



CENTRE FOR ASIAN AND  
TRANSCULTURAL STUDIES

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INSTITUTE



UNIVERSITÄT  
HEIDELBERG  
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Lecture Series on Governance and Politics in South Asia  
*Department of Political Science*

**Drinking Water Safety and Governance of Water Supply Systems in India**

By

**Dr. M.N. Roy & Dr. Debasri Mukherjee**

Globally, 780 million people lack access to safe drinking water. In India, drinking water supply has been a National Flagship Programme for many decades with major emphasis on ensuring sustainability of water availability along with potability, adequacy, convenience, affordability and equity. Importantly, all water supply systems must have a water safety plan. However, planning and implementation of a comprehensive water safety plan for the rural water supply system is a huge challenge in the Indian context. The country needs to pay much more attention on safety of drinking water through proper treatment of water being supplied for drinking, optimal operation & maintenance, decentralization of management of piped water supply systems and improving its governance and surveillance of the water quality.



**Dr. M.N.Roy** is the President of SIGMA Foundation, a 'Not for Profit Organization' based in Kolkata, India. He was a member of the Indian Administrative Service and has more than 30 years of working experience in senior positions in the government. He headed departments in the Government of West Bengal and has wide experience in public policy making, delivery of public services and local governance. His current research interest is water and sanitation, decentralized planning, local governance, monitoring of public programmes and big data analysis. He received his PhD from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), India.

**Dr. Debasri Mukherjee** is a Senior Research Officer at SIGMA Foundation. Before this, she was a Research Officer at the Water and Sanitation Support Organization (WSSO), Public Health Engineering Department, Govt. of West Bengal for eight years. Prior to that, she worked at the UNICEF Kolkata office, The Energy Research Institute - Delhi (teri) and at the Fluoride Mitigation Programme. She received her PhD from the Department of Geography at the Delhi School of Economics and specialized in water quality monitoring and surveillance, management of water supply schemes and water safety and security plan implementation.

**Date: 17 June 2019 (Monday)**  
**Time: 16:00 - 18:00**  
**Venue: CATS, EG SR 01 (010.00.21)**

**All are cordially invited!**