

TRIPURA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
KUNJABAN : AGARTALA

COMPLAINT NO. 99 OF 2024

**Society Against Violence in Education,
represented by Mr. Rupesh Kr. Jha**

..... **Complainant,**

Vs

- 1. The Principal, Agartala Government Medical College
(AGMC), Tripura,**
- 2. The Superintendent of Police, West Tripura, Agartala,**
- 3. The Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department,
Govt. of Tripura, Agartala.**
- 4. The District Magistrate & Collector, West Tripura,
Agartala.**

..... **respondents.**

FINAL ORDER

Dated 24.06.2025

On 31.12.2024, a complaint has been received through email sent by one Rupesh Kar Jha on behalf of one Society Against Violence and Education, a Government registered NGO, having email ID legaldesk@no2ragging.org. The complaint was filed against Professor Anup Kumar Saha, the Principal, Tripura Govt. Medical College,(AGMC) Kunjaban, West Tripura, Pin 799006, the Superintendent of Police, West Tripura, the Secretary, Health and

Family Welfare Department, Gurkhabasti, Agartala and the District Magistrate & Collector, West Tripura.

2. The Complainant is a Society Against Violence and Education is non-governmental Organization (NGO), registered under Govt. of India and is actively working in the field of eradicating ragging from educational institutions across the country. The organization handled multiple cases, with a notable one being the case involving Tripura Medical College and Dr. B.R.A.M. Teaching Hospital, which resulted in the filing of an FIR against 18 accused students. The state of Tripura has a stringent anti-ragging law known as the Tripura Educational Institution (Prevention of Ragging) Act, which stipulated a punishment of imprisonment for a term extending to four years, or a fine, or both. According to this act, ragging offenses are cognizable and non-bailable. On 7th November 2024, the complainant's Society through its Victim Support Division received a distressing message from an anonymous source, where a female student of first-year MBBS of AGMC, Tripura made the communication stating that senior from the 2nd & 3rd years called them to the girl's hostel and ragged them, abused them, and humiliated them. So, the student sought help from the organization saying that, if no help was rendered, then suicide would be the only option. The complainant NGO immediately responded to the anonymous message and advised the victim to file a complaint on the UGC-operated anti-ragging helpline (Ref. No. TR-0008). She was further advised to change her

hostel accommodation for safety reasons. It was mentioned in the complaint that Principal of AGMC had failed to take action in accordance with Clause 22.2 of the National Medical Commission Anti-Ragging Act, 2021, which mandates filing of an FIR within 24 hours of receiving information about ragging or a recommendation from the Anti-Ragging Committee or Squad.

3. That the principal has neglected to fulfill the statutory duty of filing an FIR under the Tripura Educational Institution (Prevention of Ragging) Act, 1990, and by failing to do so, has committed an offense under Section 198 and 212 of BNS, 2023.

4. It was mentioned that according to data provided by National Anti-Ragging Helpline, out of 8 complaints filed in the last two years from Tripura, 4 were related to AGMC and that started a systemic issue of ragging at the institution. The matter was reported widely in local media, with one such incident published in Tripura Info on 12th November 2024. The article revealed that junior students of AGMC were subjected to inhumane ragging practices, such as being forced to gaze at the sky or moon for long hours without moving their faces. Any deviation from that position resulted in corporal punishment, including slapping. Such practices demoralized the students and create an environment of fear and psychological trauma. Despite complaint being filed with both the Principal (Dr. Anup Kumar Saha) and the Medical Superintendent (Dr. Tapan Majumder), no action has been taken against the senior students responsible for ragging. It

is alleged that the authorities have fully avoided addressing the issue and thereby violated the rights of the students under the anti-ragging laws.

5. In the light of the allegation above, the complainant prays to direct the principal of AGMC to file an FIR immediately under the Tripura Educational Institution (Prevention of Ragging) Act, 1990, call for all the records related to the handling of complaints bearing ref. No. TR-0003, TR-0005, and TR-0008 which were reported in the last two years. The complainant also prays to inquire into the most recent complaint reference number TR 0008 of ragging and ensuring that the accused students are held accountable. The complainant also prays for giving a direction to Govt. of Tripura or any competent authority to register an FIR against the respondent No. 1 (Principle) for his failure to lodge an FIR and for recommending the implementation of measures to prevent ragging and protect the rights of students in educational institutions across Tripura.

6. The Commission sent copies of the complaint to the respondents, the Principle AGMC, the SP, West Tripura, the Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, the DM & collector, West Tripura for their comments in writing against the complaint.

7. Pursuant to that order, a response was furnished from the office of the DGP, Tripura sent by AIGP(Crime), by which he enclosed a report of the SDPO, NCC P.S. The Principal, AGMC also submitted a separate response. The response as received from the DGP, Tripura

by attaching the report of SDPO, NCC P.S, West Tripura, Agartala shows that the matter was inquired into and it transpired that in the month of September 2024, first year MBBS students were admitted at AGMC for pursuing medical course. During inquiry, the Inquiry Officers examined Smt. Gopa Dey, in-charge of Girl's Hostel, AGMC regarding the complaint/allegation of ragging on first year MBBS students by senior students of 2nd year and 3rd year in the form of abusing, humiliation etc. in AGMC and also examined as many as 10 students of 1st year MBBS giving the details of them, including the name and mobile number of those students. It was also revealed but, no such activities were found at AGMC & GBP hospital and no such allegation was raised against the senior students. The students discussed the issue with their batch mates, but none of them submitted any complaint before the college authority or any other authorities

8. In the course of inquiry, on examination of the Principal in-charge of AGMC, namely, Professor Dr. Biplab Nath, it was learnt that after receiving the complaint vide No. TR-0008 the Principal AGMC Dr. Anup Kumar Saha, Faculty Members, Warden and Security Personnel visited the boys & girls hostel of AGMC to inquire about the complaint. They also examined the students, who were available at that time, but could not find any such incident and nobody came forward to disclose about the online complaint. However, a meeting of anti ragging squad was ready in the office

chamber of the Principal, AGMC on 12.11.2024 at about 11:00 hrs and the meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Professor (Dr.) Anup Kumar Saha and they discussed if any such complaint was found against any student. It was decided that in the event of detection of any such incident FIR would be lodged and anti-ragging committee would take strict action as per rule and regulation, of NMC/UGC guidelines. Student council members including class representatives were directed to report to the authority if any kind of ragging activity was noticed in AGMC & GBP hospital. On 14.11.2024 at about 12:00 hrs also another meeting of anti-ragging was held at AGM. On 20.11.2024 the Principal AGMC, Prof. (Dr.) Anup Saha sent a report with minutes of the meeting in reference to the complaint No. TR-0008 to the Supervisor of anti-ragging helpline, University grant Commission, net bureau. Thus it is clear from the report of the police that the allegations of the complaint did not appear to be true so that an FIR can be lodged.

9. The Principal AGMC & GBP Hospital also submitted a report saying that no such incident happened related to AGMC. There was no specific complaint, whenever the authority got the complaint, took necessary steps and replied to anti-ragging helpline UGC who were satisfied with their report and that report was tagged along with this response as annexure-A. It was specifically state that since they did not find any evidence in support of the complaint, they did not file any FIR. On receipt of anonymous call the Principal & members of

Anti-Ragging Squad and other faculty members along with security personnel visited the spot immediately and found nothing as mentioned in the complaint. They interacted with different students, warden, security personnel of the hostel and they were satisfied that no such incidents took place. Accordingly, no FIR was made. The allegation in the complaint is totally wrong and *mala fide* and those sorts of accusation should be condemned. Thorough investigations were done but the complaint was not found justified.

10. The responses as received from AGMC & GBP hospital and from the DGP, Tripura were sent to the complainant through his email for his response. The complainant also submitted response mentioning that the complaint No. 99 of 2024 is currently pending before this Commission regarding ragging and harassment of the first year MBBS students of AGMC. The complainant further prays for postponement of the next hearing date fixed on 19.05.2025 and mentioned that core issue pertaining to safety, well being and dignity of the first years students currently residing in the hostel of AGMC. Delay in resolution could result in further trauma, silence, fear among the affected students and parents.

11. Record shows that a response was also submitted by the DM & Collector, West Tripura by which it was mentioned that the matter has been enquired by constituting a team headed by Addl. SDM along with two others namely Aninda Chakraborty, DCM and Kaushik Das, LDC of Sadar Sub-Division. Inquiry report was

enclosed to this Commission for perusal. Commission also perused the same. That report shows that during inquiry the fact of the complaint does not appear to be true.

12. After careful perusal of the responses received from the Principal AGMC & GBP hospital, the report of the DGP, Tripura and report the DM & Collector, West Tripura, the allegation of the complainant does not appear to be justified, rather it appears that no student of AGMC has come forward to lodge allegation and as such the allegation of the complainant is found frivolous, false and unjustified. As such the Commission considers that there is no need of further inquiry of this matter.

13. Accordingly, the complaint petition is thus disposed of with findings that the complaint has got no merit.

Inform all concerned.



(Justice Arindam Lodh)
Chairperson



(U. Choudhuri)
Member