

Equal opportunity: Issue of Admission through North Bengal University Centralised B.Ed. Cell



EDUCATION

KEYWORDS :

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Introduction:

Centralized admission process is aimed at providing equal opportunity to each and every aspiring candidate. Here we have reviewed such a Centralized admission process. The process is concerned with B.Ed. admission in the North Bengal. Previously the colleges used to advertise separately. The trainees were found to purchase admission form from all the Colleges. Further, for taking admission the trainees had to move from one college to another. Many a times it happened that more than one College conducted admission process on the same day. Eventually, the trainees lost their chance of exercising choices in one or more Colleges. There was a need to control the unlimited fee structure in the Privately Managed Colleges. With this background the North Bengal Centralized B.Ed. Cell was formed so as to remove the above mentioned barriers to equal opportunities. For obvious reasons the collection of fees (official and unofficial) could not be controlled. But definitely, the trainees are now in a much better position to so far as exercising equal opportunity of making choices is concerned. However, at the same time the process has endangered the Equal Opportunity from a different standpoint. This involves a promise of the constitution of India to ensure equal opportunity to the people from backward classes. This article deals with this issue and tries to suggest some steps which can be taken for overcoming the problem. It proceeds like this.

- i. Provide the recent and relevant Government Order in compliance with the directions of the Constitution of India.
- ii. We mention the admission procedure adopted by the North Bengal Centralized B.Ed. Cell.
- iii. The procedure makes a situation that does an injustice to the reserved category as a whole without the system appears to do justice to individual reserved candidates. It may be strewed that here in this article the strategy adopted and not the positive intention imposed has been questioned.

2. Recent Government Order protecting the requirement of the reserved category.

Government of West Bengal has also provided reservation @

22% for Scheduled Caste & 6% for Scheduled Tribe in case of admission to educational courses.

3. A separate merit list for Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribe candidates has to be prepared. SC & ST candidates qualified for general merit list will not be counted for reserved quota in admission.
4. Seats reserved for SC remaining unfilled by SC candidates may be filled by ST candidates and vice versa.
5. In case of non-availability of SC/ST candidates, seats can be filled by general candidates after obtaining permission from prescribed authority. Prescribed authorities for the districts are the respective District Magistrates and for Kolkata, Commissioner and Joint Commissioner for Reservation.
6. The government has passed the higher Educational Institution (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2013 providing reservation to SC, ST, OBC-A and OBC-B in admission to Higher Education. According to this Act 22%, 6%, 10% and 7% reservation in admission have been provided for SC, ST, and OBC-B & OBC-A Respectively. Along with the above some of the provisions directing have been maintained. They are follows OBC-A: 07% and OBC-B: 10%.
7. The University of North Bengal has set up a Centralized B.Ed. Cell in the academic session 2011-12 that is working centrally to monitor admission processes to B.Ed. Course being taught at different colleges affiliated to the University of North Bengal.

The percentage of professional trained teachers

In case of pre-service training most of the reserved students are not able to gate admission for training due to huge amount of admission fees in the private B.Ed. College as well as most of the reserved candidate having high percentage of marks (with respect to general category) took admission as a reserved category and reserved candidate loss their reserved seat as per reservation rules.

AREAWISE NUMBER OF FULL-TIME TRAINED TEACHERS IN SCHOOLS

School Category: Primary

West Bengal	Area	Number of Full-time Teachers in Position								Percentage of Teachers			
		All Communities		SC		ST		OBC		SC	ST	OBC	Female
		Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female				
	Rural	120,676	21,923	22,184	2,679	4,796	825	6,923	848	18.38	3.97	5.74	18.17
	Urban	30,640	15,470	2,081	694	281	142	885	202	6.79	0.92	2.89	50.49
	Total	151,316	37,393	24,265	3,373	5,077	967	7,808	1,050	16.04	3.36	5.16	24.71

School Category: Upper Primary

West Bengal	Area	Number of Full-time Teachers in Position								Percentage of Teachers			
		All Communities		SC		ST		OBC		SC	ST	OBC	Female
		Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female				
	Rural	9,319	2,073	1,303	250	114	28	292	51	13.98	1.22	3.13	22.24
	Urban	1,816	845	166	80	19	3	92	32	9.14	1.05	5.07	46.53
	Total	11,135	2,918	1,469	330	133	31	384	83	13.19	1.19	3.45	26.21

School Category: Secondary

West Bengal	Area	Number of Full-time Teachers in Position								Percentage of Teachers			
		All Communities		SC		ST		OBC		SC	ST	OBC	Female
		Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female				
	Rural	41,407	8,475	5,842	1,062	999	170	1,285	177	14.11	2.41	3.10	20.47
	Urban	16,479	8,856	1,569	709	367	188	332	102	9.52	2.23	2.01	53.74
	Total	57,886	17,331	7,411	1,771	1,366	358	1,617	279	12.80	2.36	2.79	29.94

School Category: Higher Secondary

West Bengal	Area	Number of Full-time Teachers in Position								Percentage of Teachers			
		All Communities		SC		ST		OBC		SC	ST	OBC	Female
		Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female	Total	Female				
	Rural	32,473	5,417	4,932	717	936	137	1,454	219	15.19	2.88	4.48	16.68
	Urban	38,326	17,365	4,105	1,486	821	341	1,127	401	10.71	2.14	2.94	45.31
	Total	70,799	22,782	9,037	2,203	1,757	478	2,581	620	12.76	2.48	3.65	32.18

The reservation of different category (SC/ST/ OBC) has not implemented properly because of some defected rules created by the centralized admission committee.

1. Unequal admission fees among Aided and Unaided (Private) B.Ed. College.
2. Position of the different affiliated college under wide four district of North Bengal.
3. Lack Infer-structure of some aided and unaided(Private) B.Ed. College
4. Different teaching-learning environment among the different colleges.

(From Direct observation of the Author), Most of case the reserved category has not taken admission as general category having highest percentage of marks or teaching experience with respect to the general category. For example a SC category candidate has got chance in the general counselling but he/she has not taken admission as a general category in the private B.Ed. college due to high admission fees as well as lack of infer-structure as a result the SC candidate back to take admission as a SC category in the Gov. Aided College having higher percentage of marks or experience with respect to the general category. As the same next a general category candidates got opportunity to take admission in the same course having less marks or experience

with respect to a reserved candidates.

According to the reservation rules of our country a General Candidates cannot take admission having less percentage or experience compares with reserved categories. But the University of North Bengal has been violating the reservation rules since session 2011-12.

Some suggestion to remove these problems as follows:

1. To ensure equal admission fees among Aided and Unaided (Private) B.Ed. College (providing half fee of quarter fee to the reserved candidates).
2. University should be provided to the college for their own admission.
3. Improving infer structure all the college having affiliation under the University of North Bengal.
4. Providing equal teaching-learning environment to all the college having affiliation under the University of North Bengal.

Findings:

Most of the students are interested to take admission in Gov. Aided B.Ed. College because of low admission fees and teaching-learning environment (Direct interview of Candidates by the Author).

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