

No scholarship, if students don't opt for accredited courses: Thakre

■ Students should go for NAAC or NBA accredited engineering courses

■ Staff Reporter

ADVISING students to be careful while filling options during the admission process of engineering, Gulabrao Thakre, Joint Director of Technical Education, said that students must check whether



Gulabrao Thakre

the course they opted for has accreditation of either National Accreditation and Assessment Council (NAAC) or National Board of Accreditation (NBA). This is because from the new academic year, no scholarship would be given to students who go for courses which do not have NAAC or NBA accreditation.

Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and other apex bodies like University

Grants Commission, All India Council for Technical Education, Council of Architecture have been appealing since long to colleges to get courses they are offering accredited from the agencies like NAAC or NBA. But it seems that the appeals have fallen on the deaf ears.

"Accreditation always measures the quality level of the institutions and helps them grow. Unfortunately, barring a few, no college even bothered to do so. This year, the Government has taken firm stand as far as disbursing scholarship amount is concerned. At least, this stand of the Government will make management of colleges serious," said Thakre.

Nagpur region colleges are poor in placements

POINTING out that neglect by the colleges towards the issue of accreditation, Thakre said, "It is because of lack of quality in institutions in Nagpur region that students are preferring institutions of Pune or Mumbai. Take example of placements. Barring 5 to 6 institutions in Nagpur region, no



one gives proper attention to the placement aspect. Some colleges even deceive students and parents in the name of placements. Many times students actually do not get placements but they are shown that they got the ones."

Colleges misusing 1:20 teacher-student ratio

ALL India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has changed the teacher to student ratio from 1:15 to 1:20. Taking full advantage of this changed ratio, technical institutions suddenly became active and started doing away with excess faculty. This has created unemployment. "I can understand that technical institutions are not in good shape as far as financial factors are concerned, but then removing staff

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is no solution. AICTE says it is bare minimum requirement and never asked to reduce the staff. It is painful to see that teachers are getting unemployed in large number," expressed Thakre.

DTE's industry-institute interaction initiative

TO REMOVE a lacuna in the institutes in Maharashtra Directorate of Technical Education (DTE) conducted its first seminar on Industry-Institute Interaction at Shri Ramdeobaba College of Engineering and Management under the leadership of Director Dr Abhay Wagh. "We had invited industries associations like VIA, MIA, Butibori Industries Association at the seminar. Dr Wagh has constituted the committees to monitor progress and we are doing it. Apart from the other things we are focussing on how to increase the placement," said Thakre.

Caste validity intimation given in January itself

THE caste validity certificate issue in the process of first year engineering admissions is unnecessarily taken up by the colleges.

Asking students either to submit caste validity certificate at the time of filling of application form else get treated as open category candidate is a new rule.

Thakre said, "DTE had come up with the circular well in advance, on January 15, 2018,

appealing students to procure the certificate. Nobody informed the parents nor they themselves took pains to know. Now, after almost six months, suddenly people have come out of deep slumber and are making a beeline to certificates. If they do not submit the certificate then they would face the music. Colleges should stop making unnecessary noise."

New rule introduced in admission process

A NEW rule for admissions has been introduced for which colleges should heave a sigh of relief. Two years ago, DTE brought new admission rules based on 'Fridge, Slide, Float'. It was totally student-friendly and there was liberty for the students wherein he could move till the last round without taking admission in any colleges as it was not mandatory for them. But the Government noticed that the system had many loopholes. So, this time, it made a small change in the process. As per the change, if students put an option of particular branch in a particular college and during Centralised Admission Process (CAP) round they get accommodated in it then they have to take admission in it. If they fail to take admission then they can not move ahead in the admission process. This was actually taking place before 'Fridge, Float and Slide' system. Now 'Fridge, Float and Slide' is there but this change is made by DTE.