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PRESS RELEASE

Text of the D.O. Letter No.2550/CMO/2021, Dated 1-10-2021 of Thiru M.K. Stalin, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu addressed to Chief Ministers of 12 States (Andhra Pradesh / Chhattisgarh / Delhi / Jharkhand / Kerala / Maharashtra / Odisha / Punjab / Rajasthan / Telangana / West Bengal / Goa) on the need to put up a united effort to restore the primacy of State Governments in administering the education sector, as envisaged in the Constitution:

“I am enclosing herewith the report submitted by Justice A.K. Rajan Committee, which was appointed by the Government of Tamil Nadu for studying whether the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) based admission process has affected the socially backward students in the past few years. The Committee was also requested to suggest alternative admission procedures which would benefit all students, the feasibility of implementing such alternatives and the legal steps to be undertaken to implement such fair and equitable methods. Based on the recommendation of the Committee, the Tamil Nadu State Assembly has recently passed an Act called “Tamil Nadu Admission to Undergraduate Medical Degree Courses Act, 2021”. I am enclosing the copy of the same also for your perusal.

Our considered position has always been that the move by the Union Government to introduce NEET goes against the spirit of the federalism and violates the constitutional balance of power by curbing the rights of the State Governments to decide on the method of admission in the medical institutions

founded, established and run by them. In this regard, we consider that the State Governments need to assert their constitutional right and position in deciding the method of admission to their higher educational institutions.

I request you to kindly go through the documents and extend your support in this regard to ensure that the students of our respective States, hailing those from rural areas and marginalised sections of the society are not put to hardship in obtaining admissions to higher educational institutions. We need to put up a united effort to restore the primacy of State Governments in administering the education sector, as envisaged in our Constitution.

I look forward to your cooperation in this crucial issue.”

Also the Hon'ble Chief Minister has instructed the team of DMK MPs to directly handover the translation report of the Hon'ble Justice A.K. Rajan Committee, to brief the efforts taken by the Government of Tamil Nadu so far in this regard and seek the support of the respective States.

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