

Greetings of peace and joy!

As we journey through July, we are reminded that education is not merely the transmission of knowledge but the formation of persons who are rooted in truth, compassion, and service. Our Catholic educational institutions have a sacred mission to nurture young minds and hearts so that they become responsible citizens and committed Disciples of Christ.

The new academic year has already commenced, and the initial processes of admissions and other essential formalities have been completed. As we move forward, this is an opportune moment to renew our shared commitment to excellence in education, holistic character formation, and the promotion of human dignity.

Let us dedicate ourselves to creating learning environments where every child feels welcome, respected, valued, and inspired to discover and develop their God-given potential. In a rapidly evolving world, our schools must continue to nurture critical thinking, moral integrity, social responsibility, and a deep sense of care for creation. Above all, in this age of technology and artificial intelligence, education must remain firmly rooted in authentic human formation, shaping individuals who are not only intellectually competent but also compassionate, ethical, and committed to the common good.

I express my sincere appreciation to our management, principals, teachers, and non-teaching staff for your tireless dedication and selfless service. Your commitment continues to shape the lives of countless young people and strengthens the mission of the Church in society.

As we continue this academic journey, let us work together in a spirit of collaboration, mutual respect, and hope. May our institutions remain beacons of excellence, justice, and Christian values, inspiring future generations to build a more peaceful and compassionate world.

May the Lord bless each one of us with wisdom, strength, and abundant grace throughout this academic year.

Rev Dr. Francis Assisi Almeida

Secretary

Karnataka Regional Commission for Education (KRCE), Bangalore.

Governing Board and General Body Meeting – 18 July 2026

The Governing Board Meeting of the Karnataka Regional Commission for Education (KRCE) was held on **18 July 2026, at 9:00 a.m.** at the Regional Pastoral Centre, Bangalore. The meeting was presided over by **Most Rev. Dr. Francis Serrao, Bishop of Mysore and Vice Chairman of KRCE**. The proceedings began with an opening prayer, followed by a welcome address delivered by the Secretary, **Rev. Dr. Fr. Francis Assisi Almeida**. The meeting was attended by the Joint Secretary, Rev. Fr. Marcel Pinto; the Coordinator of the Commissions, Fr. Anil Prasad; and members of the KRCE.



The Annual General Body Meeting of the Karnataka Regional Commission for Education (KRCE) was held on **18 July 2026, at 10:00 a.m.** at the Regional Pastoral Centre, Bangalore, with members from dioceses and religious congregations across Karnataka.



The meeting began with a prayer, followed by a motivational address by **Mr. Nithin Jose, Co-Founder of Race IAS Excellence Pvt. Ltd.,** on Civil Services opportunities. The meeting was presided over by **Most Rev. Dr. Francis Serrao, Bishop of Mysore and Vice Chairman of KRCE**. **Most Rev. Joseph Susainathan, Auxiliary Bishop of Bangalore,** attended the meeting on behalf of **Most Rev. Dr. Peter Machado, Archbishop of Bangalore and President of KRCE**.

CBSE Principals' Training Programme - 25 July 2026.

The Karnataka Regional Commission for Education (KRCE), under the leadership of **Rev. Dr. Francis Assisi Almeida, Secretary, KRCE,** organized a **CBSE Principals' Training Programme on 25 July 2026 at Subodhana Regional Pastoral Centre, Bengaluru.** The programme was attended by **58 Principals** from various CBSE institutions across Karnataka. **Dr. R. N. Tiwari, the educationist,** served as the resource person and delivered insightful sessions on contemporary educational practices, effective school governance, and the implementation of CBSE guidelines. His presentations provided school leaders with practical strategies to strengthen academic excellence, institutional leadership, and quality education in their respective schools.



Training Programme on Artificial Intelligence (AI) for KRCE Members – 29 July 2026. The Karnataka Regional Commission for Education (KRCE) organized a **one-day Training Programme on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Its Integration with the Education Sector on 29 July 2026 at Subodhana Regional Pastoral Centre, Bengaluru.** The programme witnessed the participation of **62 members** from various educational institutions.

The programme commenced with a special address by **Most Rev. Dr. Peter Machado, Archbishop of Bangalore and President of KRCE,** and was coordinated by **Rev. Dr. Francis Assisi Almeida, Secretary, KRCE.** Expert sessions were conducted by **Mr. Surojith Nath** (Co-Founder & Director, Mind & Matter), **Mrs. Sameera Fernandes** (Founder & CEO, Econova Global), and **Mr. Diganta Chakravorti** (Director, Growth & Strategy, Mind & Matter). The speakers shared practical insights into the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence in educational leadership, institutional administration, teaching-learning processes, and strategic institutional development, equipping participants to integrate emerging technologies into educational practice.



TRAINING PROGRAMME ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Institutional Activities and Events

Carmel School CBSE, Kotekar, organized a series of educational and value-based programmes, including **Green Day Celebration, Doctors' Day Celebration, Vanamahotsava**, and an **Awareness Programme on social media and its Effects**.

CARMEL SCHOOL CBSE



These initiatives fostered environmental stewardship, health, awareness, responsible digital citizenship, and value-based learning, thereby contributing to the holistic growth and development of students.

St. Theresa's School, Kengeri, Bengaluru, organized a variety of co-curricular activities, including the **Annual Sports Day, Animal Day**, and **Talent Hunt**. These programmes nurtured creativity, leadership, teamwork, and physical well-being while providing students with opportunities to discover and develop their talents. The enthusiastic participation of teachers and parents further enriched the learning environment and supported the holistic development of every child.

ST. THERESA'S SCHOOL



St. Charles English High School, Kammanahalli, Bengaluru, conducted several co-curricular and value-based programmes during the academic year **2026–2027** to promote the all-round development of students. The activities included **Re-opening Day, World Environment Day Celebration, Investiture Ceremony, Club Inauguration, International Yoga Day Celebration, Elocution and Public Awareness Competitions**, and a **Rangoli Competition**. These initiatives encouraged leadership, creativity, discipline, teamwork, and social responsibility while providing students with opportunities to develop their skills and talents.



ST. CHARLES ENGLISH HIGH SCHOOL



St. Rock's Girls High School, Cleveland Town, Bengaluru, embraced the vision of the **Global Compact on Education** through a range of initiatives promoting human dignity, inclusive education, environmental responsibility, peace, and digital awareness. Student leadership programmes, active collaboration with parents, and value-based educational activities fostered holistic development and empowered students to become responsible, compassionate, and socially conscious citizens.

St. Mary's Convent School, H. Malligere, Mandya, presented its **Annual School Report** highlighting the institution's academic achievements and holistic development initiatives for the academic year. The report featured various co-curricular activities, educational exposure visits, and the successful celebration of the **Annual Day** based on the theme "*Incredible Karnataka*." It also acknowledged the invaluable support and cooperation of parents in fostering the overall growth and development of students.

ST. MARY'S CONVENT SCHOOL



Sacred Heart Girls' PU College, Jeevan Bhima Nagar, Bangalore, presented its **Annual Education Report**, highlighting the institution's commitment to academic excellence, value-based education, and holistic student development. The report showcased achievements in academics, sports, cultural activities, leadership formation, wellness programmes, and community outreach initiatives. It also outlined the college's future plans to strengthen digital learning and further enhance educational outcomes.



Holy Spirit Educational Society, B.G. Road, Bengaluru, carried out a wide range of academic, co-curricular, and community-oriented initiatives through its **CISCE School** and **CBSE & PU College**. The institutions promoted holistic education through value-based programmes, environmental awareness campaigns, leadership development activities, sports, parent engagement, and health-related initiatives. A major highlight was **Miniathon 2026 – "Run for a Greener Tomorrow,"** which encouraged physical fitness, environmental responsibility, and active community participation. These initiatives reflect the Society's commitment to nurturing responsible, healthy, and socially committed citizens.

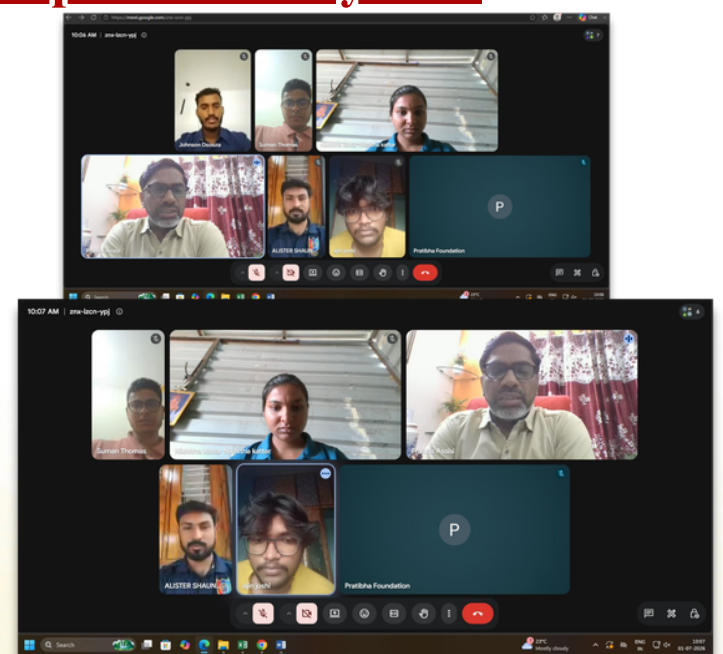
Good News Welfare Society, Kalghatagi, continued its commitment to quality education and holistic development through a series of academic, environmental, and value-based initiatives during **July 2026**. The Society organized **Vanamahotsava**, welcomed the Provincial through a staff interaction programme, reopened its Degree College for the new academic year, inaugurated the **48th Grihini Training Programme**, and conducted parents' meetings, awareness sessions, and motivational programmes. Collectively, these initiatives strengthened academic excellence, environmental consciousness, skill development, and community engagement across its educational institutions.



Pratibha Foundation

Google Meet Session for the Third Batch Civil Services Aspirants – 1 July 2026.

A Google Meet session was conducted on **1 July 2026** for the five selected candidates of the **Third Batch Civil Services Coaching Programme** before they joined the academy. During the session, the Secretary welcomed the aspirants and shared guidance on the expectations, discipline, and commitment required for the programme. The students were encouraged to remain focused, consistent, and confident throughout their preparation. The session concluded with an interactive discussion, during which the aspirants' queries were addressed.



Visit to Meet Third Batch Civil Services Aspirants in Chennai – 21 July 2026.



The five selected Civil Services aspirants of **Pratibha Foundation** commenced their coaching programme at **JD Academy of Excellence (JDAX), Chennai**, on **1 July 2026**. As part of the Foundation's continuous academic support and monitoring, the Secretary visited the Academy on **21 July 2026** and met with the Director, **Fr. Antony Sebastian**, to discuss the students' training, academic progress, and other related matters. The visit strengthened coordination between the Foundation and the Academy while providing encouragement, guidance, and continued support to the aspirants in their Civil Services preparation.

Circulars

- **4 July 2026:** Extension of the time limit for the submission of applications for first recognition and renewal of recognition of private aided and unaided schools for the academic year **2025–2026**.
- **4 July 2026:** Extension of the time limit for obtaining registration and a School DISE Code for the establishment of new permanent unaided pre-primary, primary, and secondary private schools for the academic year **2026–2027**.
- **4 July 2026:** Relaxation of the prescribed age limit for admission of children to **Class I**, applicable exclusively for the academic year **2026–2027**.
- **17 July 2026:** Extension of the last date for the submission of applications for first recognition and renewal of recognition of private aided and unaided schools for the academic year **2025–2026**.

Higher Education

- **1 July 2026:** Implementation of the **Mental Health Policy for Educational Institutions** in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the Department of Health and Family Welfare.

Legal Updates

1. A POCSO Court in Odisha held a home tutor (tuition teacher) guilty of repeatedly sexually assaulting his student, a minor boy, and sentenced the former to 20 years' rigorous imprisonment, remarking that the child who should have spent his time in cheerfulness was dealt with animal passion and his dignity was shattered. In doing so, the Court remarked that the testimony of the boy, who had come forward at the risk of his reputation, was of “sterling quality”, which was enough to convict the accused.

(State of Odisha v. Hafiz Nur Artaj @ Akhtar)

2. The Karnataka High Court has recently declined to quash criminal proceedings against a private school in a case where a Class IV student allegedly lost vision in one eye and sustained 40% permanent disability after coloured confetti was sprayed into his eyes by fellow students inside a school bus. Observing that a school bus forms an extension of the school premises, the Court held that the allegations against the school involve far more than a case of “transient hurt”; rather, they concern “a childhood permanently scarred.” The Court further observed that: “...A child who travels in a school bus which is an extension of the school itself, cannot be left high and dry till the child from the school reaches the house even if it is the last stop. The safety of children in a school bus is not a matter of charity or convenience; it is a solemn obligation mandated under the Statute as well”.

(Divyajyothi School Management v. State of Karnataka & Anr)

3. The Delhi High Court recently affirmed the order of a Single Judge directing TV Today Network Limited to pay Rs. 5 lakhs as damages for infringing the privacy and confidentiality rights of a child sexual abuse survivor by broadcasting information capable of revealing her identity. The Court noted that, despite the victim's mother expressly declining to engage with the media, Aaj Tak, a channel operated by TV Today, telecast a report allegedly disclosing the father's identity, his designation, workplace details, visuals of the family's residential locality, and other identifying particulars that could have led to the identification of the child victim.

(TV TODAY NETWORK LIMITED v. ABC & ORS)



Legal Updates

4. The Himachal Pradesh High Court held that the mere absence of clinical indicators of trauma in a psychologist's report cannot justify quashing an FIR registered under Section 75 of the Juvenile Justice Act. The Court observed that whether the child actually suffered mental trauma is an issue of evidence to be adjudicated during trial. At the stage of considering quashing, the allegations in the FIR, if taken at face value, were sufficient to establish a prima facie case. The ruling came while dealing with a petition filed by a school principal who was accused of publicly branding a child as a thief in front of classmates and threatening the child with imprisonment.

(Vibha Bansal v. State of Himachal Pradesh & Anr)

5. The Delhi High Court has ruled that the Directorate of Education's (DoE) authority to regulate aided minority educational institutions is confined to prescribing the qualifications and experience required for teaching and non-teaching staff, and does not extend beyond that scope. The Court said, "no restrictions/no criteria other than prescribing qualifications and/or experience for appointment of non-teaching and teaching staff can be prescribed by the DoE qua the aided minority institutions."

(St. Anthony's Boys Secondary School v. DoE)

6. The Supreme Court held that a school official who receives a direct complaint of sexual assault from a child cannot escape criminal liability by conducting a private "verification" and concluding that no incident occurred instead of reporting it to the authorities. The Court clarified that such failure to report, as mandated under Section 19 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO Act), attracts criminal liability under Section 21 of the Act, which prescribes punishment of up to six months' imprisonment, a fine, or both.

(AAA v. Linda Sema & Ors)

7. The Karnataka High Court dismissed a petition filed by three officials of a private school seeking quashing of an FIR registered against them under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. The Court held that the allegations of failing to report a case of child sexual assault and coercing the minor victim to alter his complaint disclosed a prima facie offence under Section 21 of the POCSO Act. It further observed that a school's silence in the face of child sexual abuse amounts not to institutional prudence, but to statutory delinquency. The Court said, "...Silence in such circumstances is not institutional prudence; it is statutory delinquency. Delay is not administrative convenience; it is a betrayal of the confidence reposed in the institution by every parent who entrusts a child to its care. Any attempt to suppress, modify or camouflage the allegations, instead of reporting them forthwith to the jurisdictional authorities, only emboldens the perpetrator, deepens the trauma of the victim and frustrates the very object for which the POCSO Act was enacted."

(Shivaprasad Bhat & Ors. v. State of Karnataka & Another)

8. The Telangana High Court has held that minority educational institutions cannot be compelled to provide free education to the children of journalists by invoking the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 (RTE Act). Relying on the Constitution Bench judgment of the Supreme Court in Pramati Educational and Cultural Trust v. Union of India, the Court ruled that the RTE Act does not apply to minority educational institutions. It further held that the State has no statutory authority to extend such a benefit to a particular class of persons solely based on representations made by journalists' associations.

(Brothers of St. Gabriel Educational Society & Ors. v. State of Telangana & Ors)



Thank you..



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