



सत्यमेव जयते

न्यायालय मुख्य आयुक्त

COURT OF CHIEF COMMISSIONER FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (DIVYANGJAN)

दिव्यांगजन सशक्तिकरण विभाग / Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय / Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

भारत सरकार/ Government of India

Case No. CCPD/16465/1141/26

Dated: 01/04/2026

Case No: CCPD/16465/1141/26

In the matter of:

Ms. Sonal Majeethia

...Complainant

Versus

The Member Secretary, Rehabilitation Council of India ...Respondent

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

1. HEARING DETAILS

1.1. A preliminary hearing was conducted on 23.03.2026 in online mode, wherein the following parties/representatives were present:

Sl. No.	Name of the Parties / Representatives	On Behalf of	Mode of Appearance
1.	Ms. Sonal Majeethia	Complainant	Online
2.	Mr. Manish Kumar, Legal Consultant	Respondent	Online

2. RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

2.1 The Complainant, Ms. Sonal Majeethia, submitted a grievance, dated 17.03.2026, outlining the substantial challenges and professional impediments encountered by herself and similarly situated individuals in obtaining certification from the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI), despite possessing considerable qualifications and expertise. She stated that she holds an M.A. in Special Education from the University of Northampton, UK; a Diploma in the Foundation Course for Dealing with Children with Learning Disabilities (offered online by the Rehabilitation Council of India); a Remedial Teacher Training Diploma from the Dyslexia Association of Andhra Pradesh (now Dyslexia Association of Telangana); and is a certified coach for multiple assessment and cognitive enhancement tools. Additionally, she has completed

5वीं मंजिल, एनआईएसडी भवन, प्लॉट न०. जी-2, सेक्टर-10, द्वारका, नई दिल्ली-110075; दूरभाष: 011-20892364, 20892275
5th Floor, NISD Building, Plot No.G-2, Sector-10, Dwaraka, New Delhi-110075;Tele# 011-20892364,
20892275

E-mail: ccpd@nic.in; Website: www.ccdisabilities.nic.in
(पया भविष्य मे पत्राचार के लिए उपरोक्त फाईल/केस संख्या अवश्य लिखें)
(Please quote the above file/case number in future correspondence)



न्यायालय मुख्य आयुक्त

COURT OF CHIEF COMMISSIONER FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (DIVYANGJAN)

दिव्यांगजन सशक्तिकरण विभाग / Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय / Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

भारत सरकार/ Government of India

Case No. CCPD/16465/1141/26

Dated: 01/04/2026

a B.E. in Control Systems and Engineering, and a Master's in Electrical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin, USA.

2.2 The Complainant, who serves as the primary caregiver for her child with a disability, represented that she has endeavoured since 2014 to obtain the requisite certification from RCI, but has been largely unsuccessful. She asserted that the duration and structure of RCI-mandated courses are unduly protracted, rendering them unfeasible for individuals with substantial caregiving responsibilities. She further alleged that the RCI's inflexible notification protocols and refusal to acknowledge qualifications from reputable foreign or alternative Indian institutions preclude qualified professionals from obtaining registration, thereby exacerbating the shortage of certified experts in the country.

2.3 The Respondent submitted that, pursuant to Section 11 of the RCI Act and the RCI Regulations of 1997, recognition or certification may only be conferred upon completion of a course directly approved or conducted by the RCI. It was contended that, in the absence of prior institutional approval, the current legal framework precludes the issuance of individual certification.

2.4 The Court observed that, in view of the evident disparity between the demand for and supply of trained resource persons, there is compelling justification to harness the expertise of individuals educated outside RCI-recognised institutions, provided that domestic standards are met. The Court suggested that a crash course or bridging programme could be instituted to address any gaps in qualifications or to serve as a refresher for those with relevant experience. Requiring highly qualified individuals to repeat courses in their entirety, at the expense of their time, caregiving responsibilities, and available seats for other candidates, appears to be both inefficient and inequitable.

2.5 The Court further noted that other apex regulatory bodies—such as the National Medical Commission (NMC), the Indian Nursing Council (INC), and the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)—have instituted mechanisms for the recognition of equivalent qualifications obtained abroad or from alternative accredited institutions. In contrast, the RCI's existing framework lacks such adaptability. The Court sought clarification regarding the legal impediments that prevent RCI from recognising relevant, high-quality qualifications conferred by international bodies or other leading Indian institutions. Additionally, the Court underscored the necessity of distinguishing between the "registration" of professionals and the

5वीं मंजिल, एनआईएसडी भवन, प्लॉट न०. जी-2, सेक्टर-10, द्वारका, नई दिल्ली-110075; दूरभाष: 011-20892364, 20892275
5th Floor, NISD Building, Plot No.G-2, Sector-10, Dwaraka, New Delhi-110075;Tele# 011-20892364,
20892275

E-mail: ccpd@nic.in; Website: www.ccdisabilities.nic.in
(पया भविष्य मे पत्राचार के लिए उपरोक्त फाईल/केस संख्या अवश्य लिखे)
(Please quote the above file/case number in future correspondence)



सत्यमेव जयते

न्यायालय मुख्य आयुक्त

COURT OF CHIEF COMMISSIONER FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (DIVYANGJAN)

दिव्यांगजन सशक्तिकरण विभाग / Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय / Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

भारत सरकार/ Government of India

Case No. CCPD/16465/1141/26

Dated: 01/04/2026

"recognition" of institutions, and specifically inquired as to whether RCI-approved courses themselves receive recognition from international universities.

2.6 The Court emphasised that, while it does not advocate for the recognition of professionals from unverified or "unrecognised" bodies, there is an imperative for the RCI to develop expedited assessment procedures or equivalency standards for skilled individuals. Accordingly, the following directions are issued:

- (a) The matter shall be registered for further inquiry and quasi-judicial proceedings before this Court.
- (b) The Respondent is directed to submit a comprehensive response within thirty (30) days, elucidating the reasons why accommodations for professionals and equivalency pathways cannot be instituted, and stating whether internal regulations may be amended to facilitate the inclusion of qualified professionals from foreign universities.
- (c) The Complainant is advised to submit, within forty-five (45) days, a research-based report fulfilling two objectives: (i) to document a class of similarly affected professionals, thereby establishing a pattern of grievance; and (ii) to quantify the extent to which such exclusion impedes the broader advancement of disability advocacy and inclusion.
- (d) A copy of the response shall be furnished to the opposing party, who shall be granted an additional seven (7) working days to file any rejoinder, if so desired.

3. This is issued with the approval of the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities.

Yours faithfully,

5वीं मंजिल, एनआईएसडी भवन, प्लॉट न०. जी-2, सेक्टर-10, द्वारका, नई दिल्ली-110075; दूरभाष: 011-20892364, 20892275
5th Floor, NISD Building, Plot No.G-2, Sector-10, Dwaraka, New Delhi-110075;Tele# 011-20892364,
20892275

E-mail: ccpd@nic.in; Website: www.ccdisabilities.nic.in
(पया भविष्य मे पत्राचार के लिए उपरोक्त फाईल/केस संख्या अवश्य लिखें)
(Please quote the above file/case number in future correspondence)



सत्यमेव जयते

न्यायालय मुख्य आयुक्त

COURT OF CHIEF COMMISSIONER FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (DIVYANGJAN)

दिव्यांगजन सशक्तिकरण विभाग / Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)

सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय / Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

भारत सरकार/ Government of India

Case No. CCPD/16465/1141/26

Dated: 01/04/2026

(Praveen Prakash Ambashta)
Dy. Chief Commissioner

5वीं मंजिल, एनआईएसडी भवन, प्लॉट न०. जी-2, सेक्टर-10, द्वारका, नई दिल्ली-110075; दूरभाष: 011-20892364, 20892275
5th Floor, NISD Building, Plot No.G-2, Sector-10, Dwaraka, New Delhi-110075;Tele# 011-20892364,
20892275

E-mail: ccpd@nic.in; Website: www.ccdisabilities.nic.in

(पया भविष्य मे पत्राचार के लिए उपरोक्त फाईल/केस संख्या अवश्य लिखे)

(Please quote the above file/case number in future correspondence)