

Year in Review

2018 - 2019



21 Years of Advancing Individual Choice and Institutional Accountability



VISION

Centre for Civil Society envisions a world where each individual leads a life of choice in personal, economic and political spheres and every institution is accountable.

MISSION

Centre for Civil Society advances social change through public policy. Our work in education, livelihood, and policy training promotes choice and accountability across private and public sectors. To translate policy into practice, we engage with policy and opinion leaders through research, pilot projects and advocacy.

OUR WORK



Promote **SCHOOL CHOICE** to ensure that all children in India receive quality education of their choice.



Advocate for greater **LIVELIHOOD FREEDOM** for the rural and urban poor by eradicating market entry and exit barriers.



Engage students & influencers to **DEVELOP NEW LEADERS WITH NEW IDEAS** through training in public policy.

SUPPORT CCS IN OUR MISSION

Your financial support helps us advance our mission of social change through public policy. By giving to CCS today, you are ensuring that each individual in India leads a life of choice in personal, economic and political spheres and every institution is accountable.

All donations to CCS are tax exempt under Section 80G of Income Tax Act, India.

Pledge your support [here](#)

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Our journey from 1997 has been an interesting one. Some years have seen great successes and some years have been sort of flat. 2018-19 has been one of our memorable years.

In October 2018, we launched our most ambitious project so far – the Indian School of Public Policy. As I write this letter, 58 scholars are busy in Delhi in their second term of a one-year post-graduate certificate programme. The ISPP and CCS teams worked very hard to make this school a reality. We have a great set of scholars in our first batch and are very fortunate to have a fabulous set of faculty members and a very prestigious Academic Advisory Council,



“ In October 2018, we launched our most ambitious project so far – the Indian School of Public Policy. As I write this letter, 58 scholars are busy in Delhi in their second term of a one-year post-graduate certificate programme. ”

led by Dr Vijay Kelkar and Dr Shekhar Shah. Our Dean is Dr Shubhashis Gangopadhyay and our CEO is Ms Swati Vasudevan. This is India's first one-year programme in public policy, design and management.

We also had a few significant policy wins during the year. We have consistently campaigned for economic freedom at the bottom of the pyramid and, in a big win for us, the New Delhi Municipal Council formed a Town Vending Committee to help street vendors operate more freely. We have consistently advocated to annul arbitrary rules undermining education provisioning and quality, and in another win, the Kerala High Court ruled against need-based recognition of schools. We have consistently argued for funding students through school vouchers and Punjab announced a coupon system to give students access to private schools in Jalandhar District.

Calling for a National Repeal Law Day, we launched the 2nd edition of our State Compendium of Laws for Repeal, covering six states. We continued our work on the regulation of bamboo cultivation, building on the 2017 amendment declaring it to be a grass, not a tree. We launched our Progress Report on Implementing the Street Vendors Act 2014 at a convening by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. The National Independent Schools Alliance (NISA), which we helped start, submitted a Charter of Demands to

the Prime Minister's Office calling for greater school choice, more effective and feasible safety regulations, direct benefit transfers in education and policy interventions to make it easier to open schools. NISA also organised a mass demonstration under the 'Save Education' Campaign, which brought together 65,000 representatives from 24 states.

We conducted 34 iPolicy courses this year, reaching 1,090 students, and 42 journalists. We also launched our first MOOC - on Education Policy - in partnership with the OP Jindal Global University.

Some of our regular annual events continued. The 18th Researching Reality Internship, our flagship summer internship programme, where we had 22 young researchers focussed on the ease of doing business in Delhi; The 10th School Choice National Conference; The 4th EduDoc International Short Film Competition; 'Baithak: Conversations in Policy' in various cities, reaching 277 people, including 89 alumni. We also started our 1st two-day course in Law and Public Policy and our 1st Certificate Course in Politics of Development.

All this was because of the tremendous support we received from our donors, our alumni, our fellow champions of freedom and our CCS team.

Luis Miranda
CHAIRMAN

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POLICY WINS

Our footprints on the livelihood
and education landscape



STREET VENDORS WIN IN DELHI

In a big win for us and for street vendors in Delhi, the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) announced its decision to form a **30-member Town Vending Committee (TVC)** to identify sites and spaces for vending and hawking in Lutyens' Zone, New Delhi. Through Jeevika, our Law, Liberty and Livelihood Campaign, we have consistently championed freedom at the bottom of the pyramid, and the rights of marginal entrepreneurs. Since 2009, we have successfully advocated for the legitimisation and protection of street vendors through the effective implementation of the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014.



PUNJAB SHOWS THE WAY: DBT FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION

In September 2018, the Punjab Education Minister O. P. Soni announced the state government's plan to introduce a coupon system of **Direct Benefits Transfer (DBT)** to give children access to education in private schools in the **district of Jalandhar, Punjab**. We have consistently advocated for a shift to student funding through vouchers, direct cash transfers or scholarships as an instrument of improving access to, quality of and efficiency in education.

In 2018, on the recommendation of *Shri Anil Swarup*, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, MHRD, our research team had met with *Shri Krishan Kumar*, Secretary, School Education, Punjab to present the idea of Direct Benefit Transfers in education. CCS was subsequently also invited to participate in the meeting of the Punjab Governance Reforms and Ethics Commission, a body under the Department of Governance Reforms, Punjab to present its proposal for the pilot for DBT in the 10 target districts.

Our policy blueprint for the implementation of direct-benefit transfers in education can be accessed [here](#).



KERALA RULES AGAINST NEED BASED RECOGNITION OF SCHOOLS



CCS has continued to advocate for the review and annulment of arbitrary rules and regulations thwarting access to and undermining the quality of education in India. Another big policy win for us came in July 2018, with the Kerala High Court's decision - while the State Government could issue guidelines regarding statutory provisions of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, it had no right to make rules pertaining to assessment of educational needs as a precondition to granting recognition for schools. This marks a significant step towards the ease of opening and operating non-governmental schools in India.

IDEA WINS

Reaching out with Advocacy,
Research and Ideas for Change



ENGAGING WITH POLICYMAKERS

In 2018-19, we continued to engage with nodal government ministries and policy-makers, amplifying our call for individual choice and institutional accountability.

In March 2018, the **National Independent Schools Alliance (NISA)** submitted a comprehensive **Charter of Demands** to the Prime Minister's Office calling for greater school choice, more effective and feasible safety regulations, direct benefit transfers in education, and policy interventions to promote the ease of opening schools in India. In June, NISA office bearers, including Mr Kulbhushan Sharma, President, NISA, met with **Shri Prakash Javadekar, Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development** to submit the Charter and a report on school closures in India.



We met with **Ms Rina Ray, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development**, to discuss the enduring crisis of learning in India. We presented our recommendations for learning outcomes-based school regulation, our policy blueprints on Direct Benefit Transfers and need for the separation of powers of the government in education delivery, regulation and assessments.

In December 2018, we were **invited by the Comptroller Auditor General (CAG) of India** to provide technical assistance in building an outcome-based audit system for schools in India and we met with the CAG again in January 2019. CAG's second invitation reflects continued trust and interest in CCS' on-going work. We also met with **Dr. Indrani Bhaduri, Director of the National Achievement Survey (NAS)**, in March 2019 to discuss learning outcomes. During the meeting, the Director appreciated CCS' draft blueprint and provided valuable suggestions.

In January 2019, we met with **Dr Alka Bhargava, Director, National Bamboo Mission and Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture**, to understand the enduring gaps in the regulation of bamboo cultivation and the impact of the 2017 amendment declaring bamboo to be a grass, not a tree.



Furthering our work for the rights of marginal entrepreneurs, we were invited by the **National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM)** for a workshop on the implementation of the Street Vendors Act 2014. The workshop brought together concerned state authorities to apprise them of the status of implementation of the Street Vendors Act 2014. Chaired by Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, the workshop was attended by State Mission Directors (SMDs). Prashant Narang, Advocate, Supreme Court of India and Former iJustice, CCS, presented our research.

LAUNCH OF STATE COMPENDIUMS OF LAWS FOR REPEAL: FOR A NATIONAL REPEAL LAW DAY

Calling for the recognition of 26th November, India's Constitution Day, as the **National Repeal Day**, we launched our 2nd **State compendium of Laws for Repeal**. The 2018 Compendiums identifies laws to be repealed in the 6 states of Assam, Gujarat, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura and Jammu & Kashmir. The launch was accompanied by a panel discussion on **'Exploring Alternatives: Institutionalisation of Repeal of Laws'**, which addressed the need for a legal framework to scrap or amend obsolete, redundant and ineffective laws. Our

panelists included prominent legal experts and practitioners such as Tariq Anwar, Former Union Minister; P K Malhotra, Former Law Secretary, Ministry of Law & Justice; Maneesh Chhibber, Editor, The Print among others.



LAUNCH OF REPORT ON DOING BUSINESS IN DELHI

As an outcome of the Researching Reality Internship, 2018, we launched a comprehensive **Report on Doing Business in Delhi** in October 2018. The launch was accompanied by a roundtable discussion, moderated by Bhuvana Anand, Governance and Public Policy Specialist, and was attended by industry representatives and policy experts including Dr Parth Shah, President, CCS; Kadambari Shah, Senior Associate, IDFC Institute; Prashant Narang, Advocate, Supreme Court of India; and Shubho Roy, Legal

Consultant, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) among others.



LAUNCH OF THE PROGRESS REPORT ON IMPLEMENTING THE STREET VENDORS ACT 2014

In February 2019, we launched a **Progress Report on Implementing the Street Vendors Act 2014** at the **National Workshop on Street Vendors convened by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)**, Government of India. The report evaluates the progress made in institutionalising mechanisms to protect and regulate street vending since the passing of the Act in 2014. Launched by Shri

Hardeep S. Puri, Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, the launch drew a gathering of over 250 representatives, including Housing and Urban Development Ministers from several states, administrative officials, street vendors' associations and civil society leaders.

The Progress Report on Implementing the Street Vendors Act 2014 can be accessed [here](#).



A SPONTANEOUS DIALOGUE ON FEE REGULATION IN EDUCATION

Spontaneous Order, our digital publication of liberal commentaries, hosts 'Spontaneous Dialogue', a dialogue series live-streamed on Facebook, with the aim of offering perspectives on contemporary issues through deliberations between experts. In April 2018, we hosted the 3rd edition of the dialogue on 'Fee Regulation in Education', featuring eminent panelists, Vikas

Jhunjhunwala, CEO and Founder, Sunshine Schools; and Akriti Gaur, Research Fellow, Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy. The dialogue analysed the costs associated with operating private schools in India, and tried to unpack the complexities of 'fee regulations'. Streamed live on Facebook, the dialogue received an **organic reach of 7,444** and **unique viewership of 1,595**.



PEOPLE WINS

Engaging Change-makers through
Training, Advocacy and Outreach



SHIKSHA BACHAO ABHIYAN: MASS DEMONSTRATION AT RAMLILA MAIDAN

In April 2018, the **National Independent Schools Alliance (NISA)** organised a mass demonstration as part of the **'Save Education Campaign'**. Speaking out against the stifling of private initiative and autonomy in education in India, the demonstration brought over **65,000 representatives from 24 Indian states**. A panel of 45 speakers including Professor Geeta Gandhi Kingdon, University College London and Kulbhushan Sharma, President, NISA, addressed the demonstration.

Taking the initiative further, in February 2019, the Haryana State Association of NISA and the

Haryana Federation of Private Schools Welfare Association organised another demonstration with over 10,000 budget private school (BPS) leaders and teachers protesting against enduring policy prejudices against BPS in India.



NURTURING LIBERAL CHAMPIONS: IPOLICY FOR YOUNG LEADERS

ipolicy, our introductory certificate course in public policy aims to equip participants with principles of sound policy making and implementation, enabling an understanding of current socio-economic challenges and their policy solutions. This year, we conducted **32 ipolicy courses** across various cities - Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi, Kalahandi, Mumbai and Pune, with **1090 successful graduates**.

Over the year our faculty has included prominent policy experts, practitioners and academicians including J P Narayan, Founder, Lok Satta Party; Yugank Goyal, Associate Professor and Assistant Dean (Research), Jindal School of Liberal Arts & Humanities; Barun Mitra, Founder, Liberty Institute; Prashant Narang, Advocate, Supreme Court; Shubho Roy, Legal Consultant, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, among others.

In October 2018, we collaborated with the

City Montessori School, Lucknow to conduct our first ever policy training for high school students. In a big win for us, this year **ipolicy went international!** We conducted our first international ipolicy for Young Leaders in Nepal, collaborating with Bikalpa, a public policy think tank based in Biratnagar.

WHAT OUR ALUMNI SAY

ipolicy has broadened the horizons of my mind. It has led me to think about issues in a way I otherwise would not have. It was an enriching and fun-filled experience, which I will treasure for years to come. I'm certainly clearer about concepts of public policy and will like to probe further into it in the future.

- NEEHARIKA, Participant
ipolicy at SRCC College



BUILDING JOURNALIST CHANGE-MAKERS

Recognising the critical role of the media in steering policy priorities and debates, CCS continues to conduct policy training and hold monthly dialogues with journalists and media professionals.

In 2018-19, we organised two **ipolicy for Journalists**, our three-day residential policy training designed exclusively for media professionals. **42 journalists** representing popular media houses like Zee News, the Indian Express, All India Radio, Doordarshan, Aaj Tak, Hindustan Times and India Today participated in the trainings. We also conducted **10 policy dialogues**, engaging over 100 journalists to

dialogue on contemporary socio-political and developmental concerns. Led by Avinash Chandra, Editor, Azadi.me, the discussions have addressed themes like the Sports University Bill; regulatory bottlenecks retarding enterprise; the #MeToo movement and concerns regarding the rights and recognition of street vendors.



CREDIT COURSES WITH VEDICA SCHOLARS

In March 2018, we offered a credit course on 'Introduction to Public Policy' at the Vedica Scholars Programme in New Delhi. The 35-hour module, saw participation of 70 young women leaders.

The course elaborated on public policy in India and its linkages with various disciplines of study such as law, business, economics, and media. Our distinguished faculty included Prashant Narang, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi; Smriti Parsheera, Fellow, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy; Bhuvana Anand, Governance and Public Policy Specialist; Yugank Goyal, Associate Professor

and Assistant Dean (Research), Jindal School of Liberal Arts & Humanities.

Offered as a part of the formal curriculum in leading universities in India, our credit courses are designed to offer unique insights that bridge academic rigour with policy analysis.



EXPLORING REGULATORY BARRIERS TO ENTERPRISE: RESEARCHING REALITY INTERNSHIP 2018

In June 2018, we launched the 18th edition of our flagship **Researching Reality Summer Internship** program with a cohort of **22 young researchers** from across the country. This edition of the internship explored the complex regulations and policy bottlenecks that continue to thwart enterprise in India, with a particular focus on the implementation of the **Ease of Doing Business** reforms in Delhi.

As a part of the internship, the interns conducted field research and data analysis, informed by training sessions dedicated sessions on Ease of Doing Business in India, Public Choice, and Policy Evaluations and Methods, among others. As an outcome of

the internship, we launched a comprehensive Report on Doing Business in Delhi.



ON THE LIMITS OF DEMOCRACY: A COLLOQUIUM

In January 2019, we hosted a **colloquium on 'Limits of Democracy'** at Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai. The colloquium was attended by 23 participants including industry leaders, policy experts, researchers and academics. The colloquium served as a platform to understand Indian democracy, primarily in terms of the productive and protective role of the state. Our participants included Rajesh Jain, Founder & Managing Director, Netcore Solutions; Shagata Mukherjee, Professor, Meghnad Desai Academy

of Economics; Parth J Shah, President, CCS; and Makarand Bakore, Lawyer, Bombay High Court, among others.



MAINSTREAMING LEARNING OUTCOMES IN THE DISCOURSE ON EDUCATION GOVERNANCE

In December 2018, we hosted a **roundtable focused on school education and the role of learning outcomes in education governance in India**. The roundtable addressed the need for a consensus on the definition and modes of assessment of student learning outcomes. Chaired by Parth J Shah, President, CCS, the discussion was steered by Vikram Bhat, Director, Research & Advocacy, Dream a Dream Foundation and Vyjayanthi Sankar, Founder and Executive Director, Centre for Science of Student Learning (CSSL).



10th SCHOOL CHOICE NATIONAL CONFERENCE: EXPLORING ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

In December 2018, we hosted the 10th edition of the **School Choice National Conference**, our flagship annual conference on education policy, at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. Supported by the Edelgive Foundation, the conference addressed the theme of '**Alternative Education: Philosophy, Practice, Policy**', and drew participation from over **200 people**, including policy experts and policy-makers, educationists, practitioners, civil society leaders, researchers, journalists and students.

The keynote address was delivered by Dr Sugata Mitra, winner of TED Prize 2013 and Professor at Newcastle University. Other eminent speakers and panelists consisted of leading policymakers, researchers, academics, and practitioners such as **Anil Swarup**, Former Secretary, Department of School Education and Literacy, Government of India; **Padma Shri Geeta Dharmarajan**, Founder, Katha; and Chandra Bhushan Sharma, Chairman, National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) among others.

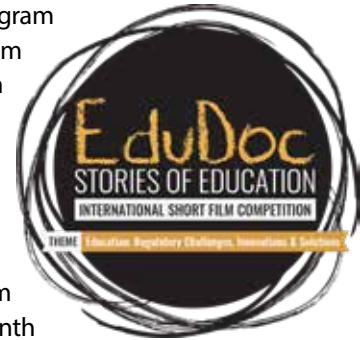


EDUDOC 2018: EDUCATION IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Every year, **EduDoc - our international short film competition**, brings the stories of education and the impact of policy on everyday education practice, into the spotlight.

This year, in partnership with the Edelgive Foundation and the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, we hosted the screening of the winning films of EduDoc 2018 with an audience of over 90 people. In its 4th edition, we received over **1700 entries from 104 countries**. Our Guest of Honour, K G Suresh, eminent Journalist and Director General, Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), New Delhi, felicitated our winners. Komeil Soheili of Iran won the best film award for his film *Laleh Complex*.

Earlier this year, we also launched the first edition of the EduDoc Film and Policy Fellowship, a unique mentorship based documentary-making fellowship program for education and film enthusiasts. With a cohort of **eight committed fellows** rigorously selected from a pool of 61 applications from 14 countries, the program offered a two-month training in education policy and the essentials on film-making. **'Vikiran' by Mritunjay Sharma** from India won the Best Fellow-Film Award at EduDoc 2018.



BAITHAK: CONVERSATIONS IN POLICY



In August 2018, we launched **Baithak: Conversations in Policy**, as a platform for continued learning and conversation, bringing together our growing network of alumni around the country. We conducted **eight** Baithak's through the year in Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad and Mumbai, with **285 enthusiastic participants**. Steered by

prominent liberal thinkers and domain experts like Gurcharan Das, Author and Former CEO, P & G India and Dr Amir Ullah Khan, Development and Trade Economist, the dialogues addressed a wide diversity of themes including digital rights and freedom of expression, India's enduring employment and entrepreneurship crisis, environmental challenges and policy solutions, etc.

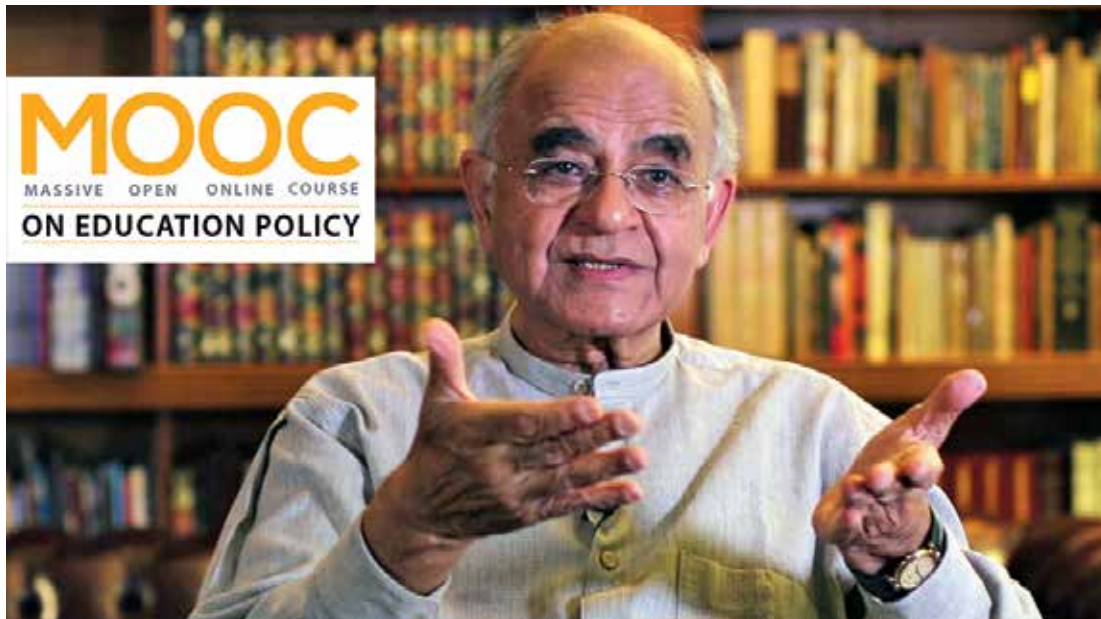


FIRST EDITION OF OUR MASSIVE ONLINE OPEN COURSE: EDUCATION POLICY

In February 2019, we launched our first **Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) on Education Policy** in partnership with the OP Jindal Global University, with **49 student graduates**. The four-week online course was launched to address the enduring lack of a comprehensive and exclusive training in education policy in India and includes modules addressing the philosophy, history, and economics of education and its regulatory framework in India. Our faculty consists of eminent experts and academicians, including Amit Kaushik,



CEO, Australian Council for Educational Research (India) and Gurcharan Das, Author and Former CEO, P & G India, among others.



LAUNCHING OUR CERTIFICATE COURSE IN POLITICS OF DEVELOPMENT: UNDERSTANDING INTERSECTIONS OF POLITICS AND POLICY

In February, we also piloted the first edition of our certificate course titled 'Politics of Development (POD)', a two-day immersive, residential program focusing on the **political challenges to economic development**. Conducted in Gurgaon and Hyderabad, with 98 participants, the course engaged participants in sessions like 'The Role of the State', 'Decentralisation and Separation of Power', and 'Is there really a Culture of Poverty in India?' Leading development and policy experts including Swaminathan Aiyar,



Columnist and Economist, and Fellow, Cato Institute and Jayaprakash Narayan, Former IAS Officer and Founder, Lok Satta, among others, steered the course.



WHAT OUR ALUMNI SAY

Thought – provoking discourse and great speakers

- SONALI, Participant
POD in Delhi

FIRST EDITION OF LEX POLICY: RETHINKING RULES, REGULATIONS AND THE REPUBLIC

In January 2019, to mark India's 70th republic day, we conducted our first two-day **course in Law and Public Policy** in New Delhi. With **40 learners**, the course explored ways in which the Indian constitution continues to be the fundamental determinant of government policy and its successes and failures. Our session facilitators included policy experts, practitioners and analysts including Prashant Narang, Advocate, Supreme Court of India; and Barun Mitra, Founder, Liberty Institute, among others



DEVELOPING NEW LEADERS WITH NEW IDEAS

INDEPENDENT COURSES

1998

PARTNERSHIPS

2009

1997
Founding of
CENTRE FOR
CIVIL SOCIETY



LIBERTY ARTS &
CULTURE WORKSHOP

Awarded
TEMPLETON FREEDOM AWARD
FOR STUDENT OUTREACH

2004



I, SOCIETY &
PUBLIC POLICY

Awarded
TEMPLETON AWARD
FOR PROMOTING
FREE MARKETS
AND LIBERAL IDEAS
2005

Researching
Reality
Internship

2001

Launched
RESEARCHING
REALITY
INTERNSHIP
PROGRAM



2008

CCS RANKS 8 IN THE
TOP 25 THINK TANKS
IN ASIA

1998
Organised First
LIBERTY &
SOCIETY SEMINAR



2009

Conducted First
CERTIFICATE COURSE
IN PUBLIC POLICY
FOR JOURNALISTS (CPPJ)



COMMUNICATING
FREEDOM WORKSHOP

60
Students Engaged



270
Students Engaged



ONLINE COURSES

2011

Established
CCS ACADEMY
2011



Conducted First
iPOLICY FOR
YOUNG LEADERS
2011



Organised First
COLLOQUIUM
2010



2015
Conducted First
CREDIT COURSE IN
PUBLIC POLICY



2017
Awarded
ASIA LIBERTY
AWARD

Launched
MOOC ON
EDUCATION POLICY
2019



Launched
POLITICS OF
DEVELOPMENT (POD)
2019



2019
Launched
LEX POLICY



2018
Launched
BAITHAK



2018
Launch of
INDIAN SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC POLICY (ISPP)

400
Students Engaged



1120
Students Engaged



ORGANISATIONAL WINS

Making our Mark in the Movement
for Liberty



CCS AT #ASIALF 2019: BOLSTERING THE MOVEMENT FOR FREEDOM IN ASIA

In March 2019, our Chairman, Luis Miranda and President, Parth Shah were invited to speak at Atlas Network's Asia Liberty Forum held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, co-hosted by the Advocata Institute. Speaking as a part of the panel on **'Tipping Points: A Model for Social Change'**, Parth Shah discussed the idea of innovation diffusion and how it can help organisations create momentum for reform. Speaking about **'Fundraising Fundamentals: How to Build Donor Relationships'**, Luis Miranda shared insight into building committed donor relationships.



CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN JOURNALISM : LEADERSHIP FOR EDUCATION AWARD

In March 2019, Avinash Chandra, Editor Azadi.me, was honoured with the **'Leader of Education Award 2018-19'**, by the news portal 'EduAdvice' and theatre group 'Udaan', for excellence in reporting on educational practice and policy. Noted educationists including Professor J P Saini, Vice- Chancellor, Netaji Subhash University of Technology (NSUT) and Anurag Tripathi, Secretary, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), attended the ceremony.



CCS AT ATLAS NETWORK'S GLOBAL POLICY PERSPECTIVES

In June 2018, Parth Shah, President, Centre for Civil Society, was invited to speak at Atlas Network's Global Policy Perspectives event series held at the Cornell Club in New York. Speaking on the need for **'Dismantling**

Barriers to Education and Enterprise in India,' he discussed the emergence and scope of, and challenges to locally grown, market-based solutions to education and poverty in the country.



CCS AT THE COLLOQUIUM ON ECONOMIC GROWTH AND WEALTH CREATION, NEPAL

In September 2018, Parth Shah, President, CCS, was invited to moderate a Colloquium on 'Economic Growth and Wealth Creation' organised by **Samridhhi, a policy think tank**

based in Nepal. The Colloquium discussed ideas of liberty and its implications for economic freedom and achieving economic prosperity.



INSTITUTIONAL WINS

Cultivating Policy-Changemakers

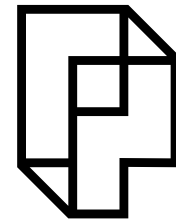


THE NEXT FRONTIER: LAUNCH OF THE INDIAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

In October 2018, we launched our most ambitious project thus far - the Indian School of Public Policy (ISPP). ISPP is conceptualised as a one-year, full time Master's equivalent immersive program in **Policy, Design and Management**, enshrining the vision to forge a cadre of policy leaders committed to transforming governance in India. **Chaired by Vijay Kelkar**, Former Finance Secretary

of India, ISPP boasts of eminent leadership and an academic advisory council comprising of representatives from leading policy and educational institutions from around the world.

ISPP will commence its academic year with a cohort of 50 policy scholars from August 2019.



INDIAN
SCHOOL
OF PUBLIC
POLICY

Our [Academic Advisory](#) | [Snapshots from the launch](#) | [ISPP in the media](#)



AMPLIFYING PARENTAL VOICE IN EDUCATION

As a part of the **Parents Forum for School Education (PFSE)**, we conducted nine meetings across five states, reaching out to over 340 parents on the concerns of school-level and systemic reforms for quality education. We now have a membership of 300+ parent-leaders. Recognising the significance of parental voice in steering policy decisions in education, the Parents Forum for School Education (PFSE) was established in November 2017.



NATIONAL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL ALLIANCE

Committed to improving the quality of education in budget private schools and dismantling the policy prejudices against private education in India, this past year, NISA grew to become a network of **55,400 schools with a presence in 22 states.**

Furthering its dual focus on policy advocacy and quality improvement, NISA continued to engage with policy-makers and influencers, and forge partnerships to bring cost-effective innovations to improve educational quality. In March 2018, NISA office bearers met with **Shri Prakash Javadekar**, Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development to submit its **Quality Charter**, calling for greater school choice, more effective safety regulations and policy interventions to promote the ease of opening schools in India. It continued to undertake countrywide consultations and engagements to encourage budget private schools to endorse the charter and its norms, ensuring a commitment to excellence from member schools. We have had **1289 schools signup to the Charter.**





As a part of its quality initiative, NISA also conducted the **National Analytical Aptitude test (NAAT)**, a nation-wide assessment test of students' learning outcomes. The NAAT Excellence Awards, hosted in April 2018 in New Delhi, aimed to recognise the efforts and achievements of the top performers on NAAT assessments.

In January 2019, a NISA delegation also met with **Shri Arun Jaitley**, Union Finance Minister, to urge the government to release the reimbursements committed under Rights to Education Act, enabling schools to ensure continued learning for students from economically weaker and disadvantaged communities.

In February 2019, representatives from NISA further met with the Ministry of Human Resource Development to discuss guidelines to secure accountability from school management in the matters of student safety. **Ms Reena Ray**, Secretary, Ministry of Human Resource Development, chaired the meeting.



In March 2019, NISA hosted Ms Sonja Boshoff, Member of Parliament and Shadow Education Minister, South Africa. Ms Boshoff visited NISA schools in Andhra Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Maharashtra, and Punjab interacting with school leaders to understand the role of private schools in the Indian education system.



This year, advocating for the rights of teachers, NISA called for observing 5th September, Teacher's Day, as **Black Day**, as a protest against increasing government intervention in day to day school management. NISA also called for a Teachers Protection Act, as a legal safeguard for the safety of teachers, principals, school management and support staff.

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MEDIA OUTREACH



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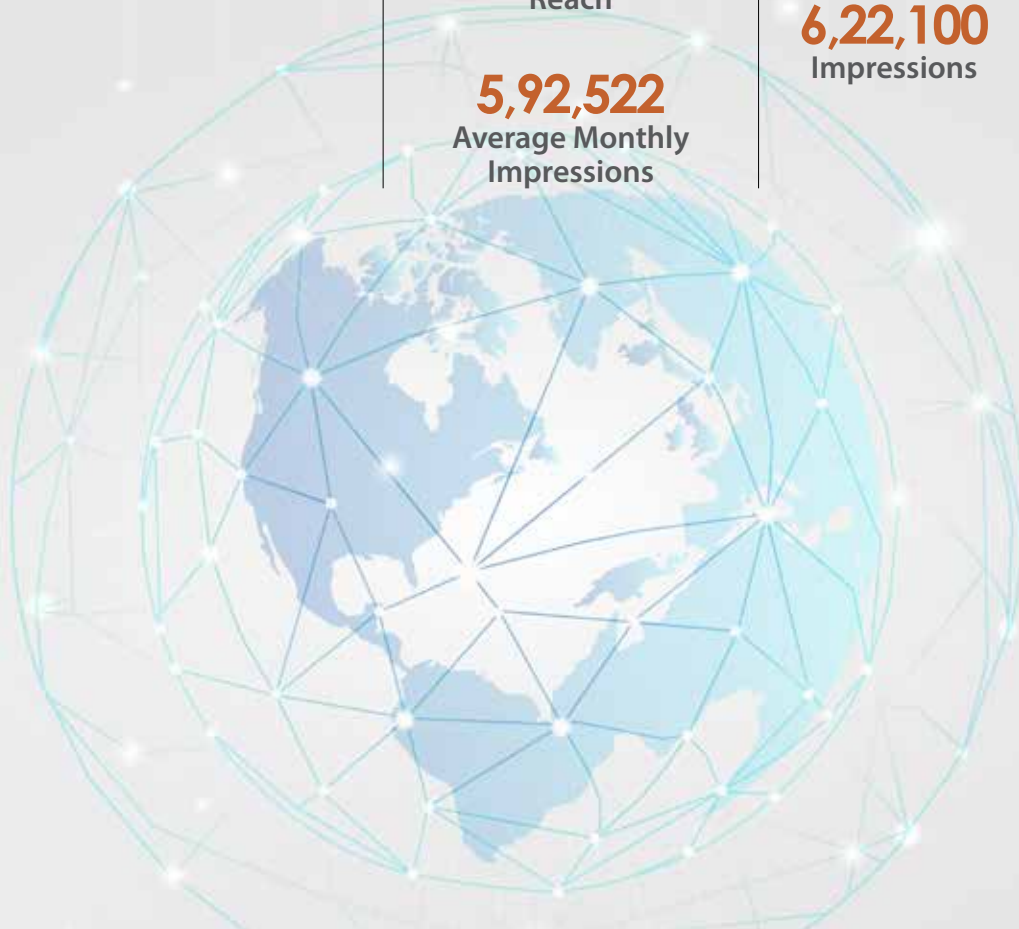
5,92,522
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FINANCIAL REVIEW



M. THOMAS & CO.

Chartered Accountants

40-B, First Floor, Yusuf Sarai, New Delhi-110016.

Tel: 9810064291, 8368616900, 8851529832, 9810063291; E-Mail:mtc64291@yahoo.co.in

FORM NO.10B

(See rule 17B)

AUDIT REPORT UNDER SECTION 12A(B) OF THE INCOME-TAX ACT, 1961 IN THE CASE OF CHARITABLE OR RELIGIOUS TRUSTS OR INSTITUTIONS.

We have examined the Balance Sheet of CENTRE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY, NEW DELHI as at 31st March 2019 and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended on that date which is in agreement with the Books of Account maintained by the said Trust.

We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of the audit. In our opinion, proper Books of Accounts have been kept by the Head Office and the Branches of the above named institution visited by us so far as appears from our examination of the books, and proper returns adequate for the purposes of audit have been received from branches not visited by us, subject to the comments given below:

NIL

In our opinion and to the best of our information, and according to information given to us, the said Accounts statements together with the schedules attached and read with Accounting Policies and note give a true and fair view-

(i) In the case of Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the above named Institution as at 31-03-2019

And

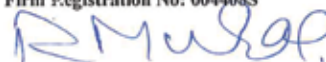
(ii) In the case of Income & Expenditure A/c, of the SURPLUS of its accounting year ending on 31-03-2019.

The prescribed particulars are annexed hereto.

Place: New Delhi

Date: 24th August 2019

For M. THOMAS & CO.
Chartered Accountants
Firm Registration No: 004408S



R. MURALI (Partner)
Membership No. 080972
UDIN: 19080972AAAAAU2488



INCOME & EXPENDITURE A/C FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31-03-2019

PARTICULARS	CURRENT YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
INCOME		
Local Contributions & Grants (Local)	54,347,116.00	25,955,379.00
Foreign Contributions (FC)	10,729,079.00	14,279,975.52
Bank Interest (Local)	3,005,265.50	1,215,224.27
Fees from Activities (Local)	1,710,660.00	1,048,676.00
Bank Interest (FC)	280,223.00	985,652.34
Miscellaneous Income (Local)	65,660.00	301,784.00
Interest on TDS Refund (Local)	21,931.10	14,276.10
TOTAL	70,159,934.60	43,800,967.23
EXPENDITURE		
Local Expenses as per Schedule	39,301,445.52	16,498,796.65
FC Expenses as per Schedule	9,813,985.83	12,887,363.25
Depreciation	579,995.36	253,086.22
TOTAL	49,695,426.71	29,639,246.12
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	20,464,507.89	14,161,721.11

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31-03-2019

LIABILITIES	CURRENT YEAR		PREVIOUS YEAR	
	AMOUNT	TOTAL	AMOUNT	TOTAL
CAPITAL FUND				
Balance B/f	31,501,748.74		16,244,527.63	
Transfer from Income & Expenditure A/c	20,464,507.89		14,161,721.11	
Transfer from JTF Fund (Previous Year Adjustments)	1,320,071.00		-	
Transfer from JTF Fund (Additions to Equipments/Comput)	570,579.00		-	
Previous Year Adjustments	38,948.00		(37,500.00)	
Transfer to JTF Fund (JTF Expenses incurred)	(4,986.69)		-	
BPS Quality Improvement Expenses NISA (LC)	(500,000.00)		-	
Transfer to Reserve Fund u/s 11(2)	(4,160,000.00)		-	
Transfer from Reserve Fund u/s 11(2)	-	49,230,867.94	1,133,000.00	31,501,748.74
CORPUS FUND				
Balance B/f	2,000,000.00		2,000,000.00	
Additions for the year	-	2,000,000.00	-	2,000,000.00
RESERVE FUND U/S 11(2)				
Balance B/f	-		1,133,000.00	
Additions for the year	4,160,000.00		-	
Utilisations during the yr. Trfd. to Cap. Fund	-	4,160,000.00	(1,133,000.00)	-
DEPRECIATION FUND				
Balance B/f	3,625,233.70		3,372,147.48	
Depreciation for the year	579,995.36		253,086.22	
Depreciation Released	-	4,205,229.06	-	3,625,233.70

Contd...

Contd...

JTF FUND				
Balance B/f	6,553,736.78		18,349,427.70	
Additions	-		3,199,009.00	
Trf. from Capital Fund (JTF Exp. Incurred from General Fu	4,986.69		-	
Transfer to Capital Fund (Additions to Equipments/Comput	(570,579.00)		-	
Transfer to Capital Fund (Previous Year Adjustments)	(1,320,071.00)		-	
Less: Utilisations	(4,668,073.47)	-	(14,994,699.92)	6,553,736.78
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
TDS Payable (FC & Local)	671,177.00	671,177.00	250,435.00	250,435.00
TOTAL		60,267,274.00		43,931,154.22



R Murali

(R. MURALI)
AUDITOR

Parth

(PARTH J. SHAH)
PRESIDENT



Contd.....2/-

Contd...

ASSETS	CURRENT YEAR		PREVIOUS YEAR	
	AMOUNT	TOTAL	AMOUNT	TOTAL
FIXED ASSETS				
As per schedule at Cost		6,787,018.00		5,052,073.00
CURRENT ASSETS				
Bank Balances	30,961,039.91		14,571,386.27	
Bank Fixed Deposits	19,895,401.11		22,051,737.01	
Advance for Expenses as per Schedule	1,059,907.94		811,380.00	
TDS Refundable as per Schedule	708,657.74		714,907.14	
Interest Accrued on Bank Fixed Deposits	532,147.30		387,481.80	
Security Deposits	150,000.00		240,000.00	
Staff Advances	90,000.00		-	
Cash Balances	45,692.00		30,189.00	
Receivable From Vedica Foundation	32,400.00		77,000.00	
Yes Bank - Prepaid Card	5,010.00	53,480,256.00	-	38,879,081.22
TOTAL		60,267,274.00		43,931,154.22

As per our Report of even date
For M. THOMAS & CO.
Chartered Accountants

R Murali

(R. MURALI) Partner
New Delhi, 24th August 2019

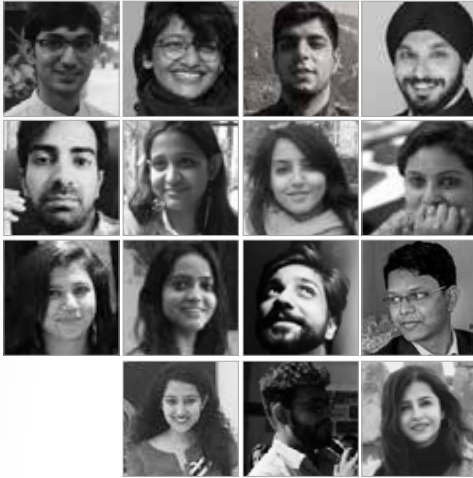


Parth

(PARTH J. SHAH)
PRESIDENT



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Hinan Ali
Manasa Pidatala
Reeta Meena
Rini Rafi
Sampurna Khasnabis
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Sanjana Anand

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Bhupinder Singh
Govind Kashyap
Rajesh Kumar
Samarat Biswas
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RESEARCH

Alston Dsouza
Pooloma Ghosh
Ritika Shah
Vidushi Sabharwal



OFFICE ASSISTANT

Sumit Kumar



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Hena Babu
Deepanjali Rao
Manu Sakunia
Neha Mehta
Parnal Vats
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Sarah Berry
Vikash Sharma



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LUIS MIRANDA
Chairman



PARTH J SHAH
President



ASHISH DHAWAN
Central Square Foundation



GURCHARAN DAS
Author & Public Intellectual



IRIS MADEIRA
Madhavi Desai Consulting



PREMILA NAZARETH
Independent Consultant



**NIRANJAN
RAJADHYAKSHA**
Mint, India

ADVISORS



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IDFC Institute



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KINGDON**
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The Reserve Bank of India

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Our partners have been crucial to our success. There are several individuals besides the organisation mentioned below, who have contributed greatly to our work in 2018-19. We are grateful for their continued support to help advance our mission of social change through public policy.



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