

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
Department of Higher Education

MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2025:

Important Policy Decisions Taken and Major Achievements During February 2025

(a) The New Delhi World Book Fair (NDWBF) 2025, one of the world's largest B2C book fairs, was held from 1 to 9 February 2025 at Bharat Mandapam Complex, New Delhi. With the theme "Republic @ 75" and the slogan "हम, भारत के लोग... / We, the People of India...", it celebrated India's 75 years as a republic, showcasing its literary and cultural journey. The fair was inaugurated by the Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu. The event featured more than 1,000 writers, authors, and speakers, with over 600 literary programmes and 200+ cultural events, offering a dynamic platform for dialogue and exchange. It drew nearly 2 million visitors and hosted around 1,000 exhibitors from India and 15 foreign nations, including the USA, UK, Nepal, Italy, and Iran. Russia, the Guest of Honour country, showcased its literary and cultural heritage through curated exhibits under the banner "Roos Se Aayi Kitabein".

The fair also featured B2B events such as CEOSpeak and the New Delhi Rights Table, fostering business networking. The Children's Pavilion engaged young readers with interactive activities and workshops, while the Authors Lounge provided a space for published authors to connect with visitors. The Lekhak Manch served as a platform for speakers and discussions in Hindi, promoting literary dialogue and celebrating the richness of the language.

The programme included 55 events by international embassies and agencies, promoting global literary exchange. The Cultural Evenings showcased India's diversity through performances, while the second edition of the "Festival of Festivals" (FoF), launched by NBT, India in 2024, brought together multiple cultural and literary festivals. NDWBF 2025 reaffirmed its status as a premier literary event, promoting reading culture, fostering dialogue, and strengthening international publishing ties.

(b) In World Book Fair 2025, 41 new books were launched under the PM YUVA 2.0 scheme at the New Delhi on 08.02.2025. Also, Hon'ble EM released the Hindi version of The Saga of Kudopali: The Unsung Story of 1857. Hon'ble EM announced that the book would soon be available in 12 Indian and two foreign languages, ensuring a wider reach and deeper impact. He also released Sangama Madhavante Randu Krithikal, the Malayalam translation of the works of 14th-century mathematician and astronomer Sri Madhava.

(c) The third edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam, scheduled from 15-24th February 2025 was inaugurated by Shri Yogi Adithyanath, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh as Chief Guest and Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Education Minister, Shri L. Murugan, Union Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting and Shri Daya Shankar 'Dayalu', MOS(I/C), Government of Uttar Pradesh as Guest of Honors. Over the course of 10 days, 304 talented artists from various regions of Tamil Nadu performed 25 diverse cultural presentations, showcasing the richness of Tamil heritage.

During the said period, an estimated 1,33,300 visitors attended the event at Namoo Ghat, with around 76,500 of them visiting the stalls that featured handlooms, handicrafts, One

District One Product (ODOP) items, and books. These vibrant displays contributed to total sales of Rs. 24,12,800.

The valedictory function of KTS 3.0 was presided over by Shri Mohan Charan Manjhi, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha, as the Chief Guest. Shri Sukanta Mazumdar, Union Minister of State for Education, and Shri Rajbir Singh, Minister of Uttar Pradesh, also participated as Guests of Honor, bringing the event to a memorable conclusion.

In KTS 3.0 distinguished persons who attended various academic/cultural programs and visited the exhibition included, Hon'ble CMs of UP and Odisha, Hon'ble Union Ministers, Hon'ble Governors, Hon'ble Ministers from UP, Entrepreneurs, Professionals from various fields, 55 Heads of Missions etc.
