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Causes and Remedies of Ragging in Gopalganj Science and Technology University: A Legal Review

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ABSTRACT: This study examines a significant analysis of ragging at Gopalganj Science and Technology University (GSTU) in Bangladesh and attempts to identify the current trend and regulatory mechanism through a qualitative research method. Interviewing the victims of ragging students and rag perpetrators, reviewing relevant laws, government circulars and court guidelines to form anti-ragging squads and committees and anti-bullying committees in Gopalganj science and Technology University countering the ragging culture by providing and recommending the formulation and implementation of timely and effective sample policies to prevent ragging. Through this study, by uncovering the causes of ragging in the Gopalganj Science and Technology University, to give recommendations to eliminate ragging from the institution and to recommend the amendment of the existing disciplinary rules and conduct rules and to form a ragging squad in accordance with the prevailing laws model policies will be formulated. As a result, it will be possible to control social crimes like ragging in Gopalganj Science and Technology University. Furthermore, in the absence of specific laws, victims of ragging do not know how to get redress for this crime. Apart from this, the educational institutions are not able to ensure a fair academic environment for the students as they are not able to take any effective steps or formulate policies to discover and prevent the real causes of ragging crime. In order to overcome all these issues, through this study, identifying the real causes of ragging, giving advice and formulating policies to solve the crime of ragging are recommended in all educational institutions, training institutes, various social organizations

and even other social institutions at the state level, it will also provide special guidance on crime prevention.

KEYWORDS: Ragging, GSTU, Administration, Legal Framework, Constitution, Judicial Decisions.

I. Introduction

Currently, students are being subjected to physical and mental torture in various educational institutions of Bangladesh. And a subculture and tool of this torture is a social disorder called ragging.[1] This ragging has become so rampant that fresher in educational institutions are falling prey to it and becoming mentally depressed. This kind of misculture creates a sense of fear among freshers.[2] Students coming to the university with new dreams and enthusiasm suffer from raging panic. In the name of improving senior-junior relationship, its main objective is to make juniors obedient. According to the rag perpetrators, rag is given in the name of teaching manners. There are reports of conflict between students on these issues. In some cases, ragging happens to attack the opponent for political purposes. As a result, many students become mentally disturbed and many are forced to leave the educational institution. Some were killed like Abrar Fahad,[3] Zubair Ahmed.[4] Sometimes the victim may experience long-lasting reactions like headaches, hypertension, nightmares and anxiety. For which inattention in studies, always have to spend the day in fear. It is not only the victims of ragging who suffer. Rag perpetrators are also subject to temporary or permanent expulsion from the university. As a result, the purpose of admission to the university is no longer fulfilled; rather they often become a burden to the family or society. Since, the incidence of ragging in Gopalganj Science and Technology University has also increased at an alarming rate, academic life of students who are victims of ragging is severely disrupted along with mental impairment. Therefore, through this research, we intend to uncover the causes of ragging in Gopalganj Science and

[1] Aashish Srivastava , Neerav Srivastava and D.K. Srivastava, *Hazing (Ragging) at Universities: A Legal Perspective* (1st edn. Springer, Singapore, 2023).
[2] Abha Yadav, *Ragging: Legal Aspects and Institutional Framework* (1st edn Universal Law Publishing India 2017)
[3] Abrar Fahad (1998–2019) was a second year student of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) Department at Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET).On October 7, 2019, he attended the Sher-e-Bangla Hall of BUET, Dhaka. He was killed in this fatal attack. His death caused a stir in Bangladesh and led to national-level debates and agitations about student politics and violence on university campuses.
[4] Zubair Ahmed was a 37th batch student in the English department at Jahangirnagar University. On January 8, 2012, he was assaulted during a fight on the campus of the university. After being transported to a hospital in Savar and then to a hospital in Dhaka with severe injuries, he passed away on January 9. Protests against over campus violence were spurred by the incident, which created a stir across the nation.

Technology University and to provide recommendations to the university administration to take effective measures to prevent it.

II. Methodology

In this study qualitative and quantitative methods will be followed in this research on the causes and remedies of ragging in Gopalganj Science and Technology University. Data will be collected from students who are victims of ragging and analyzed. After observing the information and data received from the victimized students, decisions will be taken to find out the causes of ragging and find remedies to them.

The following procedure will be followed in determining the final remedy and taking decision. First, observing the implementation of journals, text books, criminal procedure codes, other related applicable laws, various government policies and notifications, prevailing disciplinary rules and code of conduct of Gopalganj Science and Technology University and related statutory laws. Secondly, interviewing the students studying in different years in the university who have been victims of various forms of ragging such as cyber bullying, physical, psychological and sexual abuse and who have been associated in any form with the ragging culture and in particular those who are the actual perpetrators of the crime of ragging. Finally, in GSTU, to find out the cause of ragging and determine the remedy, through field study, interviewing the victimized students, interviewing the ragging perpetrators, interviewing the relevant persons of the university administration in relation to the steps the administration has taken to prevent ragging and this is to verify their success or failure in settlement and redressed of related complaints. In addition, psychologists, criminologists and experts in this field will be interviewed for the prevention of this social crime raging. The final decision of this research will be taken after verifying the information obtained in the above method.

III. Literature Review

Numerous academics have completed significant research articles and projects on the causes and remedies of the atrocities of ragging in educational institutions. Studies consistently show that verbal, psychological, and physical abuse are prevalent elements of ragging, which has a negative impact on victims social, emotional, and academic well-being, according to Alude et al.[5] Allan and Madden noted that ragging are closely connected practices that expose students

[5] Aluede and others,'Bullying Behavior and Psychological Health Among School Students' (2006) Journal of

to negative behaviors, coercion, and humiliation under the pretense of fostering group connection.[6] Similarly, Srivastava et al. found that ragging lowers motivation, increases absenteeism, and decreases classroom involvement, all of which have a detrimental impact on students' academic performance. Because they are afraid of more harassment, victims frequently avoid interacting with classmates and teachers.[7] Hoover[8] says about ragging behaviors include psychological abuse, forced humiliation, and social marginalization in addition to physical violence. Depression, low self-esteem, and symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder can all be exacerbated by such events. Scholars contend that rather than treating ragging as a disciplinary matter, institutions ought to acknowledge it as a serious public health risk. According to Olweus[9] ragging practices develop when power imbalances go unchecked. Even though the main focus of his work was institutional bullying, many of its theoretical ideas also apply to ragging in higher education, especially when it comes to prevention through institutional regulations and cultural change.

Furthermore, regarding ragging and its cures, Campo, Poulos and Sipple [10] noted that the very cyclical nature of ragging is a recurring subject in ragging studies. It has also been observed that the students who experience extreme humiliation or trauma during their first year often take on the roles of offenders in later years. However, the researchers did not demonstrate the proper way to address such offenses. Ragging frequently functions as a representation of structural power, according to Wickramasinghe et al., study on the phenomenon and its impact on university students.[11] Senior students may employ ragging to impose artificial social hierarchies and project power in highly stratified settings. Maria Cristina Pereira Lima[12] and her fellow think that offering social and psychological support implementing mental health support programs can help put an end to campus ragging, according to study. They also stated

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Instructional Psychology, 33(1). pp.1–8.

[6] Allan and others, 'Hazing in View: College Students at Risk' (2008) National Collaborative for Hazing Research and Prevention, pp.1-52.

[7] Srivastava and others, 'Psychological effects of ragging among students in higher educational institutions'(2016) Industrial Psychiatry Journal, 25(2) pp.147–153.

[8] Hoover, N. C, National survey: Initiation rites and athletics for NCAA sports teams, Alfred University, 1999, pp.8-19.

[9] Olweus, D, *Bullying at school: What we know and what we can do*, Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishing, 1993, pp-6-7.

[10] Campo and others, 'Prevalence and profiling: Hazing among college students and points of intervention' (2005), American Journal of Health Behavior, 29 (2), 137–149.

[11] Wickramasinghe and others, 'Ragging as an expression of power in a deeply divided society; a qualitative study on students perceptions on the phenomenon of ragging at a Sri Lankan university' (2022) Journal of Plos One, 17(7) pp.1-3.

[12] Lima and others, 'Hazing and the mental health of medical students' (2018) Journal of Revista Brasileira de Educação Médica, 42(3), pp.110-120.

that free psychological counseling and other forms of academic and social support should be made available to students who are affected by ragging.

There is still little but increasing empirical research on this subject. In a mixed-methods study conducted at Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University, Rahman and Sadik[13]polled 75 students from 15 departments and discovered that 52% had not been subjected to ragging. Of those who were subjected to ragging, 37% reported both verbal and physical abuse, 6% reported only physical harassment, and 57% reported only verbal mocking. This data point is helpful for establishing baseline prevalence estimates in our review, but we should be aware that the single-institution scope and small sample size limit the scope of generalization, which is a typical issue in this research.

Overall, prior research shows that ragging has detrimental social, intellectual, and psychological effects. Comparatively few studies have looked at the efficacy of institutional treatments and anti-ragging awareness initiatives in various cultural contexts, despite the fact that numerous studies have demonstrated its detrimental impacts. Thus, further study is required to assess preventive measures and pinpoint best practices for establishing inclusive and safe higher education settings.

IV. Existing Legal Framework for Addressing Ragging Culture

In the lack of explicit legal remedies, victims of the pervasive ragging culture in the education sector are unsure of who to turn to for redress.[14] Although Bangladesh has never made an effort to create anti-ragging legislation, the time has come to make such heinous activities illegal.[15] Even the accused does not know that such incidents have elements of criminal offense attached to them. The law does not mention the punishment or remedy for ragging separately. Since there is no specific law, the University investigates specific complaints through the proctorial body[16] or through the Inquiry Committee and results in temporary or permanent expulsion through the Disciplinary Committee.[17]

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[13] Mushfiqur Rahman & Nasif Sadik, 'Nature, Causes, and Consequences of Ragging at the Universities in Bangladesh: An Empirical Study, (2024) Journal of Scientific Reports,6 (1) pp.23-35.

[14] Naman Mohnot, *Law Relating to Ragging (2020th edn* Thomson Reuters India 2020) 20.

[15] Mohsena Akter Drishty, 'Bangladesh should introduce anti-ragging laws' The Daily Observer (2 November, 2019) Available at: https://www.observerbd.com/news.php?id=226098[Accessed 05 April 2026].

[16] Section 2(o) of the Gopalganj Science and Technology University Act 2001 (Act No. 36 of 2001) defines proctor as the university's proctor. Additionally, every teacher coordinator on the aforementioned team is regarded as a proctorial body.

[17] The University's disciplinary authorities are designated by the University's Board of Regents and may punish any student or group that violates University law as they deem appropriate.

The High Court division declared in 2020[18] that students who commit major offenses in any of the country's educational institutions may face criminal charges, despite the fact that Bangladesh has never attempted to pass anti-ragging laws. Despite the HCD declaration, the government was unable to amend the penal code to make ragging a crime. However, it can monitor ragging in Bangladesh and manage ragging cases under specific provisions of the Penal Code[19] in order to secure justice in this regard. Besides, university authorities or guardians can file a case under various sections including: abetment to ragging[20], criminal conspiracy to ragging[21], unlawful assembly to constitute ragging[22], obscene acts and songs[23], and bodily injury: Penalties for culpable homicide that does not qualify as murder[24]. Sexual offenses such as assault[25] or employing criminal force against a woman with the intention of offending her modesty, as well as ragging, assault, and illegal restraint[26] and confinement[27] of the victim. Extortion, criminal trespass[28], criminal intimidation[29], punsishment for criminal intimidation, words, gestures[30], or acts that amounted to degrading a woman's modesty, and violations of decency and morals by ragging under the Pornographic Control Act, 2012.[31] Remedies can also be found under the Information communication and Technology Act, 2006[32] for cyber bullying etc. in specific cases. Additionally, women and children victims of sexual harassment, assault and psychological abuse may claim compensation under the provisions of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act of 2000.[33]

The first real initiation to stop ragging was taken in 2020 by the HCD to which witnessed a series of violent incidents of campus ragging. Guidelines on ragging were given following the writ filed on the event of the death of BUET student Abrar Fahad. [34] In this case squad will be formed to take advance measures to prevent ragging. And the committee will be formed to receive the complaints. Again, the Ministry of Education of the Government of the People's

[18] Abrar Fahad Case , Writ petition Nos. 14068/2019.
[19] The Penal Code, 1860 (Act no.XLV of 1860_
[20] Section 109 of the Penal Code, 1860
[21] Ibid, Section 120B.
[22] Ibid, Section 143.
[23] Ibid, Section 290.
[24] Ibid, Section 294.
[25] Ibid, Section 352.
[26] Ibid, Section 341.
[27] Ibid, Section 342.
[28] Ibid, Section 447.
[29] Ibid, Section 503.
[30] Ibid, Section 509.
[31] Act No. 9 of 2012.
[32] Act No. 39 of 2006.
[33] Act No. 8 of 2000.
[34] Writ petition Nos. 14068/2019.

Republic of Bangladesh issued a notification in 2023[35] with the aim of preventing, remedying and ending social crimes like bullying and ragging in educational institutions and instructed to form anti-bullying committees in every educational institution.

V. Constitutional Responsibility and Judicial Decision to Prevent the Ragging Crime

Although the Constitution does not specifically mention "ragging," courts and legislators regard a number of fundamental rights as expressly forbidding such activity, so preventing ragging in Bangladesh can be firmly based on constitutional protections.

The Constitution, which is the ultimate law of the land, is violated by ragging. Although free and mandatory education is stated in Article 17 of the Constitution, some children are unable to complete their education because of ragging.[36] Once more, Article 19 guarantees equality of opportunity; nonetheless, some students are forced to quit schools because of harassment, depriving them of their access to an education.[37] Additionally, Article 32 guarantees the preservation of the right to life and personal liberty, both of which are completely infringed by the act of ragging.[38]

However, if this right is violated by ragging, a remedy may be sought in Court. In addition, Article 31 guarantees everyone the right to equal protection under the law. However, in the event that a crime such as ragging results in the loss of one's life, liberty, or body, remedies are possible in court. Article 35(5) of Bangladesh Constitution preventing torture and inhuman treatment of severe ragging, such as physical abuse, humiliation, or coerced acts, may be considered inhumane or degrading treatment, which is considered as prohibited. It should be noted that junior, minority, or underprivileged students are frequently subjected to discrimination on the grounds of religion, caste, or color. Article 28 of the Constitution provides remedies for victims of ragging based on sex or place of birth. Treating every student equally is crucial in any educational institution. Ragging is always a possibility, especially for new pupils. In every educational institution it is important to treat all students equally. Especially fresh students are always under the risk of ragging. Additionally, by outlawing discrimination

[35] "Policy on Prevention of Bullying and Ragging in Educational Institutions-2023" issued by the Ministry of Education of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, dated 02 May 3023 (Number-37.00.0000.072.044.007.22.103).
[36] Article 17 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, 1972.
[37] Article 19 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, 1972.
[38] Article 32 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, 1972.

against anyone, Article 27 of the Constitution ensures that everyone has the right to equal protection under the law.

Various judgments of the High Court have held that ragging is a violation of fundamental rights. By classifying ragging as a violation of fundamental rights and treating it as a criminal and constitutional issue, the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh has strengthened constitutional protection and made preventive measures (such as the 2023 anti-ragging policy) effectively enforceable. The High Court has mandated that anti-ragging committees be established at all colleges and universities across Bangladesh in order to prevent ragging and put the Ministry of Education's anti-ragging policies into effect. Concerned about instances of ragging in higher education, the HCD of Bangladesh has stated that it must be completely eradicated. Phulpari Khatun of Islamic University, Riyad Hossain of Haji Danesh Science and Technology University, and Siam of Begum Rokeya University are just a few of the dramatic violent incidents of campus ragging that have occurred recently. The High Court Division decided to take effective measures to stop such inhuman torture. Following the writ petition Nos. 14068/2019 filed in response to the death of BUET student Abrar Fahad, guidelines on ragging were issued. In this ruling, the Supreme Court ordered all colleges and institutions (under universities) to implement strict anti-ragging policies. As a result, all educational establishments, including colleges and universities, must adhere to the following policies or guidelines in order to safeguard against and stop actions carried out in the name of ragging:

1. Educational institutions are prohibited from permitting students to take part in any undesirable activity, including ragging-related events, meetings, or performances.
2. To keep an eye out for situations that might occur under the guise of ragging, every educational institution, including the university authorities, should create a "Vigilance Committee."
3. All educational institutions' authorities are required to disclose the penalties for engaging in ragging, especially at the main and conspicuous locations of the organization.
4. Posters warning students about the repercussions of engaging in ragging must be displayed on the websites of the relevant institutions.
5. Before the start of the new term, the students and their parents may be asked to sign an undertaking stating that any student discovered engaging in ragging will face consequences.

6. Regardless of the term "ragging" or any other term used, the authorities should take strict action under the university's disciplinary ordinance, such as permanently expelling the offenders, as well as legal action against the perpetrators when an incident involving elements of criminal offenses occurs.

It can also be mentioned that the Prevention of Bullying and Ragging Policy-2023 has been proclaimed a statute by the High Court. In order to stop bullying and ragging in schools, the High Court has issued 17 directives.[39] The Bullying and Ragging Prevention Policy in Educational Institutions-2023 has been declared as a law made by the appropriate authorities for the better future of the students, according to the court, until it is issued as a law by the appropriate authorities.

VI. Procedures for Filing and Redresses of Bullying and Ragging Complaints

The victim will file an application to the institution's head in accordance with the terms of the Policy on Prevention of Bullying, Ragging in Educational Institutions 2023.[40] The organization's head will establish an anti-ragging committee or any other group to look into any ragging-related complaints.[41] In this instance, the investigating officer has a maximum of seven days to provide the investigation report to the institution's head.[42] Following receipt of the investigation report, the organization's head will either present it to the management committee or take the right action by presenting it to the relevant authorities.[43] It is mentioned that the institution's head may forward it to the relevant police station.[44] Sections 354, 503, 504, and 509 of the Penal Code state that a lawsuit must be filed within seven working days of the head of the institution receiving the committee's investigation report on preventing bullying and ragging.

However, the relevant authority will release the head of the educational institution from his obligations if he does not fulfill the aforementioned responsibilities.[45]

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[39] All educational institutions must adhere to the Bullying or Ragging Prevention Policy 2023, according to a High Court Division bench made up of Justices JBM Hasan and Razik Al Jalil.
[40] The provisions of the Policy on Prevention of Bullying, Ragging in Educational Institutions 2023 Section 8(1)
[41] Ibid, Section 8(2).
[42] Ibid, Section 8(3).
[43] Ibid, Section 8(4).
[44] Ibid, Section 8(5).
[45] Honorable High Court declared Bullying and Ragging Prevention Policy as law, Views Bangladesh, 8 September 2025,
See also https://viewsbangladesh.com/hc-declared-bullying-and-ragging-prevention-policy-as-law/ Accessed 12 April 2026.

VII. Causes of Ragging in Gopalganj Science and Technology University

Ragging is caused by a number of factors. The majority of them has been identified by the researcher and is mentioned here:

Juniors are at risk because they rely on seniors for a lot of things. Sometimes first-year students are unsure if ragging is treatable. They have no idea how to report ragging. For fear of being called cowards and isolated, some people choose not to report ragging.[46] They will be barred from any campus events organized by the students if they do this.[47] Senior students who are involved in ragging have political clout. Victims are afraid of being complained about. They are afraid of greater suffering, therefore they don't complain. Students have cited a variety of motivations for ragging, such as being teased by seniors, feeling superior, and using it as an introduction.[48] Many other physical, behavioral, emotional, and social issues have been linked to victims of ragging. It raises the risk of suicide on its own.[49] According to this study, under-reporting and inaction are two of the main factors that promote ragging. Another type involves political emasculation, such as the death of Abrar, a BUET student. The following could be other factors contributing to the widespread occurrence of ragging in GSTU:

Seniors play a crucial role in the early stages of admission by assisting and directing new commerce for a variety of things when institutional mechanisms are lacking or inefficient. A common misperception among senior students is that ragging is a fashion statement that would make them stand out among their university's influential crowed. Senior students believe that by ragging juniors, they can control and dominate them. They do this or believe this way because they have experienced ragging themselves, which motivates them to inflict ragging on their juniors.

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[46] Ayanthi Wickramasinghe and others, 'Ragging, a Form of University Violence in Sri Lanka—Prevalence, Self Perceived Health Consequences, Help-Seeking Behavior and Associated Factors' (2022) 19 International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health 8383.

[47] Ayanthi Wickramasinghe and others, 'Ragging as an Expression of Power in a Deeply Divided Society; a Qualitative Study on Students Perceptions on the Phenomenon of Ragging at a Sri Lankan University' (2022) 17 Journal of Plos One 17.

[48] R. Garg, 'Ragging: A Public Health Problem in India' (2009) Indian Journal of Medical Science 63: 263-271.

[49] Samson Nallapu, 'Students Perceptions and Feedback on Ragging in a South Indian Medical College' (2013) South-East Asian Journal of Medical Education, Volume 7, No-2: 33-39.

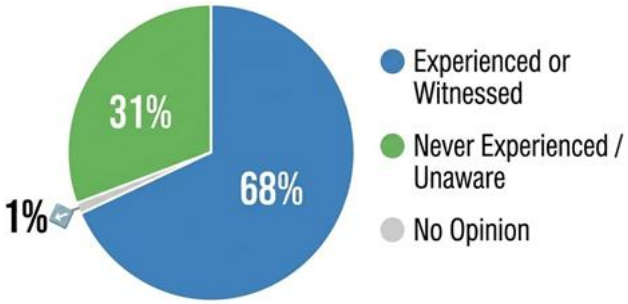
It should be mentioned that the university administration typically does not provide enough remedies for students who are the victims of ragging. Again, despite the administration's best efforts, it is challenging to prosecute ragging due to numerous political influences. The non-application of GSTU's ragging regulations has made the extent of ragging in this institution apparent.

VIII. Data Analysis

Through the use of interview questions, the opinions of over five hundred students from various departments at Gopalganj Science and Technology University were obtained. Only the opinions of the office of student welfare and guidance, the university proctors, and the provosts of the residence halls for men and women have been accepted. A table of information and data on the topic of ragging has been created based on the responses that were received.

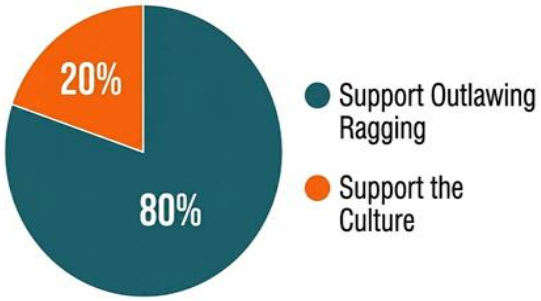
The information gathered from the interview questions is analyzed as follows:

Figure 1: Victims of Ragging or Witnesses of Ragging Incidents



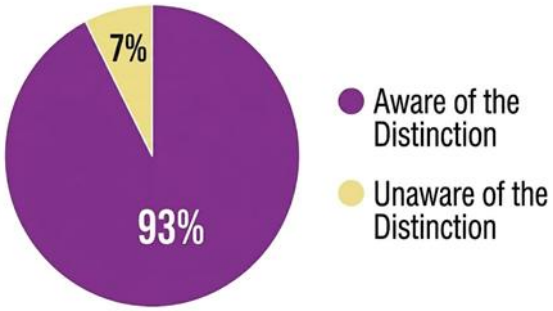
According to the aforementioned figure number 1, Gopalganj Science and Technology University's students are asked if they have experienced ragging themselves or if they have seen or heard of any instances of ragging occurring there. 68% percent of those surveyed had either experienced or witnessed ragging occurring within their university. However, 31% of the respondents said they had never experienced ragging or were unaware of any ragging-related incidents. Additionally, 1% of those surveyed had no opinion.

Figure 2: About putting an end to the ragging culture



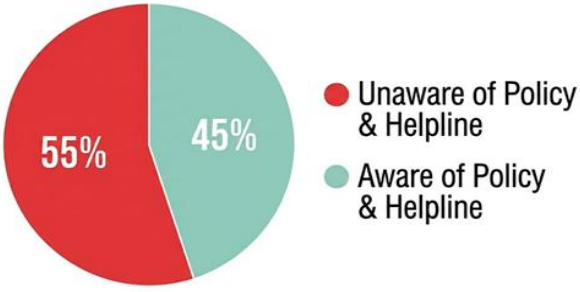
This figure displays the respondents' attitudes and desire to outlaw ragging because it is a serious crime. Additionally, they have emphasized their position on this subculture known as ragging. 80% percent of those surveyed supported outlawing the culture of ragging. 20% percent of the respondents, however, stated that they supported this culture.

Figure 3: Concerning the distinction between ragging and friendly behavior



This figure displays the respondent's awareness of the behavioral distinctions between ragging and friendly behavior. According to 93% of the respondents, they are aware of the distinction between friendly and ragging behavior. Conversely, 7% of the participants stated that they were unaware of any variation in the behavior in question.

Figure 4: About the GSTU Helpline and Anti-Ragging Policy



This figure shows whether or not university students are aware of the university's anti-ragging policy and anti-ragging support line.

45% percent of the respondents said they were aware of the university's anti-ragging policy and the assistance line number. Conversely, 55% of the participants stated that they were unaware of the GSTU anti-ragging policy and the helpline number.

IX. Recommendations

Examining the survey data, it is possible to draw the conclusion that ragging is a serious issue in GSTU that calls for robust legislation, cultural change, and consistent enforcement—not just catchphrases. When combined, the following practical, GSTU-appropriate recommendations work well:

1. GSTU needs to have a defined anti-ragging policy that complies with Supreme Court and UGC regulations. Clearly state what constitutes physical, verbal, psychological, and online ragging. Declare severe penalties (suspension, expulsion, hostel cancellation) in public. Enforce regulations without regard to senior students or politics.

2. The university administration must establish an efficient and proactive anti-ragging committee made up of teachers, psychologists, counselors, physicians, student representatives, freshers, proctorial team members, and hall provost team members in order to eradicate ragging from the university. Regularly, the common room inside the hall will subjected to surprise visits at different locations on campus to raise awareness among students about the need to prevent crimes related to ragging and to issue notifications and awareness campaigns.

3. To stop ragging crimes, service should be provided around-the-clock. It is necessary to set up a dedicated email address, a compliance hotline number, and the compliant forms on the university website. There are several public spaces and significant locations within the university where suggestion and complaint boxes can be placed. Additionally, in accordance with current regulations and standards, the university administration must guarantee students that incidents such as ragging would be rectified within 24 to 48 hours.

4. An institutional orientation program or phase can be held to change the ragging culture. Where the faculty will lead the initiative of the university to introduce seniors to juniors and mutual respect will be the basis for this, love and respect and no discrimination or abuse.

5. Ragging occurs in student residential halls at a comparatively high incidence.[50] Because of this university administration should increase the number of hostel guards, especially at night. Install security cameras in public spaces instead of private ones. Maintain current visitor records and forbid unapproved gatherings.

6. Every semester, an anti-raging workshop will be held. How to treat ragging, additionally, pupils can be made aware of where they should report. If a student is the victim of ragging, it can be prevented by giving them the right information about how to seek compensation and redress.

7. According to scholars, ragging is a criminal issue with psychological underpinnings and societal ignorance.[51] The psychological effects of ragging and other forms of abuse can be addressed by establishing strong mental health support systems within institutions.[52] Assist victims with counseling. Train teachers to spot symptoms of trauma or terror in their students. Encourage fresher students to join peer support groups.

8. Strictly prohibit intimidation of students and political influence in hall. Keep coercive power structures apart from acceptable student activities. Regardless of political affiliation, apply the rules equitably.

9. Make a particular anti-ragging statute that defines physical, psychological, and cyber-ragging, imposes harsh penalties, and supports the execution of the 2023 Policy. The 2023 Policy for the Prevention of Bullying and Ragging in Educational Institutions exists, but its application varies. The authorities should make better use of the Cyber Security Act, the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act of 2000, and the Penal Code of 1860. Additionally, according to UGC Policy 2023, ragging can be avoided by appropriately carrying out the High Court's orders as well as the pertinent Gopalganj Science and Technology university's disciplines and conduct regulations.

10. Inform guardians about anti-ragging rules during admission. Notify guardians immediately in serious cases. Share emergency contacts and reporting channels with families.

Establishing laws and policies alone won't be enough to end the wicked practice of bullying and ragging in higher education. Preventive measures recommended by the Hon'ble Supreme

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[50] Gunatilaka, Hemamalie, 'Ragging; Its Evaluation and Effects: A Literature Review with a Special Reference to Sri Lanka'(2019) International Journal of Research and Innovation in Social Science, Volume III, Issue X, pp.92-99.

[51] Nallapu.SSR, 'Student perception and feedback on Ragging in a South Indian Medical College' (2013) South East Asian Journal of Medical College.Vol.7 no.2, pp. 33-39.

[52] Aayush P and others,(2026)'Anti-Ragging: A Veil for Institutional Crime' Indian Journal of Law and Legal Research, Volume VIII, Issue II, pp.1257-1274.

Court in a number of cases, as well as guidelines issued through UGC regulations, must be implemented appropriately. Anti-ragging committees, squads, and patrols can be crucial in reducing the prevalence of ragging.[53] Ragging should also result in severe consequences, such as expulsion or suspension from the university, college, or classes, a fine, a public apology, denial of scholarships or other benefits, or suspension from the meal and hostel, among other things.

It should be noted that all the activities and methods adopted by the university administration to prevent ragging have proved to be not very effective methods. Ragging has evolved from common human practices to cruel, vicious, and inhumane ones in recent years, mostly as a result of inadequate supervision and instruction.[54]

As a result of which, the level of ragging in Gopalganj Science and Technology University has taken a terrible shape. Even though the university authorities have seriously considered the matter, anti-ragging squads and anti-bullying committees have not yet been formed due to lack of timely policy in some cases, preventing ragging is failing. Consequently, the safe academic life of students in Gopalganj Science and Technology University is being disrupted. Gopalganj Science and Technology University has disciplinary rules and code of conduct to ensure academic and administrative discipline of the institution, but it is very important to revise these rules and code of conduct in a timely manner.

Due to the widespread prevalence of the phenomena and its strong psychological, sociological, and political roots in the academic system, a simply punitive or legalistic strategy to addressing ragging will not be successful. In order to make a difference on the ground without politicizing the subject, further measures must be conceived and put into action. Strong regulatory measures established by university authorities and effective enforcement of the law are crucial.[55]

X. Conclusion

The study essentially highlights the complex issues related to the application and upholding of anti-ragging legislation in Gopalganj Science and Technology University. Even while these

[53] VG Shinde, 'The Menace of Ragging in Educational Institutes: A Human Right Perspective,(2017) International Journal of Advanced Research and Development 2, no. 6, 664-667.
[54] Ayesha Wajhat, 'Harassment due to ragging' (2014) Journal of Procedia Social and Behavioral Science, 113, pp. 129-133.
[55] Siri Gamage, 'Psychological Sociological and Political Dimensions of Ragging in Srilankan Universities'(2017) Journal of Social Affairs, 1(7), pp. 41-42.

policies have good intentions, there are often times when they are abused or misused, leading to unjust disciplinary procedures against innocent students, false charges, and retaliatory reporting. This misuse affects GSTU students' mental health and academic performance by fostering a culture of fear and mistrust among them and undermining the efficacy of anti-ragging measures.

Therefore, significant reforms and social interventions are urgently needed to address the systemic injustices that are sustained by ragging and the abuse of anti-ragging legislation. Important first efforts include increasing awareness of the appropriate application of anti-ragging laws, strengthening enforcement mechanisms, providing victim support services, and fostering an inclusive and respectful culture within Gopalganj Science and Technology University. Finding a balance between protecting the rights of people who have been wrongfully charged and helping harassed people is crucial. This necessitates resources for sides as well as clear reporting and investigative protocols. Cooperation among stakeholders, including university administrators, teachers, students, and lawmakers, is essential to ensuring the safety and rights of every GSTU students in educational settings.