



Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation

(Category -1, Deemed to be University estd. u/s. 3 of the UGC Act, 1956)

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ANTI-RAGGING POLICY

1. Preamble:

In compliance with the directives of the Honorable Supreme Court and taking into account the regulations established by the Central Government and the UGC to prevent and eradicate ragging and to ensure the holistic development, both physically and psychologically, of all students, KONERU LAKSHMAIAH EDUCATION FOUNDATION has formulated the Anti-Ragging Policy outlined in the following sections. The Vice Chancellor bears the responsibility for enforcing the regulations outlined in this policy. However, they reserve the right to designate another University official as the Nodal Officer/Chairperson for anti-ragging activities, with the authority to oversee operational roles and procedures.

2. Objectives:

To prohibit, prevent and eliminate any conduct by any student or students which constitutes ragging.

3. What constitutes Ragging

Ragging encompasses one or more of the following behaviors:

- a) Any action by a student or students, whether through spoken or written words or through actions, that involves teasing, treating, or handling a fresher or any other student with rudeness.
- b) Engaging in rowdy or undisciplined activities by any student or students that causes annoyance, hardship, physical or psychological harm, or instills fear or apprehension in any fresher or other student.
- c) Coercing a student to perform an act that they would not ordinarily do, resulting in feelings of shame, torment, or embarrassment, adversely affecting the physical or mental well-being of such fresher or any other student.
- d) Any action by a senior student that obstructs, disrupts, or disturbs the regular academic activities of any other student or fresher.
- e) Taking advantage of a fresher or any other student to complete academic tasks assigned to an individual or group of students.
- f) Engaging in financial extortion or imposing forceful expenditure burdens on a fresher or any other student by students.

g) Engaging in physical abuse, including sexual abuse, homosexual assaults, stripping, compelling obscene or lewd acts, making gestures, causing bodily harm, or posing any other threat to health or person. This includes verbal abuse through spoken words, emails, posts, public insults, which may involve deriving perverted pleasure or a sadistic thrill from actively or passively participating in the discomfort of a fresher or any other student.

h) Any action that affects the mental health and self-confidence of a fresher or any other student, whether or not there is an intention to derive sadistic pleasure or to display power, authority, or superiority by a student over any fresher or other student.

4. Measures for prohibition of ragging at the University level

The University is obligated to adhere to the following directives from the UGC:

a) The University, including all its components such as schools, departments, constituent units, study centers, and premises, whether academic or residential, including playgrounds and canteens, both within and outside the campus, as well as in all modes of transportation used by students for their studies at the University, whether public or private, must not tolerate or overlook any reported incident of ragging in any form. It is required to implement all necessary measures, including the provisions outlined in these regulations, to eradicate ragging within and outside the University.

b) The University is mandated to take appropriate action in accordance with the UGC regulations against individuals found to be involved in ragging or aiding and abetting ragging, whether actively or passively, or participating in a conspiracy to promote ragging.

5. Measures for prevention of ragging at the University level

a) The University shall take the following steps in regard to admission or registration of students:

i. Public declaration of intent, in its electronic, audio-visual or print or any other media, for admission of students to any course of study and shall expressly provide that ragging is totally prohibited in the University, and anyone found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging, whether actively or passively, or being a part of a conspiracy to promote ragging, shall be liable to be punished in accordance with the laid down Rules as well as under the provisions of any penal law for the time being in force.

ii. The brochure of admission/instruction booklet or the prospectus, whether in print or electronic format, shall prominently print and contain such a warning as above, including the consequences, as may be applicable.

iii. Students shall be provided with the telephone numbers of the Anti-Ragging Helpline and all the important functionaries in the University including but not limited to the Deans/Directors, members of the Anti-Ragging Committee.

iv. The undertaking, mandatorily in English as provided in the UGC Rules or reference to the link for anti ragging declaration form, to be filled up and signed by the applicant and parents. Accommodation allotted to fresher's is strictly monitored by wardens, security guards and other staff of the University. Before the commencement of the academic session, the Vice Chancellor shall convene and address a meeting of various functionaries/agencies, such as Hostel Wardens, Concerned Directors, representatives of students, parents/guardians (if feasible), faculty, administration including the police (if considered essential), to discuss the measures to be taken to prevent ragging in the University and steps to be taken to identify those indulging in or abetting ragging and punish them.

v. The University shall, to make the community at large and the students in particular aware of the dehumanizing effect of ragging, and the approach of the University towards those indulging in ragging, prominently display posters depicting the provisions of penal law applicable to incidents of ragging, and the provisions of these rules and also any other law for the time being in force, and the punishments thereof. It shall also prominently display the same, on Notice Boards in hostels and other buildings as well as at places, where students normally gather and at places, known to be vulnerable to occurrences of ragging incidents.

vi. The University shall identify, properly illuminate and keep a close watch on all locations known to be vulnerable to occurrences of ragging incidents. The University shall tighten security in its premises, especially at vulnerable places through intense policing by Anti-Ragging committee and volunteers, if any, which shall be resorted to at such points at odd hours during the initial duration of the academic session as may be decided by the authorities.

vii. University may tie up or engage or seek the assistance of professional counselors before the commencement of the academic session, for the purposes of offering counseling to fresher's and to other students after the commencement of the academic year.

viii. The University shall, on the arrival of senior students after the first week or after the second week, as the case may be, schedule orientation programs as follows, namely;

- a. Joint sensitization program and counseling of both fresher's and senior students by a professional counselor
- b. Joint orientation program of fresher's and seniors to be addressed by the Vice-Chancellor and the anti-ragging committee
- c. Organization on a large scale of cultural, sports and other activities to provide a platform for the fresher's and seniors to interact in the presence of faculty members;
- d. In the hostel, the warden should address all students and may request two junior colleagues from the college faculty to assist the warden by becoming resident tutors for a temporary duration.
- e. As far as possible, faculty members should dine with the hostel residents in their respective hostels to instil a feeling of confidence among the fresher's.

The University may set up appropriate committees, including the course-in-charge, student advisor, Wardens and some senior students as its members, to actively monitor, promote and regulate healthy interaction between the fresher's, junior students and senior students.

xi. Fresher's 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.

x. Each batch of fresher's, on arrival at the University, shall be divided into small groups and each such group shall be assigned to a member of the faculty, who shall interact individually with each member of the group for ascertaining the problems or difficulties, if any, faced by the fresher in the University and shall extend necessary help to the fresher in overcoming the same.

xi. It shall be the responsibility of the member of the faculty assigned to the group of fresher's, to coordinate with the Wardens of the hostels and to make surprise visits to the rooms in such hostels, where a member or members of the group are lodged; and such member of faculty shall maintain a diary of his/her interaction with the fresher's under his/her charge.

xii. Fresher's shall be lodged, as far as may be, in a separate hostel block, and where such facilities are not available, the University shall ensure that access of seniors to accommodation allotted to fresher's is strictly monitored by wardens, security guards and other staff of the University.

xiii. A round the clock vigil against ragging in the hostel premises, in order to prevent ragging in the hostels after the classes are over, shall be ensured by the University.

xiv. It shall be the responsibility of the parents/guardians of fresher's to promptly bring any instance of ragging to the notice of the Vice Chancellor.

xv. Every student at the time of his/her registration shall inform the University about his/her place of residence, if staying outside the campus, while pursuing the course of study,

6. Committees for prevention of Ragging at the University level

The University is required to take the following measures concerning the admission or registration of students:

i. The University must publicly declare its intention, through various media platforms such as electronic, audio-visual, or print, to admit students to any course of study, explicitly stating that ragging is strictly prohibited within the University. It should be made clear that anyone found guilty of ragging, whether actively or passively participating, or involved in any conspiracy to promote ragging, will be subject to punishment as per the prescribed rules and applicable penal laws.

ii. Students must be provided with contact information for the Anti-Ragging Helpline and key personnel within the University, including Deans/Directors and members of the Anti-Ragging Committee.

iii. Applicants and their parents are required to fill out and sign an undertaking, as per UGC Rules or through an anti-ragging declaration form, in English. The allocation of accommodation to freshmen is closely monitored by wardens, security personnel, and other University staff. Before the start of the academic session, the Vice Chancellor must convene a meeting with various stakeholders to discuss measures to prevent ragging and identify and punish those involved in such activities.

iv. The University is obligated to raise awareness among students about the harmful effects of ragging and the University's stance on such behavior by prominently displaying posters depicting relevant penal laws and the University's regulations on ragging. These posters should be placed on notice boards in hostels, other buildings, and areas where students frequently gather, as well as in locations prone to ragging incidents.

v. The University should identify and properly illuminate areas susceptible to ragging incidents and increase security presence in these areas, especially during vulnerable times, with the help of Anti-ragging committees and volunteers.

vi. Utilize vacation periods before the start of the academic year to conduct campaigns against ragging through posters, leaflets, and other suitable means.

vii. The University may engage professional counselors before and during the academic session to provide counseling to freshmen and other students.

viii. Orientation programs for both freshmen and senior students should be organized, including joint sensitization sessions by professional counselors, addresses by the Vice Chancellor and the Anti-Ragging Committee, and large-scale cultural and sports activities to facilitate interaction between freshmen and seniors in the presence of faculty members.

ix. Students, whether victims or witnesses of ragging incidents, should be encouraged to report such occurrences. The University must ensure the protection of the identity of informants and safeguard them from any adverse consequences.

xi. Upon arrival, freshmen should be divided into small groups and assigned a faculty member who will individually interact with each member to address any problems or difficulties they may face and provide necessary assistance.

xi. The faculty member assigned to freshmen groups should coordinate with hostel wardens and conduct surprise visits to their assigned students' rooms, maintaining a diary of interactions.

xii. Freshmen should ideally be accommodated in separate hostel blocks, and if this is not possible, strict monitoring of senior access to freshmen accommodation should be ensured by wardens, security personnel, and other staff.

xiii. The University must maintain round-the-clock vigilance in hostel premises to prevent ragging after class hours.

xiv. It is the responsibility of parents/guardians of freshmen to promptly report any instances of ragging to the Vice Chancellor.

xv. Every student must inform the University about their place of residence outside the campus at the time of registration.

7. Action to be taken by the Vice Chancellor

Upon receiving a recommendation from the Anti-ragging committee or any information regarding a reported incident of ragging, the Vice Chancellor will promptly assess if the circumstances warrant a case under the penal laws. If so, either independently or through a designated member of the Anti-Ragging Committee, the Vice Chancellor will take immediate steps to file a First Information Report (FIR) with the police and local authorities within twenty-four hours of receiving such information or recommendation. This FIR will be filed under the appropriate penal provisions related to various acts associated with ragging, including but not limited to:

- i. Encouraging ragging;
- ii. Conspiring to commit ragging;
- iii. Engaging in unlawful assembly and rioting during ragging;
- iv. iv. Creating public nuisance during ragging;
- v. Violating decency and morality through ragging;
- vi. Causing bodily harm or injury;
- vii. Wrongful restraint;
- viii. Unlawful confinement;
- ix. Using criminal force;
- x. Committing assault, sexual offenses, or unnatural offenses;
- xi. Engaging in extortion;
- xii. Committing criminal trespass; xiii. Committing property offenses; xiv. Engaging in criminal intimidation;
- xiii. Attempting to commit any of the aforementioned offenses against the victim(s);
- xiv. Threatening to commit any of the aforementioned offenses against the victim(s);
- xv. xvii. Inflicting physical or psychological humiliation;
- xvi. xviii. All other offenses falling within the definition of "Ragging."

Additionally, the University will conduct its own investigation and take necessary measures without waiting for action from the police or local authorities. These remedial actions will be initiated and completed promptly, within a maximum period of seven days to one month from the reported occurrence of the ragging incident depending upon the nature of the grievance..

8. Responsibilities of the Commission (which should be known to the Students)

a) Any distress call received by the Anti-Ragging Helpline will be promptly communicated to the Vice Chancellor, the Hostel Warden, and, if necessary, the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police. Additionally, the information will be made available on the web in real-time, accessible to both the media and the public.

b) Upon receiving information from the Anti-Ragging Helpline, the Vice Chancellor is required to take immediate action.

c) To facilitate communication with the Anti-Ragging Helpline, the University will allow unrestricted access to mobile phones and public phones in hostels and campus areas, except in designated restricted zones such as classrooms, seminar halls, libraries, and other areas deemed necessary by the University.

d) Committee must be re-constituted for every 2 years period of time.

e) The Committee should meet twice a year to review the position and to resolve the problems or the committee meets immediately on the day of grievance received or within next two days of grievance received depending on the nature of grievance. The work relating to the implementation of the reservation policy may be monitored by the above stated Committee. The validity of the committee is 2 years.

f) Depending on the nature of grievance received the committee must resolve the grievance within 3 days to 15 days depending on the nature of the grievance.

9. Administrative action in the event of ragging

The University will impose disciplinary action on any student found guilty of ragging following the procedure outlined below:

i. The Anti-Ragging Committee will make a decision regarding the appropriate punishment, considering the circumstances of each incident and the severity of the ragging as determined by the recommendations of the Anti-ragging committee.

ii. Depending on the severity of the offense established by the Anti-ragging committee, the Anti-Ragging Committee may impose one or more of the following penalties on the guilty parties:

1. Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges.
2. Withholding or withdrawing scholarships, fellowships, and other benefits.
3. Prohibition from participating in tests, examinations, or other evaluation processes.
4. Withholding of results.
5. Prohibition from representing the University in regional, national, or international events.
6. Suspension or expulsion from the hostel.
7. Cancellation of admission.
8. Rustication from the University for a period ranging from 1 to 4 semesters.
9. Expulsion from the University and prohibition from admission to any other University for a specified period.
10. A fine of up to INR 2.5 lakh. In cases where the perpetrators of ragging are unidentified, the University will resort to collective punishment.

iii. Any appeal against the decision of the Anti-Ragging Committee may be made to the Vice Chancellor.

b) If the appointing authority believes that a faculty or staff member of the University is responsible for a lapse in reporting or taking timely action to prevent ragging incidents, or if they demonstrate apathy or insensitivity towards complaints of ragging, or fail to take necessary steps to prevent such incidents, whether required by these rules or otherwise, the authority will initiate a departmental inquiry following the University's prescribed procedure against the faculty or staff member. If the lapse is attributable to the Vice Chancellor, the designated appointing authority for such position will take appropriate action.

10. Review & Evaluation:

The BOM shall review and evaluate anti-ragging policy to ensure that it is meeting its intended goals & objectives.

This policy is approved in BOM No. 35 conducted on 29-06-2020.



A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to be a stylized "Y" or similar character.

REGISTRAR
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