



## Karnataka Jnana Aayoga (Karnataka Knowledge Commission) Government of Karnataka

### Sub: KJA Recommendation on Karnataka State Education Policy (KSEP)

1. Government of Karnataka (GOK), in December, 2013, re-constituted Karnataka Jnana Aayoga (<http://www.karnataka.gov.in/jnanaayoga>; KJA) - a recommendatory body of 32 experts/professionals from different walks of life. Till date, KJA has formally submitted 8 recommendations to GOK – which are in different stages of implementation/consideration by Government.

### A] 9th KJA RECOMMENDATION TO GOVERNMENT - KARNATAKA STATE EDUCATION POLICY (KSEP)

2. Karnataka Jnana Aayoga (<http://www.karnataka.gov.in/jnanaayoga>; KJA) is submitting its 9<sup>th</sup> Recommendation on “Karnataka State Education Policy” for consideration and appropriate implementation by Government of Karnataka.

#### i) PREPARING THE KSEP

3. In March, 2015, KJA was requested to formulate a renewed state Education Policy – this was at the behest of Hon’ble Minister for Higher Education’s interactions with KJA. In May, 2015, KJA had constituted an expert Task Group on KSEP - which was Co-Chaired by Mr Mohandas Pai and Prof. K S Rangappa and had many experts in education from the state and outside as Members. Over more than a year, the Task Group had wide ranging consultations and discussions and had drafted the KSEP report – these discussions had active participation and involvement of Principal Secretary of PSE and ACS of Higher Education department, along with Mr SV Ranganath, Vice Chair of KSHEC. The TG draft KSEP report was then further discussed within KJA and after exhaustive inputs/suggestions, KJA finalized its Recommendations on KSEP for GOK.

#### ii) BRIEF OVERVIEW OF KSEP

4. KJA Recommendation on KSEP, presently, covers school and higher education – additional efforts can bring in medical education, agricultural education and law education also into the ambit of a “holistic” policy.
5. The vision for the Karnataka State Education Policy (KSEP) is to **“Build an equitable, inclusive and futuristic education system” – which will bring balanced and high-quality education uniformly across the state and spur higher education in a big way.**



6. The salient recommendations of KSEP are given below:

**iii) SALIENT RECOMMENDATIONS - SCHOOL EDUCATION**

- J It must be the bounden duty of Government to provide high-quality education for every child/student in State – thus, Government may augment its role with private sector education in an appropriate manner
- J To bring a social and important gender equity change in Karnataka, every girl child to be assured 12+3 years of guaranteed education.
- J Every child must be assured of 12 years of uniformised and high-quality, standardized education – no child must be deprived of quality education due to birth or geographical reasons.
- J Create a uniform and standardized education system normative across the state – and apply it for government or private schools across the state. This will ensure a very uniform school education system and also boost government schools quality.
- J A scientific consolidation of schools – with an assured composite school within every Panchayat – thereby assuring access to full-schooling within short distances.
- J To prepare future students for success within state-, national- and global-systems, adopt modern multi-language policy - with mother-tongue (ideal) or Kannada (practical) as Medium of Instruction at Grade 1-4; Grade 5 onwards choice for students can be Kannada or English as MOI; 2 languages at Grade 1-4 (MOI + English); 3<sup>rd</sup> additional language at Grade 5 onwards.
- J State could bring seamless in education adopting CBSE's curriculum – BUT must include emphasis on state topics in history, culture, geography etc.
- J While aim must be not to detain any child, examinations and assessment must define metrics at each level/class and enable competitive learning amongst students. At same time, effective CCE and Remedial Education must be positioned - involving parents, teachers and school administration
- J B.Ed to be the minimum qualification for future teachers in the State – for present teachers extensive opportunities to upgrade with BEd qualification.
- J Career progression, Recognition and Rewards for Teachers; 1% teachers to be trained in top institutions abroad every year
- J Government to enable mechanism for pooling any Private sector finances for schools and bring in private sector funding in appropriate manner.

**iv) SALIENT RECOMMENDATIONS - HIGHER EDUCATION**

- J University to be totally autonomous in Administrative, Academic and Financial functions with transparency and accountability to the State.
- J Grants from the State to be linked to the performance of the University/Institution
- J Phasing out single-discipline universities. On other hand, existing Universities must be allowed to offer education in all disciplines, including in professional disciplines such as engineering, medicine, law, architecture and many others, including skill development in diverse areas.
- J All students in Karnataka must have access to any State University of their choice in the State and all Universities must be allowed to admit students from outside their geographical regions for up to 50% of their capacity.
- J Universities should also be encouraged to create national and global linkages.



- J All universities should have Departments of Education where research on all aspects of pedagogy and education delivery – they must spur school education as well as higher education.
- J Career progression, Rewards and Recognition for teachers and faculty is critical and appropriate mechanism must be put in place. Atleast 1% of teachers must be exposed to eminent institutions in India or/and abroad and give them the opportunity to assimilate best practices.
- J A new Karnataka Science, Technology, Humanities and Social science Foundation (KSTHSF) should be created to foster research - in colleges and universities, by providing funds on a competitive, peer-reviewed basis
- J Higher Education in the State must adopt technology in a big way - Smart Class rooms, digital teaching, digital teaching material library, education network across state, use of Satellite technology for 2-way interactive learning, connect all HE institutions to use ICT for management/examinations etc.
- J Universities to be allowed to raise supplementary funds – through projects, industry grants, education partnerships etc. This will give them autonomy and financial strength.
- J Separate legislation for each university to accord autonomy and enable them to achieve national and international competitiveness

#### V) SALIENT RECOMMENDATIONS – “HOLISTIC” GOVERNANCE OF STATE EDUCATION

- J A Ministerial Group on Education – with Hon’ble CM as Chair and Ministers of PSE, HE, Skill Ministry, Finance etc as Members be established to bring the socio-political interface to Education in the state and provide the policy leadership for future Education.
- J An apex, expert-body - Karnataka State Human Resource Development Advisory Council (KSHRDAC) under the Ministerial Group be created – which will provide a “holistic” and total view of education in state and advise the Ministerial Group on policy implementation, policy revision and act as an independent body development of State on education. The Council could cover school, higher education (and also education in medical, agricultural, law etc).
- J The prevalent Karnataka State Higher Education Council (KSHAC) be further strengthened to include private universities and colleges and emerge as the key policy implementation, review and monitoring body for HE. The KSHEC has Minister for HE as Chair.
- J An administrative body for policy implementation, management and development of school education be established - Karnataka State School Education Council (KSSEC) – under Chairmanship of Minister for PSE. This will be critical for effective development of school education.
- J An independent statutory body – Karnataka State Education Regulatory Authority (KSERA) to be constituted to address all regulatory and review/evaluation issues in all aspects of education – quality of education, standards, teachers and faculty, review parameters and process etc. This will be an important body to ensure transparency and uniformity of education.

#### CJ KJA SUGGESTION FOR NEXT STEPS

7. While the KSEP outlines a long-term strategy and action, KJA realises that implementation of the Policy will have to be taken up in a systematic and impacting manner and also considering the social and financial aspects of implementation of KSEP for success. KJA envisages that Government can prepare a phasing and detailed action plan for



implementation of KSEP – maybe the respective Departments can take these phasing/implementation steps.

8. KJA hopes that Government will consider these recommendations of KSEP and would take necessary measures for its implementation by the State Government at the earliest.

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