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NIT marks row reaches SC door

Akshaya Mukul, TNN | Jul 11, 2013, 05:27 AM IST

NEW DELHI: Widespread resentment against normalization of class XII marks and JEE (Main) score for admission to NITs and other central government educational institutions would reach the Supreme Court on Thursday.

In fact, the new system has already become some kind of a legal headache for the CBSE. High Court of Delhi and Andhra Pradesh are already seized of the matter.

The apex court would hear the writ petition filed by aggrieved parents and students. Petitioners are seeking stay on the entire admission process. Their plea is that the normalization formula is flawed it does not map the marks correctly and does not put all Boards on an equal footing. They have also pointed out that the normalization formula came out in May, after both Board examination and JEE (Main) test were held. "How can you play the game and then give the rules?" one of the petitioner asked. For admission, it was decided to use the JEE (Main) score and the normalized Board

performance in the 60:40 ratio. But after the JEE (Main) results were out, the JEE Interface Group came up with the novel normalization formula that is being opposed tooth and nail.

Petitioners argue that the new formula is so flawed that a mere difference of 10 marks between 96% and 98% Board marks gets amplified to a 100 mark corresponding difference in JEE (Main) marks used for the calculation of the JEE (Main) ranks. It has also been pointed out that before deciding on the formula no thought was given as to how different boards are being measured in the same way. Also, little consideration was paid to factors like difference in number of students in each board and scoring marks in some boards is tougher.

Petitioners have proposed solution. One, do away with the boards component and to keep everyone on a level playing field do a common exam like the JEE (Main) and use only that for ranking. Or, if the board component is kept students percentile/percentage in Board examination should be multiplied with the Board component.

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