

# राष्ट्रीय आयुर्विज्ञान आयोग

## National Medical Commission

स्नातकोत्तर चिकित्सा शिक्षा बोर्ड  
Post Graduate Medical Education Board (PGMEB)

F.No. NMC-23(1)(136)/2022/Med//PG (Part.II) ०००५५५-५४ Dated: ०६-०१-२०२३

### ORDER

WHEREAS Mrs. Juhi Pradeep Bhambhani, mother of Dr. Anmol Bhambhani, 1<sup>st</sup> year student of MS (General Surgery), Shri Vasantnao Naik Government Medical College (SVNGMC), Yavatmal, Maharashtra had submitted a complaint dated 23.08.2022 to the Dean of the College regarding the physical and mental harassment being faced by her son. As per Mrs. Bhambhani, the JR-1 were not allowed to go to their hostel rooms even if there is no OPD or work in wards as a result they were not able to get proper sleep or bathe. The JR-1 students were kept standing by JR-3 students all through the night and were made to write reports stooping on low tables. Further, if any JR-1 was found dozing, the JR-3 pulls his hair and douses water on his/ her face. Mrs. Juhi bhambhani further mentioned that due to above circumstances her son developed Cellulites in his left which got worsened to severe form of varicose veins, i.e. Class 4 Varicose Veins, for which the Institute itself asked him to take further treatment. He undertook Endo Vascular Laser Ablation (EVLA) surgery on 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 in Nagpur and was advised for 6 weeks rest and follow ups. The JR-1 were also threatened with dire consequences such as denial of entry to operation theatres and learning of surgical skills, failure in internal exams, etc. and therefore, they were so scared to voice what they are facing.

2. WHEREAS Mrs. Bhambhani also lodged complaint to central helpline Anti Ragging Cell, New Delhi (Complaint No. MH\_0037) and Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Nashik.

3. WHEREAS the College took immediate action and 5 suspected accused JR-3 were suspended from clinical and educational duties on 24.08.2022. The matter was also handed over to the Anti-Ragging Committee of the College, which conducted a detailed enquiry and submitted their report on 2.9.2022. They did not find any **strong evidence** of ragging and case was closed **without informing the complainant** and suspension of 5 suspected accused JR-3 was revoked. Complainant Dr Anmol Bhambhani was informed of the outcome of the ragging complainant **on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022**.

4. WHEREAS Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Nashik, on receipt of the complaint, constituted an independent Anti-ragging Committee. The Committee visited the College on 29.08.2022 and after conducting enquiry submitted their report dated 30.08.2022. The Committee also did not found any proof of ragging. The University had placed the enquiry reports of both the College and the University in the University level Anti-Ragging and monitoring committee's meeting held on 21.09.2022. Since no substantial evidence was found in the allegations of the complainant student, the enquiry reports were accepted and the



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complaint disposed of by the University. However, the University has submitted a resolution dated 29.09.2022 containing instructions for improvement of the working environment to College to avoid incidents of ragging in future.

5. WHEREAS the complaint filed by Mrs. Bhambhani was spread over the social media. Also an anonymous complaint of similar nature was filed in the College before Mrs. Bhambhani filed her complaint.

6. WHEREAS the complaint was discussed in the Anti-Ragging Committee meeting of the National Medical Commission held on 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 wherein it was decided to hold a virtual meeting with the Dean of the College and the aggrieved student.

7. WHEREAS a virtual meeting with the Dean and the student was held by the Anti-Ragging Committee of this Commission on 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 and SVNGMC had vide letter dated 21.10.2022 furnished the documents/ comments on the points raised by the Commission. However, the Committee did not find the justifications provided by the College satisfactory and it was decided in the Anti-Ragging Committee meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 that a three member team led by Dr. Yogender Malik, Member (EMRB) will visit the College to look into the matter.

8. WHEREAS a team from National Medical commission led by Dr. Yogender Malik, Member (EMRB), visited the College on 5.12.2022. The team met all the students of 3 batches of MS (General Surgery) and took their comments/ views on the ragging and related issues. The students were of the view that **earlier the working environment was toxic but now the conditions have improved**. The team also met Mrs. Juhi Bhambhani, who intimated that she was happy with the improvements made by the College after receipt of her complaint and **did not want to press for any punitive measures against the JR-3**.

9. WHEREAS the team submitted its report wherein it was recommended that taking into account all the factors and circumstances of the cases, complaint may be closed. However, an advisory should be issued to the College to the effect that any future complaints of similar nature will be viewed very seriously by the Commission and action as per Regulation 18 of the National Medical Commission (Prevention and Prohibition of Ragging in Medical colleges and Institutions) Regulation, 2021 may be taken by the Commission. The report of the team was accepted by the Anti- Ragging Committee in its meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022. Accordingly, Shri Vasantnao Naik Government Medical College, Yavatmal, Maharashtra is directed to ensure that Dr. Anmol Bhambhani is not discriminated for raising ragging complaint and also make the working conditions of the students more conducive and any future complaints of ragging from the students of the College would be viewed very seriously by the Commission.

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Further, it is felt that the matter could have been handled in a better way by the college authorities if the following course of actions may have been followed by the college:

- I. Anonymous complaint received in the college on similar issue would have been taken seriously by thoroughly investigating the allegations made in complaint including on the spot or site enquiry instead of just taking the written and oral statements of JR-1 as per the Regulation 22 and 23 of the National Medical Commission (Prevention and Prohibition of Ragging in Medical colleges and Institutions) Regulation, 2021
  - II. Mentoring and providing moral support to the junior students including the complainant and keeping the complainant informed of the action taken on the complaint. Regulation 7 to 14 of the National Medical Commission (Prevention and Prohibition of Ragging in Medical colleges and Institutions) Regulation, 2021 may kindly be referred in this regard.
10. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.



(Aujender Singh)

Deputy Secretary (PGMEB) and  
Member Secretary, Anti Ragging Cell

Encl; As above

To  
The Dean  
Shri Vasantnao Naik Government Medical College  
Yavatmal - 445001

Copy for information to:-

1. The Registrar, Maharashtra University of Health Sciences, Nashik, Maharashtra
2. DME, Maharashtra
3. Dr. Anmol Bhambhani, PG student, Shri Vasantnao Naik Government Medical College, Yavatmal, Maharashtra