

India Land & Development Conference 2020 Session Concept Notes



Panel: **Claims, Contestations and Citizenry among the Informal Settlements**

Organized by: **Xavier School of Human Settlement, Xavier University, Bhubaneswar**

Urban citizenship in the last two decades is an ideal lens through which to understand processes of claim and contestation of the urban poor particularly in global South. Locating citizenship in 'urban' context, it can be observed that as on the one hand there is an emergence of new languages of urban governance and citizenship rights with the rise of the proprietor, educated and aspiring middle class in the globalized and neo-liberalized economy aspired for a better, clean and green city resulted in production of the poor as "improper citizens" and 'encroachers' (Bhan 2016). This is extraverbed by the contemporary anti-poor biased strategy of the state manifested in displacement of the subaltern urban residents from the mainstream urban development vision. On the other hand, there is a simultaneous emergence, often unnoticed, of 'insurgent citizenship' and 'democratization from below' where the claim and contestation of the urban poor over land, housing, security of tenure and basic services is largely motivated by their mobilization, negotiated and confrontation with the states and non-state actors. However, there is an increasing intervention of range of actors in slum development and formalization where their exclusionary form of citizenship or differentiated citizenship is dismantled and inclusive and formal citizenship is under construction through the inclusion of the urban poor in the formal city.

The panel will explore this claims, contestations and citizenry among informal settlements in global south. We invite papers relevance to the following topics:

1. Contestation over citizenship and experience of everyday security and insecurity of the urban poor in global south.
1. The recent state-led approaches to low income housing schemes in global south and the ramification of new context of housing intervention in slums.
2. To examine how the claim, contestation, need and aspiration of the urban poor are transgress in a particular housing intervention where myriad of actors involved in the housing allocation in contemporary Indian cities.
3. The way the new form of housing intervention affecting the residents in informal settlements in rearticulating and realizing the citizenship rights and new identities of the urban poor and on daily lives and Individual well-being.

Date and Time: **11:00 – 12:30 hrs | 2 March 2020**

Venue: **India International Centre, New Delhi**