



O.P. Jindal Global University
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GUEST LECTURE

Wednesday, 13 February 2013, 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm
T-1, 75 Seater Auditorium
O.P. Jindal Global University

Sonipat Narela Road, Near Jagdishpur Village Sonipat, Haryana - 131001 (NCR Of Delhi)



Jindal Global Law School
India's First Global Law School

Battling Corruption: Has NREGA reached India's rural poor?



SPEAKER

Dr. SHYLASHRI SHANKAR

Senior Fellow

Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi

Shylashri Shankar is a Senior Fellow with Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi. She was previously an Assistant Professor in the Government Department at the University of Texas at Austin. She has held a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Center on Religion and Democracy, University of Virginia, Charlottesville. She was a Frank C Irwin Fellow at the University of Texas at Austin, a President's Fellow at Columbia University, and a Fellow at the German and American Young Scholars Institute 2003/2004 on "Secularization and Religion". She has been a consultant for the World Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Health Organisation. She contributes regularly to newspapers in the mainstream Indian press on a range of issues including India's foreign policy, South Asian and Middle East politics, judiciary and rights, ethnic conflict, and politics and impact of anti-poverty programs. She has a Bellagio Residency Fellowship in June-July 2011 at the Rockefeller Foundation in Bellagio, Italy.

She is currently co-authoring a book with Prof. Raghav Gaiha on battling corruption in NREGA. Her current research areas include the politics of implementing anti-poverty programs like the national rural employment guarantee scheme, secularism and constitutions, migration of ideas between judiciaries, transformational courts, urbanization and old cities, among others.

<http://www.cprindia.org/users/shylashri-shankar>

Abstract:

What sorts of mechanisms and actions by the government, civil society and beneficiaries' can best minimise corruption? How can the state become more responsive to its citizens, and how can citizens (especially the more vulnerable sections) ensure such responsiveness on the part of the state? We assess the formal and informal mechanisms – political decentralization, community social audits, access to information, membership in networks, political competition – that have enabled NREGA to reach its intended beneficiaries in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan."

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