

No. U5/10854/2008

Police Headquarters
Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
Dated: 16/07/2009

CIRCULAR No. 26/2009

Sub: - Ragging - Action against - Revised Instructions – Reg

Ref: - PHQ Circular No. 26/2005 dated 19/11/2005

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India had taken serious note of ragging in Campuses and in its Judgment in Civil Appeal No. 887/2009 the Hon' Supreme Court had directed that the recommendations of the Raghavan Committee appointed by the Court shall be implemented and compliance reported. Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in OP No. 31139/99 had also directed certain steps to be taken by the Police Department.

2. Based on the pronouncements by the Hon' Supreme Court, the following instructions are issued for strict implementation by all the formations.

- a. Every educational institution must have an "Anti Ragging Committee". Anti Ragging Committee at the level of institutions should consist of representatives of Civil and Police Administrations, Local Media, NGO's involved in youth activities, representatives of the faculty members, representatives of parents, representatives of students belonging to freshers category as well as non teaching staff. This committee should be headed by the head of the institution.

Supdts of Police/Comms of Police shall take the initiative every year to constitute Institutional Level Committees by liaising with the Heads of the concerned institutions. The C.I. having jurisdiction of the place in which the institution is situated shall be the ex-officio member of the Institutional Level Committee. A detailed Police Station-wise list of educational Institutions, the names and contact numbers of the Heads of these institutions and members of the committee should be maintained at the Police Stations, CI Offices, SDPO Offices and at DPO. This list should be updated whenever changes occur based on inputs to be given by the CIs who are members.

- b. Every institution must similarly have an "Anti Ragging Squad" and its members are to be nominated by the Heads of the institutions with such representatives considered necessary to keep it mobile, active and alert all the time. The squad shall be empowered to inspect places of potential ragging and also conduct surprise raids on hostels and other hot spots. The squad consists of members of various sections of the Campus Community and should work under the guidance of the Anti Ragging Committee.

Heads of the institutions should be instructed every year by the SPs/CPs to form the Anti Ragging Squads immediately.

- c. District Level Anti Ragging Committee should consist of Heads of Higher Educational Institutions as members. It should be headed by District Collector and SP/CP will be a Member and ADM will be the Member Secretary.

SPs/CPs should take up the matter with District Collector and ensure that the committees are formed every year and that they start functioning. It should have representation from local Media, NGOs associated with youth activities and representatives of students' organizations. The Committee should hold preparatory meetings during summer vacations to take stock of the state of preparedness of each institution to counter the menace of ragging.

- d. In the light of increasing numbers of private commercially managed Colleges or Hostels outside Campus, such hostels and management must be registered with the local police authorities and permission to start such Hostels or register them must necessarily be based on recommendations by the Heads of educational institutions. It should be mandatory for local Police, local Administration and the institutional authorities to ensure vigil on incidents that may come within the definitions of ragging.

Management of such private Hostels will be responsible for non-reporting such incidents. Local authorities and institutional authorities will be responsible for action in the event of ragging in such premises similar to the incidents within the campus.

SPs/CPs should collect and maintain the list of such hostels and ensure that they are registered with the local police. Details including ownership, contact details of owners/manager also should be maintained up-to-date. SPs/CPs shall ensure that all such hostels are registered in the respective Police Station and their details incorporated in SC H Part IV. A separate Register containing relevant details shall also be maintained.

- e. Warden should be accessible at all hours and should be provided with Mobile Phones and their contact numbers widely publicized.

These numbers and details of wardens must be obtained from the head of the institution officially and maintained in the local PS and centrally at the District HQ.

- f. SHO/SP within whose jurisdiction a particular college falls, shall be responsible for ensuring that no ragging takes place on the campus of the concerned colleges, and to effectively deal with incidents of ragging should, any such incidents take place. SP/ SHO shall deal effectively with the incidents and co-operate and communicate with "crises hot line" to be set up by the Ministry of CEIT and/ or the independent monitoring agency wherever available.

SPs/CPs may prepare their websites to receive any information from public regarding instances of ragging. The Janamaithri beat officers should be sensitized to watch-out for any reference to ragging in colleges within their beats during their work. District Control Rooms should be sensitized to respond to any such information proactively.

- g. The Court has also observed that "formulation of guidelines and regulations is not sufficient. Such regulation shall have to be enforced strictly and penal consequences for the heads of institutions/ administration of the institution who do not take timely steps in the prevention of ragging and punishing those who rag.

SPs/CPs are instructed to keep in mind the offences prescribed under Sections 4 and 7 of "The Kerala Prohibition of Ragging Act 1998 and to initiate appropriate action wherever necessary.

- 3. In addition to the instructions flowing from the judgement of the Hon' Supreme Court, the following points are also to be noted for compliance.
 - a. Phone numbers and Mobile numbers of concerned SHOs/CIs/SDPOs having jurisdiction and the concerned SPs/CPs should be circulated to all Staff of educational institutions. These should be got displayed prominently in the institutions as well as at all Hostels both within and outside campuses, with the request to inform any instances of ragging immediately.

b. The Cell for Anti Ragging Efforts (CARE) constituted vide Circulars 33/99 and 26/2005 will be the nodal point at Police Headquarters for co-ordinating the police effort in this matter. The constitution of the Cell is modified as follows:-

1. Inspector General of Police (Headquarters)
2. Assistant Inspector General of Police-I
3. Assistant Inspector General of Police (Public Grievance)

The functions of CARE at the State level and instructions for the setting up of District and Circle level formations as well as their role and activities have been elaborated in PHQ Circular 33/99 which may be referred to and complied with.

DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE