



# CESS SHIKSHANA MAHITHI

December 16-31, 2020

Volume 3(2)

## EDU-UPDATES

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### Suggestions:

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#### ABOUT CENTRE FOR EDUCATIONAL AND SOCIAL STUDIES (CESS)

Centre for Educational and Social Studies (CESS) was established in 2006 and is a Registered Society that has been working with Indian Education system from inception. CESS engaged in myriad activities in the domain of education for over a decade and positioned itself to meet the current challenges in the society keeping education as a focal point.

CESS has actively engaged in various research pursuits, policy advocacy and capacity building programmes and has successfully completed several projects in the area of Education. The Centre has strived to draw the attention of stakeholders, including State and Central Governments, on vital issues of education through projects, series of National and State level seminars, discussions, policy advocacy and publications. It is also offering unique internship and fellowship programmes for students, research scholars and teachers. CESS recently launched an online Indian Management Repository called 'Prabandhan'.

CESS has MoUs with Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University (KSRDPRU), Gadag and Tumkur University, Tumkur to undertake research projects, capacity building programmes and designing new courses. The Management Research Centre of the CESS is recognized by Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi.

CESS is committed to bringing about 'Social Transformation through and with Education' through Research, Policy Advocacy and Capacity Building in the fields of Education and India Studies. CESS has been contributing in the field of education from last 14 years and aims to become a catalytic force influencing the policy makers and to be a premier institution in the country.

"CESS Shikshana Mahithi" is Edu-updates from CESS which includes the latest news and updates on Education in India and Karnataka. Edu-updates will be released on a fortnightly basis and will keep you posted all the important announcements and information with respect to education.

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## Announcements by Ministries and affiliated boards

### Announcements on JEE (Main) Examination-2021 by Pokhriyal 'Nishank'

**December 16, 2020**

Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' today made several announcements on JEE (Main) Examination-2021. Enumerating the benefits to students due to this decision, the Minister said that conducting JEE (Main) Examination-2021 in four sessions will

- **JEE (Main) Examination- 2021 will be conducted in four sessions in the month of February, March, April and May 2021.**
- **The first session of JEE (Main) 2021 will be held from February 23rd - 26th, 2021.**
- **JEE (Main) Examination-2021 to be conducted in 13 languages**

give multiple opportunities to the candidates to improve their scores in the examination if they are not able to give their best in one attempt.

**Read more at:** <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1681217>

[https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/userfiles/Public%20Notice%20January%20JEE%20\(Main\)%20%202021%20\(1\)%20\(1\).pdf](https://static.pib.gov.in/WriteReadData/userfiles/Public%20Notice%20January%20JEE%20(Main)%20%202021%20(1)%20(1).pdf)

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### UGC issues guideline for Fee reimbursement

**December 21, 2020**

In a letter to the vice-chancellors of all universities, UGC said that the regulator had received scores of complaints and submissions claiming non-refund or partial refund by colleges or varsities. Higher education

This year's National Teachers' Congress (NTC) covered significant topics such as, the introduction of NEP 2020, the leap towards Atmanirbhar Bharat, Education Technology, and Liberal Education, which were discussed at the Conference. School and university teachers from India and university teachers of Indian origin from foreign countries participated in this unique dialogue and shared their experiences with their contemporaries in India.

sector regulator University Grants Commission (UGC) has warned varsities of action in case they do not offer full refunds to first-year students who are unable to join their courses due to financial hardship or any other reason after taking admission.

**Read more at:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/education/ugc-warns-colleges-varsities-of-action-if-they-don-t-refund-full-fee-of-students-unable-to-join-courses/story-hZkBtA69SerNmj7BmccOSI.html>

**For UGC Guidelines:** [https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/4276446\\_UCG-Guidelines-on-Examinations-and-Academic-Calendar.pdf](https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/4276446_UCG-Guidelines-on-Examinations-and-Academic-Calendar.pdf)

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### **CBSE has revised 10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Board exam syllabus**

**December 22, 2020**

Amid COVID-19 pandemic, CBSE will conduct the board exams & big announcement regarding CBSE Board Exam Date Sheet 2021 for 10th & 12th are being made by the Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank'. On 22nd December 2021, Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' addressed queries of teachers across the nation.

Read more at: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1685134>

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### **UGC releases learning outcome-based curriculum framework**

**December 23, 2020**

University Grants Commission (UGC) has released its latest learning outcome-based curriculum framework (LOCF) for the subject. As per the suggested framework, students will be assessed using written and practical exams, project work, assignments, and presentations. The LOCF, claims UGC, is released with an aim to bring about “uniformity in syllabi for programmes of study in physical education” across universities and colleges across India.

**Read more at:** <https://digitallearning.eletsonline.com/2020/12/ugc-releases-learning-outcome-based-curriculum-framework/>

**UGC link for detailed info:** [https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/4598476\\_LOCF-UG.pdf](https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/4598476_LOCF-UG.pdf)

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## National

### **India and UK to strengthen education collaboration**

**December 16, 2020**

India and the United Kingdom have expressed the resolve to further strengthen their educational collaboration. In a bilateral meeting between Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' and Foreign Secretary of UK Rt. Hon. Dominic Raab, the two countries agreed to deepen their engagement in the field of education and research, and work collaboratively on mutual recognition of academic qualifications over the next year.

Rt Hon. Dominic Raab hailed India's National Education Policy 2020 as visionary, and said the proposed reforms will open up opportunities for students, the economy and for deeper engagement and collaboration between the two countries. A joint Task Force will be set up for Mutual Recognition of Academic Qualifications. Education Minister says this will support India's efforts for internationalization of education.

**Read more at:** <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PMO=3&PRID=1681089>

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### **The Great 'Un-Lockdown': Indian EdTech- A study by IVCA & PGA Labs**

**December 17, 2020**

Lockdown imposed due to the spread of COVID-19 has increased the demand for EdTech products in India manifold. In response to the growing demand, EdTech players have scaled up their offerings and new players with innovative business models catering to unserved segments have emerged post-COVID. Also, the recently introduced National Education Policy 2020 is expected to give a fillip to EdTech due to increased focus on concept-based learning.

**Read more at:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/companies/edtech-startups-attracted-over-2-22bn-funding-in-2020-report/articleshow/79778004.cms>

**For detailed report:** <https://ivca.in/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/PGA-Labs-The-Great-Edtech-Un-Lockdown.pdf>

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## **NEP 2020 aims to create enlightened citizens and deepen democratic roots**

**December 20, 2020**

While attending the 4th edition of National Teachers' Congress, conducted by MIT World Peace University. Dr. Najma Heptulla, Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey and Dr. Murli Manohar Joshi shared their views on the path-breaking NEP 2020. This year, the theme of the National Teachers' Congress was: 'NEP 2020: Opportunities Unlocked'.

**Read more at:** <https://www.indiatoday.in/education-today/news/story/nep-2020-aims-to-create-enlightened-citizens-and-deepen-democratic-roots-dr-najma-heptulla-1751233-2020-12-20>

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## **Education ministry exploring common entrance test option for UG admissions in Central universities from 2021**

**December 27, 2020**

The Ministry of Education is exploring the option of conducting a common entrance test for admission to undergraduate colleges across all Central universities from the next academic year. The move will be the first step towards moving away from unrealistic cut-off marks that colleges put up for admission to their UG courses.

**Read more at:** <https://www.financialexpress.com/education-2/education-ministry-exploring-common-entrance-test-option-for-ug-admissions-in-central-universities-from-2021/2158416/>

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## **UGC to offer 78 UG, 46 PG courses through SWAYAM platform in January 2021**

**December 28, 2020**

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has decided to offer over 100 online courses in January 2021 through the SWAYAM platform. Out of these courses, 78 will be undergraduate programmes and 46 will be postgraduate programmes.

- UGC is offering 78 UG courses and 46 PG courses on SWAYAM platform.
- The courses offered by UGC on SWAYAM will be free of cost.
- The tentative dates for the course examinations are May 8 and 9, 2021.

The Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) will be made available for students by the University Grants Commission from the January semester in 2021 on the SWAYAM platform, which has been set up by the central government.

**Read more at:** <https://www.indiatoday.in/education-today/news/story/ugc-to-offer-78-ug-46-pg-courses-through-swayam-platform-in-january-2021-1753778-2020-12-28>

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### **NSDC join hands with DigiVidyapeeth to create e-curriculum for skills**

**December 29, 2020**

To upgrade both professionals and students, the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has joined hands with online education portal DigiVidyapeeth to formulate e-curriculum for skills. The Media and Entertainment Skills Council (MESC), set up under the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), has inked a pact with DigiVidyapeeth in this regard. Under the initiative, the MESC will accord recognition to the online courses developed by the education portal keeping with industry needs.

**Read more at:** <https://digitallearning.eletsonline.com/2020/12/nsdc-join-hands-with-digividyapeeth-to-create-e-curriculum-for-skills/>

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## Karnataka

### Vidyagama is back in Karnataka

December 16, 2020

Vidyagama, the continuous learning programme for school children will be re-launched with lessons being held on campuses.

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*Primary and Secondary Education Minister S Suresh Kumar said students will be divided into smaller groups of 15 to 20 considering the number of teachers and classrooms available in each school*

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Discussions also happening to implement 'Vidyagama' programme in private schools too. The state government has also released detailed time table to start the programme. Classes are expected to start in the first week of January ending the uncertainty of learning for 54 lakh government school children and several lakhs of low-income group children studying in low-budget schools.

Read more at: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/vidyagama-is-back-in-ktaka-now-for-private-schools-too/articleshow/79749692.cms>

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### Karnataka signs MoU with British Council for higher education collaborations

December 17, 2020

A Memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Karnataka and British Council for a bilateral partnership to strengthen education and research exchange was signed. by Gopalkrishna Joshi, Executive Director, Karnataka State Higher Education Council and Barbara Wickham OBE, Country Director, British Council India.

Read more at:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/karnataka/2020/dec/17/karnataka-signs-mou-with-british-council-for-higher-education-collaborations-2237543.html>

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## **Task force recommends review of Nali Kali Curriculum**

**December 21, 2020**

The task force which was constituted to roll out the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in Karnataka has recommended that the activity-based teaching-learning method adopted under the Nali Kali curriculum be reviewed and revised. The task force also has said that grade three should be separated from grades one and two.

The Nali-Kali teaching-learning method was rolled out in 1995 as a small UNICEF-assisted pilot project in H.D. Kote, Mysuru. It also helped cater to schools where there were shortages of teachers as classes one to three are clubbed together.

Read more at: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/task-force-recommends-revision-of-nali-kali-curriculum/article33388199.ece>

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## **Rural private schools in Karnataka to stop e-classes as government fail to meet their demands**

**December 21, 2020**

Private schools, especially in rural Karnataka, will suspend online classes with the State government failing to meet their demands. The schools, under the aegis of Recognised Unaided Private Schools Association (RUPSA) had sought a Rs 1,000-crore relief package from the government, to pay salaries of five lakh teachers. School managements say they are under loss due to the government's decision on fee payment, and have demanded that a minimum fee structure be fixed.

Read more at: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/karnataka/2020/dec/21/rural-private-schools-in-karnataka-to-stop-e-classes-as-government-fails-to-meet-their-demands-2239003.html>

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## **Karnataka SSLC, PUC Exams 2021 will not be conducted in March, more focus will be on reopening schools**

**December 23, 2020**

Karnataka Education Minister S Suresh Kumar has announced that the SSLC and PUC 2021 examinations would not be conducted in March. Clearing the confusion regarding the Karnataka SSLC, PUC Exam 2021 dates, the minister shared that the focus was to reopen schools and colleges in a safe manner. The decision comes after CBSE Board Exams for Feb were deferred.

Read more at: <https://www.timesnownews.com/education/article/karnataka-sslc-puc-exams-2021-not-to-be-conducted-in-march-focus-on-reopening-schools-suresh-kumar/697968>

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## **A turn for good with tweaked rules at Kalyana Karnataka region's schools**

**December 27, 2020**

The government's move to amend the cadre and recruitment (C&R) rules to allow engineering graduates to teach science and mathematics from the sixth standard to eight standards has come as a blessing in disguise for six districts in the Kalyana Karnataka region. According to sources in the Commissionerate of Public Instruction, Kalaburagi, the department had conducted Teachers' Eligibility Test (TET) coaching for about 5,000 candidates last year in association with Kalyana Karnataka Region Development Board. Nonetheless, a disappointing number of candidates got qualified in the centralised mock test conducted by the department in the region.

**Read more at:** <https://www.deccanherald.com/state/karnataka-districts/a-turn-for-good-with-tweaked-rules-at-kalyana-karnataka-regions-schools-932284.html>

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## **Karnataka to set up more medical colleges under PPP model: K Sudhakar**

**December 29, 2020**

Karnataka needs more medical colleges to meet the demand for doctors and the government was willing to establish them under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP), said Health and Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar. “Establishing a medical college requires Rs 600 crore to Rs 700 crore. If it is built under the PPP model, it reduces the burden on the state exchequer and helps to provide affordable medical education and treatment to the needy.

Read more at: <https://www.deccanherald.com/state/top-karnataka-stories/karnataka-to-set-up-more-medical-colleges-under-ppp-model-k-sudhakar-932893.html>

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