



INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES KOLKATA

(A Centre of Excellence in Social Sciences funded by the Government of West Bengal)

SALT LAKE CAMPUS • DD 27/D, SECTOR 1, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA 700 064

Seminar Notice

Dr. Avishek Ray

Assistant Professor

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

National Institute of Technology, Silchar

will present a paper on

Of Vagrants & Migrants: On the Discursive Limit of Development

Abstract

How we perceive the world is often grounded in systems of values and beliefs adopted by certain episteme: their interpretive frameworks, prejudices and dispositions, which shape the very 'paradigms' upon which we choose to see the 'facts' and frame our methods of inquiries. In other words, 'truth' in our eyes is but *ex post facto* (re)construction of 'reality' achieved through narratorial articulation of relevant events and chosen facts. Taking off from here, this paper sets out to understand: how do we unpack the social 'constructivism' of the *apriori* assumptions that cloak the idea of the 'vagabond' in the neo-liberal imagination? How is the vagabond framed as a sub-set within the 'human'? What conflates this idea with the notion of the 'abject'? Why are certain forms of mobility at loggerhead with the statist discourse of development? Invoking a few case studies, both from India and beyond, this paper points to the arbitrariness in the juridico-political imagination of the 'vagabond' in the context of the development discourse.

Date: January 24 (Wednesday), 2018

Time: 3.15 pm

Venue: IDSK Seminar Room, 5th Floor

All are Welcome

Subhanil Chowdhury

(Subhanil Chowdhury)

Convenor, Seminar Committee, IDSK

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