

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 993
ANSWERED ON: 02.12.2024**

Paper Leaks in Examinations conducted by Central Agencies

993. Shri Imran Masood:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any record of paper leaks in examinations conducted by central agencies, if so the details of such paper leaks during the last ten years;
- (b) whether there is a mismanagement and alleged manipulation of results in the recently conducted National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) exam in the country, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any enquiry into the workings of the National Testing Agency (NTA) due to the rise in complaints of mismanagement, especially after the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) and NEET exams, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)**

(a) to (c): Competitive Examinations are conducted by different bodies for recruitment as well as for admission to Higher Educational Institutions. Data regarding examination specific incidents is not maintained centrally in the Ministry.

The NEET(UG) 2024 Examination was conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) on 5th May 2024. After the conduct of NEET(UG) 2024 Examination, certain cases of alleged irregularities/cheating/malpractices were reported. The Ministry of Education asked the Central Bureau of Investigation to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the entire gamut of alleged irregularities including conspiracy, cheating, breach of trust etc. w.r.t. the NEET(UG) 2024 Examination. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP(Civil) 335/2024 and connected matters vide judgement dated 2nd August, 2024 has observed in para 84 that "Hence, sufficient material is not on record at present which indicates a systemic leak or systemic malpractice of other forms. The material on record does not, at present, substantiate the allegation that there has been a widespread malpractice which compromised the integrity of the exam." In compliance of the earlier order of the Supreme

Court dated 23rd July, 2024 in the same case, the revised result of NEET(UG) 2024 Examination has been declared on 26th July, 2024.

In order to suggest effective measures for transparent, smooth and fair conduct of examinations by NTA, the Ministry of Education constituted a High-Level Committee of Experts (HLCE) on 22.06.2024 headed by Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, former Chairman ISRO and Chairman BoG, IIT Kanpur. The Committee has submitted its report on 21.10.2024 and has recommended Reformation of National Common Entrance Testing including strengthening of NTA, institutional linkage with States, involvement of Test Indenting Agencies as Knowledge and Examinations partner etc. The Committee also recommended constitution of a High-Powered Steering Committee to monitor the implementation of recommendations of HLCE on NTA. The High-Powered Steering Committee has been constituted by the Ministry on 14th November, 2024.
