



JRF/SRF/Research Associate Position in the Area of Urban Studies

**National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore**

National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) was conceived and founded in 1988 by the late Mr. J. R. D. Tata, who sought to create an institution to conduct advanced multidisciplinary research. Housed in a picturesque green campus in Bangalore the Institute serves as a forum to bring together individuals from diverse intellectual backgrounds, in the natural and life sciences, humanities, social sciences, and conflict and security studies. The philosophy underlying NIAS is given shape by its multidisciplinary research teams. The Institute is unique in its integrated approach to the study of intersections between science and technology, philosophy, social issues and leadership. The objective is to nurture a broad base of scholars, managers and leaders who would respond to the complex challenges that face contemporary India and global society, with insight, sensitivity, confidence and dedication. For more details: [www.nias.res.in](http://www.nias.res.in)

**About the Project:** This project, entitled '**Speculative Urbanism: Land, Livelihoods, and Finance Capital**', is a multi-disciplinary comparative study of two Asian mega-cities – Bangalore, India and Jakarta, Indonesia – focusing on land transformations and their implications for equity and urban sustainability. The project is being carried out in collaboration with the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and University of California-Los Angeles. The international research team will explore comparatively the rising significance of speculative urban land markets for the social, economic, political, and ecological conditions of different communities in urban and peri-urban areas of the two cities.

**Title of Position:** Research Associate/ Junior Research Fellow/ Senior Research Fellow

**Job Description:**

We are looking for an engaged, well-trained and preferably experienced researcher to assist in the fieldwork and other research activities of the project. The position will provide an opportunity for researchers to spend extensive time working with a team of scholars on an ambitious transnational research project. The selected candidate will be based at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore, working under the direction of Professors Carol Upadhyaya, Michael Goldman and Vinay Gidwani.

The job profile includes carrying out in-depth research in Bangalore, including village- and neighborhood-level fieldwork, conducting structured and semi-structured interviews, and documentary research, under the direction of the project leaders. The incumbent will have an opportunity to learn about all aspects of the research process by collaborating with senior scholars in the production of knowledge, including analysis of data and field notes and report writing.

**Qualifications:**

**Education:** Applicants should preferably have a recent master's degree in sociology, geography, anthropology, urban studies or other relevant social science discipline.

**Previous research and work experience:** Previous relevant field research experience or work experience will be an advantage but is not essential.

**Skills:** Familiarity with qualitative and ethnographic research methods and analysis, excellent English writing skills, knowledge of Kannada and/or other local languages of Bangalore, and a serious commitment to academic work and research, are requirements for the position.

The selected candidates must have good interpersonal skills, be able to interact effectively with different groups of people across the socio-economic spectrum, and capable of carrying out in-depth ethnographic fieldwork, writing up clear field notes and interview transcripts, undertaking qualitative data analysis. and assistance in writing reports and other outputs. Knowledge of current debates on transformations in cities of the global South, urban development and planning, and/or land markets and rural transformations, will be an added advantage.

**Mode of application:**

Interested applicants should submit their curriculum vitae electronically along with the following documents, in a **single pdf** document:

1. Covering letter
2. Statement of purpose
3. Copy of degree certificate

The deadline for receiving applications is **October 20, 2018**. Short-listed candidates will be invited to NIAS for an interview.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience and comparable to other premier institutions in the country.

**The applications should be addressed to:**

Prof Carol Upadhya  
Head, Urban & Mobility Studies Programme  
School of Social Sciences  
National Institute of Advanced Studies  
Indian Institute of Science Campus  
Bangalore-560012 India  
E-mail: niasurban@gmail.com