News and Views

A frog's entire stomach is spewed out if the amphibian was to vomit something.



Is twice really nice?

The Dilemma Of Students Who Can Appear For IIT-JEE And NEET Twice In A Year

Alisha Taneja, GT Network

-IT-JEE and NEET are two of the most prestigious entrance examina-Lions in India. While the former secures admission for NIT and IIT, the latter is a gateway to all medical colleges except AIIMS and JIPMER. The exams that were earlier conducted on an annual basis, will now be held twice a year. Also, the exams will now be conducted by NTA instead of CBSE, and will be held online. These series of reforms have invited mix reactions. We bring you some.

Good job 🙂

"Seeing the results of this year and looking at the number of students dropping the year, I think this decision of two different dates is a great move for it gives students two different opportunities to qualify. Now, students do not have to wait a whole year to be able to sit for the exam again. Two chances to give the same exam will surely reduce the number of students dropping a year."

Sudiksha Gupta, AIS Mayur Vihar, XI C

"I laud the government's decision to conduct the exam twice a year. The first attempt can work as a practice test for the applicants. It will make it easier for them to identify their weak areas, and work on the same, before giving the second attempt and improve their scores."

Medha Mathur, AIS PV, Alumnus



"Most international examinations are conducted online. Conducting JEE and NEET online puts them at par with these exams. Also, holding these exams online reduces scope of tampering and error significantly. Besides, it will also help ensure that the results are declared even faster. Online exams are the way to go and I am glad we are finally headed in that direction."

Arushi Gupta, AIS Noida, XII C

Not really!

"While the intentions behind the aim are positive, I doubt that the impact of the same will be as positive, primarily because of the exam timings. Now the first round of tests will be held in the month of January (JEE) and February (NEET). These are the months that the students earlier utilised for preparation of Board exams. A lot of students are mostly concentrating on these competitive exams

their rather than boards. This move will further deviate them away from boards. I really wish that the Government would have given a deeper thought in deciding the timing so that their decision would be more effective and fruitful for the ones they made this change for."

Imaging: Deepak Sharma, GT Network

Aryaman Agrawal, AIS Gur 46, XII A

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Maybe, maybe not 🐸

"Every new system brings with itself new rules, new challenges, and new procedures. Understanding all these things and adapting to a new system, it will always remain a challenge. However, with the course of time, these challenges can easily be overcome. Perhaps, introducing extensive counseling and query resolving sessions to help students understand the new system can help students adjust themselves better to the new examination pattern."

> Atharva Lath, AIS Gur 46, Alumnus

"I think it is only fair to provide the students with two chances. We all study so hard all year round and it feels really unfair that all of the hard work is narrowed down to just one

sitting of an exam. As a medical student, I feel unfortunate for not having been provided the same oppor-

tunity when it was my time to give the entrance exam. However, the de-

cision to make the procedure completely online is slightly unfair. As Indians, they should be considerate towards the applicants coming from the rural areas who still do not have proper access to technology, but their

hard work deserves an equal chance at clearing such exams and having positive results."

Shreya Arya, AUUP GT



Supersonic missile destroys ship A fighter jet SU-34 destroyed a naval ship as part of its naval drill. A KH-31 missile was launched towards the vessel, and was used as a target to test the capacity and intensity of the new Russian supersonic missile.

Russia

Breastfeeding in public made legal

USA

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All the 50 states of USA have now legalised mothers breastfeeding their children in public without any public indecency charges being levied on them. This law has already been passed in UK and Australia.

Canada

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Canadian troops go to Mali

A 250-strong air task force is on a mission to assist the United Nations peacekeeping effort in the wartorn Western African nation of Mali through medical evacuations as well as transporting troops, equipment and supplies.

South Sudan

Govt gives 27 lakh each to MPs to 'buy cars' The government of South Sudan gave Rs. 27 lakh each to their MPs to buy 'cars for themselves' as they were not expected to 'use motorbikes'. The decision has been the cause of outrage amongst citizens because of the economic crisis the country has been facing since the civil war in 2013.

Israel

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Cartoonist fired

A cartoonist in Israel was fired from his job after he drew a cartoon of PM Benjamin Netanyahu and his allies as pigs, citing an allusion to George Orwell's book 'Animal Farm'. The picture was of the PM and others taking a selfie after passing the law declaring Israel as an 'exclusively Jewish state'.

China

Google in China Google is developing a version of its search engine that will conform to China's censorship laws, reports say. The company shut down the engine in 2010 in China, complaining that free speech was being limited.

Post-reconstruction aid to Nepal

The Indian Government has decided to help Nepal in its post-earthquake reconstruction programme. By providing a grant of more than Rs 131 crores and building over 50,000 houses, India has been a major help in the reconstruction work.

India