

## **GAUCHER DISEASE PATIENTS RALLY OUTSIDE 7, RCR**

**AGE CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, JULY 26**

On Saturday, scores of Gaucher disease patients silently marched to the Prime Minister's residence demanding a national policy to provide free treatment to people suffering from such rare diseases. The walk, organised by Lysosomal Storage Disorder Support Society (LSDSS) on the occasion of first International Gaucher day, saw participation from patients along with their parents holding placards and banners. Present among them was 7-year-old Mohammed Ahmed along with his parents Sirajuddin and Anwari Begum, first patient to be awarded free treatment at AIIMS following a verdict from the high court in April this year. Standing with distended abdomen, swollen lymph nodes, thin limbs and black-brown skin pigmentation, Ahmed is the last surviving child of the couple. His four siblings (three boys and one girl) have already lost their battle to the rare genetic disease.