



JNANA SIRI

DIALOGUES ON TRANSFORMING KARNATAKA INTO A VIBRANT KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY

JANUARY 2012



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Transforming a State into a knowledge society requires a pragmatic approach which is inclusive and sustainable. Government of Karnataka has exhibited such a pragmatic approach to accomplish its vision of creating a Knowledge Society by 2020. The mandate of Karnataka Jnana Aayoga well aligns with the approach of the Twelfth Five Year plan which aims at faster, sustainable and more inclusive growth. The approach and work of the KJA, from its constitution in 2008 to till date, reflects this pragmatism. Taking cognizance of the need to re-structure and strengthen two critical components of a knowledge society-Institutions and Human Capital, KJA emphasised on the capacity building of institutions and human capital across the sectors during the past three years of its work. Looking ahead, continuing the efforts at capacity building, KJA aims at creating a conducive environment which would enable the state to take a paradigm shift towards knowledge society. The magnitude of this shift requires co-operation, collaboration and contribution from all the stakeholders including domain experts.

I welcome all concerned to join us to start yet another meaningful journey towards transforming Karnataka into a knowledge society.

I am pleased to present e-newsletter JNANA SIRI, Knowledge Treasure as a humble step in this direction.

(Dr. K. Kasturirangan)
Chairman
Karnataka Jnana Aayoga

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ABOUT KARNATAKA JNANA AAYOGA

Endowed with the charter of transforming Karnataka into a vibrant knowledge society, the Karnataka Jnana Aayoga (Karnataka Knowledge Commission) was commissioned on 5th September 2008 by then Chief Minister of State of Karnataka. It is headed by Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Member of Planning Commission, Government of India and a Former Member of Rajya Sabha.

Karnataka Jnana Aayoga (KJA) is one of the first such State-level establishments in India to focus on knowledge building across diverse sectors of economy and society. The primary objective of the KJA is to build excellence in the educational system in meeting the knowledge challenges of the 21st century and increase Karnataka's competitive advantage in fields of knowledge. KJA's efforts span over formal and non-formal sectors of education, science and research, and the approach is cross-disciplinary and cross-sectorial in showcasing and encouraging best practices at the State level. The working and recommendations of the KJA are aimed at stakeholders comprising of: educational institution, students, teachers, industry, policy makers, government, NGOs and civic society organizations.

In the past three years, KJA has held 72 meetings with concerned departments, 58 consultation meetings with various domain experts, 13 KJA meetings, launched 11 projects and commissioned six research studies. The commission has 60 recommendations and has initiated action plans for certain recommendations as projects. Overview of recent recommendations are available on the Aayoga website. The KJA stands out as the only commission of its kind in India to have worked with multiple government departments to implement its policy recommendations.

An indicative list of projects that has emerged from such recommendations are:

ARIVU: Open libraries in Government schools with audio-visual materials

SAHAYOG: Collaboration to improve employability of undergraduate students

KANAJA: Encyclopedic knowledge portal in Kannada

SAMARTH: Strengthen and empower Department of State Education Research and Training

SWASTHYA: State-level programme for preventive healthcare

DRAVYA KOSHA: Develop regional pharmacopoeias in all districts for utilization of medicinal plants

ODHU PUTANI: Upgrading Indira Priyadarshini Childrens' Library to encourage reading habit among children

DAKSHA: Leadership training for the management of educational institutions

E-MAHITI: Integrated MIS for primary and secondary education across the State

MANAVA BHANDARA: Generate interest in Humanities and Social Science disciplines amongst students

To learn more on ongoing projects, click here.

These are but some of the initiatives started under the aegis of the KJA in collaboration with the line Departments.

RECONSTITUTION OF THE KJA

In recognition of the work of the Commission in attaining the stated mandate and also taking cognizance of the importance of having an exclusive Government wing to drive knowledge centric endeavours in the State, the Government extended the term and reconstituted the KJA in January 2012 with following Members:

MEMBERS OF RECONSTITUTED KJA

The reconstituted Commission has 16 members drawn from diverse fields of education, science and technology, agriculture and industry.



Dr. K Kasturirangan
Chairman
Karnataka Jnana Aayoga
Member Planning Commission
of India



Prof. MK Sridhar
Professor of Management
Canara Bank School of
Managemnet Studies
Bangalore University

Member Secretary and
Executive Director-
Karnataka Jnana Aayoga



Prof. M.S Thimmappa
Former Vice- Chancellor
Bangalore Univeristy



Prof. Sundar Sarukkai
Director
Manipal Centre for Philosophy
and Humanities
Manipal University
Manipal



Prof. S. Sadagopan
Director
International Institute
of Information Technology
Bangalore



Prof. Padma Sarangapani
Professor of Education
Tata Institute of Social Sciences
Mumbai



Dr. Gururaj Karajagi
Chairman
Academy for Creative Teaching
Bangalore



Sri. Mohandas Pai
Chairman
MEMG International India Ltd.,
Bangalore



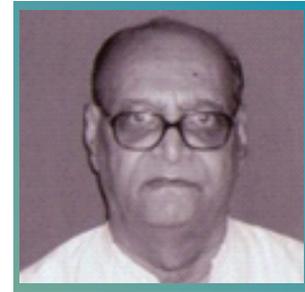
Dr. Ravi Narayan
Community Health Consultant
Centre for Public Health and Equity
SOCHARA
Bangalore



Smt. Seethalakshmi Chinnappa
Director (Retd), ICMR
NIC Centre for Biomedical Information
New Delhi



Prof. K.R.S Murthy
Former Director
Indian Institute of Management
Bangalore



Sri. S.R Ramaswamy
Eminent Kannada Writer



Dr. Mukunda Rao
Expert on Systems Analysis and
Management – ISRO and
Adjunct Faculty
NIAS

Ex-Officio Members

Principal Secretary to Government
Education Department (Higher Education)
Government of Karnataka

Secretary to Government
Education Department (Primary and Secondary Education)
Government of Karnataka

Secretary to Government
Health and Family Welfare
Government of Karnataka



JNANA FELLOWSHIP 2011

To take forward the recommendation of increasing meaningful and sustained interface between public system and citizens, KJA launched JNANA FELLOWSHIP in 2011. The Fellowship aimed at attracting the young and creative professionals with passion for public service.

3,300 young minds responded to Jnana Fellowship call, some of whom were from outside India.



Jnana Fellowship Selection Committee

Through a rigorous process, 50 applicants were shortlisted for interview. A panel headed by Sri. Meenakshi Sundarm and representatives of Government Departments and industry as members selected 24 Jnana Fellows. Of these 19 Fellows formally joined the Departments on November 8, 2011.

Currently they have been assigned projects in eight Departments- Health and Family Welfare; Higher Education; Horticulture; Personnel Administration and Reforms (Election); Planning, Programme Monitoring and Statistics; Primary and Secondary Education; Women and Child Development; and Youth Services. To know more on Jnana Fellowship, [click here](#).

KARNATAKA STATE

INNOVATION COUNCIL

In response to the call by the National Innovation Council, Government of Karnataka constituted Karnataka State Innovation Council (KSIC) in June 2011, under the aegis of KJA. The following terms of reference guide the Karnataka Innovation Council:



Evolving a State model of innovation with focus on inclusive growth

Facilitating linkages/ networks among all the educational and knowledge institutions at all levels for promotion of innovation in the State

Creating special research fund to encourage innovation outside the formal structure

Creating a platform/ forum for constant interaction/ continuous collaboration among all stakeholders for building culture of innovation in Karnataka

Formulating special schemes/ steps/ measures to drive innovation in rural areas

Initiating policy measures to encourage innovation in social sectors, such as, agriculture, education, health, ecology, rural and urban development, water resources, and renewable energy, among others

Encouraging innovation in governance' public service delivery and SMEs

The 20 member State Innovation Council, headed by Prof. Khincha has a mandate of evolving a roadmap for innovation and to initiate policy measures to encourage innovation across all level in the State.

A STAKEHOLDER AUDIT OF KARNATAKA JNANA AAYOG REPORT

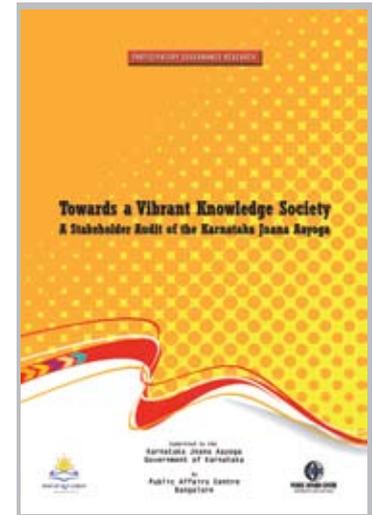
In August 2011, near the completion of the three year term of the KJA, the office undertook an external audit to understand the dynamics of its working and identify areas of improvement. The audit was conducted by Public Affairs Centre (PAC) with an aim to bring outsider's perspective and best practices and offer recommendations to the KJA in furthering its aim of developing Karnataka into a knowledge society.

Auditors adopted the McKinsey's 7S Framework to get a holistic view of the commission's working. The seven dimensions studied were: Structure, System, Strategy, Staff, Styles, Synergy and Shared Values. Six select recommendations and 11 projects were studied from a 360 degree perspective. The auditors took the following three phased approach while gathering insights from the stakeholders, viz.:

Phase one analysed the genesis, process and relevance of recommendations made by KJA for a particular department

The second phase was to identify enabling and impeding factors faced by concerned departments in implementing these recommendations, thereby arriving at the feasibility of these recommendations, and

Finally, assess the impact of these recommendations on the concern areas.



Submission of JNANA PALLAV

Chairman of KJA Dr. K. Kasturirangan submitted JNANA PALLAVA- A Report to the People of Karnataka, to Honourable Chief Minister Sri. D.V. Sadananda Gowda on September 24, 2011

This rigorous approach not only helped ratify the approaches taken by KJA, but also instill a sense of confidence in the working of the group of being transparent and best in class.

Assessing the strengths and limitations of KJA's activities from a stakeholders' perspective, the auditors concluded that- " Selected departments with whom PAC interacted have had a fruitful working experience with KJA and are unanimously of opinion that KJA needs to have another team to bring all joint-efforts to logical conclusions, to be able to do justice to their vision of creating a knowledge society in Karnataka by 2020".

COMMISSION'S THIRTEENTH MEETING

On completion of its three year term, KJA held a closure/ term-end meeting on September 24, 2011 under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kusturirangan. Honourable Minister for Primary and Secondary Education, Sri. Vishweshwar Hedge Kageri graced the meeting as the Guest of Honour. Chairman of the Commission expressed his deep sense of gratitude to all the Members for their contribution and involvement in driving the KJA mandate. He placed on record his appreciation for the Government Departments for their cooperation and collaboration in implementing KJAs recommendations.



Chairman Dr. K. Kasturirangan released JNANA PALLAVA-Term-End Report which captures the work of the Commission in the past three years. Honorable Minister Sri. Vishweshwar Hedge Kageri and the Principal Secretary of Higher Education Smt. Latha Krishna Rao released publications of KJA including research study reports. The chairman remarked that Shayoga was nominated by the State Government for Prime Minister's award for year 2010-11 for innovation in administration. On behalf of the commission, the Chairman also congratulated Sri Chandrasekhar Kambar on bagging the prestigious literary honour- Jnanapita Award, making Sri Kambar the only eighth Kannadiga to have achieved this honour.

Here are excerpts from few of the participants:

Prof. Sadagopan brought to team's notice that Sri. Jimmy Wales, founder of Wikipedia, appreciated Knaja in one of his meetings. Sri Mohandas Pai said that the vision of KJA is exemplary, especially after we had NKC in India. In his view, we have developed a vision of Karnataka to reduce a gap between what Karnataka needs and what Karnataka has today, where the gap is very wide, and the Commission has tried best to reduce this gap by giving Karnataka a vision. Prof. Pankaj Chandra, Director, IIM Bangalore, opined that implementation of Innovative Universities is very crucial, while there is a need to pay attention on faculty development and the resources that are available to them in time to come.

Please feel free to send your feedback at secy@jnanaayoga.in

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