

12. Anti-Ragging Commitment of the Institution (as per MCI/NMC Notification 2021)

The Bhima Bhoi Medical College & Hospital is committed to curb the menace of ragging and sensitize Students of its dehumanizing effects, abiding by the laws laid down by the Government.

12.1 Definition of Ragging

Any conduct whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of –

- harassing, teasing, treating or handling with rudeness any other student, indulging in rowdy or undisciplined activities which causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or a junior student or

- asking the students to do any act or perform something which such student will not in the ordinary course and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of a fresher or a junior student.

12.2 Helplines to Report Incidents of Ragging at BBMCH:

1. Dean & Principal	-	9238607960
2. Superintendent	-	9437091694
3. Vice-Principal	-	9337002271
4. Warden of First-Year Boy's Hostel-		9437468182
5. Sub-Warden of First-Year Boy's Hostel-		9815116992
6. Warden Boys Hostel	-	9776048343
7. Sub-Warden Boys Hostel	-	8895120210
8. Warden of Girl's Hostel	-	9439933564
9. Sub-Warden Girl's Hostel	-	9777863434
10. National Anti-Ragging Toll-Free No.-		1800 180 5522
11. National Anti-Ragging Helpline -		helpline@antiragging.in

12.3 Punishable ingredients of Ragging:-

1. Abetment to ragging Criminal conspiracy to rag;
2. Unlawful assembly and rioting while ragging;
3. Public nuisance created during ragging;
4. Violation of decency and morals through ragging;
5. Injury to body, causing hurt or grievous hurt;
6. Wrongful restraint;
7. Wrongful confinement;
8. Use of criminal force;
9. Assault as well as sexual offenses or even unnatural offenses;
10. Extortion;
11. Criminal trespass;
12. Offences against the property;
13. Criminal intimidation;
14. Attempts to commit any or all of the above-mentioned offenses against the victim(s);
15. Physical or psychological humiliation.
16. All other offenses following from the definition of “Ragging”.

12.4 Measures for Prohibition of Ragging

1. The Medical College/Institution / University shall strictly observe the provisions of the Act of the Central Government and the State Governments, if any, or if enacted and/or for the time being in force, considering ragging as a cognizable offense under the law at par with

rape and other atrocities against women and ill-treatment of persons belonging to the SC/ST and prohibiting ragging in all its forms in all institutions.

2. Ragging in all its forms shall be totally banned in the entire Medical College/Institution / University including its departments, constituent units, all its premises (academic, residential, sports, canteen, etc) whether located within the campus or outside and in all means of transportation of students whether public or private.

3. The Medical College/Institution / University shall take strict action against those found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging.

12.5 Measures for Prevention of Ragging at BBMCH:

1. **The Application Form for Enrolment** will have a Printed Undertaking to be filled up and signed by the Candidate that he/she is aware of the Laws related to Prohibition of Ragging as well as the Punishments when found guilty of the offence, and agrees to abide by them, countersigned by the Parent/Guardian. And that he/she has not been expelled from any other Institution for being found to be guilty of ragging. Such Undertakings are also collected from all the Senior Batches of Students at the time of their admission.

2. **A Student Handbook** is distributed to Freshers at the beginning of each academic session containing the blueprint of prevention of ragging, a detailed contact list for reporting instances, and methods of redressal so that the Fresher need not look up to the Seniors for help and get indebted to them.

3. **A Welcome Meeting** is convened by the Dean & Principal with the Freshers at the commencement of the academic session, in the presence of various functionaries like District Administration, Police Superintendent, Hostel Wardens, Faculties, Student Representatives, and sensitize them regarding the Anti-ragging Commitment of the Institution.

4. **A Mentorship Programme** is instituted in the College, appointing one Mentor for 5 Freshers for individual interaction on a daily basis (thro'Whatsapp Group) and Weekly Meetings (at a predetermined time fixed by the Group), for ascertaining the problems/difficulties faced by the Fresher in the Institution and extending necessary help.

5. **The Freshers are instructed** to desist from doing anything against their will, even if ordered by the Seniors, and that they have nothing to fear, as the Institution cares for them and shall not tolerate any atrocities against them. They are encouraged to report incidents of ragging either as victims or as witnesses.

6. **Big Posters** are displayed on all Notice Boards of all Departments, Hostels, and all vulnerable places mentioning the Provisions of the Anti-Ragging Law and Punishments thereof.

7. **Proper Illumination** of all vulnerable places on the Campus is done to identify the perpetrators of the crime.

8. **Surprise Visits** are undertaken to the Rooms of the Hostel where Freshers are lodged, by the Wardens / Squad Members / Mentors on a daily basis in the initial months.

9. **Security** is tightened in the Premises at all vulnerable places to keep watch on all activities involving Freshers.

10. **Policing** at odd hours during the early months of the academic session is instituted.

12.6 Setting up of Committees and Other Measures

1. **The Anti-Ragging Committee:-** Every institution shall have an Anti-Ragging Committee headed by the Head of the institution and shall consist of representatives of civil and police administration, local media, Non-Government Organizations involved in youth activities, faculty members, parents, students belonging to the freshers' category as well as seniors and non-teaching staff. It shall monitor the Anti Ragging activities in the institution, consider the recommendations of the Anti-Ragging Squad and take appropriate decisions and spell out punishments if found guilty.

2. **The Anti-Ragging Squad:-** The Anti-Ragging Squad shall be nominated by the Head of the institution with such representation as considered necessary and shall exclusively consist of members belonging to the various sections of the campus community. The Squad shall have vigil, oversight, and patrolling functions. It shall be kept mobile, alert, and active at all times and shall be empowered to inspect places of potential ragging and make surprise raids on hostels and other hot spots. The Squad shall investigate incidents of ragging and make recommendations to the Anti-Ragging Committee and shall work under the overall guidance of the Anti-Ragging Committee.

3. **Regular and Periodic Psychological Counselling and Orientation** for students shall be arranged in the Medical College/Institution /University shall arrange for (for fresher's separately, as well as jointly with seniors) by professional counsellors during the first three months of the new academic year. This shall be done at the institution and department/ course levels. Parents and teachers shall also be involved in such sessions

4. **Full-Time Warden** shall be appointed as per the eligibility criteria laid down for the post reflecting both the command and control aspects of maintaining discipline, as well as the softer skills of counselling and communicating with the youth outside the classroom situations. Wardens shall be accessible at all hours and shall be provided with mobile phones and the details of their telephone numbers must be widely publicized. Similarly, the telephone numbers of the other important functionaries - Heads of institutions, faculty members, members of the anti-ragging committees, district and sub-divisional authorities, and state authorities where relevant, should also be widely disseminated for the needy to get in touch or seek help in emergencies. The institution shall review and suitably enhance the powers and perquisites of Wardens and authorities in curbing the menace of ragging.

5. **Separate Hostel Block** shall lodge the Fresher's wherever possible, and where such facilities are not available, the college/institution shall ensure that seniors' access to freshers' accommodation is strictly monitored by wardens, security guards, and college staff.

6. **Employees of the Canteens/Mess** shall be given necessary instructions to keep around the clock vigil against ragging on the hostel premises and to report the incidents of ragging to the college authorities if any, as ragging takes place mostly in the hostels after the classes are over in the college. It is seen, that college canteens and hostel messes are also places where ragging often takes place.

7. **The Security Personnel** posted in hostels shall be under the direct control of the Wardens and assessed by them.

8. **The Head of the Institution** shall take immediate action on receipt of the recommendations of the Ant-Ragging Squad. He/ She shall also take action suo motu if the circumstances so warrant.

9. **Freshers** who do not report the incidents of ragging either as victims or as witnesses shall also be punished suitably. The burden of proof shall lie on the perpetrator of ragging and not on the victim.

10. **Anonymous Random Surveys** shall be conducted across the 1st year batch of students (freshers) every fortnight during the first three months of the academic year to verify and cross-check whether the campus is indeed free of ragging or not.

11. **The institution shall file an FIR** with the police / local authorities whenever a case of ragging is reported, but continue with its own inquiry and other measures without waiting for action on the part of the police/ local authorities. Remedial action shall be initiated and completed within one week of the incident itself.

12. **The Migration/Transfer Certificate** issued to the student by the Medical College/Institution/University shall have an entry, apart from those relating to general conduct and behaviour, whether the student has been punished for the offense of committing or abetting ragging, or not, as also whether the student has displayed persistent violent or aggressive behaviour or any inclination to harm others.

Preventing or acting against ragging shall be the collective responsibility of all levels and sections of authorities or functionaries in the Medical College/Institution /University, including faculty, and not merely that of the specific body/ committee constituted for prevention of ragging.

12.7 Awardable Punishments.

At the Medical College/Institution level: Depending upon the nature and gravity of the offense 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 anyone or any combination of the following:

1. Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges.
2. Withholding/withdrawing scholarship/ fellowship and other benefits
3. Debarring from appearing in any test/ examination or other evaluation processes.
4. Withholding results
5. Debarring from representing the institution in the regional, national tournaments, festival
6. Suspension/ expulsion from the hostel
7. Cancellation of admission.
8. Rustication from the institution for periods ranging from 1 to 4 semesters
9. Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarring from admission to any other institution for a specific period.
10. Fine of Rs. 25,000/- and Rs. 1 Lakh.
11. Collective punishment: When the persons committing or abetting the crime of ragging are not identified, the institution shall resort to collective punishment.

12.5 Measures for Encouraging healthy interaction of Freshers with Other Students:

1. The Medical College/Institution /University shall set up appropriate committees including the Course-In-Charge, Student Advisor, Warden, and some Senior Students to actively monitor, promote and regulate healthy interaction between the freshers and senior students
2. Freshers' Welcome Ceremony shall be organized with the senior students and the faculty together soon after admissions, preferably within the first two weeks of the beginning of the academic session, for a proper introduction to one another and where the talents of the fresher's are brought out pro properly in the presence of the faculty, thus helping them to shed their inferiority complex, if any, and remove their inhibitions.
3. The Medical College/Institution /University shall enhance the student-faculty interaction by involving the students in all matters of the institution, except those relating to the actual processes of evaluation and of faculty appointments so that the students shall feel that they are responsible partners in managing the affairs of the institution and consequently the credit due to the institution for good work/ performance is due to them as well.