

SEMINAR NOTICE

Topic: *How to Avoid Thinking About Inequality: Some Results from a Case Study on the New 'Middle Class'.*

Speaker: **Dr. Andreas Pettenkofer, University of Erfurt**

Date & time: Monday, March 27, 2017 at 3.30 p.m.

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

Chair: Prof. Sanjay Srivastava, Institute of Economic Growth

All are welcome.

(C.S.C Sekhar)
Seminar Convenor

Abstract:

There is a widespread hope that the growth of the 'middle classes' will produce more egalitarian, more fully democratic political orders. At the moment, this hope seems exaggerated. One cause for this is the surprising capacity of 'middle class' members to avoid thinking about inequality. My paper, which uses life-history interviews with members of the Delhi 'middle class', tries to show how this avoidance works at the micro-level, and how it is sustained by social mechanisms. These mechanisms also help to understand in more detail why the idea that 'free market' reforms will create egalitarian democracies is flawed.