

# Legislating Corporate Social Responsibility: Learning from India



**Ryerson CSR Institute Talk**  
**Ted Rogers School of Management, Ryerson University,**  
**Toronto, Canada**  
**March 18, 2016**



# Corporate Social Responsibility Mandate

- Companies Act 2013 registered with turnover > \$150mn, profits > \$1mn
- Board sub-committee headed by an independent director, 2% of net profit annually
- Projects themes as per schedule, not for employees/families,
- Annual reporting, independent monitoring



Knowledge. Voice. Democracy.

**PRI**

# Schedule VII

- Poverty, hunger
- Health, malnutrition
- Gender equality, women empowerment
- Education, vocational, skills
- Environmental sustainability
- Protection of heritage
- PM's Relief Fund



Knowledge. Voice. Democracy.

**PRIA**

# Patterns in First Year

- CSR spend by 409 private, 51 public companies
- About \$ 1bn, top 20 account for half, half public
- Health/malnutrition 25%, education/skills 25%, environment 15%
- Total 1790 projects, half in economically developed regions



Knowledge. Voice. Democracy.

**PRIA**

# Further Patterns

- Manufacturing/mining companies mostly cover 'backyards'
- IT/Telcom/Financial companies spread around
- Only a few focus on women's empowerment/violence against girls
- Most companies DIY (do it yourself through own NGO)



Knowledge. Voice. Democracy.

**PRIA**

# Challenges?

- Engagements that complement public service delivery weak (capacity enhancement, monitoring, advocacy)
- Projects through and with local civil society hesitant
- Learning from grassroots resisted
- Short-termism (11 months) and concrete targets in projects



Knowledge. Voice. Democracy.

**PRIA**