



NOORUL ISLAM CENTRE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

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NICHE Anti-Ragging Policy

1. Introduction

NICHE, Deemed to be the University, is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment conducive to academic pursuits, personal growth, and community involvement. As part of our commitment, we strictly prohibit ragging in all forms as per the regulations set forth by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the Supreme Court of India, and relevant statutory bodies. This policy outlines our stance on anti-ragging, procedures to handle incidents of ragging, and responsibilities assigned to university authorities.

2. Definition of Ragging As per UGC guidelines, "ragging" includes any act that violates a student's dignity, mental well-being, or physical safety. Ragging may take various forms, including, but not limited to, physical abuse, verbal abuse, psychological harassment, or any act that causes a sense of shame or embarrassment.

3. Objectives

- To eradicate ragging in all forms within the NICHE campus.
- To ensure adherence to UGC and other statutory guidelines on ragging prevention.
- To promote a culture of mutual respect, inclusion, and security among students.

4. Scope of the Policy This policy applies to all students, faculty, administrative staff, and visitors within NICHE Deemed to be the University's campus, including hostels, libraries, transport, and any official university functions.

5. Prohibited Conduct

- Any act causing mental or physical discomfort or harm to another student.
- Forcing any student to perform tasks that may be degrading, humiliating, or injurious.
- Imposing isolation or restrictions on new students.
- Engaging in behaviour that creates an atmosphere of fear, inferiority, or oppression.
- Physical abuse, including gestures, physical restraint, or any act that causes harm.
- Verbal abuse, offensive language, demeaning comments, or personal slander.
- Forcing students into activities that violate their moral and social values.
- Psychological harassment that causes mental stress, humiliation, or intimidation.

- Acts that disrupt personal and academic freedoms or cause emotional distress.

6. Preventive Measures

6.1 Awareness Programs NICHE shall regularly conduct workshops, seminars, and sensitization programs to educate students and staff about anti-ragging policies and their consequences.

6.2 Anti-Ragging Pledge All students shall be required to sign an Anti-Ragging Affidavit at the time of admission, which will be countersigned by their parents/guardians. This affidavit is a commitment to not indulge in ragging and to uphold NICHE's values.

6.3 Prominent Display of Anti-Ragging Messages Anti-ragging helpline numbers and emergency contacts shall be displayed on notice boards, the university's website, and all student handbooks.

6.4. Display of Policy: Ensuring anti-ragging notices, helpline numbers, and relevant contact information are prominently displayed on campus and in hostels.

7. Responsibilities of University Authorities

7.1 Responsibilities of the Anti-Ragging Committee

- Establish an Anti-Ragging Committee that includes faculty members, administrative staff, and student representatives.
- Oversee the implementation and enforcement of anti-ragging measures.
- Conduct periodic reviews of the anti-ragging policy and its effectiveness.

7.2 Responsibilities of the Anti-Ragging Squad

- Patrol vulnerable areas, such as hostels, canteens, and common areas, particularly during the start of the academic year.
- Conduct surprise checks and investigate complaints of ragging incidents promptly.
- Report findings to the Anti-Ragging Committee for further action.

7.3 Responsibilities of Faculty and Staff

- Identify any signs of ragging among students and report them immediately to the Anti-Ragging Committee.
- Engage with students to create a supportive environment, encourage open communication, and provide guidance.
- Participate in sensitization workshops to remain informed about anti-ragging guidelines and protocols.

7.4 Responsibilities of Hostel Wardens

- Maintain a safe and inclusive hostel environment by monitoring student activities.
- Conduct regular hostel inspections and ensure compliance with anti-ragging protocols.
- Address any grievances or reports of ragging within the hostel premises immediately.

8. Reporting and Redressal Mechanism

8.1 Complaint Procedure

- Any student experiencing or witnessing ragging should report the incident to the Anti-Ragging Committee, a member of the Anti-Ragging Squad, or any university authority.
- Complaints can be submitted anonymously, and all reports will be treated with confidentiality and seriousness.

8.2 Helpline Numbers NICHE shall maintain an anti-ragging helpline number that is accessible 24/7 and prominently displayed on campus.

8.3 Online Reporting NICHE will also offer an online platform for students to report incidents, accessible via the university's website or through an email.

9. Disciplinary Action

Upon verification of a ragging complaint, NICHE shall take stringent disciplinary action as per UGC guidelines, which may include:

1. **Immediate Suspension:** Temporary suspension pending further investigation.
2. **Expulsion:** Permanent expulsion from the university in severe cases.
3. **Academic Penalties:** Debarring from examinations, withholding of results, and cancellation of degrees.
4. **Legal Action:** In cases of extreme offences, legal action may be taken, including reporting to local law enforcement authorities as per the guidelines of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).
5. Cancellation of admission.
6. A ban from participation in university-sponsored activities.
7. A restriction on on-campus access or hostel facilities.
8. Any other actions as deemed necessary by the Anti-Ragging Committee.

10. Legal Consequences

In severe cases, NICHE shall cooperate with law enforcement agencies, and students found guilty may face criminal prosecution as per the UGC guidelines and relevant legal statutes.

11. Protection of Victims and Witnesses

NICHE shall ensure that victims and witnesses of ragging are not subject to intimidation or retaliation. Counselling and support services shall be offered to all affected individuals.

Victims of ragging have the right to:

1. **Confidentiality:** All reports will be handled with strict confidentiality to protect the identity of the complainant.
2. **Counselling Support:** Access to counseling services to address any psychological or emotional distress caused by the incident.
3. **Fair Process:** A fair and impartial investigation process, ensuring that any accused students receive a transparent hearing.

12. Regular Monitoring and Evaluation: the Anti-Ragging Committee shall conduct an annual review of this policy, assess the effectiveness of anti-ragging measures, and implement improvements as needed. The evaluation process shall consider feedback from students, staff, and stakeholders.

13. Conclusion NICHE, Deemed to be the University, is dedicated to maintaining a campus free from ragging and related forms of harassment. This Anti-Ragging Policy represents our commitment to safeguarding every student's rights, safety, and dignity and promoting a nurturing and collaborative environment.

14. Acknowledgment: All students and faculty are required to familiarize themselves with this policy. By signing the Anti-Ragging Affidavit, they acknowledge their understanding and acceptance of this policy.

15. Review of the Anti-Ragging Policy

The Anti-Ragging Policy will be reviewed and updated periodically to ensure it meets the evolving needs of the university community and complies with any new guidelines from the UGC or legal mandates.

NICHE, Deemed to be University, is a zero-tolerance campus. NICHE is committed to eradicating ragging and fostering a respectful, inclusive environment for all students. Through collaboration and a shared commitment to this policy, NICHE aims to maintain a campus where students feel safe, respected, and motivated to excel.




Registrar

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