

Economics Seminar, Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi.

SPEAKER: Prasad S. Bhattacharya, Deakin University

TITLE: How do legal systems affect land distribution?: A long run disaggregated analysis

TIME: 3:30-5:00 P.M. (NOTE UNUSUAL TIME)

DAY & DATE: Thursday, 18th March 2010 (NOTE UNUSUAL DAY)

PLACE: Seminar Room 2

Abstract:

Using a new panel data set on land inequality that stretches back to early 1900s, this paper investigates the impact of legal systems on land distribution across 80 countries. It finds that, holding colonial history and the level of development constant, English, Spanish and Dutch law systems are associated with lower land inequality, while countries whose legal systems contain elements of Canon law, Islamic law and traces of early Roman law have higher land inequality. Importantly, Civil law and French law do not exert significant influence on land distribution. There is also evidence that colonial history influences the way in which legal systems affect land distribution. The paper also studies the impact of legal systems on decile distribution of land.

<http://www.isid.ac.in/~pu/seminar.html>