

THE BEACON

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Students bear the brunt of hasty adoption of NEP

Blessy Jeremy & Dolkar C

Bengaluru: Students and teachers across Karnataka are in limbo as many universities might have to cope with two batches of first-year degree students from this June.

The first-semester exam for undergraduate students in some universities has been completed while a few others are yet to be held. The second semester scheduled to begin in May will most likely end only in the month of October. This is at a time when the second year PU students are almost done with the exams and would enter the degree education by the end of the next month while the classes for the students of the second semester would have just commenced. The PU and degree colleges, and academicians

in the state are staring at a crisis where they have to run two batches for the first-year degree. Abhaya Diwakar, District President of the All-India Democratic Student Organisation, said, "This issue as well as many others has come from the implementation of the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP) in Karnataka. Last year, the BJP-led government had pushed NEP to appease the Centre, despite the warning and opposition from many educationists." She explained that the setback in the academic calendar is due to a lack of planning. In many districts, the textbooks proposed by the NEP committee were unavailable for over two to three months. Students attended class in vain as lectures were put on hold



Representational image

newindianexpress.com

due to the lack of study material. This led to a delay in the release of the semester examination timetable as teachers struggled to complete the syllabus, she said. "There are universities that still haven't even announced exams. This has left students

shouldering a mountain of stress and uncertainty as to when they will be moving forward to the next semester. Additionally, teachers cannot teach two batches at a time, along with the second and third-year students," she added.

Ruchitha, a first-year degree student of Gavangadeshwara Government First Grade College, Bangalore, said, "Even though our semester began towards the end of last November, we had a new subject introduced this Friday. They

say there are no teachers for some subjects and we have no idea when we will have our exams. We are clueless as to what is happening."

"These students will suffer because of the mismanagement of the government. The NEP has led to this clash in batches and how will they resolve it? It is very wrong, they are playing with the students. The PUC students are unaware of the chaotic calendar and it is very unfair to them. Degree courses are for a period of 3-4 years, so this kind of failure in planning will definitely have long-term effects," said Ashwini, a PU lecturer at Vidyavidyalaya College, Raichur. She further stated that teachers are under pressure as they are answering the concerns of the students on behalf of the government.

Earth Day 2022: Climate March held to raise awareness

Madhu Mitha B.S

Bengaluru: To commemorate Earth Day, a Climate March was organised on Friday to spread awareness on saving the soil. Organisations such as Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, GlobalKulture and Ahimsa were part of the march along with thousands of students who joined holding placards and spreading awareness about climate change and exploitation of the earth's resources.

The march saw participation from students of colleges

across Bangalore such as St. Joseph's College, Christ College and Maharani College. The march flagged off from Vidhana Soudha traversing through Queen's Road and ended at St. Joseph's Indian High School. Dr Shalini Rajneesh, the Additional Chief Secretary of the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports addressed the crowd along with Harsha Vardan, the founder of Ahimsa. The participants took an oath to conserve the soil.

Vikram Vishwanath, the Counsel General of Peru told



Students taking oath on Earth Day

Madhu Mitha

The Beacon, "India is almost ready to supply food grains

to the world. The only way we will be able to sustain

this is by understanding the connection we have with the soil. We need to understand the difficulties we face due to environmental changes, only then will we be able to lead." "Bringing awareness about our Mother Earth and exploitation of soil among the people through this march is our agenda. Youths are the pillar of society and we should be responsible enough to take care of our resources. This is why we have joined our hands to support this Climate March," said Surbhi, a student from Christ University.

CAC conducts 'April monthly challenge'

Shriyagana Pyne

Bengaluru: Cyclists and marathon runners from all over the country assembled to take part in the marathon event conducted by the Champions Athlete Club that started from 1 April. This month-long free challenge is being conducted in Bengaluru, near Cubbon Park. All participants need to do is register online. There are slots given to the cyclists and runners from ranges of 2 km to 50 km. One enthusiastic cyclist, Harish, said, "It is always fun to be a part of these challenges and I have been cycling for a while now. It boosts my confidence as people start cheering for me. There are people participating from all over and it gives a sense of solidarity and togetherness." He added that he plans on covering 50 km. One middle-aged participant said, "I am 51 right now and I know I am not that fast compared to the millennials these days. I take part in these events out of pure joy as I love running. I am grateful to these sports clubs who initiate and create these events for all ages and motivate us to participate."

Enacting Kurukshetra war through music & dance

Mythri C

Bengaluru: 18 Days, Dusk of an Era, a dance musical by Kannada Rajyotsava award-winning, Prabhat Arts International, delivers eye-catching visuals and a performance that left the audience spellbound. With more than 50 professional artists performing at the event, it was a visual treat. The musical performance held at Ravindra Kalakshetra last Saturday saw a heterogeneous audience hailing from across the state and tickets got sold out at the start of the show. With a run

time of 90 minutes, it retold the story of the Kurukshetra War. The performers were trained in various dance forms including martial arts, Bharatanatyam, and Kathak. The costumes were carefully designed, and the music was the highlight of the show, with various sound and aerial techniques utilised along with exquisite lighting.

"The whole event was really a spectacular thing to watch. Shows like these are still upholding the historical values and the essence of

the stories of Mahabharata," said Rajesh, a member of the audience. The show successfully delivered a performance that could easily live on in the minds of people and told the story of Kurukshetra in an effective, creative way.



The Krishna plan FB: Prabhat

Twenty startups participate in mela at SJC

Fiza Z

Bengaluru: St. Joseph's College, Bengaluru opened its doors to entrepreneurs and startups as the Centre for Skill Development and Placement hosted a Start-up Mela on Saturday in association with K-Tech, Innovative Karnataka, and Ministry of IT and BT, Government of Karnataka. Startup owners who spoke to The Beacon appreciated the event. The mela was intended to provide exposure to those startups that had set up the stalls.

More than twenty startups

took part in addition to entrepreneurs from the college. "This event gave me an opportunity to showcase my talent as well as to sell my artworks," said Bipasha Bose, a student-entrepreneur from SJC who featured her collection of artworks in the mela.

"The mela gave us the opportunity to engage with a lot of people and attain coverage for our company," said Rakshitha, of QR Technologies, an enterprise engaged in several domains like research on AI and Quantum Computers.

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If anyone has any feedback / complaints, reports / photographs or are conducting events, please email us at : beacon@sjc.ac.in