



APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University
(A State Government University)

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Sub: Complaints on the low Pass percentage in S3 BTech results:
explanation reg:-

Dear all

University is in receipt of many complaints related with the publication of the results of third Semester BTech Degree Examinations. Though University published the results of **fifth semester (S5) BTech** few days back, through the same system of valuation and protocols, **hardly we received any complaints**. Many Institutions complained about their 'unexpected' low pass percentages in S3. In this situation, we are forced to release the Institution-wise pass percentages of both these semesters (S3 & S5) as **Annexure 1 & 2**. A detailed subject-wise pass percentages for both these semesters are also published as **Annexure 3 & 4**.

University process all examination related works through a digital platform (APURVA-TOUCH) and publish results only after rigorous verifications. Students are expected to understand the following levels of preparations that this University undertake for each semester examinations:

- Questions for each examination are set by only the mapped faculty of the University pertaining to the subject. Question papers were selected only after a thorough scrutiny by a team of expert faculty members ensuring quality assurance and compliance with curricula and academic regulations.

- Detailed schemes of valuation are finalised after review by a team of mapped faculty members. After approval from the chairman, the same will be sent to all faculty members entrusted with the valuation of a particular subject, well in advance.
- Valuations are carried out by additional examiners under the strict supervision of chief examiners in CV camps so as to ensure fair valuation. University at present runs a valuation system of 40 CV camps distributed all across the State.
- Once valuations are over, moderation marks were awarded by the pass boards for each semester/stream/subjects. Complaints, if any, related with question papers/scheme of valuation etc. are examined by the respective pass boards and accordingly recommendations were made for moderation, if necessary. Normally, **University will not interfere in this moderation process as it is the sole responsibility of the respective pass boards to recommend moderation**, if found essential. However, **no pass board meetings in S3 pointed out/reported any issues with these results** upon their initial subject-wise reviews.
- University employs the same set of faculty members from all of our affiliated institutions to value the answer scripts in all semesters, through a dedicated and strictly confidential system as per defined protocols. However, variations in results or pass percentages may be observed semester-wise, branch-wise, and/or subject-wise due to various reasons. We are unable to fix the pass percentage of a semester /college / branch/subject/student.

RESULT ANALYSIS

As shown in Annexures 1 & 3, **no irregularities were observed in the result pattern except for a low pass percentage for almost all subjects in S3**. It could be seen that the college-wise pass percentages and state average is also low for S3. The State-wise pass average for S3 is 24.5% whereas it is 42.2% for S5. **A comparative evaluation of the results of the top 10 Institutions** (selected based on their performance in S3) **clearly demonstrate that there is an average decline of around 15.7% in the pass percentage of S3 compared to S5** (see **Table 1**). This is a general trend observed over the years, citing a sharp fall in the pass percentage from S2 to S3 and a gradual increase thereafter in higher

semesters. Institutions are expected to develop teaching learning strategies in third semester to tackle this issue.

One of the reasons for a decline in pass percentage in S3 may be due to the fact that majority of the subjects in S1/S2 are basic science subjects which are relatively easy to learn with inputs from their higher secondary curriculum. **From S3 onwards, students are expected to start learning core subjects of their specialization/domain, and is a gateway to the technical domain.** Naturally, there are significant changes in the nature of the courses with higher difficulty levels demanding more mathematical and scientific skills. Obviously, this is a change-over phase from basic sciences to the engineering domain of BTech courses. The higher failure rates in the core subjects clearly demonstrate this fact. Moreover, mathematical ability, technical skills, attitude, quality of the teaching learning process of the Institution, peer learning environments, etc. contribute to their performance at this crucial semester.

Table 1: A Comparative evaluation of pass percentages* of top 10 Institutions (selected based on their performance in S3)

No	Name of the Institution	Pass percentage (S3)	Pass percentage (S5)	Reduction in % Pass from S5 to S3
1	CET, Thiruvananthapuram	62.91	78.77	15.86
2	Model Engg College	53.86	68.50	14.64
3	TKM College of Engg Kollam	52.13	70.35	18.22
4	GEC, Thrissur	51.43	67.18	15.75
5	Muthoot Inst Tech	49.02	69.25	20.23
6	RIT, Kottayam	48.43	54.04	05.61
7	CE, Barton Hill	48.12	57.49	09.37
8	Mar Athanasious Kothamangalam	45.76	67.50	21.74
9	Rajagiri School, Kottayam	42.15	62.37	20.22
10	NSS college Palaghat	41.68	57.62	15.94
Average Reduction in the pass percentage of S3				15.76%

*The percentages are inclusive of the supplementary registrations from the colleges

CONCLUSION

A careful analysis of S3 results indicates that the low pass percentage in S3 is due to combined effect of multiple factors which are beyond the purview of the University. Right from the question paper setting to the conduct of pass board meetings we have tried our best to ensure the quality assurance norms.

Students who were unable to clear subjects/courses in S3 are requested to apply for scrutiny/revaluation as per University norms. University will try our level best to expedite the revaluation process. We can assure that discrepancies, if any, observed in revaluation, will be seriously addressed and erring faculty members will be punished. All students may be aware of the series of disciplinary actions that University has been taking right from last year on the erring faculty members upon improper valuation. Since, University is confident on the level of quality assurance and confidentiality employed in the conduct and assessment of the S3 BTech Examinations, we refute all apprehensions against the declared results.

We also express our gratitude to all faculty, staff and our our team in completing the valuations on time and publish the results amid this Covid related lock down.

Thank you all and wishing you all a safe stay

Expecting your support

Dr. V. Suresh Babu
Controller of Examinations

Attachments:

1. Institution-wise and subject-wise pass percentage* of S3 (A 1 and A3)
2. Institution-wise and subject-wise pass percentage* of S5 (A 2 and A4)

***All pass percentages inclusive of supplementary registrations.**