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Teachers on call for vacancies in secondary schools

BHUBANESWAR: In a bid to fill up large scale vacancy in teacher posts at the secondary school level, the State Government has decided to engage retired teachers from 2016-17 academic year. There are more than 10,000 vacancies in teacher posts at the secondary school level.

The decision has been taken because of the lengthy appointment process, pending court cases and unavailability of teachers belonging to SC and ST categories. The retired teachers will be engaged for a fixed period or till the vacancies are filled up through regular appointments, School and Mass Education Minister Debi Prasad Mishra said.

The Minister said retired teachers will be engaged in secondary schools keeping in view the requirement under the scheme which has been named as 'teacher on call'. Mishra said district education officers (DEOs) will prepare a list of block-wise retired teachers after taking their opinion. Committees headed by DEOs will be constituted at the district level to prepare a final list of willing retired teachers. The retired teachers will be engaged in their blocks on a priority basis.

Mishra said the committee to select the retired teachers will meet every six months. The engagement of retired teachers will automatically end after filling up of the vacant posts through regular or contract appointments, he said and added that they can be engaged in other schools where posts are vacant.

The upper age limit of retired teachers should not be more than 65 years. Besides, they would not have been punished by the Government for vigilance, criminal or any other case. The retired teachers will be paid `10,000 per month besides pension and other benefits. A provision of `27 crore has been made for this after approval from the Finance Department, Mishra said.

The retired teachers will have to work for at least 20 days a month, he said. The same scheme will also be implemented at the primary school level.