

AUGUST 2024 ISSUE

Centre for Development Policy and Practice

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

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GLIMPSES OF AUGUST



POLICY TO PRACTICE PODCAST

The CDPP launched the "Policy to Practice" podcast featuring development sector experts. The podcast aims to enlighten a diverse audience on global issues, fostering conversations with experts to simplify complex concepts related to social, cultural, economic, and technological development.

#6 Featuring Prof. Amitabh Kundu



Catch us in conversation with Prof. Amitabh Kundu hosted by Mr. Ablaz Mohammed Schemnad on the ***Migration Dynamics in India, A Socioreligious Observation.***

Prof. Amitabh Kundu delved into the nuances of interstate migration in India through a historical lens, explaining the political economy of the migration corridors, across decades.

#7 Featuring Dr. Anant Maringanti



Catch us in conversation with Dr. Anant Maringanti hosted by Mr. Amaan Khan, on the ***Urban Geography in India.***

Dr. Anant explains geography as a discipline and urban geography as an inter-discipline. He takes the audience through the theoretical and application aspect of geography and also the peculiarity of Hyderabad's urban geography.

[Click on the title to listen to the podcast!](#)

CDPP BLOG

CDPP disseminated thought-provoking articles via the CDPP Blog. This month's blog covered diverse perspectives under the theme of law, policy, and democracy.

India's Path to Climate Resilience and Sustainability: Challenges, Policies, and Opportunities



The article explores climate change impacts in India, highlighting the need for resilience and sustainability. It discusses causes, regional impacts, and economic repercussions across sectors like agriculture and infrastructure. Challenges include political resistance, economic constraints, social awareness gaps, and technological barriers. The article reviews key policies, such as the National Action Plan on Climate Change and Paris Agreement commitments, and highlights opportunities in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and technology. It calls for integrated policies and global cooperation to achieve a sustainable future for India.

Navigating Infrastructure Transformation: The Impact of the Dhubri-Phulbari Bridge



Dhubri is a hub for trade in the Assam region of India. Small, mechanised boats transport goods from South Garo Hills and Phulbari in Meghalaya to the Dhubri market. These boats are vital for trade between Assam and Meghalaya and for sustaining the livelihoods of local boat traders. This article explores the implications of the ongoing bridge construction between Dhubri and Phulbari, focusing on its potential impacts on local boat traders and broader economic

development. The bridge, funded by JICA and executed by NHIDCL, promises to enhance connectivity and economic growth in Northeast India. However, it raises concerns for local boat traders who may face business disruptions due to changes in transportation dynamics and regulatory barriers under the *Inland Vessel Act 2021*. The study explores the need for inclusive infrastructure development that considers both positive and negative impacts, ensuring equitable access and opportunities for all stakeholders involved.

Click on the titles to read the articles!

CDPP BLOG

Regulatory Approaches to Balancing Privacy Rights and Technological Innovation: A Comparative Analysis



This article examines the evolving landscape of privacy laws in India, focusing on the Personal Data Protection Bill (PDPB) and its alignment with international standards such as the EU's GDPR and the US's CCPA. It highlights key features of the PDPB, including data localisation and accountability measures, and identifies gaps such as stringent data localisation

requirements, enforcement challenges, and the need for clearer consent standards. By comparing India's approach with global frameworks, the article points out the need for India to address these gaps to balance privacy protection with technological innovation and foster a robust, globally-aligned data protection regime.

Citizenship Amendment Act: Navigating Controversy, Legal Debates, and Societal Impacts in India



The *Citizenship Amendment Act* (CAA) of 2019, enacted by India's NDA government, offers a path to citizenship for non-Muslim refugees from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan, sparking significant controversy and protests. Critics argue that the CAA undermines secular principles by excluding Muslims, potentially violating constitutional rights and international human rights norms. The Act has intensified communal tensions

and societal divisions. Comparatively, while some democracies adopt selective immigration policies, the CAA's religious exclusions have faced global criticism. This article examines the key debates surrounding the CAA, its legal status, societal impact, and prospects for reform to align it with India's founding principles of equality and secularism

[Click on the titles to read the articles!](#)

ONLINE ARTICLES

CDPP disseminated thought-provoking articles via renowned platforms like Siasat. This month's articles covered themes like the budget, disasters, and regulations.

Digital Health Priorities in the Indian budget



The 2024–25 Union Budget allocates Rs. 87,656.90 crores to the Department of Health and Family Welfare, marking a 13% increase from the previous year. This budget emphasises digital health advancements, with significant funding for the Ayushman Bharat Digital Health Mission and increased support for tele-mental health services. Despite these advancements, the article reveals that a substantial portion of the population remains excluded due to the digital divide, characterised

by poor connectivity and low digital literacy, particularly among rural and marginalised groups. The article highlights the need for inclusive strategies, such as improving digital literacy, expanding device availability, and tailoring services to local contexts, to ensure that digital health advancements benefit all segments of society equitably.

From Wayanad to Delhi: Need for stronger climate action



Recent natural disasters in India, including Kerala's landslides, Delhi's flooding, and severe impacts in Assam, Himachal Pradesh, and Rajasthan, reveal critical gaps in disaster management and climate adaptation. These events expose inadequate infrastructure, poor preparedness, and environmental degradation. While developments have been made, such as through the *Disaster Management Act* of 2005 and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, there is a need for

enhanced local capacity, advanced technology, and sustainable land-use practices. The article discusses how these challenges highlight the urgent need for a more comprehensive and proactive approach to disaster management and climate resilience in India.

[Click on the titles to read the articles!](#)

ONLINE ARTICLES

The OTT Surge in India: Regulation, Freedom, and Future of Digital Content



The rise of Over-the-Top (OTT) platforms in India has led to a surge in digital content consumption, with the market projected to grow from \$1.8 billion in 2022 to \$3.5 billion by 2027. This growth, however, has highlighted regulatory challenges, particularly regarding content censorship and freedom of expression. The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021, and the withdrawn Draft

Broadcasting Services (Regulations) Bill, 2023, reflect efforts to address these challenges but face criticism for potential overreach. The article explores the need for a balanced regulatory framework that ensures responsible content regulation while safeguarding freedom of expression.

Bridging Policy, Practice: Empowering Social Sector via Micro Funding, Collaboration



India's social sector faces a mixed landscape, as detailed in the Doing Good Index 2024 and the CDPP-Plustrust report. Despite challenges from conflicting regulations like the FCRA and complex tax laws, there are opportunities for growth through mechanisms like CSR and the Social Stock Exchange. Micro funding, highlighted as vital for grassroots organisations, could be transformative if regulatory barriers are eased.

Strengthening internal capacities of social delivery organisations, fostering public-private collaborations, and promoting innovative financing models are essential steps. Streamlining regulations and enhancing support can unlock the potential of India's social sector and improve its global standing.

[Click on the titles to read the articles!](#)

EVENTS

Union Budget 2024

The Centre for Development Policy and Practice hosted a talk by Dr. Rathin Roy on the Union Budget 2024, exploring its various nuances and macroeconomic aspects.

The discussion covered the ratio of total expenditure to GDP, government expenditure, and other critical parameters. Dr. Rathin assessed whether the budget allocations are sufficient to meet its intended objectives, assessing the potential effectiveness of the proposed financial strategies in addressing national priorities.

| 1st August 2024 | 6 PM

| Lamakaan, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad

Talk | 101

Contact: 096427 31329

BUDGET



Please join us at the talk by Dr. Rathin Roy on the newly released budget.



Dr. Rathin Roy
Distinguished Professor,
Kautilya School of Public
Policy, Former member of
Prime Ministers' Economic
Advisory Council

in conversation with



Anant Maringanti
Executive Director of HUL



Understanding the Manipur Crisis: A Policy and Human Rights Perspective



Mr. Harsh Mander
Founder, Karwan e Mohabbat



Mr. Ajit Chaudhury
Former Chief Strategy Officer, Tata Steel



Prof. Lam Khan Piang
University of Hyderabad



Prof. Kham Khan Suan Hausing
University of Hyderabad



Meeting ID: 820 0303 6314
Passcode: 384528

On Monday, 5th August, 2024 at 10:30 am
at CDPP Private Limited Masab Tank Hyderabad



Understanding the Manipur Crisis

At the Centre for Development Policy and Practice's event on the Manipur crisis, experts offered a detailed examination of the situation. Mr. Ajit Chaudhary likened the crisis to historical conflicts, emphasising the need for statesmanship and disarmament. Professor Piang traced the origins of the conflict to colonial-era boundary decisions, challenging the notion that the Kuki-Zo community are outsiders. Professor Hausing criticised the biased state response and harmful stereotypes, including associations with the narcotic trade. Mr. Harsh Mander described the situation as a civil war, marked by rising militia activity and a lack of effective central government intervention.

Scan the QR code to join the CDPP Community Group for updates on all the events.



EVENTS

On Love in the Time of Hate: In the Mirror of Urdu

The book discussion covered various themes related to politics, people, passions, and places through Urdu couplets.

The author cautioned the audience against popular sentiments that are based on hating those who are different from oneself.

This book was a labour of love, for Urdu poetry, through which the author shows that Urdu poetry is not poetry by Muslims for Muslims about Muslims, rather it is poetry which is a common cultural property of all communities.

Book Discussion

on Love in the Time of Hate: In the Mirror of Urdu
at *Lamakaan* on Thursday, 8 August, 2024 from 6 pm



Dr. Rakshanda Jalil

Dr. Rakshanda Jalil is a multi-award-winning translator, writer, and literary historian. She has published more than 30 books and 50 academic papers and essays. Some of her books include: *Liking Progress, Loving Change: A Literary History of the Progressive Writers Movement in Urdu* (OUP, 2014); a biography of Urdu feminist writer Dr. Rashid Jahan: *A Rebel and her Cause* (Women Unlimited, 2014); a translation of *The Sea Lies Ahead*, Intizar Husain's seminal novel on Karachi (Harper Collins, 2015) and Krishan Chandra's partition novel *Ghaddar* (Westland, 2017), among others. She runs *Hindustani Awaaz*, devoted to the popularization of Hindi-Urdu literature and culture.



This is a book about love—love for one's country and for all that goes to make it one we can be proud of. Poetry, it has been said, flourishes when all else is uncertain. With that in mind, renowned literary historian and translator, Rakshanda Jalil uses Urdu poetry to look at how the social fabric of secular India is changing.



Prof. MM Siddiqui who will Chair this discussion, is the Dean, School of Education & Training, Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU). He is credited with numerous publications. He has been conferred upon with prestigious *Honoris Causa* (Doctor of Divinity) honorary degree by Henry Martyn Institute (International Centre for Research, Interfaith Relations and Reconciliation), Hyderabad.

Discussion on The Business of Stealing Futures: Race, Gender, and the Student Debt Regime

By Mir Ali Husain & Saadia Toor



Mir Ali Husain
Professor,
William Paterson University USA

Mir Ali Husain is a professor of management at the William Paterson University in the US. He has published several academic articles and books, and is on the editorial board of prestigious journals including the *Academy of Management Learning and Education*, *Organization*, *Critical Perspectives in International Business*, and the *Journal of Urdu Studies*.

Abstract:

This paper, published in the *Journal of Business Ethics*, argues that the system of student debt functions as one of the most egregious and yet poorly understood mechanisms by which structural racism is reproduced in the U.S. today. It presents evidence that student debt is unevenly distributed across race and gender, show that this pattern arises from policy choices made over time, and demonstrate that these disparities play a significant role in maintaining and exacerbating racial and gender wealth gaps. The paper contends that the student debt crisis not only erodes the core principles of higher education but also perpetuates a cycle of racial and gender inequality and given the crucial role played by business corporations, urges scholars of business ethics to pay attention to this issue.

On Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at 12:00 pm (IST)
at CDPP Private Limited, Masab Tank, Hyderabad



Meeting ID: 899 9049 4018
Passcode: 306120



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PRACTICE

Discussion on "The Business of Stealing Futures: Race, Gender, and the Student Debt Regime

At a CDPP event, Prof. Mir Ali Husain of William Paterson University presented his journal article, "The Business of Stealing Futures: Race, Gender, and the Student Debt Regime." He examined how race, gender, and ethnicity intersect to impact student debt in the U.S., particularly focusing on the challenges faced by first-generation students. The discussion, influenced by the Black Lives Matter movement's call for student debt cancellation, highlighted the persistent wealth gap between Black and white students.

Scan the QR code to join the CDPP Community Group for updates on all the events.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Book Discussion

The Many Lives of Syeda X: The Story of an Unknown Indian

By Neha Dixit

On 14th September 2024

The event will happen first from 4pm to 5pm at the CDPP Office with the author.

The event will continue from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at Lamakaan with the author and panelists for a wider audience.

Panelists:

Prof Aseem Prakash,
Professor at TISS Hyderabad

Prof Faizan Mustafa,
Vice Chancellor and Professor, CNLU, Patna

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