



केन्द्रीय विद्यालय संगठन (मुख्यालय)

शिक्षा मंत्रालय भारत सरकार के अधीन स्वायत्त संस्थान
18 संस्थागत क्षेत्र, शहीद जीत सिंह मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110016

KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN (HQs)

An Autonomous Body under Ministry of Education, Govt. of India
18, Institutional Area, S.J.S Marg, New Delhi-110016

Tel.: 011-26521841

Website: www.kvsangathan.nic.in

11-Acad029TL/1/2026-Academic/CN-37499/N.N.41-43/626-59

Date: 10.04.2026

The Deputy Commissioner
Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan
All Regional Offices

Subject: Implementation of Multilingualism in Kendriya Vidyalayas in line with NEP 2020- regarding

Madam/Sir,

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 emphasises multilingualism as a core strength of India's education system. This approach is aimed at enhancing conceptual clarity, comprehension, and cognitive development in young learners. Further, para 4.16-4.17 and 22.15 of NEP 2020 highlight that Sanskrit will be offered at all levels of school education as an important and enriching option under the flexible three-language formula and the broader vision of promoting Indian languages.

In addition, the NCF-SE aims to ensure that by the end of Class X, students attain independent reading and writing proficiency in multiple Indian languages, thereby promoting cultural rootedness and national integration.

In view of the above, the implementation of multilingualism in Kendriya Vidyalayas, along with Sanskrit, is essential to realise the core objectives and spirit of NEP 2020 with regard to multilingual education. However, given that Kendriya Vidyalayas were established primarily to cater to the educational needs of children of transferable Central Government employees, maintaining uniformity and continuity in schooling across the country remains a vital operational principle.

As per the present structure, the following languages are offered across Classes:

Stage	Classes	Medium / Languages Taught
Foundational & Preparatory	I-V	Hindi (R1), English (R2)
Middle	VI-VIII	Hindi (R1), English (R2), Sanskrit (R3 mandatory)
Secondary	IX-X	Hindi (R1), English (R2), Sanskrit (optional)
Senior Secondary	XI-XII	English, Hindi/Sanskrit (as optional subjects)

As Sanskrit is offered in all Kendriya Vidyalayas to maintain uniformity of syllabus across the country keeping in view the transferability of parents, there is a steady demand among students especially from Category-V/VI for Regional Languages as R3 (Third Language) in several States. As per Article 112 of KVS Education Code for KVS, wherever 15 or more students opt for a Regional Language, the same may be taught with the support of part-time contractual teachers.

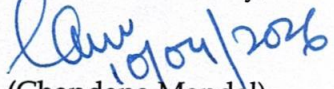
In addition to the above, there is a growing need to introduce the language that is most widely spoken in the respective State, as this will strengthen students' linguistic competence and support their future employment opportunities, particularly in State Government jobs. To fulfil this requirement, KVS has decided to implement other Scheduled Indian languages

as an option along with Sanskrit languages as R3 to be implemented in a phased manner starting from class VI from academic session 2026-27. Modalities will be as follows:

1. To ensure operational feasibility and financial viability, a State/Regional Language, in addition to Sanskrit, may be offered as R3 in a Kendriya Vidyalaya, subject to a minimum of 15 students opting for that particular language. However, students opting these languages other than Sanskrit will not be then offered Sanskrit.
2. The students whose parents have all India transfer liability will be offered Sanskrit as R3, as Sanskrit language will be available in all Kendriya Vidyalaya across Country for class VI to XII.
3. Considering the unique mandate of KVS to provide a uniform national schooling system for transferable families, Sanskrit will continue to be offered as R3 at the Middle & Secondary Stage.
4. The most widely spoken Regional/State Language (Scheduled Indian Language only) of the concerned State may be offered as an alternative to the Sanskrit in class-VI for the Academic Session 2026-27, and progressively in higher classes.
5. An undertaking be obtained by the parents and students jointly for opting R3 (Sanskrit or Regional/State Language).
6. The choice of language may be exercised at the Vidyalaya level; however, due consideration should be given to its long-term implications. Once a language is adopted, it must be continued in subsequent years for the same cohort of students. Frequent changes in the chosen language would adversely affect continuity and defeat the intended objectives of the initiative.
7. In view of potential contingencies, if a student opts for a language that is not offered in the Region to which the parent is transferred, the parent/guardian shall be required to furnish an undertaking to make suitable arrangements for the continued learning of that language.
8. At present, textbooks for Regional Languages are under development by NCERT/CBSE and are expected to be released shortly. In the interim, Kendriya Vidyalayas may utilize SCERT textbooks/locally available books/materials, strictly in accordance with the competencies prescribed in NCFSE 2023 as reference material. Upon availability, NCERT/CBSE textbooks shall be adopted accordingly.
9. KVs are required to update the language chosen as R3 in the OASIS portal of CBSE (Please refer CBSE letter No. Acad-17/2026 dated 09.04.2026).
10. The initiative shall be implemented in a phased manner, commencing with Class VI in the Academic Session 2026-27, extending to Classes VI-VII in 2027-28, Classes VI-VIII in 2028-29, Classes VI-IX in 2029-30, and progressively up to Class XII in subsequent years.
11. Each Kendriya Vidyalaya shall offer only one Regional Language. The required teachers for the same shall be engaged on a contractual basis, in accordance with the existing norms.

All Deputy Commissioner are requested to direct Principal to ensure proper dissemination and smooth implementation of this initiative for KVS for larger interest of students.

Yours sincerely,


(Chandana Mandal)

Additional Commissioner (Acad.)

Encls:

- (1) Undertaking Format
- (2) CBSE Circular CBSE/Acad./2026 dated 09.04.2026

Copy to:

1. PS to the Commissioner, KVS HQ, New Delhi- for information.
2. The Joint Commissioner, (Finance/Training/Pers.) KVS HQs, New Delhi.
3. The Directors, all ZIETs- for information.

KENDRIAYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN (HQs)

UNDERTAKING BY PARENT/GUARDIAN FOR OPTING R3 (THIRD LANGUAGE)

I, _____ (Name of Parent/Guardian), parent/guardian of Master/Miss _____, studying in Class _____ in Kendriya Vidyalaya _____, hereby declare that:

1. I have been informed about the provisions regarding the study of Third Language (R3), i.e., Sanskrit or State/Regional Language, under the multilingualism initiative of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan.
2. I have opted for _____ (Name of Language) as the Third Language (R3) for my ward.
3. I understand that once the language is opted, it is to be continued in subsequent classes for the same cohort, and frequent change of language is not permissible.
4. I am aware that in case of transfer to another Region/Vidyalaya where the opted language is not available, Kendriya Vidyalaya may not be in a position to provide instruction in that language.
5. In such a situation, I undertake to make my own arrangements for the continued learning of the opted language for my ward.
6. I further confirm that this option has been exercised after due consideration of its long-term implications.

I undertake to abide by the rules and guidelines issued by Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan from time to time in this regard.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Signature of Student: _____

Name: _____



केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड

(शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त संगठन)

CENTRAL BOARD OF SECONDARY EDUCATION

(An Autonomous Organisation Under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India)



CBSE/Acad./2026

Date: 09 April 2026
Circular No.: Acad-17/2026

To
The Heads of all CBSE Affiliated Schools

Subject: Introduction of R3 in Class VI as per the CBSE Scheme of Studies 2026–27

Dear Principal,

The National Curriculum Framework for School Education (NCFSE-2023) emphasizes the importance of multilingualism and recommends the teaching of two native Indian languages under the R1, R2, R3 model, aimed at promoting linguistic proficiency, cultural understanding, and national integration among learners.

The Scheme of Studies 2026–27 has been released by CBSE and R3 is being implemented from class VI 2026-27. It has been learnt that many schools have already initiated the implementation of R3 as per the Scheme of Studies. All remaining schools are hereby directed to ensure compliance within 7 days from the date of issuance of this circular.

The textbooks for R3 in the languages enumerated in the Constitution of India will be made available shortly. However, schools are directed to start teaching R3 from Class VI immediately, using locally available books/materials, strictly in accordance with the competencies prescribed in NCFSE-2023, which are also attached with this circular at annexure 1 for ready reference.

Schools are required to finalise and notify their respective Regional Offices of their chosen R3 language(s), and also update the same in the OASIS. It is further informed that only those R3 languages which are introduced in Class VI by a school will be available as options in Classes IX and X for that school.

The respective Regional Officers will maintain a record of the implementation of R3 in schools under their jurisdiction and will be approaching schools shortly to collect the details of R3 options being offered in class VI.

All schools are advised to introduce R3 earnestly and without any further delay. Schools must take all necessary measures to ensure immediate and effective implementation.

This may be treated as urgent and mandatory.

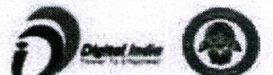
Yours sincerely,

(Dr. Praggya M. Singh)
Professor and Director (Academics)
CBSE

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Copy to the respective Heads of Directorates, Organisations and Institutions with a request to disseminate the information to all the schools under their jurisdiction:

1. The Commissioner, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, 18 Institutional Area, Shaheed Jeet Singh Marg, New Delhi-16
2. The Commissioner, Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, B-15, Sector-62, Institutional Area, Noida-201309
3. The Secretary, Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS), Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.
4. The Secretary, Sainik Schools Society, Room No. 101, D-1 Wing, Sena Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
5. The Chairman, Odisha Adarsha Vidyalaya Sangathan, N-1/9, Near Doordarshan Kendra, PO Sainik School Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar, Odisha-751005
6. The Director of Education, Directorate of Education, Govt. of NCT of Delhi, Old Secretariat, Delhi-110054
7. The Director of Public Instructions (Schools), Union Territory Secretariat, Sector 9, Chandigarh-160017
8. The Director of Education, Govt. of Sikkim, Gangtok, Sikkim -737101
9. The Director of School Education, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar -791111
10. The Director of Education, Govt. of A&N Islands, Port Blair - 744101
11. The Director of School Education, Ladakh, Room No.101-102, Ground Floor, Council Secretariat, Kurbathang, Kargil - Ladakh
12. The Director of School Education, Andhra Pradesh, 3rd Floor, B block, Anjaneya Towers, VTPS Rd, Bhimaraju Gutta, Ibrahimpatnam, Andhra Pradesh - 521 456
13. The Director, Jharkhand Education Project Council, Old HEC High School, JSCA Stadium Road, Jagannathpur, Sector-III, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004 (Jharkhand)
14. Navy Education Society, Dte of Naval Education, Naval Headquarters, Ministry of Defence, West Block-V, RK Puram, New Delhi-110066
15. The Additional Director General of Army Education, A -Wing, Sena Bhawan, DHQ, PO, New Delhi-110001
16. The Secretary AWES, Integrated Headquarters of MoD (Army), FDRS Building No. 202, Shankar Vihar (Near APS), Delhi Cantt-110010
17. DS to Chairperson, CBSE
18. Secretary/ Controller of Examinations/ All Directors, CBSE
19. All Regional Directors/ Regional Officers of CBSE with the request to send this circular to all the Heads of the affiliated schools of the Board in their respective regions.
20. All Joint Secretary/ Deputy Secretary/ PPS/SPS/Under Secretary/ Assistant Secretary, CBSE
21. All Head(s)/ In-Charge(s), Centre of Excellence, CBSE
22. In charge IT Unit with the request to put this Circular on the CBSE Academic Website
23. In-Charge, Library
24. Record File

Professor & Director (Academics)

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Annexure – I

Curricular Goals and Competencies of R3 at Middle Stage (excerpt from NCFSE-2023) *

Curricular Goal	Competencies
CG-1 Develops effective communication skills for day-to-day interactions, enhancing their oral ability to express ideas by describing and narrating events and situations	C-1.1 Makes conversations relevant to the context C-1.2 Listens to varied texts (stories, poems, and conversations) and summarises core ideas from the material C-1.3 Makes oral presentations (class debates, short welcome notes, anchoring of small events, short speeches)
CG-2 Develops fluency and the ability to comprehend what they read	C-2.1 Reads stories and passages with accuracy and fluency with appropriate pauses and intonation C-2.2 Comprehends the meaning of stories, poems, conversations, posters, and instructions and the main idea in the text
CG-3 Develops the ability to express their understanding, experiences, feelings, and ideas in writing instructions, invitations, and letters.	C 3.1 Writes a paragraph to express their understanding and experiences

- Chapter – 2 – Language Education – Part C, Section 2.4.3.1 - Page No. 246-247

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