

**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 sports 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.

- (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

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.

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

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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



