

22nd August 2025

For Immediate Release

Appointment of the 17th S R Nathan Fellow for the Study of Singapore

The **Institute of Policy Studies (IPS)** is pleased to announce the appointment of **Mr Piyush Gupta**, former Chief Executive Officer and Director of DBS Group, as the 17th S R Nathan Fellow for the Study of Singapore.

From August to December 2025, Mr Gupta will pursue research into the development of Singapore's financial sector. His work will trace Singapore's evolution into a leading financial centre, examine the tradeoffs between trust and innovation, and explore the future of finance shaped by emerging technologies such as tokenisation and artificial intelligence (AI). He will deliver his series of three lectures on 13th October, 3rd November, and 8th December 2025. Thereafter, the lectures will be compiled and published as a book.

The IPS-Nathan Lectures are free and open to all. Held at NUS, they enrich the vibrant intellectual and cultural life on campus, and advance understanding and discourse on issues of national interest among the general public. Details of Mr Gupta's lectures will be published on the IPS website in due course.

A biographical note on Mr Piyush Gupta is provided herewith.

About the S R Nathan Fellowship for the Study of Singapore

The S R Nathan Fellowship was announced in 2013 at IPS' 25th anniversary gala dinner. IPS wanted to recognise the unique contributions of Mr S R Nathan — Singapore's sixth and longest-serving President — to public service and the development of Singapore. With generous support from individual and corporate donors, the Institute raised around S\$5.9 million (including a matching government grant) to endow the fellowship.

The S R Nathan Fellowship for the Study of Singapore serves to further IPS' core mission: to research and analyse policy issues and challenges, build bridges between key thought leaders, and communicate the Institute's work to a wider audience.

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Piyush Gupta was Chief Executive Officer and Director of DBS Group from November 2009 to March 2025. Under his leadership, DBS underwent a significant and successful transformation, being named Best Bank and Best Digital Bank in the world on several occasions, as well as one of the top ten transformative organizations of the 2010 - 2020 decade by Harvard Business Review.

Prior to joining DBS, Piyush had a 27 year career at Citigroup, where his last position was Chief Executive Officer for South East Asia, Australia and New Zealand.

He is currently the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Singapore Management University, Chairman of the Mandai Park Holdings Board, and Deputy Chairman of the Board of Keppel Ltd. In addition, he sits on the board of Singapore's National Research Foundation and is a member of the Ministry of Trade and Industry Singapore — Future Economy Advisory Panel. Piyush is a term trustee of the Singapore Indian Development Association (SINDA). Previously, he has been a member of the Singapore Emerging Stronger Taskforce, aimed at defining Singapore's future in a post-Covid world, the UN Secretary General's Task Force on Digital Financing of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Board of Institute of International Finance, and the McKinsey Advisory Council.

Piyush has a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Degree in Economics from St. Stephen's College, Delhi University, India and a Post Graduate Diploma in Management from IIM, Ahmedabad.

Piyush was awarded the Public Service Star by the President of Singapore for his meritorious services to the nation in 2020. He is a recipient of the 2023 Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award, the highest honour conferred by the Indian Government on the country's diaspora.

Piyush was named one of the world's top 100 best-performing chief executives in Harvard Business Review — 2019 edition of "The CEO 100". He was named Global Indian of the Year by the Economic Times in 2021, Singapore Business Awards' Outstanding Chief Executive of the Year in 2016, and Singapore Business Leader of the Year by CNBC in 2014.

In his personal capacity, Piyush takes a keen interest in nature, and is a Co-Chairman of the BirdLife International Advisory Group and a member of the Global Steering Committee of the Campaign for Nature.



About the Institute of Policy Studies

The [Institute of Policy Studies \(IPS\)](#) was established in 1988 as an independent think-tank to study and generate public policy ideas in Singapore. Today, IPS is an autonomous research centre of the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore. The Institute continues to advance its core mission: to analyse public policy; build bridges between thought leaders; and communicate research findings to a wide audience. IPS examines domestic policy challenges across a variety of fields and studies the attitudes of Singaporeans through surveys of public perception. It adopts a multi-disciplinary approach in its analysis and takes the long-term view in its strategic deliberation and research.

For media queries

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