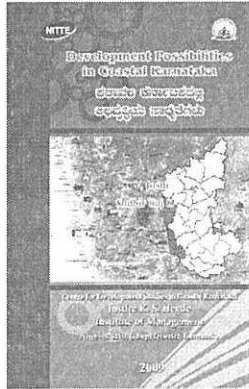


Book Review 2

## Roadmap for Development of Coastal Karnataka Development Possibilities in Coastal Karnataka

by : Dr. G.V. Joshi and Dr. Sudhir Raj K published by the Centre for Development Studies in Coastal Karnataka, JKSHIM, Nitte. Pages 28

Prof. N. Jayarama Shetty\*



Centre for Development Studies in Coastal Karnataka of Justice K S Hedge Institute of Management, Nitte has recently brought out a booklet on the captioned subject. It has been ably authored by two of the senior professors of the Institute namely Dr. G V Joshi and Dr. Sudhir Raj K.

The booklet running into about 28 pages ( brief Kannada version included) though small in size is profound for reasons more than one. This could perhaps be an eye opener and invaluable document for planners and practitioners alike. The booklet seems like an authentic document based on facts and is the product of empirical studies on three of the coastal districts carried out by various agencies of repute.

As the authors suggest aptly policy makers who have to take policy measures cannot lose sight of ' Models of Development'. World Development Report , 2009, prevailed on the responsible and responsive Governments to consider three aspects invariably a) prosperity for all b) access to education and c) concern for health and welfare. The booklet succinctly identifies the gaps and suggests the path for transformation of costal districts of Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada.

The authors have taken pains to draw the attention of Government of Karnataka and other partners of growth to the following areas of concern pertaining to coastal districts. Underground drainage facilities;

Paved footpaths; adequate drinking water; solid waste management; Land use planning; developing port cities like Mangalore and Karwar on a much larger scale; making fishing industry and activities a commercially viable proposition, and focused approach for revitalizing the agricultural sector.

The authors demonstrate an ambitious outlook for the coastal districts and rightly so, looking at the tremendous opportunities opening up and waiting to be tapped in terms of: An estimated investment of about Rs 50000 crore towards industry, transport, fisheries, horticulture etc; Banking density and size; Education and health care; Opening up of MSEZ; Influx of MNC activities into these districts and so on

The booklet deals with some of the paradoxes of Nanjundappa Committee pertaining to coastal districts. The report declares that there is not a single backward taluk in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts. In the same breath, the High Power Committee mentions about ' backwardness' of these districts in terms of irrigation facilities, availability of electricity , infra structure, drinking water and so on. This aberration could lead to the districts missing the focused attention of the governments. The authors have exhibited courage in pointing out this duality in the same report.

In fine, the Working Paper- 1 can make the things work. It has the direction. Policy makers need to show the determination and dedication to plan the work and then work the plan by taking cue from this useful and timely report on Development Possibilities in Coastal Karnataka.

In page 5 of the booklet, the authors have made use of the term 'Comparatively Developed Taluk' which as per Nanjundappa Committee report is 'Relatively Developed Taluk'. The booklet is of immense use to Banks' Lead District Offices, NABARD and so on apart from Governments and policy making bodies.

\* Professor, JKSHIM, Nitte