

Online applications a hit, 68k submitted so far

RECORD NUMBER Over 1,18,313 applications, both online and offline, have already been submitted; university officials expect a spike over the weekend



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NEW DELHI: A record number of students are expected to apply to Delhi University (DU) this year. Over 1,18,313 applications have already been submitted.

By Friday, the fifth day of applications so far, 2.5 lakh aspirants have already either registered online or purchased a form over the counter.

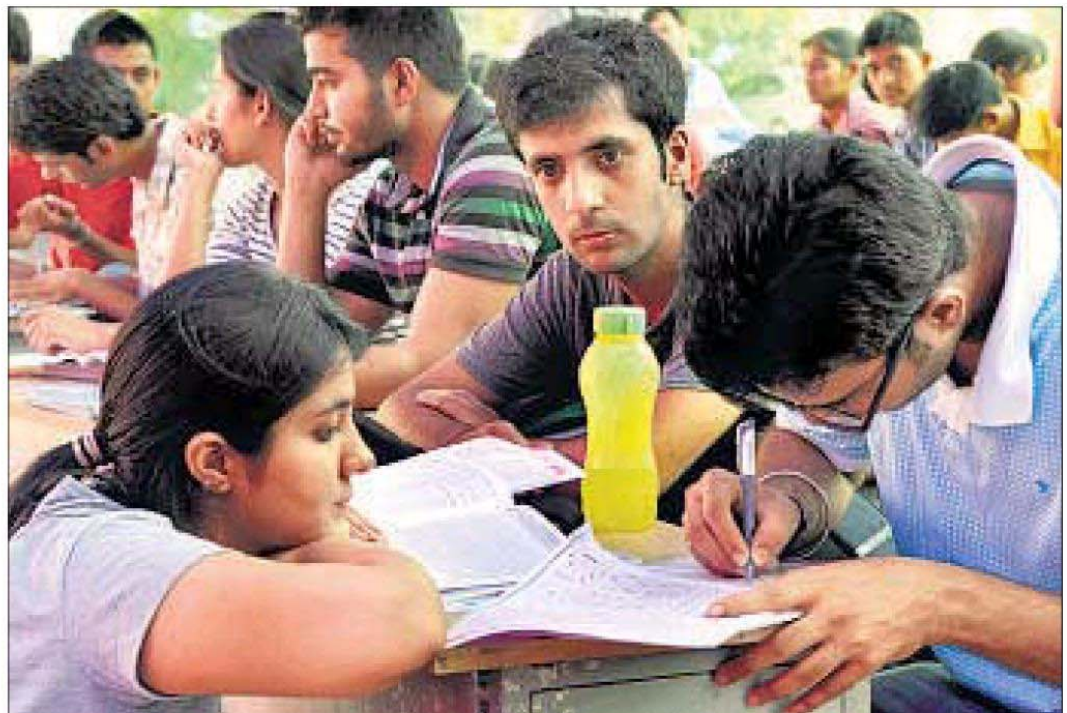
Unlike last year, the online applications are a big hit this year with most of the increased figures being reported from that quarter.

Last year, 54,311 forms were submitted online by the fifth day; this year, the figure is 68,827.

"The spike in the sale of online forms indicates that our system is working well and that people have come to trust it now. Another thing it indicates is that a large number of applicants are applying from outside Delhi. Many aspirants would find it difficult to come to the city to apply earlier but an online medium has now given them the flexibility," said a DU official.

Last year, the total number of applications received by the university was 2.5 lakh.

The university offers a total of 54,000 seats in 63 colleges at the time of admission. The introduction of a four-year programme and a BTech course in computers and electronics



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SUSHIL KUMAR/HT PHOTO

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PRATYUSH KUMAR, an aspirant

is being seen as a big reason for the spike in applications.

"One of the biggest reasons I am applying to DU is that it offers admission to B Tech computer science on the basis of class 12 marks and not an entrance test. For a similar degree in other universities, I will have to sit for an entrance

With the weekend coming up, the university is expecting a boost in online applications. The university saw a sudden increase in the number of applications over the first application weekend last year as well.

"Applicants sit with their parents over the weekend, especially when they have to

certainly more submissions on Saturday and Sunday," the official added.

An increase in over the counter submissions are expected from next week.

The controversy over the four-year undergraduate programme does not seem to have affected the applicants at all.

"Yes, we agree that a lot is being said about the FYUP but DU is the best university in the country and I am not going to miss out on a chance to study here just because we will have to study some extra subjects each year. The university has the best teachers and I am sure it will be better than studying in some private university which my parents will have to pay triple the amount for," said Sapna