



PU marks may not be considered for CET ranking

Officials weigh pros and cons as it will have far-reaching consequences on how students prepare for entrance test

TANU KULKARNI

BENGALURU: The State government is contemplating removing pre-university (PU) results from the Common Entrance Test (CET) ranking equation. Currently, both PU and CET results hold equal weightage in the ranking system, and II PU and class 12 students vying for seats in engineering and other professional courses have to study for both exams.

In 2016, ranks for all courses except dental, medical, and veterinary were calculated based on both PU and CET marks.

In 2016, ranks for all courses except dental, medical, and veterinary were calculated based on both PU and CET marks. Equal weightage is given to all government and government-quota seats in engineering, Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH), pharmacy, agriculture, and B.Tech courses.

Officials themselves are in a dilemma and are currently weighing the pros and cons



In 2016, ranks for all courses except dental, medical, and veterinary were calculated based on both PU and CET marks.

— FILE PHOTO

of this decision as it will have far-reaching consequences on how students will prepare for the entrance test that will determine their career choice.

"Some experts say that having only CET scores levels the playing field as students who enrol for CET appear for PU exams conducted by different examination boards — Department of Pre-University Education

(DPUE), Central Board of Secondary Education, and Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations. So considering only CET scores is a good move," a source said.

But opinion is divided, and teachers are worried that students will focus only on the entrance exam. There are also fears that the State government may adopt this move for the 2017 academic

year. "Whatever changes the State government plans to introduce, it should not be done for the 2017 academic year as we have already begun our preparation for boards as well as competitive exams. Had we known this change, we would have spent more time on preparing for CET rather than PU exams," a II PU student said.

Grace marks

The DPUE, which formed a subcommittee to look into the issue of grace marks in PU examination after the intervention of the High Court, had recommended that this issue be deliberated by the government. "One of the points that the members of the subcommittee were supposed to discuss was whether only CET scores could be considered for rankings. But they have suggested that the call needs to be taken by the State government," a source pointed out.

This is a good move. It will bring uniformity in the ranking system because there are students from different boards who write CET.

Venugopal K.R.,
Principal, University
Visvesvaraya College of
Engineering

The flip side is that students will only prepare for CET, which has multiple choice questions, and may not focus on acquiring knowledge throughout the year.

Mansoor Ali Khan,
Board member, Delhi Public
Group of Schools

How are Common Entrance Test rankings calculated currently?

- Earlier, rankings of medical, dental, and veterinary seat aspirants were calculated based only on their performance in CET.
- To obtain seat in engineering, AYUSH, pharmacy, agriculture, and B. Tech courses, rankings are based on 50% weightage for performance in CET and 50% on PU exams.
- For 2017-18, all admissions to medical and dental courses will be done entirely on NEET scores.