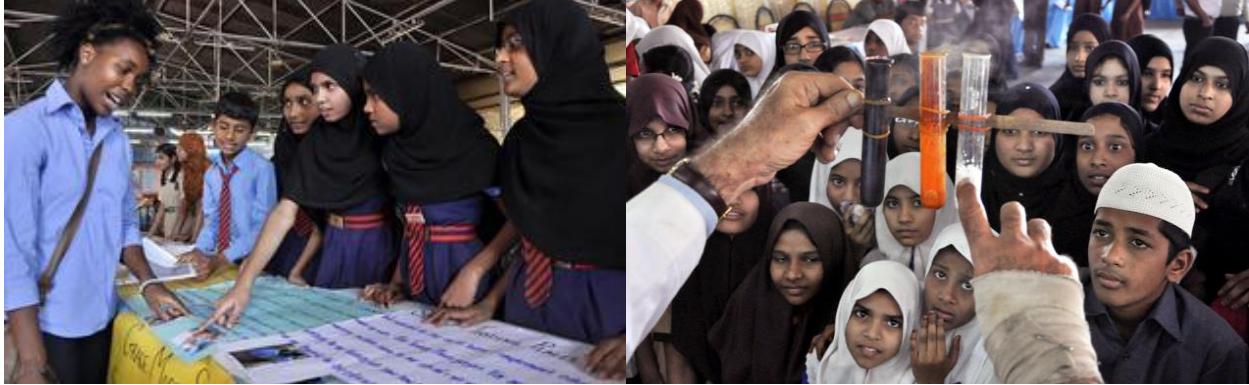


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Simple models convey strong messages

SYEDA FARIDA

Schoolchildren from old city present innovative research-backed displays at COVA-ICAN exhibition



LEARNING CURVE: Participants explain details of the charts on display to a visitor at the COVA-ICAN exhibition at Sana Garden Function Hall in Charminar on Thursday. (Right) Students keenly observe an experiment at the exhibition. PHOTOS: G. RAMAKRISHNA

“Cellphone towers in the residential areas cause health hazards. They should ideally be kept on a hillock on the outskirts,” explained Sai Kumar and Om Prakash, Class X students of St. Maria School in Shamsheerganj, driving home a valuable point with their simple model.

Little ahead Narayana Concept School students presented food pyramid with a message – avoid junk food, while Sahara High School's D. Mallesh and Syed Affan Mohiuddin's catchy model showcased how a plot of open land used for car parking and garbage dumping can be put to better use as a community playground.

Various issues

Presenting innovative research-backed displays at the COVA-ICAN (Confederation of Voluntary Associations - Indian Children Action Network) exhibition of project works on issues of environment, child labour, government schools, health, sports and recreation were students of old city schools.

Sensitisation

The event held on Thursday at Sana Garden Function Hall, Charminar, was inaugurated by Tirupati Rao, former Vice-Chancellor, Osmania University.

“The idea was to sensitise children to various social issues. They were told to follow research methodologies, review literature and take up field work before presenting a report. We had 30 schools participating with 90 projects across the five subjects,” says Mazhar Hussain, director COVA.

Charts served as eye-openers with data on child labour in Asia, Africa and Latin America by Aiman and Afreen Fatima of St. Stephens High School, Jahanuma. So did the model on what ails government schools, by Rainbow High School students who visited government schools in Kulsumpura and other areas.

Winners

Asha and Saifa (Class 7, Peace High School) took home the trophy for their project under the sports and recreation category. Aisha Begum and Aziza (Class 9, St Stephens HS) bagged the trophy with their model in environment category.

Govt. school model

Sumeena Kausar and Sana Ibrahim (Class 9, Rainbow High School) impressed the judges with their model of an ideal government school. From the same school, Laxmi Devi, Mariam Abdullah and Syeda Nikhat Fatima's model was adjudged first for their model in the child labour category. Wajahatunnisa and Anirudh of Classes 7 and 4, Lords Model High School bagged the award in the health category respectively.

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-andhrapradesh/article2902192.ece>