

Executive summary of Minor Research Project

Name of the Principal Investigator : Ms Shobha

Title of Research Project : Road Infrastructure in the development of an economy – A case study of Mangalore City

UGC Reference No. : MRP (H)-0817/13-14/KAMA002/UGC-SWRO dated 28-03-2014

An executive summary of the final report of work done on the minor research project of Ms. Shobha entitled, “Road infrastructure in the development of an economy – A case study of Mangalore city”., vide UGC letter number MRP(H)-0817/13-14/KAMA002/UGC-SWRO dated 28 March 2014.

The main goal of the paper is to highlight the effects of road infrastructure development on the economic growth and competitiveness of Indian economy by taking reference of a small city of Mangalore. It is the density and the quality of the road infrastructure which primarily determine the competitiveness of the country. Infrastructure is the base on which all economic activities of the country depend. The government is spending thousands of crores of rupees every year to create this infrastructure where it does not exist or is not fully functional. It has also established adequate systems for their maintenance and upkeep so that it remains efficient.

The study has been conducted in the city of Mangalore. There is a sample of 100 respondents for the study. Structured questionnaires were distributed to the men and women respondents who are of 18 years age and above. Respondents with different employment background were selected. Respondents were consisting of businessmen, auto rickshaw drivers, teachers, students, traffic policemen, garage owners. Data was collected from various government officials i.e., Mangalore Urban Development Authority (MUDA), Regional Transport Office and Mangalore City Corporation. Development in road infrastructure over the period of past 10 years (2005-2015) was studied, by splitting the total period of ten years into two time periods as to before 2010 and after the year 2010.

This study reveals the satisfaction level of citizens of Mangalore towards the road infrastructure existing in the city. The respondents feel that in overall the road infrastructure in the city is above average. Most of the employees are of the view that government must respond to the grievances of citizens of the city in less span of time which is lacking in the city, therefore respondents are unhappy about the governmental support. Respondents are not happy with the general maintenance of the road infrastructure. Under the comparative study of two different time periods, this study reveals that there is lot of development in most of the facilities offered in road such as footpaths, zebra crossing, traffic signals, road markers, hump alert signals, light signals at night, reflectors, control of transport vehicles and speed and efficiency of the authorities, but certain facilities are ranked very low namely which are namely parking space, drainage system and CCTV. With regard to the preference of facilities offered inside the bus stand the study shows that shows that the facilities like cleanliness, public toilets, drinking water and lighting facilities are given more preference by the respondents compare to the other facilities like route display, CCTV, spacious and Separate Queue for Men & Women.

This study is limited to only Mangalore city. The city is also a developed one as compared to many other cities in the state. There is a wide scope for further research in this area such as comparative study of various cities in the state can be possible. Public investment in the area of road infrastructure can be studied.

Date: 15 – 03 – 2016

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