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Common Tests May Make DU Cut Offs History

Anubhuti Vishnoi

New Delhi:

SOME RESPITE Authorities are planning a comprehensive consultation to assess the possibility of holding a single examination

The University of Delhi is planning a drastic change in admission norms for its colleges. It will consider replacing the system of setting minimum admission scores with an entrance examination, amid reports that school boards were inflating marks and many high-scoring students were unable to get into colleges because the cut-off levels were scaling new heights every year.

Comprehensive consultations are being planned to assess the possibility of holding a single entrance exam for admission to over 75 colleges spread across two campuses that are affiliated to one of the most prestigious Central universities.

Vice-chancellor Yogesh Tyagi confirmed to ET that such a proposal is under consideration and will be examined in detail as soon as this year's admission process is wrapped up.

He said similar suggestions had been made earlier.

“Now with reports of board marks being inflated to ease admissions, we are closely looking at solutions,” Tyagi told ET. “While this has been discussed a little at various places, it requires a more structured discussion. We plan inclusive discussions on this to see how to conduct it, how many examination centres may be needed and where to set up centres and other logistics.” While inflation of marks is a concern, it is not the only issue. Tyagi said the scale of such an exam would entail considerable work because over three lakh students from all over the country apply for admission to Delhi University every year. It is learnt that the proposal has been discussed at the Ministry of Human Resource Development. Ministry officials said all Central universities are autonomous and can set their own admission policy .

At present, some colleges hold entrance exams for certain courses, but the ‘cut off’ marks, or the minimum score necessary to be eligible for admission to a course, remain the key admission criterion across most DU colleges.

The cut-off norm has been questioned on counts of meritocracy and fairness. This year, there were reports that students from Tamil Nadu alone secured as many as 80% of the seats in a prestigious college in DU, which had set cut-offs of at least 98% for two undergraduate courses.

The highest cut-off this year was set for B.Com (Honours) at 99.25%. Save for Sanskrit Honours, every undergraduate course in DU had a first cutoff of over 96%.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal recently termed the DU admission process as ‘most bizarre’ -although he is not

the first to say so -and demanded an admission quota for Delhi students.

ADMISSION PROCESS



Proposal will be examined after admission process is over: VC

LOGISTICS ISSUE



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