

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2761
ANSWERED ON 12.08.2026

Disconnect between school curricula and competitive examinations

2761 Shri Satnam Singh Sandhu:

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

- (a) whether Government has examined the reported disconnect between school curricula and competitive examinations such as JEE, NEET and CUET;
- (b) the steps proposed to align NCERT and Board syllabi with the analytical and conceptual requirements of these examinations;
- (c) the role envisaged for NCERT, CBSE and NTA in ensuring such alignment; and
- (d) the timeline for implementing these reforms?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): The National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) provides the overall vision for transforming school education by emphasizing competency-based learning, critical thinking, creativity, communication, collaboration, problem-solving, experiential learning, skill exposure, multilingual education, digital literacy, scientific temper, ethical reasoning and holistic development of learners. The Government is implementing the provisions of NEP, 2020 which envisages reducing curriculum content to its core essentials and promoting competency-based, experiential and conceptual learning. In pursuance of NEP, 2020, the National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCF-SE), 2023 has been developed. The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) is responsible for the development of the National Curriculum Framework, school curriculum and textbooks. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) aligns its curriculum and assessment framework with the National Curriculum Framework. The National Testing Agency (NTA) conducts entrance examinations in accordance with the examination scheme and eligibility criteria notified by the respective authorities.

NCERT has taken several steps to ensure that the school curriculum remains relevant to the future demands of the economy, emerging knowledge systems, technological developments and the global outlook, while remaining rooted in Indian values, constitutional ideals and local contexts. The updated curriculum and textbooks emphasise competency-based education, conceptual understanding, application of knowledge, inquiry-based learning, interdisciplinary approaches and life skills. These are intended to prepare learners for future challenges, including changing

employment patterns, technological advancement, sustainability concerns, democratic participation and global interconnectedness.

The National Testing Agency (NTA) conducts competitive examinations such as JEE (Main), NEET (UG) and CUET (UG) in accordance with the prescribed examination scheme and syllabus notified by the respective authorities. The syllabus is designed to broadly reflect the Senior Secondary curriculum across National and State Boards so as to ensure a level playing field and equitable assessment of candidates from diverse educational backgrounds.

Department of Higher Education has launched a SATHEE platform to provide free of cost high-quality content for the competitive examinations like JEE and NEET, along with providing an online assessment module for students. It leverages Web Platform, Mobile Application, YouTube live sessions & DTH channels for delivery. More than 15,000 + multilingual video lectures of curated learning content are available across topics and subjects for the learners. As of now, more than 21.5 lakh students are registered and 400 mentors (from IITs, AIIMS etc.) are available on the platform.
