

Anti-Ragging Policy

Introduction

Ashoka Business School, Nashik, is committed to providing a safe and conducive learning environment for all its students. In line with the guidelines laid down by the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) and the Directorate of Technical Education (DTE), Maharashtra, this policy outlines the measures to prevent and address any incidents of ragging.

Definition of Ragging

As per the AICTE regulations, ragging constitutes one or more of the following acts:

- 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.
- Indulging in rowdy or undisciplined activities by any student or students which cause or are likely to cause annoyance, hardship, physical or psychological harm, or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in any fresher or any other student.
- 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.
- Any act that prevents, disrupts, or disturbs the regular academic activity of any student.
- Exploiting the services of a fresher or any other student 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, 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.
- Any act that affects the mental health and self-confidence of any 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.

Objectives

- To prohibit any conduct by any student or students which constitutes ragging.
- To prevent the occurrence of ragging by following a strict anti-ragging policy.
- To address and redress any ragging incidents that may occur effectively and promptly.



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Preventive Measures**1. Awareness Programs:**

- Conducting orientation programs and counseling sessions for new students to make them aware of the anti-ragging policy.
- Organizing workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns to highlight the consequences of ragging.

2. Anti-Ragging Affidavit:

- Obtaining affidavits from all students and their parents/guardians declaring that the student will not indulge in ragging activities.

3. Anti-Ragging Committee and Squad:

- Constituting an Anti-Ragging Committee and an Anti-Ragging Squad as per AICTE/DTE guidelines. The committee and squad will include faculty members, staff, and student representatives.
- Regular patrolling and monitoring of vulnerable areas within the campus by the Anti-Ragging Squad.

4. Mentoring System:

- Implementing a mentoring system where seniors mentor juniors to foster a supportive and friendly environment.

Reporting and Redressal Mechanism**1. Reporting:**

- Any incident of ragging should be reported to the Anti-Ragging Committee/Squad or any faculty member immediately.
- Students can also report incidents of ragging through the helpline numbers provided by the institute.

2. Investigation:

- The Anti-Ragging Committee will investigate the reported incidents of ragging promptly and thoroughly.
- Confidentiality of the complainant and the accused will be maintained during the investigation.

3. Action:

- Based on the investigation, appropriate disciplinary actions will be taken against the guilty as per the institute's disciplinary regulations.
- The actions may include suspension, expulsion from the hostel, rustication, or any other punishment deemed appropriate by the committee.

4. Support:

- Providing necessary support and counseling to the victims of ragging.
- Ensuring that the academic progress of the victim is not affected due to the incident.



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ACTION AGAINST RAGGING:

Maharashtra Prohibition of Ragging Act 1999 which is in effect from 15th May 1999 has the following provisions for Action against Ragging.

1. 'Ragging within or outside of any educational institution is prohibited.
2. Whosoever directly or indirectly commits, participates in, or propagates ragging within or outside any educational institution shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term up to 2 years and /or penalty, which may extent to ten thousand rupees.
3. Any student convicted of an offence of ragging shall be dismissed from the educational institution and such student shall not be admitted in any other educational institution for the period of five years from the date of order of such dismissal.
4. Whenever any student or, as the case may be, the parent or guardian or a teacher of an educational institution complains in writing, of ragging to the head of the educational institution, the head of the educational institution shall, without prejudice to the foregoing provisions, within seven days of the receipt of the complaint, inquire into the matter mentioned in the complaint and if, prima facie, it is found true, suspend the student/s who is/are accused of the offence, and shall, immediately forward the complaint to the police station having jurisdiction over the area in which the educational institution is situated, for the further action. Where, on enquiry by the head of the educational institution, it is found that there is no substance, prima facie, in the complaint received: he/she shall intimate the fact, in writing, to the complainant. The decision of the head of the educational institution shall be final.

NOTE: The orders issued by the Honourable Supreme Court / High Court/ Government regarding Prohibition of Ragging Act, will be made applicable as and when issued. The same shall be binding on all concerned.

Responsibilities

- **Administration:**
 - Ensure the implementation of the anti-ragging policy.
 - Conduct regular reviews and update the policy as required.
- **Faculty and Staff:**
 - Create awareness about the anti-ragging policy among students.
 - Actively monitor and report any incidents of ragging.
- **Students:**
 - Adhere to the anti-ragging policy and refrain from indulging in any ragging activities.
 - Report any incidents of ragging immediately.



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