

Three-day Economic Sociology Conference
on
Trust in Transactions

organised by the
Institute of Development Studies Kolkata
in collaboration with
Rabindranath Tagore Centre for Human Development Studies
sponsored by the
Indian Council of Social Science Research

November 16-18, 2015

A Report

The three-day Economic Sociology Conference on *Trust in Transactions* (November 16-18, 2015) facilitated exchanges among senior and young scholars from diverse disciplines like Economics, Sociology, History, Geography, Environmental Studies, Political Science, Women Studies, Social Work, Juridical Sciences and Development Studies. Conceived and coordinated by Prasanta Ray, the sessions were spread over a range of transaction spaces and of stakeholders engaged in making, sustaining and re-configuring trust. The spaces included factories and financial institutions as well as homes, neighbourhoods and streets where trust was a critical variable in some economic transactions taking place therein. Organised labour, medical institutions, migrant workers, self-help/neighbourhood groups, domestic workers and care-givers, and street children were the different stakeholders. Most of the presentations were based on empirical researches using ethnography, archives as well as game theory methodology. Epistemological issues were raised by Professor Sabyasachi Bhattacharya while he gave an exposition on the Hobbesian and the Gandhian paradigms. Professor Achin Chakraborty reviewed the literature in Economics, and Professor Prasanta Ray, the sociological literature. All together twenty six presentations were made.
