

From the Desk of the Vice Chancellor

Snippet

23 August, 2023

This snippet begins with two prefacing remarks: (1) there is a proverb that “idle brain is devils’ workshop”. I would not have understood the inner sense of this widely-circulated proverb if I had not had the opportunity to be at Visva-Bharat as a member of Visva-Bharati Parivar. This is evident by irresponsible statement of those who tend to deceive many by deliberately concocting ideas to hide their ignorance; hence they keep on barking to enhance their TRP’ and (2) there are three types of Professors (I mean those who hold the rank) in the campus: (A) those who are pretentious of being “a very good academic” by claiming their knowledge with the help of drummers; (B) those who are completely ignorant and reached the highest rank by demonstrating qualities other than being experts in the field of study; and (C) there are genuine Professors who stand on their own significant contribution to the discipline in which they are recognized both nationally and globally.

We have no problem with B and C categories of Professors. The source of our concern is about the A category Professors who are large in number and indulge in vitiating Visva-Bharati’s academic environment with their intended feat of poisoning many minds. Visva-Bharati Parivar needs to uproot these Professors who survive as parasites and by their nexus with equally fallen individuals in society.

Now, the snippet. As mentioned in my earlier snippet, Visva-Bharati, just like any other reputed academic institutions in the globe, shall not tolerate atrocities around the axes of Gender, Caste and Religion; similarly, Visva-Bharati follows zero tolerance as regards RAGGING IN THE CAMPAUS, including Hostels. Following this policy, Visva-Bharati is sensitive to its responsibilities regarding what is appropriate to address these atrocities as immediately as possible. About complaints on gender harassment, Visva-Bharati has a very efficient mechanism and the judicious members of the Executive Council (the highest executive authority in the University) ponder on the complaint, the recommendations of Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) and also the views of the alleged perpetrators. In view of the warning of the Hon’ble High Court of Calcutta that legal protection to women is being misused which led the Hon’ble Judges to characterize this as “LEGAL TERRORISM”, the ICC and Executive Council take ample care to avoid the miscarriage of justice.

As regards RAGGING IN THE CAMPUS, Visva-Bharati, by endorsing zero tolerance, does not hesitate to take the sternest step to protect the students who are victims and to mete out exemplary punishment to the perpetrators by following the due processes. Given the tragic death of a child in Jadavpur University on 9 August, 2023 which was reportedly an outcome of severe ragging by the outsiders in collaboration with their hostel inmates, known as BAAP in the hostel’s lexicon. By addressing the complaint sent by the UGC instantaneously on an incident of ragging in one of the hostels, Visva-Bharati lost no time to act. Now, the detractors who survive with Visva-Bharati’s salary, raise hue and cry to come out in the public domain in their true colour to spread venom in the campus, perhaps with the misconception that they are not noticed and monitored. Visva-Bharati has its own efficient mechanism to show them doors if what they are doing purposefully is proved to have been a manifestation of their derailed mindsets. This snippet is a warning to them and if they do not restrain themselves, the statutory provisions shall be stringently applied to safeguard students, teachers, non-teaching staff and Visva-Bharati’s well-wishers.