



Knowledge Consortium of Gujarat

Department of Education, Government of Gujarat

No./KCG/2023-24/ 3201

Date: 20/03/2024

The Principal,
All Colleges,
Gujarat State

Subject: Sharing the GR of Anti-Ragging issued on 19/03/2024.

Dear sir/ma'am,

Greetings from Knowledge Consortium of Gujarat!

It is my immense pleasure to inform you that Department of Education (Higher & Technical), Government of Gujarat has finalized the **GR of Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher & Technical Educational Institutions of the State of Gujarat** on 19/03/2023.

The signed GR is also attached herewith for your kind perusal. So I request you to kindly disseminate the information at your college within the students and all the stakeholders and kindly take note of it. Also, kindly inform all the authorities of the colleges to implement the GR as per the provisions.

Thanking You.

Prof. A. U. Patel,
Advisor, KCG
Former Vice Chancellor,
Gujarat University

Attachments:

1. Anti-Ragging GR - English

Copy to:

1. PS to Principal Secretary, (Higher and Technical Education), New Sachivalay, Gandhinagar
2. PS to Director, (Higher Education), Dr. Jivraj Mehta Bhavan, Gandhinagar
3. PS to Commissioner, (Technical Education), Karmayogi Bhavan, Gandhinagar



सत्यमेव जयते

Rules for Curbing the Menace
of Ragging in Higher &
Technical Educational
Institutions of the State of
Gujarat.

Government of Gujarat

Education Department

GR No: PRCH/2019/35/KH-1

Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar

Date : 19-03-2024

Read: -

- 1) Judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in Special Leave Petition (SLP) No.24295 of 2006 dated 16th May, 2007 and in Civil Appeal No. 887 of 2009 dated 8th May, 2009.
- 2) UGC Notification F.1-16/2007(CPP-II) dated 17.06.2009
- 3) AICTE Notification F.No.37-3/Legal/AICTE/2009 dated 01.07.2009
- 4) Education Department GR No. PRCH/1309/729/KH dated 14.07.2009
- 5) Judgment of Hon'ble Gujarat High Court passed in WPPIL No.1 of 2023 dated 30.01.2024

Preamble: -

The Education Department, Government of Gujarat has formed the Anti-ragging committees at the Institute Level, University Level, District Level and State level through GR No. PRCH/1309/729/KH dated: 14/07/2009.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 8th May, 2009 to Civil Petition No. 887 of 2009 to Civil Petition No. 887 of 2009 in the matter of University of Kerala Vs. Council, Principals, Colleges, Kerala and in consideration of the determination of the Central Government and the University Grants Commission to prohibit, prevent and eliminate the scourge of ragging including any conduct by any student/s whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness a fresher or any other student, or indulging in rowdy or indiscipline activities by any student/s which causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in any fresher or any other student or asking any student to do any act which such student will not in the ordinary course do and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame, or torment or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of such fresher or any other student, with or without an intent to derive a sadistic pleasure or showing off power, authority or superiority by a student over any fresher or any other student, in all higher education institutions in the country, and thereby, to provide for the healthy development, physically and psychologically, of all students.

It was under active consideration to frame rules for Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher & Technical Educational Institutions of the State of Gujarat.

Resolution: -

After careful consideration and with a view to curb ragging in Higher Education Institutions, the Government of Gujarat has decided to frame rules for Curbing the menace of Ragging in Higher & Technical Educational Institutions of the State of Gujarat.

With a view to curb ragging, all the Higher Educational Institutions in the State of Gujarat being all Universities as defined under sub-section (f) of section (2) of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, all institutions deemed to be a university under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, and all other higher educational institutions including technical institutions / University including Deemed to be University imparting technical education, are directed to comply with the "UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009" (Ref.:- Sr. no.(2) above) and "All India Council for Technical Education (Prevention and Prohibition of Ragging in Technical Institutions, Universities including Deemed to be Universities imparting Technical Education) Regulations, 2009" (Ref.:- Sr. no.(3) above), as applicable to such Higher & Technical Educational Institutions, respectively, while having regard to various instances of acts constituting "Ragging", as provided under the aforesaid Regulations.

In addition to the above, all Higher & Technical Educational Institutions in the State of Gujarat should also comply with the below mentioned rules to curb ragging:

1. Definition of Ragging: -

Ragging is a disturbing reality in the higher education system of our country. Despite the fact that over the years, ragging has claimed hundreds of innocent lives and has ruined the careers of thousands of bright students, the practice is still perceived by many as a way of 'familiarisation' and an 'initiation into the real world' for young college-going students.

The Ragging is defined as any disorderly conduct, whether by words spoken or written or by an act, has the effect of teasing, treating, or handling with rudeness a fresher or a junior student. Indulging in a rowdy or undisciplined activity that causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship, or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or junior student. Asking the students to do any act or perform something that such students 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 junior student. This can lead to adverse effects such as depression, anxiety, and sometimes even suicide.

2. Anti-Ragging Framework: -

a) What constitutes Ragging: -

- (i) 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;
- (ii) 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 thereof in any fresher or any other student;
- (iii) 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;
- (iv) any act by a senior student that prevents, disrupts or disturbs the regular academic activity of any other student or a fresher;
- (v) exploiting the services of a fresher or any other student for completing the academic tasks assigned to an individual or a group of students.
- (vi) any act of financial extortion or forceful expenditure burden put on a fresher or any other student by students;
- (vii) 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;
- (viii) 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;
- (ix) 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.

b) Applicability: -

These resolution shall apply to all the institutions coming within the definition of an University under sub-section (f) of section (2) of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, and to all institutions deemed to be a university under Section 3 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956, to all other higher educational institutions, or elements of such universities or institutions, including its departments, constituent units and all the premises, whether being academic, residential, playgrounds, canteen, or other such premises of such universities, deemed universities and higher educational institutions, whether located within the campus or outside, and to all means of transportation of students, whether public or private, accessed by students for the pursuit of studies in such universities, deemed universities and higher educational institutions.

c) Setting up of Committees and their functions: -

- (i) **The Anti-Ragging Committee:** - The Anti-Ragging Committee shall be headed by the Head of the institution and shall consist of representatives of faculty members, parents, students belonging to the fresher's 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.
- (ii) **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 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 said Committee.
- (iii) **Monitoring Cell on Ragging:** - If the institution is an affiliating university, it shall have a Monitoring Cell on Ragging to coordinate with the institutions affiliated to it by calling for reports from the Heads of such institutions regarding the activities of the Anti-Ragging Committees, Squads, and Mentoring Cells, regarding compliance with the instructions on conducting orientation programmes, counselling sessions, etc., and regarding the incidents of ragging, the problems faced by wardens and other officials, etc. This Cell shall also review the efforts made by such institutions to publicize anti-ragging measures, cross-verify the receipt of undertakings from candidates/students and their parents/guardians every year, and shall be the prime mover for initiating action by the university authorities to suitably amend the Statutes or Ordinances or Bye-laws to facilitate the implementation of anti-ragging measures at the level of the institution.

3. Awareness Measures for Ragging Free Campuses: -

- a) Every public declaration of intent by any institution in electronic, audio-visual, online, social media, print, website, admission prospectus/ booklet or any other media should expressly mention that ragging is totally prohibited in the institution at the time of admission of students in any course.
- b) The brochure of admission/ instruction booklet or prospectus, whether in print or electronic format, shall prominently print this Government Resolution in full.
- c) Institutions should display posters in all prominent locations showcasing the provisions of penal law applicable to incidents of ragging.
- d) At the end of each academic year, the institution should send a letter to the parents/guardians informing them about the resolution and any law for the time being enforced prohibiting ragging and its punishments.

- e) Institutions can issue public notices in the newspapers, update their websites with the nodal officer's complete details.
- f) Every fresher should be provided with a printed leaflet with all the information to seek help and guidance from all authorities and agencies, and a calendar of events and activities laid down by the institution to facilitate and complement the familiarization of freshers with the academic environment of the institution.
- g) Institutions should conduct joint sensitisation and orientation programmes for both fresher's and senior students.
- h) Institutions should constitute Anti-Ragging Committee and Anti-Ragging Squad which will be responsible for spreading awareness and preventing the occurrence of ragging.
- i) Meeting of all staff, functionaries and agencies before the commencement of the academic session.
- j) Institutions should launch a publicity campaign against ragging before the commencement of the academic year.
- k) After the commencement of the academic year, the batch of freshers should be divided into small groups and assigned to the faculty for difficulties and guidance.
- l) Random anonymous survey should be done among students about ragging, and it should be a regular practice in the institution.

4. Measures for prevention of ragging at the institution level: -

a) Before admissions: -

- (i) The advertisement for admissions shall clearly mention that ragging is totally banned in the institution, and anyone found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging is liable to be punished appropriately.
- (ii) The 'Prospectus' and other admission related documents shall incorporate all directions of the 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. If the institution is an affiliating university, it shall make it mandatory for the institutions under it to compulsorily incorporate such information in their 'Prospectus'.
- (iii) 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, 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.
- (iv) 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, 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.
- (v) 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.
 - (vi) At the commencement of the academic session of the Head of the Institution shall convene and address a meeting of various functionaries/agencies, like Hostel Wardens, representatives of students, parents/ guardians, faculty, district administration including police, to discuss the measures to be taken to identify the offenders and punish them suitably.
 - (vii) 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 colors 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.
 - (viii) The institution 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.
 - (ix) The institution shall identify, properly illuminate and man all vulnerable locations.
 - (x) The institution 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.
 - (xi) The institution 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.
 - (xii) The faculties/ departments/ units of the institution shall have induction arrangements (including those which anticipate. Identify and plan to meet any special needs of any specific section of students) in place well in advance of the beginning of the academic year with a clear sense of the main aims and objectives of the induction process.

b) On admission: -

- (i) Every fresh student admitted to the institution 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 number 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 fresher's dependence on their seniors.

- (ii) The institution 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.
- (iii) The leaflet mentioned above shall also inform the fresher about their rights as bona fide 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.
- (iv) The leaflet mentioned above shall contain a calendar of events and activities laid down by the institution to facilitate and complement familiarization of fresher with the academic environment of the institution.
- (v) The institution shall also organize joint sensitization programs of 'fresher's' and seniors.
- (vi) Fresher's shall be encouraged to report incidents of ragging, either as victims, or even as witnesses.

c) At the end of the academic year: -

- (i) At the end of every academic year the Vice-Chancellor/ Dean of Students Welfare/ Director/ Principal 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.
- (ii) At the end of every academic year the institution 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 fresher's and 1 Mentor of a higher level for 6 Mentors of the lower level.

d) Other measures: -

- (i) The institution shall arrange for regular and periodic psychological counseling and orientation for students (for fresher's 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.
- (ii) Apart from placing posters at strategic places, the 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.
- (iii) If the institution has B.Ed. and other Teacher training programmes, these courses shall be mandated to provide for anti-ragging and the relevant human rights appreciation inputs, as well as topics on sensitization against corporal punishments and checking of bullying amongst students, so that every teacher is equipped to handle at least the rudiments of the counseling approach.

- (iv) Wardens 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. The institution shall review and suitably enhance the powers and perquisites of Wardens and authorities involved in curbing the menace of ragging.
- (v) The security personnel posted in hostels shall be under the direct control of the Wardens and assessed by them.
- (vi) 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 not reporting cases of ragging in their premises.
- (vii) The Head of the institution shall take immediate action on receipt of the recommendations of the Anti-Ragging Squad. He/ She shall also take action suo motto if the circumstances so warrant.
- (viii) Freshers who do not report the incidents of ragging either as victims or as witnesses shall also be punished suitably.
- (ix) Anonymous random surveys shall be conducted across the 1st year batch of 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.
- (x) The burden of proof shall lie on the perpetrator of ragging and not on the victim.
- (xi) 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 shall be the p of the police/ local authorities. Remedial action shall be initiated and completed within the one week of the incident itself.
- (xii) The Migration/Transfer Certificate issued to the student by the institution shall have an entry, apart from those relating to general conduct and behavior, 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 behavior or any inclination to harm others.
- (xiii) Preventing or acting against ragging shall be the collective responsibility of all levels and sections of authorities or functionaries in the institution, including faculty, and not merely that of the specified body/ committee constituted for prevention of ragging.
- (xiv) The Heads of institutions other than universities shall submit weekly reports to the Vice-chancellor of the university the institution is affiliated to or recognized by, during the first three months of new academic year and thereafter each month on the status of compliance with anti-ragging measures. The Vice Chancellor of each

university shall submit fortnightly reports of the university, including those of the Monitoring Cell on Ragging in case of an affiliating university, to the Chancellor.

- (xv) 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.

e) Measures for encouraging healthy interaction between fresher's and seniors: -

- (i) The institution 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 fresher's and senior students.
- (ii) Fresher's 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 fresher's are brought out properly in the presence of the faculty, thus helping them to shed their inferiority complex, if any, and remove their inhibitions.
- (iii) The institution 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.

5. Punishments: -

a) At the 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:

- (i) Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges.
- (ii) Withholding/ withdrawing scholarship/ fellowship and other benefits.
- (iii) Debarring from appearing in any test/ examination or other evaluation process.
- (iv) Withholding results.
- (v) Debarring from representing the institution in any regional, national or international meet, tournament, youth festival, etc.
- (vi) Suspension/ expulsion from the hostel.
- (vii) Cancellation of admission.
- (viii) Rustication from the institution for period ranging from 1 to 4 semesters.
- (ix) Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarring from admission to any other institution for a specified period.
- (x) Any person who directly or indirectly commits, participates in, abets or propagates ragging within or outside any educational institution shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years and shall also be liable to a fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees.

- (xi) He shall be dismissed from the educational institution and such student shall not be admitted in any other educational institution for a period of five years from the date of order of such dismissal.
- (xii) Collective punishment: When the persons committing or abetting the crime of ragging are not identified, the institution shall resort to collective punishment.

b) At the university level in respect of institutions under it: -

If an institution under a university (being constituent of, affiliated to or recognized by it) fails to comply with any of the provisions of this Government Resolution and fails to curb ragging effectively, the university may impose any one or any combination of the following penalties on it:

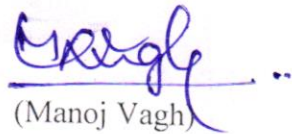
- (i) Withdrawal of affiliation/ recognition or other privileges conferred on it
- (ii) Prohibiting such institution from presenting any students then undergoing any program of study therein for the award of any degree/diploma of the university
- (iii) Withholding grants allocated to it by the university, if any
- (iv) Withholding any grants channelized through the university to the institution
- (v) Any other appropriate penalty within the powers of the university.

c) At the appointing authority level: -

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 case of inaction or not taking steps recommended by authorised committee/s.

These rules are applicable and binding to all employees, faculties and students of all Higher & Technical Educational Institutions in the State of Gujarat and must be followed scrupulously. Director of Technical Education and Director of Higher Education should monitor and get report from all Higher Education Institutions from time to time and should submit the report to this Department.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Gujarat,



(Manoj Vagh)

Deputy Secretary
Education Department

To,

- The Principal Secretary to Hon. Chief Minister, Swarnim Sankul-1, Gandhinagar
- Personal Secretary to Hon. Minister (H. & T. E.), Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar
- Personal Secretary to Hon. Minister of State (H. E.), Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar

- Directorate, Higher Education, Block no.12, 2nd Floor, Dr. Jivraj Mehta Bhavan, Gandhinagar – 382 010
- Commissioner, Technical Education, Block-2, Sixth Floor, Karmayogi Bhavan, Gandhinagar – 382 010
- Personal Secretary to Principal Secretary (H. and T. E.), Education Department,
- Advisor, KCG, Pragna Puram Campus, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad
- Registrar (All Concerned University and Higher Education Institutions)
- Section Officer (KH and KH-2 Branch), Education Department, Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar