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**ANDHRA PRADESH: CM NAIDU INSPECTS FLOOD-AFFECTED AREAS IN VIJAYAWADA**



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## RSS CAUTIONS AGAINST USING CASTE CENSUS AS ELECTION TOOL

**Samanvay** Baithak identifies 'five fronts' on the issue of rape-murder of a doctor at Kolkata hospital

ABHINANDAN MISHRA  
NEW DELHI

The much-followed three-day Akhil Bharatiya Samanvay Baithak of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) that began in Kerala's Palakkad on Saturday ended on Monday with the influential body, seen as the soul of the BJP, taking up important issues like the horrific rape and murder of a female doctor in Kolkata, the natural tragedy at Wayanad, caste related developments, the forcible removal of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina from Bangladesh and the atrocities against minorities and Hindus apart from religious conversion in Tamil Nadu. The RSS also stated that



RSS publicity in-charge Sunil Ambekar

*The RSS stated that it was not against caste census but it should not be used as a political tool and that it was concerned about the unity and the cohesion within the society on caste related issues*

it was not against caste census but it should not be used as a political tool and that it was concerned about the unity and the cohesion within the society on caste related issues

Similarly, it said that it has always supported reservation provided by the Constitution and while referring to the recent Supreme Court judgment that stated that states have a right to sub-classify Scheduled Castes notified in the Presidential List with an objective to provide them

"more" preferential treatment in public, the RSS said that if anything has to be done it should only be done through 'consensus' while keeping the interests and the sentiments of the people at the fore.

Significantly, RSS publicity in-charge Sunil Ambekar made it clear that the body was not in support of imposing of President's rule in West Bengal while stating that it was a government's call but reiterating that it was not a democratic

## BJP strengthens foothold in Jat regions of Haryana

TDG NETWORK  
CHANDIGARH

Continuing its efforts to bolster its position in Jat heartland of the poll-bound Haryana, the BJP on Monday welcomed two more Jat faced-Devender Singh Babli and Sunil Sangwan into its fold.

Babli, a former cabinet minister and Jannayak Janta Party leader, and Sang-

*BJP under CM Saini has been actively courting the Jat community to consolidate its support base*

wan, a former jail superintendent and son of former minister Satpal Sangwan, ■ P4

BJP list likely to take longer than expected

CHANDIGARH: A crucial meeting of senior BJP leaders was held on late Monday evening in Delhi as the party grapples with finalising its candidate list for the Haryana Assembly elections. ■ DEATIALS P4

## Cong decides on 34 candidates, but names still under wraps

22 sitting MLAs will retain ticket

NEERAJ MOHAN  
CHANDIGARH

The Congress Central Election Committee (CEC) in its first meeting has finalised candidates for 34 of the 90 seats, giving a green signal to 22 sitting MLAs.

The decision came during a crucial meeting chaired by party president Mallikarjun

*List of the candidates is likely to come out after Wednesday*

Kharge, with significant input from Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, All India Congress Committee (AICC) in-charge of Haryana Deepak Babaria, and Haryana Leader of Opposition Bhupinder Singh

Hooda.

Contrary to all apprehensions, the meeting was relatively calm and smooth apart from tussle in one or two seats. Chances of win is the leading consideration in the candidate selection, sources said adding that performance of sitting multiple-term MLAs were also under scrutiny. It was clean Hooda show, they said.

However, the list of the candidates is likely to come out after Wednesday as the CEC is likely to hold meetings for the next two days to discuss all the names proposed by the party's screening committee.

"Today, we discussed 49 seats and finalised 34 candidates. The remaining 15 seats will be revisited for further discussion. Another meeting will be held in Delhi tomorrow evening, where we aim

## PM Modi devises new schemes to improve farmers' income

The Union Cabinet has approved seven key schemes with a total financial outlay of Rs 13,966 crore. A lowdown on the schemes. Report page 7.

**Rs 2,817 cr**

for Digital Agriculture Mission. It will use technology for improving farmers' lives.

**Rs 3,979 cr**

for crop science for food and nutritional security. It will prepare farmers for climate resilience

**Rs 2,291 cr**

for strengthening agricultural education, management and social sciences.

**Rs 1,702 cr**

for sustainable livestock health and production

**Rs 860 cr**

for sustainable development of horticulture

**Rs 1,202 cr**

for strengthening of Krishi Vigyan Kendra

**Rs 1,115 cr**

for natural resource management

## 2 pilgrims killed in landslide near Vaishno Devi shrine

AJAY JANDYAL  
KATRA

In a tragic incident on Monday, two pilgrims were killed when a landslide struck the new track leading to the Mata Vaishno Devi shrine in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district. The landslide took place near Panchi, approximately three kilometers from Bhawan, at around 2:35 p.m., according to officials.

The disaster, which also



A structure on a track towards the Vaishno Devi shrine got collapsed due to landslide, in Reasi on Monday. ANI

damaged a portion of an overhead iron structure, has raised concerns that

more pilgrims could be trapped under the debris. The Mata Vaishno Devi

Shrine Board promptly initiated rescue and relief operations at the site.

"Shooting stones and a landslide have occurred on the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine track. The Disaster Management team of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board has reached the spot," stated the CEO of the Shrine Board.

The incident underscores the urgent need for enhanced safety measures on the pilgrimage routes to prevent further loss of life.

## RG Kar ex-principal arrested

KOLKATA: The Anti-Corruption Branch of the CI has arrested Dr Sandip Ghosh, the former principal of RG Kar Medical College, along with three others, over alleged corruption and financial misconduct at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, reported ANI. Dr Ghosh was under investigation for alleged corruption and financial irregularities.

## SC sets up panel to resolve Shambhu Border impasse

NEERAJ MOHAN  
CHANDIGARH

The Supreme Court on Monday formed a high-powered committee to engage with the protesting farmers at Shambhu Border, aiming to end the blockade that has persisted since February 13.

The court also strongly advised the farmers to steer clear of political parties and refrain from making demands that are not immediately feasible.

A bench led by Justice Surya Kant appointed the

committee, which includes former Haryana DGP PS Sandhu, agriculture expert Devender Sharma, Prof. Ranjit Singh Ghuman from Guru Nanak Dev University, and Agricultural Economist Dr. Sukhpal Singh from Punjab Agricultural University. The committee's mandate is to facilitate dialogue between the government and the farmers, with the court set to review its recommendations in due course.

"We caution the agitating farmers to keep themselves

## SC hints at framing norms on demolitions

AGENCIES  
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday indicated that it will lay down guidelines on the recent bulldozer practices adopted by governments on immovable properties.

The SC said that the properties of the accused can't be demolished even if he is convicted and further questioned this practice. A bench of justices BR Gavai and KV Viswanathan asked the concerned parties to submit suggestions that the top court can consider to frame the pan-India guidelines.

DETAILS ■ P4

## 'Conflict of interest' as SEBI chief gets salary from ICICI: Cong

TDG NETWORK  
NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday trained its gun at the BJP-led NDA government at the Centre, alleging that Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch is in serious conflict of interest as she kept on taking remuneration from ICICI Bank and ICICI Prudential besides the government.

Addressing a press conference at the party's headquarters here, Congress leader Pawan Khera, who



is also the Chairman of the media and publicity department alleged that Buch kept on receiving remuneration not only from the government but also from private entities, including ICICI ■ P4

## AAP MLA Amanatullah detained by ED

TDG NETWORK  
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Monday detained Aam Aadmi Party MLA Amanatullah Khan. The investigative agency earlier in the day arrived at his residence to conduct a raid.

The matter pertains to irregularities in the Waqf properties. Khan is the



chairman of the Delhi Waqf Board. As ED officials took the AAP MLA from his home, Amanatullah Khan shouted out to his supporters, "I am innocent." AAP MLA's cousin Minatullah Khan said that despite investigation by

## Script gone awry? Netflix India brass summoned over 'IC 814'

TDG NETWORK  
NEW DELHI

The content head of OTT platform Netflix has been summoned on September 3 by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting over the series 'IC-814 - The Kandahar Hijack' which has triggered a row on social media over the depiction of the hijackers.

In the OTT series, the five



hijackers of the flight from Kathmandu are referred to as Chief, Doctor, Burger, Bhola and Shankar. "I vividly remember IC-

814. I was very aware of that accident and very involved in following that. Every man and woman in India and indeed in South Asia knows that the hijack of IC-814 from Kathmandu was committed by Pakistan's ISI-backed terrorists. Now, nobody thinks that there were some people from India who did the hi-

## No Sept 6 release for 'Emergency'

TDG NETWORK  
MUMBAI

The release of Kangana Ranaut-starrer 'Emergency' has been postponed. The movie, in which Ranaut portrays former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, was initially slated for release on September 6.

Taking to Instagram handle, trade analyst Taran Adarsh shared, "#BreakingNews... #Emergency postponed... Won't release



on 6 Sept 2024. #ZeeStudios #KanganaRanaut" The film, a biographical political thriller, delves into the life of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, who imposed a 21-month emergency period from 1975 to 1977.

Kangana Ranaut-starrer 'Emergency' has been embroiled in controversies for some time now. From facing backlash from several Sikh groups to not getting a green signal from the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) yet, 'Emergency' is clearly having a tough time ahead of its release. However, amid the uproar, the film's team is quite optimistic. ■ P4

# SADASYATA ABHIYAN: PM MODI LAUNCHES BJP'S NATIONWIDE MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Membership drive will cross over 10-crore mark: BJP president JP Nadda

TDG NETWORK NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched the BJP's 2024 membership drive by renewing his membership. The new membership drive was launched here with PM Modi getting the certificate for the renewal of his membership from BJP president JP Nadda.

Speaking at the launch of BJP's 'Sanghatan Parva, Sadasyata Abhiyan 2024,' Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that BJP is not only the biggest party of the world but is also a unique party.

"BJP is not only the world's largest political party but also the most democratic



party. No other party conducts its membership drive with such transparency and honesty as the BJP," he said.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said BJP stands out as the most credible political party in the world. "Modiji has made sure that

*No other party conducts membership drive with transparency: Amit Shah*

the election of new party president.

In his remarks, BJP chief and Union Health Minister expressed confidence that the membership drive will cross over 10-crore mark.

"Seeing your enthusiasm and the love of people of India for PM Modi as well as their faith in the BJP, I can confidently say that the Sadasyata Abhiyan this time will also cross 10 crore again," he said.

## Kolkata rape-murder case: CBI investigates crime spot of RG Kar Medical College

TDG NETWORK KOLKATA

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has investigated the crime spot of the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital where the alleged rape and murder of a trainee doctor took place on August 9.



The CBI also inspected the hospital's emergency building, boys hostel, and the principal's office on Sunday, an official said.

Meanwhile, the West Bengal Minister and Trinamool Congress leader Chandrima Bhattacharya demanded that the Central Bureau of Investigation build a strong case in the RG Kar rape and murder case to ensure "the rapist is hanged."

Earlier, on August 29, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had arrived at the police morgue of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata for further investigation of the rape and murder of the doctor.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) concluded a second round of polygraph tests on former RG Kar Medical College and Hospital (RGKMH) principal Sandip Ghosh as part of their investigation into the rape-murder of a woman doctor at the institution.

The test was conducted by a team from the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL). CBI officials had also conducted a polygraph test on the arrested accused, Sanjay Roy, in connection with the incident.

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) had suspended the membership of

# Union Cabinet approves one more semi-conductor unit in Gujarat

TDG NETWORK NEW DELHI

With the objective to develop a vibrant semi-conductor ecosystem, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday approved the proposal of Kaynes Semicon Pvt Ltd to setup a semiconductor unit in Sanand, Gujarat.

The proposed unit will be setup with an investment of Rs 3,300 crore.

As per an official release, the capacity of this unit will be 60 lakh chips per day.

The chips produced in this unit will cater to a wide variety of applications which include segments such as industrial, automotive, electric vehicles, consumer electronics, telecom, and mobile phones.

The Programme for Development of Semiconductors

*The chips produced in this unit will cater to a wide variety of applications which include segments such as industrial, automotive, electric vehicles, consumer electronics, telecom, and mobile phones.*

and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem in India was notified on December 21, 2021 with a total outlay of Rs 76,000 crore.

In June, 2023, the Union Cabinet had approved a proposal for setting up a semiconductor unit in Sanand, Gujarat.

In February, 2024, three more semiconductor units were approved. Tata Electronics is setting up a semiconductor fab in Dholera, Gujarat and one semiconductor unit in Morigaon, Assam. CG Power is setting up one semiconductor unit

manufacturing to fill the deficiency for national security and also to galvanise indigenous innovation.

American chip maker Micron's high-end semiconductor fabrication plant at Gujarat's Sanand, which is India's first, is coming up at a rapid pace. It is expected to be operational in late 2024.

In total, work on four semiconductor units is currently underway - 3 in Gujarat and 1 in Assam.

Semiconductors are crucial for modern society and are needed for manufacturing an array of devices including phones, medical devices, cars and electronic gadgets. As per media reports, approximately 70 percent of total manufacturing capacity is concentrated in South Korea, Taiwan, China, the US, and Japan.

India will soon start com-

mercial production of semiconductors and related products and become a global power in this sector similar to the technology, nuclear, and digital spaces, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi earlier this year, as he laid foundation stones for the three semiconductor plants. India has lost decades in semiconductor manufacturing and now is the time to move ahead, he had said.

As part of its Atmanirbhar and Make in India plan, the government launched production incentive (PLI) schemes in varied sectors, including electronics, to make Indian manufacturers globally competitive, attract investments, enhance exports, integrate India into the global supply chain and reduce dependency on imports.

## Haryana: Police arrests one more accused in Charkhi Dadri mob lynching case

TDG NETWORK CHARKHI DADRI

Eighth accused has been arrested in the mob lynching incident where a migrant worker from West Bengal was allegedly beaten to death in Haryana's Charkhi Dadri district over suspicions that he had eaten beef, police said.

The eighth accused was arrested on Sunday.

Earlier, the police increased security in the area to prevent further unrest or any untoward incident.

Badhra Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Bharat Bhushan told ANI that both

SSB and state police personnel have been deployed in the district and are closely monitoring social media posts.

"The victim, a resident of North 24 Parganas in West Bengal, worked as a ragpicker here. We have deployed a company of SSB and state police and are continuously monitoring social media," Bhushan said.

"On August 27, we received information that some people in the slums of Hansawas Khurd village were consuming prohibited meat. We have collected a sample of the meat, which has been

sent to an FSL lab. Future proceedings will depend on the lab report. During this period, based on suspicion, the complainants visited other slums, kidnapped two persons, and assaulted them. One person died and the other was injured," he explained. "The police immediately took action and arrested seven suspects. Three have been sent to judicial custody, while four are in police remand. We are interrogating them, and if other names emerge, further arrests will be made," he added. The deceased has been identified as Sabir Ma-

## BJP workers protest in Siliguri over doctor rape-murder, demand CM's resignation

TDG NETWORK DARJEELING

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) workers staged protests outside the SDO Office in Siliguri on Monday, demanding justice for the victim of a rape and murder incident at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital. They also called for the resignation of West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

A BJP protester, speaking to ANI, stated that they plan to protest at every block office in Bengal on September 4.

A protesting BJP worker told ANI, "Since the Chief Minister came to power, there has been no security for women in West Bengal. We are demanding justice for the RG Kar case and the resignation of the Chief Minister. We will

protest at every block office in Bengal on September 4, and we will conduct a chakka jam (roadblock) from 12 pm to 2 pm on September 6."

Earlier today, junior doctors in Kolkata protested, demanding the immediate resignation of Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal in connection with the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital case.

In Alipurduar, BJP workers protested against the incident, leading to the police using water cannons to disperse the crowd.

In Kolkata's Alipore area, BJP workers also protested outside the DM office, demanding action over the rape and murder case.

These protests come amid widespread outrage over the rape and mur-

der of a woman trainee doctor at RG Kar Medical College and Hospital. The trainee was found dead in the seminar hall of the hospital on August 9.

Doctors have been holding protests in different states, demanding justice for the victim and enhanced security measures for healthcare professionals.

The incident has sparked a war of words between the BJP and the state government, with the BJP demanding the resignation of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee.

The case has been transferred from the local police to the Central Bureau of Investigation following an order from the Calcutta High Court.

Sanjoy Roy, a civic volunteer at the hospital, has been arrested in connection with the incident.

## 'Opposition comes to assembly only to fight,' says Himachal CM Sukhu

TDG NETWORK SHIMLA

After the proceedings in the Assembly monsoon session, Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu criticised the opposition parties in Himachal Pradesh, stating that they come to the House merely to fight and raise slogans rather than engage in constructive debate.

"The opposition comes to the assembly only to fight and raise slogans," the CM remarked. The opposition had introduced a proposal to discuss the economic condition of the state, to which the government was prepared to respond. However, Chief Minister Sukhu noted that the opposition's refusal to participate in the debate even after the Question Hour is



indicative of their "bankruptcy." He further added that the opposition MLAs appear to be split into two factions, causing further disruption to the proceedings. He defended the conduct of the Assembly Speaker, stating, "The Assembly Speaker works according to the rules" and has even granted the opposition more

time than the ruling party for discussions. Emphasizing the importance of constructive dialogue, Sukhu urged the opposition to "stop pretending and join the discussion."

Amidst these exchanges, the Chief Minister also brought attention to the financial strain on the state's budget, mentioning that Himachal Pradesh has been spending around twenty-five thousand crores annually on salaries and pensions for its employees.

Meanwhile, the opposition parties in the Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly submitted a no-confidence motion against the Speaker, Kuldeep Singh Pathania, on Monday following a controversial statement made by him on Friday.

## 'Assam has achieved another milestone': CM Sarma on fulfilling target of 1 lakh govt jobs

TDG NETWORK GUWAHATI

The Assam Government has achieved a significant milestone in the state's employment sector by fulfilling its 2021 election promise of providing 1 lakh government jobs, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced on Monday.

The announcement came after 23,956 appointment letters were handed over to new recruits, bringing the total number of government jobs created since 2021 to 1,24,345.

Taking to his social media



handle on X, CM Sarma announced, "Assam has achieved another milestone. In 2021, we came to power promising 1 lakh government jobs. Today, with the handover of 23,956 appointment letters, Assam has offered 1,24,345 jobs till date.

With this, we have fulfilled a longstanding demand of our teachers."

"By May 2025, we will create 50,000 more jobs, taking the total jobs to 2 lakhs. Each of these jobs has been delivered without a single instance of corruption," the

## Bihar Deputy CM slams Tejashwi Yadav for demanding caste census

TDG NETWORK PATNA

Bihar Deputy CM Vijay Kumar Sinha on Monday slammed Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader and former Deputy CM Tejashwi Yadav for allegedly doing "casteism" and said people will decide who will be the true servant of Bihar.

Sinha's response come after Tejashwi's demand of nationwide caste census and the inclusion of the 65 percent quota increase in Bihar in the Ninth Schedule of the Constitution.

"...The people will decide who will be the true servant of Bihar. Those who affect Bihar with casteism, do dirty caste politics, increase corruption in Bihar and encourage criminals, whether they travel or stay, the people know that they will only develop themselves. This drama is being created for the upliftment and welfare of their (Lalu Yadav's) family," said Vijay Kumar



Sinha. Meanwhile, Sinha counterpart and another Dy CM of Bihar Samrat Choudhary recalled 15 years of Lalu Yadav's regime in Bihar and alleged that not a single person is being given reservation.

"Lalu Yadav was in power for 15 years but he did not give reservation to even a single person. He only cares about reservation for the family. Lalu Yadav's family has never been concerned about the entire state," said Samrat Choudhary. Earlier, Union Minister and former Chief Minister of Bihar Jitan Ram Manjhi had posed a pointed question to RJD Tejashwi Yadav, asking why the latter's

parents forgot to conduct it during their rule.

"Our question is that when his parents ruled Bihar for 15 years, why did they forget this at that time, or when he (Tejashwi Yadav) himself was the Deputy Chief Minister when he said that so many teachers have been recruited, did he forget it at that time? And today, when he is out of power, then he is remembering it," the Union Minister said.

Earlier on Sunday, the RJD the party organized a one-day dharna in all the district headquarters of the state on the issue of the caste census.

"After the reservation limit was raised to 65% during our 17 months of service, the party organized a one-day dharna in all the district headquarters of the state yesterday with the demands of including it in the 9th schedule of the constitution by the central government and conducting a caste census.







## SURVEY ON SC ORDER ON BULLDOZER ACTION

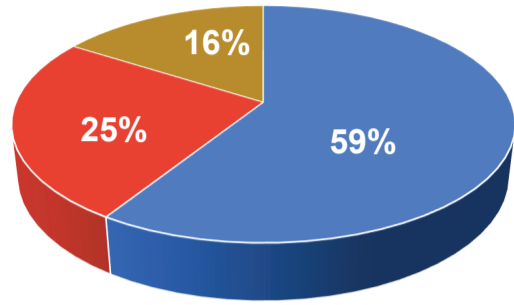
## SURVEY REVEALS MIXED OPINIONS ON SC ORDER ON BULLDOZER ACTION IN INDIA

A survey conducted on September 2, 2024, across India with 608 participants, revealed key insights into public attitudes towards the BJP's member-

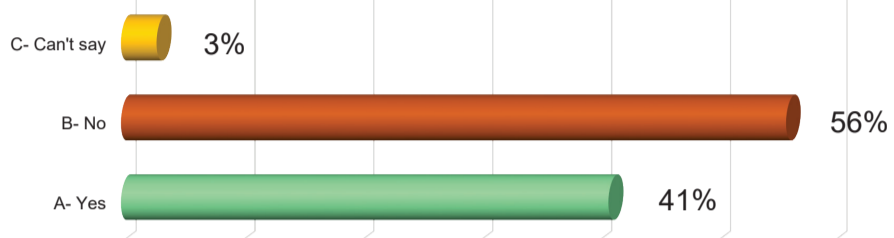
ship campaign. Of the respondents, 91% were male and 9% female. The survey highlights current political engagement trends and perceptions

about BJP membership. Political Engagement The survey showed that 83% of participants consider voting their primary form of political engagement.

**Q1.** ▶  
Is it right to bulldoze the house of someone accused or convicted of any crime?

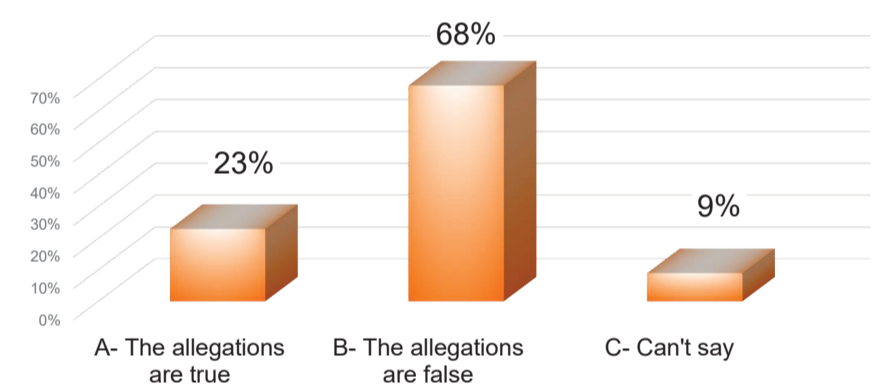
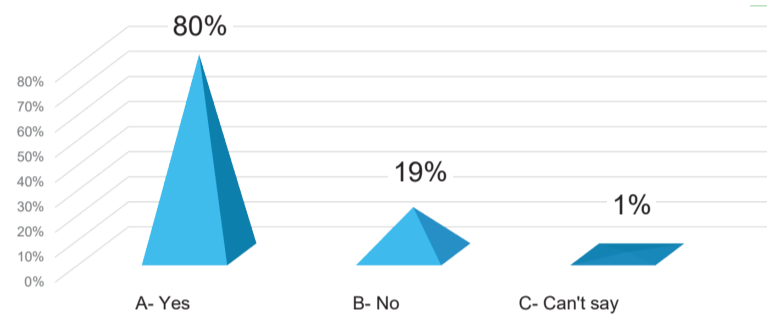


● A- Bulldozer action is right  
● B- Bulldozer action is wrong  
● C- Action should be taken only on illegal constructions



**Q2.** ◀  
Do you think the bulldozer action seems politically motivated?

**Q3.** ▶  
Do you think a notice and legal procedure should be followed before bulldozer action?



**Q4.** ◀  
There are allegations that Muslims are being targeted by bulldozer actions.

## SURVEY ON BJP MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

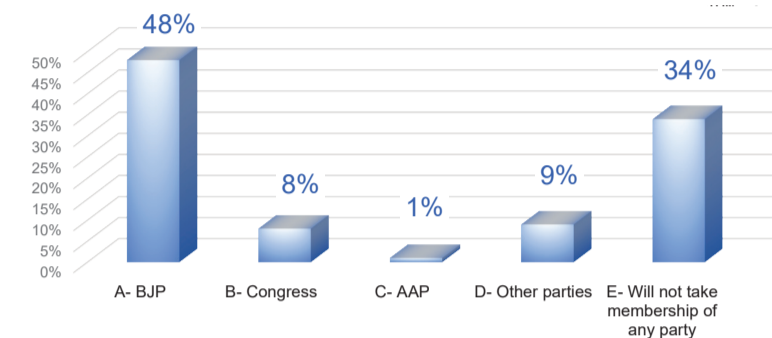
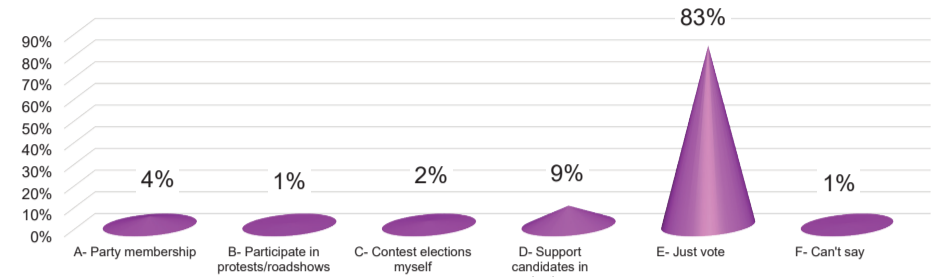
## BJP MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN: SNAPSHOT OF PUBLIC SENTIMENT

On September 2, 2024, a survey conducted among 608 participants across India revealed significant insights into the public's engagement

and perceptions regarding the BJP's membership campaign. The survey, which included 91% male and 9% female respondents, offers a detailed

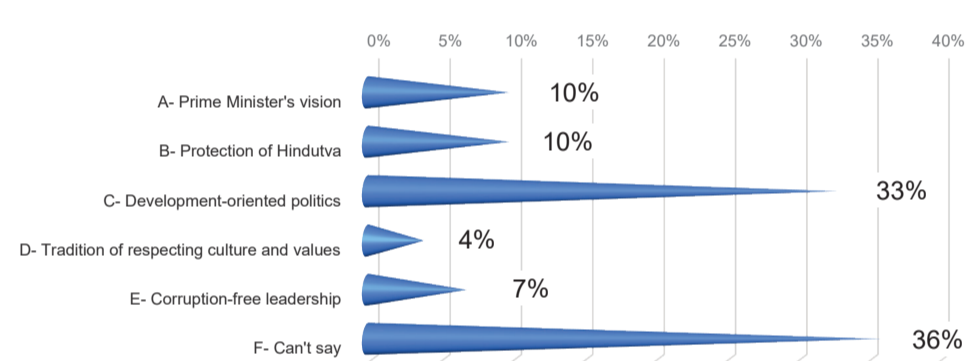
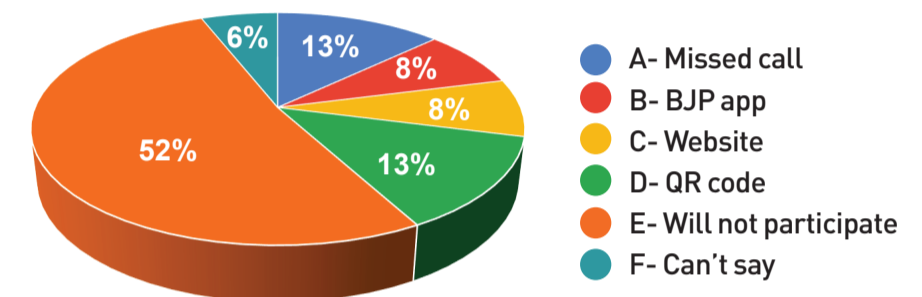
view of the current political climate and how citizens perceive their involvement in political activities, particularly with the BJP.

**Q1.** ▶  
What do you do to stay and appear politically active?



**Q2.** ◀  
Which party's membership have you taken or would like to take in the coming days?

**Q3.** ▶  
Which mode would you use in the BJP membership campaign?



**Q4.** ◀  
What would be the main reason for you to take BJP membership?

MALE 88% FEMALE 12% THE DAILY GUARDIAN SURVEY MALE 91% FEMALE 9%

## CITY

## PIL IN DELHI HC SEEKS BAN ON NETFLIX SERIES 'IC 814: THE KANDAHAR HIJACK'

TDG NETWORK  
NEW DELHI

A Public Interest Litigation (PIL) has been filed in the Delhi High Court by Surjit Singh Yadav, Chief of Hindu Sena, seeking a ban on the Netflix series named IC 814 The Kandahar Hijack.

The PIL alleged that the series distorts the actual identities of the terrorists involved in the hijacking.

The petitioner through Advocate Shashi Ranjan has approached the court against the television miniseries IC 814: The Kandahar Hijack, directed by Anubhav Sinha, citing inaccuracies in its portrayal of the 1999 hijacking of Indian Flight 814.

The petition claimed that the miniseries erroneously assigns Hindu names such as "Bhola" and "Shankar" -- names associated with Lord Shiva -- to the real hijack-

ers Ibrahim Akhtar, Shahid Akhtar Sayeed, Sunny Ahmed Qazi, Zahoor Mistry, and Shakir. This, according to the petitioner, distorts the identities of the hijackers, misrepresents historical events, perpetuates harmful stereotypes, and offends the sentiments of the Hindu community. The petitioner seeks the court's intervention to prevent further public misunderstanding and potential harm.



*This, according to the petitioner, distorts the identities of the hijackers, misrepresents historical events, perpetuates harmful stereotypes, and offends the sentiments of the Hindu community.*

The plea further mentioned that India's Constitution, which upholds secularism and religious harmony in a multi-religious society, mandates mutual respect for all religions as a fundamental right. It asserted that film producers, directors, and

actors have a constitutional duty to avoid disturbing religious feelings and sentiments. Consequently, the Cinematograph Act, 1952 was enacted by Parliament to regulate feature films and ensure they adhere to these principles. The plea seeks

the court's intervention to address these concerns in the context of the miniseries IC 814: The Kandahar Hijack.

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has reportedly summoned Netflix's content head, Monika Shergill, in response to accusations on social media that the makers of IC 814: The Kandahar Hijack deliberately altered the names of the hijackers to "Bhola" and "Shankar."

## Lalbagh ka Raja to grace Delhi this Ganesh Chaturthi, 500,000 devotees expected

TDG NETWORK  
NEW DELHI

The Lalbagh ka Raja Trust is preparing for an extraordinary Ganesh Mahotsav with the highly anticipated Lalbagh ka Raja Ganesh statue.

This renowned statue from Mumbai will be displayed once again in New Delhi. It first made its appearance in Delhi in 2015.

A press conference at the Constitution Club in New Delhi on Monday unveiled the details of the event.

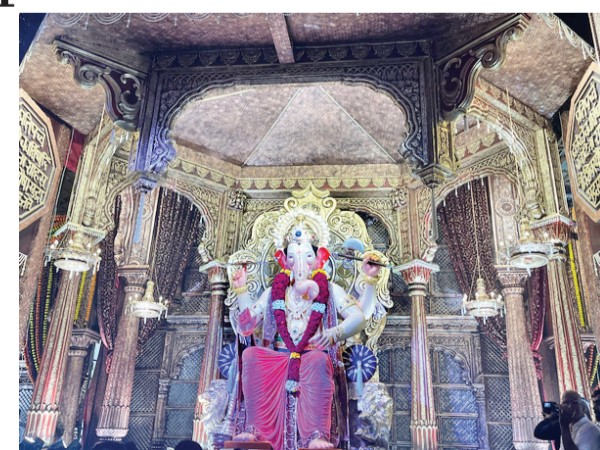
Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Manoj Tiwari, a member of the organising committee, announced the festival.

"People from across the country travel to Mumbai to have darshan of Lalbagh ka Raja. Since 2015, we've also brought the Lalbagh

ka Raja to Delhi. I invite everyone in Delhi NCR to join us," Tiwari said.

The Ganesh Mahotsav will be a grand affair, running from 7th to 16th September. Tiwari elaborated, "The pandal will cover an area of 600,000 square feet, featuring complete wooden flooring and can accommodate approximately 500,000 people. It will include dedicated sections for discourses by Baba Bageshwar Ji and Aniruddhacharya Ji Maharaj, as well as cultural programmes and musical performances in the evening. The venue is conveniently located near a metro station."

Rakesh Bindal, Chairman of the Lalbagh ka Raja Trust, also provided insights into the festival. "The celebration will fea-



ture a giant adventure wheel and various attractions, expected to draw between 100,000 and 500,000 devotees. Attendees can enjoy cultural programmes, musical performances, and a wide range of food stalls offering regional dishes," he said.

The Mahotsav will be held at the DDA Ground, near

Sanat Nirankari Samagam, Burari, from 7th to 16th September.

The Ganesh statue will be an exact replica of the Mumbai idol, crafted at the same location as the original. It will be an eco-friendly statue, to be immersed in a specially prepared pit at the event site.

Meanwhile, ahead of

the Ganesh Chaturthi, the preparation for the festival has begun with great pomp and show.

Idol makers are making eco-friendly statues of Lord Ganesh, with the market bustling with full festive fervour in the city.

Sculptors are busy giving final touches to the idols of Lord Ganesha. Idols of different sizes, designs, and colours are available in the market.

Buyers are visiting shops to book their favourite idols. However, there is a high demand for eco-friendly idols, prompting sculptors to use less plaster of paris and more clay in most of the idols.

Along with this, they are decorated with herbal colours, which do not pollute water like chemical colours.

## Man beaten to death over dispute on mobile phone, four arrested

TDG NETWORK  
NEW DELHI

A man identified as Sumit Khatri was beaten to death in North Delhi's Burari area. Police reported that four suspects, including a minor, have been arrested.

The incident reportedly stemmed from a quarrel over a mobile phone.

The accused, identified as Aman, Manav, Rudraksha, and a 17-year-old minor, were apprehended within hours of the incident, according to the police.

The police stated that the motive behind the murder was a dispute over the mobile phone. The accused, all of whom are drug addicts, had been attempting to retrieve a phone from the deceased, leading to a violent

altercation that resulted in Sumit's death.

The police team analysed CCTV footage and gathered local intelligence to identify the suspects and their hideouts. The accused were found to be residents of Kaushik Enclave, Burari, police said.

The police have recovered a motorcycle, a scooter, and three mobile phones belonging to the accused. The clothes worn by the suspects at the time of the incident have also been seized, according to the police.

All the accused confessed to their involvement in the murder. The investigation revealed that they were all drug addicts. The Motorola mobile phone belonging to one of the accused, Manav, had been taken by another

drug addict named Dinesh, who claimed he needed to make a call but did not return it, police said.

When Manav, accompanied by the other suspects, went to Dinesh's house to retrieve the phone, they did not find him there. In anger, the suspects demanded that Dinesh's mother return the phone. Subsequently, Dinesh arranged for his acquaintance, Sumit Khatri, to hand over the mobile phone to the accused at Nathupura Bus Stand in Burari, Delhi. Upon seeing the phone in Sumit's possession, the suspects brutally attacked him until he died, police reported.

Further investigation into the matter is ongoing, and more details are awaited.

















# MONKEY POX: A GLOBAL HEALTH CONCERN



DR. SHIVAM SHARMA

Monkey pox, a viral illness related to smallpox, has been making headlines in recent years due to its increasing prevalence and global spread. While it is not as contagious as smallpox, it can still cause significant illness and discomfort. This article will provide an overview of Monkey pox, including its symptoms, transmission, and prevention.

## What is Monkey pox?

Monkey pox is a zoonotic disease caused by the Monkey pox virus, which belongs to the Orthopoxvirus genus. It is a self-limiting illness that typically resolves within a few weeks. While it is not as contagious as smallpox, it can spread through close contact with an infected person or animal.

Symptoms of Monkey pox  
The symptoms of Monkey pox typically appear within 2 to 14 days after exposure. They may include:

- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Fatigue
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Rash

The rash begins as small, red bumps that may look like pimples or blisters. It can appear anywhere on the body, including the face, hands, feet, chest, abdomen, and genitals. The rash may evolve into pustules and scabs before healing.

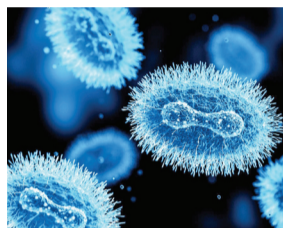
Transmission of Monkey pox

Monkey pox can be transmitted through close contact with an infected person or animal. This includes:

- Direct contact with a rash or scabs
- Contact with bodily fluids
- Contact with contaminated materials, such as bedding or clothing

The virus can also be transmitted through respiratory droplets, but this is less common.

Prevention of Monkey pox  
While there is currently no approved vaccine spe-



cifically for Monkey pox, the smallpox vaccine is highly effective in preventing the disease. However, its availability is limited.

Other preventive measures include:

- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick
  - Washing hands frequently with soap and water
  - Avoiding contact with wild animals or their meat
  - Practicing safe sex
- Treatment for Monkey pox

There is no specific treatment for Monkey pox. The illness is typically self-limiting, and symptoms can be managed with over-the-counter medications. However, severe cases may require hospitalization.

## Global Health Concern

In recent years, Monkey pox has been identified as a global health concern due to its increasing prevalence and spread. Outbreaks have occurred in various countries, including in Africa, Europe, and the Americas.

The first cases of monkey pox in India were reported in 2022. While the number of cases has been relatively lower compared to other countries, The World Health

Organization (WHO) has declared Monkey pox a public health emergency of international concern.

As the number of cases continues to rise, it is important to stay informed about the latest developments and to take appropriate precautions to prevent the spread of Monkey pox. By understanding the symptoms, transmission, and prevention of this viral illness, we can help to protect ourselves and our communities.

Dr. Shivam Sharma is the Head of Department & Consultant at the Department-Internal Medicine & Diabetology at SHALBY Sanar International Hospitals.

## Critical patient evacuated from Nepal to India in urgent medical operation

TDG NETWORK

In a tale of unparalleled medical expertise and meticulous coordination, a 70-year-old critically ill patient in Nepal was given a second chance at life, thanks to RED. Health's seamless cross-border medical evacuation. This story stands as a testament to the unwavering dedication and resilience of their medical team, who left no stone unturned in ensuring the patient received the urgent, specialized care they needed.

The journey began in Birgunj, Nepal, where a 70-year-old critically ill patient, battling severe respiratory distress and metabolic complications, required immediate advanced medical support. With time of the essence, RED. Health's medical team sprang into action, executing a plan that involved airlifting the patient to a specialized hospital in Hyderabad, India. The operation was a complex and challenging mission that highlighted the team's ability to navigate logistical hurdles while maintaining the highest standards of patient care.

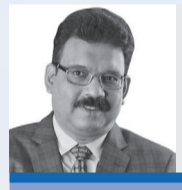
Faced with daunting challenges such as difficult road



conditions, border clearance issues, and the necessity for round-the-clock medical supervision, their medical team demonstrated remarkable problem-solving skills and adaptability. They meticulously planned every aspect of the transfer, from selecting a specialized aircraft equipped with a full ICU setup to ensuring constant communication and real-time coordination between all involved parties. Despite the obstacles, the patient was safely transported and admitted to the hospital in stable condition. The transfer was com-

pleted successfully, with the patient arriving at the Hyderabad hospital in stable condition. Continuous communication and detailed planning ensured a smooth operation despite logistical challenges. This extraordinary case is just one among many that showcase RED. Health's expertise in emergency medical services. With a growing portfolio of successful case studies, the brand continues to demonstrate its commitment to delivering life-saving care through highly skilled EMT services and advanced medical logistics.

## SMART EATING FOR A SMART BRAIN



FOOD IS MEDICINE

DR ANISH DESAI

Cognitive health involves a broad range of mental abilities, including the capacity to use acquired skills for meaningful tasks. It is a vital component of overall well-being, influencing how effectively individuals can adapt their cognitive, psychological, emotional, and behavioural functions to handle various life challenges.

While certain factors affecting cognitive health such as aging, brain injuries, and diseases are beyond our control, many lifestyle factors are modifiable. Diet, physical activity, cognitive and social engagement, smoking, and alcohol consumption

cognitive health.

Beyond macronutrients, specific micronutrients play a critical role. For example, B vitamins, iron, and omega-3 fatty acids are essential for cognitive function. Foods rich in these nutrients include leafy greens (for B vitamins and iron), fatty fish like salmon and sardines (for omega-3 fatty acids), and nuts and seeds (for a mix of essential nutrients).

Emerging research on the gut-brain axis highlights the benefits of dietary fibers and probiotics for brain health. Foods like yogurt, kefir, and fermented vegetables can support a healthy gut microbiome,



all play a significant role in maintaining or even improving cognitive function.

As we age, the importance of diet for cognitive health becomes even more pronounced. Research shows that diets rich in whole grains, vegetables, fruits, legumes, and healthy fats are associated with a reduced risk of cognitive decline and dementia. Conversely, diets high in fats and refined carbohydrates have been linked to worsening cognitive function.

The World Health Organization recommends consuming at least 400 grams of fruits and vegetables daily, limiting added sugars to less than 10% of total energy intake, and reducing saturated fat intake. Maintaining a healthy weight, managing conditions like hypertension and diabetes, and engaging in regular physical activity are also crucial for

which may positively affect cognitive function.

Cognitive health is a lifelong journey and addressing it early on can make a significant difference. Preventive strategies targeting middle-aged populations are especially important, as there is a growing recognition of the overlap between dementia risk and other non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular disease and diabetes. Integrating cognitive health into existing public health initiatives can help manage these risks more effectively.

Supporting cognitive health through a balanced, nutrient-dense diet and a healthy lifestyle is crucial for maintaining brain function throughout life. By incorporating nutrient-rich foods and adopting evidence-based lifestyle changes, we can better protect our cognitive abilities and overall well-being.

## Screening saves lives: Importance of early detection and preventive measures for NCDs

DR. NALINI SALIGRAM

### THE SILENTLY GROWING EPIDEMIC OF NCDs IN INDIA

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), approximately 1 in 4 Indians are at risk of experiencing serious health impacts from a non-communicable disease (NCD) before the age of 70, with over 5.8 million NCD-related deaths reported in India each year. About 2/3rds of the deaths in the nation are attributable to NCDs, which include cardiovascular diseases, cancers, and chronic respiratory diseases. These diseases are becoming a significant concern across various socio-economic groups and regions. Lifestyle factors such as increasing fast food consumption, demanding work schedules, sedentary habits, are contributing to the rise in NCDs.

Recent studies in The Lancet highlight the public health challenge India faces, with 315 million individuals affected by hypertension, 101 million by diabetes, and 136 million with pre-diabetes. These NCDs contribute to 65% of deaths and 40% of hospitalizations in India.

### THE GOVERNMENT IS INCREASING ACCESS TO SCREENING AND DIAGNOSIS

1 in 3 adults in India are said to have hypertension. In response, the government has initiated several measures to combat the growing burden of hypertension and other NCDs. The Union Health Ministry in 2023 announced the ambitious "75/25" initiative, aiming to bring 75 million people with hypertension and diabetes under standard care by 2025 through Primary Health Centres (PHCs). This effort has been lauded internationally for its bold scale and scope and comprehensive approach. India has crossed a significant milestone in its journey towards Universal

Health Coverage by operationalizing 1,50,000 Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs). These centers, which play a crucial role in the comprehensive primary health care approach, are estimated to have screened over 86.90 crore individuals for non-communicable diseases, facilitated more than 8.5 crore teleconsultations, and conducted over 1.60 crore wellness sessions. This achievement marks a major step forward in providing accessible and comprehensive healthcare to the population. Cancer prevention has also been highlighted under the Ayushman Bharat Comprehensive Primary Health Care scheme, which promotes wellness activities and targeted community-level communication. The government's Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY) offers substantial health insurance coverage, ensuring that over 600 million beneficiaries receive financial support for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization.

### IMPORTANCE OF SCREENING PROGRAMS

Early detection of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) improves treatment outcomes, prevents disease progression, and reduces medical expenses. Screening helps identify risk factors, such as blood pressure and cholesterol, and can prevent complications like amputations and strokes. Additionally, it raises health awareness, empowers individuals to manage their health, and informs public health policies and resource allocation.

Screening and early detection it is clear do save lives. The sooner you know you are diabetic or pre-diabetic; you can seek treatment and lifestyle modification to better control the disease. Diabetes is a progressive disease and uncontrolled blood sugar levels for long periods of time can lead to very serious complications such as heart disease,

stroke, kidney disease, foot amputations and blindness. So, halting the progression of the disease with every means at our disposal is a must - careful diagnosis, regular blood sugar monitoring, compliance with the prescribed medicines and lifestyle change are all critical.

### PREVENTION IS A SMART SOLUTION



But screening alone is not enough. Prevention through lifestyle change is absolutely needed. We know that 80% of type 2 diabetes and 80% of heart disease and 40% of cancers can be prevented with 3 lifestyle changes - one must eat right, increase physical activity and avoid tobacco. NCDs are not inevitable. They are preventable. More must be done by the government to implement sweeping public awareness campaigns and educational programs to promote healthy lifestyles. Collaborations with international organizations, NGOs, and community groups are also essential to these efforts, ensuring a multi-sectoral approach to addressing the growing burden of NCDs in India.

While access to screening and services is crucial in addressing the increasing burden of NCDs, there must be a comprehensive focus on lifestyle change education. By integrating lifestyle changes early on with regular screenings and sustained education, we can address the root causes

of these diseases and improve public health outcomes. Educating people about healthy lifestyle choices, including proper nutrition and regular physical activity, supporting individuals to adopt and maintain healthy behaviors, and continuously providing information about the risks and consequences of NCDs are essential measures that should be adopted more reg-

ularly.

### SHAPING THE FUTURE OF NCD PREVENTION AND CONTROL THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Technology, particularly mobile phones and the internet, plays a crucial role in spreading awareness and educating the public about non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in India. There are more than a billion cell phones in use in India therefore mobile health (mHealth) initiatives are a powerful public health tool. They are pivotal in reaching a broad audience with essential health information. Programs utilizing mobile phones send text messages in local languages, provide guidance on NCD prevention, remind people about healthy eating, nudge them on ways to increase physical activity in subtle ways, and persuade people to get regular health check-ups. This ensures that vital health information reaches individuals in even the most remote and underserved areas, making healthcare more

accessible.

Let me come now to a key point. The government has built an incredible tech platform to capture the electronic health records of hundreds of millions of people especially all those visiting the primary health centers, this was set up to aid annual screenings and is indeed truly laudable. But it would be such a smart use of existing infrastructure if we could keep all these people engaged on their own health journeys by sending them text messages and nudges on healthy living between annual screenings. NGOs like Arogya World have proven mDiabetes programs (a six month series of twice-a-week what's app messages that people are forced to confront every time they look at their phones on a daily basis, that have been shown to elicit 20% improvement in multiple health behaviors) for diabetes patients and healthy people and are eager to partner with all stakeholders to reach the proven content to millions more.

The internet serves as another powerful tool for educating the public about NCDs. Websites dedicated to health provide comprehensive resources, including educational materials, success stories, and updates on various health initiatives. Social media platforms amplify these efforts by running targeted campaigns that engage diverse demographic groups. These campaigns inform the public about the risks of NCDs and steps to mitigate them, fostering a deeper connection and understanding among the audience.

India's future is bright on the global economic landscape. Let's ensure that it stays bright by improving the health of the young people who fuel that growth, by keeping the healthy, healthy, and preventing diabetes, and building a healthy living movement throughout the country.

Dr. Nalini Saligram is the Founder & CEO of Arogya World.



