

Centre for the Study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences,  
Jawaharlal Nehru University

# National Seminar on the Superannuation of Prof. Surinder S. Jodhka

## Contemporary India: Society, Culture, Politics

November 26, 2025

Committee Room, Convention Centre, JNU

**Registration: 9:00 AM- 9:30 AM**

### Inaugural Session:

9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Chair and Inaugural Address: **Prof. Vivek Kumar, Dean, SSS, JNU**

Welcome Address: **Prof. Manoj Kumar Jena, Chairperson, CSSS, JNU**

About the Seminar: **Dr. G. Srinivas, CSSS, JNU**

Keynote Address: “When the Periphery becomes the Centre” by **Prof. Dipankar Gupta, Former Professor, CSSS, JNU**

Vote of Thanks: **Dr. Divya Vaid, CSSS, JNU**

**Tea Break 11:00 AM – 11:30 AM**

### Session I: Village and Agrarian Change

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Chair: **Prof. Gurpreet Mahajan, Former Professor, CPS, JNU**

**Prof. Richa Kumar, Department of HSS, IIT-Delhi**

Inequality and its Intersection with Food and Agriculture

**Dr. Mallika Chaudhuri, Editorial Associate, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi**

Narratives of Displacement and Mobility: A Study in Two Villages in Delhi

**Dr. Mekhala Krishnamurthy, Ashoka University, Haryana**

Dilemmas of Diversification: Some Reflections on the Rural, Agrarian, and the Urban

**Dr. Himanshu, CESP, SSS, JNU, New Delhi**

Poverty, Inequality and Mobility: Some Insights from Village Surveys

**Lunch Break 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

## **Session II: Identities and Inequalities**

**2:00 PM – 3:30 PM**

Chair: Prof. V. Sujatha, CSSS, SSS, JNU

Prof. Tanweer Fazal, BML Munjal University, Haryana

The Other Ambedkar: Nationhood, Minorities and the Subject of Political Unity

Dr. Salah Punathil, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

Migration and Borderlands in India: Some Reflections

Dr. Suraj Beri, Nagaland University, Lumami, Nagaland

From Clan to Commerce: Transformation of Naga Kinship Networks into Business Networks in Mokokchung

Dr. Anasua Chatterjee, RSMVV, Affiliated to West Bengal State University, Kolkata

Spatialising Respectability: Community, Belonging, and Difference in the Bhadrak Lok Paras of Kolkata

## **Session III: Mobilities, Middle Classes and Elites.**

**3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

Chair: Prof. Nilika Mehrotra, CSSS, SSS, JNU

Prof. Aparna Rayaprol, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad

Migration, Intergenerational Mobility and the Middle Class

Prof. Ravinder Kaur, Professor Emerita, IIT Delhi

Becoming and Staying Middle Class in Contemporary India: The Role of Sex Selection and Other Family Strategies

Prof. Kulwinder Kaur, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

Middle Class, Spatialisation and the Study of Stratification in India

Prof. Aseem Prakash, School of Public Policy and Governance, TISS Hyderabad Campus

**Tea Break 5:00 PM – 5:15 PM**

## **Valedictory Session**

**5:15 PM – 6:30 PM**

Valedictory Address: Prof. Maitrayee Chaudhuri, Former Professor, CSSS & President ISS

Speaker: Prof. Surinder S. Jodhka, CSSS, JNU

Vote of Thanks: Dr. Ratheesh Kumar, CSSS, JNU