



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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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

Designed by

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Table of Contents

1. A Note from the Chief Editor	1
2. Lead Feature: 7 th Report of Karnataka Administrative Reforms <i>Commission-2 – Summary of Recommendations</i>	2
3. Administrative and Governance Reforms in Karnataka – Nayakara Veerasha	7
4. Reports of Branch Events	9
(1) Workshop on <i>Cyber Security</i>	
(2) Dharwad Local Branch Event: Seminar on <i>Stakeholders' Participation, Information Technology and Administrative Reforms</i>	
5. Branch Members Writings in the Popular Media	12
(1) Dr. A. Ravindra	
(2) Mr. Gurucharan Gollerkeri	
(3) Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar	
6. EC Members in the News	13
7. Food for Thought	14
(1) Response-1: Mr. T. Sethumadhavan	
(2) Response-2: Ms. Hema Ramani Iyer	





A Note from the Chief Editor



T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, IAS (Retd.)

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 **March 2024** issue of our **Virtual Newsletter**. This is our **44th issue**, since we began this initiative.

Our **Lead Feature** highlights the major recommendations of the 7th and **Final Report of Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission-2**, which I had the privilege of chairing. As many as 527 recommendations covering nine departments have made in this report.

Our next section is on **Administrative and Governance Reforms in Karnataka**. Painstakingly compiled by **Dr. Nayakara Veerasha** from the **Deccan Herald** daily, it highlights the major recent policy announcements of the government.

We carry **Reports** of two events conducted recently: (1) A workshop on **Cyber Security** organized by our Branch in collaboration with the **Criminal Investigation Department** of Karnataka; and (2) A seminar organized by the **Dharwad Local Branch of IIPA**

on **Stakeholders' Participation, Information Technology and Administrative Reforms**.

In our section on **Branch Members' Writings in the Popular Media**, we carry the links to three thought-provoking articles penned by **Dr. A. Ravindra, Mr. Gurucharan Gollerkeri** and **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**.

In our next section, **EC Members in the News**, we mention the honour extended to our Secretary, **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar** who has been invited by **Goa University** to occupy the **Chhatrapathi Shivaji Maharaj Chair**; and (2) **Dr. Priyanca Mathur's** Special Lecture at Bangalore University.

We regret to announce the unexpected demise of the **Secretary of the Dharwad Local Branch of IIPA, Dr. V.R. Betgar**.

We end the issue with our regular column, **'Food for Thought'**, but with a difference. This time, we invited **Mr. T. Sethumadhavan** and **Ms. Hema Ramani Iyer** to share their reflections on a thought-provoking African proverb: **"When an old man dies, a library burns to the ground."** They highlight the importance of Oral History and the need to document its richness for posterity.

I wish to add a disclaimer here that the views expressed by the contributors in this issue of the Virtual Newsletter 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.



Lead Feature

7th REPORT OF KARNATAKA ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS COMMISSION-2

(Note: This note contains only selected major recommendations. For the complete report, kindly see: <https://karc2.karnataka.gov.in>)

Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission-2 was constituted vide Government order dated 07.01.2021, with **Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, IAS (Retd.)** as **Chairman**. The Commission has submitted seven reports to the Government containing a total of 5039 recommendations in respect of 39 departments. The 7th and last report was submitted to Government on 2nd March 2024.



Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, IAS (Retd.), Chairman of KARC-2 (second from left) is seen with **Hon. Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri Siddaramaiah** (second from right), **Hon. Home Minister of Karnataka, Dr G Parameshwara** (in the middle) and **Hon. Rural Development, Panchayat Raj and IT Minister Shri Priyank Kharge** (extreme right). At extreme left is **Shri N. S. Prasanna Kumar, (IAS Retd.), Advisor, KARC-2**.

Methodology Adopted

The Commission visited 30 districts, 74 taluks, 171 cities/towns and 53 Gram Panchayats. Between 11.01.2021 to 31.10.2023, 298 offices/institutions were visited, and 4,564 officials, elected representatives and citizens were met. 511 meetings were held in which the number of participants was about 7,647. Telephonic responses were received from 25,522 users

who availed the state government citizen services.

7th Report

In its 7th Report, the Commission has covered 9 departments and made 527 recommendations. Besides this, general recommendations related to Revenue department have also been made in the report.

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN THE 7TH REPORT

Sl. No.	Name of the Department	Total Recommendations
1	Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR)	55
2	DPAR (e-Governance)	46
3	Finance Department	200
4	Department of Law and Dept of Parliamentary Affairs and Legislation	48
5	Planning, Programme Monitoring and Statistics Department	69
6	Department of Electronics, Information Technology, Biotechnology & Science and Technology	6
7	Department of Kannada and Culture	54
8	Department of Tourism	41
9	General Recommendations	4
10	Secretaries' Manual, Setting up a Shared Services Agency, Karnataka Crop Production and Land Rejuvenation Bill, State Volunteering Programme	4
Total Recommendations in 7th Report		527

TOTAL RECOMMENDATIONS MADE IN THE 7 REPORTS OF KARC-2

Reports of KARC-2	Date of Submission	Departments covered by the Report	Number of Recommendations
First Report	3 July 2021	3	856
Second and Third Reports	18 February 2022	8	1165
Fourth and Fifth Reports	3 February 2023	12	1609
Sixth Report	25 November 2023	7	882
Seventh Report	2 March 2024	9	527
Total recommendations made in all 7 Reports		39	5039

1. Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms (DPAR)

- DPAR may issue orders that proposals should be sent by Heads of Departments (HOD) to Secretariat departments only through a scanned single file on eOffice. **Secretariat departments should be**

directed to return letters and proposals sent by subordinate offices on paper, except in unavoidable cases, with instructions that they should be sent on eOffice. The system of maintaining parallel digital and paper files in some cases may also be stopped.

- **Assets and Liabilities statements of all Group A, B and C employees of Govt of Karnataka and employees working in public sector Boards and Corporations may be placed for public information in the websites of the administrative departments.**
- **A fortnight prior to Gandhi Jayanti every year may be declared for Swachhata Abhiyana in all Government, boards and corporations, local bodies, and University offices for identifying and disposing of old files, reports, furniture, electronic items, vehicle spare parts etc lying in offices and office compounds.**
- **To reduce the time taken for giving appointment letters to selected candidates by KPSC, it is recommended that candidates selected under General Merit, Category - 1, SC and ST belonging to Others and Women categories be exempted from the requirement of obtaining a caste verification certificate for issue of appointment orders. The General Recruitment Rules may be amended accordingly.**
- **In the case of recruitments where there are no interviews, KPSC may be directed not to do document verification by calling the candidates with their original documents. KPSC may only do automatic online verification of documents with the online databases of Revenue department (using RD numbers) and Exam Board databases for SSLC, PUC marks cards. If candidates are not personally called for document verification a lot of time can be saved and the KPSC can send the select list to the departments much earlier. The verification of original degree certificates and other documents by calling the selected candidates may be done by the concerned departments. In any case they do not issue appointment letters till they get the caste verification certificates. They may be made responsible for verifying these documents by writing to the concerned Universities.**
- **All newly recruited staff should be compulsorily sent to orientation or induction course of at least 30 days by each department. The Karnataka Civil Services (Probation) Rules, 1977 may be amended to make participation in an orientation or induction course of at least 30-day duration compulsory for declaration of Probationary Period of staff in all cadres in all departments.**
- **Vacant posts of Typists may be abolished in all departments by general orders. Existing filled up posts of Typist may be abolished as and when the incumbent retires. They may be re-designated as Multi-Skilled Workers.**
- **It is suggested that outsourced employees working in the Secretariat be rotated among departments after every 3-5 year stay, in the interest of transparent functioning.**
- **Tatkal method for speedier delivery of services by collecting higher charges may be provided as an online service. Once an application is made for Tatkal service, an SMS can be sent to the concerned officials, both the lowest level functionary and the competent authority. They should be required to deliver the service within one- or two-days' time. It is therefore recommended that the relevant rules be amended to provide for provision of Tatkal Services within a day or two days' time depending on the service on payment of the Tatkal rates. The services which can be delivered within a one- or two-days' time and the Tatkal rates may be notified. Employees may be given incentive for providing Tatkal services.**
- **The rejection rate of applications for citizen services can be reduced by introducing a Parking System for Sakala applications. In cases where the applications can be approved by seeking some missing documents or clarification, outright rejection can be avoided by parking such applications for a standard parking time of 5 to 10 working days (outside the stipulated time fixed for the service). If the applicant fails to provide the documents or clarification within the parking time, such applications should be rejected. The parking time should not be counted as delay for counting compensatory cost. The information**

regarding missing documents or clarifications required can be provided to the applicant either through SMS to their registered mobile number, email communication and reminder calls from the call centre.

- Sec 9 of the Karnataka Sakala Services Act (Sakala Act for short) prescribes the compensatory cost as Rs 20 per day for the period of delay in delivering a service, subject to a maximum of Rs 500. With the experience of more than 12 years of implementing the Sakala Act, it is now time to make the compensatory cost provision more effective. The amount of penalty for not furnishing information under the Right to Information Act is Rs 250 per day subject to a maximum of Rs 25,000. Providing timely citizen services is as important as providing timely information. Therefore, it is recommended that **Sec 9 of the Sakala Act be amended to increase the compensatory cost from Rs 20 per day to Rs 250 per day of delay subject to a maximum of Rs 25,000 on the lines of the penalty prescribed under RTI Act.** However, the compensation payable to the affected citizen may be capped below this amount.

2. Finance Department

- General exemption under Sec 4 (g) of Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act is being provided either by amendment of the Act or by issue of orders by Finance department to organisations like Karnataka Rural Infrastructure Development Ltd, Nirmithi Kendra, Keonics etc. It is recommended that **Government consider amending Sec 4 (g) to restrict the discretionary element and detail the specific procurements that may be exempted.** A proviso may be added to Sec 4 (g) prescribing an upper financial limit for the total value of such exempted procurements given to any one organisation in any one financial year. For instance, the proviso may prescribe that the total value of exempted works entrusted to an organisation under Sec 4(g) in a financial year should not exceed

say Rs 50cr/Rs 100 cr in case of state level organisations and Rs 5 crore in case of district level organisations.

- **Powers to write-off irrecoverable tax amounts of up to Rs 1 lakh in cases where there is no possibility of recovery of the tax, death of assessee, etc. may be delegated to JCCT** to reduce case pendency.
- The present procedure followed by Excise officers for compounding fines is lengthy and cumbersome. **The procedure in case of compounding offences in Excise department may be simplified by removing the need for filing FIR and mahazar if the parties accept to pay the compounding fine.** There may be no need for acceptance in writing, sending proposal for approval of fine etc. The procedure may be simplified, and an app developed for the collection of compounding spot fines. Handheld devices like palm top devices may be supplied to all excise staff working in vigilance and beat duties to collect the fines. Thus, their productivity can be improved considerably.
- With the use of *eOffice, HRMS, Khajane 2, ePAR and eSR*, some posts of First Division Assistant and Second Division Assistant may become redundant. **Redundant posts of FDA and SDA can be identified by the Commissioner, Excise and proposed for conversion to posts of Excise Constables.** The excise constables can also do some residual clerical work like police constables who double up as writers in police stations.

3. Shared Services Agency

Certain processes in government offices do not require a full-time employee. A part-time employee could do the task. The services of one employee could be shared by two or more offices. Office functioning would improve and lead to better service delivery. **It is recommended to set up a 'Shared Services Agency' (SSA) as a public sector agency under the Government of Karnataka to provide shared services to government offices per the details given below.**

4. Law Department

- **The Karnataka Court-Fee and Suit Valuation Act 1958 may be amended, and the fees fixed in the Act & Schedules may be revised based on cost inflation index and suit value.**
- As per the provisions of Sec.17 of the Karnataka Civil Court Act 1964, territorial/pecuniary jurisdiction of the Courts are fixed by the State Government. At present pecuniary jurisdiction for the Junior Division Civil Judge is fixed at Rs 5 lakh; it may be considered for increase to Rs 25 lakh. As per Sec 19(1) of the said Act, Senior Civil Judges have pecuniary jurisdiction of Rs 10 lakh; it may be considered for increase to Rs 50 lakh. Suitable changes may be made in appeal provisions also. This will increase convenience and reduce litigation costs for citizens because they can file cases nearer their place of residence.

5. Planning Department

- **Planning department may work with major departments to prepare Gram Panchayat and Urban Local Body wise extracts or sub-plans of the State, district and taluk sector plans.** The extracts containing details of all the beneficiary-oriented schemes and list of works taken up in the jurisdiction of the GPs and ULBs should be intimated to the local bodies for the information of their elected members and to enable GPs and ULBs to monitor their implementation.
- In the case of delayed registration after one year, citizens can get their birth or death certificates only with an order of the JMFC court. For this purpose, citizens must first get records from the hospital or cemetery, pay court fees, give *vakalat*, pay lawyer fees, file application in court and before Lok Adalat to get an order. If figures for all districts are taken, there may be more than a lakh unregistered birth and death cases in the entire State. Instead of asking all the affected citizens to individually apply in Court at great cost of money and time, **it is suggested that Planning department and Health and Family Welfare department consider and jointly direct the relevant medical officer of the hospital to file a common**

application on behalf of the affected citizens for registration of all unregistered events with relevant records to the Court. The court fees and other expenses may be borne from the hospital Arogya Raksha Samithi Fund.

State Volunteering Programme

- **It is recommended that Planning department consider the proposal for launching a State Volunteering Programme on the lines suggested in the report.** The Volunteering program shall be distinct from the internship program.

6. Tourism Department

On the lines of Village Forest Committees, **it is recommended to set up Gram Panchayat and Municipal Heritage and Tourism Development Committees.** The Committees may consist of the local GP or Municipal President, members, local experts, enthusiasts, donors, local officers etc. The GP/Municipal Committees may be given responsibilities of protecting tourist sites from encroachment, maintaining toilets and cleanliness and developing the tourist site. For this purpose, they may be given powers to collect parking fees and visitors' fees as per Tourism department guidelines.

7. Revenue Department

Karnataka Crop Production and Land Rejuvenation Bill

- Karnataka currently has over 21 lakh hectares of fallow land. This translates to about 16% of total tillable land. Key reasons for a high proportion of fallow lands are - aridity, groundwater depletion, lack of soil fertility, labour issues, lack of land productivity and low net income from agriculture, migration/urbanisation, fragmentation of land holdings etc. **The approximate total value of crop loss due to such fallow lands may be about Rs. 8,000 crore per annum. Of the total fallow land in the state, about 48% of it is held by landowners from the**

SC/ST/OBC/Minority sections and small and marginal farmers, indicating a shift in land-use especially among the vulnerable sections of society.

- The existing land leasing provisions as per the Karnataka Land Reforms Act, 1961 restricts leasing of agricultural land for agricultural purposes, except if the landowner is a defence personnel, seaman, or such agricultural land is in certain districts such as Uttara Kannada and Dakshina Kannada.
- An unintended consequence of this Act in recent times is that the restrictive land leasing provision has led to the **creation of informal and concealed tenancies without any security of tenure**. This has resulted in impeding investments in the agriculture sector and, thus, adversely impacted agricultural productivity.
- A law to facilitate utilization of fallow lands and formalize informal tenancy arrangements, subject to the agreement of the landowner, will provide greater social security,

security of tenure against forced eviction, transparency and fairness in rent fixation and payment, access to crop loans, assistance during natural calamities, fertilizer and electricity subsidies, scheme benefits, crop insurance, MSP procurement, technology and other benefits along with timely and effective dispute/grievance resolution. Some states have enacted Land Leasing laws as per local needs. Based on a study of the provisions of such bills/acts in different States, a draft Karnataka Crop Production and Land Rejuvenation Bill has been proposed in the report.

- **It is recommended that Revenue Department examine and consider the draft Bill proposed in the report to facilitate the productive utilization of fallow agricultural land in Karnataka by rejuvenating it and to increase crop production and productivity of agricultural land for food security and augmenting agricultural incomes.**



Administrative and Governance Reforms in Karnataka



Nayakara Veerasha

Research Officer
Fifth State Finance Commission, Bengaluru

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

Courtesy: *Deccan Herald*

- **Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP)** has come up with a mobile app namely **Sahaya 2.0** for addressing citizens grievances related to civic issues. It is to be noted that only after the receipt of feedback from the citizens will the grievance be considered as *Full Redressal*.
- In a first of its kind, the **Environment Department** has launched '**Green Index**' to assess and rank the sustainability of the various

programmes/schemes. Based on environmental compatibility, four ranks will be given namely Green, Light Green, Orange, and Red. The tool kit was developed by EMPRI along with the IISc.

- The Cabinet approved the **Hindu Marriage (Karnataka) (Amendment) Rules 2024**. This will enable the registration process to be made online, simple, people-friendly and improve marriage registrations. The online

registration eases the physical burden of couple's visit to the sub-registrar's office.

- The Government is to provide **mid-day meals in all government and aided schools during summer vacation in the 223 drought affected taluks.**
- The Karnataka Government joined Microsoft to put up a **new single window system for a 'simple and clear' regime for the approval of investment proposals.**
- The Cabinet approved to amend the **Karnataka Administrative Service Rules** to reduce the minimum years of service for promotions in KAS (super-time scale) and KAS (selection grade) from the existing 13 years to 10 years.
- The Cabinet approved the setting up of **'Unity Mall'** to promote traditional handicrafts, handlooms and Geographical Indications (GI) products at Mysuru Dasara.
- The **Karnataka Traffic and Road Safety** wing of the State Police is planning to send an **immediate text message** to the mobile number linked with vehicle registration **to alert motorists as soon as they have committed a traffic violation.** The AI-based Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras will be used for this purpose.
- The Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for the **Karnataka Legislature Institute (Constitution Club)** at the Balabrooie Guest House, Bengaluru.
- Government has taken steps for the installation of **Basavanna's** portrait in all government offices, with the title of **'Vishwaguru Basavanna'**
- The Health Department has launched a new **Neo-Natal Ambulance Service** that will help shift premature and critically ill infants to specialised healthcare facilities.
- The Health Department has also launched eight **District Mobile**

Ophthalmic Vans for providing eye care services in remote areas. Each of the mobile unit consists of an Ophthalmologist, a Paramedical Ophthalmic Assistant (PMOA), a Block Health Education Officer (BHEO), a staff nurse and a driver.

- **Sports City** will be set up near Yelahanka in 100 acres.
- A Cabinet sub-committee has approved for the **legalisation of all illegal layouts and properties as a one-time measure.** A levy will be collected with 100% additional tax in the first year.
- **'Asha Kirana - Eye Care at Your Doorstep'**, under the aegis of National Programme for Control of Blindness and Visual Impairment (NPCB&VI) was launched by the Chief Minister. A sum of Rs. 22 crore is allotted for this scheme in four districts.
- The Minister of Forests, Ecology, and Environment has directed officials to prepare a detailed proposal for the **appointment of Forest Settlement Officers (FSO)** to settle claims under the Section 4 of Karnataka Forest Act, 1963.
- The **Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department** launched **'Panchamitra'** portal for the public to register and address grievances related to Gram Panchayats. It has also formed **Panchamitra WhatsApp** and the number is 8277506000.

Awards/Recognitions

BMTC - National Skoch Award-2023 for the digital bus pass system innovative initiative.

NIMHANS - WHO's Nelson Mandela Award-2024.

ISRO Chairperson S Somanath - Vignatham Award.



Reports of Branch Events

Workshop on Cyber Security



Deepak Srinivasa

A Workshop on **Cyber Security** was organized by the Branch, on 17 February 2024 in collaboration with the **Criminal Investigation Department** of the Government of Karnataka, at the IAS Officers' Association, Bengaluru.

Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, IAS (Retd.), Chairman of the Branch, welcomed the wide spectrum of audience which included teachers, scholars, students, media, police officers, government servants, and members of IIPA-KRB.

The Vote of Thanks was delivered by **Dr. Anoop Shetty**, IPS, Superintendent of Police, Cyber Crime Division, CID, Karnataka.

There were three **Technical Sessions** where the following experts shared their views:

1. **Mr. C. Vamsi Krishna**, IPS, DIGP,



In his Introductory Remarks, **Dr. M.A. Saleem**, IPS, DGP, CID, Karnataka, highlighted the importance of Cyber Security against the backdrop of cybercrime in today's technologically evolving world. He underlined the dark side of technological advancement and suggested measures to tackle the problem.

In his Special Address, **Shri S. Ramanathan**, IAS (Retd.), Chairman-Emeritus, IIPA-KRB, mentioned the overriding importance of what is happening around the world in the field of cybercrime, citing examples from his own experience. He emphasized that special importance must be given to this issue as India's Digital Economy is growing rapidly.

Economic Offenses, Cyber Crimes and Narcotics, CID, Karnataka spoke on ***Emerging Cybercrime Threat Landscape and Legislation in India***. He explained how trends in cybercrime are becoming more organised and emphasized the importance of understanding the technology before using it.

2. **Dr. S.D. Sudarsan**, Executive Director, CDAC, Bangalore spoke on ***Generative Artificial Intelligence: Threats and Opportunities***. He explained how Generative AI can be utilized to ensure cyber security. In his view, a citizen support system is needed along with AI for developing a safe and secure society.
3. **Mr. P. Srinivas**, Senior Vice-President & Chief Privacy Officer, Infosys spoke on

Data Protection and Privacy in India. In his view, Data Protection and Privacy is not an absolute right; it needs to be balanced and focused to make it a positive sum-game.

Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar, Secretary, IIPA-KRB anchored the programme.

Dharwad Local Branch Event

Seminar on

Stakeholders' Participation, Information Technology and Administrative Reforms

The **Indian Institute of Public Administration, Local Branch, Dharwad**, and **Departments of Political Science and Public Administration, Karnatak University, Dharwad** jointly organized a Seminar on *Stakeholders' Participation, Information Technology and Administrative Reforms* on 27 February 2024 at Karnatak University, Dharwad.



Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, IAS (Retd.), former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, former Chairman, Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission-2, and Chairman, IIPA, Karnataka Regional Branch inaugurated the seminar. He focused on the role of Information Technology and Stakeholders' Participation in Good Governance, outlining issues of simplifying procedures, timely delivery of services, delegation of powers, ensuring good quality of interaction in the office, user-friendly websites and technology, no brokers in the offices, technology for improving the generation of revenue, etc.

Prof. M.S. Subhas, former Vice-Chancellor of VSK University, Bellary presided over the inaugural function. He held the view that implementation of administrative reforms plays a crucial role in Good Governance and integration of AI contributes to enhancing effectiveness of the implementation of

administrative reforms. **Dr. Vijay Kumar Betgar**, Secretary, IIPA Local Branch, Dharwad welcomed the guests, resource persons, and gathering. **Prof. S.S. Patagundi**, Chairman of the IIPA Local Branch, Dharwad apprised the importance and relevance of the theme of the seminar and introduced the guests. **Dr. Lakshaman Badakariyappanavar**, Department of Political Science, KUD proposed a vote of thanks. **Dr. Ratna Marreppagoudar** compered the program.

In the first technical session, **Dr. Rajesh Hegde**, Dean (R&D), IIT, Dharwad, made a presentation on the *Role of Artificial Intelligence and IOT in Effective e-Governance for Sustainable Development*. Referring to the growing debate on Artificial Intelligence and the Internet of Things, he held the view that with Artificial Intelligence, policymakers can analyze a huge quantum of data, and data-driven decision-making is

simplified to identifying the beneficiaries and allocating the schemes/programs of government more efficiently. IOT-based platforms are useful to get citizens' feedback and provide opportunities to participate in decision-making processes, nurturing a sense of ownership and collaboration towards Sustainable Development Goals.

Shri G.C. Tallur, former Secretary, PWD, Government of Karnataka presented a paper on **Governance and Governed - Stakeholders' Participation**. He argued that fostering stakeholder participation is imperative to strengthen democratic good governance. Well-informed citizens are accountable and play a key role in the functioning of the democracy. **Prof. S.T. Baglakoti**, Registrar, Haveri University, Haveri chaired the first technical session. **Dr. Basappa Athani**, Department of Public Administration, KUD welcomed and introduced the resource persons and chairperson of the first technical session.

In the second technical session, **Dr. Nitin Khot** presented a paper entitled **The Pursuit of Good Governance in a Re-Globalizing World**. The focus of the paper was on various political theories of governance, changing international situations in the context of interconnectedness, international cooperation, inclusive and sustainable development, and decision-making according to the people's aspirations.

Dr. Chinmayanand, Professor, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Dharwad presented a paper on **Information Technology for Administrative Reforms**. He explained the role of Information Technology in bringing about changes in the

administration. Online Grievances Redressal mechanism must be built so that it becomes easy to register complaints and track their status, which in turn contributes to achieving accountability and transparency.

Prof. Jagadish Tonannavar, Adjunct Professor of Physics, Karnatak University, Dharwad chaired this session. **Dr. Jagadish Gouda**, Department of Public Administration, KUD welcomed and introduced the resource persons and chairperson of the second technical session.

Prof. M.G. Khan, Adjunct Professor of Political Science, KU Dharwad delivered the Valedictory Address. He said stakeholders constitute an essential component of any organization. Presiding over the valedictory function, **Prof. S.S. Patagundi** viewed that the globalized world and technology considerably changed the lives of people in every country of the world. **Dr. Lakshaman Badakarippannavar** compered the valedictory program. **Dr. B.M. Ratnakar**, Professor and Chairman, Department of Political Science, KUD systematically coordinated the seminar. **Dr. Dasharath Singe**, Department of Political Science, KUD proposed a vote of thanks.

ಕನ್ನಡಪ್ರಭ

ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ತಪ್ಪಿಸಲಿದೆ ಕಚೇರಿಗಳ ಎಜೆಂಟರ ಹಾವಳಿ

ವಿಚಾರ ಸಂಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಟಿ.ಎಂ. ವಿಜಯ ಭಾಸ್ಕರ್

• ಕನ್ನಡಪ್ರಭ ವಾರ್ತೆ ಧಾರವಾಡ

ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಕಚೇರಿಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಎಜೆಂಟರ ಹಾವಳಿಯನ್ನು ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನದ ಮೂಲಕ ತಪ್ಪಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಲ್ಲವೆಂದು, ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಮಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ಜನರಿಗೆ ತಲುಪಲು ಮಾಹಿತಿ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನದ ಪಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಪಾತ್ರವಹಿಸುತ್ತದೆ ಎಂದು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಟಿ.ಎಂ. ವಿಜಯ ಭಾಸ್ಕರ್ ಹೇಳಿದರು.

ಧಾರವಾಡದ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಡಳಿತ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಕವಿ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಶಾಸ್ತ್ರವಿಭಾಗ ಮತ್ತು ಕವಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಡಳಿತ ವಿಭಾಗಗಳ ಸಹಯೋಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಕವಿ ಮಾನವೋನ್ನತ ಸಭಾಂಗಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ಜನರ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವಿಕೆ, ಮಾಹಿತಿ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಸುಧಾರಣೆಗಳು ವಿಷಯದ ಕುರಿತು ನಡೆದ ವಿಚಾರ ಸಂಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತನಾಡಿದ ಅವರು, ಆಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾನೂನು ಸಂವತ್ಸರ ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯ, ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕವಾಗಿ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಜನರೊಡನೆ ಇದ್ದು ಜನರೊಡನೆ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಬಳಕೆಗೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಅದ್ವೈತ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷಿಸಲೇಬೇಕು ಎಂದು.

ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಆಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನವನ್ನು ಅನೇಕ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಸೇವಾ ಸಂಘ ತಂತ್ರಾಂಶಗಳ ಮೂಲಾಂತರ ಸುಲಭವಾಗಿ ಮತ್ತು ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕ ರೀತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸೇವೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಆಡಳಿತ ವಿಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕರಣವಿಲ್ಲದ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಆಡಳಿತ ಮಾಡಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂದು ಅವರು, ಜನರು ಪದೇ ಪದೇ ಕಚೇರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಅಲೆಯುವುದನ್ನು ತಪ್ಪಿಸಲು ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಬಳಸಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಮತ್ತು ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳ ಸಮನ್ವಯತೆಗಾಗಿ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಸ್ನೇಹ ತಂತ್ರಾಂಶಗಳು ಬಹಳ ಪಾತ್ರ ವಹಿವೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಇ-ಆಫೀಸ್, ಸೇವಾ ಸಂಘ, ಮೈ-ಗೌರ್ವಮಂಟ್,



ಆಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ಜನರ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸುವಿಕೆ, ಮಾಹಿತಿ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಮತ್ತು ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಸುಧಾರಣೆಗಳು ವಿಷಯದ ಕುರಿತು ಆಯೋಜಿಸಿದ ವಿಚಾರ ಸಂಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿವೃತ್ತ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಟಿ.ಎಂ. ವಿಜಯ ಭಾಸ್ಕರ್ ಅವರನ್ನು ಸನ್ಮಾನಿಸಲಾಯಿತು.

ಜಾಲತಾಣಗಳು ಬಹಳ ಉಪಯುಕ್ತವಾಗಿವೆ. ಪ್ರಸ್ತುತ ವೇಬ್-ಲೇನ್ ಆಡಳಿತಕ್ಕೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಒತ್ತು ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಶೇ. 90 ರಷ್ಟು ಮೊಟ್ಟಲೆ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಆಧಾರಿತ ಅಪ್ಲಿಕೇಶನ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಆಡಳಿತದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮರ್ಪಕವಾಗಿ ಬಳಕೆ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದೆ ಎಂದು.

ಬಳ್ಳಾರಿಯ ಶ್ರೀಕೃಷ್ಣದೇವರಾಯ ವಿವಿ ವಿಶ್ರಾಂತ ಕುಲಕರ್ಣಿ ಪ್ರಿ. ಎಂ.ಎಸ್. ಸುಭಾಷ್ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ಜನರಿಗಾಗಿ ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಎಂಬುದು ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ. ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಯೋಜನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಗೊಳಿಸುವುದು ಇಂದಿನ ಅಗತ್ಯ ಎಂದು. ಪ್ರಿ. ಎಸ್.ಎಸ್. ಪಟಗುಂಡಿ ಮಾತನಾಡಿ, ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ನೀತಿ ನಿರೀಕ್ಷೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಸುಧಾರಣೆ ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ. ಉತ್ತಮ ಆಡಳಿತಕ್ಕೆ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನದ ಸಹಕಾರ ಬಹಳ ಮುಖ್ಯವಾಗಿದೆ ಎಂದು. ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಗೋಷ್ಠಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬೋಕೋಬೆಯೋಗಿ

ಇಲಾಖೆಯು ಜಿ.ಪಿ. ತಲ್ಲೂರ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ಐಟಿಐಟಿ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ವಿಭಾಗದ ರಾಜೀಶ್ ಹೆಗಡೆ, ಹಾವೇರಿ ವಿವಿ ಕುಲಕರ್ಣಿ ದಾ. ಎನ್.ಎಸ್. ಡಾ. ನಿತಿನ್ ಬೋಲೆ, ಭಾರವಾಡ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಜ್‌ಪತ್ ಡಾ. ಚಿತ್ರಯಾನಂದ, ಕವಿ ಭೌತಶಾಸ್ತ್ರ ವಿಭಾಗದ ವ್ಯಾಜ್‌ಪತ್ ಡಾ. ಜಗದೀಶ್ ಬೋನಣ್ಣವರ ಆಡಳಿತಾತ್ಮಕ ಸುಧಾರಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ತಂತ್ರಜ್ಞಾನದ ಕುರಿತು ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯ ಮಂಡಿಸಿದರು.

ಕವಿ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಶಾಸ್ತ್ರ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥ ಡಾ. ಬಿ.ಎಂ. ರತ್ನಾಕರ್, ಡಾ. ವಿಜಯಕುಮಾರ್ ಬೇಲಗಾರ, ಪ್ರಿ. ಎಂ.ಪಿ.ಬಾನಾ, ಡಾ. ಎಂ.ಬಿ. ದೇವಕಿ, ಡಾ. ಎನ್.ಆರ್. ವಾಣಿಕಾಯ, ಡಾ. ಅಶ್ವಿನಿ, ಡಾ. ಪ್ರೊ.ಎಸ್. ಪಾಟೀಲ, ಡಾ. ಜಗದೀಶ್‌ಗೌಡ್, ಡಾ. ಆರ್.ಎನ್. ಮರೇಬ್ಬಗೆಡರ, ಡಾ. ಬಸವ್ವ ಅಲ್ಲೇಗೆ ಇದ್ದರು.



Branch Members Writings in the Popular Media

Water Famine in Bengaluru? Borewells, borewells everywhere, not a drop to drink!



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

The problems relating to water supply as well as remedial measures have been articulated from time to time. What is missing, despite there being a State Policy for Water, is a coherent long-term policy for Bengaluru, analysing the issues and spelling out strategies to ensure adequate water supply throughout the year. Let me put forth seven sutras that call for urgent action.

Read more at: <https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/water-famine-in-bengaluru-2930568>

Toward a New Paradigm of Fiscal Federalism



Gurucharan Gollerkeri, IAS (Retd.)
Director, School of Social Sciences
MS Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences (MSRUAS), Bangalore.

Fiscal federalism constitutes one of the most important bridges for the allocation of rights and duties related to taxation and expenditure and helps address vertical and horizontal imbalance.

Read more at: <https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/toward-a-new-paradigm-of-fiscal-federalism-2913083>

Galtung and Gandhi

D. Jeevan Kumar

While Galtung freely acknowledged Gandhi's influence on his thought, others seem to downplay or miss the Gandhian connection

Read more at: <https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/galtung-and-gandhi-2927283>



EC Members in the News

Chhatrapathi Shivaji Maharaj Chair in Leadership and Governance, Goa University



Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar, Secretary, IIPA-KRB (former Professor of Political Science, Bangalore University and Hon. Professor, Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, Gadag) has been invited to occupy the **Chhatrapathi Shivaji Maharaj Chair in Leadership and Governance** in the **Manohar Parrikar School of Law, Governance and Public Policy** at Goa University.

Special Lecture



Dr. Priyanca Mathur, Head, Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education at Jain (Deemed-to-be) University, Bangalore delivered a lecture in the Department of Political Science, Bangalore University, Bangalore on 12th March 2024 on "*Publication Misconduct*". She is seen with **Prof. S.Y. Surendra Kumar**, Head of the Department of Political Science, BUB.

Obituary



V.R. Betgar

We regret to announce the unfortunate demise of **Dr. Vijaykumar R. Betgar**, Secretary, IIPA Local Branch, Dharwad early this month. He was working as an Associate Professor in **Good News Society's Arts and Commerce First Grade College, Kalaghatagi**, in Dharwad Dt. He taught Political Science, Public Administration, and the Indian Constitution for the last thirty years. He completed one UGC Minor Research Project. His area of specialization was Urban Governance and Leadership in Karnataka State. He organized twelve National Seminars, and Workshops on Indian Constitution and Human Rights with financial assistance from the UGC, ICSSR, and NHRC. He has published several research papers in reputed journals. He is co-author of two books and 30 research articles. Dr. Betgar was closely associated with the IIPA Local Branch, Dharwad as an office-bearer for the last 16 years.



“When an old man dies, a library burns to the ground.”

_African Proverb



Response to the above Proverb



T. Sethumadhavan, IA&AS (Rtd.)

Formerly Principal Accountant-General,
Madhya Pradesh

One of the earliest recollections of my childhood is that of my grandmother, fragile and rather immobile, relaxing in an arm chair in the verandah of the house with her mouth full of betel leaves, lording over the ancestral household. In a matriarchal society where women had the final say in all matters including succession to property, the unwritten rule was that the words of the seniormost person of the house, man or woman, will hold the sway. Moreover, she was manifestly quite intelligent and very articulate. Her sons and other relatives who supervised the agricultural operations of the fairly large landholding the family had will consult their ‘Amma’ on all matters of significance. As was widely accepted, she not only had enormous and profound knowledge of

worldly affairs acquired over years by observing and being part of various family-related matters including farming, but also tremendous practical wisdom adorning her age. She would counsel the younger generation on virtually every issue whether relating to social customs, family traditions or even on cultivation, such as measures to be taken when the crops were attacked by pests at an age when chemical pesticides were not ubiquitous.

The passing of our grandmother was a blow to the family in several ways; especially since it lost a reliable source for authentic information on matters of family interests, a ready-reckoner! With her passing, we observed the well-knit ‘*Nair Tharavad*’ losing its sheen and disintegrating over time.

Atul Gawande, the well-known public health specialist and renowned author, similarly writes in his book, “*Being Mortal*”, about his grandfather who lived in a remote village of Maharashtra, who walked with a cane, ‘stooped like a bent stalk of wheat’, totally hard of hearing, but surrounded and supported by family all the time, and ‘*revered not in spite of his age, but because of it*’ and was consulted on all

important matters of the family. Gawande, however, elaborates that the exclusive hold that the elders once had on knowledge and wisdom has eroded due to generational changes over time. 'New technology has undermined, to an extent, the value of long experience with new expertise, which further undermines the value of long experience and seasoned judgment'. As Gawande puts it quaintly, 'at one time, we might have turned to an old-timer to explain the world. Now, we consult Google, and if we have any trouble with the computer, we ask a teenager'! World has indeed changed.

In spite of all the technological and entrepreneurial advancement, the wisdom arising out of long experience vested in the elderly reigns supreme. Knowledge is not sound unless supported by logic and clear thinking born out of worldly experiences. The elderly people have seen it all, and gone through their life, gathering hard knowledge and wisdom imbibed from personal experiences. No amount of bits and pieces of information accessed by resort to technology will equal the capacity to judge critical events of life unless based on worldly experience. The memory of an elderly person is like a library full of books of knowledge which one can source only by listening to him /her. And as the African proverb puts it picturesquely, when an old person dies, the wealth of knowledge and the storehouse of memory of events and sequences, accumulated in his mind, goes down with him, never to be retrieved.

Alas, the passing of an elderly person indeed is the end of a chapter, nay, the burning of a library to the ground!

When an Old Man Dies, a Library Burns to the Ground

Response-2



Hema Ramani Iyer

Former Faculty of Pol. Science,
Mount Carmel College, Bengaluru
and now '*Accidental Writer*'

There are books and books. Some rest prettily on the shelves of a library, well dusted from time to time and remain, almost untouched. They remain prized possessions, much like the mounted antelopes that adorned some big homes. And there are books that are popular, books that incite, books that inspire. Books are much like flowers: there are exotic ones, wild ones, seasonal ones, each bring their flavour and it is left to the reader to choose wisely.

Yet, there are books that one may not find on the shelves. A book reader has a choice to make - either to go forth as a traveller, picking thoughts on his way or as a tourist going ahead with the fixed goal of taking the books that lie there. (Taking the thought from G.K. Chesterton who wrote: "*A traveller sees what he sees; the tourist sees what he has come to see*").

It is travellers who will come across such priceless libraries that are in the form of old men and women, who carry many stories, that may never be retold perhaps. Every country has countless such libraries that may just disappear as soon as their physical presence merges with the dust. That's the tragedy of unwritten tales, several poignant ones that may never be heard. When we as a society allow that to happen, we may lose several libraries and we will remain

poorer for it. When stories remain locked inside the old man, and he holds the key, he carries the secret to the grave and thus when he collapses, it is said the library burns too.

This proverb helps us appreciate the wisdom that the old carry inside of them - the history, the traditions, the multitude of rich experiences, the hurt, the failure, the successes too. Every story can never find its way between the pages of the book covers, and yet the unwritten ones can come out as voices that first resonate within homes and then spread wider over time. That is how oral histories are born.

As students of History, we know that several people participated in several movements, and yet, only dominant voices could be recorded in History. It is impossible to record every voice, but it would be pertinent to listen to narratives that may never get told. If we do not pass on these records of wisdom, they could be lost forever. For histories are kept alive and survive in the minds of the old people, and it is for succeeding generations to tap on such repositories of wisdom.

When the old work on problems that they face, they store that experience as knowledge and it is many such experiences that teaches them resilience. When the succeeding generation works on such studied cases equipped with knowledge of the past, they are in a sense, borrowing a book from the library. Over time, these unwritten notes become our conditioned cultural wealth of knowledge, and along with the new books we read, these become part of our learning too.

Today, we have so much information on our fingertips, but such wealth may get eroded if we do not take time to act and record such libraries of knowledge.



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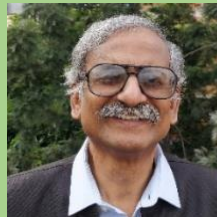
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