

Jai was interviewed by Chinese paper “Modern Weekly”

THINK TANKS IN INDIA 印度“最强大脑” 如何崛起

对于 CSTEP 和很多班加罗尔的智库来说,专业人才是智库发展的核心。Asundi 博士向本报记者讲述了 CSTEP 的人员组成。除了各领域的退休教授、政府要员,以及研究人员,他们还会从工程学、科学和社会学科的毕业生中选拔人才。这些毕业生拥有丰富的专业知识,而 CSTEP 则会为他们提供公共政策方面的培训。除此之外,专家们也会不定期地给学生们提供指导。Asundi 博士表示,每年他们都会遇到大量对新能源技术充满热忱的年轻人。

一名当地智库的负责人向本报透露,在班加罗尔,年轻人开始投身智库,他们热衷公共政策,更热衷为印度带来改变。在 CSTEP 任职 8 年之久的 Asundi 博士见证了这种变化——越来越多的印度学校开始开设公共政策相关的课程和学位,其数量远远大于 5 年前。不仅年轻人,班加罗尔地区智库的应征者总体上也与日俱增。然而,也有人对此提出了担忧,智库的核心在于其专业性,很多时候,虽然公民满怀一腔热情,但他们却往往缺乏对智库主题的根本认识和理解,更缺乏实践经验。但无论如何,正如热衷于社会-法律事件的律师团体“另类法律论坛”(Alternative Law Forum)成员 Vinay Sreenivasa 所说,强烈的公民参与意识对于社会发展总是百利而无一害的。

Jai's version below:

1. Mentioning that your organization has collaborated with couple of other think tanks to provide expertise to different ministries and businesses on energy and urban infrastructure related issues. You also do some techno-economic studies and technology assessments. The article will mention your organization as one of the examples of think tank focusing science, technology and tech-economic studies in energy and urban infrastructure.
2. In India, many funds came from domestic philanthropists, government entities, as well as international organizations that work with the government on certain projects. There are indeed some foreign investments, but usually collaborate with the government.
3. For many think tanks in India, funding has always been an issue. But beyond funding, I think the bigger challenge is to come up with practical solutions that can be implemented by the bureaucracy, government entities, or communities.
4. We take a lot of young graduates majoring in engineering, science, as well as social science, and train them into understanding public policy. We also work with advisors with experience including retired professors, government officials. Those advisors will also help train those young people.
5. There is an increase in interest in issues related to public policy. One could see the increase in terms of number of schools offering public policy courses or degrees, compared to 5 years ago.