

# SC rejects CBSE plea for a joint MBBS/engg entrance

## Ministry Of Health Objects To The Joint Entrance Proposal

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court on Friday shelved an ambitious student-friendly initiative from the HRD ministry through the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) proposing to integrate the AIPMT and AIEEE into a single entrance test for admissions to undergraduate medical and engineering courses.

While the All India Pre-Medical/Pre-Dental Entrance Examination

(AIPMT) is conducted to fill 15% seats in MBBS/BDS courses in government medical and dental colleges against the all-India quota, the All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) is for drawing up a combined merit list for a different category of engineering colleges. CBSE conducts both AIPMT and AIEEE every year.

A bench of Justices R V Raveendran and A K Patnaik, which entertained the CBSE's proposal and had sought the

views of the health ministry for nearly a year, dismissed the education regulator's plea saying there was no unanimity.

When CBSE counsel requested for some more time to iron out the differences with other stakeholders, the bench said that unanimity and a solution had to be found within the government and the court was not the forum.

The bench had earlier appreciated the noble intentions behind the move, that is to relieve the students from appearing in

multiple entrance examinations, but the health ministry had said a common test for medical and engineering courses would create confusion and chaos in the merit list.

The CBSE had said that amalgamation of AIPMT and AIEEE would relieve students and their parents of a lot of stress both physical and financial, including the exam fees. The CBSE said that its governing body meeting recorded that both the AIPMT and AIEEE, may be integrated.