

THE HINDU

24x7 helpline, talent bank, interaction portal among recommendations in youth policy

Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar says Karnataka Youth Policy will be implemented in toto

Special Correspondent

BANGALORE: Setting up of a 24x7 helpline, an interaction portal and a talent bank for the youth apart from Swami Vivekananda Youth Empowerment Corporation (SWAYEM) are some of the recommendations made in the Karnataka Youth Policy released by Chief Minister Jagadish Shettar here on Thursday.

Brought out by the Department of Youth Services and Sports and Karnataka Knowledge Commission, the policy focusses on those in the age group of 16 to 30.

Objective

Aimed at ensuring inclusiveness for the youth, the policy recommends the setting up of Vivekananda Youth Centres both in urban and rural areas across the State.

This is to engage the youth in a sustained way by providing broad-based opportunities for growth, according to the policy document.

The Chief Minister said that the government would take forward the policy and implement it to empower the State's 1.90 crore youth.

Vivekananda birth anniversary

"Swami Vivekananda's



ENGAGING THE YOUTH: M.K. Baladevkrishna (left), Member Secretary, Steering Committee, Youth Policy, and Director, Department of Youth Services and Sports; Sandeep Shastri, Chairman, Drafting Committee, Youth Policy, and Pro Vice-Chancellor, Jain University; Girish Patel, Chairman, Steering Committee, Youth Policy, and Vice-Chairman, Karnataka Sports Authority; Jagadish Shettar, Chief Minister; and M.P. Appachu Ranjan, Minister for Youth Services and Sports, during the launch of the youth policy in Bangalore on Thursday. - PHOTO: K. GOPINATHAN

150th birth anniversary, on January 12, will be observed in a befitting manner by organising programmes for the youth. This anniversary cele-

bration will serve as a launching pad for the implementation of the youth policy," he said. Appreciating the Steering

and Drafting committees and the Sports Authority of Karnataka for having brought out the final policy within two months of submitting a draft

policy, the Chief Minister said: "It is notable that these committees ensured an effective and swift process for creating a youth-friendly,

Policy recommendations	
A portal for youth to provide a platform for interaction	Youth centres to meet sports, educational, recreational and fine arts needs of the younger generation
A 24x7 helpline for youth	Programmes to encourage volunteerism and youth exchange
Institution of 'Youth Icon' awards	Launch of 'employed while studying' scheme
Task force on learner-centred education	Setting up of Swami Vivekananda Youth Empowerment Corporation
Youth talent bank	
Competency/skill mapping of youth	
Campaign to promote best practices to promote healthy habits among youth	

GRAPHICS: S. BELMANN

youth-sensitive and youth-oriented policy."

He said that youth empowerment was a priority for the government.

Steps would be initiated to implement the policy in toto, he said.

Sports policy

Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports M.P. Appachu Ranjan said that the Government would soon bring out a sports policy to bring in reservation for sports persons in all sectors, including jobs in

private sector. "The youth policy calls for the enunciation of a comprehensive sports policy. A Bill is being planned and we are working on it. It will be placed before the legislature soon," Mr. Ranjan said.

Women and Child Welfare Minister Kalakappa G. Bandi, Chairperson of Steering Committee for Youth Policy and Vice-Chairman of Karnataka Sports Authority Girish Patel and Chairperson of Drafting Committee Sandeep Shastri were present.