

(b) whether Government is also aware that the fee is not deposited in the students account immediately; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken against the responsible authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) to (c) The online payment of fees in NIOS has been working satisfactorily. After implementation of online payment of fees system 100% payment of fees is ensured in NIOS account instantly without any delay. Fee deposited by students for various courses are deposited in NIOS account immediately.

Dispatching of books for NIOS examinations

3265. SHRI SHANKARBHAI N. VEGAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the books for standard 10 and 12 are not dispatched till 15th January, 2017 to the students who are going to appear for the examinations during April, 2017 at National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS);

(b) if so, the reasons for late dispatch of books and the action taken against the responsible authority for the late dispatch to Gujarat and other States; and

(c) the manner in which the authority is going to compensate the time loss to the students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA): (a) to (c) By and large the study material was made available to the learners. In some of the cases all the materials could not be sent in one spell. However, the study material was made available through the NIOS website to compensate for such unforeseen delays and informed to learners through the Prospectus placed on the website (www.nios.ac.in).

Recognition of one year Masters degree course from abroad

3266. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government provides any scholarships to students going abroad to study one-year Masters courses;
- (b) if so, the details of courses, colleges and universities for which such scholarships are provided;
- (c) whether one-year Masters degrees from these colleges and universities are recognized by the Ministry or any Government body;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the steps taken to ensure the recognition of one-year Masters degrees from colleges and universities for which it provides scholarships?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment implements 'National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Scheduled Caste' under which scholarships are provided to study Master's and Ph.D. degree courses abroad. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements 'National Overseas Scholarship Scheme for ST students' under which scholarships are provided to pursue Master's degree in foreign Accredited Universities. Under this scheme, scholarships are provided to pursue Ph.D. and Post Doctoral courses also.

(c) to (e) The issue of mutual recognition of qualifications is based on the comparison of education system of a specific country with that of India with respect to the eligibility and duration of courses. Hence, the issue of mutual recognition is dealt in a case to case manner by Association of Indian Universities.

Normally, equivalence is accorded to foreign universities only on the fulfillment of the following criteria:—

- (i) The degrees must be awarded by the foreign universities which are approved/ recognized/ accredited in their own country.
- (ii) The programme of studies are pursued by the student as a full time regular student on the campus of the University of its origin and/or a duly approved/ recognized/ accredited offshore campus/ partner institution.

- (iii) The minimum prescribed duration of the studies is at least the same as applicable in case of Indian Universities; and
- (iv) The minimum eligibility requirements for admission in the programme of studies are at least the same as applicable in case of Indian Universities.

As per University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards of Instruction for the Grant of the Master's Degree through Formal Education) Regulations, 2003, duration of Master's Degree in India is specified as 2 years and therefore one year Master's degree is not recognized in India.

Recruitment of teaching faculty in JNU

3267. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether UGC has laid down regulations on the number of teaching faculty to be recruited, according to schools/ departments, in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi;
- (b) whether the total number of teaching faculty has been recruited, accordingly; and
- (c) if so, the number of present teaching faculty, department-wise, according to reserved/unreserved category?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY): (a) to (c) The UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education 2010 stipulates that the teaching posts in universities as far as feasible, may be created in a pyramidal order, that is, for instance, for one post of Professor, there shall be two posts of Associate Professors and four posts of Assistant Professors, per department. The regulations further stipulate that all the sanctioned / approved posts in the university system shall be filled up on an urgent basis. At present, out of a sanctioned strength of 909 faculties in JNU, 586 positions have been recruited as per the UGC Regulations for appointment of teachers. Details are given in the Statement.