

# Information Politics and Social Change in India: Modern South Asia



## Patching Development: Information Politics and Social Change in India (Modern South Asia) by Rajesh Veeraraghavan

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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### By Sunil Mehra

Information and communication technologies (ICTs) have emerged as a powerful force in social and political change in India. From the rise of digital media to the spread of social movements, ICTs have played a key role in shaping the country's political landscape. This book provides a comprehensive analysis of the role of ICTs in social and political change in India, examining the ways in which they have been used to mobilize citizens, challenge authority, and promote democratic values.

### The Rise of Digital Media

The spread of digital media in India has had a profound impact on the country's political system. The rise of social media platforms such as

Facebook and Twitter has provided citizens with new opportunities to connect with each other and share their views on political issues. This has led to the emergence of a more participatory and networked form of democracy, in which citizens are no longer passive recipients of information from above but rather active participants in the political process.

Digital media has also played a key role in the spread of social movements in India. Social media platforms have been used to mobilize citizens and organize protests against government policies. They have also been used to spread awareness of social issues and to challenge traditional forms of authority. The result has been a more empowered and engaged citizenry, which is increasingly willing to hold its leaders accountable.

## **Political Communication**

ICTs have also had a significant impact on political communication in India. The rise of digital media has led to a decline in the importance of traditional media outlets, such as television and newspapers. Politicians are increasingly turning to digital media to reach out to voters, and they are using a variety of new strategies to engage with them. These strategies include the use of social media, online advertising, and personalized messaging. The result has been a more sophisticated and targeted form of political communication, which is increasingly effective at reaching voters.

## **Media and Democracy**

The role of ICTs in social and political change in India has raised a number of important questions about the relationship between media and democracy. The spread of digital media has led to a more fragmented and polarized media landscape, which has made it more difficult for citizens to

access accurate and reliable information. This has led to a decline in trust in the media, and it has made it more difficult for citizens to make informed decisions about political issues.

The challenges facing the media in India are compounded by the country's history of censorship and government control. The government has a long history of using ICTs to suppress dissent and control the flow of information. This has made it difficult for independent media outlets to operate, and it has created a climate of fear and self-censorship.

The role of ICTs in social and political change in India is complex and multifaceted. They have the potential to be a force for good, but they can also be used to suppress dissent and control the flow of information. It is important to understand the challenges facing the media in India and to work towards creating a more free and independent media environment.

## About the Author

Sunil Mehra is a professor of political science at the University of Delhi. He is a leading expert on the role of ICTs in social and political change in India. He has written extensively on this topic, and his work has been published in a variety of academic journals and books.

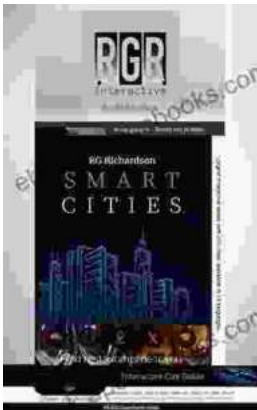


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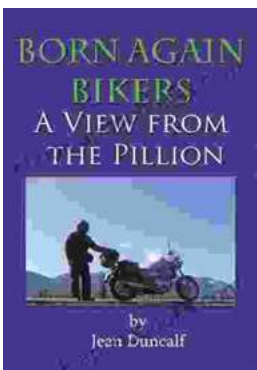
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