



**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**  
Karnataka Regional Branch, Bengaluru

ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಡಳಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ  
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ಶಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

## Newsletter | ಸುದ್ದಿಪತ್ರ

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## Note from the Chief Editor



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

Former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka  
Former Chairman, Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission-2  
Chairperson, Indian Institute of Public Administration  
Karnataka Regional Branch



I am happy to place before readers the **October 2025** issue of our **Newsletter**, the 63<sup>rd</sup> issue since we began this initiative.

Our Lead Story is on the conference organized by us recently, in collaboration with the **Centre for Global Health and Development, School of Economics and Public Policy** of **R.V. University**, Bengaluru on the theme, '**Reducing Maternal Mortality in Karnataka**'. We highlight the Key Observations, Commitments & Proposals made by **Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao, Health & Family Welfare Minister, Government of Karnataka** in his Inaugural Address. We also identify the major challenges requiring policy initiatives that were discussed at the conference. The links to the media coverage of the event are provided, as well as a YouTube link.

Our **Lead Feature** is on the **Expert Committee Report on Integration and Reorganization of Farm Universities in Karnataka** which I had the privilege of heading. The report marks a significant step towards strengthening farm education, research and extension in Karnataka, ensuring that farmers benefit from integrated solutions tailored to modern farm challenges.

Our **Policy Brief** this time is on **Migrant Workers in Karnataka**. Penned by our Editor, **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, it delves into the status, challenges and policy options on the issue.

In our Reports of Branch Activities, we sketch out the following events organized by us: (1) The **Annual General Meeting** of our Branch; (2) Release of **Compendium-5** of our monthly newsletters; (3) The **Online Certificate Course** on '**Public Policy and Governance**' organized by us in collaboration with the Department of Political Science of Bangalore University.

In our column on **Branch Members in the Media**, we provide links to the articles penned on/by the following members: (1) Smt. Uma Mahadevan, IAS; (2) Shri G. Gurucharan, IAS (Retd.); (3) Dr. Annapoorna Ravichander; (4) Dr. M.J. Vinod and (5) Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar.

In our column on **Books by Members**, we provide details of the publication titled, **Between Economy and Ecology – Policies and Practices of Sustainable Development**, edited by **Dr. Anil Kumar Vaddiraju, Dr. K.C. Smitha** and **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**.

We end this issue with a set of **Gandhian quotes** to remember the Mahatma on his birth anniversary.



## Lead Story



# Reducing Maternal Mortality In Karnataka

**Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar**, Chairperson, IIPA-KRB, **Shri M.P. Shyam**, President of Rashtriya Shikshana Trust, **Dr. Dwarika Prasad Uniyal**, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, R.V. University and **Prof. Ranjini**, Dean, School of Economics and Public Policy, R.V. University.



Photo above shows (L to R) Prof. Ranjini, Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao, Shri S. Ramanathan, Shri M.P. Shyam and Dr. D.P. Uniyal. A Memorandum of Understanding between IIPA-KRB and RV University was exchanged on the occasion.

A day-long conference on **Reducing Maternal Mortality in Karnataka** was organized jointly by the **Karnataka Regional Branch of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA-KRB)** and **RV University's Centre for Global Health and Development** at R.V. Teachers College, Bengaluru on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

The Inaugural Address was delivered by **Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao**, Health & Family Welfare Minister, Government of Karnataka. Present on the occasion were **Shri S. Ramanathan**, Chairman Emeritus of IIPA-KRB,

**The Keynote Address was delivered by Dr. Sharana Prakash Patil**, Minister of Medical Education and Skill Development, Government of Karnataka. Other speakers at the Plenary Sessions were **Shri Harsh Gupta**, Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare department, GoK, **Dr. Sujatha Rathod**, Director of Medical Education, GoK and **Dr. Rajkumar**, Deputy Director of Maternal Health, Dept. of Health and Family Welfare, GoK.

The event brought together policymakers, public health experts, academicians, and practitioners to deliberate on the high Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) in Karnataka, identify gaps, review successful models, and chart a roadmap for lowering maternal deaths. The state's current MMR was cited at **68 per 100,000 live births**, which is among the highest among neighbouring States.

The conference Panels included: “Preventing Maternal Deaths: Solutions and Strategies,” “Translating Evidence into Policy: NGOs and Research Perspectives on MMR,” and “Strengthening Health System Capacities for Safe Motherhood Across Levels of Care.”

The following are the **Key points** made by **Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao, Health & Family Welfare Minister, Government of Karnataka** in his Inaugural Address:



### 1. Mission for “Zero Preventable Maternal Deaths” launched by GoK in 2025

- Shri Gundu Rao articulated a vision to move toward “zero preventable maternal deaths” in Karnataka.
- He said that GoK has set a target to reduce the MMR from 68 to 40 per 100,000 over the next 2½ years, and in the medium term to 20.

### 2. Allocation of Mission Fund (~ ₹320 crore)

- Shri Gundu Rao flagged the allocation of a dedicated mission fund of ₹320 crore in the Budget 2025-26 to support the Mission for Zero Preventable Maternal Deaths.

- He emphasized that the fund is not merely an allocation, but a “guarantee” by the State Government to back the mission.

### 3. Strengthening Human Resources & Infrastructure in Peripheral Hospitals

- Shri Gundu Rao announced that Government had recently approved that all **Taluk Hospitals** will have a “double triad” of two *gynecologists*, two *pediatricians*, and two *anesthetists* along with *radiologists* so that safe deliveries could be done round the clock, 24×7.
- He said this would be done by redeploying the specialists from underperforming Community Health Centres (CHCs) with low number of deliveries to Taluk Hospitals to provide the double triad. However, remote CHCs with poor access to Taluk Hospitals would retain their specialists.
- He also said that receiving Taluk Hospitals will be strengthened by redeploying additional nurses and paramedical staff from the low performing CHCs.
- He said that all Taluk Hospitals and well-functioning CHCs would function as **CEmONC** (Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric & Newborn Care) centres to reduce dependence on referrals.

### 4. Transparency, Accountability & Use of Evidence/Audit Data

- Shri Gundu Rao referred to recent maternal deaths audit findings, indicating that more than 70% of maternal deaths between April–December 2024 in Karnataka could have been prevented, and that negligence by service providers was a contributing factor.
- He emphasized that investigations would be conducted to find root causes and fix accountability (e.g. for deaths tied to misuse of Ringer’s lactate solution).
- He also undertook that there should be no cover-up — “we are putting all this before the people” — in respect of maternal death audits.

### 5. Karnataka’s Performance Relative to Neighbours

- Shri Gundu Rao acknowledged that Karnataka has lagged behind its neighbours, despite being a relatively well-resourced state.
- He framed maternal health as foundational: A “healthy mother means a healthy child” and hence is central to societal progress.

## Challenges in Reducing MMR

- **A large proportion ( $\approx 70\%$ ) of maternal deaths in Karnataka are considered preventable**, with contributing factors such as clinical negligence, delays in referral, lack of adequate infrastructure, and resource constraints.
- Hospitals in Bengaluru were reported to have seen 71 maternal deaths between April and December 2024 — the highest among all districts in the state — emphasizing the scale of transfers from rural areas and urban maternity burden.
- The conference recognized that **reducing maternal mortality requires not only facility-level interventions** (obstetric, anesthesia, neonatal care) **but also pre-conception care, community outreach, early detection of high-risk pregnancies, strengthened referral systems, and social determinants** such as nutrition, antenatal care, transport, and gender equity.
- **The need to translate evidence into policy** (so that research and audit findings drive state-level strategies) **was a recurring theme, with calls that data gaps, and implementation lags must be addressed.**

## Outcomes of Conference

- **The conference underscored both the urgency and possibility of reducing Maternal Mortality in Karnataka, by combining political will, financial resources, and evidence-driven interventions.**
- **The Government of Karnataka's decisions on human resources, infrastructure, mission funding, and audit transparency marked a strong signal of concrete action.**
- **The overall thrust was that to succeed in accelerating the reduction of the Maternal Mortality ratio, the state must not only upgrade hospitals and staffing but also ensure accountability, continuous auditing, responsive referral networks, stakeholder support, community engagement, and data-driven governance.**

The conference was very ably organized by **Dr. Ranjini Raghavendra**, Executive Director, Centre for Global Health and Development in the School of Economics and Public Policy at **R.V. University**, Bengaluru, with her team of colleagues and volunteers. A set of **Policy Recommendations on Reducing Maternal Mortality in**

**Karnataka** will soon be submitted to the Government of Karnataka.

## Links to Press Reports of Event

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/karnataka-records-highest-maternal-mortality-in-south-in-2023-experts-calls-for-urgent-action/article70098280.ece#:~:text=Our%20immediate%20target%20is%20to,medical%20training%20and%20workforce%20planning.>

<https://www.vijayavani.net/goal-to-reduce-maternal-mortality-rate-to-zero-minister-dinesh-gundu-raos-says>

[https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/bengaluru/2025/Sep/27/rs-320-crore-mission-to-bring-down-maternal-mortality-rate-in-karnataka#:~:text=Karnataka's%20maternal%20mortality%20ratio%20\(MMR\)%20currently%20stands%20at%2068%20per,latest%20Sample%20Registration%20System%20data.](https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/bengaluru/2025/Sep/27/rs-320-crore-mission-to-bring-down-maternal-mortality-rate-in-karnataka#:~:text=Karnataka's%20maternal%20mortality%20ratio%20(MMR)%20currently%20stands%20at%2068%20per,latest%20Sample%20Registration%20System%20data.)

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=150f0c592a&attid=0.1&permmmsgid=msg-f:1844726166535515875&th=1999c8acb837aee3&view=att&disp=safe&realattid=1999c8a8b764fcdf6551&zw>

## Link to YouTube Video of Event

<https://youtu.be/Ujj-I-lmsuc>





## Lead Article

### Expert Committee Report on

## INTEGRATION AND REORGANISATION OF FARM UNIVERSITIES IN KARNATAKA



The Expert Committee submitted its report to the **Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture of the Government of Karnataka, Shri N. Chaluvaryaswamy** on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025. Seen above are the Chairperson and Members of the Expert Committee with him. (From L to R): Dr. M.G. Patil, Dr. P.M. Salimath, Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, Shri N. Chaluvaryaswamy, Dr. Vishnuvardhana, Dr. K.C. Veeranna and Dr. S.V. Suresha.

### Preamble

The Government of Karnataka constituted an **Expert Committee** under the chairmanship of **Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, IAS (Retd.), former Chief Secretary**, to examine the reorganisation of agricultural, horticultural, animal husbandry, veterinary and forestry colleges across the State for the establishment of integrated farm universities.

The Committee visited all **seven farm universities** in Karnataka over a period of three months (April-June 2025). It conducted extensive field visits covering **18 colleges, 16 research stations, and 11 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs)/extension units**, and interacted with over **2,600 students, 900 faculty members, 350 farmers, and 38 industry representatives**. Consultations were also held with Vice-Chancellors, senior officials, former Vice-Chancellors, and departmental Secretaries.

The Committee received numerous written representations and opinions both in favour of and against the integration of farm universities. After carefully considering these inputs, the Committee has prepared its Report that has been submitted to **Shri N. Chaluvaryaswamy, Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture, Government of Karnataka** on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

**The Committee noted the need for Integration of farm universities in Karnataka for the following reasons:**

1. Over the years, farmers in Karnataka have increasingly shifted towards **integrated farming systems**, combining agriculture, horticulture, forestry, sericulture, dairy and animal husbandry, to enhance incomes and meet growing food and nutritional security demands.
2. Modern farming requires **multi-disciplinary expertise** delivered at one place to improve farmer incomes and reduce costs.
3. Shared infrastructure and faculty will reduce duplication, encourage **interdisciplinary research** and expand extension services.
4. Experience from integrated universities in other Indian States and globally demonstrates that quality of education and research is not compromised.
5. While separate universities for agriculture, horticulture and veterinary sciences were set up in Karnataka between 2004 and 2012, **there is now a strong case for bringing these disciplines under integrated institutions to provide holistic solutions to farmers**. The Committee also noted that Karnataka is the only major State with multiple agricultural universities of regional jurisdiction alongside a separate horticultural university, unlike other States that have broader integrated structures.

**In the light of the above, the Committee has made the following key recommendations:**

**Integration may be done in two Phases.**

### Phase I

1. In Phase I the Committee has recommended the **Integration of Agriculture and Horticulture Universities** comprising agriculture, horticulture, forestry and sericulture disciplines into **six integrated farm universities** with district-wise jurisdiction.
2. **Creation of specialized horticulture departments** (Fruit Science, Vegetable Science, Plantation & Spices, Floriculture, Post-Harvest Management) within each integrated university.

3. **Establishment of Associate Director of Research** position for Horticulture in each integrated university.
4. **Designation of crop/theme-specific research stations** for focused research.
5. **Upgradation of Krishi Vigyan Kendras** and extension units into multi-disciplinary farmer training centres.
6. **Strengthening of coordination mechanisms** between Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Husbandry departments with joint ministerial oversight.
7. **Steps to merge existing University Acts into one comprehensive Integrated Farm University Act.**

### Phase II – Future Integration

8. Integration of **veterinary, animal husbandry, dairy and fisheries sciences** into the restructured universities after required infrastructure and faculty deployment as per **Veterinary Council of India (VCI) norms.**

*The report marks a significant step towards strengthening farm education, research and extension in Karnataka, ensuring that farmers benefit from integrated solutions tailored to modern farm challenges.*

### ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಏಕೀಕರಣ ಮತ್ತು ಮರುಸಂಘಟನೆ ಕುರಿತು

#### ತಜ್ಞರ ಸಮಿತಿ ವರದಿ

#### ಪ್ರಸ್ತಾವನೆ

ರಾಜ್ಯಾದ್ಯಂತ ಕೃಷಿ, ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ, ಪಶುಸಂಗೋಪನೆ, ಪಶುವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮತ್ತು ಅರಣ್ಯ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳನ್ನು ಸಮಗ್ರ ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆಗಾಗಿ ಮರುಸಂಘಟಿಸುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಲು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಮಾಜಿ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿ ಶ್ರೀ ಟಿ.ಎಂ. ವಿಜಯ್ ಭಾಸ್ಕರ್, ಐಎಎಸ್ (ನಿವೃತ್ತ) ಅವರ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಜ್ಞರ ಸಮಿತಿಯನ್ನು ರಚಿಸಿತು.

ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಮೂರು ತಿಂಗಳ ಅವಧಿಯಲ್ಲಿ (ಏಪ್ರಿಲ್-ಜೂನ್ 2025) ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಏಳು ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿತು. ಇದು 18 ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳು, 16 ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳು ಮತ್ತು 11 ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳು (ಕೆವಿಕೆಗಳು)/ವಿಸ್ತರಣಾ ಘಟಕಗಳನ್ನು

ಒಳಗೊಂಡಂತೆ ವ್ಯಾಪಕವಾದ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ಭೇಟಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಿತು ಮತ್ತು 2,600 ಕ್ಕೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿಗಳು, 900 ಅಧ್ಯಾಪಕರು, 350 ರೈತರು ಮತ್ತು 38 ಕೈಗಾರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರತಿನಿಧಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಂವಾದ ನಡೆಸಿತು. ಕುಲಪತಿಗಳು, ಹಿರಿಯ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಮಾಜಿ ಕುಲಪತಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಇಲಾಖಾ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳೊಂದಿಗೆ ಸಮಾಲೋಚನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಸಹ ನಡೆಸಲಾಯಿತು.

ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಏಕೀಕರಣದ ಪರಿಣಾಮವಾಗಿ ಮತ್ತು ವಿರುದ್ಧವಾಗಿ ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಹಲವಾರು ಲಿಖಿತ ಪ್ರಾತಿನಿಧ್ಯಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಅಭಿಪ್ರಾಯಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸಿತು. ಈ ಒಳಹರಿವುಗಳನ್ನು ಎಚ್ಚರಿಕೆಯಿಂದ ಪರಿಗಣಿಸಿದ ನಂತರ, ಸಮಿತಿಯು ತನ್ನ ವರದಿಯನ್ನು ಸಿದ್ಧಪಡಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಅದನ್ನು ಸೆಪ್ಟೆಂಬರ್ 4, 2025 ರಂದು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಕೃಷಿ ಸಚಿವರಾದ ಶ್ರೀ ಎನ್. ಚಲುವರಾಯಸ್ವಾಮಿ ಅವರಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಏಕೀಕರಣದ ಅಗತ್ಯವನ್ನು ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಗಮನಿಸಿದೆ:

ವರ್ಷಗಳಲ್ಲಿ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ರೈತರು ಆದಾಯವನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸಲು ಮತ್ತು ಬೆಳೆಯುತ್ತಿರುವ ಆಹಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಪೌಷ್ಟಿಕಾಂಶ ಭದ್ರತಾ ಬೇಡಿಕೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸಲು ಕೃಷಿ, ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ, ಅರಣ್ಯ, ರೇಷ್ಮೆ ಕೃಷಿ, ಹೈನುಗಾರಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪಶುಸಂಗೋಪನೆಯನ್ನು ಒಟ್ಟುಗೂಡಿಸಿ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಕೃಷಿ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಗಳತ್ತ ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಹೆಚ್ಚು ಬದಲಾಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ.

ರೈತರ ಆದಾಯವನ್ನು ಸುಧಾರಿಸಲು ಮತ್ತು ವೆಚ್ಚವನ್ನು ಕಡಿಮೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಆಧುನಿಕ ಕೃಷಿಗೆ ಒಂದೇ ಸ್ಥಳದಲ್ಲಿ ಬಹು-ಶಿಸ್ತಿನ ಪರಿಣತಿಯನ್ನು ನೀಡಬೇಕು.

ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಅಧ್ಯಾಪಕರ ಸಹಭಾಗಿತ್ವ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡರೆ, ನಕಲು ಮಾಡುವಿಕೆ ಕಡಿಮೆ ಆಗುವುದು, ಅಂತರಶಿಸ್ತೀಯ ಸಂಶೋಧನೆಯನ್ನು ಪ್ರೋತ್ಸಾಹಿಸುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ವಿಸ್ತರಣಾ ಸೇವೆಗಳನ್ನು ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸುವುದು.

ಭಾರತದ ಇತರ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಜಾಗತಿಕವಾಗಿ ಸಂಯೋಜಿತ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಅನುಭವವು ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನೆಯ ಗುಣಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಧಕ್ಕೆಯಾಗಿಲ್ಲ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ತೋರಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.

2004 ಮತ್ತು 2012 ರ ನಡುವೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೃಷಿ, ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪಶುವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳಿಗೆ ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದರೂ, ರೈತರಿಗೆ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಪರಿಹಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಒದಗಿಸಲು ಈ ವಿಭಾಗಗಳನ್ನು ಸಮಗ್ರ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ತರುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಈಗ ಬಲವಾದ ಕಾರಣವಿದೆ. ವಿಶಾಲವಾದ ಸಂಯೋಜಿತ ರಚನೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುವ



ಇತರ ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಿಗಿಂತ ಭಿನ್ನವಾಗಿ, ಪ್ರತ್ಯೇಕ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕಾ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ನ್ಯಾಯವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಬಹು ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊಂದಿರುವ ಏಕೈಕ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಎಂದು ಸಮಿತಿ ಗಮನಿಸಿದೆ.

ಮೇಲಿನ ಹಿನ್ನೆಲೆಯಲ್ಲಿ, ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಶಿಫಾರಸುಗಳನ್ನು ಮಾಡಿದೆ:

ಏಕೀಕರಣವನ್ನು ಎರಡು ಹಂತಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾಡಬಹುದು.

### ಹಂತ I

ಮೊದಲ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಮಿತಿಯು ಕೃಷಿ, ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ, ಅರಣ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ರೇಷ್ಮೆ ವಿಭಾಗಗಳನ್ನು ಒಳಗೊಂಡ ಕೃಷಿ ಮತ್ತು ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳನ್ನು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾವಾರು ನ್ಯಾಯವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಆರು ಸಮಗ್ರ ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳಾಗಿ ಸಂಯೋಜಿಸಲು ಶಿಫಾರಸು ಮಾಡಿದೆ.

ಪ್ರತಿ ಸಂಯೋಜಿತ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದೊಳಗೆ ವಿಶೇಷ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳನ್ನು (ಹಣ್ಣು ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ, ತರಕಾರಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ, ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಮಸಾಲೆಗಳು, ಹೂಗಾರಿಕೆ, ಕೊಯ್ಲಿನ ನಂತರದ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ) ರಚಿಸುವುದು.

ಪ್ರತಿ ಸಂಯೋಜಿತ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆಗಾಗಿ ಸಹಾಯಕ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕ ಹುದ್ದೆಯ ಸ್ಥಾಪನೆ.

ಕೇಂದ್ರೀಕೃತ ಸಂಶೋಧನೆಗಾಗಿ ಬೆಳೆ/ವಿಷಯ-ನಿರ್ದಿಷ್ಟ ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳ ನಿಯೋಜನೆ.

ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ವಿಸ್ತರಣಾ ಘಟಕಗಳನ್ನು ಬಹು-ಶಿಸ್ತಿನ ರೈತ ತರಬೇತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಾಗಿ ಉನ್ನತೀಕರಿಸುವುದು.

ಜಂಟಿ ಸಚಿವರ ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಣೆಯೊಂದಿಗೆ ಕೃಷಿ, ತೋಟಗಾರಿಕೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪಶುಸಂಗೋಪನಾ ಇಲಾಖೆಗಳ ನಡುವಿನ ಸಮನ್ವಯ ಕಾರ್ಯವಿಧಾನಗಳನ್ನು ಬಲಪಡಿಸುವುದು.

ಅಸ್ತಿತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿರುವ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕಾಯಿದೆಗಳನ್ನು ಒಂದು ಸಮಗ್ರ ಕೃಷಿ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕಾಯಿದೆಯಾಗಿ ವಿಲೀನಗೊಳಿಸಲು ಕ್ರಮಗಳು.

### ಹಂತ II - ಭವಿಷ್ಯದ ಏಕೀಕರಣ

ಭಾರತೀಯ ಪಶುವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಮಂಡಳಿ (ವಿಸಿಐ) ಮಾನದಂಡಗಳ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಅಗತ್ಯವಿರುವ ಮೂಲಸೌಕರ್ಯ ಮತ್ತು ಅಧ್ಯಾಪಕರ ನಿಯೋಜನೆಯ ನಂತರ ಪುನರ್ರಚಿಸಲಾದ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಶುವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ, ಪಶುಸಂಗೋಪನೆ, ಡೈರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಮೀನುಗಾರಿಕೆ ವಿಜ್ಞಾನಗಳ ಏಕೀಕರಣ.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೃಷಿ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣ, ಸಂಶೋಧನೆ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಸ್ತರಣೆಯನ್ನು ಬಲಪಡಿಸುವ ನಿಟ್ಟಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ವರದಿಯು ಮಹತ್ವದ ಹೆಜ್ಜೆಯನ್ನು ಗುರುತಿಸುತ್ತದೆ, ಆಧುನಿಕ ಕೃಷಿ ಸವಾಲುಗಳಿಗೆ ಅನುಗುಣವಾಗಿ ಸಮಗ್ರ ಪರಿಹಾರಗಳಿಂದ ರೈತರು ಪ್ರಯೋಜನ ಪಡೆಯುತ್ತಾರೆ ಎಂಬುದನ್ನು ಖಚಿತಪಡಿಸುತ್ತದೆ.





## MIGRANT WORKERS IN KARNATAKA

### Status, Challenges and Policy Options

D. Jeevan Kumar

#### 1. Background

- Karnataka, particularly **Bengaluru**, is a major destination for migrant workers, largely in construction, garment, domestic work, and platform-based services.
- Recent estimates (Deccan Herald, August 2025) suggest **85% of migrant workers come from six states**: Bihar, Assam, Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh.
- The **Labour Department lacks accurate real-time data**; statistics rely mainly on employer filings, under-reporting self-employed and informal migrants.
- COVID-19 highlighted the vulnerability of migrant workers—loss of jobs, housing insecurity, and barriers to accessing welfare benefits.

#### 2. Evidence from Studies

- **ISEC Bengaluru (2025)**: Educational disadvantages among migrant children, with poor access to hostels and scholarships.
- **CBPS (2021)**: *Life and Livelihoods of Migrant Labourers in Bangalore* (COVID period)—workers faced wage loss, food insecurity, and limited welfare coverage.
- **Azim Premji University**: *State of Working India* reports and ward-level surveys showed significant job loss among informal migrants in Bengaluru.
- **IHS Studies**: Migrants in construction and platform work face precarious conditions, occupational hazards, and lack of bargaining power.
- **Health studies** (NIMHANS, St. John's, etc.): High prevalence of occupational health risks and substance use among young male construction workers.
- **Regulatory audits**: CAG flagged major irregularities in Karnataka's Building and Other

Construction Workers' (BOCW) Board, including bogus registrations and unspent welfare funds.

#### 3. Key Challenges

- **Data deficit**: No reliable estimates of inter-state migrant numbers, skill categories, or welfare coverage.
- **Insecure livelihoods**: Informality, wage theft, lack of social security, and weak enforcement of labour laws.
- **Housing and services gap**: Migrants rely on slums or makeshift camps; women and children face heightened risks.
- **Limited welfare portability**: Though *One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC)* and *e-Shram* exist, coverage in practice is patchy.
- **Weak grievance redressal**: Migrants face language barriers and lack accessible complaint mechanisms.
- **Climate vulnerability**: Outdoor workers face heat stress and inadequate protection in urban settlements.

#### 4. Policy Options for Karnataka

##### A. Data & Governance

- Create a **Migration Dashboard** (quarterly) combining employer filings, e-Shram registrations, EPFO/ESIC data, and ward-level surveys.
- **Clean and digitize BOCW records**; link welfare disbursements to verified beneficiaries.
- Establish **inter-state MoUs** with sending states (Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, WB, Assam, UP) for coordinated registration and worker tracking.

##### B. Social Security & Entitlements

- Strengthen **ONORC implementation** in Bengaluru and industrial belts.
- Integrate **e-Shram ID** with state health, accident, and education schemes; organize on-site registration camps.
- Implement the new **Karnataka Platform-Based Gig Workers' Act (2025)** effectively—constitute a Welfare Board and collect aggregator contributions.

### C. Housing & Services

- Expand **dormitory-style hostels** and **rental housing complexes** near industrial zones (PPP model).
- Provide **women's hostels and family housing units** with childcare facilities.
- Ensure migrants' settlements have **basic civic services** (water, sanitation, electricity, digital access).

### D. Health & Safety

- Launch **mobile health units** at major worksites and settlements.
- Provide **occupational safety audits**, multilingual awareness campaigns, and emergency helplines.
- Introduce **Kerala-style schemes** (e.g., Aawaz health insurance, Apna Ghar housing) tailored to Karnataka.

### E. Education & Skill Development

- Ensure continuity in **schooling for migrant children** (transfer certificates, bridge courses, bus passes).
- Provide **scholarships, hostels, and vocational training** for migrant youth.

### F. Climate & Resilience

- Integrate migrants into **city Heat Action Plans**; mandate shaded rest areas and hydration facilities at worksites.
- Retrofit **cool roofs/ventilation** in slum settlements.

### G. Civil Society Partnerships

- Fund **help desks and worker facilitation centres** at bus stations, industrial hubs, and labour nakas in partnership with CSOs and academic institutions (APU, IIHS, ISEC, CBPS).

### 5. Way Forward

Karnataka has taken positive steps, including temporary housing complexes and gig-worker welfare legislation. However, further **systemic improvements in the areas of:**

1. **Reliable data and monitoring**
2. **Stronger welfare portability and enforcement**
3. **Affordable housing and services**
4. **Health, safety, and climate resilience measures**
5. **Collaborative governance with source states and civil society**

A comprehensive approach will not only improve **migrant well-being and security** but also ensure **urban economic stability and social harmony** in Karnataka.



## Reports of Branch Activities



### 1. Annual General Meeting

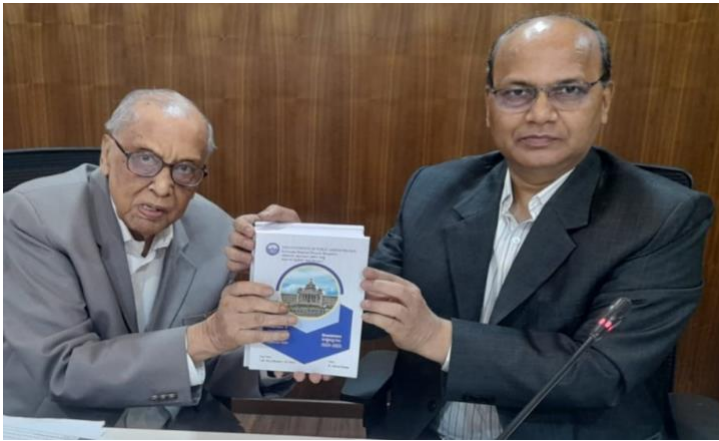
The **Annual General Meeting** of the **Karnataka Regional Branch of the IIPA** was held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at the IAS Officers Association Building, Infantry Road, Bengaluru-560001. It was held in hybrid mode. The following matters were transacted at the meeting:

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM held on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2024;
2. Consideration and Adoption of the Annual Report and Annual Accounts for the year 2024-25; and

Appointment of Auditor for the year 2025-26.

### 2. Annual Release of Compendium of Newsletters of 2024-25

**Compendium-5** of the Newsletters of the Branch (from October 2024 to September 2025) was released at the meeting by **Chairman Emeritus of the Branch, Shri S. Ramanathan, IAS (Retd.)**. Photo (*below*) shows **Shri S. Ramanathan (at left)** holding the compendium, with **Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, IAS (Retd.)**, Chairperson of the Branch.



### 3. Annual Online Certificate Course on Public Policy and Governance

In collaboration with the **Department of Political Science of Bangalore University**, the Branch organized a 21-day 36-hour online **Certificate Course on Public Policy and Governance** from 8<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

The following senior serving and retired Civil Servants and Academicians delivered lectures, as per details given below:

1. **Inaugural Lecture on Administrative Reforms: Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, IAS (Retd.)** Former Chief Secretary of Karnataka, Chairperson, IIPA -KRB
2. **Public Policy Formulation Process: Shri S.V. Ranganath, IAS (Retd.)**, Former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Karnataka
3. **Gender and Public Policy: Smt. Uma Mahadevan, IAS**, Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner, Govt. of Karnataka
4. **Public Finance: Shri I.S.N. Prasad, IAS (Retd.)**, Former Additional Chief Secretary, Finance Department, Govt. of Karnataka
5. **Preparation of Budget: Mohd. Ikramulla Shariff, IAS**, Joint Secretary (Budget and Resources) Finance Department, Govt. of Karnataka
6. **Education Policy: Dr. Sanjay Kaul, IAS (Retd.)**
7. **Wicked Problems in Public Policy: Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, Hon. Professor, Mahatma Gandhi Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, Gadag
8. **Agriculture Policy: Shri. Y. S. Patil IAS**, Commissioner, Agriculture Department, Govt. of Karnataka
9. **Public Health Policy: Dr. Y. Naveen Bhat, IAS**, Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat, Chikkaballapur District
10. **E-Governance Initiatives: Shri. T. Bhoobalan IAS**, CEO, Centre for E-Governance, Department of e-Governance, Govt. of Karnataka
11. **Industries Policy: Smt. Gunjan Krishna, IAS**, Commissioner for Industrial Development, Govt. of Karnataka
12. **MSME Policy: Shri. Nitesh Patil, IAS**, Director, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Commerce and Industries Department, Govt. of Karnataka
13. **Land Policy: Shri. Rajender Kumar Kataria, IAS**, Principal Secretary, Revenue Department, Govt. of Karnataka
14. **Urban Governance: Shri Munish Moudgil, IAS** Special Commissioner (Revenue and IT), Greater Bengaluru Authority.

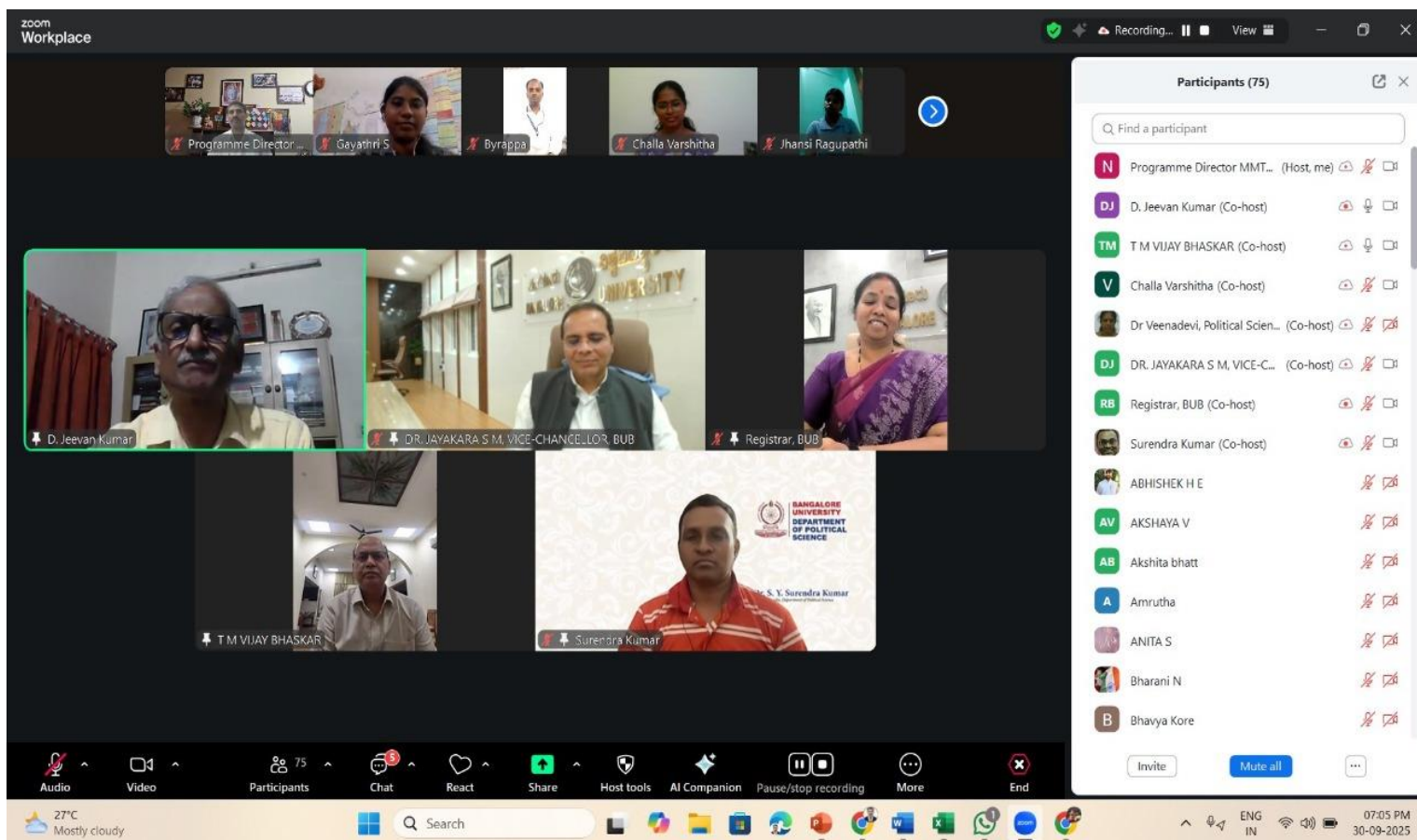
15. **Social Audit: Shri Nalin Atul, IAS**, Secretary, Kalyana Karnataka Region Development Board, Kalaburagi
16. **MGNREGA: Shri. P. Anirudh Sravan, IAS**, Private Secretary, Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, M/o Corporate Affairs, New Delhi
17. **COVID Vaccination Policy: Dr. Arundhati Chandrashekar, IAS**, Commissioner, Panchayat Raj, RDPR Department, Govt. of Karnataka
18. **Panchayati Raj: Smt. Priyanka Mary Francis, IAS**, Director, National Gallery of Modern Art, Bengaluru.

The **Valedictory Address** was delivered by the **Vice-Chancellor of Bangalore University, Dr. S.M. Jayakar** on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025. **Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, IAS (Retd.)**, Chairperson of IIPA-KRB made concluding observations. **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar** welcomed the guests and participants. **Prof. S.Y. Surendra Kumar** proposed a Vote of Thanks.

The **Certificate Course** attracted nearly 100 participants from across the country, comprising of students, teachers and researchers. The **Registrar of Bangalore University, Smt. K.T. Shantala, KAS** who had enrolled for the course and was an active participant, appreciated the theme of the course, its structure and the wisdom and rich experience of serving and retired Civil Servants that was shared in their lectures.

The **Certificate Course** was very ably coordinated by **Prof. S.Y. Surendra Kumar**, with the active assistance of **Deputy Coordinators, Dr. Chaitra Prasad** and **Ms. Varshita** of the **Department of Political Science, Bangalore University**.

**Below:**  
A Screenshot of the Valedictory Programme





***Uma Mahadevan Dasgupta:  
Library as a Catalyst of Change***

Priya Ramani

***A social miracle unfolded when the IAS officer put rural  
local bodies in charge of community transformation***



The article argues that a public library — when placed at the centre of a participatory, decentralized governance model — can become a powerful instrument for social change. Rather than being a passive repository of books, the library becomes a node around which community engagement, local leadership, and capacity building can cluster.

In *The Hindu* dt. 25 September 2025

<https://share.google/4YzSCGpLQFBnePDV3>

## Branch Members' Writings In Popular Media



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



### *The Forgotten Language Arts of Listening and Speaking*

In *Deccan Herald* dt. 28 September 2025

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/the-forgotten-language-arts-of-listening-and-speaking-3745698>

### *What Can India weather the Neighbourhood Storm?*

In *Deccan Herald* dt. 16 September 2025

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/can-india-weather-the-neighbourhood-storm-3729359>

**Dr. Annapoorna Ravichander**  
Freelance Consultant



### *Flipbook: Voices of the Voiceless Stray Animals and Birds*

<https://tinyurl.com/2hheyy57>

### *Podcast: Aggressive Communication*

<https://www.deccanherald.com/lifestyle/travel/port-blair-where-patriotism-meets-paradise-3672087>

### *Why India's nonprofits must embrace data culture?*

In *Deccan Herald* dt. 20 September 2025

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/why-india-s-nonprofits-must-embrace-data-culture-3736487>

### *Collaboration as Strategy: Strengthening ties Within and Outside*

In *Meghalaya Monitor*

<https://meghalayamonitor.com/collaboration-as-strategy-strengthening-ties-within-and-outside/>

**Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**

Hon. Professor, Mahatma Gandhi Rural Development & Panchayat Raj University, Gadag; Visiting Professor, St. Claret College, Ziro, Arunachal Pradesh; Adjunct Professor, Kristu Jayanti University, Bengaluru



### *Towards a genuine Atmanirbhar Bharat*

In *Deccan Herald* dt. 30 September 2025

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/towards-a-genuine-atmanirbhar-bharat-3746334>

**Dr. M.J. Vinod**

Professor, Department of International Studies, Political Science and History Christ (Deemed to be) University, Bengaluru



### *Is the US abandoning its Role as the Global Anchor of Democracies?*

In *Telangana Today* dt. 11 September 2025

<https://telanganatoday.com/opinion-is-the-us-abandoning-its-role-as-the-global-anchor-of-democracies>





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## Between Economy and Ecology

Policies and Practices of Sustainable Development

*Editors*

**Anil Kumar Vaddiraju**  
*Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore, India*

**K C Smitha**  
*Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore, India*

**D Jeevan Kumar**  
*Mahatma Gandhi Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, India*

This book consists of rigorous studies that explore various dimensions of sustainable development from the perspective of developing countries. The chapters address topics such as sustainable agriculture, sustainable cities, and alternative visions for sustainable development. The book examines both the policies and practices shaping sustainability efforts across the developing world, with a particular focus on India. The insights, experiences, and strategies presented in the book will be of significant relevance to stakeholders in both developing and developed nations.

Interdisciplinary in nature, the book highlights the intellectual contributions emerging from India on the subject of sustainable development. It will appeal to scholars, researchers, graduate students, policy makers in government and multinational organizations, donors, and NGOs. In today's world, this book offers timely and essential perspectives for anyone concerned with environmental issues, climate change, sustainability, and the ecologically consequential development processes.

**Readership:** Environmental Researchers; researchers of sustainable development; scholars of economics; political science and public administration; environmental specialists; journalists and student; governments; policy makers; NGOs; development professionals; undergraduate students; multinational donors and organizations.

**Contents**

- Introduction: Global Accumulation and Finite Nature (Anil Kumar Vaddiraju)
- Climate Change and Sustainability: Understanding India's Coastal States (Geethu Paul)
- Gender Disparities in Indian Agriculture (Munna Rabha, Kashav Kumar Gajula and Phanindr Goyal)
- Sustainability Challenges of Traditional Farmers in Kerala (P P Sajimon and V B Hans)
- Precautionary Principle and Sustainable Development in India (Pavan V, Guruprasad Desai, D R, C B Manjunatha)
- Railways in Mitigating Climate Change: India's Railway Electrification Programme (Chitrash Shrivastava)
- Sustainable Packaging Startups — Assessing Their Profile (Amrin Kamaluddin Fakih)
- Development-Induced Rehabilitation of Slums in Bengaluru: Gender Sensitivity and Agency (K C Smitha)
- Sustainable Development and Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities (Sumthra R and Jaysheela)
- A Gandhian Alternative Vision of Sustainable Development (D Jeevan Kumar)
- Dilemmas of Indian Political Economy: Modern versus Post-Modern Development (Anil Kumar Vaddiraju)

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- *Nature has everything for man's need, but not for his greed.*
- *Live simply so that others may simply live.*
- *Non-violence is the greatest force at the disposal of mankind.*
- *An eye for an eye will only make the whole world blind*
- *Be the change that you wish to see in the world.*
- *Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.*
- *Truth stands, even if there be no public support. It is self-sustained.*
- *Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in harmony."*
- *The greatness of a nation can be judged by the way its animals are treated.*
- *Freedom is not worth having if it does not include the freedom to make mistakes.*

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