Introduction: Aims and Objectives

CCD is an institution established in 2001 with the main aim of doing research in social sciences on issues of social, cultural and political significance, with particular reference to Gujarat. It is an academic centre meant to harness the knowledge of social sciences to the service of Gujarat society, particularly its disadvantaged sections, and more specifically, minorities, tribals, dalits, and women. The specific focus of CCD is on conflict resolution, the interface between culture and economic development, and social discrimination violating human rights. The Centre’s field of activities includes research, evaluation, training, and relevant interventions. It undertakes research projects and publishes literature with an activist orientation when required.
Infrastructure

Baroda (now Vadodara) is geographically central in Gujarat, well connected by road, rail and air. CCD is located on the XTI campus, two kilometres from the periphery of Baroda city, in a rural area surrounded by greenery. The campus is lined by huge trees and is somewhat cooler than the city. CCD is housed in its own building. Presently the building has the administrative block on the ground floor and the academic block on the first floor. The administrative block contains an air-conditioned conference room with seating arrangement for 25 persons. It also houses a digitised library with more than 3500 volumes in social sciences, and a large collection of newspaper clippings, articles and reprints, making a total of 8142 entries. The library subscribes to 25 journals. The Centre has a laser printer and copier, five systems (computers) and a multimedia projector for training courses and workshops. It also has a modest guesthouse with an attached kitchen for visiting scholars.

Board of Trustees of the CCD

- Fr. Keith Abranches S.J., Provincial of Gujarat, Jesuit Province (President)
- Prof. A.M. Shah (Retired. Professor of Sociology, Delhi University, now residing in Vadodara)
- Dr. J.S. Bandukwala (Retired Professor, M.S. University, Baroda)
- Fr. Francis Parmar (Principal, St. Xavier’s College, Ahmedabad)
- Dr. Ishanand Vempeny (Indologist, Ahmedabad)
- Dr. Paul D’ souza (Sociologist, Ahmedabad)
- Dr. Stany Pinto (Sociologist, Surat) (Treasurer)
- Prof. Lancy Lobo (Director and Secretary)

The Board of Trustees met on October 26, 2006 at CCD. They appreciated the activities mentioned in the annual report of 2004-2005. They commended in particular the progress of the project, “Development Induced Displacement in Gujarat.” They recommended that CCD might move towards expanding its faculty.

Research Advisory Committee

CCD has a Research Advisory Committee, composed as follows:

- Professor Priyavadan M. Patel (Political Science Department, M.S. University, Baroda)
- Professor Biswaroop Das (Centre for Social Studies, Surat)
- Dr. Nandini Manjrekar (Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai)
- Dr. Stany Pinto (Bhiloda).

Staff of CCD

- Dr. Lancy Lobo (Director)
- Amba Gamit (Office Assistant)
- Dinesh Patel (Attendant cum driver)

Project Staff

Sashikant Kumar (Consultant)

Research Investigators: Prashant Parmar, Dinesh Vasava

Data Entry Operator: Hemlata Gamit

Workshops conducted outside CCD by Lancy Lobo

1. One day workshop on “Gender Sensitivity and Justice to Catholic Religious of India”, at St. Anne’s School, Nadiad on September 10, 2006.
2. Half a day workshop on “Electoral Dynamics in Gujarat” to the Think Tank of Ahmedabad Diocese, at Bishop’s House, Ahmedabad, on November 8, 2006.
3. Three day workshop on “Communalism in Gujarat” for the students of Postgraduate Programme in Development Management at Behavioural Science Centre, Ahmedabad on November 20-22, 2006.
5. Conducted a workshop for the staff on “Communalism in Gujarat” At Fatima H. School, Daman on 3.2.2007.

Workshops conducted at CCD
1. Introduction to First year Students of Gujarat Vidya Deep (GVD) to Centre for Culture and Development, on 24.6.2006.

Visiting Professor

Publications by Lancy Lobo
Book

This book has grown out of the study undertaken by CCD, viz., Geography of Riots, with a few additional articles by eminent scholars and intellectuals like Ghanshyam Shah, J.S. Bandukwala Asghar Ali Engineer, Ram Puniyani, and K.Desai. The analysis includes the spread of these riots; contents, causes and nature of violence; actors and agencies perpetrating and facilitating its sustenance; response of tribals and dalits to these events; socio-political determinants of perpetuating as well as thwarting the effects of such riots and the cognitive construction of communal images among the rural population in Central Gujarat during and the aftermath of these unprecedented riots in the State.
Articles

4. with Sashikant Kumar, “Urbanisation and Housing for Urban Poor in Vadodara”. Mimeo.

Participation in Workshops and Seminars by Lancy Lobo

1. with Sashikant Kumar, presented a paper, “Urbanisation and Housing for Urban Poor in Vadodara”, at a seminar on “Re-imagining the City, Re-imagining the Nation” at M.S. University, on 30.6.2006 organised by ANHAD.
2. with Shashikant Kumar, presented a paper, “Developmental Violence: A Case of Ukai – Kakrapar Displaced People”, at Centre for Social Studies, Surat, July 5-7, 2006. The seminar, “Condition of Marginal Groups in Contemporary India” was arranged in honour of the late Professor S.P. Punalekar.
3. Responded to a paper, “Should Humanitarian Intervention/Aid be a Duty or a Right?” by Dr. Mugangu at the 22nd General Assembly of International Federation of Catholic Universities held at Assumption University, Bangkok from 31st July to 4th August, 2006.

Visits by scholars and Ph.D. students

A number of scholars and students from universities visited CCD and availed of its library facilities as well as guidance.

Completed Projects

1. Development Induced Displacement in Gujarat from 1947 to 2004

There has been much land acquisition and displacement in Gujarat as a result of the developmental efforts of the State. The extent of land acquisition and displacement is expected to rise further. However, very little information was available on these issues. This study is expected to provide an information base on the major development projects and displacement in Gujarat since 1947. It aims at looking at the level of displacement and finding effects of displacement. This study was carried out in three phases:

Phase I involved creating a data base of Gazette notifications on land acquisition during 1947-2004, to know the quantum of land acquired. Phase II involved perusal of official documents from the district Collector’s record rooms, project sites, various ministries, studies done by research and government organizations, and materials preserved in documentation centres in the Legislative Assembly, the State Secretariat, and university and research libraries. Phase III was a study of a representative sample of persons displaced (DP) or otherwise deprived by the projects (PAP), in order to analyze the impact of displacement, amounts of compensation, and the social and economic costs of displacement and rehabilitation, by the projects. Absence of comprehensive data base on the extent of land alienation, displacement and rehabilitation makes it necessary for this study to engage in serious inputs for the emergence of future policy for Gujarat.
Similar studies have been undertaken in Orissa, West Bengal, Goa, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Jharkhand, and the North East. These studies have provided us necessary guidelines in drawing up the methodological and scientific inputs for research. Support from eminent researchers and organizations was sought to improve and enhance our research. The study in Gujarat can thus be an eye opener to the impact of development projects on the masses. It expects to contribute to the discourse on development, displacement and rehabilitation.

Summary of findings of this Study:

Sardar Sarovar Project has cornered all the limelight in discussions on displacement and rehabilitation in Gujarat. However, there are four lakh households displaced or affected during 57 years of Independence in Gujarat, amounting to 5% of the total population of Gujarat from all developmental projects, related to water resource transport and communications, industries, mines, defence, sanctuaries, human resource related, government offices, tourism and so on. A total of 33 lakh hectares of land has been acquired during 1947-2004 as computed from 80,000 Gazette notifications of the government of Gujarat and from Land Acquisition Departments from 25 Collectorates through RTI Act. This presents spatial and time dimension of land acquisition and also the status of the displaced and affected. The existing 7 SEZs and 24 more proposed in Gujarat will take away quite a lot of the agricultural land despite the Chief Minister repeatedly saying that it will be barren, waste, and saline land. The Gujarat Ecology Commission reports readied in 1995 on the status of air, water and land are yet to be released by the government, as they are damning to its growth centric development. It is said that the GDP is 14% for Gujarat while for the rest of the country is 10%. However, few people speak loudly about the depletion rate of resources in Gujarat.

Current projects

1. Malaria in the Social Context: A Study in South Gujarat, Western India

“Ethnography of Malaria in Surat District” was a study directed by Lancy Lobo while at Centre for Social Studies, Surat during 1996-2000 with a grant from the Department for International Development (DFID, UK). The output being unique, it was thought worthwhile sharing the findings with the wider academia and public before it is dated. The manuscript is now readied for the press.

2. Documentation and its Digitisation

Paper clippings collected over six years by CCD have now been classified in the following broad topics: tribals, dalits, women, health, politics, Sangh Parivar and Communalism, environment, religion, education, development, economics and human rights. These clippings have now been chronologically ordered and pasted on to A-3 sized papers and spirally bound. The digitisation of these is in progress for easy access.

3. Historical Demography of Baroda State: Study of Dehzado Records of 1881

This study was completed and submitted to Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, last year. It is now under revision with a view to its eventual publication.

Persons to be especially thanked:

1. Olivia Abranches
2. Mr. Martin Lobo
3. John Saldanha
4. Mr. Gilbert Coutinho