

DRAFT

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
BAHADURSHAH ZAFAR MARG
NEW DELHI – 110 002**

NO. F 1-16/2007 (CPP-II)

April, 2009

**UGC REGULATION ON CURBING THE MENACE OF RAGGING IN HIGHER
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, 2009**

In exercise of the powers conferred by Clause (g) of Sub-Section (1) of Section 26 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, the University Grants Commission hereby makes the following Regulations, namely -

1. Title, commencement and applicability:-

- 1.1. These regulations shall be called the “UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009”.
- 1.2. They shall come into force with immediate effect.
- 1.3. They shall apply to all the universities established or incorporated by or under a Central Act, a Provincial Act or a State Act, to all institutions deemed to be university under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, to all other higher educational institutions, including the departments, constituent units and all the premises (academic, residential, sports, canteen, etc) of such universities, deemed universities and other higher educational institutions, whether located within the campus or outside, and to all means of transportation of students whether public or private.

2. Objective:-

To root out ragging in all its forms from universities, colleges and other educational institutions in the country by prohibiting it by law, preventing its occurrence by following the provisions of these Regulations and punishing those who indulge in ragging as provided for in these Regulations and the appropriate law in force.

3. Definitions:- For the purposes of these Regulations:-

- 3.1. “college” means any institution, whether known as such or by any other name, which provides for a programme of study beyond 12 years of schooling for obtaining qualification from a university and which, in accordance with the rules and regulations of such university, is recognized as competent to provide for such programme of study and present students undergoing such programme of study for the examination for the award of such qualification.

- 3.2. "Head of the institution" means the 'Vice-Chancellor' in case of a university/deemed to be university, 'Principal' in case of a college, 'Director' in case of an institute.
- 3.3. "institution" means a higher educational institution (HEI), like a university, a college, an institute, etc. imparting higher education beyond 12 years of schooling leading to a degree (graduate, postgraduate and/or higher level) and/or to a university diploma.
- 3.4. "Ragging" means the following:
Any conduct whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness any other student, indulging in rowdy or undisciplined activities which causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or a junior student or asking the students to do any act or perform something which such student will not in the ordinary course and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of a fresher or a junior student.
- 3.5. "Statutory/Regulatory body" means a body so constituted by a Central/ State Government legislation for setting and maintaining standards in the relevant areas of higher education, such as the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), the Bar Council of India (BCI), the Dental Council of India (DCI), the Distance Education Council (DEC), the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), the Indian Nursing Council (INC), the Medical Council of India (MCI), the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), the Pharmacy Council of India (PCI), etc. and the State Higher Education Councils.
- 3.6. "University" means a university established or incorporated by or under a Central Act, a Provincial Act or a State Act, an institution deemed to be university under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, or an institution specially empowered by an Act of Parliament to confer or grant degrees.

4. Punishable ingredients of Ragging:-

- Abetment to ragging;
- Criminal conspiracy to rag;
- Unlawful assembly and rioting while ragging;
- Public nuisance created during ragging;
- Violation of decency and morals through ragging;
- Injury to body, causing hurt or grievous hurt;
- Wrongful restraint;
- Wrongful confinement;
- Use of criminal force;
- Assault as well as sexual offences or unnatural offences;
- Extortion;
- Criminal trespass;
- Offences against property;
- Criminal intimidation;

- Attempts to commit any or all of the above mentioned offences against the victim(s);
- Physical or psychological humiliation;
- All other offences following from the definition of “Ragging”.

5. Measures for prohibition of ragging at the institution level:-

- 5.1 The institution shall strictly observe the provisions of the Act of the Central Government and the State Governments, if any, or if enacted, considering ragging as a cognizable offence under the law on a par with rape and other atrocities against women and ill-treatment of persons belonging to the SC/ST, and prohibiting ragging in all its forms in all institutions.
- 5.2 Ragging in all its forms shall be totally banned in the entire institution, including its departments, constituent units, all its premises (academic, residential, sports, canteen, etc) whether located within the campus or outside and in all means of transportation of students whether public or private.
- 5.3 The institution shall take strict action against those found guilty of ragging and/or of abetting ragging.

6 Measures for prevention of ragging at the institution level:-

6.1 Before admissions:-

- 6.1.1 The advertisement for admissions shall clearly mention that ragging is totally banned in the institution, and anyone found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging is liable to be punished appropriately (for punishments, ref. section 8 below).
- 6.1.2 The brochure of admission/instruction booklet for candidates shall print in block letters these Regulations in full (including Annexures).
- 6.1.3 The ‘Prospectus’ and other admission related documents shall incorporate all directions of the Supreme Court and /or the Central or State Governments as applicable, so that the candidates and their parents/ guardians are sensitized in respect of the prohibition and consequences of ragging. If the institution is an affiliating university, it shall make it mandatory for the institutions under it to compulsorily incorporate such information in their ‘Prospectus’.
- 6.1.4 The application form for admission/ enrolment shall have a printed undertaking, preferably both in English/Hindi and in one of the regional languages known to the institution and the applicant (English version given in Annexure I, Part I), to be filled up and signed by the candidate to the effect that he/she is aware of the law regarding prohibition of ragging as well as the punishments, and to the effect that he/she has not been expelled and/or debarred from admission by any institution and that he/she, if found guilty of the offence of ragging and/or abetting ragging, is liable to be punished appropriately.

- 6.1.5 The application form shall also contain a printed undertaking, preferably both in English/Hindi and in one of the regional languages known to the institution and the parent/ guardian (English version given in Annexure I, Part II), to be signed by the parent/ guardian of the applicant to the effect that he/ she is also aware of the law in this regard and agrees to abide by the punishment meted out to his/ her ward in case the latter is found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging.
- 6.1.6 The application for admission shall be accompanied by a document in the form of the School Leaving Certificate/Transfer Certificate/ Migration Certificate/ Character Certificate which shall include a report on the behavioral pattern of the applicant, so that the institution can thereafter keep intense watch upon a student who has a negative entry in this regard.
- 6.1.7 A student seeking admission to the hostel shall have to submit additional undertaking in the form of Annexure I (both Parts) along with his/ her application for hostel accommodation.
- 6.1.8 At the commencement of the academic session the Head of the Institution shall convene and address a meeting of various functionaries/agencies, like Hostel Wardens, representatives of students, parents/ guardians, faculty, district administration including police, to discuss the measures to be taken to prevent ragging in the Institution and steps to be taken to identify the offenders and punish them suitably.
- 6.1.9 To make the community at large and the students in particular aware of the dehumanizing effect of ragging, and the approach of the institution towards those indulging in ragging, big posters (preferably multicolored with different colours for the provisions of law, punishments, etc.) shall be prominently displayed on all Notice Boards of all departments, hostels and other buildings as well as at vulnerable places. Some of such posters shall be of permanent nature in certain vulnerable places.
- 6.1.10 The institution shall request the media to give adequate publicity to the law prohibiting ragging and the negative aspects of ragging and the institution's resolve to ban ragging and punish those found guilty without fear or favour.
- 6.1.11 The institution shall identify, properly illuminate and man all vulnerable locations.
- 6.1.12 The institution shall tighten security in its premises, especially at the vulnerable places. If necessary, intense policing shall be resorted to at such points at odd hours during the early months of the academic session.
- 6.1.13 The institution shall utilize the vacation period before the start of the new academic year to launch wide publicity campaign against ragging through posters, leaflets, seminars, street plays, etc.
- 6.1.14 The faculties/ departments/ units of the institution shall have induction arrangements (including those which anticipate, identify

and plan to meet any special needs of any specific section of students) in place well in advance of the beginning of the academic year with a clear sense of the main aims and objectives of the induction process.

6.2 On admission:-

- 6.2.1 Every fresh student admitted to the institution shall be given a printed leaflet detailing when and to whom he/she has to turn to for help and guidance for various purposes (including Wardens, Head of the institution, members of the anti-ragging committees, relevant district and police authorities), addresses and telephone numbers of such persons/authorities, etc., so that the fresher need not look up to the seniors for help in such matters and get indebted to them and start doing things, right or wrong, at their behest. Such a step will reduce the freshers' dependence on their seniors.
- 6.2.2 The institution through the leaflet mentioned above shall explain to the new entrants the arrangements for their induction and orientation which promote efficient and effective means of integrating them fully as students.
- 6.2.3 The leaflet mentioned above shall also inform the freshers about their rights as bona fide students of the institution and clearly instructing them that they should desist from doing anything against their will even if ordered by the seniors, and that they have nothing to fear as the institution cares for them and shall not tolerate any atrocities against them.
- 6.2.4 The leaflet mentioned above shall contain a calendar of events and activities laid down by the institution to facilitate and complement familiarization of freshers with the academic environment of the institution.
- 6.2.5 The institution shall also organize joint sensitization programmes of 'freshers' and seniors.
- 6.2.6 Freshers shall be encouraged to report incidents of ragging, either as victims, or even as witnesses.

6.3 At the end of the academic year:-

- 6.3.1 At the end of every academic year the Vice-Chancellor/ Dean of Students Welfare/ Director/ Principal shall send a letter to the parents/ guardians of the students who are completing the first year informing them about the law regarding ragging and the punishments, and appealing to them to impress upon their wards to desist from indulging in ragging when they come back at the beginning of the next academic session.
- 6.3.2 At the end of every academic year the institution shall form a 'Mentoring Cell' consisting of Mentors for the succeeding academic year. There shall be as many levels or tiers of Mentors as

the number of batches in the institution, at the rate of 1 Mentor for 6 freshers and 1 Mentor of a higher level for 6 Mentors of the lower level.

6.4 Setting up of Committees and their functions:-

- 6.4.1 The Anti-Ragging Committee:- The Anti-Ragging Committee shall be headed by the Head of the institution and shall consist of representatives of faculty members, parents, students belonging to the freshers' category as well as seniors and non-teaching staff. It shall monitor the anti-ragging activities in the institution, consider the recommendations of the Anti-Ragging Squad and take appropriate decisions, including spelling out suitable punishments to those found guilty.
- 6.4.2 The Anti-Ragging Squad:- The Anti-Ragging Squad shall be nominated by the Head of the institution with such representation as considered necessary and shall consist of members belonging to the various sections of the campus community. The Squad shall have vigil, oversight and patrolling functions. It shall be kept mobile, alert and active at all times and shall be empowered to inspect places of potential ragging and make surprise raids on hostels and other hot spots. The Squad shall investigate incidents of ragging and make recommendations to the Anti-Ragging Committee and shall work under the overall guidance of the said Committee.
- 6.4.3 Monitoring Cell on Ragging:- If the institution is an affiliating university, it shall have a Monitoring Cell on Ragging to coordinate with the institutions affiliated to it by calling for reports from the Heads of such institutions regarding the activities of the Anti-Ragging Committees, Squads, and Mentoring Cells, regarding compliance with the instructions on conducting orientation programmes, counseling sessions, etc., and regarding the incidents of ragging, the problems faced by wardens and other officials, etc. This Cell shall also review the efforts made by such institutions to publicize anti-ragging measures, cross-verify the receipt of undertakings from candidates/students and their parents/guardians every year, and shall be the prime mover for initiating action by the university authorities to suitably amend the Statutes or Ordinances or Bye-laws to facilitate the implementation of anti ragging measures at the level of the institution.

6.5 Other measures:-

- 6.5.1 The Annexures mentioned in sub-clauses 6.1.4, 6.1.5 and 6.1.7 of these Regulations shall be furnished at the beginning of each academic year by every student, that is, by freshers as well as seniors.

- 6.5.2 The institution shall arrange for regular and periodic psychological counseling and orientation for students (for freshers separately, as well as jointly with seniors) by professional counselors during the first three months of the new academic year. This shall be done at the institution and department/ course levels. Parents and teachers shall also be involved in such sessions.
- 6.5.3 Apart from placing posters mentioned in sub-clause 6.1.9 above at strategic places, the institution shall undertake measures for extensive publicity against ragging by means of audio-visual aids, by holding counseling sessions, workshops, painting and design competitions among students and other methods as it deems fit.
- 6.5.4 If the institution has B.Ed. and other Teacher training programmes, these courses shall be mandated to provide for anti-ragging and the relevant human rights appreciation inputs, as well as topics on sensitization against corporal punishments and checking of bullying amongst students, so that every teacher is equipped to handle at least the rudiments of the counseling approach.
- 6.5.5 Wardens shall be appointed as per the eligibility criteria laid down for the post reflecting both the command and control aspects of maintaining discipline, as well as the softer skills of counseling and communicating with the youth outside the class-room situations. Wardens shall be accessible at all hours and shall be provided with mobile phones. The institution shall review and suitably enhance the powers and perquisites of Wardens and authorities involved in curbing the menace of ragging.
- 6.5.6 The security personnel posted in hostels shall be under the direct control of the Wardens and assessed by them.
- 6.5.7 Private commercially managed lodges and hostels shall be registered with the local police authorities, and this shall be done necessarily on the recommendation of the Head of the institution. Local police, local administration and the institutional authorities shall ensure vigil on incidents that may come within the definition of ragging and shall be responsible for action in the event of ragging in such premises, just as they would be for incidents within the campus. Managements of such private hostels shall be responsible for not reporting cases of ragging in their premises.
- 6.5.8 The Head of the institution shall take immediate action on receipt of the recommendations of the Anti-Ragging Squad. He/ She shall also take action suo motto if the circumstances so warrant.
- 6.5.9 Freshers who do not report the incidents of ragging either as victims or as witnesses shall also be punished suitably.
- 6.5.10 Anonymous random surveys shall be conducted across the 1st year batch of freshers every fortnight during the first three months of the academic year to verify and cross-check whether the campus is indeed free of ragging or not. The institution may design its own methodology of conducting such surveys.

- 6.5.11 The burden of proof shall lie on the perpetrator of ragging and not on the victim.
- 6.5.12 The institution shall file an FIR with the police / local authorities whenever a case of ragging is reported, but continue with its own enquiry and other measures without waiting for action on the part of the police/ local authorities. Remedial action shall be initiated and completed within the one week of the incident itself.
- 6.5.13 The Migration / Transfer Certificate issued to the student by the institution shall have an entry, apart from those relating to general conduct and behaviour, whether the student has been punished for the offence of committing or abetting ragging, or not, as also whether the student has displayed persistent violent or aggressive behaviour or any inclination to harm others.
- 6.5.14 Preventing or acting against ragging shall be the collective responsibility of all levels and sections of authorities or functionaries in the institution, including faculty, and not merely that of the specific body/ committee constituted for prevention of ragging.
- 6.5.15 The Heads of institutions other than universities shall submit weekly reports to the Vice-chancellor of the university the institution is affiliated to or recognized by, during the first three months of new academic year and thereafter each month on the status of compliance with anti-ragging measures. The Vice Chancellor of each university shall submit fortnightly reports of the university, including those of the Monitoring Cell on Ragging in case of an affiliating university, to the Chancellor.
- 6.5.16 Access to mobile phones and public phones shall be unrestricted in hostels and campuses, except in class-rooms, seminar halls, library etc. where jammers shall be installed to restrict the use of mobile phones.

6.6 Measures for encouraging healthy interaction between freshers and seniors:-

- 6.6.1 The institution shall set up appropriate committees including the course-in-charge, student advisor, Warden and some senior students to actively monitor, promote and regulate healthy interaction between the freshers and senior students.
- 6.6.2 Freshers' welcome parties shall be organized in each department by the senior students and the faculty together soon after admissions, preferably within the first two weeks of the beginning of the academic session, for proper introduction to one another and where the talents of the freshers are brought out properly in the presence of the faculty, thus helping them to shed their inferiority complex, if any, and remove their inhibitions.
- 6.6.3 The institution shall enhance the student-faculty interaction by involving the students in all matters of the institution, except those relating to the actual processes of evaluation and of faculty appointments, so that the students shall feel that they are responsible partners in managing the

affairs of the institution and consequently the credit due to the institution for good work/ performance is due to them as well.

7. Measures at the UGC/ Statutory/ Regulatory body level:-

7.1 Regulatory measures:-

- 7.1.1 The UGC and other Statutory /Regulatory bodies shall make it mandatory for the institutions to compulsorily incorporate in their 'Prospectus' the directions of the Supreme Court and/or the Central or State Governments with regard to prohibition and consequences of ragging, and that non-compliance with the directives against ragging in any manner whatsoever shall be considered as lowering of academic standards by the erring institution making it liable for appropriate action.
- 7.1.2 The UGC (including NAAC and UGC Expert Committees visiting institutions for various purposes) and similar Committees of other Statutory/Regulatory bodies shall cross-verify that the institutions strictly comply with the requirement of getting the undertakings from the students and their parents/ guardians as envisaged under these Regulations.
- 7.1.3 The UGC and other funding bodies shall make it one of the conditions in the Utilization Certificate for sanctioning any financial assistance or aid to the institution under any of the general or special schemes that the institution has strictly complied with the anti-ragging measures and has a blemish-less record in terms of there being no incidents of ragging during the period pertaining to the Utilization Certificate.
- 7.1.4 The NAAC and other accrediting bodies shall factor in any incident of ragging in the institution while assessing the institution in different grades.

7.2 Incentives for curbing ragging:-

- 7.2.1 The UGC shall consider providing special/ additional annual financial grants-in-aid to those eligible institutions which report a blemish-less record in terms of there being no incidents of ragging.
- 7.2.2 The UGC shall also consider instituting another category of financial awards or incentives for those eligible institutions which take stringent action against those responsible for incidents of ragging.
- 7.2.3 The UGC shall lay down the necessary incentive for the post of Warden in order to attract the right type of eligible candidates, and motivate the incumbents.

7.3 Monitoring mechanism to ensure compliance:-

Apart from the monitoring mechanism built in under different sub-clauses of these Regulations, there shall also be the following monitoring mechanism:

7.3.1 The UGC shall constitute an Inter-Council Committee for prevention of Ragging consisting of representatives of the AICTE, the IITs, the NITs, the IIMs, the MCI, the DCI, the NCI, the ICAR and such other bodies which have to deal with higher education to coordinate and monitor the anti-ragging movement across the country and to make certain policy decisions. The said Committee shall meet at least twice a year in the normal course.

7.3.2 The UGC shall also have an Anti-Ragging Cell within the Commission as an institutional mechanism to provide secretarial support for collection of information and monitoring, and to coordinate with the State level and university level Committees for effective implementation of anti-ragging measures.

8 Punishments:-

8.1 At the institution level:-

Depending upon the nature and gravity of the offence as established by the Anti-Ragging Committee of the institution, the possible punishments for those found guilty of ragging at the institution level shall be any one or any combination of the following:

- 8.1.1 Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges
- 8.1.2 Withholding/ withdrawing scholarship/ fellowship and other benefits
- 8.1.3 Debarring from appearing in any test/ examination or other evaluation process
- 8.1.4 Withholding results
- 8.1.5 Debarring from representing the institution in any regional, national or international meet, tournament, youth festival, etc.
- 8.1.6 Suspension/ expulsion from the hostel
- 8.1.7 Cancellation of admission
- 8.1.8 Rustication from the institution for period ranging from 1 to 4 semesters
- 8.1.9 Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarring from admission to any other institution for a specified period
- 8.1.10 Fine ranging between Rupees 25,000/- and Rupees 1 lakh
- 8.1.11 Collective punishment: When the persons committing or abetting the crime of ragging are not identified, the institution shall resort to collective punishment.

8.2 At the university level in respect of institutions under it:-

If an institution under a university (being constituent of, affiliated to or recognized by it) fails to comply with any of the provisions of these Regulations

and fails to curb ragging effectively, the university may impose any one or any combination of the following penalties on it:

- 8.2.1 Withdrawal of affiliation/ recognition or other privileges conferred on it
- 8.2.2 Prohibiting such institution from presenting any students then undergoing any programme of study therein for the award of any degree/diploma of the university
- 8.2.3 Withholding grants allocated to it by the university, if any
- 8.2.4 Withholding any grants channelled through the university to the institution
- 8.2.5 Any other appropriate penalty within the powers of the university.

8.3 At the appointing authority level:-

The authorities of the institution, particularly the Head of the institution, shall be responsible to ensure that no incident of ragging takes place in the institution. In case any incident of ragging takes place, the Head shall take prompt and appropriate action against the person(s) whose dereliction of duty lead to the incident. The authority designated to appoint the Head shall, in its turn, take prompt and appropriate action against the Head.

8.4 At the UGC/Statutory/Regulatory body level:-

If an institution fails to curb ragging, the UGC/Statutory/Regulatory body concerned may impose any one or any combination of the following penalties on it:

- 8.4.1 Delisting the institution from section 12B of the UGC Act or any similar provision in the Act of the Statutory/Regulatory body concerned
- 8.4.2 Withholding any grants allocated to it
- 8.4.3 Declaring the institution ineligible for consideration for any assistance under any of the general or special assistance programmes of the UGC/Statutory/ Regulatory body concerned
- 8.4.4 Declaring that the institution does not have the minimum academic standards and warning the potential candidates for admission accordingly through public notice and posting on the UGC Website/ Website of the Statutory/Regulatory body concerned.
- 8.4.5 Taking such other action within its powers as it may deem fit and impose such other penalties as provided till such time as the institution achieves the objective of curbing ragging.
- 8.4.6 Collaborating with one another to work out other possible deterrents.

-:0:-

ANNEXURE I, Part I

UNDERTAKING BY THE CANDIDATE/STUDENT

1. I, _____
S/o. D/o. of Mr./Mrs./Ms. _____
have carefully read and fully understood the law prohibiting ragging and the
directions of the Supreme Court and the Central/State Government in this regard.

2. I have received a copy of the UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009, and have carefully gone through it.
3. I hereby undertake that
 - I will not indulge in any behavior or act that may come under the definition of ragging,
 - I will not participate in or abet or propagate ragging in any form,
 - I will not hurt anyone physically or psychologically or cause any other harm.
4. I hereby agree that if found guilty of any aspect of ragging, I may be punished as per the provisions of the UGC Regulations mentioned above and/or as per the law in force.
5. I hereby affirm that I have not been expelled or debarred from admission by any institution.

Signed this _____ day of _____ month of _____ year

Signature

Name:

Address:

ANNEXURE I, Part II

UNDERTAKING BY PARENT/GUARDIAN

1. I, _____
F/o. M/o. G/o _____,
have carefully read and fully understood the law prohibiting ragging and the directions of the Supreme Court and the Central/State Government in this

regard as well as the UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009.

2. I assure you that my son/ daughter/ ward will not indulge in any act of ragging.
3. I hereby agree that if he/she is found guilty of any aspect of ragging, he/she may be punished as per the provisions of the UGC Regulations mentioned above and/or as per the law in force.

Signed this _____ day of _____ month of _____ Year

Signature

Name:

Address:



University Grant Commission

Decisions agreed upon in the Central Inter-Council/Statutory Bodies, State Councils of Higher Education and Education Secretary of State Government in the meeting held 13th April, 2009 in UGC, New Delhi.

The following were present:-

UGC:

Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat, Chairman
Dr. R.K. Chauhan, Secretary.
Dr. C.S. Meena, JS (CPP-II).
Shri V.K. Jaiswal, US (CPP-II).

In Chair .

Members of the UGC Committee for preparation of Regulations:-

Prof. K.P.S Unni
Dr. R.P. Gangurde
Prof. Virbala Aggarwal

Representatives of the Statutory Councils:

Medical Council Of India
National Council of Teacher Education
Indian Council of Agricultural Research
Distant Educational Council
Dental Council of India
Pharmacy Council of India
Bar Council of India

Representative of the State Governments:-

A.P. Council of Higher Education
H.P. Government,
Punjab Government ,
U.P. Government

Following decisions were taken:-

- a) The participants discussed the Draft Regulations for Prevention of Ragging and made various suggestions. Most of the suggestions were agreed and it was decided that these suggestions would be incorporated in the Regulations after taking into account the legal provisions. The UGC expert committee may do the same preferably by 20th April, 2009.
- b) The various Councils generally agreed with draft Regulations and decided that they would frame their Regulations taking the UGC Regulations as the base and only add some additional provisions to address the specific issues peculiar to each one of them.

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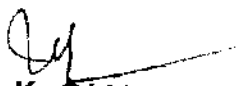
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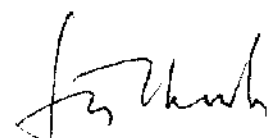
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- c) The Council agreed that they will make effort to finalize their Regulations latest by the end of May duly approved by their respective statutory bodies.
- d) The members agreed to constitute an Inter-Council Committee for prevention of Ragging to address the issue relating to ragging which are of national importance and to sort out the issue of overlapping and cross cutting issues. The Committee will meet at least twice a year.
- e) The UGC will finalize the Regulations by next week and send to various councils for follow up action at their end. These will also be placed on the UGC Website for the convenience of the Councils.
- f) The UGC would get the approval of the Commission by circulation, which is expected by the end of April, 2009.
- g) The participants discussed the Monitoring mechanism proposed by Edcil and the presentation made by Prof. Raj Kachroo. The Ed.Cil was requested to finalize the same duly approved by the Ministry of HRD urgently so that the mechanism could also be brought to the notice of Universities and colleges along with these Regulations. The Ed. Cil would sent the communication to all the statutory bodies/councils for the monitoring mechanism agreed by it.
- h) These Regulations would be in place before the commencement of the next academic year in June 2009.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


(R. K. CHAUHAN)
13.4.2009


(SUKHADEO THORAT)

**UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION
BAHADLURSHAH ZAFAR MARG
NEW DELHI-110002**

F.1-16/2007(CPP-II)

List of participants of meeting of UGC Expert Committee on Regulation to curb the menace of ragging in Higher Educational Institutions-2009 held in UGC Office, New Delhi on 13.4.2009 with State/UT Higher Education Secretary, Professional Councils, State Council of Higher Education

Members UGC Expert Committee

1. Prof. KPS Unny
Former Registrar, JNU, Brindawvan
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Phone 09895865526, kpsunny39@gmail.com
2. Prof. Virbala Aggarwal
H.P. Univ.
Shimla-171005
Phone 09418168234
3. Dr. R.P.Gangurde,
Former Addl. Secretary, UGC
C-13/26, Sector 38, Kendriya Vihar
Nerul, New Mumbai-400706
4. Prof. M.Z. Khan
UGC Consultant
B-59, City Apartments
Vasundhara Enclave
Delhi-110096

Special invitee

Special invitee

Mr.Raj Kachroo
Aman Movement

Present (UGC)

1. Prof. S.K.Thorat, Chairman, UGC
2. Dr. R.K.Chauhan, Secretary, UGC
3. Dr.C.S.Meena, Joint Secretary, UGC
4. Sh. A.N.Sharma, Deputy Secretary UGC
5. Sh. V.K.Jaiswal, Under Secretary, UGC
6. Smt. Lalitha Ganeshan, S.O., UGC

Professional Councils

1. Dr. Prem Kumar,
Additional Secretary
Medical Council of India
Pocket- 14, Sector-8
Dwarka Phase-1
New Delhi-110077
2. Prof. SVS Choudhary
Vice Chairman
National Council for Teacher Education
Hans Bhavan, Wing II,
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THE ANDHRA PRADESH PROHIBITION OF RAGGING ACT, 1997

Received the of the Governor on the 19th August, 1997, published on the 21st August, 1997 in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette Part IV B (Ext.)

Act No.26 of 1997

An Act to Prohibit Ragging in Educational Institutions in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Andhra Pradesh in the Forty-eight Year of the Republic of India, as follows:—

1. Short title extent and Commencement :—(1) This Act may be called the, Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1997.

(2) It extends to the whole of the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(3) It shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from 4th July, 1997.

2. Definitions :—In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

- (a) “*act*” includes words either spoken or written or signs or sounds or gestures or visible representations;
- (b) “*Educational Institution*” means and includes a college, or other institution by whatever name called, carrying on the activity or imparting education therein (either exclusively or among other activities); and includes an orphanage or boarding home or hostel or a tutorial institution or any other premises attached thereto;
- (c) “*government*” means the State Government of Andhra Pradesh;
- (d) “*ragging*” means doing an act which causes or is likely to cause insult or annoyance of fear or apprehension or threat or intimidation or outrage of modesty or injury to a student;

- (f) "student" means person who is admitted to an educational institution and whose name is lawfully borne on the attendance register thereof;
- (g) All words and expressions use but not defined in this Act shall have the meanings assigned to them under the Andhra Pradesh Education Act, 1982 (A.P. Act 1 of 1982) or the Indian Penal Code, 1860 (Central Act 45 of 1860) respectively.

3. Prohibition of Ragging :—Ragging within or outside any educational institution is prohibited.

NOTES

Curbing the menace of ragging -- Guidelines issued by Supreme Court :—In *Vishwa Jagriti Mission vs. Central Government*¹, the Supreme Court, dealt with a Public Interest Litigation about the ragging of fresh students in education institutions. The court in exercise of the jurisdiction conferred by Article 32 and Article 142 of the Constitution, issued under of guidelines, which are listed as under.

In exercise of the jurisdiction conferred by Article 32 and Article 142 of the Constitution we issue the following guidelines:

This Court views with concern the increase in the number of incidents of ragging in educational institutions. Some of the reported incidents have crossed the limits of decency, morality and humanity. Some of the States have acted by enacting legislations and making ragging as defined therein, a cognizable and punishable offence. However, we fell ragging cannot be cured merely by making it a cognizable criminal offence. Moreover, we fel that the acts of indiscipline and misbehaviour on the part of the students must primarily be dealt with within the institution and by exercise of the disciplinary authority of the teachers over the students and of the management of the institutions over the teachers and students. Students ought not ordinarily be subjected over the teachers and students. Students ought not ordinarily be subjected to police action unless it be unavoidable. The students going to educational institutions for learning should not remain under constant fear of being dealt with by the police and sent to jail and face the courts. The faith in the teachers for the purpose of maintaining discipline should be restored and the responsibility fixed by emphasising the same.

Broadly speaking, ragging is:

Any disorderly conduct whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with

1. (2001) 6 SCC 577 & 581.

rudeness any other student, indulging in rowdy or undisciplined activities which causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or a junior student or asking the students to do any act or perform something which such student will not do in the ordinary course and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of a fresher or a junior student.

The cause of indulging in ragging is deriving a sadistic pleasure or showing off power, authority or superiority by the seniors over their juniors or freshers.

Ragging can be stopped by creating awareness amongst the students, teachers and parents that ragging is a reprehensible act which does no good to anyone and by simultaneously generating an atmosphere of discipline by sending a clear message that no act of ragging shall be tolerated and any act of ragging shall not go unnoticed and unpunished.

Anti-ragging movement should be initiated by the institutions right from the time of advertisement for admissions. The prospects, the form for admission and/or any other literature issued to the aspirants for admission must clearly mention that ragging is banned in the institution and anyone indulging in ragging is likely to be punished appropriately, which punishment may include expulsion from the institution, suspension from the institution or classes for a limited period or fine with a public apology. The punishment may also take the shape of: (i) withholding scholarships or other benefits, (ii) debarring from representation in events, (iii) withholding results, and (iv) suspension or expulsion from hostel or mess, and the like. If there be any legislation governing ragging or any provisions in the statute/ordinances they should be brought to the notice of the students/parents seeking admissions.

The application form for admission/enrolment shall have a printed undertaking to be filled up and designed by the candidate to the effect that he/she is aware of the institution's approach towards ragging and the punishments to which he or she shall be liable if found guilty of ragging. A similar undertaking shall be obtained from the parent/guardian of the applicant.

Such of the institutions as are introducing such a system for the first time shall ensure undertakings being obtained from the students -- and their parents/guardians -- already studying in the institutions before the commencement of the next educational year/session.

A printed leaflet detailing when and to whom one has to turn for information, help and guidance for various purposes, keeping in view the needs of new entrants in the institution, along with the address and telephone numbers of such persons, should be given to freshers at the time of admissions so that the freshers need not look up to the seniors for help in such matters and feel indebted to or obliged by them.

The management, the principal, the teaching staff should interact with freshers and take them in confidence by apprising them of their rights as well as obligation to fight against ragging and to generate confidence in their mind that any instance of ragging to which they are subjected or which comes in their knowledge, should forthwith be brought to their knowledge and shall be promptly dealt with while protecting the complainants from any harassment by the perpetrators of ragging. It would be better if the head of the institution or a person high in authority addresses meetings of teachers, parents and students collectively or in groups in this behalf.

At the commencement of the academic session, the institution should constitute a Proctorial Committee consisting of senior faculty members and hostel authorities like Wardens and a few responsible senior students:

- (i) to keep a continuous watch and vigil over ragging so as to prevent its occurrence and recurrence;
- (ii) to promptly deal with the incidents of ragging brought to its notice and summarily punish the guilty either by itself or by putting forth its findings/recommendations/suggestions before the authority competent to take decision.

All vulnerable locations shall be identified and especially watched.

The local community and the students in particular must be made aware of the dehumanising effect of ragging inherent in its perversity. Posters, notice boards and signboards -- wherever necessary, may be used for the purpose.

Failure to prevent ragging shall be construed as an act of negligence in maintaining discipline in the institution on the part of the management, the principal and the persons in authority of the institution. Similar responsibility shall be liable to be fixed on Hostel Wardens/Superintendents.

The hostels/accommodations where freshers are accommodated shall be carefully guarded, if necessary by posting security personnel, and placed in charge of a Warden/Superintendent who should himself/herself reside there at, and wherein the entry of seniors and outsiders shall be prohibited after a specified hour of the night and before except under the permission of the person in charge. Entry at other times may also be regulated.

If the individuals committing or abetting ragging are not identified, collective punishment could be restored to act as a deterrent punishment and to ensure collective pressure on the potential raggers.

Migration certificate issued by the institution should have an entry apart from that of general conduct and behaviour whether the student had participated in and in particular was punished for ragging.

If an institution fails to curb ragging, UGC/funding agency may consider stoppage of financial assistance to such an institution till such time as it achieves the same. A university may consider disaffiliating a college or institution failing to curb ragging.

The Universities and the institutions shall, at a reasonable time before the commencement of an academic year, and thereafter at such frequent intervals as may be expedient, deliberate over and devise such positive and constructive activities to be arranged by involving the students generally so that the seniors and juniors, and the existing students and the freshers, interact with each other in a healthy atmosphere and develop a friendly relationship so as to behave like members of a family in an institution. Seniors or juniors should be encouraged to exhibit their talents in such events so as to shed their complexes.

The Supreme Court made it clear that these guidelines are only illustrative and are not intended to come in the way of the institutions and authorities devising ways and means to curb ragging. If there are local laws governing ragging they shall be implemented. Ragging, if it becomes unmanageable or amounts to a cognizable offence, the same may be reported to the police. However, the police should be called in or allowed entry in the campus at the instance of the head of the institution or the person in charge. The Court expected the police also to deal with such incidents when brought to its notice for action by keeping in mind that they are dealing with students and not criminals. The action of the police should never be violent and be always guided by a correctional attitude.

4. Penalty for Ragging :—Whoever, with the intention of causing ragging or with the knowledge that he is likely by such act to cause ragging, commits or abets ragging and thereby—

- (i) teases or embarrasses or humiliates a student shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees or with both; or
- (ii) assaults or uses criminal force to criminally intimidates a student shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees or with both; or
- (iii) wrongfully restrains or wrongfully confines or causes hurt to a student shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees or with both; or
- (iv) causes grievous hurt to or kidnaps or abducts or rapes or commits unnatural offence with a student shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees; or
- (v) causes death or abets suicide shall be punished with imprisonment for life or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and with a fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees.

5. Dismissal of student :—(1) A student convicted of an offence under Section 4 and punished with imprisonment for a term shall be dismissed from the educational institution.

(2) A student convicted of an offence under Section 4 and punished with imprisonment for a term of more than six months shall not be admitted in any other educational institution.

6. Suspension of student :—(1) Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions, whenever any student complains of ragging to the head or manager of an educational institution, such head or manager shall inquire into or cause an inquiry to be made into the same forthwith and if the complaint is prima facie found true, shall suspend the student or students complained against for such period as may be deemed necessary.

(2) The decision of the head or manager of the educational institution under sub-section (1) shall be final.

7. Abetment :—(1) If the head or the manager of an educational institution fails or neglects to take action in the manner specified in sub-section (1) of Section 6, such person shall be deemed to have abetted the offence and shall be punished with the punishment provided for the offence.


(2) If a student commits suicide due to or in consequence of ragging, the person who commits such ragging shall be deemed to have abetted such suicide.

8. Other laws not affected :—The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not derogatory of any law for the time being in force.

9. Power to make rules :—(1) The Government may by notification, make rules for carrying out all or any of the purposes of this Act.

(2) Every rule made under this Act shall immediately after it is made, be laid before the Legislative Assembly of the State, if it is in session and if it is not in session, in the session immediately following for a total period of fourteen days which may be comprised in one session or in two successive sessions, and if, before the expiration of the session in which it is so laid or the session immediately following the Legislative Assembly agrees in making any modification in the rule or in the annulment of the rule, the rule shall, from the date on which the modification or annulment is notified, have effect only in such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

10. Repeal of Ordinance 12 of 1997 :—The Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ordinance Ragging, 1997 is hereby repealed.


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**GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT**

HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT – A.P.Prohibition of Ragging Act 1997 (Act 26/1997) – Judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India prescribing certain guidelines for prevention of ragging Educational Institution – Instructions – Issued.

HIGHER EDUCATION (EC.2) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No 19.

Dated:08.03.2010.

Read the following:-

- 1) A.P.Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1997 (Act 26/1997)
- 2) G.O.Ms.No.67, Higher Education (EC.2) Dept., dt.31.8.2002.
- 3) Judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dt.8.5.2009 in Civil Appeal No.887 of 2009.

ORDER:

The Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1997 was enacted "to curb the evil practice of ragging in Educational Institutions. Further 'the Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging in all Educational Institutions Rules, 2002' were issued in G.O.Ms.No.67, Higher Education (EC) Department, dt.31.8.2002 and circular instructions / guidelines for prevention of ragging in Educational Institutions were issued in Government Memo.No.4276/EC/ A2/06-1, Higher Education (EC.2) Department, dt.20.3.2006 and in circular Memo.No.10707/CE.I-2/06, Higher Education (CE.I-2) Department, dt.31.8.2006 and dt.9.11.2006 D.O.Lr.No.10707/CE.I-2/2006, Dt.26.9.2007 and Letter No.3593/EC.2/2009-1, Higher Education (EC.2) Dept., dt.24.4.2009.

In spite of this, in recent times, some ragging cases were noticed and the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has taken a serious view of such incidents.

Further the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its Judgment dt.12.6.2009 in C.A. No.887/2009 held that it become necessary that the following recommendations made by the Raghavan Committee be implemented immediately namely:-

- (i) Every institution should engage or seek the assistance of professional counselors at the time of admissions to counsel 'freshers' in order to prepare them for the life ahead, particularly for adjusting to the life in hostels.
- (ii) On the arrival of senior students after the first week or after the second week, as the case may be, further orientation programmes must be scheduled as follows (i) joint sensitization programme and counseling of both 'freshers' and senior by a Professional counselor; (ii) joint orientation programme of 'freshers' and senior to be addressed by the Principal / Head of Institution, and the

Contd..2.

anti ragging committee; (iii) organization on a large scale of cultural, sports and other activities to provide a platform for the 'freshers' and seniors to interact in the presence of faculty members; (iv) in the hostel, the warden should address all students; may request two junior colleagues from the college faculty to assist the warden by becoming resident tutors for a temporary duration; and, the UGC and other funding bodies should provide financial grants for meeting the expenditure on resident tutors (v) as far as possible faculty members should dine with the hostel residents in their respective hostels to instill a feeling of confidence among the fresh residents."

(iii) Every institution must have an Anti-Ragging Committee and an Anti-Ragging Squad. It is essential to have a diverse mix of membership in terms of levels as well as gender in both the Anti-Ragging Squad as well as the Anti-Ragging Committee. The Anti-Ragging Committee at the level of the institution should consist of the representatives of civil and police administration, local media, Non Government Organizations involved in youth activities, representatives of faculty members, representatives of parents, representatives of students belonging to the freshers category as well as seniors, non teaching staff and should be headed by the Head of the Institution. The Anti-Ragging Squad, in contrast, should be a body with vigil, oversight and patrolling functions and should appropriately be a smaller body which should be nominated by the Head of the Institution with such representation as considered necessary to keep it mobile, alert and active at all time. The Squad may be called upon to make surprise raids on hostels and other hot spots and should be empowered to inspect places of potential ragging. The Squad should work under the overall guidance of Anti-Ragging Committee. *The Squad should not have any outside representation and should only consist of members belonging to the various sections of the campus community."*

(iv) A District level Anti-Ragging Committee be constituted consisting of the Heads of Higher Education Institutions as members Headed by the District Collector / Deputy Commissioner / District Magistrate and should also have the Superintendent of Police / SSP of the District as Member. The Additional District Magistrate should be a member-Secretary of the Committee, which should also have representation of the local media and district level Non Government Organizations actively associated in youth development programmes, as well as representations of all student organizations. The District level Committee should hold preparatory meetings during the summer vacation meetings to take stock of the state of preparedness of each institution and their compliance

with the policies and directions or guidelines of the appropriate bodies, the University / State / Central Authorities; and this Supreme Court's guidelines in regard to curbing the menace of ragging. Summer months may be appropriate to launch public campaigns.

- (v) At the level of the University, there should be a Monitoring Cell on Ragging, which should coordinate with the affiliated colleges and institutions under its domain. The Cell should call for reports from the Head of institutions in regard to the activities of the Anti Ragging Committee, Anti Ragging Squads, Monitoring Cells at the level of the institution, the compliance with instructions on conducting orientation programmes, counseling sessions, the incident of ragging, the problems faced by the wardens or other officials. It should also keep itself abreast of the decisions of the District level Anti Ragging Committee. This Monitoring Cell should also review the efforts made by institutions to publicize anti ragging measures, soliciting of undertaking from parents and students each year to abstain from ragging activities or willingness to be penalized for violations; and should function as the prime mover for initiating action on the part of the appropriate authorities of the university for amending the Statutes or Ordinances or Bye laws to facilitate the implementation of anti ragging measures at the level of the institutions."
- (vi) There should be a State Level Monitoring Cell at the level of the Chancellor of the State Universities, who may also coordinate with those of the Central Government institutions located in the State in which the Governor has a defined role under the relevant law. Governors, in their capacity as Chancellors of State Universities, can leverage the influence of their office to ensure that the State Government as well as the university authorities are suitably instructed to be alert in regard to ragging. The involvement of Governors would also ensure that the autonomy of institutions of higher learning is not compromised. In addition, Governors of State are associated with Central Universities in their role as Chief Rector / Chancellor etc. and can oversee the function of coordination where required vis-à-vis the office of the President of India in his capacity as the Visitor of the Central Universities and also the Central Government in the Ministry of Human Resource Development. The State level Monitoring Cell should receive periodically, and at such frequencies that it may lay down, status reports from the University level Monitoring Cells and Districts level Anti- Ragging Committees."

- (vii) In the light of the increasing number of private commercially managed, lodges or hostels outside campuses, such hostels and management must be registered with the local police authorities and permission to start such hostels or register them must necessarily be recommended by the Heads of educational institutions. It should be mandatory for both local police, local administration as well as institutional authorities to ensure vigil on incidents that may come within the definition of ragging. Managements of such private hostels should be responsible for non reporting of cases of ragging in such premises. Local authorities as well as the institutional authorities should be responsible for action in the event of ragging in such premises, just as they would be for incidents within campuses. The Committee also recommends that besides registering private hostels as stated above, the towns or cities where educational institutions are located should be apportioned as sectors among faculty members, as is being done by some institutions, so that they could maintain vigil and report any incidents of ragging outside campuses and en route while 'freshers' commute."
- (viii) Wardens must be accessible at all hours and therefore it is important that they, be available on telephone and other modes of communication – Therefore, the wardens must be issued mobile phone by the institutions and the details of their telephone number must be widely publicized. Similarly, the telephonenumber of the other important functionaries – Heads of institutions, faculty members, members of the anti ragging committees, district and sub divisional authorities and State authorities where relevant, should also be widely disseminated for the needy to get in touch or seek help in emergencies. Brochures or booklet / leaflet distributed to each student at the beginning of each academic session for obtaining undertaking not to indulge or abet ragging and shall contain the blueprint of prevention and methods of redress."

The educational institutions shall ensure that each hostel should have a full time warden who resides within the hostel, or at the very least, in the close vicinity thereof. It is desirable that institutions should provide necessary incentives for the post of full time warden, so as to attract suitable candidates.

- (ix) In addition to penal consequences, departmental enquiries be initiated against such heads institutions / members of the administration / faculty members / non teaching staff, who display an apathetic or insensitive attitude towards complaints of ragging.

- (x) Not only the students, but also the faculty who must be sensitized towards the ills of ragging, and the prevention thereof. Non teaching staff, which includes administrative staff, contract employees, security guards etc., have also to be regularly sensitized towards the evils and consequences of ragging.
- (xi) The Principal or Head of the Institution / Department shall obtain an undertaking from every employee of the institution including teaching and non teaching members of staff, contract labour employed in the premises either for running canteen or as watch and ward staff or for cleaning or maintenance of the buildings / lawns etc. that he / she would report promptly any case of ragging which comes to his / her notice. A provision shall be made in the service rules for issuing certificates of appreciation to such members of the staff who report ragging which will form part of their service record.
- (xii) The employers / employees of the canteens / mess shall be given necessary instructions to keep strict vigil and to report the incidents of ragging to the college authorities if any.
- (xiii) Each batch of freshers should be divided into small groups and each such group shall be assigned to a member of the staff. Such staff member should interact individually with, each member of the group on a daily basis for ascertaining the problems / difficulties if any faced by the fresher in the institution and extending necessary help. By building up rapport with each member of the group teachers or other members of the staff would be able to infuse confidence in the freshers and make them feel at home so as to enable them to report incidents of ragging or bullying. Each group in charge shall maintain a diary of his / her interaction with the freshers under his / her charge.
- (xiv) In case of freshers admitted to a hostel it shall be the responsibility of the teacher in charge of the group to coordinate with the warden of the hostel and to make surprise visits to the rooms in the hostel where the members of the group are lodged.
- (xv) Freshers shall be lodged in a separate hostel block, wherever possible, and where such facilities are not available, the college / institution shall ensure that seniors' access to freshers' accommodation is strictly monitored by wardens, security guards and college staff.
- (xvi) A round the clock vigil against ragging in the hostel premises shall be provided.

It is necessary that parents / guardians of freshers assume responsibility for promptly bringing to the notice of the Head of the Institution any instance of ragging.

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- (xvii) The SHO / SP, within whose jurisdiction a particular college falls, shall be responsible for ensuring that no ragging takes place on the campus of the concerned college, and to effectively deal with incidents of ragging, should, any such incidents take place. Once a central database / crisis hotline is made operative then as soon as SHO /SP, within whose jurisdiction a particular college falls, is contacted by the crisis hotline staff, then such SHO / SP shall deal effectively with the incident and cooperate and communicate with the crisis hotline staff and / or the independent monitoring agency.
- (xviii) A committee be appointed at university level comprising one or more eminent psychiatrists / psychologists / mental health specialists, a documentary maker and educationalists from various fields, to (i) ascertain the psychological impact of ragging on students; (ii) to ascertain reasons and circumstances under which senior students resort to ragging; (iii) assess and quantify the impact of ragging and indiscipline on the standard of education in an institution and relate it to the existing procedures used by MCI, UGC and other regulatory bodies to assess the suitability of an institution for recognition; and (iv) recommend urgent and mandatory mental health measures to be implemented in, and practiced by school, colleges, and all educational and vocational institutions, so as to aid the occurrence of ragging.

4. All Heads of Departments mentioned in the address entries are requested to communicate the above directions of Supreme Court of India to all Educational Institutions both aided and un-aided colleges / universities for strict compliance of the above instructions.


(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

C.R.BISWAL
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Commissioner of Technical Education, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad
The Commissioner of Collegiate Education, Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad
The Commissioner of Intermediate Education, Hyderabad.
All the Registrars of Universities in the State.
The Secretary, Board of Intermediate Education, Nampally, Hyderabad
The Secretary, A.P.State Council for Higher Education, Hyderabad.
All the Collectors & District Magistrates in the State.
Copy to:
The Law (A) Department.
The Special Officer, Advocate on Records in the Supreme Court of India, A.P.Bhavan, New Delhi.
SF/SC-2.

//Forwarded by Order//

SECTION OFFICER


Principal
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GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
HIGHER EDUCATION [CE] DEPARTMENT

Circular Memo.No.7525/CE.A1/2016

Dt:06.12.2016

Sub: Higher Education - Anti Ragging Policy - Comprehensive
Guidelines issued – reiterated

- Ref: 1. A.P. Prohibition of Ragging act, 1997 [Act No.26 of 1997],
2. G.O.Ms.No.67, HE[CE] dept., dt.31.08.2002,
3. Regulations on curbing the menace of Ragging in Higher
Educational Institutions, 2009, issued by University Grants
Commission,
4. Circular Memo.No.7524/CE.A1/2015-1, dt.25.07.2015
5. Circular Memo.No.7525/CE.A1/2015-1, dt.04.08.2015

.. . . .

The Government of Andhra Pradesh has initiated several steps to transform Andhra Pradesh State into a Knowledge Society and Education Hub of global standing.

2. The state has made significant progress in this regard. However, certain stray incidents of ragging have come to light, despite strict guidelines / instructions issued from time to time by the Government. Against this backdrop, it is felt necessary to reiterate the main aspects of the Anti-Ragging Policy of Government, to be read with circular instructions, circulars and GOs already issued in the matter, for guidance of all concerned, as follows:

A] Ragging is prohibited within or outside any educational institution.

B] whoever teases or embarrasses or humiliates a student shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees or with both [or] assaults or uses criminal force to or criminally intimidates a students hall be punished with punishment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees or with both [or] wrongfully restrains or wrongfully confines or causes hurt go a students hall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees or with both [or] causes grievous hurt to or kidnaps or abducts or rapes or commits unnatural offence with a student shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees [or] causes death or abets suicide shall be punished with imprisonment for life or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and with fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees .

C] It is responsibility of the Head/Manager of educational institution, upon receiving any complaint on ragging, to inquire into or cause an inquiry to be made forthwith and take such action as deemed necessary and he shall be punished in case of negligence.

D] A Review Committee will be constituted by the District Collector as Chairperson and other members will be Superintendent of Police as Vice Chairperson; Revenue Divisional Officer, Sub Divisional Police Officer, College Principal as members. The Committee shall meet twice before the academic session and twice during academic session. Apart from this, the educational institutions should provide for the constitution of a Committee consisting of parents and guardians of the students.

- E] Every Institution shall constitute a Committee to be known as **Anti Ragging Committee** to be nominated and headed by the Head of the institution, and consisting of representatives of Civil society & Police; Local media; Non Govt. organizations; Faculty members; Parents & students.
- F] Every institution shall constitute a smaller body to be known as the Anti Ragging Squad to be nominated by the HOD.
- G] Every institution shall constitute a body to be known as Monitoring Cell on Ragging and coordinate with the affiliated colleges under domain of the University.
- H] No Outsiders other than inmates of the hostels shall stay in the hostels and no outsiders shall stay on campus, whatsoever.
- I] The entry into hostels and Mess shall be by biometric identity only.
- J] The hostel corridors shall have CC-TV cameras fixed.
- K] The biometric data and video footage shall be monitored by third party arrangement to avoid tampering.
- L] A periodical inspection and cross verification of data shall be verified by the administrative staff.
- M] Disciplinary Committees may be constituted at Hostel level, which should be vigilant by conducting several inspections particularly during vulnerable times and at vulnerable places. There shall be student representatives in the committee. The mischievous elements shall be identified and mischievous actions shall be liable for punishment as per the rulebook of the University/college/institution.
- N] A quarterly review of disciplinary measures and facilities with regard to hostels shall be undertaken by the Vice Chancellor/Principal concerned and a status report has to be sent to the Andhra Pradesh State Council for Higher Education/ Commissioner of Collegiate Education/ Commissioner of Technical Education, who shall send consolidated report to Government.
- O] Notice Boards be erected in all conspicuous places of Higher Education Institution and display Anti Ragging Provisions and Penalties as per A.P. Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1997 both in Telugu and English. Details of Anti Ragging Committee with phone numbers be displayed in all conspicuous places of the institution.
- P] Faculty must be sensitized on the provisions of the Act as well as on the panel consequences.
- Q] Seminars, workshops, lectures by police, district and legal authorities be conducted to sensitize the students.
- R] It is the responsibility of the Vice Chancellors/ HODs of other educational institutions to ensure a safe campus/college life conducive to welfare and development of students.

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S] All the Vice Chancellors /Registrars /Principals are advised to ensure appointment of warden, Dy. Warden, Resident Matron to all the hostels ensuring proper management. The regular employees available in the University / college shall be posted to the post of Warden and Deputy warden.

T] The Heads of Institutions may also take up publicity in local media and programmes to build awareness among the senior students as to what acts tantamount to ragging and how violation of provisions has implication for them from their career point of view.

SUMITA DAWRA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT


To
All Vice Chancellors in the State,
The Commissioner of Collegiate Education, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada,
The Commissioner of Technical Education, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada,
The Secretary, Andhra Pradesh State Council for Higher Education,
Hyderabad.

Copy to
OSD to Minister[HRD],
PS to Chief Secretary,
JS to Chief Minister
Agriculture & Cooperation Department.
Health, Medical & Family Welfare Department.
Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development & Fisheries Department.
Department of Information & Public Relation for press release
Sc/sf.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//


SECTION OFFICER




Principal
K.R.K. Govt. Degree College
ADDANKI - 523 201,
Prakasam Dist.

Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging in All Educational Institutions Rules, 2002

[G.O. Ms. No.67, Higher Education (EC) dated 31st August, 2002]

In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of section 9 of the Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1997 (A.P. Act 26 of 1997) the Governor of Andhra Pradesh hereby makes the following rules relating to Prohibition of Ragging in all Educational Institutions in the State.

1. Short title.— These rules may be called the Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging in all Educational Institutions Rules, 2002.

2. Definition.— In these rules unless the context otherwise requires :—

(a) **“Act”** includes words either spoken or written or signs or sounds or gestures or visible representation;

(b) **“Educational Institutions”** means and include a college or other institution by whatever name called, carrying on the activity or imparting education therein (either exclusively or among other activities) and includes an orphanage or boarding home or hostel or Tutorial Institution or other premises attached thereto;

(c) **“Government”** means the State Government of Andhra Pradesh;

(d) **“notification”** means notification published in Andhra Pradesh Gazette and the word “notified” shall be construed accordingly;

(e) **“ragging”** means doing an act, which causes or is likely to cause insult or annoyance or fear or apprehension or threat or intimidation or outrage of modesty or injury to a student;

(f) **“student”** means a person who is admitted into an Educational Institution and whose name is lawfully borne on the attendance register thereof.

3. Prohibition of ragging.— (a) Ragging is prohibited within or outside of any educational institution in the State;

(b) the Principal/Head of the institution shall obtain an undertaking in writing from the students/parents at the time of admission that they shall not resort to ragging inside or outside the institution;

(c) full publicity should be given to the punishment for ragging through open circulars, suitable posters, colleges and hostel premises etc., by the Principal/ Head of the institutions;

(d) the Principal/Head of the Institution shall constitute anti-ragging squads involving teachers and students to prevent ragging;

(e) the Head of the Institution shall lodge a criminal case against students resorted to ragging for taking action as mentioned in Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1997 (A.P. Act No. 26 of 1997).

Certain of the guidelines to prevent ragging in educational institutions are illustrated in the annexure to these rules.

4. Responsibility of the Head of the Institution.—

(1) At the commencement of the Academic session/ the Institution should constitute a proctorial committee consisting of senior faculty members and hostel authorities like the warden and a few responsible senior students :—

(i) to keep a continuous watch and vigil over ragging so as to prevent its occurrence and recurrence;

(ii) to promptly deal with the incidents of ragging brought to its notice and summarily punish the guilty either by itself or by putting-forth its finding/ recommendation/suggestions before the authority competent to take decision. All vulnerable locations shall be identified and specially watched.

(2) The local community and the students in particular must be made aware of dehumanising effect of ragging inherent in its perversity. Posters, notice boards and sign-boards wherever necessary, may be used for the purpose.

(3) Failure to prevent ragging shall be construed as an act of negligence in maintaining discipline in the institution on the part of the management, the principal and the persons in authority of the institution. Similar responsibility shall be liable to be fixed on hostel wardens/superintendents.

(4) Whenever any student complains of ragging to the Head of the Educational Institution such head or manager shall enquire into the same forthwith and if the complaint is prima facie found true, shall suspend the student or students complained against for such period as may be deemed necessary.

(5) The decision of the head of the institution or the person responsible for the management of the educational institution is final.

(6) If an institution fails to curb ragging, the Funding Agency shall consider for stoppage of financial assistance to such an institution till such time as achieves the same. The University shall consider disaffiliating a college or Institution failing to curb ragging. All Universities shall bring these guidelines to the notice of all educational institutions under their control and jurisdiction. Publicity may also be given by press notes in public interest by Universities.

5. Penalty for ragging.— (1) Whoever with the intention of causing ragging or with the knowledge that he is likely by such act to cause ragging commits or abets ragging shall be punishable as per Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1997 (Act 26 of 1997).

(2) The students convicted of an offence under section 4 of Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1997 (Act 26 of 1997) and punished with imprisonment for a term shall be dismissed from the educational institution.

(3) The student convicted of an offence under section 4 of Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1997, and punished with imprisonment for a term of more than six months shall not be admitted in any other educational institution.

(4) Any student dismissed from a college for ragging should be debarred from seeking admission in any other course of study in any college/University located in the State.

(5) In case of the students who involved in ragging, there shall be an embossment on his marks cards and other academic Certificates in bold letters which cannot be obliterated that he had indulged in ragging and had conducted himself in a manner unbecoming of a student.

The following guidelines shall be complied with while endeavouring to deal with ragging in the forms like addressing seniors 'Sir' performing mass drills, copying class notes for the seniors, carrying out various errands, and doing menial jobs for the seniors, washing clothes demanded by senior students, asking/answering vulgar questions, looking at pornographic pictures to shock the freshers out of their innocence, being forced to drink alcohol, scalding tea, being forced to do acts with sexual overtones and homosexual acts leading to physical injury/ mental torture or death, and doing obscenities.

"Ragging" means any disorderly conduct whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing treating or handling with rudeness any other student, indulging in rowdy or indisciplined activities which causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or junior student or asking the students to do any act or perform something which such student will not do in the ordinary course and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame of embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of a fresher or junior student. The cause of indulging in ragging is deriving a sadistic pleasure or showing of power, authority or superiority by the seniors over their juniors or freshers.

Most of the above orders of the seniors constituting perverse actions are illustrative or ragging but not exhaustive. Any other related acts would also form ragging attracting severe punitive action.

(1) A review committee shall be constituted by the District Collector as Chairman and the composition of the committee will be as follows :—

- (i) Collector - Chairman.
- (ii) Superintendent of Police-Vice-Chairman.
- (iii) (a) Revenue Divisional Officers
- (b) Sub-divisional Police Officers - Members
- (c) College Principals

The committee shall meet twice before the academic session and twice during the academic session to review the prevalent situation and evolve effective measures to combat ragging.

(2) Apart from the review committee the educational institutions should provide for the constitution of a committee consisting of the parents and

guardians or the students taking education in their institute, as well as two representatives of the students union if any, apart from the principal and a representative of teaching staff of the educational institute and to review the same by regularly calling a meeting of the committee of the parents etc., which may be constituted for this purpose. The committee should recommend to the management whether any step is required to be taken against any student who may have violated the code of conduct and the school management should take necessary remedial measures as expeditiously as possible, but not later than four weeks from the date of the recommendation by the parents committee.

(3) The application form for admission/enrolment shall have a printed undertaking to be filled up and signed by the candidates to the effect that he/she is aware of the institution's approach towards ragging and punishments to which he or she shall be liable if found guilty of ragging. A similar undertaking shall be obtained from the parents/guardian of the applicant.

(4) Any boy or girl student should keep the identity card issued by the concerned educational institution in his/her possession and offer the same for verification as and when demanded by any authority of the institution or hostel or any member of the staff of the institution or hostel who is authorised to verify the identity of the concerned student.

(5) The Hostels and Messes, vacant classrooms, canteen, stadium or playground, student's activity centres and bus stands are the some of the vulnerable locations identified for ragging. Strict surveillance should be maintained in such locations for prevention of ragging.

(6) The Management, Principal, the teaching staff should interact with freshers and take them in confidence by apprising them of their rights as well as obligation to fight against ragging and to generate confidence in their mind that any instances of ragging to which they are subjected or which comes in their knowledge should forthwith be brought to their knowledge and shall promptly dealt with while protecting the complainants from any harassment by perpetrators of ragging. It would be better if the head of the institution or person high in authority addresses meeting of teachers, parents and students collectively or in groups in this behalf.

(7) The Universities and the institution shall at a reasonable time before the commencement of an academic year, and therefore at such frequent intervals as may be expedient deliberate over and devise such positive and

constructive activities to be arranged by involving the students generally so that the seniors and juniors, and the existing students and the freshers, interact with each other in a healthy atmosphere and develop a friendly relationship so as to behave like members of a family in an institution. Seniors or juniors should be encouraged to exhibit their talents in such events so as to shed their complexes.

(8) Telephone numbers of the Principals, Vice-Principals, Heads of Departments, senior faculty/administrative officers, wardens and deputy wardens, should be given to every new entrant with the advice that they should not hesitate in reporting all incidents of ragging through these numbers even anonymously with the circumstances warrant, so that immediate measures can be taken by them.

(9) The media may be requested to give adequate publicity to the negative aspects of ragging mainly during the months of July and August every year so that public awareness and aversion can be built up against ragging.

(10) The 1st year class schedule shall be staggered. Junior students should come to the college early and to leave first. The schedule should be reverse for senior students classes.

(11) Teachers taking the 1st year classes will leave the class at the end of the period only after the next teacher arrives.

(12) The hostels/accommodations where freshers are accommodated shall be carefully guarded, if necessary by posting security personnel, and placed in charge of a warden/superintendent who should himself/ herself reside there at, and wherein the entry of seniors and outsiders shall be prohibited after specified hour of night and before except under the permission of the person in charge. Entry at other times may also be regulated. If possible, the new entrants to the hostels should be accommodated in a separate building away from other hostel buildings where the senior students reside.

(13) No person who is not a student of the concerned educational institution shall be allowed to enter the premises of that educational institutions or its hostel without obtaining prior permission of the principal of that institute. Provided that the parents or the guardian of the students shall not be required to take such permission in writing.

(14) No person who is not studying in the given educational institution shall be allowed to enter any hostel of boys or girls attached to the concerned educational institution. However, by obtaining prior written permission of the warden of the hostel, he may be so allowed. Provided, however, that in case of girls hostel, no male student or any male person shall have any access to a girl inmates of the hostel except in the presence of the caretaker of the ladies hostel apart from obtaining advance permission of the warden for the purpose.

(15) Any girl inmate of the hostel who has gone out of the hostel premises for a personal errand shall return to the hostel latest by 9.00 p.m. If she is delayed, she should render written explanation there and then to the Caretaker of the hostel who shall allow her to enter the hostel occupy her seat in the room allotted to her on such written explanation submitted by her. The written explanation so submitted shall be forwarded to the warden of the hostel by the Caretaker as soon as possible but not later than 9.00 a.m., on the next day.

(16) Teaching staff and warden will be at liberty to check and inspect the hostel area at any time during night.

(17) Secret student vigilance groups shall be formed. They are expected to bring to the attention of the anti-ragging committee any incident of ragging in the college or outside.

(18) Confidential boxes should be installed at college to receive the complaints of the junior students to know about ragging incidents, if any.

(19) Migration certificates issued by the institution should have an entry apart from that of general conduct and behaviour whether the student had participated in and in particular was punished for ragging.

(20) Ragging can be stopped by creating awareness amongst the students/ teachers and parent that ragging is a reprehensible act which does no good to any one and by simultaneously generating an atmosphere of discipline by sending a clear message that no act of ragging shall not go unnoticed and unpunished.

(21) Any student found to be indulging into any ragging activity shall be suspended immediately after communication is sent to him under the signature of the Principal of the concerned educational institution stating that he is alleged of indulging into ragging activity. Such student shall be debarred from

entering the campus of the educational institution or its hostel, except on any day at any time when he called upon by the authority of the school or by the Parents committee for tendering explanation or for defending his case.

(22) Anti-ragging movement should be initiated by the institution right from the time of advertisement for admission. The prospects, the form for admission must clearly mention that ragging is banned in the institution and any one indulging in ragging is likely to be punished appropriately which punishment may include expulsion from the institution, suspension from the institution or classes for a limited period or fine with a public apology. The punishment may also be taken the shape of :—

- (i) withholding scholarships/fellowships;
- (ii) debarring from representation in events;
- (iii) withholding results;
- (iv) withdrawing benefits like travel concessions and campus selections;
- (v) suspension or expulsion from hostel or mess, and the like.

(23) Photographs of students who have been involved in ragging and against whom prima facie cases are made out shall be published in the notice board put up in a conspicuous place, and also published in local News papers. In addition, students should be cautioned that the moment they indulge in ragging they would have a bleak future inasmuch as they would not be entitled 'to get a passport or visa to go abroad, if a case is registered in the Police Station or if their academic records are tainted with black marks.

(24) If the commission of offence is so serious they may be restrained from participating in national and international meets, tournaments, youth festivals, quizzes and so on.


(25) Failure to prevent ragging shall be construed as act of negligence in maintaining discipline in the institution on the part of the management, the principal and the persons in authority of the institution. Similar responsibility shall be liable to be fixed on hostel warden/superintendents.

(26) Incentives and rewards shall be given for those who actively participate in measures for curbing the menace of ragging. Punishment for the offenders should be balanced by some incentives for non-offenders and those who help check the menace of ragging.

(27) The offence of the ragging is not only punishable under section 4 of Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1997 but also under various provisions as envisaged in the relevant section of the Indian Penal Code 1860 (Act 45/1860) and as per the specific directions to be given to the police officers for taking cognizance of such offences and criminal activities given by the authorities of the Police Department given from time to time.

(28) Ragging is cognizable offence. The same may be reported to the police. However, the police should be called in or allowed entry in the campus at the instance of the head of the institution or the person in charge. The police also deal with such incidents when brought to its notice for action by keeping in mind that they are dealing with students but not as criminals. The action of the police should never be violent and always be guided by correctional attitude.

(29) The above guidelines are only illustrative and are not intended to come in the way of institutions and authorities devising ways and means to curb the ragging.


Principal
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ADDANKI - 523 201,
Prakasam Dist.

Mechanism for Submission of Grievances through online by e-CEGRaM APP, APCCE

(b) G-MAPP (Grievance Redressal Management App)

The Grievance Redressal Management App facilitates easy submission of grievances to CCE enabling quick and transparent redressal mechanism with assured follow up. No grievance is left unredressed with this app. Staff & Students can file grievances with ease of a click & hope of assured redressal.

a. Features:

- College wise Student and staff data is uploaded
- Individual can login and register grievance
- Online 24X7 access to file any grievance.
- Escalation of grievance to concerned authority within a short time.
- Tracking the redressal status of the grievances from dashboard at Individual, College, District, Zone, and State level.
- Grievance will be forwarded to concerned officer for redressal

Outcomes:

- Provision of direct access to the administration
- No delay and faster redressal mechanism
- Applicant can track his/her application
- No need to visit Head Office and hence conduct of classes enhanced
- Transparency in Administration
- Increase of accountability on part of Colleges and HoD office
- Staff & Students can file grievances with ease of a click & hope of assured redressal. The GR Mapp has two (02) forms

1. Web Application for Desktop users, 2. Mobile App



Screen shot of the GR MAP's Web Application and App

V. R. S. Reddy
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