



Not a NEET idea to factor in State board syllabi, say students

SUMI SUKANYA DUTTA @ New Delhi

STUDENTS, parents and teachers from various parts of the country have written to the Union government against its decision to rejig the syllabus for the National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET) less than 100 days before the examination.

Prakash Javadekar, Union Minister for Human Resource Development, in an interview with The New Indian Express on Wednesday had said that from this year, all State syllabi will be taken into consideration while preparing examination papers for NEET - the test for entrance into MBBS and dental courses.

This, the minister, had said was being done in the wake of protests by some states, since students belonging to State boards feel they were at a disadvantage because the NEET syllabus is based on the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) pattern.

Hundreds of aspiring medical practitioners and their guardians are now saying that the Centre's decision to make significant changes in the syllabus is "politically motivated" and has created "panic and confusion" in their minds. "I suspect that the govern-

ment has now come up with the idea to appease some student groups and political parties in southern states, particularly Tamil Nadu, which had seen strong anti-NEET protests last year," Amit Gupta, a teacher in Kota, Rajasthan, who had last year challenged the Centre's decision to fix an upper age limit for NEET aspirants in the Supreme Court, told this newspaper.

He added, "While curricula in some states is based on the CBSE pattern, syllabi of states like West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra are up to 40 per cent different and if all those different portions were taken into account for NEET papers, most students — even non-CBSE ones — will be in for a major shock."



We will take into account curricula of all State boards while framing the question paper for NEET so that students of State boards are not at any disadvantage

Prakash Javadekar,
in an interview to TNIE
on Wednesday

MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS SPELL HOPE, BUST MYTH

THE TIMES OF INDIA

Single blood test to spot 8 cancers

Found To Be 70% Accurate In Study On 1,005 People

Miami: A new blood test for cancer has shown promise towards detecting eight different kinds of tumours before they have spread elsewhere in the body, offering hope of early detection, researchers said on Thursday.

Further study is needed before the test — called CancerSEEK — can be made widely available for its projected cost of about \$500 (approx. Rs 32,000), said the report in the journal 'Science'. The study, led by researchers at Johns Hopkins University, involved 1,005 patients whose cancer — already pre-diagnosed based on their symptoms — was detected with an accuracy of about 70% overall.

Cancers were detected in the ovaries, liver, stomach, pancreas, esophagus, colon, lung and breast.

For five of these cancer types — ovary, liver, stomach, pancreas and esophagus — there are no screening tests available for people of average risk. The test was able to detect these five with a sensitivity range of 69% to 98%.

In 83% of the cases, the test was even able to narrow down where the cancer was anatomically located.

The test is non-invasive and based on combined analysis of DNA mutations in 16 cancer genes as well as the levels of 10 circulating protein biomarkers.



'PROMISING RESULTS'

"The ultimate goal of CancerSEEK is to detect the cancer even before the disease becomes symptomatic," said the report.

Outside experts said more research is needed to uncover the true accuracy of the test.

"This looks promising but with several caveats, and a significant amount of further research is needed before we can even contemplate how this might play out in screening settings," said Mangesh Thorat, deputy director of the Barts Clinical Trials Unit at Queen Mary University of London. "The sensitivity of the test in stage I cancer is quite low, about 40%, and even with stage I and II combined it appears to be around 60%. So the test will still miss a large proportion of cancers at the stage where we want to diagnose them," he added.

Nicholas Turner, professor of molecular oncology at the Institute of Cancer Research, London, pointed out that the test's 1% false positive rate may sound low but "could be quite a concern for population screening". AFP

Flu patients' breath enough to spread infection

Washington: We may pass the flu to others just by breathing around them, according to a study that contradicts the belief that people can only catch the influenza virus by exposure to droplets from an infected person's coughs or sneezes.

"We found that flu (patients) contaminated the air around them with infectious virus just by breathing, without coughing or sneezing," said Donald Milton of the University of Maryland, US.

"People with the flu generate infectious aerosols (tiny droplets that stay suspended in the air for a long time) even when they are not coughing, and especially during the first days of illness. So when someone is coming down with influenza, they should go home and not remain in the workplace and infect others," said Milton, lead researcher of the study, which was published in the 'Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences'.

The researchers characterised influenza virus in exhaled breath from 142 confirmed cases of people with influenza, and assessed the infectivity of naturally occurring influenza aerosols.

Sheryl Ehrman of San Jose State University, US, suggested that staying home and out of public spaces could make a difference in the spread of the influenza virus. PTI

ಉದಯವಾಣಿ

ಉಚಿತ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಶಿಬಿರದ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನ ಪಡೆಯಿರಿ

ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸಪುರ: ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶದಲ್ಲಿ ಏರ್ಪಡಿಸುವ ಉಚಿತ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ತಪಾಸಣಾ ಶಿಬಿರಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಬಡವರು ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆದು ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕಾಪಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕೆಂದು ಮಾವು ಮಂಡಳಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಎಲ್.ಗೋಪಾಲಕೃಷ್ಣ ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಪಟ್ಟಣದ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಪ್ರಥಮ ದರ್ಜೆ ಕಾಲೇಜಿನಲ್ಲಿ ರೋಟರಿ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸಪುರ ಸೆಂಟ್ರಲ್, ಆರ್.ಎಲ್.ಜಾಲಪ್ಪ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರ, ಶ್ರೀ ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸು ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಹಾವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕೋಲಾರ ಹಾಗೂ ಶ್ರೀ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಧರ್ಮಸ್ಥಳ ಗ್ರಾಮಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳ ಸಂಯುಕ್ತಾಶ್ರಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಶುಕ್ರವಾರ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಂಡಿದ್ದ ಉಚಿತ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ತಪಾಸಣಾ ಶಿಬಿರವನ್ನು ಉದ್ಘಾಟಿಸಿ ಮಾತನಾಡಿದರು.

ಸದಾ ಮನುಷ್ಯನಿಗೆ ಒಂದಿಲ್ಲೊಂದು ಕೆಲಸ ಇದ್ದೇ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದರೆ, ನಾವು ಆರೋಗ್ಯದಿಂದ ಇದ್ದಾಗ ಮಾತ್ರ ದೈಹಿಕವಾಗಿ, ಮಾನಸಿಕವಾಗಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಬಹುದು ಎಂದರು.

ಕೆಲವು ಮಂದಿ ನಾನಾ ಕಷ್ಟಗಳಿಂದ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕೆಡಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗದೇ ನರಳುತ್ತಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಹಾಗಾಗಿ, ಸ್ಥಳೀಯವಾಗಿ ನಡೆಸುವ ಉಚಿತ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಶಿಬಿರಗಳ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಕಾಪಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕೆಂದರು.

ಶ್ರೀ ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸು ಎಜುಕೇಷನ್ ಟ್ರಸ್ಟ್, ಪೈನಾನ್ಸ್ ಮತ್ತು ಆಡಳಿತಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ಜನರ ಉತ್ತಮ ಆರೋಗ್ಯಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಆಸ್ಪತ್ರೆ ವತಿಯಿಂದ ಕೆಲವು ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಶಿಬಿರಗಳನ್ನು ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರ ಜೊತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸ್ಥಳೀಯ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಜೊತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಲವರ ಸಹಕಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಉಚಿತ ಆರೋಗ್ಯ ಶಿಬಿರಗಳನ್ನು ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಆದ್ದರಿಂದ, ಉಚಿತವಾಗಿ ದೊರೆಯುವ ಶಿಬಿರಗಳ ಪ್ರಯೋಜನವನ್ನು ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರು ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬೇಕೆಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರು.

ಈ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ರೋಟರಿ ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸಪುರ ಸೆಂಟ್ರಲ್ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಎನ್. ರಾಜೇಂದ್ರಪ್ರಸಾದ್ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆ ವಹಿಸಿದ್ದರು.

ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಎಸ್.ಶಿವಮೂರ್ತಿ, ತಾ.ಪಂ. ಸದಸ್ಯ ಪಾತಪೇಟೆ ಮಂಜುನಾಥರೆಡ್ಡಿ, ಶ್ರೀ ದೇವರಾಜ ಅರಸು ವಿಶ್ವ ವಿಧ್ಯಾಲಯ ಉಪ ಕುಲಪತಿ ಡಾ.ಸಿ.ವಿ.ರಘುವೀರ್, ಆರಡ್.ಎಲ್.ಜಾಲಪ್ಪ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಅಧೀಕ್ಷಕ ಡಾ.ಮೋಹನ್ ಕುಮಾರ್, ಶ್ರೀ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಧರ್ಮಸ್ಥಳ ಗ್ರಾಮಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆ ತಾಲೂಕು ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿ ಸುರೇಶ್ ಶೆಟ್ಟಿ ಪುರಸಭಾ ವಲಯ ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಕ ಶೇಖರ್ ಶೆಟ್ಟಿ ಇತರರು ಉಪಸ್ಥಿತರಿದ್ದರು.