

Health officials bust yet another sex determination test racket, arrest 3

Team raids farmhouse, seizes abortion kits, scanning machines; illegal activity carried out since many yrs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mandya

HEALTH officials, in a decoy operation, have busted yet another illegal sex determination and abortion racket in the district on Thursday night.



Health officials, along with the police, raid a farmhouse where illegal sex determination test racket was run in Devara Mavinakere village of Nagamangala Taluk | EXPRESS

A team of health officials and staff along with the police officer led by district health officer (DHO) Dr K Mohan raided a farmhouse in Nagamangala taluk and arrested three persons involved in illegal sex determination and abortion. The team raided the farmhouse and seized abortion kits and scanning machines in the first floor of the house where the illegal activity has been carried out for the past several years.

While the police arrested pregnant woman's husband Manohar, farmhouse owner Dhananjay and health department D group employee Nagamani, another person Abhishek who was performing the scanning to determine the sex had managed to flee the spot. The pregnant woman, a resident of Ramanathapura village in Hassan district, was rescued.

davapura taluk. The illegal activity was done during the night at the first floor of Dhananjay's farmhouse.

Dhananjay was also working as a lab technician at a private nursing home in KR Pet taluk. He was being supported by Abhishek from Shethihalli village in Pan-

Decoy operation

As part of the decoy operation, DHO K Mohan and his team took the help of a pregnant woman, and burst the racket. The woman was made to contact the people who were involved in the crime by asking to determine the sex of the fetus for ₹20,000. The gang agreed and on Thursday night Dhananjay met the pregnant woman near

Bellur Cross and took her to the farmhouse in his car. Health officials followed Dhananjay's car and waited outside the farmhouse to get green signal from the woman to conduct raid and catch the criminals red-handed.

At the farmhouse, Dhananjay took ₹17,000 from the woman and had asked her to wait as they had performed scanning to determine the sex of the fetus on the pregnant woman from Hassan at that time. As the woman gave signal, the health officials raided the house and apprehended Dhananjay and

PAST INCIDENTS

In May 2024, the police had arrested four persons, Anand, an ambulance driver of Pandavapura taluk hospital, his wife and mother-in-law and a private nursing home nurse on charges of terminating female fetus in the residential quarters of the health department situated just behind the taluk health officer's office in Pandavapura.

In November 2023, the police had arrested several persons involved in sex determination and female feticide in a jaggery manufacturing unit in Hullenahalli village in Mandya taluk. The incident forced the government to unearth illegal scanning centres and arrest the people involved in the illegal activities.

two others while another accused Abhishek managed to escape. The health officials and police seized AB2 kit and scanning machine in the house. The three accused were produced before the JMFC Court judge who remanded them to judicial custody. Based on the complaint lodged by District Family Welfare Officer Dr Bettaswamy, Bellur police have registered a case and are investigating.

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