



Prachi Pandey
Joint Secretary (Institutions & Training)
Email: prachi.p@gov.in

D.O. No. 3-15/2021-IS.1

New Delhi, the 14th July.2025

Respected Madam / Sir,

As you are aware that the National Council for Teachers Education (NCTE), vide their gazette notification dated 23rd August, 2010 (**Annexure-I**), had laid down minimum qualification for a person to be eligible for consideration of appointment as a teacher for classes I to VIII.

2. Vide amendment dated 28th June, 2018 (**Annexure-II**) carried out in the above notification, the NCTE brought out the following addition in the minimum qualification for a person to be eligible for consideration of appointment as a teacher for classes I to V:

"Graduation with at least 50% marks and B.Ed."

Provided that who has acquired the qualification of B.Ed. from any National Council for Teacher Education recognized institution shall be considered for appointment as a teacher in classes I to V:

Provided that the person so appointed as a teacher shall mandatorily undergo a six-month Bridge Course in Elementary Education recognized by the National Council for Teacher Education, within two years of such appointment as primary teacher.

3. The aforesaid notification was challenged before the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur Bench. The Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur vide order dated 25th November, 2021 had set aside the NCTE's Notification dated 28th June, 2018. The said judgment passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur was further challenged before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

4. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its judgment dated 11th August, 2023 (**Annexure-III**) in Devesh Sharma Vs UOI and ors. had upheld the Order dated 25th November, 2021 passed by the High Court of Rajasthan at Jodhpur whereby the applicants having B.Ed. degree are no longer eligible for consideration of appointment as a school teacher for classes I to V.

5. Further, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide its judgment dated 08th April, 2024 issued in MA Dy. No. 4303 of 2024 (**Annexure-IV**), passed the following order:

*"As it appears that a large number of candidates with B.Ed. degree had already been appointed on the basis of eligibility criteria specified by the educational authorities, we do not think it to be equitable to effect their removal. **We, accordingly hold that the judgment delivered by this Bench on 11th August, 2023 shall have prospective operation.** But prospective operation of this judgment shall be only for those candidates who were appointed without any qualification or conditions imposed by any Court of Law to the effect that their appointment would be subject to final outcome of the case which might have had been instituted by them and such candidates were in regular employment without any disqualification and were appointed in pursuance of a notice of advertisement where B.Ed. was stipulated to be valid qualification. Services of only such candidates shall not be disturbed because of this judgment. **We make it clear that this benefit is only for the candidates who were appointed prior to the date our judgment was delivered, on 11th August, 2023.***

*Mere selection of such candidates or their participation in the process will not entitle them for a benefit under our present order. **Moreover, the candidates having B.Ed. qualification whose appointments we are protecting in this judgment, will have to undergo a bridge course and we direct the educational authorities to device such course, which would be applicable for each state and union territory, within a period of one year from today.** This course shall be only for those appointees who have been engaged with B.Ed. degree only in the subject-posts under conditions stipulated in the earlier part of this order. **National Council for Teacher Education shall design such course under overall supervision of the Ministry of Education, Union of India.** Upon formulation of such course, the same shall be publicly notified and a timeframe shall also be given within which the respective candidates shall participate therein. Failure of any candidate to participate and complete the course within the timeframe to be given by the concerned educational authorities will invalidate the appointment of such candidate.*

We also make it clear that the directions contained in this order shall not be confined to the applicant state only and shall cover all cases which may be pending in different judicial fora in any State or Union territory on the same point of law. The present application stands disposed of in the above terms.

Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of."

6. In compliance with the above order passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the 6-months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education has been notified by the NCTE vide Public Notice dated 07th April, 2025 (**Annexure-V**) and the Corrigendum dated 10th April, 2025 (**Annexure-VI**) and hosted on the official website of NCTE for information to all the stakeholders.

7. In view of the above, the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) is in the process of conducting the 6-months Certificate Course (Bridge) in Primary Teacher Education. In order to ensure effective coordination and implementation of the course, I solicit your cooperation to:

- a. Appoint a State Nodal Officer for coordination with NIOS and NCTE for this Bridge course and inform the same to NIOS (cp@nios.ac.in);

- b. Provide NCTE (cp@ncte-india.org) and NIOS (cp@nios.ac.in) with a verified list of in-service primary teachers with B.Ed. qualification who fall under the eligible category as specified in the Supreme Court judgment dated 08th April, 2024 and NCTE's public Notice dated 07th April, 2025 & 10th April, 2025;
- c. to ensure a state-level communication and support mechanism for timely enrolment and monitoring of the course, tentatively starting from 1st August, 2025.
8. I look forward for a time-bound action in the matter.
9. It issues with the approval of the competent authority.

Kind regards,

Encl: As above.

Yours sincerely,

Prachi Pandey
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(Prachi Pandey)

Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary/Commissioner (Education), All States and Union Territories.

Copy for information to:

1. Chairperson, NIOS.
2. Member Secretary, NCTE.