FEBRUARY 2026 ISSUE

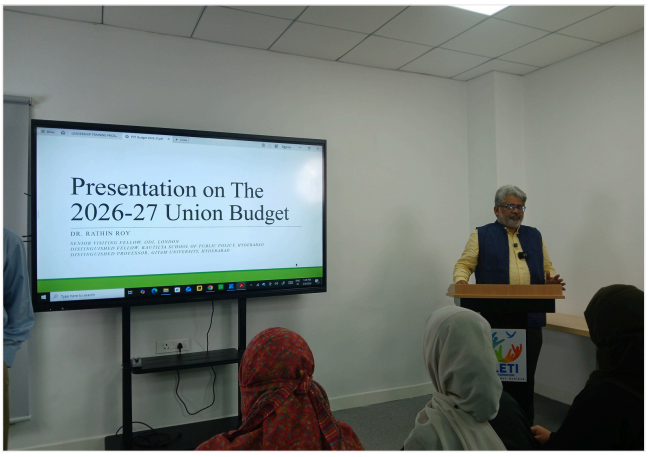
Centre for Development Policy and Practice

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Contents

Blogs
Online Articles
Events
Working Paper

GLIMPSES OF FEBRUARY



POLICY TO PRACTICE PODCAST

CDPP's "Policy to Practice" 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.

Policy to Practice: Law & Society #9 with Prof. Prerna

In this episode of the Centre for Law, Economics and Society Podcast organised by CDPP, we sit down with Prerna, Assistant Professor of Law at NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad. They teach a course on Law and Poverty and engage with questions of caste, social inequality, and access to justice. Prerna's doctoral research draws on critical legal theory and lived experiences of caste, disability, and transness to examine the limits of anti-discrimination law.

This episode explores how caste shapes access to justice within the criminal legal system, particularly the ways in which individuals from different caste backgrounds are treated when accused of crimes. Through this conversation, the episode highlights the structural and social dynamics that continue to influence legal processes and outcomes.

This episode is hosted by Moumita Barman, Senior Research Associate at the Centre for Development Policy and Practice (CDPP).

Click on the title to listen to the podcast!

CDPP BLOGS

CDPP disseminated thought-provoking articles through the CDPP website. This month's blogs covered diverse perspectives under the theme, "Aviation Sector", "Gender Diversity and Inclusion in the Tech Industry" and "Women in Agriculture."

IndiGo's Turbulence and the Bigger Question, "Is India's Aviation Regulation Under Strain?"

IndiGo's recent operational crisis reveals strain in India's aviation regulation, where stretched oversight by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and reactive policy responses risk long-term safety and compliance. The article highlights how temporary rule relaxations and weak continuous monitoring can narrow safety margins, especially around pilot fatigue management and oversight capacity. It argues for stronger, proactive regulatory frameworks to safeguard aviation safety rather than crisis-driven fixes.

Unpacking Household Decision Making Among Agricultural Households in Uttar Pradesh, India

The article examines the decision-making power of household members in agricultural households using a mixed-methods diary approach. A total of 60 respondents from 30 Farmer Production Organization member households were surveyed through both qualitative and quantitative methods over a period of 12 months. The study highlights that women have started participating more actively in decision-making, and instances of joint decision-making are on the rise. However, the majority of decision-making power still remains with men, reflecting persistent gender disparities. Men and women's report of decision making fluctuates through the year.

Click on the title to read the article!

CDPP BLOGS

Studying the Impact of Male Migration on Decision-Making by Women in Agriculture

Male migration from rural areas has been a regular trend in India. It has had consequential effects on rural women's decision-making. This article aims to contribute to the literature on understanding the relationship between migration and agrarian gender in Maharashtra, particularly focusing on four villages in Wai Block. The study explores the dynamics behind the changes in decision-making by women in agriculture due to male migration. The study reveals that they have been able to exercise some agency and can spend money earned through wages. Women had exercised collective action by working in groups in agricultural fields.

India-Africa Partnerships As A Model For Decolonising SDG 3 Implementation Through a South-South Cooperation

This article seeks to examine the foundational role of Sustainable Development Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-being) in shaping India-Africa health diplomacy, highlighting the importance of inclusive health policies in strengthening partnerships. Despite comprehensive academic and policy discussions on India-Africa health diplomacy, there is a limited research base that clearly links these efforts to the strategic objectives of SDG 3, particularly concerning gender inclusivity and mental health, which are key pillars of its focus. Health security has progressively become a cornerstone of international relations, particularly through the human security approach, which emphasis the security of the individual.

Click on the title to read the article!

ONLINE ARTICLES

CDPP disseminated thought-provoking articles for the Siasat Daily e-paper. This month's articles covered themes on Aadhaar privacy, prison reforms, etc.

Call for better regulations on Aadhaar governance and privacy

India's Aadhaar programme, introduced as a voluntary identification system, has increasingly become mandatory through its linkage with welfare schemes and essential services, raising serious concerns about consent and exclusion. While framed as a tool for inclusion, the system's technological and procedural complexities often marginalise those it claims to empower, particularly the poor, elderly, and digitally excluded. The article highlights persistent risks around data privacy, surveillance, and repeated instances of data leaks, alongside weak accountability mechanisms. It argues that inclusion achieved through coercion undermines democratic principles and calls for stronger safeguards, transparent governance, and genuinely voluntary, rights-respecting approaches to digital identification.

Marginalised Stakeholders with Technological Barriers Across Sectors Should Be in Focus

This article highlights the persistent gender and digital divides that limit women's participation in technology, education, and the economy. Despite constitutional and SDG commitments, women remain underrepresented in STEM and the tech workforce, facing structural barriers, social norms, and limited access to digital tools. Reports by UNESCO, Oxfam, and the World Bank show significant economic losses due to this exclusion. The author argues that equitable digital access, gender-sensitive policies, community-driven initiatives, and disaggregated data are essential to ensure inclusion, procedural fairness, and sustainable empowerment for marginalised groups.

Click on the titles to read the articles!

ONLINE ARTICLES

Hyderabad Hosts Ethical AI and Governance at DCS 2025

This article talks about the Digital Citizen Summit (DCS) 2025 held in Hyderabad on 14–15 November 2025, co-organised by the Digital Empowerment Foundation (DEF), Centre for Development Policy and Practice (CDPP), the Telangana government and other partners. Under the theme, "People and Platforms: Let's Talk Accountability," the summit examined how innovation, regulation, citizen agency, digital justice, and platform power interact in shaping digital spaces.

Undertrial disparities of caste and religion in PSI 2023 India

The Prison Statistics India 2023 reveals chronic prison overcrowding and a dominant undertrial population at 73.5%. Deep disparities emerge: while Hindus are under-represented among undertrials relative to their population share, Muslims, Sikhs, SCs, STs and OBCs are visibly over-represented, reflecting structural bias in India's justice system. The data suggests that caste, tribe and religion significantly shape pre-trial detention outcomes, underlining urgent need for systemic reform.

Click on the title to read the article!

EVENTS

2026 Budget Discussion

The Centre for Development Policy and Practice invited participants to Budget Talk 2026, an expert discussion with Prof. Rathin Roy, Distinguished Professor at the Kautilya School of Public Policy.

Date: Wednesday, 4 February 2026
Time: 5.30 p.m.
Venue: CETI Foundation, 8-2-277/B/1, Road No. 2, Opposite Rainbow Children's Hospital, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad 500034

The session offered critical insights into India's 2026 Budget and its implications for economic policy and public finance.

EVENTS

Conference on Pharma and Healthcare

The Centre for Development Policy and Practice, in collaboration with the Jahangirabad Institute of Technology, supported the Conference on Pharma and Healthcare. The two-day conference convened scholars, policymakers, practitioners, and institutional leaders to deliberate on policy, regulation, healthcare accessibility, and the advancement of Higher Education in STEM.

Date: 6–7 February 2026
Time: 10.00 a.m. onwards
Venue: Jahangirabad Institute of Technology (JIT)
Location: Barabanki, Uttar Pradesh

EVENTS

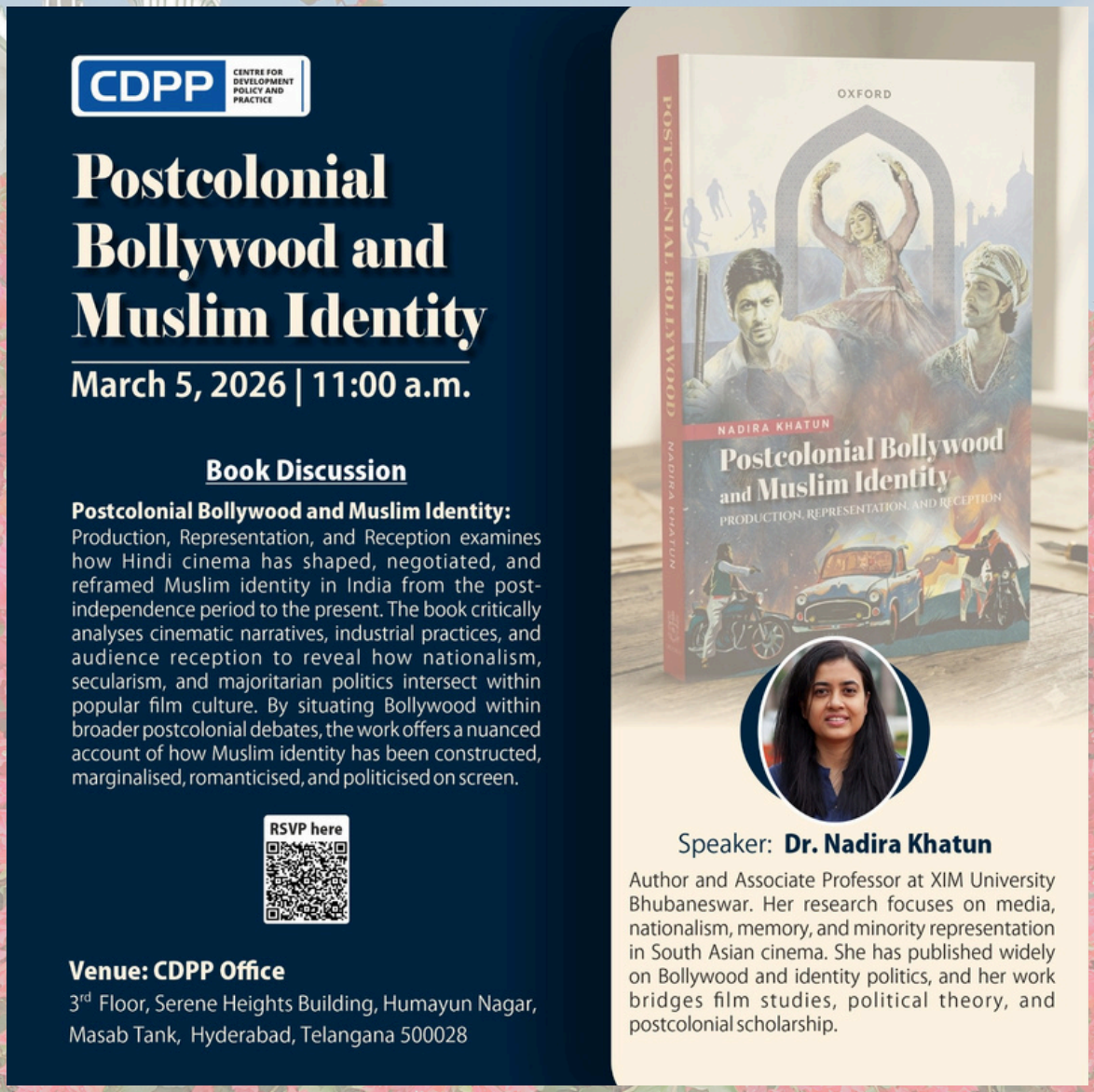
Bazm-e-Sukhan

Jiski Zubaan Urdu Ki Tarah

The Centre for Development Policy and Practice presented Bazm-e-Sukhan: Jiski Zubaan Urdu Ki Tarah, an evening celebrating the enduring relationship between Urdu poetry and Hindi cinema, in collaboration with the Digital Empowerment Foundation and A-CODE. Featuring Mir Ali Hussain and Zaheer Baig, the programme reflected on lyricism, literature, and popular culture.

Date: 11 February 2026 (Wednesday)
Time: 6.30 p.m.
Venue: Lamakaan, near GVK One, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad

UPCOMING EVENT



Book Discussion

Postcolonial Bollywood and Muslim Identity: Production, Representation, and Reception

The Centre for Development Policy and Practice invites you to a book discussion on Postcolonial Bollywood and Muslim Identity: Production, Representation, and Reception by Dr. Nadira Khatun.

RSVP by scanning the QR code or by clicking on the link in our story.

Date: March 5, 2026 | Time: 11.00 a.m.
Venue: CDPP Office, 3rd Floor, Serene Heights Building, Humayun Nagar, Masab Tank, Hyderabad, Telangana 500028

UPCOMING WORKING PAPER

Understanding the Regulatory Landscape in India: A Comprehensive Look at Artificial Intelligence Governance in Healthcare Sector

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming healthcare, from diagnostics and treatment planning to patient monitoring and administrative efficiency. The global healthcare market is projected to grow at a 5% compound annual growth rate from 2025 to 2030, reaching nearly USD 30 trillion, with inpatient and outpatient care remaining the dominant segments. Yet, the sector faces significant challenges, including fragmented regulatory landscapes, limited talent and knowledge, uneven data access, technology maturity gaps, and varying healthcare player adoption. In India, AI adoption in healthcare is accelerating, however, the regulatory framework is still evolving, with multiple agencies issuing overlapping guidelines, resulting in fragmented oversight of AI tools in healthcare.

This working paper explores and compares regulatory approaches to AI in healthcare across India, the United States, China, and the European Union. Drawing from a literature review of academic, regulatory, and policy sources, the study maps landscapes, identifies gaps, and assesses implications for patient safety, innovation, and competitiveness. By examining these jurisdictions, the study highlights lessons from different regulatory philosophies and identifies strategies that could inform India's policy evolution.

Click on the title to read the article!

GOONJ.. a voice, an effort
www.goonj.org

DIGITAL EMPOWERMENT foundation

LED BY FOUNDATION

IMRC
INDIAN MUSLIM RELIEF & CHARITIES

SAHAYATA TRUST

Plustrust

Dr. Marri Channa Reddy
Human Resource Development
Institute of Telangana
NABET Accredited Excellent (उत्कृष्ट) Institute

ISO 21001: 2018 Certified
EDUCATION ACADEMY
Preparing World Worthy Individuals

US-INDIA POLICY INSTITUTE

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA

ऑक्सफैम इंडिया
OXFAM
India

PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY

GDCWH
GOVT. DEGREE COLLEGE FOR WOMEN

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST of SCOTLAND
UWS

مولانا آزاد نیشنل اُردو یونیورسٹی
मौलाना आज़ाद नेशनल उर्दू यूनिवर्सिटी
MAULANA AZAD NATIONAL URDU UNIVERSITY
(Accredited Grade "A+" by NAAC)

icbc

The London Story

CLES
CENTRE FOR LAW, ECONOMICS AND SOCIETY

ALEPH BOOK COMPANY
PUBLISHERS OF FINE WRITING

FOUNDATION

THE EDUCATION GROUP
LONDON

ACODE
Art and Collective for Digital Empowerment

Centre for Budget and Policy Studies

Click on the social media platform icons to connect!