

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2251
ANSWERED ON- 09/08/2023

LATERAL ENTRY OF PROFESSORS IN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES

2251 DR. JOHN BRITTAS:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) whether UGC has introduced lateral entry for professors in universities and colleges;
- (b) if so, details thereof;
- (c) whether the lateral entry aspirants will be exempted from the regular recruitment qualification criteria such as National Eligibility Test, Ph.D, etc.;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (e) what extant reservation policy will be applied on all such lateral entry recruitments; and
- (f) the details of maximum number of posts to be earmarked in each institution for such appointments?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a) to (f): The University Grants Commission (UGC) has introduced a position called "Professor of Practice" in the Higher Educational Institutions (HEI) to bring industry knowledge and expertise into the classrooms. National Education Policy, 2020 envisages greater collaboration between academia and industry for promoting holistic and multidisciplinary education with a focus on creativity, innovation, and employability. This initiative will not only bridge the gap between university and industry but also enrich the curriculum and help students' employability. Distinguished experts who have made remarkable contributions in their professions from various fields such as entrepreneurship, legal profession, community participation, civil services, public administration among others and have proven expertise in their specific profession or role with at least 15 years of service/experience, preferably at a senior level, will be eligible for Professor of Practice. A formal academic qualification is not considered essential for this position if they have exemplary professional practice in lieu. These experts will also be exempted from the regular recruitment qualifications criteria such as National Eligibility Test, Ph.D. etc. The number of Professors of Practice in a HEI, at any point in time, should not exceed 10% of the sanctioned posts.
