

HRDA/UA/West/MH/02/04/2024

April 24, 2024

To

Mr. Indrajeet Kumar,  
National Focal Point - Human Rights Defenders & Deputy Registrar,  
National Human Rights Commission,  
Manav Adhikar Bhawan,  
Block-C, GPO Complex, INA, New Delhi -110 023  
Email: hrd-nhrc@nic.in

Dear Sir,

**Sub: Urgent Appeal for Action – Maharashtra – Mumbai – Arbitrary suspension of student leader Ramdas Prini Sivanandan for peaceful protest by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) Mumbai.**

Greetings from National Dalit Movement for Justice and Human Rights Defenders Alert!

National Dalit Movement for Justice (NDMJ)-NCDHR having its presence in more than 15 States of India is committed to the elimination of discrimination based on work and descent (caste) and work towards protection and promotion of human rights of Scheduled Castes (Dalits) and Scheduled Tribes (Adivasis) across India. NDMJ works towards the realisation of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social human rights of Dalits and adivasis in the country.

HRD Alert -India is a forum of Human Rights Defenders for Human Rights Defenders. It endeavours to initiate actions on behalf of Human Rights Defenders under threat or with security concerns.

We are writing to express our concern regarding the suspension of the Ramdas Prini Sivanandan for two years by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai.

### **About the Human Rights Defenders:**

Ramdas Prini Sivanandan (30), is a student leader from the Dalit community and PhD student, School of Development Studies from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (Mumbai). He is a former General Secretary of Progressive Student Forum and currently a member of the Student's Federation of India (SFI) Central Executive Committee as well as the Joint Secretary of the Student Federation of India Maharashtra State Committee.

Ramadas has unequivocally defended student rights on campus and worked hard to build joint platforms and alliances among all student organisations. Beyond his work as an activist, Ramadas is also a meritorious student, and has received the National Fellowship for Scheduled Castes by the Ministry of Social Justice, Government of India, for excelling in the UGC NET examination.

**Source of Information:**

- Communication with the HRDA West Regional Coordinator
- Communication with HRD
- Communication with other HRDs in the region

**Perpetrators:**

TISS administrative committee

1. Prof. Shankar Dar, Pro – Vice Chancellor,
2. Prof. Arvind Tiwari, Proctor,
3. Prof. Anil Sutar, Dean SRM and DSO,
4. Dr. Vaishali Kolhe, Dean (Offg.), Students Affair,
5. Priyansh Singh, Legal Officer and member secretary,
6. Gurunath Angane, In charge (Security), TISS.

**Date of Incident:**

18<sup>th</sup> April, 2024

**Place of Incident:**

Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) Mumbai

**Background:**

The Parliament March was organised under the banner of 'United Students of India', a joint platform of 16 student organisations, with the slogan "Save Education, Reject NEP, Save India, Reject BJP". The March was an attempt to make student voices heard against the ruling BJP and its anti-student policies in the form of the National Education Policy 2020.

'Ram ke Naam' is a national award-winning documentary by Anand Patwardhan that has been officially screened in TISS multiple times. The documentary is also available for public viewing on YouTube and has also been screened on Doordarshan. The current

TISS administration, however, wants to censure voices even in the online space in what students want to share and talk about.

Bhagat Singh Memorial Lecture (BSML) is an annual lecture initiated by Progressive Students Forum (PSF) by BSML Organising Committee since 2018. In the past six years, BSML has had the distinction of inviting well-known academics, scholars and human rights activists, including two Ramon Magsaysay awardees, P Sainath and Bezwada Wilson.

**Details of the Incident:**

Mr. Ramadas received a show cause notice from the Registrar's office on 7th March 2024 implicating his activism as repetitive misconducts and anti-national activities. The notice was sent on the HRDs email id as well and his personal email id. The HRD acknowledged the receipt on March 8, 2024.

The Committee met on April 04, 2024 in Vice Chancellor, TISS office at 04.30 PM to consider the case of the HRD.

The Committee in its findings stated that the HRD Ramadas violated clause 9 of the honour code of the institute by participating in the Parliament march which was organised by a joint platform of 16 student's organisations on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2024. The HRD participated in the march at his personal level as a Central Executive committee member of the Student's Federation of India (SFI) and as a member of Progressive Students Forum (PSF). The committee concluded that the HRD participated in the said demonstration and expressed his view because of his status being a PhD student at TISS. The Committee was aggrieved by the fact that the HRD's views are creating an impression among the general public that view of the Mr. Ramadas are the views of the TISS. The committee in its report cited a circular dated 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 bearing No. Registrar/Circular/2023 and held that participation of HRD in the parliament march on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2024 badly affected the reputation of TISS among the general public and the HRD violated the code of conduct of the institute.

The report further stated that *"he is supposed to focus on his academics but, his act of participating in demonstrations, organising unapproved events, screenings, holding sitting, in addition to being illegal, is also wastage of limited resources of the Institute."* Based on this the committee held that the HRD's conduct is *"motivated with personal political ambitions and to further the same, the Institute's name and resources in being misused by HRD"*.

The report concluded that the HRD by organising a Parliament March on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2024, screening banned documentaries, calling controversial speakers for Bhagat Singh Memorial Lectures, holding sit-ins in front of the directors Bungalow at the late night, etc are the actions which must be investigated by law enforcement agencies as Anti national activities. The committee declared that law enforcement agencies can take legal actions as per process and institute and TISS have no objection for the same.

The Committee recommended suspension for the period of two years and his entry to be debarred across all the campus of the Tata Institute of Social sciences.

HRDA strongly believes that the suspension of the HRD for participating in a peaceful protest organised by the joint platform of 16 student organisations, screening a national award-winning documentary 'Ram ke Naam' by Anand Patwardhan that has been officially screened in TISS multiple times & publicly available in YouTube, inviting well-known academics, scholars and human rights activists of a memorial lecture and peacefully holding sit-in in campus as '**anti-national**' along with issuing no objection for law enforcement agencies to take legal action is an act of reprisal for his activism.

This is not only a case of his suspension for two years and preventing his entry into campus but denying a meritorious Dalit student from the schedule caste community the national fellowship for excelling International the UGC net examination.

The right to freedom of expression is recognized in many international and regional instruments, including: -

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (Article 19),
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (Article 19),
- The International Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination (Article 5(d)(viii))
- The Declaration on Human Rights Defenders (Article 6).

Everyone has the right, individually and in association with others:

(a) To know, seek, obtain, receive and hold information about all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including having access to information as to how those rights and freedoms are given effect in domestic legislative, judicial or administrative systems;

(b) As provided for in human rights and other applicable international instruments, freely to publish, impart or disseminate to others views, information and knowledge on all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(c) To study, discuss, form and hold opinions on the observance, both in law and in practice, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and, through these and other appropriate means, to draw public attention to those matters.

*The right to freedom of opinion and expression encompasses three different aspects:*

*1) the right to hold opinions without interference;*

*2) the right of access to information; and*

*3) the right to impart information and ideas of all kinds.<sup>1</sup>*

*The right to freedom of opinion and expression also requires states to comply with positive and negative obligations, including:*

*a) to abstain from interfering with the enjoyment of the right;*

*b) to protect the right by working to prevent, punish, investigate, and provide redress for harm caused by private persons or entities; and*

*c) to take positive measures for the realization of the right.<sup>2</sup>*

The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression in Para 8 of A/HRC/11/4 report on 30 April 2009 notes that *“many of the cases concerning attacks of journalists, students, human rights defenders and unionists in retaliation for the exercise of their right to freedom of opinion and expression —are linked to the repression of peaceful protests conducted to express disagreement with a particular governmental policy, at the national or local level, or with the actions of large corporations”*

The Right to protest is recognized under several international instruments, including:

- I. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Article 8),

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<sup>1</sup> Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, A/HRC/14/23, para. 24, 20 April 2010.

<sup>2</sup> Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression A/HRC/14/23, para. 25, report 20 April 2010.

- II. Article 5 (a) of the Declaration on Human Rights Defenders 1998 states that “For the purpose of promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to meet or assemble peacefully”.

The Right to protest is an essential element of the right to participate in any democratic dispensation, and restrictions imposed on this right must be closely scrutinized with respect to their necessity and reasonableness **(A/61/312, para. 56)**

Human rights defenders play a pivotal role in ensuring that protest and criticism are expressed in a peaceful and constructive manner. States should legitimize and empower human rights defenders in this role and encourage defenders to take full ownership of this role (A/62/225, para. 102).

The protection of the right to protest lies in the recognition and protection of a set of rights that includes freedom of expression and opinion, freedom of association, freedom of peaceful assembly (A/62/225, para. 12).

Millenniums have passed, and yet teachers, scholars, students and others who work in such pursuits – academics and their institutions – continue to face social harassment and State repression. They face harassment and repression for their research, the questions that they pursue, the points that they raise in or out of the classroom or journals, the forums that they provide for peaceful assembly and protest and the evidence and ideas and methodologies that they bring to bear on public policy – or simply for the stature that their academic work has given them in society. Such interference can constitute a violation of the rights to education, science, culture, association, conscience, belief, due process (A/75/261, Para 2)

“Academic freedom should be understood to include the freedom of individuals, as members of academic communities (e.g., faculty, students, staff, scholars, administrators and community participants) or in their own pursuits, to conduct activities involving the discovery and transmission of information and ideas, and to do so with the full protection of human rights law. (A/75/261, Para 8)

General Comment No. 13 1999, para 38

*staff and students in higher education are especially vulnerable to political and other pressures which undermine academic freedom*<sup>3</sup>

THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ISSUED RECOMMENDATION FOR ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS:

1. RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF ALL MEMBERS OF THEIR COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING FACULTY, STUDENTS, RESEARCHERS, STAFF, ADMINISTRATORS AND OUTSIDERS WHO PARTICIPATE IN ACADEMIC PURSUITS. THAT RESPECT MUST INCLUDE THE RIGHT OF ALL MEMBERS TO FREEDOM OF OPINION AND EXPRESSION, INCLUDING PEACEFUL PROTEST ON ACADEMIC PREMISES;
2. ENSURE THAT MEMBERS OF ACADEMIC COMMUNITIES HAVE PROTECTION AGAINST COERCION BY THIRD PARTIES, WHETHER THE STATE OR GROUPS IN SOCIETY. THIS REQUIRES, IN PARTICULAR, INSTITUTIONS TO STAND UP FOR MEMBERS OF THEIR COMMUNITIES WHO FACE ATTACK OR RESTRICTION OWING TO THE EXERCISE OF THEIR ACADEMIC FREEDOM.

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*The states must recognize that “an academic work product involves not only expression but also, often, freedom of opinion that cannot be subject to any interference”*<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> General Comment No. 13 1999, para 38 *E/C.12/1999/10*

<sup>4</sup> Report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, David Kaye, A/75/261, page 22, 28 July 2020.

## Appeal:

We urge the Hon'ble Commission to take cognisance of the above case and urgently:

- Direct the administration of TISS Mumbai, to immediately quash its order of suspension for a period of two years and reinstate Mr. Ramadas and give it to writing to the NHRC within two weeks.
- Direct the TISS administration to ensure that the HRD concerned should not at any cost be denied access to enjoying the national fellow for Scheduled Caste govt for excelling in the UGC net examination and give in writing to the NHRC within two weeks.
- Make a public statement calling to attention the suspension of a Human Rights Defender an implicating his activism as repetitive misconducts and anti-national activities following the SCA recommendation to the National Human Rights Commission in its recommendation of March 2023 and upholding the regional action plan on protection of Human rights defenders of Asian Pacific Forum of National human Rights Institutions of March 2022 or 2023.
- Direct the Director General of the Police of Maharashtra to give in writing to the Commission assuring the complete safety of Mr. Ramdas including his interim safety to enter the campus and stay on the campus till the disposal of the National Human Rights Commission's complaint.

We hope to hear from you soon,

Yours Sincerely,



(Rahul)  
General Secretary  
National Dalit Movement for Justice  
And



(Henri Tiphagne)  
National Working Secretary of Human Rights Defenders' Alert - India

**Copy to**

1. United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders
2. United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association
3. United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression
4. United Nations Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia
5. United Nations Special Rapporteur the Right to Education
6. International Dalit Solidarity Network (IDSN), Denmark
7. Scholars at Risk, New York, USA
8. International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH), France
9. Asian Forum for Human Rights and Development (Forum-Asia), Bangkok, Thailand
10. CIVICUS, Johannesburg, South Africa
11. World Organisation Against Torture (OMCT), Geneva, Switzerland
12. International Service for Human Rights (ISHR), Geneva, Switzerland
13. Human Rights Watch (HRW), New York, USA
14. Amnesty International, London, United Kingdom
15. Minority Rights Group

## STATEMENTS OF SOLIDARITY

1. Progressive Students' Forum -TISS: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C58QiuuMba-/?igsh=MXM2Mjd0cGVrYWhrNA==>
2. United Students of India - a joint platform of 15 student organisations: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C5-zZPAMP6C/?igsh=c29kZjZeWJrZHQ2>
3. TISS Mumbai Students' Union: [https://www.instagram.com/p/C5\\_iuG5sfhl/?igsh=MTV6cTR6b2U4bmgYMA==](https://www.instagram.com/p/C5_iuG5sfhl/?igsh=MTV6cTR6b2U4bmgYMA==)
4. TISS Tuljapur Students' Council: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C5-Ox9tN-ZE/?igsh=MXU2NmtsOGRkcDNjdw==>
5. TISS Hyderabad Students' Council: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C5-kTAEPING/?igsh=MWM1djRmdGlnNnRsdA==>
6. TISS Guwahati Students' Council: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C5-1PEYvij/?igsh=dWpkeDA2MGI5aTlx>
7. ASF TISS: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C5-6pUXsbfI/?igsh=ejc0dnVtZTRrbjdj>
8. NESF TISS: <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=747447880847724&set=a.499298892329292>
9. msf TISS: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C58BMf1vfNi/?igsh=YXRozZllcXphOWp1>
10. ASA TISS: [https://www.instagram.com/p/C588-8\\_P4Uz/?igsh=dmV1YTE0NjJlYWw1](https://www.instagram.com/p/C588-8_P4Uz/?igsh=dmV1YTE0NjJlYWw1)
11. Fraternity TISS: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C586dbdPAAtI/?igsh=MWV0Mm5lemk0MjV6Mw==>
12. PSO Hyderabad: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C57rwlwPlgI/?igsh=cTFxbGxyMndidHR2>
13. SFI Maharashtra: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C58TNXGMfpB/?igsh=cXh6MHV4OXhsdTR3>  
<https://www.instagram.com/p/C59gct2SBf8/?igsh=eDNjdnR1anYzM3Fy>
14. SFI Mumbai: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C58HGVIMdly/?igsh=MXcxM2UzeGJoaG9qeg==>
15. CPI(M): [https://www.instagram.com/p/C5\\_CJv9IZyH/?igsh=MTMyNDdwOTY5NDBnYQ==](https://www.instagram.com/p/C5_CJv9IZyH/?igsh=MTMyNDdwOTY5NDBnYQ==)
16. SFI JNU: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C58KRXZJ2w1/?igsh=MWo0dnltN2xjZG9mNg==>
17. JNU Students' Union
18. Chintabar, IIT Madras: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C58aRlks9bg/?igsh=MXZyaHM5OGp6NHpxdw=>
19. SJI JU-LC: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C5848kWv2EQ/?igsh=aXRrY2ZwbDlkOWdj>
20. SFI Delhi: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C5848kWv2EQ/?igsh=dXV2Z29mMnJla2Qw>
21. SFI HCU: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C59Dh3oMVIc/?igsh=MXZxcms4Z3FpZmY5cQ==>
22. SFI EFLU: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C5-RhHvmmvO/?igsh=dW52dDd1NmMzcTM5>
23. DSF JNU: [https://www.instagram.com/p/C5-tBOPshB\\_/?igsh=bDF4NjBieTJ0bzR2](https://www.instagram.com/p/C5-tBOPshB_/?igsh=bDF4NjBieTJ0bzR2)
24. SFI UK: [https://twitter.com/sfi\\_uk/status/1781667722792669503?t=kaKH21uuiCv5Y\\_drYXwuOw&s=19](https://twitter.com/sfi_uk/status/1781667722792669503?t=kaKH21uuiCv5Y_drYXwuOw&s=19)
25. SFI AUD: [https://www.instagram.com/p/C5\\_J5iPPdXr/?igsh=MWZqbnpveG1hZThrNQ=](https://www.instagram.com/p/C5_J5iPPdXr/?igsh=MWZqbnpveG1hZThrNQ=)
26. NSUI: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C5--bCOyZdY/?igsh=MWpsNzFwdDN2cGdsOQ==>
27. ASA TISS Hyderabad: [https://www.instagram.com/p/C5\\_iLVPv9\\_e/?igsh=Z2Nyc3kxdzN5Mm8z](https://www.instagram.com/p/C5_iLVPv9_e/?igsh=Z2Nyc3kxdzN5Mm8z)
28. SFI CUTN: [https://www.instagram.com/p/C5\\_dIBuPII5/?igsh=cHRwb25rdWx3YnA2](https://www.instagram.com/p/C5_dIBuPII5/?igsh=cHRwb25rdWx3YnA2)
29. BAPSA JNU: [https://www.instagram.com/p/C5\\_XUZui37s/?igsh=ZHQ5aWhiZDBqMWcz](https://www.instagram.com/p/C5_XUZui37s/?igsh=ZHQ5aWhiZDBqMWcz)
30. AISA Chhattisgarh: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C6A-u1sPB3P/?igsh=NjcxXNsdTRxdDlh>
31. BASO JNU: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C6BOIm8PxTC/?igsh=MXZzZ295c2F3dGI3cw==>
32. APPSC IIT Bombay: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C6BxX5js75m/?igsh=MW9oeGVwaWF4Z2d5OQ==>
33. APPSC IIT Delhi: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C6BWO8eovfa/?igsh=MTZpZXhiNm0ycXVpMw==>

34. SFI Kerala: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C6BtwEvJkZQ/?igsh=MXZ1Z3lvZXVra2UxYw==>
35. SFI Calcutta University
36. All Tamil Nadu Students' Association:  
<https://www.instagram.com/p/C6CIIIddy3c/?igsh=NDF1emQwdzZmazlv>
37. FTII Students' Association: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C6DOpfhoSO8/?igsh=MndhZW0zdTlrdTJw>
38. Disha Students' Organisation:  
<https://www.facebook.com/share/p/VJiRu7zqNqvpTshi/?mibextid=oFDknk>
39. SFI ZHDC: [https://www.instagram.com/p/C6DZ6NDRv\\_m/?igsh=cW8zMHNwMjdrZ2dy](https://www.instagram.com/p/C6DZ6NDRv_m/?igsh=cW8zMHNwMjdrZ2dy)
40. AIKS

### FROM EMINENT PERSONALITIES

1. Anand Patwardhan: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C6Apnrmv1y/?igsh=bXq2bG03bTI6M2kw>
2. Dr Chaman Lal: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C6BSNoEPuTJ/?igsh=ODBrazhjaDF1ejkw>
3. Teesta Seetalvad: <https://x.com/teestasetalvad/status/1781267887774195882?s=46>
4. Prashant Bhushan: <https://x.com/pbhushan1/status/1781549864066982075?s=46>
5. Dr Balanchandra Mungekar: <https://x.com/drmungekar/status/1781932432054493629?s=46>
6. Mano Thangaraj: <https://x.com/manothangaraj/status/1781681471335637265?s=46>
7. Supriya Sule:  
[https://x.com/supriya\\_sule/status/1782016338858492348?t=YhQIXVfjuTb7ZHulcTgPQg&s=08](https://x.com/supriya_sule/status/1782016338858492348?t=YhQIXVfjuTb7ZHulcTgPQg&s=08)
8. Su Venkatesan: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/35jr3VjGimDaD9u7/?mibextid=qj2Omg>
9. Inderjit Singh
10. Prof Abha Dev Habib: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/LAiUiTuyvU2TKC6P/?mibextid=oFDknk>
11. Prof Archana Prasad
12. Badal Saroj: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/bsbkbVAnXziw7cqC/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

### IN THE NEWS

English

**19<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

1. The Wire: <https://m.thewire.in/article/rights/tiss-dalit-phd-scholar-suspended-bjp>
2. Scroll. in: <https://scroll.in/latest/1066849/tiss-suspended-dalit-phd-scholar-for-protesting-centres-policies-alleges-student-body>
3. Sabrang India: <https://sabrangindia.in/tiss-suspends-student-for-protesting-against-government-posting-on-facebook>
4. Maktoob Media: <https://maktoobmedia.com/india/tiss-mumbai-suspends-left-student-leader-for-two-years-for-participating-in-protests-questioning-bjp-govt/>
5. Free Press Journal: <https://www.freepressjournal.in/education/tiss-phd-student-suspended-banned-from-entering-campus-institute-responds>
6. Times of India: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/tiss-student-suspended-for-2-years-for-protest-outside-parliament/articleshow/109443671.cms>
7. Times of India: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/student-may-lose-48k/mth-tiss-says-not-his-1st-offence/articleshow/109445593.cms>
8. Times of India: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/tiss-suspends-student-for-2-yrs-for-linking-it-to-stir-outside-parl/articleshow/109446440.cms>

9. Indian Express: <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/tiss-suspends-phd-student-for-2-years-for-anti-national-activities-9280387/>
10. Newsclick: <https://www.newsclick.in/tiss-mumbai-suspends-student-protesting-against-govt-posting-facebook>
11. Nenow: <https://nenow.in/education/tiss-suspends-phd-student-for-alleged-anti-national-activities.html>
12. The Federal: <https://thefederal.com/category/states/west/maharashtra/tiss-suspends-phd-student-for-antinational-activities-after-protest-against-govt-118719?infinite-scroll=1>
13. Edex Live: [https://www.instagram.com/p/C5\\_DxOkxeEI/?igsh=MW92ZWNhdGRza3N3Zw==](https://www.instagram.com/p/C5_DxOkxeEI/?igsh=MW92ZWNhdGRza3N3Zw==)
14. NDTV: <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/tiss-suspends-student-ramadas-prinisivanandan-over-anti-national-activities-5484861>
15. Maktoob: <https://maktoobmedia.com/india/tiss-mumbai-issues-notice-defending-student-leaders-suspension-calls-bbc-documentary-ram-ke-naam-propaganda/>

### **20<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

16. Maktoob: <https://maktoobmedia.com/india/tiss-mumbai-issues-notice-defending-student-leaders-suspension-calls-bbc-documentary-ram-ke-naam-propaganda/>
17. Times of India: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/tiss-student-to-appeal-against-his-suspension/articleshow/109466415.cms>
18. Edex Live: <https://www.edexlive.com/news/2024/Apr/20/being-targetted-as-i-am-someone-who-can-be-targetted-dalit-student-leader-who-was-suspended-by-tiss-mumbai-2>
19. Mooknayak: <https://en.themooknayak.com/dalit-news/tiss-doesnt-want-us-to-have-opinions-students-react-to-suspension-of-dalit-phd-scholar>
20. Times Now: <https://www.timesnownews.com/mumbai/tiss-suspends-dalit-phd-scholar-ramadas-prinisivanandan-documentary-on-ram-at-centre-of-controversy-article-109457488>

### **21<sup>st</sup> April 2024**

21. The News Minute: <https://www.thenewsminute.com/news/tiss-students-say-dalit-phd-scholar-ramadas-was-targetted-for-his-anti-bjp-politics>
22. The Hindu: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tiss-suspends-phd-student-for-activities-not-in-interest-of-nation/article68090307.ece>
23. Indian Express: <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/phd-student-suspended-tiss-issues-public-notice-says-action-after-inquiry-into-his-repetitive-misconduct-9281921/>
24. India Today: <https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/tiss-phd-student-suspended-anti-national-activities-documentary-ram-mandir-mumbai-2529767-2024-04-21>
25. Hindustan Times: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/mumbai-news/tiss-issues-notice-defending-dalit-phd-scholar-s-suspension-101713642629473.html>
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