

Kalpana Karunakaran teaches in the Humanities and Social Sciences Department, IIT Madras. Her research interests are in the domain of gender and development and in particular, the intersecting fields of gender, poverty, microcredit, women's work in the informal sector, women's trade unions and collective action in solidarity-based movements. Her book '*Women, Microfinance and the State in Neo-liberal India*' was published by Routledge in 2017. A bilingual public speaker and writer in Tamil and English, Kalpana leads workshops and participates actively in campaigns for gender equality, labour rights and human rights organized by women's movements, trade unions and rural development NGOs in Tamil Nadu. Her Tamil book, a memoir, '*Comrade Amma: Magal Parvaiyil Mythily Sivaraman*' (Comrade Mother: A daughter's portrait of Mythily Sivaraman) was published in 2018. Her forthcoming book that re-constructs a woman's life and times in the Madras Presidency is due to be published soon. She has worked extensively with People's Science Movements as an organizer of Right to Health campaigns and women's Self Help Group federations. She was a member of the Executive Committee of the IAWS from 2014 to 2017. Kalpana has been involved in Tamil feminist theatre and hopes to return to it someday.