



## **Colloquium: Why do the Children of India get a Raw Deal? State Programmes on Child Health and Nutrition**

Speaker:  
Biraj Patnaik

Date / Time:  
April 4, 2013 - 3:45pm - 5:15pm

Venue:  
10th Floor, Auditorium, Pixel A, APU

### Abstract:

India has a plethora of state-run welfare programmes that seek to address the persistent problem of child malnutrition. Yet we seem to be making little progress. What are the structural factors that do not allow Indian children to achieve their full potential? Why are the state run programmes falling woefully short of their outcomes? What do we need to do to address this issue?

Biraj Patnaik, the Principal Adviser to the Commissioners of the Supreme Court on the Right to Food takes us through some of these issues.

### A Note on the Speaker:

Biraj Patnaik is the Principal Adviser to the Commissioners of the Supreme Court. He works closely with the Commissioners in discharging their mandates i.e., communicate issues and concerns relevant to food entitlements and articulate policy demands with concerned authorities to augment the implementation of Orders relevant to the right to food case; and make state visits, conduct inquiries, and verify complaints on the compliance of said Orders. Patnaik also works closely with States Advisers to oversee the performance of food schemes on the ground. Moreover, he serves as the overall in-charge of the day-to-day manning of the Commissioners Secretariat. In addition, he currently assists the Central Vigilance Committee on the PDS. He is appointed by the Indian Supreme Court in an honorary capacity. Patnaik, has been a member of a number of Committees of the Planning Commission, the Government of India and State Governments on food, health care and public sector reforms.