

SHORT
TAKES

Task Force busts
illegal steroid injec-
tion racket in Hyd

HYDERABAD: The Commissioner's Task Force, Golconda Zone, along with Goshamahal Police, busted an alleged illegal steroid injection racket and arrested four persons involved in the procurement, sale and consumption of Mephentermine Sulphate injections. The arrested were identified as Gowtham Singh (24), the alleged main supplier; R. Abhilash (19), a supplier; and consumers Siddesh Aundekar (19) and Daksh Upadhyay (20). Police seized 50 vials of Mephentermine Sulphate injections, each valued at Rs.900, five empty vials, five BD U-40 insulin injections, four mobile phones and a Burgman two-wheeler. The total seized property was valued at Rs.1.85 lakh. According to police, Gowtham Singh allegedly obtained the injections from an unidentified supplier in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, through WhatsApp. The injections were reportedly procured at around Rs.160 per vial and sold to customers in Hyderabad for Rs.900 per vial. Police said Gowtham and Abhilash allegedly supplied the injections to customers in the Goshamahal area. The four were apprehended near Hyderabad Plastic Company Godown, MJ Bridge, Begum Bazar, while the alleged suppliers were carrying 50 vials for sale. The accused allegedly used the injections for bodybuilding and supplied them to others without valid prescriptions or licences. Police warned that the growing demand for such injections.

Massive Solidarity Rally by TRSMA
Condemning the Murder of Roopa Reddy

- Security Must Be Provided to Teachers and School Managements - Culprits Must Be Punished Severely
- "Protecting Teachers Is Protecting Society" - TRSMA

NALGONDA

Strongly condemning the brutal murder of Smt. Roopa Reddy, Principal of Nagarjuna Grammar Concept School, the Telangana Recognised School Managements Association (TRSMA) organised a massive solidarity rally in Nalgonda town on Friday, demanding that the culprits be brought to justice and punished severely under the law.

A large number of school management representatives, correspondents, principals, teachers and staff from private schools across Nalgonda district participated in the rally and expressed their solidarity with the bereaved family of Smt. Roopa Reddy.

The participants raised slogans such as "Justice for Roopa Reddy's Family - Punish the Culprits Severely," "Stop Attacks on Teachers," and "Provide Security to Educational Institutions."

Security of Everyone Working in Educational Institutions Is the Government's Responsibility

Speaking on the occasion, TRSMA State General Secretary Shri N. Ramesh Rao demanded that the government take strong and effective measures to ensure the safety and security of school managements, principals, teachers and staff working in private educational institutions. He described the murder of Roopa



Reddy as an extremely painful and shocking incident. The killing of a principal who was serving the cause of education and guiding students has deeply disturbed the entire education community.

He urged the government and police department to take stringent preventive measures to ensure that such incidents do not recur.

He also demanded that the investigation into the Roopa Reddy murder case be expedited and that those responsible for the crime be given the maximum punishment permissible under law.

Special Security Measures
Needed for Women Teachers

TRSMA National Advisor Dr. Lion Komatireddy Gopal Reddy said that the brutal incident involving a woman principal serving in the education sector had deeply shocked the entire society.

"Teachers are entrusted with the responsibility of shaping future generations. A large number of women teachers and principals are working in private schools. The government must establish a strong security mechanism so that they can discharge their duties without fear." He

appealed to the government to stand firmly by the family of Roopa Reddy and take immediate steps to ensure justice for the bereaved family.

"This is not merely a tragedy affecting one family. It is a serious warning to the entire education sector. Teachers, principals and school managements should never be forced to work in an atmosphere of fear. Schools must be safe places not only for children but also for the teachers and staff working there," Dr. Gopal Reddy said. Education Community Will Stand by the Family Until Justice Is Delivered

TRSMA State Leader Shri Kolanupaka Ravi Kumar said that the education community would stand firmly with the family of Roopa Reddy until justice is delivered.

He demanded that the government and police respond swiftly to such incidents and take stringent action against those responsible. He also called for special priority to be given to the safety and security of every person working in educational institutions.

Protecting Teachers Is the
Government's Responsibility

TRSMA State Leader Shri Mukkamla Rammohan said that teach-

ers play a crucial role in nation-building and shaping the future of students.

He expressed concern over the increasing instances of attacks against teachers and stated that ensuring their safety is a fundamental responsibility of the government.

He demanded strict punishment for those responsible for the murder of Roopa Reddy and called for comprehensive security measures to prevent similar incidents in the future.

TRSMA Will Continue Its
Fight for the Education
Community

TRSMA Nalgonda District General Secretary Shri Algebulli Shyam Sundar Reddy said that private school managements and teachers across the district were deeply distressed by the murder of Roopa Reddy. He stressed the need for the government to announce clear and effective measures for the protection of everyone working in the education sector.

"Our struggle on behalf of the education sector will continue until justice is delivered to the family of Roopa Reddy. The government must immediately announce a comprehensive action plan for the safety and security of teachers."

Rally Demonstrates Unity of
Schools in Nalgonda

TRSMA Nalgonda Town President Shri Nimbari Ramesh Reddy said that the large participation of school managements, correspondents, principals, teachers and staff from various private schools in Nalgonda town demonstrated the unity of the education community. He urged the government to take immediate steps to ensure justice for the family of Roopa Reddy.



22A Land Issue Will
Be Resolved Soon, says
Velichala Rajender Rao

KARIMNAGAR

Congress Karimnagar Assembly constituency in-charge Velichala Rajender Rao assured victims of lands included in the 22A prohibited list that he would stand by them until the issue is resolved.

Addressing a meeting with 22A land victims at his public office in Kothapalli on Friday, Rajender Rao said, "Consider your problem as my responsibility. I will carry it on my shoulders and work for a solution. Stay confident and do not worry." Victims from Rekurthi, Vidyanaagar and Kothapalli explained that more than 1,000 acres spread across around 140 survey numbers had been affected by the 22A list, resulting in stalled registrations, financial difficulties and problems in accessing bank loans.

Issue Taken Up With
Revenue Minister

Rajender Rao said he had already taken the issue to the notice

of Revenue and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and submitted a representation seeking immediate relief for eligible landowners. The Minister responded positively and directed the Karimnagar Collector to take steps for an early resolution. Rajender Rao said he had also spoken to Collector Chitra Mishra twice and that she was taking the issue seriously. He urged officials to examine genuine patta lands without disputes or court cases and remove wrongly included lands from the 22A list as per rules.

He further announced that a coordination committee of 22A land victims would be formed to pursue the issue collectively. "I will not rest until justice is done to the land victims. Their suffering is my responsibility. I will continue to fight for a solution," Rajender Rao said.

Market Committee Chairman Akula Narsaiah, corporators and representatives of the 22A victims attended the meeting.

CMC's "One Day - One Ward" Programme in Kaithlapur:
Road Widening, Traffic Solutions and Civic Action in Focus

MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI

The Commissioner, Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC), conducted the "One Day - One Ward" programme in Kaithlapur Ward on Friday, 21.08.2026 at Anjaneya Nagar Park, bringing together municipal leadership and residents to review pressing local issues and ensure timely redressal. Representatives of Colony Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) attended the programme alongside the Zonal Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner and Heads of all concerned departments, where residents presented key concerns affecting road access, traffic movement, drainage, street lighting, sanitation and enforcement.

Among the major issues discussed was the Moosapet-Anjaneya Nagar road widening, where RWAs informed officials that out of the affected properties, 57 properties have already been removed, while 87 properties are yet to be removed. Residents requested that the land acquisition process be expedited so the road



widening works can progress without further delays.

RWAs also brought to notice traffic congestion at Kaithlapur X Road and sought junction improvement measures to address the bottlenecks. The officials highlighted that the CMC Standing Committee has already sanctioned ₹3.90 crore for the work, and that technical sanction is currently under process, enabling implementation after formal completion of approvals.

Connectivity improvements were another focus area. RWAs stated that a proposal for ₹1.70 crore has been prepared and submitted for approval for the road from Vasundhara Hospital to DMart, aimed at improving

movement and access in the locality. Similarly, a proposal amounting to ₹86 lakh has been submitted for approval to develop the approach road from Jewel Heights to the Jungle Theme Park, with the objective of enhancing connectivity and easing access to the destination area.

On road connectivity linked to existing infrastructure, RWAs raised the issue of the IDL Lake to Habeenagar road, and it was informed that ₹1.00 crore has already been sanctioned, with the work presently under the tender process. Residents also raised concerns regarding scrap shops operating along the dump yard approach road, and officials stated that necessary notices will

be served to the concerned establishments and further action will be taken strictly as per rules.

Drainage-related concerns were also discussed in detail, with RWAs reporting major UGD overflow in 1st Block and 5th Block. In response, it was communicated that a letter will be addressed to HMWS&SB requesting immediate action to resolve the overflow issue. Residents further requested development of a Women's Park at Power Nagar, and officials stated that the proposal is presently under examination.

Street lighting and public safety were included among the priorities, with RWAs reporting non-glowing street lights in Anjaneya Nagar, Power Nagar and Pragathi Nagar. Necessary action will be taken to restore functional street lighting in affected areas. The programme also addressed illegal public inconvenience, as RWAs brought to notice illegal parking of private buses in an open plot at Pragathi Nagar and MGR Colony, creating nuisance and disruption.

Bar Council of India Chairman Must Resign

■ Lawyers stage
protest in front of
Warangal Court

WARANGAL

Lawyers from Warangal and Hanamkonda districts staged a protest in front of the main gate of the court, demanding the resignation of Bar Council of India (BCI) Chairman Manas Kumar Mishra. They alleged that his inappropriate actions have damaged the BCI's dignity, credibility, and institutional standing, and demanded that the institution be restored and run lawfully in accordance with the Advocates Act. The protest was part of a nationwide agitation organized by the All India Lawyers Union (AILU). The demonstration held in Hanamkonda on Friday was attended by leaders of the Indian Legal Professionals Association (ILPA), Indian Association of Lawyers (IAL), and the Congress Legal Cell.

Speaking on the occasion, AILU State Treasurer Vennamsetti Venugopal Rao alleged that Chairman Manas Kumar Mishra was undermining the BCI as a genuine, democratic, independent and representative institution committed to the constitutional



values that should guide the legal profession. He said that lawyers were being denied adequate protection because of unilateral decisions taken by the chairman.

He demanded that Manas Kumar immediately resign as BCI Chairman, alleging that he had attempted to jeopardize the future of aspiring lawyers studying at the prestigious NALSAR University. He said that Manas Kumar, who had apologized to students for his inappropriate actions, was unfit to continue as chairman. He further criticized Mishra, alleging that he had remained chairman for the past 14 years through his dominant approach, influence and support from the BJP, and that his personal decisions had undermined democratic values while serving his own interests.

He also alleged that even after Manas Kumar was elected as a BJP Rajya Sabha member, he had failed to relinquish the BCI

chairmanship, thereby undermining the credibility of the legal system. He said that statements issued by the BCI on matters outside its jurisdiction—including the Citizenship Amendment Act, abrogation of Article 370, protests against the farm laws, and agricultural workers' protests—had diminished the stature of the BCI.

ILPA State Vice-President Teegala Jeevan Goud and State General Secretary Sayini Narendar, who participated in the protest, alleged that the BJP government at the Centre was exerting control over institutions that are required to function constitutionally. They said that Manas Kumar, by supporting what they described as the BJP's "misrule" and damaging the BCI's reputation, should resign immediately.

They called for the nationwide movement to continue until Manas Kumar resigned. They stated that the BCI is a statuto-

ry body established under the Advocates Act, 1961, and should discharge its constitutional responsibilities and work for the rights and protection of lawyers. They alleged that the chairman's conduct contrary to these responsibilities had caused concern among lawyers across the country.

They further alleged that the BCI chairman, who is expected to represent lawyers with diverse political viewpoints, was continuing in office while being associated with one political party and ideology and was misusing his authority. They described as deplorable his alleged remarks referring to students who protested near Jantar Mantar as "anti-national elements" and "traitors," and demanded that he resign immediately and, in their words, "serve the BJP."

Those who participated in the programme included AILU State Committee member Sarampalli Madhusudan Reddy; ILPA State General Secretary Sayini Narendar; State Vice-President Teegala Jeevan Goud; State Committee member Jannu Padma; district leader Pendyala Anil; Jannu Prabhakar; Hanamkonda Bar Association Vice-President Ragupathi among others.

Credible news essential to strengthening democracy: Governor

Dr Srinivas Vooradi

HYDERABAD

Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on Friday stressed that accuracy, impartiality and credibility must remain the foremost principles of journalism in the digital age, even as the speed of news dissemination continues to increase. "Facts must be verified first and only then should the news be disseminated," the Governor said, addressing journalists and representatives of Press Clubs from across the country at the inaugural session of the first national conference of the Federation of Press Clubs, organised by the Hyderabad Press Club at Taj Krishna, Banjara Hills.

Welcoming the delegates, the Governor said the media was not merely the fourth pillar of democracy but also the "eyes and ears of society and the voice of the people". He appreciated the initiative to bring Press Club representatives from different States on a common platform and expressed the hope that the Federation would contribute to the welfare, social security and professional development of journalists. Referring to the rapid



advances in technology, Governor Shukla said Artificial Intelligence and data analytics had opened up new opportunities for journalism, while deepfakes, AI-generated videos and misinformation posed serious new challenges. With information spreading rapidly through social media, the responsibility of journalists had increased considerably, he said. The growing influence of social media on Gen-Z made it particularly important for journalists to provide young people with accurate and credible information.

The Governor urged journalists not to be swayed by social media trends or fake news and to keep public interest at the centre of news reporting. "Speed should not come

at the cost of credibility," he said, emphasising that media organisations must give greater importance to facts and ethical standards than to sensationalism and viral content. He called upon the Federation to promote awareness of digital literacy, AI literacy and fact-checking to counter fake news. Combating misinformation, he said, was not the responsibility of the Government alone, but a collective responsibility of the media, technology companies and citizens.

The Governor also called upon journalists to play an active role in turning national initiatives such as Nasha Mukht Bharat and TB Mukht Bharat into people's movements by creating widespread awareness

through their publications, news organisations and digital platforms. He expressed the hope that the Federation would evolve as an inclusive, democratic and politically non-partisan platform and that the national conference would contribute to strengthening Indian journalism and making it more credible and responsive to public interest. Telangana Media Academy Chairman K. Srinivas Reddy, Governor's Special Chief Secretary M. Dana Kishore, Hyderabad Press Club President, Vijay Kumar Reddy, General Secretary V. Ramesh, Director of The Hindu Group Publishing Private Limited N. Ram, Federation of Press Clubs President Gautam Lahiri and others were present.

Vivek assures polytechnic students
of no disruption to existing benefits

HYDERABAD

Minister for SHAKTI (Labour, Employment, Training & Factories) and Mines G. Vivek Venkataswamy on Friday assured polytechnic students that their existing academic and financial benefits would continue following the decision to bring polytechnic institutions under the SHAKTI department.

The Minister visited protesting students at Masab Tank Polytechnic College in Hyderabad and personally heard their concerns over the proposed administrative change.

He patiently addressed their doubts and apprehensions and clarified various issues raised by the students. Vivek Venkataswamy said the government was committed to improving infrastructure in polytechnic colleges, introducing modern technical education, strengthening industry linkages and creating better employment opportunities for students.

He assured the students that their education would continue without any disruption. "AICTE recognition, examinations and di-



ploma certificates will all continue. You will not face any problems," he said. The Minister clarified that there would be no change in the existing fee structure. "The present fee structure will continue. The government is also considering providing stipends to students. We will ensure that no additional financial burden is imposed on you," he said.

He also assured students that the ECET examination would continue under the existing system, enabling diploma holders to secure lateral entry into the second year of B.Tech programmes.

Vivek Venkataswamy said the recognition and value of existing diplomas would remain intact.

"Our government's objective is to further enhance the value of your diplomas in the future. We want to take the Skill University to international standards and create more opportunities for you," he said.

Responding to concerns over privatisation, the Minister categorically ruled out any such move.

"There is no question of privatising polytechnic institutions. Polytechnics will remain under government control. Education, examinations, fees and student welfare will continue under government supervision," he said.

Vivek Venkataswamy explained that the proposed involvement of industries was aimed at improving employment opportunities, providing technical training and mobilising CSR funds for the development of polytechnic institutions.

The Minister further assured students that the existing fee reimbursement system would continue. He said the transfer of polytechnics from one government department to another would not result in the withdrawal of any benefits currently available to students.