



UNIVERSITY OF YORK MUMBAI

Anti-Ragging Policy

1. Definition: What Constitutes Ragging

As per the University Grants Commission (UGC) Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions (2009), ragging constitutes one or more of the following acts:

- Any conduct by any student or group of students that causes or is likely to cause physical or psychological harm or raises apprehension of fear, shame, or embarrassment to a student, including teasing, abusing, playing practical jokes, or causing hurt to such student.
- Asking a student to perform any act or do something which such student will not, in the ordinary course, willingly do and which causes shame, embarrassment, or danger to physical or mental health.
- Any act of financial extortion or forceful expenditure burden put on a student by other students.
- Any act that prevents, disrupts, or disturbs the regular academic activity of a student.
- Exploiting the services of a student for completing academic tasks or personal chores.
- Any act of abuse by spoken words, emails, posts, or public insults, or the wrongful confinement of a student.
- Any act that affects the mental health and self-confidence of a student with the intent to derive sadistic pleasure.

2. Policy Objective

University of York Mumbai maintains a **zero-tolerance stance toward ragging**. The objective of this policy is to provide a safe and secure learning environment by eliminating ragging in all forms.

3. Applicability

This policy applies to all students enrolled at the University of York Mumbai, including undergraduate, postgraduate, diploma, and research scholars, whether residing on or off campus.

4. Institutional Mechanisms

4.1 Anti-Ragging Committee (ARC): The University shall constitute an Anti-Ragging Committee chaired by a senior academic officer, with faculty, administrative staff, student representatives, and parents as members. The committee will oversee prevention, receive complaints, and recommend action.

4.2 Anti-Ragging Squad (ARS): A dedicated squad comprising staff and student volunteers will conduct periodic checks in hostels, cafeterias, and other areas to deter ragging. The squad will respond immediately to any reported or observed incident.

4.3 Nodal Officer: A designated Nodal Officer will coordinate with the University Grants Commission and law enforcement agencies as required.

5. Preventive Measures

- Display of anti-ragging posters and helpline numbers across campus and hostels.
- Orientation programmes and counseling sessions for students at the start of every academic year.
- Awareness drives and workshops to educate students on the legal and academic consequences of ragging.
- Collection of undertakings from all students and their parents affirming that they will not engage in ragging.

6. Reporting Mechanism

Any student who is a victim of ragging or witnesses ragging may report the incident to the Anti-Ragging Committee, Squad, or Nodal Officer through in-person

meetings, email, complaint boxes, or the national helpline (1800-180-5522). Anonymous complaints will be accepted and investigated in good faith.

7. Inquiry and Disciplinary Action

Upon receiving a complaint, the Anti-Ragging Committee (ARC) will promptly initiate a formal inquiry into the incident. The accused student(s) will be given a fair opportunity to present their version of events before any decision is made.

If the inquiry establishes involvement in ragging, the disciplinary actions may include one or more of the following, depending on the severity of the offence:

- Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges
- Cancellation of admission
- Withholding of examination results
- Expulsion from the University
- Referral to law enforcement authorities for criminal proceedings

The punishment awarded shall be exemplary and sufficiently stringent to serve as a deterrent against recurrence of such incidents.

For every confirmed incident of ragging, the University shall lodge a First Information Report (FIR) with the local police without exception.

Any student aggrieved by the order of the Anti-Ragging Committee may file an appeal to the Provost, Mumbai Campus, whose decision shall be final and binding.

8. Support to Victims

Victims of ragging will receive full support from the University, including counseling, medical aid, and academic accommodation as needed. The identity of the complainant will be kept confidential to protect against retaliation.

9. Review and Amendment

The Anti-Ragging Policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its continued relevance, effectiveness, and alignment with the latest UGC and statutory regulations.