

Grades dip in medical colleges

Students Blame Poor Valuation Standards, Demand Revaluation

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: The new year has not kicked off well for medical students in the city what with poor scores marring their annual examination results. The percentages of city students have come down by 20 per cent from a clear top score of 81 to 85 per cent in the previous years to 61 to 65 per cent this year.

While officials of NTR Health University said that such percentage variations are possible, medical students in the city are blaming the low valuation standards of the university for the drop in scores.

According to students of various government-run medical colleges of the city, the percentages scored have not dipped so low in the past five years.

"Students of our college used to score good percentages every year. While there used to be failures, no one ever fared so badly.

There is something wrong with this year's results," a student from OGH said. The results of the annual semester examinations came out two months ago and already many students are wanting a re-evaluation though the university has not obliged so far.

The students said that the university should introduce a proper re-evaluation system replacing the existing one of double evaluation. "The university does not allow re-evaluation in bulk. They do not entertain students submitting requests for re-evaluation unless they get a government order supporting the process. But it is very difficult to



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get a government order sanctioning the re-evaluation of 1000 student papers," a junior doctor said. While Osmania Medical College and Gandhi Medical College are the ones which are hit with the sudden fall in percentages, there are even private medical colleges who have had their share of bad grades, this time.

Students said that many of them have failed in the same subjects and that strengthens their claim of the flawed evaluation process. They said that even for BDS students (dental colleges) the results were bad compared to the last year. In sev-

eral dental colleges, students have got as low a percentage as 13 which was never the case earlier. According to medical education officials, many students who failed in the examination are those who are weak in English. "For the first year students the medium of instruction becomes a problem. They do not understand the classes and hence fair poorly," said K Venugopal, registrar, NTR University. The university is now doing its investigation into the low percentages scored.

Meanwhile, officials of city medical colleges said that some of the students who failed in the examination were the ones who have been doing well in the internal assessments. "The final results came as a shock for many students. Now, many of them will have to wait for the year to reappear for the examinations as automatic promotion is not done in medical colleges," a principal said.

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