
	<p>SRI DEVARAJ URS ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION & RESEARCH</p> <p>SRI DEVARAJ URS MEDICAL COLLEGE Tamaka, Kolar</p> <p>Department of Student Welfare</p>	
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Arrangements for Safety of Students On and Off Campus at Sri Devaraj Urs Academy of Higher Education and Research

1. Introduction:

Sri Devaraj Urs Academy of Higher Education and Research (SDUAHER) is committed to provide a safe, secure and cohesive learning environment for its students and so as to safeguard them against attacks, threats and accidents. Accordingly, SDUAHER has made provisions in its policies, procedures and statutes to ensure safety of the students.

2. Safety of Students on Campus:

In order to ensure all round safety of the students, SDUAHER has incorporated full proof arrangements through adopting certain best practices and standard operating procedures. The salient features of the safety net for the students are as under:

- a) The campus is secured by a high perimeter boundary wall reinforced with barbed wire to prevent any unauthorized entry into the campus.
- b) Entry to the in-campus housing units including hostels are access controlled and manned by security personnel with a strict documentation protocol in place. Accesses to such areas are monitored by CCTV cameras to overcome any possible human error. Identity verification mechanism and register of unknown entrants/visitors with their identity proofs and contact details is in place. Women security personnel are also deployed for any possible security check/frisking of a woman visitor. Deployment of metal detectors has been arranged to prevent entry of any hidden weapon.
- c) Presence of a student in the class or in the hostel is monitored through biometric devices which also helps in keeping an eye on a student's movement.
- d) Students and staff are required to wear ID cards on their person and produce the same at various entry points (College, Library, Hostel etc.).
- e) In case of any urgency a student can contact the Nodal Officers whose phone numbers are prominently displayed at frequently visited areas like canteens, hostels, college building and notice boards. There is a mechanism in place to promptly respond to any adverse events viz. ragging, sexual harassment, grievances and so on. Students have the option to reach and lodge complaints to the Head of the Institution or the Nodal /

Concerned persons for any untoward incident faced by them. The Academy has taken all the measures as envisaged under the statutory provisions of curbing the Menace of Ragging in Higher Educational Institutions as per UGC Regulations.

- f) Patrolling of the campus by security personnel round the clock ensures safety of the students. Vehicle with escorts are provided to students to reach places of public transport during odd hours. Security arrangements are scaled up during cultural or sports activities conducted in the campus.
- g) The Academy has a zero tolerance policy on any kind of discrimination - verbal or behavioural, based on the caste, religion, colour, nationality, sex, gender and committed to invoke the provisions contained in UGC Regulations, 2012 (Promotion of Equity in Higher Education Institutions). Such rules are strictly required to be observed by the teaching & non-teaching staff, Students and other stakeholders alike in letter and spirit.
- h) In the event of any kind of emergency or dangerous situation within the campus or in the close vicinity that poses an immediate threat to the health and safety of campus community members. In order to ensure that campus community receives timely, accurate, and useful information an emergency message can be sent via email, cell phone and text messaging within minutes of the occurrence of an incident by Head of the Institution

The Academy takes all necessary steps to ensure that these systems are adequately tested and publicized for efficacious execution.

- i) A “Students Counselling System” has been put in place involving students, teachers and parents, resolved to address common student concerns viz. anxiety, stress, fear etc. arising out of homesickness, under performance in academics, fear of unknown etc. This platform serves as a link between the students and the institution and transcends the formal channels of communication. Teacher counsellors/mentors act as guardians of students at the college level and remain in close touch with the students throughout their course catering to their emotional and intellectual needs. Students as well as parents not only obtain valuable inputs and feedback from such counsellors/mentors regarding their attendance, and academic performance but also counselling with respect to their possible academic growth path. Mentors in unison with the wardens of hostels keep a track of the behaviour of such students and thereby enabled to initiate prompt pre-emptive or corrective action as deemed appropriate. The Academy also organizes quarterly parents-teachers meet (PTM) so as to address grievances and gaps in the prevailing system promptly.
- j) Medical facilities including emergency facilities are available to the students 24X7 through the tertiary care teaching hospital located in the campus.
- k) The Institution has a fire safety system in place with mechanisms for the detection, early warning and automated response besides Standard Operating Procedures for the control of any possible fire hazard. Moreover, students and staff are trained in the

effective operation of fire fighting equipment. Mock drills for fire situation are undertaken periodically.

- l) As disasters, whether natural or manmade can happen anywhere and anytime, the students are made aware about disaster management through workshops and mock drills as mandated by UGC.
- m) Workshops are periodically organised on cyber security, prevention of cyber-crime, personal safety and security where experts in the related field's viz. police personnel, Government Officials and other experts are invited. Training for women students and staff on self-defence is also imparted through tie-ups with training institutions / NGOs from time to time. They are not only trained to react appropriately when faced with assault or aggression but also on strategies like awareness, risk reduction and risk avoidance. Special initiatives have been taken to organize several programs on women empowerment, sexual harassment and gender sensitization.
- n) The Academy ensures that proper hygienic and quality standards are strictly observed not only in the mess of hostels and canteens. A regular surveillance is kept on the wholesomeness and potability of water being supplied in the campus.
- o) The Institution has a Code of Conduct for students which is displayed on the institutional websites. A reference to such document is also made in prospectus of the Institution.

3. Safety of the students while attending a conference/ sports or cultural meets/ Academic trips etc.

The Institution encourages students to present papers in conferences, participate in activities of sports and cultural events organised at other colleges at state or national level and to attend off-campus academic events. Prior permission from the parents are obtained while sending out students for such activities. Before embarking on such a tour the students are properly briefed about the travel plan, itinerary, topography, climate, hazards and risks in details as well as the required response to be adopted while facing any danger. As the safety and security of the students is of prime concern of the Academy, it deputed teachers including a lady teacher to accompany such entourage of students. Students are also asked to share their mobile numbers and e-mail ID before leaving for off-campus location. In addition, during off-campus stay the students are urged to remain in frequent touch with their parents / guardians. This would also facilitate casualty handling and communication in the event of an emergency.