

Budget Analysis and Research Centre Trust
Annual Report
2017-2018



BUDGET LINKS POLICY TO PEOPLE AND PEOPLE TO POLICY



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BARC TRUST: AN INTRODUCTION

BARC Trust is an independent organization working towards enhancing transparency and accountability in governance through rigorous analysis of government's policy and budget.

Evolution of BARC Trust:

The Budget Analysis and Research Centre (BARC) Trust was officially registered as a Trust on 4th March, 2015. It is virtually the new avatar of the Budget Analysis Rajasthan Centre (BARC) which was established by Astha Sansthan in 2003, and is an unregistered organization and a part of Astha. Its aim – to analyze the Rajasthan State Government budget, and examine if the commitments made by the government through policy documents, election manifestos, budget speeches and international commitments are matched by adequate financial provisions in the State Budget - and disseminate the findings through training and publications. The need to register the BARC Trust was done for two reasons – (a) to assure long-term and independent work of BARC, and (b) to formally expand the scope of the work on Social Policy Research and Action by renaming the registered organization as the “Budget Analysis and Research Centre”. There was a desire to build on the solid base laid down by the organization since 2003, and so “Budget Analysis” was retained as a/the major focus. “Budget Analysis” is indeed a good way to influence Social Policy, and over the 12 years (2003 – 2015), activists, journalists, People's Organizations, MLAs – and BARC have done so! When needed or the opportunity arises, the Centre will also take up Social Policy Research and training into issues and problems facing not only Rajasthan, but other states and areas as well.

BARC has been involved in analyzing the state budget from the perspective of poor and marginalized and has been using its analysis to further the issues and concerns of the marginalized sections such as Dalits, Tribals, Women and Children. BARC has been working closely with PRIs and ULBs along with the NGOs, POs, media and civil society to create a pool of budgetary information through its research and training activities.

VISION

To work towards a policy environment that ensures rights, justice and well-being for all, especially the deprived and marginalized. BARC Trust works to contribute in the efforts of the larger civil society to create pro people and pro marginalized public policies and budgetary processes.

MISSION

To simplify complicated budget data and key policy matters for the wider public.

OBJECTIVES OF BARC TRUST

To strengthen transparency in governance

To make public budget and its processes comprehensible for the wider public

To facilitate marginalized groups to increase their access to the government and non-government development programs and schemes

To undertake training and capacity building of individuals and organizations (by collaborating with them)

To coordinate and collaborate with the organizations in India and/or internationally to create networks which will focus on ameliorating conditions affecting the poor

To undertake and provide consultancies to any person, institution, government or NGOs in the broad area of work

To develop resource centers and documentation centers that would promote public education and accountability in governance and policy

OUR FOCUS: 6 KEY AREAS

1. Budget Transparency and Accountability

2. Local Self-Governing Organizations

3. Marginalized Groups

- Children
- Women
- Differently Abled Persons
- Dalits
- Tribals
- Senior Citizens
- Minorities
- Unorganized Workers
- Urban Poor

4. Social Sector

- Health
- Education
- Drinking Water and Sanitation
- Social Security
- Nutrition and Food Security

5. Rural Economy

- Agriculture
- Irrigation
- Employment
- Housing

6. Energy, Environment and Climate Change

KEY ACTIVITIES

Policy Analysis and Research

Budget Analysis and Advocacy

Budget and Planning of Local Self-Governing Bodies

Capacity Building and Training

Workshops and Seminars

Partnerships and Networking

Publications

ACTIVITIES: 2017-2018

I. Budget Advocacy

BARC Trust analyses the Union and State budget, conducts pre and post budget advocacy with the government and elected representatives to promote transparent, accountable and participatory governance and a people centric perspective with regards to the preparation and implementation of the budgets.



❖ Pre-Budget Advocacy

Every year BARC Trust does Pre Budget-advocacy for increasing the understanding and participation of people in the budgeting process. The Pre Budget-Advocacy is done with the Rajasthan government by involving Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Unions and Associations functioning across Rajasthan.

It also involved conducting pre-budget workshop with the Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) of Rajasthan by giving suggestions and raising demands for the upcoming budget at both level Centre and State. Also, a pre-budget consultation with state NGOs and Civil Society was conducted. BARC also participated actively in the pre-

budget advocacy on the Union budget with the Union government by the People's Budget Initiative (PBI).

❖ Pre-Budget Consultation with Civil Society:

A two-day pre-budget consultation was organized with Budget Analysis Research Centre (BARC) on 13th-14th November 2017 at Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur. In the consultation, about 60 people from various civil society organizations (CSOs), POs and other research, academic and development organizations participated. The consultation started with a lecture from Prof. V.S. Vyas, followed by presentations from experts, and discussions.

The consultation focused on detailed discussion of the current status of the situation at ground level. Along with, collecting demands for the Budget 2018-19 on the following subjects: education, health, food security, pension, women and child development, marginalized communities like Dalits, tribal, nomad and minorities, agriculture, rural development, and labor and employment.

Participants have shared their views, gave suggestions and raised demand. Based on which, a Charter of Demands (CoD) was prepared for presenting to the department/ministries and other stakeholders of the government. This CoD was meant to be presented to Government for Budget 2018-19.

❖ Pre-Budget Workshop with MLAs:

Before the Budget 2018-19, Budget Analysis Research Centre Trust (BARC Trust) with Budget Analysis Research Centre (BARC) organized a pre-budget workshop

with MLAs of Rajasthan on 5th February



Image: Pre-Budget workshop with Members of Legislative Assembly, CSOs and development partners, Jaipur

2018. Around 35 participants including 12 MLAs and representatives from different organizations, NGOs, media houses participated in the workshop. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the trends of state economy and budget allocation and expenditure of the government over the past few years and to give suggestions for the upcoming budget. Also, the issues related to budget of different socio-economic sectors/groups could be raised by them in the state assembly.

The MLAs workshop helps us in keeping in touch with the state MLAs. We come to know about their expectations from BARC, which helps us in developing our post budget advocacy strategy. The MLAs workshop also gets media coverage and helps in generating discourse around budget in media and among people.

❖ **Post Budget Activities**

Budget Analysis

After the announcement of State Budget in Rajasthan on 8th March (2017), BARC prepared/updated budget sheets in order to simplify the budget data which is provided by the government in the budget books. Budget sheets of budget summary (head wise and sector wise), Department-wise budget, State Budget as a percentage of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), tax revenue of Rajasthan Government, outstanding liabilities of Rajasthan Government, Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) and Schedule Caste Sub Plan (SCSP) budget, Budget for Children in Rajasthan and Medical and Family Welfare budget and these budget sheets were uploaded to the website.

BARC also shared the analysis of the State Budget with the media, researchers, civil society organizations and MLAs. Budget notes were prepared for the budget for various sectors like agriculture, health, rural development, minority affairs, education, gender budget etc. and were shared with the media and the MLAs.

❖ **Supporting the Panchayats**

“Strengthening Panchayat Governance by Promoting Participatory Planning and Budgeting”

BARC Trust implemented a project on “Strengthening Panchayat Governance by Promoting Participatory Planning and Budgeting” with the support of UNICEF in 2 Blocks i.e. Malpura and Todraisingh in Tonk District. The main objective of the project was to strengthen the Panchayats and enhance their capacities in planning and budgeting in accordance with the Panchayati Raj Act 1994 and Panchayati Raj Rules 1996 and the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP), initiated by the government.

Apart from capacity building on planning, the project also focused on increased participation in the planning process and better implementation and monitoring of the

Panchayat's programmes. Another important component of the project was to develop a composite index to rank (or grade) the Panchayats according to their performances.

Since the project started in March, the planning process of the Panchayats was already completed and therefore capacity building was started from the implementation process and was then moved to capacity building activity related to planning process.

Activities under the Project:

- **The Grading Survey:**

An important component of the project was to develop a composite index to rank (or grade) the Panchayats according to their performances. The ranking or the grading was based on a survey to collect data on the performances of the Panchayats in five performance areas. A composite index was developed for the purpose. There were a total of 67 Panchayats in both the blocks i.e. 36 gram Panchayats in Malpura block and 31 gram Panchayats in Todarai singh block. Survey of all the Panchayats for grading of the Panchayats was conducted in both the selected blocks. The main purpose of the survey was to grade the Panchayats according to their functioning under the following areas of performance:

- Panchayat Functioning
- Accountability and Transparency
- Social Sector Performance
- Innovations
- Capacity Building and Training

The overall performance of the Panchayats was categorized into three categories:

Green: Good performing Panchayats (More than 75 per cent marks in the survey)

Yellow: Medium performing Panchayats (Marks from 50 per cent to 75 per cent in the survey)

Red: Non-performing Panchayats (Marks below 50 per cent in the survey)

After the completion of the set of indicators, an application was developed for the purpose of data collection through software in tablets. The application had pre-defined answers for most of the questions and was easily comprehensible. The application was also GPS-enabled so the location of the surveyor could be checked if need arose. A team of eight surveyors was selected for the survey of the Panchayats. After the mock survey, the tablets were given to the surveyors (once they signed their contracts).



Image: GKN-Gram Karya Nirdeshika training at Todaraisingh Block

- **Analysis of Data Received from the Survey:**

In order to analyze the data collected from the survey, the software was developed by an IT team which graded the Panchayats according to the answers obtained and categorized them in Green, Yellow or Red. After some discussion with UNICEF, it was also decided that the indicators as well as sub-indicators would also be categorized as Green, Yellow or Red. The software was further enhanced to incorporate a spider-web chart as well as a block-wise map of the Panchayats. After all the incorporations and changes, the software has been uploaded to BARC Trust's website and is available for public view. The result can be viewed [here](#).



- **Capacity Building:**

Capacity Building of the elected representatives and other key functionaries was taken up in the programme.

Capacity Building Training of Literacy Motivators regarding Various Processes of Panchayats:

Literacy motivators are contractual employees of the government who are placed in gram Panchayats in order to promote education among adults i.e. people above the age of 15. There are supposed to be two literacy motivators placed in each gram Panchayat, one male and one female. Additionally, these literacy motivators have also been tasked to provide support to the Panchayats in all their activities including planning and implementation. Therefore, it was decided in the revised plan of the project to organize capacity building workshops for the motivators on the roles and functioning of the Panchayats so that they can perform their roles more effectively.

In the trainings, the literacy motivators were given detailed information about the functioning of Panchayats, GPDP i.e. the planning process of Panchayats and their role in the Panchayat processes (planning and others). Since they are the ones who are the most closely linked to the people of the Panchayats and are also participants of



Panchayat processes, they can be an important tool in motivating people to participate in gram Panchayat processes, Ward Sabha, Mahila Sabha and Gram Sabha.

Two training workshops for the literacy motivators were organized in Malpura block and two more in Todaraisingh block. A total of 96 out of 111 literacy motivators (currently working in the two blocks) participated in the training.

Training of Elected Representatives (ERs) on Implementation of Panchayat Plan:

In this training, sarpanchs, upsarpanch and ward panch of various Panchayats were invited. These trainings were conducted in a total of 8 workshops. A 5 page document on Village Work Guideline [Gram Karya Nirdeshika (GKN)] was prepared by the project team and was distributed among the Panchayats. The document highlighted the main components and procedure defined under GKN and gave a brief overview of the book.

There were discussions on Panchayati Raj System and the processes, responsibility and working of Gram Panchayat.

The discussion then moved on to Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) during which planning process and fund allocation under GPDP were talked about. Other than that, the two committees that are to be formed for smooth working of GPDP i.e. Gram Panchayat Coordination Committee (GPCC) and Technical Support Group (TSG) were also discussed.

There was a detailed discussion regarding Gram Karya Nirdeshika (GKN) and standing committees.

4 trainings were conducted in Malpura block. At least 1 member from every Panchayat of Malpura block participated in the trainings. ERs from 36 Gram Panchayats participated in the trainings. In total 84 ERs attended the training in Malpura.

A total of four trainings on GKN was conducted in Todaraisingh block. ERs from 30 Gram Panchayats (out of 31 in the block) participated in the trainings. A total of 88 people participated in the trainings including the Block Development Officer (BDO) of Todaraisingh.

Training of ERs Regarding the Planning Process of Panchayats [Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP)]:



In these trainings the focus was on involvement of all Elected Representatives from each Panchayat i.e. all ward Panchs, Sarpanchs and Upsarpanchs. Therefore, in these trainings we focused on the importance of micro planning under GPDP and enhancement of knowledge of ward panchs. Each Panchayat has about

10-15 wards (with some exceptions like Diggi which has around 22 wards) in its parameters. Therefore, in order to accommodate all ward panchs, we divided the blocks into small clusters of 4-5 Panchayat for each meeting.



The main objective of these trainings was to ensure that the understanding of GPDP is such that a proper plan can be formulated in each and every Panchayat of the two blocks. In order to do so, we conducted interactive trainings through which issues of the ERs, especially ward members came

forward and we were able to answer their queries.

Training on GPDP in Malpura:

Nine trainings were conducted in Malpura block attended by 210 ERs. The clusters were selected according to the approximate distance between them. The trainings were conducted in Atal Seva Kendras of the hosting Panchayats.

Training on GPDP in Todaraisingh:

Eight trainings were conducted in Todaraisingh block attended by 211 ERs. The trainings were conducted in Atal Seva Kendras of the hosting Panchayats.

Preparation of GKN Manual:

Gram Karya Nirdeshika (GKN) is a manual which states the rules, regulations and other aspects of implementation of gram Panchayat's plan as well as other works which are done by the Panchayat. GKN is a fairly large book with technical and difficult language. In order to remedy that, it was decided that BARC Trust will also be preparing a small manual named "Simplified Version of GKN" which will provide all the important information from the manual in a simpler and easy to understand language. The manual was finalised after getting it vetted by Mr. Sanjay Sharma (Panchayati Raj Department) and making necessary changes suggested by him.

Preparation of IEC Material

IEC material for enhancing knowledge regarding various aspects of GPDP was prepared by BARC Trust. Four posters giving information on GPDP, Devolved Departments, Mahila Sabha and inclusive planning were prepared, printed and distributed among the Panchayats. The posters were unveiled by Zilla Pramookh, Tonk in a District Level Workshop of ERs organised by Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Rajasthan. Some of the posters were also distributed to trainers who are a part of Tonk Government's Panchayat Strengthening Project so that they can be further distributed in the Panchayats.

आपणी योजना आपणो विकास
जीपीडीपी से आई हर चेहरे पर मुस्कान
सीमेंट बजरी ही नहीं, मानुस का भी रखा ध्यान

ग्राम पंचायत विकास योजना के तहत ग्राम पंचायतों को अपनी कुल आयोजना का कम से कम 40 फीसदी बजट सामाजिक व मानवीय विकास पर खर्च करना आवश्यक है।

जिला प्रशासन, टोंक
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अधिक जानकारी के लिए संपर्क करें: पंचायती राज विभाग, राजस्थान

आपणी योजना आपणो विकास
गांव की सुहावली के पूरे होंगे अरमान
जीपीडीपी से सु लगे आसमान

अनुमोदित योजना पंचायत समिति की योजना
स्वीकृति प्राप्ति के बाद योजना को 'प्लान पल्स 2.0' वेबसाइट पर 31 मार्च से पहले अपलोड करना
शासक सभा (योजना के कार्यों का प्राथमिकीकरण कर अनुमोदित करना)
ग्राम पंचायत बैठक (वार्ड सभा और महिला सभा में विहित कार्यों की ड्रपट योजना तैयार करना)
वार्ड सभा व महिला सभा
वार्षिक स्थिति व उपलब्ध वित्तीय संसाधनों का आकलन
वातावरण निर्माण

योजना निर्माण के सहयोगी
1. ग्राम पंचायत समन्वय समिति 2. तकनीकी सहयोग दल
3. सामाजिक सहकरता 4. पंचायतों को हस्तान्तरित पांच विभागों के प्रतिनिधि 5. स्वयंसेवी संस्थान

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आपणी योजना आपणो विकास
पांच विभागों को लेकर साथ
बन जाएगी विकास की बात

इस वर्ष जीपीडीपी की आयोजना में ग्राम महिलाओं के लिए सामुदायिक सौचालय और स्वस्थ भूत निर्माण का कार्य शामिल करेंगे।

ग्राम पंचायत

सामाजिक कल्याण एवं आर्थिक/वैदेशिक विकास
महिला एवं श्रम विभाग
कृषि विभाग

पंचायत योजना बनाने वाली ग्राम सभा में पांच विभागों की भागीदारी आवश्यक है।
पांचों विभागों के प्रतिनिधि ग्राम पंचायत समन्वय समिति के भी सदस्य होते हैं।

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आपणी योजना आपणो विकास
गांव के विकास में हम भी देंगे साथ
महिला सभा में रखेंगे अपनी बात

आंगनबाड़ी केन्द्र
कुरु दिवकतें तो सबके सामने बचाने में भी लाज आती है।
फैसलों में तो पुरुषों की ही चलती है, हमारी कौन सुनें!
माँ! महिलाओं के लिए अलग से महिला सभा होती है, जिसमें जाकर आप अपनी समस्या बता सकती हो!

महिला सभा में उठाए गए मुद्दों को ग्राम सभा में शामिल किया जाता है और ग्राम पंचायत विकास योजना बनाते वकत इनका ध्यान रखा जाता है।

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Other than that, handouts for distribution in the trainings were also prepared by the project team on GPDP, GKN and standing committees. These handouts were distributed among the ERs who participated in the GPDP trainings in order to enhance their knowledge regarding the aforementioned topics.

II. Budget Tracking and Research Studies

Every year BARC Trust conducts some studies with the purpose of assessing the impact of the government policies and expenditures on the poor and marginalized section of the society. These studies give the actual situations at the grass-roots level and provide potential entry points for advocacy and better implementation of the government policies. The budget tracking studies provide information about the use of the funds allocated by the government for the welfare of the beneficiaries.

Status of Nutrition in Rajasthan:

“Improved district and state level financing for nutrition in Rajasthan”

A large proportion of population in India is living below poverty line and doesn't get sufficient and healthy diet. The problem of nutrition and food insecurity is severe among women, children, elderly, dalits, tribals and other vulnerable groups. In India, a significant number of women and children are anemic and malnourished. According to India Health Report 2015 – Nutrition, 38.7% children below the age of five years are stunted in India; 69.5% children between 6-59 months are anemic; and 18.6% children who are below the age of three years weigh below the medically recommended weight for children of this age group. The report also reveals that approximately 55% of women between the age group of 15-49 years are anemic. The World's Mother Report of 2013 indicates that nearly 3.09 lakh children in India die on the day of their birth (Save the Children, 2013).

In Rajasthan, the status of food and nutrition security among children and women is very low, in comparison to other states and the national average. According to National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4) for the year of 2015-16, about 46.8% of women were anemic in Rajasthan. For Rajasthan, according to India Health Report 2015 – Nutrition, 36.4% children below the age of 5 years are stunted; 69.7 per cent children between 6-59 months are anemic and 23.2 per cent children who are below the age of three years weigh below the medically recommended weight for children of this age group.

Several studies have been conducted by organizations such as Results for Development (R4D), Accountability Initiative, IFPRI, BARC etc., to identify the status of food and nutrition security at the state level with nutrition financing as their important component.

However, a district level Budget Tracking Study and Advocacy is lacking in the State of Rajasthan for enhancing the understanding and advocating for improved financing of nutrition and food security at the state and district levels.

Therefore, BARC wanted to make an intervention for improved district and state levels financing for nutrition and food security in Rajasthan. A six months project on **“Improved state level and district level financing in Rajasthan”** is being implemented by BARC Trust with the support of Tata Trust. Apart from cost assessment and budget analysis for nutrition at the state level, the project is being implemented in two select districts of Rajasthan - **Dholpur and Udaipur**. The programme just started in the last month of the reporting year and is going to be implemented during the next financial year as well.

Support to the Centre for Law and Child, National Law School Institute University, Bangalore in the Study on “Implementation of NFSA 2013 from the Perspective of Children”

Centre for Law and Child at the National Law School Institute University, Bangalore is also conducting a study on NFSA 2013. BARC Trust is supporting the Centre in the study, mainly in data collection.

III. Conferences and Workshops

The following conferences and workshops were conducted during the year 2017-18:

- **Pre-Budget Consultation:** As mentioned above, BARC Trust with BARC (Astha) organized a two-day Pre-Budget consultation in November 2017.
- **Pre-Budget Workshop with MLAs:** As mentioned above, BARC Trust with BARC (Astha) organized a two-day Pre-Budget workshop with MLAs in February 2018.
- **Workshop on Status of Implementation of NFSA 2013 in Rajasthan:** A State Level Consultation on “Assessing the Implementation of the NFSA, 2013 in Rajasthan: Scope, Issues and Challenges” was organized by Centre for Law and Child, National Law School Institute University, Bangalore in collaboration with BARC Trust, on 25th January 2018 at IDS, Jaipur.

The consultation was structured to include discussions on a thematic basis, under each of the schemes mentioned under the National Food Security Act, 2013. Broadly divided into four sections, each section began with a presentation on the existing status of implementation of a particular scheme in Rajasthan, associated Rules, and followed by a detailed discussion on the key issues and challenges. Several problems and social realities emerged from these discussions, throwing light on the need to discuss policy formulation in the context of these social realities. The issues and challenges revolved around key themes such as accessibility, availability, adequacy, monitoring and evaluation and grievance redressal. A significant number of participants who attended the Consultation belonged to Civil Society Organizations that have been strongly engaging with Right to Food and other associated issues in Rajasthan. Members from the government were also present.

Key issues pertaining to specific themes such as rule formulation, access, availability, adequacy, monitoring, and grievance redressal emerged out of the one-day long discussion. Key policy challenges such as policy formulation not being rooted in social reality and institutional arrangements not informing, promoting or protecting the right holder formed the core of the discussion.

The points that emerged formed the key components of the tools that were created for fieldwork. It is expected that the outcomes of the fieldwork will be consolidated and submitted to the respective states for action.

COLLABORATION, PARTICIPATION AND NETWORKING

BARC is working in collaboration with some of the major networks in India and Rajasthan.

PBI (People's Budget Initiative):

At national level, BARC is an active member of People's Budget Initiative (PBI), a network of a few hundred civil society organizations from across the country; and participates in all its activities. BARC actively participates and contributes in PBI's pre-budget regional and national consultations. BARC also was a part of the joint study conducted by some PBI partners on district level fund tracking of major government schemes.

MAKAAM (Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch):

We have also participated in the activities of MAKAAM, a national network of organization working with women farmers and farm workers.

Supporting Accountability Efforts:

BARC has been supporting the "Management Information system (MIS) to Janta Information System (JIS)" campaign run by Information and Employment Right Campaign (Suchna evam Rozgar Adhikar Abhiyan) in the state. The campaign is working closely with the Information Technology and other departments of the state government to improve the MIS systems of the state government and make it more people friendly.

BARC trust was also a part of the consultations organized by the Auditor General (AG) office for the special audit of NFSA, Swachh Bharat, Jal Swalamban and Udaipur Municipal Corporation. The AG office made extra efforts to involve civil society organizations in developing the methodology of this special audit programme. BARC participated in all the consultations and provided its inputs.

BARC has always worked in collaboration with the various state level networks and organizations like **Right to Food Campaign, Suchna evam Rozgar Adhikar Abhiyan** etc. There is a good number of participations from state NGOs in BARC's pre-budget consultations and other programmes. During the year 2017-18, BARC collaborated with many organizations for conducting various research studies and interventions as mentioned above. Apart from this, BARC also participated in various meetings, seminars and advocacy initiatives undertaken by various organizations.

BARC AS A RESOURCE CENTRE

As stated earlier, one of the roles that BARC assumes is to be a Resource Centre for the NGOs/POs, as well as the journalists, MLAs and the public at large. The Centre was set up to provide high quality research data and analysis to support advocacy efforts. During the year 2017-18, BARC has provided support to various organizations. Some of the organizations which requested for specific budget data and information include MKSS, CDR, Cecoedecon, Action Aid and SR Abhiyan and other Civil Society Organizations.

BARC conducted sessions, made presentations in various capacity building and awareness generation workshops organized by various organizations in the state. BARC has been constantly publishing its studies/policy briefs which are sent to a number of NGOs/POs, journalists, MLAs and the other stakeholders. These studies/policy briefs are also uploaded on BARC's website and are freely accessible.

Publications:

As a Resource Centre, BARC continued to come out with publications during the reported year -

- **Four Posters on GPDP:** As mentioned above, BARC published four posters with information on GPDP, Devolved Departments, Mahila Sabha and inclusive planning.
- **Manual on Gram Karya Nirdheshika (GKN):** The GKN is a guideline for the Panchayats for implementation of their work. Under the Panchayat budget and planning programme in Tonk, a need was felt to bring a summary of this important document. BARC Trust published this document for the ERs and functionaries of the PRIs.

Website:

BARC's website (www.barcjaipur.org) was created to help citizens and other organizations find information about Rajasthan states budget and public policies with a pro poor and marginalized peoples perspective. A centre for budget and policy related information, the site gives an overview of Rajasthan's socio-economic status, and provides simplified understanding of the state's budget and policies over the years.

The website is structured to reflect our strategic focus. Rajasthan's budget has various sections such as budget documents, simplified budget data and disclosure of budget which are directly accessible from the home page. Apart from "About Us", which introduces the visitors to the Trust's Vision, Mission and Objectives, the site has sections on "Rajasthan Budget Data Simplified", which presents the Rajasthan government's budget data in simpler form and the "Panchayat Budget" which introduces the visitors to

the Trust's work with the Panchayats in the Tonk district of Rajasthan. The section on "Nutrition in Rajasthan" introduces the status of nutrition in the state, while the publication section provides all our publications online

All of BARC's publications are featured in one easy-to-access place in the Publication section where one can access documents published from the year 2005 up to the most recent publications. BARC has a variety of publications. The various types of publication are provided in the following list:

- Budget Transparency
- Budget Notes: Analysis of Rajasthan Budget
- Policy Briefs
- Micro Study Reports
- Booklets
- Online Papers
- Manuals
- Charters of Demands
- Newsletters

Major Achievements:

BARC's work in budget analysis is recognized nationally. Our reports have been used by elected representatives, media, and civil society organizations. Last year, we became

Improved Budget Transparency at District Level:

In the last two-three years, the state government started publishing a booklet titled "District- Wise Budget Announcements" (*Zilewar Budget Ghoshnayan*) which lists the announcements made in the budget speech for every district.

The state government has also started providing the ceiling of expenditure for various line departments in a district. It is called "**Consolidated Total District Plan 2018-19 District- Wise**". It gives the total amount available for each of 35 line departments for every district, as well as for TSP and SC-SP. It also provides amount available for various schemes under each department and amount of TSP and SC-SP under each scheme. Also, this document is provided to the Chief Planning Officer before the beginning of the financial year, so that the line departments could make their plan for the coming financial year and it becomes a part of the District Development Plan.

These two documents are quite close to the district budget we have been asking for.

member of the "State Level Resource Group for Panchayat Planning" constituted by the Department of Panchayati Raj (GoR). We have also successfully completed UNICEF supported programme on supporting the Panchayats in planning and budgeting last year.

In our programme on Panchayat planning and budgeting in Tonk district of Rajasthan, we

- Prepared composite index to rank the Panchayats in the two blocks of the district
- Organized capacity building workshops and reading materials on Gram Karya Nirdeshika (GKN) which is a guideline for the

Visitors at BARC in the year 2017-18:

- Nikhil Dey- MKSS, Suchna Evm Rozgar Adhikar Abhiyan and NCPRI
- Mukesh Nirvasit, Suchna Evm Rozgar Adhikar Abhiyan and NCPRI
- Devender Sharma, Agriculture Economist and expert, New Delhi
- Javed Khan, CBGA, New Delhi
- Manikchand Surana-Ex Finance minister of Rajasthan and MLA
- Dipankar from National Foundation of India visited BARC office and project locations

Workshops and seminars attended by BARC Team members in 2017-18:

- Attended meeting on Strengthening Peoples Budget Initiative (PBI), 12th May 2017
- Attended workshop on issues in Schedule Caste and Schedule Tribe sub plan, April 2017 organised by Centre for Dalit Studies in Hyderabad
- Participated as trainer in a training organised by Action Aid on Schedule caste and Schedule tribe sub plan on 8th June, 2017
- Participated in Ambedkar International Seminar organised in Bangalore on 21-23rd July 2017.
- Attended national conference on Peoples Budget Initiative organised by CBGA on 19-20th September 2017

Panchayats to follow while implementing their projects.

- Organized capacity building workshops for the literacy motivators who work closely with the Panchayats.

This year, BARC is working on a project to estimate the cost of scaling of nutrition at state and district levels.


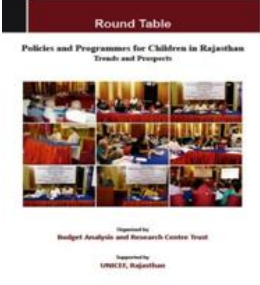

CONCLUSION

BARC Trust is continuing its journey of budget and analysis and policy research and is working towards improved governance at state and local levels for better accountability. This year our work with Panchayats in Tonk district has seen various achievements. Availability of the budget document (announcements) and department-wise ceiling of available amount for each district has increased transparency of state budget at the district level.

Besides this, BARC Trust's regular work of pre and post budget analysis and advocacy has also continued. Also, BARC Trust has been closely associated with other organizations and campaigns like PBI (People's Budget Initiative), MAKAM (Mahila Kisan Adhikar Manch), Right to Food, Suchna evam Rozgar Abhiyan, etc. BARC also participated in various meetings, seminars and advocacy initiatives undertaken by various organizations.

We are committed to continue our work even more passionately in the coming years.

List of Publications of BARC Trust

Cover	Title	Description
	Panchayati Raj System in Uttarakhand (2016) (In Hindi)	This booklet gives a gist of the Panchayati Raj system in Uttarakhand and is based on the Uttarakhand Panchayati Raj Act.
	Policies and Programmes for Children in Rajasthan (2016) (In English)	This booklet highlights policies and programs for children in Rajasthan and has been published with support of UNICEF, Rajasthan.
	Sources of Funds for Panchayats (2016) (In Hindi)	This booklet highlights the sources of funds available to the Panchayats in Rajasthan and what work can be done with the available funds according to their guidelines.
	Village Work Guideline [Gram Karya Nirdeshika (GKN)] (2017) (In Hindi)	The Gram Village Work Guideline [Gram Karya Nirdeshika (GKN)] is a detailed guideline which sets the norms for the Panchayats to carry out their work. This manual provides a summary of the GKN in simple Hindi.