**Need and importance of Anti Ragging mechanism in college campus -**

In the present era, anti-ragging measures and immediate actions are essential to ensure a safe and welcoming environment for students in college campus premises. A kind of awareness is essential amoung the students that ragging is a criminal offense and UGC has framed regulations on curbing the menace of ragging in higher educational institutions in order to prohibit, prevent and eliminate the scourge of ragging. In pursuance to the judgment of the Hon’ble Supreme Court of India dated 08.05.2009 in Civil Appeal No. 887/2009, the UGC has notified “Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009”.

**What is Ragging?**

Ragging constitutes one or more of any of the following acts:

1. a. any conduct by any student or students whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness a fresher or any other student;
2. b. indulging in rowdy or indiscipline activities by any student or students which causes or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship, physical or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in any fresher or any other student;
3. c. asking any student to do any act which such student will not in the ordinary course do and which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame, or torment or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of such fresher or any other student;
4. d. any act by a senior student that prevents, disrupts or disturbs the regular academic activity of any other student or a fresher;
5. e. exploiting the services of a fresher or any other student for completing the academic tasks assigned to an individual or a group of students.
6. f. any act of financial extortion or forceful expenditure burden put on a fresher or any other student by students;
7. g. any act of physical abuse including all variants of it: sexual abuse, homosexual assaults, stripping, forcing obscene and lewd acts, gestures, causing bodily harm or any other danger to health or person;
8. h. any act or abuse by spoken words, emails, post, public insults which would also include deriving perverted pleasure, vicarious or sadistic thrill from actively or passively participating in the discomfiture to fresher or any other student ;
9. i. any act that affects the mental health and self-confidence of a fresher or any other student with or without an intent to derive a sadistic pleasure or showing off power, authority or superiority by a student over any fresher or any other student

The Anti-Ragging Committee of M.C.E. Society’s A.K.K. New Law Academy aims to strictly prevent and address instances of ragging within the college premises effectively and to ensure a zero-tolerance approach towards ragging.

**The objectives of the anti-ragging committee are as follows:**

1. 1. Awareness and Prevention: The committee aims to create awareness among students about the consequences of ragging and the importance of maintaining a respectful environment.
2. 2. Complaint Handling: The committee acts as a platform for students to report incidents of ragging confidentially. It ensures that the complaint process is hassle-free, providing a safe space for victims to seek assistance.
3. 3. Investigation and Disciplinary Action: The committee investigates reported incidents of ragging promptly and impartially. If found guilty, appropriate disciplinary actions are taken against the perpetrators, adhering to the UGC guidelines and legal provisions.
4. 4. Counseling and Support: The committee offers counseling services to victims of ragging to help them overcome the trauma and regain their confidence. It also provides support to students who may face psychological or emotional distress due to ragging incidents.

**As per UGC Regulation, the college is empowered to take following actions against the students found guilty of ragging-**

* Suspension from attending classes and academic privileges.
* Withholding/ withdrawing scholarship/ fellowship and other benefits.
* Debarring from appearing in any test/ examination or other evaluation process. Withholding results.
* Debarring from representing the institution in any regional, national or international meet, tournament, youth festival, etc.
* Suspension/ expulsion from the hostel.
* Cancellation of admission.
* Rustication from the institution for period ranging from 1 to 4 semesters.
* Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarring from admission to any other institution for a specified period.
* Fine which may extend up to Rs.2.5 Lakh. Provided that where the persons committing or abetting the act of ragging are not identified, the institution shall resort to collective punishment