

EDITORIAL


WELL-BEING FOR THE ELDERLY, BATTLING NEURODEGENERATIVE DIS-

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Staying positive and resilient while facing and experiencing a neurodegenerative disorder can be challenging for the individual as well as their caregivers. While it becomes important to have a cure to numb the symptoms, it is also crucial to look at the factors that will lead to a positive outlook toward the illness and life. According to the World Health Organization, there are more than 55 million individuals globally living with a neurodegenerative disorder, with 60% of them in low and middle-income countries. Newer strategies and counselling to help elderly individuals battle such challenges tend to overshadow the power of social support as an en-

couragement of positive health while facing the challenges of neurodegenerative disorders like dementia and Alzheimer's. Several studies have concluded that social support has facilitated coping, adjustment and adaptation to chronic illnesses (Cotter et al, 2018), and has significantly reduced the risk for a range of diseases, health issues and all-cause mortalities. (Joshi et al, 2024) Social Health Social health includes two elements: social support and social isolation. Social isolation is explained through the number of social interactions and the individual's interaction with their social environment. When people interact, they exchange something, and this 'something' is called social support,

which is embedded in social relationships (Murata et al, 2019). Social support is the subjective component, varying among individuals, which is the extent to which an individual feels that their social needs are met. It can be defined as having four or more relatives or close friends with whom one can discuss their personal matters, essentially, be comfortable with, and could be called upon for help. Related to this, systematic reviews show that better social health results in older individuals having better control over their cognitive functions. It was also stated that poor social health increases the likelihood of an individual's risk of dementia (Joyce et al, 2021), including other disabling and life-shortening disorders .



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The Editor

Brief Insights
Case against PFI quashed



Justice Juvvadi Sridevi of Telangana High Court quashed criminal proceedings against office bearers of the Popular Front of India (PFI) in connection with a 2018 case alleging that they organised a meeting leading to disrupting of public order. The judge was dealing with a criminal petition filed Shaik Sajid Sajju and 10 others. It was alleged that the petitioners organised a meeting with PFI activists, allegedly conspiring to incite violence against members of the Students' Federation of India (SFI) and the Hindu community, and disrupting public order. Against the petitioners, a case registered on 2018 at Jagtial Town police station based on a complaint filed by the inspector. The chargesheet was filed, and the case was heard in the court of Jagtial. The petitioners challenged the proceedings, arguing that the charges were not legally maintainable. During the hearing, the petitioners' counsel contended that the charges under Sections 186 and 187 of IPC which pertained to obstruction of public servant from performing their duties could not be sustained as they were filed in violation of Section 195(1)(a) of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC). According to Section 195(1)(a), offence under Section 186 and 187 of IPC require a written complaint from the concerned public servant rather than a police officer. He cited a Supreme Court judgment which established that when offences requiring a formal complaint under Section 195 CrPC are combined with other charges, the entire prosecution may be rendered invalid. The Additional Public Prosecutor argued that the petitioners had also been charged under other sections, including criminal conspiracy. It was contended that the magistrate had the authority to take cognisance of these offences and that the case should proceed to trial. After reviewing the arguments, the judge held that the prosecution of the petitioners was legally untenable. The judge held that since the offences formed part of the same transaction, the entire case was vitiated, and any further proceedings would amount to an abuse of the legal process. As a result, the judge quashed the case against all the accused.

Make Telangana number one in cyber safety in India, says Revanth Reddy

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Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy re-affirmed the state government's strong commitment to making Telangana a national leader in cyber safety. Speaking at SHIELD 2025, a premier cyber security conclave organized by the Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB), Cyberabad police, and the Society for Cyberabad Security Council (SCSC) at HICC, he expressed his appreciation for the collaborative efforts of police officers, cybersecurity professionals, and IT experts who are working tirelessly to enhance Telangana's cybersecurity framework. The Chief Minister emphasized that as digital threats continue to grow at an unprecedented rate, it is crucial for both the government and private sector to work together in creating a robust and resilient cybersecurity ecosystem that ensures the safety of businesses, individuals, and the state's overall economy. Addressing the alarming surge in cybercrime across the country, Revanth Reddy highlighted the shocking statistics that cybercriminals looted ₹22,812 crore in India in the past year alone. He pointed out that

cybercrime is no longer just a technological challenge but a major economic and social threat. He expressed deep concern over the increasing number of cyber frauds, data breaches, and online scams, which have affected individuals, businesses, and government institutions alike. The Chief Minister further stressed that misinformation and fake news on social media have become another serious problem, causing panic, social unrest, and disrupting public order. He urged people to be cautious while consuming and sharing information on digital platforms and called for strict action against those who deliberately spread misinformation for personal or political gain. Revanth Reddy outlined several key initiatives launched by the Telangana government to combat cyber threats effectively. Telangana is among the few states in India that have established a fully operational Cyber Security Bureau, which is actively working to monitor, prevent, and investigate cybercrimes. The state has also set up a dedicated cybercrime helpline, 1930, which operates 24/7 to assist victims of online fraud, financial scams, and other cyber-related offenses. In a sig-



nificant step towards strengthening cybersecurity enforcement, the government established seven new dedicated cyber crime police stations last year, providing specialized infrastructure and trained personnel to handle the increasing number of cyber-related cases. The Chief Minister reiterated that the government is committed to modernizing its cybercrime investigation units by equipping them with advanced technology, forensic tools, and training programs to stay ahead of emerging cyber threats. In addition to strengthening law enforcement, the Telangana government is actively collaborating with IT companies, cyber experts, and research institutions to develop innovative cybersecurity solutions. Revanth Reddy stated that public-private

partnerships are essential in addressing the evolving nature of cybercrime and ensuring a secure digital environment. He emphasized that Telangana must continue to develop as a safe and secure business hub, where companies can operate without the fear of cyber threats disrupting their operations. The government is also encouraging cybersecurity education and awareness programs to equip citizens, students, and professionals with the knowledge needed to protect themselves from online risks. The Chief Minister highlighted the importance of training law enforcement officers, IT professionals, and financial institutions to detect and prevent cyber frauds effectively. During his speech, Revanth Reddy urged citizens to actively spread

awareness about the 1930 cyber helpline, which provides immediate assistance to victims of cyber fraud. He stressed that early reporting of cybercrimes can significantly improve the chances of recovering lost funds and catching cybercriminals before they commit further offenses. The Chief Minister praised Director-General of Police, Dr. Jitender, and TGCSB Director, Shikha Goel, for their leadership in strengthening Telangana's cybercrime enforcement and ensuring that citizens have access to effective cyber protection services. He reiterated that prevention should be the top priority in fighting cybercrime and that proactive measures must be taken to safeguard businesses, government institutions, and individuals from fall-

ing victim to online frauds and scams. Discussing the future of cybersecurity in Telangana, the Chief Minister stated that as crime patterns continue to evolve rapidly, there is an urgent need to develop comprehensive strategies to counter new and emerging cyber threats. He noted that traditional law enforcement methods are no longer sufficient to tackle cybercrimes and that advanced intelligence-driven techniques, AI-based threat detection, and real-time monitoring must be incorporated into the state's cybersecurity framework. He also emphasized that economic crimes and fake news must be addressed with stringent policies and enforcement actions to prevent their damaging impact on society. He called upon social media platforms, telecom companies, and financial institutions to work closely with law enforcement agencies to detect and eliminate fraudulent activities before they escalate. The SHIELD 2025 conclave served as a critical platform for discussions on digital safety, cyber resilience, and the future roadmap for cybersecurity in Telangana. Experts from various sectors shared insights on emerging cyber threats, best practices,