



भारत सरकार  
Govt. of India

राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग  
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes  
भारत के संविधान के अनुच्छेद 338क के अंतर्गत एक संवैधानिक निकाय  
(A constitutional body under Article 338A of the Constitution of India)

File No. Review/3/NEC/2024-SSW

Dated: 24.08.2024

To

**Shri Angshuman Dey,**  
Secretary,  
North Eastern Council,  
North Eastern Council Secretariat,  
Nongrim Hills, Shillong-793003.  
(Meghalaya).  
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**Sub: Review Meeting on implementation of constitutional safeguards for Scheduled Tribes – North Eastern Council, Shillong, Meghalaya.**

Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the Minutes of Review Meeting held under the chairmanship of Shri Nirupam Chakma, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), New Delhi on 25.07.2024 at Shillong, Meghalaya .

It is requested that the action taken / to be taken on the recommendations / suggestion of the Meeting may be intimated to NCST within 30 days from receipt of this letter, for taking appropriate action.

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully,

(R. S. Misra)

Research Officer

Ph. 011-24641640.

Copy to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Member (NC), NCST
2. NIC, NCST – for uploading on the website of the Commission.

## National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

Report and recommendations under article 338A (5) (e) of the Constitution of India on the measures to be taken by North Eastern Council (NEC), Shillong (Meghalaya) for effective implementation of constitutional safeguards and review and monitoring of schemes for the protection, welfare, and social economic development of the Scheduled Tribes by the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes.

[File No.: Review/3/NEC/2024-SSW]

Date of Review: 25.07.2024, Shillong, Meghalaya

The National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) is a Constitutional body set up under Article 338A of the Constitution of India to investigate and monitor all matters relating to protection, welfare and socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes in the Country. As per the Constitutional provisions, the Union and every State Govt. shall consult the Commission on all major policy decisions affecting Scheduled Tribes. The Commission presents its Reports to the Hon'ble President of India and all such Reports of the Commission upon the working/implementation of the Constitutional safeguards provided for Scheduled Tribes are to be laid before each House of Parliament along with Memorandum explaining the Action Taken or proposed to be taken on the recommendations relating to the Union and the reasons for non-acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendations by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.

2. In pursuance of the above constitutional mandate, Shri Nirupam Chakma, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes had decided to review constitutional safeguards for Scheduled Tribes employees in NEC and programmes / schemes being implemented by the NEC for the welfare of ST of NER states. Accordingly, the NEC was requested to furnish the information on structure and function of NEC, total sanctioned staff strength (post-wise) and posts reserved for ST's and present position, detail of schemes / programme implemented by NEC and allocation / utilization of funds during last 3 FY and current year, i.e. 2024-25. It was also requested that a review meeting will be held with Secretary, NEC on 25.07.2024 at 11.00 AM in NEC office, Shillong and before the review meeting, an interaction meeting with the office bearers of SC/ST Employees Welfare Association of NEC along with Liaison Officer for ST/SC Employees of NEC will be held.

3. As per programme, the team of NCST under the leadership of Hon'ble Member, Shri Nirupam Chakma reached Shillong on 24.07.2024. The officers of NEC met the Hon'ble Member and informed that Secretary, NEC will not be present on 25.07.2024. Hon'ble Member, NCST expressed his concern about absence of Secretary, NEC, as there was no formal communication from NEC. The officers of NEC requested Hon'ble Member to have interaction with the ST employees of NEC.

4. Considering the request of ST employees of NEC, the Hon'ble Member, NCST, in the presence of Secretary, NCST, Joint Secretary and other officials of the Commission had interaction with ST employees of NEC on 25.07.2024 at NEC office, Shillong. List of participants is attached in Annexure. After a round of introduction and briefing of the functions and duties of the NCST, the Financial Adviser, NEC apprised the Commission about the activities being undertaken by the NEC and informed that there is no ST/SC Employees Welfare Association in NEC. It was also informed that none of the officers of NEC is nominated as Liaison Officer for SC / ST employees.

The officers of NEC, who attended the meeting, informed that most of the incumbents are not promoted as the posts belong to isolated cadres. The Recruitment Rules of various posts are not reviewed due to which



निरुपम चाकमा / Nirupam Chakma

सदस्य / Member

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employees are not getting service benefits. It was also informed that candidates for regular appointment are recruited through SSC exams / interview, however, the nominated candidates tend to leave, as most of them belong to regions other than North East India. Due to this, many posts remain vacant.

#### **5. Observation of the Commission:**

The Commission has taken serious note of the fact that the Secretary, NEC did not make any effort to facilitate review of NEC by NCST. The Commission, accordingly, has decided to review the NEC in NCST Headquarters where the Secretary, M/oDONER and senior officers and the Secretary, NEC and senior officers will have to be present. During the interaction with the ST employees of the NEC, it was observed that Liaison Officer for ST has not been appointed. The Recruitment Rules for various posts may also be reviewed, as the employees are not getting service benefits.

#### **6. Recommendations / Suggestions of the Commission:**

After interaction / discussion with the ST employees of NEC, the following points were recommended / suggested for welfare of STs employees of the NEC and welfare and development for STs of North Eastern States and country.

1. The Liaison officer for welfare of SC/ST employees of NEC may be nominated.
2. The roster for various posts of the NEC may be made online for feasible access.
3. The Recruitment Rules for various posts of NEC may be reviewed and made available online for feasible access.
4. ST reservation may be made in the outsourced / contractual posts in NEC.
5. An Internal Grievance Committee in NEC may be constituted to look after the grievances of ST employees, as suggested by NCST in August, 2021.



निरुपम चाक्रा / Nirupam Chakra  
सदस्य / Member  
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