



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Karnataka Regional Branch, Bengaluru

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- Chief Editor

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A Note from the Chief Editor



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Former Chief Secretary, Government of
Karnataka
Former Chairman, Karnataka Administrative
Reforms Commission-II
Chairman, Indian Institute of Public
Administration – Karnataka Regional Branch

I am happy to place before our readers the **February 2024** issue of our **Virtual Newsletter**. This is our **43rd issue**, since we began this initiative.

Our **Lead Article** is a condensed version of the **I Prize-Winning entry** of **Muhammad Talhah** in the **Essay-Writing Competition** jointly organized by our Branch and the **Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CERSSE)** of **Jain (Deemed-to-be) University**, Bengaluru, on the theme, "**Citizen-Centric Governance in Karnataka**".

We congratulate **Md. Talhah** who is pursuing a **B.Com. degree** in **Entrepreneurship and Management** at **Jain University**, for his detailed and insightful essay, which contains a host of reforms and recommendations. His essay has been condensed to capture the essence of his ideas and arguments.

We carry a **Profile** of an Award-Winning Government Officer, **Smt. M. Shoba Rani**, Panchayat Development Officer who was selected by **Deccan Herald** as one of the **Change-Makers of 2024**.

In our regular section titled, **Communication Pulse**, **Dr. Annapoorna Ravichander** writes on

SDG-10 this time, which deals with the reduction of inequalities, within and between countries.

In our reports of **Branch Events**, we carry reports of as many as three recent activities organized by us, in collaboration with our partnering institutions, as well as the signing of a **Memorandum of Understanding** with **Bangalore University**.

We carry a brief report of **Rashtrakavi Kuvempu's** birth anniversary celebrations by **Deepak Srinivasa**.

We also carry a feature on recent **Administrative and Governance Reforms in Karnataka**, put together by **Nayakara Veerasha**.

In our regular section on **Branch Members Writings in the Popular Media**, we provide the links to articles penned by **Dr. A. Ravindra**, **Mr. G. Gurucharan**, and **Mr. T. Sethumadhavan**, which appeared in print last month.

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.





CITIZEN-CENTRIC GOVERNANCE IN KARNATAKA (Summarized version of I Prize-Winning Entry in the Jain University-IIPA-KRB Essay Writing Competition-2023)



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In an era characterized by rapidly evolving political landscapes and dynamic societal expectations, the idea of a citizen-centric government has assumed unparalleled significance. At its core, this concept posits that the government should exist not as an entity separate from its citizens but as a responsive and accountable institution deeply intertwined with the lives and aspirations of the people it serves. This paradigm shift in governance philosophy prioritizes the welfare of citizens above all else and recognizes their fundamental role in shaping the destiny of their state.

Karnataka, a state known for its rich cultural heritage, technological prowess, and diverse population, is poised to confront the pivotal question of whether transitioning to a citizen-centric government is the transformative path it should tread. As Karnataka navigates the intricate tapestry of its socio-political landscape, the establishment of a citizen-centric government becomes an enticing prospect. However, this transformation is not without its complexities and challenges.

The very essence of a citizen-centric government lies in redefining the relationship between the state and its citizens. It represents a shift from a governance model that often places bureaucracy and political interests at the forefront, to one that unequivocally recognizes that government exists to serve and empower its people. Karnataka, with its unique blend of urban and rural landscapes, various linguistic and cultural groups, and a rapidly expanding technology sector, finds itself standing at the precipice of transformation. The state's ability to harness its diversity and innovation potential while addressing pressing issues like development disparities, public service efficiency, and inclusive governance will be central to determining the success of such a transition.

As we delve deeper into the prospects of a citizen-centric government in Karnataka, it is imperative to explore the potential advantages and challenges that come with this transformation. We must dissect the strategies and mechanisms that can facilitate its implementation, recognizing that this journey requires a harmonious synergy between political will, resource allocation, citizen engagement, and an unyielding commitment to transparency and accountability. Finally, we must endeavour to estimate a realistic timeline for this monumental shift, acknowledging that the path to a citizen-centric government is marked by intricate phases of planning, adaptation, and evolution.

I. The Need for a Citizen-Centric Government

1. Enhanced Accountability:

One of the fundamental tenets of a citizen-centric government is accountability. It ensures that elected representatives and public servants are answerable to the people they serve. It is needed to ensure:

- Deterrence Against Corruption
- Transparency and Openness
- Responsive Governance
- Engagement and Participation
- Preservation of Public Resources

2. Efficient Service Delivery:

Modern governance requires efficient service delivery mechanisms. By streamlining administrative processes and harnessing the potential of technology, a citizen-centric government can significantly improve the speed and quality of services in critical areas such as healthcare, education, infrastructure, and public utilities. Efficient service delivery can ensure the following:

- Streamlining Administrative Processes
- Utilizing Technology
- Data-Driven Decision-Making
- Prioritizing Critical Areas
- Reducing Corruption
- Citizen Feedback and Monitoring

3. Empowerment of Marginalized Groups:

Karnataka is a microcosm of diversity, housing numerous communities with varying needs and challenges. A citizen-centric approach allows for the customization of policies and programs, ensuring that the specific needs of marginalized and underprivileged groups are not only recognized but actively addressed. The following benefits are visualized:

- Customized Policies and Programs
- Reducing Disparities
- Inclusive Decision-Making

- Empowerment Through Education
- Economic Opportunities
- Cultural Preservation
- Healthcare and Social Welfare

4. Participation in Decision-Making:

The very essence of democracy is participation, and a citizen-centric government embraces this principle wholeheartedly. It engages citizens in decision-making processes, recognizing that the collective wisdom of the people can guide policy formulation and prioritize projects that resonate with the citizens' desires and priorities. The following benefits are visualized:

- Inclusivity
- Responsive Governance
- Transparency and Accountability
- Citizen Ownership
- Informed Decision-Making
- Legitimacy and Trust

II. Challenges in Transitioning to a Citizen-Centric Government

While the allure of a citizen-centric government is undeniable, its implementation is no small feat. It is essential to acknowledge and understand the potential challenges that Karnataka may encounter in this transformative journey:

1. Bureaucratic Resistance:

- Institutional Inertia
- Loss of Influence
- Fear of Accountability
- Training and Skill Gaps
- Resource Reallocation
- Communication Challenges
- Cultural Shift

2. Resource Constraints:

Transitioning to a citizen-centric government may demand substantial investments in technology, training, infrastructure, and human resources. Here, we identify the resource constraints in the context of Karnataka's

journey toward a citizen-centric government:

- Financial Commitment
- Infrastructure Development
- Technology Investments
- Training and Capacity Building
- Human Resources
- Public Awareness Campaigns

3. Cultural and Societal

Dynamics: Karnataka's cultural and societal dynamics are as diverse as its landscape. Implementing uniform citizen-centric policies across a state with such diversity may present unique challenges in ensuring that policies resonate with the local context and values. Here, we elaborate on the implications of cultural and societal dynamics in Karnataka's journey toward a citizen-centric government:

- Diversity of Language and Culture
- Regional Disparities
- Customary Practices
- Education and Awareness:
- Cultural Sensitivity

4. Political Will: Perhaps the most critical factor in the success of this transformation is the political will of the ruling government. A government genuinely committed to citizen-centric governance will be more likely to prioritize the people's welfare over political expediency. The following matters need to be looked into:

- Alignment of Interests
- Risk Aversion
- Public Perception
- Capacity Building
- Stakeholder Engagement
- Overcoming Opposition

III. Implementation Strategies

The transition to a citizen-centric government is a multifaceted process, requiring careful planning and a

comprehensive strategy. Several key strategies can facilitate this shift:

1. Legislative Reforms: Enact legislation that cements the principles of citizen-centric governance, enshrining accountability, transparency, and citizen participation as legal obligations. Reforms are needed in the following areas:

- Legal Framework for Citizen-Centric Governance
- Enshrining Accountability
- Transparency and Right to Information
- Citizen Participation
- Data Protection and Privacy
- Whistleblower Protection

2. Technological Advancements:

Investing in technological advancements is a pivotal strategy in facilitating the transition to a citizen-centric government in Karnataka. By leveraging cutting-edge technology, the state can enhance service delivery, improve decision-making processes, and establish robust citizen engagement platforms, through the following initiatives:

- Digital Service Delivery
- User-Friendly Interfaces
- *Data-Driven Decision-Making*
- Citizen Engagement Platforms
- Transparency and Accountability
- E-Governance Infrastructure
- Digital Literacy Programs
- Automation and Streamlining

3. Capacity Building: Training and capacity building programs must be initiated for government officials and public servants. These programs should emphasize the importance of citizen-centric principles, emphasizing that their primary role is to serve the people. This can be initiated by the following:

- Enhancing Skills and Knowledge
- Promoting a Culture of Service
- Understanding Citizen Needs
- Building Communication Skills

- Conflict Resolution and Empathy
- Tech Proficiency
- Promoting Accountability
- Citizen Engagement Techniques
- Legal and Ethical Considerations
- Monitoring and Feedback Mechanisms
- Evaluation and Continuous Learning
- Incentives for Excellence

4. Community Engagement: Foster community involvement in local governance by promoting initiatives such as:

- Citizen Advisory Committees
- Community-Driven Development Projects
- Participatory Budgeting Processes
- Local Governance Structures
- Community Consultations
- Capacity Building at the Community Level
- Community-Based Organizations
- Transparent Resource Allocation
- Equitable Distribution
- Monitoring and Evaluation by Communities
- Cultural Sensitivity
- Recognition of Local Expertise
- Inclusive Planning

IV. Estimated Transition Time

The timeline for Karnataka to transition to a fully functional citizen-centric government is a complex and contingent matter. Several factors will significantly influence the speed and effectiveness of this transformation:

1. Political Will and Stability:

The commitment of the government in power and its stability in office will be pivotal. A government genuinely dedicated to citizen-centric governance can expedite the transition, by ensuring the following:

- Commitment to Citizen-Centric Governance
- Policy Implementation

- Long-Term Vision
- Leadership and Accountability
- Public Support and Accountability
- Cross-Party Consensus
- Capacity Building and Training
- Measuring Progress and Accountability:

2. Resource Allocation: The speed of the transition will depend on the state's capacity to allocate resources adequately in the following areas:

- Infrastructure Investment
- Human Resources Development
- Technology Investments
- Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Resource Transparency
- Prioritization of Key Initiatives
- Efficiency in Resource Use

3. Public Awareness and Participation:

The timeline will be influenced by the degree of awareness among citizens about their rights and responsibilities, as well as their active involvement in governance processes. The following areas are crucial:

- Citizen Awareness of Rights and Responsibilities
- Citizen Engagement Platforms
- Capacity Building
- Feedback Mechanisms
- Public Support for Citizen-Centric Governance
- Accountability and Transparency

4. Bureaucratic Cooperation: The willingness and cooperation of the bureaucracy can significantly facilitate or hinder the transition. A supportive and adaptive bureaucracy can streamline the implementation process.

- Willingness to Embrace Change
- Adaptive Administrative Processes
- Capacity Building
- Feedback Mechanisms
- Innovation and Experimentation

- Transparency and Accountability
- Partnerships with Civil Society

V. Potential Benefits of a Citizen - Centric Government in Karnataka

The transition to a citizen-centric government in Karnataka carries the potential for manifold benefits, touching every facet of governance and society:

1. Improved Governance: By placing citizens at the heart of governance, a citizen-centric government can make informed decisions, formulate effective policies, and allocate resources judiciously, ultimately resulting in improved governance.

2. Economic Development: Efficient service delivery, reduced corruption, and transparent governance can stimulate economic growth, attracting investments and spurring job creation in the state.

3. Social Inclusion: Tailored policies that address the unique needs of marginalized communities can reduce disparities, promote social inclusion, and foster a more equitable society.

4. Political Stability: Increased citizen satisfaction, participation, and confidence in the government can contribute to political stability and social harmony in Karnataka.

5. Global Recognition: Karnataka's transformation into a citizen-centric state could earn it recognition on the global stage as a progressive and forward-thinking region, potentially attracting international partnerships and investments.

Conclusion

In the grand tapestry of governance, the establishment of a **Citizen-Centric Government** represents not just a change but a profound shift in the way a state engages with its citizens. **In the case of Karnataka, this transformation has the potential to unlock the state's true potential and elevate the lives of its residents.** The concept of a Citizen-Centric Government embodies the principles of accountability, transparency, efficiency, and inclusivity—values that are indispensable for the well-being of any society.

However, it is crucial to acknowledge that the journey to such a government is fraught with challenges. **Bureaucratic resistance, resource constraints, and the need to navigate Karnataka's rich cultural and societal diversity are formidable hurdles to overcome.** Furthermore, the success of this transition hinges primarily on the unwavering political will of the state's leaders and the active engagement of its citizens.

While predicting an exact timeline for this transformation is a complex endeavour, a reasonable estimate of 10 to 15 years offers a framework for action. This transition will require concerted efforts in legislative reforms, technological advancements, capacity building, and community engagement.

In the end, the aspiration for a Citizen-Centric Government in Karnataka is not merely about achieving Good Governance: It is about forging a brighter and more equitable future for all its residents. It is a commitment to a governance model that places people at the forefront—a model that recognizes the collective wisdom and aspirations of its citizens as the driving force for progress and prosperity.



Profile of an Award-Winning Government Officer

M. Shobha Rani **Panchayat Development Officer**



A Transformation in the Heartlands **Varsha Gowda, Deccan Herald dt. 31 December 2023**

Smart schools, libraries and women-friendly spaces — this is only a glimpse into the world of changes that **M. Shobha Rani** has affected as a government officer.

At the heart of **Nagawala** village, Mysuru district, village elders rest, chat and read newspapers in a park furnished with benches and walkways. In the lead-up to the village is a restored 140-year-old stone Kalyani adjoining a picturesque lake. Just a short stroll away from here is a well-stocked library lined with a row of computers

A couple of years ago, Nagawala had none of these facilities. The winds of change followed after M Shobha Rani was appointed as the Panchayat Development Officer. Eeshwarappa, a member of the gram panchayat, describes this metamorphosis. After her arrival, the school, once dilapidated, looks cheerful with new furniture,

washroom facilities, smart equipment and colourful walls.

The result, according to **K N Shivamalliah**, the headmaster of the school in Nagawala, is, “A few students who had opted to attend private schools have now returned to this school.” Shobha Rani’s work in three Gram Panchayat limits — **Malangi, Nagawala in Mysuru district and Harohalli in Ramanagara district** — has earned her an immaculate reputation and many accolades. However, even these awards and honours pale in comparison to the love and admiration that the residents of these villages have showered over her in the years. “One of the most rewarding aspects of my job is when residents change their attitudes and open up to new ideas,” she says.

She cites the example of how men in the village changed their approach to menstruation after the declaration that **Nagawala was a 100% pad-free**

village. *"We decided to popularise the use of menstrual cups. After such campaigns, newly married grooms would persuade their wives, who often came from other villages, to come to the panchayat office to collect the menstrual cups,"* she says.

Nandini, a member of a self-help group in the village, was involved in door-to-door campaigning for the initiative. *"The availability of pads was not a guarantee in the past. Many young girls also felt ashamed of asking their families. has changed now. Also, there is no need for the additional expense of disposable pads,"* she says. Today, most girls and women opt for clothing pads or menstrual cups that the gram panchayat distributes free of charge in Nagawala.

Nandini can attest to how in the past there was an implicit exclusion of women from decision-making. *"We did not even know that there was such an official in the first place. From instituting a training centre for women to making sure our voices and problems are prioritised, she has made sure that we are more involved with the government,"* says Nandini.

This is the result of one of several measures implemented by Shobha Rani when she was assigned the role. *"We put a movement register in place. All officials are obligated to mention where they plan to go if they are on a site visit or away from the office for some reason,"* she says. The register is the result of her belief that recognises the duties and responsibilities of government officials towards the public.

Simple Solutions

Another programme that won the favour of the public in **Harohalli** was the creation of pathways to farms. *"During a site visit, women who were carrying food for their husbands in the hot summer mentioned that the walk to their land was complex because of the lack of pathways,"*

she says. The Gram Panchayat office quickly laid pathways through the MGNREGA programme and the public was exultant.

In **Malangi**, bestowed with the tag of a model village, Shobha Rani encouraged **Jenu Kuruba** farmers to start a community seed bank. In 2019, the Malangi Seed Bank won the national Biodiversity Award for its work on native seed conservation. *"We grow the seeds ourselves and have over 100 varieties of ragi, rice and other millets. We provide it to those who want to grow the crop,"* says Janakamma, a Panchayat member in Malangi and leader of the Jenu Kuruba community. The initiative has provided income to the Jenu Kuruba collective that grows these varieties as well.

This is one of the many solutions that Shobha Rani has implemented that have had a measurable impact on the quality of life in these villages. While many in her position are not able to intervene due to budget constraints, Shobha Rani has persevered through **no-cost programmes, the use of MGNREGA and pursuing partnerships through CSR initiatives.**

To support the education of children, for instance, she collaborated with SELCO Foundation and introduced the **"Shikshanakkaagi belaku"** (Light for Education) programme. With the support of a corporate company, Shobha Rani was also able to clear lake encroachment and revive 10 lakes and desilt nine in Harohalli. Lake development committees have taken ownership of the water resources here, protecting and deriving revenue through fishery. Such initiatives have also added to the tax revenue of the Gram Panchayats. *"In Malangi, tax collection improved from Rs 3 lakh to Rs 11 lakh at the end of my tenure (over ten years),"*

says Shobha Rani. This, Shobha Rani attributes to raising awareness about tax collection among property owners and leasing out lakes for fishery purposes.

Hard work, Systematic Approach

Just before she applied for the post of a **Panchayat Development Officer (PDO)** in 2010, Shobha Rani was awarded her **PhD from Bangalore University**, after completing a master's degree in sericulture. Having grown up in a semi-urban, comfortable environment, the rural setting of her work was daunting. *"I applied based on the recommendation of a professor and I wanted a government job,"* she says. She passed the qualifying examination, but the real test had just begun.

"I almost quit after the first year of my work. A Gram Panchayat member then quoted a famous Kannada proverb '**Kotta kudureyannu yeralaradavanu veeranu alla shooranoo alla**' (The one who can't climb the horse he is given is neither brave nor capable). He told me that being this educated, if I was not able to help people, what was the use of the training?" Shobha Rani recalls.

These words sparked a deep commitment in her. Additionally, she wished to emulate the hard work and the way the people of **Malangi** lived. *"For instance, Janakamma had no resources at hand. She used to cover dozens of kilometres by foot to make sure that her community had IDs and were able to access government schemes,"* she recalls.

These examples have inspired a similar rigour in Shobha Rani's work while her educational background laid the foundation of her approach. Informed by her doctoral research, the officer thoroughly researches an issue before intervening. *"I employ the **SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) method when we are thinking of a***

programme," says Shobha Rani. When there is a need for a survey, she relies on the network of self-help groups, youth organisations, Anganwadi and ASHA workers.

Shobha Rani's educational achievements have also cemented in her mind the role of schooling, higher education and easy accessibility of study materials. This is what prompted her to put in place a library that was open to students throughout the day and night in **Harohalli**.

Mahesha Harohalli, who is working on a project for NCERT, explains, *"The library is equipped with digital resources. There are several newspapers and magazines that are stocked here. This environment has enabled those preparing for entrance exams to study keenly, without interruption."*

He observes that committed officers like **Shobha Rani** are rare to come across and initiatives such as this one can have a big impact. *"Other adjoining villages have also initiated work to put in place such libraries,"* says Mahesha.

The government has recognised the importance of resource-building initiatives like the construction of libraries and encouraged other panchayats to put in place similar infrastructure. **H K Abdullah**, PDO of Hoddur Gram Panchayat, Madikeri, says Shobha Rani is always ready to share resources and ideas. *"She encourages others to implement similar solutions. She helped connect us with the right people to build a library,"* he says. Ruminating over the recognition and praise she has received for her work from residents, fellow officers and the government, **Shobha Rani** concludes that government officers have an important responsibility today. *"If we can provide services in a timely way, public trust in government employees will only increase."*



Sustainable Development Goal 10

Reduce Inequalities Within and Amongst Countries *Communication Challenges*



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Introduction

Statistics state that India ranks among the world's most unequal countries due to rising poverty and an affluent elite. This means that the top 10% and top 1% hold 57% and 22% of the total national income, respectively, while the bottom 50% share has dropped to 13%. The average national income for the Indian adult population is Rs 2,04,200, with the bottom 50% earning Rs 53,610 and the top 10% earning Rs 11,66,520.

In an analysis conducted by **Business Standard** the progress of districts in Karnataka, reveals an asymmetrical development trend. The study shows that the State's average income has

increased from Rs 1.02 lakh in 2012-13 to Rs 2.66 lakh in FY22; however the gap between the State's richest and poorest districts has widened. In addition, Bengaluru Urban, the richest district, had an average income of Rs 6.2 lakh in FY22, almost five times higher than Kalaburagi's per capita income of Rs 1.2 lakh. The per capita income in Bengaluru Urban, Dakshina Kannada, Udipi, Chikkamagaluru, and Bengaluru Rural grew at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10.18% between 2017-18 and

FY22, outpacing growth in Bidar, Koppal, Raichur, Vijayapura, and Kalaburagi. The growth rates have been different in the preceding four years, ahead of the relatively poorer districts.

The concerned departments are Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University ([RDPR](#)), Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes, Department of Agriculture

([KSDA](#)), Urban Development Department ([UDD](#)), Directorate of Economics and Statistics ([DES](#)), [Social Welfare](#), [Directorate of Minorities](#), [Karnataka Housing Department](#), [Department of Primary & Secondary Education](#), Commissionerate of Health & Family Welfare Service ([HFW](#)), [Karnataka State Election Commission](#) and [Finance Department](#).

Broadly the government faces challenges in addressing disparities between South and North Karnataka. Bengaluru experiences significant progress due to higher income residents, resulting in better facilities and infrastructure. However, North Karnataka faces inequality due to its agrarian population, resulting in varying incomes and limited access to resources.

Challenges and Solutions

In the context of government officers in Karnataka, there are several communication challenges related to the implementation of policies and initiatives aimed at achieving SDG 10. The key challenges and probable solutions are listed below:



Challenge 1-Diversity in languages

Linguistic diversity is a challenge where multiple languages are spoken. It



leads to miscommunication and misunderstanding.

Solutions

- Develop multilingual communication materials
- Use interpreters during official communications
- Ensure that important documents are translated into major languages



Challenge 2 - Limited Access to Information

Unable to access information and updates



Solutions

- Establish a centralised platform for disseminating information
- Conduct regular training sessions and workshops to keep officers informed about the latest developments.



Challenge 3 - Coordination between Departments

Lack of coordination between different government departments hinders effective implementation of policies targeting inequality reduction.



Solutions

- Implement a robust inter-departmental communication system
- Foster collaboration through regular meetings, shared databases and joint planning sessions.



Challenge 4 - Engaging with Communities

Challenge to engage with diverse communities;

Understand specific needs and concerns.



Solutions

- Facilitate community forums and meetings

- Encourage officers to actively participate in community events, fostering a two-way communication channel to understand local issues better.

Challenge 5 - Technological Barriers



Limited technological infrastructure and digital literacy hinders effective communication.



Solutions

- Invest in training programs to enhance digital literacy
- Provide required technological tools and resources to ensure the usage of modern communication channels effectively.



Challenge 6 - Policy Communication

Complexity in policies, especially policies related to inequality reduction may be difficult to communicate clearly to the public.



Solutions

- Develop simple communication materials to include infographics, pamphlets, and videos to explain policies in a user-friendly manner
- Conduct awareness campaigns to disseminate information widely.



Challenge 7 - Feedback Mechanism

Lack of effective feedback mechanisms results in a disconnect between policy makers and communities which are impacted.



Solutions

- Establish a structured feedback system that allows communities to express their opinions and concerns

- Encourage officers to actively seek feedback during community interactions.



Challenge 8 - Lack of Training and Capacity Building activities

Inadequate training and capacity building programs may limit the ability to effectively communicate and implement initiatives.



Solutions

- Conduct regular training programmes focusing on communication skills,

cultural sensitivity, and the importance of SDG 10

- Provide resources for continuous learning and skill development.

Conclusion

Other challenges include political instability, poverty and unemployment. Communication challenges need to be addressed appropriately and timely policies related to SDG 10 require to be implemented effectively.





Report of Branch Event

1 - 'Legal Regime of Anti-Corruption in India'

The **Karnataka Regional Branch** of the **IIPA (IIPA-KRB)** in collaboration with the **University Law College (ULC)** and **Department of Studies in Law of Bangalore University** organized a Capacity-Building Programme on the theme, '**Legal Regime of Anti-Corruption in India**' on 21st December 2023 in the premises of the college. The keynote address was delivered by **Hon'ble Justice Subhash Adi**, Chairman, NGT State-Level Committee (Karnataka), former Upa Lokayukta and former Judge of the High Court of Karnataka. The Chief Guests at the programme were **Mr. T.M. Vijay Bhaskar**, IAS (Retd.), former Chief Secretary of Karnataka, former Chairman, Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission-2 and the current Chairman of IIPA-KRB, and **Dr. S.M. Jayakar**, Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University. The Guest of Honour was **Prof. Dr. N. Dasharath**, former Chairman and Dean of ULC. **Prof. Dr. V. Sudesh**, Principal, Chairman and Dean, ULC presided over the programme.

Hon'ble Justice Subhash Adi presented an overview of the legal regime of anti-corruption in India which included institutions as well as enactments, but the presence of loopholes and shortcomings were responsible for the continuance of corruption. He identified several reforms to remedy the sorry situation which included ensuring the independence of prosecuting agencies, a strict time-line for disposal of cases and imposition of deterrent punishment, among others.

(Below)

Mr. T.M. Vijay Bhaskar stated that there is a strong correlation between levels of corruption, literacy and per capita income, and gave the examples of Kerala in particular and developing countries in general, which prove the hypothesis that increase in literacy and income tend to reduce levels of corruption. The use of technology in making public service delivery contact-less, paper-less and cash-less has gone a long way in reducing corruption. The role of the 5 Cs – Courts, Committees like the Public Accounts Committee of the Legislature, the CAGI, CBI and Central Vigilance Commission – continue to be relevant, he concluded.

Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University, Dr. S.M. Jayakar stressed the need for sensitizing students to the evil of corruption and its deleterious effect on society and economy by introducing appropriate courses in educational institutions. He called on the youth to launch a crusade against corruption.

Prof. N. Dasharath looked at the phenomenon of corruption from a socio-legal perspective. Prof. V. Sudesh identified discretion in the hands of ministers and bureaucrats as being primarily responsible for corruption. The need of the hour is for ethical governance, as emphasized by wise sages like Basavanna, he concluded.

Prof. Jyothi Vishwanath of ULC welcomed the guests and gathering. **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, Secretary of IIPA-KRB proposed a vote of thanks. Present on the occasion were **Prof. Satish Gowda, Prof. Chandrakanti** and Guest Faculty of ULC, **Prof. Madhwaraj**, Treasurer of IIPA-KRB and others. **Mr. Rohit Sharma** compered the programme.

Dr. S.M. Jayakar, Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University is seen addressing the audience.



2 - Libraries as a Development Intervention

The **Karnataka Regional Branch** of the IIPA, in association with the **Department of Library and Information Science** of **Bangalore University**, organized a set of two Special Lectures on 23 January 2024 on the following themes:

1. **“Rural Libraries as a Development Intervention”** by **Smt. Uma Mahadevan**, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Panchayat Raj, Dept. of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj, Government of Karnataka; and
2. **“Digital and Urban Libraries in Karnataka”** by **Dr. Satish Kumar Hosamani**, Director, Department of Libraries, Government of Karnataka.

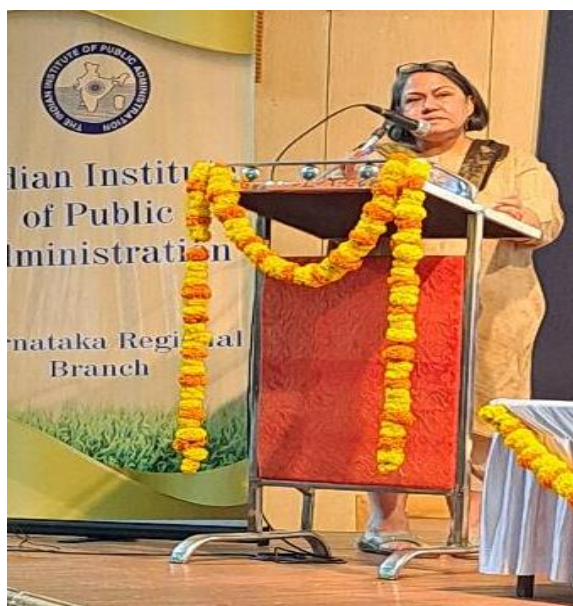
Referring to libraries as custodians of knowledge and temples of learning, **Smt. Uma Mahadevan** elaborated on the creative and imaginative initiatives of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department of the Government of Karnataka, after more than 5000 rural libraries were transferred to it from the

Department of Education in 2019. More than 4.6 million children have been enrolled as members of rural libraries, which have become joyful learning and recreation centres. The Department has plans to open Book Corners at Bus Shelters and Open-Air Libraries in the near future, she said.

The second speaker, **Dr. Satish Hosamani** referred to Public Libraries as *People’s Universities*, and elaborated on the Karnataka Digital Public Library portal and its e-contents, numbering almost 25 lakhs. It had been shortlisted for the Prime Minister’s Award in 2023, he said, due to its content and reach.

Mr. T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, Chairman of the Karnataka Regional Branch of IIPA presided over the programme. The Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University, **Dr. S.M. Jayakar** delivered the Inaugural Address. **Mr. Sheikh Lateef**, KAS, Registrar of Bangalore University was the Guest of Honour. **Prof. M. Raghunandana**, Chairman of the Department of Library and Information Science of Bangalore University welcomed the speakers and guests. **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, Secretary of the Branch, proposed a vote of thanks.

Seen below are **Smt. Uma Mahadevan** (at left) and **Dr. Satish Kumar Hosamani** (at right) speaking at the event.



3 - Citizen-Centric Governance in Karnataka

The **Karnataka Regional Branch of the IIPA**, in collaboration with **Presidency College**, Bengaluru, organized a Special Lecture by **Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar**, IAS (Retd.), former Chief Secretary of Karnataka, former Chairman of KARC-II and current Chairman of the Branch on the theme, "**Citizen-Centric Governance in**

Karnataka" at **Presidency College** on 27 January 2024.

Mr. Vijay Bhaskar began by referring to the six expectations of citizens from the government, based on a survey, namely, (1) Timely delivery of services; (2) Convenient formalities; (3) Providing correct information; (4) Good quality interaction with officials; (5) User-friendly website and technology; and (6) No brokers or middlemen in government offices. He then gave examples of government initiatives regarding each of the above six expectations of citizens, which included Aadhar-Enabled Payment System (AEPS), Gruha Lakshmi,

Yuva Nidhi, Sakala Services Act, Karnataka One, Bangalore One and Grama One, the Right to Information Act and the Integrated Public Grievance Redressal System (IPGRS), among a host of others. He stated that the government is making every effort to make governance truly citizen-centric by its steadfast belief in Contactless, Paperless and Cashless Delivery of Services.

Mr. Vijay Bhaskar then presented the highlights of the six reports of **Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission-2** which he had the privilege of chairing during 2022-23. His advice to students of the college was to be patient and diligent, while expecting services from the government, and not to go to middlemen or offer bribes to government officials.

Dr. R. Suchitra, Principal of Presidency College, was present on the occasion. **Ms. Noreen Alexeena Datta**, Head, Department of Humanities of the college, welcomed the guests, Faculty and students. **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, Secretary of the Karnataka Regional Branch of IIPA proposed a vote of thanks.

Pic below: Mr. Vijay Bhaskar is seen delivering the Special Lecture.



Memorandum of Understanding with Bangalore University

The **Karnataka Regional Branch of the IIPA** signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** with **Bangalore University** on 23rd January 2024.

The MoU was signed by **Mr. T.M. Vijay Bhaskar**, Chairman, IIPA-KRB and **Dr. S.M. Jayakara**, Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University. Present on the occasion were **Mr. Sheikh Lateef**, KAS, Registrar of BU; **Prof. S.Y. Surendra Kumar**, Chairman of the Department of Political Science, BU and his colleagues, **Prof. M. Narasimhamurthy** and **Prof. Veena Devi**; and **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, Secretary, IIPA-KRB. The MoU seeks to explore the possibility of engaging in the following modes of collaboration:

1. Holding collaborative programmes in the form of lectures, seminars, workshops, panel discussions, symposia, webinars, training programmes and the like in

Public Policy, Governance, Administration and related areas.

2. Extending cooperation to each other in the areas of teaching, research, publication and other activities associated with Public Policy, Governance, Administration and related areas;

3. Preparation of Background Papers, Compendiums, White Papers, Dossiers, Policy Documents and the like on topical issues related to Public Policy, Governance, Administration and related areas, to be submitted to the Government of Karnataka, which could be of assistance to it, in policy formulation in those areas.

4. Publication of Proceedings of jointly-organized Seminars, Conferences, Workshops, Webinars, etc., as well as Background Papers, Compendiums, White Papers, Dossiers, Policy Documents and the like, on topical issues related to Public Policy, Governance, Administration and related areas.

5. Conduct of short-term Certificate Courses on topical issues related to Public Policy, Governance, Administration and related areas. The courses can be offered online/offline or

in hybrid mode, with reasonable fees charged for students.

6. Mutual sharing of infrastructure, resources and expertise in the organization of programmes and activities described above.



ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ತರಬೇತಿ, ನೀತಿ, ಕಾನೂನುಗಳ ಅರಿವಿಗಾಗಿ ಒಪ್ಪಂದ ಬೆಂವಿವಿ ಜತೆ ಐಐಪಿಎ-ಕೆಆರ್‌ಬಿ ಒಡಂಬಡಿಕೆ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಉನ್ನತೀಕರಣ ದೃಷ್ಟಿಯಿಂದ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಇಂಡಿಯನ್ ಇನ್ ಸ್ಟಿಟ್ಯೂಟ್ ಆಫ್ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಅಡ್ಮಿನಿಸ್ಟ್ರೇಶನ್ (ಐಐಪಿಎ) ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಒಡಂಬಡಿಕೆಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಹಾಕಿವೆ.

ವಿಶ್ವ ವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕುಲಪತಿ ಡಾ.ಜಯಕರ ಎಸ್.ಎಂ. ಮತ್ತು ಐಐಪಿಎ-ಕೆಆರ್‌ಬಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರೂ ಆಗಿರುವ ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಡಾ.ಟಿ.ಎಂ.ವಿಜಯ ಭಾಸ್ಕರ್ ಒಡಂಬಡಿಕೆಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಹಾಕಿದರು. ಈ ಒಡಂಬಡಿಕೆಯ ಮೂಲಕ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಮಾಡುವ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳನ್ನು ಜಂಟಿಯಾಗಿ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ.

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಶ್ವ ವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ನೀತಿ ನಿಯಮ, ಕಾನೂನಿನ ಅರಿವು ಮೂಡಿಸುವುದು, ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕಾರ್ಯ ಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಬೆಳಕು ಚೆಲ್ಲುವ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಇಂಡಿಯನ್ ಇನ್‌ಸ್ಟಿಟ್ಯೂಟ್ ಆಫ್ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಅಡ್ಮಿನಿಸ್ಟ್ರೇಶನ್ ಮಾಡಲಿದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲದೆ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಯುಪಿಎಸ್‌ಸಿ, ಕೆಪಿಎಸ್‌ಸಿ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ತರಬೇತಿಯೂ ಒಡಂಬಡಿಕೆಯ ಭಾಗವಾಗಿದೆ. ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ನಡುವೆ ಕೊಡಿಯಾಗಿ ಐಐಪಿಎ-ಕೆಆರ್ ಬಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಲಿದೆ.

ಒಡಂಬಡಿಕೆಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪ್ರತಿಕ್ರಿಯಿಸಿದ ವಿವಿ ಕುಲಪತಿ ಡಾ.ಜಯಕರ ಎಸ್.ಎಂ., ಈ ಒಡಂಬಡಿಕೆ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ಸಾಕಷ್ಟು ಮಹತ್ವದಾಯಕವಾಗಿದೆ. ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಭಾಗಕ್ಕೆ ಸೇರಿದ ಬಹುತೇಕ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಇದರ ಮೂಲಕ ನುರಿತ ತಜ್ಞರಿಂದ ಸೂಕ್ತ ತರಬೇತಿ ಸಿಗಲಿದೆ. ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಲಿದೆ ಎಂದು ತಿಳಿಸಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ವಿವಿ ಕುಲಸಚಿವ ಶೇಕ್ ಲತೀಫ್, ಐಐಪಿಎ-ಕೆಆರ್‌ಬಿ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಡಾ. ಜೇವನ್ ಕುಮಾರ್, ಸುರೇಂದ್ರ ಕುಮಾರ್ ಇದ್ದರು.



ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಉನ್ನತೀಕರಣ ದೃಷ್ಟಿಯಿಂದ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿವಿ ಮತ್ತು ಐಐಪಿಎ-ಕೆಆರ್‌ಬಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳು ಒಡಂಬಡಿಕೆಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಹಾಕಿದವು. ವಿವಿ ಕುಲಪತಿ ಡಾ.ಜಯಕರ ಎಸ್.ಎಂ., ಮತ್ತು ಐಐಪಿಎ-ಕೆಆರ್‌ಬಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ಡಾ.ಟಿ.ಎಂ.ವಿಜಯ ಭಾಸ್ಕರ್, ವಿವಿ ಕುಲಸಚಿವ ಶೇಕ್ ಲತೀಫ್ ಇದ್ದರು.

ಒಡಂಬಡಿಕೆಯ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಅಂಶಗಳು

- ಕಾರ್ಯಾಗಾರ ಹಮ್ಮಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವುದು
- ಜಂಟಿ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ರೂಪಿಸಿ, ಜಾರಿ
- ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅರಿವು
- ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳ ತರಬೇತಿ
- ಸಹಭಾಗಿತ್ವದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಶ್ರೇಯೋಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ
- ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಅರಿವು

ಬೆಂವಿವಿ-ಐಐಪಿಎ ನಡುವೆ ಒಪ್ಪಂದ

■ ಉದಯವಾಣಿ ಸಮಾಚಾರ

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು: ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳ ಶೈಕ್ಷಣಿಕ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಇಂಡಿಯನ್ ಇನ್ಸ್ಟಿಟ್ಯೂಟ್ ಆಫ್ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಅಡ್ಮಿನಿಸ್ಟ್ರೇಶನ್ (ಐಐಪಿಎ) ಪರಸ್ಪರ ಒಡಂಬಡಿಕೆಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಹಾಕಿದೆ. ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕುಲಪತಿ ಡಾ.ಎಸ್.ಎಂ.ಜಯಕರ ಮತ್ತು ಐಐಪಿಎ-ಕೆಆರ್‌ಬಿ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷ ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಡಾ.ಟಿ.ಎ.ಎಸ್. ವಿಜಯಭಾಸ್ಕರ್ ಒಡಂಬಡಿಕೆಗೆ ಸಹಿ ಹಾಕಿದರು.

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ನೀತಿ



ನಿಯಮ, ಕಾನೂನಿನ ಅರಿವು ಮೂಡಿಸುವುದು, ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕಾರ್ಯಚಟುವಟಿಕೆಗಳ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಬೆಳಕು ಚೆಲ್ಲುವ ಕೆಲಸವನ್ನು ಐಐಪಿಎ ಮಾಡಲಿದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲದೇ, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಯುಪಿಎಸ್ಸಿ, ಕೆಪಿಎಸ್ಸಿ ಸ್ಪರ್ಧಾತ್ಮಕ ಪರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಬೇಕಾದ ತರಬೇತಿಯನ್ನು ನೀಡಲಾ

ಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ನಡುವೆ ಕೊಂಡಿಯಾಗಿ ಐಐಪಿಎ-ಕೆಆರ್‌ಬಿ ಕೆಲಸ ಮಾಡಲಿದೆ. ಕುಲಸಚಿವರಾದ ಶೇಕ್ ಲತೀಫ್, ಐಐಪಿಎ-ಕೆಆರ್‌ಬಿಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಡಾ.ಜೀವನ್ ಕುಮಾರ್ ಇತರರಿದ್ದರು.





Kuvempu's Birth Anniversary Celebrations

Deepak Sreenivasa

The **Department of Kannada and Culture** of the **Government of Karnataka** celebrated the 119th birth anniversary of **Rashtra Kavi Kuvempu** on 29 December 2023 at Kupalli. The government had declared this day as '*Vishwamanava Dina*' in 2015.

About Rastra Kavi Kuvempu

Kuppali Venkatappa Puttappa (29th December 1904 - 11th November 1994) popularly known by the pen name *Kuvempu* is widely regarded as the greatest Karnataka poet of the 20th century. He was the first Kannada writer to receive the Jnanapita Award. He is known as *Rashtra Kavi* (National Poet) for penning the state anthem '*Jaya Bharatha Jananiya Tanujate*'. He is the author of several plays, literary criticism, essays, and collections of stories and poems. Distinguished awards like the Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, Karnataka Ratna and Sahitya Akademi award have been bestowed on Kuvempu who espoused the '*Vishwamanava Sandesha*' (message of universal human being).

Concept of *Vishwa Manava*

A distinct contribution to the moral imagination of modern India, Kuvempu's

idea of *Vishwamanava* found early articulation in a speech he made in Mysore in the 1930's. Later in 1959, Kuvempu explicitly invoked the term *Vishwamanava* in an address to college students in Madikeri. Two decades later in 1982 the first Vishwa Kannada Sammelana in Mysore sought to codify the philosophy of *Vishwamanava*.

The philosophy speaks of how the human consciousness should rise and transcend boundaries to achieve the goal of infinite and become a boundless spirit. Such a state of human experience will ensure to see existence as one rather than many.

Relevance of *Vishwa Manava* Kuvempu in 21st century

In the era of globalisation and emergence of India as an aspiring super power (*Vishwa Guru*) and her stand on the global stage of '*Vasudhaiva Kutumba*' (one earth one family), the philosophy of Kuvempu holds utmost significance. Human values form the core of our nation's aspirations to become a true leader in the contemporary world by ensuring that Karnataka's philosophical values continue to resonate across the globe.



Administrative and Governance Reforms in Karnataka



Nayakara Veerasha

Independent Researcher and Writer on
Governance and Development

This feature encapsulates some of the important recent Administrative and Governance Reforms initiated in Karnataka:

- ✓ Karnataka has come up with **Energy Efficiency Action Plan** aimed to fight climate change by a way of reducing the carbon foot print across various sectors. The plan was prepared by the Karnataka Renewable Development Limited (KREDL) with the coordination of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). It provides a strategic framework to leverage the renewable energy sources and energy conservation. The main focus would be to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions in industries, buildings, transportation and agriculture.
- ✓ A **Special Fiscal Cell** has been formed to present the arguments of Karnataka before the 16th Union Finance Commission comprising of Dr. M Govinda Rao, Shri M. R. Sreenivasa Murthy and Dr. Narendar Pani, to put forth the state's arguments before the UFC for the equitable distribution of taxes and to raise other related grievances.
- ✓ A special officer will be appointed to coordinate the applications received under the "**Government at your Door Step**" scheme.
- ✓ Karnataka has constituted a six-member task force to curb female foeticide. It also monitors the effective implementation of **Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act**. It will be headed by the Commissioner of the Health and Family Welfare Services.
- ✓ A two-day conference will be held on "**Constitution and National Unity**" in February 2024. The same will be organized by the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC) and National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bengaluru.
- ✓ Aiming at improving the literacy of the Gram Panchayat members, the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department is planning to launch a literacy drive under "**Sakshara Sanmana**", along with the ANSIRD, Mysuru.
- ✓ Karnataka has launched a "**Yuva Nidhi**" programme with a guaranteed financial assistance to unemployed youth.
- ✓ In a first of its kind, 25 leaders of different tribal communities participated in a consultative meeting and discussion in Bandipur organized by the Forest department.
- ✓ The Cabinet has requested the Union government to decide on internal reservation for the Dalit communities. It also recommended the amendment of Article 341.
- ✓ In a historic step, reformer **Basavanna** has been declared as the

Cultural Icon of Karnataka for his contribution to social and political reform through the Vachana movement.

- ✓ Karnataka is planning to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) based tool to monitor the toilet hygiene in the schools. This is inspired by the model of Andhra Pradesh.
- ✓ A study team have been formed to understand the low voter turnout in 1600 polling booths under Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP). Special awareness drives are also planned in these polling stations.
- ✓ The Chief Minister has directed the Minister for School Education to conduct essay writing competition on Mahatma Gandhi's principles.

✓ Karnataka has chosen human Rights Activist **Prof. Anand Teltumbde** and **Prof. N. G. Mahadevappa**, a strong proponent of 'separate religion' for Lingayats as the **Basava awardees for 2022-23 and 2023-24** respectively.

✓ "**Project Garuda**" is an outcome of the partnership between the 40 Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) and the Change Makers of Kanakapura Road Association (CMKRA). Under this 300 CCTVs will be placed in Thalaghattapura police station in Southern Bengaluru jurisdiction for the enhanced safety and security.

✓ Chief Minister Shri Siddaramaiah has assured that the government will accept the socio-economic and educational survey report popularly known as **Caste Census**.





Branch Members' Writings in the Popular Media



Rama as 'Maryada Purusha'

Dr. A Ravindra, IAS (Retd.)

Former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka

In the midst of all the din and bustle, the essence of Rama's character has receded into the background.

Read more at: <https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/rama-as-maryada-purusha-2858544>

Tunnel Roads and Towers can wait

Tunnel roads are feasible only on a few major arterial roads in the city

Read more at: <https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/tunnel-roads-and-towers-can-wait-2890288>



An Indian polymath who changed how we study Indian History

Gurucharan Gollerkeri, IAS (Rtd.)

Director, School of Social Sciences

MS Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences (MSRUAS), Bangalore.

A mathematician, historian, and scholar extraordinaire, **Dharmananda Kosambi's** work continues to inspire those who seek to unravel the intricate tapestry of the past.

Read more at: <https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/an-indian-polymath-who-changed-how-we-study-indian-history-2878798>



The Bliss of a Morning Constitutional

T. Sethumadhavan, IA&AS (Rtd.)

Formerly Principal Accountant-General, Madhya Pradesh

*Walk on for the sheer pleasure of it, through gardens, crowded streets and narrow bylanes. Discover the joy of **morning** walks in beautiful gardens and parks, and the benefits it brings to both body and soul.*

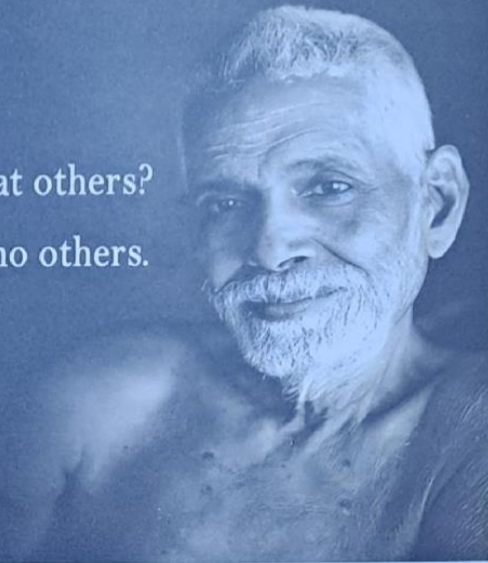
Read more at: [The Hindu https://www.thehindu.com](https://www.thehindu.com) > *Opinion* > *Open Page*





Food for Thought

Questioner : How are we to treat others?
Ramana Maharshi : There are no others.





IIPA-KRB Virtual Newsletter

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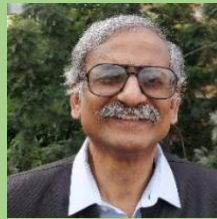
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