Director

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Thiruvananthapuram

cordially invites you to the

Eighth P. K. Gopalakrishnan Memorial Lecture

on

The Challenge of Intolerance, the Future of Indian Democracy, and South India’s Role: Some Reflections

to be delivered by

Rajmohan Gandhi
Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Date : Wednesday 19 December 2018
Time : 03.30 p.m.
Venue : Baker Auditorium
        CDS, Prasant Nagar, Ulloor, Thiruvananthapuram

Please join us for tea after the lecture

RSVP: Mr. Praveen G
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P.K. Gopalakrishnan

The late Dr. P.K. Gopalakrishnan was one of the outstanding civil servants who played an important role in setting up advanced institutions of research in Kerala during 1970-80. The Centre is one among them. As Secretary to the Government during the Chief Ministership of the late C. Achutha Menon, Dr. Gopalakrishnan provided significant support in formulating a science and technology policy for Kerala. He served as Member-Secretary to the State Planning Board and was Secretary, Planning until his retirement. After retirement he served as Member, State Planning Board and Chairman of the Committee for Economic Affairs of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee.

To perpetuate the memory of Dr. Gopalakrishnan, his family has instituted an Endowment at the Centre. This lecture is organised as part of the activities of the endowment.

Rajmohan Gandhi

A historian, biographer and peacemaker, Rajmohan Gandhi divides his time between India and the United States, where he is a professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His latest book is *Modern South India: A History from the 17th Century to Our Times*. Other books by him include *Understanding the Muslim Mind* (1987); *Mohandas: The Man, his People and the Empire* (2007); *Punjab: A History from Aurangzeb to Mountbatten* (2013); *Patel: A Life* (1990); and *Understanding the Founding Fathers: An Enquiry into the Beginnings of the Republic* (2016). In the 1990s he served as a member of the Rajya Sabha.

The Challenge of Intolerance, the Future of Indian Democracy, and South India's Role: Some Reflections

Abstract:

Every thinking Indian has been concerned about the creation post-2014 of a climate of intolerance, and of threats to India's federal democracy, which though imperfect has been our precious possession, envied by much of the world.

The lecture will focus on two aspects of the subject. Firstly, does India's modern history offer lessons that may be relevant for the preservation of tolerance and democracy? In addressing this question, the talk will draw upon the lecturer's findings in his recent research into the making of modern South India. Secondly, the lecture will ask whether South India has a role, even perhaps a distinctive one, in efforts to preserve what the nation has cherished and, if possible, to improve upon it.