

# **Department Seminar**

**Speaker:** Dr. Sisir Debnath at the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad

**Date & Time:** 07/01/2019, Monday 02:00 PM

**Venue:** Creates CSC Room, Second Floor - Main Building

**Title:** The Impact of Electronic Voting Machines on Electoral Frauds, Democracy, and Development.

## **Abstract:**

Electoral frauds rampant throughout India till the late 1990s prevented free and fair elections. To combat this problem, the Election Commission of India introduced electronic voting machines (EVMs). We exploit the phased roll-out of the EVMs in state assembly elections to study its impact on electoral fraud, democracy, and development. We Find that the introduction of EVMs led to a significant decline in electoral fraud, increased voter turnout among more vulnerable populations, reduced the vote share of incumbent parties and led to an increase in the provision of electricity, a key public good provided by the government.