

### **Program**

9.15 am	:	Registration
9.30 am	:	Inaugural Session
10.00 am – 11.30 am	:	Working Session
11.45 am – 1.30 pm	:	Panel Discussion
1.30 pm	:	Lunch

### **Seminar Note**

The global financial crisis of 2008 and the subsequent global economic downturn have prompted a new wave of economic integration efforts in East Asia. By the end of 2010 about 50 (mainly bilateral) FTAs involving East Asian countries have come into effect, over 40 FTAs have been signed or negotiated, and there are around 15 FTAs being studied for feasibility. However, the issue of sequencing of a region-wide economic agreement still remains unresolved.

The APEC 2010 Summit statement has further added to the ambiguity by suggesting that the members should pursue a Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP), building on various ongoing regional cooperation formworks including ASEAN+3 or +6 and the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Japan had earlier put its weight behind the ASEAN+6 integration approach (CEPEA) that excludes the US while China has been pushing for the ASEAN+3 East Asian Free Trade Area (EAFTA).

In this backdrop of competitive regionalism the much waited India-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) has been signed on February 16, 2011. ICRIER proposes to organize the Seminar “*India-Japan CEPA: Implications for East Asian Economic Integration*” on 17<sup>th</sup> March at New Delhi.

The objective of the seminar is to facilitate discussion on the following issues:

1. Merits of alternative approaches to region wide economic integration.
2. The TPP debate in Japan.
3. Implications of the India-Japan CEPA for East Asian Economic Integration.
4. Challenges and opportunities with regard to India-Japan cooperation.