



**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Karnataka Regional Branch, Bengaluru**

ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಡಳಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ಶಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

Virtual Newsletter
ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಸುದ್ದಿಪತ್ರ

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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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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 **October 2022** issue of our *Virtual Newsletter*. This is our **27th** issue since we began this initiative.

This being the **Gandhi Jayanti** month, the **Lead Article** is on Mahatma Gandhi. According to our Editor, **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, *'The Gandhian Manifesto for Sustainable Development represents a crucial way forward in advancing a revised and reformed project of Sustainable Development that is simultaneously concerned with well-being, equity and ecological integrity.*

In our **Profile** section, we carry the story of a remarkable serving IAS officer, **Smt. Uma Mahadevan Dasgupta**, who, among many other achievements, is also empowering Gram Panchayats and Women's Groups in Karnataka. In our section on **Karnataka: Policy Matters**, we report on the release of the **Karnataka Health Vision Group** document titled *'Advancing People's Health in Karnataka: Vision for New Challenges*. In our *Diary of Regional and Local Branch*

Activities, we report on the release of **Compendium-2** of our Virtual Newsletters of the last twelve months, as well as on the **Prelude Conference-2022** on the theme, *'India Emerging as a Global Leader'*. We also carry a report on an event organized by the **Kalaburagi Local Branch** of the IIPA.

We are proud to announce that our EC member, **Mr. V. Balasubramanian, IAS (Retd.)** will be conferred the prestigious **Paul Appleby Award** by the IIPA, New Delhi on 31st October 2022. We are also delighted that two of our EC Members received prestigious awards: Vice-Chairman, **Mr. T.M. Vijay Bhaskar** was presented with the *Distinguished Alumni Award* by BITS Pilani; and our Editor, **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar** received a *Lifetime Achievement Award in Higher Education and Contribution to Teaching Fraternity and Student Community* from **St. Vincent Pallotti College, Bengaluru**.

In our new section titled, **IIPA-KRB EC Members in the Media**, we carry the links to newspaper articles written by **Dr. A. Ravindra** and **Dr. Gurucharan Gollerkeri**.

In our **Books** section, we report on the release of a book edited by EC Members, **Dr. A. Ravindra** and **Dr. Priyanca Mathur** titled, *Discovering New India: Multiculturalism, Pluralism, Harmony'*, published by Jain University Press.

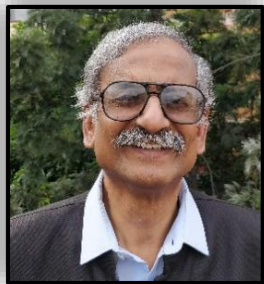
We end the issue, with our thought-provoking column, **Food for Thought**.

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.



Gandhian Manifesto for Sustainable Development



D. Jeevan Kumar

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a framework of 17 goals and 169 targets across social, economic and environmental areas of Sustainable Development, which UN Member States have committed to making a reality by the year 2030. According to some perceptive environmentalists and environmental scientists, the inherently contradictory aims of economic expansion, environmental protection, poverty eradication and the free market are all merged into an awkward, unsustainable policy in the form of the SDGs. In its linking of economic growth, material wealth and economic progress, Sustainable Development (SD) has failed to atone for the fact that it is precisely such aspirations that put our planet in such a precarious position in the first place. SD and the SDG approach perpetuates and reaffirms questionable policies in its ethnocentric, technocentric and anthropocentric qualities, thereby exposing its inherently Western biases. While past approaches have failed to meaningfully address the problem of unsustainable development, the current approach repeats these mistakes. Without a Gandhian analysis and reformation of the ideological and foundational underpinnings of SD, the SDGs cannot be easily realized.

Gandhi's writings on sustainability are rich and extremely perceptive. It has been acknowledged by ecologists that Gandhian

insights serve as a guide to understand the environmental problem in a proper perspective. Terms like '*Deep Ecology*' and Bio-Diversity Conservation have become catchwords for environmentalists and Green warriors all over the world. It is to be noted that Arne Naess, who coined the term '*Deep Ecology*', has acknowledged his indebtedness to Gandhi in the formulation of this term. Environmental activists like Sunderlal Bahuguna, Baba Amte, Medha Patkar, Vandana Shiva and others acknowledge their debt to Gandhi in understanding the problem of sustainability and Sustainable Development from a holistic perspective. Although in Gandhi's life time, ecological and environmental issues were not of serious concern, he was deeply concerned about the potential for damage to the environment by modern industrial civilization. He portrayed this very effectively in his seminal work *Hind Swaraj or Indian Home Rule* written in 1909.

Gandhian environmental ethics stem from his philosophy of life and his worldview. In the Gandhian worldview, human life cannot be divided into watertight compartments. Human life is an undivided whole. He was convinced that "*one's everyday life is never capable of being separated from his spiritual being. Both act and react upon one another.*" He believed in the unity and oneness of all life and its interconnectedness. This relational worldview is equally applicable to animal and plant life. He wrote: "*I do not believe that an individual may gain spiritually and those that surround him suffer. I believe in advaita. I believe in the essential unity of man and for that matter, of all that lives. Therefore, I believe that if one man gains spiritually, the whole world gains with him and, if one man falls, the whole world falls to that extent.*"

Gandhi had profound concern for Nature and everything in it, including plants, animals and all living creatures. He led a

life which was essentially non-violent, giving due respect to Nature and all its creations. He made a conscious effort to use natural resources to the bare minimum, even if available in abundance. Gandhi placed before humanity a lifestyle which was in complete harmony with the environment. The application of Gandhian principles allows human beings to satisfy their basic needs, *without* harming Mother Earth. Gandhi stated: “*The earth provides enough to satisfy every man’s need but not for every man’s greed.*” This well-known dictum of Gandhi reminds us that man cannot infinitely exploit Nature to satisfy his unlimited wants.

Gandhi’s philosophy of life provides a Manifesto for Sustainable Development which is symbiotic with Nature and its ecosystem. In the Gandhian frame of reference, economy, ecology and spirituality are interrelated. Anyone who is interested in understanding Gandhi’s philosophy of life should carefully read his criticism of modern Western civilization which promotes the present model of development, which is largely responsible for the consequent, inevitable environmental crises.

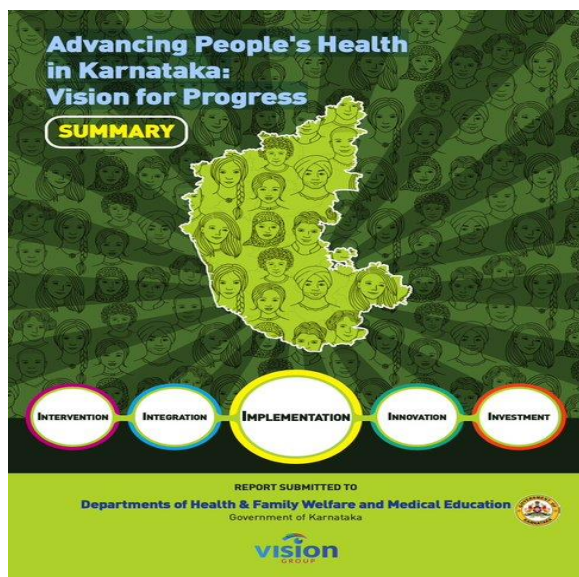
The **Gandhian Manifesto for Sustainable Development** may be compressed into a 10-Point Charter:

1. Humankind would act in a manner that it is a part of Nature, not apart from Nature.
2. Resources available on the earth are not used with an element of greed. (Trusteeship).
3. Human beings practise non-violence (*‘Ahimsa’*) not only towards fellow human beings, but also towards other living and non-living creatures and elements.
4. Women are respected, made partners in, and given their rightful place in all spheres of human endeavour.
5. A bottom-up shared view is preferred to the top-down authoritarian overview (*Gram Swaraj*, Participatory Democracy, *Ram Rajya*).
6. Conservationist and sustainable life-enhancing approach prevails over the unsustainable, consumerist, self-destructive approach.
7. The fruits of development must reach *everyone* in society (*Sarvodaya*); in particular, the needs of the poorest in society must be taken care of (*Antyodaya*).
8. The human race thinks about how much is *enough* for a simple, need-based, austere, yet comfortable lifestyle (*Aparigraha*).
9. All development, as far as possible, leads to local self-reliance, and equity with social justice (*Swadeshi, Sarvodaya*).
10. Ethics and self-discipline in resource use is an overriding criterion of development.

The **Gandhian Manifesto for Sustainable Development** represents a crucial way forward in advancing a revised and reformed project of Sustainable Development that is simultaneously concerned with well-being, equity and ecological integrity.



Karnataka Policy Matters: Advancing People's Health in Karnataka



Karnataka Health Vision Group stresses on Decentralising Medical Care with District as Central Nucleus, Bengaluru, August 27,2022

The **Karnataka Health Vision Group**, formed by the state government in January 2021 sees the need to decentralise medical care with the district as the central nucleus for better supervision and control. Noting that there is no health without mental health, and respiratory diseases are an emerging concern, the government is putting in place a strong, robust and resilient healthcare system.

Nearly 10% of the population is estimated to have one or more mental morbidity in the state. Prevalence of respiratory diseases varies from 2 to 22% in men and 1 to 19% in women as per various studies.

In its document titled '*Advancing People's Health in Karnataka: Vision for New Challenges*', the government promoted it as the country's first-of-its-kind comprehensive healthcare vision. Issues of environment, mobility, technology dependency, natural disasters, emerging infections are given all the attention to find new solutions. The need for decentralised healthcare services with the district as the central nucleus is becoming more prominent and evident, it said.

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the limited capacity to address health challenges which calls reforming the health systems in Karnataka. To this end, child, youth, adults middle aged and elderly continue to be high priority.

The vision group led by Dr. D. Gururaj, Dean of Neurosciences & Senior Professor, epidemiology, Nimhans, focused on 3 domains of developing strong public health and health care systems, implementing health programmes and responding to emerging public health topics as its central focus. It has adopted a participatory and scientific approach to develop a roadmap for strengthening health systems in Karnataka.

Managing a network of nearly 5,917 wellness Centres, 8,871 sub centres, 2,299 PHCs, 207 CHCs, 146 taluka hospitals, 17 district hospitals, 60 medical colleges, nearly 1,000 institutions in related areas of nursing, physiotherapy, dental, pharmacy and other areas along with 100 Ayush colleges, 178 hospitals with 3,096 beds, 662 Ayush dispensaries with huge variations across districts (as on April 2021) is a challenging task.

The government now is gearing up to review the processes towards delivery of evidence based, comprehensive, integrated, cost-effective and technology supported solutions. To this end it has suggested areas of areas of strengthening along with

implementable and sustainable solutions. This covers preventive, promotive, curative, and rehabilitative and other support services at primary, secondary and tertiary levels.

The intent by the government is to chalk out a roadmap for delivery of equitable, accessible, affordable and quality healthcare to achieve universal health coverage. Here it recommend a framework for strengthening health systems to create a more decentralized and effective health systems.

Major thematic domains of the document are public health services, infrastructure, human resources, health information systems, surveillance, monitoring and evaluation, road safety, injury-trauma, oral health, ophthalmic care emergency, critical care and specialised services, disability-rehabilitation Ayush services,

environmental health, urban health tribal health, disaster- pandemic preparedness and management. It will look to develop responsive health systems. The six system building blocks of health systems are service delivery, health workforce, information, product devices and technologies, finances and leadership and governance remain the hall marks of an efficient system, said the report.

As the state implements nearly 75 national-state health programmes and nearly 300 health and related welfare schemes, an analysis of implementation at district levels, using a set of measurable indicators with technical assistance from state public health experts is required, the report indicated.



**Smt. Uma Mahadevan Dasgupta,
Meet the IAS Officer who is
Empowering Gram Panchayats,**

By Rekha Balakrishnan
Source: *YourStory*, August 02, 2022

(*YourStory* is India's foremost chronicler and enabler of positive change. It places great trust in the power of listening to people, and in the ability of stories to inspire and empower. For a decade-and-half now, *YourStory* has provided the context for what's possible. Through the tales of thousands of changemakers who have braved multiple limitations, *YourStory* has served as a catalyst for a better India)



Uma Mahadevan Dasgupta
Principal Secretary, Panchayati Raj,
Government of Karnataka

Meet the IAS officer who is empowering Gram Panchayats and women's groups in Karnataka. As Principal Secretary, Panchayati Raj, Government of Karnataka, Uma Mahadevan Dasgupta is working on guiding Gram Panchayats in a wide variety of operations, reviving and opening rural public libraries and helping women's groups in local management. Uma Mahadevan Dasgupta says that the best part of her fairly unconventional career is that no day is ever boring.

As the Principal Secretary, Panchayati Raj, Government of Karnataka, Uma cares most "about working for those who are at the margins of whichever sector she is in." "It's difficult to choose, but some of my most cherished areas of work are in the field of non-formal education—for school children, adult literacy, anganwadis, disability, adolescent girls, women's empowerment, trans rights, and now the work of rural libraries. It has been special to design and implement policy interventions in these sectors."

Born in Mumbai and raised in different parts of the country, Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata and finally Bengaluru, Uma studied English literature in college and taught French in a school for a year while preparing for the civil service exams and then joined the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) in 1992. "I wanted to do something to acknowledge and ease the struggle of so many poor women," she says. She recalls having a woman who worked in her home part-time who would often come to work with terrible bruises on her arms and body. "She would sit in our kitchen and weep quietly on those days. My mother would make her a cup of tea and they would talk quietly. She later explained to me that the woman's husband was an alcoholic and beat her regularly. My mother also said the best way to help such women was through the system. This memory stayed with me," Uma shares.

Her first posting was in Madhugiri, a subdivision of Tumkur in Karnataka, and then Sagar taluk, deep in the Malnad region of Karnataka, in the Western Ghats. In Madhugiri, she helped restore a historical *kalyani* (pond) that was part of the town's heritage but had almost disappeared under a landfill. This was entirely a voluntary effort. Sagar, an area with heavy rainfall, thick forests and plantations, came with a completely different set of issues. "Here, too, I experienced deep affection and respect from the people. I met some

amazing people and made some dear friends, including the great intellectual and cultural activist KV Subbanna of Heggodu. Both Madhugiri and Sagar were great places to work and I learnt a lot as a young officer,” she says.

Uma believes that Karnataka being at the forefront of decentralisation, it's a vibrant sector to be working in. There are around 6,000 Gram Panchayats, along with Taluk and Zilla Panchayats. She points out that Gram Panchayats have played a key role in effective Covid management in rural areas. *“We helped them by setting up Task Forces for convergent local action, giving these task forces online training in multiple sessions, and issuing enabling orders that would help them to do their work effectively,”* she says. After the Gram Panchayat elections in December 2020, five-day orientation sessions were organised for nearly a lakh locally elected representatives in hybrid mode across nearly 300 taluk locations over six months during the pandemic. Fifty percent of these elected representatives were women. *“It was a massive exercise, but essential, and we were able to do it effectively,”* she observes. They are now working on guiding Gram Panchayats to revise their taxes, collect them online, deliver services effectively, and improve local governance. Gram Panchayats will also take up perspective planning, including child and gender budgeting, this year. *“Beyond the basic activities of street lights, drinking water, and sanitation, gram panchayats have been taking up supportive activities for anganwadis, schools, hostels, and veterinary clinics. They are taking up greater responsibilities of local governance, which is as it should be. Very soon, Panchayat Development Officers will be carrying out the registration of births and deaths, as well as marriage registration. This will greatly help rural communities,”* Uma says.

Reviving Rural Libraries Karnataka's over 5,600 rural public libraries have enrolled 18 lakh children from rural areas as members, free of charge. This, Uma believes, has been possible not only because of the enrolment efforts, but it has been possible because children themselves wanted to come to the library. The rural libraries are now functioning as decentralised learning hubs. *“NGOs, corporates, donor organisations, and individuals have donated over a million books. In addition, many organisations like Azim Premji Foundation, Sikshana Foundation, Pratham Books, Dell Technologies, Adhyayan, Concerned for Working Children, BGVS, India Literacy Project, Yuva Chintana Foundation, and many more are partnering with us. More than 3,000 rural libraries are now equipped with computers and internet connectivity,”* she says.

Uma highlights that rural communities have now taken this forward to create study circles, terrace libraries, garden libraries, little free libraries in public spaces, art and craft activities, and more. The plan is to start 330 more new rural libraries this year. A strong *anganwadi* network She also touches upon the role of 1.4 million strong network of *anganwadis* that provides care for the country's youngest children. In Karnataka, *anganwadis* function for six-and-a-half hours daily, which makes them function as partial day care for poor mothers, who can leave their young children safely while they go out for paid work. *“Apart from other services, Karnataka's anganwadis provide eggs, milk, and hot meals daily not only to around two million children in the state, but also to the state's pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers. This daily hot meal for pregnant women has helped to improve gestational weight gain, improve haemoglobin levels, improve birth weight of babies, and also to improve mental health status of pregnant women through the informal social networks that they form*

by coming to the anganwadi every day,” she points out.

While Covid did partially impact the daily functioning of *anganwadis*, like everything else, Uma says meal supplementation through take home rations and dry rations distribution continued. *“Gram Panchayat Task Forces played an important role in ensuring the effective distribution of these provisions. Although the anganwadis were closed for daily childcare to ensure safety of children, the anganwadi workers and helpers worked on spreading science-based awareness, on contact tracing, ensuring essential services, and on Covid vaccination. I have seen how anganwadi workers even held the hand of elderly persons who were nervous about the vaccination,”* Uma says.

Another special initiative, close to her heart, is to involve women’s groups in the local management of solid waste in Gram Panchayats. Not as employees doing the work of segregation, but as entrepreneurs taking up the work end-to-end. As part of this, more than 3,000 Gram Panchayats have signed MoUs with women’s SHG federations. Over 3,000 women signed up for the thirty-day residential driving training, and more than 700 women have already completed the training course. *“Women driving the solid waste auto-tippers may not seem like a big thing, but it is a great step in women’s empowerment in rural areas. There are women in Kolar, Uttara Kannada, Haveri, Yadgir, all driving the mini-trucks, and experiencing that sense of empowerment sitting at the wheel of the vehicle. Little girls in villages*

will see them and realise that no more jobs are out of bounds for women,” she shares. She observes with pride, a young woman in a remote part of Uttara Kannada who is the first woman in her community to have got a driving licence.

Uma admits that we live in a world that is still patriarchal in so many ways. *“The first women to join the civil services faced huge challenges, but today there is a hall named after Anna Rajam Malhotra in the IAS Academy in Mussoorie. So, I will say that these things take time, and we do see things changing over time. It’s good to see that women form as many as one third of the recent batches of the IAS. Representation is important because the civil services must look more like the people whom we are meant to serve.”*

To those aspiring for a career in the Civil Services, or already in one, Uma has some pragmatic words of advice. *“Every day offers so many opportunities to do something meaningful! I would also like to add this advice to young women at the start of their career in the civil services: that it’s not about us, it’s about the work. Whichever role we are working in, there is always scope to make lives a bit easier for other women and girls who are less privileged than us. Ensure safe, inclusive, harassment-free and discrimination-free workplaces where colleagues treat each other with respect,”* she signs off.

Read more at:

<https://yourstory.com/herstory/2022/08/ias-officer-empowering-gram-panchayats-rural-libraries-karnataka>

IIPA-KRB EC Members in the Media

Lessons from the Fall of Noida's Twin Towers



A. Ravindra, IAS (Retd.)
Former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka

Watching the 100-metre-tall twin towers in Noida razed to dust and rubble, I was amazed at the 12-second miracle of modern technology. Over 25 years ago, in the mid-1990s, as Administrator of the then Bangalore City Corporation, I had undertaken the first-ever demolition of illegal structures in Bengaluru, and I remember how the workers had to struggle with crowbars and axes to pull down, not high-rise, but basement structures. We have come a long way in terms of technology, but the problem of illegal constructions seems to have only become worse, writes Dr. A. Ravindra.

Source: *Deccan Herald*, 01 September 2022

Read more at:

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/comment/lessons-from-the-fall-of-noida-s-twin-towers-1141359.html>

Oh, my beloved Bengaluru, I cry for thee

A. Ravindra, IAS (Retd.)
Former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka



Source: *Deccan Herald*, 19 September 2022

Read more at:

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/comment/oh-my-beloved-bengaluru-i-cry-for-thee-1146258.html>

Forsaking Power for Freedom - Mikhail Gorbachev



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

Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev has passed away at the age of 91, resolute in the knowledge that he made freedom more meaningful for the majority of the population, while attempting, with some success, to combine his commitment to political liberty with his concern for social justice. He will remain, in history, among the great leaders of the 20th century, writes Gurucharan Gollerkeri.

Source: **Deccan Herald**, 02 September, 2022

Read more at:

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/comment/forsaking-power-for-freedom-1141654.html>

The Woman who laid the Foundation of Radical Feminism

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

*Simone de Beauvoir (1908-1986) combined intellectual activity, literary productivity, and real-world political action to bring about important legislative changes to advance the cause of women. Her seminal work *The Second Sex* (TSS) published in 1949 remains a classic. A powerful role model for women in the 21st century, de Beauvoir was an exacting and critical thinker, and had a major impact on the development of modern thought in feminist philosophy, in literary studies, and in the social sciences throughout the world, writes Gurucharan Gollerkeri.*

Source: **Deccan Herald**, 18 September, 2022

Read more at:

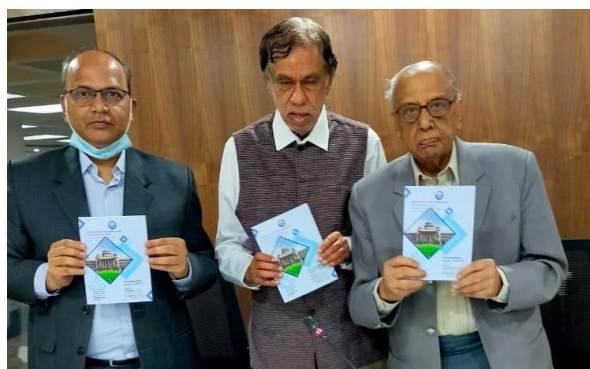
<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/the-woman-who-laid-the-foundation-of-radical-feminism-1146050.html>



IIPA-KRB: Diary of Regional and Local Branch Activities

Release of Compendium-2 of IIPA-KRB Virtual Newsletters

Compendium-2 of the Print Edition of the Virtual Newsletters of the Branch was released at the Annual General Meeting of the Branch on 1st September 2022 by **Chairman, Mr. S.V. Ranganath**. Seen below are (*from right to left*) **Mr. S. Ramanathan**, Chairman-Emeritus, **Mr. S.V. Ranganath**, Chairman and **Mr. T.M. Vijay Bhaskar**, Vice-Chairman.



Report of Prelude Conference-2022

The Karnataka Regional Branch of the IIPA held its **Prelude Conference-2022** on the theme, '**India Emerging as a Global Leader**', in collaboration with **Jain (Deemed-to-be) University** at its JC Road Campus in Bangalore on 9th September 2022.

In his Introductory Remarks, **Mr. S.V. Ranganath**, IAS (Retd.), Chairman of the Branch spoke of India's strengths in terms of demographic dividend, scientific achievements, large infrastructural projects, diverse culture, its geo-strategic location, etc. He then identified the challenges faced by India in emerging leader and made a few policy prescriptions to address those challenges.

The Keynote Address was delivered by **Prof. Dr. Raj Singh**, Vice-Chancellor of Jain (Deemed-to-be) University. He recalled India's success stories, since 1947, in a variety of fields including its Green and White Revolutions, its increasing contribution to world GDP, its forex reserves, its position in the Global Innovation Index, its emergence as a global leader in vaccination, its achievements in space technology, its outcome-driven security policy, etc. India has carved out a defining place for itself in the new world order which could be characterized as "bold, assertive and resolute". We are experiencing the '*India Moment*' at present, but it needs to be sustained by the contribution of each and every citizen. There is also the need to rise above petty politics, he said.

The first Discussant, **Dr. Srikantaswamy**, Director, Centre for Researcher Training and Administration, Jain (Deemed-to-be) University, spoke of the internal and external factors responsible for the emergence of India as a global leader. But its retention called for stability of government, an enlightened leadership, and cohesiveness, among other factors.

The second Discussant, **Dr. Shradha Kanwar**, Chief Learning Officer at *iNurture Solutions*, Bengaluru focused on capacity building to reap the benefits of the demographic dividend and called upon the youth to choreograph the destiny of India. In her view, the *Brain Drain* could be converted to *Brain Gain*.

Chairman-Emeritus of the Branch, **Mr. S. Ramanathan**, IAS (Retd.) presided over the deliberations.

Dr. Priyanca Mathur, Head, Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education at Jain University welcomed the gathering. **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, Consultant, IIPA-KRB proposed a vote of thanks. The Emcees of the event were **Dr. Debangana**

Chatterjee and Dr. Rubina Pradhan, Faculty at the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education at Jain University.



Mr. S. Ramanathan making his Presidential remarks.

Kalaburagi Local Branch Activity

The **Indian Institute of Public Administration, Local Branch, Kalaburagi**, in association with NSS Unit of VTU organised a seminar on ‘*NEP 2020 with Special Reference to Science, Technology and Social Sciences*’ at VTU’s PG Centre, Kalaburagi on 25th August 2022.



The seminar was inaugurated by **Prof. Shantishree D. Pandit**, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Seen above are (from L to R) are **Sri Maruti K. Pawar**, Chairman, IIPA Local Branch, Kalaburagi, **Dr. B. S. Gulshetty**, Secretary, IIPA Local Branch, Kalaburagi, **Prof. Shantishree D. Pandit**, **Dr. B. G. Patil**, MLC, Govt. of Karnataka, **Dr. Baswaraj Gadgay**, Regional Director, VTU, and a student volunteer.

Awards to IIPA-KRB EC Members



Paul H. Appleby Award 2022

We are delighted to inform our readers that our EC Member, **Shri V. Balasubramanian**, IAS (Retd.) will be conferred the prestigious **Paul H. Appleby Award 2022** “*in recognition of distinguished service to IIPA and to the subject of Public Administration*” at the AGM of the IIPA at New Delhi on 31st October 2022.



Vice-Chairman of Branch receives Distinguished Alumni Award

Mr. T.M. Vijay Bhaskar was presented with the *Distinguished Alumni Award* by **BITS Pilani** on 4th September 2022. He is seen receiving the award from **Dr. Souvik Bhattacharya**, Vice-Chancellor, BITS, Pilani (seen to his right) and **Dr. Srivari Chandrashekar**, Secretary, Dept. of Science and Technology, GoI.

Editor Receives ‘Lifetime Achievement’ Award

Editor of IIPA-KRB Newsletter, **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar** received a *Lifetime Achievement Award in Higher Education and Contribution to Teaching Fraternity and Student Community* from **St. Vincent Pallotti College**, Bengaluru on 5th September (Teachers’ Day) 2022.



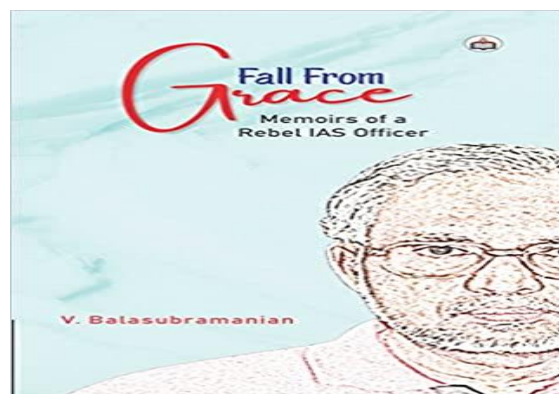
Books: Compilation of Essays on Multiculturalism, Pluralism, and Harmony

A volume of essays, edited by **Dr. A. Ravindra**, IAS (Retd.) and **Dr. Priyanca Mathur**, Head, Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education at Jain University, titled '**Discovering New India: Multiculturalism, Pluralism, Harmony**', published by Jain University Press, was released in the city recently.

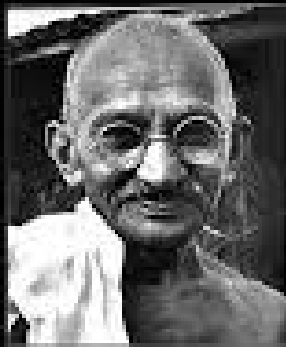
The brainchild of **Ekam Sat Trust**, which was formed in the context of the growing hate based on religion and caste in India in the last few years, is to replace this environment with one of love and cooperation, said former Karnataka Chief Secretary **Dr. A. Ravindra**, co-editor of the book, and President of **Ekam Sat Trust**. He said the book looks at five broad topics - religion and spirituality; the Constitution, environment and education; inclusive society; and the role of youth in nation building. It deals with a range of topics from the idea of dharma, and the new NEP (National Education Policy) to the role of trains in India's international relations. "*The aim was to amalgamate critical thinking with policy solutions,*" Dr Ravindra said.

Dr. Priyanca Mathur, the other co-editor of the book, said, "*We need judges with a humane face, and news that's not polarising. We need the freedom to ask questions in a democracy.*" The book was formally released by former CJI **Justice M. N. Venkatachalaiah**. He said, "*Humans have the instinct to follow a leader, a religion or a linguistic identity, at the cost of their own interests. This is what religious and political leaders take advantage of.*"

Former civil servant **Shri Chiranjiv Singh** said that all religions, and people in general, consider compassion the highest value. "*Dharma is a matter of compassion. Today, we see less compassion in society,*" he said.



Mr. V. Balasubramanian's book, '**Fall from Grace**' is available in [amazon.in](https://www.amazon.in) at a cover price of Rs.595. It is also available at the IAS Officers Association, No.1 Infantry Road, Bangalore 560 001 (Manager **Shri Ganesha**, Ph.91410 70734) at the author's discounted price of Rs.400.



Religions are different roads converging to the same point. What does it matter that we take different road, so long as we reach the same goal. Wherein is the cause for quarreling?

(Mahatma Gandhi)

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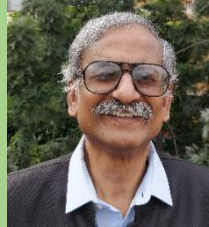
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