



**Department of Sociology
School of Social Sciences and International Studies
Pondicherry University**

**International Seminar on *Agrarian Transition in India*
January 28-30, 2014**

Programme Schedule

Day 1: TUESDAY January 28th

I. Inaugural Session (6.00 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.)

Convention cum Cultural Complex Auditorium, PU

- Welcome and Opening Remarks** : B. B. Mohanty, Convener of the Seminar
Inaugural Address : Joan P. Mencher, City University, New York
Special Address : N. K. Jha, Dean, SOSSIS, Pondicherry University
Presidential Address : Chandra Krishnamurthy,
Vice-Chancellor, Pondicherry University
Vote of Thanks : G. Ramathirtham, Pondicherry University

II. Keynote Session (9.00 am – 11.00 a.m.)

Convention cum Cultural Complex Auditorium, PU

Chair : Haroon Akram-Lodhi, Trent University, Canada

Keynote Presentations

- **Henry Bernstein**,
University of London,
London. *Revisiting agrarian transition: reflections on long histories and current realities*
- **Utsa Patnaik**,
Jawaharlal Nehru University,
New Delhi. *The peasantry and the global economy – history and the present*
- **Dipankar Gupta**,
Formerly with Jawaharlal Nehru
University, New Delhi. *It is not only the economy: the social implications of agrarian change*

Tea Break (11.00 a.m. – 11.15 a.m.)

III. Agrarian Transition: Theoretical and Conceptual Issues (11.15 a.m. – 1.15 p.m.)

Seminar Hall - I, Convention cum Cultural Complex, PU

Chair : Henry Bernstein, University of London, London.

Discussant : Jens Lerche, University of London, London.

Paper Presentations:

- **Haroon Akram - Lodhi**
Trent University, Canada. *The agrarian question and global value relations*
- **D. N. Reddy**
Formerly with University of
Hyderabad, Hyderabad. *Agrarian transition – is there an Asian way? An exploratory survey*
- **Hira Singh**
York University, Canada. *Agrarian transitions during colonial rule in India: questions of class and caste*
- **Marc Edelman**
City University of New York,
New York. *Defining “peasant” at the united nations human rights council*

Lunch Break (1.15 p.m. – 2.15 p.m.)

Dining Hall Convention cum Cultural Complex, PU

IV. Global Capitalism, Neoliberal Reform and Changing Agriculture (2.15 p.m. – 4.15 p.m.)
Seminar Hall - I, Convention cum Cultural Complex, PU

Chair : D N Reddy, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad.
Discussant : Judith Heyer, University of Oxford, London.

Paper Presentations:

- **D. N. Dhanagare**
Indian Institute of Advanced Studies,
Shimla. *Declining credibility of the neo-liberal state and agrarian crisis in India*
- **B. B. Mohanty**
Pondicherry University, Pondicherry *Agrarian change in India: the question of survival of peasantry*
- **R. Vijay**
Professor
Department of Economics,
University of Hyderabad,
Hyderabad. *Changing economic structure and importance of non- cultivating households in rural areas*
- **Barbara Harriss-White**
Oxford University, London. *Towards a lower carbon agriculture: an experiment in expert and situated knowledge*

Visit to French Institute of Pondicherry (FIP) : (4.30 p.m.)

Presentation of French Institute : (5.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m.)

V. Agrarian Transition: Regional Perspectives I (9.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m.)
Seminar Hall - I, Convention cum Cultural Complex, PU

Chair : D. N. Dhanagare, Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla.
Discussant : Marc Edelman, City University of New York. USA.

Paper Presentations:

- **Jens Lerche**
University of London,
London. *Agrarian questions in India: three political economy approaches to regionally specific agrarian questions*
- **Gaurang R. Sahay**
Tata Institute of Social Sciences,
Mumbai. *Reflections on agrarian structure in contemporary Bihar: a village study*
- **Santanu Rakhit**
Visva-Bharati University, Calcutta. *Stressed commerce, agrarian crisis and the question of transition-a farm level study of agrarian West Bengal in the current millennium*
- **Elumalai Kannan & R. S. Deshpande**
Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore. *Towards critical tipping point: agrarian changes in central India*
- **Mamata Swain**
Ravenshaw University, Cuttack. *Changes in agrarian structure in Odisha.*

Tea Break (11.00 a.m. – 11.15 a.m.)

VI. Agrarian Transition: Regional Perspectives II (11.15 a.m. – 1.15 p.m.)

Seminar Hall - I, Convention cum Cultural Complex, PU

Chair : Venkatesh Athreya, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai.

Discussant : Haroon Akram-Lodhi, Trent University, Canada

Paper Presentations:

- **Joan P. Mencher**
City University, New York
Which human beings will survive to the end of the 21st century?
- **Joseph Tharamangalam**
Mount Saint Vincent University
Halifax
Is there a new agrarian question for Kerala in the new millennium?
- **Daniel Munster**
University of Heidelberg, Germany.
Agro-ecological double movements? alternative agricultures after the neoliberal crisis in the western ghats (Kerala)
- **Jonathan Pattenden**
University of East Anglia, UK.
The agrarian question and changing dynamics of accumulation and exploitation in rural Karnataka

Lunch Break (1.15 p.m. – 2.15 p.m.)

Dining Hall, Convention cum Cultural Complex, PU

VII. Agrarian Dynamics: Response from Below (2.15 p.m. – 3.45 p.m.)

Seminar Hall - I, Convention cum Cultural Complex, PU

Chair : R. S. Deshpande, ISEC, Bangalore.

Discussant : Joseph Tharamangalam,
Mount Saint Vincent University, Halifax.

Paper Presentations:

- **Isabelle Gurien & G. Venkatasubramanian**
French Institute of Pondicherry,
Pondicherry.
Agrarian transition, bonded labour and capital
- **Joël Cabalion,**
EHES-CEIAS
Displacing and relocating peasant social dispositions
- **Zoe Headly**
(IFP-CNRS), Pondicherry.
Exploring changing judicial authority in Tamil villages

Tea Break (3.45 p.m. – 4.00 p.m.)

VIII. Agrarian Transition: A Comparative Perspective (4.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.)
Seminar Hall - I, Convention cum Cultural Complex, PU

Chair : Hira Singh, York University, Canada.
Discussant : Jonathan Pattenden, University of East Anglia, UK.

Paper Presentations:

- **Frehiwot Tsfaye**
York University, Canada.

*The state and agrarian reforms from above:
proposal for a comparative study of land reforms in
Ethiopia and India*

- **Tudor Silva**
University of Peradeniya,
Sri Lanka.

*Agrarian transition, unregulated agrochemical use
and their impact on public health*

IX. Valedictory (5.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m.)

Welcome Address : K. Gulam Dasthagir, Pondicherry University
Valedictory Address : Barbara Harriss-White, Oxford University
Presidential Address : M. Ramadass, Director of Studies, Pondicherry University
Closing Remarks : B. B. Mohanty, Pondicherry University
Vote of Thanks : Sudha Sitharaman, Pondicherry University