

# Ashoka University's Guidelines for an Anti-Ragging Committee 2024

This document describes the role, constitution, and processes of the University's Anti-Ragging Committee based on UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009.

## 1. Preamble

Ashoka University has zero tolerance on ragging. Ragging is strictly banned on campus and can attract serious repercussions from the University administration.

Ragging involves any behaviour by one or more students, through words or actions, whether in online or offline spaces, that teases, treats rudely, or handles a fresher or any other student disrespectfully. It includes any rowdy or undisciplined activities that cause annoyance, hardship, psychological harm, or fear. It also includes forcing a student to do something they wouldn't normally do, leading to shame, torment, or embarrassment, and negatively affecting their physical or mental well-being. This behaviour may be done to gain perverse pleasure, or to show off power, authority, or superiority over others.

Ragging is a criminal offence and is governed by the [Anti-Ragging Code](#) of the University Grants Commission (UGC). The University is firm on ensuring that the UGC framed regulations on prohibition, prevention, and elimination of ragging are strictly followed on campus.

## 2. What constitutes ragging?

- a. 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;
- b. indulging in rowdy or undisciplined 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;
- c. 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;
- d. any act by a senior student that prevents, disrupts or disturbs the regular academic activity of any other student or a fresher;

- e. exploiting the services of a fresher or any other student for completing the academic tasks assigned to an individual or a group of students.
- f. any act of financial extortion or forceful expenditure burden put on a fresher or any other student by students;
- g. any act of physical abuse including all variants of it: sexual abuse, stripping, forcing obscene and lewd acts, gestures, causing bodily harm or any other danger to health or person<sup>1</sup>
- h. 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;
- i. 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.

### **3. Institutional measures to prevent ragging:**

Ashoka's Anti-Ragging Committee (ARC) is headed by the Vice-Chancellor, and consists of representatives of civil and police administration, local media, Non Government Organizations involved in youth activities, representatives of faculty members, representatives of students belonging to the freshers' category as well as senior students, non-teaching staff;

It is the duty of the Anti-Ragging Committee to ensure compliance with the provisions of these Regulations as well as the provisions of any law for the time being in force concerning ragging; and also to monitor and oversee the performance of the various offices involved in any ragging-prevention activities.

There is also the provision of a non-member Secretary to assist with administrative tasks of the committee, including but not limited to writing reports and taking down minutes.

### **4. Other Distress Measures**

Ashoka's Emergency Phone Number: 7419730515

National Anti-Ragging Helpline: 1800-180-5522

### **5. How to file a complaint with the ARC?**

To file a complaint of ragging, please write to [arc@ashoka.edu.in](mailto:arc@ashoka.edu.in)

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<sup>1</sup> When not under the remit of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC-CASH)

ARC, in its meeting, deliberates about the validity of the complaint and whether it fits within the ARC's scope. If the complaint is within the ARC scope, it can separately direct the complainant and the accused to appear before them and explain their points and counterpoints if any. Based on these dispositions, the ARC decides the future course of action.

The Anti-Ragging Committee of the institution shall take an appropriate decision, in regard to punishment or otherwise, depending on the facts of each incident of ragging and nature and gravity of the incident of ragging established by the ARC.

The Anti-Ragging Committee may award, depending on the nature and gravity of the guilt, to those found guilty, one or more of the following punishments, namely;

- 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. Suspension from the institution for a 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. Fine which may extend up to Rs. 2.5 Lakh.

**Notes:**

1. Freshers or any other student(s), whether being victims, or witnesses, in any incident of ragging, shall be encouraged to report such occurrence, and the identity of such informants shall be protected and shall not be subject to any adverse consequence only for the reason for having reported such incidents.
2. The committee reserves the right to work with authorities and/or online platforms to resolve any complaints.

**6. Appeals**

An appeal against the order of punishment by the Anti-Ragging Committee can be made within two weeks of receiving the order to the Chancellor of the University via [chancellor@ashoka.edu.in](mailto:chancellor@ashoka.edu.in).