

RIETY
 SC SPELLS OUT BAIL MATH TO ROY: ₹10,000 CR UP FRONT, ₹20K CR IN 18 MONTHS 25

CALCUTTA TIMES, THE TIMES OF INDIA 3

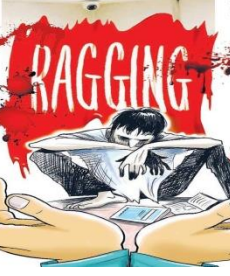
City institutions train guns on ragging

Bishwabijoy Mitra
 @timesgroup.com

Steps against ragging

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
 If the heads of the departments, the principal or the registrar of the institution, student representatives and guardians are generally the committee members. In the Meghnad Saha Institute of Technology there are around 70 members in the committee, including a police officer and a journalist. In the Heritage Institute of Technology the committee has 50 members. The primary task of the committee is to monitor the ragging scenario in the institution and take appropriate steps to keep it in check. It also has to identify and punish guilty students.
Anti-ragging squads: These are relatively new additions to different city colleges. Comparing students, these squads are supposed to prevent ragging and act on the spot.
 In some cases, these squads also guard teachers. According to Heritage Institute of Technology principal Pradyum Chaudhary, their squad is very active and has proven to be effective on many occasions. At Jadavpur University the squad has been preventing ragging incidents with efficiency for the last couple of years.
Special guards: They are common sights in different college campuses. But some, like the Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology Shibpur and NSIM Knowledge campus, deploy additional security guards for teachers to prevent ragging. The sole duty of these guards is to protect teachers in hostels as well as on campus.
Counselling: According to Lady Brabourne College principal Sital Sarkar, ragging is often triggered by psychological problems among certain students. If these problems can be addressed, such incidents can be curbed. And hence, the need for counselling. Sarkar, according to Sarkar, has proven to be very effective in counselling psychological problems and in turn, ragging in the college since 2011. Lady Brabourne College has set up a counselling cell, one in college and another at the hostel.
Separate accommodation for hostelers: Many institutions have separate accommodation facility for hostelers. The Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur, and Hindu Hostel and Heritage authorities add to that separating the first-year students from the seniors has decreased ragging incidents. Until the students reach the hostel, they are placed in separate hostels and college buildings.
Distributing phone numbers: The college authorities provide phone numbers of anti-ragging squad members and heads of the departments to new students so that they can reach out to these persons in emergencies. In Heritage, the

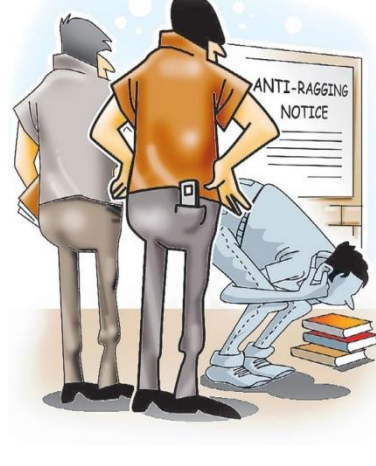
phone number of the principal is printed on anti-ragging posters. Many colleges have installed CCTV cameras in hostels and all over the campuses. The Meghnad Saha Institute of Technology has more than 100 cameras in the college and hostel. However, most government institutions have not installed cameras, as students are against such a move. "We've never felt the need for CCTV cameras; if we do, we'll install them," said Professor University Dean of Students Deboshri Roy Chowdhury.



PUNISHMENT FOR THE CRIME

- Cancellation of admission
- Suspension from attending classes
- Withholding/withdrawing scholarship/fellowship and other benefits
- Debarment from appearing in any test/examination or other evaluation process
- Withholding results
- Debarment from representing the institution in any national or international meet, tournament, youth festival, etc.
- Suspension/expulsion from the hostel
- Suspension from the institution for periods varying from 1 to 4 semesters or equivalent period
- Expulsion from the institution and consequent debarment from admission to any other institution
- Fine up to ₹25,000

University conducts poster-making contests and art exhibitions to spread awareness among students. "Ragging cannot be tolerated until students are involved. If they understand the problem, there will be no need for any squad or CCTV cameras," said the Dean of Students for Rajat Roy. Posters work as a constant reminder that ragging is a punishable crime. Jadavpur University, Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology, Shibpur, and NSIM Knowledge campus, among others, use anti-ragging posters extensively. Some of the messages in the posters are fun, while some are direct. Meghnad Saha Institute of Technology, for instance, "If Chhakar Datta said ragging is a crime and has affected hundreds of lives in the country, 'But we seen posters work very effectively in creating awareness about the matter,' he said. The students, too, are up in arms against the trend. Rohit Hazra, a member of JU students' union, deemed ragging a heinous crime. "We try very hard to ensure that no student in the hostel or anywhere in the university faces such harassment," he said. "Bismit Alam, the general secretary of the Maulana Azad College students' union, said, "We don't have ragging problems in our college, but still we maintain a constant vigil. If anything happens, we will go to any extent to stop it." Scottish Church College student Sambuddha Chatterjee revealed that though the college campus was free of ragging, but he said, "It's a ragging problem in the hostel or anywhere. The students' union and faculty members take steps to keep things under control." Lady Brabourne College student union general secretary Tiyasa Ghosh said, "Ragging must stop and it's the students who should take the initiative." Bishwabijoy Mitra @timesgroup.com



Freedom from ragging is a hope that's yet to graduate into a reality vis-à-vis educational institutions in Bengal. In fact, the state stands second, right after Uttar Pradesh, when it comes to reported incidents of ragging. UGC's anti-ragging cell has recorded around 20 such incidents in the last three months alone. And all this, despite a plethora of measures to curb the menace. And what are these measures? CT finds out...
 While most institutions use suspension and expulsion as a standard punishment for ragging, there are also cases

where the guilty were prosecuted in a court of law. "Ragging is a heinous crime and we don't tolerate it. A few months ago, there was an incident in our college hostel and we took harsh steps against the culprits," said the principal of a private engineering college. According to most college authorities, hostel inmates are more at risk than other college-goers; the boarders are more closely monitored and counselled. The standard measures being implemented to keep trouble makers in check are...
Anti-ragging committee
 Most colleges in the city have statutory bodies to prevent ragging.

CONTINUED ON PAGE

"Although ours is one of the few ragging-free colleges in the city, the menace still lurks around many college corridors. Students must take up the initiative to stop it"
 — TIVASA GHOSH, students' union general secretary, Lady Brabourne College



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8 CAMPUS

MUSIC 'N' DANCE 'N' EVERYTHING NICE AT ADVAYA 2015, BY MEGHNAD SAHA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

It could do little to dampen the spirits of youngsters cheering for Anupam Roy at Nazrul Mancha on July 26. The top-draw event was part of Advaya 2015, the annual fest organised by Yuva, the cultural club of Meghnad Saha Institute of Technology (MSIT). The fest, powered by **The Telegraph-You**, saw participation from a bunch of colleges, including St. Xavier's College, Jadavpur University, Techno India (Salt Lake), Asutosh College, Hazra Law College and NIT (Durgapur).
 The day began on a musical note with a competition among five college bands. Bands Panchphoran and Short Summer jointly bagged the winning trophy. In the solo round, MSIT student Banishweta Ghosh won the first prize.
 The afternoon was all about dance. Yuva organised a Dance Battle to be different from the usual solo and group dance competitions at fests. More than 70 students gathered for the dance-off. Sambo Mukherjee, a member of the dance crew FullStop, won in the All Style category.
 Though the rain played spoilsport for the fashion show and the NITD students were the only ones able to walk the ramp, Anupam Roy's performance drew a huge crowd, with students even waiting in the rain to enter the auditorium. He wrapped up the fest with swag, belting out hits from *Chotushkone*, *Autograph* and, of course, *Piku*.
 "Apart from studying engineering, our students do take part in extra-curricular activities. Such cultural events are very important as students these days lead a stressful life. And what can be better than having Anupam Roy as the guest performer? He is a heart-throb among our students," said Tirthankar Datta, principal of MSIT.
Malaricha Dasgupta
 Pictures: Mayukh Sengupta and Shourjya Sengupta



"College fests are special because we get to perform in front of a vibrant crowd that is also eager to support us. This is also the most honest crowd because if they like the music they will cheer and if they don't like the music they will express that too. I have heard a lot about this college so I am looking forward to perform for them," said **Anupam Roy**, sporting a Copenhagen beer tee gifted by girlfriend Piya.



Dance Battle

Rahul Bera, a student of South City College, was the 'style bhai' of the fest, with his chequered pants, casually hanging suspenders, fedora and Lennon shades.

STYLE CHECK



Third-year MIST student **Asmita Somchoudhury** went for a classic chic look, with a quirky clutch.

