

THE COCHIN COLLEGE Koovapadam, Kochi-2 Affiliated To Mahatma Gandhi University Re-accredited by NAAC With B+ Grade

Fourth Cycle NAAC Accreditation 2024



Criterion 5 Student Support and Progression

5.1 - Student Support

Metric No. 5.1.4

The institution adopts the following for redressal of student grievances including sexual harassment and ragging cases: Implementation of guidelines of statutory/regulatory bodies, Organisation wide awareness and undertakings on policies with zero tolerance, Mechanisms for submission of online/offline students' grievances, Timely redressal of the grievances through appropriate committees

Mechanisms for submission of online/offline students' grievances





National Assessment and Accreditation Council



KOCHI - 682 002 (Affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University and Accredited by NAAC)

Website: www.thecochincollege.edu.in

email: email@thecochincollege.edu.in

Introduction

At The Cochin College, we are deeply committed to create a safe and supportive environment where every student can thrive. To uphold this commitment, we have established clear and accessible mechanisms for students to report any grievances related to ragging and sexual harassment. These mechanisms ensure that every student knows how to seek help and that their concerns are addressed with the seriousness they deserve. Below is an overview of the internal and external avenues available to students at The Cochin College for reporting these issues.

1 Internal Mechanism

1.1 Grievance Redressal Committees at The Cochin College

• Internal Complaints Committee (ICC):

- Purpose: The Internal Complaints Committee at The Cochin College is dedicated to addressing complaints
 of sexual harassment within the campus. This committee is a safe and confidential resource for students to
 report incidents and seek justice.
- Process: Students who experience sexual harassment can report the incident to the ICC either in person or through an online platform or email. The committee is responsible for conducting a prompt and thorough investigation and taking appropriate actions to resolve the issue.
- Confidentiality: The privacy of all involved parties is strictly protected throughout the investigation, ensuring that students can come forward without fear of exposure or retaliation.

• Anti-Ragging Committee:

- Purpose: The Anti-Ragging Committee at The Cochin College is focused on preventing and addressing any instances of ragging on campus. Our goal is to maintain a welcoming and respectful environment for all students, especially those new to our college.
- Process: Students can report ragging incidents through multiple channels—whether by speaking directly to
 a committee member, sending an email, or using our online reporting system. The committee acts swiftly to
 investigate and, if necessary, enforce disciplinary measures to prevent future occurrences.
- Awareness: The Cochin College regularly organizes campaigns and educational sessions to ensure all students understand the severe consequences of ragging and know how to report it.





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1.2 Reporting Channels at The Cochin College

- Online Portals: We provide a user-friendly online portal where students can easily report grievances related to ragging and sexual harassment from the privacy and safety of their devices.
 - Link to Anti-Ragging Cell: Click here
 - Link to Internal Complaints Committee: Click here
 - Link to Grievance Redressal Committee: Click here
- Email and Hotline Numbers: Dedicated email addresses and hotline numbers are available for students to report issues. These channels are monitored regularly to ensure timely responses.
- **Suggestion Boxes:** For those who prefer to remain anonymous, suggestion boxes are placed in accessible areas around the campus, allowing students to report concerns discreetly.

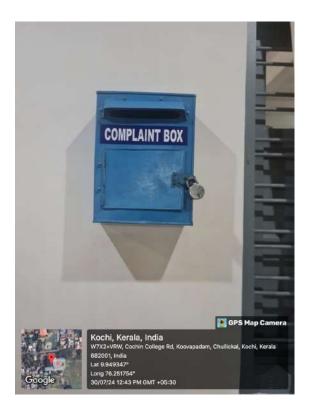


Figure 1: Complaint Box installed in Main building







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Figure 2: Complaint Box installed in Annexe

1.3 Counseling and Support Services at The Cochin College

- **Confidential Counseling:** The Cochin College has a student Councelling Centre which offers the service of a professional councillor. It offers confidential counseling services to support students who have been affected by ragging or sexual harassment. These services provide a safe space for students to express their feelings and receive professional help.
- Legal and Medical Assistance: If needed, the college helps students access legal advice and medical services, ensuring they receive comprehensive support.



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Figure 3: Department Specific Meetings(Annexe)



Figure 4: Department Specific Meetings(Main Block)

2 External Mechanism

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2.1 Police and Legal Reporting

- Filing an FIR: In cases of severe ragging or sexual harassment, students at The Cochin College have the option to file a First Information Report (FIR) with the local police. The college is ready to assist any student who chooses to take this legal route, ensuring they are supported throughout the process.
- Legal Assistance: The college can connect students with legal professionals who can guide them through the

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2.2 External Bodies and Helplines

- UGC Anti-Ragging Helpline: The University Grants Commission (UGC) operates a national anti-ragging helpline that is available 24/7. Students can use this helpline to report ragging incidents, and their complaints will be forwarded to the relevant authorities within The Cochin College for immediate action. The UGC Anti-Ragging Helpline number is 1800-180-5522.
- Kerala State Legal Services Authority (KELSA): KELSA provides free legal services and assistance to students facing issues related to ragging and sexual harassment. Students can approach KELSA for guidance and support in legal matters.
- M.G. University Anti-Ragging Cell: Students can also reach out to the Anti-Ragging Cell of Mahatma Gandhi University for additional support and intervention in cases of ragging. The cell coordinates with institutions to ensure strict compliance with anti-ragging regulations and provides a platform for students to voice their concerns.

2.3 Higher Educational Authorities

- University Grievance Cell: If a student feels that their grievance has not been adequately addressed at The Cochin College, they can escalate the issue to the university-level grievance cell, which will review the complaint and take necessary action.
- State and Central Education Departments: For unresolved grievances, students can approach the State or Central Education Departments, which can intervene to ensure that appropriate measures are taken.

The Cochin College has established both internal and external mechanisms to ensure that students have multiple, accessible ways to report grievances related to ragging and sexual harassment. Internally, committees like the ICC and Anti-Ragging Committee are dedicated to resolving these issues swiftly and fairly, while external mechanisms provide additional layers of protection and legal recourse. With the inclusion of the UGC Anti-Ragging Helpline, KELSA, and M.G. University's Anti-Ragging Cell, students at The Cochin College are supported by a comprehensive network of resources designed to maintain a safe and respectful academic environment.



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