

## Today's Paper » NATIONAL » KARNATAKA

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### Medical, dental PG seat aspirants continue to face anxious moments

Staff Reporter



Testing times: Authorities collecting biometric data of candidates appearing for COMEDK PGET in Bangalore on Sunday.— Photo: K. Murali Kumar

Even as the postgraduate entrance test (PGET) was conducted by the Consortium of Medical Engineering and Dental Colleges of Karnataka (COMEDK) for admissions to medical and dental colleges here on Sunday, the seat aspirants said they continue to face anxious moments as they were concerned about the validity of the test.

The Supreme Court, which is in the process of determining the validity of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET), had passed an order in December 2012 stating that private medical colleges could conduct their tests but cannot announce the results.

The COMEDK conducted the PGET at 28 centres in Bangalore on Sunday. The consortium has decided not to publish the answer keys.

Some of the students that *The Hindu* spoke to said they were having a “tough time” as they had been writing various exams over the last three months “without knowing which one would be valid”.

NEET for PG medical courses was conducted between November and December 2012 and NEET for PG dental courses were conducted last month.

Anjali K., a graduate from the Hassan Institute of Medical Sciences, said she had written over a “dozen” exams and hoped to secure a PG medical seat in any of the colleges. “We have been writing so many exams. This clearly affects our preparation,” she said.

Meanwhile, a press release from COMEDK said 12,321 students, of the 13,681 applicants, took the test for medical course and 4,744 students, of the 5,032 applicants, took the test for dental course. The release said that 63 candidates were unable to take the test as they came late or did not have a valid photo identification card. A.S. Srikanth, Executive Director, COMEDK, told *The Hindu* : “Around 30 students could not take the exam as their train from Hyderabad arrived late.” No case of malpractice was reported in any centre, he said.

- ***Seat aspirants concerned about the validity of the test***
- ***COMEDK has decided not to publish the answer keys***

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