



February 2019, Issue 5

TCPD Summer School 2019

We are excited to announce that we are now accepting applications ([application link](#)) for the 2019 **TCPD** summer school. The program begins on June 30 (Sunday) with an introduction to the program. July 1 to July 5 will be dedicated to classes and tutorials and the last day of the program (July 6) is reserved for group presentations. Past program schedules can be viewed [here](#). There is no program fee. However participants will be responsible for paying for their accommodation which **TCPD** will help arrange on campus. [Contact us](#) if you have any questions. The deadline for application is May 1, 2019.



TCPD Summer School 2019

Dates: June 30 -July 6, 2019

Venue: Ashoka University

Classes on building datasets and understanding biases on various aspects of Indian politics;
Data scraping, parsing, analyzing and visualization;
Building maps in QGIS; Introduction to R

APPLY NOW!

Deadline: May 1, 2019

Project Updates

SURF is a data cleaning tool that the Trivedi Center built to map out trajectories of politicians - how they contest, and when they win. The challenge in analyzing this is that there are variations in the names of contestants across elections - for example, Mr. L.K. Advani has run under several different variations of the spellings (Lal Krishna Advani, Advani Lalkrushna, etc). This problem is overcome by implementing a name matching algorithm that is customized to the task of matching Indian names. [Click here](#) to see an online demo. Currently this tool is being used for matching names of Indian politicians, and can be additionally used for other similar

kinds of name matching tasks. For example - matching spellings of constituencies, matching similar names across datasets and so on. If you have a data cleaning problem that involves Indian names, [contact us!](#)

External Engagements

Gilles Verniers was a part of a panel discussion on "Women in Electoral Politics in the 21st Century" at O.P. Jindal University on February 27.

Research Updates

TCPD Research Workshop

Our workshop continues to meet on a weekly basis to discuss on-going research. Our semester schedule can be viewed [here](#).

Publications

In the News

Quraishi, SY and Aditya. "Why an educational qualification to stand for polls is against the very spirit of democracy," *Dailyo*, February 23, 2019.

Quraishi, SY. "Slipping on Democracy," *The Indian Express*, February 26, 2019.

Events

Past Events

- February 14: Anupam Anand (World Bank) - "Evaluating International Environment and Development Interventions"
- February 20: Raphael Susewind (Kings College London) - "Complicating the 'Muslim Ghetto' in Urban India"
- February 28: Sidharth Mishra (Centre for Reform Development and Justice) - "Profiling Delhi Politicians - Lok Sabha Members from National Capital"

Upcoming Events

- March 14: Rwitwika Bhattacharya, Shantanu Agarwal and Rajat Gupta (Ank Aha!) - "Jaano India, a Swaniti Initiative"

Other Updates

The **TCPD** blog showcases some of the work done by Ashoka students and scholars affiliated with **TCPD** during this election season. They are meant to provide impressions from the campaign as well as insights from fieldwork. Views are personal.