

**TISS has not stopped any scholarships, strictly following all government guidelines;
raising funds on its own to make up for government aid deficits**

Mumbai, February 23, 2018: The Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) categorically denies having stopped any scholarships for its students, and is continuing to follow all Government of India guidelines on student welfare.

In response to reports related to payment of fees and stoppage of scholarships, TISS would like to reiterate the following to clarify the issues raised:

1. The Government of India Post Matric Scholarship is paid by the Social Welfare Department/ Tribal Welfare Department of the respective State Governments on receipt of applications submitted by eligible students. These scholarships are transferred by the Government concerned directly to the student bank accounts. The Institute has no role either in the sanction or disbursement of the scholarships. The role of the Institute is restricted to only certifying the bona fides of the student applicants. Therefore, the claim that the TISS administration has stopped GOI Post Matric Scholarships for eligible reserved category students is incorrect.
2. TISS is following all the guidelines of the Government of India. Course fees for the eligible GOI Post Matric reserved category students are still exempted. The students are only required to pay dining hall charges and hostel fees on actual basis, which is the norm in all universities.
3. TISS administration has been making proactive efforts to generate resources to meet part deficit in post matric GOI scholarship. In the current year, above Rs.1 crore is being disbursed thus far, from endowment funds and through grants generated from different sources, as additional funds. Thus far, in the current year, Rs.25 lakhs has been generated to meet the Hostel Charges of GoI PMS students. Additionally, Rs.80 lakhs has been allocated/ disbursed from endowment funds and grants to support students from weaker financial backgrounds.

4. Semester examinations have not been cancelled. There was a class test which some students could not attend.
5. The Institute authorities are in continuous dialogue with the students since 21st February 2018. The administration team met a group of 20 student representatives on 22nd February 2018 for three hours to discuss their charter of demands. For the 2016-18 batch, all the SC/ST GoI-PMS scholarship holders registered for the Masters' programme in 2016-18 will be permitted to continue with their studies and appear for examinations in March - April, 2018. The hostel charges, additionally are waived off. The payment of dining hall charges are being deferred until the time that the students have the means to do so (as and when they receive the scholarship amount from the Government in their accounts or when they get employed). The consultation process is continuing.

Registrar

TISS