



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Karnataka Regional Branch, Bengaluru

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Note: 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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Editorial Note



A Note from the Chief Editor



S.V. Ranganath, IAS (Retd.)

Former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka
Chairman, Indian Institute of Public Administration
– Karnataka Regional Branch

I am happy to place before our readers the **December 2022** issue of our *Virtual Newsletter*. This is our **29th** issue since we began this initiative.

Our **Lead Article**, this time, is by **Dr. S.S. Meenakshisundaram, IAS (Retd.)** on '*Panchayati Raj Institutions in Karnataka – Problems, Challenges and Prospects*'. He has summarized the essence of his **Keynote Address** delivered at a conference at the Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Research at Dharwad recently.

Our **Lead Feature** has been put together very ably by **Smt. Gunjan Krishna, IAS, Commissioner, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Karnataka** on the **Global Investors' Meet** hosted by Karnataka last month. *The Global Investors Meet has consolidated Karnataka's role as New India's Growth Driver*, she writes, based on the fact that **Invest Karnataka 2022** paved the way for Rs 9.82 lakh crore investment.

In our section on *Breaking News*, we report on Karnataka's flagship *Kutumba* (Family ID) project bagging a **National Award for E-Governance**. We are also proud of Karnataka having realized one of the **Sustainable Development Goals** regarding **MMR** (Maternal Mortality Ratio).

We carry a *Profile* of **Shri M. Madan Gopal, IAS (Retd.)** who is a proud recipient of the **Kannada Rajyotsava Award 2022**. In the section on *Gender Matters*, we reproduce a very perceptive article of **Dr. Debangana Chatterjee**, Faculty at Jain University, Bengaluru on the Shraddha Walkar Murder Case, which looks at the issue from a societal perspective.

In the *Diary of our Branch Activities*, we report on the **Lecture-Discussion** initiated by **Prof. Krishna Tummala**, Professor-Emeritus at Kansas State University, USA on '*Corruption in Government – Lessons Learnt and Missed*' at **BMS College of Law, Bengaluru** recently.

In the section on *IIPA-KRB EC Members in the Media*, we provide the links to Lead Articles penned by **Dr. A. Ravindra** and **Dr. Gurucharan Gollerkeri** in the popular media.

We end the issue, with columns on *Books, Feedback* and *Food for Thought*.

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.



Panchayati Raj Institutions in Karnataka: Problems, Challenges and Prospects

(Extracts from the Keynote Address delivered at CMDR, Dharwad on 15th November, 2022)



S.S. Meenakshisundaram
IAS(Retd.)

Panchayats were in existence in India long before the British came in. At the time of independence, Gandhiji strongly felt that Gram Swaraj should be the basic theme of the Indian Constitution. However, that was not agreed to by the Constitution makers and he could only succeed in getting an Article included in the Directive Principles of State Policy merely stating that the State shall take steps to organize Village Panchayats and enable them to function as units of self-government. Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) finally came into existence in the 1960s, following the recommendations of the Balwantrai Mehta committee and like all other States, Mysore State (as Karnataka was then called) also adopted the same.

The turning point in Karnataka's journey towards Panchayati Raj was the two-tier system of Mandal Panchayats and Zilla Parishads introduced by the Ramakrishna Hegde government in 1987. Prime Minister

Rajiv Gandhi who was very much impressed by the Karnataka model of governance introduced a Constitutional Amendment to bring in Panchayati Raj throughout the country. After several hiccups, an Amendment finally got passed to that effect in 1992, introducing a three-tier system of Panchayati Raj in India. We now have this system in place in Karnataka. I was fortunate to be a part of the team that introduced the two-tier system in Karnataka and also the team that was successful in getting the Constitution (73rd) Amendment through in the Parliament.

What were our dreams in 1987?

We hoped for a Gram Sabha in every village so that local aspirations could get articulated. We wanted the voices of women and weaker sections heard in the Panchayats, by reserving seats for them. Our other expectations were: devolution of adequate powers and functions to the PRIs; regular flow of funds including untied grants from the State to ensure financial independence of the PRIs; decentralized bottom-up planning; community participation in development; convergence, accountability and transparency at all levels of governance below the State; people-centred service delivery; a Service Commission to recruit functionaries exclusively for the PRIs; Nyaya Panchayats for decentralized delivery of justice and in the long run, establishment of a district government.

What have we achieved over the last 35 years?

Gram Sabhas are held, but the attendance and outcomes are poor. Reservations for women and weaker sections got enhanced, but their capacities remain weak. Activity mapping among different tiers of PRIs is done, but the tendency of the State is to take

away functions from the PRIs to themselves. Development Plans are prepared, but they are not linked to the District and State Plans. Constitution of a Service Commission for PRIs and Nyaya Panchayats are still being talked about and establishing district governments is not even a remote possibility.

On the positive side, PRIs have come to stay in Karnataka, at least as a delivery mechanism for development, though not as institutions for self-governance. The recent Karnataka Gram Swaraj and Panchayati Raj Act which came into being following the recommendations made by the Ramesh Kumar Committee however offers some hope for rural self-governance in Karnataka.

Our Problems

Heavy investments are being made through Centrally-Sponsored Schemes largely in areas assigned to the Panchayats under the Eleventh Schedule of the Constitution. Parallel bodies continue to get created to implement them, independent of the PRIs. The functions assigned to the PRIs get truncated and the functionaries who are deputed from the State do not have any loyalty to the institutions they serve. Politicians and the bureaucrats continue to feel that PRIs will take away their powers and remain, by and large, hostile to decentralization. In general, one can easily observe complete absence of political will as well as public demand to strengthen PRIs in Karnataka.

What are the Key Challenges?

The first major challenge is the prevalent political environment in the State. Weak Governments at the State-level totally dependent on the MLAs who do not wish to share power with the PRIs will not be able to empower PRIs. The second major

challenge is the reported high level of corruption in Karnataka which is resulting in people losing their faith in governance itself. The other challenges include lack of adequate data and resources at Panchayat levels to facilitate bottom-up planning, inadequate capacities among the elected representatives, particularly from the weaker sections and women as well as the bureaucracy at the Gram Panchayat level, and the declining enthusiasm among the elected representatives themselves, particularly at the intermediate level.

The Prospects

Despite several hurdles and within the mandate given to them by the State Government, PRIs have done well in several parts of Karnataka and have become an inseparable part of Development Administration. Thirty-five years is not a long period in the history of a State and course corrections are always possible to strengthen the first tier of our federal structure. At the Panchayat level, we need to conduct Gram Sabhas regularly, make them meaningful through data collection and social audit. Panchayats should be empowered to carry out simple regulatory functions like issue of birth, death, marriage and caste certificates so that people will find a visit to their Panchayat useful. Managing natural resources has to be made the responsibility of the PRIs as envisaged in the Constitution and Panchayats should become local production centres. Decentralized bottom-up planning has to be effectively enforced starting with a Gram Panchayat Development Plan. In effect, Panchayats should become institutions of governance and not merely of development.

At the State level, the Government has to exhibit a clear will to strengthen the PRIs and send a clear message to that effect to all the other State actors. The State can:

promote competitive functioning among the PRIs by suitably rewarding well-functioning Panchayats; provide more and more untied funds to the PRIs; avoid creating parallel bodies and provide linkages between them and the PRIs, if they are already in existence; amend all the State enactments to fall in line with the concept of decentralization; plan and implement programmes for capacity building of the elected representatives including Information Technology and activate the State Development Council to provide an institutional mechanism for the PRIs to get their grievances redressed. Those of us who are committed to the concept of decentralization and the PRIs need to strive hard and make decentralization a people's movement and not another centrally sponsored scheme.

Global Investors Meet consolidates Karnataka's Role as New India's Growth Driver

Invest Karnataka 2022 paved the way for Rs 9.82 lakh crore investment



Gunjan Krishna, IAS

Commissioner, Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Karnataka

The 3-day **Global Investors Meet** at Bangalore Palace in Bengaluru in November 2022 saw Brand Karnataka taking the centre stage as a pioneer in India's post-Covid growth recovery.



Inaugurated by the **Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi** virtually, the event culminated with the valedictory session in which **Chief Minister Basavaraj S. Bommai** reassured investors from across the world of sustained support by his government.

Investments totalling about **Rs.9.82 lakh crore** have been committed in diverse sectors in the state.

This GIM was different from other such Investor Meets as the same has been organized during challenging times and has succeeded in showing the way forward. What Karnataka thinks today, India thinks tomorrow. Karnataka will work with the investors shoulder to shoulder to make all the investments fructify on the ground.

'*Invest Karnataka*' has laid a strong foundation for the development of Karnataka in the next five years. The state has met the core objective of this GIM, which is to bring in investments in diverse sectors and create jobs, and take industries beyond Bengaluru.

Besides Chief Minister Basavaraj S Bommai and Karnataka Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot, Minister of Large and Medium Industries Dr. Murugesh Nirani, along with Union Cabinet Ministers like Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman; Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution and

Textiles Minister Piyush Goyal; Parliamentary Affairs, Coal and Mines Minister Prahlad Joshi; Minister of State for Skill Development and entrepreneurship and Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrashekhkar addressed the participants in the inaugural session.

The valedictory session was attended by Bhagwanth Khuba, Union Minister of State for New and Renewable Energy, Chemicals & Fertilizers, along with Karnataka's Minister for Large and Medium Industries Dr. Murugesh R. Nirani, Minister for Energy & Kannada and Culture V Sunil Kumar and Chief Secretary Vandita Sharma, Additional Chief Secretary to Industries Department, Dr. E.V. Ramana Reddy, and Ms. Gunjan Krishna, Commissioner for Industrial Development.

Among top industrialists, Chairman of Jindal Group, Sajjan Jindal; Vice-Chairman, of Toyota Kirloskar Motor Pvt. Ltd, Vikram S Kirloskar; Chairman, Wipro, Rishad Premji; Vice Chairman, Bharti Enterprises, Rajan Bharti Mitta; CEO, Adani Ports and SEZ, Karan Adani and MD, Sterlite Power, Pratik Agarwal shared their experience in Karnataka and expressed continued interest in the state.

The Global Investors Meet witnessed **30+ immersive sessions** spread across three days. These sessions were a mix of innovative formats such as panel discussions, fireside chats, and Ted-style talks.

In addition to the speaker sessions, a number of **networking events, cultural performances, business exhibitions (with 300+ exhibitors), and country sessions** ran parallelly across the 3 days. The country sessions were hosted by partner countries -- **France, Germany,**

Netherlands, South Korea, Japan, and Australia.

Taking Businesses beyond Bengaluru

Expressing happiness over businesses going beyond Bengaluru, Minister for Large and Medium Industries, Dr. Murugesh Nirani said *“Our aim is the overall development of the state and I am glad that more than 90% of these investments are going beyond Bengaluru. We are also promoting the ‘One District One Product’ initiative to promote industries across the State. We will improve waterway, airway, railway, and roadway connectivity in a big way. There are eight airports that are operational in the State and three more will come up soon,”* added Nirani.

The energy sector received a major chunk of investments indicating the government's thrust on the production of alternative energy sources such as green hydrogen, green ammonia, wind, and solar which are crucial for future development. The state promised to extend all the cooperation and necessary help to investors to implement their projects. Government agencies along with nodal officers will help the investors and address their grievances. The state will also provide necessary infrastructure facilities, water, power supply, and highly skilled manpower to the investors.

‘Beyond Bengaluru’ policy aims for holistic development of the State. In order to avoid the concentration of industries in Bangalore, the government is planning to expand them to Tier Two and Tier Three cities as well. The emphasis is to create an industrial ecosystem beyond Bangalore and local job creation.

To focus on the growth of tier 2 and 3 cities, the government has launched programs like ‘*Beyond Bengaluru*’. The ‘*Beyond Bengaluru*’ initiatives are aimed at promoting industries across the state and especially backward regions in North Karnataka. A slew of green energy projects was announced recently in Mangaluru. The semiconductor manufacturing industry in Mysore and Tumkur, the toy industries in Koppal, textile and jewellery manufacturing in Kalburgi, and foundry industries in Belagavi, and so on will spur industrial growth and create huge job opportunities in this region.

GIM Highlights

This edition of GIM was conceptualized under the theme *Build for the World* reflecting on the role Karnataka aims to play in the global supply chain.

The key topics addressed during the event revolved around the sub-themes of **innovation, sustainability, equity, and resilience**.

- The Meet - a 3-day event comprised of **speaker sessions** and **networking opportunities (B2B and B2G)**. To give a more holistic experience, there were curated cultural experiences too.
- Additionally, this edition hosted a Global Start-up Challenge – **VentuRISE** which was open for start-ups working in manufacturing and sustainability sectors from across the world to participate.
- **VentuRISE** received 1200+ applications and the announcement of the winners of the Challenge was done at the Global Investors Meet.

- The cash prize pool for the winning start-ups was **USD 100,000**. In addition, there were also networking sessions and mentorship sessions planned for the top 10 finalists in the challenge at the Meet.
- The event was kick-started by an **inaugural ceremony** on **2nd November** which included an investment announcement session for all the investments realized and MoUs signed.
- The inaugural ceremony was followed by **10-12 immersive sessions** spread across the 2.5 days. These sessions were a mix of innovative formats such as panel discussions, fireside chats, Ted-style talks, etc.
- In addition to the speaker sessions, a number of **networking events, business exhibitions, and country sessions** ran parallelly across the 3 days.
- The country sessions were hosted by the partner countries which brought in **high-level ministerial and industrial delegations** from their respective countries for the same.
- 6 countries (**France, Germany, Netherlands, South Korea, Japan, and Australia**) had been onboarded as **country partners**.
- Given that the event had delegates from across the world, it was a great opportunity to showcase the rich culture and heritage of Karnataka and India.
- There was a musical performance by the **two-time Grammy award**

winner – Ricky Kej on the evening of Day 1 (2nd Nov).

- There was an immersive **Drum Circle** show by **Vasundhara Das** in the afternoon of Day 2 (3rd November) followed by a classical dance performance of *Yakshagaana* and a performance of *Jugalbandi* of Carnatic and Hindustani music by celebrated artists.
- To showcase the evolution of art forms in Karnataka, there was also a dedicated exhibition at the **National Gallery of Modern Art**, Bengaluru bringing in paintings and artifacts from museums and galleries across all parts of Karnataka.
- To showcase the traditional handicrafts of Karnataka there was an exhibition for Handlooms, Textiles, and Handicrafts at Karnataka Chitrakala Parishad. Additionally, curated tourism trails in Karnataka, food festivals, wine-tasting sessions, golf tournaments, and heritage walks were organized.



Breaking News

Kutumba Project wins National Award for E-Governance



Karnataka's flagship *Kutumba* (Family ID) project has bagged the **National Award for E-Governance**. (*Deccan Herald* dt. 29th November 2022)

Kutumba won the **Silver Award** for '*Excellence in Government Process Re-engineering for Digital Transformation*' under the 'State/UT Level Initiatives' category. Uttar Pradesh's 'Mine Mitra' bagged the Gold Award.

Under the *Kutumba* Project, a unique identification has been assigned to 5.5 crore Karnataka citizens belonging to 1.6 crore households. The Kutumba ID can be used to fetch data – caste, income, landholding, etc. – to determine a citizen's eligibility for

a government programme, without having to submit documents.

Kutumba is already linked to the Department of Education's database as well as the Farmer Registration and Unified Beneficiary Information System (FRUITS) that has details of 7 million farmers. **Kutumba** also talks to databases of ration cards and caste and income certificates, making it a data treasure trove.

According to **E-Governance Secretary, V. Ponnuraj**, the Government of India has asked Karnataka to help other States in building a system similar to **Kutumba**.

Kutumba is an Entitlement Management System which is being developed into an Integrated Social Information System (ISIS) which consists of a social registry, integrated beneficiary management systems, beneficiary registry, payment platform and a grievance redressal system. The project aims to achieve *suo-moto* delivery of benefits and services by checking entitlement, identifying eligible

residents and thereafter sanction/approve the service or scheme.

Kutumba uses the data as available in various department databases. **Kutumba ID** will enable residents to check their entitlement and eligibility and apply for schemes. **Kutumba ID** when provided will fetch the data for eligibility criteria like caste, income certificate, land holding, specially-abled attribute, etc., without the requirement of submission of documents or the registration numbers. This simplifies the process of application for the residents.

Kutumba Project aims to provide unique identity to resident families of Karnataka and serve as a repository of the resident attributes to enable them to avail seamless services and benefits from Government of Karnataka. **Kutumba** Project is implemented by the Centre for e-Governance, Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms (e-Governance), Government of Karnataka.

Media Box



Karnataka Achieves Sustainable Development Goal Target

Thursday, December 1, 2022
BENGALURU
The Hindu
Bengaluru

State's MMR reduces to 69 per lakh live births

State achieves Sustainable Development Goal target set by the United Nations ahead of schedule. Karnataka's MMR, however, continues to be the highest among the five southern States

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Karnataka's Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has declined by 14 points from 83 per lakh live births in 2017-18 to 69 in 2018-20, indicating that the number of women dying during childbirth has come down significantly.

With this, Karnataka is one of the eight States in the country that have achieved the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target much ahead of schedule. In terms of percentage, the State's MMR has dropped by 16.9%.

The United Nations had set the SDG target of reaching an MMR of 70 per lakh live births by 2030. This target had been fixed as a mark of improved health outcomes for the developing world.

The MMR is a significant indicator that defines the public health of a State. It

MMR trend

Year	MMR (per lakh live births)
2011-13	133*
2014-16	108
2015-17	97
2016-18	83
2017-19	83
2018-20	69

per lakh live births

Maternal Mortality Ratio determines the progress made by States in saving the lives of women during pregnancy, childbirth, and lactation. FILE PHOTO

Registrar-General of India on Tuesday, Karnataka's MMR continues to be the highest among the five southern States. The decline in Karnataka is the fourth highest after Kerala, Telangana, and Andhra Pradesh, among the five southern States.

While Kerala tops the list with the lowest MMR - 19 per lakh live births, Assam has the highest at 195.

Attributing the decline in the MMR to the collective efforts of health workers, Rajkumar N., State Deputy Director (Maternal Health), told *The Hindu* that 85 out of the 124 high-delivery load facilities are LaQshya certified now. LaQshya is a programme aimed at improving the quality of labour and operation theatre services.

Dr. Rajkumar said, "Our biggest challenge is to make all the 147 taluk hospitals functional round the clock for maternity services, including caesarean services. Efforts are being made to address issues in Dharwad, Ramanagaram, Kodagu, Yadgir, Kalaburagi, Davangere, Bidar, Shivamogga, Raichur, and Chickballapur where maternal mortality is high."

Profile

Profile of Mr. Madan Gopal, IAS (Retd.) who received the prestigious Rajyotsava Award 2022



M. Madan Gopal, IAS (Retd.), former Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Forests, Environment and Ecology, Government of Karnataka, has a Master's Degree in Commerce and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Journalism. He was selected into the Indian Administrative Service in 1984 and placed in Karnataka Cadre. He started his career as Asst. Commissioner and Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Nanjangud, in Mysore District. During his more than 3 decades of service in Karnataka and with Govt of India, he has served in many Departments including Health and Family Welfare, Higher Education, Food and Civil Supplies, Tourism, Coal and Mines, Forest, Environment and Ecology, Water Resources, Mines and Geology, Deputy Commissioner for Bijapur and Gulbarga. He also served as Executive Director for World Bank funded Jala Samvardhane Yojana, (Integrated Tank Development Project), Commissioner for Public Instruction, Bangalore and Registrar, Central University of Hyderabad.

He has attended various workshops and seminars at national and international level as a Resource Person on Community Mobilization, Non-formal Education, Health, Rural Development, Empowerment and other related issues. He is also a Visiting Professor for International Institute on Chronic Hypoxia, La Paz, Bolivia.

He is Life Member of IIPA, New Delhi, ASCI, Hyderabad, Bangalore International Centre and Sri Ramana Maharshi Centre for Learning, Bangalore. He has published two books and presented papers at national and international forums. He has visited several (60+) countries to attend seminars and workshops and also as part of the Study Teams on various development and educational issues. His hobbies include Travelling, Reading, Mountaineering and Photography. He is presently heading the NEP (National Education Policy 2020) Implementation Task Force, School Education, Karnataka and also Karnataka Ecotourism Development Board. NHRC (National Human Rights Commission) recently designated him as Special Rapporteur for Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

In the light of his yeoman public service, the Government of Karnataka conferred on Mr. Madan Gopal the **Rajyostava Award** for the year **2022**.

Gender Matters

Shraddha Walkar Murder Case *Let's not Blame the Victim, but Focus on Society*



Debangana Chatterjee
Assistant Professor, Centre for Research in
Social Sciences and Education,
JAIN (Deemed-to-be University),
Bengaluru

(First published in *Moneycontrol.com* on
22nd November 2022)

In a social environment, where women's access is already limited, existing misogynistic narratives are adding more fire to it by erecting the biggest shackle for women — hindering them from realising their potential, both, educational and economic.

A crime has been committed. A woman is dead. The gory details are out, narratives spun daily, along with endless debates over women's choices which further jeopardise independent women's socio-economic standing. This roughly captures the popular discourse around the Shraddha Walkar murder case in Delhi.

The preliminary police report suggests the perpetration of the treacherous crime by her live-in partner, Aftab Poonawala. The accused's religion did trigger the usual gibberish. After the cacophony around that absurdity, the word 'live-in' has grabbed the attention, while the crime itself is not the focal point.

Despite court precedents holding live-in relationships permissible, the social stigma attached to it continues. The purgatory of social judgement women face for choosing to be in live-in relationships, further narrows the possibility of their access to legal remedies in case of violence. However, let's not forget that intimate partner violence or domestic violence, which led to the above murder, is not just confined to live-in partnerships. It, in fact, is most common in the institutionalised relationship of marriage.

Where we stand now, narratives are spun, conveniently pinning the blame on live-in relationships — derivative of vicious moral policing prevalent on women, stemming from a shallow interpretation of Indian culture. This reinforces the culture of victim-blaming, where women are held responsible for being attacked. What's lost is that the narratives themselves are a form of sociocultural hostility meted out to women.

Paradoxically, marriage, despite the thousands of dowry deaths yearly in India, continues to enjoy the status of being sacrosanct. The National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) in 2021 explicitly mentions 'cruelty by the husband' being the most prevalent form of violence against women in India. Therefore, stigmatising live-in relationships for this crime can be called ignorant, at best, and caustic at worst.

The infamous Tandoor Murder in the 1990s, which bears uncanny similarities to this 'fridge murder' now, involved a married couple. In intimate partner relationships — irrespective of them being live-in, marital, casual or open — women are subjected to violence of various forms and intensity.

Then comes those seemingly well-meant concerns about women's safety. Under the garb of its benevolence, these protective

concerns are wrapped in patriarchy. Protection is accorded at the cost of women's mobility, and independent choices. As if the morality-driven choices offered are their *Laxman Rekha* (protective boundaries), and choosing to cross the line would invariably land them in trouble.

Reports indicate Walkar could have been enduring an abusive relationship. The 'choice', the operative word here, runs on a tricky plane. Do women choose to be violated? No. An emphatic *No*. Do women choose to endure? Yes.

But, why do they do so? Why cannot an independent woman fight back? The answer lies in the existing social structure ridden with misogyny. Despite being economically self-reliant, which often defines the mainstream understanding of women's independence, women are often socially ostracised for making their choices without their parents, and crossing the boundaries set by the family structure.

When abused and away from the paternal home, often women withdraw themselves for making a wrong 'choice'. No corrective measure seems viable as the blame falls on her. The abuser goes scot-free, and the sufferer continues to suffer — family, society, and the world at large turn a blind eye. Till one day everyone's conscience is pricked by an unbearable tragedy.

The repercussion of the ongoing narratives will reflect in the socio-economic realities of the aspiring, independent women in India. It is no secret that single urban women in India often find it difficult to rent a house, and live independently, because of their 'single' status. Landlords are prone to seek families as tenants: what if the single woman transgresses her limits of singleness? In a social environment, where women's access is already limited, these narratives are adding more fire to it by erecting the biggest shackle for women — hindering them from realising their potential, both, educational and economic.

It is a clear case of potential human resources for the country stagnating in 'protection' — a grievous form of injustice.

This crime could have been averted, had the social reaction towards Walkar's life choices were not a matter of immediate judgement and disapproval. While this is a treacherous crime and cannot be loathed enough, the biggest culprit may be society's unreasonable expectations and impositions rooted in misogyny. Sadly, those haunt Shraddha Walkar even in death.

URL:

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/opinion/shraddha-walkar-murder-case-lets-not-blame-the-victim-but-focus-on-society-9578251.html>



IIPA-KRB: Diary of Regional Branch Activities

Report of Event

The **Karnataka Regional Branch** of the IIPA, in association with **BMS College of Law**, Bengaluru organized a Lecture-Discussion on '*Corruption in Government – Lessons Learnt and Missed*' by **Prof. Krishna Tummala**, Professor-Emeritus at Kansas State University, USA on 30th November 2022. Apart from being the recipient of several prestigious awards which include the **Fred Riggs Award for Lifetime Scholarly Achievement** and a **Fulbright Fellowship**, Prof. Krishna is also a recipient of IIPA's **Paul Appleby Award** in 2011. He is currently in India, delivering lectures and participating in academic programmes.

Prof. Krishna Tummala spoke of the many dimensions of corruption around the world, originating from either need or greed. While there is no silver bullet to kill corruption, it needs to be understood in terms of culture and context. Corruption is endemic because it is basically a societal issue, requiring systemic change. He wanted the youth to do their bit to curb the evil.

Mr. S.V. Ranganath, IAS (Retd.), Chairman of the Branch, felt that corruption could be curbed by limiting the scope of government intervention to critical and essential matters like promotion of common public good, addressing information asymmetry, curbing monopoly and oligopoly and the like. All other activities could be outsourced to the market. In his view, it was low state capacity, couple with high coercion that led to corruption. He

recommended Kaizen-type administrative reform, which emphasizes sustainable, continuous and incremental improvements in the system.

Dr. Anitha D'Souza, Principal of BMS College of Law welcomed the dignitaries. **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar** of IIPA-KRB proposed a vote of thanks. The occasion was graced by **Mr. T.M. Vijay Bhaskar**, IAS (Retd.), former Chief Secretary of Karnataka and the current Chairman of Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission-2.





IIPA-KRB EC Members in the Media

Lessons from Indonesia
Indonesia seems to have found a way out of dealing with conflicts within Islam



A. Ravindra, IAS (Retd.) Chairman, Public Affairs Foundation, Bengaluru

Recent public discourses and writings in India are dominated by the use of two words: “Constitution” and “religion”. Those who swear by the Constitution declare it a secular document and emphasise its provisions relating to

freedom to profess, practice, and propagate one’s religion and the State’s duty not to discriminate on grounds of religion.

Lead Article in **Deccan Herald** dt. 14 November 2022

Read more at:

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/comment/lessons-from-indonesia-1162048.html>

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The Silence of the Lambs
How might we respond to this moral hollowness that characterises our modern society?



Gurucharan Gollerkeri, IAS (Retd.)
 Director, Public Affairs Centre, Bengaluru

The demonic killing of Shraddha Walkar is yet another chilling reminder of Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) that foreshadows some of the major moral concerns of our society. A society in which the woman is marked both by the kind of bleak continuity that Shakespeare’s Macbeth experiences as his doom approaches, “numbers of tomorrows just all in a line, that, all seem very fierce and cruel”; and the processes of technological change, represented by

online dating sites and rampant digital social media.

Lead Article in *Deccan Herald*, Bengaluru dt. 30 November 2022

Read more at:

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/main-article/the-silence-of-the-lambs-1166920.html>

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A Book Discussion on *Discovering New India*, edited by Dr. A. Ravindra and Dr. Priyanca Mathur was held at St. Joseph's University, Bengaluru on 14th November 2022.



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Books:

In this new book authored by Dr. Meera Chakravorty, **Prof. Subhash Sharma**, Life Member of IIPA figures among the reputed thinkers of Business and Management.



Dr. Subhash Sharma is a leading Indian Management thinker and author of well-known creative and thought-provoking books such as *Creation from Shunya*, *Management in New Age: Western Windows Eastern Door*, *Quantum Rope: Science, Mysticism & Management*, *New Mantras in Corporate Corridors*, *New Earth Sastra and Wisdom & Consciousness from the East: Life, Living & Leadership* (French translation, *Leadership Par La Sagesse & La Conscience*). His academic contributions have been acknowledged as 'creative and original' with 'quite a few exciting, non-traditional and revolutionary points of view' (Business Standard).

He has also made significant contributions to institution building. He is founding member of WISDOM (Women's Institute for Studies in Development Oriented Management), Banasthali University, Banasthali, Founding Director, Indian Institute of Plantation Management, Bangalore and is currently Director, Indus Business Academy (IBA), Bangalore.

As an Innovative Experimenter, **Prof. Subhash Sharma** has been experimenting with innovative approaches to teaching and learning such as the idea of Poetic methodology to teach management and leadership concepts through his well-known 'Corporate Rhymes' and 3D (Discussion, Dialogue and Discourse) model of learning. His innovations have drawn print and Television media attention.

He is recipient of excellence, achievement and leadership awards for his significant contributions to management and social thought.



Feedback

Dear Sir,
Thank you very much for the virtual newsletter of November 2022. The newsletter as usual makes interesting reading. The Public Affairs Index covered in the newsletter throws up many interesting statistics. In any assessment of performance of any organisation, irrespective of whether it is a for-profit organisation or otherwise, the outcome of assessment will be rendered non-productive, unless it throws light on the ultimate stakeholders' perceptions of the organisation being evaluated. This is the global practice; we tend to ignore this vital aspect and tend to gloss over the inputs expended and the results as seen by the agency controlling the resources and distribution. I hope you will be able to drive home this aspect in all future evaluation of performance of Government agencies.

Wg. Cdr. A. Raghunath

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Dear Sir,
Thank you for sharing the virtual newsletter of November 2022 and for carrying my letter in the Feedback column. In the current issue, PAI 2022 article is very informative. My personal compliments to members of the media and various award winners. I was associated with Mr. Madan Gopal when he was Director of Adult Education in the mid-1980s and later I met him during his tenure in Kalburgi. He fully deserves the *Rajyotsava Award 2022*.

Dr. Suresh Kishanrao



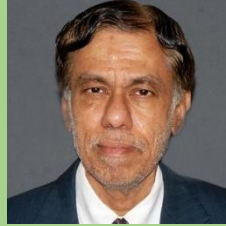
**IT'S NOT ONLY WHAT WE
DO, BUT ALSO WHAT WE
DO NOT DO, FOR WHICH
WE ARE ACCOUNTABLE.**



IIPA-KRB Virtual Newsletter



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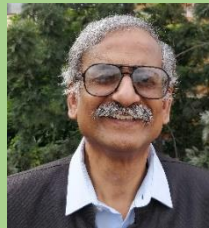
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Editor

Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar



Dr. Priyanca Mathur

Feedback/Contributions/Ideas/Book Reviews/Report Summaries may kindly be mailed to:
iipakrb.bangalore@gmail.com with a copy to jeeves0607@yahoo.com



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