

Wait continues for varsity job seekers

A legion of candidates who are aspiring for a placement in the universities in the State would have to cool their heels again as the authorities concerned are still refusing to furnish the full complement of vacancies in their ambit to the Public Service Commission.

According to commission sources, the 13 universities till date have together reported only 540 vacancies. Kerala University, which is learnt to have about 583 vacancies at present, has reported only 83 so far.

The commission officials are engrossed in the preparation of a main list and supplementary list comprising about 5,000 candidates each and had to defer many important tasks to lay total accent on the recruitment procedures. Still, the lukewarm response of the universities to its repeated entreaties to provide the details of the vacant posts has come as an embarrassment to the commission, sources said.

There are complaints that the appointing authorities as well as those heading the departments in the universities are buying time to regularise the employees engaged on contract before the government decided to entrust the recruitment to the commission. Appointing authorities are learnt to have hired contract and temporary staff to fill the vacancies from time to time in violation of the reservation as well as other norms in force. A thorough scrutiny of the contract appointments may expose the irregularities in the selection procedures that were observed for filling such vacancies, sources said.

Majority of the heads of departments and those handling key sections in all the universities were not keen on entrusting the commission with the recruitment. The officers concerned have refused to respond to a Cabinet directive to speed up the reporting process. Now, the attempt is to delay the reporting and upset the process.