

In favour of Publication

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Supreme Court verdict – No connection with UGC pay -AMUCT

The verdict of Supreme Court dismissing the petition of some college teachers with regard to enhancement of retirement age has been wrongly interpreted as if UGC pay scales may be curtailed. The age of superannuation of college and university teachers is 60 and 62 respectively in Karnataka. UGC in its Regulations has presented the age of retirement at 65. In this regard some teachers had filed an appeal to SC to direct state Governments to enhance the retirement age as per UGC regulations. The decision of SC is to be viewed in this context as it has expressed opinion that UGC regulations cannot be imposed on state governments. At the same time, the Apex court has reiterated its stand that UGC has the right to frame Regulation.

It may be recalled that UGC pay scales have been in vogue for the last 40 years. The government of India has constituted education commission from time to time for raising the standard of higher education. The centre on the recommendations of expert committees, has requested the state governments to implement the UGC scales uniformly throughout the country. The centre has even given financial support by reimbursing 80% of the additional burden to the state governments.

Central government has not made it mandatory on the state governments. Moreover the Govt of India has left the issue pushing the age of retirement to state Governments. Association of Mangalore University College Teachers (AMUCT) appeals all not to create confusion in the minds of college teachers unnecessary by wrongly interpreting Supreme Court verdict. SC judgment is only with regard retirement age and not about UGC scales of pay.

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