

Exploring the Interplay Between Business Regulation and Corporate Conduct in India (BRCC Project)

STATE LEVEL INCEPTION MEETING

Hyderabad, April 27, 2012

A State Level Inception Meeting was held at Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad on April 27, 2012. Sameer Chaturvedi, Assistant Director, CUTS International, Jaipur provided a brief introduction and background of the BRCC project.

SriKant Nagulapalli, IAS; Chief Executive Officer, Aarogyasri Health Care Trust, Government of Andhra Pradesh inaugurated the meeting. He shared his views on Pharma and Healthcare sectors. He stated that companies should abide by rules if they want to be in the market. The notion of corporate social responsibility (CSR) is rich on face but fact is not the same. Need is to have more comprehensive view of CSR. He further added that society has certain expectations from the private sector where the optimal view is not about forcing laws but implementing regulations; but generally it is not followed by industries.

Nagulapalli showed his concern about healthcare. He said that hospitals generally do not take care of their waste and the worst scenario is that they throw the waste in open garbage many times. This leads to infection especially in garbage pickers and poor population and infection spread in people in surroundings. He suggested having award/incentive/scheme for hospitals with good waste management systems.

Nagulapalli congratulated the project implementers for taking the initiative on burning issue and extended his support for conducting such studies.

K Ranga Rao, Executive Director, Bulk Drug Manufacturers Association (BDMA) congratulated CUTS and ESCI team for initiating the programme at right time as Pharma industry is on crossroads and crossing through difficult passage of time. Therefore, it is mandatory to draw a line between regulation and over regulation. While citing the example of *Jana Aushadhi Policy* he stated that there are drawbacks in policies of the government. He said that there are 300 registered and 300 to 400 unregistered small scale industries in and around Hyderabad and there are no incentives from the government for small scale industries. He said that there is no permission to industries to expand and when expansion is prohibited, then how can the government expect pharma sector to compete at an international platform?.

He opined that there are four organisations working against pollution – Regulatory bodies, NGOs, Media and Courts. He criticised the role of NGOs and the media. He informed that ILA is established under Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation to monitor the pollution from industries. He suggested CUTS team to do R&D in all dimensions.

Purushotham Reddy, Citizens Against Pollution (CAP – an NGO) congratulated CUTS and ESCI team for taking this initiative. He mentioned different laws enacted by the government to control pollution and the initiatives taken at international level to mitigate pollution. He said that the framed laws need to be implemented effectively.

Seema Murthy, Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), Hyderabad asked about sampling size and methodology and detailed information about selection of stakeholders. She suggested including the providence of medicine by pharmacy even without prescription and the irrational use of antibiotics. She stated that just the collection of prescription paper from patient may not be helpful for reaching to conclusion this problem because the distribution of drug without prescription is very rapid in society.

Shalini Sharma, Head, Centre for Climate Change, Engineering Staff College of India (ESCI) presented the details about methodology of conducting the project, survey tools and sampling details etc. for Andhra Pradesh. She suggested to consult Andhra Pradesh Nursing Association as they conduct good training programmes in bio-waste management and would be able to provide help during the study. She informed that IIPH conducted research regarding patient safety issues in hospitals, i.e. the effect on the patient due to errors in hospitals.

Sameer Chaturvedi, Assistant Director, CUTS International thanked Ranga Rao, Ex-President, BDMA and said that his views will be beneficial for the project. He informed that the project is a step in the right direction. He opined that business regulations, industrial development are huge subjects and there are certain problems, which need coherence. Court is not solution unless there is proper representation involving people, government, industry, media, and civil society; that is why the dialogue has been initiated through this project. He stated that concentration is not only on private health sector but also government hospitals. He informed that there is code of ethics applicable to medical doctors and pharma companies but there is no such code for diagnostic centres and private hospitals. Therefore, there is a need for in depth study.

Shalini Sharma, Head, Centre for Climate Change, ESCI informed that ESCI will conduct survey in Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, Medak and Mahaboobnagar districts. Other cities selected for survey are Guntur, Kakinada, Vijayawada and Vizag. She explained the classification of pharma industry and hospitals for conducting the research study.

Vikash Batham, Programme Officer, CUTS International informed that at Central government level, antibiotic policy is framed but is taken back due to pressure. He explained how collection of prescription from the doctor and analysis will be helpful for the study.

Shalini Sharma, Head, CCC, ESCI proposed vote of thanks to the participants.

List of Participants

S. No.	Name	Designation
1	SriKant Nagulapalli IA	Chief Executive Officer, Aarogyasri Health Care Trust
2	Shalini Sharma	Head, Centre for Climate Change, Engineering Staff College of India (ESCI)
3	Sameer Chaturvedi	Associate Director, CUTS International
4	Vikash Batham	Programme Officer, CUTS International
5	K. Srinivasa Rao	Inspector factories
6	K. Ranga Rao	Executive Director, Bulk Drug Manufacturers Association

		(BDMA)
7	Seema Murthy	Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH)
8	Shailaja	Assistant Professor, IIPH
9	Purushotham Reddy	Director, CDI, Hyderabad
10	S. Prasad Babu	Regional Manager, Raj Process Equipments
11	M N Venugopal	Chief (A&P), ESCI
12	S. Ranga Rao	Chief Project Coordinator, Project Division, ESCI
13	G.D. Ojha	Head, WRD, ESCI
14	B.S. Phillora	Head, M&T, ESCI
15	CLN Sastry	Adviser, WRD, ESCI
16	S K Verma	Adviser, QP, ESCI
17	A.V. Rao	Principal, ESCI School of PG Studies
18	Rajavi	Junior Fellow, CCC, ESCI
19	Gopi Raghunadh	Senior Research Scholar, CCC, ESCI
20	Sree Lakshmi	Project Associate, CCC, ESCI
21	Harry Jude	DEO, CCC, ESCI
22	Chandana	Project Associate, CCC, ESCI
23	R. Sambasiva Rao	Surveyor, Vijayawada
24	R. Gopala Krishna	Surveyor, Kakinada
25	M. Kameswara Rao	Surveyor, Guntur
	C. Narayana Rao	Surveyor, Vizag