

All are cordially invited to attend the 7th A.R Desai Memorial Lecture organized by RC 17 Sociology of Social Movements on 27 December, 2018 between 3-15 and 4-45 p.m.

The Lecture will be given by Professor Manish Thakur, Professor of Sociology, Indian Institute of Management, Kolkata.

The topic of the Lecture is – **Social Movement Studies in India: The State-of-the Art.**

Gayatri Bhattacharyya

Convener

Social Movement Studies in India: The State-of-the Art

Manish Thakur

IIM Calcutta

Over the last four decades or so, the study of social movements has developed as a reputable area of sociological enquiry and disciplinary specialisation. There are specialised courses at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels across universities in the country. State-of-the-art surveys of the field have been appearing with regular frequency in the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)'s periodic review of research and literature in sociology and social anthropology since 1985. The existence of a separate RC of the ISS is a testimony to the distinctive identity of the field. Scholars engaged in the study of social movements no longer need to justify the sociological relevance and disciplinary anchoring of their research that their predecessors had to do quite frequently till the late 1970s when it emerged as a promising subfield in Indian sociology. Against this backdrop, the lecture presents an overview of the field both in historical and contemporary terms. While bringing out certain key aspects of the Indian scholarship on social movements, it discusses some of its blind spots as well. Viewed thus, the lecture can be considered a selective peek into the various pathways and the multiple trajectories of the field of social movement studies in India.