

CURRICULUM VITAE

[Highlights]

Dr. MANISHA RAO

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Department of Sociology
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Education

Ph. D. October 2006. Title of Thesis: '*The Sociological Analysis of an Environmental Movement: The case of Appiko, Uttara Kannada District*'. Supervisor: Prof. D.N. Dhanagare. Department of Sociology, University of Pune, Pune.

M. Phil. February 1994. Title of Dissertation: '*Underdevelopment Theories: A Gender Sensitive Critique*'. Supervisor: Prof. V. Xaxa, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi.

M.A. 1992. Department of Sociology, University of Pune, Pune.

B.A.(Hons.) 1990. Political Science, from Lady Shri Ram College for Women, University of Delhi, New Delhi.

Research Grant Awards

Sr. No.	Title of the Project	Name of the Funding Agency	Amount (Rs. Lakhs)	Duration	Remarks
1	Survey and Digitisation of the Legacy of the Discipline of Sociology in India: Records of the University of [Bombay] Mumbai	The British Library-Endangered Archive Programme, Round 21	-	2026-'27	Approved

2	Digitizing the Socio-Cultural & Ecological History of the <i>Kolis, Bhandup Gaon</i> , Mumbai.	Indian Institute of Technology, Indore, JayaPrakash Narayan National Centre for Excellence in the Humanities	INR Four Lacs Twenty five thousand	2024-2026	Completed
3	Urban Environmental Transitions: Study of Suburban & Peri-Urban Areas of Mumbai?	Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi	INR Five Lacs	2023-2024	Completed
4	Development, Religion and Sustainable Environments: Collective Environmental Mobilization in the Western Ghats, Karnataka	Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi	INR Eight Lacs	2017-2019.	Completed

Distinctions

Convenor of Research Committee (RC) -11, Sociology of Environment, Indian Sociological Society from January 2026.

Co-Convenor of Research Committee (RC) -11, Sociology of Environment, Indian Sociological Society from December 2023 to December 2025.

Member, Editorial Advisory Committee - Sociological Bulletin, Official Journal, Indian Sociological Society, March 2018-February 2020.

Member, Editorial Advisory Committee – *Explorations* E-Journal, Indian

Sociological Society, April 2020- March 2022.

Member, Editorial Advisory Board - 'Quest in Education', Gandhi Shiksha Bhavan, Mumbai, since June 2014.

Teaching / Work Experience

Professor, University Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai, from 25th August 2025 onwards.

Associate Professor, University Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai, from 13th July 2021 to 24th August 2025.

Assistant Professor, University Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai, from 3rd April 2013 to 12th July 2021.

Assistant Professor in the Post Graduate Department of Sociology, S.N.D.T. Women's University, Mumbai, from 2nd January 2008 to 2nd April 2013 (Permanent).

Assistant Professor in the Post Graduate Department of Sociology, S.N.D.T. Women's University, Mumbai, from July 2000 to June 2002 (Temporary).

Areas of Academic Interest

Sociology of Environment, Gender Studies, Development Studies, Sociology of Social Movements, Urban Space/ Commons, Food Systems & Agrarian Environments.

Supervision of Research Scholars

Recognized Ph.D. Guide in the subject of Sociology, University of Mumbai (since 2013) & S.N.D.T. Women's University, Mumbai (since March 2011).

Ph.D. Degree Awarded: 03; Thesis Submitted: 01; Students enrolled: 03

Sr. No.	Name of Scholar	Title of the dissertation	Year of Submission/ Degree Awarded
1	Ms. Abeer Khatri.	Gender And Space: A Sociological Study Of Women In A Mumbai Neighbourhood	Submitted March 2026, Viva Awaited
2	Mr. Debarun Sarkar	A Study of Everyday Life in a 'Smart City': Ethnography of New Town, Rajarhat, West Bengal	Degree Awarded June 2024 Mumbai University
3.	Mr. Nirmal Dhanasamy	Education and Changing Adivasi Identity: A Case Study of the Oraon's of Subdega and Balisankara Blocks of Sundergard District, Orissa	Degree Awarded March 2020 Mumbai University
4.	Ms. Oneza Tanveer Farid	A Study of Muslim Women Workers in the Informal Economy of Bhiwandi	Degree Awarded January 2020 [S.N.D.T.Women's University,Mumbai]

M.Phil.: Degree Awarded - 05

Sr. No.	Name of Scholar	Title of the dissertation	Year of Submission/ Degree Awarded
1.	Ms. Shraddha Gaikwad.	An Ethnographic Study of the Mumbai Dance Bar(s): Post 2016 Regulation by Registered October 2018.	Degree Awarded June 2019. [Viva February 2020]
2.	Ms.Sonya Ochaney	Politics of Development Aid: A Critical Analysis	Degree Awarded June 2017
3.	Ms. Bishnupriya Sahoo	Politics of Conservation: State, Society & Issues of Denotification'	Degree Awarded 15 th April 2016
4	Ms. Annu Baranwal	Gender and Health: A Case Study of Raffiq Nagar Slum, Mumbai	Degree Awarded 15 th April, 2016
5	Ms. Abeer Khatri.	A Gendered Understanding of the Everyday Life'	Degree Awarded 31 st March 2015

Visiting Fellowships

Visiting Fellow, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi from 15th November to 24th November 2010.

Publications

Books:

Rao, Manisha. Ed. 2021. *Reframing the Environment: Resources, Risk & Resistance in Neoliberal India*, Routledge Taylor & Francis Pvt, Ltd.. ISBN 9780367749545.

<https://www.routledge.com/Reframing-the-Environment-Resources-Risk-and-Resistance-in-Neoliberal/Rao/p/book/9781138237667>

Articles:

Indra Munshi in Conversation with Manisha Rao, in *Explorations*, ISS e-journal, Vol. 9 (3), December , pp.4-18, 2025.

Rethinking the Ecofeminist Discourse: View from the Western Ghats, India, in *Représentations dans le monde anglophone, Université Grenoble Alpes – Special Issue Ecofeminism in India- Struggles and Perspectives*, March 2023.1. Pp 31-48, ISSN 2552-1160.

Environment & (or) Development: Competing Narratives from Uttara Kannada District, Karnataka, Special Issue of *Journal of Developing Societies*. Sage. Volume 37, Issue 2, June 2021, Pp.201-215. ISSN: 0169-796X

From the Margins of the Spice Garden Economy: Agroforestry and Gendered Practices in the Western Ghats, Karnataka, *Sociological Bulletin* (Sage), Volume 70, Number 2, 2021.Pp.180-196. ISSN: 0038-0229

Gender and the Urban Commons in India: An Overview of Scientific Literature & the Relevance of a Feminist Political Ecology Perspective, *International Quarterly for Asian Studies*, Vol. 51 / 2020 /1–2, pp. 137–152. ISSN 2566-6878.

<https://crossasia-journals.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/index.php/iqas/issue/view/761>

Reframing the Environment in Neoliberal India: Introduction to the Theme', Guest Editor of Special Issue of *Sociological Bulletin*- 'Negotiating Neoliberal Environments in India' 67 (3) Pg. 259–274. 2018. ISSN: 0038-0229. DOI:10.1177/0038022918796377
<http://journals.sagepub.com/home/sob>

In the Margins: Environment, Resources & Livelihoods in the *AppikoChaluvali*, in *Journal of Social & Economic Development*, Bangalore.. Vol 14, No. 2,July- December 2012. Pp155-180.

Ecofeminism at the Crossroads in India: A Review', in journal of *D.E.P. (Deportees, Exiles, Refugees)*, Special Issue on 'Ecofeminism', CaFoscari University, Italy.Issue 20, July 2012. ISSN: 1824-4483. http://www.unive.it/nqcontent.cfm?a_id=21426.

Environment, Resources & Livelihoods- Perspectives from the *AppikoChaluvali* (Movement)", *Occasional Paper*, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, 2010.

Book Chapters:

Rao M. (2025) Forest gardens of *Malnad*: Agrarian ecology and the afterlives of *Appiko Chaluvali*, in 'Environmental Studies from India: Engaging with the Planetary Ecological Crisis', Oxford Studies in Contemporary Indian Society Series. Sudha Vasani (ed.) Oxford University Press, UK. ISBN 9780198984092

Rao M. (2025) 'Imaginations, Transformations, Realities: Death & Life of Nature in Peri- Urban Mumbai', Chapter in Edited Book by Prasad, P. & Das L.K. (ed.) Politics of the Anthropocene and Climate Crisis in India: Seeking Socio-Ecological Transformations. Routledge Explorations in Environmental Studies, Routledge, Taylor and Francis Group-UK. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781032689579>

Rao M. (2022) Vandana Shiva: Biodiversity Campaigner of the Global South. In: Brinkmann R. (eds) The Palgrave Handbook of Global Sustainability. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. ISBN 978-3-030-38948-2. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-38948-2_175-1

Rao M. 2019. 'Understanding Ecofeminism' in Environment Education edited by Sudeshna Lahiri, Studera Press. New Delhi September, Pp275-287. ISBN-10 : 9385883690.

Rao M. 2018. 'Interrogating the Sociology of Environment in Western India - A Gendered Understanding', in Genders, Feminisms and Sociologies: Towards a state of altered-ness, Routledge Taylor & Francis Pvt, Ltd.

Paper's Presented at Conferences

'Urban Ecological Transformation & Gendered Labour in Food economies of Koli & Agri Communities of Mumbai', at International Conference-Cities of Care: Shaping sustainable and equitable futures through the water-food-waste nexus, organised by University of Toronto & IIT Madras, January 30 & 31 2026.

'Changing Contours of Mobility: Everyday Life of Koli Women, Bhandup Gao, Mumbai', at 50th All India Sociological Conference On-Mobilities and Inequalities: Shifting Contexts; Changing Paradigms, SRM University-AP, Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh, 29.12.25, December 28-30 2025.

Globalising Sociology: Trajectories, Challenges & Possibilities, Invited Speaker at RUSA sponsored Seminar-*Sociology & the NEP*: Exploring the Roadmap to Educational Transformation, Sophia College, Mumbai on 5.12.25.

'Ecologies of Everyday Life: Narrating the Anthropocene through the Voices of *Kolis*, Thane Creek, Mumbai', Invited Keynote Plenary, International Conference: 'Narrating the Anthropocene: Interdisciplinary Dialogues in Environmental Humanities', July 17 & 18 2025, GITAM University, Vishakhapatnam.

‘Environmental Transformations in the Peri-Urban’, at 49th AISC at BML Munjal University, School of Liberal Studies, Haryana, on 23.12.24 [22-24] December 2024.

‘Re-Imagining Urban Environments: Through A Feminist Political Ecology Lens’, at ICSSR Sponsored Mid Term National Conference of RC 10 Gender Studies, Indian Sociological Society, scheduled on [20th and] 21st September 2024., Session on ‘Altering Theoretical frameworks: Religion, State, Family, Civil Society’.

‘Imaginations, Transformations, Realities: Death & Life of Nature in Peri-Urban Mumbai’, at Book Workshop (online) on Transformations and the Politics of Environmental Change in India: Critical Engagement of Anthropocene, 16-17, May 2024.

‘Reforestation Mangroves & Remaking Urban Natures: The Case of Thane Creek Flamingo Sanctuary [TCFS], Mumbai’, at Workshop on Compensatory Afforestation: Critical challenges in the era of climate change, organised by CTARA, HSS IIT Bombay in collaboration with IDP-University of Antwerp, KSIS- University of Denver, 9-10 February 2024.

‘Agrarian Ecologies: Situating Appiko Movement in the Spice Garden Economy of Uttara Kannada District’, International workshop on Environmental Studies for the Anthropocene, 21- 23rd November, 2023.

‘Reimagining Resistance: Understanding Ecofeminism in Uttara Kannada District, Karnataka, India’, in ‘Rethinking Ecofeminism: Creative resistance & Environmental Justice’, by Diversity Reading List, London School of Economics, U.K. 19 October 2022.

‘Rethinking the University as Commons: Understanding Enclosures in State University Systems in India’ at 17th S.A.R.I., [Société d'Activités et de Recherches sur les mondes Indiens] Conference, Rethinking Knowledge, Reshaping the University, Université Toulouse Capitole, France, June 2022.

‘Mapping the Social Lives of Forests: Case of Uttara Kannada district, Western Ghats’, Paper presented at 46th All India Sociological Conference (Online) on Constitution, Citizenship and Minorities: Mapping Seventy Years of Indian Republic, in RC 11- Sociology of Environment, University of Mumbai. on 9th December 2021.

‘Climates of Justice: Gendered Agroforestry Practices from Western Ghats, India’, paper presented at Panel discussion on 11 November on Climate & Governance, at ‘Climate Of/ For Development’, Annual Conference of Development Studies Association Ireland (DSAI) Dublin, 10, 11, 12 November 2021.

‘Rethinking the Ecofeminist Discourse: Case of *Appiko Chaluvali*, Uttara Kannada District, Western Ghats, India’, at 16th S.A.R.I., [Société d'Activités et de Recherches sur les mondes Indiens] Conference, Ecofeminism: History, Struggle and Perspectives, Université Toulouse Capitole, France, 28th and 29th May 2021.

‘Engendering the Urban Commons in India: A Geddesian View’, Centenary Seminar on-

‘A Century of the Discipline: Sociology in India’, The Department of Sociology, University of Mumbai, 12 & 13 March 2020.

‘Environment & (or) Development: Competing Narratives from Uttara Kannada District, Karnataka’, presented at *The Environment as Meta-Narrative*, Seminar in Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University 5th & 6th March 2020.

New Courses Designed (M.A/ M.Phil.)

Feminist Epistemology (NEP 2020, 2 Credit course); Sociology of Food Systems; Debating the Commons; Sociology of Development & Globalization; Sociology of Social Movements; Environment & Society; Gender & Society; Agrarian Societies- Emerging Issues & Debates.

Workshop/ Panel Discussion Organised

Book Discussion under the aegis of the RC 11 Sociology of Environment, on the edited volume by Sudha Vasan Environmental Studies from India: Engaging with the Planetary Ecological Crisis, published by Oxford University Press, 2025 with Prof. Amites Mukhopadhyay from Jadavpur University, as Discussant on 18th April 2026 [Online].

Two-day Academic Writing Workshop titled- ‘Academic Writing Differently’ in collaboration with HSNC University, Mumbai & Department of Sociology, 27 & 28 November 2025.

“Sustaining Inequality? Agrarian Change, Food Cultures, and Ecological Futures”, with Panellists’- Professor A.R. Vasavi, Professor Aniket Aga and Professor Mekhala Krishnamurthy- jointly organised with RC-15 (Agrarian and Rural Studies), Ad-hoc Group on Food, Culture, and Society, and RC-11 (Sociology of Environment) of the Indian Sociological Society (ISS) on May 21, 2025 [online mode].

Membership to Associations

Life Member, Indian Sociological Society (LMI-2687)

Life Member, Indian Association for Women’s Studies

Life Member, Marathi Samaj Shastra Parishad

Member of RC 11, Sociology of Environment, Indian Sociological Society

Member of S.A.R.I. [Société d'Activités et de Recherches sur les mondes Indiens], France.
