

To,

**The Under Secretary  
Ministry of Human Resource Development  
Government of India  
New Delhi**

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NITK, Surathkal

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**Subject:** Request not to introduce SAT II Score for admissions under  
DASA scheme for upcoming Academic Year 2010-11

**Reference:** Recent notification of admissions under DASA Scheme  
for the year 2010-11 by NITK Surathkal.

**Dear Sirs,**

We would like to bring to your kind notice the plight of NRI community due to recent change in the DASA Scheme admissions rule by introducing SAT II score.

The notification stipulates admission seekers to appear for SAT II exam for admission to B.Tech. This has come as a jolt to the students as they were not prepared for this new stipulation. It is also not practical for students to appear for SAT II exams at this late stage.

While we do not wish to question the merit of the proposal, this change is quite untimely as our children are currently preparing for XII Board exams and then have pre-scheduled plans to appear for various competitive exams like AIEEE and state-level CET.

Normally SAT exams are attempted by students much before their board exams starts to concentrate on all-important boards/AIEEEE/IIT JEE. However, the changes to DASA schemes have been made so late for the current academic year that some of the students who were never prepared for this late change have gone in depression unable to cope with such sudden additional requirement for SAT test.

Please find below concerns from various quarters of the NRI community:

- **No Indian Technical Institute Accepting SAT**  
We believe, in all fairness, that Indian education system, led by CBSE in your able guidance, is a leading light and fine example in the world as to how any education system ought to be. We are disappointed to know that it is not what the authorities in India feel about our own system.
- **Insufficient Time for Switchover of Merit Basis**  
In case a need was felt to change the existing rules for DASA scheme, it could have been properly debated well in time and a suitable system devised at an appropriately early stage so as not affect the XII standard students of the current academic year. We place you in high esteem for the way a new system was implemented quite ahead of time in abolition of board exams for 10<sup>th</sup> std students.
- **Good performance of NRI students despite limitations abroad**

CBSE schools abroad are doing their best to bring talented teachers to impart good teaching to the children so that they are at par with their batch-mates in India. However there are certain limitations such as difficulty in getting visas for teachers, teachers not willing to come here due to personal reasons, teachers not being compensated as per their expectations, etc. However schools and children are doing their best to get good results in the board exams.

- **Non-availability of Coaching centers**

There is not a single coaching center in Qatar/ Saudi/Kuwait to train students for the entrance exams such as SAT, IIT-JEE, AIEEE etc. Students have to manage by coaching through correspondence only. Only in UAE situation is slightly better with only a couple of coaching centers but definitely do not match the standard of the coaching institutions like in India

- **Stress on students**

The SAT exam will add to tremendous stress on the students. Already the students in XII are stressed in-order to do well in their board exams. In addition if they have to work for the SAT test on their own without any assistance, it will be a tremendous burden on the children.

Furthermore, introduction of an alien test such as SAT exam definitely does not go well with the policy of the current Ministry of education of reducing the stress on students. In fact proposal of Mr. Kapil Sibal to abolish CBSE X board exam is a great relief.

- **Benefits to NRIs**

NRIs are toiling abroad to earn their livelihood and incidentally adding to the foreign exchange of the country. Thanks to the DASA scheme so far, NRI children are able to stay with their parents and do schooling abroad. If SAT test is introduced, parents would be forced to send their children in the low ranked private colleges in India in the absence of good coaching facility for exams like SAT.

- **Benefits to Foreigners and not NRIs – Unfair**

Foreigners are used to SAT test and would have already taken multiple tests to improve their scores while there is not enough time for NRI students to appear for even one test due to clashing exams. Obviously NRI students would be at great disadvantage for the upcoming academic session 2010-11.

We consider this very late announcement as completely unfair and do not provide natural justice to the affected students.

▪ **Alternate solution – Grading system**

Instead of introducing SAT test, HRD ministry could consider the system BITS Pilani used long back. They used to prepare the merit list of students from different states/boards. HRD ministry can do the same to bring the different systems in par such as CBSE (mostly in Gulf), IGCSE, etc., We are sure EDCIL with the help of the Ministry for Education can chalk out a system to evaluate the merit of students based on marks of XII exam from different boards/systems.

**Considering all the above, we humbly request you to review the introduction of SAT II test for the current academic year and kindly request to re-instate existing PCM% marks of XII standard as the basis of merit list.**

Thanking you and hoping for a favorable consideration.

Yours truly,

Parents of NRI students