

APPSC PAPER I: GENERAL STUDIES & MENTAL ABILITY · EDUCATION (B.ED. LEVEL)

Commissions, policies and admissions

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1. Colonial-era education reports: Wood 1854 to Sargent 1944
2. Post-independence commissions and committees
3. National policies on education: 1968, 1986, POA 1992 and NEP 2020
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1 Colonial-era education reports: Wood 1854 to Sargent 1944

British-era education was shaped by six reports students must know by year and chairperson: Wood's Despatch (1854, Charles Wood), the Hunter Commission (1882, W.W. Hunter), the Sadler Commission (1917-19, Michael Sadler), the Hartog Committee (1929, Philip Hartog), the Wardha scheme (1937, Gandhi / Zakir Husain) and the Sargent Plan (1944, John Sargent).

Core facts

Year	Report	Chair / author	Key word
1854	Wood's Despatch	Sir Charles Wood	"Magna Carta" of English education
1882	Hunter Commission	Sir William Wilson Hunter	primary education, local boards
1917-19	Sadler Commission	Sir Michael Sadler	12-year school, intermediate colleges
1929	Hartog Committee	Sir Philip Hartog	wastage and stagnation
1937	Wardha scheme	Gandhi; Zakir Husain Committee	basic education, craft
1944	Sargent Plan	Sir John Sargent	free compulsory 6-14 in 40 years

- **Wood's Despatch:** dated **19 July 1854**; sent by **Charles Wood**, **President of the Board of Control** of the East India Company, during **Dalhousie's** time as Governor-General. Called the **Magna Carta of English education in India**. Main points: a **Department of Public Instruction** in each province; **universities** at **Calcutta, Bombay and Madras** on the **London University** model (founded **1857**: the recommendation behind India's **first three universities**, 2019 key); a graded chain of schools; **grants-in-aid**; **teacher training**; **vernacular** for mass education and **English** for higher education; **women's** and **vocational** education.
- **Hunter Commission:** appointed **3 February 1882** by Viceroy **Lord Ripon**; officially the **Indian Education Commission**, the **first education commission** of India; report **1883**. It reviewed progress since 1854, mainly **primary and secondary** education (universities left out). Key: primary education is the **State's first duty**, run by **district and municipal boards**, in the **mother tongue**; **A-course** (literary) and **B-course** (practical) in secondary schools; encourage **indigenous schools** and **private effort** with grants-in-aid. 2025 key: the 1882 body "laid the foundation for education reforms" = **Hunter**.
- **Sadler Commission (Calcutta University Commission): 1917-19**, chairman **Michael Sadler** (Vice-Chancellor of **Leeds University**); Indian members included **Sir Asutosh Mookerjee**. Main points: **12 years** of school, entry to university after the **intermediate** stage; separate **intermediate colleges** and a **Board of Secondary and Intermediate Education**; a **three-year degree**; **unitary, teaching and residential** universities.

- **Hartog Committee: 1929**, chairman **Sir Philip Hartog**, an **auxiliary committee of the Simon Commission** (Indian Statutory Commission). First to show massive **wastage and stagnation** in **primary** education (2022 key). Advice: **consolidation, not expansion**; better trained and paid teachers; divert pupils to vocational careers after the middle stage.
- **Wardha scheme: All India National Education Conference, Wardha, 22-23 October 1937**, presided over by **Gandhi**; the **Zakir Husain Committee** drafted the scheme (reports **1937-38**); approved by the **Haripura Congress (1938)**. **Basic education (Nai Talim): 7 years** free and compulsory (ages **7 to 14**), **mother tongue, craft-centred**, partly **self-supporting**.
- **Sargent Plan: 1944**, prepared by **Sir John Sargent**, Educational Adviser to the Government of India, and adopted by the **Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE)** as **Post-War Educational Development in India**. Main points: **pre-primary** for 3-6; **universal free compulsory education 6-14** (basic: junior and senior); selective **high schools** (academic and technical); a **three-year degree**; target of **40 years** (by about 1984). It was the **first government initiative** for **pre-primary** education.

Explained

1. Before 1854: the background asked as "first" or "who said".

- **Charter Act 1813**: the Company to spend **at least Rs 1 lakh a year** on education, the first State money for education in India.
- **Macaulay's Minute (2 February 1835)** and **Bentinck's resolution (7 March 1835)**: English education and Western learning; **downward filtration theory** (educate the upper classes, knowledge will filter down).
- Government money and jobs now went to English schools, so the old village **indigenous schools** (pathshalas, madrasas) lost support: Macaulay's Minute dealt them a **heavy blow** (2019 key).
- **Adam's reports (1835-38)** on vernacular education in Bengal.

2. Wood's Despatch (1854) in full.

- **Aims**: spread **Western (European) knowledge**, raise moral character, and train Indians for public service; it accepted State responsibility for **mass education**, moving away from pure downward filtration.
- **Administration**: a **Department of Public Instruction (DPI)** under a **Director** with **inspectors** in each province (from 1855).
- **Universities (1857)**: Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, with chancellor, vice-chancellor and senate; **affiliating and examining** bodies, not teaching ones.
- **Ladder of institutions**: primary (vernacular) schools, middle (Anglo-vernacular) schools, high schools and affiliated colleges; **scholarships** to link the stages.
- **Grants-in-aid** to private schools on conditions (secular instruction, good management, inspection, a small fee).
- **Teacher training**: training (normal) schools in each province.
- **Medium**: **English** for higher education, **Indian languages** for the masses.

- **Women's education, Muslim education and vocational / professional** schools (medicine, engineering, law); **religious neutrality** in government schools.
- **Stanley's Despatch (1859)** reviewed and largely reaffirmed Wood's plan after the Crown took over.

3. Hunter Commission (1882) in full.

- **Why:** complaints that the Wood plan had neglected **primary** education while higher education grew.
- **Primary education:** mass education in the **mother tongue**; control to **district and municipal boards** (fitting Ripon's local self-government); recognise and aid **indigenous schools**; practical subjects such as agriculture; **normal schools** for teachers.
- **Secondary education: A-course** (literary, leading to the university entrance) and **B-course** (practical, commercial and vocational).
- **Grants-in-aid and withdrawal:** the government to **withdraw gradually** from directly running secondary and collegiate institutions, leaving them to **Indian private effort** with grants.
- **Others:** women's education, education of **Muslims** and of backward and tribal groups.
- **Result:** many private (Indian-managed) schools and colleges grew; primary education stayed weak because local boards lacked money.

4. Between Hunter and Sadler (context).

- **Raleigh Commission (1902)** under **Curzon** led to the **Indian Universities Act, 1904** (more official control of universities).
- **Gokhale's** resolution (**1910**) and Bill (**1911**) for free and compulsory primary education; the Bill was **defeated in 1912**.
- **Government of India Act 1919:** education became a **transferred** subject under Indian ministers.

5. Sadler Commission (1917-19) in full.

- Set up to study **Calcutta University**, but its report shaped university education across India.
- **School and intermediate:** school course of **12 years**; the **intermediate** classes taken out of the university into **intermediate colleges**; a **Board of Secondary and Intermediate Education**.
- **University:** a **three-year degree** after the intermediate; universities to be **unitary, teaching and residential** (Dacca University, 1921, followed); less rigid regulations; honours courses.
- **Others:** departments of **education (teacher training)** in universities; **women's education** with a special board; **applied science and technology**.

6. Hartog Committee (1929) in full.

- Appointed by the **Simon Commission** (1927) to review the growth of education after education became a **provincial transferred subject** (1921).
- **Finding:** enrolment had grown fast, but of every **100** children in Class I only about **19** reached Class IV; most lapsed into illiteracy. Hence **wastage** (dropping out) and **stagnation** (repeating a class) in **primary** education.
- **Advice:** a policy of **consolidation and improvement**, not hasty expansion; a minimum **four-year** primary course; better **teacher training, pay and inspection**; at the secondary stage, divert boys to **industrial and commercial** careers after the **middle** stage; improve university standards.

7. Wardha scheme (1937) in full (thinker detail in EDU-TH-01).

- **Four Wardha resolutions: free and compulsory** education for **seven years** nationwide; **mother tongue** as the medium; education centred on a **productive craft** related to the child's environment; the scheme to become gradually **self-supporting** (meet teachers' salaries).
- **Zakir Husain Committee** (convener **E.W. Aryanayakam**) worked out the syllabus: craft, mother tongue, mathematics, social studies, general science, drawing, music, Hindustani (physical training and games within the school day); **no English**, no religious instruction.
- **1938**: Haripura Congress approved it; **Hindustani Talimi Sangh** set up at Sevagram; a **CABE committee under B.G. Kher** examined it for the provinces.

8. Sargent Plan (1944) in full.

- **Pre-primary** education for ages **3-6**, free.
- **Basic education** (adopted from Wardha, minus self-support): **universal, free, compulsory** for **6-14**: **junior basic** (6-11) and **senior basic** (11-14).
- **High school** of **six years** (about 11-17) for **selected** pupils (roughly **one in five**), of two types: **academic** and **technical**.
- **Intermediate** stage abolished: one year to the high school, one to the university; a **three-year degree**.
- A **University Grants Committee** (set up **1945** for the central universities; the statutory **UGC** came in **1956**).
- **Technical, commercial and art education; adult education; teacher training**; health, physical education, education of the handicapped; **employment bureaus**.
- **Time frame**: reconstruction within **40 years**; the **Kher Committee (CABE, 1948)** proposed cutting this to **16 years**.
- **Pre-primary**: BRAOU's B.Ed. text counts Sargent as the **first government step** towards pre-primary education; even in **1952-53** India had only about **600** pre-school classes.

9. "Who was first" questions in one table.

Asked as	Answer	Year
First State money for education	Charter Act	1813
Heavy blow to indigenous schools	Macaulay's Minute	1835
Magna Carta of English education; first three universities	Wood's Despatch	1854 (universities 1857)
First education commission; foundation of reforms	Hunter Commission	1882
First to point out wastage and stagnation	Hartog Committee	1929
First government plan for pre-primary and universal 6-14 education	Sargent Plan	1944

AP angle

- Under the Hunter scheme, primary schools in the Telugu districts of the **Madras Presidency** passed to **local (taluk and district) boards**.

- **Andhra University** was founded in **1926** (first Vice-Chancellor **Sir C.R. Reddy**), one of the regional universities that followed the Sadler era of new teaching universities.

Common traps

X "Wood's Despatch was issued by the Governor-General." ✓ By **Charles Wood**, President of the **Board of Control** (Dalhousie was Governor-General).

X "Macaulay's Minute strengthened the indigenous schools." ✓ By turning State support to **English** schools it dealt them a **heavy blow**.

X "The universities of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras were founded in 1854." ✓ Recommended in **1854**, founded in **1857**.

X "The Hunter Commission was appointed by Curzon." ✓ By **Ripon** (1882); Curzon appointed the **Raleigh Commission** (1902).

X "Hunter studied universities." ✓ It left universities out and focused on **primary and secondary** education.

X "Hunter's A-course was vocational." ✓ **A = literary**, **B = practical / vocational**.

X "The Sadler Commission was on Bombay University." ✓ **Calcutta University Commission** (1917-19).

X "The Wardha Committee first reported wastage and stagnation." ✓ The **Hartog Committee, 1929** (an auxiliary of the **Simon Commission**).

X "The Wardha scheme was drafted by Sargent." ✓ By the **Zakir Husain Committee** (1937-38).

X "Sargent Plan: free compulsory education 6-14 in 16 years." ✓ **40 years**; the **Kher Committee** (1948) suggested **16**.

X "Sargent was a Viceroy." ✓ **Educational Adviser** to the Government of India.

Quick revision

- 1813 Charter Act Rs 1 lakh; 1835 Macaulay's Minute, downward filtration.
- 1854 Wood's Despatch (Charles Wood): DPI, grants-in-aid, first three universities 1857; Magna Carta of English education.
- 1882 Hunter (Ripon): first commission; primary to local boards; A and B courses.
- 1902 Raleigh, 1904 Universities Act (Curzon); 1911 Gokhale Bill.
- 1917-19 Sadler (Calcutta University): 12-year school, intermediate colleges, 3-year degree.
- 1929 Hartog (Simon Commission): wastage and stagnation; consolidation.
- 1937 Wardha (22-23 Oct): basic education, 7-14, craft, mother tongue; Zakir Husain.

- 1944 Sargent (CABE): first pre-primary initiative (3-6), free compulsory 6-14, 40 years.
- 1948 Kher Committee: 40 years cut to 16.

2 Post-independence commissions and committees

Independent India reviewed its education through a chain of bodies: Radhakrishnan (universities, 1948–49), Mudaliar (secondary, 1952–53), Kothari (all stages, 1964–66, the basis of NPE 1968), Ramamurti (review of NPE 1986, 1990), Yashpal (Learning without Burden, 1993) and the National Knowledge Commission under Sam Pitroda (2005–09).

Core facts

Body	Years	Chairperson	Stage / label
University Education Commission	1948–49	Dr S. Radhakrishnan	higher education; first commission after 1947
Secondary Education Commission	1952–53	Dr A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar	secondary education
Education Commission	1964–66	Dr D.S. Kothari	all stages; <i>Education and National Development</i>
NPE Review Committee	1990	Acharya Ramamurti	<i>Towards an Enlightened and Humane Society</i>
National Advisory Committee	1992–93	Prof. Yash Pal	<i>Learning without Burden</i> (1993)
National Knowledge Commission	2005–09	Sam Pitroda	knowledge society; reported to the Prime Minister

- **Radhakrishnan Commission** suggested a **University Grants Commission** on the UK model (2025 key). UGC began in **1953**; made statutory by the **UGC Act, 1956**.
- **First recommendation of a three-language policy**: University Education Commission, **1948–49** (2022 key).
- Radhakrishnan also proposed: **three-year degree** after **12 years** of schooling, **rural universities**, at least **180 working days** a year (exams excluded), objective tests in examinations, better pay for teachers.
- **Mudaliar Commission**: **four aims** of secondary education: **democratic citizenship, vocational efficiency, development of personality, education for leadership**.
- Mudaliar structure: **higher secondary** (11 years of school), **multipurpose schools** with **diversified courses** (seven groups), **one-year pre-university** course, end of the intermediate stage; **guidance and counselling**; fewer external exams, **cumulative records**.
- **Kothari Commission**: appointed **14 July 1964**, report **29 June 1966**; member-secretary **J.P. Naik**; opens with "The **destiny of India is now being shaped in her classrooms**".
- Kothari recommended: national pattern **10+2+3**; **common school system** with **neighbourhood schools**; **work experience** and social/national service; **vocationalisation** of secondary education; public spending on education to reach **6% of national income** by 1985–86; Classes I and II as one ungraded unit.

- **School complex** (Kothari): a group of nearby schools, usually a secondary school with the primary and middle schools around it, **working together to improve quality** by sharing teachers, labs and ideas (2019 key); NEP 2020 revived it.
- **"Magna Carta of teachers"**: APPSC's 2019 key gives the **Kothari Commission (Dr D.S. Kothari)**, whose report dealt at length with teachers' pay, status and training. **Wood's Despatch** (1854) is the Magna Carta of **English education**.
- **Kothari's five-fold programme**: education linked to **productivity; social and national integration; consolidation of democracy; modernisation; social, moral and spiritual values**.
- **"Who said" (keys)**: education as a lever to **equalise opportunity** for the backward and underprivileged: **Kothari** (2025 key); elementary education to make children **responsible and useful citizens**: **Kothari** (2025 key).
- **Yashpal Committee (1993)**: *Learning without Burden* (2025 key): the real burden is **not understanding**; lighter bags, fewer and child-made textbooks, **no homework at the primary stage**, smaller classes.
- **National Knowledge Commission**: set up **13 June 2005**; chairman **Sam Pitroda** (2025 key); five focus areas: **access, concepts, creation, application, services** of knowledge.

Explained

1. University Education Commission (1948–49). Appointed in **November 1948**, reported in **August 1949**; members included Zakir Husain, A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar and Meghnad Saha. It was set up because universities had grown fast and unevenly before independence. Main points:

- **Aims**: universities should train leaders in politics, administration, professions and industry, and spread wisdom and values (it backed **moral and religious education** of a non-sectarian kind, with a few minutes of **silent meditation** a day).
- **Structure**: **12 years** of school and intermediate study before university, a **three-year degree**, research degrees after it.
- **UGC** to fund and coordinate universities.
- **Rural universities**, built on the ideas of basic education, for village India.
- **Language**: the regional language for higher education as early as possible; students to learn the **regional language, the federal language (Hindi) and English**: the seed of the three-language idea.
- **Teachers**: better salaries, security and service conditions.
- **Examinations**: use **objective tests**, give marks for class work.
- **Women's education**: expand it; equal pay for women teachers.

2. Secondary Education Commission (1952–53). Appointed **23 September 1952**, report **1953**; chairman **Dr A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar**, Vice-Chancellor of Madras University. Secondary education was then "a one-track preparation for college". The commission:

- set the **four aims** (democratic citizenship, vocational efficiency, personality, leadership);
- proposed **4 or 5 years primary/junior basic + 3 years middle/senior basic + 4 years higher secondary**;

- introduced **multipurpose schools**: a common **core** (languages, social studies, general science, mathematics, a craft) plus one **diversified** group: humanities, sciences, technical, commercial, agriculture, fine arts, home science. Separate vocational courses beside the core are an example of a **diversified curriculum** (2025 key);
- asked for the **mother tongue or regional language** as the medium, **guidance and counselling** in every school, **internal assessment**, **cumulative records** and **symbolic (graded) marking**, and a textbook committee;
- wanted better **teacher training** and libraries.

3. Education Commission (1964–66). Chairman **Dr Daulat Singh Kothari** (then UGC chairman); member-secretary **J.P. Naik**; its members included experts from abroad, and it looked at **all stages** of education. Its report, **Education and National Development, was the basis of the NPE 1968**.

Area	Kothari's recommendation
Structure	uniform 10+2+3 pattern across India
Equality	common school system , neighbourhood schools , free education, scholarships
Curriculum	work experience , science and mathematics in general education, social/national service
Vocational	vocational courses for about 20% at lower secondary and 50% at higher secondary by 1986
Language	a modified three-language formula
Money	public spending of 6% of national income by 1985–86
Quality	school complexes , better teacher pay, an Indian Educational Service , major universities

It saw education as the **main instrument of social change** and national development.

- What made it different** (BRAOU B.Ed. text): the **first** commission to review the **whole** system instead of one stage; it had **foreign experts** as members; it treated education as the most powerful tool of **national development**. Medical and legal education were left out except where they touched the rest.
- Its three tasks**: re-examine the role of education in national development; find the changes needed; carry out the programme with vigour.
- National objectives in the BRAOU list (four)**: raise **productivity**; **social and national integration**; **modernisation**; **social, moral and spiritual values**. Standard texts add **consolidation of democracy** as a fifth.
- Equalisation**: education as the lever to give the poor and backward an **equal chance** (2025 key: Kothari).
- Children with disabilities**: the **first** commission to argue for their education on grounds of **utility** (they can contribute), not only **humanitarian** grounds; special schools plus **integrated** education; at least **one good institution per district**.
- Examination reform** runs through every commission: Radhakrishnan (objective tests), Hartog, Mudaliar (internal assessment, symbolic marks) and Kothari (internal assessment, grades) all asked for it.

4. Ramamurti Committee (1990). The **V.P. Singh** government set up the **Committee for Review of NPE 1986** on **7 May 1990** under **Acharya Ramamurti** (a Gandhian educationist). Report: **Towards an Enlightened and Humane Society** (**December 1990**). It stressed **equity and social justice**, a **common**

school system, work-centred education, decentralisation, women's education, and questioned "pace-setting" schools such as **Navodaya** as elitist. A **CABE committee** under **N. Janardhana Reddy** (1991-92) then reviewed the Ramamurti report; its advice led to the **revised NPE and POA of 1992**.

5. Yashpal Committee (1992-93). A **National Advisory Committee** chaired by **Prof. Yash Pal** (a space scientist) looked at the **burden on schoolchildren**; report ***Learning without Burden*** (**July 1993**). Its points:

- the heaviest burden is **learning without understanding**, not just bag weight;
- **textbooks** should be prepared with teachers and **decentralised**; children need not carry all books daily;
- **no homework** at the primary stage, and no **tests or interviews** for nursery admission;
- a pupil-teacher ratio of about **1:30**;
- use of **TV and media** for learning; teachers involved in curriculum.

6. National Knowledge Commission (2005-09). Set up by the **Manmohan Singh** government on **13 June 2005** as a high-level advisory body to the **Prime Minister**, chaired by **Sam Pitroda**; members included Nandan Nilekani, Deepak Nayyar, Jayati Ghosh and P. Balaram. It aimed to make India a **knowledge society** and gave about **300 recommendations** on 27 focus areas in its *Report to the Nation*. Key ideas:

- **access**: a central law on the **right to education**, a **National Translation Mission**, a commission on **libraries**, teaching of **English** from Class 1;
- **higher education**: an **Independent Regulatory Authority for Higher Education (IRAHE)**, about **1,500 universities** and a gross enrolment ratio of **at least 15% by 2015, 50 national universities**;
- **National Knowledge Network** linking universities and research labs by high-speed broadband;
- **vocational education**, open educational resources, e-governance.

7. Other committees often asked.

Year	Committee	Point to remember
1977	Ishwarbhai Patel	SUPW (Socially Useful Productive Work)
1978	Malcolm Adiseshiah	vocationalisation of the +2 stage
1962-64	Hansa Mehta	curricula for girls' education
1983-85	D.P. Chattopadhyaya	National Commission on Teachers
2009	Yash Pal (higher education)	one regulator (NCHER) in place of UGC, AICTE
2015-16	T.S.R. Subramanian	inputs for a new education policy
2017-19	K. Kasturirangan	drafted NEP 2020

8. Every commission in one chronology (colonial ones in EDU-PO-01).

Year	Body	Chair	Remember
1854	Wood's Despatch	Charles Wood	Magna Carta of English education; universities 1857
1882	Indian Education Commission	W.W. Hunter	first commission; primary to local boards

Year	Body	Chair	Remember
1917-19	Calcutta University Commission	Michael Sadler	intermediate colleges, 3-year degree
1929	Hartog Committee	Philip Hartog	wastage and stagnation
1944	Sargent Plan (CABE)	John Sargent	pre-primary; free compulsory 6-14 in 40 years
1948-49	University Education Commission	S. Radhakrishnan	UGC; first three-language idea
1952-53	Secondary Education Commission	A.L. Mudaliar	four aims; multipurpose schools
1964-66	Education Commission	D.S. Kothari	10+2+3; common school; 6%
1990	NPE Review Committee	Acharya Ramamurti	Enlightened and Humane Society
1993	National Advisory Committee	Yash Pal	Learning without Burden
2005-09	National Knowledge Commission	Sam Pitroda	knowledge society
2017-19	Committee for the draft NEP	K. Kasturirangan	NEP 2020

AP angle

- **Dr S. Radhakrishnan** was Vice-Chancellor of **Andhra University** (Waltair) from **1931 to 1936** before he chaired the University Education Commission.
- **N. Janardhana Reddy**, chairman of the **CABE committee (1991-92)** that reviewed the Ramamurti report and shaped the revised NPE 1992, was then **Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh**.

Common traps

✗ "Mudaliar headed the University Education Commission." ✓ **Radhakrishnan** headed the University Education Commission (1948-49); **Mudaliar** headed the **Secondary** Education Commission (1952-53).

✗ "The UGC was suggested by the Kothari Commission." ✓ The **Radhakrishnan Commission** (1948-49).

✗ "The first three-language recommendation came in 1964-66." ✓ **1948-49** (University Education Commission); Kothari later **modified** the formula.

✗ "The 'Magna Carta of teachers' is Wood's Despatch." ✓ APPSC's key: the **Kothari** report; Wood's Despatch is the Magna Carta of **English education**.

✗ "Modernisation was one of Mudaliar's aims." ✓ It is a **Kothari** national objective; Mudaliar's four aims are citizenship, vocational efficiency, personality and leadership.

✗ "Education for leadership is a Kothari aim." ✓ It is one of **Mudaliar's four aims**.

✗ "*Learning without Burden* was written by the Kothari Commission." ✓ The **Yashpal Committee, 1993**.

✗ "The NKC was headed by Yash Pal or Kasturirangan." ✓ **Sam Pitroda**; Kasturirangan drafted **NEP 2020**.

✗ "*Towards an Enlightened and Humane Society* is the Kothari report." ✓ It is the **Ramamurti** report (1990); Kothari's is *Education and National Development*.

✗ "The Hunter Commission (1882) was after independence." ✓ Hunter (1882), Hartog (1929) and Sargent (1944) are **colonial**.

Quick revision

- Radhakrishnan 1948–49: universities, UGC, 3-year degree, rural universities, first three-language idea.
- Mudaliar 1952–53: secondary; 4 aims; multipurpose schools, diversified courses; higher secondary.
- Kothari 1964–66: *Education and National Development*; J.P. Naik member-secretary; "Magna Carta of teachers" (2019 key).
- Kothari: 10+2+3, common school, neighbourhood school, school complex, work experience, 6% of national income.
- "Destiny of India is now being shaped in her classrooms": Kothari.
- Ramamurti 1990: review of NPE 1986, *Towards an Enlightened and Humane Society*.
- Janardhana Reddy (CABE) 1991–92 → revised NPE and POA 1992.
- Yashpal 1993: *Learning without Burden*; no homework at primary.
- NKC 2005–09: Sam Pitroda; knowledge society; National Knowledge Network.
- Patel 1977 SUPW; Adiseshiah 1978 +2 vocational; Kasturirangan drafted NEP 2020.

3 National policies on education: 1968, 1986, POA 1992 and NEP 2020

India has had three national education policies: NPE 1968 (Indira Gandhi; built on Kothari: common school, 10+2+3, three-language formula), NPE 1986 (Rajiv Gandhi; Operation Blackboard, Navodaya Vidyalayas, DIETs), revised in 1992 with a Programme of Action, and NEP 2020 (drafted under Kasturirangan; 5+3+3+4, mother tongue to Grade 5, PARAKH, 4-year integrated B.Ed.).

Core facts

Policy	Date	Prime Minister	Five-Year Plan period
NPE 1968	24 July 1968	Indira Gandhi	plan holiday (annual plans 1966-69)
NPE 1986	May 1986	Rajiv Gandhi	Seventh Plan (1985-90), its first year
Revised NPE + POA 1992	May / August 1992	P.V. Narasimha Rao	Eighth Plan (1992-97)
NEP 2020	29 July 2020	Narendra Modi	after the Plans (NITI Aayog, 2015)

- **NPE 1968:** first national policy; based on the **Kothari Commission**; **17 principles**: free and compulsory education to 14, teachers' status, **three-language formula**, equal opportunity, work experience, science education, a **common school system**, uniform **10+2+3**, **6% of national income** on education.
- **NPE 1986:** preceded by the paper *Challenge of Education: A Policy Perspective* (1985); "Education is a unique investment in the present and the future" is its guiding line. Parliament adopted it in the **Budget Session (May 1986)**; **23 task forces** then worked out how to carry out each part (they reported in July 1986).
- **NPE 1986 flagship schemes:**
 - **Operation Blackboard (1987-88):** minimum essential facilities in primary schools (2022 key; introduced under **NPE 1986**, 2025 key);
 - **Navodaya Vidyalayas:** free, residential, co-educational pace-setting schools for talented, mostly rural children, **one per district**; first two at **Jhajjar** (Haryana) and **Amravati** (Maharashtra), 1985-86 (2022 key: a **landmark** in elementary education);
 - **DIET** (District Institute of Education and Training) in every district for elementary teacher training;
 - **National Literacy Mission** (1988), **Mahila Samakhya** (1989), **minimum levels of learning (MLL)**, non-formal education, vocationalisation; open learning through **IGNOU** (set up in 1985, just before the policy).
- **Three objectives of NPE 1986 for elementary education:** (1) **universal access and enrolment**; (2) **universal retention** of children up to **14**; (3) a **substantial improvement in quality** so that every child reaches essential levels of learning.

- **Operation Blackboard minimum:** **two** all-weather rooms, **two** teachers (one a woman where possible), essential teaching-learning materials; later a **third** teacher where enrolment passed 100, and extended to **upper primary**.
- **POA 1992:** after the **Ramamurti** (1990) and **Janardhana Reddy** (CABE, 1991-92) reviews; put stress on **MLL**, quality, NFE and a **national common entrance test** for professional courses.
- **NEP 2020:** approved by the Union Cabinet **29 July 2020**; drafted by a committee under **Dr K. Kasturirangan**; replaced the 34-year-old NPE 1986; **MHRD renamed Ministry of Education**.
- **NEP 2020 structure 5+3+3+4** (ages 3 to 18):

Stage	Years	Ages	Classes
Foundational	5	3-8	3 years pre-school + Classes 1-2
Preparatory	3	8-11	Classes 3-5
Middle	3	11-14	Classes 6-8
Secondary	4	14-18	Classes 9-12

- **NEP 2020 language:** medium of instruction the **mother tongue / home / local language** at least **until Grade 5**, preferably till **Grade 8 and beyond** (2025 key); **three-language formula** kept, with flexibility and no language imposed, to promote **multilingualism** and national unity (2022 key).
- **ECCE = Early Childhood Care and Education** (asked 2019): care and learning for ages **3 to 6**, now the first three years of the Foundational stage.
- **PARAKH:** Performance **A**ssessment, **R**eview and **A**nalysis of **K**nowledge for **H**olistic Development; national assessment centre set up under **NCERT** (2023).
- **Teachers under NEP 2020: 4-year integrated B.Ed.** to be the minimum qualification by **2030**; **NPST** (National Professional Standards for Teachers); at least **50 hours** of CPD a year; TETs for all stages.
- **NEP 2020 targets with years:**

Target	Year
Universal foundational literacy and numeracy in primary school	2025 (NIPUN Bharat: by 2026-27)
At least 50% of learners exposed to vocational education	2025
100% GER pre-school to secondary; universal ECCE for ages 3-6	2030
4-year integrated B.Ed. as the minimum teacher qualification	2030
A large multidisciplinary higher education institution in or near every district	2030
GER 50% in higher education (26.3% in 2018)	2035
Affiliation of colleges phased out	2035 (within 15 years)

Target	Year
Public spending on education at 6% of GDP	as early as possible (no year fixed)

Explained

1. NPE 1968: the first policy. Issued by the Indira Gandhi government in **July 1968**, during the **plan holiday** (1966–69), after the Kothari report. It turned Kothari's ideas into principles but gave few targets or funds, so much stayed on paper. Its main lines:

- **Free and compulsory education** up to 14 (Article 45), with attention to **wastage and stagnation**;
- **teachers**: good pay, status, academic freedom, training;
- **languages**: regional languages in education, the **three-language formula** at the secondary stage (Hindi, English and a modern Indian language, preferably a southern one, in Hindi states; Hindi, English and the regional language in other states), Hindi as a link language, Sanskrit;
- **equality of opportunity**: regional balance, education of girls, backward classes, tribals, the handicapped; a move towards a **common school system**;
- **work experience and national service**, science education and research, education for agriculture and industry;
- **examination reform**, good cheap **textbooks**;
- part-time and **correspondence** courses, literacy and adult education, games and sports, minorities' education;
- a uniform **10+2+3** structure and **6% of national income** for education.

2. NPE 1986: a policy with schemes. The Rajiv Gandhi government reviewed the state of education in *Challenge of Education* (1985) and Parliament adopted the new policy in **May 1986**, in the first year of the **Seventh Plan** (1985–90). Main features:

- **National System of Education**: a common structure (10+2+3) and a **national curricular framework** with a **common core** (history of the freedom movement, constitutional duties, India's cultural heritage, equality of sexes, environment, small family norm, scientific temper);
- **Quality of publicly funded schools**: remove disparities and raise government schools so that parents need not turn to **high-fee private schools**;
- **Education for equality**: women (Mahila Samakhya), SCs, STs, minorities, the disabled, adult learners; equality means equal opportunity not only in **access** but also in the **conditions for success**;
- **Elementary education**: **child-centred**, activity-based learning, **no detention** at the primary stage, **MLL**, **Operation Blackboard**, a large **non-formal education** programme for working children;
- **Secondary**: **Navodaya Vidyalayas** as pace-setting schools; **vocationalisation** (10% of higher secondary students by 1990, 25% by 1995);
- **Teacher education**: **DIETs**, upgraded colleges of teacher education (**CTE**) and **IASEs**; a stronger **NCTE** (made statutory by the NCTE Act 1993; working from 1995);
- **Higher education**: **autonomous colleges**, open universities (**IGNOU**, 1985), **delinking degrees from jobs** where a degree is not needed;

- **Adult education:** the **National Literacy Mission** (5 May 1988);
- spending to rise to **6% of national income** from the Eighth Plan onwards.

The 1986 policy is often called the **NPE 1986 (as modified in 1992)**.

3. Revised NPE and the Programme of Action 1992. After the **Ramamurti** committee (1990) and the **CABE committee** under **N. Janardhana Reddy** (1991-92), the government **revised NPE 1986 in May 1992** and released a detailed **Programme of Action (POA)** in **August 1992**. It changed little in principle but sharpened the plan:

- **MLL** and learner achievement at the centre of UEE;
- expanded **Operation Blackboard** (a **third teacher** where enrolment passed 100, extended to **upper primary** schools);
- **three-language formula** restated: Hindi, English and a modern Indian language (**preferably a southern one**) in Hindi-speaking States; Hindi, English and the regional language in the others;
- **district planning**, which led to **DPEP (1994)**;
- **NFE** features: flexibility, **relevance of curriculum**, diversity, decentralisation;
- a **national common entrance test** for admission to professional and technical courses (later **AIEEE**, 2002, and today's NTA tests);
- continued Navodaya, Mahila Samakhyas and the Total Literacy Campaigns.

4. NEP 2020: what changes in schools.

- **Early childhood:** **ECCE** for ages 3 to 6 through anganwadis and pre-schools; NCF for the foundational stage (**NCF-FS 2022**).
- **Foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN):** every child to read, write and do basic arithmetic by **Grade 3**, through the **NIPUN Bharat** mission (5 July 2021).
- **Access:** **100% GER** from pre-school to secondary by **2030**; bring about **2 crore** out-of-school children back.
- **Curriculum:** cut content to the core; **no hard separation** between arts and science, curricular and extra-curricular, vocational and academic; experiential, play-based and art-integrated learning; **NCF for School Education 2023**.
- **Vocational education** from **Grade 6** with internships, including **10 bagless days**; integrated with the academic curriculum (2025 key); **coding** from Grade 6; at least **50%** of learners to have exposure to vocational education by **2025**.
- **Assessment:** from rote to **competency-based** tests; **board exams** easier and available **twice a year** (board exams are **kept, not abolished**; CBSE holds two Class 10 board exams a year from **2026**); school exams in Grades **3, 5 and 8**; a **360-degree holistic progress card**; **PARAKH** as the national standard-setter.
- **Equity:** focus on **Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs)**, a **Gender Inclusion Fund**, **Special Education Zones** for disadvantaged regions.
- **Governance:** **school complexes** sharing resources; a **State School Standards Authority (SSSA)**; separation of policy, regulation, operation and academic roles.
- **Funding:** public spending on education to reach **6% of GDP**.

5. NEP 2020: what changes for teachers.

- **4-year integrated B.Ed.** (dual-major) as the minimum degree by 2030; poor-quality teacher education institutions to be closed;
- **NPST** to guide career stages, pay and promotion; **NCFTE** for teacher education framed by NCTE;
- **TETs** extended to all stages; teachers recruited through tests plus a classroom demonstration;
- at least **50 hours** of **continuous professional development** a year;
- no excessive **transfers**; less non-teaching work; merit scholarships for the 4-year B.Ed., especially for rural students;
- **NCTE** to work as a professional standard-setting body under the **Higher Education Commission of India (HECI)**.

6. NEP 2020 in higher education (for completeness). GER 50% by 2035; HECI, one umbrella regulator for all higher education except **medical and legal** education, with four verticals; multiple entry and exit with an **Academic Bank of Credits**; 4-year undergraduate degree; M.Phil. discontinued; a **National Research Foundation**; affiliation of colleges phased out over 15 years.

7. Policies, Plans and flagship schemes in one view.

Plan period	Policy event	Scheme born
Third Plan (1961-66)	Kothari Commission 1964-66	NCERT (1961)
Plan holiday (1966-69)	NPE 1968	10+2+3 (spread later)
Seventh Plan (1985-90)	NPE 1986	Navodaya, Operation Blackboard, DIET, NLM
Eighth Plan (1992-97)	revised NPE, POA 1992	DPEP 1994, Mid-Day Meal 1995
After 2017	NEP 2020	NIPUN Bharat 2021, PARAKH 2023

AP angle

- The **revised NPE and POA 1992** came out of the CAGE committee chaired by **N. Janardhana Reddy**, then **Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh**.
- To follow NEP 2020's foundational stage, **Andhra Pradesh** from **2021-22** merged pre-school classes of anganwadis with primary schools (**foundation schools**) and mapped Classes 3 to 5 to nearby high schools; the arrangement was revised in **2025**.

Common traps

✗ "Operation Blackboard came under NPE 1968." ✓ It came under **NPE 1986** (launched **1987-88**).

✗ "NPE 1986 was adopted in the Sixth Plan." ✓ The **Seventh Plan** (1985-90) had begun in April 1985; the 2022 APPSC key printed "Sixth", which is out of line with the dates.

✗ "The POA was issued in 1986 with the policy." ✓ A POA followed in 1986 too, but the one asked about is the **POA 1992**, with the revised NPE.

✗ "NEP 2020 structure is 5+3+4+3." ✓ **5+3+3+4** (Foundational, Preparatory, Middle, Secondary).

✗ "Under NEP 2020 the mother tongue is the medium until Grade 8." ✓ **At least until Grade 5, preferably** till Grade 8.

✗ "NEP 2020 was drafted under T.S.R. Subramanian." ✓ **K. Kasturirangan**; Subramanian's 2016 committee only gave inputs.

✗ "PARAKH is a scholarship scheme." ✓ It is the national **assessment** centre under NCERT.

✗ "DIET means District Institute of Educational Technology." ✓ **District Institute of Education and Training**.

✗ "NEP 2020 abolishes the Class 10 and 12 board exams." ✓ Board exams **stay**; they become easier and competency-based and can be taken **twice a year**.

✗ "NPE 1986 had 17 principles." ✓ The **17 principles** belong to **NPE 1968**; after NPE 1986 came **23 task forces**.

Quick revision

- NPE 1968: Indira Gandhi; Kothari-based; 17 principles; common school; three-language formula; 10+2+3.
- NPE 1986: Rajiv Gandhi; Seventh Plan; "unique investment in the present and the future".
- NPE 1986 schemes: Operation Blackboard 1987, Navodaya (Jhajjar, Amravati), DIET, NLM 1988, Mahila Samakhyas; 23 task forces; elementary aims = access and enrolment, retention to 14, quality; equality in access and in conditions for success.
- Operation Blackboard: 2 rooms, 2 teachers (one woman), materials; later 3rd teacher.
- Revised NPE + POA 1992: Eighth Plan; after Ramamurti and Janardhana Reddy; MLL, national entrance test.
- NEP 2020: 29 July 2020; Kasturirangan; MHRD → Ministry of Education.
- 5+3+3+4 from age 3; FLN by Grade 3 (NIPUN Bharat 2021); 100% school GER by 2030.
- Mother tongue at least to Grade 5; vocational and coding from Grade 6; 10 bagless days.
- PARAKH under NCERT; board exams twice a year; holistic progress card.
- Teachers: 4-year integrated B.Ed. by 2030; NPST; 50 hours CPD a year. NEP targets: FLN and 50% vocational exposure 2025; 100% school GER and 4-year B.Ed. 2030; higher-education GER 50% 2035.

4 Common entrance tests and centralised admissions in Andhra Pradesh

Admission to professional and higher courses in Andhra Pradesh is by common entrance tests (CETs) run under the AP State Council of Higher Education (APSCHE, 1988) and filled by centralised web counselling on merit, reservation and the Article 371D local-area rules; central institutions use national tests run by the National Testing Agency (NTA, 2017): JEE Main, NEET-UG and CUET.

Core facts

- **Common entrance test (CET):** one test for all colleges offering a course in the state. Merit rank, not college-by-college tests or donations, decides admission. **Centralised admission** means one authority allots every seat by rank, reservation and the student's choices.
- **APSCHE: Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education**, set up under the **AP State Council of Higher Education Act, 1988**. It was the **first** state council of higher education in India, as **NPE 1986** had recommended. It plans and coordinates higher education and holds the state CETs. Each year it hands each test to a **university** that acts as convenor.
- **The AP CETs (APSCHE):**
 - **AP EAPCET: Engineering, Agriculture and Pharmacy** CET, for B.Tech, B.Sc (Agri), B.Pharm and similar courses. It was called **EAMCET** (the M was Medical) until **2021**. Medical seats now go by **NEET**.
 - **AP ECET: lateral entry** into the **second year** of B.Tech or B.Pharm, for **diploma** holders and B.Sc (Maths) graduates.
 - **AP ICET: MBA and MCA.**
 - **AP EdCET:** two-year **B.Ed.** (the teacher-training course). It is for graduates.
 - **AP LAW CET:** three-year and five-year **LL.B.**; **PGLCET** for **LL.M.**
 - **AP PGECET: M.Tech, M.Pharm** and similar PG courses in engineering and pharmacy.
 - **AP PG CET:** M.A., M.Sc., M.Com. and similar courses in state universities, since **2021**. It replaced each university's own test.
 - **AP PECET:** physical education courses (**B.P.Ed.**, **U.G.D.P.Ed.**, the two-year under-graduate diploma). It tests physical efficiency and skill in a game.
 - **AP ADCET: Art and Design** CET for **BFA** (fine arts) and **B.Des.** (design) at **Dr. YSR Architecture and Fine Arts University, Kadapa**; open to Class 12 pass students of any group.
 - **AP RCET: Ph.D.** admissions in state universities.
- **Not run by APSCHE: AP POLYCET** (polytechnic diplomas, after Class 10) is held by the **State Board of Technical Education and Training (SBTET)**. **RGUKT** (the AP IIITs at Nuzvid, RK Valley, Ongole and Srikakulam) admits on **Class 10 marks** with no test. Degree colleges (B.A., B.Sc., B.Com.) admit on Intermediate marks through **OAMDC**, APSCHE's online admission system.

D.El.Ed. (two-year diploma for primary teachers) admits through **DEECET**, held by the **school education department**, not APSCHE.

- **EAPCET rank:** the Intermediate (group subject) marks count for **25%** and the EAPCET score for **75%**. The papers are online MCQs with **no negative marking**.
- **Web counselling:** register, verify certificates, **enter web options** (colleges and branches in order of choice), receive a **seat allotment**, then **report** online and at the college. It runs in rounds, with a final phase and spot admissions for vacant seats.
- **Local reservation (AP): Article 371D** (32nd Amendment, **1973**) and the **Presidential Order of 1974** (Regulation of Admissions) reserve **85%** of state seats for **local candidates** of a local area. The other **15%** are **unreserved**, open on merit. The AP local areas are the **Andhra University (AU) area** and the **Sri Venkateswara University (SVU) area**. Before 2014 the third area was **Osmania University (OU)**, which is now Telangana.
- **Local candidate:** someone who studied for **four consecutive years** in that area, up to the qualifying examination.
- **Section 95, AP Reorganisation Act 2014:** the old admission quotas and the **common admission process** with Telangana were kept for **ten years**. That period **ended in June 2024** (2 June 2024).
- **2025-26 position (as of October 2026; re-check each year): G.O.Ms.No.20, Higher Education (EC) Department, 12 May 2025** amended the admission rules: **85%** of seats stay with AP's local candidates, and the **15% unreserved** seats now go only to candidates with an AP connection (locals of the AU and SVU areas; those who, or whose parent, lived in AP for **ten years**; children or spouses of government and public-sector employees working in AP). Students of other States, **Telangana** included, can no longer claim them as non-locals. APSCHE's 2025 CET counselling notices apply this rule. Telangana made a matching change for its own seats.
- **Communal reservation in AP admissions: SC 15%, ST 6%, BC 29%** (groups A to E), plus **EWS 10%** and **33⅓% for girls** within each category. Special quotas cover persons with disabilities, NCC, sports and children of armed personnel.
- **NTA:** the **National Testing Agency** was approved by the Union Cabinet in **November 2017**. It is a society under the Ministry of Education and held its first exam, **UGC-NET**, in **December 2018**. It runs **JEE Main, NEET-UG, CUET-UG/PG, UGC-NET and NCET**.
- **CUET:** the **Common University Entrance Test**, held by **NTA** since **2022**, for **central universities** (2022 key: NTA conducts the central universities' common entrance test). Its forerunner, **CUCET**, was run by the central universities themselves; NTA conducted it in **2021**.
- **NEET-UG:** for **MBBS, BDS and AYUSH** seats across India. NTA has run it since **2019**; **CBSE** ran it before. Counselling: **MCC** fills the **15% All India Quota**, and the state fills the **85% state quota**. In AP that is the health university at **Vijayawada** (Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences).
- **JEE: JEE Main** (NTA) is for NITs, IITs and other centrally funded institutes, and is the gate to **JEE Advanced**, which the **IITs** conduct. **JoSAA** allots their seats.
- **Central universities in AP:** the **Central University of Andhra Pradesh (CUAP)** in **Anantapur** (2022 key), the **Central Tribal University of AP** in **Vizianagaram** district, and the **National Sanskrit University** in **Tirupati**. CUAP and the tribal university were promised in the **Thirteenth Schedule** of the 2014 Act, as were **IIT Tirupati, NIT Andhra Pradesh** (Tadepalligudem), **IIM**

Visakhapatnam, IISER Tirupati, AIIMS Mangalagiri and the petroleum institute (IIPE) at Visakhapatnam.

Explained

1. Why common entrance tests? Before CETs, each college or university held its own test or admitted on marks or donation. Students then wrote many tests, and seats in private colleges could be bought. A CET gives:

- **one test, one merit list**, and the same standard for students from different boards;
- **transparency**: seats are filled by rank, and the rank list and seat allotment are public;
- **social justice**: reservation is applied to one common pool;
- less cost and travel for students, especially rural and poor ones.

The **Supreme Court** pushed the system forward. In **Unni Krishnan (1993)** it set up "free seats" and "payment seats" in private professional colleges. In **T.M.A. Pai (2002)** and **P.A. Inamdar (2005)** it held that admission even in private unaided colleges must rest on **merit**, through a **common entrance test** held by the state or by an association of such colleges, in a fair and transparent way.

2. APSCHE and how a CET runs. NPE 1986 asked every state to set up a **State Council of Higher Education**. Andhra Pradesh was the first to do so, through the **APSCHE Act, 1988**. APSCHE advises the government, coordinates the universities, frames common academic rules and runs the CETs. It holds them through **convenor universities**: one university sets and conducts each test for that year (for example JNTU Kakinada for EAPCET, or Andhra University for EdCET), and the job can pass to another university in a later year. The tests are online and are held at centres across the state. APSCHE's admission schedule then fills the seats.

Test	For	Who can take it	Held by
EAPCET	B.Tech, B.Sc (Agri), B.Pharm	Intermediate (MPC / BiPC)	APSCHE
ECET	2nd-year B.Tech, B.Pharm	Diploma, B.Sc (Maths)	APSCHE
ICET	MBA, MCA	Graduates	APSCHE
EdCET	B.Ed. (2 years)	Graduates	APSCHE
LAWCET / PGLCET	LL.B. (3 / 5 yr), LL.M.	Graduates / Inter; LL.B.	APSCHE
PGECET	M.Tech, M.Pharm	B.Tech, B.Pharm	APSCHE
PGCET	M.A., M.Sc., M.Com.	Graduates	APSCHE
PECET	B.P.Ed., U.G.D.P.Ed.	Graduates / Inter	APSCHE
ADCET	BFA, B.Des.	Inter (any group)	APSCHE (YSR AFU, Kadapa)
POLYCET	Diploma (polytechnic)	Class 10	SBTET

Test	For	Who can take it	Held by
DEECET	D.El.Ed.	Inter	School Education Department

3. Centralised admission by web counselling. After results, the admission authority publishes a schedule. For engineering this is the **Department of Technical Education**, which acts as the admissions convenor. The steps:

1. **Registration** and processing-fee payment online.
2. **Certificate verification** online or at help-line centres: rank card, study and caste certificates, income and EWS certificates, local status.
3. **Web options:** the student lists colleges and courses in order of preference. Options can be changed until the deadline.
4. **Seat allotment** by computer: rank, reservation category, local area, gender and the student's options are matched against the **seat matrix**.
5. **Self-reporting** online and **reporting at the college** with fees. A seat not taken is released for the next round.

In private unaided professional colleges, **Category A** seats (about **70%**) go through **convenor** counselling. The rest (**Category B:** management and NRI quota) are filled by the college on merit under government rules. A regulatory commission fixes the fees. The state's **fee reimbursement** helps eligible SC, ST, BC, EWS and minority students admitted in convenor seats.

4. Local and non-local seats (Article 371D). Article 371D (1973) was the constitutional settlement after the **Mulki** and **Jai Andhra** agitations. It lets the President provide **equitable opportunities in education and public employment** for people of different parts of the state. The **1974 Presidential Order** divided the state into local areas, each tied to a university. Within each area's seats, **85%** go to that area's locals. The **15% unreserved** seats are filled on merit from all candidates, locals included. Since bifurcation, AP has had two local areas: **AU** (north coastal and coastal districts) and **SVU** (Rayalaseema and Nellore). Section 95 of the 2014 Act kept Telangana students eligible for AP's unreserved seats for ten years, up to June 2024. After that, each State set its own rule: from **2025-26** AP keeps the 15% unreserved seats for **AP candidates only** (G.O.Ms.No.20, May 2025), and Telangana did the same for its seats (re-check each admission year).

5. Reservation.

Basis	Provision	Share in AP admissions
SC, ST, backward classes	Arts 15(4), 46	SC 15%, ST 6%, BC 29%
Private (non-minority) institutions	Art 15(5), 93rd Amendment 2005	Reservation extended to them
Economically weaker sections	Art 15(6), 103rd Amendment 2019	10%
Girls	State rule (horizontal)	33⅓% in each category

The BC share is split into groups **A (7%), B (10%), C (1%), D (7%) and E (4%)**. Horizontal reservation (girls, disability, NCC, sports, armed forces) cuts across the vertical categories.

6. National tests and the NTA.

- **NTA** was formed so that **one specialist agency** sets large national tests. Before it, CBSE ran JEE Main and NEET, and other bodies ran other tests. It conducts computer-based tests (NEET-UG is still a pen-and-paper exam).
- **JEE Main** replaced **AIEEE** in **2013** and is held twice a year. **JEE Advanced** is run by the IITs in rotation. **IIT Tirupati, NIT Andhra Pradesh (Tadepalligudem), IIITDM Kurnool and IIIT Sri City** in AP admit through JEE and **JoSAA**.
- **NEET-UG** became the single medical entrance in **2016**, after the Supreme Court recalled its 2013 judgment. It covers AIIMS and JIPMER seats too from 2020. **AIIMS Mangalagiri** admits through NEET.
- **CUET-UG** (2022) made admission to **central universities** depend on one test instead of Class 12 cut-offs. Many state and private universities also use it.
- **NCET** (NTA) is the test for the four-year **Integrated Teacher Education Programme (ITEP)**, which **NCTE** launched in **2023**.
- **Not NTA: CAT** is held by the **IIMs** (IIM Visakhapatnam admits through it). **GATE** is held by the **IISc and IITs**. **CTET** is held by **CBSE**.

AP angle

- A **Hostel Welfare Officer** meets these rules every year. Students in post-matric hostels need **caste, income and local (study) certificates** in time for counselling, and convenor-quota admission is usually what makes them eligible for **fee reimbursement** and hostel admission.
- AP's **residential welfare societies** (Social, Tribal and BC welfare, and the general AP Residential Educational Institutions Society) admit through their **own entrance or selection tests** for Class V and Intermediate. These are separate from APSICHE's CETs.
- For teacher aspirants the road is **EdCET** (B.Ed.), then **AP TET**, then the **DSC** recruitment test.

Common traps

✗ "AP EAMCET still includes medical admissions." ✓ Medical seats go by **NEET**; the test is now **EAPCET** (Engineering, Agriculture, Pharmacy) since **2021**.

✗ "ECET is the engineering entrance after Intermediate." ✓ **ECET** is **lateral entry into the 2nd year** for **diploma** holders; after Intermediate it is **EAPCET**.

✗ "POLYCET is conducted by APSICHE." ✓ **POLYCET** is held by **SBTET** (State Board of Technical Education and Training).

✗ "EdCET admits to D.El.Ed." ✓ **EdCET** is for the two-year **B.Ed.**; D.El.Ed. admission is through a separate test (DEECET).

✗ "NTA was set up in 2010 and conducts CAT and GATE." ✓ NTA was approved in **2017**; **CAT** is by the **IIMs**, **GATE** by **IISc / IITs**.

✗ "CUET is conducted by UGC or by the central universities themselves." ✓ It is conducted by **NTA** (2022 key).

✗ "The Central University of AP is at Visakhapatnam or Tirupati." ✓ **CUAP is at Anantapur**; the tribal university is in **Vizianagaram**, and the National Sanskrit University is in Tirupati.

✗ "The 15% unreserved seats are only for non-locals." ✓ They are filled **on merit**, locals included; from **2025-26** only **AP candidates** can take them.

✗ "Telangana students can still claim AP's 15% unreserved seats." ✓ That right under **Section 95** lasted **10 years** and ended in **June 2024**; AP closed the seats to other States from **2025-26**.

✗ "D.El.Ed. and BFA admissions are through EdCET." ✓ D.El.Ed. is through **DEECET**; BFA and B.Des. through **ADCET**.

✗ "APSCHE was set up after the 2014 bifurcation." ✓ APSCHE dates from **1988**; it was India's **first** state council of higher education.

Quick revision

- CET = one test, one merit list, centralised counselling by rank, reservation and options.
- APSCHE: AP State Council of Higher Education Act 1988; first in India (NPE 1986); runs the CETs through convenor universities.
- EAPCET (ex-EAMCET, 2021): B.Tech, Agri, Pharmacy; rank = 75% test + 25% Intermediate.
- ECET lateral entry (diploma); ICET MBA/MCA; EdCET B.Ed.; LAW CET LL.B.; PGECET M.Tech; PGECET M.A./M.Sc.; PECET B.P.Ed.; ADCET BFA/B.Des.; RCET Ph.D.; DEECET D.El.Ed.
- POLYCET by SBTET; RGUKT IIITs on Class 10 marks; degree colleges via OAMDC.
- Web counselling: register → verify certificates → web options → allotment → report.
- Art 371D (1973) + 1974 Order: 85% local, 15% unreserved; AU and SVU areas; Section 95 common admissions ended June 2024; from 2025-26 the 15% is for AP candidates only.
- AP: SC 15, ST 6, BC 29 (A to E), EWS 10, girls 33⅓ (horizontal).
- NTA (2017): JEE Main, NEET-UG (since 2019), CUET (2022), UGC-NET, NCET; not CAT or GATE.
- Central universities in AP: CUAP Anantapur, Tribal University Vizianagaram, National Sanskrit University Tirupati.