

Textbook in media studies for class XI

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SCHOOL students who want to pursue a career in journalism have a reason to rejoice, as NCERT is all set to roll out a textbook in media studies for class XI from this academic session. The National Monitoring Committee has approved the book.

This would be an elective subject and cover topics ranging from communication, understanding media, print media and journalism, media development and advertising. The course structure for class XII, which is in process and will be available from next year, will cover topics including radio, television, cinema, new media and photojournalism.

Vasudha Kamat, joint director, Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET), NCERT, informed: "So far the subject could be pursued only at the graduation or the postgraduation level, but now students who are keen to pursue a career in journalism can begin from school." CBSE approval was given last year but NCERT will be rolling out the textbook now. Anubhuti Yadav, faculty, CIET is coordinating the project which involves textbooks for class XI and XII as also manual for practical work.

INTERNET RADIO

NCERT will soon launch its internet radio (iRadio) in collaboration with Commonwealth Education Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA) and Open University Malaysia, which will be

inaugurated on June 3. It will air archived as well as live programmes wherein students can interact with experts.

"NCERT is also planning to convert its textbooks into audio books from class I to XII for all subjects and this would be made available on the iRadio," informed Kamini Bhatnagar, head, audio production division, CIET, NCERT, adding, "this would be particularly helpful for students with special needs." The process has just been initiated and will take at least a year to be completed, she said.

"We are also organising an international workshop on Open Educational Resources for English Language Teaching in collaboration with Commonwealth of Learning, Canada from May 31-June 4," informed Kamat.

INTERACTIVE PROGRAMMES

During the summer vacations, CIET has planned a series of programmes, which will not only entertain but also educate children. It has planned a live telecast every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 3-4 pm on Gyan Darshan 1 from May 10-June 30, wherein students will get an opportunity to interact with experts from various fields. The live telecast will also provide a forum to share thoughts with a wider audience.

Its series on 'Do it yourself' will comprise programmes on puppet-making, children's newspaper and other art and craft programmes.

Children involved with newspapers will participate in the show and share their experiences with the audience. As NCERT gives a lot of emphasis on integrating art and aesthetics in children's lives, its series, 'Creative Expressions' will focus on expressions through various media. Experts like Debu Chaudhary, Malini Awasthi, Pawan Sudhir, Ashish Ghosh, Subhash Kant, and Pratik Chaudhary will interact with students and share their experiences.

Their series — 'Computer Pathshala' will create awareness on the usage of open source software and sensitise students on various ethical issues related to computers and networking. Experts like Narendra Sisodia and Jaijit Bhattacharya will interact with students on various issues related to ICT.

"This is a CIET NCERT effort to create a creative structure for students during the summer vacations. As a follow up to the live telecast, a forum will be created for online discussion. All the programmes will further be uploaded on CIET website. Students, through the live telecast, will also be introduced to various subject-specific tools including chemistry, maths and physics," said Kamat.

Further, she added: "We have planned various other programmes for children including a 10-day workshop on videography, five-day workshop on audio production, computers — open source software, puppet-making among others."