

SHORT TAKES

DENTAL COLLEGES ASK PG STUDENTS TO COUGH UP FEE

DC CORRESPONDENT
HYDERABAD, JAN. 10

Students of postgraduate courses in dental colleges have been asked to pay the balance amount of Rs 10,000 lakhs in 2023, after the release of Government Orders 107, 131 and 20. The first year MDS students have been asked to pay the full amount, whereas the second year students have to pay the balance 40 per cent of the fee. This is immediately after the HCA order related to interim in the matter.

"The All India Dental Students Association has highlighted the students' concern of increased financial strain due to this decision. We want a review of these government orders as the fee amount due is significantly high in comparison with neighbouring states. The Telangana Admission and Fee Regulation Committee (TAFRC) has maintained that hike has been made due to the stipends paid to the students," said Dr Manzoor, the president of All India Dental Students and Surgeons Association.

"However, stipends are given in return for the services provided by students in hospitals. They also help alleviate the financial burden of the students. The students might feel that there is a significant difference in fee for both Category A (convener quota) and Category B (management quota) seats between TG, AP While TG students have to pay between ₹5.75 lakh and ₹7.75 lakh for Category A and Category B seats per ₹9.41 lakh to ₹4.90 lakh. For Category B, Telangana students pay between ₹13 lakh and ₹24 lakh and students in AP ₹6.83 lakh to ₹9.93 lakh.

Dr Manzoor also highlighted that fee parity needs to be maintained in the region for now. He said, "If the students lost the court case as they did not have efficient legal support to fight for their concerns."

MDS ASPIRANTS FROM TG AWAIT NEET CLARITY

SHRIMANSAI KAUSHIK I DC
HYDERABAD, JAN. 10

With the examination approaching and the applications process yet to begin, aspirants of the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) for Masters of Dental Surgery (MDS) have been left in a flux. The National Board of Examination in Medical Sciences (NBEAMS) had marked January 31 as the tentative date for conduct of NEET MDS along with the calendar of other examinations to be held in 2025, in November 2024.

Aspirants, wondered that with 21 days left for the exam as per the calendar, how could the board complete the application process and release of admit cards. "Students are in a state of panic as the board has released no official notification even on the issue of its position," said Dr C. Mohit Kalyan, an aspirant.

The usual duration of application process is 40-45 days. The application process lasts 20 days and admit cards are released at least 10 days before the exam.

It gives the students time to fill in their forms, pay the application fee and make arrangements to reach their examination centres," Dr Kalyan said.

Telangana colleges have about 6,500 dental PG seats, and over 30,000 students appear for NEET MDS every year. The NBEAMS has not released notifications for post-graduates this year.

Last year, the tentative exam date was February 9 and students were informed in the end of January that the exam would be held in March.

Another aspirant, Dr Aishwarya Ravishankar, was of the view that it would be good if the exam was postponed as many students were still completing their internships.

Our internship will end in March. If the exam is held anytime before that, we would have no time to prepare for it," she told Deccan Chronicle.

She said there was a trend of postponing NEET PG and NEET MDS exam date is shifted and students have at least a month's time to apply. For us, even this does not help. Dr Ravishankar noted.

NEET PG dates are announced at least seven months in advance and NEET MDS aspirants are intimated only two months in advance, she said.



Devotees gather in large numbers at various Vaishnava temples across Hyderabad for Vaikunta Ekadasi celebrations, on Friday.

— P. SURENDRA, DEEPAK DESHPANDE

Huge rush for Uttara Dwara darshan

Temple staff focus on crowd management; take help of cops, volunteers for safe rituals

V. SHIVANI REDDY I DC

HYDERABAD, JAN. 10

Vaishnava temples across the city witnessed a huge turnout of devotees on Friday for Vaikunta Ekadasi, when the temples open their Uttara Dwara (northern doors).

Following the recent stampede at Tirupati, officials took extra precautions to ensure smooth crowd management by deploying staff and volunteers, while the major temples also sought help from police personnel.

At the Ranganatha Swamy Temple, Jyayaguda, devotees from various parts of the city gathered in large numbers. The Uttara Dwara Darshanam and Garuda Perumal opened at 5 am.

"We visit every year on Vaikunta Ekadasi with family and temple is beautifully decorated



traditional cultural programmes throughout the day.

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"We visit every year on Vaikunta Ekadasi with family and temple is beautifully decorated

respective Vaikunta, and also experience the darshan of Sheerasastra Vaikunta Nadha, which is unique here," Said Dr. Madhava.

Devootee, "This is one of the oldest temples in the Old City. I feel blessed to take part in such a grand occasion," said Sh. Ashok Goud.

At the Venkateswara Swamy temple in Chikkadapally, rituals began with

an abhishekam at 3 am followed by the opening of the Uttara Dwara at 4 am.

"We observed long queues starting from the early hours, with devotees coming larger in the evening," said T. Venkateswaran, emeritus deputy commissioner. "As per the order of the endowments commissioner, I inspected the darshan facilities. With the help of temple staff and volunteers, we ensured devotees have darshan without any delay," he added.

Special police forces were deployed at the Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple at Tirumala Hills. "For the first time in 35 years, police managed crowd control at this temple and maintained safety with sanitisation services before and during the festival," said temple chairman J. Mallikarjun Reddy.

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launched by M.V.S. Mahalaxmi at Sri Srinivasa temple in 2016-17, who first came forward with 10 devotees to assist temples. The same year, during the Shivaratri, which attracts lakhs of devotees, she was requested to depots at least 100 volunteers.

It was a last-minute call and with hardly any time left, to mobilise people, Mahalaxmi rushed to Bhajama Sangalu (devotional bhajan groups) and sent 150 volunteers to Sri Venkateswara temple. This incident has led her to set up Bramarambika Seva Samithi in the name of the presiding deity of Srivilliputhur Andal temple. She got calls from almost all the major temples in the state. Explaining how she handled depoting volunteers, Mahalaxmi said that she has created social media groups and depots the volunteers for various needs of temples in their respective areas. The executive officers of temples have also been seeking the services of the samiti in hundi counting, Anna Prasada distribution, among others.

The hands wing of the samiti assists senior citizens and sick persons get smooth darshan among others.

Bramari Sena a go-to entity for crowd control in temples

NEERAJ KUMAR I DC

HYDERABAD, JAN. 10

With major temples in two Telugu states attracting huge crowds during festive seasons, the temple management have been facing a gigantic task in handling a large number of devotees and taking care of tasks such as prasadam distribution, Annadana programmes among others. In those tough times, the Chirala-based Bramarambika Seva Samithi, popularly known as Bramarambika Seva Samithi, with its 20,000 volunteers has been coming to the rescue of the temples.

The initiative was

Vizag Vande Bharat Exp gets four more coaches

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, JAN. 10

This Sunday, Train 20833, Secunderabad-Vishakapatnam Vande Bharat Express, leaving the port city in the morning, will be augmented with four additional coaches. It will now have 29 coaches and carry 1,440 passengers.

Train 20833 leaves Visakhapatnam at 5.45 am and reaches Secunderabad at 2.20 pm. The return train, Train 20834 leaves the Telangana capital at 3 pm and reaches the port city at 11.35 pm.

The festival marks two

years of the inauguration of the service by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The train has maintained a record 130 per cent occupancy.

Responding to the increasing demand, rail authorities announced the augmentation with effect from Saturday.

The 16-coach train used to accommodate 1,128 passengers.

The new configuration with 18 chair cars with 360 berths and two executive class coaches accommodating 104 passengers.

Arun Kumar Jain, the general manager of South

Central Railway, explained, "With the addition of four coaches, the Vande Bharat Express will be able to serve a larger number of passengers. This expansion is particularly timely during the peak Sankranti season, as more people will be travelling to their native places to celebrate the festival."

There is a second set of Vande Bharat Express trains (20707/20708) between the two cities.

It leaves Secunderabad at 5.05 am and reaches Vizag at 10.20 am.

On its way back, Vande Bharat Express leaves the port city at 2.30 pm and reaches Secunderabad at 11.25 pm.

The students studying in Grades 8-10 were

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Students explore DNA research

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, JAN. 10

selected from 24 schools from among 326 applicants. The

about two dozen students

from the city

were selected to experience exclusive DNA labs at Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) which concluded its 12th edition of Young Investigators Programme recently.

The students were provided hands-on experience of working inside labs and were shown how DNA is used to detect genetic diseases and other medical diseases are understood better through the biology of pathogens.

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TELANGANA TRADE PROMOTION CORPORATION LTD.

(Formerly TSTPC Ltd.) (An Undertaking of Government of Telangana)

Regd. Office-1st Floor, Telangana Bhawan, 3rd Floor, Falaknuma Road,

Hyderabad-500004, Tel: 040-24325591,

Email: info@tgtpc.org, https://tgtpc.tengtelangana.gov.in

Ref: TGTPC/RFP/TP/2025 Date: 10-01-2025

NOTICE INVITING REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFQ)

(Through e-procurement portal of Government of Telangana only)

TGTPC Ltd. invites RFQ through e-procurement portal of Government of Telangana

from reputed consultancy organization for implementation of interventions under Raising and Acceleration of MSM Performance (RAMP) viz. (A) Impulse Substitution, and (B) Identification and Elimination through Disease-Buyer-Seller Meet.

The prospective bidders shall submit their Proposals separately for each one of the Interventions and submit the EMD and cost of the documents for each one of the Interventions.

(1) (a) Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 5,000/- (Five Lakhs), (b) One copy of the bid document in PDF format, (c) Bidder's Bank Cheque/online in favour of TSTPC Ltd., Hyderabad.

(2) RFQ can be viewed and downloaded separately for each one of the Interventions from website: Website ID: TGTPC/RFP/SP/2025 https://tender.telangana.gov.in on 11-01-2025 from 11:00 AM onwards.

(3) Last date for submission of proposals online separately for each one of the Interventions: 30-01-2025 by 5 PM.

(4) Last for submission of hard copy of Proposals for both the Interventions: 31-01-2025 by 3 PM.

(5) TGTPC reserves the right to cancel this notification without assigning any reason whatsoever.

(6) For further information contact Manager at Mob: 9859191912

Sgt.

JOINT MANAGING DIRECTOR

RO NO.: 880-PPCL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25, Date: 10-01-2025

Sikhs gear up for 358th Prakash Purab festival

DC CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD, JAN. 10

The Sikh community is gearing up to celebrate the 358th birth anniversary of Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the tenth and last Sikh Guru and founder of the Khalsa Panth, on Sunday.

The 358th Prakash Purab will be observed, shedding light on the teachings of the Sikhs Guru.

In addition to the spiritual programmes, Guru Ka Langar (free community kitchen) will be provide nutritious meals to attendees and devotees.

Charanjeet Singh, will lead the shabads and kirtans, shedding light on the teachings of the Sikhs Guru.

In addition, he will be performing a gurbani kirtan on Sunday.

The congregation will feature recitations of Gurbani Keertans, performed by renowned Ragi Jathas (religious preachers) invited from various parts of the country. Esteemed Ragi Jathas, including Bhai Sarjeet Singh (Patna Sahib), Bhai Jaskaran Singh (Patiala), Bhai Jagdev Singh, and Bhai

AGGREGATE REVENUE REQUIREMENT (ARR) FOR FY 2025-26

(Rs. Crore)

SCHEDULED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW (APR) OF DISTRIBUTION BUSINESS FOR FY 2023-24

(Rs. Crore)

TGPCL

Approved Actual Deviation

O&M expenses 363.92 369.16 -5.24

RCE 354.02 357.73 -3.71

Depreciation 1158.53 842.13 -316.4

Losses on income 60.47 20.00 -40.47

Statutory appropriations 0.00 5.25 -4.75

Other Expenditure 0.00 22.78 22.78

ARR 569.22 486.07 -83.15

Less: NTI 32.42 35.40 -3.98

Net ARR 477.80 450.67 -27.13

Less: Revenue from OA 49.84 19.08 -30.76

Net ARR 428.96 331.60 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 17.04 17.04 0.00

Net ARR 411.92 314.56 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 1.44 1.44 0.00

Net ARR 409.42 314.12 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.41 0.41 0.00

Net ARR 409.01 314.71 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.99 314.70 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.98 314.69 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.97 314.68 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

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Net ARR 408.86 314.57 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.85 314.56 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.84 314.55 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.83 314.54 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.82 314.53 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.81 314.52 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.80 314.51 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.79 314.50 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.78 314.49 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.77 314.48 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.76 314.47 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.75 314.46 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.74 314.45 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

Net ARR 408.73 314.44 -97.36

Less: Revenue from OA 0.01 0.01 0.00

