

CHAPTER-6

MAJOR FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter presents major conclusions of the study and suggestions pertaining to ways and means for improving the functioning of girl's hostels in greater Guwahati and assessment of need of additional number of hostel if any.

It has been seen that the study was under taken to examine the Consumption pattern and the infrastructural facilities of the hostels of Greater Guwahati. In this respect both the private and government hostels were surveyed. Although it was proposed that four provincialised government girls hostels would be taken, it was found that only two colleges had girls hostels. It was clearly observed from the study that certain similarities as well as differences existed among the two.

In general, covering all types of hostels for girl students, certain features were observed.

The infrastructure provided was almost same for both the govt. & Private hostels. Generator or inverter facilities were not provided in either of, the hostels, although it was felt by the inmates that it was a necessity in a place like Guwahati where frequent load shedding is a common a phenomena. It also becomes difficult to carry on their studies at the time of examinations because of frequent load shedding. Though water supply was more or less regular in both type of hostels, in private hostels water was supplied only twice a day. Most of the rooms were not provided with cupboard, though it was felt that it was a necessity for a girl.

It was observed that there was restriction in the use of electricity and each had to pay an extra charge for the use of laptops and mobile phone charging.

Toilets were more or less cleaned daily in both types of hostels. Security in government hostels was better than in private hostels. Students had to return

to their respective hostels at a time fixed by the authority. Whereas private hostels were quite flexible in this respect.

As far as maintenance is concerned both govt. and private hostels scores the same. Most of the hostels in both the categories were provided with filtered water.

Rooms were found to be congested in govt. hostels, sometimes with more than three students in one room. It appeared to be quite inconvenient for those students who had to prepare for their exams. In this aspect the private hostels were better off as they provided two seater as well as three seater rooms as per the convenience of the students.

In terms of infrastructure, both the hostels provided almost the same facilities. Although in case of emergencies, the hostellers were provided with first aid and consulted with a doctor, there was no permanent provision for consultation on health matters with a in- house doctor or there was no provision for doctor on call in both type of hostels.

In matters of finance, the govt. hostels were found to be cheaper than the private ones. Food can be said to be more or less satisfactory in both type of hostels. In case of information and entertainment, the govt. hostels can be said to fare better than private hostels.

The behavior of the warden in the govt. hostels can be said to be satisfactory, which cannot be said in case of private hostels. In case of some private hostels, the wardens were told to be quite rude and behavior to be quite bad.

Thus it can be seen that both type of hostels required modification in certain respects for creating a congenial atmosphere for the girl student residing in a place like Guwahati.

Though the overall working of the hostels is satisfactory there is scope for improvement in day to day management of these hostels. Hence it is recommended that the hostel authorities should look into the matters such as

number of inmates in one room, quality of food they get, as well as the amount of fees taken by the private hostels. It was found that a number of private hostels charge high fees for the services provided in the hostels. Therefore it is recommended that the private hostels charge fees for the extra services as well as the monthly fees in a reasonable way, as many poor students from far of areas come to seek education in the cities and as well as for upliftment of the women community. The population of girls seeking education is increasing in every area. A large number of girls have to find accommodation in towns or cities unknown to them. Girls hostels are the safest place for girls to stay. However the present number of girls hostels is far less than the requirement. This was seen as the rooms were overcrowded and the girls willing to pay high fees in the private hostels. The study team, therefore suggests that the government and provincialised colleges should provide for more hostels and hostel seats, particularly for the women community and for their development.