

Dr. Asmita Kabra
Associate Professor
School of Human Ecology

Past Employment

Asmita Kabra is an economist who joined the School of Human Ecology at AUD after about 15 years of undergraduate teaching in the University of Delhi. She taught at the Department of Economics, Ramjas College, University of Delhi from July 1995 till January 2010.

Education and Research

Dr. Kabra completed her PhD in Economics in February 2008 from the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her doctoral work was on the impact of conservation-induced displacement on the livelihood of poor and marginal Adivasi communities. This was among India's first full length studies of such displacement. Her areas of interest include a development economics (especially conservation-induced displacement, poverty, rural livelihoods, natural resource dependence, Adivasi livelihoods and dryland agriculture), economic history and political economy.

Dr. Kabra has worked on a number of research projects, studies and consultancies related to conservation-induced displacement in various Protected Areas in India. She has presented papers at various academic conferences in India and abroad on this subject.

Dr. Kabra combines research with a range of hands-on development projects at the grassroots level. She is one of the Founder Trustees of Samrakshan Trust, an NGO working for socially just conservation in various states of India. She is also the President of Adharshila, an organization working for meaningful education for underprivileged rural children in district Sheopur, Madhya Pradesh.

During 2007-08, Dr. Kabra served as Member of the Asia Group of the WSPA/CEESP Task Force on Protected Areas, Equity and Livelihoods of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). During 1997-2001, she volunteered with the National Campaign for People's Right to Information (NCPRI), an all-India association of individuals working for wider dissemination of the right to information as an instrument of transparency, accountability and good governance.

Academic Publications

1. Kabra, A. 2009. *Conservation-induced Displacement: A Comparative Study of two Indian Protected Areas*. *Conservation and Society* 7(4): 249-267, 2009.
2. Kabra, A. *Preservation via Dislocation*. Seminar 577 - September 2007 pp.58-62
3. *Displacement as a Conservation Tool: Lessons from Kuno wildlife sanctuary* (co-author Arpan Sharma). 2007. in Shahabuddin, Ghazala and Mahesh Rangarajan (eds.) *Making Conservation Work*. Permanent Black, New Delhi.
4. *Wildlife Protection: Reintroduction and Relocation*. Economic and Political Weekly. Vol.41 No.14. 08 April 2006.
5. *Impact of Involuntary Displacement on a Tribal Community (A Case Study of the Sahariya Adivasi Displaced from Kuno Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh)*. 2006. Mehta, Aasha Kapoor and Andrew Shepherd (eds.). *Chronic Poverty and Development Policy in India*. p.197-221. Sage Publications. New Delhi
6. *Chronic Poverty and Vulnerable Social Groups: The case of the Sahariya Adivasi community displaced from Kuno Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh*. 2004. Working Paper 10, Chronic Poverty Research Center. Indian Institute of Public Administration. New Delhi
7. *Displacement and Rehabilitation of an Adivasi Settlement, case of Kuno Wildlife Sanctuary, Madhya Pradesh*. Economic and Political Weekly Vol. XXXVIII, No. 29, July 19. 2003.

8. *Environmental and Social Impact of Large Dams in India*. 2002. Shekhar Singh and Pranab Banerji (eds.). Indian Institute of Public Administration. New Delhi

Conferences and Paper Presentations

1. Presented a paper titled Conservation Induced Displacement of Adivasis and the Challenges of Agrarian Livelihood Restoration at a Conference on "Terrestrial Environments and their Histories in Modern India" organized by The Whitney And Betty Macmillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale University on May 1-2, 2009
2. Presented a paper titled Conservation-induced Displacement: A Comparative Study of two Indian Protected Areas at a Conference on "Nature, Knowledge, Power" organized by the Department of History, University of Uppsala and Uppsala, Sweden on August 15-17, 2008
3. Presented a paper on Conservation Induced Displacement and Global Administrative Law at the Centre for Policy Research (January 06, 2008)
4. Resource person for a Refresher Course in Economics at the Academic Staff College, JNU (January 2008)
5. Presented a paper on Conservation Induced Displacement and Its Impact on Poverty and Livelihood Security among the Sahariya Adivasi of Kuno Wildlife Sanctuary at the DSA Seminar at CESP, Jawaharlal Nehru University (February 02, 2008)
6. Presented a paper at a Seminar titled "Making Conservation Work", organized by the Environment Studies Group, Council for Social Development, India International Centre (March 2004)