TO,

SHRI. BHANU PRATAP SHARMA  
Secretary, DOPT,  
Room No.112, North Block,  
New Delhi-110001.

SUBJECT- IN REFRENCE TO PARLIAMENT QUESTION RAISED BY SH. OSCAR FERNANDIS MP in R/O

COMPENSATORY ATTEMPT TO CSAT VICTIMS OF UPSC

SIR ,

I WANT TO BRING YOUR KIND ATTENTION TO THIS MATTER

1. All of a sudden, UPSC has introduced an altogether new paper (Civil Services Aptitude Test) in Preliminary stage in 2011. However, this paper has been found to be highly discriminatory by both Nigavekar Committee (Appointed by UPSC itself) & UPSC Annual Report itself.

2. Along with the continuation of this discriminatory paper, in 2013, major changes were introduced by changing main syllabus significantly.

3. Again in 2015, CSAT paper II was made qualifying in nature barely 2 months before the examination. Although it was a welcome move but since CSAT paper II used to play significant role in passing prelims earlier (2011 to 2014), all aspirants had to face difficulty in strategizing for the exam in such a short span of time.

4. Although Govt. has given two attempts to all the aspirants because of significant changes made in main syllabus. But, CSAT discriminatory era, which was in preliminary stage, continued till 2014. Hence, no grievance redressal was done for CSAT affected students (2011 to 2014). As a result, we have lost our 4 precious attempts & hence compensatory attempts on temporary basis should be given to all affected aspirants of 2011-14 era in the interest of equity and natural justice.

5. It should be noted that above mentioned 2 attempts were given when main syllabus was changed 2 months before the Preliminary exam. Similarly, change in prelims pattern just 2 month before the 2015 preliminary exam was again significant (making CSAT paper II qualifying in nature)

. 6. From 1979 to 2010 i.e. in the span of long 31 years , UPSC has not made any changes barring one minor change in 1993 (introduction of essay paper in mains & increased interview marks to 300 ) . Even in this change, UPSC had given an additional compensatory attempt with subsequent age relaxation. But, in the last 7 years, UPSC has made 5 significant changes in the examination process (syllabus as well as pattern).

7. Earlier also UPSC has given compensatory attempts by implementing – (i) Kothari Committee recommendation which made this exam based on prelims, mains and interview in 1979 by giving 3 compensatory extra attempts with subsequent age relaxation.

(ii) Satish Chandra Committee recommendation which introduced mere essay paper in mains and increased interview marks to 300 in 1993 by giving an additional compensatory attempt with subsequent age relaxation.

8. Due to these frequent and significant changes & discriminatory CSAT era, more than 5 lakhs aspirants have lost their 4 precious attempts.

9. It should also be noted that the demand of aspirants suffering from CSAT introduction & other arbitrary as well as hurried changes in scheme of examination is rational and justified. Thus, providing attempts won’t actually be a political decision, but an informed choice to ensure better and competitive examination.

10. Impact of introduction and continuation of CSAT paper (Data based on UPSC annual reports). –

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| S/No. | ANNUAL REPORT | C.S.E. YEAR | % OF CANDIDATES QUALIFIED FOR MAINS IN OTHER THAN ENGLISH MEDIUM. | % OF CANDIDATES QUALIFIED FOR MAINS IN ENGLISH MEDIUM |
| 1 | 58TH | 2007 | 45.70 | 54.22 |
| 2 | 59TH | 2008 | 48.42 | 51.57 |
| 3 | 60TH | 2009 | 45.49 | 54.50 |
| 4 | 61ST | 2010  CSAT INTRODUCED | 37.76 | 62.23 |
| 5 | 62ND | 2011 | 17.06 | 82.93 |
| 6 | 63RD | 2012 | 18.14 | 81.85 |
| 7 | 64TH | 2013 | 12.83 | 87.16 |
| 8 | 65TH | 2014 | 15.32 | 84.67 |

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