



NCERT's 65th Foundation Day

Why in News?

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan commemorated the **65th Foundation Day of NCERT** by launching multiple initiatives.

- He urged the institution to adopt a **reform-oriented** and technology-driven approach to education.

Key Initiatives Launched

- **PM eVidya Mobile Application:** It is a centralized gateway for accessing all key digital and broadcast initiatives under [PM eVidya](#), developed in collaboration with [BISAG-N](#).
- **DIKSHA 2.0:** It has structured lessons, adaptive assessments, performance feedback, discussion forums, and [AI](#) tools like Read Aloud, Closed Caption, and Translation of text files into 12 languages.
- **PRASHAST 2.0:** It is a **Pre-Assessment Holistic Screening Tool** that enhances mobile and web platforms for early identification of children with disabilities.
- **Kitab Ek Padhe Anek:** It is an [NEP-2020-aligned initiative](#) to create Universal Design of Learning (UDL)-based accessible digital and printed textbooks for inclusive classrooms, especially benefiting [Divyangjan students](#) and children from socio-economically disadvantaged groups.
- **Utkal Jananinkara Sujogya Santana:** It is a book containing the life and contributions of **100 great personalities of Odisha** who have contributed to the development of modern Odisha and also participated in the **National Freedom Movement**.

NCERT (National Council of Educational Research and Training)

- **Established:** 1st September 1961
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Mandate:** As an **autonomous organisation** under the Government of India, it assists and advises the central and state governments on academic matters related to school education.
- **Functions:** Develops textbooks, teaching-learning materials, and **innovative pedagogical tools**, while also conducting research, training, and capacity-building programmes.