

schools on 27.10.2010 to provide compulsory 40-45 minutes of Physical Activities/ Games to the students of classes I-X everyday and the students of classes XI-XII should participate in Physical Activity/Games/Mass P.T./Yoga for at least 2 periods per week (90-120 min/week).

Filling up of vacancies of professors

†1472. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the vacant posts of professors in Central Universities are not being filled up over the years so as to help private institutes flourish;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and if not, by when these vacant posts would be filled up; and

(c) whether the fall in academic standards of Central Universities doesn't seem to be because of shortage of professors?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Human Resource Development and University Grants Commission have been continuously monitoring the progress of filling the vacancies of teachers in Central Universities. Chairman, UGC requested all the Vice-Chancellors of Central Universities, State Universities and Deemed to be Universities *vide* his letter dated 12.11.2014 to make serious efforts to ensure that all vacant positions are filled up by the Universities.

The issue of vacant posts of teachers was also discussed in the Conference of Vice-Chancellors of the Central Universities held on 4th - 5th February, 2015 under the Chairmanship of the Hon'ble President of India, in which Vice-Chancellors were exhorted to fill up the vacancies in a time bound manner. The status of filling up of vacant posts of teachers was reviewed in the recently concluded Conference of Vice-Chancellors of all Central Universities held on 7th July, 2015 and it was informed by most of the Vice-Chancellors that they have already started the process of filling up of vacancies of teachers.

(c) In order to address faculty shortages in Central Universities and to ensure that studies of students are not affected, Central Universities are adopting different methods/process which *inter-alia*, include hiring *ad-hoc* faculty, Guest faculty, Contract faculty and Re-employed faculty.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Further, two modalities have been evolved for their engagement with the university system: The 'Adjunct faculty' route for younger and mid-career professionals within the target groups, and the 'scholar-in-residence' avenue for senior professionals and specialists.

The UGC has sanctioned 5 Adjunct faculty positions for each Central University. The UGC has also framed the guidelines for empanelment of Adjunct faculty in Universities and colleges. These guidelines enable higher educational institutions to access the eminent teachers and researchers who have completed their formal association with the University/college, to participate in teaching, to collaborate and to stimulate research activities for quality research at M. Phil and Ph.D. levels; and to play mentoring and inspirational role. The higher educational institutions may also access the professionals, experts, officials and managers including industry experts, in order to engage them as Adjunct faculty.

Reduction of funds for NCERT

1473. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government has reduced funds for the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and if so, the rationale behind it?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): The budget provision for National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) under "Plan" has been increased from ₹ 2000.00 lakh in 2014-15 to ₹ 2500.00 lakh in 2015-16. However, the budget provision for "Non-Plan" has been reduced from ₹ 23972.00 lakh in 2014-15 to ₹ 20000.00 lakh in 2015-16. The actual Non-Plan expenditure of NCERT during 2014-15 was ₹ 18330.46 lakh. The allocation of budget is decided on the basis of, *inter-alia*, expenditure trend and the absorptive capacity, available resources and other competitive demands. The budget provision under "Non-Plan" for NCERT for the year 2015-16 is higher than the actual expenditure incurred during 2014-15.

Attendance of teachers and quality of teaching

1474. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has got any mechanism to ensure attendance of teachers and also quality of their teaching in Government run schools and if so, the details thereof;