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Dress code for NEET: No shoes & half sleeves

C BSE has brought out a dress code for students taking the NEET exam, asking them to wear "light clothes with half sleeves, not having big buttons, brooch/badge, flower etc with salwar/ trousers" and "slippers, sandals with low heels and not shoes". **P7**

Dress code for NEET candidates

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has come out with the dress code for students taking the upcoming NEET exam. While issuing the admit cards for the National Eligibility-cum Entrance Test for students willing to pursue MBBS and BDS at medical colleges, the board has advised candidates to come in "light-coloured half-sleeves dress" and "not to wear shoes".

Reiterating the dress code it announced in 2017, the board has added that the candidates will have to report at the exam centre an hour earlier in case they choose to wear their "customary dress".

The CBSE had attracted a lot of criticism last year when students were forced to remove their head scarves to gain entry into the exam halls, leading to protests. According to the dress code, the candidates will have to wear "light clothes with half sleeves, not having big buttons, brooch/badge, flower etc. with salwar/trouser," and "slippers, sandals with low heels and not the shoes," to the exam centre.

The NEET exam will be conducted on May 6, from 10am to 1pm.

CET candidates face errors in question papers on Day 1

Find Maths, Biology Exams Easy

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Barring a few puzzling errors, teachers and students pronounced CET papers — mathematics and biology — on Wednesday, the first day of the entrance exam, relatively easy.

As many as 1,53,450 students sat for the biology paper, while 1,90,784 took the maths exam. The exam is a gateway for admissions to professional courses like engineering, ayurveda, unani, homeopathy and B Pharma for those who complete second PUC.

Students who took the mathematics paper claimed one multiple-choice question did not have the right answer in the options. "Question number 45 in version E is wrong as none of the options given are correct," said Chethan B R, a student from BASE, the training institute.

Biology students also noticed mistakes in their paper. For instance, one question

IN NUMBERS

1,98,655

No. of candidates

1,53,450 (77%)

No. of students who took biology exam

1,90,784

(96%)

No. of students who took maths exam

When asked about the alleged mistakes in the question papers, KEA authorities said students can have their say once the provisional key is displayed on the website in a couple of days. Students can file objections and an expert committee will look into it, added officials

Source: KEA



CONFIDENT LOT: Over 1.5 lakh students sat for the biology exam, while about 2 lakh appeared for maths

contained the word 'animals' instead of 'following'. In another, instead of the word parturition (to produce) the question had the word 'population'.

"I was aware of the context in which the questions were asked, so I got my answer right," one student said. "It's nothing but irresponsibility on part of the team that prepared the question paper. It not a spelling error since the whole word is wrong." However, the Kannada version of the paper did not have the mistakes.

Prof Hanumanthacharya Honnidibb, head of the de-

partment of biology, BASE, said the biology paper appeared to be skewed.

"For example, seven questions were from a single chapter, 'molecular basis of inheritance' while there were very few from the ecology unit," he said. He pointed out that well-prepared students could easily score 80 to 85%.

Milind Chippalakatti, vice-president, Deeksha Centre for Learning, said the maths paper was moderately easy, but lengthy. "The standard, level of difficulty has been maintained compared to last year," Chippalakatti

said. "The only difference was that it was lengthy this time. There was no change in the pattern too. An average student can score at least 30 marks." He said the paper contained 14 questions from I PU and 46 from II PU.

When asked about the alleged mistakes in the question papers, KEA authorities said students can have their say once the provisional key is displayed on the website. "The key will be on the website in a couple of days," a KEA official said. "After that students can file objections and the expert panel will look into it."

SC to rule on quota for docs in PG degree courses

Govt says quota will deny merit, lower standards

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court will soon pass an interim order on whether in-service doctors can be granted benefit of reservation of seats in post-graduate degree courses by the state governments.

A five-judge bench presided over by Chief Justice Dipak Misra reserved the order after

hearing arguments against the denial of reservation benefits to in-service candidates desirous of pursuing PG degree courses.

Notably, 50% seats in PG diploma courses are reserved for medical officers in government service but the Medical Council of India (MCI) regulations bar quota in PG degree

courses. The Constitution bench hearing the Aadhaar case, acknowledged the importance of the matter and heard senior advocates Arvind Datar, K V Viswanathan, R Venkataramani, V Giri and others for passing an interim order.

Regulation challenged

A batch of writ petitions by Tamil Nadu Medical Officers Association and doctors from Kerala, Maharashtra and Haryana challenged the validity of the Post Graduate Medical

Education Regulations, 2000 framed by the MCI.

The bench, also comprising Justices A K Sikri, A M Khanwilkar, D Y Chandrachud and Ashok Bhushan, orally observed that there cannot be a merit list other than the central (all-India) and the state lists.

All admissions to PG degree courses are through the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET), under which 50% seats are filled through all-India quota and the remain-

ing 50% from state quota. The counsel for writ petitioners contended giving reservation benefits would encourage doctors to work in government hospitals and rural areas.

Senior advocate Vikas Singh, representing the MCI and Additional Solicitor General Aman Lekhi, and A K Sinha, appearing for the Centre, said states have no legislative competence to reserve seats. "Deserving candidates would be replaced by in-service candidates. It is not permissible.

It would lead to lowering of standards," Singh said.

The MCI as well as the Centre opposed passing any interim order, saying the first round of counselling has already been held.

The matter reached the five-judge bench after a bench of Justices Kurian Joseph, Mohan M Shantanagoudar and Navin Sinha last week favoured consideration by a larger bench for passing emergent interim order.

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