

# Dipak Banerjee Memorial Lecture 2015

## Dipak Banerjee

Dipak Banerjee is one of the legendary teachers of economics at Presidency College, Calcutta. He graduated from the London School of Economics with, as Lord Lionel Robbins wrote, “an unbroken string of A’s”. Although he was offered a good graduate-school fellowship to do his PhD, and perhaps an assistant lectureship later at London School of Economics, Dipak Banerjee chose to come to Presidency College as Assistant Professor.



He subsequently returned to London School of Economics for a brief period, and also spent a year at Berkeley. Apart from these two stints, he remained in Economics Department, Presidency College for over four decades, starting from the late 1950s, where he produced one brilliant economist after another for the rest of his life. It was here that legends started accumulating this charismatic teacher to create the myth of “DB”, as his students used to call him.

After his expiry in 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2007, a memorial lecture was initiated from 2007. Earlier lectures have been given by eminent economists like Debraj Ray, Maitreesh Ghatak, Amit Bhaduri, Pranab Bardhan, Joseph Stiglitz, Amartya Sen, and Dilip Mookerjee.

This year, the Department of Economics, Presidency University is proud to announce that the Eighth Dipak Banerjee Memorial Lecture will be given by His Excellency Dr. Raghuram Govind Rajan, Governor, Reserve Bank of India at Derozio Memorial Hall, Presidency University, on 10<sup>th</sup> December, 2015 at 6 p.m.

## Dr. Raghuram Govind Rajan

Dr. Raghuram Govind Rajan is the current governor of the Reserve Bank of India.



A distinguished academic, Dr Rajan graduated from IIT Delhi and did his post-graduation in Business Administration from IIM Ahmedabad. Dr. Rajan received a Ph.D. from MIT’s Sloan School of Management for his dissertation on banking. Subsequently, he joined the University of Chicago’s Graduate School of Business as a faculty in the Finance department in 1991. Since then he has held distinguished positions at various international organisations and served the Indian government in multiple capacities. Most notably, he was the Chief Economist at the International Monetary Fund from 2003 – 2006 and Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India from 2012 – 2013, after which he was appointed as the 23<sup>rd</sup> Governor of the Reserve Bank of India.

Dr. Rajan has received several professional awards and distinctions throughout his distinguished career. In 2003, he won the Fisher Black Prize awarded by the American Finance Association for contributions to theory and practice of finance by an economist under the age of 40. He was elected as the president of the American Finance Association in 2011. In 2013, he was the recipient of the Deutsche Bank Prize for Financial Economics for groundbreaking research on finance and macro-policy. In 2014, he was conferred the Best Central Bank Governor award by the Euromoney magazine and also the Governor of the Year award by the London based publication Central Banking. His 2010 book *Fault Lines: How Hidden Fractures Still Threaten the World Economy*, won the Financial Times and Goldman Sachs Business Book of the Year Award for 2010.