## 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 <u>National Testing Agency (NTA)</u>.
  - 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 East Asia Summit (EAS) countries.
- The Campus is a '<u>Net Zero</u>' 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 University was declared as a UN Heritage Site.

#### 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 Vision,

• 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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