

Nirantara — Karnataka's Statewide AI Facial-Recognition Attendance Rollout for 5.2 Million Students

AI in Education · Good practice · India

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Karnataka's education department is rolling out 'Nirantara,' an Aadhaar-linked facial-recognition attendance app, to 52,686 government/aided schools (5.2M+ students) after a 2025 pilot in Uttara Kannada. No independent accuracy or efficacy evaluation has yet been published.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of learning impact	0/3
Equity & inclusion	1/3
Transparency, ethics & data protection	1/3
Teacher capability & pedagogy	1/3
Scalability & sustainability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-18

[Department of School Education and Literacy, Government of Karnataka](#) — accessed 2026-07-18

[The South First: Karnataka to roll out AI-based facial recognition attendance in schools](#) — accessed 2026-07-18

[Asianet Newsable: Karnataka Government to Roll Out AI-Based Facial Recognition Attendance in Schools](#) — accessed 2026-07-18

[MobileIDWorld: Karnataka to Launch AI Facial Recognition Attendance System in Government Schools](#) — accessed 2026-07-18

[Varindia: AI-based facial recognition mobile app developed to capture attendance](#) — accessed 2026-07-18

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