

## SRI DEVARAJ URS ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION & RESEARCH SRI DEVARAJ URS MEDICAL COLLEGE

Tamaka, Kolar



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Cops: Medicos slapped Dalit junior, forced him to strip

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Bengaluru: Five MBBS students of ESIC Medical College. Rajajinagar, who have been accused of ragging a Dalit junior, allegedly made the youth strip and count the tiles on the floor of the bovs' hostel terrace, said sources in Rajajingar police investigating the case.

The five final-year MBBS students allegedly ragged Maharashtra-based Tipu Saurabh, a first-year MBBS student of the college, on December 24 night.

Saurabh told police he was ragged by his seniors from the day he joined the college in July, but initially ignored it thinking it's common at educational institutions. But soon he realised that the gang targeted him because he was a Dalit.

The five final-year **MBBS** students threatened the youth that they would kill him if he complained about the incident to anyone

"Saurabh was sleeping in his room in the ESIC Medical College's Boys Hostel on December 24 when the five seniors - Karan Sharma of Rajasthan, Gautham of Madhya Pradesh, Rahul Jha of New Delhi, Shubhay of Uttar Pradesh and Indrajit of Uttarakhand - barged into his room. They were drunk and held Saurabh by his collar and slapped him," said a police officer

They then brought the boy to the terrace and poured water on him. Saurabh was forced to remove his clothes and they cut his hair. Later, they asked him to count the tiles on floor of the terrace." he added.

The seniors later learnt that Saurabh had planned to file a complaint with the college management about the incident the next day. They picketed him in the hostel around noon on December 25 and threatened him with dire consequences. They warned him that they would kill him if he complained about the incident to anyone. "Saurabh decided to approach police after discussing the matter with his parents and friends. He went to Rajajinagar police station around 10pm on the day of Christmas and filed a complaint," said police.

"The seniors told Saurabh that he was not eligible to pursue MBBS as he belonged to a Dalit community," said an investing officer. The five senior students were sent to Central Prison on Wednesday

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