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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi
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FRIDAY, 9TH APRIL, 2021 AT 3:00 PM

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AMIT
BASOLE



COVID-19 AND LABOUR IN INDIA:
IMPACT, RESPONSE, AND THE WAY FORWARD

Abstract:

The Covid-19 pandemic has delivered a once-in-a-century shock to the Indian economy. The impact of the pandemic has been borne largely by the most vulnerable, i.e., informal workers and their families. The response at the Union and State government level has not been adequate, given the extent of damage to household balance sheets and the potential long-term effects on health, learning, nutrition, and aggregate demand. Much more needs to be done to revive employment and livelihoods and restore aggregate demand. The crisis is an opportunity to reorient the Indian economy towards an inclusive model of economic growth.

The Speaker:

Amit Basole is Associate Professor of Economics at Azim Premji University, where he also heads the Centre for Sustainable Employment. Before he became an economist, he was a microbiologist and holds a PhD in neurobiology from Duke University in addition to his PhD in Economics from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He has published articles in an unusually wide range of journals – from *Nature*, *Genetics* and *Progress in Brain Research* to *World Development*, *Development and Change*, *Journal of World Intellectual Property*, *Economic and Political Weekly* and *Rethinking Marxism*. He is a member of the Economic Policy Unity of the Confederation of Indian Industry, and of the expert group supporting the Working Group of Ministers on Employment and Skill Generation, Government of India.