

Applications for engg courses rise after 8 yrs

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Jaipur: After a gap of eight years, engineering colleges affiliated with the Rajasthan Technical University in the state have recorded rise in number of applications for admissions. The online admission process has recorded 24% rise in the admissions forms that has cheered the technical education state in the country has risen from 10,800 applications in 2017-18 to 14,143 applications in 2018-19. The highest number of applications of 70,000 was recorded in 2010. The figures are still less than the total number of seats of 35,000.

Experts say that improved admission process has attributed to the rise in number of applicants. This year the registration fee was reduced from Rs 10,000 to Rs 700. "The high amount has been preventing several students who were not sure of getting their desired college and branch to even apply for the admissions," said Avinash Panwar, official at technical education department.

For the first time the body which conducts the exam



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has formed a helpline mechanism at every district which makes problem solving easy. "The online admission form no doubt is lengthy and for some candidates may require assistance in the filling of form," said Panwar.

Following the footsteps of premier colleges, the department has actively handled queries of students on social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook etc. They said that social media platforms are very common for students, which is also a reason

that sizeable number of applicants reached us through the social media.

Despite the rise in the number of applicants, the fact remains that 60% of the seats are going to remain vacant. "It is very early to jump to the conclusion that students are turning on engineering. I think that improved admission system has encouraged students to apply for the course. Still lots of institutional changes are required to match the past record," said Puneet Sharma, a technical education expert.