

## RAGGING MENACE

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.

### Punishment Provisions

- Any student or group of students found guilty of ragging on campus or off campus shall be liable to one or more of the following punishments:
- Debarring from appearing in any sessional test/ university examination or withholding results
- Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges
- Withdrawing scholarships and other benefits
- Suspension from the college for a period of one month
- Cancellation of admission
- Debarring from representing the institution in any national or international meet, tournament, youth festival, etc.
- Suspension/expulsion from the hostel
- Rustication from the Institution for periods varying from 1 to 4 semesters or equivalent period
- Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarring from admission to any other institution.
- Fine up to twenty Five thousand rupees
- Imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees or with both
- Collective punishment - When the students committing or abetting the crime of ragging are not identified, the institution shall resort to collective punishment as a deterrent to ensure community pressure on the potential raggers. Any institution that fails to take adequate steps to prevent ragging or fails to act in accordance with the Regulations or fails to punish perpetrators or incidents of ragging suitably is liable to the penalties and punishments as per the provisions of the Regulations.

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