

# Centre for Contemporary Studies

Invites you to a talk by

**Dr. Tejaswini Niranjana**

Director & Senior Fellow

Centre for the Study of Culture & Society, Bangalore

on

**Jahaji music -**

**Indian-Caribbean Conversations**

## Abstract

This talk will be based on Dr. Tejaswini Niranjana's recent book, *Mobilizing India: Women, Music and Migration between India and Trinidad*. While her research was about Trinidad, it was necessarily also about how to think 'India' differently. Seeing familiar histories of modernity in India through the lens of forgotten and delegitimised "Indians" who were taken as indentured labour to the Caribbean in colonial times might prompt us to re-imagine modern cultural identities in India. Her attempt was to render strange an all too familiar 'Indian' set of preoccupations - about nationalism, about Hindus and Muslims, caste and culture, femininity and the public sphere - by locating them in a geographically distant place where they have taken on altogether different significations even while they continue to call themselves "Indian".

The talk will be followed by screening 30 mins of an extract from the documentary film *Jahaji Music: India in the Caribbean* (Surabhi Sharma, 2007) that she helped conceptualize and which relates to the issues she will raise in her presentation.

**Venue: CCS Seminar Hall, IISc**

**Date: Thursday, 30th Aug'07**

**Time: 4pm**

**Tea/Coffee will be served at 3:30 pm**

URL: <http://ces.iisc.ernet.in/hpg/ragh/ccs/Welcome.html>