

Post graduate secondary school teachers

It is a fact that education is the backbone of a nation. And those who impart it are generally called teachers. In our country educational institutions are divided into Govt, non-Govt and K G Type. In addition to those, there are cadet colleges and Residential Model Schools. And they are too under the government full-fledged patronised institutions. The facilities, privileges and emoluments of the teachers of these institutions are more better than those of the teachers of non Government educational institutions. It may be mentioned here that all teachers teach the same syllabi under the same board.

Now the thing which I would like to mention is that in our country there are about 10,000 secondary schools and teachers are of different categories. Other than Head Master and Asstt. Head Master, there are Senior Teachers, Asstt. Teachers and Junior Teachers. And there are found differences in the scale of pay. Whenever a person passes the Graduation Examination and gets himself appointed in a secondary school, then he is considered to be a Asstt. Teacher. If the institution allows him to do B.Ed. at its convenient time, the incumbent can do B.Ed. And immediately after completing B.Ed Training, he will attain the status of a senior teacher and his scale of pay is enhanced. On the other hand, one can become a senior teacher if he being a graduate and his length of service comprises ten years in one school and twelve years in different schools. As regards Post Graduates there is no rule in this respect.

When a Post Graduate (i.e., an M.A. M.Sc / and M Com) gets himself appointed in a secondary school, he is not considered as a senior teacher because of the fact that he has not obtained B Ed training. It needs to mention here that before the independence of the country, Bachelor degree with B. Ed. and all post graduate holders were considered as senior Teachers and used to

draw the same amount of benefit. Now, there exists a disparity regarding their pay scale and status. In 1980, a circular published from the Ministry of Education to the effect that if a teacher has ten years teaching experience and if he does not possess Bachelor Degree with B Ed, but has only the Post Graduation Degree then he can become a Head Master of an institution and will draw the head master's pay scale. Here the Degree of Post Graduation has been given proper evaluation and dignity.

There is no denying the fact that B. Ed Training is not equivalent to post graduation if post graduation is preponderant to B.Ed. Then on what reasons they are not considered within the purview of Senior Teachers. In our country post graduates have been serving in different secondary schools and its statistics is well known to the government. Some of them completed B Ed Training and many have not and are not able to do it. Post Graduates who have already obtained B.Ed are elevated from Asstt Teacher to Senior Teacher. Indeed, it is really not enough, in my opinion, they should get something more from the Government.

In this connection, I would appeal to the government that in recognition of higher degree i.e., post graduation, they should be upgraded to the status and pay scale of senior teachers. Since it is their longfelt claim for years together. And those who are Post graduates plus B Ed, they should be considered in getting at least two increments more, other than their normal pay.

In fine, it is our hope and expectation that our benign Government will give compassionate thought of it and look into the matter sympathetically.

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