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Invite you to

Policy Discussion Series-XVIII

Development Planning in the National Planning Commission: An Insider View

By

Dr. Swoyambhu Man Amatya

Venue: Martin Chautari Seminar Hall, Thapathali

Date: Sunday, 13 April 2014 [30 Chait 2070]

Time: 3:00 pm

Planning is recognized as an important tool and a process with which government agencies and others mobilize limited resources as efficiently and effectively as possible to the solution of high priority problems. Several periodic plans have been completed in Nepal since the introduction of first such plan in 1956. All these plans have tried to address the contemporary issues that would help alleviate poverty and enhance economic growth. Despite all these efforts, we have not been able to enhance economic growth or to minimize the poverty level. Blames are put, for instance in the case of agriculture sector, on lack of resources, inadequate irrigational facilities, less access to rural credit, high rates of investment, among others. Based on his experience as the Member–Secretary of National Planning Commission, Dr. Amatya’s presentation will emphasize that we need to go beyond these simplistic explanations and reexamine the entire planning process before taking up something new.

Dr. Amatya, MSc (Oxford University), and PhD (Economics, Tribhuvan University), has served in the government bureaucracy in various capacities (including Secretary) for more than three decades. During his career he’s been part of various Ministries and Commissions: National Planning Commission Secretariat, Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation, Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology and Water and Energy Commission Secretariat. He was deeply involved in the preparation of the Three Year Interim Development Plan of Nepal (2007-2009). As focal point in policy co-ordination among line Ministries, he was instrumental in formulating and revising some of the existing policies of Nepal. He was the Chairperson for the Least Developed Countries and Landlocked Developing Countries’ Conference held in Almaty, Kazakhstan, in 2007 and in Bangkok, Thailand in 2008. He has received various prizes and awards including Rastriya Pratibha Puraskar, King Birendra Science and Technology Academy Award, etc. His research articles have appeared both in National and International Journals. He is now Deputy Coordinator, International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO), Vienna and Country Vice President, International Society of Tropical Foresters (ISTF).

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.