Sub: Establishment of KJA Task Team to develop Karnataka Skill Development Plan

1. In the 2nd meeting of KJA held on September 22, 2014, the Aayoga has discussed on the issue of developing a holistic Skill Development Plan for Karnataka – focusing on efforts required from the state to address skill development in a variety of sectors and involve education, self-employed youth, professionals and other in-service staff.

2. Knowledge and skill are the driving forces for sustained growth of economy and social development. There is growing realisation and awareness of the considerable shortage of skilled manpower in a number of sectors and also that large scale skill development is an imminent imperative for the development of the state. Karnataka needs to prepare itself for higher and better levels of skills so that it can adapt more effectively to the future challenges and opportunities of bringing development and prosperity to the state in an effective and sustained manner.

3. KJA recognizes that a comprehensive skill development strategy would require fundamental education reforms across primary, secondary and higher education and innovations in vocational/supplementary skill development. KJA has also discussed that skill development plan must involve, apart from the prime role of GOK, role of private sector, non-profit and for-profit initiatives with the goal of building up-scale models that will bring results.

4. As part of an overall process of skill development in the state, KJA has discussed the possibilities of the state establishing a Board of Apprenticeship Training (BOAT) Centre to increase the number of apprenticeships in Karnataka; need to re-define employment exchanges into career guidance centres; establishing a Skill/Vocational University to bring connectivity between diploma and degree; student internship programme for university students in the government departments to enable a governance learning at university level; consider positive amendments to Right to Education (RtE) Act to create space for learning; virtual skill university and finishing schools for engineering students and various other aspects.

5. KJA has determined that a comprehensive Karnataka Skill Development Plan needs to be developed – towards this KJA has decided to establish a Task Team of skill, vocational and education experts and knowledgeable personalities. The KJA Task Team will have following membership:

- Mr Manish Sabharwal, Member KJA - Co-Chair
- Mr Mohandas Pai, Member KJA - Co-Chair
- Mrs Shukla Bose, Member KJA - Member
- Dr Sunney Tharappan, Member KJA - Member
6. The main task of the KJA Task Team is to prepare/develop a holistic and all-encompassing “Skill Development Plan for Karnataka” by studying and addressing, amongst other things, specifically:

- broad assessment of skill needs for the future in the state
- present state of skill development activity and gaps/challenges in Karnataka
- best state-of-art practices in skill development that make an impact – especially studying such activities elsewhere in India and even outside
- cross-cutting issues related to Education (senior and higher education), Employability (professional and vocational) and Employment (Apprenticeship, Internship and jobs)
- specific actions for school-, university-, professional and career-oriented skill development in Karnataka
- outline a skill-roadmap for the future based on knowledge, innovation and structured organisational frame by which the Plan is best implemented – looking at existing and future institutional requirements
- define contours of a possible scheme that GOK can take up for improved skills, enhanced knowledge and better employment opportunities so as to cater to need of skilled manpower and improving education
- Any other related issue that Task team may consider important

7. Towards preparing the plan, the Task Team may undertake wide consultations across the state and holistically study all aspects of skill development. The outcomes can then be internalized by the Task team into a Karnataka Skill Development Plan document. Once the plan is developed by the Task Team it may be presented to KJA for endorsement/approval. The Plan can then be formally submitted by KJA to Government of Karnataka (GOK) for implementation actions.

8. Other experts, as identified/approved by Co-Chairs and Member-Secretary, KJA, may be co-opted to the Task Team and/or invited for specific meetings, as required.

9. Specific budget has been approved/earmarked by KJA for the Task Team activity. The expenses of the Task Team would be met from this approved budget of KJA. For administrative purposes, the meetings of Task Team will be treated on par with any other
KJA meetings – thus, all expenses for meetings, any travel/fees/honorarium and any other meeting expenses etc could be met from KJA funds, as per KJA procedures, allocated for the Task team activities. Funds related to this activity will be expended upon approval of Co-Chairs of Task Team and as per procedures of KJA.

10. The term of the Task Team will be for a period of 6 months from the date of issue of this order.

11. This order issues with the approval and under authority of Chairman, KJA.

(Member-Secretary, KJA)

To,

All Members and Convenor of KJA Skill Development Plan Task Team

Copies for information to:

• All Members of KJA
• Chief Secretary of Karnataka
• ACS (Labour Department), GOK
• Principal Secretary, (Prim & Sec Education), GOK
• Principal Secretary, Dept of Higher Education, GOK – formal information/intimation of the establishment of this KJA Task team as decided/approved by KJA.