

## **AIDSO On one single National Entrance Eligibility (NEET) Test for MBBS and Dental courses:**

**1<sup>st</sup> May, 2016**

“The recent verdict of the Supreme Court to hold one single National Entrance Eligibility (NEET) Test for MBBS and Dental courses just on the eve of the state level entrance tests, has come as a rude shock to lakhs of students. Today, on 1st May, 2016, several lakhs of students across the country are about to sit for the All India Pre-Medical/Dental Entrance Test (AIPMT/PDT) which is now the first phase of the NEET examination (NEET 1). Till today, AIPMT/PDT had been conducted for successful candidates under 15% All India Quota seats and in general the majority of students of a particular state used to sit for this examination as a preparatory to the state level entrance tests which are held subsequently, just like Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) in West Bengal, COMED-(K) in Karnataka, etc. Now, lakhs of students in all the states, who are sitting in the AIPMT/PDT to be considered as NEET 1 today, in a virtually unprepared state will not have the opportunity to sit for either the state level entrance test which stands null and void by the verdict or in the second phase of NEET (NEET 2) scheduled to be held on 24th July, 2016. Moreover the student community as a whole, prepared to sit for their respective state level entrance examinations with a particular curriculum and a particular orientation, is being forced to sit for NEET, which is an examination with a somewhat different curriculum and a completely different orientation and this too in a very short period of time. It is obvious that the Union Government of India, MCI and CBSE Board in a desperate bid to implement NEET misinformed the Supreme Court, as a result of which gross injustice has been perpetrated on lakhs of students this year, denying them a fair opportunity to be included in the merit list of the medical and dental courses. It is also obvious that the main victims of injustice by and large would be the poor and meritorious students throughout the country. This will only give opportunity to the moneyed people, which is the sole object of the privatization – commercialization – globalization policy. We are deeply apprehensive of this situation and we urge on the Union Government of India, MCI and CBSE Board to approach the 5 Judges Bench of the Supreme Court on the 3rd May, 2016 so that the state level entrance tests are allowed to take place this year for the ends of justice. We also urge on the various state governments to plead for the same.”

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