



## **National Institute of Social Development**

### **By-Law on Prohibition of Ragging and Other Forms of Violence**

**By Law Title:** By-Law on Prohibition of Ragging and Other Forms of Violence

**By Law Number:** 03

**Functional Area:** All Academic Staff, Non-academic staff and Students

**Effective Date:** 11.07.2024

**Approving Authority:** The Governing Council

#### **3.1. Rationale & Purpose:**

The National Institute of Social Development (NISD) is dedicated to providing a safe and respectful learning environment for all students and staff. This by-law aligns with the Prohibition of Ragging and Other Forms of Violence in Educational Institutions Act No. 20 of 1998 and outlines the measures, responsibilities, and penalties related to the prevention and punishment of ragging and other forms of violence within the institution.

#### **Article I: Definition of Ragging and Other Forms of Violence**

**Section 1:** Definition of Ragging: Ragging is defined as any act which causes or is likely to cause physical or psychological injury, fear, or mental pain in an undergraduate or a member of staff.

This includes, but is not limited to:

1. Physical harm or assault.
2. Psychological harm, including threats and intimidation.
3. Sexual harassment.
4. Insults or acts intended to demean or humiliate.

**Section 2:** Scope This by-law applies to all students, faculty, and staff of NISD, within and outside the institution's premises, including all universities and institute under the Universities Act of 1978.

## **Article II: Prohibited Conduct**

### **Section 1: Acts of Ragging**

1. Any act that cause physical or psychological injury to a student or staff member.
2. Any form of harassment, including sexual harassment, threats, or intimidation.
3. 3Any act that restricts the freedom of movement or confines an individual against their will.
4. Occupying or attempting to occupy premises of the educational institution unlawfully.

## **Article III: Penalties**

### **Section 1: General Punishments**

1. Any individual found guilty of ragging within or outside the institute premises shall face two years of rigorous imprisonment.
2. The court may award compensation to the victim in addition to the imprisonment.

### **Section 2: Severe Offenses**

1. If ragging leads to sexual harassment or grievous hurt, the punishment is increased to ten years' imprisonment, and the offense is non-bailable.
2. Threatening to cause injury to the person, reputation, or property of any student or known associate carries a punishment of up to five years' rigorous imprisonment.
3. Criminal intimidation, wrongful restraint, and unlawful confinement against any student can result in up to seven years' imprisonment.

### **Section 3: Extreme Offenses**

1. Forcibly occupying premises of the educational institution is punishable by ten to twenty years' imprisonment and may include a fine.
2. The court can order the expulsion of a student found guilty of any of these offenses based on the gravity of the offense.

## **Article IV: Reporting and Enforcement**

### **Section 1: Reporting Mechanisms**

1. Any incidents of ragging should be reported immediately to: a. Officials within the educational institute. (ADG/ DG/ Welfare unit/ Proctor / Grievances Handling Committee  
b. The nearest Police Station.
2. Prompt reporting will assist the police in taking action under Act No. 20 of 1998.

## **Section 2: Enforcement**

1. NISD will cooperate fully with law enforcement authorities to ensure the effective implementation of this by-law.
2. NISD may take disciplinary actions, including suspension or expulsion, based on the severity of the incident.

## **Article V: Responsibilities**

### **Section 1: Responsibilities of Students**

1. Students must refrain from engaging in any form of ragging or violence.
2. Students should report any incidents of ragging or violence they witness or experience.

### **Section 2: Responsibilities of Staff and Faculty**

1. Faculty and staff must be vigilant and report any incidents of ragging or violence.
2. Faculty and staff should support victims of ragging and cooperate with investigations Proctor/Monitoring and Supervision. Anti-ragging Committee

## **Article VI: Prevention and Education**

### **Section 1: Awareness Programs**

1. NISD will conduct regular awareness programs to educate students and staff about the dangers and legal consequences of ragging.
2. Orientation programs for new students will include information about this by-law and the Prohibition of Ragging and Other Forms of Violence in Educational Institutions Act No. 20 of 1998.

### **Section 2: Counseling and Support**

1. Counseling services will be made available to victims of ragging.
2. Support groups and resources will be provided to promote a safe and inclusive campus environment.

## **Article VII: Amendment of By-Law**

**Section 1:** Amendments this by-law may be amended periodically to reflect changes in legislation or institutional policy. Amendments must be approved by the NISD Governing Council and AAB.