

CMDR'S NEWSLETTER



Vol-3, No-2

A Forum for Connected Research & Academic Activities

From the Director's Desk.....

The second issue of the third volume of the CMDR newsletter is being released amidst the festive season. The entire CMDR administration wishes all its stakeholders a prosperous celebration of festivals and continues to contribute for the development of the nation. The founders of the institution visualised the importance and relevance of a "Multidisciplinary" approach five decades ago. The researchers and policy makers of the institute contributed in a befitting manner. The current team is committed to bringing about remarkable changes that could serve as the guiding principle for social science researchers.

The reconstructed website of CMDR crossed half a million hits in a span of two years. This is one of the remarkable achievements for any institution. On average, more than 650 hits per day is something important for any institution, and heralds the visibility of the institution in the public domain. A social science research institution situated in a corner of the northern parts of Karnataka is attracting social science researchers on day day-to-day basis. The credit should go to the researchers of the institute and the entire team of non-academic staff who are supporting every initiative of the faculty members.

The mega event of the institute was the organisation of the Founders Day Lecture by Prof. Rana P. B. Singh, former Professor of Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. The topic "Sacred Landscapes of India Exposition and Experiences of Cosmic Geometry and Pilgrimage Traditions" was most interesting and attracted the attention of all. The stalwarts associated with CMDR gathered after a long gap was the major point of attraction. Dr Ashok Dalawai, Chairman, ISEC, Bengaluru, presided over the event and threw light on the sacred landscapes of India and their relevance in today's context.

Faculty members attending the academic events and organising the events for the benefit of various stakeholders is a regular feature of CMDR. The team is doing so in a befitting manner. Regular publication of the CMDR Journal of Social Research and maintaining the quality of research articles is a challenging task. The editorial team is doing it tirelessly.

Organising the events outside the institution in collaboration with institutions in various districts/states is an uphill task for the team. But the faculty has accepted the challenge and events were organised in Jevargi, Belagavi, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Vijayapur, Gadag, Haveri and so on.

Accommodating interns from nearby institutions and interns sponsored by ICSSR-Vidyabharati Uchhashiksha Sansthan were new experiences for CMDR. The new addition in the line is accommodating five interns, final year MBA students from Kausali Institute of Management Studies (KIMS), Karnatak University, Dharwad.

Congratulations to those research scholars who were awarded PhDs and also to those who have submitted their Doctoral theses. We are indebted to the efforts of the Governing Council CMDR for reconstituting the REAC, and the new Committee is meeting every month to understand and analyse the progress of academic activities of the institute, projects, programmes, new proposals and so on. This is the motivating factor for all faculty and non-academic staff, as we are all being updated by the learned committee members.

A few more changes are expected in the near future with regard to IQAC, promotion of faculty and non-academic staff, infrastructure development and so on. Attracting the best human resources for taking up quality research is the priority of CMDR, and we invite the cooperation, participation, and collaboration of individuals and institutions for upgrading the quality of research and development activities and publications of CMDR. Wishing you all a Happy Deepavali-Festival of lights.

Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli
Director

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Founder's Day Lecture In Respectful Memory of Vidyaratna Shri R S Panchamukhi, Founder President, CMDR, Dharwad



CMDR Founder's Day Lecture on "Sacred Landscapes of India – Exposition and Experiences of Cosmic Geometry and Pilgrimage Traditions" was organised on 26th July 2025 at ISEC, Bengaluru, as a part of Vidyaratna Sri. R S Panchamukhi Endowment.

Vidyaratna Sri R. S. Panchamukhi was an erudite scholar of Sanskrit, Indology, History, Epigraphy, and Archaeology. He was probably one of the earliest indologists who emphasized that history should be an account of development of the society, culture, economy and polity. He interpreted the long freedom struggle of India as the process of interaction of two cultures and the resultant conflicts - a *Sanskriti Sangrama*.

After serving as Epigraphist in the Department of Archaeology in Madras and Otacmund, Vidyaratna Sri Panchamukhi became the first Director of the Kannada Research Institute (KRI), Dharwad. Under his able intellectual stewardship, KRI soon earned a place of honour on the Archaeological and Research Map of India. A number of discoveries of crucial historical importance were made by KRI through extensive excavations and collection of rare manuscripts, inscriptions and monuments. A unique Archaeological Museum was established at the KRI - a resource for researchers in archaeology and history. After retirement from this KRI in 1963, he was invited by the Karnataka Historical Research Society (KHRS), Dharwad, to be its Chairman and the Chief Editor. Later on he also served as the President of KHRS.

Vidyaratna Panchamukhi authored more than twenty-five books, a large number of research papers, and edited several rare manuscripts of literary, philosophical, and historical value. His scholarly contributions include *Haridasa Sahitya of Karnataka, Sanskriti Sangrama, Karnatakada Arsumanetanagalu* (Dynasties of Karnataka), jointly with another noted historian of his time, viz., Sri Lakshminarayan Rao, *Vedaapoursheyattva Vadah* (in Sanskrit), *History of Karnataka, Guru Sarvabhousma Sapta Ratotsava Champu* (a philosophical and a literary work in Sanskrit). He supervised several Ph. D. students and trained the young and the old alike in Indian philosophy and culture in particular, and Indology in general, including epigraphy, paleography, etc. The hallmark of his historical and indological research was undoubtedly his concern for a study of the people in a holistic perspective.

Duly recognizing his contributions to society, he was honoured with titles such as, *Vidyaratna, Vidyabhushana, Mahamahimopadhya, Haridasa Sahityalankara, Panditaraja, etc.*, by the all-India institutions and scholars' community throughout the country. In 1978, he was elected as the President of the All India Epigraphical Society. In 1980, he was awarded the coveted Certificate of Honour in Sanskrit by the then President of India. In 1981, the Government of Karnataka honoured him with the State Award of Man of *Scholarship and Research*.

CMDR has been organizing Founder's Day Lectures in memory of Vidyaratna Sri R.S.Panchamukhi, its Founder President, by distinguished social scientists on themes of fundamental interest to the researchers in different disciplines and also policy makers.

Dr. Ashok Dalawai, IAS (Rtd), Chairman, ISEC, Bengaluru, presided over the Founders Day lecture. Dr. Dalawai emphasized preserving the history of the nation. Bharat is the storehouse of information, knowledge, and wisdom. People from other parts of the earth derived the meaning of life from Bharat. But for many unknown reasons in the past, about 3-4 centuries, other civilisations have taken the lead over Bharat. The key factor behind is "forgetting one's own history". The cosmic geographical aspects of religious places in Bharat were really enlightening and eye-openers. The science, culture, religion, spirituality, and sociological aspects of the sacredness of a place need to be understood along with maintaining the religious practices. When we follow them blindly, it may vanish over a period of time.

Prof. P. R. Panchamukhi, former Chairman and Director of CMDR, Dharwad, spoke about the endowment in respectful memory of Sri. R. S. Panchamukhi. Also revealed the stories behind the establishment of the institution CMDR and its contribution to the state and nation as a whole.

Prof. Prof. Dr. Rana P.B. Singh, PhD (Bhu), FJF (Japan), FIRFS (Japan), FAAI (Italy), FACLA (Korea), '*Ganga Ratna*' (GMS Ind), '*Koshal Ratna*' (Koshal Inst..), Sharda Centenary Award-2024 (Sharda S-Pith JK), Visiting Professor, Centre of South Asian Studies, Gifu Women's University, Japan, (*former*) Professor of Geography, Cultural Landscapes & Heritage Studies], & Head-Geography- Inst. of Sc., Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, was the resource person on the occasion.

Prof. Rana spoke about the deeper sense of geographic concerns is employed to investigate the inherent power of sacred places by searching for cosmic geometries embedded in ritual landscapes and the spatial orientations towards astronomical phenomena. Such sacred cities can be considered a mesocosm, geometrically linking the celestial realm of the macrocosm with the microcosmic realm of human consciousness and cultural traditions, including texts, traditions, and rituals. The present study explores this perspective through case studies of Kashi (Varanasi), Gaya, Chitrakut, Vindhyachal, and Khajuraho. Through the use of the Global Positioning System (GPS), the lecture demonstrates with high precision how natural topography, ritual movement, and festival calendars combine to establish large-scale geometries. Strong correspondences between physical and ritual landscapes are explained vividly. The process of self-organised complexity in establishing interactions between spatial structure and symbolic meaning has also been considered and illustrated with the functional human networks of the *pilgrimage mandala*, which refers to the sacred dimension of landscape and human belief systems. These frames can be easily compared with Leonardo da Vinci's Vitruvian Man and City map of Imola, which shows strong correspondences, providing a way to understand the links between the East and the West.

Dr. MV Nadakarni, Former Chairman, CMDR, Prof. M. R. Gangadhar, Member GC, CMDR, and Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Chamarajnagar University, Prof. Taranath, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Hasan University, Dr. Abdul Aziz, Dr. Shaivanna, Dr. Devendra Babu, Dr. Gowrish, Dr. Siddaraju, Director, PME, Prof. Basavaraj Benni, Professor from Bengaluru University, Principal and Professor Pushkarani from RV College, Bengaluru, Prof. Keshav from Christ University, Research scholars, well-wishers, and relatives of Prof. PR Panchamukhi, and 74 scholars attended the programme. Dr. Basavaprabhu Jirli welcomed the guests, and Dr. NS Nayak delivered a vote of thanks. Dr. Jai Prabhakar was the master of ceremony.

Recognition of Ph.D. Guideship

- Prof. T. Bramhanandam has been recognised as Ph. D supervisor in the Department of Political Science, Mangalore University, Mangalore.

Publications

- Ashima Moyal, Basvaprabhu Jirli, Kalyan Ghadei, Saikat Maji, Kiran Pant, Tanya Saklani (2025). Understanding Sustainability Concerns of SHGs in the Himalayan Region of India: A Participatory Analysis. *Journal of Rural Development*, 43(4), 489–506. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.25175/jrd/2024/v43/i4/173009>
- Shambhavi Chaubey, Basavaprabhu Jirli, Prashish Singh and Priyanka Roy, (2025) Women's Psychological Empowerment Through Floriculture: A Case Study of Dinapur Village in Chiraiyaon Block, Varanasi, *Journal of Community Mobilization and Sustainable Development*. Volume 20(Special Issue), May 2025, 96-99, DOI: 10.5958/2231-6736.2025.00077.3
- USS Lekha, A K Singh, and Basavaprabhu Jirli (2025) Pearls of sustainability: The Manwani's journey from passion to eco-friendly innovation. *Times of Agriculture*, Vol 5 No.8 Pp: 39-41 (ISSN: 2582-6344)
- ಡಾ ನಾರಾಯಣ ಬಿಲ್ಲವ (2025): ಸಮಗ್ರ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿಗೆ ಹೊಸ ದಿಕ್ಕು ಮತ್ತು ದಾರಿ, ಉದಯವಾಣಿ ಉತ್ತರ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ವಿಶೇಷ ಸಂಚಿಕೆ (ಉತ್ತರ ಸಂಪದ), 15 ಆಗಸ್ಟ್, 2025 ಪುಟ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ 82-84.
- Narayana Billava, Emily Kumpel, Nayanatara Nayak & Karina A. Chavarria (2025), "Assessing Drinking Water Quality in Karnataka, India: A Comparative Study of Continuous and Intermittent Supply Systems", *CMDR Journal of Social Research*, Vol 2(1):7-18.
- Neelannavar, S., & Kulkarni, A. R. (2025). Challenges and changes in urban slums in India: A review approach. *International Journal of Southern Economic Light (JSEL)*, 13(7), Pp-1-10
- Proceedings of the Two-Day Development Conclave on "Transformation of Bharat: The Story of a Decade and Future Outlook" was published by CMDR, Dharwad, with knowledge partner CESS, Bengaluru, on 8th September 2025. Dr. Jai Prabhakar S.C. is the Executive Editor of the proceedings and Convener of the Conclave.

New Projects

"Status of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) Implementation in Rural Karnataka: Insights into Progress, Governance Practices, and Sustainability Challenges"

PI : Dr. Arunkumar R. Kulkarni, Co-PI : Dr. Narayana Billava and Prof. Nayanatara Nayak

- The research project was awarded by the REAC of CMDR on 13th August 2025. The research team consists of Dr. Arunkumar R. Kulkarni, Dr. Narayana Billava, and Prof. Nayanatara Nayak. This study examines the governance and sustainability of rural water supply under the Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in Karnataka, with a focus on enhancing access to safe drinking water. It evaluates the effectiveness of JJM in delivering household tap connections and identifies challenges affecting universal coverage. The research explores socio-cultural, economic, and governance factors influencing water accessibility. Data will be collected from 1,000 households across 20 villages in five districts representing dry, transition, hilly, and coastal agro-climatic zones. The methodology
- includes household surveys, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), case studies, and seasonal water quality tests. Findings will highlight community perceptions, governance practices, and barriers to effective implementation. The study aims to document best practices in sustainable water management. Results are expected to guide policies for improved service delivery, public health, and sustainable development in rural Karnataka.

A Study on the Aspirations and Demands of the People of Dharwad City under the Proposed Dharwad Municipal Corporation:

- The study aims to understand the socio-economic background of Dharwad city residents and how it influences their civic needs and expectations under the proposed Dharwad Municipal Corporation. It explores citizens' aspirations regarding urban development, governance, and essential civic services such as water, sanitation, housing, health, roads, and education. The study also examines the role of elected representatives, civic officials, and community organizations in shaping local development priorities. Based on the findings, it intends to offer policy suggestions for inclusive and participatory governance that reflects the real needs of all sections of society in Dharwad.

PI : Dr. Dundappa Y. B.

Anna Bhagya Scheme and its Impact on Most Marginalised Groups, especially with Dalit women -Background of the Study

PI : Prof. Brahmanandam T.

- Karnataka's Public Distribution System (PDS) has long been central to the state's efforts to mitigate chronic food insecurity among its poorest households. Despite high rice production, systematic leakages, ration-card delays, and administrative bottlenecks have compromised the PDS's capacity to reach those most in need. These structural challenges spurred the Karnataka government to launch the Anna Bhagya Scheme in July 2013, a flagship initiative designed to deliver 10 kilograms of rice per person each month at ₹1 per kilogram, ensuring a predictable staple supply to an estimated 1.03 crore BPL and AAY cardholders. The Anna Bhagya Scheme guarantees highly subsidised rice to the state's most vulnerable households. It entitles eligible families, particularly those below the poverty line (BPL), Scheduled Castes (SC) and Tribes (ST), and landless rural labourers, to receive a cash equivalent for 5 kg of rice per person per month at a token rate of ₹1 per kilogram, providing crucial additional food support.

Invited Lectures

Prof. Basava Prabhu Jirli

- Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli was invited to address on Research Methodology and its Relevance in Social Science in ICSSR Sponsored Two-Week Capacity Building Programme (CBP) on Research Methodology and Quality Publication for Young Faculty Members in Social Sciences, Organized by Department of Education, Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburgi on 07-07-2025.
- Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli was invited to address on Secondary agriculture: The way and means to achieve sustainability in agriculture in a Online Refresher Course in Advanced Science and Technology for a Sustainable Future (Multidisciplinary), organized by UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (formerly HRDC), Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Amarkantak, Madhya Pradesh on 19th July 2025.
- Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli was invited to give lecture on An Overview of Indian Agriculture: Concerns and Opportunities for Agripreneurs for the shortlisted start-ups under COHORT-8, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sectors Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) Agri-Business Incubator, Indian Institute of Technology (BHU) Varanasi 19-08-2025
- Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli was invited to talk on e-Mediated Extension Services: Issues and concerns for Agri-Startups for the shortlisted start-ups under COHORT-8, Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sectors Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) Agri-Business Incubator, Indian Institute of Technology (BHU) Varanasi 20-08-2025

- ❖ Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli was invited to address on Wisdom Beyond Time: Unveiling the Architecture of Indian Knowledge Systems in an Offline Faculty Induction Programme organized by UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (formerly HRDC), Karnataka University, Dharwad, on 14th September 2025.
- ❖ Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli was invited to address on Cultivating Wisdom: Indian Agricultural Knowledge Systems in India's Civilizational Landscape in an Offline Faculty Induction Programme organized by UGC-Malaviya Mission Teacher Training Centre (formerly HRDC), Karnataka University, Dharwad, on 14th September 2025.

Dr. Jai Prabhakar

- ❖ Dr. Jai Prabhakar was invited to deliver two lectures: 1. Case studies and ethnographic methods and 2. Sampling Methods in Social Science Research on 4th September 2025 at Karnataka State Tribal Research Institute (KSTRI), Mysore for a 10-day Research Skill Development workshop to enhance research capabilities among participants in the field of social sciences.
- ❖ Dr. Jai Prabhakar was invited as a speaker to deliver a talk on the topic 'Shikshanadalli Budakattu Maulyagal, Koushalagal Mattu Samskrutiya Olagolluvike', focusing on the integration of tribal values, skills, and culture into mainstream education by the Grassroot Research and advocacy Movement (GRAAM), in collaboration with KSTRI, the ST Welfare Department (Government of Karnataka), Karnataka Aranya Moola Adivasi Budakattu Sanghatanegala Okkuta, and RDPR University, Gadag, organised a three-day seminar on Scheduled Tribe Education, on 25th September 2025.

Participation in Workshops / Seminars/ Meetings

Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli

- ❖ Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli participated as an Expert in the 20th Extension Education Council Meeting, Karnataka Veterinary, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Sciences University, Bidar, on 3rd July 2025
- ❖ Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli participated as Chief Guest in ICSSR-sponsored Two-Week Capacity Building Programme (CBP) on Research Methodology and Quality Publication for Young Faculty Members in Social Sciences, *Organized by the* Department of Education, Central University of Karnataka, Kalaburgi, on 07-07-2025.

Prof. T. Bramhanandam

- ❖ Prof. T. Bramhanandam participated on-line Book launch and Panel Discussion programme on 30 June 2025, 6 pm (IST). "on 75 Years of the Indian National Sample Survey: Evolution of Sample Design, Key Challenges and Way Forward" by Dr G. C. Manna;
- ❖ Prof. T. Bramhanandam attended on-line (hybrid mood) National Seminar on "School Education in India: Towards Equitable Access to Quality Education for All" being organised by the Muchkund Dubey Centre for Right to Education (MDCRTE) at Council for Social Development (CSD), New Delhi on 15th & 16th July, 2025.

- ❖ Prof. T. Bramhanandam attended an on-line meeting conducted by Council for Social Development C.D.Desmukh Auditorium, Hyderabad on a topic of "Re-cast(e)ing the State Policy: Ascription, Identities and Democratic Politics" by Surinder Singh Jhodhka on 15th July, 2025.
- ❖ Prof. T. Bramhanandam attended Ph. D Entrance Examination and interviews in the department on 25th Sept., 2025.

Dr. A. R. Kulkarni

- ❖ Dr. Arunkumar Kulkarni attended a comprehensive online training on, "Become A smart researcher: Essential tips to navigate springer nature platforms" organised by Springer Nature for One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) member institutions on 15th July 2025.

Dr. Jai Prabhakar

- ❖ Dr. Jai Prabhakar: Successfully attended the Faculty Development Programme on 'AI for Educators' held from September 25–27, 2025, at Chanakya University, in collaboration with Chanakya University and Itihaasa Research and Digital.

Dr. S. V. Hanagodimath

- ❖ Dr. S. V. Hanagodimath delivered lectures on Gram Panchayat Devaluation and Performance Index in Karnataka in the training programme for elected representatives and officials of Ukkinal, Shirwala, Madraki and Hoskeara gram panchayats, Shahapura taluk, Yadagiri district, held at the Shahapur Taluk Panchayat Meeting Hall, Yadgir, from 15th to 16th July 2025.
- ❖ Dr. S. V. Hanagodimath delivered lectures on Gram Panchayat Devaluation and Performance Index in Karnataka in the training programme for elected representatives and officials of Suguru and Narayanapura gram panchayats, of Shorapur Taluk, Yadgir District, held at the Taluka Training Centre, Shorapur Taluk Panchayat, Yadgir, from 16th to 17th July 2025.
- ❖ Dr. S. V. Hanagodimath delivered lectures on Gram Panchayat Devaluation and Performance Index in Karnataka in the training programme for elected representatives and officials of Kardkal, Bailkunte and Kolihal gram panchayats, of Shorapur Taluk, Yadgir District, held at the Taluka Training Centre, Shorapur Taluk Panchayat, Yadgir, from 17th to 18th July 2025.
- ❖ Dr. S. V. Hanagodimath was invited by JAIN (Deemed-to-be University) as a resource person for the ICSSR Project Discussion held online via Google Meet on, 24th September, 2025.
- ❖ Dr. S. V. Hanagodimath participated in a Project workshops on "Financial Devolution to the PRIs in Karnataka", held at the 5th State Finance Commission office, Khanija Bhavan, Bengaluru on 28th July 2024.



CMDR's Collaborative Academic Activities : CMDR's Outreach

- ❖ Dr. S V Hanagodimath attended a training session on How to Publish with Oxford Journals organised by Oxford University Press (Online) on 19th August 2025
- ❖ Dr. S V Hanagodimath attended a Faculty Development Programme (FDP) on AI for Educators, scheduled from September 25-27 at Chanakya University, Devanahalli, Bengaluru
- ❖ Dr. S V Hanagodimath successfully completed a certification course, "The use of AI tools in Scientific Publishing," offered by Wiley on July 22, 2025 (Online)

Dr. Dundappa Y.B.

- ❖ Dr. Dundappa Y.B. successfully completed a certification course, "The use of AI tools in Scientific Publishing," offered by Wiley on July 22, 2025 (Online)

Dr. Narayana Billava

- ❖ Dr. Narayana Billava delivered lectures on Preparation of Questionnaire for conducted Devolution and Performance index for PRIs in Karnataka in the training programme for elected representatives and officials of Ukkinal, Shirwala, Madraki and Hoskeara gram panchayats, Shahapura taluk, Yadagiri district, held at the Shahapur Taluk Panchayat Meeting Hall, Yadgir, from 15th to 16th July 2025.
- ❖ Dr. Narayana Billava delivered lectures on Preparation of Questionnaire for conducted Devolution and Performance index for PRIs in Karnataka in the training programme for elected representatives and officials of Suguru and Narayanapura gram panchayats, of Shorapur Taluk, Yadgir District, held at the Taluka Training Centre, Shorapur Taluk Panchayat, Yadgir, from 16th to 17th July 2025.
- ❖ Dr. Narayana Billava delivered lectures on Preparation of Questionnaire for conducted Devolution and Performance index for PRIs in Karnataka in the training programme for elected representatives and officials of Kardkal, Bailkunte and Kolihal gram panchayats, of Shorapur Taluk, Yadgir District, held at the Taluka Training Centre, Shorapur Taluk Panchayat, Yadgir, from 17th to 18th July 2025.
- ❖ Dr. Narayana Billava participated in a Project workshops on "Financial Devolution to the PRIs in Karnataka", held at the 5th State Finance Commission office, Khanija Bhavan, Bengaluru on 28th July 2024.
- ❖ Dr. Narayana Billava participated in the webinar on Household coping costs of intermittent water systems: A scoping review-reviewer meeting organized by Household Water Insecurity Experiences (HWISE) - Research Coordination Network (RCN), University of Miami (USA) on 18/9/2025.



A One-day colloquium on "The Capturing of Debates: One Nation, One Election" (ONOE)

- ❖ The one-day colloquium on "The Capturing of Debates: One Nation, One Election" (ONOE), jointly organized by the Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (CMDR) and Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) on July 25, 2025, featured intense debate with a strong consensus against the proposal. Key inaugural speakers, including Prof. Etikaala Purushotham and Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli, acknowledged ONOE's potential for financial savings and administrative convenience, but simultaneously raised significant concerns about its viability within India's federal and diverse democratic structure. They warned that a uniform approach risks marginalizing regional voices and local issues, thereby compromising democratic integrity in a country defined by asymmetrical power-sharing. The Vice-Chancellor of MANUU, Prof. Syed Ainul Hasan, urged participants to engage in rigorous debate and seek the truth essential for the nation's future growth. The subsequent sessions, led by experts like Prof. Afroz Alam, Prof. Narender Kumar, Dr. K.M. Ziyuddin, and Prof. A. Nageswara Rao, heavily criticized ONOE on constitutional and sociological grounds. The core arguments were that ONOE would weaken federalism by "nationalizing" state elections, drowning out regional parties and issues; it requires massive, contentious constitutional amendments; and it imposes an "artificial uniformity" fundamentally at odds with India's profound social and linguistic diversity. Speakers emphasized that frequent elections are crucial for accountability and that synchronisation risks diminishing the vital link between local representatives (MLAs) and their constituents. Dr. Rahul Verma offered a slightly neutral view, suggesting both sides exaggerate the practical difficulties. Ultimately, the colloquium concluded with an overwhelming sentiment that the "way forward" is to strengthen existing democratic institutions and cooperative federalism, rather than pursuing the disruptive path of ONOE. Uniformity" fundamentally at odds with India's profound social and linguistic diversity. Speakers emphasized that frequent elections are crucial for accountability and that synchronisation risks diminishing the vital link between local representatives (MLAs) and their constituents. Dr. Rahul Verma offered a slightly neutral view, suggesting both sides exaggerate the practical difficulties. Ultimately, the colloquium concluded with an overwhelming sentiment that the "way forward" is to strengthen existing democratic institutions and cooperative federalism, rather than pursuing the disruptive path of ONOE.



Dr. A. R. Kulkarni

- ❖ Dr. AR Kulkarni, as CMDR Ph. D programme Co-ordinator, coordinated Ph. D scholars Progress Report presentations on 21st August 2025 at Seminar Hall of the Centre.
- ❖ Dr. A R Kulkarni, co-ordinated a Special Lecture on “Financial Inclusion and its Impact on the Indian Economy”, in collaboration with the Department of Economics, Karnatak University, Dharwad, held at Karnatak University on 05/07/2025.



A special lecture on “Financial Inclusion and its Impact on the Indian Economy” was delivered by Jagadish Swamy, Deputy General Manager of Canara Bank, at Karnatak University. He emphasized the urgent need to create awareness about financial literacy and urged people to make effective use of banking schemes, particularly highlighting the benefits of agricultural insurance programmes like the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana for farmers facing climate-related losses. CMDR Director Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli underlined that financially disciplined households contribute to building a strong nation and called for policies prioritizing farmers’ interests. Presiding over the programme, Prof. B. H. Nagoor observed that financial schemes play a vital role in poverty alleviation and pointed to India’s progress in digital literacy and financial inclusion.

The event reflected a strong call for public participation in financial schemes to ensure inclusive growth and sustainable development.

Dr. Jai Prabhakar

- ❖ Dr. Jai Prabhakar made a review for the journal *Indian Journal of Research in Anthropology* on a manuscript under reference number IJRA_17952_2025 submitted to RedFlower Publications, Delhi.
- ❖ Reviewed a manuscript for the [Journal of Global Ecology and Environment](#), on 24-08-2025.

Anti-Doping Awareness Programme for Sportspersons

CMDR, Dharwad in collaboration with SAI, STC, Dharwad

- ❖ The Centre for Multidisciplinary Development Research (CMDR), Dharwad, in collaboration with the Sports Authority of India (SAI), STC, Dharwad, organised an Anti-Doping Awareness Programme for sportspersons on 30th July 2025 at KCD Tourism Department Hall, Dharwad. The resource person, Dr. Kiran Kumar Kulkarni, a noted Sports Medicine Practitioner and Doping Control Officer under WADA, spoke on the dangers of doping, its impact on athletes’ health, and the importance of awareness to prevent unintentional violations. He urged sportspersons to take personal responsibility by verifying medicines through the NADA “Know Your Medicine” app and demonstrated anti-doping test kits while explaining India’s

advanced anti-doping laboratory and the concept of biological passports. Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli, Director, CMDR, presided over the session and encouraged athletes to uphold honesty, discipline, and ethics in sports. The programme, coordinated by Dr. Jai Prabhakar (CMDR) and Mr. Ram Budaki (SAI, STC, Dharwad), saw the participation of 152 athletes from SAI, STC, Dharwad, and the Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports (DYES), Government of Karnataka, along with coaches, physiotherapists, and faculty members, and concluded with the felicitation of the resource person and guests.



Training Programme for GP members and officials of selected Gram Panchayats of Shahapur Taluk, and Shorapur Taluk, Yadgir District

PI - Dr. S V Hanagodiamth CoPI – Dr. Narayan Billava

- ❖ The Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (CMDR), the Karnataka Panchayat Raj Parishat (KPRP), and the Yadgir Zilla Panchayat jointly organized a Training Programme for elected representatives and officials of selected Gram Panchayats of Shahapur Taluk, Yadgir District. The programme, aimed at preparing a Panchayat Decentralization and Performance Index Report, was held at the Shahapur Taluk Panchayat Meeting Hall, Yadgir, from 15th to 16th July 2025. The inaugural session was presided over by Mr. V. Y. Ghorhapade, Working President, Karnataka Panchayat Raj Parishat, Bengaluru, who, in his address, emphasized that such training programmes enable elected representatives and officials to gain deeper insights into the Panchayat system and government schemes. He noted that this programme was unique compared to other training initiatives, as it provided comprehensive perspectives from a study undertaken under the Department of Rural Development. In the introductory remarks, Prof. Shivanna N., Lead of the Study Report, elaborated on the objectives of the training programme and highlighted its various dimensions related to Panchayat development. The programme was coordinated and conducted by Dr. Narayana Billava, CMDR, who also proposed the vote of thanks. Subject experts and study team members including Prof. Devendra Babu, Mrs. Annapoorna M., Dr. S. V. Hanagodimath, Shri V. Rottigawada, and Shri S. Hiremath, also participated in the training sessions.



- ❖ The Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (CMDR), the Karnataka Panchayat Raj Parishat (KPRP), and the Yadgir Zilla Panchayat jointly organized a Training Programme for elected representatives and officials of selected Gram Panchayats (Suguru, Narayanapura, Kardkal, Kolihala, and Bailkunte GP) of Shorapur Taluk, Yadgir District. The programme was held at the Taluka Training Centre, Shorapur Taluk Panchayat, Yadgir, from 16th to 19th July 2025. Dr. Narayana Billava (CMDR) welcomed the dignitaries, resource persons, and Gram Panchayat members and Staffs for the programme. The study team, led by Prof. Sivanna N., explained the objectives of the training and outlined the detailed schedule. Speaking as a guest, Shri Basavaraj, Executive Officer, Shorapur Taluk Panchayat, remarked that this training was different from the regular programmes offered by the RDPR Department, as it specifically focused on assessing and presenting the performance of the selected Gram Panchayats. He encouraged all elected members and Panchayat staff to actively benefit from the sessions. The inaugural session was presided over by Mr. V. Y. Ghorhapade, Working President, Karnataka Panchayat Raj Parishat, Bengaluru. Subject experts and study team members, including Prof. Devendra Babu, Mrs. Annapoorna M., Dr. S. V. Hanagodimath, Shri V. Rottigawada, and Shri S. Hiremath, also contributed to the training sessions.



Dr. Prateek Mali

- ❖ The Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (CMDR), in collaboration with the Postgraduate Department of Studies in Sanskrit, Karnatak University, Dharwad, organized a special lecture on “Overview of Indian Knowledge System” on 29th July 2025. Shri Anurag Deshpande, Former Assistant Coordinator, IKS Division, Ministry of Education, New Delhi, delivered the lecture, presided over by Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli, Director, CMDR.

- ❖ The Guests of Honour included Prof. C.S. Naikar, Dr. Padmavati M. Singari, and Dr. Prateek Mali. Over 85 participants, including faculty, scholars, and students, attended the event. Shri Deshpande highlighted the relevance of Bharatiya identity, language, and traditional education within the Indian Knowledge System, while Prof. Jirli reflected on the idea of Bharatiyata. The program successfully promoted awareness of India’s rich intellectual and cultural heritage.



- ❖ One-day seminar on “Indian Languages: Culture and Challenges” was jointly organized by the Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (CMDR), Dharwad, and the Department of Kannada, Lingaraj College, Dharwad, on 22nd August 2025. The program was presided over by Dr. H. S. Melinamani, Principal of the college, and inaugurated by Prof. Basavaprabhu Jirli, Director, CMDR, by watering a sapling. In his address, he emphasized equal respect for all Indian languages. Dr. Prateek Mali, Event Coordinator, highlighted the need for youth to value and preserve languages. Eminent speakers included Dr. D. K. Gamvakar, who spoke on Indian Languages and Culture, and Dr. G. G. Hiremath, who addressed Indian Languages and Challenges. The event featured active participation from faculty, scholars, and students, with Dr. H. M. Channappagol welcoming the guests and Dr. Pandurang Ganiger proposing the vote of thanks. The seminar successfully promoted dialogue on linguistic diversity and the cultural significance of Indian languages.



Vision of CMDR

- ❖ “To be an internationally renowned Centre of Excellence for Multi-disciplinary Research in Socio-economic and Cultural Development with regional emphasis.”

Forthcoming Events

- ❖ Prof. T. Bramhanandam is going to conduct 1st Two-day Research Methodology Programme in Vijayanagar Krishna Devaray University, Bellary, the Department of Political Science, on 30th & 31st Oct.,2025.

Students' Corner

- ❖ Dr. R.R.Biradar received his second doctoral award in September 2025 from Mangalore University for the study "Fiscal Policy Reform's Impact on Fiscal Performance and Economic Development: An Analysis of Major States in India" carried out under the guidance of Prof. Nayanatara S.Nayak at CMDR.
- ❖ Pooja Kulkarni was awarded a Ph.D. in Anthropology from Karnatak University, Dharwad on 23rd July 2025 for her thesis titled "Adaptation, Variation and Personal Identification among Mongoloids of Mundgod, Karnataka: An Anthropological Study". The research was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Jai Prabhakar, Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (CMDR), Dharwad.
- ❖ Syed Abdul B. Makandar submitted his Ph.D. thesis titled "Impact of COVID-19 on the Rural Population of Dharwad District of Karnataka: An Anthropological Study" on September 26, 2025. The research was carried out under the supervision of Dr. Jai Prabhakar, Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (CMDR), Dharwad.
- ❖ Basavaraj Pundappanavar submitted his Ph.D. thesis titled "Anthropology of Ageing and Wellbeing among Scheduled Tribes in Karnataka, India" to Karnatak University in September 27, 2025. The research was carried out under the supervision of Dr. Jai Prabhakar, Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (CMDR), Dharwad.

Internship Programme:

- ❖ Dr. Narayana Billava guided Mr. Ravi Gondakara, MBA student at the School of Agribusiness Management, Mahatma Gandhi Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, Gadag, on his research titled "Bridging the Credit Gap: A Comparative Assessment of Microfinance Beneficiaries and Non-Beneficiaries in the Agricultural Sector" during the period from 4th August 2025 to 25th October 2025.
- ❖ Dr. Narayana Billava guided Mr. Kashimsab Kurtkoti, MBA student at the School of Agribusiness Management, Mahatma Gandhi Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, Gadag, on his research titled "Role of Farm Mechanization in Reducing Production Costs: A Study from Dharwad District" during the period from 4th August 2025 to 25th October 2025.

ICSSR, Internship

- ❖ Dr. Prateek Mali guided Ms.Punya Krishnan P, Research Scholar, Department of Sanskrit Nyaya, Shri Shankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, Kocchi, on her research titled "Ethics For Inner Liberation: A Study Of The Therīgāthā's Monastic Code Through The Lens Of Indian Knowledge Systems."
- ❖ Dr. Prateek Mali guided Rohinth T, Research Scholar, Department of Law, Central University of Karnataka, on his research titled "Women's inheritance rights and family conflict: a socio-Legal study through the lens of indian knowledge systems."

Call for Papers - CMDR Journal of Social Research- Manuscript Submission: editor@cmdr.ac.in

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Reconstitution of Research Ethics and Advisory Committee (REAC) of CMDR.

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| 1 | Prof. Vijayalakshmi Amminabhavi, Member, Governing Council, CMDR Former Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Karnataka University, Dharwad. | Chairman |
| 2 | Dr. Korikantimath V. S., Former Director, ICAR-Research Complex for Goa Dharwad | Member |
| 3 | Dr. Bhimaraya Metri, Director, IIM, Nagpur Member, Governing Council, CMDR | Member |
| 4 | Prof. S. T. Bagalkoti, Registrar, Haveri University, Haveri | Member |
| 5 | Dr. Vinayachandra Banavathy, Director, Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems, Chanakya University, Bengaluru-562165 | Member |
| 6 | Prof. Patagundi S.S. Rtd. Prof. of Political Science, Karnataka University, Dharwad | Member |
| 7 | Prof. Gourish Joshi, Director, CESS, Bengaluru | Member |
| 8 | Dr. S. Linga Murthy Associate Professor Department of Economic Studies and Planning (DESP) School of Business Studies (SBS) Central University of Karnataka (CUK) Kadaganchi, Kalaburgi, Karnataka | Member |
| 9 | Dr. Basavaprabhu Jirli Director, CMDR, Dharwad | Member Secretary |
| 10 | Shri V.T. Hungund Registrar, CMDR, Dharwad | Convener |

Farewell ceremony to Smt. Jayashree Kulkarni,
Deputy Librarian, on 29-08-2025



Meetings

- ❖ Research Ethics and Advisory Committee (REAC) Meeting of the Centre held on August 1, 2025 (Hybrid Mode)
- ❖ Research Ethics and Advisory Committee (REAC) Meeting of the Centre held on August 13, 2025
- ❖ Research Ethics and Advisory Committee (REAC) Meeting of the Centre held on September 18 (Hybrid mode)

