

**GOVT. OF ASSAM**  
**OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CUM CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT,**  
**JORHAT MEDICAL COLLEGE & HOSPITAL, JORHAT, ASSAM**  
( UNDER SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION, JORHAT )

No. SMEJ/JMCH/MEU/639/2011/ 3795

Date : 02.09.2024

From :: **Prof. (Dr.) Ratna Kanta Talukdar**  
Principal cum Chief Superintendent  
Jorhat Medical College & Hospital, Jorhat

To  
Sri / Smt. / Mr. / Dr. \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Guardian of \_\_\_\_\_

Sub : **Anti-Ragging**

Dear Sir / Madam,

This letter intends to bring to the notice of the parents / guardians and their wards enrolled in Jorhat Medical College about the demerits of Ragging.

As we are all aware that ragging in Educational Institutions has become a menace and the notoriety has reached such gigantic proportions that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has set out regulations in connection with a Public Interest Litigation filed by the Vishwa Jagriti Mission. The Medical Council of India has laid out strong guidelines towards it for the Medical Colleges of India based on the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

Keeping in view of the above, the first Anti Ragging Committee was formed in JMC, Jorhat in March, 2010, i.e., since the inception of starting of academic session with regular subsequent modifications as and when felt needed. At the same time, the Anti-Ragging Squad of JMC, Jorhat is also actively functional. The guardians and the students are regularly been intimated and made aware of the prevailing laws and punishments that could be awarded to any student found to be guilty of Ragging or abetting Ragging. The matter of Ragging has been taken very seriously by the Authorities and the Members of the Committee who are from the different sections of the society, namely, the Principal, JMC as the Chairman, the Superintendent of Police, Jorhat District, the Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jorhat District, President - Press Club, Representative of Parent / Guardian and Faculty as members.

For this, an Undertaking has to be filled up Online in the National Anti-Ragging Helpline website along with a hard copy to be signed by the students and the parents / guardians before the commencement of the new academic session such that they are aware of the Institutions' approach towards ragging and the punishments thereof (copy of Undertaking enclosed). This has to be submitted by both the freshers and the old students **without fail** at the time of admission to the new session.

Depending on the nature and gravity of the offence, the possible punishments at the institutional level shall be one or in combination of the following.

1. Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges.
2. Withholding / Withdrawing scholarship/fellowship and other benefits.
3. Debarring from appearing in any test/ examination or other evaluation Process.
4. Withholding results.
5. Debarring from representing the institution in any regional, national or international meet, tournament, youth festival, etc.
6. Suspension/ expulsion from the hostel
7. Cancellation of admission.
8. Rustication from the institution for period ranging from 1 to 4 semesters.
9. Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarring from admission to any other institution for a specific period.
10. Fine of Rs. 25,000/- and Rs. 1 lakh.
11. Collective punishment: When the persons committing or abetting the crime of ragging are not identified, the institution shall resort to collective punishment.

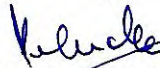
I hope you would kindly instruct and inform your wards about this anti-ragging regulation.

**The College shall be very strict about this matter.**

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

Encl. As stated.

  
[ Prof. (Dr.) Ratna Kanta Talukdar ]  
Principal cum Chief Superintendent i/c  
Jorhat Medical College & Hospital, Jorhat

Contd. ... p/2

Memo No. SMEJ/JMCH/MEU/639/2011/ 3795(A)

Date : 02.09.2024

Copy in confirmation to :

1. The Commissioner & Secretary, Medical Education & Research Deptt., Govt. of Assam, Dispur, Guwahati-6.
2. The Director of Medical Education, Assam, Six Mile, Khanapara, Guwahati-22.
3. The Secretary, National Medical Council, Pocket-14, Sector-8, Dwarka-1, New Delhi-77.
4. The Secretary, Ministry of HRD, Dept. of Higher Education, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110115.
5. The Secretary, University Grants Commission, Bahadurshah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002.
6. The Deputy Commissioner, Jorhat.
7. The Registrar (Academic), Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences, Assam, Narakasura Hill Top, Bhangagarh, Guwahati, Assam.
8. The Superintendent, JMCH, Jorhat.
9. All Prof. & HoDs, JMCH, Jorhat.
10. The Member Secretary / Member, \_\_\_\_\_ Anti-Ragging Committee / Anti-Ragging Squad, JMC, Jorhat.
11. The Officer-in-Charge, Medical Education Unit, JMC, Jorhat.
12. The Superintendent, Boys' / Girls' / Interns' / PG Boys' / PG Girls' Hostel, JMC, Jorhat.
13. The P.S. to Hon'ble VC, Srimanta Sankaradeva University of Health Sciences, Assam.
14. The PS to the Chairman, SMEJ, JMCH, Jorhat for favour of kind appraisal of the Hon'ble Chairman.
15. The PS to the Hon'ble Minister, Medical Education & Research Department, Assam for favour of kind appraisal of the Hon'ble Minister.
16. Office copy.

Principal cum Chief Superintendent i/c  
Jorhat Medical College & Hospital, Jorhat

(AMENDMENTS INCORPORATED UPTO APRIL -2018)

## MEDICAL COUNCIL OF INDIA

### NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 2009

No. MCI-34(1)/2009-Med./25453, In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 33 of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 (102 of 1956) the Medical Council of India with the previous sanction of the Central Government hereby makes the following Regulations, namely:-

**1. Short title, commencement and applicability**

- (i) These Regulations may be called the Medical Council of India (Prevention and Prohibition of Ragging in Medical Colleges/Institutions) Regulations, 2009.
- (ii) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

**2. Objective:-**

To root out ragging in all its forms from medical colleges/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 "Medical College" means an institution, whether known as such or by any other name, which provides for a programme, beyond 12 years of schooling, for obtaining recognized MBBS qualification from a university and which, in accordance with the rules and regulations of such university, is recognized as competent to provide for such programmes of study and present students undergoing such programmes of study for the examination for the award of recognized MBBS/PG Degree/Diploma qualifications.

3.2 "Head of the institution" means the Dean/Principal/Director of the concerned medical college/institution.

3.3 Ragging" includes the following:

Any conduct whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of harassing, 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.

The above sub-clause 3.3 shall be substituted in terms of notification published on 28.03.2016 in the Gazette of India with the following:

3.3 Ragging" includes the following:

Any conduct whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of harassing, 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. The conduct includes but is not restricted to any act by a senior student that prevents, disrupts or disturbs the regular academic activity of any other student or a fresher; exploiting the services of a fresher, or any other students for completing the academic tasks assigned to an individual or a group of students; any act of financial extortion or forceful expenditure burden put on a fresher or any other student by students; 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; any act or abuse by spoken words, emails, post, public insults which would also include deriving perverted pleasure, "vicarious or sadistic thrill from activity or passively participating in the discomfiture to fresher or any other students; 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.

The following have been added after sub-clause 3.3 in terms of notification published on 05.04.2018 in the Gazette of India .

"Any act of physical or mental abuse (including bullying and exclusion) targeted at another student (fresher or otherwise) on the ground of colour, race, religion, caste, ethnicity, gender (including transgender), sexual orientation, appearance, nationality, regional origins, linguistic identity, place of birth, place of residence or economic background."

- 3.4 MCI means MCI constituted in terms of Section 3 of Indian Medical Council Act, 1956.
- 3.5 "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 even 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:-**

- 5.1 The Medical College/Institution / University shall strictly observe the provisions of the Act of the Central Government and the State Governments, if any, or if enacted and / or for the time being in force, considering ragging as a cognizable offence under the law at 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 Medical College/Institution / University 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 Medical College/Institution / University 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 / prohibited in the Medical College/Institution and anyone found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging is liable to be punished appropriately.
- 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 Hon'ble 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.
- 6.1.4 A Brochure or booklet/leaflet shall be 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 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.

A database shall be created out of affidavits affirmed by each student and his/her parents/guardians stored electronically, and shall contain the details of each student. The database shall also function as a record of ragging complaints received.

- 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.

*The above sub-clause 6.1.7 shall be substituted in terms of notification published on 28.03.2016 in the Gazette of India with the following:*

- 6.1.7 *A student seeking admission to a hostel forming part of the Medical College /Institution/ University, or seeking to reside in any temporary premises not forming part of the institution, include a private commercially managed lodge or hostel, 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 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 Apart from placing posters mentioned in sub-clause 6.1.9 above at strategic places, the Medical College/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.
- 6.1.11 The Medical College/Institution/University 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.

- 6.1.12 The Medical College/Institution/University shall identify, properly illuminate and man all vulnerable locations.

*The above sub-clause 6.1.12 shall be substituted in terms of notification published on 28.03.2016 in the Gazette of India with the following:*

- 6.1.12 *The Medical College/Institution/University shall identify, properly illuminate and keep a close watch on all locations known to be vulnerable to occurrences of ragging incidents*

- 6.1.13 The Medical College/Institution/University 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.

*The above sub-clause 6.1.13 shall be substituted in terms of notification published on 28.03.2016 in the Gazette of India with the following:*

- 6.1.13 *The Medical College/Institution/University shall tighten security in its premises, especially at vulnerable places and intense policing by Anti-Ragging squad, referred to in these Regulations and volunteers, if any, shall be resorted to at such points at odd hours during the early months of the academic session.*

*The following clause shall be added after clause 6.1.13 in terms of notification published on 28.03.2016 in the Gazette of India:*

- 6.1.13(A) *The head of the institutions shall provide information to the local police and local authorities, the details of every privately commercially managed hostels or lodges used for residential purposes by students enrolled in the institution and the head of the institution shall also ensure that the Anti-Ragging Squad shall ensure vigil in such locations to prevent the occurrence of ragging therein.*

- 6.1.14 The Medical College/Institution/University 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.

- 6.1.15 The faculties/ departments/ units of the Medical College/Institution /University 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.

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.

**6.2. On admission:-**

- 6.2.1 Every fresher admitted to the Medical College/Institution/University 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.

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.

- 6.2.2 The Medical College/Institution/University 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 bonafide 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 Medical College/Institution/University shall also organize joint sensitization programmes of 'freshers' and seniors.

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 seniors to be addressed by the principal/Head of the institution, and the 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.

*In sub-clause 6.2.5, the following shall be added after the end of second para thereof, in terms of notification published on 28.03.2016 in the Gazette of India.*

*(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 freshers.*

- 6.2.6 Freshers shall be encouraged to report incidents of ragging, either as victims, or even as witnesses.



The above sub-clause 6.2.6 shall be substituted in terms of notification published on 28.03.2016 in the Gazette of India with the following:

- 6.2.6 Freshers or any other student(s) shall be encouraged to report incidents of ragging, either as victims, or even as witnesses. The identity of such informants shall be protected and shall not be subject to any adverse consequence only for the reason for having reported such incidents.

The following shall be added after the sub-clause 6.2.6, in terms of notification published on 28.03.2016 in the Gazette of India:

- 6.2.7 Each batch of freshers, on arrival at the institution, shall be divided into small group and each such group shall be assigned to a member of the faculty, who shall interact individually with each member of the group everyday for ascertaining the problems or difficulties, if any, faced by the fresher in the institution and shall extend necessary help to the fresher in overcoming the same.
- 6.2.8 Freshers shall be lodged, as far as may be, in a separate hostel block, and where such facility are not available, the institution shall ensure that access of seniors to accommodation allotted to freshers is strictly monitored by wardens, security guards and other staff of the institution.
- 6.2.9 A round the clock vigil against ragging in the hostel premises, in order to prevent ragging in the hostels after the classes are over, shall be ensured by the institution.

**6.3. At the end of the academic year:-**

- 6.3.1 At the end of every academic year the Dean/Principal/Director 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 Medical College/Institution /University 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.

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.

In the 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.

**6.4. Setting up of Committees and their functions:-**

- 6.4.1 The Anti-Ragging Committee:- Every institution shall have an Anti-Ragging Committee and an Anti -Ragging Squad. The Anti-Ragging Committee shall be headed by the Head of the institution and shall consist

of representatives of civil and police administration, local media, Non Government Organizations involved in youth activities, 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 exclusively 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 Anti-Ragging Committee.

All matters of discipline within teaching institutions must be resolved within the campus except those impinging on law and order or breach of peace or public tranquility, all of which should be dealt with under the penal laws of the land

University Monitoring Cell At the level of the University, we recommend that 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 Heads 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 incidents of ragging, the problems faced by 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 undertakings 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 institution.

**6.5. Other measures:-**

- 6.5.1 The Annexures mentioned in 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 Medical College/Institution /University 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 Full-time warden 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 and the details of their telephone number must be widely publicized. Similarly, the telephone numbers 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. The institution shall review and suitably enhance the powers and perquisites of Wardens and authorities involved in curbing the menace of ragging.

Further the institutions shall provide necessary incentives for the post of full-time warden, so as to attract suitable candidates.

- 6.5.4 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.

As ragging takes place mostly in the hostels after the classes are over in the college, a round the clock vigil against ragging in the hostel premises shall be provided. It is seen, that college canteens and hostel messes are also places where ragging often takes place. 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.

The security personnel posted in hostels shall be under the direct control of the Wardens and assessed by them.

- 6.5.5 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 action in the event of ragging in such premises, just as they would be for incidents within campuses.

- 6.5.6 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.
- 6.5.7 The Head of the institution shall take immediate action on receipt of the recommendations of the Ant-Ragging Squad. He/ She shall also take action suo motu if the circumstances so warrant.
- 6.5.8 Freshers who do not report the incidents of ragging either as victims or as witnesses shall also be punished suitably.
- 6.5.9 Anonymous random surveys shall be conducted across the 1st year batch of students (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.
- 6.5.10 The burden of proof shall lie on the perpetrator of ragging and not on the victim.
- 6.5.11 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.
- 6.5.12 The Migration/Transfer Certificate issued to the student by the Medical College/Institution /University 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.
- 6.5.13 Preventing or acting against ragging shall be the collective responsibility of all levels and sections of authorities or functionaries in the Medical College/Institution /University, including faculty, and not merely that of the specific body/ committee constituted for prevention of ragging.
- 6.5.14 As such the college canteens and hostel messes are also places where ragging often takes place, hence 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.
- Further 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 Medical College/Institution /University 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 Medical College/Institution /University 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. Regulatory Measures

The inspecting/visiting committees of MCI shall cross verify that the medical college/institution has strictly complied with the anti ragging measures and has a blemishless record in terms of there being no incident of ragging during the impending period (i.e. from earlier inspection) or otherwise.

## 8. Awardable Punishments.

### 8.1 At the Medical College/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 specific period.
- 8.1.10 Fine of Rs. 25,000/- and Rs. 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 Penal consequences for the heads of the institutions/administration of the institution who do not take timely steps in the prevention of ragging and punishing those who rag.

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.

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.

**8.3 At the MCI level**

- 8.3.1 Impose an exemplary fine of Rs. 1 lakh for each incident of ragging payable by erring medical college/institution to such authority as may be designated by the appropriate Govt., as the case may be.
- 8.3.2 Declare the erring Medical College/Institution/University as not having the minimum academic standards and warning the potential candidates for admission at such institution through public notice and posing on the MCI website.
- 8.3.3 Declare the erring Medical College/Institution/University to be ineligible for preferring any application u/s 10A of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 for a minimum period of one year, extendable by such quantum by the Council as would be commensurate with the wrong.

(Lt. Col. (Retd.) Dr. A.R.N. Setalvad)  
SECRETARY

## 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 MCI Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009.
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 MCI Regulations mentioned above and/or as per the law in force.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ month of \_\_\_\_\_ year

Signature

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name:

(1) Witness:

(2) Witness:

## 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 Hon'ble Supreme Court and the Central/State Government in this regard as well as the MCI 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 MCI Regulations mentioned above and/or as per the law in force.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ month of \_\_\_\_\_ Year

Signature

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name:

(1) Witness:

(2) Witness:



**Citation : 2001 SOL Case No. 431**

**SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**

Before :- Dr. A.S. Anand, CJI. with R.C. Lahoti and K.G. Balakrishnan, JJ.

Writ Petition (C) No. 656 of 1998. D/d. 3.8.2001

Vishwa Jagriti Mission through President - Petitioner

Versus

Central Government through Cabinet Secretary - Respondents

For the Appearing Parties :- Mr. Mukul Rohtagi, Additional Solicitor General, Ms. Lalita Kohli, Ms. Kavita Wadia, Advocate for Mr. Maninder Singh, Mr. Ajay Sharma, Mr. B.V. Balram Das, Ms. Sushma Suri, Mr. Sidharath Bhatnagar, Mr. Gaurab K. Banerjee and Mr. Prashan Kumar, Advocates.

**Constitution of India, Articles 14 and 226 - Ragging in educational institutions - Incidents of ragging crossing limits of decency, morality and humanity - States making it a cognizable offence cannot cure it - It must be dealt with within the institution by exercise of disciplinary authority so that the students who want to learn should not remain under constant fear - Institutions must provide proper guard and police force if required to assist the guards - The management must take a responsibility to curb ragging and to generate confidence in the mind of students - The universities and the States providing funds to such Institutions must keep watch and control over the managements - The managements not taking proper steps to curb the same must face dis-affiliation and stoppage of grant - Steps to be taken suggested to be followed strictly. [Paras 13 to 23]**

**ORDER**

**R.C. Lahoti, J.** - Pursuant to our order dated 3.3.2001, the University Grants Commission has filed written submissions/guidelines. An advance copy has already been supplied to the learned counsel opposite.

2. This public interest litigation highlights a menace pervading the educational institutions of the country which in spite of efforts made by the Central Government, the University Grants Commission, State Governments and some of the educational institutions is unfortunately showing an upward trend. The petitioner seeks directions of this Court so as to curb the menace of ragging.

3. The pleadings are complete. Inasmuch as the petition involves dealing with an issue which is likely to affect a large number of students and relationship of the students inter se belonging to different age-groups and coming from different social and cultural background as also the relationship of the students with the institution, the petition needs a detailed hearing. The issues arising for decision cannot be dealt with through a legalistic approach only; sociological and psychological facts shall have to be kept in view. However, all the learned counsel appearing in the case have submitted that the Court is shortly closing for summer vacation and by the time it re-opens most of the educational institutions may have become functional and therefore it would be in public interest if some guidelines by way of an interim order are laid down by this Court.

Accordingly, we have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

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

5. 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 feel ragging cannot be cured merely by making it a cognizable criminal offence. Moreover, we feel 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 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 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 :

6. 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 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.

7. 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.

8. Ragging can be stopped by creating awareness amongst the students, teachers and parents 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 be tolerated and any act of ragging shall not go unnoticed and unpunished.

9. Anti-ragging movement should be initiated by the institutions right from the time of advertisement for admissions. The prospectus, the form for admission and/or any other literature issued to aspirants 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 class 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 (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.

10. The application form for admission/enrolment shall have a printed undertaking to be filled up and signed 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.

11. 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.
12. 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 addresses 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.
13. 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 the harassment by 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.
14. 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 finding/recommendation/suggestions before the authority competent to take decision.
15. All vulnerable locations shall be identified and specially watched.
16. 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-whenever necessary, may be used for the purpose.
17. Failure to pre-vent 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.
18. The hostels/accommodations where freshers are accommodated shall be carefully guarded, if necessary by posting security personnel, and placed incharge of a warden/superintendent who should himself/herself reside thereat, 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 Incharge. Entry at other times may also be regulated.
19. If the individuals committing or abetting ragging are not identified collective punishment could be resorted to act as a deterrent punishment and to ensure collective pressure on the potential raggars.
20. 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.

21. If an institution fails to curb ragging, the UGC/Funding Agency may consider stoppage of financial assistance to such an institution till such time as it achieves the same. An University may consider disaffiliating a college or institution failing to curb ragging.

22. The Universities and the institutions 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.

23. We make 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 and ragging. If there are local laws governing ragging they shall be implemented and knowledge and information about such laws shall also be disseminated. 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. We expect 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.

24. The UGC shall bring these guidelines to the notice of all educational institutions. Publicity may also be given by issuing press notes in public interest by UGC and Central Government.

List after summer vacation.

Order accordingly.