

No.: Review/MU/MZ/2026/RU-IV
Government of India
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

6th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan,
Khan Market, New Delhi – 110003
Dated: 07.04.2026

To,

The Vice Chancellor,
Mizoram University,
Vice Chancellor's Office
Tanhril, Aizawl, Mizoram – 796004
Email- vc@mzu.edu.in

Subject: Report of the Visit of the Team led by Shri Nirupam Chakma, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, to Mizoram University on 24 March 2026 for Review of the Implementation of Constitutional Safeguards for Scheduled Tribes- reg.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the subject cited above and to forward the enclosed tour report of the Mizoram University review chaired by Shri Nirupam Chakma, Hon'ble Member, NCST on 24.03.2026. It is requested that the action taken/to be taken on the recommendations be furnished within 30 days.

Enclosure: As above

Yours faithfully,



(R.K. Dubey)

Director

Ph. 011-20819839 | Email-rk.dubey@ncst.nic.in

Copy for information to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Chairperson, NCST
2. PS to Hon'ble Member (NC), NCST
3. Sr. PPS to Secretary, NCST
4. PA to Jt. Secretary, NCST
5. Director (RU-IV), NCST
6. AD (OL)- for translation



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**File No.- Review/MU/MZ/2026/RU-IV
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES**



**REPORT OF THE VISIT OF THE TEAM LED BY SHRI
NIRUPAM CHAKMA, HON'BLE MEMBER, NATIONAL
COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES, TO MIZORAM
UNIVERSITY ON 24 MARCH 2026 FOR REVIEW OF THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS
FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES**

File No.- Review/MU/MZ/2026/RU-IV
NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES

Report of the Visit of the Team led by Shri Nirupam Chakma, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, to Mizoram University on 24 March 2026 for Review of the Implementation of Constitutional Safeguards for Scheduled Tribes

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 constitutional provisions, the Union and every State Government shall consult the Commission on all major policies and decisions affecting Scheduled Tribes. The Commission is required to present to the Hon'ble President of India reports upon working of those safeguards and all such reports are to be laid before each House of Parliament along with Memorandum explaining the Action Taken or propose to be taken on the recommendations relating to the Union and the reasons for non-acceptance, if any, of any of such recommendations.

2. In pursuance of its mandate under Article 338A(5)(c) of the Constitution of India, a team of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), led by Shri Nirupam Chakma, Hon'ble Member, visited Mizoram University on 24th March 2026 to undertake a review of the implementation of constitutional safeguards and welfare measures for Scheduled Tribe (ST) students and employees. The team also included Shri Prashant Kumar Singh, Secretary, NCST, Shri Manish Raj, Senior Investigator, Shri Dilip Kanti Chakma, Legal Consultant, and Ms. Parna Chakma, Personal Assistant to the Hon'ble Member.



3. The visit was aimed at understanding how reservation policies, service safeguards, and student welfare measures are being implemented at the University level. The Commission focused particularly on compliance with reservation provisions in admissions, recruitment, and promotions, in line with the guidelines issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), the University Grants Commission (UGC), and other applicable Government instructions. In addition, attention was given to the functioning of scholarship systems, institutional support mechanisms, and the availability of adequate infrastructure for ST students and staff.

4. Before the formal review meeting, the Hon'ble Member interacted directly with Scheduled Tribe students, faculty members, non-teaching staff, and representatives of their associations. These interactions provided valuable insights into the lived experiences of stakeholders. Several issues were raised during these discussions, particularly relating to delays in scholarship disbursement, limited access to fellowships, and gaps in academic and institutional support.



- Students shared that while many of them are eligible for the National Fellowship for Scheduled Tribe Students (NFST), only a limited number of fellowships are actually awarded. Delays in scholarship payments were reported to be a recurring concern, affecting students' ability to meet academic expenses, especially for those engaged in research activities.
- Concerns were also expressed regarding hostel facilities. Although accommodation is available, it is not exclusive for ST students, and the existing infrastructure was described as old and in need of renovation. Students also pointed out that hostel fees are relatively high compared to other Central Universities, which adds to their financial burden, particularly when scholarships are delayed.
- Another important issue raised was the lack of adequate research funding and the absence of a structured placement mechanism within the University. These gaps were seen as limiting both academic growth and employment opportunities for students. In addition, stakeholders highlighted the absence of a real-time system to track scholarship disbursement, which often leads to uncertainty regarding payment status. Service-related concerns, including issues in promotion and eligibility criteria, were also mentioned.

5. Following these interactions, a formal review meeting was held with the Vice-Chancellor and senior officers of the University. At the outset, the Hon'ble Member outlined the role and responsibilities of the Commission and emphasised the importance of ensuring strict compliance with reservation policies and welfare provisions for Scheduled Tribes.

6. The University presented an overview of its academic structure, student enrolment, staffing pattern, and ongoing welfare initiatives. Details regarding the implementation of reservation policies, maintenance of rosters, and the functioning of the SC/ST Cell were also shared. The concerns raised during stakeholder interactions were discussed in detail, and the University provided its responses and clarifications. The Commission also sought specific inputs on scholarship management, infrastructure development, and mechanisms for monitoring safeguards.



7. During the meeting, the University also brought certain matters to the attention of the Commission.

- a. It was informed that a proposal for establishing a Law Department, which has already received approval from the University Grants Commission, is currently pending with the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Finance. The University requested the Commission's support in taking up the matter with the concerned authorities, highlighting its potential benefit for ST students.
- b. The University further proposed the introduction of a Hindi Department in Pachhunga University College and other affiliated institutions in the State. It also informed that subsequent instalments under the Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) are awaited for ongoing infrastructure projects, including the construction of a girls' hostel.
- c. The Commission also noted that while basic sports facilities are available in the University, there is scope for their further improvement and expansion. Strengthening sports infrastructure and providing better access to equipment and training facilities would not only promote physical well-being but also encourage greater participation of Scheduled

Tribe students in sports and extracurricular activities. Such initiatives may also contribute to holistic development and talent nurturing among students.

- d. Another issue highlighted was the absence of a consolidated, real-time dashboard for monitoring scholarship disbursement, which limits the University's ability to track beneficiary coverage effectively. The need for strengthening career guidance at the school level was also emphasised, particularly to encourage greater participation of tribal students in STEM disciplines.



8. Positive Observations

- The Commission noted that Mizoram University has a significant presence of Scheduled Tribe students across various academic programmes, reflecting inclusive access to higher education. The availability of hostel facilities accommodating a considerable number of ST students was also acknowledged.
- The presence of an SC/ST Cell and a designated Liaison Officer indicates that institutional mechanisms are in place to address issues concerning Scheduled Tribes. The University has also maintained reservation rosters on its website and follows due procedures for verification of caste certificates.
- It was further observed that students actively participate in community outreach programmes, including activities under the National Service Scheme (NSS) and other initiatives, which contribute to their overall development and engagement with society.

9. Consolidated Observations and Recommendations

Based on the interactions held with stakeholders, the information furnished by the University to the NCST questionnaire, and examination of relevant records, the Commission makes the following observations and recommendations:

| Sl. No. | Observations | Recommendations |
|----------------|--|---|
| 1. | Delays in scholarship disbursement and limited NFST fellowship slots continue to affect academic continuity, particularly for research scholars in Science stream. | The University may establish a dedicated Scholarship Facilitation Cell to monitor scholarship applications, coordinate with the concerned Ministries, and publish a monthly status report on all scholarships pertaining to Scheduled Tribe students. |
| 2. | Absence of a real-time system for monitoring scholarship disbursement leads to lack of transparency and uncertainty among students. | The University may take up the matter with the concerned Ministries for the development of a centralized digital dashboard to enable real-time tracking and monitoring of scholarship disbursement at the University level. |
| 3. | Hostel infrastructure is ageing and inadequate to meet current requirements, with no targeted facilities for ST students. | The University may prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) within six months for renovation and expansion of hostel infrastructure, including provisions for ST-focused accommodation, and submit the same to HEFA, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Efforts may also be made to mobilize resources through CSR funding from PSEs and corporate entities. |
| 4. | High hostel fees are placing financial stress on ST students, especially in the context of delayed scholarships. | The University may explore financial support from private funding agencies and non-profit organizations to assist meritorious and economically disadvantaged students, drawing upon best practices adopted by institutions such as the University of Delhi and Jawaharlal Nehru University. |
| 5. | Inadequate research funding has limited the participation of ST students in advanced research programmes. | Dedicated research funding mechanisms for Scheduled Tribe students may be developed in convergence with the University Grants Commission (UGC) and other funding agencies. Students may also be guided to access funding from private and philanthropic institutions. |
| 6. | There is no structured placement mechanism in the University, which affects the employment prospects of students. | The University administration may establish a dedicated Placement and Career Guidance Cell with focused interventions to enhance employability and career outcomes for Scheduled Tribe students. |
| 7. | The Liaison Officer and officials dealing with | Regular training and capacity-building programmes may be conducted for Liaison Officers and |

| Sl. No. | Observations | Recommendations |
|---------|---|---|
| | reservation matters require further capacity building, particularly in roster management and applicable guidelines. | concerned officials, in line with DoPT and UGC guidelines, to ensure effective implementation of reservation policies. |
| 8. | Certain infrastructure gaps were observed, including outdated solar systems and limited utilisation of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds. | A comprehensive infrastructure development plan may be prepared by the University by leveraging available funding sources such as HEFA, CSR initiatives, and other Government schemes, with clearly defined priorities and timelines. |

10. Way Forward

The Commission observed that Mizoram University has made commendable progress in promoting access to higher education for Scheduled Tribe students, as reflected in their significant representation across academic programmes. At the same time, certain gaps remain in the effective implementation of constitutional safeguards, particularly in areas relating to financial assistance, infrastructure development, institutional support mechanisms, and data management systems.

The University is advised to take necessary corrective measures in a time-bound manner and to submit an Action Taken Report to the Commission. The Commission, on its part, will take up relevant issues with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Ministry of Education, University Grants Commission, and other concerned authorities for appropriate intervention and follow-up.

List of Participants**a. Student, Teaching, Non-teaching staff and association members****National Commission for Scheduled Tribes**

Subject: Review of the constitutional safeguards, welfare and development schemes implemented for the Scheduled Tribes (STs) of Mizoram University by the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)- reg.

Venue- Administrative Conference Hall, Mizoram University, Aizawl, Mizoram

Date: 24.03.2026 from 10:00 AM onwards

Attendance Sheet**National Commission for Scheduled Tribes**

1. Shri Nirupam Chakma, Hon'ble Member
2. Shri Prashant Kumar Singh (IAS), Secretary
3. Shri Manish Raj, Senior Investigator
4. Shri Dilip Kanti Chakma, Legal Consultant
5. Ms. Parna Chakma, PA to Hon'ble Member

MIZORAM UNIVERSITY - Interaction with Association

| Sn. | Name | Designation | Mobile | Signature |
|-----|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 1 | Shri halchhuanauma Hrasmi | Internal Audit officer (MUNISA) | 7005: 194 | |
| 2 | Pc Laowialpuia | Asst. Registrar (MUNISA) | 6009 3255 | |
| 3 | Prof. Zoderpin Pochun | MIZUTA President | 841 1377 | |
| 4 | Dr. Lalmuah suah. | MIZUTA Treasurer | 8014 6220 | |
| 5 | Prof. Rameir Singh | MIZUTA FS | 94 58333 | |
| 6 | Malsawmdawngkema | MZUSC Gen. Sec. | 700 10930 | |
| 7 | JH. Lalnuolpeta | MUSC President | 8131 153 | |
| 8 | Lallawngzualp Panty | General Secretary MUNISA | 8419 7804 | |
| 9 | Dr. B. Lalzarkane | General Secretary MIZUTA | 9615 1664 | |
| 10 | Dr. F. Nghaklian | Joint Secretary MZU/SC | 980 5009 | |
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b. **Vice Chancellor, Registrar and Other Administrative Officers/Officials**

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

Subject: Review of the constitutional safeguards, welfare and development schemes implemented for the Scheduled Tribes (STs) of Mizoram University by the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)- reg.

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MIZORAM UNIVERSITY

| Sn. | Name | Designation | Mobile | Signature |
|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| 1. | Prof. Vineet Shrivastava | DEAN SFAA&FT | 94 73123 | [Signature] |
| 2. | Prof. Lalnunthluanga | CONTROLLER OF EXAMINATIONS | 9431 2361 | [Signature] |
| 3. | Prof. Sumnuu Rai | Dean S&PS | 873. 53272 | [Signature] |
| 4. | Dr. N. ALBERT KHIZHO | FO. | 9610 5131 | [Signature] |
| 5. | Prof. Pravarakar Rathi | PVC | 9654 4022 | [Signature] |
| 6. | Prof. DC Dolea | VC M&U | 9864 5111 | [Signature] |
| 7. | Prof. Lokanath Mistor | Dean School | 945 2093 | [Signature] |
| 8. | Prof. F. Lalnunthluanga | VC Dean, SLS | 943 5399 | [Signature] |
| 9. | Prof. C. L. VATHITO | Dean S&PS | 943 44922 | [Signature] |
| 10. | Dr. R. Lalchhanliama | DSW | 9612 0719 | [Signature] |
| 11. | R. Zonnuhthuang | CDC Dir | 943 43991 | [Signature] |
| 12. | ESTHER Lalnunthluangi | S.O ESTT (NT) | 94 56831 | [Signature] |
| 13. | R. Lalnunthluangi | Research-cum- Statistical officer | 9580 3798 | [Signature] |
| 14. | Lalnunthluangi, Chhangle | S.O. ESTT (T) | 956 4010 | [Signature] |