

From Education Group

City

BangaloreMirror

TH

Karnataka students to be in the pink of health

Statewide database will help monitor health and well-being of over 1.2 crore children

Kumar.P @timesgroup.com

TWEETS @kumar.p_Mirror

In another massive step towards the healthcare of around 120 lakh children in the state, the Department of Education (Primary and Secondary) has now developed a system to track the health status of children in all schools.

The department, which has developed the Student Achievement Tracking System (SATS), which has information of about 120 lakh children, will have another Health Module, which is expected to be rolled out soon.

This Health Module is part of 15 modules which is inbuilt in SATS application which does various functions like capturing data of students, attendance of teachers and students, scholarship details and many details of schools and students in the state. Health Module has been recently added to this feature which will be officially launched by Chief Minister HD Kumaraswamy and also the State Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

How does the health module work? Explaining this, PC Jaffer, Commissioner of State Department of Public Instructions said, "We have created a health module for SATS now. This is basically to assist the Department of Health and Family Welfare who will receive the health records of all these students on an online platform. The health



department under the National Health Mission has launched the Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK) an initiative which envisaged Child Health Screening and Early Intervention Services."

RBSK is a systemic approach of early identification and link to care, support and treatment of children. Officials also said that this will be a part of the already existing school health programme.

How will SATS support this system? Jaffer said, "These health records which are collected at the school level will be put online and a database will be created and linked to the health department's portal."

A student will undergo a health

check-up twice a year which is initiated by the state government. When the child joins the school, a health screening will be done and the same will be uploaded in SATS.

This module can even go to the extent of whether the students have consulted the doctor. For example, if a student is diagnosed with a cardiac problem, then the system will capture those details and the child's parent will be alerted to refer a doctor in the nearby hospital. "We can even track whether these kinds of referrals have actually happened. We will get details from the parents as to whether the issue is sorted or not. In the long run, this system can even help in scheduling an

“ A student will undergo health check-up twice a year which will be done by the state government. When the child joins the school, a health screening will also be done

— An official

appointment with the doctors as well as in the nearby government hospitals," added Jaffer.

Officials say that this can be even linked to Ayushman Bharat Health Scheme.

A senior education department official said, "We can even link this data to the Ayushman Bharat scheme. Parents can be alerted to go to a nearby taluk hospital or district hospital by availing their benefits through Ayushman Bharat scheme or Arogya Karnataka Scheme."

The main aim is to create a central database of health records of the children in the State. If this is done, it can yield a lot of statistics, say officials.

Jaffer said, "If the database goes centralized then we can get details even block-wise too. We can understand the most prevalent conditions amongst the student community of that area. The same can be worked out by the health department."