

Proceeding of the meeting held on 5th August, 2024 at 11:30 a.m. at CHINTAN, Conference Hall, Dibrugarh University for discussing the matter of the ongoing agitation programme undertaken by the boarders of PNGBCN (Academic Session 2023-24) hostel, which was chaired by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dibrugarh University

The meeting was being called by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor at Chintan Conference Hall at 11.30 am on 5.8.2024. As asked, Deans; Head of Departments; Director, DUIET; representatives of Dibrugarh University Teachers Association; Dibrugarh University Officers' Association; Dibrugarh University Employees' Association; Dibrugarh University Post Graduate Students' Union; and other Officers and Faculties of the University were present at the said meeting.

The meeting started with a brief by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, as to why the meeting was called within a short notice and thanked for having present within a short span of time. The purpose of calling the meeting was to have a view of all the Members present regarding the current agitation taken by the boarders of PNGBCN hostel (Academic session 2023-24) regarding the recent decision taken by Hostel Admission Committee (*notified vide Dibrugarh University Notification no. DU/SWS/HA/2024-25/3162 dtd 26.7.2024*) that the existing boarders of PNGBCN hostel to be shifted to MAHCN & MBCN; and the whole PNGBCN hostel will accommodate only new semester students. Some of the boarders have taken the matter to extreme and they are sitting on hunger strike at Dibrugarh University Bus stop outside DU campus since 2.8.2024. The authorities of the University were trying to make them complacent since then and as part of the DU authority; Registrar; Dean, Student Affairs; Chief Warden and the Wardens of the concerned hostels tried to have a talk with them and make them understand why the authorities have taken the decision to shift; but they are not understanding and till now they are on strike. Further Hon'ble Vice Chancellor told the gathering that a meeting was called on 4.8.2024 at 12:00 Noon at the Guest House of the University to discuss the matter with representatives of Dibrugarh University Teachers' Association; Dibrugarh University Officers' Association; Dibrugarh University Employees' Association; Dibrugarh University Post Graduate Students' Union; and other officers of the University and on that meeting it was decided that the University will call the Students formally for a discussion. And on that the Deputy Registrar (Admin) visited the agitating students and invited them to come for a meeting at 1:00 P.M. However, waiting till 2.30 pm as no one turned up it has been decided that the status quo will be maintained regarding the hostel shifting of the students, and the same had been notified in the University website. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor told the gathering that this have happened till now and asked all to put forward their comments and suggests on the matter.

At the start the General Secretary, DUPGSU stated that they tried to convince the agitating boarders that the authorities took the decision of hostel shifting for the betterment of all and to curb the ragging cases in Dibrugarh University. However, he submitted that the agitating boarders told the DUPGSU that they are against them. Further, he submitted that the DUPGSU will fully cooperate on the decision that the authority has taken on the matter of hostel shifting till now and in future also.

One of the faculty Members present asked what was the reason that the boarders are reluctant to shift the hostel. And on that the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, D.U. told that as informed by the

students they are having emotional attachment with the hostel and the name of PNGBCN will be shattered on such decision of the authority.

The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, D.U. told that the name of the hostel will not diminish as per their thinking and will rise only when the cases of ragging/untoward incident does not happen and the infrastructure of the hostel are being looked up properly.

More faculty members supported the decision of the authority and they were told that the students at the time of hostel admission were categorically told that the hostel admission is for only one year and they will be shifted to some other hostel the next year. Also, they mentioned that though the students have taken the adverse decision of agitating as of now, but as they are still the students of University and as a guardian we should all approach them once again and make them understand. On this the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, D.U., told that after the meeting all the Members present will go and talk with the boarders and will convey a message why the shifting decision was taken and will make them understand.

The Chief Warden, D.U. pointed out the Rule 7 (e) of the Dibrugarh University Hostel Rules 2015 on which the decision was taken by the Hostel Admission Committee. Also, it was pointed out by one of the Faculties that from this year Five Year Integrated Programme is going to start and since at the beginning of the session if this kind of atmosphere comes in the University it will have a bad impact. Some thoughts were submitted by some of the Faculties that might be some vested interest groups are trying to disrupt the Academic environment of the University.

Further, one more Faculty told that we should make the guardians aware that their wards are taking these extreme steps. On this, the Chief Warden apprised that the matter had been communicated to some of the guardians. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor told the Wardens/Chief Warden that they should try to connect to all the guardians immediately and tell them if the students will behave in this way then the University will take stern action against them.

The President, DUPGSU requested the Members present and the authorities of the University to have a talk with the students once again and try to convince them. The meeting ended as Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, D.U. told that as the decision of the Hostel shifting was a decision not taken by himself only but was a result of discussion with several stake holders of the University and in large on the advisory of the hon'ble Executive Council; the decision of hostel shifting will be status quo. However, after the end of this meeting everyone present will visit the agitating students and will make them understand.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks.



(Prof. Jiten Hazarika)
Vice-Chancellor
Dibrugarh University