

SUGATA BOSE (JANUARY 2013)

Big ticket lecture

It's become something of a big ticket event on Mumbai's annual intellectual calendar bringing together some of its finest minds and most vibrant personalities; and this Thursday, once again some of Mumbai's best and brightest will gather at the IMC at Churchgate for another installment of the 15th Vasant Sheth Memorial to be delivered by noted Professor Sugata Bose, Gardiner professor of History at Harvard University.



Subhash Chandra Bose

Bose, the grand nephew of Subhash Chandra Bose and the son of the great nationalist Sarat Chandra Bose will speak on "Colourful Cosmopolitanisms: Bombay Calcutta and the Indian Ocean," a subject which given the rise of conservative and reactionary forces in the country is not only timely but compelling. A visionary business leader and an entrepreneurial genius the swashbuckling Vasant Sheth in whose name the lecture series has been named in memory of established Great Eastern Shipping, a juggernaut in international shipping.



Sugata Bose

Previous speakers have included Romila Thapar, Sir Robert Swan, and Liaquat Ahmed, the Pulitzer Prize winner among others. Incidentally a piece of trivia that got us even more excited: As if Bose's family heft were not considerable enough he happens to be married to none other than the Mary Richardson, Professor of history at Tufts University Ayesha Jalal, the grand-niece of the great Urdu writer Sadat Ali Manto whose vivid writings on Mumbai's mean streets are unsurpassed. And though she's not coming, we look forward to hearing her illustrious husband's speech on a subject close to our hearts!