

No power cuts from 6pm to 6am

As Exam Season Starts, Government Promises Uninterrupted Power Supply

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bangalore: The graph is going up for SSLC and down for PUC. The number of students taking the SSLC examination, commencing on April 1, is around 50,000 more than that of the previous year. However, the number of students taking the PU exam has gone down by 20,000.

In a trend that might give some hope about the growing numbers in secondary education in the state, the number of students taking the Class 10 exam in the state syllabus has shot up to 8,73,154, from 8,20,615.

Though all districts recorded an increase, it was Gulbarga and Bangalore South which showed the biggest increase — 4,043 and 3,556 respectively — while 23,777 more girls will take the SSLC exam this year.

"More schools have been opened. But more importantly, it points out a trend where most of the children who enter high school prefer to complete Class 10 and not drop out midway," said D Venkateshalah, director, Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board.

The increase in numbers has also paved the way for an increase in number of centres — 56 new centres have been added, taking the number to 2,951. "Depending on the student strength, some centres have been bifurcated. We have tried to make it a point that no student needs to commute long

distances to reach their centre," he added.

However, the figures for PU exam — starting from March 17 — are disappointing, as the number of students has come down from 6,52,665 to 6,24,000. The number of girls came down by around 10,700. Students will take the exam in 833 centres.

Around 7,500 students from 199 ICSE schools and some 1,000 students from 23 ISC schools in Karnataka will take the annual exams, starting February 28.

SSLC

GENDER	APRIL 2010	April 2011
Boys	4,37,426	4,66,324
Girls	3,83,189	4,06,956

PU

Boys	3.5 lakh	3.3 lakh
Girls	2.95 lakh	2.85 lakh



POWER SAVER: Each household will have to pay Rs 60 for four CFL bulbs at the rate of Rs 15 per bulb, under a new scheme launched by chief minister B S Yeddyurappa

Belaku Yojana to light 98 lakh homes

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bangalore: In a bid to light 98 lakh homes with CFL bulbs in the state, chief minister B S Yeddyurappa on Monday launched the Belaku Yojana.

"Each household will have to pay Rs 60 for four CFL bulbs at the rate of Rs 15 per bulb. Belaku Yojana should have been implemented long ago. We have

been planning this project to conserve energy if this scheme is implemented in the state, we will be able to save 3000 million units (mu) per year. This will amount to saving of Rs 940 crore to the state's exchequer," he said.

Electricity supply companies will have to implement the project by September 30, he added.

"Incandescent bulbs consume lot of energy because 90%

energy is converted to heat and only 10% is used for lighting. It's one of the contributing factors to global warming. CFL manufacturers must sell it at the right price. We must generate awareness about its use," he said. The chief minister added that the scheme should be taken up in the form of an 'andolana'.

Energy minister Shobha Karandlaje underlined that it

was a dream scheme to conserve power in the state. "Though there is a government order against use of incandescent bulbs in government buildings, it has remained only on paper," the minister said.

Karandlaje added that Bescem employees will go door-to-door, along with the representatives from the companies, to sell CFL to each house.