



Ref No: VIDUNI/RO/SEDG/570/2024

Office of the Registrar

Date: 31/12/2024

**Notification No. 48 / 2024**

**Subject: Constitution of Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) Cell at the University.**

**Reference: (1) Guidelines to Provide Equitable Opportunity for the Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) in the HEIs by University Grants Commission 2024**

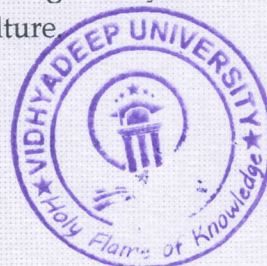
**(2) Approval of the Provost**

In India, several groups—including women, religious and linguistic minorities, Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), and individuals from Economically Weaker Sections (EWSs)—continue to face systemic challenges in accessing quality education. Ensuring inclusive and equitable development by uplifting these Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) remains a central objective of the Government of India.

In alignment with the national objective of inclusive development and in consonance with the “Guidelines to Provide Equitable Opportunity for the Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs)” issued by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the University is committed to ensuring the holistic participation of all sections of society in the nation-building process.

The Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) Cell in the University shall serve as a key institutional mechanism to promote inclusivity, equity, and sensitivity towards students from SEDGs. Recognising the need to provide a robust framework for Vidhyadeep University to formulate and implement inclusive policies, the Cell shall be tasked with the following core activities:

- Facilitating Learning for All Students, with a special focus on those belonging to SEDGs, through targeted interventions and support mechanisms.
- Implementing Affirmative Action Measures aimed at bridging educational and social gaps. These may include:
  - Bridge Courses to help students cope with academic gaps;
  - Earn-While-You-Learn Schemes to support financially disadvantaged students;
  - Outreach Programmes to connect with underrepresented communities;
  - SEDGs Special Education Zones within the institution to provide a supportive and enriched learning environment;
  - Sensitization of Stakeholders, including faculty, staff, and students, to promote an inclusive and respectful campus culture.





Accordingly, with the approval of the Provost, the University is pleased to constitute the Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) Cell with immediate effect. The Cell shall comprise the following members:

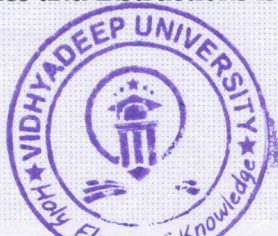
**Working Committee for SEDG Cell:**

| No. | Name                                 | Role             |
|-----|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1   | Dr. Mahavir Prasad Sharma            | Chairperson      |
| 2   | Dr. Vinil U. B.                      | Member           |
| 3   | Dr. Avani B. Patel (ICC Committee)   | Member           |
| 4   | Dr. Ajay Shah (Director, IQAC)       | Member           |
| 5   | Rathod Jigneshkumar K. (ST Member)   | Member           |
| 6   | Dafda Manish R. (SC Member)          | Member           |
| 7   | Patel Ketankumar R. (OBC Member)     | Member           |
| 8   | Siba Shankar Panda (Student Member)  | Member           |
| 9   | Priyanshi Rajput (Student Member)    | Member           |
| 10  | Dr. Ravi Bhatt (Assistant Registrar) | Member Secretary |

SEDGs Cell shall ensure the protection of the constitutionally guaranteed rights, dignity, safety, and security of all individuals belonging to the SEDGs and also ensure them equalizing access and opportunities to pursue higher education with the help of the existing statutory bodies such as SC/ST Cell, Equal Opportunity Cell etc.

**Objectives of SEDGs Cell:**

- 1) To protect all the constitutional rights of the SEDGs students.
- 2) To ensure that the HEIs are inclusive, safe, and secure for the SEDGs students.
- 3) To provide socio-emotional and academic support and mentoring for the students belonging to the SEDGs through proper counselling and monitoring programme.
- 4) To ensure proper implementation and monitoring of orientation and bridge courses designed by the HEIs to benefit SEDGs students.
- 5) To ensure implementation of all such programme designed and developed by HEIs to increase the participation of SEDGs students in academic activities.
- 6) To ensure implementation of Government's policies, including reservation policies and various schemes, programme, facilities and guidelines for SEDGs students.
- 7) To ensure that the HEIs develop appropriate outreach programme to help the SEDGs students to avail the various opportunities of educational/academic programmes of HEIs.
- 8) To ensure proper implementation of preventive measures and Laws against discrimination and atrocities, and for safeguards of students belonging to respective categories under SEDGs.
- 9) To circulate, publicize, facilitate, and monitor the implementation of all UGC and Government guidelines and instructions issued from time to time in reference to SEDGs.

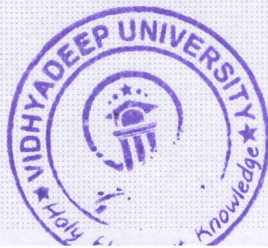




- 10) To redress the grievances and complaints of the SEDGs students within 15 days through a Grievances Redressal Committee (GRC) without compromising the safety, privacy and dignity of the complainant.

#### **Functions of SEDGs Cell:**

- 1) To coordinate with other existing cells and statutory bodies of the HEIs and enable implementation of the existing schemes and provisions, including scholarships and fellowships of the Govt of India and respective States.
- 2) To ensure the implementation of orientation and bridge courses, earn-while-learn schemes, and outreach programmes designed and developed by HEIs for SEDGs.
- 3) To provide socio-economic, academic, and psychological support and mentoring for such students through a proper counselling and mentoring programme.
- 4) To ensure sensitization of faculty, staff, counsellors, and students on the SEDGs issues and their inclusion in all aspects of the HEIs.
- 5) To explore and generate funds from various sources like Corporate Social Responsibilities (CSR) and Alumni to provide more financial assistance and scholarships to SEDGs to mitigate opportunity costs and fees for pursuing higher education.
- 6) To coordinate with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) to raise awareness about the implementation of various policies for inclusive and equitable quality higher education.
- 7) To work as a 'Single Window' for students belonging to SEDGs for their grievances, basic needs, amenities, facilities, welfare measures, and scholarships and fellowships.
- 8) To upload and disseminate guidelines, facilities, welfare, and safety measures on HEI's portal and maintain such records to review and monitor amenities and basic facilities for a safe and secure environment for SEDGs.
- 9) To circulate, publicize, and facilitate existing welfare schemes like - Remedial, NET, entry into services, and residential Coaching for SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer), Minority Community, and PwD Students.
- 10) To establish a team of counsellors, social workers, and faculty members to provide emotional and social support to SEDGs to adapt to the environment of the HEI.
- 11) To focus on overall personality and skill development, including professional and soft skills, so as to ensure enhancing the student employability.
- 12) To organize periodic meetings and to monitor the progress of various schemes and all the HEIs may prepare a database of such schemes for SEDGs.
- 13) To assess the needs of SEDGs and make necessary recommendations to the authorities of the HEIs.
- 14) To make faculty, staff, students, and service professionals aware of facilities available for SEDGs.
- 15) To sensitize all the students to bring an attitudinal change towards SEDGs to ensure participation of SEDGs in curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular activities in the HEIs.





- 16) To hold regular meetings with representatives of SEDG students to check their grievances and also meet with management/authorities of HEIs to facilitate discussion of the grievances of SEDG students and maintain the confidentiality of deliberations and data.
- 17) To review, monitor, and ensure disposal of all grievances within 15 days.
- 18) To inform all students during induction/counselling session about Zero-tolerance policy for any form of discrimination.

**Terms and Conditions of the Committee:**

- a) The term of the Chairperson and members shall be for a period of One year.
- b) The working committee will meet quarterly and shall produce progress report/MoM to the office of the Provost and Registrar.
- c) The quorum for the meeting including the Chairperson, but excluding the special invitee if any, shall be five.
- d) Any student aggrieved by the decision of the SEDG Cell may prefer an appeal to the Ombudsperson, within a period of fifteen days from the date of receipt of such decision.

**I/c Registrar  
Vidhyadeep University**

To,

1. The above members
2. All Deans/Principals of constituent colleges
3. Campus Director, Vidhyadeep University.
4. Academic Director, Vidhyadeep University.
5. Establishment Department
6. ERP Cell
7. Website Division
8. Select File

Submitted to:

1. President, Vidhyadeep University.
2. Vice-President, Vidhyadeep University.
3. Provost, Vidhyadeep University.

