## MANIPAL COLLEGE OF NURSING, MAHE, MANIPAL ANTIRAGGING STRATEGIES-2023-2024

Ragging is an act of aggression committed by an individual or a group of individuals over another individual or a group of individuals where the first group, by virtue of their being senior to the second group, somehow get the authority and audacity to commit the act and the second group, by virtue of their being new to the institution are automatic victims. Any interaction which is aggressive and asymmetric is ragging. It is a form of abuse on newcomers.

Ragging is not harmless fun. Students come from diverse social and cultural backgrounds, and what may be harmless fun for some may turn out be serious indignity for some others. There are always a few cases where some freshers find ragging (or interaction) intolerable and suffer loss of self esteem.

Ragging does not increase smartness of a new comer or make a fresher bold. Quite to the contrary it forces an individual to accept subjugation and conform and loses one's individuality which suppresses talent and reduces self-worth.

Talent in human beings is varied and multi-faceted. Ragging does not help bring people out of their shells and bring out their talents. It makes some people feel that they are talentless or that they lack social skills.

The types of ragging may include,

- Teasing or abusing or playing practical joke on, or causing hurt to any student OR
- Asking any student to do any act, or perform any thing, which he/she would not, in the ordinary course, be willing to do or perform.

## Antiragging strategies for MCON, MAHE, Manipal:

- 1. On the first day of admission, there should be a detailed orientation programme.
  - (i) The head of the institution must address all fresh students on the first day of the academic session, and educate them about their rights against harassment of any kind including ragging; and all faculty members must invariably be present on the occasion
  - (ii) The second orientation programme for fresh students should be with all the respective departmental faculty. The main purpose of this orientation would be to inculcate a sense of bonding and a feeling of fraternity among the freshers, as well as to develop an affinity towards the teaching faculty.
  - (iii) The third orientation programme for fresh students should be conducted at the level of the class.
  - (iv) One or more counseling sessions must be arranged through out the first week as part of the orientation sessions, during which a professional counselor should address 'freshers' and motivate them to confidently deal with strangers/seniors

- (v) On the arrival of senior students, the joint orientation programme of 'freshers' and seniors to be addressed by the Head of the institution, and the anti-ragging committee.
- 2. On the admission/first orientation day, students should be made to take an oath against ragging in front of the Head of the institution, faculty and parents. It must be told to each and every student that if she/he is proved to have broken the oath then she/he will face severe punishment.
- 3. The parents and the students have to be made to sign the atiragging strategy of MCON on the day of admission to make sure that the information has been conveyed to both parents and students and to allay their anxiety.
- 4. MCON must have an Anti-Ragging Committee and an Anti-Ragging Squad. The members of Anti-Ragging Committee include the Dean, HOD's and student representatives (seniors and freshers). The Anti-Ragging Squad is a smaller body nominated by the Head of the institution with such representation as considered necessary to keep it mobile, alert and active at all times. The Squad includes the teacher guardians, class co ordinators and the SNA advisor. The Squad should work under the overall guidance of the Anti-Ragging Committee.
- 5. During the first three months of admission, the Squad must make periodical and surprise checks in the hostels and in other premises of the colleges particularly at places where students take up residences outside the hostels especially during evening and at nights.
- 6. We recommend that there should also be a 'Mentoring Cell' to oversee. The members include the SNA bearers, hostel warden and the office staff.
- 7. The SNA (Student Nurses Association) bearers should monitor the incidences of ragging in the hostel, mess and college premises and should bring to the notice of SNA advisor which will then be discussed in the antiragging committee.
- 8. On receipt of complaints; the antiragging committee must immediately enquire into the matter and take necessary action against those who indulge in ragging.
- 9. First year students should be allowed and facilitated to make complaints against ragging and their anonymity should be protected.
- 10. Posters should be displayed on the notice boards of MCON and in the hostel; warning the students not to indulge in ragging.
- 11. Students coming from weaker sections and other who are particularly sensitive should be assisted and counseled so that they do not resort to taking any extreme measures including attempting or committing suicide.

- 12. Depending upon the nature and gravity of the offence as established by the Anti-Ragging Committee of the institution, the possible punishments for those found guilty of ragging at the institution level shall be any one or any combination of the following.
  - (i) Cancellation of admission
  - (ii) Suspension from attending classes
  - (iii) Withholding/withdrawing scholarship/fellowship and other benefits
  - (iv) Debarring from appearing in any test/examination
  - (v) Withholding results
  - (vi) Debarring from representing the institution in any regional, national or international meet, tournament etc.
  - (vii) Suspension/expulsion from the hostel
  - (viii) Rustication from the institution for period ranging from 1 to 4 semesters
  - (ix) Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarring from admission to any other institution.
  - (x) Fine up to Rupees 2.5 lakhs.
  - (xi) Collective punishment: when the persons committing or abetting the crime of ragging are not identified, the institution shall resort to collective punishment as a deterrent to ensure community pressure on the potential raggers.
- 13. The antiragging committee members should meet whenever required to discuss about the issues and necessary actions to be taken with the discussion among the members.
- 14. The Head of the institution will maintain the detailed record of all the ragging incidences and the actions taken towards it in each year.

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