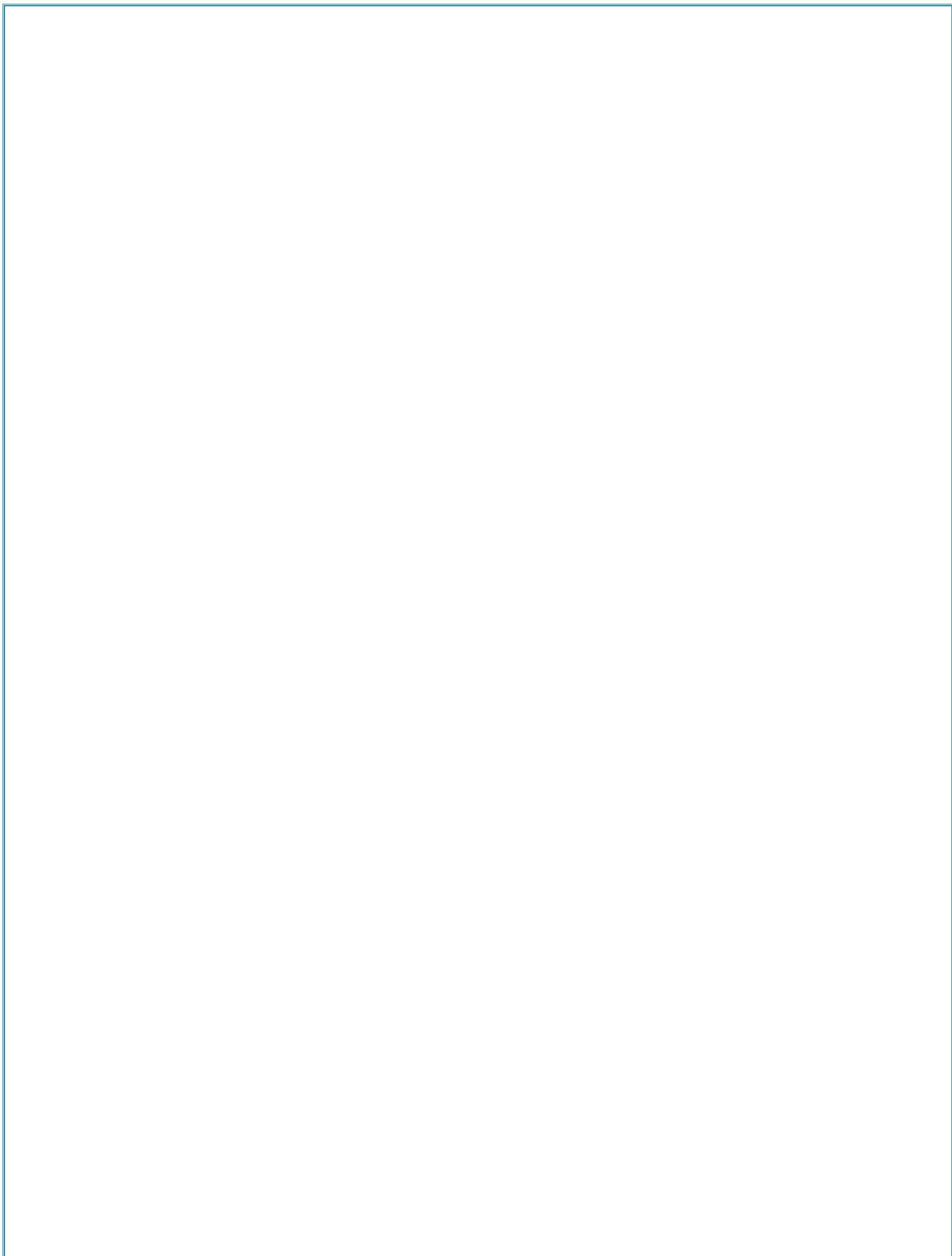




Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur

Equal Opportunity Cell





Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University

Equal Opportunity Cell

1. Introduction

A country with diversity and varied social requirement needs to bring equal opportunity, unity in utilizing resources and providing facilities to promote equality and justice for all. The Indian society is characterized by a unique system of social stratification that created the barriers of denial of access to materials and educational resources to the marginalized sections of society.

These marginalized sections are SCs, STs, women, OBC (non-creamy layer), minorities and Persons with Special Needs. The minorities including Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Jains and others collectively constitute about 19% of the Indian population. The barriers and denial of access to materials and educational resources to the marginalized sections of society needs to be removed.

The specially-abled persons deserve due place and attention in the demographic setup of the nation. To ensure equal opportunity to all sections of society, the Government of India has passed the Act called the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Right and Full Participation) Act 1995. This act was replaced by The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, act no. 49 of 2016. In the Indian Constitution various provisions were made for eradication of social disparities.

Education, especially higher education, is a tool for social and economic equality. To address the national concern of access, equality, and to ensure the quality and relevance of education the Government of India is promoting several schemes and programs for these marginalized sections.

India is potentially rich in human resources. To harvest the same and make the present education system inclusive, the degree of democratization of higher education has to be increased to a large extent.



To become more responsive to the needs and constraints of the disadvantaged social groups the Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University has established an Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC), which was set up in the Year 2012, to aid and advise the students belonging to marginalized sections including the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward communities, minority communities, persons with special needs, etc. pursuing various programs of studies at the University.

The Equal Opportunity Cell comprises of:

1. Prof. Rajshree Vaishnav, Dean, Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies and Head, P. G. Department of Education, (Chairman)
2. Dr. Raju Hiwase, Registrar
3. Dr. Abhay Mudgal, Director, Students Welfare (Officiating)

4. Dr. D. D. Barsagade, Professor, Zoology Department.
5. Dr. Archana Moon, Associate Professor, Biochemistry Department.
6. Dr. S. Koreti, Associate Professor, History Department.
7. Dr. Anil Hirekhan, Deputy Registrar (Dev.) **Member Secretary**
8. Mr. Sanjay Bahekar, Deputy Registrar (Academic)
9. Dr. Raman Madne, Deputy Registrar (College Section)
10. University Engineer
11. Mr. Vinod Ilme (Estate Officer)
12. Mr. Bhanudas Banote (Student Representative)
13. Ms. Krutika Bhise (Student Representative)

2. Aims and Objectives

To oversee the effective implementation of policies and programmes for marginalized sections, to provide guidance and counselling with respect to academic, financial, social and other matters and to enhance the diversity within the campus.

3. Functions

The terms of reference wherein the Equal Opportunity Cell at the University may undertake activities are *inter alia* as under:

- ▶ To work out suitable programmes/ schemes, including Remedial Courses, for improving performance of students from marginalized sections (whether at undergraduate, postgraduate, M Phil, PhD or other levels) and/ or to monitor the implementation of such programmes/ schemes;
- ▶ To establish co-ordination with government and other funding agencies (including Public Sector Undertakings/ Public Sector Banks) with a view to mobilizing financial and other resources required for educational empowerment of the students from marginalized sections;
- ▶ To provide information and act as a counselling-cum-guidance centre for students belonging to the marginalized sections, especially with regard to academic, financial and other matters;
- ▶ To help create a socially conducive atmosphere for the growth of healthy inter-personal relations among students from marginalized sections and from various social backgrounds;
- ▶ To help develop cordial inter-personal relationships between teachers and the students from marginalized sections for academic interaction and extra-curricular activities;
- ▶ To extend help/ support to the students from marginalized sections to overcome problems and barriers emanating from discrimination at any level within its mandate;
- ▶ To organize or conduct seminars/ symposia/ workshops/ conferences/ exhibitions, etc. from time-to-time on issues of contemporary significance for empowering, educationally and culturally, students belonging to the marginalized sections.

Equal Opportunity Initiatives

Access-Audit for Barrier Free Campus

An Access Audit of the entire campus has been carried out with a view to make academic, administrative and residential buildings and public places in the University campus accessible for wheel-chair users and the visually impaired to facilitate higher education. During the process, a plethora of issues pertaining to the required safety measures and infrastructure facilities were taken into consideration.

For creating a barrier-free environment, the University has had to make the requisite structural and other changes on the campus. Wherever possible, the Engineering Department of the University has made changes and corrections, and continues to do so.

Steps towards creation of a Barrier-Free Environment

Though certain measures (such as putting special ramps, toilets, etc.) have been taken earlier in order to facilitate persons with special needs, there remained areas which necessitate further attention and improvement to make the University accessible for such persons.

The ongoing activity to make the campus barrier-free is a major effort in this direction and to serve the goal of making facilities at the University accessible for persons with special needs. The efforts undertaken to facilitate scholars/ students with special needs *inter alia* include:

Lifts

Lifts have already been installed in various buildings of the University for facilitating the independence and mobility of the persons with special needs. While certain measures have been taken in the past to make the lifts accessible to persons with special needs, further steps, such as installation of Braille systems, voice systems, etc., are being undertaken to make the lifts more disabled-friendly.

Toilets

A special measure has been taken to provide adequate lights in the toilets in the Departments and the Library to assist the students with low vision. Construction was carried out in the toilets on the ground floors to make them more accessible for persons with special need, however, certain problems which are still being faced by students have been identified and efforts are underway to rectify such problems. Structural modifications in toilets in other areas of the campus are also underway for improved accessibility to persons with special needs.

Wheel Chairs

Wheel chairs are arranged at the university's V.B. Kolte Main Library building campus in Ramdaspath. The wheelchairs (including wheelchairs with commode and folding foot) will be procured by the University for specially-abled students at other campuses also very soon.

Blind Sticks for Visually Challenged Students

A significant proportion of visually impaired students pursuing various programs of studies at the University suffer from total blindness. As visually impaired students typically use blind-sticks for their mobility on the campus and in negotiating their way outside the campus, the University will purchase these sticks for the use of visually impaired students of the University.

Information board with sign language for Hearing Impairment students

Provision of information board in an easily understandable sign language and provision of illuminated signages, layout diagrams to help these students reach the desired places is done by the University.

Enabling Unit for specially-abled students in Central Library.

To meet the special needs of the differently abled students the following facilities have been put in place at the Central Library of the University.

1. A Unit for special ability students is instituted at the ground floor of the Ramdaspath Library building. In this unit 5 computers are kept reserved for these students. It also provides special services to such students/ researchers by providing E-Books/ Digital Books, apart from getting scanning works done for them on demand.
2. Another Unit for special ability students is located on the ground floor of the Gyanstrotra Kendra in the Mahatma Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Educational Campus. In this unit 5 computers are kept reserved for these students. It also provides special services to such students/ researchers by providing E-Books/ Digital Books, apart from getting scanning works done for them on demand.
3. The MAGIC software has been installed on 5 Desktops for the low vision students/ researchers. The Braille Printers are capable of printing English text, graphics and maps in Braille.

Complaints Redressal Mechanism

The Equal Opportunity Office has been committed to fulfilling its mandate of maintaining social harmony among various sections of the University community. Whenever any case of social discrimination is brought before the Equal Opportunity Cell, it is thoroughly investigated and examined and suitable action is recommended. Addressing of issues related to any social discrimination faced by students or staff at any level is amongst the principal objectives of the Equal Opportunity Cell. The Equal Opportunity Cell wishes success to all the students of Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University and is always ready to help them.

Facilities available at Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj, Nagpur University, Nagpur

1. Centre for Remedial Coaching,

(For SC/ST/OBC/MINORITY students to prepare for NET/SET)

Preamble:

The Centre for Remedial Coaching for the Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) was established by the University in April 2005 under the Tenth five year plan guideline of University Grant Commission (UGC), New Delhi. Similarly, for the candidates of Other Backward Classes (Non-creamy layer) and Minority Communities facility has been started by the University in the year December 2007 under the Eleventh five year plan guideline of University Grant Commission (UGC), New Delhi.

About the scheme:

Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur provides remedial coaching to the students under the remedial coaching scheme. The university provides counseling and coaching to students at no cost to prepare them for UGC NET/SET examinations. It is meant for those belonging to marginalized social groups who cannot afford private coaching. Under this scheme the University invites experts in the particular subjects.

Remedial Coaching Scheme for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students has been introduced by the Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur during the financial year 2005-2006 on the basis of approval by UGC to the University's proposal to start the scheme under the 10th plan guidelines for special schemes in the Universities for SC/ST/OBC (Non-Creamy Layer) students. Consequently, the Co-ordinator of the programme was appointed and an Advisory Committee was constituted as per the UGC guidelines.

Objectives:

The main objective of the scheme is to prepare Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes (Non-creamy layer) and Minority Communities candidates for appearing in NET or SET, so that sufficient numbers of candidates become available for selection as teachers in the University system from these groups.

Eligible group: Postgraduate level students

Facilities:

Infrastructure

1. Centre has its office in the V.B. Kolte Main Library Building in Ramdaspath and uses the class rooms of Pali and Prakrit Department and the Department of Foreign Languages.
2. The Centre is having equipment's like computer, photocopy machine, scanner, projector, printer, laptop and one inverter.

Beneficiaries with budget amount received and utilized:

Sr. No.	Year	Number of Student benefited	Budget received	Utilized
1.	2012-2013	218	10,00,000/- (advance grant from UGC)	5,18,727/-
2.	2013-2014	137	NIL	4,78,371/-
3.	2014-2015	189	NIL	2,79,960/-
4.	2015-2016	135	7,00,000/- (University General Fund, RTMNU)	2,73,020/-
5.	2016-2017	120	NIL	2,24,592/-
6.	2017-2018	81	NIL	1,98,363/-
7.	2018-2019	55	NIL	1,58,656/-

Achievements:

A total of 29 candidates cleared NET/SET in their respective subjects during 2014-15 to 2018-19. Most of the successful candidates are working as teaching faculty in various colleges of the region and outside.

2. Coaching for entry in services

. In order to prepare students belonging to SC / ST/OBC (non-creamy layer) and Minority communities to get gainful employment in Central and other services the Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Nagpur provides facility of coaching for entry to service for students belonging to SC / ST/ OBC (non-creamy layer) and Minority communities. This center was established in the year 2007 with support of UGC grant of 11th Plan.

.The basic objective of the coaching scheme is to prepare students belonging to SC / ST/OBC (non-creamy layer) and Minority communities to get gainful employment in Group 'A', 'B' or 'C' Central services, State services or equivalent positions in the private sector.

The coaching under this scheme is oriented for the examinations conducted for selection to services, such as the IAS, State Public Services, Bank recruitment, etc

Eligible group: Graduate level students

Facilities: Infrastructure

1. Centre has its office at Rashtrasant Tukadiji Maharaj Nagpur Universities Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Educational Campus, Amaravati road Nagpur

Programs Conducted	Number of Students Admitted	Number of Students Passed
Group 'A' (Pre.) MPSC Civil Service Examination 2014-15	25	01
Bank/Railway/SSC Examination 2014-15	50	06
Group A' (Pre.) MPSC Civil Service Examination 2016	50	01
Group B' Officer Bank/Railway/SSC Examination 2016	50	07
Group C' Bank /Railway/ SSC Examination 2016	34	09
Group A' (Pre.) MPSC Examination 2018	50	00
Group B' & C' Bank/Railway/SSC Examination 2018	50	00
Group A' (Pre.) MPSC Examination 2019	50	00
Group B' & C' Bank/Railway/SSC Examination 2019	43	00
'Group A' B' C' Examination 2019-20 (MPSC/ Bank/Railway/SSC)	50	00

Activities at coaching for entry in service centre



3. Facilities provided by Examination Section

In accordance with the resolution of the Government of Maharashtra (क्र. संकीर्ण-२०१६/प्र.क. /३०२/विशि-३, दिनांक ४ मार्च २०१७) the Board of Examinations and Evaluation of the University in its meeting on 10 October 2017, has made it mandatory for the following facilities to be provided to examinees with Special Needs:

1. An additional time period of 20 minutes for each hour will be given to examinees with special needs appearing for written examinations.
 2. Visually handicapped and others with special needs who are eligible under the government resolution will be provided with a Writer while appearing for the written examinations.
- The GR and the BOEE decision has been conveyed to all Principals/ Directors of colleges and institutions within the jurisdiction of the university and also to all Centre In-charges and Joint Centre In-charges of colleges and institutions working as examination centres. The

colleges/ institutions have further been directed to display this information on their notice boards for the benefit of the students.

4. Infrastructure Facilities

The premises of Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University are divided into the following locations:

1. Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Educational Campus
2. Laxminarayan Institute of Technology
3. Rao Bahadur D. Laxminarayan premises
4. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Administrative premises
5. V.B.Kolte Library premises
6. Women's Hostel and Gandhi Bhawan premises
7. Ambavihar and Dr. Niyogi Bungalow premises
8. Law College (City Branch)

In these different premises are located, a total of 95 buildings of the university, including educational buildings, administrative buildings, hostels, libraries and other buildings.

The ramp and accessible toilet facilities for Persons with Special Needs provided at these buildings is as follows:

SR.NO.	TYPES OF BUILDINGS	TOTAL NO OF BUILDINGS	RAMP PROVIDED		SPECIAL NEEDS TOILET CONSTRUCTED		
			Completed	Work in progress	Completed	Centralized	Work in progress
A)	EDUCATIONAL BUILDINGS	43	41	1 1	31	2	10
B)	ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS	9	6	3	1	1 for Centralized (1 toilet for Another 3no.ofBuil. centra.)	5
C)	HOSTELS	17	12	5	2	2 for Centralized (1 toilet for Another 8no.ofB.H. And 1 for another 2 G.H)	5
D)	LIBRARY	3	3	-----	2		1
E)	OTHER BUILDINGS	23	17	5 1	6		15 2
	TOTAL	95	79	16	42	5 (15 No.of buildings)	38

5 Facilities in Teaching Departments and Administrative Buildings

A number of facilities have been provided by the university in all its teaching departments and administrative buildings for persons with special needs. This includes ramp slopes for wheel chairs, banisters and railings, exclusive toilets and such other measures to make it convenient for students, staff and visitors with disabilities to move around and conduct all their functions without any impediment.



The P. V. Narsimha Rao Library at Jyotiba Phule Educational Campus



VB Kolte Library, Ramdaspath



Facilities at administrative and student interface premises.



Boy's Hostel



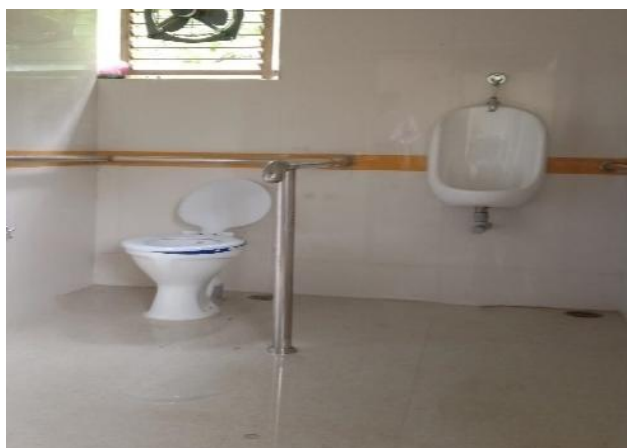
University Guest house



Pariksha Bhavan



Department of Library Science



Separate accessible washrooms

6. University Hobby Workshop Courses

The Hobby Workshop of Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University offers the following skill-based and vocation-oriented courses:

1. Digital Photography – 3 months
2. Electronics – 3 months
3. Sculpting and Painting – 3 months
4. Mobile Repairing – 3 months
5. Wood Art – 3 months

The University Hobby Workshop offers these courses also to specially-abled persons as possible for them according to the eligibility criteria fixed by the university.

7. International Day of Persons with Special Needs

The International Day of Persons with Special Needs is an international observance promoted by the United Nations since 1992. Observed across the globe, it aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilise support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with special needs. It also seeks to create awareness of the gains to be delivered from the integration of persons with special needs in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life.

On December 3, 2019, an event to mark this day was organised at the University's Convocation Hall. The event was held under the chairmanship of the honourable Vice Chancellor, in the prominent presence of the honourable Pro-Vice Chancellor, Psychiatrist Dr. Sudhir Bhawe, Geriatrician Dr. Sanjay Bajaj, Dr. Shirish Deshpande and Dr. Vinod Asudani.

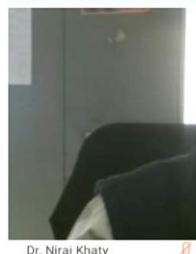
A musical programme was presented by specially-abled students and a play was presented by Mrs. Madhuri and Mr. Dinkar Bedekar.



Dr. Abhay Mu... (host)



Dr. Rajshree vaishnav v...



Dr. Niraj Khaty



Amit Naik



Online celebration of International Day of Persons with Special Needs 3rd Dec 2020

Provisions for Persons with Special Needs

1. **The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, act no. 49 of 2016 [27th December, 2016]**

https://legislative.gov.in/sites/default/files/A2016-49_1.pdf

The Act is the disability legislation passed by the Indian Parliament to fulfill its obligation to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which India ratified in 2007.

The Act replaced the Persons with Disabilities (equal opportunities, protection of rights and full participation) Act, 1995 act no. 1 of 1996 [1st January, 1996.]

2. **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Notification New Delhi, the 26th July, 2000.**

https://upload.indiacode.nic.in/showfile?actid=AC_CEN_25_35_00004_199944_1517807323315&type=rule&filename=July,%202000.pdf

G.S.R. 639(E).- In exercise of the powers conferred by section 34 of the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999 (44 of 1999), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules,

Namely: - 1. Short title and commencement. -

(1) These rules may be called the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Rules, 2000.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

3. **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment Notification, New Delhi, the 24th December, 2010.**

https://upload.indiacode.nic.in/showfile?actid=AC_CEN_25_35_00004_199944_1517807323315&type=regulation&filename=Dec,%202010.pdf

G.S.R. 1021(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 34 of the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999 (44 of 1999), the Central Government hereby makes the following rules further to amend the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Rules, 2000,

4. **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Notification, New Delhi, the 4th February, 2015.**

https://upload.indiacode.nic.in/showfile?actid=AC_CEN_25_35_00004_199944_1517807323315&type=rule&filename=Feb,%202015.pdf

G.S.R. 71(E).—Whereas a draft of certain rules further to amend the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Rules, 2000, which the Central Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 4 read with clause (b) of sub-section (2) of section 34 of the National Trust for Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999 (44 of 1999), vide notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Disability Affairs, number G.S.R. 809(E), dated the 14th November, 2014.

5. Ministry Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities(Divyangjan) Notification, New Delhi, the 8th November, 2017.

https://upload.indiacode.nic.in/showfile?actid=AC_CEN_25_54_00002_201649_1517807328299&type=notification&filename=CAB_Notification.pdf

S.O. 3550(E).— In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 60 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016), and in supersession of the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment number S.O. 796(E), dated the 9th September, 1998.

6. Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Notification, New Delhi, the 19th April, 2017.

https://upload.indiacode.nic.in/showfile?actid=AC_CEN_25_54_00002_201649_1517807328299&type=notification&filename=RPwD%20Act_enforcement.pdf

S. O. 1215(E).—In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (2) of section 1 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016), the Central Government hereby appoints 19th day of April, 2017, as the date on which the said Act shall come into force.

7. Ministry Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities(Divyangjan) Notification New Delhi, the 15th June, 2017.

https://ncte.gov.in/WebAdminFiles/DocMarquee/0_16_12_2020_637437082537807808.pdf

G.S.R. 591(E).—Whereas a draft of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017 was published as required by sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 100 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016) in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 398 (E), dated the 21st April, 2017.

8. Ministry Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities(Divyangjan) Notification, New Delhi, the 13th October, 2017

https://upload.indiacode.nic.in/showfile?actid=AC_CEN_25_54_00002_201649_1517807328299&type=notification&filename=National%20Fund_13.10.pdf

S.O. 3322(E).—WHEREAS, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 100 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016), the Central Government has notified the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017 vide number G.S.R. 591 (E), dated the 15th June, 2017

9. The National trust Notification New Delhi, the 23rd October, 2017

<http://disabilityaffairs.gov.in/upload/uploadfiles/files/Adip%20scheme%20English%20version.pdf>

F. No. 164/Modified/RRs/NAT/2014-15/Vol.I -In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (I) and (2) of section 35 of the National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999 (44 of 1999), the Board with the previous approval of the Central Government, hereby makes the regulations further to amend the Board of the Trust Regulations, 2001.

10. Ministry Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities(Divyangjan) Notification New Delhi, the 4th January, 2018.

<https://cdn.s3waas.gov.in/s3f73b76ce8949fe29bf2a537cfa420e8f/uploads/2018/09/2018092810.pdf>

S.O. 76(E).—Whereas the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, had constituted an expert committee vide order dated the 8th July, 2015 (Annexure I) under the chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities to suggest guidelines for evaluation and procedure for certification of various specified disabilities.

11. Ministry Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Notification, New Delhi, the 8th March, 2019.

<https://www.childlineindia.org/uploads/files/knowledge-center/The-Rights-Of-Persons-With-Disabilities-Rules-2019.pdf>

G.S.R.209(E).—Whereas a draft of certain rules to amend the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017 was published as required by sub-sections (1) and (2) of section 100 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016) in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, Section 3, Sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 1053(E), dated the 22nd October, 2018.

12. Ministry Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Notification, New Delhi, the 17th March, 2020.

[https://upload.indiacode.nic.in/showfile?actid=AC_CEN_25_54_00002_201649_1517807328299&type=rule&filename=rpwd_\(amendment\)_rules,_2020.pdf](https://upload.indiacode.nic.in/showfile?actid=AC_CEN_25_54_00002_201649_1517807328299&type=rule&filename=rpwd_(amendment)_rules,_2020.pdf)

G.S.R. 181(E).—Whereas a draft of certain rules further to amend the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Rules, 2017 was published as required by sub-section (1) of section 100 of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016) in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part-II, section 3, sub-section (i) vide number G.S.R. 839(E), dated the 13th November, 2019.

13. Ministry Social Justice and Empowerment, Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) Notification, New Delhi, the 09th December, 2020.

https://upload.indiacode.nic.in/showfile?actid=AC_CEN_25_54_00002_201649_1517807328299&type=notification&filename=amendment_guidelines_09.09.2020.pdf

S.O. 4501 (E) .—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 56 of the Rights to Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016), the Central Government hereby amends the guidelines notified for the purpose of assessing the extent of specified disabilities in a person vide number S.O. 76 (E), dated the 04th January, 2018,

“National Institute for Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) Battery shall be applied for diagnostic test for SLD. Any person having tested positive on NIMHANS Battery shall be considered as a person with benchmark disability i.e. disability of more than 40%.”

