

the district collector and the police superintendent. They said we have to kill the child in a hurry and said that Desai can take dargah like any other devotee. Men

way to the core area with her supporters around 1.30 pm, met with stiff opposition from local women. Around 700-800 devotees had gathered at the area. **Turn to p15**

rise in temperature, often with sweating, especially at the head of a fever. They complained of allergy as rashes on their body, sources said.

Caught in the PhD NET? Ministry may offer relief

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Jaipur: The Union ministry of human resource and development (HRD), could soon offer relief to lakhs of PhD degree holders who had enrolled for or were awarded doctorate degrees before the cut off year 2009. The move would exempt them from clearing the eligibility tests like National Eligibility Test (NET) and SLET/SET (State eligibility tests) to qualify as assistant professors in universities and colleges throughout India.

According to sources, HRD minister, Smriti Irani, could approve of this in a meeting scheduled in Shillong on April 4. The meeting could formalise this decision, which sources

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say, is based on a report tendered by Arun Nigvekar committee. Nigvekar has previously served as the University Grants Commission (UGC) chairman and was directed to helm the panel in July 2015 to sort out anomalies in eligibility criteria of PhD holders awarded degree before the year 2009.

When contacted, Nigvekar refused to divulge any details. He, however, told dna, "We are

in the process of finalising the report."

A favourable ministry decision would end up revoking the previous decision enforced through UGC Act 2010, which had introduced 16 parameters for completion of PhD to qualify for teaching as assistant professor. After these amendments, several of the degree holders, many with substantial experience in teaching, found themselves ineligible for teaching.

This would come as a relief for some 5 lakh degree holders who had enrolled for and were awarded PhD degrees between 2002 and 2009.

In Rajasthan, some 10,000 candidates are expected to benefit out of the move, provided it is approved of **Turn to p15**

ended saying.

Caught in...

by the HRD ministry.

Sources said that Nigvekar committee has completed the task assigned to it.

The matter was originally taken up by Rajasthan governor and chancellor Kalyan Singh who had communicated to the union HRD ministry to have the confusion over the eligibility criteria for hiring of assistant professors in state universities and colleges.

It was on his intervention that the union minister Smriti Irani constituted the Nigvekar panel.