

Reminder -1

No. EDN-H (8) B - 2013/Misc
Directorate of Higher Education
Himachal Pradesh
Email: dir.edu@rediffmail.com, College_branch@rediffmail.com
Phone No. 0177-2653120, 2653575, Ext. 221 Fax: 0177-282882

Dated Shimla -171001 28 Nov, 2013


To

The Principals,
All Govt. Colleges/ Govt. Skt. Colleges/GIA Colleges.
Himachal Pradesh

Subject: - Regarding Minutes of Anti Ragging Monitoring Committee held on 8.8.2012. Measures and steps to curb ragging thereof.

Reference this Directorate letter No. EDN-H (8) B - 2013/Misc
Dated 30/09/2013 on the subject cited above.

In this regard, the Instructions are being reiterated to all principals with the direction that instructions of the committee may be adhered to strictly so as to maintain the discipline in the Educational Institutions.


Addl. Director of Higher Education
Himachal Pradesh

From

The Secretary (Education) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

To

1. The Director of Higher Education,
Himachal Pradesh, Shimla-171001.
2. The Director of Elementary Education,
Himachal Pradesh., Shimla-171001.
3. The Registrar,
H.P. University, Shimla-171005.

Dated, Shimla-2 the _____, 2013.

Subject: Regarding Minutes of Anti Ragging Monitoring Committee
held on 8.8.2012. Measures and steps to curb ragging thereof.

Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith a photocopy of D.O. No. 16-8/2013-U.5 dated 26th September, 2013 received from the Joint Secretary, Govt. of India, MHRD, Deptt. of Higher Education, New Delhi-110115 addressed to the Chief Secretary to the Government of H.P. on the subject cited above.

In order to curb the Ragging, directions have already been issued to all the educational institutions from time to time in the State of H.P.

In addition to it you may also like to make sudden & surprise checks with the assistance of the educational institutions/hostel authorities/authorities manning the students lodge. You may also like to install CCTV cameras and alarm bells at sensitive points at the State level and also you may like to have machinery of anti-ragging helpline, anti-ragging website, anti-ragging van, emergency calls unit and quick response system etc.

You are, therefore, requested to kindly look in to the matter personally and send action taken report to this department at the earliest, so that GOI, MHRD, Department of Higher Education, New Delhi could be informed accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

Under Secretary (Hr. Edu.) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.
2013.

Endst. No. As above, Ddated Shimla-171002, the _____
Copy alongwith a copy of above referred D.O. is forwarded for taking further n.a in
the matter relating to their department to:-

1. The ACS(Agr./AH)/Horticulure) to the Government of H.P..
2. Pr. Seretary(Health), (Ayurveda), Technical Education to the Government of H.P.

Under Secretary (Hr. Edu.) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Monitoring Cell	357266
DHE	5.11.13.
30 OCT 2013	
Branch	

Sh. Dangeer
31/10/13



R.P.Sisodia
Joint Secretary
Tel: 011 23382298



सूचना का
अधिकार

-78

2

भारत सरकार
मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय
उच्चतर शिक्षा विभाग
शास्त्री भवन
नई दिल्ली - 110 115

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
SHASTRI BHAVAN
NEW DELHI - 110 115



D.O. No. 16-8/2013-U.5

New Delhi, the 26th September, 2013

Dear Sir/Madam,

23-10-2013 1179

I am enclosing copy of the 15th Meeting Minutes of Anti-Ragging Monitoring Committee held on 08.08.2013 under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.K. Raghavan, former Director, CBI. As you may be aware, from time to time the Monitoring Committee is reporting to the Apex Court on the status of ragging and measures taken by various authorities, including the State Governments and Union Territories, to prevent ragging and indiscipline of any sort in higher educational institutions like colleges, universities and institutions offering certificates, diploma, degree courses and so on. Despite several efforts one often notices not too infrequently the ugly scenes and unpalatable tidings of ragging and its offshoots in every nook and corner of the educational/training institutions causing concern and agony among the parents, students (including girl students), educational institutions and the general public. It is common-sense that ragging of any hue and colour is a blot on humanness and shame to humanity. It defeats in a deleterious manner the student in particular and the community in general physically, mentally and psychologically causing irreparable damage and untold harm to the society as a whole and bringing a bad reputation to the country.

21-10-13
P.S. (Edn)

21/10

us (H.E)

23-10-13

50 (H.E)

2. I would kindly urge upon you to take all measures and efficient steps to nip any ragging in its bud. For the purpose of this, you may kindly like to activate to its maximum the Anti-Ragging Monitoring Committees and Anti-ragging Squads in collaboration with the educational institutions. You may also like to give adequate publicity through the media, including broadcast/telecast media and out-door publicity boards at vital points. You may also like to make sudden and surprise checks with the assistance of the educational institutions/hostel authorities/authorities manning the students lodge. You may also like to install CCTV cameras and alarm bells at sensitive points. At the State/UT level, you may also like to have the machinery of anti-ragging helpline, anti-ragging website, anti-ragging van, emergency call unit and quick response system, etc. You may also like to take any other measure in consultation with the educational institutions as you deem fit in the larger interest of the society.

3. I shall be grateful if you can personally look into the matter and send a report from time to time to this Ministry.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(R.P.Sisodia)

23/10/13
Sh. Dinkar

Shri Sudripto Rao
Chief Secretary
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Secretariat
Shimla-171001



Minutes of the 15th meeting of the Monitoring Committee on Anti-ragging held on 8.8.2013 in UGC Hall under the Chairmanship of Dr. R.K. Raghavan

At the outset JS(HE) welcomed the Chairman and members of the Monitoring Committee set up by the Ministry of Human Resource Development as per the orders of the Supreme Court on anti-ragging, and also other members present in the meeting (attendance sheet is attached). While pointing out that the Aman Satya Kachroo Trust, the third party monitoring agency, has been engaged by the University Grant Commission to monitor, evaluate and assess the ragging incidents and send a report periodically to the UGC, JS(HE) mentioned that there was no room for self-complacency. He added that a whole lot of churning was taking place in colleges and institutions of higher learning with the enrolment across the country accentuating day by day. JS(HE) concluded his initial remarks by saying that all of us need to keep a guard so that the menace of ragging does not raise its ugly head.

2. The Chairman inquired whether the amicus curiae appointed by the Supreme Court to apprise the Court on the status of ragging and measures taken to quell the same by the regulatory agencies and the educational institutions and hostels, actually received the minutes of the last meeting held on 11th July, 2012, and if so whether the same have been filed in the Court for its kind information. JS (HE) directed DS (HE) to look into it.

3. Going further, the status on media campaign on anti-ragging by the MHRD was brought to the notice of Committee. It was mentioned to the Committee by Dr Kachroo that a Committee of officers which, also included UGC and the Aman Satya Kachroo, the anti-ragging monitoring agency, has worked out the media plan on Anti-ragging. It is proposed to use the media of All India Radio, Dordarshan, Lok Sabha TV and Private FM Channels through DAVP, Outdoor publicity and Posters through recognized and approved agencies like DAVP, JS(HE) mentioned that Rajya Sabha TV was giving free slots for Anti-ragging and this needed to be pursued.

4. Incidentally, both UGC and Dr. Kachroo mentioned about the amendment in the UGC regulations, which proposed us to do away with formal affidavits duly notarized by the Notary Public charging huge sums of money causing inconvenience to the students and their parents/guardians in more ways than one. It was agreed by all, with some reservations from Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Member Monitoring Committee, that instead of the Affidavit, undertakings from the students and their

parents/guardians would suffice. It was noted that the switching over from the Affidavit to the undertaking to the effect that the students and the parents/guardians were aware of the need to shun ragging at any cost and maintain discipline and decorum would not be in any way dilute the measures taken on anti-ragging. It was also appreciated that, in these days of administrative reforms and judicial reforms with self-certification being the order of the day and alternate dispute redressal mechanisms which keep the litigants forms of redressal of grievances, a mere undertaking from the students and the parents community were a step in the right direction.

5. Dr. Kachroo also mentioned that going to the Notary Public additionally involved a lot of avoidable paper work. It was noted that in the case of the undertakings the students and parents can also file online which would also create necessary database which could be of interest to the country as whole. The Member of the Monitoring Committee, Prof. Sanjay G. Dhande, mentioned that the undertakings were a trust between the parents and the students Committee on the one hand and educational institution on the other and the same without any doubt comply with the essence of the Supreme Court Judgment. JS(HE) also mentioned that the affidavits before the Notary Public never had any value addition. The Monitoring Committee Member, Dr. Chandra Krishnamurthy, mentioned that the educational institutions were more or less islands of discipline and they were adhering to the orders of the Court on declarations from the students and their parents. Dr. Kachroo also mentioned that the students were also by and large complying with the orders of the Supreme Court and there were only a tiny number of defaulters. Consensually it was felt that the undertakings from the students and their parents would suffice. Dr. Kachroo with the permission of Chairman also made a PowerPoint presentation and highlighted the following main issues:-

- i) The problem States in the matter of ragging menace are Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Odisha, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Bihar, Kerala, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Punjab and so on in that order.
- ii) Medical and associated Colleges under the Medical Council of India are also playgrounds for ragging; recent incidents in CMC Ludhiana were a case in point.
- iii) Banaras Hindu University and School of Planning and Architecture are not taking any interest in Anti-ragging; Dr. Kachroo requested Ministry to intervene. JS (HE) directed DS (HE) that we should take up at ES/Minister's level with the VC/Chancellor.
- iv) Colleges affiliated to Biju Patnaik University of Technology in Odisha, West Bengal University of

Technology, Rajiv Gandhi Proudyogiki Vishwavidyalaya in MP and Gautam Buddh Technical University in UP are also among the notorious colleges for ragging.

- v) AICTE is doing a better job in respect of prevention of ragging as also anti-ragging when compared to other Councils. Its data base is also strong. Now that the concerned Councils/Regulatory Bodies have been directly tasked with the Monitoring of ragging incidents with the UGC having a supervisory role in respect of other Councils, the Councils/Regulatory Bodies are expected to put their acts together and take concerted and decisive action to nip ragging in the bud.
- vi) Awareness through media and other forums and channels on the part of the Councils would go a long way in changing the mindset and attitude of the students and equip them with positive attitude.
- vii) The performance of the Call Centre (M/s Syrex Infoservices) and the Website on anti-ragging was not up to the mark. It was pointed out that the callers at times did not pick up the calls and the communications skills were poor. The Chairman also observed that the company representative of M/s. Planet E.Com maintaining the website did not come prepared for the meeting with full facts and figures. On JS(HE)'s query the company representative could not even mention the number of hits clearly. It was also noted that the linkage between the Call Centre Helpline, the Website agency and the Monitoring agency was far from satisfactory. The UGC Secretary assured the Chair of looking closely into the functioning of all the agencies, including the Call Centre Operators. JS (HE) directed DS (HE) that the senior executives of all the agencies may be called for a formal meeting in order to assess what exactly the agencies are doing.
- viii) The compliance level of the educational institutions in the matter of online filling of the undertakings by the Students and the Parents Community was poor. It was felt by the Monitoring Committee Members that there was a need for regular lectures, discussions, workshops, special camps etc., for considerable and greater awareness on such issues. For this the Members felt that the role of social media was also vital. Innovative application of technology on the part of the Regulatory Bodies/educational institutions is also of utmost importance. It was also noted that the following States/UTs have not responded to the D.O. communications and repeated reminders, including E-mails, on anti-ragging: Assam, Bihar,

Dadra Nagar and Haveli, Daman and Diu, J &K, Jharkhand and West Bengal until the date of the meeting.

- ix) Dr. Kachroo also added that the Regulatory Bodies at the top-levels need to delegate the powers on anti-ragging keeping in mind the gravity, intensity, and enormity of the situation. He added that if the case is even a bit serious then the Head of the Regulatory Body/Institution should at once act relentlessly.
- x) Dr. Kachroo also regretted that despite repeated requests the Banaras Hindu University did not co-operate with the third part monitoring agency on anti-ragging, that is Aman Satya Kachroo Trust for bringing about greater awareness on ragging and its ramifications in the august institution.
- xi) JS(HE) expected that the Councils and the Regulatory Bodies should take the call on any instance of ragging and for that matter any disobedience of the Apex Court Orders and the instructions of the Apex Court appointed Monitoring Committee should be brought to the notice of the Court. The Chairman advised the Regulatory Bodies, including the representatives of the AICTE, to ensure that the defaulting educational institution dragging their feet/defaulting on ragging in any manner should be given adequate publicity so that the students and the parents are not taken unawares. The Chairman further added that the educational institutions in the news for not preventing and curbing ragging and taking suitable and satisfactory steps post-ragging should not only be penalized severely, but it should also be ensured that the facts of the punishment are clearly and prominently cited in their own websites in a manner of self-declaration, as it happens in a country like the USA. He directed the regulatory authorities to ensure prompt and forthright action on this score. It was also felt that this point should be noted for action by the Call Centre Helpline, the Company managing the Website and the Monitoring agency. JS(HE) also urged that if the Call Center agency and the Website Company continue to default on the expectations and outcomes, the RFPs need to be revisited and redesigned by the UGC. JS(HE) also reminded DS (HE) that the senior executives of the firms should be called for a meeting after the Parliament Session. Dr. Kachroo intervened to say that the Call Centre Helpline is poorly staffed in the matter of communication skills, with the employees getting minuscule amount, the result being again ill-equipped staff with poor communication skills, especially as regards understanding the distress calls, analysis, outgoing calls and feedback without any communication gap. It was also noted that the Website managing Company representative came unprepared, and was not clear with

its mandate, terms of reference and objectives of the company. The Chairman on the issue of salary mentioned that the BPO is a social service, that we are only adding value by engaging the Call Centre and that we cannot simply pushing up the salaries. The Monitoring Committee Member, Dr Arun K. Agarwal, along with others, stressed the need for repeated inputs to/training and periodical screening of the Call Centre employees in particular and other agencies in general. For this all the Monitoring Committee members felt that the UGC should strive hard for strengthening monitoring of all the outsourced agencies for better communication, coordination and outcome. Upon questioning by JS(HE), the Website managing representative, could not confidently mention the number of complaints received and pending. The representative was also silent about E-mails/number of hits. Overall his response was lukewarm, all the members noted.

- xii) JS(HE) mentioned about the Head of State making a point about ragging which was positive and encouraging for the students, the parent community and the general masses on the one hand and the Regulatory Bodies and Educational Institutions on the other. The Chairman agreed with JS(HE).

6. Thereafter the Chairman asked the concerned Regulatory Bodies to present their case. AICTE representative assured the Chairman of its pro-activeness in the matter of prevention of ragging, and anti-ragging and mentioned about the steps being taken in the form of punitive action like putting the institutions under No Admission category, withdrawing its approval, stoppage of grant/assistance, issue of warning, etc. It was noted from the report of the AICTE the problem States were West Bengal, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Jharkhand, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Assam, New Delhi, Puducherry and Chattisgarh. The representative of the AICTE assured the Committee of vigorous follow-up action.

7. Next, the MCI representative presented his case. At the outset all Members, including the Chairman in particular, agreed that the MCI had been rather slow in preventing ragging and also taking follow up action on the same. This was also amply clear from the presentation of the Power-Point by Dr. Kachroo. Despite repeated questioning by the Chairman on the ragging cases, more particularly the recent case of CMC, Ludhiana, whether they are on the agenda of the MCI Board of Governors, the MCI representative was rather evasive. On the face of which it was crystal clear that ragging issue is not

being taken seriously by MCI BOG. The Monitoring Committee Member Dr. Aggarwal mentioned that the Supreme Court itself noted that the Medical Colleges are hot-bed for ragging and, therefore, the Member wanted that the MCI should play a leading role in curbing ragging and ensuring ragging free-atmosphere in all the Medical Institutions. The Chairman while appreciating that the MCI has been passing through internal turmoil in the recent past, advised that the MCI should not be inactive, and instead go all out and take pro-active action, including taking a cue from the AICTE, sending its experts to the institutions for on-the-spot study, deep assessment, evaluation and preventive and pro-active action. The Chairman was hopeful that the men of honour of the Medical Faculty will take the call in their greater wisdom and bring about a sea-change in attitudes to ragging. The Chairman also directed the MCI representative to immediately (within a fortnight at any rate) send a report in a clear manner showing the number of ragging incidents with complete details of the complaint/institution, clear-cut action taken against the institution / students / parents / guardians by the MCI and its Board of Governors, well-charted out action plan to prevent ragging of any sort (including anti-ragging Cells, anti-ragging Committee, anti-ragging squad and Monitoring Committee, Help-Desk, Emergency Call Unit, CCTV Cameras at vital points and alarm bells, media campaign and giving prominent publicity to and action against the defaulting institution, information booklets for students/parents/staff covering ragging and indiscipline issue, prospectus covering anti-ragging and undertakings, anti-ragging messages, first-aid-kit and any other relevant information), obtaining of online undertakings from the students / parents / guardians, Media Plan of MCI and the institutions on anti-ragging and creating an atmosphere of intellectualism totally free from ragging and indiscipline. It was made clear to the representative of the MCI that the Monitoring Committee would be compelled to report to the Supreme Court for appropriate action in case of continued laxity on the part of the MCI. The Monitoring Committee Members also directed the MCI representative to keep a track on the CMC incident. To the repeated refrain of the MCI representative concerning shortage of staff in MCI, the Chairman replied that this alibi cannot be accepted and the MCI needs to stir up the internal mechanism and take responsibility and accountability fully. It was also noted that the following States where the MCI institutions are located were affected by ragging: Punjab, UP, Jharkhand, Chattisgarh, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Gujarat, Maharashtra, New Delhi and Assam.

8. Continuing Further, the representative of the DCI mentioned its case. It was noted that the institutions under the DCI and the DCI itself have taken necessary action to prevent ragging excepting in

one case that is of K.D. Dental College & Hospital, Mathura, action against which by the DCI is sub judice in the High Court of Allahabad.

9. In continuation of the above the INC representative mentioned that there was no case of ragging excepting for a suicide case of a girl not connected with ragging, and fight between some male students, in CMC Ludhiana. There was nothing specific about the INC. The Chairman, however, suggested that all of us need to be alert and vigilant.

10. Lastly, the PCI representative put forth its case. It was mentioned that there was only one case of ragging which just occurred last week in Bhopal. The PCI representative replied that the case is being pursued on a war footing. Otherwise the institutions and the PCI have not seen any ragging.

11. In his concluding remarks JS (HE) reminded that all of us need to ensure that a constant and close watch is kept by not lowering the guard – whether it was the regulatory body or institution or student or parent – so that any incident of ragging is totally averted and the entire country is made ragging-free. He also thanked the Chairman, the Monitoring Committee Members and others for attending the meeting.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Committee Members

- | | | | |
|----|---|---|-----------------|
| 1. | Dr. R.K. Raghavan, former
Director, CBI | - | Chairman |
| 2. | Shri R.P. Sisodia, Joint Secretary, MHRD | - | Member Convener |
| 3. | Prof. Sanjay G. Dhande, Director,
IIT, Kanpur | - | Member |
| 4. | Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Principal,
Ramjas College, Delhi | - | Member |
| 5. | Dr. A.K. Agarwal, Dean, MAMC, Delhi | - | Member |
| 6. | Dr. (Mrs.) Chandra Krishnamurthy
Vice Chancellor, Pondicherry University | - | Member |

Other Participants

7. Dr. Akhilesh Gupta,
Secretary, UGC
8. Dr. C.S. Meena,,
Joint Secretary, UGC
9. Dr. S.K. Katharia,
Member, DCI.
10. Shri. Praveen Dewan,
Asstt. Secretary,
DCI.
11. Shri Deepak Goyal,
Syrex Infoservices (I) Pvt.Ltd
12. Shri Deepak Rawat,
Planet-E Com Solutions Pvt.Ltd.
13. Prof. Raj Kachroo,
ASK Trust
14. Shri H.N. Yadav,
Consultant, PCI
15. Dr. Asha Sharma,
Vice President, INC.
16. Shri Narender Singh,
Dy. Director, AICTE
17. Dr. Davinder Kumar,
Joint Secretary, MCI
18. Shri S. Shankar,
Deputy Secretary, MHRD
19. Shri Sahdev Singh,
Under Secretary, MHRD