

(b) by when the vacancies would be filled up; and

(c) whether Government has any proposal for restructuring of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) At present, 1196 Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) are functional in the country and as on 1.12.2018, 8941 posts of teachers are lying vacant in various KVs in the country.

(b) Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process and action is taken from time to time as per the provisions of the relevant recruitment rules of the posts. As the process involves various methods of recruitment such as promotion, Limited Departmental Examination, Direct Recruitment, etc. no specific time frame can be given by when all the posts would be filled up.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government at present.

Eligibility for direct recruitment of doctoral degree holders from foreign universities

1696. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that doctoral degree holders from the top 500 foreign universities are now eligible for direct recruitment as an assistant professor in Indian Universities;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that according to new recruitment norms, the top 500 ranking of the university would be referred from four famous world university ranking system; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) to (d) As per University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and other Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2018, a person with Ph.D. degree from a foreign university/institution with a ranking among top 500 in the World University Ranking (at any time) by any one of the following: (i) Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) (ii) the Times Higher Education (THE) or (iii) the Academic Ranking

of World Universities (ARWU) of the Shanghai Jiao Tong University (Shanghai) is eligible for direct recruitment as Assistant Professor in universities and colleges. The aforesaid regulations are available on UGC website at https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/4033931_UGC-Regulation_min_Qualification_Jul2018.pdf.

Reduction in seats for M.Phil. and Ph.D. in Central Universities

1697. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of seats for M.Phil. and Ph.D. courses in Central Universities have been reduced, at present;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to address the issues being faced by research students?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. SATYA PAL SINGH): (a) and (b) No, seats are not reduced. UGC has informed that number of seats for M.Phil. and Ph.D. courses in Central Universities is determined and managed as per clause 6.5 of UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil/Ph.D. Degrees) Regulations, 2016, which reads as under:-

“A Research Supervisor/Co-Supervisor who is a Professor, at any given point of time, cannot guide more than three M.Phil. and Eight Ph.D. scholars. An Associate Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of two M.Phil and six Ph.D. scholars and an Assistant Professor as Research Supervisor can guide up to a maximum of one M.Phil and four Ph.D. scholars.”

(c) In order to promote innovative and cognitive thinking and improve the quality of Ph.D. Programmes, IMPRINT (Impacting Research Innovation and Technology), IMPRESS (Impactful Policy Research in Social Science), SPARC (Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration) have been launched.

Four-year integrated teacher education programme

1698. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in order to upgrade teacher education system and to enhance the teaching profession, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has announced a four-year integrated teacher education programme;