

## Job Description: Research Intern

Accountability Initiative, Centre for Policy Research is seeking to hire an intern for a period of 2 months between from November 15-January 15, 2018 to work on a project on Panchayat finances. The position is Delhi based with occasional travel to the field (Kerala). The requirement is urgent.

**About Accountability Initiative:** Accountability Initiative (AI) was set up in 2008 at the Centre for Policy Research (CPR) with a mission to deepen research, analysis, and reforms for strengthening accountability for public service delivery in India.

We do this by:

a. **Building Evidence:** Tracking and analysing implementation processes (planning, budgeting, decision making) of social sector programmes including education, health, sanitation and nutrition; and evaluating accountability experiments

b. **Deepening Public Debate:** Widely disseminating evidence collected to promote an evidence based debate on accountability failures and solutions

c. **Catalysing Accountability Interventions:** Building citizen capacity to participate and monitor government processes; and partnering with government to pilot reform models

### Background to the study:

PAISA (Planning, Allocations and Expenditures, Institutions Studies in Accountability), AI's flagship project started in 2009 as an effort to understand the efficacy of inter-governmental transfer system and its impact on the delivery of social sector programs at the front line. It does this by tracking plans, budgets, fund flows, and administrative procedures through the bureaucratic hierarchy.

The PAISA for Panchayat (Kerala) project extends AI's PAISA methodology to track expenditures at the Gram Panchayat level. Through this project we aim to build a stronger transparency regime around local government finances which can then help deepen fiscal and political decentralization in India through policy reforms and increased grassroots participation. A prior research of the PAISA in Panchayat report in Karnataka can be found here:

<http://www.accountabilityindia.in/paisa-panchayats-report>

### About this position:

For the purposes of this study, AI wishes to hire an intern for a period of 2 months. The requirement is urgent. The intern would be expected to undertake the following tasks:

1. Cleaning and collating large sets of local government budget data, as well as allocations and expenditure data across different schemes.
2. Gather allocation, release and expenditure data on specific social sector schemes that will go into the preparation of budget briefs ahead of the budget session in the parliament.
3. Assist in data analysis and report writing.

### Qualifications:

1. Bachelor's degree in Economics, Development Studies, Commerce or Finance.
2. Proficiency in data analysis using MS Excel or Stata.

3. Understanding and interest in decentralization and public finance.

**How to apply:**

Interested candidates should send an email to Sahithya Venkatesan at ([svenkatesan@accountabilityindia.org](mailto:svenkatesan@accountabilityindia.org)) with the subject “Application for the post of Data Intern: PAISA for Panchayats study”.

Your application should include a 1. Short cover letter describing your background, experience, interest and suitability for the position 2. A detailed CV.