



CPPR
ANNUAL REPORT
2020-21
APRIL-MARCH

Centre for Public Policy Research

Independent. In-depth. Insightful

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) is an independent, not for profit, public policy think-tank dedicated to in-depth research and scientific analysis with the objective of delivering actionable ideas that could transform society.

Based out of Kochi, in the Indian state of Kerala, our engagement in public policy that began in 2004 has initiated open dialogue, policy changes and institutional transformation in the areas of Economy, Cities & Infrastructure, Education, Health, Livelihood, Governance, Law, Election studies, International Relations, and Defence & Security studies.

Mission

CPPR's mission is to conduct and promote high-quality evidence-based research and training; provide government bodies, private organisations and academic institutions with practical and innovative recommendations; and influence decision-making.

Vision

CPPR aims to be a thought leader which is able to design and execute practical strategies that lead to changes in public policy and governance. The Centre is dedicated to the principles of liberal thought, democracy, rule of law and economic freedom with a focus on equity, efficiency and effectiveness.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



As we look back and reflect, the year 2020-21 has been exceptional in our personal and professional lives. As the world fought with COVID-19 (the fight is still on), CPPR and the team were tested for their resilience, commitment, and responsibilities. In 2019-20, we had a series of workshops regarding disaster management in Kerala. We even came up with a handbook, and I do not think that anyone would have thought that a global pandemic was about to hit us. The team has been resilient and supportive in facing the challenges while their commitments and responsibilities were focused and prioritised. More than 50 articles providing insights to COVID-19 as India went into a lockdown from May to July 2020 exemplifies CPPR's resolve to share relevant and factual information collated from around the world. Later, studies to understand the Kerala model of crisis management and a comparative analysis of the same with that of the province of Hubei were successfully accomplished by our team. This knowledge and assessment reports were shared with the stakeholders concerned to help them in better policy-making concerning COVID-19.

In the year 2020-21 scholars and experts who command respect and admiration in their respective fields joined CPPR as Advisors and Fellows enhancing the positioning of CPPR in the think tank circuit. As much as this strengthens the expertise in CPPR, our young emerging scholars would also be benefitted by the mentoring offered by these experts, enabling CPPR to grow to greater heights in the coming years.

A renewed and revitalised CPPR Academy was a major accomplishment of the year 2020-21. Though the Academy has been functional for many years, we started offering online courses this year which received a very encouraging response. I am sure CPPR Academy shall offer many more courses and further strengthen the team with the induction of the senior faculty members making the task cut out for realising the strategic vision of CPPR. CPPR academy is envisioned to become the leading training institute offering courses in public policy, leadership management and civic education.

As the pandemic disrupted and hit everyday life around us, the CPPR team strategically used online platforms to continue our work and engagements. The team was very supportive and took ownership of the 'Work from Home' arrangement. This has also opened up opportunities to connect with experts and peers globally. The #CPPRWebinar series has become the norm of the events organised. CPPR held discussions on topical issues and relevant public policy topics where every event featured subject experts and influencers. This has set a tempo for the coming years. The year's assessment shows that online platforms bring unprecedented opportunity to scale up our operations and engage with the academia, think tanks, and international institutions more coherently and cohesively.

Even during the crisis, we could navigate and execute research projects without fail. Our funders and partners were accommodating and supportive enough. However, some plans could not take off due to lockdowns and restrictions in mobility. Yet, we had a decent year that maximised our productivity amid the global pandemic. I take this opportunity to thank our funders, partners and well-wishers for their support and understanding. I am also highly thankful to all the advisors and senior fellows for their candid opinions, guidance, and mentoring. The media played a significant role in featuring CPPR consistently and picking the brains of our researchers, thus giving them healthy challenges. Finally, the dedication, commitment, and loyalty of the team and the interns make CPPR a great place to work. I salute all of them for their passion, energy and quest to take CPPR to greater heights.

With Regards,

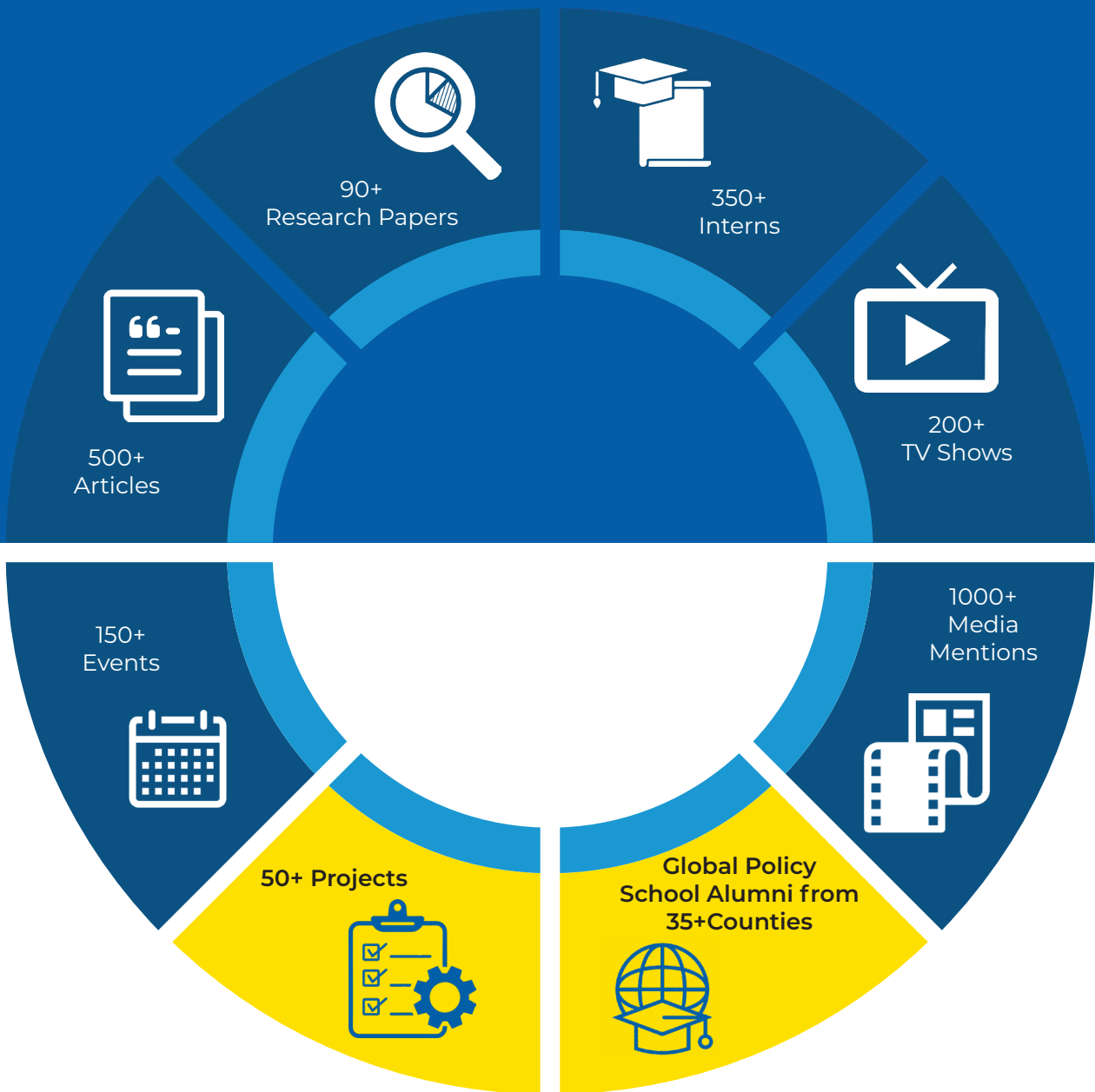
Dhanuraj D

CPPR NOW

Ranked among the **Top 100** Think Tanks in India, China, Japan, and South Korea in the **2020 Global GoToThink Tank Index** by UPenn

Member of **UN Global Compact** India Network

Member of the **Atlas Network**, USA



CPPR IMPACT STORIES

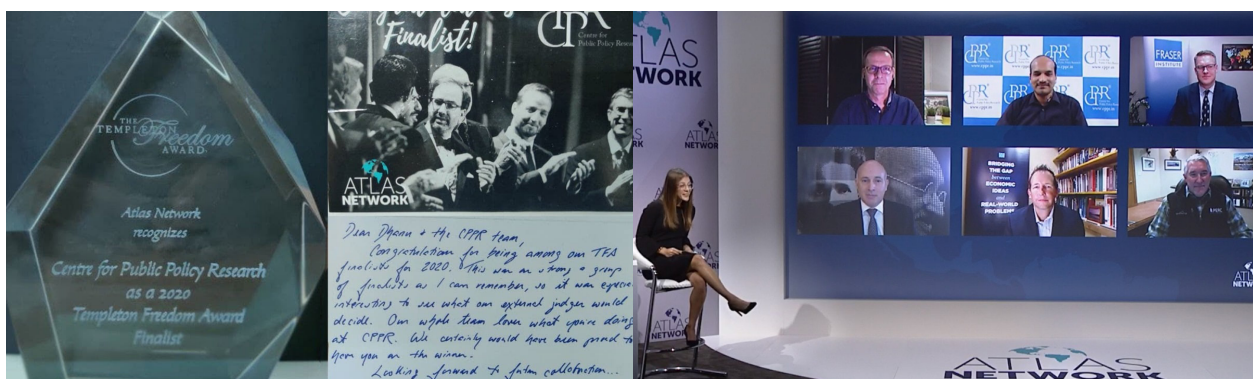
Reforms to Kerala Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1960

CPPR India was selected as one of the finalists of the prestigious Templeton Freedom Awards 2020 instituted by the Atlas Network, USA for the project on Reforms to Kerala Shops and Commercial Establishment Act, 1960.

In the context of the Model Shops and Commercial Establishments Act 2016, approved by the Government of India, CPPR initiated a project to amend the provisions in the 1960 Act in Kerala and bring a noticeable change in the operations of businesses in Kerala. After a series of discussions with various stakeholders and extensive research, CPPR finalised the draft and presented it to the Government of Kerala. This is now in force as an Ordinance and published as a Bill in the State Legislative Assembly.

IMPACT CREATED

- Direct impact on wealth creation opportunities for private entrepreneurs.
- Better working conditions and opportunities for employees.
- Increased participation of women in the job market.
- Revenue generation for the government and boost to the economy of Kerala.
- Employment generation in the private sector as more players enter. (Service sector accounts for 70% of Kerala's economy)
- Creation of indirect employment opportunities in restaurants, hospitality, transportation, and other sectors.
- Increase in Ease of Doing Business climate in Kerala



CPPR IMPACT STORIES

Uniting for a Disaster Resilient Kerala

CPPR conducted a series of workshops and consultations on disaster management and resilience and published a Community Resilience Handbook for Disaster Management with the support of the US Consulate General in Chennai and the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority.

IMPACT CREATED

- Workshops in 3 Cities across 3 Regions: About 300 persons were trained and knowledge imparted on the best practises for an All-Hazards approach to Disaster Mitigation and Management.
- Handbook on Disaster Preparedness: CPPR has come out with a Citizen's Manual for Disaster Preparedness, for residents of Kerala, based on the learnings from the workshops.
- Curriculum on Disaster Preparedness and Management - CPPR is working with KSDMA on developing a curriculum on DM for school and college students.
- Seminars / Presentations: Over 10 outreach events in the form of seminars, round-tables, media/movie presentations were held during the course of the project. Around 1000 persons directly benefited from these events including students, business persons, CSO activists, media persons, and government officials.



RESEARCH & PROGRAMMES

COVID-19 AND BEYOND: REDEFINING CONTOURS OF PUBLIC POLICY

About

As 196 countries reeled under the onslaught of COVID-19, our experts were making sense of how this virus was redefining political, economic and geo-strategic contours in India and the World. We looked into its impact on governance structures including national, international & state-level policies, federalism and decentralisation, political economy, urban spaces and public transport. We also focused on understanding its impact on Kerala's economy & model of development.

Research

Leveraging AI in the Fight against COVID-19

Juanita Justin (Intern) and Gazi Hassan | April, 2020

What role does Artificial Intelligence (AI) assume in combating an epidemic? The paper looks at how governments, health experts, researchers and social media companies across the world are leveraging AI-based technologies in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. While governments across the globe are collaborating with their local authorities and healthcare providers to track, respond and prevent the spread of disease, the health experts are using advanced algorithms and analytics to enhance the efforts to prevent infection.

Will India be at the Vanguard of Vaccine Development?

Nissy Solomon and Aparna Preethan | May, 2020

Marking Those on the Move: Review of Existing Paradigm and Towards a New Framework

Bhaskar Singhania (Intern) | July, 2020

Impact of COVID-19 on India-China Trade

Amulya Anil (Intern) | July, 2020

India's Major Responses to COVID-19 and Actions of Global Relevance

Amulya Anil (Intern) | July, 2020

Impact of COVID-19 on Clinical Trials

Prianka G (Intern) | July, 2020

Analysis of India's Response in Addressing the Concerns of the MSME Sector

Vidhi Rupal (Intern) | July, 2020

COVID-19 Impact Survey: COVID-19 Related Perceptions, Precautionary Behaviour and Response

Akanksha Borawake, Praseeda Mukundan, Meha Nair (Intern), D Dhanuraj | August, 2020

Centre for Public Policy Research undertook the COVID-19 Citizens' Survey to explore the micro-level footprint of the pandemic and the lockdown during the transition period post lockdown. As the response to COVID-19 has been devised keeping the citizens' needs and well-being at the forefront, it was critical to assess their stand on various issues, to inform better policy interventions. CPPR attempted to collect and evaluate valuable information from Indian citizens across the country between 15th and 30th June, 2020 using the means of an online survey questionnaire.

Effects of COVID-19 on Transportation: What the Experts Say

Praseeda Mukundan, Jisha J Cherian (Intern), Meha Nair (Intern) | September, 2020

A survey was conducted by the Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) from June to July 2020, among experts from the transportation sector to understand their perception of the effects of the pandemic on the sector in India. A total of 15 experts consisting of academicians, practitioners, policy makers and researchers, from different parts of the country, who were closely working with the transportation sector were interviewed. The study tries to find answers to the transportation sector by evaluating the views and opinions of the experts who work closely with the transportation sector.

Kerala Model of Response To Covid-19

Nissy Solomon, Goutham K A, Aiswarya Krishnan, Angela Cicily Joseph, D Dhanuraj | October 2020.

A Comparative Study Of Covid-19 Outbreak In The Hubei Province Of China And The Indian State Of Kerala.

Muraleedharan Nair, Madhu Sivaraman, Nissy Solomon, Angela Cicily Joseph, D Dhanuraj | November 2020

Commentaries and Articles

Published in media

India's Healthcare System and Response to COVID-19

Dr. Swapna Jambhekar | April 3, 2020 | Citizen Matters

How Geographical Mapping Is Helping India In Its Fight Against COVID-19

Nissy Solomon | April 10, 2020 | India Spend

Fate of Global Oil Sector amid COVID-19

Gazi Hassan | April 16, 2020 | Foreign Policy News

Will COVID-19 Shift the Power Balance in the Middle East?

Gazi Hassan | April 23, 2020 | International Policy Digest

Inward remittances and the upcoming crisis

Nila Nair | May 1, 2020 | MoneyControl

The WHO's Failures Are a Red Herring. A 2005 Pact Is the Real Problem

Nithin Ramakrishnan | May 3, 2020 | The Wire Science

Is there a trade-off between life and privacy amid a pandemic?

Dr Harisankar K Sathyapalan | May 6, 2020 | The Economics Times

A Review of Personal Data Protection Bill 2019 in the Context of Sprinklr Debate

Nithin Ramakrishnan | May 6, 2020 | Live Law

Can COVID Era be a Good Time to Give NMT a Second Chance?

Aiswarya Krishnan and Viral Arun Nigam | June 23, 2020 | Qrius

Shared Auto as a Public Transport Solution during COVID

Praseeda Mukundan | June 23, 2020 | Mathrubhumi

Threat to economy due to COVID-19 more serious than impact on health: Pan-India survey report

Report on survey conducted by CPPR | September 2, 2020 | National Herald

COVID-19 Impact Survey

Report on survey conducted by CPPR | September 9, 2020 | Malayala Manorama

കോവിഡ് പ്രതിരോധത്തിൽ കേരളീയർ ഏറെ സംതൃപ്തർ
Janayugom | Report based on CPPR Survey | September 9, 2020

Covid may have reduced the demand for public transport: Study
Report based on CPPR Survey | September 25, 2020 | The New Indian Express

Public transport usage to dwindle post-pandemic: Survey
Report based on CPPR Survey | September 25, 2020 | The Hindu

കോവിഡ് കാലഘട്ടത്തിൽ പൊതുമതാഗത ഉപയോഗതാക്കളുടെ എണ്ണം കുത്തനെ കുറയും: സിപിഐആർ സർവ്വേ
Report based on CPPR Survey | September 25, 2020 | Kerala Online news

Other Articles

COVID-19: Cruise Industry and its Future
Dr Vijay Sakhuja | April 20, 2020

US-China Trade amid COVID-19
Devassy Auseph | April 23, 2020

Combating COVID-19 by Contracting out Health Data of Keralites: Some Legal Questions
Harisankar K Sathyapalan and Sreeparvathy Gopalakrishna Pillai | April 24, 2020

Tackling COVID: A Comparison of Healthcare Systems
Katiyayinee Richhariya | May 5, 2020

Environmental Sustainability in a Post-COVID World
Sukanya Nambiar | May 11, 2020

Prioritising Healthcare over Privacy during a Pandemic: Is it Healthy?
Dr Harisankar K Sathyapalan | May 14, 2020

Impact of COVID-19 on Import and Export of US and China
Katiyayinee Richhariya | May 27, 2020

Economic Package or COVID Budget?
Dr. Martin Patrick | May 27, 2020

SAARC Response to COVID: A Silver Lining in Regional Cooperation
Aishwarya Pokhriyal | May 29, 2020

Need to Rope in Private Sector Hospitals in the Fight against COVID
Chandrasekaran Balakrishnan | June 1, 2020

India's Diplomatic Outreach amidst COVID-19
Abhirami B | June 5, 2020

Impact of COVID on Refugees across the Globe - Part 1
Juanita Justin | June 5, 2020

Changing Power Dynamics of US, China and EU amidst COVID
Mona Thakkar | June 8, 2020

From Trade to Isolationism: Tracing the Future of Complex Economies
Katiyayinee Richhariya | June 10, 2020

Impact of COVID on Refugees across the Globe - Part 2
Juanita Justin | June 11, 2020

'Make in India' in COVID times: A Boon or Bane for Armed Forces

Cdr. Jayakrishnan N Nair | June 22, 2020

Impact of COVID on Refugees across the Globe - Part 3

Juanita Justin | June 23, 2020

Impact of COVID-19 on Intra-City Public Transport

Kahini Ojha (Intern) | July 1, 2020

Politics of Online Education in the Time of COVID Crisis

Dr D Dhanuraj and Rahul V Kumar | July 3, 2020

Videos

[YouTube] CPPR Global High Tea

COVID-19: Implications to Global Politics, Oil Consumption and World Order

There has certainly not been a global event resembling this scale in our lifetime. Gazi Hassan discusses why COVID-19 is bound to disrupt the landscape of geopolitics, global economy, & the liberal international order.

[YouTube] Policies on COVID

Kerala's COVID resilience: Thanks to more than a century of institutional memory

In this episode of #PoliciesonCOVID, Dr D Dhanuraj and Nissy Solomon deliberates on Kerala model of fight against COVID. They highlight that this model is not an overnight success story and hence may not be easy to emulate as it has been built through decades of diligent institutional nurture.

[YouTube] Policy Beyond Politics

Rights & Responsibilities of Elected Representatives in changing situation like COVID

In this episode of Policy Beyond Politics, Dr D Dhanuraj and Dr Harisankar K. Sathyapalan, Research Fellow (International Law and Dispute Settlement), CPPR, discuss the Rights and Responsibilities that need to be followed by Elected representatives in a pandemic lockdown situation.

[YouTube] Policy Beyond Politics

Indian Parliament going online

It is time to leverage on our technological prowess and ensure the legislative business continues unhindered during the pandemic. In this episode of #PolicyBeyondPolitics, Dr D Dhanuraj and Chakshu Roy, (Heads the outreach team and leads legislator and citizen engagement at PRS Legislative Research) explored the feasibility and legality of moving the Indian parliament sessions online.

[YouTube] Policy Beyond Politics

COVID Resetting the Politics and Money in Sports

In this episode of #PolicyBeyondPolitics, Dr D Dhanuraj talks to Leslie Xavier, Senior Fellow (Sports Policies), CPPR, and Editor (Sports), NewsClick.in on the impact of COVID on sports.

RESEARCH & PROGRAMMES

CENTRE FOR COMPARATIVE STUDIES (CCS)

About

The CPPR Centre for Comparative Studies (CCS) conducts in-depth comparative analysis in the fields of Demographics, Education, Health, Poverty, Urbanisation, Governance, Politics, Budgeting, Social and Economic Indicators. The centre's focus is in identifying current gaps in policies using comparative analysis, and to advocate state of the art practice and recommend innovative policy changes to help improve the country's development process. Comparative studies involve the analysis and synthesis of the similarities, differences and patterns across two or more cases that share a common focus.

Commentaries and Articles

Published in media

Re-monetise Gold to Tide Over the Economic Crisis

Nissy Solomon, D Dhanuraj | May 13, 2020 | MoneyControl

Stimulus package falls short of meeting immediate concerns

Nissy Solomon | May 20, 2020 | MoneyControl

Transfer powers of DMs to mayors to solve urban issues

Dr D Dhanuraj | May 21, 2020 | MoneyControl

Production Linked Scheme: Objectives and Objection

Nissy Solomon and Dr D Dhanuraj | November 17, 2020 | MoneyControl

Beyond Chalk and Talk: The tech boom in Indian education and the challenges to meet

Nissy Solomon and Akanksha Borawake | December 22, 2020 | MoneyControl

Update laws to keep India's health system future-ready

Nissy Solomon and Akanksha Borawake | January 8, 2021 | MoneyControl

KIIFB, a plus for infrastructure

Dr Martin Patrick | January 26, 2021 | Times of India

Budget 2021: Feel-good factor that would nudge consumption is missing

Nissy Solomon | February 01, 2021 | MoneyControl

Other Articles

COVID 19: A Time to Rethink Kerala's Liquor Policy

Rahul V Kumar | April 6, 2020

Is Privacy an Illusion for the Netizens of the 21st Century?

Anjali Sunil | May 18, 2020

Impacts of Drop in Investments in New Assets in Oil & Gas and Associated Sectors

Dr Madhu P Pillai | June 4, 2020

A New Face, A New Hope, A New Era: Bihar Welcomes Tejashwi Yadav

Rohit Kumar V | December 23, 2020

Kerala Budget 2021-22: Promises and Perils

Nissy Solomon and Praseeda Mukundan | January 16, 2021

The Confused Finance Minister and His Miraculous Budget: Why Should It Bother You and Me?

Dr D Dhanuraj and Ananthitha Anandan | January 22, 2021

Teaching and Learning Economics in Kerala

Dr D Dhanuraj and Rahul V Kumar | February 15, 2021

Events

Securing Livelihoods during COVID: Lessons from Previous Pandemics

Date: May 5, 2020

Speakers: Dr D Dhanuraj and Dr Martin Patrick

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) organised a webinar on 'Securing Livelihoods during COVID' with a special focus on Kerala's economy and drawing lessons from previous pandemics. The topic was chosen prudently to capture the current and dire situation of India's informal and formal workforce whose livelihoods have been hit hard by the COVID-19 crisis and the subsequent nationwide lockdown. A discussion between Dr D Dhanuraj, Chairman, CPPR and Dr Martin Patrick, Economist, CPPR was followed by Questions and Answers.

Positive Steps towards Revival of Economy in the COVID-19 Era

Date: May 29, 2020

Speakers: Ms Li Zhao Schoolland, Director of External Relations—Asia Pacific for the Acton Institute, and Ms Nissy Solomon, Senior Research Associate at CPPR

The South Asia Students For Liberty (SASFL) in association with the Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) hosted a webinar on "Positive Steps towards Revival of Economy in the COVID-19 Era".

Gulf Migration and COVID-19

Date: July 3, 2020

Panellists: Ambassador KP Fabian, Professor at the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi and Dr Ginu Zacharia Oommen, Member, Kerala Public Service Commission and an academic and political activist based in Thiruvananthapuram

Moderator: Dr Martin Patrick, Economist at the Centre for Public Policy Research

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) hosted a webinar on the topic "Gulf Migration and COVID-19".

"Kerala Dhanakaryam"- Virtual Book Launch and Panel Discussion

Date: September 22, 2020

Speakers: Dr Jose Sebastian and Dr Martin Patrick

Moderator: Dr D Dhanuraj

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) conducted a virtual book launch and panel discussion on the book "Kerala Dhanakaryam", authored by Dr Jose Sebastian, Senior Fellow (Finance) at CPPR, and a former faculty of Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation.

Release of Handbook on Community Resilience for Disaster Preparedness & Panel Discussion

Date: October 15, 2020

Guest: Ms Ann Lee Sheshadri, Public Affairs Officer, US Consulate General in Chennai

Panellists: Dr Muralee Thummarukudy, Dr Nivedita P Haran IAS (Retd), Dr Himanshu Grover and Dr Shekhar Kuriakose

Moderator: Dr D Dhanuraj

Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) organised a virtual book launch of the 'Community Resilience Handbook for Disaster Preparedness and Management.' This handbook is a compilation of learnings from the three disaster management workshops conducted in Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi and Kozhikode in association with the US Consulate General in Chennai and the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA). Ms Ann Lee Sheshadri, Public Affairs Officer, US Consulate General in Chennai, released the handbook which has been published in English as well as Malayalam. The book launch was followed by a panel discussion on All-Hazards Approach to Community-Based Disaster Risk Mitigation.

Decoding The Polls: Analysis of Kerala Local Body Elections 2020

Date: December 7, 2020

Panelists: Prof Dr G Gopa Kumar, Dr D Dhanuraj

Moderator: Prof KC Abraham

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) organised a virtual panel discussion on the elections to the Local Self Government (LSG) institutions in Kerala that were scheduled to be held from the 8th to the 14th of December 2020. The panel discussion focused on the changing political trends in the LSG elections, the increased involvement of youth and women candidates in the political sphere, the extent to which the state and national policies affect local body elections, the implications of changing political allegiance, and the emergence of communal politics among others.

Decoding The Polls: Post Poll Analysis of the Kerala Local Body Elections

Date: December 17, 2020

Panellists: Prof Dr G Gopa Kumar, Prof KC Abraham, Dr D Dhanuraj

Moderator: Goutham KA

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) organised a virtual panel discussion on the results of the elections to the Local Self Government (LSG) institutions in Kerala that was held from the 8th to the 14th of December this year. The panel discussion focused on analysing the winning of the Left government, the reasons behind the loss of Congress led United Democratic Front (UDF), the role of mainstream media in the elections and the increase in communal politics in the State among others.

Implementing NEP: Charting Kerala's Education Goals 2025

Date: January 7, 2021

Guest Speaker: Dr Shakila Shamsu

Moderator: Dr D Dhanuraj

The Centre for Public Policy Research organised a webinar on Implementing NEP: Charting Kerala's Education Goals 2025, in the context of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. The new National Education Policy introduces several changes in the Indian education system from the school level to the higher education level with an objective to sustainably transform the country's academic system into an equitable and vibrant knowledge society. The session's objective was to bring together a wide spectrum of stakeholders to discuss the school education landscape in Kerala where the NEP 2020 will be implemented, understand the problems faced by the stakeholders in the implementation of the NEP 2020, and the impact of COVID-19 in the educational landscapes.

Responding to COVID-19: Reflections & Lessons from Kerala, India & China

Date: January 14, 2021

Panellists: Mr Rajeev Sadanandan IAS (Retd), Dr KN Raghavan IRS, Dr Reuben Abraham, Mr Muraleedharan Nair, Mr PK Hormis Tharakan IPS (Retd)

Moderator: Dr D Dhanuraj

A team at the Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR), led by Mr Muraleedharan Nair (Senior Fellow of CPPR and former Indian Consul in China) did a comparative study of the COVID-19 outbreak response of two administrative divisions of similar status, i.e., the State of Kerala in India and the province of Hubei in China. The study captured the responses to the coronavirus outbreak in the respective regions during the period the first case was reported up until the day both the entities brought it down to zero, even if temporarily, particularly in the case of Kerala. The study has assessed various elements featured in the response systems of the two regions during the above-mentioned period. The webinar brought together distinguished panellists, representing government, academia and an international public health organisation, to discuss their thoughts on the paper and share their experiences on the COVID-19 outbreak responses as vital stakeholders.

NEP and Higher Education: Translating Policy into Action

Date: January 21, 2021

Chief Guest: Dr Shakila Shamsu

Moderator: Dr D Dhanuraj

The Centre for Public Policy Research organised a webinar on NEP & Higher Education: Translating Policy into Action, in the context of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. The new National Education Policy introduces several changes in the Indian education system from the school level to the higher education level with an objective to sustainably transform the country's academic system into an equitable and vibrant knowledge society. The session's objective was to bring together a wide spectrum of stakeholders to discuss the higher education landscape, understand the problems faced by the stakeholders in the implementation of the NEP 2020, and the impact of COVID-19 in the educational landscapes.

Projects

Kerala model of response to COVID-19

The Centre for Public Policy Research documented learnings from Kerala's Model of Crisis Management to identify lessons of policy practices and inform the thinking of policy-makers and key stakeholders to effectively respond to future eventualities. The Project was supported by Omidyar Network India as part of their Rapid Response Funding Initiative to address the Covid-19 crisis.

An impact assessment to understand the impact of the National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning

Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) conducted an impact assessment to understand the impact of the National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL) among its stakeholders from the institutions enrolled as Local Chapters in India. This project was executed on behalf of the NPTEL team headquartered at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras

#UNLOCKKHADI: Global Voices for Open Trade

CPPR had initiated a programme to liberate and truly globalize the Khadi and village industries sector in India with the motto, 'Connecting the Global to the Local.' This initiative backed with extensive and rigorous evidence-based research enunciates 'How Global E-Commerce Can Empower Cottage Industries in India, with a Case Study of the Khadi sector.' The project focuses on the benefits of the liberalization of digital trade in Khadi and cottage industries to promote inclusive local growth and development in localized sectors in India.

RESEARCH & PROGRAMMES

CENTRE FOR URBAN STUDIES (CUS)

About

The CPPR Centre for Urban Studies (CUS) focuses on urbanisation patterns and trends in aspects such as public space, urban mobility, infrastructure, technology, livelihood and citizenship. The centre aims to understand the contestation of space by different socio-economic groups and addresses the multiple realities that exist within a city. It also aims to meet the challenges of urban development by recommending better practices and innovative policy changes.

Commentaries and Articles

Published in media

Survey foresees low patronage for public transport in future

Report based on CPPR Survey | September 29, 2020 | The Hindu

India Needs Dynamic Ecosystems for Making Smart Cities Work

Chandrasekharan Balakrishnan | October 19, 2020 | Jakarta post

Is Metro the solution to the public transport issues of Kochi city?

Praseeda Mukundan | December 5, 2020 | The News Minute

Other Articles

Embracing Decentralisation to Speed-up Smart Cities Projects

Chandrasekharan Balakrishnan | July 21, 2020

Innovative Technology Enabling Effective Solid Waste Management in Tamil Nadu

Chandrasekharan Balakrishnan | December 18, 2020

Biodigester: An Antidote to Cities' Septage Management Challenges

Chandrasekharan Balakrishnan | February 9, 2021

Events

COVID 19 & Urbanisation: Reimagining Our Urban Development Goals

Date: June 9, 2020

Guest Speaker: Raj Cherubal, CEO, Chennai Smart City Limited

Moderator: Praseeda Mukundan

Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) in association with Chinmaya Vishwavidyapeeth (CVV) hosted a live webinar on "COVID-19 & Urbanisation: Reimagining Our Urban Development Goals."

Private Bus Operations in Kerala: Challenges and Way Ahead

Date: June 17, 2020

Speakers: Mr Gokuldas, K M Nawas, M B Sathyan

Moderator: Dr D Dhanuraj

Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) hosted an online discussion on the topic “Private Bus Operations in Kerala: Challenges and Way Ahead.” The discussion focused on the plight of private bus operations which struggled under the pressure of reduced occupancy, high taxes and rising fuel charges even after the lifting of lockdown restrictions.

Projects

Integrated Sustainable Urban Transport Systems for Smart Cities Technical (SMART-SUT) Project

CPPR carried out an organisational assessment for Kochi Municipal Corporation (KMC) with respect to urban mobility projects in Kochi and identified the measures that could be taken up to develop institutional, organisational and individual capacities at KMC. The institutional capacity (structure, process, instruments, competences, coordination, etc.) of key and primary actors for sustainable urban mobility in Kochi is improved & Development of SMART-SUT's Capacity Development strategy for Kochi.

Elaboration of a Sustainable Public Transport and IPT Scenario for Puducherry Agglomeration

Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) was a consultant for the study on “Elaboration of a Sustainable Public Transport and IPT Scenario for Puducherry Agglomeration”. The project is initiated by the Transport Department of Puducherry Government with the support of AFD and French Consultant Consortium DVDH-Transamo-Transitec. CPPR is conducting and supervising an extensive Origin-Destination Survey, Traffic Count Survey, Boarding and Alighting Survey proposed to quantify the current traffic flows within Puducherry agglomeration. The objective of the study is to collect input data for developing a reference transport model for public transport improvement plans in the future.

Preparation of a Mobility Improvement Plan along North-South Railway Station corridor in Kochi

Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) was the local consultant for the project Preparation of a Mobility Improvement Plan along North-South Railway Station corridor in Kochi, in collaboration with Suez Consulting. The project aims at improving the connectivity between Ernakulam Town and Ernakulam Junction railway stations by creating a green corridor along the railway line. The project is an initiative under the Mobilise Your City (MYC) Programme, with an objective to provide sustainable urban mobility solutions.

Policy and Issue Briefs

Recommendations on the Proposed Modification to Kerala Road Transport Service Scheme

Praseeda Mukundan, Aiswarya Krishnan

The Government of Kerala had published a notification (No. B1/13/2016/Tran) on September 14, 2020 on Proposed Modification to Kerala Road Transport Service Scheme. This proposed scheme is a take back on the idea of incorporating private players in public transport. Private buses have played a very crucial role in the social and economic development of Kerala. The State had, in the past, a unique and enterprising model in providing public transport services. But unfavourable policy decisions taken by the government against private operators resulted in a drastic reduction in their numbers. CPPR has responded to this notification with suggestions and comments on the modified clauses.

RESEARCH & PROGRAMMES

CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES (CSS)

About

The CPPR Centre for Strategic Studies (CSS) aims to identify the strategic significance of India from a global perspective, and the role it plays in world affairs. The shifts in foreign policy with an emphasis on hard and soft power linkages are the thrust areas of the centre. The centre will probe the implications of increasing global interdependence and foreign relations on India.

Commentaries and Articles

Published in media

Galwan Valley Clash—A CloseLook

KV Thomas | June 19, 2020 | Chandrika Malayalam daily

Aceh to Andaman: Shipping Connectivity and Security

Dr Vijay Sakhuja | August 11, 2020 | Vivekananda International Foundation website

Webinar held on relations between India & Sri Lanka

Report on Webinar | September 21, 2020 | The New Indian Express

Other Articles

India and UAE Need to Strengthen Economic Ties

Gazi Hassan | July 17, 2020

Vietnam Leads from the Front in ASEAN and at the UN

Dr Vijay Sakhuja | August 6, 2020

Caucasus on the Boil: Armenia-Azerbaijan Conflict

Gazi Hassan and Sakshi Gemini | October 15, 2020

Winds of Change: Pakistan's Play with Fire

Sam Thomas and Gazi Hassan | November 18, 2020

ASEAN Chairmanship: From Vietnam to Brunei Darussalam

Dr Vijay Sakhuja | December 10, 2020

Political Crisis in Nepal and its Geopolitical Implications

KV Thomas | January 1, 2021

Revival of Quad and India's Outreach

Varshini Sridhar and Gazi Hassan | January 6, 2021

Complexities of China-Australia Relations

Gazi Hassan | February 2, 2021

Events

US Presidential Elections and Global Political Order in the midst of COVID-19

Date: May 7, 2020

Guest Speaker: Mr Raymond Vickery, Senior Associate, Wadhvani Chair in US-India Policy Studies, Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Moderator: Mr. Gazi Hassan

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) hosted a webinar focusing on the scenario of the US Presidential Elections and the reaction of the US administration to the COVID-19 crisis. The discussion took a question and answer mode for one hour where Mr Vickery answered some of the questions. In the later part of the session, the floor was open for questions from the audience.

Indian Migrants in the Gulf: Coping with the Double Blow of Oil Price Collapse and COVID-19

Date: May 14, 2020

Panellists: Dr D Dhanuraj, Chairman, CPPR; Professor Irudaya Rajan, Centre for Development Studies (CDS); Dr Deepika Saraswat, Research Fellow, ICWA; and Dr Bindhulakshmi Pattadath, Associate Professor, Advanced Centre for Women's Studies, TISS

Moderator: Ambassador Navdeep Suri, Distinguished Fellow, Observer Research Foundation (ORF)

The Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and the Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) jointly organised a webinar on 'Indian Migrants in the Gulf: Coping with the Double Blow of Oil Price Collapse and COVID-19.'

Reading International Law in the Context of COVID-19

Date: May 23, 2020

Panellists: Dr Aniruddha Rajput, International Law practitioner and member of the UN International Law Commission; Dr Elina Cusato, Professor at the Centre for International Law, University of Essex, London and Dr Prabash Ranjan, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law, South Asian University, New Delhi and an International Economic Law scholar and former fellow at Brookings India.

Moderator: Dr Harishankar K Sathyapalan, Research Fellow at CPPR and an Assistant Professor at Faculty of Law, CUSAT.

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) and Chinmaya Vishwavidyapeeth along with the Study Group on International Law and Relations, Ernakulam organised a webinar involving International Law scholars and public policy makers titled "Reading International Law in the context of COVID 19: Narratives and Responses".

Enrica Lexie Award: The Takeaways for India

Date: July 16, 2020

Panellists: VM Syam Kumar, Advocate at the High Court of Kerala, Kochi and Deepak Raju, Senior Associate at Sidley Austin LLP, Geneva.

Moderator: Nithin Ramakrishnan, Research Scholar at CPPR & Assistant Professor, Chinmaya Vishwavidyapeeth (CVV).

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) organised a webinar on the topic 'Enrica Lexie Award: The Takeaways for India'. Introductory Remarks were given by Dr Harisankar K Sathyapalan, Research Fellow at CPPR & Assistant Professor, CUSAT, while the concluding remarks were given by Dr Shannu Narayan, Assistant Professor at IIM Calicut.

The Pandemic and the Presidential Election in America

Date: July 30, 2020

Speakers: Prof KC Abraham (Retd Professor of Political Science, Sacred Heart College, Thevara, Kochi.

Moderator: Mr. Gazi Hassan, Senior Research Associate at CPPR.

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) organised a webinar on the topic 'The Pandemic and the Presidential Election in America' on. He serves as the Academic Director at CPPR. Prof Abraham is an orator and a writer of contemporary regional and national political and social issues.

Future of India-US Relations and the Role of China in the Changing Global Order

Date: August 5, 2020

Speaker: Ambassador TP Srinivasan

Moderator: Dr Dhanuraj

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) co-hosted a webinar with the World Trade Center, Kochi and Indo-American Chamber of Commerce focusing on the global dynamics revolving around the 'Future of India-US Relations and the Role of China in the Changing Global Order'.

Changing Global Order

Date: August 13, 2020

Speaker: Dr TV Paul

Moderator: Dr Lawrence Prabhakar Williams

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) hosted a webinar on the theme 'Changing Global Order' with Dr TV Paul, Erudite Distinguished Senior Fellow, CPPR, as the keynote speaker and Dr Lawrence Prabhakar Williams, Advisor, CPPR, as the moderator of the session. The discussion presented critical views looking at the bigger picture of power play and a multipolar world.

CPPR 17th Quarterly Lecture by TCA Raghavan

Date: August 22,

Speaker: Ambassador Dr. TCA Raghavan, Director General, ICWA

Moderator: Dr Lawrence Prabhakar Williams

The Centre for Public Policy Research organised its 17th edition of CPPR Quarterly Lecture Series on the topic 'India and its Neighbourhood' on August 22, 2020. The Quarterly Lecture Series, initiated in 2012, aims to provide insight into the sphere of socio-economic and political themes. The 17th edition was hosted online, featuring Dr TCA Raghavan, who retired from the Indian Foreign Service in December 2015 while he was the Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan (2013-15). He was the Director-General of the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi. The lecture sought to provide an overview of trends and geopolitics in our continental and maritime neighbourhood.

India and Sri Lanka- Changing Dynamics in the Indian Ocean Region

Date: September 17, 2020

Speakers: Prof Jayadeva Uyangoda, Emeritus Professor of Political Science, University of Colombo, and Dr S Y Surendra Kumar, Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Bangalore.

Moderator: Mr. Gazi Hassan

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) organised a webinar on "India and Sri Lanka: Changing Dynamics in the Indian Ocean Region" on September 17, 2020. The webinar featured Professor Jayadeva Uyangoda, Emeritus Professor of Political Science and Public Policy at the University of Colombo and Dr SY Surendra Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science at Bangalore University. The session aimed to provide intricacies of the Sri Lankan political system, assessing the new regime in Sri Lanka and how India and Sri Lanka can further their relationship.

US Presidential Election 2020: Charting the Future of US-India Ties

Date: October 22, 2020

Speakers: Mr Richard M Rossow, Wadhvani Chair in US-India Policy Studies at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Washington; Prof G Gopakumar, former Vice Chancellor of the Central University of Kerala.

Moderator: Dr D Dhanuraj

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) organised a webinar on 'US Presidential Election 2020: Charting the future of US-India ties' on October 22, 2020. The speakers touched upon a number of topics including trade partnerships, QUAD and Indo Pacific regional cooperation.

Changing Political Dynamics in West Asia: Abraham Accords and Beyond

Date: December 10, 2020

Guest Speaker: Dr Jon B. Alterman, Senior Vice President, Zbigniew Brzezinski Chair in Global Security and Geostrategy, Director of the Middle East Program at CSIS

Moderator: Mr. Gazi Hassan

Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) organised a Webinar on the topic 'Changing Political Dynamics in West Asia: Abraham Accords and Beyond' in the context of recent signing of peace deals, brokered by the USA, between Israel and the Arab nations.

Projects

ICWA-CPPR Joint Research on 'Strategic Futures: Regional Maritime Security Complexes

Indian Council of World Affairs and CPPR collaborated on Research-cum-Conference project on Strategic Futures: Regional Maritime Security Complexes of the Western Pacific Rim; Western Indian Ocean - Southern Ocean; and the Arabian Sea Littoral. The research paper was authored by Prof. Dr. W Lawrence S Prabhakar (Advisor, CPPR) and Dr Vijay Sakhuja (Distinguished Fellow, CPPR).

Policy and Issue Briefs

Presidential Election 2020: Charting the Future of India-US Ties

Policy recommendations for India-US relations in the context of the new administration under President Joseph R Biden; with inputs from the CPPR Webinar with Mr Richard M Rossow (Wadhvani Chair at CSIS) and Prof G Gopakumar (Advisor to CPPR).

A Study of Artificial Islands

Artificial island construction is a phenomenon that is seen on a rising scale in modern times. This paper evaluates the reasons for the construction of artificial islands along with stating the various dimensions of the impact they pose including economic, geopolitical, strategic and maritime. The topic is of great importance in the present-day international relations since to a great extent they affect the political relations among countries and even determine the development of a country itself. A few examples of artificial islands with wide features constructed for various purposes and India's dream for artificial islands are also included in this paper.

North Korean Nuclear Ambitions: A Study

North Korea is a peculiar example of a rogue state in a global system which does not thrive on mutual respect and rule of law. A country governed by its own regressive laws does not uphold the notions of internationalism. This paper traces North Korea's nuclear ambitions driven by threat perception and illicit network of countries involved in illegal transfer of nuclear technology. It further highlights various nuances that region holds in case of instability. The role countries like China, US, Japan and South Korea play in diffusing or escalating crises in case of a conflict in the region has also been dealt with.

India and Sri Lanka: Changing Dynamics in the Indian Ocean Region

The Indian Ocean Region is one of the most strategically important areas for trade, security and diplomacy. When it comes to the economic importance of the Indian Ocean, approximately 30% of world trade is handled in the ports of the Indian Ocean. And of the most strategically located nations in the Indian Ocean Region is Sri Lanka. Located at the focal points of the global sea and air routes, traversing the Indian Ocean, Sri Lanka is a centre of attention. As a result of this, Sri Lanka has begun to increasingly feature in discussions on the Indo-Pacific geopolitical and geostrategic domain of major powers. As a nation, Sri Lanka occupies a strategic location across the Indian Ocean lines of communication. CPPR presented Policy Recommendations to improve India - Sri Lanka relations in the context of new government formation in Colombo in 2020.

Middle East Peace Plan: Emerging Political Dynamics and Implications

This issue brief tries to employ different lenses in order to understand the evolving US-Israel-Palestine relations in the light of the recently formulated Middle East Peace Plan steered by the US Diplomat Jared Kushner. The highlight of this plan has been the legitimisation of annexing 30% land in the West Bank by Israel.

CPPR ACADEMY

About

CPPR Academy offers training and development opportunities in the form of internships, short-term courses and workshops to students and mid-career professionals looking to engage with the public policy space. We bring together academic experts and policy practitioners from across the world to interact and introduce the public to alternative thinking and significant research findings. Through our projects this year we have reached out to more than 1000 individuals and have trained more than 100 participants through our online courses. These immersive programmes are curated to engage bright minds in political discourse and to be agents of change.

Activities

ICWA-CPPR All India Malayalam Essay Competition

Indian Council of World Affairs in collaboration with CPPR conducted an Essay Competition in Malayalam for school students (15-18 years) and undergraduate/postgraduate students (18-25 years). The theme of the competition was India's Foreign Policy and engagements in World Affairs. The participants had to write the essay in Malayalam and were judged on coherence, creativity, clarity, structure, language and expression.

Atlas-CPPR South Asia Public Policy Challenge

CPPR in association with the ATLAS Network, USA organised the "CPPR – ATLAS South Asia Public Policy Challenge" for young researchers, students, practitioners and policymakers. Interested candidates submitted a proposed policy reform under the theme "Navigating Policy Reforms for Minimum Government, Maximum Governance in the Disruptive Era." The challenge had 3 stages and aimed at inspiring innovative thinking, best practices, and smart solutions to tackle pressing public policy challenges.

Atlas Book Translation Project

CPPR successfully translated the book "Self Control or State Control – You Decide?" edited by Tom G Palmer and published by Students for Liberty & Atlas Network / Jameson Books Inc, into Malayalam, the language of Kerala, India.

Online Certificate Courses

CPPR Online Academy offers various certificate courses to enhance learning in the field of public policy and facilitate interactions between policy enthusiasts and aspiring leaders from diverse backgrounds. CPPR aims to provide a holistic understanding of public policy under the guidance of eminent researchers, policymakers and practitioners. The unique content and delivery system at CPPR makes it an ideal platform for like-minded leaders to network.

MoUs signed with Academic and Research Institutions in 2020-21

India Council of World Affairs

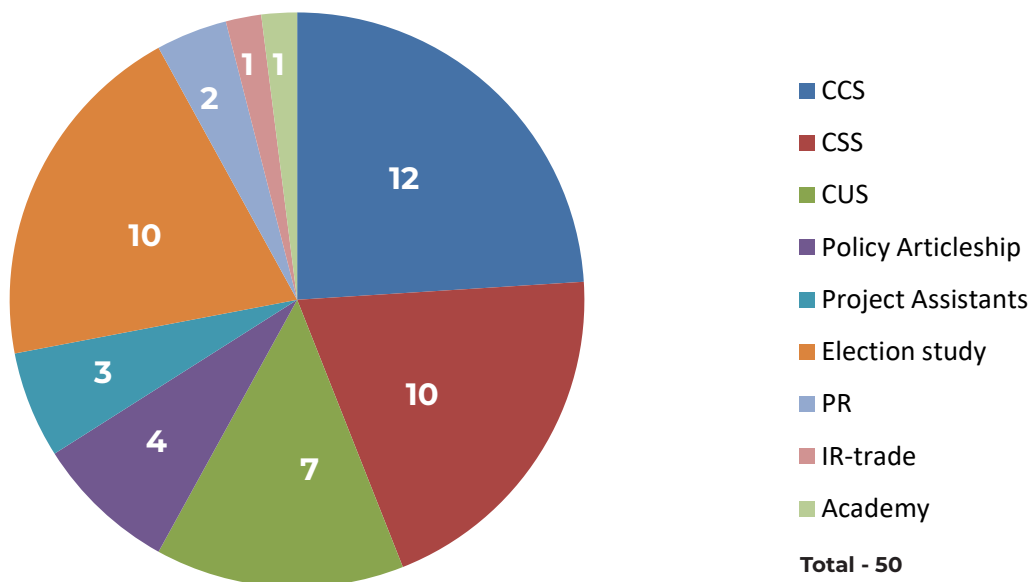
CPPR and ICWA have entered into this MoU with an objective to collaborate to organise studies, conferences, seminars on agreed topics of international affairs, Indian foreign policy etc as well as promoting joint publication of articles and journals.

TERI School of Advanced Studies

CPPR and TERI-SAS have entered into this MoU with an objective to collaborate on Internship opportunities, Student Placement Support, research projects and organizing workshops and short term courses relevant to their subject and research projects.

CPPR Internship Programme

The core purpose of CPPR is facilitating 'solutions to change.' We believe that combined effort and focused actions are crucial to the realisation of such a process. The conscious efforts of socially responsible citizens are essential to set a pace of change in society. We engage young people to get involved by dedicating their time, talents and creative skills to the cause of forming a transformed society, enriched by democratic and secular principles. CPPR has facilitated interns from India and abroad. From month-long internships to one year period, the opportunities are aplenty.



BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

COVID-19: A COLLECTION OF ESSAYS

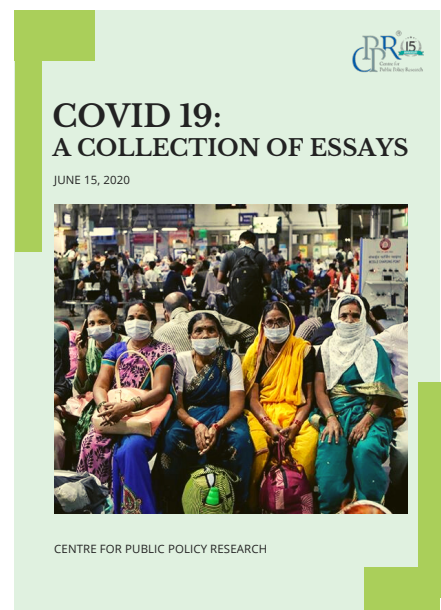
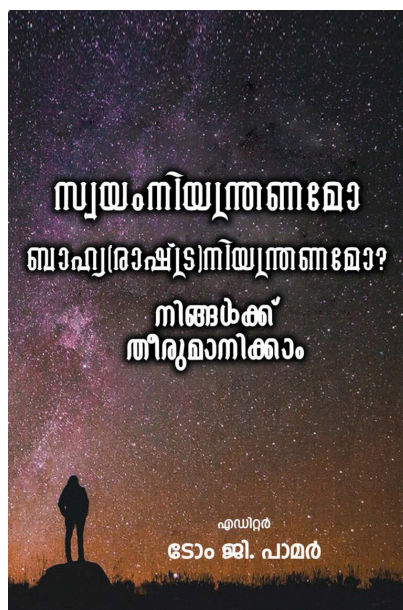
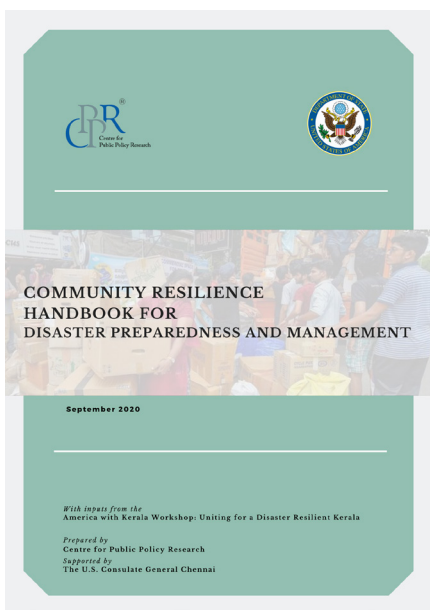
A collection of 16 essays and commentaries by 14 Authors from CPPR who write on how the virus was redefining political, economic and geostrategic contours in India and the World. To read more on CPPR's work related to COVID-19, visit www.cppr.in/covid19

SELF CONTROL OR STATE CONTROL? YOU DECIDE

The book "Self Control or State Control? You Decide" is a conglomerate of essays by John Tierney, Lisa Conyers, Jeffrey Miron, and several more that delve into the relationship between freedom and responsibility, their philosophical and scientific underpinnings, and the practical value of self-control. It further tries to provide its readers a sense of understanding of what Self-Control is and how exactly it is connected with one's freedom. The book is both theoretical and practical, trying to make the readers understand how if one living in a society can follow self-control with utmost dedication can curb the restrictions placed by a state (governing figure) and enjoy one's freedom to the core.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE HANDBOOK FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND MANAGEMENT

This Community Resilience Handbook for Disaster Preparedness and Management is prepared with inputs from the "America with Kerala" project that was jointly organized by the U.S. Consulate General in Chennai, the Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) in Kochi, and the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority (KSDMA) from June to October 2019. Organized in response to the devastating floods and landslides that ravaged Kerala in August 2018 and 2019, the "America with Kerala" project aimed to share key lessons and best practices from the U.S. experience with relevant agencies and stakeholders in Kerala while giving an opportunity for U.S. experts to learn from Kerala's experience managing the floods. The five-month campaign promoted an all-hazards approach specifically addressing the four phases of a disaster management cycle including mitigation/prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.



GUESTS AND SPEAKERS TO CPPR

Ambassador Dr TCA Raghavan

Director General, ICWA

Ambassador KP Fabian (Retd)

Professor at the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi

Mr Rajeev Sadananadan, IAS (Retd)

CEO of Health Systems Transformation Platform, Honorary Advisor to the Chief Minister of Kerala on management of COVID-19, and former Additional Chief Secretary of Government of Kerala in-charge of Health and Family Welfare

Dr Nivedita P Haran, IAS (Retd)

Honorary Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Centre for Migration and Inclusive Development

Dr KN Raghavan, IRS

Chairman and Executive Director of Rubber Board, Government of India

Mr Richard M Rossow

Wadhvani Chair in US-India Policy Studies at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Washington

Dr Jon B. Alterman

Senior Vice President, Zbigniew Brzezinski Chair in Global Security and Geostrategy, Director of the Middle East Program at CSIS

Mr Raymond Vickery

Senior Associate, Wadhvani Chair in US-India Policy Studies, Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Ms Ann Lee Sheshadri

Public Affairs Officer, US Consulate General in Chennai

Mr Moulik D Berkana

Cultural Affairs Officer, US Consulate General in Chennai

Dr Reuben Abraham

CEO of IDFC Foundation and IDFC Institute

Dr Jon B. Alterman

Senior Vice President, holding the Zbigniew Brzezinski Chair in Global Security and Geostrategy, and Director of the Middle East Program at CSIS

Dr Muralee Thummarukudy

Chief of Disaster Risk Reduction, UNEP

Dr Himanshu Grover

Co-Director of the Institute for Hazard Mitigation and Planning, University of Washington

Dr Shekhar Kuriakose

Member Secretary, Kerala State Disaster Management Authority

Dr Ginu Zacharia Oommen

Member, Kerala Public Service Commission and an academic and political activist based in Thiruvananthapuram

Dr Aniruddha Rajput

International Law practitioner and member of the UN International Law Commission

Dr Elina Cusato

Professor at the Centre for International Law, University of Essex, London

Dr Prabash Ranjan

Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law, South Asian University, New Delhi and an International Economic Law scholar and former fellow at Brookings India

Advocate VM Syam Kumar

Advocate at the High Court of Kerala, Kochi

Deepak Raju

Senior Associate at Sidley Austin LLP, Geneva

Prof Jayadeva Uyangoda

Emeritus Professor of Political Science, University of Colombo

Dr S Y Surendra Kumar

Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Bangalore

MEDIA MENTIONS

How viable is Silverline project, ask experts

KIRAN MADHARANATH

THE Kerala Cabinet's nod has come as a shot in the arm for the Rs 6,000-crore Silverline project. However, families in different parts of the state who will be displaced by the project's alignment remain apprehensive about the whole idea and many of them have formed action councils to protest against it. They alleged the project was planned without considering their concerns.



Officials have failed miserably in understanding the feelings of families who will be directly affected. The project will severely impact the state economically and ecologically.

Officials have failed miserably in understanding the feelings of families who will be directly affected. The project will severely impact the state economically and ecologically," alleged Anil Kumar M A, general convener of Save Kerala, High Speed Railways Action Council, which has been organising protests in central Kerala.

"The project will mainly affect the families in Kollam, Pathanamthitta, Alappuzha, Kottayam, Ernakulam and Thrissur. Though Kerala Rail Development Corporation (KRDC) has projected the erection of 10,600 fami-

lies in total, the real number will be much higher in Kottayam itself. We will continue protesting until they change the alignment," said Anil. Experts too have questioned the need of the project. "Not just financial viability, but even the necessity of the project should be reviewed. Travel time was never a factor behind Kerala's poor show in industrial growth. Hence, reducing it won't make any difference. Passenger estimates are also far fetched. It is possible to achieve industrial growth with-

out burning future generations," said D Dhanraj, chairman of the Centre for Public Policy Research. He said better connectivity could be achieved by completing the doubling of existing lines.

"The printing doubling works can be completed for 4,000 crore. If that is done, we can augment services and attain better speed. We will also have four railway lines through Alappuzha and Kottayam and the travel time between Ernakulam and Thiruvananthapuram can be reduced from four-and-a-half hours to three," he said. Meanwhile, KRDC officials said the people's concerns will be addressed. The change in alignment has also reduced the number of affected families, they said.

"While it is not practical to reach out to every family, KRDC is ready to have dialogues with their representatives. We have finalised the alignment to ensure it impacts the least number of people. Still, a few families will be affected," said KRDC, managing director V A Jithu Kumar.

ചന്ദ്രിക

താൽവാൻ താഴ്വരയിൽ സംഭവിക്കുന്നതിന് പിന്നിൽ

കൊച്ചി

കേരളത്തിലെ താൽവാൻ താഴ്വരയിൽ സംഭവിക്കുന്നതിന് പിന്നിൽ എന്തെല്ലാം കാരണങ്ങളാലാണ് ഇത് സംഭവിക്കുന്നത് എന്ന് പഠനം നടത്തുന്നതിന് കേന്ദ്രം താല്പരമാണ്. താൽവാൻ താഴ്വരയിൽ സംഭവിക്കുന്നതിന് പിന്നിൽ എന്തെല്ലാം കാരണങ്ങളാലാണ് ഇത് സംഭവിക്കുന്നത് എന്ന് പഠനം നടത്തുന്നതിന് കേന്ദ്രം താല്പരമാണ്.

'Covid serious threat to economy than to health'

SHIMIN JOY
NEW DELHI, INDIA

People perceive the threat to the economy caused due to the Covid-19 pandemic to be more serious than health risks, according to a survey by Atlas Think Centre for Public Policy Research.

According to the survey conducted in the second half of June, 52% of the respondents believe that the severity of the economic threats is more or 'highly severe' compared to health risks. 47% of the respondents believe the severity of the pandemic induced health crisis is more or 'highly severe'.

While respondents almost unanimously regard the crisis as a 'severe' or 'highly severe' threat to the economy, the survey showed that the sentiment is 'stronger' among the lowest income groups, as they were most hit by the pandemic. The study also showed that with an increase in income, a lower percentage of respondents report a high severity rating of threat due to Covid-19 on the economic side.

According to the survey by the Kochi-based think-tank, 88% of the respondents from lower-income category with a household income below Rs 5,000 felt that the pandemic's threat to the economy was very serious while it was 57% among those with an income of over Rs three lakh.

While one out of four employees respondents experienced a salary cut, only 15% of them were from the lowest income group below Rs 25,000 while the rest of the income groups comprise a greater percentage of respondents reporting salary cuts.

Asked about the imposition of the lockdown, the survey said 74% of the respondents were of the view that the restrictions were effective in curbing the spread of the pandemic. Almost half of the respondents were highly content with the response of their state governments while only 18% were highly content with the Centre's response to the pandemic.

Entries invited for CPPR- ICWA essay competition

Kochi: Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi, in collaboration with the Centre for Public Policy Research, Kochi, announces the ICWA-CPPR Malayalam Essay Competition in senior (age group of 18-25 years) and junior Categories (age group of 15-18 years). Details can be accessed here- <https://www.cppr.in/icwa-cppr-essay-competition>

കോവിഡ് പ്രതിരോധത്തിൽ കേരളം ഒന്നാമത്

കൊച്ചി കൊവിഡ് അധിവാസത്തിൽ പാലക്കാട് മുൻപായിരുന്നു. കേരളം കോവിഡ് പ്രതിരോധത്തിൽ ഒന്നാമതായി മാറിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. കേരളം കോവിഡ് പ്രതിരോധത്തിൽ ഒന്നാമതായി മാറിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

കേരളം മുൻപിൽ

കോവിഡ് പ്രതിരോധത്തിൽ കേരളം മുൻപിൽ മാറിയിട്ടുണ്ട്. കേരളം കോവിഡ് പ്രതിരോധത്തിൽ ഒന്നാമതായി മാറിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

കേന്ദ്ര സൗജന്യ കാലോചാരണ, വെനസ്സ് വെർച്വൽ, അക്രമസേവ ഇംപീനർ

കേന്ദ്ര സൗജന്യ കാലോചാരണ, വെനസ്സ് വെർച്വൽ, അക്രമസേവ ഇംപീനർ. കേന്ദ്ര സൗജന്യ കാലോചാരണ, വെനസ്സ് വെർച്വൽ, അക്രമസേവ ഇംപീനർ.

എ.സി.ഡബ്ല്യു.എ. സി.പി.പി.ആർ. ഉപന്യാസ മത്സരം

കൊച്ചി ഇന്ത്യൻ കൗൺസിൽ ഓഫ് വേൾഡ് അഫയേഴ്സ് സോ (എ.സി.ഡബ്ല്യു.എ.) സെന്റർ ഓഫ് പബ്ലിക് പോളിസി റിസർച്ച് ചേർന്നു വിദ്യാർത്ഥികൾക്കായി ജൂനിയർ-സീനിയർ തലത്തിൽ വിവിധ വിഷയങ്ങളിൽ മലയാള ഉപന്യാസ മത്സരം സംഘടിപ്പിച്ചു. വിഷയങ്ങൾ: വിരോധപക്ഷം, വിരോധപക്ഷം-<https://www.cppr.in/icwa-cppr-essay-competition>, വോട്ടർ: 99466 39339. അയയ്ക്കേണ്ട വിലാസം academy@cppr.in. അവസാന തീയതി: 20.

SPECIAL EDITION

അതിരുകളില്ലാത്ത ചോദ്യം വൻ വിജയം അവകാശപ്പെട്ട് (പോ) ന്യൂസ് ചാനൽ വിശദീകരിക്കുന്നു. ന്യൂസ് നാ (CPPR ചോദ്യങ്ങൾ) ബി.ടി.വി. ചാനൽ.

RESTING AT THE SEAMS

The Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) South, in association with ATLAS Network, USA, has invited entries for the 'CPPR-ATLAS South Asia public policy challenge'.

കോൺഗ്രസ് ഇടതുപാർട്ടികളോടൊപ്പം പിന്നിൽ

കോൺഗ്രസ് ഇടതുപാർട്ടികളോടൊപ്പം പിന്നിൽ. കോൺഗ്രസ് ഇടതുപാർട്ടികളോടൊപ്പം പിന്നിൽ.

Entries invited for CPPR-ATLAS South Asia public policy challenge in Kochi

THE Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) South, in association with ATLAS Network, USA, has invited entries for the 'CPPR-ATLAS South Asia public policy challenge'.

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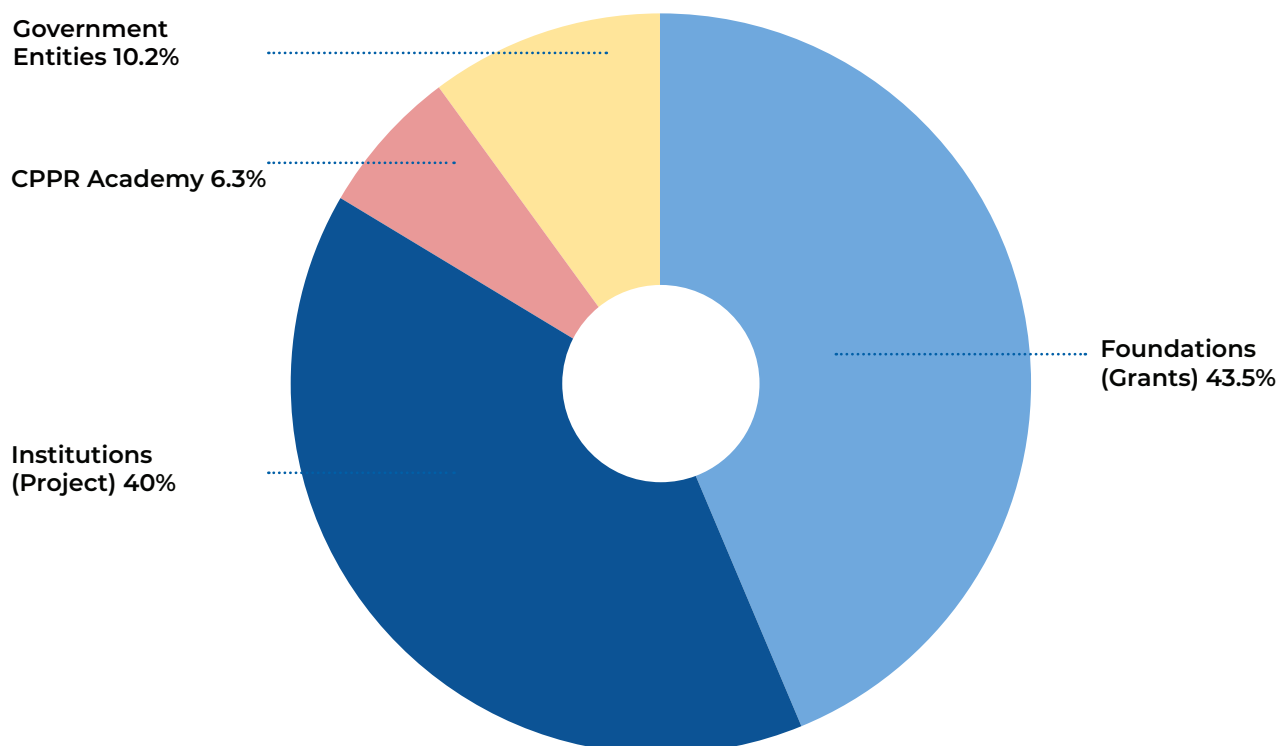
Project Assistant

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(FINANCIAL YEAR 2020-2021)

Omidyar Network India	Altas Network, USA
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DVDH, France	World Trade Centre, Kochi

CPPR GRANTS AND RECEIPTS FY 2020-21



WAY FORWARD 2021-22



Namaste!

As a think tank, we value the importance of evidence-based policymaking. This is all the more of cardinal importance to CPPR as we continue to focus on the agenda of policy reforms. It is in the pursuit of advancing personal, social, political and economic freedom that we support policymakers to formulate and enact effective policies, by providing them with evidence-based analyses and recommendations.

We are delighted to have a team with foresight who have had immense courage to work against all odds during this pandemic. Most of the team members are working from home as safety is paramount. We believe that the perseverance and prodigious sacrifice of our colleagues, consultants, advisors and fellows, make us who we are today.

CPPR has identified some pivotal goals for the financial year 2021-22.

- Goal 1: To become a leading public policy research organization in peninsular India through enhancement of quality and innovative role of public policy researchers.
- Goal 2: To popularize & build acceptance of our policy ideas among stakeholders through advocacy in Global Voices for Open Trade and Urban Transport Reforms in Kerala.
- Goal 3: To offer quality training and development opportunities in public policy through online courses and other virtual engagements.
- Goal 4: To drive organizational excellence through talent, knowledge and financial management.
- Goal 5: To develop strategic partnership to scale our budget to 100% and improve our ranking at the 2021 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report.

CPPR has these projects that shall be of consequential value creating impact and change:

1. Assessing Kerala's Business Climate from Perspective of Business Leaders.
2. Business Opportunity in Transport Finance in Kerala.
3. How Global E-Commerce Can Empower Cottage Industries in India?
4. Maritime Cooperation for a Sustainable Future in the Indo-Pacific Region.
5. Strategic Futures: Regional Maritime Security Complexes of the Western Pacific Rim; Indian Ocean - Southern Ocean; and the Arabian Sea Littoral.
6. Towards Functioning Land and Housing Market for the Urban Poor in Kochi.
7. South-Asia Public Policy Challenge.

We are grateful and excited to collaborate with our partners this financial year - Atlas Network-United States, U.S. Department of State, Monash University-Australia, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)-Australia, Kerala Transport Development Finance Corporation (KTDFC), Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF).

We would love to hear from you if you have any suggestions or would like to collaborate with us. Please write to me at manojmathew@cppr.in.

Thank you!

Manoj Mathew

Chief Operating Officer



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