

HSC RESULTS DECLARED

Pune takes a 4-per cent downslide, girls excel

Educationists blame internal grading system, external coaching and distractions for the decline

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It was that day of the year when students and parents alike spend plenty of time refreshing the Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) exam's result page, waiting for a determinable revelation. This year, the results for Pune division — that were declared on Wednesday by the Maharashtra State Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education (MSBSHSE) — saw a downslide from last year's 91.96 per cent to 87.26 per cent. Moreover, the Pune division ranks fourth with Konkan topping the list with 93.29 pass per cent and Nashik at lowest with 83.99 per cent.

In the division, 2,18,574 students registered for the exam, of which 2,18,233 appeared and 1,90,422 passed. A total of 12,776 students scored distinctions.

Gangadhar Mamhane, chairman, MSBSHSE, said, "This year as well, girls performed better than boys. While pass percentage of girls stands high at 90.50 per cent, for boys it is 83.46 per cent. In Pune, 92.30 per cent girls cleared the exam as opposed to 83.43 per cent boys."

Mamhane cited variation of internal exams (20 per cent) as the main reason for overall decline in pass percentage of Maharashtra. "This year, internal exams were assessed by external teachers that could have impacted the total marks. This is a departure from the formal practice that involved in-house teachers for assessing internal papers," he said.

DHANANJAY HELWADE



Pune division ranked fourth in the state.

On decline in overall pass percentage of Pune division, Vilas Alhat, vice-principal of Modern College of Arts, Science and Commerce, believes that guidance from inexperienced teachers at various coaching institutes deteriorates the quality of education. Sunil Pandit, vice-principal at Ness Wadia College of Commerce, blamed students' lack of attention in classes and distractions as the reason for the decline.

If one looks at individual colleges from the city, a few seemed to have fared well against others. At Fergusson College, 98.43 per cent students cleared their science exam and 98.76 per cent from the arts stream emerged victorious. Avaniika Sane topped

the science division with 94.92 per cent and Anushree Pathak topped the arts stream, with 93.23 per cent. The entire batch of visually impaired students cleared their exams, with Mayuri Atre topping the list with 88.76 per cent.

The Brihan Maharashtra College of Commerce (BMCC) excelled with 98.73 per cent students clearing the exams. Apoorva Karamblekar topped the class with 94.92 per cent. Principal C N Rawal said, "The result has been consistent for our college for last few years."

The Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce slightly fell behind in the race with 94.66 per cent students clearing the exam. Tanvi Bora's 89.07 per cent and Riya Kumari's 86 per cent being the highest in college for science and arts, respectively.

Of the other institutions, Modern College of Arts, Science and Commerce saw a pass percentage of 94.13 per cent in the science stream and 75.98 per cent for arts stream. 94.40 per cent students cleared their exams at Ness Wadia College of Commerce.

At S P College, 88.85 per cent students cleared HSC exams, with Harshada Hire topping the science stream with 88.15 per cent, Aishwarya Kulkarni topping the commerce stream with 88 per cent and Jaee Joshi topping the arts stream with 89.23 per cent.

Ankita Mahajan and Astha Kulkarni scored full marks in German and logic, respectively. Principal Dilip Seth said, "Our students have performed better this year. Around 20 students have scored above 90 per cent in German."