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Department of Education
(Higher Education)
ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಇಲಾಖೆ (ಉನ್ನತ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ)

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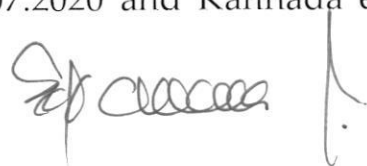
Date: 29.07.2020

SUBMISSION NOTE TO HON'BLE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA
REGARDING CONDUCT OF CET 2020

1. In the Notification published by Karnataka Examinations Authority dated **04.02.2020**, the date of examination was fixed as 22.04.2020 and 23.04.2020. On 30.03.2020 due to the country wide lockdown, it was decided that the examination scheduled on 22.04.2020 and 23.04.2020 will be postponed.
2. Vide Notification dated 07.05.2020, applications were invited one more time by KEA from candidates who wish to apply for CET 2020-08.05.2020 to 18.05.2020.
3. Vide Notification dated **13.05.2020**, Karnataka Examinations Authority announced the date of examination for CET 2020 as 30.07.2020 and 31.07.2020.
4. Further vide Notification dated 18.05.2020, to facilitate the students, provision to change the examination centres and editing of applications was also permitted wherein 75 new examination

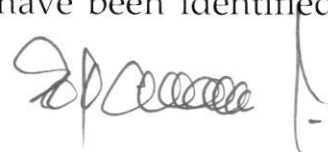
locations were added and candidates could give three examination centres of their choice. Using this provision more than 30,000 students have changed their examination centres of their choice.

5. Due to Covid-19 pandemic situation, the number of centres have been increased from 431 in the year 2019 to 127 locations (which includes District headquarters, taluk head quarters) and 497 centres throughout the State. Also the centres for Kannada exam has been increased and extended to bordering Districts of neighbouring States which are Bijapur, Mangalore, Belgavi, Ballari, Bidar and Bengaluru. In 2019 Kannada exam for outside State students was held only in Bangalore. 1881 students are appearing for Kannada exam this year.
6. Examination was not held on the scheduled date ie, 22.04.2020 and 23.04.2020 due to country wide lockdown.
7. In the SSLC examination conducted by the Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board from 25.06.2020 to 03.07.2020 more than 8.00 lakh students appeared for the examination and was conducted successfully throughout the State of Karnataka. Also the English examination for PU students was conducted on 18.06.2020 throughout the State successfully.
 - a. OM published by Ministry of Human Resource Department, Dept of Higher Education, GOI dated 06.07.2020 and as the UGC letter dated 08.07.2020 has revised the guidelines for examination and academic calendar for all the Universities in view of Covid-19 pandemic and have given a detailed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to conduct the examination. Accordingly on 10.07.2020 by means of press briefing it was announced that CET 2020 examination will be held as per schedule on 30.07.2020 and 31.07.2020 and Kannada exam on

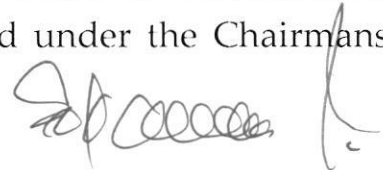


01.08.2020.(also the timeline for holding semester/ yearly examination for final year students was also announced).

- b. In accordance with the detailed guidelines provided by Ministry of Home Affairs dated 20.05.2020 and the SOP prescribed by UGC in the letter dated 08.07.2020 and taking into consideration the SOP adopted by the Department of Primary and Secondary Education in conduct of SSLC and PU (English) exams, detailed SOP dated 18.07.2020 was formulated for CET 2020 by the Department of Health and Family Welfare Dept in which all the concerns of the students, parents of the students, staff, Invigilators and all the personnel involved in conducting the examination and also administering public health were duly examined and taken care of.
8. The Deputy Commissioners of all the Districts who have been appointed as Chief Superintendent of the examination (who are also Head of the Health Department of the District and Head of Covid-19 District Task Force) has been entrusted to ensure that all the procedures to be followed as per SOP from sanitization of the exam centres and ensuring security and safety of all the students, their parents and all who are involved in conducting the examination and public health.
9. A detailed discussion with the District administration including the District Commissioner, Superintendent of Police, District Health Officers, Transport Department and other Stake holders was done to ensure all the facilities to the students appearing for the examination.
10. It was also decided to make special arrangements for students who are Covid-19 positive and willing to appear for the CET examination, Special Covid Care Centres in Districts have been identified by the



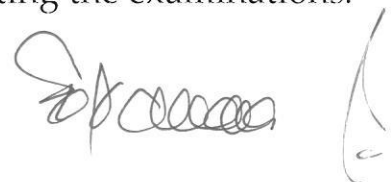
13. Transport Department (KSRTC, BMTC, NWRTC, NEKRTC) has ensured the running of buses to all the routes by taking into consideration the timing of the examination (the Transport Department had been instrumental in providing transportation facilities to students during SSLC (25.06.2020 to 03.07.2020) and PU examination (18.06.2020). In Bangalore especially, the transport arrangements have been made from all zones through BMTC buses with increased frequency so as to ensure that the children can travel even from containment zones.
14. In the SOP released by the Health Department on 18.07.2020, the Health Department has identified the outside State students as Business Travelers (as mentioned in SOP dated 08.06.2020). Accordingly, they are exempted from home quarantine if they are travelling for the purpose of CET exam. Also the centres for Kannada exam for students coming from outside Karnataka has been designated to the bordering Districts of neighbouring States (Mangalore, Belgaum, Ballari, Bijapur, Bidar and Bangalore). All the forces deployed at the inter state check post have been trained and informed about this provision.
15. All the centres have been sanitized as per the procedure and there is availability of hand sanitizers for anybody who is entering the examination centre premises. Also thermal scanning for each individual entering the examination has been ensured and thermal scanners have been provided to all the centres. To ensure social distancing at the centres at the time of entering and exit of the students and to ensure that no crowding takes place, section 144 has been enforced on the examination days within 200 mts of each examination centre. Competent authorities have already issued orders.
16. After the directions by the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka to reconsider, Video Conference was scheduled under the Chairmanship



Deputy Commissioners as the centres where examination is to be conducted for Covid -19 positive students. In this way, the health of the Covid-19 positive students is also not at risk, so also the other students as the Covid 19 positive students are kept away from the other children and at the same time an opportunity has been given to write the examination. Also in the Covid Care Centre, the special invigilator has been identified who are medical practitioners and additional para medical staff will be deployed for invigilation purpose. Along with this CCTV cameras have been installed for all the Covid-19 examination centres. Food will also be provided to the Covid positive candidates at the examination centre itself. Also travel arrangements for Covid -19 positive students will be done through ambulances in co-ordination with the District authorities and Health Department.

11.As per SOP issued by the Health Department dated 18.07.2020 every examination centre has identified one room as special room for students who show symptoms of any kind of illness (rise in temperature, cough, sneezing etc.). Those students shall be facilitated to write exam in special rooms identified by each centre (same procedure followed during SSLC examination).

12.In the SOP dated 18.07.2020, students coming from Containment Zones have been permitted to come out of the Containment zones showing their hall ticket along with parents. The forces deployed at the containment zones by the Police Department/ Health Department have been informed and trained about the provision. This has been done to ensure that the students can leave the containment zone for the purposes of conducting the examinations.



safety measures and precautions and to ensure that all children are able to write the exam in a safe environment with least inconvenience.

17. As directed by the Hon'ble High Court, the issue of large number of cases that have emerged in the recent days was also examined. As a matter of fact, it is was owing to the large number of cases that various steps have been taken to ensure that the students who are covid positive are kept in a separate centre altogether. In every centre space has also been created for students who show any symptoms to ensure that there is no spread of the disease with effective sanitization at regular intervals as stated in the SOPs issued in this regard. Various steps have been taken to ensure that students who are from containment zones are also duly taken care of. Each of the centres are duly sanitized and contained by passing orders in this regard.
18. The number of students coming from outside Karnataka are totally 1881 and 1300 students are coming to Bangalore and the rest to other parts of the State. The bordering district of the neighbouring States have been made centres to enable students to travel the least distance. The other centres are at Belagavi, Ballari, Bidar, Vijayapura and Mangalore to accommodate out of state students. This has also resulted in fewer students travelling to Bangalore. In addition, the students are treated as business travellers for conducting this examination and therefore are exempted from quarantine requirements during this period of examination.
19. Till date 1,84,368 students have downloaded the hall tickets. This makes it clear that a large number of students will attend the examination and it is neither feasible nor proper in the larger interests of students and public interest to stop the carrying out of the examination.

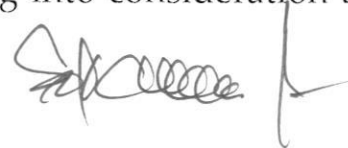


of the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Higher Education, IT, BT and S & T in the presence of ACS, Dept of Higher Education and Executive Director, Karnataka Examinations Authority, officials from the Transport Department, Health Department, Superintendent of Police and during discussion, all the DCS were positive about conducting the examination and by taking into consideration all the observations by the Hon'ble High Court it was affirmed by all the participants in the VC that all the State machinery is prepared to conduct the examination.

For the better co-ordination during the examination days between the departments a State level co-ordination Committee for 2020 was constituted by the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Higher Education, IT, BT and S & T which includes :


1. Additional Chief Secretary, Dept of Higher Education as Chairman
2. Additional Chief Secretary, Dep of Health and Family Welfare
3. Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order)
4. Commissioner, BBMP
5. Commissioner of Police, Bangalore City
6. Secretary, Dept of Transport
7. Managing Director, KSRTC
8. Managing Director, NEKRTC
9. Managing Director, NWRTC
10. Managing Director, BMTC
11. Executive Director, Karnataka Examinations Authority as Member Secretary

and consequently the meeting of the Committee was also held through VC and all the Officers of the Committee have expressed their preparedness to conduct the CET 2020. All the above matters were brought to the notice of all concerned who have confirmed that the examinations will be conducted taking into consideration all the



Taking into consideration the above, and having duly considered all issues that arise for consideration, the Government has decided as follows:

The Common Entrance Test scheduled to be held on 30 July 2020, 31 July 2020 and 1 August 2020 will be held as scheduled.


29.7.2020
Additional Chief Secretary
Government of Karnataka
Department of Higher Education