



Why Should We Care About Development Finance? ...because it's our money!

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## Citizens of India or Ghulams of the Billionaire Raj?

February was a long month of protests for Indian workers. To begin with: a general strike organised by a joint committee of trade unions saw the participation of over 30 crore workers! On February 12, workers across the country came together to demand the repeal of the four labour codes that are blatantly anti-worker and pro-corporate. One of the key tenets of these codes are the "flexible" work day sham that allows for workers to work up to 12 hours a day. It is accompanied by the clauses that mandate overtime pay for such work and claim that a work week cannot exceed 48 hours of work. But for a government notorious for evading responsibility and accountability, will these clauses even matter?

If recent events in the country are evidence then the answer is a resounding no. Towards the end of February, thousands of workers protested at the Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL) refinery in Haryana's Panipat. Their demands were beyond simple. They wanted work to be reduced from 12 hours to eight, they wanted basic facilities like washrooms and drinking water and they demanded that they be paid on time. All very basic expectations that should have been already ensured and enforced. Yet during the protests, frequent violence from CISF and the police led to several workers being injured including one of them ending up with a broken arm. Only after this did the company give in to the workers' demands.

Around the same time, inspired by the Panipat protests, over 2000 workers from L&T in Gujarat's Hajira have been protesting demanding better working conditions and better pay. Only to be met with tear gas and police violence.

India is one of the worst countries when it comes to wealth inequality with the top 1% of the population owning a whopping 40% of the country's wealth! Living under billionaire raj means protecting the greed of the uber rich at the cost of workers' rights and dignity. In this context, no amount of PR or whitewashing can fool the workers' to believe that the labour codes are for their benefit. A move that will convince the workers that their government is on their side will be to levy a wealth and inheritance tax on the top 1%, something that seems so far fetched to demand from this government. So until that happens, workers' protests will grow and become the norm in India.

- Team CFA

We refuse to give up trying to demystify finance. We will continue to hold the government and financial institutions accountable for their economic policies and investments. [Support us.](#)



## Strike in Indian Overseas Bank - The Managing Director Should Avert It

Indian Overseas Bank was started in 1937 by M.C.M. Chidambaram Chettiar on 10 February 1937 and immediately had branches in Burma and Singapore. It was nationalized on 19th July 1969 with 13 more banks. From a bank serving Nattukottai Chettiers, it has become a Bank for the Nation and has presence in Hongkong, Thailand, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and South Korea. As on 31 March 2023 it had a business (Deposits and Advances) of Rs. 5,61,958 crores. [Read More](#)



## Development vs community: New coal politics and old conflicts in Madhya Pradesh



## नियम आधारित से राजनिति आधारित विश्व स्वास्थ्य में ईरान पर हमारा



## 12 YEARS OF INJUSTICE: STILL NO ACTION ON TATA MUNDRA

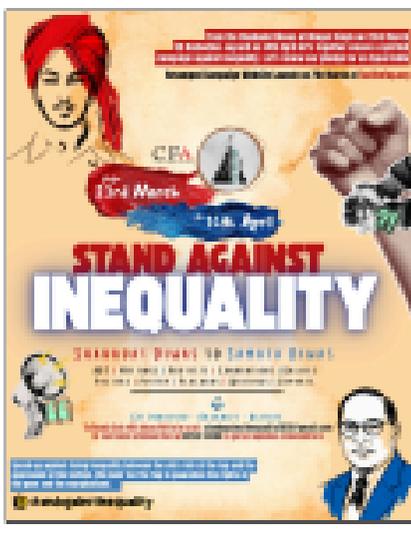
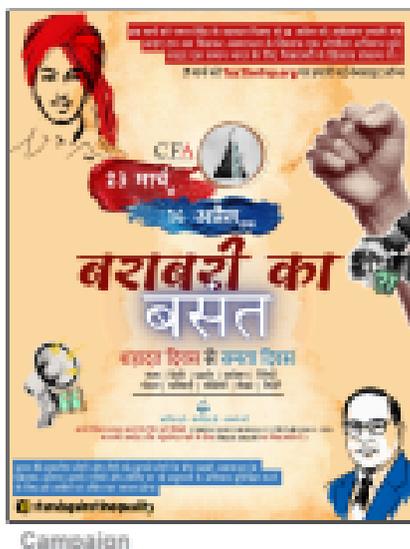
Common sense in Tata Mundra was still fighting for clean water, safe air, and justice. Add your voice — urge the World Bank and UN to act now.

Follow the link or scan the QR code to sign the petition: <https://www.petitiononline.com/2024/02/01/tatamundra.html>

## The Tata Mundra Project: A Decade of Broken Promises

A decade of environmental destruction. Thousands of lives affected (9). It's time for the World Bank to act.

[Call to action](#)



## Campaign Stand Against Inequality | बराबरी का बसंत

From 23 March (Martyrdom Day of Bhagat Singh) to 14 April (Samata Diwas / birth anniversary of B. R. Ambedkar), the #StandAgainstInequality campaign calls for nationwide action against economic and social inequality.

### Key Announcements

- Revamped Campaign Website Launch – 7 March at TaxTheTop (TaxTheTop.org)
- Joint Action Day – 23 March (common placards & banners across India)
- Competitions – Poster, Reel & Poetry contests
- Nationwide Actions – Street meetings, discussions, public gatherings & online events
- Launch of WealthTracker – A new resource highlighting the potential of taxing the ultra-rich
- Paint Against Inequality – Giant public canvas action on 14 April

To participate or receive campaign resources:

[standagainstinquality2026@gmail.com](mailto:standagainstinquality2026@gmail.com) | Missed Call: 89510 50308

#StandAgainstInequality #TaxTheTop

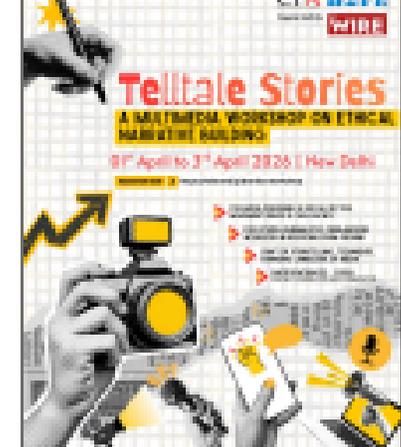
## Conference Capacity, Capital, and Climate: Navigating Andhra Pradesh's Energy Future

Date: 6th March 2026

Venue: The Capital Hotel, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

The conference is co-organized by People's Monitoring Group on Electricity Regulation (PMGER), Andhra Pradesh Textile Mills Association (APTMA), Rural Reconstruction & Development Society (RRDS) and Centre for Financial Accountability (CFA)

[Read More](#)



## Workshop Telltale Stories | A Multimedia Workshop on Ethical Narrative Building

Date: 1st - 3rd April 2026

Venue: New Delhi

supported by The Wire and co-organised by Centre for Financial Accountability (CFA) and Holistic Approach for People's Empowerment (HOPE)

To participate in the workshop, please register using the link below:

[Registration Link](#)

[Read More](#)

## Flipbook Pocket Money

Vol. 3 Issue 40 | 2nd March 2026

Brief on what they kept from you about your money this week.

A weekly In-Digest from the Centre for Financial Accountability.

[Read More](#)

