

**Need to exempt the teachers appointed before implementation of RTE Act, 2009 from mandatory Teachers Eligibility Test (TET) qualification.-laid**

**SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL (SANGLI):** I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the long-pending grievances of school teachers across the country. Teachers appointed prior to the enactment of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 are being subjected to mandatory Teacher Eligibility Test requirements retrospectively. Large numbers of sanctioned teaching posts remain vacant, while merger and closure of government schools is affecting access to education. Teachers are burdened with non-teaching and administrative duties, undermining classroom learning. Contract teachers continue to be denied regularisation, minimum wages, and basic social security benefits. The replacement of the Old Pension Scheme and delays in implementing Pay Commission recommendations add to financial stress. There is also a demand to recognise Primary School Teachers as an electorate for representation in State Legislative Council elections. I therefore urge the Honble Minister of Education, in coordination with the Ministries of Finance and Labour, to exempt pre-RTE appointees from mandatory TET, restore the Old Pension Scheme, fill all vacant posts, halt school mergers, restrict teachers to academic duties, regularise contract teachers with full social security and minimum wages, ensure timely implementation of the Eighth Central Pay Commission, and provide appropriate electoral representation to Primary School Teachers.

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