

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:392
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2010
ENTRANCE TEST FOR PH.D. PROGRAMMES
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to hold a university-specific entrance test for Ph. D. Programmes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the modalities worked out in this regard; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure quality of doctorate work and academic research in institutions ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT(SMT. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) to (d): UGC has prescribed a framework for admission to M.Phil and Ph.D. programmes in all universities under the UGC (Minimum standards and Procedure for Awards of M. Phil/Ph.D. Degree) Regulation, 2009. The Regulation provides as follows:

"9.(i) All Universities, Institutions, Deemed to be Universities and Colleges/Institutions of National Importance shall admit M.Phil doctoral students through an Entrance Test conducted at the level of individual University, Institution, Deemed to be University, College/Institution of National Importance. The University may decide separate terms and conditions for those students who qualify UGC/CSIR(JRF) Examination/SLET/GATE/teacher fellowship holder or have passed N.Phil Programme for Ph.D Entrance Test. Similar approach may be adopted in respect of Entrance Test for M.Phil Programme.

(ii) It shall be followed by an interview to be organized by the School/ Department/ Institution/University as the case may be.

(iii) At the time of interview, doctoral candidates are expected to discuss their research interest/area.

(iv) Only the predetermined number of students may be admitted to M.Phil/Ph.D programme.

10. The admission to the Ph.D Programme would be either directly or through programme.

11. While granting admission to students to M.Phil/Ph.D Programmes, the Department/Institute/School will pay due attention to the National/Sate Reservation Policy."

The above Regulation has been notified in order to ensure that doctoral students undergo the rigour expected of a quality research degree in accordance with specified standards.

The Regulation also provides for measures to be taken to ensure the quality of doctorate work and academic research through the Ph.D. programmes, by including mandatory course work specially in regard to research methodology, improved evaluation and assessment through a public defence of the research work and mandatory publication of researcher paper in a 'refereed journal' prior to award of the degree.