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JU officials admit discrepancies in marking as more skeletons tumble out

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Kolkata: Severe anomalies in marks in one of the first semester exam papers of the PG students of Jadavpur University journalism and mass communication department were noticed on Friday. This came four days after TOI reported that students were awarded marks in their media law and ethics paper in the second semester exam without their answer scripts being checked. The results of both semesters have been declared.

The latest discrepancies in marks came to light when the head of the department, Partha Sarathi Chakraborty, interdisciplinary studies, law & management (ISLM) faculty dean Joydeep Mukherjee and international relations professor Imankalyan Lahiri

reviewed the answer scripts of both the first and second semesters in presence of students' representatives at the controller section on Friday.

"It was during the checking of the answer scripts that it was learnt there are severe anomalies in the radio part of the 'Electronic Media: Radio and Television' paper of semester one. We went through some answer scripts and found discrepancies. We decided to inform the VC," said an official.

Earlier on Thursday, the PG students were shocked to learn that even their internal answer scripts for five papers spanning the first and second semesters were unchecked, yet they were awarded marks.

HoD Chakraborty said, "We were checking the answer scripts of both semesters, following the VC's direction, in the presence of students' representatives. Some issues have been found and forwarded to the interim VC." Lahiri also reiterated that "gross anomalies" were found and they have sent their findings to the authorities for "necessary action".

Interim VC Bhaskar Gupta said, "Since examination is a confidential matter, I will not comment."

Assistant professor Abhishek Das was allegedly also involved in the anomalies of marks. He was blamed by students for not evaluating 50 answer scripts of the 'Media Law & Ethics' paper of semester two and was served a show cause notice by the university.

A handwritten review meeting resolution signed by HoD Chakraborty, dean Mukherjee and IR professor Lahiri was given to the students on Friday. It said the "examiner concerned has not signed most of the answer scripts after overwriting" and "there is a huge difference in marks before and after overwriting" and "the motive of the same may be verified".

Das said, "I want to reassure students that all the papers were duly checked. Regarding the 50 'unchecked' papers, I have the tabulation in a separate sheet with me which I can produce before the varsity. I will reply to the show-cause letter in due time." Sources said the interim VC asked the dean for a comprehensive report on the marks fiasco of both internal exams and semester exams.