

# Incident at the Construction Site on the University of Hyderabad Campus

**Hyderabad, 28 February 2025:** An unfortunate incident occurred on the night (reported at 8:18pm) of 27 February 2025 at a construction site within the University of Hyderabad campus. The temporary support structure of the portico under-construction of a building collapsed, injuring eleven construction workers. The University administration immediately swung into action and alerted the Police, Fire Brigade, NDRF Team and, CPWD officials who are in charge of the construction. The Ambulances, JCBs and Cranes were pressed immediately into service to undertake the rescue operations.

Fortunately, there have been no casualties. Two of the injured workers received first aid at the University Health Centre and the remaining nine were rushed to a nearby corporate hospital. Eight of them were discharged after treatment and one person is kept under observation and his condition is reported to be stable; by the time of release of this press communique, he was reported to be discharged from the hospital.

Under the direct supervision of the NDRF team, the excavators removed the debris and cleared the area and fortunately it was found that no worker was trapped in the rubble.

The construction of the building was entrusted to the Central Public Works Department (CPWD). The University of Hyderabad administration is deeply concerned about the incident and took every possible measure in this regard. Meanwhile the officials of the CPWD explained that "While finishing the portico work, an accidental contact between the boom pump -- used for transferring liquid concrete onto the slab -- and the scaffolding resulted in the collapse of the support structure leading to the accident".

**The steps initiated by the University immediately following the incident:**

1. The Police were informed immediately, and they have *Suo Moto* filed an FIR on the incident and took the site supervisor into custody for questioning.

2. The University administration is in the process of filing a separate complaint with the Police on the incident.

3. It is decided to constitute a committee by 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 to investigate into the circumstances that led to the unfortunate incident, conduct a safety audit of the building under construction and submit a report at the earliest; the specific terms of reference will be finalized by tomorrow.

\*The committee will also review the quality and safety of all other buildings that are under construction on the campus and take necessary action to avoid such unfortunate incidents on the campus.

4. CPWD has already been asked to submit immediately, a detailed report on the incident and the corrective & preventive measures to be undertaken by them at all the construction sites on the campus.

\* Ensure that proper medical care is extended to the injured workers and the medical expenditure has to be borne by the contractor/agency as per the MoU.

\*Provide suitable compensation to the injured workers as per the extant labour laws.

\*To report about the action to be taken on the contractor.

\*To ensure safety measures for all the buildings under construction on the campus and the welfare of the construction workers.