



Nanyang Technological University
DIVISION OF ECONOMICS
Seminar Series

The Division of Economics and Economic Growth Centre invite you to a seminar by Professor Partha Sen

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- Speaker** : **Professor Partha Sen**
Delhi School of Economics
- Topic** : **"Climate Change and Production Risk: Evidence from Indian Agriculture"**
- Chairperson** : **Assoc Prof Chia Wai Mun**
Division of Economics
School of Humanities & Social Sciences
- Date** : **12 August 2016 (Friday)**
- Time** : **2.30pm to 3.30pm**
- Venue** : **HSS Seminar Room 5 (HSS 04-89)**
Nanyang Technological University
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
14, Nanyang Drive
Singapore 637332

About the Speaker:

Prof Sen obtained his PhD from the London School of Economics in 1984. He was Professor of Economics at the Delhi School of Economics from 1990 to 2011. He has held positions at the LSE (two years) and the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (four years). In addition, he has held one year positions at Bristol, Michigan, Hong University of Science Technology, National University of Singapore and the Indian Statistical Institute.

He edited the Indian Economic Review for ten years (He was the Co-Editor for three years before that). He is also on the editorial board of a number of journals, including the Singapore Economic Review and Annals of Financial Economics. His publications include papers in IER, JIE, JPubEcon, JEDC. He started off as a straight open economy macroeconomics researcher. Over time, in addition to macroeconomics, he has branched into international trade and environmental economics. His recent research is on modelling social security reform and on North-South models of climate change.

Abstract:

In India, agriculture accounts for about sixty percent of employment. How would climate change, that is expected to hit agriculture in poorer countries very hard, affect India's agriculture? We study the impact of climate change on the mean and variance of yields of three food grains — rice (India's major crop), sorghum and pearl millet — at the district level using a large panel dataset for 1966-2011. An agricultural production function is estimated with exogenous climate variables -- precipitation and temperature -- controlling for other non climate inputs. We hypothesise that climate variability increases production risk. To capture the impact of climate extremes, climate variables are modelled as anomalies. The results show that climate change adversely affects mean and variance of crop yields. Crop yields are found to be sensitive to rainfall extremes, with rice being most sensitive of the three crops, and extremely high temperatures increase pearl millet yield variability.

Reservation:

Admission is free. Please reply to h-dae@ntu.edu.sg to confirm your attendance.