



Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad

2013 Undertaking by Students of IIT Hyderabad and Parent on Ragging at IIT Hyderabad

Name of Student:

Name of Parent:

Roll No.:

Program:

1. Meaning of Ragging

In common parlance, ragging means playing practical jokes on somebody or teaching someone a lesson.

The Supreme Court of India perhaps has given a more comprehensive meaning of ragging as under: Ragging is any disorderly conduct, whether by words spoken or written, or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness any student, indulging in rowdy or undisciplined activities which cause or are likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or a junior student and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the psyche of a fresher or a junior student.

I have read the above basic definition of the Supreme Court of India and understood the meaning of the same. BY signing here, I agree not to participate in any ragging activities during my stay here at IIT Hyderabad.

Date:

Signature of the Student

Date:

Signature of the Parent

Name:

2. Brief Overview of Observations of the Supreme Court of India

(Case: The **University** of Kerala vs The Council of Principals of College in Kerala & Others)

1. Ragging in educational institutions has been a matter of concern for this Court since long. Noticing that, notwithstanding a judgment of this Court in Vishwa Jagriti Mission through President vs Central Government through Cabinet Secretary & others (AIR 2001 SC 2793), few remedial practical measures have been taken to prevent the menace of ragging in educational institutions.
2. Ragging is rationalized and justified as a way of *Introduction* or *Getting Familiar* with the freshers at the starting of an academic session of any educational institution.
3. In a very positive aspect, "Ragging" could not be considered as an abridgement between the seniors and the freshers, whereas "Introduction" could be considered as genesis of relationship between the two.
4. When any student is admitted in a particular institution, he/she has to face certain problems and one of them which affect the most is staying away from home and especially away from the dear ones. Because of these problems, the freshers expect some one to look after them, with whom they can have homely environment as they were enjoying at their respective homes. But nowadays the seniors have crossed the barriers, by which they have changed the meaning of "Introduction" into "Ragging".
5. "Seniors" under the garb of "Introduction" have started ragging the freshers and due to which, in recent years, it has become the talk of the day that the freshers who have faced severe ragging are leaving the educational institutions and some have attempted to commit suicide and even some have committed it.
6. In modern era, "Ragging" has become to be known only as synonym of "teasing", "terror", "harassment", "cruelty", "fear" and "physical and mental torture".
7. By perusal of records and survey, it has come to be accepted that "Ragging" is a systematized form of Human Rights' abuse as embodied under the Constitution of India as well as other Constitutions of the World.
8. Over the years in all over the world and especially in South Asia, the practice of "Ragging" has come to be meant as an extreme "harassment", "terror" and even "physical and mental torture" of freshers.
9. Ragging is a set of undisciplined activities undertaken by the seniors to break the ice with the juniors, who have been suddenly thrown into a totally new environment. The contention of seniors behind all such activities is simply to bring the freshers down to earth, because in their opinion the freshers do not respect the seniors and by doing all such inhuman activities under the garb of "Introduction", the seniors rag the freshers so that the freshers may respect them and be under their control. But this act cannot be reasonable and just. The act by the seniors is a "fist of steel against ice" and likewise by doing so, they shatter the ambition, aim and object of freshers and they become aloof in this practical world.

I have read the above brief observations of the Supreme Court of India and understood the meaning of the same.

Signature of the Student

Signature of the Parent

10. To prohibit "Ragging", this Court has given a series of guidelines to the educational institutions whether being Central, State or private institute.

Anti-ragging movement should be initiated by the institutions right from the time of advertisement for admissions. The prospectus, the form for admission and/or any other literature issued to aspirants for admission must clearly mention that ragging is banned in the institution and any one indulging in ragging is likely to be punished appropriately which punishment may include expulsion from the institution, suspension from the institution or class for a limited period or fine with a public apology. The punishment may also take the shape of:

- (i) Withholding scholarships or other benefits,
- (ii) Debarring from representation in events,
- (iii) Withholding results, and
- (iv) Suspension or expulsion from hostel or mess, and the like.

If there be any legislation governing ragging or any provisions in the Statutes and Ordinances, they should be brought to the notice of the students/parents seeking admissions.

The application form for admission/enrolment shall have a printed undertaking to be filled up and signed by the candidate to the effect that he/she is aware of the institution's approach towards ragging and the punishments to which he or she shall be liable if found guilty of ragging. A similar undertaking shall be obtained from the parent/guardian of the applicant.

Such of the institutions as are introducing such a system for the first time shall ensure undertakings being obtained from the students and their parents/guardians already studying in the institutions before the commencement of the next educational year/session.

I have read the above observations of the Supreme Court of India and understood the meaning of the same.

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3. Law of the State of Andhra Pradesh

The following Act of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative Assembly received the assent of the Governor on 19 August 1997 and was first published on the 21 August 1997 in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette for general information.

ACT No. 26 OF 1997

An Act to prohibit ragging in educational institutions in the State of Andhra Pradesh

Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Andhra Pradesh in the Forty-eighth Year of the Republic of India, as follows :--

1. (1) This Act may be called the, Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging Act. 1997.
(2) It extends to the whole of the State of Andhra Pradesh.
(3) It shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from 4 July 1997.
2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires -
 - (a) 'act' includes words either spoken or written or signs or sounds or gestures or visible representations;
 - (b) 'educational institution' means and includes a college, or other institution by whatever name called, carrying on the activity or imparting education therein (either exclusively or among other activities); and includes an orphanage or boarding home or hostel or a tutorial institution or any other premises attached thereto;
 - (c) 'government' means the State Government of Andhra Pradesh;
 - (d) 'notification' means the notification published in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette and the word 'notified' shall be construed accordingly;
 - (e) 'ragging' means doing an act which causes or is likely to cause insult or annoyance of fear or apprehension or threat or intimidation or outrage of modesty or injury to a student;
 - (f) 'student' means a person who is admitted to an educational institution and whose name is lawfully borne on the attendance register thereof;
 - (g) All words and expressions used but not defined in this Act shall have the meanings assigned to them under the Andhra Pradesh Education Act, 1982 or the Indian Penal Code, 1860 respectively.
3. Ragging within or outside any educational institution is prohibited.
4. Whoever, with the intention of causing ragging or with the knowledge that he is likely by such act to cause ragging, commits or abets ragging and thereby -
 - (i) teases or embarrasses or humiliates a student shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees or with both; or
 - (ii) assaults or uses criminal force to or criminally intimidates, a student shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees or with both; or

I have read the above Act 26 of the State of Andhra Pradesh and understood the meaning of the same.

Signature of the Student

Signature of the Parent

- (iii) wrongfully restrains or wrongfully confines or causes hurt to a student shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees or with both; or
 - (iv) causes grievous hurt to or kidnaps or abducts or rapes or commits unnatural offence with a student shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to five years and with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees; or
 - (v) causes death or abets suicide shall be punished with imprisonment for life or with imprisonment for a term which may extend to ten years and with a fine which may extend to fifty thousand rupees.
5. (1) A student convicted of an offence under Section 4 and punished with imprisonment for a term shall be dismissed from the educational institution.
- (2) A student convicted of an offence under Section 4 and punished with imprisonment for a term of more than six months shall not be admitted in any other educational institution.
6. (1) without prejudice to the foregoing provisions, whenever any student complains of ragging to the Head or Manager of an educational institution, such Head or Manager shall inquire into or cause an inquiry to be made into the same forthwith and if the complaint is prima-facie found true, shall suspend the student or students complained against for such period as may be deemed necessary.
- (2) The decision of the Head or Manager of the educational institution under sub-section (1) shall be final.
7. (1) If the Head or the Manager of an educational institution fails or neglects to take action in the manner specified in sub-section (1) of Section 6, such person shall be deemed to have abetted the offence and shall be punished with the punishment provided for the offence.
- (2) If a student commits suicide due to or in consequence of ragging, the person who commits such ragging shall be deemed to have abetted such suicide.
8. The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not derogatory of any law for the time being in force.
9. (1) The Government may by notification, make rules for carrying out all or any of the purposes of this Act.
- (2) Every rule made under this Act shall immediately after it is made, be laid before the Legislative Assembly of the State, if it is in session and if it is not in session, in the session immediately following for a total period of fourteen days which may be comprised in one session or in two successive sessions, and if, before the expiration of the session in which it is so laid or the session immediately following the Legislative Assembly agrees in making any modification in the rule or in the annulment of the rule, the rule shall, from the date on which the modification or annulment is notified, have effect only in such modified form or shall stand annulled as the case may be so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.
10. The Andhra Pradesh Prohibition of Ragging Ordinance, 1997 is hereby repealed.

I have read the above Act 26 of the Stats of Andhra Pradesh and understood the meaning of the same.

Signature of the Student

Signature of the Parent

4. POLICY of IIT Hyderabad on Matters related to Ragging by the Registered Students of the Institute

IIT Hyderabad has a NO TOLERANCE POLICY for Ragging by IIT Hyderabad Students and of IIT Hyderabad students, whether inside or outside the premises of the Institute. Should any incident of Ragging be brought to the attention of any competent authorities, the Institute will verify the authenticity of the case and if any individual (s) are found guilty, they would be immediately terminated from their program and the institute.

If you feel that you have been a victim of ragging by another student at the Institute, please contact the following persons:

Faculty Advisors:

Dr. M.Mahendrakumar , Assistant Professor
Phone: 9655439307 eMail: mkm@iith.ac.in

Dr. Surendra Kumar Martha, Assistant Professor
Phone: 040- 2301 7089 eMail: martha@iith.ac.in

Dr.Raja Lakshmi, Assistant Professor
Phone: 9840869114 eMail: raji@iith.ac.in

Dr. Prem Pal, Assistant Professor
Phone: 94991040800 eMail: prem@iith.ac.in

Dr. R.Shubha, Assistant Professor
Phone: 9440190255 eMail: shubha@iith.ac.in

Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad
Ordnance Factory Campus Yeddumailaram 502205

You can also contact the Anti-Ragging Hotline at **94910 40806**. You will be required to give a written complaint giving details of the incident and the details of alleged student(s).

- A. After receiving your complaint, the Institute will immediately activate the Student Welfare and Disciplinary Action Committee to investigate the matter. You may be contacted by either by the Director or the Chair of the Student Welfare and Disciplinary Action Committee for some questions/ clarifications about the incident. Hence, please be available during this time in case you are needed for such purpose.
- B. Counseling will be available as a resource for you through the Office of the Student Activities Coordinator, in case you so desire.
- C. The Director of the Institute will inform you about the outcome of the investigation as soon as it is completed.
- D. Frivolous use of this provision will also attract appropriate punishment from the competent authority.

Please remember the ANTI-RAGGING HOTLINE NUMBER **94910 40806**, just in case you need to talk to someone or report a case of ragging.

I have read the above Policy of HT Hyderabad and agree to abide by the same.

Signature of the student

Signature of the Parent