

University of Mumbai



Circular:-

Following is a notice No. D.O. 14-8/2014 (CPP-II) 29th October 2014, received from Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal, Former Vice-Chancellor, BPS Women University, Haryana, Joint Secretary, University Grants Commission Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi – 110 002

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you might be aware, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its landmark judgement dated 15th April, 2014 in W.P. (Civil) No. 400 of 2012 and No. 604 of 2013 acknowledged the widespread discrimination and deprivation suffered by Transgender Community (TG) in Indian society and ordered a slew of affirmative action's so as to fast-track the realization of their human rights and mainstream the entire community which has been terribly marginalized over centuries.

The judgement has upheld transgender's right to decide their self – identified gender i.e. male, female or as third gender as a way of safeguarding and enforcing appropriately their rights under the Constitution. Accordingly, you are requested to include a column for transgenders under gender category in all application, forms, academic testimonials and all other relevant documents processed and issued by your University as well as its affiliated colleges. Further, it is imperative that TG-friendly infrastructure like washrooms, restrooms etc. is created in all HEIs so that students of the community get adequately acclimatized without facing any fear, stigma or shame. You would agree that one effective way of dispelling the myths and secrecy enshrouding the community's sociocultural existence it to introduce chapters/courses borrowed from authentic ethnographic research on transgenders in curriculum at all levels of study as a mandatory component of credits. Finally, I am sure organizing sensitization programmes and awareness workshops for students, teachers, non-teaching staff and even parents of transgender students would go a long way in bringing the community members in the mainstream of life.

I request you to do all it takes to ensure that the students of TG community enrolled in HEIs under your jurisdiction are smoothly and surely acclimatized through above and take any other measure you may think fit. You are also requested to bring it to the notice of the colleges affiliated to your University.

Yours faithfully,
Sd/-
(Pankaj Mittal)

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No.APD/382/31544/of 2014

11th December, 2014

Copy forwarded to Directors/Heads of the University Departments/Centers/Institutes, the Principal, Sir J.J. College of Architecture, University Librarian, the Controller of Examinations, I/c. Director, Institute of Distance & Open Learning (IDOL), the Controller, Printing & Stationary, the Co-ordinator Ratnagiri Sub -Centre, Co-ordinator Thane-Sub Centre, Co-ordinator Model College, Ambavade, Tal. Mandangad, the Co-ordinator, Model College, Talere, Dist. Sindhudurg, all Deputy Registrar and Assistant Registrar of the various sections are hereby informed and requested to note and follow the instructions as mentioned in the letter issued by Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal, Former Vice-Chancellor, BPS Women University, Haryana, Joint Secretary, University Grants Commission Bahadur Shah Zafer Marg, New Delhi - 110 002, regarding Inclusion of Transgender as Third Gender under the various Scholarship/Fellowship, admission forms, Examination Forms etc. from the academic year 2014-15 and onwards.


for Registrar