

FRIDAY

# 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, 11 NOVEMBER 2022 AT 3:00 PM**  
SRINIVAS SEMINAR ROOM, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

**AMITA  
BAVISKAR**



## LIVING WITH HEAT:

BODIES AND PERSONS IN URBAN INDIA'S CHANGING CLIMATE

### **Abstract:**

North Indian cities have lived with intensely hot summers for centuries. Global warming has changed this experience in somewhat unexpected ways. At the same time, the effects of climate change are exacerbated by changing social and spatial practices that have accelerated since economic liberalization began in the 1990s. How have perceptions of heat and attitudes to heat changed? What do these shifting meanings tell us about how bodies and selves are imagined in urban India? This talk will highlight the analytical importance of the cultural politics of urban ecology, and argue that such an analysis must precede any consideration of the urgent question of 'what should be done'.

### **The Speaker:**

**Amita Baviskar** is professor of Sociology-Anthropology and Environmental Studies at Ashoka University. Her research interests include the cultural politics of environment and development in urban and rural India, particularly the role of social inequality and identities in resource conflicts. She is the author of *In the Belly of the River: Tribal Conflicts Over Development in the Narmada Valley* (1997), and *Uncivil City: Ecology, Equity and the Commons in Delhi* (2020); and the co-editor of *Elite and Everyman: The Cultural Politics of the Indian Middle Classes* (2011). She has won many academic awards, including the Infosys Prize, the VKRV Rao Prize and the Malcolm Adisheshiah Award.