



राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

(भारत के संविधान के अनुच्छेद 338क के अंतर्गत एक संवैधानिक निकाय)
(A constitutional body under Article 338A of the Constitution of India)

Dated:- 08.07.2025

File No. NCST/SER-153/OR/5/2021-RO-BHUV

The Chief Postmaster General,
Ministry of Communications & Deptt of Posts,
CPMG Odisha Circle, Bhubneshwar,
Khurda, Odisha 751001
Email Id: cpmg_ori@indiapost.gov.in
Tel. No: 06742392000

**Sub: Regarding harassment of Shri Upendra Pradhan, Postal Assistant(Rtd.), Vani Vihar SO,
PPO- 13791.**

महोदय/महोदया,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the minutes of the sitting held on 06.06.2025 at 01:10 PM under the Chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes at New Delhi on the above mentioned subject.

It is requested that the action taken/to be taken in the matter may be intimated to NCST within stipulated time from receipt of the letter for placing it before the Commission.

Yours faithfully,


(Dr. P. Kalyan Reddy)

Director

Tel: 011-20819841

Copy for information:-

1. Shri Upendra Pradhan Musmaha, Post- Dadnigia, Via- Raikia, District- Kandhmal, Odisha- 762101, Mobile -9583425269
2. PS to Hon'ble Member (JH), NCST
3. NIC, NCST for uploading on the website of the Commission.

National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

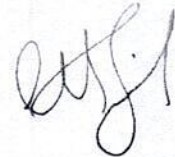
Minutes of the Sitting held under the Chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes at Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi in the case of Shri Upendra Pradhan, Ex-Sub Postmaster, Bhimatangi Sub Post Office, Bhubaneswar Postal Division, Odisha regarding non-reimbursement of expenses.

(NCST/SER-153/OR/5/2021-RO-BHUV)
Date of the Sitting: 06/06/2025, 1:10 PM
Participants in the Sitting: As per Annexure

Shri Upendra Pradhan, Ex-Sub Postmaster, Bhimatangi Sub Post Office, Bhubaneswar Postal Division, Odisha, vide his petition dated 10.11.2021 has submitted that he had taken over charge as Sub Postmaster on 01.06.2016, inheriting a cash balance of Rs. 19,565 from his predecessor of which only Rs. 5,000 was sanctioned during his tenure. He also incurred an additional Rs. 600 for office needs. Upon his transfer on 07.12.2016, his successor refused to accept the unsanctioned amount of Rs. 15,165/- and under pressure from the SSPOs, Shri Manoj Naik, he paid the amount from his personal funds based on verbal assurance of sanction, out of which only Rs. 600 was later sanctioned. Despite repeated representations Rs. 14,565/- remains unsanctioned. Additionally, after his superannuation on 30.06.2019 his retirement TA bill has not been sanctioned on the grounds of delayed submission due to COVID-19 restrictions. He has requested the Commission to intervene and direct the CPMG, Odisha Circle to sanction his pending dues and provide justice.

2. NCST vide Notice dated 20.12.2021 has referred the matter to the DM, Khurda District and the Chief Post Master, Dept of Posts, Bhubaneswar for facts and comments within 30 days from receipt of the Notice. The Chief Postmaster General, Odisha Circle vide letter dated 23.02.2022 has informed that he neither submitted any valid documents or vouchers for sanction of the said amount to the Competent Authority (SSPOs, Bhubaneswar Division), nor is there any valid record of his having deposited this amount with the Department. The SSPOs, Bhubaneswar Division is also unaware of any such pending bills or claim with supporting records in favour of Shri Pradhan. Regarding the TA bill, the permissible time limit for submission post superannuation is 180 days; however, Shri Pradhan submitted his claim on 22.08.2020, well beyond the deadline of 06.07.2020. Nevertheless, taking a lenient view, the delay in submission of his TA claim has been condoned by the Competent Authority, and the same has been communicated to the Divisional Head for immediate implementation vide Office Letter No. ST/46-11/BBSR/2017 dated 23.02.2022.

3. The reply was forwarded to the petitioner for information vide NCST letter dated 10-06-2022. The petitioner vide rejoinder dated 03-10-2022 has refuted the facts and stated that he was asked by SSPO Shri Manoj Kumar Nayak to pay INR 15,165 while handing over charge to his successor. He states that proper inquiry was not done. The rejoinder was forwarded to the Post Master General, Odisha vide NCST letter dated 02-12-2022. The Post Master General, Odisha Circle vide letter no. PG/Misc/07-12-Sub(Part-III) dated 30.01.2023 has informed that a joint inquiry was conducted on 26.12.2022 which included the petitioner, his predecessor, and his successor. During this inquiry, the petitioner did not submit any vouchers nor has he submitted them thereafter. As per departmental rules, no reimbursement can be made unless relevant vouchers are submitted. The reply was forwarded to the petitioner on 23-03-2023. Thereafter, there were several correspondences with the authority and petitioner but the issue could not be resolved. Hence, Commission decided to discuss the issue with the authority and the petitioner on 06.06.2025. Accordingly, a Sitting Notice was sent on 28.05.2025.



जाटोतु हुसेन / Jatothu Hussain
सदस्य / Member
भारत सरकार / Government of India
राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
नई दिल्ली / New Delhi

4. In the sitting, the officer from CMPG, Odisha Circle and SSPOs Bhubaneswar Division were present. The petitioner was not present. The officers of Postal Department of Odisha Circle reiterated its earlier submission and stated that in absence of the supporting documents it is difficult to reimburse the money in favour of the petitioner.

5. During discussion in the sitting and the papers submitted by the petitioner vide his representation dated 1.6.2025, it was observed that the petitioner (after retirement) had been made to run from pillar to post for a small sum. The issue which arose in 2016 is still pending in 2025 even though the petitioner had retired in June 2019. For a disputed sum of Rs 14565, the Department of Posts perhaps had spent more amount in all the inquiries. The NCST has drawn the attention of the officers for this act and asked to settle the case by reimbursing the said amount. The officers assured that they will settle the matter.

6. After discussion with the officers of Postal Department, Odisha Circle, the Commission recommends the following and action taken report to be submitted within 30 days from receipt of the minutes –

- As assured by the officers of Postal Department, Odisha Circle, the Department of Posts, Odisha Circle is advised to expeditiously reimburse the said amount on humanitarian grounds, as the petitioner is already retired.



(Jatothu Hussain)

जाटोतु हुसैन / Jatothu Hussain
सदस्य / Member

भारत सरकार / Government of India
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List of participants of the sitting held on 6.6.2025 at 12.10.....under the chairmanship of Shri Jatothu Hussain, Hon'ble Member, NCST

Sr. No.	Name and Designation	Address & Phone No.	Signature
I	<u>National Commission for Scheduled Tribes</u>		
1.	Dr. P.K Reddy Director		(X)
2.	NCST Officials		
II	<u>D/o Posts</u>		
Sr. No.	Name and Designation	Address & Phone No.	Signature
1.	Amit kumar DPI(HQ), Odisha	% CPMG, Odisha Bhubaneswar 9072268681	Amit 06/6/25
2.	Tarun Chandra prajapati	SSP, Bhubaneswar Division	Tarun 06/6/25
III	<u>Petitioner</u>		