



India@75 seminar

Unpacking the idea of the people

Organisers: SOAS South Asia Institute and CSDS, New Delhi

April 5-6, 2022

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DAY ONE

April 5, 2022

Time: 9 am – 2 pm (BST); 1.30 pm – 6.30 pm (IST)

Opening remarks: Subir Sinha (SOAS) – 9-9.10 am

Introducing the seminar topic: Hilal Ahmed (CSDS) – 9.10-9.20 am

1. Aditya Nigam (CSDS): *Staging the "People" in Three Popular Movements* –
9.20 -9.50 am

Discussion/Q&A – 10 minutes.

2. Subir Sinha (SOAS): *Modi's People* – 10-10.30 am

Discussion/Q&A – 10 minutes.

Break for 5 minutes



3. Sanjay Kumar (CSDS): *Voters as People: Seven Decades of Indian Election* -
10.45-11.15 am

Discussion/Q&A - 10 minutes.

4. Vidya Venkat (SOAS): *Incorporating People's Will in Structures of Political Governance* - 11.25-11.55 am

Discussion/Q&A - 10 minutes.

Break for 20 minutes

5. Satish K. Jha (University of Delhi): *Celebrating People's Will: A Critical Inquiry* - 12.20-12.50 pm

Discussion/Q&A - 10 minutes.

6. Pralay Kanungo (University of Heidelberg) - *People in Hindutva's imagination*
- 1.05-1.35 pm

Discussion/Q&A - 10 minutes.

Screening short film on the theme of India's independence - 15 minutes

Vidya Venkat to announce next day's programme and key takeaways

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DAY TWO

April 6, 2022

Time: 9 am-2 pm (BST); 1.30-6.30 pm (IST)

Screen India@75 theme-related music or film: 9-9.15 am

1. Nandita Sharma (University of Hawai'i at Manoa) : *The People' as an Ideological Containment of Anti-Colonial Movements* - 9.15-9.45 am

Discussion/Q&A - 10 minutes.

2. Ankita Pandey (Jindal Global University): *People-to-people solidarity: Ideological sources of allyship within the civil rights movement in India* - 9.55-10.25 am

Discussion/Q&A - 10 minutes.

Break for 5 minutes

1. Harish Wankhede (Jawaharlal Nehru University): *Can Dalits Entertain? Exploring the Caste Question in Hindi Cinema*- 10.40 am-11.10 am

Discussion/Q&A - 10 minutes.



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4. Satish Deshpande (University of Delhi): *Communities, Castes, and the People - A Classless Story* - 11.20- 11.50 am

Discussion/Q&A - 10 minutes.

Break for 20 minutes

5. Alf Gunvald Nilsen (University of Pretoria): *To Reclaim the People: Unsettling the Hegemonic Alliance of Hindu Nationalism* - 12.20 -12.50 pm

Discussion/Q&A - 10 minutes.

PLENARY DISCUSSION - 1-1.45 pm

Conclude the programme

Vote of thanks.

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