Karnataka represents a microcosm of the development prospects and problems and challenges for India, and for developing countries more generally. Known globally for the high tech achievements of Bangalore, and for being an early proponent of the panchayat system, the state also contains large rural areas where poor agricultural communities live in poverty, and spatial inequalities have grown in the last decade. It has enjoyed relatively high growth rates, but faces increasing water shortages and problems of environmental degradation. It has an active civil society, which has produced the well-known phenomenon of the "report cards" on municipal performance, drinking water and sanitation facilities. But it also faces problems of corruption and misuse of public resources, in spite of several good governance measures such as passing the Transparency Act in 2000, and establishing Lokayukta and Consumer Protection Forums. It has profitable public enterprises that are responsive to the needs of consumers, and moribund parastatals that cannot be closed because of political pressures. It has a need to shrink its public deficit, but faces pressures for expenditure on social and public infrastructure, on which depend the future growth and poverty reduction prospects of the economy.

Karnataka has also long been a site for world-class contributions by social scientists towards understanding the development process, from across the disciplinary spectrum. These have included anthropologists, economists and sociologists such as T Scarlett Epstein, VKRV Rao and MN Srinivas. As contemporary policy makers struggle with several important policy dilemmas, and as researchers move ahead to analyze these problems, there is a need for a forum at which the best available multi-disciplinary research across a comprehensive range of issues can be shared with researchers, policy makers and civil society in Karnataka. Moreover, the experiences of Karnataka may prove useful to other states in India, and to other countries at similar stages of development.

To provide such a forum for presentation of research, and for policy dialogue, the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bangalore, and Cornell University, Ithaca, USA, will host a major Conference in Bangalore on the Development of Karnataka. The conference will be held at ISEC on June 10-12, 2005. The conference organizers are Gopal Kadekodi (ISEC), Ravi Kanbur (Cornell) and Vijayendra Rao (World Bank). The list of papers and the conference program are given below.
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<th>Corresponding author</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ananthpur, Kripa</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kripa@mids.ac.in">kripa@mids.ac.in</a></td>
<td>Madras Institute of Development Studies</td>
<td>Dynamics of Local Governance in Karnataka</td>
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<td>Barnhardt, Sharon</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Sharon_Barnhardt@ksgphd.harvard.edu">Sharon_Barnhardt@ksgphd.harvard.edu</a></td>
<td>Harvard University</td>
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<td>Bhat, Mari</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mari@iegindia.org">mari@iegindia.org</a></td>
<td>Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi</td>
<td>A Comparative Analysis of Fertility and Education</td>
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<td>Herring, Ronald</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rjh5@cornell.edu">rjh5@cornell.edu</a></td>
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<td>Kudva, Neema</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nk78@cornell.edu">nk78@cornell.edu</a></td>
<td>Cornell University</td>
<td>Uneasy Partnerships: NGO-State Relations in India</td>
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<td>Kuruvilla, Sarosh</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sck4@cornell.edu">sck4@cornell.edu</a></td>
<td>Cornell University</td>
<td>The Karnataka Yeshaswini Health Insurance Scheme of Rural Farmers &amp; Peasants: Towards Comprehensive Health Insurance Coverage for Karnataka?</td>
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<td>Manor, James</td>
<td><a href="mailto:j.manor@ids.ac.uk">j.manor@ids.ac.uk</a></td>
<td>University of Sussex</td>
<td>Change in Rural Karnataka over the Last Generation: Villages and the Broader Context</td>
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<td>Narayana, M.R.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mrn@isec.ac.in">mrn@isec.ac.in</a></td>
<td>Institute for Social and Economic Change</td>
<td>Growth of ICT Industries and Services, and Regional Economic Development: Evidence from Karnataka State</td>
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<td>Price, Pamela</td>
<td><a href="mailto:p.g.price@hi.uio.no">p.g.price@hi.uio.no</a></td>
<td>University of Oslo</td>
<td>Ideological Elements in Political Instability in Karnataka: Janata Dal in the Late 1990s</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:raja@isec.ac.in">raja@isec.ac.in</a></td>
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<td>Social Security for the Unorganised Sector Workers in Karnataka</td>
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<td>Sen, Gita</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gita@IIMB.ERNET.IN">gita@IIMB.ERNET.IN</a></td>
<td>Indian Institute of Management Bangalore</td>
<td>Systemic and systematic: Gender and health inequities in Koppal district</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:dcs117@columbia.edu">dcs117@columbia.edu</a></td>
<td>Columbia University</td>
<td>Communication, Democracy, and Evasive Silences: A Preliminary Report on the Public Sphere in Karnataka</td>
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<td>Taeube, Florian A.</td>
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<td>Thimmaiah, Gujjarappa</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kunnikere@yahoo.com">kunnikere@yahoo.com</a></td>
<td>Institute for Social and Economic Change</td>
<td>Political Leadership and Economic Development in Karnataka</td>
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<td>Vadivelu, Ananda</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vadivelu26@rediffmail.com">vadivelu26@rediffmail.com</a></td>
<td>Institute for Social and Economic Change</td>
<td>Choosing 'not' to Participate - Evidence from Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP) in Chitradurga, Karnataka</td>
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<td>Vijayalakshmi, V.</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vijayalakshmi@vsnl.com">vijayalakshmi@vsnl.com</a></td>
<td>Consultant Sociologist</td>
<td>Corruption and Local Governance: Evidence from Karnataka</td>
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<td>Vyasulu, Poornima</td>
<td><a href="mailto:poornima@cbpsindia.com">poornima@cbpsindia.com</a></td>
<td>CBPS, Bangalore</td>
<td>Reproductive health services and role of panchayats in Karnataka</td>
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3
June 10th:
5:30 pm **Inauguration.**
Welcome by Gopal Kadekodi, Ravi Kanbur, Vijayendra Rao
Inaugural address by Mr. Dharam Singh, Chief Minister of Karnataka
Chairman’s Closing address by Mr. S L Rao

**Welcome Dinner** (by invitation)

June 11th:
9:00- 9:45 am **Keynote address**
9.00-9.30
*Timothy Besley*, London School of Economics, t.besley@lse.ac.uk
9:30-9:45
**Discussion**
9:45-11.15 **Technical Session 1: Economic and Political Dynamics**
9.45-10.05
*James Manor*, IDS, University of Sussex, j.manor@ids.ac.uk
Change in Rural Karnataka Over the Last Generation: Villages and Broader Context
10.05-10.25
*Gujjarappa Thimmaiah*, ISEC, kunnikere@yahoo.com
Political Leadership and Economic Development in Karnataka
10.25-10.45

**Pamela Price**, University of Oslo, p.g.price@hi.uio.no
Ideological Elements and Political Instability in Karnataka: Janata Dal in the late 1990s.

10:45 – 11:15

**Discussion**

11:15 – 11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:30 – 1:00 **Technical Session 2: Local Development**

11:30 – 11:50

**Kripa Ananthpur**, Madras Institute of Development Studies, kripa@mids.ac.in
Dynamics of Local Governance in Karnataka

11:50 – 12:10

**V. Vijayalakshmi**, Consultant Sociologist, vijayalakshmi@vsnl.com
Corruption and Local Governance: Evidence From Karnataka.

12:10 – 12:30

**Ananda Vadivelu**, Institute for Social and Economic Change, vadivelu26@rediffmail.com
Choosing *not* to Participate – Evidence from the Drought Prone Area Program (DPAP) in Chitradurga

12:30 – 1:00

**Discussion**

1:00 – 2:00 **Lunch**

2:00 – 2:45 pm **Keynote address**

2:00 – 2:30

**Ramesh Ramanathan**, Janaagraha, ramesh@janaagraha.org
Institutionalising Citizen Participation in Urban Governance

2:30 – 2:45

**Discussion**

2:45 – 3.45 **Technical Session 3: Projects and Policies**

2:45 – 3:05

**Sharon Barnhardt**, Harvard University, Sharon_Barnhardt@ksgphd.harvard.edu
Participation in a School Program in Karnataka
3.05-3.25  
**Ronald Herring**, Cornell University, rjh5@cornell.edu  

3:25-3:45  
Discussion

3:45-4:00  
**Coffee**

4:00-5.00  **Technical Session 4: Projects and Policies (Continued)**

4.00-4.20  
**Sarosh Kuruvilla**, Cornell University, sck4@cornell.edu  
The Karnataka Yeshasvini Health Insurance Scheme & Peasants: Towards Comprehensive Health Insurance Coverage for Karnataka?

4.20-4.40  
**D. Rajashekhar**, Institute for Social and Economic Change, raja@isec.ac.in  
At Times When Limbs May Fail: Social Security for Unorganised Workers in Karnataka

4:40 – 5.00  
Discussion

5:00 – 6.00  **Technical Session 5: Civil Society and the Public Sphere**

5.00-5.20  
**Dattathreya Subbanarasimha**, Columbia University, dcs117@columbia.edu  
Communication, Democracy and Evasive Silences: A Preliminary Report on the Public Sphere in Karnataka

5.20-5.40  
**Neema Kudva**, Cornell University, nk78@cornell.edu  
Uneasy Partnerships: NGO-State Relationships in Karnataka

5:40-6:00  
Discussion

6:30 – 9:30  **Evening Entertainment and Dinner** (by invitation)
June 12th

9:00-9:45 am **Keynote address**

9.00-9.30
**Devaki Jain**, lcjain@bgl.vsnl.net.in
To be or not to be? Women's location in public policy

9:30 – 9:45 **Discussion**

9:45 – 10:45 **Technical Session 6: Gender, Population and Health**

9.45-10.05
**Gita Sen**, IIM Bangalore, gita@iimb.ernet.in
Systemic and Systematic: Gender and Health Inequities in Koppal District

10.05-10.25
**Mari Bhat**, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, mari@iegindia.org
A Comparative Analysis of Fertility and Education in the Parts of Karnataka, Maharashtra and AP that Belonged to Hyderabad State.

10:25 – 10:45 **Discussion**

10:45 – 11:00 **Coffee**

11:00-12:00 **Technical Session 7: Gender, Population and Health (continued)**

11.00-11.20
**Poornima Vyasulu**, CBPS, Bangalore, poornima@cbpsindia.com
Reproductive Health Services and the Role of Panchayats in Karnataka

11.20-11.40
**Anand Inbanathan**, Institute for Social and Economic Change, anand@isec.ac.in
Social Mobility in the Context of Occupational Health: The Case of Silk Reeling

11:40-12:00 **Discussion**
12:00 – 1.00 **Technical Session 8: IT and ICT**

12.00-12.20
**Florian Taeube**, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University, taeube@wiwi.uni-frankfurt.de
Social Capital, Diversity and (Economic) Development: Evidence from the Indian IT Industry in Bangalore

12.20-12.40
**M. R. Narayana**, Institute for Social and Economic Change, mrn@isec.ac.in
ICT Sector and Regional Economic Development: Evidence from Karnataka State

12:40 – 1:00
**Discussion**

1:00 – 2:00 **Thanks, Lunch**