

New column in DU entrance form

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From the coming academic session, the Delhi University's centralised entrance form will have a new entry. The students who have appeared for Class XII and have applied for a re-evaluation will have to apprise the university about it in the admission form itself. In case the marks of a student increase in re-evaluation, the university will have to upgrade the college of the candidate.

Till last academic, Delhi University did not have any provision of taking in students or upgrading the colleges of students whose marks increase after re-evaluation. This new development has come up after the order of a Delhi High Court division bench of Chief Justice Dipak Misra and Justice Sanjiv Khanna in the case of one Jalnidh Kaur.

Jalnidh Kaur who had obtained 94 per cent in Class XII CBSE exam, was short of just 0.2 per cent to get admission in St Stephens College in Economics stream. She then went in for re-evaluation where her eight marks increased and she became eligible for admission in St Stephen's College. However, by the time the re-evaluation result was out, the admission in Delhi University had closed and Jalnidh was denied admission. It was then that she moved court. The court had then directed the CBSE and the Delhi University to work together and formulate a policy in time-bound manner to deal with the issue.

The challenges that the Delhi University is facing here is that, it deals not just with CBSE Board. Students from about 40 Boards, including all the State Boards apply for admission in Delhi University. "The same issue can come up with students who have appeared for Class XII exams from other boards. Re-evaluation result of many State Boards come out by September. In case these students too become eligible, how will the university deal with such cases? The problem is more complex than it seems to be," informed an officer of Delhi University.

The Delhi University has its own admission calendar. Admission for general category gets over by June. For other special categories the admissions are on till mid July. "The university will give a deadline for re-applying, with the re-evaluated result keeping in mind its existing calendar. Those students whose re-evaluation result will be out before the deadline will be considered by Delhi University. The students will have to attach proof of having applied for re-evaluation at the time of filling the centralised admission form. Only those students will be entertained. CBSE and the other board will have to come out with the re-evaluation result considering the Delhi University admission deadline," added the official.

In the case of National Institute of Open School (NIOS) too the Delhi High Court had asked the CBSE to announce the results before the admission closes at Delhi University so that the students passing out from NIOS can also get admission in Delhi University.

Lawyer and RTE activist Ashok Agarwal feels that such grievances need to be addressed and admission must be given to the deserving candidates. “Right to education cannot be denied. Universities and boards need to work in harmony and in a fixed time frame to ensure that this issue is addressed in the right manner,” said Agarwal.