿರಕ್ಕೂ ಅಧಿಕ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳು ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿವೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಬಹುತೇಕವು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳೇ ಆಗಿವೆ. ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆಯ ಪ್ಯಾಕೇಜ್ ದರ ಪರಿಷ್ಕರಿಸದ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳು ನಿರಾಸಕ್ತಿ ತಾಳಿವೆ. ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ತುರ್ತು ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಯೋಜನೆಯಡಿ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಖಾಸಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳ ಆಯ್ಕೆ ಇಲ್ಲವಾಗಿದೆ.

ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿ ವರ್ಷ ಸುಮಾರು 96 ಸಾವಿರ ಮಂದಿ ಹಠಾತ್ ಹೃದಯಾಘಾತದಿಂದ ಮೃತಪಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ರಸ್ತೆ ಅಪಘಾತದ ಗಾಯಗಳೂ ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯ ಅಪರಾಧ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳ ಬ್ಯೂರೊ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ರಸ್ತೆ ಅಪಘಾತದಿಂದ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ಸರಾಸರಿ 13 ಸಾವಿರ ಮರಣ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ವರದಿಯಾಗುತ್ತವೆ. 4 ಲಕ್ಷ ಗಂಭೀರ ಗಾಯ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗುತ್ತಿವೆ.

Source: Prajavani, p.II, Dec.21, 2023

Patients' reluctance to get tested for Covid worries doctors, experts

Resistance more from youngsters

SNEHA RAMESH
BENGALURU, DHNS

The government is making efforts to increase Covid tests in the state to minimise spread and detect new variants. However, officials from the Health Department and doctors have expressed concerns over reluctance among patients to take tests.

"Given that it is winter, there are many patients with respiratory illness. However, we have seen that not many of them are open to getting tested and we cannot force them," a senior official from the department said.

The observation is reflected in a recent survey by LocalCircles, a community social media platform, where close to 74% of the 2,092 respondents said they did not take a Covid test despite having cold, cough, and other Covid-like symptoms.

A majority of the respondents said they were not convinced how helpful the tests could be and said that they "did not see any point in testing". A few others said it was inconvenient and expensive.

Doctors said the reluctance was higher among youngsters. "Elderly and those who have had a bad Covid experience in the past are open to getting tested. However, many youngsters have not come back with the test report even after I advised them to get tested," said Dr Neha Mishra, Consultant (Infectious Diseases).

Commuters, wearing masks, come out of the Kempegowda Metro Station in Bengaluru on Wednesday. The government has told senior citizens to wear masks in public places in the wake of the Covid scare. DH PHOTO

Many patients were concerned about the stigma attached to Covid and refused to get tested. "Many patients said the aftermath of testing positive was worrisome. They did not want to isolate themselves and follow protocol. Also, given that the infections were mild, there was no sense of fear among patients," said Dr Vandana G, Bengaluru-based general physician.

Dr Neha said a few patients were particularly concerned about work and loss of productivity. "Testing positive would mean patients have to stay away from work," she said.

Increasing the testing is crucial to understanding the spread of infection and identifying new variants. A few officials from the department also suggested that reaching the target of 5,000 tests a day might get difficult now.

"There is no reason to panic. JN.1 is a subvariant of Omicron virus; other countries have seen that it spreads rapidly. Twenty one cases of JN.1 variant have been detected across the country," said Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao.

He has told officials to conduct more tests in areas bordering Kerala. He urged people in crowded places to mask up.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.5, Dec.21, 2023

State records three COVID-19 deaths in a week; infecting strain yet to be established

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amid the threat of JN.1, a new mutant strain of SARS-CoV-2 circulating in a few States, Karnataka has recorded three deaths in the last one week. This is after a gap of over two months.

All three deaths have been reported in Bengaluru. However, the infecting strain is yet to be established as the Health Department is awaiting genome sequencing reports of their samples.

Of the three deaths, a 76-year-old male, who was hospitalised for SARI (severe acute respiratory infections), battled the illness for three months. He was admitted to a private hospital on September 12 and died of aspiration pneumonia on December 17.

The other two – a 64-year-old male and another 44-year-old male – who had multiple comorbidities died due to Multiple Organ Dysfunction Syndrome (MODS) on December 15 and December 16 respectively.

A roadside vendor selling masks in Bengaluru on Wednesday.
K. MURALI KUMAR

The last death was reported on October 7 this year in the State. An 80-year-old female resident of Bengaluru, who was diagnosed with SARI, had succumbed to the illness at her residence. Overall, the Health Department has recorded 40,317 COVID deaths so far.

92 active cases in State

With 20 new cases reported in the last 24 hours, the State now has 92 active cases. This is the second highest in the country after Kerala. As many as 808 COVID-19 tests have been done since Tuesday morning, and the test positivity rate (TPR) stands at 2.47%.

Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao, who attended the videoconference convened by Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Wednesday, said the 64-year-old resident of Chamrajpet was admitted to a private hospital on December 14 and died the next day. "He had hypertension, lung disease, bronchial asthma, pulmonary tuberculosis. He had a heart failure and went into a cardiogenic shock. He also had pneumonia, and COVID-19 was an incidental finding," he said.

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Continued....

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State records three deaths in last one week

Calling upon people not to panic, the Minister claimed currently Karnataka is doing the highest number of COVID-19 tests in the country. While 1,122 tests were done on Tuesday, as many as 808 tests were done on Wednesday. "We have directed all districts to ramp up testing, especially in the border districts, and conduct around 5,000 tests daily from Saturday. As of now the situation is not alarming in the State," he said.

"All SARI cases in both government and private hospitals across the State must compulsorily undergo RT-PCR testing. We will soon issue an advisory on this. Besides, one in 20 ILI patients will also need to undergo RT-PCR testing," the Minister said, asserting that the Health Department was gearing up to handle the situation in the event of a surge in cases.

During the meeting, the Minister appealed to the Union Health Minister to provide monetary assistance for the maintenance of ventilators that were given to Karnataka through PM-CARES funds. "Also, daily COVID-19 updates are not available on the ICMR portal due to some technical glitches. We requested the Union Minister to ensure that this information is available," he said.

Announcing that wearing masks is mandatory for all health workers in both government and private hospitals, the Minister said: "Health workers will have greater exposure to the virus. They should mandatorily wear masks," he added.

Source: The Hindu, p.1& 5, Dec. 21, 2023

State to restart vaccination drive if necessary; Cabinet sub-committee to be set up

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah announced that Karnataka will not wait for Central supplies of vaccine for COVID-19, and will procure it on its own

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Schoolchildren wearing masks as a precaution during their visit to the Vidhana Soudha, in Bengaluru on Thursday. PTI

The Karnataka government will, if necessary, restart COVID-19 vaccination that has almost come to a standstill in the last eight months.

Announcing this after a meeting on Thursday with members of the COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and officials, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said although the situation in Karnataka is not alarming as of now, it is the responsibility of all citizens to follow precautions.

"Three persons have died in Bengaluru since December 15, and COVID-19 was not the only cause of death. They had multiple comorbidities, and COVID-19 was an incidental finding," he said.

"I have given strict instructions to officials to ensure that the lapses that occurred in the management of COVID-19 during the previous government's regime should not be repeated. Oxygen, ventilator beds, and medical supplies should be made available based on requirement. The Health and Medical Education departments should work in coordination to ensure that none of these are lacking," he said.

Asserting that Karnataka will not wait for Central supplies of vaccine, the Chief Minister said, "If necessary, we will take up a vaccination drive to immunise those who are still unvaccinated so that they are protected from severe disease. Vaccination may not prevent infection, but it will protect the person from getting a severe form of the disease. If necessary, Karnataka will procure vaccine stocks on its own without waiting for Central supplies."

Mr. Siddaramaiah said a Cabinet sub-committee is being set up to monitor the COVID-19 situation in coordination with the TAC. The State Cabinet on Thursday resolved to set up the committee.

"This Cabinet sub-committee will look into procurement of the necessary requirements for combating the disease, and ensure that there is no shortage. The required funds will be provided. It will also take a call on whether vaccination should be provided free of cost or at subsidised rates," he said. replying to queries.

The Cabinet sub-committee will visit hospitals once in two-three days, and take timely decisions as and when required for proper management.

In the event of a surge and if the situation demands, dedicated hospitals will be identified for treatment of COVID-19 patients.

"These dedicated facilities will be fully equipped to admit, isolate, and treat COVID-19 patients," said the Chief Minister without specifying whether private hospitals will also be roped in.

On private schools reportedly making masks compulsory for students, the Chief Minister said: "It is good. The sub-committee will decide in this regard too in the days to come in consultation with the TAC."

Reiterating that COVID-19 testing will be ramped up in Karnataka, Mr. Siddaramaiah said 5,000 tests (3,500 RTPCR and 1,500 Rapid Antigen Tests) will be conducted across the State from Saturday.

"Of these, 1,500 will be in Bengaluru. Border districts have been instructed to conduct more tests," he said.

Source: The Hindu, p.2, Dec. 22, 2023

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Gender

Child sex ratio: Data finds sharp decline in Bengaluru Urban in 2022

Before the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019, the average sex ratio in the State stood at 934; it increased to 947 in 2020 and 2021

This decline gains significance in the light of the recent unearthing of a sex determination racket across Bengaluru, Mandya, and Mysuru districts. FILE PHOTO

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Although Chickballapur has recorded the lowest child sex ratio at birth in 2022 at 868 (for every 1,000 males as per CRS data), it is Bengaluru Urban (including BBMP) which has seen the steepest decline of 25.2% last year in comparison to 2021. The sex ratio in this district has dropped from 1,269 in 2021 to 949 in 2022.

Overall, Karnataka has recorded a decline in the child sex ratio at birth – from 947 in 2021 to 929 in 2022. As many as 22 districts have recorded a decline in sex ratio of which at least seven districts have recorded more than 4% drop in the same period, according to Karnataka's Civil Registration System (CRS) data. While the sex ratio is higher than the State average of 929 in 16 districts, what is alarming is that it is less than 900 in five districts – Chickballapur (868), Mandya (877), Bagalkote (886), Kalaburagi (888) and Bidar (898).

Before the COVID-19 pandemic in 2019, the average sex ratio in the State stood at 934 while it increased to 947 in 2020 and 2021.

In 2019, while Bengaluru Urban (including BBMP) had recorded the highest sex ratio at 1,715, Bidar had recorded the lowest sex ratio at 886 followed by Bagalkot at 897. In 2020, Bengaluru Urban (including BBMP) continued to record the highest sex ratio at 1,284 while Mandya recorded the lowest at 884. Mysuru, which saw a rise from 923 in 2019 to 930 in 2020 has sustained the trend till 2022.

This data gains significance in the light of the recent unearthing of a sex determination racket across Bengaluru, Mandya, and Mysuru districts. The Bengaluru police recently arrested a doctor and his lab technician who allegedly performed around 900 illegal abortions in the last three years. Following this, the State government has ordered a CID probe and has announced the setting up of a task force to check female foeticide

State Health Commissioner Randeep D. said the steep decline in sex ratio in Bengaluru Urban could be because this district has a lot of migratory and floating population. "However, we are conscious that a part of the decline could be on account of female foeticide too and appropriate measures are being put in place to check this," he said.

Nuclear families

C.M. Lakshmana, professor at Population Research Centre in the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), attributed the steep decline in the ratio in Bengaluru Urban to increasing adoption of a nuclear family concept. "This is an emerging trend in urban areas and most families would prefer to have a male child to a female as the only child. This trend in urban areas needs further investigation by demographers and population scientists," he said.

Pointing out that studies have shown rampant 'son preference' in society, Prof. Lakshmana, however, said if sex ratio at birth is above 1,000 it needs to be investigated. "CRS data can have variations and should be taken only as an indicator as it is based on birth registrations," he said.

K.S. Vimala, State vice-president, Janawadi Mahila Sangathane, said easy accessibility of scanning centres in urban areas could be a reason for the decline in Bengaluru Urban. "The highest number of scanning centres are in Bengaluru making female foeticide easy for those who prefer a male child to a female," she said.

Year-wise highest, lowest child sex ratio as per CRS data

2019	2020	2021	2022
State average: 934	State average: 947	State average: 947	State average: 929
Highest in Bengaluru Urban (including BBMP) 1,715	Highest in Bengaluru Urban (including BBMP) 1,284	Highest in Bengaluru Urban (including BBMP) 1,269	Highest in Chamarajanagar: 974
Lowest in Bidar: 886	Lowest in Mandya: 884	Lowest in Mandya: 871	Lowest in Chickballapur: 868

Other factors

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A study published in July in the International Journal of Science and Research (IJSR) by Suresh L. Chitragar from MES's Arts and Commerce College, Mudalgi in Belagavi revealed the impact of underlying socio-economic and cultural factors on the sex ratio. It discloses an imbalanced ratio in Karnataka, with a continuous decline from 1901 to 2011, except for marginal improvements, leading to significant shortage of females in urban and rural areas.

"The sex ratio in Karnataka improved from 960 in 1991 to 973 in 2011. The change in sex ratio in individual districts, however, is not uniform, and there is significant regional variation. Female literacy has a positive bearing on the ratio, and states with higher literacy rate show faster movement towards gender parity. Therefore, the higher the female literacy rate, greater the improvement in the sex ratio for every percent increase in female literacy," the study found.

Source: The Hindu, p.7, Dec. 16, 2023

IMA's State unit extends support to govt. in checking malpractices; demands inclusion in task force

Association criticises cases of illegal sex determination and female foeticide in Mysuru, Mandya, Hoskote, and Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Condemning sex determination and female foeticide, the State unit of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) has extended its support to the State government in the investigation into the sex determination racket unearthed recently across Bengaluru, Mandya and Mysuru districts.

IMA State president S. Srinivasa told *The Hindu* on Friday that the medical body has 179 branches across the State and would collaborate with the government in exposing such malpractices.

"The revelations of illegal sex determination and female foeticide in Mysuru, Mandya, Hoskote and Bengaluru have exposed widespread malpractices in the medical field. Such illegal practices are harmful to society and our medical profession. IMA Karnataka State branch strongly condemns such illegal, inhuman acts and never supports doctors and other healthcare workers indulging in such acts," he said.

BJP supporters led by former Chief Minister D.V. Sadananda Gowda protesting near Mehkri Circle on Saturday against the cases of illegal sex detection of foetuses. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"The fact that such activities are going on despite stringent laws currently in place is worrisome and highlights the need for constant strict surveillance. The IMA Karnataka State unit demands that the government should conduct a thorough investigation into the matter and bring the culprits to book," he said.

In a statement, the IMA State unit has said it fully supports the work of the government in identifying and prosecuting fake doctors under the KPME Act. "In fact the IMA Karnataka branch through its State Doctors Against Sex Selection (DASS) Committee is active in creating awareness among its members and the society about the importance of girl child across the State for many years," the statement said.

"In this regard, we request the Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao to include IMA State unit president and heads of Karnataka Medical Council (KMC) and Ayush Council apart from Vice-Chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) in the proposed government task force for effective implementation of the PCPNDT Act," the statement said.

"Mere strict laws cannot prevent female foeticide. We all have to create an environment where women are respected by informing everyone about the fact that men and women are equal. There is a need to create awareness in this direction. We urge the government to implement a stringent law that will punish the parents, relatives and agents who come asking for sex detection," the statement added.

Source: The Hindu, p.4, Dec. 17, 2023

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ

ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಹೊಸ ವಂಟಮೂರಿ ಘಟನೆ: ಮತ್ತೆ ಕಡಿಕಾರಿದ ಹೈಕೋರ್ಟ್

ಪುಂಡುಗಂದಾಯದಂಥ ಹೊಣೆ ಹೊರಿಸಿ

ಪ್ರಜಾವಾಣಿ ವಾರ್ತೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಹೊಸ ವಂಟಮೂರಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಮಹಿಳೆಯನ್ನು ವಿವಸ್ತ್ರಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಥಳಿಸಲಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಘಟನೆಯನ್ನು ಮೂಕ ಪ್ರೇಕ್ಷಕರಾಗಿ ಗಮನಿಸಿದ ಗ್ರಾಮಸ್ಥರ ಮೇಲೆ ಪುಂಡುಗಂದಾಯದ (ಪುಂಡಾಟದ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಮಾಜದ ಶಾಂತಿಗೆ ಭಂಗ ತಂದವರ ಊರಿನ ಮೇಲೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಹೇರುವ ಒತ್ತಾಯದ ತೆರಿಗೆ) ಮಾದರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಮೂಹಿಕ ಹೊಣೆಗಾರಿಕೆಯನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಹೈಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಆದೇಶಿಸಿದೆ.

ಘಟನೆಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತೀಕ್ಷ್ಣವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಯಿಸಿದ ನ್ಯಾಯಪೀಠ, 'ಇದಕ್ಕೊಂದು ಸಂದೇಶ ರವಾನೆಯಾಗಲೇಬೇಕು. ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಎಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ, ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟವಾಗಿ ತಪ್ಪು ಮಾಡಿದವರು ಹಣ ಪಾವತಿಸುವಂತೆ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು. ಬ್ರಿಟಿಷರ ಆಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಂಗಾಳದ ಮೊದಲ ಗವರ್ನರ್ ಆಗಿದ್ದ ವಿಲಿಯಮ್ ಬೆಂಟಿಕ್, ಕಳ್ಳತನ ಮಾಡುವವರಿದ್ದ ಗ್ರಾಮಕ್ಕೆ ಪುಂಡ ದಂಡ ಎಂಬ ತೆರಿಗೆ ವಿಧಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದ. ಅದೇ ಮಾದರಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಘಟನೆಯಲ್ಲೂ ತೆರಿಗೆ ವಿಧಿಸಿದ್ದೇ ಆದರೆ ಜನರಿಗೆ ಸ್ವಲ್ಪವಾದರೂ ಜವಾಬ್ದಾರಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಲಿದೆ' ಎಂಬ ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿತು.

'ನಾವು ನಾಗರಿಕ ಸಮಾಜ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತೇವೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಇಂತಹ ಘಟನೆ ನಡೆದಾಗ ಗ್ರಾಮಸ್ಥರ ಪಾತ್ರ ಏನು? ಏಕೆ ಮೂಕ ಪ್ರೇಕ್ಷಕರಾಗಿದ್ದರು ಎಂಬುದಕ್ಕೆ ಕಾರಣ ಗಳಿವೆಯೇ? ಅವರು ಪೊಲೀಸ್, ನ್ಯಾಯಾಂಗ, ರಾಜಕೀಯ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೆದರಿದ್ದಾರೆಯೇ? ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಸಾಕ್ಷರತೆಯ ಪ್ರಮಾಣವೇನು? ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಯಾಕೆ ಯಾವಾಗಲೂ ಆಲಸಿಯಾಗಿ ವರ್ತಿಸುತ್ತದೆ? ಇಂತಹ ಘಟನೆ ನಡೆದಾಗ ಜನರ ಭಾಗೀದಾರಿಕೆ ಏಕಿಲ್ಲ? ಇಂತಹವುಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಯಂತ್ರಿಸುವುದಾದರೂ ಹೇಗೆ..' ಎಂದು ನ್ಯಾಯಪೀಠ, ಸರ್ಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಕೇಳಿತು.

'ನಮ್ಮನ್ನು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಂಗ ಪ್ರಕ್ರಿಯೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಲುಕಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ನಮಗೆ ಸೂಕ್ತ ಗೌರವ ಸಿಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಸಾಕ್ಷಿಗಳು ಹೆದರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ, ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯರು ಅಪರಾಧದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಲು ಮುಂದಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ಆಯಾಮದ ಬಗ್ಗೆಯೂ ನಾವು ಗಮನಹರಿಸಬೇಕಿದೆ' ಎಂದ ನ್ಯಾಯಪೀಠ, 'ಬಹಳಷ್ಟು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಕ್ಷಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಆರೋಪಿಗಳಿಗೆ ವ್ಯತ್ಯಾಸವೇ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ' ಎಂದು ಕಟುವಾಗಿ ನುಡಿಯಿತು.

ಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಹೇಳಿದ್ದು

- ಗ್ರಾಮಸ್ಥರು ಯಾರಿಗೆ ಹೆದರಿದ್ದಾರೆ..?
- ಎಲ್ಲರಿಗೂ ಸಂದೇಶ ರವಾನೆಯಾಗಬೇಕಿದೆ
- ರಕ್ಷಿಸಲು ಹೋದವನನ್ನೇ ಥಳಿಸಿದರಲ್ಲವೇ..?

'ಗಂಡು ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಕಲಿಸಿ'

'ಸಮಾಜದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಣ್ಣು ಮಗುವನ್ನು ರಕ್ಷಿಸಲು ಬೇಟಾ ಪಡಾವೋ ಆಗಬೇಕು. ಆ ಕುರಿತು ಗಂಡು ಮಗುವಿಗೆ ಮನದಟ್ಟು ಮಾಡಬೇಕು' ಎಂದ ನ್ಯಾಯಪೀಠ, 'ಮಹಿಳೆಯರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಹೇಗೆ ವರ್ತಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಪುರುಷರಿಗೆ ಕಲಿಸಬೇಕಾಗಿದೆ' ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿತು.

'ವಂಟಮೂರಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಮಾರು 800 ಜನರಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಘಟನೆ ವೇಳೆ 13 ಮಂದಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯ ಮೇಲೆ ಆಕ್ರಮಣ ನಡೆಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. 60ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಮಂದಿ ಘಟನೆಗೆ ಮೂಕ ಪ್ರೇಕ್ಷಕರಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅವರಲ್ಲಿ ಜಹಂಗೀರ್ ಎನ್ನುವ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯ ರಕ್ಷಣೆಗೆ ಮುಂದಾಗಿ ಹಲ್ಲೆಗೊಳಗಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇನ್ನುಳಿದ ಜನ ಯಾವ ಕಾರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಮುಂದಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲ' ಎಂದು ನ್ಯಾಯಪೀಠ ಬೇಸರ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿತು.

ರೋಮ್ ಸಾಮ್ರಾಜ್ಯವನ್ನು ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಿಸಿದ ನ್ಯಾಯಪೀಠ, 'ಉತ್ತಮ ಸಮಾಜವನ್ನು ನಿರ್ಮಿಸದ ಹೊರತು ಉತ್ತಮ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ' ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿತು.

ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತೆಗೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ:ಎ.ಜಿ

ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ವೇಳೆ ಹಾಜರಿದ್ದ ಅಡ್ವೊಕೇಟ್ ಜನರಲ್ ಕೆ.ಶಶಿಕಿರಣ್ ಶೆಟ್ಟಿ, 'ಪ್ರಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಬ್ಬರನ್ನು ಹೊರತುಪಡಿಸಿ ಉಳಿದ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳನ್ನು ಬಂಧಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತೆಗೆ ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಪರಿಹಾರ ನಿಧಿಯಿಂದ ₹ 5 ಲಕ್ಷ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಹಾಗೂ 2.5 ಎಕರೆ ಜಮೀನು ಒದಗಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ತನಿಖೆಯನ್ನು ಸಿಐಡಿಗೆ ವಹಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ನಿರ್ಲಕ್ಷ್ಯ ತೋರಿದ ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯನ್ನು ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ಅಮಾನತುಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ' ಎಂದು ವಿವರಿಸಿದರು.

ಇದನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಿಕೊಂಡ ನ್ಯಾಯಪೀಠ ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತ ಮಹಿಳೆಗೆ ಕಾನೂನು ಸೇವಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದಿಂದ ನೀಡುವ ₹ 50 ಸಾವಿರ ಪರಿಹಾರದ ಮೊತ್ತವನ್ನು ತಕ್ಷಣ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡುವಂತೆ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಿಸಿತು. ತನಿಖೆಯ ಪ್ರಗತಿಯ ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವಂತೆ ಸೂಚಿಸಿ ವಿಚಾರಣೆಯನ್ನು ಜನವರಿ ಮೂರನೇ ವಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಮುಂದೂಡಿತು.

ಆಯೋಗದ ಮುಂದೆ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ವರದಿ

ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ: ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕಿನ ಹೊಸ ವಂಟಮೂರಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಹಿಳೆಯನ್ನು ಬೆತ್ತಲೆಗೊಳಿಸಿ, ಹಲ್ಲೆ ಮಾಡಿದ ಪ್ರಕರಣದ ಬಗ್ಗೆ, ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಮಾನವ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳ ಆಯೋಗದ ಡಿಐಜಿ ಸುನೀಲಕುಮಾರ್ ಮೀನಾ ಅವರು ಸೋಮವಾರ ಇಡೀ ದಿನ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಮಾಡಿದರು.

ಇಲ್ಲಿನ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಯ 'ಸಖಿ' ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತೆಯನ್ನು ಭೇಟಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ಅವರು ಎರಡು ತಾಸು ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಕಲೆಹಾಕಿದರು. ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಕಟ್ಟಿಹಾಕಿದ ಸ್ಥಳ... ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದನ್ನೂ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿದರು.

ವರದಿ ಪಡೆದ ಸಿಐಡಿ: ಸಿಐಡಿಯ ಪ್ರಭಾರ ಡಿಐಜಿ ಸುಧೀರಕುಮಾರ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಅವರ ನೇತೃತ್ವದ ತಂಡ ಸೋಮವಾರ ಘಟನೆಯ ಕುರಿತು ಪೂರ್ಣ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಕಲೆಹಾಕಿತು.

ನಗರದ ಖಾಸಗಿ ಅತಿಥಿಗೃಹದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಸಭೆ ನಡೆಸಿದ ಸುಧೀರಕುಮಾರ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಅವರು, ಸಂತ್ರಸ್ತೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಅವರ ಕುಟುಂಬದವರ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಕಲೆಹಾಕಿದರು.

Source: Prajavani, p.5, Dec. 19, 2023

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Veerashaiva Mahasabha urges govt. to undertake fresh, 'scientific' caste census

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The Akhila Bharatha Veerashaiva Mahasabha, in a petition signed by many community leaders including Ministers, has urged the Karnataka government to undertake a fresh and "scientific" socio-economic and educational survey (caste census) based on facts, and alleged that the 2015 survey was "factually inaccurate".

Claiming that the mahasabha is not opposed to caste census, a delegation led by its president Shamanur Shivashankarappa told Chief Minister Siddaramaiah here on Friday that the census conducted in 2015 suffered from lacunae. "There is a need to set right this problem. That is why we are appealing to you to undertake a new scientific caste survey based on facts," the petition submitted to Mr. Siddaramaiah said.

Community plea: Lingayat leaders submitting a memorandum to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in Belagavi on Friday. P.K. BADIGER

The petition was signed by 33 of the 49 Lingayat legislators. They included Ministers Eshwar Khandre, M.B. Patil, and Shivanand Patil, BJP State president B,Y. Vijayendra, Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, and Aravind Bellad.

Earlier, Vokkaligara Sangha also argued that there was an undercount of Vokkaliga community and demanded that the government reject the survey report and reconduct the census. The petition of the sangha was signed by leaders from across parties, including Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and the former Chief Minister and JD(S) State president H.D. Kumaraswamy.

The mahasabha in its petition, on Friday, said that many of its members had complained that the enumerators of the caste census had not approached their families for details and that complaints over the survey being prepared in the office had been made. "Out of fear of losing out on the reservation, many Veerashaiav/Lingayats had only entered their sub-caste names. On the other hand, there are doubts about the entries made regarding other castes. There is no mechanism for random testing to ascertain facts. We do not want to snatch away any other community's rights." The mahasabha also said that since the survey report is now eight years old, it would not be ideal to accept the caste survey report and instead a fresh survey should be conducted.

Source: The Hindu, p.8, Dec. 16, 2023

White-collared workers, tax-payers grab benefits worth crores, shows data

Nearly 1 lakh bogus labour cards detected in crackdown

SHRUTHI HM SASTRY
BENGALURU, DHNS

Nearly one lakh 'Karmika Cards' for the welfare of construction workers were issued to ineligible persons in the last three years, leading to possible leakage of crores of public money, a drive taken up by the Labour Department has revealed.

The department, which is in the process of cracking down on bogus cards, has so far identified 90,091 such cards issued between 2020 and 2023. A majority of them with white-collared jobs and paying taxes were found in possession of the cards, availing social security benefits meant for construction workers.

The 'Karmika Card' allows a registered worker with the Karnataka Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board, to avail social security schemes covering health, pension, education of children and marriage. Though the rules mandate that a person should have worked for 90 days in a year as a construction worker and should not be a tax payer, several people in the tax bracket have also availed these cards in a bogus manner, labour officials said.

Massive misuse

'Karmika Card' gives access to social security schemes covering health, pension, education of children and marriage

32.77L construction workers registered with the department

₹6,221 crore Board has a corpus of Rs 6,221 crore available

Highest number of bogus cards

26,545 Bidar

25,714 Hubballi

No official estimate of loss but govt spent **₹4,824 cr** of workers' cess in the last three years

According to labour department data, there are 32.77 lakh construction workers registered with the department. The Board has a corpus of Rs 6,221 crore. This is the money collected through a 1% cess levied on builders. While there is no official estimate of the amount lost to bogus cards, data shows that the government has spent Rs 4,824 crore of workers' cess in the last three years for welfare schemes.

Principal Secretary (Labour) Mohammed Mohsin told *DH* that the problem had exacerbated during and post Covid where several people applied for the cards to avail government benefits through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT). The department estimated the number of bogus cards to be far more than what was identified at present. Officials have taken up a drive to seize such cards and criminal cases will be slapped where necessary, he said.

Bidar (26,545) and Hubballi (25,714) have the highest bogus cards, data shows.

P P Appanna, state president of *Karnataka Pragathipara Kattada Karmikara Sangha*, blamed the officials for issuing cards in bulk during Covid to ineligible people. "The government announced ration kits to families during Covid and channelised money through various sources. To source money through the Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board, they registered people randomly as construction workers and issued cards," he alleged.

He also said that those deserving were kept away as they were unable to produce all the required documents. For instance, the government insists on employment certificate from a builder authorised by BAI, CREDAI or Karnataka State Contractors Association. "In several cases, a person would have worked for 3-4 days at a site. Who will give them them employment certificate?" he sought to know.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.3, Dec.17, 2023

Belagavi winter session: A bad balance sheet on resolving regional imbalances

Exercise borders on symbolic; farmers' issues, irrigation projects find no echo

PAVAN KUMAR H
HUBBALLI, DHNS

Yet another winter session of the legislature ended in Belagavi's Suvarna Vidhana Soudha on Friday.

Like it has been in the past, this session too had raised high hopes, but delivered too little on the ground for North Karnataka (NK).

People of Kalyana Karnataka and Kittur Karnataka regions were hoping that the lawmakers would deliberate and find solutions to pressing issues on language & border disputes with Maharashtra, irrigation, drought relief, development projects, creation of jobs and improving health infrastructure in the backward region of the 14 districts.

But political observers and activists say the 10-day session failed to address the regional imbalance issues, that is giving oxygen to the demand for a separate state.

'Big letdown'

"We were let down by the 96 MLAs from NK region. There is no need to blame the elected representatives from south Karnataka for our backwardness," says Belagavi-based Kannada activist Ashok Chandargi. He questions the preparedness of the region's MLAs in raising issues of NK and measures taken by them to instil confidence among residents of villages bordering Maharashtra.

"Maharashtra is providing health insurance policies for people in 865 border villages and towns in Karnataka. Neither the opposition leaders nor the government thought it fit to send a strong message to the neighbouring state from the Assembly," he said. Chandargi said one of the major reasons for starting to hold the winter session in Belagavi in 2006-07 was to show our hold over the region.

Trust deficit

"How will you instil confidence among the people if you do not have any border area development policy," he questioned.

There was a demand from legislators of NK to discuss issues about the backward region right from the first week of the session.

However, when the debate was initiated in the last two days, there was low attendance in both the Assembly and the Council. A total of 42 MLAs took part in the 11.5 hours of debate in the Assembly.

Debate cut short

The Council saw lesser discussion on NK as only 5.5 hours of the last day was allocated for the discussion, with 12 members giving notice to speak. Due to the chief minister's tight schedule outside the legislature, the debate was cut short and only six members spoke on the subject.

Members of the Opposition raise slogans in the well of the Council on the last day of the winter session of the legislature in Belagavi on Friday. It was a case of too little, too late as only a few hours of the last few days were set aside in both Houses to discuss issues pertaining to North Karnataka. DH FILE PHOTO/PRASHANTH H G

By the own admission of Legislative Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti, the winter session in Belagavi was an utter failure with regard to the discussion on NK.

"The MLCs toed their party lines and did not rise above petty politics for the development of the region," he said.

'Political mudslinging'

"I don't understand what we achieved by holding a session at SVS by spending so much money and effort over the last 10 days as the region did not receive solutions to its problems. The political mudslinging could have taken place in Bengaluru also," he said and added that day by day, the quality of debates in the 'House of Elders' is deteriorating due to backdoor entry of people with limited understanding of their responsibilities.

While leaders such as Basanagouda Patil Yatnal, Arvind Bellad and Basavaraj Rayaraddi did raise issues concerning NK, a majority of the MLAs limited their questions to know how much grants were allocated for implementation of projects in their constituencies and how many anganwadis were functioning in their taluks.

Lost opportunity

Prof Razak Ustad, Raichur-based social worker, said none of the MLAs from NK had come prepared with data, statistics, reports and solutions for the challenges faced by the region. They played to the gallery by limiting questions to their taluks.

Razak believes this was an opportunity for NK MLAs to become regional leaders by highlighting the nearly 40% vacancies of teacher posts in NK, malnutrition, farmers' distress, incomplete irrigation projects such as Mahadayi, Upper Krishna and balancing reservoir across the Tungabhadra.

Hanumant Yadahalli, a professor at Karnataka State Akkamahadevi Women's University, questioned the discrimination being meted out to North Karnataka.

Emotional subjects

"While they have touched upon emotional subjects by recommending to name four airports in the state after stalwarts with caste backing, they have forgotten about the real issues. The construction of Shivamogga and Vijayapura airports were announced at the same time. While flight operations have started in Shivamogga, in Vijayapura, we are nowhere near constructing the runway."

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, on the final day of the session, made several announcements, including formation of a high-level committee of senior officials to understand the reasons why regional imbalances continue even after spending Rs 32,433 crore over the last several years.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.5, Dec.17, 2023

‘Indira Canteens suffer from neglect, simple interventions can help improve the situation’

Indira Canteens was one of the most popular programmes introduced during the previous Siddaramaiah-led Congress government

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Simple interventions can help improve quality of Indira Canteens, says Reetika Khera, economist and professor at IIT-Delhi. She was speaking at the Alternative Law Forum in Bengaluru on her findings from studies conducted at Indira Canteens in Karnataka and Indira Rasois in Rajasthan.

“The Indira Canteens are suffering from neglect. They have been scaled down in some places where they are not serving all meals,” Ms. Khera pointed out. She also noted that the lack of variety on the menu was also a pretty serious issue.

Indira canteen, near Askok pillar in Jayanagar.

People having food in Indira canteen at K.R. market bus stand.

What can be done?

“There’s a whole range of very simple interventions that can take it much forward. For example, boiled eggs as an optional item for those who want to top up their meal and make it more nutritious. Providing ragi for a meal is another option. They can also go one step further and offer non-vegetarian dishes like chicken,” she said drawing from examples like the ‘Popular Restaurant Programme‘ in Brazil where nutritious meal including fish are provided for nominal prices. While Indira Canteens was one of the most popular programmes introduced during the previous Siddaramaiah-led Congress government, the eateries fell victim to political changes and negligence after the BJP government came into power.

Although the revival of the canteens was much anticipated after Congress came back to power again earlier this year, it seems to have been put in the backburner for now.

Location an issue

Ms. Khera pointed out that the location of the Indira Canteens also contribute to the issue.

“The Indira Canteens are pleasant spaces to eat at, whereas in Rajasthan they are located at strategic locations such as near hospitals or bus stands which are heavily crowded,” she noted.

While under 200 meals were served in Indira Canteens per day, the number is much higher in Rajasthan

“In Rajasthan they have put a lot of thought into where to locate the canteens. Whereas here since they were looking for nice spaces often the canteens are located just off a busy road and people don’t know it is there. I think that affects the footfall at these canteens,” she added. Decentralised model

While under 200 meals were served in Indira Canteens per day, the number is much higher in Rajasthan. Ms. Khera also noted that the Indira Rasois are fairly spread out, whereas in Karnataka majority of them are concentrated in Bengaluru and only a few are located in other places.

Ms. Khera’s suggestions also included moving from a centralised cooking model to a decentralised one.

“The food becomes cold by the time it reaches from the kitchen to the canteens and there is no facility for reheating. The decentralised model is also less transparent,” she said. While she highlighted that a very few women customers visited the canteens, she acknowledged that the community kitchens have a gender dimension which is not very apparent. The burden of cooking in most homes falls on the women.

Community kitchens, in a sense, ease this when men choose to eat at the canteens. It also plays a role in financial empowerment and self-reliance of women as many workers employed at these kitchens are women, Ms Khera pointed out.

Source: The Hindu, p.5, Dec. 18, 2023

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಪುಟ 1

ರೇಷನ್ ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಆಹಾರ ಇಲಾಖೆ ನಿರ್ಧಾರ | ಇನ್ನುಂದೆ ಪಡಿತರ ಅಥವಾ ಗುರುತಿನ ಚೀಟಿಗಾಗಿ ಎಂದು ನಮೂದಿಸಿ ವಿತರಣೆ

ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಎಪಿಎಲ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ದಾರರ ನಿರಾಸಕ್ತಿ!

■ ಹರೀಶ್ ಬೇಲೂರು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಪಡಿತರ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಎಪಿಎಲ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ದಾರರು ನಿರಾಸಕ್ತಿ ತೋರಿರುವ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ರೇಷನ್ ಕೊಡುವುದನ್ನು ನಿಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಆಹಾರ ಇಲಾಖೆ ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿದೆ.

ರಾಜ್ಯಾದ್ಯಂತ 24 ಲಕ್ಷ ಎಪಿಎಲ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳಿದ್ದು, ಶೇ.80 ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ದಾರರು ಪ್ರತಿ ತಿಂಗಳು ರೇಷನ್ ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ, ಇನ್ನುಂದೆ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವವರಿಗೆ ಗುರುತಿನ ಚೀಟಿಗಾಗಿ ಮಾತ್ರವೇ ಅಥವಾ ರೇಷನ್‌ಗಾಗಿಯೋ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನೂ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕವಾಗಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಿ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಮಂಜೂರು ಮಾಡಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ.

ಗುರುತಿನ ಚೀಟಿಗಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಪಡೆಯುವವರಿಗೆ ರೇಷನ್ ಸಿಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಎಪಿಎಲ್‌ಗೆ ವ್ಯಯಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಅನುದಾನ ಕಡಿತಗೊಳಿಸಿ ಬಿಪಿಎಲ್ ಪಡಿತರದಾರರಿಗೆ ಬೇರೆ ರೇಷನ್ ನೀಡುವ ಚಿಂತನೆ ನಡೆದಿದೆ. ಹಲವು ವರ್ಷಗಳಿಂದ ಕೆಲವರು ನ್ಯಾಯಬೆಲೆ ಅಂಗಡಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ರೇಷನ್ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಹಿಂದೇಟು ಹಾಕುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇದನ್ನೇ ಬಂಡವಾಳ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡಿರುವ ಕಾಳಧಗೆಸಿಕರು ಎಪಿಎಲ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಅಕ್ಕಿಯನ್ನು ಪಾಲಿಶ್ ಮಾಡಿ ಮಾರುಕಟ್ಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರತಿ ಕೆಜಿಗೆ 35ರಿಂದ 50 ರೂ.ಗೆ ಮಾರಾಟ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ, ಪಡಿತರ ಸೋರಿಕೆ ತಡೆಗಟ್ಟಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಎಪಿಎಲ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ರದ್ದುಪಡಿಸಲು ನಿರ್ಧರಿಸಿತ್ತು. ಇದೀಗ, ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಡಿಲೀಟ್ ಮಾಡಲು ಮುಂದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಪಡಿತರ ಪಡೆಯದ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ರದ್ದುಪಡಿಸಿದರೆ ನ್ಯಾಯಬೆಲೆ ಅಂಗಡಿಗಳು ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಜತೆಗೆ, ಕಮಿಷನ್ ಹಣ ಜೋತಾ ಆಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ರದ್ದು ಬದಲು ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆ ಇರುವವರಿಗೆ ಕೆಜಿಗೆ 15 ರೂ.ನಂತೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಪ್ರಮಾಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ಕಿ ವಿತರಿಸಲು ಇಲಾಖೆ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು.

| ಟಿ.ಕೃಷ್ಣಪ್ಪ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಪಡಿತರ ವಿತರಕ ಸಂಘದ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ

ಪಡಿತರ ಚೀಟಿದಾರರಿಗೆ ತೀಪ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಣದ ಬದಲು ಅಕ್ಕಿ ನೀಡುವ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ನಡೆದಿದೆ. ಅಕ್ಕಿ ಖರೀದಿಗಾಗಿ ತೆಲಂಗಾಣ, ಆಂಧ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ಛತ್ತೀಸ್‌ಗಢದಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಪಡಿತರ ಚೀಟಿಗಾಗಿ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದವರಿಗೆ 15 ದಿನದೊಳಗೆ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ವಿತರಣೆ ಮಾಡುವಂತೆ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸೂಚಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

| ಕೆ.ಎಚ್.ಮುನಿಯಪ್ಪ ಆಹಾರ ಸಚಿವ (ರಾಯಚೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ)

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾವಾರು ಎಪಿಎಲ್ ಮಾಹಿತಿ: ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು 4,37,651, ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ 3,23,164, ದಕ್ಷಿಣಕನ್ನಡ 1,73,720, ಕಲಬುರಗಿ 1,15,594, ಉಡುಪಿ 1,15, 126, ಮೈಸೂರು 1,11,024, ಶಿವಮೊಗ್ಗ 1,03,347, ಧಾರವಾಡ 95,973, ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ 90,190, ವಿಜಯಪುರ 86,914, ತುಮಕೂರು 66,503, ಚಿಕ್ಕಮಗಳೂರು 64,857, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ 63,573, ಮಂಡ್ಯ 57,472, ಬೀದರ್ 53,621, ಹಾವೇರಿ 53,263, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ 45,854, ಚಿತ್ರದುರ್ಗ 44,454, ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿ 43,757, ಹಾಸನ 43,281, ರಾಯಚೂರು 42,561, ಗದಗ 38,666, ಕೊಡಗು 37,198, ವಿಜಯನಗರ 33,320, ಕೋಲಾರ 27,369, ಬೆಂ. ಗ್ರಾಮಾಂತರ 23,158, ಚಿಕ್ಕಬಳ್ಳಾಪುರ 19,281, ರಾಮನಗರ 17,839, ಯಾದಗಿರಿ 17,609, ಚಾಮರಾಜನಗರ 14,739.

ಬಿಪಿಎಲ್‌ಗಳೂ ರದ್ದು: ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿರುವ 1,16,95,029 ಬಿಪಿಎಲ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ 3.26 ಲಕ್ಷ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಆರು ತಿಂಗಳಿಂದ ರೇಷನ್ ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಇಲಾಖೆ ಹೇಳಿಕೊಂಡಿದೆ. ಅಂತಹ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳ ರದ್ದತಿಗೂ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಸೂಚನೆ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿದೆ. ಹೃದಯ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆ, ಕ್ಯಾನ್ಸರ್ ಸೇರಿ ಗಂಭೀರ ಕಾಯಿಲೆಗಳಿಂದ ಬಳಲುತ್ತಿರುವವರು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆಯಲು, ಪಿಂಚಣಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಆರ್‌ಟಿಇ ಅಡಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಸೇರಿ ಇತರ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಲಕ್ಷಾಂತರ ಮಂದಿ ಬಿಪಿಎಲ್ ಕಾರ್ಡ್ ಪಡೆದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ಪ್ರತಿ ತಿಂಗಳು ರೇಷನ್ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳದ ಕಾರಣ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಬೊಕ್ಕಸಕ್ಕೆ ಮಾಸಿಕ 50 ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂ.ನಂತೆ ವರ್ಷಕ್ಕೆ 60 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ಉಳಿತಾಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೀಗಿದ್ದರೂ, ಪಡಿತರ ಪಡೆಯದ ಕಾರ್ಡ್‌ಗಳ ರದ್ದುಪಡಿಸಲು ಇಲಾಖೆ ಮುಂದಾಗಿದೆ.

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Source: Vijayavani, p.9, Dec.18, 2023

Palike to make 'digitised' property record public in March

5,100 handwritten registers will be scanned for over 20 lakh properties

NAVEEN MENEZES
BENGALURU DHNS

For the first time, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike has undertaken the critical task of digitising property records, specifically 'A' and 'B' khata certificates, all in one go.

Since this new endeavour involves entering key details of private properties into the BBMP's recently developed software, the civic body has decided to make the 'digitised property records' available to the public for raising objections once the entire process is complete.

What the civic body aims to achieve in the next three months is similar to the Revenue Department's Bhoomi project, which digitised the manual Record of Rights, Tenancy, and Crops (RTC) nearly two decades ago.

In the case of the BBMP, this undertaking involves scanning and digitising as many as 5,100 handwritten registers, containing khata details for over 20 lakh properties. This task is extensive, with each property register featuring up to 25 columns for each khata (or property), including information such as the owner's name, property type, location, and more.

The entire process of entering property details into the software will be outsourced to a private agency.

Multiple concerns arise

As the entire digitisation process is expected to occur within the BBMP offices across its eight zones, some citizens have expressed a desire to understand the technology used and the procedures followed.

The first concern is the potential for manipulating the software to alter khata records. The second worry is the absence of involvement of property owners whose records are being digitised.

"While digitisation can help in searching records, saving space and analysing data easily, it also has several disadvantages," Rajan R, a resident of Girinath and an open data activist told *DH*. "The software needs to have audit logs for recording a trail of changes within the system to detect tampering. It it is important to identify each property record by a tag number. If not, the entire exercise will be equal to garbage."

During the conversation, he suggested that the BBMP should make the entire process public so that property owners can raise objections if the data entered into the system is incorrect.

Rajan, with a background in law and information technology, explained, "Given that land records are highly sensitive, the BBMP cannot afford to make errors."

Munish Moudgil, Special Commissioner (Revenue), BBMP, confirmed that the civic body is ready to make khata details public once the digitisation process is completed. "We hope to complete the work by March next year. During this period, 100% of the digitised data will be proofread by officers at different levels. On top of this, the property owners, too, will be given a certain period of time to raise objections," Moudgil said.

He emphasised the critical nature of this exercise, as the BBMP strives to offer all khata-related services online.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.2, Dec.18, 2023

People face delay in getting DLs and RCs

Transport Department officials say primary cause is the unavailability of chips essential for the smart cards

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

People have been experiencing delays in obtaining their driving licences (DL) and registration certificates (RC) from the Transport Department owing to issues in the supply of smart cards with chips from the vendor contracted for the same.

Partha Jain, a resident of Rajajainagar, shared his experience, stating that he underwent the driving test a month ago but has not yet received his DL. According to him, the Yeshwanthpur RTO told him that in another week he will receive the DL, attributing the delay to issues with the supply of smart cards.

Prajwal Kumar, a resident of Bilekahalli on Bannerghatta Road, has encountered a similar problem at the Electronics City RTO while applying for the RC for his new car.

Transport Department officials said that the primary cause for the vendor's failure to supply RC and DL smart cards is the unavailability of chips essential for these cards.

An official said, "The vendor is required to provide the smart cards, but is facing challenges in obtaining the necessary chips."

Then Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa launching the smart-card format for driving licences and registration certificates in 2009. FILE PHOTO

In Karnataka, an approximate average of 5,000 people register vehicles and 4,000 people undergo driving tests daily. The Transport Department aims to issue smart cards for these individuals within a 10-day period.

"It is true that there is an issue owing to the unavailability of chips. We are already in the process of resolving this issue and aim to issue the smart cards within two days to individuals who have applied for DLs and RCs," said Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy.

The transition to the smart-card format for DLs and RCs commenced in 2009.

Meanwhile, the department is planning to implement new age smart cards that incorporate not only chips but also QR codes starting from the upcoming year.

According to officials, the proposed cards will comply with the specifications outlined by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways fostering consistency in issuance across the country.

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Source: The Hindu, p.2, Dec. 19, 2023

Gods set to get their own land in Karnataka

Govt To Fast-Track Regn Of Properties Of 34,563 Temples

Niranjan.Kaggere
@timesgroup.com

Bengaluru: Crazy as it may sound, gods in Karnataka are set to 'get' richer – and faster!

If that's in a lighter vein, then here's the business-end of the deal: The state government has decided to fast-track registration of all immovable properties — primarily land — worth several crores of rupees belonging to 34,563 temples across the state in the name of their respective presiding deities.

The move is aimed at ending misuse of temple land and property by individuals and overcoming feuds over ownership ambiguities.

According to the state's muzrai department, in Bengaluru alone, documentation of properties belonging to 10 major temples has been taken up. In the last six months, Bengaluru Rural district has seen the highest number of registrations, with 156 properties belonging to various temples registered in the name of their presiding gods. This is followed by Chikkaballapura, where 150 temple property registrations have taken place.

PRESIDING DEITIES

- Karnataka to fast-track **land registration in the name of presiding deities** in 34,563 temples across the state
- **Bengaluru Rural district records 156 such registrations** in the past six months
- In 2021, the state decided **to register all surveyed and demarcated immovable assets** in the name of gods to end individuals' control on temples

▶**Absolute ownership, P 2**

Continued....

Min: Absolute ownership of properties lies with govt

▶ Continued from page 1

Dakshina Kannada (88), Chamarajanagar (84), and Tumakuru (82) are next. In 2020, detailed survey and digitisation of temple records were ordered to consolidate multi-crore rupees worth of immovable properties belonging to thousands of temples across the state.

Additionally, the state government, in 2021, had decided to register all surveyed and demarcated immovable properties in the name of gods, thereby ending unilateral control of a few individuals over temple riches.

Acknowledging the registration process, muzrai minister Ramalinga Reddy told **TOI** that the absolute ownership over these properties now lies with the state government.

Reddy further said since time immemorial, several kingdoms and rulers had granted vast tracts of land to various temples and their value currently runs into thousands of crores.

"Temple properties and land were either leased out to individuals unilaterally for a very small amount or given free of cost. As a result, temples were deprived of crucial income. The government wanted to prevent such misuse of wealth...," the minister explained.

Senior BJP MLC N Ravikumar said: "In Bengaluru alone, properties worth several crores of rupees in Koramangala and near Big Banyan tree have been encroached by individuals as the properties are with temple trusts. Land, property belonging to temples shall be registered in the name of the presiding deity like the way property belonging to Masjids are handled by the Wakf Board. Once a wakf property will always be a wakf property. Nobody can alienate it. We want the same system for consolidation of temple properties."

Source: The Times of India, p.1& 2, Dec.20, 2023

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Social Issues

ವಿಶ್ವವಾಣಿ

ಸೈಬರ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣ: ನಗರಕ್ಕೆ ಅಗ್ರಸ್ಥಾನ?

ರಾಜಧಾನಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಸೈಬರ್ ಕಳ್ಳರ ಕಾಟ | 11 ತಿಂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 15,779 ಸಾವಿರ ಸೈಬರ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲು | ಫಿಶಿಂಗ್, ಒಟಿಪಿ, ಸುಲಿಗೆಗಳು ಹೆಚ್ಚು

ವಿಶ್ವವಾಣಿ ಸುದ್ದಿಮನೆ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ರಾಜಧಾನಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸೈಬರ್ ಕಳ್ಳರ ಕಾಟ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಕಳೆದ 11 ತಿಂಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಮಾರು 15,779 ಸಾವಿರ ಸೈಬರ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಬೃಹತ್ ನಗರಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಈ ಬಾರಿಯೂ ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಪ್ರಥಮ ಸ್ಥಾನ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆ ಇದೆ.

ಅಪರಾಧ ತನಿಖಾ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯ ಪ್ರಕಾರ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ 15,779 ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು ಅಥವಾ ಒಟ್ಟು ಅಪರಾಧಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ.23.4 (67,446) ರಷ್ಟು ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ ವರದಿಯಾದ 46 ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಫಿಶಿಂಗ್, ಒಟಿಪಿ ವಂಚನೆಗಳು, ಸುಲಿಗೆ ಅತ್ಯಂತ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ.

ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಅಪರಾಧ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳ ಬ್ಯೂರೋದ ವಾರ್ಷಿಕ ವರದಿಯು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ (2022) 12,551 ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು ವರದಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಅತಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಸೈಬರ್ ಕ್ರೈಂ ದಾಖಲಾದ ನಗರಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಅಗ್ರಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದರೆ, ಎರಡನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂಬೈ (4,724) ಮತ್ತು ಮೂರನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಹೈದರಾಬಾದ್ (4,436) ಇದೆ ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿತ್ತು.

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ 50,679 ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು ವರದಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದವು. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾದ ಸೈಬರ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇ.81 ರಷ್ಟು ಸೈಬರ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾಗಿವೆ. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ಈ ವರ್ಷ ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ದೇಶದಲ್ಲೇ ಅಗ್ರಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಸಾಧ್ಯತೆಯಿದೆ. ಮಾಸಿಕ ಸರಾಸರಿಯಂತೆ, 2023 ರಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಮಾರು 18,000 ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು ದಾಖಲಾಗಬಹುದು ಎಂದು ಅಂದಾಜಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ವರ್ಷವಾರು ಅಂಕಿ ಅಂಶ

ವರ್ಷ	ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡ ಹಣ	ಮರಳಿದ ಹಣ
2019	71,27,19,806 ರು.	8,59,45,570 ರು.
2020	1,05,99,55,357 ರು.	14,83,49,627 ರು.
2021	1,45,05,85,810 ರು.	25,96,33,607 ರು.
2022	3,63,11,54,443 ರು.	46,87,89,415 ರು.
2023 (ಜನವರಿ ಅಂತ್ಯದವರೆಗೆ)	36,63,82,797 ರು.	1,03,44,045 ರು.

ಸೈಬರ್ ವಂಚಕರ ಪತ್ತೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಪೊಲೀಸರು ಸುಸ್ತೋಸುಸ್ತು

ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪತ್ತೆಹಚ್ಚುವಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪೊಲೀಸರು ಹಿಂದೆ ಬಿದ್ದಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಕಳೆದ ವರ್ಷ ದಾಖಲಾದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಪೈಕಿ 612 ಪುರುಷರು, 67 ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಸೇರಿ 679 ವಂಚಕರನ್ನು ಬಂಧಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಸ್ತಾಗಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಉತ್ತರ ಪ್ರದೇಶ ಪೊಲೀಸರು 8,249 ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ 15 ಮಹಿಳೆಯರು ಸೇರಿ 7,122 ಆರೋಪಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪತ್ತೆ ಹಚ್ಚಿ ಮೊದಲ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಆನಂತರ ಮಹಾರಾಷ್ಟ್ರ (2,582) ಮತ್ತು ತೆಲಂಗಾಣ (2,442) ಎರಡು, 3ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿವೆ. ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ 11ನೇ ಸ್ಥಾನದಲ್ಲಿದೆ. ಅಪರಾಧ ವರದಿ ಮಾಡುವಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಳಂಬವಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ನಡುವೆ ಸಮನ್ವಯದ ಕೊರತೆ ಇದೆ. ಇದೆಲ್ಲ ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ವಿವಿಧ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದಾಗಿ ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಹಣವನ್ನು ಮರಳಿ ಮಾಡುವುದು ನಿಜವಾಗಿಯೂ ಕಷ್ಟಕರವಾಗಿದೆ. ಡಿಜಿಟಲ್ ವ್ಯಾಲೆಟ್‌ಗಳಿಂದ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು ಸಂಭವಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ ಎಂದು ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಯೊಬ್ಬರು ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಾದ ಸೈಬರ್ ಅಪರಾಧಗಳು

ವರ್ಷ	ಸೈಬರ್ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು
2020	10,738
2021	8,132
2022	12,551
2023 (ನವೆಂಬರ್ ಅಂತ್ಯದವರೆಗೆ)	15,779

Source: Vishwavani, p.2, Dec.16, 2023

ಮಲಗುಂಡಿಗೆ ಇಳಿದ ಶಾಲಾ ಮಕ್ಕಳು!

ಕೋಲಾರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ ಮೊರಾರ್ಜಿ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೀನ ಕೃತ್ಯ

ಬಾಲಕರಿಂದ ಟಾಯ್ಲೆಟ್ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತೆ ಮಾಡಿಸಿದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು?

■ **ವೆಂ.ಸುನೀಲ್ ಕುಮಾರ್** ಕೋಲಾರ
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ಮಾಲೂರು ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಯಲವಹಳ್ಳಿ ಮೊರಾರ್ಜಿ ದೇಸಾಯಿ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಯ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಂದಲೇ ಮಲದ ಗುಂಡಿ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛ ಮಾಡಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆಂಬ ಆರೋಪ ಕೇಳಿಬಂದಿದೆ.

ಶಾಲಾ ಆವಣದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ಮಲಗುಂಡಿಗೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಇಳಿದು ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ವಿಡಿಯೊ ಮತ್ತು ಫೋಟೊಗಳು ವಿಜಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕಕ್ಕೆ ಲಭ್ಯವಾಗಿವೆ. ಕೆಲ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಂದ ಇಂಥಾ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ ಎಂಬ ಆರೋಪ ಮೊದಲಿನಿಂದಲೂ ಕೇಳಿಬರುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ, ಸ್ಥಳೀಯರು ಈ ದೃಶ್ಯಾವಳಿಯನ್ನು ಸೆರೆ ಹಿಡಿದಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಲ ಹೊರುವ ಪದ್ಧತಿ ನಿಷೇಧಿಸಿ ಹಲವು ದಶಕಗಳೇ ಕಳೆದಿದೆ.ಕಾಯಿದೆ ಪ್ರಕಾರ, ಯಾರೊಬ್ಬರೂ ಮಲಗುಂಡಿಗೆ ಇಳಿದು ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡುವಂತಿಲ್ಲ. ಇಂಥ ಸಂಗತಿಯನ್ನು ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಹೇಳಿಕೊಡಬೇಕಾದ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರೇ, ಈ ಶಾಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಂದೆ ನಿಂತು, ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಂದ ಮಲಗುಂಡಿ ಸ್ವಚ್ಛಗೊಳಿಸುವ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಈ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರಿಗೆ ಪ್ರಾಂಶುಪಾಲರ ಕುಮ್ಮಕ್ಕಿದೆ ಎಂಬ ಆರೋಪವಿದೆ.

ಬ್ಯಾಗ್ ಹೊರುವ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆ : ಇದಲ್ಲದೆ, ಶಾಲೆಯ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಮನಬಂದಂತೆ ಶಿಕ್ಷಿಸುವ ಆರೋಪವೂ ಕೇಳಿಬಂದಿದೆ. ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಓದಿನ ಕಡೆ ಗಮನ ಹರಿಸುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲವೆಂಬ ಕಾರಣ ಮುಂದಿಟ್ಟುಕೊಂಡು, 100ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಶಾಲಾ ಬ್ಯಾಗ್ ಹೊರಿಸಿ ಗಂಟೆಗಟ್ಟಲೆ ಮೊಣಕಾಲಿನ ಮೇಲೆ ಕೂರುವ ಶಿಕ್ಷೆಯನ್ನು ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ವಿಧಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ಕೆಲ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಉಸಿರುಗಟ್ಟಿ ಬೆನ್ನು ನೋವು ತಾಳಲಾರದೆ ಒದ್ದಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ದೃಶ್ಯವೂ ಸೆರೆಯಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಓದುತ್ತಿಲ್ಲವೆಂಬ ನೆಪವೊಡ್ಡಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ಚಿಕ್ಕ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ನಿಷ್ಕರುಣೆಯಿಂದ ಹೊಡೆಯುವುದು, ಕಳಪೆ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಊಟ ನೀಡುವುದು. ಈ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪ್ರಶ್ನಿಸಿದರೆ, ಉಸಿರೆತ್ತದಂತೆ ಬಾಸುಂಡೆ ಬರುವ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಹೊಡೆಯಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಈ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ವಿದ್ಯಮಾನಗಳು ವಿಡಿಯೊ, ಫೋಟೊದಲ್ಲಿ ಸೆರೆಯಾಗಿದೆ.

ಮಲಗುಂಡಿಗಿಳಿದು ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಸ್ವಚ್ಛಗೊಳಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವುದು.

ಶಾಲೆಯ ಬ್ಯಾಗ್ ಹೊತ್ತು ಮಂಡಿ ಮೇಲೆ ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಕೂತಿರುವುದು.

ನಮ್ಮ ಶಾಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿಯ ತೊಂದರೆ ಕೊಟ್ಟಿಲ್ಲ. ಏನಾದರೂ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಿದ್ದರೆ ಸರಿಪಡಿಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳುತ್ತೇವೆ. ವಾರ್ಡನ್ ಹುದ್ದೆ ನೀಡಲಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬ ಕಾರಣದಿಂದ ಕೆಲ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ಪಿತೂರಿ ನಡೆಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಅವರೇ ಕೆಲವು ವಿಡಿಯೊ ಮಾಡಿ ಮಾಧ್ಯಮಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಂಚಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

- ಭಾರತಮ್ಮ ಪ್ರಾಂಶುಪಾಲೆ, ಮೊರಾರ್ಜಿ ದೇಸಾಯಿ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆ, ಯಲವಹಳ್ಳಿ

ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಕೊರತೆಗಳೇನು?

- ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದ ಊಟ ಇಲ್ಲ
- ಯಾವುದನ್ನೂ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆ ಮಾಡುವ ಸ್ಥಿತಿ ಇಲ್ಲ
- ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರಿಂದ ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಗೆ ಚಿತ್ರಹಿಂಸೆ
- 1098ಗೆ ಕರೆ ಮಾಡಲು ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಇಲ್ಲ
- ಪ್ರಾಂಶುಪಾಲರು, ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರಿಗೆ ರಾಜಕಾರಣಿಗಳ ಕೃಪಾಕಟಾಕ್ಷ

ಶಾಸಕರ ಬೆಂಬಲವಂತೆ !

ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಮೊರಾರ್ಜಿ ದೇಸಾಯಿ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿರುವ ಪ್ರಾಂಶುಪಾಲರು, ವಾರ್ಡನ್, ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ಹಾಗೂ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿಗೆ ಶಾಲೆ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿಯೇ ಮನೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ಪ್ರಾಂಶುಪಾಲರಾದ ಭಾರತಮ್ಮ, ವಾರ್ಡನ್ ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್ ಅವರು ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಉಳಿಯುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಪ್ರಾಂಶುಪಾಲರನ್ನು ಪ್ರಶ್ನಿಸಿದರೆ, ''ನನಗೆ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಶಾಸಕರ ಬೆಂಬಲವಿದೆ. ಯಾರು ಏನೂ ಮಾಡಲಾಗದು,''ಎಂದು ದರ್ಪ ತೋರುತ್ತಾರೆಂಬ ದೂರುಗಳು ಕೇಳಿಬಂದಿವೆ.

ಮಕ್ಕಳಿಂದ ದೂರುಗಳು ಬಂದಾಗ ಪ್ರಾಂಶುಪಾಲರನ್ನು ಭೇಟಿ ಮಾಡಿದರೆ, ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಸ್ಪಂದನೆ ಮಾಡುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಹೇಳುವ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ ನೀಡಲು ಮುಂದಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಇದೇನು ಅನಾಥಾಶ್ರಮ, ಅನ್ನಛತ್ರವಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಪೋಷಕರಿಗೇ ಏಕವಚನದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೈದು ಕಳುಹಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ.

- ಶಂಕರಪ್ಪ (ಹೆಸರು ಬದಲಿಸಿಲಾಗಿದೆ), ಪಾಲಕರು

Source: Vijayakarnataka, p2, Dec.17, 2023

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ

ಪ್ರತಿ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲೂ ಅಕ್ರಮ | ಎಚ್ಚೆತ್ತುಕೊಳ್ಳದ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಜೈಲಿನಿಂದ ಹೊರಬಂದ ಹಳೇ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳಿಂದಲೇ ಮತ್ತೆ ಡೀಲ್

ದುಡ್ಡಿದ್ದವರಿಗಷ್ಟೇ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ನೌಕ್ರಿ!

■ ಕೀರ್ತಿನಾರಾಯಣ ಸಿ. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ಅಕ್ರಮದ ವಾಸನೆ ಬಡಿಯುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಕೆಲವೊಂದು ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅವ್ಯವಹಾರ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವಾಗಲೇ ಸಾಕ್ಷ್ಯಸಮೇತ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿಬಿದ್ದರೆ, ಮತ್ತೆ ಕೆಲವು ಎಕ್ಸಾಮ್‌ಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ರಮ ನಡೆದಿರುವ ಆರೋಪ ಕೇಳಿಬರುತ್ತಿದೆ. ಪದೇಪದೆ ನಡೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಅವ್ಯವಹಾರಗಳಿಂದಾಗಿ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಯು ಪಾವಿತ್ರ್ಯತೆಯೇ ಕಳೆದುಕೊಂಡು 'ದುಡ್ಡಿದ್ದವರಿಗಷ್ಟೇ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ನೌಕರಿ' ಎಂಬ ಮಾತುಗಳು ಸೃಷ್ಟಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಏತನ್ಮಧ್ಯೆ ಪಿಎಸ್‌ಐ ಹಗರಣದ 53 ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಬರೆಯದಂತೆ ಕಾಲ್ಕತವಾಗಿ ಡಿಬಾರ್ ಮಾಡಿರುವಂತೆ ಬೇರೆ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳ ಅವ್ಯವಹಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿಬಿದ್ದವರನ್ನೂ ಕಾಲ್ಕತವಾಗಿ ನಿಷೇಧಿಸುವಂತೆ ಒತ್ತಾಯ ಕೇಳಿಬಂದಿದೆ. ಇದರ ಜತೆಗೆ ಪದೇಪದೆ ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಅಕ್ರಮ ನಡೆಸಿ ಸಿಕ್ಕಿಬೀಳುವ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಆರೋಪಿಗಳ ವಿರುದ್ಧ ಮುಲಾಜಿಲ್ಲದೆ ಕೋಕಾ ಅಸ್ತ್ರ ಜಾರಿ ಮಾಡಿ, ಜೈಲಿನಿಂದ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಯಾಗದಂತೆ ನೋಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕು ಎಂಬ ಆಗ್ರಹ ಪ್ರಾಮಾಣಿಕ ಉದ್ಯೋಗಾಕಾಂಕ್ಷಿಗಳಿಂದ ವ್ಯಕ್ತವಾಗಿದೆ. ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆದ ಪಿಎಸ್‌ಐ, ಕಾನ್‌ಸ್ಟೆಬಲ್, ಕೆಪಿಎಸ್ಸಿ, ಕೆಇಎ, ಪಿಡಬ್ಲ್ಯುಡಿ, ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ, ಕೆಪಿಟಿಸಿಎಲ್, ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರು ಸೇರಿ ವಿವಿಧ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ ನಡೆದ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ರಮ ನಡೆದಿದೆ. ● ಪುಟ 5A

ನಿಗಮ ಮಂಡಳಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿನ ಖಾಲಿ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ನೇಮಕಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಕೆಇಎ ನಡೆಸಿದ್ದ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಬ್ಲೂಟೂತ್ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಅಕ್ರಮ ನಡೆಸಿದ ಪ್ರಕರಣವನ್ನು ಸಿಐಡಿಗೆ ವಹಿಸುವ ಮಾತೇ ಇಲ್ಲ. ಈ ಕುರಿತು ಉನ್ನತಮಟ್ಟದ ತನಿಖೆ ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುವುದು.

| ಪ್ರಿಯಾಂಕ್ ಖರ್ಗೆ ಐಟಿ-ಬಿಟಿ ಸಚಿವ

ಯಾವ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ ಎಷ್ಟು ರೇಟ್?

● ಪಿಎಸ್‌ಐ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ 40ಲಕ್ಷ ದಿಂದ 1 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ.ವರೆಗೆ ಫಿಕ್ಸ್ ಆಗಿತ್ತು. ● ನಿಗಮ-ಮಂಡಳಿ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ 5 ರಿಂದ 25 ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂ.ವರೆಗೆ ನಿಗದಿ. ● ಡಿಸಿಸಿ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ಗಳ ವಿವಿಧ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ 10ರಿಂದ 25 ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂ. ● ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕ ಹುದ್ದೆಗೆ 1 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ಪಡೆದ ಆರೋಪ. ● ಪಿಡಬ್ಲ್ಯುಡಿ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ಹುದ್ದೆ 30ರಿಂದ 40 ಲಕ್ಷ ರೂ.

ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಅಕ್ರಮ ಹೇಗೆ?

● ಬ್ಲೂಟೂತ್, ಓಎಂಆರ್ ಶೀಟ್ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ, ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಪತ್ರಿಕೆ ಸೋರಿಕೆ. 3 ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಅವ್ಯವಹಾರ.

● ಪಿಯುಸಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಅಕ್ರಮದ ನಂತರ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಪತ್ರಿಕೆ ಸೋರಿಕೆ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಬಹುತೇಕ ನಿಂತಿದೆ.

● ಬ್ಲೂಟೂತ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಉತ್ತರಗಳನ್ನು ಹೇಳಿಸಿ, ಬರೆಸುವ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ಜಾಸ್ತಿಯಾಗಿವೆ.

● ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳ ಶಾಮೀಲಿನಿಂದ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ಮುಗಿಯುತ್ತಿದ್ದಂತೆ ಓಎಂಆರ್ ಶೀಟ್ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ.

ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ಅಕ್ರಮಗಳು

● 545 ಪಿಎಸ್‌ಐ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಿಗೆ 2021 ಅ.3ರಂದು ನಡೆದ ಲಿಖಿತ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವ್ಯಾಪಕ ಅಕ್ರಮ ನಡೆದಿತ್ತು. ಐಪಿಎಸ್ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ, ಡಿಎಸ್ಪಿ, ಪೊಲೀಸರು, 53 ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಸೇರಿ 100ಕ್ಕೂ ಅಧಿಕ ಮಂದಿ ಬಂಧನವಾಗಿತ್ತು.

● 2021ರ ಡಿಸೆಂಬರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪಿಡಬ್ಲ್ಯುಡಿ ಜೆಇ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ ನಡೆದಿತ್ತು. ಬ್ಲೂಟೂತ್ ಬಳಸಿ ಅಕ್ರಮ ಎಸಗಿದ ಮೂವರು ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಸೇರಿ 15 ಮಂದಿ ಬಂಧನವಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಇದರಲ್ಲೂ ಆರ್.ಡಿ. ಪಾಟೀಲ್ ಪಾತ್ರವಿತ್ತು.

● 2022 ಜು. 23, 24ರಂದು ನಡೆದ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಅಭಿಯೋಜಕರ ನೇಮಕಾತಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ರಮ. ತನಿಖೆ ನಡೆಸಿ ವರದಿ ಕೊಡಲು ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಸಮಿತಿ ರಚಿಸಿತ್ತು.

● 2019 ರಿಂದ 2021ರವರೆಗೆ ಮೈಸೂರು ವಿವಿ ನಡೆಸಿದ ಕೆ-ಸೆಟ್ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ರಮ. 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ತನಿಖೆ ನಡೆಸಲು ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಉಪ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಸ್ನೇಹಲ್ ಸುಧಾಕರ ಲೋಖಂಡೆ ನೇತೃತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಿತಿಯನ್ನು ರಚಿಸಲಾಗಿತ್ತು.

● ಕೆಪಿಟಿಸಿಎಲ್ 2022ರ ಜುಲೈ ಮತ್ತು ಆಗಸ್ಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಡೆಸಿದ ವಿವಿಧ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಾನಿಕ್ ಡಿವೈಸ್ ಬಳಸಿ 40 ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಅಕ್ರಮ ಎಸಗಿದ್ದರು. ಅಕ್ರಮ ಎಸಗಿದವರನ್ನು ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರ ಪಟ್ಟಿ ಮಾಡಿತ್ತು.

● 2023ರ ಮಾ.14ರಂದು ನಡೆದಿದ್ದ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಪ್ರಾಧ್ಯಾಪಕರ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲೂ ಅಕ್ರಮ ನಡೆದಿತ್ತು. ಪರೀಕ್ಷಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಕಿಯಾಗಿದ್ದ ಯುವತಿಯೇ ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗಳನ್ನು ವಾಟ್ಸ್‌ಆ್ಯಪ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸೋರಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದಳು.

● 2012-13, 2014-15ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಪ್ರೌಢಶಾಲೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಗ್ರೇಡ್-2 ಸಹಾಯಕ ಶಿಕ್ಷಕರ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ರಮಗಳು ನಡೆದಿದ್ದವು. ಈ ಸಂಬಂಧ 2022ರಲ್ಲಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ 11 ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಿಐಡಿ ಬಂಧಿಸಿತ್ತು.

ಡೀಲ್ ಕುದುರಿಸೋದು ಹೇಗೆ?

● ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳ ನೇಮಕಾತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಕ್ರಮ ನಡೆಸುವ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥಿತ ಜಾಲಗಳು ಸಕ್ರಿಯವಾಗಿವೆ. ● ಹುದ್ದೆ ಭರ್ತಿಗೆ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಹೊರಡಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದಂತೆಯೇ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆ ಆರಂಭಿಸುವ ಜಾಲಗಳು. ● ಅಭ್ಯರ್ಥಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಿ ಹಣದ ಮಾತುಕತೆ ನಡೆಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ● ಒಪ್ಪಿದ ಹಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗೂ ಮುನ್ನ ಶೇ.50, ಆಯ್ಕೆ ನಂತರ ಶೇ.50 ಕೊಡಲು ಒಪ್ಪಂದ.

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Source: Vijayavani, p.1, Dec.19, 2023

Rising cybercrimes, drug menace, traffic enforcement: 3 key challenges for city police

REWIND 2023

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Cybercrime, drug menace, and traffic enforcement remained the three big challenges for the Bengaluru city police in 2023. "We have initiated several measures and the use of technology is key to battling all the three key challenges," said Police Commissioner B. Dayananda.

This year saw the traffic police adopt innovative means to collect pending enforcement fines that had ballooned to nearly ₹500 crore. SUDHAKAR JAIN

The police have taken up a campaign with all schools and colleges in the city and have begun appointing student volunteers as police marshals, who will in turn create awareness about drug abuse, addiction, and its health and legal repercussions. FILE PHOTO

Exponential growth

The city, which registered over 9,000 cases of cybercrimes in all of 2022, as per the recently released data from the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), saw over 16,000 cases till the end of November in 2023. While the city police claim it reports the highest number of cybercrime cases due to it being the IT capital of the country, it doesn't seem to hold much water as Hyderabad, another IT hub reports the least number of cybercrime cases among all the metro cities in the country. City police also argue that reporting and registration of cases is best in the city, and many cases go unreported elsewhere.

The growing load of cyber crime cases in the city has been so huge that the city police started six dedicated Cybercrime, Economic Offences and Narcotics (CEN) police stations in recent years, in addition to the one station that was there for many years now. However, the load in 2023 became so huge that the dedicated CEN stations could not handle it any longer and Commissioner Mr. Dayananda had to ask all police stations in the city to start registering cybercrime cases. "There has been exponential growth in the number of cybercrime registration after we started registering cyber crimes in local police stations apart from CEN police stations. This shows how widespread cybercrimes are currently. We are also focusing on capacity building by training staff of local police stations in handling cybercrimes and are also providing the required tools and technologies," he said.

Campaign

"Drug menace has emerged as a multi-headed hydra and spreading its tentacles in the society at all levels. Easy availability and easy acceptability have made drugs fashionable with the younger generation. We have adopted a two-pronged approach – going after drug peddlers and disrupting the supply chain on the one hand and trying to create awareness among all sections of the society against drugs," said Mr. Dayananda.

The City Police have taken up a campaign with all schools and colleges in the city and have begun even appointing student volunteers as police marshals, who will in turn create awareness about drug abuse, addiction and its health and legal repercussions among their peers. There have been several instances where these volunteers have also helped police crack down on drug peddling on campuses.

50% rebate

This year saw Bengaluru City Traffic Police adopt innovative means to collect pending enforcement fines that had ballooned to nearly ₹500 crore. Lok Adalat provided two windows for vehicle owners to pay up pending fines with a 50% rebate. 2.92 lakh cases were settled and ₹9.24 crore was collected during July- September period.

As the enforcement of traffic norms went more online and through cameras, motorists adopted innovative ways to escape being caught. Many cases where the number plates were wrong, or partially hidden were uncovered this year. The BTP is yet to come up with an effective way to counter this.

Police in crime

Another disturbing trend that marked the year was that at least seven police officials from the city were booked for their involvement in various crimes.

In November, Odisha Police arrested a Jigani police personnel with 17.5 kg of ganja and in August, Kerala Police arrested four personnel from Whitefield CEN Police Station for allegedly extorting ₹3 lakh from an accused in a cybercrime case. A police constable was arrested for burglary after duty hours. In the latest case, last week of November, the inspector of Byatarayanapura police was booked for robbing a businessman of ₹75 lakh and in March earlier this year, a sub-inspector and two constables of Marathahalli Police were booked for extortion and illegal confinement. These cases have dented the image of the Bengaluru City Police.

Source: The Hindu, p.2, Dec. 20, 2023

Congress in a bind over caste census

Govt. bides its time as dominant communities unite to oppose the census report

STATE OF PLAY

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The Congress in Karnataka seems to be in a bind over the socio-economic and educational survey (caste census) conducted in 2015. Powerful caste lobbies within the party are at work ahead of the Lok Sabha election year, building pressure on the government not to accept the report.

While the party nationally has announced it will undertake a caste census to study the status of Backward Classes if voted to power in 2024, it is struggling in Karnataka where the census was conducted during the earlier Congress government more than eight summers ago and the report is yet to see the light of day.

Over the past few weeks, as Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, the most popular OBC leader in the State, repeatedly said that his government would accept the census report, the powerful land-owning Vokkaliga and Veershaiava/Lingayat communities brought together their leaders from across the political spectrum on a common platform to oppose the "unscientific" census. They include powerful Ministers who will be part of the Cabinet that will decide on the fate of the report.

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and other Vokkaliga Ministers signed a petition against the report in November, pointing to fissures in the party over the issue. Last week, the Veerashaiva-Lingayats followed it up by urging the government to junk the report in favour of a fresh survey. The petition was signed by several politicians , including M.B. Patil, who is identified in the Siddaramaiah camp.

Acceptance of the caste census report was also the party's promise for the 2023 Assembly elections. However, the party is said to be evaluating the impact of such a move. For, the powerful communities – based on the leaked data – believe that their population figures have decreased from the perceived numbers. The issue has brought the two politically strong communities – and their community organisations – contending for power together on a common ground after over three decades. Interestingly, the two dominant communities are also part of the Backward Classes reservation matrix in the State for public employment and education.

The political heat in the State over the report has increased after the Bihar government published its caste census, with several organisations representing Backward Classes urging the Congress government to honour its promise. The issue particularly flared up in recent weeks as K. Jayaprakash Hegde's tenure as the Chairman of the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes came to an end in November. Amidst speculation that he could submit the report soon, the government extended his tenure till the end of January 2024 to enable him to complete the report.

Mr. Hedge's team is writing a fresh report based on the data collected by his predecessor, H. Kantharaj, in 2015. The earlier report could not be submitted to the government as the member secretary did not sign it, and later Chief Ministers H.D. Kumaraswamy (a Vokkaliga), and B.S. Yediyurappa and Basavaraj Bommai (Lingayats) were accused of not being interested in accepting it.

Those in favour of the report say that the survey will shed light on the socio-economic and educational status of each community, along with the benefits accrued from reservation in public employment and education. They argue that the communities opposed to the report do not want the correct status to be revealed as they fear erosion of their importance in State politics. Kantharaj Commission members, on their part, hold that the census was conducted scientifically.

The Chief Minister, who is seen pushing for the acceptance of the report as the findings could further consolidate him as a champion of Backward Classes, has been vocal in asking leaders of the two communities to wait till the report is submitted before actually commenting on it.

As the two dominant communities try to prevail upon the government against accepting the survey report, more than 250 Most Backward Class communities, which have limited political capital and have not benefited from the OBC reservation in three decades, continue to await the survey findings.

Source: The Hindu, p.11, Dec. 21, 2023

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Roadmap to relief: IISc's data magic to transform city traffic

BENGALURU, DHNS

Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Monday for a collaborative effort to develop a data-centric strategy to address traffic congestion, enhance road safety, and tackle mobility challenges in the city.

Under the collaboration, researchers from IISc's Centre for Infrastructure, Sustainable Transportation and Urban Planning (CiSTUP) will harness sensor data from CCTV and Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS) cameras, along with other sources. This data will be fed into an artificial intelligence-driven model designed to predict congestion along the city's traffic corridors.

"We are trying to make a map of all the cameras to obtain different types of data and analyse congestion along corridors and not just junctions in the city," Professor Vijay Kovvali, Research Professor at CiSTUP, told *DH*.

"We have a base transportation model now and are trying to build a model based on how people travel in the city. But our first step is to understand the data at hand and identify what other sources of data we would need," he further added.

While predicting outcomes is challenging due to the dynamic nature of city traffic, Professor Kovvali expects to come up with workable recommendations within the next year.

He said: "With time, we want to look at overall mobility and road safety and try out multiple thought processes to experiment with existing data. However, this is not a silver bullet situation, so we hope to build a continuous process and not just a one-time solution."

A smart signal system on MG Road. The Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) is installing smart signals at 28 junctions in the city with funds from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). DH PHOTO/PUSHKAR V

Bengaluru generates nearly 30 petabytes of traffic data monthly, largely untapped, said MN Anucheth, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic). Regular insights derived from this data will be shared with traffic police, empowering them to implement effective interventions.

"They will use the data points that we share to formulate plans and policies to rectify accident blackspots, ease congestion and enable better road safety and traffic management in the city," Anucheth stated.

The MoU also outlines provisions for IISc experts to provide training and capacity-building sessions for BTP officers.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.3, Dec.16, 2023

B'luru & Mumbai see most steep rental hikes: Report

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Bengaluru: Rising rentals is an oft-heard complaint in Bengaluru and 2023 was no different, a realty portal's report has confirmed. Bengaluru, along with Mumbai, saw the highest incidence of steep rise in rentals. The two cities saw 7% of their cohort of landlords increasing rents by 30% and above, according to NoBroker's Real Estate Report 2023.

The report also unravelled the cause and effect of high rentals in Bengaluru: 52% of the surveyed landlords were found to rely solely on rental income, while 42% of Bengalureans were planning to buy properties because of high rentals in the city. With new Metro corridors coming up in the city, there is an increase in demand for houses along these corridors.

On the rental surge across the city, Saurabh Garg, co-founder and chief business officer, NoBroker, said that during the Covid-19 pandemic, stoppage of realty projects affected the supply of residential properties. "With more people entering the city, and less spaces available, rents have gone up in Bengaluru. In 2023, the Indian real estate sector witnessed robust growth in terms of increasing demand for property buying, surging rentals, and soaring property prices, especially in Bengaluru," he said, adding that the gap between demand and supply will eventually reduce and result in controlled price appreciation and rental surge.

Within the metro cities, more and more buyers are gravitating towards buying a flat/house in a gated community. However, in Bengaluru, 63% of those surveyed said they were more inclined to buy an individual house.

"North Bengaluru has undergone a remarkable transformation, emerging as a thriving hub of real estate development. The area has experienced significant growth, thanks to substantial government initiatives aimed at fostering its overall development. The Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board has played a pivotal role, contributing to the establishment and growth of industrial zones, particularly in Bagalur area," the report stated.

WHAT BENGALUREANS WANT

84% landlords prefer families

84% prefer a place close to their workplace

30% want to invest in property because of rental hike

55% check for vaastu before renting house

Popular areas to rent a house

- Varthur
- Electronics City Phase 1
- Haralur
- Chikkanahalli
- Whitefield

WHERE HOMEBUYERS PURCHASE PROPERTY

Best-performing micro-markets (2023)		Worst-performing micro-markets (2023)	
Hebbal	27%	Kalyan Nagar	0%
Varthur	24%	Basavangudi	1%
Bellandur	20%	Kumaraswamy Layout	1%
Electronics City Phase 1	20%	RT Nagar	2%
Nelamangala	19%	Akshayanagar	2%

Source: NoBroker's Real Estate Report 2023

Source: The Times of India, p.2, Dec 16, 2023

'Lower-than-expected': Metro's average daily ridership yet to reach 7 lakh

BMRCL earned Rs 51.22 crore in fare revenue in November

On average, metro trains ferried only 6.64 lakh passengers per day in November. DH FILE PHOTO

BENGALURU, DHNS

Metro trains in Bengaluru ferried 6,64,048 lakh passengers per day on average in November, significantly lower than the expected target of 7-7.5 lakh after the Purple Line fully opened in October.

When the 1.8-km Baiyapanahalli-KR Pura and the 2.1-km Kengeri-Challaghatta sections of the Purple Line opened on October 9, authorities had hoped that average daily ridership would rise to 7-7.5 lakh. This wasn't misplaced.

The Baiyappanahalli-KR Pura section was of crucial importance because it connected the standalone Whitefield line to the rest of the metro network. With the opening of these two small sections, the Purple Line became 44-km long, connecting Challaghatta in the west to Whitefield (Kadugodi) in the east.

Before that, the metro's average daily ridership was 6.2 lakh. In October, this figure rose to 6,40,441 as a total of 1,98,53,691 passengers travelled by the metro that month. October 9 saw the highest ridership at 7,66,880.

Officials and public transport activists hoped that average daily ridership would easily cross 7 lakh in November, the first full month since the last two sections opened.

However, the November ridership data shows that average daily numbers rose by just about 25,000.

Namma Metro earned Rs 51.22 crore in fare revenue in November. The highest single-day fare revenue was Rs 2.08 crore on November 2, as per the data.

While Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) hasn't yet commented on the lower-than-expected average daily ridership, many commuters attributed it to the Deepavali holidays in November, when a large number of people moved out of the city.

Some commuters couldn't believe the numbers and pointed to the overcrowded trains, especially during morning and evening rush hours.

The BMRCL has dedicated 33 six-coach trainsets for the Purple Line and even runs Green Line trains on the corridor to clear the rush.

The BMRCL cannot deploy more trains on the Purple Line until late 2024 when it expects to receive new coaches from China's CRRC Nanjing Puzhen Co Ltd. The Chinese company is making the coaches in Bengal in partnership with Titagargh Wagons Limited.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.4D, Dec.17, 2023

DECCAN HERALD

2023 deadliest for Bengaluru road users in 13 years

UDBHAVI BALAKRISHNA
BENGALURU, DHNS

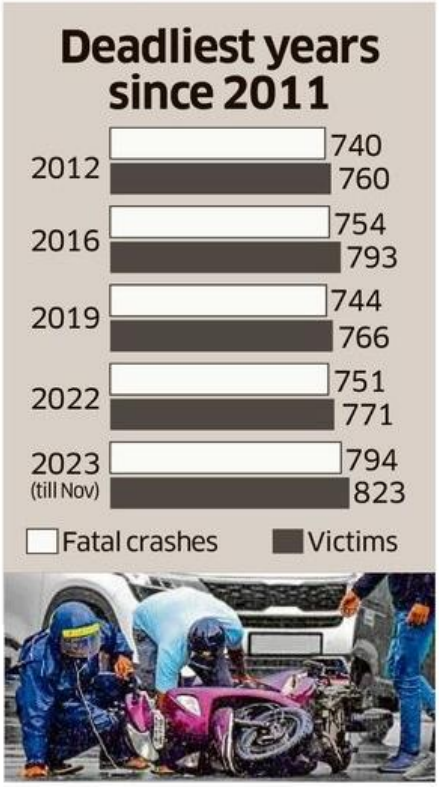
An average of 75 people were killed on Bengaluru roads every month this year, making it the deadliest in 13 years. A total of 823 people lost their lives in 794 accidents in 2023 (until November), the most due to road crashes in a single year since 2011.

Previously, 2016 saw the highest figures at 754 fatal road crashes and 793 victims. The numbers for 2023 are markedly higher than 2011's 727 fatal crashes that killed 757 people.

Overall, however, the city recorded 4,499 road crashes until November this year, a marked fall from 7,506 crashes in 2016, the highest figure recorded in 13 years.

The decline in overall numbers does not provide much of a relief as the rising fatality rate indicates that more and more road crashes are proving deadly. Over 17% of all road crashes in 2023 were fatal while only a little over 10% of all road crashes in 2016 were fatal.

Areas lying outside of the central business district (CBD) saw the most fatal crashes, with Yelahanka traffic police station limits recording 54 fatal crashes with 59 victims.



In the CBD, these figures are in single digits or do not exceed 20 due to high vehicle density on all roads, say traffic police. The higher number on the outskirts is due to the lower vehicular density.

"The city is expanding so more accidents occur in these extension areas where the vehicle density is low and vehicle speeds are much higher. Safety measures are also lacking in many of these areas," M N Anucheth, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic), told *DH*.

▸ **Accidents, Page 4**

Continued....

2023 deadliest for B'luru road users in 13 years

Accidents, from Page 1

Police are identifying and rectifying blackspots on these roads besides introducing measures such as zebra crossing and high-rise pedestrian crossings to reduce pedestrian fatalities, he added.

Anucheth cautioned that the rising numbers cannot be seen in isolation without considering the increase in the overall citizen and vehicle population. He noted that the per capita trend of fatalities vs the growing population has been falling while the ratio of the population to the number of vehicles has gone up.

In 2011, there were 50.33 lakh vehicles on the roads in the city for a population of roughly 84.4 lakh.

This rose to nearly 110 lakh vehicles for an estimated population of 130 lakh in 2023 (until Nov).

Anucheth also pointed at traffic violations such as lacking seat belts and quality helmet usage that lead to higher fatalities.

"Without the use of good quality helmets, even a crash at 50 km could prove fatal," he said. He added that reduced police presence on the roads could have also led to lower deterrence among road users, possibly encouraging them to speed.

Chetan Sodaye, from the nonprofit WRI India, explained that the rising fatality rate suggested the need for a closer examination and a speed management plan.

He noted that the city's streets were currently not designed for any particular speed.

He emphasised better and consistent collaboration among the city's agencies, local communities and experts such as urban designers, transportation planners and traffic engineers to implement targeted measures such as improved urban street design. Such interventions could make streets safer for all but especially for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists and two-wheeler riders, and reduce overall fatal road crashes.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.1&4, Dec.18, 2023

KIA is busiest airport in State; Bidar handles the least number of passengers during FY 2022-23

Among the Karnataka airports, the Mangaluru International Airport was the second busiest as it handled 18.92 lakh passengers of whom 12.77 lakh were domestic and 5.31 lakh were international passengers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

While Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) was the busiest airport in Karnataka handling 31.91 million passengers during the financial year 2022-23, Bidar airport handled the least number of passengers (10,140) during the period.

Replying to a question at the Lok Sabha during the ongoing parliamentary session, Minister of State for Civil Aviation Gen. (Dr) V.K. Singh (Retd) stated that among the 129 airports in the country, KIA was ranked third in terms of handling passengers during 2022-23.

Kempegowda International Airport has secured the title of the 'Best Domestic Airport' in the 12th edition of the Travel + Leisure India's Best Awards 2023. FILE PHOTO

In top spots

The top spot was occupied by Delhi and Mumbai airports followed by KIA which handled 28.12 million domestic passengers and 3.78 million international passengers.

Among the State airports, the Mangaluru International Airport was the second busiest as it handled 18.92 lakh passengers of whom 12.77 lakh were domestic and 5.31 lakh were international passengers. Hubballi and Belagavi airports occupied the third and fourth spots catering to 3.22 lakh and 2.97 lakh passengers respectively. During 2022-23, Mysuru and Kalaburgi airports handled 1.88 lakh and 79,143 passengers respectively. Interestingly, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) airport handled 14,885 passengers of which 14,863 domestic and 22 international passengers.

The HAL airport stopped commercial flight operations in May 2008 after the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) located in Devanahalli was inaugurated. However, HAL airport is open for charter and VIP flight operations.

Best domestic airport

KIA has secured the title of the Best Domestic Airport at the 12th edition of the Travel + Leisure India's Best Awards 2023.

Hari Marar, MD & CEO of Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), said, "We are honoured to be recognised nationally as the best domestic airport in the country. At BLR Airport, we are dedicated to continually improving service standards. This award acknowledges the hard work of our entire airport community, and we are grateful to our growing and dedicated passengers for their vote of confidence and continued support."

Source: The Hindu, p.4, Dec. 20, 2023

Credentialise all documents like khata certificates, building plans with QR code for online e-verification, HC directs BBMP

Court also asks civic body to evolve a mechanism to allow citizens to store documents in digital repositories like DigiLocker so that they can avail of various services through e-verification

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Credentialising all documents through e-verification will enable the public and the BBMP to check their authenticity. FILE PHOTO

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to credentialise all the documents, including khata certificates, sanctioned building plans, tax-paid receipts, etc., issued to the public by generating QR codes on such documents to enable the public and the BBMP to check their authenticity through online e-verification.

Also, the court asked the BBMP to evolve a mechanism to allow the citizens to store BBMP's documents in digital repositories like DigiLocker so that citizens can avail of various services from both government and private agencies through e-verification of such documents.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj issued direction while allowing a petition filed by Sharmada B.K., a dentist and a resident of Banashankari First Stage. The court issued the direction on noticing that the BBMP itself had questioned the genuineness of a khata certificate of a property jointly owned by the petitioner since 2013 with her parents when she had in 2021 applied for changing the khata to her name based on the registered deed through which her parents gave up their rights on the property in her favour.

Not just that, the BBMP had also claimed that a couple had filed an objection for changing the khata in her name. However, the couple, D.N. Ramananda and his wife Geetha, residents of HSR Layout, in response to the court's notice, clarified that they had not filed any objection on the petitioner's application but it was BBMP on its own that had raised objection. However, the couple claimed that they had purchased the property in 1999 and khata is in their names.

A strange case

The court found it a strange case as the BBMP had not only claimed that it had no records of khata in its file as claimed by the petitioner but also alleged that the khata certificate produced by the petitioner was "fabricated and false" even though the digital data of self-assessment of property tax stood in the name of the petitioner and her parents.

On verification of the digital data on BBMP's website, the court found that property tax payment data displayed the names of the petitioner and her parents. The Court also noticed that the PID number on the property tax website does not match with the names of the couple, who claimed to have purchased property in 1999.

Not a stray case

Pointing out that it is not a stray case in which the genuineness of the khata certificate issued by the BBMP on a piece of paper is questioned, the court said that it is high time for the civic body to have a facility of credentialisation of documents through e-verification. The court also directed the BBMP Chief Commissioner to take appropriate action against the assistant revenue officer of Padmanabha Nagar sub-division for misleading the court on the khata details of the petitioner. While directing the BBMP to change the khata to the petitioner's name within 30 days, the Court gave liberty to the couple to litigate before the civil court on their grievance.

Source: The Hindu, p.4, Dec. 20, 2023

ವಿಜಯವಾಣಿ ಪಂ 1

ರಸ್ತೆಸುರಂಗ ಮಾರ್ಗಕ್ಕೆ ಅನುದಾನ ನೀಡಿ

ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ | ನಿರ್ಮಲಾ ಭೇಟಿ ಮಾಡಿ ಡಿಕೆಶಿ ಮನವಿ

ನವದೆಹಲಿ: ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಸಂಚಾರದಟ್ಟಣೆ ತಪ್ಪಿಸಲು ನಗರದೊಳಗೆ 60 ಕಿ.ಮೀ. ಉದ್ದದ ಸುರಂಗ ಮಾರ್ಗ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣಕ್ಕೆ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದೆ. ಈ ಯೋಜನೆ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ 4ರ ಜತೆ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ 7 ಅನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದರಿಂದ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಜಂಟಿಯಾಗಿ ಯೋಜನೆ ಕೈಗೆತ್ತಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ, ಅಗತ್ಯ ಅನುದಾನಗಳನ್ನು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಹೆದ್ದಾರಿ ಪ್ರಾಧಿಕಾರಕ್ಕೆ ಒದಗಿಸಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಡಿಸಿಎಂ ಡಿ.ಕೆ. ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್ ಮನವಿ ಮಾಡಿದರು.

ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸಚಿವರನ್ನು ಭೇಟಿ ಮಾಡಿದ ವೇಳೆ ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಮನವಿಯನ್ನು ಡಿಕೆಶಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಿದರು. ಮೆಟ್ರೋ ಸಂಪರ್ಕ ಮಾರ್ಗ ವಿಸ್ತರಣೆಗೆ ಅನುಮತಿ ನೀಡಬೇಕು. ಪ್ರವಾಹದ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರಿನ ಕೆರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೀರನ್ನು ಹೀರಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಸಾಮರ್ಥ್ಯ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಈ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗೆ ಪರಿಹಾರ ಕಂಡುಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ತಜ್ಞರ ಮೂಲಕ 3 ಸಾವಿರ ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ವೆಚ್ಚದ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಯೋಜನೆ ರೂಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ವಿಶ್ವಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್‌ನಿಂದ ನೆರವು ಕೋರಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆಯೀಗ ಹಣಕಾಸು ವ್ಯವಹಾರ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಮುಂದಿದ್ದು, ಅಗತ್ಯ ಅನುಮೋದನೆ ನೀಡಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ವಿನಂತಿಸಿಕೊಂಡರು.

ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಯೋಜನೆ ಎಂದು ಘೋಷಿಸಿ: ಭದ್ರಾ ಮೇಲ್ದಂಡೆ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಅನುಕೂಲವಾಗಲು 2023-24ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಬಜೆಟ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ 5,300 ಕೋಟಿ ರೂ. ಘೋಷಣೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗಿತ್ತು. ಆದರೆ, ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಇದುವರೆಗೂ ಹಣ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆಗೆ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಂಡಿಲ್ಲ. ಬಜೆಟ್ ಮಂಡನೆಯಾಗಿ ಇಷ್ಟು ತಿಂಗಳಾದರೂ ಹಣ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡದಿರುವುದು ಸರಿಯಲ್ಲ. ಭದ್ರಾ ಕಣಿವೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಜನರಿಗೂ ಇದು ನೆರವಾಗುವ ಯೋಜನೆ. ಅನುದಾನ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಜತೆಗೆ 2,25,515 ಹೆಕ್ಟೇರ್ ಭೂಪ್ರದೇಶಕ್ಕೆ ನೀರಾವರಿ ಒದಗಿಸಲಿರುವ ಭದ್ರಾ ಮೇಲ್ದಂಡೆ ಯೋಜನೆಯನ್ನು ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಯೋಜನೆಯಾಗಿ ಘೋಷಿಸಬೇಕು. ಮೇಕೆದಾಟು ಯೋಜನಾ ವರದಿಗೆ ಸಮ್ಮತಿ ಸೂಚಿಸುವುದರ ಜತೆಗೆ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಕ್ಲಿಯರೆನ್ಸ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ನೀಡುವಂತೆ ತಿಳಿಸಬೇಕು. ತಮಿಳುನಾಡಿಗೆ ಈ ಯೋಜನೆಯಿಂದ ಯಾವುದೇ ತೊಂದರೆಯಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಬದಲಿಗೆ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಅನುಕೂಲವಾಗಲಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಹಲವು ಬಾರಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದೇವೆ ಎಂದು ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್ ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಸಚಿವರೊಂದಿಗೆ ಡಿಕೆಶಿ

ನವದೆಹಲಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಸಚಿವೆ ನಿರ್ಮಲಾ ಸೀತಾರಾಮನ್ ಅವರನ್ನು ಡಿಸಿಎಂ ಡಿ.ಕೆ. ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್ ಬುಧವಾರ ಭೇಟಿ ಮಾಡಿ, ರಾಜ್ಯದ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಚರ್ಚೆ ನಡೆಸಿದರು.

ಪರಿಸರ ಸಮ್ಮತಿ ಅಗತ್ಯ

ಕೃಷ್ಣಾ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಧಿಕರಣ ಐತೀರ್ಪು ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಿ ಹಲವು ವರ್ಷಗಳಾಗಿದ್ದರೂ, ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಐತೀರ್ಪಿನ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಗೆ ಮುಂದಾಗಿಲ್ಲ. ತೆಲಂಗಾಣ ಮತ್ತು ಆಂಧ್ರಪ್ರದೇಶದ ನಡುವಿನ ವ್ಯಾಜ್ಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿಲ್ಲ. ಹೀಗಾಗಿ, ತಕ್ಷಣವೇ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆಗೆ ಕ್ರಮ ಕೈಗೊಂಡು, ಕೃಷ್ಣಾ ಮೇಲ್ದಂಡೆ ಯೋಜನೆಯನ್ನೂ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಯೋಜನೆ ಎಂದು ಘೋಷಿಸಬೇಕು, ಮಹದಾಯಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗೆ ಪರಿಸರ ಸಮ್ಮತಿಗೆ ನೀಡಬೇಕೆಂದು ನಿರ್ಮಲಾ ಸೀತಾರಾಮನ್ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಶಿವಕುಮಾರ್ ಒತ್ತಾಯಿಸಿದರು.

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Source: Vijayavani, p.5, Dec.21, 2023

Kanaka Line set to clear alignment hurdle, get rail land

Groundwork to begin soon on Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project's Corridor 4

MUTHI-UR-RAHMAN SIDDIQUI
BENGALURU, DHNS

After months of delay, the South Western Railway (SWR) is set to approve the alignment of the Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project's Corridor 4 and provide it with the necessary land within the next 10 days.

The twin breakthroughs will pave the way for the award of the civil contract and the start of groundwork on Corridor 4, well-placed sources said.

This was made possible by a reduction in railway land requirement from 194.07 acres to 115.472 acres. The reduction was necessary because the railways needed land to quadruple the train tracks between Baiyappanahalli and Hosur (41 km). A stretch of Corridor 4 falls within this line.

"We have reduced the railway land requirement as per the revised guidelines after considering the quadrupling project. Our tracks will now be built a little away from the railway line. Consequently, we will need about 5% more private land," said a well-placed source in the Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka), which is constructing the project.

The 149-km Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project is a joint venture of the state government and the railways, which provides the bulk of the land and has the final say in alignment approvals.

According to the official, save for "minor" adjustments, the SWR is "satisfied" with the revised land requirement. It will approve the alignment plan of Corridor 4 in about a week and transfer the land immediately thereafter. The whole process will be wrapped up by the end of this month, the official added.

The railways will provide the land at Re 1 per acre.

The Kanaka Line will need only 115.472 acres of railway land, as against the earlier estimate of 194.07 acres.
DH FILE PHOTO FOR REPRESENTATION

THE BLUEPRINT

Length: 46.88 km	Connections: Heelalige-Rajanukunte via Carmelaram, Benniganahalli and Yelahanka
No of stations: 19	
Railway land requirement	
Earlier: 194.07 acres	Now: 115 acres
(Acquisition of private & state govt land in process)	

Another senior official in K-RIDE said the previous land requirement (194.07 acres) was higher because it was measured right up to the railway boundary. "We are now taking only what is necessary," the official added.

Kusuma Hariprasad, Additional Divisional Railway Manager (Administration), Bengaluru, confirmed that K-RIDE had asked for 115 acres and said the requisition would be processed "on priority".

"There are no issues. We need until the end of this month. The request will be processed at the (Bengaluru) division itself," she told *DH*.

The quadrupling of the Baiyappanahali-Hosur railway line will not affect the land transfer in any way, she added.

Another railway official said a pre-feasibility/Detailed Project Report to quadruple the Baiyappanahalli-Hosur line would be ready in a week.

The Kanaka Line, or Corridor 4, will connect Heealige in southern Bengaluru to Rajanukunte in the northern suburbs over 46.88 km. It will have 19 stations, including Carmelaram, Benniganahalli, Channasandra and Yelahanka.

K-RIDE called civil work tenders for Corridor 4 in January. Although L&T Ltd emerged as the lowest bidder in July, K-RIDE officials couldn't award the contract because of two key uncertainties — the SWR neither approved the alignment nor handed over the required railway land.

K-RIDE has completed geotechnical investigations and other pre-construction works related to Corridor 4. Over 30% of the Signalling and Telecommunications (S&T) lines falling within the alignment have also been shifted, according to K-RIDE.

After receiving the alignment approval and railway land, K-RIDE is expected to award Corridor 4's civil work contract to L&T Ltd in January 2024. It will separately call station tenders.

Of the BSRP's three other corridors, the groundwork has started on Corridor 2 (Mallige Line), while Corridors 1 and 3 will be tendered early next year.

The project's new deadline is 2028.

Source: Deccan Herald, p.3, Dec.21, 2023

Cabinet approves upgrading 136 traffic signals in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Cabinet on Thursday approved the upgradation of 136 traffic signals and installation of new adapative signals at 29 places in Bengaluru.

Law and Parlimentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil told presspersons here after a Cabinet meeting that the proposal was to upgrade the 136 traffic signals and introduce adaptive traffic system and synchronise them.

Besides, 29 signals have been identifiied to install the adaptive traffic signals and bring synchronisation. The government has approved the project that would cost ₹58.54 crore in maintenance for five years.

The State Cabinet on Thursday discussed ways to recover property tax arrears from the State and the Central government agencies whose arrears to the BBMP run into several hundred crores. Mr. Patil said that 448 properties have been identified from where ₹234 crore could be collected.

"The time extension to collect the arrears was discussed. The one-time settlement (OTS) that may include reduction, penalty waiver or interest settlement is being offered," he said, adding that the 448 identified properties were just a part of the larger State and Central government properties.

According to him, utilising the OTS, HAL has paid ₹91.59 crore and HMT ₹3.79 crore. "There are lot of other properties like this."

Electric buses

Meanwhile, the Cabinet also approved the purchase of 300 electric buses, including 75 AC and 225 non-AC buses, by the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation and the purchase of 450 non-AC electric buses by the North-West Karnataka Road Transport Corporation.

It also approved the purchase of 20 non-AC electric buses instead of 20 electric mini-buses by the Directorate of Urban Land Transport.

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Tender Cancellation Notice

E-Tender No 232/PR/JBVNL/2023-24 for Loss Reduction Work under Koderma Package invited by General Manager (Comml), JBVNL under RDSS Scheme is hereby

Source: The Hindu, p.2, Dec. 22, 2023

Basic amenities remain a pipe dream for relocated slum-dwellers in Bengaluru

At many housing quarters, the lack of even basic facilities overshadows the relief residents got by having concrete roofs over their heads, finds **Jahnavi T.R.**

A little off the western corridor of the Outer Ring Road (ORR), which runs along the perimeter of Bengaluru, less than a kilometre away from Laggere bridge, stand hundreds of identical buildings along *kachcha* roads in stark contrast to the other sights along the arterial road. In these buildings, commonly called "slum quarters", live thousands of people who were previously staying in small sheds or tents.

The Karnataka Slum Development Board (KSDB) has built over 16,000 houses on an expanse of 60 acres in this area. These housing units, each measuring roughly 300 sq. ft, are occupied by a variety of people such as construction labourers, domestic workers, garments unit workers, drivers, teachers, and their families. The average income of these families ranges between ₹10,000 and ₹15,000 a month.

There are three floors above the ground floor in every building and each floor has four houses. Although these buildings were handed over to the dwellers a little over a decade ago, they appear to be significantly older. In many houses, the concrete has chipped away so much that the steel reinforcement of the pillars is visible. One cannot ignore the stench, the buzz of insects, and the sight and smell of sewage flowing along these quarters.

A few men who were playing 'chakkar' (a folk game) stopped midway and accompanied this reporter to give a tour of their locality. "Look at the condition of this road. It is in a shambles. We have seen three or four motorists fall on this unlevelled road in the last few days alone," says Naga Reddy, a construction worker. He is the in-house repairer of the roofs and walls of the buildings that get damaged due to seepage of rainwater.

At the Laggere quarters, the residents say dilapidated roads and blocked sanitary chambers are their primary problems. "We pool resources from our own pockets, which might come up to a few thousand, to get these chambers cleaned. As the buildings are on different levels and because there are no restraining walls, sewage easily flows into low-lying areas, and when it rains, the roads get flooded, making it impossible for children to even access the government school in the locality," says Aravind, who works in a private company.

Law and order problem

The lack of law and order is another problem the residents flag. "If you are a stranger walking by on these roads after sunset, then there is a high chance that you will be mugged. The road that provides us access to the bus stop on the main road turns into an *adda* for some boys to consume alcohol and drugs at night. It is scary, especially for women and children, to walk on the roads," a woman from Laggere housing quarters said.

> KSDB authorities look at development only through the lens of constructing buildings, but they don't care about the condition of the people who will have to live in these buildings.
>
> **JANSI,** programme coordinator of Slum Mahila Sanghatane

Woes galore: There are as many as 16,000 dwelling units at the Laggere quarters and the problems that haunt the residents are also too many. RAVICHANDRAN N.

The Laggere housing quarters for slum-dwellers are said to be the biggest in the city, and yet, the problems that haunt the area are too many. Similarly, in many other quarters in the city, be it at Nayandahalli, Kasavanahalli, Koramangala or those located on the city's outskirts, the lack of even basic facilities overshadows the relief the slum-dwellers got by having concrete roofs over their heads.

Poor quality

Activists who work closely with slum-dwellers allege that the quality of the houses is below par. "According to the Central government norms, these houses should have an area of 330 sq. ft. But at many places, citing land ratio problems, the KSDB has provided houses with an area of just 270 sq. ft or 300 sq. ft. These houses are not fit for human beings. If you look at the 800 houses provided at Nayandahalli [in south-west Bengaluru], under the Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) or at Laggere under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), they look as if they are decades old because of poor quality of work," A. Narasimhamurthy, State convener of Slum Janandolana Karnataka, says.

The houses lack even the basic necessities – be it drinking water supply or drainage, says Jansi, programme coordinator of Slum Mahila Sanghatane. "Slum-dwellers have been allotted housing quarters mostly on the outskirts of the city. They get drinking water once in three days or they have to pay dealers under local politicians to get water every day. In some houses, the windows and doors have already been broken. The houses on the ground floor reek of sewage stench," she says.

"KSDB authorities look at development only through the lens of constructing buildings, but they do not care about the condition of the people who will have to live in these buildings," she says.

Although these buildings were handed over to the dwellers a little over a decade ago, they appear to be significantly older owing to alleged poor quality of construction. RAVICHANDRAN N.

Officials from the Housing Department said that while the process of relocation of slum-dwellers, who were previously living along the *rajakaluves* (storm-water drains) and other unsuitable places, was done by the KSDB, the onus of maintenance of these quarters is largely on the urban local body (ULB). "After we hand over the houses, the respective ULBs that collect taxes are supposed to provide maintenance by utilising the slum cess. The residents of slum quarters can demand it from them. The Housing Department gets only meagre funds for maintenance and we chip in at places where the conditions are really bad," says Naveen Raj Singh, Principal Secretary, Housing Department.

'25,961 houses handed over'

During the recently concluded legislature session, B.Z. Zameer Ahmed Khan, Minister for Housing, Waqf, and Minority Affairs, said that under various schemes, a total of 25,961 houses have been handed over to slum-dwellers from select areas in the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) limits.

There are a total of 435 slums that come under the KSDB (in the BBMP limits), out of which, 410 have been "declared as slums while the other 25 have been identified", the Minister said. "Under schemes such as JNNURM - BSUP, Rajiv Awas Yojana, and PM Awas Yojana, grants were approved since 2005 for the construction of 59,429 houses. Of them, construction of 25,961 houses has been completed and 7,313 houses are in the last stages of construction," Khan told the Assembly.

Activists, however, allege that the government's claim is far from reality. Many of those who have been allotted houses are still struggling to get the possession certificates, they say.

"The numbers the department provided in the Assembly are different from ground reality. There are 400 to 500 undeclared slums in Bengaluru. Housing schemes have been around since the 1980s and not since 2005, and the implementation should have been far better by now," says Narasimhamurthy.

He adds, "At Ullala [in south-west Bengaluru], for example, three big slums have been shifted to New Colony and Ambedkar Nagar. As many as 150 dwelling units in these slums were demolished in 2013 under the RAY and the residents have made payments for their new houses under the scheme. Yet, construction of the houses has not started. There are many cases like this which are shown as 'progress' when these answers are provided [in the legislature]. Only 60% of what they claim might have been implemented."

Activists say that the process of relocation of slums has brought to the fore several socio-economic problems as the allotment of houses under these schemes is often decided by political leaders and local MLAs.

Worries, uncertainties

For many relocated slum-dwellers, the eviction from their dwellings became a source of uncertainty as many of them have remained homeless for almost a decade now. "At the Vinoba slum in J.C. Nagar [in central Bengaluru], eviction notices were served to dwellers in 2014 and till today, they have not got their houses. It is the same problem for slum-dwellers from Kalasipalya. It is a difficult task to get these houses," Jansi says.

After being shifted to a different place under the housing scheme, the relocated people often have no means of making a livelihood in the new areas. They usually travel to the areas where their previous settlements were located in search of jobs. "If they are relocated somewhere on the outskirts of the city, what jobs will they find there? Even those who are working as domestic workers near their previous settlements are rendered jobless after being relocated to the city's outskirts. Some people travel 30 km to 40 km to earn a livelihood," Jansi says.

When eviction notices come in the middle of the academic year, the relocation has also led to children dropping out of school, which has also allegedly given rise to cases of child labour and child marriages.

The relocation of slum-dwellers was aimed at improving the quality of their lives. But what the relocated people feel about it is best summed up by what a resident of the Laggere housing quarters said: "We shifted from tents to cement houses, but otherwise, not much has changed in our lives. We are still slum-dwellers and those who care about slum-dwellers are very few."

Source: The Hindu, p.6, Dec. 22, 2023

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