Views expressed by the contributors are personal and do not represent the views or position of the Editorial Board or the Executive Committee of the Branch.
Chief Editor

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<u>Contents</u>

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A Note from the Chief Editor

Shri S. Ramanathan, IAS (Retd.)
Chairman
Indian Institute of Public Administration
Karnataka Regional Branch, Bengaluru

I am happy to place before our readers the **September 2021** issue of our *Virtual Newsletter*. This is our **14th issue**, since we began this initiative. The discerning reader of the issue may notice an icon on the front page, just beneath the picture of the **Vidhana Soudha** in Bengaluru which is the seat of the Government of Karnataka. A double click on this icon will open a video revealing some facts about this iconic building, courtesy *Metro Saga.*

The *Lead Article*, this time, is by **Dr. V. Anil Kumar** of ISEC, Bengaluru. He highlights therein, the essence of his book, *Urban Governance and Local Democracy in South India.* This is followed by **Ms. Kathyayini Chamaraj**'s Note on the book. We then bring you a report of the **Virtual Book Discussion** on the same book, which was jointly organized by us, in collaboration with the **Institute for Social and Economic Change**, Bengaluru. We also bring you a **Book Review** of Dr. Anil Kumar's book by **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**

In our section on Policy Initiatives in Karnataka, we report on the news that **Bengaluru City Police** is set to launch a new Cyber Crime Report System, where victims would get immediate relief.

We carry a report of a discussion on *Civil Services Reforms in India*, which was part of the Public Lecture Series presented by **Azim Premji University**, in collaboration with **Bangalore International Centre**, on 3rd September 2021.

We also report on the inauguration of a new initiative in Bengaluru, led by **Dr. A. Ravindra**, IAS (Retd.), former Chief Secretary of Karnataka, and a distinguished Executive Committee member of our Branch, called, **V R 1 – *Towards Harmony and Hope.*** Its objectives are both impressive as well as laudatory.

I wish to add a disclaimer here that the views expressed by the contributors in this issue are personal and ***do not represent the views or position of the Editorial Board or the Executive Committee of the Branch***.

Do write in, with your responses, views and ideas for improvement of the Newsletter.
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Lead Article

Urban Governance and Local Democracy in South India
Some Reflections on my Book

Dr. Anil Kumar Vaddiraju
Asso. Professor and Head
Centre for Political Institutions, Governance and Development,
ISEC, Bengaluru

This book deals with urban governance and local democracy at the district level in South Indian states. The book's focus is on three aspects: urbanization in south Indian states; urban governance at the district level in these states; and local democracy. The theoretical approach adopted in the book is that of social capital. The argument of the book is that better social capital at the level of district level cities is helpful in two distinct senses: making governance work; and addressing communal cohesion. The methodological approach adopted in the book is that of comparative case study method. With these theoretical and methodological approaches, we studied the following cities in the four South Indian states: Dharwad and Udupi from Karnataka; Mahbubnagar and Kurnool from united Andhra Pradesh; and Salem from Tamil Nadu. The only state where we could not conduct district level case study was Kerala.

When we observe the urbanization of the four South Indian states, we find that the states of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh have high urban primacy. That is, the size of the first two cities, that is the capital cities, is many times more –often six to eight times—than the population size of the second level cities. This means there is an enormous urban concentration taking place in capital cities, defying spatial and social justice. This pattern of primate city development in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh is what Professor Amitabh Kundu has earlier called 'top heavy' urban development. The problem with top heavy urban development is that besides causing urban gridlock and congestion in the capital cities, it is also exclusionary urban development. This pattern of development excludes a large number of new aspirants to the cities, besides making urban living prohibitively costly. There is a nuance in the development of urbanization of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. While in Karnataka, it is largely the growth and development of the city of Bangalore that is prominent, in Andhra Pradesh, the other urban agglomerations too are growing. In Andhra Pradesh, the number of million-plus agglomerations has increased from 15 in 1991 to 58 in 2011. This growth might have been more that what is noticed by policy makers.

While the above is the story of urbanization in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, the pattern of the same in Tamil Nadu and Kerala is different. Tamil Nadu and Kerala do not have urban concentration and primate city development to the extent we find in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. For example, the three cities of Vellore, Coimbatore and Kancheepuram have population numbers equal to that of Chennai. Likewise, Kerala has the cities of Ernakulam and Kochi equivalent in size to that of Thiruvananthapuram. Also, we find that this pattern of distributed urban development is a product of policy design, at least in Tamil Nadu. And what is most important is that the development of second tier cities in Tamil Nadu is

accompanied by the development of manufacture and industry. This does not seem to be the case with the other South Indian states. The recent urbanization pattern of Kerala is however interesting. In Kerala during the period 2001-2011, there was a vast growth of Class III, IV and V towns, leading to thin urban spread. This is directly in contrast to the urban concentration we find in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. However, we find that the thin urban spread in Kerala too is a problem in the sense that such thin spread of small cities may not be of great help in economic development. Nevertheless, we find that the urban development pattern in Tamil Nadu and Kerala is more inclusive than that of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

While focusing on urban governance, this book argues that the preponderance of megacities in the urban development process leads to the neglect of the governance of district level cities; while at the same leading to the problems of governance in capital cities themselves. And at the district level cities themselves the urban governance is largely carried out by the Deputy Commissioner in Karnataka and Municipal Commissioner in Andhra Pradesh, leaving less room for elected representatives to operate. While discussing urban governance, this book concentrates on two basic aspects of service delivery in the district cities: drinking water and sanitation. The book finds that the provision of these two basic necessities is still largely problematic in district cities. Often the supply of drinking water is once in 4 to 5 days across the cities studied. And sanitation is a major problem in the sense that most district cities do not have complete coverage of underground drainage in the cities. Major parts of the cities have only over-ground drainage causing many problems of health for the local citizens.

This book also argues that urban local government and planning, even at the district level, is qualitatively different from rural local government and planning, in the sense that urban planning involves considerable technical knowledge. In that sense the district cities need town planning and city planning necessitating professionals with expertise in these areas. Currently there is an acute shortage of the town planners and city planners when we compare it with growth at the district level cities. What the district level cities need is better and more town planners and better and more urban governance.

Finally, while coming to the district level local democracy, this book observes that the social capital making the local government function better is found in a vibrant manner in Udupi rather than in Dharwad or Mahbubnagar or Kurnool, or even Salem. The point is that this may be because of the small size of the city or better quality of civic culture in Udupi. Whereas, we find the lack of such civic culture and public action oriented political culture in other cities. The book observes that local democracy is needed for asserting rights by ordinary people over urban commons, such as pavements, parks, libraries, green areas and even temples. Thus, the dwindling urban commons and the need to have democratic access to them is stressed in the book.

In the process of making the above arguments, the book argues that the usual suggestions made by economist for 'agglomeration benefits' because of urban concentration are wrong. The economic agglomeration benefits have a downside in terms of ungovernability. As the size of the cities grow tremendously, the governability of the cities becomes proportionately less. Therefore, primate city development is not only exclusionary, it also has negative implications for urban governance.

Finally, the book argues for better governance and basic service provision in district cities and more inclusive urbanization process. The book also argues that there are crucial policy lessons to be learnt from the urbanization process and urbanization policies of Southern Indian states for the rest of the country.

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Discussant's Note on
Urban Governance and Local Democracy in South India
Authored by Dr. Anil Kumar Vaddiraju

Kathyayini Chamaraj
Executive Trustee, CIVIC Bangalore

Whenever suggestions are made that rather than investing in high-end infrastructure in metropolises, the money should be invested in the Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, many officials have a standard reply: "*Investors, especially foreign ones, are keen to invest in Metros alone and are not interested in moving to other cities. Hence infrastructure has to be provided to them in the Metros to attract and retain them*". This is generally believed to be the path to development and creation of jobs. The book under discussion by Dr. Anil Kumar Vaddiraju, however, argues for the development of Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities in a decentralised and dispersed manner to make cities more governable.

Primate Cities *vs.* Dispersed Urban Development: The point is well taken by Dr. Anil Kumar that development of 'primate cities' – Bengaluru and Hyderabad – in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh has led to less development of other cities. But it is important to note that this has also led to less development of backward taluks in these States, fuelling intense migration of the rural poor to these primate cities in search of livelihood. This has, in turn, led to more and more money being spent in the primate cities on high-end infrastructure. For instance, Rs. I lakh crore is being spent in Bengaluru alone just for road infrastructure. In contrast, not even Rs. 2,000 crore is being spent annually on *Kalyana Karnataka* in Karnataka's budget of more than Rs. 2.4 lakh crore.

Dr. Anil Kumar makes the valid point that dispersed urban growth with shifting of industries to smaller cities makes their governance easier, creates employment for rural folk from surrounding areas, limits migration to primate cities and makes development more inclusive. However, one would have liked to see in the book an analysis of the budgets spent on the 'primate cities' of Bengaluru and Hyderabad and the rest of the States in Karnataka and Andhra, which would have lent greater support to this premise.

Question of Social Capital: Existence of better Social Capital, i.e., civil society organizations promoting social cohesion, religious and communal harmony, is being given in the book as the reason for better urban governance, with the example of Udupi, in contrast to Dharwad where there are insignificant signs of such social capital. But insufficient evidence is provided to show that religious and communal harmony will promote better delivery of urban governance, local democracy and civic services.

73rd CA has promoted Social Capital in Rural Areas: The book laments that inputs to district-level plans to be framed by the District Planning Committees (DPCs) are not coming from the cities within the district. But the book needed to sufficiently pinpoint the reason for this. It needs to be noted that inputs to district-level plans to be framed by the DPCs have to come through bottom-up planning at GP/Ward level, but inputs are coming only from rural areas, as grassroots local democracy is in place there. This is because the 73rd CA has platforms for local democracy (citizen participation) built into it, through Grama Sabhas in every Grama Panchayat, and the book also recognizes that. The book needed to note, however, that the presence of these forums at grassroots-level in rural areas has incentivized formation of Social Capital for better governance. With their experience in grassroots democracy, District and State-level Federations of Gram Panchayat Presidents, Federations of Elected Women Representatives of Panchayats, etc., have been formed. These negotiate with State governments for greater decentralization and devolution of powers as per the 73rd CA.

Birth Defect in 74th CA: In contrast, there was a birth defect in the formulation of the 74th CA which had no provision for Ward Sabhas, parallel to Grama Sabhas. Citizen participation platforms such as Ward Committees too were mandated only in cities with more than 3 lakh population. But these provisions have remained largely unimplemented. Lack of platforms such as Area Sabhas and non-implementation of Ward Committees for citizen engagement in many urban areas are the reason for lack of inputs from urban areas to DPCs. The book needed to delve more into these inadequacies.

Social Capital for Civic Governance: More than Social Capital for religious and communal harmony, as the book argues, civic issues would require *social cohesion, trust, and reciprocity* between upper class citizens and the marginalized - between urban upper classes and slum-dwellers, *pourakarmikas*, street vendors/informal workers/migrants, etc. - i.e., social cohesion overcoming class and caste divides, which would ensure more inclusive and equitable cities. Huge numbers of slums, garbage thrown everywhere by upper class residents, evictions of slums and street vendors, etc., show lack of social cohesion between upper and lower classes and castes. The book should have looked more into these actual barriers for inclusive cities.

Comparison of Extent of 74th CA Implementation Missing: Dr. Anil Kumar rightly recognizes that there is lack of bureaucratic and political will to empower local government, especially in urban areas. But one wishes the book had analyzed and compared the extent of implementation of 74th CA in each of the States/cities studied to demonstrate this: whether decentralization had been strengthened through holding of elections on time, devolution of 3Fs – funds, functions and functionaries – to urban local bodies, institutionalizing Ward Committees and Area Sabhas as formal structures for citizen participation, and extent of implementation of these provisions.

Need for Citizens' Assemblies at all Levels: A larger problem the book should have taken note of is that there are no platforms at city/district/state level for civil society organizations to engage with DPCs or State governments to discuss their overall plans for urban development. Mr. Arun Maira, former Planning Commission member, wrote recently about the "*Missing Middle*" – the need to build a middle layer of institutions for democratic deliberations amongst citizens for democratic governance – citizens' assemblies at city, district and state levels where views of common citizens are exchanged on overall plans.

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Overall, Dr. Anil Kumar has done a commendable job of bringing several issues regarding the skewed development of our cities to the forefront and given sound pointers on the direction that urban development should take.

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# IIPA-Karnataka Regional Branch Activities

Report of Virtual Book Discussion

The **Karnataka Regional Branch** of the **Indian Institute of Public Administration**, in collaboration with the **Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC)**, Bengaluru, organized a Virtual Book Discussion on the book authored by **Dr. Anil Kumar Vaddiraju** titled, '*Urban Governance and Local Democracy in South India*' (Routledge, London & New York, 2021), on 31st August 2021.

In his Introductory Remarks, **Dr. A. Ravindra**, IAS (Retd,), former Chief Secretary to the Government of Karnataka referred to the fast pace of urbanization in India and the accompanying distortion in its pattern. He expressed the need to evolve an integrated concept of Urban Governance, based upon economic, social, environmental and spatial planning.

Dr. Vaddiraju stated that his book is the first comprehensive volume that offers comparative frameworks on urban governance in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. He focused his attention on small district-level cities in these states, and raised several critical questions relating to the nature of decentralized urban planning, the big issues in urban local governance, the role of social capital, etc. While emphasizing the need for both efficient urban governance and effective local democracy to meet the challenges of urbanization in these states, the author drew important policy lessons from their respective processes of urbanization.

Ms. Kathyayini Chamaraj, Executive Trustee of CIVIC served as Discussant. **Dr. Kala Seetharam Sridhar**, Professor, Centre for Research in Urban Affairs, ISEC chaired and moderated the event. **Prof. D. Rajasekhar**, Director-in-Charge, ISEC, welcomed the speakers and participants. **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, Secretary, IIPA-KRB introduced the speakers. **Dr. M. Balasubramaniam**, Asst. Professor, Centre for Ecological Economics and Natural Resources, ISEC proposed a vote of thanks.

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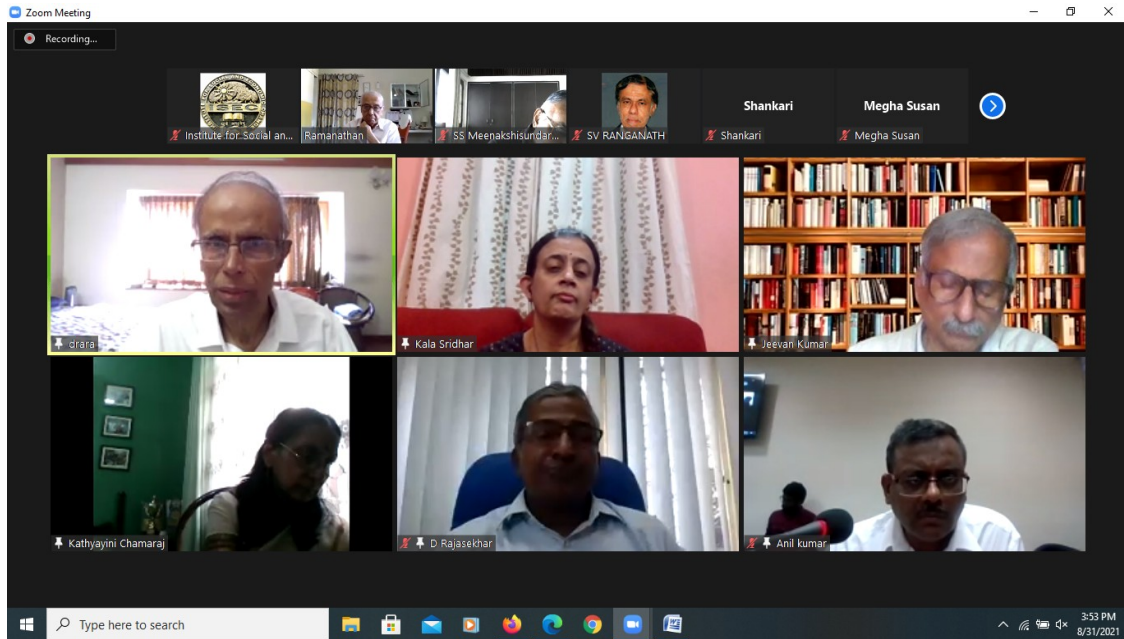
Book Review

Urban Governance in South India

D. Jeevan Kumar
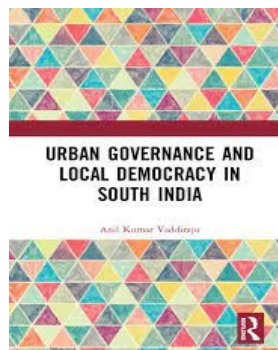
> *Urban Governance and Local Democracy in South India*
> **Anil Kumar Vaddiraju**
> Routledge, London and NY
> 2021
> Pp.112. Rs.695

The book under review examines critical issues related to decentralized urban governance and democracy in South India. Being perhaps the first comprehensive volume that offers comparative frameworks on urban governance in Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu and Kerala, the book focuses on small district-level cities and raises several critical questions relating to the nature of decentralized urban planning, the big issues in urban local governance, the role of social capital, etc. While emphasizing the need for both efficient urban governance and effective local democracy to meet the challenges of urbanization in these states, the author draws important policy lessons from their respective processes of urbanization.

In terms of theoretical framework, the book follows the Social Capital theory, popularized and developed by Robert Putnam, Michael Woolcock, Helen Sullivan and others. Their basic argument is that district-level cities, their governance and local democracy will be effective,

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if there is better social capital amongst their citizens, in terms of social cohesion, cooperation and harmony.

In terms of methodology, the book follows the approach developed by Rob Jenkins of comparing multiple states. While the 2011 census has been utilized for secondary data, primary data has been collected from fieldwork.

The volume is divided into five chapters. The Introduction and the second chapter deal with the *raison d'etre* of the book and an elaboration of concepts like local governance, local democracy and social capital. The third chapter focuses on Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. The fourth chapter looks at urbanization in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The last chapter summarizes the major findings of the study, discusses their major policy implications, and identifies areas for further research.

The book's major findings and conclusions may be summarized as follows:
1. The major consequence of the development of Primate Cities (like Bengaluru and Hyderabad) is that district-tier cities get neglected in governance.
2. The problem with excessive urban primacy is that Primate Cities become highly exclusionary for ordinary people, by radiating cultural and social hegemony.
3. Governance is a problem in Primate Cities; local democracy is far-fetched.

4. Better Social Capital – in terms of more cooperation among citizens amidst norms of trust and reciprocity – can ensure not only better local governance and local democracy, but also better religious and social harmony.
5. Sustainable urban living depends not only on economic, ecological and social sustainability, but also on Rule of Law and accountable and transparent governance.

The major policy implications that emerge from the study are as follows:
1. Correction of the spatial concentration of urban growth through dispersed urbanization will make the urbanization process inclusive, as well as spatially and socially just and equitable.
2. The infrastructure in district and taluk-level cities, especially in terms of basic needs like drinking water and sanitation is abysmal and needs improvement.
3. Smart City Missions and digital solutions through e-Governance cannot substitute for basic minimum infrastructure,

The author deserves to be commended for several reasons. In a slender volume, he surveys the scenario of urban governance across five South Indian states, focusing specifically on small district-level cities. He raises critical micro and macro issues, reaches well-argued findings and conclusions, and winds up with a set of policy recommendations. There is academic rigour in the work, in terms of theoretical framework of the Social Capital theory, and the utilization of comparative methodology to study urban local governance in the five South Indian states.

The volume, however, makes no claims to being the last word on the subject. Several areas have been identified for further research. They include an exploration of unequal urbanization in the other states in the country; a study of the differential growth trajectories of district-level and capital-level cities, a look at the status and growth of taluk-level towns; and a serious introspection on the prevalence (or absence) of an urban civil society.

A couple of perceptions of the author merits discussion. Regarding the role of Civil Society and Civil Society Organizations in both mobilizing the local population to cooperate with urban local bodies, as well as in ensuring their accountability, the author points to the non-existence or ineffectiveness of Civil Society. especially in smaller cities and towns. In his view, this is due to the *lack of Social Capital* in urban areas. He is convinced that "*Social Capital can ensure not only better local governance and local democracy, but also better religious and social harmony*" (p.72). While the argument is indeed thought-provoking, one wonders whether it provides the correct prescription to set things right, in the Indian context.

The talisman, in our view, lies not so much in the concept of Social Capital, but in *Civic Consciousness*. If the average Indian urban citizen today refuses to segregate household garbage at source or undertake rainwater harvesting, opt for public over private transport, understand the importance of '*Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Restore'*, and generally abide by civic rules and regulations, will the prevalence of *Social Capital* make him/her into a better urban citizen, or will *Civic Consciousness*? The latter concept is concrete and doable, and lends itself to a variety of methods to promote it, unlike the very abstract concept of *Social Capital.*

Shifting our gaze from Civil Society to Urban Local Administration, one is immediately confronted by limitations, some of which seem to have been overlooked by the author. It needs to be understood that Urban Governance is a specialized subject which requires to be handled by experts. But in a system which places generalists at the helm of affairs and where policies and decisions are based, not on Rational Choice but on Bounded Rationality, is it surprising that cities and towns are in a mess, thanks to *adhocism*, plus populism and corruption? It is not that experts and their reports are in short supply. It is the absence of both political and administrative will to do urban governance the *right* way, as suggested by urban experts and evangelists, that is responsible for the urban mess that we are in.

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Policy Initiatives – Karnataka

Bengaluru Police to Launch new Cyber Crime Report System
Victims to get Immediate Relief

Source: *The Indian Express* dt. 8th April 2021

According to Bengaluru City Police, financial fraud victims can launch a complaint on a call to the police who will work with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to freeze the beneficiary's account within the golden period of two hours.

The **Bengaluru City Police** are set to launch a new **Cybercrime Incident Report** (CIR) system soon, to focus mainly on financial fraud. According to Bengaluru City Police, financial fraud victims can launch a complaint by calling 112 and the case will be registered by cops as a Cybercrime Incident Report (CIR) and transferred to cybercrime officials in the CIR control room. The cops will then work with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to freeze the beneficiary's account within the golden period of two hours.

Mr. Kamal Pant, Bengaluru Police Commissioner said this system is the first in the country and a people-friendly system where the victims will get immediate relief from cybercrime cases, especially financial fraud. According to the senior police official, the Cybercrime Incident Report system, much like filing an FIR, is an information-based Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) mechanism being built for the police by a tech firm.

"*The system will alert banks and internet services within around two hours, the golden period, to block a transaction or a social media account reported to be linked to a cyber offence,*" said Mr. Pant. "*As per the prevailing rules, it is mandatory that you come and file a complaint in the police station and you have to sign the FIR. What we are proposing is that wherever a person is located and gets an intimation of an illegal financial transaction, then he can intimate us in real-time. The control room officials will then alert the nodal officers of concerned banks and service providers. The basic purpose would be to stop further transactions because we have a two-hour period to block and reverse transactions with banks. This is the basic objective,*" the Bengaluru Police Commissioner added.

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Civil Services Reforms in India

Video of the Public Lecture Series presented by Azim Premji University, in collaboration with Bangalore International Centre, on 3rd September 2021

As the Civil Services in India face new challenges with the changing political and technological environment, this discussion traces the historical evolution of the Civil Services, reforms undertaken at various stages in its history and its current status. The discussion also covers the relationship between the Civil Services and Good Governance.

| **Speakers** | **Moderator** |

C. K. Mathew
Former Chief Secretary,
Rajasthan
& Visiting Professor,
Azim Premji University,
Bengaluru

V. Srinivas
Additional Secretary
Dept. of Administrative
Reforms & Pub. Grievances, GoI
and Dir-Gen., National Centre of
Good Governance

Sitharamam Kakarala
Director
School of Public Policy
and Governance,
Azim Premji University
Bengaluru

Civil Services
Reforms in India-BIC-1

https://youtu.be/Tp90wEMJj7A

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V R 1 – *Towards Harmony and Hope*

**Inauguration of a New Initiative in Bengaluru,
led by Dr. A. Ravindra**, IAS (Retd.), **former Chief Secretary of Karnataka**

Under the initiative of **Dr. A. Ravindra**, IAS (Retd.), a new initiative called, *VR1 – Towards Harmony and Hope* was launched in Bengaluru on 4th September 2021, in the auditorium of BMS Law College. The **Chief Guest** at the inauguration was **Justice N. Santosh Hegde**, former Judge of the Supreme Court of India and former Lok Ayukta of Karnataka. The **Guests of Honour** were **Dr. Manasi Prasad**, Carnatic Vocalist and Director of Indian Musical Experience, and **Prof. Sudhir Krishnaswamy**, Vice-Chancellor of National Law School of India University. The event was presided by **Dr. Chandrashekara Kambara**, Jnanapeeth Awardee, Poet and Folklorist, and President, National Sahitya Akademi. The

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event was anchored by **Dr. Priyanca Mathur**, Member, VR1 and Associate Professor, JAIN University.

Seen above are (from L to R): **Dr. Anitha D'Souza** (Principal, BMS Law College), **Dr. Manasi Prasad**, **Dr. A. Ravindra**, **Justice Santosh Hegde**, **Dr. Chandrashekara Kambara**, **Prof. Sudhir Krishnaswamy** and **Dr. Priyanca Mathur**.

The links to a report of the event, as well as to a video recording, are given below:

- Photos: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1YnyJCLdnCWQqHf2hThKYm5rL1HTqUSy9?usp=sharing
- Video: https://drive.google.com/file/d/13KUucfn2URagTjbzfhWH5yUac7aMjYlY/view?usp=sharing

It was also covered by the media:

- Deccan Herald: https://www.deccanherald.com/city/selfish-greedy-ruling-class-driving-corruption-former-lokayukta-1027447.html
- Prajavani: https://epaper.prajavani.net/Home/ShareArticle?OrgId=598c298481
- The New Indian Express: https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/karnataka/2021/sep/05/politics-has-become-individual-centric-former-karnataka-lokayukta-justice-n-santhosh-hegde-2354548.html

 The **General Objective** of *VR1* it to *Foster Social Harmony* mainly by promoting constitutional values and human values, particularly amongst the youth. Its **Specific Objectives** are as follows:

1. Promote a meeting of minds through mutual respect for each other's views and preferences.
2. Encourage the spirit of questioning among youth.

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3. Draw inspiration from the Preamble of the Constitution and the cultural heritage of India as a guiding force.
4. Promote democratic vision and values.
5. Focus on issues, regardless of denominational identities.
6. Avoid binary of the discourse and concentrate on multi-class discourse.
7. Contribute to the solution of issues.
8. Develop scientific temper, humanism, spirit of enquiry and reform.

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Miscellany

BENGALURU BECOMES THE FIRST CITY IN INDIA TO GET AN ANTI-SPITTING LAW.

If you now decide to **SPIT** on the streets, you will be fined **Rs 1,000** and will have to spend a day performing community service at a public office or a Government office

For a second-time offender, the fine will be **Rs 3,000** plus three-day community service, and for repeat offenders the fine will be **Rs 5,000** plus five-day community service.

NO SPITTING

Feedback

Dear Sir,

Thank you very much for the August e-newsletter.

The Book Discussion on **Corruption** was very useful and thought provoking. Current issue aptly highlights the sorry state of Karnataka on corruption front. Many seminars/roundtables have been held in the past both under the aegis of IIPA as well as other institutions. The painful part is, we have known this scourge for many decades in which Politicians-Bureaucrats-Businesses are all direct partners/beneficiaries. But none has exercised his authority/courage to rise against it giving any lasting solution. Alas! Even Justice Hegde failed. The moot question is, what right do we have to teach our children ethics/values?

Warm regards,

Wg. Cdr. A. Raghunath (Retd)

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Dear Sir,

Thank you for placing me on your mailing list and sending me your newsletters.

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The focus of the latest issue is on **Corruption**. Can we continue talking about, without the possibilities to end it? I shall tell you about three incidents, which happened in the past few days. I have not been able to figure out, how to resolve them...

The first one is about a tree branch which cut the electric wires. The people who did not have power kept phoning. Nothing happened for two or three days. Then they went to the electricity office. I won't tell you the several trips they made to get the right person...and finally, when an offer of two thousand was made, they came and fixed it.

A restaurant had a serious problem with their daily garbage collection. They went to the BBMP official. Next day the collectors came and demanded money, saying that they have to give a cut to the lady at the BBMP office.

The third is a close friend, who went to get the FC for his two-wheeler, his only means of transport. Guess what happened?

These low officials have enormous powers with absolutely no accountability. If the bribe is not paid, there is no way anything will happen and people can go on calling...
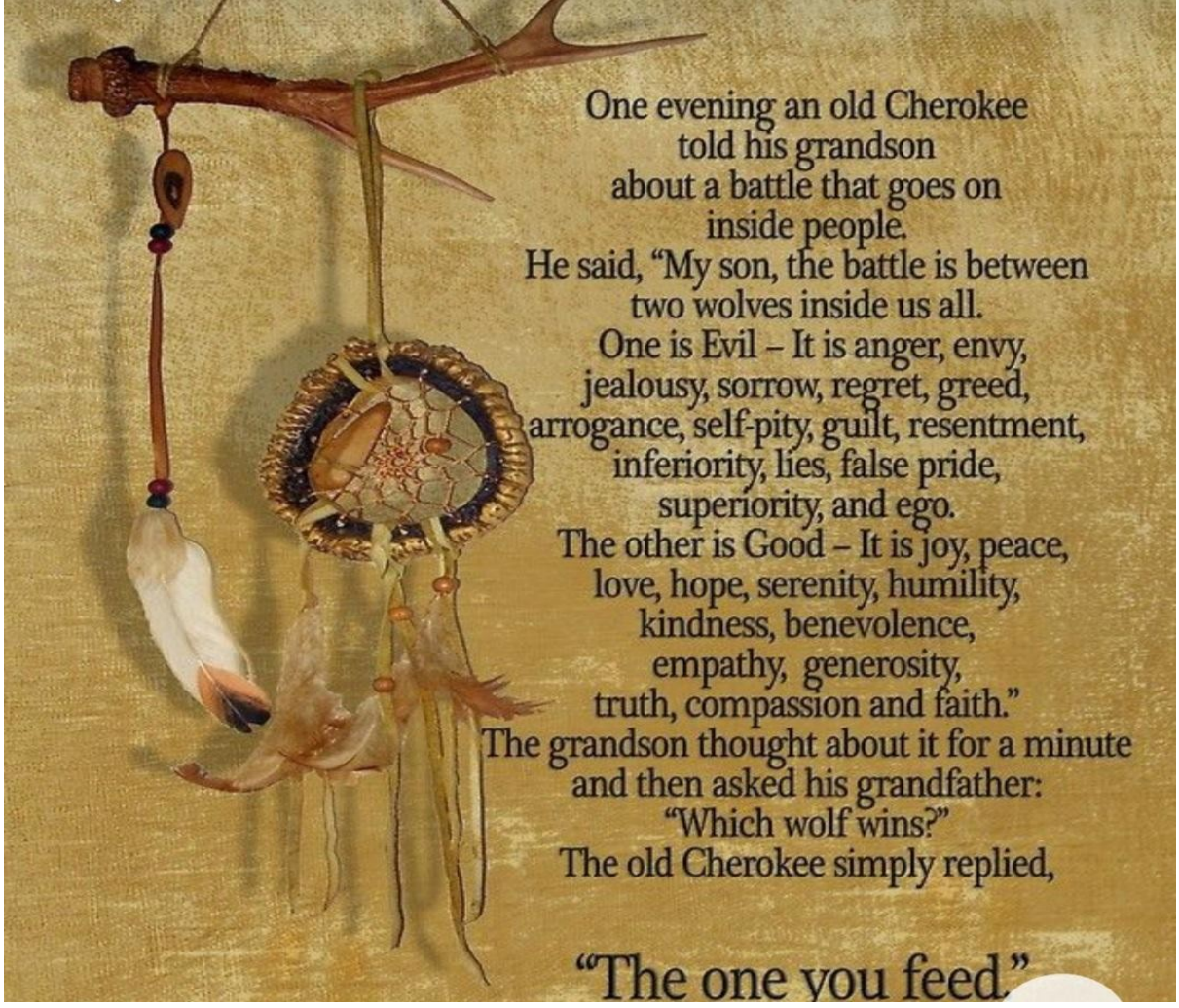
What's the way out?

With regards.

Hemachandra Basappa

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Food for Thought

One evening an old Cherokee
told his grandson
about a battle that goes on
inside people.
He said, "My son, the battle is between
two wolves inside us all.
One is Evil – It is anger, envy,
jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed,
arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment,
inferiority, lies, false pride,
superiority, and ego.
The other is Good – It is joy, peace,
love, hope, serenity, humility,
kindness, benevolence,
empathy, generosity,
truth, compassion and faith."
The grandson thought about it for a minute
and then asked his grandfather:
"Which wolf wins?"
The old Cherokee simply replied,

"The one you feed"

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IIPA-KRB Virtual Newsletter
ವಾಸ್ತವ ಸುದ್ದಿಪತ್ರ

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