

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1143
ANSWERED ON- 13/12/2023

Lateral Entry in teaching

1143. DR. JOHN BRITTAS:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of persons appointed so far as "Professors of Practice" in the higher educational institutions by way of lateral entry recruitment recently introduced by UGC as per National Education Policy 2020;
- (b) the details thereof, State-wise and category-wise;
- (c) whether extant reservation policy is applicable for such recruitments;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) the number of persons belonging to SC, ST and OBC categories appointed as "Professors of Practice" till date either under general category or under reservation category; and
- (f) the details thereof, State-wise and category-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)

(a to f) The National Education Policy 2020 seeks to transform higher education by focusing on skill-based education to meet the needs of the industry and the economy. Further, the NEP also recommends integrating vocational education with general education and strengthening industry-academia collaboration in Higher Education Institutes (HEIs). Towards this, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has taken a new initiative to bring the industry and other professional expertise into the academic institutions through a new category of positions called "Professor of Practice".

The position of Professor of Practice is not lateral entry recruitment. The post of Professor of practice is a temporary post, exclusive of sanctioned post. Further,

Candidates who have proven expertise in their specific profession or role with at least 15 years of service /experience, preferably at a senior level, are eligible for Professor of Practice.

A total number of 4255 experts have registered their profile on the Professor of Practice (POP) portal. Information regarding appointment of Professor of Practice is not maintained centrally. In order to bring in distinguished experts from various fields of engineering, science, technology, entrepreneurship etc. and to develop courses and curriculum to meet the industry and societal needs and to enable the HEIs to work with industry experts on joint research project concept of Professor of Practice has been adopted.

The maximum duration of service of Professor of Practice at a given institution should not exceed three years and is extendable by one year in exceptional cases and the total service should not exceed four years under any circumstances.
