

Counter Statement on the news published and broadcasted about Sarvodaya Youth Organization.

With due respect on Print and electronic media, I would like to put forth few things that media had published misinterpreted news item and projecting it as religious affair.

I would like to bring to the notice of all the visitors of our Website that Sarvodaya Youth Organisation is the implementing agency for the SAKHI-One Stop Center for Women in Warangal Urban District and the project is implemented with the support of Ministry of Women and Child Development.

The SAKHI-One Stop Center is functioning from 1st January, 2018 at Excise colony Hanamkonda and the One Stop Centre is functional in a renovated old building and the 14 staff members are working 24x7 in shifts for providing Counseling, Medical, Legal, Shelter and Police support for the Women.

While working in shifts during night time, the Staff complained that they are hearing some abnormal sounds during the night time, they have frightened and complained that they are unable to perform night duties. Based on their request I have visited the One Stop Center and as such in good faith, I offered prayers to few staff in order to make them to come out of their fear psychosis. My prayers did not harm their religious sentiments but were offered only in good faith for the safety and strengthening the mindset of the staff.

Witnessing the successful implementation of the organization and SAKHI-One Stop Centre, we have been empanelled for the implementation of SAKHI in Warangal Rural District. Since the time announcement of the sanction of the SAKHI Rural Centre to our organization was made, there was great disapproval and jealousy among other NGO's and agencies that had the intention to grab the opportunity. They in turn had tried to damage the Organization's fame with a false accusation.

The NGO aspirants who had been persistently influencing the District Administration got annoyed by seeing the Paper Notification given by SYO in regards to the SAKHI Warangal Rural Staff recruitment and formed into coterie in the district and approached our ex employees of SYO and an ex employee of SAKHI One Stop Centre who were terminated from their services on account of their suspicious, unbecoming and unacceptable behaviour inadvertently shared one and a half years old videos, in one of the videos they could see that I was performing prayer for the well being of the staff on their request. The same video got circulated to the Media and District Officials to defame us on the lines on polarization so that the District Administration can withdraw the sanction of 2nd SAKHI OSC to SYO.

Simultaneously departmental enquiry was also carried out enquiring into the information on the videos by interacting with the staff of SAKHI and the Police personnel performing their duties in SAKHI Centre and found out that the prayers were offered to the staff only after several appeals by them as they are supposed to carry out their duties 24/7 and had to carry out their duties in the night time also.

The District Collector being satisfied with my explanation has given us an advisory Memo asking us to terminate the Centre Administrator and to appoint a suitable substitute for the smooth and effective functioning of the SAKHI Centre.

I felt it is my ardent duty to share the incident with my well wishers to have the continued support and I am very thankful to the community, partners and Government officials for showing your solidarity during the episode.

**Dr. Pallepadu Damoder,
Secretary,
SYO.**