

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1092

ANSWERED ON:11.12.2013

SHORTAGE OF FACULTY

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

(a) whether there is shortage of faculty in higher educational institutions/ institutes in the country, like Central Universities, Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and National Institutes of Technology (NITs), etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of sanctioned strength of teaching staff and in position in each of these Universities and Institutes, University, IITs and NITs-wise;

(d) whether the Government has any proposal to bring significant changes in the traditional pattern of educational system and to evolve a flexible, transparent and student friendly educational system matching the global standards of excellence and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether students community is being affected due to acute shortage of faculty, and if so, the details of the action plan formulated by the Government to meet the said shortage?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SHASHI THAROOR)

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. A statement showing the details of sanctioned strength of the faculty and in position in these institutions is given at Annexure-I. The main reasons for the shortage of faculty in these institutions, inter-alia, includes:

- (i) The expansion of the capacity of the existing Centrally Funded Educational Institutions (CFEIs) due to the implementation of the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006.
- (ii) The establishment of new CFEIs and their operation from temporary campuses.
- (iii) The slow pace of development of permanent campuses of the newly established CFEIs.
- (iv) The lack of space in temporary campuses to expand academic activities.
- (v) The remoteness of the new locations of some of the CFEIs.
- (vi) Non-portability of pension scheme.
- (vii) Non-availability of suitable candidates.

(d): The Government is promoting the use of technology through the National Mission on Education through information communication technology to bring in quality, innovation and flexibility in teaching learning methodology. Many traditional Universities are offering programmes through the distance mode which are characterized by flexibility of time and space of learning and also the duration of the course.

(e): The shortage of faculty affects the overall academic environment. The Ministry and the UGC have taken the following measures to mitigate the situation arising on account of the shortage of faculty:

- (i) The age of superannuation for teachers in CFEIs has been enhanced to 65 years.
- (ii) Subject to fitness, teachers are eligible for re-employment on contract basis beyond the age of 65 years up to the age of 70 years.
- (iii) The CFEIs have been permitted to engage adjunct / guest faculty / contractual faculty.
- (iv) Through the Operation Faculty Recharge Programme, the UGC is creating a pool of high quality teachers at all levels for deployment in the Universities.
- (v) The pay package and promotional opportunities of teachers have been made more attractive, with the implementation of the 6th Central Pay Commission, in comparison to other services.

Further, the Ministry and the UGC have been continuously exhorting the Vice-Chancellors (VCs) of the CUs to make all out efforts to fill-up the vacant posts of faculty. The matter was discussed prominently in the conference of VCs held on 5.2.2013 under the chairmanship of the President of India and in the subsequent VCs conference held on 19.07.2013 under the chairmanship of the Minister of Human Resource Development.