

Economics
Seminar
Series
2015



SOUTH ASIAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ECONOMICS

Seminar

***Caste Identity and Institutions: Perceptions About
Remunerative Earnings from Self-Employment in India***

Dr Deepti Goel
Delhi School of Economics

Date: November 6, 2015
(Friday)
Time: 3 :00 p.m.
Venue: FSI Hall, Akbar Bhawan
Satya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi

All are Welcome

Abstract

In spite of being legally abolished in India, the caste system continues to pervade many aspects of social and economic life. Against this background, the objective of this paper is to understand how caste identity in contemporary India shapes self-worth measured here using self-reported perceptions about amounts considered as remunerative earnings from self-employment. Do amounts that are considered as remunerative earnings from self-employment vary across caste groups such that lower placed groups perceive lower earnings to be remunerative? Thereafter, we investigate how institutional factors, for instance, the introduction of a targeted employment scheme for the poor or the identity of the political party in power at the state government, alter these perceptions.