



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

Diary No. DNO/26/CCPD/5952

Dated: 10/04/2026

Diary No.: DNO/26/CCPD/5952

In the matter of:

Complainant:

Ms. Aditi Sharma

Respondent:

The Director General, National Testing Agency (NTA)

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

1. Hearing: A hybrid hearing in the matter was conducted by the Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities on 25.03.2026. The following were present during the hearing:

1. Complainant: Ms. Aditi Sharma
2. Respondent: Shri Amit (Joint Director, NTA), Dr. Sharda (Joint Director) and Adv. Sanjay Khanna

2. Proceedings of the hearing:

2.1 The Complainant, Ms. Aditi Sharma, a person with benchmark disability, Specific Learning Disability – Dyslexia and Dyscalculia, alleged that during the CUET-PG 2026 examination conducted by NTA on 16.03.2026, she was denied compensatory time despite her PwBD status being duly mentioned in the application form and admit card. She further alleged a lack of awareness on the part of centre staff

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regarding facilities for learning disabilities and discriminatory remarks by NTA helpline staff. Her emails remained unaddressed, resulting in an incomplete attempt at the paper and prejudice to her academic prospects.

2.2 During the hearing, the Complainant submitted that she had registered as PwBD, her admit card reflected the same and that she needs only the compensatory time and not the Scribe facilities. Relying on the NTA Information Bulletin and the DEPwD OM dated 10.08.2022, she submitted that no separate certificate or scribe request is required for compensatory time when a benchmark disability exists. She further said that the DEPwD OM dated 10.08.2022 applies to persons with less than 40% disability and is not applicable to persons with benchmark disabilities.

2.3 The Respondent submitted that the candidate had opted "No" for the scribe/compensation time facility in the application form. As per DEPwD OM dated 10.08.2022 (guidelines for conducting written examinations), compensatory time is admissible only to candidates eligible for a scribe. Since the Complainant did not opt for a scribe and did not submit any certificate of writing limitation (for non-blind / non-upper extremity disabilities), she was not provided compensatory time.

2.4 The Court observed that the core issue is the eligibility of the Complainant for compensatory time under the prevailing guidelines.

2.5 The DEPwD OM dated 29.08.2018 (as clarified/extended by OM dated 08.02.2019 and 10.08.2022 are the relevant instruction on the subject. Para 2 (XII) of the DEPwD OM dated 29.08.2018, and Para 3 (h) of the DoPT OM dated 10.08.2022 are quoted as under:

"(XII) The word "extra time or additional time" that is being currently used should be changed to "compensatory time" and the same should not be less than 20 minutes per hour of examination for persons who are allowed use of scribe/reader/lab assistant."

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“3 (h) Compensatory time not less than 20 minutes per hour of the examination should be allowed for persons who are eligible for getting scribe. ”

2.6 It is therefore clear that availing the scribe facility is not required for getting the compensatory time. What is required is the eligibility of a scribe.

2.7 On the eligibility for scribe facility, the instructions are contained in para 3 and 4 of the OM dated 29.08.2018, which are quoted as under:

“ In case of persons with benchmark disabilities in the category of blindness, locomotor disability (both arm affected-BA) and cerebral palsy, the facility of scribe/ reader/ lab assistant shall be given. if so desired by the person.

“ In case of other category of persons with benchmark disabilities, the provision of scribe/reader/lab assistant can be allowed on production of a certificate to the effect that the person concerned has physical limitation to write, and scribe is essential to write examination on his behalf, from the Chief Medical Officer/Civil Surgeon/ Medical Superintendent of a Government health care institution as per proforma at APPENDIX-I.”

2.8. Subsequently, in pursuance of the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Vikas Kumar Vs. UPSC*, the DEPwD vide their OM dated 10.08.2022, modified the instructions of 29.08.2018 to permit the facility of scribe and compensatory time to persons having less than 40% disability and having difficulty in writing, subject to the production of a medical certificate in the prescribed format.

2.9 This Court noted that while the contention of the Complainant that the instruction of 10.08.2022 is mainly for persons having less than 40% disability is correct, the condition of a medical certificate in the prescribed format is still a necessary requirement for providing scribe or compensatory time to any person

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with benchmark disability other than of blindness, locomotor disability (Both arms affected-BA) and cerebral palsy in terms of the original guidelines issued by the DEPwD as quoted in para 2.7 above. It is evident that the Complainant did not have the required medical certificate

2.10 The instant matter stands disposed of as not admitted.

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

Yours faithfully,

(Praveen Prakash Ambashta)
Dy. Chief Commissioner

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