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Invite you to

Policy Discussion Series-XIII

## Intellectuals' Engagement in Policy Reform in Nepal: An Experience of 1990 Liberalization Policy

By

Dr. Bhola Nath Chalise

**Venue:** Martin Chautari Seminar Hall, Thapathali

**Date:** Sunday, 25 August 2013 [9 Bhadau 2070]

**Time:** 3:00 pm

The failure of professionals to work with the policy process often results in insufficient ownership and support of the general public for new policy. Nepal lacks critical engagement and reasoned debate amongst the intellectuals on policy reform issues. There is a widespread belief that policy process is merely a bureaucratic procedure or is a simple pursuit of the vested interests of the political party in power. While partly true, the general perception has discouraged creative dialogue and evidence-based contestation and more often, has triggered a blame game upon ineffective implementation of the policies. This talk will demonstrate the prevalence of such a culture of non-engagement by taking the example of the 1990 Liberalization Policy, and will suggest how we may ensure creative intellectual engagement in the policy process in the future.

*Dr. Bhola Nath Chalise is an economist and has worked in Nepal's civil service for 24 years. He was actively involved in the development of Nepal's liberalization policies in 1990s and has since been advocating greater and more effective liberalization. He holds PhD degree in Economics from University of Vienna, Austria. He has also served as the Chairman of Rastriya Banijya Bank, Managing Director of Nepal Electricity Authority, Member Secretary of National Planning Commission, and in the capacity of Secretary in the Ministry of Industry and in Ministry of Local Development.*

### About the Series

The Policy Discussion Series is an initiative of Martin Chautari and the Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies (SIAS) under the aegis of Nepal Policy Research Network (NPRN). It aims to nurture a "community of practice" around public policy in Nepal, by bringing together experienced and emerging public policy scholars and practitioners to share their research insights and experiences with a larger audience.

With this Series, we seek to stimulate debates on contemporary public policy issues, policy research methodologies, and institutions that create policy knowledge.

The Series is also a forum for the sharing of findings of policy-related research.