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तेहीं दक्षिण एशिया आर्थिक शिखर सम्मेलन

१९-२० अप्रैल, २०२२ भारत पर्यावास केन्द्र, लोधी रोड, नई दिल्ली

# THIRTEENTH SOUTH **ASIA ECONOMIC SUMMIT**

ত্রয়োদশ দক্ষিণ এশিয়া অর্থনৈতিক শীর্ষ সংমানন

19-20 April 2022 India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi

### **PROGRAMME**

	Day 1: 19 April 2022, Tuesday
17.00-17.45	Inaugural Session
Venue: Jacaranda	Welcome Remarks: Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS
	Initial Remarks: Ambassador (Dr) Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS
	Presentation of Report of the 12 <sup>th</sup> South Asia Economic Summit by Dr Dushni Weerakoon, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka
	<b>Inaugural Address: Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi</b> , Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Government of India
	Vote of Thanks: Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Associate Professor, RIS
17.45-18.00	Tea Break

#### 18.00-19.30 Plenary Session 1: Post Pandemic Development Imperatives: Issues Venue: Jacaranda for Regional Cooperation Key Issues Chair: Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS G20 Indian Presidency 2023 Evolving value chains and Co-Chair: Dr Fahmida Khatun, Executive Director, Centre for Policy integration trade for Dialogue (CPD), Bangladesh addressing inequalities and employment generation Dr Debapriya Bhattacharyya, Chair, Southern Voice network of Enabling economic growth think tanks and Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue and stable macro-economy (CPD), Dhaka Accelerating SDGs **Dr Dushni Weerakoon,** Executive Director, Institute of Policy Financing of development Studies, Sri Lanka • Dr Abid Suleri, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Pakistan (online) • Dr Posh Raj Pandey, Chairman, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), Nepal Mr Ahmed As-ad, Maldives (online) Mr R V Shahi, Distinguished Fellow, RIS • **Dr Lutfi Rahimi**, BIRUNI Institute, Afghanistan (online) Ms Karma Tshering Deki, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer, Tarayana Foundation, Bhutan (online) 19.45 **Cultural Evening and Welcome Dinner** Odissi Dance performance by disciples of Ms. Madhavi Mudgal, Venue: Margosa Lawn Gandharva Mahavidyalaya, New Delhi, Padma Shri Awardee Welcome Remarks: Mr Sumit Seth, Joint Secretary (PP&R), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

Dinner

09.30-10.45	RIS-UNESCAP Plenary Session:
Venue: Silver Oak	Trade Cooperation and Localising Value Chains
<ul> <li>Key Issues</li> <li>Potential for regional and resilient value chains</li> <li>Trade costs and competitiveness with special reference to MSMEs</li> <li>Multilateral and Regional Contours of Digital Trade</li> <li>Issues in trade in services</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Chair: Mr Rajeev Kher, Distinguished Fellow, RIS, New Delhi</li> <li>Co-Chair: Dr Rajan Sudesh Ratna, Deputy Head and Economic Affairs Officer, UN ESCAP-South and South West Asia Office, New Delhi</li> <li>Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh</li> <li>Professor S K Mohanty, Professor, RIS, New Delhi</li> <li>Professor Bishwambher Pyakuryal, Chairman, Institute for Strategic and Socio-Economic Research, Nepal</li> <li>Professor Nisha Taneja, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi</li> <li>Dr Ganesan Wignaraja, Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Institute of South Asia Studies, National University of Singapore (online)</li> <li>Dr Pritam Banerjee, Logistics Specialist Consultant, ADB, India Office, New Delhi</li> </ul>
10.45-11.00	Tea Break
11.00-12.30	Plenary Session III: Future of Regional Connectivity
<ul> <li>Venue: Jacaranda</li> <li>Key Issues</li> <li>Connectivity for Economic Corridors and Employment</li> <li>Inland-waterways and Port-led development</li> <li>Digital connectivity infrastructure</li> <li>Financing Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure for Connectivity</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Chair: Dr Posh Raj Pandey, Chairman, SAWTEE, Nepal</li> <li>Co-Chair: Professor Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre at RIS</li> <li>Mr Manmohan Parkash, Deputy Director General, Asian Development Bank</li> <li>Professor Saikat Sinha Roy, Jadavpur University, Kolkata</li> <li>Professor Selim Raihan, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh,</li> <li>Dr Constantino Xavier, Fellow, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), New Delhi</li> <li>Dr Paras Kharel, Research Director, SAWTEE, Nepal</li> </ul>
12.30-14.00 Venue: Silver Oak	Special Luncheon Lecture on: Digitalisation and Financial Sector Cooperation in South Asia by Smt. Smita Sharma, Director, International Department, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Mumbai  Chair: Dr Deepak Mishra, Director & Chief Executive, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi
14.00-15.00	Parallel Sessions
	3

Day 2: Wednesday, 20 April 2022

## Parallel Session I: Institutional Ecosystem for Food Systems and Value Realisation

Venue: Silver Oak

#### Key Issues

- Access to nutritious food; and nutrition related interventions
- Empowering communities, SHGs for local value realization
- Sustainable practices and role of digital technologies (drones, AI, blockchain)
- Low cost sustainable technologies and farm mechanisation

Chair: Mr Vijay Sardana, Advocate, Arbitrator and Techno-Legal Expert for Food, Consumer Products, Agrochemicals

- Ms Sabnam Shivakoti, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, Government of Nepal
- Mr Aleen Mukherjee, Chief Operating Officer, NCDEX, Institute of Commodity Markets and Research (NICR), New Delhi
- Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Research Director, CPD, Bangladesh (online)
- Dr Manoj Thibbotuwawa, Research Fellow/Head (Agricultural Economics Policy), Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), Sri Lanka (online)

Parallel Session II: Health for all and Digital Health Initiatives

Venue: Jacaranda

#### Key Issues

- Supporting digital public goods in health
- Universal health coverage and prevention
- Ethics in public health
- Traditional Medicine Systems

Chair: Dr K Srinath Reddy, President, Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) (online)

- Dr Nisha Arunatilake,
   Director of Research,
   Institute of Policy Studies
   (IPS), Sri Lanka (online)
- **Professor T C James**, Visiting Fellow, RIS, New Delhi
- **Dr Yusuf Sadat,** Research Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Bangladesh

Parallel Session III: Leveraging Energy Connectivity for Sustainable Transitions

Venue: Jacaranda

#### Key Issues

- Power transmission connectivity
- Energy trade and regulations
- Leveraging technologies in the energy sector in generation and transmission
- Financing new initiatives

Chair: Mr Syed Munir Khasru, Chairman, The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance, Bangladesh

- Mr Md. Abul Kalam Azad, Special Envoy of Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), Presidency of Bangladesh, Ex-Principal Secretary and Principal SDG Coordinator, Prime Minister's office, Government of Bangladesh (online)
- Mr Gyanendra Lal Pradhan, Chairman, Energy Development Council, Confederation of Nepalese Industry (CNI), Nepal

15.00-15.15

15.15-16.30

Break

Closing Plenary: Climate Resilience and Sustainable Lifestyle

### Venue: Silver Oak

#### Key Issues

- Climate Change vulnerabilities and preparedness
- Regional Public Goods, Financing and Technology
- Enabling sustainable transition through sustainable lifestyle: Opportunities and Challenges
- Innovations for sustainable consumption and production
- Idea of LiFE

**Chair: Dr Seshadri Chari,** Chairman, China Study Centre and Member, Planning and Monitoring Board, Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE) and Member, Governing Council and General Body, RIS

- **Professor Thakur S Powdyel**, Former Minister of Education, Royal Government of Bhutan
- **Dr Puspa Sharma**, Former Executive Director, SAWTEE, Nepal
- Mr Ahmed As-ad, Maldives (online)
- **Professor K. J. Joseph**, Director, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation (GIFT), Kerala

#### 16.30-17.30

## Venue: Silver Oak

## **Valedictory Session**

**Chair: Professor Deepak Nayyar**, Co-Chair, South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS)

Remarks: Professor S K Mohanty, RIS, New Delhi

**Special Remarks: Dr Debapriya Bhattacharyya,** Chair, Southern Voice network of think tanks and Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Bangladesh

Way Forward: Dr Posh Raj Pandey, Chairman, SAWTEE, Nepal

**Valedictory Address: Dr Nagesh Kumar**, Director, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi

Vote of Thanks: Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Associate Professor, RIS