



## 2012 | ANNUAL REPORT



**Students in a Digital Classroom**

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## Highlights

- Working with the Hans Foundation (from August 2012) for Creating a National Kit of Laws, Policies and Programmes for Persons with Disabilities.
- Engaged in developing an open source screen reading software solution “NVDA” to handle Indian languages and text-to-speech software in 15 Indian languages over a period of two-and-a-half years (2012 to 2015).
- Published a report on Accessibility of Government Websites in India (authored by Nirmita Narasimhan, Mukesh Sharma and Dinesh Kaushal) in cooperation with the Hans Foundation. Also published an abridged version of ITU’s “Making Television Accessible Report” titled Accessible Broadcasting in India.
- Pranesh Prakash prepared the Consumers International IP Watchlist 2012 – India Report.
- Wikimedia Foundation awarded a two-year grant to support and develop free knowledge in India. The Centre for Internet and Society (CIS) opened an office in Delhi. The Access to Knowledge team is working simultaneously from Delhi and Bangalore.
- Participated in the Internet Governance Forum held in Baku, Azerbaijan in November 2012. Overall, CIS staff members spoke in 12 panels.
- Pranesh Prakash did a preliminary analysis on a leaked list of the websites blocked from August 18, 2012 to August 21, 2012 by the Indian government. The analysis was cross-posted/quoted in Wall Street Journal (August 25, 2012), The Hindu (August 24, 2012), LiveMint (August 24, 2012), Global Voices (August 24, 2012), Outlook (August 23, 2012), FirstPost.India (August 23, 2012), IBN Live (August 23, 2012), News Click (August 23, 2012), Medianama (August 23, 2012) and KAFILA (August 23, 2012).
- Along with Google, CIS initiated the Google Policy Fellowship initiated in 2011. Rishabh Dara who was selected as a fellow brought out a report on Intermediary Liability in India. Amba Kak was selected as a Google Policy Fellow for 2012.
- Along with Hivos conducted the Digital Natives video contest. The top five winners were awarded a cash prize of EUR 500 each.
- Organised the Habits of Living Workshop in Bangalore from September 26 to 29, 2012. Three columns by Nishant Shah arising from these workshops were published in October 2012.
- CIS is doing a project on Internet Institute with the Ford Foundation from November 2012. The modules published on the The Internet Institute website are also mirrored on the CIS website.

## Accessibility

CIS is doing two projects in partnership with the Hans Foundation. One is to create a national resource kit of state-wise laws, policies and programmes on issues relating to persons with disabilities in India and another is for developing a screen reader and text-to-speech synthesizer for Indian languages. CIS is also working with the World Blind Union and other organisations to develop a Treaty for the Visually Impaired helped by the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO):

## Publications

- Accessibility of Government Websites in India: A Report (by Nirmita Narasimhan, Mukesh Sharma and Dinesh Kaushal): The report summarises the key findings of a test conducted to measure the accessibility of 7800 websites of the Government of India against the WCAG 2.0.
- Banking and Accessibility in India: A Study on Banking Accessibility in India (by Vrinda Maheshwari, October 30, 2012): Adoption of accessible features and technologies by banks in India is low despite there being legislative and executive push for it.
- Accessible Broadcasting in India (by Srividya Vaidyanathan, January 11, 2013): The abridged version of ITU's "Making Television Accessible" report put up for comments in October 2012 was later broadened in scope.

## NVDA Project

CIS is developing an open source screen reading software solution “NVDA” to handle Indian languages and text-to-speech software in 15 Indian languages for the benefit of the print-disabled:

- A seven member steering committee of experienced persons (Dipendra Manocha, Deepesh, Charu Datta Jadhav, Manish Agarwal, Avneesh Singh, Sunil Abraham and Nirmita Narasimhan) was constituted.
- The NVDA team in Australia will mirror the development work done in India on their main page.
- Project Manager, Manish Agarwal is supervising bugs and testing. Suman Dogra is writing the test scripts and validating the bugs. Yogesh Kumar does the coordination with Mahiti.
- The NVDA team is currently working on bug ‘2047’ which addresses the problem of NVDA not recognizing the language automatically in MS Word.
- Two interns, Krishna Kant Kumar and Rameshwar Nagar are working on bug 1641 and bug 1353.
- The Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi has agreed to have three professors involved in the project and let students work on this project.

## National Resource Kit Project

CIS and the Hans Foundation are engaged in creating a national resource kit of state-wise laws, policies and programmes in India for persons with disabilities over a period of 30 months (2012-

2015). The resource kit will benefit the disabled by providing them with a ready reference on the facilities extended by the government for persons with disabilities:

- CIS hired Anandhi Vishwanathan and signed a MoU with the Centre for Law and Policy Research. As part of this agreement first Shruti Ramakrishna (and later Manojna Yeluri) started working in this project. Manojna reports to Jayna Kothari, Senior Partner at CLPR and Board Member at CIS.
- Sent letters to the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and various ministries of states and union territories seeking information on laws, schemes, programmes, guidelines, circulars, notifications and other relevant materials related to persons with disabilities.
- Sent RTI applications to 15 states and 3 union territories seeking information on the laws, policies, programmes, schemes and other initiatives for persons with disabilities.
- Published draft chapters on Kerala (by Anandi Vishwanathan, December 31, 2012), Karnataka (by Shruti Ramakrishnan, December 30, 2012), Andhra Pradesh (by Anandi Vishwanathan, December 31, 2012), Tamil Nadu (by Shruti Ramakrishnan, December 30, 2012), Haryana (by Anandhi Viswanathan, January 31, 2013), Bihar (by Manojna Yeluri, February 14, 2013), West Bengal (by Anandhi Viswanathan, February 28, 2013), Lakshadweep (by Anandhi Viswanathan, March 25, 2013), Meghalaya (by Manojna Yeluri, March 25, 2013), and Uttar Pradesh (by Manojna Yeluri, March 31, 2013).

## **Notifications**

We now have a new section on our website which contains all government notifications, RTI applications, and accessibility related resources: cases, statutes, etc. These notifications were published: Information about Schemes for Disabled Persons in Haryana, Haryana Government Notification (Hindi version), West Bengal (Govt) Notifications (including OCR versions), Lakshadweep (Govt) Notifications (including OCR versions).

## **WIPO**

Pranesh Prakash participated in the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the WIPO Standing Committee for Copyright and Related Rights in Geneva. CIS presented its statements on the Treaty for the Visually Impaired, WIPO Broadcast Treaty and on the Exceptions & Limitations for Libraries and Archives. Archival copies of the transcripts are available online.

## **Feedback**

- Comments and Feedback on the Draft Twelfth Five Year Plan with respect to Persons with Disabilities (by Rahul Cherian, December 28, 2012). CIS was one of the ten organizations representing people with disabilities that sent comments and feedback on the draft twelfth five year plan.
- Making Public Libraries Accessible to People with Disabilities (by Rahul Cherian, January 24, 2013). CIS was one of the 20 disability rights groups that wrote to the Ministry of Culture on January 23, 2013 seeking remedial action on the barriers faced by persons with disabilities in accessing public libraries in India.

- Government of Madhya Pradesh initiates ICT Accessibility in Public Communication: CIS joined hands with Daisy Forum of India member Arushi in Bhopal to submit a request for a notification mandating that all communication by the Government of Madhya Pradesh should be accessible to persons with disabilities.

### **Blog Entries**

- Copyright Amendments – Empowering the Print Disabled (by Rahul Cherian, May 29, 2012).
- An FAQ on the Copyright Amendment Bill, 2012, for the Benefit of Persons with Disabilities (by Rahul Cherian and Dr. Sam Taraporevala, June 2, 2012).
- Accessibility of Government Websites in India – Test Results (July 13, 2012).
- Ring Side View: Update on WIPO Negotiations on the Treaty for the Visually Impaired (by Rahul Cherian, August 13, 2012).
- WIPO General Assemblies Approve Road Map on Treaty for the Visually Impaired (by Rahul Cherian, October 11, 2012).
- The Hathitrust Judgment and its impact on TVI negotiations at WIPO (by Rahul Cherian, October 30, 2012).
- Human Machine Interfaces: The History of an Uncertain Future (by Sharath Chandra Ram, November 30, 2012).
- WIPO to Convene a Diplomatic Conference in Morocco to Finalise TVI (by Rahul Cherian, December 24, 2012).
- Linking Commercial Availability and Exceptions in the Treaty for Visually Impaired/Persons with Disabilities (by Rahul Cherian, January 23, 2013).

### **Events Participated In**

- Towards a Multi-Stakeholder Consultation on ‘Internet Rights, Accessibility, Regulation & Ethics’ (Mirza Ghalib Hall, SCOPE Complex, New Delhi, May 3, 2012): Pranesh Prakash participated as a speaker in the session on Access to Internet: Right to Information.
- A Discussion on Intercept between UNCRPD & CEDAW (organized by the Shanta Memorial Institute of Rehabilitation – Odisha, CBR Network and Mitra Jyoti, Bangalore, Karnataka, February 4, 2013): Anandhi Viswanathan participated in this event.

### **Media Coverage**

- ‘Sops can boost jobs for disabled persons’ (by Lubna Kably, The Times of India, September 5, 2012). Nirmita Narasimhan is quoted.
- US and EU blocking treaty to give blind people access to books (by Paige McClanahan, Guardian, July 30, 2012). Rahul Cherian is quoted.
- U.S. support sought for treaty to allow blind people access to copyrighted works (by Rama Lakshmi, Washington Post, July 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- WIPO To Negotiate Treaty For The Blind In June; ‘Still Some Distance To Travel’ (by Catherine Saez, Intellectual Property Watch, December 18, 2012).

- Disability groups in India welcome progress on treaty for blind persons (by Madhavi Rajadhyaksha, The Times of India, December 20, 2012). Nirmita Narasimhan and Rahul Cherian were quoted.
- Indian Users' Perspective on WIPO Negotiations on Treaty for Visually Impaired (by Catherine Saez, Intellectual Property Watch, February 16, 2013). Nirmita Narasimhan is quoted.

## Memorial



**Rahul Cherian**

Rahul Cherian, an expert and policy activist in disability law, intellectual property and technology law passed away due to an illness while on a visit to Goa on February 7, 2013. Rahul was the founder of the Inclusive Planet Centre for Disability and Policy, and a fellow at CIS. He was also a partner at IndoJuris Law Offices in Chennai and was one of the experts who drafted the Treaty for the Visually Impaired currently being negotiated at the World Intellectual Property Organization. The Hindu (February 8, 2013), First Post (February 8, 2013), Legally India (February 7, 2013), and Bar & Bench (February 8, 2013) covered this story. Lawrence Liang wrote an obituary page, A Lightness of Spirit (The Hindu, February 9, 2013) and Nishant Shah wrote a column One For All (Indian Express, February 17, 2013). CIS organised a memorial function for Rahul Cherian at the TERI, Southern Regional Centre in Bangalore on February 28, 2013.

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## Access to Knowledge

The Access to Knowledge programme addresses the harms caused to consumers, developing countries, human rights, and creativity/innovation from excessive regimes of copyright, patents, and other such monopolistic rights over knowledge. CIS prepared the India Report for the Consumers International IP Watchlist 2012 and an analysis of the Copyright Amendment Bill, 2012. CIS is also doing a project (Pervasive Technologies) on examining the relationship between production of pervasive technologies and intellectual property.

## Publication

- Consumers International IP Watchlist 2012 — India Report (by Pranesh Prakash, August 16, 2012): India's Copyright Act is a relatively balanced instrument that recognises the interests of consumers through its broad private use exception, and by facilitating the compulsory licensing of works that would otherwise be unavailable.

## Copyright

- [Analysis of Copyright Amendment Bill 2012](#) (by Pranesh Prakash, May 23, 2012): The [Copyright Amendment Bill 2012](#) was published in the Gazette of India on June 8, 2012. Pranesh Prakash examines five positive changes, four negative ones, and notes the several missed opportunities. The analysis was [cross-posted](#) in infojustice.org on May 25, 2012.
- [Analysis of Super Cassettes v. MySpace](#) (by Ujjwala Uppaluri, October 31, 2012): The Delhi High Court's judgment is worrying. The court failed to appreciate the working of intermediaries online disregarding all pragmatic considerations involved. The consequences for free expression and particularly for file sharing by users of services online are especially unfavourable.

## Op-ed/Columns

- [Copyright Madness](#) (Lawrence Liang and Achal Prabhala, Indian Express, May 22, 2012). [The Work of Art in the Age of Mechanical Injunctions](#) (Lawrence Liang, The Hindu, May 23, 2012).
- [A Ludicrous Ban](#) (Achal Prabhala and Lawrence Liang, Open Magazine, June 2, 2012).
- [Digital Restrictions Management](#) (Sunil Abraham, Prajavani, June 9, 2012).
- [The Pros and Cons of Copyright Amendment Act 2012](#) (Lawrence Liang, Prajavani, June 9, 2012).
- [Copyright Amendment: Bad, but Could Have Been Much Worse](#) (Sunil Abraham, Business Standard, June 10, 2012).

## Media Coverage

- [Copyright Law: More Than a Moral Obligation](#) (Jaya Bhattacharji Rose, Business World, August 9, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [EU stalls treaty talks to allow copyright waiver for print disabilities](#) (by Priscilla Jebaraj, The Hindu, July 25, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Concerns raised ahead of proposed India-US trade treaty](#) (Business Line, June 13, 2012).
- [Will the Copyright Law Help the Starving Artist?](#) (by Margherita Stancati, Wall Street Journal, May 28, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Did Sibal just get arm-twisted by book publishers?](#) (First Post, May 25, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's article on parallel importation of books is referred in this article.
- [Hacking, Modding & Making](#) (by Brendan Shanahan, GQ, April 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.

## Event Co-organised

- [2012 Global Congress on Intellectual Property and the Public Interest](#) (co-organised with Fundação Getulio Vargas, American University Washington College of Law, Columbia University, Open AIR, and ICSTD, FGV Law School, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, December 15 – 17, 2012). Sunil Abraham and Pranesh Prakash spoke at the event. Pranesh was one of the moderators in the Roundtable Discussion on Priority Policy Forums, Research and Analysis Needs and Commitments.

## Events Participated In

- The International Copyright System and Access to Education: Challenges, New Access Models and Prospects for New Principles (organised by Max Planck Institute, Munich, Germany, May 14 and 15, 2012) Pranesh Prakash participated in the event.
- ICOMM2012: International Communications and Electronics Fair (organised by CMAI Association of India, NSIC Expo Grounds, New Delhi, September 14 – 15, 2012). Jadine Lannon participated in the event.

## WIPO

We have put up the archival copies of the transcripts of the 25th session of the WIPO Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights held in Geneva from November 19 to 23, 2012: [WIPO SCCR 25 Day 1, November 19, 2012](#), [WIPO SCCR 25 Day 2, November 20, 2012](#), [WIPO SCCR 25 Day 3, November 21, 2012](#), [WIPO SCCR 25 Day 4, November 22, 2012](#) and [WIPO SCCR 25 Day 5, November 23, 2012](#).

## Comments / Submissions

- Comments on the Broadcast Treaty and Exceptions and Limitations for Libraries and Archives (by Smitha Krishna Prasad, November 29, 2012).
- Comments on the Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (Draft) (by Snehashish Ghosh, submitted to the Ministry of Science and Technology, November 26, 2012).

## Pervasive Technologies

The Pervasive Technologies project will research upon the noteworthy opportunities of the new types of digital media devices, content and services as available in China and India. This will benefit policy makers and the common public:

### Event Organised

- A Workshop on "Exploring the Internals of Mobile Technologies" (TERI Southern Regional Centre 4th Main, Domlur II Stage Bangalore, October 27, 2012): On October 27, 2012, the Centre for Internet & Society (CIS) organised a one-day workshop on exploring the internals of mobile technologies at the TERI Southern Regional Centre in Bangalore. The workshop received more than 140 registrants, of which approximately 40 attended.



Above is a picture of the participants exploring the mobile devices at the event held in TERI

### **Event Participated In**

- International Conference on Contours of Media Governance: Teaching, Disciplinarity, Methodology (organised by Jamia Millia Islamia University with support from Ford Foundation and ICSSR, Centre for Culture, Media & Governance, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi, February 25 – 27, 2013). Sunil Abraham presented preliminary findings from the Pervasive Technologies project.

### **Blog Entry**

- Pervasive Mobile Technologies: Meet Our Mobile Devices! (by Jadine Lannon, November 30, 2012).

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## **Openness**

The 'Openness' programme critically examines alternatives to existing regimes of intellectual property rights, and transparency and accountability. Under this programme, we study Open Government Data, Open Access to Scholarly Literature, Open Access to Law, Open Content, Open Standards, and Free/Libre/Open Source Software.

### **Wikipedia Project**

Wikimedia Foundation awarded CIS a two-year grant to support the growth of Indian language Wiki communities and projects by designing community collaborations and partnerships that recruit and cultivate new editors. CIS will expand upon Wikimedia's Indian language free knowledge projects, including Wikipedia in Indian languages.

### **Office in Delhi**

CIS has an office in New Delhi with a five-member team for the Access to Knowledge programme. CIS hired Vishnu Vardhan as Programme Director (Access to Knowledge), Tejaswini Niranjana (Distinguished Fellow), and Dr. U.B. Pavanaja (Programme Officer, Indian Language Initiatives). The other members to the team include Nitika Tandon (Programme Manager), Noopur Raval (Programme Officer), and Subhashish Panigrahi (Programme Officer). Shiju Alex, Programme Officer for the Indic Language Initiatives left in November 2012.

### **Statistical Report**

- Indian Language Wikipedias – Statistical Report (January – June 2012) (by Shiju Alex, September 25, 2012). The report provides perspectives on the health of various Indian language Wikipedia communities.

### **Wikipedia Workshop Reports**

Note: *Although most of these workshops were conducted prior to the grant period, the reports for all of these were written during September 2012:*

- The First Punjabi Wikipedia Workshop (by Shiju Alex and Subhashish Panigrahi, September 27, 2012).
- Punjabi Wikipedia Workshop at Punjabi University, Patiala (by Shiju Alex and Subhashish Panigrahi, September 28, 2012).
- Punjabi Wikipedia Workshop at Amritsar (by Shiju Alex and Subhashish Panigrahi, September 30, 2012).
- Wikipedia Workshop in British Library, Chandigarh (by Subhashish Panigrahi, September 27, 2012).

- Kannada Wiki Workshop at Tumkur University (Tumkur, Karnataka, September 15, 2012).
- Wikipedia comes to Hyderabad! (by Noopur Raval, September 30, 2012). There was coverage in the Hindu on September 28, 2012.



Malayalam wikipedians at Government Higher Secondary School, Anchal West, Kollam

### **Education Programme Updates**

- Launch of Assamese Wikipedia Education Programme at Guwahati University (by Nitika Tandon, October 22, 2012).
- Malayalam Wikipedia Education Program: August to October Updates (by Shiju Alex, October 29, 2012).
- Gujarati Wikipedia Article Competition – 10 schools, 200 students, 20 articles on Gujarati Wikipedia (by Noopur Raval, October 31, 2012).
- Gujarat Wikipedia Education Program: Rajkot (by Noopur Raval, October 31, 2012).
- First Odia Wikipedia Education Program to be Rolled Out (by Subhashish Panigrahi, November 30, 2012).

### **Events Organised**

- Wikipedia workshop @ Inmantec College, Ghaziabad (by Nitika Tandon, October 19, 2012). Over 120 participants attended the workshop.
- Bengaluru: A Hub for Kannada and Sanskrit Wikipedia and other Wikimedia projects! (October 7, 2012, Bangalore). Nitika Tandon, Subhashish Panigrahi and Jessie Wild led the session.
- Odia Wikipedia Workshop at AML (Academy of Media Learning, Bhubaneswar, November 10, 2012). Popular Odia wikipedians like Ansuman Giri, Manoranjan Behera and Diptiman Panigrahi participated in this.
- Follow up to Wikipedia Introductory Session (Bharati Vidyapeeth, Delhi, November 19, 2012). About 15 participants attended.

- Wikipedia: State of Tech — A Talk by Erik Moeller (CIS, Bangalore, November 12, 2012). Erik Moeller, Vice President of Engineering and Product Development at the Wikimedia Foundation gave a talk on Wikipedia.
- Two-day Wiki Workshop in Goa University: An Introduction (by Nitika Tandon, January 15, 2013).
- Wikipedia in St. Xavier's College, Mapusa, Goa (by Nitika Tandon, January 19, 2013).
- Promoting GLAM in Goa (by Nitika Tandon, January 24, 2013). About 45 people from over 10 different GLAM institutes in Goa attended.
- Konkani in Wikipedia Incubator — Taking it to the Next Level (by Nitika Tandon, January 25, 2013)
- Digital Literacy Workshop at Department of Arts, Delhi University (University of Delhi, February 5, 2013). About 30 students and 4 faculty members attended the workshop.
- Introductory Wikipedia session at BITS Goa (organised by CIS, Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani, Goa, March 7, 2013). About 30 people participated in this.
- Kannada Wikipedia Workshop (organised by CIS, Institution of Engineers, JLB Road, Mysore, March 24, 2013). Dr. U.B. Pavanaja led this workshop.



Above is a picture of the participants at St.Xavier's College, Mapusa  
**Events Co-organised**



A picture of students doing wiki editing at the Odia Wikipedia workshop

- First Pune Odia Wikipedia Workshop Organized! (co-organised by CIS and Pune Odia Wikipedia community, Pune, October 27, 2012).
- Wikipedia Hackathon at BITS Hyderabad (organized by CIS - A2K team and BITS-Pilani, Hyderabad, October 26 – 27, 2012).
- An Odia Wikipedia Workshop at KMBB (co-organized with CIS and with Odia Wikipedians, KMBB College, Bhubaneswar November 18, 2012).
- Marathi Wiki Workshop at TISS (co-organised with the Wikimedia India Chapter, Tata Institute of Social Science, Mumbai, December 8, 2012).
- Wikipedia Workshop at NMAIT (NMAIT, Karkala Taluk, Karnataka December 21, 2012, co-organised in association with Metawings Institute). Subhashish Panigrahi led the session.
- Wikipedia Workshop at SRM (SRM University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, December 17, 2012, co-organised in association with Metawings Institute). Noopur Raval participated in the event.
- A Wiki Workshop at Raj Kumar Goel Institute of Technology, Ghaziabad (RKGIT, Ghaziabad, January 17, 2013)
- Celebrating Odia Wikipedia's Ninth Anniversary (organized by the Odia Wiki Community with support from CIS and Academy for Media Learning, January 29, 2013, Bhubaneswar). The event attracted good coverage in the local media: ଓଡ଼ିଶାନ୍ତରାଳ: ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷାରେ ଓଡ଼ିଆର ନବମ ଜନ୍ମଦିନ ଅବସରରେ କର୍ମଶାଳା: ଇଣ୍ଡିଆନ୍ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷାର ପ୍ରୟୋଗ, ସମ୍ବାଦ: ଲିପି ବ୍ୟବହାର ଓ ମାନକ ଭାଷାର ପ୍ରୟୋଗ କରୁଛି, [eindiadiary.com](http://eindiadiary.com):Odisha: Workshop organized on 9th Anniversary of Odia language: Application of Odia language in e-media, [Fullorissa.com](http://Fullorissa.com):Odia Wikipedia's 9th anniversary. [Orissadiary.com](http://Orissadiary.com):Odisha: Workshop organized on 9th Anniversary of Odia language: Application of Odia language in e-media, [Indiaeducationdiary.in](http://Indiaeducationdiary.in):Odisha: Workshop organized on 9th Anniversary of Odia language: Application of Odia language in e-media and [Odishaviews.com](http://Odishaviews.com):Odia language workshop organized on 9th Anniversary of Odia Wikipedia: Application of Odia language in e-media.
- Wiki Women's Day in Goa (co-organised by the Wikimedia India Chapter and CIS, Nirmala Institute of Education, Panaji, Goa, March 8, 2013).
- Wikipedia Workshop for Kannada Science Writers (organised by Wikimedia India Chapter, Karnataka Rajya Vijnana Parishath and CIS, Karnataka Rajya Vijnana Parishath Conference Hall, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bangalore, March 17, 2013). Dr. U.B. Pavanaja led the event.

### **Events Participated In**

- Bridging Gender Gap in Pune: WikiWomenDay 2012 Celebrated with Success! (organised by Wikipedia Club Pune at PAI International Learning Solutions, Azam Campus, Pune, October 28, 2012). Subhashish Panigrahi shares the experience in a blog post.
- Wikipedia Women's Workshop in Mumbai (Vidyalankar Institute of Technology, Wadala, Mumbai, November 4, 2012). Noopur Raval participated in the workshop.

- Bringing Konkani Encyclopedia in Public Domain (by Nitika Tandon, January 22, 2013). A meeting was scheduled with the Vice Chancellor of Goa University, Dr. Satish R Shetye to discuss the possibility of bringing Konkani Encyclopedia in public domain.
- GNUUnify 2013 (co-organised by Pune Linux/Unix User Group and Symbiosis Institute of Computer Studies & Research, Pune, February 15 – 17, 2013). Subhashish Panigrahi participated in the event.
- Creative Commons comes to India (co-organised by Pune Linux/Unix User Group and Symbiosis Institute of Computer Studies & Research in Pune, February 15, 2013, and CIS the Wikimedia India Chapter, Chitrakala Parishad in Bangalore, February 25, 2013). The Access to Knowledge team participated in the CC meetings organized in Bangalore.
- Fifty-fourth Bangalore Wikimedia Meet-up at IIM, Bangalore (organised by Radhakrishna Arvapally, SIG (Special Interest Group) Chair, Bangalore (a part of the Wikimedia India Chapter) with support from Solutions IQ, Wikimedia India Chapter and CIS, Indian Institute of Management, February 25, 2013). Sudhwana Jogalekar (President, Wikimedia India) spoke on Wikimedia Projects. T. Vishnu Vardhan (Programme Director, A2K, CIS) gave a talk on 'Accessibility to Knowledge'. Joe Justice (Founder WikiSpeed) and Vibhu Srinivasan gave a presentation of WikiSpeed Car project. Chief Guest K.S. Viswanath (Vice President, Industry Initiatives, NASSCOM) gave the welcome address. Noopur Raval participated in the event.
- Knowledge Sharing through GLAM at Bangalore (organised by Wikimedia India and Creative Commons, Karnataka Chitrakala Parishad, Kumara Krupa Road, Bangalore, February 25, 2013). Dr. U.B. Pavanaja, Nitika Tandon and Subhashish Panigrahi participated in the event. CIS supported the event.
- Wikipedia Women's Workshop Bangalore 2013 (organised by Wikimedia India, Servalots Infotech, Jayanagar, Bangalore, March 8, 2013). The event was covered by Kannada Prabha on March 9, 2013. Dr. U.B. Pavanaja participated in the event.
- Wikipedia at Avenir (organised by the Wikipedia community, Netaji Subhash Engineering College, Kolkata, West Bengal, March 11, 2013). CIS supported this event.

### **Press Coverage**

- Odisha: Odia Wikipedia workshop organized in Pune to promote Odia language (OdishaDiary.com, October 31, 2012).
- A Report of Odia Wikipedia Workshop at IIT, Kharagpur (Samaja, Odia daily, Kolkata edition, December 3, 2012).

### **Blog Entries**

- Editor Growth & Contribution Program on Telugu Wikipedia (by Nitika Tandon, September 29, 2012).
- Non Unicode ISCII Text Can be Converted to Unicode Now! (by Subhashish Panigrahi, December 19, 2012).
- New Avenues: Media Wiki Groups (by Noopur Raval, December 28, 2012).

## **Indic Wikipedia Visualisation Project**

Visualising Basic Parameters (by Sajjad Anwar and Sumandro Chattapadhyay, March 26, 2013): Sajjad and Sumandro bring you a visualisation of the growth of Indic Wikipedia in this first post on Indic Wikipedia Visualisation project.

## **Wiki Meetups in Bangalore**

Wikipedia | Wikimedia meetups are opportunities to make friends with other Wikipedians, discuss Wikipedia-related topics, and exchange knowledge and experiences from the universe that is Wikipedia – an online collaboration by millions of users around the world. The following meetings were held at CIS from April 2012:

- a. April 8, 2012: Sandeep from Kannada Wiktionary spoke about the milestone achievement (200,000 words and counting).
- b. April 29, 2012: Barry Newstead, Global Development Officer, Wikimedia Foundation and Hisham Mundol, Wikimedia Foundation India attended this meetup.
- c. June 10, 2012: A total of ten participants attended this meeting.
- d. July 8, 2012: Sharing of Wikipedia info from participants was discussed.
- e. August 12, 2012: Wikimania 2012 - Experience sharing and sharing of Wikipedia info from participants were taken up. Dr. Rajasekhar, Hyderabad based Wikipedian and Arun Ganesh, L10N Interaction Designer, Wikimedia Foundation spoke at the event.
- f. November 18, 2012: Ravikiran presented the Wikivoyage project and discussions on Wiki Project Karnataka. A total of 13 participants attended this meeting.
- g. December 2, 2012: Lydia Pintscher presented the Wikidata project. The talk covered the history of the Wikidata project, state of the project and Wikidata India opportunities. About 13 people attended this event.

## **Has Geek**

HasGeek is a Bangalore-based organisation which is supported by CIS. It puts together events for developers with the intention of creating discussion spaces about technologies that are new today, and could become mainstream tomorrow. HasGeek provides hands-on training about tools for managing geospatial data on building location-based services. HasGeek and CIS have jointly organised the following events from April 2012:

- The Awesome Contracts Project (Geekup @ CIS, May 18, 2012): CIS co-organised the event with Has Geek. Vivek Durai, co-founder at Awesome Contracts gave a public lecture. Amith Narayan participated through Skype.
- GeekUp with Alan Knott-Craig (CIS, Bangalore, June 30, 2012): Alan Knott-Craig, founder of World of Avatar and CEO of Mxit, Africa's largest social network gave a lecture.
- The Fifth Elephant (NIMHANS Convention Centre, Bangalore, July 27 and 28, 2012): The event was organised by HasGeek and CIS. The first day covered the technology track and talks from business and industry were held on the following day.
- Cartonama Conference (TERI Complex, Bangalore, September 22, 2012): The Cartonama Conference is centred around geospatial data, mapping and location based services. HasGeek supported by CIS organised this event.
- Droidcon 2012 (CIS, Bangalore, October 27 – 28, 2012): At the hacknight, we not only developed apps and worked on hacks but also discussed the thought process that lies behind the understanding of a problem and the conceptualization of a solution.
- Aaron Swartz Memorial Hacknight (CIS, Bangalore, January 19 – 20, 2013): Aaron's collaborators such as Anand Chitipothu and A S L Devi participated in the event.
- Report of Aaron Swartz Memorial Hacknight (by Zainab Bawa, February 6, 2013). On January 19 and 20, 2013, HasGeek organized a hacknight to commemorate the life and work of Aaron Swartz. Zainab Bawa shares the developments.

## **Metaculture Lab**

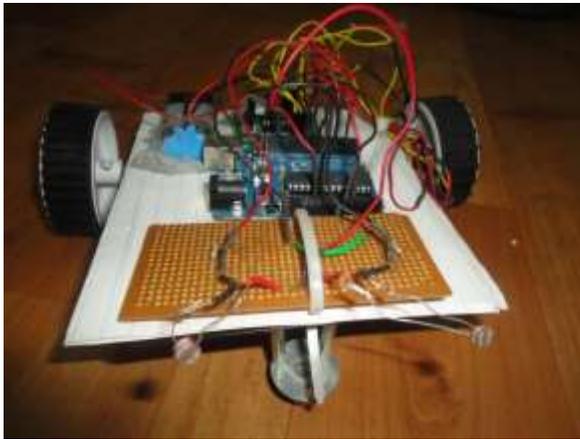
CIS has opened a lab space in its office for organising exhibitions, workshops, presentations and film screening. Software defined "radio receiver" and 7 MHz Antenna have been installed at the lab. The lab is globally visible as part of Columbia University, New York's DORKBOT global collective. Researchers, scientists, artists, designers, start-ups, and community members are welcome to use this platform to meet, interact and engage in innovative exploration through creative inquiry and hands-on-learning with open and interactive technologies.

### **Events Organised in the Lab**

- Data Communication using low cost FM RF Devices (CIS, Bangalore May to June, 2012): Sharat Chandra mentored two young engineers, Rahil Bassim and Midhun Das from the National Institute of Technology, Calicut, who were resident hackers during their summer break at the lab.



Above is the image of a portable FM receiver hooked up to the Mic input of a laptop. Another laptop's audio line-out was connected to an FM transmitter.



Above is a picture of the Braitenberg Vehicles

- Braitenberg Cybernetic Vehicles: Workshop, Film Screening & Discussion (Metaculture Media Lab, CIS, Bangalore, April 14, 2012): There was a short presentation about Braitenberg vehicles.
- International Space Apps Challenge (CIS, Bangalore, April 21 and 22, 2012): An international codeathon-style event took place in seven continents, CIS organised the event in Bangalore.

## **Other Openness Updates**

### **Publication**

- Openness Book (by Vinay Arvind, Gautam John, Nisha Thompson, Madhan Muthu, Prof. Subbiah Arunachalam and Pranesh Prakash): A book on 'Openness in India' with commissioned chapters on Open Access to Scholarly Literature, Free Access to Law, Open Content, Open Standards, Free and Open Source Software, and Open Government Data, including policy recommendations around each, *aimed at* lay readers, policymakers (Planning Commission, Ministry of Human Resource Development, policy researchers is being compiled.

## **Events Organised/Hosted**



**Image of the participants from Design!PubliC held in Delhi**

- Design!PubliC – Event in Delhi (co-organised by the Centre for Knowledge Societies with IBM, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Google, HeadStart, India@75, LiveMint and CIS, New Delhi, April 19 and 20, 2012). Sunil Abraham was a panelist and spoke in the session on Participation, Collaboration and Innovation.
- Bangalore Meet-up for the Open Government Partnership Brasilia (CIS, Bangalore, April 17, 2012): Ananya Panda and Pranesh Prakash participated in the first annual meeting of Open Government Partnership remotely.
- Data-Driven Journalism, Data Literacy & Open Government – Talk at CIS (co-organised by Open Knowledge Foundation and CIS, Bangalore, August 1, 2012). Lucy Chambers and Laura Newman gave an informal talk on 'Data-Driven Journalism, Data Literacy, and Open Government'.
- Technology Evangelists and Religious Evangelists – A Talk by Katherine Sydenham (CIS, Bangalore, August 10, 2012): Katherine Sydenham from the University of Michigan School gave a lecture.
- Bangalore Force.com August Meetup (CIS, Bangalore, August 19, 2012): John Barnes, CTO Model Metrics gave a lecture at the event organised by Bangalore Force.com.
- Thinking with Data@CIS (CIS, Bengaluru, September 16 – 18, 2012): The course offered at the National Institute of Advanced Studies was screened in CIS office.
- Autonomy, Access, Infrastructure and Future – A Discussion with C S Lakshmi (CIS, Bangalore, November 29, 2012). CIS and HasGeek had a question and answer session with Dr. C S Lakshmi, founder of SPARROW.
- Art in the Open Source Age – A Talk by Gene Kogan (CIS, Bangalore, November 30, 2012). American artist and programmer Gene Kogan gave a talk.

## **Columns**

- Cancel the Subscription (Prof. Subbiah Arunachalam, Indian Express, May 8, 2012).
- The Violence of Knowledge Cartels (by Nishant Shah, Hybrid Publishing Lab, January 17, 2013).
- Remembering Aaron Swartz, Taking Up the Fight (by Nishant Shah, DML Central, January 24, 2013).

### **Blog Entries**

- 2012 Conference on Trends in Knowledge Information Dynamics (by Rebecca Schild, July 17, 2012).
- Open Government Platform (by Neeta Verma, Alka Mishra and D.P. Mishra, Informatics Magazine, July 2012).
- Random Hacks of Kindness Global December 2012 — A Report (by Yogesh Londhe, December 10, 2012).
- Aaron Swartz: The First Martyr of the Free Information Movement: Prabir Purkayastha interviewed Lawrence Liang on Newsclick, January 19, 2013. The video is published.
- Iraqi Public Data Scenario Workshop: A Summary (by Sumandro Chattapadhyay, March 26, 2013).

### **Media Coverage**

- Wiki goes the oral citation way (Cyber Media, Chokkapan S, June 11, 2012): Achal Prabhala who serves on the board of CIS speaks about the Oral Citations Project.
- Unpacking Openness: From Seemingly Transparent to Definitely Opaque: Nishant Shah was in Netherlands and as part of his trip had given a public lecture to an audience at Kennisland. One of the respondents wrote a small write-up of the talk. This was originally published on the Kennisland website on July 25, 2012.
- Wikimedia Foundation awards grant to Centre for Internet and Society to expand Access to Knowledge in India (by Barry Newstead, Wikimedia Foundation, August 12, 2012).
- Bangalore hackers write code as tribute to Aaron Swartz (by Deepa Kurup, Hindu, January 21, 2013. Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- 'Some Indian laws could be challenging' (by Kalyan Subramani, Bangalore Mirror, November 15, 2012). Erik Moeller's talk at CIS was covered.

### **Events Participated In**

- Science Gallery Workshop @ Srishti (organised by Srishti School of Art, Design and Technology and Science Gallery at Trinity College Dublin, Srishti School of Art Design and Technology (N2 campus), Bangalore, November 23, 2012). Sunil Abraham participated in this event.
- 'Information & Networks' Partners' Meeting (organised by International Development Research Centre, Canada in Rio de Janeiro, December 11 – 12, 2013). Sunil Abraham spoke in session on Open Business and IP.
- Steady Steps.....FOSS and the MDG's (organised by International Center For Free and Open Source Software and Free Software and OpenSource Foundation for Africa, IGF, November 9, 2012).
- Open Access Champion Leslie Chan Delivers Five Talks in India (Department of Library & Information Science, University of Kerala, National Institute of Interdisciplinary Science & Technology, CSIR, Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management – Kerala, Manasa Media Centre, Mysore University Library and SDM Institute for Management Development, December 17 – 20, 2012). Prof. Subbiah Arunachalam participated in the event.

- Second International e-Governance Conference (organized by the National Committee for Corporate Governance Electronic Iraq and the United Nations Development Programme, Rashid Hotel, Baghdad, December 2, 2012). Sunil Abraham presented on "Review of the Legal Environment in Iraq for Effective e-Governance".

## Internet Governance

The Internet Governance programme conducts research around the various social, technical, and political underpinnings of global and national Internet governance. This includes online privacy, freedom of speech and expression, and Internet governance mechanisms and processes. As part of the Google Policy Fellowship, CIS published a report on Intermediary Liability in India, a constitutional analysis of the Information Technology (Intermediaries' Guidelines) Rules, and a preliminary analysis on a leaked list of the websites blocked from August 18, 2012 till August 21, 2012 by the Indian government which was extensively quoted in national and foreign media.

## Free Speech & Expression



Above is a pie chart depicting the list of blocked websites shared under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non-commercial licence

- Intermediary Liability in India: Chilling Effects on Free Expression on the Internet (by Rishabh Dara, Google Policy Fellow, April 27, 2012): The results of this paper demonstrate that the 'Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules 2011' notified by the Government of India on April 11, 2011 have a chilling effect on free expression.
- Constitutional Analysis of the Information Technology (Intermediaries' Guidelines) Rules, 2011 (by Ujwala Uppaluri, July 16, 2012): Ujwala provides a constitutional analysis of the Information Technology (Intermediaries' Guidelines) Rules notified in April 2011, and examines its compatibility with Articles 14, 19, 21 of the Constitution of India.
- Analysing Latest List of Blocked Sites (Communalism & Rioting Edition) (by Pranesh Prakash, August 22, 2012): There were a total of 309 specific items (those being URLs, Twitter accounts, img tags, blog posts, blogs, and a handful of websites) that were blocked. The analysis examines why these were blocked, were the blocks legitimate, were there any egregious mistakes, why the whole list hasn't been put up, why can one access items that are supposed to be blocked, what should the government have done,

etc. The analysis was quoted/cross-posted in the Wall Street Journal (August 25, 2012), The Hindu (August 24, 2012), LiveMint (August 24, 2012), Global Voices (August 24, 2012), Outlook (August 23, 2012), FirstPost.India (August 23, 2012), IBN Live (August 23, 2012), News Click (August 23, 2012), Medianama (August 23, 2012) and KAFILA (August 23, 2012).

- Analyzing the Latest List of Blocked Sites (Communalism and Rioting Edition) Part II (by Snehashish Ghosh, September 25, 2012): Snehashish Ghosh does a further analysis of the leaked list of the websites blocked by the Indian Government from August 18 to 21, 2012. This analysis was re-posted by Medianama on September 26, 2012.
- An Introduction to the Issues in Internet Governance (by Smarika Kumar, September 26, 2012): Smarika provides a detailed analysis to the issues that we face nowadays in internet governance. She tries to canvass the controversies in the areas of internet governance that broadly focus around the institutional structures to govern the internet and discusses the evolution of these models against the historical background of internet governance.

### **Events Organised**

- Resisting Internet Censorship: Strategies for Furthering Freedom of Expression in India (co-organised with the Foundation for Media Professionals, Bangalore International Centre, TERI Complex, Domlur, April 21, 2012): Members of Parliament, P. Rajeev and Rajeev Chandrashekar and Member of Legislative Council, Karnataka, V.R. Sudarshan participated in the event.
- Freedom of Expression & Privacy Roundtable Discussion (University of Goa, June 2, 2012): Lawrence Liang and Chinmayi Arun were participants in the discussion.
- Freedom Song: Film Screening and Discussion (IIHS Bangalore City Campus, March 21, 2013). Freedom Song, a documentary film produced by the Public Service Broadcasting Trust and directed by Paranjy Guha Thakurta and Subi Chaturvedi was screened.

### **Events Participated In**

- Internet at Liberty 2012: Promoting Progress and Freedom (organised by Google, Newseum, Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest Washington, D.C., May 23 – 24, 2012): Sunil Abraham was a speaker in the session, “Plenary IV, Debate 3: In a world where nearly nine out of ten Internet users are not American, what is the responsibility of United States institutions in promoting internet freedom?”
- 14th annual Annenberg-Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute (organised by Center for Global Communication Studies at the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania and the Programme for Comparative Media Law and Policy at the University of Oxford (PCMLP), University of Oxford, London, June 18 – 29, 2012). Chinmayi Arun participated in the event.
- CENSORSHIP 2020: The Future of Free Speech Online (organised by the Internet Society, Communication, Culture and Technology Program of Georgetown University 2nd Floor, Car Barn, 3520 Prospect St., N.W., Washington, DC, June 25, 2012): Pranesh Prakash participated in this event.

- Clear and Present Danger: Attempts to Change Internet Governance and Implications for Press Freedom (organised by National Endowment for Democracy, Washington D.C., June 26, 2012): Pranesh Prakash participated in the event.
- Overview of Google’s efforts to promote Internet Freedom and freedom of expression online, including its work on the following reports: “Google Transparency” and “Enabling Trade in the Era of Information Technologies: Breaking Down Barriers to the Free Flow of Information (organised by Google, California, June 28, 2012): Pranesh Prakash participated in a meeting with Derek Slater from Google.
- Stanford University Roundtable Discussion (organised by Stanford University, California, June 28, 2012): IFF Fellows introduced themselves and briefly talked about their background and work in internet freedom and human rights issues. Pranesh Prakash was one of the participants.
- EFF’s legislative efforts to defend free speech, privacy, innovation, and consumer rights (California, June 29, 2012): Pranesh Prakash participated in a meeting with Katitza Rodriguez, International Rights Director.
- Overview of Twitter’s new censorship policies and its impact on human rights activists around the world (organised by Twitter, California, June 29, 2012): Pranesh Prakash participated in a meeting with Carolina Janssen, Localization Content Coordinator.
- Best practices in utilizing Ustream’s live interactive broadcast platform to showcase human rights issues (organised by Ustream, June 29, 2012): Pranesh Prakash participated in this meeting.
- Speak Easy: Citizenship, Freedom of Expression and Online Governance (organised by the YP Foundation, Youth Ki Awaaz, Change.Org and RTI Anonymous, American Centre, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, Connaught Place, New Delhi, July 31, 2012): Chinmayi Arun, a Fellow at CIS spoke at this event.
- Internet Governance Plenary (organised by APNIC, August 28, Tokyo, Japan): Sunil Abraham was a panelist along with Ang Peng Hwa, Paul Wilson, Duangthip Chomprang and Raul Echeberria at this event. Kuo Wei Wu, CEO, National Information Infrastructure Enterprise Promotion Association (NII-EPA) was the moderator.
- Second Freedom Online Conference (organised by the Ministry of Information and Communications, Republic of Kenya in partnership with the Government of Netherlands at UN complex in Gigiri, Nairobi, September 6 and 7, 2012). Pranesh Prakash was a panelist in the session on Access to Internet: Challenges and Opportunities.
- Multi-stakeholder Discussion on India’s Position in UN for Internet Governance UN Committee for Internet Related Policies (organised by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi, September 19, 2012): Sunil Abraham was a panelist.
- Talk at Yale University (New Haven, September 19, 2012): Pranesh Prakash gave a talk on censorship, intermediary liability, and the way forward.
- Fourth Annual Legal Services Conference in India (organised by US India Business Council, New Delhi, October 11, 2012): Pranesh Prakash was a panelist in the session on “Censorship and Content Restrictions: The Future of Internet Speech in India”.

- Annual Conference on Human Rights 2012 (organised by Estonian Institute of Human Rights and Google). Malavika Jayaram participated as a panelist.
- Economic Impact of Internet in India (organised by Aspen Institute India, December 21, 2012). Chinmayi Arun attended this event.
- Third South Asian Meeting on the Internet and Freedom of Expression (organised by Internet Democracy Project, Voices for Interactive Choice & Empowerment and Global Partners & Associates, Dhaka, January 14 – 15, 2013). Chinmayi Arun was a panelist. She spoke in the session on “Understanding Cyber Security and Surveillance in South Asia Today”, Pranesh Prakash moderated this session.
- Is Freedom of Expression under Threat in the Digital Age? (organised by Editors Guild of India, Index on Censorship and Sage, India International Centre, New Delhi, January 15, 2013): Sunil Abraham was a panelist at this event.
- 7th India Digital Summit 2013 (organised by Internet and Mobile Association of India, Lalit Hotel, New Delhi, January 16 – 17, 2013): Sunil Abraham was the moderator for Plenary Session 3: Discussion on Social Media – Freedom, Moderation or Regulation.
- 9th International Asian Conference (organised by ITechLaw, February 14 – 15, 2013): Sunil Abraham was a panelist in the session on “Censorship of Online Content”.
- Freedom of expression online: identifying and addressing challenges and developing a shared vision and a working partnership: (organised by Wilton Park, Wiston House, Sussex, UK, February 13 – 15, 2013). Pranesh Prakash participated in the event.
- Is Social Media Incredible? (organised by Indian Institute of Journalism & New Media, Bangalore, March 2, 2013). Snehashish Ghosh participated in a panel discussion. The New Indian Express published a post-event report.
- Rethinking the Internet: The Way Forward (organised by Telecom Italia and Financial iTimes, Telecom Italia Future Centre, Italy, March 21 – 22, 2013). Pranesh Prakash participated in this event.

#### **Op-ed/Columns**

- India's Broken Internet Laws Need a Shot of Multi-stakeholderism (by Pranesh Prakash). (An edited version of this article was published in the Indian Express titled "Practise what you preach" on Thursday, April 26, 2012.)
- Chilling Effects and Frozen Words (Lawrence Liang, Hindu, April 30, 2012).
- The Web of Our Strife (Pranesh Prakash, The Times of India, June 2, 2012).
- Beyond Anonymous: Shit people say on Internet piracy (Nishant Shah, FirstPost, June 7, 2012).
- Internet Censorship: Anonymous Can't be Just Harmful Hackers (Nishant Shah, FirstPost, July 13, 2012).
- Open letter to Hillary Clinton on Internet Freedom (Sunil Abraham, Thinking Aloud, July 17, 2012).
- To regulate Net intermediaries or not is the question (by Sunil Abraham, Deccan Herald, August 26, 2012).
- The Perils of 'Hactivism' (by Chinmayi Arun, LiveMint, August 20, 2012).

- Censoring the Internet: A brief manual (by Sunil Abraham, Tehelka, August 23, 2012). What lurks beneath the Network (by Nishant Shah, Down to Earth, August 24, 2012). Social media, SMS are not why NE students left Bangalore (by Nishant Shah, First Post, August 25, 2012).
- SMS block as threat to free speech (by Chinmayi Arun, Hindu Business Line, August 31, 2012).
- SMS Block as Threat to Free Speech (by Chinmayi Arun, Hindu Business Line, September 1, 2012).
- The Five Monkeys & Ice-cold Water (by Sunil Abraham, Deccan Chronicle, September 16, 2012).
- Online Censorship: How Government should Approach Regulation of Speech (by Sunil Abraham, Economic Times, December 5, 2012).
- Web of Sameness (by Nishant Shah, Indian Express, January 18, 2013).
- TV versus Social Media: The Rights and Wrongs (by Sunil Abraham, The Tribune, January 20, 2013).

### **Media Coverage**

- From Cyber India to Censor India: Groups challenge didactic govt (by Satarupa Paul, Sunday Guardian, April 29, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Social Media 1, Indian Government 0 (by Heather Timmons, New York Times, April 26, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Private sector censors (by Salil Tripathi, LiveMint, April 25, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Views | Why the Left may for once be right (by Pramit Bhattacharya, LiveMint, April 23, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Campaign against curbs on websites gathers steam (by Arpan Daniel Varghese, IBN Live, April 23, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Expect anti-net censorship echo in house (by Arpan Daniel Varghese, IBN Live, April 25, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Mobilising support for freedom on the Web (by Deepa Kurup, Hindu, April 22, 2012). Rishabh Dara's research is quoted.
- MPs to be taught 'draconian' IT Act Rules as India.net support galvanises for annual motion (by Prachi Shrivastava, Legally India, April 23, 2012)
- India arrests professor over political cartoon (by Rama Lakshmi, Washington Post, April 13, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- A beauty's blog creates furore (by Lakshmi Krupa, Deccan Chronicle, April 10, 2012).
- Why this blocking di? (by R Krishna, Daily News & Analysis, May 27, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- MPs oppose curbs on internet; Sibal promises discussions (Times of India, May 18, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Kapil Sibal & Co shoot down motion to kill IT Rules: cite terrorism, drugs (by Prachi Shrivastava, Legally India, May 18, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.

- Vimeo Ban: More Web Censorship (by Preetika Rana, Wall Street Journal, May 18, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Taming the Web, are we? (by Javed Anwer, Economic Times, May 13, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Cordon tightens: Rajya Sabha nod to harsh IT rules (by Anil Sharma and Aishhwariya Subramanian, Daily News & Analysis, May 18, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- India's struggle for online freedom (by Rebecca MacKinnon, Sydney Morning Herald, June 9, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Hackers Take Protest to Indian Streets and Cyberspace (by Shreya Shah, Wall Street Journal, June 8, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- The War for India's Internet (by Rebecca Mackinnon, Foreign Policy, June 6, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- No more blocking of entire websites? (by Danish Sheikh, Business Standard, June 24, 2012). CIS research on Intermediary Liabilities is quoted.
- Net Loss (Abimanyu Nagarajan, The Telegraph, June 20, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Cos spying on competitors, staff: Study (The Statesman, June 19, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- India: The New Front Line in the Global Struggle for Internet Freedom (Atlantic, June 7, 2012): CIS report on Intermediary Liability in India is quoted.
- 'Anonymous' hackers to protest Indian Internet laws (AFP, June 8, 2012): The news was also published in NDTV, Jagran Post, The Times of India, LiveMint, and Economic Times on June 9, 2012.
- The new Internet watchdogs (by Ronendra Singh, Hindu Business Line, June 12, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Attempts to censor the web ill-advised (by Krishs Fernandes, The Times of India, June 3, 2012).
- Poor Guarantee of Online Freedom in India (by Geeta Seshu, Economic & Political Weekly, Vol XLVII No. 24, June 2012).
- Anonymous India's Takedowns Could Be Counterproductive (by Nikhil Pahwa, Medianama, June 6, 2012)
- Watch out for cyber bullies (by KV Kurmanath, Hindu Business Line, June 4, 2012)
- Scared by a spoof? You've got to be kidding me! (by Dhamini Ratnam, The Times of India, June 3, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Protest@ censorship.com (by Sandhya Soman, The Times of India, June 5, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- A Net of Hatred (by Samar Khurshid, Hindustan Times, July 14, 2012)
- Post-website attack, cops hot on pursuit of Anonymous hackers (The Times of India, July 11, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- The kids are all on Facebook (by Shikha Kumar, Daily News & Analysis, July 8, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.

- [Freedom debate takes a new course](#) (by Deepa Kurup, The Hindu, July 1, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [An Interview with Nishant Shah](#) by Jamillah Knowles (Outriders, BBC Radio 5, July 6, 2012).
- [India blocks more than 250 Web sites for inciting hate, panic](#) (Washington Post on August 20, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [Haphazard censorship? Leaked list of blocked websites in India](#) (IBN Live, August 23, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's analysis is quoted.
- [FTN: Is it time to regulate social media?](#) (IBN Live, August 21, 2012): Sunil Abraham, Pavan Duggal, A Mukherji and Nikhil Pahwa spoke to CNN-IBN Deputy Editor Sagarika Ghose in Face the Nation episode that was telecasted in IBNLive on August 21, 2012.
- [India's ethnic clashes intensify within social-media maelstrom](#) (Globe Mail, August 23, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [India limits social media after civil unrest](#) (Australian Financial Review, August 24, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [Govt vs Tweeple: Has clampdown hit free speech?](#) (NDTV, August 23, 2012): Sunil Abraham spoke to Sonia Singh of NDTV on August 23, 2012.
- [Internet expert Pranesh Prakash criticizes Indian cyber blockades](#) (Economic Times, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [New Delhi Expands Curbs on Web Content](#) (Wall Street Journal, August 23, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [Govt orders blocking of 300 specific URLs including 16 Twitter accounts](#) (Times of India, August 23, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [NE exodus: List containing 309 blocked URLs leaks online](#) (tech 2, August 23, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's analysis is quoted.
- [Views | India's Net nannies run amok](#) (LiveMint, August 21, 2012)
- [Govt cracks down on Twitter](#) (Hindustan Times, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Twitter users hit back at government ban](#) (Hindustan Times, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [India seeks a tighter grip on social media](#) (United Press International, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Govt in line of fire over web censorship](#) (Livemint, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [India's social media crackdown reveals clumsy govt machinery](#) (Reuters, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Internet expert criticizes Indian cyber blockades](#) (Associated Press, August 24, 2012). Also covered in [Bloomberg Businessweek](#) (August 24, 2012), [Khaleej Times](#) (August 24, 2012), [ABC News](#) (August 24, 2012), [Seattle Times](#) (August 24, 2012), [Vancouver Sun](#) (August 24, 2012), [Kansas City](#) (August 24, 2012), [Times Colonist](#) (August 24, 2012), [Merced Sun-Star](#) (August 24, 2012), [Yahoo News](#) (August 24, 2012),

[SanLuisObispo.com](#) (August 24, 2012), [Terrorism Watch](#) (August 25, 2012), [Sci-Tech Today](#) (August 26, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.

- [How ISPs block websites and why it doesn't help](#) (Livemint, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [India's Internet Curbs Under Legal Cloud](#) (Wall Street Journal, August 26, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [When #GOIBlocks, twitterati fly off their 'handles'](#) (Hindustan Times, August 26, 2012)
- [Regulating the Internet by fiat](#) (Hindu, August 26, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's analysis is quoted.
- [After Violence in India, a Crackdown Online](#) (New York Times, August 25, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Inde: la tentative de contrôler l'internet est "illégal"](#) (Agence France Presse, August 24, 2012)
- [Twitter handles: How and why govt erred and what it can do to be smarter & more effective](#) (Economic Times, August 26, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [Some ISPs block Wordpress domain across India](#) (tech 2, August 25, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's analysis is quoted.
- [India threatens action against Twitter for ethnic violence 'rumors'](#) (China Post, August 25, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's analysis is quoted.
- [Blocked websites: Where India flawed](#) (CIOL, August 23, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's analysis is quoted.
- [India: Social Media Censorship to Contain 'Cyber-Terrorism'?](#) (Global Voices, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's analysis is quoted.
- [Delhi defends Internet blocking](#) (Gulf Today, August 25, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [India Blocks News Website Pages for 'Spreading Fear' over Assam Violence](#) (International Business Times, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Internet clamp outrage](#) (Gulf Daily, August 25, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Criticism mounts over India censorship](#) (Financial Times, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [India faces Twitter backlash over Internet clampdown](#) (Reuters, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Details emerge on government blockade of websites](#) (Hindu, August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's analysis is quoted.
- [India faces Twitter backlash over Internet clampdown](#) (INDOLink, August 25, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Indian government defends Internet blocking](#) (AFP, August 23, 2012). This was carried in the following places: [The National](#) (August 25, 2012), [MSN News](#) (August 24, 2012), [StarAfrica.com](#) (August 24, 2012), [Jakarta Globe](#) (August 24, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.

- Watch out for fettered speech (by Rohit Pradhan, Business Standard, September 1, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- The state. And the rage of the cyber demon (by Shougat Dasgupta, Tehelka, Vol 9, Issue 36, September 8, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Government to hold talks with stakeholders on Internet censorship (by Shalini Singh, The Hindu, September 4, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's analysis on blocked websites is quoted.
- Political war on the web (by Kunal Majumder, Tehelka Magazine, Vol 9, Issue 36, September 8, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Need a standard strategy to deal with Web issues: Chandrasekhar (by Surabhi Agarwal, LiveMint, September 4, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's analysis on blocked websites is quoted.
- China outranks India in world's first ever web index (First Post, September 6, 2012). Nishant Shah is quoted.
- Mind of the millennium teen (by Atul Sethi, The Times of India, September 16, 2012). Nishant Shah is quoted.
- Govt plans inter-ministerial panel on Internet policy (by Surabhi Agarwal, LiveMint, September 19, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Pitroda seeks to put govt information in public domain (by Surabhi Agarwal, LiveMint, September 25, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Censorship makes India fall two places on global internet freedom chart (by Dilnaz Boga, Daily News & Analysis, September 27, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's analysis on blocked websites is quoted.
- On social media, Modi goes soft (by Zia Haq, Hindustan Times, October 26, 2012): Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Arrested for tweeting: Legitimate or Curbing Free Speech? (NDTV, October 31, 2012): Sunil Abraham participated in this discussion aired on NDTV along with Shivam Vij, SB Mishra and Sanjay Pinto.
- India second in requesting user info: Google (by Karthik Subramaniam, Hindu, November 14, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Post and be Damned (by Kavita Shanmugham, The Telegraph, November 14, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- India second in keeping tabs on netizens (by Ishan Srivastava, The Times of India, November 15, 2012).
- India ranks second globally in accessing private details of users (thinkdigit, November 15, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Google's 'Transparency Report' sketchy, inconclusive: Government (by Indu Nandakumar, Economic Times, November 17, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Women Arrested in Mumbai for Complaining on Facebook (by Neha Thirani and Hari Kumar, New York Times, November 19, 2012).
- Girls arrested for Facebook post on Thackeray get bail (FirstPost, November 19, 2012).

- Arrest of girl over Thackeray FB update a clear misuse of Sec 295A (FirstPost, November 19, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- How to Steer Clear of India's Strict Internet Laws (by Sangeeta Rajesh and Heather Timmons, New York Times, November 20, 2012).
- Internet users flay Mumbai girls' arrest over Facebook post (IBN Live, November 20, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Arrests over Facebook posts: Why we're on a dangerous slide (Venky Vembu, FirstPost, November 20, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Girl's arrest draws flak on social media (The Times of India, November 20, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- India's Shame: World Reacts to FB Post Arrest (by Sonal Bhadoria, India Times, November 21, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Indian government at second position after U.S.A for demanding user data from Google (WHDI Reviews, November 22, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Indians Rank Second For Online Snooping (Indolink, November 23, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Yes, You Can Get Arrested for a Facebook Status Update Now (by David Wagner, Atlantic Wire, November 29, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Women arrested for Facebook post: Did cops act under Sena pressure? (NDTV, November 19, 2012). YP Singh, Alyque Padamsee, Rohan Joshi, Karuna Nundy and Pranesh Prakash took part in a discussion about the arrest of two girls over a Facebook comment.
- Ayodhya trending on Twitter sparks censorship concerns (by Surabhi Agarwal, Livemint December 6, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- The freedom of expression debate: The State must mend fences with The Web (by Rahul Jayaram, India Today, December 18, 2012).
- No fear of losing internet freedom till Jan 15: Experts (by Kim Arora, The Times of India, December 22, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- UN agrees to review agencies governing Internet (by Surabhi Agarwal, LiveMint, December 27, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Delhi gang rape: What Facebook, Twitter expose about govt (The Times of India, December 31, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- The year social media came of age in India (by Javed Anwer and Rukmini Shrinivasan, The Times of India, December 31, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Clash of the cyberworlds (by Latha Jishnu, Dinsa Sachan and Moyna, Down to Earth, January 15, 2013 issue). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Is freedom of expression under threat in digital age? (originally published by Indo Asian News Service, January 16, 2013 and also covered in Business Standard, Vancouver Desi, DNA, and Tech2). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Is freedom of expression under threat in the digital age? (by Mahima Kaul, Index on Censorship, January 18, 2013).

- [Internet Freedom in India – Open to Debate](#) (by Kirsty Hughes, Index on Censorship, January 22, 2013). CIS research on censorship is quoted.
- [Hate speech: ban or ignore?](#) (NDTV, February 5, 2013). Pranesh Prakash, Shivam Vij, and Sanjay Rajoura gave their expert views on the impact of hate speech.
- [Censorship and sensibility in India](#) (by Samanth Subramanian, February 6, 2013). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Online Abuse of Teen Girls in Kashmir Leads to Arrests](#) (by Betwa Sharma, New York Times, February 8, 2013). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Indian net service providers too play censorship tricks](#) (by T Ramachandran, The Hindu, February 9, 2013). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [Anonymous joins protests against Internet shutdown in Kashmir](#) (by Indu Nandakumar, Economic Times, February 12, 2013). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [Why was the Gwalior court in such a hurry to block IIPM URLs?](#) (by Danish Raza, FirstPost, February 19, 2013). Snehashish Ghosh's analysis on blocked website is quoted.
- [Stop Press Carousel](#) (by Arindham Mukherjee, Outlook, February 22, 2013). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- ["All Indian Enterprises should Be Very Worried": Centre for Internet and Society](#) (by Shubhra Rishi, Computer World, February 25, 2013). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Foreign Funding of NGOs](#) (by Prashant Reddy, Open Magazine, March 2, 2013).
- [Iceland's proposed porn ban 'like repression in Iran, N. Korea' – activists](#) (RT, March 1, 2013). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [Responding to govt requests is a challenge for online firms: Colin Maclay](#) (LiveMint, March 13, 2013). Colin M. Maclay, managing director of Berkman Center for Internet and Society at Harvard mentioned CIS.
- [Indian police set up lab to monitor social media](#) (originally published by [AFP](#), March 18, 2013, and also carried in [Global Post](#) on the same day). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [Namaste, Mr. Eric Schmidt](#) (by R. Jai Krishna, Wall Street Journal, March 20, 2013). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [Parliament panel blasts govt over ambiguous internet laws](#) (by Ishan Srivastava, The Times of India, March 28, 2013). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [What if the Net shut down for a few days](#) (by Atul Sethi, The Times of India, March 30, 2013). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [Press controls 'send wrong message to rest of world'](#) (by Jerome Starkey from Johannesburg, Francis Elliott from Delhi and David Brown, The Times, UK).

### **Blog Entries**

- [CIS joins Global Network Initiative](#) (April 25, 2012).
- [Google Policy Fellowship 2012](#) (May 24, 2012). Amba Kak was selected as the Fellow for 2012.
- [2012 Internet Freedom Fellows](#): The names of the 2012 Internet Freedom Fellows were announced on June 19, 2012. This was published by the [US Department of State](#). Pranesh Prakash was selected as a Fellow.

- Arbitrary Arrests for Comment on Bal Thackeray's Death (by Pranesh Prakash, November 19, 2012). This was re-posted in Outlook (November 19, 2012), KAFILA (November 19, 2012), and Shail's Nest (November 20, 2012).
- DoT Blocks Domain Sites — But Reasons and Authority Unclear (by Smitha Krishna Prasad, November 21, 2012).
- Statement of Solidarity on Freedom of Expression and Safety of Internet Users in Bangladesh (by Pranesh Prakash, January 15, 2013).
- Window on the World: Subsequent to the publishing of a peer reviewed essay titled Resisting Revolutions: Questioning the Radical Potential of Citizen Action, CIS has been listed as one of the global organisations working on issues of participation, citizenship and new technologies along with a list of partner organisations. This was published by Palgrave Macmillan.

## **Privacy**

CIS completed its two-year research on Privacy in Asia with Privacy International, United Kingdom and Society in Action Group, Gurgaon. In January 2013, we entered into a new agreement with Privacy International, UK to do a project to facilitate the implementation of activities related to surveillance and freedom of speech and expression.

## **Events Organised**

### **DNA Profiling Bill**

International DNA experts Helen Wallace from GeneWatch UK, and Jeremy Gruber from the Council for Responsible Genetics from the United States visited Bangalore and Delhi and shared their experience in DNA sampling and gave feedback to the DNA Profiling Bill. Meetings were conducted with lawyers and the plaintiff in the Pascal Mazurier's rape case and with VR Sudarshan and Hormis Tharakan. There was coverage of the event in Kannada media. Public lectures were organised in Bengaluru and Delhi:

- UK DNA Database and the European Court of Human Rights: Lessons that India can Learn from Its Mistakes (organised by CIS and Alternative Law Forum, September 24, 2012): Helen Wallace from GeneWatch, UK and Jeremy Gruber from the Council for Responsible Genetics in the United States gave a public lecture.
- The DNA Profiling Bill: Developing Best Practices (India International Centre, New Delhi, September 27, 2012): International experts Helen Wallace from GeneWatch UK, and Jeremy Gruber from the Council for Responsible Genetics from the United States gave a public lecture. Elonnai Hickok participated in the event.

Later another event was organised in Bangalore:

- Analyzing the Draft Human DNA Profiling Bill 2012 (organized by the Centre for Internet and Society, Bangalore, March 1, 2013): Maria Xynou shares a summary of the workshop in this report.

## Conclave and Symposium



Panelists at the All India Privacy Conference

The All India Privacy Symposium (India International Centre, New Delhi, February 4, 2012): The symposium was organised around five thematic panel discussions: privacy and transparency, privacy and e-governance initiatives, privacy and national security, privacy and banking and health privacy. Privacy India in partnership with CIS, International Development Research Centre, Privacy International, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative and Society in Action Group organised this event.

The High Level Privacy Conclave (Paharpur Business Centre, Nehru Place Greens, New Delhi, February 3, 2012): The conclave was organised around two panels: national Security and privacy and internet and privacy. Malavika Jayaram moderated the first panel discussion on national Security and privacy. Sunil Abraham moderated the second panel discussion on internet and privacy. Privacy India in partnership with CIS, International Development Research Centre, Privacy International, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative and Society in Action Group organised this event.



Panelists at the High Level Privacy Conclave

## E-Governance

- Securing e-Governance: Ensuring Data Protection and Privacy (Privacy India in partnership with the Centre for Internet & Society, Bangalore, International Development Research Centre, Canada, Privacy International, UK and the Society in Action Group, Gurgaon, Ahmedabad, Management Association, Ahmedabad, June 16, 2012): This was a public discussion. Prashant Iyengar and Nisha Thompson spoke at the event. A total of 30 people participated in the event.

## Privacy Matters



Participants asking questions during the Pune conference

- Privacy Matters — Medical Privacy (Privacy India in partnership with the Indian Network for People living with HIV/AIDS, CIS, IDRC, and Society in Action Group with support from the London-based Privacy International, Yashwantrao Chavan Academy of Development Administration, Pune, June 30, 2012): This was a public discussion on "Medical Privacy". Elonnai Hickok introduced the draft book Privacy in India: A Policy Guide that Privacy India had been compiling
- Privacy Matters — Consumer Privacy (organised by Privacy India, in partnership with the Centre for Internet & Society, International Development Research Centre, Society in Action Group and Privacy International, India International Centre, New Delhi, July 7, 2012): This was a public conference focused on discussing the challenges and concerns to consumer privacy in India.
- The Public Voice: Privacy Rights are a Global Challenge (Punta del Este, Uruguay, October 21, 2012): Malavika Jayaram was a speaker at this event.

## Surveillance

- Role of the US Tech Companies in Government Surveillance: A Lecture by Christopher Soghoian (Centre for Internet and Society, 194, 2-C Cross, Domlur Stage II, Bangalore (Near Domlur Club and the TERI Complex)): Christopher Soghoian gave a lecture on the role companies play in assisting government surveillance.

## Events Participated In

- Meetings of the two Sub-Groups on Privacy Issues under the Chairmanship of Justice AP Shah: The Planning Commission constituted an expert group under the chairmanship of Justice AP Shah. Sunil Abraham was part of the meetings of the sub-group on privacy issues held in New Delhi on April 13 and 14, June 27, July 9, July 22 and August 31, 2012.
- India Privacy Meet (organised by Microsoft, DSCI and Greyhead, Hotel LeMeridien, New Delhi, June 29, 2012): Sunil Abraham was a panelist in the session on Citizen Privacy.
- Seventh Meeting of the Group of Experts on Privacy Issues under the Chairmanship of Justice AP Shah (Committee Room No. 228, Yojana Bhawan, Sansad Marg, New Delhi): Sunil Abraham participated in this meeting. This was the final meeting of the series.

- Meeting on Lawful Access by Law Enforcement (Brussels, October 3 – 5, 2012): Elonnai Hickok participated in the meeting.
- 3rd Worldwide Cybersecurity Summit (organised by EastWest Institute in partnership with NASSCOM and FICCI, Federation House, New Delhi, October 30-31, 2012): Sunil Abraham and Elonnai Hickok participated in this event.
- Privacy in the Social Networked World (hosted by the Centre for Business Information Ethics, Meiji University, Tokyo, Japan, on behalf of the Asian Privacy Scholars Network, November 19 – 20, 2012). Elonnai Hickok spoke on Transparency and Privacy in India.
- Internet Driven Developments: Structural Changes and Tipping Points (organised by Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Cambridge, Massachusetts at Harvard University, December 6 – 8, 2012). Elonnai Hickok participated in the event.
- State Surveillance and Human Rights Camp (Sheraton Rio Hotel & Resort, Rio, Brazil, December 13 and 14, 2012). Elonnai Hickok made a presentation on MLATS and International Cooperation for Law Enforcement Purposes.
- Panel Discussion on E-Commerce at NLSIU (organised by National Law School of India University, Bangalore, January 7, 2013). Pranesh Prakash was a panelist.
- Global Partners Meeting @ London (organized by Privacy International, London School of Economics and Political Science, March 22 – 25, 2013). Sunil Abraham and Malavika Jayaram participated in the event.

### **Privacy Book**

- Draft Manuscript of Privacy in India: A Policy Guide: The draft chapters of the book on privacy in India were compiled by CIS in partnership with Privacy International, UK, Society in Action Group, Gurgaon. These chapters were published for comments and feedback: Country Report, Transparency and Privacy, Health and Privacy, Finance and Privacy, E-Governance, Identity and Privacy, Telecommunications and Internet Privacy and Consumer Privacy

### **Policy Research**

- Draft International Principles on Communications Surveillance and Human Rights (by Elonnai Hickok, January 16, 2013). A recent version of the principles can be accessed [here](#).
- A Comparison of Indian Legislation to Draft International Principles on Surveillance of Communications (by Elonnai Hickok, January 31, 2013).
- Draft Human DNA Profiling Bill (April 2012): High Level Concerns (by Elonnai Hickok, March 12, 2013).
- Human DNA Profiling Bill 2012 Analysis (by Jeremy Gruber, Council for Responsible Genetics, US, March 19, 2013).
- The Privacy (Protection) Bill 2013: A Citizen's Draft (by Bhairav Acharya, March 26, 2013).

### **Op-ed/Columns**

- The Private Eye (Nishant Shah, Indian Express, May 14, 2012).
- How Facebook is Blatantly Abusing our Trust (Nishant Shah, FirstPost, June 27, 2012).

- Rethinking DNA Profiling in India (by Elonnai Hickok, Economic & Political Weekly, Vol - XLVII No. 43, October 27, 2012).

### **Media Coverage**

- Bolstering right to remain private (by Apar Gupta, The Pioneer, October 29, 2012): Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- *CIS was part of the expert committee even though not explicitly mentioned in these:* Panel suggests law to protect individual privacy (Newstrack India, October 18, 2012), Privacy law mooted to protect people against misuse of info (Business Standard, October 18, 2012), Experts' committee moots law to protect privacy (by Saikat Datta, Daily News & Analysis, October 19, 2012), Govt panel wants curbs on phone taps (The Times of India, October 19, 2012), Privacy Act should not circumscribe RTI: expert group (by Amitabh Sinha, Indian Express, October 19, 2012), Nine-point code set out to safeguard personal information (Hindu Business Line, October 18, 2012), Privacy law mooted to protect people against misuse of info (Zee News, October 18, 2012).
- Court's approval needed to tap phones: Panel (by Surabhi Agarwal, LiveMint, October 18, 2012): Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- Could better DNA testing facilities in India have saved the Talwars? (by Pallavi Polanki, October 11, 2012): CIS press statement is mentioned.
- Law yet to catch up with tech-enabled peeping toms (by Sandhya Soman & Pratiksha Ramkumar, Times of India, November 7, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- A note of dissent on cash transfers and UID (The Hindu, December 31, 2012). Sunil Abraham was one of the signatories.
- Cyber security, surveillance and the right to privacy: country perspectives (by Richa Kaul Padte, Internet Democracy Project).
- Surveillance Camp: Privatized State Surveillance (by Katitza Rodriguez, Electronic Frontier Foundation, January 28, 2013). Elonnai Hickok is quoted.

### **Blog Entries**

- Overview and Concerns Regarding the Indian Draft DNA Profiling Act (by GeneWatch UK & the Council for Responsible Genetics, US, July 11, 2012).
- A Public Meeting on DNA Profiling Bill in Delhi (by Elonnai Hickok, September 29, 2012).
- Privacy Perspectives on the 2012 -2013 Goa Beach Shack Policy (by Elonnai Hickok, October 25, 2012).
- Q&A to the Report of the Group of Experts on Privacy (by Elonnai Hickok, November 9, 2012).
- Internet-driven Developments — Structural Changes and Tipping Points (by Elonnai Hickok, December 28, 2012).
- State Surveillance and Human Rights Camp: Summary (by Elonnai Hickok, December 31, 2012).
- Data Retention in India (by Elonnai Hickok, January 30, 2013).
- 2012: Privacy Highlights in India (by Elonnai Hickok, February 12, 2013): Elonnai summarizes the top privacy moments of 2012 in India.

- Surveillance Camp IV: Disproportionate State Surveillance - A Violation of Privacy (by Elonnai Hickok and Katitza Rodriguez of Electronic Frontier Foundation February 19, 2013).
- BigDog is Watching You! The Sci-fi Future of Animal and Insect Drones (by Maria Xynou, February 25, 2013).
- Hacking without borders: The future of artificial intelligence and surveillance (by Maria Xynou, March 15, 2013).
- Driving in the Surveillance Society: Cameras, RFID tags and Black Boxes... (by Maria Xynou, March 26, 2013).
- Microsoft Releases its First Report on Data Requests by Law Enforcement Agencies around the World (by Maria Xynou, March 27, 2013).
- The Criminal Law Amendment Bill 2013 — Penalising 'Peeping Toms' and Other Privacy Issues (by Divij Joshi, March 31, 2013).

## **Unique Identity Project**

### **Events Organised**

- Biometric Identification: Specified Error, Accuracy and Efficiency, Considered for the Operations of the UIDAI — A Talk by Hans Varghese Mathews (CIS, Bangalore, August 17, 2012): Hans Varghese Mathews gave a public lecture on biometric identification.
- Unique Identity Number (UID), National Population Register (NPR), and Governance (organized by CIS and Say No to UID Campaign, TERI, Bangalore, March 2, 2013): CIS interviewed Usha Ramanathan and Anant Maringanti. This was covered in newzfirst on March 3, 2013 and in the Hindu on March 3, 2013.

### **Events Participated In**

- The Omnishambles of UID, shrouded in its RTI opacity (organised by the National Campaign for People's Right to Information, Hyderabad, February 15 – 18, 2013). CIS sponsored Colonel Mathew Thomas to hold a workshop at the fourth National Right to Information event.

### **Blog Entry**

- Unique Identification Scheme (UID) & National Population Register (NPR), and Governance (by Elonnai Hickok, March 14, 2013).

### **Media Coverage**

- UID: Are your biometric I-cards stacked against you? (by M Rajashekhar, Economic Times, June 24, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- 2012 in Review: Biometric ID Systems Grew Internationally...and So Did Concerns about Privacy (by Rebecca Bowe, Right Side News, January 1, 2013). CIS is mentioned in this blog post.
- Indian ID crisis unveils Aadhaar doubts (ZDNet, March 14, 2013). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- New \$1 Billion RIC Project Casts Doubts on Aadhaar (AEG India, March 16, 2013). Sunil Abraham is quoted.

## **IT Act**

### **Columns**

- [Fixing India's anarchic IT Act](#) (by Pranesh Prakash, Livemint, November 28, 2012).
- [Draft nonsense](#) (by Pranesh Prakash, The Times of India, November 24, 2012).

### **Submissions**

Bhairav Acharya, on behalf of CIS submitted comments to the Committee on Subordinate Legislation of the 15<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha for the following rules:

- [Comments on the Information Technology \(Electronic Service Delivery\) Rules, 2011.](#)
- [Comments on the Information Technology \(Reasonable Security Practices and Procedures and Sensitive Personal Data or Information\) Rules, 2011.](#)
- [Comments on the Information Technology \(Guidelines for Cyber Cafe\) Rules, 2011.](#)

### **Blog Entries**

- [Breaking Down Section 66A of the IT Act](#) (by Pranesh Prakash, November 25, 2012).
- [Section 66-A, Information Technology Act, 2000: Cases](#) (by Snehashish Ghosh, December 3, 2012).
- [No Civil Society Members in the Cyber Regulations Advisory Committee](#) (by Pranesh Prakash, January 10, 2013).
- [CIS Welcomes Standing Committee Report on IT Rules](#) (by Pranesh Prakash, March 27, 2013). The post was quoted in: [The Times of India](#) (March 28, 2013), [The Statesman](#) (March 28, 2013), [Economic Times](#) (March 28, 2013), [Data Quest](#) (March 28, 2013), and [The Hindu](#) (April 1, 2013).

### **Media Coverage**

- [Information security policy on govt agenda](#) (by Surabhi Agarwal, LiveMint, November 6, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.
- [Amnesty International calls for review of 66A of IT act](#) (by Nirmalya Behera, Business Standard, November 28, 2012).
- [Thousands go online against 66A](#) (by Apoorva Dutt, DNA, November 29, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [The flaw in cyber law](#) (by S Ronendra Singh, Hindu Business Line, November 29, 2012). Sunil Abraham and Snehashish Ghosh are quoted.
- [Govt tweaks enforcement of IT Act after spate of arrests](#) (by Surabhi Agarwal, LiveMint, November 29, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [The real Sibal's law: Resisting Section 66A is futile](#) (by Lakshmi Chaudhry, FirstPost, November 30, 2012). Pranesh Prakash's blog post on section 66A which was also published in Outlook is quoted.
- [The Last Word: Is there a need to review Information Technology Act?](#) (CNN-IBN, November 20, 2012). Aryaman Sundaram, Pavan Duggal, Pranesh Prakash and Ravi Visvesvaraya Prasad took part in a discussion with Karan Thapar on section 66A of the IT Act.
- [Interview with Pranesh Prakash](#) (by Surabhi Agarwal, LiveMint, November 30, 2012).
- [66A 'cut & paste job'](#) (by GS Mudur, Telegraph, December 3, 2012). Pranesh Prakash and Snehashish Ghosh are quoted.

- [Debate on Section 66A rages on](#) (Vasudha Venugopal, The Hindu, December 10, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- [Hactivists deface BSNL website](#) (by Kim Arora, The Times of India, December 13, 2012).
- [Govt likely to issue guidelines to clarify IT rules soon](#) (by Surabhi Agarwal, LiveMint, December 16, 2012). CIS is quoted.
- ['The IT Act is fine, but its interpretation is not'](#) (DNA, December 19, 2012). CIS is mentioned in this article.

## ITU | WCIT

### **Submissions**

- [Statement of Civil Society Members in the "Best Bits" pre-IGF Meeting](#). CIS was one of the signatories of this submission made to the ITU.
- [Submission on India's Draft Comments on Proposed Changes to the ITU's ITRs](#). CIS was one of the signatories along with Society for Knowledge Commons, Delhi Science Forum, Free Software Movement of India, Internet Democracy Project and Media for Change.
- [Submission by Indian Civil Society Organisations on Future ITRs and Related Processes](#). CIS was one of the signatories of this submission in response to ITU's call for public comments.
- [Indian Government's Submission to ITU](#): Published the text of the submission made by the Government of India to the World Conference of International Telecommunications, Dubai on November 3, 2012.

### **Columns**

- The Worldwide Web of Concerns (by Pranesh Prakash, [Deccan Chronicle](#), and [Asian Age](#), December 10, 2012).
- [The Trouble with Hurried Solutions](#) (by Chinmayi Arun, The Hindu, December 15, 2012).

### **Event Participated In**

- World Conference on International Telecommunications (organised by ITU, December 3 – 14). Chinmayi Arun participated as a civil society representative.

### **Blog Entries**

- [Letter for Civil Society Involvement in ITU's WCIT](#) (by Center for Democracy and Technology, May 24, 2012).
- [Transcripts from WCIT-12](#) (by Snehashish Ghosh, December 3, 2012).
- [Five Frequently Asked Questions about the Amended ITRs](#) (by Chinmayi Arun, January 28, 2013).

### **Internet Governance Forum**

Pranesh Prakash, Chinmayi Arun, Malavika Jayaram and Elonnai Hickok participated in the Internet Governance Forum held in Baku, Azerbaijan in the month of November 2012. In total, CIS spoke in 12 panels:

- Best Bits 2012 (organised by Best Bits, Baku, Azerbaijan November 3 and 4, 2012). Pranesh Prakash and Elonnai Hickok participated in this event.
- The Privatisation of Censorship: The Online Responsibility to Protect Free Expression (organized by Index on Censorship, Baku, Azerbaijan, November 5, 2012). Pranesh Prakash was a panelist.
- New Trends in Industry Self-Governance (organised by Oxford Internet Institute, University of Oxford, UK and Media Change & Innovation Division, IPMZ, University of Zurich, Switzerland and Nominet, UK, Baku, Azerbaijan, November 7, 2012 from 4.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m). Pranesh Prakash was a panelist.
- Civil Rights in the Digital Age, about the Impact the Internet has on Civil Rights (organised by ECP on behalf of the IGF-NL, Baku, Azerbaijan, November 7, 2012, 4.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.). Malavika Jayaram was a panelist.
- Solutions for Enabling Cross-border Data Flows (co-organised by ICC BASIS and the Internet Society, Baku, Azerbaijan, November 7, 2012).
- Cloudy Jurisdiction: Addressing the thirst for Cloud Data in Domestic Legal Processes (co-organised by Electronic Frontier Foundation (Peru) and University of Ottawa, Baku, Azerbaijan, November 7, 2012).
- What Frameworks for Cross-Border Online Communities and Services (hosted by the Internet & Jurisdiction Project, Baku, Azerbaijan, November 8, 2012). Chinmayi Arun was a panelist.
- Governing Identity on the Internet (co-organised by Brenden Kuerbis, Citizen Lab and Christine Runnegar, Internet Society, Baku, Azerbaijan, November 8, 2012, 11.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.). Malavika Jayaram was a panelist.
- Law Enforcement via Domain Names: Caveats to DNS Neutrality (organised by Hong Xue, Vivekanandan, Wei Mao and Leo Liu, Baku, Azerbaijan, November 8, 2012). Chinmayi Arun was a panelist.
- Who is Following Me: Tracking the Trackers (organised by Internet Society and the Council of Europe, Baku, Azerbaijan, November 8, 2012). Malavika Jayaram was a speaker at this event.
- National IG Mechanisms – Looking at Some Key Design Issues (Baku, Azerbaijan, November 8, 2012). Pranesh Prakash was a panelist.
- Steady Steps.....FOSS and the MDG's (organised by International Center For Free and Open Source Software and Free Software and Open Source Foundation for Africa, Baku, Azerbaijan, November 8, 2012). Pranesh Prakash was a panelist.

## Miscellaneous

### Comments

- Comments on the Proposed Rule 138A of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 Concerning Radio Frequency Identification Tags (by Bhairav Acharya, December 3, 2012).

### Columns

- The Idea of the Book (Nishant Shah, Indian Express, April 8, 2012).
- Beyond Sharing: Towards our Digital Futures (Nishant Shah, Down to Earth, May 31, 2012).
- Open letter to Kolaveri Di makers: How Dare You! (Nishant Shah, FirstPost, May 22, 2012).
- Tomorrow, Today (Nishant Shah, The Indian Express, December 29, 2012).

### Events Organised/Hosted

- Meetup for Bangalore's designers (CIS, Bangalore, August 11, 2012): CIS hosted the meet-up in Bangalore.
- Visit by students from Hindustan University, Chennai (CIS, Bangalore, August 16, 2012): Sunil Abraham and Elonnai Hickok gave a lecture to students from the Hindustan University.
- Konkan Corridor Project — A Lecture by Vasant Gangavane (Ashoka Innovators for the Public, Bangalore, April 16, 2012): Well known social worker Vasant Gangavane gave a lecture.
- The Asian Edge: 2012 Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society Summer School: The 2nd Biannual Inter Asia Cultural Studies (IACS) Summer School was hosted in Bangalore by CIS and the Centre for the Study of Culture and Society.
- Thinking with Data@CIS (CIS, Bangalore, September 16 – 18, 2012): The Thinking with Data course offered at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) was screened at CIS, Bangalore followed by online discussions with the faculty through Skype or Google+ Hangouts.
- UK DNA Database and the European Court of Human Rights: Lessons that India can Learn from Its Mistakes (co-organised with Alternative Law Forum, CIS, Bangalore, September 24, 2012): Helen Wallace from GeneWatch, UK and Jeremy Gruber from the Council for Responsible Genetics in the United States gave a talk.
- Meeting of the Network of Internet & Society Centers (organised by Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Alexander von Humboldt Institute for Internet & Society, Center for Technology & Society, KEIO University SFC, the MIT Media Lab, the MIT Center for Civic Media, NEXA Center for Internet & Society and CIS, Cambridge, Massachusetts, December 6 – 8, 2012).
- Technology Culture and Events in South East Asia — A Presentation by Preetam Rai (CIS, Bangalore, December 18, 2012). Preetam Rai gave a lecture.
- An Introduction to Bitfilm and Bitcoin – A Discussion by Aaron Koenig (CIS, Bangalore, January 23, 2013): Aaron Koenig, Managing Director, Bitfilm Networks of Hamburg, Germany gave a talk.

- DML 2013: Fourth Annual Conference (co-organised by CIS and Digital Media & Learning Research Hub Central, Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers - Chicago, Illinois, March 14 – 16, 2013). We had a special track that ran through the conference on "Whose Change Is It Anyway? Futures, Youth, Technology And Citizen Action In The Global South (And The Rest Of The World)". Noopur Raval was one of the 16 presenters that we had selected on the tracks. Nishant Shah was one of the members in the Conference Committee.

### **Events Participated In**

- Meeting on Internet Governance (Conference Hall No. 4009, Dept. of Electronics & Information Technology, CGO Complex, New Delhi, May 9, 2012): Pranesh Prakash participated in this meeting.
- Do IT Rules 2011 indirectly leads to Censorship of Internet: Pranesh Prakash along with Dr. Arvind Gupta, National Convener, BJP IT Cell and Ms. Mishi Choudhary, Executive Director, SFLC participated in a panel discussion on censorship of the Internet on May 8, 2012. The discussion was aired on Yuva iTV and featured on YouTube.
- Open Space Research Workshop (organised by Privacy International, UK, London School of Economics and Political Science, June 22 to 25, 2012). Sunil Abraham participated in the workshop.
- Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum 2012 (organised by APriGF.Asia, Aoyama Campus, Aoyama Gakuin University, Tokyo, July 20, 2012). Sunil Abraham was a speaker in the session on international public policy and internet governance issues pertaining to the internet.
- APNIC 34 Conference (organised by APNIC, Phnompenh, Cambodia, August 23 – 31, 2012): Sunil Abraham was a panelist along with Ang Peng Hwa, Paul Wilson, Duangthip Chomprang and Raul Echeberria in the session on Internet Governance Plenary.
- GIGA International Conference Series - 1 (organised by the Institute of Global Internet Governance and Advocacy and Department of Electronics and Information Technology, NALSAR University of Law, Justice City Campus, Shameerpet, Hyderabad, April 5 and 6, 2012). Sunil Abraham gave a lecture on *Digital Natives vs. Digital Naivety* in the session on Internet Governance & Society.
- India Internet Governance Conference (organised by the Ministry of Communications & Information Technology, FICCI and Internet Society, October 4 -5, 2012). Pranesh Prakash made a presentation. Chinmayi Arun was a speaker/panelist. etCIS was one of the supporting organisations.
- Round Table Discussion on Internet Governance Focus: 'Emerging Internet Governance: Issues & Challenges in South Asia' (organised by Digital Empowerment Foundation and Association for Progressive Communications, November 2012). Chinmayi Arun was a lead discussant at the Round Table Discussion on Internet Governance, focusing on 'Internet Governance for Social & Economic Development
- Mobile Broadband: Leveraging for Business Transformation (Chancery Pavilion, Bangalore, January 9, 2013): Sunil Abraham was a panelist in this event.

- WGIG+8: Stock-Taking, Mapping, and Going Forward (Fontenoy Building, conference room # 7, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, February 27, 2013). Pranesh Prakash was the moderator for the session. A summary of the discussion has been published.

### **Collaborations**

CIS entered into a small collaboration with Tata Telecommunications in India to celebrate the IPv6 day on June 6. CIS wrote 5500 word vignettes which were sent to their global database consisting of more than 900,000 users in the Asia-Pacific: IPv6: The First Steps, IPv6: Embrace The Change and IPv6: The Transition Challenge.

### **Blog Entries**

- Mining the Web Collective (by Sharath Chandra Ram, December 31, 2012).
- An Introduction to Bitfilm & Bitcoin in Bangalore, India (by Benson Samuel, March 12, 2013).
- What's In a Name? — DNS Singularity of ICANN and the Gold Rush (by Sharath Chandra Ram, March 31, 2013).

### **Media Coverage**

- It's mainstream vs social (Guest column by Mahima Kaul, Sunday Guardian, April 30, 2012).
- Rajeev Chandrasekhar Urges PM To Withdraw India's Proposal For UN Committee On Internet-Policy (by Anupam Saxena, Medianama, May 16, 2012).
- Empires: Individuals in Search of Society (by Marc Lafia, Huffington Post, May 18, 2012).
- Cyber Appellate Tribunal in Bengaluru (Deccan Herald, May 9, 2012). Pranesh Prakash is quoted.
- Recruitment Tracker: 21 students placed out of the 49 who sat for recruitment in Christ University's School of Law, Class of 2012 (Bar and Bench News Network, June 11, 2012): CIS recruited Sneathish Ghosh.
- Concerns raised ahead of proposed India-US trade treaty (Hindu Business Line, June 13, 2012).
- Tata Communications embraces the change to IPv6 (tech 2, June 7, 2012).
- Internet opens doors to trillions more Net addresses with IPv6 (by Aaron Tan, techgoondu). Nishant Shah is quoted.
- Biz moving to IPv6 but lower costs, support needed (intellasia.net, June 8, 2012)
- Govt websites to get new addresses (The Telegraph, June 7, 2012). Nishant Shah is quoted.
- Cool Jobs | Parmesh Shahani, Head, Godrej India Culture Lab (LiveMint, January 4, 2013).
- An innovative concept comes to the fore (Deccan Herald, January 29, 2013).
- Chidambaram to Talk Budget on Google+ Hangout (by Dhanya Ann Thoppil, Wall Street Journal, March 4, 2013). Sunil Abraham is quoted.

### **Featured in the Media**

- Power to youth (The Hindustan Times, November 3, 2012). The article names Sunil Abraham and Lawrence Liang as some of the young people who are shaping the future.

- 25 Indians to watch (FT Magazine, November 16, 2012). Sunil Abraham is one among the 25 rising Indian stars to watch out for.
- Malavika Jayaram named a top lawyer for Internet and e-Commerce in India (WHO's WHO LEGAL, November 20, 2012).

### **Knowledge Repository on Internet Access**

CIS in partnership with the Ford Foundation is executing a project on Internet Access. It covers the history of the internet, technologies involved, principle and values of internet access, broadband market and universal access and will touch upon various policies and regulations which has an impact on internet access and bodies and mechanism which are responsible for formulation policies related to internet access. The blog posts and modules will be published in a new website: [www.internet-institute.in](http://www.internet-institute.in).

The following units have been published:

- Internet Protocols (by Srividya Vaidyanathan, March 18, 2013).
- How email works, how do you get your email? Email Protocols (SMTP, POP, IMAP), SPAM/Phishing (by Srividya Vaidyanathan, March 19, 2013).
- Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (by Snehashish Ghosh, March 19, 2013).
- ITU sectors — ITU-R, ITU-T, ITU-D, etc. (by Snehashish Ghosh, March 27, 2013).
- World Conference on International Telecommunications 2012 (by Snehashish Ghosh, March 29, 2013).

### **Telecom**

CIS has been actively involved in promoting access and accessibility of telecommunications services and resources. Our interventions include providing inputs to ongoing policy discussions and consultation papers published by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, preparing specific reports such as a report on Unlicensed Spectrum, preparing a report on the accessibility of mobile phones for persons with disabilities and working with the Universal Service Obligation Fund to include funding projects for persons with disabilities in its mandate. One of our directors has prepared reports on ICT and mobile accessibility in the capacity of ITU expert and a distinguished fellow at our Centre writes a monthly column in the Business Standard on telecommunications issues.

### **Publication**

- Unlicensed Spectrum Policy Brief for Government of India (by Satya N Gupta, Sunil Abraham and Yelena Gyulxhandanyan, June 24, 2012): CIS published a policy brief for the Government of India with funding from Ford Foundation. The policy brief demonstrates the need for and importance of unlicensed spectrum as a medium for inexpensive connectivity in rural/remote areas and source of innovation by serving as a barrier-free and cost effective platform for testing and implementing new technologies.

### **Newspaper Columns**

Shyam Ponappa, a Distinguished Fellow at CIS is a regular columnist with the Business Standard. The articles published on his blog Organizing India Blogspot and the Business Standard are mirrored on our website:

- [China 3: Build Comprehensive Ecosystems](#) (Business Standard, April 5, 2012).
- [The Coming Telecom Monopoly](#) (Business Standard, May 3, 2012).
- [Growth, India's Highest Priority](#) (Business Standard, June 8, 2012).
- [Decision Analysis for Interest Rates](#) (Business Standard, July 5, 2012).
- [Decision Analysis for Interest Rates - II](#) (Business Standard, August 2, 2012).
- [Changing Our Game](#) (by Shyam Ponappa, Business Standard, September 5, 2012).
- [The Supreme Court Delivers](#) (by Shyam Ponappa in [Business Standard](#), October 4, 2012 and [Organizing India Blogspot](#), October 11, 2012).
- [Super WiFi & Shared Spectrum: A Time to Start Sharing](#) (by Shyam Ponappa, [Organizing India Blogspot](#) on November 3, 2012 and [Business Standard](#), November 1, 2012).
- [Super WiFi & Shared Spectrum: A Time to Start Sharing](#) (by Shyam Ponappa, [Organizing India Blogspot](#) on November 3, 2012 and [Business Standard](#), November 1, 2012).
- [Inflation Control Through Structural Reforms](#) (by Shyam Ponappa, [Business Standard](#), December 11, 2012).
- [What's Needed Is User-Centric Design, Not Good Intentions](#) (by Shyam Ponappa, [Business Standard](#), January 3, 2013 and [Organizing India Blogpost](#), January 6, 2013).
- [The Supreme Court & Spectrum Management](#) (by Shyam Ponappa, [Organizing India Blogspot](#), February 14, 2013, originally published in the [Business Standard](#), February 6, 2013).
- [Are India's Glory Days Over?](#) (by Shyam Ponappa, [Organizing India Blogspot](#), March 8, 2013, originally published in the [Business Standard](#), March 6, 2013).

One column was written by Jayna Kothari:

- [Folly of Mandating Spectrum Auctions](#) (by Jayna Kothari, [Hindu Business Line](#), November 24, 2012).

### **Event Organised**



Participants at the 3rd IJLT-CIS lecture series in Bangalore

- 3<sup>rd</sup> IJLT-CIS Lecture Series (National Law School of India University, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore, May 27, 2012): Prof. Rohan Samarajiva, Chairman and CEO, LIRNEasia gave the inaugural lecture on “Tariff Regulation in South Asia”. The presentation slides can be accessed [here](#).

### **Events Participated In**

- Insights India 2012 (organised by MACH, Bangalore, September 26 – 28, 2012): Snehashish Ghosh and Srividya Vaidyanathan participated in this event.
- 2nd MPL Faculty Workshop (North Zone) on Teaching Public Policy, Media and Law (Central University, Rajasthan, November 1-2, 2012). Snehashish Ghosh made a presentation on "Building a Telecom Knowledge Repository."
- 21<sup>st</sup> Convergence Conference India 2013 (organized by Exhibitions India Group, January 16 – 17, 2013, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi). Snehashish Ghosh participated in the event.

### **Media Coverage**

- India's telecom success story turns sour (by Simon Denyer, Washington Post, June 1, 2012). Shyam Ponappa is quoted.
- International 'code-athon' in Bangalore (The Hindu, April 22, 2012).
- Civil society & industry oppose India's plans to modify ITRs (by Shalini Singh, The Hindu, November 23, 2012). Sunil Abraham is quoted.

### **RTI Application**

Use of DPI Technology by ISPs — Response by the Department of Telecommunications : Smiti Mujumdar on behalf of CIS filed requests under the Right to Information with the Department of Telecommunications, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, BSNL and MTNL.

## **Digital Natives**

Digital Natives with a Cause? is a research inquiry that looks at the changing landscape of social change and political participation and the role that young people play through digital and Internet technologies, in emerging information societies. Consolidating knowledge from Asia, Africa and Latin America, it builds a global network of knowledge partners who critically engage with discourse on youth, technology and social change, and look at alternative practices and ideas in the Global South. A peer reviewed article by Nishant Shah was published in Development. CIS and Hivos jointly organised the Digital Natives video contest. The five winners were awarded EUR 500 each. Nishant Shah's columns were published in Indian Express and DML Central.

### **Peer Review**

- Resisting Revolutions: Questioning the Radical Potential of Citizen Action (by Nishant Shah, Development, Volume 55, Issue 2, May 2012).

### **Book Reviews**

- Deconstructing Digital Natives: Young People, Technology and the New Literacies (by Nishant Shah, Routledge's Journal of Children and Media, July 18, 2012).

- [Immigrants not Natives](#) (by Sally Wyatt, eHumanities Group, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts & Sciences/Maastricht University, April 30, 2012).
- [Not Just Fancy Television](#) (by Nishant Shah, Indian Express, December 8, 2012).

### Digital Natives Video Contest

CIS and Hivos jointly organised a video contest. The contest revolved around the theme “Everyday Digital Native” and asked for video submissions consisting of stories on what makes our everyday life “digital”.



Above is a screenshot image of a video “A Day in the Life of a Digital Native”: Story scripted, shot and edited by Leandra (Cole) Flor. The video is an extension of Cole's photo essay "Mirror Exercises" conceptualized for 'Digital AlterNatives with a Cause' Book 1 To Be.

Participants sent in their submissions. The panel of jurists comprising of Shashwati Talukdar, Leon Tan, Jeroen van Loon, Becky Band Jain and Namita A. Malhotra then shortlisted 12 participants. The top five winners were selected through public votes. These included Marie Jude Bendiola, T.J. KM, Thomas Burks, John Musila and James Mlambo. They won a grand prize of EUR 500 each! The jury prize for the two best videos went to John Musila and Marie Jude Bendiola.



Marie Jude  
Bendiola



T.J. KM,



Thomas Burks



John Musila



James Mlambo

### Columns

- [We Are All Cyborgs](#) (by Nishant Shah, Indian Express, April 29, 2012).
- [Digitally Analogue](#) (by Nishant Shah, Indian Express, May 27, 2012).
- [Across Borders](#) (by Nishant Shah, Indian Express, July 5, 2012).
- [Revisiting Techno-euphoria](#) (by Nishant Shah, DML Central, July 5, 2012).
- [One. Zero.](#) (by Nishant Shah, Indian Express, September 16, 2012).
- [The Rules of Engagement](#) (by Nishant Shah, Indian Express, October 29, 2012).

### Blog Entries

- [The Bots That Got Some Votes Home](#) (by Nilofar Ansher, June 20, 2012).
- [Hyper-connected, Hyper-lonely?](#) (by Nilofar Ansher, June 11, 2012).
- [Whose Change Is It Anyway? | DML2013](#) (by Nishant Shah, November 8, 2012).

### Media Coverage

- [What does it mean to be a digital native?](#) (by Oliver Joy, CNN, December 8, 2012).

### Digital Natives Newsletter

Links in the Chain is a monthly publication which highlights the projects, ideas and news of the "Digital Natives with a Cause?" community members. It includes opinion posts by participants from the three workshops — Talking Back (Taipei, August 15 – 18, 2010), My Bubble, My Space, My Voice (Johannesburg, November 6 – 9, 2011) and From Face to the Interface (Santiago, February 7 – 10, 2011). The following newsletters were published this year:

- [Home Alone](#): Volume 10, Issue 1, April 2012.  
Editor: Shobha Vadrevu.
- [Brave New World](#): Volume 10, Issue 2, May 2012  
Editor: Nilofar Ansher.
- [Changing Face of Citizen Action](#): Volume 10, Issue 3, December 2012: This was the last issue of the Digital Natives Newsletter.  
Editor: Nilofar Ansher

### Events Participated In

- [D:coding Digital Natives - Seminar with Nishant Shah](#) (organized by HUMLab, February 26, 2013). Nishant Shah gave a talk on D:coding Digital Natives at Samhällsvetarhuset.
- [Video Vortex # 9 Re:assemblies of Video](#) (organized by the Institute of Network Cultures, Post Media Lab, Moving Image Lab, Leuphana, et.al, February 28 – March 2, 2013). Nishant Shah delivered a [key note](#) at this event.

## Digital Learning & Pedagogy

### Public Lectures

- 5 Challenges for the Future of Learning: Digital Natives and How We Shall Teach Them (Wyndham Parc 55 Hotel, San Francisco, California, March 1, 2012): Nishant Shah gave an ignite talk. The video is now online.
- 10th International ISTR Conference (Universita Degli Studi Di Siena, Italy, July 10 – 13, 2012): Nishant Shah was a panelist in the session, "Theoretical Grounding of Civic Driven Change". He gave a public lecture on Beyond Normative Citizenships: Exploring the 'New' in Digital Activism.
- Decoding Digital Natives (Mudra Institute of Communications, Ahmedabad, August 31, 2012): Nishant Shah gave a public lecture.

## Researchers@Work

### Digital Humanities

From 2012 to 2015, the RAW series will build research clusters in the field of Digital Humanities. We hope to build knowledge networks around questions of body, governance and cultural production in the digital times that we live in. The clusters aim to produce and document new conversations and debates that shape the contours of Digital Humanities in Asia.

- Locating the Mobile: An Ethnographic Investigation into Locative Media in Melbourne, Bangalore and Shanghai (by Larissa Hjorth (RMIT University, Melbourne) and Genevieve Bell (Intel, Shanghai)).
- Interface Intimacies (by Audrey Yue (Melbourne University) and Namita Malhotra (ALF)).
- Habits of Living: Global Networks, Local Affects (by Wendy Chun (Professor, Brown University), Kelly Dobson, (Chair, Digital + Media, RISD, Providence), Matthew Fuller, David Gee (Reader in Digital Media, Center for Cultural Studies, Goldsmiths College, University of London) and Eivind Rossaak, (Associate Professor, Department of Research, National Library of Norway, Oslo)).
- We, the Cyborgs (by Asha Achuthan (Centre for Contemporary Studies, Indian Institute of Sciences, Bangalore)).
- The Digital Classroom (by Dr. David Theo Goldberg (University of California Humanities Research Institute) and Claudia Sullivan (Digital Media and Learning Initiative, HASTAC)).

### Events Organised

- Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Society Summer School (Bangalore, August 2 – 11, 2012): The 2nd Biannual Inter Asia Cultural Studies (IACS) Summer School was hosted in Bangalore by the Centre for the Study of Culture and Society and CIS. The event brought together South and East Asian experts from different disciplines as faculty for graduate and advanced research students to engage with key issues of larger social, cultural and political concerns in Cultural Studies in Asia.
- Interface Intimacies Workshop (TERI, Bangalore, August 18 – 20, 2012): CIS conducted a research workshop with Audrey Yue and Namita Malhotra.

- Bangalore Thinkathon Surrogacy: Bodies, States, Networks (September 26 – 29, 2012). Jadine Lannon and Alok Vaid-Menon live blogged about the event and produced eleven blog entries: Introduction, PechaKucha, Globalising Lady Gaga, Water in India, On Technology and Affective Indian Feminism(s), Radhika Gajjala Lectures on e-Philanthropy, Joshua Neves on Media Archipelagos, Finding and Funding the Masses, Akansha Rastogi's Performance on Exhibition Space, Wendy Chun on Friends and Namita Malhotra on Amateur Pornography.
- Three columns by Nishant Shah arising from these workshops were published in the month of October: Habits of Living: Being Human in a Networked Society (DML, Central, October 22, 2012), Digital Habits: How and Why We Tweet, Share and Like (FirstPost, October 12, 2012) and Who's that Friend? (Indian Express, October 23, 2012).

The second phase of the Habits of Living workshop was co-organised with Brown University in the month of March 2013:

- Habits of Living: Networked Affects, Glocal Effects (co-organised with Brown University, March 21 – 23, 2013, Brown University, Rhode Island). Nishant Shah was a speaker at this event. He made a presentation on network ontologies.

#### **Event Participated In**

- Korean Trans Cine-Media in Global Contexts: Asia and the World (organized by Trans-Asia Screen Culture Institute, Cinema Studies, Korean National University of Arts, Korean Film Archive and Tsubouchi Memorial Theatre Museum, Waseda University, Seoul, March 27 – 29, 2013). Nishant Shah was a speaker at this event. He spoke on "The Asian Intercourse: Reimagining the Inter-Asia moment through 'net-porn' in networks".

## Credibility Alliance Norms Compliance

The Centre for Internet & Society is a non-profit research organization that works on policy issues relating to freedom of expression, privacy, accessibility for persons with disabilities, access to knowledge and IPR reform, and openness (including open government, FOSS, open standards, etc.), and engages in academic research on digital natives and digital humanities.

Registration No.: SOR/BLU/DR/57/08-09 dated 04-07-09

Registered Office: Centre for Internet and Society, #106, Vineyard Jasmine Apartments, Bank Avenue, 1st Main Road, Babusapalya, Banaswadi, Bangalore – 560043

Bankers: State Bank of India, Race Course Road Branch, 29/4, Race Course Road, Trade Centre, Bangalore – 560001

Auditors: Nath Associates

## Governance

### Details of Members as on March 31, 2013

Name	Position on Society	Occupation / Designation	Area of Competency	Charges (per month in Rs)
Lawrence Liang	Chairman	Lawyer	IPR Reform	44,000
Subbiah Arunachalam	Member	Scientist (retired)	Open Access and ICT4D	44,000
Vibodh Parthasarathi	Member	Associate Professor	Media	Nil
Jayna Kothari	Member	Advocate	NVDA	Nil
Kavita Philip	Member	Associate Professor	Gender, Science and Technology	Nil
Sunil Abraham	President	Executive Director	IPR Reform	1,70,750
Nishant Shah	Treasurer	Director, Research	Cybercultures	1,16,685

### Staff Members

Name	Designation
Sunil Abraham	Executive Director
Nishant Shah	Director-Research
Nirmita Narasimhan	Policy Director
Pranesh Prakash	Policy Director
T. Vishnu Vardhan	Programme Director
Shiju Alex	Programme Manager
Nitika Tandon	Programme Manager
U.B. Pavanaja	Programme Officer

Subhashish Panigrahi	Programme Officer
Noopur Rawal	Programme Officer
Krishna Prasad Nair	Publications Manager
Snehashish Ghosh	Policy Associate
Ajoy Kumar C.	Administrator
Usha Nandini	Accounts Officer
Velankanni Royson	Office Assistant
Mithilesh	Office Assistant
Chandhussain	Housekeeper
Mohammed Hussain	Housekeeper
<b><u>Consultants</u></b>	
Faisal Mohammed	Nisha Thompson
Satyen Gupta	Mary Mani
Adi Narayana Vardarajan	Vipul Kharbanda
Paranjoy Guhathakurta	Dr. Surendra Pal
Dr. Rakesh Mehrotra	Ravi Kiran Annaswamy
Dr. Nadeem Akthar	Namita A Malhotra
Sharat Chandra	Priya Kuber
Srividya Vaidyanathan	Anandhi Viswanathan
Abul Hasim	Amba Uttara Kak
Elonnai Hickok	Vikram Crishna
Laird Brown	Ayesha Rana
Bhairav Acharya	Annapoornima Koppad
Sajjad Anwar	Video Volunteers
Fantomos Design	Inigo Tech
Saksham Delhi	Centre for Law and Policy Research
Mahiti Infotech Limited	
<b><u>Distinguished Fellows</u></b>	
Prof. Subbiah Arunachalam Lawrence Liang Shyam Ponappa Tejaswini Niranjana	
<b><u>Fellows</u></b>	
Chinmayi Arun Rahul Cherian Chanuka Wattegama	
<b><u>Interns</u></b>	
Elonnai Hickok	University of Toronto
Yelena Gyulkhandyan	University of Toronto

Natasha Vaz	University of Toronto
Rebecca Schild	University of Toronto
Saket Bisani	National Law School of India University, Bangalore
Jadine Lannon	University of Toronto
Maria Xynou	University College, London
Ujwala Uppaluri	WB University of Juridical Sciences
Smarika Kumar	National Law Institute University
Nehaa Chaudhari	NALSAR University, Hyderabad
Yogesh Kumar	Laxmi Devi Institute of Technology
Vikram Hegde	National Law School of India University, Bangalore

**Distribution of Staff according to salary as on March 31, 2012**

Salary plus benefits paid to staff in Rupees	Male	Female	Total
<5,000	0		0
5,000 to 10,000	2		2
10,000 to 25,000	1	1	2
25,000 to 50,000	3	1	4
50,000 to 1,00,000	2	1	3
1,00,000 to 2,00,000	5	1	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>17</b>

Monthly remuneration of three highest paid employees and lowest paid employee in Rupees

2,00,000	1,70,750	1,16,685	7,000
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**Staff Gender Distribution as on March 31, 2012**

Male	Female	Total
13	4	17

**International Travel (2012-13)**

Sl No	Name	Destination and Purpose	Visa Fees in Rupees	Sponsor	Ticket Fare in Rupees	Sponsor	Per Diem in Rupees	Sponsor	Total Amount in Rupees	% of expenses incurred by Kusuma
1	Sunil Abraham	IGF –Sweden from 17/4/12 to 19/4/12	8148.00	KUSUMA	Nil	IGF	29720.00	KUSUMA	37868.00	Nil
2	Sunil Abraham	Privacy International Conference at London from 2/6/12 to 26/6/12	Nil	Nil	Nil	Privacy International	750.00	KUSUMA	750.00	Nil
3	Sunil Abraham	OSI Board Meeting from 3/5/12 to 4/5/12	Nil	OSI	NIL	OSI	Nil	OSI	NIL	NIL

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4	Sunil Abraham	Internet at Liberty/Cluster Meeting- Austin/Washinton DC from 18/5/12 to 19/5/12, 22/5/12 to 24/5/12	Nil	OSI	Nil	OSI	33200.00	KUSUMA	33200.00	
6	Sunil Abraham	APriGF at Tokyo (Japan) from 17/7/12 to 21/7/12	Nil	OWF	Nil	OWF	23804.00	KUSUMA	33804.00	
7	Sunil Abraham	APWIC eGov Conference at Cambodia from 27/8/12 to 29/8/12	1387.00	KUSUMA	NIL	APNIC	10660.00	KUSUMA	12047.00	35.00
9	Sunil Abraham	IDRC meeting at Brazil from 11/12/12 to 17/12/12	4085.00	KUSUMA	18,812.00	IDRC	38617.00	KUSUMA	29997.00	100.00
11	Nishant Shah	Post media-Lab Lunberg-Berlin from 19/6/12 to 24/6/12	NIL	HIVOS	Nil	HIVOS	32775.00	HIVOS	118119.00	Nil
12	Nishant Shah	Workshop with Hivs(Netherlands ) from 2/7/12 to 9/7/12	300.00	HIVOS	163777.00	KUSUMA	30153.00	KUSUMA	194230.00	Nil
13	Nishant Shah	ISTR Conference, Siena-Italy from 11/7/12 to 14/7/12	Nil	KUSUMA	Nil	KUSUMA	60090.00	KUSUMA	49173.00	Nil
14	Nishant, Namita, Hasina and Seema	Teaching at dutch Art Institute-Arnhem from 29/10/12 to 30/10/12	Nil	KUSUMA	162553.00	KUSUMA	56840.00	HIVOS	163412.00	Nil
15	Nishant Shah	Fellowship with ISS-Netherlands from 7/11/12 to 20/1/2			26546.00	HIVOS	50625.00	HIVOS	77171.00	Nil
16	Nishant Shah	Conference on Internet –driven developments structural changes and tipping points at Harvard from 6/12/12 to 8/12/12	NIL	NIL	NIL	HARVARD	164238.00	KUSUMA+ HARVARD	164238.00	Nil
17	Nishant Shah	Teaching at Bowling Green University-Ohio from 10/12/12 to 14/12/12		HIVOS		HIVOS	138360.00	KUSUMA+ HIVOS	138360.00	Nil
18	Pranesh Prakash	Workshop on e Plank Institute-Munich from 13/5/12 to 17/5/12	11588.00	KUSUMA	36688.00	KUSUMA	10000.00	KUSUMA	58276.00	80.00

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19	Pranesh Prakash	Internet Freedom Fellowship from 18/6/12 to 1/7/12	36,688.00	KUSUMA			39145.00	KUSUMA	75833.00	Nil
	Pranesh Prakash	WIPO conference at Geneva from 18/7/12 to 27/12/12	4149.00	KUSUMA			101901.00	KUSUMA	106050.00	
20	Pranesh Prakash	2 <sup>nd</sup> freedom online conference in Nairobi-Kenya from 5/9/12 to 8/9/12	2872.00	KUSUMA	23618.00		20700.00		47190.00	100.00
21	Pranesh Prakash	Copyright+UE Research meeting at Washington DC from 13/9/12 to 14/9/12	5616.00	KUSUMA			23150.00	KUSUMA	28766.00	60.00
22	Pranesh Prakash	7 <sup>th</sup> Internet Governance Forum in Baku-Azerbaijan from 3/11/12 to 9/11/12		KUSUMA		KUSUMA	168909.00	KUSUMA		
23	Pranesh Prakash	IDRC meeting at Brazil from 11/12/12 to 20/12/12	2990.00	KUSUMA		IDRC	24303.00	KUSUMA		
24	Elonnai Hickock	Legal Access meeting in Brussels from 10/2/12 to 5/10/12	7,094.00	KUSUMA + OSI		KUSUMA	19650.00	KUSUMA	27444.00	100.00
25	Elonnai Hickock	Toyoko(Japan)	NIL	GNI	20598.00	GNI	10400.00	GNI + KUSUMA	30998.00	80.00
26	Elonnai Hickock	7 <sup>th</sup> Internet Governance forum in Baku-Azerbaijan from 3/11/12 to 9/11/12	NIL	KUSUMA	42,736.00	KUSUMA + IDRC	6425.00	KUSUMA+IDRC	52151.00	40.00
27	Elonnai Hickock	IDRC meeting at Brazil from 11/12/12 to 17/12/12	6193.00	KUSUMA + IDRC	44211.00	KUSUMA + IDRC	46129.00	KUSUMA	96543.00	40.00

**Appeal**

Please help us defend consumer/citizen rights on the Internet!

- Write a cheque in favour of 'The Centre for Internet and Society' and mail it to us at No. 194, 2<sup>nd</sup> 'C' Cross, Domlur, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stage, Bangalore – 560071

- Volunteer with us; get in touch by writing to Sunil Abraham at [sunil@cis-india.org](mailto:sunil@cis-india.org)

### **Request for Collaboration**

CIS invites researchers, practitioners, and theoreticians, both organisationally and as individuals, to collaboratively engage with Internet and society and improve our understanding of this new field. To discuss research collaborations, visit <http://cis-india.org> and write to Nishant Shah, Director – Research, at [nishant@cis-india.org](mailto:nishant@cis-india.org). To discuss advocacy-related collaborations, write to Sunil Abraham, Executive Director, at [sunil@cis-india.org](mailto:sunil@cis-india.org).

### **Event Organisers, Sponsors and Partners**

- Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment
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- Consumers International, Kuala Lumpur
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- Venkataramanan Associates
- Wikimedia Foundation

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