

Editorial

Learnings from Working with Government



SS Iyer
Administrator

Public Affairs Centre, ever since its inception, has been working with Governments as its mandate is 'Good Governance'. It is also pertinent to note that all activities taken by the Centre are citizen-centric and endeavour to facilitate formulation of public policies to benefit the common citizens.

The PAC's approach to working with Governments was consensual and not confrontational as it is well recognised that both have a common objective-ensure Good Governance.

In the 27 years of its existence, the PAC has been engaging in facilitating research on various aspects of public policy beginning with the development of Social Accountability Tools such as the Citizen Report Card, then took up Action research projects to demonstrate Proof of Concepts capable of replication and upscaling and presently study initiatives that could be taken to improve performance under Sustainable Development Goals.

Our working with the Governments have provided deep insights into the working of the processes within the Government which enabled research into reviewing and refining them for better outcomes especially in areas related to human development.

The contemporary shift in focus to the study of Sustainable Development Goals especially related to human development sector and use of data analytics and AI/ML to aid better decision making at the policy formulation levels provided good learning of ensuring better outcomes with existing resources for the betterment of the citizens at the last mile.

PAC is proud to work with Governments and facilitate development of public policies targeted at the common citizen and thereby be a catalyst in ensuring 'Good Governance'.

Currently PAC has extended its work to the Government of Meghalaya by signing a three-year Memorandum of Understanding as Knowledge Partner.

Interview



Smt. Uma Mahadevan, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary, Panchayat Raj
Government of Karnataka

Q: As the Additional Chief Secretary (PR) in the Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Government of Karnataka, what do you envisage is your role in empowering the communities?

A: *Karnataka has long been a frontrunner in democratic decentralisation through the panchayat raj system. We have approximately 6000 gram panchayats, around 230 taluk panchayats and 31 zilla panchayats. Fifty percent of elected representatives in Panchayat Raj Institutions (PRIs) PRIs as well as president and vice-president are women. In addition, grassroots community management committees of anganwadis, schools, health centres etc are all sub-committees of the gram panchayat. Hence there is tremendous potential to empower communities by deepening decentralisation and increasing avenues for participation in local governance. With systematic capacity building, as well as designing processes and structures for transparency, accountability and participation, we can empower communities to play a greater role in local decision-making.*

Q: How do you think that the role and involvement of administrators is important to monitor panchayat programmes and how does this benefit people?

A: *With one lakh elected representatives in the panchayat system, we can have a highly participatory process of decision-making. However, this needs to be supported by skilled and trained officials. Officials have a critical role in implementing programmes and decisions taken by the elected rural local bodies and the village assemblies (gram sabhas). Other officers at higher levels in the hierarchy can guide, monitor and ensure coordination and convergence for quality work. Better execution, quality and transparency improves people's trust in grassroots systems, which further strengthens local governance.*

Q: In your opinion, how important is it for organisations like the Public Affairs Centre to work with government departments like yours to ensure that data is used and analysed efficiently and evidence-based research is useful in the policy making process?

A: *Essential, I would say. Report cards are key to improving performance! And while there's plenty of data with government departments, analysing and drawing lessons from it requires much work of a high calibre. Organisations like the Public Affairs Centre can greatly help state departments to make governance transparent, citizen-friendly, and accountable - by helping to understand processes on the ground, identify areas for reform, and take steps to do better.*

Distinguished Fellows

PAC has invited renowned domain experts to be Distinguished Fellows to primarily advise, work in partnership with senior leadership and research team to ensure that we deliver high quality, relevant evidence-based research which will impact human developmental issues.



Prof. Supriya Chowdhury



K. Jairaj (Retd. IAS)



Dr. Lalith Achoth



Dr. Sreekantaiah Pruthvish



Gopal B. Hosur (Retd. IPS)

Advisors

PAC has invited leading academicians, practitioners to be on board as Advisor to advise on research projects, proposals and any outputs that will require their guidance, periodically.



Dr. Anitha Kurup



Dr. Priyanka Mathur



Prof. Narendar Pani



Sanjay Sahay (Retd. IPS)

Outreach

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

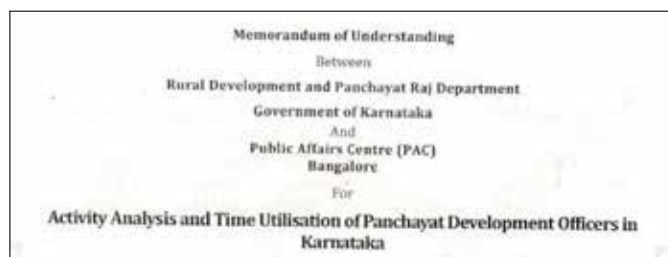
► MoU signed with Government of Meghalaya for Knowledge Partnership



► MoU signed with the Indian Institute of Public Administration IIPA-Delhi



► MoU signed with Rural Development Panchayat Raj Department (RDPR) for Panchayat Decepmnt Officers Time Motion Study



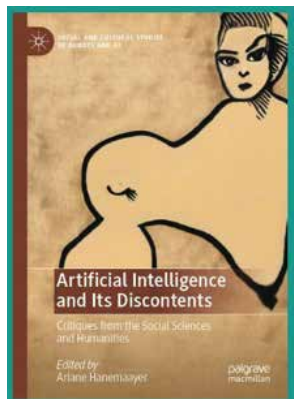
Book Launch

- PAC & National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) Co-organise a book launch for ***Dynamics of Difference: Inequality and Transformation in Rural India***
Edited by Dr. Narendar Pani



Sri. K. Jairaj, Dr Shailesh Nayak, G. Gurucharan, Dr. D Rajasekhar with Dr. Narendar Pani at the book launch

- Dr. Ranjini C. R, Lead - Open-data Research, contributed a chapter titled: *Controversial Covid-19 Contact-Tracing App in India: Digital Self-Defence, Governance and Surveillance* in the book ***Artificial Intelligence and its Discontents*** published by Cambridge University, UK



Webinar

- Sachin Bhatt**, Programme Officer spoke on *Pharmaceutical Technological Innovations* in a webinar hosted by IIHMR, Bengaluru



- PAC and Indian Institute of Public Administration IIPA, Delhi co-hosted a webinar on Public Affairs Index - 2021, Governance in the States of India



Conference

- Dr Annapoorna, Head Policy and Communication and Tamanna Naseer, Project Coordinator made a presentation in the Fringe Event organised by On Think Tank (OTT) ***Becoming a changemaker: Lessons from a think tank-government partnership in India***



Meetings with Stakeholders



District level stakeholders meeting chaired by Deputy Commissioner District Magistrate, Belagavi district



Meeting with KGTI Team, Kalaburagi



IMC-K team with KGTI, Kalaburagi team



Meeting with Uma Madam, KLS, Labour Officer, Yadgir



Meeting with Deputy Commissioner, Kalaburagi



PMU team discussing with DSDO and team from Government ITI, Kalaburagi



Meeting with Dr Avinash Naik, ALC and Labour Officer at Kalaburagi

Meetings with Protector of Emigrants



Joint Meeting of IMC-K team with PoE



PMU team and Protector of Emigrants (PoE), Bengaluru interacting with candidates being sent by KVTSDC RAK



Meeting with Deputy Commissioner, Kalaburagi



Meeting with Dr Avinash Naik, ALC and Labour Officer at Kalaburagi



Meeting with Dr Avinash Naik, ALC and Labour Officer at Kalaburagi

Meetings with District Skill Committee



IMC-K team participation in District Skill Committee Meeting at Belagavi



IMC-K team participation in District Skill Committee Meeting at Bengaluru Urban



IMC-K team participation in District Skill Committee Meeting at Chitradurga District



IMC-K team participation in District Skill Committee Meeting at Mandya



IMC-K team participation in District Skill Committee Meeting at Tumkuru

Participation in Job Fairs organised by Karnataka Skill Development Corporation



Counselling and registration of youth at Job Fair at Bengaluru Urban



Counselling and registration of youth at Job Fair at Devathkal, Yadgir



Counselling and registration of youth at Job Fair at Dharwad



Counselling and registration of youth at Job Fair at Mangaluru



Counselling and registration of youth at Job Fair at Yadgir

Capacity Building and Training





Social Media Analysis



Views

324



New Followers

3256



Likes

3193



Yearly

Tweets	91
Tweet Impressions	14,200
Mentions	128 7314
Profile Visits	9
New Followers	

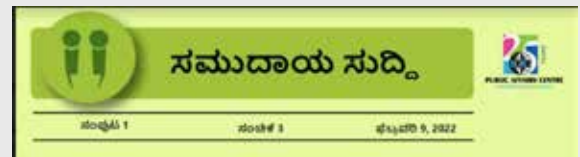


Yearly

Unique Page Visitors	514
Page Views	1546
Clicks	52

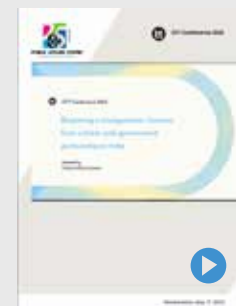
Publications

Samudaya Suddhi



Reports

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► Opinion Articles and Commentaries



Visitors Comments

Here are a few captures from our PAC visitor book

"Enjoyed my visit. Hope to return soon"



Prof. Anindya Sen
Ramaiah University of Applied Science
January 4, 2022

"It was wonderful to visit PAC and get an insight into the work being done here. The campus is beautiful"



Archana Muthappa
February 2, 2022



"A wonderful experience to spend the day! Very exciting discussion".



Smt. Uma Maahadevan

Principal Secretary
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department,
March 7, 2022

"Located amidst scene setting, PAC is a unigne place to visit and return enlightened. The team is extremely committed.



Shri. Gopal Hosur

Former IGP
March 15, 2022

"PAC with the already developed expertise and positioning in poised to be the proactive game change of Governance in this country and beyond"



Shri. Sanjay Sahay, Ex.IPS.

Founder & Director,
Tech Con Pro Pvt. Ltd.
March 18, 2022

"PAC has done yeoman service in bringing citizen focus to the core of governance delivery through its surveys and studies. I was happy to visit PAC and see the calm and invigorating campus. The KARC 2 is working with PAC and CODR in its study of administrative reforms. These have been most useful. Wishing that PAC and GoK work together in more areas towards the goal of citizen satisfaction"



Shri. T.M. Vijaya Bhaskar,

Chairman
Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission -2
March 31, 2022

"Had the privilege of visiting PAC today on the initiation of Director, PAC and interacting with the officer of PAC and the Director. The scope and extent of work of PAC has really expanded exponentially over the years. The organisation is doing excellent work in facilitating Good Governance not only in Karnataka but in many other states. My best wishes and greeting to the Director and all mentors of PAC".



Shri. G.M.P. Reddy, IPS (Retd.)

Former DGP, West Bengal
April 29, 2022

" Great to be here in PAC Campus. The Support PAC provides to Dept. of W&C in particular and to various social sector departments is quite important "



Dr. Reju, Secretary

W & C Department, Bangalore
May 7, 2022

Intern Speak

PAC believes in encouraging the interns to work on live projects, interact with stakeholders, write Policy briefs and Articles and exposing them to real life experience.

"Being an intern with the PAC, it was a great experience for me where I got to many projects such as Gender Equality, Social Justice and localising SDGs, which was of the most benefit to me as I learnt about the SDG's work, how they can be implemented on a local level and the benefit they can give to the people."



Anuj Dhyani,
Dyal Singh College,
University of Delhi

"Working and interning at PAC as a Research analyst was a wonderful experience for me. I was able to discover opportunities in the field of research and also gained working knowledge about doing research work."



Kaushiki Shankar Gohil
Christ deemed to be University
Bengaluru

"Interned with PAC for 6 weeks and I could learn a lot during my tenure of internship when it came to time management skills,organisational skills and lot more. I understood that completing each assigned tasks required in-depth research pertaining to the topics.It was an enriching experience.interned with pac for 6 weeks and I could learn a lot during my tenure of internship when it came to time management skills,organisational skills and lot more.I understood that completing each assigned tasks required in-depth research pertaining to the topics.It was an enriching experience."



Osheen Mariam Peter
Christ deemed to be University
Bengaluru

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