

# Rakhi pledge in fight against ragging

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**Kolkata:** In a unique initiative, Jadavpur University will celebrate 'Raksha Bandhan' on Monday to spread anti-ragging awareness on both of its campuses.

Though a "ragging-free" campus officially, complaints and allegations of ragging do pour in almost every year. Keeping an eye on the recent incidents on the campus, the JU administration under the leadership of the new vice chancellor, Suranjan Das, is extra-cautious this time.

A teaser campaign will start on both the JU campuses at Jadavpur and Salt Lake with themes highlighting different virtues of mankind. Hoardings focusing on themes like life, earth, peace,



Hoardings with 13 different themes will be put up on JU campuses

soul etc through floral tributes are being put up. There are 13 different themes that culminate into the concept 'bandhan' (bonding). Documentary and ad filmmaker Parag Sarkar, a former student of JU's mass communications department, has designed and

photographed the teaser campaign. "I just wanted to incite some curiosity among students who can't miss the huge hoardings that will be put up on the campuses. The final hoarding with the theme 'bandhan' will be larger than the rest of the hoardings and will be put up just outside the administrative building of the university," Sarkar said. Every union in the university will be given specially-designed rakhis so that the seniors can tie those on the hands of juniors. "We are trying our best to check ragging on the campus. Most of the seniors have already realized that ragging is a social evil," said dean of students Rajat Roy.

Raj Kachroo, head of UGC's anti-ragging cell, said: "I am happy that JU is taking up such an initiative."



# RAGGING : A CRIMINAL OFFENCE

Victims/witnesses of incidents of ragging must lodge complaint in any of the following numbers and e mail ids.

**THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA DIRECTS INSTITUTIONS TO EXPEL STUDENTS FOUND GUILTY OF RAGGING.**

Complaint on Ragging to be lodged :-

At University Authority

E-mail : [antiragging@admin.jdvu.ac.in](mailto:antiragging@admin.jdvu.ac.in), Phone : 833 500 5576

Concerned Anti-Ragging squad members

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**Anti-Ragging Committee, Jadavpur University**



## যাদবপুরে র্যাগিং ঠেকাতে রাখি

আজকালের প্রতিবেদন: র্যাগিং ঠেকাতে রাখি। যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে সৃজনশীল উপায়ে পড়ুয়াদের র্যাগিংয়ের বিরুদ্ধে সচেতন করা হয়। এবার র্যাগিং বিরোধী প্রচারে রাখিকে বেছে নেওয়া হয়েছে। থিমের নাম দেওয়া হয়েছে 'বন্ধন'। রক্ষা, সুরক্ষা দেওয়ার বন্ধন। একগুচ্ছ ছবির সাহায্যে র্যাগিং বিরোধী বার্তা দেওয়া হয়েছে। যার কোনওটি মুক্তির কথা বলতে চাইছে, আবার কোনও ছবি জীবনের জয়গান গাইছে। কোনও ছবিতে স্বপ্নে বিভোর হওয়ার গল্প কোথাও বা আশা, লড়াইয়ের কথা। সব

মিলিয়ে মানবজীবনের আশাআকাঙ্ক্ষার গাঁথা যেন। সিনেমার তথ্যচিত্র নির্মাতা পরাগ সরকারের ভাবনা এভাবেই ডানা মেলেছে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অন্দরে। যা বলছে র্যাগিং করে বন্ধুত্বের বন্ধন না ভেঙে, রাখি বেঁধে সম্পর্কের বুনিয়াদ আরও একটু মজবুত করা। পরাগ সরকার এর আগেও যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে বেশ কয়েকবার র্যাগিং বিরোধী প্রচারের দায়িত্ব সামলেছেন। পারস্পরিক বন্ধন আরও দৃঢ় করতে যাদবপুরের পড়ুয়ারা নবাগতদের রাখি পরিয়ে স্বাগত জানানোর আয়োজন করছেন।

# আয়না

আজকাল কলকাতা ১৩ জুলাই ২০০৯

## র্যাগিং বাদ

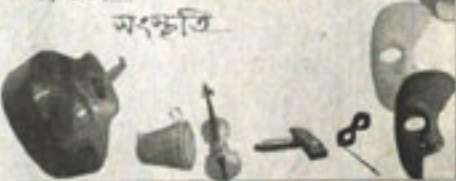
পড়াশুনো

যেভাবে



আজ্ঞা

অংকতি



শুধু ~~র্যাগিং~~ বাদ!

‘পড়াশুনো যেলাধুনো আজ্ঞা সংক্ৰতি— ছাত্র জীবনের স্বাদ, শুধু র্যাগিং বাদ’। এই হল চলতি শিক্ষাবর্ষে যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ‘র্যাগিং রোধে অভিযান’-এর মূল মন্ত্র। সারা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় জুড়ে র্যাগিংয়ের বিরুদ্ধে বিধিবদ্ধ সতর্কতা জারি করার সঙ্গে সঙ্গে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কর্তৃপক্ষ তিনটি বড় হোডিংয়ের মাধ্যমে ছাত্রদের র্যাগিংয়ের বিরুদ্ধে কয়েক দাঁড়াতে উৎসাহ জোগানোর উদ্যোগ নিয়েছেন। ছাত্র

জীবনের স্বাদ পেতে গেলে যে র্যাগিং একান্তই ‘অত মান আউট’ সে কথা বোকানোই এই হোডিংগুলির মূল উদ্দেশ্য। রডিন ছবি-সহ হোডিং টারিঙে র্যাগিং ধামানোর এই অভিনব প্রচেষ্টা অবশ্য যাদবপুরে এই প্রথম নয়। এর আগে ২০০৭ সালে এই ধরনের হোডিং বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় চত্বরে টাঙানো হয়েছিল। দুবারই হোডিংগুলির বিষয়-পরিকল্পনা করেছেন বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়েরই গণমাধ্যম

বিভাগের প্রাক্তন ছাত্র পরাণ সরকার। বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কর্তৃপক্ষের তরফে তিন অফ স্টুডেন্টস রজত রায় জানিয়েছেন, ‘আমাদের ছাত্রদের মনে যাতে আরও বেশি করে র্যাগিং সম্পর্কে বিরুদ্ধ মানসিকতা তৈরি হয়, তাই এই অভিনব পরিকল্পনা। আশা করি সফল পাবে।’ সারা বছরই এই হোডিংগুলি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় চত্বরে টাঙানো থাকবে। অভিনব পরিকল্পনা সন্দেহ নেই।

# র্যাগিং ঠেকাতে বন্ধনের বার্তা যাদবপুরে

এই সময়: নিগ্রহ নয়, বন্ধন।

র্যাগিং ঠেকাতে নবাগতদের এই বন্ধনের বার্তাই দিতে চায় যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়। ইঞ্জিনিয়ারিং ও প্রযুক্তি বিভাগে ক্লাস শুরু আগেরই কর্তৃপক্ষের উদ্যোগে রাশীবন্ধনকে সামনে রেখেই হাতের ১৩টি মূদ্রাকে ব্যবহার করে ইতিমধ্যে নয় সচেতনতার ব্যানারে মুখ তেকেছে ক্যাম্পাস।

কেন এই উদ্যোগ?

বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ডিন অব স্টুডেন্টস এবং অ্যান্টি-র্যাগিং কমিটির আহ্বায়ক রজত রায়ের কথায়, ক্যাম্পাস আগের থেকে অনেকটাই বদলে গিয়েছে। র্যাগিংয়ের ঘটনাও কমে এসেছে। তাই সিনিয়ররা এখন জুনিয়রদের স্বাগতই জানায়। বিধিবদ্ধ সতর্কীকরণে পড়ুয়াদের ভয় দেখিয়ে সে ভাবে দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ করা যায় না। তাই র্যাগিং একেবারে নির্মূল করতেই রাশীবন্ধনের এই সৃষ্টিশীল প্রচার। এই থিমের ভাবনা অবশ্য বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের প্রাক্তনী পরাগ সরকারের। তা গ্রহণ করা হয়েছে। তথ্যচিত্র নির্মাতা পরাগ র্যাগিং



স্বাধীনতা, উৎসর্গ, শক্তি। এ ভাবেই নানা থিম উঠে এসেছে যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের এ রকম আরও দশটি অ্যান্টি-র্যাগিং পোস্টারে

— এই সময়

বিরোধী বিজ্ঞাপনী প্রচারের জিন্দেগি ডিরেক্টর ও চিত্রগ্রাহক। তিনি জানান, 'জীবনচক্রের নানা মূদ্রাকে রাশীবন্ধনের মাধ্যমে এই প্রচারে ব্যবহার করা হয়েছে। পড়ুয়াদের যাতে র্যাগিং শব্দটিই আর শুনতে না হয়, সেজন্য শিরোনাম দেওয়া হয়েছে 'বন্ধন'। ১৩টি মূদ্রার নামকরণ করা হয়েছে—জীবন, পৃথিবী, আত্মা, শান্তি, শক্তি, জ্ঞান, স্বপ্ন, স্বাধীনতা, ত্যাগ, অসীকার, আশা, আনন্দ এবং সর্বজনীন সত্য। জীবনে প্রকৃত জয়ী হতে

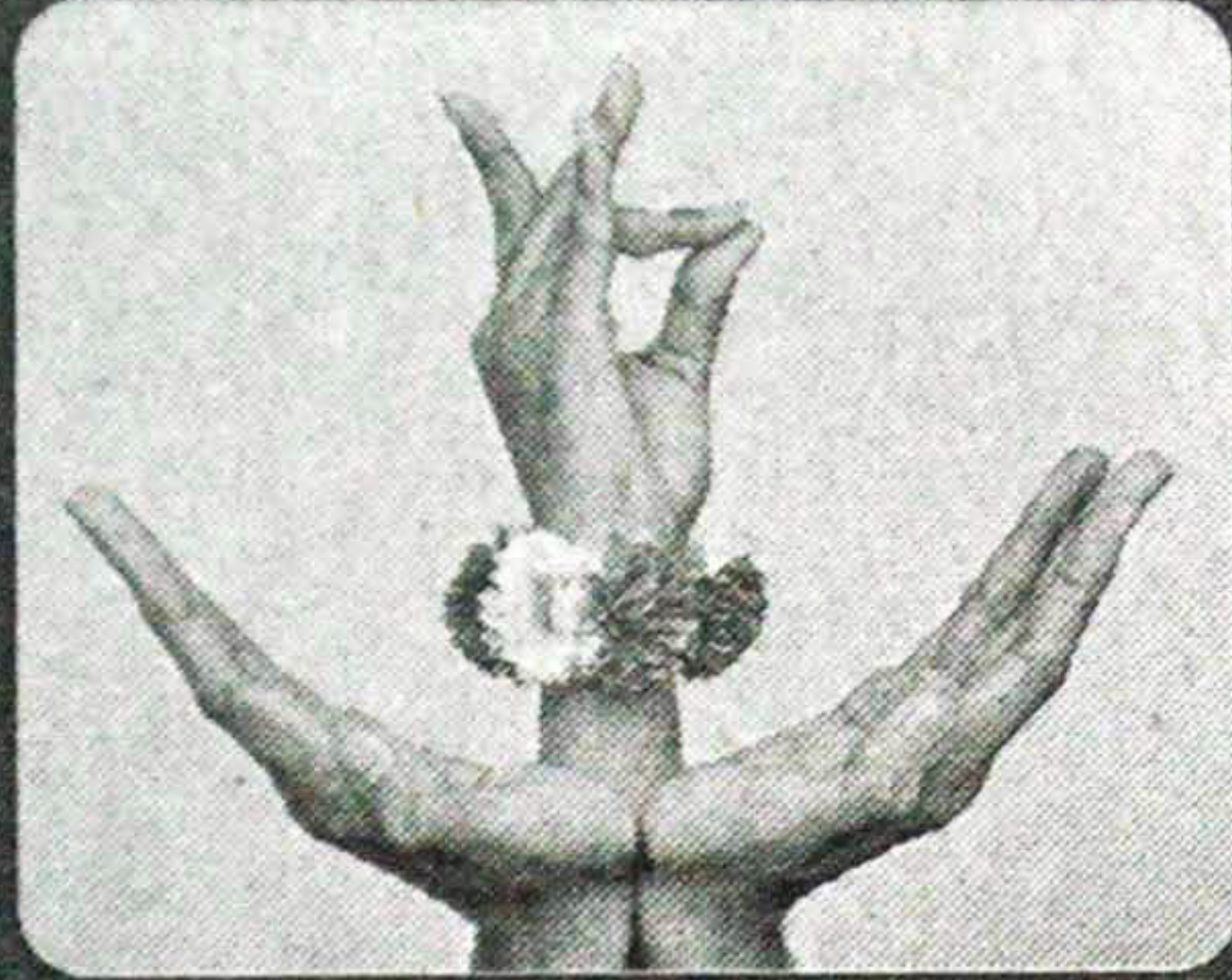
গেলে এই সব ইতিবাচক মূদ্রা অবশ্যই প্রয়োজনীয়। নতুন পড়ুয়াদের ক্যাম্পাসে ঢোকার সময় তাদের হাতে রাশী বেঁধে স্বাগত জানান হবে পুরানোরা। প্রায় দেড়-দু'মাস ধরে চিন্তাভাবনায় থিম বন্ধনের আত্মপ্রকাশ। যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের এই ভাবনা খুবই সর্ধর্ক বলে মনে করেন সোসাইটি এগেইনস্ট ভায়োলেন্স ইন এডুকেশনের (সেভ) সহ প্রতিষ্ঠাতা কুশল বন্দ্যোপাধ্যায়। তিনি বলেন, 'সিনিয়র-জুনিয়রদের মধ্যে

এ ভাবে দাদাভাইয়ের সম্পর্ক স্থাপনের চেষ্টা ভীষণই ইতিবাচক। একবার উভয়পক্ষের মধ্যে পরিচয় ঘটে গেলে আর জুনিয়ররা নিগ্রহের শিকার হবেন না। মন থেকে হিংসাই চলে যায়। সেইসঙ্গে দীর্ঘমেয়াদি ক্ষেত্রেও এই ভাবনা খুবই ইতিবাচক। র্যাগিং রুখতে যাদবপুর ওয়ার্কশপ করছে। সেখানে আমাদেরও আমন্ত্রণ জানিয়েছে। তবে আমার মনে হয়, বিতর্কসভা হলে আরও ভালো।



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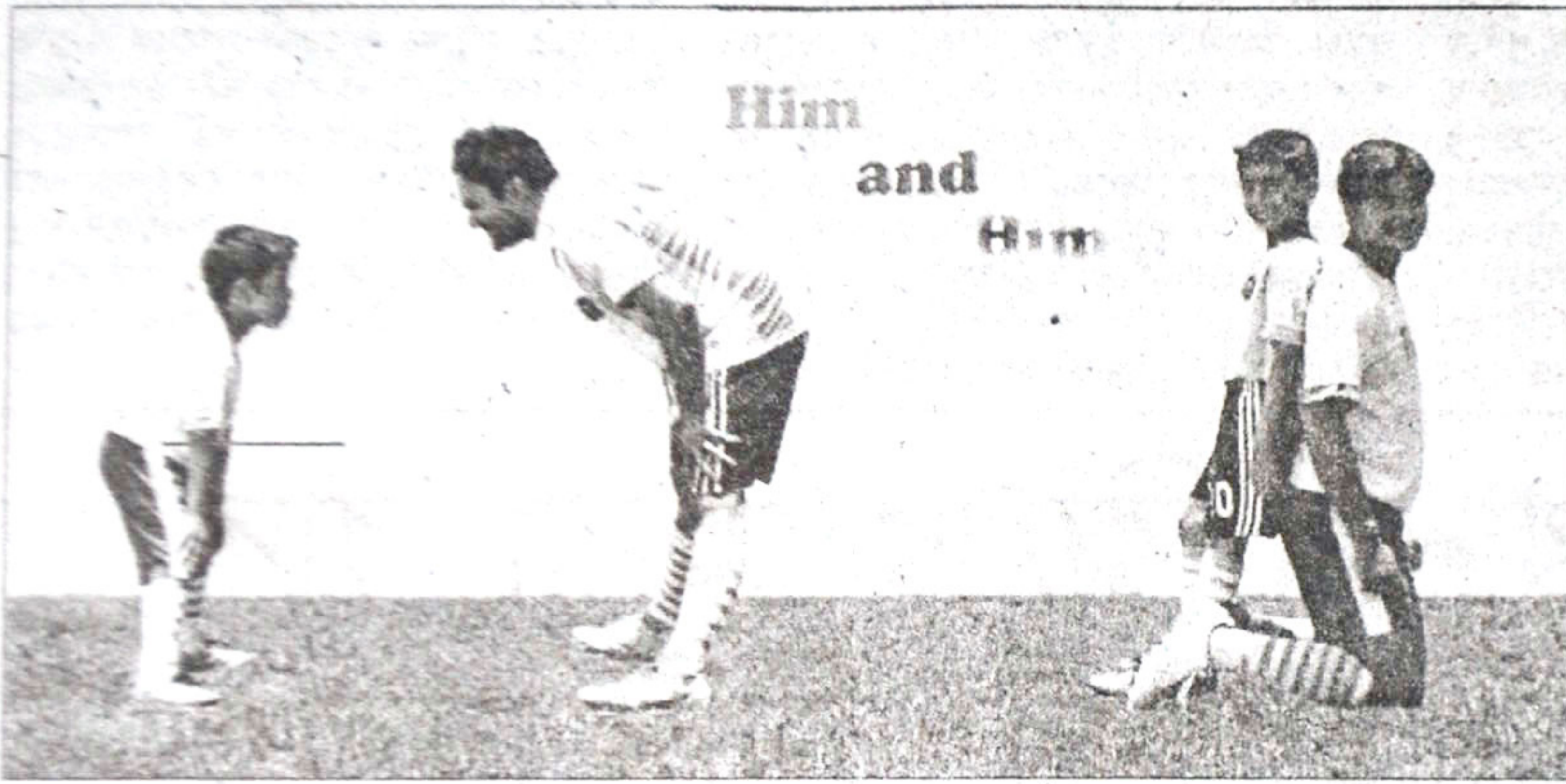
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মিলিয়ে মানবজীবনের আশাআকাঙ্ক্ষার গাঁথা যেন। সিনেমার তথ্যচিত্র নির্মাতা পরাগ সরকারের ভাবনা এভাবেই ডানা মেলেছে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অন্দরে। যা বলছে র্যাগিং করে বন্ধুত্বের বন্ধন না ভেঙে, রাখি বেঁধে সম্পর্কের বুনিয়ে আরও একটু মজবুত করা। পরাগ সরকার এর আগেও যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে বেশ কয়েকবার র্যাগিং বিরোধী প্রচারের দায়িত্ব সামলেছেন। পারস্পরিক বন্ধন আরও দৃঢ় করতে যাদবপুরের পড়ুয়ারা নবাগতদের রাখি পরিয়ে স্বাগত জানানোর আয়োজন করছেন।

# ছবির মাধ্যমে র্যাগিং নয়, বন্ধুত্বের বার্তা যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে



চন্দ্রানী দে

যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে ক্যাম্পাস জুড়ে লাগানো হচ্ছে র্যাগিং বিরোধী প্রচারের টিজার বিজ্ঞাপন। টিজার ছবিগুলির মধ্য দিয়ে কি বার্তা দেওয়া হয়েছে শেষ ছবিটি না দেখা পর্যন্ত তা বোঝা যাবে না। বিজ্ঞাপনগুলির মাধ্যমে ছোট্ট কথায় খেলোয়াড়ি মনোভাবকেই প্রাধান্য দেওয়া হয়েছে। ক্যাম্পাসে র্যাগিংয়ের পরিবর্তে বন্ধুত্বকেই বেছে নিতে বলা হয়েছে। যাদবপুরের ক্যাম্পাসে মাঠের গা বেঁবে যাওয়ার সময় যে ছেলেগুলি সবুজ মাঠের জলকাদার মধ্যে বল নিয়ে নাচাতে থাকে, তাদের কাছে এই ছবির অর্থ অনেকটাই স্পষ্ট। কিন্তু খেলোয়াড়ি মনোভাব বলতে কী বোঝায় তা স্পষ্ট করার জন্য চিত্রগ্রাহক ও ক্রিয়েটিভ ডিরেক্টর পরাগ সরকার মাঠ মানসিকতাকেই বেছে নিয়েছেন।

ছোট আর বড়োর মধ্যে পারস্পরিক মেলামেশার একটাই শর্ত- হাতে হাত ধরে বন্ধু হয়ে থাকা। বন্ধু মানে খেলার মাঠে বল নিয়ে সৌন্দর্য করতে করতেই গুণু বড় হয়ে যাওয়া নয়, মনের দিক থেকে মানসিকতার দিক থেকেও বড় হতে সাহায্য করা। খেলার মাঠে গোল করার জন্য বা ভালো খেলতে উদ্বুদ্ধ

করার জন্য অনেক সময়েই অভিজ্ঞ খেলোয়াড় অনভিজ্ঞকে উৎসাহিত করে, পিঠ চাপড়ে বলে দেয় সাবাস্। এরপরেই নিজের লক্ষ্য সম্পর্কে নিশ্চিত হয়ে গোলের দিকে দৌড় শুরু করে ছোট ছেলেটা। এটাই তো মাঠের কথা, খেলোয়াড়ি ভাষা।

আগামী প্রজন্ম চায় বন্ধুত্ব। আর তা করতে গেলে র্যাগিংটা বাদ রাখতেই হবে। ক্যাম্পাসের মধ্যে

ছবিগুলির সঙ্গে রয়েছে ছোট্ট বার্তা- 'হিম অ্যান্ড হিম' ছবিতে আর্জেন্টিনা ও ব্রাজিল, 'ইস্ট অ্যান্ড ওয়েস্ট' ছবিতে ইস্টবেঙ্গল ও মোহনবাগান এবং 'রেড অ্যান্ড গ্রিন' ছবিতে জার্মানি আর স্পেন। প্রত্যেক ছবিতেই আছে বড় দাদা আর ভাই। খেলার মাঠে আর্জেন্টিনার প্রতিদ্বন্দ্বী ব্রাজিল, আবার জার্মানির প্রতিদ্বন্দ্বী স্পেন।

সঙ্গে খেলার কৌশল ভাগ করে নিতে পারে বড়রাই। পিঠ চাপড়ে জিতিয়ে দিতে পারে খেলার মাঠে। এটাই হোক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ক্যাম্পাসেও। ক্যাম্পাসে থাকা ছবিগুলির মধ্যে শেষ ছবিতে দেখা যাবে প্রতিদ্বন্দ্বী দলগুলি পরস্পরের সঙ্গে মিলেমিশে এক হয়ে গেছে। এদের সকলের কাছে খেলোয়াড়ি মনোভাবটাই আসল।

র্যাগিং টিকিয়ে রাখাটা কোনও শিক্ষাকেন্দ্রের সংস্কৃতি হতে পারে না। বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে প্রতিবছরে নতুন ছাত্রছাত্রীদের স্বাগত জানানোটাই বড়দের কর্তব্য। র্যাগিং করে বন্ধুত্ব হয় না, বরং ছড়ায় আতঙ্ক। এপ্রসঙ্গে ডিন অফ স্টুডেন্ট রজত রায় জানানেন, র্যাগিং এখন অনেকটাই কমে গেছে। কিন্তু তারপরেও সুপ্রিম কোর্টের নির্দেশে র্যাগিং বিরোধী প্রচার রাখতে হবে। টিজার বিজ্ঞাপনের মধ্যে দিয়ে পরাগবাবু ক্যাম্পাস থেকে র্যাগিংয়ের ভয় মুছে দিতে চেয়েছেন। পরাগবাবু নিজেও এই বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের মাস কমিউনিকেশনের প্রাক্তনী। ছবির মধ্যে দিয়ে র্যাগিং বিরোধী প্রচার



বন্ধু হয়েই থাকতে হবে আগামী দিনগুলোতে। যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের র্যাগিং বিরোধী প্রচারে এই বার্তাই ফুটিয়ে তুলেছে টিজার ছবিগুলি।

খেলার মাঠে জেতার জন্য মরিয়া সকলেই। সেই তালিকাতে ইস্টবেঙ্গল মোহনবাগানেরও জুড়ি মেলা ভার। দু'দলই দুই মুখো নীতি নিয়ে খেলতে চায়। কিন্তু নতুনদের

তিনি এর আগেও করেছেন। ছাত্রছাত্রীদের মনে স্পোর্টিং স্পিরিট জাগিয়ে তুলতে পারলেই র্যাগিং কমে যাবে বলেই মনে করছেন রজতবাবু।



# Let it be a happy freshers' welcome

**TAKING ACTION** Institutes are trying hard to put an end to the ragging menace

*Light The Spirit .....*

*Say.....*

**No to Ragging**



• The poster of an anti-ragging campaign of Jadavpur University in 2013.

HT PHOTO

Pooja Mehta

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**KOLKATA:** With the admission season here, one of the major concerns for Class 12 pass outs, other than getting admission to a good college, is the situation they might have to face once they are inside the institute premises. Despite the ban imposed by Supreme Court on ragging, it remains one of the major concerns for the students. The government, too, has prohibited it, but despite all efforts, West Bengal ranks second in cases of ragging across the country after Uttar Pradesh.

According to the National Anti-Ragging Helpline data, between June 2009 and September 2013, 283 cases of ragging have been registered. This is the second highest after Uttar Pradesh with 402 ragging cases.

With the admission procedure going on across colleges and universities of the state, colleges are gearing up for anti-ragging campaigns.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has asked educational institutions to set up an anti-ragging committee and highlight the contact details of the members of the committee. Posters reading - 'It is brought to the notice of the public that ragging is a criminal offence and UGC has framed regulations in order to prohibit, prevent and eliminate ragging' are also put up across colleges of the state.

'Like every year Jadavpur University is likely to design an anti-ragging campaign soon,

also put up posters that clearly mention the contact details of the committee members so that students feel free to come up and report cases of ragging to them," said an active member of the JU anti-ragging cell.

The UGC has also asked institutions to install CCTV cameras and alarm bells at different places on the campus.

"Installing cameras can be very effective to curb ragging menace. The CCTV footage works as an authentic proof against ragging. Over the years there has not been much of a change in the number of ragging cases registered, but students are aware of the cameras around. This also instils a sense of fear among the students," said Taranjit Singh, president, Association of Professional Academic Institutions (APAI), West Bengal.

Statistics shows that ragging incidents were more common in engineering institutions.

"Over the years, it has been observed that the cases reported in medical colleges are not as high as engineering colleges," added Singh.

Besides CCTV cameras and alarm bells, other measures to check ragging include regular interaction and counselling, identification of troublemakers, mention of anti-ragging cell in the institution's prospectus and surprise inspection in hostels.

However, there are professionals who feel that despite all efforts, miscreants are not taking any lessons.

"With UGC bringing in strict rules, I thought students would

## RAGGING: NATIONAL BANE

• West Bengal ranks second in cases of ragging across the country after Uttar Pradesh

State	2012	2013
Uttar Pradesh	85	58
West Bengal	38	59
Odisha	44	63
MP	32	60
Maharashtra	15	20



## WHAT CONSTITUTES RAGGING?

It constitutes one or more of any of the following acts

• Any conduct by any student, whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness a fresher or any other student

• Indulgence in rowdy or undisciplined activities by any student or students, causing or is likely to cause annoyance, hardship,

physical or psychological harm or apprehension in any fresher or any other student

• Asking any student to do any act which he or she wouldn't otherwise do and which has the effect of causing or generating shame or torment or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the physique or psyche of the student.

heinous crimes, but this is unfortunate that troublemakers are not taking lesson," said Dhurjoti Banerjee, general secretary, APAI, West Bengal.

Despite UGC strictly asking institutions to follow anti-ragging guidelines, Supreme Court banning it, calling it a heinous crime and even colleges and universities organising anti-ragging campaigns, there are a considerable number of cases that go unreported.

"There are many victims who fail to muster the courage to even report it. They either leave the college or just move out of the city, but do not complain. It is important to bring in a system, where a victim does not hesitate to report

At a time when colleges are putting in place a system to fight ragging, parents and for that matter, some students are extremely apprehensive of taking admissions in colleges.

"My daughter aspires to become an engineer. Having heard so much about ragging across engineering colleges puts me in a dilemma. But, I cannot keep her at home while safeguarding her from all kinds of crimes. I have to let her achieve her dreams. But I will always be apprehensive," said Geeta Rupani, mother of Nancy Rupani, who is awaiting a round of counselling in engineering colleges.

Students and parents should be made aware of the anti-ragging helpline, website and mon-



# After Hokkolorob, **Bandhan** is the new buzzword at JU

**GOOD MOVE** Starting today, varsity campus would be littered with hoardings bearing anti-ragging messages

Mou Chakraborty

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KOLKATA: Jadavpur University (JU) has come up with a unique campaign to fight ragging that has continued to plague campuses despite stringent rules to deal with it.

Starting Wednesday, the JU campus would be littered with hoardings bearing anti-ragging messages and when freshers walk in on July 27, they'd receive a rousing reception from seniors.

The seniors would even tie rakhis on their hands signifying deep bond and protection.

The varsity authorities would provide rakhis to seniors to usher in freshers to engineering and science faculties.

"The anti-ragging campaign

**RAGGING: A CRIMINAL OFFENCE**

Victims/witnesses of incidents of ragging must lodge complaint in any of the following numbers and a mail id:

THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA DIRECTS INSTITUTIONS TO EXPEL STUDENTS FOUND GUILTY OF RAGGING.

Complaint on Ragging to be lodged—

At University Authority  
Phone: 033 300 3079  
Calcutta Anti-Ragging Authority

At IEGC Authority  
Phone: 033 280 0027

Anti-Ragging Committee, Jadavpur University

cannot work without the support of senior students. And thankfully, over the last few years, we've been able to keep incidents of ragging down to a minimum at JU. Not a single such incident was reported last year," Rajat Ray, the dean of students, said.

However, wary of not being lulled into a sense of complacency by their impressive track record with regard to such

incidents, the varsity authorities put their heads together and came up with an anti-ragging campaign that is built around the theme, Bandhan (bond).

The campaign has been conceptualised by Parag Sarkar, a documentary filmmaker and alumnus.

"The campaign was showcased by way of thirteen compositions of art photography

based on Raksha Bandhan. The compositions were meant to depict deep bonding. The concept is built around the theme Bandhan that signifies bonding and protection," Sarkar said.

"The varsity's annual fest is called Bandhan and the aim was put the concept at work to foster better ties between seniors and juniors. Tying rakhis on freshers, itself, would send out a message of love and respect," Sarkar, the creative director and photographer of the campaign, said.

The hoardings went up on 13 locations across the JU campus on Tuesday.

"On July 27, our senior student volunteers would tie rakhis on freshers. We hope the gesture would help cultivate strong and lasting ties between seniors and

juniors," Ray said.

The campaign was debated at length and cleared for launch by the varsity's anti-ragging committee, which comprises members of the students' union as well.

Following tradition, members of students' unions at all three faculties, too, would host events to welcome freshers.

The hoardings that have already gone up on campus not only bear anti-ragging messages, but also an e-mail address where the students could post ragging-related complaints.

The hoardings also have names of members of the anti-ragging committee and a 24x7 helpline number.

They also list the steps that could be taken against those accused of ragging. The steps include expulsion as well.

# Anti-ragging campaign at JU

Mou Chakraborty  
Kolkata, July 11

IT IS that time of the year when freshers in colleges break out into a sweat over ragging. With a new session beginning, students of Jadavpur University (JU) have come up with a unique anti-ragging poster campaign.

In a week, JU will be filled with teaser posters "Say no to ragging." A brainchild of Parag Sharkar, a mass communication student of the university, the campaign will be followed by anti-ragging messages. Thirteen students from the electronics stream and one student from the Bengali department have participated in the campaign.

"We are starting with two teaser illustrations, which will be followed by anti ragging

posters. All pictures have been shot in the university itself. The idea was to make it peppy and appealing to the young crowd," said Sharkar.

The posters will be put up in all the happening spots of the varsity. "We will put up the posters where students gather for adda," the mass communication student said. The Faculty of Engineering and Technology Students Union (FETSU) are supporting the campaign.

Speaking to HT, Rajat Ray dean of students' affair said, "First year engineering classes start from July 12. We want all newcomers to feel comfortable inside the campus. The anti-ragging posters will make them feel reassured."

Ray added, "Sometimes senior students request teachers to

leave classes so that they rag them. We are asking students to inform us about such teachers. The student should also keep phone numbers of members of anti-ragging panel on speed dial. If the student is alone and sees seniors approaching, then the individual can auto dial the teachers number so that he can hear the conversation.

Other universities too are taking precautions. The reason, a recent Supreme Court judgment stating that in case a student is ragged he can lodge an FIR against the offenders or the institution can conduct an independent enquiry. If the student is not satisfied with the outcome, then the institution will have to lodge a FIR.

"The reputation of institutions is at stake. Hence all col-

leges have endorsed anti-ragging campaigns. Ragging is a very serious offence," said S. R. Islam, registrar of West Bengal University of Technology, which has 64 private engineering colleges' affiliated under it.

Bengal Engineering and Science University (BESU) is also gearing up. "For the first month there will be guards deployed in front of fresher hostels. Security personnel will be standing outside the classes. There will be a roving team consisting of teachers and students who will help freshers to get acquainted with the university. We are also asking seniors to stay away from ragging and its implications on their career," said Lieutenant Colonel Anjan Kumar Ghosh, dean of students of BESU.

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## TEN COMMANDMENTS

- Move around in a group for the first month
- Never go to the canteen alone
- Never enter an empty classroom alone
- Do not stand alone in the bus stop in front of your college or university
- If someone tries to rag you, be brave and speak up
- If you are being ragged, record the conversation on your cellphone
- Keep mobile numbers of the anti-ragging committee with you
- If you have been ragged, do not break down
- File an FIR and the institution will have to conduct a probe
- Lodge a complaint against a teacher if he helped your tormentors

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Y'DAY IN CITY

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SAFE LEVEL

80

Y'DAY IN CITY

41

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**STRONG STEPS**  
JU authorities take several measures to stop ragging Page 3

## Teaser hoardings to stop ragging at Jadavpur

**Meo Chakraborty**  
Kolkata, July 7

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY (JU) is going the extra mile in order to ensure that none of its first-year students become victims of the ragging menace.

To spread awareness, the university authorities have put up teaser hoardings in front of Aurobindo Bhavan, Central Library and PG Science Building. While the first teaser hoarding was on 'Porashuna-Khelaahula', the second depicts the varsity's 'adda sanskriti'. And from July 8, the university will put up

anti-ragging hoardings.

"First-year students will come to the campus in the third week of July. And this is an effort to educate seniors to stay away from ragging. And finally when first year students will arrive, the hoardings will carry the names and contact numbers of all members of the university's anti-ragging committee," said Parag Sarkar, a former student of the university and the person who designed the advertisements.

The university is planning to make the campaign bigger from next year and would try to tie up with a Bengal-based industry major.



"This is an intelligent approach to reach out to intelligent students and tell them not to rag their juniors when they come to the campus," said Rajat Ray, dean of students. Apart from the hoardings, the

university has also put up anti-ragging posters all over the campus. Vice-chancellor P.N. Ghosh has held a meeting with head of the departments of all the faculties to ensure that the university remains free from ragging this year.

"A workshop for all anti-ragging committee faculty members on how to combat ragging was organised last week. Psychologists and psychiatrists were present along with retired Justice Samarash Banerjee, who spoke on the legal aspect. We will organise a similar interactive workshop for student members of the anti-ragging committee next

week," Ray said.

The university has also come up with a blog to discuss ragging-related issues exclusively with its students. And once freshers hit the campus, there will be a special session for to advise students on how to avoid being ragged.

"The university will have an anti-ragging squad for each department and hostel. We will also circulate a UOC anti-ragging circular. During the admission process, students will be given a note on what they should do to report against ragging," Ray added.

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# All-out effort to banish ragging from campuses

Debashis Konar | TNN

**Kolkata:** Several institutes in the city have geared up to make their campuses ragging-free as engineering courses took off on Wednesday.

The report on ragging by former CBI director R K Raghavan mentioned 19 cases of ragging in the state between 2001 and 2007.

Already, the vice-chancellor of Jadavpur University has alerted his departmental heads on ragging. "He has even asked them to file an FIR against every incident of ragging," said Rajat Bandyopadhyay, registrar of JU. "We are even giving freshers mobile numbers of contact persons, whom they can call if ragged."

The registrar said the authorities had recently thwarted an attempt at ragging in one of the hostels. "We are keeping a close watch and have asked officials to step up vigil during odd hours," Bandyopadhyay said.

But a JU student alleged that ragging took place in one of the hostels on July 12 when students were forced to dance with belts around



A poster on the JU campus

their necks and pants down. Yet, no complaint was lodged, he said.

Ashok Ranjan Thakur, V-C of the West Bengal University of Technology, has asked all the engineering colleges to be on guard. "I have asked

all colleges to display anti-ragging posters at every 100 m this time so that senior students can understand the penal measures they have to face. Right now, three students of Malhabhum Institute of Technology are in jail for being named in an FIR for ragging," he said.

Heritage Institute of Technology principal B B Poira said they have held a meeting among teachers to curb ragging. He said teachers and officials have been asked to keep tabs on various places in and around the college, with special focus on the canteen.

Naturally, freshers are being targeted outside the campus. An eyewitness said some seniors on Wednesday forced some freshers to beg on the road. The Raghavan Committee report mentioned college hostels, vacant classrooms, toilets, stadiums or gymnasiums as the most probable places of ragging.

Calcutta High Court lawyer Tapas Kumar Bhanja said IPC should be amended to include ragging. Or else, it would be difficult for police to book the offenders.

# TIMES CITY

THE TIMES OF INDIA, KOLKATA | TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2013



“At Besu, we have tried to tackle ragging innovatively and formed interactive clubs involving senior and junior boys so that their energy is expended creatively

AK Ray | VC, BESU

“Ragging is present in its worst forms in almost every campus. We are trying our best to organize campaigns on various campuses. However, on most campuses, ragging is on with the sanction of the administration

Kushal Banerjee | Activist



“We are aiming at making JU ragging-free. Apart from notices, we are taking recourse to innovative ideas that will appeal to students and make them ponder over ill-effects of ragging

Rajat Ray | Head of Students' Union

“Till date, no conviction has happened because the witnesses are ultimately turn hostile and the prosecution loses interest. Mutual understandings are reached in no time

Utra Josa | Lawyer



“Ragging is a reality in Bengal because no punishment is ever meted out to the offenders. In most cases, the offenders have political connections and arm-twist the victims

Arsal Maitopadhyay | Educator

## JU to launch teaser campaign to end 'rivalry'

Jhimi Mukherjee Pandey | TNS

**Kolkata:** Jadavpur University is not willing to take chances with ragging. As the new engineering students walked into campus on Monday, the university laid out grandiose plans to start a teaser campaign from Tuesday to influence senior students, "intelligently".

Stern notices decrying ragging have already been out up across the campus. These highlight the names and phone numbers of faculty members of the anti-ragging cell. Penal actions for ragging have also been mentioned in these notices. The teaser campaign is different from this and the university has planned to put it up in a staggered manner to excite the students' minds so that they keep looking out for the next teaser to come. The final teaser is scheduled to come after a week when the build up is complete and will disclose the real objective.

The teaser campaign has been designed keeping the football game in mind. Thus, the first teaser hoarding will show older and younger boys wearing rival jerseys showing physical affection and bonhomie. In this "Him and Him" hoarding, you see older and younger boys wearing the Argentina and Brazil jerseys, but instead of displaying animosity they are seen having fun. The next teaser will be called



One of the anti-ragging advertisements designed by Jadavpur University

East and West and will have older and younger boys wearing the East Bengal and Mohan Bagan jerseys, again displaying a friendly body language. "The legendary rivalry is no where to be seen and you see the boys sharing a great relationship. The older boys are especially tolerant and even indulgent towards the younger ones. We have not mentioned the two

clubs but have been suggestive," Parag Sarkar, the creative director of the teaser campaign.

The idea behind using football as the base of the teaser campaign is to harp on the fact that in a football field, the older players are always receptive to younger ones and take them under their wings. Likewise, senior boys of the engineering streams

should inculcate this sportsman spirit and welcome freshers into the campus and help them find their bearings. The number 10 jerseys of Pele (Brazil) and Maradona (Argentina) will be prominently seen in the teaser campaign.

The other three teasers will show Germany and Spain in a campaign called, Red and Green, Portugal and India in a campaign called, You and Me and finally the last hoarding will see all the "rivals" coming together to "Light the Spirit" of kindness and say "no" to ragging. Till the final hoarding is put up, students will not know what the previous hoardings, all to come up back to back, are all about.

"This time we wanted to add a fun element to our anti-ragging campaign. The stern notices are there all over the campus and through these, students are getting the message already. However, this new teaser campaign will draw the attention of everyone and will make them think deeply about why ragging is a necessary evil," said Rajat Ray, JU's dean of students.

The large hoardings, measuring 10 feet by 20 feet will first come up near the canteen behind Aurobindo Bhawan, which is the favourite haunt of students. Thereafter, these will spring up as morning surprises in vantage spots of the campus, till the final hoarding comes up on August 14.

# JU cheers anti-ragging ads

## Seniors Welcome Innovative Campaign But Resent Segregation Of Freshers

**Bhimi Mukherjee Pandey** | IAS

**Kolkata:** Freshers walking into Jadavpur University on Tuesday were greeted by the new anti-ragging teaser ads that are meant to inspire seniors to act like elder brothers or mentors, and not tormenters.

The JU authorities have made it clear that they will



**SAY NO TO RAGGING**

give no quarter when it comes to ragging. Senior students had to do some pretty hard convincing for the authorities to allow an "orientation" programme for freshers at Gandhi Bhavan on Tuesday.

The nod came only after

seniors pledged to behave responsibly with juniors and ensure harmony prevails on campus.

This time, the orientation programme focused on wiping out any fear of ragging among freshers. The seniors filmed a documentary to help newcomers get acquainted with life at JU.

The seniors requested the administration not to "create divisive walls" with freshers.

"We are not even allowed to visit first-year classrooms and get familiar with them," said Rajarshi Maitra, a fourth year civil engineering student and Fotsu member. "We are happy that we could convince the administration and speak to the freshers in the orientation programme," said Maitra.

"Juniors are warned against going to the union room or even talking to seniors since the administration feels that will attract ragging. This creates an atmosphere of animosity,"



The teaser ads were launched in JU on Tuesday, triggering much excitement on campus. (Below) A notice against ragging



said Sumit Ghosh, a mechanical engineering student.

Seniors insisted that physical or mental torture

does not happen on campus. However, simple leg pulling — "chatachoti" — of freshers is common. "These boys

are just out of school and are entering a professional arena. They need to re-orient themselves and that is what seniors help them do," said Ronodip Sankar, a fourth year mechanical engineering student.

The university, however, feels that by policing seniors and keeping freshers segregated, ragging can be kept at bay. Huge posters listing penalties for ragging have been put up all over campus.

"We have been able to control ragging on our campus through stringent measures. This year two new measures have been taken — the teaser campaign and a mentor programme. Freshers will be divided into groups under faculty members who will be their on-campus guardians," said Rajat Ray, dean of students.

Pro-VC Siddhartha Dutta said, "Ragging is on the wane and we at JU have to set an example. Senior students have pledged to make life easy for freshers."

“While we welcome the teaser campaign because of the subtle way in which it seeks to bring seniors and juniors close, we do not like

the way in which the administration plans to forcibly keep us away from them

**Rajarshi Maitra**

FOURTH-YEAR CIVIL ENGG



“Do you think asking a junior to rub his smile off the wall is a form of ragging? The administration feels that even if we ask the name of a junior, it can be called ragging. This is not right

**Ronodip Sankar**

FOURTH-YEAR MECHANICAL ENGG



“We have been able to control ragging through stringent measures. This year, we have two new measures — the teaser campaign and a mentor programme. Freshers will be divided into groups under faculty mentors

**Rajat Ray**

DEAN OF STUDENTS, JU



“Ragging is on the wane and we, at JU, have to set an example. Senior students have pledged to make life easy for freshers

**Siddhartha Dutta**

PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR, JU



