

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 169
ANSWERED ON: 11.12.2024**

Irregularities in NEET and NET examinations

169 Shri M. Shanmugam:

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

- (a) whether the Radhakrishnan Committee to look into irregularities in NEET and NET entrance tests has since submitted its recommendations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government proposed any reforms and improvements in the All India Entrance Tests, based on the recommendations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the initiatives taken by Government to make the entrance tests foolproof, more reliable, without malpractices and irregularities and to increase the confidence of the public?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF EDUCATION
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

- (a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *169 FOR REPLY ON 11.12.2024 REGARDING “IRREGULARITIES IN NEET AND NET EXAMINATIONS” ASKED BY SHRI M. SHANMUGAM, HON’BLE MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

(a) to (e): In order to suggest effective measures for transparent, smooth and fair conduct of examinations by National Testing Agency (NTA), the Ministry of Education constituted a High-Level Committee of Experts (HLCE) on 22.06.2024 headed by Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, former Chairman ISRO and Chairman BoG, IIT Kanpur.

The Committee has submitted its report on 21.10.2024 and has recommended Reformation of National Common Entrance Testing including strengthening of NTA, hiring of domain specific manpower, involvement of Test Indenting Agencies as Knowledge and Examinations partner etc. The Committee has recommended that NTA should develop institutional linkage with State/District Authorities for providing a Secure Test Administration Apparatus. In this regard, this Ministry has written to all States and Union Territories for the support of their machinery through State and District Level Committees for smooth and fair conduct of NTA examinations.

The HLCE has laid out measures and recommended Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to prevent breaches in both Pen and Paper Test (PPT) and Computer Based Test (CBT) examinations. Guidelines for Question Paper Setting and Vetting as per defined protocols have also been recommended. Further, besides other recommendations, the HLCE has called for detailed framework to be developed on Testing Centre Allocation Policy to prevent any unusual pattern of test centre allocation to students. The Committee also recommended constitution of a High-Powered Steering Committee to monitor the implementation of recommendations of HLCE on NTA, which has been constituted by the Ministry on 14th November, 2024.

As deterrence to unfair means in public examinations, the Central Government has enacted the Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act, 2024. The Act has come into force w.e.f. 21st June, 2024 and Rules thereunder have been notified on 23rd June, 2024.
