

**Seventeenth Loksabha**

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Regarding one-time exemption to relax eligibility criteria for students appearing for JEE Main and Advanced Exam for 2023.

SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM (SIVAGANGA): Hon. Sir, it is a matter of great importance as it affects the life of students.

There are millions of students in this country who aspire to get into the IITs, NITs and IIITs and other institutes of national eminence. They get into these institutes through the Joint Entrance Exam (JEE). They get only limited chances to write this exam, namely three times to write the Mains and twice to write the Advanced JEE.

The last attempt for the batch of 2020 was in this year, but there were many computer glitches during the exam like the screen was frozen, the questions were appearing and disappearing, there were power outages, and in fact in some cases the exam centre was changed in the last minute and the students were not informed in advance through SMS or email. So, many of them have exhausted their third attempt this year and they cannot write another attempt.

I would urge the Minister of Education to advise the National Testing Agency to give an exemption for these students who appeared in the exam in 2022 to be able to write the exam in 2023, particularly the school-leaving batch of 2020. We cannot let technological glitches mar the future of aspiring Indians who want to get into the institutes of higher education. Thank you very much, Sir.