

TRICOLOUR ESTATE

THE NEWS THAT MATTERS

Tuesday
23.6.2026

Pages: 4
Price: Rs.2

Volume: 1
Issue: 35

Published from Jagtial
Circulated to Telangana

PRGI Regd: TGENG/26/A3325
www.tricolourestate.com



18 Killed in Lucknow Blaze



Lucknow: A devastating fire in a commercial-cum-residential building in Lucknow's Aliganj area claimed the lives of at least 18 people on Monday, making it one of the deadliest urban fire tragedies in the city in recent times. The blaze erupted in a three-storey building on Usha Mehta Marg in the Pu-

rania locality, rapidly spreading through the structure and filling it with thick smoke, leaving many occupants trapped. The building housed residential units, a pet shop, and an animation centre. As flames intensified, panic-stricken occupants attempted to escape, with some reportedly jump-

ing from the building to save themselves. Several others suffered serious injuries, while a number of animals housed in the pet shop were also affected. A massive rescue operation was launched involving the Fire Department, police, National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Re-

sponse Force (SDRF), and Civil Defence teams. Firefighters deployed 14 fire engines, including a hydraulic platform vehicle, to contain the blaze. Rescue personnel broke through walls and accessed difficult areas to evacuate trapped individuals before finally bringing the fire under control after several hours. Officials said the Fire Department received the emergency call around 3 p.m. Although the exact cause of the fire is yet to be established, authorities have ordered a detailed investigation into the incident. Preliminary inquiries will examine possible electrical faults, safety violations, and structural issues that may have contributed to the disaster.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief over the loss of lives and announced an ex gratia payment of ₹2 lakh from the Prime Minister's National

Relief Fund for the families of each deceased victim, while those injured will receive ₹50,000 as assistance. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath cancelled his scheduled engagements and rushed back to Lucknow after learning about the tragedy. The state government has also announced compensation for the affected families and ordered a high-level inquiry to determine responsibility and recommend measures to prevent similar incidents.

Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak, who visited the site, described the incident as heartbreaking

and confirmed that several victims were young people between 20 and 24 years of age.

He assured that the injured are receiving the best possible medical care and that strict action would be taken against anyone found responsible for negligence. According to officials, search operations have been completed and no one remains trapped inside the building. The tragedy has once again highlighted concerns over fire safety compliance in commercial and mixed-use buildings, with authorities expected to intensify inspections following the incident.

BOOK YOUR AD SPACE
Big Visibility. Better Results.

REACH THOUSANDS OF READERS DAILY!

- WIDE REACH: Connect with a large and diverse audience.
- MAXIMUM IMPACT: Your message remembered.
- BOOST YOUR BRAND: Strengthen recognition and build trust.
- GREAT VALUE: Cost-effective advertising that delivers results.

CONTACT OUR MARKETING TEAM for rates and offers!

Advertise in **TRICOLOUR ESTATE ENGLISH DAILY**
The trusted voice. The right choice for your brand.

+91 9440455811
tricolourestate@gmail.com
www.tricolourestate.com

★ YOUR MESSAGE. THEIR ATTENTION. OUR PLATFORM. ★

Telangana Student Dies in US

Mahabubnagar, June 22: A 26-year-old Telugu student from Telangana has passed away in the United States due to health-related complications, adding to the growing number of tragic incidents involving young Indian students and professionals abroad. The deceased, identified as Arun Sai Reddy Bollendula, hailed from Mahabubnagar district in Telangana. He had moved to the United States with aspirations of building a successful career and supporting his family through better opportunities overseas. At the time of his death, Arun was on STEM Optional Practical Training (OPT), a programme that allows international graduates to work in the U.S. after completing their studies. He was actively searching for a full-time job while navigating the competitive employment market. News of his sudden demise has left his family, friends, and mem-



bers of the Telugu community in deep shock and grief. His unexpected passing comes amid increasing concerns over the number of Indian students and professionals losing their lives abroad due to accidents, health emergencies, and other unforeseen circumstances. Efforts are currently underway to repatriate Arun's mortal remains to India so that his family can perform his final rites. Friends and members of the local Telugu community in the United States are coordinating with authorities and extending support to facilitate the transportation process.

Kunal Shah to Lead WhatsApp

Fintech entrepreneur Kunal Shah is set to step down as the Chief Executive Officer of CRED after Meta announced a major investment in the Bengaluru-based company and appointed him to lead WhatsApp globally. As part of a Series H funding round, Meta will invest ₹8,550 crore (around \$900 million) in CRED through a combination of primary and secondary share purchases. The deal values the fintech platform at approximately ₹43,239 crore (\$4.5 billion). Announcing his move, Shah said he would be joining Meta's global leadership team to oversee WhatsApp, adding that the messaging platform still has enormous untapped potential. Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg



praised Shah's entrepreneurial mindset and global outlook, expressing confidence in his ability to guide WhatsApp through its next phase of growth. Following Shah's departure, Miten Sampat, CRED's Head of Strategy and Finance since 2020, has been named interim CEO. The company said the fresh capital will be used to accelerate expansion, strengthen its institutional capabilities.



EDITORIAL
Beyond Cricket..?

Cricket enjoys an unparalleled place in India's sporting culture. It attracts the largest audiences, the biggest sponsorships, and the highest media attention. While this success deserves celebration, it has also created an imbalance in the country's sports ecosystem. If India aspires to become a global sporting powerhouse, it must invest in infrastructure that supports a wide range of disciplines beyond cricket. Every Olympic cycle reminds us that India possesses immense talent in sports such as athletics, hockey, badminton, wrestling, boxing, archery, shooting, and weightlifting. Individual athletes have achieved remarkable success despite limited facilities and resources. Their achievements highlight an important truth: talent exists across the country, but opportunities do not. In many districts, aspiring athletes lack access to quality playgrounds, training centers, coaches, and modern equipment. The concentration of resources in cricket has left other sports struggling for visibility and investment. Youngsters often abandon their dreams because they cannot find proper facilities or financial support. Rural and tribal regions, which have produced many outstanding athletes, frequently lack even basic infrastructure such as running tracks, indoor stadiums, or fitness centers. Without sustained investment, countless promising careers may never take shape. Expanding sports infrastructure is not merely about winning medals. It is an investment in public health, youth development, and social inclusion. Access to sports encourages physical fitness, discipline, teamwork, and mental resilience. It also provides constructive opportunities for young people, helping them develop confidence and leadership skills while reducing sedentary lifestyles.

Governments alone cannot shoulder this responsibility. Private companies, educational institutions, local communities, and sports federations must collaborate to build affordable and accessible facilities. Schools should have multipurpose sports grounds rather than focusing on a single game, and universities should integrate competitive sports into academic life. Corporate social responsibility initiatives can support grassroots academies and talent identification programs in underserved regions. Technology can further strengthen sports development through performance analytics, virtual coaching, and digital talent scouting. At the same time, investments should include qualified coaches, sports science experts, nutritionists, and physiotherapists, ensuring that infrastructure extends beyond physical buildings to comprehensive athlete support systems. Women's participation deserves special attention. Safe training environments, equal access to facilities, and targeted programs can help bridge gender gaps and unlock a vast pool of untapped talent.

Fake Seeds Destroy Agriculture

A seed is not merely an agricultural input but the very foundation of a farmer's livelihood, national food security, and rural prosperity. Agricultural experts have long maintained that "a good seed is half the crop," and scientific studies confirm that quality seeds alone can increase crop productivity by 20–30 percent, while their combination with proper irrigation, fertilizers, and modern cultivation practices can raise yields by nearly 45 percent. Conversely, counterfeit or substandard seeds can destroy an entire crop regardless of the farmer's investment in land, labour, fertilizers, or technology. This growing menace has emerged as one of the gravest threats to Indian agriculture. India has around 146 million agricultural holdings, with nearly 46 percent of its population depending directly or indirectly on farming. Agriculture contributes approximately 18 percent of the country's GDP and forms the backbone of national food security. Consequently, when fake seeds enter the supply chain, the damage extends beyond individual farmers to the broader rural economy. Crop failures reduce farm incomes, weaken rural purchasing power, increase indebtedness, disrupt local markets, and ultimately affect national economic growth. The Indian seed industry, valued at over ₹38,000 crore by 2025, plays a crucial role in agricultural development. However, alongside this legitimate industry, a parallel illegal market dealing in counterfeit seeds has expanded rapidly. Crops such as cotton, paddy, maize, chilli, soybean, pigeon pea, chickpea, tomato, and various vegetables have become frequent targets. Organized criminal networks produce fake labels, duplicate holograms, counterfeit packaging, and forged certification marks that closely imitate reputed companies, deceiving unsuspecting farmers across state boundaries. Recent seizures in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh illustrate the seriousness of the problem. Authorities have confiscated counterfeit seed stocks worth lakhs of rupees in districts including Adilabad, Hyderabad, and Mahabubnagar, while farmers in several regions have reported poor germination, mixed varieties, stunted growth, and complete crop failures. These incidents are not isolated but reflect a widespread systemic problem affecting Indian agriculture. The scale of poor seed quality is alarming. Government data presented before Parliament revealed that over 3.33 lakh out of 8.09 lakh tested seed samples failed to meet prescribed

standards, indicating that nearly 41 percent of examined samples were substandard. Between 2020 and 2025, more than 59,000 defective samples were identified, yet only 3,983 legal cases were registered. In many cases, authorities merely issued warnings or temporary suspensions instead of initiating criminal proceedings, allowing offenders to continue their operations with minimal consequences. State-level statistics further expose enforcement failures. In West Bengal, over 24,000 of 30,267 tested samples reportedly failed quality standards during 2024–25, yet no criminal cases were registered. Similarly, Telugu-speaking states detected thousands of substandard samples but imposed punishment in only a handful of cases. These figures indicate that weak implementation,



- Dr. Rakkireddy Adireddy
Kakatiya University

rather than inadequate legislation, remains one of the principal reasons counterfeit seed networks continue to flourish. Cotton cultivation illustrates the devastating consequences of fake seeds. India accounts for nearly 38 percent of global cotton cultivation, spread across approximately 13 million hectares. Counterfeit cotton seeds often result in poor germination, uneven crop growth, weak boll formation, pest susceptibility, and yield losses ranging from 30 to 60 percent. Farmers investing ₹25,000–₹45,000 per acre frequently face crippling debts after crop failure. Similar problems affect chilli, maize, soybean, paddy, and vegetable crops, where expensive hybrid seeds fail to achieve expected germination rates, forcing costly re-sowing and significantly increasing cultivation expenses. The economic implications are enormous. Counterfeit seeds inflict losses worth thousands of crores annually through reduced productivity, declining farm incomes, lower market supply, and price instability. Many affected farmers struggle to repay loans and become dependent on private moneylenders, worsening rural indebtedness and financial insecurity. Another major concern is the complexity of India's seed distribution chain. Certified seeds often pass through multiple intermediaries before reaching farmers, creating opportunities for counterfeiters to alter expiry dates, replace genuine

seeds with inferior products, or sell uncertified material under trusted brand names. Advances in digital printing have enabled criminals to produce convincing holograms and fabricated QR codes, making it increasingly difficult for farmers to distinguish genuine products from fraudulent ones. The counterfeit seed trade has evolved into a sophisticated interstate criminal enterprise involving manufacturers, distributors, transporters, wholesalers, and retailers. Fraudsters exploit social media, messaging platforms, and online advertising to promote unrealistic yield claims and fabricate endorsements using the names of scientists or successful farmers. Many cultivators make advance purchases based on these misleading promotions and discover the fraud only after crop failure. Climate change compounds the crisis. Irregular rainfall, droughts, floods, rising

temperatures, and pest outbreaks have already increased agricultural risks. Farmers rely heavily on superior-quality seeds to withstand these uncertainties, but counterfeit seeds expose them to a double burden of environmental stress and deliberate human deception. While natural disasters are often accepted as unavoidable, losses caused by fraud undermine confidence in agricultural institutions and markets. Existing crop insurance systems provide limited relief because obtaining compensation for counterfeit seed losses requires receipts, inspections, laboratory tests, and lengthy legal procedures. Small and marginal farmers often lack the resources or awareness to pursue such claims. Fast-track investigation and compensation mechanisms are therefore urgently required. Addressing this crisis demands structural reforms rather than sporadic enforcement drives. Modern seed-testing laboratories should be established in every district, capable of analysing complaints within days. Every seed packet should carry a unique digital identity linked to a centralized database, allowing farmers to verify manufacturers, certification details, batch numbers, germination rates, and expiry dates through simple mobile scans. Technologies

such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, cloud databases, and digital authentication can significantly improve transparency and traceability. Agri universities, research institutions, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, and State Seed Development Corporations must collaborate to produce climate-resilient varieties while ensuring direct distribution through Farmer Producer Organizations, cooperatives, women's self-help groups, and government-supported outlets. Reducing intermediaries will limit opportunities for counterfeit infiltration. Farmer awareness is equally essential. Village-level education programmes should train cultivators to identify genuine packaging, conduct basic germination tests, preserve purchase receipts, verify certification labels, and report suspicious products promptly. Agricultural extension services must become more proactive in disseminating such information. The legal framework also requires strengthening. Counterfeit seed production, storage, transportation, sale, and false advertising should be treated as serious economic crimes affecting national food security. Dedicated investigation units should dismantle interstate criminal syndicates, while penalties should include imprisonment, licence cancellation, heavy fines, and confiscation of illegally acquired assets. Insurance reforms are equally important. Losses resulting from scientifically verified seed defects should qualify for prompt compensation, with governments subsequently recovering costs from responsible manufacturers or distributors. India should also establish a dedicated Farmers' Seed Consumer Protection mechanism and fast-track agricultural tribunals to resolve disputes quickly rather than forcing cultivators into prolonged litigation. Educational institutions should incorporate seed science, quality assurance, storage, legal safeguards, and counterfeit detection into agricultural curricula. Trained rural youth acting as community "Seed Mitras" could assist farmers in verifying quality and reporting fraud. Ultimately, protecting seed quality must therefore become a national mission involving governments, scientific institutions, seed companies, farmers,



New Role For Kethavath Ramakrishna



Srinagar: Kethavath Ramakrishna has been appointed as the Telangana Working President of the SC, ST, BC and Minorities Associations Federation, the organisation's National President and former Member of Parliament, Dr. Udit Raj (Ex-IRS), announced. The appointment was formally made during the Federation's three-day national conference held in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir, where representatives and state presidents from 21 states participated. Dr. Udit Raj handed over the appointment letter to Ramakrishna in the presence of delegates attending the national conclave. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Udit Raj expressed confidence that Ramakrishna would play a pivotal role in promoting the values of the Indian Constitution and advancing the welfare and empowerment of SC, ST, BC and Minority communities across Telangana. Ramakrishna currently serves as the Revenue Divisional Officer (RDO) for the Hyderabad Division and is also the General Secretary of the Deputy Collectors' Association. He has been actively involved in advocating for the rights of Telangana government outsourcing employees and has worked consistently over the years to promote constitutional awareness and democratic values. Expressing gratitude for the appointment, Ramakrishna thanked National President Dr. Udit Raj and State President Maheshwar Raj for reposing their faith in him. He pledged to discharge his responsibilities with dedication and integrity, strengthen the organisation at the grassroots level, and work tirelessly for the dissemination of constitutional values and the socio-economic upliftment of marginalised communities in Telangana.



VANGS
GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES LLP

POWERING NEWS DIGITALLY

Smart CMS & Digital Solutions for Modern News Businesses



1 News Paper CMS

Manage, publish & distribute newspapers efficiently with our powerful CMS.



2 News Website CMS

Create dynamic, fast & SEO-friendly news websites with ease.



3 Mobile App Development

Engage your audience on the go with feature-rich news mobile apps.



Fast & Reliable



Secure & Scalable



Responsive Design



Easy to Use & Manage



VANGS GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES

Contact: +91 76750 87378



News Paper CMS



News Website CMS



Mobile App Development





Nidhi Agarwal

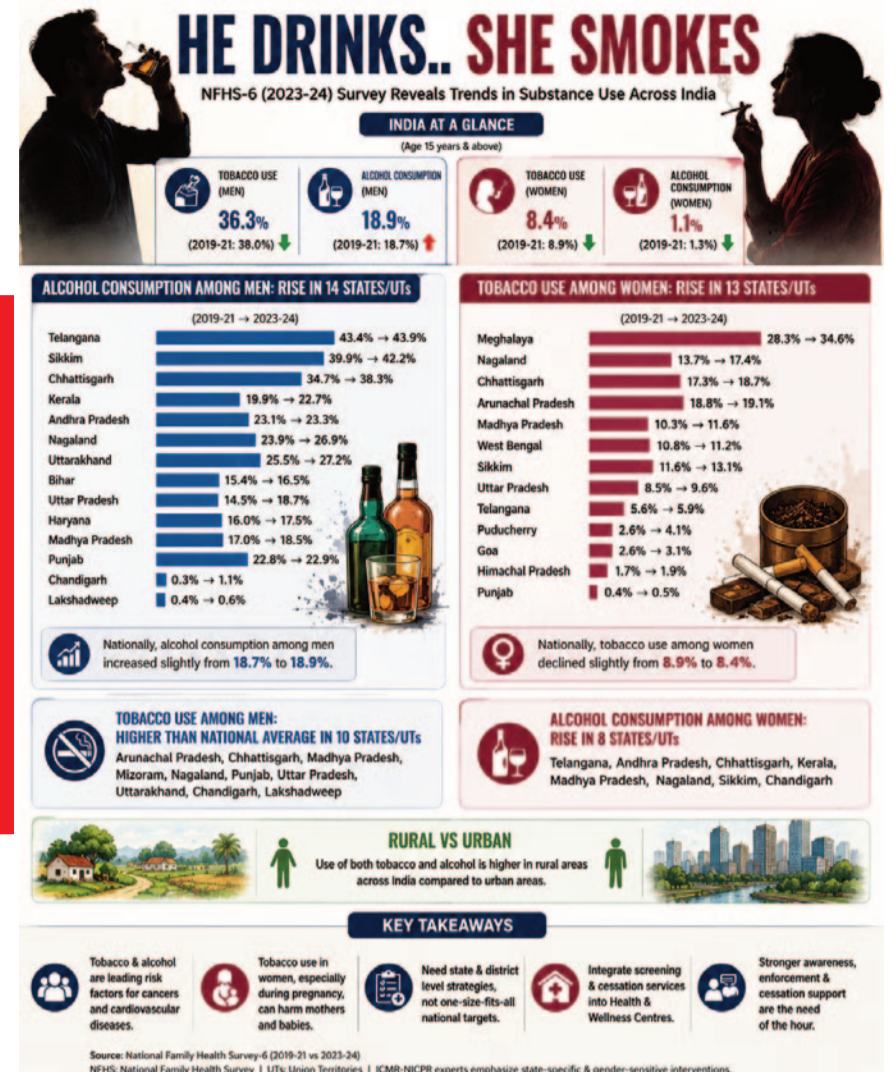
Theatre Shaped My Journey: Vijay

Vijay Deverakonda has credited theatre with playing a defining role in shaping both his acting career and personal growth. Reflecting on his early days in the performing arts, the actor said that the stage helped him discover his passion for acting while providing invaluable opportunities to improve his craft. Vijay explained that, at the beginning of his journey, he was not focused on choosing specific roles or platforms. Instead, his priority was to seize every opportunity that would allow him to perform, learn, and showcase his talent. According to him, any chance to act was an important step toward becoming a better performer. The actor shared that theatre gave him the confidence to express himself freely and channel his energy in a meaningful direction. He believes those formative experiences laid the foundation for his successful career in cinema and helped him understand the true essence of performance. Describing the impact of stage acting, Vijay said theatre has the ability to "unshackle" a person by encouraging self-expression and creativity. He added that it played a significant role in shaping his artistic instincts and continues to influence his approach to acting. On the professional front, Vijay Deverakonda is gearing up for the release of the period drama "Ranabaali," where he will reunite on screen with actress Rashmika Mandanna.



He Drinks, She Smokes

New Delhi: The latest National Family Health Survey (NFHS-6) for 2023-24 has revealed changing patterns in tobacco and alcohol consumption across India, with several states witnessing an increase in tobacco use among women and higher alcohol consumption among men despite an overall decline in national averages for some indicators. According to the survey, tobacco use among women aged 15 years and above has increased in 13 states and Union Territories, including Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and Puducherry. Although the national prevalence of tobacco use among women fell slightly from 8.9% in NFHS-5 to 8.4% in NFHS-6, experts say state-level trends point to emerging public health concerns. Women's tobacco consumption registered notable increases in states such as Meghalaya, Nagaland, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Telangana and Chhattisgarh. Public health experts have warned that tobacco use among women, particularly during pregnancy, is linked to serious health risks including low birth weight, premature births and higher infant mortality. Among men, overall tobacco consumption declined marginally from 38% to 36.3% nationwide. However, several states including Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh reported increases, indicating that tobacco remains a major public health challenge. Alcohol consumption among men also showed a slight rise at the national level, increasing from 18.7% to 18.9%. The survey recorded higher consumption in 14 states and Union Territories, including Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana. Telangana continued to report one of the highest rates, with 43.9% of men aged 15



years and above consuming alcohol. Among women, national alcohol consumption declined marginally from 1.3% to 1.1%. However, eight states, including Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Nagaland and Sikkim, recorded an increase. In Telangana, alcohol consumption among women rose from 6.7% to 7.1%. Interestingly, states with liquor prohibition such as Bihar and Nagaland still witnessed an increase in alcohol consumption among men, while Gujarat showed a decline among both men and women. The survey also highlighted a pronounced rural-urban divide. Rural populations reported higher use of both tobacco and

alcohol compared with urban residents. Experts attribute this trend to lower health awareness, limited access to cessation services, weaker enforcement of regulations and easier availability of inexpensive tobacco and alcohol products in rural areas. Health specialists have called for targeted interventions, including district-level tobacco control strategies, gender-sensitive awareness campaigns, integration of cessation services into primary healthcare, and expanded screening and counselling through frontline health workers to curb the growing burden of non-communicable diseases linked to tobacco and alcohol use.

Argentina Advance After 2-0 Win Over Austria

Argentina secured a comfortable 2-0 victory over Austria in their FIFA World Cup 2026 Group Stage match on June 22, earning a place in the tournament's knockout rounds. Led by captain Lionel Messi, the reigning champions delivered a composed performance to claim all three points and continue their impressive campaign. Messi celebrated with teammates after the win, which ensured Argentina's progression to the next stage of the competition. The match was played at Atlanta Stadium in Atlanta, Georgia, where Argentina controlled key moments of the contest and sealed qualification with the two-goal triumph. With the victory, Argentina strengthened its position in the group standings and moved confidently into the knockout phase, keeping its World Cup title hopes alive.



Cow Urine Fights Chikungunya?

New Delhi: Researchers at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee have reported encouraging laboratory findings suggesting that an Ayurvedic cow urine distillate, known as Gau Mutra Ark, may possess antiviral properties against the chikungunya virus. The study also found that a specially developed formulation based on natural bioactive compounds achieved even greater effectiveness under controlled laboratory conditions. The research, led by Professor Shailly Tomar and her team from the Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering, explored the antiviral potential of compounds derived from traditional Ayurvedic preparations using modern scientific methods. Their findings have been published in the peer-reviewed journal ACS Agricultural Science & Technology. According to the researchers, laboratory

experiments showed that Gau Mutra Ark reduced the chikungunya viral load by more than 90 percent. An optimized formulation prepared from naturally occurring bioactive compounds demonstrated an even stronger effect, reducing the viral load by up to 99.85 percent in laboratory settings. The team also identified several active compounds that may be responsible for the observed antiviral activity. Researchers believe these molecules could serve as the basis for future drug development if subsequent studies confirm their effectiveness and safety. Chikungunya, a mosquito-borne viral disease transmitted by Aedes mosquitoes, commonly causes high fever, severe joint pain, muscle aches, headaches and fatigue. Although most patients recover, some continue to experience joint pain for weeks or even

months. At present, there is no approved antiviral medication specifically designed to treat the disease, and medical care mainly focuses on relieving symptoms. The IIT Roorkee study highlights the possibility of examining traditional medicinal preparations through rigorous scientific evaluation. By identifying and analysing specific chemical compounds rather than relying solely on historical use, researchers aim to bridge traditional knowledge with evidence-based biomedical research. However, scientists have stressed that these findings should not be interpreted as proof that cow urine can treat chikungunya in humans. The experiments were conducted under laboratory conditions and have not yet been tested in clinical settings. Extensive animal studies, human clinical trials and safety assessments will be necessary before any



therapeutic application can be considered. Medical experts continue to recommend that individuals with suspected chikungunya seek professional healthcare, stay hydrated, rest adequately

and follow prescribed medical advice. While the results are promising from a research perspective, they represent an early stage in the drug discovery process. If validated through future

studies, the identified bioactive compounds could contribute to the development of new antiviral therapies inspired by traditional medicine and supported by modern scientific evidence.