Intra Campus Mini Bus Service

Proposed by: Samyak Jain

Seconded by: Sanket Jantre

With all the new hostels being built at the far end of the campus near the New SAC most of the students face difficulties in traversing across the campus. From that end to the academic area takes at least 15 min walking. People in fact miss classes just because their cycle is out of order and they feel too exhausted to walk such long distances.

With Hostels 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 being so far away and around half the student population living on that side, this service has become a necessity. The proposal is backed by the feedback obtained by students from a form circulated by the Students' Welfare Cell. The form was filled by around 600 students, most of which were optimistic about the Bus Service and were looking forward to it.

Logistics of the Trial Run

The proposal is to start a bus service meant for students for easier transportation inside the campus. This bus service would be started from hostels to academic area, shopping centre and the health centre on a trial basis of 2-3 months. A similar system already exists at IIT Bombay.

Working

The MT Section will be in charge of running the Bus Service. In the initial phase we will be running at least 3 buses on three different routes. The bus will be operating from Monday to Friday. The suggested timings of operation are from 7:30 in the morning to about 6:30 in the evening. The buses will have a frequency of 1 every 30 minutes on 2 routes and 1 per hour on the 3rd route.

Routes

1. H9-H10-H11-HC(+GH2+GHT+ SBRA)-Southern Labs-H1 Parking Lot
2. H7-H8-HC(+GH2+GHT+SBRA)-Southern Labs-H1 Parking Lot
3. H9-H10-H11-H8(+New SAC)-HC(+GH2+GHT+ SBRA)-Audi Chauraha-ShopC-RM(+CC)-NCL(+NWTF)-MT(+TA Labs)

Staff

Each Bus requires a driver and a conductor so we have a total of 6 people. They may be provided quarters along with the SIS personnel.

Rental and Maintenance Cost

The MT Section has suggested that they can introduce us with vendors who can rent us the buses, and that it will cost around ₹ 60k – ₹ 70k per bus per month(can be negotiated if we only hire the buses for weekdays), including maintenance and fuel costs.

Usage

There will be 31 slots each for the first 2 buses, with 18 slots for the third bus each day. Assuming that 20 students board each bus per slot we get a total of 80(slots)x25(days)x20(students) = 40,000.

Finance

Expenditure/Month

The estimates are on a higher side

Rental = ₹ 3x70k

Staff Cost = ₹ 6x10k

Total = ₹ 2.7 lakhs

Cost per person per trip = ₹ 6.75

Income

The DoIP can be contacted for funds for the trial period, otherwise the students can be charged an amount of ₹ 100 for a pass allowing 15 trips (valid only for a month).

 The SBI branch manager has previously shown interest that if the trial run is successful he may be willing to provide sponsorship for the Bus Service, in lieu of Advertisements on the Buses.

Requirements

1. Three rental mini-buses. The MT Section Head has assured us that he is in with contact with a vendor who can provide with (28-30) seater mini buses.
2. Staff – 6 people need to be hired.
3. Putting up of sign boards indicating Bus Stops.

4. Construction of road behind New SAC.

Responses of Institute Departments

SIS Control Room

1. Intra bus system on small level should be implemented.
2. 25% of the work energy (4 hours a day) are wasted in searching of exchanged cycles.
3. Security won't be a problem (Drivers and Conductors are a must)
4. 3 buses is the optimum number for a trial run.

MT Head

1. Hiring of CNG Driven mini buses (28-30 seater) from 7AM to 7PM for a complete month including weekends will cost around ₹ 60k - ₹ 70k.
2. Buses can be parked at the MT bus parking area.
3. Drivers & Conductors may be given quarters.
4. Fare system should be discussed in detail.

IWD Head

1. Roads can bear mini-buses and buses of all kind.
2. There is currently no proper road behind New SAC.

Further Applications

1. Can be rented to the festivals for transportation of teams from station to institute. And also for transporting crowds during festivals.
2. Routes can be extended to the main gate, further reducing the dependency on autos/rickshaws.
3. Can act as link buses to the institute bus service, i.e. can collect people from every hall and drop them in front of Hall1/MT from where the institute bus can directly go the main gate rather than circulating in the campus.
4. In the long run if bus routes may include all the hostels and the bus expenditure can then be incorporated in the academic fees, thereby making the transport more accessible to all and making the process hassle free.
5. Can be used on Saturdays to pick-up and drop students for NCC.

Recommendation

1. The Senate form an Ad-Hoc to collect accurate data from the students, and staff so as to formulate the final proposal for a permanent bus proposal if positive and sustainable response is obtained.

2. For data collection the conductors should be provided with template sheets they can fill with the number of students travelling per slot.