

Jawaharlal Nehru University

13 November 2019

Press Note

The 283rd Executive Council Meeting of the university was scheduled to be held in its Convention Centre at 10 am on 13th November 2019. The meeting could not be held at the Convention Centre because a large number of students and some JNUTA office bearers assembled at the gates of the venue ahead of the meeting and prevented the EC members from entering the building. Some of the EC members, who were already inside the Convention Centre, were not allowed to come out. A crowd of students subsequently gheraoed three EC members who also happen to be the Deans of different Schools. As a result, the venue of the meeting had to be shifted to an alternative place. The new venue was informed to all the EC members and most of them reached the venue.

The members of the EC held the meeting at the new venue and deliberated upon all the agenda items in detail. One of the agenda items that was discussed in great detail was the New Hostel Manual and the proposed structure of hostel charges as approved by the Inter Hall Administration (IHA) committee in its meeting held on 28 October 2019. There have been persistent agitations by JNU students calling for withdrawal of the New Hostel Manual and the proposed structure of hostel charges. The administration received several suggestions from the students when the above draft was posted on JNU website for few weeks for feedback from students. In addition, the Minister of Human Resource Development had also met some students in the midst of blockade of the building by the striking students where the Minister had come to grace the 3rd JNU Convocation on 11 November 2019 and received a Memorandum from them. The HRD Minister requested the JNU Administration to look into this memorandum.

The EC members were apprised of students' viewpoints, as mentioned in their representation to the HRD Minister through the Memorandum as well as students' feedback on the New Hostel Manual and the proposed structure of hostel charges.

After careful considerations of all aspects of this issue, the EC resolved to approve unanimously the following:

1. Clause 2.6.1 as given below **will not be included** in the new hostel manual.

From New hostel manual as approved by the IHA Committee:

2.6. NORMS GOVERNING HOSTEL LIFE

2.6.1 The residents should be back in their respective hostels latest by 11.00 pm or by half an hour after time for library closing, whichever is later. Students who are found outside their respective hostel premises after the stipulated time and involving in any violence or otherwise disturbing the peace on campus and privacy of JNU community will be evicted from hostel forthwith apart from any other disciplinary action by the University.

2. Clause 3.6.2 as given below will not be included in the new hostel manual.

From New hostel manual as approved by the IHA Committee:

3.6 DINING HALL

3.6.2 All residents and guests should come to the dining hall appropriately dressed.

3. Discussion on proposed structure of hostel charges:

After detailed discussion, the structure of hostel charges as given below was approved by the Executive Council. The changes are indicated in bold. However, to take care of students coming from weaker sections, the EC decided that all the students belonging to below poverty line (BPL) category (excluding those who have JRF, SRF and other equivalent fellowships/Scholarships either from outside organizations or JNU) are eligible to be given **50 % of concession** in the charges at S. No.5 (Single seated room rent), S.No.6 (Double seated room rent), S.No.7 (Utility charges) and S.No.8 (service charges).

In addition, it may be noted that all BPL category students receiving Non-NET fellowship and MCM scholarships will also be eligible for this **50% concession**.

The One Time (Refundable) Mess Security deposit for all categories of students has been **rolled back** from Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 5,500 as given below.

S. No.	Particulars	Existing charges	Revised charges for all students including BPL category students with JRF, SRF, and other equivalent scholarships/fellowships	Revised charges for eligible BPL category
1	Mess Bill	As per actual	As per actual	As per actual
2	Establishment Charges	1,100/- per semester	1,100/- per semester	1,100/- per semester
3	Crockery, Utensils	250/- per year	250/- per year	250/- per year
4	Newspaper	50/- per year	50/- per year	50/- per year
5	Room Rent - Single seater	20/- per month	600/- per month	300/- per month
6	Room Rent - Double seater	10/- per month	300/- per month	150/- per month
7	Utility Charges (Water and Electricity Charges)	Nil	As per actual	50% of as per actual
8	Service Charges (Mess Services, Sanitation Services, Supporting Staff Services)	Nil	As per actual	50% of as per actual
9	Refundable Mess Security / Mess Advance	5,500/-	Instead of Rs. 12,000, it is now Rs. 5,500/-	Instead of Rs. 12,000, it is now Rs. 5,500/-

The administration makes a fervent appeal to all the students of JNU to get back to their classes, lab works, and research activities as major concessions have been given to students belonging to BPL category and removed the clauses related to dress and hostel timings from the hostel manual as per the feedback from the students. Resuming academic work will protect the careers of thousands of students from any further harm.

Registrar