



Hall of Residence VIII

Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur



Date: 28/05/2023

First open mess meeting

Minutes of Meeting

The meeting was held on 28 May 2023 at 15:00 in the presence of the president, Hall, Mess secretary in the TV room of hall VIII.

At the outset, mess secretary, Hall started the meeting with a welcoming to all the attendees. The following agenda items were taken for discussion.

Agenda:

With considering available time duration, it has been decided that only those agenda will be discussed of which proposers are present in the open mess meeting.

1. Delivery of Lunch to the academic area:

- The conversation commenced by providing a concise overview of the specifics regarding the planned lunch delivery service to the academic area. During the meeting, the following concerns were addressed: the need to clarify the delivery points, as delivering the food solely at the MT gate and gate no. 3 would not be very convenient for the residents, as they would have to go to these points. To address this issue, the mess secretary suggested considering a delivery system that would bring the meals directly to their respective labs or buildings within the academic area.
- Forming a WhatsApp group for hassle-free delivery is welcomed by the GBM & mess committee.
- During the discussion, another concern was raised by a resident regarding the situation where someone who has already used the lunch system comes again for lunch. After thorough deliberation, it was agreed upon that the fellow resident would be subject to a fine and receive a formal warning.

2. A tale of BDMR calculation:

- As per the suggestion of the mess committee, the mess staff, including the mess manager, accountant, and storekeeper, provided a briefing on the BDMR (Basic dietary meal rate) calculation during the General Body Meeting (GBM). Due to time constraints, the mess staff has been directed to submit a report by the upcoming Sunday (04/06/2023). The report will encompass the BDMR calculation, a comparison of daily and monthly BDMR calculations over the past six months, as well as information on coupon sales during the same period.
- While discussing difference in daily & monthly BDMR, Mr. Vikrant explained due to delivery charges for different items, there is a difference in daily & monthly BDMR calculation.

- Subsequently, the assembly deliberated on conducting a thorough analysis of the expenses related to the mess establishment charge. The president of Hall VIII will provide further insights into this matter once the necessary documents from the Dean of Student Affairs (DoSA) are received. It is important to involve the wardens in this process as well.
- In light of the recent discrepancy in the extra calculations, the mess staff has given their assurance that such errors will not occur again in the future. As a result, it has been decided that the final calculation will be carefully rechecked to ensure accuracy starting from the next instance.

3. A recent incident of partying in mess.

- The Hall VIII mess secretary provided an update to the residents regarding an incident of unauthorized utilization of mess resources without prior permission. Following an investigation conducted by the Hall VIII warden-in-charge and the mess warden, three hall residents were fined for their involvement in the incident and were issued strict formal warnings with a fine of 5000/- to each. The wardens has also issued a notice to the mess service provider 'Tiwari & Co.' The mess secretary and president have additionally urged all hall residents to refrain from engaging in any form of unlawful activity of this nature.

4. Agenda by Mr. Aritra paul:

- *“Fixing the mess menu from trial menu, inclusion of plain aloo chokha (3 to 4 time in a week) and replace Dahi pakal with regular Pantha-rice.”*
- Following a thorough discussion, a decision has been reached to alternate the serving of dahi pakhal and pakhal in the mess. The mess secretary clarified that aloo chokha is already being served on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays, but not on all days to prevent wastage. The trial menu will be finalized by taking into account all the points discussed during the open mess meeting.
- *“Shift Sukhtoh item in afternoon lunch rather than dinner (generally Sukhtoh is consumed in day time) and Inclusion of sabji-moong dal in the menu.”*
-In this regard, after taking inputs from fellow residents, the mess committee indicated that this change will be implemented in the final menu.
- *“Also, what is the situation of the reply from previous HEC, regarding issue related to the reduction of fine imposed from approx. Rs. 2,50,000 down to Rs. 50,000?”*
-Here the president & mess secretary indicated discussing this point in the later general body meeting as it needs participation from wardens.

5. Agenda by Mr. Abhishek

Mr. Abhishek was absent in the meeting, he has conveyed the president to bring his points on the table. which are as follows:

- *“Please add veg item to be made in mustard oil , for 1 week trail . then take a feedback to continue it or not”*
- The conclusion drawn from the discussion was that using mustard oil in all food items would not be feasible due to its strong smell, which may not be favored by many residents. The mess committee acknowledged this concern and assured that they are actively addressing it. As a trial, they will incorporate mustard oil in the "chaunk" process and assess its reception among the residents
- *“Add peanut butter, in case of fruit jelly”*
-The house welcomed this suggestion & mess committee decided to start this initiative on a trial basis.
- *“Provide toothpick on demand on mess counter; chicken fibers stuck in teeth.”*
-After a general discussion, it has been decided to calculate the cost & review its availability. If all permits, we can start with a trial basis.

6. Agenda by Mr. Animesh Kumar Soni:

- *“Mess menu improvement, mess hygiene, BDMMR, salad”*
- Following an extensive discussion on this matter, the members expressed their appreciation for the efforts made by the mess committee in implementing various improvements, leading to a generally satisfactory quality of food. However, consistency in maintaining this quality was highlighted as an important aspect. The mess staff and mess secretary assured the members that they are actively addressing the issue of insects inside the mess and anticipate visible improvements in the coming days.

7. Agenda by Mr. Prateek Priyaranjan

- *“The addition of fried chilly and dahi pakhala to daily menu is commended.”*
-All other members also appreciated this initiative.
- *“Friday breakfast and Saturday dinner both have puri. two consecutive days having oily food is not recommended in my opinion.”*
-the mess committee assured the GBM to take care of this point while making the final menu.
- *“Number of flies has recently increased, particularly in the mid row tables (the tables just in front of entry gate). Do look into the matter.”*
- The mess staff & mess secretary has stated that they are working on reducing the insects inside the mess. The result will be seen within some days.
- *“Try to bring consistency to matar panner. The first time it was succulent, but on last friday (19 may) the masala felt uncooked and raw.”*
- Taking the concern into consideration, the mess secretary acknowledged that the issue arose due to the absence of the regular cook. Both the head cook and manager assured that such a situation would not recur in the future.
- *“Can we have curdrice or dahi pakhala in lunch packing?”*
- The mess secretary mentioned that it would be possible to accommodate curd rice in the tiffin boxes of fellow residents if there is sufficient space or a small bowl specifically for that purpose. However, for Dahi pakhal, the mess will not provide any plastic containers, and residents will need to make their own arrangements.

8. Agenda by Mr. Tafzeelul Kamal:

- *“Packed lunch delivery in academic area on permanent basis”*
-Has already been discussed.
- *“Use of mustard oil instead of refined oil for making veg/non veg items.”*
- Has already been discussed.
- *“Provision 4Egg/4 Banana+200 Milk/100Gm Kachcha Paneer as alternate for lunch/dinner.”*
-the mess committee members have assured to do a survey regarding what different optional items are being served in different halls then the committee will do the cost calculation & will review the possibility.
- *“Purchase of coffee making machine and new chairs for the mess.”*
-All the present GBM welcomed this suggestion. The mess secretary sated that he will see the price, management & feasibility of the machine.

9. Agenda by Mr. Chidanand Jadar:

- *“Discussion on the modes of calculation of BDMMR (Per Day v/s Monthly)”*
-As already discussed, the mess manager has already been summoned to add these points to his report.
- *“Finding solutions to check worms in the cooked food (esp. Daliya)”*

-The mess secretary & manager shed light on various initiatives like closing all the windows with Sellotape, closing the gaps between the cooler & windows, cleaning the mess surrounding area, etc. As stated earlier, the mess staff & mess secretary has stated that they are working on reducing the insects inside mess. The result will be seen within some days.

10. Agenda by Mr. Manoj

- *“kunderu, bhindi aur karela bahut deep fry kyu rhata hai? normal tareeke se banane ka prayas liya jaye.”*

-The mess committee members have conveyed that they are working on it. Less fried bhindi has already been tried once. It was appreciated by residents. They will sample the same with Kundru & Karela, if it happens the less oily items will be adapted to the cooking style.

11. Agenda by Mr. Lavish Arora

As Mr. Lavish Arora was absent, Mr. Chidanand Jadar represented his agenda,

- *“Different fruit options for different days. Sometimes only papaya is served for weeks when watermelon, muskmelon and mangoes are available in the market. Option to vary the fruits over days of a week may be explored to have diversity in nutrition.”*

-The mess secretary, Manager & storekeeper conveyed the difficulty in getting good quality, red-colored watermelon due to the rainy weather. They also said that they are also considering guava & mangoes as they will be available in a cheaper rate in the coming future.

12. Agenda by Usama Ghayas Syed:

- *“Decision on mess menu without including the feedback from residents”*

-the mess secretary & committee members clarified that they had implemented the trial menu, not the main menu. The secretary assured me the main menu will be decided after the open mess meeting.

Lastly, rooh afza was served to all the attendees. & the meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks by The mess secretary.

Open Mess meeting. (28/05/23)

NAME	Attendance	Sign	Roll no.
1) Kuntuk ROUTH	-	Kuntuk Routh	20218267
2) Siddharth Thakur		Thakur	22104282
3) Rahul Jaiswal		Rahul	21101278
4) Krishna C. Marthi		Marthi	19105281
5) Sanjeet Singh		Singh	18119264
6) Jaipal Reddy		Jaipal Reddy	18103280
7) Ramteke Vivek H.		Ramteke	20101281
8) Rishi Rajan		Rishi	20101283
a) CHIDANAND JADAR		Chidnand	18103265
b) Suktavani Manjya		Manjya	18204282
9) Manmohan		Manmohan	17107274
12) KUSHAL PRATAP SINGH		Kushal	20204266
13) JATIN SONI		Jatin Soni	19209262
14) Manoj Manjya		Manjya	18105287
15) HEMANSHU TADAV		Hemanshu	22104265
16) ANIMESH KUMAR SONI		Animesh	22118265
17) ZAINUL ABEDIN		Zainul	17206286
18) ANUDEEP MUKHERJEE		Anudeep	18111264
19) Tafzeelul Kamal		Tafzeel	18106280
20) Prateek Priyaranjan		Prateek	20101278
21) Tulsi Ram Soni		Tulsi Ram	15101279
22) PRATEEK DWIVEDI		Prateek	18111269

23) Seikat Mondal

24) Anijit Halder

25) Usama Syed

26) Suman Karam

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