

FICCI EDUWRAP

EDITORIALS | SECTORAL NEWS | FUNDING |
PROGRAM LAUNCH | COLLABORATIONS |
TECHNOLOGY | STUDENTS &
FACULTY RECRUITMENTS | PROMOTIONS

September 2020
Inaugural Edition



From the Editors Desk



Ms Shobha Mishra Ghosh
Assistant Secretary General
FICCI

Dear Readers,

We are happy to present the first **FICCI Eduwrap**, a bimonthly e-Newsletter. This is our endeavour to create an online resource for academia, industry, government, students and other stakeholders. The e-Newsletter will be a repository of well researched articles, reviews and papers with the latest insights on industry and economy, higher education, jobs, placements, entrepreneurship, start ups, research and innovation.

COVID 19 pandemic has had an unprecedented impact on the economy impacting the industry and society. As we move from several phases of lockdowns and unlocks, the economy has slumped to an all time low of 23.9% compared to the growth of 3.1% in the previous quarter as per the recent data released by National Statistical Office (NSO). Most of the core manufacturing and services sectors are in the red with agriculture being the only sector showing positive growth. All this has its impact on jobs, placements, internships and apprenticeship and in turn impacts the future of our youth.

The education sector was the first to be closed under the lockdown and would be the last to open up. To mitigate this challenge several universities and colleges have moved into online mode of delivery but there are challenges of internet connectivity, access to device, training of faculty, content availability/development, assessments etc. Organizing common entrance exams for admissions into universities and colleges is also a challenge due to lack of capacities in various states and universities.

FICCI had initiated the discussion on Education 4.0 in 2018, a student centric approach, addressing the teaching-learning needs, knowledge and skill requirements of Industry 4.0. The proliferation of digital tools, applications and platforms has re-defined the teacher-learner interface, training pedagogies, instructional design and the mode of assessment and evaluation. In the post COVID times, hybrid models with blended learning will be the 'new normal'.

The first FICCI Eduwrap issue is being released in this backdrop. However, the special significance of the release is also due to the recently announced New Education Policy (NEP) 2020, that, if implemented in letter and spirit, is going to radically transform the educational landscape of the country. Apart from the editorial and featured articles, the Eduwrap also covers news items and reflections of national and global policy reforms, research and innovation, technology, skill requirements etc. We also have a specific section that talks about the recent FICCI initiatives/reports on higher education along with the forthcoming ones.

Through this newsletter, we have also consciously attempted to provide opportunity to universities and higher educational institutions (HEIs) to showcase their best practices, start-up activities and launch of new programs. This **Eduwrap** will be posted on FICCI website, LinkedIn page and Twitter handles and will be reached out to more than 50,000 Indian and foreign stakeholders. We look forward to your inputs and feedback to improve the content and format as we go along with our subsequent issues.

We hope this newsletter proves to be an interesting read.

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Leader Speaks



Dr Vidya Yeravdekar
Chairperson, FICCI Higher Education Committee
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University

The National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has strongly attempted to streamline the existing Indian education system and bring about the requisite radical reforms that is in sync with the pressing needs and requirements of “future of education”. The Policy has struck a proportionate balance by integrating the Indian education system with global trends and patterns on one hand, and instilling conviction and pride by highlighting that the rich heritage of ancient Indian Knowledge will be the guiding light of the policy, on the other hand. The policy very clearly has articulated that the rich Indian legacies must not only be nurtured and preserved but also researched and put to new uses through our education system.

The underlying principle of the policy is to create an enabling framework that helps in doing away with “rote-learning” and facilitates acculturation of an enquiry-based, project-led ecosystem of education that not only enhances the learning outcomes but also helps in rendering a more rounded and holistic development of individuals. There is a strong emphasis on promoting digitization, technology integration and its effective adoption to achieve the ambitious target of GER in higher education to 50% by 2035 from the current 26.3%.

To deal with 21st century opportunities and challenges and with the rapidly evolving exponential technologies, the policy has focussed on developing an integrated liberal education endowed with multidisciplinary approach. It further envisions flexible curricular structures that will enable creative combinations of disciplines. While emphasizing on the need for liberal education, it clearly highlights the significance of liberal arts education that helps in developing all capacities of human beings in an integrated manner, viz intellectual, aesthetic, social, physical, emotional and moral. This is indeed a good move forward and FICCI commends the government for the same.

Further, for liberal education to be practiced in letter and spirit, one needs to move away from the shackles of regulatory rigidities and provide great amount of flexibility to Universities/HEIs. In this regard, the proposed single overarching regulatory body with the name National Higher Education Regulatory Council (NHERC) is a welcome step that will not only promote autonomy and flexibility but will also deter ambiguity from the ecosystem.

It needs to be highlighted that the Indian universities that have been provided greater autonomy have demonstrated innovative approaches in adopting some of the suggested changes mentioned in the new policy, especially with regards to integrating liberal education, flexible program structures with majors and minors, effective internship, etc. Government should encourage such universities and HEIs to handhold state universities in particular and other institutions in general, through a ‘Mentor-Mentee relationship’. This would further lead to a collaboration amongst institutions (through “Hub and Spoke model”), industry and optimal resource sharing.

The policy document prominently highlights the significance of Online and Distance Education (ODL) against the backdrop of the current Covid 19 pandemic and the compelling need to increase access and equity. To ensure efficient utilization of resources and to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort, the policy has indicated that all content developed for ODL will be included in an online digital repository. However, care needs to be exercised in ensuring that the IPR issues are adhered to, and are in line with the international best practices.

One of the other important aspects of this new policy that is set to fundamentally transform the research landscape of the country is the creation of a National Research Foundation (NRF) that intends to fund all kinds of research proposals having a strong bearing on nation’s interest. NRF provides a level playing field as it will be open to both public and private sectors institutions. This is in line with FICCI recommendation to the government of creating a National Science, Humanities, and Technology Research Foundation akin to National Science Foundation (NSF) of USA.

While focussing on internationalization, the policy has taken care of some of the important elements that FICCI has also been suggesting the government in the recent past. However, it is important that the execution plan (that will be laid out through a legislative framework), should entail inter-ministerial collaborations to develop a conducive ecosystem that will encourage cross mobility of students, faculty and researchers, Indian institutions with foreign campuses and global institutions with campuses in India. Effective industry engagement with opportunities for apprenticeships and employment, safe and secure living environment, state of the art infrastructure, etc are some of the other critical pre-requisites that will not only boost international mobility of foreign students to India but will also develop India as a global destination of higher education.



Higher Education and Industry Partnerships During These Dynamically Changing Times

Professor Tan Eng Chye
President
National University of Singapore

The world has spent the last few months reeling from the impact of a most unexpected event, the COVID-19 pandemic. At present, the crisis shows no signs of abating, but its impact has been clear and undeniable – lives have been lost, societies disrupted, and economies havetaken a sharp downturn. More than ever, individuals and societies are looking to leading organisations and institutions for guidance and support to help navigate an uncertain future.

COVID-19 was the first great disruptive event of the 21st century, but it is unlikely to be the last. Others are more like waves, and this includes forces such as climate change, resource sustainability, digitalisation, and the changing global order.

NUS is a strong proponent of how industry-academia partnerships can offer powerful opportunities in preparing, shaping and envisioning a more resilient and positive future. There are many possible areas of collaboration, but here, I would like to share just a few key examples.

In undergraduate learning and training, industry-academia partnerships can be a vital component in injecting greater relevance, as well as offering immersive and experiential learning experiences.

We have invited industry partners as Programme Advisory committee members to provide curriculum input; we are also moving strongly to expand our internships and apprenticeship programmes. At present, 70% of our students do an internship, and internships are compulsory for Engineering and Computing students, spanning 6 months. We have also launched co-operative programmes in cyber security, business analytics, and data science and analytics where we require 1.5 years of internships (within a four-year degree programme).

For our professional programmes, such as Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Social Work and others, a practice or apprenticeship period has long been mandated as part of the curriculum.

One unique internship programme has become globally recognised – the NUSOverseas Colleges, which feature students in an extended internship in a technology-based start-up company in a global entrepreneurial hotspot, while continuing to take courses with leading partner universities. These are sited in locations such as Silicon Valley and Stockholm, but also emerging places such as Ho Chi Minh City and Bandung.

These industry opportunities expose our students to real-world problem solving, and their accompanying complexities. They also promote positive traits like collaborative working, perseverance, and adjusting fluidly to circumstances.

Lifelong learning is another key area where industry-academia partnerships can deliver immense societal benefits. As people live longer, careers become more extended, and there is an urgent need for continuous training, to keep the labour force dynamic, as well as provide industry with workers who have relevant skills and experience.

At NUS, we have pivoted to make lifelong learning a centrepiece of our education framework, and launched the NUS Lifelong Learners or NUS L³ programme, which enrolls every NUS student for 20 years from point of undergraduate admission. Our courses are focused on industry skills and needs, so that our 300,000 alumni can access a diverse suite of post-graduate programmes that enhance their life-time employability.

The challenges facing the world today are wide-ranging, complex and closely interrelated. Industry-academia partnerships can be instrumental in advancing cutting-edge research, as well as implementing robust, scalable solutions for broad community benefit.

At NUS, we offer the Corporate Labs scheme, which are public-private partnerships supported by the National Research Foundation (NRF). Partners include leading MNCs such as Wilmar International, Singtel and Keppel. These Labs undertake research and innovation in strategic areas such as water technologies, food sustainability and security, and data analytics and cyber security.

We also have extensive collaborations with other leading partners such as Microsoft, Grab and Capital Land Limited. These efforts undertake research in frontier domains such as data science, AI (with a specific focus on urban traffic), and sustainable urban living. In addition, such collaborations often include a talent development component, to nurture and seed talent within the relevant ecosystem.

Industry partners offer tremendous value in terms of having a clear area of focus, deep knowledge of markets and trends, and an orientation towards action and solutions. They're also often deeply committed to offering training, employment, and even entrepreneurial opportunities to a university's talent pool.

Post-COVID 19, we will have to make our way in a world painfully changed. To address the challenges therein, and to capture new opportunities, will require concerted effort by all sectors of society. Successful partnerships between industry and universities can help pave the way to rejuvenating economies, future-proofing skills and employment, and improving societal well-being through research and innovation.

Wilmar International Limited is one of Asia's leading agribusiness group, focusing on the manufacturing and processing of food ingredients. Keppel Corp is a conglomerate with interests in offshore & marine industries, sustainable environment and urban living. Singtel is one of Asia's leading communications and ICT solutions group. The Group has presence in Asia, Australia and Africa and reaches over 600 million mobile customers in 23 countries. All 3 companies are mainboard listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange (SGX).



Dr Rajan Saxena
Co founder The Open Ed works (TOE)
Former Vice Chancellor,
NMIMS

FICCI EDUWRAP is a much-needed initiative of Higher Education Committee that aims to widen reader's perspectives through insightful articles, reports, and data on Higher Education. This newsletter brings articles, news, and developments in Higher Education from around the world. It's a forum where institutions and faculty are encouraged to share their concerns. Pandemic has made it imperative for institutions and faculty to share their coping strategies with others in the ecosystem. Further, it is time to learn from others on use of digital technology, student learning in a digital world and managing learning stress and faculty stress during and beyond the pandemic. The Forum will be a platform for researchers, policy-makers and experts to engage critically on contemporary issues & findings and suggest solutions that are empirically tested



Sectoral News

Government Policy and Regulation

NEP 2020 : MHRD RELEASED NEW EDUCATION POLICY AFTER 34 YEARS

MHRD released New Education Policy after 34 years, the existing one framed in 1986 and revised in 1992. A panel headed by former ISRO chief K. Kasturirangan had submitted the draft of the new National Education Policy to Union HRD Minister Pokhriyal. After that, there was a heated debate related to the implementation of certain clauses within the ministry. In addition, various public suggestions were also implemented.

https://www.mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/NEP_Final_English_0.pdf

e-release of the ARIIA 2020 Ranking

This year marks the second edition of Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA). The Ministry of Education released the rankings of universities based on initiatives taken to promote entrepreneurship on the campus. A total of 674 institutions participated in this year's ranking.

<https://www.ariia.gov.in/>

MHRD launches 'Manodarpan' initiative for mental health and counselling of students

With an aim to provide psycho- social support and counselling to students for their mental health and well- being, Union Human Resource Development (HRD) Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launched 'Manodarpan' initiative on Tuesday, July 21. Under the initiative, the minister launched a toll-free national helpline number a website of Manodarpan and a handbook on 21st century life skills, for the students of school, college and universities.

<http://manodarpan.mhrd.gov.in/>

HRD Minister Launches Yukti 2.0 Platform For Innovators To 'barter Ideas'

Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has designed an online portal for multiple depositories like ideas, innovation, and contributions from students and teachers, on 23 June 2020. The depository is being called Yukti 2.0 by the MHRD and will be available for the disposal of anyone willing to expand their knowledge horizon.

<https://yukti.mic.gov.in/>

MHRD Launches TULIP Portal to Provide Internship Opportunities to Fresh Graduates

With the aim to help fresh graduates in India find internship opportunities in all urban local bodies and smart cities, the Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD) launched an online portal for 'The Urban Learning Internship Program (TULIP)'. The portal was jointly launched by Ramesh Pokhriyal, Minister, Human Resource Development, Hardeep S Puri, MoS (I/C), Housing and Urban Affairs, and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE).

<https://bit.ly/3hs7g3C>

<https://bit.ly/33ez6uW>

IND SAT 2020: Exam conducted for the first time by MHRD, 5000 candidates appeared

The IND SAT 2020 is being conducted for the first time this year, by the MHRD under the newly established 'Study in India' programme, which will give foreign students a chance to apply to Indian universities. The examination was conducted on Wednesday i.e. July 22, 2020. The first-ever IND SAT 2020 was conducted by the MHRD recently and around 5000 candidates appeared from other countries.

<https://bit.ly/32lhgam>



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UGC okays proposal to allow students to pursue 2 degree courses simultaneously

Students will soon be able to pursue two degree courses simultaneously in same or different streams, with the University Grants Commission (UGC) giving its nod to a proposal in this regard, according to officials.

<https://www.indiatoday.in/education-today/news/story/students-can-now-pursue-2-degree-courses-simultaneously-ugc-1680692-2020-05-22>

AICTE requests universities to allow 20 pc credit transfers through Swayam

In a major development, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) requested all universities and colleges to allow upto 20 per cent credit transfer in every semester through the government's SWAYAM.

http://ugcmoocs.inflibnet.ac.in/ugcmoocs/credit_transfer.php

49 free online courses launched by AICTE to help prepare students for job interviews

To help students improve their communication skills, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has launched 49 free online courses. These e-learning courses will be

<https://www.aicte-india.org/content/aicte-offers-49-free-e-learning-courses-students>

179 professional colleges shut down this year, highest in last 9 years: AICTE data

According to official statistics, over 69,000 seats in 762 colleges have been reduced due to reduction in intake or closure of a particular course or division.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/179-professional-colleges-shut-down-this-year-highest-in-last-9-years/article32214344.ece>

MCA to be a 2-year course from academic session 2020-21: AICTE

So far, the degree programme was of three years' duration. The AICTE has also asked all higher education institutions to make necessary modifications.

<https://www.firstpost.com/india/aicte-reduces-mca-course-duration-from-3-to-2-years-starting-academic-year-2020-21-check-aicte-india-org-8569651.html>

HEFA to finance infrastructure of IITs, NITs, AIIMS & others, sanctions 29K crores

HEFA has sanctioned 29 thousand crore rupees for financing infrastructure of the Indian educational institutes. Last year the body decided to fund up to 1 lakh crore by 2022. Major beneficiaries would include IITs, NITs, IITs, IISc, AIIMS etc

<http://hefa.co.in/about-us/>

Research & Innovation

HRD S T ministries launch 'Drug Discovery Hackathon' to develop anti-COVID drug

This hackathon is a first-of-its-kind national initiative for supporting the drug discovery process and will see participation of professionals, faculty, researchers and students from varied fields like Computer Science, Chemistry, Pharmacy, Medical Sciences, Basic Sciences and Biotechnology.

<https://www.theweek.in/wire-updates/national/2020/07/02/del89-virus-ld-hackathon.html>

HRD Ministry Setting up Dedicated 'Research And Innovation Division' to Boost Research in Academic Institutions

In order to boost research in academic institutions across the country, the HRD Ministry is creating a dedicated 'Research and Innovation Division', Union minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' announced. The division will be headed by a director who will be coordinating research work of various institutions coming under the HRD Ministry

<https://www.india.com/education/hrd-ministry-setting-up-dedicated-research-and-innovation-division-to-boost-research-in-academic-institutions-4023090/>

Technology & Industry

Govt to allow colleges, varsities to offer 40% of coursework online

Indian colleges and universities will be allowed to offer up to 40% of their coursework online, double the amount permitted now, as authorities attempt to reduce academic loss because of the prolonged impact of coronavirus on campus education.

<https://www.livemint.com/education/news/govt-to-allow-colleges-varsities-to-offer-40-of-coursework-online-11592425734703.html>

Govt-backed body NEAT invites edtech companies to be part of its platform

Given the learning experience of NEAT in the first phase, it has been decided that B2B mode is also required where larger number of edtech companies could participate and more courses are available on the platform.

<https://yourstory.com/2020/07/national-educational-alliance-of-technology-neat>

Tech Mahindra Rolls-out new AICTE Approved Post Graduate Program on Digital Transformation at JNEC

This interdisciplinary course is aimed at providing holistic training to the students by imparting skills in competencies around digital transformation and technologies and cultivating an environment of entrepreneurship and design-led thinking.

<https://www.dqindia.com/tech-mahindra-rolls-new-aicte-approved-post-graduate-program-digital-transformation-jnec/>

NEAT-AICTE Partners with EdTechStartup Skill-Lync to Provide Technical Training

In an attempt to ensure that there is no hiatus in student education during the ongoing lockdown, Govt of India's All India Council of Technical Education - NEAT announced partnership with Chennai based Edtechstartup Skill-Lync.

<https://www.theweek.in/wire-updates/business/2020/05/25/pwr4-skill-lync.html>

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International Updates

Massive online open courses see exponential growth during COVID-19 pandemic

Massive open online classes, or MOOCs, have seen a surge in enrollments since March. Enrollment at Coursera – an online platform that offers MOOCs, has skyrocketed and was 640% higher from mid-March to mid-April.

<https://bit.ly/2ZvesWI>

COVID-19: 20 countries' higher education intra-period digital pedagogy responses

The Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has created significant challenges for the global higher education community. The research paper provides a timely map of the intra-period higher education responses to COVID-19 across 20 countries.

<https://bit.ly/3hldkL5>

COVID-19 has accelerated the digital transformation of higher education

Taking advantage of the virus-induced virtual culture for universities will require both imaginative and creative implementation, as well as open leadership, and an innovative mentality, as we still have so much to learn about our disturbing and confusing short and mid-term future

<https://bit.ly/32p9P29>

'Students like the flexibility': why online universities are here to stay

The coronavirus pandemic has forced universities to rapidly shift online, and no date has been confirmed for campuses to reopen. With the second coronavirus peak projected to take place in autumn, many institutions are already planning to move at least their first semester online.

<https://bit.ly/2Zoztlu>

Global survey reflects changing opinion on value of degrees

Three out of four people believe education will fundamentally change due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the latest **Global Learner Survey** from Pearson has revealed, with the economic situation in many countries leading more and more people to upskill and reskill.

<https://thepienews.com/news/pearson-survey-global-opinion-changing/>

Mutant Algorithms are coming for your Education

The foibles of algorithms usually go unseen and undiscussed, because people lack the information and power they need to recognize and address them. When, for example, computers issue scores, often, nobody even tells them how it was calculated or how to compare it against a benchmark. This makes it difficult for them to identify one another, band together and complain – or to compel authorities to come in and fix things.

<https://bloom.bg/3mcaLP1>

Future Skills Assessment Report by IOE & Deloitte

The objective of the report is to present to you key findings and guidance on how to assess skills levels today and which skills to prepare for in the future from multiple organisations around the world. It is also to provide policy guidance to employer organisations to help them in their advocacy work on skills governance and skills development.

<https://bit.ly/3m8220t>



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FICCI Desk

Knowledge Paper



Online Education in India : Challenges & opportunities :

Events and Workshops

- Webinar Series on 'Higher Education in the New Reality: Online Teaching, Effective Leadership and Assessments to ensure quality education', with Pearl Academy , April 2020. Keynote by Prof Rajnish Jain, Secretary , UGC
- Webinar on 'Impact of Higher Education in Post-COVID Economy', keynote by Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways and MSME, with Upgrad, May 15, 2020.
- Webinars on Significance of Risk Management in Education curriculum, with Institute of Risk Management (IRM) India affiliate, April and June, 2020
- FICCI SRM Institute of Science and Technology Virtual Conference on '**The Emerging Economic Scenario : Identify and create competencies**', July 23, 2020. Inaugural Address by Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister for Commerce & Industry and Railway, GoI.
- FICCI Rajagiri Business School Webinar on '**Shift to Hybrid Learning Model: The New Normal for Education**'. Keynote by Prof Anil Sahasrabudhe, Chairman, AICTE, August 06, 2020
- Webinar on '**National Education Policy 2020 : The way forward**'. Key speakers : Dr K Kasturirangan, Chairman- Drafting Committee of NEP2020; Mr Amit Khare, Secretary-HE, Ministry of Education, GoI ; Dr D P Singh, Chairman, UGC ,August 17, 2020.

FICCI Future X Programs

- A 5-day Professional Development Program (PDP) for faculty members on online tools, virtual classrooms and pedagogies and assessments. Started in May 2020, six batches have been successfully conducted, with participation of more than 500 faculty members from 25 states across India.
- FICCI Leadership Development Program (LDP) for university/HEI leaders and administrators, on 'Leading through uncertain times', June 12-13, 2020
- A 5-day AICTE – FICCI Faculty Development Program on Artificial Intelligence , conducted under AICTE's ATAL initiative to orient and equip faculty members on thrust areas such as AI, IOT, Blockchain, AR/VR etc, June 15-19, 2020.

Upcoming Events

- FICCI Higher Education Summit, February 25- 27, 2021
- FICCI EdTech Conference and Exhibition
- FICCI Future X PDP batches (For details, write to us at ffx@ficci.com; call: 8377839488/9582584117)

Branding and Advertisement Opportunities

#Inaugural Price

Category	Offerings	Amount/Fee (Per edition)
Launch of a Program/Admission Announcements/Recruitments	Advertisement (half page/ full page)	Half Page Advertisement : INR 40,000 +GST Full Page Advertisement: INR 75000+GST
Launch of a Program/ Admission Announcements/Recruitments	Full page Advertorial (write up upto 250 words + half page advertisement)	Full page Advertorial: INR 1.1 lakhs+GST
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Announcement of Govt/Industry tie-up	Full page Advertorial (write up upto 250 words + half page advertisement)	Full page Advertorial: INR 1.1 lakhs+GST
Announcement of International Tie-ups	Advertisement (half page/ full page)	Half Page Advertisement : INR 40,000 +GST Full Page Advertisement: INR 75000+GST
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Showcasing of Institutional Achievement	Advertisement (half page/ full page)	Half Page Advertisement : INR 40,000 +GST Full Page Advertisement: INR 75000+GST
Showcasing of Institutional Achievement	Full page Advertorial (write up upto 250 words + half page advertisement)	Full page Advertorial: INR 1.1 lakhs+GST
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*subject to terms and conditions

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