

NEET Leak Controversy | Bihar | 18 Jun 2024

Why in News?

The <u>National Eligibility and Entrance Test (NEET)</u> **Undergraduate exam paper** leak has escalated, leading to protests demanding a **re-test** and a <u>Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)</u> probe.

The Economic Offences Unit (EOU) disclosed that NEET aspirants paid up to ₹30 lakh for leaked exam papers in Bihar.

Key Points

- The Supreme Court is hearing several petitions related to NEET, though it has not stayed counseling for admissions based on the results.
 - This unfolding scandal **highlights deep-rooted issues** in the examination system and underscores the urgent need for reform and accountability.
- The National Eligibility Entrance Test (NEET), formerly the All-India Pre-Medical Test
 (AIPMT), is the qualifying test for MBBS and BDS programmes in Indian medical and dental
 colleges.
- It was introduced in 2013 by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and is now conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA).
 - NTA was established as a Society registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860.
 - It is an **autonomous and self-sustained testing organisation** to conduct entrance examinations for admission/fellowship in higher educational institutions.

Nalanda University | Bihar | 18 Jun 2024

Why in News?

The Prime Minister of India will inaugurate the new campus of Nalanda University at Rajgir, Bihar.

Key Points

- The University is conceived as a **joint collaboration** between India and <u>East Asia Summit (EAS)</u> countries.
- The Campus is a 'Net Zero' Green Campus. It is self-sustainable with a solar plant, domestic and drinking water treatment plant, water recycling plant for reusing wastewater, 100 acres of water bodies, and many other environment friendly facilities.
- The **original Nalanda University**, established around **1600 years ago**, is considered to be amongst the **first residential universities of the world**.
- The ruins of Nalanda Univesity was declared as a <u>UN Heritage Site.</u>

East Asia Summit:

- The EAS was established in 2005 as an Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)-led initiative.
- The **EAS** is the only **leader-led forum** in the **Indo-Pacific** that brings together all key partners to discuss political, security and economic issues of strategic importance.
- The EAS operates on the principles of openness, inclusiveness, respect for international law, ASEAN centrality, and ASEAN's role as the driving force.

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