

CURRICULUM VITAE

PRIYA P SANGAMESWARAN

Associate Professor, Development Studies
Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta,
R-1, Baishnabghata-Patuli Township, Kolkata – 700094.
Email: priya@cssscal.org

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

Ph.D. in Economics at the
University of Massachusetts Amherst, U.S.A.: 1998 to 2004

[Dissertation title: *Equity in Community-Based Sustainable Development: A Case Study in Western India*]

Masters in Economics, University of Bombay, India: 1994 to 1996
Bachelors in Economics, R. Ruia College, Bombay, India: 1991 to 1994

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Political economy of natural resources (especially land and water)
- Urban studies (ideas of nature; land-industrialization-urbanization linkages)
- Critical approaches to development (drawing on debates from heterodox economics, political ecology, post-development theory, and critical geography)

ONGOING RESEARCH WORK

My current research combines a long-standing interest in the political economy of land with a more recent interest in urban studies. I am studying how changes in land use and economic activities are related to transformations in the space of the city and to urban development discourses. This is done by focusing on a contemporary history of selected industrial areas in Thane city (in the state of Maharashtra), using a combination of archival sources and fieldwork. A smaller side-project that has emerged in the course of this work is the historical development (from the 19th century onwards) of cities such as Thane which have usually been thought of in relation to larger metropolises such as Bombay/Mumbai along with the methodological question of how to study such cities.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- **Associate Professor** in Development Studies at Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (February 2016 to date).
- **Assistant Professor** in Development Studies at Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (February 2011 to January 2016).
- **Fellow (equivalent to Assistant Professor)** in Environment Studies at Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (February 2008 to January 2011).
- **Fellow** at Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development, Bangalore (April 2006 to December 2007).
- **Visiting Fellow** at Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development, Bangalore from February 2005 to February 2006.

- **Teaching Assistant** in University of Massachusetts at Amherst (August 1998 to May 2001; August 2002 to May 2003).
- **Teaching Assistant** in State University of New York at Buffalo (August 1997 to May 1998).
- **Company Analyst** in Center for Monitoring Indian Economy, Mumbai, India (July 1996 to October 1996).

PUBLICATIONS

Books

1. **Neoliberalism and Water: Complicating the Story of ‘Reforms’ in Maharashtra.** New Delhi: Orient Blackswan, 2014.

Journal articles

- *Contending Claims and Uses of Land: Unpacking the Trajectory of a Mortgage in Thane.* **The Indian Economic & Social History Review**, 59(4: 507-533), 2022.
- *Dispersal and Development: Two Key Moments in the Growth of Thane City.* **South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies**, 44 (4: 651-665), 2021.
- *Land from Wetland: Nature, Frontiers and Urbanization in Kolkata, India.* **Contributions to Indian Sociology** 52(3) October 2018, pp. 283-307.
- *Change in Nature and Change via Nature: A Brief Review of Ideas of ‘Change’ and their Implications for Nature.* **Salesian Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences**, Vol. 1X, No. 1, May 2018 (Politics of Ecology), pp. 18-33.
- *Human Rights vs Contract Law in Arbitration Mechanisms.* **Economic and Political Weekly** LIII (5: 16-19), February 3, 2018.
- *Interdisciplinarity in Water Research, Education and Activism in South Asia: The Way Ahead* (jointly with Vishal Narain and K J Joy). **South Asian Water Studies**, Volume 3, Issue 3, February 2013, pp. 1-11.
- *Rural Drinking Water Reforms in Maharashtra: The Role of Neoliberalism.* **Economic and Political Weekly** XLV(4: 62-69), January 23-29, 2010.
- *Water rights for the Landless in Western India: From Pani Panchayat to Water Entitlements.* **European Journal of Development Research** 21(2: 195-212), April 2009.
- *Sector Reforms in Water in Western India: Commercialization, Self-Sufficiency, and Restructuring of relations.* **Geoforum** 40: 228-238, 2009.
- *24/7, ‘Privatization’, and Water Reform: Insights from Hubli-Dharwad* (co-authored with Roopa Madhav and Clifton D’Rozario). **Economic and Political Weekly** XLIII (14: 60-67), April 5, 2008.
- *Community Formation, ‘Ideal’ Villages and Watershed Development in Western India.* **Journal of Development Studies** 44(3: 384-408) March 2008.
- *Equity in Watershed Development: A Case Study in Western Maharashtra.* **Economic and Political Weekly**, XLI (21: 2157-2165), May 27, 2006.

Book chapters

- *Complicating Land Use Change and Property Rights in a Suburban City: Stories from Two Industrial Spaces in Thane.* Chapter in **Crisis of Liberal**

Deliberation:

Facets of Indian Democracy edited by Manas Ray, Delhi: Primus Books, 2022, pp.

- 256-283.
- *Scale, Diverse Economies, and Ethnographies of the State*. Chapter in **Water Resources Policies in South Asia** edited by Anjal Prakash, Sreoshi Singh, Chanda Gurung Goodrich and S. Janakarajan, New Delhi: Routledge, 2013, pp. 152-169.
 - *The Right to Water in Different Discourses*. Chapter in **Diverting the Flow: Gender Equity and Water in South Asia**, edited by Margreet Zwarteveen, Sara Ahmed, and Suman Rimal Gautam, New Delhi: Zubaan, 2012, pp. 111-135.
 - *Extending the Security Discourse to the Environment and Water*. Chapter in **Paradigms of Security in Asia** edited by Arpita Basu Roy, New Delhi: Manohar Publishers, 2011, pp. 61-73.
 - *Discourses in Water and Water Reform in Western India*. Chapter in **Water Governance in Motion: Towards Socially and Environmentally Sustainable Water Laws**, edited by Philippe Cullet, Alix Gowlland-Gualtieri, Roopa Madhav and Usha Ramanathan, Cambridge University Press, New Delhi: 2010, pp. 53-79.
 - *Institutional Reforms for Water* (co-authored with Roopa Madhav). Chapter in **Water Law for the 21st Century: National and International Aspects of Water Law Reforms in India**, edited by Philippe Cullet, Alix Gowlland-Gualtieri, Roopa Madhav and Usha Ramanathan, Abingdon: Routledge, 2009, pp. 138-159.
 - *Drinking Water; Irrigation; Water Law*. Entries in **Encyclopedia of Environment and Society** edited by Paul Robbins, Sage Publications, August 2007.

Book reviews

- Review of Deepti Acharya's 'Water and Public Policy in India: Politics, Rights, and Governance' in **Water Alternatives**, 2022: <http://www.water-alternatives.org/index.php/boh/item/294-indiapol>.
- *Dammed Memories*. Review of Utpal Sandesara and Tom Wooten's 'No One had a Tongue to Speak: The Untold Story of One of History's Deadliest Floods' in **Global South** (Sephis e-magazine), 8(2) April 2012.
- *Development via the Lens of Value and Labour*. Review of Vinay Gidwani's 'Capital, Interrupted: Agrarian Development and the Politics of Work in India' in **Studies in Humanities and Social Sciences** (Journal of the Inter-University Centre for Humanities and Social Sciences), Volume XVI (1 and 2), 2009, pp. 281-287.
- *Water: Perspectives of Governance*. Review of Vishwa Ballabh edited 'Governance of Water: Institutional Alternatives and Political Economy' in **Economic and Political Weekly**, January 2009, XLIV (2: 37-40).
- *State and the subjects*. Review of Arun Agrawal's 'Environmentality: Technologies of Government and the Making of Subjects' in **Biblio: A Review of Books**, November-December 2005 (p. 34).
- Review of David Mosse's 'The Rule of Water: Statecraft, Ecology and Collective Action in South India' in **Contributions to Indian Sociology**, 43 (1:160-163), February 2009.

Other publications

- *Economy, Society, and Nature: Going Beyond 'Resource Utilization'*. Paper in **Emerging Rural Transformation and Resource Utilisation in the Post-Globalisation Period**, Kolkata: Kreative Konzept, 2013, pp. 15-22. Volume containing Proceedings of State-level Seminar held at Rabindra Bharati University on February 27 and 28, 2013, organized by Department of Economics, Rabindra Bharati University and sponsored by the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.
- *Water for basic needs and Water for socio-cultural needs* in K J Joy *et al.*, 2011, **Life, Livelihoods, Ecosystems, Culture: Entitlement and Allocations of Water for**

- Competing Uses** (Position paper by the thematic subgroup on Water Entitlements and Allocations for Livelihoods and Ecosystem Needs), Pune: Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India.
- **Review of Right to Water: Human Rights, State Legislation and Civil Society Initiatives in India**, Technical Report, Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development, Bangalore, January 2007.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses co-taught in the MPhil and PhD programmes at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta:

- The Land Question in Development [assorted topics]
- Envisioning the City [assorted topics]
- Research Methods in Social Sciences [module on ethnography]
- Debating Development: Perspectives and Practice [assorted topics]
- Theories of Development [assorted topics]
- Vocabulary of the Social Sciences [modules on markets; nature; development]
- Readings in Philosophy [module on nature]

Of these, I designed and introduced at CSSSC (jointly with Professor Manabi Majumdar) *The Land Question in Development* and *Debating Development: Perspectives and Practice*. I have also co-ordinated *Envisioning the City* and *Research Methods in Social Sciences* at different points.

In addition, I co-conducted a writing workshop for MPhil and PhD students at CSSSC in February 2014.

Individual Lectures outside CSSSC

- Online lecture on *First Steps in the Research Process* as part of course on ‘Seminar and Technical Writing’ for students of Master of Planning (Urban and Regional Planning) at the **School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal** on 6 May, 2022.
- Online lecture on *History of the Idea of Development* as part of course on ‘Theories of Development’ at **School of Governance and Public Affairs, Xavier University Bhubaneswar** on 24 September, 2020.
- Two special lectures on *Ethnography* as part of PhD Coursework on Research Methodology at Department of Sociology, **West Bengal State University** on 24 and 25 July, 2019.
- Two lectures on *Ethnography: New Sites and Anthropological Approaches* in a course titled ‘Research Methodology Course in Social Sciences’ organized by Department of Anthropology, **West Bengal State University** on 7 December, 2017.
- Lecture titled *The Role and Impact of Policy Research in Resolving Socio-Legal Issues in India* at the ‘National Workshop on Research Methodology in Public Policy and Law’ organized by Centre for Regulatory Studies, Governance and Public Policy in the **West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences** on 17 February, 2017.
- Lecture on *Conflicting International Legal Regimes: Human Right to Water versus Contract Law* as part of UGC-HRDC refresher course on ‘International Relations and

- Comparative Politics: Recent Trends at the Department of International Relations’, **Jadavpur University** on February 12, 2016.
- Lecture on *Ethnography* as part of a Research Methodology Course in Anthropology and Allied Disciplines at the Department of Anthropology, **West Bengal State University** on 12 December, 2015.
 - Class on *Neo-Marxist Theories of Development* at the Department of Sociology, **West Bengal State University** on May 19, 2015.
 - Lecture on *Ethnography* in PhD Coursework on Research Methodology at Department of Sociology, **West Bengal State University** on February 26, 2015.
 - Special class on development for MA students (Semester IV) of Department of Sociology, **West Bengal State University** on March 21, 2014.
 - Lecture titled *Nature in the City: A View from Political Ecology* in a course on the Environment at **Bengal Engineering and Science University** on March 7, 2014.
 - Four lectures on development in the Masters in Water Policy and Governance program at the School of Habitat Studies in **Tata Institute of Social Sciences** in June 2013.
 - Lecture in the MA course on ‘Environmental Policy, Law and Governance’ at **Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University Delhi** on February 30, 2012.
 - Lecture titled *Restructuring the Water Sector: Neoliberal versus Rights Discourses* at **Daulat Ram College, University of Delhi** on February 29, 2012.
 - Lecture titled *Justice via a Right to Water: Dilemmas in Neoliberal Times* at the Department of Political Science, **University of Delhi** on February 28, 2012.
 - Two lectures on *History of Development Ideas* on March 9, 2011 in the Certificate Course titled ‘Perspectives on Environment and Development: Concepts and Debates’ organized by the **Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment**, Bengaluru.
 - Two lectures on *History of Development Ideas* and one lecture on *Varieties of Environmentalism* on June 9, 2009 in the Short-term Course on Environment and Development for Natural Scientists conducted by the **Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment**.
 - Lecture on *Water: Right or Economic Good* in a **Training Programme on Gender, Water, and Equity** at Goa on October 21, 2008 (organised by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, South Asian Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies, Hyderabad, Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management, Pune, and the Gender and Water Alliance).
 - Lecture on *Water: Right or Economic Good* on October 5, 2007 at Gandharva Residency, Pune as part of **Training Programme of Crossing Boundaries Project, SaciWATERS** conducted by SOPPECOM, Pune.
 - Lecture on *Right to Water: Concepts and Debates* on September 5, 2007 at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai as part of **SAWA Fellow Training Programme of Crossing Boundaries Project, SaciWATERS** conducted by TISS, Mumbai and SOPPECOM, Pune.
 - Five lectures in the Second and Third Short-term Course on Environment and Rural Development conducted at the **Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development, Bangalore** in February 2007 and September 2007 respectively. Four lectures were on *Perspectives on Development*: this included (a) History of Development Ideas (b) Introduction to Theories of Development (c) Debates in Rural Development. The fifth lecture was a joint one on the *Social Construction of Hydrological Concepts*.
 - Five lectures in the First Short-term Course on Environment and Rural Development conducted at the **Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and**

Development, Bangalore in October 2006. Four lectures were on *Perspectives on Development* and one lecture was on *Gender Perspectives in Environmental Studies*.

Other teaching experience

- Experience as Teaching Assistant at **University of Massachusetts Amherst and SUNY Buffalo**: Leading Discussion Sections of Introductory Microeconomics and Macroeconomics for undergraduates (including grading of assignments and exams, collaborating with professors in setting of exam papers and holding office hours for students). I was also a Grader for a Junior Writing in Economics course (intermediate level) at University of Massachusetts Amherst.

STUDENT SUPERVISION

Supervision at CSSSC

PhD students (degree awarded):

- Niranjan Jaladas (2021): *Migration, Citizenship and Changing Trajectory of a Fishing-Based Society: An Anthro-Historical Study of Post-1960s Indian Sundarbans*.

PhD students (ongoing):

- Aritra Bhattacharya: *Ideologies and Spaces of Cultural Resistance: Caste-class Politics in Post-1970s Maharashtra* [submitted].
- Koyel Lahiri (jointly with Dwaipayana Bhattacharyya): *Experience, Aspirations and Organisation: Politics of Informal Workers in Post-1990s India* [submitted].
- Debadrita Mandal: *'Wild' Animals in the City: Open Spaces, Urbanization and Human-Nature Relationships*
- Shruti Sharma: *Producing for Play: Spaces, Social Relations and Materialities of Sports Goods Production in India*
- Lasang Lepcha: *Tracing the Culture of New Forms of Entrepreneurial Activities in Darjeeling Hills* (tentative title)

MPhil students (degree awarded):

- Shamayita Sen (2021): *Unmaking and Remaking Adivasi Identity: Local Meanings, Lived Experiences and Land Relations in Jhargram, West Bengal*
- Suniti Hembrom (2021): *Stone mining in Birbhum: Spatial Transformation and Tribal Development (2000-2020)*
- MD. Bulbul Saikh (2020): *'Anunnato' Anchale Beedi Shilper Bikas: Paschim Banger Murshidabade Sankranta Ekti Samikkha* [Development of Beedi Industry in an 'Underdeveloped' Region: A Case Study of Murshidabad, West Bengal]
- Lasang Lepcha (2020): *Reshaping the Space(s) of Kurseong: New Forms of Entrepreneurship and Social Processes*
- Shruti Sharma (2019): *A Different Ball Game: Unequal Access of Women and an Elusive Cricket Team in Rajasthan*
- Debadrita Mandal (2018): Title – *Wild' Spaces in the City: Forms of Nature, Human–Non-Human Interaction and Ethics of Animal Conservation*.

- Angana Chattopadhyay (2018): Title – *The Story of a Refugee Space: Exploring Identities and Livelihoods in Habra*.
- Chandan Das (jointly with Tapati Guha-Thakurta) (2017): *Hastachalito Tantshilper Paribartanshil Prekhat: Shantipur Sankranto ekti samikha* [Changing Scenario of Handloom Industry: A Case Study of Shantipur].
- Ivan Mani Iyer (2017): *Framing Manual Scavenging, Invisibilizing Caste: Dignity, Livelihood and Technology*.
- Tony Kurian (2016): *Fictions of Auctions and Narratives of Commons: The Performance of Spectrum in India*.
- Parag Jyoti Saikia (2016): *Flows of Desire: The Story of Damming a River in Upper Assam*.
- Pintu Das (jointly with Ritajyoti Bandyopadhyay) (2016): *Aila-Uttor Pathorpratimar Pratyahiki: Tran, Prashasanik Kritkoushol o Bishoyir Nirmiti* [The Everyday of Pathorpratima after Aila: Aid, Governmentality, and Subjectivities]
- Darshana Sreedhar (2011): *Theorizing Lesbian Desire: Dissident Voices in Twentieth Century Kerala*.

Others:

- Research Training Programme 2008-09: Supervisor of Parul T for book review of Amita Baviskar's *In the Belly of the River: Tribal Conflicts over Development in the Narmada Valley* (Title: *Quiet Flows the Narmada*) and term paper (Title: *From Lived Practice to Alternatives: Putting the Traditional into Practice*).

Academic advisor for visiting research scholars at CSSSC:

- Nabila Rahman (PhD student at Indiana University) – November 2019 to March 2020 – *Of Waste and Wealth: Local Government and Citizenship in Urban India*.
- Matthew Shutzer (PhD student in the Department of History at New York University) - April 2016 to December 2016 – *Energy Commodities in the History of South Asia*.
- Nicolas Schlitz (PhD student in Human Geography at Osnabrück University, Germany) – September 2016 to February 2017 – Worked on the flows on plastic and packaging waste in Kolkata as well as the value chains and actors involved in this.
- Sarah Carson (PhD student in the Department of History at Princeton University) – August 2016 to May 2017 – *Ungovernable Winds: A History of the Weather Sciences in Bengal, 1900-1964*.

Examiner/Academic affiliation outside CSSSC

- External examiner for the PhD dissertation of Abhinav Sharma at the **Indian Institute of Technology Bombay** in 2022 (Title - '*Managing*' *Electricity: Artefacts, People and Practices in Bhopal's Electricity Infrastructure*).
- External examiner for MPhil dissertation and viva of Atriya Dey, **Institute of Development Studies Kolkata** in 2021 (Title - *Reconfiguring the Formal-Informal in a Smart City: A Case Study of New Town Rajarhat*).
- Member of Research Advisory Committee of MPhil student Bornita Mondal at **Rabindra Bharati University** (2021) [ongoing].
- External examiner for PhD dissertation and viva of Vandana at **Indian Institute of Management Calcutta** in 2020 (Title: *Malnutrition in a Tribal Context: A Political Ecology Approach*).
- External examiner for PhD dissertation of Preetha K V at **Madras Institute of Development Studies** in 2020 (Title: *Politics and Dynamics of Environment and*

- Development: The Political Ecology of a Proposed Ultra Mega Power Project in Tamil Nadu).
- External examiner for PhD dissertation and viva of Neizhanuo Golmei at **Jawaharlal Nehru University** in 2020 (Title: Forms of Urbanisation and Governance: A Case Study of Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in Delhi).
 - External examiner for PhD dissertation of Meenakshi Gogoi at **Jawaharlal Nehru University** in 2019 (Title: ‘Eminent Domain’ and People’s Resistance: A Case Study of the Pagladiya Dam Project in Assam).
 - External examiner for MPhil dissertation and viva of Ronojoy Banerjee, **Institute of Development Studies Kolkata** in 2018 (Title: The Politics of Land in the Context of Transport Infrastructure Development).
 - External examiner for MPhil dissertation and viva of Bhavna Thakur, Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, **Jawaharlal Nehru University** in 2009 (Title: Impact of Participation on the Legitimacy of World Bank: A Study of Implementation of Watershed Development Project in Uttaranchal).
 - Member of the Doctoral Advisory Committee of Rashmi Mahajan at the **Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment** from November 2014 (Title: Community-based water management in resource-rich environments: The case of irrigation tanks in Eastern Vidarbha region, Maharashtra, India) [ongoing].
 - External Member of the PhD Committee for the Department of Geography at **Presidency University** (from June 2018 to June 2022).

INVITED LECTURES

- Inaugural lecture titled *Negotiating Rights over Land in a Suburban City* at a Workshop on ‘Infrastructure and the Right to the City: Perspectives from India’, organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata on February 15 and 16, 2018.
- Lecture titled *Sustainable Cities: An Oxymoron* at the Research Scholars’ Day in the Department of Architecture and Regional Planning at IIT Kharagpur on 12 July, 2016.
- Talk on *Sector Reform and Right to Water* on December 20, 2007 at St. Joseph’s PG & Research Centre, Bangalore, co-organized by Collaborative for the Advancement of Study or Urbanism through Mixed Media and Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development.

PARTICIPATION IN WORKSHOPS/CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/MEETINGS:

- Lecture on “Commons, Sustainability and Equity: Some Issues in Conception and Measurement” on 1 December 2022 in 6th Social Sciences Winter School at Pondicherry: Rethinking Inequalities held at Pondicherry University.
- Lecture on “Nature in the City: An Urban Political Ecology Approach” delivered on 10 July 2020 in Online Workshop on *Innovative Research Trends in Contemporary Geography* organized by the Department of Geography in association with the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of East Calcutta Girl’s College.
- Discussant for two papers in session on ‘Materialities’ in Exeter South Asia Centre PGR Student Workshop, in collaboration with LUMS, Lahore, QAU, Islamabad, and CSSSC, Kolkata on 1 July 2020 (conducted online) [Rishika Mukhopadhyay’s “Post-colonial Reading of Diverse Craft Economy” and Tridibesh Dey’s “Crumpling Carrier Bags in sub-urban India: From plasticity to plastic mut(e)ability”]
- Presented a paper titled “Unravelling the Bundle of Urban Property Rights: Multiple Claim(ant)s from a Mortgage in Thane” in the International Conference titled ‘Limits of

Archives: Mapping Urban Spaces in Modern South Asia' held at Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta on 31 January 2020.

- Participated in a book discussion workshop organized by the Centre for Urban Policy and Governance, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai on March 27 and 28, 2019.
- Presentation titled 'Contemporary Forms of Exploitation of Nature: A Marxist Framework' at a seminar on Revisiting Karl Marx in the Twenty-first Century held on 28 November, 2018 and organized by Department of Economics and Department of Political Science at Ramakrishna Mandir Vidymandira, Belur Math.
- Discussant for a panel on 'City and Access' in a workshop on Infrastructure and the Right to the City: Perspectives from India, organized by the Institute of Development Studies Kolkata on February 15 and 16, 2018.
- Panelist in a discussion on 'Urban Water Governance: Implications for policy, action, and future research' at a dissemination workshop on 'Adapting to Climate Change in Urbanising Watersheds' organized by Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment in New Delhi on 23 August, 2016.
- Panelist in a discussion on 'Water Conflicts in South Asia' at a workshop on 'Periurban Water Conflicts: Perspectives and Issues of Water Justice' organized by SaciWATERS, Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India and Society for Promoting Participative Ecosystem Management in Hyderabad, Telangana on 24 May, 2016.
- Presented a paper titled 'Water and the Agrarian Question: Changing Priorities and Politics' at a seminar on the 'Agrarian Question in Contemporary Indian Politics' organized by the Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University on February 18 and 19, 2016.
- Presented a paper titled 'Trains, Elections, and an Industrial Estate: Three Moments in the Development of Thane City' at the 16th International Conference on Maharashtra: Culture and Society held at Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad from 8th to 10th January, 2016.
- Participated in a 'National Consultation on Right to Water in the Context of Ongoing Sectoral Reforms: Perspectives and Experiences' organized by Jan Peהל (Madhya Pradesh), Manthan Adhyayan Kendra (Madhya Pradesh), National Platform Against Water Privatisation and People's Campaign on Right to Water (Karnataka) at Bhopal on December 4 and 5, 2015.
- Participated in a Workshop on 'Circular Migration and Habitat: Stories of Migration in Bangladesh and West Bengal' jointly organised by Dr. Elisa T. Bertuzzo, Technische Universität Berlin (TUB) and CSSSC in Kolkata on November 6 and 7, 2015.
- Participated in a National Consultation on 'Water Tariff Regulations – Policy Implementation and Alternatives' organized by PRAYAS (Pune), TISS (Mumbai), SOPPECOM (Pune), and Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India on September 10, 2015, at Pune.
- Participated in a discussion on 'Gender Issues in Schools' jointly organized by Ebong Alap, Kolkata and Nirantar, Delhi at the National University of Juridical Sciences on August 21, 2015.
- Chaired a session in a Two-day Workshop on 'Re-Imagining Economic Development' organised by Institute for New Economic Thinking, Young Scholars Initiative India, and All India Students' Association for Heterodox Economics on July 23 and 24, 2015 at Jadavpur University.
- Presented a paper titled 'The Blurred Boundaries between the Public and the Private' at a national conference on Resource Conflict, Democracy and Federalism: The South Asian Context at the Department of Political Science, Calcutta University on March 23, 2015.

- Presented a paper titled ‘Forms of (Attempted) Water Commodification in India: A Brief Review’ at Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment (ATREE), Bangalore on March 16, 2015.
- Presented a paper titled ‘Urbanization and Sustainability in the (Once) Industrial Suburb of Thane’ at a conference on ‘Sustainable Urbanization in India: Challenges and Opportunities’ organized by Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata and Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, held on January 15 and 16, 2015.
- Presentation titled ‘Change *in* Nature and Change *via* Nature: A Brief Review of Ideas of Change and their Implications for Nature’ at the ICSSR-sponsored seminar on ‘*Re-Imagining Human-Nature Relationship: focusing North Bengal*’ organized by Department of Political Science, Salesian College Sonada and Siliguri on 21 and 22 November, 2014.
- Facilitated organization of a student workshop on “Interrogating Caste: Culture and Politics in the Margins” at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta on March 26 and 27, 2014.
- Discussant for two papers at a conference titled “The Return of the Land Question: Dispossession, Livelihoods, and Contestation in India’s Capitalist Transition” held at Institute for Development Studies Kolkata between March 4 and 6, 2014.
- Participated in a workshop titled “Discrimination, Citizenship, Equality: Interrogations and Contestations” conducted by CSSSC between November 18 and 22, 2013 (more specifically, co-ordinated an informal open discussion with participants)
- Paper titled “Formalization of Rights, Commodification, and Neoliberalization: Some Dilemmas from the Water Sector in India” presented at a workshop called ‘States of Contradiction: Political Economy of Land and Natural Resources in Turkey and India’ held at Bogaziçi University between May 25 and 27, 2013.
- Presentation titled “Justice via Equity in Natural Resources: Some Observations” in the seminar titled “Social Inequalities: Issues and Practical Experiences in India”, held at Lady Brabourne College, Kolkata on March 12, 2013.
- Discussant for Anwesha Sengupta’s paper (Some Stories from Bengal Borderland: Making and Unmaking of an International Boundary) in the Young Researchers’ Workshop of AJEI titled ‘Borders in South Asia: Territories, Identities, Mobilizations’, conducted at CSSSC, Kolkata between March 4-7, 2013.
- Presentation titled “Economy, Society, and Nature: Going Beyond ‘Resource Utilization’” at the seminar titled ‘Emerging Rural Transformation and Resource Utilisation in the Post Globalisation Period’, held at Rabindra Bharati University on February 27 and 28, 2013.
- Discussant for panel on Labour, Nature, Technology in the conference titled ‘Feminist Inscriptions in Social Theory’ held at CSSSC, Kolkata between February 22-24, 2013.
- Two lectures, one on “Unpacking Narratives of Commodification of Water” and one on “The Changing Nature of the Public and the Private in Water”, in the workshop titled “Planet, People, or Profit? The ‘Perilous Passage’ and the Capitalist Transformation of the Natural World” organized by Institute of Development Studies Kolkata between September 10 and 14, 2012.
- Presented a paper titled “Land for the Expanding City: Water Bodies, Wetlands, and Nature in Kolkata, India”, at the conference titled ‘New Questions concerning Land in India’, held at Yale University between April 27-29, 2012.
- Workshop on methodology (on anthropological approaches and ethnography) for research scholars in the Department of Political Science at Delhi University on March 9, 2012.

- Chaired a session titled 'Resource use: Social Power and Elements of Development-1' at the Fourth Critical Studies Conference on 'Development, Logistics, and Governance' held from September 8-10, 2011 and conducted by Mahanirban Calcutta Research Group.
- Discussion note prepared for national consultation on "Water Regulatory Authorities in India: Rethinking the Current Models" organized on April 30, 2011 by PRAYAS (Pune), TISS, and IIT-Bombay (Title – Some thoughts on rationale for regulation in water sector and possible areas of regulatory intervention).
- 'Comparing Suffering, Choosing between Development Goals: Some Thoughts about Justice in Water'. Paper presented at the conference on 'Water Justice Issues in South Asia' organized by Wageningen University, Society for Promoting Participative Eco-system Management and the FORUM for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India, and held in Pune from 18-21 April, 2011.
- "'Apolitical' Village Committees and 'Supported' State Withdrawal: The Grey Spaces of Decentralization in Rural Maharashtra'. Paper presented at *National Seminar on 'Community, Institutions and Participation in Natural Resource Governance'* at Department of Sociology, University of Hyderabad, March 3-4, 2011.
- National Workshop on 'Water Conflicts in the North East: Issues, Cases and Way Forward' organized by Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India and Aaranyak, Guwahati held at Don Bosco Institute, Guwahati on 10-11 December 2010.
- International Conference on Interdisciplinarity in Water Education: Challenges, Perspectives and Policy Implications for South Asia organized by South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies (SaciWATERS), October 3-6 2010 at Kathmandu, Nepal. Lead Rapporteur for the theme 'Gaps in Water Research in South Asia: Emerging and New Issues and Challenges'.
- Speaker in the session on 'Claiming the Commons' in the CSSSC-NRTT Annual Workshop for Beginning Doctoral, Advanced Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Scholars on '*The Public and the Private – Lives, Institutions and Practices*', October 28-November 3, 2010. Also discussant for Saikat Maitra's paper 'Laboring to Create Magic: Reading the New Worker in the Emerging Retail Industries of Kolkata'.
- Workshop titled 'National Dialogue on Water Entitlements and Allocations for Livelihoods and Ecosystem Needs and the Legal-Institutional Framework for Conflict Resolution' held by the Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India in Pune on February 25-26, 2010.
- Conference on the 'New Cultural Histories of India' at CSSSC, January 5-7, 2010. Discussant for Kaushik Ghosh's paper titled 'Economics of Anticipation: "Nano" the Story of the Big Small Car'.
- Speaker in the session on 'Violation: Epistemological Considerations' in the CSSSC-NRTT Annual Workshop for Beginning Doctoral, Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Scholars on 'Violation and Violence', November 4-10 2009. Also discussant for Srabanti Bhattacharya's paper 'Differential Access to Water in Kolkata – Inequities in Distribution and Governance.'
- 'Extending the Security Discourse to the Environment and Water'. Paper presented at the 'National Seminar on Alternative Paradigms of Security in Asia' organized by Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata in collaboration with the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, University of Kolkata, October 15-16, 2009.
- Paper titled 'Corruption in the Age of Neoliberalism: The Case of Rural Drinking Water Projects in Western India' prepared and presented *in absentia* for the CODESRIA/SEPHIS Equity Policy Dialogue on 'Corruption: Critical Perspectives from the South', October 1-3, 2009.

- ‘National Workshop on Independent Regulatory Authorities and Related Institutional Reforms in the Indian Water Sector’ organized by Prayas (Pune), TISS (Mumbai) and IIT-Bombay on August 28, 2009. Chaired session on “New Water Entitlement System”.
- Consultation at the Planning Commission, Government of India on ‘Integrated Water Management – Policy and Actions’, July 16, 2009.
- Symposium on ‘The State of Urban Water’ organized by PUKAR, in collaboration with SOAK on June 28, 2009. Discussant for session ‘On Indian Cities’.
- Workshop titled ‘Water entitlements and allocations for livelihoods and ecosystem needs and the legal-institutional framework for conflict resolution’ held by the Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India in Pune on March 30-31 2009.
- ‘‘Apolitical’ Village Committees and ‘Supported’ State Withdrawal: The Grey Spaces of Decentralization in Rural Maharashtra’, Staff seminar at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, March 2, 2009.
- Speaker in the session on ‘Development and its Discontents’ in the NRTT Annual Workshop for Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Scholars on ‘Inequalities and Differences’, January 4-9 2009. Also discussant for K R Singh’s paper “Ecofeminism: Women and Nature”.
- ‘Scale, Diverse Economies, and Ethnographies of the State: Concepts for Theorizing Water Policy’, Paper presented at the International Conference on Water Resources Policy in South Asia organized by South Asia Consortium for Interdisciplinary Water Resources Studies (SaciWATERS), December 18-20, 2008, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Participated in a dissemination workshop on “Water Rights as Women’s Rights? Assessing Scope for Women’s Empowerment through Decentralized Water Governance in Maharashtra and Gujarat” at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, 29-30 August 2008. Also panel discussant for session on “Decentralization and Women’s Empowerment”.
- Discussant for Dr Awadhendra Sharan's paper entitled ‘The Planner’s City’ in the Conference on ‘The ‘Long’ 1950s’, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta, March 18-20, 2008.
- Paper entitled ‘Scale-Process Interplay in Water Policy in Western India’, Workshop on Political Ecology, March 6 and 7, 2008 at the Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.
- Workshop on Gauging Gender Equity in the Water Sector in South Asia organized by SOPPECOM, Pune and the Women and Water Network at BAIF, Pune, June 14, 2007.
- ‘Right to Water and Implications for Private Sector Participation’. Presentation at Workshop on Private Sector Participation in Water Services: Issues and Concerns organized by NLSIU, Bangalore and KUIDF at NLSIU, Bangalore, June 2, 2007.
- ‘Discourses in water and water reform in Western India’. Paper presented at Workshop on Water, Law and the Commons organized by International Environment Law Research Centre, New Delhi, at PRIA, New Delhi, Dec 8-10, 2006.
- ‘Right to Water: State Policy and Civil Society Initiatives in India’, CISED 2nd Biennial Research Seminar, January 12, 2006.
- Workshop on ‘Understanding CBNMR in South Asia’ organized by the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development, Bangalore, December 13-14, 2005.
- ‘Water Rights for the Landless: Insights from Water Experiments in Western India’, Doctoral Fellows Forum, ISEC, Bangalore, February 21, 2005.
- Launch meeting of network for research, advocacy and capacity-building on ‘Watershed Development in India’ organized by SOPPECOM, GIDR and CISED at Pune, October 28, 2004.

- Workshop on ‘Water Management and Sustainable Development’ organized by Department of Extra Mural Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, and SHARE, Mumbai, August 18-19, 2003.
- Participant and co-chair of *Agrarian Studies Group* in Department of Economics, University of Massachusetts from August 2002 to May 2003.
- Participant in *Environmental Working Group* of Political Economy Research Institute, University of Massachusetts from August 2000 to May 2001 and from August 2002 to May 2003.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Professional affiliation

- Member of a Project Advisory Group for a project titled ‘Shifting Grounds: Institutional Transformation, Enhancing Knowledge and Capacity to Manage Groundwater Security in Peri-Urban Gangetic Delta Systems’ conducted by a consortium of organizations led by Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands (2015-18).
- Member of Advisory Committee for research project on ‘Adapting to Climate Change in Urbanizing Watersheds (ACCUWa)’ at Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment (ATREE), Bangalore (2013-16).
- Visiting Fellow in the Political Science Department at Delhi University (under DSA-SAP-1 programme) from February 20, 2012 to March 9, 2012.
- Member of a Thematic Subgroup on ‘Water Entitlements and Allocations for Livelihoods and Environment’ of the Forum for Policy Dialogue on Water Conflicts in India. The group put together a report on the right to water, which was meant to be used as an advocacy tool aimed at policy-makers as well as a resource for civil society organizations.
- Member of International Association for the Study of the Commons (July 2006-June 2007).

Refereeing/Reviewing work

- External referee for the following journals/working paper series: Contributions to Indian Sociology (2019); MIDS (Madras Institute for Development Studies) Working Paper Series (2018); Water Policy (2017); DECISION [journal of IIM Calcutta] (2017); Journal of International Development (2012-13); Geoforum in 2010; Antipode in 2010; the ISEC (Institute for Social and Economic Change) Working Paper Series (2010).
- External reviewer for book proposal at Palgrave Macmillan (2020).
- Reviewer for four books being considered for publication at Orient Blackswan (2011; 2014 to 2016).
- External reviewer for essays in book compendiums published by the Forum for Policy Dialogue on Conflicts in India (2011, 2012 and 2013).
- Reviewer for MWK-FELLOWS Fellowship Programme of the Max Weber Centre for Advanced Cultural and Social Studies at Universität Erfurt (2018).
- Conducted observation/review of Tata Dhan Academy’s fourth course on Social Development Research Capacity (SDRC) from May 12-27, 2005 at Madurai during my term as Visiting Faculty at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development, Bangalore (undertaken for Sir Ratan Tata Trust, Mumbai).

Major Institutional Contributions

- Coordinator of MPhil programme at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta from April 2014 to July 2018 (and joint co-ordinator from June 2013 to March 2014).

- Actively involved in setting up a Committee on Gender Sensitization against Sexual Harassment (COGSASH) at CSSSC and framing a policy on the basis of first the Vishaka guidelines of 1997 and then the 2013 legislation. In addition, I have been member and Chairperson of COGSASH at different periods and more recently, part of the Internal Complaints Committee.
- Actively involved in drafting a policy for an Equal Opportunity Cell at the Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta.
- Involved in various aspects of planning (content and logistics) and conducting three Short-term Courses on Environment and Rural Development held at the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development in October 2006, February 2007, and September 2007 respectively. These were ten-day courses meant to take academic concepts and debates to a more general audience (mainly practitioners).

AWARDS:

- PERI Dissertation Fellowship for 2003-04 from Political Economy Research Institute, University of Massachusetts at Amherst.
- Graduate School Scholarship for Spring 2000 from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.
- First in University of Bombay in B.A. (Economics) in 1994.
- Diploma in French from *Alliance Française de Paris* in 1993 and Diploma in Commercial French from *Alliance Française de Paris & Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie de Paris* in 1995.
- National Talent Search Scholarship in 1989 from the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), India.