

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH  
AT INDORE  
WP NO.17344/2025**

*(LAXMI DEVI VS. NATIONAL TESTING AGENCY & ORS),*

*WP NO.17997/25, WP NO.17998/25, WP NO.18240/25, WP NO.18251/25, WP NO.18642/25, WP NO.17345/25, WP NO.17716/25, WP NO.17717/25, WP.17718/25, WP NO.17719/25, WP NO.19142/25, WP NO.18684/25, WP NO.18685/25, WP NO.18702/25, WP NO.18813/25, WP NO.18815/25, WP NO.18816/25, WP NO.18823/25, WP NO.18824/25, WP NO.18851/25, WP NO.18921/25, WP NO.18925/25, WP NO.18929/25, WP.18951/25, WP NO.18955/25, WP NO.18967/25, WP NO.19003/25, WP NO.19026/25, WP NO.19051/25, WP NO.19062/25, WP NO.19147/25, WP NO.19150/25, WP NO.19160/25, WP NO.19230/25, WP NO.19286/25, WP NO.19297/25, WP NO.19325/25, WP NO.19330/25, WP NO.19331/25, WP NO.19333/25, WP NO.19334/25, WP NO.19335/25, WP NO.19338/25, WP NO.19340/25, WP NO.19341/25, WP NO.19388/25, WP NO.19417/25, WP NO.19424/25, WP NO.19508/25, WP NO.19509/25, WP NO.19510/25, WP NO.19511/25, WP NO.19512/25, WP NO.19513/25, WP NO.19525/25, WP NO.19527/25, WP NO.19563/25, WP NO.19564/25, WP NO.19568/25, WP NO.19735/25, WP NO.20043/25, WP NO.20064/25, WP NO.17715/25, WP NO.17720/25, WP NO.17721/25, WP NO.17722/25, WP NO.17723/25, WP NO.17724/25, WP NO.17725/25, WP NO.19238/25, WP NO.19844/25, WP NO.19998/25, WP NO.20220/25 & WP NO.20219/25*

**Dated : 09-06-2025**

*Shri Mradul Bhatnagar, Shri Nitin Singh Bhati and Shri Chinmay Mehta – Advocates for the petitioners.*

*Shri Tushar Mehta – Solicitor General of India and Shri Himanshu Joshi – Dy. Solicitor General for respondents/Union of India and Shri Rupesh Kumar and Shri Romesh Dave – Senior Advocates for the respondents.*

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1. Since common question is involved in all these cases, therefore, they are being heard analogously and this common order is being passed.

For factual clarity, facts of Writ Petition No.17344/2025 are taken into consideration.

2. Petitioner has filed this petition being aggrieved by the purported mismanagement and lack of power backup for around 1 to 2 hours while organizing the NEET-UG exam at some of the centres situate in Indore.
3. It is the case of petitioner that examination of National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET) was conducted at various centres across the country and abroad on 04-05-2025 (Sunday) from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Petitioner further stated that Meteorological Department had issued red alert and advisory on 03-05-2025 that there were chances of severe thunderstorm and squally/gusty winds along with rainfall. Petitioner further submits that despite this red alert by the Meteorological Department, respondents failed to make arrangements for providing backup in case of power outage which has resulted in complete mismanagement for a period of around 1 to 2 hours because of which students at the centers were forced to write their exam in the dark/poor light which has resulted in extreme stress and due to which petitioners could not solve their paper properly.
4. This Court granted following interim relief to the petitioner on 15-05-2025:

*“Considering the fact that the respondent(s) have failed to provide proper conditions to the petitioner, who was appearing in NEET-UG examination, which was held on 04.05.2025, and was prevented due to power failure in the various parts of the city, it is directed that till the next date of hearing, the result of NEET-UG shall not be declared by the respondents.”*

5. On 16-05-2025 after hearing both the parties this Court passed the

following orders:

*“On due consideration this Court finds force in the submissions as advanced by Shri Mehta, learned Solicitor General, and is inclined to modify the order passed by this Court on 15.05.2025, to the extent that the respondents may be allowed to declare the results for all the other centres in India, except the affected centres at Indore, in which the power failure was faced by the students, and the details of which shall be furnished by the respondents along with their reply.”*

6. Respondent No.1 filed its counter affidavit on 19-05-2025 in para 16 of the same, respondent No.1 has submitted as under:

*“16.That based on the revelations made so far in the case, it is humbly submitted that the power outage at few centres does not seem to have any bearing on the conduct of the entire examination or affecting the conduct of the examination.*

*It is submitted that NEET (UG) 2025 has been conducted in 49 Examination Centres in Indore with 27264 registered candidates, and for 5766 candidates at the 11 Examination Centres in question.*

*It is relevant to mention that only 18 candidates, out of 5603 candidates who have appeared from the Examination Centre in question, have alleged significant disruption in the examination and loss of time due to power outage.*

*It is submitted that the number of candidates before the Hon'ble Court are minuscule compared to the 5603 candidates from the 11 Centres in question, and/or from the 26,585 candidates who appeared from the other Centres of Indore, Madhya Pradesh.”*

7. Petitioner in her rejoinder in response to para 16 of the counter

affidavit of respondent No.1 has stated as under:

*“13. That, regarding para no.16 the petitioner says and submits that -*

*(i) With regard to the number of candidates registering the grievance in form of there are more than 50 candidates have filed the petition before the Hon'ble Court, out of the total number of candidates appeared for examination from the centers, it is most humbly submitted that the ask of justice should not be based upon the number of grievances received that too in form of WP, the number is large, as not all the candidates have knowledge, support and resources to file separate WP, thus the number of WP registered cannot be the basis to negate the correct grievance.*

*(ii) As the students appeared in Examination are not only from Indore but from different parts of Madhya Pradesh as well as other states, they have submitted their grievances through email and other modes. The petitioner along with other applicants have taken inputs through online form created for taking inputs from the students, received more grievances from more than 200 students. The copy of inputs received through Google Form is submitted and marked as ANNEXURE P/9.*

*(iii) Apart from this there are many students Who does not appear for top rank, there are aiming candidates of lower medical streams such as BDS, where higher ranks are not required. As the seats in the top medical colleges for the top medical streams which requires highest cutoff are limited and thus the small numbers of students aim these colleges. The application of numerical matrix in this situation is irrelevant and incongruous.*

*(iv) However, the total number of the Grievance registered with the National Testing Agency, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Education received through emails,*

*phone calls and letters have not been disclosed in the reply filed before the Honorable Court. Which is again an attempt to mislead the matter. It is most humbly prayed that the exact number of such grievance be also taken into consideration for ascertaining the intensity and severity of the matter.*

*(v) Further, petitioner is a rank deserving candidate, having excellent academic track record and was aiming to secure the top most rank in the city. It was only due to the mismanagement and disruption the petitioner could not perform as per her caliber and could not attempt the complete paper. This way the petitioner has been deprived of her fundamental right. Thus, the prayer of re-examination of the petitioner may very kindly be allowed.”*

8. Respondent No.1 has submitted additional affidavit on 26-05-2025 whereby it was stated that the field reports obtained by NTA from the City Coordinator, Center Supervisor and Observers as well as report from the District Collector, Indore suggest that there was no obstruction in proper completion of examination but as a measure of abundant caution a response analysis of the questions attempted by the candidates on their respective OMR Answer Sheets has been carried out by a team of Statistical Experts engaged by NTA for this purpose. This committee of experts was constituted through an office order dated 22-05-2025 and responses of all the candidates in Indore City from all centres were given to the Committee for the above said exercise. Committee has carried out a detailed statistical analysis and according to respondent No.1 findings of committee suggest that there was no major deviation amongst the centres which are purportedly affected from the weather and unaffected centres.
9. In some of the cases intervention applications have also been filed by the persons who have come with the case that there was no

obstruction in smooth completion of examination and they opposed the prayer of the petitioner.

10. Looking to the nature of controversy involved in the matter all the parties are directed to complete their pleadings within a period of one week from today. The respondents either file their reply in each case or adopt the same by placing copy of the reply filed by them in writ petition No.17344/2025 as may be the case. All the parties are directed to prepare written submissions and place the same on record.
11. Looking to the facts & submission as made by the rival parties as well as the order dated 16-05-2025, the interim order dated 15-05-2025 is modified as follows:

Respondent No.1 is free to declare the result of all the candidates who have appeared in NEET-UG exam held on 04-05-2025 except the candidates who have filed writ petitions before this Court till further orders.

12. List this case for admission/final hearing at motion stage on **23-06-2025** along with all other connected cases stated above.
13. Copy of this order be kept in all the connected writ petitions.

Anil\*

**(PAVAN KUMAR DWIVEDI)**  
**V.JUDGE**