



NEET's All India Quota

Why in News

Recently, the Union Health Ministry has announced **27% reservation for the Other Backward Classes (OBCs)** and **10% quota for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)** in the **All India Quota (AIQ) scheme** for undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) medical/dental courses from 2021-22 onwards.

Key Points

▪ About All India Quota (AIQ) Scheme:

- The **AIQ was introduced in 1986** under the directions of the Supreme Court (SC) to provide for **domicile-free merit-based opportunities** to students from any State to aspire to study in a medical college located in another State.
 - It comprises **15% of UG seats and 50% of PG seats in government medical colleges.**
 - Remaining chunk of the seats in state medical/dental colleges is **reserved for students domiciled in their respective states.**
- In January, 2007, in **Abhay Nath v University of Delhi and Others**, the SC directed that reservation of **15% for Scheduled Castes** and **7.5% for Scheduled Tribes** be introduced in the AIQ.
 - Until 2007, no reservation was implemented within the All India Quota for medical admission.
- When the **Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act became effective in 2007**, providing for uniform 27% reservation to the OBCs, the scheme was implemented in all the Central Educational Institutions.
 - However, this was **not extended to the AIQ seats of State medical and dental colleges.**
 - The 10% EWS quota under the **Constitution (One Hundred And Third Amendment) Act, 2019**, too, has been implemented in central educational Institutions, but not in the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) AIQ for state institutions.
- Now, after this decision, the Reservation for the OBC and EWS categories within the AIQ will be offered in medical colleges from the current academic year.
 - This decision will help thousands of students under the given categories.

The Quota story | A brief timeline of reservations under the all India quota (AIQ):

- AIQ was introduced in 1986 for domicile-free merit-based opportunities to medical aspirants of a State to study in a college in another State

- Under it, 15% and 50% of the UG and PG seats, in government medical colleges are allocated



- In 2007, the Supreme Court introduced reservation of 15% of seats in the AIQ for the SCs and 7.5% for the STs

- On July 19, the Madras High Court said that the Centre cannot delay indefinitely the implementation of reservation to OBCs under the scheme. It granted the Centre a week's time to indicate the mode and manner of implementation

▪ About NEET:

- The **National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET)** is the entrance examination for entry to all undergraduate and postgraduate medical and dental courses in the country.
- Until 2016, the **All India Pre-Medical Test (AIPMT)** was the national-level entrance examination for medical colleges.
 - While state governments used to hold separate entrance tests for seats that were not contested at an all-India level.
- In 2016, the Supreme Court upheld the newly inserted section **10-D of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956** which provides for a uniform entrance examination to all medical educational institutions at undergraduate level and postgraduate level in Hindi, English and various other languages.
 - Now, the **Indian Medical Council Act, 1956** stands repealed after it has been replaced by the **National Medical Commission Act, 2019** that came into existence on 8th August 2019.
- It is conducted by the **National Testing Agency (NTA).**

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