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Government Medical College and Hospital to get 20 teaching posts for its OTPT department

NAGPUR: Cabinet nod to filling of 20 posts (16 for teaching) in occupational and physiotherapy (OTPT) in the Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH) has paved way for permanent affiliation of the Physiotherapy School and Centre (PSC) and Occupational School and Centre (OSC) with the Maharashtra University of Health Sciences (MUHS). It has also cleared the way for seeking eight post graduate seats, four seats each in OT and PT in the college. College has also got Rs194.88 lakh provision for the posts.

PSC and OSC had been trying to fill the posts since the setting up of the two schools in 1995. The Maharashtra cabinet on Tuesday gave clearance for the 20 posts. The decision has been welcomed not just by the college but by city's entire medical fraternity. "College dean Dr A Niswade has been keenly pursuing the issue with the authorities. We are now just waiting for the GR. But it will be six months to a year till all the posts are actually filled," said Dr Umanjali Damke, acting superintendent of PSC who has been teaching there for the last 21 years as a lecturer.

The posts to be filled include posts of principal, a professor, four associate professors and three lecturers in PSC and OSC each. Beside this, others are administrative posts. The MUHS virtually withdrew the affiliation of the university for want of teachers at OTPT schools.

At present, just two teachers at PSC — Dr Damke and Dr Sophiya Azad — and two teachers in OSC have been handling teaching of all the four and half years of the course with an intake of 30 students each in the two subjects.

Once the two schools have all the teaching posts, the results which now range from 95% plus are expected to rise to complete 100%. At present, three lecturers have been teaching ten subjects to over 120 students since the last 21 years. "Now we can look forward to not just good teaching but also better patient care. Having teachers in all specialities will boost our knowledge. We will be able to give better services. Having four PG seats in both OT and PT means a lot for not just city but also the region," said a student from the physiotherapy department.