

Centre may scrap online CAT

Team DNA. BANGALORE

The Centre wants the old paper and pencil format for the Common Admission Test 2009 (CAT) back. The proposal is being discussed with the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), who have been asked to work out a common solution by Wednesday, when they meet officials from the ministry of human resources development (MHRD) for a final call. The big buzz is that MHRD might just scrap the computerised format.

“With the way things are taking place, it is likely that the government will take a stand to repeat the CAT 2009 in the paper and pencil method,” a source told DNA.

Over 20,000 students were turned away from online test centres this year due to server glitches and virus problems. The CAT committee is in the process of identifying and allotting a retest for these students.

“Due to the various glitches, there is a lot of discontent and ambiguity among the students. The old format might just work out,” said Meenal Rai, the director of PT Education, a CAT training institute.



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Train for CET in schools

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Train them young. This is exactly what three city schools are planning to do for 9th and 10th grade students. From April, three city schools—Vidya Vardhaka Sangha (VVS), National Hill View Public School and Vagdevi Vilas—will introduce a special training for exams like Common Engineering Test (CET) and the All Indian Engineering Entrance Exam (AIEEE).

“We have decided to introduce a foundation course in science and maths in schools. The idea is to help students prepare for competitive exams early,” said Vallish Herur, director, BASE, a coaching centre. “The classes will be during weekends. It will be handled by our teachers and also conducted during the summer vacations over 18 days,” Vallish added. The programme—Foundation SnT—will cover physics, maths, biology, chemistry and mental abilities. The programme fee is Rs11,500 per year and is optional for students.

PROBLEM SOLVED: The Centre wants the IIMs to reconsider the paper and pencil format for CAT exams