



Report on the Workshop on *Ragging Free Campus* Organised on 18.07.18 at the Convocation Hall, Bharathidasan by Anti Ragging Cell of Bharathidasan University.

Anti-Ragging Cell, Bharathidasan University Organised a Workshop on **Ragging Free campus** on 18.07.18 inviting Anti Ragging District Nodal Officers of affiliated colleges, Students and scholars other than first year students of the University Departments.

**Prof. N.Manimekalai, Director and Head, Department of Women's Studies** welcomed the gathering. She underlined the need for ensuring the University Campus, ragging and sexual harassment free. Ragging and sexual harassment has a very thin line to differentiate, as some of the aspects of ragging do contribute to sexual harassment and vice versa. The persons affected by ragging suffer from psychological illness and in extreme cases, lead to suicides. Hence such menace must be curbed in the interest of protecting the students particularly the fresher to have a congenial and harmonious environment where they must feel ease and comfortable. She appreciated the organizers for inviting **Dr. A. Amal Raj Police Commissioner Tiruchirappalli City** who is a right choice to talk about the anti-ragging and other such aspects related to the protection of students.

**Dr. G. Gopinath, Registrar, Bharathidasan University**, in his presidential address, appreciated and thanked the Anti-Ragging cell of Bharathidasan University for organizing such workshop. He joined with Students to declare Bharathidasan University as a **Ragging free campus**. He advocated that the senior students must be hero not zero to express their warmth to receive the first year students with all hospitality and to support and disseminate and share the kind of facilities available, offer comfort to as how to adapt to new environment etc. The heroism is to obey and adhere the law and to protect people which the seniors will do here in the campus. He held that the Bharathidasan University will have ARC shut as there will not be any such cases reported in the campus.

The chief guest of the workshop was **Dr. A. Amalraj, Commissioner of Police Tiruchirappalli**, who held that the UGC and other institutions insist and provided guidelines to initiate Anti Ragging Cell to protect the interest of the students. **Dr. Amalraj**, stressing the importance of making campuses ragging-free, he asked the educational institutions to carry out a campaign to sensitize students against the menace and the punishment envisaged as per law. He also underlined, that the ill-advised practice could no longer be followed in educational institutions. It was important for students to know about the consequences of ragging, eve-teasing and other forms of harassing fellow students. Educational institutions should take effective steps to check the practice. He further advocated that the senior students should be educated on the provisions of anti-ragging laws and the educational institutions to mentor and develop a positive attitude which would make them to dream big.

**Prof. N.Maniekalai, Director and Head, Department of Women's Studies, Bharathidasan University** and Chairperson of Internal Complaints Committee to prevent sexual harassment, offered an orientation to the participants on the Sexual Harassment (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013 and the existence of Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) and its functions, contacts etc to prevent sexual harassment at workplaces.

Earlier, the posters were released with Anti Ragging messages where the Chief Guest and other dignitaries had participated.

**Dr. P. Masilamani, the Nodal Officer of the Anti-Ragging Cell**, proposed the vote of thanks and organized the Workshop on Anti-Ragging free campus.