GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3404
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25.03.2021

Functioning of National Testing Agency (NTA)

3404. Shri Sanjay Seth:
Shri Rajeev Satav:

Will the Minister of *Education* be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has achieved aims and objective of establishing National Testing Agency (NTA), if so, details thereof;

(b) whether NTA is charging exorbitant fee from candidate to sit in various examinations conducted by them, if so, details thereof and corrective steps taken;

(c) number of exams conducted by NTA using computer based system till date;

(d) whether NTA has also launched a 'mobile app' through which students can practice/take mock tests on their own computers or smart phones, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) other steps taken by NTA to conduct examinations in a transparent and efficient manner?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK')

(a): National Testing Agency (NTA) has been established by the Government in 2018 as a premier, specialist, autonomous and self-sustained testing organization to conduct entrance examinations for admission/fellowship in higher educational institutions. NTA has so far successfully conducted 66 examinations (Computer Based-63 and in Pen & Paper-3) since December 2018, which include: NEET (UG), JEE (Main), UGC- NET, JNUEE, DUET, ICAR-AIEE, IGNOU &CSIR-NET, etc.

(b): As NTA is a self-sustained organisation, the fees charged from the candidates are kept at the minimum for meeting the input costs and administrative costs only.

(c): NTA has, so far, successfully conducted 63 examinations in computer based mode.

(d): NTA has launched a mobile app called the **'National Test Abhyas'** to enable candidates to take mock tests for JEE (Main) and NEET (UG). Students across the country can use the App to access high quality tests, free of cost for preparation of the upcoming JEE (Main) and NEET (UG) exams.

(e): To ensure test security and curb malpractices due to technological advancement, NTA has adopted various measures which includes CCTV Surveillance, installation of network jammers / signal silencers at examination centre etc. Orientation program for test developers, subject experts, examination functionaries etc are also conducted by NTA.