# **Budget Analysis and Research Centre (BARC) Trust**

Striving for participatory budgeting and better policy implementation





#### Key Focus Areas

- Budget Transparency and Accountability
- Local Self-Governing Organizations
- Marginalized Groups Children, Women, Differently Abled Persons, Dalits, Tribals, Senior Citizen, Minorities, Unorganized Workers and Urban Poor
- Social Sector Health, Education, Drinking Water, Sanitation, Social Security, Nutrition and Food Security
- Rural Economy Agriculture, Irrigation, Employment and Housing
- 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



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

### **EVOLUTION**

BARC Trust is the new avatar of Budget Analysis Rajasthan Centre (BARC), which has been setup for furtherance of Budget and Social Policy Research and Action. BARC trust was officially registered as a trust on 4th March 2015. Originally, BARC was setup in 2003 as a budget study and policy research centre with the aim to analyze the state government budget, its policies and examine if the commitments made by the government at various forums (policy documents, election manifestos, budget speech and at international forums) are matched by the adequate financial provisions in the state budget.

BARC has been involved in analyzing the state budget with a 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 also been working closely with PRIs and ULBs along with NGOs, POs, media and civil society to create pool of budgetary information through its research and training activities.

#### **VISION**

BARC Trust's vision is to create a policy environment that ensures rights, justice and well-being for all, especially the deprived and marginalized. BARC Trust works towards contributing in the efforts of the larger civil society to create propeople and pro marginalized public policies and budgetary processes.

#### **MISSION**

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

#### **OBJECTIVES**

- To strengthen transparency and accountability in governance
- To make public budget and its processes comprehensible to the wider public
- ❖ To facilitate marginalized groups in order 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 organizations in India and/or internationally in order to create networks which will focus on development of the poor
- To undertake and provide consultancy to any institution, government or NGOs in the broad area of work
- To develop resource centres and documentation centres that would promote public education and accountability in governance and policy

#### **KEY ACTIVITIES**

In order to achieve its objectives, BARC Trust undertakes activities focusing on the following key areas of intervention -

# **Policy Analysis and Research:**

BARC Trust studies the policies and schemes impacting important sectors like education, health, water, food security, sanitation, agriculture, irrigation, land, mining, and issues like climate change, women empowerment, social security etc.

# **Budget Analysis and Advocacy:**

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

The activities of BARC trust also includes pre-budget consultations with the NGOs, citizens, media, MLAs, government officials etc., preparing the charter of demands, submitting the charter of demands to relevant officials as well as post-budget advocacy, budget orientation meetings and sharing the analysis with multiple stakeholders.

# Local Self Governing Bodies' Budget and Planning:

BARC Trust also works on strengthening the planning and budgeting processes at the local level by conducting policy and budget research and advocacy in the rural and urban local bodies. BARC Trust also engages with the government to advocate for decentralization and strengthening of local governance. BARC Trust also conducts capacity building workshops of the elected representatives to ensure more participatory planning and budgeting at the local level.

# **Capacity Building and Training:**

BARC Trust provides training on budget analysis, planning and budgeting of local governing bodies and other issues to students, interns, NGOs, government officials and elected representatives.

## **Workshops and Seminars:**

BARC Trust conducts workshops and seminars with NGOs, students, researchers, government officials etc. on a range of issues related to our key focus areas.

## **Partnerships and Networking:**

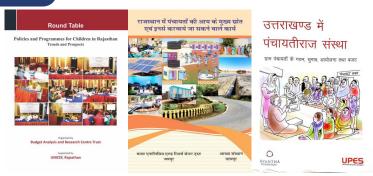
BARC Trust makes special efforts to be in constant touch with the Civil Society Organizations in Rajasthan and the rest of the country working towards creating a just society. It has been supporting various NGOs in terms of providing data, trainings and advocacy resource material.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS OF BARC**

BARC trust has been working and will continue to work on the state budget and policy related issues. Our work has been able to generate much needed interest in the government budgetary process in the state. Besides this, BARC's work has also contributed towards:

- Improved overall transparency in the state budget with presentation of department wise budget, outcome budget and output budget by the State Government.
- Increased allocation for TSP and SCSP over the years and opening of minor heads for TSP and SCSP under new Major heads.
- Presentation of Gender Responsive Budget by the State Government.
- Inclusion of certain recommendations of BARC in the budget speeches in the last few years .

#### **PUBLICATIONS**



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