SWEDISH SOUTH ASIAN STUDIES NETWORK (SASNET)

invites to **Brown Bag Lunch Seminar:**

Professor Rajni Hatti Kaul

Department of Biotechnology, Lund University

Biotechnology and sustainable development

On Thursday, 19th May 2011, 12 - 13 at Centre for Theology and Religious Studies (CTR) Conference room 438, 4th floor, Allhelgona Kyrkogata 8, Lund

Abstract: Biotechnology involves the use of living organisms and their components to develop processes or products that are of benefit to mankind and can lead to improvement in the quality of life. It has applications in diverse areas of health, agriculture, food and feed, chemicals, energy and environment. Developments in biotechnology have led to the availability of insulin, human growth hormone, and other biotherapeutics against a number of diseases.

In agriculture, biotechnology tools can be used for improving crop productivity and increasing the resistance of crops to drought and pests. Environmental biotechnology is an important area involving degradation of diverse pollutants in the environment. Now with increasing awareness of the problems facing us such as climate change, decreasing fossil resources for energy and chemicals, and access to clean water for a growing population, biotechnology is being seen as one of the key technologies that will contribute to a more sustainable future.

At the Department of Biotechnology, Lund University, major part of our research has been directed towards the use of biotechnology for environmental bioremediation and for producing bioenergy and biodegradable chemicals and materials from renewable resources.

SASNET offers free brown bag lunch to those who wish to have such. If so, please send an e-mail to Lars Eklund (<u>Lars.Eklund@sasnet.lu.se</u>) before Wednesday 18th May at 16.00.