



# **Bridging Digital Divide: A Study of Universal Service Obligation Fund in Meghalaya**

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# Research Objectives

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To assess the impact of USOF in bridging digital divide in India, particularly in Meghalaya

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To suggest policy inputs for bridging digital divide in India to strengthen achievement of wider reach of broad band for Meghalaya

# **Research Strategy and Research Design**

Mixed - Qualitative (explanatory) and Quantitative (exploratory, descriptive)

## **Research Methods/ Data Sources**

- Under quantitative analysis, secondary data is being gathered through a review of related articles in academic journals, periodicals, policy documents, academic reports and annual reports published by the Government of India, the Department of Telecommunications, the International Telecommunication Union, and the GSM Association (GSMA), among other sources. This is assisting in comprehending the numerous indicators that are responsible for the implementation of the USOF.
- Under qualitative analysis, primary data is being collected using survey method by carrying out survey of telecom subscribers of Meghalaya, officials of USOF, Telecom Service Providers and State Government of Meghalaya by using semi-structured tool on quality of broadband availability using both open ended and closed ended questions. Data hence captured would be analyzed using appropriate tools.

# Progress wrt literature survey

29 sources have been reviewed and summarization is in progress as per chapterization scheme

# Progress wrt Chapterisation Scheme of the report

Chapter Sr No	Topic
Chapter 1	The Study
Chapter 2	Digital Divide in India
Chapter 3	Role of USOF in bridging Digital Divide in India
Chapter 4	The Study Area
<b>Chapter 5</b>	<b>Findings and Analysis</b>
<b>Chapter 6</b>	<b>Recommendations and Conclusion</b>

# Progress wrt questionnaire(s) design (if any)

Questionnaire has been designed and circulated to various stakeholders for response

# Progress wrt survey (if any) Analysis thereon

Response awaited from stakeholders including govt. agencies. Analysis will be carried out thereafter.

# Time line (week wise) for the submission of final dissertation.

1<sup>st</sup> Week of Feb 23- Summing up Literature review

2<sup>nd</sup> week of Feb 23- Survey Completion

3<sup>rd</sup> week of Feb 23- Analysis of responses

4<sup>th</sup> week of Feb 23- Finalization of report

1<sup>st</sup> week of Mar 23- Submission of Dissertation



Thank you :)

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