Public Lecture: An India For Everyone - A Path to Inclusive Development

Speaker:
Amarjeet Sinha, Principal Secretary, Department of Education, Government of Bihar

Date / Time:
April 15, 2013 - 6:00pm - 7:00pm

Venue:
The Energy and Research Institute (TERI)

Abstract:

In this book, Amarjeet makes the point that there can be no inclusive development without a thrust on securing the entitlement to human development and well-being, an opportunity to every citizen to develop her/his fullest human potential. This requires enhanced public expenditure on health, education, nutrition, skill development, etc. Public systems have played a very important role in securing these basic entitlements in most parts of the world. And we cannot do without the counter-veiling presence of a large and functional public system. While non-governmental partnerships will also be required, there is no going away from investing in the core task of making public systems deliver credible services. Public systems are capable of delivering credible services if they are crafted appropriately, based on evidence.

The discussion will also outline how reforms in public recruitments, legal framework, public management skills, partnerships, can all contribute to better delivery of guaranteed quality outcomes in human development - education, nutrition, health, livelihoods, social security, urban development, social and gender relations, etc.

A Note on the Speaker:
Amarjeet Sinha, 53, is a civil servant with a deep interest in the social sector. He is currently posted as the Principal Secretary, Department of Education, Government of Bihar. He has had the unique distinction of having played a major role in designing Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (India’s main programme for universal elementary education) and the National Rural Health Mission. The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan has brought down the number of out of school children in India substantially, even though challenges of quality education and learning achievements
remain. The National Rural Health Mission has significantly speeded up the decline of Infant and Maternal Mortality in India, besides reducing the fertility rate and improving the primary health care system for all disease control programmes. He has also been training Indian Administrative Service Officer Trainees at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration Mussoorie on the social sector over the last one and a half decade.

A prolific writer, Amarjeet has published six books and a very large number of articles as part of books, in journals like the Lancet, Economic and Political Weekly, Economic Times, The Hindu, The Business Standard, The Hindustan Times, etc.