

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:239
ANSWERED ON:09.07.2014
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR PH.D. HOLDERS .
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram

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

- (a) whether the eligibility criteria for Ph.D. holders were amended in 2009;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any disparity in employment opportunities for the Ph.D. holders who have obtained their degree before the year 2009 and those who are doing the course at present;
- (d) if so, whether the Government proposes to remove such disparities; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) : The University Grants Commission (UGC) had issued the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for the award of M.Phil/Ph.D. Degree) Regulation, 2009 to serve the national purpose of maintaining standards of higher education and to bring uniformity in the procedure for award of M.Phil/Ph.D. degrees. These regulations are available at www.ugc.ac.in.

(c) : As per the UGC (Minimum Qualification for Appointment of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulation, 2010, the candidates who are or have been awarded Ph.D. Degree in compliance of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for the award of M.Phil/Ph.D. Degree) Regulation, 2009 shall be exempted from the requirement of the minimum eligibility condition of National Eligibility Test (NET)/ State Level Eligibility Test (SLET) for recruitment and appointment to Assistant Professor or equivalent positions in Universities and Colleges. Those who have obtained Ph.D. degree before 2009 and claim exemption from NET/SLET, have to produce a certificate from the University concerned stating that the Ph.D. degree obtained was in conformity with the standards prescribed under UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for the award of M.Phil/Ph.D. Degree) Regulation, 2009.

(d) & (e): No, Madam. Based on the recommendations of the Expert Committee, constituted in 2005 by the Ministry under the chairmanship of Professor Bal Chandra Mungakar, Member (Education), Planning Commission to review NET examination, and in order to promote standards of higher education, the Central Government issued a direction under section 20(1) of the UGC Act, 1956 to the UGC, on 12th November, 2008 directing UGC to frame appropriate regulations prescribing that qualifying NET/SLET shall generally be compulsory for all person appointed to teaching positions of Lecturer/Assistant Professor in higher education, and only person who possess degree of Ph.D., after having been enrolled/admitted to a programme notified by the UGC to be in conformity with the procedure of standardization of Ph.D. prescribed by it under regulations may be exempted. The 2009 regulations for bringing uniformity in the standards and procedure for award of M.Phil/Ph.D. degrees were issued by the UGC pursuant to these directions.