

## BOOK LAUNCH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

Globalisation and Governance in India: New Challenges to Society and Institutions was formally launched at the University of Delhi, Department of Political Science on Thursday, 26 November 2015. The volume was launched by Professor Achin Vanaik, former Professor and Head, Department of Political Science, Delhi University. Discussants on the panel included Dr. Lion Koenig, Jamia Millia Islamia and Heidelberg University, Prof. Ian Greene, York University, Toronto, Prof. Rekha Saxena, and Prof. Navnita Chadha Behera, both Department of Political Science, Delhi University.

The edited volume examines the impact of globalization on some vital aspects of Indian politics, its structures and processes, and identifies the challenges to globalization itself, in order to highlight India's complex and fascinating story. In 1991, India officially embraced the policy of neo-liberal reforms by signing the GATT agreement, which exposed the country, its society, culture and institutions to the various forces of globalization. Globalization as such may not be new to India, for the country has been embracing the influence of external cultures and civilisations for millennia, but the post-1991 reforms policy marked a significant shift, from a predominantly social welfare state and a command economy to a predominantly market-driven one.

Through a range of disciplinary perspectives, the authors analyse how India's version of secularism, communal harmony, nationhood, the public sphere, social justice, and the rights of aboriginal communities came under attack from the forces of the new dispensation. The book goes on to show how globalisation in India has posed fresh challenges to political economy, democracy, federalism, decentralization, parliamentary system, judiciary, and the parliamentary Left.



Dr. Lion Koenig is Adjunct Faculty at the Centre for Culture, Media and Governance, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. He earlier taught at the Centre for the Study of Law of Governance, Jawaharlal-Nehru University, New Delhi and is an Associated Researcher at the South Asia Institute, Department of Political Science, and at the Cluster of Excellence 'Asia and Europe in a Global Context', both Heidelberg University, Germany. He studied at the University of Edinburgh and at Heidelberg University, where he completed his doctoral work on the concept of 'cultural citizenship' in India. He has held research fellowships at the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) in 2011, as well as at the Institute of Social Sciences (ISS), and at the Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities (CSH), New Delhi in 2014.

Lion Koenig is the co-editor of *Globalisation and Governance in India: New Challenges to Society and Institutions* (London: Routledge: 2016), of *Politics of the Other in India and China: Western Concepts in Non-Western Contexts* (London: Routledge, 2016), and of *The Politics of Citizenship, Identity, and the State in South Asia* (New Delhi: Samskriti, 2012).

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