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WBUT mulls e-assessment for engineering exams

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Kolkata, April 16 Assessment Tomorrow, a British consultancy company, held an International e-Assessment Education Conference at the West Bengal University of Technology (WBUT), along with some Indian counterparts.

The companies, on Tuesday, tried to identify the skill gaps where the technology can help the process of e-assessment.

"Online assessment has been implemented in various institutions in other states of the country. But it has not been tried in West Bengal where there is a great possibility of introducing it," said Joy Roychaudhury, a Senior Communication Officer of the company.

"The idea of using technology to make education more effective matches with the idea of the university," said Ashok Ranjan Thakur, the Vice-Chancellor of WBUT.

"These companies provide hardware and software to access the students. The colleges under WBUT have enough autonomy to take up the initiative," said the Vice-Chancellor.

According to the service providers, e-assessment is advantageous as it saves teachers the trouble of correcting the answer scripts and also makes the marking of scripts objective and fair.

Academicians believe that the platform for interaction between these companies and educational organisations has been built and it will take time to transform them into concrete proposals.

"E-assessment can help education in the state in a different way. It can help in entrance examinations as well as various internal examinations," said R Dharendra, CEO of Eduquity Career Technologies Private Limited, which provides the technology for such assessment at BITS Pilani and BIT Mesra.

With CAT going online, many other competitive examinations will follow the same league.

"We are trying to get in touch with the authorities of Jadavpur University who are involved in conducting Joint Entrance Examination in the state," said Dharendra.

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