

STORIES IN NUMBERS

Storytelling and Data Interpretations

3-Day Residential Workshop

02nd - 4th June 2026 | New Delhi

DAY 1 (02.06.2026): FOUNDATIONS & EDITORIAL GROUNDING

TIME	SESSION	Resource Person
9:00–9:30	Registration & Welcome	
9:30–11:00	<p>Fundamentals of Data & Evidence-based Investigative Reporting</p> <p>What sets investigative data journalism apart from other genres: evidence vs. assertion. How to design and execute an investigative journalism project, scoping, evidence gathering, calibrating, writing, fact-checking, legal review, editing.</p>	<p>Mayank Aggarwal and Nitin Sethi (The Reporters' Collective)</p>
11:00–11:15	Tea Break	
11:15 – 12:30	<p>How to Get Your Assertion in Line with Your Data.</p> <p>How data is turned into evidence. How evidence presentation is stacked to avoid potential defamation and other constraining laws. Data, information and facts, where to source data in India, how to read and interrogate datasets, when data fails to tell the truth, and working with large datasets.</p> <p><i>Due Diligence and Editorial Safeguards:</i> defamation law in India, right of reply, editorial safeguards, journalistic record keeping, and legal protection before publication.</p>	<p>Nitin Sethi, Angana Chakrabarti and Ayushi Kar (The Reporters' Collective)</p>
12:30 – 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 - 16:30	<p>Tracking Governments and Governance</p> <p><i>Part 1 Governments and governance:</i> understanding government hierarchies and where data lives within them, reading government files, budgets and audit reports, deciphering record systems, parsing information for investigations, courts and judicial reporting.</p> <p>Part 2 Hands-on Activity (TBD)</p>	<p>Nitin Sethi (The Reporters' Collective)</p>
16:30 - 16:45	Tea Break and closing day 1	

DAY 2 (03.06.2026): WORKING WITH FINANCIAL DATA

TIME	SESSION	Resource Person
9:30 - 12:30 Part 1 09:30 - 11:00	Reading Budget Reading union and state budgets as investigative documents. Allocations vs actual expenditure, where money disappears between schemes and implementation, what the headline numbers routinely hide, and how to compare across years and states.	Asmi Sharma and Nancy Pathak (CFA)
11:00 - 11:15	Tea Break	
Part 2 11:15 - 12:30	Reading Budget Reading union and state budgets as investigative documents. Allocations vs actual expenditure, where money disappears between schemes and implementation, what the headline numbers routinely hide, and how to compare across years and states.	Asmi Sharma and Nancy Pathak (CFA)
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 – 15:00	Holding Financiers Accountable: From a People, Environment and Climate lens Beyond the government budget the public finance is housed in banks, non banking finance companies, pension funds and more shapes and impacts our lives. Big ticket investments in energy and logistics infrastructure for instance, from commercial banks, produce enormous impact on our lifeworld. Breaching the data wall - linking financiers directly with the ecological and human fallout of their investments- select sources of financial data. Introduction to Finance Data Corner developed to make financial data accessible to communities and grassroots movements that are otherwise shut out by expensive and complex commercial databases	Amitanshu Verma and Pranay Raj (CFA)
15:00 - 15:15	Tea Break	
15:15 - 16:45	Panel Discussion: Technology, Society and Editorial Responsibility Surveillance, privacy and personal data in India, the Digital Personal Data Protection Act, politics and elections data, social media and platform power.	Panelists: Nitin Sethi (TRC), Apar Gupta (Internet Freedom) and Anjali Bharadwaj (Satark Nagrik Sangathan) Moderated by: Anirban Bhattacharya (CFA)
16:45	Closing the day	

DAY 3 (04.06.2026): TELLING THE STORY

TIME	SESSION	Resource Person
9:30 - 12:30 <i>Part 1:</i> 9:30 – 11:00	Data Analysis and Visualisation	Avinash Singh (Co-founder, How India Lives)
11:00 - 11:15	Tea Break	
Part 2: 11:15 - 12:30	Data Analysis and Visualisation Hands-on session: cleaning messy datasets, building and reading pivot tables, interpreting outputs, and choosing the right visualisation. Participants work with a real dataset throughout.	Avinash Singh (Co-founder, How India Lives)
12:30 - 13:30	Lunch	
13:30 – 15:00	Corporate Finance, MCA and Tracking the Private Sector Understanding MCA filings, shareholding patterns, lifting the corporate veil, and using the database for investigations.	Nitin Sethi (The Reporters' Collective)
15:00 - 16:30	Complex Story-Telling Methods with Data Presenting data and digital evidence. Writing on complex subjects without losing the reader. Story structures for accountability journalism, leading with the human, supporting with data. <i>Storytelling for CSOs and Campaigns:</i> How does a civil society organisation or campaign use data to tell its story? What does advocacy-driven storytelling look like versus journalism? Elements: imagining a campaign, building a narrative arc around data, audience and purpose, making the story actionable. Participants reflect on how they would apply what they've learned across all three days to their own work.	Furquan Ameen and Nitin Sethi (The Reporters' Collective)
16:30 - 16:45	Tea Break	
16:45 - 17:30	Closing: Certificates, Feedback & Reflections	