

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1980
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.11.2016

Eligibility Test to Recruit Teachers

†1980. SHRI ARVIND SAWANT:
SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has appointed a review committee to look into the National Eligibility Test (NET) and similar Eligibility Tests being conducted to recruit teachers to various universities/ institutions in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the terms of reference and tenure of the Committee;
- (c) whether the Government is aware that there is stiff opposition by a group of research fellows against the proposal/ decision to discontinue the Non-National Eligibility Test; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of the Government thereto and the corrective measures taken?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(Dr. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Government has appointed a Review Committee on 28th October, 2015, under the Chairmanship of Prof. Gautam Barua, former Director, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati to go into the issues related to the research fellowships provided by the UGC, covering both National Eligibility Test (NET) fellowships and Non-NET fellowships. Other members of the Committee are the following: (i) Prof. Syed Bari, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Gujarat; (ii) Prof. Kuldeep Agnihotri, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Himachal Pradesh; (iii) Dr. Meena Rajiv Chandawarkar, Vice-Chancellor, Karnataka State Women's University; and (v) Secretary, University Grants Commission as Member-Convenor.

The terms of reference (ToR) of the Committee are (a) determining the feasibility of enhancing the coverage of NET fellowships, which are merit based; (b) establishing a transparent system of transfer of fellowship amounts each month to the Non-NET fellows, which is presently being done on a reimbursement basis and without the Direct Benefit Transfer mandated by the Government; (c) bringing the benefits and opportunities of the Non-

NET fellowship scheme to a larger number of Universities, including State Universities; (d) considering economic and other criteria for eligibility for Non-NET fellowships; and (e) recommending guidelines for the selection, coverage, award, and administration of the non-NET fellowships. The tenure of the Committee was upto 30th September, 2016.

(c) & (d): Yes, Madam. The Central Government has issued an order under the section 20(1) of the UGC Act, 1956 on 28th October, 2015 directing the UGC not to implement the Commission's decision to discontinue the Non-NET fellowship and to continue all existing and continuing fellowships, NET as well as Non-NET and there be no change retrospectively in the fellowships.
