



CHRIST
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
BANGALORE - INDIA

Notice for the PhD Viva Voce Examination

Ms Amoolya D R (Registration Number: 1930073), PhD Scholar at the School of Arts and Humanities, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bangalore will defend her PhD thesis at the public viva-voce examination on Friday, 21 February 2025 at 9.30 am in Room No. 044, Ground Floor, R & D Block, CHRIST (Deemed to be University), Bengaluru - 560029, Karnataka, India.

Title of the Thesis : **Media Infrastructures and Migrant Labour**

Discipline : **Media Studies**

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The members of the Research Advisory Committee of the Scholar, the faculty members of the Department and the School, interested experts and research scholars of all the branches of research are cordially invited to attend this open viva voce examination.

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 11 February 2025


Registrar (Academics)

ABSTRACT

This project attempts to examine the media infrastructure and the use of mobile phones and/or other media technologies by migrants in the city of Bengaluru, Karnataka, India. It intends to observe how emerging advancements in information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the subsequent opportunities created by advancements in mobile media technologies are being used by migrant communities to reformulate the media discourse to become producers of their own symbolic spaces. It closely looks into the lived experiences and social infrastructures that motivate migrant workers in the changing urban landscape of India, to adopt, use and share the kind of mobile media content they chance upon every day in their informal work settings.

The results of the study, gathered using ethnographic methods such as unstructured/semi-structured interviews and participant observation, can be helpful to make key policy recommendations regarding the importance of educating migrant workers about the safe access and usage of valuable mobile media applications.

Keywords: critical media infrastructures, migrant labour, media technologies, mobile phones, Bengaluru

Publications:

1. **Rajappa, A.** (2021). Migrant labour and mobile sensibilities. *Economic and Political Weekly*, 56(18), 63–64. Online Link: <https://www.epw.in/journal/2021/18/postscript/%E2%80%8Bmigrant-labour-and-mobile-sensibilities.html>
2. **Rajappa, A., & Sawhney, R. D.** (2024). 'I Don't Play Games': Migrant Workers and Digital Media in Bengaluru. *Society and Culture in South Asia*. Online Link: <https://doi.org/10.1177/23938617241256238>