

The issue of implementation of the recommendations contained in the aforesaid report of the Review Committee is, currently *sub judice* in the Supreme Court of India in the matter of *Viplav Sharma Vs Union of India and Others* [WP(C) 142 of 2006] and related matters.

Mungekar Committee on NET

4725. SHRI ANIL H. LAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken an uncompromising stand by declining to give exemption from the National Eligibility Test to specific individuals/institutions and colleges;

(b) whether instances of gross violations by the University Grants Commission of its own regulations of 2009 on NET have prompted Government to act under section 20 of the UGC Act; and

(c) whether the Mungekar Committee on NET and UGC recommendations based on it had asked the commission to notify NET/SLET as the minimum eligibility condition for appointment of lecturers in universities and colleges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission in its 468th meeting held on 23rd February, 2010 had considered specific requests from Calicut University, Panjab University and Kannur University in respect of particular individuals appointed after the date of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for appointment and career advancement of teachers in universities and colleges) (3rd Amendment) Regulations, 2009 notified on 1st June, 2009. Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 20 of the UGC Act, 1956, the Central Government has issued a policy direction on 30th March, 2010 stating that the UGC shall not take up specific cases for exemption from the application of the Regulations of 2009.

(c) The Government had considered the report of the Mungekar Committee and all other relevant material in this regard and issued a policy direction on 12th November, 2008 under Sub-Section (1) of Section 20 of the UGC Act, 1956 seeking, *inter-alia*, that the UGC shall, for serving the national purpose of maintaining standards of higher education, frame appropriate Regulations prescribing that qualifying in the National Eligibility Test (NET)/State Level Eligibility Test (SLET) shall generally be compulsory for all persons to be appointed as lecturers. Accordingly, UGC had notified Regulations namely, the University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for appointment and career advancement of teachers in universities and colleges) (3rd Amendment) Regulations, 2009, with exemption to be provided to persons who have obtained a Ph.D. degree in accordance with standards and rigor prescribed by the UGC under University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and procedures for Award of M.Phil/Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009. Both these Regulations were notified on 1st June, 2009.

Development of convicts as human resources

4726. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state: