

Nishant Singh

Delhi-110045 | <mailto:nishaant@proton.me> | nishant-at-work.github.io

Professional Experience

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

2017-

PhD Candidate and Teaching Assistant, Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi

Developing a conceptual and analytical framework based on Capabilities Approach and critical theory to evaluate and eradicate injustices in urban mobility under the supervision of Prof. Geetam Tiwari and Prof. Reetika Khera

People's Resource Centre

2018-22

Co-founder and Research Programme Lead

Built from scratch the research and evidence-based advocacy programme encompassing diverse thematic areas including urban mobility, urban agriculture, urban rivers and riverfronts, democratising urban local governance, and climate justice that engaged prominent media, policymakers, scholars, civil society organisations and citizens alike

Institute for Democracy and Sustainability Delhi

2017-19

Consultant

Consulted the organisation on a two year-long research and advocacy programme 'Drafting a Bill for Cycle Rickshaw in the states of Bihar and Jharkhand' which resulted into two draft bill in urban transport through participatory consultation

Research And Teaching Areas

Mobility Justice, Research Methods, Transport Planning, Transport Geography, Urban Commons, Urban Agriculture, Social Movements

Education

Master in Technology (M. Tech.) with distinction in Transportation Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, 2016

- Thesis topic: Understanding mode choice behaviour of school children: A case study in Kanpur

Bachelor of Technology (B. Tech.) in Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, 2015

- Undergraduate Research: Fluorosis in North Rajasthan: Distribution of concentrations and its relationship with physio-social factors

Awards And Scholarship

Volvo Research and Education Foundation (VREF) Fellowship for Transport Research, 2021-22

Doctoral Research Fellowship, Ministry of Human Resources and Development, Government of India, 2019-20

Senior Research Fellowship, Ministry of Human Resources and Development, Government of India, 2018-19

Articles In Peer-Reviewed International Journals

2018 Singh, N., & Vasudevan, V. (2018). Understanding school trip mode choice– The case of Kanpur (India). *Journal of transport geography*, 66, 283-290.

Technical Reports

2022 Nishant. Bustling Through Bengaluru. Greenpeace India Society. Bengaluru.

2021 Nishant, Chanchal, A. Bustling Through the City: A bus user feedback survey. Greenpeace India Society. Bengaluru.

2018 Tiwari, G., Nishant. Travel to Work in India: Current Patterns and Future Concerns. New Delhi: Transport Research & Injury Prevention Programme, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, New Delhi.

Books

2019 Nishant, Ravi, R. (2019). *Consumed By Demand: The Obsession with Metro Is Threatening Our Urban Resources*. People's Resource Centre. Delhi.

Monographs

2018 Nishant, Ravi, R. (2018). *Riding on Debt: Financial Analysis of Delhi Metro after Phase III*. Centre For Financial Accountability. Delhi.

Selected Popular Writings

2022 Chanda D., Nishant. *In Pedestrian-Heavy Patna, Crores are Being Invested in Road and Metro Projects Instead*. The Bastion. August 2021. Web Link: <https://thebastion.co.in/politics-and/in-pedestrian-heavy-patna-crores-are-being-invested-in-road-and-metro-projects-instead/>

Nishant. *Work Satisfaction for Delhi's 'Homeless' Farmers*. Vikalp Sangam. January 27.

Research And Manuscripts In Progress

- Ongoing Nishant. "Reconceptualising Injustice in Everyday Urban Mobilities: Exploration of capabilities and critical capabilities as alternative approaches". Unpublished manuscript.
- Ongoing Nishant. "Survey methodology for capabilities-based assessment of inequalities in urban mobility: Learnings from a small household survey in North-West Delhi". Work-in-progress draft.

Conference Presentations

- 2022 Farooq, A., Nishant. *Survey of Urban Agriculture in Delhi: Some Preliminary Findings*. International Seminar on Sustainable Urban Agricultural Systems and Community Resilient Cities. March 22.
- Farooq, A., Nishant. *What will it take to recognise agriculture in city? : Some insights from Delhi and the challenges*. Urban ARC 2022. January 14.
- 2021 Nishant. *Urban Against Urbanisation: Farming in Delhi and its Significance as a Systemic Alternative*. Urban ARC 2021. January 15.
- 2019 Singh, N. *Delhi Metro and Big Finance: Unveiling the connections*. Gendered Cultures and Climate Justice: Rethinking Smart Cities and Infrastructure Corridors in India- International Conference jointly hosted by the University of East Anglia, the UNESCO C2C for World Natural Heritage Management and Training in Asia Pacific Region, People's Resource Centre and the Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune. July 27.
- Singh, N. *Four Dimensions of Transportation Equity: A Conceptual Framework*. Mobilize, Dar es Salam, Tanzania. June 29.
- Singh, N., Sharma, A. *What data on travel patterns are available from Indian cities and how suitable is it for health impact modelling? As part of 'Health Impact Modelling of Transport in Lower- and Middle-Income Settings: Special session at WCTR Mumbai 2019'*. May 28.
- Jain, D., Sharma, A., Singh, N., Tiwari, G., Manoj, M. *Assessment of National Information Repository and Database(s) for Modelling Health Impacts of Urban Transport in India* [Paper Presentation]. 15th World Conference on Transport Research. Mumbai, India. May 29.
- 2018 Singh, N. *Understanding the Pattern of Work Travel in India using the Census Data* [Paper Presentation]. Urban Mobility India, Hyderabad, India. November 5.

Classroom Guest Lectures

- 2022 "Radicalising the Research on Urban Agriculture in India." Course name: Urban Agriculture. Instructor: Anita Pinheiro. Ambedkar University, Delhi. January 4.

- 2021 “Designing and Conducting Focus Group Discussions”. Physical Mobility Studio. Instructor: Alokeparna Sengupta. October 19.
- “Draft Cycle Rickshaw Bill: Learnings from an Experiment in Community Mobilisation”. Physical Mobility Studio. Instructor: Alokeparna Sengupta. October 12.

Featured in Media (Selected)

- 2023 Research quoted in the article ‘The unrecognised urban farmers of Delhi are caught in conflict over land’ published in the Mongabay India. January 5. <https://india.mongabay.com/2023/01/delhi-farmers-stare-the-uncertain-future/>
- 2022 Research quoted in the article ‘Cultivated Idea’ published in the ‘Down To Earth’ Magazine. November 1.
- Interviewed in ‘DDA versus Farmers: चिल्ला खादर में दशकों से बसे किसानों की खेती पर DDA चला रहा Bulldozer’ published in the Quint Hindi. Oct 28. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-K4CaKhDEsM>
- Research quoted in the article ‘Bullet trains and Metro Rail projects are white elephants not needed in most of India’ published in Urban Transport News. July 16. <https://urbantransportnews.com/news/bullet-trains-and-metro-rail-projects-are-white-elephants-not-needed-in-most-of-india>
- Research quoted in the article ‘Bullet trains and METRO Rail projects are white elephants not needed in most of India’ published in the National Herald. January 18. <https://www.nationalheraldindia.com/india/bullet-trains-and-metro-rail-projects-are-white-elephants-not-needed-in-most-of-india>
- 2019 Research quoted in the article ‘Aarey forest destruction halted, Metro Railway is not the best solution’ published in the Countercurrents.org. Nov 30. <https://countercurrents.org/2019/11/aarey-forest-destruction-halted-metro-railway-is-not-the-best-solution/>
- 2018 Research quoted in the article ‘Infrastructure rots in Mumbai, but PM Modi pushes for Bullet Train’ published in ummid.com. <https://ummid.com/news/2018/August/02.08.2018/modi-pushes-for-bullet-train-while-infrastructure-rots-in-mumbai.html>

Invited Speaker at Professional and Public Events

- 2022 ‘Sowing Sustainable Cities : Launching an online exhibition and compendium on urban agriculture in Indian cities’. Seminar hosted at IIHS Bengaluru City Campus. July 26.
- 2021 ‘Moving’ Towards Climate Justice presented at ‘State-level Meeting on Climate Change’ co-organised by Human Rights and Law Network (HRLN), Socio-Legal Information Centre, Climate Action Network South Asia

(CANSAs), and Centre for Constitutional Rights India (CCRI). India International Centre Delhi. September 26.

2020 “Is Metro the future of public transport? Lessons from Delhi and Lucknow” Virtual Panel Discussion organised by Fridays For Future India. November 16.

Other Professional Activities

- 2022 Moderate the session ‘
Co-organized and moderated the ‘State-level Public Consultation on Draft Urban Agriculture Policy for Delhi’. India International Centre. September 21.
- 2021 Co-organized and moderated the ‘Reimagining the Public Bus’. Press Club of India. December 20.
Co-organized and moderated the ‘Another City Is Possible: Localizing Urban Democracy’. Virtual Seminar. July 16.
Co-organized and moderated the ‘Farming The City 2021’. International Conference (virtual). April 14-19.
Co-organized and moderated the ‘Another City Is Possible: Democratising urban governance’. Virtual Seminar. April 1.
- 2020 Co-organized and moderated the ‘Seeds of Resistance and Hope: A Conversation between Environmental Activists and Practitioners of Urban Farming in India, Lebanon, Syria and Palestine. November 30.
Co-organized and moderated the ‘Farming The City 2020’. First National Conference on Urban Agriculture in India. April 25-30.

Ad-hoc Journal Reviewing

- Urbanisation (2021)
- Beejpatra (2020-2022)

Professional Memberships

- Member, Sustainable Urban Mobility Network (SUM Net) India
- Member and coordinator, Delhi Bus Yatri Union
- Member and coordinator, Urban Agriculture Community (India)
- Member, Association of American Geographers
- Member, Teachers Against Climate Crisis (TACC)

Research Reports for Community Organizations (non-peer-reviewed)

2018 “Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (Bullet Train): A Critique” (co-written with Soumya Dutta and the members of Paryavaran Suraksha Samiti Gujarat) for National Alliance of People’s Movements.

Professional References

(1)

Geetam Tiwari, Ph.D.

Professor

Transportation Research and Injury Prevention Centre (TRIP-C)

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi.

Delhi-110016.

Email: geetam@civil.iitd.ac.in

(2)

Reetika Khera, Ph.D.

Associate Professor

Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

Indian Institute of Technology Delhi.

Delhi-110016.

Email: reetika@hss.iitd.ac.in

(3)

Madhuresh Kumar

Project Director, Global Gas Hub

Atlantic Fellow for Social and Economic Equity, London School of Economics

Email: kmadhuresh@gmail.com