

EXPRESS READ

Man complains against food safety dept officer

KRISHNAGIRI: A man filed a petition with the collector seeking action against a food safety official and a bakery for allegedly serving bad food and the food safety official not taking action on his complaint. The petitioner, C Sakhivel (55), a driver from Krishnagiri, told Collector K M Sarayu, "On Monday evening, I went to a bakery in the district along with my wife and son. While we were having mushroom rolls, my wife found a piece of steel remains in it. Following this, I filed a complaint with District Food Safety Department officer Dr Venkatesh, who asked me to contact the food safety complaint number. However, no one responded properly. Following this, I am seeking the collector to take action against the bakery and the food safety officer." When TNIE contacted Venkatesh, he assured that he would look into the matter. ENS

Hypertension cases high in Hosur, says dist health officer

SIVAGURU S @ Krishnagiri

IN the 12 health blocks in Krishnagiri district, 22.17% of hypertension (45,988) cases have been identified in Hosur City Municipal Corporation (HCMC) through the Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam scheme. According to health department sources, around 5.90 lakh people have benefited from the door step health care scheme in the district since its launch in August 2021 till December 7, 2024. Out of the 5,90,350 beneficiaries in 12 health blocks, 2,99,027 have been diagnosed with hypertension, 1,43,451 have diabetes, and 1,20,867 have both hypertension and diabetes. Also, 11,929 are under palliative care, and 11,620 taking physiotherapy.



EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

the lowest was in Krishnagiri and Mekalachinnampalli blocks at 5.86% (7, 599 people).

Ramesh Kumar explained, "Poor sleep cycle and stressful work lead to hypertension. Similarly, poor diet and lifestyle changes are the cause of diabetes. People above the age of 35 should undergo tests at least twice in a year for diabetes and hypertension. Also, pre-diabetic people should undergo test once in two months."



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G Ramesh Kumar, District Health Officer

District Health Officer G Ramesh Kumar told TNIE, "Total population in Krishnagiri is above 21.23 lakh. Among them, people above 18 years of age are 16 lakh. Out of 12 health blocks in the district, Hosur City Municipal Corporation (HCMC) has 22.17% of hypertension (45,988) and the lowest is Krishnagiri and Mekalachinnampalli block which is 11.60% (15,049 people). Similarly, more diabetes cases were detected in Kelamangalam and Denkanikottai block which is 11.35% (16,729 people) and the lowest is Krishnagiri and Mekalachinnampalli at 6.4% (8,359 people).

He further mentioned, that people with both hypertension and diabetes were detected in the Kelamangalam and Denkanikottai blocks at 9.11% (13,432 people) and

He added, "Hosur City Municipal Corporation has 45,988 hypertension cases in various age groups, more number of cases are between 30-45 years, which is about 16,800 people and between 50-60 years are about 15,700 people. This could be because Hosur is an urban area and there are more industries."

Ramesh Kumar added the health department is conducting frequent awareness programmes at Village Health, Sanitation, and Nutrition Committee (VHNSC) through health department staff.

For the past six months, Ola company has been providing a volunteer to conduct awareness about health and lifestyle at Thalli, Shoolagiri, and Kelamangalam blocks and it will be extended to more blocks.

Farmer protests dumping of garbage in quarry

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tiruppur

R Sathish Kumar, a farmer and state secretary of the legal awareness wing of the Tamil Nadu Farmers Protection Association started an indefinite strike on Monday night against the dumping of garbage in a stone quarry in Pongupalayam. The protest continued on Tuesday.

Sources said that the Tiruppur Corporation has 60 wards and about 700 tonnes of garbage is collected daily from all the wards. 160 tonnes of waste is sent to the Micro Composting Centres (MCC) and the others are dumped in an abandoned stone quarry in Pongupalayam.

However, the locals and social activists have opposed this and blamed the corporation alleging it is causing environ-



R Sathish Kumar, a farmer has started an indefinite strike against the dumping of garbage in a stone quarry in Pongupalayam of Tiruppur | EXPRESS

mental issues.

Kumar had also filed a case in the National Green Tribunal (NGT-Southern Zone) against the dumping of waste in the quarry and it is under trial.

In this context, Kumar started a hunger strike near the quarry on Monday night.

Kumar said, "In Pongupalayam, the locals depend on groundwater through borewells for their daily needs. Waste dumping and potential contamination of groundwater will exacerbate this crisis, making clean drinking water inaccessible. Dumping untreated



Dumping municipal, medical, and industrial waste, including hazardous foundry waste, will severely impact the soil quality, water resources, and crop productivity, jeopardising the livelihood of farmers

R Sathish Kumar, farmer

ed municipal, medical, and industrial waste, including hazardous foundry waste, will severely impact the soil quality, water resources, and crop productivity, jeopardising the livelihood of farmers. So, the corporation administration should stop dumping waste in the quarry."

A senior official from the Tiruppur Corporation, said, "The corporation also does not want to dump garbage in the quarry. We are taking alternative measures for that. But it will take some time."

Elephant dies of cardiac failure, foresters try to unite calf with herd in Pannimadai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Coimbatore

FOREST department staff and officials are trying to unite a two-month-old calf with a herd after its mother died near the Thadagam reserve forest in Pannimadai on Tuesday morning. Postmortem examination revealed that the elephant died due to pulmonary cardiac failure in the wee hours on Tuesday.

Forest department officials saw the carcass of the female elephant, which had died in a frog-sitting position at a Pattaland, when they got information about the lone calf and were looking for it.

An officer said, "The animal could be aged 30 years. There were no external injuries. The heart, lung, and liver were congested. We suspect that the animal fell down due to illness and tried to get up. However, it failed and turned into the frog sitting posture, leading to the prolonged



Officials try to unite a two-month-old calf elephant with a herd after its mother dies of cardiac arrest in Pannimadai | EXPRESS



sternal recumbency resulting in pulmonary-cardiac failure. We have taken samples of the internal organs for forensic analysis, microbiological examination, as well as histopathological examination to find out the cause of the illness."

As rumours spread that the elephant died of gun shot injury, DFO N Jayaraj, in a statement, said masto temporal gland discharge from a lac-

tating female elephant is being falsely spread by some as a gunshot wound.

Meanwhile, a six-month-old cow calf was killed allegedly by a leopard at Thammampathy near Pollachi on Monday. The leopard entered the farm owned by P Maheswari from a forest which is two km away. Forest staff visited the spot and asked the residents to keep vigil.



When the farmer returned from a shop, he found the seat of his scooter broken and money missing | EXPRESS

Gang of six steals ₹2L from farmer's scooter

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Tiruppur

THE district police are on the lookout for a gang of six which took away ₹2 lakh from under the seat of a scooter, belonging to a 55-year-old farmer, parked in front of a shop in Avinashi on Tuesday.

Shanmugam, (55), a farmer living on Kamaraj Street withdrew ₹2 lakh from his account at a nationalized bank branch on Coimbatore main road and kept it under the seat of his scooter. He then went to a nearby shop. When he returned a few minutes later, he found the seat broken and the money missing. He complained to the bank branch officials who examined CCTV camera footage installed in front of the bank. They saw six people on two bikes stealing the money. Subsequently, Shanmugam filed a complaint at the Avinashi police station.

"The gang was waiting in front of the bank branch and noticed Shanmugam. We are tracing them through CCTV camera footage," a police officer said.

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