

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KARNATAKA



Presents

THINK. CREATE.
ENGINEER
GOLDEN JUBILEE EDITION

October 29th – November 1st, 2009

Introducing its Golden Jubilee initiative to touch a few lives around .

SPARSH

SPARSH is a new initiative of **Engineer – Golden Jubilee Edition** which aims at developing a rural region linking it with a team of **NGOs** and **sponsors** realizing an economically feasible and sustainable idea. We will be accepting development proposals from students all across India. The selected teams will be invited to the institute during **Engineer** and taken for a visit to the region. **Engineer** will be the official launch of this initiative involving the representatives of the partnering NGOs and sponsoring organizations who will also be judging the best solutions proposed. The most feasible solution will be implemented in a specified period of time after **Engineer**.

REGION: MUNDA, DAKSHINA KANNADA, KARNATAKA, INDIA





MUNDA

The district Dakshina Kannada is situated on the western coast of India, about half way between Bombay and Cape Comorin. From North to South, it is a long narrow strip of territory and from east to west it is a broken low plateau, which spreads from the Western Ghats to the Arabian Sea. The major part of its length lies along the seaboard. The area is intersected by many rivers and streams and presents a varied and most picturesque scenery.

Dakshina Kannada (Erstwhile South Canara) is the southern coastal district of Karnataka State with an area of 4866 sq. KM. The district lies between 12 57' and 13 50' North Latitude and 74 and 75 50' East Longitude. It is about 177 kms, in length and 40 kms in breadth at its narrowest and about 80 kms at its widest part. It has a population of 18,97,730*.

The district spreading from the Western Ghats towards the Arabian Sea to the west, is bounded by Udupi district in the North, Shimoga, Chickmagalur and Hassan districts in the East, Kasaragod taluk of Kerala state and Coorg districts in the south and Arabian Sea in the west.

The district can be divided into 3 belts, the coastal strip, the middle belt and the Western ghat section. An interesting feature of the coastal strip and the middle belt is that, it is not a plain but a series of estuarine low lands separated by numerous hill ranges projecting the Western Ghats. The coastal tract is the most thickly populated part of the district, as it is fertile and trading facilities. The middle belt consists of hills and dales and forms into an undulating terrain. The valleys are fertile and boast of several gardens of arecanut and coconut, and paddy fields, which are the main crops of the district. The Western Ghats form the eastern boundary of the district consisting of evergreen forests with patches of paddy fields and arecanut gardens scattered here and there surrounded by forests.

The climate of the district shares the wider climatic pattern of the other West Coast districts of India. It is characterized by excessive humidity(78%) during the greater part of the year. There are four seasons viz., 1) Four wet months of June, July, August and September, when the district encounters strong winds, high humidity, heavy showers and a slight fall in temperature. 2) Two warm and damp months of October and November when south west monsoon is retreating. 3) Three cool months of December, January and February when generally dry conditions prevail and 4) Three hot months of March, April and May which is the period of rising temperature. Climate in the district is generally equable. However, it is colder in the interior than in the coast.

The important rivers of Dakshina Kannada District are Suvarnanadi, Shambavi (Mulki), Gurgur River, Nethravathi, Pavanje, Nandini besides there there are many other rivers with perennial flow of water and a number of streams, all running from east to west.

The district can be divided into two agro-climatic regions as coastal region and Malnad region. The coastal region consists of Mangalore and the Malnad region consists of Belthangady, Puttur, Sullia and Buntwal taluks.

Mangalore Refinery
and Petrochemicals
Limited

A Socio-Economic Study of Munda Village

Location: Munda is a small village situated on the coastal strip of South Canara facing the Arabian Sea. It is 15 km from Surathkal, on the way to Udupi. The nearest cities to this place are Mangalore (35 km) and Udupi (45 km). The village is very close to NH 17 and is connected by bus.

Infrastructure: The village is mainly inhabited by fishermen. Till recently, that is, 13 years back, the villagers did not have a protective haven. Then 40 two-room cement houses were built at a cost of nearly Rs.20000 each. 20 of these houses were contributed by the Fisheries Department and the rest were constructed under the government scheme of "Ashraya Yojana". Apart from these, there are 15 other small houses. The population of the region is approximately 270. The houses are now dilapidated and the major problems that are faced by these houses are weak ceilings that leak water and the lack of toilets. While it has become very difficult for the people to live in these houses during the rainy season {mid-May – September}, all appeals to the government in this regard have fallen on deaf ears.

Water: Some of the houses have wells which are perennially filled, but the water is saline in the months of February, March, April & May. The salinity decreases only after a heavy rainfall. Some houses are provided with water pipelines which are connected to the bore-wells of a nearby village located at a distance from the sea. But these pipes often remain dry as there are very few bore-wells and the fresh water inflow is very low. Also, such a facility is a luxury to many because of the meagre income of the majority.

Occupation: Fishing is the main occupation of the region. While the village men catch the fish, the women sell it. Fishing is carried out only from September to April. During the other 4 months, fishing is prohibited in these regions due to the heavy rains. Hence, the people live on the profits earned during the other months or are forced to take loans from the local Self Help Groups that they are members of. There are a sea-food processing factories in the nearby bigger village, but except for a few varieties of fish, this do not buy the fish caught by the Munda fishermen. Thus, their sale is limited to the local fish markets. They are eager to learn new skills to carry out other occupations during off-seasons. Some people are involved in beedi-works and a few others are cheap labourers. Due to their poor knowledge of technology and lack of monetary resources, they have not adopted the modern techniques of fishing.

Other Information: All houses have firewood as a source of fuel as LPG is an unaffordable luxury. The noble gesture by a private organization has made medical cards available to the villagers and they can avail medical facilities at a very low cost. Children of the region go to nearby government schools and colleges. But most adults of the village are not educated.

Clockwise: A house stands neglected due to the roof that leaks water during rainy seasons, The thatched roof house, The well found in some houses, A house that requires immediate repair, The broken roof of one of the houses, The sewage drains out to the open area in front of the house.



We invite you on board with us to make a real impact in Munda.

- **The total budget for implementation is estimated to be INR 200,000.**
- **Organizations sponsoring more than INR 100,000 will be considered as the platinum sponsor, more than INR 50,000 as the gold sponsor and any amount less than INR 50,000 as co-sponsors.**
- **The extent of development activities will depend on the total sponsorship amount.**
- **The partnering NGOs will be responsible for the effective implementation of the proposed solutions.**
- **Team Engineer from National Institute of Technology Karnataka will play a responsible role in initiating the whole process and ensuring its smooth completion.**
- **Team Engineer ensures nation-wide media publicity for the partnering and sponsoring organizations.**

Best Regards,

Gautham Krishnadas

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Engineer Golden Jubilee Edition

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