COUNCIL FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
New Delhi, www.csdindia.org
1. ABOUT CSD

For over five decades, the **Council for Social Development (CSD)** has functioned as a non-profit, non-partisan, vibrant research and advocacy institution engaged in issues of social development, especially the welfare of the marginalised. CSD began its journey as an informal study group at India International Centre in 1962 by a few prominent social workers and social scientists, under the leadership of the legendary freedom fighter and social worker Durgabai Deshmukh. It was registered as a society in 1970 with C.D. Deshmukh as President and Durgabai Deshmukh as Executive Chairperson and Honorary Director. Presently, the distinguished diplomat and educationist, Prof. Muchkund Dubey is President and Prof. Manoranjan Mohanty, Political Scientist and China scholar, is Vice President of CSD. A Southern Regional Centre (SRC) of CSD was set up in Hyderabad in 1967 by Durgabai Deshmukh which is currently funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and the government of Telengana. The SRC is governed by a managing committee of its own and presently, the eminent scientist, Dr Pushpa Mitra Bhargava, is its Chairperson. Eminent educationists and representatives of public institutions constitute the CSD society which guides its programmes.

2. VISION

CSD's vision is the attainment of the goal of “Antyodaya” or “wiping every tear from every eye” set before the nation by Mahatma Gandhi. Towards the achievement of this vision, CSD focuses itself on the problems and aspirations of the poorest, deprived and marginalised sections of the population. CSD constantly renews the vision of its founders with fresh and innovative elements in its agenda for research and social action.
3. PROGRAMMES

Through its programmes of research, seminars, publications, capacity-building and other initiatives CSD actively participates in policy discourses on social development in India. It pursues its vision by undertaking studies and advocacy activities in key areas such as development education, health, rural development, governance, human rights and social justice. Its pioneering efforts have helped shape planning, policy and programme implementation and foster critical ideas, approaches and strategies designed to bring about social change.

3.1 RESEARCH

CSD has made its mark as a leading social science research institution working in the area of social development with a focus on education, health and nutrition, rural development, poverty, gender and social discrimination and deprivation, especially with reference to the marginalised communities. Many of its research projects have been funded by various national and international agencies such as UNICEF, Oxfam, UNDP, World Bank, Ford Foundation, ICSSR, NABARD, erstwhile Planning Commission, IDRC, MoRD, MHRD, MOTA, MoA and various state governmental departments.

3.2 PUBLICATIONS

Social Development Report

*India: Social Development Report* is one of the flagship publications of CSD, brought out bi-annually by the Oxford University Press. The Report gives a picture of the social conditions prevailing in the country at the time of its publication and contains a number of well-researched, particularly empirical, papers on the specialized themes constituting the focus of the Report. In addition, the Report carries a chapter ranking States on the basis of a Social Development Index developed by the Council. The special themes covered by the Report so far have been *Child Development in India (2006)*,

Social Change

Social Change is a quarterly journal brought out by CSD since 1971 and has been published by Sage since 2010. A multi-disciplinary journal with a wide-ranging readership in India and abroad, it publishes empirically grounded, analytical papers, theoretical essays and policy discussions related to the field of social change and development. It occasionally publishes special issues. Some of the themes covered in special issues lately are Urban Growth and Exclusion of the Poor, Universal Health Care, Clinical Legal Education, Women and Education, Displacement and Rehabilitation.

The Council has decided to publish a peer reviewed social science journal in Hindi. The aim of it is to contribute to the on-going processes of social change through an in-depth study of society and human-social relations. It will play an interventionist role in creating and disseminating such knowledge in Hindi. It aims at producing original theoretical articles, empirical research articles and commentaries.

3.3 TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The Council for Social Development carries out every year a number of training courses and workshops designed to enhance the capacity of the participants in these programmes to have a better understanding of social development problems and challenges, learn methodology for carrying out research on social issues through the survey method and other modern techniques. Participants in these training courses and workshops are drawn from researchers in universities and independent think tanks, policy makers and non-governmental organizations.

Training on Research Methodology, conducted every year, has some unique features. The programme aims at helping young social scientists and professionals. It not only has the usual components in
university courses on methods and updated techniques, including new software packages, of field research and data analysis, it also provides a hands-on exercise in the stages of research project guided by experienced scholars and policy makers.

**Training on Resettlement and Rehabilitation** is held annually to familiarize participants with newer, more effective ways of managing the emerging resettlement challenges. It is designed keeping in view the changing training needs of resettlement practitioners including the senior/middle level government personnel, officials, industry managers, NGO's representative, academics, and also those working on internationally funded projects.

### 3.4 SEMINARS / WORKSHOPS / LECTURES

CSD regularly organises seminars, workshops and conferences on contemporary issues and subjects of social relevance. Some of the recent events have covered subjects like National Food Security Act; Challenges of Land Governance in India; Consultation on Disabilities Legislation; Agrarian Crisis in India; and Transforming the Global Economic and Political Order, Private Sector Participation in Public Services; the Bandung Legacy and the Global Future, Social Development in India; Sustainable Development Goals and Social Development Issues and Democracy and Minority Rights.

**Durgabai Deshmukh Memorial Lecture**

One of the CSD's annual signature events is the **Durgabai Deshmukh Memorial Lecture**. The lecture is held every year on 15th July, the birthday of Durgabai Deshmukh, and is delivered by an eminent expert or renowned personality on any subject of his/her choice relating to social development. Some of the eminent experts who delivered the lectures in recent years were Devaki Jain, Randhir Singh, Medha Patkar, Aruna Roy, S.K. Thorat, Narendra Jadhav, Najeeb Jung, N.C. Saxena, Abhijit Sen, Flavia Agnes and P. Sainath. A collection of these lectures from 1992 to 2010 was published in the form of a book under the title: *Towards Just and Equitable Development*.
3.5 ADVOCACY

Social Development Forum

As part of its advocacy efforts to promote and highlight issues of critical concern, CSD organises a Social Development Forum which provides a regular platform that seeks to bring together leading academicians, activists, policy makers, planners and other renowned figures from the social sector to discuss and debate contemporary social, political and economic issues.

Right to Education Forum

CSD also houses the Right to Education Forum (RTE Forum), a collective platform of national education networks, teacher's unions, peoples' movements and prominent educationists with a combined strength of 10,000 NGOs across 19 states in India. The Forum has been working towards building a people's movement to achieve the goal of universal, equitable and quality education through the implementation of the Right to Education Act, 2009, in its true letter and spirit emphasising the need for a strong public system of education, funded by the state.

4. LIBRARY

CSD's Amar Kumar Singh Library has a collection of over 10000 (ten thousand) books in Social Sciences and Humanities and is stacked subject-wise. It subscribes to 33 journals and periodicals, 17 daily newspapers and to JSTOR.

The library is automated using the software, LIBMAN and has its own Local Area Network (LAN). The library is an Institutional member of DELNET and NASSDOC and a Corporate Member of the Central Secretariat Library, New Delhi.
5. ORGANIZATION

General Body
Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President
Prof. Manoranjan Mohanty, Vice-President
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Dr. P. M. Bhargava, Life Member
Dr. Shantha Sinha, Life Member
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