Dear Vivek (and other young friends of LNMIIT),

I read your mail and the mails written by others. Even interacting with other students I could very well understand their annoyance, irritability and anger against administration for imposing certain stringent rules on student community. They feel that it is the ‘Dadagiri’ of the administration on them. First of all I must say that this annoyance is very much natural and is expected . Whenever our freedom is curtailed we feel very much perturbed. I appreciate the way you people showed your opposition by first meeting with the concerned authorities and then writing mails expressing your opinions. None of you broke any window panes, chairs or tube lights. I must say that present generation of LNMIIT ians are better. This is the right and gentle way to show your opposition.

Let me express my opinion about the whole incident. I totally agree with you that administration should have consulted you once before taking this decision. It is a fault on their part. But sometimes these kind of lapses do happen. I think that Prof. Gorthy went out of station for few days in between and somehow the whole thing went very hastily. Anyway if you are still very much perturbed about it let me ask sorry on behalf of my faculty colleague to the whole student community for not consulting you before taking this important decision.

If you don’t mind I would like to express my opinion very frankly about the new rules that were imposed. I know for sure that you will not like my opinions and you would like to argue with me giving more stronger arguments. Frankly speaking, I very much support all these new restrictions which are now imposed on you. You must understand that the faculty members who imposed these rules on you are not your enemies but your teachers after all. A teacher always wants maximum good for the maximum number of students. Ideally, to a teacher his students are just like his son or daughter. If you think that it is ‘Dadagiri’, it is not. A teacher can show his dominance on his students which is known as ‘Gurubhav’. This bring ‘mangal’ to a student and not ‘amangal’. When our parents slap us, scold us, rebuke us we feel very bad about it but they do it for our own good and not to inflict pain on us or to humiliate us. Let me elaborate on the major restrictions.

**Internet Timing:**

1. Nature has made the night for rest. However you may try you cannot go against the nature and be successful. You see the older generation, our parents/grandparents. They are healthier than the present generation and one strong reason is that they are/were all early riser. In my life I have seen lot of cases. I found that those who get up early do well , excel in life (in general, exceptions are always there). Those who work late in night suffer from bad health. I have experienced this personally. I have been a constant sufferer because I have been working late night for years. My productivity is also low because of my ill health.
2. The moment you start your ‘research’ in the night and that is also in the privacy of your room you know what happens. You start with one topic then you see lot of other topics on the right hand side of the screen. The moment you click once in the right hand side you are gone because one after the other you enter the site and you are lost. Finally you leave your computer at 3 am without doing any research but wasting lot of your precious time in entertainment. Instead of doing ‘research’ you end up doing some other ‘search’ which is not productive to you. This thing happens more at night than during the day. I am also a victim to this sometime and I hope you too. Then if you sleep at 3 am or 4 am because of which you can’t attend morning classes or you sleep in your classes. Internet has done lot of harm to us along with the benefits. We should be very careful while using it. If our mind is not under control then it is a great nuisance also. And there are very few people who has full control over their mind. So it is better you sleep at 12 am and get up at 6 am and surf internet during day time from the lab when you need. If you really work to surf internet after 12, get permission from the warden and work in the lab for a day or two. But don’t make it a practice. You can do quite productive work through out the day if you sleep early and get up early.
3. More than thousand students are presently residing in the campus today. But I hardly find ten students in the morning doing jogging or exercising. We have such a beautiful campus, why not use it as long as we are here. Presently institute has built 2.5 km track for jogging and walking starting from the gate and ending after the football ground. Why don’t you jog in the morning. We don’t appreciate this beautiful campus around us. Get up in the morning and enjoy early morning fresh air and then you will feel good through out the day. If you develop your habits from now on then you will be benefitted through out your life. It is very difficult to change the habits later. I tried many times to change my habits , to get up in the morning but every time I met with successful failures.

**Issue of ‘Couples’**

Next issue is hostel in time and writing reasons for leaving campus during working hours. Your mess timing is till 9.30 pm and after taking dinner you can take a walk for half an hour. So if you finish your dinner by 9.45 pm then by 10.15 pm your walk is complete. If you are coming from the city, then you prefer to go back to hostel after returning back from the city. Anyway 10.30 pm is sufficient for a student to go back to the hostel and start his/her study . Your present in time is 10.45 pm. Please give me one single good reason why you want your in time to be 11.30 pm. Now in reality what happens ? ‘Couples’ will sit here and there in the bushes and other dark places till 11.30 pm. Many days I find them while returning from my office after 11 pm. I have no problem in people sitting and gossiping together, falling in love and later getting into permanent relationship. If the two people love each other, care for each other what can be better than that in this earth. I always feel elated when I hear the news of our alumni getting married to each other. Infact I have also done these things in my earlier life, not as a UG student but as a PhD student. The institute from where I studied is the only institute in India where boys are allowed in the Girls hostel till 12 O clock in the night. I was a frequent visitor to the girls hostel when my fiancée (later my wife) used to stay there. But here situation is different. It is good to see people falling in love and spending their time together but not at the cost of their studies. I have great respect for the ‘couples’ like Ashutosh Baheti and Neha Baheti (both of them in Germany), Nikita and Amit (both of them in Samsung, got selected when Samsung selected only seven students) . They used to study together ( not just sitting together and chatting) . If you ask CPI to our present couples many of them may have CPI in the range 4-6. Is this good ? They are going down on account of their falling in love. Don’t you think that our Institute authorities have some responsibility to amend them ? Should their activities be informed to their parents ? You say in your mail “All students here are legally adults and are capable enough to understand what is in their best interest”. You are very much correct that they are legally adult but are they really an adult ? I consider all of you as mere babies. Furthermore, I consider myself also a baby. May be little older baby and that’s all. Here in this world very few people know why they are here, what they are supposed to do and how they should do that. That is the whole problem. So people think that they are very smart and intelligent but they are not. So you don’t know many a times what best suits your interest. That is why these restrictions . Similarly you may find our buses are fully packed during week days and during working hours. Where are these guys going during working hours? Few people may have to go to the city for some official/personal work but not too many. If during working hours students are going to the city for seeing movies or spending time with their girl or boy friends it is certainly not in conformity with the ideology of any educational institute in India.

**Public Display of Affection** (PDA) is still not very much accepted in our Indian Culture. But yes, western culture is creeping in and sometimes we do find couples walk holding their hands together, keeping hands in the shoulders, kissing etc. We are Indians and we are proud of our Indian culture. Unlike other cultures our culture is rooted in spirituality. It has lot of positive points. At least in an educational institute we would like to keep up with our present Indian culture. Moreover you are totally depending on your parents for your education now. Do they approve of PDA ? Go and ask them once and do let me know their answers.

Vivek, you are a follower of Jainism. Why does Jainism impose so many restrictions, stringent rules on the life of a human being. Those laws were not formulated by ordinary mortals like us but they were formulated by great people whose greatness we cannot even comprehend. People are still following those rules. Why, because they are necessary. So, there is need for stringent rules . If too much freedom is given to us we will go astray. Infact freedom is not what we conceive of it. Because if I am doing whatever my mind is telling me, it is not freedom but I am being a slave to my mind. A man whose mind is desire less is the only free man. He enjoys maximum freedom. Others are mere slaves to his/her mind.

I would like to see one more stringent rule in future. That is a rule against celebrating birthdays in very uncivilized manner. You may hug a person, or kiss a person in his/her birthday but how can you give birthday bumps and when he is shouting with pain you experience joy from that. You not only stop there. You pour water and cold drinks on him and even hit him with chappals and shoes. This is totally a sadistic pleasure. I wonder how people from good families are involved in such kind of filthy activities. I am waiting for that day when a fine of five thousand rupees will be imposed on anyone who is engaging in such activity. Then if in one birthday party ten people are caught then a fine of Rs 50000/ will be collected. Next evening we can have a big birthday party inviting all the students and faculty members of the institute. We can buy lot of birthday cakes for Rs 50000. I remember one student named Nikhil from Y06 broke his arm because of this birthday celebration. Infact, I have lot of respect for the girls of LNMIIT. But I am surprised to know that this filthy practice is creeping in the girls’ hostel as well. I am really shocked to know about this recent development. It should be stopped immediately.

My mail has gone a bit long. But I want to express my personal opinion very frankly. Don’t get hurt by that. I know most of you will curse me after reading my mail. But that is my due since I am playing the role of a teacher. A teacher (or playing the role of a teacher) will always try to do that which brings maximum good to his/her students rather than speaking only pleasing words. A teacher cannot be sweet all the time. If the students are doing something wrong it is the moral responsibility of a teacher to point out the mistakes otherwise who will do that. I hope at least few of you understand my point.

Thanks for your patience.

With love and Regards

Amit Neogi