

NATIONAL TESTING AGENCY

(An Autonomous Organization under the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India)

PRESS RELEASE

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CUET-UG 2026: 96.6% of Candidates Allotted Preferred City; Re-allocation Window Opens for Remaining Candidates

The National Testing Agency (NTA) is administering the Common University Entrance Test for Undergraduate Programmes (CUET-UG) 2026 — among the largest computer-based examinations conducted globally. Of the **15,68,866** candidates registered, **96.6% have been allotted one of their preferred cities** and **79% have been allotted their first choice of city**. The remaining **3.4%** of candidates, who could not be accommodated within their selected preferences due to capacity constraints in high-demand locations, can now choose from vacant slots in alternate cities through a re-allocation window opened today on a first-come-first-serve basis at <https://cuet.nta.nic.in>.

Scale of the Examination

CUET-UG 2026 has been structured to give candidates flexibility to choose up to **five subjects** each. This has generated an aggregate of approximately **67,56,321 test instances**, with candidates opting for an average of **4.31 subjects**. The subject selection patterns reflect a high degree of variability — **12,906 distinct subject combinations** have been recorded across the candidate pool. To accommodate this scale and diversity while preserving examination integrity, the test is being conducted across **35 shifts nationwide**.

The distribution of candidates by number of subjects opted is as follows:

No. of Subjects opted	1	2	3	4	5
No. of Candidates	11,140	31,011	2,93,660	3,63,096	8,69,959

The Allocation Challenge

Approximately **6,74,352 registrations** — **about 43% of total candidates** — **originate from just three states: Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Delhi**. These three states alone account for **29,93,554 effective test instances** across **9,922 subject combinations**. The available computer-based testing (CBT) infrastructure in these states, while substantial, is finite, and concentrated demand in specific cities has placed significant pressure on existing test centres.

In allocating centres, NTA must simultaneously satisfy three constraints: a candidate's chosen city, their unique combination of subjects, and the specific shift on which those subjects are scheduled. When demand for a particular city–subject–shift intersection exceeds available capacity, allocation in nearby or alternate cities becomes unavoidable. Additional logistical considerations — secure CBT facilities, trained

invigilation staffing, and adherence to examination integrity standards — further constrain feasible allocations.

Allocation Outcome

- **79%** of candidates have been allotted their **first choice of city**.
- **96.6%** of candidates have been allotted **one of their preferred cities**.
- **3.4%** of candidates have been allotted centres outside their selected preferences, primarily in regions where registration volumes substantially exceeded available CBT centre capacity.

Re-allocation Window for Affected Candidates

After completing the primary allocation in line with candidate preferences, NTA has identified vacant slots in certain cities for specific subject combinations on particular dates. Candidates who were allotted a city outside their preference can now log in and select from these available slots on a **first-come-first-serve basis**.

Portal: <https://cuet.nta.nic.in>


Helpdesk: 011-40759000 | cuet-ug@nta.ac.in

Advisory to Candidates

- Carefully verify the allotted examination city, centre, date and shift as mentioned on the admit card.
- Candidates seeking re-allocation should visit <https://cuet.nta.ac.in> at the earliest, as available slots will be offered on a first-come-first-serve basis.
- Make travel and accommodation arrangements well in advance.
- Reach the examination centre well before the reporting time to avoid inconvenience.

About NTA

The National Testing Agency is an autonomous organization under the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education, Government of India. Detailed state-wise and subject-wise distribution of registered candidates is provided at **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II**, respectively.


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Annexure-I

S.No.	STATE	No. of Subject Combination					Total
1	ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS	3	13	151	160	477	804
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	283	611	6605	4871	9648	22018
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	48	226	4550	3918	4313	13055
4	ASSAM	230	702	9630	13135	17332	41029
5	BIHAR	682	3032	20495	31510	88550	144269
6	CHANDIGARH	7	23	206	532	1369	2137
7	CHHATTISGARH	305	829	7561	7725	18571	34991
8	DADRA AND NAGAR HAVELI	5	8	110	192	249	564
9	DAMAN AND DIU	0	3	36	30	65	134
10	DELHI (NCT)	207	762	6730	32471	103990	144160
11	GOA	7	6	95	168	383	659
12	GUJARAT	136	177	2710	3565	7063	13651
13	HARYANA	300	662	8397	22578	51471	83408
14	HIMACHAL PRADESH	304	322	3108	4894	8425	17053
15	JAMMU AND KASHMIR	530	2888	18316	10705	15013	47452
16	JHARKHAND	200	688	7338	10675	28425	47326
17	KARNATAKA	152	330	3773	4008	7946	16209
18	KERALA	539	1247	8904	10775	32896	54361
19	LADAKH	3	27	137	481	1579	2227
20	LAKSHADWEEP	2	9	61	26	61	159
21	MADHYA PRADESH	756	2403	20755	24189	50303	98406
22	MAHARASHTRA	370	691	5809	7920	17580	32370
23	MANIPUR	95	245	1920	1942	2851	7053
24	MEGHALAYA	251	2322	7753	2133	1623	14082
25	MIZORAM	58	117	541	457	605	1778
26	NAGALAND	23	65	605	1238	1463	3394
27	ODISHA	339	548	6543	8031	18025	33486
28	OUTSIDE INDIA	3	8	32	56	125	224
29	PUDUCHERRY	61	158	2096	1612	1524	5451
30	PUNJAB	98	218	3071	5850	13097	22334
31	RAJASTHAN	880	1462	27825	22916	41820	94903
32	SIKKIM	24	31	235	554	559	1403
33	TAMIL NADU	501	1052	14225	10347	29460	55585
34	TELANGANA	416	991	7529	6231	11330	26497
35	TRIPURA	97	205	1675	1775	3060	6812
36	UTTAR PRADESH	1923	6120	68217	82351	227312	385923
37	UTTARAKHAND	693	496	6306	9048	19426	35969
38	WEST BENGAL	609	1314	9610	14027	31970	57530
TOTAL		11140	31011	293660	363096	869959	1568866

Annexure-II			
S.No.	Subject Code	Subject Name	Count of Candidates
1	101	English	1264099
2	102	Hindi	149694
3	103	Assamese	1967
4	104	Bengali	3881
5	105	Gujarati	256
6	106	Kannada	952
7	107	Malayalam	1171
8	108	Marathi	445
9	109	Odia	1492
10	110	Punjabi	1558
11	111	Tamil	7452
12	112	Telugu	2128
13	113	Urdu	3248
14	301	Accountancy / Book Keeping	211829
15	302	Agriculture	40553
16	303	Anthropology	2059
17	304	Biology/ Biological Science/ Biotechnology / Biochemistry	556000
18	305	Business Studies	229360
19	306	Chemistry	950802
20	307	Environmental Science	11308
21	308	Computer Science / Information Practices	100659
22	309	Economics / Business Economics	249541
23	312	Fine Arts/Visual Arts/Commercial Arts	17306
24	313	Geography / Geology	84696
25	314	History	123065
26	315	Home Science	11270
27	316	Knowledge Tradition - Practices in India	1244
28	318	Mass Media / Mass Communication	6561
29	319	Mathematics / Applied Mathematics	581495
30	320	Performing Arts (Dance; Drama ; Music)	4512
31	321	Physical Education (Yoga; Sports)	71576
32	322	Physics	913691
33	323	Political Science	159491
34	324	Psychology	38304
35	325	Sanskrit	4905
36	326	Sociology	34881
37	501	General Aptitude Test	912406
Total			6755857