



SRI DEVARAJ URS ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION & RESEARCH
SRI DEVARAJ URS MEDICAL COLLEGE
Tamaka, Kolar



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NEET aspirants upset over fee hike stalemate

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bengaluru: Over 65,000 candidates who qualified the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) and have registered with the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) continue to be a worried lot as medical colleges have locked horns with the government over fee hike.

While medical colleges demand a minimum increase of 30%, the government is trying to keep it at 10%.

With Saturday's meeting with the colleges being inconclusive, officials from the di-

Agri students to rally tomorrow

Hundreds of students from University of Agricultural Sciences (UAS) campuses across the state, who are protesting the proposed privatisation of agriculture education, will take out a mega rally in Bengaluru on Monday. It will begin at City Railway station and culminate at Freedom Park. "We will begin a hunger strike from Tuesday till our demands are met," said Praveen HG, student leader, agricultural students association. TNN

MEDICAL COUNSELLING

rectorate of medical education (DME) said a final meeting will be held on Monday.

Sources in DME hinted that the stalemate is delaying issuance of the seat matrix, after which students will be able to enter their final choices and get seats allotted after the first round of counselling. V Manjula, additional chief secretary to the government in DME, said, "We will have more interactions with private medical colleges to resolve the issue and sign a consensual agree-

ment. We have set a July 13 deadline to complete the first round of NEET counselling and plan to begin on July 4."

Meanwhile, eight deemed-to-be universities with nine colleges have filled their seats by admitting students through the all-India counselling. S Kumar, chancellor of Sri Devaraj Urs Academy of Higher Education and Research, Kolar, said, "Of 150 seats for UG medical course, we have filled 127 through DGHS counselling; students have started reporting to college. Only 23 NRI seats are yet to be allotted."

Practising for 36 yrs, radiologists to write exam for recognition

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Bengaluru: They landed PG diploma seats in Medico Radiology Diagnosis (DMRD) on merit, cleared the exam and have been working successfully in private hospitals or running their own ultrasound scanning centres over the past 36 years. However, they can't suffix their names with their qualification. The reason — the course hasn't been approved by the Medical Council of India, citing lack of sufficient staff in the medical college.

This is the sad tale of 62 radiologists, who completed their two-year postgraduate DMRD course from the government-run Vijayanagar Institute of Medical Sciences (VIMS) in Ballari in 1982. Ironically, they were allotted seats by the government based on their scores in MBBS.

Pushed to the wall, 45 of these specialists are now writing a competency-based assessment exam to be conducted by the medical education department for registered

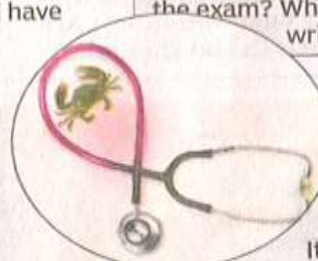
'Tough to hire prof'

Director of medical education and vice-chancellor of Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) S Sacchidananda said: "These doctors have specialised in radiology and have also got the certificate from the college. They needn't write the exam as it is meant for doctors with only MBBS who want to get qualified in ultrasound scanning under PCPNDT Act. We are trying to recruit permanent staff, including professor in radiology, in VIMS to get MCI approval."

He admitted that it has been tough to hire radiologists for teaching in colleges as they earn more in private practice. Dr Sacchidananda said the doctors will get KMC recognition once MCI approves the course with retrospective effect.

practitioners of ultrasound scanning as per Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) rules that prohibit sex selection. The exam is held to recognise MBBS graduates trained in ultrasound scanning.

The written exam (theory) is scheduled for July 5 and practical will be held from Ju-



'Why can't we be exempted from exam'

The doctors have questioned the government's move to continue to admit students to the course every year even when MCI consent is pending. "If the government is sure of getting MCI approval, why can't we be exempted from writing the exam? Why can't the government give us an undertaking in writing," ask the doctors.

KMC to ask college to get MCI nod

Aggrieved doctors met members of KMC on Saturday to highlight their plight. Dr H Veerabhadrappe, president, KMC, told STOI said he sympathizes with the doctors but the situation is tricky. "VIMS is an old institution. It's strange that the course has not been approved by MCI, and it's a wrong move by the government to allot seats to the course year after year. Going by the rulebook, we can't add the DMRD qualification for these doctors in our records. The candidates can either approach MCI or the court. We will write to VIMS to make efforts to get the course approved by MCI," he added.

fetal medicine experts.

While many are waiting for MCI's nod, a few have done MD radiology, a three-year course, for the sake of a recognition.

The DMRD course in VIMS is continuing with a single assistant professor and technicians hired on temporary basis. The post of professor of radiology is vacant, said sources.

ly 7 till July 13. "The DMRD course has not been recognised by MCI so far. Hence, the qualification has not been incorporated in the Karnataka Medical Council (KMC) registration certificate. According to KMC, we are just MBBS doctors," said a radiologist, who does no less than 800 scans a month. Some of them are also