

# UGC

## NET/SET PAPER-I

**COMPULSORY**

**Strictly according to new pattern**

*Covering :*

- Previous Papers / Practice Papers ● Teaching Aptitude
- Information and Communication Technology ● People and Environment
- Higher Education System ● Logical Reasoning ● Data Interpretation

**UGC**

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# UGC / NET / INFORMATION

## University Grants Commission

### INTRODUCTION

The University Grants Commission was established by an Act of Parliament. Section 12 of the UGC Act 1956 calls upon the Commission “to take in consultation with the Universities or other bodies concerned, such steps as it may think fit for the promotion and coordination of the University education and for determination and maintenance of standards of teaching, examination and research in the Universities.” Accordingly, the Commission has statutory authority of recommending to Universities the measures necessary for improvement of education and also advice them to take necessary action in that regard. This also enjoins upon the Commission to enquire into the financial needs of universities and allocate/disburse funds for the development of the infrastructural facilities and other components of the university system.

The Commission has identified the following elements which help the University sector develop its academic leadership:

1. Courses of studies.
2. Quality of students and scholars.
3. Special Assistance Programmes.
4. Faculty improvement.
5. Infrastructural facilities including library and laboratory and other campus facilities.
6. Identification of research areas and funding.
7. Extension activities.
8. Common services and facilities.

In all the above areas, the Commission has contributed a great deal by making important recommendations which have been widely accepted in the University system. Such exercises are not one time, but these are continuing ones and the improvements / corrections to these recommendations continue to flow from the Commission. In making the recommendations, the UGC does not take a superior position over the University system, but holds consultations with over 7000 academics of the University system every year

through meetings, National/regional seminars and Visiting Committees. The role of UGC is that of a coordinator and promoter of the cooperative mechanism of the academics of the University system which help the Universities to develop excellence in the frontier areas of knowledge and maintain their academic leadership in the country. There are many recommendations, given in the following paragraphs, which have been fully operationalised in regard to the above stated components:

- a) National Qualifying Test for junior research fellows/lecturers assures the quality of manpower inputs to the University system and in turn, helps the universities to maintain the standards of teaching and research in an indirect manner.
- b) In almost all subject areas, over 1000 academics from the university system have helped UGC to design standard teaching courses through national seminars, etc. These include courses in Futurology to take care of emerging trends in specific areas. Model curricula have been designed for various subjects through Curriculum Development Centres.
- c) For orientation of teaching staff to keep pace with the fast expanding knowledge, the UGC has commissioned 48 academic staff colleges which are monitored centrally at one point for deciding the extent and the number of courses to be organised by these academic staff colleges. The scheme is being assessed through an Expert Committee.
- d) On the advice of expert groups and on the basis of the discussions the Commission holds with the University faculty, substantial sums of money have been provided to the universities and to selected departments under COSIST and Special Assistance Programmes to upgrade their laboratories.
- e) When the Commission felt that it would need a very large financial resource for strengthening some of the science laboratories of the University system and that

too for more than one University in the same subject area, amendment of UGC Act was made in 1984 to obtain under clause 12 (CCC) an authority for establishing common facilities. The Commission has consequently established inter-university centres in several areas. One of them, the Nuclear Science Centre is a unique facility which has been set up on JNU campus and has recently been commissioned for use. An Inter University Consortium for using the DAE facilities has also been established. Several others are in the offing.

- f) The INFLIBNET programme, to become operational soon, adds another dimension to the role of the UGC in evolving a computer communication network for linking libraries and information centres in universities, deemed universities, institutions of national importance, UGC information centres, R & D institutions, and colleges so that they could optimally utilise their resources for the benefit of the academic community at large. This would also provide mutual interaction to academics in widely separated locations.
- g) The Commission has been emphasising they need to decentralise authority and confer autonomy to university departments and colleges with a view to create an elastic and dynamic system for promotion of innovation in teaching and research and to ensure efficient functioning of centres of academic excellence by breaking away from the normal rigidities of the system.
- h) The Countrywide Classroom Programme of the Commission has effectively utilised the TV network to take high-quality university-level education to rural, semi-urban and even the remotest parts of the country. More than three-fourth of the programmes telecast have been from Indian sources.
- i) Women's studies programmes have been incorporated in the university system with the objective of utilising women's full potential as human resource for national development and changing the present attitude and values in society regarding women's role and rights.

Within the broad components mentioned above, the thrust areas pursued during the years have been as follows:

1. Redesigning of Courses and Introduction of New courses.
2. Autonomous colleges.
3. Academic Staff Colleges for orientation of teachers.
4. Setting up of more inter-university centres..
5. Drawing up of academic calendar for universities.
6. Special Assistance Programmers.
7. Qualifying test for recruitment of lecturers.
8. Strengthening the infrastructure of science and technology by bringing in more departments for support.
9. Superconductivity and condensed matter science.
10. Adult Education and the National Literacy Mission.
11. Enhanced facilities for scheduled castes/tribes, minorities and women.
12. Fellowships/scholarships.
13. Spread of mass communication and educational technology network.

### FUTURE PROJECTIONS

In the guidelines for the Tenth Plan development schemes circulated to universities, the Commission has identified the following priorities for the university system in the coming five years:

- i) Existing department of the Universities may be oriented to provide a better climate for teaching and research and to make extension an integral component of education.
- ii) It is necessary to modernise the courses giving specific orientation for the purpose of making them relevant to regional and national development.
- iii) Specialised courses or areas of study in the existing departments as well as on an inter-departmental basis which would also warrant curriculum innovations, restructuring of courses at undergraduate and post-graduate levels to link them better with societal needs and various development sectors including rural and agricultural.
- iv) Laboratory and library facilities and services and workshop facilities, central instrumentation and maintenance of equipment may be upgraded.
- v) Additional academic staff requirement to meet the urgent needs, keeping in view full

utilization of existing staff positions may only be considered.

- vi) Facilities including services like water supply and electricity on the campus for supporting various academic activities may be given due importance.
- vii) Teaching aids may be provided to all the departments. Libraries should be transformed into information centres and steps be taken to link the library with various departments through modern communication technology. Library services be strengthened to extend its access with a view to making it whole-day institution working with modern facilities including computer search and documentation services.
- viii) Infrastructural gaps in academic buildings and laboratory equipment may be appropriately bridged keeping in view the optimal use of such facilities.
- ix) Common facilities for students including counselling services and linkage with appropriate employment agencies may be improved.

### **National Education Testing**

The Programme of Action on the National Policy on Education (1986) laid down that “the teachers in universities and colleges will be recruited on the basis of a common qualifying test, the details of which will be formulated by the UGC”. In pursuance of this, the Government of India in its notification of 22nd July 1988 regarding revised pay scales of teachers in universities and colleges stated that “only those candidates who, besides fulfilling the minimum academic qualifications, prescribed for the post of lecturer, have qualified in a comprehensive test to be specifically conducted for the purpose, will be eligible for appointment as lecturers”. Keeping in view this policy and the recommendations made by a study group of academics that a qualifying test of eligibility nature for the recruitment of lecturers be conducted by the UGC; the Commission formulated a scheme of conducting qualifying test for first appointment as lecturers in universities, colleges and similar institutions. The scheme envisaged that recruitment of lecturers after January 1, 1990 would be made only from the candidates declared qualified in national qualifying test and other accredited tests. The

universities, colleges and the State Governments would follow the selection procedures prescribed by them for the recruitment of regular, ad-hoc and part-time teachers but the selection will be made only from amongst the test qualified candidates. The State Governments will be at liberty to either hold their separate tests at national level accredited by the UGC or draw upon the list of candidates declared qualified by the UGC in the national test. The test held by one State might also be accredited by another State for the purpose of recruitment of teachers.

The candidates who qualify in the eligibility test for lecturership will have to apply to the universities and colleges as and when the vacancies are advertised by them. The candidates who qualify only for lecturership will not be entitled to the award of JRF but the candidates who qualify for the JRF will be considered eligible for lecturership. The eligibility through these tests will not entitle the candidates for straightaway appointment as lecturers and they will have to apply to the advertisements issued by the universities and colleges and get themselves selected as per selection procedure of the universities and colleges concerned.

#### **National Educational Test (NET), June / December .....**

#### **UGC Test for Junior Research Fellowship and Eligibility for Lecturership**

#### ***Notification with Application Form***

Last date for receipt of application forms duly completed is ..... Candidates should submit their application form only with the Registrar of the University where they wish to appear in the test as indicated in item 10 below. Application sent directly to the UGC will be rejected.

1. (i) The University Grants Commission will generally hold a National Level Test on last Sunday of the month of June and December respectively every year for determining the eligibility of Indian National Candidates for the award of Junior Research Fellowships (JRF) and for determining eligibility for recruitment of Lecturers in Universities and Colleges in the subjects falling in the Faculties of Humanities (including languages), Social Sciences and others. The award may be made to the candidates who qualify this test by the Universities/IITs in accordance with the procedure prescribed by them within the quota allocated to them or under various

quality programmes such as Centre of Advance Study, Department of Special Assistance, Departmental Research Support, Major Research Projects, and Area Studies, etc. Similarly recruitment to the post of Lecturer may be made from the qualified candidates by the Universities / Colleges as per their prescribed procedure. Candidates appearing in the above test should clearly specify in item (1) of the application form whether they are a candidate for JRF and Lecturership eligibility *or* for lecturership eligibility alone. For both the options, Selection Criterion is the same. Award of JRF will depend on the performance in the test. Candidates qualifying for JRF will also be eligible for lectureship. However, candidates qualifying exclusively for eligibility for Lectureship will not be considered for award of JRF. SC/ST applicants may be given such special consideration as may be decided by the Commission.

- (ii) Candidates who qualify for Junior Research Fellowship Award are eligible to do interdisciplinary research in the related subject of their Post-Graduation and they will be eligible for Lecturership in the specialised interdisciplinary field after obtaining Ph.D. in it.

The notification and results of the examination are available on UGC Website : [www.ugc.ac.in](http://www.ugc.ac.in)

## 2. JUNIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

Candidates qualifying for the Award of Junior Research Fellowships will be eligible to receive fellowships of the UGC under various schemes subject to finding their placement in the University/IIT.

The validity of the offer is one year w.e.f. the date of issue of JRF Award letter. However, in case the candidates have already joined M. Phil/Ph.D., the date of commencement of fellowship will be from the date of declaration of NET - examination result. The amount of the fellowship is Rs. 5,000 per month at present. The progress of the research work done by JRF on the completion of two years of the Award may be assessed as per the procedure laid down by the Commission. The fellowship may be withdrawn if the work is not considered satisfactory. The fellowship for the third and subsequent years will be Rs. 5,600 per month. Candidates who will qualify the test for eligibility for Lecturership will be governed by the rules and regulations for recruitment of Lecturers of

the concerned Universities/Colleges / State Governments, etc. Candidates qualifying JRF shall avail the Award within one year from the date of issue of the Award letter.

## 3. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

- a) Candidates other than SC/ST category should have secured at least 55% marks (without grace) in Master's Degree (or) equivalent examination in Humanities (including languages) and Social Sciences, Computer Applications, Electronic Sciences, etc., are eligible for this test. For SC/ST Category candidates those who have secured at least 50% marks (without grace) in Master's Degree are eligible for this test.
- b) Those candidates who have even secured 54.99% marks and below (even 49.99% marks and below for SC/ST candidates in Master Degree examination are NOT eligible for this Test. THERE IS NO PROVISION OF ROUNDING UP OF MARKS TO MAKE IT 55% FOR GENERAL/OBC (50% FOR SC/ST).
- c) Candidates who have appeared (or) will be appearing at the qualifying Master's Degree examination and whose result is still awaited (or) candidates whose examinations have been delayed may also apply for this test. However, such candidates will be admitted provisionally and shall be considered eligible for award of JRF/Lecturership eligibility only after they have passed the Master's Degree examination (or) equivalent with at least 55% marks (50% in case of SC/ST category candidates). These candidates must submit their relevant PG Degree within two years of the declaration of the result of NET Exam.
- d) Candidates who have completed Ph.D. and had passed Master's Degree prior to 19th September, 1991 with at least 50% marks (without grace marks explained above) are also eligible to appear in NET-Test.
- e) Candidates have to appear in the subject of their Post Graduation only. The candidates whose Post Graduation Subject is not covered in the list of subjects he/she may appear in the subject related to the one he/she had at Post Graduation.
- f) Candidates should note that their candidature is provisional. The mere fact that an admission

card has been issued to a candidate will not imply that the Commission has finally accepted his/ her candidature. Candidate may note that, their candidature will be deemed final upon verification of eligibility conditions the reference to the documents enclosed with their application as may be called for.

#### 4. AGE LIMIT & RELAXATION

- a) *Junior Research Fellowship*: Not more than 28 years as on date specified in notification. A relaxation up to 5 years is given in case of candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC categories, Physically Handicapped and women applicants. Relaxation will also be applicable to the candidates having research/ training at P.G.Level limited to the period spent on research/training in the related/ relevant subject of Post Graduation, subject to the maximum of 5 years supported by a certificate from appropriate authority. 3 years relaxation in age is permissible to the candidates possessing L.L.M. Degree.
- b) *Lecturership* : No upper age limit.

#### 5. EXEMPTION (ELIGIBILITY FOR LECTURERSHIP)

Candidates who have passed their M. Phil degree or submitted their Ph. D. thesis on or before 31st December 1993 or passed the UGC/CSIR JRF examination prior to 1989 or those who have cleared the State Level Eligibility Test (SLET) accredited by the UGC for Lecturership are exempted.

#### 6. EXAMINATION FEE AND MODE OF PAYMENT

For general candidates the test fee is Rs. 400. For Other Backward Classes, fee is Rs. 200 and for SC/ST/ Physically Handicapped/Blind candidates, it is Rs. 100. The fee should be paid in the form of a single crossed bank draft with six months validity in favour of the Secretary, University Grants Commission, New Delhi drawn on State Bank of India, Service Branch, New Delhi (Code 7687), New Delhi only. Fee once paid will not be refunded.

#### 7. SCHEME AND DATE OF TEST

- a) The test will consist of three papers. All the three papers will be held on scheduled date in two separate sessions as under:

Paper	Marks	Duration
I	100	1¼ Hours (9.30 a.m. to 10.45 a.m.)
II	100	1¼ Hours (11.00 a.m. to 12.15 p.m.)
III	200	2½ Hours (1.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.)

Paper I will be of general nature intended to assess the teaching / research aptitude of the candidate. It will primarily be designed to test reasoning ability comprehension and divergent thinking. Paper II will consist of short questions based on the subject selected by the candidate. These papers will consist of a test booklet containing 50 objective type items (questions). The candidates will have to mark their response for each item on the answer sheet attached at the end of the test booklet.

At the start of the first session Paper I will be distributed and the answer sheets will be collected after the allotted time. Paper II will be distributed fifteen minutes after the end of Paper I in the same session. Paper III will consist of only descriptive type of questions from the syllabus of the subject selected by the candidate. The candidates will be required to attempt question in the space provided in the answer booklet.

**A candidate who does not appear in Paper I will not be permitted to appear in Paper II/ Paper III.**

For visually disabled candidates, thirty minutes extra time will be given for both Paper I and Paper II. In Paper III, forty five minutes *extra* time will be given. They will also provided with a writer who is a graduate from the same faculty, but in a discipline other than that of the candidates.

Paper III will be evaluated only for those candidates who are able to secure a minimum of such aggregate marks in Paper I and II as fixed by the Commission.

- b) *Syllabus of Test*: The necessary information regarding syllabus for all the papers will be provided by the respective test centres. Please note that entire subject of NET syllabus has been revised.

In Paper III candidates have the option to answer either in Hindi *or* in English in all subjects except languages. In case of

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