

## **23,000 posts vacant in Jammu & Kashmir**

The vacant positions also include 9594 class-IV posts in different Government Departments and 5416 non-gazetted positions and 12 class-IV posts in the Police department, the reply said.

In unemployment-ridden Jammu and Kashmir, at least 23,000 posts are lying vacant in different departments, Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti informed the Legislative Assembly on Tuesday.

In her written response to a question by BJP member Rajiv Jasrotia, the Chief Minister said 1278 gazetted and 3352 non-gazetted posts are lying vacant since March 2015.

The vacant positions also include 9594 class-IV posts in different Government Departments and 5416 non-gazetted positions and 12 class-IV posts in the Police department, the reply said.

Besides, the School Education Department has identified 2227 vacancies of teaching/non-teaching posts, she said.

“These posts shall be referred to the recruiting agencies once amendments in non-gazetted recruitment rules are finalized,” read the Chief Minister’s reply.

Last week the Government informed the House that J&K has over one lakh educated jobless youth—a statement that drew strong criticism from opposition which claimed that the number of educated jobless youth was more than six lakh in the state. Following the outcry, the Government said it would undertake a detailed survey to have the exact data about the jobless educated youth.

To a separate question on steps taken to fill up the vacant posts, the Chief Minister said the Service Selection Board (SSB) has conducted written test/type test/skill test of 1947 posts for which selection lists would be issued shortly.

Similarly, the Government said the SSB and other recruiting agencies were completing the formalities for filling up around 1200 posts in different departments.

The reply said the Government has adopted a policy to fast track the recruitments in the Government departments for filling up non-gazetted

posts borne on the establishment of the any department or service of the Government.

“All the Departments have been instructed to refer the vacancies to the recruiting agencies to fast-track the recruitment process so that the selection is done in a time bound manner,” the Chief Minister’s reply said.

It said the selection process against the posts referred to the recruitment agencies was at an advanced stage and the selection process is going to be completed very shortly.