

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 182  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.04.2016

**Method to Award Ph.D Degree**

182. SHRI G. HARI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has introduced/proposes to introduce any new method to award Ph. D degree to students in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has received any suggestion from any organisation in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (d): A Ph.D degree can be awarded by a University in the country in compliance with the regulations notified by the University Grants Commission (UGC) for maintenance of minimum standards for the Ph.D degree. Accordingly, the UGC has notified the UGC(Minimum Standards and Procedure for award of Phil/Ph.D Degree) Regulations, 2009.

The UGC has approved that women candidates and persons with disability (more than 40% disability) may be allowed a relaxation of two years for Ph.D in the maximum duration of the course. The UGC has introduced a provision in the regulations allowing transfer of research data, in case of relocation of an M.Phil/Ph.D woman scholar due to marriage or otherwise, to the relocated institution and also approved amendments in its regulations for allowing women candidates maternity leave/child-care leave once in the entire duration of M.Phil./Ph.D for up to 240 days.

The Commission has further approved amendments to its regulations for implementing the report of the Committee, under the chairpersonship of Prof.Arun Nigavekar, former Chairman, UGC to examine the issues related to attracting and retaining talented and quality manpower in the teaching profession. The Committee has reported that it ascertained the views of various stakeholders through regional consultative meetings and the responses from them to its questionnaire uploaded on

the Ministry and the UGC website. The Commission has approved that candidates who have been awarded / registered for Ph.D. degree before the implementation of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of Ph. D Degree) Regulations 2009 shall be exempted from the requirement of the minimum eligibility condition of NET/SLET/SET for recruitment and appointment of Assistant Professor or equivalent positions in Universities/ Colleges / Institutions subject to the fulfillment of the following conditions:

- i) Ph.D. degree of the candidate awarded in regular mode only
  - ii) Evaluation of the Ph.D. thesis by at least two external examiners
  - iii) Candidate published two research papers out of which at least one in a refereed journal from out of his/her Ph.D. work
  - iv) The candidate presented two papers in seminars/conferences from out of his/her Ph.D. work
  - v) Open Ph.D. Viva voce of the candidate conducted.
- i) to (v) as above are to be certified by the Vice Chancellor/Pro-Vice Chancellor / Dean (Academic Affairs/University Instructions/Studies).

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