

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Karnataka Regional Branch
Bengaluru

Reports of Branch Events

The **Karnataka Regional Branch** of the IIPA organized two lectures by **Prof. Karthik Muralidharan**, Tata Chancellor's Professor of Economics at University of California, San Diego, USA in Bengaluru, on his recent book, '*Accelerating India's Development: A State-Led Roadmap for Effective Governance*' (Penguin Random House, India, 2024).

As weak state capacity is a critical binding constraint to achieving national development goals, Prof. Muralidharan emphasized that investing in state capacity for better policy making, implementation and public service delivery should be top priority for India. Drawing on his research insights over the last two decades, Prof. Muralidharan identified politically feasible and practically implementable reform roadmaps in key sectors like education, health, police, justice, welfare and employment to sharply improve outcomes. He stated that the practical ideas in his book have been shaped and honed by over a decade of interactions with officials at the Planning Commission, NITI Ayog and in Finance and Line Departments in both Union and State Governments. His book provides a roadmap that combines idealism and pragmatism to build a better future for all Indians.

The first lecture was organized in collaboration with the **IAS Officers Association, Karnataka** on 5th August 2024. At this event, senior Civil Servants of Karnataka responded briefly to the sectoral issues raised by Prof. Muralidharan, They included Mr. D. Randeep, IAS, Dr. R. Vishal, IAS, Ms. B. B. Cauvery, IAS, Mr. T. K. Anil Kumar, IAS, Mr. Anuchet, IPS, and Ms. Priyanka Mary Francis, IAS. **Mr. T.M. Vijay Bhaskar**, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, IIPA-KRB chaired the lecture and Panel Discussion. Dr. R. Vishal, IAS coordinated the event.

Prof. Muralidharan's second lecture was organized at **Bangalore University (BU)** in collaboration with the **Departments of Political Science and Economics** on 7th August 2024. **Prof. S.Y Surendra Kumar**, Chairman of the Department of Political Science, BU welcomed the guests and audience. **Prof. S.R. Keshava**, Chairman of the Department of Economics, BU made some introductory remarks. **Mr. T.M. Vijay Bhaskar**, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, IIPA-KRB presided over the session. **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, Secretary, IIPA-KRB proposed a vote of thanks.

This event was followed by a **Luncheon Discussion** with Faculty of Public Policy/Political Science/Economics/Public Administration from Universities and colleges in Bangalore. Faculty from Dr. B.R. Ambedkar School of Economics University, R.V. University, St. Joseph's University, Christ University, MAHE-Bangalore and MS Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, as well as Faculty from affiliated colleges of Bangalore University, engaged with Prof. Muralidharan on the issues raised by him. **Prof. Sandeep Shastri**, National Coordinator of CSDS-Lok Niti was the Lead Discussant.

(Pic Below) Prof. Karthik Muralidharan at Bangalore University

