

# 7.1.8 Institutional efforts/initiatives in providing an inclusive environment i.e., tolerance and harmony towards cultural, regional, linguistic, communal socio-economic and other diversities

RAGAS is a Telugu minority institution with a clear mission: to educate and develop quality dentists with the necessary skills and knowledge to serve society. Furthermore, because the institute attracts students from all walks of life, it takes great care to provide a nurturing environment where best standards in training and boarding are followed. The institute has established a culture that is devoid of ragging and supports an inclusive atmosphere in which persons of various cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds can thrive.

Some of the most important initiatives done in this direction are listed below.

## Academic Support:

The Institute provides academic support to all students to ensure that they have the best chance of succeeding. Flexible pacing, English coaching classes, mentorship programmes, and tutoring are all available to students who have trouble communicating in English or who have English as a second language. The institute has grievance redressal units that deal with complaints without regard to a person's race or cultural background.

The institute has a code of ethics for students and a second code of ethics for professors and other staff, both of which must be adhered to by all personnel, regardless of their cultural, geographical, language, communal socioeconomic, or other differences.

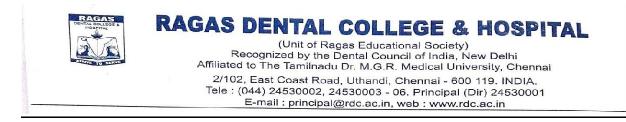
#### **Cultural Activities:**

The institution hosts programmes on a regular basis to celebrate cultural variety and to encourage teachers and students to appreciate it. Various sports and cultural events held at the college encourage unity among students. In the college, commemorative days such as Women's Day, Yoga Day, and Cancer Day are observed, as well as several regional festivals such as Pongal, Christmas, Ayudha puja and Ramzan. A separate room has been alloted for the Muslim students to do Namaz every Friday and also during fasting days of Ramzan. This creates opportunities for people of all racial and cultural origins to engage positively.

#### **Socio-Economic Participation:**

Through the following initiatives, the institute hopes to improve student and teacher integration and appreciation of various socio-economic groups:

To boost volunteer activities, we make a visit to a nearby old age home.



Participation in community-oriented and rural development projects to improve interaction with and assistance to the local community.

### **Promote a Positive Classroom Climate:**

Faculty should attend the classroom 10 minutes ahead of time and greet students as they enter. Face-to-face contacts enable people to express their concerns and challenges. This favourable environment has aided the institution in developing an affectionate attachment among its students, regardless of races, socioeconomic origins, or educational readiness.

## **Create a Respectful Institutional Community:**

In order to provide patient care in distant locations, satellite facilities have been built. For the convenience of patients, buses run frequently from the college to the institute. Oral screening of children is frequently organized during school camps in order to give preventive and interventional dental care. A tobacco cessation cell has been established with the goal of raising awareness and offering treatment and referrals to those who are in need. All of these services are available to patients regardless of their caste, creed, colour, sex, or financial status.

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