

**Institutes of higher education in Rajasthan**

†2631. SHRI RAM NARAIN DUDI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government institutes of higher education for girls in Rajasthan, at present, along with the number of seats allocated for girls in these institutes;

(b) the details of Government colleges set up for girls' higher education in that State during the last ten years; and

(c) the manner in which Government proposes to provide higher education to girls fulfilling eligibility, at present?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Central Government has not set up any higher educational institutes for girls in Rajasthan. Education is a subject in the Concurrent List (List-III) of the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution. State Governments are free to create institutions and run them and hence details of such institutes set up by the State Governments are not maintained centrally.

(c) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has undertaken several schemes for providing higher education to girls. These include the construction of Women Hostels Scheme, the Indira Gandhi Post Graduate Scholarship Scheme for Single Girl Child and a fellowship for single girl child for taking up research in science departments, which has been covered under the Basic Scientific Research (BSR) programme.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), special emphasis is given to the inclusion and enrolment of girls in higher education. Infrastructure grants are provided to universities and colleges for creation of facilities including girls hostels and toilets.

**Eligibility criteria for lecturership**

†2632. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether, prior to 2009, Ph.D. and after 2009, NET and Ph.D have been considered required qualification for a lecturer and whether, at present, there are lakhs of such eligible candidates;

(b) whether Government has any plan to appropriately utilize these eligible and capable but unemployed teachers; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if not, who is responsible for creating such a large force of unemployed people possessing higher education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) No, Sir. The University Grants Commission (UGC) has laid down since 1991, through its regulations, that the National Eligibility Test (NET) would be a minimum qualification for direct recruitment of Assistant Professors (Lecturers). It has also specified from time to time the exemption from this minimum qualification for Lectureship. As per the UGC (Minimum Qualifications Required for the Appointment and Career Advancement of Teachers in Universities and Institutions affiliated to it) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2009, 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/State Level Eligibility Test (SLET) for recruitment and appointment of Assistant Professor or equivalent positions in Universities and Colleges. This provision has been retained in the UGC (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2010.

The UGC does not maintain a database of candidates fulfilling all minimum eligibility conditions. It only maintains the details of candidates who have been declared successful in NET examination. The number of candidates who have been declared successful in the last three years is 25755 in 2011; 101938 in 2012; and 56041 in 2013.

(b) and (c) Apart from fulfilling the requirements of minimum eligibility conditions for appointment to teaching posts, the NET also provides a list of candidates eligible to undertake research work in Universities and Colleges under the UGC Scheme of Junior Research Fellowship (JRF) and Senior Research Fellowship (SRF). The UGC disburses 6400 such fellowships every year. Further, as per the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2009, separate terms and conditions can be laid down by Universities in the matter of requirement of an entrance test for admission of a NET qualified candidate to M.Phil./Ph.D. programme.

The Central Government appointed a NET Review Committee in 2005, under the Chairmanship of Prof. Bhalchandra Mungekar to review the scheme of NET and its requirement as one of the mandatory qualifications. The Committee, after extensive deliberations, recommended that NET be retained to ensure improvements in quality of teaching.