

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1136
ANSWERED ON : 10.12.2025**

Examination reforms and restructuring of NTA

**1136 Smt. Kiran Choudhry:
Dr. Parmar Jashvantsinh Salamsinh:
Shri Brij Lal:
Shri Narayana Koragappa:
Dr. Kalpana Saini:**

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

- (a) the current status of National Testing Agency (NTA)'s restructuring and how will the tech-driven DIGI-EXAM system ensure security and prevent past mismanagement;
- (b) the manner in which PARAKH is standardizing new assessment patterns and by when its framework for Classes III, V, and VIII will be implemented nationwide;
- (c) the reasons for creating ten additional posts within the NTA;
- (d) the responsibilities these new positions will carry to achieve a zero-error testing environment;
- (e) whether the Ministry is tracking the impact of public statements aimed at reducing students' reliance on coaching centres; and
- (f) how will redesigned board exams and curriculum reduce dependence on coaching?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): The National Testing Agency (NTA) was established in 2018 as a specialized organization to conduct examinations for Admission/Fellowship in Higher Education Institutions. Since its inception in 2018, NTA has successfully conducted over 250 examinations involving over 5.5 crore candidates.

In order to ensure 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. The Committee submitted its report on 21.10.2024 on reformation of National Common Entrance Testing in India through several measures including institutional linkage with States, involvement of Test Indenting Agencies as knowledge and examinations partner, authentication of candidates at different Stages etc.

A High-Powered Steering Committee, chaired by Dr. K. Radhakrishnan, former Chairman, I.S.R.O. is already constituted to oversee the implementation of reforms in the conduct of national-level examinations by the NTA.

For strengthening of the NTA, 16 new posts have been created in NTA, 8 each at the Director and Joint Director levels to ensure smooth and fair conduct of examinations.

In pursuance of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development), was established on 8th February, 2023 by the Ministry of Education under the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).

As part of its mandate to bring about a shift towards continuous formative assessments, the National Assessment Centre - PARAKH has conceptualized and developed Holistic Progress Cards, at each of the four stages of school education envisioned by the NEP, 2020 namely foundational, preparatory, middle and secondary stage (available at <https://ncert.nic.in/parakh/hpc.php?ln=>).

The Holistic Progress Card (HPC), has been issued with the focus of shift from rote memorisation to competency-based and formative assessment. It captured multi-dimensional progress of learners covering cognitive, socio-emotional and physical development through qualitative and quantitative indicators.

32 States/UTs have adopted/adapted HPCs at the Foundational, Preparatory and Middle Stages of Education.

The Ministry of Education has formulated guidelines for regulation of coaching centres and circulated the same to States/UTs on 16.01.2024 for consideration and taking action by way of appropriate legal framework. The guidelines are available at:

https://www.education.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/Guideliens_Coaching_Centres_en.pdf
