



Centre for Communication and Development Studies



Annual Report
2015-2016



Major Activities (2015–16)

Research on Digital Inequality in Urban India

In this financial year, CCDS completed and published its study on Barriers to Internet Access for Economically- and Socially-Marginalised Urban Populations.

Urban poverty and digital inequality have been CCDS's subject of research since 2013. The digital have-nots are often those who are already disadvantaged along the traditional axes of inequality. They include the poor who do not have the economic capital to buy the infrastructure required to log on to the internet; those who do not have the social capital – including education and ICT skills – to use computers and the internet; and those who do not have the freedom or autonomy to use digital technologies – such as women. Digital inequality ends up reinforcing existing social inequalities, and therefore constitutes a major social inclusion and public policy issue.

CCDS's study is the first to provide comprehensive data on access to internet for the urban poor, the quality of internet services available to them, as well as their patterns and purposes of use. CCDS's study was conducted in the fast-expanding Pune urban agglomeration. The data point to digitally divided cities, with deep divides along the lines of gender, age, wealth, occupation and education. The large majority of internet users in 2014, when fieldwork was conducted, were young males in the 18-35 age-group. Only 40% of women owned a mobile phone, compared to 79% of men. Fewer women than men could use a computer. However, the biggest barrier for women was the absence of agency and autonomy in going online, either on their own or family member's device, or at public access points like cybercafes.

While infrastructure and economic constraints proved to be major barriers to access in the resource-poor localities surveyed, lack of ICT skills keeps a big section of the study population away from the digital world. We found that households where at least one family member had learnt how to use a computer were four times more likely to be connected than households where no member used a computer.

The CCDS study constitutes a reality check on the digital 'revolution' that is being celebrated in India. It points to the enormity of the task of digital inclusion if ambitious programmes such as Digital India are to benefit all citizens, not just the broadband elites. It illustrates that digital equality is not just about getting people connected to the internet. It is about ensuring that everyone has equal opportunity to access high-speed and affordable internet services, as well as the media/digital literacy to use the technology to the fullest.

Our study highlighted that, regardless of the congested and unhygienic environments in which the study populations live, regardless of their economic and educational constraints, poor housing and absence of digital infrastructure, digital communication is very important to respondents. Ninety-seven percent of the households studied had a mobile phone; an overwhelming 80% of users and 78% of non-users said that the internet was as basic a necessity as electricity. There is a strong aspiration to go online and be part of the digital society.

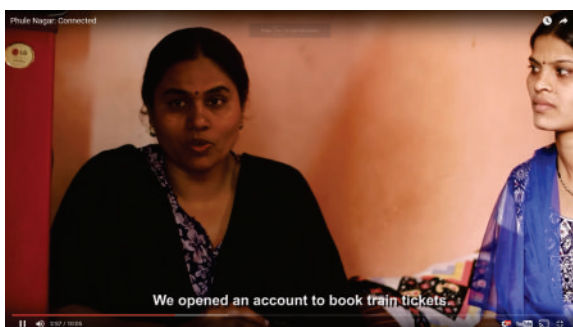
Communications & Documentation

Several short films on the purpose and patterns of internet use by low-income urban populations were made in the course of the year, including:

Real Net Natives, on the virtual world of young male users of the internet in and around low-income areas of the city. The film illustrates how caste, income, educational and occupational barriers can be transcended online, and the distance between genders bridged.

Phule Nagar: Connected, a documentation of the ways in which the free WiFi project initiated at Mahatma Phule Nagar, Bhosari, was changing the lives of residents. CCDS was the research partner in this pilot project,

arguably the first in India to provide free WiFi to an entire settlement of over 1,200 households for a sustained period of 18 months. The project was managed by a consortium of partners, including Telxess, Delhi, as the implementing agency, Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation as the facilitating partner, CCDS as the research partner, and Ford Foundation as the funding partner. A full-fledged computer and internet literacy centre functioned within the low-income settlement throughout the project period, enabling residents to make best use of the WiFi facilities. The major beneficiaries of the computer literacy centre were women and children.



Democratic Governance (ISDG)

The Institute for Sustainable Development and Governance's Kerala Budget Watch (KBW) initiative has pioneered analysis of the Kerala state budget, making budget-tracking an important way for citizens to strengthen the transparency, accountability and effectiveness of democratic governance at various levels. ISDG's main initiatives for budget research and advocacy in 2015-16 were:

a. Enabling participation by institutionalising pre-budget consultation: Kerala is one of the few states where civil society budget consultations are now an obligatory part of the budget process. It is through the concerted advocacy efforts of ISDG that the Government of Kerala and the finance minister took this policy decision.

b. Promoting transparency in the budgeting process: The Government of Kerala has put the entire budget online and made regular summaries of expenditure patterns available through the web portal Planspace. This was in response to advocacy and a charter of demands by ISDG.

c. Promoting transparency of local self-governments: As part of the local self-government transparency & accountability initiative, 11 sets of information, including salary, members of panchayat, budget allocations, local planning and list of beneficiaries, are now available in Kadampanad Gram Panchayat. This model is being replicated in other panchayats.

d. Advocacy for inclusive governance: The Government of Kerala increased allocations for the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) and special programmes for farmers, women and fisherfolk following advocacy efforts of civil society organisations under the auspices of SABAN (Social Accountability and Budget Analysis Network). ISDG serves as the secretariat for SABAN. Kerala Budget Watch helped to analyse the TSP and SCSCP (Scheduled Caste Sub Plan) and identify the gap between outlays and outcomes. Further, based on the charter of demands by ISDG, the Government of Kerala sanctioned Rs 6 crore for acquiring three marine ambulances. This was a long-standing demand of the fisherfolk in the coastal regions.



CCDS Board

John Samuel, Managing Trustee: John has 25 years of experience in strengthening democratic governance, public policy advocacy and sustainable development in India and internationally. He has headed the Global Programme on Governance Assessments, and been Global Democratic Governance Adviser at UNDP Headquarters, New York, and the UNDP Oslo Governance Centre. He is the former International Director of ActionAid, and Executive Director of the National Centre for Advocacy Studies.

Sandhya Srinivasan, Trustee: Sandhya is a senior researcher and writer on public health and medical ethics. She has a bachelor's degree in philosophy (Bryn Mawr College, USA) and master's degrees in sociology (University of Bombay) and public health (Columbia University, USA). She was Executive Editor of the *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics* from 1998 to 2011 and is currently consulting editor of the journal. In 2002–03, she was an Ashoka Fellow for her work in medical ethics.

Mari Marcel Thekaekara, Trustee: Mari is founder-associate director of ACCORD, an organisation that works on the land rights, health, education and culture

of the tribals of Gudalur, Tamil Nadu. She researches and writes on issues related to social exclusion. She is the author of *Endless Filth*, a book on the *safai kamdars* of Gujarat, published by Books for Change.

Dr Manisha Gupte, Trustee: Manisha is a researcher and activist for women's rights, health rights and civil rights since the mid-1970s. She has been the co-founder and co-convenor of MASUM, a rural women's organisation, since 1987. She has an MSc in microbiology and a PhD in sociology. Manisha spent one year in the Department of International Health at the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, as a visiting fellow. She is actively associated with pro-people and progressive organisations nationally, regionally and internationally. She has also worked on policy issues with state and central governments in India over the past two decades.

Hutokshi Doctor, Trustee and Director: Hutokshi has over three decades of experience in media and communications. She held senior editorial positions at leading Indian publications before deciding to focus on communications for social change. She co-founded CCDS in 2002, and has headed the organisation since.

Team

CCDS, Pune

- Hutokshi Doctor, Director
- KC Dwarkanath, Finance Director
- Dr Anjula Srivastava, Senior Research Associate
- Vinita Datye, Research Associate
- Tejal Mahashabde, Research Associate
- Sawan Kumar Somwanshi, Researcher
- Balram Khandare, Admin and Technical Coordinator
- Vishnu Walje, Office Assistant

ISDG, Thiruvananthapuram

- John Samuel, President
- Dr Abraham George, Director
- Dr Madhusoodhanan, Senior Fellow
- Dr Cyriac Mathews, Senior Fellow
- Anton Babu, Programme Coordinator
- Mini John, Management Coordinator
- Jobin Thomas, Advocacy Coordinator
- Pradeep Panangad, Advocacy Consultant
- Sunil Kumar J, Communications Associate
- Deepak John, Research Trainee
- Rajalekshmi RV, Admin and Accounts Assistant
- Sarojam, Office Assistant

Financial statements (2015-2016)

THE BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUST, ACT, 1950
SCHEDULE VIII (VIDE RULE 17 (1))
Name of the Public Trust : CENTRE FOR COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31st MARCH 2016

REG.NO. E - 3657 [PUNE]

FUND & LIABILITIES	Sch.	AMOUNT (Rs)	PROPERTY & ASSETS	Sch.	AMOUNT (Rs)
Trust Funds or Corpus -		NIL	Immovable Properties - (At cost) -		NIL
Balance as per last Balance Sheet			Balance as per last Balance Sheet		
Adjustment during the year (give Details)		-	Additions during year		
			Less:- Sales during the year		
			Depreciation up to date		
Other Earmarked Funds -			Capital Work in Progress		
(Created under the provisions of the trust			Investment -		-
deed) or scheme out of the income			Note :- the market value of the		
(Capital Expenditure) Utilised A/c			above investment is Rs.		
Ford Foundation	A	1,284,765	Furniture & Fixtures		
ICICI TDC grant	A	481,265	Balance as per last B/S	D	6,67,175
NFI	A	186,640			
Depreciation Funds			Addition during the year		69,240
Sinking Funds			Less:- Sales during the year		4689
Reserve Funds			Depreciation		2,01,563
Any Other Funds			Loans (Secured or Unsecured		
			Good/ Doubtful.)		530,165
Loans (Secured or Unsecured)		NIL	Loans Scholarship		NIL
From Trustees			Other Loans		NIL
From Others			Advances -		NIL
			To Trustees		
Liabilities -			To Employees		
Unutilized Grant in aid	B	348,346	To Contractors		
For Expenses			To Lawyers		
For Advances			To Other	E1	145,000
For Rent and other deposits			Income Outstanding -		NIL
For Sundry Credit Balances	C	138,408	Rent		
			Interest		
Income and Expenditure Accounts -			Other Income		
Balance as per last B / S : 44,30,347			Interest		
Less :- Appropriation if any			Other Income		
Add :- Surplus as per I & E.A/c. : 6,65,763					
Less:- Deficit as per I & E.A/c.		5,096,110	Cash and Bank Balance -		
			Cash in Hand		
			a) In Savings Account	E	1,181,044
			In Fixed Deposit Account With BOM	E-2	5,679,325
			b) With the Trustees		
			c) With the Manager		
			Income and Expenditure Account -		NIL
			Less :- Appropriation if any		
			Less :- Surplus as per I & E A/c.		
			Add:- Deficit as per I & E A/c.		
TOTAL		7,535,534	TOTAL		7,535,534

As per our report of even date

For R C V & Associates
Chartered Accountants
FRN No. 127011W

CA Chandran Pöduval
Partner
M.No. 046387
Place : Pune
Date

08 AUG 2016



The above Balance sheet to the best of my/ our
belief contains a true account of the Funds and
Liabilities and of the property, assets of the trust

Date

Trustee

08 AUG 2016



Financial statements (2015–2016)

THE BOMBAY PUBLIC TRUST, ACT, 1950

REG.NO . E - 3657 [PUNE]

SCHEDULE VIII (VIDE RULE 17 (1))

Name of the Public Trust : CENTRE FOR COMMUNICATION AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31.3.2016

EXPENDITURE	Sch.	AMOUNT (Rs)	INCOME	Sch.	AMOUNT (Rs)
To Expenditure in respect of properties		NIL	By Rents Accrued / Realised *		NIL
Rates, Taxes, Cesses			By Interest Accrued / Realised *		
Repairs and Maintenance			On Securities		NIL
Salaries			On Loans		NIL
Insurance			On Bank Account	I	618,935
Depreciation (By way of provision of adjustment)					
Other Expenses			By Dividend		NIL
To Establishment Expenses		NIL	By Donations in cash or kind		NIL
To Remuneration to Trustees		NIL	By Grants (Transfer)	B	6,529,792
To Remuneration (in the case of math) to the head of the math, including his houses - hold expenditure, if any		NIL	By Income from other sources (In details as far as possible)	H	1,012,378
To Legal Expenses		NIL			
To Audit Fees		NIL			
To Contribution and Fees		NIL			
To Amount Written of		NIL			
a) Bad Debts			By Transfer from Reserve		NIL
b) Loan Scholarship					
c) Irrecoverable Rents					
d) Other Items					
To Miscellaneous Expenses	G	101,523			
To Depreciation	D	201,563			
To Amounts transferred to Reserve or Specific Funds		NIL			
To Expenditure on objects of the Trust					
a) Religious					
b) Educational	F	7,192,256			
c) Medical Relief					
d) Relief of poverty					
e) Other charitable objects					
To Surplus carried over to Balance Sheet		665,763	By Deficit carried over to Balance Sheet		-
TOTAL		8,161,105	TOTAL		8,161,105

As per our report of even date

For R C V & Associates

Chartered Accountants

FRN No. 127011W



CA Chandran Poduval

Partner

M.No. 046387

Place : Pune

Date

08 AUG 2016

Date

Trustee

08 AUG 2016





About CCDS

The Centre for Communication and Development Studies (CCDS) builds knowledge resources for social change and creates open spaces where knowledge and information for social change can be shared with citizens.

CCDS is a public trust, registered with the Charity Commissioner, Pune, Maharashtra (Registration No E 3657, Pune) in 2002.

CCDS has 15 years of experience in research and strategic communications on issues related to social justice, sustainable development, pluralism and accountable governance.

We took an early lead in the creation of open-access knowledge resources for the social sector in India. Our resource base Infochangeindia.org went online in 2001, featuring original reportage and analysis by a credible network of over 400 journalists, academics, activists and researchers. Infochange took information for social change out of the seminar rooms and to students, researchers, policymakers, members of marginalised communities and concerned citizens. Infochange has also informed scores of campaigns, advocacy movements and development organisations. We have published 28 volumes of reportage and perspective on critical social issues in our theme-based dossier *Infochange Agenda* (available at Infochangeindia.org).

Infochangeindia.org won the Manthan Award for best e-content for development, and has been selected by the Maharashtra government as a leading innovation in development media and communications.

CCDS also pioneered Open Space, a forum for dialogue, expression and social action, particularly for young adults. Open Space encourages youth to explore and engage with issues related to pluralism and human rights, reaching out to them through literature, cinema, music, theatre, workshops and group discussions. Based in Pune, Open Space has worked with leading educational institutions at the graduate and post-graduate level across India, and has also granted fellowships to young social entrepreneurs to initiate this outreach process in Thiruvananthapuram, Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Lucknow, Ranchi, Delhi and Bengaluru.

CCDS's present areas of research are urban poverty and digital inequality. We have completed a research on barriers to internet access for the urban poor (digitalequality.in). We are presently working on a study on the ICT preparedness of children from marginalised urban communities, and the quality of ICT training in their schools.

In 2013, CCDS set up the Institute for Sustainable Development and Governance (ISDG) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, to conduct public policy research, capacity development, knowledge networking and advocacy, particularly in the area of budget transparency and accountability, public services, and rural as well as urban governance.

Centre for
Communication
and Development
Studies

ccds



Registered office:
C12 Gera Greens, NIBM Road,
Kondhwa, Pune 411048
Tel: 91-20-26852845/8055342047
Email: info@ccds.in
Websites: www.ccds.in /
www.infochangeindia.org
www.digitalequality.in