

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.43
ANSWERED ON 04.12.2023

Dropping Percentage of ST Students for CUET

43. SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the dropping percentage of the students from ST category for the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is proposing to find out the reasons of the dropping percentage especially for the ST category students; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to improve the percentage for ST students?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUBHAS SARKAR)**

(a) to (d) In pursuance of the National Education Policy, 2020, the Common University Entrance Test (CUET) is being conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) for admission in Central Universities from the academic year 2022-23 to provide a common platform and equal opportunities to candidates across the country.

According to information provided by NTA, the number of candidates from the ST category who registered for CUET (UG) increased from 58,875 for the academic year 2022-23 to 1,06,287 for the academic year 2023-24, marking a rise of 80.5% in registrations. ST category candidates who appeared in CUET (UG) increased from 19,289 for academic year 2022-23 to 53,645 for the academic year 2023-24, an increase of over 178%.

Similarly, the number of candidates from the ST category who registered for CUET (PG), increased from 51,171 for the academic year 2022-23 to 71,070 for the academic year 2023-24, marking an increase of 38.89 %. ST category candidates who appeared in CUET (PG) increased from 25,883 for the academic year 2022-23 to 37,844 for the academic year 2023-24, an increase of over 46%.

CUET supports the ST category students, as they are able to apply to more than one university with single entrance test and fee. Moreover, admission in different Central Universities follows reservation policy applicable to Higher Education Institutions.
