

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1618  
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2021)  
CSIR NET/JRF EXAM**

**1618. SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN:**

**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether CSIR (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research) conducts NET/JRF exam twice a year and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether due to COVID situation in 2020, only one exam has been conducted in November;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether CSIR has plans to call off the exam in 2021 and if so, the details and the reasons thereof;**
- (e) whether the students who have their last attempt at JRF exam (due to the age limit) will be affected by non-conduction of the exam in 2021 and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (f) the necessary steps taken by the Government to conduct the exam?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES  
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)**

- (a) Yes, Sir. Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) conducts Joint CSIR-UGC National Eligibility Test (NET) examination for Junior Research Fellowship and Eligibility for Lectureship twice a year in the month of June and December;**
- (b) Yes, Sir;**
- (c) Due to unprecedented situation arose due to COVID-19 pandemic, CSIR could conduct only one NET Exam during the year 2020 in the month of November;**
- (d) Yes, Sir. The second wave of COVID-19 pandemic affected the whole nation and due to the arose unprecedented lockdown situation, fear of spreading of COVID-19 virus and to save the lives of young researchers from anticipated viral infection, CSIR did not conduct the NET exam in 2021;**
- (e) No, Sir. In the ensuing NET exam, the upper age limit of 28 years is set to be 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 that will accommodate all those candidates who were otherwise have been waiting for NET in June 2020; and**
- (f) The NET Exam is scheduled to be held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**