



INDIA RISING: MYTH OR REALITY?

Speaker: Mr Sunanda K Datta-Ray
Date: Saturday, 9 January 2010
Time: 7.00 pm - 8.30 pm
Venue: Singapore Indian Association
Vijaya Hall, 69 Balestier Road

About the Speaker

Sunanda Datta-Ray has been one of India's leading journalists, as well as an author and commentator. He spent over 50 years in journalism, including stints in Britain (where he started his career in journalism) and America, and as editor of the *Statesman* of India. His latest book is *Looking East to Look West: Lee Kuan Yew's Mission India*. His other books include *Bihar Shows the Way*; *Smash and Grab: Annexation of Sikkim*; and *Waiting for America: India and the US in the New Millennium*. He has written extensively for the *International Herald Tribune* and essays for *Time* magazine.

Synopsis of the Talk

Unlike China, the phrase 'India Rising' is never used by Indians. It's taken for granted India was never down. But India's engagement with South-east Asia does mark a watershed, almost as significant as Independence. Southeast Asia was initially India's route to reconciliation with the US. Now it is an end in itself. The relationship signifies a new confidence in India's relations with the world. It also means a reorientation of economic and diplomatic policy. Both are intended to promote reconstruction and regeneration at home which are recognised as the national priorities. Trade and investment are the means to improving the lot of 300 million Indians languishing below the poverty line. They are not the means of achieving superpower status. That's the reason why, as Singapore's Minister Mentor mused in a *Forbes* magazine article, the world is apprehensive of China Rising but not perturbed by India Rising.

Mr Sunanda's latest book

In his talk, Mr Sunanda will also touch on his latest book *Looking East to Look West: Lee Kuan Yew's Mission India*. Copies of the book will be on sale and the author will be pleased to autograph them.

You are cordially invited to the Talk.

Due to limited seating, registration is required. Please RSVP to Ms Juliana Charles of Singapore Indian Association at email: sgindianassn@pacific.net.sg or fax: 6294-6153 by Thursday, 7 January 2010.

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