

Police complaint against IAS officer after disability quota post sparks row

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/tehrangana/story/disability-quota-remarks-row-ias-officer-smita-sabharwal-puja-khedkar-case-2570935-2024-07-23>

<https://www.deccanchronicle.com/southern-states/tehrangana/complaint-lodged-against-ias-smita-sabharwal-over-disability-quota-remarks-1811787>

IAS Officer Smita Sabharwal received criticism after she questioned the necessity of a disability quota in the allied services.

A complaint has been filed against senior bureaucrat Smita Sabharwal, a day after her remarks on the disability quota in civil services sparked a controversy. Sabharwal, Member-Secretary of the Telangana Finance Commission, had questioned the necessity of disability quota, suggesting that the nature of the allied services does not require such a provision. She also noted that people with disabilities might struggle with the demands of the service.

The police complaint was filed against her at the Ibrahimpatnam Police Station in Hyderabad, and describes Sabharwal's remarks as deeply disrespectful towards the specially-abled community.

"The nature of the #AIS (IAS/IPS/IFoS) is field-work, long taxing hours, listening first hand to people's grievances-which requires physical fitness. Why does this premier service need this quota in the first place?" Sabharwal had said in a tweet, while also citing examples of airline pilots and surgeons, professions that do not have such a quota.

The complaint was lodged by activist Jangaiah, state president of the Vikalangula Hakkula Raksha Porata Samiti, a disability rights group.

Sabharwal's remarks have sparked controversy amid an ongoing row over allegations of misuse of quotas for the specially-abled in job selections.

Former bureaucrat Bala Latha criticised Sabharwal's comments as insensitive and discriminatory.

"Smitha's comments are insensitive, inhumane and highly discriminatory against differently-abled people, particularly when she wrote, 'does an airline hire a pilot with

disability? Or would you trust a surgeon with a disability?' All these are derogatory remarks," said former bureaucrat Bala Latha.

She demanded Sabharwal to withdraw the controversial remarks she made against the differently-able community.

Notably, following an outrage over her earlier comments, Sabharwal said in another tweet that she wants rights activists to examine why such a quota has still not been implemented in the IPS/ IFoS and some Defence sectors yet.

"My limited point is that the IAS is no different. To live in an inclusive society is a dream that we all subscribe to. Insensitivity has no place in my mind," she added.

Additionally, a complaint has been lodged with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) by Bakka Judson, former chairperson of the Andhra Pradesh Vikalangula Cooperative Finance Corporation. Meanwhile, another complaint was filed with the Department of Personnel and Training.

The National Platform for the Rights of the Disabled (NPRD) also condemned Sabharwal's remarks. NPRD General Secretary, Muralidharan, labelled her comments as deeply biased, reflecting prejudices against the specially-abled.

Smita Sabharwal ready to accept challenge of differently-abled IAS mentor

<https://www.siasat.com/smita-sabharwal-ready-to-accept-challenge-of-differently-abled-ias-mentor-3066566/>

Hyderabad: Senior IAS officer Smita Sabharwal is ready to accept the challenge thrown by differently-abled IAS mentor Bala Latha Mallavarapu to resign and write civil service exams with her and beat her score but expressed doubt whether the UPSC would allow her due to her advanced age.

“I would take on her odd challenge but doubt UPSC will permit me due to my advanced age,” the 2001-batch IAS officer posted on X on Tuesday.

The IAS officer of Telangana cadre, who triggered a controversy with her recent comments on the quota for the disabled in All India Services, also wanted to know what use Bala Latha put her privilege of disability quota.

“To run coaching institutes or to serve the people through fieldwork?” she asked.

Bala Latha, a former bureaucrat who trains civil service aspirants at her CSB IAS Academy, on Monday demanded a public apology from Smita Sabharwal for her views against the Persons with Disability (PwD) reservation in the Civil Services Examination (CSE) conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

“I am asking Smita Sabharwal to resign and write civil exams with me and beat my score. I will prove that a differently-abled can score better marks than her,” Bala Latha said.

The former bureaucrat also said that even her students, who are visually impaired, can compete with Smita Sabharwal.

Bala Latha questioned Sabharwal’s qualifications to comment on issues related to disabled individuals, arguing that such remarks undermine the judiciary and parliamentary decisions. She emphasised that Sabharwal’s words have further marginalised the disabled community, which already faces significant discrimination.

She also demanded Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to take action against Sabharwal under the Code of Conduct for civil services indiscipline.

Meanwhile, a complaint has been filed against Smitha Sabharwal at the Ibrahimpatnam police station in Rangareddy district. Vikalangula Hakkula Raksha Porata Samiti leader Jangaiah has alleged that Sabharwal's remarks were disrespectful to the disabled community.

A complaint against the IAS officer has also been filed with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

According to Bakka Judson, former chairperson of the AP Vikalangula Cooperative Finance Corporation, the NHRC has accepted his complaint against Sabharwal. He also lodged a complaint with the Department of Personnel and Training, seeking action against the IAS officer.

The National Platform for the Rights of the Disabled (NPRD) has also voiced strong objections to Smita Sabharwal's comments.

Smita Sabharwal sparked controversy with her remarks amid the debate over reservation for UPSC aspirants under the PwD category, which was triggered by controversy over IAS probationary officer Puja Khedkar's recruitment under the disability quota.

She questioned the necessity of a disability quota in the IAS and suggested that individuals with disabilities might struggle to meet the demands of the service.

"With all due respect to the Differently Abled. Does an Airline hire a pilot with a disability? Or would you trust a surgeon with a disability? The nature of IAS/IPS/IFoS is field work, long taxing hours, and listening first-hand to people's grievances-which requires physical fitness. Why does this premier service need this quota in the first place!"

Her comments had drawn flak from various quarters. Rajya Sabha MP Priyanka Chaturvedi had termed it a 'pathetic and exclusionary view'.

"Amazed that an IAS officer would be so fundamentally ignorant about disability. Most disabilities have no impact on stamina. Or intelligence. But this tweet shows enlightenment and diversity are badly needed," commented Karuna Nundy, a senior advocate of the Supreme Court.

The IAS officer, however, stood her ground. "See a lot of outrage on my timeline. I suppose addressing the elephant in the room gets you that reaction. Would request the rights activists to also examine why this quota has still not been implemented in the IPS/ IFoS and certain sectors like defence. My limited point is that the IAS is no

different. To live in an inclusive society is a dream that we all subscribe to. Insensitivity has no place in my mind," she responded

Smitha Sabharwal as the secretary to the Chief Minister was a powerful officer under the previous government of BRS. After the Congress party came to power, she was transferred out of the Chief Minister's Office in January this year and posted as member secretary of the Telangana State Finance Commission.

छात्र सशक्त होंगे तभी वे अधिकारों की रक्षा कर सकेंगे : सिन्हा

<https://www.msn.com/hi-in/news/jharkhand/%E0%A4%9B-%E0%A4%A4%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%B0-%E0%A4%B8%E0%A4%B6%E0%A4%95%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%A4-%E0%A4%B9-%E0%A4%82%E0%A4%97%E0%A5%87-%E0%A4%A4%E0%A4%AD-%E0%A4%B5%E0%A5%87-%E0%A4%85%E0%A4%A7-%E0%A4%95-%E0%A4%B0-%E0%A4%82-%E0%A4%95-%E0%A4%B0%E0%A4%95%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%B7-%E0%A4%95%E0%A4%B0-%E0%A4%B8%E0%A4%95%E0%A5%87%E0%A4%82%E0%A4%97%E0%A5%87-%E0%A4%B8-%E0%A4%A8%E0%A5%8D%E0%A4%B9/ar-BB1qu8xR>

जमशेदपुर, प्रमुख संवाददाता

जेकेएस कॉलेज में मंगलवार को आपका अधिकार आपकी शक्ति थीम पर राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग की सुचित्रा सिन्हा ने विद्यार्थियों को जागरूक किया। कहा कि मानवाधिकार मानव की शक्ति का परिचय है। जन्म के पश्चात ही ये अधिकार स्वतः प्राप्त हो जाते हैं जो उनकी मृत्यु तक उनके साथ रहते हैं। देश के विकास के लिए छात्र सबसे महत्वपूर्ण और शक्तिशाली संसाधन हैं। उन्हें मानवाधिकार के संबंध में जागरूक करना अति आवश्यक है। छात्र सशक्त होंगे तो वे अपनी रक्षा के साथ साथ समाज के अन्य लोगो की रक्षा कर सकते हैं। उन्होंने जेल सम्प्रेषण गृह, आदिवासी आवासीय विद्यालय, अनुसूचित जाति आवासीय विद्यालयों, कस्तूरबा गांधी आवासीय विधालयों में किस तरह मनवाधिकारों का उलंघन किया जा रहा है इसकी फोटो- विडियो के साथ जानकारी दी। अतिथि के रूप में तकनीकी शिक्षा निदेशालय (झारखंड सरकार) के उपनिदेशक डॉ. सुनील कुमार, जिला समाज कल्याण पदाधिकारी संध्या कुमारी उपस्थित थे। कॉलेज के अध्यक्ष डॉ. संतान प्रसाद, सचिव डॉ. प्रभात कुमार पानी और कार्यकारी प्राचार्य डॉ. मोहित कुमार ने कार्यक्रम को सफल बनाने में सहयोग दिया। संचालन जी रमा ने किया।

मा नवा धिकार संरक्षकों ने अपने अधिकारों के संरक्षण की मां ग क

<http://www.univarta.com/human-rights-defenders-demanded-protection-of-their-rights/india/news/3246687.html>

नयी दि ल्ली , 23 जुला ई (वा र्ता) रा ष्ट्री य मा नवा धि का र आयो ग (एनएचआरसी) के मा नवा धि का र संरक्षकों (एचआरडी) ने आयो ग से मां ग की है कि उनके सामने का र्य के दौरा न आने वा ली चुनौ ति यों के मद्देनजर उनके अधि का रों के संरक्षण के लि ये परा मर्श जा री कि या जा ये। मा नवा धि का र आयो ग ने आज यहां अपने मुख्या लय पर एचआरडी और गैर सरका री संगठनों के अपने को र ग्रुप की बैठक का आयो जन कि या । बैठक की अध्यक्षता का र्यवा हक अध्यक्ष वि जया भा रती सया नी ने की ।

विकलांगता कोटा संबंधी टिप्पणी को लेकर IAS स्मिता सभरवाल के खिलाफ शिकायत दर्ज

<https://jantaserishta.com/local/telangana/complaint-filed-against-ias-smita-sabharwal-over-remarks-on-disability-quota-3410853>

Hyderabad. हैदराबाद: अखिल भारतीय सेवाओं indian services (एआईएस) में विकलांगता कोटे पर उनकी टिप्पणी को लेकर आईएस अधिकारी स्मिता सभरवाल के खिलाफ मंगलवार को इब्राहिमपटनम पुलिस स्टेशन में शिकायत दर्ज की गई है। विकलांग अधिकार समूह, विकलांग हक्कुला रक्षा पोराता समिति ने पुलिस शिकायत दर्ज कराई और कहा कि उनकी टिप्पणी समुदाय के प्रति अपमानजनक थी। आईएस अधिकारियों की टिप्पणियों को अरुचिकर और दर्दनाक बताते हुए,

अधिकार समूह के अध्यक्ष जंगैया ने कहा कि वे राज्य के सभी जिलों में पुलिस शिकायत दर्ज कराएंगे। स्मिता सभरवाल ने प्रोबेशनरी आईएस पूजा खेडकर के हालिया विवाद पर प्रतिक्रिया व्यक्त करते हुए माइक्रोब्लॉगिंग साइट 'एक्स' (पूर्व में ट्विटर) पर लिखा, "चूंकि यह बहस जोर पकड़ रही है- दिव्यांगों के प्रति पूरे सम्मान के साथ। क्या कोई एयरलाइन दिव्यांग पायलट को काम पर रखती है? या आप दिव्यांग सर्जन पर भरोसा करेंगे। #AIS

(IAS/IPS/IFoS) की प्रकृति फील्ड-वर्क, लंबे समय तक काम करने वाले घंटे, लोगों की शिकायतों को सीधे सुनना है-जिसके लिए शारीरिक फिटनेस की आवश्यकता होती है। इस प्रीमियर सेवा को पहले स्थान पर इस कोटे की आवश्यकता क्यों है! #बस पूछ रहा हूँ" ट्वीट ने मिश्रित प्रतिक्रियाओं के साथ ऑनलाइन बहस छेड़ दी, जबकि एक वर्ग ने व्यापक आक्रोश व्यक्त किया। इसके अलावा, सभरवाल के खिलाफ राष्ट्रीय मानवाधिकार आयोग (NHRC) में भी शिकायत दर्ज की गई थी। एपी विकासगुला सहकारी वित्त निगम ने दावा किया है कि NHRC ने नौकरशाह के खिलाफ उसकी शिकायत स्वीकार कर ली है।