

## ONLINE ADMISSIONS WORKABLE?

The proposed online admission for the Junior-College students maybe beset with many issues to be tackled, before it may be acceptable



Kaveri Roy  
M5(J)



**T**HE Maharashtra State Education Board has declared the renewal of online admission process this year after its failed debut in 2009. It has also announced that in order to address the technical handicap faced earlier, booklets and training sessions would be provided to students and parents. The information booklets for students have to be distributed on March 17th, the final day of the SSC exams, as a mandate this year. The idea is to make the process smoother and stream-lined.

The ambitious attempt to ease out the admission process in the city may need much more on-ground work, going by the initial reactions of the people who may be directly effected by the decision. As per Paulami Ray, a Class 10 student of Saint Xavier's High School, Andheri, "I have no idea how to go about with the online admissions. We are yet to be informed anything about it." A major issue that is acting as a handicap is the lack of awareness and initiative on the part of schools. Biprasis Ray, the father of a class 10 student says, "I have been advised by many to go and stand in the queues for the forms than try the online admissions after last year's horror. And the internet servers too may end up playing havoc during the admission period." So is it back to the age-old long queues outside the junior colleges as soon as it is the admission-time? Could be, if the logistics are not worked out well in advance. According to Father Baptist Pinto, Principal, Saint Xavier's High School, Fort, "We don't have enough internet connections to assist them all the way. We can only try to guide the students with the limited resources at our disposal."

Yet another roadblock that may hinder the process is the lack of the option of online payment. Though

### SALIENT FEATURES OF THE FYJC ONLINE ADMISSIONS:

- ▶ Applicable to the students of Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) applying for junior college in the Open category
- ▶ Students can apply to a maximum of 150 colleges for two streams
- ▶ Information on acceptance of form can be conveyed through SMS

For further information, log on <http://fyjc.org.in/mumbai> OR call Helpline: 022 - 67609211.



talks over roping in a bank for the payment is on the cards, how feasible and faultless would it be, remains to be seen. As Ray points out, "I am not too sure if they have got a workable online payment option done yet.

### LOOK OUT

Which means that I would have to either ways go to the colleges personally and deal with the chaos to submit the printed online forms." Until these initial glitches are sorted out, the online system even if it is announced, may have to deal with many apprehensions.

It is always easy to announce new systems but for any new system or process to have the buy-in of the end-users, it needs a lot of planning and smooth implementation. Then only the users would be confident on the deliverability of the system, and it would have a large enough user-base, in this case the students and their parents.

— BY KAVERI ROY