

the childless couples were required to undergo the medically invasive procedures in a repeated fashion due to his mishandling of the embryos. Where there were loss of embryos, the reporting of the same would be done in an erratic fashion, mostly unexplained.

- (ii) On one particular occasion, Dr.Samit Sekhar was receiving frozen embryos shipped from the U.S for a couple referred by us. The embryos are contained in "straws" with nitrogen in the container for keeping them frozen. Dr.Samit Sekhar was required to remove the frozen embryos and transfer it to his cryo-preservation facility for storage.

In the reference 2<sup>nd</sup> cited, a registered notice was issued to the respondent directing him to submit his detailed explanation on the allegations made against him. Accordingly, in the reference 3<sup>rd</sup> cited, the respondent, Dr.Samith Sekhar has submitted his detailed explanation and stated that the said complaint pertains to Civil dispute in order to claim monetary benefits through the office of APMC with a malafide intention and as such the respondent prayed for dismissal of the complaint. He has stated that he has no business contract with the Planet Hospital and requested for strict proof of the allegation in this regard.

The respondent has stated that he has filed complaints to the S.P., Cyber Crimes, Hyderabad against you for committing offences of cheating, mischief, impersonation, criminal breach of trust, creating false web-site, false e-mail ID etc. for the purposes of wrongful gains.

The Ethics Committee of APMC has considered your complaint together with the reply furnished by the Respondent in its meeting held on 20.08.2011. As per the decision taken in this regard, Summons were issued directing both of you to appear before the Ethics Committee on 18.09.2011. The Respondent has appeared before the Committee and filed an application requesting for adjournment of the hearing as he was leaving for Delhi. Your Counsel has appeared before the Committee and made his submissions. The Committee made it clear that the presence of the complainant is essential in view of the fact that the allegations made in this regard are technical and the complainant has to prove his case. Accordingly, fresh summons issued directing both of you to appear before the Ethics Committee on 30.10.2011. The Respondent has appeared before the Committee and made necessary submissions. Your Counsel has appeared before the Committee and stated that he was coming all the way from Chennai and his client, i.e. the complainant in the case is unable to come in person due to several reasons. The Committee once again made it clear that the allegations made by the complainant are technical and the complainant has to prove his case and the Counsel can assist him with regard to the legal aspect and if the complainant is unable to attend in person, he may file an application to that effect and the Committee will take necessary decision on the same. Subsequently, the matter has come up for hearing on 27.11.2011. You or your Counsel did not appear before the Committee and no communication has been received from you in this regard. The Respondent Dr.Samith Sekhar has appeared before the Committee alongwith his Counsel and his statement is on record. The Ethics Committee in its subsequent meeting held on 15.12.2011 has considered the entire material on record together with the Statement of the Respondent and made its detailed observations/recommendations for consideration of the Executive Committee of APMC.

The Executive Committee in its meeting held on 23.12.2011 has considered this item together with the detailed observations/recommendations of Ethics Committee. The Executive Committee noted that the Ethics Committee has come to the conclusion that the Respondent should not pose himself as Chief Embryologist without sufficient degree and giving advertisements to that effect which is an unethical act on his part. The Executive Committee after going through the material available on record together with the observations/ recommendations of Ethics Committee has come to the conclusion that the Respondent Dr.Samit Sekhar has resorted to advertising and claiming himself as Embryologist without proper qualification which is an unethical act. As such it is decided that the name of Dr.Samit Sekhar be removed from the Medical Register for a period of Six (6) months.