Government of Jammu and Kashmir **Higher Education Department**Civil Secretariat, Jammu.

Subject:- Accessibility for specially-abled students in Universities and affiliated Colleges.

CIRCULAR

- 1. Specially-abled persons need special arrangements in the colleges/Universities for their mobility and independent functioning and all existing structures as well as future construction projects in campuses should be made disabled-friendly. The institutions should create special facilities such as ramps, rails and special toilets, and make other necessary changes to suit the special needs of specially-abled persons. The construction plans should clearly address the accessibility issues pertaining to disability.
- 2. The University Grants Commission (UGC) is supporting universities and colleges in the country to involve in special education activities to empower differently-abled persons. The UGC had started the scheme of assistance to universities/colleges for Higher Education for Persons with Special Needs (Differently-abled Persons) (HEPSN).
- 3. The HEPSN scheme is basically meant for creating an environment at the higher education institutions to enrich higher education learning experiences of specially-abled persons. Creating awareness about the capabilities of differently-abled persons, construction aimed at improving accessibility, purchase of equipment to enrich learning, etc., are the broad categories of assistance under this scheme.
- 4. The Government of Jammu and Kashmir has also enacted JAMMU AND KASHMIR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES, PROTECTION OF RIGHTS AND FULL PARTICIPATION) ACT, 1998 whereunder, providing of ramps in public buildings and adaptation of toilets for wheel chairs users, removal of architectural barriers, supply of books, uniforms and other materials to students, grant of scholarship and setting-up of appropriate grievances redressal mechanism etc. is obligatory for all public offices including colleges and universities.

Therefore, in the foregoing context, it is enjoined upon all Principals of Government Degree Colleges and Private Colleges under regulatory control of Higher Education Department to strictly implement the above mentioned guidelines so that specially-abled students find access to Higher Education Department without any discrimination.

(Irfan Manzoor) KAS

Under Secretary to Government
Ifigher Education Department

06 -02-2017

Mated:-

MM

No. HE/Gen/HWO/2017

Copy to :-

01. Registrar, University of Jammu/Kashmir/BGSBU/IUST/SMVDU for similar necessary action.

02. Nodal Principal, A.S College, Srinagar/ Nodal Principal, GGM Science College, Jammu. They are requested to forward this circular to all Principals of Govt. Degree Colleges and Private Colleges.

03. SA to Hon'ble Minister for Education for information of Hon'ble Minister.

04. SA to Hon'ble Minister of State for Education for information Hon'ble Minister of State.

05.PS to Commissioner/Secretary, Higher Education for information.

06. Chairman, Humanity Welfare Organisation (NGO), Bijbehara Anantnag for information.

07. I/C web site, Higher Education Department.

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offices including colleges and universities.

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