



invites you to a Special Lecture on

Rethinking Development

Speaker

Dr. Atul Sood

Date: April 06, 2015 (Monday)

Time: 2.30 to 4.00 pm

Venue: Room no. 514, Pixel B, Azim Premji University

About the Lecture

Growth and Development are often seen by economists as two related but distinct processes. It is for this reason that policy makers in the early period of economic reform put all their faith in growth and expected that other benefits will trickle down to all. With the rise of inequalities and deprivation, as a result of the economic reforms, along with marginal gains in reducing inequalities in education, health, nutrition, and livelihood the recent shift in development strategy has been to strengthen the growth trajectory of the country.

The presentation will lay out some of the characteristic features of India's development as the basis to suggest why we need to rethink about India's development.

How can we do this rethinking? It is suggested that changes in the meanings of development over time, traditions in social sciences along the state of knowledge about growth and its drivers should inform this rethinking.

The existing state of knowledge about growth is very uncertain. We know very little about growth. History and expectations matter but we know little about where growth begins and why it begins. Given the uncertainty about growth we need to rethink if it is fair to undermine people's rights in the name of growth.

About the Speaker

Dr Atul Sood teaches Economics at Centre for Studies in Regional Development (CSRD), JNU, New Delhi. Dr Sood is a rigorous researcher, popular teacher and keen author. After a post-graduate degree in Economics from Panjab University in 1983, Dr Sood got a Ph.D. from the University of Ottawa (Canada). He worked in several ICSSR-supported research institutes before joining CSRD, JNU, New Delhi.

Dr Sood has a long time interest in Regional Development and has a keen ear to the ground. In 1984, he co-authored a book, *Punjab Crisis: Context and Trends*, much before the Khalistan movement seized the attention of other scholars. Dr Atul Sood edited *Poverty Amidst Plenty: Essays on the Trajectory of Development in Gujarat* published in 2012. He spoke on it at Azim Premji University on 15th April, 2013. Critics feel the edited work of Dr Sood on Gujarat is also a precursor to explain the 'failure of success' that the trajectory of Indian development can turn out to be unless the model is rethought.

(This Lecture is a part of the Course on Comparative Perspectives in Economic History.)