



**Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE)
Masab Tank, Hyderabad -28**

PRESS NOTE

Dt:17.08.2024

The Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE) organized an awareness and sensitization program on **"Drug Abuse"** and **'Anti Ragging'** today i.e **Saturday, 17th August, 2024 at Auditorium of Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University, MasabTank, Hyderabad at 09.30 A.M.**

Dr. Jitender, IPS , Director General of Police, Government of Telangana , Sri. Burra Venkatesham, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government, Education Department, Government of Telangana , Prof. R. Limbadri, Chairman, TGCHE, Sri. K. Srinivas Reddy, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Hyderabad, Smt. A. Sridevasena, IAS, Commissioner for Collegiate & Technical Education and Sri.Sandeep Sandilya, IPS, Director, Anti Narcotics Bureau , Prof. V. Venkata Ramana, Vice-Chairman, TGCHE, Prof. S.K. Mahmood, Vice-Chairman, TGCHE , Prof. Sriram Venkatesh, Secretary TGCHE , officials from O/O CCE &CTE , all State/ Public/Private/Deemed Universities along with their NSS & NCC coordinators and students participated in the programme.

Prof. V. Venkata Ramana, Vice-Chairman, TGCHE, welcomed the dignitaries and delivered the opening remarks. He emphasized the significance of the timing, as the academic year commences in educational institutions, and highlighted the importance of sending a strong message to students.

Sri. K. Srinivasa Reddy, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Hyderabad, emphasized the importance and awareness of drug abuse and anti-ragging. He stressed that students are the ambassadors of the police and urged them to refrain from ragging others.

"As citizens of Telangana, it is our collective responsibility to protect our youth and society," Commissioner Reddy said. "Let us work together to create a drug-free state. I request the students to advocate for a ragging-free and drug-free environment in their institutions."

Dr. Jitender, IPS, Director General of Police, Government of Telangana, emphasized the government's zero-tolerance policy towards drug abuse and ragging. He explained the provisions of the Anti-Ragging Act and highlighted the severe penalties for those found guilty.

"The government is committed to creating a safe and secure environment for students," Dr. Jitender said. "I urge students not to hesitate in reporting any instances of drug abuse or ragging around their colleges. Your anonymity will be protected, and prompt action will be taken." **"He said Say Yes to Life and no to Drugs"**

Sri. Burra Venkatesham, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government, Education Department, Government of Telangana, highlighted the importance of sending a strong message to students, stressing that education is not just about academics, but also about character building and

responsible behavior. Sri. Venkatesham said. "We must work together to create a safe, supportive, and inclusive learning environment for all students."

Prof. R. Limbadri, Chairman, TGCHE, explained the vision of Hon'ble Chief Minister Sri. Anumula Revanth Reddy garu to sensitize students in different institutions and universities by working together to make Telangana a drug-free society.

"In line with our Hon'ble Chief Minister's vision, we must work collectively to create awareness and prevent drug abuse among students," Prof. Limbadri said. "I request all higher education institutions to provide counseling to students and promote a safe and supportive learning environment."

Smt. A. Sridevasena, IAS, Commissioner for Collegiate & Technical Education, emphasized the importance of students in shaping the future of society. "Just as the brain is vital to the human body, students are crucial to the development of our society," she said. "I'm delighted to see all higher educational institutions participating in this program and making it a success."

Sri. Sandeep Shandilya, IPS, Director, Anti Narcotics Bureau, shared his department's experiences with various drug-related cases. He cautioned students against drug addiction, emphasizing its devastating impact on individuals and families.

"Do not let drugs destroy your life and the lives of your loved ones," Sri. Shandilya urged. Quoting the Mahabharat, he said, "Samar abhi sesh hai" (the war is not yet over), stressing the ongoing battle against drug abuse and the need for constant vigilance. He spoke about establishing "Pahaari Committees" on campuses to monitor and control abuse.

The meeting culminated in a collective oath-taking ceremony, where all students and officials present pledged to:

- Say no to drugs
- Respect others, no ragging
- Help those in need
- Create a safe and healthy community

This oath marks a commitment to creating a positive and supportive environment in educational institutions, free from drug abuse and ragging.

Prof. Sriram Venkatesh, Secretary, TGCHE, outlined future programs on drug abuse and anti-ragging, requesting universities to conduct university-level programs and submit reports to the Council. He announced the creation of a toll-free number by TGCHE to report cases, which will be forwarded to the police department.

Prof. S.K. Mahmood, Vice-Chairman, TGCHE, thanked all dignitaries for participating in the program and making it a success. He conveyed the vote of thanks.

The meeting aimed to raise awareness, discuss effective strategies, and foster collaboration among stakeholders to address drug abuse and ragging in educational institutions.

Sd/-
SECRETARY, TGCHE



