

Surge in transplants as over 4.8L citizens register to donate organs

The country achieved a significant milestone in the field of organ donation and transplantation

- Organising Donation**
- Leads the world in hands transplants
 - NOTTO records unprecedented progress in donation
 - Best of transplant professionals and surgeons
 - Transforming loss into hope for countless



NEW DELHI

IN a significant development, organ transplants have seen a 4-fold increase in the country -- from less than 5,000 in 2013 to nearly 20,000 in 2025, according to the government.

Moreover, nearly 18 per cent of transplants are currently being performed with organs donated from deceased donors.

Notably, more than 4.8 lakh citizens have registered to donate organs and tissues after death through a Aadhaar-based verification system, since September 17, 2023, as per the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare data.

The country achieved a sig-

nificant milestone in the field of organ donation and transplantation, with the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (NOTTO) recording unprecedented progress in organ donation, allocation, and transplantation across the country.

The ministry further informed that over 1,200 families came forward to donate organs of their loved one after death in the year 2025, saving thousands of lives and improving the quality of lives of many others.

Each donor is now a multi-organ donor, transforming lives of many.

The country has achieved competence in performing

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difficult organ transplants like heart, lungs and pancreas.

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able achievements reflect the strong and sustained impetus provided by the Government of India, translating policy vision into measurable, life-saving outcomes," according to Health Ministry.

India has one of the best of transplant professionals and surgeons in the world who have achieved outcomes comparable to the best in the world and that too at a fraction of cost.

Increasing numbers of families are stepping forward during moments of profound grief to give the gift of life, transforming loss into hope for countless recipients.

NOTTO calls for promoting a culture of organ and tissue donation in government establishments, institutions and organisations etc. NOTTO promotes multi-organ donations as a right of every family. The progress achieved under NOTTO's stewardship also strengthens India's vision of self-reliance in advanced healthcare, reducing dependence on overseas transplants while ensuring ethical, transparent, and equitable practices within the country.

BMI at age 10, growth rate up to 18 key for diabetes, heart disease: Study

NEW DELHI: A study modelling how genes may influence a child's body mass index over time has found that BMI at age 10 and overall growth rate between ages one and 18 might be important factors, as the two are more likely linked to diabetes, high cholesterol, and heart disease in later life.

The findings, published in the journal Nature Communications, could help better understand the underlying biology of healthy growth across childhood, author Nicole Warrington, senior research fellow at the University of Queensland in Australia, said.

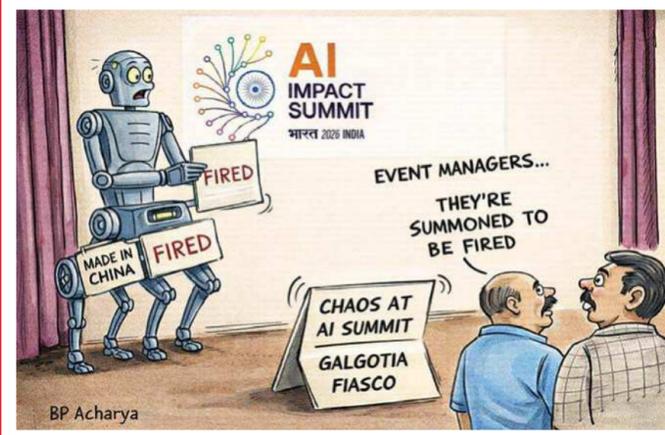
"We found that about one quarter of the differences in how children's body weight changes from age one to 18 years is due to genetics," Warrington said.

The result "indicates that we are ignoring important information when assessing growth based on population averages," the author said.

Nearly 66,000 BMI measurements from around 6,300 children and adolescents aged one to 18 were analysed to understand the role of genes.

Analysing children's growth over time, rather than at a single age, helped the researchers see how a child's genetics influences the rate at which they grow, author Geng Wang, postdoctoral research fellow from the University of Queensland, said.

BIZZTOON



Increasing use of AI, data analytics strengthening power sector: CAG Murthy

NEW DELHI

COMPTROLLER and Auditor General (CAG) K Sanjay Murthy on Monday said with the increasing use of artificial intelligence and big data analytics in the power sector, the capacity to tackle inherent complexities in the sector is getting strengthened.

Addressing the National Conference on Power Sector here, the CAG also said it is important for the entire power sector that operational efficiencies and financial sus-



tainability of DISCOMs are enhanced and strengthened through focused and sustained efforts.

Since last decade, Murthy said the power sector has achieved a lot as the generation has gone up from 1,168 BU in 2015-16 to 1,824 BU

in 2025-26. The sources from which this power is being generated have also undergone major change as the shift to green energy has been increasingly gaining focus which is evident from the rise in its share from 6 per cent to 24 per cent, he said.

He also noted that the transmission network has been augmented by more than 70 per cent and it has achieved a milestone of crossing over 5 lakh circuit km (ckm) of transmission lines.

Make in India helps create lakhs of jobs, women take lion's share: Vaishnav

Says Apple ecosystem has created 250,000 direct jobs, with 70 per cent beneficiaries being women

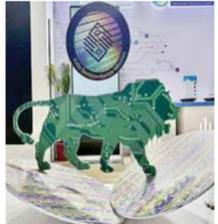
NEW DELHI

WOMEN have been the biggest beneficiaries under the 'Make in India' initiative which created lakhs of direct and indirect jobs, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said on Monday.

IT Minister said that 'Make in India' initiative has created jobs and provided skilling at an unprecedented scale.

The Apple ecosystem alone has created at least 250,000 direct jobs, with 70 per cent beneficiaries being women. Moreover, the ecosystem has generated at least 7,50,000 indirect jobs.

"India is preparing a skilled workforce for the next phase of electronics manufacturing - Robotics, Drones, EVs, Smart Cars, Precision components, Advanced tooling, and Smart glasses," said Vaishnav in an X post.



Meanwhile, the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme has succeeded in attracting investments of over Rs 2.16 lakh crore in the manufacturing sector and created more than 14.39 lakh direct and indirect jobs as on December 31, 2025.

According to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, cumulative sales of manufacturing units set up under the scheme exceeded Rs20.41 lakh crore, while total exports crossed Rs8.3 lakh crore.

The government has dis-

bursed as much as Rs28,748 crore as production-linked incentives under the scheme, the statement said.

Mobile phone imports have declined by nearly 77 per cent since FY 2020-21, while over 99 per cent of domestic demand is now met through local production. Manufacturing has expanded beyond assembly to include printed circuit board assemblies, batteries, camera and display modules, enclosures and other critical sub-assemblies, enabling deeper integration with global value chains.

Domestic manufacturing capacity for IT hardware has also expanded, with progressive localisation of components reducing dependence on imports. Govt hikes component manufacturing outlay to Rs 40,000 crore, announces India Semiconductor Mission 2.0.

ICC Def startup, autonomous systems meet focuses on MSMEs

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU VISAKHAPATNAM

INDIAN Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Defence Startup and Autonomous Systems Summit held here on Monday evoked a tremendous response.

The summit witnessed the release of a knowledge report titled "Defence Production Powering Industrial Growth". It has also had a dedicated B2B support desk to cater to the needs of the MSMEs and Startups.

Addressing the summit, Vice Admiral Sanjay Bhalla, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (FOC-IN-C), East mentioned the importance of safeguarding maritime interests, projecting power in the Indo-Pacific, so as to ensure economic security. He also stated that modernisation through domestic defence manufacturing helps in achieving strategic autonomy.

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Vice Admiral Sanjay Bhalla releasing a report at ICC Defence Startup & Autonomous Systems Summit in Visakhapatnam on Monday

Aeronautical Society of India and Advisor to Government of Andhra Pradesh, underscores the ability of the

Andhra Pradesh Government to enhance the defence manufacturing capability of the country.

Cmdr P.R. Hari, IN (Retd.), Chairman, ICC National Expert Committee on Defence, Aerospace & Space and CMD, Garden Reach Ship Builders & Engineers Ltd (GRSE) stressed on leveraging the innovative capabilities of MSMEs and Startups to boost the modernisation of the defence manufacturing sector.

Sankara Eye surgeries restore vision for elderly patients

BIZZ BUZZ BUREAU HYDERABAD

HIGHLIGHTING the impact of timely intervention and advanced eye care, Sankara Eye Hospital, Hyderabad, has successfully restored vision for two elderly patients through modern cataract surgery, enabling them to regain clear vision and return to normal life within days of the procedure.



Both patients had been experiencing progressive blurring of vision. They were having trouble moving around during evening hours, a common symptom of age-related cataracts.

Amended BharatNet to boost rural telecom infra across AP: Jyotiraditya Scindia

NEW DELHI

AMENDED BharatNet is a \$16.9 billion (Rs139,000 crore) publicly-funded programme which will take OFC fibre and broadband to every single village of this country, including in Andhra Pradesh, Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said on Monday.

A memorandum of co-



operation (MoC) has been signed between Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN), the Department of Telecommunications, and Andhra Pradesh government for the expedited implementation of the

Amended BharatNet Programme (ABP) in the state.

"What we are doing, in essence, is the democratisation of technology to every single citizen in our country. What technology has done in our generation is to really provide the capability for individual prowess, talent, ambition, and aspiration to reach the world stage," said Scindia.

Mexico fears more violence after army kills leader of powerful Jalisco cartel

THE POLITICA Nothing political about it

He was killed during a shoot-out in his home state of Jalisco as the Mexican military attempted to capture him

MEGAN JANETSKY & FABIOLA SANCHEZ

SCHOOLS were cancelled in several Mexican states and local and foreign governments alike warned their citizens to stay inside, as widespread violence erupted following the army's killing of the powerful leader of the Jalisco New Generation Cartel.

Nemesio Ruben Oseguera Cervantes, known as "El Mencho" was the boss of one of the fastest-growing criminal networks in Mexico, notorious for trafficking fentanyl, methamphetamine and cocaine to the US and staging brazen attacks against government officials who challenged it.

He was killed during a shoot-out in his home state of Jalisco as the Mexican military attempted to capture him. Cartel members responded with violence across the country, blocking roads and setting fire to vehicles.

President Claudia Sheinbaum urged calm and authorities announced late Sunday they had cleared most of the more than 250 cartel roadblocks across 20 states.

The White House confirmed that the US provided intelligence support to the operation to capture the cartel leader and applauded Mexico's army for taking down a man who was one of the most wanted criminals in both countries.

Mexico hoped the death of the world's biggest fentanyl traffickers

would ease Trump administration pressure to do more against the cartels, but many remained hunkered down and on edge as they waited to see the powerful cartel's reaction.

Guadalajara, the capital of Jalisco state and Mexico's second-largest city, was almost completely shut down on Sunday as fearful residents stayed home.

Passengers arriving to the city's international airport Sunday night were told it was operating with limited personnel because of the burst of violence.

Jacinta Murcia, a 64-year-old nutrition products vendor, was among those nervously walking late Sunday night through the airport, where earlier in the day travellers sprinted and ducked behind chairs fearing violence. Most flights into the city were suspended on Sunday.

Murcia anxiously scrolled through news stories on social media showing the face of "El Mencho" and sent messages to her children, who were tracking her location as she tried to travel across the city to her home after dark. "My plan today leaving the airport is to see if there are any taxis, but I'm scared of everything. That there are blockades, that there's a curfew, that something could happen," she said. "I'm all alone."

Authorities in Jalisco, Michoacan and Guanajuato reported at least 14 other people killed Sunday, including



seven National Guard troops.

Videos circulating on social media showed tourists in Puerto Vallarta walking on the beach with smoke rising in the distance.

In another part of the airport a group of elderly Mexicans gathered, discussing how to get home.

"We better all go together," one said. "Go with God."

David Mora, Mexico analyst for International Crisis Group, said the capture and outburst of violence marks a point of inflection in Sheinbaum's push to crack down on cartels and relieve US pressures.

US President Donald Trump has

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demand Mexico do more to fight the smuggling of the often-deadly drug fentanyl, threatening to impose more tariffs or take unilateral military action if the country does not show results.

There were early signs that Mexico's efforts were well received by the United States.

US Amb Ron Johnson recognised the success of the Mexican armed forces and their sacrifice in a statement late Sunday. He added that "under the leadership of President Trump and President Sheinbaum, bilateral cooperation has reached unprecedented levels."

But it may also pave the way for more violence as rival criminal groups take advantage of the blow dealt to the CJNG, Mora said.

"This might be a moment in which those other groups see that the cartel is weakened and want to seize the opportunity for them to expand control and to gain control over Cartel Jalisco in those states," he said. "Ever since President Sheinbaum has been in power, the army has been way more confrontational, combative against criminal groups in Mexico," Mora said. "This is signalling to the US that if we keep cooperating, sharing intelligence, Mexico can do it, we don't need US troops on Mexican soil."

Oseguera Cervantes, who was wounded in the operation to capture him Sunday in Tapalpa, Jalisco, about a two-hour drive southwest of Guadalajara, died while being flown to Mexico City, the Defence Department said in a statement.

During the operation, troops came under fire and killed four people at the location. Three more people, including Oseguera Cervantes, were wounded and later died, the statement said.

White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said via X that the US government provided intelligence support for the operation. "El Mencho" was a top target for the Mexican and United States government as one

of the top traffickers of fentanyl into our homeland," she wrote. She commended Mexico's military for its work.

The US State Department had offered a reward of up to \$15 million for information leading to the arrest of El Mencho. The Jalisco New Generation Cartel is one of the most powerful and fastest growing criminal organizations in Mexico and began operating around 2009.

In February 2025, the Trump administration designated the cartel as a foreign terrorist organisation.

Sheinbaum has criticised the "kingpin" strategy of previous administrations that took out cartel leaders, only to trigger explosions of violence as cartels fractured.

While she has remained popular in Mexico, security is a persistent concern and since US President Donald Trump took office a year ago, she has been under tremendous pressure to show results against drug trafficking.

The Jalisco cartel has been one of the most aggressive cartels in its attacks on the military — including on helicopters — and is a pioneer in launching explosives from drones and installing mines.

In 2020, it carried out a spectacular assassination attempt with grenades and high-powered rifles in the heart of Mexico City against the then head of the capital's police force and now federal security secretary.