



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Karnataka Regional Branch, Bengaluru

ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಆಡಳಿತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪ್ರಾದೇಶಿಕ ಶಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

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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 our readers the **September 2025** issue of our **Newsletter**, the **62nd issue** since we began this initiative.

Our **Lead Feature** is on the **Shri K.S. Aiyar Memorial Lecture** delivered by **Hon'ble Justice Smt. B.V. Nagarathna of the Supreme Court of India on "Good Governance under the Constitution of India"**. We carry the essence of her illuminating lecture.

Our **Lead Article** by **Shri T. Sethumadhavan** is based on a recent **CAG Report on Karnataka State Finance for the year ended 31 March 2024**.

In our monthly column in **Kannada**, we carry the contribution of **Shri T. Thimme Gowda, IAS (Retd.)** on **Status of our Judiciary and Reforms**.

In our section titled **Policy Brief**, we carry the contribution of **Dr. Harini Santhanam, Dr. Anupama Shetty** and **Dr. Annapoorna Ravichander** titled, **Cyber Saathi**. They make out a convincing case for creating Community Guardians for a safer Digital India. We also carry **Dr. Annapoorna Ravichander's** bi-monthly column, **Communication Pulse**. This time, she writes on **How Media can be used Effectively in Public Policy**.

In our section on **Branch Members in the News**, we congratulate our energetic and dynamic EC Member, **Dr. Priyanca Mathur** on her elevation to the position of **Professor at Jain (DTB) University** and carry her brief Profile.

In our section on **Branch Members' Writings in the Popular Media**, we provide the links to recent thought-provoking articles written by the following members:

- (1) Dr. A. Ravindra, IAS (Retd.);
- (2) Shri G. Gurucharan, IAS (Retd.);
- (3) Smt. Uma Mahadevan, IAS;
- (4) Dr. Annapoorna Ravichander; and
- (5) Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar

In our section on **Books by Members**, we showcase two publications by our Life Members: (1) **Foreign Policy Decision-Making** by **Prof. S.S. Patagundi**, former Chairman of the Dharwad Local Branch of IIPA and (2) **State of Gender Equity in the Asia-Pacific** by **Priyanca Mathur, Rubina Pradhan, Amrita Purkayastha** and **Sneha Yadav**, all from the **Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education of Jain (DTB) University, Bengaluru**.

We end the issue with our section on **Food for Thought**. This time, we carry a thought-provoking quote of **Dr. S. Radhakrishnan** on teachers and education.



Lead Story



Good Governance under the Constitution of India

“Good Governance is a constitutional mandate, not a discretionary favour”, stated Hon. Justice Smt. B.V. Nagarathna, Judge, Supreme Court of India, while delivering the inaugural **Shri K.S. Aiyar Memorial Lecture on “Good Governance under the Constitution of India”** held under the auspices of the **Karnataka Regional Branch of the IIPA** on 2nd August 2025 at the IAS Officers Association in Bengaluru.



Hon’ble Justice Smt. B.V. Nagarathna is seen lighting the lamp at the inauguration of the programme. Others in the photo are (L to R) Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, Shri S. Ramanathan, Smt. Uma Mahadevan and Dr. Shalini Rajneesh. The essence of Justice Nagarathna’s lecture is given below:

Governance in India is not merely an academic theme, but a lived reality shaped by constitutional ethos. The Constitution, with its values of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity, binds a nation of immense diversity and provides a democratic blueprint for ensuring social welfare. Good governance, therefore, is not optional—it is a constitutional obligation.

The idea of *Good Governance* is deeply embedded in India’s civilizational traditions. The *Shanti Parva* of the *Mahabharata*, the Jataka tales, and Kautilya’s *Arthashastra* remind us that “in the welfare of the people lies the welfare of the king.” Centuries later, the World Bank and UNDP would echo these principles, defining *Good Governance* as public service that is efficient, justice that is reliable, and administration that is accountable to citizens.

Constitutional Foundations

Five basic features of the Indian Constitution underline the spirit of *Good Governance*:

- The **Preamble**, with its promise of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity;
- **Fundamental Rights** and the **Rule of Law**, which ensure accountability and fairness;
- The **Directive Principles of State Policy**, which guide the state towards social and economic justice;
- The principle of **Separation of Powers**, which prevents concentration of authority; and
- The **Federal Structure**, which balances unity with diversity.

The independence of the judiciary serves as a cornerstone of this framework. Together, these provisions create both the objective and subjective conditions for governance rooted in constitutional morality.

Leadership and Institutions

Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, while presenting the Constitution on 26 November 1949, warned that a Constitution, however well designed, cannot succeed if its custodians lack integrity. His words remain strikingly relevant.

Civil Servants play a pivotal role in guiding the political executive. While ministers may change with electoral cycles, the **“steel frame” of the bureaucracy is expected to remain strong, impartial, and anchored in integrity.** Every FILE that passes through a bureaucrat’s desk represents not just paperwork but a LIFE, a human concern that requires empathy, compassion, and fair resolution.

Challenges to Good Governance

Two persistent challenges threaten the promise of governance in India: **corruption** and **inefficiency.** These twin problems erode public trust and weaken democratic institutions. Unless urgently addressed, they risk undermining the very foundations of the constitutional order.

At the same time, the Constitution itself offers transformative tools to reform governance. It is not a static document but a living, dynamic framework capable of responding to changing social and political needs. Upholding constitutional morality is thus essential for keeping institutions relevant and responsive.

The Moral Dimension of Public Service

The inscription on the façade of Bengaluru's Vidhana Soudha— "**Government Work is God's Work**"—is not a call for divine intervention, but a reminder that public service must be performed with the devotion one reserves for prayer.

Unfortunately, a culture of subservience—the so-called "*My Man*" theory of governance—often stifles honest advice. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel once valued frank counsel from his Secretaries; today, dissent within bureaucracy may result in punitive transfers. For good governance to flourish, space for honest, fearless advice is indispensable.

Public service must never be treated as a ladder for self-aggrandizement. It is an opportunity to serve the people and uphold the Constitution's transformative vision. Good Governance in India is, above all, a constitutional mandate—not a discretionary favour. It demands integrity, accountability, and devotion from all who hold public office, reminding us that in the service of the people lies the true welfare of the state.

Shri T.M. Vijay Bhaskar, IAS (Retd.), former Chief Secretary of Karnataka and the Chairperson of the Karnataka Regional Branch of the IIPA welcomed the guests and audience. **Chief Secretary of Karnataka, Smt. Shalini Rajneesh, IAS** was the Chief Guest. **Smt. Uma Mahadevan, IAS**, Additional Chief Secretary and Development Commissioner introduced Justice Nagarathna to the audience. **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar, Secretary, IIPA-KRB** proposed a vote of thanks.

The **Shri K.S. Aiyar Memorial Lecture** is instituted by **Shri S. Ramanathan, IAS (Retd.)**, Chairman-Emeritus of the Karnataka Regional Branch of IIPA, in memory of his late father.





Lead Article

KARNATAKA STATE FINANCES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

(State Finance Audit Report)

Report of the Comptroller & Auditor-General of India (CAGI)

Thayyil Sethumadhavan, IA&AS (Retd.)
Formerly Principal Accountant-General
Madhya Pradesh



The CAG's Annual Finance Audit Report submitted to the Legislature on 19th August 2024 provides assurance on the overall financial position of the State of Karnataka for the year 2023-24. Despite the marginal revenue deficit attributed to the implementation of the Five Guarantees (5G) Scheme, the financial parameters were generally within limits. The main findings of the Report are summarized below:

State of the Economy

The State achieved an impressive growth of 13.10 % of GSDP (Rs.25,67,340 Crores) during 2023-24. The Per Capita GSDP was Rs.3,76,996 against the national average of Rs. 2,11,725/-. Agricultural Sector grew marginally, but growth rate of Industry and Services sectors showed slight decline.

Revenue Deficit and Five Guarantees (5G) Scheme

- State recorded a Revenue Deficit of Rs. 9,271 crores during the year with an increase of 12.5% of the Total Expenditure compared to the previous year, mainly on account of subsidies and financial assistance provided under the 5G Scheme (Rs.36,538 crores which absorbed 15% of the Total Revenue Expenditure).
- Total Receipts including Capital Receipts came to Rs.3,23,965 crores against which Total Disbursements were Rs.3,21,660 crores. Revenue Receipts were Rs.2,33,343 crores whereas the Revenue Expenditure came to Rs. 2,42,614 crores.
- State's Fiscal Deficit reached Rs. 65,222 crores (Rs.46,623 crores in 2022-22) necessitating net market borrowings of Rs.63,000 crores. This also led to a reduction in the Capital Expenditure by Rs.5,229 crores compared to the previous year.

CAG cautions that the implementation of the 5G Scheme without first rationalizing the existing subsidies and financial assistance and benefits, would place pressure on State's resources, with roll-on effect on fiscal deficits and debt level.

Fiscal Features

- The total fiscal liabilities of the State increased by 88% from Rs.3,37,520 crores in 2019 to Rs. 6,33,531 crores in 2023-24. (14% over that of the previous year). The outstanding public debt as a percentage of GSDP (23.5%) has been on the increase, but still within the established norm. Open market borrowings (Rs.81,000 crores) accounted for 70% of the total fiscal liabilities.
- About 76% of the total revenue came from Own Resources, and the balance out of transfers from the Government of India (GOI) by way of State's Share of Taxes and Duties, and Contributions. Own Tax revenue increased by Rs.19,803 crores with a growth rate of 14%, though the Non-Tax Revenue declined by 6% (Rs.797 crores).
- Major contributions came from GST (43%) and State Excise (21%) Taxes on Sales, trade etc. (13%) and Stamps and Registration (12%).
- According to the XV Finance Commission formula, the State was to receive 3.65% as its share which worked out to Rs.30,065 crores; but actually, Karnataka received Rs. 41,193 crores. However, the Grants from GOI came down from Rs.36,868 crores in the previous year to Rs. 15,528 crores in 2023-24, due to decrease in the Compensation for Loss in implementing GST.
- During 2023-24, some 80% of the total expenditure was on revenue account with maximum increases for Social Security & Welfare (166%) and Food, Storage & Warehousing (144%) for implementing the 5G Scheme.

Impact of Committed Expenditure

- Committed and inflexible expenditures (Salary, Pension, Interest Payments =Rs.1,02,637 crores) and Devolution to Local Bodies (Rs.29,961 crores) accounted for as much as 77% of the Revenue Expenditure, which increased from Rs.1,74,258 crores in 2019-20 to Rs.2,42,614 crores in 2023-24. The increase was 13% as compared to 2022-23.
- **The Report points out that the upward trend in committed expenditure would affect the maneuverability in prioritization of expenditure, as also future capital investments.**
- In this context, the number of incomplete capital projects in the State increased from 1864 during the



previous year to 3,140 in 2023-24, ostensibly due to the lower allocation for capital expenditure.

Gender and Children Budgets

- Gender Budgeting was generally positive with allocation for pro-women schemes receiving an added 8% allocation, thanks to the implementation of the 5G Scheme. Children's Welfare schemes also reflected increased allocation.

General Observations

- In the Finance Account for 2023-24 submitted separately, the CAG has drawn attention to accounting lapses in Personal Deposit Accounts, pending AC bills and wanting Utilization Certificates.
- An amount of Rs. 14, 549 crores earned up to the year 2023-24 on Government Grants by Public Sector Units was not credited to the government account by them, despite directions by the Finance Department.
- Arrears of revenue in respect of Taxes on Sales and Trade etc., amounted to Rs.30,020 crores.
- There were 47 cases of misappropriations, losses etc., involving Rs.43 crores in respect of which final actions were pending.

There were 22 Inoperative Bank Accounts with a balance of Rs.60 crores under the Social Forestry Department alone.

ನಮ್ಮ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಂಗ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗತಿ ಮತ್ತು ಸುಧಾರಣೆ



ಟಿ. ತಿಮ್ಮೇಗೌಡ, ಐ. ಎ. ಎಸ್. (ನಿ)

ನಿಕಟಪೂರ್ವ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಜಾನಪದ ಪರಿಷತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ಗೌರವ ಕಾರ್ಯದರ್ಶಿಗಳು, ಕೃಷಿ ಸರ್ವೋದಯ ಫೌಂಡೇಶನ್ (ರಿ)

ಪ್ರಜಾಪ್ರಭುತ್ವದ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂವಿಧಾನ ಶ್ರೇಷ್ಠವಾದುದು. ಇದು ದೇಶದ ಪರಮೋಚ್ಚ ಕಾನೂನು. ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಸಂಹಿತೆ, ಸರ್ಕಾರ ಮತ್ತು ಆಡಳಿತ ರಚನೆಯ ಕಾರ್ಯ ವಿಧಾನಗಳು ಹಾಗೂ ಅಧಿಕಾರ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಿಸುತ್ತದೆ. ನಮ್ಮ ಸಂವಿಧಾನದಲ್ಲಿ ಮೂಲಭೂತ ಹಕ್ಕುಗಳು, ನಿರ್ದೇಶನ ತತ್ವಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ನಾಗರೀಕ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ ಅನುಸಾರ ಶಾಸಕಾಂಗ, ಕಾರ್ಯಾಂಗ ಮತ್ತು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಂಗ ಎಂಬ ಮೂರು ಪ್ರಮುಖ ವಿಭಾಗಗಳು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಭಾರತದ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರಪತಿಗಳು ಈ ಮೂರು ವಿಭಾಗಗಳ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರಾಗಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಶಾಸಕಾಂಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜ್ಯಸಭೆ ಮತ್ತು ಲೋಕಸಭೆಗಳಿವೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರದಲ್ಲಿ ಶಾಸನಸಭೆಗಳು ಅಸ್ತಿತ್ವದಲ್ಲಿವೆ. ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಂಗದ ಭಾಗವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಧಾನಮಂತ್ರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಮಂತ್ರಿಮಂಡಲವಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮುಖ್ಯಮಂತ್ರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಮಂತ್ರಿಮಂಡಲ ರಾಜಕೀಯ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಂಗದ ಭಾಗವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಹಾಗೂ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಸರ್ಕಾರಗಳ ಆಡಳಿತ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಂಗದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಸಂಖ್ಯಾತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿವರ್ಗದವರು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ನ್ಯಾಯಾಂಗದಲ್ಲಿ ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಸುಪ್ರೀಂಕೋರ್ಟ್, ರಾಜ್ಯಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಉಚ್ಚನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಹಾಗೂ ಅಧೀನ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ.

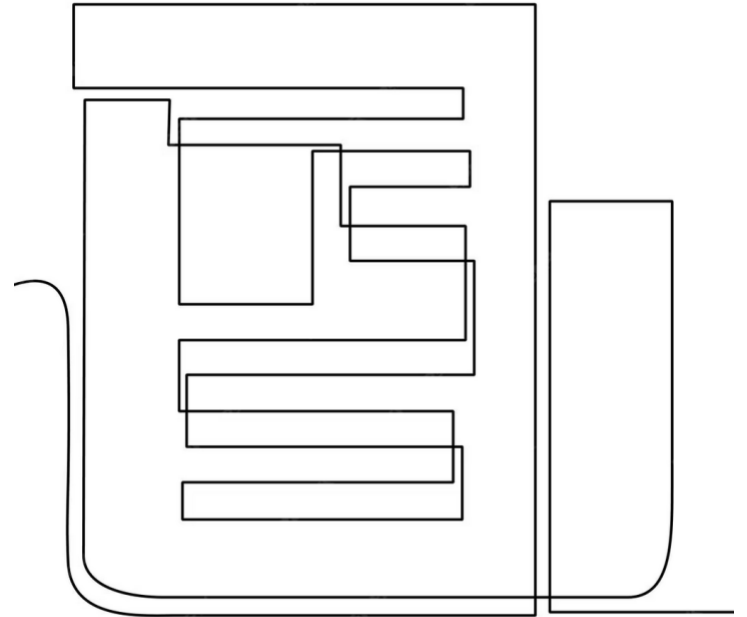
ನಮ್ಮ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಂಗ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯು ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ ಆಶಯದಂತೆ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ. ನಾನು ಬಾಲ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡಂತೆ ನಮ್ಮೊಳಗೆ ತಂಟೆತಕರಾರು (ವ್ಯಾಜ್ಯಗಳು), ಕುಟುಂಬಕಲಹ, ಜಮೀನಿನ ಒತ್ತುವರಿ ಮತ್ತು ಆಸ್ತಿ ವಿಂಗಡಣೆ ಮುಂತಾದ ವಿಚಾರಗಳನ್ನು ಊರಿನ ಪ್ರಮುಖ ಪಂಗಡಗಳ ಮುಖ್ಯಸ್ಥರು ಸೇರಿ ನ್ಯಾಯಪಂಚಾಯತಿಯ ಮೂಲಕ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳನ್ನು ಇತ್ಯರ್ಥಪಡಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಗ್ರಾಮದ ಆಂತರಿಕ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಸಣ್ಣಪುಟ್ಟ ವ್ಯಾಜ್ಯಗಳು ಪೊಲೀಸ್ ಠಾಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಕಛೇರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಹೋಗುತ್ತಿರಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಗ್ರಾಮದ ನ್ಯಾಯಪಂಚಾಯತಿ ತೀರ್ಪುಗಳನ್ನು ಆ ಊರಿನ ಜನರು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಪಾಲಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದರು. ಆದರೆ ಈಗಿನ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂವಿಧಾನದ ಅನುಸಾರ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಂಗ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ವಿವಿಧ ಹಂತಗಳ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳು ರಚನೆಗೊಂಡು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಈ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾರತೀಯ ನ್ಯಾಯಸಂಹಿತೆ, ನಾಗರೀಕ ಸುರಕ್ಷಾ ಸಂಹಿತೆ ಮತ್ತು ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸಾಕ್ಷಾಧಿನಿಯಮ ಮುಂತಾದ ನ್ಯಾಯಸಂಹಿತೆಗಳ ಮೂಲಕ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳು ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿವೆ.

ಭಾರತದ ಜನಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿದಂತೆಲ್ಲಾ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಹಂತದಲ್ಲೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರು ತಮ್ಮ ವ್ಯಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ಇತ್ಯರ್ಥಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಹೆಚ್ಚುಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗಿ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಮೊರೆಹೋಗುತ್ತಿದ್ದಾರೆ. ಆದುದರಿಂದ, ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಹಂತದ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ದಿನೇ ದಿನೇ ಹೆಚ್ಚಾಗುತ್ತಿವೆ. ಭಾರತದ ಶ್ರೇಷ್ಠ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯವು ಮತ್ತು ರಾಜ್ಯಗಳ ಉಚ್ಚನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳು ಸೇರಿದಂತೆ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಹಂತದ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಶೀಘ್ರವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳನ್ನು ಇತ್ಯರ್ಥ ಮಾಡಲು ವಿಶೇಷ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ ಮತ್ತು ಜನತಾ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ ಮುಂತಾದವುಗಳನ್ನು ರಚಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಆದರೂ ಅನೇಕ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಅನೇಕ ವರ್ಷಗಳವರೆಗೆ ಬಾಕಿ ಇರುವುದು ಕಂಡುಬರುತ್ತದೆ.

ಇತ್ತೀಚೆಗೆ ನಾನು ಒಂದು ಪ್ರಕರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾಕ್ಷಿದಾರನಾಗಿ ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರದ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣದ ಒಂದು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಜರಿದ್ದೆ. ಅಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡುಬಂದ ದೃಶ್ಯ ನಮ್ಮ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳ ಸಂಕೀರ್ಣ ಸಮಸ್ಯೆಗಳಿಗೆ ಸಾಕ್ಷಿಯಾಗಿದೆ. ಬಹುತೇಕ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಪ್ರತಿದಿನ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ವಿಚಾರಣೆಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಅಧಿಕವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದ ಆವರಣದಲ್ಲಿ ವಕೀಲರು ಮತ್ತು ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯು ಸಹ ಅಧಿಕವಾಗಿದೆ. ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯದ ಸಭಾಂಗಣದಲ್ಲಿ ವಕೀಲರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿದ್ದು ಅವರಿಗೆ ಕುಳಿತುಕೊಳ್ಳಲು ಸಹ ಆಸನದ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಸಾಕಾಗುತ್ತಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಅನೇಕ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ವಿಚಾರಣೆಗೆ ಬರುತ್ತಿದ್ದು ವಾದಿ-ಪ್ರತಿವಾದಿಗಳ ವಕೀಲರುಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಕಿರಿಯ ಸಹೋದ್ಯೋಗಿಗಳು ಜೊತೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಕೋರ್ಟ್ ಸಭಾಂಗಣ ತುಂಬಿರುತ್ತಿತ್ತು. ಪ್ರತಿದಿನದ ವಿಚಾರಣಾ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಬಹುತೇಕ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಾದಿ ಅಥವಾ ಪ್ರತಿವಾದಿ ವಕೀಲರು ಸಮಯ ಕೇಳುವುದರ ಜೊತೆಗೆ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳ ಹಾಜರಾತಿ ಮುಂತಾದ ವಿಚಾರಗಳಿಂದ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆಯ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಮುಂದಿನ ದಿನಾಂಕಕ್ಕೆ ಮುಂದೂಡಲ್ಪಡುತ್ತವೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ವಕೀಲರು ಸಹ ತಮ್ಮ ಪ್ರಕರಣದ ವಿಚಾರಣೆಗೆ ಬರುವವರೆಗೆ ಕಾಯ್ದು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಧೀಶರ ಮುಂದೆ ತಮ್ಮ ಮನವಿ/ಪ್ರತಿಪಾದನೆಯನ್ನು ಮಂಡಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ನ್ಯಾಯಾಧೀಶರು ಅವರ ಮನವಿಯನ್ನು ಕೇಳಿ ಮುಂದಿನ ವಿಚಾರಣೆಯ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ತೀರ್ಮಾನಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಆ ದಿನ ನಾಕಂಡಂತೆ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಧೀಶರು ಶಾಂತಿ ಸಮಾಧಾನದಿಂದ ವಕೀಲರ ವಾದ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರತಿವಾದಗಳನ್ನು ಕೇಳಿ ಸೂಕ್ತ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ವಿಚಾರಣೆಯನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಈ ರೀತಿ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಪ್ರತಿಯೊಂದು ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ವಿಚಾರಣೆಯು ಅನೇಕ ದಿನಗಳು ಅಥವಾ ವರ್ಷಗಳವರೆಗೆ ತೀರ್ಪು ನೀಡಲು ಕಾಯಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದ ವಿವಿಧ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಚಾರಣೆಗಳು ಪದೇಪದೇ ಮುಂದೂಡುವಾಗ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯವಾಗಿ ಆಯಾ ದಿನದ ವಿಚಾರಣಾ

ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರು ತಮ್ಮ ವಕೀಲರ ಜೊತೆ ಹಾಜರಾಗಲು ಹಣ ಖರ್ಚು ಮಾಡಬೇಕಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಇಂತಹ ಎಷ್ಟೋ ದಿನಗಳ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರಿಗೆ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಹೊರೆಯನ್ನು ಉಂಟುಮಾಡುತ್ತದೆ. ಇದರಿಂದಾಗಿ ಇತ್ತೀಚಿನ ನ್ಯಾಯಸಂಹಿತೆಯ ಅನುಸಾರ ನಿಗದಿತ ಅವಧಿಯೊಳಗೆ ತೀರ್ಪು ನೀಡಲು ಅವಕಾಶವಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ ಹೆಚ್ಚುತ್ತಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ಹೆಚ್ಚುವರಿ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ಥಾಪಿಸಿ ನ್ಯಾಯದಾನ ವಿಧಾನವನ್ನು ಶೀಘ್ರವಾಗಿ ಮಾಡುವುದು ಅವಶ್ಯಕ.

ಇದರಿಂದ ಕಕ್ಷಿದಾರರಿಗೆ ಸಮಯ ಮತ್ತು ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಉಳಿತಾಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ ಹಾಗೂ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಿಗೆ ಒತ್ತಡ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗುತ್ತದೆ. ಒಟ್ಟಾರೆ ನಮ್ಮ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಇರುವ ಪ್ರಕರಣಗಳು ಶೀಘ್ರವಾಗಿ ಇತ್ಯರ್ಥಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ನ್ಯಾಯಾಂಗ ವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆ ಸುಧಾರಣೆ ಮತ್ತು ಅಗತ್ಯ ಕ್ರಮಗಳು ಅನಿವಾರ್ಯ.



Policy Brief



CYBER SAATHI

Community Guardians for a Safer Digital India

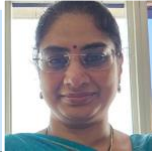
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Executive Statement

In recent years, the growth in digitisation has been a double-edged sword, creating avenues for unprecedented growth, while concurrently creating avenues for an explosive rise in cybercrimes. It has helped in many ways, while it has opened avenues to a rise in cybercrimes to include online fraud, stealing data, phishing, to name a few. Lack of appropriate check points, legal frameworks as well as implementation frameworks has left a large swathe and has exploited people who are unaware of the same. To address this, it is important to put in place a comprehensive, evidence-based policy response to strengthen cyber security, build institutional resilience and safeguard citizens in the digital era.

India is on the brink of a digital revolution. According to the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), **internet usage is poised to exceed 900 million by 2025**, with rural India spearheading the surge (488 million users, 55% of the total). The digital gender gap is also narrowing, with women now comprising 47% of users. While this signals remarkable inclusion, the other side of the coin highlights several challenges. **Greater access has been paralleled by an alarming rise in cybercrime, driven by e-commerce expansion, digital payments and social media usage.**

The central aim of this Policy Brief is to present and address gaps in ensuring community-level digital hygiene and ethics across Asian countries through scaling-up models of localised impacts. We term the approach as a “**Cyber Saathi Model**”, which harmonises community-driven knowledge management of cyber issues with the governance operations at local level or even state level governments such as the Gram Panchayat systems. Here, the term “*Saathi*” refers to a friend or a support system created by repurposing digital safety personnel to support citizens in cultivating safe digital environments for all. Cultural and social regionalisation of the Cyber Saathi model can be an effective means to bridge that gap through education, empowerment, and access to support. Creating of capacity-building dedicated personnel to act as ‘Cyber Saathis’ is quite important to meet the context of challenges presented here, and for meeting the scale of a full-fledged “digital epidemic” in the form of cybercrimes in modern times.

Under these circumstances, we examine the feasibility of 4 major objectives which became apparent to develop a safe cyber ecosystem using *Cyber Saathis* to:

1. Educate vulnerable groups on safe digital practices.
2. Reduce incidents of cyberbullying, online fraud, and digital harassment.
3. Build a network of trained digital safety ambassadors in schools, colleges, and communities.
4. Provide access to legal and psychological support for victims of cybercrime.

Methodology

Using the insights obtained so far, the main recommendations to fight cybercrimes can be identified as follows:

- Build and strengthen institutional law enforcement capacity by establishing a Training Academy to standardize capacity building
- Establish real-time information-sharing platforms between central, state, and local agencies
- Create awareness on a regular basis to understand digital literacy and establish platforms to help citizens provide feedback
- Safeguard and protect data by implementing and activating strict rules and regulations in case of breach
- Promote Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in cyber security innovation.

Table 1: Characterizing the Cybercrime Landscape in India and its Decadal Evolution

Cybercrime Factor	Timeline	Reported Cases	Remarks
Increase in cybercrimes in the past decade	2014 - 2024	August 2024: 77,858 (an 8-fold increase) In 2014: 5,752 arrests	No. of cases recorded: 9,622
Enforcement capacity		August 2024: 36,235	Increasing number of arrests made
Sector-specific vulnerabilities - Finance sector	2014 - 2024	Not available completely	Despite better enforcement, the pace of cybercrime growth is outstripping law enforcement capacity.
Healthcare	2014-2025	Not regularly monitored	Finance: Fraudulent transactions, phishing, and UPI-related scams.
Sector-specific vulnerabilities - Education	2014-2025	Not easily apparent	Cyberbullying, data theft, and exploitation of minors through online learning platforms.

Current Government Initiatives

The Government of India has strengthened its cyber security apparatus in the following ways by adopting new policy instruments such as:

- Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C, 2020): Central hub for cybercrime handling, intelligence, and capacity building.
- National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal: Enables individuals to report crimes, with focus on women and children.
- Awareness Campaigns: Digital literacy and safety modules integrated into school curricula and police outreach.

Emerging Dominant Gap Areas

While these measures exist, awareness, access and trust remain weak at the last mile. It is observed that the victims—especially in rural and vulnerable communities—often lack the literacy or confidence to report. Hence we propose a new model to aggregate and synchronise governmental and societal actions, activities as follows.

The Cyber Saathi Model

Cyber Saathi is a community-based initiative that trains ordinary citizens to act as digital guardians.

Who are Cyber Saathis?

Students, teachers, college students, NGOs, employees (volunteers), self-help groups as well as civil society institutions

What do they do?

- Detect & Alert: Spot phishing links, fraud calls and harassment cases.
- Educate & Empower: Conduct peer awareness in local languages via community sessions, WhatsApp groups, and street plays.
- Escalate & Connect: Support victims in reporting crimes via helplines (1930) or the National Portal.
- Bridge the Gap: Translate technical terms into simple steps, contextualized to local realities.
- Using surveys, focus groups, and pilot programs to gather feedback and refine stakeholder roles and engagement methods would also form a large part of the implementation strategy.

Monitoring & Evaluation requirements are quite important to ensure the smooth functioning of the *Cyber Saathi* model. These may include actions such as:

- Conducting periodic pre- and post-training assessments
- Obtaining feedback from participants and institutions
- Reporting analyses of the number of cybercrime reports and resolutions
- Deriving engagement metrics from the digital platform on the effects of *Cyber Saathis* on crime rates.

Implications

For sustained implementation of the *Cyber Saathi* model, the following actions may be required:

- Institutionalize programmes in school curricula;
- Conduct annual refresher training for *cyber saathis*;
- Create avenues for CSR partnerships for long-term funding of the *Cyber Saathi* model; and

- Create, strengthen the volunteer network for ongoing outreach.

Unique strategy designs for stakeholder engagement need to be tailored for each group. Some examples are as follows:

- Conduct workshops and training for students and educators
- Organise Policy dialogues with government bodies
- Coordinate hackathons and internships with industry
- Create awareness campaigns with media and NGOs

Major Policy Recommendations

Institutionalize *Cyber Saathis*

- Integrate into Digital India and National Cyber Security Policy frameworks.
- Embed in State Police outreach, schools, colleges, and CSR programs.

Capacity Building

- Develop standardized training modules in regional languages.
- Scale via partnerships with NGOs, CSR foundations, and state IT departments.

Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)

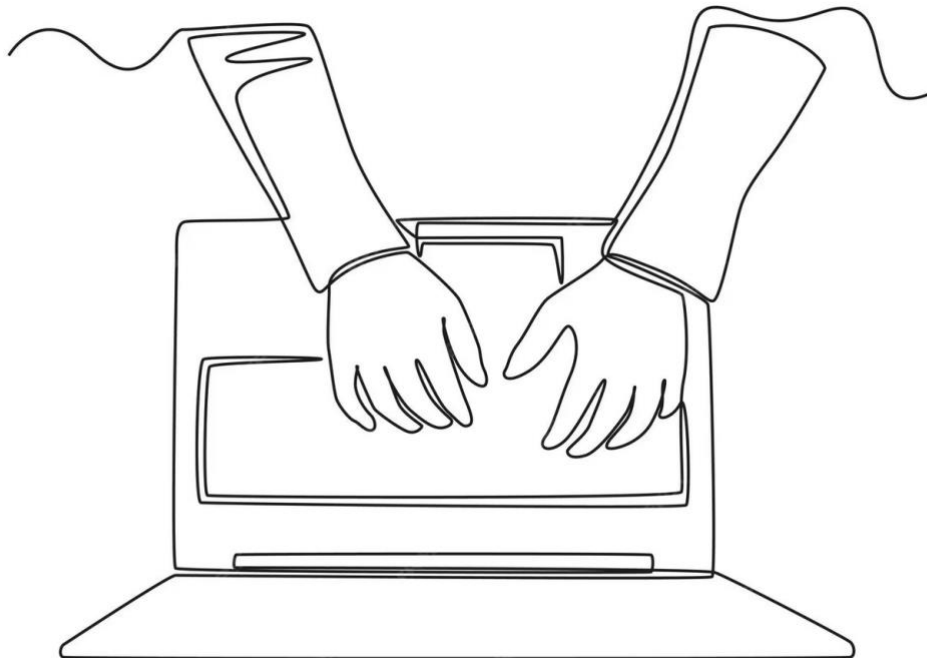
- Engage fintech, telecom and social media platforms to co-sponsor awareness drives.
- Create escalation linkages between *Cyber Saathis* and I4C/helpline 1930.

Incentivisation & Recognition

- Recognize *Saathis* as Digital Safety Volunteers.
- Provide certification, digital badges, and public recognition for significant efforts

Conclusion

Our needs-based research strongly indicates the incorporation of a people-led digital safety programme instituted at community levels in each city. Thus, a Cyber Saathi programme being an integrated people-governance approach, must align with differential stakeholders' needs and missions of safety, empowerment, and community engagement. **By trusting people to support each other and equipping citizens with the knowledge and tools to navigate the digital world safely, we can build a more resilient and informed society.**



Communication Pulse

How can Media be Used Effectively in Public Policy?



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Introduction

It is common knowledge that it is important to share and disseminate information to a wider audience, especially in the case of Policy makers and senior Civil Servants. One of the powerful “voices”/channels they can use is the media.

Importance of Media in Public Policy

Disseminate Information:

- Provide information on policy proposals, government actions and public debates to the general public
- Act as intermediaries between policymakers and citizens, ensuring that people are aware of the issues at hand and understand the potential implications of policy decisions.

Set Agenda:

- Influence public agenda by highlighting certain issues over others.
- Bring attention to specific policy challenges, shaping public discourse and putting pressure on policymakers to address them using reporting and analysis.

Help Public Form Opinion:

- Shape how the public perceives the effectiveness, fairness and necessity of different policy proposals.

Advocacy and Mobilization:

- Amplify voices of advocacy groups, civil society organizations and grassroots movements
- Provide a platform to raise awareness on specific policy issues and mobilize public support for their causes.

Feedback and Evaluation for Policies:

- Play a role in providing feedback on the implementation and outcomes of public policies
- Assess the effectiveness of policies, identify unintended consequences and advocate for necessary adjustments or reforms

How is it used Scientifically in Everyday Life?

Using scientific rigor is important and useful and following are some of the ways:

Aids in Informed Decision-Making:

- Helps in designing effective public policies
- Evidence-based information helps policy makers make informed choices

Solves Problem and Provides Suggested Solutions:

- Research provides alternate solutions
- Predicts probable outcomes

Helps in Risk Assessment and Prior Warning:

- Identifies risks and provides warning
- Helps in taking preventive measures and develop effective policies

Builds Public Trust and Reliability:

- Maintains public trust, especially when there are controversies, wrong representation of information
- No trust can lead to poor decision making
- Using scientific standards ensures policy decisions are based on sound information

Evaluates and Helps Adapts Policies:

- Allows policymakers to assess policy effectiveness

Scientific Usage



Challenges and Responsibilities

Three key challenges include:

- Evidence-based Reporting
Due to lack of appropriate knowledge citizens are not aware of reliable sources
- Lack of Accuracy
Misrepresenting information leads to flawed policies
- Lack of Balanced Information
Not presenting diverse perspectives hampers decision making

Conclusion

In short, Media links scientific developments and public policy. Understanding the nuances of science reporting empowers individuals to engage critically and advocate for evidence-based policies.



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DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**



and

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Karnataka Regional Branch Bengaluru

ONLINE CERTIFICATE COURSE
in

PUBLIC POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

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Branch Members in the News



The Karnataka Regional Branch of IIPA congratulates **Dr. Priyanca Mathur** on being promoted as **Professor** at **JAIN (Deemed-to-be) University**. Her profile is detailed below:

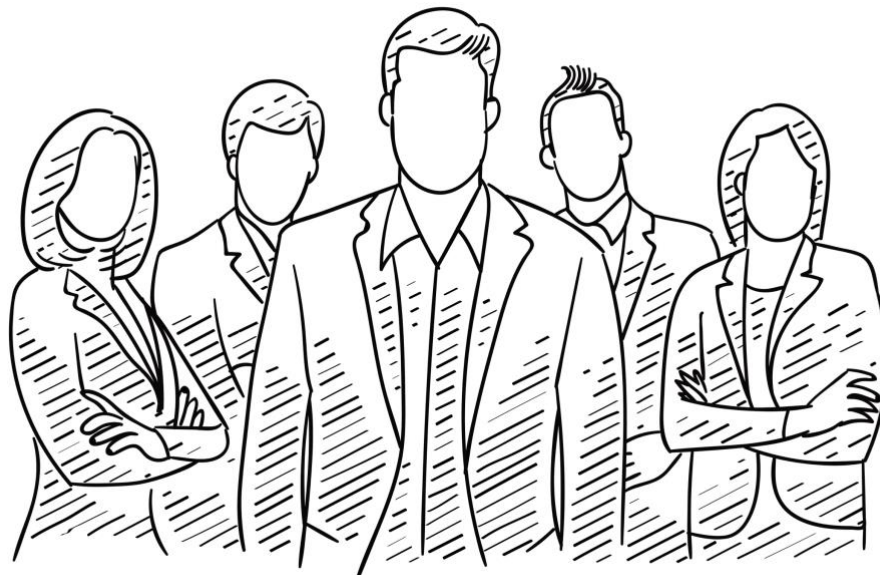


- **Dr. Priyanca Mathur**, is currently **Head and Professor** at the **Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CeRSSE)**, JAIN (Deemed-to-be-University) in Bangalore.
- Previously she was Assistant Professor and P.G. Coordinator at the Master's Department of Political Science, **St. Joseph's College (Autonomous)**, Bengaluru.
- A **gold-medallist** in Political Science from **Jadavpur University**, Calcutta, she gained her Master's, M.Phil. and Ph.D. degrees at the Centre for Political Studies and the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance at **Jawaharlal Nehru University**, New Delhi.
- A Commonwealth Scholarship also additionally enabled her to study for an M.Sc. in Forced Migration Studies at the **Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford**, U.K.
- She is a founding Member of the **Asia-Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN)**, a member of Editorial Board of Refugee Law Reader, Hungary, and of the International Association for the Study of Forced Migration (IASFM).
-

An international trainer with **UN Women** and the **Forum of Federations (FoF)**, Canada, she has devised modules for FoF on Gender and Decentralisation and conducted Gender and Federalism workshops, as well as 'Training of Trainers' (ToT) Workshops on Gender for parliamentarians and civil society actors in Myanmar and Thailand.

- She has published numerous book chapters and articles in journals, op-ed articles in the *Deccan Herald*, and conducted Gender Sensitisation Workshops for Universities.
- Being a recipient of the **Schomburg Fellowship**, Dr. Mathur has also taught at Ramapo College, Mahwah, New Jersey, U.S.A.
- She has recently co-authored an edited volume with Dr. A. Ravindra titled '**Discovering New India: Multiculturalism, Pluralism, Harmony**' (JAIN (Deemed-to-be-University) Press, 2022) and has and upcoming co-edited volume with Routledge titled '**Post-Pandemic World Order: Issue and Challenges**' (2026).

Her areas of research and publications are **International Politics, Refugee and Forced Migration Studies, Gender Studies, Public Policy and Governance**. She is also guiding Ph.D. scholars in these areas.



Branch Members' Writings In Popular Media



Dr. A. Ravindra, IAS (Retd.)
Former Chief Secretary of Karnataka



The Greater Bengaluru Act needs a Course Correction

In *Deccan Herald* dt. 11 August 2025

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/the-greater-bengaluru-act-needs-a-course-correction-3674750>

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



The Algorithmic Self: How You are Becoming your Feed

In *Deccan Herald* dt. 10 August 2025

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/the-algorithmic-self-how-you-are-becoming-your-feed-2-3674078>

What Moral Imagination means in our Polarised Times

In *Deccan Herald* dt. 31 August 2025

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/what-moral-imagination-means-in-our-polarised-times-3705019>

Smt. Uma Mahadevan, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary and
Development Commissioner
Government of Karnataka



Lessons beyond the Syllabus

In *Frontline* dt. 11 July 2025

<https://frontline.thehindu.com/books/perumal-murugan-teaching-rural-students/article69795632.ece>

The Case for Systemic Educational Reform

In *The India Forum* dt. 10 August 2025

<https://www.theindiaforum.in/book-reviews/case-systemic-educational-reform>



Dr. Annapoorna Ravichander
Freelance Consultant

Strategy: A compass of policymaking

In *Meghalaya Monitor* dt. 10 August 2025

<https://meghalayamonitor.com/strategy-a-compass-of-policymaking/>

A Port Blair: Where patriotism meets paradise

In *Deccan Herald* dt. 10 August 2025

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

The case for Cyber Saathis

In *Deccan Herald* dt. 9 August 2025

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/the-case-for-cyber-saathis-3673057>

Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar

Hon. Professor, Mahatma Gandhi Rural
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College, Ziro, Arunachal Pradesh; Adjunct
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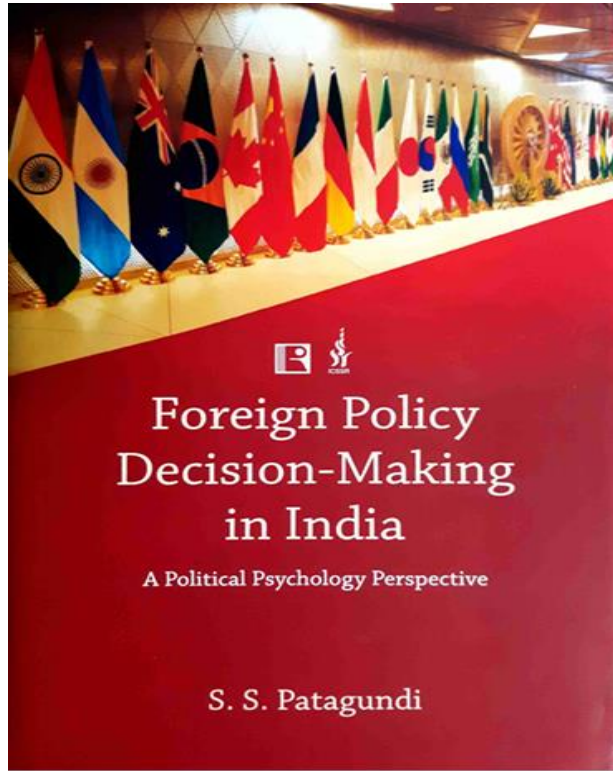


Migrant Workers let down by Karnataka's Blind Spots in Data and Policy

In *Deccan Herald* dt. 1 September 2025

<https://www.deccanherald.com/india/karnataka/migrant-workers-let-down-by-karnataka-s-blind-spots-in-data-and-policy-3705857>

Books By Members



Foreign Policy Decision-Making in India

The formulation of foreign policy is multifaceted and more complex than domestic policies. The knowledge of a single discipline is generally inadequate to understand the reality of complex foreign policy issues. Multidisciplinary knowledge is imperative for understanding the foreign policy decision-making process. The study focuses on the perceptions, cognitive processes, and beliefs of foreign policy decision-makers and institutions. This study assumes that perceptions and beliefs are significant dimensions of political psychology in interactions among the actors representing nation-states. In a parliamentary democracy, the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister are key actors in foreign policy decision-making. The key actors are leaders of institutions and groups. Foreign policy decision-makers are elites, and elite beliefs are significant in foreign policy decision-making. Beliefs influence the decision-makers in understanding the problem they are confronted with, defining the international situation, identifying options with pros and cons, and finally selecting the best option to achieve foreign policy objectives.

This book is an attempt to understand foreign policy decision-making in India from the perspective of political psychology. The combination of insights from political science and psychology helps to understand the reality of the multifaceted phenomena of national interest, decision-making, and the influence of leaders' personalities on foreign policy. The book is useful for students and academics interested in foreign policy analysis and foreign policy decision-making, and is important for researchers in policy studies institutes, journalists, foreign policy analysts, strategists, risk analysts, historians, biographers, and the general public interested in foreign policy.

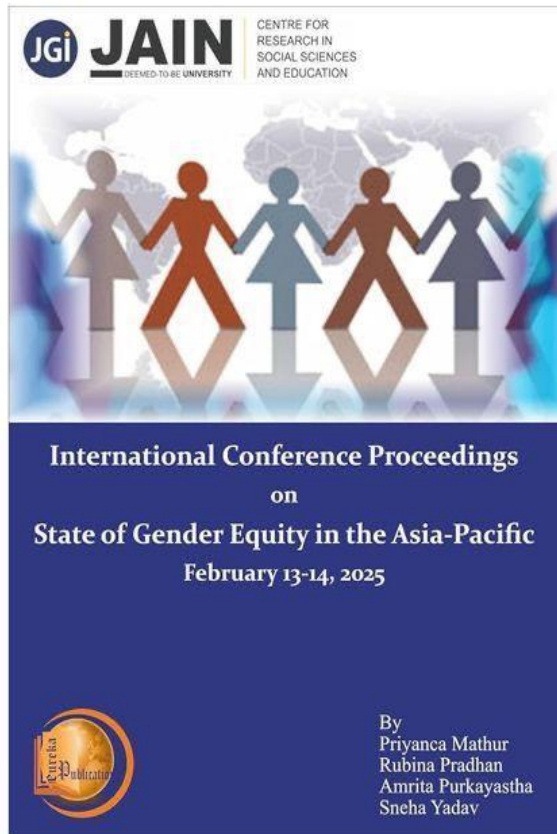
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About the Editors

Dr. Priyanka Mathur is Professor and Head at the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CERSE), JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), Bangalore. Her teaching and research specialisations lie at the intersection of politics, public policy, gender and forced migration studies. A gold-medalist in Political Science from Jadavpur University, Kolkata, she did her MA and M.Phil at the Centre for Political Studies, and Ph.D at the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. A Commonwealth Scholarship enabled her to complete an M.Sc. in Forced Migration Studies at the Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford, UK. She has been an international consultant with UN Women and Forum of Federations, Canada, the founding member of the Asia-Pacific Refugee Rights Network (APRRN) and on the Editorial Board of Refugee Law Reader, Hungary. She is a recipient of IRE in Political Science, fellowship from MCRG, Kolkata to conduct research at Tampere University, Finland and the Schomburg Scholarship to teach at Mahwah College, New Jersey, USA. She has published numerous book chapters in volumes edited by Routledge, Springer and SAGE, along with op-ed articles in newspapers like Deccan Herald. Her recent publications are Forced Migration Trends in the Asia Pacific (Monash University, KL, 2022) and State of Research in Internal Displacement in Asia (Refugee Law Initiative, University of London, 2020). She has co-authored an edited volume titled Discovering New India: Multiculturalism, Pluralism, Harmony (Jain University Press, 2022) and has an upcoming co-edited volume Post-Pandemic World Order: Issues and Challenges (Routledge).

Dr. Rubina Pradhan is an Assistant Professor at the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CERSE), JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), Bangalore. She holds a Ph.D. from the Centre for International Politics, Organisation and Disarmament at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi. Her doctoral research focused on the theory of partnerships among international organisations in conflict resolution, with Libya as a test case. She has contributed to both academic and policy-oriented research, with prior engagements including her role as an Associate Researcher with Wrieflight and experience as a freelance academic writer. Her research interests span international organisations, human rights, humanitarian intervention, climate change, and public policy. She has published extensively in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes. Her recent contributions include Evaluating Public Policy Approaches to Women's Empowerment During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Perspective from the Global South (Springer, 2023) and The Role of Green Budget in Promoting Environmental Sustainability in India (IGI Global, 2025), both Scope-indexed book chapters. She is also the co-editor of the forthcoming volume Post-Pandemic World Order: Issues and Challenges, to be published by Routledge. In addition to her academic work, she is frequently invited as a resource person to deliver expert lectures and participate in academic forums.

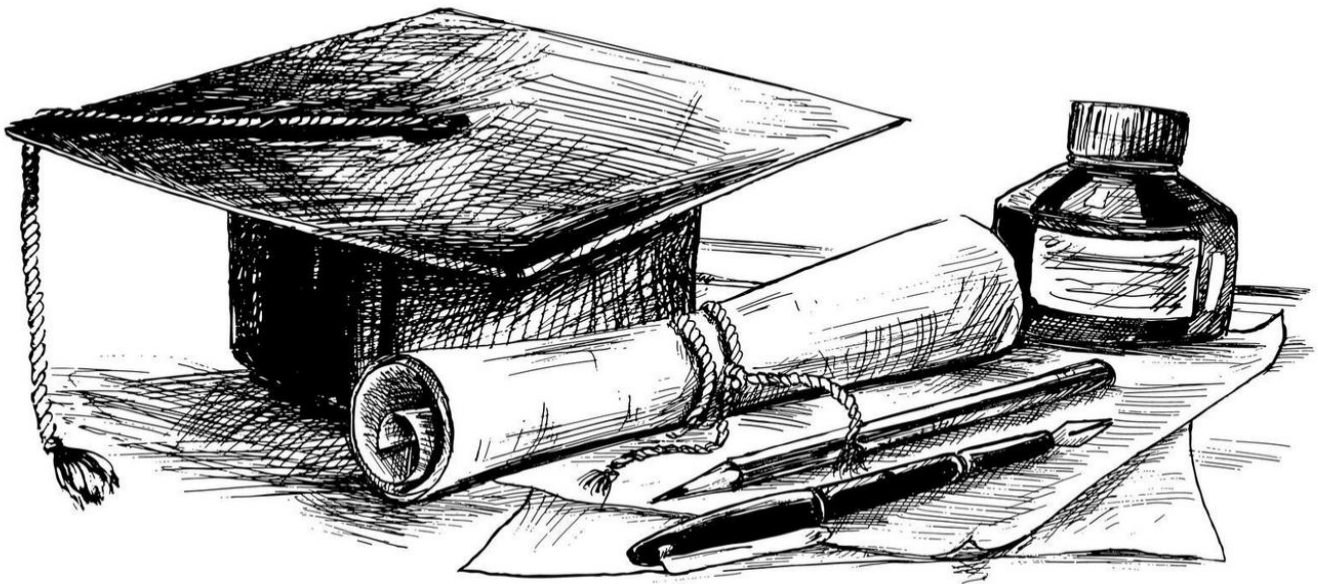
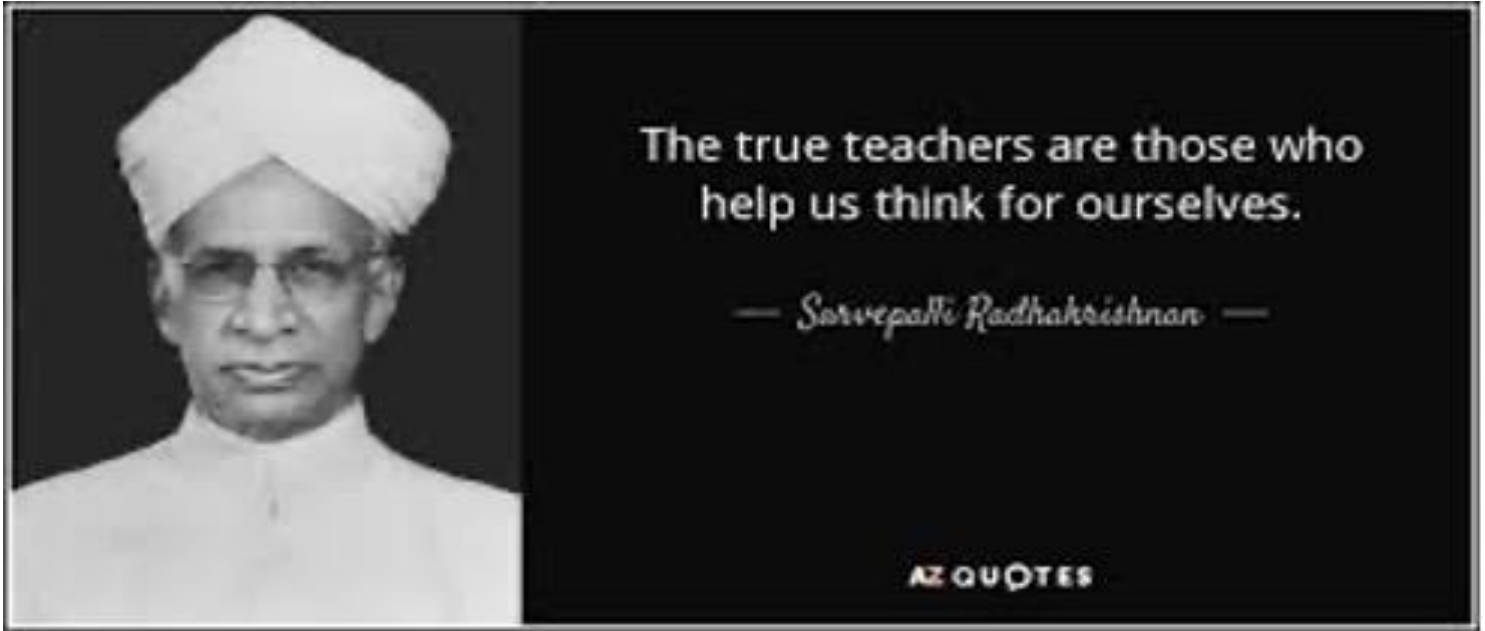
Dr. Amrita Purkayastha is an Assistant Professor at the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CERSE), JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), Bangalore. Her research interest includes areas like refugee laws, migration, and European regional affairs. After completing her doctorate from Jawaharlal Nehru University with specialisation in 'International Organizations', she has worked as a freelance 'Academic Writer' for two companies. Previously, she has also worked as a content writer and translator for two agencies before her role as an academic writer. She has peer-reviewed publications and articles published in journals, newspapers, online media blogs centring on different issues of refugees around the world and European political affairs. She has also presented her research at different national and international conferences. Her recent publication is a co-edited book titled Reconstructing the Global Order: Challenges in the Post-Pandemic World (Writer's Choice Publications, 2025).

Dr. Sneha Yadav is an Assistant Professor at the Centre for Research in Social Sciences and Education (CERSE), JAIN (Deemed-to-be University), Bangalore, with a Doctorate from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She is twice NET qualified in Political Science and International Relations. She holds an M.A. in Political Science (International Relations specialization) and M.Phil. in Inner Asian Studies from JNU, and a B.A. from Indraprastha College for Women, Delhi University. Having commenced her teaching career as guest faculty at Jesus and Mary College and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar College for Women (Delhi University). Her academic expertise spans Central Asian studies, Russian affairs, Geopolitical studies, and Inner Asian geopolitics, making her a valuable contributor to contemporary discourse on international relations and regional security studies. She has published articles in various reputed peer-reviewed journals and contributed chapters to books. She has also co-edited a book titled Reconstructing the Global Order: Challenges in the Post-Pandemic World (Writer's Choice Publications, New Delhi).

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