



जवाहरलाल नेहरू विश्वविद्यालय
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY
नई दिल्ली/NEW DELHI-110 067

No. Acad.III/PQ/1096/2016/580

22th February, 2016

Shri P. Bhaktavatsalam
Under Secretary
Ministry of Human Resource Development
Department of Higher Education
Shastri Bhawan
New Delhi - 110001

Sub: Draft material reply to Rajya Sabha Starred/Unstarred Question D. No. S-348 for answer on 25.02.2016 asked by Shri K.N. Balagopal regarding "Harassment of Ph.D. Students on Cast lines".

Dear Sir,

Please refer to your email dated 12.02.2016 on the subject cited above.

As desired, the draft material reply to the aforesaid Rajya Sabha Starred/Unstarred Question is enclosed herewith for further action at your end.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,


(YASHWANT SINGH)
Officer on Special Duty

Encl: As above.

CC:

- Sh. V. Talreja, Section Officer, UGC, New Delhi.

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Draft material reply to Rajya Sabha Starred/Unstarred Question D. No. S-348 for answer on 25.02.2016 asked by Shri K.N. Balagopal regarding "Harassment of Ph.D. Students on Cast lines".

Q. (a) Whether Government is aware that there are increasing instances of harassment of Ph.D. students in various ways, including sexually and on cast lines by research guides in the country as scholars in various Universities are dependent on their guides for their scholarships and contingency grants;

Reply (a): It is for MHRD to respond. However, Jawaharlal Nehru University is committed to provide a place of study free of sexual harassment, intimidation or exploitation. Reports of sexual harassment are taken seriously and are dealt with promptly and a Gender Sensitization Committee Against Sexual Harassment (GSCASH) has been set up in the University, Jawaharlal Nehru University vide notification dated 16 April 1999 with its rules and procedures. The cases of sexual harassment if any received is dealt strictly with GSCASH rules and procedures.

The Jawaharlal Nehru University has an Equal Opportunity Office (EOO), which was set up, as the first of its kind in the country to aid and advise the students belonging to marginalized sections including the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward communities, minority communities, persons with disabilities, etc. pursuing various programs of studies at the University.

Further, JNU ensures to release the Scholarships/Fellowships of all the scholars within 3-4 days after receiving their claim bills in the Finance Branch of the University. The motto of the University is to create an enabling environment to facilitate quicker disposal of Fellowship claims of all students, including Dalit students. No one is discriminated against, in the University and such a distinction does not exist here.

Q. (b) If so, the details of such incidents reported in the country for the last ten years, state wise and year wise and the action taken on them; and

Reply (b): Number of complaints registered by M.Phil./Ph.D. students against their faculty members is nine for the last ten years. However, the details of cases cannot be provided under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.

Q. (c) Whether Government is planning to introduce a more transparent and effective system in place for checking such practices details?

Reply (c): Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has an effective system in place in full compliance with the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.
