Rajat Kumar

I-1724, Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi – 110019, India
Tel: +91-9873677410 Email: rajatkumar0908@gmail.com, rajatkumar0908@outlook.com

Experience

03/2023 – 04/2023	**Foundation for Advancing Science and Technology in India (FAST), New Delhi, India** **Policy and Research Team** *Consultant* • Creation of case study exploring methods to increase corporate spending in R&D in India
10/2022 – 01/2023	**Seeking Modern Applications for Real Transformation (SMART), New Delhi, India** **Civic Games Lab** *Consultant* • Developed a document highlighting the key issues surrounding digital citizenship specifically for stakeholders based in rural India.
05/2022 – 11/2022	**International Telecommunication Union, Geneva, Switzerland** **Telecommunication Development Bureau** *Digital Innovation Research Consultant* • Leading the development of a Digital Transformation Accelerator in South Africa
05/2017 – 05/2022	**Friedrich Naumann Stiftung für die Freiheit, New Delhi, India** **Regional Office South Asia** *Program Manager – Digital Transformation* • Responsible the Foundation's efforts in India in the field of Digital Transformation especially in data governance, digital rights and innovation • Anchor the Foundation's engagement on Sustainable Urbanisation with a core focus on smart infrastructure and mobility • Responsible for fund allocation, utilisation, designing & administration of programs and financial management of a yearly budget of over 120,000 EUR • Consult and support programs on cross-cutting issues with program managers across India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka
09/2016 – 04/2017	**International Telecommunications Union, Geneva, Switzerland** **Telecommunication Development Bureau** *Lead Research Consultant* • Led ICT Innovation Ecosystem Assessments of Thailand and Kenya • Authored and compiled chapters for the final reports of Thailand and Kenya
12/2014 – 05/2017	**Digital Empowerment Foundation, New Delhi, India** **Research, Advocacy and Innovation Division** *Senior Officer – Research, Advocacy and Innovation* • Co-led the Research, Advocacy and Innovation Team of the organisation which included providing guidance to a team of 8 researchers across multiple disciplines. • Lead research and training activities under the IMPACT Project, funded by the Association for Progressive Communications and supported by the European Union. The project explored the intersection of the internet and civil and political rights. • Co-authored a chapter on Digital Exclusion for the India Exclusion Report 2016-17 published by The Centre for Equity Studies

	• Co-authored "Mobile Phone: A Public Tool – Analysing the use of mobile technology in civic participation, education & health" for UNICEF India • Co-led network neutrality advocacy • Conducted trainings on ICT4D and Network Neutrality for inductee scientists at Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) • Digital Security for Human Rights Organisations and other users

06/2014 – 12/2014	**National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM), New Delhi, India**
	Government Relations and Policy Outreach
	Research Assistant
	
	• Co-authored the Pre-and Post-Budget 2014 submissions to the Government of India
	• Worked on the development of the NASSCOM Recommendation on Services Offsets for the draft Defence Procurement Policy, 2015
	• Development of working paper and presentations for Asian Development Bank training programs on the Digital Economy for Developing Countries
	• Lead the creation of position drafts on:
	    o IPR and Software Piracy
	    o Operationalising Tier II & III Cities in India
	    o ICTs in India Case Studies

07/2012 – 08/2013	**Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS), Bangalore, Karnataka, India** **Urban Professionals Programme** *Research Assistant* • Teaching Assistant for the courses on Project Management, PPPs in Urban Services – Lessons for Future Actions • Supported the development of a report "The State of Housing in India" for the Rockefeller Foundation • Contributed to the internal draft for the chapter on Exclusion from Adequate Housing for the India Exclusion Report 2013-14 • Member of restructuring group for the IIHS Communications Team
11/2011 – 06/2012	**INSEAD Business School, Fontainebleau, France e-Lab** *Research Intern* • Conducted research for a thesis in completion of a post-graduate degree • Support in the drafting of the Global Information Technology Report 2013 and Global Innovation Index 2013
11/2011 – 05/2012	**Alcatel-Lucent, Paris, India & New Delhi, India** **Market and Consumer Insight Group** *Research Intern* • Represented the MCI in India for the creation of the research report on "ICT use and Neo-urbanisation in India"

Education

2010 - 2012	**TERI School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi, India** **Department of Policy Studies** *Master of Arts (Sustainable Development Practice)* • Thesis: "Policy Framework for ICTs for Poverty Alleviation"
2007 - 2010	**Amity University, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh, India** **Institute of Psychology and Allied Sciences** *Bachelor of Arts (Applied Psychology)* • Thesis: "Assessing the Levels of Psychological Right-wing Authoritarianism in Middle and Upper-Class Delhi-based Adults"

Advisory Positions

05/2015 - Present	**Amity University, NOIDA, Uttar Pradesh, India** **Area Advisory Board** *Alumni Member - Research* • The Area Advisory Board provides guidance and reviews the curriculum of the Amity Institute of Psychology and Allied Sciences (AIPS) for research and thematic rigour.
04/2016 - Present	**Global Coalition of Tuberculosis Activists** **Training Advisory Board – South Asia** *Member* • The Training Advisory Board reviews existing and in-development curricula and provide support in localization of materials as well innovation in training methodologies.

Selected Publications

- Manzar, O., Kumar, R., Aggarwal, R., & Mukherjee, E. (2017). Exploring Digital Exclusion in India. In H. Mander (Ed.), India Exclusion Report 2016. New Delhi, India: Yoda Press.
- Srivastava, R., Haldar, B., Suren, P., Kumar, R., Aggarwal, R., Mukhopadhay, M. & Mukherjee, E. (Upcoming). Mobile Phone: A Public Tool. New Delhi, India: UNICEF.
- Kumar, R. (2017). Demonetisation & the Push to Digital Payments in India: Violation of Human Rights?. MediaNama. Available at http://www.medianama.com/2017/03/223-demonetisation-the-push-to-digitalpayments-in-india-violation-of-human-rights/
- Kumar, R., & Lal, S. (2016). Submission of counter-comments on TRAI's Consultation Paper on Free Data. New Delhi.
- Ahmad, S., Srivastava, R., Deshpande, R., & Kumar, R. (2016). Submission of comments on TRAI's Consultation Paper on Proliferation of Broadband through Public Wi-Fi Networks. New Delhi.
- Srivastava, R., Kumar, R., & Abraham, B. P. (2016). The Anatomy of Virtual Curfews: Human Rights Vs. National Security. New Delhi.
- Manzar, O., Kumar, R., & Chaturvedi, U. (2016). Dawn of Digital Empowerment. Kurukshetra - A Journal on Rural Development, 64 (06), 26 - 29.
- Kumar, R. (2016). Review of the NMREGA Website on the OGD parameters of the Right to Information Act and NDSAP Guidelines.
- Kumar, R. (2015). ICT Mediated Community Water Management and Decision Making. Proceedings of the 1st National Convention on the Smart Village. Ranchi: State Institute of Rural Development.
- Manzar, O., Srivastava, R., & Kumar, R. (2015). National Optical Fibre Network Status Study: A Review of Pilot Blocks. New Delhi: Digital Empowerment Foundation.
- Kumar, R., Jha, N., Kazi, & Pandey, S. (2015) Transforming Public Libraries (Stories of Reinvigorating Public Spaces). New Delhi: Digital Empowerment Foundation.

- Kumar, R., Pandey, S., Sen, A., Jha, N., & Kazi, S., (2015) Communities | Engagement | Libraries (A Collection of Case Stories from across India). New Delhi: Digital Empowerment Foundation,
- Selvakumar, S., & Kumar, R. (2012, August 1). Creators of Futuristic Cities. The Tribune. Available at http://www.tribuneindia.com/2012/20120801/jobs.htm#8
- Kumar, R. & Pipprich, K. (2011) Assessing Empowerment in the Gagas River Basin: Impact of SHGs and Umang on Economic and Social Upliftment. Ranikhet: Pan Himalayan Grassroots Development Foundation
- Deshpande, P. & Kumar, R. (2010, December). Needs Assessment of Village Chhali-Bhilwara in Udaipur District. Seva Mandir Newsletter. Udaipur: Seva Mandir