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## CET: candidates wait for NEET counselling

They wish to participate in next round for 'better' options

TANU KULKARNI  
BENGALURU

With the counselling for medical and dental seats yet to begin, a majority of the candidates who have appeared for CET counselling have decided to take the seat but also want to participate in the next round for "better".

After the first round of counselling, 38,700 candidates have exercised option 2, which the Karnataka Examinations Authority advised candidates – who were waiting for National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test counselling – to exercise. This is the highest chosen among the four options that KEA allows candidates to exercise.

Several medical and dental seat aspirants also wrote CET and have chosen engineering seats as the number of medical and

dental seats is limited. Supriya K., a candidate who hopes to bag a medical seat, said: "Earlier, candidates would choose engineering if they did not get medical seats. But over the past two years, we have been in a dilemma as seat allotment for engineering is done first."

Several top engineering colleges have complained that their seats go vacant as many candidates who get medical or dental seats leave the college.

### The choices

**Choice 1** 11,450 candidates allotted seat and have chosen to report to colleges. They are not allowed to participate in subsequent rounds for counselling

**Choice 2** 38,700 candidates say they are satisfied with allotted seat but wish to participate in next round. If they get higher options, earlier allotment gets cancelled

**Choice 3** 9,000 are not satisfied with allotted seat and wish to participate in next round by surrendering the seat and want to enter fresh options

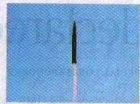
**Choice 4** 4,400 are not satisfied with allotted seat and wish to quit counselling process

As per schedule, the second round of counselling for engineering, agriculture and veterinary sciences is from Tuesday but the counselling process for medical and dental seats is yet to be chalked out. Candidates are urging KEA to announce the schedule of NEET counselling and conduct it along with the second round. On Sunday, KEA published the provisional list of Karnataka candidates who appeared for NEET.





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# ₹400 crore funding for 100 innovative startups

They will also have access to technical and business support

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT  
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As many as 100 startups will get ₹400 crore funding under the Karnataka government's Elevate programme to fast track the most innovative startups.

The official website and logo for Elevate-2017 ([www.elevate.bengaluruite.biz](http://www.elevate.bengaluruite.biz)), was unveiled by Minister of State for IT, BT and Tourism Priyank Kharge on Tuesday.

Through Elevate, potential startups would be identified, and the government will not only help in funding but also provide technical and business support based on their need. The government will hold open houses to identify startups in Mangaluru, Kalaburagi, Mysuru, and Hubballi.

The startups from these cities will get an opportunity to pitch their ideas to the El-



## Giving wings to ideas

Registrations will be open till July 18 for participants across the State ([www.elevate.bengaluruite.biz](http://www.elevate.bengaluruite.biz))

The list of selected startups to be announced August-end in Bengaluru

We will ultimately look for great ideas that use technology to solve bigger problems in society

PRIYANK KHARGE, Minister of State for IT, BT and Tourism

evate team. Registrations for Elevate commenced on July 4 and will be open till July 18 for participants across the State, Mr. Kharge said.

Experts in verticals will be asked to identify innovative startups for funding. The list of selected startups will be announced August-end at a summit in Bengaluru, he said.

Elevate was launched by the State government in partnership with the Deshpande Foundation, The Indus Entrepreneurs and oth-

ers to empower startups to scale operations.

"We aim to extend our holistic support to startups by offering mentorship and funding. We will ultimately look for great ideas that use technology to solve bigger problems in society," Mr. Kharge said.

So far, 46 startups have been sanctioned ₹15.68 crore in the field of biotechnology (26 startups, ₹10.70 crore), tourism (8 start-ups, ₹1.80 crore) and IT (12 start-ups, ₹3.18 crore).