



# A Peoples' Summit on G20

Surjeet Bhawan, New Delhi | August 18-20, 2023

**DAY 1: August 18, 2023, 2 PM onwards.**

## Inaugural Session

**Venue:** Fr. Stan Swamy Auditorium (Floor 3), HKS Surjeet Bhawan

### Speakers:

**Abdul Shakeel**, Basti Suraksha Manch

**Arun Kumar**, Retired Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University

**Brinda Karat**, All India Democratic Women's Association

**Dayamani Barla**, Adivasi-Moolvasi Astitva Raksha Manch

**Hannan Mollah**, Former Lok Sabha MP, All India Kisan Sabha

**Harsh Mander**, Karwan-e-Mohabbat

**Jayati Ghosh**, Economist, University of Massachusetts Amherst

**Manoj Jha**, Rajya Sabha MP

**Medha Patkar**, Narmada Bachao Andolan, National Alliance of People's Movements

**Olencio Simoes**, National Fishworker's Forum

**Paul Divakar**, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights

**Rajeev Gowda**, Former MP, Vice Chairman, State Institute for Transformation of Karnataka

**Rekha Rajput**, Annadata Bhartiya Kisan Union

**Ritwick Dutta**, Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE)

**Roma Malik**, All India Union of Forest Working People

**Shaktiman Ghosh**, National Hawker's Federation

**Teesta Setalvad**, Democratic Rights Activist, Citizens for Justice and Peace

**Thomas Franco**, former General Secretary, All India Bank Officers' Confederation

**Wasiq Nadim Khan**, United Against Hate

**DAY 2: August 19, 2023**

## Workshops Schedule

## **WORKSHOP 1: G20 AND INDIA'S PRESIDENCY: IN WHOSE INTEREST?**

Time: 10:30 AM – 13:30 PM | Venue: Gauri Lankesh Hall (Basement)

India has been projecting itself as the voice of the global South through initiatives such as 'Voice of the Global South Summit' or proposing the inclusion of the African Union as a full member of the G20. India's position on the pressing issues of the 21st century have crucial implications for the low and middle income countries of the global South. What should be India's role as a representative/ mediator of the global South, how is India utilising its G20 presidency to uphold the demands of the vulnerable countries, and what model of development is India advocating to safeguard the interests of the global South are a few questions that this session aims to discuss.

### **Speakers**

**Benny Kuruvilla**, Focus on the Global South

**Glenn Ymata**, Asian Peoples' Movement on Debt and Development

**Nandini Sundar**, Delhi University

**Roma Mallick**, All India Union of Forest Working People

**Avinash Chanchal**, Greenpeace & Mineral Inheritors Rights Association Coalition

**K M Gopakumar**, Third World Network

**Dinesh Abrol**, Delhi Science Forum

## **WORKSHOP 2: RIGHT TO INFORMATION, DIGITAL DATA AND SURVEILLANCE**

Time: 10:30 AM – 13:30 PM | Venue: Vimalbhai Hall (Floor 1, Lecture Hall)

Promoting a digital public infrastructure is a central theme of India's G20 presidency. The discussions revolved around topics such as digital economy, digital health, data for development, digital technologies such as the UPI, Aadhar, etc. In reality, what we encounter is commodification of data and digital tools, digital divide between different groups of people, lack of digital literacy, and digital fraud. How to deal with the emerging digital technologies and space, what should a digital public infrastructure look like to be a safe and inclusive one, what should be the safeguards for data protection, how to ensure data privacy and what are the implications of an unplanned and sudden digital infrastructural transformation in the global South? The session will discuss these crucial questions.

### **Speakers**

**Amrita Johari**, Satark Nagrik Sangathan

**Nikhil Dey**, Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan

**Anjali Bharadwaj**, National Campaign for People's Right to Information

## **WORKSHOP 3: DOES MODI ADMINISTRATION REALLY DELIVER ON TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE, TO PROTECT ENVIRONMENT, BIODIVERSITY & ASSOCIATED HUMAN RIGHTS, AS CLAIMED WITH G20 & OTHER GLOBAL FORA?**

Time: 10:30 AM – 13:30 PM | Venue: Rohit Vemula Hall (Floor 3, Auditorium Lobby)

One of the unprecedented challenges that the world is facing is the impact of climate change. Rising sea level, frequent heat waves and unseasonal monsoons are a few manifestations of

extreme weather events. The transition from carbon-based fossil fuels towards more sustainable sources of renewable energy is a must. However, addressing the crisis requires trillions of USD in climate finance, debt restructuring or cancellation, and a shared international framework. The session will ask: what is the G20's position on the climate question, can the G20 reach an agreement on climate finance, and, if yes, what will be the nature, amount and form of finance?

#### **Speakers**

**Jairam Ramesh**, Former Minister, MOEFCC & Member of Parliament

**Aneel Hegde**, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha

**Vandana Shiva**, Navdanya International

**Medha Patkar**, Narmada Bachao Andolan / National Alliance of People's Movements

**Bhargavi Rao**, Environment Support Group

**Leo Saldanha**, Environment Support Group

#### **WORKSHOP 4: GLOBAL FINANCE, BIG BANKS, AND ITS IMPACT ON PEOPLE**

Time: 15:00 PM – 18:00 PM | Venue: Gauri Lankesh Hall (Basement)

An integral part of the discussions in the G20 events has been exploring the various avenues of finance to achieve the sustainable development goals, address the polycrisis, ensure an inclusive digital infrastructure, etc. In doing so, the focus remained on reforming the multilateral development banks and pushing for more private capital investments. The session aims to deliberate on this neoliberal reformist model of development, the fashion in which it is imposed from above disregarding the people's voices, and its implications on the poor and the marginalised communities.

#### **Speakers**

**D. Thomas Franco**, Peoples First

**Vaishnavi Varadarajan**, International Accountability Project

**Nandakumar Pawar**, Vanashakti, Mumbai

**Ramesh Koli**, Maharashtra Small Scale Traditional Fish Worker's Union, Navi Mumbai

**R. Sreedhar**, Environics Trust

#### **Moderator**

**Praskanva Sinharay**, Centre for Financial Accountability

#### **WORKSHOP 5: AGRICULTURE, FOOD SECURITY AND THE G20**

Time: 15:00 PM – 18:00 PM | Venue: Rohit Vemula Hall (Floor 3, Auditorium Lobby)

Agriculture and food security, a focus of the G20 events, is inseparably linked to the farmer's question. The issues related to agriculture that emerged in the G20 discussions are – the impact of climate change on agriculture, supply chain distribution, promotion of sustainable agriculture, natural farming and technology-enabled farming, etc. How do these discussions and resultant policies impact and/or address the plight of the farmers? The session will address the key issues and concerns of the farmers, and recommend measures to address the questions related to agriculture and food security.

**Speakers:**

**Nachiket Udupa**, Mazdor Kisan Shakti Sangathan

**Dinesh Abrol**, Nation for Farmers

**Amrita Johri**, Right to food Campaign

**Raj Shekhar**, Right to food Campaign

**WORKSHOP 6: CONFRONTING INEQUALITY, SAFEGUARDING LABOUR RIGHTS AND STRENGTHENING SOCIAL PROTECTION**

Time: 15:00 PM – 18:00 PM | Venue: Vimalbhai Hall (Floor 1, Lecture Hall)

Rising poverty and income inequality are the key concerns of our times. New forms of labour (such as gig work) demonstrate these insecurities combined with the lack of social protection and violation of dignity and human rights. Talks in the G20 events have raised the question of universal social security, putting women at the centre of the future of work, global mechanism for portability of social security in the context of labour migration world-wide, institution-led development, skill training and skill upgradation, sustainable decent work, and creating new employment opportunities. This session will critically interrogate these tall promises of the G20.

**Speakers**

**Varsha Gandikota Nellutla**, Progressive International

**Angela Taneja**, Oxfam International

**Rajeev Sharma**, Building and Woodworkers International

**Manju Goel**, Amazon India Workers Committee

**Praveen Jha**, Economist

**Nikhil Dey**, Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan

**Annie Raja**, National Federation of Indian Women

**DAY 3: August 20, 2023****WORKSHOP 7: REIMAGINING CITIES: FOSTERING THE RIGHT TO JUST, SUSTAINABLE, PARTICIPATORY, & INCLUSIVE CITIES**

Time: 10:30 PM – 13:30 PM | Venue: Gauri Lankesh Hall (Basement)

The organisation of the G20 events under India's presidency presented a contradiction between promises and practices. On the one hand, the talks in the G20 events revolved around sustainable cities and building cities of tomorrow, while on the other, there were mass evictions and demolition of living spaces of the urban poor and the marginalised for organising mega-events. Who has the right to the city and in what terms is therefore a burning question of urban development and infrastructural change. This session will engage with the nuances of this broader question in the context of the G20.

**Speakers**

**Sandeep Verma**, National Hawkers Federation

**Akash Bhattacharya**, All India Central Council of Trade Unions  
**Sanjeev Danda**, Dalit Adivasi Shakti Adhikar Manch  
**Vinita Balekundi**, National Hawkers Federation  
**Gaurav Diwedi**, Centre for Financial Accountability  
**Sitaram Shelar**, Pani Haq Samiti  
**Poonam Kannojiya**, Ghar Bano Ghar Bachao Andolan  
**Abdul Shakeel**, Basti Suraksha Manch  
**Rajendra Ravi**, People's Resource Centre  
**Bilal Khan**, Kamgar Sanrakshan Samman Sangh  
**Ali Akbar**, Basti Suraksha Manch  
**Rekha Rajput**, Annadata Bhartiya Kisan Union  
**M.C. Rajan**, Constitutional Expert  
**Medha Patkar**, Narmada Bachao Andolan / National Alliance of People's Movements  
**Jammu Anand**, National Hawkers Federation

#### **WORKSHOP 8: FASCISM AND MARGINALISATION**

Time: 10:30 PM – 13:30 PM | Venue: Rohit Vemula Hall (Floor 3, Auditorium Lobby)

A term that has been repeatedly reiterated in G20 events is 'inclusive' which implies, quite rightly, that the current financial, social and political structures have failed to address social hierarchies of gender, disability, caste, religious and ethnic identities. According to multiple reports on the evictions and demolition drives prior to and during the G20 mega-events, the worst-affected people have been the caste and religious minorities, transgender people, and other vulnerable communities. The session aims to hold a discussion on these persistent social marginalities.

#### **Speakers**

**Virginius Xaxa**, Academic and Activist  
**Beena Pallical**, National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights  
**Supriya Chotani**, National Federation of Indian Women  
**Maimoona Mollah**, All India Democratic Women's Association  
**Muralidharan**, National Platform for the Rights of the Disabled  
**Rushda Siddiqui**, National Federation of Indian Women  
**Raj Shekhar**, Right to Food Campaign

#### **WORKSHOP 9: RECLAIMING OUR RESOURCES, REIMAGINING OUR FUTURE**

Time: 10:30 PM – 13:30 PM | Venue: Adv. Shahid Azmi Hall (Floor 2, Board Room)

As the G20 is promoting a singular, largely homogenous model of development with a focus of privatisation, the debates on alternative ideas of development such as the idea of commons are often eclipsed. The commons, traditionally understood as natural resources, currently encompasses domains such as knowledge commons, digital commons, health commons, urban commons, cultural commons, etc. This session will examine the idea of commons and deliberate on alternative ideas of development.

### **Speakers**

**Sreedhar Ramamurthy**, Environics trust

**Preeti Sampat**, Ambedkar University

**Olencio Simoes**, National Fishworkers Forum

**Medha Patkar**, Narmada Bachao Andolan / National Alliance of People's Movements

**Moderator: Priya Dharshini**, Delhi Forum

**Day 3: 2 PM onwards**

## **Cultural Programs**

**Venue: Fr. Stan Swamy Auditorium (Floor 3), HKS Surjeet Bhawan**

**Wajood Progressive Theatre And Arts Dr A V Baliga Memorial Trust - Skit**

**Aisi Taisi Democracy/Sanjay Rajaura – Stand Up**

**Virah Band – Climate Songs**

**Kids Play - Shehri Mahila Kamgar Union – Street Play**

**Folk Fusion Band - Songs**

**Urban Folk, JNU – Multilingual Radical Songs**

**Sabika - Poems**

**Jan Natya Manch - Skit**