

Supriya Roy Chowdhury

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Current Position

Visiting Professor, Urban and Mobility Studies Program, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore 560 012.

Academic Qualification

Ph.D. Princeton University, Politics Department, 1992.

Positions held

Professor, Centre for Political Institutions, Governance and Development, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore (2007-2019)

Associate Professor, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, 2003-2007

Deputy Editor, The Hindu, 2001-2003.

Assistant Professor, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, 1995-1999.

Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, 1993-95.

Broad Areas of Research: Labor and globalization; migration and governance; urban poverty, slums and informality.

Publications (2015-21) ([Full list of publications appended](#))

Book

City of Shadows: Slums and Informal Work in Bangalore. *Cambridge University Press* (New Delhi), April 2021 (in press). *Online isbn*: 9781108989930

Articles

“Labour in India” in Mezzadiri and Atzeni (eds), *Research Handbook of the Global Political Economy of Work*, Edward Elgar, (forthcoming 2021).

“Power Looms in Maharashtra: Old and New Crises”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol 55, No 10, March 2020.

“Welfare Without Work or Wages: A Contradiction?” *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. LIII, No 35, September 1, 2018.

“New Paradigms in Labour Studies: How Much Do They Explain”, in R. Nagraj (ed), *Political Economy of Contemporary India*, Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2017.

“Employers Associations in India: Responses to Economic Liberalization”, in John Benson et al (eds) *Employers' Associations in Asia*, London: Routledge, 2017.

“Self-Employment: Broad Review of Dimensions and Diversities”, (with B.P. Vani) in Elizabeth Hill and Amitendu Palit (eds), *Employment Policy in Emergent Economies*, London: Routledge, 2017.

“Bringing Class Back In: Informality in Bangalore”. *Socialist Register*, Vol. 51 (Transforming Classes) London: Merlin Press, 2015.

Invited lectures (2015-20) ([Full list of invited lectures appended](#))

“Women and Migration”, in conference on “Migration in South Asia: Poverty and Inequality”, National Law School of India University, Bangalore, 2019.

“Women and Unions in Garments Exports: In Search of Wider Solidarities”, at Indian Statistical Institute as part of the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of P. C. Mahalanobis, 2018.

“Re-theorizing the Capitalist Developmental State: Welfare, but no Work or Wages”, at the Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 2018.

“Employment in the New Services Sector: New Labour?”, Winter School in Social Sciences, French Institute, Pondicherry, 2018.

“Inequality and Exclusion: Study of Bangalore”, ICSSR-Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research, Bangalore, 2017.

“Bangalore: Unskilled Workers, Employment and Livelihood”, Conference on Bangalore: The Great Transformation, organized by National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore, 2016.

“Theorizing Urban Livelihoods: Examining Work and Sociality in Indian Cities: the Case of Bangalore”, Conference on Landscapes of Urban Livelihoods: Theoretical and Methodological Perspectives, organized by Azim Premji University, Bangalore, October 7, 2015.

Sponsored research projects

“India’s Changing Cityscapes: Work, Migration and Livelihoods”, ISEC-NIAS collaborative study sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research, (Research Programs) 2017-20.

“Migration and Women Workers in the Export Apparels Industry.” ILO and CWDS, New Delhi, 2018, (ILO Work in Freedom Project).

“Mapping and Assessment of Social Dialogue and Labor Administration Frameworks at State Level: Karnataka State”, International Labor Organization, New Delhi, 2015-16.

“Migration, Informal Work and Welfare: A Policy Perspective on Karnataka’s Cities”, State Planning Board, Government of Karnataka, 2009-13.

“Slums and the Urban Land Question” as part of Globalization and the State in India Project sponsored by the National Foundation of India, 2004-7.

“Women Workers in Bangalore’s Export Garment Industry: A Survey” conducted in collaboration with and sponsored by Institute of Developing Economies, Tokyo 2006-7.

“*Surviving the Informal City: Workers and the Local State in Argentina, Ethiopia and India*”, India partner in collaborative research project, led by De Montfort University, UK and CEIL-CONICET, Buenos Aires. (awaiting funding decision by Global Challenges Research Fund, UK)

“*Reviving Old Industrial Cities: An Alternative Urban Policy Paradigm*”, project on industrial decline, de-industrialization and governance in three cities across three states (awaiting funding)

Courses taught:

Modern Political Theories (PhD level)

Political Economy (PhD level)

Perspectives in Social and Economic Change (PhD level)

Business, Government and Society (MBA level)

Industrial Relations (MBA level)

Recent Reports (unpublished)

“India’s Changing Cityscapes: Work, Migration and Livelihoods” Indian Council of Social Science Research, 2020. (co-authored with Carol Upadhyya, NIAS, Bangalore)

“Mapping and Assessment of Social Dialogue and Labor Administration Frameworks at State Level: Karnataka State,” ILO, New Delhi, 2016.

“Work and Workers in the New Services Sectors: A Pilot Study in Bangalore”, ISEC, Bangalore 2015

“Migration, Informal Work and Welfare: A Policy Perspective on Karnataka’s Cities.” State Planning Board, Government of Karnataka, 2013.

Recent Working Papers

“Migration and Women Workers in the Export Apparels Industry.” ILO and CWDS, New Delhi, 2018, (ILO Work in Freedom Project).

“The Child and the City: A Study of Autonomous Child Migration in Bangalore”, Working Paper No. 298, ISEC, Bangalore, 2015

Courses Taught

Modern Political Theories (PhD level)

Political Economy (PhD level)

Perspectives in Social and Economic Change (PhD level)

Business, Government and Society (MBA level)

Industrial Relations (MBA level)

Visiting Positions

Fellow, Centre for Political Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, 2018.

T.A. Raman Pai Chair Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore, 2013.

Visiting Fellow, School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies, Oxford, UK, 2011.

Adjunct Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, 2009.

References:

Atul Kohli, Professor, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University, (kohli@princeton.edu)

Michael Goldman, Professor, Sociology and Global Studies, University of Minnesota, (mgoldman@umn.edu)

Publications (Full List)

Book

City of Shadows: Slums and Informal Work in Bangalore. *Cambridge University Press* (New Delhi), April 2021 (in press).

Articles

“Labour in India” (2021) in Mezzadiri and Atzeni (eds) *Research Handbook of the Global Political Economy of Work*, Edward Elgar, (forthcoming)

“Power Looms in Maharashtra: Old and New Crises”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol 55, No 10, March 2020

“Welfare Without Work or Wages: A Contradiction?” *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. LIII, No 35, September 1, 2018.

“New Paradigms in Labour Studies: How Much Do They Explain”, in R. Nagraj (ed), *Political Economy of Contemporary India*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2017

“Employers Associations in India: Responses to Economic Liberalization”, in John Benson et al (eds) *Employers’ Associations in Asia*. London: Routledge, 2017

“Self-Employment: Broad Review of Dimensions and Diversities”, in Elizabeth Hill and Amitendu Palit (eds), *Employment Policy in Emergent Economies*. London: Routledge, 2017.

“Bringing Class Back In: Informality in Bangalore”. *Socialist Register*, Vol. 51 (Transforming Classes) London: Merlin Press, 2015

“Political Economy of India: A Selected Review of Literature”, in Achin Vinayak (ed), *Political Science Vol. 1: The Indian State (ICSSR decadal Survey of Research)*. Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2013.

“Civil Society and the Urban Poor”, in Ajay Gudavarthy (ed), *Reframing Democracy and Agency in India: Interrogating Political Society*. London: Anthem Press, 2012.

“Class in Industrial Conflict: Case Studies from Bangalore”, in John Harriss and Paul Bowles (eds), *Globalization and Labour in China, India and the West*. New York: Palgrave and Macmillan, 2010.

“Slums and Civil Society: Limits of Urban Activism”, in Darshini Mahadevia (ed), *Inside the Transforming Urban Asia: Processes, Policies and Public Actions*. Concept, 2008.

“The Scholar and the Manager”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. 43, no 7, 16 February, 2008.

“Informality in Globalised Forms of Production”, *The Indian Journal of Labour Economics*, Vol.50, No.4, 2007.

“The Intellectual-Left Stand-Off”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. 42, no 13, 31 March 2007.

“Public Sector Restructuring and Democracy: The State, Labour and Trade Unions in India”, in Rahul Mukherjee (ed), *India’s Economic Transition: The Politics of Reforms*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2007.

“Globalization and Labour”, in Baldev Raj Narain (ed), *Globalization and Politics in India*. New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 2007.

“State-Directed Development”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. 40, no 29, 16 July, 2005.

“Economic Reforms in Political Space”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol. 39, no 26, June 26, 2004.

“Old Classes and New Spaces: Urban Poverty, Unorganized Labour and New Unions”, *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol.38, no.50, Dec 13-19, 2003.

“Public Sector Restructuring and Democracy: The State, Labour and Trade Unions in India”, *Journal of Development Studies*, Vol.39, No.3., 2003.

“Neo-Statism in Third World Countries: A Critique”, *Third World Quarterly*, vol.20, no 6, 1999.

“State, Private Sector and Labour: The Political Economy of Jute Industry Modernization, West Bengal, 1986-90”. *Journal of the Indian School of Political Economy*, January-March,1997.

“Political Economy of India’s Textile Industry: The Case of Maharashtra”, *Pacific Affairs*, vol 68, No 2, Summer 1995.

“Bureaucracies and Management of Economic Reform”, *Vikalpa*, (journal of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad), vol.20(3): 19–26, July–September,1995.

Guest Editor, *Review of Labour, Economic and Political Weekly*, 2009, vol 44, no 22, May, 2009.

Conference papers/invited lectures (selected list)

“Women and Migration, in conference on “Migration in South Asia: Poverty and Inequality”, National Law School of India University, Bangalore, February 2019.

“Women Workers in the Export Ready-Made Garments Industry”, conference on Action Research on Women’s Migration in India, 1-2 July,2019 Centre for Women’s Development Studies, New Delhi.

“Women and Unions in Garments Exports: In Search of Wider Solidarities”, delivered at Indian Statistical Institute as part of the 125th birth anniversary celebrations of P. C. Mahalanobis, April 2018.

“Re-theorizing the Capitalist Developmental State: Welfare, but no Work or Wages”, Centre for Political Studies, JNU, New Delhi, 4 March 2018.

“Employment in the New Services Sector: New Labour?”, Winter School in Social Sciences, French Institute, Pondicherry, and Centre For Social Exclusion Pondicherry University, December 2018.

“Informality and New Spaces of Urban Inequalities” presented in panel “Through the Lens of Informality”, Indian Labour Conference, IGIDR, Mumbai, December 19-21, 2018.

“Impact of New Housing Projects on Migrants: a Study of Slum Housing in Bangalore City”, in panel on Migration and Housing in Contemporary Cities: Opportunities to Stay, Move and Settle, at Vienna Anthropology Days, University of Vienna, September 19-21, 2018.

“Inequality and Exclusion: Study of Bangalore”, presented at ICSSR-Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research, Bangalore, February 8, 2017.

“Bangalore: Unskilled Workers, Employment and Livelihood”, presented at Workshop on Bangalore: The Great Transformation, organized by National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore, June 24-25, 2016.

“Theorizing Urban Livelihoods: Examining Work and Sociality in Indian Cities: the Case of Bangalore”, presented at Workshop on Landscapes of Urban Livelihoods: Theoretical and Methodological Perspectives, organized by Azim Premji University, Bangalore, October 7, 2015.

“Changing Paradigms of Labor Administration”, Conference on Labour Questions in the Global South, organized by Centre for Economic and Policy Studies, and Centre for Informal Sector and Labor Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, November, 2015.

“Mapping and Assessment of Social Dialogue and Labor Administration Frameworks at State Level: Karnataka State”, Conference on Social Dialogue and Labor Administration, organized by International Labor Organization, New Delhi, September 28, 2015.

“New Paradigms in Labor Studies: How Much Do They Explain”, Conference on India’s Political Economy, organized by IGIDR and University of California, Berkeley, at IGIDR, Mumbai, November 2014.

“Self-Employment in India: Dynamics and Dimensions”, Workshop on Employment Issues in India, organized by Sydney University and National University of Singapore, at NUS, Singapore, February 2014.

“Rethinking Labour and Industrial Relations in India”, Symposium on Labour Dynamics in Indonesia and India: The Comparative Experience, organized by Sydney South East Asia Centre and University of Sydney, Australia, December 2012.

“Livelihood and Income: Informality and Poverty in Bangalore’s Slums”, Queen Elizabeth House, Oxford, April, 2011.