Appendix – II

Dalits and Alternative Media: a Study on Dalits’ Engagement in the Articulation of Their Voices in Indian Blogs and Websites

In-depth interview questions

- Name
- Age:
- Sex:
- Educational:
- Occupation:

1. When did you first start writing about Dalit issues online?

2. When and why do you access the Dalit websites and blogs?

3. What do you think about the attitude of mainstream media towards Dalits and their issues?

4. Do you think Dalit websites and blogs can pave way for collaboration among Dalits thereby strengthening the Dalit community?

5. What do you think about the topics discussed in the Dalit websites and blogs? Are they topics of interest and relevant to all Dalits?

6. How do you look at the aspect of ‘access and participation’ of Dalits in Dalit websites and blogs?

7. Do you agree that Dalit websites and blogs are communication channels for Dalits?

8. Do you think Dalit websites and blogs can become the platform for bringing educated Dalits together as a community?
9. Do you think that Dalit websites and blogs can be considered as the ‘third voice’ next to the government and the mainstream media?

10. Do you think Dalit websites and blogs offer counter-hegemonic representation and discourse to the mainstream media?

11. How do you assess the role of the Dalit websites and blogs in raising and communicating the issues which you feel the mainstream media have failed to take up?

12. Do Dalit websites and blogs allow multiplicity of voices to be heard?

13. Civil society refers to the "intermediary institutions" such as professional associations, religious groups, labour unions, citizen advocacy organizations that give voice to various sectors of society and enrich public participation in democracies. Do you think Dalit websites and blogs can be a part of the civil society?

14. Dalit websites and blogs promote democratization of information. Do you agree to this statement?

15. Can Dalit websites and blogs be the crossroad where people from different movements and struggles meet and collaborate?

16. Do you think Dalit websites and blogs can collaborate with the mainstream media?

17. Do you think that Dalit websites and blogs can play a significant role in bringing to light the issues concerning Dalits to the mainstream media?