

NOTICE ISSUED TO CENTRE AND NTA

# Pleas Seek Transfer of HC NEET Cases to Apex Court; SC Issues Notice

CJI tags pleas with a similar petition filed by NTA earlier; next hearing on Thursday

## Our Political Bureau

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Monday issued a notice to the Centre and National Testing Agency (NTA) on a batch of pleas seeking transfer of petitions concerning National Eligibility-Cum-Entrance Test (NEET 2024) from high courts to the top court.

A bench headed by Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud tagged the pleas with a similar plea filed by NTA earlier in which SC had already stayed proceedings before the high courts pertaining to NEET-2024. The petitions will come up for resumed hearing on Thursday.

Last week, the Central Bureau of Investigation had submitted a status report of its investigation into the alleged irregularities in the NEET-UG to the apex court. The agency had submitted, in a sealed cover, the status report on its findings regarding the alleged exam paper leak in Bihar and the alleged irregularities in Gujarat and Rajasthan centres.

As per available information, the CBI's investigation has not found evidence which could substantiate the allegations,

as claimed by the petitioners, of mass malpractice in the alleged leak of examination papers.

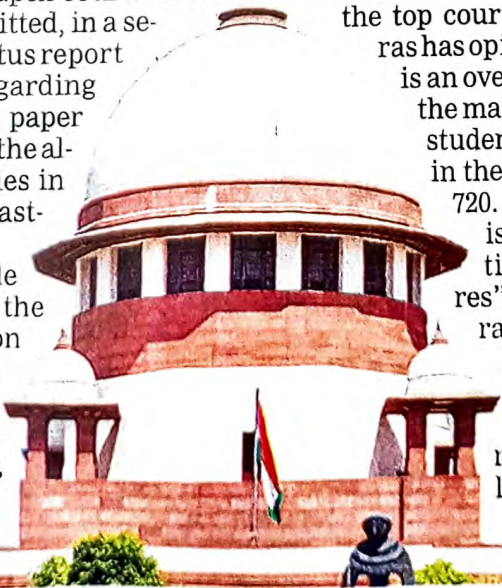
However, the agency has found instances of "cheating and impersonation" in Gujarat and Rajasthan centres. The agency has questioned the suspects and accused who were initially arrested by the Bihar Police in connection with the alleged paper leak in the state. The ministry of education and NTA have already filed their affidavits last Wednesday.

The central government has also reached out to IIT-Madras to identify the beneficiaries of wrongdoing in the NEET-UG examination. After conducting data analytics, as sought by SC, IIT-Madras opined that "there is neither any indication of mass malpractice nor a localised set of candidates being benefited leading to abnormal scores".

In an affidavit filed by the education ministry late Wednesday evening, the Centre told the top court that IIT-Madras has opined that "there is an overall increase in the marks obtained by students, specifically in the range of 550 to 720. This increase is seen across cities and centres". The IIT-Madras analysis further states that "this is attributed to 25% reduction in syllabus.



**CBI has found instances of 'cheating and impersonation' in Gujarat and Rajasthan centres**



ET

# Will Centre shift education to State List, asks Stalin

T.N. CM takes a dig at the BJP for persistently discussing Emergency imposed during the Congress rule at the Centre, asks if Union govt. will come forward to shift education from Concurrent List by revoking the decision taken during Emergency; launches expansion of flagship breakfast scheme

**The Hindu Bureau**

CHENNAI

**T**aking a dig at the BJP for having persistently discussed the Emergency imposed during the Congress rule at the Centre, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Monday asked if the BJP-led Union government will come forward to "shift education from the Concurrent List to the State List by revoking the decision taken during

Emergency".

Mr. Stalin was speaking at the launch of the expansion of the Tamil Nadu government's flagship Chief Minister's breakfast scheme at St. Anne's Primary School at Keezhacheri in Tiruvallur district.

The expansion is set to benefit over 2.23 lakh children studying in 3,995 State-aided schools located in rural areas across the State.

At present, over 18.50 lakh students studying in

**Stalin reiterated his govt.'s position on NEET for medical admissions and strongly opposed it**

Classes I to V in 30,992 State-run schools have been benefitting from the Chief Minister's breakfast scheme.

In a social media post, Mr. Stalin said he honoured the late Congress leader and former Chief

Minister K. Kamaraj by launching the expansion of the CM's breakfast scheme on the occasion of the late leader's birth anniversary.

**'Dravidian model'**

Mr. Stalin reiterated the Tamil Nadu government's position on the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) for medical admissions and strongly opposed it. He recalled the legal steps taken by the State government.

As far as the Dravidian model of governance is concerned, there should be no obstacles for children from Tamil Nadu in their education, he said.

"Be it hunger, NEET or the National Education Policy of the Union government, our primary objective is to break such obstacles," Mr. Stalin said.

Recalling initial criticism over the DMK's opposition to NEET, Mr. Stalin referred to the recent observations of the Supreme

Court on the exam. "Even the entire country is opposing NEET on the path led by Tamil Nadu," he said.

**10 new buses**

The Chief Minister also flagged off 10 new buses for the State transport corporations.

Tiruvallur MP Sasikanth Senthil, legislators V.G. Rajendran, S. Chandran and S. Inigo Irudayaraj, Chief Secretary Shiv Das Meena and senior officials participated in the event.

# Revert to old method of recruiting staff for tribal schools: Brinda

## The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

CPI(M) Polit Bureau member Brinda Karat on Monday wrote to Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram over the recent centralisation of recruitment of teachers and staffers for tribal residential schools, saying it was “deeply flawed” and needed to be reversed in the best interest of the students.

Ms. Karat requested the Minister’s intervention in reverting to the previous method of letting the respective State authorities recruit teachers for these schools, adding that centralised recruitment would “undermine, if not destroy” the very purpose of these schools.

In her letter to Mr. Oram, Ms. Karat said, “A centralised examination with no regard whatsoever for knowledge of Adivasi cultures, was designed. This shockingly made it compulsory for all candidates to have ‘language competency’ in both En-

glish and Hindi but not in the language of the State, leave alone that of the Adivasi communities.”

*The Hindu* has reported that the centralised recruitment for Eklavya Model Residential Schools for tribal students had introduced a basic Hindi competency as a requirement. As a result, a large number of recruits were from the Hindi-speaking States and they were lining up at the National Education Society for Tribal Students with transfer requests.

“The best way to guarantee the students’ interests is to ensure that the staff and faculty of the EMR schools comprise of those who are familiar with the language spoken by the students and the cultural framework within which they live. Only local recruitment should be considered... Clearly the present method is an assault also on the federal character of the Constitution as well as being damaging for the mandate of the EMRS,” she said.

# NEET-UG row: top court issues notice on NTA plea


**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday sought responses from student-petitioners to a request made by the National Testing Agency (NTA), which is under a cloud over the conduct of NEET-UG marred by leaks and other irregularities, to transfer their pleas pending in various High Courts to the Supreme Court.

A Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud issued notice to the petitioners. The NTA had applied to the SC to transfer the pending cases in the High Courts to the SC for an authoritative ruling.

The three-judge Bench of the Chief Justice and Justices J.B. Pardiwala and Manoj Misra are hearing over 40 separate petitions seeking various reliefs from fresh NEET to abolishment of the NTA. The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear the NEET case on Thursday.

The primary question before the Supreme Court is whether or not to order a re-test. The court has indicated that its first priority is to examine whether the wrongdoers among the candidates could be segregated from the innocent students. 

MINISTER ATISHI HIGHLIGHTS 'GRAVE IRREGULARITIES'

# Struggling due to fund crunch: 12 Delhi govt-funded DU colleges

VIDHEESHA KUNTAMALLA  
NEW DELHI, JULY 15

STRUGGLE TO pay salaries, staff shortage, and pending dues — 12 Delhi University colleges are faced with multiple challenges amid fund crunch, officials and teachers have claimed. Fully financed by the Delhi government, these colleges have counted pending approvals and slashing of funds as the reasons behind the daily challenges amid an ongoing tussle over affiliation.

Delhi Education Minister Atishi, however, has cited "grave procedural irregularities".

In a statement Monday, the Delhi University Teachers Association (DUTA) said, "As against the requirement of 1,512

teachers, there are only 824 teachers (528 permanent and 296 ad hoc). Same is the situation for non-teaching staff in these colleges — as against the requirement of 1,366, there are only 483 permanent and 285 contractual employees. The AAP government not allowing appointments and (is) cutting the fund to the tune of Rs 200 crore per year."

"Teachers and other staff members are not paid salaries on time and other dues have not been paid for several years. This is when colleges are running on nearly half the strength," the statement claimed.

However, Atishi countered the claims later in the day, saying: "There have been grave procedural irregularities in these 12 colleges. 'Post' creation... and re-

cruitments have happened without the permission of the government. These colleges appointed a staggering 1,897 employees, 939 teaching and 958 non-teaching posts without the Delhi government's approval."

Citing reports from the Directorate of Audit, she highlighted the special audit conducted in 2020 on six of the 12 colleges, which "unequivocally highlighted numerous instances of grave irregularities and procedural lapses of the 'highest levels' in expenditure exceeding hundreds of crores." "Let alone the approval, there should be an inquiry against these colleges. The Delhi government has directed strong action against the administration of these colleges for creating illegal posts, includ-

ing recovering salaries since 2015 of illegally appointed staff members," Atishi said.

"These 12 colleges have consistently received an annual grant in aid exceeding Rs 300 crore from the Government of NCT of Delhi for several years. They must be held accountable for any misutilisation of funds," she added.

*The Indian Express* had reported in January that the Delhi government had said it would only clear funding once these institutes were de-affiliated from DU and became part of one of Delhi's state universities. The statement came after DU Vice-Chancellor Yogesh Singh wrote to Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, saying the colleges will remain with the varsity and the state should continue

funding them.

On Friday, the V-C, during an Academic Council meeting, had said that all colleges will be asked to issue recruitment advertisements for the vacancies by July 31.


Speaking to *The Indian Express*, DU Registrar Vikas Gupta said, "It has been two years since approval for posts by the Delhi government in these colleges has been pending."

Meanwhile, principals of these colleges said they're not able to recruit teachers for vacant posts as they don't have a green signal from the government.

Payal Mago, Principal, Shaheed Rajguru College of Applied Sciences for Women, said, "We are not able to appoint permanent teachers as we have not received approval from the

Delhi government. There are more than 100 posts in this college. Of these, we hardly only have 20 permanent faculty members. About 55 of them are teaching on an ad hoc basis."

"Due to the staff crunch, our teachers are putting extra effort to close that gap so that students don't suffer. If this is the situation, we are going to be in trouble to pay salaries for the next month. This time, our ranking might also go down," she added.

A professor at Deen Dayal Upadhyaya College said, "We were unable to pay salaries for June to our teachers. If this remains the case, how can we even afford to ask guest teachers to come? We won't be able to pay them too. As of today, there are 30 teaching posts vacant in our college." 

# Weekend classes, shorter breaks: How JNU, DU plan to rejig calendar amid delayed UG admissions

*The NTA announced on Sunday a re-test for over 1,000 CUET UG candidates on July 19*

**NEW DELHI:** Universities in the national capital, including JNU and DU, plan to hold weekend classes and have a shorter winter break in view of delayed admissions due to the uncertainty around the declaration of CUET UG results.

The National Testing Agency (NTA), the body that conducts the entrance exam, announced on Sunday a re-test for over 1,000 CUET UG candidates on July 19, following complaints from candidates, including issues of time loss due to the distribution of the wrong question paper.

The agency, however, has not clarified on the declaration of result, which was originally scheduled to be released on June 30, and has now been delayed by over two weeks. The final answer key of the undergraduate admission test has not been notified yet.

A senior JNU official said the delay in the declaration of results will impact the university's plan to release a unified academic calendar for all the batches of students.



REPRESENTATIONAL IMAGE

The university will have to rely on extra classes on Saturdays and may have to shorten its winter break to cover up for lost time to complete the syllabus, the official said.

"Instead of five-days a week, we may have to teach six days a week and utilise Saturdays to cover up the syllabus. We will also consider shortening the winter break if need be.

"JNU had planned to release a unified academic calendar for all the batches from

this year onwards to bring symmetry in the admission process. The practice was discontinued due to the challenges faced during the COVID-19 pandemic. Things will become clear once the result dates are announced," the official said. Ambedkar University also plans on taking extra classes in the evening and weekends, and have fewer holidays to cover up for the delay if required, Vice Chancellor Anu Singh Lather said.

"There would be a delay of

## Key Points

» A senior JNU official said the delay in the declaration of results will impact the university's plan to release a unified academic calendar for all the batches of students

» The university will have to rely on extra classes on Saturdays and may have to shorten its winter break to cover up for lost time to complete the syllabus'

of the students will start as per the scheduled date, she said.

In Delhi University, officials said the delay would cause the academic calendar of first-year students to end at a later date than scheduled.

The schedule for the rest of the students will remain as usual with their classes scheduled to begin from August 1, DU's registrar Vikas Gupta said. Earlier last week, DU notified its academic calendar for second-year students with a shortened winter break of four days. The varsity did not mention the reason behind shorter winter break.

Meanwhile, an official at IP University said the delay wouldn't affect its admission process as it takes admissions through CUET in its last leg and hopes the results will be out by then.

Mahesh Verma, Vice Chancellor of IP University, said, "We take admissions through national level entrance test for professional courses. We also have our own in-house entrance examination. AGENCIES

about two weeks or so due to the re-test. I don't think that is much of a time and can easily be compensated with some extra classes.

"Originally, the session was supposed to start from August 1 for first year students and but if the results are not announced in the next two weeks, we will hold extra classes for them in the evening after regular classes on weekends and also reduce the number of holidays to cover up," Lather said. Classes for rest

# Employment data: Why do crucial numbers differ?

RITWIK MUKHERJEE

KOLKATA, 15 JULY

The recently released RBI KLEMS data reveals many interesting facets. For instance, the total labour force in India is at 59.7 crore, which is nearly equivalent to 56.8 crore as per recently released ASUSE survey. This total number of labour force is significantly different from private employment surveys.



why are the government numbers different from private employment surveys. Significantly, the State Bank of India's economic research wing, headed by its Group Chief Economic Adviser, Dr Soumya Kanti Ghosh, has come up with couple of possible logical reasons. One of them being that such private surveys, at times, possibly suffer from innate flaws in their sample selection technique, thereby under-representing women and young children as also the poor while over-representing the other extreme. Subsequently, such unemployment numbers are more skewed, that is, concentration is more towards higher values, signifying that unemployment measured through such surveys are more on upside in comparison to PLFS. It may also be factually incorrect to account for the surge in workforce particularly female in agriculture as a sign of employment dis-

tress by noted labour economists.

Mind you that jobs in agriculture account for 60 to 70 per cent of the increase in female workforce participation in rural areas in recent years. This is attributable to significant increases in work opportunities in agriculture that have arisen from (a) rapid growth in the agriculture sector output (about 4 per cent annual growth) creating extra demand for labour, (b) a fall in employment of rural males in agriculture by about 13.3 million between 2019-20 and 2022-23, caused by their decision to shift to non-agricultural activities in rural and urban areas thereby vacating jobs that could be taken up by female workers, and (c) the reluctance of a section of young male persons in rural areas to work on the farms which has contributed to creation of employment opportunities for female workers.

There are many labour economists, who think that a negative view should not be taken of the increase in employment of unpaid female workers and the rise in the share of self-employment.

One therefore has to be very careful about dealing with and interpreting numbers.

If we look at the decadal employment numbers as per RBI, during FY14-23 India has created 12.5 crore jobs, compared to only 2.9 crore during FY04-14. Even if we exclude agriculture, the total number of jobs created in Manufacturing and Services is at 8.9 crore during FY14-FY23 and 6.6 crore during FY04-FY14.

Besides, the total employment reported by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) registered with the MSME Ministry has crossed the 20-crore mark, according to data from the Udyam registration portal. As of July 4, 4.68 crore Udyam-registered MSMEs reported 20.19 crore jobs including 2.32 crore jobs by GST-exempted informal micro enterprises, up by 66 per cent from 12.1 crore jobs in July last year.

Now one interesting fact emerges by comparing EPFO data with KLEMS data. When one takes the share of EPFO with KLEMS, the FY24 share at 28 per cent is drastically lower than the average share of 5-year period (FY19-FY23) at 51 per cent. As EPFO data capture primarily low-income jobs, the declining share is quite encouraging and indicate that possibly better paid jobs are getting available in the economy.

Also consider the fact that the share of formal labour force is 55 per cent as per ASUSE survey and 61 per cent as per the PLFS survey.

Therefore, the most pertinent question which often comes to one's mind is that

# Four-year degree holders can now directly sit for UGC NET- A boon?

SRISTY SINGH

**T**he National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 which has been implemented by hundreds of colleges in different phases with Karnataka being the first state allows students to opt for a three-year undergraduate degree or a four-year honours degree. While there is still an ongoing battle between experts on how relevant the new education system would be, The Statesman asked a bachelor's student, a PhD student, and a professor about their thoughts on UGC's announcement that four-year UG degree graduates will be able to sit for the NET exams, and this is what they had to say-

## What are your thoughts on the new guidelines released by UGC?

As I continue my B. Sc., before I would have had to go on to complete my M.Sc. then only would I have been eligible to sit for the NET exams. But now, if I maintain the 75 percent requirement each year throughout the course and hopefully qualify

for the NET exams, I can right away begin to pursue my PhD and save time while getting into research for the field of my interest. I think this is a great opportunity to get there as soon as possible thus saving time.

I see how the thought of finishing your bachelor's and then continuing to your master's and then being able to do your PhD can be tedious, but I feel with this option many more people might consider this opportunity presented.

-**Riya Jaiswal**, botany major student from JDC

## Do you think this decision can prove helpful to the students who bear the potential to pursue a PhD and manage to maintain the given score and qualify for the NET exams?

As per the national education policy, this decision is good. PhD is a tough degree, so the cutoff kept for pursuing a PhD directly is also good. However, issues will still arise among students. They will be more driven towards a PhD than any other degree like B Ed, etc. which could lead to tough competi-

tion. This decision also saves one year that would otherwise be invested in pursuing a master's degree. From graduation to PhD, it generally takes 10 years for a science student to get there.

-**Zeba Anjum**, research scholar, PhD in zoology from Patna University

## What were your initial thoughts on hearing the announcement?

I thought it was a very good initiative. There is a cut-off of 75 per cent. The four-year course in itself is quite a demanding course and you are allowed to have quite an in-depth knowledge of the subject. If you can score a percentage of 75 per cent in the four-year course, then it's quite good and you are quite eligible to appear for the NET exam. In our time much of the topics that were included in the MSc syllabus are now included under the four-year UG syllabus. If a student has a thorough grasp of the subjects, then I think they are very much eligible to sit for the NET exam and pursue the PhD because they have the creative ability and the critical thinking that is necessary to

pursue it. I think some of the students can benefit from that.

## How different could it be from maybe, completing post-graduation first and then going for PhD?

It depends on the student. If you have a special interest in one of the subjects and you want to delve deeper into it or want to go to an advanced level then it's good to go for a post-graduation in that subject where you get a more in-depth knowledge and you are exposed to more advanced frontier areas of research into that subject. And then you sit for NET and go for research. Or maybe, a student is good but he/she could not score 75 per cent as per the requisite, then they can study for a further year in PG and then sit for the NET exam.

For the students that will go from undergraduate to straightaway PhD, they might be more inclined to interdisciplinary research which is quite popular these days.

-**N. Bhattacharjee**, assistant professor, chemistry department of JDC. *sd*





# Panel on exam/NTA reforms gets 37k suggestions

Manash.Gohain@timesofindia.com

**New Delhi:** The high-level committee deliberating on improvements in conduct of examinations and National Testing Agency (NTA) reforms has received over 37,000 public suggestions, with 30,000 coming from students and candidates of various such competitive exams.

According to sources, the panel plans to meet many of the students whose suggestions it is reviewing. The panel is exploring various exam options based on their different purposes; for instance, NEET and JEE are for admission to professional courses, while CUET-UG and UGC-NET are for undergraduate admissions in general universities and eligibility tests for Junior Research



## TESTING TIMES

Fellowship, assistant professor appointments, and PhD admissions.

The committee has also consulted Amey Karkare of IIT-Kanpur, an expert in programme analysis, compiler optimisations, software engineering, and machine learning with a focus on computer-aided education, and Debapriya Roy, an expert in hardware security, side-channel analysis, and applied cryptography, from the same institute.

In light of allegations of paper leaks and irregularities in national level competitive exams like NEET-UG and UGC-NET conducted by the NTA, the ministry of education formed a high-level committee on June 22. This committee, headed by former ISRO chief K Radhakrishnan, aims to ensure transparent, smooth, and fair examinations. Following reports of a paper leak on the “darknet,” the govt cancelled the UGC-NET a day after its delivery. The Supreme Court is currently hearing multiple petitions seeking the cancellation and retesting of NEET-UG, following arrests made by Bihar Police and the CBI.

The committee, which first met on June 24, is expected to submit its recommendations by August 24. Senior officials indicate

that the committee has consulted various agencies with extensive experience in conducting exams, as well as officials from the NTA, NMC, UGC, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, and National Board of Examinations.

According to sources familiar with the deliberations, the panel is examining all exam modes in terms of their different purposes and numbers, and determining the necessary checks and balances to address various challenges each exam faces.

“It is also analysing the NTA’s exam processes from the beginning, including question setting, patterns, and logistics for transferring physical question papers. The panel is expected to make suggestions in these areas as well,” said a source.

# नीट-यूजी मामले में एनटीए की याचिका पर पक्षकारों को नोटिस

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर: नीट-यूजी मामले में विभिन्न हाई कोर्टों में लंबित मामलों को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ट्रांसफर करने की मांग वाली नेशनल टेस्टिंग एजेंसी (एनटीए) की याचिकाओं पर शीर्ष अदालत ने सोमवार को निजी पक्षकारों को नोटिस जारी किए। इससे पहले सुप्रीम कोर्ट की अवकाशकालीन पीठ ने भी 14 जून को एनटीए की ऐसी ही याचिकाओं पर नोटिस जारी किए थे।

एनटीए का कहना था कि पेपर लीक और अन्य गड़बड़ियों के आरोप लगाकर नीट-यूजी, 2024 को रद्द करने की मांग वाली कई याचिकाएं हाई कोर्टों में लंबित हैं। एनटीए के अधिवक्ता वर्धमान कौशिक ने प्रधान न्यायाधीश डीवाई चंद्रचूड़ और जस्टिस जेबी पाटीवाला की पीठ से अनुरोध किया कि इस मामले से जुड़ी नई याचिकाओं को भी शीर्ष अदालत में स्थानांतरित कर दिया जाए। पीठ ने नोटिस जारी करने और याचिकाओं का टैग करने का निर्देश दिया और कहा कि इन याचिकाओं पर भी 18 जुलाई को लंबित याचिकाओं के साथ सुनवाई होगी। एनटीए ने हाई कोर्टों में सुनवाई पर रोक लगाने का भी अनुरोध किया, इस पर प्रधान न्यायाधीश ने कहा कि स्थानांतरण याचिका पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट से नोटिस जारी होने पर प्रक्रिया के तहत हाई कोर्ट सुनवाई नहीं करेंगे।



## बंगाल के अधिकारियों को लोस सचिवालय द्वारा जारी नोटिस पर रोक बढ़ाई

नई दिल्ली, प्रेटर: सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने सोमवार को लोकसभा सचिवालय द्वारा बंगाल के मुख्य सचिव, डीजीपी और अन्य को सदन के विशेषाधिकार के उल्लंघन से संबंधित मामले में तलब करने के लिए जारी नोटिस पर रोक 19 जुलाई तक बढ़ा दी है। मुख्य न्यायाधीश डीवाई चंद्रचूड़ की पीठ ने सुनवाई 19 जुलाई तक के लिए स्थगित कर दी। 15 अप्रैल को, सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने लोकसभा की विशेषाधिकार समिति द्वारा तलब किए जाने के खिलाफ बंगाल के शीर्ष नौकरशाहों द्वारा दायर याचिका पर जवाब दाखिल करने के लिए दो सप्ताह का समय दिया था। भाजपा सांसद सुकांत मजूमदार द्वारा दायर शिकायत पर लोस की विशेषाधिकार समिति ने उन्हें तलब किया था।

# अंबेडकर ला यूनिवर्सिटी के कुलपति व रजिस्ट्रार पर एक लाख का जुर्माना

राज्य ब्यूरो, जागरण • चंडीगढ़ : पंजाब एवं हरियाणा हाई कोर्ट ने डा. बीआर अंबेडकर राष्ट्रीय विधि विश्वविद्यालय सोनीपत के उप रजिस्ट्रार को माध्यमिक शिक्षा निदेशालय में वापस भेजने के लिए विश्वविद्यालय के कुलपति (वीसी) और रजिस्ट्रार पर एक लाख रुपये का जुर्माना लगाया है। हाई कोर्ट के जस्टिस त्रिभुवन दहिया ने वीसी के इस निर्णय को अवैध और डा. बीआर अंबेडकर राष्ट्रीय विधि विश्वविद्यालय हरियाणा अधिनियम का उल्लंघन करने वाला पाया है। हाई कोर्ट ने वि. की पूर्व उप रजिस्ट्रार वीना सिंह द्वारा दायर याचिका पर सुनवाई कर यह आदेश जारी किया।

कोर्ट ने कहा कि याचिकाकर्ता को कुलपति की स्वीकृति से रजिस्ट्रार द्वारा की गई कार्रवाई के कारण यह याचिका दायर करने के लिए मजबूर होना पड़ा है। इसलिए मुकदमे पर

नियमों के खिलाफ उप रजिस्ट्रार को माध्यमिक शिक्षा निदेशालय में वापस भेजने पर हाई कोर्ट ने जारी किया आदेश

होने वाले खर्च व मुआवजा देने के लिए वीसी व रजिस्ट्रार, याची को एक लाख का भुगतान करें। इसमें कुलपति और रजिस्ट्रार समान रूप से 50-50 हजार प्रत्येक दो सप्ताह में भुगतान करें। डा. वीना सिंह जिन्हें 2008 में माध्यमिक शिक्षा विभाग के तहत एक सरकारी वरिष्ठ माध्यमिक विद्यालय की प्रिंसिपल के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया था। वीना सिंह ने 2020 में राष्ट्रीय विधि वि. में प्रतिनियुक्ति पर उप रजिस्ट्रार के पद के लिए आवेदन किया था। उनकी योग्यता, कार्य अनुभव, प्रोफाइल को देखते हुए उन्हें शुरू में एक वर्ष की अवधि के लिए और बाद में तीन साल तक प्रतिनियुक्ति दी थी।

# NEET-PG Exam Cancelled after Intel Input on Possible 'Impersonation'

There was no leak but credible inputs of manipulation attempts at some centres: Officials

**Anubhuti Vishnoi**

**New Delhi:** The National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Postgraduate) exam cancellation as a "precautionary" measure just hours before the exam day (June 23) was due to clear intelligence inputs indicating possible "impersonation" or manipulation attempts in the computer-based test, ET has gathered.

While there was no "leak" per se of the online exam, there were inputs received by the health ministry and the National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS) —that conducts NEET-PG — that indicated a high possibility of the exam getting compromised, ET has reliably learnt.

"There was no actual leak but credible complaints and inputs were there of possible impersonation attempts at some centres. There were also intelligence inputs on the same. That is why it was decided to postpone the exam," a senior official confirmed to ET.

In a late evening June 22 press statement, the government had announced the postponement of the June 23 NEET-PG exam, stating that it was a "precautionary measure" taken in view of the "recent incidents of allegations regarding



**FUTURE AT STAKE**

**Over 2.4L candidates to appear for**

**NEET-PG for 24,000 MD seats, 12,600 MS seats & 900 PG Diploma seats**

the integrity of certain competitive examinations". The Union Ministry of Health said it had decided to undertake a "thorough assessment of the robustness of processes of NEET-PG Entrance Examination" and will notify a fresh date for the exam at the earliest. The new test date is August 11. "This decision has been taken in the best interests of the students

and to maintain the sanctity of the examination process," the June 22 statement said.

Over 2.4 lakh candidates are to appear for the NEET-PG for about 24,000 MD seats, 12,600 MS seats, and 900 PG Diploma seats across medical institutes. NEET-PG scores are essential for admission to medical postgraduate seats across government and private institutes.

Meanwhile, ET gathers that the NEET-UG counselling will begin at the close of the third week of July, only after the July 18 hearing of the Supreme Court in the NEET-UG leak matter.

"So far, the academic calendar should not be impacted much, if we are able to start counselling right after July 18 for NEET-UG. The planned schedule has also been shared with the apex court," a senior official in the know told ET.

The Centre, in its latest affidavit to the Supreme Court, had said that the NEET-UG 2024 counselling will commence in the third week of July. While the dates for the second round of registration will be announced later, the third round is expected to begin by the second week of September.

The Centre has been caught in rounds of allegations of exam paper leak/manipulation. ET/JS

# The battle for course correction in India's corporation-run schools

**Manoj Sharma**

manoj.sharma@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Ashok Agarwal, a lawyer based in the Capital, stepped into a Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) school for the first time in 1997.

"That year, Delhi's private schools had hiked their fees by up to 400%, sparking massive protests by outraged parents who turned to me for legal recourse. I visited a MCD school in Shahdara out of curiosity, wondering why, despite numerous public schools in the Capital, parents preferred expensive, private ones," recalled Agarwal.

What he saw shocked him. "The MCD school was a small setup under a tin-shade roof, with children sitting on the dirty, soggy floor."

Now 71, Agarwal has since waged a legal battle in an attempt to overhaul Delhi's public school system. His activism has been crucial in the abolishment of private schools interviewing young children and their parents before granting admission, ensuring equal rights for differently abled children, and securing court mandates to appoint special educators across Delhi government, MCD, and private unaided schools.

"I have been visiting public schools for the past 27 years, and it pains me to say that despite this prolonged battle to ensure quality education for poor children in Delhi, not much has changed—except that many of these schools have upgraded to brick structures," laments Agarwal.

However, Delhi's civic body is not the only corporation that fails to deliver its mandate to provide primary education—municipal corporation schools across the country have consistently made headlines for all the wrong reasons.

## A history of education under civic bodies

Municipal corporations established the first schools in cities such as Mumbai, Kolkata, and Chennai (then Bombay, Calcutta, and Madras) in the late 19th century or early 20th century to provide primary education to urban children. It was believed that civic bodies could integrate educational planning with other aspects of urban development, such as infrastructure, health, and sanitation, leading to better student outcomes.

"Corporations were considered ideally suited to provide education due to their direct connection with the community, which meant they could offer a more responsive and tailored educational system," said Deep Chand Mathur, former PRO of MCD.

Today, MCD runs 1,534 pri-



(Clockwise from top) Students at the KMC-operated Acharya Prafulla Chandra Roy Memorial School in Kolkata, one of the 226 corporation-run schools in the city; The Worli Seafare School, at Worli in Mumbai, one of the 1,147 primary and secondary schools under the BMC; The entrance to the MCD primary school at the B-1 block JJ Colony in Bawana.

RAJ K RAJ, SAMIR JANA, ARCHIVE/HT PHOTOS



mary schools in the city, serving over 700,000 students — the highest of any municipal corporation in India. In contrast, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has about 320,000 students enrolled in its 1,147 primary and secondary schools, while the Greater Chennai Corporation (GCC) has 95,000 students in its 281 schools, and the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) has 16,000 students enrolled in its 224 schools.

In April, the Delhi high court, addressing a PIL filed by Agarwal, rebuked MCD — which runs primary-level classes up to grade 5 — for its failure to supply uniforms, notebooks, and stationery to approximately 200,000 students lacking bank accounts. The court remarked that this "did not represent a happy situation" and would lead to children losing interest in their education.

Schools run by GCC are in no better condition. Many believe an inadequate education budget is the root problem — education gets less than ₹100 crore annually. This has resulted in most GCC schools lacking basic amenities such as safe drinking water, clean toilets, and adequate furniture.

GCC deputy commissioner (education) Sharanya Ari did not respond to HT's questionnaire about the state of affairs at corporation-run schools.

Last year, the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC) decided to close down 18 of its 242 primary schools due to declining student enrolments and dilap-

dated school buildings.

In February, the civic body presented a budget of ₹5,166.52 crore, allocating only ₹52.12 crore to education. Both mayor Firhad Hakim and deputy mayor Atin Ghosh did not respond to HT's calls and messages for a comment.

## The need for progress

Despite being a major education provider, MCD has grappled with years of governmental apathy and neglect. But its officials insist a course correction is underway. "We have identified schools in need of upgrades and constructing new ones while renovating existing ones citywide. These new schools will feature smart boards, play equipment, spacious playgrounds, and modern teaching methods," said an MCD official.

In recent years, corporations in cities such as Mumbai and Ahmedabad have successfully rebranded and revamped their schools. For example, BMC — India's richest corporation — in 2020 rebranded its schools as Mumbai Public Schools (MPSs), introducing a new logo and colour scheme for buildings.

"We have been constantly improving our schools. Renaming was aimed at changing the perception of municipal schools and attracting more students," said a BMC official.

"The success of municipal schools is when the local community proudly feels 'It is our school'. Corporations like Mumbai have undertaken important initiatives to improve their schools. Mum-

bai, for instance, has collaborated with NGOs to provide essential pre-primary education, crucial for laying a strong foundation for primary education. The corporation has also invested in new infrastructure," said Farida Lambay, co-founder of Pratham, an NGO dedicated to improving education quality for underprivileged children.

The Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation School Board has also been working to strengthen its schools, converting existing schools into "smart schools".

"Our smart schools feature smart boards, 3D educational charts, development programmes, and vocational training. We have also distributed laptops to students in many of these schools. We are currently operating 80 smart schools," said Ahmedabad municipal commissioner M Thennarasan.

Milind Mhaske, CEO of Praja Foundation, which advocates participatory city governance, said there is a need to reform the administrative structure that governs municipal education.

"The decision regarding a school should be taken at the neighbourhood level. There is a need to adopt new management practices by giving more autonomy to school leaders... Besides, comprehensive, regular evaluation of children to measure learning outcomes and proper, periodic evaluation of teachers... are essential to maintain education standards in municipal schools," he said.

# Which topics are India's researchers publishing papers on?

While India, like the rest of the world, focuses on coronavirus, deep learning, and photocatalysis, it also pays significant attention to nanotechnology

## DATA POINT

**Suryesh Kumar Namdeo**  
**Avinash Kumar**  
**Moumita Koley**

Research publications are widely used as a measure of scientific and technological progress. Analysing trends in research also helps guide policy. A brief comparative study of the most researched topics in the *Web of Science*, a scholarly publication database, over the last 20 years and the last five years highlights the research focus of scientists in different countries.

### The chart-topper

'Coronavirus' was the most published research topic in the world in the last five years and in the last two decades. The sheer volume of papers on this subject shows the capacity of the global scientific community to produce relevant scientific knowledge that will help people respond quickly to a crisis.

'Coronavirus' was the most researched topic in India in the last five years and among the top five research topics in the last two decades. It was the most published research topic in the U.S. over the last five years and in the last two decades. But it was conspicuously absent from China's top research topics. This is surprising for two reasons: the SARS-CoV-2 virus was first reported from this country in late 2019; and China, which has emerged as a global scientific superpower in the last two decades, has been contributing an increasing share of the world's papers on several research topics.

Some of the other topics that are widely researched are deep learning, and clean and green energy topics such as photocatalysis, supercapacitors, and oxygen reduction reactions. Deep learning refers to a class of artificial intelligence (AI) algorithms characterised by the use of multiple layers, where each layer trans-

forms and/or manipulates the input data in specific ways. Engineers have built facial recognition on phones, speech recognition in digital assistants, and recommendation engines on streaming services using deep learning.

The focus on AI-related research worldwide corresponds to the increasing importance of AI technologies in various sectors. Chinese researchers have produced more than twice as many papers on the topic of AI as have researchers in the U.S., and more than 45% of the world's research output on this subject in the last five years. India's share remains low even if the topic features among the country's top five.

Photocatalysis refers to the acceleration of chemical reactions using light. Scientists are studying it to make new materials and generate clean energy; a particularly important contemporary focus area is green hydrogen. Supercapacitors are energy storage devices that trap and hold energy as electrostatic charge. In contrast, conventional batteries store chemical energy. Supercapacitors are super-powered batteries that can store much more energy and also release it faster. Their applications include electric vehicles, where fast charging is required, and the renewable energy sector. The oxygen reduction reaction is an important process in electrochemistry with a starring role in next-generation energy conversion devices such as fuel cells and metal-air batteries. Research on these topics is evidently driven by researchers in China.

### Comparing the U.S. and China

Overall, China has focused significantly on high-impact technological fields and on the development of new materials. In contrast, the U.S. appears to be facilitating a more diverse approach, addressing health and social well-being through research on topics such as parenting, the human immunodeficiency virus, the SARS-CoV-2

virus, gut microbiota, and programmed cell death (PD-1). Research on PD-1 has the potential to revolutionise how we treat cancer and other diseases by understanding, and then manipulating, the immune system's response. The U.S. National Institute of Health provides more funding for life science and health research than all other civilian research funding agencies of the country. U.S. researchers are also devoting attention to astronomy and astrophysics, presumably because they enjoy greater access to the data produced by NASA missions.

### India's nano focus

The single largest fraction of India's research output is focused on nanotechnology. In particular, nanofluids have applications in heat transfer; silver nanoparticles have applications in antimicrobial and anticancer therapy; and zinc oxide nanoparticles are essential semiconductor materials with applications in electronics, optoelectronics, ceramics, and cosmetics.

The large volume of papers about nanotechnology can be attributed at least in part to the success of the Nano Mission that the Indian government launched in 2007 with the aim of making the country a top research destination on this topic. Other research focus areas are deep learning, photocatalysis, and coronavirus.

India's significant focus on nanotechnology is a sign of a concentrated allocation of resources in areas that may not directly address the immediate needs in health or climate change – at least not yet. Policymakers may examine the agenda-setting process in Indian research or, alternatively, guide nanotechnology towards solutions more closely related to India's Sustainable Development Goals and energy-transition targets.

*Suryesh Kumar Namdeo is a Senior Research Analyst, Avinash Kumar is a Project Scientist, and Moumita Koley is a Research Associate at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru*

## Hot topics

The charts are based on data collated from the Web of Science, a scholarly publication database.



Chart 1 | The chart ranks the five topics under which the highest number of papers were published (2004 - 2023) in select nations.

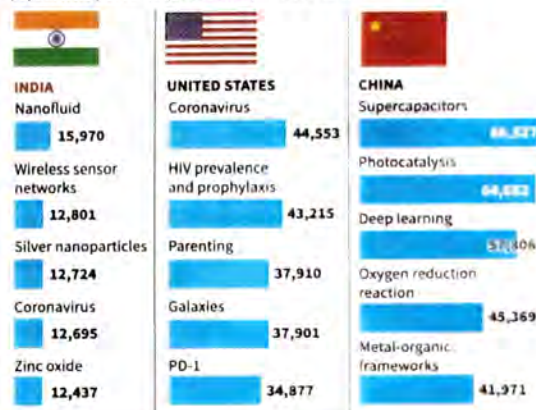
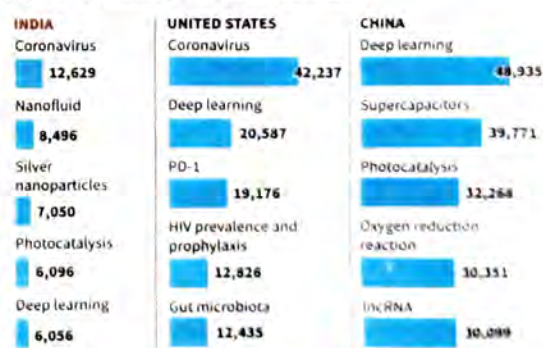


Chart 2 | The chart ranks the five topics under which the highest number of papers were published (2019 - 2023) in select nations.



# CUET-UG retest for over 1,000 candidates on July 19: NTA

**Press Trust of India**

NEW DELHI

The National Testing Agency (NTA) has decided to conduct a retest for over 1,000 candidates of CUET-UG on July 19.

The NTA had on July 7 released the provisional answer key of Common University Entrance Test (CUET)-UG 2024 and announced that it will conduct a retest for candidates between July 15 and 19 if any grievance raised by students about the conduct of the exam is found to be correct.

While the agency notified the retest schedule on Sunday, it remained silent



Some of the grievances include time loss due to distribution of wrong question paper.

on the declaration of the result which has been delayed by over two weeks with the final answer key not yet notified.

According to NTA sources, the distribution of question papers in language not opted by the candidates is

one of the reasons for the retest. The 1,000-odd candidates are spread across six States. "Some of the grievances include time loss due to distribution of wrong question paper," a source said. A total of 250 candidates of the 1,000 aspirants for whom the NTA is conducting the retest are from Oasis Public School in Hazaribagh, which is also under scanner for the alleged leak of the NEET-UG question paper.

"Based on these grievances, a re-examination will be conducted for those affected candidates on July 19, 2024, in the Computer-Based Test mode," an official notification said. 4/15

# ICSSR invites research proposals on JJM scheme

HT Correspondent

htreporters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Indian Council of Social Science Research has invited study proposals on the central government's Jal Jeevan Mission to assess the socioeconomic impact of the scheme to provide tap water in all rural households and analyse the challenges faced in its implementation.

The council, an autonomous body under the education ministry, has invited the proposals in line with the United Nations'

sustainable development goal that focuses on clean water and sanitation for all, which was adopted by India in 2015.

The idea is to evaluate the impact of mission on rural water access, quality and management, according to a notification issued by the council earlier this week. "The research will focus on evaluating the socioeconomic impact of the JJM on the beneficiary Indian households, identifying and analysing the challenges faced in the implementation and sustainability of JJM, and examin-



PM Modi launched the Jal Jeevan Mission on August 15, 2019. ANI

ing the role of community involvement, with a focus on gender and inclusivity, in the

success of JJM," the council said.

The state research institution

also aims to develop strategies to overcome identified challenges and boost the mission's effectiveness. Under the Jal Jeevan Mission, the government seeks to provide safe and adequate drinking water to all rural households through taps by 2024.

"The call for empirical research projects on the mission is to collect evidence-based, primary data-driven studies done on the Har Ghar Jal Yojana (water tap in every home scheme)," ICSSR member secretary Dhananjay Singh said.



# Not opting out of CUET; classes from August 16: DU V-C

**Ashna Butani**

NEW DELHI

Delhi University (DU) Vice-Chancellor Yogesh Singh on Saturday said they are not considering opting out of the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) regime, amid growing concerns about the delay in the declaration of results.

Mr. Singh also said the university will start holding classes from August 16, which he said is a tentative date assuming that there will be a three-week delay in the declaration of results.

The unified exam for admissions to Central universities is conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA), which is facing criticism over the delay in the CUET-UG results, a qualifying test for admission to undergraduate courses.

Several professors at the university's Academic Council meeting on Friday had demanded to opt out of the testing system.

A note by the Democratic Teachers' Front (DTF) said the NTA has declared a retest for CUET-UG from July 15 to 19. "With the inordinate delay in the CUET-UG results, admissions are nowhere in sight," it said.



The delay in results has led to the demand to opt out of the CUET. FILE PHOTO

It said the CUET replaced a "time-tested system" and the DU administration's "hurried decision to opt for CUET without regard to the concerns raised by teachers has resulted in total chaos and delay in admissions".

In response, the Vice-Chancellor said, "Even if the university conducts its own exam, we would face a similar set of challenges."

**'Following UGC norms'**  
Meanwhile, a university official said institutes cannot opt out of the CUET as they follow the University Grants Commission (UGC) guidelines. "There are some delays, but we will wait for the results and begin the admission process soon," he said.

# Shah inaugurates 'PM College of Excellence' in 55 MP districts

**PRESS TRUST OF INDIA**

INDORE, JULY 14

UNION HOME Minister Amit Shah on Sunday virtually inaugurated 'Prime Minister's College of Excellence' for all 55 districts in Madhya Pradesh and hailed Narendra Modi's farsightedness in bringing in the New Education Policy amid the aim of making India a developed country by 2047.

Speaking at the main programme held at the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Government Arts and Commerce College in Indore, which has been developed as a PM College of Excellence, Shah said students must download the NEP document as it will

teach them to "think out of the box".

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set a target to make India a developed nation by 2047 when the country will celebrate 100 years of Independence. NEP will play a major role in it. In order to become a developed nation, the foundation of education has to be strengthened and PM Modi has shown farsightedness by bringing in NEP that fulfils the needs of the next 25 years," he asserted.

"NEP will get our students on par with international standards while keeping them intact with their culture. It focuses on quality and not quantity and provides an opportunity to students to think out of the box. NEP ensures their 360 degree development. It will

teach students the art of living," Shah said.

The Union minister said the 55 colleges he inaugurated meet all parameters to provide top quality, practical and modern education. Shah said those on stage may not be present when India becomes a developed nation in 2047 and told the children "you will be witness when Bharat becomes great".

The Union Home Minister praised MP for being the first to implement the NEP, which he said took place when Chief Minister Mohan Yadav was state higher education minister (in the Shivraj Singh Chouhan government).

Shah hailed the state for starting medical and engineering courses in Hindi for the benefit of students. *IE/15*

# Meet the new crop of robots, courtesy students across India

Ridhima Gupta  
@timesofindia.com

**New Delhi:** Imagine a colossal stadium ablaze with lights, cameras capturing every moment, and an audience buzzing with excitement and adrenaline. In the heart of this electrifying arena stand two formidable opponents, poised and ready for their final showdown. But these aren't human contenders—they're robots, locked in an epic battle for the 2024 DD Robocon India title.

This was the exhilarating scene at Delhi's Thyagaraj Stadium on Sunday evening. After fierce competition among robots from 46 colleges across the nation, the final clash saw two mechanical titans facing off, one from Pimpri Chinchwad College of Engineering and the other from Nirma University. After a three-minute-long battle, the match was finally won by Nirma University from Ahmedabad.

This year, the competition theme at Robocon was 'Harvest Day', in which the robots had to plant as many rice seedlings as possible in the make-believe field. Furthermore, the robots had to pick up the balls that represented seeds and take them for storage at

the stylos. The teams that placed the maximum number of saplings were announced as the winning team. The theme of the ABU Robocon was decided by Vietnam's ABU Robocon organising team.

DD Robocon India 2024 was powered by IIT Delhi and Prasar Bharati. The aim of Robocon is to promote techni-

## IIT PROFESSOR SAYS

**This year, Robocon was much more exciting and saw more advancement. This year, the robots were fully automated. This is a new demonstration among the students, and each team has used AI elements this year**

cal skill development, innovation and teamwork among engineering students, providing visibility and recognition in the field of robotics. More than 750 students from over 46 colleges, institutions and universities in the country participated in DD Robocon. This is a national-level



event happening for the last 23 years in the country.

The competition was divided into three stages. In the first stage, 69 teams submitted their proposals, specifying the sizes of their tentative robots and their CAD drawings.

Speaking to TOI, IIT professor Sunil Jha said, "This year, Robocon was much more exciting and saw more advancement. This year, the robots were fully automated. This is a new demonstration among the students, and each team has used AI elements this year." He added, "A lot of recruitment companies also attend the Robocon to see the new innovations of the students, which encourages students to put their best foot forward."

The winning team from DD Robocon 2024 will represent India at international Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) Robocon 2024. The ABU Robocon 2024 will take place in Quang Ninh, Vietnam, on Aug 25.

Talking about the winning team, the professor said, "The winning teams are quite good and we are very optimistic that this year, India could win at the international Robocon, which will probably happen for the first time."

# Hazaribag again: 250 of 1,000 taking CUET re-test are from Oasis school

## 'Missing Data & Question Papers In Wrong Language Necessitated Re-Exam'

Manash.Gohain@timesofindia.com

**New Delhi:** The Hazaribag school centre, under scrutiny for an alleged NEET-UG paper leak, is back in the news. Out of 1,000 CUET-UG aspirants for whom National Testing Agency (NTA) is conducting a retest on July 19, 250 candidates are from Oasis Public School in Hazaribag. According to NTA sources, the retest is necessary due to the distribution of question papers in a language not chosen by the candidates and issues with "missing data" for some aspirants.

The agency announced the retest schedule on Sunday but did not address the delay in the results, which are already over two weeks late. The final answer key has also not been released. The official notification on Sunday stated that grievances submitted by candidates up to June 30, and complaints sent to [rescue-tug@nta.ac.in](mailto:rescue-tug@nta.ac.in) between July 7-9 (before 05.00pm) have been reviewed. The re-examination will be conducted for the affected candidates on July 19 in computer-based test mode.

The public notice did not specify the number of candidates or the nature of the grievances. However, sources indicate multiple issues, including "missing data" for some as-



The CUET-UG re-examination will be conducted for the affected candidates on July 19 in computer-based test mode, the agency announced on Sunday

pirants. According to NTA sources, the "1,000 candidates are spread across six states, and some grievances include time lost due to the distribution of the wrong question paper."

The distribution of incorrect question papers also occurred during the NEET-UG exam on May 5, leading NTA to grant grace marks for the lost time. However, following opposition and pleas in Supreme Court

against the inflation of marks, NTA withdrew the results and announced retest for 1,563 candidates, 813 of whom attended the exam on June 23.

Sources also mentioned that NTA has not been able to retrieve data for some candidates. "Some data are missing, so these candidates will have to take the test again on July 19", said the source, without revealing how the data was misplaced.

This raises questions about how long NTA will take to release the results. Initially scheduled for June 30, the results were delayed due to the paper leak allegations involving NEET-UG, and UGC-NET. On July 7, the agency released the provisional answer key for CUET-UG 2024, indicating a retest for candidates if grievances were validated. "Initially, it was decided to announce the re-

**NTA announced the retest schedule Sunday but did not address the delay in results, which are already two weeks late. The answer key has also not been released**

sults for the remaining candidates before the retest, and subsequently for the rest. However, a final decision is yet to be made," said the source, indicating further uncertainty.

Delhi University has already indicated that a three-week delay in results would delay the university's academic calendar by two weeks. It now appears the delay will extend to nearly four weeks, further affecting the academic calendar for the first year undergraduate students for the 262 participating universities.

# GOI's Job? Find The X Factor For Factories

LS poll results have sent clear message on what voters want. But a giant manufacturing leap is must for employment generation. Budget is a good place to begin

Gurcharan Das



There were many reasons for the surprises in LS election results, most related to local issues. However, one common thread nationally was an undercurrent of anxiety among voters, especially in Hindi heartland. It related to jobs and to a lesser extent food prices. People were not necessarily unemployed – they were under-employed and aspired to better jobs.

No one seemed to address their concern during campaigning. BJP offered a vision of a rapidly growing economy that would become world's third largest, but didn't bother to relate growth to jobs. Opposition stuck to a message of freebies, promising to fill vacancies in govt jobs. The election has thus sent a clear, sobering message to new govt: create quality jobs.

**Missing the jobs** | Since 1991, India has grown handsomely, at almost 6% a year, lifting 400mn people out of poverty. Extreme poverty has come down to less than 5% of population. But high growth hasn't created enough jobs. Why? Because India has failed to create an industrial revolution. It has done exceptionally well in services, but that is not the answer for 45% of nation's workers, who are stuck in agriculture.

All successful nations have developed by creating an industrial revolution. More recently, East Asian nations - Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan - have become prosperous by following a simple strategy of exporting labour-intensive manufactured products. China is the latest example, India has failed - manufacturing accounts for only 15% of GDP, and India's share of global exports of goods is less than 2%. To fix this has to be the new govt's single-point agenda.

Recent periodic labour surveys, including last week's RBI report, have shown a pick-up in jobs and labour

participation. But these surveys point to 'self-employment' or low-end informal jobs, at best low-productivity jobs in construction or trade.

Naysayers will argue an industrial revolution's time is past as technology will soon make human jobs obsolete; environmentalists are terrified of climate effects of another "industrial revolution". Fact is technology's threat to jobs is more immediate in white-collar services than in making shoes, toys and garments. As for the

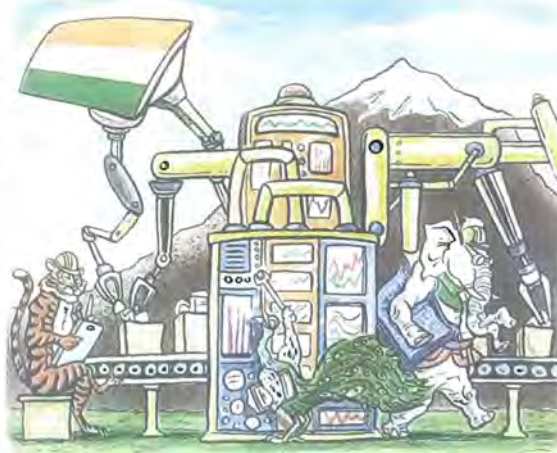
plus a continuous focus on ease of doing business. Above all, it'll need education reform to deliver an employable workforce with an apprentice programme.

This requires heavy lifting, made heavier now by coalition compulsions and an energised opposition. Modi's strong suit is implementation, not persuasion; he isn't 'consultative' by nature; neither a 'deal maker' like Lyndon Johnson; nor an ideological reformer like Thatcher or Deng, who incessantly 'sold' the reforms. But because he's a doer, there's a good chance of success.

It'll need a change in mindset, however. Tariffs will have to be brought down to competitive levels. Large firms will need to be induced to enter labour-intensive manufacturing. Once big firms gain market share, small and medium firms will flourish as component suppliers. Industrial policy will have to reward exports and jobs, instead of production, as in the PLI scheme. Indian companies will have to disrupt global markets with innovation, which isn't their strong suit. Hence, the need to bring in multinationals to set up a second hub, the so-called China +1 strategy, similar to Apple in cellphones.

**Time's right** | Preconditions for a takeover are better than ever. Infra is vastly improved - road mileage has doubled since 2011; port handling capacity has quadrupled. India is now one market after GST. Digital revolution has reduced friction and systemic corruption. And demographics are still in our favour for at least a dozen years. Creating a labour-intensive industrial revolution will need quick action from multiple ministries. Empowered leadership will be key to coordinating hundreds of actions, in mission mode.

The ethos of a new govt is set in the first 100 days. With Budget around the corner, now is the time to act. There's a huge prize waiting if India manages to pull it off. It means India too will one day catch up with Asian tigers and achieve 2047 goal of Viksit Bharat. What could be a bigger moral imperative than transforming a developing country into a middle-class nation?



environment, it'll mean acting more sustainably. To give up on manufacturing would be the wrong moral choice.

**Structural reforms a must** | To achieve the goal, govt will need major reforms, including the three big ones previous govts failed to pull off, relating to land acquisition, labour codes, and farm laws. It'll need bringing down power and railway rates to competitive levels, and judicial reform for quick enforcement of contracts,

# GATE 2025 may witness a 10% increase in registrations

Both GATE and JEE Advanced involve faculty members of IITs at every stage of the operation with the whole process overseen by committees comprising IIT directors

Rajlakshmi.Ghosh  
@timesofindia.com

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee has taken over the mantle from the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore to conduct the Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) in 2025. The institute has recently launched GATE website ([gate2025.iitr.ac.in](http://gate2025.iitr.ac.in)) where aspirants can check the latest updates. Moreover, the GATE 2025 syllabus and exam pattern have also been released for all 30 subjects setting the stage for the exam's upcoming application process. The focus, given the rising instances, of malpractices and compromised integrity in national level entrance exams, is on the smooth conduct of the exams, and IIT Roorkee is gearing up to meet the challenge.

Speaking to *Education Times*, Prof KK Pant, director IIT Roorkee, says, "Ensuring the integrity and excellence of GATE 2025 is our foremost commitment. With meticulous planning and enhanced user experience, we aim to facilitate a seamless examination process that empowers aspiring engineers and scientists across the country."

Echoing similar thoughts, Prof P Arumugam, organising chairperson - GATE 2025 and professor of Physics, IIT Roorkee, explains, "Since its inception in 1983, the GATE exam processes were meticulously drafted and refined consistently by the faculty members of IITs and IISc. The recent developments related to the Computer-Based Test (CBT) with external partners also have



We plan to improve the experience of the candidates appearing for this exam through the quality of the questions and the CBT.

- Prof P Arumugam, organising chairperson - GATE 2025



## No questions have been raised about the sanctity of IIT organised GATE and JEE Advanced

a significant contribution from our system. IIT Roorkee, with the support of other zonal IITs and IISc, will be keen to maintain the quality of GATE exams which open up several opportunities for the bright and deserving students." He elaborates further, "With the input from the various committees set up for this purpose, IIT Roorkee is focusing on a flawless conduct of GATE 2025. We plan to improve the experience of the candidates appearing for this exam through the quality of the questions and the CBT. The exams will be conducted all over India in the cities listed on our website. However, the list of cities may change depending on the applications we receive and the recommendations of our CBT partner." Notably, 226 exam cities have been listed on the GATE website till date, which is the same as last year.

## Security protocols

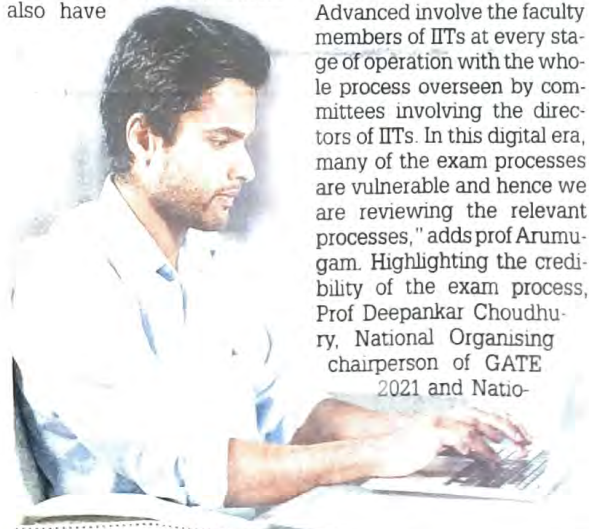
"CBT mode with sufficient security protocols (like encryptions) for handling the questions is crucial. GATE and JEE Advanced involve the faculty members of IITs at every stage of operation with the whole process overseen by committees involving the directors of IITs. In this digital era, many of the exam processes are vulnerable and hence we are reviewing the relevant processes," adds prof Arumugam. Highlighting the credibility of the exam process, Prof Deepankar Choudhury, National Organising chairperson of GATE 2021 and Natio-

nal Organising vice-chair of IIT JEE (Advanced) 2015 says, "IIT organised GATE and JEE Advanced exams are held with the utmost care, and in the past over 20 years, no questions have been raised about the sanctity of the exam by stakeholders including the general public. We, from the IIT system, send our own faculty and staff members for direct inspection of the exam centres both during the exam and on the eve of the exam day to address any possible glitches no matter how insignificant. All the seven zonal IITs for JEE Advanced and an equal number for GATE in addition to IISc have a sense of ownership in conducting the exams, which brings with it a huge sense of responsibility."

Choudhury further points out that though the same question paper for each subject in GATE is circulated throughout the country to maintain uniformity of standards, yet several layers of secrecy are maintained at every step.

## Rise in numbers

Discussing the possibility of increasing registrations in GATE 2025, Arumugam says, "We expect that there will be an increase of around 10% in registrations this year, though we are preparing to handle about 15% increase. Last year, the number of candidates registered was 7,42,324. Including the double papers chosen by many candidates, the number of registrations was 8,26,288." No new papers are being added this year hence the exam will continue to have 30 test papers as in GATE 2024. "We are processing the requests for new papers which will be introduced for GATE 2026," he informs, dismissing any changes in the exam pattern and syllabus. "The syllabus revision will start this year and will be implemented for GATE 2026," he adds. GATE 2025 exam, meanwhile, will be conducted on February 1, 2, 15 and 16, 2025.



# DTU launches MTech by Research to boost multidisciplinary in engineering

The programme comprises three semesters for research while the remaining semester includes core and elective courses

Shehwaaz Khan  
@timesofindia.com

In alignment with the New Education Policy (NEP 2020) and to promote multidisciplinary learning in engineering, Delhi Technological University (DTU) recently launched the MTech by Research programme starting from the academic session 2024-2025. The programme is designed for students who wish to pursue in-depth research and build a career in Research & Development in specialised fields.

Open to bachelor's students of all engineering disciplines, the programme is offered by 11 departments at the University, including the Departments of Applied Chemistry, Applied Phy-

sics, Civil Engineering, Biotechnology, and Department of Multidisciplinary Centre for Geoinformatics (MCG), among others. Students will be able to take specialisations of their interest offered by these departments and dedicate two years to research on any of their chosen areas.

"Only a few institutions, including some IITs, offer the MTech by Research programme, which primarily focuses on the student's research undertaken over two years. What differentiates this programme from regular MTech programmes is its structure: regular MTech programmes typically consist of three semesters of coursework and one semester of research. In contrast, the MTech by Research programme dedicates 75% of its duration to research, with

## Only a few institutions, including some IITs, offer the MTech by Research programme

the remaining 25% dedicated to core and elective courses," says Prateek Sharma, vice-chancellor, Delhi Technological University.

## Interdisciplinary approach

"The programme is designed in a way that multiple departments collaborate to offer an extensive research methodology and support to the students," says Rinku Sharma, dean (Academics), DTU.

The programme has been introduced to bridge the gap between various engineering disciplines and create a space for interdisciplinary research. AK Srivastava, professor, Department of Civil Engineering and dean, Outreach and Extension Activities, says, "Due to the constantly changing technologies, research in engineering cannot be conducted in isolation. In Civil Engineering, for instance, new AI-



choose to pursue a PhD."

## Eligibility criteria

Candidates with an engineering degree, who wish to pursue the programme, must appear for the GATE exam or the MTech by Research Admission Test conducted by DTU. Following this, an interview will be conducted by the University that will finalise admission to the course.

Students who pursue the programme are hired in research-specific roles and as consultants in public and private organisations. "As per our experience in the past placement drives, organisations have shown interest in PhD candidates for research-based profiles. Students who complete their MTech by Research programme will be hired in similar positions. We are in talks with past recruiters of our regular MTech programmes such as Wipro, Caggemini, and Siemens who have also shown interest in students who graduate from the MTech by Research programme for their Research & Development departments. Moreover, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is underway with other private organisations," says Rajesh Rohilla, dean, Alumni Affairs, DTU.

Every department has a specific research focus that students can pursue, which includes research projects on Polymer Science and Chemical Technology at the Department of Applied Chemistry; Biomedical Data Science, Sustainable Environment, and Advanced Therapeutics offered at the Department of Biotechnology, among others.

enabled technologies are being utilised for monitoring, evaluation, and instrumentation, among others. Therefore, there is a role for other departments such as Software, Electronics, and Electrical Engineering, too, hence, researchers in Civil Engineering can have access to diverse disciplines to develop competencies in these areas."

The Department of Civil Engineering is offering research projects such as AI-Driven Structural Health Monitoring, Machine Learning in Construction Management, Data Science for Smart Cities, and Predictive Maintenance of Infrastructure.

"Several government bodies such as the Central Road Research Institute, Central Soil and Mate-

rials Research Station, and National Institute of Rock Mechanics are conducting extensive and cutting-edge research, where MTech by Research students can utilise their skills. Moreover, there are dedicated Research & Development departments in many government and private entities where interdisciplinary research is being conducted," adds Srivastava.

Ruchika Malhotra, associate head and professor in the Department of Software Engineering, highlights the benefits of the programme, stating, "The transition from MTech by Research to PhD programmes will be significantly smoother due to the programme's extensive focus on research activities. This focus will better prepare students for advanced research, in case they



# Will there be enough takers for MBBS in Hindi

While the courses in Hindi will help in better comprehension in the initial years, at the PG level, the students will have to transition to English for making a headway in their careers

Rajlakshmi Ghosh  
@timesofindia.com

After Madhya Pradesh, the Bihar government is set to offer Bachelor of Medicine, and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) courses in Hindi from the upcoming academic session, which makes it the second state to address English phobia among students. The new MBBS Hindi course will be as per the AIIMS Delhi syllabus for students who qualify the NEET UG 2024 exam. With around 85,000 government schools in Bihar where Hindi is the medium of instruction, the new initiative is expected to make the academic journey of students easier and help them overcome their limited proficiency in the English language. Experts though are divided in their opinions – while some claim that it would help students comprehend their subjects better and give them more confidence, others feel it will limit their prospects in higher education, and on a global scale. Speaking to *Education Times*, Dr B Srinivas, secretary, NMC, says, "As per the NMC regulations, medical education should be in English. However, the MBBS course is being customised in certain states, and even there, they will have to provide literal translation of the

medical textbooks as no new words can be introduced. The aim is to help students make an easy transition to the MBBS course since many of them, specially from Bihar and Rajasthan, come from rural areas and tend to struggle with English language textbooks."

## Handholding exercise

MBBS in Hindi, consequently, will be a handholding exercise but students will ultimately have to transition to PG medical education in English, where they will not have such flexibility. "Once the students become familiar with the medical terminology-

es, it will become easier to transit to English. Since we are part of the WFME (World Federation for Medical Education) regulations, all medical colleges in India must follow the same global standards, and even if the MBBS course is in Hindi or in any other language, students will finally have to appear for their exams in English. Hence, MBBS in Hindi is more of a facilitating measure, rather than a replacement for the programme in English," adds Dr Srinivas. Language translation can be a time-consuming task and if states are taking up the initiative of indigenising medical education, efforts should be made to ensure

that faculty experts with a good grasp of Hindi, English and their subjects, are engaged for the purpose, says Dr Srinivas.

## Unnecessary step

Dr Manoj Kumar, professor and head, Department of Surgery, AIIMS Patna, doubts the effectiveness of such an initiative, since the faculty he says will not be comfortable using Hindi terminologies for English words. "In any case, most of our classes are bilingual, so it is not as if the lectures are exclusively in English. MBBS in Hindi may also undermine the intellect of the students who, in institutes like AIIMS, are among

the cream of the lot, having studied English texts in their class XII boards and cracked NEET. Many of our doctors are from Hindi medium schools, but that has never prevented them from excelling in the UK, US or Australia. If we were able to manage MBBS in English for the past 100 years, why should the problem arise now," he asks. Moreover, most of the classrooms have a diverse mix of students, MBBS in Hindi may drive a wedge between them, says Kumar. "Only time will tell if students want to take it up as their preference since they are not expected to comprehend English texts where the language is archaic and difficult," he adds.

## Workable solution

Drawing from experience, Dr Kuldeep Gupta, general secretary, National Medicos Organisation (NMO), Madhya Pradesh (MP), says, "The colleges in MP have permitted the students to opt for the language of their preference. Students are free to write their exams in Hindi, English or Hinglish. The lectures in classes are bilingual, hence students who opt for Hindi have the flexibility to refer to English textbooks and those from English do make it a point to turn to Hindi textbooks for better understanding of concepts." He explains that around 30% students

in the state have opted for MBBS in Hindi in their first year for which textbooks have already been translated while maintaining the technical terms in English. Additionally, translated medical textbooks from second year right up to the final year are awaiting approval for students to get started. Gupta further says that the same faculty teaches both the Eng-

lish and Hindi medium students so that quality is not compromised. "Even though some of our students have opted for MBBS in Hindi, they are motivated to learn English through Foundation courses and AETCOM (Attitudes, Ethics, and Communication) modules that teach communication skills, professionalism, and ethics over 4 years," he adds.





# Dissenting DU professors say Hindu Studies syllabus focuses on 'Brahmanical texts'

**Ashna Butani**

NEW DELHI

As the amended syllabus for Delhi University's MA in Hindu Studies got a nod from the Academic Council on Friday, a section of teachers said the syllabus focuses on "orthodox Brahmanical texts", leaving no room for criticism and important texts by thinkers such as Debiprasad Chattopadhyaya, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, and Daya Krishna.

The Centre for Hindu Studies, established last year, started its first MA batch in November 2023. Until now, the Centre was teaching Hindu Studies as per the University Grants Commission-National Eligibility Test (UGC-NET) syllabus. Prerna Malhotra, Joint Director of the Centre, said,

"We were following the UGC-NET syllabus so far. But since it is a two-year MA course, more papers needed to be added. A committee was formed to draft the new papers."

## 'Passed unanimously'

Nine teachers wrote in their dissent note that the "Brahmanical texts" were "prominently featured" while "heterodox texts" have been inserted only in a tokenistic manner.

It added that other Indic traditions such as Sramanism, Charvaka, Jainism, Buddhism, and tribal traditions were not included in the syllabus.

Ms. Malhotra said there was, however, no dissent in the Academic Council meeting and it was passed unanimously. "Moreover,

after the course was drafted, it went through multiple rounds of suggestions such as in the governing body meeting, which comprised several scholars and experts, and the Standing Committee for Academic Matters meeting... we had incorporated all these suggestions," she said.

The amended syllabus includes proposed electives such as 'An Introduction to Vedic Literature', 'Upanishad Parichaya', 'Dharma and Religion', 'Bhagavad Gita for Humanity', and 'Hindu Thinkers'. The paper on 'Hindu Thinkers' includes thinkers such as Ramanujacharya, Dayananda Saraswati, Swami Vivekanand, Sri Aurobindo, Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Vinayak Damodar Savarkar.

The statement by the

dissenting teachers said that works of renowned scholars such as Debiprasad Chattopadhyaya and Daya Krishna have not been included.

"Further, Ambedkar's important work on Hinduism – *Riddles in Hinduism* – is conspicuous by its absence," added the statement.

Professor Maya John, one of the dissenting members, said, "The reading list represents only a certain tradition of scholarship on Hinduism, while heterodox positions such as Marxist, feminist, Periyarist, Ambedkarite etc., are sadly absent... The readings are not as expansive, and a critical component is missing. So, it would not provide scholars with the perspective that they need." 2/14

BCI ASSURES DECISION ON SYLLABUS FOR NEW LAWS WITHIN 10 DAYS

# Questions, concerns galore as students tackle transition

**NIRBHAYTHAKUR & INSHA HUSAIN**

NEW DELHI, JULY 13

WILL BOTH old and new criminal laws be covered in entrance exams? How will students who have already studied old laws study the new laws? How long will the old laws remain relevant? These and many other questions have been haunting law students as they struggle amid the transition.

With three new laws enforced earlier this month, the first-year students will have a drastically different curriculum than their seniors — probably in a first. The overlap between new and old laws, however, is expected to make the transition smoother for older students, suggest some teachers.

The students starting their second year from August 1 at Delhi University's Faculty of Law, like their seniors, studied the colonial

era laws — the Indian Penal Code (IPC), CrPC (Code of Criminal Procedure), and the Indian Evidence Act (IEA) in their first year. The freshers this year, however, will have a tryst with the three new laws that replace them — the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA).

Anxiety among students is palpable. "I am anxious about the transition phase of leaving the law school and going into practice. The sections are different in new laws, and we will have to constantly go back and forth to refer to them since we never got the chance to study them in college," says Tanvir, a second-year student.

"Other than that, we are also anxious about the exams that we will sit for after completing our degree. We are not sure where the questions in those exams will come from. They could come



At DU's Faculty of Law. Express

from the old Acts or the new ones," he adds.

Abhishek, another second-year student, says, "The major difficulty that we will face is to learn all the sections afresh in the new laws."

Saavy Gupta, another second-year student, also expresses concern. "We had already studied the IPC, CrPC, and IEA in our first year which are considered founda-

tional to the criminal justice system. We are told to memorise these laws by heart," she says.

A professor underlines that students will have to be well-versed in both the new and old laws. "As things stand, we will have to teach students both the old and the new laws together...that will be our biggest challenge," says Professor Anup Surendranath who teaches criminal law and constitutional law at the National Law University (NLU). For cases filed before July 1, at any stage (charges, trial, prosecution evidence), old laws will be applicable. The cases filed after July 1, however, are being registered under the new laws.

In courts, according to Professor Surendranath, both old and new laws will be referred for at least 15 years with the older laws applicable to the pending cases. Surendranath is also the executive director of Project 39A, a criminal justice programme at

NLU.

The Bar Council of India (BCI) has assured it will decide within 10 days on the process of incorporating new laws in the syllabus of all the students. "We have a legal education committee that is headed by a former Supreme Court judge...we also have an academic committee," Bar Council of India chairman Manan Kumar Mishra tells *The Indian Express*.

He adds that after various meetings with the committees, a decision will be taken in 10 days. "It is important to incorporate the new criminal laws in the syllabus of all the law students," he says.

Meanwhile, the final-year students too can't escape a deep dive into the new laws as they head to a law firm for an internship, or plan their future career course.

"Professors and students should both be trained on the new laws," says Professor Meghraj who teaches at DU.

He also says that students who

have studied the new laws will have an edge over other students in terms of entrance exams. "All entrance and competitive exams will have questions from the new criminal laws...those who haven't read them as part of their curriculum will have to work harder to crack the entrance exams," he adds. However, Krishna Murari, another professor at the college, says that the students will have to work a little harder but won't have major issues due to the overlap. "There is a strong overlap between the old and the new laws," he says.

"There are new things in the laws as well...we have prepared PDFs and documents for the students to help them...we will always support them," he stresses. He also says that the BSA, which has replaced the Indian Evidence Act, does not have major changes but the BNSS has some significant changes compared to the CrPC.

(Insha Husain is an intern with *The Indian Express*)

# Need to teach law in regional languages: CJI

**SATYA PRAKASH**

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI, JULY 13**

Emphasising the need to make law and legal education accessible to millions of Indian citizens, Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud on Saturday said universities should come together to prepare teaching modules in regional languages.

Addressing the 3rd Convocation at Dr Ram Manohar Lohia National Law University (RMLNLU), Lucknow, the CJI said a survey of 81 universities and colleges recently conducted by the **Research Department of the Supreme Court found that the common people faced difficulties in understanding various schemes relating to their rights due to their inability to understand English.**

Justice Chandrachud, however, sought to reiterate that English should not be done away with as a medium of instruction for legal education and that regional languages should also be adopted. He suggested that legal



CJI DY Chandrachud, flanked by UP CM Yogi Adityanath, presents a certificate to a student at a convocation ceremony in Lucknow. ANI

theories and procedures can be explained to students and the common man through informative videos prepared in regional languages.

“In many countries across the world, both legal education and legal proceedings are conducted in the regional language, ensuring that all citizens can not only access the legal system but also aspire to be lawyers and judges.” “It is only when we teach core principles of law to our students efficiently while acquainting them with the

local context and local legal terms, that we can create socially responsible lawyers in the future, who can truly understand the issues and concerns of the local community,” the CJI said.

“I often discuss with my colleagues and all educationists of the country as to how the study of law can be taught in simple language. As such, there are certain rules and basic principles in different provisions of the Constitution. We teach those principles well in English, but we

often find ourselves uncomfortable explaining those principles in regional languages,” Justice Chandrachud said.

“If we are not able to explain the principles of law to the general public in simple language, then it shows the lack of legal profession and legal education. This affects the common citizens, especially the weaker section of society,” said the CJI who has taken initiatives for making available the top court’s judgments in Hindi and other regional languages.

“When I came to Allahabad, after spending my life in Mumbai as a judge at the Bombay High Court, it was culturally different for me. The proceedings in Bombay High Court are in English, and I found that before the Allahabad High Court, local lawyers would often start presenting their case in Hindi. It made me realise the potential of lawyers to present their case efficiently even in their local language,” Justice Chandrachud said. 7/14

# परीक्षाओं में गड़बड़ियों के बाद सूचनाएं छिपाने लगी एनटीए

जागरण ब्यूरो, नई दिल्ली : यूजीसी नेट, नीट-यूजी जैसी राष्ट्रीय स्तर की परीक्षाओं में सामने आई गड़बड़ियों के बाद विवादों में घिरी नेशनल टेस्टिंग एजेंसी (एनटीए) ने अपने कामकाज में सुधार व अधिक पारदर्शिता बरतने की जगह अब चीजों को छिपाना शुरू कर दिया है। इसकी शुरुआत उसने 10 जुलाई को शिक्षकों के प्रवेश से जुड़ी परीक्षा एनसीईटी (नेशनल कामन एंट्रेंस टेस्ट) से कर दी है। इस परीक्षा में कितने छात्रों ने हिस्सा लिया, देशभर के कितने केंद्रों पर परीक्षा आयोजित की गई और ठीक तरीके से संपन्न हुई या फिर किसी तरह की गड़बड़ी पाई गई है, जैसी जानकारियां उसकी ओर से नहीं दी गईं।

एनटीए ही राष्ट्रीय स्तर की परीक्षाएं आयोजित कराती है। खास बात यह है कि यह वही परीक्षा थी, जो इससे पहले 12 जून को आयोजित की गई थी। इसे बाद में कुछ गड़बड़ियों के चलते रद्द कर दिया गया था। पूर्व में एनटीए की ओर से आयोजित सभी परीक्षाओं की जानकारी उसी दिन शाम तक या अगले दिन तक दे दी जाती थी। एनटीए की ओर से जानकारी साझा न करने से परीक्षा को लेकर सवाल खड़े होने लगे हैं। एनटीए का यह रवैया तब है, जब परीक्षाओं की गड़बड़ियों के बाद उसके कामकाज में सुधार व पूरी प्रक्रिया को और



10 जुलाई को दोबारा कराई गई एनसीईटी परीक्षा की नहीं दी जानकारी, गड़बड़ियों के चलते पहले इसे रद्द कर दिया गया था

ज्यादा पारदर्शी बनाने की पहल शुरू की गई है। शिक्षा मंत्रालय ने इसे लेकर उच्चस्तरीय कमेटी गठित है, जिसे दो महीने में इससे जुड़ी रिपोर्ट देनी है। इस बीच सीएसआइआर-यूजीसी नेट 25 से 27 जुलाई को और यूजीसी नेट 21 अगस्त से चार सितंबर के बीच होना प्रस्तावित है। सूत्रों की मानें तो एनटीए के रवैये में यह बदलाव उसकी सोची समझी रणनीति का हिस्सा हो सकता है क्योंकि नीट-यूजी मामले में उसे नोटिफिकेशन के आधार पर ही घेरा गया। एनटीए ने अपने नोटिफिकेशन में परिणाम जारी करने की संभावित तिथि 14 जून दी थी जबकि परिणाम चार जून को ही आम चुनावों के परिणामों की गहमा-गहमी के बीच जारी कर दिया था। इसके साथ ही रजिस्ट्रेशन विंडो को बीच में खोलने जैसी जानकारियां उसे कठघरे में खड़ा कर रही हैं। संबंधित » पेज 8

# रोजगार के सवाल का समाधान



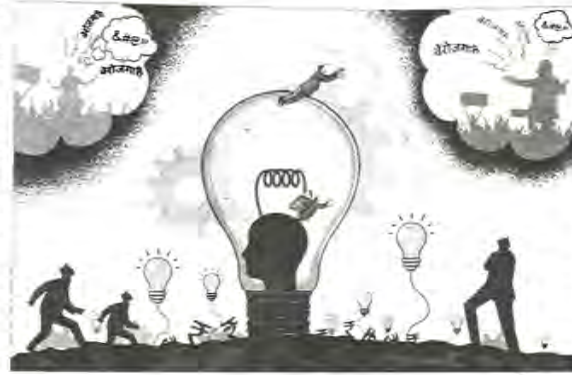
संजय गुप्त

यह झूट ही है कि रोजगार के मोर्चे पर विपक्ष शासित राज्यों में चुनौती नहीं और सारी समस्या केंद्र सरकार के स्तर पर एवं माजपा शासित राज्यों में है

उसने पारिवारिक कारणों से नौकरी छोड़ी थी।

भले ही भाजपा ने राहुल गांधी को निशाने पर लेते हुए यह कहा हो कि वह रोजगार के मामले में लगातार झूठ बोल रहे हैं, लेकिन इतना ही पर्याप्त नहीं। भाजपा और साथ ही उसकी केंद्र एवं राज्य सरकारों को इस झूठी धारणा के खिलाफ सक्रिय होना होगा कि रोजगार के अवसर कम हो रहे हैं। यह धारणा तथ्यों के विपरीत है। हाल में स्टेट बैंक आफ इंडिया के एक अध्ययन में यह कहा गया कि मोदी सरकार के दस साल के शासनकाल में मनमोहन सरकार की तुलना में कई गुना अधिक रोजगार के अवसर पैदा हुए। कुछ दिनों पहले रिजर्व बैंक ने एक विदेशी संस्था के आकलन को खारिज करते हुए यह बताया था कि पिछले वर्ष किस तरह 4.67 करोड़ नौकरियां बर्बाद। रिजर्व बैंक के अनुसार बीते वित्त वर्ष तक देश में कुल नौकरियां बढ़कर 64 करोड़ से अधिक हो गई हैं, जबकि उसके पिछले वर्ष उनकी संख्या करीब 60 करोड़ थी।

वह सही है कि रोजगार के और अधिक अवसर पैदा करने की आवश्यकता है, लेकिन इस आवश्यकता की पूर्ति करना केवल केंद्र सरकार की जिम्मेदारी नहीं। इसकी पूर्ति तो केंद्र और राज्यों, दोनों को मिलकर करनी होगी। इसके लिए दोनों को निजी क्षेत्र का सहयोग लेना और देना होगा। उन्हें यह देखा होगा कि वे कौन से क्षेत्र हैं, जहां रोजगार के अधिक अवसर पैदा हो सकते हैं। निजी क्षेत्र में रोजगार के अधिकाधिक अवसर पैदा करके ही सरकारी नौकरियों के आकर्षण को कम किया जा सकता है। इसके साथ ही यह भी आवश्यक है कि युवाओं में कौशल विकास किया जाए। इसकी आवश्यकता



अवैतल राजपूत

इसलिए है, क्योंकि आज हुनर वाले कार्यों की जरूरत बढ़ गई है। अपने देश में ऐसे डिग्रीधारी युवाओं की संख्या बढ़ रही है, जिनके पास किसी तरह का हुनर नहीं और जिनकी शिक्षा-दीक्षा का स्तर ऐसा है कि उनमें से अनेक तो दंग से एक आवेदन पत्र भी नहीं लिख सकते। एक समस्या यह भी है कि हुनर वाले अनेक कार्यों को या तो छोटा काम समझा जाता है या उन्हें हेय दृष्टि से देखा जाता है। इसी कारण कई उद्योग-धंधों को जैसे हुनरमंद युवाओं की आवश्यकता है, वैसे उन्हें नहीं मिल पाते। स्पष्ट है कि सामाजिक स्तर पर कहीं न कहीं यह संदेश देना होगा कि कोई भी कार्य छोटा नहीं होता और देश को सामान्य डिग्रीधारी युवाओं के मुकाबले हुनरमंद युवाओं की जरूरत अधिक है। इसकी अनदेखी नहीं की जानी चाहिए कि फिक्की और सीआइआइ जैसे संगठन यह कहते रहे हैं कि उन्हें जैसे कार्यकुशल युवा चाहिए, वैसे नहीं मिल पा रहे हैं। इसका मतलब है कि शिक्षा को

कौशल विकास से जोड़ना होगा। क्या यह काम हो पा रहा है?

निजी क्षेत्र में रोजगार के और अधिक अवसर कैसे पैदा हों, इसके लिए पक्ष-विपक्ष के राजनीतिक दलों को मिलकर कार्य करने की जरूरत है, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से विपक्षी दलों ने यह माहौल बना रखा है कि रोजगार के अवसर पैदा करना केवल केंद्र सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है। चूंकि अपने देश में स्वरोजगार और असंगठित क्षेत्र में कार्यरत लोगों के सही आंकड़े नहीं मिल पाते, इसलिए यह माहौल बनाने में आसानी होती है कि रोजगार के पर्याप्त अवसर नहीं बन रहे हैं। नौकरियों के मामले में यह धारणा हमारे समाज में भी व्याप्त है कि रोजगार का मतलब सरकारी नौकरी होता है। विपक्षी दल भी यह माहौल बनाते हैं और इसी कारण हर कोई सरकारी नौकरी को ताक में रहता है। इस सच को सभी को स्वीकारना होगा कि कोई भी सरकार हो, वह हर किसी को सरकारी नौकरी नहीं दे सकती। इतनी

सरकारी नौकरियां हैं ही नहीं कि सभी को समाहित किया जा सके। सरकारी नौकरियों के प्रति आकर्षण का एक बड़ा कारण यह मान्यता भी है कि ये नौकरियां सुरक्षा की गारंटी और आरामतलबी का पर्याय होते हैं। कुछ तो इन्हें अतिरिक्त कमाई का साधन मानकर चलते हैं। चूंकि औसत सरकारी कर्मचारी जवाबदेही से मुक्त हैं और उनके कार्यों का मुश्किल से ही आकलन होता है, इसलिए वे अपने काम के प्रति वैसी लगन और प्रतिबद्धता नहीं दिखाते, जैसी आवश्यक है। यही कारण है कि उनकी उत्पादकता कम है और शायद इसी वजह से अब केंद्र और राज्य सरकारों के अनेक विभाग आउटसोर्सिंग का सहारा लेने लगे हैं अथवा अनुबंध पर नौकरियां देते हैं। इसका एक कारण औसत सरकारी कर्मचारियों में जवाबदेही का अभाव भी है। यह किसी से छिपा नहीं कि अपने देश में यदि किसी को सरकारी नौकरी मिल जाती है तो वह तब भी चलती रहती है, जब संबंधित व्यक्ति अपना काम सही तरीके से नहीं करता।

यह सही समय है कि सरकारी नौकरियों को कार्यकुशलता एवं दक्षता की कसौटी पर कसा जाए। उचित यह होगा कि सरकारें ऐसी सेवा शर्तें बनाएं, जिसे सरकारी कर्मचारी जवाबदेह एवं जिम्मेदार बन सकें और जो यह मानकर चलते हैं कि ये नौकरियां आरामतलबी का पर्याय हैं, उन्हें यह आभास हो सके कि सरकारी कर्मचारी के रूप में यदि वे अपना काम सही तरह नहीं करेंगे तो निजी क्षेत्र के कर्मियों की तरह उनकी भी नौकरी खतरे में पड़ सकती है। ऐसा करके ही सरकारी नौकरियों के प्रति आमामुश्क चालत को कम किया जा सकता है।

✉️ [response@jagran.com](mailto:response@jagran.com)

# होनहार विदेशी छात्रों को अमेरिका में रहने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करने को विधेयक पेश

वाशिंगटन, प्रेद्र: अमेरिकी कांग्रेस (संसद) के सदस्य श्री थानेदार ने एच-1बी वीजा की उपलब्धता बढ़ाकर होनहार विदेशी छात्रों को अपनी पढ़ाई पूरी करने के बाद अमेरिका में रहने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करने के उद्देश्य से एक विधेयक पेश किया है। एच-1बी वीजा की भारतीय आइटी पेशेवरों द्वारा सर्वाधिक मांग है।

डेमोक्रेटिक पार्टी से अमेरिकी कांग्रेस के सदस्य थानेदार ने कहा- 'एक आप्रवासी के तौर पर अमेरिका में शिक्षा के अवसरों ने मुझे हर मौका दिया और मैं देश में हमारे सबसे प्रतिभाशाली छात्रों को रखने के महत्व को समझता हूँ।' विज्ञप्ति के अनुसार, 'स्टेम' स्नातकों को अमेरिका में बनाए रखने संबंधी

## भारत ने अमेरिका में खोले दो नए वीजा केंद्र

भारत ने अमेरिका के वाशिंगटन स्टेट में दो नए वीजा और पासपोर्ट केंद्र शुरू किए हैं। सिएटल और बेलेव्यू में दो केंद्रों का उद्घाटन शुक्रवार को हुआ। यह कदम सिएटल में नवीनतम भारतीय वाणिज्य दूतावास के उद्घाटन के तुरंत बाद उठाया गया है। अन्य पांच मौजूदा भारतीय वाणिज्य दूतावास न्यूयार्क, अटलांटा, शिकागो, ह्यूस्टन और सैन फ्रांसिस्को में हैं। सिएटल में भारत के महावाणिज्यदूत प्रकाश गुप्ता ने उद्घाटन समारोह में

अधिनियम एच-1बी वीजा प्रक्रिया में सुधार का प्रस्ताव करता है ताकि हमारे उद्योग और अर्थव्यवस्था में

कहा कि सिएटल में भारतीय वाणिज्य दूतावास का उद्घाटन अमेरिका के साथ हमारे संबंधों को गहरा करने की भारत सरकार की मजबूत प्रतिबद्धता का प्रतिबिंब है। केंद्र का संचालन और प्रबंधन भारत सरकार की ओर से वीएफएस ग्लोबल द्वारा किया जा रहा है। गुप्ता ने कहा कि उन्हें उम्मीद है कि सिएटल और बेलेव्यू में इन नए वीजा आवेदन केंद्रों पर सभी आवेदकों को बेहतर सुविधा का लाभ मिल सकेगा।

योगदान देने में सक्षम व्यक्तियों के लिए अमेरिका में रहना अधिक आसान हो सके।

TO CONTROL POSSIBLE INSTANCES OF LEAK AND MANIPULATION

# NEET Revamp: Health Ministry, NMC Finally on Board to Switch to Computer-Based Test

To effectively reform NEET-UG exam, health ministry & medical commission assess that eligibility criteria will require some changes

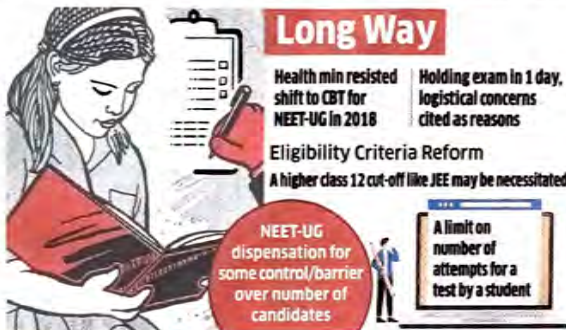
Anubhuti Vishnoi

New Delhi: The Union health ministry and National Medical Commission (NMC) are learnt to have finally come on board to enable switching the NEET-Undergraduate exam from one based on pen and paper Optical Mark Reader (OMR) to a JEE-like computer-based one, backed with two other likely 'reform' moves.

ET gathers that the health ministry/NMC have assessed that to effectively reform and revamp the NEET-UG exam format, the eligibility criteria will also require some changes — both on class 12 scores cut-off limit and the number of attempts at the exam.

Factor this: Currently, a student must have scored a minimum aggregate of 50% in Physics, Chemistry, and Biology/Biotechnology in Class 12 boards to be able to appear for the NEET-UG exam.

The other major school exit exam — Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) — that determines admission to engineering colleges, however, requires a student to attain a minimum of 75% in class 12 boards. **The higher cut-off in JEE serves two purposes: One, students cannot ignore school-level study and**



**two, it helps to filter out overall student pool and ensure a certain base level of competence.**

The health ministry and the NMC are of the view that a similar higher cut-off may be necessitated for NEET-UG, as it heads to a CBT mode. The second area that may see change is the number of attempts at the exam. While in case of NEET-UG there is no limit to the number of attempts by a student, for JEE Main, a student can attempt the exam six times (twice a year window) for a maximum of three consecutive years.

For JEE Advanced, which determines admission to IITs, a student can attempt the exam a maximum of two times in two consecutive years. Similarly, most other entrance exams, in-

## GROWING NUMBERS



NEET-UG  
2024 saw  
nearly 24L

students in the fray,  
a number that keeps  
growing every year

cluding recruitment ones by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), also have a prescribed limit on the number of attempts.

While the NEET-UG dispensation has not decided on the number of attempts that should be permitted in a revamped ex-

## CBI Gets Custody of 13 Accused

New Delhi: The Patna High Court on Friday granted the CBI the custody of 13 people arrested by the Bihar police in connection with NEET-UG paper leak case. The central probe agency will now be able to question these accused in custody and also confront them with kingpin Rockey alias Rakesh Ranjan who was arrested on Thursday.

The agency had sought the custody of the 13 individuals, arrested by the state police, who were subsequently sent to judicial custody following a brief period of police remand. — PTI

am, there is clarity that some barriers must be built in.

Apart from bringing some kind of control over the number of candidates, the attempt barrier is expected to also filter out the student pool. NEET-UG 2024 saw nearly 24 lakh students in the fray, a number that has been growing every year even as the total number of medical seats in the country are near a lakh.

Meanwhile, the NEET-UG switch to CBT is becoming clearer by the day. In its latest affidavit to the Supreme Court, the National Testing Authority this week stated that in order to ensure the sanctity of the exam, it is considering options to 'replace the mode of conduct of examination' for future NEET exams — 'conversion from pen

and paper mode (OMR based) to computer-based test mode'.

ET has also reported earlier that the high-level panel on exam reforms under former IAS chairperson K Radhakrishnan is also strongly pitching for a shift of NEET-UG to CBT mode to control possible instances of leaks and manipulations.

While the health ministry had resisted the CBT shift for NEET-UG in 2018 citing the necessity of doing it on a single day and logistical concerns, their own experience with NEET-PG on CBT mode has been largely successful, sources said. In view of the same and the learnings from the NEET-UG 2024 leak allegations, the ministry is preparing for a CBT format for the mega exam as well. *ET/MS*

# Centralised recruitment for tribal residential schools leads to language, cultural barriers

**Abhinav Lakshman**

NEW DELHI

The recent centralisation of recruitment for tribal residential schools across the country, which introduced Hindi competency as a mandatory requirement, has resulted in a flood of requests for transfers.

The large numbers of staff recruited from the Hindi-speaking States are protesting postings to the Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) located in southern States, where the language, food and culture are unfamiliar to them.

Though Central officials point out that the willingness to be posted anywhere in the country was part of the requirement for those applying for jobs, the bigger worry may be the



Officials said the centralisation of hiring was meant to address a severe shortage of teachers in the EMRS system. FILE PHOTO

impact on tribal students being taught by teachers who are unfamiliar with the local language and culture.

Until last year, staff recruitment for the Ministry of Tribal Affairs' flagship Eklavya schools was done

by State authorities.

In the 2023 Budget Session of Parliament, however, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced that the responsibility was being shifted to the National Education Society for Tribal

Students (NESTS), which has now been given the task of staffing 38,000 positions in over 400 Eklavya schools across the country.

## Staff shortage

Officials said the centralisation of recruitment was meant to address a severe shortage of teachers in the EMRS system, and to standardise recruitment rules across States, which had earlier used varying criteria and applied reservation quotas as per their State legislations.

The examination for this centralised recruitment process – the 2023 EMRS Staff Selection Examination – was entrusted with the National Testing Agency.

The examination was for the first round of 4,000

vacant teaching and non-teaching positions across the Eklavya schools.

In June, NESTS said that 303 Principals and 707 Junior Secretariat Assistants had been selected, along with thousands of other teaching and non-teaching positions. However, given the new requirement of Hindi competency, a large number of selected candidates hail from Hindi-speaking States, many of whom now want transfers from their postings.

Since June 20, when NESTS office in Delhi opened a one-hour window to address candidates' grievances in person, aggrieved candidates have been coming every day.

CONTINUED ON

» PAGE 8

H/B



# JNU to launch centres on Hindu, Jain, and Buddhist studies

**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) is in the process of establishing three new centres – the Centre for Hindu Studies, Centre for Buddhist Studies, and Centre for Jain Studies – under the School of Sanskrit and Indic Studies, said Vice-Chancellor Santishree D. Pandit on Friday.

A notification dated July 9 said the Executive Council in its meeting on June 29 had approved the recommendation of the committee constituted to recommend changes in line with the National Education Policy, 2020. University officials said they are still planning the programmes, and are aiming to roll them out in the next academic year.

“JNU has proudly established three centres that will implement the vision and mission of Viksit Bharat in integrating Indian knowledge systems into research culture,” Ms. Pandit said.

“The idea of the new centres is to teach those aspects of our traditional Indian knowledge systems that are missing from our curriculum,” said Brajesh Kumar Pandey, the Dean of the School of Sanskrit and Indic Studies.

He added that the syllabus for the new centres would be drafted soon.

# DU students can pursue 2 degrees in one go, academic council nod in

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**

NEW DELHI, JULY 12

THE DELHI University Academic Council (AC) Friday approved a provision for students to pursue two degrees simultaneously — one in regular mode and the other in distance mode.

The varsity in a statement said, "Under this, one degree can be done in regular mode in colleges/departments of the university and the other degree can be done in open and distance learning mode in the School of Open Learning, Campus of Open Learning of Delhi University... The modalities for pursuing two programmes simultaneously will include various terms and conditions that are necessary to make this decision effective."

A few AC members also raised a discussion on the roll-back of CUET and UGC-NET, in the backdrop of the alleged paper leak, said Maya John, an elected AC member. "The university has not taken a stand on what they consider to do in these matters," she added.

In a first, the varsity also decided to offer a Russian undergraduate programme.

Meanwhile, following the uproar against a proposal to introduce Manusmriti as a sug-



**As per the varsity, students can pursue one degree in regular mode and the other in distance mode.** *Archive*

gested reading in the LLB course, which later was rejected by the Vice-Chancellor, the AC has decided to establish a B R Ambedkar Chair as soon as it receives approval from the University Grants Commission.

Members said the meeting saw a long-standing debate on the syllabi for the LLB course. "On the matter of the syllabus of Jurisprudence I & Jurisprudence II of the Law Faculty, there was a lot of discussion in the AC meeting. Many members pointed out inconsistencies and missed readings... these papers need serious reworking. However, these pa-

pers were passed with nine dissents," said Mithuraaj Dhusiya, an elected AC member.

"It was also pointed out that Jurisprudence I (LLB-101), a paper on the philosophy of law, does not include Dalit, Gandhian, Feminist, and Marxist philosophies. The course stresses on Bharatiya philosophy of law, which is very good, but Bharatiya philosophy of law is not monolithic. Therefore, the course content should include Dalit, Tribal, and heterodox philosophies as well," said Monami Sinha, another elected AC member.

Last week, DU increased the fee for students seeking a correction in their degree certificates or marksheets. It was set to charge Rs 1,000 for correction in a degree certificate up to six years from the day of graduation, and Rs 2,000 for more than six years post the graduation date. Several professors, who have been teaching at the varsity for decades, claimed the fee earlier was just Rs 500.

This decision, many professors who were part of the AC meeting Friday claimed, has been reversed. "After a thorough discussion in the AC meeting, we ensured that the fee hike is rolled back," said AC member Mithuraj Dhusia. *SELB*

# Exodus of students from Kerala to other countries increasing: Cong

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

The claim by the ruling CPI (M) that Kerala is the country's knowledge hub and role model for other countries in the field of higher education fell like a pack of cards as the Congress-led Opposition churned out facts and figures in the Assembly exposing the hollowness behind the Government's stance.

Mathew Kuzhalsadan, a first time MLA of the Congress party while introducing a calling attention motion on the total failure of the State's higher education sector told the House that the exodus of students from Kerala to other countries is increasing by leaps and bounds. "The year 2016 saw 1.5 lakh students leaving the Kerala shores to Europe, America and Australia while the figure shot up to 2,50,000 by 2023. This data was prepared by the Government's own Non-Resident Keralites Affairs (NORKA) and Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation and speaks a lot about the setback suffered by the institutes of higher learning in the State, said Kuzhalsadan.

While the Congress leader was firing on all four cylinders. Governor Arif Mohammed Khan delivered a knockout punch by issuing an order as the Chancellor of the Universities asking the



dismissed vice-chancellors who had challenged their removal in the High Court as well as Supreme Court to fight the cases with their money. The Governor also asked them to return Rs 1.13 crore spent by them from University funds as court expenses because "this has no justification of any kind". R Bindu, minister for higher education and spouse of CPI (M) polit bureau member A Vijayaraghavan, belittled Kuzhalsadan by alleging that the member was trying to make a mountain out of molehill. "Kerala's higher education sector is the best in the country and is drawing thousands of students from abroad to our State. The Chandrayaan mission became a success only because of 95 per cent of scientists and engineers working in it were from

Kerala. There is nothing surprising in students leaving for foreign countries for their studies. Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Dr Ambedkar had their education in Great Britain while Muslim League leader Panakkadu Mohammed Ali Shihab Thangal had his higher education in Cairo," said the minister.

The legislative assembly debate was held in the backdrop of girl students in Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) complaining to the University authorities and Police about sexual abuse by PK Baby, Students Welfare Director and syndicate member. "The UGC has not sanctioned any post like student welfare director but Baby was appointed to these posts

flouting all norms by a powerful minister from Ernakulam who has set his eyes on the chair of chief minister," said RS Sasikumar, chairman, Save University Campaign.

Kuzhalsadan said the falling standards of education in Kerala is because of the outdated ideological interagency. Neighbouring states like Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are way ahead of Kerala even as our youth leave the state saying that any country is better than this state.

Persons with IT qualification get Rs 5,05,000 per year as salary in Kerala while their counterparts in other states earn twice and thrice this amount. No purpose will be served by pushing these issues under the carpet," said the Congress leader.

While the minister told the Speaker that there was no need to discuss the matter as an urgent motion, Leader of the Opposition VD Satheeshan expressed his shock over the Government's refusal to discuss a report prepared by its own departments.

Sasikumar said that the marks awarded to SFI leaders, the granting of Ph D degrees for sub-standard thesis and the high handed behavior of CPI(M) youth wing have made the universities in the State a Augean stable.

दैनिक जागरण  
**सबरंग**  
शहर को जानने के...

100 वर्षीय पुस्तकालय

# ज्ञान का शतक

नई दिल्ली, शनिवार, 13 जुलाई, 2024

सुभाष च प्रतिष्ठान के लिए लिखें | sabrang@india.jagran.com

परीक्षाओं की तैयारी के लिए भले आजलाइन कितना भी कंटेंट, मैटीरियल मिल जाए लेकिन जो बात किताबों को पुस्तकालय में तलाशकर उनके पन्ने पलटकर पढ़ने पर पढ़ने में है वो सुख, संतुष्टि, ज्ञान समृद्धि आज भी कहीं और मिल ही नहीं सकती। वैसे भी पुस्तकालय तो शिक्षा प्रणाली का हृदय और आत्मा है। आज की युवा पीढ़ी के लिए तो इसकी जरूरत और अधिक उमरोंके बढ़ जाती है वृद्धि हर दाखिला परीक्षा एक प्रतियोगिता के रूप में हो गई है। अग्रणी यूनिवर्सिटी में दाखिला चाहते तो ऑप्टिकल की परीक्षा तो इंजीनियरिंग के लिए भी, बाकी सरकारी नौकरी की तैयारी के लिए तो आज भी इससे गुमनाम, सुलभ जगह कोई और ही ही नहीं सकती। भले आज शहरों में जगह-जगह छोटे-बड़े शॉप तरह के पुस्तकालय स्टडी स्पेस एक टैंड स्टैंड कर रहे हैं लेकिन दिल्ली के ऐतिहासिक हर्ट्जियाल जैसे पुस्तकालय अपनी जगह घरोहर के रूप में स्थापित कर चुके हैं :

**पु**स्तकालय सिर्फ पुस्तकों को संभालने और लोगों को पढ़ने का मौका नहीं है बल्कि 100 वर्षों से दिल्ली के इतिहास के साक्षी भी हैं। इन पुस्तकालयों की इमारतों में स्मृतिधान संगम की बसती बसी हैं। आज को पढ़ो भी इन स्मृतिधान के बीच अपने नाम को छाप कर रही हैं। यहाँ न केवल उनकी ऐतिहासिक और भारतीय उपनिवेशों पर आधारित पुस्तकें पढ़ने को मिल रहा है, बल्कि यह भारत के साहित्यिक इतिहास के प्रति भी अमनो समझ को विकसित कर साक्षी प्रदान।

दिल्ली के सर्वाधिक प्राचीन पुस्तकालयों में से एक है चॉलोनो की फिजल हर्ट्जियाल पुस्तकालय। इसकी स्थापना 1916 में की गई थी। पहले इसका नाम वायसराय लार्ड हार्डिंग के नाम पर था। 1910 में इसका नाम बदलकर गवर्नर पटेल के नाम पर आया। 1940 में इसका नाम बदलकर गवर्नर पटेल के नाम पर आया। 1940 में इसका नाम बदलकर गवर्नर पटेल के नाम पर आया। 1940 में इसका नाम बदलकर गवर्नर पटेल के नाम पर आया।

के अलग-अलग हिस्सों में 39 शाखाएँ हैं। इनमें सबसे पुरानी शाखा दरियावाली में स्थित है। इसकी स्थापना 1946 में हुई थी। पौने दो सप्ताह किताबों के बीच अभी आठ हजार लोग इन पुस्तकालय से जुड़े हुए हैं जिनमें नियमित 200 जिज्ञासु आते हैं। इस संख्या से आप समझ सकते हैं कि आज की दुनिया में पुस्तकें नहीं होगी जो यहाँ अपनी कोठी में मिलें। हर किताब को तलाश को पूरा करने वालों जगह इसे आप कह सकते हैं।

पुस्तकालय में हिंदू, सिख, इस्लाम, ईसाई धर्म से संबंधित प्राचीन पुस्तकों का भंडार है। हाथ से बनाए कागज और कांच बोर्ड से छपाई की गईं लुप्त पुस्तकों का भी संग्रह पुस्तकालय में है। इनमें 1676 में लिखी गई 'हिंदूरी आफ द वर्ल्ड', 1634 में लिखी गई 'परियान इतिहास' और 1755 में लिखी गई 'लटन के पांच काव्यम' उल्लेख हैं। पुस्तकालय के अध्यक्ष राजेश सिंह बताते हैं कि अब पाठक जरूर कम आते हैं

लेकिन उनमें अधिकतर छात्र ही होते हैं। ये सभी प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं की तैयारी कर रहे हैं और यह आकर पढ़ाई करते हैं। इन पुस्तकालय को देखरख को चिंता व्यक्त करते हुए कहते हैं तो सा सफल पढ़ने उपस्थान को और से फंड दिया गया था। तब इमारत का जीर्णोद्धार हुआ और इसकी खुरदुरी संरक्षित हो सकी। बीच में फंड को कमी के चलते लाइट कर गई थी। एसी भी संवर्धित नहीं हो रहे थे। इससे मध्यस्थ ने आना बंद कर दिया था। लेकिन, अब सब कुछ ठीक है। पुस्तकालय में पढ़ने वाले छात्र नितिन अभी 12वीं में ही हैं। यह प्रतियोगी परीक्षा की तैयारी में आते हैं। कहते हैं यहाँ आने वाले अधिकतर छात्र ही हैं। ऐतिहासिक दृष्टिकोण से तो यह पुस्तकालय बहुत समृद्ध है। हर कौन इतिहास से भरा है। इन्हीं कौनों के बीच एक वर्तमान को भी स्थान देने की जरूरत है ताकि आज को हमारे जैसी पीढ़ी ताजा घटनाक्रमों से



युवाओं के लिए आज भी आज की समृद्धि गलत है हर्ट्जियाल पुस्तकालय



एक कोड़े ऐतिहासिक अध्ययन में, इतिहास की पुस्तक नहीं तो फल नहीं मिले। • सभी छोटी पुस्तकालय

## मोबाइल पुस्तकालय तक पहुँची यात्रा

राजधानी में 100 वर्षों से अधिक समय से शुरू हुई पुस्तकालयों की यात्रा मोबाइल पुस्तकालयों तक पहुँची है। यह कार्य दिल्ली पुलिस पुस्तकालय कर रहा है। 1951 में अपनी स्थापना के बाद ये पुस्तकालय लोगों तक जान पहुँचाने का कार्य कर रहा है। यानी चौक में इसकी मुख्य शाखा है। पूरी दिल्ली में 32 शाखाएँ और हैं। यहाँ 15 लाख से अधिक किताबों का संग्रह है। संस्कृति मंत्रालय की ओर से इसका स्वयंसेवक किया जाता है। 10 हजार से अधिक वकील सदास्य पुस्तकालय में जुड़े हैं। पुस्तकालय के एक अधिकारी ने कहा, हमारी सलाह कम्यूनिटी लाइब्रेरी भी है। इनमें एक दृष्टिबाधित लोगों को सम्पत्ति बंट लाइब्रेरी भी है। (आठ मोबाइल पुस्तकालय की संख्या है जो सुदूर ग्रामीण इलाकों में जाकर पुस्तकें उपलब्ध कराती हैं।)

बनाई गई। उसके लिए धवन बनाकर मूर्ति लगाने का प्रस्ताव दिया गया। धवन के लिए दिल्ली के रईस घराने के लोग और करमोर महाराज, जयपुर मंगाराम और भीमल के नवाब तक ने आर्थिक सहयोग किया। बाद में इस प्रस्ताव को हार्डिंग ने खारिज कर दिया। 1916 में धवन भवन को पुस्तकालय बना दिया गया। तभी से यह पुस्तकालय यहाँ स्थित है। इससे पहले टाउन हाल में अंग्रेजों ने भारतीय इतिहास का अध्ययन के लिए वाचनालय बनाया था। इसकी स्थापना 1862 में की गई थी। वाचनालय को सामग्री को हार्डिंग पुस्तकालय की स्थापना के समय यहाँ भेज दिया गया। 1970 में इसका नाम बदलकर हर्ट्जियाल पुस्तकालय कर दिया गया।

**नीति पुरतकालय बने राठो** स्थापना के प्रीक इतरवालय पुस्तकालय से आगे ही चॉलोनो चौक में मारवाड़ी पुस्तकालय है। इसकी स्थापना हर्ट्जियाल पुस्तकालय से भी एक वर्ष पूर्व 1915 में लला था। इस दौरान क्रांतिकारियों ने उन पर बम फेंककर मारने की कोशिश की। इसमें लार्ड हार्डिंग बच गए। बाद में उनको सम्पत्ति हार्डिंग कमेटी

छोटे रूप में शुरू किया था। पिछले 109 साल से यह उसी स्थान पर स्थित है। पुस्तकालय के अध्यक्ष राम नरेश शर्मा ने बताया कि वर्तमान में 32 हजार किताबें हैं। 22 हस्तलिखित ग्रंथ हैं। 100 साल का पंचांग पुस्तकालय है। चतुर्थाई कि 1913 में मारवाड़ी एसोसिएशन की स्थापना गोकना ने की थी। सेंट नीरग रामजी, बन्सी रामजी आदि के सहयोग से पुस्तकालय बनाया था। अब पुस्तकालय इंस्ट्रूट के तहत चलता है। प्रेम सिंघानिया इसके अध्यक्ष हैं। यहाँ अधिकतर छात्र प्रतियोगी परीक्षा की तैयारी के लिए आते हैं। चयनित छात्रों को छात्रवृत्ति भी प्रदान की जाती है। मारवाड़ी पुस्तकालय से आगे महावीर जैन पुस्तकालय व वाचनालय है। इसकी स्थापना 1924 में की गई थी। अक्टूबर में पुस्तकालय के 100 वर्ष पूरे हो जाएंगे। इस मौके भव्य कार्यक्रम का आयोजन किया जा रहा है। पुस्तकालय के समन्वयक निर्मल जैन ने बताया कि व्याख्यान वास्तविक मुनि मदन लाल ने पांच अक्टूबर 1924 में जैन समाज के छह नवव्यक्तियों फूल चंद पारख, मिश्रीलाल कोचर, निहालचंदजी चौराड़िया, गुलाबचंद लोहा छोटेलाल, गुलाबचंदजी पारख ने इस पुस्तकालय की स्थापना की थी। पुस्तकालय से धर्म, साहित्य, राजनीति, विज्ञान दर्शन-शास्त्र, भूगोल, वाणिज्य, अर्थशास्त्र, किसानों, उपन्यास और अन्य विषयों पर हिंदी संस्कृत, अंग्रेजी, गुजराती, प्रकृत आदि भाषाओं में 56,000 से अधिक का संकलन है। 500 से अधिक अलक्ष्य हस्तलिखित ग्रंथ हैं, जिनके कारण पुस्तकालय की ख्याति देश विदेश में है। कुछ प्रिंकाओं का अर्थपत्र संग्रह है जैसे चांद, विश्ववाणी, हीरान सेवक आदि। गोकर्धव्य में संतान विद्वान लोग दूर दूर से शोधकार्य के लिए आते हैं। यह धवन मंगलाने ने जैन मठ की प्रदान किया था। बाद में इसमें पुस्तकालय स्थापित हुआ। इसमें 1932 से जितने भी कार्यक्रम अध्यक्ष बने हैं, उनको तस्योर लगाई गई है।

उदय जगताप



हर्ट्जियाल भूमीसिंह हर्टेरेटज पब्लिक लाइब्रेरी

की प्रतियोगिता के अनुकूल जानकारी बदा सके।  
**वाचनालय से पुस्तकालय** 1912 में भारत के तत्कालीन वायसराय लार्ड हार्डिंग ने राजधानी के गांधी मैदान में हाथी पर बैठकर जलूस निकाला था। इस दौरान क्रांतिकारियों ने उन पर बम फेंककर मारने की कोशिश की। इसमें लार्ड हार्डिंग बच गए। बाद में उनको सम्पत्ति हार्डिंग कमेटी