

PRESS RELEASE

REGARDING REPORTS OF RECENT INCIDENTS IN BHU

VARANASI, 22.10.2019: The Selection Committee meeting for the position of Assistant Professor, Faculty of Law was scheduled on 21.10.2019 at Holkar House, BHU. These positions included those under unreserved as well as reserved category. Some students alongwith some outsiders sat on Dharna at Holkar House, BHU and blocked the entry, demanding that the reserved category candidates be allowed to appear in the interview for the posts under unreserved category. The sit-in by agitating students led to hindrance in smooth conduct of the selection process.

The University had advertised to fill 438 positions of Assistant Professors in various disciplines. After the Shortlisting of applicants by respective shortlisting Committees, interviews are being scheduled regularly. The lists of shortlisted candidates is published along with the list of not shortlisted and not eligible Candidates on BHU Website well in time before the interviews are scheduled.

In the previously held interviews against the aforesaid advertised positions, a large number of candidates, who belong to reserved category but did not take benefit / relaxation in any of the essential criteria required under unreserved category, were not only shortlisted and called for interview but also figured in the merit under the said category. In fact, many of such candidates have been selected against several positions under unreserved category, on the basis of their performance in the interview.

Few representations have been received on the issue of disqualification of applicants on the basis of their NET qualification under reserved category for the Unreserved Posts. The matter was referred to the committee of the Rector and the Coordinator, Legal Cell, BHU. **The committee after examining the case in light of the guidelines of UGC and DoPT, Government of India and judgments of Hon'ble Supreme Court and Hon'ble High Court on the subject, decided that the candidates who availed the relaxation under reserved category for NET can only be shortlisted for interview against the positions under reserved category and not against posts under unreserved category as per the DoPT O.M. and guidelines in this regard.**

The University Grants Commission in its clarification sought by BHU on the matter, said that the University should get the genuineness of the NET certificates and the category of the selected candidates verified from UGC and further as far as the eligibility for recruitment as Assistant Professor is concerned, UGC Regulations and Government of India norms should be followed by the University.

A letter from OBC Commission has also been received to consider the matter. The same was

again discussed by the Vice-Chancellor with the Coordinator, Legal Cell, BHU. The legal opinion again reiterated that only those reserved category candidates can be shortlisted for interview against unreserved positions who have not availed any relaxation of reserved category in qualifying NET as NET is one of the essential minimum eligibility requirements for appointment as Assistant Professor.

Several rounds of dialogues have taken place between the University Officials and the agitating students and some of the teachers in this regard and the efforts made by the university to clarify the issue from UGC was also elaborated before them. However, the agitating side was insisting on its demand.

The matter has also been reported to the District and Police Administration of Varanasi. At around 5.00 p.m., 21.10.2019 the agitating students left the spot.

This is to reiterate that the selection process for various positions in the university is being carried out as per the rules and guidelines laid down by the Government of India and the University Grants Commission and the claims made by agitating persons are not in conformity with these guidelines/rules.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER