RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM

Conversations on society since 1960

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi http://sociology.du.ac.in/sociological-research-colloquium/

FRIDAY, 19TH MARCH 2021 AT 3:00 PM Click <u>here</u> for online meeting link.

ANIKET AGA



FARM REFORMS AS IF THE AGRARIAN CRISIS MATTERED

Abstract:

This talk excavates the roots of the protests against the three farm laws in the transformations wrought by the Green Revolution program of the 1950s. This program made 'productivity' the dominant though fundamentally flawed paradigm to devise and assess agricultural interventions. Addressing the agrarian crisis, consequently, requires reorienting agriculture towards an ecological and justice-oriented paradigm. An alternative, four-point framework is proposed to assess agricultural reforms emphasizing a) nutritious, culturally appropriate, affordable food for all; b) environmental restoration; c) economic well-being and dignity for farmers and laborers; and d) large-scale employment opportunities. An approach that focuses on reducing costs of cultivation can help resolve the agrarian and environmental crisis.

The Speaker:

Aniket Aga teaches environmental studies at Ashoka University. He holds a Ph.D. in anthropology from Yale University. His book titled *Genetically Modified Democracy: Transgenic Crops in Contemporary India* will be published by Yale University Press in 2021.