

NEET UG 2026: Over 23k appear at 57 centres in city

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Indore: With transparent water bottles, admit cards and revision notes in hand, thousands of NEET aspirants reached examination centres across Indore on Sunday for NEET UG 2026, held from 2 pm to 5 pm.

Over 23,000 candidates appeared for the examination at 57 centres across the city amid elaborate security and administrative arrangements.

Long queues were seen outside centres since morning as frisking and document verification began hours before the examination. Candidates were subjected to strict security checks, with many being asked to remove jewellery, watches, metallic accessories and even hair clips before entry. Officials carefully checked admit cards and identity proofs while police personnel remained stationed outside centres to manage crowds and maintain order.

Unlike last year, when heavy rain, power cuts and strong winds had disrupted the examination at several locations, authorities this year appeared determined to avoid any lapses. CCTV surveillance, flying squads, duty magistrates, traffic management teams and backup generators were deployed across



NEET aspirants checked by officials before entering an examination center in Indore on Sunday

centres. Social media activity was also being monitored to prevent rumours or misinformation.

To help students reach distant centres, AICTSL operated special buses from the railway station and bus stand from 9 am onwards on routes including Sanwer, IIT Simrol, IIM and Mhow. Return bus services were arranged after the examination as well.

Outside centres, parents waited anxiously under temporary tents arranged due to the intense heat. Drinking water facilities, ambulances at five centres, medical teams and wheelchairs for differently-abled candidates were also arranged.

As students stepped out after the examination, discussions quickly shifted to

the question paper, which many described as balanced and less stressful than expected. "This year's question paper was easier compared to last year's paper but slightly difficult from 2024's paper. The level of the paper can be said moderate and balanced," said Vijit Jain, a NEET coaching expert from the city.

Candidate Aaradhya Garg said that the paper remained completely within the syllabus. "There were no out-of-syllabus questions like previous years," he said.

Another candidate, Kushagra Lahariya, said that regular practice through previous years' question papers helped him stay prepared for a tougher paper, making all sections manageable during the examination.