

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2331
ANSWERED ON 04.08.2025**

Reduction of Girl Students after implementation of CUET

†2331. Shri Babu Singh Kushwaha:

Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has noticed a sudden drop in the number of girl students taking admission in undergraduate courses of Delhi University (DU) after the introduction of Common University Entrance Test (CUET);
- (b) the year-wise number of girl students taking admission in DU before and after the introduction of CUET and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the girls from remote areas are lagging behind in the admission and in meeting the CUET examination level, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Government has any plans to implement any special scheme, support system or admission facilitation policy to increase the participation of girl students in leading educational institutions of the country?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
(DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR)**

(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 reduce the burden on students, universities and the entire education system. The number of girl students who appeared in CUET(UG) from the academic year 2022-23 to 2024-25 is as follows:

Academic Year	No. of Girl Students who appeared in CUET(UG) Examination
2022-23	4,29,228
2023-24	5,13,978
2024-25	5,94,324

During the same period, i.e. from 2022-23 to 2024-25, the number of female candidates admitted in Delhi University (DU) is more than the number of male candidates admitted in each year, i.e. 34010, 36126 and 39242 female candidates were admitted in DU's undergraduate courses as against 30662, 32425 and 33124 male candidates for the academic years 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 respectively.

CUET offers a single-window opportunity for students seeking admission to Central Universities (CUs) and other participating institutions including State Universities, Deemed Universities, and Private Universities across the country, particularly benefiting those from rural and remote areas. The test evaluates students from various educational boards on an equal footing, ensuring a level playing field.

Consequently, CUET enables all students, including girl candidates, to choose courses or programs of their preference not only at Delhi University but also across a broad spectrum of Central Universities and participating institutions. While the inaugural CUET (UG) edition included 90 participating institutions, this number has now expanded to 240 in the latest edition. As per the All India Survey of Higher Education (AISHE), the number of girl students taking admission in undergraduate courses in Universities/Colleges/Standalone Institutions of Delhi/NCR is 4,09,832 (for academic year 2020-21), 4,25,006 (for academic year 2021-22) and 4,91,511 (for academic year 2022-23) which highlights increasing trend in admission of female candidates in the institutions of Delhi/NCR.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) is implementing the scheme of “Development of Women’s Studies in Indian Universities and Colleges”. This scheme provides funds for setting up Women Studies Centers (WSCs) in universities and colleges, focusing on teaching, research, curriculum development, training and outreach activities. The objectives of the scheme are to provide financial support in advancing Women’s Studies through teaching, research and practical work.

Various scholarships are also offered to support and motivate meritorious girl students. For instance, the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) offers scholarships under Pragati Scholarship Scheme to meritorious girl students to encourage them to pursue higher education.

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) offers fellowships to promote research in basic and applied sciences among women through programs under Women in Science and Engineering- KIRAN (WISE-KIRAN) and SERB- Promoting Opportunities for Women in Exploratory Research (SERBPOWER) Fellowship scheme to identify and reward outstanding women researchers and innovators working in various Science & Technology program in Indian academic institutions and R&D laboratories.
