

Towards a Coherent Trade and Development Strategy of India

24-25 July 2008

Magnolia Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Agenda

Day 1: Thursday, 24 July 2008

0830-0930 *Registration with Tea/Coffee*

0930-1030 *Opening*

Bipul Chatterjee, *Deputy Executive Director, CUTS International*

Gopal K. Pillai, *Secretary, Department of Commerce, Government of India**

Anwarul Hoda, *Member, Planning Commission of India**

A. S. Bhal, *Economic Adviser, DFID India*

1030-1100 *Tea/Coffee*

1100-1300 *Responding to the Challenges of International Trade and Securing an Inclusive Path to Development – Trade Sustainability Impact Assessment of India*

- How can India contribute in strengthening the development dimension of the multilateral trading system?
- What would be the characteristics of a pro-development regional trading system in Asia?
- Features of a holistic trade sustainability impact assessment

Chair **Rajiv Kumar**, *Director & Chief Executive Officer, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, New Delhi*

Speaker **Siddhartha Mitra**, *Director (Research), CUTS International*

Discussants

R. S. Ratna, *Professor, Centre for WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi*

Saikat Sinha Roy, *Associate Professor, Jadavpur University, Department of Economics, Kolkata*

1300-1400 *Lunch*

1400-1600 ***Is the Stage Set for Mainstreaming International Trade into the National Development Strategy of India?***

- In the context of international trade, how do local demands feed into government policies given the lack of information about governmental schemes and policies at the grassroots?
- What are the best ways to ensure democratic participation in development by people at the grassroots so that development policy reflects their needs?

Chair **Alok Ray**, *Former Professor of Economics, IIM Calcutta, Kolkata*

Speaker **Pramod Dev**, *Policy Analyst, CUTS International*

Discussants

Nabinananda Sen, *Reader, Department of Business Management, University of Calcutta, Kolkata*

Jayati Srivastava, *Associate Professor, Centre for International Politics, Organisation and Disarmament, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi*

1600 ***Tea/Coffee***

Day 2: Friday, 25 July 2008

0930-1130 ***Regional Trade Openness Index, Income Disparity and Poverty – An Experiment with Indian Data***

- How open are Indian states with respect to international trade and in what way does regional openness affect the level of poverty and income inequality?
- Are more regionally open states also the more prosperous ones?
- How can the regional openness index be used to provide insights into the trade-poverty nexus?

Chair **Srikanta K. Panigrahi**, *Director, Indian Institute of Sustainable Development, New Delhi*

Speaker **Sugata Marjit**, *Director and RBI Professor of Industrial Economics, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata*

Discussants

Shovan Ray, *Professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai*

Rashmi Banga, *Economist, UNCTAD India Programme*

1130-1200 ***Tea/Coffee***

1200-1300 ***Reflections and the Way Forward***

1300-1400 ***Lunch***

*To be Confirmed