



**Students' Senate (2018-19)**  
**Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur**  
**Ayushya Agarwal | Chairperson**



**5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Students' Senate (2018-19): Minutes**

**The 2018-19/5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Students' Senate was held on Thursday, 9th January 2019 in the Senate Hall, SAC. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Students' Senate at 8:30 PM.**

<b>S. no.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Status</b>
1.	Ayushya Agarwal	Chairperson, Students' Senate	Present
2.	Pratyush Rai	President, Students' Gymkhana	Present
3.	Anshumali Prakash	General Secretary, Media and Cultural	Present
4.	Rahul Shekhar	General Secretary, Games and Sports	Present
5.	Akash Jain	General Secretary, Science and Technology	Present
6.	Ahir Sudhendu Prashant	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Present
7.	Prakhar Ji Gupta	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Present
8.	Shrey Agarwal	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Present
9.	Sohail Saifi	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Present
10.	Sirsendu Sarkar	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Absent
11.	Mayank Chauhan	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Present
12.	Aayushi Bansal	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Present
13.	Anant Chopra	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Present*
14.	Anmol Chaman	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Present
15.	Navanya Sharma	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Absent
16.	Rahul Sethi	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Present
17.	Siddhartha Srivastava	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Present
18.	Aditya Mishra	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Present
19.	Faizan Siddiqui	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Present*



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20.	Mataria Pence Jagatkumar	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Present
21.	Nikunj Kothari	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Present
22.	Rishab Agarwal	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Absent#
23.	Yash Maheshwari	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Present
24.	Ankur Banga	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Absent
25.	Ashutosh Bajpai	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Absent
26.	Chinmay Goyal	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Present
27.	Deepankur Kansal	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Present
28.	Prince Pratap Singh	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Present
29.	Shivam Rajoriya	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Absent#
30.	Abhishek Verma	Senator, MTech Y18	Absent#
31.	Akshay Bajaj	Senator, MTech Y18	Absent
32.	Somya Sharma	Senator, MTech Y18	Absent#
33.	Yogendra Vyas	Senator, MTech Y18	Present
34.	Deepak Singh Attri	Senator, MTech Y17	Present
35.	Hemant Kumar Singh	Senator, MTech Y17	Present
36.	Jitendra Kumar	Senator, MTech Y17	Present
37.	Narayan Mishra	Senator, MTech Y17	Present
38.	Danish Abbas	Senator, MTech Y16	Absent
39.	Karanvir Singh Bhatia	Senator, MTech Y16	Absent
40.	Viswadeep Ojha	Senator, MBA, MDes and other 2-year programmes Y17	Present
41.	Mallidi Lakshmana Sudheer Reddy	Senator, MBA, MDes and other 2-year programmes Y18	Present
42.	Ajay Vallabh	Senator, MSR	Absent
43.	Suraj	Senator, MSR	Present
44.	Panchajanya Sanyal	Senator, PhD Y16	Present

\* - Present with Nominee, # - Absent with Permission

The meeting was commenced at 8:51 pm.



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The following agenda items were taken up for consideration:

<b>Item No. 1</b>	To confirm the Minutes of the following meetings: i) 2018/19 – 4th Meeting
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The Chairperson Students' Senate 2018-19 informed the Senate that the minutes of the 4th Meeting 2018/19 were not prepared due to time constraints and assured to present the same in the next meeting of the Students' Senate.

<b>Item No. 2</b>	Announcements and Remarks, if any
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The following announcements were made on the floor of the Senate -

- The Chief Election Officer, Election Commission informed the Senate that the blackout period before the General Elections 2019 will start from 11th Jan and will continue till 21st Jan. It was duly emphasized that no events or public gatherings are allowed to take place during the blackout period.
- Questions were raised about the status of the report of Antaragni's Fact Finding Committee. There were concerns that the Core Team members of Antaragni'18 will graduate after April. Hence, the Chairperson Students' Senate requested the concerned committee to prepare the report and present the same during the 1st Senate meeting 2019-2020.

<b>Item No. 3</b>	To consider the reply of the following Position Holders to the Show Cause issued to them: 1. Chief Marketing Officer; 2. Co-ordinators of card and board games club To consider the reply of the Senators issued a Show Cause Notice for the violation of attendance rules of the Senate:
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- The Chief Marketing Officer was not present in the Senate and hence the item was deferred to the next meeting.
- The Chairperson Students' Senate presented his concerns with regard to the Coordinators of card and board games club on the following issues:



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- The club was neither inviting participation from the campus community nor organizing any workshops or recreational activities targeted towards attracting newcomers to the club.
- The Coordinator of card and board games club informed the Senate that they were not able to conduct any such workshops/activities due to space and resource constraints. It was stated that they had only a single copy of each game and in addition, the budget allotted to the club is 3,600 Rs which was insufficient to ensure smooth conduction of any kind of workshops or activities.
- Upon being questioned about the low reach of the club, the Coordinator informed that with no Secretaries appointed in the club, participation is propagated only through personal reach.
- The Students' Senate informed the Coordinator of the different remedial measures available to him for the concerns of the club and directed him to discuss the issues with the General Secretary Games and Sports Council and come up with solutions for the same.
- The Chairperson Students' Senate asked the following Senators to present valid reply with regard to the Show Cause Notice issued to them for the violation of attendance rules of the Senate:
  - Mr. Ahir Sudhendu Prashant ( Senator BT/BS Y15) -
    - The Senate was informed that the concerned Senator missed 3 consecutive Senate meetings to which the Senate was informed of the fact that the Senator missed the first meeting due to his ill health while the second one due to his academic commitments.
    - A show cause notice was issued against him in the subsequent meeting which he failed to defend as he was suffering from food poisoning. The Senate was further informed that although a nominee was appointed by the individual, the nominee himself was not able to make it to the meeting. The Senator though had taken permission for his absence from the meeting.
    - The Senate considered the reasons stated for the absence as valid and on a humanitarian ground accepted the defence of the Senator.
  - Mr. Anmol Chaman (Senator BT/BS Y16) -
    - The Senate was informed that the concerned Senator missed 2 consecutive Senate meetings to which the Senate was informed of the fact that the



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Senator missed the first meeting as he was not in campus while the second one due to his ill health.

- The Senate considered the reasons stated for the absence as valid and accepted the defence of the Senator.

<b>Item No. 4</b>	To consider the text of the resolution on the Hall 11 issue
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This item was deferred for the next meeting as the text of the resolution had not been prepared by the President, Students' Gymkhana.

<b>Item No. 5</b>	To consider the Action-taken report (ATR) for the decisions taken in the Students' Senate (2018-19)
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This item was deferred for the next meeting due to the paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 6</b>	To consider for voting the proposed Constitutional Amendments
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- The President Students' Gymkhana had proposed some constitutional amendments to the newly proposed Articles 2.03 and 2.11.
- The Parliamentarian Students' Senate informed the Senate that the changes were not made as he was not sure of the exact amendments proposed.
- The President Students' Gymkhana re-stated the amendments to be made which are as follows:
  - In the Article 2.03, the following nomenclature change was proposed concerning the newly formed Academics and Career Council:
    - The post "UG/PG in charge" was to be renamed as "UG/PG Secretary".
  - In the newly proposed Article 2.11, the term "supervise" was to be removed since it did not correspond to the philosophy behind the post. Further, It was decided that the vision document of the Academics and Career Council would be drafted by the incoming core team and approved by the Students' Senate at a later stage.
- The Senate had the following concerns with the proposed Constitutional Amendments:
  - The Students' Senate was of the opinion that giving the new entity the name of "Council" would bring expectations of inclusion of clubs and hobby groups



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within its umbrella. If this was allowed there would be a clash of mandate between the new entity and the existing councils which could lead to migration and duplication of clubs.

- It was thus proposed that “Office” can be a better term for the Academics and Career Council analogous to The President's' Office. However, it was pointed out that despite the Senate's' in principle acceptance of the term it had not been formally incorporated in the Constitution.
- Finally, the Senate accepted that only wings would be formed under the Academics and Career Council. This would require the Rules and Procedures Committee to weed out further inconsistencies in the Constitution.
- Since the Senate was not able to reach upon a common agreement even after much discussions, the Chairperson Students' Senate requested for a show of hands in support of the following points:
  - The Academics and Career council would not have Clubs and Hobby Groups under its umbrella. The proposal was passed by the majority.
  - The Academics and Career Council was proposed to be named as Office of Academics and Career. The majority voted against the motion and hence the proposal was not accepted.
  - It was proposed that wings be available to all councils and that they should not remain limited to the Academics and career Council. The majority voted in favor of the motion and the proposal was accepted by the Senate.
  - The overall amendment along with the above-mentioned 3 points included were re-stated by the Chairperson Students' Senate and a 2/3rd majority voted in support of the motion. The Constitutional Amendment with the above-stated changes was accepted.

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<b>Item No.7</b>	To consider the minutes of the meeting of COFA(U)
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This item was deferred for the next meeting due to the paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 8</b>	To consider the mid-term reports of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. General Secretary, Science and Technology Council</li><li>2. President. Students' Gymkhana</li><li>3. Finance Convener, Students' Senate</li></ul>
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4. Chairperson, Students' Senate
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The General Secretary, Science and Technology Council presented his mid-term report on the floor of the Senate. The major questions asked on the floor of the Senate relating to the respective points presented by the General Secretary, Science and Technology Council were as follows:

- The General Secretary, Science and Technology Council was asked to clarify the rules pertaining to which the students associated with various teams were to be provided appreciation certificates for contributing to the team. He replied stating that a student will be ratified by the council if he/she has spent an academic year in association with the team or in the other case has contributed significantly towards the team. The process of ratification remains subjective as there are a number of factors influencing the same.
- Upon being asked about the problems faced in the conduction of Takneek without the involvement of HEC this year, the General Secretary, Science and Technology Council replied that the HEC were involved on an individual basis, not as an organizing team. Further, the Senate was informed that without the HEC involved in the conduction, there were limitations faced by the council in terms of manpower but the participation of Club Co-ordinators and Secretaries along with the Pool Captains helped in proper conduction of Takneek' 18.
- Questions were raised with regard to the collaboration of various technical clubs to offer collective projects to which the General Secretary, Science and Technology Council informed that the council will be floating Inter-club projects as well as Council projects that individuals can take up on their own, in the coming semester.
- The General Secretary, Science and Technology was asked about the incentives taken by the council to utilise the opportunity of first yearites having laptops this year. The General Secretary, Science and Technology replied that the council duly capitalised this opportunity and several software installation workshops and lectures were organized.
- There were questions relating to the involvement of PG students in various council activities. The Senate was informed that the PG participation in the council activities increased this year due to the quad sessions, workshops and sessions that were conducted in the PG halls.
- The various recommendations proposed by the General Secretary, Science and Technology Council were as follows:



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- It was recommended to establish an Online letter portal to keep track of the applications/proposals to administration and that the DOSA Office should have a facility for the direct purchase of online goods. The Chairperson Students' Senate directed the General Secretary, Science, and Technology Council to initiate the process in association with the DOSA office.
- It was also proposed that the procurement of vendors and purchases for some common and yearly orders (like T-shirts, certificates etc.) should be done by the Finance Committee. The proposal was not accepted by the Senate but the Chairperson Students' Senate directed the General Secretary, Science, and Technology Council to bring up this in the next meeting of the Finance Committee.
- The General Secretary, Science, and Technology Council mentioned the issue of space crunch and proposed some probable locations for a working area like the New SAC rooms, common rooms in UG and PG halls, etc. The Chairperson Students' Senate directed the General Secretary, Science, and Technology Council to discuss the matter with the President Students' Gymkhana.
- The General Secretary, Science and Technology recommended a change in the post of Mr. Sunil Pandey to 'Head, Science and Technology Council' from 'Senior Executive' since the work done by him towards the interest of council has been commendable. The Senate had opinions that this post-facto change in status should not be allowed. It was suggested that issuing an appreciation award could be an alternative rather than a change in role or status. After much deliberations, the Chairperson Students' Senate proposed to form a sub-committee regarding the same. The mandate of the committee would be to look into devising reward mechanism for an intermediate form of appreciation for those council members who perform extraordinarily. The members of the sub-committee formed were as follows:
  - Rupam Biswas, General Body Member
  - Mayank Chauhan, Senator BT/BS Y15
  - Akash Jain, General Secretary, Science and technology Council (Convener)
- It was proposed that Techkriti is the Technical and Entrepreneurial Festival of the institute and having a separate core team for Entrepreneurial Summit is redundant. Thus the summit should be managed and organized by Techkriti core team. The





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Chairperson Students' Senate directed the Grievance Redressal committee to take up the issue.

- The General Secretary, Science and Technology council informed the Senate that with growing social media presence, a media team is required, dedicated to capturing and editing photos and videos in a professional manner. One of the Senators proposed that the Information and Media cell of the institute can take the responsibility of the same. It was stated that the mandate of the Information and Media cell covers only events concerning the Institute and not regular student activities. Eventually, The Chairperson Students' Senate directed the President Students' Gymkhana to look into expanding the mandate of the Information and Media cell. the Chairperson Students' Senate also directed the Gymkhana Review Committee to propose various possible structures that could be brought up to address the issue.
- It was recommended that Clubs, Hobby Groups and Teams should be given IITK Email IDs to communicate with people outside our institute, in an authentic way. The Students' Senate rejected the recommendation citing that the Executives were representatives to these entities and already had access to their IITK id's.
- It was recommended that direct allotment of funds should take place as the present system of procurement of SSF is cumbersome. It was proposed that funds allotment for activities requiring funds less than/equal to Rs. 25,000 be approved with no objections on the students senate mailing list/senate meeting while activities with fund requirement more than Rs. 25,000 should be necessarily approved in a senate meeting.
- It was proposed that bills/Advance Clearance Forms approval sequence should be modified to:
  - Stocks Verification
  - Approval by Finance Convener
  - Approval by General Secretary/President
  - Approval by Faculty Counsellor
  - Stocks Registry

Further, the forms and bills must be submitted by the DPM in the DOSA Office, to reduce hassles in the forms management. The Chairperson Students' Senate forwarded the proposed change to the Finance Committee for its recommendation.



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- It was recommended that teams should also be formed for research purposes, apart from participating in competitions. The Senate accepted the recommendation and was forwarded to RPC for further consideration.
- It was recommended that a part of the prize money (not involving goodies) won by students from winning competitions (sponsored by Gymkhana funds or team's budget from institute) should be given to the council/team's fund. The Senate accepted the recommendation but there were concerns as to what percentage of prize money should be provided. Hence, the item was forwarded to the Finance committee to decide upon the exact details.
- It was proposed that since entry for girls after midnight to some SnT workspaces (those in boys halls of residence) is not allowed, locations like Multipurpose room, New SAC should be issued to SnT Council after midnight till 6am permanently. If any other activity is to be organized there, timings can be negotiated between General Secretary, Science and Technology and the Warden, NEW SAC. The Chairperson Students' Senate directed the General Secretary, Science and Technology and the Warden, NEW SAC to take up the proposal on a case by case basis initially and a permanent settlement can be figured out later.

The Senate also raised concerns about the Inter-IIT performance of the IIT Kanpur contingent in the Inter-IIT Tech meet and overall. The Chairperson Students' Senate directed the General Secretary, Science and Technology Council, the General Secretary, Games and Sports Council and the General Secretary, Media and Cultural Council to diagnose the issues responsible and collectively present a feedback report of the same.

The Chairperson Students' Senate presented his mid-term report upon the floor of the Senate and the report was accepted by the Senate.

<b>Item No. 9</b>	To consider the post-conduction report of Techkriti'18
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This item was deferred as the report had not been prepared.

<b>Item No. 10</b>	To consider the post-conduction report of Udghosh'18
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This item was deferred as the report had not been prepared.



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<b>Item No. 11</b>	To consider the pre-conduction report of Galaxy'19.
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This item was deferred for the next meeting due to the paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 12.</b>	To consider the Interim Report of the Gymkhana Review Committee (GRC)
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The festival review interim report was presented first on the floor of the Senate. The report addressed the following issues:

- The report recommended to modify the composition of COFA. It was proposed that the Committee of Festival Affairs shall be converted into Council of Festival Affairs - a standing council of the Students' Senate and proposed the following modified composition:
  - President, Students' Gymkhana (ex-officio Chairperson)
  - Convener, CoFA
  - Chairperson, Students' Senate (ex-officio)
  - Finance Convener (ex-officio)
  - General Secretary, Media and Culture
  - General Secretary, Science and Technology
  - General Secretary, Games and Sports
  - Festival Coordinator(s), Antaragni
  - Festival Coordinator(s), Techkriti
  - Festival Coordinator(s), Udghosh
  - 3 members of the Finance Committee (associated with each festival)
  - Two nominees of the Students' Senate
  - Student Advisors of each festival.

The functioning guidelines and role of members were proposed . It was recommended that the Student Advisors to each festival shall be nominated by the previous Core Team. The Senate forwarded the recommendation to the COFA(J) for its opinion.

- The committee recommended that members of the Finance committee should be empowered to sign on the behalf of the Finance convener as the authority for signing bills for the respective festivals which they are assigned to:
  - The Senate raised concerns regarding this because the signing of bills for festivals requires an experienced person to review and pass the bills and that finding such



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experienced members to have in the committee would be difficult. The concern was addressed as the presenter of report reminded the Senate that since the members to any committee could now be nominated from the General body, finding experienced members would be feasible.

- There were also concerns that the festivals may try to hijack the process by getting individuals biased towards their interests into the committee to which the presenter of the report replied that nominations to the committee would be an individual process and only once the members are decided, the allocation of the responsibilities of respective festivals to the members would take place.
- Due to paucity of time, Only those sections of report were considered which appeared necessary to be discussed before the General Elections while the rest were deferred to the next meeting due to the paucity of time.

<b>Item No.13.</b>	To consider the proposal for modifications in the membership of GRC
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The following names were proposed and accepted for the membership of the Grievance redressal committee:

- Yash Maheshwari, Senator, BT/BS Y17
- Abhishek Aryan, General Body Member

<b>Item No. 14.</b>	To consider the report of the committee on the review of the merger of the Films and Media Council and the Cultural Council
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The report was presented on the floor of the Senate and on the basis of the report, it was decided that the merger of both the councils to be sustained and continued as is. The following recommendations of the committee were accepted by the Senate:

- It was proposed that the incoming General Secretary, Media and Cultural Council shall draft documentation in consultation with the respective stakeholders of the council stating what the council expects to achieve in the next 3 years, especially on the fronts concerning the merger. It was decided that this document will again be reviewed by the Students' Senate 2021-22 and if it felt that the vision has not been met, the merger may again be evaluated.



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- Since Cultural activities were introduced as accredited courses, It was proposed that the General Secretary, Media and Cultural council should look into introducing the media activities in CCAAs well.
- It was also recommended that the number of MnC award be increased proportionally to the strength of the council.
- It was also recommended that since Vox Populi is no more a part of the council, It must not be considered for the 'Media and Cultural award'.

Further, The Senate accepted that there was a need for deputisation of the responsibilities of the post of the General Secretary, Media and Culture as pointed out by the merger review committee and directed the convener GRC to look into the same.

<b>Item No. 15.</b>	To consider the list of names of Gymkhana Nominees to the COSHA for ratification
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The ratification list was presented by the Chairman, CoSHA and was approved by the Senate.

<b>Item No. 16.</b>	To consider a proposal for the formation of a Hobby Group for Public Speaking
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The item was deferred for consideration in the next meeting due to the paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 17.</b>	To consider a proposal for an Award on Entrepreneurship
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The item was deferred for consideration in the next meeting due to the paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 18.</b>	To consider the inclusion of Games and Sports Excellence Award in the Students Gymkhana
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The General Secretary, Games and Sports Council present the proposal on the floor of the Senate. The Senate questioned the need for such awards since awards for the same purpose already existed at the institute level. The General Secretary, Games and Sports Council clarified that the awards being proposed therein would target the activities within the purview of the Clubs and hobby groups of the council while the performance in the teams was targeted by the



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Institute awards. The proposal was accepted by the Senate and was forwarded to RPC for further consideration.

<b>Item No. 19.</b>	To consider the report of the committee on Voting Mechanisms in the Gymkhana Elections
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The report was presented on the floor of the Senate by the Chief Election Officer, Election Commission and the Senate accepted the report.

<b>Item No. 20.</b>	To consider the pre-conduction report of Elections
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- The Senate raised questions upon the late submission i.e. 12 hrs before the commencement of the meeting, of the pre-conduction report of General Elections to which the Chief Election Officer apologized to the Senate.
- Further, the pre-conduction was presented on the floor of the Senate.
- The following points of the report were questioned by the Senate -
  - The deadline for manifesto submission was kept less than 48 hours, which concerned the Senate as the practice of ... and eventually it was decided that the deadline be extended to more than 48 hours.
  - The Senate felt that there was a conflict of interest in the fact that the fine imposing committee itself gets the amount of fine. Clarified!
  - The Senate discussed upon the proposal to reduce the monetary fines .... the fines for violating the electorate. 3 levels of warning were proposed, each with a fine of reducing the duration of campaigning depending upon the respective level of warning.
  - The Campaign reduction was finalized to be 1 hour in case of level 1 warning while upto 5 hours in case of level 2.
- The report was accepted by the Senate after the inclusion of the above-mentioned proposed changes.

<b>Item No. 21.</b>	To consider a proposal for the formal provision of executive powers to the General Secretary during the respective festival
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The item was deferred for consideration in the next meeting due to the paucity of time.





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<b>Item No. 22.</b>	To consider issues related to the working of the Finance Convener, Students' Senate
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The Finance Convener resigned from his post and the resignation was accepted by the Chairperson Students' Senate. The Senate appointed the Chairperson Students' Senate as the officiating Finance Convener and it was mandated that till the appointment of the new Finance Convener, the SSF forms will be approved on the Students' Senate list.

<b>Item No. 23.</b>	To consider the constitution of the Blues Committee
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The item was deferred for consideration in the next meeting due to the paucity of time.

The meeting was concluded at 01.56 am with a vote of thanks to all the members.