

South Asian University professor Anuj Bhuwania to deliver lecture on The Politics of Public Interest Litigation at ICG on Friday, 20th January

The International Centre Goa is organising a lecture on "The Politics of Public Interest Litigation in Post-Emergency India" by Anuj Bhuwania, Assistant Professor at South Asian University, New Delhi. This programme will be held at 4.00 pm – 5.30 pm on Friday, 20th January 2017 at the International Centre Goa, Dona Paula. Entry to the programme is free and open to general public. Those interested in attending may kindly email their registrations to pro@incentgoa.com

Anuj Bhuwania teaches at South Asian University, New Delhi. He studied law at the National Law School of India, Bangalore and at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London before obtaining his PhD in anthropology at Columbia University, New York. He has held visiting positions at the Centre for Modern Indian Studies, University of Goettingen; the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS), New Delhi; and the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance (CSLG), Jawaharlal Nehru University. *Courting the People: Public Interest Litigation in Post-Emergency India* (Cambridge University Press, 2016) is his first book.

The Indian higher judiciary has acquired an increasingly important role in India's public discourse in the last few decades. The Supreme Court and the state High Courts have emerged as enormously powerful judicial institutions in the aftermath of the Internal Emergency of 1975-77. The principal means through which these judicial powers have been mobilized and enacted is the jurisdiction of Public Interest Litigation (PIL). This lecture will talk about the political role that PIL has come to play in contemporary India. It revisits the circumstances and manoeuvres that led to the rise of PIL and traces its political journey since then, arguing that the enormous powers that PIL confers upon the appellate judiciary stems from its populist character.

Ends

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