

Department of Physics & Astrophysics
University of Delhi
Colloquium

Title: *Climate Change, Science and Society*

Speaker: **Prof. Gautam I Menon**

Affiliation: Ashoka University

Schedule: March 06, 2024 (Wednesday), 3:45pm

Venue: DSKL

Abstract

Abstract: Although human-induced climate change presents an existential challenge to mankind's future on earth, most scientists outside the field of climate science know too little about it. I will briefly summarize what is known about climate change from a scientific perspective. I will then go on to discuss the challenges it poses, from ecology to food systems to migration and other areas. I will dwell a bit on why, in my opinion, more scientists should be studying this problem from interdisciplinary and complex systems perspectives, pointing out that it is one of a small set of truly "wicked" problems, ones that lack easy solutions while intersecting areas as diverse as the sciences, social sciences and humanities.

About the speaker: Gautam I Menon is presently Dean (Research), Professor of Physics and Biology, and Director of the Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability at Ashoka University. He did his B.Sc. Physics (Honours) at St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi, M.Sc. in physics at IIT Kanpur and Ph.D. in physics at the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru. His research spans physics, biology and public policy, including the areas of statistical mechanics, mechanobiology, and epidemiology. He serves on the scientific review committees of several international and national agencies, and is a Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, India.