

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1477
ANSWERED ON : 12.03.2025**

Revamping NTA

1477 Shri Rajeev Shukla:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that since its inception, National Testing Agency (NTA) has not completed a single examination without controversy;
- (b) whether Government is aware that NTA is predominantly run by contractual employees with minimal presence of permanent employees;
- (c) the details including the numbers and designation of permanent employees and contractual employees, at present;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to either abolish or revamp the NTA to make it a professional and accountable body; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): The National Testing Agency (NTA) has been set up as a specialised body to conduct examinations for entrance to Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Since its inception in 2018, NTA has successfully conducted over 250 examinations involving over 5.5 crore candidates.

NTA is headed by Director General, who is appointed by Central Government. Presently, the number of employees working on deputation in NTA are 25. One employee is absorbed in NTA from his parent department. In order to further strengthen NTA, 16 new posts were created by the Government to be filled on deputation under Central Staffing Scheme, 8 at the level of Director and rest at Joint Director level. Out of the newly created posts, 3 Joint Directors have already joined NTA.

The numbers and designations of officials, working in NTA on deputation/absorption basis in addition to the Director General, NTA are as follows:

Sr. No.	Designation	Number
1.	Director	7
2.	Joint Director	9
3.	Research Scientist 'C'	1
4.	Deputy Director	4
5.	Assistant Director	3
6.	Senior Superintendent	2

NTA also utilises the services of employees on contract as per requirement. Currently, 43 personnel are engaged in NTA on contract basis.

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.
