



ANNA MANI **LECTURE SERIES**

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION AS A MIRROR TO SCIENCE

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Life of Science

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Scientists are part of society, and so is the science. And if society is patriarchal, is our science also patriarchal? Who holds the mirror to our collective knowledge-making? With the voices of Indian women in science, this lecture will attempt to piece together the complex problem of the gender gap in Indian science. The historical exclusion of women, as seen in the life of our PhD-less icon Anna Mani has dragged along to be ingrained as institutionalised sexism we see today in the current context. The limited efforts in Indian science communication have continued the bidding of dominant heteropatriarchal narratives in reporting from the Indian science community and its discoveries. To break this spell, our feminist science media collective thelifeofscience.com [3] has been collecting and reporting the life of science of minorities in Indian science. A picture emerges, as do the gaps, a bridge nowhere in sight. Readings from *Dispersed Radiance* by Abha Sur, *Anna's Extraordinary Experiments with the Weather* by Nandita Jayaraj and *Inferior* by Angela Saini

*Aashima Dogra is a science and humanities writer, and co-founder of the feminist science media collective thelifeofscience.com [3]. After a background in biology, she studied Science Communication in England and has since written for various publications as a science journalist including firstpost.com [4], *The Hindu*, *Deccan Chronicle*, thewire.in [5] and others. She has been editor of popular children's science magazine *Brainwave* and author of the children's book *Fly in Space*. Another book for children *31 Fantastic Adventures in Science* that she coauthored with Nandita Jayaraj, released in October 2019. The labhopping duo is now working on another book titled 'Labhopping' - this one a reportage of from their 4-year long journey across labs in India.*



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