

KAU UG semester exams to go online from 2019

With valuation also going hi-tech, the university aims to fast-track entire exam system and make it more transparent

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IN a bid to increase transparency and avoid delay in announcing results, Kerala Agriculture University (KAU) has decided to conduct online semester exams for graduate courses.

An academic council meeting recently discussed the possibilities of the same and sanctioned the plan to exploit the scope of digital technologies in conducting exams. As per the plan, students who would join graduate courses in 2019 will appear for their semester exams in the new pattern. Normally, 571 students join the KAU in different departments for the graduate courses including BTech Agricultural Engineering, BSc Forestry and BSc Agriculture.



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D Girija, Controller of Exams

With the introduction of online exam and online evaluation, the university aims to make the entire examination system more transparent and time saving. "At present, students use the regular answer sheets to write descriptive answers for 50 marks. It will be changed to OMR (Optical Mark Recognition) sheets carrying 25 marks and another set for descriptive answers with 25 marks. The whole evaluation will be using technology," said

D Girija, Controller of Exams at KAU.

Tamil Nadu Agriculture University and University of Agriculture at Bengaluru have already introduced online exams.

"When it comes to online evaluation, the process gets faster and error-free to an extent. Hence, we can deliver the results without much delay," said Girija. At present, it takes a minimum of 15 days to evaluate answer papers and another two weeks for entering the marks in the system.

"This is to make academic administration fully digital. Introduction of OMR techniques, barcoding of answersheets and web-based result declaration are the features of the new system," said KAU vice-chancellor R Chandra Babu.