Pathologies of Bureaucracy: Why Doesn’t the Indian State Do Better?

Professor John Harriss
Visiting Research Professor, Institute of South Asian Studies

Abstract
Taking off from a critical discussion of Akhil Gupta’s recently published ethnographic study *Red Tape: Bureaucracy, Structural Violence and Poverty in India*, the paper will explore explanations for the lack of responsiveness of government in India to the needs and interests of the mass of the people.

About the Speaker
John Harriss is Professor of International Studies and the founding Director of the School for International Studies at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada. He taught previously at the University of East Anglia, and, for almost two decades, at the London School of Economics. He has been a Visiting Research Professor at the Institute of South Asian Studies at NUS since 2010. A social anthropologist, with keen interests in politics and political economy, Professor Harriss has researched and written on the economy and society of Tamil Nadu, in particular, for more years than he readily admits to. He is the co-author, with Stuart Corbridge, of *Reinventing India* (2000), and with Corbridge and Craig Jeffrey of the recently published *India Today* (2013). He is also the author of *Power Matters: Essays on Institutions, Politics and Society in India* (2006), and of *Depoliticizing Development: the World Bank and Social Capital* (2001). Long ago he published *Capitalism and Peasant Farming: Agrarian Structure and Ideology in Northern Tamil Nadu* (1982). He is a fan of English cricket, and a poor but enthusiastic skier.

Event Details
Wednesday, 27 March 2013
3.00pm to 4.30pm
FASS Faculty Lounge
The Deck, Level 2
Kent Ridge Campus
National University of Singapore

All are welcome.
Light refreshments will be served.

Please email to sassec@nus.edu.sg to register