

SINCE 2011

1,290 congenital birth defects reported at KEM and Nair hospitals

TABASSUM BARNAGARWALA MUMBAI, JUNE 27

AT LEAST 1,290 cases of congenital birth defects have been recorded in the two major municipal hospitals in Mumbai, the King Edward Memorial (KEM) Hospital in Parel and the BYL Nair Hospital in Mumbai Central, since 2011.

Between 2011 and 2015, 395 children were born with congenital heart diseases in KEM hospital, a condition that has witnessed a steady rise in incidence, from 66 to 95 cases in five years.

The data is part of information received under the Right to Information (RTI) Act by advocate Tushar Bhosale. While Sion Hospital maintains no data on birth anomalies, KEM hospital recorded 778 cases from 2011 till 2015 and Nair Hospital recorded 512 cases from 2011 till 2017.

Congenital heart defects are the most common among these cases, followed by neural tube defects and Down Syndrome, the information showed. Neural tube defects affect the spine or brain, and are usually caused by maternal folate insufficiency, where development deficiencies are seen in the foetus. Down Syndrome affects mental and

physical growth of the baby. "There is no treatment for Down Syndrome. And that is why pregnancy scans play an important role, so that a couple can make a decision whether to abort the foetus or not," said Dr Paras Kothari, head of paediatrics in Sion Hospital, adding that most defects such as congenital heart, cataract, cleft lip, hydrocephalus can be corrected after a child's birth.

"In USA, foetal surgeries happen routinely to rectify anomalies. But in India, such procedures are yet to be undertaken," he added.

Most birth defects are diagnosed between 16-18 weeks of pregnancy. Gynaecologist Nikhil Datar, medical director at Cloud Nine hospital, who aids couples wanting to seek abortion beyond 20 weeks' gestation due to birth anomalies, however, said that several defects may take longer to get diagnosed. "In India, as the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act caps abortion at 20 weeks, for defects diagnosed later, couples find it legally challenging to abort a baby. We need an amendment in the Act to extend abortion limit," Datar said.

"Cardiac and neurological abnormalities are difficult to pick up. They may be sometimes diagnosed after 20 weeks. In case of Down Syndrome further investigation is required to confirm the anomaly," said Dr Datar.

According to Nair Hospital's neonatal department, newborns are commonly screened for physical deformities, heart disease, hearing abnormalities, cleft lip or palate and undergo X-ray for possible deformities.

Birth defects can be caused by genetic or chromosomal factors, or sometimes exposure of pregnant mothers to alcohol, tobacco or radiation. Maternal diabetes is also responsible for birth defects, experts said. "But 50 percent of congenital anomalies cannot be linked to any specific cause," said Dr Ruchi Nanavati, head of the neonatology department at KEM Hospital.

What has remained heartening in the records was that no newborn was abandoned by parents following diagnosis of birth defect. Mumbai records 1.5 lakh births annually, and about 410 births every day. In most cases, hospitals provided treatment to rectify birth defects.

Nair Hospital detects and treats cases of cleft lip and palate, congenital diaphragmatic hernia, gut atresia, hydrocephalus amongst other common birth anomalies. KEM Hospital treats a wider spectrum of anomalies including retinopathy, deafness, cataract, cleft lip, along with neural tube defect and Down syndrome.

tabassum.barnagarwala @expressindia.com

FOOD AND DRINKS IN MULTIPLEX

Prices 'exorbitant', sometimes more than movie tickets, says HC Court asks govt to see if cost can be regulated under Bombay Police Act

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI, JUNE 27

THE BOMBAY High Court on Wednesday said prices of food and beverages sold at multiplexes are "exorbitant" and sometimes they are more expensive than movie tickets. The court has asked the state government to see if it can regulate the prices of food items sold in the theatres under the Bombay Police Act.

The court was hearing a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by Jainendra Baxi, through his lawyer Aditya Pratap. The petition states that there is no law that prohibits people from carrying their own food inside theatres.

A division bench of Justice Ranjit More and Justice Anuja Prabhudessai, said: "The prices of food and beverages sold in multiplexes are exorbitant." It added that they understand when the state cannot permit the public to carry food from outside, but "why can't it regulate the prices of food sold inside the cinema theatres", it asked. Senior counsel Iqbal Chagla, appearing for the Multiplexes Owners' Association,

told the court that the first rule of the multiplexes is that no outside food is allowed. The court then said: "In short, you are compelling the public to buy the food you sell at a price that suits you." The court added: "Sometimes, some food articles are more expensive than the movie tickets." The court also said that almost all food items sold at theatres are above Rs200-250.

Chagla told the court that the association could not intervene in fixing prices by the retailers selling the food inside theatres. He told the court that if one goes to a five-star hotel, one cannot ask the hotel to reduce the price of coffee served, because one has made the choice to go to an expensive hotel. "Similarly, it is one's choice to buy a glass of cola for Rs200 at multiplexes," said Chagla.

He said it was for "security reasons" that food from outside is not allowed in movie halls. He also told the court that all theatres provide filtered water free of cost.

The court has asked the state government if it can examine regulating prices of food and beverages sold in cinema halls under the Bombay Police Act. The case will be heard after four weeks.

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (IIST) advertisement for recruitment of Medical Officer (On Contract Basis) at Vallamala campus, Medunagaram, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 547.



Central Bank of India was founded by Sir Pochkhanwala. Nirmal Harindran

Once housing barracks, a road that is now home to politicians, bureaucrats

MOHAMMED THAYER & PIA KRISHNANKUTTY MUMBAI, JUNE 27

THE SIR Pochkhanwala Road at Worli, home to police unit headquarters like the traffic police and Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), was once a deserted corner of Mumbai that housed bunkers during the World War I. Eventually, the bunkers gave way to a prison and the armed police. Today, the road located near the western coast houses several upscale buildings and bungalows that is the address of the state's power circle — including lawmakers and bureaucrats.

Sir Sorabji Nusserwanji Pochkhanwala was a founder of the Central Bank of India, one of the oldest and largest commercial banks in India. After studying abroad, Pochkhanwala returned to India and wanted to establish an Indian-controlled bank as against the British-dominated banking system prevalent then. The bank was founded on December 21, 1911 by Pochkhanwala with Sir Pherozsha Mehta as its chairman. Pochkhanwala was knighted in 1934 for his services to banking in India and formally invested with knighthood at the Viceroy's House (now Rashtrapati Bhavan) on March 1, 1935 by then viceroy, the marquess of Willingdon. The Sir Sorabji Pochkhanwala Bankers Training College in Juhu has also been named after him.

City historian Deepak Rao said, "At one point, it was a deserted corner of Bombay. Hence, during World War I, the British set up barracks over there. However, the barracks were later used by the armed police. Also, the Worli jail was located on this road. As a result, even today, several police units are located over there." The road — divided into Upp-



STREET WISE STORIES BEHIND OUR ROAD NAMES

er Sir Pochkhanwala Road and Lower Sir Pochkhanwala Road — is also home to the Shubhada-Sukhada housing society where politicians like NCP's Ajit Pawar own flats. Poomima housing society that houses several serving and retired IPS officers is also located there.

Stretching from Prabhadevi Road, the road, which runs parallel to the Worli seaface, goes right down to the Dr RC Thadani Marg that subsequently connects to Dr Annie Besant Road. The road has seen two of the most high-profile crimes the city had witnessed. It was at his residence in Purna Godavari apartment that BJP leader Pramod Mahajan was shot dead by his brother Pravin on April 22, 2006. In the Sheena Bora murder case, the body of Bora, who had gone missing in 2012, was allegedly kept in the boot of the car parked at Marlow building — the residence of accused Peter and Indrani Mukerjea.

Chandrakant M Patia (65), a caretaker in a house down the road, said: "Those staying at the high-rises here have a pleasant view of the shores." Like most residents of the area, Patia does not know exactly who Sir Pochkhanwala was.

Phoenix ARC Private Limited advertisement: Regd Office : Dani Corporate Park, 5th Floor, 158, C.S.T Road, Kalina, Santacruz (E), Mumbai -400 098, Tel : 022- 67412314, Fax : 022- 67412313 CIN: U67190MH2007PTC1683003; Email: info@phoenixarc.co.in Website: www.phoenixarc.co.in

ONLINE E-AUCTION SALE OF ASSETS advertisement: In exercise of the powers under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (in short referred to as SARFAESI Act) and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (in short referred to as RULES) and pursuant to the possession of the secured asset of the borrower mentioned hereunder vested with the Authorised Officer under the said SARFAESI Act and RULES for recovery of the secured debts, the Authorised Officer has decided to sell the secured asset by auction sale.

Table with 2 columns: Name of the Borrower, Name of the Personal Guarantors/Corporate Guarantors, Amount due, Possession taken under SARFAESI Act, Date of Inspection, Date of submission of Bid (E-Auction), Earnest Money Deposit, Reserve Price, Bid Increment, Date of E-Auction, Mode of E-Auction, Description of the Secured Asset being auctioned, Terms and Conditions of E-Auction, Place: Pune, Date: 28.06.2018, Sd/- Authorised Officer Phoenix ARC Private Limited, Phoenix Trust FY 15-24

LOYD'S ESTATE CAVE-IN 'Will comply with directions of court commissioner'

Mumbai: Developer Dosti Realty on Wednesday told the city civil court that it will comply with the directions given by the court commissioner after a portion of the Lloyd's Estate residential towers' compound wall collapsed into an adjoining plot in Wadala on Monday.

The court commissioner had directed Dosti Realty to backfill the caved portion with murum, concrete and rubble immediately to stop it from collapsing further. It had also directed that as a precautionary measure, cross sup-

port of steel girders should be provided to shore piling, as per the advice of the developer's structural engineer and no dewatering be done from Dosti premises.

On Monday, a part of the compound wall and part of the driveway of the parking lot of Lloyd's Estate had caved in following torrential rains. Eight cars were damaged and 120 families were made to vacate their homes fearing that the cave-in could have caused structural damage.

In an affidavit, the lawyers for Dosti Realty told the court that

they would comply with the directions given by the commissioner. Appearing for Lloyd's Estate, counsel Ashutosh Kaushik submitted that Dosti Realty should also submit an affidavit on the status of the restoration work of the road and the boundary wall that had collapsed.

The court directed the court commissioner to submit a status report on whether Dosti Realty complied with the directions within the time frame required to complete the work. The case will be heard again on July 31. ENS

M/s. SARTHAK CREATION PVT. LTD. (In Liquidation) E-Auction Sale Notice of Movable / Immovable Properties of Sarthak Creation Private Ltd (In Liquidation) Under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016. Sale of assets owned by M/s. Sarthak Creation Private Limited (In Liquidation) forming part of Liquidation Estate by the Liquidator appointed by the Hon'ble NCLT Bench, Ahmedabad, vide order dated 27.02.2018.

Table with 3 columns: LOT No., DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTIES, Reserve Price/EMD/Bid Incremental Amount. Includes details for Leasohold factory land, Entire Plant & Machineries of Garment Mfg. Unit, and Inventories of Raw Material.

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