

COVER LETTER FORMAT

Dear Editor,

This is to confirm that the article entitled "Challenges with informed consent while researching a marginalized group in the context of perceived adverse political scenario" submitted to the *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics* is original and has been co-authored by the undersigned. All authors have participated in the work sufficiently to meet the ICMJE guidelines for authorship. All have read and approved the manuscript.

The submission is not under consideration for publication in any other journal.

We give consent to Ms. Sapna Mishra to act as the author for correspondence.

Details of sponsorship or relevant competing interests, financial or otherwise: N/A

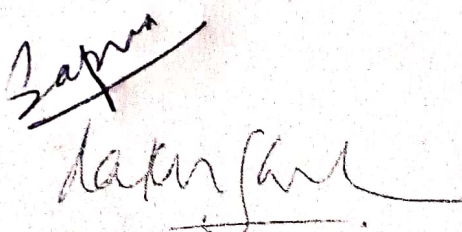
We have read the terms and conditions of authorship of IJME and accept them.

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The image shows two handwritten signatures. The first signature, for Sapna Mishra, is written in dark ink and is somewhat stylized. The second signature, for Rakhal Gaitonde, is also in dark ink and appears to be a cursive script. Both signatures are placed over the printed names of the authors.