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Don't hike fees, schools told

RASHMI BELUR
BENGALURU, DHNS

Private schools in the state have been barred from increasing the tuition fee for the 2020-21 academic year.

The state department of public instruction has ordered schools not to hike fees considering the financial crisis several parents are facing due to the Covid-19 pandemic and nationwide lockdown.

There is a provision for

PU colleges start admissions

The board examinations for Class 10 may have been postponed due to the lockdown, but it has not stopped private pre-university colleges from admitting students.

private schools to hike tuition fees by up to 15% every year according to the 2013 guide-

lines issued by the department. However, these particular guidelines will not apply for the 2020-21 academic year as far as the fee hike is concerned.

However, the department stated that if any schools wish to decrease the fee, they are free to do so.

According to officials from the department, the order has been issued following complaints from parents that some Bengaluru-based schools were increasing the fee.

UGC issues advisory for academic year

Universities, colleges can begin classes for second and third year students from Aug. 1

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Universities and colleges can begin classes for second and third year students from August 1, and for first year students from September 1, according to an advisory issued by the University Grants Commission on Wednesday regarding the 2020-21 academic calendar.

With regard to the current academic year, the UGC suggested that classes – currently being conducted through various modes of distance learning – can be completed by mid-June. Examinations

will then be held online or offline based on local conditions and availability of resources.

Final semester examinations can then be held in July and may be shortened from 3 hours to 2 hour duration. Intermediate semester students can be graded based on internal assessment of the present and previous semester, UGC suggested.

The M.Phil and Ph.D students can be given a six-month extension to complete their degrees, with viva voce examinations being conducted via

video-conferencing.

All students will receive automatic attendance during the lockdown period. In the next academic year, however, they may follow a six-day week pattern.

The UGC advisory was issued after taking into account the recommendations of a panel headed by Central University of Haryana V-C R.C. Kuhad. However, one major recommendation to hold a common entrance test for UG and PG students seems to have been rejected and does not find a place in the final guidelines.

The UGC has emphasised that the guidelines are advisory, not mandatory in nature, and institutions are free to take decisions as required based on their own facilities and local restrictions due to COVID-19.

Going forward, the Commission encouraged colleges and universities to equip their faculty with online teaching tools, develop virtual classrooms and virtual laboratory facilities. About 25% of their syllabus can be completed through online teaching and 75% through face-to-face, said the UGC.

Fresh univ session from Sept, pending exams in July: UGC

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New Delhi: The new academic session will begin in universities from September 1 and from August 1 for those already enrolled, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has said in its guidelines on examinations and academic calendar in view of the Covid-19 pandemic. The pending university exams are to be conducted in July.

The admissions for the 2020-21 session will be conducted between August 1-31, according to the guidelines issued on Wednesday. It has also been recommended that universities may adopt alternative and simplified modes and methods of exams to complete the process in a shorter period of time like reducing the time from 3 hours to 2 hours as well as offering flexibility of both online and offline exams. The guidelines, based on the recommendations of two expert com-

SC makes NEET must for minority colleges

The Supreme Court on Wednesday ruled that single-window NEET will be mandatory for admissions to medical and dental courses offered by private unaided minority medical and dental colleges. **P6**

Pending X, XII exams will be held: CBSE

The board exams for Class 10 and 12 pending due to the lockdown will be held at the first possibility and there is no move to do away with the exams, CBSE officials said. The board is prepared to conduct crucial 29 subjects. **P7**

mittees, are suggestive in nature and universities can adjust as per their requirement and prevailing situation.

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MPhil and PhD students get 6-month extension from UGC

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New Delhi: The University Grants Commission said in case the situation does not appear to be normal in view of Covid-19, grading of students could be composite of 50% marks on the basis of internal evaluation and 50% marks on the basis of performance in previous semester (if available). In case of unavailability of previous semester marks, it said, "100% evaluation may be done on the basis of internal assessment." In such a situation, students may be allowed to improve their grades in special exams during next semester.

The UGC has also granted extension of six months to students of MPhil and PhD.

It stated that universities may follow a six-day week pattern, develop virtual classroom and video-conferencing facilities; prepare e-content/ e-lab experiments and upload on their websites; and train faculty in information and communications technology (ICT) for use of online teaching tools so that they complete about 25% of the syllabus through online teaching.

In view of the uncertain situation, higher educational institutions have been given the freedom to adopt/ adapt

UGC GUIDELINES ON EXAMINATIONS AND ACADEMIC CALENDAR IN VIEW OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Guidelines are advisory in nature

University may chart out its own plan of action taking into consideration the issues pertaining to coronavirus

EXAMINATIONS

- Universities may adopt alternative & simplified modes and methods of examinations
- May adopt efficient & innovative modes of examinations by reducing the time from 3 hours to 2 hours
- Universities may conduct Terminal / Intermediate Semester / Year examinations in offline / online mode
- In case the situation does not appear to be normal in view of Covid-19, grading of the students could be composite of 50% marks on the basis of internal evaluation & 50% marks on the basis of performance in previous semester only (if available)
- Extension of 6 months period to the MPhil or PhD students
- Period of lockdown may be treated as deemed to be attended by all the students



CALENDAR IS SUGGESTED FOR THE ACADEMIC SESSION 2020-2021

Admission Process:
August 1 to August 31, 2020

Commencement of Classes: Students of 2nd/3rd year (Aug 1, 2020); Fresh batch (Sept 1, 2020)

Conduct of Examinations:
Jan 1 to Jan 25, 2021

Commencement of Classes for Even Semester: Jan 27, 2021

Conduct of Examinations:
May 26, 2021 to June 25, 2021

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Universities may follow a 6-day week pattern

Develop virtual classroom and video conferencing facility and all teaching staff should be trained

Faculty should be adequately trained so that they complete about 25% of the syllabus through online teaching

and implement these guidelines by making alterations, additions or modifications to deal with any particular situations in the best interest of stu-

dents, the institution and the entire education system.

For the remaining 2019-20 session, it has suggested that teaching would continue

through distance learning and online tools like video-conferencing, social media, emails, etc till May 31.

Full report on www.toi.in

Board exams not cancelled, says CBSE

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: The pending examinations for Class X and Class XII would be conducted by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). There is no change in the decision of conducting exams for the 29 subjects post lockdown, CBSE stated on Wednesday. This has put to rest the speculations doing the rounds that the pending Class X exams for the northeast (NE) Delhi have been cancelled.

On April 1, CBSE had an-

nounced via a circular that it would conduct Board exams for 29 subjects, including six Class X subjects for the north-east Delhi, 11 Class XII subjects for NE Delhi and 12 Class XII subjects for all India.

Refuting any change in the decision, CBSE controller Sanyam Bhardwaj issued a statement, saying: "With regards to conduct of Class X examinations, several queries are being received by CBSE. In this context, it is reiterated that examinations of Class X as stated in the press

release dated April 1, 2020 will be conducted by CBSE. Adequate time of 10 days will be given to all stakeholders before starting the examinations. Examinations of all the subjects of Class X and XII mentioned in the press release will be conducted after assessing the situation once the lockdown is over."

In its April 1 release, CBSE had clarified that it would conduct examinations for only main subjects that might be required for promotion and crucial for admissions in higher

educational institutions. "As and when the Board is in a position to hold examinations, it shall hold examinations only for the 29 subjects."

The Class X subjects for NE Delhi include Hindi Course A, Hindi Course B, English Comm, English Lng & Lit, Science, Social Science. The Class XII subjects for NE Delhi include English Elective -N, English Elective -C, English Core, Mathematics, Economics, Biology, Political Science, History, Physics, Accountancy and Chemistry.

SDUAHER

NEET must for pvt minority med colleges

SC: Test Doesn't Violate Right

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New Delhi : Holding national interest to be above a religious and linguistic minority community's right to administer educational institutions, Supreme Court on Wednesday ruled that single window National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) will be mandatory for admissions to medical and dental courses offered by private unaided minority medical and dental colleges.

As many as 76 petitions,



As many as 76 petitions had challenged imposition of NEET

including many by reputed minority medical institutions like Christian Medical College Vellore and Ludhiana, had challenged imposition of NEET claiming it violates the fundamental right of minority communities to set up educational institutions and frame procedures for admitting students.

Dismissing all petitions, a bench of Justices Arun Mishra, Vineet Saran and M R Shah said, "We hold that there is no violation of the rights of unaided/aided minority to administer institutions under Articles 19(1) (g) and 30 read with Articles 25, 26 and 29(1) of the Constitution of India by prescribing of uniform examination of NEET for admissions in the graduate and postgraduate professional courses of medical as well as dental science."

Terming NEET as a standardisation of admission process devised in national interest, the bench said, "It does not interfere with the rights of the unaided minority institutions as it has been imposed in national interest considering the malpractices of granting illegal admission by virtually selling the seats in derogation to rights of meritorious students. The charit-

able activity of education became a saleable commodity and prerogative of wealthy persons and poor students were forced to get education funded from banks."

It said, "Minority and private institutions have to admit students based on merit in the permissible category, based on NEET as per procedure prescribed under the Act and Regulations." An SC bench headed by Justice Altmas Kabir in 2013 had struck down NEET through a controversial judgement. Three years later, SC had allowed review petitions to revive NEET. But, the question remained whether the tests could be applied to unaided private medical and dental colleges set up by religious and linguistic minority communities.

Writing the 108-page judgement for the bench, Justice Mishra said NEET was necessitated because of "ill-reputation developed by MCI". He said the system of admission still suffers from many malpractices and that national interest requires further improvement in the system to eradicate evils from the system. "The situation is still grim and require to be dealt with firm hand and steely determination," he said.

ಯುಜಿಸಿ: ಹೊಸಬರಿಗೆ ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್‌ಗೆ ಕಾಲೇಜು

ಹಳೆ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಗಸ್ಟ್‌ನಿಂದ ಪ್ರಾರಂಭ
ಅಂತಿಮ ಸೆಮಿಸ್ಟರ್‌ನವರಿಗೆ ಜುಲೈಗೆ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆ

ನವದೆಹಲಿ: ಕೊರೋನಾವೈರಸ್‌ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಧನಸಹಾಯ ಆಯೋಗ (ಯುಜಿಸಿ) ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ಅದರಂತೆ ಹೊಸದಾಗಿ ಕಾಲೇಜಿಗೆ ಪ್ರವೇಶ ಪಡೆದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್‌ನಿಂದ ಹಾಗೂ ಈಗಾಗಲೇ ವ್ಯಾಸಂಗ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಗಸ್ಟ್‌ನಿಂದ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳು ಆರಂಭವಾಗಲಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಯುಜಿಸಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ.

ಕೊರೋನಾ ವೈರಸ್‌ ಮಹಾಮಾರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಲಾಕ್‌ಡೌನ್‌ ಘೋಷಣೆಯ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ವೇಳಾಪಟ್ಟಿ



ಹಾಗೂ ವಿಸ್ತೃತ ಮಾರ್ಗಸೂಚಿಯನ್ನು ಯುಜಿಸಿ ಬುಧವಾರ ಬಿಡುಗಡೆ ಮಾಡಿದೆ. ಅಂತಿಮ ಸೆಮಿಸ್ಟರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಅಭ್ಯಾಸ ಮಾಡುತ್ತಿರುವ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಜುಲೈನಲ್ಲಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ.

ಸೆಮಿಸ್ಟರ್ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹಾಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಹಿಂದಿನ ಸೆಮಿಸ್ಟರ್‌ಗಳ ಆಂತರಿಕ ಮೌಲ್ಯಮಾಪನಗಳನ್ನು ಆಧರಿಸಿ

ಶ್ರೇಯಾಂಕವನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗುವುದು. ಕೊರೋನಾ ವೈರಸ್‌ ಪರಿಸ್ಥಿತಿ ನಿಯಂತ್ರಣಕ್ಕೆ ಬಂದ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಜುಲೈನಲ್ಲಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳು ನಡೆಯಲಿವೆ.

ಯುಜಿಸಿ: ಹೊಸಬರಿಗೆ ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್‌ಗೆ ಕಾಲೇಜು

✍ ಮೊದಲ ಪುಟದಿಂದ

ಅಂತಿಮ ಸೆಮಿಸ್ಟರ್ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಜುಲೈನಲ್ಲಿ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳು ನಡೆಯಲಿವೆ. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ಮೂಲ ಸೌಕರ್ಯಗಳು ಲಭ್ಯವಿದ್ದರೆ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಸೆಮಿಸ್ಟರ್ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳು ನಿರ್ಧಾರ ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು ಯುಜಿಸಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ.

ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳು ಆರಂಭವಾದ ಬಳಿಕ ವಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಆರು ದಿನ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲಿವೆ. ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಲಾಕ್‌ಡೌನ್ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ ಪ್ರಯಾಣ ಇತಿಹಾಸವನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಪಿಎಚ್‌ಡಿ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಆರು ತಿಂಗಳ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ಅವಧಿಯನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದೆ.