

DR AMBEDKAR CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ODISHA

ACTION PLAN FOR OPERATIONALIZATION OF DACE CENTRE

1. INITIATION

The Central University of Odisha has been established by the Parliament under the Central Universities Act, 2009 (No. 3C of 2009). It is one of the 15 new Central Universities established by the Government of India during the UGC XI Plan period to address the concerns of "equity and access" and as per the policy of the Government of India to increase the access to quality higher education by people in less educationally developed districts which have a Graduate Enrollment Ratio of less than the national average of 11%.

Koraput District of Odisha comes within the KBK region (Koraput, Bolangir and Kalahandi) which is still considered as an extremely as underdeveloped region of the State of Odisha. These three districts of the State are known for tribal culture, because majority of the people here belong to ST and SC categories. Keeping in view primarily of the above facts, the Central University of Odisha applied to the Ministry of Social Justice, Govt. of India to establish the "Dr. Ambedkar Centre of Excellence" (DACE) for providing coaching facilities to the Scheduled Castes (SC) students in competitive exams (UPSC-Civils). Having been selected by the Ministry for setting up of the DACE, the University signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Dr. Ambedkar Foundation, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India (DAF); the scheme was launched at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi on 22 April 2022 by Hon'ble Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment & Chairman, Dr. Ambedkar Foundation.

The University Centre shall work for the objectives -

- i. To empower Scheduled Caste students in competitive exams by providing the best and free coaching facilities;
- ii. To provide specialized coaching to the Scheduled Caste students for the Civil Services examination conducted by the UPSC;

- iii. To organize training programmes/workshops for the students, teachers and entrepreneurs when required;
- iv. To collaborate with reputed institutes and training centers to provide best opportunities for skill development; and
- v. To work continuously to promote and propagate the visions of Baba Saheb Ambedkar

2. **PLAN**

The Centre shall work to empower Scheduled Caste students in competitive exams by providing the best and free coaching facilities.

Eligibility Criteria for Selection Procedure of students for the Free Coaching:

- i. ONLY Scheduled Caste students shall be considered for free coaching.
- ii. Maximum hundred (100) students shall be admitted every year for free coaching.
- iii. 33% of the total students may preferably be from the eligible female candidates. In case sufficient numbers of eligible female candidates do not apply, University may allocate the vacant seats to the male/transgender candidates from SC category only.
- iv. In order to be considered for admission into the Centre for desired subject, candidates must have achieved the required minimum percentage of marks in the qualifying examination.
- v. The University shall widely publicize the scheme through open advertisement and make a public notice for a Common Entrance Test (CET). The student shall be selected through an entrance test conducted by the University as per merit.
- vi. University shall obtain and verify requisite caste certificate from the selected students issued by the competent authorities in their respective State/UTs.
- vii. The coaching benefits under the scheme shall be utilized by a student only ONCE regardless the number of chances that he/she may be entitled to in a particular Competitive Examination. The student must submit to the University an affidavit stating that he/she has not received any monetary benefit from any of the other scheme by Government of India, State/UTs or any funding agency.

- viii. The University will maintain Attendance Registers for all candidates enrolled for the coaching classes as well as subject-wise results of practice tests, or any other evaluation.
- ix. The candidates enrolled under this scheme shall have to attend all the classes. In case of remaining absent for more than 15 (fifteen) days without any valid reason, or leaving the coaching midway without prior approval of the competent authority, the total expenditure incurred on the candidate will be recovered from the student concerned.
- x. Following methodology will be followed for coaching:
 - a. Direct classroom coaching will be provided through physical mode and, online mode, if required;
 - b. Weekend classes, when required, will be taken;
 - c. Regular workshops will be conducted
 - d. Guest Lectures by eminent persons and triumphant IAS officers may be imparted;
 - e. Students will be ensured that syllabus is fully covered;
 - f. Regular Mock Tests will be conducted;
 - g. English language proficiency coaching will be emphasized; and,
 - h. Interview Training will be provided to the candidates who clear main examination.

3. EXECUTION

- i. The University shall engage a Program Coordinator for the Centre from amongst the permanent faculty of the University. He/she may be engaged for a minimum term of two (02) years for the Centre. He/she shall be entrusted with this additional assignment and may be paid a token honorarium/Special pay @ for Rs. 20,000/- per month from the total budget of the scheme.
- ii. His/her role of responsibilities/ duties etc. shall be defined by the University. However, his/her Annual Performance Appraisal Report (APAR) shall be submitted to the DAF for monitoring and records.
- iii. The University shall appoint at least three (03) subject wise contractual/ term appointment/ teachers, who must be eminent and professional scholars in the concerned/allied/relevant discipline and must

have published work of high quality and actively engaged in research and training.

- iv. It should be necessary for a teacher to remain available at least six (06) hours daily in the University. The minimum direct teaching- learning process must involve 20 to 25 hours per week.
- v. The contractual teachers may be entitled for twelve (12) leaves in a calendar year excluding the public holidays. All other leaves shall be counted as leave without pay, subject to the maximum period of one month. The other relevant 'terms and conditions' shall be fixed by the University and a copy of the same shall be shared with DAF.
- vi. The contractual teachers will be paid a consolidated fixed pay salary of Rs. 1, 15,000/- per month (Taxes as applicable).

4. MONITORING & CONTROL

- i. At the end of each academic year, the Programme Coordinator of the Centre will submit, through the Registrar, an appraisal report, indicating the performance of each candidate. The appraisal report should also indicate:
 - a. The duration for which the coaching was organized, classes/period, and the number of the candidates who actually participated in the programme;
 - b. The number of candidates who actually appeared in the examination;
 - c. The number of successful candidates in each paper along with the problems faced by the University in the implementation of the scheme;
 - d. The subjects in which they were tutored, names of Teachers and their subject discipline;
 - e. Overall comments of the Programme Coordinator
- ii. The University shall be monitored by the DAF and D/o SJ&E. The sponsoring agency may conduct physical inspection, at any point of time and even without prior information, or it may be done through Independent agencies.
- iii. The University shall provide all details on its Website for DACE. The University shall also upload year-wise and course-wise photographs of

coaching programme enrolled students on their website for ready reference.

- iii. The University shall open a separate “Current Bank Account” for this scheme. All expenditures related to this program shall be made from this account only. The account shall be audited as per Government norms in each financial year, and confirm the same to DAF by the month of May of next financial year.

COMMITMENT:

1. The Central University of Odisha shall abide by the terms and conditions of the MoU signed with DAF.
2. The first broad Road Map for starting DACE in the University, as provided by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (E-Office No. 47249 dated 06-05-2022) shall be followed.
