

anti-ragging policy

1. purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to establish a zero-tolerance framework for ragging at Nayanta University, to prevent its occurrence, provide safe and accessible mechanisms for reporting concerns, ensure timely intervention, and prescribe fair and proportionate action against students found responsible for ragging or abetting ragging.

2. scope and applicability

This Policy applies to all students of the University, including freshers and senior students, and to all academic, residential and co-curricular spaces associated with the University. It applies to conduct occurring on campus and, where connected with student life or institutional activities, outside the campus, including hostels, transport, events, field visits, internships, online spaces and other locations accessed in connection with the pursuit of education.

3. regulatory framework

This Policy shall be read with the University Grants Commission (Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2009, as amended from time to time, applicable directions of the Government of India, relevant State authorities, and all applicable laws and institutional regulations. Where any conflict arises, the applicable law or statutory regulation shall prevail.

4. university responsibilities

The University shall undertake preventive, awareness, monitoring and response measures, including:

- Clearly communicate the prohibition of ragging in admission materials, the prospectus/website and student communications.
- Obtain the prescribed anti-ragging undertakings/affidavits from students and parents/guardians as required by applicable regulations.
- Constitute an Anti-Ragging Committee and an Anti-Ragging Squad with clearly defined roles.
- Provide students with accessible contact details for reporting concerns, including the national Anti-Ragging Helpline and institutional contacts.
- Conduct induction, orientation, sensitisation and counselling programmes for freshers and senior students.
- Identify and monitor locations and situations that may be vulnerable to ragging, including hostels and off-campus student residences where applicable.
- Maintain appropriate records of complaints, action taken and compliance activities.
- Provide appropriate support, including counselling and other assistance, to affected students.

5. anti-ragging committee

The University shall constitute an Anti-Ragging Committee (ARC) headed by the Head of the Institution. Its composition shall reflect the requirements of applicable UGC regulations and should include appropriate representation from civil/police administration, faculty, parents, students (including freshers and senior students), non-teaching staff and other prescribed stakeholders, with an appropriate mix of levels and gender.

The Committee shall:

- Oversee implementation of this Policy and applicable anti-ragging regulations.
- Monitor the functioning of the Anti-Ragging Squad.
- Review reports and recommendations concerning alleged incidents.
- Determine appropriate institutional action after following due process.
- Review preventive measures and recommend improvements.
- Maintain appropriate documentation and compliance records.

6. anti-ragging squad

The University shall constitute a smaller, mobile Anti-Ragging Squad comprising members of the campus community. The Squad shall maintain vigilance, undertake monitoring and patrolling, conduct surprise checks in vulnerable areas, and conduct on-the-spot inquiries when directed or when an incident is reported.

Any inquiry shall be conducted fairly and transparently, giving the student(s) accused of ragging and relevant witnesses a reasonable opportunity to present facts, documents and views, consistent with principles of natural justice.

7. constitution of the anti-ragging committee and squad

The committees and squads under this Policy shall be constituted by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor.

8. reporting an incident or concern

Any student, parent/guardian, faculty or staff member, service provider, or any other person may report a suspected incident of ragging to the official email ID of the anti-ragging committee (arc@nayanta.edu.in) or speak to any of the ARC members.

Where possible, the report should include the date, time, location, persons involved, description of the incident and any available evidence. A student may report anonymously where institutional procedures permit; however, the University may be limited in its ability to investigate anonymous reports.

9. immediate response

The Anti-Ragging Committee, on receipt of a reported case of ragging shall:

1. Receive and acknowledge the report, where the identity of the reporting person is known.

2. Assess immediate safety and arrange urgent medical, counselling, residential or other support where required.
3. Take reasonable steps to prevent further contact or harm while the matter is being assessed.
4. Inform the Head of the Institution and/or designated anti-ragging functionary without undue delay.
5. Place the inquiry report and recommendations before the Head of the Institution for appropriate action.
6. Where the facts indicate a potential criminal offence, take action in accordance with applicable law and regulatory requirements, including police reporting where required.

10. inquiry and due process

- The inquiry shall be conducted in a fair, impartial and timely manner.
- The student(s) against whom allegations are made shall be informed of the allegations and given a reasonable opportunity to respond.
- Relevant witnesses, records, communications, CCTV footage, digital evidence and other material may be considered, subject to applicable law and institutional procedures.
- The identity and personal information of affected students shall be handled sensitively and shared only on a need-to-know basis, subject to legal and safety requirements.
- The Institution may take interim measures where necessary to protect students or preserve the integrity of the inquiry; such measures shall not be treated as a final finding of guilt.

11. institutional penalties

Where a student is found guilty of ragging, the Anti-Ragging Committee may impose one or more penalties permitted under applicable regulations, depending on the nature and gravity of the misconduct and after following due process.

Possible Penalty
Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges
Withholding/withdrawing scholarship, fellowship or other benefits
Debarring from tests/examinations/evaluation processes
Withholding results
Debarring representation of the University in events/tournaments/festivals
Suspension or expulsion from hostel
Cancellation of admission
Rustication for the period permitted by applicable regulations
Expulsion from the University and consequential debarment as permitted by applicable regulations

Where persons responsible for an incident cannot be individually identified, the University shall follow the applicable UGC provisions concerning collective punishment, if any, and shall exercise such powers consistently with applicable law and fairness.

12. appeal process

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@nayanta.edu.in.

13. criminal and other legal action

Institutional action does not preclude action under applicable criminal or other laws. Where an incident discloses a potential criminal offence, the University shall comply with applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, including timelines for reporting to the police/local authorities.

14. protection against retaliation

No student shall be subjected to intimidation, harassment, academic disadvantage, social exclusion or other retaliation for making a good-faith report, providing information, serving as a witness, or participating in an inquiry.

15. confidentiality and records

The University shall maintain appropriate records of anti-ragging undertakings, complaints, inquiries, decisions, preventive activities and compliance reports. Access to personal information shall be restricted to authorised persons only and handled in accordance with applicable law and institutional data-protection requirements.

16. review and policy governance

This Policy shall be reviewed at least annually and whenever there is a change in applicable law, UGC regulations, Government directions or institutional structures.