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To

All Secretaries/Commissioners of Education of State Governments/UTs

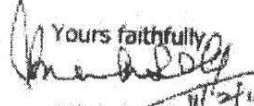
**Subject : Guidelines for conducting Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (RTE), 2009**

Sir/Madam,

In accordance with the provisions of sub-section (1) of Section 23 of the RTE Act, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) had vide Notification dated 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2010 laid down the minimum qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in classes I to VIII. It had been inter alia provided that one of the essential qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in any of the schools referred to in clause (n) of section 2 of the RTE Act is that he/she should pass the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) which will be conducted by the appropriate Government in accordance with the Guidelines framed by the NCTE.

In this regard, please find enclosed the Guidelines for conducting the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) for necessary action at your end.

This may be brought to the knowledge of all concerned.

Yours faithfully  
  
(Vikram Sahay)  
Member Secretary

Forwarded : a/s  
Copy to:-

- (i) PS to HRM/MOS(HRD)
- (ii) PPS to Secretary (SE&L)
- (iii) Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan
- (iv) Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti
- (v) Chairman, Central Board of Secondary Education
- (vi) Chairman, Council for the Indian School Certificate Examination

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## Guidelines for conducting Teacher Eligibility Test (TET)

### **Background and Rationale**

The implementation of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 requires the recruitment of a large number of teachers across the country in a time bound manner. In spite of the enormity of the task, it is desirable to ensure that quality requirements for recruitment of teachers are not diluted at any cost. It is therefore necessary to ensure that persons recruited as teachers possess the essential aptitude and ability to meet the challenges of teaching at the primary and upper primary level.

2 In accordance with the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 23 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has laid down the minimum qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in class I to VIII, vide its Notification dated August 23, 2010. A copy of the Notification is attached at Annexure 1. One of the essential qualifications for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in any of the schools referred to in clause (n) of section 2 of the RTE Act is that he/she should pass the Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) which will be conducted by the appropriate Government.

3 The rationale for including the TET as a minimum qualification for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher is as under:

- i. It would bring national standards and benchmark of teacher quality in the recruitment process;
- ii. It would induce teacher education institutions and students from these institutions to further improve their performance standards;
- iii. It would send a positive signal to all stakeholders that the Government lays special emphasis on teacher quality

4 The TET examination may be conducted by a suitable professional body designated by the appropriate Government for the purpose. It will be conducted in accordance with the Guidelines hereunder.

### **Eligibility**

5 The following persons shall be eligible for appearing in the TET:

- i. A person who has acquired the academic and professional qualifications specified in the NCTE Notification dated 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2010.
- ii. A person who is pursuing any of the teacher education courses (recognized by the NCTE or the RCI, as the case may be) specified in the NCTE Notification dated 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2010.
- iii. The eligibility condition for appearing in TET may be relaxed in respect of a

State/UT which has been granted relaxation under sub-section (2) of section 23 of the RTE Act. The relaxation will be specified in the Notification issued by the Central Government under that sub-section.

### Structure and Content of TET

6 The structure and content of the TET is given in the following paragraphs. All questions will be Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs), each carrying one mark, with four alternatives out of which one answer will be correct. There will be no negative marking. The examining body should strictly adhere to the structure and content of the TET specified below.

7 There will be two papers of the TET. **Paper I** will be for a person who intends to be a teacher for classes I to V. **Paper II** will be for a person who intends to be a teacher for classes VI to VIII. A person who intends to be a teacher either for classes I to V or for classes VI to VIII will have to appear in both papers (**Paper I and Paper II**).

**Paper I (for classes I to V); No. of MCQs – 150;**

**Duration of examination: one-and-a-half hours**

#### Structure and Content (All Compulsory)

(i)	Child Development and Pedagogy	30 MCQs	30 Marks
(ii)	Language I	30 "	30 "
(iii)	Language II	30 "	30 "
(iv)	Mathematics	30 "	30 "
(v)	Environmental Studies	30 "	30 "

#### Nature and standard of questions

While designing and preparing the questions for Paper I, the examining body shall take the following factors into consideration:

- The test items on Child Development and Pedagogy will focus on educational psychology of teaching and learning relevant to the age group of 6-11 years. They will focus on understanding the characteristics and needs of diverse learners, interaction with learners and the attributes and qualities of a good facilitator of learning.
- The Test items for Language I will focus on the proficiencies related to the medium of instruction, (as chosen from list of prescribed language options in the application form).
- The Language II will be from among the prescribed options other than Language I. A candidate may choose any one language from the available language options and will be required to specify the same in the application form. The test items in Language II will also focus on the elements of language, communication and comprehension abilities.

- The test items in Mathematics and Environmental Studies will focus on the concepts, problem solving abilities and pedagogical understanding of the subjects. In all these subject areas, the test items shall be evenly distributed over different divisions of the syllabus of that subject prescribed for classes I–V by the appropriate Government.
- The questions in the tests for Paper I will be based on the topics of the prescribed syllabus of the State for classes I–V, but their difficulty standard, as well as linkages, could be upto the secondary stage.

**Paper II (for classes VI to VIII); No. of MCQs – 150;  
Duration of examination : one-and-a-half hours**

Structure and Content

(i)	Child Development & Pedagogy (compulsory)	30 MCQs	30 Marks
(ii)	Language I (compulsory)	30 “	30 “
(iii)	Language II (compulsory)	30 “	30 “
(iv)	(a) For Mathematics and Science teacher : Mathematics and Science – 60 MCQs of 1 mark each		
	(b) For Social studies teacher : Social Studies - 60 MCQs of 1 mark each		
	(c) for any other teacher – either 4(a) or 4(b)		

While designing and preparing the questions for Paper II, the examining body shall take the following factors into consideration:

- The test items on Child Development and Pedagogy will focus on educational psychology of teaching and learning, relevant to the age group 11-14 years. They will focus on understanding the characteristics, needs and psychology of diverse learners, interaction with learners and the attributes and qualities of a good facilitator of learning.
- The test items for Language I will focus on the proficiency related to the medium of instruction, as chosen from list of prescribed options in the application form.
- The Language II will be a language other than Language I. The person may choose any one language from among the available options and as in the specified list in the application form and attempt questions in the one indicated by the candidate in the application form by him. The Test items in Language II will also focus on the elements of language, communication and comprehension abilities.
- The test items in Mathematics and Science, and Social Studies will focus on the concepts, problem solving abilities and pedagogical understanding of these subjects. The test items of Mathematics and Science will be of

30 marks each. The test items shall be evenly distributed over different divisions of the syllabus of that subject as prescribed for classes VI-VIII by the appropriate government.

- The questions in the tests for Paper II will be based on the topics of the prescribed syllabus of the State for classes VI-VIII but their difficulty standard as well as linkages could be upto the senior secondary stage.

8 The question paper shall be bilingual – (i) in language(s) as decided by the appropriate Government; and (ii) English language.