

## Delhi Green Deal



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**Abstract:** Delhi is in a deep climate crisis. It is the most polluted capital in the world and has perhaps the highest carbon emission of any city in India. We propose a way out through a carbon tax which is partly used for changing the energy mix of the city and partly for an in-kind transfer from the rich to the poor in the form of free electricity, upto a certain limit, to the latter and universal travel passes to encourage public transport. Instead of either a proposal of 'tax and spend' or 'tax and distribute' argued for in the Global North of late, we propose a middle path of 'tax, spend and distribute' where the distribution is an in-kind transfer unlike carbon dividends in cash. Delhi residents, including the rich and the wealthy, need to be convinced that the current and future inhabitants of the city, which includes their children, will have a healthier life with such a green and egalitarian policy. No one wants to carry an air purifier or a face mask around the city and no one should, whether you can afford one or not.

**Bio:** Rohit Azad teaches at Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi. He is the author of *It's Not Over: Structural Drivers of the Global Economic Crisis*, OUP (2013) and has co-edited *A Quantum Leap in the Wrong Direction*, Orient BlackSwan (2019). His areas of interest are macroeconomics, growth and development, climate change, political economy, monetary theory and policy. He has twice been a Fulbright scholar at University of Massachusetts, Amherst and the New School of Social Research, New York respectively.

Date: **March 2, 2012**

Time: **04:00 - 5:30 pm**

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