

F.No. NCSC-CCELL06/2/2024-ADMN (83531)
Government of India
National Commission for Scheduled Castes
(A Constitutional body set up under Article 338 of the Constitution of India)


5th Floor, Loknayak Bhawan
Khan Market, New Delhi.
Dated: 18/10/2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Minutes of the 1st Meeting of the Full Commission of National Commission for Scheduled Castes held on 1st October, 2024.

The undersigned is directed to say that the 1st Meeting of the Full Commission of National Commission for Scheduled Castes was held under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chairman, National Commission for Scheduled Castes on 1st October, 2024 at 11.00 AM at Conference Hall, 7th Floor, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi.

2. The Minutes of the above said meeting are circulated herewith for information and taking necessary action by all concerned.


(Ayushi Rastogi)
Deputy Director

To,

1. DIG(P)/Dir(ESDW)/DS(Admn.).
2. US (Admn & GA)/US(ESDW)/US(APCR)/DD(SSW).

Copy to: -

1. PS to Hon'ble Chairman, NCSC.
2. PA to Hon'ble Member(LKK), NCSC.
3. PS to Hon'ble Member(VR), NCSC.
4. PPS to Secretary, NCSC.
5. PA to JS, NCSC.
6. Guard File.

MINUTES OF 1st FULL COMMISSION MEETING OF THE 7TH COMMISSION

HELD ON 01.10.2024

The 1st Full Commission meeting of the 7th Commission of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes was held on 01st October, 2024 at 11.00 Hrs under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chairman, NCSC at 7th Floor, Conference Hall, NCSC Headquarters at New Delhi. At the outset, DIG(P) welcomed the Commission and all the participants to the 1st Full Commission Meeting. Thereafter JS, NCSC commenced the agenda wise proceedings. The List of participants is at Annexure-I.

The Agenda items taken up for discussion and the proceedings are as under: -

AGENDA ITEM NO.1: RATIFICATION OF MINUTES OF 11TH FULL COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON 02.02.2024.

Decision taken: Minutes of the 11th Full Commission Meeting held on 02.02.2024 were ratified by the Commission.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 2: ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON THE MINUTES OF 11TH FULL COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON 02.02.2024.

(A) Filling up the deputation quota posts of Director, Deputy Director and Assistant Director.

The Commission was apprised that the 06 posts of Director has been filled on attachment basis vide DoPT order dated 14.06.2024.

Applications received for 02 post of Deputy Director on deputation basis is under process for sending to MoSJE.

Applications for 04 posts of Assistant Director on deputation basis have been invited and is under scrutiny.

[Sl. No. 2(A) of the agenda of the Meeting]

(B) Filling up DR quota posts of Sr. Investigator and Investigator

The Commission was informed that the Dossiers of 19 selected candidates for the post of Investigator have been received from SSC on 24.09.2024. Proposal for completion of appointment formalities is under process by SSC.

SSC has released the result of written examination for the post of Senior Investigator (04 vacancies) on 30.08.2024. Final Selection list may take 3-4 months.

[Sl. No. 2(B) of the agenda of the Meeting]

(C) Condemnation of old vehicles & procurement of new ones

The Commission was informed that the process for condemnation of 06 old vehicles of State Offices has been initiated and file is under process for soliciting

approval of Competent Authority. Procurement of new ones will be done after completion of condemnation process.

[Sl. No. 2(F) of the agenda of the Meeting]

(D) Creation of Legal Cell in NCSC HQ

The Commission was apprised that a proposal for creation of the posts of Deputy Legal Adviser (01 post) -Deputy Secretary Level, Assistant Legal Adviser (01 post) -Under Secretary Level, Superintendent (Legal) (02 posts)-Section Officer Level and Assistant (Legal) (03 posts)-Assistant Section Officer Level] has been submitted to MoSJE for setting up of legal cell.

The Secretary, NCSC bought out that set-up of permanent Legal Cell will benefit integrated and synchronised handling of the court cases with an accountability.

[Sl. No. 2(K) of the agenda of the Meeting]

(E) Opening of a State Office in UT of J & K

The Commission was informed that a self-contained proposal for creation of offices along with the creation of posts was sent to MoSJE on 01.02.2024. MoSJE has returned the file on 05.03.2024 and sought some clarification. The proposal is being examined and will be re-submitted shortly.

[Sl. No. 2(L) of the agenda of the Meeting]

Decision Taken: The Action taken report under Agenda 2(A) to 2(E) has been noted by the Commission. It was directed to regular follow-up with the Ministry.

AGENDA ITEM NO.3: Draft Memorandum for Standing Finance Committee (SFC) for inclusion of waste-pickers as third component in the existing NAMASTE scheme and identification and profiling of waste pickers in all the ULBs of the country.

The Commission was informed that M/o Social Justice & Empowerment had forwarded draft Memorandum for Standing Finance Committee (SFC) dated 12.06.2024 for inclusion of Waste Pickers as Third Component in the Existing Namaste Scheme and sought comments of the Commission.

The NAMASTE scheme was briefed to the commission, that it focuses on eliminating manual scavenging and improving the livelihoods of sanitation workers through skill development and mechanization. The proposed changes made by the Ministry in the draft memo was to add the waste pickers as a third component and identification and profiling of waste pickers in all ULBs of the Country. It was apprised to the Commission that the proposal received from the Ministry was agreed to and that the Comments of NCSC was sent to M/o SJ&E, D/o SJ&E with the approval of Secretary, NCSC.

Decision Taken: The Commission ratified the comments.

The Secretary has requested that the database may be created by the section for the review of this scheme, and recommended that the Commission may conduct a yearly review to address the issues in collaboration with various stakeholders.

AGENDA ITEM NO 4: Draft Memorandum for Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) for the schemes of “Pre-matric scholarship scheme for SCs and others” and “Post Matric Scholarships to the students belonging to scheduled castes for studies in India (PMS-SC)”.

The Commission was informed that M/o Social Justice & Empowerment had forwarded draft Memorandum for Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) for the schemes of “Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme for SCs and others” and “Post Matric Scholarships to the students belonging to SC for studies in India (PMS-SC)” dated 21.06.2024 and sought comments of the Commission.

The Ministry proposed major changes in the scheme and the same were briefed to the Commission. It was apprised to the Commission that the following comments from the NCSC were sent to the MoSJE:

- i. The income criteria for the applicant Scheduled Caste Families may be enhanced upto Rs. 8 Lacs per annum at par with the criteria of Economically Weaker Section.
- ii. The Academic Allowance/ Stipend for Hostellers may not be decreased from the existing level as it may cause hardship for the students studying in hostels.
- iii. A committee may be constituted where in representative from the NCSC may be included for monitoring the progress of both schemes, appraise the outcomes/gap in view of scope and implementation of the schemes.
- iv. The Centre may release funds in first and second quarter to ensure that funds flow in the beginning of the financial year continues and there is enough time for States to make up for release of matching grants. Speedy disbursal may provide immediate relief to the students enabling them to focus on the studies without worrying about financial constraints.

Decision Taken: The Commission ratified the comments sent. It was also directed that the issue of increasing the income criteria be examined as there were multiple requests from various quarters.

AGENDA ITEM NO 5: Draft Memorandum for EFC for the scheme of "scholarship for higher education for young achievers scheme (shreyas)"

The Commission was informed that M/o Social Justice & Empowerment had forwarded draft Memorandum for Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) for the schemes of "Scholarships for Higher Education for Young Achievers Scheme (SHREYAS)" and sought comments of the Commission.

It was briefed to the Commission that SHREYAS scheme is aimed at enhancing youth employability through apprenticeship and skill development opportunities and that this schemes covers four schemes viz. Free Coaching for SCs and OBCs, Central Sector Scheme of Top Class Education for SC students, Central Sector Scheme of

National Fellowship for Scheduled Castes, Central Sector Scheme of National Overseas Scholarship for SC etc. students.

The major changes proposed by the Ministry in all the 4 schemes were briefed to the Commission. It was apprised to the Commission that under the scheme "Free Coaching for SCs and OBCs" the following comments of NCSC were sent to the MoSJE:

- i. The provision to increase number of available slots for SC Students may be considered to ensure maximum benefits to the socio-economically deprived SC students preparing to appear for competitive examinations for obtaining appropriate jobs in the public sector.
- ii. Selection criteria in case of scheduled Castes students may be standardized by all universities to remove the anomalies.
- iii. The course type wise Scholarship amount is not mentioned in the proposal
- iv. The existing provision of assistance for 12th Level exams given for admission to professional and technical institutions like JEE/NEET etc. may not be excluded.

It was also apprised to the Commission that the proposed changes in other 3 schemes were agreed to.

Decision Taken: The Commission ratified the comments sent. The Secretary recommended that a yearly review of all social welfare schemes for SCs be conducted by the Commission with the relevant stakeholders.

The Chairman also expressed its concern over the lack of support for students preparing for professions such as Chartered Accountants noting the absence of specific schemes to fund coaching institutions for this profession.

It was directed that meeting may be conducted with the Institute of Chartered Accountants to address this concern and based on the findings/ observations, the recommendations may be sent by the Commission to the Ministry.

AGENDA ITEM NO.6:- Proposal for De-reservation of vacancy reserved for SC category.

The Commission was informed that 3 proposals were received for de-reservation of vacancy reserved for SC category, including Assistant Shipping Master and Assistant Director in Govt. Shipping Office/Seamen's Employment Office, Under Secretary in MeitY, and Scientist-B (Chemical) in NTH. It was briefed to the Commission that in all cases, some shortcomings in the proposals were found, such as insufficient efforts to fill reserved vacancies and lack of documentation and all the proposals were not agreed to.

The issue of de-reservation was deliberated in detail. It was apprised to the Commission that all the 3 proposals were not considered and comments of the NCSC was sent to all the concerned departments.

Decision Taken: The Commission ratified the comments sent. Secretary NCSC reiterated that regular follow-up must be done by the sections with the departments after sending the recommendations of the Commission.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 7: Review of the “ONLINE e-GRIEVANCE MANAGEMENT PORTAL” and progress of Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) by BISAG-N.

A Power point presentation covering the brief back ground of the e-Grievance Management Portal was made for perusal of the Commission. It was submitted that the functioning of M/s BISAG-N was under the purview of MoU signed between NCSC and BISAG-N. The present MoU has been extended wef. 01.05.2024 to 30.04.2025 at a cost of approx. Rs 1.5 Cr to continue the objectives of the Commission. The major achievements were apprised to the Commission such as Auto-forwarding of complaints to the State Offices, generation of SMS/ emails messages for petitioners at various stages, migration of portal from private server to NIC Cloud etc.

Decision Taken: The Commission noted the same.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 8: Status on conducting of hearings by this Commission.

It was apprised to the Commission that total 1182 cases are matured and eligible for hearing at the respective dashboards of the Hon'ble Chairman/Members as on date, hearings have been conducted in 276 number of cases by the Hon'ble Chairman/Members. Out of these cases, 72 cases were closed as final verdict and under 104 cases, interim decisions have been given by the Commission. The Secretary, NCSC suggested that hearings may also be conducted through video conferencing on case to case basis as per the convenience of the Commission to expedite the redressal of complaints/ grievances.

The details of the pending live cases were also shown in the slide. A total of 67,139 complaints consisting of 26,790 online cases and 40,349 physical cases both of HQ and State offices were displayed.

Decision Taken: While perusing the details of the pending live complaints, the Chairman, NCSC expressed its concern over large pendency of the cases. The Chairman, NCSC directed that this issue may be discussed separately with the recommendations of the concerned sections focussing on redressal of complaints in speedier and judicious manner.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 9: Closing of the cases in which no action has been taken for more than 2 years.

The Commission was apprised that a total 13406 cases (HQ: 3495 and State Offices: 9911) have been closed by this Commission during the year 2024-25 in which

no action has been taken from last 2 years or more on part of petitioner or parties concerned.

State Offices of NCSC at Chennai has closed significant number cases (2971) which were inactive for more than 2 years, followed by Lucknow (2019), Chandigarh (1810), Kolkata (1197).

Decision taken: The Commission noted the same.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 10: Any other agenda with the permission of the chair.

Hon'ble Member (LKK) highlighted the following corrective measure while processing to the complaints:

- i. The heinous crime cases should be processed and submitted within one weeks for hearing/resolution.
- ii. The verification and availability of the Aadhar Card must be checked while registering the complaints.
- iii. The subjudice cases should be identified in the very beginning of the processing of the case.
- iv. The cases due for hearing should be put up with due prior discussion/perusal with Hon'ble Chairman/member concerned.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair and Members of Commission.

List of participants 1st Full Commission Meeting held on 01.10.2024

(A) In Chair:	(B) Officers present:
1. Shri Kishore Makwana, Hon'ble Chairman, NCSC	1. Shri Gudey Srinivas, Secretary, NCSC
2. Shri Love Kush Kumar, Hon'ble Member, NCSC	2. Shri Rajeev Kumar Tiwari Joint Secretary, NCSC
3. Shri Vaddepalli Ramchander, Hon'ble Member, NCSC	3. Ms. Sanmeet Kaur, DIG(P), NCSC
	4. Shri Kaushal Kumar, Director, NCSC
	5. Shri Kalloo Ram, Under Secretary, NCSC
	6. Shri Dilip Kumar Gupta, Under Secretary, NCSC
	7. Shri K.J. Bhatt, Under Secretary, NCSC
	8. Smt. Ayushi Rastogi, Deputy Director, NCSC
	9. Shri Dinesh Vyas, Deputy Director, NCSC
	10. Shri Prabhat Mohan Thakur, Research Officer, NCSC