

**CONCLAVE 2021**

CSE's Annual Green Educator's Network Meet

THE SPEAKERS

(In alphabetical order)



ABI TAMIM VANAK

Dr Vanak is Senior Fellow and Associate Professor at the Centre for Biodiversity and Conservation, Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and Environment (ATREE), in Bengaluru. He is also a Fellow of DBT/Wellcome Trust India Alliance Program and Honorary Professor, University of KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa. An ecologist by training, Dr Vanak combines his interests across the fields of animal movement ecology, disease ecology, and human-wildlife interactions to better understand the dynamics of emerging infectious diseases in rapidly changing landscapes. He is the lead author of the One Health and Zoonoses sub-programme of the National Mission on Biodiversity and Human Well-Being.



AMIT KHURANA

Amit is the Director of the Food Safety and Toxins Programme at CSE, where he works on food-related issues that are linked with public health and environment. These include antibiotic use in food-animal production systems and antimicrobial resistance (AMR); pesticide use in agriculture and organic farming; and junk foods and non-communicable diseases.



ANUMITA ROYCHOWDHURY

Anumita is CSE's Executive Director of Research and Advocacy, and heads the teams that work on air pollution and air quality, mobility, and sustainable habitats and buildings. One of the Global South's acknowledged leading experts on air pollution, Anumita has spearheaded most of CSE's major campaigns, initiatives and research studies on this subject.

**AVANTIKA GOSWAMI**

Avantika is a Deputy Programme Manager with CSE's Climate Change and Renewable Energy unit. She holds an MSc degree in Sustainability Management from Columbia University, New York. Her interests lie at the intersection of climate science and political economy, and her current work focuses on transformative solutions to rapidly reduce carbon emissions while centering on climate justice and equity.

**BRAJESH JHA**

Dr Brajesh Jha is Professor of Agriculture Economics at the New Delhi-based Institute of Economic Growth. Dr Jha has more than 25 years of post-PhD research experience in issues ranging from farming systems; risk, uncertainty and sustainability of agriculture; and sources of growth in agriculture to employment in agriculture and rural non-farm sectors; and evaluation of price support and rural works programme in India.

**HABIBAR RAHMAN**

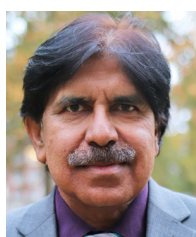
Dr Rahman is a microbiologist and public health specialist, and is currently holding the position of Regional Representative for South Asia, International Livestock Research Institute, New Delhi. Dr Rahman has also served as Deputy Director General (Animal Sciences) at the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR). His specialisation is livestock research in South Asian countries to reduce poverty and improving food and nutritional security with sustainable animal agriculture.

**JOERG HAAS**

Joerg Haas is heading the International Politics Division of the Heinrich Böll Foundation in Germany, covering international financial and economic affairs and global governance. Previously, Joerg has headed HBF's Latin America Division and the Ecology Division, and was stationed as Program Director for Global Climate Policy at the European Climate Foundation. From 2014 to 2017, Joerg worked at Campact, a progressive digital citizen's movement.

**LEENA MENGHANEY**

Leena is the South Asia Head for MSF's (Medicines Sans Frontiers) Access Campaign; she is based in New Delhi. A graduate from the Department of International Relations and Economic Studies in Jadavpur University, Kolkata, Leena also holds an LLB degree from the University of Delhi. Her areas of work include public health, innovation and intellectual property.

**L K ATHEEQ**

A Karnataka cadre IAS officer, Mr Atheeq is currently serving as the Principal Secretary for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, under the State Government of Karnataka. Mr Atheeq's interests include public policy and development economics, education, healthcare and governance reforms.



MANAS RANJAN RAY

Dr Ray is former Assistant Director and Head of the Department of Experimental Hematology at Chittaranjan National Cancer Institute in Kolkata. His field of research is environmental health with special reference to indoor and ambient air pollution. Dr Ray is an invited faculty of postgraduate studies in environmental sciences at several universities.



MUKESH SHARMA

Dr Mukesh Sharma is a Professor at the Department of Civil Engineering in IIT-Kanpur, with a specialisation in environmental engineering. His research and teaching interests lie in air quality modelling and management, environmental economics and atmospheric physics and chemistry. In 2021, Dr Sharma was appointed an Honorary Member of the World Health Organization's Global Air Pollution and Health-Technical Advisory Group.



NAVIN JUHAL

Formerly a Senior Scientist with the Physical Research Laboratory in Ahmedabad, Dr Juyal is a geoscientist with research interests spanning quaternary geology and palaeoclimate and recent environmental changes.



PRANAY LAL

Pranay is a biochemist who works on public health and environment. His first book -- Indica: A Deep Natural History of the Indian Subcontinent -- won the 2017 Tata Lit Prize and the World Book Fair Award. His most recent book, Invisible Empire: The Natural History of Viruses (Penguin, October 2021), presents an alternative view on the role of viruses in ecosystems and the evolutionary history of life.



RAGHU MURTUGUDDE

Professor Murtugudde has been a faculty of Atmospheric and Oceanic Science and Earth System Science at the University of Maryland (UMD) in USA since 2003. He is also a visiting faculty at IIT-Bombay. Professor Murtugudde has a doctorate in mechanical engineering from Columbia University, and was a research scientist at NASA-GSFC.



RAHUL BAGDIA

Rahul Bagdia is Managing Director of pManifold, a utility-focused research and consulting company. He has more than 15 years of experience analysing and contributing to technical, financial and management solutions across industries and geography. He has been working on electric mobility issues.

**RAJNEESH SAREEN**

Rajneesh is the Programme Director of CSE's Sustainable Habitat Programme. He has a working experience of around 21 years in the area of sustainability in the built environment, and leads the programme's research, advocacy and capacity building initiatives on sustainable urbanization, pro-poor development, resource efficiency, green campuses and low-impact/green development.

**RAJU SAJWAN**

Raju is a Special Correspondent with Down To Earth (Hindi). He has been recently covering stories and developments in the Himalayan region, and how the region is coping with contemporary challenges.

**RICHARD MAHAPATRA**

Richard is the Managing Editor of Down To Earth. A veteran development journalist, Richard's areas of interest range from agriculture, food systems and rural issues, to climate change and extreme weather and environmental history.

**SHAGUN KAPIL**

Shagun is a Senior Reporter with Down To Earth, reporting on subjects like agriculture and rural development, among other things.

**SHAHID JAMEEL**

Dr Jameel is a Visiting Professor at the University of Oxford in the UK and Ashoka University, India. A virologist, Dr Jameel is a recipient of the Shanti Swaroop Bhatnagar Award for Medical Sciences.

**SOUPARNO BANERJEE**

Souparno is a Senior Director in CSE, and heads the teams on environment education, media, outreach and publications. He has over 25 years of experience in publishing, journalism, media management and communications, and has been with CSE since 2002.

**SUGEET GROVER**

Sugeet Grover is a Deputy Programme Manager with the Sustainable Habitat unit of CSE. An architect by training, Sugeet's research work relates to themes of energy efficiency, circular economy, sustainable building materials, building physics, and resource efficiency in the built environment.

**SUNITA NARAIN**

The Director General of CSE is one of India's and the Global South's leading thinker-activists and writers on environment and development. Among the many awards that she has received are the Padma Shri, the Stockholm Water Prize, and the Indira Gandhi Award for Peace, Disarmament and Development. Narain is also the editor of Down To Earth.

**T JACOB JOHN**

Dr Jacob John has been associated with the Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore as Professor of Virology, Microbiology and Paediatrics and as ICMR Emeritus Medical Scientist; he is also the former Director of the Indian Council of Medical Research's (ICMR) Centre of Advanced Research in Virology. One of India's celebrated virologists, Dr Jacob John's model of polio control in India became the forerunner of the global polio eradication programme.

**TUSHITA RAWAT**

Tushita is a content expert and has designed textbooks, assessments and teacher handbooks for schools in India, South Asia and the US. She works as a Deputy Programme Manager in the Environment Education Unit at CSE. She holds a bachelor's degree in Education from the University of Delhi and a Master's in Gender Studies from Ambedkar University.

**UMI DANIEL**

Umi Daniel is currently working as Director, Migration and Education in Aide et Action International based out of Bhubaneswar in Odisha. Aide et Action is a French Charity and contributes immensely on various development initiatives globally and in India. Daniel has been in development sectors for more than 25 years working on a wide-ranging development issue such as displacement, migration, Informal labour, food security and disaster management.

**VIBHA VARSHNEY**

Vibha is an Associate Editor at Down To Earth, and writes extensively on health, science and food. She has also spearheaded two 'book series' published by CSE -- First Food and Body Burden. First Food brings stories from across the country on the use of biodiversity in food by local communities, while Body Burden is a theme-based report on health. She is a biologist by training and holds a PhD in Botany.

**VITTAL HARI**

Dr Hari is working as a Researcher at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research UFZ in Germany. He completed his PhD from IIT Bombay, and his doctoral dissertation was mainly on climate change detection and climate risk – with the emphasis on Indian monsoons. At UFZ, his research is on understanding the impacts of drought. Dr Hari has published articles in journals such as Nature Climate Change, Geophysical Research Letters etc.