



*The School of Humanities and Social Sciences cordially invites you to the Lecture Series.*

### *Topic of the Lecture*

## DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURES & DATA OWNERSHIP

### *Synopsis of the Lecture*

This presentation will begin with an introduction to digital infrastructures followed by some observations on the cloud and data centres, public private partnerships, and increasing reliance by the government on hyperscale data centres owned by Big Tech. Are big tech involved in 'Extrastatecraft' or is their influence relatively benign? The obvious question that arises is that of the ownership of data in the light of the Govt's stated intent to keep data local. There are other questions as well including that of who we trust with data. In the light of multiple data breaches, it is important that we revisit Ulrich Beck's observations on Risk Societies. The presentation will conclude by looking at data alternatives, in particular, the potential of community networks.



### *About the Speaker*

**Pradip Ninan Thomas** is at the School of Communication & Arts, University of Queensland. He has written widely on the political economy of digital India. His book *Platform Regulation: Exemplars, Approaches, Solutions* was published by OUP in 2023. A forthcoming book is *The Gig Economy in India: Start-Ups, Infrastructure and Resistance* (Routledge, 2024).

**Day and Date: Wednesday, 17 April 2024 Time: 4:00 PM**

**Google Meet Link: [meet.google.com/aog-acut-dcx](https://meet.google.com/aog-acut-dcx)**