**No. Acad.III/PQ/980/2013 August 08, 2013**

Shri Ramji Pandey

Under Secretary

Ministry of Human Resource Development

Department of Higher Education

Government of India

Shastri Bhawan

**New Delhi - 110001**

**Sub: Material for reply to Rajya Sabha Question No. 683 for 12.08.2013 asked by Smt. Maya Singh regarding "Suggestions on discrimination against SC/ST students in Central Universities".**

Sir,

Please refer to your Email dated 07.08.2013 on the subject cited above.

As desired, we forward herewith the draft material to the aforesaid Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question for further action at your end.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

**(Umakant Agarwal)**

Deputy Registrar (Academic)

Encl: **As above.**

CC:

* Smt. Valsala Hariharan, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Higher Education, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 011------ for the kind information, please.
* PS to Registrar --- For the kind information of the Registrar.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY

NEW DELHI - 110067

**Material for reply to Rajya Sabha Question No. 683 for 12.08.2013 asked by Smt. Maya Singh regarding "Suggestions on discrimination against SC/ST students in Central Universities".**

**Q. (a) The details of suggestion made by the Committee headed by Dr. Bhalchandra Mungekar in respect of discrimination, physical violence, harassment and other mischievous acts against the students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in various Central Universities ;**

Ans. (a) It is for MHRD to respond.

**Q. (b) The details of the incidents of discrimination and harassment of students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other categories in the educational institutions during the last five years;**

Ans. (b) The University has a grievance redressal mechanism for students pertaining to their grievance in the hostels as well as academic grievances. However, where a complaint is received relating to SC/ST/OBC students based on harassment or discrimination on grounds of social origin, it is thoroughly looked into by the Equal Opportunity Office. The complaints received during the period from SC/ST/OBC students were 21 (twenty one). However, one SC student has approached the court regarding caste discrimination and the case is sub-judice.

**Supplementary:** Enclosed.

**Q. (c) The number of such incidents wherein students have committed suicide after such harassment during the last five years; and**

Ans. (c) No such incidents have been reported in JNU during the last five years wherein Students have committed suicide after discrimination and harassment.

**Q. (d) The steps taken by the Ministry to do away with the discrimination in educational institutes?**

Ans. (d) It is for MHRD to respond.

**Supplementary to** **Rajya Sabha Question No. 683 for 12.08.2013 asked by Smt. Maya Singh regarding "Suggestions on discrimination against SC/ST students in Central Universities".**

**The breakup of 20 complaints is as under:-**

Ten complaints were received from students belonging to SC Category. The nature of complains were: caste discrimination, violence with caste abuse, intimidation/harassment using caste-abuse, and award of less grades due to caste-based discrimination. While the eight cases have been disposed of, two are under progress. However, one SC student approached the court against caste discrimination and the case is sub-judice.

One complaint was received from an ST student alleging award of less grades due to caste discrimination resulting into non-award of M.Phil degree. The enquiry in this complaint is under progress.

During the period in question nine complaints were received from OBC students. The complaints pertained to violence with caste abuse, and intimidation/harassment using caste abuse. All these cases have been disposed of, except one, which is under progress.