

Education TIMES



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THE PATH TO EXCELLENCE

Advertorial, Education Promotional Feature

NMC lowers pass marks to 40% in MBBS to focus on competency-based learning

Candidates scoring 40% in theory, 60% in practicals will be declared qualified in the subject



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ing of the subjects," adds Dr Vardhan, underlining how the guidelines will improve the quality of medical education, aligning it with international standards and addressing specific challenges faced during medical training.

MBBS students often prefer

practising just after completing their degree to enhance their clinical skills, says Dr Ravi Kant. "Every student who wants to pursue specialisation will be given in-depth knowledge about their subjects during the programme," he adds.

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GRADUATE APTITUDE TEST IN ENGINEERING (GATE) 2024

Organising Institute: IISc, Bengaluru

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Visit <https://gate2024.iisc.ac.in> for details (or scan the QR code).

Organising Chairperson, GATE 2024, IISc, Bengaluru



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GATE 2024

GRADUATE APTITUDE TEST IN ENGINEERING

Organising Institute: Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, Karnataka – 560012

Contact No.: 0802293 2644/3333. Website: <https://gate2024.iisc.ac.in>

Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering (GATE) is a computer-based test (CBT) and an all-India examination conducted nation-wide jointly by IISc and seven IITs, on behalf of the National Coordinating Board (GATE), Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India. Admission to Post-Graduate Programs with MoE and other Govt. Scholarship/Assistantship at engineering colleges/Institutes in the country are open to those candidates who qualify GATE, subject to fulfilling the admission criteria of the admitting Institute. The GATE score may also be used by some Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs)/Govt. organisations for their recruitment. GATE 2024 score will be valid for THREE YEARS from the date of announcement of results. GATE 2024 shall be conducted in selected cities and towns distributed across eight zones in India. GATE 2024 will not be conducted in international centres. Foreign nationals/Indian nationals residing abroad must travel to India to appear for the test.

Eligibility for GATE 2024: A candidate who is currently studying in the 3rd or higher year of any undergraduate degree program OR has already completed any government approved degree program in Engineering/Technology/Architecture/Science/Commerce/Arts.

GATE 2024 will be conducted for the following papers: Aerospace Engineering (AE), Agricultural Engineering (AG), Architecture and Planning (AR), Biomedical Engineering (BM), Biotechnology (BT), Civil Engineering (CE), Chemical Engineering (CH), Computer Science and Information Technology (CS), Chemistry (CY), Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (DA), Electronics and Communication Engineering (EC), Electrical Engineering (EE), Environmental Science and Engineering (ES), Ecology and Evolution (EY), Geomatics Engineering (GE), Geology and Geophysics (GG), Instrumentation Engineering (IN), Mathematics (MA), Mechanical Engineering (ME), Mining Engineering (MN), Metallurgical Engineering (MT), Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering (NM), Petroleum Engineering (PE), Physics (PH), Production and Industrial Engineering (PI), Statistics (ST), Textile Engineering and Fibre Science (TF), Engineering Sciences (XE), Humanities and Social Sciences (XH), Life Sciences (XL).


Two-paper combinations in GATE 2024: A candidate may appear for either ONE or TWO test papers from the approved list of combinations given on the website. The scheduling of two papers is subject to availability of infrastructure and feasibility constraints. Even if a candidate chooses to appear for TWO test papers, the candidate should fill ONLY ONE application form. Duplicate applications will be rejected, and the fee paid will not be refunded.

Disclaimer: Qualifying GATE does NOT guarantee admission or scholarship. Admission to any Institute is fully dependent on the admitting institute's criteria for educational qualification. GATE qualification does not assure a job, as it depends on the recruitment procedure of the employer. GATE committee is NOT liable for any legal obligations related to admission, scholarship, or a job.

Important Dates for Application Submission:	Opening Date of online registration / application portal	August 31, 2023
	Closing Date of REGULAR online registration / application	September 29, 2023
	End of EXTENDED period for online registration / application (with late fee)	October 13, 2023

Dates of Examination: February 3, 4, 10 and 11, 2024. Forenoon and afternoon sessions on each exam day.

Application Fee: (per test paper) The application fee is ₹ 900 for female candidates, SC/ST candidates and PwD candidates with benchmark disability (greater than or equal to 40%) and ₹1800 for all other candidates. Additional fee during the extended period is ₹ 500. The application fee must be paid ONLINE. The application fee once paid SHALL NOT BE REFUNDED.

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Ayushi. Gupta1
@timesgroup.com

The changes have been made due to the evolving medical education standards

The undergraduate medical education board under the National Medical Commission (NMC) has recently reduced the passing marks to 40% in MBBS subjects.

This amendment was done under the Competency Based Medical Education Regulation (CBME)- 2023 guidelines that are responsible for regulating the curriculum, MBBS admission process, and academic calendar among others. As per the latest update, MBBS students should obtain 50% aggregate marks and 60:40 (minimum) or 40:60 (minimum) in university conducted exams separately in theory and in practical (including clinical and viva voce) in order to pass the subjects.

Dr Somashekhar SP, global director, Aster International Institute of Oncology, says, "The changes have

been made by the NMC due to the evolving medical education standards, feedback

from medical educators, and the changing healthcare landscape. This formula typically refers to the weightage given to theoretical (written) and practical (clinical) assessments. For example, 40% of the assessment may be based on written exams and 60% on clinical evaluations or vice versa.

This approach aims to ensure that students have a well-rounded skill set."

Lowering the pass percentage in the MBBS exam will align the assessment criteria with the CBME approach, which focuses on competency-based evaluation rather than traditional percentage-based grading,

adds Dr Somashekhar.

The NMC aims to increase the number of doctors to manage the increasing healthcare demand.

"To maintain the fine balance in society, this will increase the number of primary healthcare providers in villages and smaller cities. This model is similar to China's 'barefoot doctors,' who were clinically skilled doctors supporting the people living in the interiors. This guideline should help in controlling the number of quacks operating in the rural areas," says Dr Ravi Kant, former vice-chancellor, King George's Medical University, Lucknow.

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MBBS students often prefer practising just after completing their degree to enhance their clinical skills, the NMC has come up with the 40:60 and 60:40 formula, says Dr Ravi Kant.

"Every student who wants to pursue specialisation will be given in-depth knowledge about their subjects during the programme. The NMC's focus here has shifted from enhancing students' theoretical concepts to making them clinically skilled doctors who can serve the primary healthcare as we do not need super specialists everywhere," he adds.



PHOTO FOR REPRESENTATION

ISRO's women leading the way

Women helming the recent space missions, Chandrayaan-3 and Aditya-L1, continue to be an inspiration for girls interested in space technology in years to come. We take a look at the qualifications, grit and determination of those who touched the stars

Popularly known as a 'Rocket Woman' of India, Ritu Karidhal Srivastava played a key role in India's Mars Orbiter Mission. As the mission director of Chandrayaan-2 and head of Chandrayaan-3 mission, Ritu has carved a path for women in space research and technology. Srivastava joined the ISRO in 1997 after earning a master's (Aerospace Engi-



Ritu Karidhal Srivastava
DESIGNATION Senior scientist, ISRO, served as Head of Chandrayaan-3 mission
QUALIFICATION Master's (Aerospace Engineering) from IISc, Bangalore; MSc (Physics), Lucknow University

neering) from IISc, Bangalore. A Lucknow Uni-

versity product, Srivastava pursued a BSc and MSc in Physics. Srivastava, a research scholar at Lucknow University, was conferred honoris causa (an honorary doctorate) DSc by the varsity in 2019. She has published over 20 papers in journals. The movie *Mission Mangal* illustrated her life on the big screen.



Kalpana Kalahasti
DESIGNATION Deputy project director of Chandrayaan-3
QUALIFICATION BTech (Aeronautical Engineering), IIT Kharagpur

The deputy project director of Chandrayaan-3, she has been the second-in-command to the mission after project director P Veeramuthuvel. Born in Bengaluru, Kalahasti graduated in Aeronautical Engineering from IIT Kharagpur and joined the ISRO in 2000. Her career began as a Radar Engineer at the Satish Dhawan

Space Centre, where she devoted extra attention to the intricate details of the project and made it run even during the pandemic. Kalahasti's achievements have earned her several recognitions, including the ISRO Team Excellence Award in 2019. Kalahasti was previously associated with the second lunar mission and the Mangalyaan mission.



Nigar Shaji
DESIGNATION Project director of Aditya-L1
QUALIFICATION MTech (Electronics and Communication), BIT, Ranchi

Management. She has given distinguished contributions to the Indian Remote Sensing, communication and interplanetary satellite programmes. Shaji earned BTech in Electronics and Communication from Tirunelveli Government Engineering College. She later pursued her master's in the same from BIT, Mesra, Ranchi. In 1987, Shaji started her journey with the ISRO when she joined the Satish Dhawan Space Centre where she was engaged with

She is the project director of India's first mission to study the Sun, Aditya-L1. The 59-year-old scientist is a native of Shengottai in Tamil Nadu's Tenkasi. Born to a farmer, Sheikh

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NMC issues clarification on fake permission letter issued to Andhra medical college
The National Medical Commission (NMC) has clarified about a fake letter that was issued to GSL Medical College, Rajahmundry in Andhra Pradesh. The letter was issued for increase of MD seats under the name of Medical Assessment and Rating Board (MARB). The NMC said that the letter is forged/fake and cannot be considered as valid permission from the MARB. The fake letter released on March 24, 2023, read that the application of college under NTR University of Health Sciences has been approved for the academic year 2023-24. "Appropriate action is being taken in the matter in accordance with the law," the NMC said. Recently, the NMC clarified that fake permission letters were issued to Mee-nakshi Medical College, Kanchipuram and Santhiram Medical College, Kurnool for renewal of MBBS courses.

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NMC lowers pass marks in MBBS to push competency-based learning

 Ayushi.Gupta1
@timesgroup.com

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As per the latest update, MBBS students should obtain 50% aggregate marks and 60:40 (minimum) or 40:60 (minimum) in university con-

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Lowering the pass percentage in the MBBS exam will align the assessment criteria with the CBME approach, which focuses on competency-based evaluation rather than traditional percentage-based grading, adds Dr Somashekhar.

NMC aims to increase the number of doctors to manage the increasing healthcare demand. "To maintain the fine balance in society, this will increase the number of primary healthcare providers in villages and smaller cities.

This model is similar to China's 'barefoot doctors,' who were clinically skilled doctors supporting the people living in the interiors. This guideline should help in controlling the number of quacks operating in the rural areas," says Dr Ravi Kant, former vice-chancellor, King George's Medical University, Lucknow.

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Organising Chairperson,
GATE 2024, IISc, Bengaluru



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Mode of Application : Online

9th, 10th, 11th & 12th Students

It is practically not possible for the Karnataka government to fulfil demands of private transporters, who stayed off the road. Peaceful protests are allowed in a democracy, but demands should be reasonable. We introduced Shakti scheme to benefit women. To ask for compensation because women are not taking private buses is impractical.

SIDDARAMAIAH,
Chief Minister

There was no need for all private vehicles to protest. It is known to everyone that private buses are facing some problems as we have enabled free travel for women under the Shakti scheme. For auto and taxi drivers, there might be some political motivation. We sympathise with them, and we want to address their problems. But threatening like this and troubling commuters is not going to yield anything good. The government will definitely consider their problems and address them.

D.K. SHIVAKUMAR,
Deputy Chief Minister

The severity of the 'side-effect' of State government's guarantees is hitting the people. Inequality and bias in distribution of government facilities has created anarchy. As a result of the unscientific, half-baked Shakti project, the private transport system has been destroyed today.

H.D. KUMARASWAMY,
JD(S) leader

Due to unrealistic guarantees of 'ATM Sarkara' in the State, the lives of private auto, taxi, and bus drivers are ruined. As a result of the government's stubbornness, ignoring all the demands and warnings of the private transport system, the people are suffering because of bandh today.

NALINKUMAR KATEEL,
BJP State president

Strike hits morning commute; some schools opt for online classes, others declare holiday

Though the private transporters' strike was called off in the afternoon, cab and auto services resumed only partially, continuing to pose hurdles

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The strike called by the Federation of Karnataka State Private Transport Association hit commuters in the morning as autorickshaws, cabs, and vehicles ferrying children to schools went off the road as part of the strike. Though the strike was called off later in the afternoon, cab and autorickshaw services resumed only partially, continuing to posing hurdles to commuters.

As the Karnataka Union of School and Light Motor Vehicle Drivers' Association had announced support for the strike call, city schools responded to this in a varied manner. While some schools had declared a holiday on Monday, many held online classes returning to the pandemic mode. However, most schools held physical classes on Monday.

"Students did not experience any difficulty getting to schools as most parents dropped them. Only schools which are largely dependent on the services of private buses/vans, mostly in the CBD area, declared a holiday as students could not reach without private vehicles," said Shashikumar D., general secretary, Karnataka Associated Management of Schools.

However, many parents who were inconvenienced by the strike call opted to not send their wards to schools on Monday. Maheshwari, a domestic worker at Yelahanka, said: "The school van for my daughter did not come in the morning. As both my husband and I had to get to work, we decided to let her stay at home on Monday. As she is still young, we cannot let her take public transport alone."

While there was no major impact for hospitals due to the strike, according to some private hospitals in the city, OPD patients



(Clockwise from top left) Private buses parked at the Kalasipalya bus stand during the transport strike in Bengaluru on Monday; commuters taking a BMTC bus at Nayandahalli ring road junction; auto drivers heading towards Freedom Park; and drivers and transport workers gather at Freedom Park to support the strike. K. MURALI KUMAR



with prior appointments with the doctors arrived late. The patients were not able to hire a cab or autorickshaws especially till afternoon. A staff at a private hospital in Seshadripuram said patients who took appointments for morning visits arrived only late in the afternoon. A few patients had to cancel appointments. However, emergency cases had no impact.

Many stay at home

The city streets saw sparse traffic on Monday, except in those routes where private transporters took out rallies to converge at Freedom Park, where they held a protest. Traffic snarls were observed on Mysuru Road, Tumakuru Road,

and J.C. Road. However, the core city within the Outer Ring Road saw less than usual traffic through the day.

Though BMTC and Namma Metro were the sole options of transport available, contrary to expectations, Kempe Gowda Bus Station (KBS), the largest public transport hub in the city, had relatively lower footfall on Monday. K.N. Giriraj, a BMTC official in KBS, said they were seeing lower footfall in BMTC and KSRTC bus stands.

The few autos and taxis operating had their reasons.

"I support the protest call, but I can't afford to let go of a day's earnings," said auto driver Kantharaju.

One of the major demands of the protesting auto and cab driver unions was a ban on bike taxis which they termed "illegal". However, they remained the only private fare transport plying the city streets in the first half of Monday. Bike taxi apps reported higher than usual demand and surge pricing till afternoon when the strike was called off and cab services resumed.

Airport services of BMTC ran an additional 55 trips ferrying over 2,500 passengers. While the average ridership in airport service buses is 12,000-13,000, over 15,000 passengers used the service on Monday, a senior official said.

Services resume only partially in the evening

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Though the private transporters' strike was called off by 2 p.m. on Monday, after Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy met the protesters and assured them that most of their demands would be met, services resumed only partially in the evening.

While autorickshaws were available in the transport hub of majestic, they continued to be sparse and very few in other areas of the city. Many aggregator

apps, which had surge pricing due to increased demand, brought down the rates to normal after the strike was called off. Even though finding autos on the apps was tough around 5 p.m., by 7.30 p.m. in the night, the rides were available as usual. The availability of cabs had also picked up by night.

Private bus services, mostly that leave to other towns in and out of the State, from Kalasipalya Private Bus Stand during night time remained unaffected due to the strike.

Airport commuters face hardship

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Commuters travelling to and from the airport had to undergo hardship as private cabs remained off road due to the strike.

BIAL had issued a passenger advisory on September 10 stating that due to the one-day protest called by the private transport vehicle association there might be disruption in operation of taxis, maxi cabs, private buses, and autorickshaws.

"Passengers are advised to plan their travel to and from the airport accordingly. Passengers are requested to follow the media releases from transport authorities for updates,"

the advisory had stated.

Despite the advisory, some passengers were unaware of the strike and had to rely completely on public transportation. "The BMTC Vayu Vajra buses operated as per schedule, as did the KSRTC cabs and the suburban train services. Only the private cabs did not operate which may have caused some inconvenience to the passengers. However, there were no incidents of passengers missing their flight due to the strike," said an airport official.

With no cabs available, passengers took the Vayu Vajra bus from the airport, including former captain of the Indian cricket team Anil Kumble.

Chinks in public transport infrastructure exposed

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The strike exposed the chinks in public transport infrastructure such as the lack of integration of various modes of transport, its accessibility to senior citizens and the challenge of last mile connectivity in the city.

Senior citizen Rudrappa Patil, a resident of J.P. Nagar, came to his daughter's house in Mathikere on Monday morning. He took the metro and got down at the Yeshwantpur station, planning to take a bus. However, he realised later that the bus stop - Yeshwantpur TTMC - was over a kilometre away and he

struggled to make the journey on foot.

People who landed in the Majestic hub either on trains or KSRTC buses, faced an almost complete absence of private fare transport. Though BMTC buses and Namma Metro services were available just a stone's throw away, many were not happy taking that option, mainly as they were carrying luggage.

J.S. Naik, resident of Vidyaranyapura, said he usually takes an auto to the metro station everyday. "But on Monday, I drove to the metro station. But parking slots in most stations were full. I ended up making the full trip to the office in my car," he said.

Pvt. employees WFH as last-mile connectivity becomes scarce

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With last-mile connectivity to metro and bus stations becoming scarce on Monday, many private and corporate companies, start-ups, and even some schools permitted their employees to work from home on Monday. While no blanket circulars were issued, the option was available for those who wanted it, most firms said.

Asha A., employee of a private firm, said: "I usually take an autorickshaw from my house in J.P. Nagar to R.V. Road metro station to get to my office at Trinity Circle. On Monday, after trying to get a ride for

almost an hour, I gave up, and opted to work from home."

Many companies said employees who sought WFH were allowed to do so. However, attendance at most offices, including PSUs, was not affected.

"As the talks about bandh were around for quite some days now, I had asked permission to work from home on Friday. I rely only on metro for my commute from the National College station to Sandal Soap factory station. However, my house is 4 km away from National College and without autos or bike taxis, I cannot commute," said Sandhya S., a corporate employee.

Timings BENGALURU

TUESDAY, SEP. 12
RISE 06:09 SET 18:23
RISE 03:52 SET 16:53

WEDNESDAY, SEP. 13
RISE 06:09 SET 18:22
RISE 04:41 SET 17:31

THURSDAY, SEP. 14
RISE 06:09 SET 18:22
RISE 05:28 SET 18:06

Bengaluru Weather max min
Tumakuru 30 24
Mysuru 31 23
Bengaluru 29 21

Bengaluru Today
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
30°C The weather will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Chances of light rain and thundershower will occur.

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THE HINDU
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Protesters attack non-participant cab drivers, bike taxi riders

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Agitated protesters, who were demonstrating in support of the strike, vented their ire on bike taxi drivers, cab drivers, and other autorickshaw drivers who did not participate in the strike on Monday. As many as 12 people were arrested and the police registered 13 cases against the people involved in violence during the strike.

In the early hours of Monday, stones were pelted at a few cabs that were ferrying passengers from the airport to the city. Eggs were thrown at a cab that was plying in Hebbal in the morning. Many cabs and autos were stopped by protesters and threatened with dire consequences to

stay off the road or join the protest. There were also reports that some of these drivers were physically assaulted by protesters near Residency Road and Anand Rao circle.

Near Silk Board junction, where a group of protesters had gathered, the tyres of 20 autorickshaws were flattened. The air was removed out of many such autos and cabs which continued to move on the roads. In the heart of the city, a man was recorded on CCTV cameras removing and throwing away the tyres from a yellow board car.

The tussle between auto drivers and bike taxi riders reached its peak during the protest as the former thrashed many bike taxi riders.

Minister pacifies protesters with assurances; drivers await written guarantees

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Although the members of the Federation of Karnataka State Private Transport Association had called for a 24-hour bandh, it was called off by 2.30 p.m. after the Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy visited the protest site at Freedom Park and assured that most of their demands would be fulfilled by the State government in due time. However, the Federation has made it clear that they will continue their strike in different ways if the government fails to keep its word.

More than 15,000 protesters had gathered at various places in the city in the first half of the day while around 12,000 of

them congregated at Freedom Park. Mr. Reddy said that while three of the 30 demands placed by the private transport unions will be implemented soon, the decision on 27 others would be made after discussions with the Chief Minister.

"We will definitely constitute a welfare board for the drivers as per their demands while also making arrangements to support their children's education. I will hold discussions with the Housing Minister about their request to form a colony for drivers. We will also take steps to provide loans at lower interest rates to drivers," he said.

He also mentioned that he was in discussions with BBMP chief civic commissioner Tushar Giri Nath

about setting up an Indira Canteen at the airport for taxi drivers.

One of the drivers' main demands was for the government to set up an aggregator app to put a break to the exploitation of drivers by the existing aggregator apps. The Minister confirmed that the app would be set up soon and acknowledged that aggregator companies were taking away a significant portion of the drivers' earnings as commission.

Federation members said while Monday's protest was called off in good faith after meeting with the Minister, they would resort to a hunger strike unless they receive written guarantees about his assurances by Tuesday evening.

GRADUATE APTITUDE TEST IN ENGINEERING (GATE) 2024

Organising Institute: IISc, Bengaluru

GATE is a prestigious national entrance examination. Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru is the Organising Institute for GATE 2024.

The examination dates are February 3, 4, 10, and 11, 2024.

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Organising Chairperson, GATE 2024, IISc, Bengaluru

ISRO's women power

Nearly 54 women
Chandrayaan-3

Women leading the recent space missions Chandrayaan-3 and Aditya-L1 were the biggest highlight. interested in space technology in the years to come. We take a look at the educational qualifications,

Popularly known as a 'Rocket Woman' of India, Ritu Karidhal Srivastava played a major role in India's Mars Orbiter Mission Mangalyaan as the deputy operations Director. As the mission director of Chandrayaan-2 and head of Chandrayaan-3 mission, Srivastava has carved a path for women in space research and technology. She joined ISRO in 1997 after earning a Masters (Aerospace Engineering) from IISc, Bangalore. A Lucknow University product, Srivastava studied Physics in BSc and MSc. She enrolled for a doctorate in the Physics department where she later taught.



Ritu Karidhal Srivastava

DESIGNATION
Senior scientist, ISRO, served as head of Chandrayaan-3 mission

QUALIFICATION Masters (Aerospace Engineering) from IISc, Bangalore; MSc (Physics), Lucknow University

Srivastava was also a research scholar at Lucknow University and was conferred honoris causa (an honorary doctorate) DSc. She has published over 20 papers in reputed journals. The movie *Mission Mangal* depicted her life on the big screen.

The deputy project director of Chandrayaan-3, she has been the second-in-command to the mission after project director P Veeramuthuvel. Born in Bengaluru, Kalahasti graduated in Aeronautical Engineering from IIT Kharagpur and joined ISRO in 2000. Her career began as a radar engineer at the Satish Dhawan Space Center (SHAR), where she devoted extra attention to the intricate details of the project and made it run even during the pandemic.

Kalahasti's achievements have earned her several awards including the ISRO Team Excellence



Kalpana Kalahasti

DESIGNATION
Deputy project director of Chandrayaan-3

QUALIFICATION B.Tech (Aeronautical Engineering), IIT Kharagpur

Award in 2019. Before the Chandrayaan-3 project, Kalpana was associated with the second lunar mission and the Mangalyaan mission. Due to her prior experience, she played a pivotal role in coordinating the successful launch of numerous remote sensing satellites.

She is the project director of India's first mission to study the Sun Aditya-L1. The 59-year-old scientist is a native of Shengottai in Tamil Nadu's Tenkasi. Born to a farmer Sheikh Meeran, and Saitoon Birvi, a homemaker, Shaji was driven towards space engineering from childhood. In her 35 years of service at ISRO, Shaji has served as the associate project director of Resourcesat-2A, which is the Indian Remote Sensing Satellite for National Resource Monitoring and Management. Shaji earned B.Tech in Electronics and Communication from Tirunelveli Government

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PG medical students suff

While the stipends are non-uniform across states, the NMC ca

Rajlakhmi Ghosh
@timesgroup.com

The National Medical Commission (NMC) has issued an advisory recently, warning private medical colleges against withholding the stipends of their PG medical students, following its survey that revealed over 26% of students have not been paid. The medical regulator has warned of strict action if provisions of the PG Medical Education Regulations (PGMER) 2000, are violated by the self-financed/private medical colleges.

The PGMER 2000 states, "The postgraduate students of the institutions which are located in various States/Union Territories shall be paid re-

muneration on a par with the remuneration being paid to the postgraduate students of State government medical institutions/Central government medical institutions in the State/Union Territory in which the institution is located." Experts are of the opinion that the NMC must not take a soft stand on the issue, and while its advisory may have cautioned the institutes, no mention is made about the arrears.



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Organising Chairperson, GATE 2024, IISc, Bengaluru