



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/6467

Dated: 21/09/2026

Case No: DNO/26/CCPD/6467

In the Matter of

Complainant

Shri M. Vikram Aditya Reddy

Versus

Respondent(s)

The Registrar, University of Hyderabad

1. Hearing

1.1. A preliminary hearing was conducted on 14.08.2026 wherein the following parties/representatives were present:

Sl. No.	Name of the Parties / Representatives	On Behalf of
1.	Shri M. Ravindra Reddy	Complainant
2.	Adv. Amar Jain	Complainant
3.	Prof. V.Srinivasa Rao , Controller of Examinations	Respondent

2. Record of Proceedings

2.1 The Complainant, Shri M. Ravindra Reddy, father of Shri M. Vikram Aditya Reddy, a person with

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83% hearing impairment, submitted that his son, who holds a Master of Fine Arts with first class and distinction and has qualified UGC-NET with Junior Research Fellowship in Mass Communication and Journalism, had applied for admission to the Ph.D. programme in Communication at the University of Hyderabad after disclosing his disability and submitting the prescribed documents. It was alleged that, against the total Ph.D. intake, the University had earmarked seats for PwBD candidates but no PwBD seat had been earmarked for the Department of Communication. The Complainant further raised concerns regarding implementation of reservation, accessibility, reasonable accommodation and the functioning of the relevant disability-related institutional mechanisms during the admission process.

2.2 The Respondent, Controller of Examinations, University of Hyderabad, submitted that the University was implementing reservation for PwBD candidates through its approved roster system and that 5% reservation was being provided on the overall intake. It was stated that the reservation process was monitored through the concerned Liaison Officers, Reservation Cell and other officials, and that the University was following the applicable Government norms. The Respondent further submitted that admissions for the academic session 2026-27 were still in progress, with some admissions to be completed subsequently, and stated that the University would consider PwBD candidates in accordance with the applicable reservation provisions.

2.3 During the proceedings, the Court sought specific clarification regarding the number of PwBD seats earmarked and the number of PwBD candidates actually admitted in the Ph.D. programmes, particularly for the academic session 2026-27. The Court also specifically questioned the Respondent regarding the absence of a PwBD seat in the Department of Communication, as alleged by the Complainant. The Respondent stated that the admission process for the Department of Communication had been completed for the present cycle and that a subsequent admission cycle would be conducted. The Respondent further stated that PwBD candidates who secured admission on merit were being considered under the general/open category and not against the reserved PwBD quota.

2.4 The Court clarified that, in terms of Section 32 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, not less than 5% of the seats are required to be reserved for persons with benchmark disabilities in Government institutions of higher education. The Court further observed that PwBD candidates securing admission on their own merit should not be counted against the reserved PwBD quota and should be considered under the general/open category, with the reserved quota being available to eligible PwBD candidates who require the benefit of reservation.

2.5 The Court also examined the issue of reasonable accommodation and accessibility in examinations.

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The Respondent initially stated that scribes and compensatory time were being provided to candidates with disabilities. Upon clarification by the Court, the Respondent acknowledged that the compensatory time had been stated incorrectly and confirmed that the prescribed compensatory time was 20 minutes per hour of examination. The Court recommended that the applicable requirement should be correctly implemented in practice.

2.6 The Complainant's learned counsel, Adv. Amar Jain, further submitted that, in the Department of Communication, no PwBD seat had been earmarked in the previous years and that the present admission cycle was also affected by the absence of such a seat. It was further submitted that the admission process had not yet been fully completed and that the Complainant's son should be given a fair opportunity to participate in the admission process if otherwise eligible. Concerns were also raised regarding compliance with accessibility and reasonable accommodation requirements, including the facilities applicable to candidates with hearing impairment.

2.7 Upon consideration of the submissions, the Court observed that the issue regarding the absence of a PwBD seat in the Department of Communication required proper examination, particularly when an eligible PwBD candidate had applied for admission. The Court also observed that the Respondent could not merely defer consideration of the candidate to a subsequent admission cycle on the ground of administrative convenience, if the candidate was otherwise eligible for consideration in the present process. The Respondent was accordingly recommended to comply with the applicable provisions and the directions of the Court.

2.8 The Court further noted the submission regarding the question paper and accessibility requirements for candidates with hearing impairment. The Respondent was recommended to ensure compliance with the applicable guidelines relating to reasonable accommodation and accessibility in examinations. The Court also took note of the Complainant's request regarding the question paper used for the Ph.D. written examination and the alleged non-provision of appropriate alternative/objective questions for candidates with hearing impairment.

2.9 In view of the issues raised during the hearing, the Respondent was advised to submit a comprehensive written response along with the relevant records/documents substantiating its submissions and addressing the grievances raised by the Complainant. In particular, the Respondent may furnish the following documents:

(i) the approved reservation roster/roster register for the Ph.D. admissions for the academic session

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2026-27, showing the manner in which the 5% reservation for PwBD candidates has been calculated and distributed across the University and individual Departments;

(ii) the approved seat matrix/intake details for the Ph.D. programme for 2026-27, particularly for the Department of Communication, indicating the total number of seats, number of PwBD seats earmarked, and the basis on which such seats were calculated;

(iii) the Ph.D. admission notifications/prospectus for 2026-27, including the relevant provisions relating to reservation for PwBD candidates and the admission process applicable to the Department of Communication;

(iv) the records showing the number of PwBD candidates who applied, were shortlisted, appeared for the selection/interview and were admitted to the Ph.D. programme for 2026-27, Department-wise, particularly in the Department of Communication;

(v) the relevant admission/selection records demonstrating whether any PwBD candidate was admitted against the PwBD reserved quota and whether PwBD candidates securing admission on their own merit were counted against the General/Open category or against the reserved PwBD quota;

(vi) the records for the previous admission cycles, particularly the Department of Communication, showing the number of seats earmarked for PwBD candidates and the number of PwBD candidates admitted, so as to address the allegation that no PwBD seat had been earmarked in the Department for the preceding years;

(vii) the applicable University policy/orders/guidelines regarding reservation and admission of PwBD candidates, including the procedure followed for allocation of PwBD seats where the number of seats in a particular Department is less than ten;

(viii) the constitution and relevant proceedings/records of the committees or institutional mechanisms responsible for implementation of PwBD reservation and accessibility, including the Equal Opportunity Cell, Enabling Centre, PwD Liaison Officer and/or other relevant committee, insofar as they relate to the 2026-27 Ph.D. admission process;

(ix) the examination guidelines/instructions issued for candidates with disabilities, together with proof of their implementation in the 2026-27 Ph.D. admission process, particularly regarding scribe facility,

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compensatory time and other reasonable accommodations for candidates with hearing impairment;

(x) the question paper(s) used for the 2026-27 Ph.D. written examination, particularly for the relevant programme, along with the instructions/guidelines followed for providing reasonable accommodation and accessible/alternative questions to candidates with hearing impairment;

(xi) records relating to the Complainant's son's application, including his application, eligibility assessment, shortlisting/non-shortlisting, marks/selection criteria, and the reasons for not calling him for interview, if applicable; and

(xii) any other document relied upon by the Respondent in support of its contention that the University has complied with Section 32 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and the applicable provisions relating to accessibility, reasonable accommodation and reservation for PwBD candidates.

2.10 The Respondent is advised to submit the aforesaid documents along with a point-wise response to the grievances raised by the Complainant within 15 days from the date of this order, so that the issue may be examined on the basis of the complete record.

Yours faithfully,

(VIKAS TRIVEDI)
Dy. Chief Commissioner

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