



**VISVA-BHARATI  
SANTINIKETAN**

A copy of the minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of Anti-ragging Monitoring Committee held on 05.06.2015 at 12.00 noon (Friday) under the Chairmanship of Shri R. K. Raghvan in the UGC Office, is enclosed herewith for information and necessary action.

No.REG/Notify/156/169  
Date : 31.07.2015  
Enclo : as stated

  
Registrar  
Visva-Bharati

**Copy to :**

1. Pro-Vice Chancellor/All Provosts/Principals of all Bhavanas/Vibhagas
2. The Heads of all Academic and Administrative Departments/Centres/Offices
3. Dean of Students Welfare
4. Proctor
5. Controller of Examinations
6. C.S. to the Vice-Chancellor
7. P.A. to the Registrar
8. University Webmaster – To upload it in the University Website.

**Minutes of the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Anti-ragging Monitoring  
Committee held on 5.6.2015 at 12 Noon (Friday) under the  
Chairmanship of Shri R K Raghvan, in the UGC Office.**

List of participants is attached.

2. The Committee first met separately with MHRD & UGC officials and later together with all regulatory bodies and others. The following points came up at the first meeting :-

- i. **Amendment to Anti-Ragging Regulations of UGC** : - On the issue of amendment to UGC's Anti-Ragging Regulations by including words/terms like race, racial, ethnic, ethnicity, transgender, stalking etc., it was decided that a sub-Committee be constituted with Dr.Rajendra Prasad as Chairman, Dr.ArunAgarwal as member and Dr.(Mrs) Pankaj Mittal, Joint Secretary (UGC), as Member- Secretary. This Committee would consider all issues including how to regulate re-admission of convicted students after they complete their punishment terms in the same institution or otherwise and whether the institutions concerned could themselves regulate such situations/conditions and other issue/s that may be there. The Members, however, specifically wanted that the meaning and clarification on all the words included in the Anti ragging regulations should be specific and clear. Dr.Rajendra Prasad vehemently argued that any modification/addition/deletion in the term ragging needs the approval of the Hon'ble Apex Court as its meaning, scope and parameters were finalized by the Hon'ble Apex Court. Dr Prasad also argued that wide consultations with various stakeholders, civil society

activists, specialists and intellectuals would be needed in order to arrive at specific, credible and acceptable definitions. The UGC shall lend all logistical support for the sub-committee meetings. Once the latter considers the amendments the same can be sent to the Commission and thereafter to the amicus curiae for approval of the Hon'ble Apex Court.

- ii. **Problems of Ragging in some States:** JS (UGC) mentioned to the Committee about problems of ragging in States like U.P., W.B, etc. The Committee desired that Hon'ble HRM may be requested to write to the concerned Chief Ministers if there is no response to UGC's communications at the Chairman's level to the Chief Secretaries/Education Secretaries. JS (UGC) brought out statistics about U.P, W.B, M.P and Orissa which are as under: -

State	No. of Ragging cases registered in last seven years
U. P.	565
W. B.	375
M.P	313
Orissa	289

- iii. **Continued engagement of Anti-Ragging Monitoring Agency:** JS (UGC) mentioned that the Commission has given extension of one more year to the Aman Satya Kachroo Trust as Anti-Ragging Monitoring Agency based on its past performance. It was noted that Prof Raj Kachroo, the Founding Trustee of ASK Trust, had agreed to host, manage and maintain the Anti-Ragging Portal ([www.antiragging.in](http://www.antiragging.in)) without any extra cost. Prof. Kachroo will also develop the mobile application facilities for the benefit of the students and their guardians.



The Chairman appreciated this and directed that all Regulatory Bodies/Institutions should also go for technologies like mobile applications, connectivity with local administration through net, emergency call system, etc. It was noted that the Contract for the present Website agency on Anti-Ragging namely, Planet E-Com Solutions Pvt. Ltd. was coming to end on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2015. In this connection Prof. Raj Kachroo was requested to have a relook at the Anti-ragging Monitoring Agency's formats and templates for easy accessibility and retrieval of all information in one place and in one go. DS (HE) requested the UGC to pursue with Prof. Raj Kachroo and expedite revised formats/templates. DS (HE) pointed out that even HRM also wanted change of formats and templates. It was noted that MHRD had sent D.O. communications/reminders to UGC on the subject. The Members desired incidentally that Prof. Raj Kachroo should not exceed his mandate and jurisdiction by himself writing letters and speaking to the media, The Committee also desired that UGC should keep a tab on all Anti-ragging Monitoring Agencies.

- iv. **Inaction of certain bodies on Anti-Ragging:** JS (UGC) mentioned that certain bodies/ Institutions (for instance, Sports Authority of India), which were not within the purview of UGC, do not at times take action against ragging. The Committee desired that UGC/ MHRD may write to such organizations for taking action, including filing and follow -up of FIR on ragging cases.

3. Further the following points came up in the subsequent meeting:-

5

i. **Status of Ragging in Medical Colleges:** The MCI representative while mentioning about the steps taken on Anti-Ragging, brought out the cases pertaining to Rajendra Institute of Medical Sciences, Ranchi, SGT Medical College, Gurgaon, and Dr. Ullas Patel Medical College, Jalgaon, Maharashtra. The Committee noted that more than 85 students were ragged and it was a serious case calling for prompt and forthright action. Calling it as a test case the Chairman called for immediate response and report from the MCI. It was noted that no concrete action was taken in such cases in the past. It was also noted incidentally that the Ranchi College incident took place about a year ago and that there was inordinate and unacceptable delay in concrete and practical action on the part of MCI. It was a unique case of mass ragging. The MCI representative agreed to send action taken status on all the cases. Based on the directions in the form of repeated reminders from the Chairman of the Committee, the MCI representative agreed to arrange a formal meeting of the Committee with the Executive Committee of the MCI within this month (June 2015) at the expense of the MCI to discuss issues like status of anti-ragging measures taken by the MCI, steps taken on the ragging cases (including the AIIMS case), cases where FIR was to be lodged or FIR has been pending or not followed up, infirmities in the MCI Anti-Ragging Regulations and other similar issues to be flagged by the MCI. Meanwhile, the MCI representative agreed to call for admission brochures/prospectus/booklets from all medical colleges/ institutions to check the inclusion of specific information on Anti-Ragging. The Member of the Committee and VC, Pondicherry University, requested the MCI representative to have a separate Anti-Ragging Cell and name it as Anti-Ragging Cell instead of Grievance Cell in the MCI. It was noted that Grievance Cell was different from Anti-Ragging Cell. The Chairman repeated that Medical Colleges are hot-beds for ragging and MCI has to set a good example by preventing ragging.



ii. **Status of ragging in institutes under the purview of AICTE, DCI, INC and PCI:** It was noted that there were a large number of cases of ragging in the Engineering Colleges. The AICTE representative was requested by the Chairman to closely monitor all cases and take immediate action. It was noted that there were serious cases of ragging in Engineering Colleges also. The Committee directed that all statutory professional councils must set aside sufficient money for publicity about all Anti-Ragging measures. It was noted that the situation of ragging was reasonably under control in Pharmacy Colleges and Nursing Colleges. Nevertheless both categories of Institutions needed to exercise caution and give wide publicity regarding Anti-Ragging measures besides following up on the pending issues. It was also noted that AICTE, PCI and INC needed to communicate from time to time with UGC and MHRD. As far as Dental Colleges were concerned it was noted that there were many cases of ragging and the DCI was not that effective. DS (HE) remarked that DCI was unnecessarily generating paper-work with no fruitful end result though it was noted that DCI was very pro-active. In this connection the Chairman directed that no victim of ragging should be directly or indirectly pressurized for closure of the case. It was also noted by the Committee that there were about 305 Colleges under DCI, 1500 under PCI and 2000 (including Schools) under INC. The Committee also directed the all organizations should comprehensively and regularly update their websites in the matter of Anti-Ragging besides giving due publicity on Anti-Ragging through print, electronic and social media.

The Committee recommended that UGC should set aside Rs. 5 crore from its Plan budget annually for media publicity to promote the National Programme on prevention of ragging.. The Chairman directed AICTE and

others to follow. The Chairman also directed DS (HE) to ensure optimal utilization of Rs. 5 crore earmarked by MHRD annually for anti-ragging publicity.

iii. **Media Publicity:** The Committee directed that all organizations should set aside some funds for media publicity on Anti-Ragging through various means. The Committee, while recommending an annual budget of Rs 5.00 crores for UGC, urged all the other councils to allocate specific budget for anti-ragging activities. JS(UGC) suggested the use of e-posters, social media, Nukkad Nataks, NSS, hoardings etc., to prevent ragging. The Committee members requested adequate publicity be given through these measures, including their respective websites. DS (HE) specially requested AICTE and MCI on Media publicity. The representative of MCI assured that MCI would ensure action in the form of hoardings, posters, etc. The UGC and all councils were requested to ensure that a hoarding of the specific size and style on prevention of ragging (to be prescribed by UGC) be put up in all prominent places in the educational institutes under their purview. The professional councils were also requested to send the admission brochures of the institutes under their purview to the Monitoring Agency to ensure that anti-ragging provisions were adequately included in the brochures. JS (UGC) mentioned that a sensitization exercise for prevention of ragging should be taken up in the conferences of the Vice Chancellors organized by Association of Indian Universities from time to time for effective and strong action on all anti-ragging issues. The members appreciated and agreed with the suggestion and recommended that a communication to this effect be sent to AIU by the UGC.

iv. **Psychologists Report :** The Committee expressed its displeasure over the delay in the Psychologists Report. JS (UGC) mentioned that there were some



administrative issues which have been resolved and that the final Report would be ready by 31st July, 2015. The interim report was placed before the Committee orally by JS(UGC). The Committee directed UGC to hold dissemination workshops once the final report of the psychologists comes.

v. **Nodal Officers:** The Committee directed that all Regulatory Bodies/Institutions besides updating their websites, setting up Anti-Ragging cells and so on should appoint Nodal Officers unfailingly and invariably as well as appoint substitutes in their absence.

vi. **Support to DS (HE), MHRD:** The Chairman directed that adequate support with staff should be given to DS (HE) who has to single-handedly carry many things on his shoulder.

4. JS (HE) despite her tight schedule joined in between and assured the Chair that Ministry is fully conscious of the menace of ragging and has taken it seriously and assured the Committee of Ministry's resolve of zero tolerance towards ragging. She requested all the representatives present to ensure seriousness and result-oriented action to send a strong message regarding prevention of ragging at any cost and also brooking no tolerance against ragging.

5. Concluding the meeting the Chairman, while appreciating the steps taken to prevent ragging, requested all not to be complacent on Anti-Ragging issues, and be ever vigilant. He added that resurgence of ragging in any form be required to be nipped in the bud. He categorically mentioned that all of us owed a duty to the society to provide a safe and congenial environment for our students. He mentioned that the Anti-Ragging Monitoring Committee mechanism was not a fault-finding exercise; the purpose of the meeting was to



implement the mandate of the Hon'ble Supreme Court for the larger benefit of the society. He also added that Anti-Ragging Cells/Committees and other Bodies should not show any *ad hocism* or casual approach and that initiative, follow-up and implementation should be of the highest order.

The meeting concluded with compliments to the Chair.

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## LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**June 5, 2015**

1. Shri Dr. R.K.Raghavan, In Chair
2. Smt. Ishita Roy, JS, MHRD
3. Dr.(Smt) Pankaj Mittal, JS, UGC
4. Prof. S.Sathikh, Former VC, University of Madras, Chennai
5. Dr. A.K.Agarwal, Ex Dean MAMC, New Delhi
6. Dr. Chandra Krishnamurthy, VC, Pondicherry University
7. Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Principal, Ramjas College
8. Shri S. Shankar, Deputy Secretary, MHRD
9. Dr. Archana Thakur, Deputy Secretary, UGC
10. Shri Anil Mittal, Assistant Secretary, PCI
11. Shri Ashok Kumar, Consultant, AICTE
12. Prof. S.K. Kathuria, Member, DCI
13. Shri Mukesh Kumar, Assistant Secretary, DCI
14. Dr. Ajay Kumar, Member, MCI
15. Shri Ashok Kumar Harit, Deputy Secretary, MCI
16. Shri Bhagwandas Jain, Assistant Secretary, MCI
17. Shri Anupam Dhua, Computer Programmer, MCI
18. Dr. Asha Sharma, Vice President, INC
19. Prof. Raj Kachroo, Aman Satya Kachroo Trust
20. Ms. Sushma Sood, Section Officer, MHRD