

WEST BENGAL COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION
(REGISTERED UNDER ACT XXI 1960)
89, MAHATMA GANDHI ROAD, KOLKATA-700007
Telefax: 2241-2060/ 2219-8930, E-mail: wbcuta@yahoo.com
Website: <http://www.wbcuta.org>

Ref. No. SACT/01/07/20

Dated: 02. 07. 2020

To,
Dr. Partha Chatterjee,
Hon'ble MIC, Department of Education,
Government of West Bengal, Bikash Bhavan, Salt Lake

Sub: Approval of State Aided College Teachers by the Government of West Bengal

Sir,

We must extend our earnest gratitude to you for the approval of State Aided College Teachers (SACT) for which we had consistently requested you during the last several months, even in the period of lockdown, due to the Global Pandemic. The verification procedure for the State Aided College Teachers (SACT) could not be completed due to the sudden outbreak of Novel Corona virus and the following lockdown throughout the country. We are grateful that the State Government has taken painstaking efforts for the approval of these teachers even in this extremely unfavorable situation due to the Global Pandemic.

Regarding this approval and its implementation, we would like to draw your kind attention and seek your active intervention towards the following gross anomalies:

1. To begin with we are extremely perturbed to see that the Contractual Librarians deployed in the Government-aided Colleges despite rendering commendable service for years together have not been brought under the purview of the benefits granted to the teachers considered as the State Aided College Teachers (SACT) by the State Government. It may be noted here that the verification process for these contractual librarians also started before the lockdown. You are aware that we requested you to consider the demands of the contractual librarians in our previous memorandum vide Ref No. G/02/03/HED/2020, dated the 3rd March of 2020.

2. We would also like to draw your attention to the injustice towards the part-time and contractual teachers in the order in terms of acknowledging seniority and the necessary financial benefit for that. We strongly feel that reasonably senior part-time and contractual teachers must get their pay protection during the fixation of the approval. In this context we place our request to fulfill the standing demands mentioned in our letter to you vide Ref. No. G/01/02/2020, dated 13th January, 2020.

3. Last, but not the least is the serious injustice towards the guest teachers and equivalent teachers who were recruited by different colleges over the last few decades, and rendered service tirelessly. It must not be forgotten that due to the inadequate recruitment of full-time teachers, the Colleges were compelled to recruit these guest teachers or equivalent to fulfill the requirement of UGC for running different subjects, achieving which otherwise would not have been possible owing to the dearth of teachers. As per the order for State Aided College Teachers (SACT), the maximum number of guest teachers or equivalent teachers in each Department has been restricted to five, which has resulted in great anxiety and insecurity for a large number of SACT teachers in each college, who are being treated as 'excess' and waiting to be transferred to other Colleges for no fault of theirs. This is particularly critical in the Shift Colleges and Colleges with so many sections of Commerce students in both General and Honours streams whereas the Colleges are running with substantive teachers only in one shift. It has been noticed that these so-called 'excess' Guest Teachers or equivalent are staggering in number in the Commerce sections in particular. This is a matter of great concern. Many Departments, specifically after the implementation of CBCS are grossly dependent on these Guest Teachers or equivalent teachers. Now with this restriction of five SACT teachers per Department, more than 70% classes may fall through in different Colleges. Therefore, the so-called 'excess' teachers who are waiting to be shunted must be retained in their respective Colleges for addressing this necessity. We seek your immediate intervention in this dire crisis, and expect you to revise the rule accordingly.

Hope we have been able to convey the points raised in this letter. We will be obliged if you do the needful as early as possible.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely

Keshab Bhattacharya,
General Secretary, WBCUTA