



MALWANCHAL UNIVERSITY

(Index Group of Institutions)



Anti Ragging Policy

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**ANTI RAGGING
POLICY**

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MALWANCHAL UNIVERSITY, INDORE

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Anti-Ragging Policy of Malwanchal University

1. Introduction

This policy has been formulated in consonance with UGC Rules 2016, on Anti Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions / Universities, as published in the gazette notification.

1.

a) In view of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, and in consideration of the rules framed by the Central Government and the UGC, to prohibit, prevent and eliminate ragging and to provide for the healthy development, physically and psychologically, of all students, Malwanchal University, Indore has set forth the Anti-Ragging Policy as listed in succeeding paragraphs.

b) The Vice Chancellor shall be responsible for implementation of rules listed here under this policy. However, he may delegate the functional roles and procedures to Institutional anti-ragging committees for anti-ragging function in the University.

2. Objectives of the Policy

To prohibit, prevent and eliminate any conduct by any student or students which constitutes ragging.

3. Policy statement

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 indiscipline 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 there 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;

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, post, 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.

4. Procedure

4.1 Measures for prohibition of ragging at the University level

The University shall comply with following guidelines of the UGC:

a) The University or any part of it thereof, including its elements, including but not limited to, its constituent units, and all its premises, whether academic, residential, playgrounds, or canteen, whether located within the campus or outside, and in all means of transportation of students, accessed by students for the pursuit of studies in University, shall not permit or condone any reported incident of ragging in any form; and it shall take all necessary and required measures, including but not limited to the provisions of these Rules, to achieve the objective of eliminating ragging within the University or outside;

b) The University shall take action in accordance with the Rules of UGC against those found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging, actively or passively, or being part of a conspiracy to promote ragging.

4.2 Measures for prevention of ragging at the University level

a. The University shall take the following steps in regard to admission or registration of students:

i. Public declaration of intent, in its electronic, audio-visual or print or any other media, for admission of students to any course of study and shall expressly provide that ragging is totally prohibited in the University, and anyone found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging, whether actively or passively, or being a part of a conspiracy to promote ragging, shall be liable to be punished in accordance with the laid down Rules as well as under the provisions of any penal law for the time being in force.

ii. Students shall be provided with the telephone numbers of the Anti-Ragging Committee members and all the important functionaries in the University including but not limited to the Vice Chancellor, Deans/Directors, and Anti-Ragging Squads, Wardens of Hostels, and other functionaries or authorities as relevant.

iii. Before the commencement of the academic session, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor shall convene and address a meeting of various functionaries/agencies, such as Hostel Wardens, representatives of students, parents/guardians (if feasible), faculty, administration to discuss the measures to be taken to prevent ragging in the University and steps to be taken to identify those indulging in or abetting ragging and punish them.

iv. The University shall, to make the community at large and the students in particular aware of the dehumanizing effect of ragging, and the approach of the University towards those indulging in ragging, prominently display posters depicting the provisions of penal law

applicable to incidents of ragging, and the provisions of these rules and also any other law for the time being in force, and the punishments thereof. It shall also prominently display the same on Notice Boards.

in hostels and other buildings as well as at places, where students normally gather and at places, known to be vulnerable to occurrences of ragging incidents.

v. The University shall identify, properly illuminate and keep a close watch on all locations known to be vulnerable to occurrences of ragging incidents. The University shall tighten security in its premises, especially at vulnerable places through intense policing by Anti-Ragging Squads and volunteers, if any, which shall be resorted to at such points at odd hours during the initial duration of the academic session as may be decided by the authorities.

vi. The University shall utilize the vacation period before the start of the new academic year to launch a campaign against ragging through posters, leaflets and such other means, as may be desirable or required.

vii. The constituent units of the 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 an aim to promote the objectives of Anti ragging.

b. University shall, on the day of registration of students, take the following steps:

i. Every fresh student admitted to the University shall be given a printed leaflet detailing to whom he/she has to turn to for help and guidance for various purposes including addresses and telephone numbers, so as to enable the student to contact the concerned person at any time, if and when required.

ii. The University shall also explain to the freshers, the arrangements made for their induction and orientation which promote efficient and effective means of integrating them fully as students with those already admitted to the University in earlier years.

iii. The University shall also inform the freshers about their rights as bona fide students of the University and clearly instructing them that they should desist from doing anything, with or against their will, even if ordered by the senior students, and that any attempt of ragging shall be promptly reported to the Anti-ragging Squad or to the Warden or to the Director – Chairperson student welfare committee or to the Vice Chancellor, as the case may be.

iv. The University shall, on the arrival of senior students after the first week or after the second week, as the case may be, schedule orientation programs as follows, namely;

1. Joint sensitization program and counselling of both freshers and senior students by a HOI
2. Joint orientation program of freshers and seniors to be addressed by the Vice Chancellor and the anti-ragging committee

3. Organization on a large scale of cultural, sports and other activities to provide platform for the fresher's and seniors to interact in the presence of faculty members;
4. In the hostel, the warden should address all students.
5. As far as possible, faculty members should dine with the hostel residents in their respective hostels to instil a feeling of confidence among the fresher's.

v. Fresher's or any other student(s), whether being victims, witnesses, in any incident of ragging, shall be encouraged to report such occurrence, and 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.

vi. Each batch of fresher's, on arrival at the University, shall be divided into small groups and each such group shall be assigned to a mentor, who shall interact individually with each member of the group for ascertaining the problems or difficulties, if any, faced by the fresher in the University and shall extend necessary help to the fresher in overcoming the same.

vii. It shall be the responsibility of the mentors assigned to the group of freshers, to coordinate with the Wardens of the hostels and to make surprise visits to the rooms in such hostels.

viii. Freshers shall be lodged, as far as may be, in a separate hostel block, and where such facilities are not available, the University shall ensure that access of seniors to

accommodation allotted to freshers is strictly monitored by wardens, security guards and other staff of the University.

ix. 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 University.

x. It shall be the responsibility of the parents/guardians of freshers to promptly bring any instance of ragging to the notice of the Vice Chancellor.

xi. Every student at the time of his/her registration shall inform the University about his/her place of residence, if staying outside the campus, while pursuing the course of study,

xii. The HOI shall, at the end of each academic year, send a letter to the parents/guardians of the students who are completing their first year in the University, informing them about these Rules and any law for the time being in force prohibiting ragging and the punishments thereof as well as punishments prescribed under the penal laws, and appealing to them to impress upon their wards to desist from indulging in ragging on their return to the University at the beginning of the academic session next.

5. Committees for prevention of Ragging at the institutional level.

The University shall constitute the following bodies:

a) Anti-Ragging Committee to be nominated and headed by the HOI, 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 levels as well as gender. It shall be the duty of the Anti-Ragging Committee to ensure compliance with the provisions of Anti ragging policy 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 University.

b) A smaller body to be known as the Anti-Ragging Squad to be nominated 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.

c) 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 of, and having the potential of, ragging and shall be empowered to inspect such places.

d) It shall also be the duty of the Anti-Ragging committees to conduct an on-the-spot enquiry into any incident of ragging referred to it by the Vice Chancellor 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 HOI 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 incident of ragging, and considering such other relevant information as may be required.

f) The University shall take the following other measures:

i. Each hostel or a place where groups of students reside, forming part of the University, shall have a full-time Warden, to be appointed by the University as per the eligibility criteria laid down for the post reflecting both the command and control aspects of maintaining discipline and preventing incidents of ragging within the hostel, as well as the softer skills of counselling and communicating with the youth outside the classroom situation; and who shall reside within the hostel, or at the very least, in the close vicinity thereof.

ii. The Warden shall be accessible at all hours and be available on telephone and other modes of communication, and for the purpose the Warden shall be provided with a mobile phone by the University, the number of which shall be publicized among all students residing in the hostel.

iii. The University shall review and suitably enhance the powers of Wardens; and the security personnel posted in hostels shall be under the direct control of the Warden and their performance shall be assessed by them.

iv. The University shall undertake measures for extensive publicity against ragging by counselling sessions, workshops, painting and design competitions among students and such other measures, as it may deem fit.

v. The faculty of the University and its non-teaching staff, which includes, but is not limited to the administrative staff, contract employees, security guards and employees of service providers providing services within the University, shall be sensitized towards the ills of ragging, its prevention and the consequences thereof.

vi. The University shall give necessary instructions to the employees of the canteens and mess, whether that of the University or that of a service provider providing this service, or their employers, as the case may be, to keep a strict vigil in the area of their work and to report the incidents of ragging to the Anti-Ragging Squad or members of the Anti-Ragging Committee or the Wardens, as may be required.

vii. Discreet random surveys shall be conducted amongst the freshers every fortnight during the first three months of the academic year to verify and cross-check whether the University is indeed free of ragging or not and for the purpose the University may design its own methodology of conducting such surveys.

viii. Notwithstanding anything contained in these Rules with regard to obligations and responsibilities pertaining to the authorities or members of bodies prescribed above, it shall be the general collective responsibility of all levels and sections of authorities or functionaries including members of the faculty and employees of the University, whether regular or temporary, and employees of service providers providing service within the University, to prevent or to act promptly against the occurrence of ragging or any incident of ragging which comes to their notice.

6. Action to be taken by the Vice Chancellor

a) On receipt of the recommendation of the Anti-Ragging Squad or on receipt of any information concerning any reported incident of ragging, the Vice Chancellor shall immediately determine if a case under the penal laws is made out and if so, either on his own or through a member of the Anti-Ragging Committee authorized by him in this behalf, proceed to file a First Information Report (FIR), within twenty four hours of receipt of such information or recommendation, with the police and local authorities, under the appropriate penal provisions relating to one or more of the following, namely;

- i. Abetment to ragging;
- ii. Criminal conspiracy to rag,
- ii. Unlawful assembly and rioting while ragging;
- iv. Public nuisance created during ragging,

- v. Violation of decency and morals through ragging,
- vi. Injury to body, causing hurt or grievous hurt,
- vii. Wrongful restraint;
- viii. Wrongful confinement;
- ix. Use of criminal force;
- X Assault as well as sexual offences or unnatural offences;
- xi. Extortion;
- xii. Criminal trespass;
- xiii. Offences against property;
- xiv. Criminal intimidation;
- xv. Attempts to commit any or all of the above-mentioned offences against the victim(s);
- xvi. Threat to commit any or all of the above-mentioned offences against the victim(s);
- vii. Physical or psychological humiliation;
- viii. All other offences following from the definition of "Ragging".

Administrative action in the event of ragging

a) The University shall punish a student found guilty of ragging after following the procedure and in the manner prescribed herein-under:

i. The Anti-Ragging Committee shall take an appropriate decision, in regard to punishment or otherwise, depending on the facts of each incident of ragging and nature and gravity of the incident of ragging established in the recommendations of the Anti-Ragging Squad. The Anti-Ragging Committee may, depending on the nature and gravity of the guilt established by the Anti-Ragging Squad, award to those found guilty, one or more of the following punishments, namely,

1. Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges
2. Debarring from appearing in any test/ examination or other evaluation process.
3. Withholding results.
4. Debarring from representing the University in any regional, national or international meet, tournament, youth festival, etc.
5. Suspension/expulsion from the hostel.
6. Rustication from the University for period ranging from 1 to 4 semesters.
7. where the persons committing or abetting the act of ragging are not identified, the University shall resort to collective punishment