KAAPI WITH KURIOSITY

Thinking ecologically about Indian cities

India's cities are on a breakneck path to growth. Cities are engines of prosperity and promise, but also concentrations of pollution, stress, and disease. Episodes of flood, drought, heat waves, and smog tell us why we must begin to think ecologically about our urban future in Indian cities. Bengaluru is an unusual landscape — despite having been populated for millennia, it is in a semi-arid region with limited rainfall, and no perennial rivers or year-round sources of water. The original landscape was open, with thorny bushes and wildlife, and not a place that we could imagine as a magnet for people. Yet over tens of centuries the human population has grown and transformed the ecology of the city beyond recognition. From planting trees and creating lakes, to felling trees and filling in lakes, we seem to have come full circle today. How can we look ecologically at Bengaluru's past, and re-imagine the city's future?

HARINI NAGENDRA

Harini Nagendra is a Professor of Sustainability at Azim Premji University, where she anchors the Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability. She focuses on understanding sustainability in India's cities and forests from the perspective of both ecology and social justice, issues that require serious attention in the Indian context. In addition to research publications, she has a strong interest in public communication. Her books include "Nature in the City: Bengaluru in the Past, Present and Future" (Oxford University Press, 2016) and "Cities and Canopies: Trees in Indian Cities" (Penguin, 2019).

Sunday, 4 pm, 22nd September 2019, Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium, Bengaluru

Register: bit.ly/kwk2019sep

ICTS
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE for THEORETICAL SCIENCES
TATA INSTITUTE OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH

JNP

Twitter ictstifr   Facebook ictstifr   YouTube ICTStalks