

Distress calls flood BMC helpline

AGE CORRESPONDENT

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May 25: The distress helpline of the BMC has been inundated with calls ever since the HSC results were put up on the Internet on Tuesday.

Of the total of 84 calls fielded by the helpline on Tuesday, 73 were from students who had either failed or had not secured a percentage as per their expectations. Out of these, 20 per cent were serious cases, and had to be counselled for a long time.

Four to five of the callers said that they were depressed and did not feel like going home. Last Thursday, when the ICSE results were declared, the helpline fielded a total of 80 calls.

“There was a brief respite between Thursday and Tuesday, with calls from students averaging from 20 to 40. These were from students anxious about their results, and from those who were worried about not being able to get into a good college due to low percentage,” said Dr Arun John, director, Vandrevala Foundation.

Dr John recalled the case of a woman, who could not get over the fact that her son scored only 65 per cent.

“The woman could not stop crying. She was worried that her son would not be able to secure admission in a good college due to his percentage. Our counsellor had to speak to her for a long time to calm her down, and her son could be heard consoling her in the background,” said Dr John.