

Thirteenth Meeting The Senate (Agenda by Circulation) National Institute of Technology, Uttarakhand

S 13.01: Indefinite strike by the students and issues related to probable academic loss in the Odd Semester 2018.

Brief History

National Institute of Technology, Uttarakhand (NITUK) was established in the year of 2009 under the Act of Parliament. Its temporary campus is located in Srinagar, District: Pauri Garhwal which is 150 kms. away from Dehradun, 130 kms. from Haridwar and 110 kms. from Rishikesh.

The present temporary campus location is very remote, deep in the hills of Garhwal which is devoid of basic amenities like medical, primary education for children, roads & transport infrastructure, vendor support etc. due to which the Institute's academics, research, consultancy and placements is suffering since its inception.

The inherent problems of the present temporary location have forced the student to agitate two times in the past and now they are on strike again with a singular demand of shifting the temporary campus to the Dehradun/Haridwar/Rishikesh. Many letters have been written by Hon'ble Human Resource Minister (HRM) to the State Government, supporting the cause of the students.

Students Indefinite Strike and their Demands

Consequent to a fatal road accident on NH-58 in front of the Temporary Campus in Srinagar (Garhwal), in which two students of NIT got very severe injuries, all students of NIT Uttarakhand are sitting on an indefinite strike since 04.10.2018, demanding shifting of Temporary Campus to any safe location in Dehradun/Haridwar/Rishikesh so that students can pursue their studies safely, till such time the Permanent Campus is ready.

The whole issue took a very SERIOUS and DRAMATIC TWIST on 20th day of strike the student agitation, when all the agitating students gathered in the campus, in the early hours of the morning of 23.10.2018, with their baggage's and left for their home's. The CSA submitted a memorandum as an official communication to the Institute administration, however, they did not withdraw their agitation. They were shouting slogans, of their demands, stating that they will return only when the temporary campus will be shifted to Dehradun/Haridwar/Rishikesh.

Inaction of the State Government

The students continue to be on strike, boycotting all academic activities since 04.10.2018. Since the first day of strike, there has been no response from the State Government towards resolving the issues related to land for permanent campus as well as shifting of temporary campus to any other safe location.

Taking a serious view of the developments, Hon'ble Human Resource Minister wrote another letter on 24.10.2018 to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt. of Uttarakhand requesting him to shift the temporary campus to plains or pooling of campus with renowned Institutes near the major cities like Haridwar, Dehradun and Rishikesh and allotment of suitable land for the establishment or permanent campus of the Institute. But no any information has been received from the Government of Uttarakhand.

The students of NIT Uttarakhand continue to be on indefinite agitation since 4th October 2018, till date. The Institute has appealed several times to the students and their parents to resume their classes.

During their period of absence the Academic loss of running Odd Semester 2018 is as under:

- (i) The students have boycotted the **Mid Term Exam-II** scheduled from **10th to 12th Oct. 2018** and they have been marked as absent.
- (ii) All the B.Tech and M.Tech students are found absent for **Registration for Even Semester 2019** which was scheduled on **14th and 15th Nov 2018**.
- (iii) In the present Odd Semester, before going on Strike, the students had attended classes for 8 weeks i.e. from **1st Aug. 2018 to 3rd Oct 2018** (*almost 23 theory classes per course*).
- (iv) Resultantly, the students have boycotted almost 5 weeks of classes (*i.e. almost 14 theory classes per course*) till date.
- (v) Hence, only two weeks of classes are left (**i.e. from 19th Nov 2018 to 2nd Dec 2018, almost 5 classes per course**) before the **End Semester Examination** which is scheduled from **5th to 15th Dec. 2018**.

Keeping the above in the mind the Senate is requested to allow to invoke the provisions of Clause Rule 3.18 in the Ordinance Rule and Regulation

The Senate is requested to deliberate upon this emergent situation and render valuable guidance.

Secretary, Senate