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Hiring counsellors now a must at VTU colleges

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AFTER the introduction of many 'musts' at its affiliated colleges, the Visvesvaraya Technological University Belagavi (VTU) has asked all its affiliated colleges to hire a counsellor.

This should be implemented from the current academic year itself, and the person hired by the college should spend at least two to three hours at the college every day. According to officials from the university, this is to help students both psychologically and to provide them career guidance.

Following the output provided through during campus recruitment and centralised placement drives, the university has taken this decision. "We got to know through companies that a lot of students are confused and failing to take a decision about their career. It is not just career, there are students who are suffering and struggling with psychological and emotional issues. To help them sort all these, we have directed colleges to hire counsellors," said Prof Jagannath Reddy, registrar VTU.

However, some colleges already have counsellors. "Some of the affiliated colleges and autono-



mous colleges conduct counselling sessions for students once a month and at some colleges there are regular counsellors available on campus during college hours," said Jagannath Reddy.

As per the current directions issued from the university, it is compulsory for all colleges to conduct both entry and exit counseling for students. Entry counseling will be during the one-month orientation programme in the beginning of the academic year for freshers and exit counseling for final year students at least four months before the completion of the course.

As per the observations of placement officers and other faculties, several students need the help of counsellors while taking decisions about higher studies or about job offers they get through campus placement.