

URBAN INDIA AND NEW FORMS OF DEMOCRATIC POLITICS
An International Workshop co-organized by JNU (Centre for Political Studies) and
University of Göttingen (Centre for Modern Indian Studies)
October 25-26, 2012,
Committee Room, School of Social Sciences 2, JNU

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

October 25

9:00-9:30 **Registration**

9:30-10:00 **Introduction**

Session I AN INDIAN URBANISM? MAPPING URBAN POLITICS IN CONTEMPORARY INDIA

10:00-11:30 Panel 1 "LOCATIONS" Chair: Aditya Nigam, CSDS, Delhi
➤ *Plans and Politics: Thoughts on Contemporary Delhi*
Awadhendra Sharan, CSDS, Delhi
➤ *Globalization, Urban Citizenship, and the Post-National City*
Sanjay Srivastava, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi

11:30-11:45 **Tea Break**

11:45-1:15 Panel 2 "INFORMALITIES" Chair: Valerian Rodrigues, JNU
➤ *Elementary Aspects of Trade Unionism in Urban Informal Economy: The Case of Street Hawkers in Calcutta, 1975-2012*
Ritajyoti Bandopadhyay, University of Göttingen
➤ *Debt in Benaras: Illicit Entrepreneurship in the Context of (Formal) Policy Failure*
Sebastian Schwecke, University of Göttingen

1:15-2:30 **Lunch**

2:30-4:00 Panel 3 "TRANSACTIONS" Chair: Gurpreet Mahajan, JNU
➤ *Water Pipes, Patronage Politics and Democratic Representation: Notes from a Mumbai 'Slum'*
Lisa Bjorkman, Max Planck Institute, Göttingen
➤ *Controlling Urban Space: Politics of Slums in Bhubaneswar*
Pralay Kanungo, JNU

4:00-4:15 **Tea Break**

4:15-6:00 Panel 4 "LEGALITIES" Chair: Kaveri Gill, IDRC
➤ *Public Interest Litigation and the Politics of Riverfront Settlement in Ahmedabad*
Renu Desai, CEPT University, Ahmedabad
➤ *Stealthscapes: Transformations of Open Public Space in Mumbai*
Lalit Vachani, University of Göttingen

6:30 onwards **Reception and Dinner**

October 26

Session II POLITICS BEYOND POLITICS? DEMOCRATIC POLITICS AND THE EXTRA-ELECTORAL TURN

- 9:30-11:00 Panel 5 "ON BINARIES" Chair: Gopal Guru, JNU
- *The Politics of Constituting Urban Territories: Beyond the Binary Conceptions of Urban Politics*
Bhuvanewari Raman, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
 - *Why Interrogate Political Society?*
Ajay Gudavarthy, JNU
- 11:00-11:15 Tea Break
- 11:15-1:15 Panel 6 "COMMUNITY" Chair: Tanika Sarkar (TBC)
- *The Spirit of Institutional Practices: Community Attachments and Democratic Politics in India*
Devika Bordia, University of Göttingen
 - *Shifting Identities: Refugee Politics and Urbanization in West Bengal*
Rajarshi Dasgupta, JNU
 - *Politics of Apolitical Islam: Muslim Religiosity and Politics in Postcolonial India*
Hilal Ahmed, CSDS, Delhi
- 1:15-2:30 Lunch
- 2:30-4:00 Panel 7 "MEDIA" Chair: Zoya Hasan, JNU
- *The Politics of Civic Anger*
Srirupa Roy, University of Göttingen
 - *Corporate Media and Urban Politics: Lessons for Alternative Media*
Sudhir Pattnaik, Journalist, Bhubaneswar
- 4:00-4:15 Tea Break
- 4:15-5:45 Panel 8 "CAPITAL" Chair: Gopalan Balachandran, Graduate Institute, Geneva
- *Urban Futures: Capital and the Moral Politics of the Good Life*
Vidhu Verma, JNU
 - *UID/Aadhar Against the Logics of Populist Politics*
Swagato Sarkar, Jindal School of Government and Public Policy
- 5:45-6:00 **Conclusion**