



# INSTITUTE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

University Enclave, University of Delhi (North Campus), Delhi-110 007, INDIA

November 16, 2018

## SEMINAR NOTICE

Topic: **River erosion induced migration in the Indian Sundarban:  
A case study of involuntary spatial movement**

Speaker/s: Mohan Kumar Bera  
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Chair: **Prof. Saudamini Das, Institute of Economic Growth**

The seminar details are as follows:

Date & time: Thursday, November 29, 2018 at 3.30 p.m.

Venue: A.M. Khusro Room  
Institute of Economic Growth,  
University Enclave, North Campus, Delhi-110 007

All are welcome.

*Sabyasachi Kar*

(Sabyasachi Kar)  
Seminar Convenor

### Abstract:

Rapid river erosion in the Sundarban islands directly affects the embankment and increases the frequency of flooding. Earthen embankments have been constructed parallel to the damaged embankments to prevent flooding in river-side villages. River encroachment forces the settlers to move away from the affected village. However, such movement does not occur immediately after a disaster. Rather, it is influenced by the socio-economic condition of the people, the frequency of natural hazards in the village, and the extent of government intervention. Other factors that motivate the movement of affected people include individual beliefs and dreams as well as the need to make a collective decision for the family or community. This inter-disciplinary paper seeks to explain the impacts of river erosion and associated displacement, particularly in relation to the impoverishment and marginalisation of settlers living at the river bank. It analyses the trends of spatial movement among affected households to cope with river erosion and explores alternative strategies to support the potential increase in future displacements due to disasters in the Sundarban islands.

*Keywords: Involuntary Migration, Spatial Shifting, Sundarban, River Erosion, Adaptation*