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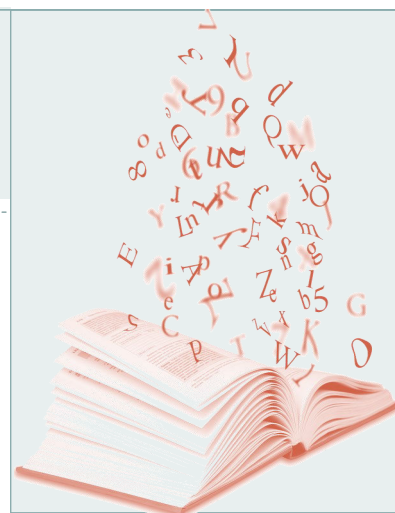
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“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”

Benjamin Franklin



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Brouhaha about Data Protection.....2

Odisha's first open defecation free district: Deogarh.....3

Malnutrition: Additional Rs.12000 Crores to tackle it.4

Ujjala Scheme: The beneficiaries to reach more than 5 Crore by 2019.....4

GST and GDP: A Tectonic Shift.....5

Petro product under GST: Worries for the States!!5

State run medical college after 54 years5

Saubhagya Scheme for household electrification6

Speak up on child abuse: Satyarthi6

Water sports to boost Mayurbhanj tourism7

Blue Whale Challenges: The victims of Odisha7

Economic growth vs Tribal rights in Odisha8

Neonatal death: No review meeting in last 3 Years in Odisha- CAG Report8

THE BROUHAHA ABOUT DATA PROTECTION

By Manas Pattnaik

Supporting the Digital India is the call of the day. Still, we have to be cautious as we go about it. There are reports that Aadhar records were leaked including biometric details. Not only Aadhar, some 3.2 million debit cards had been compromised in multiple banks in India in October, 2016.

Apart from the positives of Aadhar, it is also raising red flags. To be holistically successful, it has to support the entire payment ecosystem. We are making Aadhar mandatory for everything without ensuring its security. As it is meant to create cascading ancillary industries, we need to create a complete security framework before rolling it out. One of the associated industry is biometric records. There have been reports of data leakages at the state level. With a billion Indians possessing Aadhar card, data theft can spiral into a big crisis, something akin to the recent crisis in the UK where health services were targeted and hacked.

The urgent need to develop Aadhar enabled mobile phones has to be addressed indigenously; in other words, Apple and Samsung may not be able to pitch in effectively as they can't empathize the pain points and understand and dynamics of the country. The solution has to be made in India by Indian companies. Multiple vernacular languages have to be included to support the different geographies as well. In the near future, most wars will be fought in cyber space. This will necessitate the need for strong and effective data security. It is, perhaps, for this reason that China has ensured all the servers to be kept within their geographical area. Even Russia is clear about this mandate. A lack of such security can create havoc and serious breaches.

This brings us to the important issue of Trust versus Jurisprudence and treatment of Retrospective data lying in servers beyond the confines of the nation. Even if we manage to pass

a Bill mandating all the data to be kept in servers within India, more steps will still be needed to ensure safety. The next question that arises is about the data that has already been exchanged outside the borders. Do we go about hunting for retrospective data? Is there even a possible chance of doing that? We hope our private service providers will keep tons of data they have access to safe.

Another challenge lies embedded in the terms and conditions of popular apps like, Whatsapp, Truecaller, who also make it clear that all data shared with them can be used in public domain. That, actually, is their business model. This points to a need for sensitization about clear data logs. This will help keep track of the future amendments that might be made by such sites. Government audit of these logs for the largely popular apps is a must. In this new age, terrorism is not just stone pelting. Many parts of India are moving into cyber radicalization especially in the northern areas. To top it all, now there are sites that are offering cybercrime as a service. The cybercrime space is turning into an industry. Mobile crimes are growing exponentially, but we hardly have a policy regulating it. The Government needs to curb all this by enforcing a stringent law made only for such crimes. The prevailing IT Law hardly addresses the issue of cyber security. The Indian Government has to be cognizant of the difference between the two, to protect the citizens.

There has to increase in the national IPR (Intellectual Property Rights) awareness as well. A statutory body should be setup constituting the industry stalwarts. As there is a direct correlation between patent filing and patent examiners, we need more patent examiners so that more patents can get processed. Interestingly, India is the 7th largest patent filer in the world. While 85% of China files for IPR, in India it is as low as 27%. The Indian pen-

We desperately need a balanced IPR system. The requirement of novelty from hardware needs to be done away with immediately. Instead, there should be a novelty only in software, as in other countries. A case in point is *Alice Corp. Pty. Ltd. v. CLS Bank Int'l.*, 134 S. Ct. 2347, 2355 (2014). The US Supreme Court held that “specific hardware” consisting of a “data processing unit,” a “communications controller,” and a “data storage unit” were “purely functional and generic”.

Some important objectives have to be kept in mind if we are to safeguard the IPR:

*Creativity – protection to the creator as well as created material ;

*Copying – control of piracy and counterfeiting that are fast becoming an epidemic;

*Enforcement – laying down measures to enforce the IPR as was demonstrated in the recent case of the famous Math’s author, R. S. Aggarwal, who received Rs 10 crores in damages to his IP. Another never ending challenge is the Section 3(K) of the Patent Act which is a

black hole at this point. This Section bars patent eligibility of some inventions. The existing rule to file for a patent software with a novel hardware is a decadent policy. The Government should minimize the complexity of Section 3(K). This will take the patent system to new heights and provide a lot of relief to the Indian IT companies. However, an encouraging aspect is that it is now training school children in IPR together with National Research Development Corporation (NRDC). This is a commendable action plan that is being implemented in phases. On the positive side, an entirely new industry in technology driven citizen services is coming forth, constituting a whopping \$1.2T worth of products and services. The crying need of the hour is citizen participation. The Government should identify large verticals and enable and empower the new generation of opportunity seekers. The rest will be done by the dynamic youth and the free market forces of *laissez-faire*.

(A similar version was published earlier by the author in Media India Centre for Research

ODISHA’S FIRST OPEN DEFECATION FREE DISTRICT: DEOGARH

The most important objective of the “Swachh Bharat” or Clean India Mission is to end open defecation forever in all villages by 2 October 2019 – the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. By issuing a uniform definition of Open Defecation Free (ODF), the Ministry of Water and Sanitation, which runs Swachh Bharat, hopes to achieve it. Over time there are several districts declared open defecation free (ODF). The pace has increased after the introduction of ‘Swachhata Hi Sewa’ campaign, an initiative to achieve complete cleanliness and eliminate the practice of open defecation forever. The ministry declared that, by 24th September 2019, a total number of 201 districts have been declared as the ODF districts. In Odisha, it is Deogarh district which became the first ODF district which has 100% toilet usage priority in government programmes to keep the cleanliness and sanitation momentum going. The district comprising 698 villages had self-declared itself as ODF last month and after conducting a three level verification process, and later the state government on August 2 declared it ODF. Deogarh district had completed individual latrines in every household in all the villages across the district by July end. As per the reports, prior to 2014, individual household latrine coverage was only 11%, but between 2014 and 2017, 67,067 latrines were constructed in the villages. Along with that, the district administration is pushing for washing hands, use of medicated mosquito nets and tube-wells.

*Malnutrition,
Nagada Village,
Odisha*



MALNUTRITION: ADDITIONAL RS.12000

In a country like India, the issue of malnutrition remains a major public health issue over the years. Although there still remains a great number of malnutrition related cases, over the decades India has witnessed significant progress in its battle against malnutrition. Despite this progress, the number of child malnutrition cases still remains high in many parts of the country. Though many developing countries in the world have addressed the problem efficiently, we failed to have learnt lessons from these economies. For example- China reduced child under-nutrition by more than half (from 25% to 8%) between 1990 and 2002; Brazil reduced it by 60 percent (from 18% to 7%) from 1975 to 1989; and Vietnam reduced child under nutrition by 40 percent (from 45% to 27%) between 1990 and 2006.

In Indian case, the survey of over 6 lakh households conducted in 2015-16 shows that over the past decade, the proportion of underweight children fell nearly 7 percentage points to 36%, while the proportion of stunted children (those with low height-for-age, a measure of chronic undernourishment) declined nearly 10 percentage points to 38%. Despite this success, India still has a high level of child malnutrition than those of many poorer countries. There are many efforts underway to reduce the cases related to malnutrition, particularly by increasing the funds and improving the delivery system.

In a press release on 22nd September 2017, the Government has provided an additional Rs.12000 Crores to fight malnutrition over next three years in the country by revising cost norms for supplementary nutrition provided in anganwadis and in the scheme for adolescent girls. The Ministry of Women and Child Development reveals that- the government has effected a quantum increase of about 33% in cost norms, which have been revised for the first time since 2011 in the case of ICDS. In the case of Scheme for Adolescent Girls, cost

norms have been increased the first time since 2010. With this, an additional Rs.9900 Crore have been given for supplementary nutrition in anganwadis over the next three years and Rs.2276 Crores in the

Category	Existing Rate Rs./day/ beneficiary	Revised Rates (Rs./day/ beneficiary)
Children (6-72 months)	Rs.6.00	Rs.8.00
Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers (PW&LM)	Rs.7.00	Rs.9.50
Severely Malnourished	Rs.9.00	Rs.12.00
Adolescent Girls (11-14 years out of school)	Rs.5.00	Rs.9.50

scheme for adolescent girls over the next three years. The cost norms have now also been linked to the Food Price Index which will enable the government to increase the cost norms annually without any hindrance. The target is to ensure 2% to 3% decline in malnutrition/stunting per year.

The revised Supplementary Nutrition cost norms for the beneficiaries of Anganwadi Services and for Adolescent Girls (11-14 years out of school) under the

UJJALA SCHME: THE BENEFICIARIES TO REACH MORE THAN 5 CRORE BY 2019

India is home to more than 24 Crore households out of which more than 10 Crore households are still deprived of LPG. To provide a safeguard to the health of women & children Ujjwala Yojana an ambitious social welfare scheme which aims to provide free LPG connections to BPL households in the country. Identification of BPL families for the scheme is done through Socio Economic Caste Census Data of 2011. The basic objective of the scheme is to empower women and protect their health, reducing the serious health hazards and preventing young children from a significant number of acute respiratory illnesses caused due to another form of fossil fuel. Ever since the launching of the scheme by the Prime Minister on 1st May, 2016 in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh, as many as over 2.5 crore families have received its benefit across the country. To meet such demands many new LPG distributors have been added mostly in the rural areas (more than 5000 in the last three years). Reports suggest that the beneficiaries of the schemes are healthier, their homes are cleaner and they have more time to themselves than before. Over and above, at different times efforts are made to sanction funds to cover beneficiaries under the scheme above the initial target of 5 crores set in 2016. With more than 3.25 crores of new LPG connections by the oil marketing companies, the total number of active LPG consumers increased to nearly 21 crores by the end September 2017.

A survey undertaken by financial consulting firm Micro Save in 12 districts of eastern, central and western Uttar Pradesh, revealed that nearly all of the beneficiaries of the scheme switched to cooking on gas as soon as the LPG cylinders were made available. Despite that, beneficiaries need to be instructed properly about the safety measures as most of the beneficiaries live in a low-rise thatched ceiling, poor ventilation, flammable house materials and clothing surrounding them so as to make them safer in the long run. As the scheme has increased the aspirations of the beneficiaries, it is a challenge for the government and the ministry of petroleum and natural gas in particular to meet the demand in a stipulated time period.

GST AND GDP: A TECTONIC SHIFT

The GST Act was passed in the Lok Sabha on 29th March, 2017, and came into effect from 1st July, 2017. It is a comprehensive, multi-stage, destination-based tax that will be levied on every value addition. Ever since its announcement, there are many speculations of its impact on different sectors and GDP. The assessment shows that the implementation of GST could propel India's growth rate to 8 per cent to 9 per cent.

NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant hopes India to achieve 9% growth with the implementation of this tax reform. Several experts have also said that GST is estimated to boost GDP by 1-2 per cent and bring down inflation by 2 per cent over the long term. Similarly, World Bank India chief Junaid Ahmad on Tuesday described GST as a "tectonic shift" in the country's taxation policy which has increased the possibility of 8 percent plus growth. "Today India is on the brink of a possibility of moving into 8 percent plus growth rate. Why? Because India has made a very bold step in integrating internally its nation into one market. So the shift into GST is a tectonic shift," World Bank Country Head in India Junaid Ahmad said at an industry event. Further added if the Goods and Services Tax (GST) is implemented efficiently, the growth boost India will get is going to be huge. Speaking at the Bloomberg Global Business Forum meeting on 20th September 2017 World Bank Chief Jim Kim said that "India has been growing pretty robustly", though India recorded a growth rate of 7.1 percent in 2016-17 and 5.7 percent in the first quarter of the current fiscal. He said that "developing countries will have access to much more capital for the infrastructure needs, even for investing in health and education, investing in resilience to climate change and other factors". Further added- Japan, Europe and the US along with India were growing and there was a levelling-out in developing countries.

A STATE RUN MEDICAL COLLEGE AFTER 54 YEARS

Odisha on 4th September got a state run medical college after a gap of 54 years in the name of Saheed Laxman Nayak Medical College and Hospital (SLNMCH) in Koraput. Altogether 22 professors and 28 assistant professors have been recruited at the institute. Though there are few private medical colleges in Odisha but there were only three government medical colleges in the state. The first one founded last is MKCG Medical College at Berhampur in Ganjam district in 1962. The other two are SCB Medical College at Cuttack set up in 1944 and Veer Surendra Sai Institute of Medical Sciences and Research in

Sambalpur district founded in 1959. Pandit Raghunath Murmu Medical College at Baripada is the fifth such



institute run by the state government. Even after seven decades of independence, there is relatively less number of government medical colleges in the state, making a

PETRO PRODUCT UNDER GST: WORRIES FOR THE STATES!!

Ever since the implementation of daily revision of fuel cost, the trends in oil price seems to be increasing in the past few months. As against to the earlier process, in which the prices were fixed twice in a month, but the new changes in the process shows the prices every morning 6.a.m. This has triggered a debate that the new pricing mechanism is putting a burden on consumers. The reason for the increase in prices, as defended by the government is because of the international events such as Hurricane in US and the need for funds for the government to finance the developmental projects. Many regional parties have stepped up its protest against the rise in fuel prices. The recent strikes against the fuel prices by the BJD in Odisha, went horrible wrong, with reports of many vandalism came to limelight. Similarly, there are reports of protest in other parts of India by the opposition parties. Keeping this in view the Minister is advocating for the inclusion of petroleum products under the GST. Amid this outcry, most of the state governments, are opposing petroleum minister suggestion to bring the petroleum products under the GST. Reports suggest that States say- the move to bring under GST would adversely impact their revenue, which has increased by almost 50% for most states in the past three years on account of high value added (VAT) tax. Now the question is- who is really to blame for? Is it the states or the center? Is it really a concern for the states or to gain some political mileage out of the increased petroleum products?

The reality is, the combined central and state taxed makes the consumers to pay more than 100% of the actual cost. Indian Oil Corporation reveals that petrol and diesel actually cost Rs 29.53 and Rs 29.12 after refining. On top of it, the Centre levies excise duty of Rs 21.14 on petrol and Rs 17.33 on diesel and the states impose VAT that ranges between 20-47%. However, with a declining output from the OPEC, the bloc of oil producing countries, for the first time in five months and demand for oil strengthening, international crude prices may not soften in the near

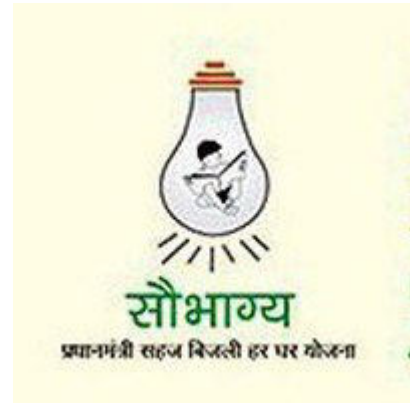
"There is no wealth like knowledge, and no poverty like ignorance. "
Buddha

SAUBHAGYA SCHEME FOR HOUSEHOLD ELECTRIFICATION

The Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojna, named 'Saubhagya', which will be executed soon, aims to improve the environment, public health, education and connectivity with the help of last-mile power connections across India. The scheme has launched Rs 16,320-crore scheme to supply electricity to all households by December 2018, providing free connections to the poor and at very low cost to others. It will help to reduce the use of kerosene lamps in non-electrified households. The scheme is expected to bring "monumental change" in the life of the poor. After connecting each house with electricity, the government's next target would be to end load shedding and provide 24x7 power, said RK Singh, minister for power and renewable energy. Officials said the scheme would inject Rs 16,000 crore into the economy, create assets and generate employment. Importantly, electricity would be billed without any subsidy.

Remote hamlets will be powered with solar panels along with five LED lamps, a DC fan, and a plug point along with repair and maintenance for five years, the government said. Under the Saubhagya scheme, electricity connections will be given free to people identified by the Socio Economic and Caste Census of 2011 while others will get it for Rs 500, payable in 10 instalments in the bill, a government statement said. The scheme promises on-the-spot registration of applications, which should include an identity proof.

The scheme primarily benefits rural areas, which have the vast majority of households without power connections. Of the total outlay of Rs 16,320 crore, rural areas will get Rs 14,025 crore. The government said Rural Electrification Corp will be the nodal agency for the scheme throughout the country while public institutions and panchayats will be authorised to collect applications forms, distribute bills and collect payments in consultation with panchayati raj institutions and urban local bodies. About 90% of the non-electrified households are in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Karnataka, J&K and the North-Eastern



SPEAK UP ON CHILD ABUSE: SATYARTHI

Nobel Peace Prize winner Kailash Satyarthi is no stranger to organising marches, yatras taking actions for protecting the child. In his visit to Odisha, called on the people to join hands and collectively fight against the growing menace of child trafficking and sexual abuse. This visit was his part of the Bharat Yatra from Kanyakumari to Delhi against child sexual abuse and trafficking to reawaken the 'slumbering consciousness', as he describes. Mr. Satyarthi also lobbying to get support for this venture from corporate houses.

Satyarthi's Odisha visit fell on the 16th day after starting the march from Kanyakumari on September 11. He reiterated that- sexual

abuse and exploitation of children must be prevented completely at any cost, before more children lose their childhood to this repulsive and intolerable crime. Further added, Children are the change makers and appealed to join the battle against their exploitation and speak out against this menace. "Reports state that 53 per cent people are sexually abused as children. Yet we do not speak out and we live in the silence of fear and embolden perpetrators to commit more heinous crimes. We will no longer live in fear and ensure that our children are safe. I will not rest till we stop this growing menace," he maintained. His visit in Odisha drew a good participation of the local

Water Sports to Boost Mayurbhanj Tourism

Water sports in the tribal-dominated district of Mayurbhanj is to be promoted to boost eco-tourism. A preliminary survey has been conducted by a team comprising of several district officials. The survey was conducted in three water reservoirs - Jambhira, Kalo and Sunei. The survey report revealed that these three sites have huge potential for water sports, official sources said. Water in the three reservoirs can be used for boating as well as irrigation purposes, said Executive Engineer, Irrigation Ajay Kumar Behera. District Magistrate of Mayurbhanj district said that the State Government is planning to promote eco-tourism of the region under this initiative. Boating, windsurfing, snorkelling, scuba diving, kayaking, cage fish farming and island tourism will be included under this project. He further stated- priority will be given to local people who will be trained and engaged in this project. This will give a boost to their income. This apart, safe drinking water, rest sheds, restaurant, park and other facilities will be developed at the eco-tourism spots for tourists after the State Government gives its approval. *(Inputs from Indian Express)*

BLUE WHALE CHALLENGES: THE VICTIMS OF ODISHA

Blue Whale Challenge Game is one such menace to the society that is driving vulnerable teenagers to commit suicide. There are several reports of deaths in around the globe. The incidents raised alarm among the people of the society, parents in particular. Blue Whale Challenge Game is a process where teenagers are targeted by a group of administrators in social media where the teenagers playing the game are given different tasks over a period of 50 days. The dare starts from trivial things like watching a horror movie, listening to a music etc. Slowly as the step progresses, the game turns into a deadly one where players are instructed to self-mutilation and self-harm.

In a generation of internet and social media, we are growing apart from each other where we communicate little with our families and close relatives. The challenge has been blamed for the deaths of more than 150 children in Europe as well as in the USA. Similarly, cases from Columbia, China, India, and Argentina etc. have been reported in the recent past. Children from Odisha are not untouched from this. Recently, a Class X girl in Sambalpur was found hanging from a fan in her room, suspected of Blue Whale Challenge. Several students from Odisha were rescued by the people and police after getting information. These include, the rescue of a nursing student from Jharsugurda, ITI student from Jaleswar (Balesore), a third year engineering student from Keonjhar, to mention a few. There are several precautions and steps taken in the recent past in Odisha to tackle it. Odisha police have asked all district police authorities to remove it from social media. The police also issued guidelines for cops, parents, and teachers to combat the menace.

Precautions taken by Social Media-

Social Media websites are scanning and removing any groups which are suspected to be related to suicide and games. There is no gaming app called Blue Whale. The game is played in chat rooms and groups. Many users have previously posted their self-harm pictures on Instagram. Instagram issued a warning to users trying to find the "suicide dare game", directing them to the Samaritans, a UK-based NGO.

Precautions Parents can Take-

Parents should look at the matter with utmost seriousness. They should interact with their child/children more often. If the teenagers are seemingly lost, lonely and depressed, parents must take serious and immediate action to get them involved socially in the real world and divert their mind by providing activities or giving them something new to learn.

Parents should always befriend with their kids, try to learn about their friend circles, their interest and help them cope with any sort of depression or pressure from peers. Even, nowadays there are

"All human knowledge proceeds out of experience; we cannot know anything except by experience."

Swami Vivekananda

ECONOMIC GROWTH VS TRIBAL RIGHTS IN ODISHA

Tribal communities may not have seen a great deal of economic growth over the past several decades, but it is noticed that employment, access to education, infrastructure and other social development programmes are increased across tribal regions of India. However, tribal economic development still remains significantly behind the development of the general population in India. In order for tribal communities to see continued economic development as well as improvement in citizens' quality of life, development is the only way out.

Odisha is a home to many tribes and the tribes of Odisha reside in 44% of the geographical area in the state. There are several initiatives taken by both the state and the central government in Odisha state with an aim to involve them in their developmental process. But, there are several instances, where the tribes have opposed to the developmental projects in the states. In a recent of its kind, tribal people are up in arms against the new alignment for the six-lane second Brahmani Bridge at Rourkela, the mega expansion project of National Highway (NH)-143 between Birmittapur and Rourkela. There are many such agitations and protests conducted by the tribal groups in the past, mostly related to the land acquisition and their livelihood. Be it the Vedanta mining projects, POSCO's single largest FDI project, NALCO, HAL, Alumina International Limited (UAIL), TATA, Alcan Aluminium, Norsk Hydro, Kolab Project or Machhakunda Project, every medium and large project has faced such agitations in the past. For many, in the name of development, these tribals become the victims of development. These tribals are displaced and end up losing their land, livelihood and other individual, cultural, religious rights. However, the success of economic, educational and social initiatives among tribal communities hinges upon tribal involvement at eve-

NEONATAL DEATH: NO REVIEW MEETING IN LAST 3 YEARS IN ODISHA- CAG REPORT

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A *neonatal death* is defined as a *death* during the first 28 days of life. The neonatal mortality rate in India has declined from 57 per 1000 live births in 1990 to 28 per 1000 live births in 2015 (World Bank), but the rate of decline has been slow and lags behind many countries in the world. The slower decline has led to increasing contribution of neonatal mortality to infant and under-five mortality. The most common causes of neonatal death are premature birth, low birth-weight and birth defects.

The neonatal death in Odisha is among the highest in the country. Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report said- the government medical colleges and hospitals did not conduct a single review meeting to identify the cause of neonatal deaths in Odisha in the last three years, though the neonatal mortality rate (37 per thousand) of the state was the highest in the country. According to CAG, There were 16,651 deaths of neonatal and paediatric patients in the test-checked government medical colleges and hospitals and district headquarter hospitals of Odisha during 2013-16. But the government medical colleges and hospitals (GMCH) had not conducted any death review to identify the causes of death during 2013-16. It said that the state government did not ensure the sitting of the committee at regular intervals.

The Health Department had constituted a committee in 1984 to review the causes of death occurring in the GMCHs, which was to meet regularly, at least once in a month, and submit the proceedings to the Director of Medical Education and Training. The objective of the review is to analyze the circumstances which led to the death of a patient, to identify the reasons and to take remedial measures. The report further stated- overcrowding of wards, unlimited entry of attendants and inadequate training to health personnel were the causes of infectious diseases.

