

No Reduction In Qualifying marks for admission
Correspondence course : no relaxation

The Statesman

No Reduction In Qualifying Marks For Admission

By A Staff Reporter

The Delhi University's Academic Council on Saturday rejected the proposal of the Principal of the School of Correspondence Courses, Mr Rudra Dutt, to reduce the minimum qualification for admission to all the courses in his school from 40% to 33%.

A resolution was moved by an elected teacher member, Mr P. K. Chandla, suggesting that there should be an experiment in the beginning by reducing the minimum qualification for admission

only to B.Com. and B.A. (Pass) from 40% to 33% and, if it proved successful, it could be done in the other courses also.

Mr Chandla's resolution was, however, defeated by nine votes—eight votes went in favour and 17 against. This was the third time in two years and second in one month when such a proposal was turned down by the Academic Council.

There was a heated debate among the members on this issue for over two hours.

Mr Dutt pointed out that there were 22 universities in the country which were running the correspondence courses with no condition about minimum qualifications for admission. Only in Delhi University, the eligibility for admission was 40% marks.

He pointed out that Madurai and Mysore were the only two "open universities" where after 25 years of age any person, even if he did not complete school education, could sit for graduation examinations and after 30 for post-graduation.

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According to him, the number of students in Delhi University's School of Correspondence course was gradually decreasing. In the beginning there used to be about 18,000 students, their number, despite a decrease, remained about 14,000 for many years and now there were only 6,500 students.

For past many years the school was facing financial problems because of a decrease in the number of students. There should be about 10,000 students to make it financially viable institution. The Principal told the Council that the University Grants Commission had also written to the university authorities in October to reduce minimum qualification for admission in the school.

He pointed out that the university's External Cell was already admitting students below 40% marks. Fifty-three teachers of the school had signed a memorandum demanding that the minimum qualification for admission should be reduced to 33%. He said that such reduction, in fact, would divert students from the external cell to the school.

A member, Dr S. S. Rathi, said that by lowering the minimum eligibility for admission to all the courses the academic standard would come down.

Mr Sydney Rebeiro, said that the university had failed to sustain academic and administrative standards in the school. The Vice-Chancellor had never allowed reconsideration of an item barely five weeks after it had been rejected by the Academic Council.

Dr O. P. Gupta and Dr S. C. Gupta said that all eligibility conditions were worked out by the Committees of Courses and sent to the Council through the Standing Committee. In this case, no set procedure had been followed.

Meanwhile, in a joint-statement three Academic Council members, Mr Chandla, Dr Mahender Kumar and Dr S. K. Aggarwal, have alleged that the Vice-Chancellor had flouted the mandate given to him by the Council in extending approval to the syllabus of B.A. (Hons) History.

The Indian Express

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Express News Service

NEW DELHI, June 20.

The academic council of Delhi University on Saturday rejected a proposal of the School of Correspondence Courses that the minimum requirement for admission to the school should be brought down to the pass marks in the qualifying examination, that is, 33 per cent.

Seventeen members voted against it and 8 for it. Ten members were absent.

This is the third time in a year that the academic council has rejected requests from the school to lower the minimum qualification for admission to the school.

On Saturday the academic council discussed the issue for over two hours. Mr Sydney Rebeiro expressed surprise at the Vice-Chancellor's allowing reconsideration of an item barely five weeks after it had been rejected.

He said the university authorities maintained double standards. The unanimous resolutions of the statutory staff councils of Bhagat Singh College and Ramjas College were not considered relevant for inclusion in the agenda while this was.

In support of the proposal to reduce the minimum qualification, the principal of the school referred to a University Grants Commission letter of October 3, 1930, suggesting such a course.

A statement signed by a majority of the teachers of the school supporting the proposal was also presented to the academic council.