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Now, guest lecturers can get up to ₹50,000 a month: UGC

Salary hiked to ₹1,500 a lecture; beneficiaries point to other issues they face

S MANNAR MANNAN @ Coimbatore

THE University Grants Commission has hiked the salary for guest lecturers in colleges and universities to ₹1,500 per lectures subject to a maximum of ₹50,000 per month.

The guest faculty can be appointed only against sanctioned post. However, for universities where the sanctioned posts are not adequate as per the teaching workload, the number of guest faculty to be appointed can be up to 20 per cent over and above the sanctioned posts. The qualification and selection procedures should be same as in the case of assistant professor. Superannuated teachers may be considered for engagements as guest faculty subject to a maximum age limit of 70 years. UGC Secretary Rajnish Jain said in a communication to State higher education secretaries and university registrars on Monday.

The guest faculty selection committee should consist of Vice-Chancellor (VC) or his nominee, expert in

the subject concerned nominated by the V-C, dean of the faculty concerned, head of the department or school, an academician representing SC, ST, OBC, Minority, Women, Differently-abled categories to be nominated by the V-C.

In Tamil Nadu 3,387 guest lecturers, including 1,826 in first shift and 1,661 in second shift, are working in government arts and science colleges. Around 1,700 of them possess UGC prescribed qualification. In addition to this, 40 guest lecturers are working in government BEd colleges, sources said.

Tamil Nadu All Government Colleges UGC Qualified Guest Lecturers Association president V Thangaraj said, "In September 2009, the State government appointed guest

lecturers at a consolidated pay of ₹6,000 per month. It was hiked to ₹10,000 in 2011 and to ₹15,000 in February 2015, which is what we are getting till now. But, in February 2010, UGC made similar announcement and fixed maximum pay for guest lecturers as ₹25,000. While the Kerala government implemented the order, Tamil Nadu government has not implemented it."

"Like regular assistant professors, we have to take 16 classes a week and minimum of 48-52 hours a month. In some colleges, where more teachers' posts are vacant, we would be forced to take even 24 classes a week. We cannot claim maternity leave and we would be given salary only for 11 months except the month of May," he added.

"We are not demanding salary on a par with permanent teachers. The government should give UGC prescribed salary of ₹1,500 per lecture or ₹50,000 per month for those guest lecturers who have SET, NET or PhD qualifications," he demanded.



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