

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON MONDAY, 29th JULY,
2013 AT 12.30 P.M.**

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The list of participants is at Annexure-I

The following items were discussed in the meeting :-

1. **Writ Petition filed by Vice Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University (BHU) against the Commission & Others in the Lucknow Bench of High Court, Uttar Pradesh :**

Hon'ble Chairman gave a background of the Writ Petition filed by Vice Chancellor, BHU against the Commission & Others. He mentioned that despite 8 summons issued by the Commission to Vice Chancellor, BHU, the latter failed to appear before the Commission to discuss all the complaints received from its employees and others, who had alleged that BHU had not filled so many posts reserved for Scheduled Castes in the teaching as well as non-teaching staff. Vice Chancellor, BHU sent lower level functionaries to the Commission in response to the summons issued to him. These lower level functionaries were not able to answer queries raised by the Commission. The Commission was, therefore, not satisfied with their answers. Commission was constrained to issue arrest warrant against Vice Chancellor, BHU so that the long pending complaint against the Central University could be disposed off. Rather than appearing before the Commission, the Vice Chancellor, BHU chose to file a Writ Petition in the Lucknow Bench of High Court of Uttar Pradesh, seeking exemption from appearing before the Commission, showing thereby utter disrespect to the Constitutional body. Vice Chancellor has undoubtedly behaved in an arbitrary and high handed manner. In view of the facts and circumstances, Writ Petition filed by the Vice-Chancellor is to be contested. The Chairman directed that if need be, the Commission could hire a private Advocate for filing counter affidavit in the Court. Hon'ble Chairman also pointed out that since Vice-Chancellor, BHU has made some personal insinuation against him, he had referred the case to another Hon'ble Member of the Commission, Shri Raju Parmar, the Hon'ble Member, who will now hear the case henceforth. He also mentioned that it may be examined to file SLP against the interim Order dated 4.07.2013 of the Lucknow Bench High Court.

2. **Annual Report for 2012-2013** - Hon'ble Chairman enquired about the progress made in regard to finalisation of Annual Report 2012-13 of the Commission.

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Consultant, Shri M.R. Bali submitted that the Annual Report 2012-13 is likely to be finalised in a week's time and the same will be submitted to Hon'ble Chairman in the 2nd week of August, 2013.

Hon'ble Chairman enquired about the progress made in finalisation and submission of Sub-Committees reports and desired that all the reports should be finalised quickly and a soft copy of the same may be loaded on the website of the Commission. He also desired that all reports which would be finalised and approved by the Commission shall be given to all the participants in the "National dialogue on social disparities" proposed to be held shortly.

4. **Maintenance of Toll Free Register** - Hon'ble Chairman directed that the record of all calls received on toll free Number of the Commission should be maintained.

5. **Filling up of sanctioned posts** - Hon'ble Chairman observed that immediate steps may be taken to fill up all sanctioned posts including revived posts in the joint cadre.

6. **National dialogue on social disparities** - Hon'ble Chairman directed that a Seminar on Social Disparities; upliftment of SCs be organised in the 2nd half of September and two representatives from each State should be invited to attend the Seminar.

7. **Removal of income ceiling for the purpose of scholarship for SCs students** - Hon'ble Chairman observed that income ceiling for post Matric scholarship for SC students has been raised by Government from Rs.2.00 lakhs to Rs.2.5 lakhs. The Commission is of the view that there should be no income ceiling for the purpose of grant of scholarship to SC students. Because of the ceiling most of the SC students get debarred from scholarship for professional and higher courses. He further directed that the Commission should write to the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India to remove this ceiling *or raise it to a respectable level.*

7. **Updating the website of the Commission** - Hon'ble Chairman directed that the website of the Commission be updated immediately and that the first page of the website should open up with photographs of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and other Members as the composition of the Commission.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure-I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. Dr. P.L. Punia, Hon'ble Chairman
2. Dr. Raj Kumar Verka, Hon'ble Vice-Chairman
3. Shri Raju Parmar, Hon'ble Member
4. Dr. J.N. Chamber, Secretary
5. Shri T. Theethan, Joint Secretary
6. Shri C.P. Katyal, Deputy Secretary
7. Shri S.N. Meena, Under Secretary
8. Shri M.R. Bali, Consultant