

## **Bihar Govt to seek legal views on lecturers appointment**

The state government today informed the Bihar Legislative Council that it will take any action after taking legal advice with regard to halting the ongoing recruitment process for the post of Assistant Professors.

Replying to a query with regard to staying the ongoing recruitment process of lecturers in order to give an opportunity to the eligible candidates of Bihar as per UGC guidelines, education minister Ashok Choudhary said "The UGC issued notification on July 16, 2016. We will try to find a way out to resolve the issue... We are taking legal advice and will certainly act in the next 10 days."

The minister was replying to a query raised by BJP member Nawal Kishore Choudhary during Zero Hour on Monday last on giving opportunity to candidates who have completed their PhD prior to the 2009 UGC regulations.

Several other members also supported the demand for giving opportunity to the candidates belonging to Bihar.

Drawing the minister's attention towards the gravity of the matter, Leader of Opposition Sushil Kumar Modi said it was a burning issue which concerns thousands of candidates who had completed their PhD prior to the 2009 UGC regulations.

Candidates from outside were getting selected in interview of Assistant Professors conducted by the Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC), he said pointing out that not a single person of Bihar has made it to the merit list in the 'English' subject.

"If the recruitment process of Assistant Professors is not immediately stopped, then it will deprive 35,000 PhD holders an opportunity to become Assistant Professors, the process which is being carried out after 13 years for filling up 34,00 posts of Assistant Professors in various subjects," Sushil said.

Demanding withdrawal of panels containing names of candidates who had been interviewed so far in nine subjects, he said the government should take legal advice to take quick action in this connection so that appointments in eight subjects, whose interview process is completed, are not made except Maithili in which appointment has already been done.

Refuting the minister's assertion that UGC came out with a new notification on July 16, 2016, the BJP leader said UGC issued a notification in May 2016 allowing candidates who have completed their PhD prior to the 2009 regulations and the Commission further relaxed the norms in July in this regard.

Sushil thanked RJD chief Lalu Prasad for raising the issue of domicile policy and said it was in the context of lectureship recruitment that Prasad raised the issue.