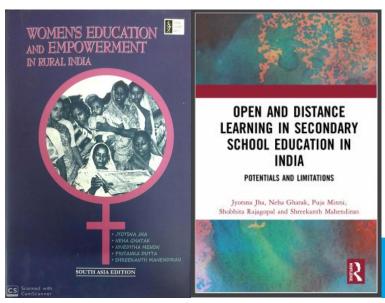
□□ Centre for Budget □□ and Policy Studies









Annual Report 2019 – 2020

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From Director's Desk

Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (CBPS) is a research-based institution that was established in Bangalore, India, in February 1998, as an independent, non-partisan, not-for-profit society, registered under the Societies Registration Act.

We are primarily a policy research organisation but we also actively engage with evidence-based policy advocacy as well as with capacity building initiatives at different levels. We are one of the first organisations in India to engage with public budgets and expenditure analysis at all levels of governance as an important tool for understanding and analysing policy. We continue to undertake research in this area covering various sectors in a number of Indian states. During 2019-20, we have completed a number of research studies that are significant for policy making and budgeting, and also published two books and a number of papers/working papers. This year has been fulfilling also in terms of taking our research reports to wider audiences through a variety of means including presenting in national and international workshops and conferences. All these productions and activities are also reflected in social media posts and most importantly in the CBPS website.

We also went international in terms of being a technical partner for research design and training for a global study being carried out by UNESCO headquarters. While we continued to work with some of the older funding partners such as Government of Karnataka, UNICEF and Azim Premji Foundation, we also started working with new partners such as with Child Rights and You and The Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST).

Our website provides all organisational details and it also acts as a window to the entire range of the Centre's work. The website has a devoted page for works related to women's empowerment and gender equality funded by International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada. CBPS also launched a blog solely dedicated to secondary education, which is open to all subject to a review by the designated team.

In all, we had a very challenging and fulfilling year. Towards the year end, we faced the challenge of Covid-19 but so far we have managed to deal with it fairly satisfactorily. The CBPS Board and Society members have, as always been supportive and provided guidance in every respect. We take this opportunity to thank all our supporters, our funders and fellow research organisations in addition to the Board and Society members for their valued support. We would also like to acknowledge and thank all our research and funding partners without whose support we would not have been able to carry out the work successfully.

Dr. Jyotsna Jha Director

The Report

This Report has four parts: the first one provides the details of the research projects that have been operational in the year 2019-20, the second one gives information on the events, workshops and lectures that we organised, the third one gives information on our engagement with media and dissemination both in the form of activities and outputs, and the fourth and final section provides details of the organisation.

1. Ongoing and Completed Projects

As has been true for the past years, our projects are a mix in term of size, time span, area as well as approaches of research. Table 1 on the following page gives a snapshot of ongoing projects. We provide brief details of these here:

Empowerment based Mentoring Model for Adolescent Girls: Action Research in Bihar

Duration: April 2018 – April 2021; Funder/ Partner: Malala Fund

This project is linked to Jyotsna being declared a Gulmakai Champion by Malala Fund (http://cbps.in/news/malala-fund-announces-dr-jyotsna-jha-director-centre-for-budget-and-policy-stuides-cbps-bangalore-as-a-gulmakai-network-champion).

This is a three-year action-research based project in Bihar that attempts to develop an empowerment-based mentoring model for adolescent girls. The mentoring model focuses on developing leadership and critical thinking skills through a process of activities that enables them to examine and change their perception of themselves and their aspirations, and encourages them to take actions related to themselves, their families and their communities. The model then can be used as a policy advocacy tool to ensure the integration of the model in regular school curricular and pedagogical approaches.

During 2019-20, a number of capacity building activities were undertaken – both for the in-house team to enhance their capacities on content development and understanding of pedagogical processes, and of school teachers we work with on similar issues. We also conducted a mid-line survey of students in February 2020; the findings have been analysed but a separate report has not been prepared because of the preoccupation with post-Covid challenges. We undertook a rapid appraisal of students through telephonic survey towards the end of March-early April and used that to design our intervention. We published an article based on this survey in The Wire.

Web link to project description: http://cbps.in/education/empowerment-based-mentoring-model-for-adolescent-girls-action-research-in-bihar

Web link to summary of the base line report:

- English version
- Hindi version

<u>The Wire</u> published an article titled, 'What a Survey of Children in Bihar Revealed About Online Schooling' written by Dr. Jyotsna Jha and Ms. Neha Ghatak. It was published on 25 May 2020.

Table 1: Ongoing Projects (2019-20): A Snapshot

| SI. | Name of the Project | Amount (in INR) | Period | Funder |
|-----|-------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| No. | | | | |
| 1 | Estimating the Multiplier Effect of | 46,00,000 | July 2018 to | Finance Department, |
| | Tertiary and Social Sector | | June 2021 | Government of |
| | Expenditure in Karnataka | | | Karnataka |
| 2 | MoU for Mutual assistance in the | 15,00,000 | June 2018 to | Fiscal Policy Institute |
| | area of training and research | approximately | May 2021 | |
| 3 | Public Finance for Children (PF4C), | 2,33,09,000 | July 2018 to | UNICEF, New Delhi |
| | Public Expenditure Review, | (8,09,000 is CBPS | September | |
| | Expenditure Tracking, Delivery and | contribution) | 2020 | |
| | Effectiveness studies across Indian | | | |
| | states | | | |
| | | | | |
| 4 | Empowerment based Mentoring | 1,51,29,300 | April 2018 – | Malala Fund |
| | Model for Adolescent Girls: Action | | April 2021 | |
| | Research in Bihar | | | |
| 5 | Quality and Systemic Functioning in | 61,08,800 | April 2018 – | |
| | Secondary Education in India: A | | July 2020 | World Service |
| | study in Andhra Pradesh and | | | |
| | Rajasthan | | | |
| 6 | Open Research Data Initiative | 4,49,289 | September | International |
| | (ORDI) | | 2019 – July | Development |
| | | | 2020 | Research Centre, |
| | | | | Canada (IDRC) |
| 7 | Evaluation of the ISST project | 5,00,000 | December | Institute of Social |
| | 'Capacity Building in Gender | | 2019 to June | Studies Trust (ISST) |
| | Transformative Evaluation' | | 2020 | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| 8 | Study on Governance at District | 6,00,000 | September | Child Rights and You |
| | level and below of Policies, | | 2019 – June | (CRY) |
| | Programmes and Schemes related | | 2020 | |
| | to children | | | |
| | | | _ | |
| 9 | Institutional study for identifying | 32,04,300 | August 2019 | UNICEF, Hyderabad |
| | potential pathways for furthering | (3,24,300 is CBPS | – June 2020 | Office |
| | the interests of children at Gram | contribution) | | |
| | Panchayat level (towards making a | | | |
| | child friendly Gram Panchayat) | | | |

Estimating the Multiplier Effect of Tertiary and Social Sector Expenditure in Karnataka

Duration: June 2018 – May 2021; **Funder/ Partner:** Finance Department, Government of Karnataka

When examining the impact of government expenditure in social sector, academic studies have mostly focused on changes in longer term social outcomes such as educational attainment and health status.

While welfare outcomes such as the above are important in themselves, it is fairly well accepted that investment in human capital also has growth enhancing effects. It is important to understand how the level of investment and recurrent expenditure in these sectors might contribute to the expansion of economy with varying time lags. Towards this end, we started a study in 2018-19, which aims to estimate and understand the multiplier effect of public spending in the social sector and implications of growth of tertiary sector for the sustained economic growth in Karnataka.

During 2019-20, we were successful in creating an Input-Output (IO) Table for Karnataka for the year 2013-14, as this is the year for which an IO Table is available for India. The challenges data as well as definitions are huge when it comes to creating an IO Table at sub-national level and hence it was a tedious task. The draft report has been submitted to the Government of Karnataka. We then have moved to working on creating Social Accounting Matrix (SAM) Tables.

4 MoU with Fiscal Policy Institute, Bangalore for Mutual assistance in the area of training and research

Duration: June 2018 – May 2021; **Funder/ Partner:** Government of Karnataka (GoK)

As part of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Fiscal Policy Institute, Bangalore, we are expected to carry out capacity building programmes for GoK officials and also undertake a few joint activities. During the first year, 2018-19, we conducted four Conceptual and Perspective Building Workshops with support of our own as well as external experts. These included:

- 1. Public Finance: Basic Concepts and Debates
- 2. Programme and Outcome Budgeting: Theory and Practice
- 3. Public Finance for Children (PF4C) and Child Budget
- 4. Gender Responsive Budgets: Emerging Areas

During 2019-20, Jyotsna Jha and Madhusudan B. V. joined the technical advisory group set up by FPI to develop the Government of Karnataka's Child Budget.

Public Finance for Children (PF4C), Public Expenditure Review, Expenditure Tracking, Delivery and Effectiveness studies across Indian states

Duration: July 2018 to September 2020; Funder/ Partner: UNICEF, New Delhi

While in the past, we have been working in partnership with UNICEF Hyderabad Office which also covers Karnataka, this year we entered into a partnership agreement with UNICEF Delhi with a commitment for eight studies covering a wide range of areas and states but mainly linked with public expenditure review and analysis.

The study on Public Finance for Children (PF4C) across 16 Indian States was the most important part of this contract, which got completed this year. in policies and vision documents actually translated into expenditure and actions. The report was shared in a seminar and has been well-received in the circle of professionals and policy makers. We were approached by the Government of Tamil Nadu for training their team for preparing the state's Child Budget and we readily responded to the request. The state has presented their report with due acknowledgements to us.

We have also completed four other outputs and submitted those to UNICEF. We have taken extension of the project till September 2020, as we could not complete a number of field visits and faced challenges in getting data from states early this year.

Web link to report: http://cbps.in/wp-content/uploads/Public-Finance-for-Children-PF4C-across-16-Indian-States.pdf

Table 2: Details of the new UNICEF partnership projects

| | Research Studies | Status |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | Public Finance for Children (PF4C) across 16 Indian | Three outputs: |
| | States | -First report completed and printed. |
| | | -In-depth analysis of 6 states |
| | | completed. |
| | | -Work on manual in progress |
| 2 | Process Review of the Bhagyalakshmi (BL) Scheme | Completed |
| | in Karnataka | |
| 3 | Outcome Assessment of Mathrupoorna (cooked | Completed |
| | meal for pregnant and lactating mothers), Srusti | |
| | Scheme (Egg supply Scheme) and Ksheera Bhagya | |
| | (Milk Supply) Schemes in Karnataka | |
| 4 | Public Expenditure on Secondary Education in | Competed |
| | Tamil Nadu – A critical analysis of size, sources, | |
| | priorities, flow, processes and management | |
| 5 | Public Expenditure on Health in Rajasthan -A | Final Draft Report shared in June 2020 |
| | critical analysis of size, sources, priorities, flow, | Comments awaited |
| | processes and management | |
| 6 | Public Expenditure on Health in Maharashtra -A | Completed |
| | critical analysis of size, sources, priorities, flow, | |
| | processes and management | |
| 7 | Costing of all child-centred investments by DWCD | To be completed in August 2020 |
| | to achieve relevant targets of vision 2025 by | |
| | Department of Women and Child Development, | |
| | Government of Telangana | |
| 8 | Public Finance for Nutrition to Reach the Targets | To be completed in August 2020 |
| | of Vision 2025 in Karnataka | |

Quality and Systemic Functioning in Secondary Education in India: A study in Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan

Duration: April 2018 – October 2020; **Funder/ Partner:** American Jewish World Service

In the current Indian context, there is need to focus on the quality and functioning of secondary education – from grades 9 to 12 – for several reasons. This group is considered to be important for sustained higher economic growth, improvements in higher education provide the necessary impetus to create positive social outcomes such as economic and social mobility. Therefore, an in-depth analysis of the issues related to secondary education was undertaken so that government policies can address the key concerns raised through the study.

The broad objectives of the study were to undertake a comprehensive analysis of the secondary school system, and examine the issues faced by boys and girls and attempt to identify any strategies that

might help in addressing these issues. The study was carried out in two states: Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. The study combined an analysis of existing data at the macro-level in terms of enrolment, financing, and school infrastructure along with micro-level field-based studies exploring social perceptions and practices of communities, the role of teachers and schools as well as the experiences of the students. The study design had the following primary components:

- 1. A desk-based analysis of various policies and programmes in addition to analysis of secondary data related to educational outcomes at the secondary level.
- 2. Field-based quantitative and qualitative study of 9 schools in 6 villages in each of the states that Mapped the status of all children in 14 to 18 age groups.

The methods included classroom and school observations, interviews and focus group discussions with students, survey of 1200 to 1800 households in the 6 villages, interviews and FGDs with school teachers and Head Masters, tests administered to at least 300 students per state to assess learning levels, as well as analysis of existing documents and data including text books.

We have completed the study and are generating five reports: (1) an overall analysis of secondary schooling in India, (2) an institutional study of secondary education in Andhra and Rajasthan, (30 a policy study of secondary education in Andhra and Rajasthan, (4) the state report of Rajasthan and (5) the state report of Andhra. Taken together, we think this provides insights into the programmatic as well as social, cultural and economic aspects of secondary education that can help in the design and implementation of gender-just, inclusive, and sustainable policies for secondary education.

Study on Governance at District level and below of Policies, Programmes and Schemes related to children

Duration: September 2019 to June 2020; Funder/Partner: Child Rights and You (CRY)

The study focused on understanding the governance at district level and below, particularly the processes of planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring focusing on the access to entitlements under various laws, policies and more specifically, schemes implemented at district and below. The project aims to gain insights on the governance at all levels (District, Block/ Mandal, Gram Panchayat/ Village) including interactions with the state. It also aims to understand all child related legislations, guidelines, programmes and schemes implemented at the district and the state level (Central schemes/Centrally Sponsored Schemes, state level schemes/State Sponsored Schemes).

The study comprises of field research and desk review to understand schemes in two blocks and four villages in order to understand nuances of fund-flow, reach, efficacy of programs relating to children (especially below 6 years and that of adolescents) in the district of Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh and Sitapur in Uttar Pradesh.

 Institutional study for identifying potential pathways for furthering the interests of children at Gram Panchayat level (towards making a child friendly Gram Panchayat)

Duration: August 2019 – June 2020; Funder/ Partner: UNICEF, Hyderabad Office

This study analysed the Beacon (well-performing) Gram Panchayats (GP) and other institutions (Anganwadi centre, VHSNC, SDMC and Bal Vikas Samithi) at GP level for its functioning in relation to their statutory responsibilities across different divisions of Karnataka state. This will help in identifying the ways in which the beacon GPs have traversed the path to deliver better for the welfare of the children. The study will identify the steps followed by the GPs and GP level institutions in the process

of achieving better prospects for the children. This will also help in scaling up of these practices to achieve the effects on a larger scale.

This will also help the other GPs in better use of their funds, budgets and provisions to further the interests of the children in their own unique ways to suit the requirements in their area. The study will identify the underpinnings of the successful efforts including the performance of the key institutions such as AWC, VHSNC, SDMC and Bal Vikas Samithi at the GP level.

Open Research Data Initiative (ORDI)

Duration: September 2019 – July 2020; **Funder/ Partner:** International Development Research Centre, Canada (IDRC)

CBPS has been committed to making research data openly accessible and available to all. So, as part of the Open Research Data Initiative (ORDI), we have started to work towards this goal by archiving and making available all of the qualitative and quantitative data generated from one of the projects that CBPS has recently concluded. Titled "Together We Can - The role of women's action groups as agents of social and economic change in India", the project evaluated the impact of Mahila Samakhya on economic empowerment of women in the state of Bihar and Karnataka from 2015 to 2018. This project was chosen as the first-use case as the data generated intersects across diverse disciplines of social sciences, and therefore, would aid in effective re-use by academicians, collectives and policy practitioners. As part of the project, ORDI provided online training and extensive consultations with experts in data archiving and management to help the team in understanding the principles and the mechanisms of ethical data sharing. Using the knowledge and information gained through this project, we hope to generate three outputs: (1) a detailed data management plan for the Bihar data, (2) a usable and anonymised quantitative and qualitative data set that can be uploaded into an appropriate data repository, and (3) a data paper that will provide detailed information about the data and its potential uses. Given that this is the first-use case, these principles will be put to use to ensure that all of the data generated in CBPS works towards the same ethical data-sharing mechanisms and processes.

Evaluation of the ISST project 'Capacity Building in Gender Transformative Evaluation'

Duration: December 2019 to June 2020; Funder/ Partner: Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST)

The Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST) approached the Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (CBPS) to evaluate an online course titled Facilitating Gender Transformative Evaluations that ISST has been conducting since 2018. The online module aims to develop the capacities of evaluators and development practitioners by providing them resources and tools that can deepen their understanding of evaluation through the use of a feminist lens. CBPS will review all of these resources and tools, including the course content as well as the internal reports, to understand the objectives and the procedural details of the online course. The team will also interview course coordinators, convenors and mentors along with the participants to get their insight into the process, the challenges, and the knowledge gained from the course. The output of this evaluation will be a report that will assess the efficacy of the online module as well as to provide insight and recommendations into the next phase of the online module.

Examining the contexts, practices and costs of Early Childhood Care and Education in India: Responsive models for child development

Duration: September 2017 to September 2019; **Funder/ Partner:** British Academy

CBPS undertook a study in collaboration with the University of Cambridge on developing responsive models for Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in India. The project aimed at analysing contexts, practices and costs of ECCE, with a particular focus on disadvantaged families/communities in India. A comparative study of ECCE programmes and practices in two states — Tamil Nadu and Bihar was undertaken examining histories and practices of early childhood care within families as well as within existing ECCE institutions. The project used an ethnographic approach and combine this with a financial and cost analysis of ECCE programmes and practices to generate insights on responsive and scalable models for ECCE. The project was funded by the British Academy.

For more project details please visit The British Academy website.

Policy Briefs:

- 1. <u>Marketization of ECCE and the Reproduction of Caste-based Inequities in India: evidence and policy implications</u>
- 2. Developing 'responsive' ECCE models in India
- 3. Costing Framework and Principles for Responsive ECCE Models

Blogs:

- 1. Towards responsive models of early childhood care and education in India
- 2. Why do contexts matter for early childhood care and education?
- 3. Locating key debates in Early Childhood Care and Education: insights from Indian scholarship

Reports

- Examining Contexts, Practices and Costs of ECCE in India Report I
- Examining Contexts, Practices And Costs Of Early Childhood Care And Education In India Report 2
- Centering children in the development debate in India: public action for early start, fair start, and fitting start

Duration: April 2018 to February 2020; Funder/ Partner: Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)

CBPS undertook a study in collaboration with the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences in the area of early childhood care and education (ECCE) to understand the social determinants of early childhood development, and the role of public and private institutions in fostering this. A comparative evaluation of ECCE status, provisions and child educational outcomes was made across two states — Karnataka and West Bengal, through primary fieldwork, with the view to understand children's development in relation to political, economic, social and familial factors.

Web link to report: http://cbps.in/wp-content/uploads/CBPS-FINAL-REPORT-CSSS-ICSSR-Feb-2020.pdf

Public Expenditure Review of School Education in select states

Duration: May 2019 to September 2019; Funder/ Partner: The World Bank, New Delhi

The study was aimed at gaining a deeper understanding of budget, expenditure trends and fiscal accountability in school education over time across the select states. The analysis unpacked the important components of expenditure and make recommendations to improve efficiency and

effectiveness of fiscal transfers from the union government to state and then to the sub-state levels. The fiscal analysis also examined the gaps in planning, spending and existence of incentives (or disincentives). The study also attempted to understand the governance of schooling systems (Policy Analysis) which was confined to desk research (to be able to interpret the expenditure analysis more meaningfully).

The review of public expenditure on education was to understand the patterns and priorities at various stages of School Education: pre-school, primary/upper primary and secondary/senior secondary. The fiscal analysis included six states - Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan and covered the period 2011-12 to 2019-20.

We extended this analysis to prepare a <u>Fact Sheet</u> that was endorsed and printed by Malala Fund partners for policy advocacy.

Web link to report: http://cbps.in/wp-content/uploads/Public-Expenditure-Review-of-School-Education-in-select-states-Draft-Final-Report 18October2019.pdf

National capacities strengthened to address gender equality in education

Duration: June 2019 to December 2019; **Funder/ Partner:** The United Nations Educational, Scientific And Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

Achieving gender equality in and through education is central to meeting the targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is clear that gender disparity exists in education, and largely disadvantages girls. However, there are specific disadvantages that are faced by boys, especially in completing in secondary education in certain geographical locations. For example, in many countries in the Arab States, boys have been consistently dropped out and under-performing in secondary school. In furtherance to our previous work on boys' underachievement (link to the Commonwealth report), the project tried to examine the nature and root causes of boys' disadvantage and disengagement from education.

UNESCO undertook a ten-country study relating to the issue of boys; underachievement in education and CBPS joined it as the technical partner to develop the research design and tools, as well as to provide the feedback to the country research teams on their reports. The study reviewed the present situation related to boys' educational participation, learning achievement and completion. In doing so, it laid particular emphasis on national and sub-national contexts and overlapping disadvantages or intersectionality of features. It also tried to identify structural and gender-related factors that hinder or facilitate boys' educational participation, learning achievement and completion. This was done on multiple levels: at the level of the individual, family and peers, community, school and broader society. Finally, the study extensively engaged with promising policy and programmatic initiatives to understand the efficacy of various strategies used to address this problem, and the potential implications of scaling these strategies.

Link to project description: http://cbps.in/education/national-capacities-strengthened-to-address-gender-equality-in-education

2. Dissemination Events, Lectures and Workshops

CBPS Annual Endowment Budget Lecture was organised on 9 April 2019

Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (CBPS) organised its Annual Endowment Lecture on Budgets at the Indian Institute of World Culture in Basavangudi, Bangalore. The speaker was Mr. L V Nagarajan

(Former Additional Chief Secretary Finance, Government of Karnataka) and he spoke on a very relevant topic, 'Budget: Theory and Practice'.



The speaker belongs to the 1979 batch of the Karnataka Cadre and he retired as Additional Chief Secretary Finance department, Government of Karnataka. Prof. Vinod Vyasulu (Consulting Economist, Ex-Director and Founder of CBPS) was the chair of the session. The poster for the session can be viewed here.

❖ A policy workshop on 'Early childhood care and education in India: contexts, costs and practices' was jointly organised by University of Cambridge and CBPS on 17 May 2019 at University of Cambridge

A policy workshop on 'Early childhood care and education in India: contexts, costs and practices' was jointly organised by University of Cambridge and CBPS on 17 May 2019 at University of Cambridge, United Kingdom. The session was from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m..

The workshop brought together colleagues working in the fields of educational psychology, economics, sociology, and international development policy and advocacy to identify and discuss key issues relating to Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in India. Preliminary findings from the recently completed British Academy funded study by CBPS and University of Cambridge on 'The contexts, costs and practices of ECCE in India' was shared at the workshop and this was used to facilitate discussions on policy implications for ECCE investment and reform in India and beyond.



Participants included:

Ben Alcott – Research for Equitable Access in Learning (REAL), University of Cambridge

David Archer – Programme Development, Action Aid

Hugo Clarke- International Programmes, British Academy

Christine O'Farrelly – Play in Education, Development and Learning (PEDAL), University of Cambridge Maliha Khan – Chief Programme Officer, Malala Fund

Krishna Kulkarni – Play in Education, Development and Learning (PEDAL), University of Cambridge Arif Naveed – Early Childhood Development Programme, British Academy

Paul Ramchandani Play in Education, Development and Learning (PEDAL), University of Cambridge Pauline Rose – Research for Equitable Access in Learning (REAL), University of Cambridge Tisha Verma – Education Policy & Advocacy, Save the Children.

Prof. Smita Srinivas spoke at the CBPS Annual Endowment Lecture on Health in memory of Dr. Poornima Vyasulu on 7 June 2019

Prof. Smita Srinivas spoke at the CBPS Annual Endowment Lecture on Health in memory of Dr. Poornima Vyasulu. (CBPS concluded a series of five lectures on the topic of Gender and Development the year before last. Last year, a new series on Health as a Right was started.)

This year Prof. Smita Srinivas (Founder Director of the Technological Change Lab originally at Columbia University in New York City) spoke on the topic of 'An Old and New Economics for Health'. This lecture has been associated with the Indian Institute of World Culture in Bangalore.



The detailed introduction of the speaker and the abstract of her lecture can be viewed <u>here</u>. The poster can be viewed <u>here</u>.

CBPS organised a RMSA-NSQF Stakeholder Meeting held on June 28, 2019 at Radisson Blu Atria, Bengaluru

Concluding the project titled, <u>Critical Sociological Analysis of Skills Development Initiative in India</u>, CBPS conducted a one day workshop with all the major stakeholders of the Vocational Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Scheme (VSHSE) on 28 June 2019. The objective of the workshop was to bring all the key stakeholders on a common platform to discuss and debate about the VSHSE scheme especially from the children's perspective and secondly, to share our research findings and solicit their feedback on the same.



Twelve students and six skills trainers from six different schools and representing all the four NSQF levels within secondary schooling and five skills sectors (Automobile, Healthcare, IT, Beauty Wellness and Retail) participated in the workshop. Along with them, representatives from three Vocational

Training Partners (Labournet, Ants and DB Tech) and four government representatives from the office of the Deputy Director of Public Instruction also participated in this workshop.

CBPS organised a talk by Dr. Alex M. Thomas in office on 3 July 2019

CBPS organised a talk by Dr. Alex M. Thomas (Assistant Professor at Azim Premji University) in office on 3 July 2019. The title of his talk was 'History of Economic Thought for Policy'.



After briefly introducing the key themes in Pluralistic Economics and its History, he presented a very concise account of economic thinking from William Petty to Robert Solow. Subsequently, he outlined the scope of research in the History of Economic Thought (HET) by providing a brief overview of the recent literature. By underscoring the lack of pluralism in both microeconomics and macroeconomics, he pointed out the importance of HET for economic policy.

CBPS organised a talk by Prof. Arkalgud Ramaprasad on 28 August 2019

CBPS organised a talk by Prof. Arkalgud Ramaprasad, Director, Ramaiah Public Policy Center, Bengaluru. He is also a Professor Emeritus of Information and Decision Sciences at the University of Illinois, Chicago. He spoke on 'Systematic Policymaking Using Ontologies: How to Make the 'Elephant' Dance'.



In his presentation, he discussed how policies can be made systematically using ontologies. He went on to describe how ontologies can be used in all four stages of policy-making – Intelligence, Design, Choice, and Assessment. It detailed on how ontologies can be constructed and applied to complex problems such as river-water sharing, waste management, environment, healthcare, and.

 CBPS – University of Cambridge conducted a project and policy workshop on ECCE in India on 29 – 30 August 2019

A project and policy dissemination workshop was held for the British Academy funded project titled, <u>Early Childhood Care and Education in India: Examining contexts, costs and practices</u> conducted by CBPS in collaboration with University of Cambridge. The one and a half day workshop brought together policy makers, grassroots organisations and academics, to reflect upon project findings in relation to planning for 'responsive' ECCE models, as well as the recent draft National Education Policy. The sessions included the presentation of ethnographic findings from the study and a framework for costing ECCE models, followed by invited responses by panellists. Open discussions allowed for a rich and insightful dialogue covering a range of issues around ECCE in India.

It was held at Radisson Blu Atria on 29 and 30 August 2019. The concept note and agenda can be viewed <u>here</u>.

Public Expenditure on Children in India – Trends and Patterns report was launched on 29 August 2019



<u>Public Expenditure on Children in India – Trends and Patterns</u> report was launched on 29 August 2019 by Mr. I S N Prasad, Dr. Vinod Vyasulu, Prof. Jandhyala Tilak, Dr. Geeta Menon, Mr. Ambarish Rai and Dr. Jyotsna Jha. It was held at Radisson Blue Atria, Bangalore.

CBPS in collaboration with the University of Cambridge organised a Dissemination Workshop: Contexts, Costs and Practices: Debating Public Policy and Planning for Public Provisioning in India (with special reference to Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)) in New Delhi on 18 December 2019

CBPS in collaboration with the University of Cambridge organised a Dissemination Workshop: Contexts, Costs and Practices: Debating Public Policy and Planning for Public Provisioning in India (with special reference to Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)) in New Delhi on 18 December 2019 at

the India Habitat Centre. The workshop discussed the planning for provisioning of public services in India.

The keynote speakers were Dr. Pronab Sen (Programme Director (India), International Growth Centre) and Professor Venita Kaul (Professor Emeritus Ambedkar University, Delhi). Dr. Pronab Sen's keynote speech was titled, 'Public Interventions: Policy and/ or Programmes' and Professor Venita Kaul's keynote speech was titled, 'ECCE a priority, or is it?'



Based on an ethnographic study on ECCE in India, the workshop extended beyond research findings to discuss implications for the costing of education programmes in particular, and public services more generally. The discussion also delved into issues of scale, decentralisation, diversity and accountability in the context of planning for and costing of public services.

The CBPS team presented their findings which were followed by responses by invited discussants. Several policy makers, grassroots organisations and academicians participated in the workshop.

The concept note and agenda can be viewed here.

❖ Jyotsna Jha, Madhusudhan Rao B.V. and Susmitha M V conducted a one-day Budget Workshop at TISS Hyderabad on 27 January 2020

Jyotsna Jha, Madhusudhan Rao B.V. and Susmitha M V conducted a one-day Budget Workshop at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Hyderabad on 27 January 2020 for post-graduate students. The title of the workshop was 'Demystifying Government Budget – Budget Concepts, Processes and Analysis'.

The workshop intended to orient interested groups on budget concepts to be able to understand, interpret as well as facilitate fuller utilisation of budget information in their own work of research/activism/advocacy as budgets reflect Government's thinking, priorities and constraints.

The workshop focused on state government budget and covered the basics of budget in its entirety, what, why and how of budget, the budget process, the budget terminologies, the budget document, reading the budget, budget analysis, why and how of budget analysis, including sectoral analysis of budget. The workshop involved simple practical exercises to understand and appreciate the

accounting as well as to get an idea of working with budget numbers. The presentations, exercises and analysis drew examples from the budget documents of Telangana State.



Workshop for nodal teachers and field investigators in Patna from 9th February 2020 to 12th February 2020 – Empowerment based Mentoring Model for Adolescent Girls

As part of the action research study – <u>Bihar Mentorship Project [BMP]</u> funded by the Malala fund, CBPS conducted two workshops in Patna from 9th February, 2020 to 12th February, 2020.

The first workshop, which lasted for three days, was conducted by Neha Ghatak along with the CBPS team for the field investigators on the upcoming midline survey. The field investigators were first familiarized with the BMP project. Further, they were trained on the midline survey questionnaire. Role play and peer practice sessions were used to train them on the modalities of the field and on the probable problems which they might encounter in the during the survey.

The second workshop, which was on the last two days, was conducted by Subir Shukla who has many years of experience as a trainer, especially for government school teachers. This workshop was for the nodal teachers in the government schools in which BMP is being conducted. It focused on acquainting the teachers with the Experience Reflection Application and Consolidation [ERAC] model on which the Bihar module is framed and encouraging the teachers to use the same in their classroom processes.

The workshop also entailed a presentation by Niveditha Menon which illustrated the curricular linkages between the Bihar module, Bihar State Board textbooks for class 6,7 and 8 and the National Curricular Framework to highlight how BMP strengthens and complements the curriculum and the significance of BMP.

The workshop was well received by the teachers and helped us establish a strong connection with the teachers which we plan to pursue in the future.

Convention on Women and Labour on 29 February 2020 in Bangalore

Convention on Women and Labour was conducted on 29 February 2020 at Kondajji Basappa Auditorium, Palace Road, Bangalore. It was organised by Gram Seva Sangh in collaboration with the Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (CBPS). The other contributors are Hasiru Dala, Fields of View, Karnataka Gandhi Smaraka Nidhi, N.S.S – State Cell.



The concept note and agenda can be viewed here. The poster can be viewed here.

3. Publications, Media and Outreach

Publications

 Jyotsna Jha and Puja Minni's paper has been published by Max Weber Stiftung in their Education & the Urban in India Working Paper Series

Jyotsna Jha and Puja Minni's paper titled, <u>'Bridging Old Gaps, Building New Barriers: A Study of Online Admissions under the Right to Education Act in Bangalore Urban Private Unaided Schools'</u> has been published by Max Weber Stiftung in their Education & the Urban in India, Working Paper Series. To view the paper on their website please visit <u>here</u>.

 CBPS GrOW book titled, 'Women's Education and Empowerment in Rural India' has been published by Social Science Press

<u>CBPS</u> GrOW book titled, 'Women's Education and Empowerment in Rural India' has been published by Social Science Press. This book was based on our study <u>Together We Can: Assessing the Impact of</u>

<u>Women's Action Groups on Social Change in India</u> funded by International Development Research Centre, Canada (IDRC).

The authors of the book are Jyotsna Jha, Neha Ghatak, Niveditha Menon, Priyanka Dutta, and Shreekanth Mahendiran.

This book explores the pathways and roadblocks to women's empowerment. The authors do this through evaluation-centered research on Mahila Samakhya in Bihar, a Government of India-funded program aimed at providing 'education for women's equality'.

The book also traces the meaning and the process of the various facets of empowerment as well. These include how women's empowerment influence their mobility; savings; participation in economic activities; self-efficacy; decision-making and political participation.

The empowerment of women goes beyond these and has an intergenerational impact as well as through the choices they are able to make, about their daughters' education and marriage; And still beyond these, once empowered, they are able to adjust to and negotiate with regard to the dominant social institutions such as the family, and policy processes and its outcomes.

This book raises some searching questions about the developmental implications of women's empowerment and social policy. This book will be of enormous value to policymakers, researchers, practitioner, and students especially those in the field of education, sociology and gender studies.

To view the e-book please visit here.

A few photographs of the book can be viewed here.

The book titled 'Open and Distance Learning in Secondary School Education in India –
 Potentials and Limitations' published by Routledge Taylor & Francis Group is out in the UK/
 US markets and in the South-Asian markets

The book titled 'Open and Distance Learning in Secondary School Education in India – Potentials and Limitations' published by Routledge Taylor & Francis Group is out for the UK/ US markets. It will be made available in the South-Asian markets soon. This book was based on our study <u>Open and Distance Learning as a Cost-effective Option for Secondary Level Schooling in India: Potential and Prerequisites funded by MacArthur Foundation.</u>

The authors of the book are Jyotsna Jha, Neha Ghatak, Puja Minni, Shobita Rajagopal and Shreekanth Mahendiran.

This book is the first systematic attempt to document the Open and Distance Learning (ODL)-based school education in India. It is based on large-scale empirical data collected from across the states, to study the equity, efficiency and effectiveness of the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). The volume brings out some nuanced theoretical framework for understanding school education provisions and seeks to generate policy discourse around delivery mechanisms and effectiveness of ODL.

The flyer of the book can be viewed here.

 A Paper titled, 'Normative development in rural India: 'school readiness' and early childhood care and education' has been published on Taylor & Francis Online on 13 February 2020

A Paper titled, 'Normative development in rural India: 'school readiness' and early childhood care and education' has been published on Taylor & Francis Online on 13 February 2020. The authors are Dr. Aarthi Sriprakash, Dr. R Maithreyi, Mr. Akash Kumar, Dr. Pallawi Sinha and Ms. Ketaki Prabha. The paper can be viewed at the Taylor & Francis Online website.

This paper is based on research undertaken for the project titled, <u>'Examining the contexts, practices</u> and costs of early childhood care and education in India: Responsive models for child <u>development'</u> funded by the British Academy.

 A paper written by Dr. Jyotsna Jha, Dr. Archana Purohit and Mr. Sharad Pandey has been published in the special edition of the British Academy Journal

A paper written by Dr. Jyotsna Jha, Dr. Archana Purohit and Mr. Sharad Pandey titled, 'Costs, costing principles and institutional framework for responsive early childhood care and education models in India: a proposition' has been published in the special edition of the British Academy Journal on 25 March 2020. It can be viewed <a href="https://example.com/here/beta/here/b

This article was posted to Journal of the British Academy, volume 8, supplementary issue 2 (<u>Early Childhood Development in the Global South</u>).

The abstract for the paper is -

Governments in developing countries rarely undertake detailed costing exercises for public service delivery, and policy choices are often made without this information. Costing norms for public services in India usually remain homogeneous without considering the local contexts, culture, practices or requirements of a diverse and highly populated country. Drawing on an ethnographic study and a cost analysis of seventeen early childhood care and education (ECCE) models covering private, public and non-profit sectors in India, this paper develops a costing framework for the planning and provisioning of public services. The main arguments in this paper are that (i) it is important to take quality parameters into account in estimating the economic costs of public service delivery, (ii) it would cost much more than the current level of public expenditure to cover all children through a responsive ECCE model, and (iii) public service delivery models need to use frameworks that allow flexible cost norms while following a set of principles and non-negotiable standards to ensure quality and enable accountability.

Media Coverage and popular articles

- <u>Dainik Jagran</u> published an article titled, 'हर काम का हो उचित मूल्यांकन ' written by Dr. Jyotsna Jha on 8 March 2020 on the occasion of International Women's Day 2020.
- <u>Prajavani</u> published an article titled, 'State Budget Analysis: Low priority and allocations for children' written by Mr. Madhusudhan B V Rao on 6 March 2020.
- <u>Pressenza (International Press Agency)</u> published an article titled, 'Convention on Women and Labour: Unseen Work, Unheard Stories' on 4 March 2020. It was published on the account of a Convention on Women and Labour held on 29 February 2020 organised by Gram Seva Sangh in collaboration with the Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (CBPS).

- The Week published an article titled, 'Women demand domestic work be factored into GDP' on 1 March 2020. It was published on the account of a Convention on Women and Labour held on 29 February 2020 organised by Gram Seva Sangh in collaboration with the Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (CBPS).
- <u>Prajavani</u> published an article titled, 'Women's financial status is still worrisome' on 1 March 2020. It was published on the account of a Convention on Women and Labour held on 29 February 2020 organised by Gram Seva Sangh in collaboration with the Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (CBPS).
- <u>Samyukta Karnataka</u> published an article titled, 'It's impossible to put a price on Women's Work' on 1 March 2020. It was published on the account of a Convention on Women and Labour held on 29 February 2020 organised by Gram Seva Sangh in collaboration with the Centre for Budget and Policy Studies (CBPS).
- The Times of India published an article titled, '40% of girls aged 15-18 not attending school: Report' on 25 January 2020. It was published on the account of International Day of Education and National Girl Child Day. On the occasion of International Day of Education this year, here is a <u>factsheet</u> titled, 'Status of School Education Financing In India' based on our research that argues for higher and better public investment in school education.
- Outlook published an article by Ms. Kushboo Sharma and Mr. Mahesh Choudhary titled, 'Understanding Jawaharlal Nehru in the era of propaganda and misinformation about him' on 13 November 2019.
- <u>Business Standard</u> published an article by Dr. Jyotsna Jha and Mr. Madhusudhan B V Rao titled, 'Can India's education budget fund increased spending in new policy?' on 10 September 2019.
- <u>IndiaSpend</u> published an article by Dr. Jyotsna Jha and Mr. Madhusudhan B V Rao titled, 'India's Education Budget Cannot Fund Proposed New Education Policy' on 10 September 2019.
- 'Child nutrition: Low spend leaves Karnataka in Lurch' was published in <u>Deccan Herald</u> on 30 August 2019. It was on account of the CBPS launch of the report on <u>Public Expenditure on Children in India Trends and Patterns</u>
- 'Karnataka is lacking in child nutrition' was published in <u>Bangalore Mirror</u> on 30 August 2019. It was on account of the CBPS launch of the report on <u>Public Expenditure on Children in India Trends and Patterns</u>
- 'Karnataka stands fourth in child development: Report' was published in <u>The Hindu</u> on 30
 August 2019 on account of the CBPS launch of the report on <u>Public Expenditure on Children</u>
 in India Trends and Patterns
- Dr. Niveditha Menon was asked for quotations by the <u>Times of India</u> for an article titled, 'UNPAID LABOUR: Experts want to quantify the value of work done by homemakers'. It was published on 7 July 2019.
- An article by Dr. Jyotsna Jha and Ms. Puja Minni has been published in <u>Prajavani</u> on 31 May 2019. It is on the Supreme Court Ruling on Aadhaar and Right to Education Admissions in Karnataka.

CBPS Website, Sub-Domain and Blog Pages

The CBPS website was revamped in December 2015. The link for it is www.cbps.in. Since then the number of visitors on the website as on August 2020 has reached 1, 63, 660.

CBPS also has a sub-domain for <u>GrOW (Growth and Economic Opportunities for Women)</u> for a project that has concluded titled 'Together We Can: Assessing the Impact of Women's Action Groups on Social Change in India' funded by International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada. The number of page views as on August 2020 is 18,546.

CBPS also has a blog solely dedicated for <u>secondary education</u> which was launched in March 2018. The blog is entirely dedicated to the discourse of secondary education and is funded by PSIPSE (Partnership to Strengthen Innovation and Practice in Secondary Education) and Mac Arthur Foundation. The idea of the blog was to provide a consolidated space to continuously engage with critical questions and debates on secondary education and education in a broader sense. Submissions for the blog are invited. The CBPS Secondary Education blog has 13 blog pieces which have been published as on August 2020.

CBPS on Social Media

We have received several likes and hits on our Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/CBPSBIr/) from a diverse number of individuals and organisations. The total likes on Facebook are 2857 as of August 2020.

We have received a large number of likes and re-tweets also on Twitter (https://twitter.com/CbpsBlr). On Twitter, CBPS has 242 followers and CBPS is following 329 institutions/ academicians/ researchers as of August 2020.

On YouTube, we have two different channels namely <u>CBPS Media</u> and <u>CBPS GrOW</u>. CBPS Media has 65 subscribers and CBPS GrOW has 65 subscribers as of August 2020.

On several occasions of conferences that we have organised, live-tweeting has been done to engage with our audiences and the public at large. Advance tweets have been written on Twitter to ensure publicity for the conferences. Indeed, the digital platforms is being increasingly utilised by CBPS to bring to public attention the issues that are being flagged but also to ensure that these issues remain active in the public consciousness.

4. Participation in workshops, seminars and lectures

Where we were invited to speak/ presented paper

 Jyotsna Jha attended and participated in the Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) Conference from 14 – 18 April 2019 in San Francisco

Jyotsna attended and participated in a peer-reviewed round-table on 16 April 2019. The session was titled, 'Evidence-based advocacy for girls' secondary education: how Malala fund partners advance local approaches to reach global goals'. She presented on 'Building an empowering mentoring model for girls and boys to strengthen secondary education in India'. For more details on the conference please visit here.

 Madhusudhan B V Rao was a panellist at the National Seminar on Child Budget and Programmes in Bihar: Current Practice and Future Direction on 6 May 2019

Madhusudhan B V Rao was a panellist at the National Seminar on Child Budget and Programmes in Bihar: Current Practice and Future Direction. It was held in Patna on 6 May 2019. It was organised by UNICEF India and ADRI.



Madhusudhan discussed the issues around public service delivery for children. The session was titled, 'Enhancing Public Service Delivery for Children'. The chairperson of the session was Mr. Dipak K Singh, Principal Secretary, Department of Labour Resources, GoB.

• Dr. Niveditha Menon spoke at Fields of View on 10 May 2019

Dr. Niveditha Menon spoke at Fields of View on 10 May 2019 on 'Unlearning Gender'. This talk explored fundamental questions on What is gender? Who is a feminist? Why bother?. The poster can be viewed here.

 Maithreyi R was a discussant at the One-day National Consultation on the Draft Report of National Education Policy on 20 June 2019

Maithreyi R was a discussant at the one-day National Consultation on the Draft Report of National Education Policy on 20 June 2019 organised by Centre for Child and Law, NLSIU in partnership with National Coalition for Education, New Delhi in cooperation with Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (KSCPCR), Bangalore and Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA), Bangalore.

The participants included members from civil society organisations, teachers, department representatives, School Development and Monitoring Committee members and the public at large. The discussion was based on the different aspects of the National Education Policy and focused mainly on school education.

Jyotsna Jha was invited to be a part of the 15th Finance Commission Consultation on 24 June 2019

Jyotsna Jha attended the 15th Finance Commission's Consultation with economists on 24 June 2019. The Finance Commissioner Chairman N K Singh and four other members were present at this consultation. The Commission held consultations with a wide range of experts in the area of public finance and other stakeholders. It was attended by selected invited economists from premier institutions of Bangalore.

 Madhusudhan B V Rao was a panellist at the National Consultation on Child Budgeting organised by NGC, LBSNAA and UNICEF on 24-26 June 2019 at Sardar Patel Hall (SPH), Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie

Madhusudhan B V Rao was a panellist at the National Consultation on Child Budgeting organised by National Gender Centre (NGC), Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) and UNICEF on 24-26 June 2019 at Sardar Patel Hall (SPH), LBSNAA, Mussoorie. The other panellists at the session were Sumita Dawra (UNICEF India) and Avani Kapur (Accountability Initiative). The session was a technical session and was titled, 'Public Investments on Children in India'. Madhusudhan B V Rao, along with Sumita Dawra, UNICEF, Governance Specialist presented the findings of the study on <u>Public Finance for Children (PF4C) in 16 states of India</u> which was received well from the participants (officers from states) across the country.

The objectives of the workshop were to (i) Review and analysis of current status of public finance for children and child budgeting in India; (ii) Updating Ministries on the new additions to Statement 12 in the Budget Circular 2019-20 of Ministry of Finance; child budget analysis as a tool for child welfare and fulfilling relevant SDGs for children; the need to make provision for proper allocations for welfare of children; (iii) Building consensus on way forward for facilitating budget allocations and tracking expenditures on child related schemes and programmes at the Union and state level (also at local government level in subsequent years) and related outcomes for children in India, in an institutionalized manner.

Jyotsna Jha was a panellist at a session titled 'Budget 2019-20: Implications for the Future –
 A focus on long term issues' at Bangalore International Centre on 11 July 2019

Jyotsna Jha was a panellist at a session titled Budget 2019-20: Implications for the Future – A focus on long term issues on 11 July 2019 at Bangalore International Centre. The panel comprised of Professor Chandrakanth M G who spoke on Agriculture and Environment, Professor Gita Sen who spoke on Healthcare, Dr. Jyotsna Jha who spoke on Education and Gender and Narayan Ramachandran who addressed Public Finance, Trade, Tax and Capital Markets and moderated the session. More details on the session can be viewed here.

 Jyotsna was a panellist at the Faculty Workshop held by Jindal School of Government and Public Policy (JSGP) on 29 July 2019

Dr. Jyotsna Jha was a panellist at the Faculty Workshop held by Jindal School of Government and Public Policy (JSGP) on 29 July 2019. The panel discussion was on How to Teach and Do Public Policy.



The other panellists on that session were Prof. Madhushree Sekhar (TISS, Mumbai) and Mr. D Dhanuraj (Chairman, Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR), Kochi). The moderator of the session was Prof. Swagato Sarkar (JGSP).

 CBPS had a track session on 'Public Expenditure Review of Health and Education in Select States' at the XIV CPP Conference (2019), IIMB

The track session was held on was held on 22 August 2019 at 3.45 p.m. to 5 p.m.



Dr. Gayathri Raghuraman presented on Public Expenditure Review of Health in Maharashtra and Rajasthan, Dr. Archana Purohit presented on Public Expenditure Review of Education of Six Indian States and Mr. Madhusudhan B V Rao presented on Trends, Patterns and Processes: An Analysis of Public Expenditure for Secondary Education in Tamil Nadu. Dr. Jyotsna Jha chaired this session. The XIV CPP Conference Schedule (2019), IIMB can be viewed <a href="https://example.com/health/per-public-

 CBPS Book Launch: 'Women's Education and Empowerment in Rural India' was organised at the XIV International Conference on Public Policy and Management at IIMB on 24 August 2019

As reported earlier, a book titled, 'Women's Education and Empowerment in Rural India' was published by Social Science Press/ Taylor and Francis. This book was written based on our study 'Together We Can: Assessing the Impact of Women's Action Groups on Social Change in India' funded by International Development Research Centre, Canada (IDRC).

This book was launched by Dr. Shobha Raghuram, Ms. Uma Mahadevan, Dr. Jyotsna Jha, Dr. Niveditha Menon and Ms. Neha Ghatak.

The book launch was organised on 24 August 2019 at the XIV CPP Conference Schedule (2019), IIMB. The invite for the book launch can be viewed here. The XIV CPP Conference Schedule (2019), IIMB can be viewed here.

Dr. Shobha Raghuram and Ms. Uma Mahadevan were also the discussants of the session.



 Dr. Jyotsna Jha and Dr. Maithreyi R were panellists at the UKFIET International Conference on Education and Development on 17-19 September 2019 at Oxford, UK

Dr. Jyotsna Jha and Dr. Maithreyi R were panellists at the UKFIET International Conference on Education and Development on 17-19 September 2019 at Oxford, UK. This panel was organised with the support of the British Academy, through the CBPS — University of Cambridge joint research project, titled 'Examining the contexts, practices and costs of Early Childhood Care and Education in India: Responsive models for child development'.

The title of the symposium was 'Developing Responsive Models of Early Childhood Care and Education: critical debates and key issues'. The symposium brought together minds from varied disciplines to debate key issues facing Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) in the global south, as there has been a growing emphasis globally on institutional provisioning of ECCE. With a focus on

research and policy in India, the researchers presented some of the key issues that they have been addressing in their work.

Dr. Jyotsna Jha spoke on, 'Regulation, accountability, and the question of cost in ECCE systems' and Dr. Maithreyi R spoke on, 'Child development norms, contested constructs of 'childhood', and the downward extension of schooling into ECCE'. The other panellists were Dr. Arathi Sriprakash, University of Cambridge, Dr. Wilma Wadhwa, Director, ASER Centre and Dr. Ben Alcott, University of Cambridge.

Dr. Jyotsna Jha delivered a talk at TIFR, Hyderabad on 15 October 2019

Dr. Jyotsna Jha delivered a talk at TIFR, Hyderabad on 15 October 2019 at 4 p.m. The title of the talk was 'Women's empowerment through public policy: A mirage, a distant dream or a reality?'. It was a presentation based on an evaluative study of Mahila Samkhya (MS), a State funded programme for women's education and empowerment.

Mahila Samkhya (MS) is perhaps the only State funded programme that was largely based on feminist theory and located within State machinery, implemented in 11 Indian states. Based on an evaluation following cross-sectional analyses (using both quantitative and ethnographic work) of the effects and processes of MS in three districts of Bihar that implemented the programme for varying number of years at the time of its closure in 2016, we have explored the issue of women's empowerment and its different dimensions in our recently published book titled: Women's Education and Empowerment in Rural India. We argue that (i) empowerment is an indivisible concept; for instance, economic empowerment cannot be achieved without addressing all other aspects of subordination and power, (ii) the process of empowerment is a long process of social change and can be non-linear, and therefore it is important to design the policy accordingly, and (iii) the process of empowerment can be sustained only through application of clear principles across all aspects of a programme, including protection of rights and entitlements of those implementing it.

Madhusudhan Rao B.V. attended the Review Meeting on Child Budgeting for Odisha on 11 and 12 of November 2019

Madhusudhan Rao B.V. attended the Review Meeting on Child Budgeting in Odisha held by UNICEF with Centre for Excellence in Finance and Taxation (CEFT), Xavier Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar. This was to provide the inputs for refining the child budget document in Odisha. The public finance for children study was presented to the audience along with the Odisha state picture.

The round table also discussed the capacity building programme module, outcome budget document and Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) for planning and tracking. Members of CEFT, UNICEF, state finance department participated in the review meeting.

Dr. Jyotsna Jha attended and presented at the Scoping Workshop the issue of Child Labour on 13-14 November 2019 organised by UNICEF Innocenti (Florence)

Dr. Jyotsna Jha attended and presented at the UNICEF Inception Scoping Workshop titled, 'Evidence on Educational Strategies to address Child labour in India and Bangladesh' on 13-14 November 2019 in New Delhi.

Jyotsna presented on 14 November 2019. The title of her presentation was, 'Work and Schooling: Landscaping educational strategies to address child labour in India'. The session was titled, 'Educational strategies to address child labour'. The other panellist of this session was Samir Ranjan Nath, BRAC Institute for Education and Development (BIED). The chair of the session was Subir Shukla, Education Consultant and Policy Advisor.



The objective of the workshop was to establish current evidence and inform future direction for their research on educational strategies to address child labour in India and Bangladesh.

• Dr. Jyotsna Jha attended and participated in the Gulmakai Network Regional Convening at Doha, Qatar on 18-19 November 2019

The Gulmakai Network's Afghanistan, India and Pakistan Chapters and three Nigerian Champions convened alongside the 2019 WISE Summit in Doha, Qatar. Malala Fund hosted the Regional Convening from 18-19 November 2019. The GI champions also attended the WISE Summit that was held from 20-21 November 2019 in Doha.



The <u>World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE)</u> is a multi-sectoral platform offering the global education community a unique opportunity to meet, share experiences, build new partnerships and identify concrete innovative practices to address education challenges. This year's WISE summit theme was titled, "UnLearn, ReLearn: What it means to be Human" and it focused on the need to unlearn and relearn the skills and knowledge that allows us to thrive as individuals and societies. This extended to the way we teach, the way we learn, and how knowledge is shared. About 3000 researchers and practitioners from a large number of countries across the globe attended the summit and exchanged the ideas.

 Niveditha Menon was invited as a moderator at the conference titled 'Closing the Gender Gap: Health, Education and Economic Opportunities' jointly organised by IGC, GRC, Women Development Corporation, Government of Bihar, C3 and ADRI on 6 – 7 December 2019

Niveditha Menon was invited as a moderator at the conference titled 'Closing the Gender Gap: Health, Education and Economic Opportunities'. It was organised in collaboration with the International Growth Centre of London School of Economics, Asian Development Research Institute (ADRI), Gender Resource Centre (GRC), Women Development Corporation, Government of Bihar and Centre for Catalyzing Change (C3) on 6 – 7 December 2019 in Patna, Bihar. The inaugural session was chaired by Shri Sushil Kumar Modi, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Bihar and was moderated by Pronab Sen, Country Director, International Growth Centre.

Niveditha moderated the panel discussion titled 'Women's Economic Empowerment: Constraints and Solutions' held on 6 December 2019. This panel was chaired by N. Vijaya Lakshmi (IAS) (Managing Director, Women Development Corporation, Government of Bihar).

The panellists in this session were Girija Borker (Economist, World Bank), Jonathan Phillips (Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of São Paulo), Tanushree Goyal (Researcher, Nuffield College, University of Oxford), Sheetal Sekhri (Associate Professor of Economics, University of Virginia), Shubha

Chakravarty (Senior Economist, World Bank), and Tarun Jain (Associate Professor of Economics, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad). A brief description about the panel discussion and key points made during the panel can be found here.

 Dr. Jyotsna Jha was a Resource Person at the Workshop, 'Leave No Boy Behind – Technical Consultation on boys' disengagement from education' held in Paris on 4 – 6 December 2019 organised by UNESCO

Dr. Jyotsna Jha was a Resource Person at the workshop, 'Leave No Boy Behind – Technical Consultation on boys' disengagement from education' held in Paris on 4 – 6 December 2019 organised by UNESCO. Her presentation was titled, 'Leave no boy behind: Study framework and methodology' on 4 December 2019.

On 6 December 2019, Jyotsna presented the analytical framework and on the same day, she also moderated a session along with Justine Sass (UNESCO) titled, 'Paving the way forward'.



CBPS was the technical research partner for designing the study and reviewing the reports for this multi-country study funded by UNESCO.

 Dr. Jyotsna Jha was a panellist at the Discussion on LABOUR AND YOU organised by Gram Seva Sangh (as a part of their Sacred Economy Campaign) in collaboration with the Department of Media Studies on 25 January 2020 at Christ (Deemed to be University) Bangalore Central Campus

Dr. Jyotsna Jha was a panellist at the Discussion on LABOUR AND YOU organised by Gram Seva Sangh (as a part of their Sacred Economy Campaign) in collaboration with the Department of Media Studies on 25 January 2020. It was held at Christ (Deemed to be University) Bangalore Central Campus from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.



The other panellists at the discussion were Mr. Prasanna Heggodu (Gandhian), Prof. Rajalaxmi Kamath (Centre for Public Policy, IIMB), Dr. Prakash (Informal Sector Expert) and Ms. Supriya Rangarajan (Student, MA in Applied Economics).

 Madhusudhan B V Rao was an invited panellist at the Budget in Context: Myths and Realities organised by Bengaluru Collective, Centre for Social Concern, Ashirvad and St. Joseph's College on 16 February 2020

Madhusudhan B V Rao was an invited panellist on public health at the Budget in Context: Myths and Realities – A Public Discussion Demystifying Union Budget 2020. It was organised by Bengaluru Collective, Centre for Social Concern, Ashirvad and St. Joseph's College and was held on 16 February 2020. The keynote lecture was delivered by Professor Venkatesh Athreya (Economist).



There were several other invited speakers from different sectors namely, political economy of growth, education, agriculture and rural development, public sector units and industries and distressing data or data in distress: the politics of information. The poster for the conference can be viewed here.

Jyotsna Jha was invited as a panellist at the Tata Trusts' Women's Day Event – The Force Beyond on 12 March 2020 in Mumbai

Jyotsna Jha was invited as a panellist at the Tata Trusts' Women's Day Event – The Force Beyond on 12 March 2020 in Mumbai. The Force Beyond is a philanthropic effort by the Tata Trusts to encourage a gender equal world. The keynote address was delivered by Eric Falt (Director and UNESCO Representative, New Delhi).

The first panel where Jyotsna was a panellist was titled, 'Changing the gender paradigm in the Hinterland through economic empowerment'. The other panellists in that session were Abhijit Das (Director, Centre for Health and Social Justice), Nidhi Bansal (Senior Director, Program Operations, Quality and Learning, CARE) and Safeena Husain (Founder and Executive Director, Educate Girls). The moderator of the session was Amrita Patwardhan (Zonal Head North, Tata Trusts).



The moderators for the other panels were Anil Dharker (Journalist, Writer, Founder & Director of the Mumbai International Literary Festival & Literature Live!), Shireen Vakil (Head Policy & Advocacy, Tata Trusts).

The other panellists were Feroz Abbas Khan (Theatre and Film Director), Swati Bhattacharya (Chief Creative Officer, FCB ULKA), Anand Narasimhan (Anchor & Executive Editor, Network 18), Ranjana Kumari (Director, Centre for Social Research & Chairperson of Women Power Connect), Anju Gupta (Addl. Director General, Women Power Line, 1090, UP), Justice (Retd.) B.N. Srikrishna, D. Sivanandan (Ex- DGP, Maharashtra) and Renu Mishra (Executive Director, Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives (AALI)).

There was a spotlight session hosted by Divyang Waghela (Head, Tata Water Mission & Mission Garima).

The concluding remarks were delivered by Shilpi Ghosh (Brand & Marketing Communications, Tata Trusts).

The agenda for this conference can be viewed <u>here</u>.

Where we participated

Apurva K H attended and presented at the Roma Tre University on Estimating the Multiplier
 Effect of Social Sector Expenditure using Input-Output Table held in Rome, Italy

Apurva K H attended and presented at the Roma Tre University on <u>Estimating the Multiplier Effect of Social Sector Expenditure</u> using Input-Output Table held in Rome, Italy. It was organised by the Centro Sraffa Summer School from 5-13 July 2019.

The Summer School covered a range of themes within heterodox economics with a main focus on the idea of social surplus and the related debates like Capital theory along with few INET lectures and seminars. The presentations were multi themed ranging from interpreting Sraffa through Marx, efficacy of unconventional monetary policy, Gibson Paradox, Neo-Kaleckian Models and Household credit as a source of final demand components. Apurva presented the above-mentioned paper on 5 July 2019.

The Summer School largely held lectures by professors of Roma Tre University but also had distinguished lectures and seminars by professors from University of Sienna, Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance, Catholic University of Milan, The New School for Social Research and La Sapienza University of Rome.

 Achala S Yareseeme attended and presented at the Young Scholars Initiative – Asia Convening on Estimating the Multiplier Effect of Social Sector Expenditure using Input-Output Table held at Vietnam National University in Hanoi, Vietnam from 12 – 15 August 2019

Achala S Yareseeme attended and presented at the Young Scholars Initiative (YSI) – Asia Convening on Estimating the Multiplier Effect of Social Sector Expenditure using Input-Output Table held at Vietnam National University in Hanoi, Vietnam from 12 – 15 August 2019.

The Asia Convention held more than 150 presentations under 17 different working groups including groups on Africa, Complexity, Cooperatives, Development, East Asia, Economic History, Finance, Law and Economics, Financial Stability, Gender and Economics, Inequality, Innovation, Keynesian Economics, South Asia, States and Markets, Sustainability, Urban and Regional Economics, Gender and East Asia, and History of Economic Thought.

She was a part of the Keynesian Economics working group which had insightful discussions on how the Keynesian framework can help us to deal with the current recession prevailing in most of the economies. Some of the other topics presented in this working group included Demand-Led Growth And Intersectoral Capital Mobility In A Land-Constrained Economy, The Export Induced Investment-Led Growth Process in India, Examining The Sustainability of Current Account Deficit in India: Evidence From Asymmetric Error Correction Mechanism with Threshold Cointegration, The Keynesian Solution for Economic Stagnation, Poverty and Unemployment: the Case of Iran, Will the Current Fiscal

Tightening Policies Improve Sri Lanka's Public Debt Position? The working groups also discussed ideas for future collaboration, which could be turned into YSI workshops and webinars.

There were also some keynote speakers including Jayati Ghosh, Katharina Pistor, Danny Quah, Naomi Klein (via Skype) and Andrew Sheng who gave insightful takes into the current state and future of Asian economies and its placement in the global scenario.

 Apurva K H attended the Second Advanced Workshop in Macroeconomics on 'Money and the Economy' held at Azim Premji University on 16 – 17 August 2019

Apurva K H attended the Second Workshop on Advanced Macroeconomics conducted by Azim Premji University on specific macro-theme, 'Money and the Economy' on 16-17 August 2019. The workshop discussed nature, functions and forms of money alongside the significance and the limitations of monetary policies in the Indian context where the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) is in place and fiscal discipline is considered sanctity. A narrative history of Indian Monetary Policy was unfolded and adding to that an insider from RBI provided underlying process involved in making Indian Monetary Policy within Inflation Targeting (IT) framework. The space was also open to underscore the importance of how people (In this context, informal female laborers) understand or sense-make of digital money in North India. Further, it discussed the meaning of debt and money from the anthropological perspective. It gave a multidisciplinary understanding of money.

The workshop held lectures by Ashima Goyal (Professor, IGIDR), Niranjan Rajadhyaksha (IDFC Institute), Devasmita Jena (RBI Research Officer), Jillet Sam (IIT Kanpur), Anush Kapadia (City Univeristy, London), Arjun Jayadev (Professor, APU), Avinash M Tripathi (Takshashila), and Rohan Chinchwadkar (IIT Bombay).

 Ketaki and Arun participated and presented at a conference on 'Childhood, Youth and Identity in South Asia' organised by Shiv Nadar University, Noida on 6-7 January 2020

Ketaki and Arun participated and presented at a conference on 'Childhood, Youth and Identity in South Asia' organised by Shiv Nadar University, Noida on 6-7 January 2020. Ketaki presented a paper titled, 'Developmental subjects or aspirational agents? Centering student voices in skill-based education' and Arun presented a paper titled, 'Contesting state's developmental agendas through early childhood care and education: A case study of Adivasi communities from the Nilgiris'.

5. Partnerships, Board and Team

Partnerships

Our partners who have supported CBPS with grants both presently as well as in the past for carrying out various research projects during the year were:

Research Partners

- University of Cambridge, UK
- Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

Funding Partners

- Government of Karnataka
- Malala Fund
- American Jewish World Service
- UNICEF (New Delhi)
- Child Rights and You (CRY)
- UNICEF (Hyderabad Office)
- International Development research Centre (IDRC)
- Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST)
- British Academy
- Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)
- The World Bank (New Delhi)
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

Memorandums of Understanding (MOU)

CBPS has signed separate Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Fiscal Policy Institute, Bangalore and Azim Premji University, Bangalore for collaboration in research and academic work.

Board Meetings

The CBPS Governing Board met five times during the year. An Annual General Meeting was held in September 2019 to approve the Annual Report and Audited Accounts. The following are the particulars given below:

- 79th meeting on 9th April 2019
- 80th meeting on 11th June 2019
- 81st meeting on 28th August 2019
- 82nd meeting on 25th November 2019 (Prof. Vinod Vyasulu was elected as President in this meeting)
- 83rd meeting on 16th March 2020

The composition of the Board can be seen here.

The composition of the CBPS Society can be seen here.

CBPS Quarterly Intimation of FCRA Funds

As per FCRA Guidelines, CBPS Quarterly Intimation of FCRA Funds are uploaded on the website and can be viewed here.

CBPS Team

The CBPS team expanded to hire new staff to work on new as well as old projects. The team is strengthened now with the presence of three Senior Research Advisors, each one with about 15 years of research experience. The details are here:

| SI. | | | | Overall Work Experience (in |
|-----|---------------------------|-------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| | Name | Designation | Educational Qualifications | years) |
| 1 | Jyotsna Jha | Director | Ph. D in Economics of Education (JNU, New Delhi) M.Phil in Economics of Education (JNU, New Delhi) M.A. Economics | 31 |
| - | Jyotsiia Jiia | Director | 1. M.A. Economics | |
| 2 | Srinivas Kumar Alamuru | Senior Research Advisor | 2. Indian Audit & Accounts | |
| 3 | Niveditha Menon | Senior Research Advisor | 1. Doctorate and Master's from Penn State University in Sociology and Demography with a Minor in Women's Studies. 2. Bachelor's Degrees are in Psychology from Rutgers University and in Commerce from St. Francis | |
| 3 | Wellon | Semon Research May 1301 | Ph. D in Public Policy from Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) Ph. D in Public Policy from Indian Institute of Management from Institute of Institute of Institute of Institute Institut | |
| 4 | Archana Purohit | Senior Research Advisor | Rural Management Anand (IRMA) | 10 |
| 5 | Madhusudhan B V Rao | Senior Research Advisor | Masters in Agricultural Economics, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore | |
| 6 | Sridhar Prasad | Research Advisor | Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, USA | |
| 7 | Neha Ghatak | Research Advisor | Master's of Arts in Sociology, University of Delhi Bachelors of Arts (Honours), Sociology, University of Delhi | 9 |

| | Achala | | 1. M.Sc. Financial Economics, | |
|----|------------------------|--|---|-----|
| 8 | Yareseeme | Research Advisor | Madras School of Economics | 6.4 |
| 9 | Syed Mazahir Husain | Senior Research Associate | M.A. Social Work in Public Health, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai B.A. (Hons) Social Work, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi | |
| 10 | Sowmya J | Research Associate | Master's in Economics, St. Joseph's Autonomous College, Bangalore | |
| 11 | Apurva K H | Research Associate | Master's in Economics, Hyderabad Central University; Master's in Applied Economics from Center for Development Studies, Trivandrum | 4 |
| 12 | Summaiya Khan | Research Associate (Communications) | Master's in Political Science from St. Joseph's College, Bangalore | |
| 13 | Susmitha M V | Research Assistant | 1. MA in Public Policy and Governance, Azim Premji University, Bangalore | 2 |
| 14 | Vivek P Nair | Research Assistant | 1. Master's in Social Work from St: Joseph's College, Autonomous, Bangalore | 1.1 |
| 15 | Shiboni Sundar | Research Assistant | 1. Master's in Economics from Symbiosis School of Economics, Pune | 1 |
| 16 | Rashmi Jain | Research Assistant | 1. Master's in Economics, Christ University | 3.2 |
| 17 | Joan Shilpa Kiran | Research Assistant | Masters in Regulatory Governance, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai | 0.8 |
| 18 | Thyagarajan R | Administrative and Liaison Officer | Bachelor's in Commerce, Bangalore University | 30 |
| 19 | Usha P V | Finance and Accounts Officer | Ongoing correspondence course in Bachelor of Commerce, IGNOU | 29 |
| 20 | Mrinalika R Pandit | Information Manager | Masters and Bachelor's in Commerce from the University of Bangalore (Specialization in Marketing and Finance); Certified Human Resource Management Professional (C.H.R.M.P). | 8.5 |
| 21 | Vanaja S | Administrative cum Accounts Assistant | Job-oriented Diploma Course (Tailoring) | 25 |

| 22 | Ramesh K. A. | Office Assistant | 1. Schooling | 15 | | |
|-------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|-----|--|--|
| | | | | | | |
| Cons | Consultants | | | | | |
| | Gayathri | | M.B.B.S, MGM Medical College, Mumbai; Master's in Public Health, University of Massachusetts | | | |
| 23 | Raghuraman | Public Health Consultant | Amherst | 7.4 | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Proje | ect Field Officers i | n Bihar | | | | |
| 24 | Paniosta Sinha | Project Field Officer in | | | | |
| 24 | Ranjeeta Sinha | Bihar | Application | 16 | | |
| 25 | Dheeraj Kumar | Project Field Officer in Bihar | 1. Bachelor of Commerce, Patna University | 3 | | |

^{*} This is the CBPS Team as on 24 August 2020.

Interns at CBPS

Every year, CBPS advertises for inviting applications for internships from post graduate students - preferably those who have finished their first year of Master's Program. During the time period of April 2019 to March 2020, CBPS took interns from St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Bangalore, National Law School of India University, Azim Premji University, Bangalore, among others. A large number apply and the selection process is rigorous.



☐☐ Centre for Budget☐☐ and Policy Studies

#4, Maitri Bhavan,
M. N. Krishna Rao Road,
Basavangudi, Bangalore – 560004
India
www.cbps.in