



Sri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

NRI Policy of Karnataka



Sri R.V. Deshpande
Minister for Large & Medium Industries
and Infrastructure Development



Commerce & Industries Department
Government of Karnataka

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**Commerce & Industries Department
Government of Karnataka**

**NRI Policy of
Karnataka**

Annexure to G.O. No. CI 207 SPI 2016, Dated 02.12.2016

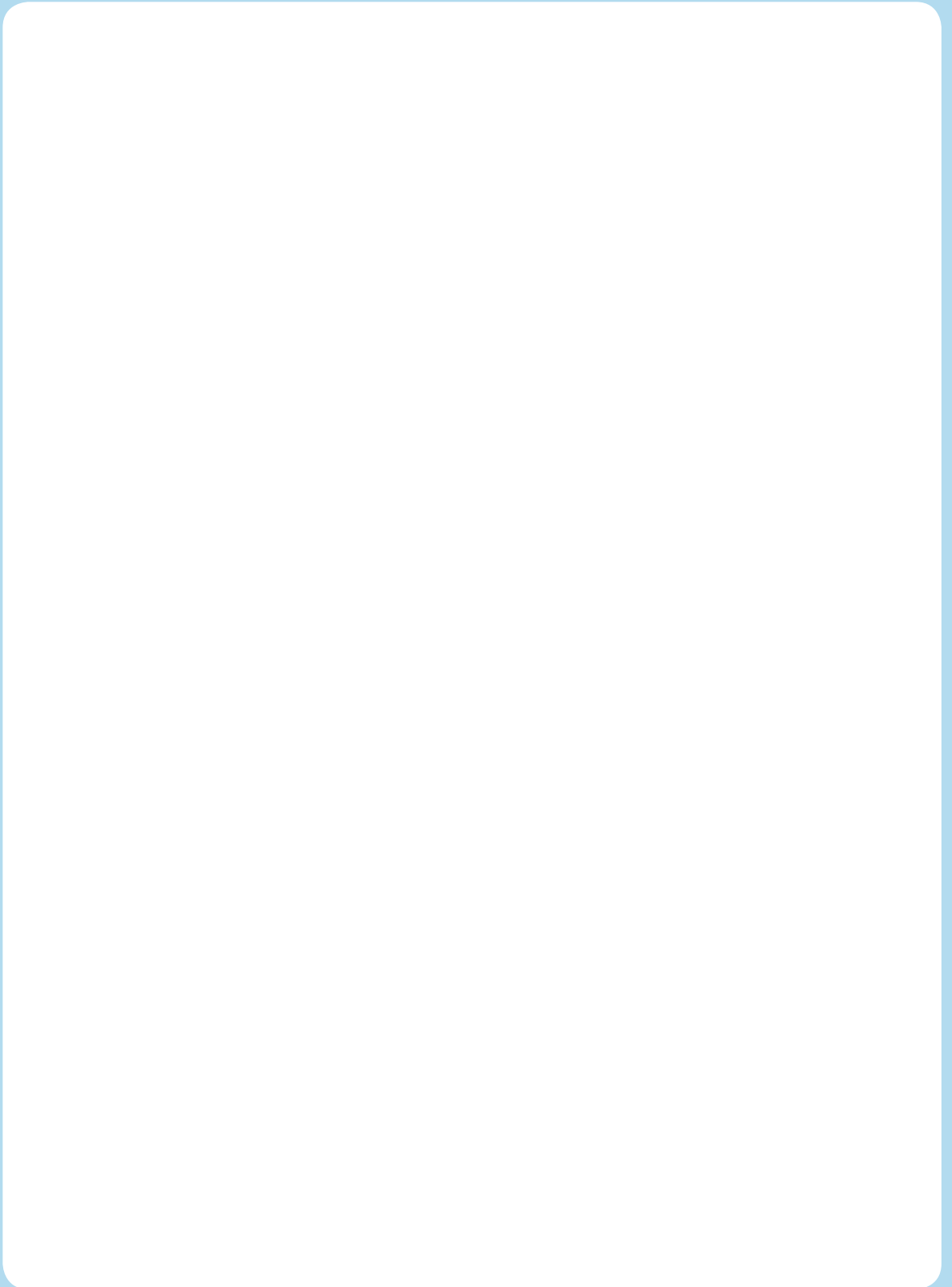


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FOREWORD

I am very much delighted and pleased to present the Non-Resident Indian Policy of Karnataka. The vision of this policy is to play a catalytic role in building sustainable linkages between the Karnataka State and Non-Resident Indians/Kannadigas across the globe, to build a progressive, vibrant and prosperous Karnataka.

Karnataka is the seventh-largest State in India by area and the eighth-largest by population. Its people-Kannadigas-represent Karnataka all over the world and are known for their high skills and their significant contribution to the development of countries where they reside. They are well entrenched to play a progressively greater role in strengthening ties between Karnataka and those countries, besides, making valuable contribution to Karnataka's development.

The NRI Policy of the State comprehensively looks into not only the aspirations, requirements and expectations of the Kannadigas' diaspora, but also, their role in the economic, social and technological development of Karnataka. It also touches upon the measures to resolve the issues faced by them apart from working out country-specific plans for forging a mutually beneficial relationship between the NRIs of Karnataka origin and the State.

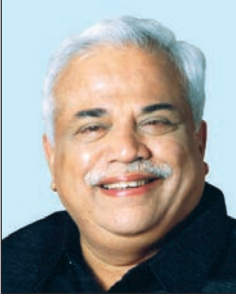
I commend the Department of Commerce and Industries and NRI forum for preparing this unique policy.

I welcome NRI's, specially those from Karnataka, to take advantage of our policy and be worthy partners in our progress.

Date: 29/12/16
Place: Bengaluru

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Siddaramaiah". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Government of Karnataka



MESSAGE

India today has one of the world's largest and most successful "diaspora", with a large number of expatriate Indians and people of Indian origin living across nearly 185 countries. According to a recent report, the top 15 countries in descending order with large overseas Indian population include USA, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Myanmar, UAE, UK, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Canada, Mauritius, Kuwait, Oman, Singapore, Qatar and Nepal.

India's diaspora, though small relative to the country's domestic population, is disproportionately skilled, educated and wealthy. India needs to fully leverage the potential of this accomplished group, which includes US senators, Nobel laureates, CEOs of Fortune 500 companies and prize-winning authors etc and facilitate their active interaction with the land of their forefathers.

I am glad that the NRI Policy of the State not only looks into forging relations with the Indian Diaspora, it also looks into the welfare and well being of the NRIs/NRNs, promotion of culture & festivities, art & culture among NRIs/NRNs, disseminate the information on opportunities in the overseas market, skilling and also encourage Kannadigas to take up overseas employment.

I congratulate the Commerce and Industries Department for bringing out the NRI Policy of Karnataka and hope the NRIs/ NRNs make the best use of the policy initiatives.



R. V. Deshpande

Minister for Large & Medium Industries
and Infrastructure Development
Government of Karnataka

Date: 20/12/16
Place: Bengaluru



MESSAGE

I am delighted to greet you soon after having assumed charge as Deputy Chairman, NRI Forum, Government of Karnataka. My new position is a great opportunity for me to be of service to the NRK community, deploying the long experience I have acquired at the national and international level of interacting with the Indian community abroad. I am confident that the interest of the Government and the people of Karnataka in our brothers and sisters abroad will be reflected in our NRI Policy

I do realize that the overseas Indians, whether they are in the developed countries or in the developing countries, are constantly facing new challenges. But if history is the judge, we know that they are capable of dealing with these challenges and will prove themselves capable of doing well for themselves, their families, the state and the nation. The events in Burma, Uganda, Fiji, South Africa, Malaysia and the Caribbean are lessons in adaptability, mutuality and courage for them. They have also the model of the most celebrated of all Indians, who lived abroad, Mahatma Gandhi.

India will have the largest young working force in the world in the next few years. We will be called upon to take up many new jobs, which have not even been invented yet. If we give our young generation appropriate education and skills, they will be in greater demand around the globe. Therefore, I remain optimistic that the strength of the Indian community abroad will grow rather than diminish in the future.

The Government of Karnataka, under our dynamic Chief Minister, is acutely aware of the challenges and opportunities the NRKs will have in the future. With his vision and goodwill, I hope to do my best for the welfare of the NRK community. I am sure I shall get the guidance and support of all, whether in India or abroad.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arathi Krishna".

Dr. Arathi Krishna
Deputy Chairman, NRI Forum, Karnataka
Government of Karnataka

Date: 22/12/16
Place: Bengaluru



PROCEEDINGS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

Sub: NRI Policy of Karnataka

Preamble:

The history of emigration from India has its origin in the pre-colonial times. Over the years, the Indian diaspora has transformed itself into an influential global community and have established themselves as one of the successful diaspora in the world—both economically and politically, with many persons of Indian origin (PIOs) occupying important positions in the politics and governance in their countries of destination.

The Planning Commission of India, in its 12th Plan discussions, indicates that while the “demographic dividend” accounts for India having world’s youngest work force with a median age way below that of China and Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Countries, the global economy is expected to witness a skilled manpower shortage to the extent of around 56 million by 2020.

Overseas Kannadigas, including the Kannadiga diaspora and the NRIs from the State of Karnataka largely comprise of successful professionals who have migrated abroad either for higher studies or to work in major multinational corporations.

Realizing the need for forging a symbiotic relationship between Karnataka and its diaspora, the State Government has set up Non-Resident Indian Forum, Karnataka. This Forum has been playing a very vital role in strengthening linkages between the Karnataka diaspora and several cultural organizations spread across the globe apart from motivating them to bring in investments to Karnataka State.

It is proposed to bring in a policy which comprehensively looks into the welfare of the NRIs/NRKs right from providing information on overseas employment opportunities, orientation programs, assisting in clearances, a one point contact in Karnataka for all overseas Kannadigas apart from working out country-specific plans for forging a mutually beneficial relationship with the NRIs/NRKs.

The policy proposes to exploit the “demographic dividend” encourage Kannadigas upgrade the skills and take up overseas opportunities to meet the skilled manpower requirements abroad and also to play a active role in bringing Non Resident Indians (NRIs) & Non Resident Kannadigas (NRKs) who have excelled in their respective countries of stay to contribute their might/ knowledge etc to India’s / Karnataka’s development. Apart from this the welfare of NRIs/NRKs living abroad need to be addressed.

In the light of the above, a decision has been taken by the Government to formulate and adopt a NRI Policy of Karnataka.

Hence the following order:

GOVERNMENT ORDER No: CI 207 SPI 2016, BENGALURU, DATED: 02.12.2016

In the circumstances explained in the preamble, Government is pleased to announce the NRI Policy of Karnataka as detailed in Annexure to this order.

The Policy shall come into effect from 02.12.2016 and will be valid for a period of five years or till a new policy is announced.

This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department, NRI Forum letter dated: 08.08.2016/28.10.2016, Labour Department U.O. Note No. LD/374/ETI/2016, dated: 04.11.2016, Tourism Department vide U.O. Note No. TD/242/pravayo/2016, dated: 26.10.2016, IT, BT, S&T Department vide U.O. Note No. ITD/10/PRM/2016, dated: 26.09.2016, Home Dept. vide U.O. Note No. HD/535/PMS/2016, dated: 24.08.2016, DPAR (AR) Department vide Note No. DPAR/137/EASU/2016, dated 03.11.2016 and Cabinet approval dated 23.11.2016.

By Order and in the name of the
Governor of Karnataka,



(D.V. PRASAD)

Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.,
Commerce & Industries Dept.

NRI Policy of Karnataka

1. Preamble

Indian diaspora is the second largest diaspora in the world with a spread across nearly 185 countries. The Ministry of External Affairs (previously Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs), in 2015, has estimated that there are currently 28.45 million Overseas Indians. This includes 11.3 million People of Indian Origin (PIOs) and 17.07 million Non-Resident Indians (NRIs). According to the 2015 estimates as quoted above, the top 15 countries in descending order with large Overseas Indian population include USA, Saudi Arabia, Malaysia, Myanmar, UAE, UK, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Canada, Mauritius, Kuwait, Oman, Singapore, Qatar and Nepal.

The history of emigration from India has its origin in the pre-colonial times. However, the current day Indian diaspora is an outcome of emigration during the colonial and India's post-independence times. Several forms of emigration such as indenture, kangani/maistry, free or passage migrants, emigration to the west and to the Gulf are well documented. Over the years, the Indian diaspora has transformed itself into an influential global community. It has established itself as one of the successful diasporas in the world—both economically and politically, with many persons of Indian origin (PIOs) occupying important positions in the politics and governance in their countries of destination. Overseas Kannadigas, including the Kannadiga diaspora and the NRIs from the State of Karnataka largely comprise of successful professionals who have migrated abroad either for higher studies or to work in major multinational corporations.

Post-2004-after an exclusive Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs was established by the Government of India-many Indian States have taken the initiative of engaging with their Overseas Indians through state-specific institutional mechanisms and engagement measures. While some States such as Gujarat and Bihar have established Foundations such as the NRG Foundation (Gujarat), and Bihar Foundation (Bihar); other States have established full-fledged Government departments (NRI Department, Uttar Pradesh; NRI Affairs Department, Punjab) to

engage with Overseas Indians, with particular emphasis on people having origin in their respective States.

Karnataka being the seventh-largest State in India by area and the eighth-largest by population, Kannadigas - the people, represent Karnataka all over the world and are known for high skill and their contributions to the respective countries where they live.

In view of the vital contributions that are being made by Non Resident Indians (NRIs) and Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) & particularly Non Resident Kannadigas (NRKs) to the societies where they reside and the fact that they are well situated to play a progressively greater role in strengthening ties between India / Karnataka and those countries, besides making contribution to India's / Karnataka's development. There is also a need to look at the welfare of NRIs/NRKs living abroad which is conducive and complementing the efforts of Government of India in facilitating their links with India with a focus on Karnataka.

Realizing the need for forging a symbiotic relationship between Karnataka and its diaspora, the State Government has set up Non-Resident Indian Forum, Karnataka. This Forum has been playing a very vital role in strengthening linkages between the Karnataka diaspora and several cultural organizations spread across the globe apart from motivating them to bring in investments to Karnataka State.

The State Government now proposes to formulate an NRI Policy for the State which comprehensively looks into aspirations, requirements, and expectations of the Indian / Kannadigas diaspora, their role in the economic, social and technological development of Karnataka, the measures to resolve their issues/problems, if any, faced by them apart from working out country-specific plans for forging a mutually beneficial relationship with the NRIs/NRKs.

2. Vision

To play a catalytic role in building sustainable linkages between the Karnataka State and Non-Resident Kannadigas across the globe, to build a progressive, vibrant and prosperous Karnataka.

3. Mission

- To look into aspirations, requirements, and expectations of the Indian /Kannadigas diaspora and bring them closer to their roots.
- To fully leverage the potential of accomplished group of NRIs/NRKs.
- To facilitate NRIs/NRKs in the areas of investments, trade, transfer of know-how, R&D, etc.
- To Promote Brand Bengaluru / Karnataka.
- To conceive and implement effective schemes and programs to achieve these goals.

4. Objectives

- To connect with NRIs/NRKs on a sustainable basis and address their needs and concerns.
- To tap the immense technical, managerial & other skills / resources and dovetail them with policies and development of the State.
- To create an enabling environment and facilitate investment proposals of NRIs/ NRKs in to Karnataka for mutual gains.
- To create an institutional mechanism to monitor the general welfare of NRIs/NRKs.
- In times of crises, identify and address the issues within the functional authorities in the State Government and with the Government of India.

5. Strategies

- Creating a mechanism for well being of NRIs/NRKs and socio-economic development of the State.
- Creating a network of “Non-Resident Kannadigas” and organizations.
- Connecting NRIs/NRKs & engaging them in social and development projects.
- Connecting NRIs/NRKs organizations across the Globe
- Facilitation of NRIs/NRKs investments in Karnataka
- Facilitation of knowledge transfer by NRKs
- Facilitation of General Welfare issues of NRIs/NRKs

6. Policy Measures

6.1 Creating a mechanism for well being of NRIs/NRKs and socio-economic development of the State

6.1.1 Strengthen NRI Forum in the State

The Non Resident Indian Forum Karnataka has been formed to forge a symbiotic relationship between Karnataka and its diaspora. The Forum provides information on socio-economic activities of Karnataka State and its development and also coordinate investment in the State across all potential sectors.

NRI Forum would be broad based by including representations of experts from various fields who have in depth knowledge of the needs of NRIs/NRKs and draw up the knowledge reservoir of diasporas for development and promotion of Karnataka’s literature, cultural and heritage activities overseas & the development of the State.

An exclusive helpline would be set up to provide advisory services on various issues related to mobilization of investments, acquiring and disposing of properties, grievance redressal, registration of complaints, etc.

This Forum would act as ‘One Stop Source’ for NRIs/ NRKs & as a bridge between the State and NRIs/NRKs/PIOs/ their associations abroad for enhancing cooperation in the development of infrastructure, education, health and other areas of mutual interest.

6.1.2 State level and District level NRIs/NRKs Welfare Committees

A State level NRI Committee under the Chairmanship of Hon’ble Chief Minister with other members is already in place (G.O. No. DPAR/68/Shi Sa Ne/ 2008 dtd 05/08/2008) to address various issues of NRIs.

It is proposed to form District level NRIs/NRKs Welfare Committee headed by the respective Deputy Commissioner with District Superintendent of Police, Assistant Commissioner/s & Tahsildar/s as members with Assistant Commissioner in respective District Head Quarters as the convener. The District level Welfare Committee will co-ordinate and support the State Level NRI Committee.

6.2 Creating a network of “Non-Resident Kannadigas” and organizations.

6.2.1 Creation of a Database on NRIs/NRKs

For an effective communication with NRIs/NRKs diasporas an interactive cloud based web site will be developed which will have a comprehensive NRIs/NRKs database of individuals as well as associations / organizations across the Globe.

A NRIs/NRKs e-Directory of registered members will be available on the website for communication with other members with facilities such as shared galleries, shared videos, shared events, etc.

The NRIs/NRKs diaspora would be connected on all available social media such as twitter, facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and others to provide an online interface for sharing their views, issues, experiences, etc.

6.2.2 Non Resident Kannadiga (NRK) Card

The NRIs/NRKs diaspora would be encouraged to enrol and get an NRK card, a distinguished identity for NRKs, with a view to connect every Kannadiga with their origin. The card would be co-branded with leading Bank/Corporate which will offer special value privilege to NRKs including discounts at hotels, jewellery showrooms, hospitals, etc. apart from speedy services from all department of the State Government.

Tie up with insurance companies would be explored to avail accident cover of up to Rs.2.00 lakhs or more during the visit of NRKs to India for all NRK card holders with a nominal fee.

6.3 Connecting NRIs/NRKs & engaging them in social and development projects

6.3.1 Promotion of Kannada and Karnataka's festivities among NRIs/NRKs

In association with the Kannada and Culture Department, Primary and Secondary Education Department & Kannada Abhivruddhi Pradhikara, NRI forum will develop self learning material and would host it on the website to facilitate NRIs/NRKs and their Children who have not received formal Kannada education to get connected to their mother tongue and get certification of proficiency in Kannada language. Likewise, the background audio/video material on the festivals, culture of different regions of Karnataka will be made available for the benefit of the younger generations abroad. Efforts would be made to facilitate Know Karnataka programs for children of Kannadiga diaspora and collaborate with Government of India in this regard.

6.3.2 Promotion of Art and Culture of Karnataka

In association with the Kannada and Culture Department, well structured exchange programs will be organized to promote art, yoga and cultural activities. Avenues will also be created for conducting seminars to encourage synchronization

of thoughts and ideas prevalent in the countries of residence of NRIs/NRKs with the current scenario in Karnataka and vice versa.

6.3.3 Special Tourism Package for NRIs/NRKs

Karnataka is known as the land of many opportunities, NRIs/NRKs would be motivated to invest in tourism industry, especially in nature, heritage, medical, adventure, hospitality, tourism, ecotourism sector, etc. A concept of specific adoption of tourist sites would also be made available with the necessary requisites.

Special packages specifically structured to cater to NRIs/NRKs during their visits would be made available on the tourism department's website.

6.3.4 "Namma Ooru-Namma Nadu" initiative for NRIs/NRKs

A very good number of NRIs/NRKs have continuously contributed towards their motherland mainly towards upgrading their schools, local temples and have become part of the development of the State. NRI Forum will make available and facilitate dovetailing of development schemes of the State including that of panchayaths on the web and would facilitate participation of NRIs/NRKs. The NRI forum would also facilitate any development project proposed by NRIs/NRKs in their chosen area with respective State Department/Authorities.

A compilation of these philanthropic work to appreciate, recognize the contribution of NRIs/NRKs would be updated financial year wise and made available online.

NRI Forum Karnataka will work closely with the India Development Foundation of Overseas Indians (IDF-OI), a Trust established to serve as a credible institutional avenue to enable overseas Indians to engage in social and development projects in India. The Trust is exempt from the provisions of Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA), 2010 and facilitates overseas Indian philanthropy into flagship initiatives of both Government of India and Government of Karnataka.

6.4 Connecting NRIs/NRKs organizations across the Globe

6.4.1 Encourage Kannada Kootas all over the world

Kannadigas represent Karnataka all over the world and are known for socializing. With a view to connect with other NRIs/NRKs and those back home in Karnataka & with a mandate to unite the activities of all Kannadigas, integrate, coordinate, network promotion and preservation of Kannada language & culture, cross-border cultural activities etc., NRIs/NRKs have formed Kannada Kootas which have been successful in the USA.

Kannadigas would be encouraged to form Kannada Kootas in every region of the respective countries of their stay to promote and preserve Kannada language and culture and connect with others.

6.4.2 Participation in Pravasi Bharathiya Divas

Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, celebrates Pravasi Bharathiya Divas (PBD) on 9th January every year to mark the contribution of Overseas Indian community in the development of India. January 9th was chosen as the day to celebrate this occasion since it was on this day in 1915 that Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest Pravasi, returned to India from South Africa, led India's freedom struggle and changed the lives of Indians forever.

Every alternate year of the event, individuals of exceptional merit are honoured with the prestigious Pravasi Bharathiya Samman Award to appreciate their role in India's growth. The event also provides a forum for discussing key issues concerning the Indian diaspora.

Government of Karnataka as one of the leading States participates in Pravasi Bharathiya Divas and proposes to identify and felicitate one outstanding individual who has either links through origin in Karnataka or has contributed to the development in the State of Karnataka in alternate year of PBD with the title '**NRK of the Year**'.

6.5 Facilitation of NRIs/NRKs investments in Karnataka

6.5.1 Promotion of economic & knowledge engagement of NRIs/NRKs.

The NRI Forum in association with Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) would act as the first point of contact for business and investment related information for NRIs/NRKs and bring in updates on Government's policies, articles by experts, webinars on topics of interest to Indian diaspora, projection of investment opportunities in Karnataka, facilitate B2B & B2G meetings, participation in investor meets, etc.

6.5.2 NRIs/ NRKs Entrepreneurs Guidance Cell

KARNATAKA UDYOG MITRA (KUM), set up by the Commerce & Industries Department, Government of Karnataka, is an initiative to promote and facilitate investments in Karnataka, and to assist investors. The KUM is the Secretariat for grant of approvals and sanction of infrastructure facilities for approved projects. The investors are provided a clear road map, user-friendly directions and guidance till projects are implemented on the ground.

An exclusive NRIs/NRKs investment promotion cell will be established in Karnataka Udyoga Mitra (KUM) to facilitate them with expeditious clearance of proposals, priority in land allotment and filing of online applications, submission of regulatory documents as and when required, obtaining approvals / clearances from various Departments & other State level clearances and also offer escort services.

6.5.3 Package of Incentives & Concessions for NRI Investments

The Karnataka Industrial Policy 2014-19 offers location & investment based attractive package of incentives and concessions. Likewise the other policies on Aerospace & Defence, Textiles, SEZ, IT- BT, ESDM, Tourism, Agri business, policies etc. offer host of encouragement incentives and concessions for investments in these areas.

NRIs/NRKs will also be eligible for all the incentives and concessions announced in the policies of every sector by the State Government from time to time.

Special package of incentives / concessions for NRIs/NRKs will be examined for deserving cases (*only for investments above Rs 250 crore*) on case to case basis under each of these policies by respective departments giving due weightage to investment, location of the project, direct and indirect employment to be generated and potential for attracting further investment through vendors and ancillaries.

6.5.4 “Sister City” Arrangements:

Government of Karnataka has “Sister City” arrangements, an opportunity for two cities to collaborate in various fields with cities like Minsk-Bengaluru (1989) in Belarus, Cleveland-Bengaluru (1992), Cincinnati-Mysore(2012) & San Francisco-Bengaluru (2013) in the United States, & China’s electronics manufacturing hub Chengdu (2013)-Bengaluru, the capital of Sichuan province.

With the association of Kannada Kootas many more such “Sister City” arrangements will be encouraged to share aspects of art, culture, industry, etc. and to emulate best practices in various other fields.

6.6 Facilitation of knowledge transfer by NRKs:

6.6.1 Encouraging Cross border Entrepreneurship

Cross-border entrepreneurship offers potential opportunity to access new markets and supply sources, as well as capital, labour and technology and can contribute to economic development on both sides of the border. With active support of NRIs/NRKs, it is proposed to tap this opportunity for economic development of Karnataka.

Encouraging Cross-border Entrepreneurship & Business Incubation Centre for NRIs/NRKs will actively promote transfer of knowledge and technology to Karnataka

6.6.2 Business Incubation Centre for NRKs

A sizeable number of NRIs/NRKs have contributed their skills to their countries of migration in diverse sectors like Aerodynamics, Automotive, Banking & Financial Services, Healthcare, IT (software & services), Retail & E-commerce and Social Enterprises, etc. and are keen to use their knowledge / skills for the betterment of their home land. To encourage entrepreneurship among NRIs/NRKs & to establish formal and organized link between NRIs/NRKs and Government of Karnataka, NRIs/NRKs will be offered Business Incubation Centre at special monthly rental for an initial period of one year in association with the IT- BT and Science & Technology Department.

6.7 Facilitation of General Welfare issues of NRIs/NRKs

6.7.1 Encouraging Kannadigas to take up overseas employment:

The Planning Commission of India, in its 12th Plan discussions, indicates that while the “demographic dividend” accounts for India having world’s youngest work force with a median age way below that of China and Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Countries, the global economy is expected to witness a skilled man power shortage to the extent of around 56 million by 2020. Thus, the “demographic dividend” in India needs to be exploited not only to expand the production possibility frontier but also to meet the skilled manpower requirements in India and abroad.

The NRI Forum, Karnataka in association with the Department of Skill Development, Government of Karnataka will partner with the India Centre for Migration (ICM- formerly known as Indian Council of Overseas Employment) which works as a research think-tank to the Ministry of External Affairs,

Government of India, on all matters relating to 'International Migration' and undertakes empirical, analytical and policy related research, and undertakes pilot projects to document good practices and its governance in the following areas with a special focus on Karnataka.

- ✓ *Build and maintain a database on emerging country/sector specific employment opportunities abroad for youth from Karnataka.*
- ✓ *Identify labour supply gaps in overseas labour markets and the skill sets required by Indian workers to fill those gaps and accordingly provide inputs to skill training centres in Karnataka.*
- ✓ *Initiate programs for skill development and skill upgradation in consultation with professional bodies and the private sector and promote employment opportunities abroad especially to provide international qualifications.*
- ✓ *Initiate pre-departure orientation programs for various categories of workers leaving abroad from Karnataka.*
- ✓ *Coordinate with other employment promotion agencies, including project manpower suppliers and foreign employers to provide last mile connectivity and help the youth with information.*
- ✓ *Initiate and support the study, monitoring and analysis of the trends and dynamics of international labour market, problems faced by the emigrant Indian workers in India and abroad, benchmark the best practices of other labour sending countries and recommend policy initiatives/strategies.*
- ✓ *Administer need based welfare support for overseas workers from Karnataka including institutional arrangements of a welfare fund for the purpose as desired.*

The NRI Forum, Karnataka will undertake periodical campaigns across districts disseminate the information on opportunities in the overseas market, skilling and encourage Kannadigas to take up overseas employment along with pre departure orientation.

District NRIs/NRKs Welfare Committee will be sensitized to assist overseas employment aspirants in attestation of education certificates, apostle attestation, conduct orientation programs, getting ECR from Protector of Emigration (PoE) office through the e-Migrate system, etc.

6.7.2 NRIs/NRKs Support Service Centre:

It is proposed to collaborate with the India Centre for Migration (ICM), Overseas Workers Resource Centre (OWRC), Migrant Resource Centers (MRCs) and Indian Workers Resource Center (IWRC) under Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India to facilitate and provide support services to workers who intend to go abroad for employment.

NRI Forum will associate with OWRC helpdesk which is operational 24x7x365 to attend to queries in eleven (11) languages (Hindi, English, Punjabi, Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu, Gujarati, Marathi, Odia, Kannada, and Bengali) through toll free number 1800-11-3090 in India and +91-124-2341002 for Indian emigrants working overseas.

NRI Forum in association with OWRC/MRCs will act as a single point window source for the following:

- ✓ Registering, responding to and monitoring complaints/ Grievances;
- ✓ Collection and dissemination of information on matters relating to emigration a Knowledge Centre & Counselling Center;
- ✓ Walk-in counselling centre for emigrants;
- ✓ Work as institutional arrangement to provide information and assistance to intending migrants and overseas workers relating to all aspects of overseas employment.

6.7.3 Legal Aid Centre

NRI Forum in collaboration with Ministry of External Affairs & in consultation with Karnataka Legal Services Authority would extend all possible legal services to NRIs/NRKs in distress during their overseas employment period like those who are stranded by prospective employers, imprisonment for petty offences, atrocities, ill treatment, Indian Women deserted by their overseas Indian spouses etc.

The NRI Forum would empanel counsels and advisors to facilitate NRKs in various legal, property and commercial disputes.

6.7.4 Welfare services to Migrant workers:

NRI forum in association with Ministry of External Affairs through Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF), which is in operations in the 43 Indian Missions across the world in countries that have a significant overseas Indian population will offer financial assistance to overseas Indian workers duped by unscrupulous intermediaries in the host countries, runaway house maids, those who become victim of accidents or undocumented overseas Indian workers in need of emergency assistance or any other overseas Indian citizens who are in distress.

The ICWF will also be utilized to meet the expenditure for airlifting the mortal remains of overseas Indian citizens to India on a means tested basis, on the recommendation of respective Heads of Missions or local cremation/burial of the deceased overseas Indian in such cases where a sponsor is unable or unwilling to do so as per the contract and the family is unable to meet the cost.

The District level NRIs/NRKs Welfare committee will be sensitized to publicize, provide local help & assist the family members to apply online for transportation of mortal remains of the deceased emigrant in ECR countries, and in tracking the status online till the mortal remains are brought back.

6.7.5 Welfare services to NRIs/NRKs returning home:

NRI forum in association with District NRIs/NRKs Welfare Committee will extend all possible assistance to NRIs/NRKs who relocate permanently to their motherland and facilitate help in change of residential status, taxation implication, foreign currency non-resident (FCNR) issues, etc.

6.7.6 Resident Commissioner, Karnataka, New Delhi :

The NRI Policy envisages closer and institutionalized connect with the MEA on matters relating to the Kannadiga diaspora which would require real-time interaction, coordination with the MEA and other Ministries / Departments of the Government of India at New Delhi. The office of the Resident Commissioner of Karnataka, New Delhi, will assist NRI Forum in respect of all matters relating to the NRI Policy.

7. Implementation, Review & Monitoring Mechanism:

7.1 Constitution of a High Level Departmental Monitoring Committee:

A High Level Departmental Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman NRI Forum with ACS/ Principal Secretaries/Secretaries of line departments, Regional Passport Officer, Resident Commissioner, Karnataka Bhavan, New Delhi will be constituted to monitor the progress of implementation of all the provisions of the policy regularly.

This Committee will ensure timely issue of enabling Government Orders by various departments in relation to the policy.

The Committee will recommend mid-course corrections, if any, for smooth implementation of the Policy.

The Policy will be implemented by the NRI Forum, Karnataka, who will co-ordinate with all the departments, to coordinate issue of necessary enabling orders etc and would act as a secretariat to the High Level Departmental Monitoring Committee.

The NRI Forum with the help of reputed agencies will conduct research, undertake studies, surveys, etc. to assess impact of policy initiatives and provide relevant feedback regarding the policy and its implementation.

7.2 Duration of the Policy

The NRI Policy of Karnataka will be valid for a period of five years from the date of approval or till a new Policy is announced by the Government.

Definitions:

A Non-Resident Indian (NRI) is a citizen of India who holds an Indian passport and has temporarily emigrated to another country for six months or more for employment, residence, education or any other purpose.

A Non-Resident Kannadiga (NRK) is a citizen of India, a permanent resident of Karnataka who holds an Indian passport and has temporarily emigrated to another country for six months or more for employment, residence, education or any other purpose.

A Person of Indian Origin (PIO) is a person of Indian origin or ancestry but who is not a citizen of India and is the citizen of another country. A PIO might have been a citizen of India and subsequently taken the citizenship of another country, or have ancestors born in India or other states.



Proceedings of the Government of Karnataka

Sub : Constitution of Non-Resident Indian Committee, Karnataka.

Read : Hon'ble Chief Minister's Budget Speech 2008-09

Preamble:

Hon'ble Chief Minister in his Budget Speech 2008-09 announced that a Non-Resident Kannadigas Cell (NRI Cell) would be set up under the administrative control of the Kannada & Cultural Department (page 20 of Budget Speech 2008-09). With a view to widen the scope and for a better management, the cell is now set up as "NRI Committee, Karnataka" under the direct administrative control of Hon'ble Chief Minister and would be under the administrative control of the Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms (DPAR).

NRI Committee, Karnataka is proposed to be set up by Government of Karnataka on the lines of similar such divisions set up in other States and in Government of India. The Committee will act as a platform for NRIs & address the following areas.

1. To promote activities which have bearings / interest of Kannadigas in other countries
2. To create welfare opportunities using activities under Kannada Literature & Culture for Kannadigas in other countries
3. To promote and implement programs with potential for development in association with NRIs in the areas of IT/BT/Science/Technology and R&D sectors.
4. To promote programs for active participation of NRIs in development of education & other sectors in the State.
5. To promote NRI investments in Industries and Infrastructure in the State.
6. To encourage participation of NRIs in the developmental programs of the State in the Financial and Social sectors
7. To encourage NRIs welfare activities

In addition to the above, it is prudent to create many more opportunities for the active participation of NRIs.

For an effective functioning, NRI Committee, Karnataka will have the status of an autonomous institution. It is intended to form the committee under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister, other heads of various departments and eminent & successful persons in various sectors.

Considering the need to constitute the NRI Committee, Karnataka & function from the current financial year itself, the following order is issued.

Government Order No. DPAR 68 Shi Sa Ne 2008, dated: 05.08.2008.

In view of the reasons explained above, Government is pleased to constitute the NRI Committee, Karnataka to function from current financial year.

2. NRI Committee, Karnataka will have the status of an autonomous institution for an effective functioning with its head quarters in Bangalore.
3. NRI Committee, Karnataka, will have the following members with Hon'ble Chief Minister as its Chairman:

1	Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Karnataka	Chairman
2	One member of the Karnataka Legislature, nominated by the Hon'ble Chief Minister	Vice-Chairman
3	Principal Secretary to Government, Commerce & Industries Department	Member
4	Principal Secretary to Government, Finance Department	Member
5	Principal Secretary to Government, IT/BT, Science & Technology Department	Member
6	The Principal Secretary to Government, Infrastructure Development Department	Member
7	Principal Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department	Member
8	Secretary to Government, DPAR	Member
9	Secretary to Government, Kannada & Culture, Information Department	Member

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 10 NRI representative nominated by Government | Member |
| 11 An expert in the field of Literary & Cultural Sector nominated by Government | Member |
| 12 An expert in the field of IT/BT/Science/Technology Sector nominated by Government | Member |
| 13 An expert in the Finance Sector nominated by Government | Member |
| 14 An expert in the Social Sector nominated by Government | Member |
| 15 An expert in the Administrative Sector nominated by Government | Member |
| 16 Secretary, Non-Resident Indian Committee (not less than Senior Scale Group-A officer, nominated by the Government) | Member Secretary |
4. The Secretary (Member Secretary), NRI Committee, Karnataka will have the responsibility of implementing the decisions/programs of NRI Committee, Karnataka.
 5. Separate order will be issued regarding creation of posts of necessary officers, administrative staff for the Committee.
 6. The Committee is created to realize the following objectives:
 1. *To promote activities which have bearings / interest of Kannadigas in other countries*
 2. *To create welfare opportunities using activities under Kannada Literature & Culture for Kannadigas in other countries*
 3. *To promote and implement programs with potential for development in association with NRIs in the areas of IT/BT/ Science/Technology and R&D sectors.*
 4. *To promote programs for active participation of NRIs in development of education & other sectors in the State.*
 5. *To promote NRI investments in Industries and Infrastructure in the State.*
 6. *To encourage participation of NRIs in the developmental programs of the State in the Financial and Social sectors*
 7. *To encourage NRIs welfare activities*

7. The Committee will work under the administration control of DPAR. Necessary amendments would be made in the Karnataka (Business Allocation) Rules, 1977.
8. The Committee has the status of an autonomous institution; necessary annual grants would be provided. Separate order will be issued in respect of allocation of grant.

By order and in the name of
Governor of Karnataka
Sd/-

(S. Tippeswamy)

Under Secretary to Government,
DPAR (State Protocol)



Proceedings of the Government of Karnataka

Sub : Constitution of a High Level Departmental Monitoring Committee under NRI Policy of Karnataka.

Read : G.O. No. CI 207 SPI 2016, dated: 02.12.2016.

Preamble:

The Government of Karnataka has announced the NRI Policy of Karnataka read at above, which comprehensively looks into the welfare of the NRIs/NRKs and to encourage Kannadigas to upgrade their skills and take up overseas opportunities to meet the skilled manpower requirements abroad and also to play active role in bringing NRIs/NRKs who have excelled in their respective Countries of stay to contribute their might/knowledge etc. to India's / Karnataka's Development.

The Policy has stipulated that the State Government shall constitute a High Level Departmental Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, NRI Forum with ACS/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries of line departments, Regional Passport Officer, Resident Commissioner, Karnataka Bhavan, New Delhi to monitor the progress of implementation of all the provisions of the Policy regularly.

Hence, the following order:

Government Order No.CI 207 SPI 2016, Bengaluru, Dated: 20.12.2016

In the circumstances explained above, the Government is pleased to constitute a High Level Departmental Monitoring Committee under the Chairmanship of Deputy Chairman, NRI Forum with following composition.

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 1 Deputy Chairman, NRI Forum, Karnataka | Chairman |
| 2 Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Commerce & Industries Department | Member |
| 3 Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Finance Department | Member |
| 4 Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Home Department | Member |
| 5 Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Skill Development Department | Member |

6	Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Labour Department	Member
7	Principal Secretary to Government, IT/BT, S&T Department	Member
8	Principal Secretary to Government, DPAR (AR)	Member
9	Principal Secretary to Government, Kannada & Culture Department	Member
10	Principal Secretary to Government, Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department	Member
11	Principal Secretary to Government, Primary & Higher Education Department	Member
12	Secretary to Government, Tourism Department	Member
13	Regional Passport Officer, Bengaluru	Member
14	Resident Commissioner, Karnataka Bhavan, New Delhi	Member
15	Member Secretary, NRI Forum Karnataka	Member Secretary

2. Functions and responsibilities of the High Level Departmental Monitoring Committee:

- *The Committee would meet regularly once in three months to monitor the progress of implementation of all the provisions of the policy.*
- *This Committee will ensure timely issue of enabling Government Orders by various departments in relation to the policy.*
- *The Committee will recommend mid-course corrections, if any, for smooth implementation of the Policy.*

The NRI Forum with the help of reputed agencies will conduct research, undertake studies, surveys, etc to assess impact of policy initiatives and provide relevant feedback regarding the policy and its implementation.

By order and in the name of
Governor of Karnataka



(S.Umadevi)

Desk Officer (Technical Cell)
Commerce and Industries Department.



Proceedings of the Government of Karnataka

Sub : Constitution of a District Level NRIs/NRKs Welfare Committee under NRI Policy of Karnataka.

Read : G.O. No. CI 207 SPI 2016, dated: 02.12.2016.

Preamble:

The Government of Karnataka has announced the NRI Policy of Karnataka read at above, which comprehensively looks into the welfare of the NRIs/NRKs and to encourage Kannadigas to upgrade their skills and take up overseas opportunities to meet the skilled manpower requirements abroad and also to play active role in bringing NRIs/NRKs who have excelled in their respective Countries of stay to contribute their might/knowledge etc. to India's/Karnataka's Development.

The Policy has stipulated that the State Government shall constitute a District Level NRIs/NRKs Welfare Committee headed by the respective Deputy Commissioner with District Superintendent of Police, Assistant Commissioner/s & Tahsildar/s as members with Assistant Commissioner in respective District Head Quarters as the convener, to co-ordinate and support the State Level NRI Committee, which was constituted vide G.O. No. DPAR/68/Shi Sa Ne/2008, dated: 05.08.2008 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Hence, the following order:

Government Order No. CI 207 SPI 2016, Bengaluru, Dated: 20.12.2016

In the circumstances explained above, the Government is pleased to constitute a District Level NRIs/NRKs Welfare Committee under the Chairmanship of concerned Deputy Commissioner with following composition.

1	Deputy Commissioner, Concerned District	Chairman
2	Superintendent of Police, Concerned District	Member
3	Joint Director, DIC, Concerned District	Member
5	Assistant Commissioners, of all subdivisions of Concerned District	Member
4	Tahasildars of all Taluks, Concerned District	Member
6	Assistant Commissioner, Concerned District Subdivision	Member Convener

2. Functions and responsibilities of the District Level NRIs/NRKs Welfare Committee:

- *The District level Welfare Committee will co-ordinate and support the State Level NRI Committee in implementation of welfare measures of the NRI Policy.*
- *The Committee would meet regularly once in three months to review the implementation of all the provisions of the policy.*
- *The Committee will maintain a comprehensive database of NRIs/NRKs of the District.*
- *The committee will coordinate with NRI forum in facilitation of dovetailing of development schemes of the District including that of panchayaths and facilitate participation of NRIs/NRKs.*
- *The Committee will publicize, provide local help & assist the NRI/NRK family members of the district in case of any exigencies.*
- *The Committee will extend all possible assistance to NRIs/NRKs who relocate permanently to their mother land and facilitate help in change of residential status, taxation implication, Foreign Currency Non-Resident (FCNR) issues etc.*

By order and in the name of
Governor of Karnataka

S. Umadevi.

(S.Umadevi)

Desk Officer (Technical Cell)
Commerce and Industries Department.

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Government of Karnataka

NRI FORUM, KARNATAKA

ಅನಿವಾಸಿ ಭಾರತೀಯ ಸಮಿತಿ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ



Highlights of Policy Measures

- Non Resident Kannadiga (NRK) Card
- Creating a network of “Non–Resident Kannadigas”
- Encourage Kannada Kootas all over the world
- Promotion of Art, festivities & Culture of Karnataka,
- NRIs/ NRKs Entrepreneurs Guidance Cell
- Business Incubation Centre for NRKs
- Encouraging Cross border Entrepreneurship
- Facilitation of General Welfare issues of NRIs / NRKs
- NRIs/NRKs Support Service Centre
- Welfare services to Migrant workers & NRIs/NRKs returning home

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