Case No. CCPD/15446/1033/24

In the matter of —

Zaved Ansari **... Complainant**

Versus

The Registrar,

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National Institute of Technology,

Jalandhar **... Respondent No. 1**

The Secretary,

Department of Higher Education

New Delhi **... Respondent No. 2**

1. Gist of the Case:

1.1 Shri Zaved Ansari, a person with 80% Locomotor Disability, filed a complaint dated 15.05.2024 alleging miscommunication by Respondent No. 1 regarding his pending subjects in the B.Tech (Mechanical Engineering) course, leading to non-issuance of his degree certificate.

1.2 The Complainant submitted that he completed his final exams in 2021 and was initially informed (via call recording and email dated 19.07.2024) that only Physics and Maths were pending. He claims these were cleared, but the institute later asserted that Applied Thermodynamics-2 and Fluid Mechanics-1 remained uncleared. He further stated that he lost a job offer from an MNC due to the absence of his degree certificate and was not informed of the alleged backlog until May 2024.

1.3 The petitioner seeks urgent directions to direct NIT Jalandhar to immediately rectify discrepancies in their academic records and issue the final degree certificate, as the absence of these documents threatens an imminent job offer from Accenture. Furthermore, the petitioner requests the enforcement of their rights to fair treatment as a student with a disability under the RPwD Act, 2016, and seeks immediate access to mental health support and counseling to address severe anxiety and depression caused by the institution's administrative delays and perceived discriminatory practices.

2. Notice issued to the Respondent(s):

2.1 Notice dated 2024.06.26 was issued to the Respondents along with the complaint, calling upon them to file their comments and a final reminder dated 2024.08.09.

3. Reply filed by Respondents:

3.1 Respondent No. 1, vide reply dated 19.07.2024, submitted that the Complainant has two pending subjects, Applied Thermodynamics-2 and Fluid Mechanics-1, from the fourth semester, preventing issuance of the degree. They attached a semester-wise academic record (Annexure-4) showing the Complainant's results, including SGPA and CGPA, where calculated. The institute clarified that marks are accessible to students via teachers and answer sheets, but detailed marksheets (DMCs) are issued only after all subjects are cleared.

4. Rejoinder filed by the Complainant:

4.1 The Complainant, vide rejoinder dated 25.07.2024, reiterated that he was never informed of the backlog in Applied Thermodynamics-2 and Fluid Mechanics-1 until May 2024. He submitted semester results (Annexure-4) and a request for DMCs (Annexure-27), claiming all subjects were cleared. He denied receiving the institute's reply dated 19.07.2024 prior to the hearing.

5. Hearing (1):

5.1 An online hearing was held on 28.01.2025. The following parties/representatives were present:

Sl. No.	Name & Designation	On behalf of	Mode
1.	Shri Zaved Ansari	Complainant	Online
2.	Neeraj (Asst. Registrar), Vikramjeet Singh (Associate Dean), Dr. Deepti (Associate Professor)	Respondent No.1	Online
3.	Pawan Kumar (Under Secretary, MoE)	Respondent No.2	Online

5.2 The Court inquired if the Complainant had cleared all papers during 2017-2021. The Complainant affirmed but was unable to produce the final semester mark sheet. The Respondent No. 1 on the other hand confirmed that the Complainant had two backlogs (Applied Thermodynamics-II and Fluid Mechanics-I) in the 4th semester. The maximum course completion time is 8 years, making 2025 the last year. The Court directed the Complainant to submit all semester mark sheets within 10 days.

6. Hearing (II):

6.1 Another hearing was held on 23.04.2025 via video conferencing, wherein the following parties/representatives were present:

Sl. No.	Name & Designation	On behalf of	Mode
1.	Shri Zaved Ansari	Complainant	Online
2.	Dr. Balwinder Raj (Assistant Registrar), Dr. Deepti (Liaison Officer, PwD), and others.	Respondent No.1	Online

6.2 The Complainant reiterated his completion of the course in 2021, denial of prior information about the backlog, and submission of semester results without DMCs, as the institute statedly refused to issue them.

6.3 Respondent No. 1 reiterated that two subjects remain pending. They also submitted documentary evidence to this effect as well to establish that the same was duly communicated to the Complainant vide their reply dated 19.07.2024. They clarified that DMCs are issued only after full clearance, but students can access marks through teachers.

6.4 The Court noted that the Complainant had not admitted receipt of the reply dated 19.07.2024, prolonging proceedings. The Court also noted that the Complainant had categorically stated during the hearings that he had cleared all the papers, despite having clear information of the backlog. This was viewed seriously by the Court.

7. Observations and recommendations:

7.1 Having regard to the submissions of the parties, this Court is of the view that no further intervention is required by this Court. However in view of the severe disability of the Complainant, the time already spent by him in studying the course, and the papers already cleared by him, this Court makes a strong

recommendation to the Respondent to consider, as an exceptional case and as a reasonable accommodation defined under Section 2 (y) and provided as a measure of non-discrimination or equalization of opportunities, giving additional time to the Complainant to clear his backlog papers.

7.2 The Complainant is advised to make renewed efforts to clear his backlog.

7.3 The matter stands disposed of accordingly.