



**KARNATAKA PARENTS' ASSOCIATION FOR
MENTALLY RETARDED CITIZENS (KPAMRC)**
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Registered Under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act 1960
Regn. No. 83/79-80 dated 26-5-1979

About KPAMRC:

If you are a parent of a child with Intellectual or developmental disability, if your child has one of the conditions such as mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy or multiple disability acquired from birth, if your child with one of these conditions and carries a social stigma and is socially and legally branded as lunatic and useless by society then what do you do, where do you go, whom do you consult and how do you find an answer to your harrowing worry and anxiety which constantly haunts you as to what will happen to your child when you are no more ?

With these multiple anxieties haunting their minds all the time and finding no answer to them, some enlightened parents with a positive attitude towards life themselves decided to take the initiative. They came together and formed an Association at the fag end of seventies of the last century, some 42 years ago. That is how the KPACIDD (Karnataka Parents Association of Citizens with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities - the recently changed name) or then named as KPAMRC was born.

Those parents who came together and formed the Association were convinced and confident of finding an answer to all their worries and anxieties as they did not believe that their children were lunatics or mad and firmly believed that if they are educated, trained, taught daily living skills and given an opportunity they could become contributing citizens and as part of the mainstream of society. With this belief they named their Association as Karnataka Parents' Association for Mentally Retarded CITIZENS (KPAMRC). The last word was added deliberately because the parents wanted their children also to be treated as CITIZENS like all others with the same civic and political rights.

These parents had ofcourse no illusions and were aware that they had to undertake a long tortuous journey with no short cuts with patience, courage and dedication. Looking back today after more than four decades there is certainly a hope on the horizon that they have achieved much and their ultimate goal is NOT too far.

During last four decades KPAMRC achieved following milestones :

- With the realisation of fulfilling the educational needs of their children with above disability, KPAMRC started a course to train special educators to take care of the basic minimum education of the PwIDDs. KPAMRC succeeded in its pioneering effort to start this course in the year 1979 - the year of its formation itself.
- While starting with the course for teaching children with mental retardation only, it went on adding courses in Specific Learning Disability(SLD) and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) when the need arose for it over the years.
- At one point it was also realised that there is need to train Caregivers for children with these disabilities. Therefore a short six months certificate course was also added more than a decade ago to the training programme being conducted by the organisation.
- During the last four decades KPAMRC has been able to create a manpower (Special Educators, Caregivers and others) of more than five thousand. These trained personnel are providing valuable services in many parts of the country and even abroad too to PwIDDs.
- Right from inception KPAMRC took it up as a mission to create and spread awareness about conditions of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities not only among the parents but the society at large through various means like organising seminars, workshops, bringing out publications and news letter and holding public campaigns.
- Similarly, counselling services for parents were started with advice and guidance being provided to them to seek help for the problems of their children. In this KPAMRC received immense help from number of doctors, reserchers and experts working in NIMHANS, Bangalore.
- Nearly half way through our journey, it was realised that while we have achieved some of our objectives substantially, we did not do anything to find answer to the question of parents : WHAT AFTER US ? With that realisation we conceived a project to provide a permanent residential care centre where the parents could leave their adult children when they become old and unable to look after them.
- In less than ten years time we completed this project of GROUP HOME REHABILITATION CENTRE (GHRC) and named it as VISHWASHANTI NIKETAN. It is now 14 years since we are running it with more than 50 residents, including 16 women with different kinds and levels of Intellectual and Developmental disabilities. The GHRC has a capacity to admit totally 70 people . We also have a staff of more than 20 people including caregivers, special educators, vocational trainers, cooks and others.

- We have recently built and added a large vocational centre where the residents of Group Home are being trained or working, a special school which can cater to the educational needs of children with IDD of surrounding rural area as day care students. We have also built an auditorium with a capacity to accommodate over 200 people for providing a facility for social functions.

- While creating GHRC, the residential facility, as a matter of policy, we took a conscious decision to provide quality service to the PwIDDs at affordable cost and our long term social objective as to provide free service to those who cannot afford it through sponsorship and donations etc.

- In order to achieve this we also decided to create a corpus fund, large enough to meet not only the increasing expenses but to provide and subsidise the expenses needed to fulfil our social objective without putting the burden on the parents.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31-3-2021

The Secretary then presented the report on proceedings of the 41ST AGM held on 27th December 2020 and the decisions taken therein for approval of the General Body which was unanimously approved.

01. In accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Karnataka Societies Registration Act 1960, I take pleasure in submitting to the General Body the report on the activities of the Association for the year ended 31-3-2021.
02. The 41st Virtual Annual General Body Meeting of the Association was held on 27th December 2020. As there was no quorum, with only 30 members being present, the meeting was adjourned and reconvened at 11.30 hours. The following business was transacted:
 - i) The Annual Report for the year ended 31-3-2020 was read out and explained by the Honorary Secretary, and unanimously accepted and approved by the General Body.
 - ii) The Audited Statements of Account for the year ended 31-3-2020 were read out and explained by the Treasurer, which were thereafter unanimously accepted and approved by the General Body.
 - iii) The General Body decided to appoint M/s. ITTA Raghunandan & Co., as the Auditor for the period from 01-04-2020 to 31-03-2021.
 - iv) The General Body then elected the following 12 Governing Council members who would hold office from 1-1-2021 to 31-12-2021.

MEMBERS:

1) Mr. Lakshminarayan 2) Mr. Mythili Srinivasan 3) Mrs. Padma Murthy 4) Prema Varadarajan 5) Radhakrishna 6) Mrs. Radha Desai 7) Mrs. Krishna Kumari Menon 8) Jyotsna Rao 9) Dr. Vasudha 10) Mrs. Veronica Mathias

The General Body also nominated following members as: 11) Mr. Vijay Kant and Mr. 12) Vivesekhar as coopted Members and Mr. Abhijit as self-advocate member of Governing Council.

The GC members will automatically retire from office on 31-12-2021 but be eligible for re-election during the 42nd General Body meeting to be held in 2021.

03. As on 31-3-2021 the number of Members in different categories are as follows: -

1)	Life Members	-	1029
2)	Donor Members	-	104
3)	Corporate Members	-	02
4)	Institutional Members	-	47
5)	Patron Members	-	01
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	TOTAL		1183
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--- It is to be noted that 2 new members joined KPAMRC during the financial year ending 31st March 2021 and till the time of reporting another 01 new members has joined during this year taking the total number of members 1184.

Thereafter the Secretary presented a report recounting the events starting with the year ending 31st March 2020 to 31st March 2021 before the GB. The highlights of his report were as follows:

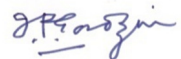
04. The year started on a gloomy note with the Government of India declaring a lockdown in March 2020 with the Corona wave hitting the country with cancellation of all public events which affected our planned programmes too including the remaining seminars/workshops for the months of March and April 2020 and the concluding function of the 40th Anniversary to be held on May 26, 2020.

05. With a strict month long lockdown in Bangalore too all activities of KPAMRC came to a standstill. The Admn. office was closed down, Teacher training classes were suspended, the monthly G C meeting was postponed, all construction activities at GHRC (the special school building and auditorium) came to a halt and all other ongoing programmes were kept on hold.

- Only a couple of months after the lockdown was lifted, we could think of ways and means to resume some of the activities mentioned above. Admn office started functioning partially, the teaching classes for diploma courses started functioning online, the monthly G C meetings were also conducted on line, we also held concluding brief function of 40th Anniversary of KPAMRC online. But we could not resume the construction activity at GHRC in absence of availability of labour till November 2020. While we could not conduct the function of Annual Mathias Memorial lecture, we conducted a small informal inhouse Annual Convocation for our diploma course students in the month of September 2020.

- Atlast the dark clouds started partially lifting with the dawn of the New Year (2021) and we could hold the first physical function of the year with inauguration ceremony of the newly completed Special school building and the multipurpose auditorium at our Group Home Rehabilitation Complex in Arshinkunte on 14th February 2021.
- But with coming of March the last month of FY 2020-21 the situation again took a bad turn with the Government declaring a lockdown. However, by now we had gained enough experience to deal and live with a situation like that and we continued our activities as much as possible.
- One very notable thing however must be mentioned here, which probably can stand out as an exception and perhaps a solitary example that we had taken a very conscious decision NOT to close down our GHRC and send the children home. We kept running the GHRC throughout with utmost care being taken of the residents and the staff working there with strict restrictions being imposed on outside visitors including the parents visiting their wards living there. I am very happy to report that there was NOT even a single Covid 19 case at our GHRC during this whole period.
- The Annual General Body meeting was virtually held on 27th December 2020 taking some important decisions including amending the present KPAMRC Constitution with required additions and deletions.

I now take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude and thanks to all our office-bearers and G.C. members and all members of the KPAMRC who actively participated in various activities of the organization. I express my deep gratitude on behalf of the association to the Medlock Charitable Trust of UK, who gave a very generous donation, Jeena, USA, Mr. Sreenath Narayana Murthy, M/S. ITTIAM SOLUTIONS Pvt. Ltd., M/s. Prestige Estate Projects Ltd., M/s. A R Rahman Foundation, Mr. J K Khanna, Prof. R T Krishnan, Dr. Deepa Nadiga, Mr. Rajeew Dhar, Mr. Shivrudru, Mr. Bidyut Mazumdar, Ms. Sharada Satrasal, Mr. Vikram Bhat, Ms. Nalina Srinivas, Mr. Vijay Menon, M/s. NDK Trust, Mr. Bala Venkatesh, Mr. Dinesh, Mr. P Ajanayalu, Mr. H M Manjunath Dr. Vasudha Theeratrarn, Mr. Jairam, Mr. D L Nataraj, Mr. Abhilash Menon and host of other individuals and organizations, parents and well wishers for extending continuous and unstinted support to KPAMRC and their generous contribution to the Group Home complex. Our special thanks to other institutions working in the area of intellectual and other developmental disabilities. We are thankful to our coordinators and teachers of training programme for their dedicated and committed services. Without the efficient and able functioning of KPAMRC staff and entire staff members at GHRC we would not have been able to complete many of our tasks. I convey my deep sense of appreciation to all of them.



J P GADKARI
Honorary Secretary

VARIOUS ACTIVITIES PHOTOGRAPHS









