

DEMANDS

1. Final Deadline for the Construction of Library

Issue: At present the university doesn't have a dedicated library and students study in a make-shift library that does not completely cater to the needs of the students. A separate building was to be constructed which would function as a library, however, the construction has stalled for several years. There have been rumors that the construction of the Library has been stalled due to an ongoing legal dispute, whereas the Administration maintains that it is simply a lack of funds, there no clarity as to the exact status of the library and as to the reason for the delay.

Non-negotiable Terms: A final deadline for the completion of this project is non-negotiable, and the actual cause of the delay must be clarified once and for all with proof.

Issue: GH II repairs and construction

The construction of the second Girls Hostel for the students commenced in 2017. Girls were asked to shift to the half constructed hostels and forced to live there for a semester with the promise that the rest will be completed over the course of the winter vacation. It has been three years now that the girls are staying in a fungus infested, water logged hostel. The building is almost in a dilapidated situation and the students should not have been allowed to reside in a hostel where the construction is still going on. The students deserve a well constructed hostel with painted walls and measures to prevent water seepage among other essentials.

Non-negotiable Terms: Protests will go on until these repairs are completed, and the uninhabitable conditions including but not limited to: Seepage, Cleaning, Corridors, Installation of geysers, Tiles, Flooring, Bathrooms and Toilets, Installation of mosquito nets on all windows, Mirrors.

2. Rationale Behind Fee Hike for the Incoming Batch.

The fees for the incoming batch has been increased by Rs.30,000, taking their total annual fees to more than 2 lakh rupees. A proper explanation for the necessity of this fee hike has

not been provided, especially considering the fact that previous hikes by the administration have never been this steep. For students who come to study from various parts of the country, this hike places an unreasonable financial burden and could even result in deserving and meritorious students dropping out.

Non-negotiable Terms: Administration must provide detailed explanations regarding the circumstances necessitating the fee hike.

3. Academic Policies and Examination Department

Our college has long suffered from a lack of transparency regarding the processes of the Examination Department, especially the punishment mechanism for accusations of unfair means during examinations. Further, the students have suffered a number of times due to the illogical medical and academic exemption policies. All in all, a revamp of many of our academic and examination policies is required.

A. End Semester Scripts

Non-Negotiable Terms: A final policy change allowing students to see their end semester scripts and discuss them with their concerned faculty is implemented.

B. Pink Slip Policy

Non-Negotiable Terms: A comprehensive policy overhaul allowing all cases to be dealt with in the same fair, unbiased manner.

C. Granting of Medical and Academic Exemptions

Non-Negotiable Terms: a comprehensive policy overhaul allowing all cases to be dealt with in the same fair, unbiased manner.

D.. Discrepancy between syllabi of Exemption Exams and Regular Semester exams

Non-Negotiable Terms: Strict directives to be issued to the concerned faculty instructing them to maintain uniformity between syllabi.

E. Abolition of 10% minimum threshold for Reevaluation Marks

Non-Negotiable Terms: The minimum threshold has to be removed and the students will not be satisfied and will continue to press their demand till concrete steps are taken.

4. Faculty Evaluation and Appointment

There are faculty evaluation forms which are given out towards the end of every semester. However, these forms have absolutely no effects, and the results of these evaluations are never given out to the students. Further, there are no sanctions on faculty who consistently perform poorly. Finally, there is no transparency in the faculty appointment process.

Non-negotiable Terms: the results of the faculty evaluations conducted in April 2019 must be released. Student Council Members must have a say in the appointment process.

5. Establishment of a Dispensary and Availability of a Full Time Nurse

The remoteness of the University means that the access to quality first aid and emergency care is limited. Incidents in the past where students have fallen ill were not given satisfactory emergency care is the driving force between this demand for a Permanent Nurse and a dispensary with at least basic medicines within the campus.

Non-negotiable terms: A temporary nurse must be appointed during the interim period until a permanent nurse is appointed. Further, the progress on the dispensary will not be deemed satisfactory until there is proof that negotiations have been undertaken to establish a permanent dispensary and till these demands are met the students continue to protest.

6. Hostel In-timings

Last semester, after requests that the curfew timings be removed, the Administration assured us that if more than 50% of the students submitted a form signed by the parents agreeing to the removal of curfew timings, they would be removed. However, even after the submission of the required number of forms, they have not removed the curfew timings.

Non-negotiable terms: the promises made by the Administration must be kept and curfew timings are implemented as discussed.

7. Removal of Resident Warden of Girls' Hostel

The resident warden of the Girls' Hostel has a history of inappropriate behavior, including but not limited to threatening to contact the female students' parents with complaints, and holding grudges against students, which impacts their marks. Further, the Resident Warden, has also explicitly told students that they would be "targeted".

Non-negotiable Terms: The current Resident Warden should be removed and action should be taken on the misconduct and inappropriate behaviour with the students

8. Permanent Resolution of Working of the Air Conditioners in the Academic Block:

The ACs in the Academic Block have never functioned properly and continuously, which coupled with poorly ventilated classrooms and Cuttack's hot and almost unbearably humid weather makes it nigh on impossible to sit through class. Many students also fall sick due to the extreme heat and humidity.

Non-negotiable Terms: It is imperative that all the ACs in the classrooms are functional during working hours failing which the students will continue to press their demand.

9. Campus Development Issues

There had always been issues with the infrastructure within the campus, especially with regards to the Sports Facilities. The Gym, while it is functional, most of the equipment is unusable and unsafe. The cricket and football grounds and the sports complex are also in disrepair after Cyclone Fani.

The students demand that the required renovations and repairs are carried on the following timelines in descending order of importance:

1. Gym - when the work is begun by the selected bidder in the tendering process.
2. Sports Complex – when due repairs are completed.
3. Football Ground – beginning of next semester.
4. Cricket Ground – beginning of next semester.

