



Council Of Students for Hostel Affairs
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
Rutuj Jugade | Convener



End-Term Report (2016-17)
Council Of Students for Hostel Affairs (COSHA)

Presented by: Rutuj Jugade
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Major Items

- Hall Allocation Policy 2016-17:
 - i. The initial policy for 2016-17 was presented in the 1st Special meeting of COSHA. However, due to non-completion of Hall 12 and GH-2, the policy was greatly reformed during the summer. The updated policy was formed on discussion with all halls and the Counselling Service, and has been implemented.
 - ii. Hall 12 was inaugurated in October and the allocation for the same was carried out through a lottery system during the winter vacations (in December).
 - iii. GH2 has been partially completed (~200 rooms are ready). The same was used during Techkriti' 17 for accommodation and shall be occupied by girls from Hall 8-I block and NRAT. The shifting process for this is due to start in either in April or during the summers (as will be finalized in consultation with the DoSA and the students' representatives).

- Constitution of the COSHA (Appendix C of the Constitution):
 - i. A draft of the constitution of the COSHA was circulated on the Appendices Committee list in the beginning of the 2016-17/1st semester. It has been discussed in the committee, in the COSHA and, in the RPC.
 - ii. Comments received from the RPC were incorporated in the draft, and the item is pending with the RPC to be brought to the Senate for voting.

- Hall Constitutions:
 - i. All Halls have been mandated to maintain a constitution of their own.
 - ii. The Constitution of Hall 5 was updated to current procedures, and accepted by the COSHA as a model constitution to base all halls' drafts on.
 - iii. The model constitution shall be ratified in the (Academic) Senate and the same shall be used as a reference to address any violations in the constitution.



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iv. At present, the role of the CoSHA in this regard has not been finalized, as to whether the CoSHA shall be an intermediary body in such matters of Constitutional violations or if the Halls may take up these matters directly with the relevant Institute authorities.

- *Electricity Issue:*

- i. The issue has been discussed elaborately in COSHA. A sub-committee was formed over the COSHA list to look into this over the summer. The sub-committee submitted a proposal to DOSA, including its recommended model(s) along with their justifications and the opinions of the general body. The same was forwarded to the IWD and post several rounds of discussion, a model was agreed upon jointly.
- ii. Several letters were written by the President, Students' Gymkhana to various Institute functionaries over the 2016-17/1st semester.
- iii. A meeting was held with the Deputy Director, Finance Officer, DoSA, and IWD members in 8th March 2017, where the matter was discussed in detail. Some points of action related to replacing halogens with LEDs, discussions on the common area charges etc. were taken up in the meeting and a timeline was presented for each of the discussed actions.

- *Uniform Mess Establishment Charges:*

- i. For the summer, a uniform MEC was charged from all Halls. The existing policy was implemented for calculating electricity charges.

- *Centralized Mess Committee:*

- i. The Centralized Mess Committee was formed in the 2nd Special Meeting of the COSHA, as a (standing) sub-committee of the COSHA. The 1st meeting was held on Thursday, 4th August 2016, where issues common across all messes, like price discrepancies in products, food wastage, common MEC for all halls, were discussed. The ADHA was also present in the meeting to guide us in this respect.
- ii. The online doc talking about the details of prices of various mess items has been forwarded on the students mailing list and is available for all to view.

- *Increasing the BDMR in Hall messes:*

- i. The matter was brought to the CoSHA by the Hall presidents. The BDMR cap, that has been highlighted as a strong recommendation by the DoSA office.



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- ii. The President confirmed that the cap is not mandatory, however the recommended cap is enforced very strictly. The cap, as was agreed by the members, is based on old prices and hence is compromising the quality of food in the mess.
 - iii. The members have been asked to come up with a new number for the cap which may optimize both the increased prices, quality and financial constraints of the students (especially given the new fee structure).
- *Common HEC Elections:*
 - i. A proposal to hold HEC elections annually in two slots (one each semester) was discussed in the COSHA. The proposal was discussed at length in the 2nd Special COSHA meeting and in the 3rd meeting of the Students' Senate. HEC elections shall now be held as per a 3 tier structure simultaneously in several Halls. Some members of the Election Council, Students' Gymkhana shall also be part of the Hall-level election commissions. The CEO, Students' Gymkhana shall have the authority to take necessary actions to ensure elections in consultation with the Hall-level CEO, respective warden and the ADHA.
 - ii. The proposal has been discussed and passed by the Senate. Elections have been held in Hall 6 in the 2016-17/1st semester and in Hall 7 in the 2016-17/2nd semester accordingly. Halls 2, 3, 5, 10 are going to be conducting their elections in this week.
 - *COSHA Website:*
 - i. The COSHA website has been revamped from its previous version to allow easier editing and provide all related details in one place. The site shall be completed by the end of September 2016. COSHA has also requested all the HEC's to keep their Hall Websites updated.
 - *Action Taken Report (ATR):*
 - i. COSHA 2015-16 had accepted the proposal to keep an ATR, so as to be better informed of the proceedings of COSHA.
 - ii. The ATR has been prepared and shall be presented in the next meeting of the CoSHA by the new Convener.
 - *Washing Machines in Halls:*



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- i. The issue was discussed at length in the CoSHA and the President has written a letter to the Dean, Infrastructure and Planning regarding the same. A reply is awaited on the same.
 - ii. Halls that have not filled the Form 101 have been asked to do so, so that the IWD may start work on this.
- Issue of insects in halls:
 - i. The matter was directed to be taken up with the MTUC, that conducts fogging in the campus.
 - ii. An alternate solution was proposed wherein the currently used vehicle be used for fogging the roads and an individual level anti-mosquito spray be used inside the hostels. The financial feasibility of this is being looked into at present.

Additional Items

- 1) Pools for the General Championship 2016-17 were formed and agreed upon unanimously. The final policy has been passed in the Senate.
- 2) The Gymkhana fund for pools was decided not to be allotted this year. The decision was taken in agreement with all pool captains and the Finance Convener. Considering the timing, an amount of Rs. 20,000/- was allotted to each pool for Takneek'16.
- 3) Hall changes in the middle of the semester pose some problems in the collection of electricity charges in the current model being followed. The members of the CoSHA have been asked to come up with a model to resolve this issue.
- 4) The issue of stray dogs was taken up in the CoSHA. An institute level committee has been formed to address the same, and an action plan has been formed that is being taken up in coordination with the Halls.

Recommendations:

- All the Halls and Hall Offices are requested to maintain an accurate, complete and updated record of the residents of the Hall. The data of Hall Offices has been often been found to be incomplete or outdated.
- Specifically for the Hall Allocation Policy, the CoSHA should be given independent authority on the distribution of batches. It was seen this year that the HAP that was passed in the CoSHA was considerably amended in the Senate, which resulted in a situation where the Halls were forced to adopt a policy that none of them had agreed to.



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- The Hall administration and the Students' Senate are two independent bodies catering to the needs to students. However, often it happens that the Senate, due to this independence is unable to address some crucial aspects of student life on campus, a function that is at the heart of the Senate's principles. Hence, some mechanism should be thought to bring the 2 bodies in sync with each other.