Announcement: CInI-BIPP Summer Internship 2021

Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (CInI) and Bharti Institute of Public Policy (BIPP), Indian School of Business (ISB) are pleased to announce a summer internship programme to provide research assistance in the documentation and analysis on interventions in the Central Indian Tribal Belt. Our research program seeks to understand the diversity of livelihood systems in rainfed areas and the role of targeted interventions in enabling adaptive responses that lead to improvements in well-being and human development. Our team will analyse qualitative and quantitative data from more than 100,000 households in 12 districts across four states – Jharkhand, Odisha, Maharashtra, and Gujarat, leading to several knowledge products. Interns will work from home and will be involved in specific aspects of this research exercise, including the possibility of a 2-week fieldwork component in August (if the situation permits).

The internship will be coordinated by Prof. Anjal Prakash at the Indian School of Business (ISB) in Hyderabad, working closely with other members of the research team at CInI and BIPP.

1.0 The Internship

The Interns will work with a small team of researchers on one of five broad topics – rainfed agriculture, livestock, irrigation, gender, and institutions. Using primary household data and qualitative reports generated over the last six years, the team will document and evaluate efforts to increase farmers income by investing in production systems, farm management, capacity building, marketing infrastructure, etc. This research will contribute to a better understanding of the relationship between household decisions, village institutions, and market interactions, to help identify pathways out of poverty for smallholder farmers and characterize drivers of positive change. Insights from this analysis will provide direct inputs into policymaking in agriculture with respect to increasing incomes as well as ensuring sustainability. Interns will work closely with staff from the Field Offices of CInI while working from their homes.

In sum, the Interns will work with the research team to:

• Document efforts to increase smallholder farmers' incomes through integrated investments at the community level.
• Collaborate and build on the experience of Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (CInI), which focuses on the tribal belts in the central Indian States.
• Produce knowledge products (working paper, case study, process documentation, etc.) based on the research conducted during the internship, to be published as part of our ongoing outreach efforts.
• Contribute to chapters in an edited volume under preparation and it may lead to a special journal issue based on this body of work.

2.0 Duration of Internship

This fellowship will be granted for three months from June 1 to August 31, 2021. These dates may not fit every calendar perfectly; In that case, we urge you to apply and let us know of your constraints.

3.0 Location of the Internship

Due to the COVID situation, this fellowship entails research work based on your home location and includes desktop work. The selected fellows would be part of online training with strict deadlines and deliverables. If found slack in the weekly deliverables, the fellowship will be discontinued immediately.

4.0 Who can apply?

We invite students who are enrolled as post-graduate students anywhere in the world to apply for the internship and contribute to this exciting research agenda. We are interested in receiving proposals from students in a variety of disciplines in the tradition of humanistic social sciences, including Geography, Anthropology, Development Studies, Environmental Studies, and cognate disciplines. Some skills to handle data related to rainfed agriculture, livestock, irrigation, gender, and collective institutions would be desirable but not required. A diversity of backgrounds, skills, and interests will be considered an asset to the program, but research will be desk-based and
include both qualitative and quantitative aspects. Applicants need not have a specific skill set or training to apply, but we will take account of the applicant’s background in considering the ‘fit’ of the applicants with our research objectives. Interest in rural livelihoods and agriculture in India is necessary, and training or experience in qualitative or ethnographic approaches to human-environment research is desirable. Female and transgender candidates, people from minority and socio-economically disadvantaged communities, and people living with disability are strongly encouraged to apply.

5.0 Process of application and deadline

The applications are now open for the ClnI-BIPP Summer Internship programme. Please apply with your latest CV, a writing sample, and a covering letter (no more than 1 page) describing why you are interested in this fellowship. The deadline is May 15, 2021. Shortlisted candidates will be interviewed during May 17 to 22. We will notify the results on or before May 30, 2021. The applicants may use the following link to apply.

ClnI-BIPP Summer Internship Application

Application deadline – May 15, 2020, 11:59 pm. We cannot promise to consider applications received after the deadline.

6.0 What do we offer?

The interns will receive Rs 10,000 per month as a stipend, subject to tax deductions at source. A contract will be drawn between the intern and ClnI based on a detailed research plan and deliverables. ClnI and BIPP will issue a joint letter of experience on completion of the fellowship successfully. ClnI and BIPP will hold the intellectual property rights over the products of research conducted during the internship and interns will be explicitly acknowledged in the reports, book or book chapters, and journal publications.

7.0 About ClnI and BIPP-ISH

Collectives for Integrated Livelihood Initiatives (ClnI) is the outcome of a quest to find a comprehensive response to issues of tribal development in the central Indian tribal belt. Notwithstanding the rich vegetation and good rainfall in the tribal-dominated blocks of Central India, the communities live in poverty and often face acute food insecurity. In 2015, ClnI launched the ‘Mission 2020 – Lakhpati Kisan: Smart Villages’ programme, engaging with more than 100,000 households in 12 districts across four states – Jharkhand, Odisha, Maharashtra, and Gujarat. The programme focuses on meeting aspirations of the tribal and rural communities along with irreversible enhancement in their agriculture-based livelihoods.

The Indian School of Business (ISB) is a globally ranked research-driven business school with two campuses at Hyderabad and Mohali. The School offers world-class management education across both its campuses and has grown at a rapid pace since its inception and is already one of the most research productive Indian management institutions. The Bharti Institute of Public Policy, one of the four institutes at the Mohali campus of ISB, is an independent think tank that promotes high-quality research to guide policy formulation and implementation. The institute aims to lead education and research in the domain of public policy.

8.0 Contact

In case of any technical glitch in the application process or any clarification, please contact Ms Nitisha Jaiswal at nitisha_jaiswal@isb.edu.

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