



**SRI DEVARAJ URS ACADEMY OF HIGHER EDUCATION & RESEARCH**  
**SRI DEVARAJ URS MEDICAL COLLEGE**  
Tamaka, Kolar



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**THE HINDU**

## UGC issues norms for ethics in higher education

### Guidelines call for modesty, harmony

**SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT**  
NEW DELHI

Human Resource Development Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' on Thursday launched new guidelines for values and ethics in higher education.

In a section on the role of different stakeholders, the guidelines prepared by the University Grants Commission (UGC) has the following advice for student unions: "Support the administration for right and timely decision [and] raise legitimate issues in dignified manner."

The guidelines also call for students to "observe modesty in their overall appearance and behaviour", "maintain good health and refrain from any kind of intoxicants" and "maintain harmony among students belonging to different socio-economic status, community, caste, religion or region".



**Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank**

In another development, with regard to professional ethics, the UGC now requires all Ph.D. candidates to complete two compulsory credit courses on publication ethics from the coming academic session.

In a letter to all Vice-Chancellors, UGC secretary Rajnish Jain said the 30-hour courses would provide awareness on publication ethics, misconduct and research integrity.



# UGC asks colleges to start internal, external exams

**PRAKASH KUMAR**  
NEW DELHI, DHNS

Seeking to end rote learning and system of examination which tests student's memory, the University Grants Commission (UGC) has asked all higher education institutions to implement learning outcome-based education framework and introduce system of continuous and comprehensive evaluation of students's performance as is done in the schools.

In a host of recommendations to bring reforms in the higher education system, the commission has asked all universities and other higher education institutions to start conducting periodic assessment of the undergraduate and post graduate students' performance in classes, giving

it at least 30-40% weightage in semester end examinations.

The commission also suggested that the higher education institutions consider shifting to giving relative grading to students from the current system of absolute grading. The UGC's recommendation for the 'Evaluation Reforms in the Higher Education System' was released by Human Resource Development minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank on Thursday.

"The semester end examination system which test the memory of the students more often insulates students from the quest of knowledge, excitement of discovery and joy of learning. The annual examination along with marks percentage and division often leads to insensitive cramming up of superficial discreet infor-

mation," the UGC noted in the policy document.

Internal and periodic evaluation of the students performance can be conducted by the faculty members concerned through a range of methods including home assignments, seminars, presentations, laboratory work, unit tests and peer reviews, according to the UGC.

Many of the centrally-funded institutions have adopted such examination system. The commission wants all the higher education institutions to adopt it.

Pressing for implementation of choice-based credit system of education, the UGC has asked the higher education institutions to bring 70-80% uniformity in the broad topics in every course in the degree programmes.



# Karnataka to get 3 more medical colleges

**Udupi,  
Ramanagaram and  
Bengaluru Rural  
districts to benefit**

**RASHMI BELUR**  
BENGALURU, DHNS

## COLLEGE COUNT

Govt medical colleges: **19**

MBBS seats in govt colleges: **2,398**

New govt medical colleges proposed for 2020-21: **4**

Total medical colleges in state: **40**

New colleges proposed for 2021-22: **3**

**H**ome to the highest number of medical colleges in the country, Karnataka is likely to get three more government medical colleges for the academic year 2021-22. Keeping in mind the district-wise coverage of medical colleges, the state department of medical education is preparing to set up three new government medical colleges at Udupi, Ramanagaram and Bengaluru Rural districts.

Though Karnataka already has 40 medical colleges, they are not uniformly distributed with several districts lacking the facility. Barring Udupi, Ramanagaram and Bengaluru Rural, all other districts have medical colleges run by either the Union or state gov-

ernment or private bodies. Confirming the move, Deputy Chief Minister and Medical Education Minister Dr C N Ashwath Narayan told *DH* that the government is hopeful of getting permission to run these colleges for the 2021-22 academic year.

"Our aim is to set up medical colleges in every district. If you look at the distribution of medical colleges, only these three districts lack the facility. We are preparing a proposal to get permission to run these colleges for the 2021-22 academic year," the DyCM explained.

► Medical seats, Page 5

## 3 more medical colleges

**MEDICAL SEATS, FROM PAGE 1**

According to sources in the medical education department, the colleges that had been approved previously such as Chikkamagaluru, Chikkaballapur, Haveri and Yadgir districts are expected to commence from the 2020-21 academic year from a temporary set-up. "Once the Medical Council of India (MCI) gives its consent for the infrastructure, the state will get additional 600 medical seats by the 2020-21 academic year," an official clarified.

The state government had courted a controversy following its decision to shift the sanctioned medical college from Ramanagaram to Chikkaballapur a few months ago. In fact, the decision led to a bitter political tiff between Congress leader D K Shivakumar and Chikkaballapur MLA Sudhakar. However, by deciding to submit a fresh proposal to set up a new college in Ramanagaram, the government appears to have succeeded in putting an end to the bitter politics over medical colleges.