

## **Rajya Sabha Provisionally admitted Starred / Unstarred Diary No. U2396**

Rajya Sabha Provisionally admitted Starred / Unstarred Diary No. U2396 regarding Equal Opportunity Cells in IITs as detailed below:

**(a) whether the Ministry has issued any direction/guidelines for constituting SC/ST/OBC Cells or Equal Opportunity Cells in the IITs, if so, the details thereof;**

Reply: The Ministry of Education may like to reply.

**(b) whether any IITs have set up SC/ST/OBC Cells or Equal Opportunity Cells in their campus, if so, that details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and**

Reply: IIT Hyderabad has SC/ST Cell and Liaison Officers for SC/ST and OBC. The details of Cells are as follows:

1. Chairman and Liaison Officer SC/ST Cell: Prof. C. Krishna Mohan, Dept of CSE, IIT Hyderabad, Email id: [ckm@cse.iith.ac.in](mailto:ckm@cse.iith.ac.in)
2. Liaison Officer OBC: Dr. Narasimha Mangadoddy, Associate Professor, Dept. of Chemical Engineering, IIT Hyderabad, Email ID: [narasimha@che.iith.ac.in](mailto:narasimha@che.iith.ac.in)

Members of SC/ST Cell:

1. Prof. Bharath Bhooshan Panigrahi, Dept of MSME, IIT Hyderabad.
2. Dr. K.P. Prabheesh, Dept of Liberal Arts, IIT Hyderabad
3. Mr. S. Laxman, Assistant Registrar, IIT Hyderabad
4. Ms. N. Aruna, Jr. Assistant, IIT Hyderabad.

**(c) whether any of the IITs have set up the Special Academic Support Programs to help with the academic deficiencies of their students especially for SC, ST and OBC Students, if so, the details therefor?**

Reply:

1. The following are the academic support programmes in place at IIT Hyderabad with special emphasis for SC/ST Students:

### **On the Academic Front:**

- Every incoming batch is assigned with a faculty advisor to help them with academic matters till they graduate.
- The institute has an empathetic approach to students who are unable to keep pace with the academic rigor, either due to medical or other compelling reasons. The Senate of the institute has approved a slow-paced pursuance of the B.Tech. programme for such students. In

fact, if the student so wishes he/she can obtain a semester break and continue pursuing the program after the break.

- The institute has in place an early intervention committee consisting of faculty members from various departments, which guides the slow movers and helps them to enhance their academic performance by periodic reviews.
- The institute offers multiple alternatives to students with backlogs - like supplementary examinations, equivalent courses, summer courses, to help them clear and move ahead with their batch mates.
- The Senate took note of the fact that a student may have to drop a semester due to situations beyond his/her control, for instance due to some medical emergencies or personal issues. Hence in a considered and an empathetic view, the Senate has decided that in the final grade card, the courses taken by the student will be listed continuously without any reference to the semester in which they were done.
- The institute has a first of its kind teaching assistantship at the B.Tech. level, where B.Tech. students can volunteer to be teaching assistants for the institute wide courses. This gives an opportunity for all students, from the 2nd year onwards, to take on a more academic mentorship role to their juniors. This scheme has been extremely successful and is a win-win situation for both the TAs and the instructors.

### **Financial Assistance:**

All SC/ST/OBC students are entitled for following financial benefits by IITH:

- Full Tuition Fee Exemption for SC/ST Students. OBC students Tuition fee is reimbursed as per their parental Income
- At Institute level all eligible SC/ST students of B. Tech/B. Des/M.Sc. and MA may apply for Institute SC/ST Scholarships and the reimbursement components under this scheme:
  - Entitled for Refund of Licence Fee and Dining charges
  - Entitled for Pocket money of Rs.250 PM
- At institute level all eligible OBC students of B. Tech/B.Des/M.Sc. and MA may apply for institute Merit Cum Means Scholarships and the reimbursement component under this scheme:
  - Entitled for Pocket Money of Rs.1000/- PM

Thank you,