

SRI DEVARAJ URS ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION & RESEARCH SRI DEVARAJ URS MEDICAL COLLEGE

Tamaka, Kolar



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20% medical superspecialty seats vacant after final round

Centre May **Relax Norms Next Year**

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Mumbai: One in five seats were vacant even after the Supreme Court permitted a third round for centralised superspecialty medical admissions. Close to 50% of these seats are vacant in sought-after government colleges. The Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) is planning to remove the eligibility criteria of 50 percentile in NEET-superspecialty in the coming year to increase the pool of eligible candidates.

In the first centralised admission process to fill 1,901 superspecialty seats in the country, 352 were vacant after admission rounds, including 169 in government colleges. Most seats are vacant in Ta-

WHERE ARE THE VACANCIES?

SUPERSPECIALTY SEATS VACANT AFTER THIRD ROUND > Tamii Nadu 80 | Karnataka 56 | Maharashtra 42 | Kerala 25 | Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal 23 | Gujarat | 19 | Telangana 15 | Punjab 6_

SOME COURSES WHERE **SEATS ARE VACANT** MCH cardiothoracic paediatric and vascular surgery 89 surgery | 108 neurosurgery MCH plastic surgery 37 DM cardiology | 23

In the first centralised admission process to fill 1,901 superspecialty seats in the country, 352 were vacant after admission rounds. Most seats are vacant in Tamil Nadu, followed by Karnataka and Maharashtra

mil Nadu, followed by Karnataka and Maharashtra. While 242 seats were not chosen by any doctor in the third round. 111 opted for seats but did not accept them after the final round. Doctors may move

(MCH: Master of Surgery; DM: Doctor of Medicine)

court again but are not very hopeful

"The Centre conducted a centralised admission for the first time, so we have more clarity on vacancies. Every state used to conduct their

own admissions or it was at the institute level. Students could be rejecting seats due to higher fees at private colleges and stringent bond rules in some states. The Centre has to analyse data," said Dr Kailash Sharma, director (academics), Tata Memorial Centre. He added that after three rounds, there should have been a mop-up round at institutelevel. "Seats could have been vacant even after that but vacancies in government colleges would have reduced further," he said.

A senior Union ministry of health & family welfare official said, "At superspecialty level students seek specific courses. If they don't get them, they opt out. At the undergraduate and postgraduate levels, candidates keep their options open" Some doctors from the north opted out of colleges in the south as they may be uncomfortable with the culture, said a doctor. Some candidates complained that DGHS did not widely publicise the fresh round after the SC order.

