

**Karnataka Jnana Aayoga  
Government of Karnataka  
Second Report for the period between January and March, 2009**

**KKC Meetings held during the quarter**

There was one meeting of KKC on 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2009. Some of the following points emerged in the meeting.

- There is a need to use the mechanism of experts for comments on the action plan of the commission.
- Need to have a project Director for monitoring the recommendations made by commission from time to time.
- Universities in Karnataka could be sanctioned more funds for development.
- Steps should be taken to reduce the drop outs in higher education.
- Students can be provided skill development training after 8<sup>th</sup> standard for increasing their employability.
- Teachers have to be appointed for ensuring better quality of education.
- Women education should be de linked from general stream and mechanism should be evolved to increase employability among them.
- There can be a Centre for documentation of unpublished research work in English and regional languages under the co-ordination of KKC.
- Every university should digitalize the research works which require ground level implementation.
- More yoga teachers need to be recruited and trained.
- A centralized curriculum reform could be undertaken and libraries in social science and humanities could be established.
- There is need to introduce Indian traditional medicine in the medical, dental, nursing and physiotherapy colleges.

*Stake holder's consultations*

Following suggestions emerged in the meeting.

- There can be regional co-ordinators from among members of the commission.
- Video- conferencing could be used for consultations. Dr. Kasturirangan said that ISRO can set up the system at KKC.
- Students could be encouraged to think out of the box and send their feedback online also
- Useful and good ideas from students could be certified by KKC.
- Partnering with University, NGOs and other bodies for organizing various events and programmes.
- Mass media could be used in a big way. Knowledge columns in newspapers, knowledge related programmes in electronic media and publication of interviews and articles in print media could be explored.

*Others*

Some of the other issues that were discussed are as follows.

- The demo version of the website was launched by Dr Geetha Bali, Vice Chancellor of Karnataka State Women's University.

Dr Geetha Bali was asked to prepare a research proposal on women education in Karnataka for possible funding by the commission.

- Two research proposals on vocational education and citizen information system were submitted by students of IIMB to Dr K Kasturirangan.

### **Working group meetings**

Meetings of Library and Knowledge Networks, Chairmen of all working groups, health sector, vocational education, humanities & social sciences were held during this period. Some of the action points emerged in the meeting is given below.

- Members will reflect on possible recommendations which are desirable and implementable in the short-term
- University level meetings of scholars and academicians to generate ideas
- Members will prepare Working Papers for discussion
- KKC Secretariat will take steps to gather detailed information on the state of education in the state
- Study the success of Centre of Excellence (COE) and upscale them from the existing 50 to 200.
- Introduction of accreditation and ranking of vocational training and education institutions.
- Creation of asset banks at district and taluk levels for making better use of existing infrastructure.
- Impetus to training of existing teachers working in vocational educational institutions.
- Introduction of widespread apprenticeship scheme in industries.
- Up gradation of employment exchanges into career centres.

### **Proposals for 2009-2010 budget**

Following proposals were presented to the Chief Minister of Karnataka for consideration in the state budget of 2009-2010.

- Creation of wikipedia type portal in Kannada.
- Doubling students intake in existing select colleges of Karnataka
- Creation of Karnataka State Research and Innovation fund
- Establishment of Karnataka State Mission for knowledge initiatives in Traditional health sciences
- Upgradation of four employment exchanges as career centres
- Revision of apprenticeship schemes
- Establishment of public libraries in 25 public parks of Karnataka