

VATSLA SRIVASTAVA

Public Policy & Technology Governance

vatslamib@gmail.com · vatslasrivastava.com · English, Hindi, Urdu

PROFILE

Public policy and technology governance professional with 8+ years of experience across the Government of India, industry self-regulation, multilateral research, international consulting and multistakeholder Internet governance. Experience spans Indian, South Asian and Asia-Pacific policy ecosystems, with work across AI and platform governance, Trust & Safety, digital rights, accessibility, gender and technology, media regulation and institutional strategy. Currently President of the Internet Society India Mumbai Chapter, with governance roles across the Internet Society, APRALO/ICANN At-Large and APriGF.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Manager, Stakeholder Relations & Strategic Projects

Nov 2025 – May 2026

Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) · Mumbai

- Built ASCI's stakeholder-engagement architecture across segmentation, institutional outreach, onboarding and relationship management for advertisers, agencies, digital platforms and industry stakeholders
- Developed ASCI's institutional membership proposition — including its senior-facing narrative, pitch framework, onboarding experience and orientation model — strengthening how the organisation articulated regulatory credibility, responsible advertising and member value
- Co-hosted a CMO Roundtable with Google and Core AI and developed institutional engagement with PHDCCI; built peer-led testimonial and member-spotlight formats to strengthen industry positioning
- Coordinated across Compliance, Academy, Marketing and Finance to improve stakeholder onboarding, communication, engagement and retention

Young Professional — Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

Dec 2023 – May 2025

Government of India · PIB Research Unit · Films Wing · NFDC · Broadcasting Wing-II

- Researched and authored/co-authored 40+ official PIB policy explainers and backgrounders across AI governance, digital rights, OTT regulation, AVGC-XR, geospatial policy and other national priorities, reaching 250,000+ cumulative readers across official channels
- Developed policy and implementation inputs across the AVGC-XR action plan, Cine-Safety Workshops, cinema accessibility, children's content strategy and Broadcasting Museum concept; Cine-Safety work included analysis of POSH/POCSO/RTE gaps, stakeholder consultations and the Ministry's partnership proposal with FICCI
- Supported strategic partnerships, cultural programming and international engagement for WAVES 2025, including outreach to 154 diplomatic missions, coordination with Prasar Bharati and CBC, CEO Roundtable documentation and media-and-entertainment sector research
- Led major communications and stakeholder-outreach workstreams for MIFF 2024, spanning media relations, website/app content, volunteer coordination across four cities, celebrity engagement and brand-partnership support involving YouTube, GoPro and FUJIFILM
- Served on the IFFI 2024 communications team and prepared parliamentary Q&A, Action Taken Reports and senior-official briefing material, combining high-visibility public communication with internal government policy support

Project Manager / Project Lead — CGAP South Asia

2021, 2023

Centre for Gender and Politics · Beyond Victims (2023) · Worth Asking (2021)

- Led regional research, editorial and advocacy programmes across a 14-country South Asian network of 140+ contributors, managing distributed teams of 12–60 across research, content, partnerships and stakeholder engagement
- Directed the Beyond Victims and Worth Asking initiatives and developed the GaP Repository, an open-access knowledge platform housing 100+ policy and advocacy resources
- Secured ₹7 lakh+ in donor funding, including support through JPMorgan Chase's Force for Good, combining programme strategy with donor and institutional engagement

Consultant — UNESCO South Asia × Bournemouth University

Mar – Sep 2019

Media Action Against Rape (MAAR)

- Conducted 50+ stakeholder interviews with journalists, editors, trainers and practitioners across India, examining institutional challenges in reporting gender-based violence
- Contributed to national research on sexual violence and the news media; co-developed training resources across 15 Indian languages and supported capacity-building workshops reaching ~5,000 journalists

Selected Earlier Experience

Project Coordinator — RSF × Network of Women in Media, India

2024

Coordinated a five-part national programme on gender-sensitive election reporting for 60+ women journalists; moderated sessions and authored the final impact report.

Consultant — 180 Degrees Consulting, SOAS

London · 2021–22

Advised social-impact organisations across India, Indonesia and the UK on donor strategy, CSR positioning, institutional communications and stakeholder engagement.

Journalist — YourStory · The Indian Express · Mirror Now

2017–19

Published 300+ articles and conducted 200+ interviews at YourStory; previously worked across print and broadcast journalism covering policy, education, business and governance.

GOVERNANCE & LEADERSHIP

President — Internet Society India Mumbai Chapter

2026 – present

ICANN At-Large Structure · ~80 members across 18 countries

- Rebuilt chapter governance, programming, partnerships and regional participation, including renewed engagement across APRALO/ICANN At-Large
- Led public programming reaching 301 registrations and 166 attendees across 133 cities, 28 Indian states and 18 countries
- Relaunched the Women in Technology Leadership series; WITL-VIII drew 89 registrations across 18 countries
- Led chapter-side development of the accepted APNIC 62 NextGen BoF, including ecosystem speaker engagement, a newcomer buddy model and the IG Pathway Passport

Selected Governance Roles

Lead, Accessibility Policy & International Relations

2026 – present

Internet Society Accessibility Standing Group

MSG Member & Drafting Committee Penholder — APriGF

2026

Selected among 29 APriGF Fellows from 173 applicants; Drafting Committee penholder for the Future of APriGF and Multistakeholder Ecosystem synthesis track

Primary APRALO Representative — ICANN At-Large

2026 – present

Chapter Representative — ISOC Chapters Advisory Council

2026 – present

Steering Committee — India School on Internet Governance

2026

Session MC and participant mentor on sustainability and children's digital safety

Organising Committee — Sponsorship & Partnerships, Youth

2026

IGF India

Led partner outreach; secured MediaNama and AnitaB.org India as programme partners; supported delivery of Growing Up Secure: Cybersecurity in the Age of AI

SELECTED RESEARCH, WRITING & POLICY OUTPUTS

- APRALO Byte — Universal Acceptance and Advancing a Multilingual, Inclusive Internet | 2026
- Government of India / PIB — 40+ policy explainers across AI, digital regulation, geospatial policy, space, public health and national development | 2023–25
- UNESCO MAAR — Contributor, national research on sexual and gender-based violence in Indian news media | 2019
- YLAC × Office of MP Priyanka Chaturvedi — Co-author, Reviewing India's Gender Budgeting Exercise | 2024
- The New Indian — Confronting Violence Against Women in Politics · 3,000+ reads | 2025

EDUCATION

MSc International Politics — SOAS University of London

Merit | 2022

Dissertation: Racist and Sexist AI Systems — Algorithmic Bias and the Politics of Invisibility

PG Diploma, Broadcast Journalism — Asian College of Journalism, Chennai

Distinction | 2018

BA (Hons) History — Maitreyi College, University of Delhi

First Class | 2017

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS & ENGAGEMENTS

- YLAC Policy in Action Fellow (2024) — co-authored parliamentary brief on India's gender budgeting for MP Priyanka Chaturvedi, Rajya Sabha; analysed ₹4.49 lakh crore across 49 ministries; benchmarked against Iceland and the Philippines
- Global Media Monitoring Project — volunteer researcher (India 2025); gender representation analysis in BBC Hindi and WION (WACC Global, 100+ countries)
- Youth Leader, WYDE South Asia Dialogue (UN Women & International IDEA, 2025) — 30 leaders across South Asia
- WICCI Delhi External Affairs Council — Council Member (2025–26); led a three-part national webinar series on women's health equity reaching 200+ participants
- inSIG Fellow (2025) — India School on Internet Governance

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

AI & Platform Governance · Internet Governance & Multistakeholder Systems · Trust & Safety · Digital Rights · Accessibility & Inclusive Technology · Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence · Media & Digital Regulation · Government & Industry Engagement