Now, students can truly scan through their books

Maths, Science, English books for Classes 6-10 will have QR codes embedded

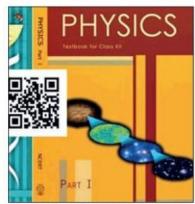
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he government of Karnataka is all set to make the text-books provided for Classes 6 to 10 much more interesting. As of now textbooks of Mathematics, Science, and English have problems and statements, but for any further information a student has to refer to extra materials to understand the concepts better.

But, now a mobile application is all the student needs to go deeper into any subject she takes an interest to. The mobile application will allow one to scan the QR code printed on the textbooks and the App takes the student to reference material on the subject and topic.

Officials say the benefits don't end there. If the student does not want reading material, she can also refer to audio and video concepts through the application. This application will be made available to all teachers, students and parents, wherein one can scan the QR code printed on the Mathematics, Science and English subjects. The new textbooks with QR codes will be ready for use from



Physics textbook with QR code

the academic year 2018-19. Officials say this is the first time a state organisation, the Department of State Education Research and Training Centre (DSERT), has taken up this task.

How are these QR codes on textbooks going to work? An official said, "The QR codes printed on the textbooks can be used by students or teachers through the Application developed by the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) called Disha. The app allows scanning of the QR code. This will direct the user to digital content of the textbooks that will have audio-video contents using which a student can study more about a particular chapter."

Academicians say that this will help teachers as they can use this content in the classroom where they can show video content related to the concepts. HN Gopalakrishna, director of Karnataka Textbooks Society and DSERT, said, "This initiative was undertaken as part of upgrading the textbooks year on year. Teachers and students can use this QR code, scan it and read extra materials on the App for more subject knowledge."

The department has already upgraded the Mathematics, Science and English textbooks to NCERT syllabus last year and now, all students following this syllabus from Classes 6 to 10 will now get more information on these concepts.

Officials said that these QR codes will be printed only in two textbooks of two languages in the beginning: English and Kannada. In the later stages, languages such as Hindi, Tamil, Urdu and Marathi textbooks will have the codes. Officials added that several non-profit-organisations have joined together to develop the digital context.