

'Poor FY result is due to new engg colleges'

Hemali Chhappia | TNN

Mumbai: A cursory look at the first-year engineering result shows that one in every five students failed to make the mark. But a closer look at the mark-sheets tells a tale very different: a story that varies wildly across tech college campuses.

Of the 29,566 first-year engineering students who sat for their exams in November 2010, only about 19% cleared it. FY engineering students who took their exams in 1995 had it worse as engineering result had hit rock-bottom: it was merely 5% then.

But overall success rate in the last decade has been hovering around 30%. Despite the fact that the 2011 results have been 10% less than the normal average, heads of top colleges said this year was neither an aberration, nor were the papers trickier than the previous editions.

"Our results have been consistently good, just like this year. The papers were a bit tough," said

STAR PERFORMERS

College	Performance
Sardar Patel Institute of Engineering	64.46
DJ Sanghvi College of Engineering	64.24
Fr C Rodrigues Institute of Technology	54.22

LOW IN THE CHARTS

College	Performance
Lilavati Avhad Instt of Technology	less than 2
Alamuri Ratnamala Instt of Engineering	2.23
Rajendra Mane College of Engineering	2.83

Source: University of Mumbai | All figures in %

Meera Narvekar, a faculty of DJ Sanghvi College of Engineering where 64.24% FY students cleared all the papers.

"It is mostly in new colleges, many of which are at the city's fringes, where the failure rate has been high," said a university official. Of the 52 engineering colleges affiliated to Mumbai University, 21 have a single digit percentage of passes. Another 10 colleges have less than 20% as their performance rate.

Management council member Dilip Karande said he has called for an inquiry into the issue. Senate members who have visited engineering colleges before they were given the go-ahead blame the 'mindless expansion' that has come at the expense of quality.

"Some institutes don't have enough teachers, many don't have laboratories, several don't conduct regular lectures," said Vaibhav Narwade, former senate member.