***Tamil Nadu Students can Opt for Writing Exams***

Earlier the UGC announced that the final year examination is to be conducted in order to provide the degree to the students, but now due to the ongoing Covid 19 pandemic, it has announced that the examination for students from Tamil Nadu state stays canceled. Though, the students from streams like Engineering, MCA, and arts and science can opt for writing the exam if they are not satisfied with passing with the internal assessment marks. The Higher Education Department has issued a Government Order which states that the semester exams stay canceled, and students will be assessed on the basis of how well they have performed in the previous semesters.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) and All India Council for Technical Education provided guidelines regarding the conduct of the final year exams, which stay canceled now according to the 11 member committee responsible for taking action. The committee informed that they have provided an alternative to students of the final year who are dissatisfied with the internal assessment, and they are allowed to appear for writing the exam. Students of other semesters will not have to appear for any of the exams, and they will be offered marks on the basis of internal assessment.

The assessment methodology is based on offering marks to the students on the basis of their performance in the previous semesters, and the marks scored in the internal exams. The distribution of the marks offered is 70 percent from the current semester internal exams and 70 percent from previous semester external exams for the core subjects. Also, the weekly assessment of students' record notebooks will be considered in order to offer marks for the practical examinations. Though, students who have to clear a backlog will have to appear for the written exam later for which dates will be announced soon.

The same methodology of internal assessment shall be followed for offering marks to students under a distance learning program, and if there are no internal exams conducted then students will be awarded minimum passing marks. Keeping in mind the current situation, students are offered grace marks in order to pass them but students are provided an option to appear for the written exam whenever it shall be conducted if they are not satisfied with the passing marks. The Chief Minister has requested the Ministry of Human Resource Development to not conduct the exams for the final year students as well due to the Covid 19 pandemic scare, well the MHRD response is much awaited in this case.