

Digvijaya Singh

Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)

Chairman

Parliamentary Standing Committee on
Education, Women, Children,
Youth & Sports



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April 3, 2025

D.O. No. CHM(EWCY&S)/2025/77

Dear Sir,

I am writing to bring to your esteemed attention pressing issue concerning the appointment of Professor Rajesh Kumar Verma as the Vice Chancellor of Rani Durgavati University in Jabalpur. The following are the key issues :-

- The appointment of Professor Verma as a Professor at Rani Durgavati University was done based on advertisements put out by the Madhya Pradesh Public Service Commission (MPSSC) on 19 January 2009. The advertisement clearly stated that the minimum qualifications were a PhD in the relevant field and ten years of teaching experience.
- It is important to note that several High Court and Supreme Court judgments have made clear that the calculation of the teaching experience required for these positions begins after the relevant degree (in this case, the PhD) is secured. The MPPSC confirmed the same before the Madhya Pradesh High Court.
- Professor Verma secured his PhD only on 25th November 2008. Therefore, it is impossible for him to have had the required ten years of experience after securing the PhD since the position was advertised in January 2009.
- According to the 2000 UGC Regulations (which were in force then) as well as the Madhya Pradesh Public Service Commission's advertisement, it is required for applicants to have been Research Director for PhD students as part of their ten years of experience. Since Professor Verma only secured his PhD in November 2008, it is clear that he was unable to serve as Research Supervisor for PhD students by the time this position was advertised in January 2009.
- Moreover, Professor Verma was recruited through the MPPSC's 2009 exams, which were full of irregularities.

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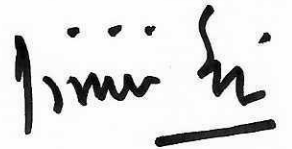
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- It is unjustifiable for any individual who was appointed as Professor through irregular means to then be elevated as Vice Chancellor. Individuals who face such credible accusations of flouting academic and regulatory norms cannot be entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining the integrity of higher education. It brings into question the integrity and credibility of the University as a whole, and undermines meritocracy.
- Accordingly, there must be a full investigation into Prof Verma's appointment, as well as the appointment of other Vice-Chancellors in State Universities in Madhya Pradesh

I have attached the details of the complaint to this letter. I trust that you will give this matter the urgent attention it deserves. I look forward to your kind response and resolution of the issue at the earliest.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Digvijaya Singh)

Shri Mangubhai C. Patel,
Hon'ble Governor,
Raj Bhavan,
Bhopal – 462003,
Madhya Pradesh.