

A meeting of SC, ST, OBC and minorities cell held on 22nd feb, 2023 in the office of the Principal. Following members attended the meeting, chaired by the principal:

1. Dr. Madan Shandil (Convener)
2. Dr. Vinod Kumar
3. Dr. Poonam Chandel
4. Dr. Rajinder Singh
5. Ms. Rajbhakti Negi
6. Mr. Shubham Choudhary

All members of the committee touched upon the issues pertaining to the students of these communities. Further, that there was no case of discrimination reported during the session.

Convener

B. Blegry
Principal
Govt. Degree College
Sanjauli, Shimla-6 H.P.

UGC GUIDELINES FOR THE SPECIAL CELL

Purpose

According to the 1998 UGC Guidelines for the establishment of Special Cell for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, for the universities and deemed to be universities, the purpose of these Cells is to help the universities in implementing the reservation policy with regard to the admission of students and the recruitment of teaching and non-teaching staff at various levels. Its function is also to help the SC/ST categories to integrate with the mainstream of the university community and to remove difficulties, which they may be experiencing.

Objectives

According to the UGC Guidelines of 1998, following are the objectives of the Cell to:

- Implement the reservation policy for SCs/STs in the Universities and colleges;
- Collect data regarding the implementation of the policies in respect of admissions, appointments to teaching and non-teaching positions in the universities, and in the affiliating colleges and analysis of the data showing the trends and changes towards fulfilling the required quota;
- Take such follow up measures for achieving the objectives and targets laid down for the purpose by the GOI and the UGC; and
- Implement, monitor continuously and evaluate the reservations policy in universities and colleges and plan measures for ensuring effective implementation of the policy and programmes of the GOI.

A meeting of SC, ST, OBC and minorities cell held on 11th July, 2023 at 01:30PM and attended by the following members:

1. Dr. Madan Shandil (Convener)
2. Dr. Vinod Kumar
3. Dr. Poonam Chandel
4. Dr. Rajinder Singh
5. Ms. Rajbhakti Negi
6. Mr. Shubham Choudhary

In this meeting following issues discussed and agreed upon:

- It is resolved by the house to guide SC, ST, OBC and minorities students of the Institute, to optimally utilize the benefits of the schemes offered by the state Govt. , GOI and UGC.
- Assist the students of these communities in improving their academic performance and development in their personal and social life at the Institute.
- As a grievances redressal Cell for the grievances of SC, ST, OBC and minorities students and render them necessary help in solving their academic and other problems.

Convener

B. P. L. Aggarwal
Principal
Govt. Degree College
Sanjauli, Shimla-6 H.P.

CONSTITUTIONAL SAFEGUARDS AND LEGISLATION FOR SCs/STs

Constitutional Safeguards

According to the Constitution of India, which resolved India into a sovereign socialist secular democratic republic, Right to Equality is a Fundamental Right that includes the right to equality before law; prohibition of discrimination (Article 15); equality of opportunities in matters of public employment (Article 16). The Constitution further specifies that this will not prevent the state from making special provisions for women, children, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. Article 17 declares abolition of untouchability, forbidding its practice in any form.

The Directive Principles of State Policy of the Constitution include promotion of educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections (Article 46). The Hindu religious institutions of public character are thrown open to all classes and sections of Hindus (Article 25b). Any disability, liability, restriction of conditions with regard to access to shops, public restaurants, hotels and places of public entertainment or use of wells, tanks, bathing ghats, roads and places of public resort maintained wholly or partly out of state funds or dedicated to the use of general public are removed according to Article 15(2). Article 16 and 355 permit the states to make reservation for backward classes in public services in case of inadequate representation.

Tribal advisory councils and separate departments are set up in states to promote the welfare and safeguard the interests of the tribals (Article 164 and 338 and Fifth Schedule). Article 244 and Fifth and Sixth Schedules make special provision for administration and control of scheduled and tribal areas.

The Reservation Policy is a Constitutional device in the creation of society of equals. It is an exception to the principle of equality, as the principle of equality operates within the equals and to equate equals with unequals is to perpetuate inequality. Reservation for SCs and STs is founded upon the ideology of compensatory justice for their sufferings for ages for no fault of theirs. The quota of reservation has been decided by the Constitution in accordance with the percentage of the population of SCs and STs, being 15% and 7.5%, respectively.

Legislation

The Protection of Civil Rights Act 1955 (earlier Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955), which is in force since 1976, provides for penalties for preventing any person on grounds of untouchability, from enjoying the rights accruing on account of abolition of untouchability.