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Anti-Ragging Policy

Govt. Holkar (Model Autonomous) Science College, Indore (M.P.)



Dr. Suresh T. Silawat Principal Govt. Holkar (Model, Autonomous) Science College, Indore



Curbing ragging as menace is a statutory obligation for any Higher Education Institute. It is our prime responsibility to bring forth a policy on anti-ragging to provide a safe and secure atmosphere in the college for all the students.

This policy has been formulated in accordance with the guidelines of UGC Rules 2016, on Anti-Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions / Universities, as published in the gazette notification and as the *"Anti-ragging Policy"* of the Government Holkar (Model, Autonomous) Science College, Indore, M.P.

This policy aims to address the measures taken by the Higher Educational Institutions to create awareness among students, making stringent rules and their strict implementation leading to adoption of a **Zero-Tolerance** attitude towards this menace.

An Anti-Ragging Committee is nominated and is headed by a team of senior professor, consisting of representatives of civil and police administration, local media, Non-Government Organizations involved in youth activities, representatives of faculty members, representatives of parents, representatives of students belonging to the freshers' category as well as senior students, non-teaching staff; and shall has a diverse mix of membership in terms of levels as well as gender.

It shall be the duty of the Anti-Ragging Committee to ensure compliance with the provisions of Anti ragging policy and also to monitor and oversee the performance of the Anti-Ragging Squad in prevention of ragging in the HEI.

I stay committed to the norms of the anti-ragging policy, and any kind of deviance from the norms will not be tolerated.

Dr. Suresh T. Silawat Principal

Vision and Mission of the Institute

Vision:

To make our youth the torch-bearer of knowledge, and to continue the rich legacy of imparting scientific education and groom them on an intellectual, social and humane platform.

Mission:

- To create an innovative ecosystem for the promotion of scientific temperament.
- To enrich the academics with state-of-the art technology and innovation at par with the global standards.
- To impart Skill-based training relevant to local and global needs.
- To develop a well-groomed and empowered youth.
- To nurture a socially responsible and value-driven generation.

Anti-ragging Policy

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Anti-ragging Policy

In accordance with the 3rd Amendment of UGC Regulations on "Curbing the menace of Ragging" in Higher Educational Institutions, 2016 3(j) which states that:

Any act of physical or mental abuse (including bullying and exclusion) targeted at another student (Fresher or otherwise) on the ground of colour, race, religion, caste, ethnicity, gender (including transgender), sexual orientation, appearance, nationality, regional origins, linguistic identity, place of birth, place of residence or economic background. To ensure a healthy atmosphere within the campus for newcomers, so that they can spread their wings without any fear.

Preamble:

Curbing ragging as menace is a statutory obligation for any Higher Education Institute. This policy has been formulated according to the guidelines of UGC Rules 2016, on Anti-Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions / Universities, as published in the gazette notification. This policy document is recognized as the *"Anti-ragging Policy"* of the Government Holkar (Model, Autonomous) Science College, Indore, M.P. This policy aims to address the measure taken by the Higher Educational Institution to create awareness among students, making stringent rules and their strict implementation leading to adoption of a Zero-Tolerance attitude towards this menace.

Introduction:

Many a time's senior students show off power, authority or superiority over juniors or freshers and try to derive a sadistic pleasure out of it. This makes the juniors more vulnerable to a situation which sometimes crosses the limits of decency. In view of the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, and as per the guidelines given by UGC to prohibit, prevent and eliminate ragging in the campus and to create a congenial and harmonious atmosphere for all the students, Govt. Holkar (Model, Autonomous) Science College, Indore has set forth this Anti-Ragging Policy.

As the head of the institution, Principal shall be responsible for implementation of "curbing of ragging menace" anti-ragging rules under this policy. However, he may delegate the functional roles and procedures to any other faculty of the HEI, so nominated as the Nodal Officer for monitoring anti-ragging function in the HEI.

Objectives:

The main objective of this policy is to prohibit, prevent and eliminate any conduct or behavior by any student or students which comes under the purview of ragging. We adopt a "**Zero –tolerance**" Policy towards Ragging, i.e, no act of ragging, major or minor, shall go unnoticed. No ragger, male or female, student or non-student, shall go unpunished.



What constitutes Ragging?

As per UGC Guidelines, Ragging constitutes one or more of any of the following acts:

- i. Any behaviour by a student or a group of students that has the effect of taunting, treating, or handling with rudeness a fresher or any other student, whether through words spoken or written or by an act.
- ii. Engaging in rowdy or disrespectful behaviour by a student or a group of students that annoys, harms physically or psychologically, or produces fear or apprehension in any fresher or other students.
- iii. Asking a student to perform an act that they would not normally perform and that may cause or result in shame, agony, or embarrassment so as to negatively impact their physical or mental well-being or the well-being of any other student.
- iv. Any action by a senior student that prohibits, hinders, or disturbs any other student's or a fresher's usual academic activity. Exploiting the services of a fresher or any other student for completing the academic tasks assigned to an individual or a group of students.
- v. Exploiting the services of a new student or any other student to complete the academic assignments given to a single student or a group of students.
- vi. Any act of financial extortion or coercive financial burden imposed by students on a newcomer or any other student.
- vii. Any form of physical abuse, including all variations such as sexual abuse, gay attacks, stripping, enforcing vulgar and obscene behaviors, or endangering someone's health or safety.

- viii. Any behavior or act that intentionally or unintentionally causes a fresher or another student to feel uncomfortable, including verbal abuse, emails, posts, and public insults.
- ix. Any behavior or act that affects a fresher or another student's mental health and self-confidence with or without the intention of indulging in sadistic pleasure or demonstrating a student's superiority over any fresher.

Measures for Prohibition of Ragging

The HEI resolves to comply with following guidelines of the UGC:

- i. The HEI or any portion of it, including its components such as, but not limited to, the schools, departments, constituent units, centres of studies, and all premises, whether academic, residential, playgrounds, or canteen, whether located on campus or outside, as well as in all modes of student transportation, whether public or private, accessed by students for the purpose of pursuing studies in HEI, shall not permit or condone any reported incident of ragging in any of these areas.
- ii. The HEI shall take action in accordance with the Rules of UGC against those found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging, actively or passively, or being part of a conspiracy to promote ragging.

Measures for Prevention of Ragging:

The HEI shall take the following steps in regard to admission or registration of students:

- i. Any public declaration of intent for the admission of students to any course of study, whether in electronic, audio-visual, print, or any other media, shall expressly state that ragging is completely prohibited in the HEI and that anyone found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging, whether actively or passively, or being a part of a conspiracy to promote ragging, shall be subject to punishment in accordance with the established Rules as well as under the provisions of law.
- ii. The prospectus or admissions brochure, whether in print or electronic format, must clearly display and include the aforementioned warning, as well as any applicable consequences.
- iii. Students must be given the phone numbers of the Anti-Ragging Helpline, the Principal, Deans/Directors, members of the Anti-Ragging Committees and Anti-Ragging Squads, Hostel Wardens, and other relevant functionaries or authorities, as well as all other significant individuals in the HEI. The enrollment letters shall contain the format of an undertaking, mandatorily in English as provided in the UGC Rules or reference to the link for on line anti ragging declaration portal, to be filled up and signed by the applicant and parents (Refer Annexure 1). This undertaking states to the effect that he/she/parents (they) have read and understood the provisions of anti-ragging policy as well as the provisions of any other law for the time being in force, and are aware of the prohibition of ragging and the punishments prescribed, both under penal laws as well as under HEI Rules and also affirm to the effect that student has not been expelled and/or

debarred by any HEI and further aver that student would not indulge, actively or passively, in the act or abet the act of ragging and if found guilty of ragging and/or abetting ragging, is liable to be proceeded against under the Rules or under any penal law or any other law for the time being in force and such action would include but is not limited to debarment or expulsion of such student. These undertakings shall be signed by all students.

- iv. The Principal shall call a meeting of various officials/agencies, including Hostel Wardens, representatives of students, parents/guardians (if practical), faculty, administration, and the police (if considered necessary), before the start of the academic session to discuss the measures to be taken to prevent ragging in the HEI and steps to be taken to identify and punish those who engage in or aid ragging.
- v. The HEI shall prominently display posters depicting the provisions of penal law applicable to incidents of ragging, as well as the provisions of these rules and any other law currently in effect, and the punishments thereof, in order to make the community at large and the students in particular aware of the dehumanising effect of ragging and the approach of the HEI towards those indulging in ragging. It must also clearly post the information on notice boards in dormitories and other buildings, as well as in areas where students frequently congregate and in areas where ragging instances are known to occur.
- vi. The HEI must recognise, appropriately illuminate, and keep vigil over any areas known to be prone to ragging incidents. The HEI must step up security on its property, especially in susceptible areas, by using Anti-Ragging Squads and volunteers, if any, for intense policing at these locations at odd hours during the first few weeks of the academic session, as determined by the authorities.
- vii. The HEI will use the break before the new academic year to initiate a campaign against ragging using flyers, posters, and any other tools that may be necessary or useful.
- viii. In order to advance the goals of anti-ragging, the schools, departments, centres, and units of the HEI shall have induction arrangements in place well before the start of the academic year, including those that anticipate, identify, and plan to meet any special needs of any specific section of students.
- ix. HEI may tie up or engage or seek the assistance of professional counsellors before the commencement of the academic session, to be available when required by the HEI, for the purposes of offering counselling to freshers and to other students after the commencement of the academic year.

HEI shall take the following steps during the admission procedure:

i. Every newly admitted student to the HEI shall be given a printed leaflet detailing to whom he/she has to turn to for help and guidance for various purposes including addresses and telephone numbers, so as to enable the student to contact the concerned person at any time, if and when required.

- ii. The HEI, should make arrangements for induction and orientation programmes for the newly admitted students to promote efficient and effective means of integrating them with students those who are already admitted to the HEI in earlier years.
- iii. The leaflet specified in b (i) shall also inform the newly admitted students about their rights as bona fide students of the HEI and clearly instructing them the do's and don't's, with or against their will, even if ordered by the senior students, and that any attempt of ragging shall be promptly reported to the Anti- ragging Squad / Warden / Principal as the case may be.
- iv. The HEI shall try to make efforts for familiarizing freshly admitted students with senior students and may schedule orientation programs, cultural and sport activities so as to provide a platform for the newcomers as well as to interact with seniors in the presence of faculty members.
- v. The HEI may set up appropriate committees, including the course-in-charge, student advisor, Wardens and some senior students as its members, to actively monitor, promote and regulate healthy interaction between the freshers, junior students and senior students.
- vi. Freshers or any other student(s), whether being victims, or witnesses, in any incident of ragging, shall be encouraged to report such occurrence, and the identity of such informants shall be protected and shall not be subject to any adverse consequence only for the reason for having reported such incidents.
- vii. On being admitted in the HEI, the students shall be divided into small groups and each such group shall be assigned to a member of the faculty as their mentor, who shall interact individually with each member of the group for ascertaining the problems or difficulties. If necessary, the mentor is required to provide assistance to the fresher in overcoming the same.
- viii. The HEI shall ensure that access of seniors to accommodation allotted to freshers is strictly monitored by wardens, security guards and other staff of the HEI.
- ix. A round the clock vigil against ragging in the campus / hostel premises, in order to prevent ragging in the hostels after the classes are over, shall be ensured by the HEI.
- x. It shall be the responsibility of the parents/guardians of the newly admitted students to promptly bring any instance of ragging to the notice of the Principal.

Committees for prevention of Ragging at HEI level:

The HEI shall constitute the following bodies:

Anti-Ragging Committee to be nominated and headed by the Principal, and consisting of representatives of civil and police administration, local media, Non-Government Organizations involved in youth activities, representatives of faculty members, representatives of parents, representatives of students belonging to the freshers' category as well as senior students, non-teaching staff; and shall have a diverse mix of membership in terms of levels as well as gender. It shall be the duty of the Anti-Ragging

Committee to ensure compliance with the provisions of Anti ragging policy as well as the provisions of any law for the time being in force concerning ragging; and also to monitor and oversee the performance of the Anti-Ragging Squad in prevention of ragging in the HEI. The details are provided at Annexure 1.

- A smaller body to be known as the **Anti-Ragging Squad** to be nominated by the Principal with such representation as may be considered necessary for maintaining vigil, oversight and patrolling functions and shall remain mobile, alert and active at all times. Provided that the Anti-Ragging Squad shall have representation of various members of the campus community and shall have no outside representation.
- It shall be the duty of the Anti-Ragging Squad to be called upon to make surprise raids on hostels, and other places vulnerable to incidents of, and having the potential of, ragging and shall be empowered to inspect such places.
- It shall also be the duty of the Anti-Ragging Squad to conduct an on-the-spot enquiry into any incident of ragging referred to it by the Principal or any member of the faculty or any member of the staff or any student or any parent or guardian or any employee of a service provider or by any other person, as the case may be; and the enquiry report along with recommendations shall be submitted to the Anti-Ragging Committee for action.
- Provided that the Anti-Ragging Squad shall conduct such enquiry observing a fair and transparent procedure and the principles of natural justice and after giving adequate opportunity to the student or students accused of ragging and other witnesses to place before it the facts, documents and views concerning the incident of ragging, and considering such other relevant information as may be required.
- The HEI shall constitute a body to be known as **Monitoring Cell on Ragging**, which shall coordinate to achieve the objectives of these Rules; and the Monitoring Cell shall review reports from the Anti-ragging committee. The Monitoring Cell shall also review the efforts made by HEI to publicize anti-ragging measures, soliciting of affidavits from parents/guardians and from students, to abstain from ragging activities or willingness to be penalized for violations.
- The HEI shall undertake measures for extensive publicity against ragging by means of audio-visual aids, counselling sessions, workshops, competitions among students and such other measures, as it may deem fit.
- The faculty of the HEI and its non-teaching staff, which includes, but is not limited to the administrative staff, contractual employees, security guards etc. shall be sensitized towards the ills of ragging, its prevention and the consequences thereof.
- The HEI shall obtain an undertaking from all teaching and non-teaching members of staff, others employed in the premises that they would report promptly any case of ragging which comes to their notice.
- The HEI shall make a provision in the service rules of its employees for issuing certificates of appreciation to such members of the staff who report incidents of ragging, which will form part of their service record.

- Discreet random surveys shall be conducted amongst the newcomers every month during the first three months of the academic year to verify and cross-check whether the HEI is indeed free of ragging or not and for the purpose the HEI may design its own methodology of conducting such surveys.
- The HEI shall make an entry, apart from those relating to general conduct and behaviour, in the Transfer Certificate issued to the student while leaving the HEI, as to whether the student has been punished for committing or abetting an act of ragging, during his course of study in the HEI.
- It shall be the collective responsibility of all levels of authorities or functionaries including members of the faculty and employees of the HEI, whether regular or temporary, and employees of service providers providing service within the HEI, to prevent or to act promptly against the occurrence of ragging or any incident of ragging which comes to their notice.

Action to be taken by the Principal of the HEI

The Principal shall ascertain whether a case under the penal laws is made out immediately upon receiving the Anti-Ragging Squad's recommendation or upon receiving any information regarding any reported incident of ragging. If so, he or she shall proceed to file a First Information Report (FIR) with the police within twenty-four hours of receiving the recommendation or information, namely;

- Abetment to ragging;
- Criminal conspiracy to rag;
- Unlawful assembly and rioting while ragging;
- Public nuisance created during ragging;
- Violation of decency and morals through ragging;
- Injury to body, causing hurt or grievous hurt;
- Wrongful restraint;
- Wrongful confinement;
- Use of criminal force;
- Assault as well as sexual offences or unnatural offences;
- Extortion;
- Criminal trespass;
- Offences against property;
- Criminal intimidation;
- Attempts to commit any or all of the above-mentioned offences against the victim(s);
- Threat to commit any or all of the above-mentioned offences against the victim(s);

- Physical or psychological humiliation;
- All other offences following from the definition of "Ragging".

Provided that the Principal shall report the occurrence of the incident of ragging to the District Level Anti-Ragging Committee.

Furthermore, the HEI must move forward with its own investigation and other measures without waiting for the police or local authorities to take action. These corrective measures must be started right away and must be finished no later than seven days after the reported occurrence of the ragging incident.

Responsibilities of the Commission and the Councils (# which students should know)

- Any distress message received at the Anti-Ragging Helpline must be forwarded concurrently to the Principal, the Hostel Warden, the District Magistrate, and the Superintendent of Police. It must also be web enabled so that it is accessible to the public and the media at the same time.
- In response to the information obtained from the Anti-Ragging Helpline, the Principal is required to take urgent action.
- The HEI shall permit unrestricted access to mobile phones and public phones in hostels and campuses in order to enable students or anyone else to communicate with the Anti-Ragging Helpline, with the exception of classrooms, seminar halls, libraries, and any other locations where the HEI may deem it necessary to restrict the use of phones.

Administrative Action in the Event of Ragging

The HEI shall take action against a student found guilty of ragging after following the procedure and in the manner prescribed herein-under:

- i. Depending on the facts of each ragging occurrence and the nature and seriousness of the incident as determined by the Anti-Ragging Squad's recommendations, the Anti-Ragging Committee of the HEI shall make an appropriate decision about punishment or other measures.
- ii. The Anti-Ragging Committee may impose one or more of the following sanctions on persons found guilty, depending on the type and seriousness of the wrongdoing determined by the Anti-Ragging Squad., namely;
 - 1. Loss of academic rights and access to classes.
 - 2. Withholding/removing fellowships, scholarships, and other benefits.
 - 3. Being prohibited from taking any test, exam, or other evaluation process.
 - 4. Hiding outcomes.
 - 5. Being prohibited from representing the HEI at any youth festival, competition, or regional, national, or international event.
 - 6. Being suspended or expelled out of the hostel.

- 7. Refusal of entrance.
- 8. A period of one to four semesters of rustication from the HEI.
- 9. Expulsion from the HEI and a subsequent ban on enrollment at any other HEI for a predetermined time.
- 10. Imposing a fine.
- iii. An appeal against the order of punishment by the Anti-Ragging Committee shall lie with the Principal.

Where in the opinion of the appointing authority, a lapse is attributable to any member of the faulty or staff of the HEI, in the matter of reporting or taking prompt action to prevent an incident of ragging or who display an apathetic attitude towards complaints of ragging, or who fail to take timely steps, whether required under these Rules or otherwise, to prevent an incident or incidents of ragging, then such authority shall initiate departmental enquiry, in accordance with the prescribed procedure of the HEI, against such member of the faulty or staff.

Provided that where such lapse is attributable to the Principal, the authority designated to appoint such Head shall take such action.

Amendments

- The Institute shall examine its Anti-ragging Policy on a regular basis and change it as necessary to comply with national policies and directives issued by competent apex bodies.
- Pertaining to any contradiction in any Policy of the Institution, the later revised policy will take precedence.

Publication of Anti-ragging Policy

The Anti-ragging Policy shall be widely publicized to the Institute's stakeholders through all the possible means and prominently displayed on the Institutional Website to attract the attention of concerned stakeholders.

Important link:

- https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/9185290_Letter-for-uploading-on-UGC-website.pdf
- https://nludelhi.ac.in/download/antiragging/Ragging%20UGC%2027%20June%202019.pdf
- http://164.100.47.4/billstexts/lsbilltexts/asintroduced/325LS%20As%20Int....pdf
- https://www.ugc.ac.in/oldpdf/ragging/minuterag230409.pdf
- http://www.antiragging.in/
- http://www.antiragging.in/assets/pdf/annexure/Annexure-I-1st.pdf
- http://www.antiragging.in/assets/pdf/annexure/Annexure-I-2nd.pdf
- http://www.antiragging.in/assets/pdf/annexure/Annexure-I-3rd.pdf

Annexure 1:

SELF DECLARATION BY PARENTS/GUARDIANS

- I, Mr. / Mrs. / Ms. ______(Full name of Parents / Guardians in CAPITAL letters) Father / Mother / Guardian of Mr. / Ms. ______ (Full name of student in CAPITAL letters with Roll number) who has been admitted to Govt. Holkar (Model Autonomous) Science College, Indore have:
 - a) Been advised to read carefully and understand the Supreme Court Judgement on Ragging hosted in Website
 - b) Received a copy of the Essential Extracts of relevant Regulations on curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009,
 - c) Carefully read and fully understood the provisions contained there-in.
- 2) I have, in particular, understood Clause 3 of the relevant Regulations and am aware as to what constitutes ragging and the implications thereof.
- 3) I have also, in particular, understood Clause 7 and Clause 9.1 of the relevant Regulations and am fully aware of the penal and administrative actions that are liable to be taken against my ward in case he/she is found guilty of or abetting ragging, actively or passively, or being part of a conspiracy to promote ragging.
- 4) I hereby solemnly state and undertake that:
 - a) My ward will not indulge in any behavior or act that may be considered as ragging under Clause 3 of the relevant Regulations.
 - b) My ward will not participate in or abet or propagate through any act of commission or omission that may be considered as ragging under Clause 3 of the relevant Regulations.
- 5) I hereby affirm that, if found guilty of ragging, my ward is liable for punishment according to Clause 9.1 of the relevant Regulations, without prejudice to any other criminal action that may be taken against my ward under any penal law or any law for the time being in force.
- 6) I hereby declare that my ward has not been expelled or debarred from admission in any Institution in the country on account of being found guilty of, abetting or being part of a conspiracy to promote ragging, and further affirm that, in case this declaration is found to be untrue, my ward's admission is liable to be cancelled.

Name:

Address:

Signature of Father/Mother/Guardian Telephone / Mobile No.

SELF DECLARATION BY PARENTS/GUARDIAN

Verified that the contents of this self-declaration are true to the best of my knowledge and no part of the self- declaration is false and nothing has been concealed or misstated therein.

Place:

Date:

Signature of Father/Mother/Guardian

SELF DECLARATION BY THE STUDENT

- 1) I, ______(Full name of student in CAPITAL letters with ROLL NUMBER) S/o D/o Shri./ Smt. _____having been admitted to Govt. Holkar (Model, Autonomous) science College, Indore have:
 - a) Been advised to read carefully and understand the Supreme Court Judgement on Ragging hosted in Website.
 - b) Received a copy of the Essential Extracts of relevant Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions, 2009, (hereinafter called the relevant Regulation)
 - c) Carefully read and fully understood the provisions contained therein.
- 2) I have, in particular, understood Clause 3 of the relevant Regulations and am aware as to what constitutes ragging and the implications thereof.
- 3) I have also, in particular, understood Clause 7 and Clause 9.1 of the relevant Regulations and am fully aware of the penal and administrative actions that are liable to be taken against me in case I am found guilty of or abetting ragging, actively or passively, or being part of a conspiracy to promote ragging.
- 4) I hereby solemnly state and undertake that:
 - a) I will not indulge in any behavior or act that may be considered as ragging under Clause 3 of the relevant Regulations.
 - b) I will not participate in or abet or propagate through any act of commission or omission that may be considered as ragging under Clause 3 of the relevant Regulations.

- 5) I hereby affirm that, if found guilty of ragging, I am liable for punishment according to Clause 9.1 of the relevant Regulations, without prejudice to any other criminal action that may be taken against me under any penal law or any law for the time being in force.
- 6) I hereby declare that I have not been expelled or debarred from admission in any Institution in the country on account of being found guilty of abetting or being part of a conspiracy to promote ragging and further affirm that, in case this declaration is found to be untrue, I am aware that my admission is liable to be cancelled.

Place:	
Date:	Signature of Student Telephone/Mobile No:
Name:	
Address:	

SELF DECLARATION BY STUDENT

Verified that the contents of this self-declaration are true to the best of my knowledge and no part of the declaration is false and nothing has been concealed or misstated therein.

Place:

Date:

Signature of Student

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A policy document on "Anti-Ragging Policy" has been drafted under the guidance of an Expert Committee: Dr. Vishnu Gadgil (Convener), Dr. P. K. Sharma (Member), Dr. Anamika Jain (Member), Ms. Ranjeeta Prajapati (Staff member), Ms. Kavita Bakawle (Staff Member), Mr. Harshvardhan Thakur (Student member), Ms. Matrka Bohra (Student Member).

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IQAC acknowledges and appreciates the efforts made by the Expert Committee and all others in preparing this document.

Dr. Bijendra Rai Coordinator, NAAC **Dr. Nagesh Dagaonkar** Coordinator, IQAC

