

# Centre de Sciences Humaines

## 2003 Activity Report (1st January- 31st December)

*Foreword:*

Unlike previous years, the 2003 Activity Report of the *Centre de Sciences Humaines*, New Delhi (CSH) and the *French Institute of Pondicherry* (French Ministry of External Affairs research centres in India) corresponds to the calendar year as well as the French financial year (1<sup>st</sup> January - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003). As a result, the present report has also included the activities of the first quarter of 2003 which were already described in the preceding 2002-2003 report.

The reason behind the change in calendar is the new schedule of the annual CSH and IFP local Monitoring Committee meeting in April 2004, i.e. about a month before the meeting of the Scientific Council of the French Institutes in Asia. This will enable us to put forth the conclusions and recommendations of the Monitoring Committee to the Scientific Council for the latter to take them into consideration.

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## **Introduction**

### **2003 - A year of Transition in Continuity: The New Director's work agenda for CSH**

The year 2003 has been a period of transition for the management of the *Centre de Sciences Humaines* (CSH), with a long interim period of almost nine months between the early departure of the outgoing Director and the taking over of the post by the new Director in September 2003. In spite of these changes, continuity was maintained in the implementation of the CSH's primary missions.

The broad outlines of the work agenda for CSH are presented in this introduction, while the organisation of resources, research programmes and promotion work carried out in the course of 2003 are provided in detail in the following parts of the report.

### **A Scientific Research Centre Engaged in the Major Issues of Contemporary India in the face of the Challenges of Internationalisation**

The changes that have recently taken place in CSH have confirmed the Centre's role as an observatory of political changes (on the national and international arena, as well as economic and social changes in contemporary India and South Asia. We intend to consolidate our research-based mission on the basis of the research streams that have established CSH's reputation and excellence. In order to make the best use of the knowledge capital that has been acquired in the Centre, we shall further deepen and extend the directions of research undertaken or underway, while exploring new and complementary avenues of research in the framework of the four main streams already established:

- 1) Regional dynamics in South Asia and international relations;
- 2) Political dynamics, institutional structures and social changes;
- 3) Economic transition and sustainable development;
- 4) Urban dynamics.

The "International Relations" stream has till now focussed essentially on issues related to India's foreign policy. The problematic of globalisation and the diaspora brings to the fore other perspectives that shall be explored in a programme that was initiated at the beginning of 2004.

In the political science stream, the main subjects remain the impact of decentralisation reforms and issues of electoral representation, along with identity-related issues. Furthermore, a fresh theme has recently been initiated, on the dynamic between non-governmental organisations and social movements in the context of the World Social Forum.

The economics research stream has acquired considerable expertise in studies on the impact of the liberalisation reforms and the management of public infrastructure. International trade and the World Trade Organisation constitute another important field of research broached along with, more recently, the issue of economic inequalities and social capital.

Finally, two new programmes have been initiated in the field of urban research, on the dynamic of the peripheral areas surrounding major metropolises and on issues of governance.

By their collective dimensions and their multi-disciplinary nature, these joint programmes reflect the desire to develop crosscutting research projects, combining the skills of our different subject streams.

## **Scientific co-operation and collaborations**

CSH's role as a Centre of Research on contemporary India and South Asia could not have been conceived without an extensive network of institutional contacts and partners, in India and Europe. Indeed, CSH also has a fundamental role to play in France's policy of scientific co-operation with India (and even beyond between Europe and South Asia), by conducting research with Indian partners on subjects of common interest.

In India, CSH has become an integral part of the academic world through several and diverse collaborations: scientific exchanges, joint research programmes, the joint organisation of conferences or seminars, the participation of the Centre's research scholars in seminars organised by our Indian partners and vice-versa, as well as joint publications.

CSH collaborates with the following, in particular: Jawaharlal Nehru University (Delhi), the Indira Gandhi Institute for Development Research (Mumbai), the Indian Institute of Management (Ahmedabad) and the Institute of Social Sciences (Eastern branch, Kolkata). In addition, it collaborates with other institutions from time to time and develops exchanges with a much larger network. Furthermore, we intend to strengthen links with the Institute of Economic Growth (Delhi) and the Delhi School of Economics (Delhi University).

A memorandum of understanding on collaboration in social sciences has been signed in December 2003 with the Indian Council of Social Sciences Research (ICSSR), providing for the joint funding of several activities, especially seminars, and a post-doctoral fellowship for social science research to be offered to an Indian scholar. The first fellowship (co-funded equally) has been granted in economics and the candidate selected shall start working in CSH in March 2004, in order to conduct a research programme on the impact of India's economic liberalisation reforms on the environment, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad. The framework agreement should also facilitate future collaborations within the network of research institutes sponsored by ICSSR.

In France, CSH enjoys privileged collaborations with the *Ecole des Mines* in Paris, the Centre for Indian and South Asian Studies (*CNRS/EHESS*, Paris), the Centre for International Studies and Research (*CERI, IEP*, Paris), the Institute of Research for Development, and several universities: the University of Paris X-Nanterre, the University of Rouen and the University of Picardie. This network too is extending to other countries in Europe, particularly with the South Asia Institute of the University of Heidelberg and Berlin's *Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik*.

Furthermore, CSH develops its activities by networking with other research institutes of the French Ministry of External Affairs (MEA): the French Institute of Pondicherry, first and foremost (ensuring consistency between the two organisations' research programmes in social sciences in India, the organisation of an annual CSH-IFP local monitoring committee meeting, the joint publication of a newsletter, *Patrika*) and, in 2003, with the *Centre d'Etudes et de Documentation Economiques et Juridiques* (CEDEJ) and Bangkok's *Institut de Recherche sur l'Asie du Sud-Est Contemporaine* (IRASEC). We plan to strengthen and

expand such collaborations in the next few years, in particular with the MEA's research institutes in Asia.

CSH's policy of collaborations and partnerships has made it possible to go beyond the Centre's limitations in terms of its own human resources and, thus, expand its scope of activities. Within the limitations of its means and available space, we will like the CSH to become a Centre open to research scholars and students working on contemporary India, and favouring exchanges, new ideas and thinking.

The mobilisation of collaborations goes hand in hand with a search for external funding for the implementation of research programmes and the organisation of scientific events (subsidies within the framework of the incentive programmes of the French Ministry of Research, the *Maison des Sciences de l'Homme's* Indo-French co-operation programme in social sciences, the Ford Foundation, the Indian Council for Social Sciences Research, subsidies within the framework of European Commission programmes, etc.).

## **Training in Research**

Another important task of the CSH is that of offering training in research, by providing logistic support and training to Ph.D. fellows and student interns. Internal CSH workshops are regularly organised to present and discuss ongoing research. Beyond its training mission, the Centre must develop and further a truly scientific temper and life, while promoting integration and interaction between students and research scholars, both those based in CSH as well as visiting students and scholars.

The policy of offering support to students is being pursued in particular within the framework of agreements signed with doctoral schools. Two agreements have been in effect since 2003 (with the Paris-based *Institut d'Etudes Politiques* and the Department of Geography at the University of Rouen), and another has been signed in January 2004 with the University of Heidelberg's South Asia Institute. Finally, two new agreements are being considered (with the "Environment, cultures and societies" doctoral school of the University of Paris-X Nanterre and with the University of Picardie's doctoral school in Humanities and Social Sciences). It must be stressed that these activities are in line with the reform orientations of the MEA's research institutes. They also provide a means by which the CSH can further its ties with French/European universities and stimulate scientific exchanges with their professors and research scholars.

Moreover, the various efforts that are being deployed for offering support and training to students should help create an effective "breeding ground" from which young research scholars can be recruited for the different posts to be filled by CSH.

Through its research and training missions, as well as its partnership policy, CSH is furthering its internationalisation in three different ways:

- Through the "Indianisation" of the research team, by granting post-doctoral research fellowships to Indian research scholars (as of March 2004, the CSH research team would include nine post-doctoral fellows or confirmed research scholars : four French and five Indian).

- Through a policy of opening-up to Europe whereby from 2004 onwards the CSH will receive every year a Ph.D. student from the University of Heidelberg for a research internship.
- Through the development of scientific exchanges and collaborations in South Asia and Europe.

## **Promoting Research**

Promoting research is a key mission of CSH, that we ensure through a policy of greater integration within scientific networks, publishing and dissemination of research works, as well as the organisation of scientific events or other such activities that would maximise the centre's visibility.

In 2003, CSH can include 11 published books and the organisation of eight international seminars among its achievements. The collection of books published by CSH in collaboration with a well-known Indian publishing house (Manohar Publishers) contributes directly to the Centre's visibility in India itself.

To pursue CSH's research promotion mission, we shall ensure that the following two requirements are met:

- The first is the need for scientific rigour: an inherent condition for any proper research centre which should be reflected in the quality and scope of academic publications with an adequate selection of media (renowned journals and publishing houses with international distribution), along with participation in international scientific fora.
- The second is the need to also pay attention to the dissemination of results to a much larger audience, especially in the professional circles of economic agents and political decision-makers (planners, senior officials and diplomats). The concern for dissemination beyond academic circles reflects the desire to promote research whose results can contribute to assessment and decision-making, the formulation of appropriate policies or even Franco-Indian economic co-operation.

Véronique DUPONT  
CSH Director  
New Delhi, 1st March 2004

## 2. Resource Organisation and Management

### 2.1. Human Resources

There are around twenty people in total at the CSH, half of whom are research scholars or Ph.D. student (see detailed organisation chart *infra*).

The administrative team – along with the Director and Secretary General/Financial Officer (expatriates) - includes an assistant to the director, a publications in-charge, a librarian-cum-documentalist and an accounts assistant, recruited locally.

The research team is divided into four streams. It not only includes expatriate research scholars and French Ph.D. students, but also post-doctoral fellowship holders from the host country.

All the four streams are able to provide research scholars, fellowship holders and interns, with computerised workstations, linked to the Intranet, the Internet, as well as the CSH scientific contacts' database, its library data base and Delhi's library network.

#### Staff Movement

Frédéric Grare's early departure at the end of January 2003 led to a long interim management period during which Joël Ruet acted as the Director. The new Director, Véronique Dupont, took over the post in September 2003.

A new Secretary General and Financial Officer, Patrick Dorp, also took over his duties in September 2003, replacing Evelyne Thivet-Rispal. Patrick Dorp is also filling the post of Accountant for the CEDUST (French resources centre at the Embassy of France in Delhi) and the French Institute of Pondicherry.

Among the expatriate research scholars, Joël Ruet's contract (Economist) was renewed for a year (till end August 2003), while that of Gilles Boquérat (International Relations) ended in mid-December 2003. The latter was replaced in January 2004 by Eric Leclerc.

Pierre Daurian, International Volunteer in charge of the computer network, whose assignment ended in December 2003, was replaced in January 2004 by Adrien Fanet. The CSH took in another International Volunteer in February 2003, Julien Chaisse, a Ph.D student in International Law, who took over as the Scientific Secretary. The arrival of Samuel Berthet, post-doctorate fellow in Political Sciences, for a one-year project-related contract in October 2003 must also be noted.

Among the French Ministry of External Affairs' fellowship holders, Renaud Egreteau's fellowship (International Relations) was renewed for a year (till end September 2004) while that of Satchidanand Seethanen (Economics) ended in September 2003. A new Ph.D. fellow, Jean-Dilip Sen Gupta, was inducted in November 2003.

Among the four Indian post-doctorate fellows in 2003, Sushil Aaron's contract (International Relations) was not renewed beyond August 2003. A new fellow was recruited to strengthen the "Political Sciences" stream, Saroj Giri, who joined the Centre in November 2003. Finally, a fifth Indian post-doctorate fellow, Deepa Menon (economist), joined the CSH in March 2004.

## 2.2. Financial Management

The financial year 2003 was marked by the following factors:

The operating subsidy stood at 187,506 Euros for the year 2003 (i.e. 87.9 % of the 213,429 Euros initially notified, following a budget freeze). This amount has been raised to 200,000 Euros for 2004. The envelope included the liquidation, in the CSH budget, of 2.5 posts for French doctoral fellows (research fellowships) and 3.5 posts for Indian post-doctorates (5.5 posts shall be available for Indians in 2004).

For 2003, self-generated resources accounted for 2.6 % of the operating revenue.

Six projects received external funding. In early 2004, CSH had to manage the following resources allocated:

- € 2,513, funded by the Embassy of France's Cultural and scientific section for a study on water management.
- The end of the study on "women and local government in urban Asia" and the balance (€ 1,550) of the funding from the Swedish Embassy's Co-operation Department, and the Ford Foundation.
- € 14,215, MEA subsidy for the study on "Islamisms in the Indian Subcontinent."
- € 2,641 of the allocation by SCAC, Embassy of France in India, to fund a research project in collaboration with CERNA (*Centre d'Economie Industrielle, Ecole des Mines, Paris*), entitled, "Development of cost/profit assessment tools for water pollution control in urban India".
- € 14,587 of the allocation by the French Ministry of External Affairs for the research programme on "Federalism and citizenship within the Indian Union".
- € 18,007 of the European Union subsidy for the project "India-European Union dialogue on security issues".

The following contributions are expected in 2004:

- € 58,000 from the Ministry of research and new technologies (national science fund), for two concerted incentive activities: one in collaboration with IRD (€ 7,000), the other with EHESS (€ 51,000).
- € 4,232 from the Indian Council of Social Sciences Research for the 50 % co-funding of a post-doctoral Indian fellow post in economics.

These projects together amount to a total of € 115,745, representing a major share of CSH's research funding (these efforts equal almost 58 % of the operating subsidy from the Ministry of External Affairs).

The share of research expenditure incurred during the financial year 2003 accounts for 46 % of the overall expenditure.

### **2.3. Premises, equipment and guesthouse**

The CSH premises, with 378 sq. m. in two buildings, support:

- Research scholars and Ph.D. students with a total carrying capacity of 17 computerised workstations devoted to research, of which six are for affiliate students and research scholars;
- Administration: six computerised workstations;
- Library: One computerised workstation for the librarian, two computerised workstations for visitors with access to Internet and Intranet networks.

CSH also had a guesthouse, located around 20 minutes away by car (under normal traffic conditions), which had three rooms offered at preferential rates and reserved as a priority for research scholars and students. The guesthouse's lodging revenues stood at Rs. 255,500 in 2003. The budget target, however, was Rs. 340,000. A decision has been made to terminate the lease, which ends on 15 March 2004. In fact, the guesthouse's operation was structurally in deficit and the current supply in the private market is of good quality, at competitive rates.

### **2.4. Library**

The collection of the CSH library increased substantially in 2003, with the purchase of approximately 400 books, bringing the total number of books to 8561 in early 2004.

To this may be added:

- 178 periodicals, including 78 ongoing subscriptions, in French (21) and English (66);
- 8 Indian dailies and one French daily.

The library is equipped with a highly efficient management software package (LYBSYS), which also enables optimised access to the computerised reference database and to consultation of the catalogue on the Internet.

The CSH library has been integrated with the DELNET library network (Developing Libraries Network) and therefore provides access to a million references indexed in 20 or so databases.

The possibility of inter-library loans with the French Institute of Pondicherry shall be examined in 2004.

**Organisational Chart of the *Centre de Sciences Humaines* as on 01-03-2004**

(\*: *Research scholars and Ph.D. students present in 2003, whose contract ended before January 2004*)

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Management</b>   | - Véronique DUPONT (MEA expatriate since September 2003)  |
| <b>General administration and financial management</b>  | - Patrick DORP, Secretary General/Accounts Officer (MEA expatriate since September 2003)<br>- Mallika HANIF, Executive Assistant<br>- Kulmohan SINGH, Accounts Assistant  |
| <b>Scientific Secretariat</b>   | - Julien CHAISSE (International Volunteer)  |
| <b>In charge of computer network</b>  | - Adrien FANET (International Volunteer since January 2004)   |
| <b>Publications, Documentation</b>  | - Attreyee ROY CHOWDHURY, publications in-charge<br>- Ved Narayan SINGH RAWAT, librarian-documentalist  |
| <b>Telephone, shopping, maintenance, miscellaneous</b>  | - Mahesh KUMAR, telephone operator and factotum<br>- Ashok KUMAR, telephone operator and factotum<br>- Pushpa PARASAR, housekeeping<br>- Prasan CHANDURY, reception-housekeeping at the guesthouse (up to 15 March 2004)  |
| <b>Research</b>   |   |
| <i>French research scholars</i>   | - *Gilles BOQUERAT, international relations (MEA expatriate up to December 2003)<br>- Eric LECLERC, international relations (MEA expatriate since January 2004)<br>- Joël RUET, economics (MEA expatriate)<br>- Samuel BERTHET, political science (contractual for project since October 2003)  |
| <i>French Ph.D. students: French Ministry of External Affairs' fellowship holders or International Volunteers</i> | - * Pierre Chapelet, geography (up to June 2003).<br>- *Pierre DAURIAN geography (International Volunteer, up to end December 2003)<br>- Julien CHAISSE, international law (International Volunteer.)<br>- Renaud EGRETEAU, international relations<br>- *Satchidanand SEETHANEN, economics (up to end September 2003)<br>- Jean Dilip SEN GUPTA, economics (since November 2004) |
| <i>Indian post-doctoral fellows</i>   | - *Sushil AARON, international relations (up to end August 2003)<br>- Saroj GIRI, political science (since November 2003)<br>- Girish KUMAR, political science<br>- Dipankar SENGUPTA, economics<br>- Swaran SINGH, international relations (Associate Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, part-time at CSH)<br>- Deepa MENON, economics (since March 2004)                 |

**Research scholars, Ph.D. students and interns hosted by CSH in 2003  
(With affiliation by research stream)**

| <b>1. Regional dynamics in South Asia and International Relations</b>     |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Sandrine BEGUE  | Ph.D. student, University of Nantes   | April and May 2003  |
| Sophie COUVE DE MURVILLE  | PM.Phil. student, <i>Institut d'Etudes Politiques</i> , Paris   | June to August 2003   |
| <b>2. Political dynamics, institutional structures and social changes</b> |   |   |
| Stéphanie TAWA-LAMA REWAL   | Research scholar in political science at CNRS (Centre for Indian and South Asian Studies), associate research scholar with CSH  | - January to mid-April 2003<br>- October 2003 to March 2004 |
| <b>3. Economic transition and sustainable development</b>                 |   |   |
| Marie GAMBIEZ   | National Institute of Agronomy, Paris Grignon   | October 2002 to February 2003                               |
| Emilie LACOUR   | National Institute of Agronomy, Paris Grignon   | October 2002 to February 2003                               |
| Emmanuel BON  | Ph.D. student in economics, University of Paris X-Nanterre  | March to May 2003   |
| Camille DEPREZ  | Ph.D. student in socio-economics, University of Paris 3-Sorbonne Nouvelle   | March to December 2003                                      |
| Augustin MARIA  | Ph.D student in economics, CERNA ( <i>Centre d'économie industrielle</i> ) at the <i>Ecole des Mines</i> of Paris   | - March & April 2003<br>- October to December 2003          |
| Bertrand REYSSET  | Intern, Ministry of Agriculture, M.Phil. at ENESAD ( <i>Etablissement National d'Enseignement Supérieur Agronomique de Dijon</i> )  | April to September 2003                                     |
| Pauline BARRAL  | Student of the <i>Ecole Nationale des Statistiques et d'Administration Economique</i> (ENSAE), intern at CSH in collaboration with the Economic and Financial Mission of the Embassy of France in Delhi | July to September 2003                                      |
| Arnaud POUSSIER   | ENSAE student, intern at CSH in collaboration with the Economic and Financial Mission of the Embassy of France in Delhi   | July to September 2003                                      |
| Nathalie YANNIC   | M.Phil. student in economics at CERNA ( <i>Centre d'économie industrielle</i> ) at the <i>Ecole des Mines</i> of Paris  | August to October 2003                                      |
| Samira GUENNIF  | Post-doctorate fellow, Centre of Economy of the University Paris-North  | October 2002 to June 2003                                   |

### 3. Research streams and Projects

The general objective of the research conducted at the CSH is to question India as an emerging power on the international stage as well as the transitions affecting the Indian subcontinent, on the basis of the following four streams:

- 1) Regional dynamics in South Asia and international relations;
- 2) Political dynamics, institutional structures and social changes;
- 3) Economic transition and sustainable development;
- 4) Urban dynamics.

#### 3.1. Regional dynamics in South Asia and International Relations

**Co-ordination: Gilles BOQUERAT**

The “International Relations” stream focused on India’s foreign policy both from thematic and regional perspectives. Amongst these, special attention is provided to issues and areas that are seen as problematic and posing a challenge to India’s foreign policy makers.

The year 2003 was marked by the completion of several programmes and the publishing of seven works.

Apart from the Ph.D. student who was granted an extension of his fellowship in 2003, this research stream hosted and supervised two short-duration (2-3 month) students, within the framework of the new agreement between CSH and the Paris-based doctoral school of *Institut d’Etudes Politiques* on support and training for student interns.

#### India’s Policies and Foreign Aid during the Cold War

*Composition of the research team*

**Gilles BOQUERAT**, research scholar, CSH, [boquerat@csh-delhi.com](mailto:boquerat@csh-delhi.com)

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

India made non-alignment the cornerstone of its foreign policy and opted for a self-reliant model of development whereby external financing was meant to play a marginal role. This uncompromising political credo, which resisted foreign interference, however, had to face harsh economic realities leading to a growing recourse to foreign aid, as well as to military assistance when threats to security began to escalate in the region. This study discusses the repercussions on India’s policies that the dependence on foreign aid might have had at the behest of a donor state. It also focuses on the factors that motivated the United States and the Soviet Union in their aid policy to a country whose geo-strategic importance and whose human and natural resources represented an important component of the Cold War. It also considers the reactions that these motivations gave rise to in India. This study relies extensively upon primary sources, offering a first hand insight into the decision-making process, with archival material drawn from American, British, and French diplomatic records.

*Research activities carried out in 2003*

The project started in 1999 and was completed in 2003 with the publication of a book.

*Results and main research findings*

A BOQUERAT G., *No Strings Attached? India's Policies and Foreign Aid, 1947-1966*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2003, 431p.

Both the United States and the Soviet Union gave aid less as a result of a wide identity of political and economic views or ideological affinities than in order to prevent India, acknowledged as a leading non-aligned country and also recognized for its geopolitical importance, from falling into the sphere of influence of the enemy camp, either as the result of economic contingency or because of a military threat. The primary policy determinant was defensive even if India could also have been promoted as a model of economic development or as an exemplar of peaceful co-existence. Although India's foreign policy was based on the refusal to recognise the logic of blocs, the Indian government did not hesitate to take advantage of the East-West confrontation to mobilize aid from the two superpowers, implying that if assistance was lacking or taking too long to come, it might rely for support on the opposite camp. This ability of India to obtain aid from both superpowers, from the mid-1950s, constituted a remarkable trump card in the face of a growing dependence on foreign aid. Apart from a few recommendations, India did not allow itself to be dictated to on its fundamentals and continued to pursue its policy goals without unduly jeopardizing its national development.

## **India in the Mirror of Foreign Diplomatic Archives**

*Composition of the Research team*

*Project Heads:* **Gilles BOQUERAT**, research scholar, CSH, [boquerat@yahoo.com](mailto:boquerat@yahoo.com)  
& **Max-Jean ZINS**, CNRS, Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Internationales (CERI),  
[zins@ceri-sciences-po.org](mailto:zins@ceri-sciences-po.org)

*Other participants:* Dennis Kux, Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Washington.

Sergey Lounev, Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow.

A convention had been signed with the Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Internationales, Paris, in 2001.

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The project started with the co-existence of Indian secrecy over its diplomatic records, which stifles academic inquiry, and the release of significant materials from foreign archives, which offers the fascinating possibility of understanding India's external policy through the primary sources of others. Words written by the American, British, French and Soviet diplomats does not just chronicle a quarter century of international politics, it helps to understand the driving themes of the bilateral relations, the respective expectations and the way India tried to pursue its national interest during the Cold War.

*Research activities carried out in 2003*

The project was completed in 2003 with a publication selectively based on the contributions made during an international seminar held in New Delhi on 14-15 March 2002, under the auspices of the CSH, the CERI, and the India International Centre.

*Results and main research findings*

A collective book: BOQUERAT G., ZINS M.J. (eds.), *India in the Mirror of Foreign Diplomatic Archives*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2004, 138p.

The foreign archives of the United States, the former Soviet Union, the United Kingdom or France cannot be taken as a direct reflection of India's external policy. They certainly can play the role of a mirror, but even the most perfect mirror will give only a one-dimensional image of the reality. It has to be seen through three prism of one's own understanding of India, national interest or what is perceived as such, notion of priorities, position of the policy-making process at home, or the use of language in the broader sense. In other words, one's own bias will always constitute a screen between one's own reality and India's reality. The same can also be said regarding any analyses on foreign policy decisions. The diplomat's glance is nevertheless of great value. American, British, French or Soviet diplomatic testimony can be presumed a reliable, reasonable record of events and a competent attempt to inform their administration as objectively as possible, without distortion – at least consciously – about what the Indians have to tell them. Furthermore, the comparison of different national approach is an incomparable tool to define the multiple dimensions of a problem.

## **India, China and Russia: The Dynamics of an Asian Triangle**

*Composition of the research team*

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*Other participants:*

Kanti Bajpai, Professor, School of International Studies, JNU, New Delhi.

Jean-Pierre Cabestan, CNRS, former director of the Centre d'Etudes Français sur la Chine Contemporaine (CEFCC), Hong Kong.

Swaran Singh, visiting fellow, CSH

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

An Asian Triangle bringing together India, China, Russia into a strategic partnership attracted public attention when it was first mooted at the end of the nineties. The East-West, the Sino-Soviet and the Sino-Indian cold wars had receded in popular memory and a triangular equation gained enough credibility to deserve closer examination. The validity of an Asian Triangle remains to be substantiated. Has this geometric figure a life of its own, can it further the cause of multipolarity or is it just a tool for its constituents to improve their standing vis-à-vis the United States in a unipolar world? These are some of the questions in their multifaceted dimensions (historical, geopolitical, economic, strategic) addressed, analysing the dynamics, the expectations as well as the contradictions inherent to this construct, but keeping in mind that the outcome will have a bearing on the future of the world order.

*Research activities carried out in 2003*

The project was completed in 2003 with a publication selectively based on the contributions made during an international seminar held in New Delhi in January 2002, under the auspices of the CSH and the India International Centre.

*Results and main research findings*

A collective book: BOQUERAT G., GRARE F (eds), *India, China, Russia: Intricacies of an Asian Triangle*, India Research Press, New Delhi, 2004, XIII-172p.)

It is no coincidence that the loose idea of a triangular partnership between Russia, China and India resurfaces every time the feeling occurs that the United States' supremacy over the international system is overwhelming and that some counter-balancing acts have to be performed. American dominance is central to an issue that is essentially one specific aspect of the larger debate over multipolarity, which the war in Iraq has only exacerbated. America is no longer, or not exclusively the villain against whom all should unite. The United States is central, economically and strategically, to each member of the triangle, and also shape the relations between them when it comes to the competing ambitions of the partners. The constant dialectic between rivalry and co-operation constitutes the main focus of the book. If the idea of a strategic triangle is still, in the view of the authors, premature and unlikely, the development of the relationship between India, China and Russia, allows us to speak of an Asian triangle whose idea can gather momentum if it is viewed as power-enhancing and a way of maintaining security and stability in the neighbourhood.

## **India: The Decade After**

### *Composition of the research team*

*Project Head:* **Gilles BOQUERAT**, research scholar, CSH, [boquerat@yahoo.com](mailto:boquerat@yahoo.com)

### *Other participants:*

Pierre Chapelet, Ph.D student in geography, CSH.

Gilles Chuyen, Post-doctoral Research affiliate, CSH.

Frédéric Grare, Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of France in Pakistan.

Camille Deprez, Ph.D student, CSH.

Girish Kumar, research fellow in political science, CSH.

Eric Leclerc, Assistant Professor in geography, University of Rouen.

Joël Ruet, researcher in economics, CSH.

Dipankar Sengupta, research fellow in economics, CSH.

### *Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The objective of this joint multidisciplinary project is to review post-1991 India. Based on the contributions of the team of research scholars of the CSH, it aims at providing proof of critical changes that have taken place for the country's future, marking a clear break with the past, along with questioning the real impact they may have had on various sections of society. The topics broached included, among others, the management of the post-Cold War era, the structural changes brought about by 10 years of economic reforms, the rise of the lower castes and its socio-political implications, the emerging demographic trends, and the adaptation of the TV networks to globalisation.

### *Research activities carried out in 2003*

This project started in 2002 and will lead to a collective publication in 2004.

## **India-China Confidence Building Measures in the post-cold war era**

### *Composition of the research team*

**Swaran SINGH**, Visiting Fellow, CSH, and associate professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, School of International Studies, [singh@csh-delhi.com](mailto:singh@csh-delhi.com)

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The scientific problematic of much of India-China relations remain focused on their border war during 1962 from where the two had evolved their *rapprochement* since early 1970s. This process was to be once again seriously challenged by India's decision to conduct nuclear tests during May 1998 that pushed their mutual relations to its nadir. The whole process of Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) that had been so assiduously evolved stood derailed. However, given their cumulative wisdom and experience in working together their quick return to *rapprochement* and revival of CBMs was to surprise most experts.

The research objectives, in this backdrop, broadly include studying the unique strengths of India-China CBMs (in the context of Asian CBMs being different from Western models) as also to crystal gaze and highlight the likely future course and impact on India-China relations.

Methodology applied in this research project depends primarily on secondary materials (both published and online) while some primary sources and especially the critical mass of Chinese language materials have been used to balance the perspective by incorporating views from both sides. The manuscript will be based on an analytical descriptive method and plans to evolve a policy focused prescriptive style to obtain a wider audience for the project's outcome amongst scholars and policy makers.

*Research activities carried out in 2003*

This project started in September 2002 and should be completed by August/September 2004, with the submission of the manuscript of a mid-sized book.

A four-week mission to China was undertaken in 2003, which allowed collecting Chinese language materials that will form the critical base of the examination and assessment of India-China confidence building measures in recent years.

*Results*

During 2003, the objectives of this project were partially achieved in completion of a book entitled *China-South Asia: Issues, Equations, Policies* (Lancer's Books, New Delhi, 2003, 428 p.). This book includes portions that deliberate on India-China relations.

The findings of this on-going research on China-India relations were also presented in seminars, conferences as well as lecture series, and were published in several research articles and chapters of books.

## **India-China Economic Engagement**

*Composition of the research team*

**Swaran SINGH**, Visiting Fellow, CSH, and associate professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, School of International Studies, [singh@csh-delhi.com](mailto:singh@csh-delhi.com)

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The Scientific problematic occurs in the dialectic that characterises the competitive-co-operative nature of India-China ties. While both continue to see each other as adversaries and competitors for expanding their regional influence, the two have also been the fastest growing largest economies and this makes co-operation an imperative. This is especially true given the wave of globalisation that has undermined hindrances based on differences in their political cultures and ideology. As a result, economic engagement has been rapidly expanding and has since come to be (a) the most agreeable and (b) the strongest pillar of their mutual confidence building.

*The research objectives*, in this backdrop, broadly include studying the recent trends in their economic co-operation and to explore into their future thinking and policy making. More importantly, this would be to explore its political impact i.e. how this expanding economic engagement will strengthen their mutual stakes and how will it impinge on their mutual differences and difficulties on issues like resolving their boundaries which has been the source of their mutual acrimony. This project particularly wishes to explore their border trade and to highlight the impact that it has had (a) for the lives of communities in border regions, (b) in cutting costs of border management, (c) in contributing to sustaining peace and tranquillity in border regions and, (d) in expanding their mutual confidence building in border regions.

*Methodology* applied in this research project depends primarily on secondary materials (both published and online) while the critical mass of primary data remains vital. Chinese language materials have been used to balance the perspective by incorporating views from both sides. The manuscript of this study plans to focus on evolving an analytical descriptive approach, which will use statistical visual/graphic presentations to evolve a policy research focus for a wider audience.

#### *Research activities carried out in 2003*

This project started in September 2003 and should be completed by April/May 2004 with the submission of a manuscript for the collection of *CSH Occasional Papers*.

Since this project complements the project on “India-China Confidence Building Measures”, it also draws on the above-mentioned four-week mission to China and the material collected at that time.

## **China-Pakistan Strategic Co-operation**

#### *Composition of the research team*

*Project Head: Swaran SINGH*, Visiting Fellow, CSH, and associate professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, School of International Studies, [singh@csd-delhi.com](mailto:singh@csd-delhi.com)

*Other participants*: about 20 Indian contributors to a seminar.

#### *Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

*The Scientific problematic* of China-Pakistan strategic co-operation for India lies of this being the one of the most critical issues for India’s foreign policy and perhaps the most regular hindrance in China-India confidence building. Secondly, it becomes problematic particularly for this subject being little researched though the hype continues in the regular political rhetoric. While both China and Pakistan continue to deny allegations made by India or other powers, substantive information on this issue of transfer of sensitive technologies as part of China-Pakistan strategic co-operation remains illusive and very little has been evolved either in terms of evidence or analysis to strengthen this thesis.

*The research objectives*, in this backdrop, broadly include examining various sectors of China-Pakistan strategic co-operation in exhaustive details and from there, trying to gauge its overall impact for regional security and peace, for India’s foreign and security policies and especially for India-China ties. This will also be aimed at assessing the evolving nature of China-Pakistan ties given change in China’s worldview in recent years as also change in global and regional priorities and ground realities.

*Methodology* applied in this research project remains participatory brainstorming of contribution written in advance for which a seminar is being organised. These contributions depend primarily on secondary materials (both published and online) and care will be taken to

balance the perspective by incorporating views from all different perspectives. The collective manuscript that will result from this seminar will be based on analytical descriptions and plans to evolve a policy research focus for a wider audience amongst scholars and policy makers.

*Research activities carried out in 2003 and expected results*

This project was initiated in December 2003, with the preparation of a seminar that will be held in Delhi in March 2004, under the auspices of the CSH and the Indian International Centre. The project should be completed by December 2004/January 2005 with the submission of the typescript of a collective book based on the proceedings of the seminar.

## **Straddling Faultlines: India's Foreign Policy Towards the Greater Middle East**

*Composition of the research team*

**Sushil J. AARON**, Research Fellow, CSH, [aaron7@rediffmail.com](mailto:aaron7@rediffmail.com)

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

This study attempts to evaluate the underpinning values and paradoxes that drive India's foreign policy toward the Greater Middle East, which includes the Arab world, Iran, Israel and Central Asia.

The events of September 11, 2001 not only dissolved the buffer status of Afghanistan which hitherto insulated India from the instabilities of Central Asia but also, arguably, enhanced India's role in the emerging US grand strategy in the Greater Middle East. To gauge India's ability to respond to a transformed security neighbourhood as well as assess its ability to play a role befitting its "major power" status, this study reviews the state of New Delhi's relations with key states such as Israel, Iran and Iraq besides featuring an overview of its Central Asia policy.

The objective was to discern the strategic worldview and institutional imperatives that inform India's paradoxical policy of forming strategic alliances with both Israel and Iran – clearly the only country in the world to do so.

*Research activities carried out in 2003*

The project started in April 2002 and was completed in August 2003. It led to the publication of a *CSH Occasional Paper*:

AARON J. Sushil, *Straddling Faultlines: India's Foreign Policy toward the Greater Middle East*, CSH Occasional Paper No. 7, 2003, 111 pages.

The part on relations between India and Israel has to be translated into French for publication in the journal of the *Institut des Relations Internationales et Stratégiques*.

*Main research findings*

The study concludes that India's policy toward the region, as demonstrated by its ambiguous stance toward the 2003 USA invasion of Iraq, is governed by the need to arrive at a balance which ensures uninterrupted energy supplies from the Persian Gulf without losing the various geopolitical benefits of enlisting in the USA led 'war on terror'. India's policy in the region also demonstrates an unresolved ideational struggle within the foreign policy establishment between the need to sustain inherited conceptions of foreign policy autonomy and the impulse for bandwagoning with the USA to gain short-term leverage over Pakistan.

## **Indo-Chinese rivalry in Burma (Myanmar): Burma in India's China policy.**

*Composition of the research team:*

**Renaud EGRETEAU**, Ph.D. student, *Institut d'Etudes Politiques* (IEP), Paris and French Ministry of External Affairs fellowship holder, CSH, [regreteau@csh-delhi.com](mailto:regreteau@csh-delhi.com)

*Institutional Partnerships: Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Ecole Doctorale, Cycle Supérieur d'Analyse Comparative des Aires Politiques, ASIA) and Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Internationales (CERI, Paris).*

*External funding sources: CERI (funding of a mission to Thailand and one to Paris).*

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The purpose of this thesis project is to analyse India's "Asian" diplomacy (Look East Policy), by focussing the research on New Delhi's relations with China and Burma (Myanmar).

More specifically, the study of the *strategic rivalry* that China and India may instigate in *Burma (Myanmar)* and the analysis of India's approach in the face of the "strategic competition" that is taking shape in the region is the main thrust area of this project. The region's geopolitical issues have to be studied in order to explain India's threat perceptions and/or the strategic opportunities in the area from the Indian North-East to the Yunnan plateau, through Burma and the Indian Ocean. What tools (diplomatic, economic and military) does India have for taking up the region's strategic challenges?

The analysis of India's Burmese and Chinese policies need a specific methodology, based on meetings and interviews (with Indian, Chinese and Burmese diplomats and officials, journalists, researchers, Burmese refugees, political activists, NGO activists, etc.), the analysis of media reports, books and reports on the region's geopolitics (strategic, diplomatic and global literature on the region), and fieldwork in the concerned countries in order to ascertain local strategic issues.

*Research activities carried out in 2003*

This thesis project began in October 2002 at the Paris-based Institute of Political Studies (with a viva scheduled for October 2006) as well as in CSH, thanks to a research grant renewed in October 2003. The CSH contract shall end on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2004.

Three field trips were carried out in 2003: Northeast India, China (Yunnan) and Thailand.

*Results achieved in 2003*

The first fellowship year culminated in a publication (Renaud Egreteau, *Wooing the Generals: India's New Burma Policy*, New Delhi, Authorspress, 2003, 234 p.). An individual book, it legitimises a full year's work (including three field trips) on the region's geopolitics.

Three lectures were also given (two in New Delhi and one in Bangkok), as well as two presentations at international seminars (in New Delhi and Hyderabad), which will be published in two collective publications in 2004.

## **Islamisms in the Indian subcontinent**

*Composition of the research team*

*Project Head: Frédéric GRARE*, CSH Director till January 2003, Cultural Counsellor at the Embassy of France in Islamabad.

[frederic.GRARE@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:frederic.GRARE@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

*Other participants:*

Adil Mehdi, Senior Lecturer, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

Mollica Dastider, Junior Fellow, Nehru Memorial Museum & Library.

Inpreet Singh, freelance research scholar.

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

This project, which has already led to two publications in 2002 (*The Muslims of the Indian Subcontinent after the September 11 Attacks* and *Political Islam in the Indian Subcontinent: The Jamaat-i-Islami*) endeavours to study different movements or phenomena that structure Islamism in the Indian subcontinent. Its purpose is to analyse the functioning, desire and influence of each of them in their country of origin, as well as on inter-State relations in the region. It also aims at throwing some light on their regional and international strategies and dismantling the mechanisms by which regional powers use Islamist organisations for promoting their own interests. The ties between political Islam and educational institutions are also examined in the same perspective.

The project is based on field studies and interviews in the concerned areas (North and North-East India, West Bengal, Bangladesh, Kashmir and Pakistan).

*Research activities carried out or initiated in 2003*

In this context, there are three studies underway:

The first one, started in April 2002, and is conducted by Adil Mehdi. It examines the network of Islamic madrasas in North and Northeast India, particularly in relation to their alleged link with militancy. This study attempts to paint as complete a picture as possible of the historical, socio-economic, financial, religious and political factors that could explain the links between certain madrasas and radical militant organisations.

Fieldwork and library research were completed in 2003, the research report is under preparation.

The second study, undertaken by Mollica Dastider, began in August 2003. It deals with the competition between fundamentalists in the Indian sub-continent. This study endeavours to analyse the rise in rival fundamentalist movements in India and Bangladesh and examines the prejudices inherent in the mobilisation of the public against religious minorities, in messages about nation building. In 2003, bibliographical research work was carried out in Kolkata and a first visit was made to Bangladesh. The research report is expected in December 2004.

Finally, a third study, jointly conducted by Inpreet Singh and Frédéric Grare, deals with the orchestration of Islamic militancy in the Indo-Pakistan conflict.

*Forthcoming works and initial results*

Each of these studies shall culminate in the publication of a monograph. The first such publication should be ready in 2004 and shall deal with Indian madrasas.

So far, the main conclusion of this study is that in spite of widespread reports in Indian and international media there is no hard evidence of direct link between the madrasas and terrorism in India. The madrasas continue to teach outdated 18<sup>th</sup> century curriculum, which has rather limited relevance in the modern world. Most of these institutions depend largely on public donations and do not accept funding from the government. Therefore, the latter is unable to regulate them or reform them directly. The debate of the structure, funding,

curriculum and role of the madrasas in the Indian subcontinent and elsewhere is very much on at the moment and it will be some time before we know the outcome.

Two articles entitled “Pakistan: Limitations of Islamisation” and “The evolution and sectarian conflicts in Pakistan and the ever-changing face of Islamic violence”, ensuing from research conducted within the framework of this programme, will be published in 2004, in the journal of the *Ecole Française d’Extrême Orient* and the *Australian Contemporary South Asia* journal respectively.

## **India-Europe Dialogue**

### *Composition of the research team*

*Project Head:* **Frédéric GRARE**, CSH Director till January 2003, Cultural Counsellor at the Embassy of France in Islamabad, [Frederic.GRARE@diplomatie.gouv.fr](mailto:Frederic.GRARE@diplomatie.gouv.fr)

*Other participants:* A dozen or so European and Indian research scholars or academicians.

*Institutional partnerships:* School for International Studies in Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, several European institutions (*Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik*, Berlin, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation) and the European Commission Delegation in India.

*External funding source:* The project received funding from the European Commission within the framework of the ‘Small Facilities Projects’ under the India-Europe programme for the year 2003-2004.

### *Objectives and activities carried out in 2003*

The programme of annual meets in the form of round tables was initiated in 2001 and aims at furthering constructive dialogue between India and Europe on issues of common interest, in particular security issues.

The third meet, held in Delhi in February 2003, dealt with Indian and European reactions in the face of the Iraq conflict, which was still in the gestation period, the problematic of relations with the United States, the analysis of the Indo-Pakistani crisis in the spring of 2002 and issues concerning the United States. The discussions revealed marked differences over each of these subjects, particularly the Iraq crisis, not just between Indians and Europeans, but also among Europeans themselves. The next meeting is scheduled to take place in Paris on 4-5 May 2004.

## **Influence of the China factor on India’s foreign relations since the normalisation of relations (1988-2003)**

### *Composition of the research team*

**Sophie COUVE DE MURVILLE**, M.Phil. student, *Institut d’Etudes Politiques*, Paris, intern at CSH from June to August 2003.

### *Scientific problematic and research objectives*

The objective of this M.Phil. dissertation was to go beyond official allegations and assess the relative weight of the China factor on India’s strategic re-orientations since the end of the cold war.

### *Activities carried out in 2003*

The internship at CSH made it possible to conduct an in-depth analysis of the data provided by the media and strategic literature, through a series of interviews conducted with journalists, research scholars at IDSA (Indian Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis), diplomats and retired military officials.

#### *Main research findings*

The study has underlined the central and equivocal role played by China in India's bilateral and multilateral relations despite the normalisation process that was initiated in 1998.

While India engaged in co-operative security with China, its China policy in the 1990s remained focussed on issues of territoriality and sovereignty. The fact that the rivalry between the two Asian giants was made official during the 1998 Indian nuclear tests conferred greater visibility to the underlying influence of the China factor. At the international level, post-Pokhran diplomacy also sought to reshape its relationship with the major powers within the framework of the two triangular relationships that involved China. On the one hand, the intensification of Sino-Russian military co-operation played a direct role in Indian initiatives to re-launch its strategic partnership with Russia, and on the other, India's manoeuvres to move closer to the United States were conditioned by India's desire to reverse American priorities in Asia to the detriment of China. Within the framework of the latter triangular relationship, which could potentially change into a zero-sum game, India sought to consolidate its regional position by co-operating with the United States while maintaining its relations with China.

### **Last decades of the Portuguese Empire in India: The *Estado da India* between 1945 and 1961 – Destiny of an Asian mirage during the Cold War and decolonisation in the Indian subcontinent**

#### *Composition of the research team*

**Sandrine BEGUE**, Ph.D. Student, University of Nantes, intern at CSH in April and May 2003.

#### *Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The main objective of the study is to understand the profoundly original nature of Portuguese colonialism in Asia and Goa, which was quite different from the Anglo-Saxon and French colonial models with which it is often confused. An in-depth analysis of the fundamental characteristics of Portuguese colonisation and the reality of 'lusotropicalism' would thus explain the miraculous life-span of the *Estado Novo de Salazar's* colonial policy in India, despite the fragility of politico-administrative and military structures, as well as the little population that characterised these small territories.

A study of the last few years of the *Estado da India* helps in defining the cultural and ideological factors of Portuguese colonisation, which subsequently influenced the entire context of political and social pressures at the national and international level, and which led to the first crack in the Portuguese colonial Empire, which had been declared by the Portuguese constitution as being indivisible and unified from *Minho* to *Timor*.

After conducting research in Portuguese and French archives, a trip to India proved necessary in order to complete the thesis and consult the New Delhi-based National Archives as well as those in Goa and thereby gauge the place of these Portuguese enclaves in India's national and international policies.

## 3.2. Political dynamics, Institutional Structures and Social Changes

**Coordination: Girish KUMAR**

In its quest to explore the pillars and contours of the Indian political and social system, the political science stream initially focused its attention on two federative themes: impact of decentralisation policy; and electoral representation and identity politics. Of late, it has added globalisation and its interface with the social sector.

### **Invigorating Third-tier of Governance: A Study of Politico-Administrative Dynamics of Decentralisation through *Panchayats* in India**

*Composition of the research team*

*Project head:* **Girish KUMAR**, senior research fellow, CSH, girish@csh-delhi.com

*Other participants:* Six research assistants

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The objective of this project was to reconstruct the history of democratic decentralisation in India and evaluate its impact by comparing the experiences of four states (Maharashtra, West Bengal, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh), which represent the different generations of *Panchayats* in the country.

The methodology included collection and analysis of secondary data (proceedings of Assembly debates on State Panchayat Bills drafted in conformity with the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, 1992) as well as various types of survey (questionnaire based and open-ended interviews) with different category of respondents, covering altogether 1400 people in selected villages and block and district headquarters.

*Research activities carried out in 2003 and results*

This project was initiated in March 2001, and a first book published by the beginning of 2003:

KUMAR G., GHOSH B., *State Politics and Panchayats in India*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2003, 243 p.

The research findings were also presented in various seminars and lectures.

A second book, to be entitled *Desires without Matching Deeds: Democratic Decentralisation in India*, is under preparation, and its typescript will be submitted by mid-2004.

*Main research findings*

The political will of the state leadership seems to have greatly influenced the course of decentralisation in all the four studied states. The mediating role of the left party has emerged prominently in West Bengal. In Karnataka, decentralised institutions performed well but for a limited period in the mid-1980s. Since then, it has been a case of one step forward two steps backward. In Madhya Pradesh, on the other hand, prior to the 73rd amendment, decentralisation was hardly on the agenda of the state but afterwards innovative steps were taken to create space for facilitating people's participation and by extension widening the social base of democracy at the local level.

## **Indo-French perspectives on Local Government and Democracy**

### *Composition of the research team*

*Project head:* **Girish KUMAR**, senior research fellow, CSH, [girish@csh-delhi.com](mailto:girish@csh-delhi.com)

*Other participants:* Lucy Baugnet, director, *Ecole doctorale en Sciences Humaines et Sociales*, University of Picardie – Jules Verne (Amiens), François Rangeon and Benoit Mercuzort (Faculty of Law, University of Picardie).

*External Source of Funding:* Indo-French programme of co-operation in social sciences (*Maison des Sciences de l'Homme*, Paris), University of Picardie.

### *Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The main objective of this Indo-French collaborative project is to compare and contrast the course of democratic decentralisation in India and France. In terms of political and administrative decentralisation, India seems to have an edge over France but the position reverses when it comes to raising local resources by the local level institutions.

The outcome of this project will be a book to be published in English and in French: this will expose the readers in both the languages with the nuances of the functioning of the local government institutions and their impact on the resource management as well as process of democratisation in very different contexts, in terms of economic development as well as cultural settings.

### *Research activities carried out in 2003 and first results*

Girish Kumar spent a month as a visiting professor at the University of Picardie during November-December 2003, and delivered guest lectures in Amiens, Rouen and Brussels. During his stay, the frame for the proposed book was developed.

## **Reforms in Health Sector: A study on Reach and Impact of Public-Private Partnership and Community Initiatives in Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan**

### *Composition of the research team*

**Girish KUMAR**, senior research fellow, CSH, [girish@csh-delhi.com](mailto:girish@csh-delhi.com)

### *Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

Faced with the daunting task of handling growing number of patients amidst budgetary constraints, several state governments have resorted to reforms based on the concept of partnership of different stakeholders under the aegis of new management structure. The research objectives are: (a) to examine the process of evolution of 'new management structures' to oversee the functioning of public hospitals and delineate the roles and contributions of different stakeholders; (b) to evaluate the efficiency, reach and impact of reforms, in terms of catering to the healthcare needs of primary stakeholders and their level of satisfaction; and (c) to prepare a detailed inventory of suggested reforms to improve upon the health governance of the medical personnel.

This project is based on the case studies of three different models of reforms in the health sector: Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat. The methodology includes direct field observation, interviews, group discussions with hospital staff, health bureaucracy, donors and

NGOs, as well as with patients and attendants. Information is also collected from the directorate of health services and by scanning minutes of executive committee meetings.

*Research activities carried out in 2003 and first results*

This project commenced in March 2003. The main activities carried out in 2003 include primary and secondary data collection from six hospitals in Madhya Pradesh. The case studies of Rajasthan and Gujarat will be completed by mid-2004.

A paper published in *Economic and Political Weekly* (July 2003) was written on the basis of this case study. The findings were presented in a guest lecture given at the University of Rouen (December 2003). Preliminary findings show that patients are inclined to pay user's fee since they have access to greater facilities. The overall functioning of public hospitals seem to have improved without a lack of accountability and transparency in decision-making, notable exceptions apart.

An outcome of this project will be the organisation of a national seminar on reforms in health sector at the end of August 2004, followed by the publication of the proceedings.

## **Women and Decentralisation in Urban India. Implementation of Quotas for Women in the Municipalities of Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata**

*Composition of the research team*

*Project head:* **Stéphanie TAWA LAMA-REWAL**, research scholar at the Centre for Indian and South Asian Studies (CEIAS, CNRS-EHESS, Paris); associate researcher at the CSH, tawalama@ehess.fr

*Other participants:* Archana Ghosh, Director of Department of Urban Studies at the Institute of Social Sciences, Eastern branch, Kolkata.

*External funding sources:* The project is jointly funded by the Ford Foundation and the Swedish International Development Agency.

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The project has the following objectives: to observe the political representation of women during the first term of elected local officials within the framework of the 74th amendment (defining an ambitious policy of decentralisation at the urban level) in four Indian metropolitan cities; to assess the impact of quotas (33 % of seats) for women, both on the functioning of elected councils and on the political participation of women; and identify the factors that enable the representation in the full sense of the word of women in elected councils, and those that, on the contrary, deprive quotas of any substance, so as to help draw up support policies for such quotas and to mobilise the most relevant actors.

The principal methods used were: surveys based on questionnaires filled by elected representatives (women and men), completed by group discussions; semi-structured interviews with actors/observers of political life at the municipal level; direct observation of the electoral campaign of some candidates; and the analysis of the minutes of municipal councils.

*Research activities carried out or initiated in 2003*

The project began in April 2001. We completed data collection in 2003 and organised a concluding seminar in Delhi. A brochure presenting our main results in a simplified manner has also been prepared in five languages and sent to all the women elected as officials in the cities under study. A final book is underway and shall be completed for publication in 2004.

*Research findings*

The main conclusions of the programme are as follows:

- The contrasts observed in the socio-economic profile and performance of women elected as officials in the four cities studied revealed that the gender of the elected official was not a significant factor as suggested by the debate on Women's Reservation Bill; it is the local political culture that largely determines the impact of quotas for women in the municipalities.

- The "critical mass" theory (D. Dahlerup) that is often brought up in order to justify the reservation of 33 % of the seats for women has been found to be irrelevant in the first phase of implementation of the quotas: quantitative changes (in the number of women among elected officials) is not translated by qualitative changes (in the agenda of municipalities).

- For a more positive impact, the quotas must be accompanied by other reforms in political life, especially with regard to the status of elected officials and the funding of elections.

*Related project and publications*

Our reflection on reservations for women were extended by the publication of the proceedings of a seminar entitled "*Reservations and the Political Representation of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Women. A Comparative Assessment*", held in New Delhi in April 2002. This collective work, under the guidance of S. Tawa Lama-Rewal and including seven other contributors, compares the implementation of the electoral quotas enjoyed by four categories in India today, at different levels of political life: scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward classes, and women.

The final book shall be entitled *Political Representation and Social Change. The Working of Electoral Reservations in the Indian Democracy*, and shall be published in the Manohar-CSH series in 2004.

## **Recent Trends in Indian Federalism in the Light of the Creation of the State of Chhattisgarh**

*Composition of the research team:*

**Samuel BERTHET**, associate research scholar at CSH, *Centre de Recherche et d'Histoire du Monde Atlantique*, University of Nantes, samuel.berthet@csh-delhi.com

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

This study concerns the issues raised by the creation of the new State of Chhattisgarh, as the 26th state of India, within the framework of India's political system, generally described as an asymmetrical and progressive federalism. It also falls under the study theme of decentralisation.

First and foremost, it is important to determine the similarities between this new State and those of Uttaranchal and Jharkhand, created less than a month previously, as well as its uniqueness. The regional political dynamics, inherent to Indian politics, are bound to emerge in the background. Issues of identity and development, raised by Dr Amit Prakash in his study of Jharkhand, are equally highlighted here. Indeed, development and identity-related issues are related to the justifications proffered for the creation of Chhattisgarh. Furthermore, as in the case of Jharkhand, its sociological component of tribes is one of the main components of its identity.

*Activities carried out or initiated in 2003 and initial results*

The work, begun in October 2003, first set out to collect a bibliography on a subject that has not been explored much so far, especially if studies or sources in English are considered. A first field visit in November-December made it possible to establish contacts with academic and intellectual circles in the new State, during the first elections held in Chhattisgarh (early December 2003). A study of the media coverage of the elections helped in obtaining an update on the most important political issues and also in highlighting the gap between the opinion of analysts at the "Centre" and the perception about the future of this Indian State within Chhattisgarh itself.

As shown by the premises upon which this study is based, although the creation of these three new states has not aroused any interest or comments in professional circles so far, it nonetheless constituted a significant development in the Indian federal system.

## **Beyond the World Social Forum: A Study of the Dynamic between NGOs and Social Movements in India**

*Composition of the research team*

**Saroj GIRI**, post-doctoral research fellow, CSH, saroj.giri@csh-delhi.com

*Scientific problematic, objectives and methodology*

This research project is a study of the inner tension as well as divergence and convergence between the thinking and practice of Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and social movements in India, against the backdrop of the World Social Forum (WSF), the 'movement of movements', taking place in Mumbai in January 2004. The never-fully-reconciled relationship between NGOs and social movements seems to have a new lease of life in the context of what some perceive to be the increasingly problematic dominance of NGOs in the WSF.

Apart from referring to the literature available on social movements, NGOs and the WSF, this study will be based on field work and meetings and interviews with the people participating in the WSF India process. It proceeds by taking account of the differences between the positions of NGOs and radical social movements. The problematic then consists of examining how, given that both are participating in the WSF India, this affects and influences the WSF process itself. What for example are the political and organisational faults and fissures that show up in the WSF India, given the increasing presence of NGOs since its inception three years back. Conceptually, the study will be operationalised through the prism of the concepts of the state and civil society.

*Research activities realised or initiated in 2003*

This study was initiated in November 2003. A first series of interviews was already conducted with trade union workers and Dalit activists who also took part in the World Social Forum. The field work focuses on Mumbai for the trade unions, and on Haryana for the Dalit activists.

## **Old and New Tribal Spaces: Strategies of Stakeholders and Development Policies**

*Composition of the research team:*

**Pierre DAURIAN**, Ph.D. student in geography at the University of Rouen, International Volunteer at CSH, in-charge of the computer network, pierrot78@yahoo.fr

### *Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

This thesis proposes to take a fresh look at the definition and perception of the concept of a Tribe in India, through the prism of space and its limits, starting with the case of the Chenchus in Andhra Pradesh, one of the last hunter-gatherer tribes in the Indian sub-continent. This study adds to the already abundant literature on Indian tribal populations, but it differs from conventional anthropological fields in that it adopts an essentially geographical approach. The factor of migration is used as a tool, as a means for understanding the tribal condition (well-being/discontent), and as an index to assess the degree of consistency between development programmes and the perceptions of stakeholders. Generally, seasonal migration is perceived as a marker of poor development, with the villagers migrating because of the lack of necessary support at local level.

Thus, several issues are examined. How is seasonal migration actually perceived? What are the impacts of tribal rehabilitation programmes? What are the spatial strategies of the stakeholders in response to development policies? The research aims to assess the spatial trends of Andhra Pradesh's tribal component.

The study focuses on two districts in Andhra Pradesh, and the scale of observation is at the level of tribal spaces or areas that have been the subject of specific development programmes (positive discrimination).

### *Activities carried out in 2003*

The affiliation to the CSH from July 2002 to December 2003 made it possible to conduct two field visits to Andhra Pradesh. The second visit, which took place in December 2003, made it possible to: pursue the relational dynamics started with two NGOs in Hyderabad and with the Andhra Pradesh Rural Livelihood Project; collect data from administrators; refine the questionnaire on migrations; and take a census of new tribal colonies in the two districts under study.

## **3.3. Economic Transition and Sustainable Development**

**Co-ordination: Joël RUET**

The "Economics" stream proceeded with its research on the reform of public network infrastructure, international trade, natural resources (water, water-electricity interaction) and development models. This work was undertaken by continuing and extending collaborations with Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), the Indian Institute of Technology in Kanpur (IITK), the Indira Gandhi Institute for Development Research, Mumbai (IGIDR), CERNA (*Centre d'économie industrielle*) of the *Ecole des Mines* of Paris, and the *Centre d'Etudes et de Documentation Economique et Juridique* in Cairo (CEDEJ).

These collaborations concerned joint research programmes (JNU, CERNA, CEDEJ), the exchange or hosting of research scholars (JNU, IGIDR) and the co-organisation of seminars (IITK, CERNA, IGIDR, CEDEJ).

Several research scholars from this stream were involved in Franco-Indian working groups or French or Indian public reports (Joël Ruet, Dipankar Sengupta). Apart from two Ph.D. students affiliated to CSH for a one-year period, we temporarily hosted and supervised the institutional internships and M.Phil. dissertations or Ph.D. theses of 8 students, as well as one post-doctorate student.

## **Integration of the Informal Sector in the World Economy**

### *Composition of the research team*

*Project head:* **Joël RUET**, research scholar, CSH, joel.ruet@csh-delhi.com

*Associate research scholar:* François Ireton, the Centre d'Etudes et de Documentation Economique et Juridique (CEDEJ), Cairo.

### *Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

This research project, begun in September 2000, aims at developing an improved modelling of globalisation for emerging countries, by incorporating the informal sector. More specifically, it studies the distribution by the informal sector of current consumer products that can be traded worldwide. The study is based on a comparison between the cities of Delhi and Cairo, in collaboration with Cairo's CEDEJ. It aims at assessing (i) the geographic expansion of the distribution area in peripheral districts, as well as (ii) an economic expansion to underprivileged sections of society, by lowering distribution costs.

The methodology is based on quantitative surveys (300 questionnaires in each city), carried out between November 2001 and January 2002 in Delhi, and January 2002 and March 2002 in Cairo.

### *Activities carried out or initiated in 2003 and expected results*

The coding and processing of data were completed in 2003, and the findings will be published in 2004. The project end date envisaged is August 2004.

### *Related project and publication*

The collaboration between CSH and CEDEJ was furthered by the organisation of a seminar, “*India-Egypt: Comparative Development*”, held on 1-2 October 2003 in Cairo, at CEDEJ. It brought together French, Indian and Egyptian research scholars. The project’s objective is to re-examine “Third World” and “development” paradigms, in the perspective of an analysis of their transformation, based on two specific cases – India and Egypt. This project will lead to two publications: an issue of the *Egypte Monde-Arabe* journal in French and a book in English, to be published in Europe.

## **Public Infrastructure Reforms and Public-Private Partnerships**

### *Composition of the research team*

*Project head:* **Joël RUET**, research scholar CSH, joel.ruet@csh-delhi.com

*Associate research scholars:* Marie-Hélène Zérah, French Institute of Recherche for Development (IRD), Pierre-Noël Giraud, CERNA (*Centre d'économie industrielle* of the Ecole des Mines, Paris).

*Associate students:* Augustin Maria, Ph.D. student, CERNA; Bertrand Reysset, intern, Ministry of Agriculture; Emile Lacour and Marie Gambiez, Institute of Agronomy, Paris-Grignon; Nathalie Yannic, M.Phil. student, CERNA; Arnaud Poussier and Pauline Barral, *Ecole Nationale des Statistiques et d'Administration Economique* (ENSAE).

*Institutional partnerships:* with CERNA (*Centre d'économie industrielle de l'Ecole des Mines, Paris*) and the Indira Gandhi Institute for Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai. The objective of this triangular partnership is to develop applied research in the sector of

water and sanitation. An agreement between CSH and the *Ecole des Mines* on the one hand, and between CSH and IGIDR on the other, is also being considered.

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The objective of this project is to provide an analysis of the impact of regulatory and organisational changes (internal budget allocation, management decentralisation, etc.) in public sector enterprises and, as the case may be, the impact of their privatisation. The project aims at establishing the characteristics of the Indian 'administered' system.

The study focussed more specifically on the electricity, water and sanitation sectors.

*Research activities carried out in 2003 and results*

For the electricity sector, the programme led to a seminar on State Electricity Board reforms in September 2003 and the establishment of a network of research scholars in this field. Recommendations concerning government policy, as well as (i) operational, (ii) managerial and (iii) regulatory recommendations being discussed in the concerned forums (Regulators' Forum, inter-governmental seminars, government seminars).

With regard to the water and sanitation sectors, the research undertaken led to various publications in collaboration with CERNA (*Centre d'Economie Industrielle, Ecole des Mines*): a series of CSH Occasional Papers, and a note from the *Institut pour le Développement Durable et les Relations Internationales* (Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations) presented at the Kyoto summit in March 2003, in particular. In addition, these works provided the foundation for a more in-depth study of the analytical tools offered by the theory of property rights, to serve as a basis for publications in international journals. All these works aim both at being academic (participation in the bi-annual conference of common property economists) and applied (distribution of research outcomes to administrations, for example the electricity regulatory commission of Uttar Pradesh, which included them in its tariff calculations for 2002). Hence the varied nature of the resulting publications and communications: academic publications, reports, *Occasional Papers*, conferences and participation in training sessions.

Moreover, a Franco-Indian network of environmental economists, the network called "*Développement des Marchés de Technologies de l'Eau et des Déchets par l'Economie de l'Environnement*" (DEMATEDEE), jointly run by HUDCO (Housing & Urban Development Company, Government of India), the *Club de l'eau* (Paris), and CERNA (*Centre d'Economie Industrielle, Ecole des Mines, Paris*) are also attached to this programme. The network aims at assessing the commercial costs of the mismanagement of water resources. It is funded by a subsidy of the French Ministry for Research, and held its first seminar in Delhi in October 2003 at the Observer Research Foundation of New Delhi.

## **Exporting through E-commerce**

*Composition of the research team:*

**Dipankar SENGUPTA**, post-doctoral research fellow, CSH and Jawaharlal Nehru University, [dsg68@csh-delhi.com](mailto:dsg68@csh-delhi.com)

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

This project aims at examining why the great promise of the Information Revolution in relation to the firms in the Third World has been belied in so far as the easy access to export markets have not materialised. Based on these research findings the project

recommend measures that are to be taken by the State as well as individual firms to enable agents in India to access Western Markets through E-commerce.

The study is field based as well as based on secondary data. In the case of commodity exports, questionnaires were used extensively to gauge the intensity and level of e-commerce with which garment and handicraft exporters are familiar. Emphasis was placed on those firms that have a presence on the web in the form of a dedicated homepage. These findings were also analysed for policy implications. As for exports of services, interviews with practitioners constituted the dominant approach. Based on the interviews, tentative conclusions were drawn and re-submitted to the original respondents as well as new interviewees for their views, before finalising the research report.

#### *Research activities carried out in 2003*

This project started in February 2002, and the main work was completed in 2003. The conclusions were presented in a conference at the India International Centre in September 2003 in Delhi. The research report will lead to the publication of a CSH *Occasional Paper* in the beginning of 2004.

#### *Main research findings*

One conclusion of this project is that organisational shortcomings (that owe their existence to the policy of reservation of certain items for small-scale industry) have prevented Indian garment exporters from exploiting the potential of e-commerce. In the case of Information Technologies (IT) and IT enabled services (ITES), the reputation and the locking in of IT exporters into a low-technology export equilibrium are factors that have played their part. There is no sign that despite the existence of a new breed of Indian IT firms climbing up the technology chain that the industry is now on the path of sustained technological and value growth. Where ITES are concerned, transnational corporations have financial, organisational and managerial advantages that Indian firms find difficult to match. They are not helped by government policies that limit the size of accountancy firms endowing them with same attitudes and practices that bedevil the ability of Indian garment exporters from using e-commerce to good effect.

## **Economic Policies of the State in India and Public Response**

#### *Composition of the research team:*

**Dipankar SENGUPTA**, post-doctoral fellowship holder, CSH and Jawaharlal Nehru University, [dsg68@csh-delhi.com](mailto:dsg68@csh-delhi.com)

#### *Scientific problematic, research objectives*

The nature of the States in the sub-continent is still characterised by a certain degree of political and - till recently - economic centralisation. Economic policy-making certainly till recently (and perhaps even now) has been centralised either via quantitative restrictions or via investment decisions, the nature and scale of which are planned by either the central government or the state government. What has been the nature of the response of the public to these decisions especially in regions that face severe unrest, e.g. Bangladesh in the aftermath of its independence, or the terrorist/insurgency affected regions of India? Are phenomena like terrorism and communalism legitimised given the success/failure of state policies? Are there better delivery mechanisms for investment aimed at development? Do different delivery mechanisms (e.g. centralised spending versus *panchayat* involvement for rainwater harvesting) for investment programmes meant to alleviate similar problems lead to different

results? Tensions and coherence between the globalisation of the economy and political decentralisation have, moreover, been incorporated in the analysis.

*Research activities carried out in 2003 and results*

These research studies resulted in presentations in various seminars, which were later published as chapters in collective books.

## **India in the Dispute Concerning the World Trade Organisation's Law**

*Composition of the research team*

**Julien CHAISSE**, Ph.D. student, University of Aix-Marseille III - *Centre d'Etudes et de Recherches Internationales et Communautaires* (CERIC), International Volunteer at CSH & Scientific Secretary, julien.chaisse@csh-delhi.com

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The institution of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) has introduced a major judicial innovation on the international scene in the form of the dispute settlement mechanism. In the volume on world trade, India comes first among the developing countries. From the judicial viewpoint, this translates into a substantial quantitative involvement in the organisation's dispute settlement mechanism.

Does India have an overall strategy (which would transform dispute settlement into a trade policy tool) or, on the other hand, an opportunistic approach? This issue is indissociable from the way India manages its internal dispute settlements and raises two questions: which specific administrative authorities decide on initiating a complaint, and on the basis of what modalities? What is the degree of involvement of Indian enterprises that export their products or services in the initiation of legal action, or even that of certain non-governmental organisations?

On the basis of these analyses, we endeavour to identify the main centres of attraction for India. Beyond a sectoral analysis, we shall try to evaluate India's contribution to the jurisprudential development of WTO law over almost the last ten years and, in doing so, to understand the role played by this country in international trade law.

The material used for the study are: the decisions of the Dispute Settlement Body and the decisions of the Appellate Body; and internally, the decisions of the Indian Supreme Court and lower national jurisdictions. These documents are analysed in the light of meetings with researchers or law practitioners, economists, diplomats and journalists interviewed in Delhi.

*Research activities carried out or initiated in 2003*

The project is to be carried out during the period spent at CSH, from February 2003 to end January 2005.

2003 was devoted to an enumeration of all the cases brought before the WTO's Dispute Settlement Body in which India was involved, followed by a formal and material analysis of each of the cases to assess India's contribution to the development of the Organisation's jurisprudence. This part of the research work was supplemented with an analysis carried out internally of the contentious status of WTO Agreements within the jurisprudence of the Indian Supreme Court to assess the effectiveness of international standards and their impact on the Indian legal system.

## **Inter-Caste Economic Inequalities and the Urban Labour Market in Delhi**

*Composition of the research team*

**Jean-Dilip SEN GUPTA**, French Ministry of External Affairs' fellowship holder, CSH, and Ph.D. student in Economics, Faculty of Economic and Social Sciences, University of Sciences and Technologies, Lille - *Centre Lillois d'Etudes et de Recherches en Sociologie et Economie* (CLERSÉ), jdsengupta@csh-delhi.com

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

The objective is to establish whether caste constitutes a decisive element structuring individual professional transitions and, if necessary to find some explanations. We suggest that caste relations continue to structure Delhi's urban labour market, either through a professional or sectoral concentration of labour. We lay special emphasis on the existence of strong social interactions in the practice of an occupational activity, which can bias the modalities of accessing the said activity along with individual economic decisions regarding professional mobility.

Initial approaches aim at presenting statistical indicators (inequalities in consumption expenditure, indexes of concentration, spatial segregation, and so on) that highlight the particular economic condition of Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes in the metropolis of Delhi by stressing the modalities of their insertion into the labour market.

Beyond a snapshot of the relative conditions of these two sub-populations, we also use the data from the survey on "Spatial mobility of populations in Delhi" (V. Dupont, ORSTOM, 1995). This survey informs the residential biographic profiles of the respondents, in the light of occupational mobility in the labour market and the influence of family members. We therefore envisage a secondary processing of the ORSTOM survey data in order to analyse in a longitudinal perspective the professional transitions of the respondents by questioning the influence of their families and that of caste on their occupational choices.

*Research activities carried out or initiated in 2003*

The research programme began in November 2003, and our research activities since were, first, familiarisation with the data provided by the ORSTOM survey.

We also worked on identifying the institutional context and nature of development programmes aimed at improving economic conditions for labour induction, in order to see how our research could enable a better targeting of the population categories eligible for the said development programmes (for example: *Swaran Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojna* (SJSRY), the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation's programme, Urban informal sector programme, International Labour Office (ILO).

## **Effects of Economic Liberalisation in India since the Early Nineties: Issues and Perspective of Privatisation in the Reform Process**

*Composition of the research team:*

**Sachidanand SEETHANEN**, French Ministry of External Affairs' fellowship holder, CSH, and Ph.D. student in Economics, University of Paris-North, CEPN (Centre of Economics of Paris-North (CEPN/CNRS), satchidanandha@yahoo.fr

*Scientific problematic, research objectives*

In the context of reforms, deregulation and opening-up to international markets, this project aims at understanding how India is currently shaping its industrial policy and why the State is still very present, in spite of extensive privatisation efforts. While the argument, at the

start of the reform process, was to improve the efficiency of the companies, privatisation efforts today are also directed at profit-making enterprises. We are witnessing a shift in the privatisation problematic and of the kind of reasoning developed by the government.

A major objective of this research is also to assess the performance of central government undertaking that are currently under de-investment.

*Methodology adopted, research activities carried out in 2003 and initial results*

We established a database covering 10 years (on the basis of the "Prowess" database of the Centre for Monitoring of the Indian Economy), in order to calculate the various efficiency ratios of the firms, on the basis of a horizontal financial analysis and an analysis of the social costs related to privatisation. Initial conclusions do not lead to any significant results in terms of the performance of the firms under de-investment, as the process is still limited to a minority transfer of public assets to the private sector (i.e. approximately 16 %). Hence, we directed our efforts to the issue of the improvement in efficiency of firms, without taking recourse to privatisation, which led to questions about corporate governance. Two successive visits, one to the Indian Institute of Management in Ahmedabad and the other to the Institute of Public Enterprise, Hyderabad, made it possible to explore this mode of functioning. While the transfer of public assets to the private sector proved politically adverse, the improvement in the administration of public sector firms could be achieved by privatising not so much the assets as the management of public sector firms.

This field experience enabled us to collect data, establish links within the network of research scholars in order to exchange information, and gain a better understanding of the context of the development issues India faces.

## **Cinema and Television in India: from Globalisation to "Glocalisation". A decade-long assessment (1992-2002)**

*Composition of the research team*

**Camille DEPRez:** Ph.D. student at the *Institut de Recherche en Cinéma et Audiovisuel* (IRCAV)/University of Paris 3, fellowship-holder of the Ministry of External Affairs (Indo-French programme, 2002/2003), affiliated to the Department of Sociology of the Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi, hosted by the CSH from March 2003 to December 2003, [camille\\_deprez@yahoo.com](mailto:camille_deprez@yahoo.com)

*Scientific problematic and research objectives*

The objective of this research is to understand how the globalisation of cultural industries has influenced popular Indian cinema during the 1992-2002 decade, in which the country experienced the liberalisation of its economy, thenceforth opened to foreign investors, and the penetration of the multinational media system.

The globalisation of cultural industries should not be envisaged simply as the standardisation of cultural products at the global level, but also as an opportunity to redefine oneself. In India, the evolution of cinema reflects the accelerated penetration of satellite television channels, the increasing role of the urban middle classes and the Indian Diaspora distributed world-wide. By operating on the basis of a Western industrial model, receiving foreign television programmes and, above all, by adapting them to India's social and cultural realities (hybridising and Indianisation), a new popular cinema is taking shape, at the boundaries of national and international cinema, composed of three main genres: "Hinglish Masala" films, "cross-over" films and recent experiments in recycling Hollywood films in their own original fashion.

*Methodology adopted, research activities carried out in 2003 and initial results*

The research for the thesis started in November 2001 and should be completed in September 2004.

In 2003, a survey on the reception of television programmes and films in rural areas was conducted in two villages in Rajasthan, along with a comparative study, conducted in Kerala. The other field visits consisted of meeting the professionals from the film and audio-visual industry in the five main production centres: Chennai, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Calcutta and Trivandrum. These meetings led to semi-directed sociological interviews.

These surveys and interviews, the analysis of literature and statistical data on the cinema and television industries, as well as discussions with Indian and French research scholars, helped in gathering the raw materials necessary for drawing up a specific plan for the Ph.D. research underway.

## **AIDS in India: Access to Generic Drugs and Industrial Policy**

*Composition of the research team*

**Samira GUENNIF**, post-doctorate fellow at the Centre of Economics, University of Paris-North, affiliated to the CSH from October 2002 to June 2003.

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

In 2001, the national AIDS research agency initiated a research programme on the access of patients to anti-AIDS treatments in countries of the South. The programme, "ETAPSUD" proposes, in particular, to discuss the impact of the production of antiretroviral drugs in the South on the access of patients to more affordable anti-AIDS treatments.

In this context, a study was initiated in October 2002 at CSH to assess the methods used by Indian health authorities to check the disturbing increase of the infection among the Indian population. On the one hand, the study proposes to review the public health measures taken by the Indian authorities, while on the other, it examines India's industrial capacity in manufacturing generic antiretroviral drugs. With its voluntarist industrial policy, India has been able to build up a high-performance pharmaceutical industry to increase the country's autonomy in matters of health and to reduce the price of medicines.

*Results obtained in 2003*

The study gave rise to a report:

GUENNIF S., "*Le Sida en Inde : aspects de politique industrielle et de propriété intellectuelle d'un problème de santé publique dans un pays en développement*" (AIDS in India: Industrial policy and intellectual property aspects of a public health problem in a developing country), Centre d'Economie de l'Université Paris-Nord, [work carried out with the support of CSH], 2003, 104 p.

## **Perspectives for the "Economics" stream**

The "Economics" stream is currently composed of a core group of five French and Indian research scholars or fellows, who have now acquired an acknowledged expertise in several fields: infrastructure, international trade and privatisation. We now have to aim at the consolidation of our knowledge base and its development. This would call for:

- The strengthening of the number and status of our Indian research fellows – the grant of an additional research fellowship to be assigned to the collaboration programme with the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai, and the *Ecole des Mines* (Paris) would constitute a step forward in this direction;
- Regular participation to international conferences and excellence networks; on the French side, access to tools such as incentive programmes of the French Ministry of Research should be developed;
- The increase in the number of articles published in renowned journals with an editorial board: while such a policy would delay the actual publishing of the results, in the long term, it would guarantee recognition to research in economics conducted in CSH.

### 3.4. Urban Dynamics

#### Co-ordination: Véronique Dupont

This stream includes two new collective projects, involving European and Indian researchers, which make it possible to develop a multidisciplinary research dynamic between the various streams within CSH. Furthermore, these two projects ("Peri-urban dynamics" and "Urban actors, policies and governance") illustrate CSH's efforts for obtaining external funding, within the framework of incentive programmes of the French Ministry of Research.

#### **Peri-urban dynamics: population, habitat and environment on the peripheries of large Indian metropolises**

##### *Composition of the research team*

*Project head:* **Véronique DUPONT**, director CSH, associate researcher to the research unit "Urban mobility and restructuring" of the (French) Institute of Research for development (IRD), veronique.dupont@csh-delhi.com

*Other participants:* About 20 researchers, from Europe and India, participate in the working group, including Jöel Ruet from the CSH.

*Institutional partnership:* Institute of research for Development (IRD, Paris), Centre for Indian and South Asian Studies (CEIAS: CNRS/EHESS, Paris), Centre for Population and Development (Ceped, Paris).

*Other research institutions involved:* Institute for Development Studies (IUED, Geneva), South Asia Institute of the University of Heidelberg, University of Amsterdam, Centre for the Study of Regional Development of Jawaharlal Nehru University (Delhi), Geography Department of Mumbai University, School of Planning of Ahmedabad, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (Delhi), Centre for Economic and Social Studies (Hyderabad).

*External sources of funding:* Project selected by the 2003 Incentive programme "Space and territories", French Ministry of Research.

##### *Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

Specific forms of urbanisation come up on the periphery of the large developing metropolises: formation of mixed land use settlements, halfway between urban and rural zones, transitory spaces undergoing rapid and multiple transformations (physical, morphological, social and demographic, cultural, economic, functional).

Our basic hypothesis, in order to apprehend these processes, is the non-neutrality of "location" within the metropolitan areas. The urban peripheries are not a mere analytical framework, but a specific space whose population and settlement dynamics, along with land-use, involve various and often conflicting interests at stake, which reflects a political and societal vision of the city and access to the city. Thus, housing needs, especially for the poor, green belt (agricultural farms and reserved forests/national parks), new industrial and commercial zones, all compete in the rural-urban fringes.

The constitution of a multi-disciplinary working group and the subsequent organisation of a research workshop in August 2004 aim at better understanding the multiple facets of the peri-urban dynamics, in the context of large Indian metropolises.

The objective of this working group on peri-urban dynamics is to put together a series of studies and reflections in relation to this common problematic, to confront various disciplinary approaches and compare case studies of different Indian metropolises, and draw broad-based conclusions in order:

- to analyse the processes at work,
- to reflect on an appropriate socio-spatial classification of the populations and human settlements,
- and to promote reflection on the complex equation between population, habitat and environment in these suburban spaces and the political stakes involved.

#### *Research activities carried out in 2003*

This project was initiated in July 2003, and would be completed by 2005. The working group has been constituted during the second half of 2003, with a view to associate researchers with different academic backgrounds: demography, geography, economics, urban planning, socio-anthropology, environment and law.

An electronic forum aimed at exchanging information and reflection between the participants has been settled. We have collectively started gathering a commented bibliography on the subject, including a review of case studies in India.

### **Urban Actors, Policies and Governance. Decision-making Processes Governing the Demand and Supply of Public Goods and Services in Four Indian Metropolises**

#### *Composition of the research team:*

*Programme head:* **Joël RUET**, Research scholar at CSH, joel.ruet@csh-delhi.com and **Stéphanie TAWA LAMA-REWAL**, research scholar at the Centre for Indian and South Asian Studies (CEIAS: CNRS/EHESS, Paris), associate researcher at CSH, tawalama@ehess.fr

*Other participants:* 12 European and Indian research scholars, including Girish Kumar, research scholar at CSH; Pierre Chapelet, Ph.D. student in health geography at the Department of Geography at the University of Rouen (formerly at CSH); François Leclercq, Ph.D. student in economics, TEAM-CNRS, University of Paris I (formerly at CSH).

*Institutional partnerships:* *Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales* (Centre for Indian and South Asian Studies).

*Other research institutions involved:* CNRS, Institute of Research for Development (IRD, Paris), University of Caen, Université of Paris X, South Asia Institute at the University of Heidelberg, Institute of Social Studies (Hague), Centre for the Study of Law and Governance at Jawaharlal Nehru University (Delhi), Gujarat Institute of Development Research (Ahmedabad), Institute of Social Sciences (Eastern branch, Kolkata).

*External funding sources:* The project was selected for funding within the framework of the 2003 Incentive Programme "Sustainable urban development" of the French Ministry of Research.

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

This research project in political economic is the outcome of a multi-disciplinary international team. Its main purpose is to characterise urban governance in Indian metropolises, its variants and key variables. The objective is to describe and analyse urban governance, as redefined by the economic liberalisation and politico-administrative decentralisation policies initiated in the early 1990s by the Indian government, through the study of the decision-making processes associated with the supply and demand of public goods and services (health, education, food, water, housing) in four Indian metropolises: Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad and Kolkata. In order to evaluate the real status of the decentralisation process that is theoretically at the heart of this new configuration, sector-wise case studies shall be carried out in each city and shall be complemented by studies focussing on the relations between different levels of government. This will highlight some major cases against the current.

The main methods used will be surveys with the help of questionnaires (household surveys, as well as questionnaires aimed at specific target groups), interviews and analyses of speeches (laws, parliamentary debates, political speeches).

*Research activities carried out or initiated in 2003*

The project was initiated in May 2003 and should be completed in December 2006. In 2003, due to the lack of funding, our work was limited to the spirited exchange of e-mails, punctuated by a few meetings in order to define a common approach. In the course of this year, our team carried out bibliographical work by through the exchange of notes on reading material as well as through the redefinition of the project's key concepts with the help of critical notes on notions such as "governance", "physical and social infrastructure", "social resources" etc.

## **Globalisation and Drugs in India. A Case Study of Delhi**

*Composition of the research team:*

**Pierre CHAPELET**, Ph.D. student in Health Geography, University de Rouen, affiliated with CSH until June 2003, [chapelet@altern.org](mailto:chapelet@altern.org)

*Scientific problematic, research objectives and methodology*

This thesis in the field of Health Geography examines the changes taking place in India's pharmaceutical sector, within the context of economic globalisation, as well as their implications with regard to the access to medicines. The work essentially deals with the dynamics of industrial drug production and distribution networks, following the application of new laws on intellectual property rights (ADPIC-TRIPS agreement) in Indian legislation, in 2005. The objective is to understand how each actor, whether at the international, national or local level, generates socio-spatial inequity with regard to the access to drugs, through his complex interactions within the "drug system".

The research work is illustrated by a case study of Delhi, based on a Geographic Information System (GIS) and field surveys.

*Activities carried out in 2003*

A GIS on the location of public and private health infrastructure in the National Capital Territory, which also includes census data, was realised in 2002. In 2003, the geographic information system was fed data through a series of surveys on health infrastructure that made it possible to characterise their capacity to disseminate pharmaceutical products. This new layer of information would make it possible to develop models on the interactions between the territorial and reticular logic within the "drug system" prevailing in the National Capital Territory and the socio-spatial segregation processes related to pharmaceutical drug consumption.

*Results achieved*

The implementation of the GIS in Delhi enabled the CSH to acquire a reference tool for future urban studies on the Indian capital. It is from this point of view that an agreement for a student internship programme was set up in early 2003 between the CSH and the Department of Geography of the University of Rouen.

The project also led to the organisation of a workshop at CSH in March 2003, on the theme "*Revealing the Complexity of Health in Social Sciences. Which Methodologies for which Problematic?*", with the participation of researchers and Ph.D. students from CSH, the University of Rouen, and Indian research institutions. A publication has also been planned.

## 4. Promotion and dissemination of research works

The promotion mission of the research activities conducted by the CSH is manifested by a politics of insertion into academic networks, organisation of seminars and conferences as well as publication and dissemination of works. These activities maximise the visibility of the Center.

### 4.1. Conferences and seminars organised by the CSH

The CSH organises individual talks, in collaboration with other institutions in Delhi, for its researchers but above all for French researchers or those from other countries on a visit to India. This contributes to a higher visibility of research work in the field of social sciences that have been carried out not only in the CSH but also in France or Europe. The CSH also organises seminars, workshops, round table conferences and symposiums in collaboration with its Indian and/or European partners, mainly in Delhi, but in other cities as well.

#### 4.1.1. Individual talks

*"Political Parity between Men and Women in France: A Unique Policy"* by Janine Mossuz (CNRS), Paris co-organised by the CSH and India International Centre (IIC), at IIC, New Delhi, 5 February 2003.

*"The Four Different Circles in the Indian Diaspora: The Case of South Africa"* by Frédéric Landy (Université de Paris X-Nanterre), organised by the CSH at the auditorium of the Cultural Centre, French Embassy, New Delhi, 26 March 2003.

*"Micro-Finance and its Indian Relevance"* by Jean-Michel Servet (Institut Français de Pondichéry) organised by the CSH at the auditorium of the Cultural Centre, French Embassy, New Delhi, 10 April 2003.

*"HIV/AIDS Epidemic in India: TRIPS Agreements and Access to AIDS Treatment"*, by Samira Guennif, co-organised by the CSH and India International Centre at IIC, New Delhi, 25 April 2003.

*"India and Burma/Myanmar Relations: From Idealism to Realism"*; by Renaud Egreteau co-organised by the CSH and India International Centre at IIC, New Delhi, 11 September 2003.

*"Exporting through E-commerce"*, by Dipankar Sengupta, co-organised by the CSH and India International Centre at IIC, New Delhi, 15 September 2003.

*"Bombay Slum Sanitation Program"*, by Nathalie Yannic, organised by the CSH, at the CSH, New Delhi, 28 October 2003.

*"Cinéma and Television in India, from Globalization to Glocalization"* organised by the CSH (Camille Deprez) at the auditorium of the Cultural Centre, French Embassy, New Delhi, 8 December 2003.

### 4.1.2. Symposiums, seminars, workshops, round tables

Seminar "*Women's Quotas in Urban Local Government: A Cross-National Comparison*" co-organised by the CSH, Institute of Social Sciences and India International Centre, at IIC, New Delhi, 6-7 February 2003.

Seminar "*Third India-Europe Dialogue*" co-organised by the CSH, 'Friedrich Ebert Stiftung' and India International Centre, at IIC, New Delhi, 25-26 February 2003.

Workshop "*Revealing the Complexity of Health in Social Sciences. Which Methodologies for which Problematics?*", organised by the CSH, at CSH, New Delhi, 6 March 2003 (with the participation of French/European researchers as well as researchers from Indian institutions).

Seminar "*The European Union in World Politics*" co-organised by the CSH, Delegation of the European Commission, Indhira Gandhi National Open University, Fundacio Oriente, European Union Studies Programme of Jawaharlal Nehru University, at IIC, New Delhi, 22-23 May 2003.

Workshop "*Management Decentralisation of Collective Resources in Rural India. An Appraisal for New Research Paths*", co-organised by the CSH, Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement, Université de Paris X-Nanterre, CSH and Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS, Hyderabad) at CESS, Hyderabad, 31 May 2003.

Seminar "*Power Sector Reforms: Technological and Financial*" co-organised by the CSH, Indian Institute of Technology (Kanpur) and Infrastructure Development Finance Corporation at IIT, Kanpur, 7-8 September 2003.

Seminar "*India and Egypt: Trajectory and Institutions of Development in Egypt and India*" co-organised by the CSH & Centre d'Etude et de Documentation Economique et Juridique (CEDEJ, Cairo), at CEDEJ, Cairo, 1-2 October 2003.

First seminar of DEMATEDEE network "*Market Development of water & waste technologies through environmental economics*" co-organised by the CSH, Centre d'Economie Industrielle (CERNA) of Ecole des Mines de Paris, Matières Premières-Eau-Environnement-Développement (Paris) & Observer Research Foundation (ORF) at ORF, New Delhi, 30-31 October 2003.

## 4.2. Publications and Papers

The CSH promotes its own range of publications:

- A collection of books with an Indian publishing house, Manohar Publishers, the **Manohar-CSH Collection** (23 titles since 1995);
- A collection of documents created in 2001 (with a Review Committee), the **CSH Occasional Papers**, that can be downloaded freely from the CSH website (7 titles).
- A newsletter **PATTRIKA** published since 1999, in collaboration with the French Institute of Pondicherry and the *Ecole Française d'Extrême Orient*, with three issues per year, that can be downloaded freely from the CSH website.

CSH researchers not only publish their research findings in the CSH collections, but also with other publishers, in India or in Europe, as well as in scientific journals in English or in French (refer to the list for 2003 below). Through the participation of its researchers in working groups (French, European, Indian, bi/multi-lateral), its reports and its publications, the CSH contributes not only to academic debates, but also towards influencing the reflection of public decision-makers and economic think tanks.

In order to enhance the visibility of the CSH and more specifically the dissemination of its research activities, we conducted an inventory in 2003 of specialised research centres working on South Asia as well as of university libraries which are inevitable intermediaries for highlighting the activities of the CSH. This inventory mainly took into consideration French institutions, followed by anglophone institutions; this acted as the basis for the dispatch of a catalogue of our publications, accompanied by an introduction of the CSH as well as a copy of the CSH Occasional Papers. 119 university libraries or research centres received this documentation in France, 172 in the United States, 43 in the United Kingdom, 33 in Canada and 29 in Australia.

#### **4.2.1. Books**

BOQUERAT G. (eds.), *No Strings Attached?: India's Policies and Foreign Aid (1947-1966)*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2003, 173 p.

BOQUERAT G., GRARE F. (eds.), *India, China, Russia: Intricacies of an Asian Triangle*, India Research Press, New Delhi, 2004, 173 p.

BOQUERAT G., ZINS M.J., (eds) *India in the Mirror of Foreign Diplomatic Archives*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2004, 138 p.

DORIN B. (eds.), *The Indian Entrepreneur: A Sociological Profile of Businessmen and their Practices*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2003, 250 p.

EGRETEAU R., *Wooing the Generals: India's New Burma Policy*, Authorspress, New Delhi, 2003, 234 p.

GRARE F., *Pakistan and the Afghan Conflict 1979-1985. With an afterword covering events from 1985-2001*. Oxford University Presse, Karachi, 2003, 222 p.

GRARE F., MATTOO A., (eds.) *Beyond the Rhetoric: The Economics of India's Look East Policy*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2003, 240 p.

KUMAR G., GHOSH B., *State Politics and Panchayats in India*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2003, 243 p.

RUET J. (eds.), *Against the Current: Organizational Restructuring of State Electricity Boards*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2003, 224 p.

SINGH S., *China-South Asia: Issues, Equations, Policies*, Lancer's Books, New Delhi, 428 p.

VIDAL D., TARABOUT G., MEYER E., (eds.), *Violence/Non-violence: Some Hindu Perspectives*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2003, 328 p.

#### 4.2.2. Chapters in books

BOQUERAT G., France's political interaction with India through the Quai d'Orsay archives (1947-1972), in BOQUERAT G., ZINS M.J. (eds.), *India in the Mirror of Foreign Diplomatic Archives*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2003, pp. 11-31.

DUPONT V., "Urban Development and population redistribution in Delhi: Implications for categorizing population", in CHAMPION T., HUGO G. (eds), *New forms of urbanization: Beyond the urban-rural dichotomy*, Aldershot, Ashgate, 2003, pp. 171-190.

DUPONT V., "HOUSSAY-HOLZSCHUCH., "Fragmentation et accès à la ville: une perspective comparative entre le Cap et Delhi", in GERVAIS-LAMBONY Ph., LANDY F., OLDFIELD S. (eds), *Espaces arc-en-ciel: identités et territoires en Afrique du Sud et en Inde*, Paris, Karthala, 2003, pp. 271-304.

DUPONT V., LANDY F., "Segregation et territoire. De quoi parle t-on?", in GERVAIS-LAMBONY Ph. LANDY F., OLDFIELD S. (eds), *Espaces arc-en-ciel: identités et territoires en Afrique du Sud et en Inde*, Paris, Karthala, 2003, pp. 41-60.

EGRETEAU R., "Myanmar (Birmanie): la rupture du dialogue", in *L'état du Monde 2004*, Paris Editions La Découverte, 2003, pp. 306-308.

LECLERCQ F., "Can the Decentralisation of School Management Improve the Quality of Teaching? A Field Study of EGS and Other Public Primary Schools in Madhya Pradesh, India", in KUMAR K., OESTERHELD J., *Education in Modern Asia: Social and Political Implications*, Orient Longman, New Delhi, 2003.

RUET J., "Water in Urban India: scenario, the energy linkage, the private", in MORRIS S. (ed), *India Infrastructure Report 2004*, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2004, Chapter 12-4, pp. 303-313.

RUET J., ZERAH M.H., "Providing water supply and sanitation in Chennai: some recent institutional developments", in Actes de la table ronde "*Water management in South India*", Institut Français de Pondichéry, under the guidance of P. COHEN & S. JANAKARAJAN, 2003, pp. 127-138.

SENGUPTA D., AGARWAL M., "Financial Markets and Stability: Reforms in India from the BOP Crisis to the East Asian Crisis", in GRARE F., MATTOO A., (eds.) *Beyond the Rhetoric: The Economics of India's Look East Policy*, CSH-Manohar, New Delhi, 2003, pp. 129-160.

SENGUPTA D., "Economic Success and Legitimation of Islamism", in SENGUPTA D., SINGH S.K., (eds.) *Minorities and Human Rights in Bangladesh*, Authorspress, New Delhi, 2003, pp. 75-88.

SENGUPTA D., "The North East: Causes of Economic Backwardness and a Plan for Growth" in SENGUPTA D., SINGH S.K., (eds.) *Insurgency in the North East: The Role of Bangladesh*, Authorspress, New Delhi, 2003, pp. 115-139.

SENGUPTA D., "Economic Policy Making in a Terrorist Economy: An Exploratory Framework" in SENGUPTA D., SINGH S.K. (eds.) *Terrorism in South Asia*, New Delhi, Authorspress, 2003, pp. 309-320.

SINGH S., "China's South Asia Policy" in SINGH M., KRASSILCHTCHIKOV V. (eds.) *Eurasian Vision*, Anamika Publishers, New Delhi, 2003, pp. 281-290.

SINGH S., "China and South Asian Security Complex", in PATIL V.T., KANT JHA N., (eds.) *India in a Turbulent World: Perspectives in Foreign and Security Policies*, South Asian Publishers, New Delhi, 2003, pp. 168-180.

SINGH S., "China's Afghan Policy: Limitations and Leverages", in Prof. K. WARIKOO, *The Afghanistan Crisis: Issues and Perspectives*, Bhavana Books, New Delhi, 2003, pp. 406-422.

SINGH S., "Strategic Triangle and the Ballistic Missile Defence" in BOQUERAT G., GRARE F. (eds.) *India, China, Russia: Intricacies of an Asian Triangle*, New Delhi, India Research Press, 2003, pp. 89-117.

#### **4.2.3. Articles in journals with an editorial board**

DEPREZ C., "La télévision indienne: un modèle d'appropriation culturelle", *Questions de Communication*, Nancy, No. 3, 2003, pp. 169-183.

DUPONT V., "Socio-spatial differentiation and residential segregation in Delhi: a question of scale?", *Geoforum*, vol. 35, Issue 2, March 2004, pp. 157-175.

KUMAR G., "Promoting Public-Private Partnership in Health Services", *Economic and Political Weekly*, Mumbai, 2003, vol. Xxxviii. No. 29, pp. 3041-45.

RUET J., PAL CHOWDHURY P., VASUDEVAN H., "L'Europe vue de New Delhi", *Sociétal No. 41*, Paris, 2003, pp. 81-83.

SINGH S., "India-China-Russia: A Strategic Triangle?", *World Focus*, New Delhi, Vol. 24 No.1, January 2003, pp. 15-17.

SINGH S., "Hu Jintao and the Future of Tibet", *Defence and Technology*, New Delhi, July 2003, pp. 54-58.

SINGH S. "Vajpayee's China Visit: An Overview", *World Focus*, New Delhi, Vol. 24 No. 7, July 2003, pp. 3-5.

SINGH S., "US-China: Post 9/11 Acrobatics", *World Focus*, New Delhi, Vol. 24, No. 4-5, April-May 2003, pp. 35-38.

SINGH S., "China-India Relations", *World Focus*, New Delhi, October-November-December 2003, pp. 41-43.

#### 4.2.4. Papers presented at symposiums, seminars and talks

BOQUERAT G., "French Interests and India's Attitude in the Indian Ocean", paper presented at the conference *India and Emerging Geopolitics of the Indian Ocean Region*, Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, Honolulu, 19-21 August 2003.

CHAISSSE J., "Legal Implications of the European Union Enlargement", paper presented at the symposium of the Confederation of Indian Industry *India and the enlarged European Union: emerging implications for India*", Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi, 9 July 2003, 17 pages.

CHAISSSE J., CHAKRABORTY D. (RGCIS-Research Associate), "How Developing Countries Use the Dispute Settlement Understanding: Indian and Chinese Standpoints", paper presented at the seminar *The Doha Development Agenda: Cancun and After*, Rajiv Gandhi Institute for Contemporary Studies (RGCIS) and China Association for International Friendly Contacts (CAIFC), at the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation, New Delhi, 6 et 7 November 2003, 35 pages.

CHAPELET P., "Health as an Object of Research: The need for a multidisciplinary approach", paper presented at the workshop *Revealing the Complexity of Health in Social Sciences. Which Methodologies for which Problematics*", CSH, 6 March 2003.

EGRETEAU R., "India-Burma/Myanmar Relations since the Phnom Penh Summit (November 2002): Courting the Junta?", paper presented at the seminar *India and ASEAN: Post Summit Perspectives*, Centre for Indian Ocean Studies, Osmania University, Hyderabad, 3-5 July 2003.

EGRETEAU R., "The NDA's Burmese Policy: Towards a Strategic Relationship with Myanmar", paper presented at the seminar *The NDA's Foreign Policy*, School of International Studies, JNU, New Delhi, 29-30 July 2003.

EGRETEAU R., "India-Burma Relations: From Idealism to Realism", talk at Indian International Centre, New Delhi, 11 September 2003.

EGRETEAU R. "India's Burmese Policy: Problems and Prospects in collaboration with Soe Myint, Editor of Mizzima New Group, talk at the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 14 October 2003.

EGRETEAU R., "India's new Burma Policy: the China Factor", talk at the Alliance Française, Bangkok, 26 November 2003.

KUMAR G., "Hopes amidst Despair; Reinterpreting the 73rd Constitutional Amendment, paper presented at a seminar at the Haryana Institute of Rural Development, Nilokheri, Haryana, 6-7 March 2003.

KUMAR G., "Management Decentralisation of Collective Resources in Rural India: An appraisal for New Research Paths", conference at Bangalore University of Agricultural Sciences, Hyderabad, 31 March 2003.

KUMAR G., "Decentralisation and State Politics: A comparative account of Maharashtra and West Bengal", guest lecture at the Centre for Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 22 August 2003.

KUMAR G., "Indian Political System and Decentralisation", talk at Department of Law, University of Picardie, Amiens, 28 November 2003.

KUMAR G., "Mobilisation, Representation and Facilitating Grassroots Democracy in Madhya Pradesh", talk at the European Institute of Asian Studies, Brussels, 19 November 2003.

KUMAR G., "Health Sector Reforms in India", guest lecture at the University of Rouen, 4th December 2003.

RUET J., "Les déterminants de la delocalisation de second rang en Asie du Sud-Est par les firmes de Technologies de l'Information de l'Inde (TI), paper presented at *Colloque International sur les Investissements Directs Etrangers*, Ecole Supérieur de Commerce, Hanoi, 13-14 February 2003.

RUET J., "La réforme du secteur public en Inde", talk at International Relations Institute, Hanoi, 14 February 2003.

RUET J., ZERAH M. H., "Various modes of water management", paper presented at the Indo-French symposium "*French expertise in Indian context for Urban and Industrial Environment*", Kolkata, 5-6 March 2003.

RUET J., ZERAH M.H., "Contamination of underground waters", paper presented at the Indo-French symposium on "*French expertise in Indian context for Urban and Industrial Environment*", Kolkata, 5-6 March 2003.

RUET J., "Water Management in Urban India", paper presented at the Indo-French Symposium on "*French expertise in Indian context for Urban and Industrial Environment*", Kolkata, 5-6 March 2003.

RUET J., "Electricity privatisation in Delhi", talks at ATOM, University of Paris I, 9 May & Ecole des Mines, 12 May 2003.

RUET J., "The Political meaning of a river: intellectuals and networks of knowledge around the Narmada", paper presented at the *Indo-French Conference on Culture, Identities and Politics*, Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris, 20 May 2003.

RUET J., "Optimal timing for privatisation of a utility: the Indian case", paper presented at London School of Economics (Laboratory Destin), 21 May & Cambridge University, UK, 26 May 2003.

RUET J., "Information Technologies and Biotechnologies in India: assets specificity and competition, paper presented at the *Réseau-Asie Conference*, Paris, 23-24 September 2003.

RUET J., "Infrastructure and Research in Indian Metropolitan Cities: Bangalore, Hyderabad, New Delhi", paper presented at the Senate-CFCE Symposium "*L'Inde, grande puissance asiatique*", Paris, 13 November 2003.

SENGUPTA D., "The North East: Causes of Economic Backwardness and a Plan for Growth", paper presented at the conference *Insurgency in the North East*, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 29-30 January 2003.

SENGUPTA D., "Economic Policy Making in a Terrorist Economy", paper presented at the seminar *Terrorism in South Asia*, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 30 July 2003.

SENGUPTA D., "The Limits of Economic Diplomacy", paper presented at the seminar *The NDA's Foreign Policy*, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 30 July 2003.

SENGUPTA D., "Exporting through E-commerce", talk at the *India International Centre*, New Delhi, 15 September 2003.

SENGUPTA D., AGARWAL M., "India's Export Policy: A Hostage of Ghosts Past", paper presented at the seminar *Indo-Taiwanese Relations on Taiwan's accession to the WTO*, National Chengchi University, Taipei, 20 September 2003.

SINGH S., "China's Defence System", talk at the Institute of Chinese Studies Orientation Course on *Contemporary China* for young Indian scholars on China, New Delhi, 11 January 2003.

SINGH S., "The Politics of Sanctions Regimes: Experiences from Asia", South African Institute of International Affairs (Johannesburg), paper presented at workshop *New Tools for Reform and Stability? Sanctions, Conditionalities and Conflict Resolution*, Jan Smuts House, Wits University, Johannesburg, 13 March 2003.

SINGH S., "India-Pakistan Nuclear Risk Reduction Measures", paper presented at International Conference, University of Birmingham on *South Asian Security Perspectives*, Birmingham, 14-15 April 2003.

SINGH S., "China's Strategic Objectives, Foreign Policy and China-India Ties", guest lecture at Defence Services Staff College (DSSC), Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu, India, 26 June 2003.

SINGH S., "China Factor in India's Look East Policy", paper presented at the International Seminar *India-ASEAN: Post-Summit Perspectives*, Center for Indian Ocean Studies, Osmania University, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, 3-5 July 2003.

SINGH S., "Deterrence Theory and South Asia", paper presented at an international workshop on *International Relations Theory and South Asia*, New Delhi, 26-27 August 2003.

SINGH S., "The future of China-India ties", talk at the 53rd Orientation Course of the UGC-Academic Staff College, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, 28 November 2003.

SINGH S., "India and Disarmament", talk at the 53rd Orientation Course of the UGC Academic Staff College, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, 28 November 2003.

SINGH S., "Factoring Taiwan in India's Look East Policy" paper presented at a conference *Taipei-New Delhi Relations*, Department of Diplomacy, College of International Affairs, Chengchi National University, Taipei, Taiwan, 21-22 November 2003.

SINGH S., "China-India Relations: Future Prospects", Center for Indian Studies, Peking University, Beijing, China, 9 December 2003.

SINGH S., "China India Economic Engagement: Problems and Prospects", talk at the Institute of South Asian Studies, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, Shanghai, China, 23 December 2003.

SINGH S., "India-China Boundary Question", talk at the Academy of International Studies, Fudan University, Shanghai, China, 24 December 2003.

SINGH S., "Recent Developments in China-India Relations", talk at the School of International Studies, Zhejinag University, Hongzhou, China, 26 December 2003.

TAWA LAMA-REWAL S., "Quotas as a Tool of Political Integration: A Profile of Women Councillors and an Account of the Municipal Campaign in Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata, paper presented at the seminar *Women's Quotas in Urban Local Government: A Cross-national Comparison*, New Delhi, 6 February 2003.

#### **4.2.5. Reports, dissertations, theses, CSH Occasional Papers**

BARRAL P., POUSSIER A. (under the guidance of Joël Ruet), *Les déterminants des investissements en infrastructures urbaines dans les villes indiennes de plus de 100 000 habitants*, Ecole Nationale des Statistiques et d'Administration Economique, December 2003, 39 p.

GAMBIEZ M., LACOUR E. (under the guidance of Joël Ruet), *Rural impact of farmers selling water to Chennai Metropolitan Water Board: a case study of Magaral Panchayat*, CSH-Institut National d'Agronomie, January 2003, 68 p.

GUENNIF S., "Le Sida en Inde: aspects de politique industrielle et de propriété intellectuelle d'un problème de santé publique dans un pays en développement", Centre d'Economie de l'Université Paris-Nord, [Report carried out with the support the CSH], 2003, 104 p.

KUMAR G., "Looking beyond despair and belief: Reinterpreting 73rd Amendment", Haryana Institute of Rural Development, Nilokheri, 2004, 9 p.

MARIA A. (under the guidance of Joël Ruet & M.H. Zérah), *The Costs of water pollution in India*, Network DEMATEDEE, October 2003, 54 p.

MARIA A., RUET J., ZERAH M.H., *Biotechnology in India*, CSH-CERNA, Report commissioned by the French Embassy in India, 2003, 251 p.

REYSSET B., *Dynamique de la foresterie participative indienne au plan communautaire: changement institutionnel et résilience sociale*, mémoire de DEA, Economie du développement agricole, agro-alimentaire et rural, ENSA Dijon, [Report carried out with the support of the CSH], 2003, 68 p.

RUET J., GIRAUD P.N., MARIA A., ZERAH M.H., "Les enjeux institutionnels et techniques du développement des infrastructures urbaines de l'eau dans les pays en voie de développement des infrastructures urbaines de l'eau dans les pays en voie de développement: le cas de l'Inde", *Note de l'IDDRI*, World Summit on Water in Kyoto, May 2003, pp. 9-18.

SENGUPTA D., *Rainwater Harvesting: A Costing and Extension Study*, Association for Environment and Development Research, Department of Environment, Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi, October 2003, 18 p.

YANNIC N. (under the guidance of Joël Ruet & M.H. Zérah), *The Slum Sanitation Program in Bombay*, mémoire de DEA, CERNA, Ecoles des Mines de Paris, 103 p.

### **CSH Occasional Papers**

AARON S., *Straddling Faultlines: India's Foreign Policy Toward the Greater Middle East*, CSH Occasional Paper No. 7, 2003 111 p.

### **4.2.6. Other Activities**

BERTHET S., "Les nouveaux visages de l'Inde", *Bulletin de l'Association France-Union Indienne* No. 57, 3 December - 4 January 2003.

BERTHET S., "Elections des Vidhan Sabha: le retour du BJP", *Bulletin de l'Association France-Union Indienne* No. 57, 3 December - 4 January 2003.

BOQUERAT Gilles, "International Relations in South Asia: Directory of Institutions", [www.csh-delhi.com](http://www.csh-delhi.com) (updated and enlarged version of the original edition of the directory published by CSH-Manohar in 1999)

EGRETEAU R., "India courts a Junta", *Asia Times*, 20 September 2003.

EGRETEAU R., Cours à l'IEP de Paris, DEA Analyse comparative des Aires Politiques (ASIE) sur "le nationalisme en Birmanie", Paris, 11 December 2003.

RUET J., "Emulating the IT Model with Biotech firms", *Financial Express*, 10 March 2003.

RUET J., "Le développement, mythologie indienne", *Courier de la Planète*, No. 70, 2003, pp. 19-21.

RUET J., "Common Pool Resources et droits de propriété", *Courier de la Planète*, No. 72, March 2003.

SENGUPTA D., Articles in newspapers written in 2003 for India News and Feature

- "The Problems of Success: The Fall and Rise of the Euro",
- "An Alliance of Convenience: India and Iran",
- "Measuring Economic Freedom",
- "Taiwan and Mainland China: The Benefits of Status Quo".

SINGH S., "Kashmir Card", <http://www.rediff.com> in *Remembering War: The 1962 India-China Conflict*, 2003.

SINGH S., "Hu Jintao's Enduring Contacts with Tibet", <http://www.ipcs.org>, Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, New Delhi, 2003.

TAWA LAMA-REWAL S., "Les femmes de la décentralisation dans l'Inde urbaine. Qui font les élues de la municipalité de New Delhi?", Labrys, *Etudes féministes*, [www.unb.br/ih/his/gefem](http://www.unb.br/ih/his/gefem), June 2003.

(a brochure highlighting the principal results of a survey on women's quotas in four metropolitan cities under a simple format, conducted in five Indian languages and sent to the elected representatives in the respective cities).

## 5. Conclusions and Perspectives

The final quarter of 2003 was marked by **several developments or reorientations within CSH's research streams**:

- Consolidation of the “Political dynamics, institutional structures and social changes” research stream, with the implementation of two new programmes (conducted by two new research scholars). While the first deals with recent trends in federalism in India in the light of the creation of the state of Chhattisgarh, the other studies the dynamics between NGOs and social movements in India.
- Revival of research in urban dynamics with the launch of two new joint interdisciplinary projects involving Indian and European research scholars, one on peri-urban dynamics and the other on urban actors, policies and governance.
- Completion of several programmes on Indian foreign policy and the expansion of the problematic with regard to the “Regional Dynamics in South Asia and International Relations” research stream, as a result of the launch of a programme on globalisation and diasporas (world-wide circulation of Indian Information Technology experts and its impact on the development and integration of India's new IT sector in the world economy), in January 2004. This reorientation corresponded with the departure of the stream co-ordinator (Gilles Boquérat), and his replacement (by Eric Leclerc).
- In 2004, it is the “Economic Transition and Sustainable Development” research stream that will be affected by a change in co-ordinator, when Joël Ruet leaves in end August. The choice of a confirmed research scholar in economics for this post will be crucial for maintaining and furthering the dynamism of this pole, which stands out owing to its recognised expertise in several fields (impact of reforms, infrastructure management and international trade) and its network of partners in India and France.

In this connection, a joint research project, initiated in 2002, must be further pursued and consolidated: the **CESI or Centre for Economic Studies on India**. This Franco-Indian research project in applied and urban economics in India has given concrete shape to a triangular partnership between the CSH, CERNA (*Centre d'économie industrielle, Ecole des Mines*, Paris) and the Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai. Agreements between CSH and CERNA, on the one hand, and between CSH and IGIDR, on the other, will be finalised in order to formalise this dual partnership. Thus, CESI would become a decentralised CSH research pole in Mumbai and enable the geographical expansion of France's scientific network in India. The project is based on a combination between contractual self-financing and public support, and aims at providing a base for a team of 3-4 senior research scholars and Ph.D. students – both French and Indian. The project has already led to several seminars and publications, and received a certain amount of contractual funding. However, only substantial public support for the coming four years will make it possible to sustain the CESI.

For the 2004 and 2005 periods, we also plan to **promote activities at the level of the South Asian region**. Such an objective is in line with the wishes of the Embassy of France in India, as well as the recommendations of the workshop on possibilities of co-ordination and common action in the field of science, organised by the Embassy during the regional meeting of South Asian Ambassadors, in November 2003 in Delhi. Several activities have already been scheduled within the regional framework (or in the wider international framework):

- A series of lectures on the Indian economy by a CSH research scholar in Pakistan in March 2004, organised by the Cultural and scientific section of the Embassy of France in Islamabad.
- CSH's participation in the symposium on "Religious activism and security in South Asia", organised by the Cultural and scientific section of the Embassy of France in Dacca, in October 2004.
- The organisation of a symposium, placing issues related to urban dynamics and governance in large South Asian metropolises in a comparative perspective.
- The organisation of regular workshops on the theme, "Political models and actors of the Indian Diaspora on the international scene", with the view of holding an international symposium in early 2005.

Within the field of co-operation and partnerships, the review of CSH's research and development activities in 2003 enabled us to highlight our network of partners and underline the broad range of our collaborations for the organisation of various scientific events. Furthermore, we plan to pursue **the consolidation of various forms of partnership and collaborations, thereby going beyond CSH's constraints in terms of its own human resources**. In this regard, we envisage the following:

- To promote the deputation of research scholars from IRD, CNRS, CIRAD, or professors from universities, in CSH, which would be facilitated by the reform of MEA research institutes that is taking place (thus, an IRD research scholar is expected at the CSH in the second semester of 2004).
- To formalise the status of an associate research scholar at the CSH (and an associate research project) to maintain ties with former CSH research scholars who continue to work on contemporary India and to facilitate their stay at CSH during research trips (our experience in this regard in 2003-04 concerning a political scientist recruited from CNRS in the Centre for Indian and south Asian Studies has encouraged us to further the experiment). Such a status would also make it possible to promote the inclusion of other research scholars whose work falls in line with the Centre's own main research orientations and involves exchanges or closer collaboration with CSH, in the course of their research trip.
- To associate Ph.D. students, who are beneficiaries of research fellowships (other than those of CSH) and whose thesis projects would contribute to furthering CSH's research streams (within the limitations of available capacity). For 2004, three affiliations of this type have been selected among several applications. Furthermore, such affiliations are in line with the Centre's research training mission, and complement the support system offered to Ph.D. students receiving a research grant

from the CSH, and to student interns inducted within the framework of agreements signed with various doctoral schools.

Such a policy of partnership and support will enable CSH to widen its scope of research, enrich its disciplinary approaches and thereby enhance its reach and visibility.

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New Delhi, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2004

