

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 195
ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023

NEW MODEL DEGREE COLLEGES IN ASPIRATIONAL DISTRICTS

195. SHRI RAHUL RAMESH SHEWALE:

SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has modified the shortlisting criteria i.e. faculty positions filled in regular mode from 85 per cent to 75 per cent under “Grants to Strengthen Colleges (Accredited & Unaccredited Colleges)” component of PM-USHA as in case like MERU and Grants to Strengthen Universities (Accredited & Unaccredited Universities) component;
- (b) whether the State Governments particularly Maharashtra and Odisha can propose New Model Degree Colleges in Aspirational Districts which have been funded under “New Model Degree College component” of RUSA 2.0;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the State Governments, particularly Maharashtra, can give proposal for another New Model Degree College in the other blocks of the same district having no colleges;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether the Government is proposing to reduce the NAAC Grade and NIRF Ranking criteria under Multi-Disciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERU) component; and
- (g) if so, the details in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a): As per the guidelines of the scheme of Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA), for each component, various criteria have been given on the basis of which scoring of the proposals can be done. Among the list of such indicators, percentage of faculty positions filled in regular mode are included where institutions with more than 75% positions filled will get the highest score under the components of Multi-Disciplinary Education and Research Universities (MERU) and Grants to Strengthen Universities. Institutions with more than 85% positions filled will get the highest score under the component of Grants to Strengthen Colleges. However, other institutions which have lesser faculty positions are also eligible under the components but will get their corresponding score.

(b) to (e): As per the scheme guidelines, New Model Degree Colleges can be approved only in those districts in the States including Maharashtra and Odisha, which are not having any Government Higher Education Institutions.

(f) and (g): As per the scheme guidelines, only accredited State Government Universities are eligible for approval under the component of MERU. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) grade and National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) ranking of the institute are also factors amongst others in shortlisting criteria under component MERU and currently there is no proposal under consideration to change this criteria.
