

आरआईएस वार्षिक रिपोर्ट

2017-18

RIS

Annual Report

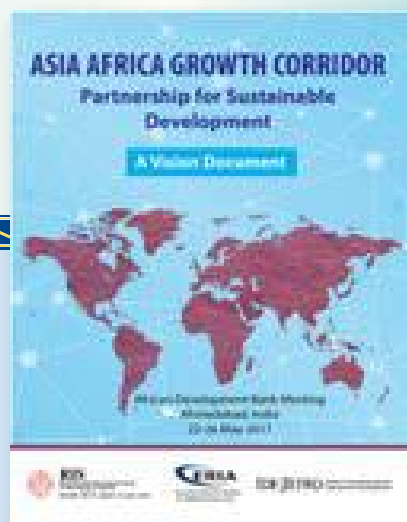


RIS

Research and Information System
for Developing Countries

विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली

Prime Minister Lauds Vision Document on “Asia Africa Growth Corridor”



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Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi
Director General, RIS

MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN



Amb. Dr Mohan Kumar
Chairman, RIS

The past year has been an eventful one for RIS. It was a moment of immense pride for RIS that the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in his inaugural address at the annual meeting of the African Development Bank (AfDB) on 23 May 2017 congratulated RIS along with its partners for putting together the Asia-Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) Vision Document. The idea of the AAGC first emerged in the joint declaration issued by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe when they discussed the free open, inclusive and prospects Indo-Pacific. The AAGC is a bold idea which contemplates holistic linking and development of two large, dynamic continents based on principles of transparency, inclusiveness, financial viability, sustainability and full consultation with all stakeholders.

The third annual meeting of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) was held in Mumbai in June 2018. Given the numerous opportunities and the diverse challenges of infrastructure development in India and other member countries of the AIIB, Government of India identified RIS as the Knowledge Partner to conceptualize, plan and organize a number of lead-up events and to host country-wide seminars on pertinent issues of infrastructure financing in the run-up to the AIIB annual meeting. As part of this programme, a Curtain Raiser ceremony was organised in February 2018 in New Delhi. Mr Jin Liqun, President AIIB delivered the Keynote Address and Shri Arun Jaitley, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Government of India delivered the Inaugural Address. Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs and Mr Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport and Highways and Shipping, Government of India also spoke on the occasion.

To commemorate 25 years of ASEAN-India Partnership, RIS and ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS invited Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, Government of India, to deliver a Keynote Address on 'ASEAN-India Partnership' in June 2017 at New Delhi. Hon'ble EAM also inaugurated the ninth edition of the Delhi Dialogue in July 2017 around the theme 'ASEAN-India Relations: Charting the Course for the Next 25 Years'.

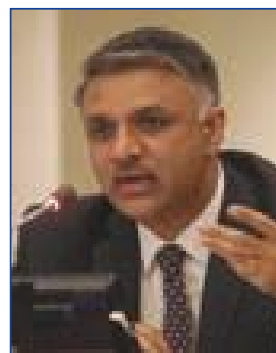
As part of the major pillar of its work programme, namely promoting South-South Cooperation, RIS organised the third Delhi conference on 'South-South and Triangular Cooperation' in August 2017. A new journal "*Development Cooperation Review*" was also launched in March 2018. Crucial subjects such as SDGs, Blue Economy, G-20, Trade and Investment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Traditional Knowledge among others, continued to be an intrinsic part of the work programme of RIS.

I take this opportunity to thank my colleagues in the RIS Governing Council and the General Body for their valuable inputs on the various activities of RIS. In particular, I wish to thank the Foreign Secretary, Shri Vijay Keshav Gokhale for his guidance and support for the work programme of RIS. I count on the stewardship of the Director General and the commitment of the entire team to enable RIS to fulfil its fundamental mandate of being the think tank of the Global South!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mohan Kumar', with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Mohan Kumar

REPORT OF DIRECTOR GENERAL



Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi
Director General

RIS continues to serve as the think-tank of the developing countries by fostering effective policy dialogues through strengthening of the process of policy coherence on the international issues. At the national level, the institute has given important policy research inputs to the Ministry of External Affairs. During the present reporting year, we have made intensified efforts to widen the ecosystem and also become closer with the other key actors of the national policy-making like the NITI Aayog, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Ayush, among others.

RIS continues to work with other policy research institutes, think-tanks and civil society organizations. In this regard, launching of the NeST, FIDC, FITM and BEF has facilitated in strengthening of different linkages. It also signed many MoUs with other institutions and agencies for joint ventures in research arena and in bringing out publications.

We were privileged to be in close association with Shri Hardeep Singh Puri as the Chairman of RIS till mid-September 2017. His insights and long experience enriched RIS work programmes and helped widen the outreach. Under his leadership, two important initiatives that RIS could work on have now become the important pillars of its work programme. One was to analyse regional influences and trade and development cooperation patterns and the second one was reinvigorating RIS internship programme and its outreach for young scholars and students.

Policy Research and New Initiatives

The research agenda of RIS revolves around four pillars, viz. global issues and development cooperation architecture; initiatives on trade, investment and regional cooperation; trade facilitation, connectivity and regional integration; and finally new technologies and development issues.

As part of the global themes, RIS keenly followed developments at G-20. This process, which has emerged as an important inter-government forum for global development issues over the past two decades, has attracted many of our researchers from the perspective of Africa. We produced papers and policy briefs and contributed for the German Presidency of G-20. Same focus continued for the Buenos Aires, when Argentina took over the Presidency. Besides, providing policy inputs to the Government of India, the RIS works for evolving alternative narratives on country engagements in G-20.

Regional integration has continued to be significant in our research focus. This pillar deals with India's regional integration process in South and Southeast Asia and sectoral verticals such as trade facilitation and connectivity. trade, investment, and services have also been studied in the context of regionalism, which is again an important pillar. In this regard, focus has been on PTA/BFTA/CEPA/CECA. For facilitating negotiations, two major studies have been undertaken on India-COMESA and India-Mauritius CECPA. RIS is also working on specific regional groupings

such as MERCOSUR, ASEAN, IORA and PACER. For invoking debate on issues related to Blue Economy, a new platform, the Blue Economy Forum, has been formed; it is shared by academicians and policy-makers.

The South-South Cooperation has always been the main plank of the RIS work plan. As part of this process, the conceptualization and documentation of many facets of the international development cooperation have been major areas of activity at RIS. Increased activities under the SSC have attracted larger audience among academia, policy-makers, members of civil society and other stakeholders; the institute has also launched a monthly journal '*Development Cooperation Review*', a joint endeavour of RIS, the Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC) and NeST. The journal aims to capture holistic narrative around global development cooperation and plans to fill an important knowledge gap towards theorization, empirical verification and documentation of Southern-led development cooperation processes. Spearheading research and advocacy on SDGs, the institute has been a partner with NITI Aayog, Government of India, and UN India, for organizing national consultations on SDGs.

The last pillar, Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), has emerged as a new concept and practice in science policy. RIS is perhaps the only institution in India working on it, and is contributing to global discourse and practice on the RRI. In the recent years, Science Diplomacy has also emerged as an important element in both foreign policy and science policy. RIS with National Institute of Advanced Studies has initiated a joint research programme on this, which was sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

RIS has also launched new fora – Forum for Indian Traditional Medicine with the support of Ministry of AYUSH; and Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Forum in collaboration with the Energy Research Institute (TERI), Centre for Science and Environment, Indo-French Centre for Promotion of Advanced Research and Vigyan Prasar. The objective of the STIP is to promote informed debate on different aspects of science, technology and innovative policy, and a monthly lecture series to act as broader public platform for interactions has also been started. Similarly, to promote policy dialogue a number of important events were organized, and they have been extensively covered in the Report.

In fact the year under review has also been a period of intense activities. The first major contribution in this regard was in the form of "AAGC Vision Document"; prepared jointly with ERIA and IDE-JETRO and launched during the Annual Meeting of African Development Bank. It is indeed a great honour that the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi congratulated RIS, ERIA and IDE for preparing this valuable document; details of which are mentioned in the relevant sections of this Report.

The Ministry of Finance chose RIS as its Knowledge Partner for the Annual Meeting of Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank that was held in Mumbai in June 2018; RIS was entrusted with the responsibility to organize eighth lead-up events on different themes, followed by host-country seminars. As a prelude to it, the Curtain Raiser Ceremony was held at New Delhi in February 2018.

The Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, delivered the Keynote Address on the occasion of celebrating 25 Years of ASEAN-India Partnership. We were also honoured when she inaugurated the IX edition of ASEAN-India Delhi Dialogue. The ASEAN-India Centre at RIS is continuing its work programme of deepening ASEAN-India partnership. At South Asia level, RIS has been one of the key partners for organizing the South-Asia Economic Summits.

Capacity-building

RIS is envisioned as a forum for strengthening capacity-building on global and regional issues. In this context, RIS consistently makes intensified efforts for better coordination and running of such programmes.

The institute conducted three flagship ITEC programmes on— Learning South-South Cooperation; International Economic Issues and Development Policy and the one on Science Diplomacy. All the three were well attended and helped establish connect with other developing countries in the upcoming areas. The report has indicated the focus of these programmes as the very much part of the work programme at RIS. Faculty colleagues are working in these areas and are actively contributing at national and global platforms.

The RIS-EXIM Bank Summer School on the International Trade Theory and Practices was also held for the benefit of M.Phil and Ph.D students specializing in international trade. Twenty- nine participants, including six representing BIMSTEC countries, took part in it. The course structure covered modules such as recent development in trade theory, tools and techniques in trade analysis, understanding FTAs and regional trade blocs, IPRs, etc. Similarly, in the Internship Programme conducted at the institute for the benefit of university students had participation of 21 students.

Rising Profile of RIS publications

RIS publications aim to serve as the important referrals for academicians, policy-makers, practitioners and other stakeholders. Therefore, as the part of its efforts to disseminate widely its research outputs, RIS brings out a number of publications including reports, discussion papers, policy briefs, journals and newsletter.

During the period under review, RIS published eight reports, 14 discussion papers, four policy briefs, among others. To ensure easy access, these publications are made available on RIS website. The electronic versions are also sent individually, both at the national level and international level. The institute also informs about its various activities through social media platforms and print and electronic media.

Augmentation of Infrastructure

The RIS website has been redesigned for making it more user-friendly. More than 38 lakh visits were there during the passing year. The institute acquired and installed a modern Data Server. Facility for screening multi-media presentations during various meetings has been installed in three different places at RIS. The RIS Documentation continues to be the repository of the latest specialized publications for providing up-to-date information to RIS faculty and visiting scholars. It has been completely renovated for users.

I convey sincere thanks Chairman, Members of the RIS General Body and Governing Council for their valuable guidance. Ambassador Sudhir Devare, Chairman, RIS, Research Advisory Council, and esteemed Members of the RAC have provided the key inputs and requisite support. I'm personally thankful to each and everyone of them.

We are grateful to the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and other Departments like Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of AYUSH and our partner institutes both in India and outside for showing their continued trust in us.

Thanks are also due to my colleagues both in the research faculty and administration in carrying forward the work programme of RIS.



Sachin Chaturvedi



POLICY RESEARCH

A. Global Issues and Development Cooperation Architecture

G-20 Work Programme at RIS

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Prof. T.C. James, Dr Priyadarshi Dash, Dr Amit Kumar, Ms Abha Jaiswal and Dr Nimita Pandey

The scope and coverage of G20 mandate has widened significantly over the years from restoring order in the global economy and macro-economic policy coordination to substantive development initiatives. During German Presidency in 2017, G20 Compact with Africa initiative was included in the G20 Finance Track to promote private investment particularly in infrastructure. Further, the current Argentinean Presidency has set key development concerns upfront including job creation, infrastructure development, food security and gender. With broadening of G20 mandate comes the newer challenges of financing and coordination which requires constant follow-up and careful assessment. In that perspective, as part of its Global Economic Governance pillar, RIS keenly follows the developments in G20 process which has emerged as an important inter-governmental forum for global development issues over the past two decades. As G20 provides a unique platform for both advanced economies and emerging and developing economies to jointly work towards creation of global public goods and resolution of global challenges, this work programme on G20 adopts a holistic approach with an aim to bring informed policy debate on critical areas of collective action such as inclusive growth, financial stability, employment generation, investment promotion, climate change, tax compliance, health and education, food security, skill formation, and sustainable development. In addition to regular assessment of agenda-setting and priority actions in different G20 Summits and Declarations, this programme undertakes rigorous and meaningful academic research on the underlying factors affecting growth and development prospects of the member countries and its ramifications for global economic order in the medium- and long-run perspective. Besides providing policy inputs to the Government of

India, the work programme helps evolve alternative narratives on country engagements in G20.

The German Presidency of G20 has extended the development agenda of G20 to Africa. It aims to explore the possible ways trade, investment and development cooperation can be promoted between G20 and African countries. There exists significant social desirability in African countries to engage with other countries, more particularly with China, India, Japan, EU, USA and East Asian economies. The Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement CFTA among the African economies is a step forward in greater regional integration in Africa. G20, being represented by a number of advanced as well as emerging markets, may provide an effective platform for greater international engagement of African economies. Think-tanks and civil society organizations worldwide are exploring sectors and issues which can be taken up through the Africa window of G20 for building a sustainable development partnership between G20 countries and Africa. This study is an attempt to examine current trends in trade and investment integration in Africa and areas of G20 intervention in extending this cause further.

RIS had earlier brought out a report on '*India-Africa Partnership in Health Care: Accomplishments and Prospects*' in 2015. Africa being a priority area for cooperation by India, RIS has partnered with other think-tanks in Brazil and in South Africa and has prepared a Policy Brief on '*Fine Tuning IPR and Health Policies Towards Achievement of SDG 3*' with focus on Africa. Carrying forward this study further a paper on '*Universal Health Care and Africa: Key Policy Challenges and Role of G20*' is under preparation.

RIS is a member of the Think-Tank20 T20, which is a network of research institutes and think-tanks from G20 countries. T20 provides research-based policy advice to G20, facilitates interaction among its members and policy community, and communicates with broader public about issues of global importance.

In November 2017, for the T20 meeting in South Africa, RIS, in collaboration with the Chinese and Indonesian partners, prepared a Policy Brief titled "*Enhancing Food Security in Africa: Challenges and Way Forward*", where it highlighted main challenges and proposed key action points to enhance food security. It also stated that G20 can play a significant role in addressing challenge to enhance food security by strengthening input supply system through its various initiatives, already in place. G20 should facilitate establishment of physical as well as institutional infrastructure in Africa in collaboration with AU and individual countries based on their local needs and requirements. The 2014 Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) Framework points out about the need to provide inclusive financial services such as savings, credit, insurance, money transfer, e-banking in the rural areas to enable women, youth and smallholder farmers to participate fully in the food system opportunities. G20 should also facilitate to setup of a policy think-tank involving other academic and research organizations from other countries to promote knowledge as well as experience sharing among one another. Finally, as rightly mentioned in the 2014 G20 FSN Framework, the forum should domestic and external policy coherence and extend knowledge and practice to non-members, including through South-South and Triangular Cooperation. RIS has been actively pursuing this line of inquiry in depth, exploring better avenues and modalities to address the challenge of food security globally through enhanced partnerships.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

RIS has emerged as the leading think-tank in India to spearhead research and advocacy on SDGs. RIS partnered with NITI Aayog, Government of India and UN India for the series of National Consultations on SDGs during 2017-18. RIS also conducted seminars, panel discussions and capacity development programmes in India and abroad in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and other international agencies with the perspective of strengthening global partnership and development cooperation for SDGs. RIS has contributed extensively through policy inputs and research on specific goals particularly on Sustainable Agriculture and Nutrition (SDG 2), Health (SDG 3), Education (SDG 4), Gender Equality (SDG 5), Economic Growth, Innovation and Industrialization (SDG 8 and 9), Reducing Inequalities (SDG 10), Blue Economy (SDG 14) and Global Means of Implementation (SDG 17) with focus on inter-linkages, localisation and monitoring. The ongoing research initiatives are elaborated below.

SDG 2: Food Security and Nutrition

Dr P.K. Anand and Mr Krishna Kumar

India's commitment to SDG 2 End hunger, achieve food security, improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture is strongly reflected in its major flagship programmes under Doubling of farmers' income; POSHAN abhiyaan; Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana; Soil Health Card Scheme among others. These programmes suggest integrated approach to sustainable agriculture and nutrition security in India, and have been acknowledged widely. RIS work programme on SDGs has an exclusive thematic focus on SDG 2 covering agriculture R&D and associated policy framework, biodiversity conservation, impact of climate change and national roadmap on nutrition security. This also extends to exchange of best practices emanating from localization of SDG 2 and deepening of efforts under the SSC in such areas.

SDG 3: Health

Prof. T.C. James and Ms Abha Jaiswal

The objective of this study is to analyze challenges faced by India in achieving SDG 3 Goal of ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages by 2030. Based on the analysis, it proposes to suggest corrective measures required at the governance levels to equip India to face the current and possible future challenges towards universal health-care. It aims to explore possibilities of alternative approaches to development models with focus on wellness also. In the context of the federal structure of India, the study proposes to look into the local-specific policies and strategic responses needed to achieve SDG 3 targets. An area of particular attention would be the challenges in developing a robust country-wide monitoring mechanism of indicators. As part of the study, a paper on 'Health: Access, Prevention and Wellness' is under preparation. State-specific interventions in the North-East are proposed to be examined, and the first state being taken up, after discussion with NITI Aayog, is Tripura. A 'Factual Analysis of the Status of Universalisation of Health-care in Tripura' is under preparation. The trans-border dimension of SDG 3 being explored. To begin with, the potential for cooperation with Bhutan would be explored, and a proposal has been formulated. Carrying on the study on Tripura health-care system, a Policy Brief titled, 'Bangladesh-Tripura Health Diplomacy: Exploring Opportunities and Prospects' is envisaged.

SDG 4: Emergence of India as a Potential Hub for Higher Education in the BIMSTEC and the South Asian Region

Dr Beena Pandey

As part of the RIS work programme on SDGs, this study focuses on India's development assistance through quality education to South Asian and other developing countries, particularly BIMSTEC. Presently, India being the largest democratic country in the world has the second largest system of higher education learning institutions of the world. India has established itself as a prospective destination for higher education that provides low cost high quality education services.

Thus, the country has tremendous scope to play an important role in promoting quality, access, equity and inclusion as the prerequisite for achieving SDG 4 pertaining to quality education. Since India can be a proactive partner in mutual recognition of academic qualifications for BIMSTEC countries under its initiative "Study in India".

To assess India's position as a potential emergent educational hub in the South Asian region, the present paper in the first section presents historical overview of India's aid to other foreign countries in terms of giving higher education through educational-aid programmes and modes of educational cooperation. The second section analyzes the status of higher and professional education at different levels in South Asia and BIMSTEC countries. The third section lists out agreements/cooperation and MoUs signed between India and other South Asian/ BIMSTEC countries to recognize mutual recognition of degrees of higher education. The last section highlights on the challenges of accessibility, quality of education and lack of excellence in world ranking among higher educational institutions this region is facing, followed by way forward for further cooperation in the last section for future plan of action.

SDG 5: Exploring Ways to End Gender Discrimination

Dr Beena Pandey

The study mainly focuses on promoting women's empowerment and access to employment to ensure women's participation in decision-making and their dignity and safety to end gender discrimination. India's low level of female workforce participation can be reversed, if more women are encouraged to take up entrepreneurship, and this would pave way for gender equality; which would have a larger economic impact on country's well being.

The study would also explore inter-linkages of SDG 5 with other goals, especially goals related to poverty, health, nutrition, education, climate change, clean water and sanitation and energy security. It would examine how SDG 5 and its targets finally translate into indicators, and whether these will be effective and usable for monitoring status of women. It would examine existing legislations affecting/ relating to women to be harmonized to enhance their effectiveness and have additional legislative measures or amendments to be taken up on the emerging needs. It would also explore the way to facilitate effective convergence among different Ministries, undertakings, local bodies etc. to recognize and value the unpaid care and domestic work through provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies.

SDG 17: Resource Mobilization

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Mr Pratyush

SDG 17 covers targets to achieve global means of implementation on resource mobilisation, technology transfer, trade, capacity-building and institutional architecture. Financing for development and development cooperation; technology transfer, access and regulation of S&T; and global institutional architecture on trade and investment have been the core research pillars at RIS, since its inception. RIS publications in the recent -past have robustly explored such issues from the perspective of SDGs and have defined the scope of South-South Cooperation. Development finance has been a key focus of RIS research endeavors in the backdrop of relative decline in bilateral aid from developed countries and inadequacy of institutional finance to meet requirements of the SDGs in developing countries. South-South Cooperation has emerged as a complementary modality of resource mobilisation and knowledge exchange aiding favourably growth and development in the South. RIS has been closely following and contributing to policy debates, and operational framework of development finance is being shaped through new multilateral development banks like the NDB and the AIIB, as well as the DFIs.

STI for SDGs: Leveraging Industry 4.0 and Promoting Innovations

Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Ms Pratiba Shaw

Availability of technologies would greatly influence course and pace of achieving SDGs globally. Technological changes of an intense kind hitherto unheard would drive economic system and define future infrastructure. Such changes appear disruptive in short run and seem to follow a non-linear trajectory of evolution. The needs emerging from concerns of sustainability and resilience as well as new aspirations would fuel further disruptive changes in the realms of technology. The idea of the Industry 4.0 is triggered by this pattern of technological change where a new vintage of technology based on computing and communication, profoundly influential by its ability to connect and process information and eventually take up major responsibilities replacing humans of running many machines in production, construction, logistics, transportation and service delivery, would be seen. In the context of development, digital economy has widened enormously the scope of knowledge dissemination and access to information; direct benefit transfers; financial inclusion; transparency in governance; and social security. In developing countries, governments are implementing large-scale digital infrastructure development for the ICT-based governance, disaster resilience and rural connectivity. India is cited as a leader from the developing world in terms of its ICT infrastructure, ICT penetration, ICT services, digital payments and cashless systems, and ICT-enabled governance, procurement and public delivery systems. The key research issues that this study explores in the area include: assessment of the indigenous innovation capability and preparedness for Industry 4.0; designing of national innovation systems for Industry 4.0; leveraging Industry 4.0 for SDGs – identification of technologies and development areas policy framework for promoting innovations and use of such technologies for attainment of SDGs.

South-South Cooperation and Global-aid Architecture

Conceptualizing and documenting the various facades of international development cooperation have been one of the major areas of activity at RIS. The endeavour attracts special importance in view of the emergence of a number of Southern countries getting involved in development cooperation activities in a significantly visible manner over the last couple of decades. Increased activities under South-South Cooperation (SSC) not only attracted attention of a larger audience among the academia, policy makers, members of the civil society and other stakeholders, but also has generated considerable arguments and counter-arguments vis-à-vis the nature and sustainability of SSC. The forthcoming BAPA+40 conference would also contribute to the discussions. Keeping in view the ongoing debates and discussions, RIS has engaged itself into a number of activities that cover not only the development of a theoretical framework for SSC, but also empirically validating the impacts of SSC through intensive case studies and assessments of SSC linked efforts. Dissemination of the ideas created across the global South has also been taken up through the publication of a monthly journal that captures present trends in discussions on Development Cooperation in general and SSC, in particular. The following efforts, taken up during the last year, are worth mentioning.

South-South Cooperation: Quest towards a Theoretical Framework

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi and Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti

This is a research project with the financial support from ICSSR. The objective of the study is to empirically validate ideas enumerated in the structural architecture of Development Compact in SSC with evidences gathered from across the developing world. While most of the evidences will be gathered through desk research, primary data collection would also be undertaken in one of the neighbouring countries. It also intends to analyze pluralities in approaches to SSC taken up by different Southern nations, and identifying the extent to which such diverse practices fit into ideas of Development Compact.

The proposed study would engage in developing a theoretical basis for SSC in lieu of the empirical evidences gathered, which may emerge from the recent developments in institutional economics, collective action theories and development studies.

The following research queries have been identified for detail scrutiny. What is the theoretical rationale behind SSC and to what extent data support 'Development Compact' as an explanation? What are the roles of non-state actors in SSC and how do they fit in the above model?

Comparative Analysis of North-South Flows and Cross-border Cooperation for Agenda 2030

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi and Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti

This is a joint research project of RIS with German Development Institute, Bonn, Germany, with funding support from the latter. The project is titled "Converging or diverging: Cross-border Cooperation for Sustainable Development in the support of the Agenda 2030". It has the following objectives:

- To identify the fundamental and non-negotiable features of divergence between the OECD and SSC approaches to Development Cooperation
- To locate the potential areas of convergence in providing global public goods in institutionalizing the process of sustainable development through collective action, and
- To identify features of collective action in a polycentric institutional framework in respect of efforts to generate global public goods like Peace Keeping, International Solar Alliance, GAVI, the vaccine alliance, Research Cooperation and Internet.

The RIS team is involved in developing conceptual framework for the study and preparing case studies on Peace Keeping, International Solar Alliance, GAVI, the vaccine alliance. The final draft of first paper from this activity would be published soon.

Developing a Database on India's Development Cooperation

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi and Dr Sushil Kumar

The time period of this database is from 1946 to till-date. The main features of this is it to cover all modalities of development compact like grants, lines of credit, technology transfer, trade and investment, capacity-building, deputation of experts and humanitarian assistance. This database covers bilateral flow and multilateral flow. It covers flow of India's development cooperation ministries-wise, sector-wise and concerning regional institutions

Database on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi and Dr Sushil Kumar

The main features of this is that it cover modalities of South-South and Triangular Cooperation as like Trade and Investment, Loans and concessional finance, grants, technology transfer and humanitarian Assistance. This database covers also sector-wise South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

Econometric-based Techniques to Analysis Indian Development Cooperation

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Prof. Manmohan Agarwal and Dr Sushil Kumar

Many econometric techniques were explored to analyze India's development cooperation like Tobit, Probit modeling, ordinary least square OLS estimation; cross section as well as panel data. Estimates of the Indian development cooperation were done in two steps. Study was based on comprehensive data set from 2005 to 2014; covering India's development cooperation with 135 countries. First, estimate was the likelihood that India would provide development cooperation to the partner country. In this study, dependent variable was a dummy that was of a value of one if India committed development cooperation to a developing country on the list of OECD recipient's country. In this case, we have 153 countries. Second, given that a country in which India provides development cooperation, estimates of the log amount of development cooperation in constant of US\$ 2000 was committed to a particular development partner. Independent variables of this model were GDP per capita, development distance, people affected by disaster, population, distance, UN voting, commonwealth, bilateral exports, resources depletion,

political right, control of corruption, dummy variable Asia and Africa. The analysis of India's development cooperation shows that the most important variable influencing the cooperation was the need in terms of the recipient's per capita income. Also, strength of political rights was important along with the export interests for grant of letters of credit.

Dynamics of India's Development Cooperation under the Framework of 'Development Compact'

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Prof Milindo Chakrabarti and Mr Pranay Sinha

RIS is taking forward its 'Development Compact' framework in idealizing its work on South-South Cooperation and Indian Development Cooperation through many research streams. An effort was made to assess various modalities through which South Asia gets access to development finance. A workshop was organized on 'Development Finance in South Asia' in December 2017, where Maldives, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Afghanistan participated and explored emerging development experiences. A volume based on these papers is planned with Springer under the title Development Finance in South Asia: Emerging Dynamics and Contours of South-South Cooperation.

Impact Assessment of SSC Projects

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Prof Milindo Chakrabarti and Mr Pranay Sinha

As discussions on the impact of SSC and its efficacy are multiplying, it is important for the Southern governments to have a framework for impact assessment. Since RIS is closely involved in the issues related to SSC, the idea of assessment framework fits in well with the ongoing efforts. At some point, a curriculum was evolved to link 'Learning SSC' with the framework for impact assessment. Such a programme was offered as a Winter School in early 2018.

The objectives of the exercise were: to develop a curriculum to offer a two week training and exposure programme on impact assessment of development intervention to participants from developing countries; and to create awareness about the need to develop a new framework – different from the followed by DAC --for assessing impact of SSC.

South-South Global Thinkers: The Global Coalition of Think-Tank Networks for South-South Cooperation

Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti and Mr Pranay Sinha

Two proposals have been funded by UNDO-UNOSSC under their grant programme. The projects are titled as follows.

Theorizing South-South Cooperation

This inductive research aims to explore search for pattern from such observations and propose the theory/theories from an interdisciplinary perspective – namely comparative policy, international relations, institutional economics and development studies. Key informants interviews from past and present political and administrative executives from the institutions responsible for South-South Cooperation in partner countries would be conducted. A review of most recent secondary reports/studies and data would be collected to assess the pattern of SSC. The research would develop the study protocols including detailed processes, plan for information collection and

analysis, information collection tools, consent forms, time frame and work plan, which would be finalized in consultation with the partner research institutions.

Assessment of South-South Cooperation

Considering this divergence and diverse understanding on the nature of exercise, tool and methodology to undertake an assessment or evaluation, it is important to explore and establish whether such a framework is linked intimately to theoretical framework devised for SSC or not. Also, it is important to validate the findings from the case studies of interventions that emerged to be successful or otherwise through the lens of evaluation or assessment. To achieve this research objective, the research team would endeavor to assess existing frameworks and improvise/ develop an innovative framework for SSC evaluation by integrating elements including political, economic and social aspects as well as mutual sharing mechanism. With field studies carried out in a certain African countries, the new framework would be applied to evaluate performance and impacts of SSC in three typical sectors including agriculture, public health and SSC trade and infrastructure construction.

Process Evaluation of SSSAN Programme

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi and Prof Milindo Chakrabarti

The Government of India (GoI) is assisting the Government of Afghanistan in capacity-building through a Special Scholarship Scheme for Afghan Nationals SSSAN. The capacity-building is an important component for the overall development partnership that India has with Afghanistan.

The scheme has been in place since 2006-07. Under this, 1000 annual scholarship slots are currently extended to Afghan Students in multiple courses across universities/Institutes in India. The students admitted till 2017, are undergoing coursework in various Indian Universities and Institutes.

The SSSAN is very popular among Afghan youth. The allocated slots are being fully utilized. The scheme is administered by the Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) on behalf of the Government of India. Disbursement of the institute fees, tuition fees, and scholarship amount is being done by 17 Regional Offices of the ICCR. The Study aims to attempt an evaluation of the ongoing scholarship scheme to assess the management of the scheme and provide recommendations, where appropriate, for improvement in the administration and management.

The evaluation is limited to the various aspects of administration of the scheme in India, including payment of fees, disbursement of scholarships, payment of hostel dues, complaints by Afghan students, issues being faced by Indian universities, etc.

Development Cooperation Review

Amb. Amar Sinha, Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti and Mr Pranay Sinha

The *Development Cooperation Review (DCR)* aspires to capture holistic narrative around global development cooperation and fill in an important knowledge gap towards theorization, empirical verification and documentation of Southern-led development cooperation processes. Despite growing volumes of development partnerships around the Southern world, there remained an absence of detailed information, analyses and its contribution to global development processes. Even though there were sporadic efforts in documenting some of the activities, a continuous effort in chronicling

diverse experiences in South-South Cooperation (SSC) were still absent. RIS has endeavored to launch DCR, a monthly periodical, to fill-in this gap; 4 issues have been published so far. Efforts have been initiated to have a section comprising peer reviewed academic contributions within a couple of months. Plans are afoot to publish March 2019 issue of DCR as a special issue comprising selected contributions from presentations made during Delhi Process IV.

B. Initiatives on Trade, Investment and Regional Cooperation

Regionalism is one of the four pillars of RIS work programme where specific issues pertaining to trade, investment and services are studied in the context regionalism. For trade negotiations with several countries and regions, India is experimenting with number of arrangements including PTA/BFTA/CEPA/CECA and research in RIS focuses on many of such initiatives. For facilitating negotiations, two Joint Study Group (JSG) studies are under preparation/ completed including India-COMESA Economic cooperation and India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Partnership Agreement (CECPA). Work is in progress with other countries for bilateral cooperation such as PTA with Iran, and comprehensive bilateral cooperation with Bangladesh, Maldives and Afghanistan. RIS is also working on specific regional groupings such as South Asia, Mercosur, COMESA, ASEAN, IORA and PACER for improving India's external economic engagement with them.

Blue Economy is a new area of research where work is in progress to examine efficacy of such alternative development strategy, and relevance of the strategy to promote non-traditional security in India and neighbouring regions. For invoking debate on issues relating to Blue Economy, RIS has formed a new platform known as Blue Economy Forum (BEF) which is shared by academicians, policy makers and other walks of life to present their perspectives on related issues.

Under this work programme, RIS focuses on India's economic engagement with various continents including Asia, Africa, Latin America and Caribbean (LAC), and Pacific Islands. While undertaking area studies, several issues are analysed such as trade policy review including Non-tariff Barriers (NTBs), growth divergence among countries, trade in local currency, IUU fishing, currency bond, relevance of credit rating agencies, etc. Effectiveness of various national and international initiatives of Indian government are examined such as IBSA Fund, IBSA fellowship, AAGC, etc. Some sectoral studies are also examined like fisheries in the context of regional cooperation, involving India. Many such research activities are funded by the Indian government, international agencies, etc., and many of them are initiated by RIS.

India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) Joint Study Group Report

Prof. S. K. Mohanty, Ms Pankhuri Gaur and Ms Sanura Fernandez

India and Mauritius' close cultural and historical linkages dates back to the 18th Century. These have contributed to strong and cordial relations between the two. The two countries have signed a many bilateral agreements and MoUs in wide ranging areas. In November 2003, a decision was taken to set up a Joint Study Group (JSG) to give recommendations for concluding CECPA. The

India-Mauritius CECPA negotiations were initiated in 2006, and the Chapter on Trade in Goods was mutually agreed upon as well as signed. The historic Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) was signed on May 10, 2016, and this paved the way for concluding JSG report.

The first meeting on resumption of talks on India-Mauritius CECPA was held from 12 to 13 September 2016 in Mauritius, and it was decided to update the 2004 JSG report. Two teams were formed from both sides to prepare the JSG report. From India, RIS was engaged by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI) as the knowledge partner and assigned the responsibility of preparing draft report. The initial draft of the CECPA JSG report was prepared by RIS. To begin with, RIS prepared chapters on background, investment, trade in services, trade in goods, general economic cooperation, and summary of recommendations, and the Indian counterpart in Mauritius gave their inputs to the report. In the last round, held on 27-28 September 2017, the teams from India and Mauritius discussed and exchanged six chapters between them. The draft report pinpoints that there is a large potential for expansion of trade, investment, services and other areas of cooperation between the two. A chapter focussing on possible welfare gains from the post-CEPA regime is in the process and will be included in the report as well. This study is sponsored by the MoCI and is to continue till completion of the CECPA JSG report. Report is at the final stage in consultation with the Department of Commerce.

Bilateral Trade Linkages of India with Iran, Bangladesh, Maldives and Afghanistan

Prof. S. K. Mohanty and Ms Pankhuri Gaur

India has accorded priority to improve trade and economic relations with its South Asian neighbours. The scope of bilateral economic engagement between India and other regional players in South Asia in the field of trade, investment, aid flows and people-to-people interactions is much deeper and wider now than in the past. The India-Iran bilateral relationship is important from the point of view of India's recent policy of Heart of Asia. Iran is also vital for India's energy imports. India-Bangladesh cooperation goes beyond tariff liberalization since they have signed a bilateral trade agreement and a MoU for maritime cooperation. India and Maldives have also signed a bilateral trade agreement. India and Afghanistan have signed a PTA and Strategic Partnership Agreement that has strengthened their bilateral economic relations.

The study aims to include four country studies on India's comprehensive bilateral economic engagement with Iran, Bangladesh, Maldives and Afghanistan. The objective of this study is to examine the current level of bilateral economic engagement of India with selected South Asian economies and to identify key areas of cooperation in trade and investment. This would explore possibility of having a bilateral comprehensive partnership agreement with them based on India's competitiveness. The possibility of negotiation for EHS, PTA, FTA, CEPA, etc. would be examined. It would focus on key areas of analysis including trade performance, trade potential, export competitiveness, long-term import interests, tariffs, NTBs, trade diversification, competition from third country, margin of preference, FDI etc. Such a strategy would delineate India's priorities in its trade relations with the South Asian countries under consideration in terms of target products, focus sectors, trade potential, investment opportunities, changes in trade policy, and so on. This study

is sponsored to be funded by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

Expansion of India-MERCOSUR PTA

Prof. S. K. Mohanty and Ms Upasana Sikri

India has very low level of trade with the Latin America and the Caribbean LAC region, despite India's continent specific strategy on 'Focus LAC' programme. In the recent years, trade relation between India and Latin America has improved as a fall-out of the strategy of LAC countries towards Asia. Now India has become an important trade destination for some of the large countries of the region like Argentina, Brazil, Chile, etc. While India's exports to the region are more varied, comprising medium and high technology products, imports from Latin American region are concentrated in agricultural and low technology products. The regional coverage of trade of MERCOSUR was extensive but declined substantially following suspension of Venezuela.

India and MERCOSUR had signed a PTA in 2009 with a limited mandate. Despite reducing import duties on around 450 items in the range of 10 per cent to 100 per cent, India could not gain much from trade liberalization. India's usage rate of trade agreements was the lowest with India-MERCOSUR PTA which stood around 14 per cent as compared to country's average level of usage rate at 27 per cent. The recent negotiation is mandated to work towards expanding coverage of the PTA to 3000 items. There is growing preference among LAC courtiers to diversify their trade beyond the EU and the US. The LAC is also important for India from the view of investment as the region receives the highest amount of investment from the rest of the world, including India.

The study aims at focusing on sectors where India can increase its trade with the regional grouping by emphasizing on sectoral and country-wise approach. India has large trade potential in the region, and PTA should facilitate the process to tap those trade opportunities. The non-tariff barriers and tariffs are becoming major impediments to trade between the two and the study would cover these dimensions in both the regions. Investment linkages need to be studied to understand the pattern and potential of investment flows between them. Since Brazil and Argentina are active in automobile and ICT value chains in South America, the study would focus on the possibility of India's engagement in those sectors. Moreover, the study would undertake extensive literature survey and analyze trade and investment pattern using COMTRADE, WIR, ITC Invest Map databases.

India-COMESA CEPA Joint Study Group Report

Prof. S. K. Mohanty and Ms Pankhuri Gaur

With the joint initiative of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, and COMESA Secretariat, the feasibility report of formalizing the India-COMESA Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement CEPA was decided to be undertaken by both the parties. For the preparation of the Joint Study Group (JSG) Report, MoC&I approached RIS as its knowledge partner and with the responsibility of preparing the draft report. Two teams were formed. Both the teams from India and COMESA exchanged four chapters between them, including macro-economic overview of contracting economies, trade liberalization in goods, trade liberalisation in services and investment liberalisation.

In these sectors, the draft report observes that there has been large potential in key economic sectors for expansion of trade, investment, services and other areas of cooperation in India as well as in the COMESA countries. The study explored magnitude of trade potential that could accrue to both the parties from the India-COMESA CEPA. It highlighted the existing structure of tariff, non-tariff barriers, rules of origin, trade facilitation, and FDI policies and the roadmap for further reforms in those areas. While tariff reduction is expected to result in substantial expansion of trade between India and COMESA, the importance of reforms in rules of origin, trade facilitation, customs procedures, SPS and TBT measures has been emphasized. The study also explored possibility of having trade in services between India and COMESA, and highlighted some specific services sectors in the two.

Both the parties have considerable competitive strengths in different sectors; there are thus ample possibilities to negotiate for benefiting from sectoral cooperation under CEPA. It was planned to include two more chapters in the JSG report before concluding the exercise. One chapter focused on possible welfare gains from the post-CEPA regime and the last chapter was on other areas of economic cooperation. The whole process of concluding the exercise of JSG Report has temporarily been deferred due to launching of the Tripartite Free Trade Agreement (TFTA) among COMESA, EAC and SACU to form a large regional grouping in Africa. The study is expected to be completed soon. This study has been sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Government of India.

Strategy to Project as a Major Global Player in the LAC Region

Prof. S. K. Mohanty, Ms Sanura Fernandez and Ms Upasana Sikri

India has been pursuing focused Latin America and Caribbean LAC policy to promote trade with the region. This policy was more comprehensively discussed in the Foreign Trade Policy Report 2009-2014. Recently, LAC policy has been an important area for introspection and policy revision for India. Although it came into force in 1997, this region-trade strategy has not brought any significant advantage to the country over years. At present, trade between India and LAC as a whole constitute a miniscule proportion of India's global trade and investment flows. So far, India has not tapped its full potential in trade and investment in the region.

On the contrary, China's 'Look West' policy of the 1990s helped the country to have strong economic ties with the region. Both in terms of volume and coverage of engagement, China's economic linkage with the LAC countries has been stronger than India. In this context, it is important to make a comprehensive assessment of LAC policy of India in view of the changing geo-political environment of China's rising presence in major markets of the world, including the LAC region and its aggressive trade and investment policies in the third market.

Considering the present trends of surging PTAs and FTAs in the post-Marrakech period, India seems to have embarked upon a policy of examining/strengthening its economic relationship with major trading partners and exploring possibility of strengthening its economic ties with different RTAs/countries in the region. Similarly, several LAC countries are engaged with number of Asian countries through various forms of RTAs. Time has come to choose appropriate partners/RTA for deep economic cooperation to foster its long-term objective of promoting trade and investment in the region. Against

this background, it is imperative to discern the factors that thwart fostering trade and investment between India and LAC.

Simultaneously, there is a need to identify trade impediments that acted as stumbling blocks and examining suitability of the existing mechanisms for harmonization of those barriers across the region. Can the lackluster performance in bilateral trade be attributed to FDI flows? Is China's continued presence in the region a threat to India's LAC trade strategy?

To seek response to these contemporary trade issues, the present study has the following objectives: i) to assess trade policies of the LAC countries in the context of India's economic interest with the region, ii) to examine macroeconomic setting of the LAC region to reflect on the business environment of the region for undertaking economic activities in a more transparent manner, iii) to analyse pattern of India's trade engagement with the regional economies/ RTAs and their trade relationship with other major countries of the world, iv) to estimate product/sector-wise trade potential of India in the LAC region following competitiveness of the Indian export sector, v) to identify the sources, trends and potential in inward and outward FDI flows in the region, vi) to compare and contrast the current OFDI pattern of India in LAC factoring the possible 'crowding out' effect of Chinese investments, and vii) to evaluate the country's long-term trade interests and the elements that could form the contents of the revised LAC trade strategy.

The study intends to adopt empirical approach for examining various hypotheses using disaggregated level of data. Emphasis would be to assess inter-dependence of economies for regional cooperation in the changing global economic landscape, particularly with respect to the issues of trade complementarities, trade competitiveness, competitive trade liberalization policy by other emerging markets. The study aims at presenting a roadmap for the future cooperation on trade and investment cooperation between India and the LAC countries. Trade analysis at disaggregated level may help identify the sectors for mutual cooperation between India and LAC countries. This may enable contracting parties to explore investment opportunities in the emerging sectors with strong potential for generating trade and employment opportunities in the domestic economy. This study has been sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Government of India. Report is at the final stage in consultation with the Department of Commerce, GoI.

NTMs and their Trade Effects

Non-Tariff Measures: Databases, Methodologies and Trade Effects

Prof. S. K. Mohanty

The current state of knowledge on Non-tariff Measures (NTMs) is vast but incomplete from the point of view of ordinary exporters and academic inquiry. Databases on NTMs are not amenable for quick assessment of their trade effects because of selective coverage and lack of common format across countries. Despite tremendous efforts by the WTO, the analysis of NTM data is cumbersome and time-consuming. In terms of methodology, a significant level of contradictions exists over the definition and quantification of NTMs. As a result, the quality of empirical analysis of the impact of NTM-related changes on trade is highly subjective and depends a lot on the choice of data and

econometric technique. As NTMs are the future trade policy instruments for bilateral and regional trade agreements, it is imperative to highlight different aspects of NTMs in a single study which would be handy for policy-makers, students and ordinary users of trade data. Although major part of the study would cover a critical survey of literature, the study aims to avoid unnecessary stretching of inclusive or controversial academic narratives about NTMs. Given the voluminous literature on the subject, the study would complete over a period of one year since the date of commencement. Based on the findings in the initial months, a few Policy Briefs may be attempted.

Empirical Assessment of Trade Effects of Non-Tariff Measures

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Trade policy orientation has changed significantly from tariffs to non-tariff measures and trade remedies. This is consistent with the falling tariff regime and growing protectionism in aftermath of the global economic recession in 2008-09. Increased imposition of non-tariff measures has serious impact on the future of international trade as the beggar-thy-neighbour motive would be self-defeating. In that light, a study on trade effects of non-tariff measures is timely and highly desirable for policy-making. First, this study would focus on select developing countries for in-depth analysis. Based on the outcome of the study, the scope and coverage of the study would be extended in due course.

Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) in ASEAN-India Trade

Prof. Prabir De and Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy

The presence of non-tariff barriers has been a bottleneck in trade between ASEAN and India. This study seeks to examine the concerns of businesses with respect to the imposition of non-tariff measures NTMs; particularly related to Technical Barriers to Trade TBT and Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Measures SPS measures. The SPS and TBT Agreements of the WTO permit members to adopt product standards to protect plant, animal and human life. The Agreements also stipulate that standards should not be applied in a trade restrictive manner. Sometimes these technical regulations are difficult to comply with due to complex requirements and administrative obstacles. Inadequate access to information about applicable measures also impact trade. Consequently, NTMs applied by partner countries can have a negative impact on market access and keep firms from seizing trade opportunities. The study is being carried out for MEA and aims to analyze the intensity of NTMs faced by India in ASEAN and ASEAN in India in selected products. The study is based on both primary and secondary data. Primary survey component has been completed. The draft report would be presented at a workshop at RIS in June 2018. The final report would be ready by August 2018.

IORA – Trade: Economic Aspects of Fisheries in IORA Region

Prof. S. K. Mohanty, Dr Priyadarshi Dash and Ms Pankuri Gaur

IORA has emerged as a vibrant regional grouping in the Afro-Asian region since the last decade. Due to the presence of five customs unions in the region, it has to pursue 'open regionalism' even though its Intra-Regional Trade (IRT) was 29.2 per cent in 2013. As an alternative policy strategy, regional economic

activities can be concentrated at the sectoral level and the visionaries of the region in the past have identified fisheries sector as a priority sector for regional cooperation. Contribution of the fishing sector to the economy of the member-states is significant in many respects, particularly for food, nutrition, employment creation and foreign exchange earnings.

The on-going work programme of RIS on fisheries sector focuses on economic dimensions of the sector in the region. The study is examining specific sectoral issues in the fisheries sector such as livelihood security, food security, production structure, trade dimensions and the feasibility of a regional institutional mechanism in IORA to take the regional forum forward. There are several other economic issues which need detailed research such as volatility in fish prices, sectoral subsidy issues though it is discussed in the WTO, NTBs, discussion on regional standard on fisheries, food processing, etc. The work programme of RIS on fisheries will also focus on these issues for further analysis.

India, Brazil and South Africa IBSA

IBSA Fellowship at RIS

RIS has been working on IBSA related issues since its inception. IBSA Fellowship was launched with the MEA in 2017. As part of this programme, two research fellows from Brazil, one from South Africa and two from India participated. There has been positive response for IBSA Fellowships, and MEA has assigned RIS to organize the second edition of the event.

IBSA: Review of IBSA Fund: Way Forward

Dr Beena Pandey

In terms of development cooperation, IBSA Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation also known as IBSA Fund, a sole visible financial mechanism led by the three countries and managed by United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), is one of the most significant structured initiative from Southern countries in partnership with the United Nations. UNOSSC serves as Fund Manager and Secretariat of the IBSA Fund, supporting its Board of Directors, as it establishes the strategic vision and development activities of the Fund. It also serves as Fund Manager and Secretariat of the Steering Committees of other South-South and triangular cooperation trust funds implemented jointly with the United Nations system, namely, the Perez-Guerrero Trust Fund PGTF, the United Nations Fund for South-South Cooperation UNFSSC and the India-UN Development Partnership Fund.

To analyse the IBSA Fund, the paper in the first section would present introduction in historical perspective, followed by the objectives and rationale of IBSA Fund in the next section. The next section would discuss in detail many Fund projects, ongoing and completed in least developing countries and their positive outcomes on the capacity-building and empowerment of the poor. These projects are now linked with the realization of SDGs; way forward would be taken up in the last section.

Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC)

Amb. Amar Sinha, Prof. Amitabh Kundu, and Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Asia-Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) is a development partnership model for Africa initiated by India and Japan in 2017. RIS in collaboration with ERIA and IDE had initiated this to explore the mutually beneficial sectors of cooperation and the modality of engagement. The project has been visualized to be studied in different phases. In the conception and vision stage, a number of RIS Discussion Papers have come out on select sectors of cooperation, including trade facilitation. The paper on blue economy is proposed to be rolled out as part of this series. Since government-to-government negotiations need further inputs at micro-level, issues of specific areas of cooperation at micro-level in trade facilitation and blue economy is vital. Studies on specific issues on these sectors would be taken up for greater understanding on AAGC.

Heterogeneity in Africa and Selection of Partner Countries

Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti and Mr Ahmed Garba Khaleel

A research study was initiated to work on a dataset developed out of the World Development Indicators; published by the World Bank to identify level of economic heterogeneity prevailing among the African nations. Its objectives are to identify some critical factors that may be used to describe the economic differentials prevailing among the African countries; use them to delineate the extent of existing heterogeneity and help develop country specific strategies for engagement in development cooperation keeping in mind the recent initiative of AAGC. The first round of data analysis has been done and several candidate factors have been identified. The first outcome of this exercise as a Discussion Paper is to be rolled out soon.

Promoting Local Currency Capital Markets in Developing Countries

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Development financing requirements in developing countries have widened on account of rising demand for resources for infrastructure development, skill building, social sector development, meeting SDGs, and so on. External sources such as loans by multilateral development banks, including the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, AIIB, NDB etc and external commercial borrowings would not suffice to support the ever-increasing demand for financing. In fact, it would not be in the interests of the developing countries to remain dependent on offshore financial markets for raising resources. Local capital markets, particularly local currency capital markets, need to be promoted to issue bonds and other long-term securities in the domestic market for raising resources for development projects and to help efficient intermediation of domestic savings. It would also insulate countries from the currency and maturity mismatches which many crisis-hit economies faced in the 1990s. Infrastructure projects which are mostly perceived as high risk and liquid assets often suffer from fund crunch due to political risk and uncertainty over completion of projects. A vibrant local capital market can help diversify financing instruments and bundle different types of risks efficiently in line with the specific needs of infrastructure projects.

Leveraging Services for Growth and Export Promotion

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Services sectors have gradually emerged as lifelines for many developing economies in the recent past. Greater service-orientation which is healthy from the perspective of shrinking manufacturing jobs and output needs to be leveraged properly for sustaining growth momentum. Narrow export basket of services may not be a durable solution to compensate for the slowdown in manufacturing and agriculture unless concerted policy actions are undertaken to promote services sectors. The fall in export revenues following the Global Economic Recession in 2008-09 for India and other countries is symptomatic of such outcomes. It, therefore, requires deeper analysis of services exports and their contribution to economic growth and development in India and other countries for formulating suitable trade strategies for export promotion in emerging sectors of services. Software services, hospitality, tourism and several other sectors possess enormous potential for job-creation and value-addition. In that perspective, this study would be a contribution to build up a systematic knowledge on the export potential of services and their growth linkages.

PACER Plus and Development Prospects of Pacific Island Economies

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Island economies are small and vulnerable to natural and economic crises. The economic structure of island economies is heavily skewed in favour of certain sectors; mostly marine resource sectors such as fisheries, tourism, shipping, and so on. Pacific Island economies including Fiji, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and others are dependent on Australia and New Zealand for trade, investment and security. These economies have trade agreements with these two regional economic powers. PACER Plus is a new trade agreement which claims to have a comprehensive structure of commitments for trade expansion, investment promotion, enterprise development, and social development through development cooperation. Along with its merits, PACER Plus has some provisions which can potentially affect the development prospects of the island economies in the Pacific. All those issues need further research and introspection. This work programme aims at generating useful information on the development prospects of the island economies in relation to the ongoing regional trade integration in the Asia Pacific region.

Blue Economy Forum

Prof. S. K. Mohanty, Dr Priyadarshi Dash, Ms Sanura Fernandez and Ms Upasana Sikri

Blue economy has emerged as a commonly acceptable development paradigm which has effectively blended economic growth with sustainable development. Since early 1990s, the global debate has enabled the world community to acknowledge the efficacy of the idea of Blue Economy. Both developed and developing countries have accepted and promoted the concept of blue economy as a new development model for littoral countries, including small, medium, large, LDCs and Small Island Developing States SIDS. This development model has started with the basic premise that the oceans and ocean-related activities are important for economic and social development of the coastal nations, and these activities form the core of the Blue Economy. Several activities, not only

including the traditional ones like Maritime fishing, shipping, maritime trade, etc., but those that are deeply entrenched in almost all sectors of the economy are forming a part of blue economy. These activities spread into core sectors including agriculture, minerals, construction, energy, manufacturing, services, among others. Further, Blue Economy sectors are comprehensive in nature, combining both goods and services activities generated within each sector. There are multifarious issues involving Blue Economy, but it is still emerging as the most dynamic sector in the world economy for several countries. Its canvas has been large, but knowing one's Blue Economy in all its dimensions is a formidable task. With a view to take policy action, conservation, protection and sustainable use of ocean resources are the core issues for national, regional and global debate. The Blue Economy paradigm internalizes sustainability in a holistic and mutually-reinforcing path, and thus provides convincing solutions to address inefficiency in marine resource use and to enhance frontiers of marine economy.

The Blue Economy Forum (BEF) aims to serve as a dedicated platform for fostering open dialogue on promoting concept in the IORA region. The Forum would also focus on: conducting studies on the potential, prospects and challenges of Blue Economy; providing regular inputs to practitioners in the government and the private sectors; and promoting advocacy for its smooth adoption in national economic policies. Research findings of the forum would be disseminated in the form of reports, monographs, policy briefs, statistical profiles and newsletter. In addition, the Forum would undertake studies on cross-cutting issues including role of SMEs, women empowerment, vulnerabilities of Small Island Developing States and private sector participation. The Forum would facilitate linkages between the policy-makers, academicians and business community in the IORA and other regions. Blue Economy has its footprints in several sectors in coastal nations, and there are no 'stylized facts' about countries in terms of significance of sectors. While the Forum considers all the marine and associated sectors crucial for promoting blue economy in the IORA region, a few sectors including fisheries & aquaculture, offshore & deep-sea mining, renewable ocean energy, marine manufacturing, coastal tourism & urbanization, ports & shipping, marine biotechnology and marine services may assume priority in the initial years of its activities. Academic activities of the Forum would cover both the traditional as well as the emerging segments of these sectors.

The Issue of IUU Fishing in IORA

Prof. S. K. Mohanty

While fishery sector is widespread in the littoral countries, these states are facing challenges of depleting fishery stocks. Large fishing communities in these countries are highly dependent on fisheries for food and livelihood among others. The risk to fisheries stock around the world has been a matter of concern which has been emphasized in the Global Agenda 2030 in form of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14. The rate of decline in the fisheries stock has been tremendous in several IORA countries, including SIDS countries. Reduction of fishery stock has culminated in shrinking of wild fish catch, which has implications for income, employment, nutritional value and trade for local population. According to an estimate by FAO, the share of fish stock pertaining to biological sustainable level had fallen to 68.6 per cent in 2013 from 90 per cent in 1974 across the globe ; the experience of IORA is not different from it.

Some of the reasons for decline in fishery stock are overfishing and overcapacity in the fishery sector. Both of these syndromes are naturally associated with Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing prevailing in different regions in the world. Moreover, developing countries are the major victims of the (IUU) fishing. Among others, intensification of IUU fishing activities has led to increase in the number of species under the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. There are several issues relating to estimation of IUU fishing at the global and regional levels, and hence no consensus has emerged yet in the estimation of IUU fishing.

This present study would focus on identifying the implications of IUU fishing on production and trade sectors in IORA. It would further examine the economic, social and environmental costs associated with IUU fishing and the nature of fleets involved in IUU fishing in different flag states. It would also focus on the policies which are found in countries like the U.S and the EU for reducing the extent of IUU fishing. The need is for curbing practices like IUU fishing which are responsible for the depletion of the fisheries stock, especially in IORA with a large number of littoral states. This study is an initiative by RIS and would be completed soon.

Blue Economy as Alternative Development Strategy

Prof. S. K. Mohanty, Dr Priyadarshi Dash and Ms Sanura Fernandez

The efficient utilization of ocean resources is vital for the development of a littoral country. Human civilizations for centuries have depended on the oceans for a number of reasons, for instance, for food, fisheries, minerals, medicines, recreation and tourism, and most importantly for trade between different regions of the world. In the race for rapid economic growth, coastal countries have over-exploited ocean resources, particularly fisheries, oil & gas, coral reef etc beyond the biological and ecological limits. This unsustainable practice of resource utilization may result in extinction of important fish species, depletion of marine biology, marine pollution and adverse climate change effects. Blue economy is a paradigm that intertwines the objectives of economic growth with environmental sustainability and emphasizes regeneration and replenishment of marine resources. This work programme would focus on components like a) identification and valuation of blue economy sectors, b) estimation of blue trade, c) economic contribution of different sectors such as fisheries, deep sea mining, coastal tourism, marine biotechnology, ocean energy, marine services, etc to national income, d) regional initiatives for cooperation in blue economy, and e) legal and regulatory aspects of blue economy. Each of those dimensions of blue economy would be studied in-depth for producing meaningful inputs for policy-making. The findings of the studies will be presented in the form of a report, book volume, discussion papers and policy briefs. We have initiated some dialogue to initiate some sectoral studies. This is the broad work programme of RIS on Blue Economy.

Blue Economy and Non-Traditional Security Issues: Strategizing mitigation of potential security threat

Prof. S. K. Mohanty

In the broad paradigm of national security, the focus on 'Non-Traditional Security' is increasing, which is arising due to non-military security threat, targeting livelihood security of many. Non-Traditional Security (NTS) threats could be perceived beyond war and conflict where economic security of

millions is involved. These security threats involve political and socio-economic dimensions. Such challenges often threaten survival and well-being of people and originate from non-military interventions. These challenges arise due to human-induced disturbances and the effects of such disasters are often pronounced due to lack of timely intervention by the state. Such NTS concerns hinder inclusive growth and increases fragility of the state, creating space for perpetuation of misery among people. India is presently confronted with several NTS issues and blue economy can provide partial or lasting solutions to many of these threats. Among several NTS concerns, blue economy can address certain areas such as food security, energy security, water security, health security, environment security and livelihood security, etc. Some of these can be addressed effectively by managing blue economy with appropriate policy strategy. In the 21st century, the coverage of NTS concerns are becoming pronounced with continuous attempts to evolve 'global exclusion' of countries from global main stream activities with the emergence of Mega Regionals. In such a turbulent global economic situation, India may not be able to effectively handle blue economy in many sectors, and hence, international cooperation would be required. India has built-up large capabilities in several sectors and may seek support in several other sectors from the other countries in the neighbouring Indian Ocean Region (IOR). Evolving a comprehensive regional strategy with India's initiative can help India and the IOR to address several NTS concerns and ensure well-being of the people of the regional economies.

High-Technology Trade in BRICS and Comparative Innovation Policies

Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr Sabyasachi Saha and Ms Pratiba Shaw

Though still very heterogeneous in terms of size of economies and character of economic development, aspirations and scope of industrial development could be similar in BRICS. While BRICS has key strengths in production of high technology goods, China's volume and scale in some of the sectors are unrivaled by others. This is evident from the fact that except China none has been able to generate surplus in terms of high-technology trade. China has maintained on the other hand a positive trade balance in HTP, and has become a world leader in many segments. Other members of BRICS have strengths in areas like pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and machinery. Further, technological capabilities in industrialized nations are driven by firm-level innovations, often encouraged through government policies and fiscal incentives. For developing countries, R&D capabilities are important to reduce import dependence on high technology products. With greater integration with world trade, innovations assume higher significance for competitiveness and value creation through improvements in quality of products. This view has largely influenced developing countries to adopt policies for inducing firms to invest in technological changes. Key research issues under this topic include: status of high-technology trade of BRICS and long-term competitiveness in these sectors impact of multilateral and plurilateral trade agreements on high-technology trade scope of domestic strategies on industrialization; competitiveness and innovation in the context of globalisation; contributions of innovation policies for sectoral competitiveness in manufacturing; and cross-country assessment of impact of sectoral innovation policies on technology led manufacturing

Local Currency and Rupee Trade

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

The use of local currency for trade invoicing and financial transactions is advisable as it eliminates brokerage involved in currency exchange and currency mismatch costs in debt repayments. To mitigate exchange rate-related risks, India and many other countries including the advanced economies have signed a number of currency swap agreements with their trade partners to avoid unwarranted depreciation or appreciation of their currencies against major invoicing currencies such as US dollar and euro. Development of local currency debt markets and bond issuance in local currencies are important pillars of financial market development in developing countries. Some countries have promoted trade in their own currencies in the past including China and India. India has implemented rupee trade with Nepal, Russia and Iran. Although the extent of rupee trade has been limited in scope for these countries, the scheme can be generalized for other prospective rupee trade partners in due course. In fact, the Committee constituted by the Govt of India has identified a number of oil-exporting countries as a potential rupee trade partners. With greater use of local currency in trade and financial transactions, internationalization of rupee may be feasible in a long run. This study aims to examine current trends in local currency use in India and other countries with an aim to promote trade and investment with the rest of the world.

Relevance of Bonds for Developing Countries

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Development financing requirements in emerging markets and developing countries have multiplied over years. As a result, the volume of lending by the traditional sources of funding such as banks, multilateral development banks, non-banking financial companies are deemed to be inadequate. Moreover, the need for diversification of financing instruments is paramount as bank loans no longer meet financing requirements of different stakeholders — construction companies, operators, distribution companies — as observed in the case of infrastructure projects. New and innovative financing instruments essentially involving capital market assets such as equity, debt and combination of equity and debt features mezzanine capital are preferred supplementary sources of funding. Bonds including municipal bonds that are long-term securities with relatively stable rates of return enable efficient bundling of risks and returns in developing countries as financial markets in these economies are shallow and risk aversions are high. Like other emerging markets, India has embarked upon regulatory reforms for promoting bond market in the country. Domestic bond market in India is growing but far from the standards of global bond markets. For infrastructure financing, bonds are the most preferred class of assets. Against this backdrop, it is imperative to study and assess the trends in bond issuance, sectoral coverage, institutional and regulatory reforms, and so on in the context of India, BRICS, G20 and other regional groupings.

Working of Credit Rating Agency

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

As global financial integration deepens, the sovereign and corporate ratings provided by the credit rating agencies CRAs are used as indicators of performance and financial viability of countries and financial entities. At the

same time, the methodologies employed to generate rating scores are also increasingly being propagated as standard methodologies for credit rating, which has faced controversy especially during the subprime mortgage crisis due to alleged complicity and flawed ratings supplied by some of the existing CRAs. Given the importance of ratings for corporate bond issuance and overall development of local capital markets in developing countries, there is a need to stimulate competition in the global credit rating industry. Currently, global rating industry is an oligopolistic market; dominated by a few agencies. It is apparently observed that the methodologies employed by the CRAs do not adequately reflect the changing weights and dynamics of the emerging markets. This has prompted BRICS to propose an independent BRICS Credit Rating Agency for the grouping which would perhaps make an objective and scientific assessment of strengths, weaknesses and risks of developing countries and firms operating in those countries. This study is an attempt to examine all pertinent issues relating to credit rating institutions, methodologies and practices globally as well as in the BRICS countries.

C.Trade Facilitation, Connectivity and Regional Integration

Regional integration is considered as an effective strategy to stimulate trade and economic development. There has been a sharp rise in regional trade agreements (RTAs) in recent decades. Regional blocs not only create larger markets and new business opportunities but also generate investment and employment opportunities. It is also another way to support the development of regional production networks. However, there are several underlying factors that make regional integration effective, of which improved connectivity and trade facilitation and supporting institutions are most important. The linkage between regional integration and trade facilitation and connectivity is simple and positive. Defined broadly, connectivity deals with both physical and soft infrastructure, while trade facilitation often refers to measures reducing/removing non-tariff institutional, administrative, and technical barriers to trade. Developing countries particularly India has made substantial progress in lowering trade costs. However, they have been facing several challenges in connectivity, trade facilitation and regional integration which call for concerted efforts by countries on sustainable basis. RIS is known for its seminal contributions in regional integration, connectivity and trade facilitation. This pillar of RIS works programme deals with India's regional integration process in South and Southeast Asia and sectoral verticals such as trade facilitation and connectivity.

South Asia Development and Cooperation Report

Prof. S. K. Mohanty and Mr Rajeev Kher

South Asia is one of the largest, dynamic and fastest growing regions in the world. It has got strong productive capacity to grow since many economies in the region have significant savings-investment ratio, and expanding fixed capital formation. It is also one of the highest recipients of personal remittances. SAARC member-countries face the challenge of identifying ways of achieving regional integration on a fast track basis with the full implementation of the SAFTA, and the region is also lacking considerable vigour in attracting inward FDI from the rest of the world. The next stage of cooperation in South Asia includes the move to evolve a seamless SAFTA; the proposal for creation

of South Asia Economic Union, with increased focus on an investment cooperation strategy, production integration and technology cooperation. The strength of South Asia needs to be recognized and understood to recreate the region's growth vibrancy with the existing productive forces through mutual cooperation. RIS has always been at the forefront for promoting economic integration of the region, and has conducted several studies on these aspects. RIS even contributed in preparing the initial draft texts of the SAFTA treaty and the SAARC Agreement on Trade in Services (SATIS). The South Asia Development and Cooperation Report is a flagship report, which was launched in 1999. The fifth report in the series was launched in 2015. It is to be evolved with the support from RIS partner institutions in different South Asian countries. The *South Asia Development and Cooperation Reports* have created a niche in the region and beyond, in terms of providing conceptual and empirical basis for the South Asian economic integration process.

ASEAN-India Development and Cooperation Report

Prof. Prabir De and Team

India's engagement with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is at the heart of its Act East Policy. As a regional bloc, ASEAN has developed much faster than any other blocs in the Asia-Pacific. With ASEAN and India working towards establishing a Comprehensive Free Trade Area FTA through Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement RCEP, their cooperation would be a key to promote economic stability, competitiveness, growth and integration in the region. AIC at RIS has produced the first issue of the AIDCR in 2015. In last four years, ASEAN-India relations have been undergoing through several challenges. This is a time that needs analysis of the new challenges and to come out with possible responses and solutions. In view of the above, it is planned to write the second edition of the AIDCR. This report will provide a comparative analysis of the global and regional economies; will examine the impact and implications of India-ASEAN integration in view of emerging Indo-Pacific; assess policy priorities, effectiveness, implementation imperatives and challenges; and discuss themes central to the economic sustainability of the region, including public and foreign policy.

Emerging Production Networks between India and ASEAN

Prof. Prabir De, Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy, Ms Sreya Pan, Ms Komal Biswal

Production networks have become essential for strengthening regional integration. Activities in the value chain are no longer confined within domestic borders and a single firm. Production now involves multiple countries and multiple firms with complex webs and layers of interaction. With ASEAN-India FTA I goods, we find new opportunities for the expansion of the ASEAN production network to India and vice versa. This study being carried out for MEA aims to explore possibilities to build cross-border production networks within those industries with which India has manufacturing capacities and complementarities matching with the demand or supply capacity of ASEAN and vice versa. Besides, it also makes an attempt to identify challenges in building production networks. In particular, it identifies the gaps in connectivity and trade facilitation in promoting production networks between ASEAN and India, and provides the possible remedies. Out of this study, a chapter was already forwarded in the MGC Report, which was published in

2017 and initial findings were shared with the Indian Mission to ASEAN for ASEAN-India SOM Meeting in June 2018.

Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) in ASEAN-India Trade

Prof. Prabir De, Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy and Ms Komal Biswal

This study analyses the NTMs faced by India in ASEAN and ASEAN in India in select products. The study is based on both primary and secondary data. The study looks into two specific NTM measures, SPS and TBT, and carried out a case studies on selected products, which have consequences for trade because exporters seeking market access for their products need to meet the compliance requirements that are imposed by several regulatory agencies. Finally, the study also investigates the regulatory environment and identifies the regulatory gaps for policy recommendations. A draft of the study was already presented at the stakeholders consultation meeting in April 2018.

Implications of ASEAN Economic Community 2025

Prof. Prabir De, Ms Sunetra Ghatak and Ms Sreya Pan

The establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community AEC in 2015 has been a major milestone in the regional economic integration agenda in ASEAN, offering opportunities in the form of a huge market of US\$ 2.6 trillion and over 622 million people. The AEC Blueprint 2025, adopted by the ASEAN Leaders at the 27th ASEAN Summit in 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, provides broad directions through strategic measures for the AEC from 2016 to 2025. The AEC Blueprint 2025 aims towards achieving the vision of having an AEC by 2025 highly integrated and cohesive; competitive, innovative and dynamic; with enhanced connectivity and sectoral cooperation; and a more resilient, inclusive, and people-oriented, people-centred community, integrated with the global economy. ASEAN member-states aim to complete the AEC by 2025. The implementation of the AEC carries economic and strategic implications for India. This study is being carried out for MEA aiming to analyze economic implications of AEC for India, with particular reference to regional connectivity.

Assessing Impacts of Economic Corridors in India

Prof. Prabir De, Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy and Ms. Sunetra Ghatak

Corridor-based infrastructure development promotes economic growth and regional development through reduction in time and cost of the transportation; creates employment opportunities due to higher transportation activities, and contributes to poverty reduction. India's several infrastructure development initiatives are aimed to provide cost effective and efficient logistic services. In particular, India's Northeastern Region (NER) aims to deepen connectivity with national and cross-border corridors. NER is crucial to India's growing economic and strategic partnership with Southeast and East Asia. NER acts as a land-bridge between India and Southeast Asia. Owing to its strategic location, development of transport corridors, which connect the NER with rest of India and the neighbouring countries, has the potential to grow faster and can boost trade and connectivity with Southeast and East Asian countries. This study has examined the developmental impact of existing East-West Corridor (EWC) and the proposed cross-border corridors such as Trilateral Highway (TH), Kaladan multi-modal transit transport corridor, and Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor (BCIM-EC) on the Indian states with particular

focus on the NER states based on economic geography model. The study finds that corridor-based development projects may generate economic activities and regional development, which, in turn, would influence economic growth through higher production and consumption. The study has important policy implications in promoting economic activities and regional development.

India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Relationship: Way Towards a Stronger ASEAN-India Partnership

Prof. Prabir De and Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy

The Trilateral Cooperation among India, Myanmar and Thailand (IMT-TC) is natural and stands on its own. The objectives of this study are to (i) identify the challenges that India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral relationship has been facing in the context of ASEAN-India partnership; (ii) present the strategies and policies to be undertaken in order to strengthen the trilateral relationship; and (iii) publish the research findings to the attention of the policymakers, and dissemination of research findings. This study is jointly carried out in collaboration with the ASEAN Studies Center (ASC), Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok. Two workshops were already held and draft papers were already shared. An outcome document was already published, and a book is forthcoming.

ASEAN-India Cultural Relations: Sailing to Suvarnabhumi

Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray and Dr Susan Mishra

ASEAN and India have strong civilizational links. There is a need to deepen India's ties with the ASEAN countries based on their rich cultural affinities, and also create awareness of the linkages between India and ASEAN. AIC has been entrusted by the ASEAN Division of MEA to document civilizational links, starting with boat-building traditions and shipwreck sites; narratives of trans-locality; colonial intervention and the introduction of disciplines such as art history and archaeology; writings dated from 14th to 17th century in Indian languages; coastal shrines and religious identities; oral traditions; architecture; textile designs and weaving techniques; etc. Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray is leading this project. Five working papers and one book are the primary deliverables. The time span would be from January 2017 to December 2018. Two working papers have been produced – On the Sailing Ship: Across the Bay of Bengal, and Trade Networks of Commodities.

D. New Technologies and Development Issues

RIS has been researching on Science, Technology and Innovation issues from a development policy perspective since its inception. Over the years RIS has contributed to many projects and publications and provided policy advice/ input. The major activities undertaken during 2017-2018 are summarized below. RIS has built up capacity in this topic and is often a preferred partner or policy research think tank, by various institutions and departments. In addition to typical research projects RIS undertakes small research projects or researches upon selected themes and contributes to journals/volumes. RIS has been working on biotechnology and development related themes for more than two decades. UNESCO had commissioned RIS to undertake a study on

Biotechnology Capacity in Asia. The report based on this study received wide attention. RIS participated in FAO International Symposium on “The Role of Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition” held at Rome on 15-17 February 2016 and RIS DG was a member of the Advisory Panel. This was followed by

In the recent years Science Diplomacy has emerged as an important element in both foreign policy and science policy. While developed nations have been using it strategically and systematically, India has been using Science Diplomacy as part of its broader engagement with other countries. RIS with NIAS has initiated joint research program on this. Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) has emerged as a new concept and practice in Science Policy. RIS is perhaps the only institution in India that is working on it and contributing to global discourse and practice on RRI. After successful completion of an earlier project on RRI, RIS has become a partner institution in two projects on RRI. In addition to this through its other programs and initiatives in health sector, RIS is contributing to national health policy and governance, particularly on AYUSH. The launch of Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM) is a milestone in RIS’s involvement in research on health sector and in providing policy advice and inputs.

In the forthcoming years the work programme ‘New Technologies and Development Issues’ will continue to expand and diversify and will cover emerging technologies and enhance the synergy between this work program and other work programmes in RIS.

Main Areas of Research Activities

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr K. Ravi Srinivas, Prof. T.C. James, Dr Amit Kumar, Dr Namrata Pathak and Ms Deepika Yadav

This is an EU-sponsored international project under Horizon 2020 with the objective to study the idea of responsible research and innovation RRI in India. There are partners from 11 countries in this project consortium. RIS has put forward the framework based on Access, Equity and Inclusion AEI to contextualize RRI in Indian scenario. Field surveys of the case study organizations DST and JNU have been completed and the final draft report of the Indian National Study is being prepared. This is a 3-year project; that is 2016-2019.

Performance-based Innovation Rewards REWARD

This is a project on alternative mechanisms for incentivizing innovation in pharmaceutical sector and evidence policy making in health including measure impact and evaluation of options in health policy. This five -year project 2014-2019 is funded by European Research Council and coordinated by University of Central Lancashire, UK. The amended contract for undertaking a research project as part of Phase II has been finalized, and has been approved by the funder, ERC. Based on that RIS is coordinating a study ,to be undertaken in Kerala in Ernakulam District as part of Phase II of project. Institutional ethics clearances have been obtained. Clearance from ICMR is being sought. RIS is forming an ethics committee to oversee this study in Kerala, which is likely to begin shortly.

RRI- Horizon

This is an EU-sponsored international project under Horizon 2020 with the objective to study the implementation of responsible research and innovation RRI in India. RIS from India is one of the non-EU partners in the project. This is a 3-year project, 2017-2020.

RIS-NIAS Project on Science Diplomacy

This would be a DST-sponsored 3-year project with the objective to map Indian scientific Diaspora for leveraging their expertise for national development. RIS and NIAS Bangalore are jointly undertaking this project. The project would be launched soon where senior officials from MEA, Secretary, DST and various eminent experts, diplomats and practitioners would be initiated share their precious observations. Case studies on science diplomacy and directory of global courses on science diplomacy are being finalized. Timeline is: 2017-2020. This is an on-going programme.

Regional Background Study of Agricultural Biotechnologies in the Asia-Pacific

This was an UN-FAO sponsored short-term project with the objective to prepare a report on the status of applications, capacities and enabling environment for agricultural biotechnologies in the 43 Asia-Pacific countries. Report has been submitted to FAO.

The objectives of research projects in the Health Sector are the following: Promote the role of Indian pharmaceutical industry in providing affordable access to quality medicines in developing countries ; Development of national policies and strategies for achieving SDG 3: ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages; and Promotion of Indian Systems of Medicine domestically and globally. During the year, research within the above overall objectives have been carried on the following projects.

Study on Indian Pharmaceutical Industry and Access to Medicine in the TRIPS Regime - WHO Project on Access to Medical Products

Prof. T.C. James, Dr Ravi Srinivas, Dr Namrata Pathak, Dr Abha Jaiswal, and Ms Deepika Yadav

The study has focused on how the new Intellectual Property regime has affected pharmaceutical industry and also access to affordable medicine in India and other developing countries. The scope of the study extends to the history and growth of Indian pharmaceutical industry during the three phases: (i) from pre-Independence days to 1972, (ii) from 1972 to 2005, when there was no product patents and (iii) from 2005 to the present; visible trends in the sector post 2005, the current status of the industry, issue of access to medicines in India and other developing countries in the present scenario, innovation in pharmaceuticals as reflected in patenting. A Position Paper on Access to Medical Products, Research, Innovation, Trade and Intellectual Property and a Brochure on SDGs were given to WHO in November, 2017. This study has been completed.

Clinical Trial Industry

Prof. T.C. James, Dr Abha Jaiswal, Dr Namrata Pathak

Government of India has come out with a Draft New Clinical Trial Rules, 2018; the first comprehensive regulations on clinical trials in India. RIS had earlier studied the implementation of the Supreme Court orders regarding clinical trial regulations, iterated in the *Swasthya Adhikar Manch vs. UOI* case, and had provided a report to the WHO. In view of the urgency of providing comments to the Government, a stakeholder consultation was organized on 8 April, 2018 and based on the discussions clause by clause comments on the draft rules were prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for due consideration. A Discussion Paper based on the study is under preparation.

Medical Devices Industry

Prof T C James, Dr Abha Jaiswal

Medical devices industry forms the backbone of modern health care and would be a major determinant of India's achieving universal health-care, as has been envisaged under Ayushman Bharat. The Study would focus on the state of the industry in India, its challenges during the next decade and the effective policy interventions that would be required for India to achieve the status of a major exporter of medical devices to the world. An Occasional Paper would be produced on completion of the study; would take about nine months.

Indian Pharmaceutical Industry

Shri Rajeev Kher, Prof. T C James, Dr Abha Jaiswal, Dr Namrata Pathak, Shri Apurva Bhatnagar

This study would focus on the multi-sectoral policy interventions of the past which contributed to the growth of the Indian pharmaceutical industry to its present global leadership. It would also look into the new technological challenges like biotechnology revolution and Artificial Intelligence, confronting pharmaceutical industry, that necessitates development of advance policy responses across different sectors, both in medium-term and in long-term to maintain its position as the pharmacy of the world. The Study proposes to document and analyze past policy developments as contextual responses and present a blue print for future policy in the form of a book. It is expected to be completed in a year. The proposal has been submitted to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry for assistance in the project.

Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM)

Prof. T.C. James, Dr Ravi Srinivas, Dr Namrata Pathak, Shri Apurva Bhatnagar.

The FITM has been established in the RIS with the participation of the Ministry of AYUSH to contribute towards pragmatic policy-making in the area of Traditional Medicines (TMs) As an initiative arising out of a partnership between Ministry of AYUSH, academia, industry and civil society, the FITM has the following broad objectives.

- To establish a common platform for all actors and stakeholders to come together to contribute towards pragmatic policy-making on promotion of traditional medicine and traditional knowledge;

- To undertake studies on the various issues pertaining to Indian Traditional Medicine (ITM) such as IPRs and regulatory frameworks for traditional medicinal knowledge including protection and access to traditional medicinal knowledge in India and in other countries;
- To examine the trade and non-trade barriers including the SPS/ TBT measures by countries that impinge on the commercial prospects of Indian Systems of Medicine; and
- To monitor global developments and global institutions in the field.
- Stakeholder Consultation on Traditional Knowledge Digital Library

Under the FITM, RIS organised a 'Stakeholder Consultation on Traditional Knowledge Digital Library' on 30 June 2017. Representatives from the Ministry of AYUSH, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, TM industry, academia/research institutions and practitioners of TM participated at the Consultation. Based on the Consultation and further research, a Policy Brief, '*Access and Expansion of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library and Incentivization of Innovations*' has already been published.

The FITM would also organize an 'Industry Consultation on Global Promotion of Indian Systems of Medicine' on 18 May 2018. Its primary objective was to facilitate industry-government dialogue to generate policy recommendations. Representatives from the Ministry of AYUSH, other Ministries related to the traditional medicine industry, traditional medicine industry, academia/research institutions and practitioners of TM participated at the Consultation. A report based on the recommendations made at the Consultation would be submitted to the Ministry of AYUSH. A Policy Brief on '*Global Promotion of Indian Systems of Medicine*' has also been published.

Protection of Traditional Knowledge, Genetic Resources and Traditional Cultural Expressions

The study aims to examine the adequacy of legal provisions presently available for protecting TK, GR and associated traditional knowledge, and TCEs in India, included in the digital world. It further aims to assess their adequacy to prevent bio-piracy and propose changes/additions required in the existing laws, if any.

Three Scoping Papers on the three components of the Study are being prepared. These include the following:

- In-depth Study on Protection of Traditional Knowledge; In-depth Study on Protection of Genetic Resources; and In-depth Study on Protection of Traditional Cultural Expressions. The study is for a year, at the end of which detailed report would be submitted to the Ministry of AYUSH. Draft Scoping Papers on 'In-depth Study on Protection of Traditional Knowledge' and on 'In-depth Study on Protection of Traditional Cultural Expressions' have been circulated already to the FITM Board for approval.

China's Policy Initiatives for National and Global Promotion of TCM

The study aims to explore China's initiatives in mainstreaming Traditional Chinese Medicines (TCMs) in its public/universal healthcare system and in promoting TCMs globally. It further aims to make a comparative assessment of India's strengths and weaknesses *vis a vis* China; the lessons drawn from which can be incorporated/adapted for promotion of Indian Systems of

Medicines (ISMs) The study will result in a detailed Report by the end of 2018. A Scoping Paper on *China's Policy Initiatives for National and Global Promotion of TCM* has already been published.

Research Fellowships under FITM Programme

The objective of the Fellowships is to conduct an in-depth inquiry and research on subjects related to Indian Traditional Medicines ITMs and challenges and prospects. The publications including books as a result of this enquiry aims to provide policy related research inputs on promotion of ITMs. Invited Talks by domain experts on varying subjects related to ITMs also form a part of the project. RIS will manage grant of Fellowships and further publications, after final clearance from the Ministry of AYUSH an FITM.

Export Promotion of Medicinal Plants Sector: Strategy for Select Medicinal Plants

Shri Rajeev Kher, Prof T C James, Dr Ravi Srinivas and Dr Namrata Pathak

The study is to identify mechanisms to boost, among others, trade promotion of 25 medicinal-plants, identified by a Task Force of the Ministry of Commerce. Given the complexities around geographical spread and scale of collection and cultivation and the existing lack of traceability or data on the movement of goods along the value chain, an in-depth study of these medicinal-plants requires substantial time and resources. It is, therefore, proposed to begin with five most critical medicinal plants identified by the Task Force; with each medicinal plant's value chain to be analyzed in its entirety while focusing on the need for intervention at one or more junctions. The proposal has been submitted to Ministry of Commerce.

POLICY RESEARCH INPUTS

MEA

- Note on Small and Island Developing States Economic integration in the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) (IORA- CEPA)
- Note on Ocean Conference: SIDS and LDCs on SDG 14 given to MEA as per the request from JS (IOR).
- Note on the 'Idea of One Global Family: Conceptual Contours and Analytical Framework'
- Note on 'Marine Environment Pollution and Monitoring'.
- Note for Ocean Conference: SIDS and LDCs on SDG14 submitted to Ministry of External Affairs
- Comments on "IORA Business Innovation Centre" Proposal.
- Inputs on Key Recommendations of AAGC and also information on MoU signed by IDE JETRO and RIS to the 9th India-Japan Foreign Minister's Strategic Dialogue.

Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance

- Nominated by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance as Knowledge Partner for conception, design and organization of nine lead-up events held in different cities during January-June 2018 and five host country seminars held on June 25-26, 2018 as part of Third AIIB Annual Meeting hosted by India in Mumbai.
- Prepared four background papers on infrastructure financing- (1) Financing Infrastructure: Mobilizing Resources and Exploring New Instruments, (2) Innovation Regimes and Multilateralism: A Reflection on the Scope of New MDBs, (3) Forging Collaborations and Evolving Strategies for Infrastructure Development, and (4) Building Resilient and Quality Infrastructure as part of RIS's contribution as Knowledge Partner to the Third AIIB Annual Meeting held on June 25-26, 2018.

NITI Aayog

- Offered Feedback on NITI Aayog's National Nutrition Strategy.
- Provided inputs for WFP's current five -year Country Strategic Plan (2019-23) for India.
- Note towards a Blue Economy Strategy for India: Emerging Opportunities and Challenges"
- Comments on "Institutional reforms of the IORA"

Department of Science and Technology

- National Workshop Report on RRI was submitted to Department of Science and Technology.

Department of Commerce and Industry

- Note on India-Iran Negotiation for PTA
- Note on India-Sri Lanka Negotiation for Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) agreement
- Note on 'Bilateral Trade Linkages of India with Iran, Bangladesh, Maldives and Afghanistan' .
- Report on 'India Trade and Investment Agency (ITIA)'.
- Note on 'Public Policy and Economic Development: Case Study of Indian Pharmaceutical Industry'
- Proposal the Area of Facilitation of logistic
- Synchronization report of India's LAC Policy with Country's Journey towards a Five Trillion Dollar Economy by 2025.
- India's Trade linkages with Ecuador and Colombia.
- Background Note on Multi-stakeholders Consultations on India's Engagement with LAC in Trade and Investment.
- Note on India's Economic Engagement with the Pacific Alliance.

Ministry of Ayush

- Note on China's Policy Initiatives for Mainstreaming of TCM Domestically and its Promotion Globally.
- Note on In-depth Study on Protection of Traditional Knowledge, Genetic Resources and Traditional Cultural Express.

MoSPI

- Provided comments on the Draft National Policy on Official Statistics to MoSPI.

FOSTERING POLICY DIALOGUE: CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA AND WORKSHOPS



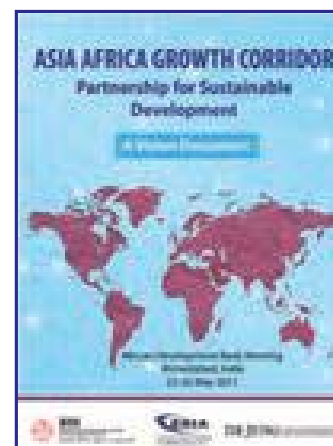
Hon'ble Prime Minister speaking at the Annual Meeting of the African Development Bank (AfDB).

Prime Minister Lauds Vision Document by RIS, ERIA and IDE-JETRO on “Asia Africa Growth Corridor”

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, in his address at the inauguration of the Annual Meeting of the African Development Bank (AfDB) on 23 May 2017 at Ahmedabad, underlined: “I gladly recall my detailed conversation with Prime Minister Abe during my visit to Tokyo. We discussed our commitments for enhancing growth prospects for all. In our joint declaration, we mentioned an Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) and proposed further conversations with our brothers and sisters from Africa. India and Japanese research institutions have come up with a Vision Document. I congratulate RIS, ERIA and IDE-JETRO for their efforts in putting it together. This was done in consultation with think-tanks from Africa. I understand the Vision Document would be presented at the Board meeting later. The idea is that India and Japan, with other willing partners, would explore joint initiatives in skills, health, infrastructure, manufacturing and connectivity.”

The idea of the AAGC had emerged in the joint declaration issued by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe, in Japan in November 2016. The AAGC would envisage people centric sustainable growth strategy; details of which would be evolved through a process of in-depth consultations across Asia and Africa, engaging different stakeholders.

The AAGC would be raised on four pillars of Development and Cooperation Projects, Quality Infrastructure and Institutional Connectivity,



Enhancing Capacities and Skills and People-to-People partnership. The centrality of people –to- people partnership would be the unique feature of this initiative. The strengths of the AAGC would be aligned with the development priorities of different countries and subregions of Africa, taking advantage of simultaneous homogeneity and heterogeneity among them. This would be undertaken to improve growth and interconnectedness between and within Asia and Africa for realizing a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

The AAGC would give priority to development projects in health and pharmaceuticals, agriculture and agro-processing, disaster management and skill enhancement. The connectivity aspects of the AAGC will be supplemented with quality infrastructure. The AAGC led growth in Africa and Asia would be responsive to collective commitment for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The AAGC Vision Study would use Geographical Simulation Model (GSM) to bring out economic gains for Africa through its integration with India, South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia and Oceania. The AAGC would contribute to develop institutional mechanisms and models for connecting businesses, people and think- tanks, which represent and contribute to integration efforts in Asia and Africa.

RIS, the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta, and the Institute of Developing Economies (IDE-JETRO), Tokyo, have developed the Vision Document based on the consultations with Asian and African think- tanks. The document was released at a side event, held during AfDB Annual Board Meeting at Ahmedabad, India.

‘Relationship with ASEAN Foundation for our Act East Policy’ – Smt. Sushma Swaraj

To commemorate 25 years of ASEAN-India Partnership, RIS and ASEAN India Centre (AIC) invited Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon’ble Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, for delivering Keynote Address on “ASEAN-India Partnership” on 22 June 2017 at RIS in New Delhi; attended by more than 500 participants . Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, gave welcome remarks. Amb. Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS, gave the Introductory Remarks.

In her address, Smt. Sushma Swaraj pointed out many aspects of India’s strategic partnership with the ASEAN. India is working with ASEAN towards



Hon'ble Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, delivering Keynote Address on ASEAN-India Partnership. (From left to right): Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Amb. Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS; H.E. Mr.Ton Sinh Thanh, Ambassador of Vietnam to India; Shri Amar Sinha, Secretary (Economic Relations), MEA; and Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS.

evolving regional security architecture in the Asia-Pacific that hinges on peaceful settlement of disputes, finding collaborative solutions to emerging and non-traditional challenges, and supporting centrality of the ASEAN. She emphasized on that India is actively engaged in Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership negotiations, involving ASEAN and its six FTA partners, which, when finalized, would be the largest regional trading arrangement, accounting for about 40 per cent of the world trade. The Minister said that efforts are on to enhance connectivity by land, air and sea to transform corridors of connectivity into corridors of economic cooperation.

The North-east region is a 'natural partner' in India's Act East Policy. She highlighted that for enhancing digital connectivity, specific proposals have been put forward, involving setting-up of a regional high-capacity fibre-optic network; supplemented with national rural broadband networks and digital villages in remote areas. At the end of the lecture programme, Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC, extended the vote of thanks.

Infrastructure at the Centrestage of India's Priorities – Shri Arun Jaitley



India hosted third Annual Meeting of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank in June 2018. Given numerous opportunities and challenges in different sectors of infrastructure in India and other member countries of the AIIB, the Ministry of Finance, Government of India, identified the RIS, New Delhi, as the Knowledge Partner to conceptualize, plan and organize a number of events on pertinent issues of infrastructure financing in the run up to the AIIB Annual Meeting. As a part of this series, RIS planned to organise the lead-up events in collaboration with industry associations such as the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), the Associated Chambers of Commerce of India (ASSOCHAM) and the Export-Import Bank (EXIM Bank) of India. Besides, the Curtain Raiser Ceremony on 27 February 2018 in New Delhi, eight lead-up events would be organised on different themes of infrastructure in different cities across India from March to June 2018. During the Annual Meeting in June 2018, a number of Host Country Seminars would be held as side events. These



Shri Arun Jaitley, Hon'ble Finance Minister of India, delivering the Inaugural Address at Curtain Raiser Ceremony of AIIB Annual Meeting held at New Delhi.

events aimed to capture critical dimensions of infrastructure financing such as sources and instruments of financing; legal, institutional and governance issues; emerging sectors of infrastructure investments including futuristic, resilient and digital infrastructure, gender infrastructure; new technology choices and alternatives; factors constraining flow of investment to different sectors; the ways and means to overcome those constraints; and sensitizing government and other concerned agencies for ensuring enabling environment for promoting investments in infrastructure sectors.



The Curtain Raiser Ceremony was organized on 27 February 2018 in New Delhi by the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Finance, AIIB, and the RIS. The inaugural session of the ceremony began with the Welcome Remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS followed by a Keynote Address by Mr Jin Lique, President AIIB, and an inaugural address by Shri Arun Jaitley, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Government of India. Mr Subhash Chandra Garg, Secretary (Economic Affairs), Ministry of Finance, Government of India while setting the context, informed august audience that AIIB is the first multilateral institution in the world essentially floated by the borrowers. This was followed by first presentation by Sir Danny Alexander, Vice President & Corporate Secretary, AIIB; and Dr M.M. Kuttu, Additional Secretary (Economic Affairs), Ministry of Finance, Government of India: Mr T.S. Tirumurti, Secretary (Economic Affairs), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India made Special Remarks. The inaugural session was concluded with a vote of thanks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS.

The next session on 'New Financing Paradigms for Sustainable Infrastructure' was chaired by Shri. Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India. In this session, Mr Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport and Highways & Shipping, Government of India, delivered the Keynote Address.

Prof. Amitabh Kundu, Distinguished Fellow, RIS, New Delhi; Dr Amar



Shri Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport and Highways & Shipping, and Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Housing and Urban Affairs with the panelists for the Session on New Financing.

Bhattacharya, Former Director, G24 Secretariat on International Monetary Affairs and Development, Washington, D.C.; Dr D.J. Pandian, Vice President and Chief Investment Officer, AIIB; Dr Junaid Kamal Ahmad, India Country Director, World Bank; and Mr Kenichi Yokoyama, Country Director, India Resident Mission, Asian Development Bank were the panelists. A large number of participants took part in the open discussion.

During the discussions in the curtain raiser, the main issues that emerged were increase in the demand for infrastructure financing. Simultaneously, there would be a need to efficiently mobilize private capital even though the role of public resources would continue to be critical. Also along with the traditional infrastructure sectors, the focus has shifted to inclusive, resilient, quality and sustainable infrastructure. Emerging markets and developing economies would require massive investments in infrastructure in the form of roads, metro railways, ports, digital infrastructure, smart cities, renewable energy etc in order to maintain the growth momentum witnessed in those economies during recent years. In that drive, the role of development banks is critical particularly from the perspective of integrated development of the countries.

In the Post-Lunch session, a High Level Roundtable on Infrastructure Financing was also held in which experts deliberated on issues related to sectors such as: Mass Rapid Transportation Systems; Port & Coastal Infrastructure; Urban Development, Digital Infrastructure, Inclusive, Resilient & Futuristic Infrastructure, Regional Development, Clean and Renewable Energy, Water and Sanitation, and PPP & Innovation in Resource Mobilization. The detail programme of the Curtain Raiser is uploaded on RIS website.

5th Roundtable of the ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT)

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS in collaboration with the Indonesian Institute of Science (LIPI), Indian Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta, ASEAN Secretariat, Ministry of External Affairs of India, Indonesian Foreign Affairs Ministry



Release of AINTT Report by Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India and Foreign Minister of Indonesia.

organized the 5th Roundtable of the ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT) on 6-7 January 2018 at Jakarta, Indonesia. Its title was “ASEAN and India: Partners of Integration in Asia”. Several experts and scholars from ASEAN countries and India attended this to exchange views on strengthening the already established linkages in political, economic and socio-cultural areas.

Welcome Address was given by Amb. Suresh Reddy, Indian Ambassador to ASEAN. Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon’ble External Affairs Minister of India addressed the inaugural session. Keynote Address was given by Mrs. Retno Marsudi, Hon’ble Foreign Minister of Indonesia. Special Remarks were delivered by H.E. Mr Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary General of ASEAN. Vote of thanks was extended by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, New Delhi. The 4th AINTT Proceedings on “ASEAN-India: Strengthening the Ties That Bind” was released at the roundtable. All the ASEAN countries nominated their officials and experts for the Roundtable, and over 100 participants including senior officials attended the 5th AINTT roundtable.

The Roundtable had five major sessions to identify maritime challenges needed to be addressed through greater cooperation between ASEAN and India; to review barriers to services trade between ASEAN and India for making a series of recommendations to strengthen the economic relations; to deal with cultural heritage of ASEAN and India and to identify the scope and opportunities in promoting shared cultural relations; to identify barriers to educational cooperation and design a way forward to strengthen the partnership; and finally to discuss potential and challenges of ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and implication for India and other dialogue partners. The Roundtable after analysis placed together various components which would help strengthening partnership between ASEAN and India. Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC presented the summary of the roundtable and extended the vote of thanks.

Mass Rapid Transport Systems for Urban Areas: Opportunities and Challenges

After the successful organization of the curtain-raiser ceremony in New Delhi on 27 February 2018, a one day ‘lead up event’ was organized on the theme,



Distinguished participants at the inaugural session.

Mass Rapid Transport Systems for Urban Areas: Opportunities and Challenges at Kolkata on 13 March 2018 in association with ASSOCHAM, India.

The Inaugural Session began with the remarks of Ms Perminder Jeet Kaur, Director (East and North East), ASSOCHAM. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, chaired the inaugural session. Shri Sanjay Jhunjhunwala, Chairman (Eastern Region), ASSOCHAM, and Dr Kumar Vinay Pratap, Joint Secretary (Infrastructure, Policy and Finance), Ministry of Finance, Government of India, made Welcome Remarks. Thereafter, Mr Soon-sik Lee, Senior Investment Operations Specialist, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, Beijing, made a presentation. Mr Rakesh Ranjan, Advisor, NITI Aayog, New Delhi, made the lead presentation. Dr Mangu Singh, Managing Director, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation Limited, New Delhi, delivered Inaugural Address. The Session ended with vote of thanks by Dr Priyadarshi Dash, Research Associate, RIS.

The lead up event had several Panel Discussions on Mass Rapid Transport Systems for Urban Areas: Investment Opportunities, Financial Sustainability & Regulatory Framework, Financially Sustainable Operations of MRTS; Investment Opportunities in MRTS for Urban Areas; and Technological Options for Sustainable Future Urban Mobility.

In the Valedictory session, Report from the Conference was presented by Mr Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Consultant, RIS. Ms Bandana Preyashi, Director (Multilateral Institutions), Ministry of Finance, Government of India, and Mr Rakesh Ranjan, Adviser, NITI Aayog, made special remarks. Mr Pradeep Singh Kharola, Chairman and Managing Director, Air India Limited, delivered valedictory address. The programme concluded with the vote of thanks by Mrs. Perminder Jeet Kaur Director (East and North East) and ASSOCHAM and Mr Soon-sik Lee, Senior Investment Operations Specialist, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, Beijing.

SDGs and Integral Humanism

To commemorate Pt. Deendayal Upadhyaya Centenary Year, RIS, NITI Aayog, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, and Deendayal Research Institute jointly organized a National Seminar on SDGs and Integral Humanism on



Dr Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Culture and Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India speaking at the seminar.

23-24 September 2017 in New Delhi. The programme began with introductory remarks by Shri Atul Jain, General Secretary, Deendayal Research Institute and Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, chaired the session. Shri Ram Madhav, Director, India Foundation, delivered the keynote address. Dr Mahesh Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Culture and Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, pointed out important issues.

Shri Mahesh Chand Sharma, Chairman, Research and Development Foundation for Integral Humanism, chaired the plenary session on Day 1 on the SDGs and Integral Humanism – Moving for New Paradigm of Development. Smt Arachana Chitnis, Hon'ble Minister, Women and Child Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh; Smt Meenakshi Lekhi, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha); Dr Ashok Tandon, Media Adviser to former Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee; and Dr Ramesh K Jalan, Global Advisor, Waste Management, were among the panelists.

The Session I on Sustainable Economic Growth: Implementing SDG 8 and SDG 12, was chaired by Dr Bajrang Lal Gupta, Delhi University. Shri Radha Mohan Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India, was the Chief Guest. Dr Venkatachalam Anbumozhi, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Indonesia, and Prof A Damodaran, Professor & IPR Chair on IP Management (MHRD), IIM Bengaluru, were panelists. The Session II on Multidimensionality of SDGs for harmony between 'Man & Nature', was chaired by Dr Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha). Shri Ashok Jain, Adviser (Rural Development and SDGs), NITI Aayog; Prof T C James, Visiting Fellow, RIS; Dr Leena Gupta, Social Scientist; Dr P K Anand, Visiting Fellow, RIS, were panelists.

The 'SDGs and Integral Humanism: The Way Forward.' was the main theme of the concluding day which began with the welcome address by Shri Atul Jain, General Secretary, Deendayal Research Institute. Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and Dr Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), summarised the outcomes of the Day 1. Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice- Chairman, NITI Aayog, addressed the august gathering.

Shri Arun Jaitley, Hon'ble Finance Minister, Government of India, delivered the valedictory address. Hon'ble Dr Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Culture and Minister of State in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India, was distinguished guest, who also addressed the participants. Shri Virendrajeet Singh, Chairman, Deendayal Research Institute, extended the vote of thanks.

'Achieve Goal 5 for Success in Other Goals' says Smriti Irani at RIS, NITI, UN Consultation

RIS, jointly with the NITI Aayog and the UN in India organized National Consultations with States with focus on specific SDG goals. As part of this series, two National Consultations were held in New Delhi on SDG 5; related to Gender Equality issues on 11 April 2017 and SDG 2 on Zero Hunger on 13 April 2017. The Consultation on Gender Equality began with the welcome remarks by Dr Ashok Kumar Jain, Adviser (Rural Development and SDGs), NITI Aayog. Shri Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS, delivered special remarks



Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, delivering Keynote Address. (From left to right): Dr Ashok Kumar Jain, Shri Arvind Panagariya, Amb. Hardeep S Puri, and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi.



and Shri Arvind Panagariya, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, delivered inaugural address. Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Minister of Textiles, gave the keynote address. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, also addressed the participants.

The Hon'ble Minister emphasized that SDG 5 would connect in achieving various targets efficiently. She pointed out the role of education in making a huge difference in bringing equality among men and women in decision-making power; not limiting only to parliamentary or panchayat level, but also at the lower level, and would be narrowing wage gap between the male and the female. She also referred to Prime Minister's ambitious initiatives for promoting gender equality like *Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao*, *Mudra Yojana*, *Ujjwala Scheme* and for building toilets for girls in all schools.

Shri Arvind Panagariya, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, said that ultimately we all believe in equality of all human beings, regardless of gender, race or religion, and therefore undoubtedly SDG 5 has to be absolutely central goal. Ambassador Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS, focused mainly on six sustainable development targets and means of implementation, covering three cardinal aspects of gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) – physical security, integrity and dignity, *Suraksha aur Samman*, *Manav Adhikar*; equal capabilities, opportunities and choice, *Sampoorna Sashaktikaran*; equal voice participation and leadership in decision-making, *Samaanta Bhagidari Netritva*.

In the second National Consultation on SDG 2 on 'End Hunger Achieve Food Security, Improved Nutrition and Promote Sustainable Agriculture' on 13 April 2017 in New Delhi, Dr Ashok Kumar Jain, Adviser (Rural Development & SDGs), NITI Aayog, gave introductory remarks. Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairperson, RIS, and Mr Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator, India, gave Special Remarks in the inaugural session. The Keynote Address was delivered by Shri Y.S. Mathur, Additional Secretary, NITI Aayog.

Dr Bibek Debroy, Member, NITI Aayog, chaired the Session I on Ensuring Food and Nutrition Security. The panelists in the session were Shri Amod Kanth,



Founder Prayas; Shri Deepak Kumar, Joint Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution; Dr A. Laxmaiah, Scientist, National Institute of Nutrition; Dr Shivendra Srivastava, Scientist, National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research; Dr Prema Ramachandran, Nutrition Foundation of India; and Shri Vishal Kumar Dev, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Women and Child Development, Government of Odisha.

Shri Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog, chaired the Session II on Adaptation of Agricultural Strategies for Climate Change Mitigation. The session was co-chaired by Shri Yaduvendra Mathur, Additional Secretary, NITI Aayog. The panelists for the session included Dr Ch Srinivas, Director, Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture; Shri Krishna Kumar, DDG, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation; and Dr T.P. Rajendran, Visiting Fellow, RIS.

Session III on Sustainable Agriculture and Doubling Farmer's Income was chaired by Prof Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Aayog. Key panelists in this session were Dr H. K. Bhanwala, Chairman, NABARD; Shri K. K. Mittal, Additional Chief Secretary & Agriculture Production Commissioner, Government of Assam; and Dr Raka Saxena, Senior Scientist, National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research. In the concluding session, special lecture on 'Global Perspectives on Hunger and Malnutrition' was delivered by Mr Shyam Khadka, FAO Representative, India. The way forward was suggested jointly by Shri Jan Delbaere, Deputy Representative, WFP and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS. The closing remarks were given by Dr P. K. Anand, Senior Consultant, NITI Aayog.

The day-long consultation focussed comprehensively on issues of national importance on the subject, immediate priorities and policy programmes of the Government of India, global experience and trends in the context of SDGs and best practices on policy and implementation from States. The role of civil society organisations in achieving specific targets in these areas was also explored. Key issues under deliberation included: National Food Security Act; Direct Benefit Transfers (Cash Transfers) in PDS; Nutrition Outcomes among Women and Children; Impact of Climate Change and Adaptation Strategies; Agricultural Income and Credit; Quality of Data, Indicator Development on SDGs and Monitoring.

SDGs targets at End poverty in all its forms everywhere



RIS has been actively engaged with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) since the process of evolution and their adoption in September 2015. As part of the major work programme of the SDGs, the RIS has pursued for effective implementation of the Agenda of the SDGs in the domestic and the international processes, particularly from the Indian point of view with the focus on localization of SDGs. It is also collaborating with key international think-tanks and organizations in India on specific issues related to the SDGs to strengthen knowledge partnerships. The NITI Aayog, Government of India, is the nodal agency to coordinate and lead to implementation of the SDGs in India.

Since 2016, NITI Aayog, UN India and RIS have jointly organized a number of high-level National Consultations, focusing on different SDGs. India also organized high-level panel discussions at the UN Headquarters in New York and UN Foundation New York Office during 14-19 July 2017, alongside the



Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development, delivering the keynote address.

UN High Level Political Forum, where it formally presented its *Voluntary National Review Report, 2017*. In this endeavour, RIS along with NITI Aayog and UN India organized a National Consultation on the goal 1 to 'End poverty in all its forms everywhere' on 14 March 2018 in New Delhi. Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development, Government of India, delivered the keynote address.

The programme began with the Welcome Remarks of Dr Ashok Kumar Jain, Adviser, NITI Aayog. Introductory Remarks were made by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS. Shri Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator India and Shri Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog gave their points of view. Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog gave a special address.

National Consultation on Reducing Inequalities

RIS in association with the NITI Aayog and UN in India organized National Consultations through out the year with many stakeholders, including state governments, CSOs and others with focus on specific SDG goals. As part of the series, a National Consultation on SDG-10 related to issues of Inequalities was held on 28 August 2017 in New Delhi.



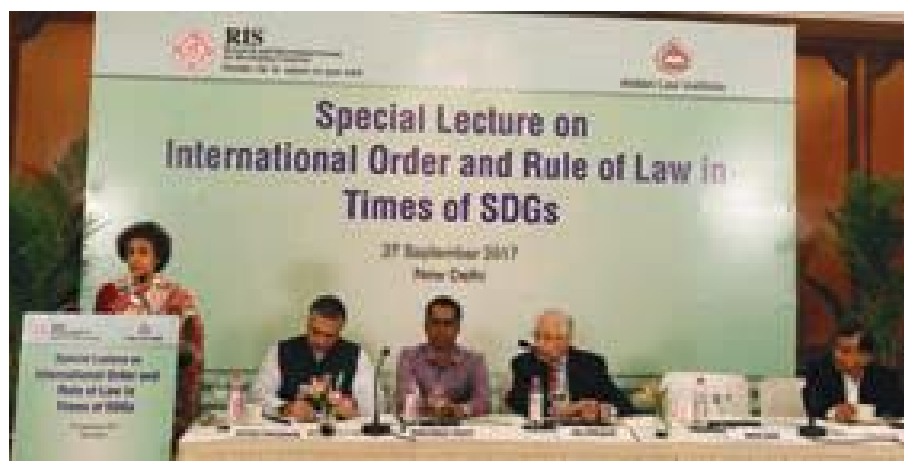
Dr Arvind Panagariya, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, delivering the keynote address

Dr Ashok Kumar Jain, Adviser, NITI Aayog welcomed all and Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, made introductory remarks. Shri Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator, India, addressed inaugural session and Shri Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog, delivered special address, and Dr Arvind Panagariya, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, delivered the keynote address.

International Order and Rule of Law

RIS and the Indian Law Institute (ILI) organized a Special Lecture on International Order and Rule of Law in Times of SDGs on 27 September 2017 in New Delhi.

The programme began with the introductory remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and Dr Shreenibas Prusty, Registrar, ILI. Mr Soli Sorabjee, former Attorney-General of India, chaired the session. Ms Irene Khan, Director General, International Development Law Organization (IDLO), delivered a special lecture on 'International Order and Rule of Law in Times of SDGs'. The perceptive lecture was followed by question-answer session. Prof. T.C. James, Visiting Fellow, RIS, extended the vote of thanks.



Ms Irene Khan, Director General, International Development Law Organization (IDLO), delivering special lecture.

Implementing Agenda 2030: The Role of Global Partnership

A panel discussion on 'Implementing Agenda 2030: The Role of Global Partnership' was organized jointly on 18 July 2017 by RIS and the United Nations Foundation, New York.

This meeting assessed means required to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, localization of the SDGs, and the role of southern institutions in implementation of SDGs. Interactions were on how to deliver vast global means of implementation through financing for development with a focus on mobilizing resources from diverse sources—public, private, international and domestic; finding room for new alliances to tap innovation in business; accessing technology; and developing institutional frameworks to accommodate rising emerging developing countries action taken for implementation of the agenda.



Participants at Panel Discussion on Implementing Agenda 2030.

The interactions also touched on enhancing provision of global public goods to meet SDGs, besides localization of SDGs. Following were the topics-- (1) institutional frameworks and the rise of emerging developing countries, (2) localization of the SDGs, (3) financing for development and the role of southern institutions, and (4) India's country perspective.

Ambassador Hardeep S. Puri, Chairperson, RIS chaired the discussion. Ms Minh-Thu Pham, Executive Director for Policy, UN Foundation and Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS welcomed the participants, and gave them a brief introductory. Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh; Mr Jitendra Shankar Mathur, Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Government of India; Mr Manuel F. Montes, Senior Advisor on Finance and Development, South Centre in Geneva; Mr Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator for India; Ms Romilly Greenhill, Senior Research Fellow, Overseas Development Institute, were panelists. The final wrap-up of the session was done by Ms Minhu-Thu Pham and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi.

Transforming India: Eradicating Poverty, Promoting Prosperity

RIS with NITI Aayog and UN organized jointly a Panel Discussion on Transforming India: Eradicating Poverty, Promoting Prosperity on 17 July 2017 at UN Headquarters. Prof. Arvind Panagariya, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog; Prof Jagdish Bhagwati, Columbia University ; Amb. Hardeep S. Puri, Chairperson, RIS; Prof T.C.A. Anant, Chief Statistician of India and Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Govt. of India; Shri Anupam Kher, UN Ambassador for Gender Equality; and Amb. Syed Akbaruddin, Permanent Representative of India to UN were among panelists.

Prof. Braj Behari Kumar, Chairman, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) delivered the valedictory address. Dr Kh. Palin, Founder and Head, Shijah Hospitals, Imphal, welcomed all. Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, Visiting Fellow, RIS, presented the conference report; which was followed by special remarks by Mr Seshadri Chari, Member, Governing Council, RIS, and Strategic and Foreign Policy Analyst and Journalist. The concluding remarks were given by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, and vote of thanks was extended by Ms Dhriti Gogoi, RGVN Society.

Commonwealth Summit 2018: Evolving Development Strategies

Commonwealth Summit 2018 was jointly organized by RIS and FIDC on 28 December 2017 in New Delhi. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS gave introductory remarks. Amb. Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS, chaired the inaugural session, and Mr Rudrendra Tandon, Joint Secretary (UNP), Ministry of External Affairs, delivered inaugural address. Mr St. John Gould, Director, UK Trade and Economics, India, British High Commission, delivered special address.

The first session on Trade, Investment and Technology, focussed on the Small Island Developing States (SIDS), was chaired by Shri S.T. Devare, Chairman, Research Advisory Council, RIS. Lead presentations were by: Ambassador Virendra Gupta, New Delhi; Dr S.K. Mohanty, Professor, RIS; Professor Aradhna Aggarwal, Indian Studies, Deptt of International Economics and Management, Copenhagen Business School; Ms Sakshi Uniyal, Flame University, Pune (representing Dr R.G. Nambiar, Professor of Economics, Flame University of Pune); Mr Arvind Gupta, Digital India Foundation; Mr Paras Tandon, Independent Analyst. Ms Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate, IDSA and Professor Shahid Ahmed, Professor and Head, Department of Economics, Jamia Millia Islamia, were co-panelists.

The second session on SDGs, Women and Civil Society, was chaired by Amb. Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS. Professor Anuradha Chenoy, Professor, School of International Studies, JNU; Dr Balakrishna Pisupati, former Vice-Chancellor, Trans Disciplinary University and Mr Kaustuv Bandyopadhyay, Director, Participatory Research in Asia were main speakers. Mr Amitabh Behar, Executive Director, National Foundation for India; Professor Gulshan Sachdeva, Centre for European Studies, School of International Studies, JNU were co-panelists.

Amb. Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS, also chaired the closing session. Mr Jaydeep Biswas, Acting Head, DFID India, and Professor S. K. Mohanty, RIS, presented the views in the concluding session, and this was followed by rigorous interactions from participants.



Mr Rudrendra Tandon, Joint Secretary (UNP), Ministry of External Affairs, delivering the Inaugural Address.

Delhi Conference on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

In the recent years, South-South Cooperation (SSC) and Triangular Development Cooperation (TDC) have evolved as major forms of engagements across the South. With this, the modalities and the dimensions of engagements have also multiplied, and has assumed greater importance with the launching of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

RIS has been on the forefront in bringing together all stakeholders to deliberate on these issues for a better understanding of an emerging global architecture. To carry forward the process of discussing SSC further, RIS had organized a International Conference on South-South and Triangular Cooperation on 24-25 August 2017 in New Delhi. This was the Third Conference in the series that RIS started in 2013.

The inaugural session began with the welcome remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; and Mr Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India, New Delhi. Ambassador Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS, chaired the session. Mr Jorge Chediek, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation and Director United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, New York, and Professor Li Xiaoyun, China International Development Research Network (CIDRN), Beijing; Chairman Network of Southern Think Tanks (NeST) also presented their points of view. Professor Muchkund Dubey, President, Council for Social Development, New Delhi, made special remarks. Ms Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, delivered inaugural address. Hon'ble Mr Mohamed Nasheed, former President, Republic of Maldives, delivered the valedictory address.



Ms. Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), delivering the inaugural address.

South-South Global Thinkers Initiative

A special event on the South-South Global Thinkers Initiative and signing of the MoU between UNDP and NeST and a Workshop on Impact Assessment for South-South Cooperation were organized on 14 July 2017 at the UN Headquarters, New York. Ms Simona Marinescu, Director, Development Impact Group, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP chaired the

signing ceremony. Mr Magdy Martinez-Soliman, Assistant Secretary-General and Director, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP welcomed all and Ambassador Hardeep S. Puri, Chairperson, RIS, made opening remarks.

A MoU was signed between the UNDP and the RIS. Mr Jorge Chediek, UN Secretary General's Envoy on South-South Cooperation and Director of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation and Ambassador Tanmay Lal, Deputy Permanent Representative of India to UN made congratulatory remarks.

The MoU signing was followed by the SSC Global Thinkers Workshop – Impact Assessment for SSC. Ms Xiaojun Grace Wang, Deputy Director, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, was moderator.

Dr Neissan Alessandro Besharati, Senior Research Fellow/Visiting Professor/M&E Specialist and African Coordinator, NeST Africa; Dr Paulo Esteves, BRICS Policy Centre Supervisor, NeST Brazil; and Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor, RIS, were the main speakers. Mr Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India gave special remarks; followed by concluding remarks by Ms Simona Marinescu, Director, Development Impact Group, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support.



The workshop on Impact Assessment for South-South Cooperation in progress.

Panel Discussion on “Approaches to Development Cooperation: Scope for New Partnerships”

RIS, NeST and FIDC organised a Panel Discussion on 13 November 2017 in New Delhi as part of the ITEC Programme on ‘Learning South-South Cooperation’, held at RIS. The programme began with the introductory remarks of Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, and it was chaired by Ambassador Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS. Mr Gaddam Dharmendra, Joint Secretary (PP&R), MEA; Mr Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Representative in India; Mr Gavin McGillivray, Head, DFID India, British High Commission; and Ms. Indrani Bagchi, Sr Editor, the Times of India Group, were distinguished panelists.

Development Studies, International Relations and Public Policy

There has been a great emphasis lately on integrating domestic and external sectors for stimulating economic growth. This calls for analyzing informed debate on international economic relations, development studies, and interface with policy formulation. RIS has a common platform where all stakeholders can exchange views for evolving policy cohesion. RIS organized the brainstorming session on 'Interaction among Researchers for Development Studies, International Relations and Public Policy' on 13 January 2018 at New Delhi. Dr Mohan Kumar, Vice Chairman, RIS, and Amb. S.T. Devare, Chairman, RIS Research Advisory Council graced the session and led to the discussions.

Overview of Argentina's G20 Presidency

Buenos Aires, Argentina, has taken up the next Chair for G20. It has set out key priority areas already and possible outcomes of G20 Summit. In this context, RIS has initiated a dedicated work programme on G20 and as a part of this, organized a Roundtable on 'Overview of Argentina's G20 Presidency' jointly with the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML) on 26 February 2018 at Seminar Room, NMML, New Delhi.

The programme began with welcome remarks by Mr Shakti Sinha, Director, NMML and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Mr Shaktikant Das, India's Sherpa to the G20 chaired the session. Mr Amar Bhattacharya, Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development, Brookings; Prof. Manmohan Agarwal, RBI Chair Prof., Centre for Development Studies; Mr Alok A. Dimri, Joint Secretary (MER), Ministry of External Affairs; and Dr Ramkishan S. Rajan, Vice-Dean (Research) and Prof., Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, were the main panelists.

Roundtable Discussion on 25 Years of ASEAN-India Partnership

The RIS and ASEAN India Centre (AIC) jointly organised a Roundtable on "25 Years of ASEAN-India Partnership" on 22 June 2017 at RIS in New Delhi. The programme began with the welcome remarks of Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. And the session was chaired by Amb. Hardeep S Puri,



Roundtable Discussion on 25 Years of ASEAN-India Partnership in progress.

Chairperson, RIS. The special remarks were given by Amb. Amar Sinha, Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. The main participants were ASEAN Ambassadors, Indian diplomats, Academicians and Researchers.

Dr Prabir De, Coordinator ASEAN-India Centre, made a presentation on 25 years of ASEAN-India relations, covering trade, investment, connectivity and cultural linkages at RIS. All ASEAN Heads also shared their opinions.

Delhi Dialogue 9 on 'ASEAN-India Relations'

Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, Government of India, inaugurated a two-day Delhi Dialogue 9 on 4-5 July 2017 at New Delhi, on the theme "ASEAN-India Relations: Charting the Course for the Next 25 Years". This dialogue was organized by the Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF), New Delhi. AIC at RIS was a key partner of the event. Key attendees at the session included political leaders, policy-makers, senior officials, business leaders, think-tanks, academics from India and ASEAN. The prominent dignitaries were: Gen. (Dr) V.K. Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs; Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Chief Minister of Assam; H.E. Mr Pham Binh Minh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Vietnam; H.E. U Kyaw Tint Swe, Union Minister, Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor, Myanmar; and H.E. Hirubalan V P, Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Political-Security Community Department, ASEAN Secretariat.

The Delhi Dialogue 9 was broadly divided into three sessions – Ministerial Sessions, Business Sessions, and Academic Sessions to facilitate debate on varied aspects on ASEAN- India relations. Some panel discussions held were on: 'International economic trends and their impact on India and ASEAN', 'India-ASEAN Trade Relations', 'India-ASEAN Partnership: Building Regional Network to promote SMEs and Women's Empowerment', 'India-ASEAN Infrastructure Investments: Current Scenario and the Way Forward', 'Trade and Tourism through Connectivity – Focus North East and East', 'Regional Geopolitics: Great Power Politics in the Asia-Pacific', 'New Connectivity Paradigm in the Asia-Pacific', 'Technology, Innovation and Big Data', and 'Socio-Cultural Engagement and Diaspora Links'.

Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC, as a panelist at the Panel Discussion on New Connectivity Paradigms in the Asia-Pacific, made a presentation



Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, Government of India with other dignitaries of ASEAN countries at the Delhi Dialogue 9.

on the ongoing India's connectivity projects with several ASEAN countries. Amb. Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS, chaired the session on Cultural and Civilizational Links.

Policy Dialogue on Mekong-Ganga Cooperation “Stronger Connectivity and Enhancing Ties”

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), in partnership with RIS, the AIC and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), organised a Policy Dialogue on Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) titled “Stronger Connectivity and Enhancing Ties” on 8 April 2017 at RIS in New Delhi. Welcome address was given by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Amb. Hardeep S Puri, Chairman, RIS, gave the opening remarks. Dr Dinesh Dua, representing CII; and Prof. Lokesh Chandra, President, Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR), delivered special addresses. Ms Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), MEA, delivered keynote address and also released the AIC-RIS Report on “*Mekong-Ganga Cooperation: Breaking Barriers and Seeking New Heights*”. Ms Pooja Kapoor, Joint Secretary, MEA, extended the vote of thanks.

This Policy Dialogue was organised as follow up to the announcement of Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs at the 7th Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) Ministers Meeting, held at Vientiane on 24 July 2016. During the meeting, the State Minister had announced that India would host a seminar on the MGC, focusing on building stronger connectivity and enhancing multi-dimensional ties with the AIC at RIS. MGC member-countries had nominated participants to the policy dialogue, and over 100 delegates, including senior officials from foreign offices, attended the event. The Policy Dialogue was divided into four sessions facilitating an in-depth discussion on different aspects relating to experiences of India and Mekong countries with respect to new initiatives and ideas for helping formulation of an actionable policy agenda for strengthening MGC through connectivity. The themes focused were on – Physical and Digital Connectivity; Trade, Investment, Value Chains; and Cultural Relations and People-to-People Contacts and howling Ahead: Harnessing the Diversity, Building the Future. Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC, presented the summary and extended the vote of thanks.



Amb. Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India releasing the AIC-RIS report entitled “*Mekong-Ganga Cooperation: Breaking Barriers and Seeking New Heights*”. (From left to right) Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi; Ms. Pooja Kapur; Joint Secretary, MEA; Amb. Hardeep S Puri; Prof. Lokesh Chandra, President, Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR); and Dr Dinesh Dua, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

International Conference on “ASEAN-India @ 25: Retrospection and the Way Ahead”

To commemorate 25 years of ASEAN-India Partnership, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS organised an International Conference on “ASEAN-India @25: Retrospection and the Way Ahead” at New Delhi on 12 January 2018. Welcome address was given by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Opening remarks were delivered by Amb. Mohan Kumar, Vice-Chairman, RIS. H.E. Mr Sidharto Reza Suryodipuro, Ambassador of Indonesia in India, delivered Special Address. Special Remarks were made by Amb. Sudhir Devare, Chairperson of RIS Research Advisory Council and Former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC made a presentation on e-compendium.

The event was also marked by the release of e-compendium of RIS' Contributions to ASEAN-India Relations. The Conference was in sessions – Look East to Act East: India's Journey from Dialogue Partnership to Strategic Partnership; achievement and way forward on ASEAN-India Economic Partnership; and ASEAN and India in an integrated Asia: The way ahead. Senior scholars from Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand and Indonesia attended as panelists. ASEAN HOMs in Delhi also attended and nominated their senior representatives. The panelists and participants of the Conference were government officials, practitioners, academicians, researchers and media personnel. Prof. Prabir De extended the vote of thanks.



Release of AIC-RIS e-compendium on ASEAN-India relations.

India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Relations

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS, New Delhi; ASEAN Studies Center and Indian Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, in collaboration with Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata, and Centre for Studies in International Relations and Development (CSIRD), Kolkata, organised a joint international workshop on “India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Relationship: Way Towards a Stronger ASEAN-India Partnership” on 6-7 September 2017 at MAKAIAS, Kolkata.

Dr Binoda Mishra, Director, Centre for Studies in International Relations and Development (CSIRD), Kolkata, welcomed the participants. Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS, New Delhi, gave Opening Remarks. Prof. Suthiphand Chirathivat, Executive Director, ASEAN Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, addressed the Inaugural session. Amb. Rajiv Bhatia, Distinguished Fellow, Gateway House, Mumbai, and Former Indian Ambassador to Myanmar delivered Special Address.

The objectives of the workshop were to (i) identify challenges that India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral relationship has been facing in the context of ASEAN-India partnership; (ii) present strategies and policies to be undertaken to strengthen trilateral relationship; and (iii) bring in research findings to the attention of policy-makers.

The event was attended by over 25 delegates, including academic researchers, government officials and foreign official's representatives. The workshop in total had seven sessions including an opening session. Other sessions focussed on Dynamics of Trilateral Cooperation; Foreign Policy and Security Issues; Cultural Links; Trade and Investment related issues. The workshop aimed facilitating an in-depth discussion on various aspects relating to experiences of India, Myanmar and Thailand with respect to new initiatives and ideas, which would help formulating an actionable policy agenda for strengthening Trilateral Cooperation. Towards the end, Prof. Suthiphand Chirathivat, ASEAN Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, and Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC, summed up the proceedings. Closing Remarks were given by Prof. J K Ray, National Professor, Kolkata. Finally, vote of thanks was extended by Dr Arpita Basu Roy, Senior Fellow, CSIRD, Kolkata.



Participants of the Joint International Workshop on India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Relations.

ASEAN-India Connectivity Summit: Powering Digital and Physical Linkages for Asia in the 21st Century

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS organised the first-ever ASEAN-India Connectivity Summit (AICS) on 11-12 December 2017 at New Delhi. AICS was organized to commemorate 25 years of ASEAN-India dialogue partnership. The objective of AICS was to discuss and identify potential of collaboration across different modes of connectivity with a special

thrust on digital connectivity. Ms. Shobana Kamineni, President, CII, gave the Welcome Address, and moderated the Inaugural Session. Gen. (Dr) V.K. Singh (Retd), Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India, delivered Special Address. H.E. Phan Tam, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Information and Communications of Vietnam, Government of Vietnam, also delivered Special Address. Shri. Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister for Road, Transport and Highways, Shipping and Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India, delivered Keynote Address.

This Two-Day Summit consisted of an inaugural session, followed by a special plenary, six plenary and four parallel sessions. The event was attended by government officials, policy-makers, investors, business leaders, trade bodies and associations and entrepreneurs of the ASEAN countries and India. Several senior ministers of India and ASEAN countries who addressed to the AICS apart from inaugural sessions were: Shri M.J. Akbar, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India; Mr Lim Cheen, Director, ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta; Shri Manoj Sinha, Hon'ble Minister of State for Communication (Independent Charge), Government of India; Shri P.D. Rai, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha); and Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Shipping and Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, India.

This Summit reflected India's strong commitment to work together with all stakeholders to enhance connectivity in India with ASEAN and with other countries in the Indo-Pacific region. India's connectivity initiatives spanning across physical and digital projects are tailored to complement strategic areas of Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025; especially sustainable infrastructure, digital innovation, seamless logistics, regulatory excellence and people mobility.

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, chaired the plenary session titled 'Building Connectivity: Line of Credit', and he highlighted information on various ongoing and proposed projects of connectivity under India's Line of Credit, and reiterated the fact that promoting physical and digital linkages between India and ASEAN would help bring in huge development in the region.

25th anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations

The Royal Thai Embassy in collaboration with the ASEAN New Delhi Committee and the ASEAN-India Centre at RIS, organised 'The ASEAN Quiz' on 1st September 2017 at Arya Auditorium, New Delhi. The event commemorated 50th anniversary of the establishment of ASEAN and the 25th anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations, and aimed to spread awareness of ASEAN and its achievements among the Indian public, especially Indian youths, leading to greater understanding of the organization and its member-states, their peoples and their interactions with India over the last 25 years. A total 150 teams from different schools and colleges across Delhi and NCR participated in the Quiz, focussing on ASEAN.

His Excellency Mr Chutintorn Gongsakdi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to India, and current Chair of ASEAN, New Delhi Committee, gave the keynote address before the Grand Finale. Special vote of thanks was

presented by Mr Apirat Sugondhabhirom, Minister & Deputy Chief of Mission of the Royal Thai Embassy, who thanked all ASEAN New Delhi Committee, ASEAN-India Centre, and the participants for making this ASEAN Quiz a huge success. Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy from AIC attended the programme.



ASEAN Delegates and Grand Finale Contestants.

Strengthening ASEAN-India Partnership

To commemorate 25 years of ASEAN-India Partnership, the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS in collaboration with ASEAN India Business Council (AIBC), Asia Pacific Pathways to Progress Foundation, Inc., Philippines; Insperon, Philippines; New Era University, Philippines; and Embassy of India in Philippines organised the first -ever ASEAN-India Forum titled “Philippines and India: Strengthening ASEAN-India Partnership” at Manila on 21 November 2017.

Mr James Manzanero, COO of Eagle Broadcasting Corporation welcomed the participants, and Hon. Manuel Antonio J. Teehankee, Undersecretary for International Economic Relations, Department of Foreign Affairs, the



Participants at the first ASEAN-India Forum.

Philippines, delivered Special Address, H.E. Ambassador Jaideep Mazumdar, Ambassador of India to the Philippines delivered the Keynote Address. Dr Carlos C. Tabunda, Director, ASEAN Studies Centre, New Era University (NEU), extended the vote of thanks.

The Forum was to identify challenges and way forward in strengthening India and Philippines relationship through exploration of Philippine's perspective on economic cooperation, political convergence and strategic partnerships and how India's Act East Policy would gain momentum to explore trade and connectivity aspects of ASEAN-India relations with particular focus on the Philippines and endorse people-to-people links and cultural relations. Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS and Dr Carlos Tabunda Jr., Director, ASEAN Studies Center, NEU, extended the vote of thanks.

Understanding the Digital Economy: What Is It and How Can It Transform Asia?

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS organised jointly with the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), a workshop on "Understanding the Digital Economy: What is it and How Can it Transform Asia?" on 21-22 February 2018 at New Delhi. Welcome Address was given by Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS. Opening Remarks were made by Dr Chul Ju Kim, Deputy Dean, ADBI, and Introductory to the Workshop was given by Dr Aladdin D. Rillo, Senior Economist, ADBI. Special Address was given by Mr Prasanto Roy, Vice-President, National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM), New Delhi. Keynote Address was delivered by Mr Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog, New Delhi. About 60 participants from Asian and African countries attended the workshop.

The workshop was conducted in eight sessions to understand digital economy such as big data, mobile technology, and the internet; role of digital economy in facilitating inclusive trade; impact of financial technology on payment and lending in Asia; special session on country panel discussion on how to promote the digital economy and what critical issues to address; role of technology, innovation and education in a digital world; securing the digital economy on trust, privacy and transparency and finally on policies to promote and manage the digital economy. The concluding remarks were made by Dr Chul Ju Kim, Deputy Dean, ADBI, and Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS. Finally, the vote of thanks was extended by Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy, Consultant, AIC, at RIS.



Participants of the workshop.

Visit of the ASEAN Permanent Representatives

ASEAN Committee of Permanent Representatives visited the AIC at RIS on 7 July 2017. Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairman, RIS, gave a presentation on the significance of ASEAN-India strategic partnership given the dynamic changes in geo-political scenario. ASEAN Diplomats had a fruitful interaction with Amb. Puri. Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC, extended the vote of thanks.



ASEAN CPRs with Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri and Amb. Suresh Reddy, ASEAN Mission to Jakarta.

Delegation from Chulalongkorn University

A four-member research team from the ASEAN Studies Centre of Chulalongkorn University (CU), Bangkok, visited ASEAN-India Centre at RIS on 16 May 2017 for an interactional session with the RIS faculty.

The team members included Dr Surat Horachaikul, Director, Indian Studies Centre, Faculty of Political Science; Dr Piti Sirsangnam, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Economics; Dr Anupama Devendrakumar, Researcher, ASEAN Studies Centre; and Mr Kittipong Boonkerd, Lecturer (Hindi Language), Faculty of Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand.

Asia Africa Growth Corridor: The Way Forward

A consultation on 'Asia Africa Growth Corridor: The Way Forward' was organized on 25 August 2017 at New Delhi, jointly by RIS and the Confederation of Indian Industry. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, briefed regarding the outline of the AAGC consultation. Ambassador Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS, chaired the meeting. Dr S. Jaishankar, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs in his address highlighted significant issues concerning AAGC. H.E. Mr Sidharto R. Suryodipuro, Ambassador Designate, Embassy of Indonesia; Professor Diran Makinde, Senior Adviser, NEPAD Industrialization Science, Technology & Innovation Hub (NISTIH), South Africa; and Dr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII, presented their points of view.

Ms Renana Jhabvala, National Coordinator, Chair, SEWA Bharat Self Employed Women's Association, SEWA Reception Centre; Dr T. P. Rajendran, Visiting Fellow, RIS; Dr Harpreet Sandhu, Scientist (F) & Head, Indian Council of Medical Research, made presentations, which were followed by panel discussion by Dr Soumya Swaminathan, Secretary, DHR, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MHFW) and Director General, ICMR; Prof

Mustafizur Rahman, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh; Dr Hannington Odame, Executive Director, Centre for African Bio-Entrepreneurship, Lavington, Nairobi; Prof Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, Director, South African Institute of International Affairs, South Africa; and Dr Thomas Fues, Head of Training Department, German Development Institute, Bonn, Germany.



Foreign Secretary Dr S. Jaishankar addressing the participants.

Ms Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate, Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis also presented her views, followed by panel discussion by Dr Maharajh Rasigan, Professor Extraordinary, Centre for Research on Evaluation, Science and Technology, Stellenbosch University, South Africa; Mr Saidu Nasiru Sulaiman, Nigeria; Mr James Bichachi Wafula, International Relations and Diplomatic Studies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Uganda; Dr Fanwell Kenala Bokosi, Executive Director, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development, Zimbabwe; Dr A.K. Krishna Kumar, Principal Advisor, IL&FS Cluster Development Initiative Limited; and Mr Gavin McGillivray, Head, DFID Office, India. The agenda is available on RIS website: www.ris.org.in

AAGC and the National Development Priorities of Tunisia

As reported earlier, at the Annual Meeting of the African Development Bank on 22-25 May 2017 at Ahmedabad, a Vision Document on Asia-Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) was released by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. The RIS along with other institutions has initiated a major research work programme on the AAGC. The idea is to explore possibilities for developing a framework for projects which would be contributing in the success of this growth corridor.

The RIS invited H.E. Mr Nejmeddine Lakhal, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Tunisia, for the first interactive discussion on 'AAGC and the National Development Priorities of Tunisia' on 6 July 2017 at RIS. Ambassador Hardeep S. Puri, Chairperson, RIS, chaired the interactive session. Mr Amar Sinha, former Secretary (ER), MEA, presided over the meeting. Participants included representatives from African Missions in India, various academic, business and industry circles.



Participants at the interactive session of AAGC.

Industry Consultation on AAGC

RIS and Confederation of Indian Industry organized an Industry Consultation on the Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) on 18 August 2017 at New Delhi. The programme started with the initial remarks by Amb. Hardeep S. Puri, Chairperson, RIS. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS gave a presentation on the AAGC; followed by remarks of Mr S. Kuppuswamy, Advisor, Group Finance and Special Projects, Shapoorji Pallonji & Co. Pvt. Ltd.

In the open discussion, main topics were: Infrastructure, Agriculture, Health and Auto. The prominent speakers were Shri Manoj Kumar Dwivedi, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Mr Ajaneesh Kumar, Deputy Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs. Mr Pranav Kumar, Director, International Trade Policy, CII, extended the vote of thanks.



Participants at AAGC consultation meeting that was held at RIS.

India's Quest for Connectivity

A consultation meeting on India's Quest for Connectivity was organized on 6 July 2017 at the RIS. Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, welcomed the participants. Ambassador Hardeep S. Puri, Chairperson, RIS, chaired the Consultation meeting. Dr Arvind Gupta, Dy. National Security Advisor (NSA), delivered special address. Mr Rajat Nag, Distinguished Fellow, NCAER, presented his special comments, followed by a panel discussion.

The agenda of the meeting included thematic discussion by Prof Sachin Chaturvedi: Asia-Africa Growth Corridor; Dr Vijay Sakhuja, NMF, Indian Ocean and Maritime Connectivity; Dr Pritam Banerjee, DHL India: SAARC, BBIN and North-South Corridors; Dr Prabir De, RIS: ASEAN-India

Connectivity, BIMSTEC Corridors and BCIM Economic Corridor; and Dr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy, ISAS-NUS: Belt and Road Initiative were among the panelists. Mr Ravindran, SAEA Group Research, Singapore, and Mr Dipanjan Roy Chaudhury, Economic Times, New Delhi.



Participants at the consultation meeting.

Discussion Meeting on 'Research Priorities for the IOR Region'



The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) has occupied a prominent place in RIS work programme since 1990s. Currently, as part of this programme, the institute has launched Blue Economy Forum (BEF). Earlier, the RIS had brought out an extremely rich report on 'Prospects of Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean'. A set of Policy Briefs, deliberating upon the idea of blue economy have also been brought out and are available on the BEF webpage.

In continuation of the work programme, RIS planned a Discussion Meeting on 'Research Priorities for the IOR Region' on 16 January 2018 at New Delhi. Nineteen IORA member- states had approved MoU between RIS and IORA Secretariat for promoting closer research ties. Coinciding with the Discussion Meeting, the MoU was also signed between RIS and IORA Secretariat in the presence of Hon'ble Gen. (Dr) V.K. Singh (Retd.), Minister



Signing of MoU in the esteemed presence of Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Gen. (Dr) V.K. Singh (Retd.).

of State for External Affairs, Government of India. The programme began with welcome remarks of Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS . On this occasion, Ambassador K.V Bhagirath, Secretary General, IORA made special remarks. Hon'ble Gen. (Dr) V.K. Singh (Retd.), Minister of State for External Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, delivered special address.

After the remarks by Dr S.K. Mohanty, Professor, RIS, a Panel Discussion was initiated. Dr Pankaj Jha, Assistant Prof. & Assistant Dean for Global Engagement, O.P Jindal University, School of International Affairs; Dr Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate & Coordinator, Africa, LAC &UN, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses; Mr Amarendra Khatua, formerly Director General, Indian Council for Cultural Relations; Ambassador Aftab Seth, Chairman and CEO, India Global Link Co., Ltd; Ambassador Anup Mudgal, Former Indian High Commissioner to Mauritius; and Dr Swaran Singh, Prof., Centre for International Politics, Organization and Disarmament, Jawaharlal Nehru University were distinguished panelists.

Panel Discussion on 'South African Presidency of IORA'

RIS organized a Panel Discussion on 'South African Presidency of IORA and forthcoming BRICS Summit' on 20 January 2018 at RIS. Dr Anil Sooklal, Deputy Director-General of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa was the lead speaker. Ambassador (Dr) Mohan Kumar, Vice-Chairman, RIS, chaired the discussion. Mr Alok A. Dimri, Joint Secretary (MER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and Mr B.J. Joubert, Acting High Commissioner/ Minister Plenipotentiary, South African High Commission, graced this occasion with their remarks. The discussion was very fruitful.



Distinguished participants at the panel discussion.

Blue Economy Framework for Sustainable Development and Economic Prosperity

RIS jointly with the Ministry of Earth Sciences organised a public lecture on "Blue Economy Framework for Sustainable Development and Economic Prosperity" by Prof. Charles Colgan of the National Ocean Economics Programme (NOEP), USA, on 25 April 2017 in New Delhi. Prof. Charles Colgan is an eminent scholar in ocean economies, transportation and economic development, urban planning and policy analysis.

In the recent years, Blue Economy has emerged as a major development paradigm for coastal economies. Ocean sector is a key driver of economic growth for littoral countries, and maintenance of the good ocean health is the foremost requirement for sustainable use of ocean resources. In this regard, SDG 14 would certainly complement efficacy of Blue Economy in coastal economies in accomplishing high economic growth. For taking this process forward, domestic, regional and global ocean policies need to be integrated for shaping effectiveness of the Blue Economy policies.

The programme began with welcome remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Ambassador Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS, chaired the session. Dr S.K. Mohanty, Professor, RIS, gave a brief Introduction to Blue Economy Programme of RIS. Ambassador K.V. Bhagirath, Secretary General, IORA, made special remarks. The lecture was followed by open discussion.



Prof. Charles Colgan, National Ocean Economics Programme (NOEP), USA delivering the Public Lecture on Blue Economy Framework for Sustainable Development and Economic Prosperity

Launching of 'Development Cooperation Review'

In the recent-past, several initiatives have been taken to promote development cooperation with fellow developing countries, and several milestones have been crossed both in terms of quality and quantum. This has assumed wider global importance not only in terms of India's efforts for global development but also in the context of Triangular and South-South Cooperation; as many other developing countries have also stepped up similar efforts. At this point of time, all the details are scattered across national and other sites. It is in this context that RIS has planned to bring out a periodical, capturing this emerging dynamics in a monthly publication called 'Development Cooperation Review (DCR)'.

The DCR aspires to review and analyse bilateral/multilateral cooperation efforts, highlight key developments and issues in development cooperation, besides underlining its discernible trends and patterns. In evolving narratives, different modalities and divergent ideas are emerging. The purpose of the DCR is to highlight developments through the notion of 'development compact' with all possible pluralities associated with the term and simultaneously informing



readers. Shri M.J. Akbar, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, launched the DCR on 29 March 2018 at New Delhi. The programme started with a panel discussion, and Welcome Remarks were made by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Mr Seshadri Chari, Member, RIS Governing Council and General Body chaired the session. The eminent panelists were: Mr Prashant Agrawal, Joint Secretary (DPA-I), Ministry of External Affairs; Dr Kaustuv Bandyopadhyay, Director, PRIA; Dr Harsh V. Pant, Distinguished Fellow, ORF; Dr Benard Muok, Director, Centre for Research, Innovation and Technology (CRIT), Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology, Kenya; Ms Karin Costa Vazquez, Researcher & Advisor, School of International Affairs, OP Jindal Global University; Mr Sudhanshu S. Singh, Chief Executive Officer, Humanitarian Aid International; and Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, Visiting Fellow, RIS.

The launching of the DCR was preceded by setting the Context by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, and was chaired by Ambassador Mohan Kumar, Acting Chairman, RIS. H.E. Mr Sidharto Reza Suryodipuro, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia; H.E. Ms. Chitrangane Wagiswara, High Commissioner, High Commissioner for the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; H.E. Mr Baraka H. Luvanda, High Commissioner, High Commission of the United Republic of Tanzania; and Prof. Anuradha Chenoy, Chairperson, FIDC, made special remarks.

Shri M.J. Akbar, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, released the DCR and delivered the special address. In his thought provoking address, the Hon'ble Minister underlined that Development Cooperation should be based on the principle of shared prosperity with inherent strength of humanitarian consideration. The programme concluded with the remarks extended by Ambassador Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS.

Mid-Term Review of the Foreign Trade Policy (2015-2020)

As India is in the process of implementation of GST, it seems relevant to explore its possible implications on India's trade policy. In this context, RIS in collaboration with the Department of Commerce, Government of India, organized a Mid-Term Review of the Foreign Trade Policy (2015-2020) on



Hon'ble Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Commerce and Industry, Government of India, chairing the session. (From left to right): Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi; Ms. Rita Teatota, Commerce Secretary; Amb. Hardeep S Puri; and Shri A. K. Bhalla.

6 May 2017 at New Delhi. Hon'ble Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Commerce and Industry, Government of India, chaired the meeting. The programme began with the welcome remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Ms Rita Teatia, Commerce Secretary, made initial remarks. Ambassador Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS also addressed the participants. Presentations were made by Shri A. K. Bhalla, Director General of Foreign Trade, (DGFT) and Prof. S. K. Mohanty, RIS. Thereafter, participants discussed over various issues. The second session was for discussion on Export Promotion Measures in Other Asian Economies. Shri Nikunj Kumar Srivastava, Additional Director General of Foreign Trade, made concluding remarks.

Development of North- East India and India's Act East Policy

RIS, Ministry of External Affairs, FIDC, FICCI and Rashtriya Gramin Vikas Nidhi (RGVN) Society, Guwahati, jointly organized a Regional Consultation on 24-25 October 2017 in Guwahati, Assam. The programme began with the introductory addresses of Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, and Dr Amiya Sharma, Executive Director, RGVN Society, Guwahati. Mr Naveen Verma, Secretary, Ministry of DoNER delivered the keynote address. Mr Alok Dimri, Joint Secretary (MER), MEA, made special remarks. Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, Visiting Fellow, RIS, extended the vote of thanks.

The consultation had following six sessions – Technical Session I: Synergy between North-East and Act-East Policies – the Rationale; Technical Session II: Border Trade: Current Status and Future Prospects; Technical Session III: Developing Regional Value Chains; Technical Session IV: Natural Resources, Water and Energy; Technical Session V: Education, Health and Tourism; and Technical Session VI: Connectivity and Physical Infrastructure.

During the consultation, all the distinguished participants were of the opinion that there should be emphasis on strengthening services in health-care and education sectors in the North-East Region (NER) as well as in the neighbouring countries. A study can be conducted to find total outflow of human resource from the North-Eastern (NE) to other countries for pursuing higher studies in medicine as well as for medical treatment. It can be supplemented by identifying scope of improvement on the supply- side gaps persisting in the NE states. The focus can shift to improve physical and virtual connectivity in villages. Consultation or a policy brief document on pattern of



Mr Alok Dimri, Joint Secretary (MER), MEA, addressing the participants.

trade from NE states to neighbouring countries in terms of goods and services should be brought out for the development of NE states. A study to identify reasons behind the export of raw materials from NE states to neighbouring countries while importing finished products can also be initiated.

A proposal to the Ministry of AYUSH for conducting a survey should be submitted to find out how NE can strengthen its traditional medicine. A preliminary documentation on statistical data on areas such as logistics cost, district-level human development indicators and trade facilitation of the NE states among others should be volunteered. For growth at all levels in the North East, issues related to broader economic development are to be identified and possible measures implemented for addressing them.

Tenth South-Asia Economic Summit

The South-Asia Economic Summit (SAES) has been a prominent regional platform in South Asia since the past 10 years. As a joint initiative of five leading think-tanks in the region including RIS, Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) and South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), the SAES has broadly covered dialogue and debate on various issues relating to nature, scope and pace of regional integration and cooperation in South-Asia and the contemporary development issues (social and economic) faced by the South-Asian countries. In the past editions, besides discussing on the progress registered in different sectors of cooperation, SAES accommodated new and emerging challenges such as the downside risks arising from Global Economic Recession 2008-09, implications of Brexit and setbacks to regional integration initiatives, effects of climate change, innovations in data measurement and statistical analyses, and so on. The previous summits of SAES has attracted leading thinkers, policy makers and experts from think-tanks, academia, governments, civil society and private sector who contributed as chairs, moderators, speakers and discussants. Each edition of the SAES has made significant value-addition to the evolving discourse on the South Asian integration agenda and fostered South Asian identity through focus on greater people-to-people interactions.

The Tenth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES X) was held in Kathmandu from 14 to 16 November 2017, under the central theme of “Deepening Economic Integration for Inclusive and Sustainable Development in South



The Tenth South Asia Economic Summit in progress.

Asia". In deliberations spanning over four plenary sessions and 14 parallel sessions, speakers and discussants intensely deliberated on the strength of the existing regional integration initiatives of SAARC and sub-regional initiatives like BBIN, and articulated elements of a vision for shared prosperity and roadmap for realizing the vision. In addition to broader regional cooperation issues, in the final plenary, rich tributes were paid to the late Dr Saman Kelegama – an eminent figure in the research and policy communities in the South Asia, who worked tirelessly for regional integration of the South Asia. The Summit proved to be an interactive platform for comprehensive and constructive discussion on the future of the SAARC, in general, and on economic integration including trade, investments, trade facilitation, and energy cooperation, SDGs among others, in particular.

RIS was one of the key partners in organising SAES X along with the National Planning Commission, Government of Nepal; and SAWTEE, Kathmandu. Besides providing intellectual inputs and coordination support, a four-member faculty team participated actively in different sessions of the Summit. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS made a presentation on SDGs and Inclusive growth in South Asia, and Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS gave his inputs on Trade Facilitation, Transit and Connectivity issues. Further, Dr Priyadarshi Dash, Research Associate, RIS, joined as a panelist in the session on Trade Facilitation, Transit and Connectivity. Mr Vaibhav Kaushik of RIS also attended the SAES.

During deliberations, the distinguished participants emphasized that the rationale for regional cooperation should be in line with the changing nature of production and trade worldwide and new challenges such as climate change. Participants highlighted the need for invigorating regional body by reforming its architecture, modalities for decision-making, strengthening its secretariat and drawing on lessons from more successful regional integration projects elsewhere. It was noted that while countries are turning to sub-regional and trans-regional initiatives, there are ample opportunities to leverage them to foster regional integration in its entirety. In the context of intra-regional flow of investments, it was noted that there exists plenty of opportunities for integration, both horizontally as well as vertically, which, however, require complementary policies in addressing policy constraints. Discussions were also held on the SDGs, governance of intellectual property rights of plant and genetic resources from the perspective of protection of farmers' rights, strengthening rural economies through innovations, and small and medium enterprises.

Workshop on “Development Finance in South Asia and Emerging Development Experiences.”

RIS organized a Workshop on Development Finance in South Asia and Emerging Development Experiences: Way Forward for South-South Cooperation at Kovalam, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, on 17-18 December 2017. The first session on the South Asian Experience in Development Finance began with remarks of Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka, Bangladesh; Professor Amitabh Kundu, Distinguished Fellow, RIS; Professor Mukul Asher, Professorial Fellow, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore; and Ambassador Lyonpo Dago Tshering, former Ambassador of Bhutan to India, touched upon various



Participants at the workshop on Development Finance in South Asia and Emerging Development Experiences: Way Forward for South-South Cooperation.

issues pertaining to development finance. Professor Milindo Chakrabarti, Visiting Fellow, RIS, extended the vote of thanks.

The session on Country Specific Presentations was chaired by Professor Mukul Asher. Mr Nazir Kabiri, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Finance, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan; Dr Mustafa K Mujeri, Executive Director, Institute for Inclusive Finance and Development (InM), Dhaka, Bangladesh (Presentation by Dr Sabyasachi Saha, RIS); Mr Ibrahim Ameer, former Economist, Maldives Central Bank, Maldives; Dr Ravindra Pandey, Member, Board of Directors, Institute for Strategic and Socio-Economic Research, Nepal; Mr Kithmina Hewage, Research Officer and Ms Harini Weerasekera, Research Assistant, Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka (by Skype) were the main speakers. Dr Abraham George, Director and Professor, Institute for Sustainable Development and Governance, was the lead discussant at the session.

H.E. Professor Bishwambher Pyakuryal, Ambassador of Nepal, Sri Lanka, chaired the third session on Way Forward. Professor Saikat Sinha Roy, Department of Economics, Jadavpur University; Professor Mukul Asher, Professorial Fellow, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore; and Mr Nazir Kabiri, Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Finance, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, were the key speakers.

As part of this programme, the “Roundtable on Emerging Development Experiences: Way Forward for South-South Cooperation” was jointly organised by RIS and FIDC. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi moderated the discussion. Professor Mukul Asher; Professor E. Haribabu, former Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Sociology, University of Hyderabad; Professor A. Damodaran, Chair Professor IPR Chair on IP Management (MHRD), Economics and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Management, Bengaluru; Dr Balakrishna Pisupati, former Vice-Chancellor, Trans Disciplinary University, Bengaluru; Mr Uttamsingh Goodur, Second Secretary, Regional Integration and International Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mauritius; Ms Gulnaz Atabaeva, Ala-Too International University, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; Ms Camila Jardim, International Relations Institute of Pontificia Universidade Catolica do Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio), Brazil; Mr Martins Silva, Articulação Sul (South-South Cooperation Research and Policy Centre), Brazil and Mr Siyasanga Dingela, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa, were distinguished participants.



SACEPS host workshop on Manufacturing in South Asia

The RIS had initiated a major research project in 2016-17 on “Job Creation in Manufacturing Sector as a Strategy for Sustainable Economic Growth in South Asia” with the support from the Asia Foundation as part of the SACEPS Research Programme. The manufacturing sector holds the key for sustainable economic growth in South Asia through gainful, productive and widespread employment generation through bridging of existing inequalities. The first workshop under this was organised on 5 December 2016 in New Delhi with expert participants from the South Asian countries.

As the follow-up, RIS jointly with SACEPS and Asia Foundation organised second one-day Workshop on “Job Creation in Manufacturing Sector Strategy for Sustainable Economic Growth in South Asia” on 21 June 2017 at New Delhi. The programme began with the welcome remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, and Executive Director, SACEPS. Dr Sagar Prasai, Country Representative, Asia Foundation and Professor Deepak Nayyar, Emeritus Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, made introductory remarks. In different sessions, issues related to Manufacturing Sector and Job Creation; Industrial Policy, External Sector and Employment; and Skills, Competitiveness and Sustainability were discussed. The detailed agenda is uploaded on the website: www.ris.org.in



Participants of the conference on Job Creation in Manufacturing Sector as a Strategy for Sustainable Economic Growth in South Asia

Role of Sri Lanka in South Asia and Beyond: Emerging New Contours

RIS organised a special Lecture on ‘Role of Sri Lanka in South Asia and Beyond: Emerging new Contours’ by Dr Dinusha Panditaratne, Executive Director, Lakshman Kadirgamar Institute, Sri Lanka, on 19 January 2018 at New Delhi. It started with welcome remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Amb. Ashok Sajjanhar, Former Indian Diplomat, chaired the session. H.E. Ms Chitranganee Wagiswara, High Commissioner of Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, New Delhi, made special remarks.

In her lecture, Dr Dinusha Panditaratne mainly centred her presentation on the present and future role of Sri Lanka in South Asia and in the Indian Ocean region. She, in particular, highlighted new vision that Sri Lanka is embarking upon, based on the increasing assertion of a new geographical identity i.e. the Indian Ocean identity by its people. In the course of her presentation, she referred to data and trends to substantiate the claim. The new contours of Sri Lanka's role were captured in four interrelated factors such as the rise to a new geographical identity defined as the centre of the Indian Ocean from the traditional South Asian identity, shift from focus on political diplomacy to economic diplomacy, from strategic non-alignment in the past to cautious but active engagement with regional powers, and a shaper not just only a follower of international norms.

In post-conflict period, Sri Lanka experienced a relatively better political stability along with a growing economy and successful experiment to date with coalition government since 2015. The perception of a new Indian Ocean identity is rooted in the strategic location of the country in the Indian Ocean as well as the volume of trade and commerce conducted through Sri Lankan waters. The country is the mid-way for international maritime traffic between Asia, Middle East and Europe. It helps the country to visualise itself as a stronger nation than just a small island nation. However, this new identity of Sri Lanka is not to be viewed as the frustration with the South Asian identity. Instead it is the extended scope for the country to leverage its growing role in the region and at the global level. Within South Asia, Sri Lanka has performed well in comparison to its South Asian peers in terms of a number of social and economic indicators. For instance, in terms of life expectancy at birth, literacy and mobile- phone subscriptions, Sri Lanka is placed relatively better than India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. On the economic front, Sri Lanka's trade with rest of the world has increased over years. Further, FDI flows to Sri Lanka have gone up in post-war era. The number of the tourists visiting the country has also increased considerably in the recent years, and the sector offers in future vast potential for further diversification and value -addition.

With respect to diplomatic engagements, Sri Lanka has strategically adhered to non-alignment. However, the country's dissociation with any global alliance of powers has to be understood from the perspective of the difference between the principle of non-alignment and the non-aligned movement. Since its independence, the country chose political diplomacy as a priority over economic diplomacy. However, the nature of diplomatic engagements



Dr Dinusha Panditaratne, Executive Director, Lakshman Kadirgamar Institute, Sri Lanka delivering the special lecture.

has changed in terms of content and direction over time. Sri Lanka is now seeking to increase number of Free Trade Agreements and CEPAs both within South Asia and with countries in other regions of the world. Along with five Southern states of India, the country envisions possibility of an economic sub-region also. Thinkers view the current diplomatic regime of Sri Lanka as a new non-alignment. Firstly, as mentioned above, it is the differentiation between the principle of non-alignment and the non-alignment movement itself. Perhaps, Sri Lanka mostly embraced principle of non-alignment than its active role in non-aligned movement. At the global level, the country's scope of engagement with other countries has widened on account of signing of a number of free trade agreements, diversity of investment partners for infrastructure financing, active involvement in IORA, Belt & Road Initiative, BIMSTEC and other regional foras and so on.

Another dimension to Sri Lanka's perceived elevation as a crucial player in the international relations is its contribution in shaping international norms. Traditionally, it has remained a follower of international norms and conventions. Unlike the past, the country is now being viewed with importance and attracts international attention. Colombo now is a site for the regional offices of a number of inter-governmental organisations from later part of year 2017, the Amnesty International. Facilitated by the uncertainty over the liberal economic order in the West due to protectionist policies by the United States and European countries, Sri Lanka is poised to support the vision for an Indian Ocean Hub via rule-based order and regional integration. The country observes a positive link between the economic diplomacy and the rule of law which is getting translated into country's acceptance at the global level. The current government of Sri Lanka proposes a Code of Conduct for Indian Ocean. In addition, the success of small island countries in other parts of the world prompts Sri Lanka to explore regionally-inspired global engagements much more actively than before. The lecture was followed by open discussion.

Brainstorming Session on India-Brazil-South Africa Dialogue

RIS has launched recently an IBSA Fellowship Programme as part of its Brainstorming Session on India-Brazil-South Africa Dialogue organized on 27 March 2018 at RIS. Ambassador Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS, chaired it. Ms Camila Amorim Jardim, IBSA Fellow Researcher in RIS, PhD candidate in the International Relations in PUC-Rio (Brazil) and research collaborator at BRICS Policy Center (Brazil) and Mr Daniel Martins Silva, IBSA Fellow Researcher in RIS, M.Sc in International Relations from San Tiago Dantas Program (Brazil) and research associate at South-South Cooperation Research and Policy Center (Brazil), presented their salient research findings. This was followed by open discussion.

Breakfast Seminar on “Participation of IBSA Countries in Global Production Networks”

A Breakfast Seminar at RIS by Ms Garima Dhir, IBSA Fellow, RIS, was organized on 5 December 2017. Dr Ashwani Gupta, Scientist 'G', Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology, chaired the Seminar.



RIS-IBSA Fellows presenting their research findings.

The presentation had the analysis on the trends, patterns and potential of IBSA countries' participation in global production networks. This was done by examining their exports of network products, a sub- category within manufacturing, where global production networks are heavily prominent.

It also provided a broad overview of economic conditions and nature of industrialization for the three IBSA countries, respectively. The analysis pointed out that the three economies stand at different junctions in terms of development of their industrial sector, and face diverse economic conditions. However, despite these variations, all three aspire to boost production and trade of manufacturing sector. The one way to do so is to participate more rigorously in production networks.

Keeping this in mind, Ms Dhir provided an analysis on the participation of IBSA countries in global production networks. It was indicated that participation of all three countries in production networks was far below. For example, share of network exports in total exports of Brazil was merely 6 per cent in 2015; this was 9 per cent for India and 16 per cent for South Africa. In contrast, share of network products in total exports of China and Vietnam was 41 per cent and 37 per cent, respectively. In relative terms, though IBSA group is 0.6 times the size of China (in terms of GDP), its exports of network products were only 0.06 times those of Chinese exports of network products. Still, there exists a great potential for these countries to integrate with the world production networks. For this to happen, IBSA countries would need to work rigorously on reducing trade and transaction costs and overcoming their infrastructure bottlenecks.

National Consultation on Responsible Research and Innovation

The need for the establishment of a proper balanced connect between science and society has assumed a greater importance in the current scenario at the national level and the global level. The RIS has been actively engaged in deliberations around this issue, and has evolved a framework based on the ideas of access, equity and inclusion (AEI) in science, technology and innovation, which is similar to the new concept of the Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) at the global level. To discuss the relevance of RRI in the Indian context, RIS, in partnership with the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, organised a 'National Consultation on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI): The Indian Perspective' on 28 April 2017 in New Delhi.



Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, DST, Government of India delivering inaugural address. (From left to right): Dr K Ravi Srinivas, Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, and Dr Parveen Arora.

At the inaugural session, Dr K. Ravi Srinivas, RIS welcomed the gathering. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS, made presentation on the RRI; and Dr Parveen Arora, Sc-G and Head-CHORD Division, DST presented pointers; Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, DST, Govt of India, delivered inaugural address, and Dr Amit Kumar, RIS, extended the vote of thanks.

Inaugural Lecture of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Forum

'Make in India', 'Skill India', 'Digital India' and 'Start-up India' are some of the new initiatives taken by the government for harnessing science, technology and innovation. The government and political leadership are emphasizing on making India a global leader in science and technology. The fruitful gains of science and technology would lead to positive outcomes in different sectors – industry, agriculture, health-care and education. For accelerating pace of growth of science and technology, the potential of the national innovation system, comprising R&D institutions, including universities, technology institutions, industry, government and other policy-maker bodies, has to be enhanced.

RIS too is committed to promote and enhance science-society connect. Keeping this broad perspective in view, RIS in collaboration with the India Habitat Centre (IHC) and other institutions working on the Science and Technology (S&T) issues has launched a Science Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Forum. The other partner institutions are – The Energy Research Institute (TERI), Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR/CEFIPRA) and Vigyan Prasar.

The Forum has been established with the objectives of promoting informed debate on different aspects of Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, and has planned a monthly Lecture Series to act as a broader public platform for interactions. The Forum would also bridge gap between the science and the society through dissemination of information on developments in S&T as well as through kindling debate of societal aspirations and expectations from S&T and Innovation. Under the Monthly Lecture Series, a partner institution would also take the lead to organize a lecture of the renowned expert.

The Inaugural Lecture of the STIP Forum Lecture Series was jointly organized by the RIS and the India Habitat Centre on 26 September 2017.

Dr R. Chidambaram, Principal Scientific Adviser to Government of India, delivered the lecture and presented his viewpoints on the “Sustainable Development: Role of Science, Technology and Innovation”.

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Shri Rakesh Kacker, Director, IHC; Dr Mukesh Kumar, Director, IFCPAR/CEFIPRA; and Dr Vibha Dhawan, Distinguished Fellow & Senior Director, TERI, presented their opinions regarding the importance and role of the STIP Forum.



Dr R. Chidambaram, Principal Scientific Adviser to Government of India, delivered the lecture.

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Forum Lecture

RIS, TERI, CSE, IHC, CEFIPRA, Vigyan Prasar, Indian Academy of Sciences and Springer Nature organized the Fourth Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Forum Lecture on ‘Reversing Climate Change with Molten Salt Technologies’ on 21 December 2017 in New Delhi. Prof. Frank Shu, Renowned Astrophysicist and Academy-Springer Nature, Chair Professor addressed the audience on the topic. Dr Jairam Ramesh, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), chaired the Forum and suggested valuable pointers.

The Programme was initiated by introductory remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Mr Shirish Garud, Senior Fellow & Director, TERI made special remarks.

Prof. Shu informed about the potential applications of molten-salt technologies, and how India, having huge thorium reserves would be able to harness them to generate energy with lower carbon emissions. He also mentioned an interesting observation regarding the potential application of molten-salt technology to solve crop-residue burning problem in the NCR region and to increase in crop productivity.

Dr Jairam Ramesh urged the representatives of the Indian National Academy of Sciences and Department of Science and Technology (DST) to explore merits of this application. Dr Mukesh Kumar, Director, Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research, New Delhi, extended the vote of thanks.



Dr Jairam Ramesh, Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) (third from left) speaking at the lecture programme.

The Fourth INDIALICS Conference and Training Workshop 2017

The Centre for Studies in Science Policy, JNU; RIS; and CSIR-NISTADS, organised jointly the Fourth INDIALICS Conference and Training Workshop 2017 entitled 'Innovation for Sustainable Development: Perspectives, Policies and Practices in South Asia' from 2 to 4 November 2017 in New Delhi.

The programme began with the address of Prof. M Jagadesh Kumar, VC, JNU. At the Inaugural Session, Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS, initiated discussion through special remarks, and he also chaired the Session on Responsible Research and Innovation. Prof. Mammo Muchie, Tshwane University of Technology in Pretoria, South Africa, delivered inaugural address.

This Conference explored nature, determinants and direction of innovations and new way outs for meeting future challenges for sustainable development in terms of South Asian perspectives. The deliberations were basically on challenges and opportunities in fostering innovation for socio-economic development and sustainability, and its sub-themes were – Innovation for Sustainable Agriculture; Global Value Chains and Innovation



Participants at a session of the conference.

Systems; Sanitation and Waste Management; Climate Change, Adaption; Mitigation, and Resilience; Gender, Technology and Innovation; Innovation in the Informal Economy; Indicators for Science, Technology and Innovation (STI), R&D and Technology Transfer; University-Industry Linkages; Innovation in Healthcare and Pharmaceuticals; IPR, Standards and Regulations in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI); Foresights and Futures for Technology; and Responsible Innovation. More than 100 speakers from across the South-Asian countries were active participants.

An exclusive session to honour and facilitate Prof. Ashok Parthasarathi for his outstanding contributions in making and shaping of India's S&T policy was also organized during the Conference.

Interactions with Students from New York University

RIS organized an interactive session with students from New York University on 8 January 2018 in New Delhi. The Inaugural Session had introductions from Mr Cyrus Kamau Kihuha, Chief Scientist, Infrastructure (Engineering) and ICT, National Commission for Science Technology and Innovation, Republic of Kenya; Ms. Heather Hollow, NYU; Mr Ariya Das, NYU; Ms. Maria Florencia Collados, Foreign Trade Officer, Santa Fe Government Investment and Foreign Trade Agency, Argentine Republic.

This was followed by Welcome Remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Ambassador Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS chaired the session. Dr Jairam Ramesh, Hon'ble Member of Parliament delivered the Inaugural Address. Dr S.R. Rao, Advisor, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, made special remarks. Special lecture on Science, Technology and the Global Society was delivered by Prof. Thomas Pogge, Leitner Prof. of Philosophy and International Affairs, Yale University. Thereafter, an Interactive session on Indian Economy: Development Priorities was organized in which Mr Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Consultant, RIS, and Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Prof., RIS presented their points of view. In the Interactive Session on SDGs, Dr Ashok Jain, Adviser (RD) NITI Aayog, Government of India and UN Representative addressed the participants. A Panel Discussion on Multilateralism, Democracy and Economic Growth was also moderated by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. The panelists were Mr Rajeev Kher, Distinguished Fellow, RIS;



Dr Jairam Ramesh, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, delivering the inaugural address.

Dr S.Y. Quraishi, former Election Commissioner of India; and Dr Sanjaya Baru, Secretary General, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

Lecture on ‘Solar Energy Sector in India’

RIS organized a special lecture on Solar Energy Sector in India by Dr B Prasad Saklani, Professor, Deptt of Energy and Environment, TERI University, New Delhi, on 22 December 2017. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS initiated the discussion for tone setting of the topic, and Prof. Amitabh Kundu, Distinguished Fellow, RIS, chaired the session.

The lecture touched various pertinent issues regarding solar energy production and trade; and debate concentrated on specific issues on the development and commercialization of technology and upstream solar manufacturing facilities, followed by interactions with the participants



Participants at the lecture programme.

Interactive Session on “Indian Economy: Growth Prospects”

At the first RIS Policy Spotlight session, Group Chief Economic Advisor of the State Bank of India, Dr Soumya Kanti Ghosh, delivered a talk on “The Big Picture” on the Indian economy on 6 October, 2017 in New Delhi. He pointed out that India’s traditional direction of trade is in structural transformation mode. Thus, Indian trade will have to search new markets in African nations, which have witnessed a demographic dividend. But this is complicated as the internal structural adjustment in India has not delivered the required export competitiveness or furthered Make in India. An additional line of worry is the emergence of new technologies such as artificial intelligence that would impact India’s services export. The key advantage for India is the measurable reduction in corruption. As per the OECD rankings between 2011 and 2016, India along with the UK, Portugal and Italy has succeeded both in reducing corruption level along with positive GDP growth. Several countries where corruption as measured by Transparency International has risen, the growth rate of GDP has declined. It shows benefits of anti-corruption measures. Connecting it with other structural reforms, like GST, Dr Ghosh noted that these measures would increase the efficiency and the competitiveness of the economy to create its long-term fiscal sustainability.

‘Leveraging Trade in High Technology for Emergence: The BRICS Experience’

A Breakfast Seminar on ‘Leveraging Trade in High Technology for Emergence: The BRICS Experience’ by Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor, RIS, was held on 4 July 2017 at RIS. Prof Vijay Kumar Kaul, Dean, Faculty of Applied Social Science and Humanities, University of Delhi, chaired the Seminar.

Stakeholder Consultation on Traditional Knowledge Digital Library

A Stakeholder Consultation on Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL) was organised by the Forum on the Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM), RIS, and the Ministry of AYUSH at New Delhi on 30 June 2017. The objective was to elicit views of stakeholders on the action points relating to TKDL in the National IPR (NIPR) Policy 2016.

Stakeholders from different parts of the country representing industry, research organisations and universities, Ministries, Patent Office, Traditional medicine practitioners and Traditional Knowledge experts participated in the meeting. This was the first consultation under the FITM, launched by the RIS and the Ministry of AYUSH, for exploring and studying the impact and potential of Indian Traditional Medicine (ITM) in the domestic level and in the global trade regime.

The Consultation opened with welcome address by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. The inaugural address was delivered by Dr Manoj Nesari, Advisor (Ayush) Ministry of AYUSH on behalf of Dr Rajesh Kotecha, Special Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH. Prof T. C. James, Member Secretary, FITM, presented the issues to be addressed by the stakeholders during the consultation. Dr Rakesh Tiwari, Head, TKDL Unit, CSIR, apprised the participants regarding current status of the TKDL.

Access to Medical Products and International Laws for Trade and Health

RIS was a co-sponsor of the First World Conference on Access to Medical Products and International Laws for Trade and Health in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which was held in Delhi from



(From left to right): Dr Manoj Nesari, Adviser (Ayu) Ministry of AYUSH; Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi; Dr Rakesh Tiwari, Head, TKDL; and Prof. T. C. James.

21 to 23 November 2017, and was organised by the Government of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the World Health Organization. RIS prepared a Position Paper on Access to Medical Products and Health in the context of the SDGs and also a brochure on SDGs for the Conference.

A Tribute to Prof Saman Kelegama



RIS organized a special meeting on 11 July 2017 at New Delhi to pay tribute to Prof Saman Kelegama while recalling his immense contributions towards strengthening the economic cooperation in South Asia.

H.E. Mrs Chitrangenee Wagiswara, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, also joined on the occasion. Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director, Social Development Division, UN-ESCAP; and Prof Deepak Nayyar, Emeritus Professor of Economics, JNU and Co-Chair, SACEPS; Prof Muchkund Dubey, President, Council for Social Development and Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; paid their heartfelt tributes to Prof Saman Kelegama highlighting his immense contributions towards promoting economic integration in South Asia.

Vladimir Yakunin at RIS



The RIS organized a discussion meet on 28 July 2017 on 'India-Russia Bilateral Relations in the Global Context' as a part of celebrating 70 years of India-Russia bilateral relations. The programme began with the welcome remarks of Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Amb. S. T. Devare, Chairman, RIS Research Advisory Council, chaired the session. Professor Vladimir Yakunin, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the Dialogue of Civilizations Research Institute, Head of the Department of State Politics of the Faculty of Political Science, Moscow State University, delivered special address; followed by panel discussion by Anuradha Chenoy, Professor, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and Mrs Ekaterina Semenova, First Secretary, Embassy of the Russian Federation.

Roundtable on Deepening India-Russia Partnership: Exploring New Vistas

In light of the commemorative events related to '70 years of India-Russia Diplomatic Relations', a Roundtable on 'Deepening India-Russia Partnership: Exploring New Vistas' was organised by RIS on 6 April 2017 at New Delhi. In this, senior government officials, policy-makers, academicians and representatives from trade, business and media were participants in discussion.

The roundtable started with the welcome remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and initial remarks by Ambassador Hardeep S. Puri, Chairperson, RIS. Ambassador P. S. Raghavan, Former Ambassador of India to the Russian Federation, chaired the inaugural session. H.E. Mr Anatoly V. Kargapolov, Charge d' Affairs, Embassy of the Russian Federation, New Delhi, and Mr Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India, New Delhi, delivered special addresses. Dr Ram Upendra Das, Professor, RIS, gave concluding remarks.

Amb. Ashok Sajjanhar, Former Ambassador of India to Kazakhstan, chaired the first session on Trade, Investment and Development Cooperation. Prof. Gulshan Sachdeva, Professor, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Mr Pranav Kumar, Head (Trade & International Policy), Confederation of Indian Industry, New Delhi; Mr Dharamveer,



(From left to right) Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi; H.E. Anatoly V. Kargapolov, Charge d' Affairs, Embassy of the Russian Federation; Amb. Hardeep S. Puri; Amb. P. S. Raghavan; Mr Yuri Afanasiev; and Dr Ram Upendra Das at the Roundtable.

Industrialist, India-Russia Trade; and Vice Admiral Anup Singh (Retd), Former C-in-C, Eastern Naval Command, Government of India, were main speakers.

The second session on Way Forward was chaired by Dr S. R. Hashim, Chairman, Institute for Human Development, New Delhi. The main speakers in this session were Prof. Anuradha M. Chenoy, Professor, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Ms. Jyoti Malhotra, Senior Journalist and President, South Asian Women in Media (SAWM); Prof. Sanjay Pandey, Professor, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; Dr Ash Narain Roy, Director, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi. Mr G. V. Srinivas, Joint Secretary (ERS), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, delivered the valedictory address.



Heartfelt Tribute to Dr Baldev Raj

The eminent Indian Scientist, Dr Baldev Raj, left his mortal Coil on 6 January 2018. It is indeed a great loss for the country and the international community. Dr Baldev Raj was an active Member of the RIS Governing Council and General Body. To pay tribute to Dr Baldev Raj, RIS organized a condolence meeting on 16 January 2018 at New Delhi. Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Dr Ram Ramaswamy President, Indian Academy of Science (IASc) and Ambuj D. Sagar, Head, School of Public Policy, IIT Delhi; all paid their heartfelt tributes to the departed soul.

Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General

- Participated in the India-Africa Health Sciences Collaboration – Working Group Meeting organised jointly by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Ministry of External Affairs on 6 April 2017, New Delhi.
- Chaired the session on 'Role of Media in the India-China relationship' at the ICWA- China Soong Ching Ling Foundation (CSCLF) dialogue on 7 April 2017, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Connectivity in the Context of Development of Trade and Economic Relationship between India and China' at the

ICWA- China Soong Ching Ling Foundation (CSCLF) dialogue on 7 April 2017, New Delhi.

- Delivered Keynote Address at the Conference on “Strengthening Cooperation among BBIN Countries: The Road Ahead”, organised jointly by Institute for Strategic and Socio-Economic Research (ISSR), UN ESCAP, The Asia Foundation and Pavilion Group on 17 April 2017, Kathmandu.
- Participated in the Third Meeting of the BIMSTEC Network of Policy Think Tanks (BNPTT), organised jointly by the Government of Bangladesh and the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka, on 22-23 April 2017, Dhaka.
- Panelist at the session on Strategies to accomplish SDGs at the National Conference on Sustainable Development Goals: India’s Preparedness and Role of Agriculture, organised jointly by TAAS, IFPRI and ICAR on 12 May 2017, New Delhi.
- Delivered a special address on ‘Research and International Effectiveness: How to Leverage Indian Capabilities’ at the Foundation Day Programme of Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) on 12 May 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the NeST Global Executive Meeting on 28 May 2017, Berlin.
- Participated in the Informal exchange on “The Future of the GPEDC”, organised by German Development Institute (GDI), on 28 May 2017, Berlin.
- Participated in the High-level T20 Summit under German presidency, organised by German Development Institute (GDI) on 29 May 2017, Berlin.
- Made a presentation on ‘India’s Food Security Concerns at the Multilateral Negotiations’ at the Joint Workshop on India’s Food Security: Local and Global Dimensions, organised jointly by Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA) on 30 May 2017, Oslo.
- Made a presentation on ‘Health and Environment in the Context of the Sustainable Development Goals’ at the National Consultation on Environmental Health, organised jointly by Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), Centre for Environmental Health and TISS, on 5 June 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the BRICS Civil Society Organization (CSO) Forum on 9 June 2017, Fuzhou, China.
- Made a presentation on ‘Thoughts and Suggestions on further Enhancing the BRICS Cooperation Mechanism’ in the Ninth BRICS Academic Forum on 10-13 June 2017, Fuzhou, China.
- Participated in the International Conference on ‘G20 Africa Partnership - Investing in a Common Future’, organised jointly by the German Federal Ministry of Finance, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Deutsche Bundesbank on 12-13 June 2017, Berlin.
- Made a presentation on ‘India-Russia Economic Cooperation’ in the Roundtable Discussion on the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Russia and India, organised by

Diplomatic Academy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia on 15 June 2017, Moscow.

- Participated in the Roundtable Discussion on New Faces and New Strategies: HR and Funding Challenges for Think Tanks, organised jointly by McKinsey & Company, ORF and TTCSP on 21 June 2017, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Smart Panchayats for New India with SDGs' at the Conference of State Panchayati Raj Ministers, organised by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj on 27 June 2017, Bhopal.
- Participated in the Interactive Session with the Ambassador of Norway organised by the Royal Norwegian Embassy, on 3 July 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Roundtable discussion on broad economic overview with the Australian High Commission, organised by the Australian High Commission, on 7 July 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Meeting of Board of Trustees organised by the India International Centre on 21 July 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Brainstorming session on Global Economic Governance: International Institutions and India, organised by Ministry of Finance, Government of India, on 25 July 2017, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on Asia Africa Growth Corridor at the Meeting of Track 1.5, organised by JETRO on 31 July 2017, Tokyo.
- Roundtable Meeting at JICA Institute on India's development cooperation policy and to discuss about the broad structure, pattern and modalities of engagement of Japan in Asia and Africa on 1 August 2017, Tokyo.
- Delivered keynote address at the Workshop on Trade and Economic Integration: South Asia, Southeast Asia and Asia Pacific, organised by Institute for South Asian Studies (ISAS) Singapore on 3 August 2017.
- Made a presentation on Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC): Implication for Indian Ocean Regional Cooperation (IORA) at the Meeting of Asia-Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC): Implication for Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) organised by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia on 31 August 2017, Bandung.
- Made a presentation on "South-South Cooperation Forty Years since BAPA: Challenges and Opportunities" at the DCF workshop on South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Achieving the 2030 Agenda, Building Innovative and Inclusive Partnership on 6 September 2017 Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Made a presentation on 'Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC)' at the Interactive Meeting under chairpersonship of Commerce Secretary organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, on 11 September 2017, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC)' at the session on Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC): AAGC Vision Report and India-Japan Cooperation and Collaboration during India-Japan Economic Forum, organised by Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) on 14 September 2017, Ahmedabad.

- Participated in the informal discussion on Landscape of research for development, organised by International Development Research Centre (IDRC) on 17 September 2017, New Delhi.
- Made remarks at the International Day for Peace on 'Together for Peace: Respect, Safety and Dignity for all', organised by University for Peace, Embassy of Costa Rica on 21 September 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion meeting on 'Post Dong Lang: the Future Direction of Sino-India Relations' organised by the Embassy of People's Republic of China on 21 September 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Expert Group Meeting on 'Regional Development-North East' for preparation of Development Agenda for New India@75, organised by NITI Aayog on 5 October 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the High Level Consultations with Think Tanks, organised by NITI Aayog on the theme of 'Preparing recommendations for transforming India by 2022' on 6 October 2017, New Delhi.
- Chaired the Third Meeting of LPAC for the DST sponsored study on "Emerging and Contemporary R&D and Innovation indicators in National S&T System and Policy Implications" held on 10 October 2017 at IIFT, New Delhi.
- Panelist in the Discussion Meeting on 'North East: Gateway of South East Asia' on Transforming North East India, organised jointly by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini and Himalayan University, Arunachal Pradesh, on 14 October 2017 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Towards Sustainable Development of India' at the Roundtable Discussion on 'Milestones in Governance and National Security 2014-2017', organised jointly by Nehru Memorial Museum and Library and Dr Shyam Prasad Mukherjee Research Foundation on 16 October 2017 at New Delhi.
- Panelist in the session on 'Creating Brand Ayurveda' at the industry conclave organised jointly by Ministry of AYUSH & CII on the theme 'Vision 2022: Widening Horizon of Ayurveda for Three-fold Growth of Market Size' on 16 October 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the discussion meeting on 'The Future of BRICS: Opportunities and Challenges Ahead', organised by ORF on 26 October 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Member in the Meeting of the Taskforce on Implementation of SDGs, organised by NITI Aayog on 27 October 2017 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Incentive and Policies for Innovations' at the Policy Dialogue on Incentives and Strategies for Scaling out Innovations for Smallholder Farmers, organised jointly by Trust for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences (TAAS) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) on 30 October 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Member in the First Meeting of CII Africa Committee 2017-18, organised by CII on 1 November 2017 at New Delhi.
- Delivered special remarks on 'Innovation and Multidisciplinary Policy Making' at the discussion meeting on 'Intellectual Property Rights and India's Innovation Landscape', organised jointly by Carnegie India, India Development Foundation (IDF) and Center for Intellectual Property (CIP) on 2 November 2017 at New Delhi.

- Participated in the First Meeting of National Panel for the formulation of the Technology-led Innovation Policy organised by National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) on 3 November 2017 at Bengaluru.
- Made a presentation on 'Expanding Frontiers of India-Myanmar Trade and other Economic Linkages: Trends, Issues and Way Forward' at the International Conference on Looking Forward: India Myanmar Relations organised jointly by Institute of Social and Cultural Studies, India (ISCS) and Myanmar Institute of Strategic & International Studies (MISIS) on 11 November 2017 at Yangon.
- Discussant in the session on 'Rising powers and the United Nations: The case for global justice and social cohesion' at the MGG Alumni & Partner Conference 2017 - Global Justice and social cohesion: Key challenges of the 2030 Agenda, organised jointly by DIE, GDI and MGG on 20 November 2017 at Bonn.
- Panelist in the session on 'Improving long-term impact and continuity of the T20' at the Workshop on T20 process and the role of think tank networks organised by GDI on 20 November 2017 at Bonn.
- Panelist in the session on 'T20 and T20Africa in 2017: Achievements and way forward' at the MGG Alumni & Partner Conference 2017 - Global Justice and social cohesion: Key challenges of the 2030 Agenda, organised jointly by DIE, GDI and MGG on 22 November 2017 at Bonn.
- Chaired the sessions on 'WTO Trade Agreements influencing Health Products- Context SDGs' and the 'Wrap-up session' at the 1st World Conference on Access to Medical Products and International Laws for Trade and Health, in the Context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development organised jointly by Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, WHO Country Office for India and Indian Society of International Law on 23 November 2017 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Moving for SDGs: Inclusive Dialogue and Knowledge Exchange: Exploring Strength of Cooperation across Modalities', at the Informal Exchange on towards a shared understanding of effective development co-operation: learning from different actors and approaches, organised by OECD on 24 November 2017 at Paris.
- Participated in the Meeting for Exchange of Views in Achieving SDG 2 organised by NITI Aayog on 1 December 2017 at New Delhi.
- Panelist in the Session on 'Building a Brand Strategy: Healing Power of AYUSH for the World' at the 1st edition of International Arogya 2017 - International Exhibition and Conference on AYUSH and Wellness, organised jointly by the Ministry of AYUSH, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Pharmexcil on 5 December 2017 at New Delhi.
- Panelist in the session on 'Structural Inequalities in South Asia: Issues, Challenges and Policy Solutions' at the Twentieth Sustainable Development Conference on 'Seventy Years of Development: The Way Forward', organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), 5 December 2017 at Islamabad (by skype).
- Moderated the Session on 'Building Connectivity: Line of Credit' of the ASEAN-India Connectivity Summit 2017: Powering Digital and Physical Linkages for Asia in the 21st Century, organised by Ministry

of External Affairs, Government of India, 12 December 2017 at New Delhi.

- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on JICA Country Analysis paper 2017, organised jointly by NCAER and JICA on 13 December 2017 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Transnational Interplay of Economics and Trade' at the Conference on Regionalism and Globalisation: Complementarities and Contestations, organised by Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, 14 December 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Member in the Second meeting of the National Panel for the formulation of the Technology-led Innovation Policy, organised jointly by National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) and Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bangalore on 20 December 2017 at New Delhi.
- Delivered Keynote Address on 'Future of Multilateral Trade Agreements' at the Centenary Annual Conference-2017, organised by the Indian Economic Association, 27 December 2017 at Jodhpur (in absentia).
- Participated in the First PIO-Parliamentarian Conference on A Journey from Struggle to Parliament, organised by the Ministry of External Affairs on 9 January 2018 at New Delhi.
- Made presentation on Trade and Economic Policy priorities at the Interaction of Economists and Sector Experts with the Hon'ble Prime Minister on Economic Policy: The Road Ahead, organised by NITI Aayog on 10 January 2018 at New Delhi.
- Chaired the Panel Discussion on 'Accelerating Sustainable Trade and Investment' at the India-Israel Business Innovation Forum organised jointly by CII and Embassy of Israel, New Delhi, on 15 January 2018 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Expert Committee Meeting to review the pre-proposals on Bio-banking facilities, organised by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, on 15 January 2018 at New Delhi.
- Panel Members at the Joint Meeting on Collaborative Research on 'Urban Transformation in India', organised jointly by Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and Economic & Social Research Council (ESRC), UK on 23-24 January 2018 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Member in the Second Meeting of the CII Committee on International Trade Policy 2017-18, held on 5 February 2018 at New Delhi.
- Lead Discussant in the session on 'A Critical Historical Perspective of Development Paradigms' at the Expert Meeting on Rethinking Development Strategies, organised by OECD Development Center on 8 February 2018 at Paris.
- Made a presentation on 'SSC for Overcoming Global Challenges' at the Meeting on South-South Cooperation in a New Development Context: towards a Consensus Agenda for Action", organised by the UN Office on South-South Cooperation and OECD Development Center on 9 February 2018 at Paris.
- Chaired the session on "New Issues: Electronic Commerce at the Brainstorming on WTO in Post-MC11 Phase" held on 19 February

2018 at New Delhi, organised by the WTO Center, IIFT and Ministry of Commerce, Government of India.

- Participated in the Meeting of the Speaker's Research Initiative (SRI), Group on Health, Agriculture and Education, held on 23 February 2018 at New Delhi.
- Chaired the Open House Discussion at the Stakeholder Consultation on Food and Nutrition Security: WFP India's Country Strategic Plan 2019-2023, organised by the World Food Programme on 28 February 2018 at New Delhi.
- Led the 'Interactive Session on Leave no One Behind – Awareness Programme on Sustainable Development Goals'' organised by CARENIDHI on 3 March 2018 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Member of the ICSSR Selection Committee of National Fellowship, organised by ICSSR on 5 March 2018 at New Delhi.
- Delivered Inaugural Address at the International Conference on Innovation, Knowledge Accumulation and Development in the Era of Fourth Industrial Revolution, organised by the Department of Economics, Punjabi University, Patiala, on 15 March 2018 at Patiala.
- Participated in the India-Japan Workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction 2018, organised jointly by the Ministry of Home Affairs, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Government of Japan on 19 March 2018 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on 'Blue Economy' ,organised by NITI Aayog on 20 March 2018 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'AAGC Vision Document' at the Annual Conference of Association for Asian Studies (AAS) on 24 March 2018 at Washington DC.
- Chaired the session on 'India-UK: Building a Framework for Future Cooperation in Africa' at the 13th CII EXIM Bank Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnership on 26 March 2018 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation at the Roundtable on 'Development Cooperation Initiatives' at the 13th CII EXIM Bank Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnership on 27 March 2018 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on India-Africa: Deepening the Engagement at the 4th India-Africa Strategic Dialogue – India and Africa: Deepening the Security Engagement, organised by IDSA on 28 March 2018 at New Delhi.

Prof. S. K. Mohanty

- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on US National Policy, organised by FICCI, on 13 April 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting held in the Department of Commerce, New Delhi, and made a presentation on the Project Study 'India's Engagement with LAC Countries in Trade and Investment' on 16 June 2017.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on 'India-Mauritius CEPA Negotiations', held at the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce, on 15 May 2017 at New Delhi.

- Participated in the Thirteenth Meeting of the (Second of the Reconstituted) Expert Committee on Normally Traded as Commodities (EC on NTAC), organised by the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) at Chennai on 21 July 2017.
- Participated in the International Workshop on Practical Workstreams on Trade and Investment and IORA Economic Integration, as resource speaker and made a presentation on Emergence of IORA as a Dynamic Economic Grouping: Shaping Strategies for Policy Action in the session on Recommendations on practical works on trade and investment that would contribute to the IORA economic integration at Bali on 1 August 2017.
- Participated as a Representative of Indian Delegation in the 7th Bi-Annual Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO), organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt of India and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia at Bali 2-3 August 2017.
- Participated in the Focus Group Discussion (FGD) with experts on IORA Economic Integration and presented on IORA: An Untapped Dynamic Economic Grouping, organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Policy Analysis and Development Agency at Bogor, Indonesia, 4 August 2017.
- Participated in the meeting on Asia Africa Growth Corridor, organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and made a presentation on Asia Africa Growth Corridor Vision Framework: Moving from Concept to Action at New Delhi on 11 September 2017.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting held in the Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Department of Commerce, and made a presentation on a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) between the Republic of India and the Republic of Mauritius on 11 September 2017.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting held in the Trade Policy Division, Department of Commerce, on Services Sector: India-Mauritius JSG, on 12 September 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the official dialogue to discuss on the Joint Study Group Report for India-Mauritius CECPA, organised by Ministry of Commerce and Industries, and interacted with the representatives of Government of Mauritius in New Delhi on 27-28 September 2017.
- Nominated by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, to participate and make presentation on 'Economic Aspects of Fishery: A Framework for Regional Cooperation in IORA' in the 17th Meeting of the Council of Ministers (COM), the 23rd meeting of the Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG) and the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO), organised by the Incoming Chair (South Africa), Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) in Durban, South Africa on 14-18 October 2017.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on the report on 'India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA)', organised by the Department of Commerce, on 3 November 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Familiarization programme for 21 Journalists/ Media Personnel from IORA member- states to India from 12-17 November 2017, organized by FICCI, New Delhi.

- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on 3rd Australia-India-Indonesia Trilateral Dialogue on Indian Ocean (TDIO), organized by ICWA on 16 November 2017, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Fisheries Management in Indian Ocean: Building Deeper and Closer Cooperation' 3rd Australia-India-Indonesia Trilateral Dialogue on Indian Ocean (TDIO), organized by ICWA on 21 November 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Consultation Meeting on India's Priorities for 11th Ministerial Conference of the WTO, organized by the Department of Commerce, on 22 November 2017, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'India's Engagement with LAC Countries in Trade and Investment' at the Discussion Meeting organised by the Department of Commerce, on 24 November 2017, New Delhi
- Made a presentation on 'Emerging Economic Relationship between India and EAEU: Implication of CSO Integration with the Eurasia', in the session Eurasia and India: Opportunities and Challenges (with India's membership at the EAEU and SCO) at the Second Meeting of Heads of Think-Tanks (HoTT) 2017 of India and Russia , organised by ICWA on 5 December 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on Negotiations under the Proposed Economic and Technology Co-operation Agreement (ETCA) with Sri Lanka, organised by Department of Commerce on 8 December 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated as a Special Invitee in the Discussion meeting on Foreign Trade and Investment Committee of PHD Chamber, organised by PHD Chamber on 16 December 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Review Meeting on the report India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA), held in the Department of Commerce on 26 December 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Review Meeting on the report on 'India - Mauritius joint study report on the comprehensive economic cooperation and partnership agreement', organised by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industries on 5 January 2018, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'India's Engagement with LAC Countries in Trade and Investment' at the Discussion Meeting organised by the Department of Commerce on 5 January 2018, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Third Round of Discussion Meeting between Mauritius and India on the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA) and Lead the Indian Delegation at Mauritius from 22-24 January 2018.
- Made a presentation on 'Service Sector' at the Discussion Meeting, organised by the Department of Commerce on 2 February 2018, New Delhi.
- Participated in the 'Digital Video Conference between India and Mauritius on India - Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement', organised by the Department of Commerce on 5 February 2018, New Delhi.
- Participated in the 'Brainstorming session on WTO in the Post-MC11 Phase', organised by Department of Commerce on 19 February 2018, New Delhi.

- Made a presentation on 'Synchronising India's LAC Policy with Country's Journey towards a Five Trillion Dollar Economy by 2025' at the Discussion Meeting, organised by the Department of Commerce on 22 February 2018, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Review Meeting on the report on 'India - Mauritius joint study report on the comprehensive economic cooperation and partnership agreement', organised by the Department of Commerce on 23 February 2018, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Blue Economy - A New Paradigm of Development: Approach Towards Sustainable Marine Cooperation' at the TERI-KAS Resource Dialogue IV on Marine Resource-Sustainable development through geopolitics and trade, at Chennai on 1 March 2018.
- Delivered lecture on 'Growth Dynamism in SIDS: Towards Sustainable Policy Choice', at the Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, Jamia Millia Islamia on 8 March 2018 New Delhi.
- Participated in a review meeting on India-Mauritius Comprehensive Economic Cooperation and Partnership Agreement (CECPA), organized by the Department of Commerce on 13 March 2018, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Blue Economy: Emerging Challenges for India', at the dialogue meeting on Blue Economy ,organised by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, NITI Aayog on 20 March 2018 at New Delhi .
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on the 'Proposal for Institutional Reform of the IORAG', organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, on 22 March 2018, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'India's Economic Engagement with the Pacific Alliance' at the Discussion Meeting on LAC Study, organised by the Department of Commerce on 24 March 2018 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on India's Engagement with Latin America and Caribbean countries in Trade and Investment organised by Department of Commerce on 28 March 2018 at New Delhi.

Prof. T. C. James

Visiting Fellow

- Participated in the Two - Day National Conference on Corporate Laws, organised by the National Law University, Delhi, and chaired the session on Intellectual Property Laws on 23 March 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated as Resource Person in the National Conference on Intellectual Property Rights and Public Interest, organised by the Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, and delivered a talk on Affordability and Accessibility on 7 April 2017.
- Participated in the Conference on Copyright and Technology, organised by the DIPP Chair on IPR and National Law University, Jodhpur, on 8 and 9 April 2017 and delivered talks on Access to Knowledge and Information.

- Participated as Guest of Honour in the National Workshop on Piracy in the Entertainment Industry, organised by Delhi University, Campus Law Centre I, on 20 April 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated as a resource person in the Orientation Programme on SDGs for Nodal Officers, jointly organised by the Himachal Pradesh Government, NFI and Himachal Pradesh Institute of Public Administration (HIPA) and delivered talks on SDGs in India: Union to State level at HIPA, Dhalli, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh on 30 May 2017.
- Participated in the National Symposium on AYUSH Research for New India: Vision and Strategies, organised by Savitribhai Phule Pune University on 4 August, 2017. Contributed in the session on Integration of Traditional Medicine Systems with general health-care system.
- Made a presentation on “IPR: Overview of Policy and Challenges for Developing Countries” at the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) Capacity Building Programme on “Intellectual Property Rights, Technology Commercialization and Cooperation and India-Africa Development Partnership” for African Countries, organised by NRDC on 5 September 2017.
- Contributed as member, IPR Chair Review Committee constituted by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.
- Member of IPR Chair Review Committee set up by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion. The Committee submitted its final report to the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion on 13 October 2017.
- Keynote speaker on Start-ups, Innovation and Intellectual Property at the National Conference on Intellectual Property Rights, organised by the PHD Chamber of Commerce on 24 November 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated as an expert in High -Level Consultation on Protection of Marayoor Jaggery as a geographical indication, organised by Kerala Agricultural Department at Mannuthi on 27 December 2017 at Thrissur.
- Participated in the workshop on registration of Marayoor Jaggery as a Geographical Indication of Goods organised by the Government of Kerala, Department of Agriculture, and the Kerala Agricultural University at Marayoor, Idukki, Kerala on 5 January, 2018 and made a presentation on the technical and legal issues relating to registration of a geographical indication and the economic benefits of such registration for the farmers.
- Participated in the workshop on ‘Indian Pharmaceutical Industry: Challenges of Industrial and Technological Upgrading’ organised by Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi, on 23 January 2018 and made a presentation on Pharmaceutical Policy and Future Agenda.
- Made a presentation on ‘New Drug Development and Issues related to IPR’ at the International Conference on Unani Medicine organised by the Ministry of AYUSH and the Central Council of Unani Medicine in New Delhi on 10 February, 2018.

Dr P. K. Anand

Visiting Fellow

- Made presentations and participated in detailed meetings on SDG 2 Roadmap Framework on 13 and 14 January 2018, organised by WFP, New Delhi.
- Made Special Remarks during the Inaugural Session of two events on “Training Programmes on Social Impact Assessment, Resettlement and Rehabilitation” on 15 January 2018 and 5 February 2018, organised by TERI, New Delhi.
- Made Remarks as a Panelist in the Session on “Round Table: new frontiers for evaluation in the context of SDGs”, Chaired the Session on “Interactive roundtable session on capacity building in evaluation” and made Remarks during Valedictory Session on 8 and 9 February in the Evalfest 2018, organised by Evaluation Community of India (ECOI) at New Delhi with other evaluation partners.
- Made Special Remarks in a Seminar on ‘The Assam Experience of Implementing the SDGs’ on 16 January 2018, organised by TERI, New Delhi.
- Made remarks and suggestions in the “Stakeholder Consultation on Food and Nutrition Security: WFP India’s Country Strategic Plan on SDG 2” on 28 February 2018, organised by WFP, New Delhi.

Shri Krishna Kumar

Visiting Fellow

- Made a presentation and participated in detailed meetings on “Draft Report on SDG 2 Roadmap Framework” on 13 and 14 January 2018 at WFP, New Delhi.
- Made Remarks as a Panelist in the Session on “Round Table: new frontiers for evaluation in the context of SDGs” and participated in the Session on “Interactive roundtable session on capacity building in evaluation” organized by Evaluation Community of India (ECOI) on 8 February at New Delhi.
- Made Special Remarks in a Seminar on “The Assam Experience of implementing the SDGs” on 16 January 2018 at TERI.
- Participated in the “Stakeholder Consultation on Food and Nutrition Security: WFP India’s Country Strategic Plan on SDG 2” on 28 February 2018, organized by WFP, New Delhi.

Dr K. Ravi Srinivas

Visiting Fellow

- Participated in the kick-off meeting of NewHoRRizon Project at Vienna on 15-16 May 2017.
- Made a presentation on ‘The Status Of Application, Capacities And The Enabling Environment For Agricultural Biotechnologies In The Asia-Pacific Region: Presentation Of Some Preliminary Findings’ on 12 September at Regional Meeting on Agricultural Biotechnologies in

Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition in Asia-Pacific from 11-13 September 2017, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

- Made a presentation on Fourth Industrial Revolution, Globalization and Regionalism at the Seminar on “Emerging Trends in Globalization and Regionalism” on 8 Feb 2018, ICWA at New Delhi.

Dr Beena Pandey

Research Associate

- Made a presentation on ‘Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education for All’ as an input speaker at the ‘No Future Without Education’ Lab organized by Alumniportal Deutschland and GIZ IN at New Delhi on 26 September 2017.
- Participated in the ‘EU- India Dialogue on Migration and Mobility’ ,organised by ILO at New Delhi on 26 September 2017.

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Research Associate

- Represented RIS in the 2nd IORA Blue Economy Ministerial Conference held in Jakarta, during 8-10 May 2017.
- Made a presentation as the panelist in the plenary and thematic sessions on Blue Economy in the India-Pacific Islands Sustainable Development Conference in Suva, Fiji, on 25-26 May 2017.
- Participated in the India-China Think Tanks Forum Meeting held at Beijing, China, during 22-26 June 2017 and delivered lecture on the topic ‘Bilateral Cooperation in Manufacturing between India and China’.
- Participated in the meeting on “Inclusion of Investment in Multilateral Trade Agreements” held in the Ministry of Finance, Govt of India on July 20, 2017.
- Made presentation on “Rise of BRICS, Emerging Markets and Evolving Narratives in Global Governance” in the International Conference on ‘G20 and BRICS: Cooperation for Resilient and Balanced Growth’ at the Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration in Moscow on 20 September 2017.
- Made online presentation on “Larger Relevance of Economics of Corridor: An Illustration of Asia Africa Growth Corridor” in the International Conference on ‘India and China as Rising Global Powers: Repercussions for Central Asia’ held at Almaty, Kazakhstan, held on 25 September 2017.
- Made presentation on “Trade and Investment in Indian Ocean Region: Lessons on Blue Economy from IORA” in the SAGAR Discourse 1.0 on Maritime Security held in Goa, India by FINS Mumbai on 12-14 October 2017.
- Made remarks on fisheries subsidies at the Round Table Conference on “Emerging Issues in WTO”, organised by Swadeshi Jagaran Manch on 9 November 2017.
- Made remarks as a panelist in the session on Trade Facilitation and Connectivity in the Tenth South Asia Economic Summit held in Kathmandu during 14-16 November 2017.

- Made presentation on “Developing and Strengthening Blue Economy: India and the Region” in the ASEAN-India Workshop on Blue Economy held in Nha Trang, Vietnam, on 24-25 November 2017.
- Made presentation on “India’s Regional Integration Initiatives” and served as Discussant in the Workshop on the Collaboration between BRI and the Asia Africa Growth Corridor Initiative in the East Asian Summit and East Asian Cooperation International Forum 2017 held in Nanning, China, on 15-17 December 2017.

Dr Sabyasachi Saha

Assistant Professor

- Made a presentation on ‘Digital Economy for Emergence, Transformation and Inclusion: Recent Strides in India’ at the International Conference on “Emergence of Africa (ICEA)”, organised by UNDP and Government of Cote d’Ivoire at Abidjan during 28-30 March 2017.
- Made a presentation on ‘Intra-BRICS Trade in High Technology: Opportunities of Industrial Value Chains in BRICS’ at the 2017 BRICS Think Tank Symposium on BRICS Cooperation and Global Value Chains, held at Guangzhou, China, on 16 May 2017.
- Participated in the Round Table on WTO, organised by Swadeshi Jagran Manch, on 9 November 2017 at New Delhi, and made a Presentation on E-Commerce issues.
- Participated in the International Conference on Strategic Visions of Russia-India Relations and Changes in the World Order, Moscow, Russia, 12-13 October 2017, and made a Presentation on Strengthening BRICS and Bilateral Strategy of Technological Modernisation.
- Participated in the 3rd Meeting of the Global Forum of National Advisory Councils on Science, Technology and Innovations, Pretoria, South Africa, on 5-6 December 2017 as a Panel Member in the Session on STI and SMEs.
- Made a presentation on “Policy Framework in India and Review under SDGs” at Chhattisgarh State Planning Commission, Naya Raipur– National Consultation on SDGs and Administrative Reforms on 3-4 August 2017.
- Participated in the International Conference on Innovations, Knowledge Accumulation and Development in the Era of Fourth Industrial Revolution held on 1-16 March 2018 at the Panjabi University, Patiala, and made a presentation on “Industry 4.0: The Near Myth and Mammoth Realities” at the Plenary Session on Fourth Industrial Revolution and South Asia.

Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy

Consultant, AIC at RIS

- Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy, Consultant, AIC at RIS completed the online course on “Non-Tariff Measures (NTM) and the data collection 2017” from 10 July 2017 to 27 August 2017.

CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES

RIS-EXIM Bank Summer School International Trade Theory and Practices

To contribute towards capacity- building of scholars working in the international trade, RIS in association with the Exim Bank of India organised a Summer School for M.Phil and Ph.D. for students specialising in international trade during 19-24 June 2017 at New Delhi. Ms. Rita Teatota, Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India, inaugurated the programme.



RIS-EXIM Bank Summer School participants with Commerce Secretary and RIS faculty-members

Over the years, RIS has gained prominence for its contributions to research policy in multilateral trading system, regional trading arrangements, comprehensive economic cooperation architecture, South-South Cooperation, Trade, Technology and Investment issues, defining core expertise of the institution leading to several research studies and deliberations.

Exim Bank has been entrusted with the task of promoting India's international trade. Besides promoting, facilitating and financing India's international trade, Exim Bank of India has undertaken many initiatives to encourage scholars for focussing on economic research studies.

The Course Structure included the following topics— Module 1 : Recent Developments in Trade Theory; Module 2 : Databases and Information on International Trade; Module 3 : Tools and Techniques in Trade Analysis; Module 4 : Understanding FTAs and Regional Trading Blocs; Module 5 : Issues of Trade in Technology and Classification Issues; Module 6 : Trade and Development: IPRs and New Issues; and Module 7 : Group Presentations. More than 35 scholars from all-over India participated in the capacity building programme.

Learning South-South Cooperation

A capacity-building programme on Learning South-South Cooperation was conducted under the ITEC / SCAAP Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, from 13 to 24 November 2017 at RIS, New Delhi, in which more than 29 participants from 22 different southern countries took part. This programme exposed incumbents to some important examples in the Development Cooperation besides covering modules on Development Cooperation; Theoretical Backgrounders; Development Compact: The Modalities; Different Actors in SSC; India's Role in SSC: A Sectoral Perspective and Global Opportunities for SSC and Challenges in Assessing SSC.

Participants were from diverse groups, with multiple areas of expertise in academics, diplomacy among others, coming from different countries and regions of the world. Both in-house and external experts spoke on wide-ranging areas such as theoretical framework and experiences on capacity-building, trade and investment issues, development finance and technology transfer from the perspective of developing countries. Sectoral facets were



Participants of the ITEC programme on Learning South-South Cooperation with RIS faculty members.

also presented on key sectors of health and education, agriculture, energy, role of private sector and CSOs in addition to Indian culture, history and philosophy and India's contribution to International Peace-keeping. A trip to Barefoot College in Tilonia and Parliament of India was also organized for the participants as the part of their educational trip wherein the participants interacted with 'Solar Mamas' of different nationalities, who were undergoing training at the Centre. They also revealed their own country's initiatives and experiences in development cooperation during the programme.

International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP)

RIS organized its flagship capacity- building programme on 'International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP)' from 12 February to 9 March 2018 at New Delhi. The programme was conducted under the auspices of the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme, funded by the Ministry of External Affairs. Twenty- eight delegates from 21 developing countries took part in it.

The agenda of the programme included sessions on: Interactive Session on International Economic Issues and Development Policy; International Financial Architecture (UN-FFD and G20); New Financial Institutions - the NDB and the AIIB; The Asian Century and India's Act East Policy; Blue Economy and the Indian Ocean Rim Association; Group Discussion/ Preparation of Research Article; SDG Indicators and Monitoring - The Challenges; Indian Culture and Social Transformations; and Strengthening People's Participation and Improving Governance – Role of Civil Society in India. Eminent experts were invited to deliver special lectures and for interacting with the participants.



Participants of the ITEC Capacity Building Programme on International Economic Issues and Development Policy with RIS faculty members.

Science Diplomacy

An ITEC on Capacity- building Programme on Science Diplomacy was held from 8 to 19 January 2018 at New Delhi. The Inaugural Session of the programme was held in conjunction with an interactive session with Students from New York University at New Delhi on 8 January 2018.

The agenda of the programme included special lectures on Technology Assessment and Science, Technology Policy, A Conceptual Framework for Science Diplomacy and Theoretical and Conceptual Framework of Science Diplomacy. This was followed by a Panel Discussion on India's Own Experiences across specific sectors; such as Chandrayaan, Space Collaboration, Pharma Sector; and Agriculture. The next series of special lectures were on: Developing Countries in the Realm of Science and Diplomacy and South-South Cooperation, India's Science Diplomacy, Technology, Trade and Science Diplomacy, New Issues and Science Diplomacy, SDGs and Development Priorities. Eminent experts covered various dimensions of these topics and had interactive sessions with the participants.



Participants of the ITEC Capacity Building Programme on Science Diplomacy with RIS faculty members.

Lectures Delivered by RIS Faculty Members at the Outside Training Programmes

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General

- Made a presentation on 'Globalization, Regional Trade Alliance and WTO' at the 57th NDC Course, organised by National Defence College (NDC) on 30 June 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the interactive session on the theme 'What is the Future for Development Cooperation? Building Innovative and Inclusive South-South Institutions', organised by O. P. Jindal Global University on 22 August 2017, New Delhi.
- Addressed the student community on the theme of 'Emerging Paradigm on Science and Society' at the Manipal Conclave 2017, organised by Manipal Institute of Technology on 7 October 2017, Manipal.
- Addressed the students on 'Indian Approaches towards Universal Education and Learning from Experience from Other Countries' at the Workshop on TaRL (Teaching at Right Level), a Pratham remedial programme, organised by ASER Centre on 17 November 2017 at Aurangabad.
- Made a presentation on 'Collective efforts for Development of Indore: Role of Education Institutions' at the Brainstorming organised jointly by DAVV University and Center for Contemporary Studies, Indore, on "Student-Faculty Cooperation for an Enriched City and Society" on 12 February 2018 at Indore.

Prof. T. C. James

Visiting Fellow

- Delivered talk as Distinguished Panelist at the Roundtable Discussion, organised at Campus Law Centre II, on Copyright Law with special reference to Academic Institutions on 27 April 2017, New Delhi.
- Delivered talks on legal concepts of Intellectual Property Rights and Issues of Trial and Procedure in the Orientation Programme on IPRs and Enforcement for Delhi Judicial Service Officers at the Delhi Judicial Academy on 19 May 2017 at New Delhi.
- Delivered lectures on "IPR Fundamentals and Ethics and Values in R&D" at the 34th Induction Training Programme' for the scientists, organised by CSIR-HRDC on 21 July 2017.
- Delivered a talk on 'IP Ecosystem in India: The Way Forward' at the Joint FICCI-IPO Programme at the Delhi University on 15 September 2017.
- Addressed two sessions on "IPR Jurisprudence - Scope & Relevance in present day Adjudication, Origin & Development of the IPR Legal Regime, Constitutional Imperatives and Legislative and Judicial

responses" in the Orientation Course for the officers of DHJS on 18 September 2017, New Delhi,.

- Conducted training class in IPRs for officials of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion on 27 October 2017.
- Delivered talks on Public Interest vs Private Rights and Jurisprudential Developments on Protection of Geographical Indications, Trade Secret and Traditional Knowledge at the Orientation Programme for Delhi Judicial Officers at the Delhi Judicial Academy on 25 November 2017.
- Delivered a talk on Intellectual Property Rights: Indian Landscape, Challenges, and Opportunities in the workshop on Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Research (WSTIPR), organised by the Department of Science and Technology Centre for Policy Research, National Institute of Advanced Studies and Indian Institute of Science on 13 December 2017 at Bengaluru.

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Research Associate

- Made presentation on "Recent Trends in Global and Regional Trade & Finance" to the students of M.A (Analytical and Applied Economics) of Utkal University, Bhubaneswar, on 10 August 2017.

PUBLICATION PROGRAMME

Reports/Books



Asia Africa Growth Corridor: Partnership for Sustainable and Innovative Development : A Vision Document

RIS, ERIA, IDE-JETRO, New Delhi, 2017



Mekong-Ganga Cooperation: Breaking Barriers and Seeking New Heights

AIC – RIS, New Delhi, 2017



Global Governance, Development Initiatives and South-South Cooperation

RIS, New Delhi, 2018



ASEAN-India Strengthening the Ties That Bind, 2018

AIC – RIS, New Delhi, 2018



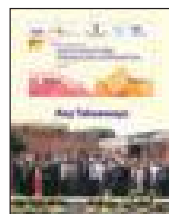
E-Compendium of RIS Publications of ASEAN-India Relations, 2018

AIC – RIS, New Delhi, 2018



India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Cooperation (IMT-TC): Way Towards a Stronger ASEAN - India Partnership

AIC – RIS, New Delhi, 2017



South-South and Triangular Cooperation : Key Takeaways

RIS, New Delhi, 2017



RIS-ITEC Programme on Science Diplomacy

RIS, New Delhi, 2017

Journals

South Asia Economic Journal

Vol. 18, No. 1

Vol. 18, No. 2

Asian Biotechnology and Development Review

Vol. 19, No. 2, July 2017

Vol. 19, No. 3, November 2017

Policy Briefs

#78 **Manufacturing in India and other BRICS Countries: A Stuttering Performance** by Manmohan Agarwal, June 2017

#79 **India and Japan's Strategic Opportunity in Africa: The Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) Initiative** by Mukul Asher and Mahalakshmi Ganapathy, December 2017

#80 **Chabahar Port and India** by Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Consultant, RIS.

Discussion Papers

#209 **Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement: Need for a Strategy** by V. S. Seshadri

#210 **Developing a Logistics Facilitation Monitoring Mechanism : The Next Step in Trade Facilitation Reforms** by Rajeev Kher and Pritam Banerjee

- #211 **The Role of Financial Access and Financial Development in Firm's Exportability: Empirical Evidence from Asia-Pacific** *by Durairaj Kumarasamy and Prakash Singh*
- #212 **Monetary Policy: Its Changing Objectives, Instruments and Results** *by Manmohan Agarwal and Irfan Shah*
- #213 **India-Japan Cooperation for Promoting People-to-People Partnership in Asia Africa Growth Corridor** *by Ruchita Beri*
- #214 **Skill Development in Africa: Scope for India-Japan Cooperation in Asia Africa Growth Corridor** *by Manmohan Agarwal*
- #215 **Health Sector Cooperation in Asia Africa Growth Corridor** *by Harpreet Sandhu*
- #216 **Women in the Economy: An Untapped Resource for Growth in the Asia-Africa Region** *by Renana Jhabvala*
- #217 **Trade Facilitation in Asia Africa Growth Corridor: Potential for India-Japan Cooperation in Africa** *by S.K. Mohanty, Priyadarshi Dash, Vaibhav Kaushik and Bhaskar Kashyap*
- #218 **Asia-Africa Cooperation in Human Resource Development** *by Santosh Mehrotra*
- 219 **People-to-People Partnership in Asia Africa Growth Corridor: Historical and Cultural Linkages** *by V. Selvakumar*
- #220 **Raising Farming Efficiency for Sustained Agriculture in Asia Africa Growth Corridor** *by T. P. Rajendran*
- #221 **Cooperation in Agriculture in AAGC: Innovations and Agro-Processing** *by Krishna Ravi Srinivas*
- #222 **Cooperation in Disaster and Climate Risk Management in AAGC** *by Rajeev Issar*

Blue Economy Policy brief

- #2 **Blue Economy, Ocean Development and SDG-14: Implications for the Marine Ecosystem** *by S. K. Mohanty and Pankhuri Gaur, RIS, April 2017, New Delhi*

FITM Policy Brief

Access and Expansion of Traditional Knowledge Digital Library and Incentivization of Innovations
RIS, No. 1, New Delhi, 2017

Blue Economy Forum

Blue Economy Enhancing Growth and Sustainability
RIS, New Delhi, 2017

RIS Spotlight

Housing for All
RIS, No. 1, New Delhi, 2017

RIS Diary

- Vol. 14 No. 3, July 2017
- Vol. 14 No. 4, October 2017
- Vol. 15 No. 1, January 2018
- Vol. 15 No. 2, April 2018

Contributions to Outside Publications by RIS Faculty

Research Papers

- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. 'India's Rising Economic Clout and Global Role: The Nexus of Growth and Poverty and Relevance to U.S. Policy'. ASPEN Institute Congressional Program on India Emergence and Development Challenges: Policy Implications for the U.S. on 18-26 February 2017, New Delhi and Hyderabad, Vol.33 No.1.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin and Krishna Ravi Srinivas. 2017. 'Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Rice Strategy for India' in *The Future Rice Strategy for India* by P.Chengappa, M.Hegde and S.Mohanty (Eds) - Elsevier/IRRI - Pp 277-299.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. 'Modi in Germany: Will India's FTA pragmatism bring EU out of its shell?', *Business Standard*, 29 May.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. 'How to cut across corridors'. *The Economic Times*, 14 June, New Delhi.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. Towards sustainable development in India in Bibek Debroy and Ashok Malik (eds.) *India @ 70 Modi @ 3.5: Capturing India's Transformation under Narendra Modi*, pp: 119-128. Wisdom Tree.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. Trump-Modi meeting- Pragmatism in economy and trade was the clean theme, *Business Standard*, 04 July 2017.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. G20 pushes for Africa Connect, *GDI-International Development Blog*, 24 July 2017, German Development Institute.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. Asia Africa Growth Corridor aims for people-centric growth strategy, *The Mint*, 18 September 2017.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin and Sabyasachi Saha. 2017. "Competing Imperatives of Global Governance and National Interests within BRICS: An Indian Perspective." *Rising Powers Quarterly*, Vol. 2 No. 3, August.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin and Sabyasachi Saha. 2017. "Competing Imperatives of Global Governance and National Interests within BRICS: An Indian Perspective." *ORF Occasional Paper*, No. 136, December.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. "What government can do to bring back growth and create more jobs." *The Week*, 07 October.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. Sri Lanka's economic future: Robust Growth guaranteed. *Daily News*, 16 October.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. Finding the way forward in the northeast region. *The Week*, November 13.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. 'Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation, and Rice Strategy for India'. In Samarendu Mohanty (eds.) *The Future Rice Strategy for India*. Academic Press.

- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. 'Towards Sustainable Development of India' in Bibek Debroy and Ashok Malik (eds.) *India @70 Modi @ 3.5: Capturing India's Transformation under Narendra Modi*. New Delhi: Wisdom Tree.
- Dash P. 2017. "Explaining Korea's Development Success: Role of Scientific R&D, FDI and Industrial Catch-Up". *Man & Development*, Vol. XXXIX, No. 2, pp. 21-50 (June 2017).
- Dash Priyadarshi. 2017. Financing Development in South Asia: Beyond Orthodox Approaches" in conference volume of South Asia Economic Summit (SAES)-IX held in October 2015, Centre for Policy Dialogue.
- Dash Priyadarshi. 2017. Financing Development in South Asia: Beyond Orthodox Approaches" in conference volume of South Asia Economic Summit (SAES)-IX held in October 2015, Centre for Policy Dialogue.
- De, Prabir. (ed.) 2018. *Twenty Years of BIMSTEC: Promoting Regional Cooperation and Integration in the Bay of Bengal Region*. BIMSTEC Secretariat, Dhaka.
- De, Prabir. 2017. 'Look East to Act East: India's Economic Engagements with ASEAN' in C. J Thomas and K Sarda (eds.) *Act East and India's North-East*, Pentagon Press, New Delhi.
- De, Prabir. 2017. 'Contemporary Contours of ASEAN-India Relation'. in World Trade Centre (ed.) *Handbook: International Trade*, Mumbai.
- De, Prabir. 2017. 'South Asian Countries Building Connections'. *East Asia Forum*, 24 June 2017.
- De, Prabir. 2017. 'BBIN: From Transit to Economic Corridors'. *Trade Insight*, Vol. 12, No. 3.
- De, Prabir and Sreya Pan. 2017. "India-Mongolia Economic Relations: Current Status and Future Prospect", *Northeast Asian Economic Review*, Vol. 5, No. 2.
- De, Prabir. 2017. "NTMs and Agriculture Exports: Introduction" in ESCAP (ed.) *Trade integration within ASEAN: The role of non-tariff measures for Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Viet Nam*, Bangkok.
- De, Prabir. 2017. "Non-Tariff Measures Faced by Exporters in the Lao People's Democratic Republic: An Assessment", in ESCAP (ed.) *Trade integration within ASEAN: The Role of Non-tariff Measures for Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Viet Nam*, Bangkok.
- De, Prabir and Ajitava Raychaudhuri (eds.) 2017. *Myanmar's Integration with the World: Challenges and Policy Options*, Palgrave Macmillan, New York & Singapore.
- De, Prabir. 2017. "Regional Integration and Myanmar: Current Status and Prospects" in De, Prabir and Ajitava Raychaudhuri (eds.) *Myanmar's Integration with the World: Challenges and Policy Options*, Palgrave Macmillan, New York & Singapore.
- Review of Major Initiatives. in Mustafizur Rahman and Fahmida Khatun (eds.) *Reimagining South Asia in 2030*, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka.
- De, Prabir. 2017. "Facilitating Cross-Border Paperless Trade in BBIN: A Proposal." DPG Roundtable Report, Vol. 2, Issue 6.
- De, Prabir. 2017. "Celebrating 25 Years of ASEAN-India Partnership." *On Trade*, Vol. 4, No. 1.

- De, Prabir. 2018. "How India Faces Trade Protections? An Analysis of Trade Barriers", in Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) (ed.) *Studies in Comprehensive Regional Strategies: Collected Papers*. Seoul.
- De, Prabir. 2018. "Indo-Asean is new model for regional cooperation", *The Economic Times*. 26 January 2018.
- De, Prabir. 2018. "BBIN Challenges". *Trade Insight*, Vol. 13, No. 3.
- De, Prabir. 2018. "Celebrating 25 Years of ASEAN-India Partnership: What Makes it So Unique?". *India Foundation Journal*, Vol. 6, No. 1.
- De, Prabir. 2018. "Northeast India: A Bridge to ASEAN". *India and World*, Vol. 1, No. 3.
- Kumarasamy Durairaj and Reddy, K Shiva. 2017. "Impact of Credit Cards and Debit Cards on Currency Demand and Seigniorage: Evidence from India", *Academy of Accounting and Financial Studies Journal*, Vol. 21, No.3.
- Kumarasamy, Durairaj and Singh, Prakash. 2018., "Access to Finance, Financial Development and Firm Exportability: Experience from Asia-Pacific Countries", *Asian Economic Journal*, John Wiley Publications, Vol. 32, No.1, pp.15-38.
- Agrawal, Pradeep and Kumarasamy, Durairaj. 2018., "Impact of Foreign Capital Flows in Emerging Asia", in Pradeep Agrawal (ed.) *Reviving Economic Growth in India*, Cambridge University Press, pp.209-229.
- Mohanty, S. K. 2017. Contributed a chapter in the *Knowledge Paper on Blue Economy Vision 2025: Harnessing Business Potential for India Inc. and International Partners*. Published by FICCI Task Force, April.
- Mohanty, S.K., Priyadarshi Dash, Sanura Fernandez and Pankhuri Gaur. 2017. Draft India-Mauritius Joint Study Group Report. Ministry of Commerce and Industry, for discussion, June.
- Mohanty, S.K. 2017. "SDG-14: Sustainable Development Pathways to Manage Ocean Wealth" in Syed Munir Khasru (ed.) *Towards Sustainable Development Lessons from MDGs & Pathways for SDGs*, The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG), Bangladesh, October. (co-author). ISBN: 9789843429254
- James, T.C. 2017. "Neglected Tropical Diseases and R&D" in the volume titled "Globalisation and India's Innovation Systems: Towards Creative Destruction". Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, July 2017. ISBN-978-93-80419-35-0.
- James, T.C. 2017. "Common Health Challenges and Prospects for Cooperation. A Decade of BRICS: Indian Perspectives for the Future. Durham University and Wiley-Blackwell, September, 2017. ISBN: 978-81-935340-5-2.
- James, T.C. 2017. "Indian Generic Pharma Industry and Intellectual Property Rights' Common Cause Journal, April- June.
- Srinivas, Krishna Ravi, 2017. 'Regulatory Regime for GM Crops in India' in *Genetically Modified Organisms in Developing Countries*, edited by Ademola A. Adenle, E. Jane Morris and Denis J. Murphy. Cambridge University Press. pp 236-246.

DATA AND INFORMATION CENTRE



The Documentation Centre continued with its endeavour to acquire latest specialized publications, reports, databases, e-journals and articles, etc. for providing up-to-date information to RIS Faculty and visiting scholars. The Library continued its exchange programme of publications with a number of national and international organizations. RIS Faculty further enriched its resource base by adding more publications based on evidence-based research and study programmes on traditional and contemporary issues of critical importance to the developing countries.

Over the years, the Centre has developed linkages with key global institutions like FAO, ILO, OECD, UN, UNCTAD, World Bank, WTO, etc. It also has a mechanism for exchange of publications and annual reports with various Ministries and institutions. It has developed a rich collection of Working Papers, Discussion Papers, Re-prints, Occasional Papers from national and international organizations, in print and electronic formats, received either through mutually exchanged programmes or downloaded through institutional websites. The collection of Documentation Centre includes more than 25,000 books, including government publications, documents of other research institutions in print and electronic format, in addition to 1800 journals in bound volumes. It subscribes to more than 600 print and online journals that includes jstor, Elsevier- sciencedirect, Oxford University Press, Wiley etc. It also receives about 50 journals on complimentary basis from reputed sources. It has a collection of more than 350 CD Roms and databases. Being a member of DELNET, it promotes resource-sharing among the libraries of the developing countries.

The Library was completely renovated and has been made extremely user-friendly with new furniture and furnishings. It provides congenial atmosphere for RIS Faculty and visiting scholars for reading facility. It is currently

pursuing the work of digitization of old RIS publications and newspaper clippings with full vigour. The entire range of its online reference material is connected to the intranet facility of RIS, which facilitates easy access of its resources to the entire RIS faculty.

Documentation Centre/Library Collection includes

- Books
- Statistical Yearbooks
- Documents-WP-OP-DP
- Journals/ Periodicals (Print+Online+CD-Rom)
- Newspapers both Indian and International
- Back Volumes
- CD-Rom
- Databases in CD-ROM

RIS Databank

RIS has a well maintained database covering national and international trade, investment, employment, environment and industries. It consists of online and offline database. Off-line databases and CD-ROMs can be accessed by RIS Faculty from its newly acquired Data Server which is available in the Computer Centre. The databases are updated regularly.



While the global database of RIS includes information on trade, tariff and non-tariff measures, balance of payment, financial statistics, development statistics, industrial statistics, intellectual property services and corporate data and information, the Indian database covers Time Series database on trade at 8-digit level, database of Indian companies and their financial performance, social-economic database, and customs tariff database.

RIS Data Server

During the year under review, RIS acquired and installed a modern Data Server, which is firewalled against any possible external attacks, including data exterminating viral or hacking as part of enhanced security of its databank. RIS has uploaded vital domestic and international trade data (HS&SITC) on it, along with tariff database, Indian company database, direction of trade statistics, WDI, etc. The server is updated on a regular basis. It provides instant updated data to Faculty members, which profoundly helps in their evidence-based research studies and obviates the need for subscription to expensive multiple global data systems for individual RIS faculty members.

RIS Website and Online Documentation Centre

(www.ris.org.in)

During the period under review, RIS revamped its website with new makeover which is far more esthetically impressive, user-friendly, content-wise rich, and equipped with latest features and functions. It is updated on a real time basis by RIS to put across the wide body of rigorous research studies and related events in the global public domain as a part of its outreach programme. It gives substantial upto-date information on the core areas of the work programme of

RIS, including health, trade, finance, investment, development cooperation, global economic issues, regional cooperation, South-South cooperation, health, science, technology and innovation. It provides free download facility of the wide range of publications brought out by RIS in the form of research reports, journals, newsletters and media articles. It also features detail of various conferences, seminars, workshops conducted by RIS. During the last year itself, eight new sub-domains have been developed and linked to the website for their clearer and wider accessibility. These include:

Asia Africa Growth Corridor

<http://aagc.ris.org.in>

Blue Economy Forum

<http://blueeconomyforum.ris.org.in>

ASEAN India Centre

<http://aic.ris.org.in>

Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM)

<http://fitm.ris.org.in>

Network of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST)

<http://southernthinktank.ris.org.in>

RIS Work Programme on Sustainable Development Goals

<http://sdg.ris.org.in>

Forum for Indian Development Cooperation

<http://fidc.ris.org.in>

New Asia Forum

<http://newasiaforum.ris.org.in>

Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Initiative

<http://iora.ris.org.in>

In addition, the website also features the following two website pages:

Asian Investment Infrastructure Bank

<http://ris.org.in/asian-infrastructure-investment-bank>

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Forum

<http://www.ris.org.in/node/349>

During the last year itself, RIS website has witnessed a substantial increase in the number of hits. It has gained the status of one of the top research results powered by Google thereby underlining its expanding visibility. RIS also regularly brings out its quarterly e-newsletter and monthly e-journal, which are disseminated all over the world among leading policy-makers and shapers, think tanks, universities, national and international organizations, prominent academia and other national and international eminent personalities to keep them abreast of the wide variety of credible research work being carried out by RIS on issues of critical importance to the developing countries.

Social Media

RIS has created and strengthened its own unique presence on the social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook and Youtube. The number of its followers is on the growth path. RIS Youtube is a verified channel and it is constantly updated on real time basis with uploading of latest video inputs covering various events organized by RIS. A wide range of its video recorded events

are available in its Playlist for easy access of viewers. In the recent past, RIS Youtube channel has recorded a 97% increase in viewership and 62% increase in its subscriber's base.



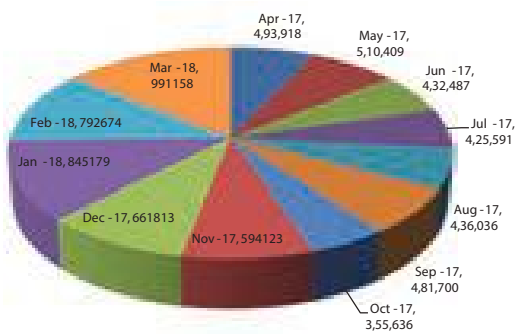
RIS Facebook and Twitter

RIS has more than 4k followers and its pages have been rated at 4.3 out of 5 on the basis of public opinion polls. Its Twitter handle has been verified and has around 3k followers. All major activities of RIS are spontaneously flashed on both these platforms for quick public access on real time basis and the response from viewers is highly encouraging.

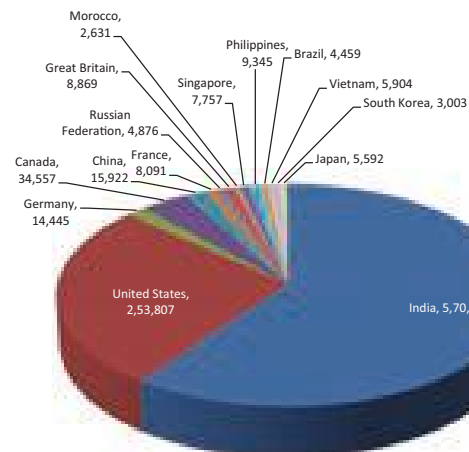
RIS Intranet Facility

For the first time in its history, RIS installed and operationalized its intranet facility for faculty and administrative staff. It provides password protected information to employees with regard to their service matters, including leave records, salary slips, medical reimbursements and other details. In addition, it also provides research databases for its Faculty which is available in CD format covering DOTs, CUSTADA, WDI, GFS, IFS, etc.

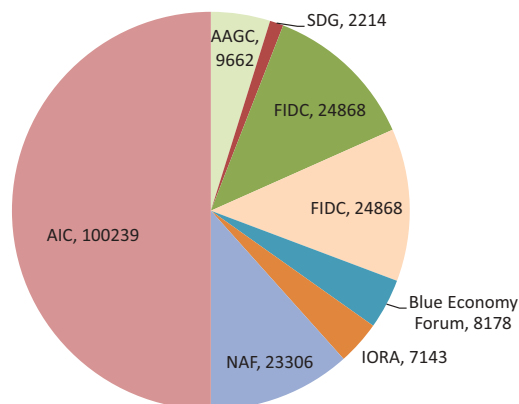
Statistical Hits in RIS Website FY2017-18



Hits by Countries in 2018



Hits in RIS Sub-Domains in FY 2017-18



HUMAN RESOURCE



Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General

Specialisation: International Economic Issues, Technology & Innovation and Development Cooperation

Faculty



Dr S. K. Mohanty

Professor

Specialisation: Global & Regional Economic Integration and Development Economic Issues



Dr Ram Upendra Das (on lien)

Professor

Specialisation: International Economics, Regional Integration and Development Issues



Dr Prabir De

Professor/Coordinator, AIC

Specialisation: International Economics, Trade & Transport Facilitation and Service Trade

**Dr Beena Pandey**

Research Associate

Specialisation: Social Sector, Gender Empowerment and Development Issues

**Ms Sunetra Ghatak**

Research Associate

Specialisation: Labour, economics, international trade issues

**Dr Sabyasachi Saha**

Assistant Professor

Specialisation: Technology & Development Economics and International Trade

**Dr Namrata Pathak**

Research Associate

Specialisation: Traditional knowledge

**Dr Priyadarshi Dash**

Research Associate

Specialisation: Macroeconomics and International Finance

**Ms Nimita Pandey**

Research Associate

Specialisation: Science policy

**Dr Amit Kumar**

Research Associate

Specialisation: Innovation, foresight, and S&T governance

**Mr Syed Mohammad Ali**

Research Associate

(till 30 September 2018)

**Ms Sreya Pan**

Research Associate

Specialisation: International trade

**Mr Sanjay Kumar Malik**

Research Associate

(till 16 May 2018)

Visiting Fellows/Consultants

**Prof T C James**

Visiting Fellow

Specialisation: Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)

**Prof Milindo Chakrabarti**

Visiting Fellow

Specialisation: Micro-economics, International trade, development cooperation and evaluation

**Dr T. P. Rajendran**

Visiting Fellow

Specialisation: Farm Health Management, Biosecurity and Biosafety
(till 31 December 2017)

**Dr K. Ravi Srinivas**

Visiting Fellow

Specialisation: IPRs and global trade



Dr P K Anand

Visiting Fellow

Specialisation: Economic growth and development



Mr Krishna Kumar

Visiting Fellow

Specialisation: Official statistics and SDGs



Dr Sushil Kumar

Consultant

Specialisation: International trade and finance



Mr Arun Somachudan Nair

Visiting Fellow

Specialisation: Foreign trade and investment



Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy

Consultant

Specialisation: International Trade, Foreign Direct Investment & Applied Econometrics



Dr Abha Jaiswal

Visiting Fellow

Specialisation: Public health policy and management



Mr Subhomoy Bhattacharjee

Consultant

Specialisation: Public policy, specially in energy

Distinguished Fellows



Prof Amitab Kundu

Distinguished Fellow

Specialisation: SDGs and methodology for impact assessment for regional cooperation



Mr Rajeev Kher

Distinguished Fellow

Specialisation: International trade and commerce

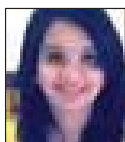


Mr Amar Sinha

Distinguished Fellow

Specialisation: Economic diplomacy and South-South Cooperation

Research Assistants



Ms Aastha Gupta
(till 30 September 2017)



Ms Shurti Khanna
(till 11 July 2018)



Mr Pratyush
(till 27 July 2018)



Ms Gulfishan Nizami
(till 30 April 2018)



Ms Sanura Fernandez
(till 30 September 2018)



Ms Monica Sharma
(till 31 December 2017)



Dr Jyoti Jaiswal
(till 6 December 2017)



Ms Upasana Sikri
(till 28 February 2018)



Ms Prativa Shaw



Ms Deepika Yadav
(till 31 May 2018)



Mr Vaibhav Kaushik



Mr Bhaskar Jyoti Kashyap
(till 16 February 2018)

Adjunct Senior Fellows



Prof Manmohan Agarwal

RBI Chair Professor, Centre for Development Studies, Kerala



Prof Haribabu Ejnazarzala

Former Vice-Chancellor-in-Charge, University of Hyderabad



Prof Mukul Asher

Professorial Fellow, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore



Dr Benu Schneider

Has held important positions, UN including UNCTAD. She was also Advisor at the Reserve Bank of India



Dr Amrita Narlikar

President, German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA)



Dr Anil Sooklal

Deputy Director-General, Responsible for Asia and the Middle East, Department of International Relations and Cooperation, South Africa



Dr Balakrishna Pisupati

Vice-Chancellor, Trans Disciplinary University, Bangalore

Adjunct Fellows



Dr Kevin P. Gallagher

Professor, Department of International Relations, Boston University; Senior Associate, GDAE, Tufts University



Dr Srividhya Ragavan

Professor of Law, University of Oklahoma College of Law, Norman



Dr Ramkishan S. Rajan

Professor of International Economic Policy, School of Policy, Government and International Affairs (SPGIA), George Mason University (GMU)



Dr T. P. Rajendran

Formerly Assistant Director General, ICAR and Visiting Fellow, RIS



Dr Suma Athreye

Reader, Brunel Business School, Brunel University, Uxbridge

Staff Members

Mr Mahesh C. Arora

Director (Finance and Administration)

DG Office (DGO)

Mr Tish Kumar Malhotra, Head, DG's Office

Mr N.N. Krishnan, PS

Mrs Ritu Parnami, PS

Ms Gohar Naaz, Secretarial Assistant

Publications Department

Mr Tish Kumar Malhotra, Publication Officer

Ms Shashi Verma, Consultant (Editorial)

Mr Sachin Singhal, Publication Assistant (Designing & Web)

Library and Documentation Centre

Mrs Jyoti, Assistant Librarian

Mrs Sushila, Library Assistant

Information Technology/Databases Unit

Mrs Sushma Bhat, Dy. Director (Data Management)

Mr Chander Shekhar Puri, Dy. Director (Systems)

Mrs Poonam Malhotra, Computer Assistant

Mr Satya Pal Singh Rawat, Jr. Assistant

Mrs Geetika Sharma, Data Entry Operator

Mr Soumya Ranjan, IT Assistant

Finance & Administration

Mr V. Krishnamani, Dy. Director (Finance & Accounts)

Mr D.P. Kala, Dy. Director (Administration & Establishment)

(till 30 September 2018)

Mrs Sheela Malhotra, Section Officer (Accounts)

Mr Harkesh, Section Officer

Mrs Anu Bisht, Assistant

Mr Surjeet, Accountant

Mr Anil Gupta, Assistant

Mr Piyush Verma, LDC

Mrs Shalini Sharma, LDC/Receptionist

Research/Secretarial Support

Ms Kiran Wagh, PA

Mr Surender Kumar, PS

Mrs Bindu Gambhir, Stenographer

Mr J. Srinivas Rao, Secretarial Assistant

Mr Baidnath Pandey, Office Assistant

Support Staff

Mr Satyavir Singh (Sr. Staff Car Driver)

Mr J.B. Thakuri (Staff Car Driver)

Mr Balwan (Daftri)

Mr Pradeep

Mr Raju

Mr Raj Kumar

Mr Manish Kumar

Mr Raj Kumar

Mr Sudhir Rana

Mr Birju

Mr Pradeep Negi

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



SINGH KRISHNA & ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants

8, Second Floor, Krishna Market, Kalkaji, New Delhi - 110 019

Tel.: Fax: 40690344, e-mail: sksacnmail@gmail.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Members of the General Body of

RESEARCH AND INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2018, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Receipt and Payment Account for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance and receipt and payment of the Society in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in India. This responsibility includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal financial control relevant to the entity's preparation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal financial control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Auditors' Report and Opinion

We report that:

- (i) we have sought and obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- (ii) in our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the Society so far as appears from our examination of the books;
- (iii) the Balance Sheet, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Receipt and Payment Account dealt with by this report are in agreement with the books of account;



- (iv) in our opinion, the Balance Sheet, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Receipt and Payment Account dealt with by this report comply with the applicable accounting standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India;
- (v) in our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said statements give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:
- a) in the case of the Balance Sheet of the state of affairs of the Society as at March 31, 2018;
 - b) in the case of the Income and Expenditure Account, of the surplus for the year ended on that date; and
 - c) in the case of the Receipt and Payment Account, of the receipts and payments for the year ended on that date.

for Singh Krishna & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Firm's Registration No. 008714C


(Krishna Kumar Singh)
Partner
M. No. : 077494

Place : New Delhi
Date : 05/10/2018



Research and Information System for Developing Countries
(A Society Registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860)

Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2018

Amount in ₹

	Sch. #	As at 31-Mar-18	As at 31-Mar-17
LIABILITIES			
Research and Development Fund	1	98,294,399.62	92,228,864.03
Fixed Assets Fund (Non - FCRA)	2	22,048,929.00	25,959,312.23
Fixed Assets Fund (FCRA)		7,327.00	166,436.00
Unspent Balance of Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA)	3	13,608,591.04	9,207,221.96
Unspent Balance of Sponsored Projects (FCRA)		11,684,900.84	8,326,856.23
Current Liabilities and Provisions (Non - FCRA)	4	32,435,356.00	32,173,566.77
Current Liabilities and Provisions (FCRA)		741,176.00	370,545.00
Total		178,820,679.50	168,432,902.22
ASSETS			
Fixed Assets (Non - FCRA)	5	22,048,929.00	25,959,312.23
Fixed Assets (FCRA)		408,623.00	5,460,017.00
Investment (Non - FCRA)	6	35,706,766.00	32,073,086.35
Investment (FCRA)		78,553,429.70	64,099,959.03
Amount Recoverable from Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA)	3	21,254,712.36	16,155,234.04
Amount Recoverable from Sponsored Projects (FCRA)		495,652.66	293,548.00
Current Assets, Loans, Advances, etc. (Non - FCRA)	7	11,742,101.32	11,045,685.80
Current Assets, Loans, Advances, etc. (FCRA)		6,611,466.46	13,546,069.77
Total		178,820,679.50	168,432,902.22

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts

16

Schedules 1 to 16 form an integral part of the accounts

As per our report of even date attached

for Singh Krishna & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Firm's Registration No. 008714C

(Krishna Kumar Singh)
Partner
M. No. 077494

Place : New Delhi

Date : 05/10/2018



for Research and Information System for Developing Countries


Mahesh C. Arora
Director (Finance and Admin.)


Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi
Director General

Research and Information System for Developing Countries
(A Society Registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860)

Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended March 31, 2018

		Amount in ₹	
	Sch. #	Year Ended 31-Mar-18	Year Ended 31-Mar-17
INCOME			
Grant-in-Aid from the Ministry of External Affairs, GOI	4(a)	82,302,589.00	67,673,303.00
Sponsored Projects Grant transferred to meet Programme Expenses (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	3	62,317,121.38	49,176,714.50
Surplus amount transferred on completion of Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)		4,157,669.14	595,109.01
Income from Royalty, Publications, etc. (Non - FCRA)		95,397.00	98,844.00
Interest Earned			
On Term Deposits (FCRA)		5,174,269.00	4,977,852.00
On Term Deposits (Non - FCRA)		1,324,460.00	1,658,816.00
On Savings Account/ Auto Sweep A/c (FCRA)		374,588.00	336,644.00
On Savings Account/ Auto Sweep A/c (Non - FCRA)		371,295.00	287,373.00
On Loan to Employees (Non - FCRA)		17,819.00	17,359.00
On Income Tax Refund (Non - FCRA)		26,061.00	27,901.00
Other Miscellaneous Income (Non - FCRA)		68,392.00	36,113.00
Recoveries for Overheads from Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)		1,098,441.00	2,586,569.00
Prior Period Income		193,511.00	221,214.00
Amount transferred from Fixed Assets Fund - W.D.V. of Assets Sold/ Written-off (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	2	23,745.00	4,176.00
Amount transferred from Fixed Assets Fund - Dep. on Fixed Assets Acquired out of Grant-in-Aid from the GOI/ Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)		8,314,510.25	2,569,426.97
Payable Written Off		272,583.00	-
Deficit transferred to Research and Development Fund		-	189,170.38
Total		166,132,859.77	130,256,186.86
EXPENDITURE			
Programme Expenses - Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	8	62,317,121.38	49,176,714.50
Establishment Expenses (Non - FCRA)	9	48,070,225.00	46,679,159.00
Administrative and Other Programme Expenses (Non - FCRA)	10	34,217,588.22	28,300,672.79
Administrative and Other Programme Expenses (FCRA)	11	153,030.39	170,733.39
Depreciation on Fixed Assets (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	5	13,206,799.25	3,380,293.97
Deficit amount transferred on completion of Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	3	1,997,467.94	2,529,536.21
Prior Period Expenses		105,087.00	19,074.00
Surplus transferred to Research and Development Fund		6,065,535.59	-
Total		166,132,859.77	130,256,186.86

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts

16

Schedules 1 to 16 form an integral part of the accounts

As per our report of even date attached


for Singh Krishna & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Firm's Registration No. 008714C


(Krishna Kumar Singh)
Partner
M. No. 077494

Place : New Delhi
Date : 05/10/2018



for Research and Information System for Developing Countries


Mahesh C. Arora
Director (Finance and Admin.)


Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi
Director General

Research and Information System for Developing Countries
(A Society Registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860)

Receipt and Payment Account for the Year Ended March 31, 2018

		Year Ended 31-Mar-18		Year Ended 31-Mar-17		Payments	Year Ended 31-Mar-18		Year Ended 31-Mar-17		Amount in ₹	
Receipts	Payments	Year Ended 31-Mar-18	Year Ended 31-Mar-17	Year Ended 31-Mar-17	Year Ended 31-Mar-17		Year Ended 31-Mar-18	Year Ended 31-Mar-17	Year Ended 31-Mar-17	Year Ended 31-Mar-17	Year Ended 31-Mar-17	Year Ended 31-Mar-17
A Opening Balances												
i) Cash in Hand (Non - FCRA)		33,130.00		19,891.00		A Expenditures (Non - FCRA)						
ii) Bank Balances						i) Establishment Expenses (Schedule - 12)						
iii) In Savings Account Andhra Bank		128,437.00		101,741.00		ii) Administrative and Other Programme Expenses (Schedule - 13)						
iv) In Savings Account/ Auto Sweep - Bank of India (Non - FCRA)		4,371,201.60		5,271,972.20		iii) Programme Expenses - Sponsored Projects (Schedule - 14)						
v) In Savings Account/ Auto Sweep - Bank of India (FCRA)		9,526,540.77		821,227.82		Total A						
vi) In Fixed Deposits - Bank of India (FCRA)		64,059,959.03		59,642,628.55		B Expenditures (FCRA)						
vii) In Fixed Deposits - Bank of India (Non - FCRA)		32,073,080.35		31,846,997.59		i) Administrative and Other Programme Expenses (Schedule - 14)						
viii) Postage Stamps - Balance in Framing Machine (Non - FCRA)		200,811.00		96,432.00		ii) Programme Expenses - Sponsored Projects (Schedule - 14)						
Total A			109,943,165.95		97,803,850.95	Total B						
B Grants Received						C Payment for Fixed Assets (Non - FCRA)						
i) From the Ministry of External Affairs, GOA		86,500,000.00		59,000,000.00		i) Payment for Fixed Assets (Non - FCRA)						
ii) From various Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA)		41,074,498.00		53,834,438.14		Total C						
iii) From various Sponsored Projects (FCRA)		27,548,750.29		16,520,017.70		D Advances and Deposits						
Total B			155,123,248.29		130,354,455.84	i) Advances (Non - FCRA)						
C Interest Received						ii) Advances (FCRA)						
i) Interest on Loans, Advances, etc. (Non - FCRA)		43,880.00		44,852.00		iii) TDS Receivable (Non - FCRA)						
ii) Interest on Savings Bank Account/ Auto sweep (FCRA)		374,988.00		335,644.00		iv) State Cheques (Non - FCRA)						
iii) Interest on Fixed Deposit Accounts (Non - FCRA)		2,795,670.00		612,717.78		Total D						
iv) Interest on Fixed Deposit Accounts (FCRA)		3,954,500.00		4,457,330.48		E Others						
v) Interest on Savings Bank Account/ Auto sweep (Non - FCRA)		368,798.00		282,741.00		i) Grants Refunded (FCRA)						
vi) Interest on Savings Bank Account - Andhra Bank (Non - FCRA)		2,527.00		8,632.00		ii) Service Tax Paid Amount paid to IISD President Fund						
Total C			7,540,339.00		5,738,917.24	Total E						
Total Carried Forward			272,826,751.24		242,897,223.24	Total Carried Forward						



Ur. K.

	Receipts	Year Ended 31-Mar-18		Year Ended 31-Mar-17		Payments	Year Ended 31-Mar-18		Year Ended 31-Mar-17	
	Total Brought Forward		272,606,751.24		342,887,223.34	Total Brought Forward		148,448,984.78		134,645,634.39
D Other Income						Closing Balances				
i) Publication Sales (Non - FCRA)	4,800.00			11,120.00		i) Cash in Hand (Non - FCRA)	41,382.00		30,130.00	
ii) Royalty (Non - FCRA)	65,969.00			80,207.00		ii) Bank Balances				
iii) Miscellaneous Income (Non - FCRA)	211,749.00			262,011.00		iii) In Savings Account - Andhra Bank (Non - FCRA)	38,818.00		138,437.00	
Total D			277,118.00		353,338.00	iv) In Savings Account / Auto Sweep - Bank of India (Non - FCRA)	7,610,981.37		4,371,201.80	
E Advances and Deposits						iv) In Savings Account/ Auto Sweep - Bank of India (FCRA)	3,170,177.46		9,026,540.77	
i) Recovery of Loan/ Advances (Non - FCRA)	236,805.00			76,206.00		iv) In Fixed Deposits - Bank of India (FCRA)	78,563,426.70		64,099,959.03	
ii) Advances Recovered from Staff (Non - FCRA)	142,916.00			118,144.00		iv) In Fixed Deposits - Bank of India (Non - FCRA)	35,705,765.00		32,073,086.35	
iii) State Cheques (Non - FCRA)	-			-		iv) Postage Stamps - Balance in Framing Machine (Non - FCRA)	185,222.00		200,811.00	
iv) Amount received in Advance (Non - FCRA)	107,066.00		956,924.00		281,169.10	Total E		125,305,786.48		105,943,165.95
v) Recovery of Loan/ Advances (Non - FCRA)	110,107.00									
Total E			956,924.00		281,169.10					
F Others										
i) Sale of Fixed Assets	73,899.00			500.00						
ii) Service Tax Received	-			708,341.00						
iii) Income Tax Refund	401,075.00		474,978.00	328,279.00						
Total F			474,978.00		1,037,070.00					
Total			273,955,771.24		244,985,890.34	Total		273,955,771.34		244,988,850.34

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts (Schedule - 16)

Schedules 1 to 16 form an integral part of the accounts

As per our report of even date attached

for Singh Krishna & Associates
Chartered Accountants
Firm's Registration No. 008714C

Singh Krishna & Associates

(Krishna Kumar Singh)
Partner
M. No. 077494

Place : New Delhi

Date : 05/10/2018



for Research and Information System for Developing Countries

Manish C. Arora

Manish C. Arora
Director (Finance and Admin.)

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi
Director General

‘Relationship with ASEAN Foundation for our Act East Policy’ – Smt. Sushma Swaraj



Hon'ble Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, delivering Keynote Address on ASEAN-India Partnership. (From left to right): Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Amb. Hardeep S Puri, Chairman, RIS; H.E. Mr. Ton Sinh Thanh, Ambassador of Vietnam to India; Shri Amar Sinha, Secretary (Economic Relations), MEA; and Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS.

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