



## **Standard Operating Procedure If Involved in Ragging**

(A.Y. 2013-14)

### **ST. MARTIN'S ENGINEERING COLLEGE**

Dhullapally, Secunderabad – 500014

#### **Sub: Prevention and prohibition of Ragging**

**F.No.37-3/Legal/AICTE/2009** – In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 23 read with Section 10 (b), (g), (p) and (q) of AICTE Act, 1987, the All India Council for Technical Education, hereby makes the following Regulations:-

#### **1. Short title and commencement:-**

- (i) Prevention and Prohibition of Ragging in Technical Institutions.

#### **2. Objectives:-**

In view of the directions of the Hon' ble Supreme Court in SLP No. 24295 of 2006 dated 16-05-2007 and in Civil Appeal number 887 of 2009, dated 08-05-2009 to prohibit, prevent and eliminate the scourge of ragging including any conduct by any student or students whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness a fresher or any other student, or indulging in rowdy or undisciplined activities by any student or students which cause or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in any fresher or any other student or asking any student to do any act which such student will not in the ordinary course do and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame, or torment or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of such fresher or any other student, with or without an intent to derive a sadistic pleasure or showing off power, authority or superiority by a student over any fresher or any other student, in all higher education institutions in the country, and thereby, to provide for the healthy development, physically and psychologically, of all students, the All India Council for Technical Education,(AICTE) brings forth these Regulations.

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### 3. Definitions:-

#### a) Academic year:

**Academic year** means the period from the commencement of admission of students in any course of study in the institution up to the completion of academic requirements for that particular year.

#### b) Fresher:

**“Fresher”** means a student, who has been admitted to an institution and who is undergoing his/her first year of study in such institution.

c) Words and expressions used and not defined herein but defined in the Act or in the General Clauses Act, 1887, shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act or in the General Clauses Act, 1887, as the case may be .

d) All other words and expressions used herein and not defined but defined in the All India Council for Technical Education Act, 1987 (52 of 1987), shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the said Act;

#### 4. What constitutes Ragging: - Ragging constitutes one or more of any of the following acts:

a. Any conduct by any student or students whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness a fresher or any other student;

b. Indulging in rowdy or undisciplined activities by any student or students which causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship, physical or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in any fresher or any other student;

c. Asking any student to do any act which such student will not in the ordinary course do and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame, or torment or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of such fresher or any other student;

d. Any act by a senior student that prevents, disrupts or disturbs the regular academic activity of any other student or a fresher;

e. Exploiting the services of a fresher or any other student for completing the academic tasks assigned to an individual or a group of students.

f. Any act of financial extortion or forceful expenditure burden put on a fresher or any other student by students;

  
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g. Any act of physical abuse including all variants of it: sexual abuse, homosexual assaults, stripping, forcing obscene and lewd acts, gestures, causing bodily harm or any other danger to health or person;

h. Any act or abuse by spoken words, emails, posts, public insults which would also include deriving perverted pleasure, vicarious or sadistic thrill from actively or passively participating in the discomfiture to fresher or any other student;

i. Any act that affects the mental health and self-confidence of a fresher or any other student with or without an intent to derive a sadistic pleasure or showing off power, authority or superiority by a student over any fresher or any other student.

### **5. Measures for prevention of ragging:-**

It shall be mandatory for every technical institution to take following measures for prevention of ragging.

1. The advertisement issued for admission by the institution shall clearly mention that ragging is totally banned and anyone found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging is liable to be punished.

2. The application form shall also contain a printed affidavit, preferably both in English and Hindi and/or in one of the regional languages and the affidavit should 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.

3. Each batch of freshers should be divided into small groups and each such group shall be assigned to a member of staff. Such staff member should interact individually with each member of the group on daily basis to ascertain the problems/difficulties, if any faced by the freshers in the Institution and extend necessary help.

4. In case of freshers admitted to a hostel it shall be the responsibility of the teacher incharge of the group to co-ordinate 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. Freshers should 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 Staff.

5. The faculty members /departments/units of the technical 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.



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6. The Institution imparting technical education shall utilize the vacation period before the starting of the new academic year to launch wide publicity campaign against ragging through posters, information booklets, seminars, street plays, etc.

7. The Institution imparting technical education shall identify properly and illuminate mainly all vulnerable locations.

**6. Monitoring mechanism in institution, University including Deemed to be University imparting technical education:-**

**a) Anti-ragging Committee:** Every institution imparting technical education shall constitute a Committee to be known as the Anti-ragging Committee to be nominated and headed by the Head of the Institution, and consisting of 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 senior students, non-teaching staff; and shall have a diverse mix of membership in terms of level as well as gender.

b) It shall be the duty of the Anti-Ragging Committee to ensure compliance with the provisions of these Regulations as well as the provisions of any law for the time being in force concerning ragging; and also to monitor and oversee the performance of the Anti-Ragging Squad in prevention of ragging in the institution.

**c) Anti-Ragging Squad:** Every institution imparting technical education shall also constitute a smaller body to be known as the Anti-Ragging Squad to be nominated by the Head of the Institution with such representation as may be considered necessary for maintaining vigil, oversight and patrolling functions and shall remain mobile, alert and active at all times. Provided that the Anti-Ragging Squad shall have representation of various members of the campus community and shall have no outside representation.

d) It shall be the duty of the Anti-Ragging Squad to be called upon to make surprise raids on hostels, and other places vulnerable to incidents and having the potential for ragging and shall be empowered to inspect such places.

e) It shall also be the duty of the Anti-Ragging Squad to conduct an on-the-spot enquiry into any incidents of ragging referred to it by the Head of the institution or any member of the faculty or any member of the staff or any student or any parent or guardian or any employee of a service provider or by any other person, as the case may be; and the enquiry report along with recommendations shall be submitted to the Anti-Ragging Committee for action. Provided that the Anti-Ragging Squad shall conduct such enquiry observing a fair and transparent procedure and the principles of natural justice and after giving adequate opportunity to the student or students accused of ragging and other witnesses to place before it the facts, documents and views concerning the incidents of ragging, and considerations such other relevant information as may be required.



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f) **Mentoring Cell:** Every institution shall, at the end of each academic year, in order to promote the objectives of these Regulations, constitute a Mentoring Cell consisting of students volunteering to be Mentors for freshers, in the succeeding academic year; and there shall be as many levels or tiers of Mentors as the number of batches in the institution, at the rate of one Mentor for six freshers and one Mentor of a higher level for six Mentors of the lower level.

### **7. Action to be taken against the Principal or the Head of the Institution /Faculty Members/Non-Teaching staff of institution.**

1. The Head of the Institution along with other administrative authorities should take adequate measures for prevention of ragging. Any lapse on the part of these authorities shall make them liable for criminal action for negligence of duty. The technical Institution, University including Deemed to be University imparting technical education should incorporate a clause in their letter of appointment that the Director, Faculty and other administrative Heads should ensure all possible steps for prevention of ragging in the premises of the educational institutions, and that they are liable for action, in case of non-compliance.

2. The Principal or Head of the Institution/Department shall obtain an affidavit from every employee of the Institution including teaching/non-teaching staff, contract labor employed in the premises either for running canteen or as watch and ward staff or for cleaning or maintenance of the building, 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 records.

3. Departmental enquiries shall be initiated, in addition to penal consequences against such heads of the Institution/Faculty members/non-teaching staff who display an apathetic or insensitive attitude towards complaints of ragging and would not take timely steps in the prevention of ragging and punishing those who rag.

4. The Principal or the Head of the Institution/Faculty Members/Non-Teaching staff, if found negligent in taking necessary measures for ensuring safety of students and preventing the ragging would be declared unfit for holding any post in any technical institution, University including Deemed to be University imparting technical education.

### **8. Actions to be taken against students for indulging and abetting ragging in institution:-**

1. The punishment to be meted out to the persons indulged in ragging has to be exemplary and justifiably harsh to act as a deterrent against recurrence of such incidents.

2. Every single incident of ragging a First Information Report (FIR) must be filed without exception by the institutional authorities with the local police authorities.



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3. The Anti-Ragging Committee of the institution shall take an appropriate decision, with regard to punishment or otherwise, depending on the facts of each incident of ragging and nature and gravity of the incident of ragging.

4. a) Depending upon the nature and gravity of the offence as established the possible punishments for those found guilty of ragging at the institution level shall be any one or any combination of the following:-

- (i) Cancellation of admission
- (ii) Suspension from attending classes
- (iii) Withholding/withdrawing scholarship/fellowship and other benefits
- (iv) Debarring from appearing in any test/examination or other evaluation process
- (v) Withholding results
- (vi) Debarring from representing the institution in any regional, national or international meet, tournament, youth festival, etc.
- (vii) Suspension/expulsion from the hostel
- (viii) Rustication from the institution for period ranging from 1 to 4 semesters
- (ix) Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarring from admission to any other institution.

- b) An appeal against the order of punishment by the Anti-Ragging Committee shall lie.
- i. In case of an order of an institution, affiliated to or constituent part, of the University, to the Vice-Chancellor of the University;
  - ii. In case of an order of a University, to its Chancellor.
  - iii. In case of an institution of national importance created by an Act of Parliament, to the Chairman or Chancellor of the institution, as the case may be.

5. The institutional authorities shall intimate the incidents of ragging occurred in their premises along with actions taken to the Council from time to time.

(x) Collective punishment: when the persons committing or abetting the crime of ragging are not identified, the institution shall resort to collective punishment as a deterrent to ensure community pressure on the potential raggers.

## **9. The Procedure of Resolving Ragging Issues:-**

The main aim of establishing Anti-Ragging Committee is to make our college a ragging –free zone. To resolve any ragging issue, a student, who faces any form of ragging, brings into the notice of class counselor takes the issue and reports to the HOD. The HOD looks into the matter and forwards it to the students' grievance cell based on the severity of the issue. As the redressal process starts at the meeting of Anti-Ragging Committee, it will initiate the enquiry with the permission of IQAC. On receiving the enquiry report the action to be taken against the culprit, who performed or involved in harming the victim.

  
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In case of a student faces any form of ragging issue, he/she has to report in the form of a letter / On-line or an e-mail. Based on the severity of the problem he/she has to register the complaint. On receiving the complaint, the Anti-Ragging Committee conducts a meeting with the members. The plan of action will be decided. As the first step enquiry process will be initiated in which the genuinity of the issue will be found. After receiving the conformation of the complaint it starts to implement punishable actions for the crime of ragging. The report of the resolving ragging issue will be submitted to the Principal.



**Dr.V.Kesava Reddy (Convener)**

**Anti-Ragging Committee**



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