

**CENTRE FOR STUDIES IN SOCIAL SCIENCES, CALCUTTA,
R-1 BAISHNABGHATA PATULI,
KOLKATA 700094**

GENERAL SEMINAR

Sanjoy Chakravorty,

Professor of Geography and Urban Studies, Temple University,

will give a talk titled:

On the Land Question Today:

Reform, Acquisition, Discourse, and Truth

Abstract

The scarcity of land has created a triple crisis in India. (1) A price crisis, whereby urban and rural land prices are arguably the highest in the world, reinforced by severe income inequality. (2) An agricultural crisis, whereby three-quarters of agricultural households possess less than an acre of land and make less than Rs. 5,000 per month. (3) An acquisition crisis, resulting in a new law that is oriented to social justice but will effectively create a social tax on the majority. I present the broad outlines of these conditions, followed by a brief discussion on the intellectual and political responses that have resulted. I argue that the former are ideological and the latter opportunistic, and both are based partial or convenient or wrong information. I end with a few words on my embryonic attempt to frame the land question in a theory of the post-colonial state in the information age.

Date: Friday, 11 December, 2015; Time: 3 – 5 pm

Venue: CSSSC's Seminar Room, Patuli Campus

Rosinka Chaudhuri
(Convener, Seminar Committee)