

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

Summary record of the proceedings of the review meeting taken by Dr. Rameshwar Oraon, Chairman, NCST on 23.07.2012 regarding implementation of reservation policy in services and admissions and schemes being run by Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi for STs

The Meeting was taken by Dr. Rameshwar Oraon, Hon'ble Chairperson, NCST, alongwith Hon'ble Members Smt. K. Kamala Kumari, Shri Bheru Lal Meena, accompanied by Shri Aditya Mishra, Joint Secretary, Mrs. K.D. Bhansor Deputy Director.

2. Prof. Sudhir K. Sopory, the Vice-Chancellor, JNU welcomed the Commission and apprised that the JNU was set up by an Act of Parliament (53 of 1966). The University came into existence during the year 1969. The Vice-Chancellor also highlighted the vision and mission of the University that "The University shall endeavor to promote the principles for which Jawaharlal Nehru worked during his life-time, national integration, social Justice, secularism, democratic way of life international and scientific approach to the problems of society". He also mentioned that the mandate of the University included, inter-alia:

- (i) Special measure to facilitate students and teachers from all over India to join the University and participate in its academic programmes.
- (ii) promotion in the students and teachers on awareness and understanding of the social needs of the country and prepare them for fulfilling such needs.

3. Vice Chancellor further mentioned that in order to attract and facilitate students from diverse economic and social backgrounds and different corners

of the country, the University conducts entrance examination at as many as 52 cities (72 Centres) within India including one abroad, so that students even in the remote areas could participate in the admission process and seek admission to various programmes of studies offered by the University. These steps provide a national character to the University in the true sense in matters relating to enrolment. Further, in line with the affirmative national policy of the Govt. of India, the University endeavors to ensure representation of persons belonging to STs, in its teaching, academic programmes & staff strength.

MEETING WITH ST STUDENTS

4. The student representatives informed the Commission that apparently there was no discrimination in the University but they had been subjected to hidden discrimination, particularly those belonging to NE States, through racial remarks and undesirable gestures. The Commission noted that similar incidents had also been reported in Delhi in relation to the people/students belonging to NE States. The Commission advised the students that they should take a mature stand against such incidents and also immediately report these to Police/University authorities for necessary action.

MEETING WITH JNU AUTHORITIES

5. The Commission noted that the percentage of reservation for ST students in admission during the academic year 2011-12 in various programmes was as under:

Programme	ST students
M.Phil/Ph.D	6.48%
MA/M.Sc./MCA	8.00%
BA (II Year)	6.25%
BA (I year)	8.86%

Dr. RAMESHWAR ORAON
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
Chairman
Govt. of India
New Delhi

Rameshwar Oraon

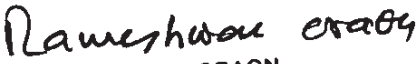
In addition, following special measures are taken for ST students:

- Scheduled Tribes candidates irrespective of the percentage of marks secured by them in their qualifying examination are permitted to take the Entrance Examination of the University for admission.
- 7.5% reservation in hostel accommodation is provided for Scheduled Tribe students. In case students belonging to the category for which such accommodation is reserved are not available, the reserved seats are interchangeable among SC/ST students. The University has provided hostel accommodation for all ST admitted in regular course.

6. The Commission noted that the position regarding representation of STs in various categories of teaching posts is as under:

Post	Sanctioned	Filled-up		Advertised/ being advertised	Reserved vacant positions advertised/ to be advertised for ST	Shortfall
		Total	ST			
Professor	165	88	Nil	68*	11*	01
Associate Professor	287	187	Nil	101*	15*	06
Assistant Professor	271	180	9 (5%)	83** +1*	7**	04
* Being advertised ** Already advertised						

It was informed that reservation for ST candidates in recruitment to Groups 'C' and 'D' posts was introduced in the year 1975, and for Groups 'A' and 'B' posts in the year 1978. The details of vacant position in respect of Gp 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' is as under:-


Dr. RAMESHWAR ORAON
 Chairman
 National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
 Govt. of India
 New Delhi

Post	Sanctioned	Total posts		No. of posts	
		Filled-up		Advertised (ST)	Being advertised (ST)
		Total	ST (%)		
A	103	75	6 (5.82%)	Nil	Nil
B	262	175	8 (3.05)	1	3
C	555	432	24(4.32%)	3	3
D	645	588	25 (3.87%)	1	6
Total	1565	1270	63 (4.02%)	5	12

The Commission desired that the JNU should fill up the vacant posts, reserved for STs within 3 months and apprise the progress in this regard to the Commission by November, 2012.

Action: JNU

7. Vice Chancellor, JNU apprised that JNU had Equal Opportunity Office. (EOO), which advises the ST students and physically challenged students of the University. EOO undertakes various programmes coordination with funding agencies, councils and various other activities. EOO also receives complaints from student/staff from time to time concerning alleged caste abuse or discrimination. The complaints received from students from socially deprived sections, are mostly concerned with alleged non-cooperation from the faculty during the research work, award of low grades in course work and caste abuse among fellow students, etc. The EOO has been instrumental in resolving most of these cases through counseling and mediation.

A SC/ST cell has been set up as per the UGC guidelines for implementation of various reservation rules/instructions of the Govt. of India/UGC from time to time.

8. The Commission was also informed that the UGC has created a Fund called "The G. Parthasarathi Endowment Fund for Economically Weaker Sections" for providing financial assistance to students coming from economically weaker sections of the society, including SCs/STs/Backward Classes and Physically Challenged (Handicapped) students, provided they are not in receipt of any scholarship/fellowship or financial assistance from any other sources. Govt. of India Scholarship i.e., Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship (RGNF) to ST Students is also awarded by the University Grants Commission.

9. Vice Chancellor, JNU ^{for it} ~~also~~ informed that the students belonging to the weaker sections, particularly SC and STs and are offered a special structured programme of remedial courses for improving the academic skills and the linguistic proficiency in various subjects and to further improve their academic performances. The remedial coaching has been offered for all courses of all studies in each Centre/School through its Conveners as additional courses for these students for additional academic assistance. The Conveners/remedial course teachers provide additional attention and support to the students identified for remedial assistance through discussion, assignments and other needy help. The needy students belonging to SC and ST category are advised to avail the facilities of the remedial courses through their Centres/School Coordinators.

In order to enhance students' competence in English, the department of English is offering remedial courses in English Language. Likewise, the School of Computer & Systems Sciences offer computer skill courses. Further, various Centres and School also organize a series of specialized lectures, seminars, workshops and hands-on training programmes as additional academic input to students/scholars belonging to SC and ST categories. Advanced Instrumentation Research Facility (AIRF) offers exclusive training programmes offering hands-on training on sophisticated

scientific instruments only for SC and ST scholars. Centre for Indian Languages (CIL) in School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies (SLL&CS) and Centre for the Study of law and Governance (CS&LG) also organize special lecture series and training exclusively for students belonging to SC, ST and OBC categories.

10. The Commission noted that studies concerning socio-economic development and other related issues of tribals needed to be carried out by the MTA to assess actual status of implementation of various development programmes/ schemes and the steps/measures required to be taken for upliftment of the STs to bring them at par with the general population. The JNU, which has vast resources to undertake such studies and also faculties of national and international repute belonging to social sciences may be considered by the MTA for undertaking such studies. The Commission could also consult the JNU faculties while formulating their views on various policy-related issues concerning STs. VC, JNU assured the Commission that necessary assistance would be provided as and when requisitioned.

Action: JNU/ MTA



Dr. RAMESHWAR ORAON
Chairman
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
Govt. of India
New Delhi