Verdict on NEET

Why in news?

\n\n

The Madras High court quashed the Tamil Nadu Government's Order that provides 85% reservation in State Quota seats for students from State Board schools.

\n\n

How admission for medical college is being done?

\n\n

\n
- The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET-UG) is an entrance exam for any graduate and postgraduate medical course in India.
\n
- Medical colleges in a particular state have 85% seats reserved for the native students and 15% (All India Quote) seats for the students from other states.
\n
- For instance, a student from Delhi wants to pursue MBBS from a college in Mumbai, he would be choosing from from 15% seats of total seats of that college.
\n

\n\n

What is the Tamil Nadu government's stand?

\n\n

\n
- Tamil Nadu had abolished entrance tests in 2006.
\n
- Since then has been admitting students based on their marks in the qualifying school examination.
\n
- The State government still opposes NEET exam.
\n
- Two Bills had been passed in the State Assembly exempting students from Tamil Nadu from the exam. The bills were awaiting President's assent.

\n
- In Tamil Nadu, around 88,000 students had appeared for NEET, of which only 4,600 were from the CBSE.
\n
- According to the government, if a NEET-based merit list is drawn up, 72% of medical seats in government colleges and government quota seats in private colleges would go to CBSE school students.
\n
- So the State government notified an order providing 85% reservation in the UG medical seats available in the State quota to the students from State Board syllabus and 15% to students from other boards.
\n
- The NEET might be beyond the potential for students from rural and underprivileged backgrounds.
\n
- There is a concern that the government may not get committed doctors to serve in rural areas if most of the seats are cornered by CBSE students.
\n

\n\n

What was the court’s rationale?

\n\n

\n
- The Madras High court quashed the Tamil Nadu Government’s Order that provides 85% reservation in State Quota seats for students from State Board schools.
\n
- The petitioner submitted that powers to regulate admission to medical courses lie exclusively with the Medical Council of India (MCI) as per the provisions of the Indian Medical Council Act.
\n
- The MCI has stipulated that admissions to medical courses shall be based on the marks obtained in NEET.
\n
- The merit list prepared on the basis of such marks, and it does not distinguish between students from the CBSE and State Boards.
\n

\n\n

What is the way ahead?

\n\n

\n

- In a country with regional, economic and linguistic disparities, uniformity is no virtue.
  \n
- The political leadership at the Centre as well as in the States would do well to work together to evolve a flexible admission policy
  \n
- At the same time fairness, transparency and freedom from exploitation in admissions should be achieved.
  \n

\n\n

\n\n

Source: The Hindu

\n

