

XAVIER UNIVERSITY, PATNA

ANTI-RAGGING POLICY

1. Introduction

This policy has been crafted in alignment with the UGC Regulations of 2016 concerning Anti-Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions and Universities, as detailed in the official gazette notification. The intent is to ensure a safe and supportive educational environment for all students, as emphasized by the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The University is committed to implementing these guidelines rigorously to prohibit, prevent, and eliminate any form of ragging, thereby promoting the healthy development of students both physically and psychologically.

2. Objectives

The primary objective of this policy is to eradicate any behaviour that constitutes ragging, ensuring that all students can pursue their education without fear or intimidation.

3. Definition of Ragging

Ragging encompasses one or more of the following behaviours:

- 3.1 Any actions by a student or group of students, whether expressed verbally or in writing, that result in teasing, rudeness, or mistreatment of a fresher or any other student.
- 3.2 Participation in unruly or disorderly conduct by any student or group of students that causes, or is likely to cause, annoyance, hardship, or physical or psychological harm, instilling fear or apprehension in a fresher or any other student.
- 3.3 Coercing any student into performing acts that they would not normally engage in, leading to feelings of shame, torment, or embarrassment, thereby negatively impacting the physical or mental well-being of the fresher or any other student.
- 3.4 Any actions by senior students that obstruct, disrupt, or interfere with the regular academic activities of other students or freshers.

- 3.5 Utilizing the services of a fresher or any other student to complete academic tasks assigned to an individual or group.
- 3.6 Engaging in financial extortion or imposing undue financial burdens on a fresher or any other student.
- 3.7 Committing acts of physical abuse, which include all forms of sexual abuse, homosexual assaults, stripping, coercing obscene or lewd acts, and causing bodily harm or any other threat to health or safety.
- 3.8 Any form of verbal or written abuse, including insults via spoken words, emails, or public humiliation, which may involve deriving perverse pleasure or sadistic enjoyment from the discomfort of freshers or other students.
- 3.9 Any actions that undermine the mental health and self-esteem of a fresher or any other student, whether or not there is an intent to derive sadistic pleasure or to assert power, authority, or superiority over them.

4. Prohibition Measures

Xavier University, Patna shall adhere to the following measures to prevent ragging:

- 4.1 The University will not tolerate any incidents of ragging within its premises, including academic, residential, and recreational areas.
- 4.2 Any individual found guilty of ragging will face disciplinary action in accordance with UGC regulations and applicable laws.

5. Measures for Prevention of Ragging

The University shall implement the following measures concerning the admission or registration of students:

- 5.1 A public declaration of intent will be made through electronic, audio visual, print, or any other media for the admission of students to any course of study. This declaration will explicitly state that ragging is strictly prohibited within the University. Anyone found guilty of ragging or abetting ragging, whether actively or passively, or being part of a conspiracy to promote ragging, will face punishment in accordance with established rules and applicable penal laws.

- 5.2 The admission brochure, instruction booklet, or prospectus, whether in print or electronic format, will prominently feature a warning regarding the prohibition of ragging, including the potential consequences for violations.
- 5.3 Students will be provided with the contact numbers of the Anti-Ragging Helpline and key University officials, including the Vice Chancellor, Deans/Directors, members of the Anti-Ragging Committees, Anti-Ragging Squads, and Hostel Wardens.
- 5.4 Enrolment letters will include a mandatory undertaking format in English, as specified in the UGC Rules, to be filled out and signed by both the applicant and their parents. This undertaking will affirm that they have read and understood the Anti-Ragging policy and are aware of the prohibitions and penalties associated with ragging.
- 5.5 Prior to the start of the academic session, the Vice Chancellor will convene a meeting with various stakeholders, including Hostel Wardens, Directors, student representatives, parents/guardians (if feasible), faculty, and administration, including police, if necessary, to discuss preventive measures against ragging and identify those involved in such activities.
- 5.6 To raise awareness about the detrimental effects of ragging, the University will prominently display posters outlining the relevant penal laws and the provisions of the Anti-Ragging policy. These will be placed on notice boards in hostels and other common areas, particularly in locations known to be susceptible to ragging incidents.
- 5.7 The University will identify and monitor locations that are vulnerable to ragging incidents, enhancing security measures through vigilant patrolling by Anti-Ragging Squads and volunteers, especially during the initial weeks of the academic session.
- 5.8 During the vacation period before the new academic year, the University will launch an Anti-Ragging campaign using posters, leaflets, and other promotional materials as necessary.
- 5.9 Each school, department, centre, or unit within the University will establish induction arrangements to anticipate and address the specific needs of

various student groups well before the academic year begins, promoting the objectives of the Anti-Ragging initiative.

- 5.10 The University may collaborate with professional counsellors prior to the academic session to provide counselling services to freshers and other students as needed after the academic year commences.

The University shall implement the following measures on the day of student registration:

- 5.11 Every new student will receive a printed leaflet that provides essential contact information for help and guidance, enabling them to reach out to the appropriate person whenever needed.
- 5.12 Freshers will be informed of their rights as bona fide students and instructed to report any incidents of ragging to the Anti-Ragging Squad, Warden, Dean of Student Affairs, or the Vice Chancellor.
- 5.13 Upon the arrival of senior students, the University will schedule orientation programs that include joint sensitization and counselling sessions, as well as cultural and sports activities to foster interaction between freshers and seniors.
- 5.14 Appropriate committees will be established to monitor and promote healthy interactions among freshers, junior students, and seniors.
- 5.15 Freshers and other students will be encouraged to report any incidents of ragging, with assurances that their identities will be protected.
- 5.16 Each group of freshers will be assigned a faculty member for individual interactions to address any challenges they may face.
- 5.17 The University will maintain a continuous vigil against ragging in university premises to prevent incidents after classes.
- 5.18 Parents/guardians of freshers are responsible for reporting any instances of ragging to the Vice Chancellor.
- 5.19 Students must inform the University of their residence if they are staying off campus during their studies.

6. Committees for Prevention of Ragging at the University Level

6.1 Anti-Ragging Committee: This committee include representatives from police administration, faculty members, parents, and both freshers and senior students. The committee's primary responsibility is to ensure compliance with the Anti-Ragging policy and relevant laws.

6.2 Anti-Ragging Squad: A smaller, mobile unit appointed by the Vice Chancellor, this squad will maintain vigilance and conduct patrols. They will be responsible for making surprise inspections in hostels and other areas prone to ragging incidents. The squad will also conduct on the spot inquiries into any reported incidents of ragging and submit their findings to the Anti-Ragging Committee for further action.

6.3 Employee Engagement: All University employees, including teaching and non-teaching staff, will be required to report any incidents of ragging they observe. The University will also provide training to ensure staff are aware of the implications of ragging and the importance of prevention.

7. Action to be Taken by the Vice Chancellor

7.1 Upon receiving recommendations from the Anti-Ragging Squad or any information regarding a reported incident of ragging, the Vice Chancellor will promptly assess whether a case under penal laws is applicable. If so, either personally or through an authorized member of the Anti-Ragging Committee, he will file a First Information Report (FIR) with the police and local authorities within twenty-four hours of receiving such information or recommendations.

7.2 The FIR may pertain to one or more of the following offenses:

7.2.1 Abetment of ragging;

7.2.2 Criminal conspiracy to engage in ragging;

7.2.3 Unlawful assembly and rioting during ragging;

7.2.4 Public nuisance caused by ragging;

7.2.5 Violation of decency and morals through ragging;

7.2.6 Bodily injury, causing hurt or grievous harm;

7.2.7 Wrongful restraint;

7.2.8 Wrongful confinement;

7.2.9 Use of criminal force;

7.2.10 Assault, including sexual offenses or unnatural offenses;

- 7.2.11 Extortion;
 - 7.2.12 Criminal trespass;
 - 7.2.13 Offenses against property;
 - 7.2.14 Criminal intimidation;
 - 7.2.15 Attempts to commit any of the aforementioned offenses against the victim(s);
 - 7.2.16 Threats to commit any of the aforementioned offenses against the victim(s);
 - 7.2.17 Physical or psychological humiliation;
 - 7.2.18 Any other offenses as defined under "Ragging".
- 7.3 Additionally, the Vice Chancellor is required to report the incident of ragging to the District Level Anti-Ragging Committee immediately.
- 7.4 The University will also proceed with its own inquiry and other necessary actions without waiting for the police or local authorities to act, ensuring that remedial measures are initiated and completed within seven days of the reported incident.

8. Administrative Action in the Event of Ragging

The University will impose penalties on any student found guilty of ragging, following the procedures outlined below:

- 8.1 The Anti-Ragging Committee will make a decision regarding the appropriate punishment based on the specifics of each incident of ragging and the severity of the actions as determined by the Anti-Ragging Squad's recommendations.
- 8.1.1 Suspension from classes and academic privileges.
 - 8.1.2 Withholding or withdrawing scholarships, fellowships, and other benefits.
 - 8.1.3 Prohibition from participating in any tests, examinations, or evaluation processes.
 - 8.1.4 Withholding of results.
 - 8.1.5 Prohibition from representing the University in any regional, national, or international events, tournaments, or youth festivals.
 - 8.1.6 Suspension or expulsion from hostel accommodations.
 - 8.1.7 Cancellation of admission.
 - 8.1.8 Rustication from the University for a period ranging from one to four semesters.

- 8.1.9 Expulsion from the University, along with a ban on admission to any other University for a specified duration.
- 8.1.10 If the individuals responsible for the act of ragging are not identified, the University may implement collective punishment.
- 8.2 Any appeal against the punishment imposed by the Anti-Ragging Committee can be directed to the Vice Chancellor.
- 8.3 If the appointing authority determines that a faculty or staff member has failed to report or take prompt action to prevent an incident of ragging, or has shown an indifferent or insensitive attitude towards complaints of ragging, or has not taken timely measures as required by these Rules, a departmental inquiry will be initiated against that individual, following the prescribed procedures of the University.

9. How We Support Anti-Ragging

- 9.1 All students are required to sign an Anti-Ragging declaration to affirm their commitment to a ragging free environment.
- 9.2 Billboards displaying Anti-Ragging messages are prominently placed in high traffic areas frequented by students, including building foyers, common rooms, canteens, mess halls, gymnasiums, laboratories, and libraries.
- 9.3 Mobile patrols consisting of security personnel actively monitor the campus to prevent any incidents of ragging.
- 9.4 Announcements regarding Anti-Ragging measures are made during the inaugural ceremonies of various courses to ensure that students are well informed.
- 9.5 New students are provided with the contact numbers of key University officials, enabling them to report any incidents of ragging promptly.
- 9.6 Suggestion and complaint boxes are strategically placed in important locations, allowing students to report any cases of ragging anonymously if they prefer.
- 9.7 An active Anti-Ragging Squad and Anti-Ragging Committee are in place to oversee and enforce Anti-Ragging policies.
- 9.8 Faculty members maintain strict vigilance to monitor student interactions and ensure a safe environment.

9.9 The University promotes cultural and sports activities to foster healthy interactions between freshers and senior students.

9.10 Surprise checks are conducted at various times during the night to ensure that no ragging occurs in the hostels.

9.11 New students are typically assigned to rooms on a separate floor or wing to minimize the risk of ragging during the initial stages of their first semester.

9.12 Proactive monitoring is maintained, especially during night hours, during welcome parties or other events held in the hostel and on campus.

9.13 Faculty members ensure that all classes adhere to the scheduled timings, preventing any opportunities for seniors to engage in undesirable activities.

ANTI-RAGGING UNDERTAKING BY PARENT/GUARDIAN

I Parent/Guardian of
admitted to Programme of Xavier University, Patna, with
Application No. am aware of and am in agreement with the
Undertaking signed on this day by my ward as required by Xavier University, Patna
Regulation for Prevention of Ragging made in pursuance of the UGC Regulation on
Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions 2009 as amended up
to date.

I have read and understood the above referred Regulations as provided in the Student
Handbook given to my ward by the University and have been fully explained to me and
to my ward of what constitutes Ragging and the Punishment thereto in case found guilty
as detailed in the annexure hereto.

In this regard I hereby solemnly aver and undertake that:

- My ward will not indulge in any behaviour or act that may be constituted as Ragging under the above-mentioned Regulations.
- My ward will not directly or indirectly participate in or abet or propagate through any act of commission or omission that may be considered as Ragging under the above-mentioned Regulations.
- I affirm that if my ward is found guilty of Ragging, he/she is liable for punishment according to the above-mentioned Regulations, without prejudice to any other criminal action that may be initiated against him/her under any penal law or any law for the time being in force.
- My ward will not hurt anyone physically or mentally or cause any other harm.
- I will abide by the decision of the Anti-Ragging Committee of the University in respect of my ward in case he/she is found guilty of Ragging.
- I hereby declare that my ward has not been expelled or debarred from any institution in the country on account of being declared guilty of abetting Ragging actively or passively, or being a part of a conspiracy to promote Ragging and further declare that if this declaration is found to be untrue, I am aware that my ward's admission is liable to be cancelled.

Date :

Phone. No. :

Address :

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Signature of the
Parent/Guardian