KARNATAKA YOUTH POLICY 2012

Department of Youth Services and Sports
&
Karnataka Jnana Aayoga
"Arise! Awake! Stop not till the goal is reached!"

"Stand up, be bold, be strong. Take the whole responsibility on your own shoulders, and know that you are the creator of your own destiny. All the strength and succor you want is within yourself. Therefore make your own future."

~ Swami Vivekananda
Foreword

November 29, 2012

Mr Girish Patel
Chairman, Steering Committee, Youth Policy
Vice Chairman, Karnataka Sports Authority

The Government of Karnataka has taken this unique initiative of creating a Youth Policy involving wide public consultation. As the Chairman of the Steering Committee of the Karnataka Youth Policy, it was indeed a pleasure to work with a team of experts in the Steering and Drafting Committees, to prepare this youth policy. The interactions that we had with a cross-section of people including youth from across the state, provided us the right perspective and direction. The net result of all the hard work of a number of people is seen in the Youth Policy document.

I would like to thank the Steering Committee and Drafting Committee members for the time, effort and energy that they have invested in creating the youth policy. Mr Baladevakrishna, the Director of the Department of Youth Services and Sports and his entire team at the Department did a commendable job in helping create this Report. Dr.M.K.Sridhar, the Executive Director and Member Secretary of the Karnataka Jnaana Ayoga and his dedicated team has out in a lot of effort to give a direction to the Youth Policy. I thank them for their efforts.

I would like to thank the Karnataka Government for having given me the onerous task of chairing the team that has worked on creating the Youth Policy. I would like to thank the Chief Minister and the Minister for Youth Services and Sports for their support and encouragement.

The responses received after the release of the draft youth policy has helped Karnataka State Youth Policy 2012 reflect the aspirations and needs of the youth effectively. I believe that this youth policy will be a significant and historic milestone in the development of youth in the state.
Foreword

November 29, 2012

Dr Sandeep Shastri
Chairman, Drafting Committee, Youth Policy
Pro Vice Chancellor, Jain University

It has indeed been a pleasure and an enriching learning experience to work on the Youth Policy for the State of Karnataka. It gave an opportunity to interact with some wonderful people including a wide range of young people. All those who have been involved in the preparation of the Youth Policy have always kept in mind the fact that this is a policy ‘of’ the youth and ‘for’ the youth.

I would like to thank the Government of Karnataka for having entrusted me with the special responsibility of Chairing the Drafting Committee. I was lucky to have colleagues in the Drafting Committee who worked with unbounded enthusiasm, unlimited energy and a passionate commitment to the youth. Mr Girish Patel and the entire Steering Committee provided us the right direction and perspective. The Karnataka Jnana Aayoga and its Executive Director and Secretary, Dr M.K.Sridhar was a great pillar of strength and support. Mr Baladevakishna, the Director of Youth Services and Sports provided us with all the institutional support we needed to do our job. The entire team at the Department of Youth Services and Sports, Government of Karnataka were ever so helpful and brimming with ideas. My research team at the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CERSSE) Jain University did a great job of collating together information, analyzing data and preparing background material. My special thanks to the President of Jain University Trust and the Vice Chancellor, Jain University for having supported and encouraged the Centre to take on this important task.

The effort that has gone into the framing of the Youth Policy is dedicated to the young people of the State. It is their vision, their hopes and their future we have tried to capture in this Youth Policy. I believe that the onerous task of framing the youth policy towards which all our efforts have been synergized will reach fulfillment with its effective implementation resulting in a better quality of life for youth.
I am feeling a sense of accomplishment on this occasion of submitting the Karnataka State Youth Policy which has been a long awaited wish of youth and their innumerable eternal dreams.

Established in 1969 with the lofty goal of responding to the hopes of youth and to encourage their optimism, the Department of Youth Services and Sports now works in multi-dimensional areas of youth empowerment.

The department has long aspired to create a youth policy that addresses the ever changing expectations, hopes, needs, challenges of youth and to encourage them to be capable, filling them with self confidence and to present such a policy to the youth of the state. Today, this aspiration is being fulfilled and the dreams of youth now have wings to fly.

The special honor Karnataka had of hosting the National Youth Festival in January 201, inspired progressive programs including the creation of the youth policy.

In this auspicious occasion of his 150th birth anniversary, as envisioned by Swami Vivekananda, it is my hope that the youth policy will enable the self-confidence, self-belief and the strength inherent in our youth to reach the highest level.

The hard work and dedication of the Drafting and Steering Committees has supported in bringing out this unique document, an important milestone in our journey towards youth empowerment.

My innumerable regards and gratitude to all those who have been a part of accomplishing the honorable task of creating the Karnataka State Youth Policy 2012.
Acknowledgements

Karnataka State Youth Policy has evolved with the enthusiastic and wholehearted support and contribution of the following:

Hon’ble Chief Minister Shri. Jagadish Shettar, Karnataka

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Shri. Shambhu Dayal Meena, IAS, Principal Secretary, Youth Services and Sports, Government of Karnataka

Shri. B. Basavaraj, IAS, Ex-Principal Secretary, Youth Services and Sports, Government of Karnataka

Shri. I.R. Perumal, IAS, Rtd. Principal Secretary, Youth Services and Sports, Government of Karnataka

State Youth Policy – Steering Committee Members

State Youth Policy – Drafting Committee Members

Karnataka Jnana Aayoga
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1. Preamble

Swami Vivekananda, a youth icon, has inspired young people over many generations. In the year of his 150th birth anniversary, the Karnataka youth policy is dedicated to his vision and mission. Kuvempu, a celebrated Kannada poet envisioned people with an ‘Unfettered mind’ (ಸುಲ್ಲಿಯಣಿವೃದ್ಧಿ). Our beloved poet Gopala Krishna Adiga gave a call to build a new State, a new world:

‘ಸುಲ್ಲಿಯಣಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ವೈಲಿರುವ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ವೈಲಿರುವ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ವೈಲಿರುವ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ವೈಲಿರುವ ಸ್ವಾತಂತ್ರ್ಯ ಸಾಮಾಜಿಕ ವೈಲಿರುವ’

Drawing inspiration from these visionaries, the youth policy recognizes the critical role of the younger generation and focuses on facilitating the process of their seamless integration with the rest of society. The youth policy aims to reach, engage and empower the youth to contribute to society and ensure its development.

2. Vision, Mission and Objectives

**Vision**

REACH, ENGAGE AND EMPOWER THE YOUTH OF KARNATAKA TO FACILITATE ALL ROUND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIETY, KARNATAKA, INDIA AND THE WORLD

**Mission**

To create, with and for the youth of Karnataka, a better, brighter, more just and fulfilling tomorrow

**Objectives**

- To open out channels to reach youth at all levels in the state
- To understand the aims, aspirations and needs of youth of the state
• To focus on the needs of different strands of youth across socio-economic groups and cultural settings in the State
• To suggest both short term and long term policy priorities focusing on the youth of the state
• To provide opportunities for youth to develop their inherent strengths and facilitate their journey to socio-economic empowerment
• To devise strategies for youth to take on greater responsibilities in multiple spheres, be active participants and partners in the all round development and growth of the state
• To ensure the implementation of policies through appropriate mechanisms resulting in desirable outcomes.

### 3. Age Segments

Youth, in this policy, refers to young people in the age group of 16-30. They are divided into three sub-groups based on their relevant station in life keeping in mind their skills, aspirations, potential and achievement:

a) 16-20;  
b) 21-25;  
c) 26-30.

The rationale for the three-fold classification of youth merits elaboration. Each youth segment requires a focused approach and intervention.

Those in the 16-20 age group would be completing high school and entering higher education. Some others would not opt for higher education and would seek employment. Many young women at the end of this first age spectrum may also get married and assume new responsibilities.

In the second age group of 21-25, many youth would be moving from the world of study to the world of work. Some would pursue higher education. Many more would be settling down in life and even taking on the responsibilities of parenthood. Youth in this age segment would also aim at enhancing their skill sets through appropriate training to be able to rise professionally. It is important to record that some youth in this age group may not fully succeed in securing employment commensurate to their expectations.

In the third age segment 26-30, youth would either be pursuing specialized higher education or settling down in their professional and personal lives and assuming greater family responsibilities. Many would still be attempting to secure stable employment and adequate means of livelihood.
The Policy takes cognizance of the fact that the aspirations and needs of those below 16 as well as the experience and expectations of those who have crossed thirty, also need to be budgeted into the policy framework.

4. The Contextual Framework

The desire of the Government of Karnataka to frame a youth policy is aimed at highlighting the importance of a new generation of Kannadigas who will play a crucial role in shaping the destinies of the 21st century Karnataka state, society, economy, politics and culture. The Vision 2020 document formulated by the Karnataka Government authentically articulates the role of youth in shaping and steering the destinies of the society of tomorrow.

The Karnataka Jnana Aaayoga (Knowledge Commission) had in 2010, commissioned a survey-based study of the Attitudes, Perceptions, Aspirations and Expectations of Youth in the State. A comprehensive report based on a representative sample survey of youth was published by the Karnataka Jnana Aaayoga. This report had a set of important policy recommendations. These policy recommendations were endorsed by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Karnataka in January 2012 at the 17th National Youth Festival held at Mangalore. While presenting the budget for 2012-13 the Hon’ble Chief Minister announced the decision of the government to frame a youth policy and made budgetary provisions for the same. As a follow up measure the State government constituted a Steering Committee and Drafting Committee to prepare the State Youth Policy.

Across the world many countries have framed imaginative policies focusing on the youth. At the national level in India, a youth policy exposure draft has been formulated. The states have been advised to frame their own Youth Policies. Many states have taken the initiative to draft a youth policy. In Karnataka, we have taken cognizance of all these developments and have attempted to provide an authentically unique flavor to our youth policy. This provides the backdrop for this unique exercise.
Youth constitute a little over one third of the population of the state. While many young people have accessed the benefits of education and learning, close to one-fourth of the state youth continue to be illiterate. Two thirds of the youth who do not know how to read and write are young women. More than half the youth have not been able to continue their education beyond SSLC. Close to one of every five youth hail from the marginalized sections and nearly two-third live in rural Karnataka. There is a more or less equal gender mix of young women and men among youth in the state. The state has been privileged to have youth who are making significant contributions to the multi-dimensional growth of not just the state and the country but also creating a global impact.

Given these factors, a clearly focused youth policy, allows the state to bring to centre-stage a very special segment of its population.

A youth policy for the state would at one level make young people feel that their State respects their presence, reflects their aspirations, responds to their needs and resolves to use their capacities and capabilities for the integral and holistic development of the state. At another level this policy needs to give expression to the ‘world’, ‘vision’ and ‘voice’ of young people in the state.

The youth policy takes into account that there are ‘multiple youth’ in the state. Multiple in terms of diverse age groups - resulting in different aspirations and expectations; multiple in terms of ‘different stages of contribution’; multiple in terms of diverse ‘socio-economic status’; multiple in terms of capacities, potential and talent; multiple in terms of varied opportunities for participation and access to different forms, levels and quality of education/ learning; multiple in terms of different stages and ways of dependence on the state.

The youth policy, has as its ultimate vision, an inclusive approach that hopes to ensure a ‘take away’ for each segment of the youth. The policy also aims at making the structures and institutions of the State, more ‘youth friendly’, ‘youth-sensitive’ and ‘youth-oriented’ and at the end of the day ‘youth-driven’. It aims at an inclusive and participatory framework, which allows young people to take ownership ‘for’ and ‘of’ the state.
When the decision to formulate a Youth Policy was arrived at, the Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) decided to provide an opportunity for young people to articulate their expectations from the state and the proposed youth policy. Details of the same are carried in the annexure. In their response, the youth mainly focused on access to quality education, avenues for meaningful employment that allows for full expression of their potential, enhancing and expanding opportunities for sports and recreation and ushering in change that helps create a better tomorrow. These aspirations of the youth and their expectations are:

1. Providing an **inter-generational connect** and supporting and sustaining the **idealism of youth** and infusing an **element of realism**

2. Facilitating youth to be **socially responsible** in more effective and imaginative ways and addressing the desire of **youth to take responsibility** and creating the necessary spaces for operationalising the same

3. Aligning youth to **global realities** and yet be sensitive to **local necessities**

4. Facilitating the process of helping them maintain their **individual autonomy** and yet retain their **group identity**

5. Creating a community network which allows for **sharing, caring and mutual learning** among youth

6. **Channelising their capacities** and providing **avenues for their legitimate expression**

7. Ensuring a **meeting of minds** when it comes to **expectations of youth** and **government policies**

8. Addressing the specific health and nutritional needs of youth, with a special focus on women.

9. Facilitating gender equity and gender sensitization
5. Strategy of the Youth Policy

The Youth Policy focuses on a five phased strategy for/with youth in Karnataka:

**FOR YOUTH**

- **Reach**
  The principal aim of the policy is to *reach* out to youth in the state. It hopes to ensure that the State and all its attendant institutions and processes reach out to each and every youth and make the younger generation feel that they are cared for and their aspirations are heard and reflected in government priorities, policies and programmes.

- **Engage**
  An inclusive approach of reaching out to all youth creates a framework to *engage with* each youth. Engaging with youth involves providing them a platform to articulate their perspectives and reflecting on the world of today and our preparedness for tomorrow. It will also energize the process of allowing young people to *engage among* themselves. This allows for a shared vision, an open dialogue on their collective aspirations and experience and building a bond among the younger generation.

- **Empower**
  This creative and energizing process of engagement would as a natural corollary, *empower* youth to take ownership for their future and the
collective wellbeing of the society, nation and the world they are part of. This spirit of ‘empowerment’ would help unleash the latent potential in every young person and help them channelize their aims and aspirations.

**Contribute**
This ‘energy of involvement and participation’, would pave the way for full expression of the potential of young people and help youth **contribute** to their immediate surroundings, their local areas, the state, nation and the world at large.

**Develop**
This ‘space’ for uninhibited contribution would result in the energies and capacities of the youth being employed for the fullest possible all-round **development** of the society.

The above strategy is all inclusive, as our dreams represent the powerful aspirations of an enthusiastic and energetic new generation of young people in Karnataka.

### 6. Youth Policy : A Multi-pronged Approach

The youth policy ensures meaningful ‘take-aways’ for each and every youth in the state. If this vision is to be realized, the approach needs to be inherently multi—track. Youth in the state are from diverse socio-economic and cultural backgrounds. They have varied experiences and have grown in diverse environments. This has shaped their attitudes, expectations and world views. Some aspire for quality education, some look to the state for relief and support to tide over challenges, some others seek a healthy and nurturing environment to excel, yet others would hope to equip themselves for the professional world of work and each one would dream of achievements in their personal and professional lives. The approach of the youth policy is to allow every youth to take ownership of the policy by being able to identify a key element in the said policy as reflecting their vision and world. Keeping in mind a holistic vision, the youth policy had chosen four distinct approach pathways:

The ‘**relief**’ approach recognizes the fact that for many young people, the state and its different instruments represents the only hope for providing
those opportunities and means in the present, for realizing their dreams of a bright tomorrow filled with hope, joy and achievement.

The ‘welfare’ approach of the youth policy aims at securing for each segment of the youth population, schemes, programmes and an orientation that would provide the right environment for young people to develop their latent talent and realize their full potential.

The ‘development’ approach of the youth policy focuses on providing opportunities for the all-round, holistic development of the personality of each and every young person in the state enabling them to negotiate the challenges of ‘today’.

The ‘empowerment’ approach of the youth policy, hopes that youth can take ownership of their lives and how they wish to shape their future. Empowerment is about partnering, participating and preparing for shaping the course of society, our nation and being effective global citizens. It is about facilitating the process of every young person participating in development and realising that collective vision for peace, progress, prosperity and global harmony.

7. Principles Underlying the Youth Policy

1. Holistic Development & Multi Sector Coordination – An integrated approach that would lead to physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and social development of youth – Youth who will have physical fitness, positive attitude, self-confidence, requisite skills and abilities and spirit of volunteerism to contribute to the multifaceted development of their locality/region/nation and the world at large. Integrating services of key sectors of education, employment and health to initiate holistic development, having coordination and monitoring mechanisms to assess the effectiveness of the linkages.

2. Protection of Youth at Risk – To address the needs of youth living under negative environmental influences by protecting these youth who
are vulnerable to abuse, neglect and harm and assisting them to gain a sense of control over their lives.

3. Gender Equity and Social Justice – While adhering to equal opportunity for all in the areas of education, employment, health and leadership, addressing the concerns of gender equity. Ensuring justice for all segments of society and reaching out to the socially and economically disadvantaged groups in order to facilitate their being equal partners in the processes of development.

4. Respect for and Pride in the Nation, Its Culture and Beliefs – Infusing passion for accepting and spearheading the rich Indian culture and belief systems that are based on the constitutional principles of justice, equality and fraternity thus enabling all opportunities for modern education, skill learning and technological advancement through the window of Indian heritage.

5. Strengthening Family and Social Connections – Imbibing a sense of belonging and emotional ties with the family, facilitating a nurturing element through the family and other social connections of friends, teachers and mentors, providing supportive home, school and community environments.

6. Community or Stakeholders Engagement – Involving Industry, Media, University, School System and NGO sector in the government’s initiatives of youth development, seeking the involvement of local institutions and the community in youth development initiatives.

7. Technology and Innovation
Strategise on how best to leverage modern technology to serve the interests of the youth. Ways and means of providing a legitimate space for innovation and creativity.

8. Inclusion of Youth Perspectives and enabling Youth Participation – Facilitating structures that would listen and document youth perspectives into policy, enabling their active involvement in all phases of policy and programme development, implementation and monitoring.
8. Target Groups

The policy acknowledges the inherent strengths in youth of this State and focuses on them with a view to developing the emerging leadership.

Given the fact that the State, its resources and institutions are critical for the progress and well-being of people, the Youth Policy has identified the following target groups among youth. While the Policy aims at reaching out to all youth, the following segments are especially focused on, as the need for state intervention to address their aims and aspirations is more intense and vital:

1. Women
2. Those from socially marginalized sections and economically disadvantaged groups
3. Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes
4. Minorities
5. Those deprived of access to education
6. Urban and rural poor
7. Youth at Risk
8. Differently abled
9. Those seeking the intervention of the State to realize and contribute their full potential

The Youth Policy aims at providing ‘access’ to the youth. If and when all youth can ‘access’ the state, its policies and programmes, the vision and objectives of this policy can be meaningfully achieved.
9. Policy Navaratnas

This Youth Policy has been developed within a contextual framework, keeping in mind a clearly defined strategy and with a specific youth-centric approach. The Youth Policy is enunciated in the form of a set of ‘Navaratnas’ (nine jewels). The Navaratnas are all inter-connected and need to be analysed in totality. They are mutually sustaining and supporting. In some cases, the focus is on strengthening existing policies, in others it is on ensuring better coordination and in yet other cases, new policy initiatives have been proposed. Whenever a policy suggestion requires the support of a complementary legal structure, the same has been specifically mentioned.

The Policy ‘Navaratnas’ include:

1. Hone Today The Hope of Tomorrow
2. Primacy to Family
3. Harness Youth Potential, Talent and Capacity through Education and Training
4. Opportunities for Meaningful Employment and Promoting Entrepreneurship
5. Access to Holistic Health Care
6. Expanding Sports and Recreational Opportunities
7. Promoting Social Justice
8. With and Beyond Government: Partnering for Participation and Progress
9. Ensuring a Coordinated Effort for All-Round, Well Balanced Growth and Development
The Focus

- **Youth as the Engine of Hope, Achievement, Peace, Prosperity and Yearning for Innovation (HAPPY)**
- **Harness Youth as a Collective Resource**
- **Access Opportunities for Achievement - at Multiple Levels**
- **Promoters of Peace - Working Towards the Greater Good**
- **Participants in Prosperity**
- **Youth as Ambassadors of Innovation who yearn for a better, safer, happier and fulfilling life for themselves and their fellow beings**

If Karnataka is to reap benefits of the ‘demographic dividend’, youth in/of the state need to be recognized as a unique segment of the state’s population. They are the ‘change makers’ of today and the ‘heart-beat’ of tomorrow. This policy underscores the vital need to recognize the ‘youth segment’ of the population as a powerful engine of hope, achievement, peace, prosperity and yearning for innovation.

1.1 Youth as a distinct segment of the state population will be the focus. This policy recognizes the need to target youth schemes and programmes that cater to ‘youth’ as a collective entity. These schemes and programmes can be accessed by any young person in the age group of 16 to 30.

1.2 Youth as a ‘clear-cut’ segment would be provided a special space as ‘stake-holders’ at multiple levels. Formal and informal youth clubs, bodies and associations at the village, taluka, district and state levels will be networked and strengthened through appropriate mechanisms.

1.3 Youth talent and leadership would be recognized, felicitated and further encouraged. They would be role models for their peers and would be ‘icons’ not merely on account of their achievement in a particular field.
but as shining examples for other youth to emulate. The process of selecting youth icons must be objective, scientific and transparent. The processes should include setting up a selection committee with youth experts from reputed institutions, in-depth interviews, focused group discussions and wide publicity of the same through media houses. Such a process for indentifying youth icons would be fair and do justice to the rich talent pool among youth.

1.4 ‘Youth Vision’ will be reflected in a ‘Youth Portal’ created for and by the youth. This would be a platform for youth in the state to articulate their perspectives, suggest initiatives, participate in programmes, reflect on developments and contribute to the dialogue on different socio-economic, cultural and political issues that impact the lives of young people. To lessen the “digital divide”, information available on the portal will be disseminated through publications and newsletters. Youth would be able to access the youth portal at resource centres to be established. All youth-related programmes and events happening in every village will find a place on the portal.

1.5 Government schemes and programmes will focus on the vision and voice of the youth. An appropriate mechanism would be developed in all departments to solicit and incorporate the views, inputs, suggestions, aspirations and needs of the youth in designing, implementing and evaluating various schemes and programmes.

1.6 The policies and programmes for youth will be aligned with the larger vision and goals of the State. The youth policy is in consonance with the larger policy of the state government.

1.7 In all societies, youth are symbols of innovation and creativity. The policy recognizes and emphatically endorses this fact. This policy commits itself to leveraging the creative potential among youth and harnessing the same for the welfare, wellbeing and development of society. Innovations by and for youth would be pursued vigorously.

1.8 Youth are the most powerful resource for creating partnerships to protect and preserve our environment. Karnataka is flush with success stories of young people having strived relentlessly to save their local areas from
environmental degradation. This policy would incentivize small initiatives of youth for environmental protection and arresting environmental degradation at the local level.

1.9 Youth need to be made aware of core principles of our constitution and their rights and responsibilities as youth of this nation.

1. Primacy to Family

The Focus

- **Primary Institution of Socialization**
- **Conveyor Belt from ‘Birth’ to ‘Being’**
- **Transforming ‘Challenge’ to ‘Capacity’**
- **A More Comprehensive and Inclusive Family Welfare Approach**
- **Building Self Esteem Among Youth by Creating Resilient Individuals**
- **Family Wellbeing - Securing, Sustaining, Strengthening (SSS)**
- **Family & Society as ‘Psychologically’ Safe Spaces**

Indian tradition deeply values the ‘family’. Family is the primary site of socialization for young people. This institution continues to have a sustained influence on the shaping of values and attitudes among youth. This policy celebrates the importance of family in shaping the future of youth. Family is verily the ‘conveyor belt’ from ‘birth’ to ‘being’. From the time children are born and till the time they become individuals with a clear identity, family is the ‘cradle of growth’. Focus on the family is an important building block of this youth policy.

2.1 As the family continues to be an important institution in the lives of young people, this policy would drive at targeting programmes and schemes which aim at ‘family wellbeing’ rather than mere ‘individual
well-being’. A comprehensive ‘Family First - Family Always’ scheme (Kutumba Prathama Kutumba Sadaa Yojane) is recommended for the same.

2.2 Today’s youth live in a world of multiple challenges, diverse sources of stress, heightened expectations and pressure to achieve. This often takes the form of depression, substance abuse, suicidal tendencies, peer pressure and actions caused by limited or incomplete information. A support system to help them develop resilience is often absent. This, many a time, results in youth going astray or taking rash decisions with disastrous consequences. The family could play an important role in this regard. This policy, affirms its resolve to help youth develop resilience by making available to the family, multiple support systems.

2.3 Youth is a transitional phase with unique physical and emotional changes and special needs. As they explore their space in society, families need to recognize the sweeping changes in the lives of youth and respond to them sensitively.

2.4 The need to recognize primacy of the family as a ‘psychologically’ safe space for youth is of the highest priority. Across the state, youth from diverse socio-economic backgrounds, have stressed the key role of the family. This needs to be leveraged upon. A community campaign that focuses on the need for time and opportunities for sharing experiences and voicing concerns within the family would go a long way in ensuring that the family is an effective ‘safety valve’ for young people to voice their concerns.

2.5 A 24X7 helpline, fully functional counseling centres in talukas, counseling centres in educational institutions would be some of the initiatives this policy proposes. These centres would also offer counseling to parents for better communication within the family.

2.6 This policy under the Navaratna (With and Beyond the Government) highlights the importance of Youth Exchange Programmes. As part of these programs, families would host the youth during such exchange
programmes. This would effectively help instill and share common family values and community practices.

2.7 A series of campaigns would be organized through mass media on family values and enable better understanding of young communities in family and society.

2.8 While young people have gained a lot from family, they also contribute to the family by caring for elders and those in need. This policy commits itself to sensitizing youth to their responsibilities towards the family.

2. Harness Youth Potential, Talent and Capacity through Education and Training

The Focus

- Inclusiveness of the Education System – No Youth Left Behind
- Inclusiveness in the Education System – Everything Curricular
- Multiplicity and Openness of Sources of Knowledge and Life-long Learning - Widest Possible Choice and Access
- Functional Literacy
- Promoting Multi-talent
- Life Skills Training
- Harnessing the Potential of the Demographic Dividend
- Yuva Abhiyaan - Youth Reaching Out to Fellow Youth – Peer Education

This Policy unequivocally commits itself to providing the context for developing and harnessing the multi-faceted potential, talent and capacities of the youth of the state through education and training. This policy aims at
ensuring that every potential capacity among the youth has an opportunity to fully develop and contribute to society.

Harnessing the true potential of youth also involves helping them shape up in life with self-confidence. Youth who are positive about their capacities and potential and take pride in their family, society, local area, state and nation would be a youth that would be a priceless resource in any society. This youth policy aims at creating the space for youth to grow, develop and realize their full potential.

3.1 This policy recognizes the importance of education in shaping the destinies of young people. Special programmes and strategies would be devised to bring back those who were unable to continue, either in regular or in open universities stream, into the fold of formal education. The basket of programmes would include short, medium and long term courses with a special focus on hands-on skill development.

3.2 This policy focuses on strengthening the efforts at providing youth with a wholesome education in a conducive environment. It recognizes the fact that education cannot be compartmentalized into the curricular, extra-curricular and co-curricular. It endorses the need to bring all opportunities for learning under the overarching basket of ‘curricular’.

3.3 This policy asserts the need to make every classroom a ‘space for learning’ rather than a ‘room for teaching’. This requires not merely a change in the tools and techniques of learning and how they are deployed but seeks a more basic change in attitudes and approaches adopted by every stakeholder including teachers and institutions. This pedagogy will be fully reviewed from the angle of youth who is nearer to societal trends and patterns.

Creation of a ‘Task Force on Learner Centred Education’ could create a framework.

3.4 With the fast pace of change and access to technology, there are today multiple sources of knowledge, instruments and processes of learning. The Youth policy commits itself to helping youth gain, conserve, create, distribute and use knowledge from these multiple sources. Open
sources of data and information would be encouraged by the state and young learners would be ensured access to the same.

3.5 Public libraries across the state are important potential resources for learning. Reading needs to become a social activity. Public libraries must create a “live” environment alongside the “recorded” one. It should suit the needs of different users: a hangout space for teenagers and also a community meeting room for youth. It can connect with the communities by providing free services to encourage early literacy, quiet study/work areas for all, book clubs to encourage appreciation of literature in adults, language learning, after-college programs, free lectures and cultural performances, author visits, storytelling/building, adult hobby classes and exhibitions and thus “enter training” people. The internet or CDs with Audio-visual training on healthcare or agriculture, the basics of fertilizers, or the entire vaccination program can overcome the hurdle of illiteracy and further empower youth.

3.6 This policy makes a commitment to ensure appropriate skill development and training for youth. This will be based on a mapping of requirements and would focus on diverse needs – those who seek technical skills, those from non-technical domains, those aspiring for managerial roles, those aiming at non-managerial jobs and the like.

3.7 This policy commits itself to catering to a range of skill development needs focusing on life, living, employment and entrepreneurship. A network of ‘skill development centres’ would be established all over the state.

3.8 The policy proposes to establish ‘Youth Talent Banks’ throughout the state to identify, nurture and develop the talent and potential of youth of Karnataka.

3.9 Today’s youth are often caught between their individual autonomy and group identity. Appropriate life skills programme to help young people cope with pressures is visualized in this policy. ‘Learning for Life, Training for Living’ (Kaliyuvudu Jeevanakkagi, Tarabetti Jeevanopayakkagi) would be a scheme that aims at appropriate life and vocational skill modules for the youth.
3.10 Peers have the potential of being the most critical support-group for youth. Youth who have accessed and benefitted from formal and higher education would be leveraged to provide support to their peers who may have been unable to access this benefit. A ‘peer-support framework’ is the most effective safety net to ensure both involvement and empowerment of youth.

3.11 A ‘Yuva Abhiyaan’ to galvanize youth energies to promote ‘Youth – for Youth’ and a better appreciation of this policy would be encouraged. Starting at the grassroots it could be organized at taluka, district and state levels. The ‘Yuva Abhiyaan’ would be a platform for peer learning and spreading greater awareness about the need to battle social evils including drug addiction, HIV/AIDS, alcoholism, untouchability and the like.

3. Opportunities for Meaningful Employment and Promoting Entrepreneurship

The Focus

- DEVELOP POTENTIAL FOR EMPLOYMENT
- SYNERGIZING TRAINING FOR SKILL ENHANCEMENT
- PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES AND SPACES FOR DEVELOPING ONE’S FULL POTENTIAL IN RURAL AND SEMI URBAN AREAS
- DEVELOPING THE SPIRIT, SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES OF AND FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP – VARIETY, PREPAREDNESS AND RELEVANCE
- FOCUS ON AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND SMALL SCALE INDUSTRY

The youth of today are key resources for the workplace of tomorrow. They would need to be made ready with the appropriate skill-set that the
professional world would expect of them. This youth policy takes into account the diverse knowledge base, skill-set requirement and training needs to harness the true potential of youth for gainful employment and entrepreneurial development.

4.1 There is a need to synergize training and efforts towards skill development. The capacity to access employment opportunities is directly linked to young people possessing the skill set that the workplace is looking for. The skill development programmes in educational institutions and at the taluka and district level should focus on ‘variety’ and ‘relevance’ of the skill development ‘options’. The programme will aim at ensuring the ‘preparedness’ of youth for leveraging the employment opportunities and potential at multiple levels including local level.

4.2 Partnering for progress involves bringing youth into the mainstream of local activities. This could include strategies for making agriculture more sustainable, developing local small-scale units, creating small manufacturing units and the like. Government schemes that provide support for the same could be given wider publicity and popularized among youth.

4.3 Programmes on agriculture, self-employment, skills of students and traditional artisans would need to be sharpened and certified. Such certification could be given by the State Government.

4.4 Competency/skill mapping of the youth along with local industry requirements need to be undertaken. This needs to be made available at the grass-roots and coordinated at the taluka and districts levels. This can open out appropriate employment opportunities for youth.

4.5 In today’s globalized world, youth are experimenting with exciting new opportunities. Many among them aim at becoming employment-providers rather than employment seekers. With the state increasingly being viewed as a facilitator, this youth policy commits itself to providing institutional, infrastructural, strategic and financial support to those who wish to venture into the world of
entrepreneurship. A single window approach to simplify procedures and processes would encourage many more enterprising youth to venture into entrepreneurial efforts at multiple levels.

4. Access to Holistic Health Care

The Focus

- ACCESS TO ADEQUATE HEALTH CARE
- FOOD AND NUTRITION FOR BALANCED GROWTH
- YOUNG WOMEN’S HEALTH : HEALTH OF A COMMUNITY
- HYGIENE AND SELF-CARE
- MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL BEING

The youth policy commits itself to the physical and mental well being of all youth. More specifically, the health and life style needs of young people would be specifically focused on at Primary Health Centres (PHC) and government hospitals. The existing awareness campaign on health issues related to youth would be reinvigorated and dovetailed to the specific challenges that they face today.

5.1 Given the primacy accorded by this policy to the role of family in the life of youth, this policy prioritizes the need to support families with youth to ensure that they have access to adequate healthcare.

5.2 This policy recognizes the importance of special nutritional requirements of youth in their growing stages especially late adolescence (the age group this policy addresses) for realizing their full potential for physical growth and intellectual attainment.
5.3 The adverse impact of poverty and lack of awareness about the need for a balanced diet on the health status of youth deserves greater focus. It is especially so with young girls who hail from underprivileged backgrounds.

5.4 A vigorous campaign has to be launched to popularize best practices to promote healthy habits and personal hygiene amongst youth and families. Existing programmes being carried forward through the PDS / PHC need to be strengthened and specifically geared to the concerns of youth.

5.5 This policy recommends scientific studies to assess and document the health status of the youth of Karnataka vis-a-vis nutrition and recommends specific interventions to address the problem of undernutrition and malnutrition among youth.

5.6 While there is some awareness among young women about the need to understand and respect their body, a more vigorous campaign by and for youth needs to be launched to empower them about their nutritional needs, reproductive health, hygiene, and basic home remedies to ensure good health and well being.

5.7 Educating and creating awareness in young women about importance of health, nutrition and hygiene impacts the health of the whole community as they play an important role in the health of the family.

5.8 Volunteers, youth clubs and Yuva Abhiyaan programs can take up issues of youth’s nutritional needs, young women’s health, hygiene and self-care to the villages. While this can start as an information dissemination tool it can also evolve into a distribution network of health-related material in collaboration with the NGOs in the region.

Mental and emotional health of youth is as important as physical health. Creating awareness and sensitizing communities, families and youth towards accessing counseling and mental health centres is of utmost importance. Creative ways of removing social stigma attached to accessing mental healthcare needs to be planned. A 24X7 helpline for youth to dialog with professional counselors over phone could be a first step. The mental and
emotional health of youth is also addressed in the “Family First Family Always” scheme as well as the life skills program ‘Learning for Life, Training for Living’. Counseling centres need to be strengthened as part of the youth centres at district and grassroot levels.

5. Expanding Sports and Recreational Opportunities

The Focus

- GRASSROOT LEVEL / MASS SPORTS FOR SPOTTING TALENT
- INCULCATING SPORTS CULTURE & VALUE TO KEEP FIT
- EXCELLENCE IN SPORTS – TO ACHIEVE HIGHER GOALS ACROSS DISCIPLINES
- EFFECTIVE AND OPTIMUM USE OF SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES
- CREATE AWARENESS IN FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES ON THE IMPORTANCE OF RECREATION AND LEISURE FOR A BALANCED AND HEALTHY LIFE

Sports and Recreational facilities are critical for the all round development of youth. While distinguishing between mass sports and sports for excellence, the Youth Policy underscores the need for a Sports Policy to define, decide and determine the ‘Sports’ component of the policy. The Youth Policy calls for the separate enunciation of a Comprehensive Sports Policy. Until the framing of such a policy, the following norms could be kept in mind. These norms will in no way be the basis for a Sports policy to be framed in the future.

This policy also focuses on leisure activities of youth. Recreation and leisure activities are often wrongly perceived as ‘a waste of time’. They have the power to infuse positive social behavior in youth. It would also help in weaning away youth from aggressive, negative or addictive behavior. There
is a need to create awareness in communities and families towards a youth’s need for recreation and leisure to lead a balanced and healthy life.

6.1 This policy endorses the importance of all sports and affirms its commitment to ensure that indigenous and rural sports are encouraged and popularized.

6.2 This policy underscores the importance of greater coordination between different government and non-government agencies involved with the promotion of competitive sports.

6.3 There is a pressing need to review the infrastructure needed for sports. In this context, the policy emphasizes the need for

a) Providing adequate playfields appropriate to the youth population at all the locations – Rural, Semi-Urban, Urban and Metro.

b) Ensuring access to playfields owned by apex sporting bodies, corporations, universities and all the educational institutions.

For excellence in sports:

6.3.1 Appointment of qualified coaches in proportion to the youth population
6.3.2 Appointment of qualified physical education faculty at educational institutions

6.4 The services and expertise of outstanding, knowledgeable & experienced National and International Sportspersons in their specific sporting discipline needs to be effectively utilized in all the relevant Committees constituted for the purpose of promotion of sports.

6.5 This policy believes that there is a need to promote and create awareness about sports in the society. This can be done by partnering with clubs, academies and other reputed sports organizations. Seminars, debates and interactions with people from all walks of life need to be organized.
6.6 A set of welfare measures for sports persons needs to be put in place to recognize and reward sports achievers.

6.7 Adequate number of cash prizes, awards and rewards would be initiated for various categories of sports and games to inspire more youth to play sports. Over emphasis on certain sports would be consciously avoided and diversity in sports will be promoted.

6.8 Coaches for various sports would be encouraged by deputing them for advanced training to keep them abreast of the latest developments.

6.9 Various certificate, diploma, degree and PG degree programmes would be designed corresponding to the needs of sportspersons and coaches.

6.10 Sports hostels would be increased and managed professionally.

6.11 Sports and games will be promoted in educational institutions by a system of recognising and incentivising achievements of individual institutions. Appropriate educational exemptions and concessions would be offered to those students who are achievers in sports and games.

6.12 The Policy recommends creating a special cell at Department of Youth Services and Sports as well as in all universities to promote and nurture sporting talents among differently-abled and other categories.

6.13 Youth’s leisure time or recreational activities are strongly influenced by many factors: culture of their state, school/college, family, neighborhood and community. How youth spend their leisure time and on which activities is also greatly influenced by their generation, peer group, class, caste, gender, place of residence and most importantly, mass media.

Access to constructive and creative recreational activities also plays an important role in shaping the personality of youth and their long-term behavior as adults, be it media related (movies, magazines or radio), music related, physical activity like sports, material activity like shopping or social behavior like spending time with friends. As the role of recreational and leisure activities of youth is being hailed globally as a core influence on lifelong habits and behaviour as adults, there is an
urgent need to study and research the recreational behaviours of youth in Karnataka to map the gaps where a need for recreation is felt and opportunities are absent.

6.14 Youth centres at all Districts and at all Grama Panchayats in rural areas and at every ward in urban areas should be established and strengthened to meet the sports, educational, recreational and fine arts needs of youth. These centres can facilitate youth to explore recreational activities ranging from media to a library, logic puzzles and riddles, adventure sports and nature appreciation, art and music to theater, recreational sports to a place where they can just sit and socialize.

This can bridge the gap between honing scientific temperament and cognitive, creative skills of youth and providing relaxation time. These youth centres could be hubs of broad-based activities for youth, a space that youth can own and thrive in.

6.15 Rural-orientation can be ensured through Youth clubs which could be given grants on a project basis to carry forward the recreation activities of these youth centres to villages. Where youth clubs are not widespread and active, the youth centres will focus on bringing these opportunities to village youth.

6.16 Media is an important platform that fulfills the recreational needs of young people. This policy commits itself to sponsoring and supporting youth-oriented media content.

6.17 Creating an opportunity for youth to become producers/creators of youth-relevant, youth-friendly media than being confined to the role of consumers of magazines, music, and TV serials and cinema can provide impetus to reaching youth’s voice to the community, society and state.

6.18 Technology also plays a crucial role in recreational expression of youth. Mobile phones, video games, Internet and information technology provide a range of channels for promoting positive, creative recreational activities in youth.
6.19 A pilot project can be explored in using mobile phone technology to develop applications to engage with youth by providing recreational information as well as games and other entertainment that stimulate them intellectually, emotionally and socially.

6. Promoting Social Justice

The Focus

- An Inclusive Approach based on equality and equity
- Providing a Platform for the Socially and Economically Marginalized to Reach and Achieve their Full Potential
- Promoting Gender Sensitivity and Ensuring Gender Justice
- A Multipronged Approach for the Differently Abled

The reality of inequality and unequal opportunities in our society requires a reaffirmation of our commitment to social justice. This reaffirmation is both an assurance to every youth and in the nature of a commitment from every youth. A Karnataka that is firmly dedicated to implementing social justice in all its manifestations is the core value that the youth policy believes in.

7.1 The youth policy believes in an inclusive approach based on equality and equity. For youth from disadvantaged sections of society, the policies of social justice represent their hope and aspiration for a better future. This policy is committed to ensuring that they have an opportunity to fulfill that dream. The youth policy also underscores the importance of public awareness programmes on the continued social inequalities that plague the society and the role that the younger generation could play in ameliorating the same.
7.2 The rapid strides that young women in the state are taking today rightfully claims their legitimate place on the table of equality. In spite of this progress, there continue to be glaring examples of injustice being perpetrated on women. This calls for a more vigorous movement to ensure Gender Sensitivity - empowering women and sensitizing society to women empowerment. The proposed Life Skills programme would help sensitize the younger generation to gender issues. Voluntary youth groups could also play a major role in enhancing and spreading awareness through street plays, discussions, debates and road shows on the need for gender sensitivity. Such measures would help the younger generation understand gender issues from a proper perspective and instill in them an attitude of treating the opposite gender with empathy, fairness and equality.

7.3 The differently-abled among youth need to be provided appropriate opportunities to showcase their capacities and develop their full potential. The proposed ‘Learning for Life, Training for Living’ programme could spread awareness about the differently abled. The Functional Literacy Drive could help the differently abled further hone their skills. Youth voluntary groups could also provide a platform for differently abled youth. Being sensitive to the special needs of the differently abled, the State is committed to ensuring easy access pathways in public spaces. This policy commits itself to operationalising the same to the fullest possible extent.
The Focus

- **INDIVIDUAL, COMMUNITY, SOCIETY, STATE - A DYNAMIC RELATIONSHIP**
- ‘IT TAKES A WHOLE VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD’
- SENSE OF BELONGING, INVOLVEMENT AND OWNERSHIP- GOING BEYOND THE GOVERNMENT AND THE STATE
- OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE
- VOLUNTEERISM - PARTNERING FOR PROGRESS - ALLOWING ALL STAKEHOLDERS TO TAKE OWNERSHIP
- LEVERAGING CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
- ‘EMPLOYED WHILE STUDYING’ (EWS)

Today, there continues to be a significant dependence on the State and its attendant institutions when it comes to support for different sections of society. The same is true for the youth. In this age of globalization, as the State continues to be the provider it is also increasingly becoming a facilitator. As a facilitator it partners with non-government agencies to coordinate policy and implement programmes. This policy recognizes the importance of this emerging partnership involving government and non-governmental agencies. In these times of interconnectedness, it becomes a challenge for people to operate in silos and in splendid isolation. This policy will provide a thread to bond: an opportunity for young people to bond with one another, their local community, others in society and the State. ‘Volunteerism’ is an important pathway to achieve the same.
8.1 There is an old saying ‘It takes a whole village to raise a child’. It is also true that ‘It takes one youth to transform a village’. This policy would drive for partnerships at multiple levels so that we create self-supporting and mutually supporting communities of people across the state.

8.2 Multiple capacities of youth often do not find an avenue for expression. Most young people in the state often say that they would like to be involved in serving the community but have very limited opportunities for the same and have strongly endorsed the need for an appropriate and viable platform. This policy places a premium on ‘Volunteerism’. It would facilitate the process of every youth dedicating 7 days in a year for voluntary work. Yuva Okkutas/Youth federations, voluntary organizations and various government agencies or departments can form partnerships at various levels in carrying out numerous society-oriented activities on voluntary basis.

8.3 There is a need for a mechanism to coordinate, implement and manage change on a professional and ongoing basis. The strengths of the Government system, in the contemporary and dynamic context, have to be leveraged by such a mechanism (Company’s Act, sec 25). This will add value and coordinate all the various departments on one hand and all the stake holders working for youth on the other.

Some of its function would include implementing programs proposed in the policy; coordinating youth-oriented programmes and schemes of various government departments; managing fellowships and volunteering programmes; maintenance of talent banks; managing information about youth of Karnataka through MIS (Management Information System); updating and improving training programmes and modules from time to time; building networks and partnerships; think tanks and R&D centres for youth.

8.4 Public Private Partnership (PPP) is today increasingly the preferred model for development and growth. It is a vehicle to allow multiple stakeholders to participate. As part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), the private sector could be encouraged to focus more on programmes for youth empowerment and development. Their
engagement could be specifically dovetailed to their future requirements as industry, business and service providers.

8.5 As more and more youth aspire for higher educational opportunities, an ‘employed while studying (EWS)’ scheme needs to be popularized and given wide publicity. It involves students taking up part time employment/ internship as they study. This would help them pay for their education. This allows youth to take ownership for their learning and lives. It instills in them a heightened sense of responsibility. Such a scheme could be linked to the CSR plans of the private sector and an Internship programme in government.

8.6 This policy recommends intra-state, inter-state and international Youth Exchange Programme. A vibrant intra and inter-state Youth Exchange Programme wherein youth are selected in a transparent and unbiased manner, would help broaden the horizons of young people and also expose them to developments in other parts of the state and country. It would also go a long way in promoting national integration. Young people would be in a better position to appreciate and respect other culture, traditions and practices within the country. While the Government could energize such efforts of youth exchange programmes it could also be promoted by the private and non-governmental sector. Such a connect between persons would further cement the bonds of understanding between countries and within the nation.

8.7 It is heartening to note that in their 2011 survey “A Study on Perceptions, Aspirations, Expectations and Attitudes of Youth of Karnataka”, Karnataka Jnana Aayoga found that young people in the state were proud of their Kannadiga identity. They were equally proud to call themselves Indians. This pride in our nation, state, culture and symbols needs to be further strengthened and sustained. There need to be visible opportunities for expression of this sense of belonging as it often remains latent and unexpressed. A special drive for this could be contemplated during the celebration of Rajyotsava Day in November.
The Focus

- **INCLUSIVE GROWTH WITH DEVELOPMENT**
- **ADDRESSING INTER-SECTORAL AND INTER-REGIONAL DIVERSITIES**
- **CONTRIBUTE LOCALLY, THINK GLOBALLY**
- **CLEARLY DEFINED AND WELL ORCHESTRATED YOUTH FRAMEWORK**
- **COOPERATION, COORDINATION AND CONSOLIDATION (CCC)**
- **SINGLE MONITORING FRAMEWORK (SMF)**

To facilitate the process of society, state and government functioning as a well coordinated unit, it would be necessary to devise strategies for a more effective and practical coordination mechanism.

9.1 There is a need for a clearly defined and well orchestrated youth programme framework. Today, several agencies in the state are working for the betterment of youth. Most of them have well designed programmes which are implemented with sincerity. However, many times there is a duplication of tasks and agencies often unconsciously working at cross purposes. It may be useful to synchronize all youth related activities of the state to ensure that on the one hand there is no duplication of tasks and thus wastage of energy and resources and on the other a focused policy and objectives-driven approach to issues. There needs to be a coordination of activities of different government departments linked to youth issues. Many a time coordination is also needed within a department. A three-fold strategy of Cooperation, Coordination, and Consolidation would be vital. The creation of a mechanism mentioned in 8.3 above to monitor and evaluate the implementation of different youth related programmes seems to be in order. This would provide for a Single Window Monitoring Framework (SWMF).
9.2 An annual review of implementation of youth related programmes involving all agencies needs to be pursued with renewed vigour. This review should be clearly focused on what has been implemented and a time frame for corrective actions that need to be taken. An Apex-level Youth Policy Review Committee can be established to ensure implementation of the policy’s recommendation.

10. Policy Recommendations

The Karnataka Youth Policy makes a concerted attempt to address the aspirations, expectations, contributions and challenges of youth in the State. The policy has adopted a unique strategy of reaching out, engaging and empowering youth and in the process ensuring their contribution to the development of their local community, their region, their state, our nation and the world at large. The Karnataka Youth Policy makes a range of policy recommendations to the State. The State needs to prioritize the recommendations as Short Term, Medium Term and Long Term and fix a time frame for their effective and meaningful implementation.

1. It is recommended that as a means to empower youth, programmes aimed at ensuring greater awareness among the younger generation about existing opportunities and new initiatives of the state, be given wide publicity. Instruments as suggested in the policy including Youth Portal and Yuva Abhiyaan could be used effectively to spread awareness about existing schemes and new initiatives.

2. Young people are bubbling with enthusiasm and brimming with fresh innovative ideas. The Policy recommends the creation of a Talent Bank to capture these potentialities. Also, Yuva Abhiyaan aims at providing such a platform to youth. The State is encouraged to give wide publicity to these opportunities.

3. Youth Policy under the different Navaratnas has made special policy recommendations to the government. They are summarized below. The Government is encouraged to define a time frame (short term, medium term and long term) with specific deadlines for their implementation.
a. Creation of ‘Youth Portal’ as a platform for Youth interaction  
b. Institution of ‘Youth Icon’ Awards  
c. Launch of ‘Family First - Family Always’ scheme (KutumbaPrathamaKutumbaSadaaYojane)  
d. Creation of a 24x7 helpline for youth  
e. Creation of a ‘Task Force on Learner Centred Education’  
f. Creation of Youth Talent Bank  
g. Formulation and Implementation of Age Appropriate Life Skills programme : ‘Learning for Life, Training for Living’ (KaliyuvuduJeevanakaagi, TarabethiJeevanoppaayakkagi)  
h. Launching of Yuva Abhiyaan  
i. Competency/skill mapping of youth  
j. Campaign to popularize best practices to promote healthy habits and personal hygiene  
k. Youth centres should be established and strengthened to meet the sports, educational, recreational and fine arts needs of youth.  
l. Facilitating the process of every youth dedicating 7 days a year to ‘Volunteerism’  
m. Launch of Intra-state and Inter-state theme-based Youth Exchange Programmes  
n. Launch of ‘Employed While Studying’ Scheme  
o. Campaigns and programs to address the growing disenchantment of youth in agriculture and motivate them to take up agricultural and allied activities  
p. Facilitating entrepreneurial activities among youth - both agro-based and local-resources-oriented.

The Youth Policy recommends the creation of a Swami Vivekananda Youth Empowerment Corporation (SWAYEM) under the Companies Act. This Corporation shall:

a. Act as a Think-tank on youth related ideas and initiatives  
b. Implement youth-oriented programs and coordinate the activities of the different departments involved in the implementation of the Youth policy in collaboration with the Department of Youth Services and Sports  
c. Review and Monitor the implementation of Youth Policy schemes as provided for in the Annual Budget
d. Establish linkages and liaison with other Governments, bodies, agencies, institutes both nationally and internationally for the benefit of the youth of Karnataka

e. Review and suggest revisions in schemes and modules of DYSS from time to time

f. Make appropriate recommendations to state Government from time to time on youth policy and related issues

The existing Department of Youth Services and Sports need to be renamed as the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports. Further:

a. The Department needs to constitute project specific cells

b. The Department’s Human Resources need to be strengthened to make it an effective implementation platform for the Youth Policy at multiple levels especially at the grass-root level.

6. Establish Vivekananda Youth Centres at all Districts and at all Grama Panchayats in rural areas and at every ward in urban areas to engage with the youth in a sustained way by providing broad-based opportunities for growth.

7. The Youth Policy calls for the separate enunciation of a Comprehensive Sports Policy.

8. In the light of the recommendations of the Youth Policy and the Government prioritizing these recommendations in the short, medium and long term range, adequate budgetary provisions need to be made for the same for their proper, timely and effective implementation.

9. It is recommended to constitute a Task Force to ensure acceptance of the policy by Government and commence its implementation in a project mode. The Task Force should include the Chairpersons of the Steering and Drafting Committee of the Youth Policy, Director of Youth Services and Sports, Joint Secretary/ Deputy Secretary of Youth Services and other important stake holders.

10. Swami Vivekananda’s 150th birth anniversary to be commemorated in a befitting manner by organizing programmes and congregating youth from across the state to participate in the same. This anniversary celebration could serve as a launching pad for the implementation of the Youth Policy.
## 11. Roadmap for Implementation

### PHASE I

**IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD:** Short Term (Programmes to be launched within 1 year)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiatives</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Action Plan</th>
<th>Expected Outcome</th>
<th>Navrathnas</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yuva Abhiyan - Special Drive/Campaign to Reach youth</td>
<td>Creating awareness about the Youth Policy-presenting opportunities created by the policy. Publicising existing relevant schemes and programs for youth Enrolling youth as participants in programs and as volunteers Creating awareness about social issues</td>
<td>• Campaign/marathon/adventure and mass sports/jatha at district and grassroots level • Publicity through hoardings/posters/electronic &amp; print media, SMS campaigns and social media etc. • Use existing youth networks like NSS, NCC and other NGOs to reach out • Partner with universities – a community campaign of students reaching out to non-student youth in their respective locality • Hold meetings with Gram Panchayats/local non-formal youth groups • Disseminate information such as gender sensitivity, voting rights, youth rights and other social issues; environment preservation; nutritional needs, health and related issues; scientific knowledge relevant to everyday living etc.</td>
<td>• Reaching maximum number of youth • Awareness about the policy and its opportunities • Awareness about existing schemes for youth • Youth participation</td>
<td>N1: Hone today the hope of tomorrow Indirectly linked to all Navrathnas</td>
<td>REACH and ENGAGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Talent Bank</td>
<td>A strong MIS to capture the talents of every youth leading to a talent database. This will be the basis for linking relevant programs to respective youth segments. Creating opportunities for youth to display their talent at local and higher levels through talent shows and competitions.</td>
<td>• Capture information about talents of youth • MIS to build a talent database • Talent shows and competitions at local and higher levels for youth to display their talent • Link youth to experts in their area of interest/talent • Aadhaar (UID No.) will also be used in the talent bank</td>
<td>• Maximum number of youth enrolled and registered in a central database with details of their talents and skills • Programs designed based on data and skills/talents of youth • Local-area specific talents gain identity • Talents are linked to earn a livelihood and achieve a better quality of life</td>
<td>N1: Hone Today the Hope of Tomorrow N3: Harness the Youth Potential and Capacity through Education and Training N4: Opportunities for Meaningful Employment and Promoting Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>ENGAGE and EMPOWER</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Youth Helpline | • Free 24X7 tele-helpline – Professional psychological counselling and Information service  
• Provides answers to multi-sector multi-level queries | • Set up a help-line  
• Tie up with voluntary social workers and counsellors  
• Tie up with government departments, NGOs and educational institutions | • Prevents youth from taking drastic decisions  
• Enables informed decision making  
• Feeling of ‘being helped’ infuses confidence and motivation | N2: Primacy to Family  
N3: Harness the Youth Potential and Capacity through Education and Training  
N5: Health (mental health) | REACH and ENGAGE |
| Fellowship | To link and interface with youth, gather feedback (monitor the receptivity of programs) and follow up with the youth to capture the long-term impact of programs  
Fellowships need to be awarded at Taluka, District and State levels.  
Theese fellows will also act as a link between the beneficiaries and the department. | Fellows selected through a transparent and rigorous process will be mentored by Professors of reputed institutions (Lead Universities).  
These fellows based on the level at which they function (taluka, district or state) will have specific functions to execute.  
State level fellows to be research-oriented and at the local level they need to be organizers and leaders | • Motivated youth at grassroots level  
• Reliable, accurate and comprehensive youth database | N3: Harness the Youth Potential and Capacity through Education and Training | ENGAGE and EMPOWER |
| Youth Portal | Provides information on:  
• Government programmes and schemes relating to youth-cross sectors and cross departments.  
• Activities-by-for-of youth from across country and globe.  
• Programmes and opportunities offered by state-national and international organisations. (UN specialised agencies)  
Act as a PLATFORM for youth to express their views and opinions. | • Creating a portal with social media  
• Portal to have hyperlinks to other key stakeholders.  
• Plan for Centres to have x number of computers with internet connectivity and a facilitator to help first time learners | • Increases awareness  
• Diversifies linkages  
• Encourages youth participation  
• In the long run will reduce the digital divide  
• Provides information about region-wise participation of youth beneficiaries.  
• Helps frame relevant programs for youth empowerment. | N1: Hone today the hope of tomorrow  
N9: Ensuring a coordinated effort for all round, well balanced growth and development  
*Indirectly linked to all Navrathnas* | REACH and ENGAGE |
| Media and Publicity | Media and events to reach out and disseminate information to youth and also an opportunity for youth and youth groups to showcase talents and their work. Take up publication of material like magazines, newsletter, journals etc. | • Existing Yuva Karnataka Magazine to be revamped to complement the portal  
• Disseminate information by publishing youth related issues in magazines, newsletters, journals etc.  
• Connecting youth to different stakeholders-state-institutions-media and to other youth groups  
• Facilitate formation of a voluntary group of youth journalists and writers to create content related to youth issues for print and electronic media.  
• Promoting youth-friendly, youth relevant media (music, TV serials etc)  
• Creating spaces exclusively for youth to discuss on youth related issues, including youth policy. Introduce technology and media tools to enhance such spaces.  
• Encourage youth to take up creation and translation of contemporary and scientific literature in Kannada. | • Positive engagement of youth with youth  
• Two way information dissemination - from the govt to youth and vice versa  
• Discussion forum for youth to explore youth-related, local and global issues  
• Access to open sources of data and information  
• Gain, conserve, create, distribute and use knowledge from multiple sources  
• Availability of youth relevant knowledge in all domains in Kannada  
• Expanded scope for Kannada language | Indirectly linked to all Navrathnas |

| Swami Vivekananda Youth Week | Commemorating the spirit of Swami Vivekananda and his vision for youth of our country. Creation of Swami Vivekananda as a contemporary youth icon/brand for youth of today in a meaningful way | • Every year, Swami Vivekananda Youth Week will be celebrated through:  
• organising seminars  
• marathons  
• publicity campaigns  
• disseminating his philosophy through pocket books  
• competitions and celebrations | • Knowledge about the philosophy of Swami Vivekananda and his life’s work  
• Increased self confidence and awareness in youth of today  
• Willingness to take up responsibilities  
• Heightened sense of patriotism | N1: Hone today the hope of tomorrow |

| Youth Icon Award | • Recognising and rewarding young achievers  
• Identify achievers in specific fields whom youth can look up to. | • The process of selection should be through a transparent, accountable and rigorous mechanism that allows for public confidence. These youth icons should be recognized for a particular field.  
• An expert panel to process and select  
• Tie up with media for pre and post (event) propaganda | • Gives publicity to young achievers  
• Motivates youth to be peer leaders and to do better in their areas of interest. | N1: Hone today the hope of tomorrow |
### PHASE: II
#### IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: Mid Term (Programmes to be launched by 3 years)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiatives</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Action Plan</th>
<th>Expected Outcome</th>
<th>Navrathnas</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Youth Innovation Sparks**      | Recognise young innovators to encourage and support innovative ideas to benefit larger society. | • Open Idea Portal to showcase an innovator  
  • Wide-spread campaigns and exhibitions to showcase innovations of students and non students  
  • Incubation support for innovative ideas  
  • Partner with local industries | • Recognition to young innovators  
  • Youth motivated to innovate  
  • Innovative ideas may benefit larger society – local innovations to address local problems  
  • Commercialisation of innovative ideas may transform the life of a youth | N1: Hone Today the Hope of Tomorrow  
N3: Harness the Youth Potential and Capacity through Education and Training  
N4: Opportunities for Meaningful Employment and Promoting Entrepreneurship | ENGAGE and EMPOWER |
| **Learning for Life Training for Living - Life and Vocational Skill Development and Entrepreneurship** | Mapping the skills of youth and needs of industry to skill training and development.  
  Imparting skills through training in:  
  • Age appropriate Life skills  
  • Vocational/job skills  
  • Entrepreneurship skills  
  • Facilitate skill certification | • Capturing the skills available and mapping it to local industry requirement  
  • Strengthen, expand and synergise existing vocational education and training  
  • Partner with state departments having skill development as mandate (Dept. of Labour-KVTSDC, Skill Commission)  
  • Tie up with educational, training institutes, industry and with certification and regulatory Bodies-State and National  
  • Develop State-wide network of life skills facilitators to decentralize life skill courses  
  • Constitute Counselling Centres  
  • Develop aptitude tools to identify natural competencies  
  • Explore Private Public Community Partnership  
  • Set up Career Guidance Centres  
  • Special focus on agro-based entrepreneurship | • Developing and harnessing youth potential, talent and capacity  
  • Identification of innate talent-natural ability  
  • Increased confidence  
  • Mapping local industry requirements to skill training provided  
  • New breed of grassroots entrepreneurs-industrialists  
  • Skills certification to provide livelihood  
  • Increase in agro-based activities | N3: Harness the Youth Potential and Capacity through Education and Training  
N4: Opportunities for Meaningful Employment and Promoting Entrepreneurship  
N7: Promoting Social Justice | ENGAGE and EMPOWER |
| **Sports**                        | Use sports as a tool for                                                   | • Create the infrastructure needed for sports                                                                       | • Fillip to all games especially                                                                                           |                                                                         |                             |
| Recreational and Mass/Rural Sports | • Youth development – recreational games, broad-based, adventure, mass and rural/indigenous sports | • Human resource mapping for sports  
• Create awareness about sports in the society  
• Provide wide-spread opportunities for adventure sports  
• A special cell would be created to promote and nurture sports, talents among differently abled and other categories at DYSS as well as in all universities | • Indigenous games  
• Fitness awareness and sports awareness increases  
• More youth play sports  
• Spirit of adventure in youth increases | N1: Hone Today the Hope of Tomorrow  
N6: Expanding Sports and Recreational Opportunities | REACH and ENGAGE |
| Youth Network | Create a strong network of:  
• Youth Resource Persons  
• Youth Volunteers  
• Voluntary Youth Organisations  
• Youth Clubs, associations, groups  
Networking among different stakeholders - volunteers and institutes:  
• Region-wise-within the state, national and international  
• Between students and non-students  
• With beneficiaries of youth programme | • Identify individuals, organisations and groups  
• Initiate and institutionalise networking  
• Involve local bodies in the process  
• 7 day volunteer service opportunity for all youth of the state  
• Take up projects such as:  
  • Projects based on the community and local youth needs. Clearly set parameters to guide the selection process for pilot projects.  
  • Incentivizing small initiatives and creating stakeholders in youth towards protecting and preserving our environment at the local level.  
  • A special drive on this during the celebration of Rajyotsava Day in November to provide visible opportunities for young people in the state who are proud of their Kannadiga identity for expression | • Reaching, engaging and empowering youth at grassroots  
• Ensuring mass reach of youth and a strong network to work well with youth  
• Creates opportunity for our youths to understand the life of their peers in other parts of the state, nation and elsewhere.  
• Infuses a sense of empathy leading to integrity among diverse groups  
• Network of youth can also be used for nation building.  
• Give voice to aspirations and perspectives of youth  
• Forum for youth dialogue and exchange of ideas  
• Promote peace, solidarity and community partnership | N1: Hone today the hope of tomorrow  
N7: Promoting Social Justice  
N8: With and beyond govt: Partnering for Progress  
N9: Ensuring a well-coordinated effort for all round well Indirectly linked to all Navrathnas | REACH ENGAGE and EMPOWER |
| Youth Exchange Programme | • Two way theme/project- based youth exchange programme within the state, nation and between nations | • Set criteria to select the youth for exchange programme  
• Set themes or projects that the youth will take up as part of the exchange, for example young farmers get an opportunity to stay in a model farm and learn new techniques.  
• Evolve guideline for interaction  
• Explore govt-to-govt programmes | • Gives exposure to and creates opportunity for greater learning leading to appreciation of diversity  
• Interactions may inspire and motivate life changing acts | N1: Hone Today the Hope of Tomorrow  
N2: Primacy to Family  
N3: Harness the Youth Potential and | ENGAGE and EMPOWER |
| Education for Youth | Encouraging youth to pursue higher education  
Enabling functional literacy among non-student youth  
Peer Education – encouraging student youth to reach out to non-student youth in their locality | • Collaborate with worldwide youth organisations  
• Tie up with UN youth agencies  
• Special campaign to drive enrolment to higher education (during admission season)  
• Youth Centres to provide relevant information  
• Partnering with IHE, involving industry/NGO/voluntary networks to impart functional literacy among youth.  
• Gross enrolment ratio in higher education will increase  
• Youth who are outside the education system with functional literacy for their livelihood.  
| Capacity through Education and Training | N3: Harness the Youth Potential and Capacity through Education and Training  
N4: Opportunities for Meaningful Employment and Promoting Entrepreneurship  
N7: Promoting Social Justice (inclusion of those youth who are out of school/college) | ENGAGE and EMPOWER |
| 'employed while studying (EWS)' | Students taking up part-time employment/internship as they study. This would help them pay for their education.  
| • This can be linked to the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) plans of the private sector.  
• Internships can be taken up, scholarships can be provided as part of an organisation’s CSR | Increase in Gross Enrollment Ration in higher education  
• More students able to afford and education and support family  
• Awareness about expectations of a workplace  
• Bridging the gap between academic knowledge and job skills required  
• Increase in employability | N4: Opportunities for Meaningful Employment and Promoting Entrepreneurship | ENGAGE and EMPOWER |
| Family First Family Always Scheme - Kutumba Prathama Kutumba Sada Yojane | Strategise family as the primary focus than youth/individual for development of youth  
Address families to enable youth to develop coping skills to face challenges and develop | • Campaigns to reach out to families and build awareness about creating psychologically safe family atmosphere for youth  
• Create awareness in families about the special needs of youth, especially adolescents  
• Provide family counselling opportunities  
• Sensitising youth to their role in the family especially their responsibility towards the elderly | Impetus to family welfare  
• Intergenerational connect between youth and family | N2: Primacy to Family | REACH and ENGAGE |
| **Strengthening Family Nutrition** | **Map the nutritional requirement and current nutritional status of adolescents in families** | • Select pilot district  
• Study the current nutritional status of adolescents  
• Map the nutritional requirements  
• Work out a targeted implementation plan to address the issue | • Information to develop a state-wide strategy for ensuring balanced diet for youth  
• Awareness in families and youth about meeting their nutritional requirements through locally available resources | **N2: Primacy to Family** | **ENGAGE** |
### PHASE: III
**IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: Long Term (Programmes to be launched by 5 years)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiatives</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Action Plan</th>
<th>Expected Outcome</th>
<th>Navrathnas</th>
<th>Approach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Task Force on Learner Centred Education</td>
<td>Task Force constituted by the Government to work with Educational Institutions to develop strategies for transforming classrooms as spaces of learning rather than rooms of teaching and developing learner centered classroom activity/ material for youth learners in PU courses and colleges.</td>
<td>• Task Force to work with Education Department to develop strategies • Learner centered education • Basic change in attitudes and approaches adopted by every stake holder including teachers and institutions towards facilitating learning</td>
<td>• Enables upgradation of knowledge and skills through continuous learning • Equips youth for smooth transition from one to job to another • Enables state to build and sustain knowledge society</td>
<td>N3: Harness the Youth Potential and Capacity through Education and Training N8: With and beyond govt: Partnering for Progress</td>
<td>EMPOWER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Long Learning</td>
<td>One of the prerequisite of the knowledge society is life long learning. Learning beyond the stipulated age limit must be made possible through life long learning.</td>
<td>• Create an institutional framework for life long learning • Partner with universities, community colleges, vocational education and training institutes to design and impart relevant courses • Assistance from UNESCO Institute of Life Long Learning can be sought.</td>
<td>• Enables upgradation of knowledge and skills through continuous learning • Equips youth for smooth transition from one to job to another • Enables state to build and sustain knowledge society</td>
<td>N3: Harness the Youth Potential and Capacity through Education and Training N4: Opportunities for Meaningful Employment and Promoting Entrepreneurship N7: Promoting Social Justice (inclusion of those youth who are out of school/college)</td>
<td>ENGAGE and EMPOWER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaboration with Stakeholders</td>
<td>Constant interaction and close collaboration with key stakeholders is essential to have an integrated approach towards youth empowerment</td>
<td>• Establishing Youth Wings in all major Government departments and government constituents dealing with youth related programmes-schemes to evaluate and design meaningful and relevant youth programmes and schemes. • Will enable state and educational institutions to evolve holistic programmes/schemes for youth • Prevents duplication • Streamlines implementation</td>
<td>• Enables upgradation of knowledge and skills through continuous learning • Equips youth for smooth transition from one to job to another • Enables state to build and sustain knowledge society</td>
<td>N8: With and beyond govt: Partnering for Progress N9: Ensuring a well-coordinated effort for all round well balanced growth</td>
<td>ENGAGE and EMPOWER</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Development Index</td>
<td>Creating demographic profile of youth which includes gender, age, religion, education, occupation, disability, region and class. This would help state to create a Youth Development Index/Indices</td>
<td>CII, FICCI, NASSCOM etc., • Appoint-coordinators/ liaison officers to interface with the stakeholders</td>
<td>• Industry collaboration will have mutual benefit-manpower supply to industries and jobs to youth</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

• Youth census or survey of youth population
• Proposed DYEC can collect the data

• Demographic information enables state to device appropriate programmes and policies for youth
• Index can be used to make trends and projections pertaining to youth development

N1: Hone today the hope of tomorrow (youth as a collective resource)
N9: Ensuring a coordinated effort for all round, well balanced growth and development

Indirectly linked to all Navrathnas

EMPOWER

REACH-ENGAGE-EMPOWER lead to youth CONTRIBUTION which DEVELOPs the self and state.
### IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS or STRUCTURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiatives</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Action Plan</th>
<th>Expected Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Department of Youth Services and Sports</strong></td>
<td>Institutional Capacity Buildings (DYSS)</td>
<td>• Training on organisational development and management principles-Change Management</td>
<td>• Gives new image and identity to the department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strengthening of Department by:</td>
<td>• Appoint project consultants</td>
<td>• Manpower capacity building strengthens the departments collective ability to effectively implement the renewed responsibilities/initiatives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Renaming the department as ‘Department for Youth Empowerment’</td>
<td>• Filling up vacant posts (as per the government recruitment norms)</td>
<td>• New posts will help horizontal and vertical expansion of department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Training/orienting the existing manpower (at all levels) to take on the newer role of the Dept.</td>
<td>• Bringing tenure based consultants</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Creating new positions-posts (for portal, coordination- liaison among departments, monitoring implementation)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Creating project-specific cells and functional divisions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Task Force to ensure implementation of youth programmes in a project mode</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Establish Youth Empowerment Centres</strong></td>
<td>A space for youth to discover their potential, network with other youth and sustain their learnings. Broad based recreational activities, training and competitions that engage multiple intelligences of youth. This houses many of the programs recommended by the policy. These youth centres to be established at all Districts and at all Grama Panchayats in rural areas and at every ward in urban areas to engage with the youth in a</td>
<td>• Programs at the youth centre: All skill-based programs – life skill, entrepreneurship, vocational skills etc.</td>
<td>• These Youth Empowerment Centres will lead to decentralisation of implementation and will act as a central hub for youth activities at the all level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>These youth centres to be established at all Districts and at all Grama Panchayats in rural areas and at every ward in urban areas to engage with the youth in a</td>
<td>• Broad-based Training Programs and competitions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Youth Database</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Data collection for Surveys/studies on youth related issues</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Swami Vivekananda Youth Empowerment Corporation (SWAYEM)** | The government needs to establish a Youth Empowerment Corporation for coordinating and synergizing of various programs for youth being implemented by several departments of Government of India and Government of Karnataka and also other state, national and international agencies. As this is the main implementation channel for the program recommendations of the policy, it is suggested to establish this Corporation under Company’s Act, sec 25. | **•** Understanding expectations, aspirations, problems and challenges of youth  
**•** Provide Job-specific linkages – Disseminate information about various existing schemes specific to jobs – agro-based subsidies, job skills courses and insurances etc.  
**•** Youth Cooperatives – Youth who are self-employed and are entrepreneurs become eligible to be part of youth cooperatives.  
**•** Recreational activities  
  o Reading Camps  
  o Music and Dance classes  
  o Meditation and Yoga classes  
**•** Youth Counseling – Psychological and Career  
**•** Basic Computer Training among rural youth  
**•** Sports activities and adventure sports like rappelling, climbing | **•** Act as a Think-tank on youth related ideas and initiatives  
**•** Implement youth-oriented programs and coordinate the activities of the different departments involved in the implementation of the Youth policy in collaboration with the Department of Youth Services and Sports  
**•** Review and Monitor the  
A well coordinated effort for allround growth and development of youth.  
Maximise the reach of government programs of youth as beneficiaries  
Flexible administration which leads to a responsive organisation (responding to the current needs of youth) |
| Implementation of Youth Policy schemes as provided for in the Annual Budget |
| Establish linkages and liaison with other Governments, bodies, agencies, institutes both nationally and internationally for the benefit of the youth of Karnataka |
| Review and suggest revisions in schemes and modules of DYSS from time to time |
| Make appropriate recommendations to state Government from time to time on youth policy and related issues |

An apex level review committee to focus on implementation of programmes, review mechanisms, study their impact and work out a time frame for necessary corrective actions and suggest revisions.
Process Document
Karnataka Youth Policy 2012
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## Part I – Milestones of Youth Policy Work in Karnataka
1. Karnataka Jnana Aayoga – Study on Perceptions, Aspirations, Expectations and Attitudes of Youth of Karnataka
2. Youth Budget to Youth Policy
4. Release of Draft State Youth Policy

## Part II – Process of Evolving the Youth Policy
1. Evidence-based Approach
2. Constituting Committees
3. Research on Youth Policies and Programs

## Part III – Annexure
1. Profile of Respondents
3. List of Committee Members
4. List of Referred Documents
5. Timeline of Youth Policy Work
Karnataka Youth Policy is a unique effort, in that, youth and public have been involved in co-creating the policy since the beginning. This process has been documented to highlight the involvement of the stakeholders which lends credibility and significance to the youth policy.

Milestones of Youth Policy Work in Karnataka

Karnataka Jnana Aayoga – Study on Perceptions, Aspirations, Expectations and Attitudes of Youth of Karnataka

The Karnataka Knowledge Commission conducted a study on “Perceptions, Aspirations, Expectations and Attitudes of the Youth of Karnataka” throws light on how youth perceive family, society, economy and governance.

This was the first study of its kind by a government on youth and conducted systematically on such a large scale (9000 sample youth).

The main outcome of the study was that young people in the state share the vision for Karnataka to be in the forefront of creating a “knowledge society”.

One of the main recommendations of the study was to come out with a youth policy for the state of Karnataka.

Youth Budget to Youth Policy

Government of Karnataka organized a mega National event – 17th National Youth Festival at Mangalore from 12th – 16th January 2012. This event became a platform for youth to showcase their vibrant talent, prompting the then Hon’ble Chief Minister Shri.Sandananda Gowda to announce in his speech about bringing out a youth budget.

In his speech, then Hon’ble Chief Minister of Karnataka, Shri.Sandananda Gowda referred to the study Karnataka Jnana Aayoga had conducted and the need for focusing on youth of the state by bringing in new measures and initiatives for empowering the youth.
The Department of Youth Services and Sports (DYSS) and Karnataka Jnana Aayoga (KJA) jointly worked a youth budget proposal and presented it to the then Hon’ble Chief Minister, Shri. Sandananda Gowda. In the meeting, Hon’ble Chief Minister directed both DYSS and KJA to evolve a holistic policy framework for youth – Karnataka State Youth Policy.

**National Youth Policy Exposure Draft 2012**

As per the expectation and example set by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports at the Centre, Government of Karnataka initiated a process of evolving youth policy. The added advantage for Karnataka was the fact that Karnataka Jnana Aayoga had already conducted a survey that had opened a channel of communication between the youth and the Government.

The National Youth Policy Exposure Draft unveiled by Shri. Ajay Makken set a contemporary framework for empowering youth and setting the tone for creating policies that can impact both short and long-term changes.

**Release of Karnataka Youth Policy Draft**

Karnataka State Government keeping in mind the holistic empowerment of youth took a conscious decision to create a youth policy of the youth, for the youth and by the youth. The draft youth policy prepared after collating and analyzing the responses received from the youth and the general public was submitted to the Government on Aug 9th 2012. This draft was placed in the public domain for discussion. The policy document was also shared online – [www.karnatakayouthpolicy.in](http://www.karnatakayouthpolicy.in), as well as on social media.
Process of Evolving the Youth Policy

Evidence-based Approach

Karnataka has a youth population of 1.86 Crores (34.6% of total population, age 15-30). By 2020, a majority of the working population of Karnataka will be the Youth of today and tomorrow. To leverage this demographic dividend, to empower the youth to be creators of opportunities for themselves and others, and to have a direct representation of this diverse group we call “youth” with myriad segments in it, the government decided to evolve the youth policy based on responses of youth and society.

This process of evolving the youth policy involved:

1. Public Survey through a response questionnaire (Kannada and English)
2. Consultation meetings with various stakeholders:
   • Youth from various segments
   • Organizations working with youth
   • Sports Associations
   • Student wings of political parties
   • Senior Sports persons and Youth Awardees
   • Vice Chancellors of Universities
   • District Administration
   • Panchayat Raj Institutions
   • MLAs and MLCs
3. Online, social media – platforms for interaction and response gathering
   • Website – online response form
   • Facebook and Twitter
   • Blog
We have received 10000 responses from youth from all over Karnataka. The profile of respondents is shared at the end of this document.

To motivate the youth and society to contribute to youth policy, a direct message from the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Karnataka, a sound byte was played on mobiles – IVR – had a great impact on the 25 lakh people who received this phone call.

**Constituting Committees**

To oversee, guide and manage the entire process of evolving the policy, a G.O. No Yu Se E 158 Yu Se Kri 2012 dated 2/6/2012, established two important committees:

Steering Committee – A nine member Steering Committee was established to make high-level decisions and drive the policy making process

Drafting Committee – A committee of experts who have worked with youth and are authorities in their field were chosen as part of the Drafting Committee to analyze the response of the youth and society in drafting a relevant youth policy that responds to reality of Karnataka youth.

The profiles of Committee members have been shared at the end of this document.

The Steering Committee guided the Drafting Committee by making high-level decisions and setting the course for evolving a draft youth policy. The members of Drafting Committee sat together and discussed the structure of the youth policy. After several drafts and deliberations, the context and approach of the policy were agreed on, paving the way for the rest of the policy document.

A systematic plan and guidelines were set for the collation and analysis of the responses. These were mapped and categorized based on which the youth target groups; focus areas and policy interventions were drafted.

The Draft Youth Policy was submitted to the Steering Committee on August 07, 2012. The Steering Committee submitted the final Draft Youth Policy document to the Government in the presence of the Hon’able Chief Minister of Karnataka.
Research on Youth Policies and Programs

In order to create a unique policy that responds to the context of current youth, extensive research was done on existing youth policies and programs of Indian States, Nations, European Union and other International Organizations like UN, Commonwealth Youth Forum etc. to expand understanding on current trends and contemporary global and national thoughts.

The existing schemes and programs of Government of India as well as various departments of Government of Karnataka that were relevant to youth were studied and mapped. This helped the drafting committee recommend holistic implementation mechanism to coordinate the efforts of various departments and bring synergy.
Annexure

Programs Profile of Respondents

Total Forms Received: ~ 10000

Respondent Profile - Across Age & Gender

Respondent Profile – across Educational Qualification & Gender
Respondent choices of top 3 focus areas

YOUTH CLASSIFICATION/SEGEMENTS FROM AMONG TOP 3 PREFERENCES OF RESPONDENTS
List of Committee Members

Steering Committee

1. Sri Girish Patel, Vice-Chairman    Chairman
   Sports Authority of Karnataka, Bangalore

2. Prof. M.K. Sridhar, Member Secretary   Member
   Karnataka Jnana Aayoga

3. Dr. Sandeep Shastri, Pro-Vice Chancellor  Member
   Jain University, Bangalore

4. Sri. Michael Vetha Siromony, IAS, Director,  Member
   Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth
   Development, Sri Perumbudur, Tamil Nadu

5. Dr. H. Maheshappa,
   Vice-Chancellor, Visvesvaraya Technological
   University, Belgaum
   Member

6. Prof. S.A. Bari, Vice-Chancellor,    Member
   Kuvempu University, Shimoga

7. Dr. Balasubramaniam, Swami Vivekananda
   Youth Movement, Mysore
   Member

8. Smt. Ashwini Nachappa, International
   Sportsperson, Bangalore
   Member

9. Sri. M.K. Baladevkrishna, IAS, Director,
   Department of Youth Services and Sports,
   Government of Karnataka
   Member-Secretary
Drafting Committee

1. Dr. Sandeep Shastri, Pro-Vice Chancellor
   Jain University, Bangalore          Chairman

2. Late Rameshappa, Special Officer,
   Department of Youth Services and Sports,
   Government of Karnataka             Member

3. Dr. Ashok Kumar, Registrar,
   Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences Member

4. Dr. Henry Rozario, Professor,
   Sacred Hearts College, Tamil Nadu    Member

5. Prof. Ragu Akmanchi, Hubli            Member

6. Dr. B.S. Padmavathi,
   Senior Research Associate,
   Karnataka Jnana Aayoga               Member

7. Sri. Arjun Devaiah, Hubli
   International Sportsperson           Member

8. Sri. Y.R. Kantharajendra, Rtd. Joint Director,
   Department of Youth Services and Sports,
   Government of Karnataka               Member-Secretary

Drafting Committee – Co-opted Members

1. Sri. Sateesh Sajjanar, Assistant Director (Training), DYSS
2. Dr. Manjula Hullahalli, Assistant Director, DYSS
3. Dr. Jeethendra Shetty, Deputy Director, DYSS
4. Smt. Shuba Bhat, Jnana Fellow, Youth Policy Consultant
5. Smt. Soumya Chandrashekar, Jnana Fellow, Youth Policy Consultant
List of referred documents

Youth Policies and Programs
National Youth Policy Exposure Draft 2012
Maharashtra State Youth Policy Draft
Jharkand State Youth Policy
Kerala State Youth Policy
Meghalaya Youth Policy
Haryana Sports Policy
Punjab Sports Policy
Meghalaya Sports Policy
South Africa National Youth Policy 2008 – 13
Punjab (Pakistan) Youth Policy
Bangladesh Youth Policy Draft
Australian Youth Initiatives and Programs
Council of Europe, Youth in Action program
European Union, Youth policy Framework 2010 – 18
International Youth Council, youth programs
Nairobi Action Plan (Common wealth youth program)
American Youth Policy Forum, working with marginalized youth

Other Relevant Documents
Karnataka Vision 2020
Millennium Development Goals
Census 2001 and 2011
Timeline of Youth Policy Work

Jan 12th – CM announces Youth specific budget at National Youth Festival

Jan 20th – 30th – KKC has meetings with DYSS regarding the program framework for a youth-specific budget

Feb 2nd to 6th – Consultation meetings with various stakeholders – youth and student organizations, sportspersons and sports associations

Feb 6th – Public Survey Questionnaire advertised in the papers, public response collated in the youth budget programs

Feb 15th – Presented the initial proposal for youth budget to the CM and his cabinet

March 16th – Note on youth Policy for budget 2012-13

April – May – Orientation and guidance to DYSS officers conducting consultation meetings with youth and experts working with youth at all the districts

May 31st – Meeting to propose a steering and drafting committee to the Government

June 2nd – Government Order establishing the people in Steering and Drafting Committee

June 25th – Karnataka Youth Policy Website Launch

June 25th – National and State Youth Awardees Consultation Meeting

July 23rd – Dialogue with Senior Sports Persons

July 26th – Consultation Meetings with MLAs/ MLCs

August 4th – Dialogue with Senior Sports Persons

August 9th – Submission of Draft Youth Policy to Government of Karnataka

June to November - The Drafting Committee has met 14 times and Steering Committee has met 5 times to exchange ideas, discuss in detail about youth policy recommendations and to bring out a comprehensive Karnataka State Youth Policy 2012.

This youth policy is submitted to the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Karnataka in the presence of Hon’ble Minister for Youth Services and Sports on 29th November, 2012.