GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2921 TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2022

Central Universities Common Entrance Test

2921. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has issued any specific weightage to 12th board exam scores for consideration for admission in Central Universities along with Central Universities Common Entrance Test (CUCET) scores and if so, details thereof;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to exclude 11th grade syllabus as part of the CUCET exam;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, along with the format of the examination, subjects covered, and languages in which the examination is likely to be conducted and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government is aware that several concerns regarding the lack of resources available to students from disadvantaged backgrounds and skewed preference to students with access to coaching facilities have been raised; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken by the Government to allay such fears and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) to (f) In order to conduct entrance examinations for higher educational institutions in the country in a standardised method, the Government has established National Testing Agency (NTA) as an autonomous and self-sustained premier testing organization. The National Education Policy, 2020 envisions for common entrance test for admission in universities to reduce the burden on students, universities and the entire education system and at the same time assess the students of different boards at the same level, giving them equal opportunity. It has been decided to conduct Common University Entrance Test (CUET)in 13 languages (English, Hindi, Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Kannada, Marathi, Malayalam, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu) over hundreds of examination centre for admission in Central Universities from the academic year 2022-23. It has also been decided to consider the scores of board examination for eligibility. Students may apply to more than one Central Universities, as per his/her choice, with one application form, thereby reducing financial burden and increasing access. The syllabus is based on the understanding of subject at class XII level.
