



**Karnataka Jnana Aayoga**  
(Karnataka Knowledge Commission)  
Government of Karnataka

# Quarterly Report

## **Fifth Quarter**

For the Period between Oct 1 and Dec 31, 2009

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## **Contents:**

1. Working group Meetings
2. Interaction with the Departments
3. Follow-up of Recommendations
4. Stakeholder's Consultation
5. Consultation with the Experts
6. Research Studies
7. Reports
8. Launching of 'KANAJA' and Commission's Website
9. Way Forward

■ ***Working Group Meetings***

**I. Working Group on Health Sector**

- The Study Group on Delivery of Health Services met on December 11, 2009 and resolved to redraft an Interim report on the health services.
- The newly constituted Study Group on Homeopathic Perspective on Public Health convened a meeting on December 17, 2009 and an elaborate discussion held on homeopathy, its status and the present situation.

**II. Working Group on Libraries and Knowledge Networks**

- The Study Group on Community Knowledge met on October 24, 2009 and an elaborate discussion held on Community Knowledge Centres and the models of resource centres working across the State and at the national level such as M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Raitha Samparka Kendra, Kirshi Vigyan Kendra and Village Resource Centres with the collaboration of Karuna Trust.
- Study Group on Libraries in Higher Education held a meeting on November 26, 2009 and discussed on the ten identified issues and resolved to come out with the concept papers on these issues at the earliest. Opined to add a topic of Information Literacy in the proposed issues.

■ ***Interaction with the Departments***

The Commission held several interactions with concerned Departments to seek their feedback and collaboration in implementation of its First set of Recommendations. Following decisions and actions have been taken:

The Commission had an Interaction with the Honourable Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka on December 5, 2009 to review the status of implementation of First Set of Recommendations. It was decided in the meeting that, to prioritize Recommendations based on the scope of implementation. Recommendations which need no finance could be taken on priority for implementation and Recommendations having financial implications should be

studied in detail. It was proposed that the Commission have to initiate an in-depth study of those Recommendations falling under the category of financial implications with the help of concerned departments.

Following is the list of the Departments and decisions and actions were made:

Departments	Decisions and Actions
<p>▪ <b><i>Department of Primary and Secondary Education on November 9 and December 17, 2009</i></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A committee of experts to be constituted by the Commission to prepare the list of appropriate Books and Audio/Video materials for procurement.</li> </ul> <p>Initially High School libraries will be strengthened. 225 High Schools in the State will be selected for this purpose.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commission has to facilitate the Department's consultation with University stakeholders to discuss about the B.Ed. curriculum revision.</li> </ul> <p>Department is aligned with the Right to Education Act, which states teacher's minimum qualification as graduation. Accordingly Department would introduce policy changes to upgrade elementary teacher education to degree level programmes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Commission has to make initial capital investment to design and develop mobile internet van for the pilot project.</li> </ul> <p>Commission is collaborating with Google India and Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) to design a mobile internet van. A project team to be constituted with the support of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) to take this project forward.</p>

<p>▪ <b>Department of Law, Justice and Human Rights on November 20, 2009</b></p>	<p>▪ Discussed about Legal education, research, language skills and high quality of teaching standards. The Department agreed to hold a brainstorm on law education.</p> <p>The process has started to hold a first phase of brainstorm with the Vice Chancellor (VC) of Karnataka Law University and the Principals of Law Colleges as suggested by the VC.</p>
<p>▪ <b>Department of Labour on November 23, 2009</b></p>	<p>▪ The session proposed that to explore the possibility of linking general degree courses with vocational education, Creation of an autonomous umbrella body with private partnership and work towards preservation and modernization of traditional vocational skills of the State.</p>
<p>▪ <b>Department of Employment and Training on October 26, 2009</b></p>	<p>▪ Discussed on setting up of Autonomous body for implementing Vocational Education in Karnataka based on the concept paper submitted by Prof. M.H. Dhananjaya, Director (Technical), JSS Mahavidyapeetha.</p> <p>Decided to hold a workshop to discuss on the modalities of creating such an autonomous body.</p>
<p>▪ <b>Department of Health &amp; Family Welfare on December 17, 2009</b></p>	<p>▪ Setting up of steering/core committee for all the recommendations. It was proposed to form two core committees consisting of one from the Commission and another from the Government Department.</p> <p>The Director, Department of AYUSH has agreed to give a list of the individuals for two core committees.</p>

<p>▪ <b><i>Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj on December 22, 2009</i></b></p>	<p>▪ Discussed on the model of Samudaya Jnana Kendra, idea of holding pilot studies and the needed assistance from the concerned department. It was decided to hold a brainstorm session with Department officers, CEOs and District Field Officers etc.</p> <p>Department has agreed to extend their support to the Commission in its endeavour.</p>
<p>▪ <b><i>Department of Higher Education on November 11, November 27 and December 3, 2009</i></b></p>	<p>▪ Discussions were held on to transform two of the existing Universities into Model Universities and to introduce Uniform academic calendar.</p> <p>Based on the report of Expert Committee on Reform and Rejuvenation of Universities of Mysore and Karnatak, Model University act is being drafted by the task force.</p> <p>Based on the recommendations of the Commission, the Department of Higher Education has come out with a Uniform academic calendar and has issued notifications and advertisements towards this effect.</p>

The Recommendations are being taken forward for implementation. At the outset, the Commission has started the process of identifying the agencies to launch some of its Recommendations into action such as Mobile Internet Van, Upgradation of Indira Priyadarshini Children’s Library and the Model of Samudaya Jnana Kendra.

▪ ***Follow-up of Recommendations***

- I. Meeting on Innovative University Legislation Draft convened at Jnana Aayoga office on November 27, 2009.

- II. Second Meeting on Innovative University Legislation Draft held at Jnana Aayoga office, on December 3, 2009.
- III. Third Meeting on Innovative University Legislation Draft convened at Jnana Aayoga, on December 4, 2009.
- IV. The Government has implemented statewide Uniform Academic Calendar for all academic activities for the graduate and post graduate students on December 11, 2009.

■ **Stakeholder's Consultation**

The Consultation with the Students, Teaching and Non-teaching staffs of various Universities was held to discuss on Higher Education and its system in Karnataka.

Stakeholder's Consultations in Various Universities of Karnataka
I. Stakeholder's Consultation with UG Students, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staffs of Mangalore University held on November 11, 2009. Around 150 participants participated in this session.
II. Stakeholders Consultation with PG Students/Teaching and Non-Teaching Staffs of Mangalore University held on November 11, 2009. Around 100 participants participated in this session.
III. Stakeholders Consultation with UG Students, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staffs of Tumkur University held on November 18, 2009. Around 75 participants attended the session.
IV. Stakeholders Consultation with PG Students, Teaching and Non-Teaching Staffs of Tumkur University held on November 18, 2009. Around 100 participants attended the session.
V. Stakeholders Consultation with Students, Teaching and Non Teaching Staffs of Kuvempu University held on November 25, 2009. Around 200 participants participated the session.

The Consultation with the experts in the field of Library and Information Science was held to discuss on the issue of Libraries for development and Change. 45 experts across the State of Karnataka participated in this session.

Stakeholder's Consultation with LIS Experts
VI. Brainstorm session was held on November 26, 2009 and discussed on the topic of <i>'what kind of libraries and knowledge networks the State and the citizens need for participating actively and contribute to the development'</i> .

■ ***Consultation with the Experts***

- I. Meeting with Karnataka Vocational Training & Skill Development Corporation Ltd., held on October 29, 2009 to discuss on the implementation of pilot project in Kolar and Bijapura.
- II. The Core Committee on Samudaya Jnana Kendra convened an Interaction Session with the Abdul Nazeer Sab State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD), Mysore on November 2, November 4, December 11, 09. The model of Samudaya Jnana Kendra (SJK) was discussed. A wide range of issues like the model of SJK, aims and objectives and role of SJK in the dissemination of Knowledge were discussed. The outcome was to have pilot study in twelve gram panchayats of the State.
- III. Consultation Meeting on Value Education was held at Jnana Jyothi Auditorium, Central College, Bangalore University on November 6, 2009. Many eminent educationists deliberated on inculcating values in main-stream education. They felt that there is a need to arrive at professional code of ethics for the teachers as available in other professions. They suggested review of curriculum in disciplines like MSW etc., to make it more socially relevant.
- IV. A preliminary meeting with Department of Collegiate Education and Karnataka Vocational Training and Skill Development Corporation to fine-tune the Commission's recommendation to impart skill training to students pursuing final year arts discipline in the districts of Kolar and Bijapur convened on November 12, 2009.

■ ***Research Studies***

- I. The first meeting of Research Committee convened at Jnana Aayoga office on October 28, 2009, met to discuss and identify the areas in which the research studies were to be undertaken and also to formulate the broad guidelines to invite and evaluate research studies.
- II. Interactive meeting with Research Scholars of Indian Institute of Science (IISc) was held at Jnana Aayoga office on December 24, 2009. It identified some of the areas such as the need, utility and setting up mechanism of community radio in Universities, preparation of video-taped lectures and their dissemination based

on the experiments and experiences at IIT, Kanpur and IISc, Bangalore and consultation with research scholars of premier academic institutes in Bangalore. The Commission requested the Research Scholars to submit concept note/an approach note on the above.

▪ **Reports**

- I. The Expert Committee on Reform and Rejuvenation of Universities of Mysore and Karnatak submitted its final report to the Chairman, Dr. K. Kasturirangan on October 15, 2009. **(Annexure I)**
- II. First draft presentation of the Higher Education Vision Document at the first meeting of the Karnataka State Council for Higher Education on November 4, 2009, Sri A.S. Srikanth, Principal Secretary (Higher Education) & Convenor, Jnana Aayoga presented the first draft of the Higher Education Vision Document to the members of the Higher Education Council prepared by KJA. **(Annexure II)**
- III. Based on the recommendations of the report of the Expert Committee on Reform and Rejuvenation of University of Mysore and Karnatak University, a taskforce has been constituted headed by Prof. P. Rama Rao with Prof. T. N. Sreedhar and Principal Secretary (Higher Education), GoK as members. The Taskforce decided to come up with a draft of new legislation for transforming Universities in to Innovative Universities. It was decided to seek the assistance of National Law School, Bangalore under the guidance of Prof. V. Nagaraj, Registrar, National Law School, Bangalore.
- IV. Brainstorming session on the second draft of Higher Education Vision Document with educationists and corporate heads held at Vikasa Soudha on November 26, 2009. Sri A.S. Srikanth, Principal Secretary (Higher Education) and Convenor, Jnana Aayoga presented the second draft of the Higher Education Vision Document to the eminent educationists and corporate leaders. Brainstorming on the contents of the vision document and the vision followed the presentation.



▪ ***Launching of 'Kanaja' and Commission's Website***

- I. 'Kanaja' website [www.kanaja.in](http://www.kanaja.in) - Knowledge portal exclusively in Kannada with encyclopedic in nature was inaugurated on December 5, 2009. The portal was inaugurated by Honourable Chief Minister of Karnataka Sri B.S .Yaddyurappa, Nadoja Prof. D. Javaregowda presided over the function. Kannada Development Authority Chairman Sri Mukhyamantri Chandru, Chief Secretary to Government of Karnataka, Dr K. Kasturirangan, Chairman Karnataka Jnana Aayoga and Honourable Higher Education Minister Sri Aravinda Limbavali were present.

Kanaja is gaining popularity, it has viewer base in India and outside of India, and the statistics of the portal for first one month is as follows:

12,599 Visits with 53,849 Page views (4.27 Pages/Visit).

- II. A full-fledged interactive and improved version of the Aayoga's website [www.jnanaayoga.in](http://www.jnanaayoga.in) was re-launched on December 5, 2009.

▪ ***Conclusion and Way Forward***

At the outset, the Commission is deeply indebted to the Government Departments whose help, support and stimulating suggestions in implementing its First set of Recommendations. An extensive study of the Recommendations which comes under policy implications has been initiated by the Commission. Commission will continue to seek the cooperation and feedback from the concerned departments in further set of recommendations. The Commission is consulting the experts, identifying the agencies to launch its projects and undertaking some research studies. With regard to projects, the Commission is planning to have a project director for monitoring the projects. The Commission has set up the system for its target group to encourage thinking out of box and sending their feedback online.

