

PREPARATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN (CDP) FOR CHAMARAJANAGAR DISTRICT THROUGH EXPERT BRAINSTORMING

Scheduled on

15th and 16th December 2025

In Collaboration with



Centre for Multi-disciplinary Development Research (CMDR)
and



Chamarajnanagar University, Chamarajnanagar

At

Chamarajnanagar University, Chamarajnanagar

Introduction

Chamarajnanagar is a district of contrasts and opportunities. Spread across 5,100 sq km, it is home to 10 lakh residents, rich forests including Bandipur and BRT Tiger Reserves, and growing urban-industrial hubs such as the Badanaguppe–Kellamballi Industrial Area. However, the district continues to face structural development gaps: a literacy rate of 61.4% (well below the state average), a Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) in higher education of just 10.6% (males) and 13.3% (females) compared to Karnataka’s ~33%, limited professional education facilities (only one medical college, no engineering college), and low availability of skill development infrastructure.

Health and infrastructure indicators reflect pockets of progress—maternal deaths dropped from 33 over the last five years to only two in 2024–25, and new healthcare facilities are coming up. Water supply schemes and road connectivity projects are underway, yet tribal hamlets, rural villages, and forest-fringe communities still face barriers to services and opportunities. In short, Chamarajnanagar’s potential remains under-realised. The district has agricultural diversity, growing tourism, industrial investment, and natural resources that could be leveraged for inclusive development—but only if planning is cohesive, participatory, and action-oriented.

Rationale

A significant challenge for Chamarajanagar is that development efforts are often sector-specific and disconnected, leading to fragmented progress. A comprehensive vision is missing—a plan that draws on *local realities, expert knowledge, and stakeholder voices*, and translates them into clear priorities that the government can act upon.

This proposed closed-door brainstorming session will serve as a strategic platform for key stakeholders to engage directly, exchange knowledge, and identify *practical, high-impact actions* across sectors. It will bring together experts, district officials, and institutional representatives to:

- Diagnose current constraints in education, health, agriculture, infrastructure, finance, MSMEs, tribal development, and forests/eco-tourism.
- Propose time-bound, realistic solutions tailored to Chamarajanagar’s unique socio-economic and ecological context.
- Develop a draft Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) to be submitted to the district administration for policy and budgetary planning consideration.

By capturing technical expertise and local experience, this session can pave the path for the district’s integrated development, creating a roadmap that aligns with state and national development goals while addressing grassroots priorities.

Objective

To co-create a participatory, evidence-based development roadmap for Chamarajanagar, guiding future government planning and policy interventions.

Method

- Format: Two-day brainstorming session workshop
- Participants: Sector experts, district officials, CMDR researchers, selected university faculty

Sectors to be covered for the Brainstorming Session are:

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|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ➤ Medical | ➤ Architecture |
| ➤ Education | ➤ Banking & Finance |
| ➤ Agriculture | ➤ Skill Development & Employment |
| ➤ Horticulture | ➤ Forest Development |
| ➤ District Administration | ➤ Eco Tourism |
| ➤ Tribal Development | ➤ Research Collaboration |
| ➤ Social Welfare | ➤ Veterinary Science |
| ➤ Statistics | ➤ Cyber Security |
| ➤ Health – Leprosy & Eradication | ➤ CMDR |
| ➤ Industries | ➤ Law |
| ➤ Renewable Energy Research | ➤ MSME |
| ➤ Agriculture / Horticulture Research | |
| ➤ Biodiversity | |

Day 1:

- District profile presentation (current status, gaps, opportunities)
- Sector-specific breakout discussions to identify top challenges and opportunities

Day 2:

- Drafting of sector-wise action points
- Plenary session to integrate actions into a unified CDP outline
- Final presentation of recommendations to district leadership
- Output: Draft Comprehensive Development Plan (one-pager per sector + executive summary)

Target Audience

The selected group of 50 participants including domain experts, district administrators, CMDR researchers, and Chamarajanagar University faculty representatives. Not open to the public.

Expected Outcome

- A clear set of priority development actions for each sector
- A unified CDP outline that the government can use for policy and budget planning
- Strengthened coordination among institutions and government bodies
- Foundation for monitorable and scalable interventions over the next 5 years