

GATE EXAMINATION – AN UPDATE

I am in receipt of repeated communications from Pharmacy Students regarding their eligibility for appearing in GATE Examination from 2010 - 2011 academic session. In this connection, it is stated that National Coordinating Board (NCB) for GATE exam has resolved that Pharmacy Paper would be deleted from GATE exam 2010 - 2011 academic session onwards. It was also mentioned that AICTE would be taking up this responsibility for the conduct of Pharmacy GATE examination. Keeping in view the present circumstances nobody appears to be able to guide the students either from the NCB or AICTE regarding the conduct of GATE exam for pharmacy students.

In this regard, As the President of Pharmacy Council of India, I have proposed to the Ministry of Human Resource Development to consider the following suggestions –

- ❖ NCB be advised to continue conducting GATE exam for pharmacy students until clear decision/ clarity is given with due authority to AICTE or other authorities for conducting the GATE exam.

- ❖ PCI would be more than pleased to co-operate with MHRD in facilitating the conduct of GATE exam for pharmacy students.

- ❖ An early decision in this matter and necessary publicity about the said decision would go in a long way in clearing doubts of several thousands of pharmacy students aspiring to appear for GATE exam.

We are yet to hear from the Ministry of Human Resources Development in this regard. Time has come for us as Pharmacy professionals to join hands and make a unified voice heard nationally in this regard. I encourage all Pharmacists and Pharmacy organizations to write to the Chairman, National Coordinating Board, GATE Exams and Ministry of Human Resources Development to address this issue immediately.