
ANTI RAGGING POLICY



AMAL COLLEGE
OF ADVANCED STUDIES

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Myladi, Eranhimangad Po, Nilambur – 679329

Aided by Govt. of Kerala & affiliated to the University of Calicut | NAAC Accredited with A Grade (3.11 CGPA)

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Introduction

Often, senior students exhibit dominance, control, or superiority over juniors or newcomers and gain sadistic satisfaction from it. This exposes the juniors to a circumstance that occasionally exceeds the boundaries of decency, rendering them more susceptible. Amal College of Advanced Studies, Nilambur, Kerala, has established this Anti-Ragging Policy in compliance with the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the guidelines provided by UGC. This policy aims to prohibit, prevent, and eradicate ragging on campus and foster a friendly and harmonious atmosphere for all students. The institute has established an anti-ragging committee and squads. In addition, every institute student and their parents or guardian must submit a joint commitment against Ragging during enrollment, which is obligatory. All relevant personnel of the institute, including administrators, students, parents, guardians, members of the anti-ragging committee, and squads, must strictly follow and actively oversee the regulations regarding Ragging, ensuring full compliance with the established measures against such behaviour.

This policy is guided by the principles of fostering a safe and inclusive learning environment that upholds the dignity and well-being of every individual. National and state-level guidelines on anti-ragging will be strictly adhered to, ensuring compliance with legal frameworks and best practices. The institution is committed to instilling a strong value system among students, emphasizing mutual respect, empathy, and a sense of responsibility towards fellow students.

As the head of the institution, the Principal is responsible for enforcing the "curbing of ragging menace" anti-ragging laws as outlined in this policy. Nevertheless, he has the authority to assign the functional duties and processes to any other faculty member of the Higher Education Institution (HEI) designated as the Nodal Officer responsible for overseeing the anti-ragging function inside the HEI.

In accordance with the 3rd Amendment of UGC Regulations on "Curbing the menace of Ragging" in Higher Educational Institutions, 2016 3 (j), which states that:

'Any act of physical or mental abuse (including bullying and exclusion) targeted at another student (Fresher or otherwise) on the ground of colour, race, religion, caste, ethnicity, gender (including transgender), sexual orientation, appearance, nationality,



regional origins, linguistic identity, place of birth, place of residence or economic background. To ensure a healthy atmosphere within the campus for newcomers so that they can spread their wings without any fear.'

Objectives

1. The primary aim of this policy is to create and maintain a campus environment free from any form of Ragging, ensuring the safety, dignity, and well-being of all individuals associated with the institution.
2. To promote a culture of respect, tolerance, and inclusivity among students.
3. To establish a robust system for reporting, investigating, and promptly addressing ragging incidents.

Scope of the Policy

1. This policy applies to all academic community members, including students, faculty, staff, and administrators.
2. The policy addresses all forms of Ragging, encompassing physical, verbal, or psychological harm, and aims to prevent and eliminate such behaviour within the institution.

What constitutes Ragging?

According to the UGC Guidelines, Ragging involves one or more of the following actions:

- I. Any behaviour by a student or a group of students that has the effect of taunting, treating, or handling with rudeness a fresher or any other student, whether through words spoken or written or by an act.
- II. Engaging in rowdy or disrespectful behaviour by a student or a group of students that annoys, harms physically or psychologically, or produces fear or apprehension in any fresher or other students.
- III. Asking a student to perform an act that they would not normally perform and that may cause or result in shame, agony, or embarrassment to negatively impact their physical or mental well-being or the well-being of any other student.
- IV. Any action by a senior student that prohibits, hinders, or disturbs any other student's or a fresher's usual academic activity. It exploits the services of a fresher or any other student to complete the academic tasks assigned to an individual or a group of students.



- V. They are exploiting the services of a new student or any other student to complete the academic assignments given to a single student or a group of students.
- VI. Any act of financial extortion or coercive financial burden imposed by students on a newcomer or any other student.
- VII. Any form of physical abuse, including all variations such as sexual abuse, gay attacks, stripping, enforcing vulgar and obscene behaviours, or endangering someone's health or safety.
- VIII. Any behaviour or act that intentionally or unintentionally causes a fresher or another student to feel uncomfortable, including verbal abuse, emails, posts, and public insults.
- IX. Any behaviour or act that affects a fresher or another student's mental health and self-confidence with or without the intention of indulging in sadistic pleasure or demonstrating a student's superiority over any fresher.

Measures for Prohibition of Ragging

1. All the stipulations outlined by the Central and State governments, UGC, and court decisions, including submitting anti-ragging commitments by students and parents, participation in awareness activities, and other necessary procedures, have been duly fulfilled.
2. The College fully complies with the regulations set forth by the Central Government and State Governments, if applicable, regarding Ragging, treating it as a punishable violation.
3. The Principal of the College directly oversees the Anti-ragging Cell.
4. The Anti-ragging Cell will maintain high surveillance of student actions, particularly when fresh batches arrive at the start of the academic year.
5. Regular reports from the Anti-ragging Cell and Counsellors are regularly submitted to the Principal.
6. The class tutors will assist in identifying potential offenders and students experiencing stress, anxiety, and other difficulties. They will personally meet with them and, if needed, arrange meetings with expert counsellors.
7. Orientation programs are scheduled for new students during the initial weeks of the academic year to familiarise them with campus life's social and academic aspects.
8. The College identifies and maintains ongoing surveillance at all vulnerable places.



9. The institution ensures the active involvement of all students in cultural festivals and celebrations to eliminate hierarchical divisions between seniors and juniors.
10. The College's anti-ragging policy mandates the presence of teacher squads who rotate to uphold the typical discipline of the campus.
11. Special sessions ought to be organised to raise awareness among students and their parents regarding the rights and safety of the pupils.

Committees for the Prevention of Ragging

The Principal will nominate and lead the Anti-Ragging Committee, including representatives from the faculty members, parents, freshers, senior students, and non-teaching staff. The committee will have a diverse membership in terms of levels and gender. The Anti-Ragging Committee is responsible for ensuring that the Anti-Ragging policy is followed and that any laws regarding Ragging are upheld. Additionally, the committee monitors and supervises the Anti-Ragging Squad's efforts to prevent Ragging in the college.

- The Principal will designate a smaller body called the Anti-Ragging Squad, which will have the required representation to maintain vigilance, oversight, and patrolling functions. The Squad will always be mobile, alert, and active. The Anti-Ragging Squad must include people from different groups within the university community and should not include any external representation.
- The Anti-Ragging Squad is responsible for conducting unscheduled inspections on hostels and other locations susceptible to Ragging incidences. They have the authority to inspect these sites.
- The Anti-Ragging Squad is responsible for promptly investigating any reported incidents of Ragging, whether referred by the Principal, faculty members, staff, students, parents, guardians, service providers, or any other person. The Squad will then submit an inquiry report with recommendations to the Anti-Ragging Committee for appropriate action.
- The Anti-Ragging Squad will investigate the incident of Ragging, ensuring a fair and transparent procedure that follows the principles of natural justice. The student or students accused of Ragging and other witnesses will be given sufficient opportunity to present the facts, documents, and views related to the incident. The Squad will also consider any other relevant information that may be necessary.



- The college will establish a committee called the Monitoring Cell on Ragging, which will work together to accomplish the goals outlined in these Rules. The Monitoring Cell will assess reports received by the Anti-ragging committee. The Monitoring Cell will also assess the college's endeavours to promote awareness of anti-ragging measures, including collecting affidavits from parents/guardians and students expressing their commitment to refrain from engaging in ragging activities or their willingness to accept penalties for any infractions.
- The college will implement several strategies, such as audio-visual aids, counselling sessions, workshops, student competitions, and other appropriate measures, to raise awareness and prevent Ragging.
- The college's teachers and non-teaching staff, including administrative staff, contractual employees, and security guards, will be educated about the negative effects of Ragging, its prevention, and the resulting repercussions.
- The college will need all teaching and non-teaching staff, as well as any employees on the campus, to provide a formal commitment to report any instances of Ragging swiftly as they become aware.
- The institution will include a provision in the service regulations of its employees to issue certificates of appreciation to staff members who report incidences of Ragging. These certificates will be included in their employment records.
- The college will conduct discreet random surveys among the newcomers every month during the first three months of the academic year. These surveys aim to verify and cross-check if the college is truly free of Ragging. The institution may develop its methodology for conducting these surveys.
- The college will include a record in the Transfer Certificate given to the student upon leaving the college, indicating whether the student has been disciplined for participating in or supporting an act of Ragging during their time at the college. This record will be separate from any other general conduct and behaviour entries.
- All levels of authorities, functionaries, faculty members, and college employees, whether permanent or temporary, and employees of service providers working within the college, have a shared responsibility to prevent or promptly address any instance of ragging they become aware of.



Once a student is found guilty by the committee, they will be subject to one or more of the following penalties, as determined by the Anti-Ragging Committee:

- 1) Suspension from attending classes and academic rights.
- 2) Suspending or revoking scholarships, fellowships, and other privileges.
- 3) Exclusion from participating in any test, examination, or different evaluation process.
- 4) The withholding of results.
- 5) They prohibit participation in collaborative endeavours or attendance at national or international conferences/symposia/meetings from presenting one's research work.
- 6) Dismissal or removal from the hostels and mess.
- 7) Cancellation of admission
- 8) The act of being expelled from the institution results in being prohibited from being admitted to any other institution for a designated time.
- 9) If the individuals responsible for or assisting in the act of Ragging cannot be identified, the College will impose collective punishment.
- 10) If necessary, according to the severity of the act of Ragging, the College will submit a First Information Report (FIR) with the local police authorities.
- 11) The College's Anti-Ragging Committee will make suitable determinations, such as applying penalties, based on the specific details and severity of each instance of Ragging.

Conclusion

This policy stands as a beacon of values, reflecting the unwavering dedication to ensuring the well-being and dignity of every student of the College. It helps to create a culture of kindness, empathy, and mutual support, where every individual feels valued and empowered to thrive. By upholding this policy, the institution can foster a harmonious and inclusive campus where everyone can reach their full potential and can create a campus where students can thrive academically, professionally, and personally, free from the fear of harassment or intimidation.



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