

EFFICIENCY AND TRANSPARENCY OF E-GOVERNANCE IN INDIA: A CASE STUDY OF KARNATAKA.

Dr.H.M.Rajashekar, Professor of Political Science & Director, UGC-Academic Staff College University of Mysore, Manasagangothri, Mysore-570006

Abstract

IT revolution, a world-wide phenomenon today has stirred societies and governments to embark upon an IT-based social, educational and administrative processes. India, as one of the pioneering countries in IT revolution has made a great stride in e-governance.

E-governance has been defined as an application of IT to the processes of government functioning to bring out responsible, responsive, efficient and transparent governance.

INTRODUCTION OF E-GOVERNANCE IN KARNATAKA:

Karnataka is one of the states of the Indian Union located in the southern part. The establishment of large number of engineering colleges in the state and the introduction of Computer Science and related technology courses led to the emergence of IT revolution in the state during the latter part of 20th century. Further, the last decade of the 20th Century transformed the state as one of the pioneers in the IT revolution with the establishment of INFOSYS and other IT companies.

The assumption of power by the congress government under the leadership of S.M.Krishna in October 1999 became a milestone in the introduction of e-governance. Under the system of e-governance the government has adopted the following:

- (a) Karnataka Right to Information Act of 2000 which provides total transparency in tenders floated by Government.
- (b) "Mahiti System" (Information System) for free flow of information to the public.
- (c) "Bhomi project" is country's first large-scale IT project in the state. It is designed to computerize land records of farmers. About 2 Crore land records of 67 lakh land owners are fully computerized. Copy of land records (Pahani) reaches farmer's doorstep free of cost every year. Handwritten land records are no more valid in Karnataka.
- (d) "Smart card System" introduced in public offices is intended to ensure punctuality and efficiency of administration.

In this background of e-governance this paper seeks to examine the following.

- (a) Has the e-governance contributed for good governance?

- (b) Have the Govt.employees understood the implications of e-governance?
- (c) Has the e-governance enhanced the role of Government as a catalyst for overall development?
- (d) Has the e-governance reduced the wide gap between Govt. and citizens?

About the Author

BRIEF RESUME

- 1. NAME** : **Dr.H.M.Rajashekar**
Professor of Political Science & Director,
UGC-Academic Staff College,
University of Mysore,
Manasagangotri,
Mysore -570 006
Phone: (0821) 544134 ®
512919 (O)
Email:mysoreasc@rediffmail.com
Website:mysore_asc.org
- 2. QUALIFICATION** : **M.A., Ph.D.,**
- 3. FOREIGN VISITS** : (a) **Fulbright Scholar (USA, 1982-83)**
(b) **Presented a paper in the 17th European Conference on Modern South Asia held at Heidelberg University, Germany from 9th To 14th,2002 visited Britain France, Italy, Austria,Belgium and Switzerland.**
- 4.TEACHING EXPERINCE** : **31 years (29 years at PG level).**
- 5.RESEARCH EXPERINCE** : **25 years, Successfully guided 7 Research Scholars**
- 6. CONFRENCES ATTENDED** : **Participated in many National and International Conferences.**
- 7. PUBLICATIONS** : (a) **About 50 research papers in National and International**

journals.

- 8. CHAIRMAN** : **Department of Political Science
(1992-94)
& BOS in Political science
(1998-2001).**
- 9. MEMBERSHIP** : **Member, NAAC Peer Team and
Committees of Many Universities
and Alma Mater.**
- 10. COORDINATOR** : **Acted as coordinator in national
seminars and Orientation Courses.**