Training on

Data Analysis for Governance

(Report)

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Introduction

The volume of data in the world is increasing exponentially. Data is becoming a vital part of decision-making. Today, in the private sector, analysis of big data is commonly used to extract insights for decision making and to gain competitive advantage and risk mitigation. Some of the applications include risk profiling, sales forecasting, fraud detection, stock market prediction and the list goes on. Similarly, data Science can find ample application in government. It can help in extracting useful information and knowledge from large volumes of data in order to improve government decision-making or provide the insights to make data-driven decisions.

In recent years, there is a growing awareness that data science can provide new sources of evidence for policy-making. However, there is still a dearth of digitised and disaggregated data. The importance of data analytics in the field of governance or public administration can be categorised broadly into 4 areas.

Evidence-based decision making: Data Analytics acts as the supporting basis for decisions as it enables policy decisions based on or informed by objective facts rather than ideologies, perceptions or common sense.

Resource optimisation: Resource optimization is the set of processes and methods to match the available resources (human, machinery, financial) with the needs. It can be used while allocating resources in the various sectors of the government such as health, education, agriculture etc.

Measuring governance: The availability of statistical data helps in measuring the performance of the government in various aspects of governance. Key Performance Indicators (KPI) are a set of quantifiable measures that can be defined to measure its performance over time.

Effective Policy implementation: Data Analytics allows for better prediction of social, economic, environmental, cultural and other phenomena and improves causal inference. This helps the government to design better policies.

India has been one of the fastest-growing economies in the world for more than two decades. However, his growth has been unequal with the top 1% of earners receiving 22% of income and the top 10% earners accounting for 56%. It continues to fare poorly in human development indicators such as malnutrition, learning outcomes, maternal mortality, infant mortality, etc. The application of data science can help determine the factors impacting human development and recommend specific interventions for improvement. Data science can also be applied to monitor India's progress in achieving sustainable goals.

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Objectives of the Training

The specific objectives of the data training workshop explored the concepts of data and data science and their importance in policymaking and governance.

- Enhanced the participants' understanding of data and different types of data
- Provided a comprehensive understanding of the data science process
- Explored case studies to elucidate the potential application of data science for governance and policymaking.

Structure of the Programme and Methodology

The structure of the programme was designed to introduce the participants to the application of data science in the field of for governance and policy making.

- An overview of data science applications and its potential in the field of governance with emphasis on the Indian context
- Data and its types
 - Qualitative and Quantitative data
 - Structured, Semi-Structured and Unstructured data
 - o Meta data
 - o Big data
- Data Science and Data Science Process
 - Framing Problem
 - Identifying Research Questions
 - Developing Conceptual and Data framework
 - Data Collection
 - Data Preparation
 - Exploratory Data Analysis
 - Models and Algorithms
 - Reporting
- Case Studies
 - Public Affairs Index
 - Multi-Dimensional Poverty Index
- The methodology included
 - Theoretical presentations of the concepts

Instructor-led exercises on the data science methods

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Participants

The participants included Senior Manager, Deputy Manager, AGM, Accounts Manager, Systems Engineer, Supervisors from KSRTC, KSIIDC, KSBCL, KSFC, etc. The detailed list is given in the annexure.

Activities

The activities included the following instructor-led group activities.

- Identifying qualitative and quantitative data
 The participants were given an exercise to identify quantitative and
 qualitative data from a data set consisting of 10 variables.
- Identifying structured, semi-structured and unstructured data
 The participants were presented different documents with numbers, text, audio, images, html tags, etc, and made to classify the documents as containing structured, semi-structured and unstructured data.
- Calculation of mean, median, mode and standard deviation
 The participants were given a dataset containing details of Sachin
 Tendulkar's performance in one-day matches. The participants were made
 to identify and apply univariate analysis to answer the following questions.
 - What is the average batting score of Sachin Tendulkar?
 - Which batting position has Tendulkar batted the most?
 - o Graphically illustrate Tendulkar's different modes of dismissals

Another dataset containing employee details from a job portal was given and the participants were again asked to apply univariate analysis for the following question.

o What is the median Annual Salary?

Correlation analysis

The participants were given a dataset containing fuel consumption and 10 aspects of automobile design and performance for 32 automobiles. They were asked to establish association using both correlation technique and scatter plot for the following variables

- o Fuel Consumption (defined as miles per gallon) vs weight of the car
- o Fuel Consumption (defined as miles per gallon) vs horse power
- $_{\odot}\;$ Fuel Consumption (defined as miles per gallon) vs number of cylinders Linear regression

Using the same car dataset mentioned above, the instructor showed the application of linear regression to determine the impact of various factors on Fuel Consumption.

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Case Studies

Case Study 1

Public Affairs Index

The participants of the training were introduced to the methodology followed to create the Public Affairs Index 2021 (PAI 2021). The participants were walked through the ideation of indicators, preparation of data and the basics of Principal Component Analysis (PCA) technique of dimensionality reduction."

Case Study 2

Multidimensional Poverty Index

The participants of the training were introduced to the concept of multiple, competing and simultaneously existing poverties and briefed about the methodology to capture the same in the form of the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) developed by Alkire-Foster and endorsed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2010. The calculations within the methodology were elaborately discussed. Further, a demonstrative example of an MPI analysis conducted by PAC-CODR was shared."

Questions and Answers

1. How to use data science in the field of accounts, especially in budgeting and daily transactions.

The budgets are usually prepared by evaluating the results of the current year. Data science enables a more scientific preparation by analysing the trends of multiple years that help account for shocks, surprises, etc.

Data science helps uncover valuable insights within the transactions.

2. When to use mean, median, and mode?

Mean is the most commonly used measure of central tendency. It is used when the variables are numeric. If the numeric variable contains extreme values, median is preferred while mode is mainly used for categorical variables.

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Annexures

Annexure 1: List of Participants

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES INFORMATION OF PARTICIPANTS FOR ONLINE TRAINING

SUBJECT		Data Analytics for	Governance						
	ME OF STITUTE	Public Affairs Foundation, Bangalore(PAF)							
	TE OF AINING	10/01/2022 - 11/01/2022							
SI No	Name Mr/Mrs	Designation	e-mail ID	Mobile Number	Day 1	Day 2	Comments from Trainer	Name of PSE	
1	P.S.Nandisha	DGM- Non Technical	nandi9creative@gmail.com	9448290616	Р	Р	No Comments	MCA	
2	Nagappa H.Kittur	Manager-CSD	nagarajkittur69@gmail.com	9448290613	Р	Р	No Comments		
3	R.Rangawamy	A/c Officer- Finance	md@kavika.co.in	7019880169	Р	Р	No Comments	KAVIKA	
4	Surjith	Manager	surjith046@gmail.com	9945298240	Р	Р	No Comments	KFDC	
5	C.Vidyananda	GM(M&C)	mktg.kssc@gmail.com	9448990385	Р	Р	No Comments	KSSC	
6	Nagabhushana N	Manager (A/c) I/c	abhushan07@gmail.com	9535321007	Р	Р	No Comments	MPVL	
7	Mahaboobi A Badekan	Manager	mahaboobi@rediffmail.com	9448287546	Р	Р	No Comments	RGHCL	
8	Shruthi.S	Development Officer	md.dbcdc@gmail.com	7795119577	Р	Р	No Comments	DBCDC	
9	Shwetha.S	Development Officer	dmchamarajnagar@gmail.com	9986562851	Р	Р	No Comments		
10	M. Kiran kumar	Computer Programmer	md.dbcdc@gmail.com	9964111915	Р	Р	No Comments		
11	Ganesh Kundar	AEE(Ele)	sepmescom@rediffmail.com	9448289539	Р	Р	No Comments	MESCOM	
12	Sanjeev Ranagatti	AE(Ele)	aeeit1@mesco.in	9480841361	Р	Р	No Comments		

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13	Rajendra	System Engineer	info.kmdc@gmail.com	8123277463	Р	Р	No Comments	KMDC
14	B K Praksah	EE(M)	nodalofficerkerp@gmail.com	7892554837	Р	Р	No Comments	KPCL
15	Ganesh pondve	AEE(Sys)	pandave.ganesh@gmail.com	9972292420	Р	Р	No Comments	
16	M.R.Munji	CSM	csm.nwkrtc@karnataka.gov.in	7760991519	Р	Р	No Comments	
17	Ismail S Navalagunda	Statistical Officer	cpso.nwkrtc@karnataka.gov.in	7760982550	Р	Р	No Comments	NWKRTC
18	Sathisha Kadannavara	Asst Statistical Officer	incharaksrtc@gmail.com	7760991905	Р	Р	No Comments	
19	Siddappa G	DC	dcklb1.nekrtc@karnataka.gov.in	7760992014	Р	Р	No Comments	KKRTC
20	R V Puranik	Dy.CME	cme.nekrtc@karnataka.gov.in	7760992010	Р	Р	No Comments	
21	Sathyanarayana	Sr.Manager	sathyanarayanadg@rediffmail.com	9449728415	Р	Р	Active	KSFC
22	Srinivasa P C	Sr.Manager	srinivas1871965@gmail.com	9448155768	Р	Р	Active	
23	Shivakumar S	Manager	sugurskr@gmail.com	9449138641	Р	Р	No Comments	
24	Sathyanarayana	Dy.Manager	sathyakksfc@yahoo.com	9880434320	Р	Р	No Comments	
25	Gopala	Asst.Manager	gopalkunder@yahoo.co.in	9731877517	Р	Р	No Comments	
26	Dakshina Murthy	AGM	murthy.ksiidc@gmail.com	9845833566	Р	Р	Active	KSIIDC
27	Chandrashekar Chorgi	DGM	cschoragi1962@gmail.com	9845478279	Р	Р	No Comments	KSMCL
28	Yogarajaiah S	Asst.Manager	yogarajaiah1962@gmail.com	9980106233	Р	Р	No Comments	
29	Daksha Uthappa	IT consultant	it@kstdc.com	9980970906	Р	Р	Active	KSTDC
30	Maksood Desai	Supervisor	syscomdesai@ksbcl.com	9448994005	Р	Р	Active	KSBCL
31	M Anand	Dy Eng-CAMS	camsngef@yahoo.com	9483674897	Р	Р	No Comments	NGEF
32	Girish Purantar	Dy.Manager(Mktg)	mktngef@yahoo.co.in	9483674900	Р	Р	No Comments	
33	Manjunath Hansbhavi	Asst Eng-MPS	mpsnger@yahoo.co.in	9738652175	Р	Р	No Comments	
34	Anthony Maria Emannuel M	M.D.	tame1972@gmail.com	9448412935	Р	Р	No Comments	KSPAML
35	Mallappa B	A.O.	mdktamlglb@gmail.com	9902951960	Р	Р	No Comments	

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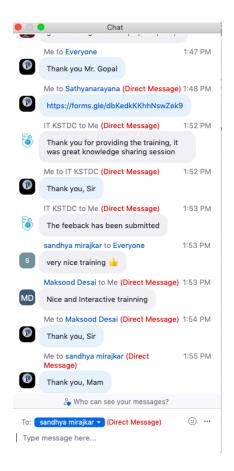
36	N. Chandrashekar	Dy.Manager	ncs.n36@gmail.com	9481094407	Р	Р	No Comments	Lidkar
37	H.M.Shankaraiah	Dy.Manager	shankaraiahhm@gmail.com	9845397282	Р	Р	No Comments	MSIL
38	B. Krishnamurthy	Dy.Manager	kmurthy1246@yahoo.com	9480812960	Р	Р	No Comments	
39	Lokesh	Dy. Manager (Met)	lokeshhgml@gmail.com	9902814070	Р	Р	Active	HGMCL
40	G.Suresh	Jr. Engineer (Mining)	suresh.gopala@ka.gov.in	9986633328	Р	Р	No Comments	
41	T.S. Manjunath	Dy. Manager (Mining)	manjunath.ts@ka.gov.in	9986253936	Р	Р	No Comments	
42	Sandhya C. Mirajkar	AEE(Ele)	sandhyamrajkar83@gmail.com	9535990013	Р	Р	Active	KPTCL
43	Pushpavath G.K.	AE(Ele)	pushpa.suraj482@gmail.com	9743020866	Р	Р	Active	
44	Azeemuddin	Assistant	azeem.mrb@gmail.com	9739497786	Р	Р	No Comments	
45	Vajrakumar T	Jr.Eng(El)	vajrakumart1111@gmail.com	9448275982	Р	Р	No Comments	
46	H.R.Puneeth Kumar	Jr.Eng(El)	puneethmandya@gmail.com	9743802424	Р	Р	No Comments	
47	Sadhana V	Asst.System Manager	asmit2@ksrtc.org	7760282624	Р	Р	No Comments	KSRTC
48	Neetha	Supervisors	neethajs.11@gmail.com	7760557990	Р	Р	Active	
49	Sadanand	Supervisors	sadha.ks56@gmail.com	8095268274	Р	Р	No Comments	
50	Rajeshwari	Supervisors	itmysr@ksrtc.org	8105874597	Р	Р	Active	
51	Karunakar	Supervisors	itrmn@ksrtc.org	9738385938	Р	Р	Active	

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Annexure 2: Snapshots





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Conceptualised & Designed by

Public Affairs Foundation

#15, KIADB Industrial Area, Jigani-Bommasandra Link Road, Jigani Post, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore - 560105, Karnataka, India

Telefax: +918027839918/19/20 **Website:** <u>www.pafglobal.org</u>