



Karnataka Jnana Aayoga
(Karnataka Knowledge Commission)
Government of Karnataka

MONTHLY REPORT ON KJA ACTIVITIES – OCTOBER, 2016

A] IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES

- KJA's 9th Recommendation to GOK on Karnataka State Education Policy (KSEP) was formally submitted to Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education and to Hon'ble Minister for Primary & Secondary Education on October 7, 2016. Prior to this formal submission, the KSEP was finalised by KJA Secretariat and was circulated to all KJA Members for any final inputs/comments. Chairman, KJA, in his letter to the 2 Hon'ble Ministers, outlined the process followed by KJA and major highlights of the KSEP. Hon'ble Ministers have suggested for a formal submission meeting and briefing to the Press on KSEP. Earlier, the KJA Recommendation report on KSEP was formalised in a complete manner and readied for submission by KJA Secretariat. The KSEP recommendation report is available on KJA website.
- Member Secretary, KJA met the new Chief Secretary to Govt. of Karnataka - Dr. Subhash Chandra Khuntia, on October 7, 2016 to brief on KJA and its activities and also to brief on the recent recommendation of KSEP. Chief Secretary appreciated the role of KJA and assured of his support to various initiatives of KJA.
- Chairman, KJA visited Madivala Biodiversity Park site on October 22, 2016. He planted samplings on behalf of KJA on the lake bund. Prof. C.R. Babu, Project Advisor, briefed him on the project status and took him around the nursery. Chairman interacted with Officers from KLCDA, Forest Department and with CSR Head and volunteers from BOSCH.
- Member Secretary, KJA met Principal Secretary, Department of IT, BT and S&T on October 25, 2016 to brief her on the activities of KJA TG MI and KJA SG-UAS. Principal Secretary was formally invited to the UAS Workshop at NIAS. Dr Mukund Rao also held discussions with Principal Secretary on the progress of K-GIS activity.
- KJA Expert Review Committee to evaluate the proposal 'Karnataka Centre for Excellence in Design and Manufacture of Wood-based Handicrafts' held its first meeting on October 26, 2016 under the chairmanship of Dr. Gayatri Saberwal. On behalf of the Vice-Chancellor, University of Mysore, Director, PMEB, presented the proposal. The Expert Committee gave important suggestions – to justify the proposal from knowledge, societal angles and also to broadly consider commercial impacts. The proposal would be reviewed again and recommendations finalised.

B] KJA TF/TG AND KJA PROJECTS ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

- KJA Study Group on *UAS Technology, Applications and Policy* organized a 2-day workshop on 'Unmanned Aerial Systems for Governance' on October 27 and 28, 2016 at NIAS. The objectives of the workshop were to review the current status of UAS technology, discuss and learn from best UAS practices, experiences and applications case-studies, discuss solutions and approaches which are sustainable and have a long-term perspective with regard to UAS for governance, study issues and challenges towards creating an eco-system for UAS and to address broad strategy and guidelines for UAS in education. The UAS Workshop was inaugurated by Mr Sushash Chandra Khuntia, Chief Secretary, GOK and was attended by about 80 delegates – from GOK, from central govt, from industries and from academia.

- Task Force on Karnataka Public Health Policy (KPHP): The Drafting Committee of the TF had its meeting on October 7, 2016 to discuss on the draft report of State Health Policy. Discussions were held on statistical data pertaining to the health sector. Inputs/suggestions received from TF Members through email were discussed and incorporated into the report. The KPHP report is under finalisation. The term of TF was extended for second time up to November, 2016. The amendment order was issued with the approval and under authority of Chairman, KJA by Member-Secretary, KJA on October 18, 2016.
- Task Group on Machine Intelligence: TG Sub-Committee on Data Science Curriculum held its 2nd meeting on October 4, 2016 under the chairmanship of Prof. Chiranjib Bhattacharyya. Focused discussions were held on Undergraduate and Postgraduate MI Curriculum and on introducing MPhil Programme to attract pure science students into data analytics. Discussions were also held on introducing short-term certificate and diploma courses on data analytics and Masters in Robotics. The TG-MI postponed its workshop on MI for Governance – this will be held later date.
- KJA sponsored project ‘Preparing Students for Research Training: A Pilot Study on Environmental Pollutants in Konkan Belt’, sanctioned to MPES, Honnavar, has completed 10 months. An Orientation Programme was conducted to 80 B.Sc. First Semester students on October 1, 2016 wherein the Experts and in-house faculty members exposed students for field work and data collection methodology. Field visit for sample collection was undertaken by 15 students. KJA MRC under Dr Gayatri Saberwal would review the project.
- The KJA project on NTS being implemented by IISc and NH requested for an extension of project till December 31, 2016. This has been formalised and the project closure is now set to December 31, 2016 by KJA.

C] KJA SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES

- KJA formally issued a input note on KSEP and status of KJA activities. This is to be used for media inputs and briefing on KJA activities.
- KJA Secretariat prepared and finalised the TG-MI workshop details and coordinated for the workshop programme/speakers/invitees etc – this workshop was scheduled for October 19, 2016 but the TG postponed the MI Workshop on Governance to a later date.
- KJA Secretariat coordinated and prepared/finalised the SG-UAS workshop details and programme finalisation – including details of invitees/speakers/logistics etc – this workshop was organised at NIAS during October 26/27 2016.
- The term of the KJA project ‘Design and Development of a post-operative cardiac critical care simulator for training nurses’ sanctioned to Indian Institute of Science (IISc) was extended till December 28, 2016 mainly to complete the final integration and testing tasks.
- An Expert Review Committee was constituted by KJA to review/recommend on the University of Mysore proposal ‘Karnataka Centre for Excellence in Design and Manufacture of Wood-based Handicrafts’ under the Co-chairmanship of Prof. Sadagopan and Dr. Gayatri Saberwal.
- The process for continuing to availing the services of KJA Secretariat contract consultants has been taken up through the KJA R&RC. KJA R&RC has submitted its recommendation to continue 4 contract consultants on a new term – this is being formalised.



- KJA formalised sanction of INR 1.38 lakhs to NIAS for organising the UAS Workshop at NIAS – after formal approval of KJA-MC.

Mukund Rao
(Member-Secretary, KJA)

To,

- All KJA Members

Cc:

- Personal Secretary of Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education – request to bring this to attention of Hon'ble Minister
- Chief Secretary, GoK
- Additional Chief Secretary, HED, GoK
- Principal Secretary, Department of Finance, GoK
- Members of all KJA TG and TT – through Convenors