

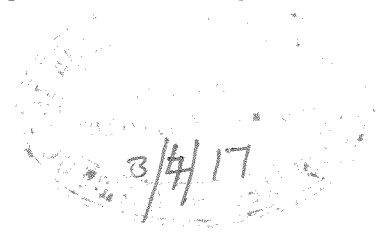
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*Registered Complaint*  
*Post*  
*8*  
*2.4.17*

Petition for Direction  
Submitted before  
The Chairman, Admission Supervisory / Fee Regulatory  
Committee for Professional Colleges

**Petitioners:**

1. Assish Chandran K  
Keeran's house  
Cheruvancher(Po), Chittariparamba(Via)  
Kannur, Kerala - 670650
2. Vishnu KP  
Vaishnavam  
Thilannur, Thazhe Chovva PO  
Kannur, Kerala - 670018
3. Akhilesh Chandran  
Kailas  
Maloor College PO, Pathanapuram  
Kollam, Kerala - 689695



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**Respondents:**

1. Nehru College of Engineering & Research Centre,  
Pampady, Thrissur - 680597, Represented by its Principal.
2. Nehru Group of Institutions,  
Pampady, Thrissur - 680597, Represented by its Chairman.

**Summary:**

The petitioners have filed applications for the release of their original qualifying certificates and issuance of Transfer Certificate. The college is retaining them and demanding payment of tuition fee for the entire course for the release of the said documents.

**Annexures:**

1. UGC Grievance Redressal Regulations 2012
2. UGC Notification on Remittance and Refund of Fees and Other Studentcentric Issues, December 2016

Respected Sir,

1. All the petitioners are first-year students of the respondent college. The first petitioner enrolled for Mechatronics course with admission number NCE16MC012, second petitioner

for Mechanical Engineering course with NCE16ME116, and the third petitioner with the admission number NCE16CS016 for Computer Science course. We joined the college in the year 2016 and have duly paid all the fees for the two semesters.

2. We were unaware of the reality of the college while we took admission, we joined the college with great expectations of a good college life. However, the college functions like an underworld with its own rules and procedures.
3. The college does not have any student representative body and even political activities outside the college is considered as serious crime and the college rulebook explicitly prescribes summary dismissal even without enquiry for those found participating in **any political activities**.
4. The college levies heavy fines on a variety of grounds, most of them frivolous. No proper receipts are given for the amount thus collected. The management used to continuously threaten us with reducing internal marks if we criticized the college in any way. Mr. Sanjith Kumar, the public relations officer of the college even used to harass the students physically and his cabin was thus called 'idimuri' (torture chamber) by the students.
5. 'Bloom' is the annual cultural fest organized collaboratively by all Colleges under the Nehru Group of Institutions. A student is bound to pay Rs 1300 towards the fund for the same. And the students who don't pay money within the stipulated time are fined at a rate of Rupees 100 per each day till the date of payment. No receipt is given for the money thus collected. We assume that the management makes a profit of more than 1 crore from organizing this event alone. Apart from this, Rupees 1000 is collected from each student for conducting a moto expo in college.
6. On January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017; Jishnu Pranoy, a first-year Computer Science student of the college committed suicide following the physical and mental torture by the college management. Students protested this incident and the college was shut for almost a month. Teachers and staff of the college **started behaving vindictively towards us** ever since the college reopened. They conducted strikes multiple times against the police enquiry that was going on in the case of unnatural death of Jishnu. We find it extremely difficult to continue at the respondent institution as we are not able to cope with the environment. Due to the stringent rules mentioned above and the prolonged uncertainty regarding academic life, we are not being able to focus on our studies.
7. It was in the above circumstances that we decided to remove ourselves from the rolls of the college and start our studies afresh at some other institution in the next academic year. For this purpose, we have been continuously making requests for the release of our certificates from the custody of college administration. The first petitioner filed an application before the principal in writing on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 (a copy of which has been enclosed at the end), but the administration demanded that we should pay the fee for the entire course for them to release the documents that are under their custody.
8. The demand for payment of full course fees is not at all compliant as "**collecting advance fees for entire program of study or for more than one semester or year in which a student is enrolled is strictly prohibited as it restricts the student from exercising other options of enrolment elsewhere**", as mentioned in Regulation 4.2.2 of the University Grants Commission Notification on Remittance and Refund of fee and other student-centric issues (Which has been produced herewith and marked as **Annexure 2**).
9. The institution has gone against the rulings of regulation 4.1.1 of the **Annexure 2** notification, which clearly **does not approve of any insistence upon the students from the part of the Higher Educational Institutions to submit the original academic and personal certificates and testimonials at the time of submitting admission form**. Mere verification

in the presence of the student and immediate returning of the documents and certificate by the institution after satisfying themselves about its authenticity and veracity is suggested by UGC under the provision of regulation 4.1.3 of the aforesaid notification.

10. Pursuant to Regulation 4.1.5 of the UGC Notification on Remittance and Refund of fees and other student-centric issues, **the act of retaining certificates and testimonials with the institution under any circumstance is strictly prohibited for it can be misused as a coercive tactic to blackmail students, who wish to withdraw admission from the institute for better prospects or other compulsions.**
11. The UGC Grievance Redressal Regulations 2012 (which has been produced along with the petition and marked as **Annexure 1**) empowers the Ombudsman of the University to make directions to the affiliated colleges in the event of such retention. But unfortunately, the Kerala Technical University to which the college is affiliated has not appointed an ombudsman yet.
12. **The Annexure 1** regulations vide Regulation 3 prohibits the collection of any fee which is not explicitly stated in the prospectus that is issued 60 days prior to the admission date.

Considering these, we respectfully request you to intervene in this issue and immediately direct the respondent college

1. To release the documents that are retained in violation of the UGC Notification on Remittance and Refund of fees and other student-centric issues.
2. To return the amount that is forcefully collected from the students for conducting cultural and technical fests as mentioned in paragraph 5 in violation of the UGC Grievance Redressal Regulations 2012, and not to collect such money in the future.

Yours Respectfully,

Thiruvananthapuram  
01 April 2017

Assish Chandran



Vishnu KP



Akhilesh Chandran

