The Transformative and Emancipatory Potential of Basic Income

Evidence from India’s Pilot Study
Features of the Pilot

• Universal (within each village)
  • Unconditional
  • Individual
  • Monthly
  • Cash
Two Pilots

**Pilot 1**
*(2011-12 - 17 months)*

8 Caste villages – money paid

Equal number Control villages - money not paid

**Pilot 2**
*(2012 - 12 months)*

One tribal village – money paid

One tribal village - where money was not paid
Amount Transferred

GBP 3.33 to an adult and half to child, per month

(Ref: Definition of Rural poverty line = less than 11 GBP per capita consumption expenditure per month)
### Profile of Beneficiaries and Amount Transferred

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>General Villages</th>
<th>Tribal Village</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No. of Households</td>
<td>986</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>1113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. of direct Recipients</td>
<td>5285</td>
<td>756</td>
<td>6041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total amount transferred</td>
<td>Rs.16.3 million (GBP 182,270)</td>
<td>Rs. 2 million (GBP 22365)</td>
<td>Rs. 18.3 mil GBP 204,635</td>
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<tr>
<td>No. of months</td>
<td>17 months</td>
<td>12 months</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual average amount transferred per HH</td>
<td>Rs. 16531 (GBP 186)</td>
<td>Rs. 15,315 (GBP 171)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Research Study

• Baseline, Midline and Endline
• Modified Random Control Trial Methodology
• 100 Case-studies (tracking families and village communities over 18 months)
Main Findings of the Study
7 top results from the India Pilot Study

1. Myths falsified that people will drink it away and stop working;
2. Basic income allowed them to make better employment choices - from exploitative forms to benign ones;
3. People worked more and planned better; new assets acquired; Unproductive assets become productive
4. Ate better and more diversified food;
5. Borrowed less; shifted from distress borrowing to soft loans from friends and relatives.
6. Psychological effects on the mind; income security, what it does to the mind
7. people with chronic illness took medicines more regularly
The Emancipatory Value of unconditional BI is several times more than its monetary value
Increase in Food Intake

Source: Tribal End line Jan 2013
Livestock Increased Substantially

Increase in the total number of small livestock (fowl & goats)

Source: Tribal 3 surveys Jan and June 2012, and Jan 2013
Wage Labour vs Own Farming

Shift in proportion of time spent on own farm vs as wage labourer
Reduced Dependence on Money-lenders

- Family/relatives
- Friends/Neighbours
- Money lenders
- Bank/other financial institution
- Credit/welfare union
- SEWA
- Employer's assistance
- Government scheme

Percent of households

BI Village
Control Village
Regularity of Medicines Improved

- More Private treatment
- More Government treatment
- Taking medicines more regularly
- No changes or DK

Control %  Transfer %
Non-BI Village  BI village

Percentage
Changes in the Village Economy

Fishermen’s cooperative

Private Transportation appeared for the first time in the village

Two New Shops

Collective decision taken by the entire village to contribute 100 rupees from each family for wedding ceremonies in the village

Collective decision not to use pond water for irrigation during summer months in order to save it for the cattle
Fishermen from the Co-operative
Local transport vehicle came to the village everyday during the pilot
One of the two new shops
Treated Challenged as Human
Gave Economic citizenship to the unpaid, underpaid and invisible labour
Gave dignity to Elderly
4 years later, in 2017

Research Team went back to Review the BI Effects.

To Study what effects continued and what did not.
## Legacy Study 2017 Results

### Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Momentum effect (Sustained Impact)</th>
<th>Persistence effect (Partially sustained)</th>
<th>Drop-back effect (Complete Drop-back)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Declining use of alcohol</td>
<td>Better Nutrition — food intake behaviour</td>
<td>No more housing improvement</td>
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<td>Improved woman’s role in decision making in the household</td>
<td>Better medical care — healthcare behaviour</td>
<td>Medical insurance dropped Off</td>
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<td>Increased Livestock</td>
<td>More positive attitude to Schooling</td>
<td>Expenditure on schooling declined and returned from private to Government School</td>
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<td>Improved incomes</td>
<td>More likely to earn income from own-account work rather than casual wage</td>
<td>Increased debt bondage</td>
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<td>More likely to earn income from farming as compared to wage labour</td>
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4 Generic Effects of Basic Income

1. Physical Well-being Effect
   Food and healthcare

2. Living Conditions Effect
   Employment Choices and Assets

3. Social Solidarity Effect
   Family level and Community level

4. Psychological Effect
   Sense of Security and what it does to mind - time horizon changes
Unconditional Basic Income is indeed Emancipatory and Transformative
To access our data, case-studies, films, feel free to write to us...

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YouTube Channel: INBI Gateway
Thank you for your Attention