# CIS ANNUAL REPORT

2015 - 2016

Contents

Highlights

- G3ict and CIS jointly researched and published a report titled Inclusive Financial Services - Global Trends in Accessibility Requirements. The research paper comprises a Foreword and Introduction, four chapters — Barriers to Access for Persons with Disabilities and Diverse Abilities, International Framework, Integrating Accessibility into the System, and State of Practice - Impact of the Convention on Inclusive Finance and Accessibility Efforts around the Globe. Pina D' Intino from Scotiabank and Mohan Tanksale of Indian Banks Association were also contributors to the report.

- CIS in collaboration with the Office of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Department of Disability Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India compiled the National Compendium of Laws, Policies, Programmes for Persons with Disabilities. Prasanna Kumar Pincha, Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities wrote the Foreword for the Compendium.

- CIS submitted its comments to the National Informatics Centre on April 30, 2015 bringing to notice the negligible progress on the front for making Indian government websites conform to the notified standards, and gave recommendations to take the initiatives forward.

- CIS sent an Open Letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his US visit, requesting him to urge USA to ratify the Marrakesh Treaty.

- Nehaa Chaudhari has prepared a consolidated report that tracks the development of India's National IPR Policy and the requests by CIS to the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion under the RTI Act and responses elicited from the Department.

- The 30th Session of the WIPO Standing Committee on Copyrights and Related Rights was held in Geneva from June 29 to July 3. Nehaa Chaudhari prepared a statement about the negotiations on the Proposed Treaty for Broadcasting Organisations.

- The 4th edition of the Global Congress themed around "Three Decades of Openness, Two Decades of TRIPS" was organized in New Delhi from December 15 - 17, 2015. The largest ever in Asia, the Congress was jointly organised by CIS, NLU-D, Open A.I.R., CREATe, Columbia University and American University.

- Rohini Lakshané wrote an analysis of the patent landscape in a research paper titled Patents and Mobile Devices in India: An Empirical Survey. The paper has indicated that although India has the second-largest wireless subscriber base in the world, with more than 150 mobile device vendors, it has, until recently, remained relatively unaffected by the global smartphone wars.

- Sumandro Chattapadhyay co-authored a report on open data intermediaries in developing countries. The report concluded by saying that consideration needs to be given to the presence of multiple intermediaries in an open data ecosystem, each of whom may possess different forms of capital to enable the use and unlock the potential impact of open data.

- Konkani Wikipedia is the second Wikimedia project after Odia Wikisource that has gone live out of incubation. The project stayed in the incubation for nine long years and the community has gone through a long debate to have a Wikipedia of their own. Subhashish Panigrahi has blogged on this highlighting the three Konkani Wikimedians.

- After sustained advocacy from CIS, Pune based non-profit organization Maharashtra Granthottejak Sanstha relicensed 1000 books for Marathi Wikisource under CC-by-SA 4.0 license. Many Marathi readers will now have digital access to those content.

- As a part of its content donation initiative, CIS has brought Nadustunna Charithra magazine under CC BY SA licence. CIS-A2K has received 74 issues as of now from the Telugu Jaati foundation.

- As part of its project on mapping cyber security actors in South Asia and South East Asia, CIS conducted a series of interviews with cyber security actors. The interviews were compiled and edited into one documentary. The film was produced by Purba Sarkar, edited by Aaron Joseph, and directed by Oxblood Ruffin features Malavika Jayaram, Nitin Pai, Namita Malhotra, Saikat Datta, Nishant Shah, Lawrence Liang, Anja Kovacs, Sikyong Lobsang Sangay and, Ravi Sharada Prasad.

- Compiled a study titled Jurisdictional Analysis that highlighted the trends and crucial differences in existing liability regimes across Chile, Canada, India, South Korea, UK and USA.

- The Internet Governance Forum was held at Jao Pessoa in Brazil from November 10 to 13, 2015. The theme for IGF 2015 was Evolution of Internet Governance: Empowering Sustainable Development. Sunil Abraham, Pranesh Prakash and Jyoti Panday participated. Overall CIS spoke in 10 panels. Jyoti Panday has summarized the developments.

- CIS published and circulated two press releases on March 11 and 15, 2016, as the Lok Sabha passed the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Bill, 2016: 'The Law cannot Fix what Technology has Broken!' and 'The New Bill Makes Aadhaar Compulsory!'

- CIS sent a joint response to the TRAI Consultation Paper on Regulatory Framework for Over-the-top (OTT) services with scholars from Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. The response was sent on March 27, 2015.

- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), in March 2015 invited comments on its Consultation Paper for the regulation of over-the-top (OTT) services. In an unprecedented wave of public participation, TRAI received over a million e-mails in support of net neutrality. CIS has prepared a note which sets out the law in relation to the unauthorized disclosure of personal information.

- As part of the 'Studying Internets in India' series, RAW has published blog entries on WhatsApp and the Creation of a Transnational Sociality; Users and the Internet; Effective Activism: The Internet, Social Media, and Hierarchical Activism in New Delhi; Studying the Internet Discourse in India through the Prism of Human Rights; and 'Originality,' 'Authenticity,' and 'Experimentation': Understanding Tagore's Music on YouTube.

- The Researchers at Work programme organised the Internet Researchers' Conference 2016 (IRC16) on February 26-28. It was hosted by the Centre for Political Studies at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, and was generously supported by the CSCS Digital Innovation Fund.

Accessibility

India has an estimated 70 million persons with disabilities who don't have access to read printed materials due to some form of physical, sensory, cognitive or other disability. As part of our endeavour to make available accessible content for persons with disabilities we are developing a text-to-speech software in 15 languages with support from the Hans Foundation. The progress made so far in the project can be accessed here.
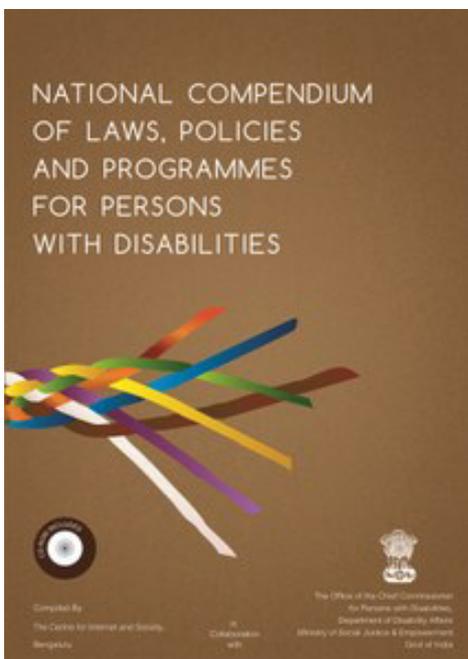
Cover image of the National Compendium of Laws, Policies and Programmes for Persons with Disabilities

National Compendium

National Compendium of Laws, Policies, Programmes for Persons with Disabilities (Office of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Department of Disability Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India and CIS; January 3, 2016): This comprehensive resource on disability related policies across India was compiled by CIS in collaboration with the Office of the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, Department of Disability Affairs, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India. Prasanna Kumar Pincha, Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities wrote the Foreword. Hans Foundation provided funding for the project. *The compendium is available in English and Hindi.*
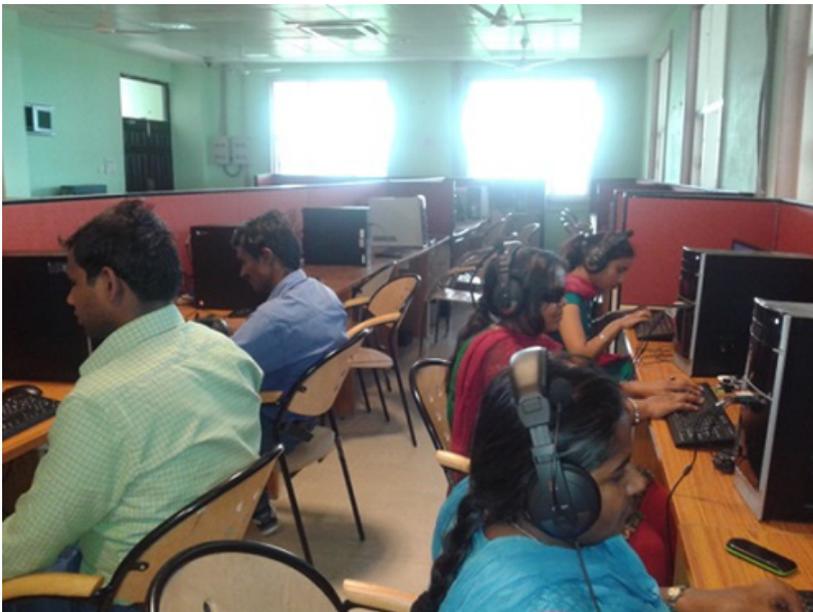
NVDA and eSpeak

Monthly Reports

Hans Foundation is funding us to do a project on developing a text-to-speech software in 15 Indian languages over a period of two-and-a-half years. The following are the monthly programmatic reports indicating the progress made in the project:

- April 2015 Report (Suman Dogra; April 30, 2015).
- May 2015 Report (Suman Dogra; April 30, 2015).
- June 2015 Report (Suman Dogra; June 30, 2015).
- July 2015 Report (Suman Dogra; July 31, 2015).
- September 2015 Report (Suman Dogra; September 30, 2015).
- October 2015 Report (Suman Dogra; October 31, 2015).
- November 2015 Report (Suman Dogra; November 30, 2015).
- December 2015 Report (Suman Dogra; December 31, 2015).
- February 2016 (Suman Dogra; February 28, 2016).

Events Organized

As part of the project training programmes were conducted across several locations in India. The following are the event reports:

Participants in one of the NVDA and eSpeak workshop learning new skills with the software

- 15 days Training in Basic Computing with use of NVDA and eSpeak in Hindi (Nirmita Narasimhan; April 10; 2015).
- 15 days Training in Basic Computing with use of NVDA and eSpeak in Gujarati (Nirmita Narasimhan; April 16, 2015).
- 15 days Training in Basic Computing with use of NVDA and eSpeak in Oriya (Nirmita Narasimhan; April 30, 2015).

- **eSpeak Tamil Computing with NVDA** (Centre for Differently-abled Persons, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli; May 4 – 8, 2015). Seventeen delegates attended.

- **Training in Basic Computing with use of NVDA and eSpeak in Assamese** (Monfort School, Guwahati; May 9 – 10, 2015). Eleven delegates attended.

- **Training in the Use of eSpeak for Indian Languages during TOT** (Organized by Enable India; May 11 – 20, 2015; Blind Empowerment Association, Kolkata). Twenty-six delegates attended.
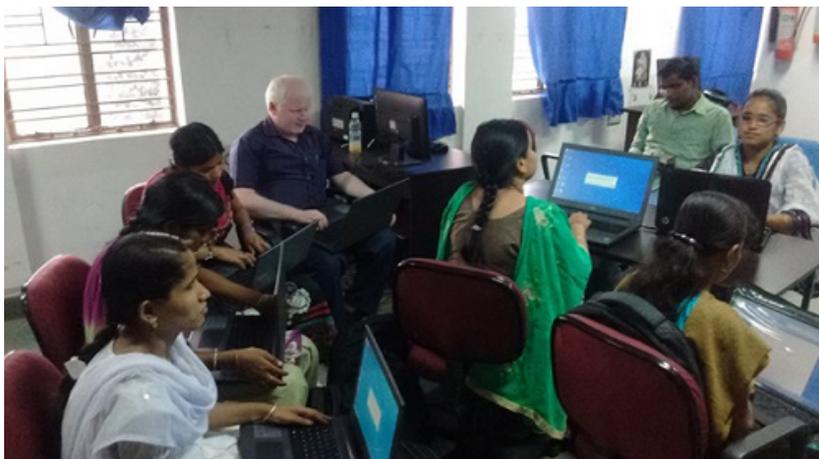
Students learning more from their teacher in one of the regional workshops

- **Tamil Language** (Differently Abled Children Section, District Central Library, Coimbatore; May 25 – 29, 2015). Twenty-one delegates attended.

- **Training on the Use of eSpeak Hindi on Windows and Android Platforms** (Indian Association for the Blind, Delhi; May 28, 2015).

- **Report on 30 Days Summer Course on Basic Computer Competencies and Language Proficiency** (Karna Vidya Technology Centre, Thiru-Vi-Ka, Industrial Estate, Chennai, May 1 – 30, 2015). Twenty delegates attended.

- **Tamil Computing with NVDA Training Workshop** (Organized by NVDA team: Anne Jane Ask with Higher Secondary School for the Visually Impaired, Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli; June 3 – 7, 2015).

- **Report on eSpeak Tamil Computing with NVDA Training Workshop in Tirunelveli** (Organized by NVDA team; Anne Jane Askwith Higher Secondary School for the Visually Impaired, Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli; June 3 - 7, 2015).

- **Training in eSpeak Marathi** (Organized by NVDA team; National Association for the Blind; Nashik; June 22 - 23, 2015).

- **Training in eSpeak Marathi** (Organized by NVDA team; SIES College, Sion, Mumbai; June 28, 2015).

- **Training in eSpeak Marathi** (Organized by CIS; Atmadepam Society; August 22 – 23, 2015).

- **Training in eSpeak Hindi** (Organized by NVDA team; Jeevan Jyoti School for the Blind; Varanasi; August 26 - 28, 2015).

- **eSpeak Training in Hindi Language** (Organized by CIS and National Association for the Blind; Kullu; September 3 – 4, 2015).

- **Training in use of eSpeak Bengali with NVDA** (Organized by CIS; Turnstone Matruchaya, Siligudi, West Bengal; September 7 – 9, 2015).

- [5 day TOT for Training in Use of eSpeak Kannada with NVDA](#) (Organized by CIS, Mithra Jyoti, Enable India and NFB, Bangalore; September 21 – 25, 2015; Bangalore).

- [Training in the use of eSpeak Hindi with NVDA](#) (Organized by CIS and Lakshay for the Differently Abled; September 29 – 30, 2015; Ranchi). The event was conducted online by Dr. Homiyar with local support from Mritunjay Kumar and Zainab.

- [Report on eSpeak with NVDA Screen Reader and Assistive Technology for Visually Challenged](#) (Organized by National Association for the Blind, New Delhi, Centre for Differently Abled Persons, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, and CIS; January 21, 2016; Tiruchirappalli).

- [Report on NVDA with E-Speak and BookShare Online Library](#) (Organized by Karna Vidya Technology Centre, Computer and Internet Society, and CIS; February 27, 2016; Chennai).

Other

Comment

- [Comments to the GIGW](#) (Nirmita Narasimhan; April 30, 2015): CIS submitted its comments to the National Informatics Centre for making Indian government websites conform to the notified standards.

Policy and Starter Kit

- [Accessible Technology](#): NITA-Uganda in close collaboration with UNESCO and UNICEF are working to implement a programme on the use of Assistive Technologies to ensure inclusive education and the Access to information for people with disabilities in Uganda. As part of this CIS prepared for UNESCO a draft policy on accessible ICT procurement and guidelines on accessible publication/ production of resources for the Government of Uganda.

- WIPO Starter Kit: CIS has completed compilation of draft starter kit for developing countries in partnership with Daisy Consortium.
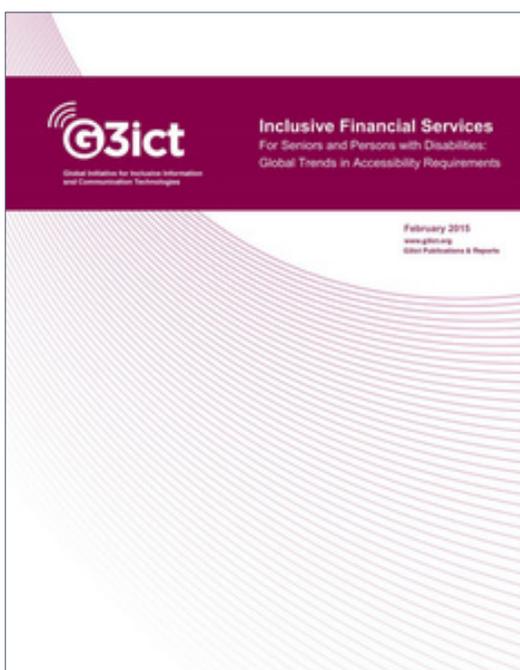
Cover image of the report jointly published by G3ict and CIS

White Paper

- Inclusive Financial Services - Global Trends in Accessibility Requirements (Nirmita Narasimhan; May 3, 2015): The research paper comprises a Foreword and Introduction, four chapters — Barriers to Access for Persons with Disabilities and Diverse Abilities, International Framework, Integrating Accessibility into the System, and State of Practice - Impact of the Convention on Inclusive Finance and Accessibility Efforts around the Globe. Ian Hurst, General Manager, Global Financial Services Sector, IBM Corporation and Frances W. West, Chief Accessibility Officer, IBM Corporation wrote the Foreword.

Participation in Event

- International Day of People with Disability (Organized by Capgemini; Bangalore; November 30, 2015). Nirmita Narasimhan was a panelist.

Media Coverage

- India's missing disabled population (Sachin P. Mampatta; Livemint; September 7, 2015)
- Global Charter: Promoting Global Digital Inclusion through ICT Procurement Policies & Accessibility Standards (G3ict; January 3, 2016). We are a signatory to this initiative.

Access to Knowledge

As part of the Access to Knowledge programme we are doing two projects. The first one (Pervasive Technologies) under a grant from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is for research on the complex interplay between pervasive technologies and intellectual property to support intellectual property norms that encourage the proliferation and development of such technologies as a social good. The second one (Wikipedia) under a grant from the Wikimedia Foundation is for the growth of Indic language communities and projects by designing community collaborations and partnerships that recruit and cultivate new editors and explore innovative approaches to building projects.

Pervasive Technologies

Research Papers

- Methodology: Patent Landscaping in the Indian Mobile Device Market (Rohini Lakshané; November 10, 2014). *The list of standards and specifications found in sub-USD-100 Internet-enabled mobile phones sold in India" (Annexure 2 in the post) was updated.*

- Pervasive Technologies Project Working Document Series: Literature Review on IPR in Mobile app development (Anubha Sinha; April 29, 2015). The series is about the material exploring and analysing the role of Application Platforms in the Mobile Applications Development ecosystem, albeit from an intellectual property perspective.

- Literature Survey: Patent Landscaping in the Indian Marketplace (Rohini Lakshané; December 31, 2014). This document was updated in the month of April.

- Comparative Transparency Review of Collective Management Organisations in India, United Kingdom and the United States (Maggie Huang, Arpita Sengupta and Paavni Anand; August 1, 2015). The transparency review sought to compare the publicly available information on the websites of music collective management organizations ("CMOs") operating within India, the United States, and the United Kingdom.

- Pervasive Technologies: Working Document Series - Research Questions and a Literature Review on the Actor-Network Theory (Nehaa Chaudhari; September 5, 2015). This document is divided into two parts - the first part lays out a series of research questions, potentially seeking to apply actor-network theory as a research methodology. The second part seeks to map literature around the Actor-Network Theory as a research methodology.

Articles

- Standard Essential Patents on Low-Cost Mobile Phones in India: A Case to Strengthen Competition Regulation? (Nehaa Chaudhari; Socio Legal Review, National Law School of India University; February 25, 2016).

- Fueling the Affordable Smartphone Revolution in India (Anubha Sinha; The Good Life in Asia's 21st Century Essay Collection; March 16, 2016).

Blog Entries

- [Conference on Standards Settings Organizations (SSO) and FRAND, NLSIU](#) (Rohini Lakshané; April 5, 2015).

- [National IPR Policy Series: RTI Requests by CIS to DIPP + DIPP Responses](#) (Nehaa Chaudhari; April 15, 2015).

- [2015 USTR Report: Old Wine in New Bottle](#) (Anubha Sinha; May 11, 2015).

- [Call for Participation: Global Congress on Intellectual Property and the Public Interest](#) (Anubha Sinha; May 14, 2015).

- [National IPR Policy Series: Who is a 'public authority' under the RTI Act?](#) (Nehaa Chaudhari and Devrupa Rakshit; May 21, 2015).

- [Report: Global Intellectual Property Convention 2015](#) (Rohini Lakshané; May 22, 2015). Anna Liz Thomas and Nayana Dasgupta assisted with the making of this report.

- [National IPR Policy Series - CIS Letter to IPR Think Tank](#) (Nehaa Chaudhari; May 26, 2015). CIS acknowledges Varun Baliga and Devrupa Rakshit for their research.

- [Joining the Dots in India's Big-Ticket Mobile Phone Patent Litigation](#) (Rohini Lakshané; May 31, 2015).

- [CCI Participation at the Upcoming 3rd International Conference on IPR and Competition](#) (Amulya Purushothama; August 5, 2015).

- [MHRD IPR Chair Series: Introduction](#) (Amulya Purushothama; August 10, 2015). Aditya Garg assisted in research and writing.

- [National IPR Policy Series: What Have the Sectoral Innovation Councils Been Doing on IPR](#) (Nehaa Chaudhari and Varun Baliga; August 13, 2015). Amulya Purushothama assisted with research and writing.

- [FAQ: CIS Proposal for Compulsory Licensing of Critical Mobile Technologies](#) (Rohini Lakshané; September 25, 2015).

- [Compilation of Mobile Phone Patent Litigation Cases in India](#) (Rohini Lakshané; March 15, 2015). This post was recently updated.

- [Comparison of National IPR Strategy September 2012, National IPR Strategy July 2014 and Draft National IP Policy, December 2014](#) (Amulya Purushothama; October 15, 2015).

- [National IPR Policy Series: Quick Observations on the Leaked Draft of the National IPR Policy](#) (Nehaa Chaudhari; October 18, 2015).

- [MHRD IPR Chair Series: Information Received from IIT Roorkee](#) (Karan Tripathi and Nehaa Chaudhari; November 17, 2015). Nehaa Chaudhari provided inputs, analysed, reviewed and edited this blog post.

- [A Study of J. Sai Deepak's Comments on Competition Law in India](#) (Aarushi Bansal; November 19, 2015). Nehaa Chaudhari gave inputs and edited the blog entry.

- [The Procedure of CCI in cases of Anti-Competitive Agreements and Abuse of Dominant Position: A Flow-Chart](#) (Sarthak Sood; November 24, 2015).

- [Litigation without injunction is a toothless tiger: Ericsson](#) (Rohini Lakshané; January 15, 2016).

- [Dataset: Patent Landscape of Mobile Device Technologies in India](#) (Rohini Lakshané; March 31, 2016).

- [Patents and Mobile Devices in India: An Empirical Survey](#) (Rohini Lakshané; March 31, 2016)

WIPO

CIS seat in the main room at WIPO

Submissions/ Comments

* [Comments on the Protection of Broadcasting Organizations: Technical Background Paper Prepared by the WIPO Secretariat](#) (Nehaa Chaudhari and Amulya Purushothama; June 28, 2015). The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India had called for comments on the Technical Background Paper was discussed 30th session of the SCCR held in Geneva from 29 June to 3 July. CIS submitted its comments.

* [Statement by the Centre for Internet and Society on the Broadcast Treaty at SCCR 30](#) (Nehaa Chaudhari; June 30, 2015). Whereas CIS was not able to attend in person it prepared a statement on the negotiations on the Proposed Treaty for Broadcasting Organizations.

Blog Entry

* [Report of the 30th Session of the WIPO SCCR by the Centre for Internet & Society](#) (edited by Nehaa Chaudhari with assistance from Nisha S.K., Aarushi Bansal, Amulya P., and Saahil Dama; March 16, 2016).

Copyright and Patent

Submissions/ Comments

* [Comments on the Guidelines for Examination of Computer Related Inventions](#) (CRIs) (Anubha Sinha; September 21, 2015). The Indian Patents Office released the Guidelines for Examination of Computer Related Inventions in an attempt to clarify examination of software related patents in India. CIS analysed these guidelines, highlighted the concerns and presented solutions.

- [Examples of Excluded Patentable subject-matter under Section 3(k) for incorporation in the yet-to-be-released Guidelines for Computer Related Inventions](#) (Anubha Sinha; January 28, 2016). You may view the Guidelines [here](#). To read the letter sent to the PMO, click [here](#). To read CIS' analysis of the Guidelines, click [here](#).

Blog Entries

- [Open Letter to PM Modi on Intellectual Property Rights issues on His Visit to the United States of America in September 2015](#) (Pranesh Prakash and Nehaa Chaudhari; September 23, 2015).

- [Ministry Clearances for the Global Congress on Intellectual Property and the Public Interest 2015](#) (Swaraj Barooah; November 18, 2015).

- [National IPR Policy: Mapping the Stakeholders' Response](#) (Akshath Mithal; November 24, 2015). Nehaa Chaudhari provided inputs and feedback and also edited this post.

- [Abuse of Dominant Position in Indian Competition Law: A Brief Guide](#) (Sarthak Sood; December 9, 2015).

- [GCIP2015: Notes from the Inaugural Session](#) (Spadika Jayaraj; SpicyIP; December 14, 2015).

- [GCIP Day 1 Session 3: Challenges in Re-Articulating Public Interest](#) (Spadika Jayaraj; SpicyIP; December 17, 2015).

- [GCIP 15 Day 2: Discussions on Health Technology, Innovation and Access](#) (Spadika Jayaraj; SpicyIP; December 17, 2015).

- [Guidelines for Examination of Computer Related Inventions in abeyance](#) (Anubha Sinha; Anubha Sinha; December 21, 2015).

- [4th Global Congress on IP and the Public Interest: Statement of Conclusion for the IP and Development track](#) (Nehaa Chaudhari; December 25, 2015). *This was also published on the Global Congress Blog.*

- Job Michael Mathew was an intern at CIS. He conducted a series of interviews as a lead up to the Global Congress. All these posts were published on Global Congress website and mirrored on CIS website. Mathew conducted interviews with [Michael Geist](#),[Zakir Thomas](#),[Susan K. Sell](#),[Shamnad Basheer](#), and [Jayashree Watal](#).

- [Intellectual Property Rights & TRIPS: An Overview](#) (Job Michael Mathew; December 12, 2015).

- [MHRD IPR Chair Series: Information Received from University of Madras](#) (Karan Tripathi; February 19, 2016).

- [MHRD IPR Chair Series: Information Received from Cochin University of Science and Technology](#) (Karan Tripathi; February 21, 2016).

- [MHRD IPR Chair Series: Information Received from IIT, Bombay](#) (Karan Tripathi; February 22, 2016).

- [MHRD IPR Chair Series: Information Received from IIT, Delhi](#) (Karan Tripathi; February 22, 2016).

- [The new Guidelines for Computer Related Inventions are a big win for FOSS in India!](#) (Anubha Sinha; February 23, 2016).

Event Organized

A group picture of the participants from the Global Congress 2015 event held at Delhi

- Global Congress on Intellectual Property and the Public Interest (Organized by National Law University, Delhi, American Assembly, Columbia University, Open A.I.R., American University, and CIS; New Delhi, December 15 - 17, 2015). Pervasive Technologies team made presentations: Nehaa Chaudhari: The Curious Case of the CCI: Competition Law and SEP Regulation in India ; Amba Uttara Kak and Maggie Huang: Rethinking Music Copyright Management in the Age of Digital Distribution: Business Models, Licensing Practices and Copyright Institutions in India; Rohini Lakshané: Patent Landscaping in the sub-$100 Mobile Device Market in India; Anubha Sinha: IP in Mobile Applications Development in India.

- IP Meetup #01: Prof. Biswajit Dhar on 'Intellectual Property issues: The Way Forward post Nairobi WTO Ministerial' (CIS, New Delhi; February 7, 2016). Prof. Dhar gave a talk.

Participation in Events

- National Conference: WTO, FTAs and Investment Treaties: Implications for development policy space (Organized by Focus on the Global South, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID), Madhyam, MSF Access Campaign, National Working Group on Patent Laws and WTO (NWGPL), Public Services International (PSI) – South Asia, South Solidarity Initiative – ActionAid, Third Word Network (TWN), and Forum against FTAs; September 22 – 23, 2015; Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi). Nehaa Chaudhari made a presentation on Copyright: Access to Knowledge in Free Trade Agreements?

- IPEX 2015 (Organized by Confederation of Indian Industry, APTDC and TDPC; September 25 - 26, 2015; Chennai). Rohini Lakshané attended the event.

- Second Meeting of the Expert Committee on WIPO (Organized by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Govt. of India; New Delhi; November 2, 2015).

- International Conference on Evolving Regime in Intellectual Property Protection (Organized by Jawaharlal Nehru University; New Delhi; November 2 - 4, 2015).

- India - Europe Conference on Building a Sustainable IPR - ICT Ecosystem for Promoting Innovation (Organized by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing; Bangalore; November 20, 2015). Rohini Lakshané attended this event.

- CODE Session (Organized by IDRC; December 17, 2015; New Delhi). Nehaa Chaudhari and Anubha Sinha participated in the event.

- 3rd Expert Committee Meeting on reference of secretary, MHRD on representation of Internet and Mobile Association of India (Organized by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting; New Delhi; January 11, 2016). Anubha Sinha and Nehaa Chaudhari attended the meeting.

- Guidelines for Examination of Computer Related Inventions (CRIs) (Organized by the Office of The Controller General, Patents, Designs & Trade Marks; Mumbai; January 12, 2016). Anubha Sinha attended the meeting.

- 2016 Works-in-Progress Intellectual Property ("WIPIP") Colloquium (Organized by School of Law, University of Washington; Washington D.C.; February 19 - 20, 2016). Prof. Jorge Contreras presented a paper co-authored by Rohini Lakshané on the patent landscape conducted for the Pervasive Technologies project.

Media Coverage

CIS gave its inputs to the following media coverage:

- One reason startups are moving out of India (Evelyn Fok and Varun Aggarwal; The Times of India; April 10, 2015). This was also mirrored in Economic Times.

- Indian businesses crave IP certainty, but better patent values are tempting them overseas (IAM Magazine; April 28, 2015).

- Competition Commission of India chariman's participation in Assocham conference raises conflict of interests (Rema Nagarajan; The Times of India; August 6, 2015).

- Assocham event sparks row over conflict of interest by CCI (Dilasha Seth and Deepak Patel; Business Standard; August 6, 2015).

- NLSIU Conference on Access to Copyrighted Works for Persons with Disability: An enriching experience (Abolee Vaidya and Nuhar Bansal; SINAPSE; December 14, 2015). *This is an event report on a one-day national conference on the 'Access to Copyrighted Works for Persons with Disability' for which Pranesh Prakash was a speaker.*

Wikipedia

CIS made an open proposal for funding for about USD 208,603 from the Wikimedia Foundation. CIS is inviting comments on the proposal. CIS is proposing to contribute to the qualitative and quantitative growth of 12 Wikimedia projects across 9 Indian languages and associated communities, in addition to providing need based support to other Indic communities.

Articles

- Odia Wikipedia Set to Celebrate 13 Years of Volunteer Contributions (Subhashish Panigrahi; May 13, 2015).

- ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଉଇକିପିଡ଼ିଆ: ନୂତନ ଯୁଗର ଆରମ୍ଭ (Subhashish Panigrahi; May 31, 2015).

- Odia Language Wikipedia Page Grows to 800K Page Views A Month (Subhashish Panigrahi; Opensource.com; May 31, 2015).

- କ୍ୱ୧ତେ ମାଗଣା "ଫ୍ରି ବ୍ସେକ୍ସ (Subhashish Panigrahi; Samaja; January 4, 2016). Sunil Abraham and Pranesh Prakash gave inputs.

- ବ୍ୟବହାରୀଙ୍କ ପାଇଁ ନିରାପତତା ଓ ଗୋପନୀୟତାର କଟୋକୁଆ ଆଣିବ ଫସେବୁକର ଫ୍ରି ବ୍ସେକ୍ସ (Subhashish Panigrahi; Your Story; January 5, 2016).

- ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଉଇକିପାଠାଗାର: ଓଡ଼ିଆର ଡିଜିଟାଲ ପାଠାଗାର ଆନ୍ଦୋଲନର ନୂଆ ମୁହଁ (Subhashish Panigrahi; Your Story; January 12, 2016).

- ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷା ପାଇଁ କିଛି ଅନ୍ତରଜାତୀୟ ଇଣ୍ଟରନେଟ ପ୍ରକଳ୍ପ (Subhashish Panigrahi; Your Story; January 14, 2016).

- Why It›s Essential To Grow Indian-Language Wikipedias (Subhashish Panigrahi; Huffington Post; January 25, 2016).

- This Multilingual Edit-a-thon wants to Improve Indian Content on Wikipedia (Subhashish Panigrahi; DNA; January 26, 2016).

- କଡେଠ ମାଗଣା ଫେସବୁକର ଫରି ବସେିକ? (Subhashish Panigrahi; Odisha.com; January 27, 2016).

- Can Wikipedia revive dying Indian languages? (Subhashish Panigrahi; The Hoot; February 19, 2016 and mirrored by Pratham Books; February 22, 2016).

- Community Digest—Estonians working on a new feedback system for Wikipedia articles (Subhashish Panigrahi; Wikimedia Blog; February 27, 2016).

- Looking ahead to the future of the Kannada Wikipedia: Vasanth S.N. (Subhashish Panigrahi; Wikimedia Blog; February 29, 2016).

- ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷା ପାଇଁ ଏକ ଅନୁଶୀଳନ (Subhashish Panigrahi; Suryaprava; February 22, 2016).

- ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷା ପାଇଁ ଏକ ଅନୁଶୀଳନ (Subhashish Panigrahi; Samaja; February 21, 2016).

- ମାତୃଭାଷା ଦିବସ: ଆଜିର ସମସ୍ୟା ଓ ଆହ୍ୱାନ (Subhashish Panigrahi; Sambad; February 21, 2016).

- Eight Challenges That Indian-Language Wikipedias Need to Overcome (Subhashish Panigrahi; The Wire; March 17, 2016). A version of the article was also mirrored by Opensource.com on March 28, 2016.

- 8 Challenges In Growing Indian-Language Wikipedias (Subhashish Panigrahi; Huffington Post; March 19, 2016). This was cross-posted in Medianama titled as Multiple key factors preventing Indic Wikipedia growth on March 21, 2016.

- 8 Challenges for Improving Indian Language Wikipedias (Subhashish Panigrahi; Opensource.com; March 28, 2016). The article was originally published in the Wire on March 17, 2016 and later mirrored on Opensource.com on March 28, 2016.

Blog Entries

Participants from Train the Trainer program—which aims to increase the number of new editors and 'ambassadors' for the movement at large—proved a rewarding experience for attendees. Photo *by* U.B. Pavanaja, *freely licensed under* CC-BY-SA 4.0.

- [Hindustani Language: We Are Wikipedia](#) (Syed Muzamiluddin; April 10, 2015).

- [ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଭାଷା ପାଇଁ ଡିଜିଟାଲ ଅସୁବିଧା](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; April 15, 2015).

- [Wikipedia Campus at Oxford College](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; April 28, 2015).

- [Train the Trainer: Running effective outreach activities in India](#) (Tanveer Hasan; June 24, 2015).

- [How the Odia Wikimedia community is enriching Wikipedia with character encoding technology](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; June 14, 2015).

- [Magic words in Wikipedia](#) (Tanveer Hasan; June 25, 2015).

- [Odia Wikipedia meets Google Developer Group](#) (Sailesh Patnaik; June 29, 2015).

- [Tulu Wikipedia edit-a-thon in Mangalore](#) (Dr. U.B. Pavanaja; August 16, 2015).

- [Odia Wikisource has a new Wikisourcer, and he is the youngest in the Odia Wikimedia community!](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; August 21, 2015).

Participants editing Kannada Wikipedia at one of the workshops conducted by Dr. U.B. Pavanaja

- [Edit-a-thon to improve Kannada-language science-related Wikipedia articles](#) (Dr. U.B. Pavanaja; August 21, 2015).

- [CIS brings Nadustunna Charithra magazine under CC BY SA licence](#) (Tanveer Hasan; September 2, 2015).

- [OCR and OER – update](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; Open Education Working Group; September 25, 2015).

- [As Odia Wikipedia turns 13, what happens next?](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; September 26, 2015). This was originally [published on the Wikimedia Blog](#) on August 21. The post was shared on Wikipedia's official [Facebook page](#), and on Twitter handles [[1](#) and [2](#)].

- [Google's Optical Character Recognition Software Now Works with All South Asian Languages](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; September 26, 2015).

- [Wikimedia contributor shares his Linux story](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; September 27, 2015). *This article is part of a series called [My Linux Story](#). Read the original published by [Opensource.com](#) on September 3, 2015.*

- [WikipediansSpeak: Telugu-language library catalog project helps Wikipedia grow](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; October 11, 2015). This was published on Wikimedia blog in two languages [English](#) and [Ukranian](#).

- [A Kannada Wikipedia brochure for newbies](#) (U.B. Pavanaja; October 19, 2015).

Odia Wikipedians with guests at the Odia Wikisource first anniversary at Bhubaneswar. Image freely licensed by Coldbreeze16 under CC-BY-SA 4.0.

- [Odia Wikisource to Celebrate Its First Anniversary in Bhubaneswar](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; Mybhubaneswar.com; October 24, 2015).

- [Konkani-language books from Konkani-language culture center Mannd Sobhaann to enrich Konkani Wikipedia](#) (Rahmanuddin Shaik and Tanveer Hasan; October 30, 2015).

A public gathering where Maharashtra Granthottejak Sanstha was presenting their work

- [1000 Marathi books by Pune based non-profit to come online on Marathi Wikisource with Open Access](#): As the Maharashtra Granthottejak Sanstha (MGS), a non-profit organization working for the preservation of the "Peshwa" culture in Maharashtra, and based in Pune, India, celebrated its 121st anniversary recently, the organization relicensed 1000 books for Marathi Wikisource under CC-by-SA 4.0 license so that the books could be digitized and be made available for millions of Marathi readers. Avinash Chaphekar from the organization signed a document permitting Wikimedians to digitize the books on the Wikisource. On this special occasion of the anniversary, a three-day book exhibition was organized starting October 30.

- [Konkani-language books from Konkani-language culture center Mannd Sobhaann to enrich Konkani Wikipedia](#) (Rahmanuddin Shaik and Tanveer Hasan; November 1, 2015).

- [Guerrilla GLAM: An alternate way of doing GLAM in indie-way](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; Wikimedia Blog; November 25, 2015). This was published in the GLAM-wiki newsletter for November.

- [Open access in the Marathi language expands by a thousand books](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi and Abhinav Garule; December 3, 2015). *This was published on Wikimedia Blog.*

- [Guru-G Learning Labs and CIS A2K Institutional Partnership](#) (Tanveer Hasan; December 3, 2015).

- [Community Prioritisation of Content Donation: Kannada Wikisource](#) (Tanveer Hasan; December 5, 2015).

- [Analysis of Institutional Partnerships: University of Mysore and Guru G Learning Labs](#) (Tanveer Hasan; December 5, 2015).

- [Touch Point Report: Department of Tourism Studies, Christ University and St. Aloysius College, Mangalore](#) (Tanveer Hasan; December 5, 2015).

- [TTT 2015](#) (Tanveer Hasan; December 5, 2015).

- [Kannada Wikipedia Editathon at Mangaluru](#) (Dr. U.B. Pavanaja; December 29, 2015).

- [Odia Wikipedia progress from July to December, 2015](#) (Rahmanuddin Shaik; January 1, 2016).

- [Report of Konkani Wikipedia's progress](#) (July - December 2015) (Rahmanuddin Shaik; January 1, 2016).

- [WikipediansSpeak: Odia Wikisourcer Shares her Journey and Goals](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi and Nasim Ali; January 30, 2016).

Events Organized

- Christ University Undergraduate Programme (Organized by CIS-A2K; Bangalore; July 1 - 8, 2015). Students were initiated into the Wikimedia activities with hands on sessions of typing on Wikisource. Faculty of the Christ University helped the A2K team in deciding on the texts that were to be typed. These texts will provide much needed impetus for Wikisource related activities in Indian Languages. Wikipedia Education Programme at Christ University received support from Ravishankar.A of the Tamil Wikimedia community and Sayant Mahato from Sanskrit Wikimedia community.

- Aloysius College (Organized by CIS-A2K; Mangalore; July 1 – 4, 2015). Tulu and Kannada Wikipedia workshops were conducted in St. Aloysis College, Mangalore. Tulu Wikipedia is in Incubator and a small community is growing in Mangalore. Pavanaja U.B. and Rahmanuddin Shaik participated in this events.

- Media Wiki Train the Trainer Program (Organized by CIS-A2K; Bangalore; June 24 – 27, 2015): A four-day long train-the-trainer program aimed at building leadership among technical contributors to Indic language Wikimedians in the areas of bugs, bots--Pywikipedia and Auto Wiki Browser, various MediaWiki tools, and translations. Ravishankar A. from Wikimedia India, MediaWiki developers Pavithra H., Yogesh Omshivaprakash H.L. and Harsh Kothari, and Tamil Wikimedian Dineshkumar Ponnusamy provided support for the event.

- [Telugu Wikipedia edit-a-thon at Annamacharya library to preserve rare Telugu literature text](#) (Organized by CIS-A2K; Andhra Loyola College; August 6, 2015).

- [Workshop on Digital Collaborations in Tamil-language](#) (Organized by CIS-A2K; Tamil Virtual University; Chennai; August 8 – 9, 2015).

- [Kannada Wikipedia workshop](#) (Organized by CIS-A2K; Shree Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara College; Ujire; August 13, 2015).

- [Tulu Wikipedia edit-a-thon](#) (Organized by Tulu Wikipedia Community and CIS-A2K; Mangalore; August 14 – 16, 2015).

- [International Workshop on Digitization and Archiving](#) (Organized by CIS-A2K and Wikipedia Community; August 19 - 21, 2015). Rahmanuddin Shaik was one of the trainers.

- [Wikipedia Workshop in the Theme of "Sau Dhuni Teen"](#) (Organized by CIS-A2K; Pune University; August 20 – 21, 2015).

- ["Sau Dhuni Teen" project: Wikipedia workshop](#) (Organized by CIS-A2K; Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai; August 22 – 24, 2015).

- [Wikipedia Workshop in Sinhgad Institute of Technology and Science](#) (Organized by CIS-A2K; Narhe, Pune; October 9, 2015).

- [Talk on bringing 1000 books about the culture of Maharashtra on Marathi Wikipedia](#) (Organized by CIS-A2K and Wikipedia community; December 1, 2015; TERI, Bangalore). Avinash Chaphekar, Joint Secretary, Maharashtra Granthottejak Sanstha gave a talk.

- [English and Telugu Wikipedia edit-a-thon](#) (Organized by CIS-A2K; Hyderabad; December 20, 2015).

- [Telugu Wikipedia Education Program](#) (Co-organized by CIS-A2K and Andhra Loyola College; Vijaywada; January 12 - 13, 2016). CIS is opening up a Wikipedia Digital Centre in the college so that students and local Wikimedians could grow Wikipedia and other Wikimedia content in Telugu and other Indian languages.

- [Geographical Indications in India Edit-a-thon](#) (Organized by CIS-A2K; India; January 25 - 31, 2016). The goal of this edit-a-thon was to create and improve Geographical Indications articles.

Participants during a digitization sprint at Andhra Loyola College

- [Digitisation sprint at Andhra Loyola College Vijayawada to bring more books on Telugu Wikisource](#) (Andhra Loyola College, Off Eluru Road, Behind Vinayak Theater, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh; February 12 to 14, 2016).

Participation in Events

- [2nd National Language Conference, Bhubaneswar](#) (Organized by Institute of Odia Studies and Research; Institute of Physics; Bhubaneswar; March 30 - April 2, 2015). This conference was organised in collaboration with the Department of Tourism and Culture. Subhashish Panigrahi presented a paper in Odia language in this conference as part of a panel discussion related to Odia language computing.

- [Wikimania 2015](#) (Organized by Wikimedia Foundation; Mexico City; July 15 - 19, 2015): A whole day was dedicated for evaluation of strategies and activities by various major

stakeholders of the Wikimedia movement. Community members who lead major activities, Wikimedia chapters, affiliate organizations and Wikimedia Foundation itself took part in the discussions. There were several group activities, exchange of ideas focused on project and community level outreach and other activities, tools and techniques, and best practices. Subhashish Panigrahi participated in this event and gave a talk on How to do Guerrilla GLAM. Subhashish Panigrahi was a panelist along with Rohini Lakshané in the session "Edit-a-thons for Bridging the Gender Gap on Wikimedia: A Panel Discussion". An Indic Meet-up was also organized. Wikimedians from India, Bangladesh and Nepal representing various language communities, Wikimedia India, Wikimedia Bangladesh, Wikimedia Nepal, and Access to Knowledge (CIS-A2K) gathered to discuss about various challenges, cross-community collaborative projects, organizing larger events, and strategies to grow the Wikimedia movement in South Asia.

- Classical Languages in the Digital Era Conference (Organized by Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore; July 17, 2015) Tanveer Hasan participated in this conference aimed at discussing about the future of Indian classical languages in the digital era.

- Seminar on "Empowering Marathi Schools" (Organized by Yashwantrao Chavan Pratisthan; Mumbai; September 13, 2015). Abhinav Garule attended the event.
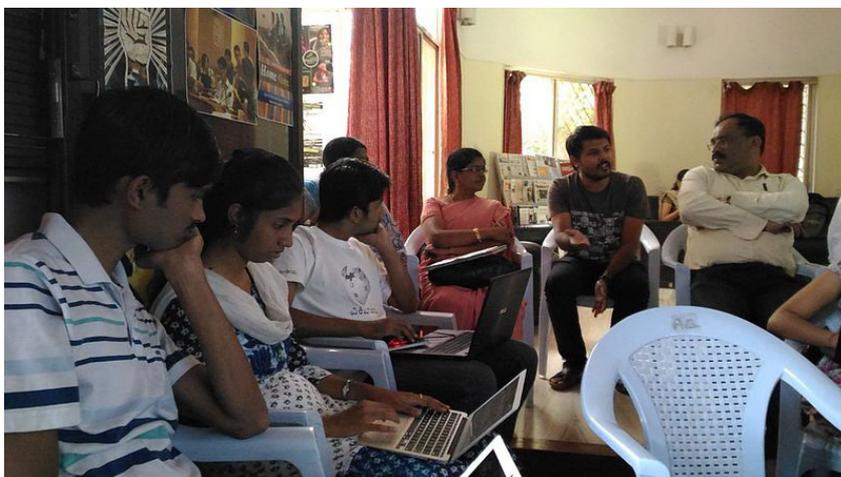
Kannada wikipedians at CIS office in Bangalore for a Wiki meet-up

- Kannada Wikipedia Meetup (Organized by Wikipedia community; CIS, Bangalore; September 13, 2015). 26 Kannada Wikipedians, including 3 CIS-A2K members attended the meetup.

- Making Tulu Wikipedia 'Live' (Organized by Tulu Sahitya Akademy; Mangalore; October 28 - 29 and November 5 - 6, 2015). Rahmanuddin interacted with Tulu Wikipedians. Rahmanuddin was also invited to be a part of the World Konkani Literature festival where he spoke briefly about Konkani Wikipedia to the gathering.

- Tulu Wikipedia Tutorial (Organized by Wikipedia community; Mangalore; November 2015). Dr. U.B. Pavanaja trained the people involved in the creation of the Tutorial video.

- FUEL GILT Conference 2015 (Organized by Mozilla Corporation, Centre for Development of Advance Computing (C-DAC), Pune and Red Hat; Tamil Virtual Academy, Anna University Campus, Gandhi Mandapam Road, Kottur, Chennai; November 20 - 22, 2015). Subhashish Panigrahi spoke at the event.

- Open Source India 2015 (Organized by EFY Group; NIMHANS Convention Centre; Bangalore; November 19 and 20, 2015). Subhashish Panigrahi attended the event.

- Telugu Wikipedia Day 2015, Photo Walk (Organized by Telugu Wikipedians; Dr. YSR State Archaeological Museum, Hyderabad; December 13, 2015). Pavan Santhosh attended the

event. One of the popular Telugu news channel TV9 covered the event and telecasted the same. Eenadu published a special item on photo walk on December 13, 2015.

- Indian language Wikipedias in the classroom: Wikipedia workshop at SVERI (Organized by Wikipedia Community; Premier Institute Of Computer Studies, Puri; December 15-16, 2015). Abhinav Garule participated in the event.

- English Wikipedia and the Telugu Wikipedia joint meetup and edit-a-thon (Organized by Wikipedia community; Golden Threshold, Hyderabad; December 20, 2015). The event was covered in Sakshi and Andhra Jyoti.

- Editathon at Mysore (Organized by Kannada Wikipedia community; Centre for Proficiency Development and Placement Services (CPDPS), Manasa Gangotri, University of Mysore; January 11 - 13, 2016). Dr. U.B. Pavanaja was the key resource person. Prajavani published a report.

- Padartha Chintamani - Pada Kammata Program (Organized by Padartha Chintamani (ಪದಾರ್ಥ ಚಿಂತಾಮಣಿ); Indian Institute of World Culture, Bangalore; January 17, 2016). Dr. U.B. Pavanaja is one of the active members of this group.

- The Intellects, a Delhi-based progressive forum of intellectuals, held the 2nd International Conclave of Odia Language at the India International Centre in New Delhi on February 20, 2016. Subhashish Panigrahi participated in the event and won the Yuva Prerana Samman award. Odisha News covered the event.

- BHASHA-Indian Languages Digital Festival (Organized by news media YourStory; March 11, 2016; New Delhi). Subhashish Panigrahi gave a talk in the panel "The challenges of making regional language content available on the Web and on mobiles.

- 8th IBA International Conference (Organized by Indus Business Academy; March 24 - 26, 2016; Bangalore). Dr. U.B. Pavanaja gave a talk on Democratizing of Knowledge Access-Case of Regional Language Wikipedia.

Media Coverage

- Odia waits for Google Translate debut - Nine Indian languages available (Anwesha Ambaly; Telegraph; April 6, 2015).

- Now you can search Google in Kannada, in your handwriting (Apurva Venkat; Bangalore Mirror; April 18, 2015).

- ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱରରେ ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଉଇକିପିଡ଼ିଆର ୧୩ ତମ ଜନ୍ମତିଥି ପାଳନ, ୨୦୧୫ ଜୁନ ୩ ତାରିଖ (Odishan.com; June 2, 2015).

- Odia Wikipedia celebrates 13 years of free knowledge contribution at Bhubaneswar (Orissadairy.com; June 2, 2015).

- Odia Wikipedia Celebrates 13 Years of Free Knowledge Contribution at Bhubaneswar (FullOdisha.com; June 3, 2015).

- Reading Devanagari Script based sites like Konkani Wikipedia in Kannada Script (Dr. U.B. Pavanaja; July 13, 2015).

- Konkani Wikipedia Goes Live After 'Nine Years' of Incubation (Subhashish Panigrahi; July 18, 2015).

- Not many contributors for Kannada-centric Wiki page (The Times of India, July 5, 2015).

- Upload More Kannada Articles on Wikipedia (Indian Express; July 5, 2015).

- Kannada Wikipedia Workshop in Mangaluru (Udayavani; July 5, 2015).

- Kannada Wikipedia Workshop in Mangaluru (Prajavani; July 5, 2015).

- Telugu religious and historical work preserved at Annamacharya library to come on Wikisource! The Hans India; August 7, 2015)

- ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ಪ್ರದೇಶದ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಪ್ರಗತಿಯಿಂದ ದೇಶದ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಪ್ರಗತಿ ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುತ್ತದೆ (Mangalorean.com; August 13, 2015).

- ಬೆಳ್ತಂಗಡಿ.ಎಲ್ಲಾ ಕಾಲಕ್ಕೂ ಲಭ್ಯ ಇರುವ ಸ್ವತಂತ್ರ ಹಾಗೂ ಮುಕ್ತ ಎನ್ಸೈಕ್ಲೋಪೀಡಿಯಾ-ಪವನಜ (SahilOnline; August 14, 2015).

- Unable to read Odia on your android device? Don't fret! (Ruby Nanda; Odisha Sun Times; September 28, 2015).

- ଓଡ଼ିଆ ଉଇକିପାଗାରର ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ସମାଜ (Full Odisha.com; October 24, 2015).

- Odia Wikisource celebrates 1st anniversary this 25th October (Bhubaneswar Buzz; October 24, 2015).

- Odia Wikisource to celebrate its first anniversary tomorrow! (Odisha Sun Times; October 25, 2015).

- Odia language classics could now be read from phones, tablets and of course from computers! (Orissadairy; October 25, 2015).

- Odia Wikisource to Hold 1st Anniversary (Pioneer; October 26, 2015).

- Otago Southland are the Coolest (Library and Information Association of New Zealand; October 26, 2015). The submission was accepted for Wikimania 2015.

- मराठी पुस्तके 'विकिसिरोत' ला, सकाळ (Sakaal; October 28, 2015).

- 'महाराष्ट्र ग्रंथोत्तेजक' होणार लोकाभिमुख, महाराष्ट्र टाईम्स (Maharashtra Times; October 28, 2015).

- महाराष्ट्र ग्रंथोत्तेजक संस्थेमधील एक हजार ग्रंथ ऑनलाईन (Saamna; October 30, 2015).

- India & France to digitise manuscripts, artworks & archives (Medianama; October 29, 2015).

- शंभर वर्षांपूर्वीच्या पुस्तकांचे होणार डजिटियझ्रेशन (Lokmat; November 11, 2015).

- Dr. Pavanaja featured in Kannada Daily (Vijayavani; November 16, 2015).

- तेसर फ्यूल कॉन्फरेंस आओर मोज़िला हैकाथन संपन्न (esamaad; November 19, 2015).

- ଅନଲାଇନରେ ପଢ଼ିହେବ ଜଗନ୍ନାଥ ପ୍ରସାଦ ଦାସଙ୍କ ଣ୍ଠି ରହି (Sambad; November 19, 2015).

- तीसरा फ्यूल कॉन्फरेंस और मोज़िला हैकाथन संपन्न (Surkhiyan; November 23, 2015).

- तीसरा फ्यूल जलिट कॉन्फरेंस और मोज़िला हैकाथन चेन्नई में संपन्न (Aaj Tak; November 24, 2015).

- भाषाई कंप्यूटिंग के मानक बनाने के लिए चेन्नई में हुआ तीसरा फ्यूल जलिट (Outlook; November 26, 2015).

- Kannada Wikipedia Editathon (Udayavani; December 7, 2015).

- Kannada Wikipedia Editathon (Vijayavani; December 11, 2015).

- Kannada Wikipedia Editathon (Vijaya Karnataka; December 11, 2015).

- Kannada Wikipedia Editathon (Udayavani; December 11, 2015).

- Kannada Wikipedia Editathon (Prajavani; December 10, 2015).

- Post More Articles on Kannada Wikipedia (Indian Express; Mangaluru edition; December 12, 2015).

- Kannada Wikipedia Editathon (Prajavani; December 13, 2015).

- Books at a Click (New Indian Express; January 9, 2016).

- Read Bengali, Malayalam classics online as free Wiki libraries grow (Sandhya Soman; The Times of India; January 10, 2016).

- Youth is responsible for protecting Telugu (Eenadu; January 14, 2016).

- Wikipedia Digital Centre now at Andhra Loyola College (Hans India; January 14, 2016).

- [Kannada Wikipedia not on top of the charts](#) (Muralidhara Khajane; Hindu; January 19, 2016).

- [GI-tagged products to get Wiki pages](#) (S. Anandan; Hindu; January 26, 2016).

- [Wikipedia initiative - Celebrating legacy of Bangalore Blue grapes online](#) (The Times of India; January 27, 2016).

- [Youth is responsible for protecting Telugu](#) (Eenadu; January 14, 2016).

- [Why aren't Indians using Wikipedia to hold the government to account?](#) (Madhav Gadgil; Scroll.in; February 6, 2016).

- [Now trending: Regional Indian language social media networks](#) (Kanika Sharma; Hindustan Times; February 14, 2016).

- [International Mother Language Day](#) (Eenadu; February 21, 2016).

- [ಪ್ರ್‌ರಶ್ಃ‌್ಾಂತವನ](#) (Prashasti Prashantavanam; February 21, 2016).

Openness

The advent of the Internet has radically redefined what it means to be open and collaborative. The Internet itself is built upon open standards and free/libre/open source software. Our work in the Openness programme focuses on open data, especially open government data, open access, open education resources, open knowledge in Indic languages, open media, and open technologies and standards - hardware and software. We approach openness as a cross-cutting principle for knowledge production and distribution, and not as a thing-in-itself.

Submissions

- [Pre-Budget Consultation 2016 - Submission to the IT Group of the Ministry of Finance](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay, with contributions from Rohini Lakshané, Anubha Sinha, and other members of CIS; January 12, 2016).

- [Cultural institution AKA GLAM for more OER](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; February 27, 2016). Subhashish's submission under the theme of "Innovative approaches to opening up cultural heritage collections for education" was selected for the OER16 conference to be held in Edinburg, Scotland from 19 to 20 April 2016.

- [Open Data Hackathons are Great, but Address Privacy and License Concerns](#) (Nisha Thompson, Cross-posted from DataMeet, February 05, 2016).

- [Consultation on 'National Geospatial Policy' - Notes and Submission](#) (Anubha Sinha; March 29, 2016).

Blog Entries

- [Approaching Open Research via Open Data - Presentation at TERI, December 22, 2015](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; January 12, 2016). Sumandro Chattapadhyay delivered a special address.

- [Monitoring Sustainable Development Goals in India: Availability and Openness of Data (Part I)](#) (Kiran A.B., February 22, 2016).

Event Organized

- [The Zen of Pad.ma: 10 Lessons Learned from Running Open Access Online Video Archives in India and beyond](#) (Organized by CIS; Bangalore; February 3, 2016). Sebastian Lütgert and Jan Gerber, the co-initiators of, and the artists/programmers behind the pad.ma (Public Access Digital Media Archive) project will deliver a lecture at CIS office in Bangalore.

Participation in Events

- [OER16: Open Culture](#) (Organized by Association for Learning Technology; University of Edinburg; April 19 - 20, 2016). As a part of the programme committee, Subhashish Panigrahi reviewed the submissions for the 7th Open Educational Resources Conference, "OER16: Open Culture".

- [National Koha Conclave](#) (Organized by Informatics Publishing; Fortune Park JP Celestial; Bangalore; February 17, 2016). Sunil Abraham delivered the inaugural address on the occasion.

- [Design Public Conclave, 6th Edition](#) (Organized by by Civic Labs, an initiative of the Center for Knowledge Studies, and part of the Vihara Innovation Network, in partnership with Social Innovation Exchange, Okapi, Business World, Business World for Smart Cities, and the Delhi Jal Board; New Delhi; November 3, 2015). Sumandro Chattapadhyay and Amber Sinha participated in the event.

Open Data

Submission

As one of the general stewards of the process, CIS was invited to take part in the final drafting meeting of the International Open Data Charter held before Con Datos 2015 in Santiago, Chile, but we could not take part in it. Apart from organising two public consultations on the draft Charter in Bengaluru and Delhi, we also submitted our [detailed comments](#) on the document. The final version of the [Charter document has been launched](#) at the United Nation General Assembly meeting, on September 27.

Event Organized

- [NASA International Open Data Challenge 2015](#) (Co-organized by CIS and Team Indus; Bangalore; April 11-12, 2015).

Participation in Events

- [Open Street Map "Mapping Workshop"](#) (Organized by Phandeeyar; Yangon; May 13, 2015). Sumandro Chattapadhyay conducted a workshop. Twenty delegates attended.

- [What is the Open Data Movement & Why Does it Matter?](#) (Organized by Phandeeyar; Yangon; May 13, 2015). Twenty-five delegates attended. Sumandro Chattapadhyay gave a talk.

Blog Entries

- [International Open Data Charter: First Public Draft](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; May 29, 2015).

- [Workshop on Open Data for Human Development](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; June 2, 2015).
- [Open Data Intermediaries in Developing Countries - A Synthesis Report](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; June 16, 2015).

Free Software

Celebration of Software Freedom Day at CIS office in Bangalore

[Software Freedom Day 2015](#) (CIS, Bangalore; September 19, 2015): A pledge was taken to help spread the word about free software to all people, but especially governments, use, contribute to, and spread open standards, free/libre/open source software, open APIs, openly-licensed content (including open data, open access, and open education resources), leading to a vibrant public domain, and ensure that all of the above are accessible for all, including persons with disabilities and other marginalised sections of society.

Blog Entries

- [FOSS for Public Use: Free and Open Source Software for Digital India](#) (Anubha Sinha; June 1, 2015).
- [Software Freedom Pledge](#) (Pranesh Prakash; September 25, 2015).

Participation in Events

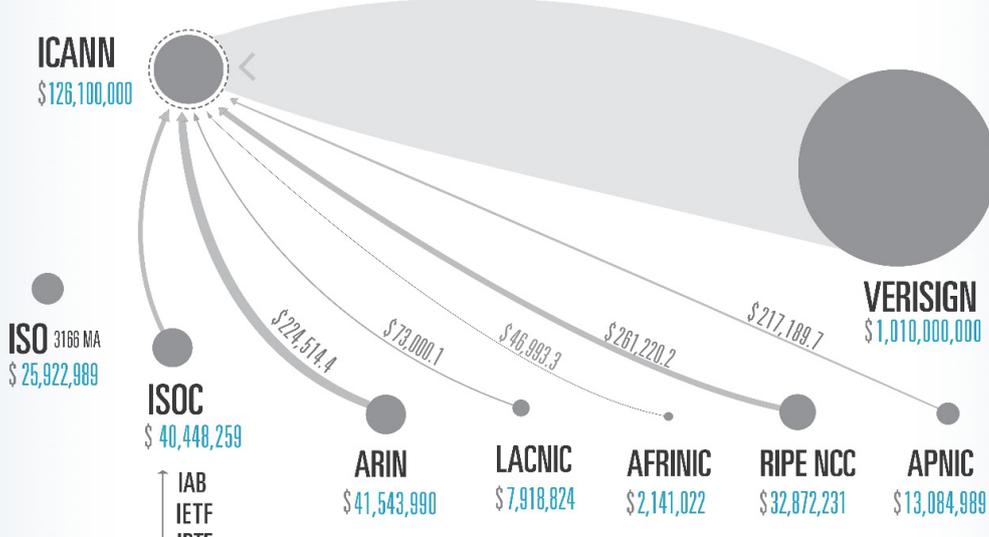- [Workshop on digital collaborations in Tamil-language, Tamil Virtual Chennai](#) (Organized by Tamil Virtual University, Anna University Campus, Chennai; August 8 - 9, 2015). Dr. U.B. Pavanaja attended this event.
- [Open Innovation, entrepreneurship, and our digital future](#) (Organized by iSpirit; Bangalore; August 13, 2015). Rohini Lakshané attended the event. Rohini wrote a [report on this](#).

Internet governance

As part of its research on privacy and free speech, CIS is engaged with two different projects. The first one (under a grant from Privacy International and International Development Research Centre (IDRC)) is on surveillance and freedom of expression (SAFEGUARDS). The second one (under a grant from MacArthur Foundation) is on studying the restrictions placed on freedom of expression online by the Indian government.

WHO REALLY RUNS THE DNS?

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers is the Self Regulatory Organisation for the domain name industry. Supporters of the multistakeholder model of internet governance uphold ICANN as exemplifying the best attributes of this model. According to ICANN, it only performs a narrow set of technical functions[1]. In reality, it would not be an exaggeration to say that ICANN effectively regulates a property rights regime over the Internet, as it exclusively determines who collects who collects how much rent over the Internet. A total of 294 million domain names are registered across all top-level domains (TLDs).[2] $3 billion is collected annually in revenues from domain names in the United States alone[3]; thus, there is an extensive amount of money at stake.

ICANN $126,100,000

ISO 3166 MA $25,922,989

ISOC $40,448,259

IAB
IETF
IRTF

ARIN $41,543,990

LACNIC $7,918,824

AFRINIC $2,141,022

RIPE NCC $32,872,231

APNIC $13,084,989

VERISIGN $1,010,000,000

$224,514.4 $73,000.1 $46,993.3 $261,220.2 $217,189.7

WHO IS WHO

ICANN
INTERNET CORPORATION FOR ASSIGNED NAMES AND NUMBERS

ISO 3166 MA
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION, MAINTENANCE AGENCY

ISOC
INTERNET SOCIETY

IAB
INTERNET ARCHITECTURE BOARD

IETF
INTERNET ENGINEERING TASK FORCE

IRTF
INTERNET RESEARCH TASK FORCE
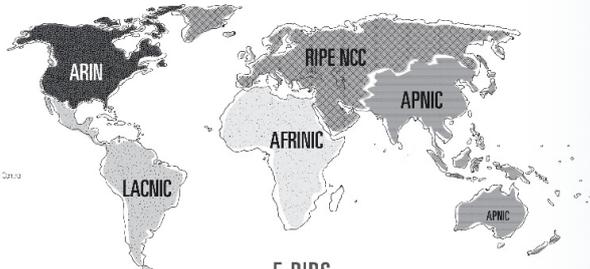
RIR
REGIONAL INTERNET REGISTERIES

ARIN
American Registry for Internet Numbers

LACNIC
Latin America and Caribbean Network Information Centre

AFRINIC
African Network Information Centre

RIPE NCC
Europe, The Middle East and parts of Central Asia

APNIC
Asia Pacific Network Information Centre

ARIN · RIPE NCC · APNIC · AFRINIC · LACNIC · APNIC

5 RIRS

Inclusion – Verisign: As controllers of the .com and .net domain names, among others, Verisign is one of the most significant companies associated with ICANN. It performs the Root Zone Management function , i.e. it processes change requests for TLDs

Exclusion – The IGF has been excluded as it is a discussion forum and not a formally constituted body with separate legal personality.

Amendments – The IETF and IAB are situated under the ISOC because they do not have a separate legal personality but operate under the aegis of the ISOC. The IAB is constituted from the IETF, and therefore is not actually separate from it.

The size of the arrows indicates the extent of flow of money to ICANN.

1 ^ https://www.icann.org/news/blog/internet-governance-is-in-your-hands
2 ^ https://www.verisign.com/assets/domain-name-report-june2015.pdf
3 ^ http://www.ibisworld.com/industry/web-domain-name-sales.html
4 ^ Each Registrar pays a yearly accreditation fee of US $4000 to ICANN (see Clause 3.9). Each Registrar also pays fees ($0.16) for every domain name registration or renewal. There are over 500 ICANN accredited registrars, and in FY14, ICANN received over US $34.5 million in Registrar fees

$0 Represents data on Annual Revenues

Freedom of Expression

Research Paper

- Jurisdictional Analysis – Manila Principles (Jyoti Panday; July 1, 2015). The analysis was undertaken by the steering committee developing the Manila Principles and is aimed at supporting the development of the Manila Principles – a global civil society initiative. *Rishabh Dara, Jeremy Malcolm, Gabrielle Guillemin, Shradha Nigam, Elonnai Hickok, Pranesh Prakash and Sunil Abraham gave inputs and feedback. The grid in support of this* can be accessed here.

Articles

- Shreya Singhal and 66A (Sunil Abraham; Economic and Political Weekly Vol-L No.15; April 11, 2015). Vidushi Marda helped in doing the research.

- Don't Do Nothing. Take a Stand on Net Neutrality. (T. Vishnu Vardhan; NDTV; April 13, 2015).

- Multiple Aspects Need to be Addressed as the Clamour Grows for Network Neutrality (Sunil Abraham; DNA; April 16, 2015).

- The Hazards of a Non-neutral Internet (Geetha Hariharan; April 18, 2015). A modified version of the blog entry was published as an article titled "A must for free speech" in the Week.

- The generation of e-Emergency (Sunil Abraham; May 20, 2015).

- The Humpty-Dumpty Censorship of Television in India (Bhairav Acharya; The Wire; September 23, 2015).

- Free Basics: Negating net parity (Sunil Abraham; Deccan Herald; January 3, 2016).

- Facebook Free Basics: Gatekeeping Powers Extend to Manipulating Public Discourse (Vidushi Marda; Catchnews; January 6, 2016).

- The Internet Has a New Standard for Censorship (Jyoti Panday; The Wire; January 29, 2016).

- 'A Good Day for the Internet Everywhere': India Bans Differential Data Pricing (Subhashish Panigrahi; Global Voices; February 9, 2016).

- Net Neutrality Advocates Rejoice As TRAI Bans Differential Pricing (Subhashish Panigrahi; Odisha TV; February 9, 2016).

- Facebook's Fall from Grace: Arab Spring to Indian Winter (Sunil Abraham; First Post; February 11, 2016).

- Internet Freedom (Sunil Abraham and Vidushi Marda; Asian Age; February 14, 2016).

- There is No Such Thing as Free Basics (Subhashish Panigrahi; February 14, 2016).

- World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development (Pranesh Prakash; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation; February 17, 2016). Pranesh Prakash contributed to Independence: Introduction - Global Media Chapter.

Submissions

- CIS submission to the UNGA WSIS+10 Review (Jyoti Panday; August 9, 2015). CIS submitted its comments to the non-paper on the UNGA Overall Review of the Implementation of the WSIS outcomes, evaluating the progress made and challenges ahead.

- CIS Submission on CCWG-Accountability 2nd Draft Proposal on Work Stream 1 Recommendations (Pranesh Prakash; September 13, 2015). CIS made its position clear

on ICANN's accountability in terms of human rights, diversity, jurisdiction, membership models and voting rights.

- Comments on the Zero Draft of the UN General Assembly's Overall Review of the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes (WSIS+10) (Geetha Hariharan with inputs from Sumandro Chattapadhyay, Pranesh Prakash, Sunil Abraham, Japreet Grewal and Nehaa Chaudhari; October 16, 2015). On 9 October 2015, the Zero Draft of the UN General Assembly's Overall Review of implementation of WSIS Outcomes was released. Comments were sought on the Zero Draft from diverse stakeholders. CIS submitted its comments.

- Comments on the Draft Outcome Document of the UN General Assembly's Overall Review of the Implementation of WSIS Outcomes (WSIS+10) (Geetha Hariharan; November 18, 2015). Following the comment-period on the Zero Draft, the Draft Outcome Document of the UN General Assembly's Overall Review of implementation of WSIS Outcomes was released on 4 November 2015. Comments were sought on the Draft Outcome Document from diverse stakeholders. CIS responded with its comments.

- Comments on the CCWG-Accountability Draft Proposal (Pranesh Prakash; January 29, 2016). CIS gave its comments on the failures of the CCWG-Accountability draft proposal as well as the processes that it has followed.

Blog Entries

- The Supreme Court Judgment in Shreya Singhal and What It Does for Intermediary Liability in India? (Jyoti Panday; April 11, 2015).

- DeitY says 143 URLs have been Blocked in 2015; Procedure for Blocking Content Remains Opaque and in Urgent Need of Transparency Measures (Jyoti Panday; April 29, 2015).

- IANA Transition Stewardship & ICANN Accountability (I) (Jyoti Panday; June 20, 2015).

- IANA Transition Stewardship & ICANN Accountability (II) (Jyoti Panday; June 21, 2015).

- Regulatory Perspectives on Net Neutrality (Pranesh Prakash; July 8, 2015). Vidushi Marda and Tarun Krishnakumar assisted Pranesh Prakash in this.

- Free Speech Policy in India: Community, Custom, Censorship, and the Future of Internet Regulation (Bhairav Acharya; July 13, 2015).

- Net Neutrality and the Law of Common Carriage (Bhairav Acharya; July 14, 2015).

- Freedom of Expression in a Digital Age (Geetha Hariharan and Jyoti Panday; July 14, 2015). CIS, the Observer Research Foundation, the Internet Policy Observatory, the Centre for Global Communication Studies and the Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania organized this conference on April 21, 2015 in New Delhi. Elonnai Hickok edited the report.

- Clearing Misconceptions: What the DoT Panel Report on Net Neutrality Says (and Doesn't) (Pranesh Prakash; July 21, 2015).

- Role of Intermediaries in Countering Online Abuse (Jyoti Panday; July 31, 2015). This got published as two blog entries in the NALSAR Law Tech Blog. Part 1 can be accessed here and Part 2 here.

- DIDP Request #11: NETmundial Principles (Aditya Garg; September 14, 2015).

- DIDP Request #12: Revenues (Aditya Garg; September 14, 2015).

- Peering behind the veil of ICANN's DIDP (Padmini Baruah; September 21, 2015).

- The Legal Validity of Internet Bans: Part I (Geetha Hariharan and Padmini Baruah; October 8, 2015).

- The Legal Validity of Internet Bans: Part II (Geetha Hariharan and Padmini Baruah; October 8, 2015).

- [Peering behind the veil of ICANN's DIDP](#) (II) (Padmini Baruah; October 15, 2015).
- [The 'Global Multistakholder Community' is Neither Global Nor Multistakeholder](#) (Pranesh Prakash; October 20, 2015).
- [Do we need a Unified Post Transition IANA?](#) (Pranesh Prakash, Padmini Baruah and Jyoti Panday; October 23, 2015).
- [Breaking Down ICANN Accountability: What It Is and What the Internet Community Wants](#) (Ramya Chandrasekhar; November 5, 2015).
- [Summary Report Internet Governance Forum 2015](#) (Jyoti Panday; November 23, 2015).
- [The Case of Whatsapp Group Admins](#) (Japreet Grewal; November 26, 2015).
- [CIS's Position on Net Neutrality](#) (Sunil Abraham; December 4, 2015).
- [Sexual Harassment at ICANN](#) (Padmini Baruah; March 18, 2016).
- [CIS' Statement on Sexual Harassment at ICANN55](#) (Vidushi Marda; March 21, 2016).

Events Organized

- [Freedom of Expression in a Digital Age: Effective Research, Policy Formation & the Development of Regulatory Frameworks in South Asia](#) (Organized by Center for Global Communication Studies at the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania, Observer Research Foundation and CIS; Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi; April 21, 2015).
- [Net Neutrality across South Asia](#) (Organized by Observer Research Foundation, Centre for Global Communication Studies, Annenberg School for Communication, University of Pennsylvania, Internet Policy Observatory and CIS; New Delhi; December 12, 2015).
- [Network Neutrality Regulation across South Asia: A Roundtable on Aspects of Differential Pricing](#) (The Energy Resources Institute; Bangalore; January 22, 2016).
- [Public Debate on 'Differential Pricing': Series 1](#) (Co-organized by CIS, ICRIER and the Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai; CIS, Bangalore; February 1, 2016).
- [Public Debate on 'Differential Pricing': Series 2](#) (Co-organized by CIS, ICRIER and the Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai; Pherozeshah Mehta Bhavan, Vidyanagari, Kalina, Mumbai; February 3, 2016).
- [Public Debate on 'Differential Pricing': Series 3](#) (Co-organized by CIS, ICRIER and the Department of Civics and Politics, University of Mumbai; India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road near Air Force Bal Bharti School, New Delhi; February 5, 2016).

Participation in Events

- [Financial Express hosts #NetNeutralityDebate: 'Price discrimination can be allowed, but not for the same packet of data'](#) (New Delhi; April 24, 2015). Pranesh Prakash participated in the discussion.
- [Panel Discussion on Internet Intermediaries, Law and Innovation](#) (Organized by Confederation of Indian Industries, Google and Centre For Communications Governance, NLU Delhi; New Delhi; June 2, 2015). Jyoti Panday attended the panel discussion.
- [Asian Regional Consultation on the WSIS+10 Review](#) (Organized by The Internet Democracy Project, Bytes for All, APNIC, the Association for Progressive Communications, ISOC, Global Partners Digital and ICT Watch; September 3 – 5, 2015). Jyoti Panday attended the event.
- [ICANN 54](#) (Organized by ICANN; INEX - Ireland's Internet Neutral Exchange, Dublin;

October 18 – 22, 2015). Pranesh Prakash, Snehashish Ghosh, Jyoti Panday and Padmini Baruah participated in the event.

- Consultation on "Understanding the Freedom of Expression Online and Offline" (Organized by Digital Empowerment Foundation and Association for Progressive Communications; YMCA, New Delhi; December 10, 2015). Jyoti Panday was a speaker at this event.

- Mobile India 2016 (Organized by COMSNETS in association with Department of Electronics and Information Technology, Digital India, et.al.; Bangalore; January 5 - 9, 2016). Sunil Abraham participated as a speaker in Session 4: Law, Regulation and Policy of App Economy.

- #NetNeutrality and Data Protection Laws (Organized by ITechLaw India International Conference; January 27 - 29, 2016). Pranesh Prakash was a panelist.

- UNICEF & Nasscom Foundation Workshop on Child Online Protection (Organized by United Nations Children's International Education Fund; Hotel Claridges; New Delhi; February 8, 2016). Jyoti Panday attended the event.

Privacy

Articles

- Security: Privacy, Transparency and Technology (Sunil Abraham, Elonnai Hickok and Tarun Krishnakumar; Observer Research Foundation, Digital Debates 2015: CyFy Journal Volume 2 ; August 19, 2015).

- Hits and Misses With the Draft Encryption Policy (Sunil Abraham; The Wire; September 26, 2015).

- Flaws in the UIDAI Process (Hans Varghese Mathews; Economic & Political Weekly, Journal, Vol. 51, Issue No. 9, February 27, 2016).

- Aadhaar: Still Too Many Problems (Pranesh Prakash; Livemint; March 7, 2016).

- Aadhaar Bill fails to incorporate suggestions by the Standing Committee (Amber Sinha; The Wire; March 10, 2016).

- Are we Losing the Right to Privacy and Freedom of Speech on Indian Internet? (Amber Sinha; March 10, 2016).

- Privacy Concerns Overshadow Monetary Benefits of Aadhaar Scheme (Pranesh Prakash and Amber Sinha; Hindustan Times; March 12, 2016).

- Will Aadhaar Act Address India's Dire Need For a Privacy Law? (Nehaa Chaudhari; Quint; March 31, 2016).

Submissions

- CIS Comments and Recommendations to the Human DNA Profiling Bill, June 2015 (Elonnai Hickok, Vipul Kharbanda and Vanya Rakesh; August 27, 2015). CIS submitted a clause-by-clause comments on the Human DNA Profiling Bill that was circulated by the Department of Biotechnology on June 9, 2015.

- Comments by the Centre for Internet and Society on the Report of the Committee on Medium Term Path on Financial Inclusion (Vipul Kharbanda; February 27, 2016). CIS made a broad comment with regard to the suggestions dealing with linking of Aadhaar numbers with bank accounts.

- [List of Recommendations on the Aadhaar Bill, 2016 - Letter Submitted to the Members of Parliament](#) (Amber Sinha, Sumandro Chattapadhyay, Sunil Abraham, and Vanya Rakesh; March 16, 2016). CIS submitted an initial list of recommendations to the Members of Parliaments to highlight the aspects of the Aadhaar Bill that require immediate attention.

Blog Entries

- [Paper-thin Safeguards and Mass Surveillance in India](#) (Chinmayi Arun; May 20, 2015).

- [Anti-Spam Laws in Different Jurisdictions: A Comparative Analysis](#) (Rakshanda Deka; July 2, 2015).

- [A Dissent Note to the Expert Committee for DNA Profiling](#) (Elonnai Hickok; July 17, 2015). Click for [DNA Bill Functions](#), [DNA List of Offences](#), and [CIS Note on DNA Bill](#). A modified version was published by [Citizen Matters Bangalore](#) on July 28.

- [Privacy, Autonomy, and Sexual Choice: The Common Law Recognition of Homosexuality](#) (Bhairav Acharya; July 18, 2015).

- [Aadhaar Number vs the Social Security Number](#) (Elonnai Hickok; July 21, 2015).

- [Policy Paper on Surveillance in India](#) (Vipul Kharbanda; August 3, 2015).

- [Comparison of the Human DNA Profiling Bill 2012 with: CIS recommendations, Sub-Committee Recommendations, Expert Committee Recommendations, and the Human DNA Profiling Bill 2015](#) (Elonnai Hickok; August 10, 2015).

- [Right to Privacy in Peril](#) (Vipul Kharbanda; August 13, 2015).

- [Responsible Data Forum: Discussion on the Risks and Mitigations of releasing Data](#) (Vanya Rakesh; August 26, 2015).

- [Are we Throwing our Data Protection Regimes under the Bus?](#) (Elonnai Hickok and Rohan George; August 29, 2015).

- [Supreme Court Order is a Good Start, but is Seeding Necessary?](#) (Elonnai Hickok and Rohan George; August 29, 2015).

- [Data Flow in the Unique Identification Scheme of India](#) (Vidushi Marda; September 3, 2015).

- [Human DNA Profiling Bill 2012 v/s 2015 Bill](#) (Vanya Rakesh; September 6, 2015).

- [Open Governance and Privacy in a Post-Snowden World: Webinar](#) (Vanya Rakesh; September 26, 2015).

- [Contestations of Data, ECJ Safe Harbor Ruling and Lessons for India](#) (Jyoti Panday; October 14, 2015).

- [Crowdsourcing Incidents of Communication Privacy Violation in India](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; October 16, 2015).

- [Policy Brief: Oversight Mechanisms for Surveillance](#) (Elonnai Hickok; November 24, 2015).

- [The Short-lived Adventure of India's Encryption Policy](#) (Bhairav Acharya; November 27, 2015). This was originally written for the Berkeley Information Privacy Law Association.

- [UID Research](#) (Vanya Rakesh; December 2, 2015).

- [DNA Research](#) (Vanya Rakesh; December 2, 2015).

- [Privacy Policy Research](#) (Vanya Rakesh; December 2, 2015).

- [Sectoral Privacy Research](#) (Vanya Rakesh; December 2, 2015).

- [Security Research](#) (Vanya Rakesh; December 3, 2015).

- [Eight Key Privacy Events in India in the Year 2015](#) (Amber Sinha; December 31, 2015).
- [Reply to RTI Application under RTI Act of 2005 from Vanya Rakesh](#) (Vanya Rakesh; January 3, 2016).
- [Eight Key Privacy Events in India in the Year 2015](#) (Amber Sinha; January 3, 2016).
- [Human Rights in the Age of Digital Technology: A Conference to Discuss the Evolution of Privacy and Surveillance](#) (Amber Sinha; January 11, 2016).
- [A Critique of Consent in Information Privacy](#) (Amber Sinha and Scott Mason; January 11, 2016).
- [NASSCOM-DSCI Annual Information Security Summit 2015 - Notes](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; January 19, 2016).
- [Transparency in Surveillance](#) (Vipul Kharbanda; January 23, 2016).
- [A Case for Greater Privacy Paternalism? (Amber Sinha; February 14, 2016).](#)
- [A comparison of the 2016 Aadhaar Bill, and the 2010 NIDAI Bill](#) (Vanya Rakesh; March 9, 2016).
- [Aadhaar Bill 2016 & NIAI Bill 2010 - Comparing the Texts](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; March 9, 2016).
- [The New Aadhaar Bill in Plain English](#) (Amber Sinha, Vanya Rakesh and Vipul Kharbanda; March 11, 2016).
- [An Urgent Need for the Right to Privacy](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; March 16, 2016).
- [The Law cannot Fix what Technology has Broken!](#) (Japreet Grewal and Sunil Abraham; March 16, 2016).
- [The New Bill Makes Aadhaar Compulsory!](#) (Amber Sinha; March 16, 2016).
- [Analysis of Aadhaar Act in the Context of A.P. Shah Committee Principles](#) (Vipul Kharbanda; March 17, 2016).
- [Vulnerabilities in the UIDAI Implementation Not Addressed by the Aadhaar Bill, 2016](#) (Pooja Saxena and Vipul Kharbanda; March 21, 2016).

Event Organized

- [Communication Rights in the Age of Digital Technology](#) (Organized by CIS; Deck Suite Hall, 5th Floor, Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, Near Air Force Bal Bharti School, New Delhi; October 30, 2015).

Participation in Events

- [Privacy International Network Meeting](#) (Organized by Privacy International, UK; April 22 - 23, 2015). Sunil Abraham attended the meeting.
- [7th Best Practices Meet 2015](#) (Organized by Data Security Council of India; Bangalore; July 9 – 10, 2015). Sunil Abraham was a panelist in the session "Architecting Security for transformation to Digital India". Elonnai Hickok was a panelist in the session "Steering privacy in the age of extreme innovation technology & business models."
- [ISO/IEC/ JTC 1/SC 27 Working Groups Meeting](#) (Organized by Bureau of Indian Standards and Data Security Council of India; Jaipur; October 26 – 30, 2015). Vanya Rakesh attended the meeting.
- [Kick Off Meeting for the Politics of Data Project](#) (Organized by Tactical Tech; Phnom Penh; December 7-8, 2015). Amber Sinha participated in the event.

- Unbundling Issues of Privacy, Data Security, Identity Matrics, for Financial Inclusion (Organized by Indicus Foundation and MicroSave; December 10, 2015; Metropolitan Hotel and Spa, New Delhi). Sunil Abraham was a speaker.

- Data Privacy Day 2016 (Organized by Data Security Council of India; January 28, 2016; Bangalore). Sunil Abraham was a panelist.

- GNI-Industry Dialogue Learning Session: Human Rights Impact Assessments and Due Diligence in the ICT sector (Organized by Global Network Initiative; March 11, 2016; Washington D.C.). Elonnai Hickok attended the event.

IGF 2015

IGF 2015 was held at Jao Pessoa in Brazil from November 10 to 13, 2015. The theme for IGF 2015 was Evolution of Internet Governance: Empowering Sustainable Development. Sunil Abraham, Pranesh Prakash and Jyoti Panday participated. Overall CIS spoke in 10 panels.

- The Social Role of the Communications and the Strengthening of the Freedom of Expression Panel - "Cultural Diversity and Freedom of Expression" (Organized by Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Communications of Brazil; Jao Pessoa, Brazil; November 9, 2015). Sunil Abraham was a panelist. Thirty-three participants took part in this pre-event.

- Open Forum - DINL, Digital Infrastructure Association (Organized by Digital Infrastructure Netherlands Foundation; Jao Pessoa, Brazil; November 10, 2015). Jyoti Panday was a speaker at this workshop. CIS participated in the open forum to discuss the increase in government engagement with "the internet" to protect their citizens against crime and abuse and to protect economic interests and critical infrastructures. Thirteen participants attended the open forum.

- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Internet Economy (Organized by Multistakeholder Advisory Group; Jao Pessoa, Brazil; November 11, 2015). Sunil Abraham was a panelist. Fifty five delegates attended the event. CIS participated in the discussions focusing on internet economy and internet role in sustainable development goals.

- Cases on the right to be forgotten, what have we learned? (Jao Pessoa, Brazil; November 11, 2015). Jyoti Panday attended the event. CIS took part in the event to understand arguments, scope, discussions and current situation of the Right to be Forgotten outside the EU and around the world in rulings and legislations. Fifty four participants attended the event.

- The Benefits and Challenges of the "Free Flow" of Data (Organized by Public Knowledge; Jao Pessoa, Brazil; November 12, 2015). Sunil Abraham was a panelist. Twenty-four delegates attended the event. CIS was part of the panel which discusssed the many benefits and challenges of the free flow of data. The workshop fostered a discussion of the ways in which stakeholders could address the underlying reasons for data flow restrictions.

- Encryption and Anonymity: Rights and Risks (Organized by ARTICLE 19 and Privacy International; Jao Pessoa, Brazil; November 12, 2015). Pranesh Prakash was a speaker. CIS participated in the roundtable that discussed recommendations and the latest challenges to the protection of anonymity and encryption. Sixty three delegates attended.

- A Dialogue on "Zero Rating" and Network Neutrality (Organized by Chalmers & Associates; Jao Pessoa; Brazil; November 12, 2015). Pranesh Prakash was a speaker. CIS took part in the discussion to promote access to expert insight and multi-stakeholder community discussion. Eighty five delegates attended the session.

- Empowering the next billion by improving accessibility (Organized by Dynamic Coalition on Accessibility and Disability and Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs; November 13, 2015). Sunil Abraham was a panelist. Pranesh Prakash participated in the discussions. CIS took part in the discussions that examined the technological and programmatic solutions available today for an effective removal of such barriers, potentially bringing a considerable number of new users to the Internet.

- FOSS & a Free, Open Internet: Synergies for Development (Organized by Civil Society; Jao Pessoa, Brazil; November 13, 2015). Sunil Abraham and Pranesh Prakash spoke at the event. CIS took part in the discussions that explored links between the Free and Open nature of the Internet and the Free and Open Source Software through a series of experience sharing among the speakers as well as audiences.

- Transnational Due Process: A Case Study in MS Cooperation (Organized by Internet & Jurisdiction Project; Jao Pessoa; November 13, 2015). Sunil Abraham was a panelist. The tension between the cross-border nature of the Internet and diverse national jurisdictions is a prime concern. The round-table described the method employed to develop this framework, challenges encountered and solutions found as well as the potential distribution of roles among the respective stakeholders in the operation of the diverse framework components. Twelve delegates attended this workshop.

Big Data

Articles

- Connected Trouble (Sunil Abraham; The Week; November 1, 2015).

- Too Clever By Half: Strengthening India's Smart Cities Plan with Human Rights Protection (Vanya Rakesh; The Wire; March 22, 2016).

Blog Entries

- Big Data and the Information Technology (Reasonable Security Practices and Procedures and Sensitive Personal Data or Information) Rules 2011 (Elonnai Hickok; August 11, 2015).

- A Review of the Policy Debate around Big Data and Internet of Things (Elonnai Hickok; August 17, 2015).

- Predictive Policing: What is it, How it works, and its Legal Implications (Rohan George; November 24, 2015).

- Benefits and Harms of "Big Data" (Scott Mason; December 30, 2015).

- Nature of Knowledge (Scott Mason; January 11, 2016).

- Big Data in the Global South - An Analysis (Tanvi Mani; January 15, 2016).

Event Organized

- Big Data and Governance in India (CIS; Bangalore; January 23, 2016).

Participation in Events

- The Changing Landscape of ICT Governance and Practice - Convergence and Big Data (Co-organized by Innovation Center for Big Data and Digital Convergence, Yuan Ze University,

Taiwan; August 24 - 25, 2015). Sharat Chandra Ram was granted the Young Scholar Award 2015 to attend the*Young Scholar Workshop* followed by main *CPRSouth2015 conference (Communication Policy Research South) conference*.

- Big Data in the Global South International Workshop (Organized by Institute for Technology and Society of Rio de Janeiro; Hotel Windsor Florida, Rua Ferreira Viana, Flamengo, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; November 16 – 17, 2015). Sunil Abraham and Vipul Kharbanda spoke at this event.

- The Changing Landscape of ICT Governance and Practice - Convergence and Big Data (Co-organized by Innovation Center for Big Data and Digital Convergence, Yuan Ze University, Taiwan; August 24 – 25, 2015). Sharat Chandra Ram was granted the Young Scholar Award 2015 to attend the Young Scholar Workshop followed by main *CPRSouth2015 conference (Communication Policy Research South) conference*.

- Leveraging Mobile Network Big Data for Development Policy: Opportunities & Challenges (Organized by LIRNEasia; IDRC, New Delhi; November 27, 2015). Amber Sinha participated in the event.

Cyber Security

A screen-shot from the DeSiSec film showing a man reading messages on his mobile

Film

- DesiSec: Cybersecurity and Civil Society in India (produced by Purba Sarkar, edited by Aaron Joseph, and directed by Oxblood Ruffin). As part of its project on mapping cyber security actors in South Asia and South East Asia, the Centre for Internet & Society conducted a series of interviews with cyber security actors. The interviews were compiled and edited into one documentary. The film features Malavika Jayaram, Nitin Pai, Namita Malhotra, Saikat Datta, Nishant Shah, Lawrence Liang, Anja Kovacs, Sikyong Lobsang Sangay and, Ravi Sharada Prasad.

Videos

- Cyber Security Series Part 23 (Purba Sarkar; July 13, 2015). CIS interviews a Tibetan security researcher and information activist.

- Cyber Security Series Part 24 (Purba Sarkar; July 15, 2015). CIS interviews Shantanu Ghosh, Managing Director, Symantec Product Operations, India, as part of the Cybersecurity Series.

Blog Entry

- Ground Zero Summit (Amber Sinha; December 22, 2015).

Events Organized

- Bangalore Chapter Meet of DSCI (Co-organized by DSCI and CIS; September 26, 2015). Melissa Hathaway, Commissioner, Global Commission for Internet Governance and Sunil Abraham gave a talk at this event.

- Cyber Security Policy Research (CIS, New Delhi; October 18, 2015). Tim Maurer gave a talk.

- Bangalore Chapter Meet - DSCI (CIS, Bangalore; December 1, 2015). CIS hosted the Bangalore Chapter Meet of DSCI. Pronab Mohanty, Inspector General of Police gave a talk on Cybercrimes. Sunil Abraham presented the outcome of his study "Anonymity in Cyberspace".

Participation in Events

- Global Conference on Cyberspace 2015 (Co-organized by Dutch Government, City of the Hague and One Conference; The Hague, Netherlands; April 16 - 17, 2015). Sunil Abraham was a panelist. He also participated in an expert roundtable conference .

- CII Digital India Summit (Organized by Confederation of Indian Industries; Taj Mahal Hotel and Pragati Maidan, New Delhi; April 21 and 24, 2015). Pranesh Prakash attended the summit.

- Cyfy 2015: The India Conference on Cyber Security and Internet Governance (Organized by Observer Research Foundation; Hotel Tajmansingh; New Delhi; October 14 – 16, 2015). Sunil Abraham was a panelist in the session "Protection of Intellectual Property and Business Secrets in the Knowledge Economy".

- Technology, Innovation and Societal Change (Organized by Indian Institute of Management; Bangalore; November 4, 2015). Vanya Rakesh attended the event.

- Ground Zero Summit (Organized by Infosec Consortium; November 5 - 8, 2015; New Delhi). Amber Sinha attended the event.

- Cyber Security Summit 2015 (Organized by Government of Karnataka in association with Biz Wingz Production House; JW Marriot, Bangalore; November 27, 2015). Sunil Abraham was a panelist.

Information Technology

Articles

- Iron out contradictions in the Digital India programme (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; Hindustan Times; July 28, 2015).

- WhatsApps with fireworks, apps with diyas: Why Diwali needs to go beyond digital (Nishant Shah; Indian Express; November 23, 2015).

Participation in Events

- Roundtable discussion on WHOIS (Organized by Department of Electronics & Information Technology (DeitY), Govt. of India; July 28, 2015; New Delhi). Sunil Abraham and Vidushi Marda participated in the discussion remotely. Aditya Garg attended in person.

- Second Regional Conference on Connectivity for All: Future Technologies, Markets and Regulation (Organized by International Telecommunications Society, IIMA IDEA Telecom Centre of Excellence and Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad; New Delhi; December 13 - 15, 2015). Sunil Abraham was a panelist.

Miscellaneous

Research Paper

- First draft of Technology Business Incubators: An Indian Perspective and Implementation Guidance Report (Sunil Abraham, Vidushi Marda, Udbhav Tiwari and Anumeha Karnatak; July 25, 2015). An analysis on technology business incubators. The report looks at operating procedures, success stories and lessons that can be learnt from technology business incubators.

Blog Entries

- Sustainable Smart Cities India Conference 2015, Bangalore (Vanya Rakesh; September 21, 2015).

- Smart Cities in India: An Overview (Vanya Rakesh; December 21, 2015).

- The Creation of a Network for the Global South - A Literature Review (Tanvi Mani; January 13, 2016).

- Summary of the Public Consultation by Vigyan Foundation, Oxfam India and G.B. Pant Institute, Allahabad (Vipul Kharbanda; January 28, 2016).

- Adoption of Standards in Smart Cities - Way Forward for India (Vanya Rakesh; March 19, 2016).

Event Organized

- A Public Discussion on Criminal Defamation in India (Organized by CIS, the Network of Women in Media, India; and Media Watch; Bangalore; July 29, 2015). The event was a public discussion about the continued criminalisation of defamation in India.

Participation in Events

- The Transformative Power of Online Activism (Organized by Hertie School of Governance; Berlin; May 4, 2015). Rohini Lakshané was a panelist. The event was part of the re:thinking tomorrow series.

- Consilience (Organized by National Law School of India University, Bangalore; May 9 – 10, 2015). Pranesh Prakash was a speaker.

- Porn. Panic. Ban: A Conversation on Sexual Expression, Pornography, Sexual Exploitation, Consent (Organized by Point of View and the Internet Democracy Project; New Delhi; October 28 - 30, 2015). Rohini Lakshané was a speaker. Tanveer Hasan also attended this conference.

- Elite Capture of Governance (Organized by Forum for Urban Governance and Commons; December 16, 2015; Bangalore). Vanya Rakesh participated in the event.
- RightsCon Silicon Valley 2016 (Organized by RightsCon; Mission Bay Conference Center in San Francisco, California; March 30 - April 1, 2016). Elonnai Hickok attended the event.

Media Coverage

CIS gave its inputs to the following media coverage:

- 'Smack' the Trolls! (Marianne De Nazareth; The Citizen; March 31, 2015).

- The block heads (Sibi Arasu; Hindu Businessline; April 3, 2015).

- Smriti Irani brings back focus on voyeurism prevailing in our country (Amrita Madhukalya; DNA; April 6, 2015).

- Surveillance rises, privacy retreats (Namrata Acharya; Business Standard; April 12, 2015).

- People voice their support for net neutrality, say Internet a utility not a luxury (IBN Live; April 13, 2015).

- Net neutrality: Trai receives over 2 lakh mails (Sandhya Soman and Jayanta Deka; April 14, 2015).

- Net neutrality: Debate rages on (Surabhi Aggarwal; Business Standard; April 11, 2015)

- Net neutrality debate rages (Lalatendu Mishra and Pradeesh Chandran; The Hindu; April 15, 2015).

- Net neutrality: Net activism packs a punch (Sandhya Soman; The Times of India; April 19, 2015).

- Net Neutrality debate in India: Here are all the arguments you need to know (Indian Express; April 23, 2015).

- Freedom struggle 2.0 (Zara Khan; Hindu; April 25, 2015).

- Cry, you nasty trolls (Prasun Chaudhari; The Telegraph; April 26, 2015). Net Neutrality: The argument continues (Deepak Ajwani and Debojyoti Ghosh; Forbes India Magazine; April 29, 2015).

- Definition of Net Neutrality should be flexible: Pranesh Prakash (Sanjay Vijaykumar; The Hindu; May 10, 2015).

- Anti-harassment app wins hackathon for women (Sci Dev Net; May 15, 2015).

- Indian music streaming service Gaana hacked, millions of users' details exposed (Abhimanyu Ghoshal; TNW News; May 28, 2015).

- Your phone is a surveillance device, your ISP a surveillance provider…: Pranesh Prakash (Dyanne Coelho; mxmindia.com; May 27, 2015).

- Digital India: PM Modi to launch BJP's flagship programme likely in July (Jochelle Mendonca and Neha Alawadhi; Economic Times; May 29, 2015).

- Digital India launch likely in July (Jochelle Mendonca and Neha Alawadhi; The Times of India; May 29, 2015).

- Only digital sex, please (Prasun Chandhuri and Avijit Chatterjee; The Telegraph; May 31, 2015).

- Can Uber, Ola apps be blocked? Govt fighting cyber odds (Siladitya Ray; Hindustan Times; June 4, 2015).

- Government's stand on internet governance draws applause from civil society organisations (Neha Alawadhi; Economic Times; June 24, 2015).

- Most emerging firms low on cyber security: Experts (Malavika Murali and Payal Ganguly; June 24, 2015).

- 'IRCTC's Aadhaar play can violate SC order and derail National Security' (Shubhra Rishi; CIO.IN; July 1, 2015).

- The Digital Divide: pros and cons of Modi's latest big initiative (Suhas Munshi; July 2, 2015).

- Corporate push to Modi's Rs.4.5-billion digital dream (Rakesh Kumar; The Statesman; July 13, 2015).

- Criminal Defamation: The Urgent Cause That has United Rahul Gandhi, Arvind Kejriwal and Subramanian Swamy (Betwa Sharma; Huffington Post; July 15, 2015).

- Five Nations, One Future? (Bjorn Ludtke, Ellen Lee, Jaideep Sen, Gwendolyn Ledger, David Nicholson, and Jesko Johannsen; Voestalpine; July 18, 2015).

- The scariest bill in Parliament is getting no attention – here's what you need to know about it (Nayantara Narayanan; Scroll.in; July 24, 2015).

- Regulation, misuse concerns still dog DNA profiling bill (Nikita Mehta; Livemint; July 29, 2015).

- Why the DNA Bill is open to misuse: Sunil Abraham (Kanika Datta; Business Standard; August 1, 2015)

- Porn ban: People will soon learn to circumvent ISPs and govt orders, expert says (Karthikeyan Hemalatha; The Times of India; August 2, 2015).

- Indian government orders ISPs to block 857 porn websites (John Ribeiro; IDG News and PC World; August 2, 2015)

- India blocks access to 857 porn sites (BBC; August 3, 2015).

- India launches crackdown on online porn (James Crabtree; Financial Times; August 3, 2015).

- Proxies and VPNs: Why govt can't ban porn websites? (Siladitya Ray; August 3, 2015; Hindustan Times)

- Nanny state rules porn bad for you (Anahita Mukherji; The Times of India; August 4, 2015).

- Ban on pornography temporary, says government (Business Standard; August 4, 2015)

- Porn block in India sparks outrage (Australian; August 5, 2015).

- Indian Porn Ban is Partially Lifted But Sites Remain Blocked (Sean Mclain; Wall Street Journal; August 5, 2015)

- Genetic Profiling: Is it all in the DNA? (Ullekh N.P.; The Open Magazine; August 7, 2015)

- India partially lifts Porn Ban? (Nazhat Khan; DESI blitz; August 7, 2015)

- Net Neutrality: India is a Key Battleground (Abeer Kapoor; Hardnews; August 10, 2015)

- Stats from 2014 reveal horror of scrapped section 66A of IT Act (Aloke Tikku; Hindustan Times; August 20, 2015).

- The seedy underbelly of revenge porn (Sandhya Soman; The Times of India; August 23, 2015).

- The new tattler in town (P. Anima; Hindu Businessline; August 28, 2015).

- Does this click with you? (Parshathy J. Nath; The Hindu; September 1, 2015).

- Government may tieup with global police, Interpol to fight child pornography (Surabhi Agarwal; September 3, 2015).

- Hiding behind rules on naming sites it banned, govt reveals fears (Harjeet Inder Singh Sahi; September 3, 2015).

- Outrage before sharing (Nikhil Verma; The Hindu; September 9, 2015).

- Faking a stand (Shweta T. Nanda; The Week; September 20, 2015).

- Some Key Words Are Missing (Arindam Mukherjee; Outlook; September 21, 2015).

- Open sesame (The Hindu; September 22, 2015).

- India encryption policy draft faces backlash (Moulishree Srivastava; September 22, 2015)

- Online outcry forces government to withdraw draft encryption policy (Naina Khedekar; First Post; September 23, 2015).

- Encryption policy would have affected emails, operating systems, WiFi (Amrita Madhukalya; DNA; September 23, 2015).

- Govt presses 'undo' button on draft encryption policy (Business Standard; September 23, 2015).

- Huge outcry forces India to backtrack on social media data proposal (Today; September 24, 2015).

- Facebook's Free Internet Access Program in Developing Countries Provokes Backlash (Newley Purnell and Resty Woro Uniar; The Wall Street Journal; September 24, 2015).

- Ahead of hosting Modi, Facebook rebrands internet.org as Free Basics (Business Standard; September 26, 2015).

- 'By weakening our security, govt is putting us at risk of espionage' (S. Raghotham and Mayukh Mukherjee; Asian Age; September 27, 2015).

- ভারতে পাঁচশোরও বেশি স্টেশনে ফ্রি ওয়াই-ফাই চালু হবে (BBC; September 28, 2015).

- Do you agree with our fee hike? Press 1 to answer Yes; or 2 for Yes (Kieren McCarthy; The Register; September 29, 2015).

- Indian PM Narendra Modi's digital dream gets bad reception (Amanda Hodge; September 29, 2015).

- What Bengaluru Thinks of the Big Tech Announcements in Silicon Valley (Maya Sharma; NDTV; September 29, 2015).

- The rise and rise of slacktivism (Divya Gandhi; Hindu; October 3, 2015).

- Modi's Valley hug sparks swadeshi talk (Sujit John and Shilpa Phadnis; The Times of India; October 6, 2015).

- CIS in Top 50 Tech Blogs of India (rebateszone; Ocotber 7, 2015).

- Access at the cost of Net neutrality? (Suhrith Parthasarathy; Hindu; October 8, 2015).

- Dadri reopens debate on online hate speech (Amulya Gopalakrishnan; The Times of India; October 9, 2015).

- How To Win Friends, FB Style (Arindam Mukherjee; Outlook; October 12, 2015).

- Supreme Court provides partial relief for Aadhaar (Apurva Vishwanath and Saurabh Kumar; October 15, 2015).

- Digital India: Did Modi get it wrong in Silicon Valley? (Ayeshea Perera; BBC News; October 16, 2015).

- Net advocacy body probing linkages between telcos and Facebook's auto-play video option (Prabhu Mallikarjunan; Financial Express; October 28, 2015).

- Come, be my guest (Hindu; November 14, 2015)

- Shopping on apps raise privacy and security concerns (Vivek Ananth; Softcopy, an IIJNM Web Publication; November 23, 2015).

- Facebook shares 10 key facts about Free Basics. Here's what's wrong with all 10 of them (Shweta Sengar; Catch News; December 24, 2015).

- India's net neutrality debate is unique and complex (Pratap Vikram Singh; Governance Now; December 14, 2015).

- Start-up India turns the heat on Facebook Free Basics (Anita Babu; Business Standard; December 22, 2015).

- A Scam Masquerading as Santa (Apurva Venkat & Vandana Kamath; Bangalore Mirror; December 25, 2015).

- Facebook goes out all guns blazing in push for Free Basics, Net neutrality advocates cry foul (IBN Live; December 29, 2015).

- Foreign Media on Zuckerberg's India Backlash (Bhuma Shrivastava; NDTV; December 30, 2015).

- Mark Zuckerberg's India backlash imperils vision for free global web (Bhuma Shrivastava; Livemint; December 30, 2015).

- Facebook's Free Basics Shuts Down In Egypt, Continuing Troubled Run (TV Newsroom; January 1, 2016).

- Zuckerberg's India Backlash Imperils Free Global Web Vision (Bhuma Shrivastava; NDTV; January 4, 2016).

- Will India win net neutrality battle? (Pratap Vikram Singh and Taru Bhatia; Governance Now; January 5, 2016).

- Nasscom wants board to protect Net neutrality, regulate pricing (Shadma Shaikh; Asian Age; January 7, 2016).

- Facebook is no charity, and the 'free' in Free Basics comes at a price (The Conversation; January 11, 2016 and The Register; January 18, 2016).

- Why Indians are turning down Facebook's free internet (Nimisha Jaiswal; Global Post; January 13, 2016).

- A billion mobile users: new startup profiles and innovation insights from Mobile India 2016 (Sneha Maselkar and Madanmohan Rao; Your Story; January 14, 2016).

- Facebook's Fight to Be Free (Adi Narayan and Bhuma Shrivastava; January 15, 2016).

- Trai promises final call on differential pricing by month-end after 'lively' open house (Economic Times; January 22, 2016).

- India, Egypt say no thanks to free Internet from Facebook (Annie Gowen with contributions from Farheen Fatima and Subuhi Parvez; Washington Post; January 28, 2016).

- India bans Facebook's 'free' Internet for the poor (Annie Gowen; Washington Post; February 8, 2016).

- Zuckerberg's Plan Spurned as India Backs Full Net Neutrality (Adi Narayan and Bhuma Srivastava; Bloomberg; February 8, 2016).

- A Megacorp's Basic Instinct (Arindam Mukherjee; Outlook; February 8, 2016).

- Facebook's Free Basics hits snag in India (James Crabtree with additional reporting by Tim Bradshaw; Financial Times; February 8, 2016).

- Trai upholds Net Neutrality in setback to Facebook's Free Basics (Moulishree Srivastava and Shauvik Ghosh; Livemint; February 9, 2016).

- India Sets Strict New Net Neutrality Rules (Anjana Pasricha; Voice of America; February 9, 2016).

- Net neutrality advocates hail Trai verdict (Alnoor Peermohamed; Business Standard; February 9, 2016).

- Netizen Report: The EU Wrestles With Facebook Over Privacy (Global Voices; February 11, 2016).

- Linking Facebook use to free top-up data (Deccan Chronicle; February 14, 2016).

- India's 'Facebook ruling' is another nail in the coffin of the MNO model (The Register; February 15, 2016).

- Violence call key to 'sedition' (The Telegraph; February 18, 2016).

- Why the Internet is Making India Furious (Sanjana Sathian; Ozy; February 19, 2016).

- Why India snubbed Facebook's free Internet offer (Daniel Van Boom; Cnet; February 26, 2016).

- The Crypto Wars Are Global (Joseph Cox; Motherboard; March 4, 2016).

- Govt narrative on Aadhaar has not changed in the last six years: Sunil Abraham (Shreeja Sen; Livemint; March 8, 2016).

- Aadhaar: Govt will not compromise on national security (Shreeja Sen; Livemint; March 9, 2016).

- Hard to broad ban! (Taru Bhatia; Governance Now; March 9, 2016).

- Seven reasons why Parliament should debate the Aadhaar bill (and not pass it in a rush) (Anumeha Yadav; March 11, 2016).

- Aadhaar is actually surveillance tech: Sunil Abraham (Sahil Makkar; Business Standard; March 12, 2016).

- Will Only Legal Backing For Aadhaar Suffice? (Indian Express; March 14, 2016).

- India's billion-member biometric database raises privacy fears (Sanjeev Miglani and Manoj Kumar; March 16, 2016).

- A scheme in India to help the poor raises privacy concerns (John Ribeiro; IDG News Service and CSO; March 16, 2016).

- Pratap Vikram Singh - Why Aadhaar is Baseless? (Governance Now; March 17, 2016).

- Forget privacy, Aadhaar Bill gives too much power to the executive (Aloke Tikku; Sunil Abraham; March 17, 2016).

- In India, Biometric Data Storage Sparks Demands for Privacy Laws (Anjana Pasricha; Voice of America; March 18, 2016).

- Dead and Clicking (Jayanthi Madhukar and Sowmya Rajaram; Bangalore Mirror; March 20, 2016).

- India Still Trying To Turn Optional Aadhaar Identification Number Into A Mandatory National Identity System (TechDirt; March 22, 2016).

- Debate: Five Aadhaar Myths that Don't Stand Up to Scrutiny (Reetika Khera; March 23, 2016).

- How the government gains when private companies use Aadhaar (M. Rajshekhar and Anumeha Yadav; March 24, 2016).

- Making Aadhaar Mandatory: Gamechanger For Governance? (NDTV; March 24, 2016).

- ICANN Sexual Harassment Case Highlights Lack of Procedure at Global Internet Body (Wire; March 24, 2016).

- Securing the internet's future (Hindu Businessline; March 25, 2016).
- On Google Maps, JNU top result in search for 'anti-national' (Kim Arora; The Times of India; March 25, 2016).
- Woman Alleges Harassment at Major International Conference (Kavita Patil; Bangalore Mirror; March 30, 2016).

Researchers at Work

The Researchers at Work (RAW) programme is an interdisciplinary research initiative driven by contemporary concerns to understand the reconfigurations of social practices and structures through the Internet and digital media technologies, and vice versa. It is interested in producing local and contextual accounts of interactions, negotiations, and resolutions between the Internet, and socio-material and geo-political processes:

Books
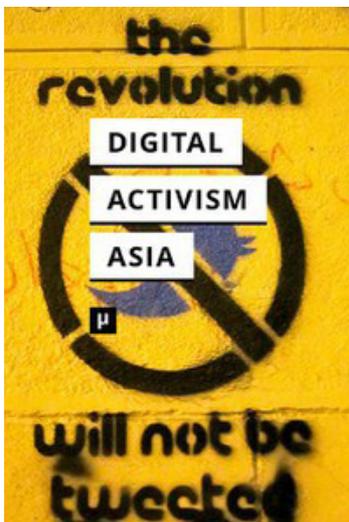
- [Digital Activism in Asia Reader](#) (edited by Nishant Shah, P.P. Sneha, and Sumandro Chattapadhyay, with support from Anirudh Sridhar, Denisse Albornoz, and Verena Getahun; August 8, 2015). The Reader took shape over two workshops with a diverse range of participants, including activists, change-makers, and scholars, organised by the Researchers at Work (RAW) programme in June 2014 and March 2015.
  The Reader attempts a crowd-sourced compilation that presents critical tools, organisations, theoretical concepts, political analyses, illustrative case-studies and annotations, that an emerging network of changemakers in Asia have identified as important in their own practices within their own contexts.
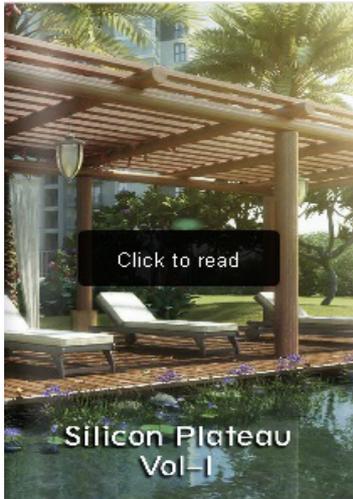
- [Silicon Plateau Vol-1](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; November 28, 2015). This book marks the beginning of an interdisciplinary artistic project, Silicon Plateau, the scope of which is to observe how the arts, technology and society intersect in the city of Bangalore. Silicon Plateau is a collaboration between T.A.J. Residency & SKE Projects and the Researchers at Work (RAW) programme of the Centre for Internet and Society in Bangalore, India. Volume 1 has been developed in collaboration with or-bits.com.

Book Chapters

- [Civil Society Organisations and Internet Governance in Asia - Open Review](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; Asia Internet History Vol. 3, edited by Prof. Kilnam Chon). Comments were invited.
- [Civil Society Organisations and Internet Governance in India - Open Review](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; Asia Internet History Vol. 3, edited by Prof. Kilnam Chon). Comments were invited.

Accepted Paper Abstract

- [Studying the Emerging Database State in India: Notes for Critical Data Studies](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; August 2, 2015). *The paper was provisionally accepted*.
- [Making in the Humanities – Some Questions and Conflicts](#) (P.P. Sneha; May 22, 2015).
- [Mathematisation of the Urban and not Urbanisation of Mathematics: Smart Cities and the Primitive Accumulation of Data - Accepted Abstract](#) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; May 25, 2015).

Article

- [The Aakash Tablet and Technological Imaginaries of Mass Education in Contemporary India](#) (Jahnavi Phalkey and Sumandro Chattapadhyay; February 14, 2016).
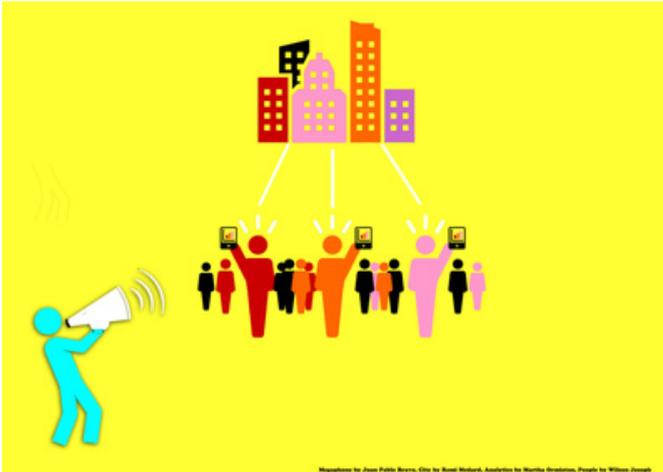
A picture depicting an application for users to search for locally-relevant data

Submission

- Where's My Data? Submission for Knight News Challenge 2015 (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; September 30, 2015). *The text of the proposal was prepared by Nisha Thompson of DataMeet, Meera K of Oorvani, and Sumandro Chattapadhyay.* Submitted jointly with DataMeet and Oorvani, CIS proposed an application for users to search for locally-relevant data, discuss missing data, demand data, explore and respond to data demands by others, and start data crowd-sourcing exercises.

Blog Entries

- Making in the Humanities – Some Questions and Conflicts (P.P. Sneha; May 22, 2015).

- Mathematisation of the Urban and not Urbanisation of Mathematics: Smart Cities and the Primitive Accumulation of Data - Accepted Abstract (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; May 25, 2015).

- Mock-Calling - Ironies of Outsourcing and the Aspirations of an Individual (Sreedeep; August 6, 2015).

- Governing Speech on the Internet: From the Free Marketplace Policy to a Controlled 'Public Sphere' (Smarika Kumar; August 28, 2015).

- The Internet in the Indian Judicial Imagination (Divij Joshi; September 9, 2015).

- The Many Lives and Sites of Internet in Bhubaneswar (Sailen Routray; September 21, 2015).

- Building Expertise to Support Digital Scholarship: A Global Perspective (Vivian Lewis, Lisa Spiro, Xuemao Wang, and Jon E. Cawthorne; October 16, 2015). CIS was featured in this report.

- Digital Humanities in India? (P.P. Sneha; November 12, 2015).

- A Question of Digital Humanities (P.P. Sneha; November 16, 2015).

- CSCS Digital Innovation Fund (CDIF) (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; November 16, 2015).

- RAW Lecture #01: Nishant Shah on 'Stories and Histories of Internet in India' - Video (P.P. Sneha; December 1, 2015).

- FOV Podcast - Data, People, and Smart Cities (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; December 2, 2015).

- [Reading from a Distance - Data as Text](#) (P.P. Sneha; December 7, 2015).

- [The Infrastructure Turn in the Humanities](#) (P.P. Sneha; December 7, 2015).

- [Living in the Archival Moment](#) (P.P. Sneha; December 14, 2015).

- [Digital Futures of Indian Languages - Notes from the Consultation](#) (Tejaswini Niranjana; January 12, 2016).

- [Studying Digital Creative Industries in India: Initial Questions](#) (P.P. Sneha; March 17, 2016).

Events Organized

- [Launch of Silicon Plateau Vol-1](#) (Organized by Or-bits.com and CIS; T.A.J. Residency, Wheeler Road Extension, Cooke Town, Bangalore; November 27, 2015).

- [RAW Lecture #01: Nishant Shah on 'Stories and Histories of Internet in India' - Video](#) (P.P. Sneha; December 1, 2015).

- [A.I. Hype Cycles and Artistic Subversions](#) (CIS, Bangalore; January 22, 2016). Gene Kogan will gave a talk.

- [The Zen of pad.ma: 10 Lessons Learned from Running Open Access Online Video Archives in India and Beyond](#) (CIS, Bangalore; February 3, 2016) Sebastian Lutgert and Jan Gerber gave a talk.

- [RAW Lectures #02: Anil Menon on 'Speculative Fiction and Freedom' - Video](#) (CIS, Bangalore; January 13, 2016). The video was uploaded on February 9, 2016.

- IRC: Internet Politics vs. Free Basics" (CIS, Delhi; February 25, 2016). Sebastian Lutgert and Jan Gerber lead an informal discussion before the IRC2016.

- [Internet Researchers' Conference 2016](#) (Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi; February 26 - 28, 2016). Co-hosted by the Centre for Political Studies (CPS), JNU with support from the CSCS Digital Innovation Fund (CDIF) at CIS.

Telecom

CIS is involved in promoting access and accessibility to telecommunications services and resources and has provided inputs to ongoing policy discussions and consultation papers published by TRAI. It has prepared reports on unlicensed spectrum and accessibility of mobile phones for persons with disabilities and also works with the USOF to include funding projects for persons with disabilities in its mandate:

Submissions

- Response to TRAI Consultation Paper on Regulatory Framework for Over-the-Top (OTT) Services (Pranesh Prakash; May 9, 2015). CIS sent a joint response to the TRAI Consultation Paper on Regulatory Framework for Over-the-top (OTT) Services with scholars from Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. CIS argued for the need to introduce reasonable regulatory parity between functionally equivalent communications services provided by OTT-SPs and TEL-SPs.

- TRAI and the Disclosure of Personal Information (Nehaa Chaudhari and Vidushi Marda with inputs from Bhairav Acharya; May 10, 2015). TRAI invited comments on its Consultation Paper for the regulation of over-the-top (OTT) services. In an unprecedented wave of public participation, TRAI received over a million e-mails in support of net neutrality. This note sets out the law in relation to the unauthorized disclosure of personal information.

- Comments on the DoT Panel Report via MyGov (Pranesh Prakash; September 26, 2015). CIS commended the Department of Telecom Panel on its report. However, CIS also cautioned that some of its most important recommendations are completely off-mark and would be disastrous if accepted by the government.

- TRAI Consultation on Differential Pricing for Data Services - Post-Open House Discussion Submission (Sumandro Chattapadhyay; March 30, 2016). CIS sent this submission to TRAI following the Open House Discussion on Differential Pricing of Data Services, held in Delhi on February 21, 2016.

Articles

- Stranded Capacities & Greater Expectations (Shyam Ponappa; Business Standard; May 6, 2015 and Organizing India Blogspot; May 8, 2015).

- Unfettering Stranded Capacity (Shyam Ponappa; Business Standard; June 3, 2015 and Organizing India Blogspot; June 4, 2015).

- The Centrality of Cash Flows (Shyam Ponappa; Business Standard; July 1, 2015 and Organizing India Blogspot; July 2, 2015).

- Those Dropped Calls (Shyam Ponappa; Business Standard; August 5, 2015 and Organizing India Blogspot; August 6, 2015).

- More on those Dropped Calls (Shyam Ponappa; Business Standard; September 2, 2015 and Organizing India Blogspot; September 3, 2015).

- [Digital India - Now to Work](#) (Shyam Ponappa; Business Standard; October 1, 2015; Organizing India Blogspot; October 2, 2015).

- [The Buzz Around TV White Space](#) (Shyam Ponappa; Business Standard; November 4, 2015 and Organizing India Blogspot; November 5, 2015).

- [The Free Basics debate: Trai has a point in imposing temporary ban on net neutrality](#) (Sunil Abraham; FirstPost; December 24, 2015).

- [Millions of Indians Slam Facebook's 'Free Basics' App](#) (Subhashish Panigrahi; December 29, 2015).

- [Bottled-Up National Assets](#) (Shyam Ponappa; Business Standard and Organizing India BlogSpot; February 3, 2016).

- [Connectivity: Let's Apply What We Know](#) (Shyam Ponappa; Business Standard; March 2, 2016).

Blog Entries

- [Funding of National Optic Fibre Network (NOFN) - Who's Accountable?](#) (Aditya Garg; July 17, 2015).

- [Gauging Users' Reactions Towards Zero Rating](#) (Aadya Misra; November 25, 2015). *The author likes to thank Amba Kak, on whose research the survey was conducted.*

Participation in Event

- [5G Technologies Workshop](#) (Organized by IEEE Communications Society Bangalore Chapter; The Capitol Hotel, Bangalore; May 22 – 23, 2015). Rohini Lakshané attended the workshop.

Count of Entries

The approximated count of blog entries, events organized and media coverage for the year 2015-16 is as follows:

ACCESSIBILITY	Blog Entries	33
	News and Media	2
	Events Organized	21
BLOG ENTRIES NEWS AND MEDIA	Blog Entries	118
	News and Media	56
	Events Organized	19
INTERNET GOVERNANCE	Blog Entries	121
	News and Media	126
	Events Organized	12

TELECOM	Blog Entries	17
	News and Media	
	Events Organized	
RESEARCHERS AT WORK	Blog Entries	24
	News and Media	
	Events Organized	5

Note: IPR - 50 blogs, 2 events, 5 media coverage; Wikipedia - 55 blogs, 16 events, 51 media coverage; Openness – 13 blogs, 1 event; Free Speech - 44 blogs, 6 events; Privacy – 50 blogs, 1 event; Big Data – 8 blogs, 1 event; IT – 2 blogs, 1 event, Cyber Security – 5 blogs, 3 events, IT – 2 blogs

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

The Society of the Centre for Internet and Society consists of 12 members. Seven of them serve on the Board. The details of members as on March 31, 2016 is as follows:

Year		Board Members	Position	Members of Society	Position	Occupation / Designation
2015-16	1	Sunil Abraham	Executive Director	Jayna Kothari	Member	Lawyer
	2	T.Vishnu Vardhan		Hans Varghese Mathews	Member	
	3	Nirmita Narasimhan	Policy Director	Subbiah Arunachalam	Member	Scientist
	4	Shyam Ponappa	Distinguished Fellow	Lawrence Liang	Member	Lawyer
	5	Kavita Philip	Professor	Pranesh Prakash	Member	Policy Director
	6	Nishant Shah	Professor			
	7	Vibodh Parthasarathi	Professor			

STAFF MEMBERS AND SALARIES

Name	Designation	Salaries (in Rupees)
Sunil Abraham	Executive Director	1,88,000
Nirmita Narasimhan	Policy Director	77,000
Pranesh Prakash	Policy Director	77,000
Subhashish Panigrahi	Programme Officer	68,800
Nehaa Chaudhari	Programme Officer	44,000
Elonnai Hickok	Director	
Sumandro Chattapadhyay	Director	
Anubha Sinha		
Vanya Rakesh		
Rohini Lakshane		
Nagaraj		
P.P. Sneha	Programme Officer	44,000
Jyoti Panday	Programme Officer	55,000
Geetha Hariharan	Programme Officer	50,000
Ajoy Kumar C.	Administrator	34,000
Medini	Senior Accounts Officer	30,000
Velankanni Royson	Office Assistant	20,000
Gayathri		
Mithilesh	Office Assistant	10,000

Note: The following team members resigned and left the organisation in 2015-16:

Geetha Hariharan
Gayathri

DISTINGUISHED FELLOWS

Prof. Subbiah Arunachalam

Lawrence Liang

Shyam Ponappa

Tejaswini Niranjana

FELLOWS

Chinmayi Arun

Chanuka Wattegama

CONSULTANTS

Name	Remuneration in Rs.

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
25,000 to 50,000	3	4	7
50,000 to 1,00,000	4	4	8
1,00,000 to 2,00,000	4	1	5
Total	**14**	**9**	**23**

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

2,00,000	1,88,000	1,16,685	7,500

Staff Gender Distribution as on March 31, 2014

Male	Female	Total
12	8	20

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, 2nd 'C' Cross, Domlur, 2nd Stage, Bangalore – 560071

Volunteer with us; get in touch by writing to Sunil Abraham at 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.

To discuss advocacy-related collaborations, write to Sunil Abraham, Executive Director, at sunil@cis-india.org.