



सत्यमेव जयते

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)

File No.- NCST/SER-2713/MHRD/54/2025-RU-IV

Date : 17.02.2026

To,

The Director,
Motilal Nehru National
Institute of Technology
Allahabad,
Prayagraj-211004
E.mail: director@mnnit.ac.in

Sub: Complaint regarding caste based discrimination, retaliation and illegal suspension at MNNIT, Allahabad. - letter dated 19th September, 2025 of Dr. M. Venkatesh Naik, Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, MNNIT Allahabad.

Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the Minutes of the sitting held on 22.01.2026 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Asha Lakra, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes on the above mentioned subject for information.

Yours faithfully

यो. प्र. यादव / Y. P. Yadav

उप सचिव / Deputy Secretary

E.mail ID: rahul.1424@ncst.nic.in

Copy to:-

Dr. M.Venkatesh Naik,
Assistant Professor, MNNIT,
C1, Staff Colony, MNNIT Allahabad.,
Prayagraj (Allahabad),
Uttar Pradesh - 211004
venkateshn@mnnit.ac.in
Mobile No:8174800802

PS to Hon'ble Member (Dr. Asha Lakra)
NIC for uploading



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F. No. NCST/SER-2713/MHRD/54/2025-RU-IV

Minutes for the Sitting held under the Chairmanship of Dr. Asha Lakra, Hon'ble Member, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes at Lok Nayak Bhawan, New Delhi in the case of caste-based discrimination, retaliation and illegal suspension at MNNIT, Allahabad. - complaint dated 19th September, 2025 of Dr. M. Venkatesh Naik, Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, MNNIT Allahabad.

Date of hearing: 22.01.2026

Participants Present in the Hearing: As per Annexure – I

Dr. M. Venkatesh Naik, Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, MNNIT Allahabad, vide his complaint dated 19th September, 2025 has lodged complaint regarding caste-based discrimination, retaliation and illegal suspension at MNNIT, Allahabad since joining the institute in 2012. Dr.M.Venkatesh Naik has stated that despite completing PhD in 2017 and becoming Assistant Professor Grade-1 in 2019, his promotion to Associate Professor is pending since 06-06-2022. I was denied PhD student allotments (2017–2019) and targeted with false allegations and manipulated records. After filing W.P. (C) No. 615 ,2025 and PIL 598, 2025 in Supreme Court regarding discrimination and ST faculty exclusion, 23 faculty members collectively filed complaints against me. On 15-09-2025, DDPC meeting, minutes were falsified alleging misconduct, leading to illegal suspension on 19-09-2025 without inquiry or opportunity of defence. These actions reflect systemic exclusion of ST faculty, abuse of power, violation of Articles 14 and 21, and retaliation for raising grievances. Dr. Naik has pleaded for immediate revocation of suspension, back-dated promotion to Associate Professor from 06-06-2022 with all benefits, independent inquiry into retaliatory actions, protection from harassment and intimidation, restoration of all academic and administrative duties, and compensation for career, financial, and mental losses caused by discrimination and institutional bias. He has requested NCST to ensure accountability of all responsible authorities and periodic monitoring of compliance to protect his rights, dignity, and professional career.

2. In the matter, the Commission issued a Notice dated 06.10.2025 to the Vice Chancellor, Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology, for facts and comments within 15 days.

3. In response to the Commission notice a reply dated 25.10.2025 was received from authorities of MNIT, which was forwarded to the concerned petitioner. The petitioner vide his mail dated 08th Nov, 2025 to M/o Tribal Affairs, cc to NCST, stated that he is not satisfied with actions taken by the authorities.

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4. Based on the rejoinder of the petitioner, the Commission decided to hold a Hearing on 22.01.2026 in this matter and a Sitting Notice dated 13.01.2026 was sent to The Vice Chancellor, MNIT Allahabad.

5. During the hearing held on 22.01.2026, the Director, MNIT Allahabad; Registrar, MNIT Allahabad; Head of Electrical Engineering dept. & other senior officers of MNIT Allahabad and the concerned petitioner were present.

6. The petitioner during the hearing stated that he is being isolated and discriminated in the Institute for a long time. The authorities during the hearing dated 22.01.2026, based on their reply dated 21.01.2026 submitted that the PHD Allocation is being on roster basis there is no discrimination, based on meeting of Departmental Doctoral Programme Committee. Till date, Sh. Naik has been allotted six PHD students and has also been allotted students in the current session after special intervention of the Director, MNIT. The authorities have replied that there is no system of 'promotion' in NIT system and internal faculty should apply through Direct recruitment (an open competition). Further Writ Petition of Dr Naik against MNIT's advertisement for recruitment 05/2022 has been dismissed from Hon'ble Allahabad High Court; he has also challenged screening committee constituted against advt 05/2023 of MNIT to Hon'ble Allahabad High Court which has been further dismissed, a special case in the same court which has also dismissed. The matter was also taken up to Hon'ble Supreme Court. He was further suspended on 19.09.2025, after giving prior show cause notice and meeting with concerned authorities. However, the said suspension has been revoked as per the review of a Committee formed on recommendations of O/o Hon'ble Chairperson, Parliamentary Committee for Welfare of SC/ST. The suspension order was revoked vide Order dated 24th Nov 2025 by decision of BoG in their emergent meeting held on 20.11.2025. Further, the Commission has also been apprised that the petitioner has been considered for Associate Professor (level 13 – A2) by extending the deadline to accommodate the candidature of the petitioner. He has been called for presentation and interview for the said post on 18.12.2025, the results of which are awaited.

7. **Based on the observations of facts and documents presented by both the parties during the hearing dated 22.01.2026, the Commission makes the following recommendations:**

- I. The Institute may ensure a fair, transparent, and non-discriminatory academic and administrative environment for the petitioner, with due adherence to the applicable rules and procedures. The Institute may further ensure that any grievance raised by the petitioner is addressed through the appropriate institutional mechanisms at the Institute level itself, in consultation with the concerned Liaison Officer.
- II. The Commission further recommends that the Institute provide a healthy and conducive environment to the petitioner for exploring research opportunities in his field of study, so as to facilitate his academic and professional growth.
- III. With the above observations and recommendations, the matter is hereby closed at the level of the Commission; however, the Commission will review the Institute at an appropriate time under Article 338A (5) of the Constitution of India, for safeguarding the interests of Scheduled Tribes.

आशा लकड़ा

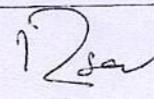
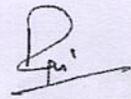
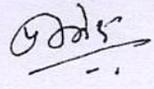
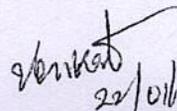
(Dr. Asha Lakra)

Member
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

डॉ. आशा लकड़ा / Dr. Asha Lakra
सदस्य / Member
भारत सरकार / Government of India
राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग
National Commission for Scheduled Tribes
दिल्ली / New Delhi

NCST/SER-2713/MHRD/54/2025-RU-IV

Sitting to be held on **22.01.2026** at **04.20 P.M** - Complaint regarding caste based discrimination, retaliation and illegal suspension at MNNIT, Allahabad. - letter dated 19th September, 2025 of Dr. M. Venkatesh Naik, Assistant Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, MNNIT Allahabad.

Sl. No.	Name and Designation	Address & Phone No.	Signature
I National Commission for Scheduled Tribes			
1.	Dr. Asha Lakra Hon'ble Member	In Chair	P
2.	Shri Yogendra Prasad Yadav Deputy Secretary		-
3.	Shri H.R. Meena Consultant		P
4.	Mrs. Sonal Raj Sr. Investigator		P
5.	Shri Rahul Investigator		P
6.	Ms. Riya Investigator		P
7.	Shri Rahul Yadav Legal Consultant		P
8.			
9.			
II Officers from O/o Director, Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology Allahabad			
1.	Prof R.S. Verma	Director MNNIT Allahabad	
2.	Dr. A.K. R.	Reg. (Offg.) MNNIT Allah	
3.	Dr. Nitin Singh	Head, Deptt. of Electrical Engg.	
4.	प्रमोद कुमार द्विवेदी	आर एल 45 प्रदेश राज शासन एवं विद्युत उद्योग	
5.			
6.			
III Petitioners			
1.	Dr. M. Venkatesh Naik	8174 800 802	 22/01/26
2.			