



MEDIA AS ACTIVISM

International Conference

INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE, NEW DELHI

OCTOBER 4-5, 2014

This conference examines how media in different regions across Asia have emerged as political agents in their own right, seeking to actively intervene in and influence social-political processes and contexts. In marked contrast to the view of media as passive and neutral reflections of existing social and political worlds, a particular notion of a "crusading media" that advocates for some notion of "national interest" or "public interest" is dominant in the regions that we study. Moreover, belying expectations about the concerns of commercial media, this trend has become particularly pronounced in the era of media commercialization.

What are the challenges faced by investigative journalists? What kinds of issues get highlighted by media activism and which ones become less visible in public discourse? We will also consider the implications of media activism for democracy. How does media activism impact the lives and futures of ordinary citizens? The workshop will explore these questions, with an overall aim of understanding the distinctive contours of media activism in these regions.

Organizers

Paula Chakravartty, New York University

Vipul Mudgal, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi

Srirupa Roy, Göttingen University

Sanjay Srivastava, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi

Schedule

Oct 4
 9:30-10:30 Inaugural Session
 10:30-12:30 Comparative Perspectives on Media Activism
 1:30-3:30 Media Connections
 4:00-6:30 Media and Indian Elections: Roundtable

Oct 5
 10:00-12:30 Investigative Journalism
 1:30-4:00 States, Markets, and Media Activism
 4:30-6:30 Other Worlds? Media Activism and The Politics of Hope

Registration

Please email vipulmudgal@gmail.com to register for the conference.

Sponsoring Institutions

Social Science Research Council, New York: Transregional Virtual Research Institute

Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, Delhi: Inclusive Media for Change project

Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi

University of Göttingen, Germany: Centre for Modern Indian Studies



centre for the study of developing societies



PARTICIPANTS

- » Miriyam Aouragh, University of Westminster
- » Lina Attalah, Mada Masr, Cairo
- » Somnath Batabyal, School of Oriental and African Studies, London
- » Aniruddha Behal, Cobrapost
- » Soutik Biswas, Editor, BBC website
- » Ergin Bulut, Koç University, Istanbul
- » Paula Chakravartty, New York University
- » Aheli Choudhury, Delhi University
- » Francis Cody, University of Toronto
- » Saikat Datta, Hindustan Times
- » Peter D'Souza, CSDS
- » Shohini Ghosh, Jamia Milia Islamia University
- » Paranjay Guhathakurta, Independent Journalist and Scholar, Delhi
- » Sreenivasan Jain, NDTV
- » Rebecca John, Senior Advocate
- » Archana Kapoor, Director, Radio Mewat
- » Ashish Khetan, Independent Journalist
- » Sanjay Kumar, CSDS
- » Vipul Mudgal, CSDS
- » Girish Nikam, Anchor, Rajya Sabha TV
- » Sevanti Ninan, The Hoot
- » Vibodh Parthasarathy, Jamia Milia Islamia University
- » Pamela Philipose, (ex) Women's Feature Service
- » Krishna Prasad, Outlook
- » Srirupa Roy, University of Göttingen
- » Sherene Seikaly, University of California-Santa Barbara
- » Shalini Singh, Senior Journalist, Delhi
- » Sanjay Srivastava, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi
- » Stalin K, Video Volunteers, Goa
- » Ravi Sundaram, CSDS
- » Om Thanvi, Editor-in-Chief, Jansatta