



JOINT MOVEMENT AGAINST NEET

Dr.Anitha Memorial Library, Kulumur, Sendurai Taluk, Ariyalur – 621 714

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Education is our Power

JOINT MOVEMENT AGAINST NEET LAUNCHES INDEFINITE HUNGER STRIKE IN CHENNAI, DEMANDS COMPLETE ABOLITION OF NEET AND RESTORATION OF EDUCATION TO STATE LIST

CHENNAI, TAMIL NADU – August 4, 2026 – The Joint Movement Against NEET – Tamil Nadu has officially launched an indefinite hunger strike at Thiruvalluvar Illam, Chinmaya Nagar, Koyambedu, demanding the complete abolition of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) and the return of education to the State List of the Indian Constitution.

As of August 1, 2026, core movement leaders –Comrades Jeeva, Pulianthope Mohan, Dhanasekar, and Ravi—have placed their health and lives on the line to protest the systemic inequities, commercialization, and mental toll imposed on students by central entrance examinations.

The Institutional Crisis and Human Cost

The movement highlights that NEET is not merely an imperfect exam, but a fundamentally flawed structure that actively works against social justice, state autonomy, and educational equality. Rather than ensuring merit, NEET has systematically barred rural, underprivileged, and government school students from pursuing medical education while giving rise to a ₹54,000-crore private coaching industry.

The human toll of this rigid standardized testing regime remains severe:

Sacrifices in Tamil Nadu: Nearly 40 students in Tamil Nadu—including Anitha, Pratheeba, and Anukeerthana—have lost their lives due to exam pressure, systemic unfairness, and lack of equal opportunities.

Escalating Student Suicide Rates: National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data reveals that 123,918 students died by suicide between 2014 and 2024. Student suicides surged by 80% over the decade (rising from 8,068 in 2014 to 14,488 in 2024), with states like Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu accounting for over half of these tragic losses.

"Ban NEET, Not Fair NEET"

While several states across India are reacting to recent paper leaks, impersonation cases, and systemic corruption by demanding a "Fair NEET," the Joint Movement Against NEET maintains that reform is an inadequate remedy. The movement asserts that corruption is intrinsic to the centralized entrance model itself and that complete abolition is the only viable path forward.



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Constitutional Rights and Policy Demands

The organizers emphasize that medical education rights cannot be separated from state autonomy. Since education was transferred from the State List to the Concurrent List in 1976, central dominance and corporate interests have increasingly commodified higher education. Reclaiming state rights in education is vital to stopping commercialization under schemes such as the New Education Policy (NEP) and international trade agreements (WTO/GATT).

Core Demands

To the Central Government of India:

Abolish NEET: Immediately scrap the NEET examination nationwide to restore equitable access to medical education.

Restore Constitutional Balance: Move Education back from the Concurrent List to the State List to allow individual states to formulate admissions policies aligned with local socio-economic realities.

To the Government of Tamil Nadu:

Accelerate Legal Action: Expedite all pending Legislative Assembly resolutions and judicial proceedings regarding NEET exemption.

Ensure Protest Rights: Formally designate and permit a dedicated public space in Chennai for continuous, peaceful public assembly and protest, modeled after Delhi's Jantar Mantar.

Public Mobilization

The Joint Movement Against NEET invites students, youth, political organizations, and the general public to join the ongoing agitation at Koyambedu to defend the future of public healthcare and social justice in education.

Protest Location:

Thiruvalluvar Illam, Chinmaya Nagar, Koyambedu, Chennai.
(Tamizhaga Vaazhurimai katchi Head Office)

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