

[CBPS Annual Endowment Lecture in memory of Dr. Poornima Vyasulu](#)

The CBPS Annual Endowment Lecture in memory of Dr. Poornima Vyasulu is being delivered by Prof. Smita Srinivas on 7 June 2019. The title of the talk is ***'An Old and New Economics for Health'***.

[Profile of Prof. Smita Srinivas:](#)

Prof. Smita Srinivas has held senior academic and leadership positions in both universities and policy analysis centres. Her research focuses on economic development, technological learning, innovation, and industrial policy. In particular, she analyses tensions between the political economy of “late” industrial economies, evolutionary economics, and economics of innovation. She is the Founder Director of the platform Technological Change Lab originally at Columbia University, Co-I India on an ESRC UK grant on affordable cancer care in Africa; Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Technology, Innovation and Economic Research (CTIER), India; Visiting Professor, Economics & Innovation, Knowledge and Development (IKD) Centre, The Open University UK; and Honorary Professor, Science, Technology, Engineering, Public Policy at University College London.

Prof. Smita Srinivas was awarded the 2015 biennial European Association for Evolutionary Political Economy (EAEPE) Myrdal Prize for her book on the health industry "Market Menagerie" (Stanford University Press Economics & Finance). She is a frequent keynote speaker. Invitations include the 2019 economics keynote at the 31st Annual EAEPE Conference (Poland); The EAEPE Development Economics symposium (Germany); Schumpeterian plans (France); No Person Left Behind (Soka Gakkai, India); Advanced Ph.D. seminar (Uruguay), RAND (UK); UN (Japan); Chair, Mayors' panel (Singapore), and Third Annual Christopher Freeman Lecture (Jawaharlal Nehru University, India). She has been a full-time faculty member at Columbia University, held several Fellowships in Science and International Affairs at Harvard's Kennedy School, and a Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology after working with influential economists Alice Amsden and Frank Levy.

She has extensive advisory invitations, scholarly grants, journal and research appointments including as Honorary Professor Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), Visiting Scientist, Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Visiting Senior Fellow, the London School of Economics (LSE). She has helped design or direct pioneering US, East Africa region, and Indian university programs in economics and applications and over two decades assisting governments, firms, development agencies, and NGOs.

[Abstract of the talk: 'An Old and New Economics for Health'](#)

The time is overdue to develop and sustain a new approach to the economics of health. This exercise brings with it new language, disciplinary and policy challenges, and implications for ensuring quality healthcare. To date, many of the normative debates about health – whether it is about affordability, human rights, or robust public services – have arguably been situated in an older economics and have side-stepped the non-equilibrium economics and policy implications of technological advance. This Poornima Vyasulu Memorial Lecture draws on the author's Myrdal Prize-winning book "*Market Menagerie: Health and Development in Late Industrial States*" (Stanford University Press, Economics and Finance 2012) and situates India's access to healthcare in terms of the dynamics of technological learning and capabilities, addressing both the economics and philosophical concerns of policy design and lived impact of diverse strands of healthcare.