

Minutes of the 8th Meeting of the National Commission for SCs

Eighth Meeting of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) was held at 12.30 PM on 31.01.2011 under the Chairmanship of Dr. P.L. Punia, Chairman in the Conference Hall of the Commission. The list of participants is as at Annexure-I.

The Commission discussed the following agenda items:-

Agenda Item No.1: Confirmation of the minutes of the Sixth meeting of the Commission held on 10.01.2011.

The Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes held on 10.01.2011 as per **Annexure-1.1)** were circulated on 21.01.2011.

Agenda Item No.2: Action taken on the minutes of the Sixth meeting of the Commission held on 10.01.2011.

The action taken on decisions taken in the Sixth meeting of the Commission held on 10.01.2011 were noted and approved by the Commission.

Agenda Item No.3: Income limit imposed as creamy layer for Scheduled Castes may be finished.

The matter was discussed and the Commission decided that the limit of income for Rs.2 lakh effective from 1.7.2010 should be eliminated. No income limit should be imposed and the benefit of this scholarship should be extended to everyone irrespective of his/her income if he or she belongs to Scheduled Castes. The Commission desired that the matter should be taken up with the concerned authorities for removal of the limit on the income of the SCs. (Action: ESDW)

Agenda Item No.4: The Scholarship to the Scheduled Castes students be given at the time of Admission in the schools/colleges/Institutions.

The issue was discussed in detail and the Commission recommended the following:-

- (i) That as admission fee is reimbursed by the Government itself, no fee should be taken from the students at the time of admission. If in any case a student deposits the admission fee, it should be reimbursed to him within one month.
- (ii) If an Institution charges admission fee from the students belonging to SC, action should be taken against the Institution. If any student is harassed on this count action should be taken under the SC/ST (PoA) Act, 1989.
- (iii) The State Governments should take one month's time from the admission of the student to process the case and release the scholarship amount to the SC student's bank accounts on first date of every month so that the students do not face any difficulty. The Andhra Pradesh model of giving ATM Cards to SC students may be adopted by other States/UTs also. The details of procedure adopted by Andhra Pradesh Government may be obtained by NCSC.
- (iv) The Commission also recommended that the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and the State Governments should be written to allocate adequate funds for disbursement of scholarships to all SC students without imposing any limit of income. **(Action: ESDW)**

Agenda Item No.5: Proposal of Hon'ble Member (RP) to take review meetings of the States/UTs falls under his jurisdiction.

The issue was deliberated among the Members. Hon'ble Chairman observed that the State Level Review Meeting will be held by the full Commission as per prevailing practice. He desired that the questionnaire should be modified/updated and thereafter sent to all States/UTs to provide information. The Commission will draw programme for State review as per its convenience. **(Action: C.Cell)**

Agenda Item No.6: Any other items with the permission of the chair.

- (i) **Condition of hostels for SC students-** The issue of management of SC hostels came up for discussion during the meeting. The Hon'ble Chairman observed that the Government of UP is not giving scholarships to the students who are staying in hostels. He further observed that the kitchen facility either does not exist or it is insufficient in the SC students hostel. He desired that a study should be conducted on the working of all such hostels.

Member(LPK) suggested that LPG facility should be provided and a common kitchen should be provided in the hostels. The Hon'ble Chairman also drew attention of the Commission towards insufficient staff like warden, cook etc. in the hostels. **(Action: ESDW)**

- (ii) The Commission decided that from now onwards the meeting of full Commission will be held on fortnightly basis. However, the Commission will meet on alternative Mondays to discuss various issues in the Chamber of the Hon'ble Chairman. **(Action: C.Cell)**

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

EIGHTH MEETING OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR SCHEDULED CASTES
HELD AT 12.30 PM ON 31.01.2011 IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE
COMMISSION.

PRESENCE OF MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

S.NO. NAME & DESIGNATION

1. Dr. P.L. Punia, Chairman
2. Shri Raj Kumar Verka, Vice-Chairman
3. Shri M. Shivanna, Member
4. Smt. Latha Priyakumar, Member

Officers

1. Shri Dhruv Kumar, Director
2. Dr. V.K. Rathi, Director
3. Shri S. Kesava Iyer, Deputy Secretary
4. Shri S.N. Meena, Under Secretary
5. Shri Lokhan Marandi, Under Secretary
6. Shri Kaushal Kumar, Deputy Director