

NEET

Published: 09th January 2019

## Despite steep cost, 80% increase in Indian students wanting to study MBBS abroad, in 2018

The numbers were revealed in an RTI reply. 17,504 eligibility certificates have been issued by the MCI between 2017 and 2018



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In an interval of three years, there was an increase of 81 per cent in the number of eligibility certificates that the Medical Council of India issued to students who wanted to study **MBBS** abroad, reveals an RTI reply. While 3,398 received eligibility certificates from March 2015 to March 2016, the number shot up to 17,504 in the interval of January 2018 to December 2018.

From 2016-2017, the number of certificates was 8,737 and it was 14,118 from 2017 to 2018. Interestingly, the number of students who registered for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) increased by 14.4 per cent. This might mean that fewer number of medicine seats in the country could be the reason for youngsters to migrate to other countries.

“As per the recent data, nearly two lakh more candidates are going to take the **NEET exam** in 2019, a growth of 14.4 per cent from last year. The entrance test for MBBS/ BDS aspirants saw registrations soar to a record 15.19 lakh candidates as against 13.26 lakh. The number of students has increased but the number of seats remains the same leading to tougher competition. It is for sure that students who will not secure a Government seat are likely to go to foreign medical colleges owing to lower fees, good quality education and better opportunities,” said Saju Bhaskar, President and Founder, Texila American University

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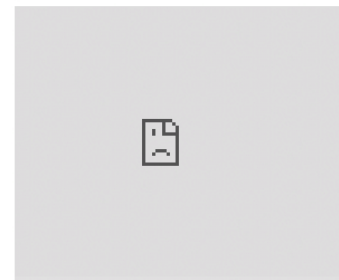


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### The cost factor

Surveys show that the cost of Medical Education in government colleges in India is comparatively lesser than the cost in other countries. The tuition fee per year in the All India Institutes of Medical Sciences, Delhi is Rs 1,000, while in the other six AIIMS, the fee is Rs 5,500. In State-run medical colleges, the fee varies from Rs 250 per year in Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi to Rs 80,000 per year in the Government Medical College, Patiala. In private colleges, the cost varies from Rs 3.5 Lakh to Rs 50 Lakh a year.

In the top countries preferred by Indian students for education the average tuition fee for an Undergraduate Medical course are — Rs 30 Lakh in the USA, Rs 28 Lakh in the UK, Rs 17 Lakh in Australia and Rs 17.5 Lakh in Canada.

TAGS NEET Medical education MBBS rti

UoH

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## Anonymous poster accuses UoH professor of allegedly 'leaking' entrance exam paper to ABVP student

Many students protested after this news reached them and they've demanded an enquiry into the matter. However, the ABVP-controlled Students' Union sees a conspiracy in the whole thing



Johanna Deeksha  
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The poster states that it has come to the notice of the students that the Political Science entrance question paper 2018-2019 was leaked to right-wing students by Dr Veerababu

According to recent news reports, an assistant professor from the Political Science department at Hyderabad Central University allegedly leaked an entrance exam question paper to an ABVP affiliated student. The question paper was set for the PhD entrance examination in 2018, says a poster

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While a 19-year-old student in Shivaganga was assaulted with lethal weapons on the college campus, two women in an MTC bus were assaulted by a group of college students in Chennai [edexlive.com/news/2019/feb/...](https://www.edexlive.com/news/2019/feb/)

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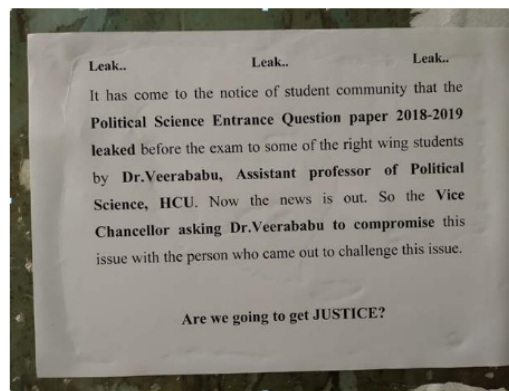


that is being pasted all over the campus.

The poster states that it has come to the notice of the students that the Political Science entrance question paper 2018-2019 was leaked to right-wing students by Dr Veerababu, assistant professor at the Political Science department. The note goes on to say "The issue has reached the VC and the professor has been asked to compromise with the student who came out to challenge this issue."

Many students protested after this news reached them and they've demanded an enquiry into the matter.

Devesh Nigam, Controller of Examinations told NewsClick that the posters were not authentic and that there was no such malpractice in the exams. He added that the exam in question was conducted eight months ago on June 5 and that there was no evidence of such an incident taking place. The posters do not have any signature.



Aarti Nagpal, President of the ABVP-controlled Student Union at UoH seconded the Controller and said the fact that there was no signature in the posters raised doubts about whether the allegation was true. "There is no mention of the student or the organisation that printed the posters. Anybody could have put this up. If there is any truth in the matter, then the accuser should come up with evidence that proves their allegation," she said.

Nagpal said that if the accusation was, in fact, true, then as the President she would invite any student or organisation to come and confide in her. "If there is evidence to prove the claim then we will ensure that there is a grievance committee in place and an enquiry is held against the faculty in question. But somebody should come up and identify themselves and give proof. Otherwise, anyone could say things like this. Just because I'm upset with a professor, I could also put up a poster but that doesn't make it true," Nagpal explained.

Another student, Sreerag Poickadan, a member of the Ambedkar Student Association said that he firmly believes that an enquiry must be conducted and the faculty should prove his innocence. "The allegation is coming from the students so it has to be taken seriously. Something must have definitely happened otherwise something like this would not have made it to the news," he said.

Another reason why Sreerag is so sure the allegations could



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be true is because he believes that there has been an increase in the number of ABVP students getting admitted into the University, "Their numbers have been increasing in the recent past and it is quite unusual. So I think an enquiry is mandatory," he said.

TAGS 

Sedition Case

Published: 06th February 2019

## Sedition case involving JNU students is exhaustive and is taking time, Rajya Sabha told

The police charged former JNU students Kanhaiya Kumar, Umar Khalid and Anirban Bhattacharya for allegedly shouting anti-India slogans during an event on the university campus on February 9, 2016



Image for representational purpose only

The sedition case involving some students of Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) is exhaustive, involving many accused, witnesses and hence the matter is taking time, the Rajya Sabha was informed on Wednesday.

Union Minister of State for Home Hansraj Ahir said the Delhi Police has filed a charge sheet in the case registered with the Vasant Kunj (North) in Delhi under sections 124-A/147/149/120-B/34 of IPC against some students and leaders of JNU in the Court of Metropolitan Magistrate on January 14, 2019.

"As reported by Delhi Police, the investigation was exhaustive, involving many accused/suspects, exhibits and witnesses, and hence, the time taken," he said replying to a written question on whether it is a fact that the Delhi Police has filed a charge sheet against JNU student leaders for sedition.

The police also charged former JNU students Umar Khalid and Anirban Bhattacharya for allegedly shouting anti-India slogans during an event on the university campus on February 9, 2016, to commemorate the hanging of Parliament-attack mastermind Afzal Guru.

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The others charge-sheeted in the case are Kashmiri students Aquib Hussain, Mujeeb Hussain, Muneeb Hussain, Umar Gul, Rayeea Rassol, Bashir Bhat and Basharat. As many as 36 others, including Communist Party of India (CPI) leader D Raja's daughter Aprajita, Shehla Rashid (then vice-president of the JNUSU), Rama Naga, Ashutosh Kumar and Banojyotsna Lahiri have been named in column 12 of the charge sheet due to insufficient evidence against them, police sources said.

Metropolitan Magistrate Sumit Anand put up the charge sheet for consideration before a competent court on Tuesday. The accused have been charged with offenses under sections 124A (sedition), 323 (punishment for voluntarily causing hurt), 465 (punishment for forgery), 471 (using as genuine a forged document or electronic record), 143 (punishment for being a member of an unlawful assembly), 149 (being a member of an unlawful assembly), 147 (punishment for rioting) and 120B (criminal conspiracy) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC).

The charge sheet also contains CCTV footage, mobile footage and documentary evidence. The police have alleged that Kumar had incited the mob to shout anti-India slogans. A case was registered on February 11, 2016 under sections 124A and 120B of the IPC against unidentified persons at the Vasant Kunj (North) police station, following complaints from Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Maheish Girri and the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP).

The said event had taken place despite the university administration canceling the permission, following a complaint from the ABVP, which had termed it as "anti-national".

However, Kanhaiya Kumar termed the move as "politically motivated" and questioned its timing, ahead of the parliamentary election. "The charge sheet is politically motivated. However, we want the charges to be framed and a speedy trial in the case so that the truth comes out. We also want to see the videos that have been placed on record as evidence by the police," he said

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Sedition Case

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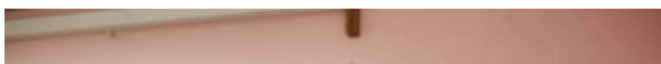
## Never expected a transfer: Why students broke down when this Tirupur Govt School teacher was shunted out for protesting

Several teachers in the state have been receiving transfer orders because they participated in the wide-spread protests



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Suresh E was surrounded by his crying students after news of his transfer broke

The Tamil Nadu government is transferring many of the teachers who participated in the JACTTO-GEO protests. Through this move though, the government is not just 'punishing' the teachers but their students too. This was evident through a photo published in The New Indian Express that had captured a crying Suresh E, a government school teacher from Tirupur surrounded by his weeping students.

When his students came to know of Suresh's transfer, one of them snatched his phone, the other took away his bike keys and another even took away his shoes. This might seem childish, but they *are* children and they are trying to hold on to someone they clearly love and admire. "I'm not sure how they came to know of the transfer but children are so sharp these days," Suresh said. The reason his students are so attached to him is not just because he is an excellent teacher but the fact that he not only maintained a relationship with his students inside the class but also made the effort to get to know their parents and their lives outside those four walls.

Which is probably why the parents rushed to the school that day too. They remained on campus till 5.30pm that day trying to convince Suresh to fight against the transfer order. "The parents kept worrying, asking who would take care of their children now. They are insistent that I not accept the transfer," the 38-year-old teacher said. The Mathematics teacher has been teaching at the Velliyankadu Corporation Middle School at Thennapalayam Colony for the last ten years. Right now, he's in a state of confusion. Should he listen to his students or the government?



**Popular Teacher:** Suresh E has been teaching for the last 15 years and says he loves his job

The decision to participate in the protests was not taken expecting such a result. Obviously. "The teachers' associations had decided to go on this protest and advised us to do so also. We had no intention of creating a situation that would adversely affect the students. That would never be a teacher's intention. However, the situation became more grave," the Math teacher said. Last time such a protest took place, the court had asked them to withdraw, Suresh recalled. This time though, the government remained silent about the teacher's demands.

Suresh has been teaching for the last 15 years and so we ask him if he has ever received a fair salary, "No one can fix the salary of a good teacher. Some might not mind working for small amounts, some may think they deserve more. But asking or not asking for a higher pay doesn't make a teacher bad or good. At the end of the day, we all just want to do our jobs."

But the salary has not affected Suresh in any way, he has enjoyed every second of his life as a teacher, he says. Interestingly, Suresh never really wanted to become a teacher, it was his father's dream for him though. His own teacher and mentor, Nanjappan is the one Suresh aspired to be like, "I've always wanted to my students to stand apart. I always ensured that every student of mine did something incredible with their lives," he said with pride.



**Outside Four Walls:** Suresh also made it a point to establish a relationship with the parents of his students

Suresh did not even have the slightest feeling that he could be transferred for his participation in the protest. "I thought that there might be an inquiry but a transfer, I did not expect

that at all. I was in complete shock when I heard and it broke my heart. But I think in 5-6 days I should be able to recover," he added. He says he knows he will soon adapt to the new school and the students but his present students' crying faces continue to haunt him. "It is like how marriage is for a girl. You go with hopes but it also means that you're leaving your home and your family. It's never easy. But this is my job and I have to do it," he says with sadness.

When asked about the expectations he has about the new school, Suresh says he doesn't have any. "But I did have plans for this school, I had a roadmap of sorts and I wanted to do a lot here but I'm sure the students in the new school will inspire me. The more students I'm able to impact, the better," he believes.

So far, 17 teachers from Tirupur have received their transfer orders. Suresh is still on leave, so he hasn't physically received his orders yet. But says that it is a confusing time for all of them. "I'm in a dilemma. As I said, I don't know if I should listen to my students or to the government. I'm not sure if there is a chance that they will cancel the order either. I realise that I have a lot of responsibilities on my shoulders, but I'm still uncertain of my next move," he explained.

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## Violence in Tamil Nadu: Students injured in clashes, in two separate incidents

While a 19-year-old student in Shivaganga was assaulted with lethal weapons on the college campus, two women in an MTC bus were assaulted by a group of college students in Chennai



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Image for representational purpose (pic:newindianexpress.com)

A dispute that, allegedly, cropped up during a game of kabaddi took a violent turn days later as a 19-year-old student was assaulted with lethal weapons on the college campus in Shivaganga on Tuesday



Campus in Sivaganga on Tuesday.

The teenager, a resident of Pillur, studying in Raja Doraisingam Government Arts College sustained injuries on the head and was rushed to Government Sivaganga Medical College and Hospital. Sources said that he was referred to the GRH in Madurai. He was later admitted to a private hospital and is said to be out of danger.

Meanwhile, the police have nabbed the suspect. Sources said that a week ago, while the teenager was playing kabaddi with a group of students from his college, an altercation broke out and the teenager was beaten up. Recently, he retaliated by assaulting his attacker.

The issue did not end with this. On Tuesday, the student who was attacked, along with a few others assaulted the teenager on the college campus.

The college authorities said that the injured teenager was pursuing his 2nd year BA History course. The CCTV footage of the incident was handed over to personnel of Sivaganga Town police station.

Superintendent of Police T Jayachandran said that they had nabbed the suspect and had launched an investigation.

In another incident, two women passengers in an MTC bus were injured when two groups of college students clashed at the Simpson bus stop in Chennai Anna Salai on Tuesday afternoon. The students were from the Nandanam Government Arts College and New College, said the police who nabbed five of them and were searching for others.

The injured were identified as B Shanthi (42), a resident of Bogh Road in T Nagar, and a 19-year-old student of SIET College. They were injured while travelling in the MTC bus (52B) plying between Hasthinapuram and Parry's Corner.

"Around 2.30 pm, when the bus stopped at the Simpson bus stop, one group of students started attacking the other group in the bus. Some students pelted bottles which injured two women. While Shanthi suffered injury on her left forehead, the college girl was suffered injuries on her leg. The duo were admitted in the Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital," said a police officer. The Chintadripet police have registered a case and have detained five students.

Investigation is on

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## 4 lakh teachers could face disciplinary action for participating in JACTTO-GEO protests

A database of all schools and teachers in every district is available on the portal. Officials would merely have to select the names of teachers and check the box against 'participated'





JACTTO GEO has requested that no action be taken against them and requested that their demands to be considered

Despite pleas from teachers who recently went on strike, the School Education department has **decided to take disciplinary action against** them. In a bid to collect accurate data on the number of teachers who took part in the strike, the department has asked Chief Education Officers (CEOs) to submit a **'strike report'** on Educational Management Information System software.

This decision has disheartened government school teachers, who had requested the State not to take disciplinary action and repeal their suspension. Several teachers, who were suspended during the strike in January, have not been allowed to rejoin duty, until the department completes its inquiry against them.

In a circular issued to all CEOs on Monday, Director of the School Education Department Rameswara Murugan instructed them to collect details of staff who participated in the strike between January 22 and 30 through respective District Education Officers and upload the same onto the EMIS portal.

A database of all **schools and teachers** in every district is available on the portal. Officials would merely have to select the names of teachers and check the box against 'participated'. The officers will then have to choose the dates on which the teachers took part in the strike.

"Action will only be taken against those teachers who participated in the strike despite being warned for eight days," said a senior official, estimating that roughly 4,000 teachers across the State could be taken to task. "We ended the strike on the CM's request. We did not want students to suffer. Now, we want the government to consider our welfare," said T Elangovan of **JACTTO-GEO**.

He said that the government should not penalise teachers for making reasonable demands. "We would have called off the strike much earlier, if the State had held talks with us," he said. The strike, which started on January 22, kept nearly a third of all government employees away from work during the initial days.

Tamil Nadu government should withdraw departmental action against members of JACTTO-GEO, who struck work a few days ago in support of their demands, TMC (M) president GK Vasana, has said. In a statement, he said the protesters are facing problems in discharging their duties as departmental action taken against them, has not been revoked, he said in a statement.

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