

To,

Captain Amarinder Singh

Hon'ble Chief Minister

Govt. of Punjab

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravi Shankar Jha

Chief Justice, Punjab & Haryana High Court

Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law

Shri Tript Rajinder Singh Bajwa

Hon'ble Minister of Higher Education

Govt. of Punjab

Prof. (Dr.) Paramjit Singh Jaswal

Vice-Chancellor

Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab

Mr. Rahul Bhandari

Secretary

Department of Higher Education, Punjab

Prof. (Dr.) Naresh Kumar Vats

Registrar

Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab

Subject: Request for Granting Relief in Semester Fees due to the Economic Crisis

Respected Sirs,

1. With due respect, this is to bring to your kind attention the economic stress caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and extended lockdowns on the families of RGNUL students. The cataclysmic damage caused to the various sectors of Indian Economy are unprecedented. At the micro level, this has hit the financial condition of many households across the country. In this scenario, many parents/guardians find it difficult to pay the fees for the next semester.
2. Further, due to the premature closure of campus caused by the pandemic and subsequent declaration of Summer Vacations (thus causing a shutdown for 2 months), a major portion of fees paid for the summer semester (Feb-May) remain unutilised. The period of two months (14th March-14thMay) for the purpose of this application has been calculated on the basis of the notifications issued by the University [**Annexure-A**] viz. -
 - i. Suspension of routine in-campus activities w.e.f. 14th March onwards followed by another Order declaring total closure of the University w.e.f. 20th March.
 - ii. Declaration of Summer Vacation from 15th May to 15th June.
3. We are conscious of the University's liability to remunerate the teaching/non-teaching staff members of RGNUL family and other expenditure which, notwithstanding the closure of campus, are to be duly made. However, it does not seem rational and prudent to charge the

fees for entire semester while the routine in-campus activities have been functional for just one and a half months. Further, the teachers have conducted classes and internal assessment for the semester through various online mediums. Hence, we assert that our request for the relief(s) is without prejudice to the portion of fees which are being spent by the University on salary remuneration to teaching/non-teaching staff.

4. Certain constituents/particulars of fees including Mess Fees, Moot Court Fees, Campus Development Fund, Heath Centre Fees, Gym facility Fees, etc. remain unutilized due to the cutting short of summer semester. Not only this, the university will not be incurring expenditure (as in a normal semester) which is charged under a category of fees including internet, electricity, water, commodities and other utilities [**Annexure-B**].
5. All these fees accrued and remaining underutilised by the University for the Summer Semester (Feb-May 2020) should be duly accounted by an ex-ante and ex-post comparison for the period. It is requested that based on the balance amount (hereinafter, 'Balance'), a proportionate relief be granted to the students. Modalities of passing on such relief can accordingly be decided.
6. Another area that requires your consideration is the routine hiking of fees every academic year. It would help relieve the burden on the parents if the University decides not to increase the fees during the upcoming session.
7. In order to ease out the economic burden on the students and their parents/guardian, we request you to grant us the following relief(s):
 - a. **Exemption of Annual Increase** in Tuition Fees for the next academic session; and
 - b. **Rebate in Late Fees** (if any) applicable on payment of fees; and
 - c. **Partial Refund** of 'Fees' already paid in lieu of the Balance ('Fees' including but not limited to Amenities Fee, Moot Court Fee, Mess Fee, Campus Development Fund, portion of Hostel Rent which remain unutilised); or
 - d. **Adjustment of the Balance** by appropriate monetary relief in next semester fees.
8. Further, we recommend the University to limit non-essential expenditure (if any) in the coming days. Additional modes of revenue generation such as starting MOOCs,

Certificate/Credit/Diploma Courses and other economic activities can be pursued by the University to ease their economic stress.

9. In light of the aforesaid, we request you to understand the plight of students and their families, and give the issue and relief(s) a serious consideration. We understand that you will take an appropriate decision in the best interest of all the students, guided by reason, prudence and compassion. We sincerely expect an optimistic response in this regard.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

Students of RGNUL.

*(Signatures attached herewith in **Annexure-C**)*

Date: May 18, 2020.

ANNEXURE – A

RELEVANT NOTIFICATIONS BY THE UNIVERSITY

Notice (RGNUL/Reg./08/May)

Government of Punjab has declared summer vacations in all State Government Universities and colleges of Punjab from 15th May to 15th June 2020 vide its order dated 07th May 2020. RGNUL Covid 19 Committee has recommended, in compliance with orders of Punjab Government, to postpone the online examinations scheduled from 18th May 2020. The recommendation of Covid 19 Committee have been approved by RGNUL Academic Council in its meeting dated 10th May 2020. Accordingly, there shall be summer vacations in RGNUL from 15th May to 15th June 2020 and the online examinations scheduled wef 18th May 2020 are postponed. This is for the information of all the students of outgoing UG & PG classes.

REGISTRAR

10-May-2020

Notice (RGNUL off./253)

In view of the notification No. SPL/2020/864-870 dated 20.03.2020 issued by the Department of Higher Education (College), Government of Punjab, as precautionary measure to control the spread of Corona Virus (COVID-19), the University shall remain closed for all the employees, Teaching as well as Non-Teaching, with immediate effect till March 31, 2020. However, all the employees are required to remain at their Headquarter so that in case of need they are available for duty. All the teachers to maintain regular communication with the students through electronic means and keep them fully informed.

Registrar

20-Mar-2020

NOTICE

In view of the Notification number Dte Edn Dept/PA/Sp- 2020 dated 13th March 2020 issued by Department of Higher Education (Colleges) Government of Punjab, as a precautionary measure to control the spread of corona virus (Covid-19), the teaching and examination work in RGNUL, Punjab shall remain suspended with effect from 14th March 2020 to 31st March 2020. The students are advised to vacate hostels. However, as per the notification referred to above, teaching and non-teaching staff shall remain in the office during the office hours.

Registrar

13-Mar-2020

(As accessed from the RGNUL website www.rgnul.ac.in on 15.05.2020)

ANNEXURE - B

FEE PAYABLE BY UNDER-GRADUATE STUDENTS

B.A. LL.B. (Hons.)

	Fee Detail	Annual Fee	First Half (At time of Admission)	Second Half (Before 10 th of Jan)
1.	Admission Fee	Rs. 5000*	Rs. 5000*	-
2.	Tuition Fee	Rs. 110000 US \$ 6000 or equivalent in INR for the Foreign Nationals (US \$ 3000 in case of SAARC candidates)	Rs. 55000	Rs. 55000
3.	Amenities Fee	Rs. 23000	Rs. 41000	
4.	Campus Development Fund	Rs. 10000		
5.	Moot Court Fees	Rs. 3000		
6.	Examination Fee	Rs. 3000		
7.	Library Fee	Rs. 2000		
8.	Hostel Rent (Double occupancy) and Other Charges	Rs. 30000**	Rs. 15000**	Rs. 15000**
9.	Refundable Security (Only for First Year)	Rs. 20000*	Rs. 20000*	-
10.	Total Fee	Rs. 206000	Rs. 136000	Rs. 70000
11.	Advance Mess Bill adjustable against actual bill	Rs. 34000	Rs. 17000	Rs. 17000

(As accessed from the RGNUL website www.rgnul.ac.in on 15.05.2020 and verified from the RGNUL Prospectus

2019)