



NAVAJYOTHI

COLLEGE CHERUPUZHA

AFFILIATED TO KANNUR UNIVERSITY

ANTI- RAGGING POLICY OF THE COLLEGE

1. INTRODUCTION

Navajyothi college at Cherupuzha in Kannur, district, is an academic initiative of the CST Fathers of the Little Flower Congregation who began their ministry there in the 1990s. The college which affiliated with Kannur University in 2010 started its first batch in 2011. The college is ever vigilant to make its stakeholders as the responsible citizens.

1.1 Vision of the college

- Lighted to Enlighten

1.2 Mission of the college

- To empower and strengthen young men and women to face the challenges of life.
- To form constructive and responsible citizens
- To enable young men and women to stand for justice, peace and happiness
- To develop the employability skills of the students
- To excel in academics and to ensure the integral growth of students

1.3 CoreValues

- **Create Men and Women for and with Others:** We aim not at creating just intellectual beings that are self-centred but to form individuals that care for others and society.
- **CuraPersonalise** : Care for the individual- every aspect of an individual is taken care of at Navajyothi college. It includes intellectual, social, physiological, political, spiritual and moral, etc.

- **Constitutional Values:** Adequate attention is given to impart the constitutional values of the country and teach them to the students to promote the ‘fundamental duties’”
- **Forming and Educating Agents of Change:** Our ultimate aim is to form individuals for change.

2. Anti Ragging Policies of the College

2.1 This policy encourages the socialization of students to the academic environment of the Institute, simultaneously discouraging and preventing any negative acts on parts of senior students, which goes against the basic purpose of socio-academic integration. The ‘anti-ragging policy’ adopted by the College, therefore, is aimed at:

- (a) Creation, development and nurturing of a conducive, socio-academic environment within the student population.
- (b) Generating and maintaining a high level of confidence within new entrants and their parents/guardians to perceive that fresh entrants to the Institute are welcome and provided support, rather than being harassed and intimidated.
- (c) Keeping in place an integrated system to discourage and prevent any negative acts like ‘ragging’ by the seniors, which disrupts socio-academic integration of new entrants.
- (d) Prescribing deterrent measures for any violation of the “Anti-Ragging Policy” by way of disciplinary measures.
- (e) To accomplish the stated mission and core values of the Institute during the course of study.

2.2 Definition

For the purpose of this policy, the following are defined as under: -

'Institute' means the Navajyothi College, Cherupuzha (NJC)

'Student' includes any person who is enrolled for any course, whether full time or part-time with the College. This also includes research associates/scholars or visitors, and / or repeaters.

'Hostel' includes the place/(s) where students are accommodated through the institutional arrangement.

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

1. Any disorderly conduct whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness a fresher or a junior student.

2. Indulging in a rowdy or undisciplined activities which cause or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or a junior student.

3. Asking the students to do any act or perform something which such student will not do 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.

4. any act of message via mobile, social media etc. in writing or recorded that causes threat, humiliation, psychological intimidation etc. towards a fresher or newcomer or vice versa.

5. Any act by a student that prevents, disrupts or disturbs the regular academic activity of any other student(s);

6. Exploiting the services of any student for completing the academic tasks assigned to an individual or a group of students.

7. Any act of financial extortion or forceful expenditure burden put on a student by any other student or a group of students;

8. 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;

9. Any act or abuse by spoken words, emails, posts, social networking posts, e-posts, public insults which would also include deriving perverted pleasure, vicarious or sadistic thrill from actively or passively participating in the discomfiture to a student(s);

10. Any act that affects the mental health and self-confidence of a student with or without an intent to derive a sadistic pleasure or showing off power, authority or superiority by any student or a group of students over any other student(s).

3. Prohibition of Ragging

Navajyothi strictly prohibits any ragging and encourages anti-ragging movements. At the beginning of every academic year an **Anti-Ragging Cell (ARC)** is formed by the principal. NJC follows the Kerala Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1998.

[3.1] An Act to prohibit ragging in educational institutions in the State of Kerala.

Preamble

WHEREAS it is expedient to prohibit ragging in educational institutions in the state of Kerala. BE it enacted in the Forty ninth Year of the Republic of India as follows short title, Extend and Commencement.

(1) This act may be called, the Kerala Prohibition of Ragging Act, 1998. (2) It is extended to the whole of the State of Kerala. (3) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the 23rd day of October, 1997.

Penalty for Ragging:

Whoever commits, participates in, abets or propagates ragging, within or outside any educational institution shall, on conviction, be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extent to two years and shall also be liable to a fine which may extent to ten thousand rupees.

Dismissal of Student:

Any student convicted of an offence under section 4 shall be dismissed from the educational institution and such student shall not be admitted in any

other educational institution for a period of three years, from the date of the order of such dismissal.

Suspension of Student:

(1) Whenever any student or as the case may be, the parents or guardian or a teacher of an educational institution complains in writing, of ragging, to the head of the educational institution the head of the educational institution, shall without prejudice to the foregoing provisions, within seven days of the receipt of the complaint, enquire into the matter mentioned in the complaint and if, prima facie, it is found true, suspend the student who is accused of the offence, and shall immediately forward the complaint to the police station having jurisdiction over the area in which the educational institution is situated, for further action.

(2) When on enquiry by the head of the educational institution, it is proved that there is no substance prima facie in the complaint received under subsection (1), he shall intimate the fact, in writing, to the complainant.

Deemed Abetment:

If the head of the educational institution fails or neglects to take action in the manner specified in section 6 when a complaint of ragging is made, such person shall be deemed to have abetted the offence of ragging and shall, on conviction, be punished as provided for in section 4.]

4. PROCEDURAL AND PUNITIVE ASPECTS OF “RAGGING

1. This cell shall coordinate all the preventive activities of ragging from the beginning of admission aiming at creating **“Ragging Free Campus”** (RFC).
2. This cell will be responsible to bring all the matters that come under the definitions of ragging to the principal and the chairperson of the cell.
3. The complaints addressed to the principal or chairperson of the cell should be immediately proceed to take action.
4. The cell is empowered to act suo- moto on the complaints of ragging.

5. Ragging Reporting Procedure

1. If any individual believes that he or she has been subjected to 'ragging' or has knowledge of any such incident, such person shall have option to file a complaint with the **Principal** or **Chairperson Anti- Ragging Cell (ARC)**. This may be done in writing or orally. Written complaint is preferable.
2. **ARC** will also be available to discuss any concerns exhibited by any student or a group of students, about ragging.
3. Any student can inform the events that seem to be ragging through oral, written, or online mode through the form provided in the college website.
4. They shall also send complaint message to the concerned authority to the mobile number provided.

6. ARC as Enquiry Committee

ARC or any other appointed enquiry committee by the principal on behalf of ARC will investigate all reported cases of ragging, in such a way, so as to maintain confidentiality to the extent practicable under the circumstances. The investigations should start maximum within one (01) day of reporting the incident and reports finalized by the ARC pinpointing the involvement of the accused along with recommendations relating to the punishment will be submitted to the competent authority maximum within a period of seven (07) days. In exceptional circumstances, the Chairperson ARC may grant extension to the time limit under information to the complainant and the accused. They shall submit a report of the enquiry on the cases of ragging and suggest the punitive methods. The final decision is taken by the principal after seeking the opinion of the college council.

7. Process of Enquiry

The process of enquiry should be such to ensure that principles of natural justice are adhered to. Details of the process would be identical as in the case of 'Sexual Harassment Policy' adopted by the Institute. If the ragging also includes an element of sexual harassment then in that

case both committees i.e. ARC and Sexual Harassment committee will look into the matter independently of each other.

8. Punishment / Penalties for ‘ragging’

Based on the report of enquiry submitted by the ARC, the Chairperson ARC will recommend to the competent authority any of the punishment/(s) listed below or any other kind of punishment, which she/he may consider to be appropriate.

- Withholding scholarships or other benefits
- Debarring from representation of events.
- Expulsion from Institute.
- Suspension from the institute or class for a limited period.
- Fine with public apology
- Filing FIR with the local police
- Cancellation of admission

9. Appeal

Appeal with regards to any action taken against the accused at any level and / or against the punishment awarded under this policy, shall lie with the Manager of the Institute, which should be filed within a period of two weeks from such an action or award of punishment.

10. Saving and Repeal Clause

Management of the Institute will possess the sole authority for any interpretation, modification, or amendment to the policy depending upon the need from time to time. They will also possess powers to exercise their discretion with respect to any or all of the clauses of this policy.
