



TWO CENTURIES  
of  
EDUCATIONAL  
POLICIES in  
INDIA  
1823-2023

Organised by



Zakir Husain Centre  
for Educational  
Studies

HUMBOLDT-  
UNIVERSITÄT  
ZU BERLIN



Institute of  
Educational  
Studies

In association with

An Institute of the

Max Weber  
Stiftung

German Humanities  
Institutes Abroad



Max Weber Forum  
FOR SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES

Venue: Lecture Room 1 (Annexe), India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi

29 February – 1 March 2024

Convenors

Parimala. V. Rao

Zakir Husain Centre for Educational  
Studies JNU, New Delhi

Marcelo Caruso

Institute of Educational Studies  
Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Sebastian Schewecke

Max Weber Forum for  
South Asian Studies, Delhi

# TWO CENTURIES of EDUCATIONAL POLICIES *in* INDIA

## 1823-2023

29 February – 1 March 2024

Lecture Room 1 (Annexe), India International Centre (IIC), New Delhi

### PROGRAMME

Day 1, 29 February 2024

**10:30–11:00 AM Registration and Tea**

**Session 1, 11:00 AM–1:00 PM**

#### **Inaugural Session**

**Chair:** Prof. Catherine Montgomery, Durham University, UK

**Welcome Address:** Dr. Sebastian Schwecke, Director, Max Weber Forum for South Asian Studies, Delhi

**Introduction to the Conference:** Prof. Marcelo Caruso, Humboldt University, Germany

**Key Note Address:** Dr. Lourens van Haften, University of Groningen, The Netherlands

**The Ford Foundation and Educational Planning in Post-colonial India, 1952-1967**

**Vote of Thanks:** Prof. Parimala V. Rao, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi

**1:00–2:00 PM Lunch**

**Session 2, 2:00-3:30 PM**

#### **Early Childhood Education**

**Chair:** Prof Minati Panda, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi

Dr. Jana Tschurenev, University of Göttingen, Germany

**A Very Impressionable, Plastic, and Educationally Potent Period of a Child's Life'**

**Early Childhood Care, Education, and the State in India, 1940s-1970s**

Ms. Amandeep Kaur, University of Delhi, Delhi

**Early Childhood Care and Education: Comparative Analysis of NEP 1986 and NEP 2020**

**3:30–4:00 PM Tea Break**

**Session 3, 4:00–5:30 PM**

#### **Educational Administration in Colonial India**

**Chair:** Mousumi Mukherjee, O. P. Jindal Global University

Prof Marcelo Caruso, Humboldt University, Germany

**Policing Education Through Native Bureaucrats: The Coming of School Inspectorates in India 1840-1882**

Dr. Catriona Ellis, University of Strathclyde, UK

**Have they No Godfathers? The Role of District Educational Councils in Expanding Education in the Madras Presidency**

**5:30–6:00 PM Tea Break**

**Session 4. 6:00–6:45 PM**

#### **Gender and Education**

**Chair:** Dr. D. Parimala, University of Delhi, Delhi

Dr. Savita Jha, University of Delhi, Delhi

**Colonial Policy on Women's Education 1850-1950**

**Dinner reception 7:00 PM onwards**

Day 2, 1 March 2024

---

**11:00–11:30 AM Registration and Tea**

**Session 1, 11:30 AM–1:00 PM**

### **Curriculum and Textbook**

**Chair:** Dr. Arvind Mishra

Dr. Debarati Bagchi, Max Weber Forum for South Asian Studies, Delhi

**Textbook Committees of Bengal c1870s**

Mr. Shaan Kashyap, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack  
**Locating School Textbook Policies in India: A Microhistory of Screening Record Booklet, ca. 1961–1977**

**1:00–2:00 PM Lunch**

**Session 2, 2:00–3:00 PM**

### **Educational Restructuring in Post-colonial India**

**Chair:** Dr. Suresh Babu

Dr. Rachel Philip, IIT Jodhpur, Rajasthan  
**The Science in the Search': The Construction of India's National Science Talent Search Programme (1963–1976)**

Dr. Yamini Agarwal, Max Weber Forum for South Asian Studies, Delhi  
**Education of Religious Minorities in Post-colonial India: Shifting Goals and Discourses**

**3:00–3:30 PM Tea Break**

**Session 3, 3:30–5:00 PM**

### **Educational Policies of the Colonial State**

**Chair:** Prof. Mazhar Hussain, Jawaharlal Nehru University

Dr Parimala V. Rao, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi

**Geopolitics and the Colonial Education Policies 1757–1947**

Dr. Radha Gayathri, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi

**Regulatory Bodies and Standardisation of Medical Education in India: Colonial and Post-colonial Times**

**5:00–6:00 PM Tea Break**

**6:00–7:00 PM**

### **Valedictory Address**

**Chair:** Prof. Amol Padwad, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar University, Delhi

Prof. Manisha Priyam, National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), Delhi

**Politics in the Arena of Policy Reforms: Understanding Structural Adjustment and Educational Reforms in the Indian States (1990–2015)**

**Vote of Thanks:** Dr. Parimala V. Rao, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi