

## **NEWS ITEMS ON CAG/ AUDIT REPORTS (24.06.2022)**

### **1. सस्ती दवाएं और स्टॉक भरपूर फिर भी डॉक्टरों की कलम जनऔषधि केंद्रों से दूर ([jagran.com](http://jagran.com)) 24 June 2022**

वाराणसी: मरीजों को सस्ती व गुणवत्तापूर्ण दवाएं उपलब्ध कराने के लिए शुरू की गई प्रधानमंत्री भारतीय जनऔषधि परियोजना डॉक्टरों के स्वार्थ के कारण दम तोड़ रही है। यह स्थिति सरकारी अस्पतालों में स्थित केंद्रों का है। सस्ती दवाएं और स्टॉक भी भरपूर, लेकिन मरीज इनसे दूर ही नजर आते हैं। डॉक्टर की ओपीडी से पर्ची लेकर निकलते हैं और अस्पतालों के बाहर खुले प्राइवेट मेडिकल स्टोर पर कतार में लग जाते हैं। ऐसे में जनऔषधि केंद्र संचालक कातर भाव से उनके आने का इंतजार करते रह जाते हैं। इस तरह सुबह से शाम हो जाती है और तमाम दवाएं एक्सपायरी रजिस्टर के नाम हो जाती हैं।

वास्तव में सरकारी अस्पतालों में बाहर की दवाएं लिखने पर रोक है। जरूरी होने पर उन्हें साल्ट लिखने की छूट है ताकि मरीज उसे परिसर स्थित जनऔषधि केंद्रों से सस्ते में खरीद सके। इसके लिए इन केंद्रों की ओर से डॉक्टरों को उपलब्ध 400 दवाओं की लिस्ट दी गई है। इसके बाद भी स्थिति यह कि ओपीडी के लगभग 1500 व 250 भर्ती वाले मंडलीय अस्पताल में भी जनऔषधि केंद्र पर 50 पर्चे तक नहीं पहुंचते। यही हाल पं. दीनदयाल उपाध्याय राजकीय अस्पताल केंद्र का भी है जहां रोजाना लगभग एक हजार की ओपीडी और दो सौ तक मरीज भर्ती रहते हैं। इससे दवाएं तो रखे-रखे एक्सपायर होती ही हैं स्टाफ का खर्च निकालना भी मुश्किल होता है। यह हाल तब है जबकि बाहर की ब्रांडेड दवाओं की अपेक्षा जनऔषधि केंद्रों में दवाएं 50 फीसद तक सस्ती पड़ती हैं। उनकी गुणवत्ता भी प्रमाणित है।

#### **मंत्री की सख्ती के बाद भी नहीं टूट रहा डॉक्टरों का मोह**

कुछ दिन पहले दीनदयाल अस्पताल के निरीक्षण पर आए स्वास्थ्य मंत्री से भी लोगों ने बाहर से दवा लिखे जाने की शिकायत की थी। कैग टीम के निरीक्षण में भी सामने आया कि जनऔषधि केंद्र में दवा उपलब्धता के बाद डॉक्टर बाहर की दवा लिख रहे हैं। इसके बाद भी हाल ही में मानसिक अस्पताल के दो डॉक्टर बाहर की दवा लिखने में पकड़े गए जबकि इस अस्पताल में भी जनऔषधि केंद्र है।

#### **शुगर, हृदय रोग की दवाएं व सप्लीमेंट दे रहे आक्सीजन**

यह बात और है कि जनऔषधि केंद्रों में शुगर, गैस व हृदय रोग की दवाओं की डिमांड अधिक है। इनका स्टॉक आते ही उठ जाता है। इसके पीछे कारण यह कि मेडिकल स्टोर पर 47 रुपये में मिलने वाला शुगर की दवा मेटफार्मिंग-500 का पत्ता जनऔषधि केंद्र पर सिर्फ 11 रुपये में उपलब्ध है। इसी तरह बाहर 141 में मिलने वाली एंटीबायोटिक केंद्र में 51 रुपये में मिल जाती है और 110 रुपये वाली बीपी की दवा यहां 12 रुपये में ही आती है। साथ ही प्रोटीन पाउडर समेत सप्लीमेंट्स व डायपर आदि जरूरत के सामानों की बिक्री अधिक है जो खर्च मेटेन करती है। इसे इन केंद्रों के संचालन के लिए संजीवनी कह सकते हैं।

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सरकारी अस्पतालों में: 05

दवाओं की उपलब्धता: 400 तरह की

----- कुछ डाक्टर अभी भी बाहर की दवाएं लिख रहे हैं। जागरूक मरीजजन औषधि केंद्र से दवाएं खरीदकर डाक्टर को दिखाते हैं तो डाक्टर दुर्व्यदुर्व्यहार पर उतारू हो जा रहे हैं। ऐसे चिकित्सकों की सूची शासन को भेजी गई है। दवाएं न लिखने से केंद्रों का खर्च निका लना मुश्किल होता है।-नवीन सिंह, संचालक पं. दीनदयाल उपाध्याय

--- जनऔषधि केंद्र केंद्रीय भंडार गृह व विभिन्न वितरकों के पास सभी दवाओं का पर्याप्त स्टॉक उपलब्ध है। सभी केंद्र मालिकों को दवाओं का निम्नतम दो माह का स्टॉक हर समय रखने को कहा गया है। - शार्दूल कपूरिया, जिला समन्वयक, प्रधानमंत्री भारतीय जनऔषधि परियोजना <https://www.jagran.com/uttar-pradesh/varanasi-city-jan-aushadhi-kendra-22831150.html>

## **2. FIFA sets July 31 deadline for AIFF constitution approval, Sep 15 for elections to avoid ban (*sportstar.thehindu.com*) June 23, 2022**

The All India Football Federation has for the moment avoided the prospect of a ban by convincing a joint delegation of the world body – FIFA – and the continental governing body – Asian Football Confederation – of its intention to have a newly elected executive by the end of September.

As it stood at the end of a series of meetings and discussions with various “stakeholders” of Indian football, the mandarins of the world and continental bodies assessed the current situation but held out the threat of a ban if the arrangements in the coming days did not comply with the FIFA statutes.

The parent body of the sport recognises only its own laws as the sole mode of governance for its affiliates and considers intervention from the government or court as “third party intervention” meriting a ban.

With the former executive body of the AIFF, which was functioning on an interim basis for more than 15 months since the expiry of its term, dissolved by a mandate from the Supreme Court, the national body is currently functioning under a Committee of Administrators (CoA) instituted by the apex court.

At the conclusion of three days of meetings on Thursday, the visiting delegation left with the assurance of completing the new constitution, which is being drafted for an excruciatingly long period, by July 31 and the election process by the end of September.

“The prospect of a ban was looming all the time when the FIFA-AFC delegation held meetings with various parties related to Indian football. The World body does not brook any interference from anyone, even if it is from the government or the courts of a country. Now it is upon the interim administrators, the CoA, to set the house in order before the world body feels there are no ‘external’ intrusions,” said a senior official, who was privy to the developments in the last three days.

“The situation was resolved because the FIFA-AFC delegation felt that the CoA, the clubs and the state associations were on the same page as they all want the reforms in the shape of a new constitution,” said a state association official attending the meetings. “But there is a deadline for all this and the future of Indian football will be in jeopardy if the timeline is not adhered to. That was a clear message given by the delegation,” he added. India stands to lose the chance

“The meetings concluded that the next steps should be the ratification of the AIFF Statutes in line with the FIFA/AFC principles of good governance and the holding of an Electoral Congress to choose the next AIFF leadership. This would be based on a timeline agreed by AIFF stakeholders,” said the AIFF release. The delegation was led by the AFC General Secretary Windsor John and included AFC Deputy General Secretary Vahid Kardany, FIFA Chief Member Associations Officer Kenny Jean-Marie and FIFA Director of Strategic Projects and Member Association Governance, Nodar Akhalkatsi.

The meetings also had their points of digression where some of the I-League clubs demanded the introduction of a promotion and relegation process from the next season in the country’s top league Indian Super league following the initial roadmap of development.

“This was not a part of the official agenda but came up as an informal discussion when the I-League clubs met the FIFA-AFC delegation. This needs to be agreed upon by the FSDL that runs the ISL. There is no official declaration about it till now,” said an observer overseeing the meetings. The FSDL and AIFF had previously announced that the promotion to ISL will start from the 2023-24 season.”

The AIFF came under the scanner of the country’s financial auditor – CAG – just before the FIFA-AFC delegation arrived. “The CoA feels that there are some financial irregularities committed during the tenure of the previous AIFF administrators and has involved the CAG to do a forensic audit to determine the scope of anomalies in the financial dealings happening in the last few years,” said a former AIFF official. “The payment of Rs. 24 lakhs to an astrology firm is also a part of the investigations. There have been a few more instances of irregularities with the senior men’s National team. That is also being probed,” said the official on conditions of anonymity. <https://sportstar.thehindu.com/football/fifa-sets-july-15-deadline-for-aiff-constitution-approval-sep-15-for-elections-to-avoid-ban/article38505410.ece>

### **3. Skill Centres: Welfare board set to divert workers' fund ( [tribuneindia.com](http://tribuneindia.com) ) Jun 24, 2022**

The Punjab Building and Other Construction Workers’ (BOCW) Welfare Board is once again planning to divert labour funds for construction of four skill development centres in the state.

Earlier, the Legal Department and the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India had red-flagged the move. The work at these centres had to be stopped in December 2021. The legal opinion was sought by the Labour Welfare Board after The Tribune had raised the issue of misuse of Labour Cess (meant only for welfare of the construction workers).

#### **Not true, claims official**

We will not touch welfare funds. The Central Government has sought a report from us, following which we have asked for a status report from the Punjab Police Housing Corporation as they had built the skill development centres. —SS Gurjar, principal secretary, labour department

However, the Labour Department has now written to the Punjab Police Housing Corporation’s managing director and sought a detail report to complete the remaining work of skill centres. The corporation had been given the contract to construct the skill development centres.

The CAG report tabled in 2020 in the Vidhan Sabha had discovered that Rs 56.78 crore of welfare schemes, which violated Section 22 of the BOCC Act 1996, was spent on these development centres.

When questioned about restarting the work, SS Gurjar, Principal Secretary, Labour Department, said, “We will not touch welfare funds. The Central Government has sought a report from us, following which we have asked for a status report from the Punjab Police Housing Corporation as they had built the skill development centres.”

Vijay Walia, labour rights activist, said, “Instead of recovering Labour Welfare Fund, which was spent on the skill development centres, the Labour Board is shamelessly planning to spend more funds. CM Bhagwant Mann should order a Vigilance probe.” <https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/punjab/skill-centres-welfare-board-set-to-divert-workers-fund-406382>

**4. AP improves its fiscal deficit despite odds** ([timesofindia.indiatimes.com](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com)) June 24, 2022

Amaravati: Notwithstanding the challenges posed by Covid19, the state government seemed to have set the fiscal management on right track.

The fiscal discipline followed by the state government has started yielding results as AP reported the lowest fiscal deficit among the neighbouring states. Although the state is yet to recover from the revenue deficit induced by the bifurcation about eight years ago, the measures initiated by the YS Jagan Mohan Reddy government have infused much required energies to the fiscal health of the state.

Interestingly, the debt ratio is substantially low in the last three years against the debts made during the previous TDP regime. The annual debt growth rate during the TDP regime between 2014-19 was around 19.2 per cent. This has been brought down to 15.77 despite Covid-19 inducing serious injuries to revenue inflows in the last two years.

The latest Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) preliminary report for 2021-22 fiscal, put the total debts made by AP government during the year at ₹25,194 crore. The state government projected the borrowings in 2021-22 budget at ₹370,29 crore. This means that it had borrowed nearly ₹12,000 crore less than its anticipation.

Sources said the Centre had recently cautioned several states about the deteriorating fiscal health and asked them to tighten the belts. The Centre reported to have circulated the latest fiscal condition in the states at the chief secretaries’ conference held in Dharmasala. “We have performed well in a few segments, recovering in a few others. We may also need to improve in some other segments. Each and every parameter is a different story and can’t be compared either with other parameter or other states,” special chief secretary (finance) SS Rawat told TOI.

He said the state government had followed fiscal discipline measures in the last three years. He, however, said that they were working overtime to turn around the situation as AP is the only state in the country to have bifurcated without sufficient revenue and tax base.

He said that they knocked on every door during Covid-19 to manage the health of people. He said they have managed the situation without migrations from the state. “Yes, there is a lot to

do. But we are working overtime to tide over the situation,” said Rawat. <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/amaravati/ap-improves-its-fiscal-deficit-despite-odds/articleshow/92424812.cms>

## 5. Govt gives ADCs a long leash ([theshillongtimes.com](https://www.theshillongtimes.com)) June 24, 2022

SHILLONG, June 23: The state government’s sympathetic attitude towards the corruption-riddled autonomous district councils became evident yet again on Thursday when it invited the Khasi Hills Autonomous District Council and the Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council for discussions but conveniently skipped the burning issue of corruption in the ADCs.

Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma and District Council Affairs Minister Lahkmen Rymbui, who invited the heads of the two ADCs for the meeting, avoided discussing the charges of corruption against them and the findings of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India and the Directorate of Local Fund Audit (DLFA).

When prodded, Rymbui said the CM had convened the meeting with the members of the KHADC and JHADC to specifically discuss the illegal toll gates. He denied that the government was going soft on the ADCs.

“We have to follow the law of the land. If provisions of the law allow them to exercise their duty judiciously before submitting the reports, then there’s no issue,” he said.

He chose not to comment on the ADCs not responding to the government’s letter seeking clarification on the queries made by the DLFA regarding their accounts of expenditure.

The CAG had written to Governor Satya Pal Malik regarding the non-maintenance of accounts by the ADCs for several years and advised him to instruct the CM to act against the councils. The governor had a telephonic conversation with the CM besides dispatching a formal letter seeking timely and correct preparations of accounts of the ADCs.

But the state government appears to be giving a long rope to the “go-slow” ADCs.

The All India Trinamool Congress (AITC) subsequently attacked the ruling coalition for allowing the three ADCs to misappropriate the funds of central schemes and not maintain their accounts of expenditure.

The AITC asked the state government to stop the flow of funds to the ADCs if they fail to abide by the constitutional obligations.

The ADCs have reportedly been getting away with misdeeds in the absence of monitoring by the state government, specifically the District Council Affairs Department. The state government, in its defence, said it had ordered the audit of the JHADC and Garo Hills Autonomous District Council accounts for the last 10 years by the DLFA.

The DLFA detected several anomalies in the implementation of the special assistance grant from the Centre by the GHADC and JHADC. The report was submitted to the District Council Affairs Department.

The department had written to both the councils in February seeking their response to the DLFA findings. "They are yet to respond," a senior government official told The Shillong Times.

Rymbui said the state government asked the JHADC and the KHADC to immediately close down all the illegal toll gates within their jurisdiction on the National Highway, state highways and state roads, failing which immediate action will be initiated by the district administration.

Rymbui said a proposal was also made to conduct checks to ensure such toll gates are stopped, adding that the JHADC and KHADC agreed to comply with the government's directive after they were told they have no authority over the national highways, state highways and state roads within their territory.

He could not quantify the illegal gates but said there are many such check gates of the Himas and the Syiems. <https://theshillongtimes.com/2022/06/24/govt-gives-adcs-a-long-leash/>

**6. निशिकांत ने हेमंत को परेशारेशानी में डाला ...वकीलों पर सरकारी खर्च की होगी आडिट...शिकायत के बाद सीएजी तैयार (jagran.com) June 23, 2022**

गोड्डा से भाजपा के सांसद डा. निशिकांत दुबे ने दावा किया है कि उनके पत्र पर संज्ञान लेते हुए सीएजी झारखंड के मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरेन के मामले की आडिट कराएंगे। आरोप है कि मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरेन ने माइनिंग लीज के अलावा मुख्यमंत्री व उनके भाई के हाई कोर्ट व सुप्रीम कोर्ट में लंबित केस, चुनाव आयोग के केस में सरकारी खर्च पर नामी -गिरामी वकीलों को रखा और करोड़ से अधिक का भुगतान किया। सांसद का दावा है कि अब सीएजी ने आडिट करने का फैसला किया है तो सभी आरोप स्पष्ट हो जाएंगे।

#### **सीएजी गिरिश चंद्र मुर्मू को पत्र लिखकर दी थी जानकारी**

डा. निशिकांत दुबे ने सीएजी गिरिश चंद्र मुर्मू को पत्र लिखकर यह जानकारी दी थी कि झारखंड के मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरेन अपना निजी केस भी सरकारी खर्च से लड़ रहे हैं। उन्होंने अपने ऊपर चल रहे मामलों की पैरवी में देश के जाने-माने वकील कपिल सिब्बल, मुकुल रहतोगी, पल्लवी लंगर, महाधिवक्ता व उनकी टीम को लगा रखा है। इसपर राज्य सरकार के खाते से करोड़ रुपये से अधिक राशि का भुगतान भी हो चुका है। उन्होंने उक्त राशि की वसूली और इसपर संबंधित अधिकारियों से जवाब तलब करने का आग्रह किया है।

#### **संबंधित विभागों से राशि वसूलने की मांग कर रहे सांसद**

भाजपा सांसद डा. निशिकांत दुबे ने लिखा है कि मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरेन और उनके सहयोगियों के खिलाफ मुखौटा कंपनियों में निवेश, खनन पट्टा और निर्वाचन आयोग में अलग-अलग मामला विचाराधीन है। ये उनके निजी मामले हैं। केस मुख्यमंत्री या राज्य सरकार पर नहीं, हेमंत सोरेन पर है। उन्होंने सवाल उठाया है कि झारखंड विधानसभा की मंजूरी के बिना हो रहे इस खर्च को क्यों नहीं संबंधित विभागों के प्रमुखों के वेतन से वसूला जाए। <https://www.jagran.com/jharkhand/ranchi-nishikant-dubey-troubled-hemant-soren-cag-ready-for-audit-jharkhand-govt-expenditure-investigated-on-lawyers-for-private-cases-22830181.html>

**7. सीएजी करेगा माइनिंग और शेल कंपनियों के मामले में अधिवक्ताओं पर हो रहे खर्च का ऑडिट (news11.live) June 23, 2022**

रांची: भारत के नियंत्रक सह महालेखा परीक्षक(सीएजी) झारखंड सरकार द्वारा माइनिंग एवं शेल कंपनियों से संबंधित मामले में अधिवक्ताओं पर हो रहे खर्च का ऑडिट करेगा. सीएजी ने ऑडिट कराने का निर्णय लिया है. मिली जानकारी के अनुसार कैंग झारखंड में हो रहे माइनिंग और उससे आने वाले राजस्व की अलग से विशेष ऑडिट करेगा. गोड्डा सांसद डॉ. निशिकांत दुबे ने गिरीश चंद्र मुर्मू, भारत के नियंत्रक सह महालेखा परीक्षक को ऑडिट कराने से संबंधित पत्र 21 जून को लिखा था. पत्र के माध्यम से बताया था कि झारखंड सरकार द्वारा हाईकोर्ट में चल रहे जनहित याचिकाओं और चुनाव आयोग में आयोगता मामले में निजी वकील नहीं लगाया गया है. मामले में वकीलों पर एक हियरिंग के एवज में 50 लाख रुपए खर्च किए जा रहे हैं. सांसद ने उक्त खर्च का के ऑडिट की मांग की थी.

सीएजी को लिखे पत्र में सांसद ने बताया है कि झारखंड उच्च न्यायालय, रांची में चल रहे जनहित याचिकाओं और चुनाव आयोग में अयोग्यता मामले में, मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरेन और उनके सहयोगियों द्वारा कोई निजी वकील नहीं लगाया गया है. राज्य सरकार ने इन लोगों की रक्षा के लिए वरीय अधिवक्ता कपिल सिबेल, मुकुल रोहतगी और पल्लवी लंगर की सेवा ले रहे हैं. मैं यहां यह कहना चाहूंगा कि हेमंत सोरेन और उनके सहयोगी निजी व्यक्ति हैं, वे राज्य सरकार नहीं हैं. ऐसे में झारखंड सरकार अधिवक्ताओं पर लाखों रुपए खर्च कर रही है. वह पैसा जनता का है. हेमंत सोरेन के इस अवैध कार्य का बचाव करने के लिए झारखंड के गरीब करदाताओं का पैसा करोड़ों में क्यों खर्च किया जा रहा है? झारखंड विधानसभा की मंजूरी के बिना इस भ्रष्टाचार को बचाने के लिए ये खर्च क्यों किए जा रहे हैं.

पत्र के माध्यम से सांसद ने बताया है कि झारखंड सरकार के महाधिवक्ता और उनकी टीम हेमंत सोरेन और उनके सहयोगियों, जिन्हें झारखंड करदाताओं के पैसे से भुगतान किया जा रहा है, की ओर से बहस क्यों कर रही है? झारखंड के गरीब करदाताओं का पैसा इन मुखौटा कंपनियों की सुरक्षा के लिए चंद करोड़ों में क्यों खर्च किया जा रहा है? झारखंड विधानसभा की मंजूरी के बिना इन मुखौटा कंपनियों की सुरक्षा पर खर्च किए जा रहे ये कुछ करोड़ प्रमुख सचिव, कानून विभाग और प्रमुख सचिव, कैबिनेट समन्वय विभाग और सतर्कता वेतन और सेवानिवृत्ति लाभ से क्यों नहीं वसूले जाने चाहिए? क्या झारखंड विधानसभा ने राज्य सरकार को अपने सदस्यों के निजी मामलों पर पैसा खर्च करने की मंजूरी प्रमुख सचिव, कानून विभाग और प्रमुख सचिव, कैबिनेट समन्वय और सतर्कता विभाग को दी थी? <https://www.news11.live/audit-of-expenditure-on-advocates-in-case-of-shell-companies/ranchi/news/19279.html>

**8. नोएडा अथॉरिटी में फिर सामने आया घपला! डीजीएम एससी मिश्रा से लिए गए सभी चार्ज** ([hindi.news18.com](http://hindi.news18.com)) June 23, 2022

नोएडा. नोएडा प्राधिकरण की मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी (सीईओ) रितु माहेश्वरी ने रुपयों की अनियमिता सामने आने के बाद बड़ी कार्रवाई की है. जनस्वास्थ्य विभाग के प्रभारी और वरिष्ठ परियोजना अभियंता एससी मिश्रा को पद से हटा दिया गया है. जनस्वास्थ्य विभाग से जुड़े सभी प्रभार उनसे ले लिए गए हैं. अब यह प्रभार प्रधान महाप्रबंधक (पीजीएम) राजीव त्यागी को सौंपा गया है.

प्राधिकरण ने नोएडा में विश्व भारती से शाप्रिक्स मॉल तक एलिवेटड रोड का निर्माण किया था. नोएडा प्राधिकरण ने फाइनल बिल अप्रूवल के बाद निर्माण कंपनी को 17.21 करोड़ रुपये अतिरिक्त दे दिए. जबकि कैंग की आपत्ति और प्राधिकरण की टेक्निकल ऑडिट सेल (टीएसी) की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर उल्टा कंपनी

से 21.63 करोड़ रुपये की रिकवरी यानी कुल कंपनी से 38.84 करोड़ रुपये वसूल किए जाने हैं. बल्कि अधिकारी को रिटायरमेंट के बाद दो बार एक्सटेंशन भी दे दिया गया.

### **कैंग ने लगाई थी आपत्ती**

दरअसल, निर्माण कंपनी को 415.47 करोड़ में विश्व भारती से सेक्टर-61 तक एलिवेटेड का निर्माण करना था. उसने यह निर्माण 468.90 करोड़ में किया. कैंग ने इस परियोजना का वित्तीय ऑडिट की. इस दौरान कैंग ने निर्माण कंपनी को वेरिफेशन की एवज में दिए गए पैसों में भारी अनियमितता पाई. यह तथ्य भी सामने आया कि सर्किल अधिकारियों की ओर से 7 जनवरी 2019 को टेक्निकल ऑडिट सेल (टीएसी) में फाइनल बिल की रिपोर्ट जमा करने से पहले ही निर्माण कंपनी को 17.21 करोड़ रुपये दिए जा चुके थे.

नियम के अनुसार 10 करोड़ के ऊपर का वेरिफेशन आने पर कंपनी को पेमेंट करने से पहले सर्किल अधिकारी को टेक्निकल ऑडिट सेल से वेरिफेशन की जांच और पेमेंट करने के लिए मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी की अनुमति की आवश्यकता होती है. यहां नियमों का उल्लंघन करते हुए बिना किसी की अनुमति लिए ही सर्किल की ओर से कंपनी का पेमेंट कर दिया गया.

### **प्राधिकरण के सर्किल-2 की थी परियोजना**

प्राधिकरण ने शहर को 10 सर्किल में विभाजित किया है. मास्टर प्लान रोड नंबर-2, सर्किल-2 में आता है. सर्किल 2 ने ही परियोजना का निर्माण करवाया. अतिरिक्त धनराशि का भुगतान भी सर्किल-2 की ओर किया गया. उस दौरान सर्किल -2 के प्रभारी एससी मिश्रा ही थे. एलिवेटेड में अतिरिक्त भुगतान हुआ इसकी जांच के लिए प्राधिकरण ने एसीईओ सीएलए और एफसी की एक कमेटी गठित की है. जांच के बाद इन पैसों की रिकवरी कराई जाएगी.

### **सर्किल प्रभार में बदली**

वर्क सर्किल-9 के प्रभारी व जन स्वास्थ्य विभाग के वरिष्ठ प्रबंधक विजय कुमार रावल से वर्क सर्किल-9 का प्रभार ले लिया गया है. अब वे जन स्वास्थ्य विभाग- के प्रभारी व वरिष्ठ प्रबंधक का कार्य देखेंगे. वर्क सर्किल-9 का प्रभार वर्क सर्किल-

6 के प्रभारी व वरिष्ठ प्रबंधक मुकेश कुमार वैश्य को सौंपा गया है. वे दोनों वर्क सर्किल का काम देखेंगे. <https://hindi.news18.com/news/uttar-pradesh/noida-scram-surfaced-again-in-noida-authority-all-charges-taken-from-dgm-sc-mishra-nodss-4340364.html>

**9. नोएडा में प्राधिकरण की बड़ी कार्रवाई: वरिष्ठ परियोजना अभियांता पद से हटाए गए एससी मिश्रा (bhaskar.com) June 23, 2022**

नोएडा प्राधिकरण की मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी (सीईओ) रितु माहेश्वरी ने प्रशासनिक कारणों से कुछ फेरबदल किए हैं। यह जानकारी एसीईओ प्रवीण मिश्रा ने दी है। इसके तहत जनस्वास्थ्य विभाग के प्रभारी व वरिष्ठ परियोजना अभियांता एससी मिश्रा को इस पद से हटा दिया गया है। जनस्वास्थ्य विभाग से जुड़े सभी प्रभार उनसे ले लिए गए हैं। अब यह प्रभार प्रधान महाप्रबंधक (पीजीएम) राजीव त्यागी को सौंपा गया है।

**एलिवेटेड निर्माण में 39 करोड़ रुपए दिए अतिरिक्त**

प्राधिकरण ने नोएडा में विश्व भारती से शाप्रिक्स मॉल तक एलिवेटेड रोड का निर्माण किया था। नोएडा प्राधिकरण ने फाइनल बिल अप्रूवल के बाद निर्माण कंपनी को 17.21 करोड़ रुपए अतिरिक्त दे दिए। जबकि कैग की आपत्ति और प्राधिकरण की टेक्निकल ऑडिट सेल (टीएसी) की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर उल्टा कंपनी से 21.63 करोड़ रुपए की रिकवरी यानी कुल कंपनी से 38.84 करोड़ रुपए वसूल किए जाने हैं। बल्कि अधिकारी को रिटायरमेंट के बाद दो बार एक्सटेंशन भी दे दिया गया।

### कैग ने लगाई थी आपत्ति

निर्माण कंपनी को 415.47 करोड़ में विश्व भारती से सेक्टर-61 तक एलिवेटेड का निर्माण करना था। उसने यह निर्माण 468.90 करोड़ में किया। कैग ने इस परियोजना का वित्तीय ऑडिट की। इस दौरान कैग ने निर्माण कंपनी को वेरिफेशन की एवज में दिए गए पैसों में भारी अनियमितता पाई। यह तथ्य भी सामने आया कि सर्किल अधिकारियों के द्वारा 7 जनवरी 2019 को टेक्निकल ऑडिट सेल (टीएसी) में फाइनल बिल की रिपोर्ट जमा करने से पहले ही निर्माण कंपनी को 17.21 करोड़ रुपए दिए जा चुके थे।

नियमता 10 करोड़ के ऊपर के वेरिफेशन आने पर कंपनी को पेमेंट करने से पहले सर्किल अधिकारी को टेक्निकल ऑडिट सेल से वेरिफेशन की जांच और पेमेंट करने के लिए मुख्य कार्यपालक अधिकारी की अनुमति की आवश्यकता होती है। यहां नियमों का उल्लंघन करते हुए बिना किसी की अनुमति लिए ही सर्किल की ओर से कंपनी का पेमेंट कर दिया गया।

### प्राधिकरण के सर्किल-2 की थी परियोजना

प्राधिकरण ने शहर को 10 सर्किल में विभाजित किया है। मास्टर प्लान रोड नंबर-2, सर्किल-2 में आता है। सर्किल 2 ने ही परियोजना का निर्माण करवाया। अतिरिक्त धनराशि का भुगतान भी सर्किल-2 की ओर किया गया। सर्किल -2 के प्रभारी एससी मिश्रा ही थे।

### जांच के लिए बनाई गई कमेटी

एलिवेटेड में अतिरिक्त भुगतान हुआ इसकी जांच के लिए प्राधिकरण ने एसीईओ सीएलए और एफसी की एक कमेटी गठित की है। जांच के बाद इन पैसों की रिकवरी कराई जाएगी।

### सर्किल प्रभार में बदली

वर्क सर्किल-9 के प्रभारी व जन स्वास्थ्य विभाग के वरिष्ठ प्रबंधक विजय कुमार रावल से वर्क सर्किल-9 का प्रभार ले लिया गया है। अब वे जन स्वास्थ्य विभाग-1 के प्रभारी व वरिष्ठ प्रबंधक का कार्य देखेंगे। वर्क सर्किल-9 का प्रभार वर्क सर्किल-6 के प्रभारी व वरिष्ठ प्रबंधक मुकेश कुमार वैश्य को सौंपा गया है। वे दोनों वर्क सर्किल का काम देखेंगे। <https://www.bhaskar.com/local/uttar-pradesh/gautambudh-nagar/news/sc-mishra-removed-from-the-post-of-senior-project-engineer-gave-additional-39-crores-in-elevated-construction-129971168.html>

**10. किराड़ी में 458 बेड का अस्पताल डकार गए केजरीवाल, कागज में अस्पताल बनकर तैयार, जमीन पर एक ईंट तक नहीं (performindia.com) June 23, 2022**

भ्रष्टाचार के खिलाफ बिगुल बजाकर अरविंद केजरीवाल ने दिल्लीवासियों का जो भरोसा जीता था, वो भरोसा अब पूरी तरह से टूट चुका है। केजरीवाल के दावे के विपरीत दिल्ली में भ्रष्टाचार बदस्तूर जारी है। इसी बीच

अस्पताल का एक बड़ा घोटाला सामने आया है। हैरानी की बात यह है कि किराड़ी में जिस 458 बेड वाले अस्पताल के निर्माण का दावा केजरीवाल सरकार कर रही थी, उस अस्पताल की जमीन पर अभी तक एक ईंट नहीं रखी गई है।

बीजेपी के प्रदेश अध्यक्ष आदेश गुप्ता बीजेपी सांसद मनोज तिवारी के साथ बुधवार (22-06-2022) को रोहिणी के किराड़ी पहुंचे। दोनों ने PWD की साइट पर जाकर खुद अस्पताल की हकीकत जानने की कोशिश की। बीजेपी ने अस्पताल की साइट का मुआयना करने के बाद कहा कि आम आदमी पार्टी जिस अस्पताल के 2020 में तैयार होने का दावा कर रही थी, वह खोखला साबित हुआ है। मनोज तिवारी ने कहा कि अभी तक सिर्फ पैसों को लेकर भ्रष्टाचार की बात हो रही थी लेकिन जमीनी हकीकत में तो अस्पताल का निर्माण ही नहीं हुआ है।

बीजेपी नेताओं के मुताबिक अस्पताल की जगह सिर्फ खाली जमीन मिली। जिसमें लंबे समय से पानी भरा हुआ है। अस्पताल के नाम पर नीले टीन के चद्दर वाली बाउंड्री और सिर्फ दिल्ली स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय का बोर्ड मिला। आदेश गुप्ता ने कहा कि कोरोना काल में DDA ने जमीन सिर्फ 49 रुपए में जनता की सेवा के लिए दिल्ली सरकार को दी थी। 1256 करोड़ में 7 अस्थाई अस्पताल बनाने थे। लेकिन केजरीवाल सरकार ने हजारों करोड़ के घोटाले में बदल कर जनता को धोखा दिया।

आदेश गुप्ता ने कहा कि यह महज संयोग नहीं है जब 2020 में बनकर तैयार हुए अस्पताल के लिए 10 अगस्त 2021 में टेंडर निकाला गया। मतलब एक अस्पताल बनाने के पीछे दो बार भ्रष्टाचार किया गया। पहला बिना बनाए इसको कागजों में दिखा दिया गया कि अस्पताल बनकर तैयार है और दूसरा 2020 में कागजों में बने बनाए अस्पताल का टेंडर अगस्त 2021 में पास किया गया।

केजरीवाल सरकार पर भ्रष्टाचार के कई गंभीर आरोप लगे हैं, जिसकी सूची काफी लंबी है। आइए देखते हैं केजरीवाल सरकार किस तरह दिल्ली को लूट रही है...

### **मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग मामले में केजरीवाल के स्वास्थ्य मंत्री गिरफ्तार**

दिल्ली के मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल के करीबी मंत्री सत्येंद्र जैन मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग केस में फिलहाल हिरासत में हैं। प्रवर्तन निदेशालय ने कोर्ट में बताया कि सत्येंद्र जैन ने पूछताछ के दौरान कहा कि उनको कोरोना हुआ था, जिसकी वजह से अब उनकी याददाश्त चली गई है। जैन को मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग मामले में 30 मई को गिरफ्तार किया था। 6 जून को ईडी ने उनके घर सहित कई ठिकानों पर छापेमारी की थी। एबीपी न्यूज के अनुसार ईडी ने कोलकाता की एक कंपनी से जुड़े हवाला लेनदेन मामले में जांच में पाया कि 2015-16 के दौरान सत्येंद्र जैन को एक लोकसेवक रहते शेल कंपनियों से 4.81 करोड़ रुपये प्राप्त हुए थे। बताया जाता है कि पूछताछ के दौरान सत्येंद्र जैन जांच एजेंसियों को इन पैसों का कोई हिसाब नहीं दे पाए।

### **केजरीवाल सरकार की योजना 'फ़रिश्ते दिल्ली के' में घोटाला**

दिल्ली की आम आदमी पार्टी सरकार ने अक्टूबर 2019 में 'फ़रिश्ते दिल्ली के' नाम से एक योजना की शुरुआत की थी। इस योजना का उद्देश्य था रास्तों पर होने वाली दुर्घटना में घायल लोगों की जान बचाना। इस योजना के प्रचार-प्रसार के लिए विज्ञापन पर काफी खर्च किए गए। लेकिन यह योजना भी घोटालों की भेंट चढ़ गई। दिल्ली स्थित तिलक नगर के रहने वाले अधिवक्ता अनंतदीप सिंह ने आरटीआई दायर कर

‘फरिश्ते दिल्ली’ के लाभार्थियों और उस पर हुए खर्च के बारे में जानकारी मांगी गई, तो आधी-अधूरी जानकारी दी गई।

### **बिजली कंपनियों को 10000 करोड़ रुपये का फायदा**

दिसंबर 2019 में तत्कालीन प्रदेश कांग्रेस कमेटी अध्यक्ष सुभाष चोपड़ा ने मुख्यमंत्री अरविंद केजरीवाल पर बिजली कंपनियों को 10 हजार करोड़ रुपये का फायदा पहुंचाने का आरोप लगाया। उन्होंने बताया कि केजरीवाल सरकार ने 200 यूनिट बिजली सब्सिडी देने के नाम पर में बड़े घोटाले को अंजाम दिया। उन्होंने इसकी सीबीआई से जांच की मांग की।

### **केजरीवाल सरकार ने पूरा नहीं किया सब्सिडी का वादा**

केजरीवाल सरकार पर निशाना साधते हुए पूर्व ऊर्जा मंत्री हारून यूसुफ ने बताया कि निजी बिजली कंपनियों को 8532 करोड़ रुपए की सब्सिडी देना आपने आप में एख बड़ा घोटाला है। इसके साथ ही उन्होंने कहा कि केजरीवाल ने दिल्ली से ये वादा किया था कि सब्सिडी सीधे उनके खाते में डाली जाएगी लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हुआ। उन्होंने सवाल किया कि आखिर क्या वजह है कि उपभोक्ताओं के खाते में सब्सिडी की राशि नहीं दी जा रही है।

### **2000 करोड़ का शिक्षा घोटाला**

दिल्ली के शिक्षामंत्री मनीष सिसोदिया का भी एक घोटाला सामने आया, ये घोटाला स्कूलों के निर्माण से जुड़ा था। दरअसल एक आरटीआई में ये खुलासा हुआ कि एक स्कूल का कमरा 24,85,323 रुपए में बनाया है। आरटीआई से पता चला कि 312 कमरे 77,54,21,000 रुपये में और 12748 कमरे 2892.65 करोड़ रुपये में बनाए गए। लोग ने सवाल उठाए कि एक कमरे की लागत में 24 लाख रुपये कैसे हो सकती है। क्या केजरीवाल जी ने कमरे में सोने की टाइल्स लगवाई हैं? यही नहीं ट्विटर पर #SisodiaKaGhapla ट्रेंड करने लगा और लोग अपनी बेबाक राय दीं।

### **खुद केजरीवाल पर लगा रिश्वत लेने का आरोप**

सीएम अरविंद केजरीवाल सरकार पर भ्रष्टाचार का सबसे गंभीर 2 करोड़ रुपये रिश्वत लेने का आरोप उनके अपने ही कैबिनेट सहयोगी रहे कपिल मिश्रा ने लगाया था। सबसे बड़ी बात ये है कि दिल्ली के पूर्व मंत्री कपिल मिश्रा ने केजरीवाल से जिस व्यक्ति से रिश्वत लेने का आरोप लगाया, वो उन्हीं की सरकार में सीएम के चहते मंत्री सत्येंद्र जैन हैं। कपिल मिश्रा के आरोपों में कितना दम है ये तो जांच के बाद पता चलेगा। लेकिन कुछ तथ्य ऐसे हैं जिससे ईमानदारी का चोला ओढ़े केजरीवाल की कलई खुल जाती है।

### **हवाला के जरिए पैसे जुटाने का आरोप**

दिल्ली के पूर्व मंत्री कपिल मिश्रा दावा कर चुके हैं कि केजरीवाल की आम आदमी पार्टी ने फर्जी कंपनी बनाकर हवाला के जरिए पैसा जुटाया। उन्होंने इसके संबंध में दस्तावेज होने के भी दावे किए। यही नहीं कपिल मिश्रा ने पार्टी के नेताओं के विदेश यात्राओं की फंडिंग को लेकर भी सवाल उठाए। लेकिन हैरानी की बात है कि केजरीवाल ने अबतक सार्वजनिक रूप से कपिल मिश्रा के एक भी सवाल का जवाब देने की हिम्मत नहीं दिखाई है।

### **सीएनजी घोटाला**

केजरीवाल सरकार में मंत्री रह चुके कपिल मिश्रा ने दिल्ली सरकार के एक और बड़े घोटाले का पर्दाफाश किया। अंग्रेजी समाचार पोर्टल टाइम्स ऑफ इंडिया के अनुसार कपिल मिश्रा ने आरोप लगाया कि केजरीवाल सरकार ने दिल्ली में 10,000 कारों में जो सीएनजी किट लगावाए, वो फर्जी कंपनी ने तैयार किए। ये सारे सीएनजी किट 10 महीनों के भीतर कारों में फिट किए गए थे। सबसे बड़ी बात ये है कि फर्जी सीएनजी किट कंपनी को इसका ठेका ऑड-इवन के फौरन बाद दिया गया था। जाहिर है कि इसके समय को लेकर भी दिल्ली सरकार की मंशा संदेहों से परे नहीं है। अपने आरोपों के समर्थन में कपिल ने कुछ दस्तावेज भी दिखाए।

### **पीडब्ल्यूडी घोटाले में केजरीवाल का रिश्तेदार गिरफ्तार**

घोटाला और भ्रष्टाचार मुक्त शासन के वादे पर भरोसा करके दिल्ली की जनता ने अरविंद केजरीवाल का सिर पर बिठाया लेकिन सत्ता में आते ही केजरीवाल का चेहरा बेनकाब होने लगा है। पीडब्ल्यूडी घोटाला मामले में दिल्ली के मुख्यमंत्री केजरीवाल के साठू सुरेन्द्र बंसल के बेटे विनय बंसल को एसीबी ने गिरफ्तार किया। मुख्यमंत्री के रिश्तेदार पर जाली दस्तावेजों के आधार पर फर्जी कंपनियों के नाम से ठेके लेने और उसके लिए जाली बिल बनाकर सरकारी खजाना लूटने का आरोप का आरोप लगा। इस मामले में एसीबी ने तीन एफआईआर दर्ज की थी। जिनमें से एक सुरेंद्र बंसल की कंपनी के खिलाफ थी। एसीबी ने पिछले साल 9 मई को कंपनी के खिलाफ एफआईआर दर्ज की थी।

### **दिल्ली स्वास्थ्य विभाग में हजारों करोड़ रुपये की वित्तीय अनियमितता**

जनसत्ता की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार दिल्ली स्वास्थ्य विभाग में हजारों करोड़ रुपये की वित्तीय अनियमितता की बात सामने आई। यह अनियमितता आउटसोर्स या कांट्रैक्ट पर रखे गए कर्मचारियों से जुड़ी है। स्वास्थ्य विभाग में 15 हजार कर्मचारियों को आउटसोर्स पर रखा, लेकिन ठेकेदार ने इन कर्मचारियों को ईपीएफ (इंफ्लॉई प्रोविडेंट फंड), इंश्योरेंस और बोनस का लाभ नहीं दिया। स्वास्थ्य विभाग के अधिकारी और ठेकेदारों के बीच साठ-गांठ के जरिए हजारों करोड़ रुपये का घोटाला हुआ। इतना ही नहीं कामगारों का शोषण भी किया गया।

### **करोड़ों की बेनामी संपत्ति का खुलासा**

सीबीआई ने स्वास्थ्य मंत्री सत्येंद्र जैन के विभाग से जुड़ी दिल्ली डेंटल काउंसिल के रजिस्ट्रार डॉ ऋषि राज और काउंसिल के वकील प्रदीप शर्मा को 4.73 लाख रुपये रिश्वत लेने के आरोप में गिरफ्तार किया। मामले में अहम बात यह है कि रजिस्ट्रार के लॉकर से करोड़ों की संपत्तियों से जुड़े दस्तावेज बरामद हुए, जो सत्येंद्र जैन और उनकी पत्नी के नाम पर हैं। जागरण के अनुसार रजिस्ट्रार के लॉकर से सत्येंद्र जैन की तीन संपत्तियों के दस्तावेज मिले। इनमें 12 बीघा दो बिस्वा और आठ बीघा 17 बिस्वा जमीन की खरीद के दस्तावेज और 14 बीघा जमीन की पावर ऑफ अटॉर्नी के कागज हैं। ये जमीनें बाहरी दिल्ली के कराला गांव में हैं। इसके अलावा, सीबीआई के हाथ दो करोड़ रुपये की बैंक की डिपॉजिट स्लिप बुक भी मिली है।

### **स्वास्थ्य मंत्री का घोटाला छिपाया!**

दिल्ली के स्वास्थ्य मंत्री सत्येंद्र जैन के खिलाफ आयकर विभाग की जांच में कई चौंकाने वाली बातें सामने आईं। उनपर पर हवाला के जरिए 16.39 करोड़ रुपये मंगाने का आरोप है। इन मामलों में उनकी सघन जांच हो रही है। इसके अलावा जैन पर अपनी ही बेटी को दिल्ली सरकार के मोहल्ला क्लीनिक परियोजना में सलाहकार बनाने का भी आरोप लगा। इस केस की जांच भी सीबीआई के जिम्मे है। शृंगलू कमेटी ने भी

इस मामले में दिल्ली सरकार पर उंगली उठाई। यहां ये बताना आवश्यक है कि केजरीवाल के पूर्व सहयोगी और मौजूदा बीजेपी नेता कपिल मिश्रा ने इन्हीं पर केजरीवाल को पैसे देने के आरोप लगाए थे। मिश्रा के अनुसार जैन ने अपनी करतूतों पर पर्दा डाले रखने के लिए केजरीवाल के किसी रिश्तेदार की 50 करोड़ रुपये की डील भी कराई थी।

### **दवा घोटाला**

केजरीवाल सरकार ने अपनी मोहल्ला क्लीनिक का खूब ढिंढोरा पीटा है। वो दावा करते रहे हैं कि गरीब जनता के स्वास्थ्य के ख्याल से उठाया गया ये कदम बहुत फायदेमंद साबित होगा। लेकिन अब पता चल रहा है कि केजरीवाल और उनके गैंग के लोग भले ही इसका फायदा उठा रहे हों, उनकी गंदी नीयत के चलते अब गरीबों की जान पर बन आई है। इसका खुलासा तब हुआ जब 1 जून, 2017 को एसीबी ने दवा प्रोक्योरमेंट एजेंसी के ताहिरपुर, जनकपुरी और रघुवीर नगर स्थित सेंटर के गोदामों पर छापा मारा। एसीबी को यहां से भारी मात्रा में एक्सपाइरी मेडिसिन के साथ दवाओं की खरीद-फरोख्त के बिल भी मिले हैं। ये दवा घोटाला करीब 300 करोड़ रुपये का बताया गया।

### **मोहल्ला क्लिनिक घोटाला**

मोहल्ला क्लीनिक को लेकर एबीपी न्यूज ने एक बड़ा खुलासा किया। एबीपी न्यूज के अनुसार दिल्ली में आम आदमी मोहल्ला क्लीनिक जैसे तो लोगों की सुविधाओं के लिए बनाया गया, लेकिन मोहल्ला क्लीनिक की हालत ही ठीक नहीं है। विजिलेंस विभाग इसमें धांधली की जांच कर रहा है। विजिलेंस की जांच का दायरे में दो मुख्य आरोप हैं।

### **मोहल्ला क्लीनिक परिसर का किराया बाजार किराए से ज्यादा क्यों है?**

#### **पार्टी कार्यकर्ताओं के परिसर किराए पर क्यों लिए गए?**

एबीपी न्यूज की पड़ताल में पता चला कि कार्यकर्ता अपने मकान को बाजार दर से दो से तीन गुना ज्यादा किराये पर मोहल्ला क्लीनिक को दिए हुए हैं। इस तरह से मोहल्ला क्लीनिक खोलने में आम आदमी पार्टी के नेताओं को जमकर फायदा पहुंचाया गया है। कांग्रेस नेता अजय माकन का आरोप है कि मोहल्ला क्लिनिक एक बड़ा घोटाला है। माकन ने आरोप लगाया कि ये क्लिनिक 'आप' कार्यकर्ताओं की बिल्डिंगों में चलाए जा रहे हैं। उन्हें फायदा पहुंचाने के लिए मार्केट से कई गुना ज्यादा किराया दिया जा रहा है।

### **विज्ञापन घोटाला**

केजरीवाल पर विज्ञापनों को लेकर सुप्रीम कोर्ट के दिशा-निर्देशों के उल्लंघन का भी आरोप है। इसके लिए उनकी पार्टी से 97 करोड़ रुपये वसूले भी जाने हैं। जांच में पाया गया कि सरकारी विज्ञापनों के माध्यम से केजरीवाल ने अपनी और अपनी पार्टी का चेहरा चमकाने की कोशिश की है। इनमें से उनकी पार्टी की ओर से दिए गए कई झूठे और बेबुनियाद विज्ञापन भी शामिल हैं। सीएजी की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार भी केजरीवाल सरकार पर दूसरे राज्यों में अपने दल का प्रचार करने के लिए दिल्ली की जनता के खजाने पर डाका डालने का आरोप है। पहले साल के काम-काज पर तैयार रिपोर्ट कहती है कि पहले ही साल में केजरीवाल सरकार ने 29 करोड़ रुपये दूसरे राज्यों में अपने दल के विज्ञापन पर खर्च किए। 2015-16 में केजरीवाल ने जनता के 522 करोड़ रुपये विज्ञापन पर खर्च कर किए थे।

### **'टॉक टू ए के' घोटाला**

दिल्ली के उपमुख्यमंत्री मनीष सिसोदिया के खिलाफ भी सीबीआई भ्रष्टाचार के मामले दर्ज कर जांच कर रही है। आरोपों के अनुसार सिसोदिया ने केजरीवाल के टॉक टू एके कार्यक्रम के प्रचार के लिए 1.5 करोड़ रुपये में एक पब्लिक रिलेशन कंपनी को काम सौंप दिया। जबकि मुख्य सचिव ने इसके लिए इजाजत नहीं देने को कहा था।

### **बीआरटी कॉरीडोर तोड़ने का घोटाला**

केजरीवाल सरकार पर दिल्ली में बीआरटी कॉरीडोर को तोड़ने के लिए दिए गए ठेके में भी धांधली का आरोप लग चुका है। आरोपों के अनुसार इस मामले में दिल्ली सरकार ने ठेकेदार को तय रकम के अलावा कंक्रीट और लोहे का मलबा भी दे दिया, जिसकी कीमत करोड़ों रुपये में थी। इस मामले में पिछले साल एसीबी छापेमारी करके कुछ दस्तावेज भी जब्त कर चुकी है।

### **स्ट्रीट लाइट घोटाला**

आम आदमी पार्टी नेता राखी बिड़लान पर भी भ्रष्टाचार के आरोप लगे हैं। आरोपों के अनुसार उन्होंने मंगोलपुरी में 15 हजार की सोलर स्ट्रीट लाइट को एक लाख रुपये और 10 हजार में लगने वाली सीसीटीवी कैमरों पर सरकार के 6 लाख रुपये उड़ा दिए। जब आम आदमी पार्टी में केजरीवाल की मर्जी के बगैर एक पता भी नहीं हिलता है तो फिर राखी पर लगे आरोपों की सही जांच होने देने से किसने रोका है ?

### **संसदीय सचिव घोटाला?**

13 मार्च, 2015 को आप सरकार ने 21 विधायकों को संसदीय सचिव बना दिया। ये जानते हुए भी कि यह लाभ का पद है, उन्होंने ये कदम उठाया। दरअसल उनकी मंशा अपने सभी साथियों को प्रसन्न रखना था। उनका इरादा अपने विधायकों को लालबत्ती वाली गाड़ी, ऑफिस और अन्य सरकारी सुविधाओं से लैस करना था, ताकि उनके ये भ्रष्ट साथी ऐश कर सकें। लेकिन कोर्ट में चुनौती मिली तो इनकी हेकड़ी गुम हो गई। हालांकि केजरीवाल सरकार ने ऐसा कानून भी बनाने की कोशिश कि जिससे संसदीय सचिव का पद संवैधानिक हो जाए। लेकिन हाई कोर्ट के आदेश से मजबूर होकर ये फैसला निरस्त करना पड़ा। अब इन विधायकों की सदस्यता खत्म की जा चुकी है। <https://www.performindia.com/kejriwal-collapsed-in-kirari-with-458-beds/>

### **SELECTED NEWS ITEMS/ARTICLES FOR READING**

#### **11. Dept of Expenditure warns against extending the free food scheme: Report ([business-standard.com](https://www.business-standard.com)) June 24, 2022**

**In an internal note, the FinMin's Dept of Expenditure has warned that extension of the free food scheme beyond September or any more tax cuts will have consequences for the Centre's fiscal situation**

The finance ministry's Department of Expenditure has argued against extending the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) beyond September or announcing any significant tax cuts, warning of the consequences for the Centre's fiscal position, a news report said.

The government in March extended the PMGKAY, the free food ration scheme rolled out during the Covid-led lockdown, for six months till September. The Centre has allocated Rs 2.07 trillion for food subsidies in the current fiscal year, while the extension of PMGKAY till September is expected to increase the subsidy bill to nearly Rs 2.87 trillion, The Economic Times reported.

If the government decides to extend the scheme further, it would cost the Centre another Rs 80,000 crore for another six months, swelling the food subsidy amount for FY23 to Rs 3.7 trillion.

More tax cuts or food subsidy extensions would adversely hit the fiscal math, the union finance ministry's Department of Expenditure said in an internal note. The department said, "In particular, it is not advisable to continue the PMGKAY beyond its present extension, both on the grounds of food security and on fiscal grounds," quoted ET.

The Centre's recent decisions to extend free ration, hike fertiliser subsidy, reintroduce cooking gas subsidy, excise duty cut on petrol, diesel and cut in customs duty on edible oils have created a serious fiscal situation, the department said.

The Centre's move last month to cut excise duty on fuel to soften the blow of inflation will cause a revenue loss of about Rs 1 trillion, the note said.

To curb inflation, the Centre last month announced a reduction of excise duties on petrol and diesel by Rs 8 and Rs 6, respectively. At the same time, it also announced a subsidy of Rs 200 per domestic LPG cylinder for up to 12 cylinders in a year.

For FY23, the government has budgeted a fiscal deficit of 6.4 per cent of GDP, while Fitch Ratings expect it to be 6.8 per cent due to higher subsidies and revenue loss due to duty cuts. [https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/more-subsidy-extension-of-free-food-scheme-to-hurt-govt-s-fiscal-finmin-122062400156\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/more-subsidy-extension-of-free-food-scheme-to-hurt-govt-s-fiscal-finmin-122062400156_1.html)

**12. Government expects to shower in up to Rs 1 lakh crore during 5G auctions** ([moneycontrol.com](https://www.moneycontrol.com)) June 24, 2022

**Spectrum totalling 72 gigahertz (Ghz) would be put on the block in the auction expected to commence on July 26.**

The government expects to earn Rs 80,000 crore to Rs 1 lakh crore from upcoming 5G auctions, CNBC TV18 reported on Friday.

Spectrum totalling 72 gigahertz (Ghz) would be put on the block in the auction expected to commence on July 26.

However, a report by IIFL indicates that a large chunk of the spectrum could remain unsold as the three big players in the market – Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, and Vodafone Idea – will likely only spend about Rs 71,000 crore in the auction.

The department of telecom had received the cabinet's approval to auction 5G spectrum earlier this month which will have 10 times more speed and capacity than 4G.

According to the CNBC TV18 sources, high demand is being seen for mid and high-frequency bands in the auction.

Telcos are expected to move fast on rolling out their services as 5G is expected to reach India's urban centres by mid-next year. <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/government-expects-to-shower-in-up-to-rs-1-lakh-crore-during-5g-auctions-8732331.html>

### **13. Working group suggests steps to boost crop insurance scheme ([financialexpress.com](https://www.financialexpress.com)) June 24, 2022**

A working group, set up by the ministry of agriculture and farmers' welfare to review Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), NDA's flagship crop insurance scheme, has recommended a higher claim-premium cap of 130% from 110% now, in a move aimed at infusing fresh life into the scheme. Many states have opted out of the scheme in recent years while the number of farmers covered are stagnating.

Any loss to the insurer arising from higher claims by farmers will be offset by the state governments. However, insurers would be allowed to keep the entire profits up to claims of 60% of premium. Currently, the threshold is 80%. If the claims are even lower, the extra profits will have to be transferred by the insurer to the respective state governments.

The current band of 80-110, also referred as Beed model, is not fully in alignment with market realities, the working group said, adding that it is also 'not fully aligned towards farmers interest and cause delays in claims settlement'.

In recent years, the claims by farmers under PMFBY has been on the decline. The ratio which was 93.9% in Kharif, 2018 has come down to just 41.9% in Kharif, 2021, as per provisional data. Similarly in Rabi 2017, the claim to premium ratio was 106.9% which declined to 47.1% in 2021. According to analysis by the working group, since its launch in 2016, PMFBY premium has increased by more than six-fold which has led to an increase in subsidy liability of the government.

In February 2020, the government made PMFBY voluntary for farmers while previously it was mandatory for the farmers to take insurance cover under the scheme.

The scheme is currently being implemented in 20 states/union territories. The Punjab government hasn't adopted PMFBY since its 2016 launch, while states like Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Bihar exited the scheme, because of "higher cost of premium subsidy" to be borne by them. Many states have asked for capping of premium subsidies under PMFBY.

Under the heavily subsidised PMFBY, the premium to be paid by farmers is fixed at just 1.5% of the sum insured for rabi crops and 2% for kharif crops, while it is 5% for cash crops. The balance premium is equally shared amongst the Centre and states and in case of North-Eastern states, the premium is split between the Centre and states in a 9:1 ratio.

The working groups have recommended targeted premium subsidies for small farmers, empowering the Centre to levy penalty on states for any delay in subsidy settlements and extensive use of remote sensing data for crop yield assessment.

The group has also stated that farmers enrolled under various schemes like PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, where ₹6,000 is annually transferred to around 9 crore farmers, may be provided coverage as per the eligibility criterion.

According to the agriculture ministry estimates, there are around 140 million farmer families in the country. Enrolment under PMFBY has been in the range of 30 to 50 million in the last three years.

Last year, the government constituted the working groups comprising officials from the Centre, key crop-producing states and senior officials of the state-owned insurance companies to suggest 'sustainable, financial and operational models,' for PMFBY. <https://www.financialexpress.com/economy/working-group-suggests-steps-to-boost-crop-insurance-scheme/2571026/>

#### **14. World Bank approves \$245 million loan to modernise India's railway logistics** ([financialexpress.com](https://www.financialexpress.com)) June 23, 2022

The World Bank has approved a USD 245 million loan to support India's efforts to modernise rail freight and logistics infrastructure, the international financial institution said in a statement on Wednesday.

The Rail Logistics project will help India shift more traffic from road to rail, making transport — both freight and passenger — more efficient and reducing millions of tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) each year. The project will also incentivise more private sector investment in the railway sector.

Indian Railways is the fourth-largest rail network in the world having transported 1.2 billion tonnes of freight in the fiscal ending March 2020. Yet, 71 per cent of India's freight is transported by road and only 17 per cent by rail.

The statement also said that the capacity constraints of Indian Railways have limited the volumes and reduced the speed and reliability of shipments. As a result, it has been losing market share to trucks over the years; in 2017-18, its market share was 32 per cent, down from 52 per cent a decade earlier.

Road freight is the largest contributor to GHG emissions, accounting for about 95 per cent of emissions in the freight sector. Trucks also accounted for about 12.3 per cent of road accidents and 15.8 per cent of total road transport-related deaths in 2018. Rail emits about one-fifth of trucks' GHG emissions, and with Indian Railways planning to become a net-zero carbon emitter by 2030, it has the potential to eliminate 7.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases each year, it added.

“While reducing greenhouse gases, the new project will also benefit millions of rail passengers in India as railway lines get decongested with freight moving to dedicated lines,” said Hideki Mori, Operations Manager and Acting Country Director, India, World Bank.

“Integrating railways with the wider logistics ecosystem is also key to reducing India's high logistics costs, which are much higher than in developed nations. This will make Indian firms more competitive.” The loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) was approved by the World Bank's Board of Executive Directors and has a maturity of 22 years, including a grace period of seven years.

The new Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor-3 (EFDC) is also supported by the World Bank.

The statement said that a major focus of the project will be on harnessing commercial financing by engaging the private sector and developing customer-oriented approaches. The project will also support the institutional capacity strengthening of the Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Limited (DFCCIL) as a commercial organisation and equip it to provide multimodal logistics services.

“India is increasingly focused on multimodal transport, particularly with railways as the central pillar of efficient logistics in the freight transport segment,” said Saroj Ayush and Martha B Lawrence, World Bank Task Team Leaders for the project.

“The project will help leverage private sector efficiency for integrating rail transportation into cargo supply chains.” <https://www.financialexpress.com/infrastructure/world-bank-approves-245-million-loan-to-modernise-indias-railway-logistics-infra/2570782/>

**15. World Bank approves Rs 4,400-cr funding for three projects in India** ([business-standard.com](https://www.business-standard.com)) Updated: June 23, 2022

World Bank has approved three loans totalling USD 562 million (about Rs 4,393.70 crore) to fund an education project in Gujarat, a social protection programme in Tamil Nadu and a project to help recovery in the fisheries sector post the pandemic, the multilateral funding agency said on Thursday.

The World Bank Board of Executive Directors approved additional financing of USD 250 million for Outcomes for Accelerated Learning (GOAL), a programme which aims to improve education results for children across the state of Gujarat, it said in a release.

The financing towards GOAL will benefit an additional 3,000 schools that have been disproportionately affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Besides, the board of executive directors of the World Bank approved a USD 150 million funding to support the recovery of India's fisheries sector and a USD 162 million for the RIGHTS project to strengthen the social protection systems and capability of the State of Tamil Nadu to promote inclusion, accessibility, and opportunities for persons with disabilities.

In 2020-21, the fisheries sector saw losses of about USD 5.5 billion and fish production fell almost 40 per cent in one year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, said the multilateral funding agency.

GOAL project financing complements the original loan of USD 500 million, which was approved in March 2021. It is in line with the Bank's Rapid Response Framework that seeks to reach every child and retain them in schools, assess learning levels regularly, prioritize teaching the fundamentals and increase catch-up learning, World Bank said.

It also aims to develop psychosocial health for students and teachers.

"This additional financing will scale-up the coverage of the original programme from a total of 9,000 to 12,000 schools, while also supporting new efforts to test the efficacy of the program's

interventions," said Shabnam Sinha, Lead Education Specialist and Task Team Leader for the project.

Under the USD 150 million loan to support the recovery of India's fisheries sector, World Bank said it currently employs about 12 million people directly and another 13 million through associated activities.

The Fisheries Sector COVID-19 Recovery Project will complement the Government of India's Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana, which aims to transform the sector in a sustainable manner by introducing modern practices, improving access to finance and making it more climate-resilient.

Incentives for larger private investment in the fisheries sector in India have been limited, mainly due to lack of access to financing or credit, and perceptions that the sector is high-risk.

The project will help microenterprises access working capital by connecting them with government schemes that provide financial support to farmers such as the Kisan Credit Card and the Micro Units Development and Refinance Agency Limited (MUDRA). [https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/world-bank-approves-usd-562-million-funding-for-3-projects-in-india-122062301191\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/world-bank-approves-usd-562-million-funding-for-3-projects-in-india-122062301191_1.html)

## **16. Why do Indian roads top the international table of road deaths? ([orfonline.org](https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/world-bank-approves-usd-562-million-funding-for-3-projects-in-india-122062301191_1.html)) Updated: June 23, 2022**

Indian roads have been at the top of the international table of fatalities caused by road crashes for several years. The annual report of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (21-22) informs us that in 2019, there were a total of 449,002 road accidents and 151,113 deaths. This was up, from 2005 when a total of 439,255 accidents ended up in 94,968 deaths. What is also striking is that the severity of accidents, defined as the number of persons killed per 100 accidents, has risen sharply from 21.6 in 2005 to 33.7 in 2019. This article ignores the figures of the pandemic years as they would not reflect the true state of affairs on account of lockdowns and restrictions imposed at the national, state, and city levels.

While the percentage share of road deaths on 'other roads' is the highest, what is significant is that national highways and state highways constitute only 5.04 percent of all roads, but account for 61.11 percent of all road deaths.

Another report by the same Ministry titled "Road Accidents in India 2019" does a more detailed analysis of road accidents. It admits that India ranked first in road deaths across 199 countries reported in the World Road Statistics, 2018, followed by China and the US. Within the country, national highways shared 35.65 percent of all road deaths, state highways 25.46 percent, and other roads 38.89 percent. While the percentage share of road deaths on 'other roads' is the highest, what is significant is that national highways and state highways constitute only 5.04 percent of all roads, but account for 61.11 percent of all road deaths.

In 2019, two-wheelers were involved in the highest percentage of road deaths—35 percent. Cars, taxis, vans, and light motor vehicles (LMVs) came next at 18.6 percent, followed by pedestrians at 13.9 percent, trucks and lorries at 10.7 percent, buses at 4.9 percent, and auto-rickshaws at 4 percent. The other categories comprised the remaining percentage, in which animal-drawn vehicles and hand carts figure prominently. Tragically, of those killed, 70 percent were in the 18-45 age group. The report also throws light on state-wise road accident

deaths in 2019. Uttar Pradesh stood at the top with 22,665 deaths, followed by Maharashtra (12,788), Madhya Pradesh (11,249), and Karnataka (10,958), Rajasthan (10,563), and Tamil Nadu (10,525), each accounting for more than 10,000 deaths.

Deeply concerned by the high number of road accidents, the Government of India (GoI) constituted a committee in 2005 to make recommendations on the matter. The committee submitted its report in 2007, coming up with a draft National Road Safety Policy. In 2010, GoI approved a National Road Safety Policy (NRSP). It recognised that road accidents primarily impacted the young, poor, and vulnerable road users and had become a major health issue.

Hospitals alongside the National Highways and State Highways would be adequately equipped to provide trauma care and rehabilitation.

The NRSP committed the GoI to raise awareness about safety issues and extend assistance to states and local administrations regarding the crash investigation and data collection. It decided to review standards that govern road design and maintenance of vehicles. It also indicated that the driving license and training systems for non-motorised transport shall be strengthened. It seeks to educate citizens on good road safety practices through publicity campaigns. It will make enforcement more robust and improve patrolling and the efficiency of rescue operations. Hospitals alongside the National Highways and State Highways would be adequately equipped to provide trauma care and rehabilitation. Finally, GoI also announced the establishment of the National Road Safety Board and National Road Safety Fund. The first was to supervise matters related to road safety, and the second was to finance road activities by allocating a certain percentage of the cess on gasoline and diesel.

The administrative apparatus was further strengthened by setting up District Road Safety Committees (DRSC) for each district in the country under Section 215 of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988. The DRSC was to take a periodic review of road accidents in the district and collect data on road crashes, their causes, accident spots, and victim details. The DRSC was responsible for developing a district road safety plan, an emergency medical plan, and ensuring the availability of ambulances and linkages with hospitals.

Despite the very elaborate administrative and review mechanism set up in the country, there has been no significant impact on road accidents and deaths. However, we ought to recognise that more roads have been built during the last decade, and the vehicular population has multiplied. In 2013-14, the country had around 91,000 km of national highways. In 2021-22, they went up to 140,995 km. Road quality generally has also improved, leading to greater mobility and speed. Similarly, as against 67 million registered motor vehicles in 2003, the total number shot up to 295,772 million in 2019. These cited factors have contributed to the escalation of road accidents.

Accidents are also caused by deficits in road engineering that create accident spots and the sudden appearance of potholes. Over-aged vehicles and overloading also contribute to the high number of accidents.

A detailed analysis reveals that there are multiple causes of road crashes. These comprise human error, over-speeding, drunk driving, driving on the wrong side of the road, jumping a red light, talking on the mobile phone while driving, not wearing seat belts, driving without a licence, and other traffic rules violations. Accidents are also caused by deficits in road

engineering that create accident spots and the sudden appearance of potholes. Over-aged vehicles and overloading also contribute to the high number of accidents.

It is generally agreed that four elements are involved in preventing road crashes. They are education, enforcement, engineering and environment, and emergency care. Education involves creating awareness amongst the people regarding road safety and practices. Enforcement comprises the implementation of the provisions of the Motor Vehicle Act 1988 and rules framed thereunder and press penal action wherever necessary. Engineering deals with proper road design, elimination of accident spots, appropriate signages, separation of local traffic from highway traffic, and traffic calming and safety management measures. Finally, environment and emergency care involve the provision of advanced life support ambulances and quick evacuation of the injured to hospitals and trauma care centres.

While the country attempts to build new roads at an accelerated speed, an essential point that needs to be kept in view is that added mobility and quality roads do not automatically lead to road safety unless the road safety audit is carried out on the planning table itself. India is a densely populated country, and roads are used by a variety of vehicles, bicycles, pedestrians and animal-drawn carts. In the countryside, roads in several instances, bisect settlements or segregate farmlands from the settlements. In cities, many more activities happen on parts of roads, such as parking and hawking. If safety is considered an integral concern in road planning, more land must be acquired for roads that allow segregation of pedestrians, bicycles and motorcycles from the lanes that have motor vehicles travelling at great speed. Additionally, the number of underpasses ought to sharply go up. This would allow local communities to circulate without accessing or crossing the road.

If safety is considered an integral concern in road planning, more land must be acquired for roads that allow segregation of pedestrians, bicycles and motorcycles from the lanes that have motor vehicles travelling at great speed.

Building these safety items into road planning would result in more cost or fewer kilometres of new roads. However, safety cannot come without a price. The additional safety instruments suggested are especially needed in the case of national and state highways. This is pointed out by the very high percentage of road deaths caused by them. Unlike the access-controlled expressways, national and state highways do not prohibit entry to any mode of transport. Hence, the suggested additional safety measures are even more critical. <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/why-do-indian-roads-top-the-international-table-of-road-deaths/>

**17. PM wants 8 infra projects expedited ([thehansindia.com](http://thehansindia.com))** Updated: June 24, 2022

There are hundreds of infrastructure projects, which have suffered cost and time overruns, but Prime Minister Narendra Modi has focused on eight of them. He has instructed all the stakeholders concerned to ensure that these suffer no delays and cost escalations. He recently addressed the Chief Secretaries of States and UTs and Secretaries of the Ministries and Departments concerned through video conference, official sources told Bizz Buzz.

The eight projects he mentioned were: The Mumbai Urban Transport Project Phase-III; Ginigera-Raichur New BG line; four-laning of the Melur-Karaikudi section of NH; the Raipur-Vishakhapatnam Economic Corridor; the North East Gas Grid Project; the Kakinada-

Srikakulam Natural Gas Pipeline Project; the Sulwade-Jamphal-Kanoli Lift Irrigation Scheme; and the Patratu Super Thermal Power Project.

The projects are spread over 14 states: Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Jharkhand.

The Prime Minister also directed the officials to lay special emphasis on the National Broadband Mission (NBM).

He said that the agencies working involved should map their projects with the water bodies being developed under Amrit Sarovar. It may be mentioned here that on April 24 this year, he had launched a new initiative named Mission Amrit Sarovar. This is aimed at conserving water for the future. It involves developing and rejuvenating 75 water bodies in each district of the country.

The Prime Minister told the officials that coordinating the infrastructure projects with Amrit Sarovar would result in a win-win situation: The material dug out for Amrit Sarovars could be utilized for civil works by the agencies.

Modi also reviewed the NBM, and asked States and agencies to leverage the centralized Gati Shakti Sanchar Portal to ensure timely disposal of right of way applications. This would enhance 'ease of living' of the common man.

Further, he said, States may also formulate state-level Gati Shakti Master Plans, modeled on the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan.

There are several reasons for time overruns, like delays in acquiring land and getting forest and environmental clearances and inadequate infrastructure support and linkages. Then there are delays in the finalization of detailed engineering, tying up of project financing, in tendering, ordering and equipment supply, and in technical approvals, etc. <https://www.thehansindia.com/business/pm-wants-8-infra-projects-expedited-750162?infinitemscroll=1>

**18. India's Aadhaar ID system delivers benefits but at risk of widespread fraud** ([business-standard.com](https://www.business-standard.com)) Updated: June 24, 2022

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's model of welfarism isn't new to India: Previous leaders have also subsidized food and fuel, and given the rural poor houses, toilets, and paid work. Modi's edge comes from technology. A year before the 2014 election that brought him to power, the government, then led by the Congress Party, had piloted direct cash transfer to beneficiaries, inspired by the former Brazilian President Lula da Silva's popular Bolsa Familia program. Modi took that modest \$1 billion start and turned it into a \$300 billion vote magnet: And he did it with the help of 12-digit numbers.

Those numbers — and the ID cards that carry them — are known as “Aadhaar.” It's a biometrics-based system through which almost everyone in the second-most-populous nation can prove who they are. Aadhaar, which means “foundation” in Hindi, supports 450 million-plus no-frills savings accounts and has bolstered the use of mobile internet for financial transactions even in remote villages. Five years ago, the Nobel Prize-winning economist Paul Romer endorsed Aadhaar as a template for the world.

Increasingly, though, it's beginning to look like there's a fair bit of epoxy putty — quite literally — in the very foundation of Modi's welfare program.

Fingerprinting 1.33 billion people and recording their personal information and iris scans in a central repository was no mean feat. It was hoped that this super-expensive database would pay its cost by helping to reduce waste in public programs and by preventing theft. That was touted as a big advantage in a corruption-ridden country where state benefits have a hard time reaching legitimate beneficiaries.

However, activists have highlighted numerous incidents of denial of benefits: Fingerprints fade with intense manual labor; getting data-entry mistakes fixed can be a nightmare. Those issues have largely been ignored.

Now there's a growing problem in the other direction: Aadhaar is being very successfully used — by fraudsters. Blame it on ubiquity combined with lax controls. While the unique ID was conceived to make welfare programs more efficient, private entities didn't lose any time in realizing its potential. Banks and telcos used Aadhaar to conduct online "know your customer" checks, which drastically cut their cost of authenticating customers. In the process, Aadhaar became all-pervasive and private data began to show up for sale on the dark web.

The government's response has been to brush it all away. Anything that casts doubt on the integrity of the system is ignored. That isn't a surprise: Having chosen a technology and made it universal, policy makers have no other route to building trust in transactions. In 2018, the Indian Supreme Court restricted the use of the database — and barred private entities from using it for know-your-customer verifications. Nevertheless, New Delhi has since then gone around opening legal back doors for the private sector to keep tapping it.

A wake-up call about identity fraud came last month. The Unique Identification Authority of India, or UIDAI, issued an advisory asking people not to give out photocopies of their cards "because it can be misused." Further, the notice said that only users licensed with the authority can query the database to authenticate identity; establishments like hotels or movie theaters are not permitted to collect or keep copies. After people began to question why this warning was being issued when everyone's Aadhaar information was already circulating everywhere, it was withdrawn the same day and replaced with new guidance that advised people "to exercise normal prudence."

So what's going on? The Morning Context, an Indian news website, recently gave an alarming account of scams. It seems anyone can learn how to clone a fingerprint with epoxy putty on YouTube; and anyone can buy an identification card online. Fingerprints can be lifted from digitized property sale deeds. Or, to steal money from bank accounts, one could hack into a mobile app used by small village shops that double up as micro-ATMs for Aadhaar-holders. There was a sixfold increase in overall Aadhaar fraud registered with the UIDAI last year, the May 30 article said. "There is no data on the full extent of welfare benefits swindled, accounts degraded and criminal complaints registered," the Morning Context added.

More disturbing than the crime is the official silence about its prevalence or severity. The Reserve Bank of India's recently released Payments Vision 2025 gives a nod to the "significant growth in Aadhaar-enabled Payment System (AePS) through the business correspondent-assisted model." More than 2 billion such micro-ATM transactions took place last financial year; that's a \$38 billion entanglement of Aadhaar with the banking system — all of which is on behalf of customers at the bottom of the economic pyramid. Yet the RBI's vision document, which has "integrity" as a key pillar, has nothing to say about making security more robust for deposit, withdrawal and transfer services used by the poor.

Then there's the social welfare plank: Aadhaar Payment Bridge System is how the government transfers cash to beneficiaries. Even here, there are weaknesses. Back in 2018, Ram Sewak Sharma, the former UIDAI chief, had made his Aadhaar number public on Twitter and dared privacy activists: "Show me one concrete example where you can do any harm to me!" As it turns out, someone managed to register Sharma as an eligible farmer and the Modi government paid him three installments of free cash. You can split hairs about whether the vulnerability was in Aadhaar or elsewhere, but the hacker had proved a point.

Modi's new welfarism rests on Aadhaar. But if there are cracks in the edifice, they need to be acknowledged — not to frighten users away, but to make them more aware. At the same time, India needs a strong data protection law. Losing money is bad enough. But it's scary if a bad actor can put a person at a specific place or tie her to an activity with the help of a bogus transaction. Sealing wax in the foundation of trust simply won't do. [https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/india-s-aadhaar-id-system-delivers-benefits-but-at-risk-of-widespread-fraud-122062400124\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/india-s-aadhaar-id-system-delivers-benefits-but-at-risk-of-widespread-fraud-122062400124_1.html)

**19. What India needs to do to reduce its fertiliser bill** ([indianexpress.com](https://www.indianexpress.com)) Updated: June 24, 2022

No country has as much area under farming as India. At 169.3 million hectares (mh) in 2019, its land used for crop cultivation was higher than that of the US (160.4 mh), China (135.7 mh), Russia (123.4 mh) or Brazil (63.5 mh). With its perennial Himalayan rivers and average annual rainfall of nearly 1,200 mm – against Russia's 475 mm, China's 650 mm and the US's 750 mm – India has no dearth of land, water and sunshine to sustain vibrant agriculture. Which it has for 3,000 years and more.

But there's one resource in which the country is short and heavily import-dependent — mineral fertilisers. In 2021-22, India imported 10.16 million tonnes (mt) of urea, 5.86 mt of diammonium phosphate (DAP) and 2.91 mt of muriate of potash (MOP). In value terms, imports of all fertilisers touched an all-time high of \$12.77 billion last fiscal.

That figure, however, presents an incomplete picture. In 2021-22, India also produced 25.07 mt of urea, 4.22 mt of DAP, 8.33 mt of complex fertilisers (containing nitrogen-N, phosphorus-P, potassium-K and sulphur-S in different ratios) and 5.33 mt of single super phosphate (SSP). The intermediates or raw materials for the manufacture of these fertilisers were substantially imported.

Take urea, whose primary feedstock is natural gas. In 2021-22, India imported 23.42 mt of liquefied natural gas (LNG) valued at \$13.47 billion. As per the petroleum ministry's data, the fertiliser sector's share in the consumption of re-gasified LNG was over 41 per cent. The industry's LNG imports would have, then, been worth more than \$5.5 billion.

For DAP, domestic manufacturers import intermediate chemicals, namely phosphoric acid and ammonia. Some even produce phosphoric acid by importing rock phosphate and sulphuric acid. The latter can be further made from the import of sulphur. During the last fiscal, 6.44 mt of phosphoric acid, 2.31 mt of ammonia, 9.66 mt of rock phosphate, 1.92 mt of sulphuric acid and 1.90 mt of sulphur were imported into the country.

Table 1: Import of fertilisers and inputs (\$MN); Table 2: Sale of fertilisers (in lakh metric tonnes)

Table 1 shows the total value of fertiliser imports by India, inclusive of inputs used in domestic production, was a whopping \$24.3 billion in 2021-22. There are two costs here. The first is foreign exchange outgo: Imports are mostly from China, Oman, UAE and Egypt (urea); China, Saudi Arabia and Morocco (DAP); Belarus, Canada, Russia, Israel and Jordan (MOP); Qatar, US, UAE and Nigeria (LNG); Morocco, Jordan, Senegal and Tunisia (phosphoric acid); Saudi Arabia and Qatar (ammonia); and Jordan, Morocco, Egypt and Togo (rock phosphate). The second cost is fiscal. Fertilisers are not only imported, but Indian farmers also pay below what it costs to import or manufacture using imported inputs. The difference is paid as a subsidy by the government. That bill was Rs 1,53,658.11 crore or \$20.6 billion in 2021-22 and projected at Rs 2,50,000 crore (\$32 billion) this fiscal.

Both costs are unsustainably high to bear for a mineral resource-poor country. We are feeling it, especially with global prices of urea, DAP, MOP, phosphoric acid, ammonia and LNG soaring two to two-and-a-half times in the last year (they have softened a bit of late). There was a time farmers had to be incentivised to use chemical fertilisers for boosting crop yields. Today, they have to be restrained from over-application. Farmers should know India imports half of its natural gas requirement – that will only go up – and hardly has any mineable rock phosphate, potash or elemental sulphur reserves.

There is a need, first of all, to cap or even reduce consumption of high-analysis fertilisers – particularly urea (46 per cent N content), DAP (18 per cent N and 46 per cent P) and MOP (60 per cent).

One way to do this is by incorporating urease and nitrification inhibition compounds in urea. These are basically chemicals that slow down the rate at which urea is hydrolysed (resulting in the production of ammonia gas and its release into the atmosphere) and nitrified (leading to below-ground loss of nitrogen through leaching). By reducing ammonia volatilisation and nitrate leaching, more nitrogen is made available to the crop, enabling farmers to harvest the same, if not better, yields with a lesser number of urea bags. Together with products such as liquid “nano urea” – their ultra-small particle size is conducive to easier absorption by the plants than with bulk fertilisers, translating into higher nitrogen use efficiency – it is possible to achieve a 20 per cent or more drop in urea consumption from the present 34-35 mt levels. That works out to 6.5-7 mt fewer imports, equivalent to \$4.5-5 billion at current prices.

A second route is by promoting sales of SSP (containing 16 per cent P and 11 per cent S) and complex fertilisers such as “20:20:0:13” and “10:26:26”. DAP use should be restricted mainly to paddy and wheat; other crops don’t require fertilisers with 46 per cent P content. India can also import more rock phosphate to make SSP directly or it can be converted into “weak”

phosphoric acid. The latter, having only about 29 per cent P (compared to 52-54 per cent in normal “strong” merchant-grade phosphoric acid), is good enough for manufacturing “20:20:0:13”, “10:26:26” and other low-analysis complex fertilisers.

As regards MOP, roughly three-fourths of the imported material is now applied directly and only the balance is sold after incorporating into complexes. It should be the other way around. India, to re-emphasise, needs to wean its farmers away from all high-analysis fertilisers. That movement, to use more NPKS complexes and SSP, is already happening (Table 2). It requires a concerted push, alongside popularising high nutrient use-efficient water-soluble fertilisers (potassium nitrate, potassium sulphate, calcium nitrate, etc) and exploiting alternative indigenous sources (for example, potash derived from molasses-based distillery spent-wash and from seaweed extract).

Finally, no plan to cap/reduce consumption of high-analysis fertilisers can succeed without farmers knowing what is a suitable substitute for DAP and which NPK complex or organic manure can bring down their urea application from 2.5 to 1.5 bags per acre. It calls for agriculture departments and universities not just revisiting their existing crop-wise nutrient application recommendations, but disseminating this information to farmers on a campaign mode. <https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/what-india-needs-to-do-to-reduce-its-fertiliser-bill-7987006/>

**20. States cancel 4.5 crore ration cards since 2014** ([thehindubusinessline.com](http://thehindubusinessline.com)) Updated: Jun 23, 2022

**Cancellation of ration cards is a continuous process and special emphasis has been given after the implementation of NFSA in 2013**

Amid a rush to weed out ineligible beneficiaries availing of highly subsidised rice and wheat, all States and Union Territories (UTs) have cancelled 4.5 crore ration cards in last eight years since 2014. However, it has not reduced the offtake of grains since as many numbers also get added – currently 19.5 crore ration cards in operation covering about 80 crore population under National Food Security Act (NFSA).

Several States have separate exclusion criteria under which they delete/cancel ration cards of ineligible persons and there is no particular Central government norms on exclusion, Food Secretary Sudhanshu Pandey said. About 4.75 crore ration cards got deleted during 2013-21, of which maximum 1.74 crore were in Uttar Pradesh, official data show. About 20 lakh cards were cancelled in 2013.

### **Linking with Aadhaar**

“Cancellation of ration cards is an on-going process and special emphasis has been given for this after the NFSA got implemented from 2013. With technology available and seeded with Aadhaar, all duplicate ration cards could be easily weeded out from the system,” an official said. As many as 19.33 crore ration cards are now seeded with Aadhaar.

Deletion of ration cards is manly due to detection of ineligible ration cards, migration/deaths of beneficiaries and also partly due to the digitisation process in which these got seeded with Aadhaar, the official said.

In three years between 2011 and 2013, 1.5 crore ration cards got deleted by States, of which a maximum of 67 lakh were from Karnataka, where the cancellation has come down to about 10 lakh during last eight years (2014-21).

In Uttar Pradesh, less than 40,000 ration cards were deleted in three years 2011-13, while the cancellation was 1.74 crore from 2014 to 2021. The State government, had in April, issued notices to the public to surrender their ration cards in seven days if any of the beneficiaries is either an income tax payee, or having a four-wheeler/tractor/harvester, or more than five acres of irrigated land in possession of any family member, or having a generator of 5 kv. Even those having more than one armed licences in the family have been made ineligible to possess ration card.

“The State government had warned those ineligible ration card holders to surrender these cards, failing which recovery will be initiated at ₹24/kg for wheat and ₹32/kg for rice for the amount drawn from ration shops,” the official said.

### **Bogus cards**

Between July 2006 and March 2014, 30 States/UTs had reported deletion of 3.93 crore bogus/ineligible ration cards, the then Minister of State for food and public distribution Raosaheb Patil Danve had said in Lok Sabha in July 2014. The minister had said: “the exercise of deletion of bogus/ineligible cards and inclusion of eligible families is a continuous process and State Governments/UT Administrations are to periodically carry out the same.”

The Centre’s foodgrains allocation to States under NFSA increased to 522.27 lakh tonnes in 2021-22 from 521.26 lakh tonnes in 2020-21. <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/states-cancel-45-crore-ration-cards-since-2014/article65557778.ece>

### **21. Govt mulls including skilling as defence offset avenue to boost domestic workforce ([economictimes.indiatimes.com](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com)) June 23, 2022**

New Delhi: The government is considering the inclusion of skill development as a 'defence offset avenue' in defence manufacturing contracts to boost trained manpower and related skilling infrastructure for defence and strategic manufacturing in India, in keeping with the Aatmanirbhar Bharat goals.

ET has gathered that high-level meetings are being called by the Cabinet Secretary to build consensus among stakeholder ministries on the issue.

Defence offset guidelines apply in case of defence contracts over ₹2,000 crore and mandate certain contractual obligations for the vendor/manufacturer aimed at boosting domestic defence industry and related infrastructure.

The current defence offset guidelines mandate that vendors, mostly foreign entities, must spend at least 30% of contract value in 'avenues' such as procurement of components domestically, transfer of technology, R&D and so on. Skilling and creating related infrastructure have so far not been identified as a defence offset 'avenue' in the defence ministry's offset guidelines. The issue is on the table at the highest level in the government now.

While the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has been seeking inclusion of skilling as a defence offset avenue since 2015 and a strong pitch was made by then minister Rajiv Pratap Rudy, the proposal could not move through with the defence ministry.

MSDE wants to include infrastructure for skill development including training of trainers, provision of teaching aids, preparation of curriculum material etc as a defence offset as it feels that is the only way to build a specialised workforce for a robust domestic defence manufacturing industry.

The MSDE feels that adequate level of skilling and training can only happen through institutional mechanisms which are formalised in contracts.

"This is not like any other training. Most defence manufacturing set-ups require intensive and specialised training, sometimes for two years. Hence, the proposal. We hope some way can be found in the existing guidelines to facilitate training in an institutional manner, with tie ups with ITIs etc," an officer privy to the discussions told ET on condition of anonymity.

The defence ministry has held that it is open to inclusion of skilling as a defence offset avenue in some format but only in new contracts. Applying it to existing contracts would not be tenable as it would be violative of the agreement, a senior official privy to inter ministerial discussions told ET.

The defence ministry feels that inclusion of skilling as an offset avenue was more relevant when India was relying heavily on foreign manufacturers for its defence-related requirements unlike the domestic industry focus now.

"So, while it was a relevant question even 1-2 years back, that is not so much the case now with India moving towards domestic manufacturing. Creating domestic skilled manpower for strategic manufacturing is hardly a hurdle now with more domestic manufacturers in the fray", the official pointed out. <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/govt-mulls-including-skilling-as-defence-offset-avenue-to-boost-domestic-workforce/articleshow/92420616.cms>

**22. BBMP fixes road for PM visit, two days later it peels off like paint** ([thenewsminute.com](http://thenewsminute.com)) JUNE 23, 2022

A few days ago, the Bengaluru civic body Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike had proudly announced that they had spent an amount of Rs 23 crores to fix roads for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bengaluru trip. However, just three days after the Prime Minister's visit, the newly-renovated roads are already in tatters. Visuals from the newly-laid Jnanabharti main road show the newly-asphalted road peeling off like paint, requiring barely any effort.

TV9 Kannada also showed how a part of the road also caved in a little, causing a small dent in the road. After the road caved in, the authorities seem to have put a plant in the middle to warn commuters of the obstacle. This stretch of road was asphalted at a cost of Rs 6 crore and PM Modi travelled on this stretch on Monday. After a spell of overnight rain, this stretch of the road caved in.

BBMP Special Commissioner (Projects) Ravindra PN had announced to the media ahead of the Prime Minister's that they had fixed the following stretches: Kengeri to Kommaghatta (7 km), Mysuru Road (0.15 km), a stretch after Hebbal flyover (2.4 km), Tumakuru Road (0.90

km) and roads in Bengaluru University campus (3.6 km). However, these freshly asphalted roads are wearing out already, and in some parts the roads are even caving in, worsening the commute for residents.

“The programme for honourable Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit was fixed fifteen days ago, so it was important to properly maintain the roads that he would traverse. For this, we developed roads of the length of 14 km and we spent Rs 23 crores. We used the funds under the discretionary use of the Chief Commissioner for the work,” Ravindra PN said. The BBMP also said that it had repaired maidans, fixed street lights, and painted roads and kerbs.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath accepted that the roads have withered away just days after they were remade. He said that a part of the asphalted road was damaged due to heavy rainfall and that it was not fair to say that the entire stretch of repaired road was damaged.

However, shoddy roadwork and perennially potholed streets are not new phenomena in Bengaluru. The Karnataka High Court, too, has time and again pulled up the Karnataka government and the BBMP as well for the terrible roads.

TNM had reported on why Bengaluru's roads are always in tatters, and why there is no permanent solution to this. <https://www.thenewsminute.com/article/bbmp-fixes-road-pm-visit-two-days-later-it-peels-paint-165220>