CHAPTER VIII
OPERATIONAL DEFINITIONS

1. **Active participant/s**: Citizen/s who indulge in the www world actively are often called active participants. They engage in online participation by providing content to the website/s and/or contribute to online websites in some way or the other. Their participation depends on their active engagement, interaction with other online communities and exchanges in the online world. There are multitude of ways to participate in the www world. An active participant/s is one who surfs, shares, discusses, chats, streams, blogs, downloads, uploads anything on Internet.

2. **Affective Need**: Affective need is a type of need that was given by Elihu Katz and Jay G Blumler in the year 1974, under their “Uses and Gratifications Theory” which means that an audience needs to cater to his/her emotional, pleasurable moods and experiences of other people.

3. **Blog**: A blog, also called weblog, is usually maintained by an individual with regular entries of commentary, descriptions of events, or other material such as graphics or video, published online. It is a regularly updated website or web page that is written in an informal or conversational style. It is a place where discreet entries are uploaded in a reverse chronological order or the most recent post appears first. People who blog are often referred to as bloggers.

4. **Business stories**: News stories that track, record, analyze and interpret economic changes happening all around the world are referred to as business news stories. They can include anything from personal finance, to business at the local market and shopping malls, to the performance of well-known and not-so-well-known companies. Business stories also features articles about people, places and issues related to the field of business.

5. **Citizen**: The word citizen defines every citizen of India or its subcontinent. He/she is a member of a political community who enjoys the rights and assumes the duties of membership provided to him/her. The concept of
citizenship is composed of three main elements or dimensions (Cohen 1999; Kymlicka and Norman 2000; Carens 2000). (i) A citizen has legal status defined by civil, political and social rights, where he/she is the legal person free to act according to the law and having the right to claim the law's protection. (ii) Citizens are considered as political agents, actively participating in a society's political institutions. (iii) Citizenship refers to as membership in a political community that furnishes a distinct source of identity of an individual.

6. **Citizen Journalism**: People without professional journalism training, using the tools of modern technology and the global distribution of the Internet, to create, augment or fact-check media on their own or in collaboration with others is called Citizen Journalism. It is news created by amateur journalists who were earlier seen as audiences, viewers or mere readers. Citizen Journalism is also called public, participatory, democratic, guerrilla or street journalism.

7. **Civil Society**: A society considered as a community of citizens linked by common interests and collective activity is referred to as civil society. In this research study, civil society refers to community of citizen who use Internet in some form, be it through wireless fidelity (Wi-Fi) facility, Internet data plan or Ethernet.

8. **Channels of participation**: Citizen/s using Internet may participate online via radio (sms, phone-in, voxpops, letters, contests, competitions, participatory talks, and panel discussions), print (letters to the editor, reader’s opinion, reader’s column, voxpops/symposium, features, reviews, oped page), television, magazines etc.

9. **Cognitive Need**: Cognitive Need is a type of need that was given by Elihu Katz and Jay G Blumler in the year 1974, under their “Uses and Gratifications Theory” which means that an audience has a need to acquire knowledge, be informed and has an understanding.
10. **Cyber Journalism**: Resources that gather a variety of issues and stories about Internet journalism, is referred to as cyber journalism. It is a term coined after the merging of various traditional media brought about by the growing media industries due to current invasion of new technology and globalization. Anybody who is techno-savvy can be a Cyber journalist.

11. **Emergence**: The process of coming into existence or prominence is known as emergence. It is the act or process of emerging where appearance of new properties or species occur during the course of evolution. In the present research study, emergence refers to Citizen Journalism that is emerging as a phenomenon consisting start of something remarkable.

12. **Escapist/Tension release Need**: Escapist/Tension release Need is a type of need that was given by Elihu Katz and Jay G Blumler in the year 1974, under their “Uses and Gratifications Theory” which means that an audience needs to escape and have a diversion by not reviving unnecessary tensions.

13. **Fifth Estate**: The Fifth Estate or the alternative media are the media outlets that see themselves in opposition to mainstream media (the official Press). It is not simply the blogging community, but networked individuals enabled by the Internet in ways that can hold the other estates accountable. It is considered to be that media who keeps a watchful eye on the fourth estate, or traditional media and also has the potential to prevent governments from adopting hasty and misjudged decisions.

14. **Gatekeeping**: The process, through which information is filtered for dissemination, be it publication, broadcasting, the Internet, or some other type of communication is called gatekeeping, while the one who does it is called a gatekeeper. According to Pamela Shoemaker and Tim Vos, gatekeeping is the “process of culling and crafting countless bits of information into the limited number of messages that reach people every day, and it is the center of the media's role in modern public life. This process determines not only which information is selected, but also what the content and nature of the messages, such as news, will be.”
15. **Globalized world:** Technology that now exists in the 21st century, has allowed the media outlets to reach a global audience through the advent of Internet. Therefore, globalization is the process of international integration arising from the interchange of world views, products, ideas and other aspects of culture from all around the world. Also, the MacBride Commission produced a report titled Many Voices, One World, which outlined the main philosophical points of the New World Information Communication Order.

16. **Government stories:** News stories that track, record, analyze and interpret policies and projects announced and/or initiated by the government in the interest of the people all around the world are referred to as government news stories. They can include anything from different governmental departments, to governmental organizations and from government bodies like legislators, administrators and arbitrators to administrations. Government stories also features articles about people, places and issues related to the field of important decision-making and governance.

17. **Indian:** means anything which is originated in India, which is created within the geographical boundaries of the country of India, which is run by Indian citizens by nationality and origin, who are Indians by birth and are inhabitants of India, and lastly, Indian means anything that is operating from and within the confines of India or subcontinent comprising India.

18. **Industry stories:** News stories that track, record, analyze and interpret industrial changes and policies announced and/or initiated by the industries in the interest of the people all around the world are referred to as industrial news stories. They can include anything from entertainment industry, to science & technological industry and from sports industry to education and from health industry to travel industry. These stories also features articles about people, places and issues related to the field of industries.

19. **Internet:** The Internet is a global network connecting millions of computers in the world. More than 190 countries are linked into exchanges of data, news and opinions. According to the **Internet World Stats** in 2014, approximately 3,035,749,340 people worldwide, use the Internet. It is a network of networks
that consists of millions of private, public, academic, business, and government networks of local to global scope, linked by a broad array of electronic, wireless, and optical networking technologies. The number of Internet users represents nearly 40% of the world’s population. The largest number of Internet users by country is China, followed by the United States of America and India.

20. **Journalism**: Journalism describes an activity or profession of writing for newspapers/magazines or broadcasting news on radio or television, sharing news and information. In today’s time, journalism is a changing scenario. It can no longer be defined as ‘only’ dissemination of news. It is much more than that. It is activity of gathering, assessing, creating, disseminating, analyzing and presenting news and information, with maintained regularity of news and news related content, not just on print or broadcast media but on new media as well.

21. **Knowledge**: Knowledge is acquiring facts, information, understanding, descriptions and skills through experience or education. It is the theoretical or practical understanding of a subject by gaining awareness and familiarity of something and someone by perceiving, discovering, or learning. In the present study, knowledge refers to the familiarity and awareness about the phenomenon called Citizen Journalism.

22. **Level of Participation**: Anybody who uses Internet and participates online via radio (sms, phone-in, voxpops, letters, contests, competitions, participatory talks, and panel discussions), print (letters to the editor, reader’s opinion, reader’s column, voxpops/symposium, features, reviews, oped page), television, magazines etc. is an online participant. In the present research study, level of participation refers to citizen/s online activity, in which he participates.

23. **Mass**: In the community, not just handfuls of people participate on a given forum/media. They participate in masses. It is the imparting or exchanging of information on a large scale to a wide range of people across the globe.
24. **Online:** Being online means being controlled by or connected to a computer. A person who is online can not only socialize on Social Networking Sites but also view news, gather information, do research, have professional networks, download and upload any music/video, reserve tickets for any occasion/trip, entertain himself and do what not. It is practically a whole new world, which is referred to as “online worlds.”

25. **Personal Integrative Need:** Personal Integrative Need is a type of need that was given by Elihu Katz and Jay G Blumler in the year 1974, under their “Uses and Gratifications Theory” which means that an audience needs to strengthen his/her self-image and self-esteem by reassuring their status, gain credibility and stabilize.

26. **Phenomenon:** In dictionary terms, phenomenon is a fact or situation that is observed to exist or happen, especially one whose cause or explanation is in question. Phenomenon is usually described as occurrence, event, happening, fact, situation, circumstance, incident, episode, sight, or appearance. The present study intends to study the ‘phenomenon’ of Citizen Journalism and the Emergence of Fifth Estate.

27. **Practice:** Anybody who uses Internet and participates online via weblogs or websites (blogs, comments, opinions, sent pictures, videos, share experiences, chat), radio (sms, phone-in, voxpops, letters, contests, competitions, participatory talks, and panel discussions), print (letters to the editor, reader’s opinion, reader’s column, voxpops/symposium, features, reviews, oped page), television, magazines, etc. is an online participant. In the present research study, practice refers to citizen/s online activity under the phenomenon of Citizen Journalism in which he participates.

28. **Politics stories:** News stories that track, record, analyze and interpret policies and projects announced and/or initiated by the political parties in the interest of the people all around the world are referred to as political news stories. They can include anything, from dealings related to politics to public administration to the global political scenario. Political stories also features
articles about people, places and issues related to the field of politics and important decision-making.

29. **Social Integrative Need:** Social Integrative Need is a type of need that was given by Elihu Katz and Jay G Blumler in the year 1974, under their “Uses and Gratifications Theory” which means that an audience needs to strengthen his/her social relations with family and friends.

30. **Social stories:** News stories that track, record, analyze and interpret social developments in the interest of the people all around the world are referred to as social news stories. They can include anything, from dealings related to society to lifestyle to the global civilization scenario to community to environment. Social stories also features articles about people, places and issues related to the field of humanity and culture.

31. **Traditional media:** The old media or legacy media are traditional means of communication and expression that have existed since before the advent of the new medium of the Internet. Also known as the old media, this medium covers radio, television, newspapers, magazines and books. Traditional media or press, is also referred to as the Fourth Estate, which is one of the four pillars of democracy.

32. **Websites:** The term website refers to a location connected to the Internet that maintains one or more web pages. It is a virtual location on www that contains several webpages accessible through a browser. Each website has its own unique web address or url (uniform resource locator) which can be reached through an Internet connection. The opening page of a website is called a homepage that contains hyperlinks to other pages on same or different websites. In the present research study, a multi case study is conducted on four selected Indian Citizen Journalism websites and these websites are different from newspaper websites or online newspapers.