

## **Draft ordinance on NEET**

### **What is the issue?**

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- Recently Tamilnadu government had submitted a draft ordinance on National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) to Centre.

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- This last-minute exemption may lead to more complexities in proceedings.

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### **What is the status Medical admissions in Tamilnadu?**

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- Tamil Nadu abolished entrance tests for professional courses in 2006.

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- It fears that the introduction of NEET would jeopardise the admission prospects of rural students who cannot afford the extra coaching and higher workload that preparing for NEET entails.

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- The centre was very clear that this year's medical admissions in Tamil Nadu would be solely based on the NEET.

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- Tamil Nadu government feels that a buffer time should have been given before the conversion to the new system.

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- In Tamil Nadu, in academic year 2016-17, about 88,431 students who appeared for NEET in TN, at least 95% are from the State board, while only 5% are from CBSE and other Boards.

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- To safeguard the interest of its students, recently it had submitted a draft ordinance on NEET.

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### **What are the provisions?**

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- It is seeking one-time exemption to admit MBSS/BDS aspirants based on their 12<sup>th</sup> standard scores for this year alone.

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- This is to protect the interests of poor students from rural areas

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- It is also to ensure that medical personnel are available in all remote parts of the State.

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### **What are the issues with draft ordinance?**

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- The last minute change in the basis for admission will cause heartburn to students who have cleared NEET.

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- If the Centre was ready to grant a one-time exemption, it ought to have done so much earlier and not now.

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- If the exemption is stayed by the courts, another set of students and parents will once again feel deprived.

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- This belated move is bound to spawn further litigation and encourage similar demands elsewhere

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**Source: The Hindu**

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