

One day extension for CAT

The test will now conclude on December 8



TESTING THEIR LUCK: Candidates appearing for the Common Admission Test waiting outside a college in Bangalore on Friday. — PHOTO: SAMPATH KUMAR G.P.

Staff Reporter

BANGALORE: The Common Admission Test (CAT) 2009 for the management courses has been extended by a day to enable all the candidates, who could not take test due to technical glitches, to take the exam within this year's testing period.

Now the CAT will conclude on December 8 instead of earlier schedule from November 28 to December 7.

On December 8, the tests will be held only in the morning sessions in 20 cities, including Bangalore, said a joint press release issued by the Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) and Prometric,

which is conducting the computer-based test.

"We understand and regret the additional stress and inconvenience caused to the candidates who have not been able to take the test on their scheduled day due to technical difficulties," said Ramesh Nava, vice-president and general manager, Prometric (Asia Pacific, Japan and Africa), in a statement.

"We are working with the

IIMs to add an additional session on December 8 to accommodate all the candidates within the city they were originally scheduled," he added.

While maintaining that the technical glitches were a result of virus and malware, Prometric stated that majority of these issues have been identified and eradicated. However, in case of any difficulty in conducting the test at

the designated labs, the candidates will be informed via SMS a day before the test, the release added. As many as 1.1 lakh candidates have completed the test as on December 3.

Meanwhile, many affected candidates have received rescheduled test date.

Also, Prometric, based on feedback from candidates, has extended the hours of CAT Candidate Care contact to 1800 103 9293.

Now candidates can contact the helpline from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. without having to wait much as Prometric has said that it has deployed more telephone lines and agents to respond to the queries.