



**Department of Science and Technology – Centre for
Policy Research (DST-CPR)
at
Centre for Studies in Science, Technology and
Innovation Policy(CSSTIP)
School of Social Sciences
Central University of Gujrat
Sector 29, Gandhinagar
Gujarat-382030**

About the Centre

In April 2023, the Department of Science and Technology- Centre for Policy Research (DST-CPR) was established through an Expression of Interest (EoI) at the Centre for Studies in Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (CSSTIP), School of Social Science (SSS), Central University of Gujarat. The DST-CPR is funded by the Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi, Government of India. The ongoing project at the centre is **“Developing Indicators to Assess and Develop Equity and Inclusion in Science, Technology and Innovation Sectors in Western India.”** Additionally, this Centre is entrusted with the responsibility of carrying out research in the following areas: STI Diplomacy, STI Policy & Governance, Science Communication, Science Advice and Advocacy, Sectoral STI, Intellectual Property Ecosystem and other regulatory issues and Equity and Inclusion (E&I) in STI sector.

The Idea of CPR

The Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, is tasked with developing and providing public policy support for the nation's STI promotion. The department launched the Policy Research Cell (PRC) initiative in 2013 as part of the 12th five-year plan with the goal of creating and providing public policy assistance to advance science, technology, and innovation in the nation.

The key objectives of the programme are as below:

- Generating evidence-base input for making the Policy& Planning.
- Creating critical mass of policy researchers in the country

Currently the programme is implemented broadly through two different modes of support in the area of STI Policy Research:

1. Establishment of DST-Centres for Policy Research (DST-CPR) along with recognition to the DST-satellite Centres for Policy Research (SPR) and;
2. DST-STI Policy Fellowship Programme.

CPRs are established to pursue the policy-based research in identified thematic areas of different S&T sectors to collect the evidence-based input to address the gap, in making policy & planning in that particular areas. Additionally, DST-SPRs are being identified considering their expertise in a specified S&T policy domain to assign the need-based research project in their areas of expertise. The call for establishment of CPRs is purely on the basis of requirement. These Centres carry out the evidence-based studies, evaluation and foresight studies as an input for national/regional S&T policy planning. Currently, eight CPRs are supported under the programme along with recognition to ten SPRs.

The DST- CPR team at CSSTIP, CUG

Dr. Hemant Kumar (Principal Investigator)

Dr. Kunal Sinha (Co-PI)

Dr. Parvathi K. Iyer (Co-PI)

Dr. Shiju Sam Varughese (Co-PI)

Dr. Swapnil Shukla, Project Scientist II

Dr. Swapnil Shukla has a Ph.D. degree in Chemistry from Shiv Nadar University, Uttar Pradesh. The title of the Ph.D. thesis was “ Sustainable Benzoxazines – Sources, Synthesis and Applications”. She completed her Masters in Chemistry from Hindu College, University of Delhi. She has a B. Sc. (Hons.) in Chemistry from Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi. She has worked as a Research Scientist in Polymer R&D, Reliance Industries Ltd., Navi Mumbai. She has sixteen publications including two book chapters.

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Chandrahash Patel is a Ph.D. Scholar in Studies in Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP), at Center for Studies in Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (CSSTIP), School of Social Sciences (SSS) Central University of Gujarat (CUG). He submitted his Ph.D. thesis titled “ Technological Transition and Convergence in the Telecom Sector: The Case of Mobile Telecommunication System in India” in the month of August 2023. He received his M.Phil. degree in SSTIP from CSSTIP, SSS CUG, Master’s degree (M. Tech.) in Micro Electronics and VLSI Design (MEVD) from TIT Engineering College (RGPV), Bhopal, and Bachelor’s degree (B. Tech.) in Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE) from the BBDNITM (UPTU), Lucknow. He has thirteen publications including book chapters and his research interests include technological convergence, technological transition, and the innovation system, with a focus on the telecommunication and ESDM industries.

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Mr. Kumar Gaurav, Student Volunteer

Kumar, a story consumer, is currently on a quest for his PhD at the Centre for Studies in Science, Technology, and Innovation Policy, Central University of Gujarat, Gandhinagar. Prior to this, he earned a bachelor's degree in electronics engineering and then went on to complete his master's at the School of Ecology and Environmental Studies, Nalanda University, Rajgir. In this ongoing project, he voluntarily hopped on board — backing the team on the questions of inclusiveness of science within informal sectors.



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