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 1st 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 29th January 2022.