

Report of the event of “Consumer Awareness Programme”

Theme: Cyber Hygiene: Latest Developments

**Date: 29-08-2025 Time: 11.30 AM Place: Seminar Hall. A. D. B. First
Grade College, Harapanahalli**

On 29th August 2025, the IQAC of A. D. B. First Grade College, Harapanahalli, in collaboration with the Coordinated Action of Consumer & Voluntary Organizations of Karnataka (CAOCVO), Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), and Harapanahalli Talik Balakedarara Hitharakshana Sangha (HTBHS), organized a Consumer Awareness Programme on the theme “Cyber Hygiene: Latest Developments.”

The programme commenced with a prayer song by Mr. Abhishekh, a B.A. first-year student, followed by the symbolic watering of a plant by the dignitaries.

In his introductory remarks, Dr. S. M. Siddalinga Murthy, Principal of the College, highlighted the importance of consumer awareness in safeguarding rights, improving service quality, and minimizing fraudulent practices.

The first resource person, Sri Somasekhar V. K., Founder and Chief Patron of CAOCVO, delivered a detailed session on the latest developments in consumer rights, Role of regulators in every field. About TRAI which was the oldest since 1997. He outlined the growth of telecom in the country from 2G to 5G-6G at present. Importance of TRAI as a powerful authority for Telecom and also Broadcasting services. He explained in detail the way TRAI operates transparently and in a most democratic fashion. They put up draft papers well prepared and also hold OHD (Open house) to reach out to maximum people to elicit opinion, suggestion. He also mentioned that TRAI acts on feedback and brings up Apps which are free and user friendly. At present there are Apps for reporting of Unsolicited Commercial Calls (Spam) Mobile number Portability, ‘Do not disturb’ (DND) and many more. All these are available through play store or on TRAI Website, www.trai.gov.in One can also sign up and keep abreast with all developments.

Mentioning how CAOCVO has conducted such CAPs as they are called in over 25 Taluks across Karnataka, he stated by the year end they hope to go across all the districts. TRAI doesn’t permit them to hold any CAP in district headquarters as they themselves would be doing so with their COP. They have specifically chosen colleges and youth to organise these programmes and therefore are very popular.



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The multifaceted growth of the industry and technical advances has made it more significant and also a beacon for other regulators. It has a structured Consumer centric programme to reach out to Consumers. Unless Consumer's realise and make the best use of it, there is no use.

The second session was led by Sri A. Sridhara Reddy, Zonal Coordinator of CAOCVO, who elaborated on various forms of cyber frauds, including mobile-based scams, fake websites, online money theft, spam calls, fraudulent text messages, and unauthorized API links. He exhorted the student community to be watchful and use the Mobile for constructive purposes. They should also take their parents into confidence and not hide anything from them.

Sri Kotreshwara K., President of the College Governing Body, presided over the event. In his presidential address, he urged students to remain vigilant about emerging cyber threats, to practice safe internet usage, and to extend awareness by educating their parents, friends, and community members on cyber security and hygiene. He narrated a practical incident of a leading cardiac surgeon from Gadag who got trapped into "Cyber Arrest" and was about to lose huge money. Fortunately, his subordinate colleagues came to his rescue at the last minute and rescued him.

As a token of appreciation, mementoes (Seedlings) were presented to the guests, sponsored by Sri B. S. Ravi Shankar, Convenor of the event. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Govardhana G. Y., IQAC Coordinator.

The event witnessed the presence of Sri Nawaz Basha C. (Physical Education Director), Dr. Madhukumar D. J. (Head, Dept. of Chemistry), Dr. Anneshi R. (Head, Dept. of Economics), along with other faculty members, non-teaching staff, and students. BSNL AGM (NOW-CFA) Ballari Sri B Sridhar attended from the TSPs along with his local JTO.

This function was quite unique and different from all others held in the college so far. It was very educative, informative and presented well with a lot of experience by the Guest resource person. Everybody appreciated it.

Our college which is very old and started to function from 1916 onwards is a pioneer in this field. Incidentally Harpanahalli itself is also well known as ***Vidyashri Naadu. (Land of education & knowledge)***

(Report prepared by Dr. Govardhana G. Y Assistant Professor of Botany).

