## Harshita Sinha

## Title:

Negotiating Precarity: Informal migrant workers in New Delhi

## Abstract:

Internal migrant workers form a considerable share of the growing casualized and informal workforce in India. While constitutionally they carry equal citizenship rights, their positionality in the cities are often marred by vulnerabilities. Drawing on qualitative field work in New Delhi, the article explores migrant workers lived experiences as low income informal workers in India. Drawing on research through the COVID-lockdowns, the research aims to capture the intersecting vulnerabilities which migrants faced during the pandemic. Expanding from a labor market conceptualization of precarity, this paper argues migrant precarity is a dynamic state and is informed by compounded spatial and temporal vulnerabilities. Recognising the gendered difference in migrant experiences, it also proposes the need for migrants to be looked at as workers with agency who actively negotiate their position with the wider ecosystem they are based in.

## Keywords

Informal Labour, Migrant, Precarity, Citizenship