

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1143  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2021**

**National Testing Agency**

**1143. SHRI REBATI TRIPURA:  
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:  
SHRI ANURAG SHARMA:  
SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT:  
SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR:  
SHRI SELVAM G.:  
SHRI C.N. ANNADURAI:  
SHRI GAUTHAM SIGAMANI PON:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has achieved the aims and objectives of establishing National Testing Agency (NTA) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the number of exams conducted by NTA using computer-based system since its existence to till date;
- (c) whether NTA has established Test Practice Centres in educational institutions across the country to serve the requirement of rural students, if so, details thereof, State-wise including North Eastern Region;
- (d) whether NTA has also launched a 'mobile app' and if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken/being taken by the NTA to conduct the examinations in a transparent and efficient manner; and
- (e) whether NTA is charging exorbitant amount as fee from candidates to appear in various examinations conducted by NTA and if so, details thereof and corrective steps taken in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
(SHRI DHARMENDRA PRADHAN)**

(a) & (b): The National Testing Agency (NTA) has been established by the Government in 2018 as a premier, specialized, autonomous and self-sustained

testing organization to conduct entrance examinations for admission/fellowship in higher educational institutions. NTA has successfully conducted 72 examinations (Computer and Internet based - 68, Pen & Paper based-04) since December 2018, which include: NEET (UG), JEE (Main), UGC-NET, JNUEE, DUET, ICAR-AIEE, IGNOU, CSIR-NET & AISSEE, etc.

(c): NTA has created a network of Test Practice Centres (TPCs), for the candidates, especially in remote and rural areas to enable them to practice the previous years question papers through Mock Tests and be comfortable in taking a Computer Based Test (CBT). This facility is completely free of cost. Candidates can register online (on NTA website) where they are provided a convenient TPC nearer to their location, to practice on a given computer node. A list of TPCs (State-wise) is attached as **Annexure**. The TPCs are not functioning now due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, the opening of TPCs is subject to the improvement of COVID-19 situation.

(d): NTA has launched a mobile app called '**National Test Abhyas**' to enable candidates to take mock tests for JEE (Main) and NEET (UG). Students across the country can use this App to access high quality test practice, free of cost for preparation of the upcoming JEE (Main) and NEET (UG) Exams. To ensure test security and curb malpractices due to technological advancement, NTA has adopted various measures, which includes CCTV surveillance, installation of network jammers / signal silencers at Exam Centres, Orientation programme for test developers/ subject experts and exam functionaries.

(e): As NTA is a self-sustained organization, the fees charged from the candidates are kept at the minimum for meeting the input costs and administrative costs only.

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**ANNEXURE**

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN PART (c) OF THE REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1143 TO BE ANSWERED ON 26.07.2021 ASKED BY SHRI REBATI TRIPURA: SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR: SHRI ANURAG SHARMA: SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT: SHRI DHANUSH M. KUMAR: SHRI SELVAM G: SHRI C.N. ANNADURAI: SHRI GAUTHAM SIGAMANI PON:, HON'BLE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT, REGARDING 'NATIONAL TESTING AGENCY'**

State	Type of the Institution / School			Total
	College	Other Gov. Institution	School	
Andaman & Nicobar Islands / UT	-	-	8	8
Andhra Pradesh	137	9	44	190
Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	23	25
Assam	18	5	84	107
Bihar	46	46	118	210
Chandigarh / UT	3	5	23	31
Chhattisgarh	29	4	72	105
Dadra & Nagar Haveli / UT	-	1	-	1
Delhi / UT	22	20	135	177
Goa	4	-	10	14
Gujarat	58	7	118	183
Haryana	49	30	122	201
Himachal Pradesh	17	10	47	74
Jammu & Kashmir	22	22	57	101
Jharkhand	33	10	73	116
Karnataka	123	10	113	246
Kerala	88	6	454	548
Madhya Pradesh	114	9	206	329
Maharashtra	336	114	164	614
Manipur	3	1	23	27
Meghalaya	-	-	15	15
Mizoram	-	-	10	10
Nagaland	1	2	8	11
Orissa	36	10	95	141
Puducherry / UT	5	2	15	22
Punjab	68	4	123	195
Rajasthan	113	12	184	309
Sikkim	-	-	8	8
Tamil Nadu	195	25	171	391
Telangana	66	4	63	133
Tripura	8	1	12	21
Uttar Pradesh	200	64	398	662
Uttarakhand	25	8	73	106
West Bengal	51	9	113	173
<b>Total</b>	<b>1871</b>	<b>451</b>	<b>3182</b>	<b>5504</b>

