Deepak and Neera Raj Center on Indian Economic Policies

Inauguration Program

Monday, October 5, 2015

Low Library Rotunda
New York, NY

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About the Center
The mission of the Deepak and Neera Raj Center on Indian Economic Policies is to increase economic prosperity in India. Through scholarly research, training of students, publications addressed to policymakers and events drawing on different stakeholders, the Center will inform Indian economic policies and accelerate growth, enabling substantial reduction in poverty and putting India on center stage of the world economy. The Center will also undertake comparative studies of the experience of India and the United States in policy-relevant areas such as climate change and federalism, providing scholarly support for bilateral initiatives between the two countries and for multilateral approaches. The Center is housed in the School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) at Columbia University.

With Gratitude
The launch of the Deepak and Neera Raj Center on Indian Economic Policies would not be possible without the tremendous support of so many people and institutions, we can’t possibly thank them all here. Our deep gratitude goes to Deepak and Neera Raj, whose vision, leadership and generosity have made the Center a reality. We would also like to extend special thanks to Sreedhar Menon, whose commitment to establishing the Center has been instrumental, as well as to Sridhar Chityala, Rajiv Kothari, and Jagdish Bhagwati and Padma Desai for their generosity. Support has also been provided by the Provost’s office and the Office of President Lee Bollinger. Last, the staff of the School of International and Public Affairs, including those from the Office of the Dean, the Business Office, and the Office of Communications and External Relations, have all provided their time and energy to the Center’s launch — we are grateful for this support and so proud to be a part of such a vibrant community of students, faculty, scholars, administrators, and researchers.

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Inauguration Program
Monday, October 5, 12-2 p.m.

Welcome Remarks
Professor Merit Janow, Dean, School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA)

Presentation of Trustee Resolution to Deepak and Neera Raj
Professor Jagdish Bhagwati, Director, Deepak and Neera Raj Center
Professor Pravin Krishna, Deputy Director, Deepak and Neera Raj Center

Faculty Achievement Awards presented by Dean Janow
Vidya Dehejia, Barbara Stoler Miller Professor of Indian and South Asian Art, Department of Art History and Archaeology, Columbia
Ponisseril Somasundaran, LaVon Duddleson Krumb Professor of Mineral Engineering, Department of Earth and Environmental Engineering, Columbia
Arvind Panagariya, Jagdish N. Bhagwati Professor Indian Political Economy, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia

Introduction of Dignitaries by Professor Bhagwati
Arun Kumar Singh, Ambassador of India to the United States
Asoke Kumar Mukerji, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations
Dnyaneshwar Mulay, Consul General of India, New York

Address
Ambassador Arun Kumar Singh, Ambassador of India to the United States

Introduction of Honorable Minister Arun Jaitley by Professor Bhagwati

Keynote Address
Arun Jaitley, Minister for Finance, Corporate Affairs, and Information and Broadcasting, Government of India

Closing Remarks by Dean Janow
Arun Jaitley is a Bharatiya Janata Party politician, currently serving as Minister for Finance, Corporate Affairs, and Information and Broadcasting, in the Government of India and also as Leader of the House in the Rajya Sabha.

Jaitley was a member of the ABVP, the student wing of the Bhartiya Janta Party (BJP) during his student years and served as President of the Students Union of Delhi University in 1974. He has practiced law before the Supreme Court of India and several High Courts in the country since 1977.

He has been a member of the national executive of Bharatiya Janata Party since 199 and served as spokesman of the BJP during the period preceding the 1999 general election. In 1999, after the Vajpayee Government of the BJP led National Democratic Alliance came to power, he was appointed Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting (Independent Charge). He was also appointed Minister of State for Disinvestment (Independent Charge), a new ministry created for the first time to give effect to the policy of disinvestments under the World Trade Organisation (WTO) regime. He took over the additional charge of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs in 2000. From 2009 to 2014, he was Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha.

Jaitley has also served as a member to the Board of Governors of Asian Development Bank. He is a senior advocate in the Supreme Court and a former Additional Solicitor General of India.
**Merit E. Janow** is Dean of the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. She is an internationally recognized expert in international trade and investment, with extensive experience in academia, government, international organizations and business. In addition, she has had a life-long involvement with Asia and is an expert in that region. For the past 18 years, Merit E. Janow has been a Professor of Practice at Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA) and affiliated faculty at Columbia Law School. She teaches graduate courses in international trade/WTO law, comparative antitrust law, China in the global economy, international trade and investment policy, among others. She has held a number of leadership positions at the University. Currently, in addition to being Dean of SIPA, she is also Co-Director of the APEC Study Center and Chair of the Faculty Oversight Committee of Columbia’s Global Center East Asia.

Previously, she was Director of the Masters Program in International Affairs and Chair of Columbia University’s Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Investing. Her research interests focus on international trade and investment, Asia, competition law and economic globalization. She has written several books, numerous articles and frequently speaks before business, policy, and academic audiences around the world.

While at Columbia University, Professor Janow was elected in December 2003 for a four year term as one of the seven Members of the World Trade Organization’s (WTO) Appellate Body, which is the court of final appeal for adjudicating trade disputes between the 153 member nations of the WTO. She was the first female to serve on the Appellate Body. She was involved with over 30 appeals. While on the Appellate Body, she organized a series of global conferences with leading experts and senior government officials that focused on the Appellate Body, the international trading system and economic globalization.
Arun Kumar Singh is Ambassador of India to the United States. He joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1979 after completing his Masters Degree in Economics from Delhi University and teaching at the University for two years.

His first assignment abroad was at the Embassy of India, Moscow from 1981-1982, where he learnt Russian. Later, he served at the Indian Missions in Addis Ababa as Second Secretary from 1982-1985, and in Tokyo as First Secretary from 1985 - 1988. On returning to Delhi at the Headquarters of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, he served as Deputy Secretary / Director dealing with East Asia and Pakistan Divisions from 1988-1991. From 1991-1993, he headed the Offices of the Foreign Secretary and the External Affairs Minister of India.

Ambassador Singh served at the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations Office, New York from 1993-1997 as Counsellor and handled multilateral social and economic negotiations. He served in the Indian Mission at Moscow again as Counsellor / Minister from 1997-2000. During his assignment in Delhi from 2000-2005, he served in the capacity of Joint Secretary dealing first with the United Nations Policy, and then Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran Divisions at the Ministry of External Affairs. Ambassador Singh served as Ambassador of India to Israel from April 2005 to September, 2008; and then as Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of India, Washington D.C from October 2008 to April 2013. Ambassador Singh served as Ambassador of India to France from April, 2013 to April, 2015. He assumed his new assignment as Ambassador of India to United States on April 30, 2015.
Asoke Kumar Mukerji is Permanent Ambassador of India to the United Nations in New York. Prior to his assignment in New York, Ambassador Mukerji was Special Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi, responsible for political issues.

During his 36-year professional career in the Indian Foreign Service, Ambassador Mukerji has served in London, India’s largest and oldest diplomatic representation (from 2007–2010 as Acting/Deputy High Commissioner); Moscow (from 2001–2005 as Deputy Chief of Mission, overseeing the acquisition of state-of-the art air, land and sea defence systems by India’s armed forces); Washington DC (from 1987–1990, as Political Officer and Special Assistant to the Ambassador).

He has been India’s Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Kazakhstan (2005–2007), successfully negotiating the acquisition of India’s first Caspian Sea oilfield. He opened and headed India’s embassies as Charge d’affaires in the newly independent Central Asian states of Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan in 1992. He was Consul General of India in Soviet Central Asia from 1990–1992.
Dnyaneshwar Mulay is Consul General of India, New York, USA and a former High Commissioner of India in Maldives. He is a career diplomat, having joined the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) in 1983. He has been recognised both nationally and internationally as a prominent thought leader, diplomat, and author.

He is a well-known writer having written over 15 books that have been translated in Arabic, Dhivehi, Urdu, Kannada and Hindi. His original writings in Marathi have large following especially among youth who find it highly inspiring. He has won many awards including the Maharashtra State and Hindi Sahitya Akademy of Delhi. His book 'Māṭi Pankh Āni Ākāsh – has become a bible for the young generation of Maharashtra. This book was recently included in the curriculum for B.A. students by the North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon(Maharashtra). His book on Russia has become a must read for anybody studying the transformation of USSR to Russia. He was felicitated as Kolhapur Bhushan by the Kolhapur Municipal Corporation.

He is also inspiration behind many socio educational projects including Balodyan, an orphanage in his native village and Dnyaneshwar Mulay Education Society in Pune which has embarked in the field of education with innovative concepts of global education.
Jagdish Bhagwati, Director, is University Professor (Economics, Law, and International Affairs) at Columbia University and Senior Fellow for International Economics at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR). He has been economic policy adviser to Arthur Dunkel, director-general of GATT (1991-93), special adviser to the UN on globalization, and external adviser to the WTO. He has served on the expert group appointed by the director-general of the WTO on the future of the WTO and the advisory committee to Secretary-General Kofi Annan on the NEPAD process in Africa, and was also a member of the Eminent Persons Group under the chairmanship of President Fernando Henrique Cardoso of Brazil on the future of UNCTAD. Recently, he has been co-chair with President Halonen of Finland of the Eminent Persons Group on Developing Countries in the World Economy.

Professor Bhagwati is described as the most creative international trade theorist of his generation and is a leader in the fight for freer trade. His most recent book Why Growth Matters (PublicAffairs, 2013) has received notice in leading magazines and newspapers like The Economist, the Financial Times, Forbes, and Wall Street Journal. His earlier book, Termites in the Trading System (Oxford University Press, 2008) discusses the deleterious effects of preferential trading agreements. His previous book In Defense of Globalization (Oxford University Press, 2004) attracted worldwide acclaim. Five volumes of his scientific writings and two of his public policy essays have been published by MIT press. The recipient of six festschriffts in his honor, he has also received several prizes and seventeen honorary degrees, and awards from the governments of India (Padma Vibhushan) and Japan (Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star).

Pravin Krishna, Deputy Director, is the Chung Ju Yung Distinguished Professor of International Economics and Business at Johns Hopkins University, where he is jointly appointed in the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington DC and the Department of Economics in the Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences (KSAS) in Baltimore. Professor Krishna is also Co-Chair of the Bernard L. Schwartz Globalization Initiative at SAIS and a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Professor Krishna has previously been Professor of Economics at Brown University and has also held appointments at a number of other universities, including the University of Chicago, Columbia University, Princeton University, Stanford University and INSEAD. He has served as a consultant to the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Professor Krishna’s areas of research interest include international economics, international political economy, the political economy of policy reform, economic development and the political economy of India. His research has been published in numerous journals including the American Economic Review, the Journal of Political Economy, the Quarterly Journal of Economics, the Review of Economic Studies, the Review of Economics and Statistics, International Organization, the Journal of International Economics and the Journal of Development Economics. He has served on the editorial boards of the Journal of International Economics and the Journal of Policy Reform.

A recipient of research funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF), he is the author of Trade Blocs: Economics and Politics (Cambridge University Press, 2005) and along with Jagdish Bhagwati and Arvind Panagariya is co-editor of Trading Blocs: Alternate Analyses of Preferential Trade Agreements (MIT Press, 1999). He holds a B. Tech from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay and an M.A, M. Phil and PhD from Columbia University.
FACULTY AWARDS

Vidya Dehejia is Barbara Stoler Miller Professor of Indian and South Asian Art Columbia University. Before her appointment at Columbia, Dehejia was acting director, deputy director, and chief curator at the Smithsonian’s Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery and professor at the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi. She holds a Ph. D. in South Asian Art from Cambridge University.

In the course of her career, Dehejia has combined research with teaching and exhibition-related activities around the world. Extensive field travel in South Asia, with visits to sites of importance in Southeast Asia, has given her firsthand familiarity with the art of the region. Her background in classical Sanskrit and Tamil and knowledge of a range of modern Indian languages have been essential to her work. Her writings have incorporated translations of ancient poetry and material from unpublished manuscripts in order to illuminate an artistic milieu. She has explored at length the theoretical basis for the portrayal of visual narratives in the context of India’s sculpture and painting and has examined issues of gender and colonialism. Over time, her interests have ranged from Buddhist art in its earliest centuries to the esoteric temples of North India and from the sacred bronzes of the south to the art of British India.

Dehejia’s extensive list of publications includes, among other titles, The Body Adorned: Dissolving Boundaries between Sacred and Profane in India’s Art (2009); Delight in Design: Indian Silver for the Raj (2008); The Sensuous and the Sacred: Chola Bronzes from South India (2002); India through the Lens: Photography 1840–1911 (2000); Devi, The Great Goddess: Female Divinity in South Asian Art (1999); and Indian Art (1997, 1998, 2000, 2002). Dehejia is the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the Padma Bhushan, awarded by the president of India for exceptional contributions to art and education in 2012 and the Hettleman Award from Columbia University in 1990. She will give the 65th Annual A.W. Mellon Lectures in the Fine Arts at the National Gallery of Art, Washington in 2016.
Ponisseril Somasundaran is La Von Duddleson Krumb Professor of Mineral Engineering, Director of the Langmuir Center for Colloids & Interfaces, and Founding Director of National Science Foundation Industry/University Cooperative Research Center for Advanced Studies in Novel Surfactants at Columbia University. He is a former Chairman of Columbia's Henry Krumb School of Mines and a former Chair of Department of Chemical Engineering, Material Science & Mineral Engineering. Before joining Columbia, he worked for the International Minerals and Chemical Corporation and Reynolds Industries. Somasundaran received his M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley.

Somasundaran's research has covered a wide spectrum of environmental, energy, and material problems, including enhanced oil recovery, oil spill remediation, waste water treatment, bio implants, tissue engineering, and nanotoxicity. His most recent work for Ebola decontamination involved the use of bleach foam. His work has also focused on India's many critical resources, including the country's only domestic source for phosphate fertilizer and iron ore. Somasundaran has served as director of the Volunteers in Service to Education in India, which established scholarships, provided scientific equipment, and supplied course curriculums.

Somasundaran is the author/editor of fifteen books and over 700 scientific publications and patents. He is the honorary editor-in-chief of the international journal "Colloids and Surfaces" and has served on many international, national and professional committees, including the National Research Council and National Science Foundation Advisory Committees. He was inducted in 1985 to the National Academy of Engineering, the highest professional distinction conferred to an engineer at the time, and later, to the Chinese, Indian, and Russian National Academies. Most recently, Somasundaran was elected to the Royal Society of Canada in 2010. Somasundaran is the recipient of numerous awards and honors from around the world, including the 2010 Padma Shri from the president of India and the 2015 Alexander Schwarzkopf Prize for Technological Innovation from Columbia University.
Arvind Panagariya is Vice-Chairman, Niti Aayog, formerly Planning Commission of India, and the Jagdish Bhagwati Professor of Indian Political Economy at Columbia University (on leave). He is a former Chief Economist of the Asian Development Bank and Professor of Economics at the University of Maryland at College Park. He has also worked with the World Bank, IMF and UNCTAD in various capacities. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Princeton University.

Panagariya is the author of more than fifteen books. His book India: The Emerging Giant (2008) was listed as a top pick that year by The Economist magazine and described as the “definitive book on the Indian economy” by Fareed Zakaria of the CNN. The Economist magazine has described his book, Why Growth Matters, (with Jagdish Bhagwati) as “a manifesto for policymakers and analysts.” His other recent books include The Making of Miracles in Indian States: Andhra Pradesh, Bihar and Gujarat (co-edited with Govinda Rao (May 2015, OUP, USA); State Level Reforms, Growth and Development in Indian States (May 2014, OUP, USA), Reforms and Economic Transformation in India (October 2012, OUP, USA) and India’s Reforms: How They Produced Inclusive Growth (March 2012, OUP, USA). His past books include The Economics of Preferential Trade Agreements, 1996, AEI Press (with Jagdish Bhagwati), The Global Trading System and Developing Asia, 1997, Oxford University Press (with M.G. Quibria and N. Rao), and Lectures on International Trade, 1998, MIT Press (with J. Bhagwati and T.N. Srinivasan). Panagariya’s scientific papers have appeared in the top economics journals such as the American Economic Review and the Quarterly Journal of Economics while his policy papers have appeared in the Foreign Affairs and Foreign Policy. Until recently, he wrote a monthly column in the Times of India and his guest columns have appeared in the Financial Times, Wall Street Journal and India Today.

In 2012, Panagariya received the Padma Bhushan from the president of India for his contributions in the field of Indian economics.