Draft ordinance on NEET

What is the issue?

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- Recently Tamilnadu government had submitted a draft ordinance on National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) to Centre.
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- This last-minute exemption may lead to more complexities in proceedings.
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What is the status Medical admissions in Tamilnadu?

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- Tamil Nadu abolished entrance tests for professional courses in 2006.
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- It fears that the introduction of NEET would jeopardise the admission prospects of rural students who cannot afford the extra coaching and higher workload that preparing for NEET entails.
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- The centre was very clear that this year’s medical admissions in Tamil Nadu would be solely based on the NEET.
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- Tamil Nadu government feels that a buffer time should have been given before the conversion to the new system.
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- In Tamil Nadu, in academic year 2016-17, about 88,431 students who appeared for NEET in TN, at least 95% are from the State board, while only 5% are from CBSE and other Boards.
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- To safeguard the interest of its students, recently it had submitted a draft ordinance on NEET.
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What are the provisions?

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- It is seeking one-time exemption to admit MBSS/BDS aspirants based on their 12th standard scores for this year alone.
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- This is to protect the interests of poor students from rural areas
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- It is also to ensure that medical personnel are available in all remote parts of the State.
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What are the issues with draft ordinance?

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- The last minute change in the basis for admission will cause heartburn to students who have cleared NEET.
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- If the Centre was ready to grant a one-time exemption, it ought to have done so much earlier and not now.
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- If the exemption is stayed by the courts, another set of students and parents will once again feel deprived.
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- This belated move is bound to spawn further litigation and encourage similar demands elsewhere
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Source: The Hindu

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