## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

## RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 205 TO BE ANSWERED ON: 27.11.2024

### "Conduct of examination by NTA"

#### 205 Shri P. P. Suneer:

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

(a) the procedure followed by the National Testing Agency (NTA) to award contracts for conducting examinations through private vendors;

(b) list of vendors and amounts paid State-wise;

(c) the number of complaints received against such vendors during the conduct of various examination and the action taken by NTA since its inception; and

(d) the status of enquiry of 2024 NEET Examination paper leak and details of the action taken against those found guilty of malpractices?

#### ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) As informed by the National Testing Agency (NTA), contract is awarded to different agencies as per the extant rules, orders and guidelines issued by the Government of India. Since NTA conducts examinations on a pan-India basis, work is awarded centrally and payments are also made centrally. Complaints against vendors are dealt with in accordance with the terms and conditions laid down in Work Order/Tender Document. On ascertaining of deficiency of service, action is taken, which ranges from deduction of payment to debarment.

(d) The Ministry of Education had 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 investigation in the case is currently ongoing. As on 22.11.2024, the Central Bureau of Investigation has filed five charge sheets on 01.08.2024, 19.09.2024, 05.10.2024,

07.11.2024 and 22.11.24 against a total of 45 accused. Names of Candidates, who are beneficiaries of the paper theft / unfair means and names of the MBBS students who had solved the stolen paper or who had appeared in exam as impersonators have already been identified and sent to concerned authority for necessary action.