

Plethora of UG schemes

Neha Pushkarna | TNN

New Delhi: If all plans fall in place, 2011-12 may just be the most student-friendly year in Delhi University. Touring colleges on Thursday, vice-chancellor Dinesh Singh announced a variety of schemes for undergraduate students.

For the first time, DU has decided to grant a fund of up to Rs 15 lakh for research and innovative projects that students undertake in collaboration with their college teachers. These projects should explore more than the syllabi and can be related to social topics.

“We want even our undergraduate students to research and explore and we are ready to support them with funds. Students can even travel for their project but they will have to carry it out in collaboration with teachers,” said V-C Singh.

According to dean (research), Ajay Kumar, the funds will be granted to a team of around 10 students from different disciplines in a college and there may not be a limit on the number of projects. “We want them to go beyond their curriculum. The university is already in talks with colleges and we expect a huge response. The details will soon be on our website,” he said.

DU is also sending teams of 25-30 students from the economically weaker section to spend a few weeks in foreign universities. In October, a team will go to Melbourne University. “We will ask the candidates to write a piece on why they think they should get this chance,” Singh said.

The V-C also invited all students to a three-day creative writing festival and a music festival to be organized before the October vacation. “Anyone who loves writing can send entries to us. Students will have to give a five-minute presentation during the festival,” he said.

The V-C had a surprise for teachers as well. Every teacher could now travel abroad for any conference once in three years. The expenses will be paid by DU.