GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5851
ANSWERED ON:29.04.2015
QUALIFICATION FOR NATIONAL AND STATE LEVEL ENTRANCE TESTS
Deo Shri Arka Keshari:Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has framed regulations prescribing minimum qualification for national and state level entrance tests for appointment of Teachers/Assistant Professor in colleges in 2009;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has issued directives to States in this regard;
- (c) if so, whether several States have challenged the said regulations of UGC and directions of the Government;
- (d) if so, whether the Supreme Court has given its judgement recently on the teachers eligibility; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and steps taken or being taken by the Government to implement the regulations in letter and spirit?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

- (a) & (b): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has framed regulations from time to time prescribing minimum qualifications for appointment to the post of teachers in Universities and Colleges. The extant regulations, issued in 2010, are available at http://www.ugc.ac.in/oldpdf/ regulations/englishgazette.pdf. As per these regulations, candidates must have cleared the National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by the UGC, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) or similar test accredited by the UGC or have been awarded a Ph.D degree in accordance with the UGC (Minimum standards and procedure for the award of M.Phil/ Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009 for recruitment to the post of Assistant Professor in Universities and Colleges. The State Governments and Union Territories, which are desirous of conducting their own State Level Eligibility Test (SLET), are required to obtain accreditation from UGC from time to time. Recruiting agencies can prescribe additional standards such as entrance tests, in addition to the minimum qualifications prescribed by the UGC. The UGC however does not lay down guidelines for such tests.
- (c) to (e): The Hon'ble Supreme Court has decided in its judgement dated 16th March, 2015, in Civil Appeal 36023-36032 /2010 (P. Suseela and others vs UGC and others), on the appeals against the decisions of various High Courts in the Country (Delhi, Madras, Rajasthan and Allahabad High Court) regarding the constitutional validity of the UGC (Minimum Qualifications required for the Appointment and Career Advance of Teachers in Universities and Institutions affiliated to it) (Illrd Amendment) Regulation, 2009. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has dismissed the appeals against the decisions of Delhi, Madras and Rajasthan High Court repelling challenges to these Regulations and also has set aside the Judgements of Allahabad High Court in the matter.

As per these regulations NET/SLET shall remain the minimum eligibility condition for recruitment and appointment of Lecturers in Universities/Colleges/Institutions; provided, however, that candidates, who are or have been awarded Ph.D. Degree in compliance of the UGC (minimum standards and procedure for award of M.Phil/ Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009, shall be exempted from the requirement of the minimum eligibility condition of NET/ SLET for recruitment and appointment of Assistant Professor or equivalent position in Universities/ Colleges/ Institutions. The Judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court is binding on all Universities and Colleges in the country. The Central Government and the UGC issue instructions, from time to time, to States and Higher Educational Institutions for compliance with the UGC Rules and Regulations.