

डॉ.(श्रीमती) पंकज मित्तल (पूर्व कुलपति, वीपीएस, महिला विश्वविद्यालय, हरियाणा) संयुक्त सुचिव

Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal (Former Vice-Chancellor, BPS Women University, Haryana) Joint Secretary

## D.O. 14-8/2014 (CPP-II)

Dear Sir/Madam,



## विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग University Grants Commission

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार) (Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)

बहादुरशाह ज़फ़र मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110002 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002

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28<sup>th</sup>October, 2014 2.9 OCT 2014

As you might be aware, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its landmark judgment dated 15<sup>th</sup> 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 actions so as to fast-track the realization of their human rights and mainstream the entire community which has been terribly marginalized over centuries.

The judgment has upheld transgenders' 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 applications, 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 is 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.

The Vice-Chancellor, Pandit Ravishankar Shukla University, Raipur-492 010.

7.11.14

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