

In yet another chilling incident, a 32-year-old man allegedly strangled his wife and two minor children to death at his in-laws' house in Sai Prabhu Colony. He later walked into the Meerpet police station and confessed his crime.

The accused was identified as S. Surender (32), who is an autorickshaw mechanic with a workshop near BHEL. Cops said that after strangling his wife S. Varalakshmi (24), the accused allegedly killed his son Nitish (5) and daughter Yashashvini (4) in the same manner. The Meerpet police suspect that the murders took place between 6.30 a.m. and 7 a.m.

#### Quarrel

The family, which used to live in Lingampally, went to Varalakshmi's parents' place for Ugadi. Here, they picked up a quarrel. Cops said that the accused was unhappy that Varalakshmi was not taking care of his parents. She also wanted the family to stay in a separate house. This led to an argument after which an enraged Surender slapped his wife. He then strangled her.

"The couple had frequent fights. They were getting ready to return to their house in Lingampally. After killing his wife, Surender was worried that nobody would look after his children as they would be orphaned. This is why he strangled his children," the cops said.

Further, the police said, Varalakshmi's mother, who was in the kitchen, heard her cries and rushed to the room. However, it was too late. The victims were first rushed to the Owaisi Hospital in Santosh Nagar where they were declared brought dead. The bodies were later moved to Osmania General Hospital for postmortem.

#### Similar case

On February 5, a dental technician M Harinder Goud had killed his wife and two children at their house under the same police station limits and later surrendered to the police. Ten days earlier, a 30-year-old sales executive, G. Aparna Devi, her mother Vijayalakshmi (48) and daughter Karthikeyi (5) had been found murdered at their house in Chandanagar. Later, her partner, R Madhu surrendered to the police, admitting to the killings.