

## **Call for Expression of Interest for Karnataka State Higher Education Council (KSHEC), Government of Karnataka SCOUT - Scholars for Outstanding Undergraduate Talent**

British Council in India is organising a study tour programme for 30 students, 5-6 faculties, and 2 officials from **Karnataka State Higher Education Council (KSHEC)**, Government of Karnataka to the UK in the month of November 2024.

The course module is for 2-3 weeks to give them an experience of international education to excel in higher education and inspire them in the fields of innovation and research. The experience and skills students will get from the programme will be invaluable in their professional and academic pursuits after graduation. Through this tour we aim to promote awareness and develop a greater understanding of UK education amongst potential students. Below themes are identified for the proposed 2/3 weeks course/programme:

1. Study of **Sustainable Development Goals** from Indian perspectives and addressing a local challenge through creative thinking.
2. Infusion of local **critical thinking and problem-solving** abilities among undergraduate students to make societal impacts in the state.
3. **Entrepreneurship**
4. **Personality Development** along with **life skills** for students.

### **Objective of the tour:**

- To provide exposure and skills to talented young people without means to access international education.
- To give them an experience of international education to excel in higher education and inspiration for innovation and research.
- To support them to impact local community, educational institutions and workplace through the learning they gain during the short course.
- To help the Karnataka State Higher Education Council understand and collaborate with UK Institutions.

### **Benefits for the host institution**

1. An opportunity for the host institution to showcase the best of their facilities and academic culture to a visiting group of international students directly through face-to-face engagement
2. Participating institution can use this opportunity to network and understand the partnership and student mobility opportunity of Karnataka and India in general.
3. Provide a learning opportunity through a short certification course to a group of young people from India
4. As the visiting faculty will be accompanied with the students from Department of Education, parallel meetings with the representatives from External/International Relations Department of host institution could be arranged for possible collaborations and partnerships (no partnership fee involved)

### **Proposed outcomes**

- Students will talk positively about their experience in the UK with their peers
- Students will be able to make connections and friends during the programme
- They would have gained skills and confidence at par with students who have greater access to international experiences and exposure

- They would have gained some subject specific skills and experienced new pedagogical methods
- Social media, and press and media campaigns with the students and State in India and the UK
- They will have to present a report on their visit experience and skills they have learnt during the visit

### **Event details and format**

**Dates of the programme:** 2- 3 weeks in the month of November 2024. In the unlikely circumstance that this changes we will inform the institutions in good time

### **Cohort composition:**

30 students, 5-6 Faculties, 2 officials from KSHEC and 2 British Council staff

### **Proposed role of the UK University**

- Provide airport to airport support for the students in the UK
- Provide courses and modules of study on the themes given above for students
- Take on the duty of care of the students during their stay coordinating with accompanying faculty.
- Provide cultural experiences and visits to provide students a holistic UK experience
- Please note that students will be from a cross section of science, commerce and humanities departments, hence a multidisciplinary approach will be appreciated.

### **In your expression of interest/proposal please indicate the following:**

- Initial draft for 2 to 3 weeks study programme based on the indicated themes while considering the trip's objectives mentioned above. Please mention costs if any.
- It should indicate if hostel accommodation on double occupancy can be provided in-campus or off-campus for students, visiting faculties (5 to 6), 2 officials from KSHEC and 2 accompanying British Council staff.
- Confirmation of provision of lunch/networking lunch (Halal/vegetarian dietary requirement) with possible invitation to colleagues to join from External/International Relations department of host institution

### **Selection process**

- British Council will select the host institution based on the strength of the proposed programme and budget.
- Please submit your interest to host the delegation along with a framework of study-programme by **Friday 26 July 2024**.
- The expression of interest/proposal should be done on the [template provided \(link to MS forms\)](#)

## Evaluating proposals

All eligible applications will be scored by review panel members.

### Selection Criteria

CRITERIA	Weightage
Programme design	25%
Holistic support offered to participants and university's commitment to EDI values	25%
Due diligence and risk management processes	20%
Monitoring and evaluation frameworks	10%
Operational capacity and cost effectiveness	20%

### ABOUT KARNATAKA in Education context:

Statistics show that the education sector is making significant progress in the Karnataka state. In 2001, the literacy rate was 66.64 %, which increased to 75.60% in 2011. Currently, Karnataka is ranked 9th overall in the literacy rate, the literary growth plans reflect the prospects for the future.

The education system is classified as school education, graduate education, technical education, and higher education. There are a total of 62229 schools in the state, including government and private. There are 25278 junior primary schools, 36951 senior primary schools, and 15867 secondary schools. The Karnataka Government which has implemented "The Right to Education Act" for all children is in force.

The state has adopted a 10+ 2+ 3 mode of the education system. So between 1 and 10 years of schooling, pre-school education is 2 years, and graduate education is at least 3 years.

Two language subjects and four optional subjects can be studied in the pre-university system. In the arts, commerce and science disciplines, 23 subjects and 11 languages can be studied through 50 combinations. There is 1202 government, 637 aided, 1936 unaided, 165 bifurcated and 13 corporation pre-university colleges in the state.

There is a growing trend towards higher education in the state. There are 440 government first-grade colleges, 41 State Public universities and 28 private universities.

Technical education is classified as a polytechnic, junior technical schools, and engineering courses. There are 357 government, aided and unaided Polytechnic colleges, 11 junior technical institutes and 258 engineer colleges.

There are 57 MBBS, and 38 dental, both government and private colleges in the state,. There are a total of 290 nursing colleges in Karnataka, Karnataka is being termed as “home to nursing education” in India. Students who have pursued nursing education in Karnataka are successfully serving both in India and Arab Countries. There are more 76 nationally reputed educational institutions in the State which offer Ayush, Ayurveda, Unani, Homeopathy, Yoga and Naturopathy courses for the students.

### **About Karnataka State Higher Education Council**

The Special Task Force for National Policy of Education in 1986 and 2002, commissioned by the State Government, recommended the establishment of higher education council to delineate and coordinate higher education programs at the state level.

The task force committee consisting of representatives from the Government, Universities, Educationists, and Experts, served as a bridge between the Government and Universities on one hand, and Universities and regulatory boards on the other. This collaboration to promote the integrity among diverse stakeholders in higher education, implemented the following recommendations:

- To promote educational excellence and social justice by soliciting educational input for policy formulation and vision.
- To ensure autonomy, accountability, and integrity among all HEIs in the state.
- To enable Higher Education to develop in harmony with the socio-economic needs of the state.

The State Government formally initiated the establishment of the Karnataka State Higher Education Council vide Order No: ED 19 URC 2007 (Part-1) dated 15-07-2009. Subsequently, in the year 2010 it was officially published in the Karnataka State Gazette on 26-07-2010 and came into effect on 09.08.2010.

### **Eligibility criteria set up for the selection of the students by the Karnataka State Higher Education Council (KSHEC), Government of Karnataka SCOUT (this is for information only):**

- The KSHEC will promote the opportunity/scholarship to the relevant segments of students in Karnataka.
- The KSHEC will identify and choose the final cohort of students.
- The KSHEC will ensure eligibility criteria\* is met and support travel documentation and logistics such as passport issue, visa application advice and guidance etc. (British Council will give briefing)
  - ✓ The age must be above 18 years as on the date of application for the project.
  - ✓ Must have a valid passport at the time of initiating VISA process (July 2024).
  - ✓ They should be in the top 1% of the board examinations of recognised boards in Karnataka.
  - ✓ Must have secured admission to a regular course in a state university. It is not open to students from private institutions.
  - ✓ Should be enrolled and attending second year college in a state institution at the time of application and travel to the UK on the SCOUT program.
  - ✓ Students may be required to have minimum basic English language listening, speaking, reading, and writing (LSRW) skills.
  - ✓ The team should be gender balanced
  - ✓ And any other additional criteria as proposed by KSHEC or British Council.

**Selection of Students:**

SC/ ST	1 Student
OBC Category	1 Student
Minorities	1 Student
General Category	2 Students

- The KSHEC will arrange for English language training for those students whose level of English proficiency is at B1 or below as assessed through APTIS tests at Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening skills organised by the British Council.
- The KSHEC will ensure participation of students in pre-departure briefings, coordinate to ensure that students travel to the UK as a group and organise a feedback session on return.
- The KSHEC will identify and support the travel of accompanying staff with the students. The state will choose and identify them.
- The KSHEC will cover flight tickets, visa costs and travel insurance for the students and accompanying staff.
- The KSHEC to conduct a welcome back programme in coordination with British Council, for students to share their experience and inspire future groups– within 60 days of return.
- The KSHEC to support press conferences to announce the programme and a homecoming event. We expect the UK institution to participate in these.

#### Proposed role of the British Council

- Identify the UK University through open call and convene the panel for selection of UK university in consultation with the state.
- Will provide complete funding for a residential programme for students in the UK, based on the proposals received from the chosen university.
- Will fund the course fees, accommodation and living expenses for up to 30 students, 5-6 Faculties, 2 officials from KSHEC and 2 accompanying British Council staff while in the UK.
- Will review the programme of study and create an appropriate fruitful experience for the student.
- The British Council along with the state will organise press conferences to announce the programme, student names and the homecoming ceremony.

*\*Signing of formal Operational Alliance Agreement between the British Council and Karnataka State Higher Education Council (KSHEC), Government of Karnataka is under process. However, all official approvals are in place.*

**Action required – [Submit your interest \(link to MS form\)](#).** If you have any questions write to: Vishu Sharma, Senior Project Manager Higher Education (Mobility) at [Vishu.sharma@britishcouncil.org](mailto:Vishu.sharma@britishcouncil.org)