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Online Newspaper Clipping Service
Dated, Thursday, 18th May- 2017

Pg.No.09



CBSE wants NET, CTET only once a year

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NEW DELHI, DHNS: In a fresh bid to reduce the burden of holding multiple tests in a year, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has sought the government's approval for holding the University Grants Commission-National Eligibility Test (UGC-NET) and the Central Teacher Eligibility Test (CTET) just once in a year.

Both of the nationwide tests are currently held twice in a year. While the UGC-NET determines the eligibility of candidates for faculty positions in universities and colleges as well as the grant of junior research fellowship (JRF), the CTET is conducted to determine eligibility of candidates for teaching jobs in schools.

In its request to the Human Resource Development (HRD) ministry, the school board has contended that holding the UGC-NET once in every six month is not required as the

number of candidates taking the test has gone down over the years.

In case of the CTET also, the school board has maintained that holding it just once in a year will be sufficient to fulfil the objectives.

Official sources in the ministry indicated that the CBSE may get permission for holding the CTET once in a year.

However, a decision on the CBSE's proposal with regard to the UGC-NET will require a deeper examination as the test results not only determine a candidate's eligibility for faculty position in universities but also leads to the grant of JRF, they added. "To conduct an examination, we have to start preparations at least five months in advance. We have been assigned to hold several entrance and recruitment tests, even as we have very limited manpower. We are busy holding tests throughout the year..." they added.