Poverty and Indo–Norwegian Relations

A Workshop at R.I.S., in Collaboration with CSMN

A workshop entitled ‘Poverty and Indo–Norwegian Relations’ will be held at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (R.I.S) in New Delhi, India, on 29 and 30 April, 2011.

Context

The workshop is a part of the research project ‘Responding to Local Poverty’, which is funded by the Norwegian Research Council. The workshop is also supported by the Centre for the Study of Mind in Nature, at the University of Oslo.

The ‘Responding to Local Poverty’ project runs for one year. Its aim is to develop a proposal for a larger, three year research project. The larger project will seek to determine what economic and other relations India and Norway ought to have, in order that all parties discharge their moral obligations to alleviate poverty in India.

The Workshop

The workshop will explore both which relations between the two countries and populations are relevant to determining obligations to alleviate poverty, and why they are relevant.

Norway is a rich country, with a generally very well off population. In India there is also a middle class of well of people, and a number of extremely rich people. A central question is whether those that are well off in the two countries have responsibilities to the large group of poor people in India. The first day of the workshop explores different perspectives on how responsibilities to alleviate poverty can arise, on how far these responsibilities go, and on what legitimate ways to discharge them are.

The second day explores different factors that influence the incidence of poverty in India and the conditions which the poor face, and different approaches to seek a reduction in poverty, or an improvement in the conditions for the poor.