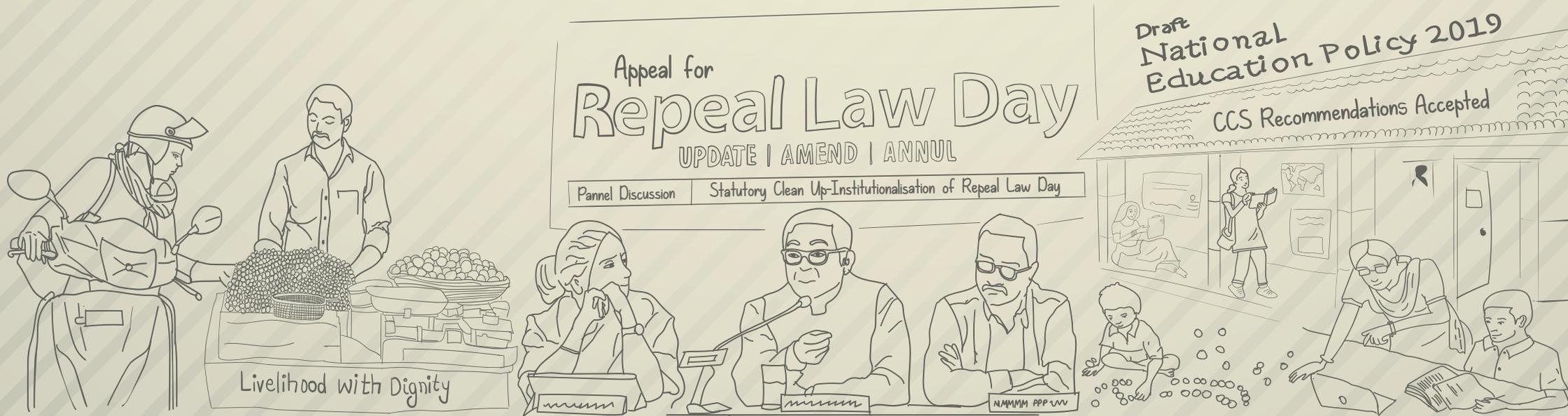


# Annual Report

## 2019 - 2020





## Vision

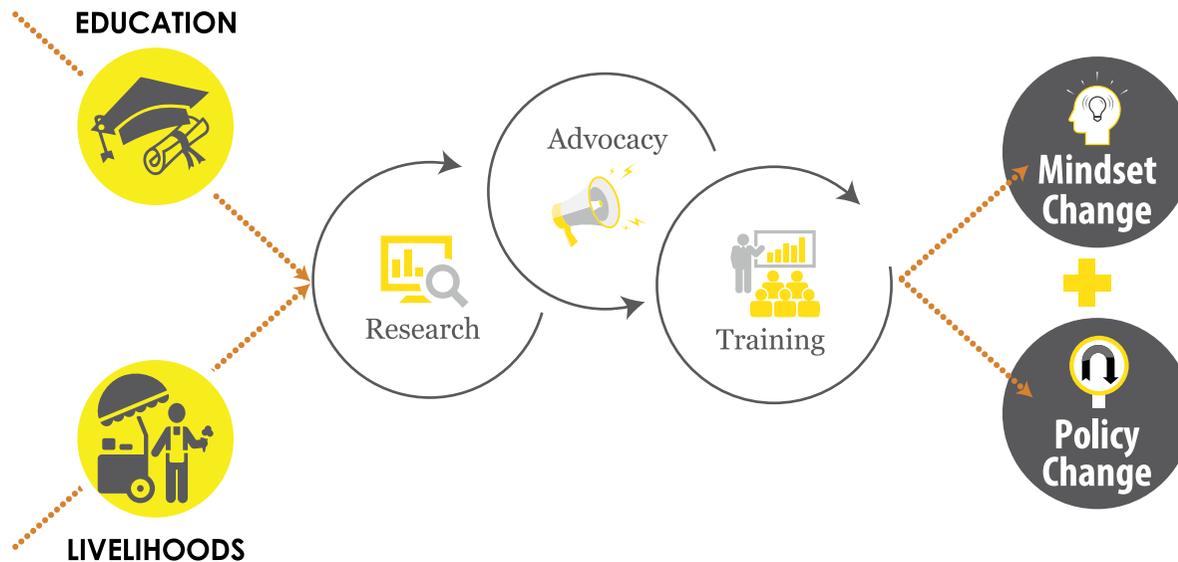
CCS envisions a world where each individual leads a life of choice in personal, economic and political spheres and every institution is accountable.

## 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](#)



## Chairperson's Message

**W**hat a year this has been for us. Two big events highlighted the impact of the Centre for Civil Society – The New Education Policy (NEP) and the commencement of class at the Indian School of Public Policy.

Let's look at the NEP first. Our focus has often been on the architecture framework of policies. For a long time, we have argued about the separation of the three functions to reform the education sector – regulatory, service delivery and financing. We are delighted that the NEP has accepted that recommendation. We have seen how this separation of powers has helped accelerate the growth of various sectors, like telecom and financial services. Similar separations in the energy and aviation sectors have also helped grow these sectors. The NEP also moved forward to ensure a level-playing field for private and public sector schools. We were disappointed that our suggestion to permit the setting up of for-profit schools was not accepted, but are pleased the NEP makes requirements for schools less restrictive.





The Indian School of Public Policy graduated its first cohort recently. It was an eventful year with many highs and lows. Unfortunately, the pandemic severely hit placements for our first cohort, and the team has been working hard on this. The second cohort of students have started, and we continue to see strong interest in the school. The faculty, led by Dean Shubhashis Gangopadhyay, and the administrative team, currently led by Parth J. Shah, have done a great job, and we have identified many areas for improvement based on our first year. We have a tie-up with the Harris School of Public Policy at The University of Chicago, and our scholars get a Certificate in Public Policy and International Development from them.

Our advocacy and outreach efforts also had a few successes. We continued our efforts to help street vendors, by successfully appealing to the Additional Sessions Judge, Saket Court, challenging the excessive and arbitrary fining of a fruit vendor in

Gautam Nagar, South Delhi. Based on our extensive work in this area, CCS was nominated as the NGO Member for 3 Town Vending Committees. Our 2017 Report, 'Policy Blueprint on Direct Benefit Transfers in Education', resulted in the Andhra Pradesh government starting direct benefit transfers for education. Some other publications this year include 'Tweak Book for Governance Reform', that listed immediately viable and actionable reform measures for the government, and 'Referral Law Compendium', which identified 150 laws for repeal in the North-East region (this was our 6th edition in this series).

At the ISPP graduation ceremony, Nandan Nilekani spoke about how sometimes it takes a long time for policy measures to get implemented and that we should always keep this in mind. Some of the wins of CCS that I have talked about in this note have taken time to get implemented and highlights the long-term role of think tanks in policy-making.

We continue to host iPolicy sessions and Baithaks,

which, during the lockdown, were converted to ePolicy sessions and eBaithaks. Our MOOC on Education Policy conducted its 4th edition. It is so heart-warming to continue meeting people who tell me that they either interned with us or attended an iPolicy session many years ago. I also often see CCS mentioned in resumes or LinkedIn profiles of people I am connected to. It shows how much we have impacted young people in the past and continue to do so.

I would like to thank the CCS team, our partners, donors, alumni and fellow champions of freedom, for their continued support. The recent months have been exceptionally challenging because of the COVID-19 lockdown and working from home has been difficult for many of you. Hopefully, this too shall pass soon.

**Luis Miranda**  
**CHAIRPERSON,**  
**CENTRE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY**



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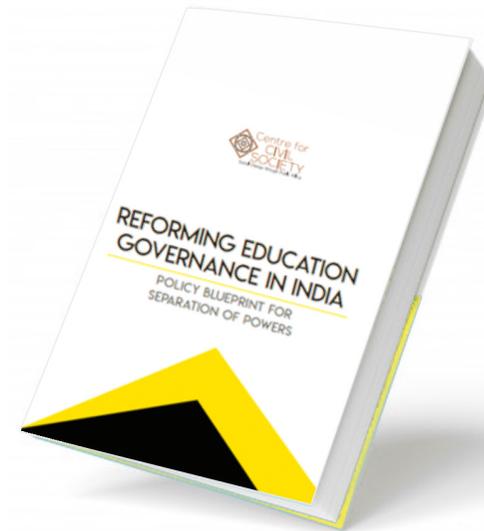
# Policy Wins

Our footprints on the education  
and livelihood landscape





# Draft National Educational Policy 2019 Recommends the Separation of Functions to Reform Education Governance



*Governance in India: Policy Blueprint for Separation of Powers Report* proposing a separation of the functions to reform education governance.

In June 2019, we also organised our monthly journalist dialogue on the NEP, with 13 representatives from leading media houses. Following the release of the draft, the National Independent Schools Alliance (NISA) also launched a dedicated NEP campaign with regional meetings held in Delhi, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, with 1300 attendees.



In a significant win for us, the Draft National Education Policy (NEP) 2019 released in October 2019 strongly recommends the separation of regulatory, service delivery and financing functions of the government. At CCS, we have continued to build evidence, and advocate for the effective uncoupling of functions in education governance. Further, CCS had also recommended the removal of instituting School Management Committees (SMCs) in private schools and the removal of the proposal for schools to obtain a License to Start a School (LSS), put forward in the Draft NEP June 2019. Both of these proposals have been removed from the NEP. In 2018, we released the *Reforming Education*



# Idea Wins

Reaching Out with Advocacy,  
Research and Ideas for Change



# Delhi Street Vendors Win Against Arbitrary Penalties

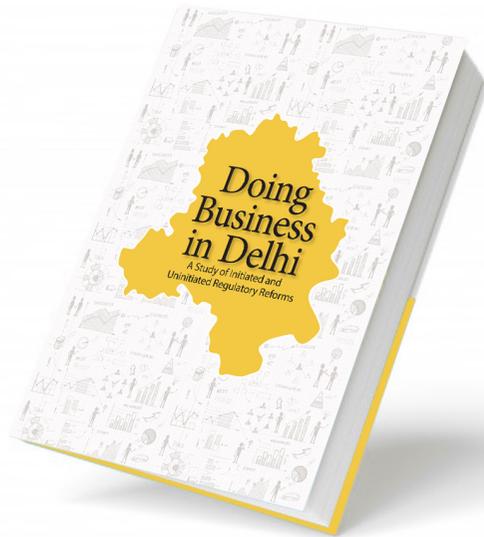
**W**e successfully appealed to the Additional Session Judge (ASJ), Saket Court, challenging the excessive and arbitrary fining of a fruit vendor in Gautam Nagar, South Delhi. In a win for the vendors and for us, after the ASJ directed the Municipal Magistrate to decide afresh, the Magistrate declared the challan invalid and annulled the penalty. Moreover, as per the notification issued by Government of NCT, Delhi, on September 17, 2019, Centre for Civil Society (CCS) has been nominated as an NGO member for three Town Vending Committees.

In another win for our work on street vendors, the Hindi podcast series, Puliyaabaazi, supported by Takshashila Institute, hosted us for a dialogue on 'Pakodanomics'. Prashant Narang, Associate Director-Research, CCS discussed the challenges faced by street vendors and the legal and regulatory gaps in ensuring their recognition and protection.





# Government Calls for Reducing Licensing for Eateries and Kirana Stores



In another win for our on-going work to promote the *Ease of doing business in India*, the government is planning to significantly cut down the number of approvals required for kirana stores and eateries, which will help make procedures simpler for aspiring entrepreneurs.

CCS has been working to dismantle regulatory barriers that directly impact the ease of opening and running businesses, removal of judicial bottlenecks to facilitate conduct of a conducive business environment, and towards fostering inclusive

markets and improving livelihoods for bottom-of-the-pyramid communities. In 2018, we published the *Doing Business in Delhi Report* that studied the regulatory barriers to operate restaurants, meat shops and e-waste recycling plants in Delhi, evaluating the business reforms conducted from 2016 to 2018. We also hosted a roundtable bringing together policy experts and influencers to advocate for a reduction in licensing requirements and to ease the opening of small and medium businesses in Delhi.



# Andhra Pradesh Announces Direct Benefit Transfers in Education



The Government of Andhra Pradesh recently announced a direct cash transfer scheme applicable to all recognised schools in the state. Under the 'Jaganna Amma Vodi' programme, the Government will provide financial assistance of INR 15,000/- per annum to each mother or recognised guardian from a below the poverty line (BPL) household. The scheme is an attempt to enhance access to schools, ensure equity and achieve minimum learning levels.

CCS has consistently advocated for the adoption of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) in education as a means to improve efficiency and educational outcomes. In 2017, we published a *Policy Blueprint on 'Direct Benefit Transfers in Education'*, examining the impact of cash transfers and vouchers on education outcomes. The document also makes design recommendations for implementing DBT programmes in education.



# A Report on the Anatomy of K-12 Governance In India



As an outcome of the Researching Reality Internship 2019, we published *a research report* on the extant governance structures in K-12 education in the states of Delhi, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh. The report presents insights into requirements for opening an unaided, non-minority private school, the regulation of fees in private schools, private school inspection and functions and functionalities in K-12 administration.

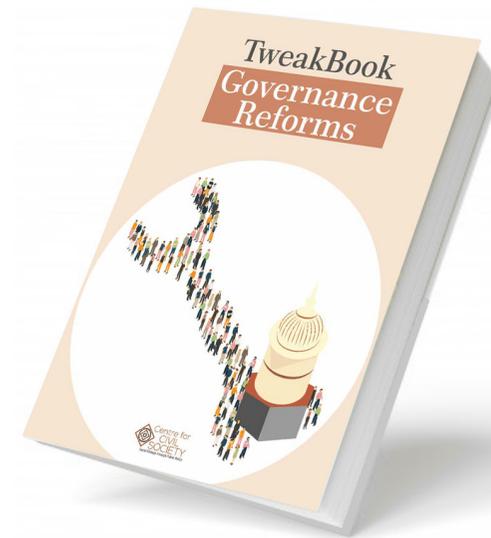
Published in partnership with the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, the report was launched at Miranda House, Delhi University on October 21, 2019. The launch of Compendium was followed by a panel discussion on 'Reforming the Regulatory Framework for Private Schools: Promises and Challenges in the Draft National Education Policy'. Our panellists included Bikrama Daulet Singh,

Managing Director, Central Square Foundation, Bhanuchander Nagarajan, Former Advisor to Shri Prakash Javadekar, Former HRD Minister; Premila Nazareth, Non-Resident Senior Fellow, National Council of Applied Economic Research, Rohan Joshi, Education Sector Expert and Bhuvana Anand, Director - Research, Centre for Civil Society.

In a win for our work, our paper on the *Challenges of executive discretion in the regulation of private schools*, published in the Anatomy of K-12 governance in India Compendium, was printed in the Leap Blog on Law, Economics and Policy. Our video on *What does it take to open a private school in Delhi*, based on the findings of our 2019 Researching Reality Internship Compendium, was also published in *Marginal Revolution*.



# Launch of the Tweakbook on Governance Reforms



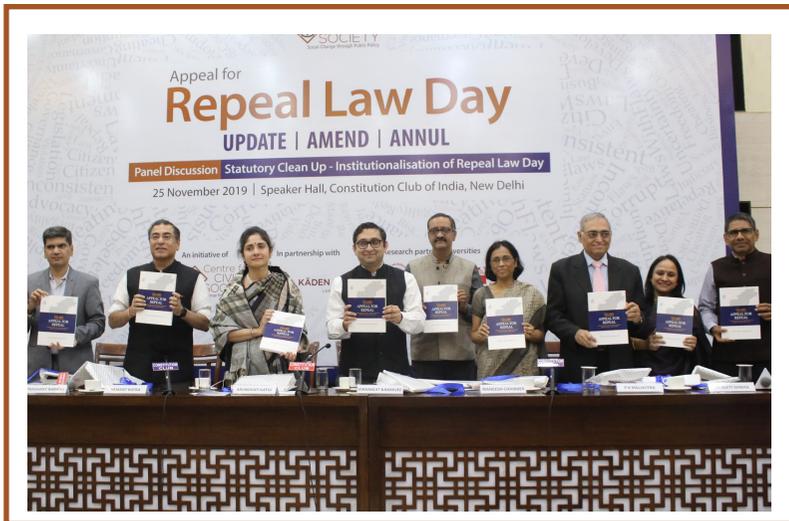
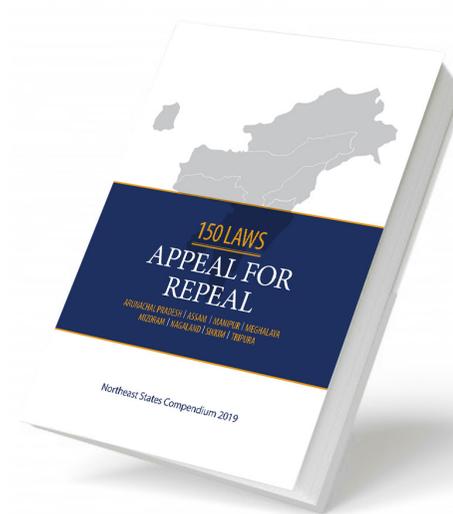
On November 7, 2019, we launched our *Tweak-Book for Governance Reforms* at Hotel Claridges, New Delhi. The research proposes Intelligent and Precise Tweaks (IPTs) to create immediately viable and actionable points for the government to usher in reforms.

The launch of the Tweakbook was followed by a panel discussion on 'Debugging India for Maximum Governance: Ensuring Accountability, Efficiency and Transparency',

attended by an over 90-strong audience. Our panelists included Amit Kaushik, CEO, Australian Council for Educational Research, India; Shakti Sinha, Former Director, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML); Shailaja Chandra, Former Secretary, Government of India and Ex-Chief Secretary, Delhi; KP Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Davinder P S Sandhu, Partner, KPMG (India).



# Launch of the Repeal Law Compendium: #Appealforrepeal



On November 25, 2019, we launched the *Repeal Law Compendium* at the Constitution Club of India, New Delhi. The sixth edition of the Compendium identifies 150 laws for repeal in the North-East region of India. The research was undertaken in collaboration with Symbiosis Law School, Noida (SLS), National Academy of Legal Studies and Research (NALSAR), Hyderabad, National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Bangalore, and our Legal Partner, Kaden Boriss.

The launch was followed by a panel discussion on 'Statutory Clean Up: Institutionalisation of Repeal Law Day'. Our eminent panelists included Vikramjit Banerjee, Additional Solicitor General of India; Arundhati Katju, Independent Litigator & Supreme Court Lawyer; PK Malhotra, Former Law Secretary, Ministry of Law & Justice; Maneesh Chhibber, Consulting Editor, The Print; Hemant Batra, Advocate, Vice President, SAARCLAW and Founder & Counsel, Kaden Boriss Global and Dr Neeti Shikha, Head, Centre for Insolvency and Bankruptcy.



# Launch of the Azadi Podcasts

On January 10, 2020, on the occasion of World Hindi Day, we launched our *Azadi Podcasts* series. *Azadi.me* is India's only online liberal portal in the Hindi language, bringing liberal classics and commentaries on contemporary socio-economic and political concerns, to Hindi language speakers in India and the world

Our inaugural edition of the Azadi Podcast saw Kumar Anand, Director - Advocacy, Centre for Civil Society (CCS) in conversation with Prashant Narang, Associate Director - Research on the state of street vendors in India. The podcast focused on the scope of the Street Vendors Act of 2014, and the arbitrary penalties and abuse that they so often face owing to gaps in regulation and legal protection.





# Education Policy MOOC



**MOOC EDUCATION POLICY**

**OUR SPEAKERS**



For more information contact [mooc@ccs.in](mailto:mooc@ccs.in)

Centre for CIVIL SOCIETY  
SWATANTRA ACADEMY

**EDUCATION IN INDIA**  
IDEAS | POLICIES | ALTERNATIVES

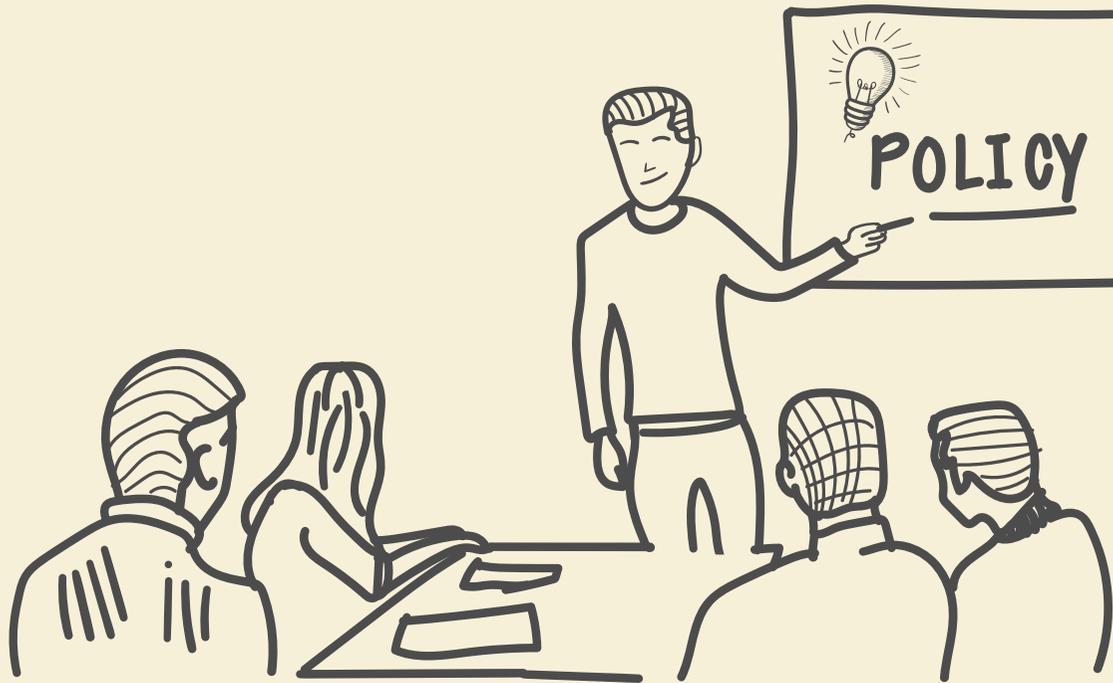
- 4 SUCCESSFUL BATCHES
- 700+ HAPPY LEARNERS
- 4 MODULES & 22 TOPICS
- SELF-PACED COURSE

This year we have launched the third and fourth edition of our Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) on Education Policy, with **425 participants**. The four-week online course was launched to address the continuing lack of comprehensive and exclusive training in India's education policy. Our faculty consists of eminent experts and academicians, including Amit Kaushik, CEO, Australian Council for Educational Research (India); Yamini Aiyar, President and Chief Executive, Centre for Policy Research; Parth J Shah, President, CCS and Co-Founder & Director, Indian School of Public Policy and Gurcharan Das, Author and Former CEO, P&G India.



# People Wins

Engaging Change-makers through  
Training, Advocacy and Outreach





# Nurturing Policy Change-makers - ipolicy for Young Leaders and Journalists

Our flagship introductory course in public policy - ipolicy, aims to equip participants with the fundamental concepts of public policy. The course introduced young leaders to the concepts of Policy Analysis and Evaluation, Public Choice Theory, the Right to Education Act, Agriculture and other socio-economic challenges. This year we conducted **26 ipolicy courses** across various cities - Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Jaipur, Mangalore, Mumbai and Hyderabad, reaching over **800 students**. Over the year, our faculty has included the likes of JP

Narayana, Founder Lok Satta Party; Rahul V Kumar, Research Consultant; Mathias Pontopiddan, Strategic Advisor and Project Lead, A.P. Moller-Maersk; Shagata Mukherjee, Assistant Professor, Meghnad Desai Academy of Economics; Rohan Joshi, Education Sector Expert; Kumar Anand, Director- Advocacy, CCS; Bhuvana Anand, Director- Research, CCS; Prashant Narang, Associate Director - Research, CCS; Barun Mitra, Founder & Director, Liberty Institute and Amit Chandra, Fellow, CCS. We also conducted our ipolicy programme in Hindi with **25 participants**.





We supervised our ipolicy course for school students at the City Montessori School, Lucknow with **33 students**, who were graduating successfully. Our faculty included Rohan Joshi, Education Sector Expert; Yazad Jal, Director - Academy, CCS.

In July, Azadi.me conducted our flagship programme ipolicy for journalists, in Lansdowne, Uttarakhand, in partnership with Atlas Network. The workshop engaged **24 journalists** from leading national and regional media houses like Zee News, NDTV, Hindustan Times (Hindi), Amar Ujala, Dainik Jagran and Jansatta (Indian Express Hindi), among others.

*“The programme has been an incredibly stimulating experience. Over the two days, I was constantly challenged to critically examine and logically present arguments, and engage with facilitators and fellow learners to weigh and debate multiple viewpoints. ipolicy has enabled me to refine my thought process and to become extremely practical in my approach to understanding socio-economic institutions and public policy.”*

- Kartikeya Reddy, Bengaluru iPolicy Graduate

**OUR ALUMNI**



# Baithak: Conversations in Policy



In 2019, we hosted **22 Baithaks**, bringing together **450 participants**. Through interactive sessions, debates and dialogue, our faculty engaged participants in discussions on contemporary policy concerns like the election policy, agrarian crisis, property rights, education policy and the rise of populism in India, among other subjects. .

Our eminent faculty included Seema Bansal, Head – Partner & Director, Social Impact and Shoikat Roy, School Education Consultant, Boston Consulting Group; Shruti Rajagopalan, Senior Research Fellow at the Mercatus Center - George Mason University; JP Narayana, Founder, Lok Satta Party; Rahul V Kumar, Research Consultant, Centre for Public Policy Research; Rohan Joshi, Education Sector Expert and Parth J Shah, President, Centre for Civil Society and Co-Founder & Director, Indian School of Public Policy.



# Certificate Course in the Politics of Development: Understanding Intersections of Politics and Policy



**P**olitics of Development (PoD) is a three-day residential course that explores the intersections of politics and policy. Offered in partnership with the GD Goenka University in July 2019, the certificate course attracted **40 young leaders** as participants. The course offered sessions on education policy,

the state of India's agriculture and a reform agenda for Modi 2.0. Our expert faculty included Amit Kaushik, CEO, Australian Council for Educational Research; Swaminathan Aiyar, Senior Journalist and Columnist and Barun Mitra, Founder and Director, Liberty Institute, among other distinguished speakers.



# Law and Liberty Conference: Understanding the Legal Foundations of a Free Society



Last year we organised the third and fourth editions of our Law and Liberty Conference (LLC) in partnership with the Federalist Society, in August and November 2019, involving 102 participants. The LLC programmes addressed the theme, 'Legal Foundations of a Free Society' through dedicated sessions on competition law, bankruptcy laws, cryptocurrency regulations and judicial efficiency, in addition to other

themes. Our panelists included Shruti Rajagopalan, Associate Professor of Economics, State University of New York; Sajid Shaikh, Assistant Professor and Assistant Registrar (Academic), Mumbai National Law University; Dr. Ashish Kulkarni, Professor, GIPE; Nikhil Pahwa, Founder and Editor, MediaNama; Murali Neelakantan, Principal, Amicus and Prashant Narang, Associate Director-Research, CCS, among other speakers.



# Liberty and Society Seminar: Advanced Learning in Liberal Perspectives in Public Policy



**W**e conducted our advanced four-day residential programme, Liberty and Society Seminar, in Goa from July 11 to July 14, 2019. Engaging our CCS alumni, the seminar offered participants a deeper understanding of socio-economic issues within a liberal framework, emphasising limited government, individual rights, free trade and competitive markets.

Attended by 24 alumni, the seminar captivated the participants on vital issues of public policy through thematic sessions on free speech, the job crisis in India, making a case

for liberal trade and agricultural policies, and a reform agenda for Modi 2.0, among other subjects. The seminar also discussed the foundations of liberalism in India. Our esteemed faculty included: Parth J Shah, President, CCS and Co-Founder & Director, Indian School of Public Policy; Bhuvana Anand, Director - Research, CCS; Anupam Manur, Assistant Professor, The Takshashila Institution; Jerry Johnson, Author; Neeraj Kaushal, Economist and Author and Swaminathan Aiyar, Senior Journalist and Columnist.



# Engaging Journalists on Policy Issues



In 2019, we conducted nine policy dialogues with journalists in Chandigarh, Delhi and Lucknow. Over **120 journalists** representing prominent media houses including NDTV, Zee News and All India Radio, among others, attended these dialogues and discussions. The interchange provided a platform to discuss current socio-economic challenges like tolerant BT (HTBT) seeds and the debate surrounding their ban in India, the need to repeal redundant laws and the country's education landscape.



# Spontaneous Order Dialogues

The poster features the Centre for Civil Society logo at the top left. The main title 'SPONTANEOUS DIALOGUE' is enclosed in a speech bubble. Below it, the Facebook Live logo is displayed. The event date and time are 'Thursday, 19 Sep 2019, 5 - 6 PM (IST)'. The topic 'INDIAN ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN' is written in large yellow letters, with 'Origins and Solutions' in white below it. A hand is shown pointing to the text. On the right side, there are three portrait photos of the speakers: Dhiraj Nayyar, Mohit Satyanand, and Parth J Shah, each with their name and title below.

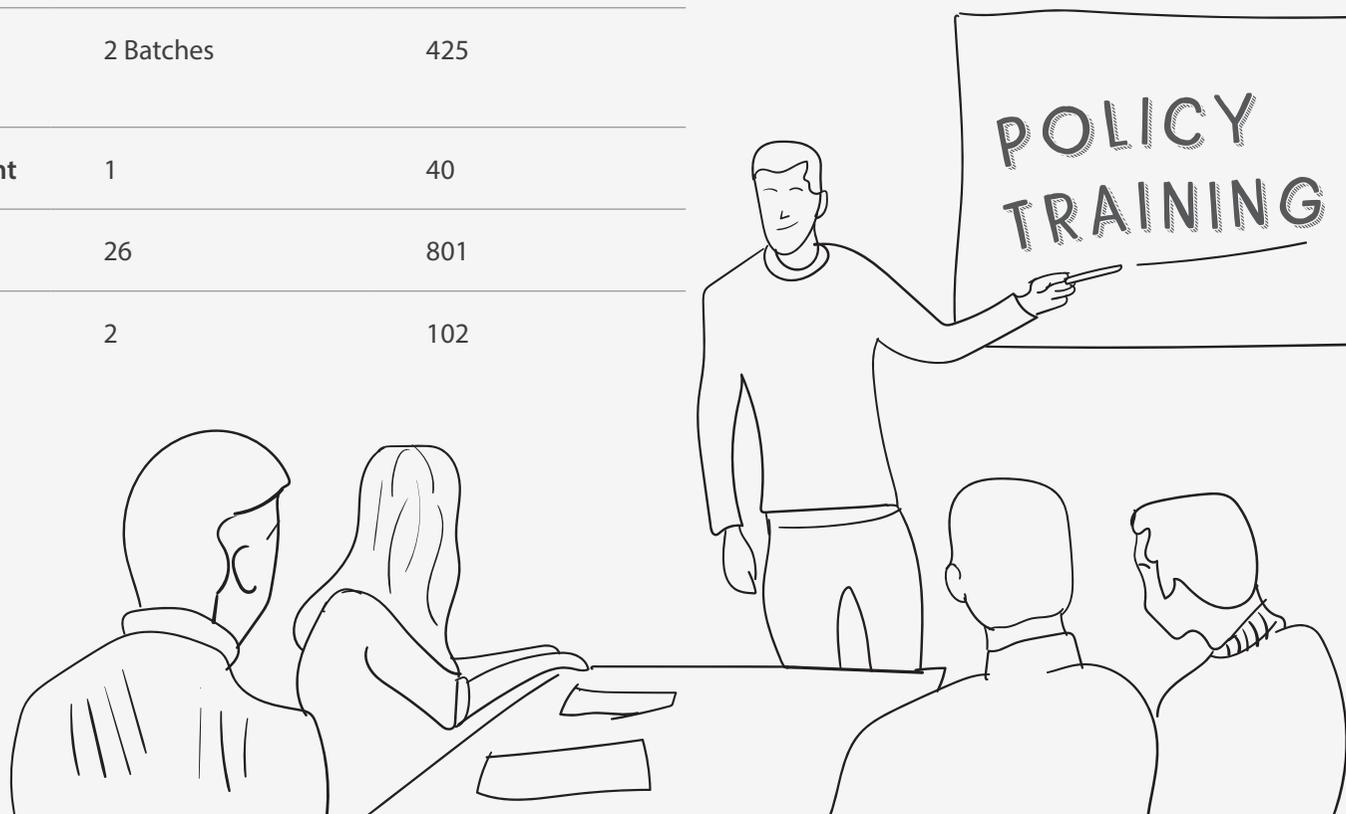
Through the year, *Spontaneous Order*, our digital publication of liberal commentaries, hosted four CCS Facebook Live Discussions ‘Spontaneous Dialogue’ on important contemporary topics like the Street Vendors Act, India’s economic slowdown, the onion crisis and the employment catastrophe India is currently facing. Featuring Indira Unninar, Advocate, Supreme Court and Delhi High Court; Vivek Kalia, Joint Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Gurugram and Manoj Mehra, Street Vendor and General Secretary - National Hawkers Federation, the dialogue discussed the enduring challenges in the implementation

of the Street Vendors Act, 2014, passed by the Parliament. Dhiraj Nayyar, Chief Economist, Vedanta Ltd. and Mohit Satyanand, Chairman & Founder, Teamwork Arts, analysed the state of the Indian economy and potential measures for its revival. The Sixth Edition of our Facebook Live SO Dialogue series attempts to decode the India’s onion crisis with Barun Mitra, Founder & Director of the Liberty Institute and Vivian Fernandez, Delhi-based journalist. In March, at our Seventh Edition of the SO Dialogue, CCS Academy Director Yazad Jal discussed India’s job shortage with Anupam Manur, Assistant Professor, Takshashila Institution.



## Snapshot of CCS Programmes

Programme	Number of Programmes Held	Number of People Reached
Baithak	22	450
Massive Online Open Course	2 Batches	425
Politics of Development	1	40
ipolicy	26	801
Law and Liberty Conference	2	102





# Organisation Wins

Making our Mark in the  
Movement for Liberty





# CCS Ranked #71 in the 2019 Top Think Tanks Worldwide List



In a big win for us, CCS has been ranked 71 in the 2019 Top Think Tanks Worldwide (Non-US), according to the [2019 Global Go to Think Tank Index Report](#) by the University of Pennsylvania. Our research paper '[Deconstructing K-12 Governance in India](#)' from the Researching Reality Internship 2019 compendium titled '[Anatomy of K-12 Governance](#)', has also been ranked as one of the '2019 Best Policy Study-Report Produced by a Think Tank'.



# CCS at Atlas Global Perspectives: Social Change Through Public Policy



On May 30, 2019, Bhakti Patil, Former Assistant Director, Development and Strategy, Centre for Civil Society (CCS), was invited to speak about CCS' ongoing work for the rights and recognition of street vendors at the Atlas Network Global Policy Perspectives Event held in New York. Atlas Network's Global Policy Perspectives series brings think tank leaders from around the world to discuss policy issues affecting their countries and how their work fits into those landscapes.

Engaging with over 70 policy enthusiasts, industry and civil society leaders and journalists, Bhakti Patil highlighted CCS' continuing efforts to protect and empower street vendors through the effective implementation of the Street Vendors Act of 2014. The talk also addressed the state of doing business in India, tackling regulatory bottlenecks to the opening and running of businesses and the burgeoning shadow economy in the country.



# Promoting the Ease of Doing Business at the Margins: The Story of Zubair



Our partner, Atlas Network, covered the success story of Zubair, Founder, AddtoGoogle, under their Doing Development Differently programme.

Previously, according to India's minimum capital requirement, a mandatory amount of INR 100,000 had to be deposited in the bank, to start a business. In 2015, Zubair had tried to get his computer business started but was thwarted in his attempts

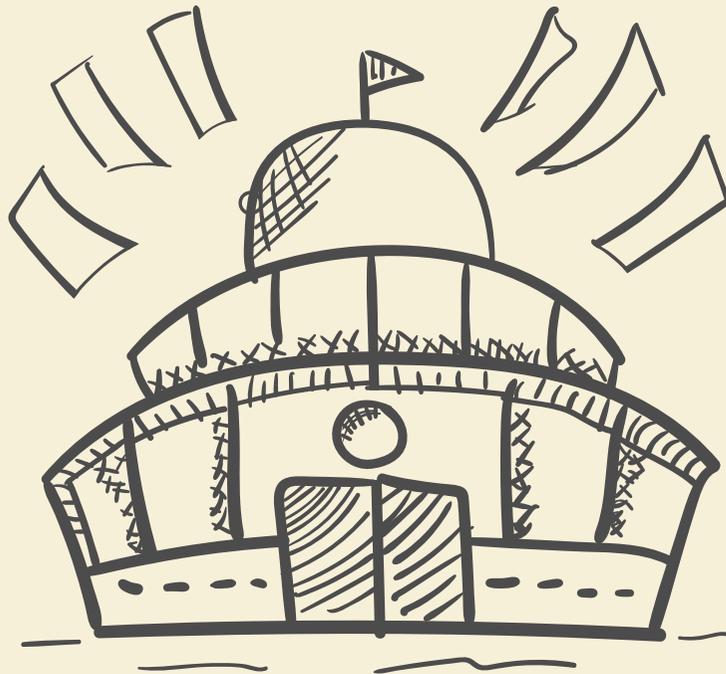
because he was unable to scrape together the minimum amount required.

The Centre for Civil Society (CCS) had advocated for the repeal of the paid-in minimum capital requirement to officials at the Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade. In 2017, the law changed and the paid-in minimum capital requirement went to "an absolute zero".



# Institutional Wins

Cultivating Policy- Change makers





# Launch of the Founding Class of Policy Scholars at ISPP



In August 2019, the Indian School of Public Policy (ISPP) welcomed its inaugural batch of **56** aspiring policy leaders with the first day of classes starting on August 5, 2019. Dr Krishnamurthy Subramanian, Chief Economic Advisor of India, delivered a commencement address at the ISPP Campus in South Delhi, to begin the academic year.

Our scholars have successfully completed four terms, having concluded courses in Economics for Policy Analysis, Ethics and Public Policy, Systems Thinking, Game Theory, R - Programming, Business and Government, Policy Writing and Communications, among other subjects. Our faculty members have included distinguished names like Arun Maira, Former Member, Planning Commission



of India; Pronob Sen, Programme Director, International Growth Centre India Programme; Shamika Ravi, Director of Research, Brookings India and NC Saxena, Former Member, National Advisory Council, Government of India.

### Some of the key highlights of this academic year were:

- In October 2019, the Indian School of Public Policy brought together deans and senior faculty members from public policy institutions from seven countries, for an academic consultation. The primary objective of this exercise was to understand public policy curriculum from a global perspective, share and learn from global best practices and forge international partnerships to secure greater opportunities for ISPP policy scholars. Professor Kanti Prasad Bajpai, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Singapore, and Professor Maya Tudor, Blavatnik School of Government, Oxford University, subsequently joined the ISPP academic advisory council.





- We organised guest lectures, as part of our on-going series bringing industry and domain experts for shorter sessions with the students. Our faculty included some of India's leading public policy experts/practitioners and civil society leaders like Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha; Kailash Satyarthi, Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, V. Srinivas, Additional Secretary to the Government of India and representatives from organisations like the Quality Council of India, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Boston Consulting Group and the Mahindra Group.
- ISPP also conducted Tea and Policy Session, which were held with experts and practitioners representing organisations like Mckinsey, Dalberg, Reliance Industries, Genesis BCW and Brookings India, among other leading institutions. ISPP hosts Tea and Policy sessions to facilitate informal engagement between our scholars and public policy professionals, addressing the practice of policy and career prospects in industry.



- The student-led publication of the Institute, the ISPP Policy Review, was launched on February 4, 2020. The Review strives to serve as a bridge between academia and praxis with emphasis on rigorous research and evocative analysis, and a resource for policy and development practitioners, academia, industry leaders, students and the civil society at large.

*“I came to ISPP to enrich my knowledge and gain crucial skills required to excel in the field of Public Policy. The reason I chose ISPP is its world-class faculty, which gives an opportunity to learn from the best in the game and the sheer diversity of the courses and workshops covered in a year. The experience here has been exhilarating and has far exceeded expectations. The idea of being constantly challenged by different streams of thought imparts a certain kick and pushes you to become better. The immersive learning atmosphere also provides a great developmental opportunity. Studying at ISPP is the best decision I have made in my educational journey so far.”*

*- Himanshu Burad, Class of 2020*

**OUR SCHOLARS SAYS**



# National Independent Schools Alliance



A platform for budget private schools (BPS), the National Independent Schools Alliance (NISA), works to improve the quality of education in budget private schools and dismantle policy prejudices against private education in India. This past year, NISA grew to become a network of 65,000 schools with a presence in over 20 states.

In December 2019, NISA was an institutional partner for the Second Edition of the 'School Summit: Disruptive Innovative Ideas', organised by the CII and the Government of Uttar Pradesh, in Lucknow. In February 2020,

NISA with Education World also jointly organised the National Level Ranking and Best Budget Private Schools Award. Education World published the first league table ratings ranking India's Top 300 budget private schools. Top-ranked schools from across the country were then felicitated at the Education World India Budget Private School Rankings Awards 2020 held in Mumbai on February 26. Over 400 BPS promoters and principals attended the event from across the country.



# Media Wins



This year, we received **236 media placements**. Some of our top stories are listed below

**Expert Comment**

**NEP 2019 draft: accountability lacuna**



**THREE YEARS AGO** IN 2016, IN A MONOGRAPH titled *New Education Policy: Principles, Priorities & Practices*, Centre for Civil Society argued that India needs an education policy that will retain children in school and ensure consistently high learning outcomes. We proposed that the new National Education Policy (NEP) should provide incentives to make the government school system accountable and enable parents to choose the most suitable school for their children. Does the recently released 484-page draft National Education Policy 2019 incorporate these goals? Let's begin with the goal of improving the performance of government schools. Our government/public school sys-

**A sound accountability system can be built by adopting one of two measures – a financing framework where funding follows students or funding public schools on the basis of learning improvements**

give low returns by way of improved learning outcomes. What of the democratic goal of enabling parental choice and acknowledging their aspirations? The most important stakeholder in school education, next only to children around whose needs and convenience the system ought to

*Parth J Shah, President and Bhuvana Anand, Director - Research, CCS, write on the Misses of the National Education Policy published in Education World.*

**Does Seeds Bill 2019 undermine farmers' rights?**

The Centre is expected to introduce Seeds Bill 2019. Sudhansu Neema writes on how is the Bill going to impact the farmers, seeds industry and agriculture sector if it becomes a law...



*Sudhanshu Neema, Former Manager, Advocacy-Centre for Civil Society wrote on How the Seeds Bills 2019 would impact the farmers, seeds industry and agriculture sector, if it became a law.*

**खत्म हों अप्रासंगिक कानून**

**नए कानून बन जाने के बावजूद भी पुराने कानूनों के दुरुपयोग किए जाने की आशंका हमेशा बनी रहती है**

**अभिप्राय संद**

संविदा मोदी ने 2014 के चुनाव प्रचार में पुराने और बेकार हो चुके कानूनों को समाप्त किए जाने की जरूरत को कर्तव्य प्रमुखता दी थी। क्योंकि नए कानून बन जाने के बावजूद भी पुराने कानूनों के दुरुपयोग किए जाने की आशंका हमेशा बनी रहती है। यह वर्षों के कार्यकाल में उन्होंने लगभग 2000 ऐसे कानूनों को समाप्त किया जो अब प्रचलन में नहीं रह पाए थे। इसके अलावा कई ऐसे कानून हैं जो आज के समय में अमरी प्रासंगिकता खो चुके हैं, फिर भी काम में हैं। कई ऐसे कानून जो वर्तमान के अनुकूल बदलने या खत्म होने चाहिए, आज भी पुराने प्रचलन में ही चल रहे हैं।

नए कानून बन जाने के बावजूद भी पुराने कानूनों के दुरुपयोग किए जाने की आशंका हमेशा बनी रहती है। यह वर्षों के कार्यकाल में उन्होंने लगभग 2000 ऐसे कानूनों को समाप्त किया जो अब प्रचलन में नहीं रह पाए थे। इसके अलावा कई ऐसे कानून हैं जो आज के समय में अमरी प्रासंगिकता खो चुके हैं, फिर भी काम में हैं। कई ऐसे कानून जो वर्तमान के अनुकूल बदलने या खत्म होने चाहिए, आज भी पुराने प्रचलन में ही चल रहे हैं।

*Two op-eds: on the Need for a National Repeal Law Day published in Amar Ujala, and on the Need for repealing outmoded and irrelevant laws published in Dainik Jagran.*



**POVERTY & FREEDOM**

*Atlas Network published an article on Dinesh Dixit, a street vendor from Sarojini Nagar Market, New Delhi, being honoured with the Digital Media Award by Indraprastha Media Hub. Earlier in the year, Atlas Network released a short documentary on Dinesh Dixit and CCS' on-going work for the rights and recognition of street vendors*



**76**  
Print



**05**  
Radio



**12**  
Television Appearances/ Talkshows



**125**  
Online Publications



**18**  
Media Citations



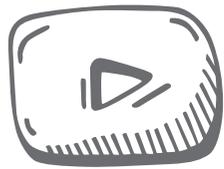
# DIGITAL OUTREACH

CCS Online





# Our Digital Footprint



**2,462**  
Subscribers

**4,700**  
Total Views



**6,793**  
Followers

**60,000**  
Total Impressions



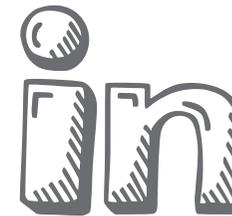
**2,853**  
Followers



**1,57,868**  
Followers

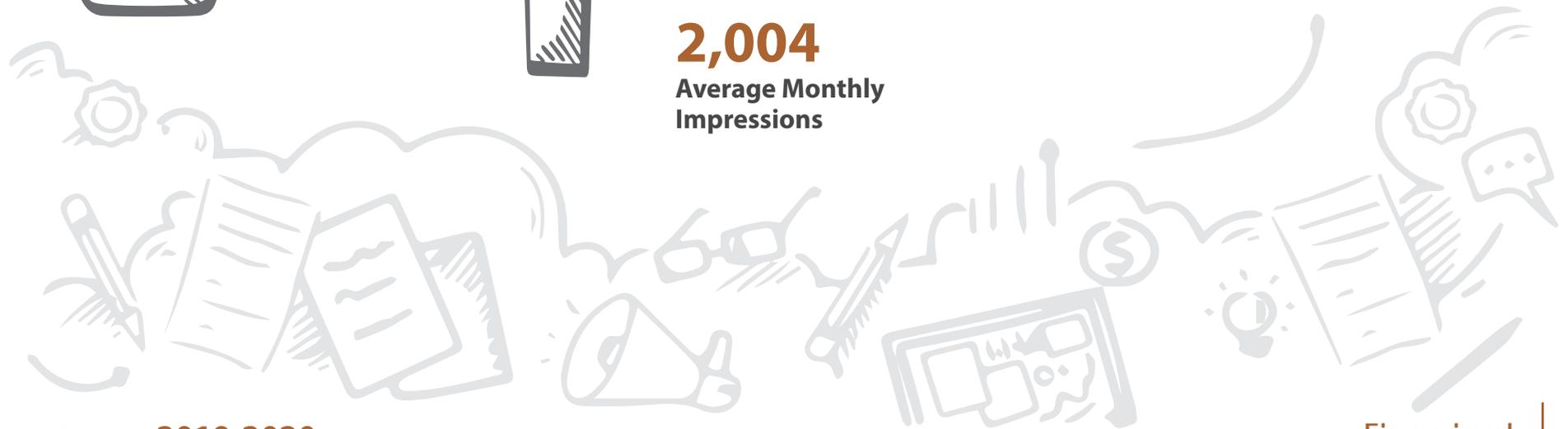
**1,399**  
Average Monthly Reach

**2,004**  
Average Monthly Impressions



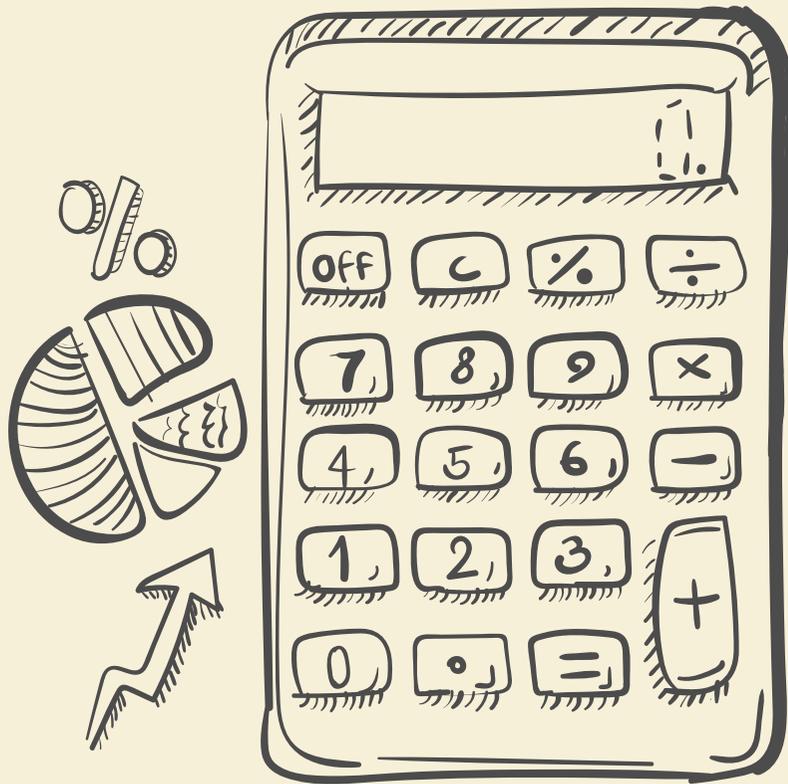
**6,793**  
Followers

**60,000**  
Impressions





# Financial Review





## M. THOMAS & CO.

Chartered Accountants

40-B, 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, PAN AAATC1889P as at 31st March 2020 and the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended on that date which are in agreement with the Books of Account maintained by the said Institution.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which to 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 Branch of the above named Institution visited by us so far as appears from our examination of the Books, 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 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 31-03-2020.

and

(ii) In the case of Income & Expenditure A/c, of the SURPLUS of its Accounting Year ending on 31-03-2020.

The prescribed particulars are annexed hereto.

Place: New Delhi

Date: 07-09-2020

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

R. MURALI (Partner)  
Membership No. 80972  
UDIN: 20080972AAAAABK2492





## INCOME & EXPENDITURE A/C FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31-03-2020

PARTICULARS	CURRENT YEAR	PREVIOUS YEAR
<b>INCOME</b>		
Foreign Contributions (FC)	52,565,452.00	10,729,079.00
Local Contributions & Grants (Local)	29,690,438.00	54,347,116.00
Bank Interest (Local)	2,887,826.00	3,005,265.50
Fees from Activities (Local)	1,586,749.00	1,710,660.00
Bank Interest (FC)	897,057.04	280,223.00
Interest on TDS Refund (Local)	15,006.40	21,931.10
Miscellaneous Income (Local)	0.00	65,660.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>87,642,528.44</b>	<b>70,159,934.60</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
Local Expenses as per Schedule	45,797,955.53	39,301,445.52
FC Expenses as per Schedule	30,719,814.05	9,813,985.83
Depreciation	655,463.49	579,995.36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>77,173,233.07</b>	<b>49,695,426.71</b>
<b>EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>10,469,295.37</b>	<b>20,464,507.89</b>

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

(R. MURALI) Partner  
New Delhi, 07th September 2020



(PARTH J. SHAH)  
PRESIDENT



# BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31-03-2020

## CAPITAL FUND

Balance B/f	49,230,867.94		31,501,748.74	
Transfer from Income & Expenditure A/c	10,469,295.37		20,464,507.89	
Transfer from Reserve Fund u/s 11(2)	4,160,000.00		0.00	
Previous Year Adjustments	6,903.00		38,948.00	
Transfer from JTF Fund	0.00		1,885,663.31	
BPS Quality Improvement Expenses NISA	0.00		(500,000.00)	
Transfer to Reserve Fund u/s 11(2)	(1,135,000.00)	62,732,066.31	(4,160,000.00)	49,230,867.94

## CORPUS FUND

Balance B/f	2,000,000.00		2,000,000.00	
Additions for the year	0.00	2,000,000.00	0.00	2,000,000.00

## RESERVE FUND U/S 11(2)

Balance B/f	4,160,000.00		0.00	
Additions for the year	1,135,000.00		4,160,000.00	
Utilisations during the year Trfd. to Capital Fund	(4,160,000.00)	1,135,000.00	0.00	4,160,000.00

## DEPRECIATION FUND

Balance B/f	4,205,229.06		3,625,233.70	
Depreciation for the year	655,463.49		579,995.36	
Depreciation Released	0.00	4,860,692.55	0.00	4,205,229.06

## JTF FUND

Balance B/f	0.00		6,553,736.78	
Transfer to Capital Fund	0.00		(1,885,663.31)	
Less: Utilisations	0.00	0.00	(4,668,073.47)	0.00

## CURRENT LIABILITIES

TDS Payable	631,733.00	631,733.00	671,177.00	671,177.00
-------------	------------	------------	------------	------------

TOTAL

71,359,491.86

60,267,274.00

*R Murali*



(R. MURALI)



(PARTH J. SHAH)

Contd.....2/-

## FIXED ASSETS

As per schedule at Cost	7,801,882.00	6,787,018.00
-------------------------	--------------	--------------

## CURRENT ASSETS

Bank Fixed Deposits	31,295,401.11	19,895,401.11		
Bank Balances	29,892,111.10	30,961,039.91		
Interest Accrued on Bank Fixed Deposits	1,122,849.14	532,147.30		
TDS Refundable as per Schedule	859,451.84	708,657.74		
Advance for Expenses as per Schedule	143,881.67	1,059,907.94		
Security Deposits	110,000.00	110,000.00		
Other Current Assets	93,342.00	167,410.00		
Cash Balances	40,573.00	63,557,609.86	45,692.00	53,480,256.00

TOTAL

71,359,491.86

60,267,274.00

As per our Report of even date

For M. THOMAS & CO.

Chartered Accountants

*R Murali*



(R. MURALI) Partner

New Delhi, 07th September 2020



(PARTH J. SHAH)

PRESIDENT



# Our Team



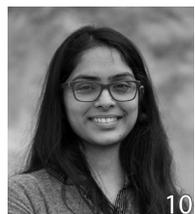
## Academy

1. Aastha Narang
2. Abhinav Singh
3. Afifah Siddiqui
4. Avi Krish Bedi
5. Hinan Ali
6. Manasa Pidatala
7. Mohammad Anas Khan
8. Rajashi Banerjee
9. Reena Meena
10. Rini Rafi
11. Rohan Jolly
12. Sampurna Khasnabis
13. Shefali Mishra
14. Shivang Raina
15. Sidhartha Tibrewal
16. Sneha Pokhriyal
17. Sourya Banerjee
18. Swati Rao
19. Utkarsh Khare
20. Vidushi Mehrotra
21. Yazad Jal



## Communications

1. Aarat Pandya
2. Avinash Chandra
3. Ayushi Jain
4. Kumar Anand
5. Manoj Singh
6. Ravi Kumar Yadav
7. Shreya Ralli
8. Sudhanshu Neema
9. Sumbul Mashhadi
10. Sunaina Mathur
11. Swati Singh
12. Thomas Antony
13. Usha S. Kundu



## CEO

K Yatish Rajawat



## Development

1. Bhakti Patil
2. Himanshu Dhingra
3. Sanjana Anand





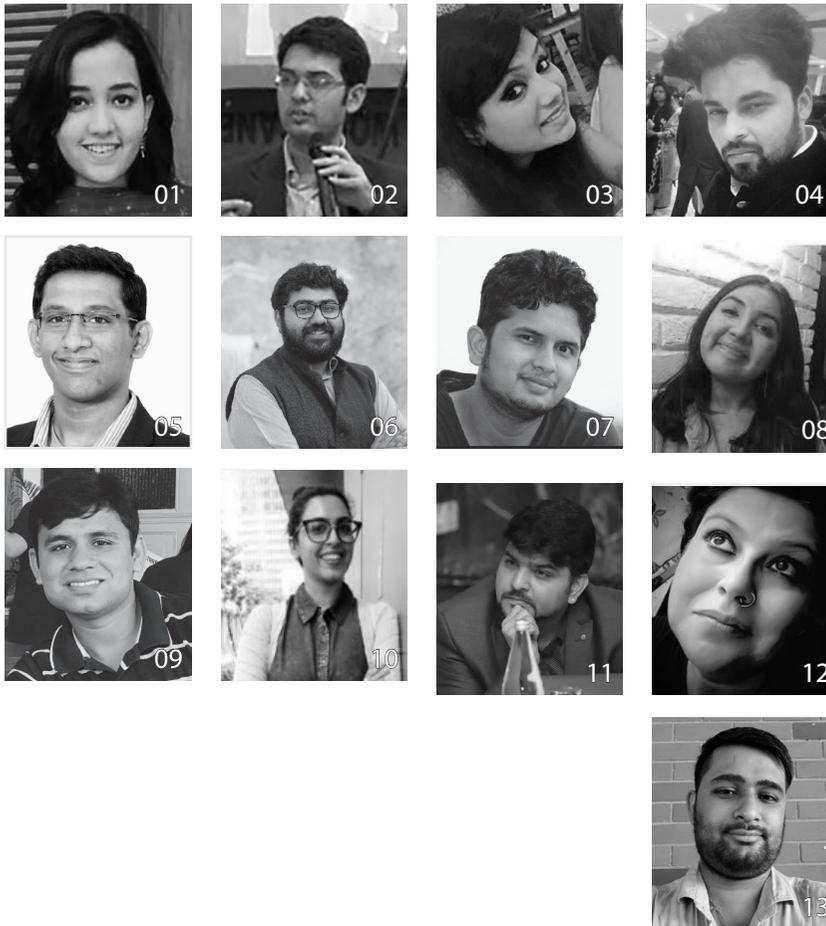
## Operations

1. Anamika Pathak
2. Bhupinder Singh
3. Govind Kashyap
4. Rajesh Kumar
5. Santosh Kumar Chaupal
6. Shashikant Rai
7. Shubham Prajapati



## Research

1. Alston Dsouza
2. Bhuvana Anand
3. Jayana Bedi
4. Prashant Narang
5. Ritika Shah
6. Tarini Sudhakar
7. Vidushi Sabharwal



## INDIAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY

1. Ankita Sharma
2. Arpit Chaturvedi
3. B. Hena
4. Deepjyoti Sarma
5. Dhruva Mathur
6. Gopikrishnan Nair
7. Jatin Garg
8. Maitreyi Menon
9. Manu Sakunia
10. Neha Mehta
11. Ram Kamesh
12. Sarah Berry
13. Vikas Sharma



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NAZARETH**  
Independent  
Consultant

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Chairman & Editorial  
Director, IMA India



**ANIRUDHA DUTTA**  
Financial Analyst



**GEETA GANDHI KINGDON**  
City Montessori School



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Reforms



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Centre for Insolvency  
and Bankruptcy



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Mint, India



**REUBEN ABRAHAM**  
CEO & Senior Fellow,  
IDFC Institute



**SHRUTI RAJAGOPALAN**  
Mercatus Center - George  
Mason University



# Scholars



**AJAY SHAH**  
National Institute for  
Public Finance and Policy



**LATE DEEPAK LAL**  
University of California



**GEETA GANDHI KINGDON**  
University College London



**LATE ISHER JUDGE**  
Indian Council for Research on  
International Economic Relations



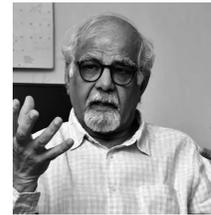
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Columbia University



**LORD MEGHNAD DESAI**  
Centre for the study of  
Global Governance



**SHREEKANT GUPTA**  
National University of  
Singapore



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Oxus Investments Pvt. Ltd.



**SWAMINATHAN AIYAR**  
Cato Institute



**URJIT PATEL**  
The Reserve Bank  
of India



## PARTNERS & DONORS

Our partners have been crucial to our success. There are several individuals besides the organisations mentioned below, who have contributed greatly to our work in 2019-20. We are grateful for their continued support to help advance our mission of social change through public policy.



**Tree of Life Foundation**



A-69, Hauz Khas, New Delhi - 110016 (INDIA)

Tel.: +91 11 2653 7456 | 4160 7006 | 4162 9006 Fax: +91 11 2652 1882 Email: [ccs@ccs.in](mailto:ccs@ccs.in)

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[www.ccsacademy.in](http://www.ccsacademy.in) • [www.indianliberals.in](http://www.indianliberals.in) • [www.spontaneousorder.in](http://www.spontaneousorder.in)