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First-year undergraduate student death: JU informs ragging guilty of their penalties

A JU official said they informed 17 students that they had been 'rusticated for one semester' and expelled from JU hostels permanently

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Jadavpur University File image

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- **f**)Jadavpur University on Friday let the individual students know about the
- quantum of punishment depending on their degree of involvement in ragging a first-year undergraduate student hours before his death last year.
- (D)
- The step was taken after a section of students staged a 28-hour protest against the authorities' alleged failure to act against the offenders.

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A JU official said they informed 17 students that they had been "rusticated for one semester" and expelled from JU hostels permanently.

The anti-ragging committee had said that these students have been "directly associated" with abetment to ragging.

Action could not be taken against the five students against whom the committee recommended that they be "rusticated for four semesters" and "expelled from JU hostel permanently" because they were directly associated with the criminal conspiracy, as they have moved court, said a JU official.

Six JU students, former and present, who have been identified as "raggers" and four JU students who have been described as being "fully involved in ragging" are outside the remit of punishment as they are in judicial custody.

A JU official said: "Altogether 15 students, which include the five against whom the committee recommended that they be rusticated for four semesters and expelled from JU hostel permanently, have moved court. The remaining ten are the ones against whom the committee recommend that they too be rusticated for one semester and expelled from JU hostels permanently. The court will announce its decision on the fate of these students on October 14".

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Indranuj Ray, a member of the platform called Left Unity Against Ragging which staged the protest against the alleged inaction, said they started the protest as the VC did not take steps to issue the letters to the offenders despite promising them that the exercise would be undertaken by September 25.

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