

Newspaper Clips

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New DU guidelines to prevent ragging

Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: To curb the menace of ragging, the Delhi University Proctor has issued a set of guidelines for prevention of ragging ahead of the new academic session.

The Ordinances XV (B), XV (C) and XV (D) of the University Statutes and Ordinances relating to maintenance of discipline among students and prevention of sexual harassment and also rules framed locally at the colleges are to be fully publicised. A Disciplinary Resource Person is to be identified in each college, hostel, department and faculty. Institutions can put up hoardings, bill boards and banners with contact details of officials to be contacted in event of ragging and exhorting students to prevent or not indulge in ragging.

Disciplinary Resource Persons, senior teachers and students and NCC and NSS officers can form a Disciplinary Resource Committee at various levels. In addition to the committees, colleges have been advised to constitute vigilance squads to maintain a vigil and prevent incidents of hooliganism, ragging, eve-teasing and other untoward incidents. Sealed complaint boxes are to be placed in front of the Principal's office, particularly in undergraduate colleges with hostels.

According to the guidelines, students must carry their individual college identity cards

on the basis of which entry in the college is to be allowed. Departments and colleges can also introduce the concept of a "personal/moral tutor" whereby new students are individually and collectively attached in a group to a particular faculty member who can help students face problems of being in a new environment. Institutional heads have been authorised to negotiate directly with external agencies such as the police and the Delhi Transport Corporation for instituting police pickets, arranging a PCR van for patrolling the institution and university special buses. Special care is to be taken to prevent the harassment of students on the basis of caste, sex and religion.

The guidelines of the University Grants Commission are also to be kept in mind for prevention of ragging. The Union Human Resource Development Ministry has launched a round-the-clock toll-free anti-ragging helpline 1800-180-5522 and an email facility for complaints at helpline@antiragging.net

A control room jointly manned by Delhi Police and DTC officials and university authorities will be set up at Chhatra Marg near the WUS Health Centre. The joint control room can be reached at 27667221. A similar facility is to be available at the Office of the Deputy Dean, Students' Welfare in South Campus and can be reached at 24119832.

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NRI GIRLS WIN ^{P15} AT GOOGLE SCIENCE FAIR

Press Trust of India

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BOSTON: Two Indian-origin girls have emerged winners at Google's inaugural Science Fair, impressing thousands at the internet giant's California headquarters with their projects on ways to improve ovarian cancer treatment and bettering air quality for the benefit of asthma patients.

The top three winners out of 15 finalists at the fair were all girls, Shree Bose, Naomi Shah and Lauren Hodge, prompting Google to laud "girl power" at the fair.