

Printed from

THE TIMES OF INDIA

JU student files ragging complaint after row over quality of hostel food

TNN | Nov 30, 2023, 07.12 AM IST



KOLKATA: A postgraduate student of Jadavpur University has filed a ragging complaint after allegedly facing "mental torture and abuse" following an altercation over the quality of food served at the hostel.

This is the fourth ragging complaint at the university this year. In August, a first-year undergraduate student fell to his death from the Main Boys' Hostel, leading to the arrest of six current and six former students. Two other ragging complaints, one each from the arts and engineering departments, were made on the UGC helpline in October.

ACCOMMODATION OPTION SOUGHT

➤ A fresher, who was subjected to ragging, died after a fall from a balcony of the Main Hostel on August 9

➤ In October, 2 new cases were reported on UGC helpline

➤ This is the fourth complaint



The student, who was a boarder at Main Hostel, has requested for an alternative accommodation

In the latest case, the first-year PG student, who is the mess convener, sent a complaint to the dean of arts alleging he was being mentally tortured and threatened by some boarders of the Main Boys' Hostel over the quality of food.

"I am a victim of the ragging culture in the Main Hostel," he said in his letter and added that some of the boarders were harassing him over "the size of the fish served and the consistency of the dal". "They abused me in filthy language... they made offensive gestures. These things have become unbearable," he said and requested accommodation inside the campus since "he felt unsafe in the Main Hostel".

The student, who hails from Bankura, told TOI: "My family had warned me before taking admission at this university but I insisted that it was my dream to study here. But given what has happened, I don't know where to stay. I will definitely not return to that hostel." JU's officiating vicechancellor Buddhadeb Sau said a complaint had been received and a probe ordered. "We are looking into the matter," he said.

The complaint has been forwarded to the chairperson of the anti-ragging committee. Police said they were waiting to hear from the JU antiragging committee. "The UGC mandates that the institution will have to file an FIR with the police whenever a case of ragging is reported but continue with its own inquiry. We will decide on the legal action depending on the merits of the case. Though we are aware of the complaint, nothing has reached us officially," said an officer of Jadavpur police division.