



Centre for Educational and Social Studies

CESS SHIKSHANA MAHITHI
Edu-updates October 2020

Prajnanam, #6/6, Beside Telephone Exchange, 10th Block, 2nd Stage,
Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru - 560 072,
Contact No. 080-23182947, Email: mail@cessedu.org, Website: cessedu.org

About Centre for Educational and Social Studies (CESS)

With the quantitative growth and emerging trends in education at all levels, there are several challenges that pose the nation to make education more suitable to the context and needs of the Indian society. This envisages a felt need for the establishment of research organizations carrying out quality research that can provide evidence based insights enabling informed policy decisions.

In this context, 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 an 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.

Please send your suggestions to: mail@cessedu.org

Recent Developments

NEP 2020: UGC Seeks Suggestions on Implementation of New Education Policy

October 1, 2020

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has asked the higher education institutions across the country to submit their feedback and suggestions regarding the implementation of the new National Education Policy, or NEP 2020. Institutions can submit their suggestions and feedback on NEP 2020 up to October 4, using the MyGov portal, UGC said.

“As a part of the consultation process, an outline of the implementation plan covering the actionable points and associated activities as envisioned in the NEP 2020 document has been prepared,” an official statement said. “The Government of India is using the MyGov platform for inviting suggestions from the stakeholders

on the outline of implementation plan on NEP 2020.

NEP 2020: The University Grants Commission (UGC) has asked the higher education institutions across the country to submit their feedback and suggestions regarding the implementation of the new National Education Policy.

UGC Guidelines for Gender Champions in Educational Institutions

In a separate letter to institutions, UGC has discussed the need for creating an environment that fosters equal treatment for engagement of gender champions in educational institutions across the country. UGC has asked institutions for a “swift implementation” of the guidelines for gender champions.

Source: <https://www.ndtv.com/education/nep-2020-ugc-seeks-suggestions-on-implementation-of-new-education-policy>

60th Foundation Day of NCERT

October 06, 2020



Historic MoU signed between ISLRTC and NCERT for converting Educational Materials into Indian Sign Language.

Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' and Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Thaawarchand Gehlot attended the 60th Foundation Day of NCERT virtually on October 06, 2020.

On this occasion, a historic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Indian Sign Language Research and Training Center-ISLRTC (a National Institute of DEPwD,

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment) and NCERT (a National Institute of Ministry of Education) to make education materials accessible for Deaf children in their preferred format of communication viz Indian Sign Language. During the programme the online format of NISHTHA training was also released.

Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' in his address congratulated NCERT on its 60th Foundation Day and said that signing of MoU between NCERT and ISLRTC for converting NCERT educational materials in to Indian sign language ensures educational standardization of Indian Sign Language as mandated in the New Education Policy (NEP), 2020. He said that DEPwD under Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has done remarkable works for the welfare and upliftment of Divyangjan in the country for the past 6 years and many new records have also been made on its achievements. Definitely this MoU will empower the

hearing impaired children in our country. He hoped that New Education Policy, 2020 is an inclusive one and will transform our country.

ShriPokhriyal said that today's MoU between NCERT and ISRTC is not only a cooperation pact between the

***Signing of MoU between NCERT and ISLRTC for converting
NCERT educational materials in to Indian sign language ensures
educational standardization of Indian Sign Language as
mandated in the New Education Policy (NEP), 2020***

Shri Ramesh PokhriyalNishank

two institutions, but it is also a step towards better coordination between the two ministries, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. Through this MoU, we are moving towards realizing the provisions mentioned in the

Right to Education (RTE) 2009, and the Rights of Persons with Disability Act (RPWD) 2016 and the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, such as the use of appropriate and alternative means of communication, in which Sign Language has an important place, ShriNishank added.

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1662116>

Cabinet approves Rs. 5718 crore World Bank aided project STARS

October 14, 2020

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved the project STARS. The project covers 6 States namely Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Kerala and Odisha. The identified States will be supported for various interventions for improving the quality of education. Besides this project, it is also envisaged to implement a similar ADB funded project in 5 states namely Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand and Assam. All states will partner with one other state for sharing their experiences and best practices.

The STARS project seeks to support the states in developing, implementing, evaluating and improving interventions with direct linkages to improved education outcomes and school to work transition strategies for improved labour market outcomes. The overall focus and components of the STARS project are aligned with the objectives of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 of Quality Based Learning Outcomes. The

Project envisions improving the overall monitoring and measurement activities in the Indian School Education System through interventions in selected states.

Implementation of the **Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States (STARS)** project with a total project cost of Rs 5718 crore with the financial support of World Bank amounting to US \$ 500 million (approximately Rs. 3700 crore)

STARS project would be implemented as a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme under Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education. (MOE)

Setting up and support to the National Assessment Centre, PARAKH as an independent and autonomous institution under Department of School Education and Literacy, MOE.

The STARS Project has two major components:

1) At the national level, the project envisages the following interventions which will benefit all states and UTs:

- To strengthen MOE's national data systems to capture robust and authentic data on retention, transition and completion rates of students.
- To support MOE in improving states PGI scores by incentivizing states governance reform agenda through SIG (State Incentive Grants).
- To support the strengthening of learning assessment systems.

Further, the STARS project includes a Contingency Emergency Response Component (CERC) under the National Component which would enable it to be more responsive to any natural, man-made and health disasters. It will help the government respond to situations leading to loss of learning such as school closures/infrastructure damage, inadequate facilities and use technology for facilitating remote learning etc.

2) At the State level, the project envisages:

- Strengthening Early Childhood Education and Foundational Learning
- Improving Learning Assessment Systems
- Strengthening classroom instruction and remediation through teacher development and school leadership

- Governance and Decentralized Management for Improved Service Delivery.
- Strengthening Vocational education in schools through mainstreaming, career guidance and counselling, internships and coverage of out of school children.

The STARS project also aims to focus on initiatives of PM e-Vidya, Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Mission and National Curricular and Pedagogical Framework for Early Childhood Care and Education as part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

Some of the measurable outcomes of the project are Increase in students achieving minimum proficiency in grade 3 language in selected states, Improvement in secondary school completion rate, Improvement in governance index scores, Strengthened learning assessment systems, Partnerships developed to facilitate cross-learning between states, and improvement in the State level service delivery such as Strengthening planning and management capacities for decentralized management by training of BRCs and CRCs, Strengthened school management by training of Head Teachers and Principals for improved education service delivery.

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1664364>

Mangalore University to set up task force to implement NEP 2020

October 07, 2020

Source: <https://www.jagranjosh.com/news/mangalore-university-to-set-up-task-force-to-implement-nep-2020-156027>

University of Mysore will translate NEP into Kannada

October 30, 2020

Source: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mysuru/uom-will-translate-nep-into-kannada/articleshow/78938954.cms>

October 01, 2020

Union Minister of Education Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' virtually attended Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology (Department of Higher Education) as Chief Guest. Union Minister of State for Education Shri Sanjay Dhotre also attended the event through video conferencing as Guest of Honor.

Inaugurating the program, Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank', congratulated the terminology commission family on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. He said that the development of vocabulary in Hindi and other Indian languages by the Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology for more than 9 lakh English words in various subjects including Science, Engineering and Technology, Agriculture and Medical Sciences, during its proud journey of six decades is highly commendable. The eighth fundamental duty enshrined in Part 4 of our Constitution instructs us to "develop humanism and the spirit of learning and reform from a scientific perspective." For the scientific approach and the process of learning, it is necessary to have knowledge in your language and to develop your language scientifically and appropriately.

On this occasion, the Education Minister expressed that we need to work with utmost vigilance towards the creation, dissemination of terminology in various streams like knowledge, science and technology, and its easy access and use to the general public. With the implementation of the National Education Policy, the work of the Terminology Commission becomes even more important in this direction.

Education Minister expressed that both National Education Policy and Terminology Commission should contribute together, so that we can also become self-sufficient in the expression of language and knowledge for the creation of self-reliant India

Source:

[https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1660743#:~:text=Union%20Minister%20of%20Education%20Shri,Education\)%20as%20Chief%20Guest%20today.](https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1660743#:~:text=Union%20Minister%20of%20Education%20Shri,Education)%20as%20Chief%20Guest%20today.)

PM Modi wants Yale and Oxford to be able to open campuses in India

October 8, 2020

India's universities have produced chief executive officers at companies' from Microsoft Corp. to Google - now Prime Minister Narendra Modi thinks they can be even better with competition from global names like Yale, Oxford and Stanford.

Modi's government is pushing to overhaul the South Asian nation's heavily regulated education sector to woo nearly 750,000 students who spend about \$15 billion each year pursuing degrees overseas, Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' said in written responses to questions.

The legislation -- which will regulate the operation of foreign universities -- is being prepared for approval by the parliament, where the government retains a significant majority. It represents a change of heart for the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party, which has long resisted opening up the country's education sector.

"There has been lot of enthusiasm," Pokhriyal said, noting that Australia's government and some universities had shown interest in the proposal. "Very soon, India will have some of the finest, world-class institutions."

The South Asian nation needs to boost its education sector to become more competitive and close the growing gap between college curricula and market demands. It's currently ranked 72 among 132 nations in the 2020 Global Talent Competitiveness Index that measures the nation's ability to grow, attract and retain talent.

Some universities have already set up partnerships with Indian institutions, allowing students to partially study in India and complete their degrees on the main campus abroad. The current move encourages these overseas institutions to set up campuses without local partners.

"We'll seek new opportunities to further pursue such collaborations as India's new policy is implemented," said Joe Wong, a vice-president at the University of Toronto, which has a tie-up with Tata Trusts and the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay.

The University of Washington, London School of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology and University of Western Australia were among institutions that said they have no plans of setting up campuses in India. Others like McGill University and the University of Sydney said they're looking to expand their partnerships in India through new courses or research programs.

With more than 51,000 institutions, India's higher education system is

The new plan will double education spending to 6% of India's GDP "at the earliest" according to Pokhriyal

already one of the largest in the world and in terms of enrollment, it is second only to China. Still, it lags behind China in terms of infrastructure, quality teaching, and research investment.

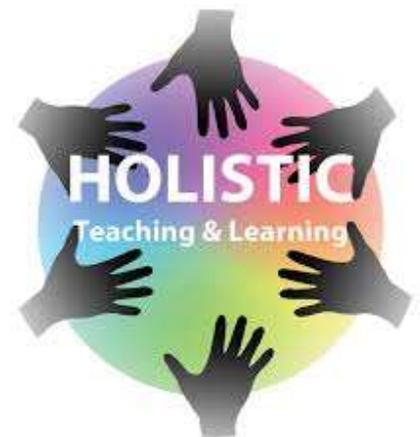
Pokhriyal is optimistic that overseas universities will set up their campus in India to tap the nation's young demographics, with the World Bank projecting 34% of its population will be aged between 15 and 34 years by 2021. India had already entered into agreements on educational programs with 55 countries that include exchange of academics and students and cooperation on other initiatives, he said.

Source:<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/pm-modi-wants-yale-and-oxford-to-be-able-to-open-campuses-in-india-11602115706303.html>

Centre Wants Education to attain not only a National or International Standard but also wants to Make it a holistic One, Asserts Education Minister

October 19, 2020

Swami Vivekananda used to tell everybody, we are supposed to learn till our death and the experienced world is the best educator. This was stated by the Union Minister of Education Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank while speaking in a webinar organised by Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda Educational and Research Institute (RKMVERI) on 'Swami Vivekananda's Educational Vision and National education Policy 2020'. He added, there was a time when the students from the country as well as from the world used to come to Universities like Nalanda and Taxila (Takshashila) to acquire knowledge of science and arts. Swami Vivekananda's ideals in fact, go with India's vision of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' and it is also very much apt in the present scenario to mingle this great master's vision with the education policy which only encourages acquiring knowledge with experience.



Union Government has Evolved NEP 2020 which Gives Importance to Learning through Experience & Living:

Dr. Ramesh PokhriyalNishank

According to Dr. Pokhriyal, the Union Government has attempted to come up with a new education policy which is in line with the

thought of learning through experience as well as through living. The National Education Policy 2020, he said, is akin to the ideals of Swami Vivekananda, as this great sage used to say, what the man learns should not be kept inside. He said, we want such an education, which not only helps in the sharpening of the intelligence but also assists in development of mind as well as our character. The Minister added that Vivekananda used to say knowledge is inside everybody, humans are only its discoverers. He also stated the necessity of mingling Vedanta with science. As Swamiji used to say, the world is not for cowards, it is for the courageous people who want to know more and more, he said. Dr. Pokhriyal pointed out that the National Education Policy is an attempt to follow Vivekananda's this ideal as well as trying to implement his visions into reality so as to make education not only national or international but also an inclusive one and holistic one. It is now the time to give access to this national education policy in terms of equality and quality.

The minister also pointed out that Swamiji always wanted the youths of this country to be endowed with knowledge without the pressure of the outsiders like the British ones. Swamiji spoke about acquiring knowledge on science, new discoveries in the indigenous way, stated Dr. Pokhriyal. The New Education Policy, he stated, is an indication of that. He also spoke about Prime Minister's vision of holistic education through a new curricular structure of 5+3+3+4 corresponding to ages 3-8 years, 8-11 years, 11-14 years and 14-18 years respectively which is akin to Vivekananda's vision of education, i.e., imparting primary education through Mother Language and the higher education may also be imparted through Mother Language. The aim of this education policy is to put more importance to Mother Language, the Minister reiterated.

Source: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1665906>

NEP aims to bring change in education setup: PM Modi

October 19, 2020

While addressing at the Centenary Convocation of the University of Mysore, PM Narendra Modi said, "National Education Policy is a huge initiative to bring fundamental change in education setup of the country. To make our capable youth even more competitive, a multidimensional approach is being focused on. Effort is to make youth flexible and adaptable for changing nature of job."

New Education Policy will arrest brain drain: Ramesh Pokhriyal

October 19, 2020

Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' said the new national educational policy will help arrest brain drain and give a boost to research in higher education institutes.

He was addressing through video conference the 8th convocation ceremony of the Indian Institute of Technology Indore. "Between 7.5 lakh to 8 lakh Indian students are studying abroad and this drains out Rs 1.5 lakh crore from here to foreign countries. We are going to strengthen parameters under our 'stay in India' campaign for which research will be put on the fast-track under the new education policy," he said.

He said those who had studied in India were leading some of the big corporations in the world. Under the new education policy, some 100 top international universities would be invited to India for "knowledge exchange", the minister said.

He said the Centre wants to make higher education institutions an international brand under its 'study in India' campaign. He said 50,000 foreign students had registered for admission in institutes in the country but the move has been stalled currently due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Source: <https://www.deccanherald.com/national/new-education-policy-will-arrest-brain-drain-ramesh-pokhriyal-904325.html>

The need to strengthen early childhood care and education

October 27, 2020, Article by Reeta Sonawat

In their primary years, children are greatly influenced by their environment and the people around them. Early childhood care and education (ECCE) can help in moulding their thoughts, perceptions, and learning outcomes. We have adopted the philosophy of pre-school education from the ancient gurukul system, which focuses on fullness and vastness. The Gandhian philosophy of providing basic education hinges on a holistic approach of developing body, mind, and soul (hand, head, and heart). The modern -day ECCE should also focus on creating a nurturing environment for the social, emotional, brain, and physical development of children.

It is observed that the rate of drop-outs is unfortunately extremely high especially for marginalised and disadvantaged groups. Children from these sections of the society are enforced to leave the schools due to their unfavourable economic condition. Hence, it is imperative to ensure that they receive basic education through ECCE. At the individual level, ECCE can support better early learning outcomes, improved health outcomes, and even better social and economic development reaching adulthood.

Pre-school education should be designed with an aim to make the children independent individuals. A completely informal pre-schooling with limited adult guidance can make a huge difference in creating the perspective of the children. Engaging a child in self-control and self-directed activities will add value to their personality development. The role of adults should be to guide children and make use of local resources for their learning so that the children can connect with the environment and the community. ECCE is intended to develop the skills needed for academic readiness in children and prepare them for entry into primary education.

Source: <https://www.deccanherald.com/supplements/dh-education/the-need-to-strengthen-early-childhood-care-and-education-907329.html>

States with Task Forces for the implementation of NEP 2020

State	Committees /Task force
Karnataka	Task force for the implementation of NEP
Odisha	Taskforce and Six sub-committees to study NEP and submit its recommendations to the Centre.
Himachal Pradesh	Task force to implement policy in the state
Madhya Pradesh	Taskforce to prepare plan for NEP implementation
Manipur	Taskforce for the effective implementation of NEP 2020 in the state
Assam	40member committee to prepare a blueprint for the implementation of NEP 2020
Arunachal Pradesh	Taskforce comprising of all stakeholders and headed by the State Education Secretary for the implementation of NEP 2020
Tripura	Translation of NEP 2020 into Bengali and a task force for the implementation of NEP

Gujarat	Translated into Gujarati and a task force to prepare a roadmap for the implementation of NEP 2020
Uttar Pradesh	Task force for the implementation of NEP 2020
Jammu & Kashmir	Two Task Forces to examine the provision of NEP 2020 and identify specific measures to be taken for implementing these in Jammu and Kashmir and to assess the academic and training requirements for its implementation.
Rajasthan	Taskforce for the implementation of NEP 2020
Meghalaya	Taskforce for the implementation of NEP 2020
Maharashtra	Task force to study and prepare a report for the effective implementation
Goa	Task force for the implementation of NEP

Other important news: NATIONAL

Govt. schools in Kerala drawing more students thanks to rejuvenation campaign: Kerala CM

October 4, 2020

Five lakh new students have enrolled in government schools in Kerala in the last three years with the focus on upgrading them as "Centres of Excellence" with modern facilities, according to Chief Minister Sri. Pinarayi Vijayan. Though in the past there were discussions in society about closure of government schools, now these were being improved, resulting in them attracting more students, he said.

Vijayan was speaking after dedicating 90 schools as "Centres of Excellence" and laying the foundation stone virtually for 54 school buildings on Saturday as part of the government's Public Education Rejuvenation

The state government has taken up the "Centres of Excellence" project under the Public Education Rejuvenation Campaign of the General Education Department to elevate schools to high educational standards, considering their requirements over a 20-year horizon.

Campaign to protect the public education system in the state. "In the past, society discussed the closure of government schools but now that they have become

centres of excellence, the number of students coming to study has also increased. Five lakh new students have joined government schools in the last three years", he said. Through the Public Education Protection campaign, the state government aimed at making government schools as centres of overall excellence.

Source: <https://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/govt-schools-in-kerala-drawing-more-students-thanks-to-rejuvenation-campaign-cm/1948391>

Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education issues SOP/Guidelines for reopening of schools today

October 5, 2020

Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education has issued SOP/Guidelines for reopening of schools today. Union Education Minister Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' announced regarding SOP/Guidelines of DoSEL for reopening of schools through his tweet.

Source: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1313079709773701121>

Divergent views on medium of instruction in schools: SC

October 6, 2020

The Supreme Court on Tuesday said that there were divergent views on making English as medium of instructions in government schools, even as the Andhra Pradesh government maintained that it was a progressive step.

A bench of Chief Justice S A Bobde and Justices A S Bopanna and V Ramasubramanian said, "All of us here on the bench have studied in English throughout our life. But we don't want to impose our view on others." The top court was hearing a petition filed by the Andhra Pradesh government against the HC's order of April 15 that quashed a decision allowing government schools to teach in English medium between class I to VI.

Appearing for the Andhra Pradesh government, senior advocate K V Vishwanathan said the choice to study in Telugu medium was not taken away. "If someone wants their children to study in Telugu medium, they

will be accommodated in Mandal schools. There are statistics that show 96% of the parents want English medium. This will help the marginalised sections also," he said.

He claimed that one who studied in vernacular language cannot practice before the Supreme Court. Even though Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said the contention was inappropriate, Vishwanathan said he had friends who studied in vernacular, think in vernacular, translate it in English. By the time they utter their arguments, the cases get over, he said. The court posted the matter for consideration next week.

Earlier, the Centre has come out against the decision by Andhra Pradesh directing all government schools, to adopt English as medium of instruction for students between class I to VI students. It has relied upon the National Educational Policy, 2020, which stated, "wherever possible, the medium of instruction until at least grade V, but preferably grade VIII and beyond, will be the home language/ mother tongue/local language/ regional language."

Renowned Telugu scholars, poets and cultural activists, including M Buddha Prasad, former Deputy Speaker of the Andhra Pradesh Legislative have opposed the move by the state government.

Source: <https://www.deccanherald.com/national/divergent-views-on-medium-of-instruction-in-schools-sc-898132.html>

More kids aged between 6-10 enrolling in schools, proportion sees sharp hike: Survey

October 29, 2020

The proportion of students not enrolled in schools in the age group of 6-10 years has seen a sharp increase in 2020 in comparison with 2018, mainly due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) has said.

The proportion of children not enrolled in schools were 1.8%

in the age group of 6-10 years in 2018. "Because schools are closed, many young children have not yet secured admission to Std 1. The increase in not enrolled children in the 6-10 age group is therefore likely to be more a reflection of children waiting to enroll in school rather than of children who have indeed

The survey found, at the national level, a small shift in enrollment from private schools to govt-run institutions across all grades and among both – girls and boys

dropped out,” the survey noted. The survey found, at the national level, a small shift in enrollment from private schools to government-run institutions across all grades and among both – girls and boys.

“The proportion of boys enrolled in government schools rose from 62.8% in 2018 to 66.4% in 2020. Similarly, the proportion of girls enrolled in government schools rose from 70% to 73% during the same period,” it said.

Although only a third of children had received materials from their teachers during the week preceding the survey, most children (70.2%) had done some sort of learning activity during that week.

Source: <https://www.deccanherald.com/national/more-kids-aged-between-6-10-not-enrolling-in-schools-proportion-sees-sharp-hike-survey-908664.html>

Other important news: Karnataka

Decision to Reopen Schools: Karnataka Govt.

October 01, 2020

A decision to reopen schools in Karnataka has not yet been made and will be done so based on the health of students and parents' concern and in consultation with stakeholders in the education field, S Suresh Kumar, State Minister for Primary and Secondary Education said on October 1, 2020.

"In Karnataka, we haven't decided on which date schools can be reopened. We are in the process of consultation with stakeholders in the education field. Our decision will be based on students' health and parents' concern," the Minister said.

Decision to reopen schools in Karnataka will be based on student's health, parent's concern

S Suresh Kumar

Source: <http://www.businessworld.in/article/Decision-to-reopen-schools-in-Karnataka-will-be-based-on-student-s-health-parent-s-concern-S-Suresh-Kumar/01-10-2020-327034/>

RTE quota: 13,773 seats still remain unfilled: Karnataka

October 05, 2020

Not many parents have shown interest in availing of the free seats for their wards under the RTE quota, this year. Of the 17,453 RTE seats earmarked for the academic year 2020-21, as many as 13,773 seats have remained unfilled, so far.

Also, the lockdown and the large-scale migration in these testing times, have hit RTE admissions. “With a surge in Covid cases, there’s no guarantee of reopening of schools. Also, parents are worried over the safety of their kids. So, they are refraining from taking admission to far off schools under the quota,” an official told DH on the condition of anonymity.

Some of the districts have recorded RTE admissions in single digit. Bengaluru North district (education) has seen just five RTE admissions while Hassan and Ramanagara have registered three and seven admissions.

Only 3,089 students have taken admission under the quota in the first round of allotment. More than 2,800 seats have remained unfilled. In the second round, 591 seats were filled of the 1,441 seats. According to the officials, only one week left for the RTE admission and there is no third round of allotment.

Source: <https://www.deccanherald.com/state/top-karnataka-stories/rte-quota-13773-seats-still-remain-unfilled-897275.html>

● ● ●

According to Education department sources, 7,353 students had applied for the RTE seats this year, of which only 3,680 of them have taken admission under the quota. There are hardly any takers for the RTE seats in aided and unaided Kannada medium schools. Even many seats under the quota in English medium schools are lying vacant.

● ● ●

Karnataka temporarily suspends ‘Vidyagama’ programme after 34 students test Covid positive

October 10, 2020

Under this programme, teachers were asked to meet the children at playgrounds or temples near the students' residences and engage them in academic activities.

The Department of Primary and Secondary Education had launched Vidyagama programme to reach out to students of government schools by taking classes at doorsteps of the children's houses at their villages.



The Karnataka government on Saturday suspended the 'Vidyagama' programme after 34 students attending classes under the programme in Belagavi and Kalaburagi districts in North Karnataka tested positive for COVID-19. The minister has directed the Principal Secretary of the Education Department to temporarily stop the Vidyagama program and to get reports from

across the state to know whether the children were tested positive because of the teachers or due to the programme.

Source: <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/bangalore/karnataka-temporarily-suspends-vidyagama-programme-after-34-students-test-covid-positive-6719906/>

Karnataka mulls opening of colleges from November 17 October 24, 2020

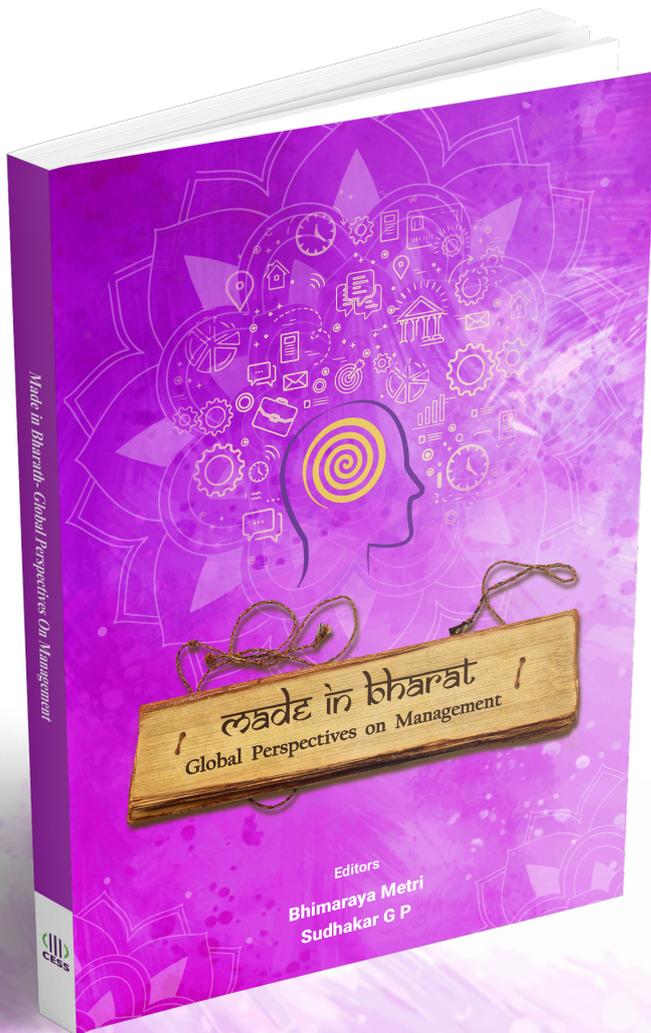
After witnessing a downward trend in the number of COVID-19 cases for over a week, the Karnataka government has decided to open the educational institutions starting from November 17.

As the first step, the government would allow opening of degree colleges, along with diploma and engineering colleges. However, decisions on Pre-University and High Schools would be taken after studying the situation for a month. Karnataka Higher Education Minister Dr Ashwath Narayana said that the idea behind opening of the colleges is to maintain bonding between students and college. While the government is opening colleges for direct teaching, it would be made optional as the students are free to choose between online coaching and direct teaching in the colleges. Besides, colleges had been issued with strict guidelines on social distancing and sanitization of college premises. Even if anyone is infected during this process, the government has decided to take care of such situations.

Meanwhile, the Primary and Secondary Education Department has given a three week interim holiday for the schools and have asked the schools not to take up even online teaching during this period. The decision was taken after doctors and experts felt that the online teaching was putting pressure on the eyes of the school children, where eye sight problems among children had gone up by 30% during the pandemic. Besides, the online teaching also exerts tremendous pressure on children's minds, the experts felt.

Source: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/karnataka/2020/oct/29/karnataka-firm-on-reopening-degree-colleges-pg-institutes-from-november-17-2216443.html>

To buy Copies of the book



please contact
Mr. Shivakumar
Office Superintendent

Email: shiva.admin@cessedu.org

Ph: +91 9449204464

Rs. 295/-



Centre for Educational and Social Studies
Bengaluru, India

080-23182947 | mail@cessedu.org | www.cessedu.org

NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY 2020 - WAY FORWARD



School Education

- Quality Early Childhood Care & Education
- National Mission on Foundational Literacy & Numeracy
- 5+3+3+4 structure
- Integrated & flexible school curriculum
- Assessment Reforms
- School Complexes
- Standard-setting and Accreditation for School Education
- Quality teacher education
- National Professional Standards for Teachers

Higher Education

- Multidisciplinary Institutions
- Research-intensive Universities, Teaching-intensive Universities & Autonomous degree-granting Colleges
- Affiliation system to be phased out
- GER of 50% in higher education by 2035
- Holistic education at the UG level with multiple exit options & appropriate certification
- Professional education as an integral part of HE
- Higher Education Commission of India
- Academic, Administrative & Financial Autonomy
- National Research Foundation



- Promotion of Indian languages, arts and culture
- Mainstreaming study of classical Indian languages and literature
- Establishment of Indian Institute of Translation and Interpretation

- Increased use of technology in Education
- Establishment of National Educational Technology Forum



- All professional education will be an integral part of the higher education system
- Stand-alone Universities & Institutions shall aim to become multidisciplinary institutions



We are conducting series of Orientation Programme/ Webinar on
'National Education Policy 2020'

To collaborate and organize Orientation Programme please contact us
Email: mail@cessedu.org | Contact No.: +91 9900246239