

आरआईएस वार्षिक रिपोर्ट 2019-20



RIS

Research and Information System
for Developing Countries

विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली

RIS

Annual Report

2019-20

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Amb. Dr Mohan Kumar

Message from Chairman

This RIS Annual Report 2019-20 is being brought out at a time when the dreaded COVID-19 pandemic has affected all and spared none. The economic, societal and even political impact of this pandemic is still unfolding. Inevitably, the RIS has embarked on close cooperation with other like-minded institutions to look at possible ways by which countries of the Global South can cope with this unprecedented crisis. An entire Chapter in this report is devoted to the initiatives taken by RIS in this regard.

I am pleased to note that even during the lockdown the RIS has been vigorously pursuing its research agenda focused on different issues pertaining to: Indian G-20 Presidency in 2022, monitoring implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), South-South and Triangular Cooperation, Development Finance, Science, Technology and Innovation, Agriculture, promoting cooperation in the Health Sector, promotion of Traditional Medicine, Gender Issues, Climate Change and Science Diplomacy to name a few. The RIS mandate also includes looking at regional economic arrangements. In this context, the RIS work programme involves looking carefully at groupings such as IBSA, BRICS, BIMSTEC and ASEAN-India ties, with a view to assessing how India's interests are being served by participation in these fora. As the Report demonstrates, Africa and Latin America continue to occupy an important place in RIS research agenda. As always, a number of policy dialogues were held on various aspects of the RIS work programme with a considerable number of national and international stakeholders. The institution also came out with a large number of research publications for possible use by policy makers, academics and the research community itself. I hope this report will be of considerable interest to both researchers and to decision makers alike.

I take this opportunity to convey my sincere thanks to the Governing Council and the General Body for their encouragement and guidance in carrying out the research agenda of RIS. I would also like to thank the top officials of the Ministry of External Affairs for their invaluable support. I wish to compliment Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General and his team for their hard work and dedication in carrying out the RIS work programme. I have no doubt that the RIS will continue to strive to fulfil its fundamental mandate of promoting the interests of the Global South, in encouraging South-South cooperation and in sharing best practices relevant to the interests of the developing countries.

Mohan Kumar



Report of Director General

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi

This year again RIS successfully contributed towards strengthening the four pillars of its research and outreach activities covering themes like global economic governance and cooperation; trade, investment and economic cooperation; trade facilitation, connectivity and regional cooperation; and finally new technologies and development issues. The academic output and publications from the institute are largely shaped by its core competence and specialisation in the selected areas of trade, investment, finance, technology and broad development issues.

However, the year ended with COVID-19 gripping the world and triggering fear which overwhelmed the whole of humankind. At that time, the RIS-ITEC programme on 'International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP)' was just about to be concluded on 6th March 2020, when one of the participating members reported sick and panic gripped all of us. She was immediately admitted in the hospital for suspected COVID-19 infection. Fortunately for all, and thanks to the kind cooperation of our medical fraternity, she was extended medical aid expeditiously and her test report came negative bringing much desired relief. Thus, she and all other ITEC participants, went home safely on 9 March 2020. This was soon followed by the lockdown of the nation, state and all services, bringing to a halt all activities and RIS geared itself to face the unprecedented health, safety and socio-economic crisis.

Working from home, the faculty grappled with the new work situation while analysing the resultant global health and economic issues and the manner in which the whole world could join together at regional, sub-regional and multilateral levels to challenge the perils of the pandemic and come out with a viable action plan. During this period, a series of special issues of RIS Diary were launched, focusing on different dimensions of the pandemic. The first issue was prepared in March itself and came out in April 2020 and the others were planned for the coming months along with policy briefs on specific aspects of the COVID-19 challenges. The Annual Report also has a special chapter on the 'Active Role of RIS during COVID-19 Lockdown', covering details of our efforts in this direction.

Right at the beginning of the crisis, RIS faculty members started working on a range of issues based on their individual expertise to develop policy roadmaps, commentaries and undertake studies to explore the extent and implications of the crisis. These policy briefs were aimed at exploring policy options for economic recovery, reducing vulnerabilities and suggesting contours of global and regional cooperation. Accordingly, several studies were proposed to undertake issues covering macroeconomics, global pandemic response, pharmaceutical sector, trade multilateralism, science and technology, intellectual property rights, health sector reforms, traditional medicine systems, regional cooperation in BIMSTEC, support for Africa, etc.

Over the years, RIS has also been privileged to support various arms of the Government of India with policy research and inputs, and facilitate wider outreach of the Government (with the academic community and other stakeholders) through national level consultations and workshops. This year again, we have deepened our engagement with Government of India. Aligned with the national aspiration of a 'New India' founded on principles of inclusion,

Report of Director General

sustainability, self-reliance and knowledge, RIS has constantly supported developing countries on various international economic issues through research based inputs, capacity building and knowledge sharing.

RIS is committed to South-South Cooperation and has made efforts to develop new conceptual frameworks, notably the 'Development Compact' approach and the impact assessment metrics suited to the context of Southern countries. Our work in this area was again evident through the annual 'Delhi Process' hosted by RIS to connect global thinkers on these issues. Participation and contribution of RIS to the BAPA+40 process in 2019 have been significant in terms of further enriching the research programme. The subsequent pages provide details in this regard.

The year was full with challenges, particularly for think-tanks that have been focusing on multilateralism and trade related institutional architecture. The prevailing US-China tensions, disengagements and growing disconnect with development and sustainability dialogues as well as serious trust deficits have bothered all of us. Commentaries from RIS have reflected on this in details. As has emerged clearly, this has serious implications for developing countries given that trade and technology have been driving the 'rise' of the South in recent decades ushering resilience and dynamism across sectors and steady improvements in inclusive development outcomes. The list of publications in this report puts together RIS reflection in this regard.

In the face of muted global response to emerging challenges, there are lessons from South-South Cooperation that offer hope and optimism. In the process, RIS has been able to connect with several institutions globally and have demonstrated the range of possibilities and promises that institutions in the South hold for shaping and informing global processes. RIS has also been able to steer the debate on global public goods through its continued attention to issues pertaining to the SDGs and the imperatives of cooperation for inclusive and sustainable development at key global platforms like the G20, BRICS, BIMSTEC, among others.

Global Economic Governance and Cooperation

RIS is committed on all macro economic and sectoral dimensions that are critical to India's G20 Presidency in 2022. In the last couple of years, RIS has been associated with the Think Tank-20 (T20) process, contributing in areas of trade and investment, multilateralism, sustainable development and finance. In view of India's G20 Presidency, RIS has also been associated with the Ministries of External Affairs and other line ministries like the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Agriculture and others. RIS has also built partnerships with various other groups associated with G20 process, notably B20, S20, C20 and W20. Across international institutions and regional cooperation initiatives, RIS has focused on SDGs with regard to finance, technology, indicators as well as efforts on localisation. The studies undertaken contributed to the understanding of issues of relevance to the G20 process including technology, trade and trade governance, agriculture and food security, sustainable investment, migration, climate change, infrastructure financing, Fintech, universal healthcare, global public goods, illicit financial flows etc. with emphasis on developing country perspectives.

Studies have also been undertaken on economic cooperation initiatives like the SCO. RIS has come up with a comprehensive database on South-South and Triangular Cooperation. Under its research programme on SDGs, RIS have produced a report on localisation of SDGs in the North East India and a study on prospects of social stock exchange in India in line with the announcement made by the Finance Minister.



Report of Director General

Initiatives on Trade, Investment and Regional Cooperation

In keeping with the long standing expertise of RIS in bilateral and regional trade and economic cooperation, it has undertaken several new studies on bilateral trade and have analysed new regional cooperation arrangements and rise of continental FTAs in Asia, Africa and Latin America. These studies are particularly significant due to ongoing trade tensions between major trading powers of the world, collapse of multilateralism, emergence of new mechanisms like digital trade and rise in regional trade and global value chains, all of which have deep implications for participation of developing countries in the global trade. The growing interlinkages between trade and technology as well as issues of interest to developing countries in areas of subsidies, special and differential treatment (S&DT), regionalism and reform of the global governance architecture in trade shall be comprehensively studied as part of the forthcoming World Trade and Development Report 2020. RIS has also undertaken a series of studies on India's bilateral trade and economic cooperation with Iran, Bangladesh, Maldives and Afghanistan. Separate studies on expanding trade classification, quality control and standardisation of Indian System of Medicine (ISM) and herbal products as well as the Indian pharmaceutical sector have been undertaken. Key studies in terms of regional cooperation has focused on African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA), trade and investment linkages in BRICS, prospects of local currency for trade and prospects of financial technologies in BIMSTEC have been undertaken. An independent report on the contemporary dynamics of IBSA cooperation has been produced jointly by incumbent IBSA Fellows and RIS faculty.

Trade Facilitation, Connectivity and Regional Integration

The major dimensions for facilitating economic cooperation among countries supporting trade and investment flows are trade facilitation and connectivity. Trade and related infrastructure development need to be nested in regional integration initiatives that emerge out of contemporary needs, political partnership and willingness towards welfare of citizens connected through geography and shared aspirations. The key parameters in this direction are physical infrastructure for connectivity; border infrastructure, custom reforms, application of IT for export and import procedures, streamlining of documentation, etc. Based on the regional integration experiences, particularly the ASEAN it is emphasised that economic corridor or growth corridor approaches are efficient paradigms of regional cooperation. The key ingredients of this approach are: leveraging local resources, facilitating local industrialisation and export promotion, in efforts to create growth corridors that generate positive externalities for the participating countries. In this direction RIS has embarked on a series of studies and initiatives, notably the Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) and BIMSTEC. While AAGC covers all major sectors of cooperation, the studies on BIMSTEC touches upon trade, connectivity, Fintech, etc. as promising sectors of regional cooperation. Recently, RIS has also made efforts to comprehensively look into the possibilities of India-EU connectivity and cooperation.

New Technologies and Development Issues

RIS has been successful in considerably expanding its ongoing research, outreach and capacity building in this pillar of its expertise with significant footprint in policymaking and shaping of global narratives. The cornerstone of RIS research programme in this area covering both science policy and science diplomacy has been its unique framework of access, equity and inclusion in science, technology and innovation processes and outcomes. The sectoral priorities under this

Report of Director General

pillar include biotechnology, agriculture, public health, as well as emerging technologies in the fields of genomics, artificial intelligence, robotics, nano sciences among others. RIS closely works with the scientific ministries and departments of the Government of India, as well as with the relevant line ministries and more recently with the New and Emerging Strategic Technology (NEST) division of the Ministry of External Affairs and various Indian missions abroad apart from several international organisations. The additional focus of recent studies has been aligned with collaborative projects like PRODIGEES (Promoting Research on Digitalisation in Emerging Powers and Europe towards Sustainable Development); NewHoRRizon is a project on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI); the performance based innovation project (REWARD), etc.

Outreach and Capacity Building

Through the institutional initiatives such as ASEAN-India Centre, Global Development Centre (GDC), Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC), Forum for Science Diplomacy (FISD), Blue Economy Forum (BEF), Forum for Indian Traditional Medicines (FITM), RIS has been able to deepen its work programme and outreach at regional and global levels for exchange of knowledge and sharing development experiences for common benefits. In addition, RIS continued engagement through several initiatives, in partnership with other institutions for similar endeavors. They included South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS), BRICS Academic Forum, BIMSTEC Network of Policy Think Tanks (BNPTT), ASEAN India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT), Network of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST) and IBSA Academic Forum.

This year, the Institute could conduct the flagship ITEC programmes on 'Science Diplomacy', 'Learning South-South Cooperation', 'International Programme on International Economic Issues and Development Policy', 'Sustainable Development Goals' and 'Trade and Sustainability'. Apart from these, the Fourth edition of the 'RIS-EXIM Bank Summer School on International Trade Theory and Practices' was also organised alongwith a number of major programmes for fostering policy dialogues.

In our efforts we are being constantly guided by the Governing Council and the Research Advisory Council of RIS to broaden our vision and mission towards solution oriented research on a range of challenges that confront the country in the near and medium term both in the domestic as well as in the external front. I would like to thank Chairman, Dr. Mohan Kumar for his support and engagement and to Ambassador Sudhir Devare and other RAC members for their guidance.

We are thankful to the Government of India, particularly the Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, NITI Aayog, Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of AYUSH and other partner organisations, both at the national and international levels, for their support.

Thanks are also due to all colleagues in faculty and all sections of administration for their continuous support to take forward the work programme of RIS in various dimensions.



Sachin Chaturvedi

Chapter 1

Policy Research

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation

Could G20 support Global Reforms as well as Global Public Goods? RIS maps the graph on the axes of Development Cooperation and SDGs

Robust global economic governance frameworks are crucial for promoting trade, investment and development cooperation. At the global level, introduction of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide an overarching framework for visualizing future reforms required in development partnerships as well as South-South and Triangular Cooperation. In that respect, G20 plays a critical role in building discourses on reforms in global governance structures and institutions. The scope and coverage of the mandate of the G20 has widened significantly over the years from restoring order in the global economy and macroeconomic policy coordination to substantive development initiatives. With broadening of G20 mandate comes the newer challenges of financing and coordination which requires constant follow-up and careful assessment.

As part of its Global Economic Governance and cooperation pillar, RIS keenly follows the developments in G20. 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, infrastructure development, etc. RIS has been closely involved, in the last couple of years in undertaking a series of research studies, both short-term research papers as well as full research articles, to capture the global institutional framework on trade, technology and finance. Such studies provide evidence based analysis to generate deeper global partnership as well as identify the shortfall in multilateral and regional cooperation, keeping in mind the urgency to deal with development and

sustainability challenges as outlined in the SDGs.

Special emphasis has been given to regional cooperation in the neighbourhood as well as with Africa and effectively contributing to the deliberations at the G20 and the UN on some of the above themes in the framework of South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

In this section RIS engagement with the G20 process through the Think Tank 20 (T20) policy briefs across various themes; work programme on SDGs; and work programme on South-South Cooperation has been elaborated.

With broadening of G20 mandate comes the newer challenges of financing and coordination, as part of its Global Economic Governance and Cooperation pillar, RIS keenly follows the developments at G20.

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: Work Programme on G20

RIS T20 Policy Briefs

RIS has been involved in identifying priorities for India's engagement with G20 especially in the run up to assuming its Presidency in 2022. From that perspective, RIS faculty members have shown interest to focus on different dimensions of the G20. Like for previous G20 Summits, RIS is also engaged in providing inputs to

the T20 for the current Saudi Arabia G20 Presidency. It is a matter of great satisfaction that RIS has contributed Policy Briefs across different Task Forces of the T20, and has shown exemplary leadership in pushing India's interests and leadership on many global issues including other emerging markets and developing countries. RIS would

bring out modified versions of some these articles and others as 'RIS G20 Policy Brief Series.' The scope of the T20 policy briefs contributed by RIS faculty members and that of the other ongoing research studies broadly contributing to multilateralism with deeper ramification for the G20 process are presented below.

G20 Leadership and Relevance for SDGs Roadmaps of the UN

Technology and the G20 choices – RIS roadmap on the Evolving Agenda

Prof Sachin Chaturvedi and Dr Sabyasachi Saha

The UN led Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) as part of the Agenda 2030/SDGs and other similar initiatives like the LDC Technology Bank, Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN) of the UNFCCC; National Cleaner Production Centre Initiative; Green Industry Platform; Global Environment Facility (GEF); and the Green Climate Fund (the GCF) need to be strengthened manifold to make any meaningful impact. This cannot happen without financing mechanisms; need assessment, stakeholder participation and most importantly participation of relevant actors who make up for science, technology and innovation value chains that are strongly connected for creation and propagation of global public goods (that address public health, climate change, food security, watershed management, environmental pollution, etc.). The developed countries have special role in terms of facilitating the above agenda (through promoting appropriate global regimes and fulfilling desired ODA commitments), while developing countries should make extensive efforts at internalising technology driven approaches in development and sustainability interventions. Many countries in the developing world, like India, have already experienced large scale technology driven development transformations with policy lessons on pathways to overcoming longstanding access barriers.

The G20 should lead the action agenda for promotion of science, technology and innovation (STI) for SDGs

roadmaps at three levels:

- National efforts on SDG gap analysis and creating appropriate STI for SDGs roadmaps.
- Countries should support the UN and other agencies in drawing up concrete proposals at the global level for operationalising the TFM; and embedding flexible technology transfer clauses in all international agreements including in financing mechanisms of the multilateral development banks (MDBs).
- Countries should make efforts at helping each other through development cooperation in terms of capacity building, knowledge sharing, joint research, and indigenous STI and consolidate instruments of development partnership for the same.

Technology has to be leveraged in conjunction with innovative financing instruments to overcome formidable resource constraints in certain contexts.

In light of the limited time available till 2030, the UN has already reinforced a new Political Declaration in 2019 - "Gearing up for a decade of action and delivery for sustainable development". Also, given strong ownership articulated by G20 leaders in promoting STI for SDGs, it is important that this mandate is taken forward by member countries that have great influence on global governance architecture and the means of implementation (SDG 17) for operationalising the STI for SDGs roadmaps. Analysis of opportunities and challenges would inform and shape collective actions at the G20 in this regard.

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: **Work Programme on G20**

Trade to Invigorate Growth Dynamism in G20: Focusing on GVC and Technology Intensive Trade

Can developing countries leverage technology to trade more? – Yes they do!
An RIS agenda for G20

Professor S. K. Mohanty

The global experiences during the last seven decades indicate that products covered under GVC and technologically intensive sectors have the tendency of containing large segment of global trade and are also registering fast growth during the period of the economic recovery as well as during the period of global buoyancy. Trade in GVC and technology intensive sectors can spur with the 21st Century Regional Integration Agreements (RIAs), which are empowered with comprehensive regulatory framework along with tight Rules of Origin to combat trade deflection. Trade enabling environment is required to foster the process of slicing of a production process in a more fragmented manner with the objective of reducing the production cost, enlarging the scale of production, enhancing production network across the geographical boundaries and offering opportunities to local firms to become regional MNCs over a period of time.

Regional Integration

Agreements (RIA) could be an appropriate policy strategy to push production-trade nexus of Parts and Components (P&C) through combating trade deflection. For furthering production and trade of GVC products, several countries have resorted to pursue strategic 'industrial policies' and 'trade policies' simultaneously. Furthermore, trade in technology intensive sectors along with rise of regionalism in the Post-WTO period, is becoming

the driver of growth for many economies. Since the beginning of the new millennium, trade of the G20 member countries is becoming more technology intensive, particularly led by medium and high technology intensive exports. Technology intensive products are instrumental in turning terms of trade in favour of exporting countries and improving the level of margin from technology intensive products. Surge of trade through GVC and technology intensive sectors would be instrumental in breaking the Centre-Periphery hypothesis and is also like to promote intra-regional trade among G20 countries. Policy space is to be created to accelerate trade among these countries with most dynamic segment of trade. The model may further be extended to rest of the world to support economic recovery.

Country experiences indicate that GVC trade offers equal opportunities to participating countries which are at different levels of economic development.

The G20 forum assumes the responsibility of steering the world economy out of the global recession. With growing protectionism in the global economy, trade flow is slowly eroding in the face of weakening of the multilateral system. At this point, regionalism can come to the rescue by providing policy space for preferential

trade to evolve under the wider framework of global governance. Country experiences indicate that GVC trade offers equal opportunities to participating countries which are at different levels of economic development. Deliberate policy focus to induce G20 countries to move from low to high technology intensive trade would enable these countries to move out of the middle income trap.

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: **Work Programme on G20**

Energy, Water and Food Interconnects for Sustainable Food Security

Agriculture-Food-Water nexus and how G20 can help? – RIS responds

Dr P.K. Anand and Mr Krishna Kumar

In line with the global vision of G20 Declarations, right up to the Osaka Summit, and Agriculture Ministers' Declaration, Niigata, 2019 it is imperative to analyse the challenges, proposed strategies and actions to achieve sustainable energy and water management, global food security and improved nutrition. It would encompass measures including investments to adapt in the wake of climate change through use of emerging and advanced technologies and strengthening of global agro-food value chains, in a sustainable and inclusive manner. Focus would not only be on meeting the calorific needs and nutrition aspect but also to tackle increasing trends of overweight/obesity. The narrative would further cover optimum resource utilization, sustenance, sharing both on quality and quantity aspects and urgent mechanisms to harness these synergies and better traction to research institutions. Likewise, concrete actions for assured availability of usable water would be covered so that it doesn't become a binding constraint. Further, how the deepened G20 collaborations, especially through involvement of women and youth, in global spread of awareness, and new learnings to fructify STI initiatives in sustainable energy, water and agriculture would be among the strategies to be covered. With emphasis on the short and medium run strategies needed, the study is intended to cover the long-term pathways to gear up for what can now be termed as the 'Food Security for 11 billion (FS4XIb)', the global peak population projection by the UN. Moreover, as Water-Food-Energy-Climate synergy is a relatively new, emerging and thus incomplete framework, the availability of complete, relevant and duly disaggregated data needs to be addressed. It is thus proposed to steer towards scientific methods of data collection and dissemination from traditional or otherwise channels for adopting a suitable methodology.

Food security and nutrition and price stability of food commodities is well recognised by G20 forum as a critical issue to ensure economic stability. Moreover, holding of over three-fifth of global agricultural land and handling four-fifth of agricultural trade, makes it quite relevant for G20 countries. G20 organises meetings of Agriculture Ministers, Energy and Environment Ministers to impart traction to efforts towards energy, water, food and nutrition security, making it an area to analyse when climate change is aggravating it but new technologies throw opportunities to handle it.



A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: **Work Programme on G20**

Promoting Quality Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) flows for Sustainable Development

Rule Making for Sustainable Investment at the G20 – RIS Perspective

Mr Augustine Peter

FDI can be an important instrument for promoting sustainability. With the fast increasing recognition of sustainability objectives in the growth process there is an urgent need to ensure that FDI flows cater to, and act as a catalyst of, the sustainability objectives. While sporadic efforts have been made by certain countries, especially the European Union, to bring FDI flows under some level of supervision from the point of view of sustainable development, there is an urgent need for efforts at the global level, and an appropriate forum like G20 to evolve a consensus on such measures. The following proposals, inter alia, are worth looking at by the G20 countries: (i) Host country standards on sustainable investment have to be updated because it is normally not possible to impose higher than domestic standards on the investors. However, there is also need to specify sustainability standards for FDI, irrespective of domestic standards. The sustainability objective should be covered under exemptions (GATS Art. XIV (b)) for any trade restrictions on FDI that may be imposed; (ii) Rules that define the criteria to determine whether an economic activity is sustainable have to be adopted by G20 countries; (iii) Fiscal incentives to foreign investors have to be linked to the extent to which their investment conforms to sustainability standards; (iv) Home country Investment Promotion Agency (IPA) has

to be ready with a shelf of projects that are sustainability consistent; (v) Sustainable energy and infrastructure should be made available by host countries for FDI and host countries should preferentially treat FDI in sustainable infrastructure.

G20 Members account for two third of FDI outwards flows. The Group includes major home and host countries, both advanced and emerging. At Hangzhou, the Group adopted the Principles for Global Investment Policy Making. Sustainable development is the core goal of G20, and G20 is committed to align its work programme with sustainable development goals as enshrined in SDG 2030, as has been reiterated at various Summit meetings. Thus, undoubtedly G20 is the appropriate forum to build consensus on quality FDI flows that facilitate sustainable development.

**G20 is the appropriate forum to
build consensus on quality FDI
flows that facilitate sustainable
development**

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: Work Programme on G20

Common but Differentiated Migration Linked Strategies in G20

A Different People's Movement: Migration and G20 Response - An exploration by RIS

Professor Amitabh Kundu

The focus on migration in the G20 has evolved from being on internal security and remittances (which despite significant reduction in recent decades, is over twice the SDG target of 3 per cent) to larger development issues. Of the 260 million international migrants worldwide, 65 per cent reside in G20 countries. Despite a higher rate of growth of migrants in G20 countries in recent decades, their share in population remains small at 3.5 per cent. Interestingly, the median age of the migrant population in G20 countries has increased in recent decades and is projected to go up further. This is due to increase in youth migrating without their families. They have greater chance of being employed than the local population, which, in turn, creates tension in local labour market. Of the global refugee population of 26 million, 7.3 million made G20 countries their destination. Most of them, however, stay in poor countries within G20 or outside. The present policy brief would aimed to take stock of the changing trends and pattern of migration classified by categories, regions, and other socio-demographic characteristics, including age and gender. Furthermore, it would analyse the implications of migration in the developed and aging G20 economies vis-a-vis young, labour surplus less developed G20 economies, for making recommendations of sharing the financial burden in a fair and equitable manner, for incorporation in the 2030 Agenda. The interaction and collaboration between the migration and development policies have, at best, been tenuous at the global level. Global Compact for Migration, rooted in the 2030

Agenda for Sustainable Development, recognises the need to take stock of the trends and pattern of migration and their implications. This study would outline a system for undertaking this work, including monitoring the database.

Migration is a defining feature of development process, holding the key to achieving the SDGs. International migration can address demographic imbalances by matching the labour, surplus in countries of origin, with skills, needed in destination countries. Automation in G20 countries may reduce the long term need for international recruitment of low skilled workers

while 'digital labour migration' through outsourcing of tasks beyond national borders, can reduce actual migration. Biometric technologies can be used for restricting immigration through stricter enforcement of citizenship laws. This study would provide the framework of a research platform and database for facilitating decision making.

Automation in countries may reduce the long term need for international recruitment of low skilled workers while digital labour migration' through outsourcing of tasks beyond national borders, can reduce actual migration.



A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: **Work Programme on G20**

Tackling Climate Change and Economic Growth: Going beyond the UNFCCC

**Climate Change and G20 – Making Consensus Work: RIS
connects the dots**

Dr Bhaskar Balakrishnan

Current intergovernmental processes under the UNFCCC seem unlikely to meet the challenges posed by climate change and time is fast running out. Approaches that go beyond need to be explored. This includes increased actions by like-minded countries, and a variable geometry approach based on open ended groups of countries working together on issue they agree on. Encouraging actions by sub-national and local authorities within countries, and increasing cooperative actions with civil society could yield positive results, especially in countries where governments appear to be reluctant to act. There are many good practices that could be improved and shared. Measures to channel civil society concerns and frustration into constructive activity need to be devised. Climate change and actions to mitigate and adapt to it should not undermine the need for economic growth and development, including employment and incomes. At the scientific level, much greater work needs to be done on global climate models, so that the effects of rise in greenhouse gas levels on world temperature distribution and on climate events can be calculated more precisely. For example, the link between 450 ppmv of CO₂ equivalent and 2 degree rise

in global temperature is only a rough estimate and the science behind this needs to be improved. Improved climate models could greatly help with efforts to deal with extreme climate events. Much greater research and development needs to be done in the areas such as carbon capture and sequestration including direct air capture, solar photovoltaic cell improvement, and energy storage systems. Breakthroughs in any of these areas seem likely and could be a game changer, but investment needs to be stepped up.

The G20 accounts for 85 per cent of world GDP (nominal) and account for 81 per cent of global GHG emissions. They are the core of global efforts to combat climate change while meeting the requirements of economic growth and prosperity. Agreement in the G20 on increased research and development efforts for technologies crucial for meeting the climate change challenges, on policy measures to promote transition to lower emission economy while keeping in view the imperatives of economic growth, and on civil society engagement for climate change. Action would greatly strengthen global efforts to deal with climate change, and stimulate wider participation and support by the international community.

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: **Work Programme on G20**

Fintech Revolution: Opportunities and Risks in Developing Countries

Fintech Connects 'Finance' and 'Development' Agenda at the G20: RIS on Options for Developing Countries

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

For the past 20 years, G20 has advocated strong, resilient and compliant financial systems with adaptive supervisory and regulatory systems for sustaining the future of economic growth in the member countries and in the world economy. A major plank of G20 has been to promote orderly development of financial sectors worldwide including emerging Financial Technologies (Fintech) as well as to build coherent global regulatory frameworks. As growth of Fintech and Insurance Technologies (InsurTech) sectors can be efficiently aligned with key social and economic goals such as financial inclusion, women empowerment, promotion of small and medium enterprises (SMEs), skill development, etc., G20 must view Fintech as a priority sector and mobilise consensus among the member states and peer non-G20 developing countries through possibly a Task Force and Working Group on Fintech, particularly on industry dimensions, financial inclusion and regulatory framework. Since nature and scope of banking and financial transaction risks especially cyber risks arising from common third party service providers has amplified, the utmost public policy challenges for countries now are safeguarding data privacy, cyber security, consumer protection, fostering competition and compliance with anti-money laundering and combating financing of terrorism commitments. Since Fintech and InsurTech services mostly leverage on common third party service providers and involve massive exposure to cyber space, the risk of fraud, illicit financial flows and economic fugitive offences including cross-border transmissions is very high. G20 should take cognisance of the development potential of Fintech sector and work for promoting collaborations in preventing suspicious and illicit transactions.

G20 is known for its success in ensuring coordinated financial and macroeconomic stability after the global economic recession in 2008-09. Subsequently, G20 has advocated for sustainable financing mechanisms for achieving inclusive development in the world. G20 has also underscored the importance of technological innovations in various economic streams in manufacturing and services. Fintech that involve information and finance is in sync with G20 finance and development agenda.



A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: **Work Programme on G20**

Innovative Financing for Sustainable and Quality Infrastructure

How to meet Infrastructure Financing Gaps? RIS argues for bringing Innovation and Quality to the Forefront!

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Since infrastructure investments would continue to be a preferred policy tool for G20 and other economies of the world, the onus now is on exploring innovative financing. Conventional financing in the form of bank loans and concessional bilateral and multilateral loans cannot fully cover the entire gamut of financing. It would require innovations in terms of tapping conservative institutional investors like insurance companies, pension funds, etc. and idle household savings. Mobilising retail investors for funding infrastructure projects would necessitate awareness about returns to investments even though perceived risks associated with those investments are already high. Capital market instruments particularly local currency-denominated energy finance bonds, sustainable energy, resilient urban transportation systems, futuristic infrastructure assets, etc. would pave the way for financial innovations for mobilizing suitable and environment-friendly interventions for infrastructure development. The universe of innovative financing with an aim to promote quality and sustainable infrastructure may typically involve a basket of several instruments like land value capture, social impact bonds, green bonds, municipal green bonds, etc. Besides pooling untapped resources, the marketability of such instruments simultaneously would raise awareness about the adverse environmental and social impacts associated with the conventional model of infrastructure development. In that paradigm, the construction of new roads, railways, ports, telecommunications and digital connectivity assets and maintenance of those assets must factor sustainability, resilience and quality dimensions at the conception, design and implementation phases. Governments, firms and civil society entities in G20 countries need to incentivise the stakeholders in infrastructure development by prompting them to take ownership in developing sustainable infrastructure. By popularizing the practice of low-cost less carbon-intensive and less polluting

technologies and inculcating healthy production and consumption habits among the individuals and firms the governments in the G20 countries would be able to tackle the concerns of environmental sustainability and equity in development, maintenance and transfer of infrastructure.

G20 has been considering infrastructure development as field of regional and global priority. With adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Action Plan since Chinese G20 Presidency in 2016 and subsequent leaders' summits, infrastructure development has become an integral component of sustainable and inclusive development agenda for the world as a whole. New and innovative financing and partnerships are being explored to enhance G20 contribution to global public goods. Coupled with G20 focus on climate change, skilling & entrepreneurship and women participation, quality and futuristic infrastructure would unleash huge social and economic spin-off impacts in the coming years. It would not only strengthen existing G20 initiatives on infrastructure development but also help address specific connectivity challenges in the lagging regions. Digital economy and digital technologies in particular, e.g. artificial intelligence, big data analytics, cloud computing, block chain, etc. would be a big step towards ensuring financial inclusion and social empowerment. This would fit synergistically with the G20 call for balanced and inclusive development of the G20 countries and the world.

Conventional financing in the form of bank loans and concessional bilateral and multilateral loans cannot fully cover the entire gamut of financing.

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: **Work Programme on G20**

Accelerating Universal Health Coverage through Technologies

**Universal Health Coverage – G20 agenda at Crossroads:
A comprehensive rejoinder from RIS**

Professor T. C. James

Health care includes medical consultations, medicines, nursing, diagnostic services and diagnostic devices, surgical procedures and surgical equipments and monitoring. It will also cover preventive health care like vaccines. In the continuing fight with diseases, development of new medicines through research and development and clinical trials also play an important role. How can new technologies like gene therapy advance Universal Health Coverage (UHC), would have to be explored.

It would also involve an assessment of existing and emerging technologies in fields relevant to medical care. Some of them would fall under medicines and equipments and some under service and medicine delivery and some under monitoring of patients. How biotechnology, digital technologies, telecommunication and Artificial Intelligence can be effectively used to develop new products and making products and

services accessible to all will have to be examined. Another area where the new

technologies are going to play a very significant role is that of medical data management. In many countries, health care data needs much improvement to make it totally reliable and consistent. Digital and telecommunication technologies are likely to influence this greatly. The experience with past technologies has shown that while new technologies may be costly, over time they become cheaper and make products and services more affordable and accessible. A major concern in this regard will be that of ensuring easier transfer of locally relevant technologies to the needy. The Brief would explore various issues relating to technologies and affordable access to quality health care.

G20 countries belong to the group of generally advanced countries, both economically and technologically. Having a healthy world population is in the interest of both developing and developed countries. The issues of technology for health care are, therefore, of great relevance to the group as it would help governments, industries, and academic and research institutions in the member countries to reorient their policies and programmes in the light of the emerging scenario. This is particularly so in the case of R&D and service provision.

In many countries, health care data needs much improvement to make it totally reliable and consistent. Digital and telecommunication technologies are likely to influence this greatly.



A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: **Work Programme on G20**

Reforming Global Trade Governance through Dynamic Issue based Coalitions and Effective Regional Integration

Way out of Stalemate in Trade Governance: RIS inputs for G20 on coalition building

*Mr Rajeev Kher, Dr Sabyasachi Saha and
Mr Arun S. Nair*

The present global governance system, owing to several episodes of unwarranted delays, is inadequate to respond to specific proposals of importance to developing nations in various contexts including those related to technological disruptions. This has huge implications for continuing participation of developing countries at the multilateral organisations. Therefore, as a corrective measure, there is a need to formulate new dynamic and issue-based coalitions of the Global South to build effective mechanisms, institutions and capacities that boost the bargaining power of developing countries to protect and promote their interests. The ambition of every developing nation to form resilient coalitions with like-minded others will increase only when they have a higher stake in the economic pie, especially of their respective region. Therefore, regional integration can be a route to help developing countries in this regard. However, in order to ensure that regional integration happens in an effective and inclusive manner, it is important for global governance to be effectuated through a new federated structure that includes regional arms of multilateral/global governance organizations with powers to formulate and implement decisions concerning each

identified region. Such a delegated decision-making and enforcement approach would not only help in improving global policy coordination to mechanisms to capably address the above-mentioned challenges, but also generate greater buy-in from every region and country for global governance bodies and their norms. In order to help achieve this objective, there is also a need to establish developing world-based global NGOs as well as intergovernmental bodies to give policy inputs for multilateral/global governance organizations as well as to ensure compliance with commitments taken in global platforms like G20 that favor the developing world.

Being the grouping of 20 largest economies of the world, with representation (though inadequate) from the developing world as well, the G20 has enormous influence in global policy making. There is recognition across the world that challenges including those related to climate change, tax and health - earlier seen as sovereign functions - can now be taken on only through coordinated global measures. However, instead of a top down approach that is controlled by a few actors, there is a need to shift decision-making to an effective bottom-up method to make the multilateral/global governance system more inclusive and democratic.

There is a need to formulate new dynamic and issue-based coalitions of the Global South to build effective mechanisms, institutions and capacities

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: **Work Programme on G20**

Institutionalising a Governance Structure for SDGs in G20

Upholding Global Public Goods and Global Commons – Can G20 manage the poly-centricity? RIS offers insights on going beyond hierarchical governance

Professor Milindo Chakrabarti

The study aims to engage in developing an effective institutional structure that may be followed by the group of G20 members. Drawing on the experiences of platforms created for tackling the concerns about vaccination (GAVI), securing global peace (UN Peace Keeping Forces) and climate change (International Solar Alliance), providing technical cooperation (through Reverse Linkage by Islamic Development Bank), the proposed study would develop a generic institutional structure that opens up operational spaces for both state and non-state actors from across the developed and developing world to help provide Global Public Goods (GPGs) and conserve and protect GCs. The study would argue that these experiments are based on a premise of “polycentric governance”. The literature provides a lucid exposition of the idea of polycentricity. Where a polycentric governance system is characterised by an institutional structure where multiple “decision making centres take each other into account in competitive and cooperative relationships and are capable of resolving conflicts”. A polycentric arrangement of governance of operationalizing SDGs that goes beyond the traditional hierarchical mono-centric arrangements would be proposed as a new normal for governance for Agenda 2030.

G20 is the first effort at creating a grouping of countries that transcends the barriers of “developmental status” – developed and developing countries – outside the UN framework. The process of institutionalisation of its efforts in relation to Agenda 2030 in general, and development cooperation in particular, has also to capture the strengths and knowledge bases of the diverse partners to make it a robust one in delivering the desired outcomes. The study would help contribute in narrowing down the institutional gaps in conceptual and operational understanding of the potential of G20 to serve an effective role in ensuring that no one is left behind and in the process, provide the required GPGs while simultaneously protecting the GCs. A collective governance mechanism that emerges would also effectively contribute to the concerns about development finance. Given the fact that collectively “the G20 economies account for around 90 per cent of the gross world product (GWP), 80 per cent of world trade (or, if excluding EU intra-trade, 75 per cent), two-thirds of the world population and approximately half of the world land area”, such an institutional structure for governance, created at G20 level, would effectively influence the global initiatives towards spearheading and achieving the 2030 Agenda.



A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: **Work Programme on G20**

South South Cooperation in International Taxation

Pushing the agenda on Illicit financial flows: Institutional Efforts in the South and the role of RIS

Taxation issues including tax avoidance, tax evasion and tax base erosion are important policy challenges for the developing countries. In particular, international taxation issues with respect to digital economy, extractive industries, tax evasion by multinational enterprises, base erosion profit shifting, fugitive economic offenders, transfer pricing and illicit financing are complex necessitating cooperation among countries. In absence of any global body on international taxation, these matters often complicate decisions as different tax jurisdictions are subject to different national rules, regulations and legal frameworks. As developing countries are gearing up to meet Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, efficiency in domestic resource mobilisation and plugging leakages assumes priority for the countries. RIS has been working on development finance issues especially focusing on strengthening domestic resource mobilisation, reducing over-dependence on external funding and building institutional architecture for minimising leakages and preventing misuse of precious resources. Some of the above mentioned areas in international taxation are currently being studied at RIS. In this connection, RIS jointly organised the Third Annual Developing Country Forum with South Centre, Geneva on 'South-South Cooperation in International Tax Matters' in New Delhi on December 9-10, 2019 with an aim to stimulate ideas for innovative solutions and country preparedness.

RIS has been working on development finance issues especially focusing on strengthening domestic resource mobilisation and reducing over-dependence on external funding for minimising leakages.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

India would hold the next SCO Summit and related senior officials meeting. RIS has also been engaged in the SCO Process. The institute prepared a Report on '*India-Central Asia Partnership: Moving for Regional Development and Connectivity*', during the SCO Summit. Building further on this premise, RIS would provide inputs for the forthcoming SCO Summit and Senior Officials meetings. RIS jointly with the Uzbekistan Embassy in New Delhi organised a Roundtable Discussion on '*Uzbekistan-India: New Horizons of Strategic Partnership*'.

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: Other Studies

Services Trade in G20: Intra- Grouping Dynamics and Global Contributions

Dr Priyadarshi Dash and Ms Sabhya Rai

There exists huge untapped potential in services sectors particularly trade in new sectors like banking, insurance & financial services, digital economy, logistics, maritime services, among others. Services trade as such is evolving globally and it is believed that emerging and developing economies possess huge scope for services trade expansion. Lack of disaggregated bilateral trade data and gaps in data reporting by countries, a complete understanding of potential of services exports and imports are not properly estimated. However, the changes in trading behaviour enabled by e-commerce platforms like Amazon, Alibaba, Flipkart, Snapdeal, etc. indicate growth triggers in several services sectors. G20 being a dynamic international grouping can play a constructive role in promoting and governing services trade. The coverage of issues in G20 leaders' summits are not scant suggesting a huge knowledge gap in understanding services trade. Unlike goods, trade barriers in services are qualitative and varied across countries. This study attempts to examine the trends in services exports and imports within G20, the emerging patterns with respect to developing countries in G20, reflection of those trends and patterns in G20 summits and official tracks, and the role of G20 as a market for global services trade and rule-making. Besides mapping the evolving trends, trade barriers and policy issues in services trade, the study empirically examines the factor that determines the services flows between the G20 countries.

Agriculture in G20 - Assessment of Priorities and Commitments from Developing Country Perspectives

Dr Priyadarshi Dash and Ms Shreya Kansal

Agriculture is an important priority sector for G20 especially for the G20-developing countries. Trade in agricultural products and related policy-making has been quite complex at the global level. In view of no fresh round of multilateral trade negotiations by the WTO, plurilateral routes are increasingly being explored for negotiation on agriculture trade. In absence of any global frameworks for agricultural trade, one would expect G20 to take up agriculture trade issues seriously. With this motivation, this paper examine whether agriculture has got due importance in G20 process. G20 leaders' summits and agriculture ministers tracks are studied in depth to decipher the range of issues that G20 has prioritised over the years and how consistent are those in line with contemporary challenges faced by the world and the developing countries, in particular.

Mapping of G20 Health Ministers' Resolutions and Outcomes from previous G20 Meetings

Professor T. C. James

This is a study being undertaken as part of RIS knowledge partnership with the World Health Organisation (WHO) for the organisation of the

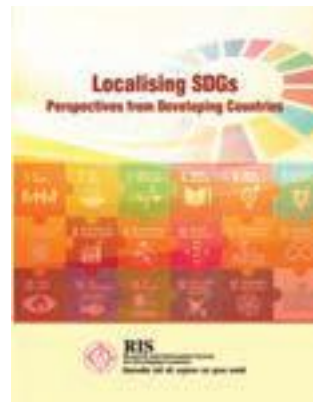
WHO Global Conference on Access to Medical Products in November 2020. It would map and analyse the various declarations made by G20 health ministers in the G20 forum.

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

North Eastern Region of India and SDGs

*Professor Sachin Chaturvedi,
Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Dr P. K. Anand,
Mr Krishna Kumar, and Ms Pratiba Shaw*

In view of Government of India's keen interest in fast-tracking development of the North Eastern Region of India comprising of eight states under a holistic paradigm that connects with India's Act East Policy, RIS has devoted substantial focus under its SDGs work programme to work on Localisation of SDGs in the North Eastern States of India. In the process RIS is actively working with several State Governments, Local Agencies and other Stakeholders. RIS is tracking progress of SDGs in the North Eastern states and supporting institutional mechanisms in this regard. RIS was nominated as a knowledge partner by the NITI Aayog for the 'SDG Conclave 2020 on Partnerships, Cooperation and Development of the North Eastern States' from 24-26 February, 2020. On this occasion RIS had been entrusted to prepare a detailed Report on 'North East and SDGs – Partnership, Cooperation and Development'. The RIS Report took up the following themes: State Initiatives and Localisation of SDGs; Drivers of Economic Prosperity and Sustainable Livelihood; Climate Adaptive Agriculture and Diversification; Nutrition, Health and Wellbeing; Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Communication, Connectivity and Infrastructure Development; and Financing of SDGs. The Report also makes specific recommendations for the action programme for promoting of development of NER.



**Localising SDGs Perspectives
from Developing Countries**

Recent RIS publications such as volume on SDGs published by Springer and the report on SDGs and North East bear testimony to these efforts

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

STI for SDGs

National Innovation System and the New Technology Paradigm: RIS leads the way in documenting India's leadership in STI for SDGs

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr Bhaskar Balakrishnan, Dr P. K. Anand, Mr Krishna Kumar, Dr K. Ravi Srinivas, Dr Sabyasachi Saha, and Dr Kapil Dhanraj Patil

India was among the leading countries that strongly pushed for the introduction of a Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) as part of the Agenda 2030 (the Sustainable Development Goals-SDGs) back in 2015. The deliberations on the TFM have entered a crucial stage with the introduction of the Global Pilot Programme on STI for SDGs Roadmaps by the UN in 2019. Given significant success in realizing the broad-based and transformative development agenda aided by STI, Digital India, Swachh Bharat, Ayushman Bharat to name a few, under the leadership of the Prime Minister since 2014, India has now volunteered to be one of the five pilot countries for the Global Pilot Programme. The Global Pilot Programme on STI for SDGs Roadmaps has also received strong and collective support of G20 leaders.

RIS core competence on Science, Technology, and Innovation - STI policy (covering emerging and new technologies, innovation policy, systemic issues, IPRs, science diplomacy, 'access, equity, inclusion - AEI', 'scientific social responsibility - SSR', technology governance issues, etc.) as well as on SDGs (covering thematic issues under specific SDGs, national strategy, state level implementation and localization, global public goods, regional/South-South and Triangular Cooperation issues, and indicators) offers opportunities for undertaking extensive work on various dimensions of STI for SDGs. STI was identified as a key means of implementation of the SDGs, which has gained increasing attention as a valuable tool for sustainable, resilient and inclusive development. Starting with development backlogs, imminent adverse impact of climate change to present day crisis deepened by unprecedented spread of the novel coronavirus pandemic, global community has resorted to STI. With prolonged public health emergency in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, SDGs would need sharper focus and even greater use of STI as a means to optimise resources and reach the last mile. Emerging evidence from India is robust in this regard and offers several lessons on intelligent use of STI for development and inclusion, disaster preparedness, and sustainability.

India's participation in the Global Pilot programme on STI for SDGs Roadmaps is being steered by the Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA) to the Government of India as the nodal agency from India in close collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs as well as the NITI Aayog. Both Japan and EU have extended their support for the programme. Multilateral agencies like World Bank along with UN-DESA and others would be working closely as part of the Inter Agency Task Team (IATT) on TFM as originally put together by the UN. India is working very closely with Government of Japan to take this initiative forward. PSA has nominated RIS as their knowledge partner in this exercise.

The Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser and RIS have signed an MoU towards participation of India in the 'Global Pilot Programme on STI for SDGs Roadmap', being actively facilitated by UN-DESA along with the World Bank. The roadmap preparation would require a variety of inputs from the state and the central government agencies and departments, including various schemes addressing the SDGs, budgets, outcome budgets, performance indicators, impact analysis, etc. RIS would be the knowledge partner for the Office of the PSA in developing the national STI for SDGs Roadmap. This would entail: building ecosystem of institutions and processes for STI-SDGs in India, using *inter-alia*, indicator specific technology scenarios; mapping technologies, resources and capabilities, which are aligned with the ecosystem for achieving SDGs through STI interventions, and to develop the 'STI for SDGs' roadmap for the country; identifying gaps across targeted sectors at national level and propose strategies; assessing the absorptive capacity and technology transfer and dissemination capability of India, as a technology recipient and as a technology provider, respectively; identifying and categorizing technologies which would be used in the context of Technology Facilitation Mechanisms (TFMs); assessing the applicability of the given sectoral/ goal specific interventions for other goals and sectors; and examining the positioning and role of international agencies, in contributing to achieve SDGs related to targeted sectors.

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Exploring Ways to Gender Empowerment and ensuring Gender driven approach on SDGs Global and National Perspectives

Dr Beena Pandey

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

In that context, the study would explore the 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 would be effective and usable for monitoring the status of women. It would also aims to examine the existing legislations affecting/ relating to women in order to harmonise to enhance their effectiveness and additional legislative measures or amendments to be taken up on the emerging needs. It would also consider the possible ways to facilitate the effective convergence among different Ministries, undertakings, local bodies etc. to recognise and value unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies.

Moving Towards SDG 3: Role of Traditional Medicine

Professor T.C. James, Dr Namrata Pathak and Mr Apurva Bhatnagar

The study would examine the Role of Traditional Medicine in the efforts to achieve Sustainable Development Goal No. 3 "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all stages". It would be done from a global perspective and is intended to bring out Indian Systems of Medicine's relevance in the modern health care and wellness programmes. The broad areas that would to be discussed include issues relating to quality and standardisation of TM products, Innovation and intellectual property in TM, Integration of Traditional Medicine in general health care, international cooperation and health diplomacy in Traditional Medicine.

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Partnership for SDGs (SDG 17): Resource Mobilization, Localisation and Social Enterprises

Moving from Quantity to Quality: RIS agenda on Innovative financing and Means of Implementation of the SDGs

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Ms Pratibha Shaw, Mr Arun S. Nair

RIS has recently looked at innovative and outcome based financing of SDGs, particularly in partnership with philanthropic agencies, the private sector and the civil society organisations. In several countries, the public sector would need substantial support from the private sector to bridge the funding gap. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) for Financing for Development (FfD), lays down the framework for financing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The AAAA places multi-stakeholder partnerships at its core to pool resources and knowledge from the private sector,

philanthropy and foundations, and the larger civil society. The growing interest in this emerging area of social entrepreneurship is owing to its unique feature, where investments can be made to generate a positive impact and at the same time operate on a viable commercial model. To leverage private sector financing for the social sector, beyond CSR, the Government of India also mooted the idea of a Social Stock Exchange. RIS has recently published a comprehensive policy document, with global comparisons, on prospects of Social Stock Exchange, Social Enterprises and Social Incubators in India.

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Impact of Covid-19 on Working Women in Indian Perspective

Dr Beena Pandey

At present, the world is facing gruesome effects of COVID-19 pandemic. Men, women, elderly and even children are not untouched by the serious implications of this pandemic. Lakhs of people across the world have lost their lives due to this corona virus because of the non-availability of any authentic medicine or vaccine.

Under these unprecedented circumstances, females have been more affected in bearing the brunt of COVID-19 sharing dual responsibilities, especially working women, of managing work at home and work from home. In this an attempt would be made to analyse the present status of female employment and their contribution in the different sectors of the economy. Further, it would also throw light on the women's dual responsibility of working from home and work at home in terms of doing household chores and discharging organisational responsibilities while facing challenges and opportunities. It would also throw light on Government's intervention in this regard.

Leveraging Industry 4.0

Localising SDGs and Leveraging Industry

*Professor Sachin Chaturvedi,
Dr Sabyasachi Saha and
Ms Prativa Shaw*

Availability of technologies would greatly influence the course and pace of achieving the SDGs globally. Technological change of an intense kind hitherto unheard would drive economic systems and define future infrastructure. Such changes appear disruptive in the short run and seem to follow a non-linear trajectory of evolution. The emerging need from the concerns of sustainability and resilience as well as new aspirations would further fuel disruptive changes in the realms of technology. The idea of the Industry 4.0 is triggered by this pattern of technological change where we see 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. 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 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. A research article on SDG 9 published as a chapter in the volume on SDGs produced by RIS and published by Springer captures some of India's priorities in this direction. The other important ongoing research issues in this area include:

- Assessment of indigenous innovation capability and preparedness for Industry 4.0;
- Designing 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;
- Self-reliance and Domestic hardware (including in electronics) manufacturing capabilities with regard to Industry 4.0 devices;
- Assessment of high-technology trade in related products.

A. Global Economic Governance and Cooperation: South-South Cooperation and Global Aid Architecture

RIS Database on India's Development Cooperation

The Making of a Database on Development Cooperation: RIS's unique and pioneering efforts

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr Sushil Kumar, and Ms Aditi Gupta

The main features of this database is that it covers the all modalities of development compact as like capacity building (deputation of experts, training programme in host country, scholarships, third country training, deploying volunteers, conducting feasibility studies and prototype production and training centre), grants (grant in cash, grant in kind, debt forgiveness and humanitarian assistance), concessional finance (line of credits, buyer's credit), trade & market access (duty free tariff preference scheme, infrastructure improvement for trade facilitation, trade promotion and trade support services, providing business facilitation services, assistance for improving regulatory capacity, providing investment fund and developing intra regional supply chains) and technology transfer (technical cooperation, joint scientific and academic research, turnkey projects subsidising licensing or exemption from IPR arrangements, technology transfer with or without component of capacity building). Database covers the bilateral flow as well as multilateral flow. It also covers the flow of India's development cooperation ministries wise and sector wise and India's development cooperation with regional institutions. The time period of this database is from 1947 to till date.



South-South Ideas – South-South Cooperation – A Theoretical and Institutional Framework



Global Issues and Local Actions in South-South Cooperation Reflections from Participants

Database on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Professor Milindo Chakrabarti, Dr Sushil Kumar and Ms Aditi Gupta

The main features of this database is that it covers the modalities of South-South and Triangular Cooperation as like trade and investment, loans and concessional finance, grants, technology transfer and humanitarian Assistance. This database also covers the sector-wise data on South-South and Triangular cooperation.

RIS Database covers the bilateral flow as well as multilateral flow.

It also covers the flow of Indias development cooperation ministries wise and sector wise

B. Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation:

From Regional Trade to Continental Economic Engagements: RIS research makes rigorous analytical contributions to policymaking

Trade and investment pillar has been focusing on regional trading arrangements, continental economic engagements and specific sectoral studies. RIS work programme captures the sensitivities with respect to India's varied economic and strategic interests in different regional groupings. This pillar covers research programmes on India's economic relations with South Asia, ASEAN, Africa, Central Asia/SCO, BRICS, IBSA and Latin America. Given the recent dynamism in African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) and Central Asia/Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), RIS has initialed specific thematic studies on India's potential engagement with these two regional economic communities. Four studies are ongoing to study India's comprehensive bilateral economic

relationship with South Asia with respect to trade and investment especially trade in services, namely Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Iran and Maldives. Further, with Bangladesh and Iran, the possibility of formal economic arrangement such as PTA/CEPA is being studied in depth against the backdrop of present impasse in the South Asian region. Besides research studies, fellowship programmes for IBSA and BRICS provide opportunity to young scholars to study the scope of deeper economic cooperation between India and these regional groupings. Under financial sector cooperation, some studies have been undertaken to examine the issues of trade finance, local currency use, currency swap arrangements, exchange rate management, fintech, digital and crypto-currencies.

World Trade and Development Report (WTDR) 2020

RIS Faculty

Trade and development constitute an important area of RIS research since its establishment four decades back. In this endeavour, RIS has been bringing out its flagship publication, World Trade Development Report (WTDR) at regular intervals capturing important developments in global trade landscape, issues affecting stakeholders and the opportunities and challenges for the developing countries. The key theme for WTDR 2020 is 'Trade, Investment and Technology'. The motivation for this focus is to understand the impact of fast moving frontiers of technology on patterns of trade and what it entails for comparative advantages, competitiveness, rule-based trade order and gains from trade. The scope of the report emerges out of the fact that while trade has enhanced the chances of convergence of incomes, disruptive technologies may lead to widening of capability gaps and

hence inequalities unless trade is leveraged for equitable gains. This is shown up in increasing tendencies among countries to shun rule-based trading system to promote technology-led oligopolies through arbitrary barriers and concerted efforts at weakening competitiveness building in a large number of trading nations. While developing countries have been able to enhance technology intensity of their trade, harmonised rules, unscientific norms erroring on the side of the technology laggards, capital flows, digital trade etc. have un-synergistic impact on welfare of countries through labour market effects, production capacities, and scope of value generation. Besides the thematic focus, the Report would have sections on trends in goods trade, services trade, tariff and non-tariff barriers, progress in trade facilitation, special and differential treatment and the functioning of WTO and multilateral trading system.

WTDR 2020 assesses the impact of frontier areas of technology on trade, captures stylized trends in trade in goods and services, examines export competitiveness, analyses NTMs, and discusses reforms of multilateral trading system.

B. Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation: Bilateral Cooperation

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

Prof S.K. Mohanty

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 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 liberalisation since they have signed a bilateral trade agreement and an 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 studies funded by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, focus on India's comprehensive bilateral economic engagement with Iran, Bangladesh, Maldives and Afghanistan. The objective is to examine the current level of bilateral economic engagement of India with the four South Asian economies in trade and investment and to identify the key areas of cooperation in the future. In particular, the key areas of analysis would include trends in exports and imports, trade potential, export competitiveness, long term import interests, tariffs, NTBs, trade diversification, competition from third country, margin of preference, FDI and the possibility of negotiation for EHS, PTA, FTA, CEPA, etc.

Empirical Assessment of Non-Tariff Measures

Quantitative assessment of Trade Barriers: A Methodological Innovation from RIS

Professor 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, significant levels of contradictions exist 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 techniques. As NTMs are important trade policy instruments for bilateral and regional trade agreements, it is imperative to highlight various aspects of NTMs in a single study which would be handy for the policymakers, students and ordinary users of trade data. Although most 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. Updating the NTM Databases is being done to initiate studies on empirical assessment of impact of NTMs on trade.

E-commerce Issues at WTO

Digital Technology has acquired the center stage in the global trade discourse. It is manifested in different ways such as the proposal on permanent moratorium on electronic transmission and constitution of Plurilateral Group on e-commerce in the WTO Ministerial Meeting at Buenos Aires. Recently, India also came out with a draft e-commerce

Policy in order to create a regulatory and developmental profile in a rapidly rising sector. The role of data and the related opportunities and challenges continue to engage our attention. Thus, there are several issues in the realm of digital technology, which need the attention of policy makers and experts globally. These include Moratorium

on Electronic Transmission; Data Opportunities and Challenges; and India's Draft e-commerce Policy and lack of preparedness of developing countries to take full advantage of opportunities inherent in e-commerce. It is in this context that RIS brought out the present report on E-commerce Issues at the WTO Discussions.

B. Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation: Bilateral Cooperation

Task Force for Expanding Trade Classification, Quality Control and Standardization of ISM and Herbal Products

Competitiveness, Self-reliance and Trade – Setting the High Ambition for Indian Pharma and Traditional Medicine Sectors: RIS launches dedicated research programme

Professor S.K. Mohanty, Shri Rajeev Kher, Professor T.C. James, Dr Namrata Pathak, and Mr Apurva Bhatnagar

In the absence of appropriate HS trade classification, monitoring of trade in traditional medicine products is incomplete and misleading. Although the World Customs Organisation (WCO) allocates new HS codes from time to time based on volume of global trade, the number of products allocated for Traditional Medicines (TM) and Medicinal Plants (MP) are less in number (mostly 6 digit) mainly due to lack of pressure from the countries which are associated with this sector. In order to fill this critical gap, a Task Force was set up by the Ministry of Ayush to work with FITM based at RIS for recommending various HS National Lines to include ISM Products, Herbal Products and Medicinal Plants; Deliberate and wherever necessary recommend need for mandatory

standards for ISM Products, Herbal Products and Medicinal Plants; and also recommend ways for ensuring quality and traceability of ISM Products, Herbal Products and Medicinal Plants. The final report of the Task Force suggesting certain new HS classifications for AYUSH products has been submitted to the Ministry of AYUSH.

FITM at RIS recommends new HS classifications for AYUSH products.

Public Policy and Economic Development: Case Study of Indian Pharmaceutical Industry

Mr Rajeev Kher, Professor T. C. James, Dr Dinesh Kumar and Dr Deepika Chawla

India is a global player in supply of generic drugs and its pharmaceutical industry has witnessed significant growth and diversification in recent years. The pharmaceutical sector could play a critical role in India's industrialisation and economic development process. In view of this strategic importance, a study has been initiated to examine the public policy importance of the pharmaceutical sector for economic development. This study aims to analyse various policies adopted for the sector, performance of the sector in terms of manufacturing and trade, overall impact on economy, PSUs, S&T, FTAs and BIPAs including the AYUSH sector. The study would be completed by February 2021.

B. Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation:

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

Professor T.C. James

Given the complexities around geographical spread and scale of collection and cultivation and the exiting lack of traceability or data on the movement of goods along the value chain, an in-depth study of 25 medicinal plants requires substantial time

and resources. Initially the study would focus on five most critical medicinal plants identified by the Task Force, with each medicinal plant's value chain to be analysed in its entirety while focusing on the need for intervention at one or more junctions. The field studies have been completed and the report is being prepared.

Dynamics of IBSA Development Cooperation,



Trade Integration in Post-AfCFTA Africa: An Assessment

Dr Priyadarshi Dash and Ms Sonal Garg

The scope of India-Africa economic relations is changing as Africa has embarked on a continent-wide free trade agreement, the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA). In general, Africa is undergoing silent transformation in the realm of trade & investment, industrialisation, infrastructure & connectivity, services and digital economy, and so on. FDI flows to Africa have also increased significantly over the years, and there is a growing perception that

with political stability and predictive macroeconomic policies Africa may witness a gracious economic turnaround soon. Many envisage AfCFTA a step in that direction. This study assesses the current state of trade integration in the region and the promise that AfCFTA offers to the people of Africa. By employing a mix of descriptive and econometric techniques the paper attempts to examine the stylised patterns observed in trade in goods and services, and the roadmap evolving for deeper engagement between India and African countries in the post-AfCFTA era.



B. Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation: **BRICS** and **IBSA**

BRICS and IBSA

RIS leads initiatives for Economic Cooperation for a multi-polar World Order

India is actively involved in pursuing economic cooperation with partner countries in BRICS and IBSA. Both the groupings being developing country initiatives have assumed specific importance for India's economic diplomacy. RIS has been working for past several years on BRICS and IBSA issues as part of its 'Trade, Investment and Regional Integration' pillar. The work programme on BRICS and IBSA broadly comprises of research studies on different sectors of cooperation, fellowships to young scholars from the member countries, and organising conferences and seminars of the academic forums as a lead institution from India. IBSA and BRICS Academic Forums organised by RIS in the past have been widely disseminated through different publications.

Evaluation of the impact of IBSA Fund on capacity building and empowerment is key for realisation of SDGs

Mapping and Analyzing BRICS Health Ministers' Resolutions and Proposals regarding Regulatory Mechanism in Healthcare

Prof T C James

Health care sectors in BRICS countries are growing and witnessing rapid regulatory changes. These changes have far-reaching implications for pharmaceutical industry as well as for policy making in health care sectors. In this regard, mapping of BRICS Health Ministers' resolutions and proposals is necessary. This study has been undertaken as part of RIS knowledge partnership with WHO for the organisation of the WHO world conference on access to medical products. In this study the health policy resolutions in the BRICS forum would be analysed.

Overview of IBSA Fund

Dr Beena Pandey

Since its inception in 2004, IBSA has spearheaded a unique model of cooperation and partnership among three leading developing countries representing three different continents. IBSA Fund that became operational in 2006 supports projects on a demand driven basis through partnerships with local governments, national institutions and implementing partners. Till date with a cumulative contribution of US\$37.3 million, the Fund has partnered with 21 developing countries and has implemented 33 projects. Annually, each member country of IBSA contributes US\$1 million to the Fund to be used for poverty alleviation projects in developing countries. To evaluate the IBSA Fund, the paper would discuss in detail the various ongoing and completed projects 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.

B. Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation: India-Africa Forum

IBSA Fellowship at RIS

RIS work programme has diversified significantly over the years. Besides in-house research, RIS maintains constant networking with partner institutions in other two member countries. For wider dissemination and awareness of IBSA, IBSA Fellowship was launched in 2017 with support from MEA. Two Research Fellows from Brazil, one from South Africa and two from India have participated in the past batches of this fellowship. The second edition of the IBSA Fellowship was launched in February 2019 with participation of Research Fellows from South Africa, Brazil and India. A volume compiling the papers prepared by the Fellows has been finalised.

Asia Africa Growth corridor
promotes people-friendly
South-South and Triangular
Cooperation

India-Africa Forum Summit

**India-Africa Partnership and engagement with
Africa's ambitious Economic Cooperation
Agenda: RIS research and policy guidance**

India-Africa relations have improved considerably in the recent years with intensification of diplomatic and economic engagements between India and several African countries. The 23 visits to Africa at the level of President, Vice President and Prime Minister during 2014-2018 and the commitment to open 18 new Indian Missions in Africa over the period 2018-2021 reflect this renewed focus. During visit to Uganda in July 2018, Prime Minister Modi underlined the 10 Guiding Principles for intensifying and deepening engagement with Africa which could form the basis for the futuristic trade and investment relations between India and African countries. Moreover, India's development cooperation efforts to the African countries have diversified over the years including several Lines of Credit (LoC), technical assistance, human resource sharing, and other forms of project support. India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) has been an institutionalised process for deepening comprehensive relationship between India and the African countries.

Use of Local Currency and Financial Technologies in BIMSTEC Region

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Exchange rate volatility causes uncertainty in the value of exports and imports and expensive for traders in terms of the cost of hedging. This aspect has been factored in the scheme of financial cooperation in the form of rise of currency swap arrangements among countries. For instance, China alone has signed 31 currency swap arrangements to facilitate trade in local currency. Likewise, Japan is also party to several currency swap arrangements with its Asian and other trade partners. Besides a number of currency swap arrangements, India has implemented rupee trade arrangements with Nepal, Iran and Russia in the past. A review paper on the effectiveness of the past

rupee trade arrangements has been published. Besides local currency use for trade invoicing and financial transactions, the growing spread and use of financial technologies (fintech) opens opportunities for faster payment and settlement locally and ensuring financial inclusion. With the aim to expanding regional financial cooperation between India and BIMSTEC countries, this study explores the possibility of trade in local currency as a means to minimise the financial vulnerability arising from random exchange rate fluctuations and assesses the benefits and costs of emerging financial technologies like block chain, artificial intelligence, big data analytics, Internet of Things and so on.



B. Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation: **Financial Cooperation**

The nature and scope of bilateral and regional financial cooperation has changed keeping in pace with the financial globalisation and emergence of digital technologies. Besides accumulation of foreign exchange reserves as precautionary measure to prevent financial crises of the 1990s and 2000s, countries have explored several instruments of financial cooperation in the form of currency swap arrangements, settlement of international trade and financial transactions in local currencies, popularising internet and digital banking solutions to lower the cost of banking and provision of financial services and ensure faster processing. Fintech solutions are now widely used for retail and wholesale banking and commercial transactions. India, being a

leading developing country, with globally competitive IT manpower and technologies could be a potential leader in the fintech and emerging financial services sectors. In addition, as a large and attractive destination for FDI, India could not only benefit from the innovation in fintech sector but also contribute to regional financial cooperation in BIMSTEC and other forums. Digital currencies and crypto-currencies are new money-like instruments issued by the central banks and private firms. The existing regulatory framework for the financial sector in India and other developing countries is perceived to be inadequate and incomplete. In all these above mentioned areas, RIS has taken a few studies in the context of BIMSTEC and developing countries.

Digital Currency and Crypto-Currency

Professor Biswajit Banerjee & Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Digital currency and crypto-currency are the new buzzwords in the world of payments and settlements. Many have started perceiving a threat to the fiat currency as growing preference for cashless transactions and ease of payments assumes priority on the part of consumers. While uniform global position on adoption of digital currencies and related technological and regulatory standards are still evolving, many central banks (or policy-makers) have either taken policy measures for its adoption or studying the implications of such instruments for safety, security and reliability for the financial system. While plugging the regulatory loopholes in use of digital and crypto-currencies may be attempted, it would be wise to make the fiat-currency based payment and settlement systems more attractive, user-friendly and cheaper for the customers which are often viewed as attraction for individuals switching from fiat currency to digital currency. Since digital technologies and e-commerce are pervasive forces which cannot be reversed so easily, central banks may consider moving towards digital currencies rather than allowing the parallel system to function distorting financial stability. Although India chooses to move slowly in a gradualist fashion on the issue of digital currency and crypto-currencies, it may require substantial home work as the captive users of e-commerce and digital modes of payments is growing rapidly in the country. In view of these evolving trends, this study aims to make a comprehensive assessment of all pertinent issues relating to digital and crypto currencies.

Local currency use, Fintech and digital & crypto-currencies are transforming banking and non-banking sectors, creates jobs, and contributes to financial inclusion in South Asia and BIMSTEC regions.

B. Trade, Investment and Economic Cooperation: **Financial Cooperation**

FinTech Sector in India and Other Developing Countries-Emerging Opportunities and Policy Challenges

Promise of Fintech and Challenges of Technology Governance: A new Research Agenda for RIS

Fintech sector is growing rapidly worldwide marked by faster rise in investments and start-ups. With financial sector liberalization and spread of information technology, emerging markets and developing countries including BRICS have registered significant growth and diversification in banking and non-banking services. With the help of disruptive digital technologies such as artificial intelligence, big data, machine learning, distributed ledger technology, internet of things, cloud computing, etc., private banks and non-banking financial institutions have found new lines of businesses in financial services industry which have led to consolidation and emergence of one-stop shop universal banks in major developing economies like India, China, Brazil, Argentina, South Africa and others. In view of huge untapped potential for penetration of Fintech and InsurTech businesses in developing economies, the international investors and venture capital funds are leaving no stone unturned in exploring investment in this virgin segment of financial services industry. While spread of IT education and digital literacy would enhance prospects of job creation in Fintech and InsurTech and ensure financial inclusion in developing countries, the threat of cyber security and crimes including fugitive economic offenders has increased considerably over the years in absence of robust regulatory and supervisory framework. Given the contemporary relevance of the subject, this study attempts to examine the pros and cons of the rise of fintech sector, real sector performances in terms of growth, employment and inclusion, and the regulatory challenges faced by the emerging markets and developing countries.



C. Trade Facilitation, Connectivity and Regional Cooperation: **BIMSTEC**

Physical connectivity and trade facilitation are catalysts to regional economic integration. Improved connectivity between growth centres and rural areas leads to efficient resource utilization and integration of domestic markets. Likewise, border infrastructure, custom reforms, application of IT for export and import procedures, streamlining of documentation, etc are important facets of trade facilitation reforms. Experiences from ASAEN countries reiterate that economic corridor or growth corridor approaches are efficient. By polling local resources, facilitating local industrialisation and export promotion, growth corridor yield positive externalities for the participating countries. In order to analyse this synergy, RIS has been undertaking several studies under two important research programmes, namely Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) and BIMSTEC. While AAGC covers all major sectors of coepration, the studies on BIMSTEC touches upon trade, connectivity, Fintech, etc as promising sectors of regional cooperation.

Continental Economic Corridors for People-centric Development – Nurturing Aspirations and Respecting Sovereignty: RIS’s role in Shaping the Narrative through Partnerships and Research

Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC)

Regional development imbalances have been addressed through several spatial development models including export processing zones, special economic zones, etc. Growth triangle, economic corridor and growth corridor approaches are found more effective in yielding desired socio-economic impacts. ‘Growth corridor’ captures the mechanics of achieving the predictions of the growth pole theory. It envisages a gradual path of evolution of a growth corridor starting from a transport corridor to a logistics corridor, to an economic corridor, and then to a growth corridor. As per this approach, improved connectivity would facilitate efficient utilization of natural and human resources in the hinterland and enhance urbanization and industrialisation in the growth centers. The Asia-Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) is a manifestation of the wider acceptance of the Development Compact approach in line with the principles of SSC. AAGC is a holistic conceptualisation of development which connects the leading regions of a country/region with the lagging regions of the country/region in the spatial context. It envisages

people-centric sustainable growth strategy to be raised on four pillars such as (1) Enhancing Capacity and Skills, (2) Quality Infrastructure and Institutional Connectivity, (3) Development and Cooperation Projects and (4) People-to-People Partnership. India, Japan and partner countries in Asia and Africa would undertake a number of development projects under each of the four pillars mentioned above. Research papers published on different sectors of AAGC and conferences & consultations have resulted in publication of a book by Springer on the title ‘Asia Africa Growth Corridor: Development and Cooperation in Indo-Pacific’.

Asia Africa Growth Corridor promotes people-friendly South-South and Triangular Cooperation

C. Trade Facilitation, Connectivity and Regional Cooperation: **BIMSTEC**

Neighbourhood First and strengthening BIMSTEC: RIS as an early partner in regional processes

Given the unique strength of BIMSTEC to regional economic cooperation in South Asia and Southeast Asia, RIS is currently consolidating its research work on BIMSTEC. A separate webpage for BIMSTEC on RIS website is being developed. Three edited volumes have been planned on trade, finance and health areas

Promoting Economic Integration in BIMSTEC and Beyond

RIS Faculty

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a unique sub-regional grouping for promoting economic cooperation among the South and South-East Asian countries. With 14 diverse fields of cooperation such as trade & investment, technology, transport & communication, agriculture, tourism, fisheries, energy, public health, people-to-people contact, culture, climate change, environment and disaster risk management, poverty alleviation, and counter terrorism & transnational crime, the seven member countries of BIMSTEC including India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Myanmar and Thailand cherish a wide mandate of deepening regional integration and cooperation over the past two decades. In its 20 years of engagement across different sectors, the grouping has achieved several milestones to its credit particularly in narrowing the differences and building common grounds for strengthening economic, social and cultural relationship among the member states. BIMSTEC agenda of cooperation and expectations have broadened over the years which probably signal greater willingness among the seven countries for comprehensive engagement in new and

emerging fields of cooperation. The Fourth BIMSTEC Summit held in Kathmandu in 2018 underlined the importance of blue economy and mountain as new priority sectors along with existing major fields of cooperation. For India, BIMSTEC is a vibrant grouping from the perspective of India's Act East policy and development of North Eastern region. As part of the consolidated RIS work programme on BIMSTEC, a number of studies and conferences on the scope and modalities of economic integration are at different stages of conception and development.

Economic integration in BIMSTEC region needs to focus on trade, health, finance, education pillars for synergistic impact.

C. Trade Facilitation, Connectivity and Regional Cooperation: **Connectivity**

Health Sector Cooperation across BIMSTEC

Professor T.C. James

As part of India's strategy of "Look East, Act East", a study on development cooperation in health sector between India and other BIMSTEC countries is planned. This study would also explore how the border districts development and India's cooperation with neighbouring countries would intertwine. As part of this a 'Factual Analysis of the Status of Universalisation of Health Care in Tripura' had been prepared and shared with NITI Aayog. A factual position paper on Healthcare in Bhutan has been prepared and based on that in the BIMSTEC Network of Policy Think Tanks a proposal for a Study on Comparative Analysis of Health Sector Financing across BIMSTEC was mooted which has been well received. The study would explore the following issues: (i) What are the public policy challenges in providing adequate public expenditure for health?, (ii) Can there be similar financing patterns?, (iii) What policy and strategy interventions can be made to ensure cost-effective mechanisms for achievement of UHC by 2030?, (iv) What are the best practices in health which can be shared among the countries? and (v) How external assistance in health sector financing could be optimally used for national health agenda that RIS proposes to pilot as part of this study. A preliminary paper on Financing of Comparative Analysis of Health Sector Financing Across BIMSTEC is under preparation.

Emergence of India as a Potential Higher Educational Hub in the BIMSTEC Region

Dr Beena Pandey

The study focuses on India's development assistance through quality education to developing countries, particularly BIMSTEC. Presently, India is the world's largest democratic country in the world and has the world's second largest system of higher education institutions. India has successfully established itself as a prospective destination for higher education which provides the low-cost and high-quality education services. Against this backdrop, there is tremendous scope for India to play an important role in promoting quality, access, equity and inclusion as the prerequisite for achieving SDG 4 pertaining to quality education. Further, 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 educational hub in the BIMSTEC region, the study would cover four sections. The first section would present historical overview of India's aid to other foreign countries in providing higher education. The next section would throw light on country's educational-aid programmes and modes of educational cooperation to developing countries in recognition of mutual degrees. The third section would throw light on the status of the international students in India. The last section would discuss potentialities and policy initiatives of India for imparting high quality education in attracting international students along with the future plan of action.

C. Trade Facilitation, Connectivity and Regional Cooperation: **BIMSTEC**

BIMSTEC Network of Think Tanks (BNPTT) Meeting

BNPTT is a crucial component of Track-II process that facilitates contributions by regional academic institutions to the BIMSTEC agenda of cooperation. Besides being a founder member of BNPTT, RIS works closely with the BIMSTEC Secretariat and partner institutions in other countries in the BIMSTEC region on various facets of regional cooperation including trade, investment, connectivity, technology and finance. RIS would hold the Fifth meeting of the BNPTT in January 2021 to brainstorm on COVID-19 exit plans and the possible fields of cooperation as run up to the Leaders' Summit later in the year.

India-EU Connectivity Partnership: Potential & Challenges

Partnership for the Future – New Vistas in India-EU economic engagement leveraging geo-economic, geo-political and geo-strategic tools: A work in progress at RIS

India-European Union (EU) relations have been time-honoured and growing. These ties can be improved by boosting bilateral 'physical, digital and people-to-people' connectivity. RIS has recently taken up a study in the context of the India-EU Summit that was scheduled to be held in March, 2020 to look into different aspects of India-EU connectivity from national, regional and global perspectives. The focus has been on the fact that being democracies, India and the EU could strengthen their shared approach to connectivity through a comprehensive partnership based on the principles of 'access, equity and inclusion' for their mutual benefit and to assist in sustainable development efforts across the world. Since connectivity measures increasingly becoming geo-economic, geo-political and geo-strategic tools, it is imperative to analyse the spillovers of connectivity for enhancing trade, investment and economic integration between India and EU.

Despite immense potential for economic cooperation, India-EU connectivity remains an area where more attention is needed

D. New Technologies and Development Issues

RIS has been working on Science, Technology and Innovation and their developmental impacts for more than three decades. The Science Policy Program at RIS is aimed at issues and themes related to science and technology policy, impacts and implications of new technologies, governance of emerging technologies like genome editing and synthetic biology, impacts and implications of Artificial Intelligence, Digitalization and sustainable development, and Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), a new concept and practice in science and technology policy. RIS has been part of many international projects on these themes and has done research projects for UNESCO, FAO etc besides giving policy inputs to Ministries and Departments in addition to publications of different types. RIS is working with New and Emerging Strategic Technologies (NEST) division of MEA and

Department of Biotechnology

Besides these faculty associated with these contribute to other programs and training courses. Science Diplomacy Programme funded by Department of Science and Technology (DST) is the only programme in Science Diplomacy in India funded and supported by DST. It is engaged in capacity building, developing networks and strategic thinking in science diplomacy. Wide range of activities are undertaken in this programme including training and publications including case studies, news alerts and a journal on Science Diplomacy are brought out. This programme is engaging with Indian Missions abroad, particularly with Science Attaches, and, also with science counselors of Embassies/Consulates of different countries, based in New Delhi.

Access, Equity and Inclusion and Science, Technology and Innovation Policy: A pioneering research programme at RIS with global implications for policy and practice

Science Policy Programme

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi with Dr Krishna Ravi Srinivas, Dr Amit Kumar, Dr Nimita Pandey and Dr Kapil Patil

This programme aims at, *inter alia*, science policy, regulation of technologies, particularly emerging technologies and issues and themes in Science, Technology and Innovation. The scope of this programme is broad and members in this team also work on, *inter alia*, intellectual property rights and innovation and technology assessment. The ongoing projects and research programme themes are:

1) PRODIGEES (Promoting Research on Digitalisation

in Emerging Powers and Sustainable Development)

Europe towards

The objective of the project is to develop a comprehensive understanding of the impact of digitalisation across the various dimensions, such as social, economic and environmental, of sustainable development and its governance. The project would study the conditions for realising the positive effects of digitisation and how the potential negative effects can be mitigated. This project aims to understand the impacts of digitisation and how digitisation can make positive contribution

Access, Equity and Inclusion and Science, Technology and Innovation Policy: A pioneering research programme at RIS with global implications for policy and practice

...Continued on page 34

D. New Technologies and Development Issues

...Continued from page 33

to sustainable development and how the potential negative impacts can be contained. This project is funded by European Commission and coordinated by German Development Institute.

2) Artificial Intelligence and Robotics: This two-year work programme covers, *inter alia*, robotics, 4th Industrial Revolution and related themes. In consultation with NEST, MEA, the work programme on Robotics has been revised. Recently Government of India joined Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI), a multi-country, multi-stakeholder initiative for responsible development and use of AI. Through this programme RIS would carve out a unique niche and pursue policy relevant research focusing primarily on India with a global perspective. Given the RIS work on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI), a perspective on AI and exploring it can be contextualised in India in AI related policy and practice can be brought out. Similarly, the Access, Equity and Inclusion (AEI) framework developed by RIS would be applied here.

3) Emerging Technologies: In different projects and on a continued basis RIS has been working on emerging technologies. In light of recent developments, the institute is working on Synthetic Biology, Genome Editing and Digital Sequence Information (DSI). RIS has worked earlier on synthetic biology when it was in very preliminary stage in India. Genome Editing and Digital Sequence Information are emerging as key themes with Genome Editing as an important technology in crops, animals and human beings. RIS work on synthetic biology would cover *inter alia*, development of synthetic biology in India and world, governance of synthetic biology and its wider impacts.

Given the enormous

implications of genome editing, how to deploy this and gain maximum benefits while regulating it have become matters of global concern. RIS would look into the policy and governance aspects, in this regard by engaging with policy makers in ICMR and DBT.

4) New Emerging & Strategic Technologies

RIS would work closely with the newly established NEST (New Emerging & Strategic Technologies) Division of the Ministry of External Affairs.

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy

1) NewHoRRIZon is a project on Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI).

The primary objective of this project i.e., NewHoRRIZon is to enable integrating Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in the research and innovation systems on national and international levels. In the case of India, RIS is working on a comparative study of the DST's Scientific Social Responsibility (SSR) framework and RRI.

2) A Study on Contextualising Responsible Research and Innovation in India: A two-year research project sanctioned by DST.

3) REWARD (Performance Based Innovation): This project undertaken in collaboration with University of Central Lancashire was started in 2014 and completed in 2019.

It was funded by European Commission.

RRI-Practice: This project on Responsible Research and Innovation began in 2016 and was completed in 2019. This was funded by European Commission.

RIS work on Emerging Technologies covers AI, robotics, emerging technologies in biosciences and explores policy issues at national and global levels

D. New Technologies and Development Issues: Science Diplomacy

Project on Science Diplomacy

RIS is building databases of NRI/PIO scientists and technocrats through two different and unique approaches

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi with Dr Bhaskar Balakrishnan, Dr Krishna Ravi Srinivas, Dr Amit Kumar, Dr Nimita Pandey, Dr Kapil Patil and Ms Sneha Sinha

As part of DST project in Science Diplomacy, RIS and National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore have the Science Diplomacy programme that is engaged in capacity building, developing networks and strategic thinking. The Science Diplomacy Review, is published thrice in a year, fortnightly Science Diplomacy News Alerts are circulated among a large number of stakeholders by email.

Online registration platform for NRI/PIO scientists and expat professionals in STEM sectors: The database has so far received over 400 entries from Indian origin scientists and technocrats.

The database has so far received over 400 entries from Indian origin scientists and technocrats

The Directory of Institutions engaged in Science Diplomacy, another deliverable from this project, is being updated regularly. It includes eighty-one institutions involved in Science Diplomacy activities/courses, across the globe. RIS has built a database of NRI/PIO scientists/technocrats based on information collected from institutions such as universities, research institutions in many disciplines/fields. This database has 400 entries and covers institutions in inter alia, USA, UK, Australia, and Germany.

RIS has continuous interactions with science counsellors from different countries. In the coming months online COVID consultations would be held. The programme also engages with Indian Embassies and Consulates abroad.



**Southern Perspectives
on Science Diplomacy**

D. New Technologies and Development Issues: Focus on FITM

FITM team

Prof T.C. James, Dr Namrata Pathak and Mr Apurva Bhatnagar

As part of its efforts to promote the development of Indian Traditional Medicine (ITM) as a major vehicle of public health and an important element in India's development partnerships and international trade, the Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine was established at the RIS with support from the Ministry of AYUSH. It aims to contribute towards pragmatic policy making in the area of Traditional Medicines (TMs) through research studies and industry consultations. The research studies completed by FITM and the ongoing fellowship programme.

● China's Policy Initiatives for National and Global Promotion of Traditional Chinese Medicine

This study explored China's initiatives in mainstreaming Traditional Chinese Medicines (TCMs) in its public/universal healthcare system, and in promoting TCMs globally. It further made a comparative assessment of India's strengths and weaknesses vis a vis China, the lessons drawn from which are to be incorporated/adapted for promotion of ITM. During the course of the study, a Scoping Paper on China's Policy Initiatives for National and Global Promotion of TCM had been published in 2019. The final report based on field studies and further research was submitted to the Ministry of AYUSH in 2020.

● Protection of Traditional Knowledge, Traditional Cultural Expressions and Genetic Resources

This study examined the adequacy of legal provisions presently available for protecting Traditional Knowledge (TK), Genetic Resources (GR) and associated TK, and Traditional Cultural Expressions (TCEs) in India, including in the digital world and made critical observations on the draft instruments before WIPO IGC. It assessed their adequacy to prevent bio-piracy and proposed changes/additions required in the existing laws. Three Scoping Papers on the following components of the Study have already been published: In-depth Study on Protection of Traditional Knowledge; In-depth Study on Protection of Traditional Cultural Expressions and 'In-depth Study on the Protection of Genetic Resources.' The report on the study was submitted to the Ministry of AYUSH in 2020.

● Research Fellowship under FITM Programme

In order to encourage research on TM in Universities, the FITM administers a research fellowship programme at doctoral and post-doctoral levels. The objective of the Fellowships is to conduct in-depth inquiry and research on subjects related to ITMs. The publications including books as a result of this enquiry aim to provide policy related research inputs on promotion of ITMs. Under the Fellowship programme two PhD studies are currently on in the Punjab Technical University, Bathinda, Punjab and in the Kumaun University, Nainital.

Chapter 2

Active Role of RIS during COVID-19 Lockdown

The COVID-19 virus took entire world in its tight grip and pitted human civilization into a sort of Third World War. RIS continued to focus on this unprecedented crisis that seemed to be deepening with each passing day. The faculty shared their insights on possible areas for action in a special issue of RIS Diary brought out in March 2020. Contributors included: Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Professor Amitabh Kundu, Professor Manmohan Agarwal, Professor Milindo Chakravarty, Professor T. C. James and his team, Dr Sabysachi Saha and Dr Priyadarshi Dash. Mr Shubhomoy Bhattacharjee edited the issue and rightly pointed out in the introduction section that in the Second World War there were over 150 million soldiers who fought the battles for six years; for the current war, WHO estimates we have a third of their number of medical, para medical and any sort of health workers (59 million) available globally.

Macro Issues

The article on 'COVID-19: Time for Global Partnership'¹ lauded Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proposal to engage with SAARC member countries and leaders through video conferencing for chalking out collective strategy for combating Corona virus outbreak. Taking note of the pharmaceutical industry he mentioned that with China being a major trading partner for most of the global economies, there is a major blow as supply chains are increasingly getting fragmented. The persistent worsening of Corona virus in China and the resultant shutdown signaled the potential scarcity of pharmaceuticals across the world as China alone caters to around 40 per cent of global demand of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs).

The article² on interstate migrants emphasised that the state governments must work with the private corporate sector and non-governmental organisations including those of the workers, to ensure that there is no massive loss of employment.

The article 'The Macro-Economic Impact'³ discussed about how supply chain can be maintained in the time of COVID-19 lockdown. The article also highlighted about the role of Reserve Bank in these uncertain times and also mentioned that the monetary policy should be used not for the purposes of inflation targeting but to ensure sufficient liquidity.

Global Pandemic Insurance Fund

The article 'Arguing for a Global Pandemic Insurance Fund'⁴ that SDG 3 called for good health and well being for all thus rendering a public good character to health services. The article suggested that a global pandemic insurance fund would be the true harbinger of achieving SDG3 that ensures that health services end up as a true Global Public Good.

Challenges for Pharmaceutical Sector

The article on 'COVID-19 and Indian Pharmaceutical Industry'⁵ tried to see opportunity in this gloomy scenario and commented that MSME is a sector that needs high focus in this endeavour of achieving the goal of twining public health and economic development. This crisis situation could be turned into an opportunity for MSMEs. They need to be given special incentives for producing low end technology items in medical and sanitary equipment like masks, gloves, cottons, etc. That would revive the stagnant sector.

The article on 'Industrialisation in a Post-COVID World: Options for India'⁶ commented that MNCs would have to adjust to new realities. Their accounting methods would have to stretch to social and environmental costs and risks. Hence, competitiveness defined in terms of factors of production alone may not be sufficient.

1 Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS
2 Professor Amitabh Kundu

3 Professor Manmohan Agarwal
4 Professor Milindo Chakravarty
5 Professor T. C. James, Namrata Pathak, Apurva Bhatnagar
6 Dr Sabyasachi Saha

The article on 'COVID-19: May Perpetuate Uncertainty in Indian Financial Sector'⁷ warned that in order to sustain efforts directed towards COVID-19, Indian financial sector needs to be prepared for tougher times in the coming days.

COVID-19 and Trade, Multilateralism, WHO and Food Security

To discuss the COVID-19 situation further, RIS would bring two more Special editions of the RIS Diary. The Second issue would focus on issues such as ripple effects of COVID-19 on the World and India and sequence of prevention strategies,⁸ strengthening WHO's role in the Covid-19 Outbreak,⁹ food and nutrition security in COVID-19 times,¹⁰ Covid-19 and A New Hope for Global multilateralism¹¹ and reforms package & COVID-19.¹²

Role of Science Technology and Impact of COVID-19 on World Economy

Debates are back on the table on the role of science and technology with regard to fighting COVID-19 which has thrown the entire world into an unprecedented health and safety crisis that is worsening day by day. All economic and social activities have come to a halt at global level. It is in these contexts that the Third Special Edition of the RIS Diary would have articles on: harnessing science, technology and innovation in India for tackling COVID-19¹³; science, technology and innovation - fighting the COVID-19 outbreak¹⁴; science diplomacy : covid and beyond¹⁵ by Balakrishna Pisupati; global governance of technology, institutional architecture and Indian response to COVID-19¹⁶; science, technology, and innovation in Indian systems of Medicine: an exploration in the context of COVID-19 pandemic¹⁷; science, technology and innovation and the challenge of epidemic¹⁸ by; impact

of COVID-19 on the world economy¹⁹; global institutions and COVID-19²⁰.

IPRs

Further, in its endeavour to provide analytical research inputs RIS would also bring out *Policy Briefs* on 'Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation in the Times of Corona Epidemic,'²¹ authored by Dr Krishna Ravi Srinivas. It would discuss that The HIV/AIDS crisis showed that the traditional Intellectual Property (IP) rules and models of innovation do not assure affordable access. This resulted in some changes in IP rules and the recognition that IP and trade rules should not become major constraints for affordable access. The current crisis of COVID-19 provided an opportunity to revisit and learn from the earlier one. Thus there would be need for a rethink of role of IP and its use as an incentive. The Business As Usual approach will not work. The current crisis should be seen as an opportunity to review and rethink and to give new models and approaches a chance. In the race against time, what we would do on IP and Innovation, would make a huge difference. The question was how much the governments, UN agencies and other stakeholders are prepared for this.

Reform in Health System

Policy Brief on 'COVID-19 Pandemic and Health System Preparedness: Pathways to Reform,'²² would discuss that just as the World War II brought about major changes in the world order including formation of the UN, WHO, etc. it would be in the interest of nations to set up a confederation against pandemics at the earliest. Surveillance was the best pre-emptive measure available given that very few viruses have effective vaccines. Surveillance, vaccines and antivirals are the way forward. Another Policy Brief on 'COVID-19 Lesson - A Time for Disruptive GDPs,'²³ would be the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that could be the beacon light to expand the current focus, as Gram Panchayats (GPs) could prove to nestle and nurture a new narrative, to realise the cherished vision of New

- 7 Dr Priyadarshi Dash
- 8 Professor S. K. Mohanty
- 9 Dr Bhaskar Balakrishnan
- 10 Dr P. K. Anand and Mr Krishna Kumar
- 11 Mr Augustine Peter
- 12 Mr Subhomoy Bhattacharjee
- 13 Mr Arabinda Mitra
- 14 Mr Bhaskar Balakrishnan
- 15 Mr Balakrishna Pisupati
- 16 Professor Sachin Chaturvedi
- 17 Professor T. C. James and Apurva Bhatnagar
- 18 Dr Krishna Ravi Srinivas

- 19 Mr Biswajit Banerjee
- 20 Mr Atul Kaushik
- 21 Dr Krishna Ravi Srinivas
- 22 Mr Jaideep C
- 23 Dr P. K. Anand



India, to unlock potential amidst the calibrated opening up of lock down.

Importance of Traditional Medicine System

The Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM) at RIS would also come out with Policy Brief on 'AYUSH Systems and COVID-19 Epidemic'²⁴ highlighting that India's health care is confronted with a number of issues including huge disease burden, lack of adequate health infrastructure and manpower in such a scenario AYUSH is a Readily Exploitable Resource, comprising of traditional medicine systems of Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Yoga and Sowa-Rigpa and the modern system of Homeopathy.

The Second Policy Brief by FITM assess the R&D in Viral Diseases²⁵, bringing out that the absence of any specific drug for this viral infection in Allopathy also opens the field of traditional medicine systems for exploring solutions. These systems had long experience with viral pandemics dating back to more than two millennia.

The third FITM Policy Brief on SDG-3 and COVID-19 mainstreaming traditional medicine²⁶ would highlight that traditional medicine (TM) systems could play a pivotal role to assist the world move towards achievement of SDG, namely health and well being of all. It is high time now that the TM sector is developed at par with the modern medicine sector.

The Pandemic and India-Africa Relations

A special issue of Development Cooperation Review would also come out covering following issues such as: Covid-19: The Pandemic and Africa²⁷; COVID -19 and Development Dynamics in Africa²⁸; COVID -19: The Unprecedented Challenge for Africa²⁹; COVID -19 and the Evolving Geopolitics³⁰ by; India-Africa Relations Through the Current Crisis and Beyond³¹ by and COVID -19 and Challenges Facing Africa³².

Regional Cooperation among BIMSTEC Countries

As the countries in the BIMSTEC region were passing through difficult times due to outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, challenges for the countries were not only on the fronts of health and social sectors in general, but also for mitigating economic impact of the pandemic and ensuring smooth recovery as part of implementing exit strategies. In the background of this scenario, RIS was planning to organise a Webinar on 'Revisiting Economic Cooperation in BIMSTEC in Post-COVID-19' with participation of experts from the think-tanks in the BIMSTEC region. RIS would approach Mr. V. Muraleedharan, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Govt. of India to deliver the Inaugural Address at the Webinar and H.E. Mr. M Shahidul Islam, Secretary General, BIMSTEC Secretariat, Bangladesh join the inaugural session to share his perceptions.

The e-Workshops on various Aspects of COVID-19

The Global Development Centre at RIS in collaboration with the Public Health Foundation of India would organise e-Workshops on various aspects of COVID-19.

The overall objective of the e-Workshops would be to raise knowledge and awareness of healthcare professionals in prevention and management of COVID-19. The workshop would aim to provide the healthcare professionals credible information on the COVID-19 pandemic, an opportunity to interact with experts and better understand the science and public health impact of COVID-19; to equip the participants with information, procedures, and tools required for effective patient management and safe service delivery; and to orient the participants on effective communication and team motivation during the pandemic.

- 24 Professor T. C. James and Apurva Bhatnagar
- 25 Professor T. C. James and Namrata Pathak
- 26 Professor T. C. James and Apurva Bhatnagar
- 27 Mr Amar Sinha
- 28 Mr John Patrick
- 29 Mr Mahesh C. Arora
- 30 Mr Pratyush Sharma
- 31 Mr Abhinav Jha
- 32 Ms Aditi Gupta

Chapter 3

Policy Research Inputs

Ministry of External Affairs

- A note on 'War against COVID-19 - Unique People - Centric Indian Model' was provided to PMO and also to MEA.
- Provided a Brief Statement on 'assessment of the impact of Corona crisis on LoCs and development assistance' was made available to DPA, Ministry of External Affairs.
- A note on STI for SDGs Work programme at RIS was provided to NEST Division of Ministry of External Affairs.
- A note on LoC Reforms - India International Development Fund (IIDF) was sent to DPA Division of Ministry of External Affairs.
- A brief note on Brexit impact-EU Agreements was provided to PP Division, MEA.
- A note on Trade Impact of Corona Virus was provided to FS Office, MEA.
- RIS provided two papers on India-EU: India-EU Connectivity Partnership: Potential and Challenges; and Working Document on India-EU Connectivity Partnership' to EW Division of Ministry of External Affairs.
- A note on China's Initiatives in Agriculture in Africa - Key Points (Mission Report from RIS) was submitted to Ministry of External Affairs.

High Level Expert Group on Agriculture Export, Finance Commission

- A note on 'India's trade in Agriculture, Fertiliser, Pesticides and Machinery' was provided.
- A note on 'Growth Potential of Medicinal Plant sector in India' was provided.

Department of Commerce

- RIS provided inputs for the upcoming events to be hosted by Department of Commerce on BRICS Presidency in 2021, G20 Presidency in 2022 and SCO Senior Officials Commission Meeting and SCO Trade Ministers Meeting in 2020.

Department of Science & Technology

- “India, South Asia and Myanmar – S&T Collaboration” and “Leveraging India’s scientific and technological strength to boost S&T Cooperation in South-Asia” were provided to Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology.

Ministry of AYUSH

- A Note on ‘An Innovative approach to Market Ayurveda Products Abroad’ was provided to Ministry of Ayush.

Ministry of Finance

- A note on Promoting Use of Indian Rupee in Neighbouring Countries (South Asia & BIMSTEC) was provided to Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

Department of Biotechnology

- Note on ‘Bilateral and Multilateral Cooperation in Biotechnology’.

Ministry of Earth Sciences

- Provided inputs for the Steering Committee for the International Symposium on “Advances in Coastal Research” with Special reference to Indo-Pacific.

Chapter 4

Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences, Symposia and Workshops

SDG Conclave 2020 – Partnerships, Cooperation and Development of North Eastern States

RIS was nominated by the NITI Aayog as their knowledge partner for the North East SDG Conclave that was organised on 24-26 February 2020 in Guwahati, Assam with participation of senior ministers from the Central Government and Chief Ministers of North Eastern States. The other partners in this effort included the Government of Assam, TATA Trusts and the UNDP. RIS was entrusted with the responsibility of producing a comprehensive report on North East and SDGs, which was developed over a period of six months between September 2019 and February 2020. The report was drafted after due consultations with various State governments in the North East, often at the level of highest political leadership and through field visits undertaken by RIS faculty members to various State capitals. A workshop

with local resource persons and the NETRA Foundation was organised in October 2019 to capture the ground realities and perspectives. Guidance was also received from the Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog and other officials. The Report included the following chapters: State Initiatives and Localisation of SDGs; Drivers of Economic Prosperity and Sustainable livelihood; Climate Adaptive Agriculture and Diversification; Nutrition, Health and Well being; Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship; Communication, Connectivity and Infrastructure Development; and Financing of SDGs.

National Conference on 'Future of Urban Sanitation in India

The Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) in partnership with National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) and RIS organised a National Conference on "The Future of Urban



The North East SDG Conclave organised on 24-26 February 2020 in Guwahati, Assam with participation of senior ministers from the Central Government and Chief Ministers of North Eastern States.

Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences, Symposia and Workshops



Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India delivering the inaugural address at a National Conference on "The Future of Urban Sanitation" with A Special Consultation on "Localising SDGs in Secondary Cities" on 27-28 February 2020.

Sanitation" with A Special Consultation on "Localising SDGs in Secondary Cities" on 27-28 February 2020. Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India delivered the inaugural address.

The objectives of the Conference was: showcasing scalable innovative solutions from across the country to address the challenges of inclusive and sustainable urban sanitation services; creating a learning and knowledge platform by bringing together policy makers, researchers, experts, and practitioners on inclusive and sustainable urban sanitation services; and informing and influencing policies and institutions to enhance the impact of urban sanitation programmes. The Conference aimed at developing a consensus on the framework, methodology, and mechanism for localising Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Indian secondary cities with a particular focus on SDG 11. It had the following sessions: Accelerating Behaviour Change and Citizen Participation for Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Sanitation Services; Developing Local Capacities for Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Sanitation Services; Healthy Workplace for Sanitation Workers (with a special

focus on women sanitation workers); Convergence of Public Programmes for Sustainable Water and Sanitation Services in Indian Cities; and a Special Session on Localising Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Secondary Cities.

Round table discussion on Uzbekistan-India: New horizons of strategic partnership

RIS jointly with the Uzbekistan Embassy in New Delhi organised a Roundtable Discussion on 'Uzbekistan-India: New Horizons of Strategic Partnership' on 10 February 2020 at Uzbekistan Embassy. Welcome remarks were given by H.E. Mr Farhod Arziev, Ambassador of Uzbekistan to India and Dr Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS. H.E. Mr Farhod Arziev, Ambassador of Uzbekistan to India spoke on the Development Dynamics of Uzbekistan. Mr Bidyut Behari Swain, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India delivered a lecture on New opportunities for expanding trade relations between Uzbekistan and India. Mr Manish Prabhat, JS, ERS, MEA, Government of India made special

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Welcome remarks were given by H.E. Mr Farhod Arziev, Ambassador of Uzbekistan to India giving welcome remarks at the Roundtable Discussion

remarks. Other prominent speakers were: Mr Rajiv Kumar, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India spoke on India-Uzbekistan IT cooperation. Dr Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS addressed the participants on the theme 'Economic Development Partnership including digital economy.' Dr Sanjeev Bansal, Dean - Faculty of Management Studies Director & Head, Amity Business School spoke on Experience of cooperation in the sphere of education. Representatives of Indian business circles made special remarks on, Doing business in Uzbekistan: new opportunities for Indian investors. A presentation on Commercial Section of the Embassy of Uzbekistan was also made a presentation on First Tashkent International Investment Forum (TIIF) – (5-6 March, 2020). H.E. Mr Farhod Arziev, Ambassador of Uzbekistan to India made closing remarks. It was followed by dinner with live performance by Cultural group from Bukhara region of Uzbekistan.

India's Strategic Identity

RIS organised a special talk by Dr Anil Kakodkar, on his book on "*Fire and Fury: Transforming India's Strategic Identity*" on 6 February 2020 at New Delhi. Dr Bhaskar Balakrishnan, Science Diplomacy Fellow, RIS Chaired the session. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, RIS gave welcome remarks. Dr S. K. Malhotra, Former Raja Ramanna Fellow, DAE & Secretary, Atomic Energy Education Society made the Opening Remarks. After the talk by Dr Anil Kakodkar, there was a panel discussion in which the distinguished discussants were: Dr Suresh Gangotra, Senior Technical Advisor to Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission & Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy, DAE; Professor R. Rajaraman, Emeritus Professor of Theoretical Physics, JNU; and Mr Pallava Bagla, Science Editor and Columnist, NDTV.

Seminar on Traditional Medicine in India and China

The Government has been taking a number of measures to promote the AYUSH sector recently. As part of that, the Ministry of AYUSH has set up a Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM) in RIS. The Forum has been organizing programmes and research studies on trade and industry related issues of the AYUSH sector. AYUSH sector has a strong presence in the MSME sector. In order to promote the growth of this sector, India has to open up export promotion opportunities as well as learn from the experience of other countries like China, who have made good progress in international promotion of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Dr Wang Zang, Director, Research Institute of Traditional Indian Medicine at Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (CUTCM), Sichuan, China, was on a study visit to India. His Institute is the only academic institute

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Seminar on “Traditional Medicine in India and China” on 16 January 2020 in progress.

undertaking research on Ayurveda in China. To avail the opportunity of benefiting from the insights of by Prof Wang’s visit, RIS organised a seminar on “Traditional Medicine in India and China” on 16 January 2020. The programme began with remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS. Shri Pramod Kumar Pathak, Additional Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH delivered the inaugural address and also Chaired the Session. Dr Wang Zang, Director, Research Institute of Traditional Indian Medicine, Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Sichuan, China

and Professor Tanuja Nesari, Director, All India Institute of Ayurveda, New Delhi and CEO, National Medicinal Plants Board, New Delhi were the lead speakers. Professor T.C. James, Member Secretary, FITM and Visiting Fellow, RIS gave the vote of thanks.

Breakfast Seminar on ‘Medical Devices Sector in India: Regulations, Local Manufacturing and Trade’

RIS organised a Breakfast seminar on ‘Medical Devices Sector in India: Regulations, Local Manufacturing and Trade’ on 31 January 2020. This was chaired by Dr Sakthivel Selvaraj, Director, Health Economics, Financing and Policy, PHFI. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS gave the welcome remarks. Dr Abha Jaiswal, Visiting Fellow, RIS made the presentation and the discussants were: Dr (Ms) Lalita Goyal, Senior Principal Scientist, CSIR; Professor T.C. James, Visiting Fellow, RIS.



An Interactive Session with Professor Klaus Larres in progress at RIS, Delhi.



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A Breakfast seminar on 'Medical Devices Sector in India: Regulations, Local Manufacturing and Trade' in progress.

Roundtable on 'Social Enterprises and Social Stock Exchange - the Indian Scenario'

RIS organised a Roundtable on 'Social Enterprises and Social Stock Exchange - the Indian Scenario' on 17 January 2020 at New Delhi. Dr Rajesh Tandon, President, PRIA Chaired the Session. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made introductory remarks. It was followed by presentations by Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor and Mr Arun Nair, Visiting Fellow of RIS. During the discussion on the presentation the panellists were: Mr Harsh Jaitli, VANI; Dr Mirai Chatterjee, SEWA; Mr Rakesh Marqus, AVPN; Dr Seema Arora, CII; Ms Nitya Nangalia, SEWA; and Mr Swapnil Agarwal, Dhawani RIS.

Special Talk on 'Role of Energy Efficiency in Effective Energy Transition'

RIS organised a Special Talk by Shri Abhay Bakre, Director General, Bureau of Energy Efficiency,

Government of India on the 'Role of Energy Efficiency in Effective Energy Transition' on 13 January 2020. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made the Introductory remarks. The lecture was followed by a panel discussion. The panelists were: Shri Augustine Peter, Visiting Fellow, and Shri Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Consultant, RIS.

Interactive Session with Professor Klaus Larres, Richard M. Krasno

An Interactive Session with Professor Klaus Larres, Richard M. Krasno, Distinguished Professor, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, USA was organised on 3 February 2020.

Panel Discussion on 'Capturing Economic Value in India'

RIS jointly with SKOCH organised a panel discussion on 'Capturing Economic Value in India' on 11 January 2020. Dr Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS chaired. The panelists were Professor Sachin

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Dr S. Jaishankar, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister delivering the Valedictory Address.

Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Mr Pradeep S Mehta, Secretary General, CUTS International; Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director and Head of the South and South-West Asia (SSWA) Office of the UN-ESCAP and Dr Abhijit Das, Head & Professor, Centre For WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade. A large number of participants took part in the open discussion.

11th Delhi Dialogue: Advancing Partnership in Indo-Pacific

RIS in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India organised the 11th edition of the Delhi Dialogue (DD) on 13-14 December 2019 in New Delhi. The theme of the 11th Delhi Dialogue was "Advancing Partnership in Indo-Pacific". Mr V. Muraleedharan, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, India; and H.E. Dr Nomvuyo Nokwe, Secretary General, IORA Secretariat delivered the Special Remarks, whereas, H.E. Ms Retno L.P. Marsudi, Foreign Minister of Indonesia, delivered the Special Address in the Ministerial Keynote Session. Dr S. Jaishankar, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India delivered

the Valedictory Address. The Proceedings of 10th Delhi Dialogue entitled "Strengthening India-ASEAN Maritime Cooperation" were also released at the Delhi Dialogue XI. Dr Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS extended the Vote of Thanks in the Ministerial Keynote Session. About 200 delegates including several senior ministers from the ASEAN countries along with senior level officials, subject experts, eminent scholars, practitioners, diplomats, academicians, researchers, business people and industry leaders attended the 11th edition of the Delhi Dialogue.

The 11th edition of the Delhi Dialogue was a two-day event, which included five Plenary Sessions and one Ministerial Keynote Session. The five Plenary Sessions were (1) Building Bridges in Indo-Pacific, (2) Indo-Pacific Construct: Emerging Architecture, (3) Regional Connectivity in Indo-Pacific, (4) Industrial-Revolution 4.0 and Indo-Pacific, and (5) Future of Multilateral Trading System. Mr Vikas Swarup, Secretary (CPV & OIA), Ministry of External Affairs hosted the Reception and Hon'ble External Affairs Minister of India hosted the Dinner Banquet to the participants on 13 December 2019. The 11th edition of the Delhi



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Dialogue ended with the Valedictory Session focusing the Way Forward.

Third Annual Developing Country Forum

'South-South Cooperation in International Tax Matters'

International taxation issues are among the important policy challenges that developing countries currently face. Besides routine issues of tax avoidance, tax evasion and tax base erosion, developing countries grapple with challenges with respect to digital economy, extractive industries, tax evasion by multinational enterprises, base erosion profit shifting, menace of fugitive economic offenders and illicit financing. In absence of any global body on international taxation, these matters often complicate decisions as different tax jurisdictions are subject to different national rules, regulations and legal frameworks. As developing countries are preparing to meet Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, efficiency in domestic resource mobilisation has become the key priority for the countries. RIS has been working on development finance especially focusing on strengthening domestic resource mobilisation, reducing over-dependence on external funding and building institutional architecture for minimizing leakages and preventing misuse of precious

resources. More specifically, the implications of Base Erosion Profit Shifting, transfer pricing, fugitive economic offenders and digital economy taxation for domestic resource mobilisation are subjects of key concern. Since some of the broad objectives of RIS work programme on development finance match the South Centre initiative of the Annual Developing Country Forum on taxation matters, RIS and South Centre jointly organised the Third Annual Developing Country Forum on the theme 'South-South Cooperation in International Tax Matters' in New Delhi on 9-10 December 2019.

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and Prof. Carlos Correa, Executive Director, South Centre provided the broad contour of issues surrounding international taxation faced by the developing countries and stressed upon the need for this Forum to envisage future roadmap on taxation matters. Shri V. Muraleedharan, the Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Govt. of India delivered the Inaugural Address and underlined the urgent need for the creation of an International Governmental Tax Body at the United Nations to replace the existing UN Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters. The body, he added, should focus on issues relating to taxation of digital companies, challenges of transfer mispricing, determination of profits or royalties and effective taxation of technical services in the extractives industry as well as illicit financial flows, extradition of fugitive



Shri V. Muraleedharan, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs delivering the Inaugural Address.

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Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, Amb. S.T. Devare and Dr Nagesh Kumar at the session.

economic offenders and recovery of stolen assets. It was broadly felt that there is need to recognise the experiences and innovations in tax policies and administration of the developing countries, which is not reflected in the standards and norms in international tax cooperation by OECD which reflects the priorities of developed countries. Mr Akhilesh Ranjan, Former Member of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) shared his perspectives on various global taxation issues, e.g. digital economy, BEPS and intangibles. Dr Priyadarshi Dash, Assistant Professor, RIS made presentation on “Resource Implications of Profit Shifting, Economy Fugitives and Illicit Finance Flows.” In addition to participation from India, participants from 18 other developing countries participated in the Forum. More than 70 participants including tax officials, academics, private sector and civil society stakeholders took part in this two-day long event. The Forum had six technical sessions and two breakout group discussion sessions.

The Forum deliberated on a wide range of issues relating to core areas of taxation as well as the emerging fields like digital economy and services. In view of colossal loss of revenue, estimated to be US\$500 billion per annum, the Forum broadly endorsed promoting international cooperation in international taxation. South-South cooperation was viewed as the most viable platform for effective resolution of taxation issues within the UN framework. Key suggestions that emerged from the deliberations are formulation of transfer pricing standards, broad-based nexus rules, clarity

over suitability of fractional apportionment, strong legal regimes for extradition of fugitive economic offenders, minimizing conflicts over taxing rights in different jurisdictions, marketing of intangibles, developing rules for digital economy taxation, and taxation of capital gains. Distribution of normal profits in different marketing jurisdictions, non-availability of data on distribution of services between consumer-facing industries and intermediate firms, widespread tax evasion, increasing menace of base erosion and profit shifting, emergence of digital economy and new businesses models appeared as major concern for the tax authorities in the developing countries. Abusive tax planning, fragmentation of the supply chain, splitting of transaction; thin capitalisation by indebting, capacity building in developing countries are some of the major challenges relating to taxation of extractive industries. Country-by-country reporting, strong asset recovery mechanism, plugging resource leakages in the form of tax evasion, illicit financial flows, fugitive economic offenders, preventing banking frauds, profit shifting, etc would improve resource allocation for development projects. Formulating development-oriented tax policies, enhancing public availability of data, preventing inherent tax arbitrage opportunities, rationalizing tax incentives and minimizing incidence of transfer mispricing could be the top policy priorities with respect to taxation in the developing countries. The Forum, among other suggestions, considered the need for the creation of a specialised tax

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diplomacy cadre as well as a dedicated and effective developing country platform that would allow their tax officials to discuss and develop tax cooperation modalities suitable for them.

Regional Policy Dialogue on “Harnessing the Potential of Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in South Asia”

RIS jointly with UN-ESCAP organised a Regional Policy Dialogue on “Harnessing the Potential of Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in South Asia” on 20 November 2019 at New Delhi. It brought together renowned heads of Think Tanks from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Sri Lanka besides, India, to discuss the key opportunities as well as challenges for leveraging the subregional and regional cooperation for achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in South Asia. The programme began with opening remarks by Dr Nagesh Kumar, Head, United Nations ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office (UNESCAP-SSWA) and Dr Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. The eminent speakers included: Mr Nazir Kabiri, Executive Director, Biruni Institute, Afghanistan; Dr Selim Raihan, Executive Director, SANEM, Bangladesh; Mr Sonam Tashi, Chief, Policy & Planning Division, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Bhutan; Mr Dilip Chenoy, Secretary-General, FICCI; Dr Posh Raj



Participants at inaugural session of the conference.

Pandey, Chairman, South Asia Watch on Trade Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), Nepal; and Dr Dushni Weerakoon, Executive Director of the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS), Sri Lanka. Earlier the delegates also visited RIS for an interactive session with the faculty.

Non-traditional Economic and Security Risks in a Globalised World

RIS, in partnership with the The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG) Asia Pacific organised an International Conference on ‘Non-traditional Economic and Security Risks in a Globalized World’ on 28 November 2019 at New Delhi. The Conference brought together subject experts from the non-traditional security and economic landscapes to deliberate on the multitude of economic and security threats confronting the global community and had come up with



Professor S. K. Mohanty speaking at the symposium.

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policy strategies and options to address them. The programme included the following sessions: Environmental & Energy Security; Migration; Business Session; Impact of Trans-National Crime and Rise of the Cyber World on Regional Economies and Human and Economic Security. From RIS, Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, Prof. Amitabh Kundu, Distinguished Fellow, Dr P. K. Anand, Visiting Fellow, Mr Krishna Kumar, Visiting Fellow, Dr Priyadarshi Dash, Assistant Professor and Mr Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Consultant took part in the deliberations.

Advances in Coastal Research with special reference to Indo-Pacific

The National Centre for Coastal Research (NCCR), Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India and RIS jointly organised a symposium on “Advances in Coastal Research with special reference to Indo-Pacific” on 17-19 December 2019 at Chennai. Dr M. Rajeevan, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences inaugurated the Symposium. Dr Shailesh Nayak, former Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences and currently Director, NIAS and Prof. S. K. Mohanty were Guests of Honour at the inaugural session.

The symposium addressed issues related to the challenging and emerging areas of coastal research including blue economy. It provided a common platform to share the scientific knowledge on advances in these key areas of coastal research.

The symposium received wide attention of the researchers across the Indo-Pacific region and had participation from Academia (Universities, IITs), National Institutes (NIO, NCESS, CMLRE, INCOIS, NCESS, NCSCM, ICAR) and Government Departments (CWPRS, NDMA, DST etc). Participants from other countries like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, UK, USA, Ukraine, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Ghana also took part. Professor S. K. Mohanty of RIS also delivered plenary talk on relevance of ‘Blue Economy’ for India: Experimenting with the New Development Paradigm.

As is well known, blue economy has emerged as a commonly acceptable development paradigm

which has effectively blended economic growth with sustainable development. RIS has set up a Blue Economy Forum (BEF) which aims to serve as a dedicated platform for fostering dialogue on promoting the concept in the Indian Ocean 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.

The forum facilitates linkages between the policy makers, academicians and business community in the Indian Ocean and other regions.

South Asia Green Energy (SAGE) Summit 2019

India has come a long way in just a few years to rank fifth globally in renewable energy capacity. Prime Minister Narendra Modi doubled renewables target to 450 gigawatts at the UN Climate Summit in September signalling that the country’s focus on renewable energy is one for the long-term. The Economic Survey 2018-19 has pointed out that renewable energy is expected to present an investment opportunity of over \$30 billion over the next decade and beyond on an annualised basis.

The challenge from here on is to ensure adequate investor interest in India’s renewable energy story. The country has some of the cheapest solar and wind power in the world with more such projects



Participants at South Asia Green Energy Summit 2019.

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under construction. Access to low-cost financing for energy projects is something India's South Asian neighbours also struggle with. It is therefore important to ponder on how a regional financial architecture can be created to help in the funding the growth of Green Energy.

India's climate leadership balancing energy demands, economic growth and the environment also holds great promise for South Asian neighbours—Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka. No contemporary conversation on energy security can take place without speaking of storage. India needs a storage policy in place as it implements its renewable energy targets swiftly.

There is a lot of innovation and technology that India can share with the world through the International Solar Alliance. Not only is this body exemplary in international climate leadership but also enables member countries to share and innovate technology for energy access, customisable as per the need of the member countries.

To deliberate on the above issues by bringing together key stakeholders, the Asia Foundation (TAF) and RIS organised the 'South Asia Green Energy (SAGE) Summit 2019,' on 16 December 2019 at New Delhi.

The technical sessions had sector specialists/experts to deliberate and identify solutions to better enable green energy growth in India and the South Asia region: Financing Renewable Energy;

Energy Transition- Unpacking Policy Challenges; and Innovation and Technology. The programme began with welcome remarks by Ms Nandita Baruah, Country Representative – India, the Asia Foundation and opening remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Dr Timothy Kendall, Economic Counsellor, Australian High Commission made special remarks. Shri Anand Kumar, Secretary, MNRE, Government of India delivered keynote address. The first session on Financing Renewable Energy aimed to identify new sources of low-cost financing for Renewable Energy (RE) and explore regional financial architectures that can help fund the growth of green energy in the region. It was moderated by Mr Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Consultant, RIS.

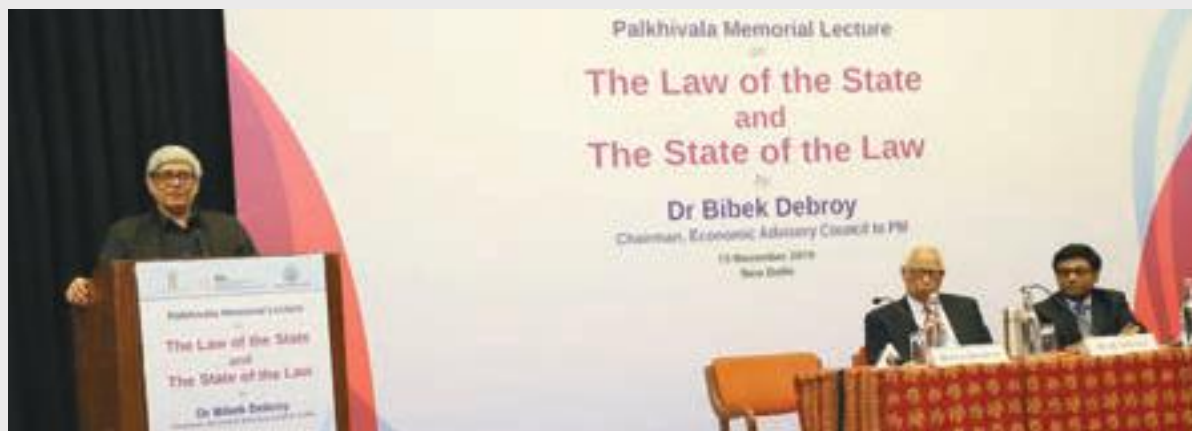
Ms Anindya Upadhyay, Senior Consultant (Renewable Energy), TAF Moderated the second session on Energy Transition: Unpacking Policy Challenges. This session focused on policy and regulatory challenges in a fast-growing renewable energy industry in India and opportunities for cross-border trade of green power.

The session on Innovation and Technology focused on technology required to ensure that the transition from heavy use of fossil fuels to a greener power mix is seamless in South Asia. It was moderated by Mr Nazrul Islam, Senior Director, TAF - Bangladesh. Dr Priyadarshi Dash, Assistant Professor, RIS made the presentation on "Renewable Energy Innovation in South Asia: Financing, Policy and Partnerships" in the session.



Panel Discussion on Leveraging STI for SDGs.

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Dr Bibek Debroy, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to PM delivering the lecture.

Panel Discussion on “Leveraging Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”

Fulfilling Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) commitments at the national level would require significant efforts at harnessing full potential of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI). At the global level, India’s single biggest achievement as part of negotiations on Agenda 2030 has been the launch of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM) for making technological solutions available to developing countries towards fulfilment of the SDGs. In this regard, RIS is actively contributing to the “Road-mapping STI for SDGs in India” initiative of the Government of India. In order to ensure that the proposed TFM fulfils its mandate globally and to deepen India’s international partnerships on STI for SDGs, RIS, jointly with OECD, organised a Panel Discussion on Leveraging Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on 4 December 2019 at New Delhi.

Dr Mohan Kumar, Chairperson, RIS delivered the inaugural address and Dr Bhaskar Balakrishnan, Science Diplomacy Fellow, RIS chaired. Special Remarks were made by Mr Jorge Moreira da Silva,

Director, Development Co-operation Directorate, OECD.

The two thematic sessions were: 1) Role of International Cooperation and Institutions; 2) National priorities on STI for SDGs: Challenges and Opportunities.

Dr Nagesh Kumar, Head, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: Subregional Office for South and South-West Asia (ESCAP-SSWA), New Delhi chaired the first session on “Role of International Cooperation and Institutions. The panelists in the session were: Dr Alex Boehmer, Head of OECD-Relations with India; Mr Hemang Priyavadan Jani, World Bank, Washington DC; and Mr Naoto Kanehira, Senior Private Sector Specialist (Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation Global Practice), World Bank, Washington DC.

The session on “National Priorities on STI for SDGs: Challenges and Opportunities had following panelists: Prof. Ambuj Sagar, Head, School of Public Policy, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi; Ms Seema Arora, Deputy Director General, CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development; Dr P. K. Anand, Visiting Fellow, RIS & Mr Krishna Kumar, Visiting Fellow, RIS; and Dr Sudhanshu S. Singh, Chief Executive Officer, Humanitarian Aid International. A large number of participants took part in the open discussion. Dr

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Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor, RIS extended the vote of thanks.

The Law of the State and the State of the Law

RIS along with Nani Palkhivala Birth Centenary Celebration Steering Committee and India International Centre (IIC) organised the Palkhivala Memorial Lecture on 'The Law of the State and the State of the Law' by Dr Bibek Debroy, Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to PM on 15 November 2019. Mr N. N. Vohra, President, IIC chaired. Programme began with remarks by Dr Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS and Major General Nilendra Kumar (Retd.) Honorary Secretary, Nani Palkhivala Birth Centenary Celebration Steering Committee.

Plenary Session on "ASEAN in the Indo-Pacific, Opportunities and Challenges for Future Economic Development"

UNESCAP in partnership with Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) organised the 4th ASEAN Economic Integration Forum at Bangkok on 9-10 December 2019. As part of the programme,

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS jointly with UNESCAP organised a Plenary Session on 'ASEAN in the Indo-Pacific, Opportunities and Challenges for Future Economic Development' at Bangkok on 9 December 2019. This session aimed to generate deeper understanding of the Indo-Pacific concept from ASEAN Outlook of Indo-Pacific (AOIP) and to identify shared perspectives, new avenues and challenges for ASEAN, and ASEAN-India relations. Mr Surat Horachaiikul, Director, India Study Centre, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand moderated the Session. The Panelists of the session were Mr Naoyoshi Noguchi, Head, Bangkok Research Centre, JETRO, Thailand; Mr Zaw Oo, Executive Director, Centre for Economic and Social Development, Myanmar; Dr Prabir De, Professor, ASEAN-India Centre, RIS, India and Dr Piti Srisangnam, Director, Academic Affairs, ASEAN Studies Centre, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand.

AROGYA 2019

RIS/FITM has been the knowledge partner for FICCI for its International AROGYA 2019 Programme held from 19th to 22nd December 2019, in Varanasi. The programme included panel discussions on topics pertaining to the AYUSH sector. Broadly, it explored issues of global



Session on ASEAN in the Indo-Pacific, Opportunities and Challenges for Future Economic Development' at UNESCAP, Bangkok.

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Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Railways and Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India delivering the Keynote Address at the Plenary Session I.

standards setting, regional cooperation, and value chain integration of the AYUSH sector. Mr Rajeev Kher, Distinguished Fellow, RIS participated as panellist and Dr Namrata Pathak, Research Associate, participated as panel coordinator for discussion on 'global regime and standardization of AYUSH products and services'.

Climate Change and Development Pathways

RIS, Centre for Policy Research (CPR), and the Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), organised a discussion Meeting on the linkages between climate change and development pathways, which would engage with the UN Environment Programme's Emissions Gap Report 2019. Mr R. R Rashmi, Distinguished Fellow and Programme Director, Earth Science and Climate Change, (TERI) chaired the session. The panelists included: Mr Simon Maxwell, Development Economist, and Former Director, Overseas Development Institute; Dr P. K. Anand, Visiting Fellow, (RIS); Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor, (RIS); and Professor Navroz K. Dubash, Professor, Centre for Policy Research, and Coordinator, CPR Initiative on Climate, Energy and Environment, India.

New Opportunities & New Partnerships Post-BAPA+40 Delhi Process Fifth Conference on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

RIS has been on the forefront of bringing all stakeholders together to deliberate on South-South Cooperation (SSC) for a better understanding of the global development architecture. In order to carry forward this process and generate a balanced and well informed debate, RIS initiated the Delhi Process conferences. The first conference in 2013, provided an international platform for such a deliberation. Subsequent conferences (2016, 2017 and 2018), highlighted the plurality and diversity of SSC, its linkages with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and looked at SSC through a theoretical lens in the light of empirical realities and emerged with a narrative asserting the 'uniqueness' of SSC. Deliberations during the Delhi Process helped contribute significantly to the Second United Nations High Level Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40), held in March 2019.

In partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC), Network

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of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST) and Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC), RIS organised the Delhi Process fifth Conference on South-South and Triangular Cooperation towards “Exploring New Opportunities and New Partnerships Post-BAPA+40”. The conference was held on 22-23 August, 2019 at New Delhi. The aim of the conference was to assess the future implications, identify challenges and develop a roadmap for SSC in tune with the consensus arrived at BAPA+40.

H.E. Dr Nomvuyo Nokwe, Secretary General, Indian Ocean Rim Association, Mauritius, delivered the inaugural address, Amb. Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS, made the welcome remarks. Mr Jorge Chediek, Director, UNOSSC; Professor Anuradha Chenoy, Chairperson, FIDC; and Professor Li Xiaoyun, Chairman, NeST made key observations on behalf of partner Institutions and Shri T. S. Tirumurti, Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, honored the conference with special remarks. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, extended the vote of thanks and welcomed participants from over 53 countries that included 16 international institutions and major SSC stakeholders.

Experts deliberated on issues related to scaling up of SSC in the face of Industry 4.0; evolving an impact assessment framework that captures the unique features of SSC; the diversity of actors and role of institutions in actualising the aspirations of the South; the role of SSC for global financial governance and simultaneously engaged in exploring the potential of Triangular Cooperation (TrC). The discussion explored the need for sharing and co-creation of technology for strengthened cooperation and presented a space for emerging agencies of the Global South to come together to share experiences, knowledge and mechanisms for the institutionalisation of SSC.

Shri Piyush Goyal, Hon'ble Minister of Railways and Minister of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, gave the keynote address for the challenges and opportunities faced by the South in respect to financial governance, underscoring India's vision of 'reformed multilateralism'. Dr Rajat Kathuria, Chief Executive, ICRIER highlighted the need for skilling and reskilling in the South as it continues the feat to catch up to Industrial Revolution 3.0 while preparing for Industrial Revolution 4.0.

The conference also evolved a broad consensus on assessing SSC against the non-negotiable



Shri T.S. Tirumurti, Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India with fellow distinguished panelists at the Inaugural session.

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principles, on one hand, and the modalities with its variations in operation, on the other. The idea of 'Development Compact' as a complementary set of interdependent modalities received considerable appreciation from the participants. The experts articulated the responsibility of Southern partners to share the impacts –positive or otherwise –with peers in the spirit of solidarity so as to help them identify best practices that may be implemented with necessary adjustments to contribute to their developmental aspirations. The purpose of SSC assessment should then be driven by the desire to enhance mutual learning and experience sharing.

Furthermore, the conference opened avenues for a continued dialogue as we march towards strengthening Southern engagement and initiating triangular partnerships for the achievement of Agenda 2030. This was underlined by Ms. Renata Lok-Dessallien, UN Resident Coordinator in India, in her special remarks and Shri Kiren Rijiju, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/C) for Youth Affairs & Sports and Minister of State for Minority Affairs, Government of India, in his valedictory address.

Delhi Process Fifth Conference further took the much needed steps to strengthen knowledge linkages initiating a Think tanks-University Connect and a Young Scholars Forum. The Think tanks-University Connect created a collective platform for knowledge creators inaugurated by the Professor V.K. Malhotra, Member Secretary, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and Dr Bhushan Patwardhan, Vice-Chairman, University Grants Commission. This new initiative aimed to further feed in teaching and research at various institutes of higher learning, bringing in the disciplines of international relations, international economics, development studies, and their interface with public policy formulation process into a collective platform.

The Young Scholars Forum highlights another vertical of strengthened SSC as it tapped into the alumni network of ITEC participants continuing the processes of knowledge exchange. It aimed to engage an increasing number of researchers

from the South in unravelling the complexities and pluralities of SSC. On this occasion, RIS also held a special exhibition with the participation of 27 partner countries and institutions, showcasing their contributions towards fortifying South-South Cooperation.

The fifth conference under the Delhi Process moved towards creating a network of policymakers, civil society and academic to bring various stakeholders together in a call for collective action and fortifying partnerships for collective development. The conference facilitated the exchanges of ideas and initiatives taking steps towards achieving the global goals for sustainable and inclusive development. The detailed agenda and key takeaways of the Conference are available on RIS website for ready reference.

De-Briefing Session on G20 Osaka Summit

The G20 Leaders' Summit took place in Osaka, Japan on 28-29 June 2019. The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi participated in the Summit and contributed to the G20 process in a substantive way. Hon'ble Shri Suresh Prabhu, Former Minister of Commerce and Industry and was India's G20 Sherpa at the Summit. The Summit was a much-awaited event for the member countries given the growing influence of G20 in global economic and political affairs. Like previous summits, India actively participated in the Osaka Summit and contributed in the form of flagging global issues of common interests to the member states.

Since India is going to assume G20 presidency in 2022, it is important to collectively deliberate upon the road map from the Osaka Summit. In order to generate informed debate among the thinkers, policy makers, academics, businesses and other stakeholders, RIS organised a 'De-Briefing Session on G20 Osaka Summit'.

Hon'ble Shri Prabhu, G20 Sherpa and Former Minister of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of

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Hon'ble Shri Suresh Prabhu, G20 Sherpa addressing the participants.

India delivered Special Address. Dr Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS Chaired the session. The Sous Sherpa Mr Suresh Reddy, Joint Secretary, Multilateral Economic Relations, Ministry of External Affairs also joined the deliberations. Mr Augustine Peter, Visiting Fellow, RIS extended the vote of thanks.

In his address, Shri Suresh Prabhu, highlighted that since there are so many global issues which need to be discussed at the G20 platform and exclusion of any particular issues may arouse criticism, there should be continuity of issues taken up in the previous presidencies along with appreciation of new issues in the subsequent presidencies. India not only participates in G20 for its own interests but it also tries to put aspirations of the other developing countries upfront in G20 deliberations. Moreover, India feels its own responsibility in global affairs as one of the largest developing countries in the world and ensures that developing world's perspectives are respected in G20.

The importance of trade at this point of time is crucial as higher trade can contribute to higher

economic growth. But global trade cannot grow unless the WTO becomes strong and functional. India has taken a number of initiatives to ensure that WTO becomes a centrality to the global trading system. After the disappointing outcome of Argentina Ministerial in 2017, India organised a mini-ministerial on 19 March 2018 to make sure that the WTO becomes more effective. The participation of 57 countries manifested the success of this event which implies that most of the member states favour reforms in the functioning of WTO.

Infrastructure can act as a catalyst for global economic growth. Many countries benefit from investments in infrastructure happening in different parts of the world. Infrastructure has a potential to pull economic activity globally. India has taken initiatives under the Prime Minister's leadership on International Solar Alliance (ISA), which in fact, will significantly contribute to the changing global energy mix.

India strongly supports the G20 stand on ocean economy and the role of oceans for economic prosperity and environmental conservation. Base

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Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog delivering the Special Address.

Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) framework has to be strengthened to seize the arbitration opportunities and locating the tax heavens.

G20 must provide the vision to bind all the countries especially the emerging markets like Indonesia, India, Brazil and Mexico which are new actors in global governance to support coordinated actions on major global issues and promote global public goods.

A large number of former diplomats, policy makers and representatives from academia, business and civil society participated in the programme.

RIS at High-Level Political Forum 2019

In continuation of RIS close association with the SDG deliberations at the United Nations, the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) process and the UN Office of South-South Cooperation – Director General Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi led a two-

member RIS delegation to the UN that included Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor to participate in the HLPF 2019 in New York during 13-19 July 2019.

As in the previous years, RIS also organised two thematic side events on the side-lines of the HLPF 2019 in New York, jointly with prominent international organisations and agencies to contribute to the debate, understanding, and narrative on SDGs, particularly SDG 17. Director General was invited to speak in the Session on “Effectiveness in South-South Co-operation” at the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC) Senior Level Meeting (SLM) on 13 July 2019. Dr Saha was also invited to participate in the SLM. In his remarks, Prof. Chaturvedi highlighted distinct perspectives on effectiveness in South-South Cooperation with regard to efficiency and convergence.

RIS organised two thematic side-events on the side-lines of HLPF 2019 first was on “Financing of



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SDGs” with RIS-UNOSSC-UN India-South Centre on 16 July 2019. With rising aspirations linked to the SDGs, commitments of developing countries have multiplied. However, at the operational level major challenges include: managing capital inflows efficiently; domestic resource mobilisation; and addressing capital flight. Developing countries are also challenged by the inadequacy of long term development finance hindering rapid expansion in capacities to take care of the needs of social sector development, infrastructure, industrialisation and also climate change mitigation.

Emergence of new institutions along with old actors is a crucial development in this regard. Further, new paradigms of sustainable development have to be mainstreamed in all forms of development financing; and domestic institutional capacities and preparedness have to be revisited. The fulfilment of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) should be central to the implementation of the SDG 17. In this context, the constant and difficult challenges with regards to capital flight; and responding to specific needs of developing countries in areas like industrialisation, SMEs, trade facilitation, skilling and gender, renewable energy and sustainable urbanisation should be prioritised.

The special address in this side-programme was delivered by Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, Government of India and the session was moderated by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, New Delhi. The distinguished panelists included Ms. Renata Lok-Dessallien, UN Resident Coordinator in India; Mr Jorge Chediek, Director and Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation; Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chair and Distinguished Fellow, Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Bangladesh; Dr John W. McArthur, Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development Programme, Brookings Institution, Washington, DC and Dr Manuel F Montes, Senior Advisor on Finance and Development, South Centre, Geneva.

In his special address Dr Rajiv Kumar emphasised on innovative use of resources, embedded application of technology and endogenous development models for developing countries.

The second programme on “Strengthening SDG 17 through South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Plurality and Way Forward from BAPA+40” was organised with Network of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST), UNOSSC, OECD and BRICS Policy Centre on 18 July 2019. Development experiences in the South are leading to unique narratives that would impart rigor and robustness to the evolving global partnerships. Experience sharing on development and resource management in the South is a crucial consideration to fulfill the aspirations of equitable development in the South.

The existing gaps can be bridged not only through timely and adequate provision of financial resources but also through building robust institutional frameworks on knowledge sharing, technology transfer, absorptive capacities and technical support. Keeping these objectives in mind, the roadmap emerging from BAPA+40, therefore, should be linked with wider partnerships between development actors and agencies, convergence of modalities as well as forging collaborations in the spirit of triangular cooperation. The key issues for deliberations were: the state of SSC in different regions for experience sharing; challenges for SSC in fulfilling the Agenda 2030; the Roadmap from BAPA+40.

The session was moderated by Mr Jorge Chediek, Director and Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation. The distinguished panelists included Amb. Nagaraj Naidu, Ambassador and Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of India to the UN; Ms. Ana Ciuti, Director General of International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, Argentina, Mr Robin Ogilvy, OECD Special Representative to the UN, Dr Paulo Esteves, Director, BRICS Policy Centre, Brazil, Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director

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General, RIS, and Ms. Xiaojun Grace Wang, Deputy Director for Programme and Operations, UNOSSC. Prof. Chaturvedi emphasised on sector specific cooperation for South-South Cooperation as way forward from BAPA+40, and the key transformative initiatives taken by India for leaving no one behind with reference to financial inclusion. Prof. Chaturvedi also highlighted NeST's efforts in shaping SDG 17 indicators.

During the above visit, there were other engagements and outreach activities also as part of the RIS's new research initiative on role of social enterprises, private sector, and innovative financing for the SDGs, RIS delegation interacted with Dr Sten H. Vermund, MD, Anna M.R. Lauder Professor of Public Health and Dean, Yale School of Public Health and his colleagues. RIS also hosted a dinner meeting in Honour of Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice-chairman, NITI Aayog and head of the Indian delegation to the HLPF on 16 July 2019 in New York. The meeting deliberated on the aforementioned subject and was attended by representatives of prominent philanthropic foundations based in the US, international agencies, social entrepreneurs and civil society organisations from India. Dr Sabyasachi Saha participated in the side event on Innovating Partnerships with the Private Sector: How to Achieve Greater SDG Impact at the Ford Foundation in New York on 16 July 2019.

Towards the preparation and dialogue on Delhi Process V – South-South and Triangular Cooperation: Exploring New Opportunities and New Partnerships Post-BAPA+40, Director General, RIS met the Director General of APC Colombia (Cuenta oficial de la Agencia Presidencial de Cooperación – Presidential Agency for Cooperation) H.E. Ms. Angela Ospina on 17 July 2019.

Director General was invited to speak at the following forums: 1) Inequality in human development: consultation with southern-based think-tanks for the 2019 Human Development Report on 18 July 2019; 2) The South-South Global Thinkers Dialogue: Reflection on BAPA+40 Outcome Document 17 July 2019; and 3) Joint Side Event in the High Level Political Forum 2019: Joining efforts: Measurement of South-South Cooperation contribution to the SDGs on 17 July 2019. In his remarks at the consultation on the Human Development Report 2019, Prof. Chaturvedi elaborated on the importance of issues related to access and basic needs; quality of life and wellness issues with considerations for global biodiversity loss; and FDI and inclusion issues, illicit financial flows, and global tax issues.

RIS delegation also participated in the NITI Aayog Side Event on “From Commitment to Achievement: India's Experience in Localising the



Dr Surupa Gupta, Associate Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at the University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, USA, at the seminar on US-India Trade Relations

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Mr M. Shahidul Islam, Secretary General, BIMSTEC making presentation

Sustainable Development Goals” on 16 July 2019 at the UN Headquarters.

US-India Trade Relations

India-U.S. bilateral relations have developed into a “global strategic partnership”, based on shared democratic values and increasing convergence of interests on bilateral, regional and global issues. The US and India are long-standing partners in trade. RIS has been engaged in conducting research on US-India economic relations. As part of this work programme, RIS organised a Seminar on US-India trade relations on 25 July 2019 at RIS. Dr Surupa Gupta, Associate Professor of Political Science and International Affairs at the University of Mary Washington, Fredericksburg, USA, was the main speaker.

In her presentation, the speaker highlighted that under the Trump administration, many of the United States’ bilateral relations have seen dramatic disruptions. Against this backdrop, strategic relation with India has stayed on an even keel. However, trade relation between the two democracies has taken a beating as a result

of several of the current US administration’s initiatives including the imposition of tariffs on steel and aluminium, ending the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) programme for India and threatening India’s interests in service sector trade. It was also argued that the trade spat is a part of a longer-term, normative battle between India and the United States over global norms on trade. At the same time, while further escalation of the trade conflict is possible, its impact on the overall strategic partnership is likely to remain small. A large number of participants took part in the discussion that followed.

Future Orientation of BIMSTEC

RIS has been actively associated with the work programme of BIMSTEC since its inception. Recently, there has been added emphasis on strengthening our ties with BIMSTEC member countries. In this context, RIS organized a talk by Hon’ble Mr M. Shahidul Islam, Secretary General, BIMSTEC on the theme of ‘Future Orientation of BIMSTEC’ on 24 July 2019 at RIS. Ambassador Dr Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS chaired. H.E. Mr

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Dr A. Senthil Kumar, Director, Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia Pacific delivering FISD lecture at RIS.

Chutintorn Gongsakdi, Ambassador, Embassy of Thailand, New Delhi and Mr Seshadari Chari, Member, RIS, Governing Council were the Distinguished Discussants. A large number of participants took part in the open discussion.

Science Diplomacy and Capacity Building in Space Application

RIS, under its Forum for Indian Science Diplomacy (FISD), launched a monthly Lecture Series on 18th September 2019 with the lecture by Dr A. Senthil Kumar, Director, Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia-Pacific (CSSTEAP) (a UN Centre), Dehradun on "Science Diplomacy and Capacity Building in Space Applications". Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS, delivered the introductory remarks highlighting the crucial role of STI in addressing various societal challenges as well as SDGs. The invited speaker, Dr Senthil Kumar dwelled upon various facets on Indian space science and technology education and applications. He highlighted the nine societal areas which are benefited from the space data. These are namely disasters, health, agriculture, energy, climate, water, weather, ecosystems and biodiversity. In addition, space data are very useful in city planning, transportation and communication network.

On the role of CSSTEAP, a unique regional

centre set-up by the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UN-OSSA) in 1995, Dr Senthil Kumar elaborated upon the various capacity building and training programmes (including MEA's ITEC programmes) that the Centre conducts for both national and international professionals, particularly from developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region. So far, 2217 participants from 36 Asia-Pacific countries have benefited from these capacity building programmes. India has also shared its self-learning education dashboard "SWAMI" (System for Weather and Aapdaa Management Information) with its neighbouring countries such as Sri Lanka and Nepal. Dr Senthil Kumar also talked about six dimensions of Indian Satellite Programme, viz. Space infrastructure, applications, institutionalisation, ground segment, capacity building and international cooperation. India has cooperation arrangements with 34 countries in the domain of space. The need for science 'data' diplomacy was also stated during the lecture, so that the critical data pertaining to disasters are shared among the countries on time for effective disaster management.

Third ASEAN-India Workshop on Blue Economy

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Thailand, jointly with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)

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of India, the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta, the National Maritime Foundation (NMF), New Delhi and RIS, organised the third ASEAN-India Workshop on Blue Economy on 12 September 2019 in Bangkok.

Dr Suriya Chindawongse, Director-General of the Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand delivered the Opening Remarks. The Keynote Address was delivered by H.E. Ms. Suchitra Durai, Ambassador of India to Thailand. The Workshop was attended by ASEAN Member States, senior officials and about 100 participants from ASEAN and India.

The workshop was divided into four sessions to facilitate an in-depth discussion on Blue Economy and to identify specific areas where ASEAN and India can cooperate and work together. The four sessions were (1) Development in the Blue Economy; (2) Sustainable Harnessing of Marine Resources; (3) Maritime Connectivity and (4) Maritime Safety and Diplomacy.

The Third ASEAN-India Workshop on Blue Economy raised an in-depth discussion on the blue

economy, which is increasingly seen as a driver of inclusive and sustainable economic growth and development.

In ASEAN and India, Blue Economy has been identified as a new pillar of economic activity in the coastal areas and linked hinterlands through sustainable tapping of oceanic resources. Blue Economy is knowledge intensive with expertise required from many resources, and, thus, there is a need for collaboration between India and ASEAN in terms of pooling in expertise. As maritime neighbours sharing a common maritime domain, a common dependence on the oceans and seas and a common understanding of the importance of sustainable utilisation of ocean resources, ASEAN and India are the ideal partners in taking further the agenda of the Blue Economy. With a view to promoting the development of Blue Economy in the region and enhancing ASEAN-India cooperation in Blue Economy, participants suggested several policy recommendations. Finally, Mr Asi Mamanee, Deputy Director General of the Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand delivered the Closing



Participants at the 3rd ASEAN-India Workshop on Blue Economy.

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Distinguished participants at the Sixth IBSA Academic Forum held at Kochi on 3-4 May 2019.

Remarks. Mr Nikhilesh Giri, Joint Secretary, Indo-Pacific Division, Ministry of External Affairs, India delivered the Valedictory Address. Prof. Yasuhiro Yamada, Special Assistant to the President of ERIA gave Special Address. Dr Prabir De, Professor, RIS extended the vote of thanks.

Delegations from Institute of Trade and Development (ITD) and Indian Study Centre of Chulalongkorn University from Yunnan University

A three-member delegation from Yunnan University, China visited AIC at RIS on 9th August 2019. Visitors discussed several bilateral and regional topics of mutual interests, particularly BIMSTEC, ASEAN-India cooperation, and India-China Cooperation. Delegation was headed by Dr Li Chenyang, Professor and Vice President, Yunnan University, and other members were Dr Lu Guangsheng, Professor, Center for China's Neighbor Diplomacy Studies, Yunnan University; Dr Liu Peng, Associate Professor, Institute of Myanmar Studies, Yunnan University, Yunnan Province, China; and Mr Zhang Liang, Counselor, Head of Policy Planning Section, Embassy of the Peoples Republic of China in India, New Delhi.

Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS made a presentation on Indian foreign policy and highlighted the potential areas of cooperation between India and China.

About 12 members of delegation of ITD and the Indian Study Centre of Chulalongkorn University from Thailand visited AIC at RIS on 15 July 2019. Dr Surat Horachaikul, Director, Indian Studies Center, Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University was leading the delegation from Thailand. Delegation interacted with us on BIMSTEC and India's approaches to Bay of Bengal cooperation. Dr Prabir De made a presentation on "BIMSTEC: Current Status and Opportunities", followed by an interaction with the delegation members on Thailand perspectives on BIMSTEC and other global issues. Mr Mahesh Arora, Director (Finance and Administration), RIS also participated in the discussion.

RIS Co-hosts Sixth IBSA Academic Forum in Kochi

RIS was entrusted with the task to convene the Sixth IBSA Academic Forum alongside the IBSA Sherpas' Meeting on 3-4 May 2019 at Kochi, Kerala. The Forum provided the desired momentum to the IBSA process, and hence reinforced the continued



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relevance of this unique trilateral partnership for global governance and development cooperation. RIS is privileged to be associated with the IBSA since its inception.

The first day of Sixth IBSA Academic Forum began with welcome remarks and Context- Setting by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Amb. Sunil Lal, Former Indian Ambassador to Brazil, Chaired the inaugural session. Shri T.S. Tirumurti, Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, delivered the inaugural address, which was followed by a Panel Discussion on Contemporary Global Governance and the Role of IBSA, which was chaired by Amb. Rajiv Kumar Bhatia, former Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), India. The Panelists were: Professor William Gumede, School of Governance, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa; Professor Uallace Moreira Lima, Universidade Federal da Bahia (UFBA), and Visiting Researcher, Brazilian Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPEA), Brazil; and Professor Sreeram Chaulia, Dean, Jindal School of International Affairs (JSIA); Executive Director of the Centre for Global Governance and Policy (CGGP), JSIA, India; Professor Narnia Bohler-Muller, Executive Director, Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC), Pretoria, South Africa, was the lead discussant.

The Plenary Session I on Strengthening South-South Cooperation (SSC) through IBSA was Chaired by Mr José Romero Pereira Júnior, Coordinator, International Relations Program, Catholic University of Brasilia (UCB) and Researcher, Brazilian Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPEA), Brazil. Panelists in this session included: Professor Milindo Chakrabarti, Visiting Fellow, RIS, India; Professor Elizabeth Sidiropolous, Chief Executive, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), South Africa; and Dr Elen De Paula Bueno, University of Sao Paulo (USP), Brazil. Professor S. K. Mohanty, RIS, India, was the lead discussant.

After this, a Special Session on 'Towards a Collaborative Academic Network among Institutions of Higher Learning in IBSA Countries – Opportunities and Potential Gains' was chaired by Professor Anuradha Chenoy, Chairperson, Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC), and formerly Dean, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India. In this session, Professor Ahmed Bawa, Chief Executive Officer of Universities South Africa (USAf), South Africa; Professor A. Subramanyam Raju, Coordinator, Centre for Maritime Studies, School of Social Sciences & International Studies, Pondicherry University; India and Mr José Romero Pereira Júnior, Coordinator, International Relations Program, Catholic University of Brasilia (UCB) and Researcher, Brazilian Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPEA), Brazil were the panelists. Prof. Sreeram Chaulia, Dean, Jindal School of International Affairs (JSIA); Executive Director of the Centre for Global Governance and Policy (CGGP), JSIA, India, was the lead discussant.

On Day two began with, Plenary Session II on 'Trade Cooperation: Competitiveness and Complementarities' which was chaired by Professor Elizabeth Sidiropolous, Chief Executive, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), South Africa. Professor S. K. Mohanty, RIS, India; Professor Rasigan Maharajah, Chief Director Institute for Economic Research on Innovation, Tshwane University of Technology, Pretoria, South Africa; and Professor Uallace Moreira Lima, Universidade Federal da Bahia (UFBA), and Visiting Researcher, Brazilian Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPEA), Brazil were panelists, and the lead discussant was Professor K. J. Joseph, Centre for Development Studies, India.

Mr Sheshadri Chari, Member, Governing Council, RIS, Chaired the Valedictory Session - 'IBSA 2030 – The Way Forward'. Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor, RIS and Faculty Coordinator, IBSA Fellowship Programme presented Rapporteur's

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Report. Representative Institution from Brazil and of South Africa presented their respective views. A special interaction with IBSA Sherpas was also organised.

On this occasion RIS publication entitled “*Dynamics of IBSA Development Cooperation*” was launched. The volume has contributions from the previous years IBSA Fellows.

The final declaration emanating from IBSA Academic Forum called for early convening of the impending IBSA Summit and outlined the role of IBSA with regard to its unwavering commitment to multilateralism, democratisation of the UN, role in promoting world peace and security, and mainstreaming sustainable development. The forum reiterated that the edifice of the IBSA partnership stands on strong pillars of South-South Cooperation with plurality of approaches and convergence of modalities and highlighted the importance of IBSA declaration on South-South Cooperation. The Academic Forum called for deeper trade integration and cooperation on standards, investment and the financial sector. Finally, the Academic Forum recommended strong academic and research linkages in IBSA for strengthening Southern perspectives on the development discourse; and leveraging emerging frontiers like human security, renewable energy and green technologies, blue economy and ocean governance that hold immense significance for IBSA. The complete text is available on RIS website: www.ris.org.in.

Improved Access to Medicines and Evidence Based Policy in Health

RIS had coordinated a study on the patient health adherence and monitoring, involving health workers (ASHAs) and their using a mobile app for data management. The study was conducted at five taluks in Ernakulam District, Kerala, covering a population of one lakh. From this, patients with Cardio-Vascular Diseases (CVDs) were identified, and their health and response to health



Lead Presenters of the study done under REWARD project.

communications were monitored and followed up. Findings from an earlier study, that paved the way for this study, have also been published in peer reviewed journals, including BMJ Open, Indian Heart Journal and International Journal of Cardiology.

This study was done under REWARD Project (focuses on Evidence Based Policy Making in Health, and, Access to Medicines and Incentivizing Innovation in Drug R&D), funded by European Research Council (ERC) with University of Calgary, University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN), and RIS as the partner institutions.

As the study was conducted in partnership with Kerala government departments and local bodies, the findings are considered relevant for public health policy- making in Kerala and of course for other states also. In this regard, RIS had organised dissemination workshop at Thiruvananthapuram on 26 June 2019 and a Consultation Meeting at New Delhi on 28 June 2019.

Brainstorming Session on External Sector, Skills and Employment

The Government of India has been targeting on employment generation for youths through the development of appropriate skills. In this context, a brainstorming Session at RIS with a group of select experts was organised to deliberate on this and related issues on 17 June 2019.

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Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister (I/C), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs; Minister of State (I/C), Ministry of Civil Aviation and Minister of State, Ministry of Commerce and Industry chairing the roundtable on Skill and Employment.

Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, Hon'ble Minister (I/C), Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs; Minister of State (I/C), Ministry of Civil Aviation and Minister of State, Ministry of Commerce and Industry chaired the Session. The other fellow participants in the discussion were: Mr Seshadri Chari, Member, RIS Governing Council; Dr Dilip Chenoy, Secretary General, FICCI; Dr Nagesh Kumar, UN-ESCAP, New Delhi; Dr Sunil Shukla, Director, EDI, Gandhinagar, Gujarat; Prof. Mukti Kanta Mishra, President, Centurion University, Bhubaneswar; Mr Yogesh Kumar, Executive Director, Samarthan-Centre for Development Support, Bhubaneswar; Professor Pulak Ghosh, Chair of Excellence and Professor of Decision

Sciences, IIM, Bengaluru; Ms Shruti Gonsalves, Managing Director, SEWA Grih Rin Ltd, New Delhi; Dr Gayathri Vasudevan, and Mr Rajesh; CEO; Labournet; Bengaluru; Prof. Anoop K. Satpathy; V.V. Giri National Labour Institute; NOIDA; Mr Ranajit Bhattacharyya, and; Mr Anant Mani, Pratham Education Foundation, New Delhi; and Mr Harsh Singh, Senior Coordinator, UNDP.

From RIS, Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General; Dr S. K. Mohanty, Professor; Professor Amitabh Kundu, Distinguished Fellow; Dr Priyadarshi Dash, Assistant Professor; Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor; Mr Gaurav Sharma; Project Manager, GDI; Dr Durairaj



At AAGC Consultation, RIS delegation with representatives from the industry and business circles.

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Kumarasamy, Consultant; and Mr Subhomoy Bhattacharjee participated.

Approaching African Continent through AAGC

The Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) is multi-country development initiative initiated by India and Japan for strengthening economic linkages between Asia and Africa. RIS, the Indian think tank for AAGC, has provided lead to the process of conceptualisation and formulating the vision document. In order to engage the Indian firms and businesses in this initiative and spreading awareness about the initiative, RIS and EXIM Bank of India jointly organised a one-day seminar on “Approaching African Continent through AAGC” at Mumbai on May 17, 2019. The seminar raised interesting issues relating to the business opportunities for Indian businesses in the African countries, role of the private sector, investment prospects and challenges, financing mechanisms, institutional facilitation and policy intervention.

The seminar reiterated the importance of AAGC as an innovative model of promoting development partnership among the Asian and African countries. By connecting growth poles in Asia and Africa such as Mombasa port in Kenya, Dawei and Sittwe ports in Myanmar, etc. AAGC aims to promote local industrialisation and inclusive development in the participating countries. Indian firms can focus investments in sectors like automobile especially on passenger transportation, municipal and ambulance services, agriculture, and renewable energy. Although Indian businesses have significant presence in Africa, the risk perception among Indian investors seems to be very high which needs proactive action by the Indian missions in Africa, EXIM Bank of India, Export Promotion Council (EPC), industry associations like CII, FICCI, and other agencies involved in trade and investment promotion. EXIM Bank of India should spread awareness about investment opportunities in Africa and explore financing schemes along with the Lines of Credit

(LoC). Export Promotion Council (EPC) should organise exhibitions of Indian products in different countries in Africa. In view of high perceived risks handholding of private sector firms by the Government of India needs to be considered.

A large number of representatives from the business and industry circles, including KEC International Ltd; Larsen & Toubro Ltd; Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd; Tata Consultancy; Tata Motors Ltd; Tata Steel Ltd.; Engineers India Ltd; and Kirloskar Brothers Ltd. participated in the deliberations.

Shri Keshav Chandra, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry and Mr Prasanna V. Salian, Dy. Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, gave their valuable suggestions at the consultation meeting. The EXIM Bank was represented by Mr David Rasquinha, ED; Mr Samuel Joseph; CGM; Mr David Sinate, CGM and Mr Prahalathan S. Iyer, CGM. From RIS Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General; Mr Seshadri Chari, Member, RIS, Governing Council and General Body; Mr Rajeev Kher, Distinguished Fellow; Ambassador Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow; and Mr Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Consultant, took part in the consultation meeting.

RIS-DST-NIAS Seminar on Science Diplomacy

As has been reported earlier, RIS with the support from the Department of Science & Technology (DST) had launched a ‘Science Diplomacy Programme’ jointly with NIAS, Bengaluru. The programme aims to realize the potential of the Science Diplomacy through capacity-building, developing of networks and for strategic thinking.

As part of this programme, RIS-NIAS organised Seminar on Science Diplomacy on 22 April 2019 at New Delhi to discuss emerging narratives from India on the theory and practice of science diplomacy and also to present India’s successful endeavors in the domain of space, nuclear and aerospace using science diplomacy. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi,

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Director-General, RIS initiated the programme by welcome address. Thereafter, Special Address was given by Professor V. S. Ramamurthy, Former Secretary, Department of Science and Technology and Professor Emeritus, NIAS. Dr Sadhna Relia, Head (International Cooperation), Department of Science and Technology, gave Keynote remarks, which was followed by remarks of Dr Bhaskar Balakrishnan, Science Diplomacy Fellow, RIS and Former Indian Ambassador and of Professor D. Suba Chandran, Dean, School of Conflict and Security Studies, NIAS and Coordinator, NIAS Science Diplomacy Initiative.

During the seminar, the distinguished speakers highlighted the role of science diplomacy in the present era, and deliberated on emerging issues. The main point that emerged is: Science and Technology cooperation as a formal diplomatic tool has been a very significant development of the twentieth century. However, it was also highlighted that such cooperations have been limited somewhat to the scientific community only with very little involvement of the state. Therefore, there is a need for greater engagement of the government in leveraging the potential of science diplomacy to use it for the national

development and economic growth of the nation. India's lead role in establishing International Solar Alliance (ISA) at New Delhi, has been seen as a remarkable instance of successful science diplomacy endeavour in recent times.

It was also pointed out during the deliberations that India needs to engage more in S&T partnerships with other developing countries of the neighbourhood. Given India's proven strength in S&T endeavours, its utilisation for diplomatic gains in Asian region and select countries in the other regions, needs to be explored further. Ideas such as establishing an "Open University" catering to all developing countries in the neighbourhood and promoting "Telemedicine" to enable healthcare reach across the wider population across the region, can be taken up to accelerate India's efforts in science diplomacy.

During the seminar, many valuable outcomes emerged towards strengthening India's science diplomacy efforts. Setting-up of a High-technology S&T infrastructure facility and of a High-tech S&T Incubation (Interface) Centre for show-casing S&T products/services, reviewing and facilitating adoption can be explored further in the future.



Distinguished panelists at the RIS-DST-NIAS seminar on Science Diplomacy.

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Ambassador Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS chairing the inaugural session of the seminar.

Seminar on Digital Economy, e-Commerce and the WTO

The Digital Technology has acquired the center stage in the global trade discourse. It has manifested in different ways, such as the proposal on the Permanent Moratorium on Electronic Transmission and constitution of a plurilateral group on e-Commerce in the WTO Ministerial Meeting at Buenos Aires. Lately, India has also drafted an e-commerce Policy to create a regulatory and developmental profile in a rapidly rising sector. India had chosen not to participate in the Plurilateral Discussion on e-commerce in the WTO. Thus, there are several issues in the realm of the digital technology, which are needing apt attention of policy-makers and experts globally.

To deliberate upon some of these important issues, RIS had organised a Consultation on "e-Commerce" on 5 June 2019. Ambassador Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS, had chaired the inaugural session. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, made introductory remarks. It was followed by inaugural Address by Mr Sudhanshu Pandey, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce. Mr Rajeev Kher, Distinguished Fellow, RIS, chaired the first working session on the Moratorium on Electronic Transmission and e-Commerce discussions in WTO in which Ms. Rashmi Banga, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, UNCTAD was the lead speaker. Ambassador Jayant Dasgupta, former Indian Ambassador to

WTO and Mr A. K. Garg, Director, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology were the main interveners.

The next session on Importance of Data Protection, Sharing and Processing: Challenges and Opportunities for India had Mr Kiran Karnik, former President, NASSCOM, as the main speaker. Mr Anand Krishnan, Data Security Council of India and Mr Arvind Gupta, Head, Digital India Foundation, were interveners. The concluding session was on Draft National E-Commerce Policy, in which Mr Shailender Singh, Additional Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade was the main speaker with the intervention by Mr Abhijit Das, Head, Centre for WTO Studies.

India-Africa Partnership in Agriculture

India and Africa share a long history of friendship and cooperation. While bilateral development cooperation between them is expanding both the regions are facing certain common challenges, particularly in the areas of food and nutrient security and productivity.

The Indian government has been promoting many initiatives to strengthen India-Africa cooperation in agricultural sector. As efforts are being made for the next India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS), many issues and opportunities are emerging. Keeping this in view, RIS has been actively facilitating discussions on various aspects of the India-Africa cooperation in the agricultural sector. In continuation of this endeavour, RIS, in collaboration with the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) had organised a "Roundtable on India-Africa Partnership in Agriculture" on 7 June 2019.

H.E. Mr Ben Joubert, Acting High Commissioner, South African High Commission, New Delhi, had chaired the inaugural session. It began with the welcome remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and Dr Nafees Meah, South

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Asia Representative, IRRI. Dr Abdelbagi M Ismail, Regional Representative for Eastern and Southern Africa, IRRI, gave special remarks. Shri Sanjay Agarwal, Secretary, Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare delivered the inaugural address.

Session 1 on India-Africa Cooperation in Agriculture: Prospects and Challenges was chaired by Dr Suresh Pal, Director, ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research. Dr Alka Bhargava, Additional Secretary (International Cooperation), Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare was the chairman for the Session 2 on India-Africa Cooperation in Agricultural R&D and Technologies. The concluding session was chaired by Dr Arabinda Mitra, Scientific Secretary, Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to Government of India. Dr Neena Malhotra, Joint Secretary, MEA, delivered the special remarks. Dr Nafees Meah, South Asia Representative, IRRI, presented the Takeaways from the Discussion.

Many new ideas had emerged during the deliberations, which would be very well fed into the wider work programme of the RIS connected with Asia and Africa, where possibilities of sectoral specificities are being explored, as India prepares for the India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS) in the next year.

The first point that needs to be underlined is the significant role of SDGs in helping Africa move forward and how STI can be leveraged for addressing issues in hand. Second issue is in terms of how India's own development experience, India's own policy fabric, that can be made relevant in terms of carrying forward the partnership between India-Africa in different sectors including agriculture, blue economy, fisheries and livestock. Third key point is the need for scaling-up the successful interventions made so far by the Indian partners in African countries.. The experience of Cotton-4 project carried out successfully by IL&FS is a case in point.

The final key point is in terms of the role of



(From left to right) Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Shri. Sanjay Agarwal, Secretary, Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare; H.E. Mr Ben Joubert, Acting High Commissioner, South African High Commission, New Delhi; Dr Abdelbagi M Ismail, Regional Representative for Eastern and Southern Africa, IRRI; and Dr Nafees Meah, South Asia Representative, IRRI.

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institutions. Indian institutions are getting linked with Africa, and also international institutions and Indian institutions are coming together in the form of support mechanisms, which are very important. This is what India has been emphasising in terms of engagement with Africa. To strengthen the process of institutionalization, successful example of setting-up of thirteen African Centres of Excellence by India in various African countries is a significant endeavour towards strengthening the partnership.

Special Session on Artificial Intelligence

RIS is following closely the emerging global trends in Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology and governance and the challenges before the policy-makers and regulators especially in India and for developing countries, in general. Keeping this in view, RIS had organised a brief brainstorming session on 23 April 2019 with an objective to map research on AI and society and to identify broad themes and concerns, and then develop a road map for further research on ethical, social and legal implications of AI and its governance.

The programme began with welcome remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Ambassador S.T. Devare, Chairman, Research Advisory Council (RAC) of RIS, chaired the session. The prominent speakers were: Shri Rajeev Kher, Distinguished Fellow, RIS; Shri Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS; Prof. V. Kamakoti, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, IIT Madras; Ms. Sindhushree Khullar, Member, RAC of RIS; Dr V. Siddhartha, former Secretary of Science Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India; Dr Bhaskar Balakrishnan, Science Diplomacy Fellow, RIS and Former Indian Ambassador; Dr Sadhana Relia, Head, International Cooperation, Department of Science & Technology; Dr S.R. Rao, Adviser, Department of Biotechnology; Ms. Kavita Bhatia, Director, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology; Shri Mayank, Scientist D, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

From RIS, Dr Ravi Srinivas, Consultant; Shri Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Consultant; Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor; Dr Amit Kumar, Research Associate; Ms. Nimita Pandey, Research Associate and Ms. Geetika Khanduja, Research Assistant attended the session.

Trilateral Highway and Its Implication on India's Northeast Region: Interaction with Tamu Border Authority

RIS has been conducting a new study entitled "Trilateral Highway and Its Implication on India's Northeast Region". In connection with this study, a four member study team, led by Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS, visited Tamu and met with Tamu Border Trade officials at Tamu, Myanmar on 9 April 2019. The meeting was attended by Indian Consul General, Mr Nandan Singh Bhaisora. Besides, Prof. Priyaranjan Singh, Manipur University also attended the meeting. The meeting was attended by District Collector, Tamu; Department of Trade, Customs; Trade Chambers from Moreh and Tamu, and other stake holders and business community from India and Myanmar. Deliberations were held on border trade, procedures, impediments, setting up a Joint Border Trade Committee, Rupee Trade, early completion of connectivity projects, e-visa, border pass, air and bus connectivity, Motor Vehicle Agreement and various other issues.

RIS Seminar on Act East: India's Trade at Northeastern Border

RIS organised a Seminar on "Act East: India's Trade at Northeastern Border" on 3 June 2019, New Delhi. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made welcome remarks. Ambassador Gautam Mukhopadhyay chaired the seminar and made opening remarks. Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at

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RIS made a presentation on “Act East: Trade in Northeast India”. His presentation broadly covered challenges and opportunities in trade with neighbouring countries under the Act East Policy (AEP).

In particular, Dr De talked about previous and recent field visits to Northeast India and drew several findings and policy recommendations for unlocking the potentials of Northeast region and various border connectivity projects and initiatives. Mr Vanlalruata Fanai, Assistant General Manager, Research and Analysis Group, EXIM Bank was the discussant. The seminar was attended by research scholars, government officials, diplomats and among others.

India-Central Asia: Traditional Ties and Development Partnership

India has always prioritised strengthening of the development cooperation with the Central Asian Countries. Considering the need, RIS had organised a Seminar on ‘India-Central Asia: Traditional Ties and Development Partnership’ on 4 April 2019, chaired by Ambassador Amar Sinha,

Distinguished Fellow. The programme began with welcome remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Ambassador Alok Dimri, Ambassador of India to Kyrgyzstan was the lead speaker.

His exposition was followed by discussion by H. E. Mr Asein Isaev, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Embassy of the Kyrgyz Republic; H. E. Mr Shalar Geldynazarov, Ambassador, Embassy of Turkmenistan; Mr A’zamjon Mansurov, First Secretary, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Uzbekistan in India and Dr Ram Upendra Das, Head and Professor, Centre for Regional Trade, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade.

FTAs and Indian Economy

A Discussion Meeting on FTAs and Indian Economy was organized on 9 May 2019 at RIS. The eminent persons involved actively in the discussions were: Shri Sudhanshu Pandey, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I); Mr Ashwani Mahajan, National Convenor, Swadeshi Jagaran Manch; ; Mr Dammu Ravi, Joint Secretary, MoC&I; Dr Rathin Roy,



Ambassador Alok Dimri, Ambassador of India to Kyrgyzstan, the lead speaker at the seminar with other fellow participants.

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Dr Suriya Chindawongse delivering a talk at the RIS Breakfast Seminar.

Director, NIPFP; Dr Abhijit Das, Head, Centre for WTO Studies, IIFT; Mr Anilesh Mahajan; and Dr Ram Upendra Das, Head, Centre for Regional Trade. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General; Prof. S. K. Mohanty; Ambassador Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow; and Mr Rajeev Kher, Distinguished Fellow from RIS to take part in the deliberations.

Strengthening India-Africa Economic Relations

RIS has initiated a major substantive research programme on trade, investment, technology and finance related cooperation with Africa. Considering this, a consultation was organised on 27 June 2019 for exploring way forward in identifying key priorities, key challenges and possible institutional cooperations and responses.

A large number of distinguished participants took part in the deliberations were: Amb. Satish Mehta; Amb. Ajit Kumar; Amb. Divyabh Manchanda; Amb. Ajampur Rangaiah Ghanashyam; Amb. Radhika Lokesh; Mr G V Srinivas, Joint Secretary, MEA; Mr Mohit Yadav, Director (C&WA), MEA; Mr E. B. Rajesh, International Regional Director-Africa, CII; Dr Milan Sharma, Head-Global Initiatives, IL&FS Clusters Development Initiative

Ltd., Mr Nadeem Panjetan, Chief General Manager, EXIM Bank; Prof. Ajay Kumar Dubey, JNU; Dr Shahid Ahmed, formerly Professor and Head, Jamia Millia Islamia; Prof. Suresh Kumar, formerly, Dept of African Studies, University of Delhi; and Dr Ruchita Beri, IDSA.

From RIS, Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr S.K. Mohanty; Ambassador Amar Sinha; Ambassador Bhaskar Balakrishnan; Dr P.K. Anand; Mr Krishna Kumar; Dr Ravi Srinivas; Dr Beena Pandey; Mr Arun S. Nair; Dr Sabyasachi Saha; Dr Priyadarshi Dash; Dr Amit Kumar; Dr Sushil Kumar; Ms. Nimita Pandey; Dr Abha Jaiswal; Mr M.C. Arora; and Dr Namrata Pathak took part in discussion.

RIS Breakfast Seminar Series

ASEAN Indo-Pacific Outlook and India

The 'Indo-Pacific' construct has gained significant attention in the recent years. Both, India and ASEAN, occupy important strategic positions in the region. India believes in an Indo-Pacific that is free, open and inclusive, and one that is founded upon a cooperative and collaborative rules-based order. This finds resonance not just across the

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Prof. Ravi B. Grover, Emeritus Professor and Former VC, Homi Bhabha National Institute delivered the Twentieth STIP Forum Lecture

region but across the entire world. Indo-Pacific is a region where several Asian powers are again rising; especially in geo-economic terms. While ASEAN centrality has been accepted, ASEAN and India can work together in building the Indo-Pacific. As maritime neighbours, sharing a common maritime domain, a common dependence on the oceans and seas and a common understanding of the importance of sustainable exploitation of ocean resources, ASEAN and India can be ideal partners in advancing Indo-Pacific partnership.

ASEAN countries had presented their respective Indo-Pacific narratives. On 20 March 2019, Indonesia had hosted a High Level Indo-Pacific Dialogue at Jakarta. Thailand, being the ASEAN's Chair, is actively engaged in shaping the Indo-Pacific agenda, and it is important to understand the Thailand's Indo-Pacific strategy.

To analyse these issues in the light of the above backdrop, Dr Suriya Chindawongse, Director-General, Department of ASEAN Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand delivered a RIS breakfast talk on "ASEAN Indo-Pacific Outlook and India" on 10 April 2019 at RIS. H.E. Mr Chutintorn Gongsakdi, Thai Ambassador to India, also joined in the deliberations. The Seminar was Chaired by Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, former Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. A large number of participants took part in open discussion.

Launch of Journal of Asian Economic Integration

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS jointly with ASEAN Studies Center (ASC) and India Studies Centre at Chulalongkorn University organised the launch of *Journal of Asian Economic Integration* at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand on 6 June 2019. Prof. Suthiphand Chirathivat, Executive Director, ASEAN Studies Centre (ASC) made the Opening Remarks. Dr Mia Mikic, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation, UNESCAP, Bangkok gave Special Remarks. *The Journal of Asian Economic Integration* (JAEI), jointly published by the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS and ASEAN Studies Center (ASC) of Chulalongkorn University, provides detailed coverage of a wide range of topics in economics relating to Asia, including investigation of current research, international comparisons and country studies. There was a panel discussion on "Asian Integration: Emerging Trends and Challenges", which was moderated by Dr Piti Srisangnam, Director, Academic Affairs, ASEAN Studies Centre, Chulalongkorn University. The panelist were: Dr Mia Mikic, Dr Charit Tingsadadh, Associate Professor and former Director, Centre for European Studies, Chulalongkorn University; Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS, New Delhi; and Dr Witada Aunkoonwattaka, Economic Affairs Officer, UNESCAP. At the end Dr Prabir De delivered the Vote of Thanks.

STIP Lecture Series

As part of the STIP Lecture Series, the following lectures were organised:

STIP Lectures

- 'Innovation and policy in the Energy Revolution: Some insights from Europe' on 3 October 2019 at New Delhi by Professor Michael Grubb, Research Director and Professor of Energy and Climate Change, University College London.

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■ STIP Forum Lecture on 'IT Skills Training through Spoken Tutorials for Education and Employment' on 18 November 2019 at New Delhi by Professor Kannan M. Moudgalya, Erach and Meheroo Mehta Advanced Education Technology Chair Professor, Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay. Dr Bhaskar Balakrishnan, Science Diplomacy Fellow, RIS chaired.

■ The lecture was delivered by Shri. Jayant Sahasrabudhe, National Organizing Secretary, Vijnana Bharati on 18th December 2019. The topic was "Vision and Works of Patrick Geddes: Its Relevance in Today's World". Dr Nakul Parashar, Director, Vigyan Prasar chaired it.

■ "Why India Needs to strengthen its Quality Infrastructure?", delivered by Dr Dinesh K. Aswal, Director, CSIR-National Physical laboratory (NPL) on 12 July 2019. Shri Gauhar Raza, Leading Science Communicator and Former Scientist, CSIR, Chaired.

■ "Financing Renewable and Clean-tech", delivered by Mr Manish Chourasia, Managing Director, Tata Cleantech Capital Limited on 12 August 2019. Shri R. R. Rashmi, Distinguished Fellow and Programme Director, TERI, Chaired.

■ "Science, Technology & Innovation for Society", delivered by Dr Shekhar C. Mande, Secretary, DSIR & Director General, CSIR on 19 September 2019. Dr Chandrima Shaha, Professor of Eminence and Former Director, National Institute of Immunology and President-Elect, Indian National Science Academy, chaired.

■ "Response to emerging infectious diseases in the context of urbanization and global warming: where is the Science gone?" was delivered by Dr Oliver Telle, Researcher at CNRS, France de Sciences Humaines, Embassy of France, India on 22 April 2019. It was Chaired by Dr Dinkar M. Salunke, Director, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, New Delhi chaired.

■ "Relationship between S&T and Evolution in Methods of Knowledge Production" was

delivered by Prof. Ravi B. Grover, Emeritus Professor and Former VC, Homi Bhabha National Institute and Member, Atomic Energy Commission on 7 June 2019. Prof. Ramamurti Rajaraman, Emeritus Professor of Theoretical Physics, School of Physical Sciences, JNU chaired.

FISD Lecture Series

■ The second FISD Lecture was delivered by Mr Kiyoshi Kurihara, First Secretary (S&T) Embassy of Japan in India on 24th October 2019. The topic was "Japanese STI Initiatives for SDGs". It was chaired by Dr Arabinda Mitra, Scientific Secretary, Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser, Government of India.

Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General

- Participated and made presentation at the Interactive briefing on 'India's Development Initiatives and Projects', organised at Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India on 18 March 2020 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Lead Speaker in the Roundtable on 'Role of Regulators in Building a \$5 Trillion Economy', organised jointly by Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) and SJM on 4 March 2020 at New Delhi.
- Delivered Atal Bihari Vajpayee Memorial Lecture on 'Social and Economic Inequalities: Would Technology be the New Equaliser?' at the 20th Annual Conference of the Indian Association of Social Science Institutions (ISEC), on 27 February 2020 at Bangalore.
- Made a presentation on Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of GM Crops and Biosafety to address the participants of Biotechnology/Biosafety Regulatory Study Tour of AUDA-



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- NEPAD/ABNE high level African Delegation on “RIS-India Africa Initiatives” organized by TERI on 10 February 2020 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on ‘Economic Development Partnership including digital economy’ at the Roundtable Discussion on ‘Uzbekistan-India: New horizons of strategic partnership’ organised by Embassy of Uzbekistan, on 10 February 2020 at New Delhi.
 - Made a presentation on Trade and Investment in India-Africa Relations: Trends and Prospects at the Seminar on “Stepping Up India’s Engagements in Africa” organised by EXIM Bank on 31 January 2020 at New Delhi.
 - Made a presentation on India’s Development Cooperation with Neighbouring Countries at the 12th South Asia Conference on India’s “Neighbourhood First” Policy: Regional Perceptions organized by Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) on 28 January 2020.
 - Made a presentation on ‘Role of RIS in development of South-South Cooperation’ at the Human Resource Improvement Programme on ‘Plant Variety Protection, Seed Testing and Certification’ for the officials of Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service organised by ICAR on 28 January 2020 at New Delhi.
 - Made a presentation on G20 Leadership and Relevance of Global Pilot Programme on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for SDGs Roadmaps at the T20 Inception Meeting organized by T20 Saudi Arabia on 19-20 January 2020 at Saudi.
 - Made a presentation on ‘International instruments affecting tribal livelihood and institutional approaches to reduce migration’ at the Conference on ‘Migration from tribal areas – Problems, solutions and Way Forward for MPs from Tribal Areas organized by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini and YOJAK Center for Research and Strategic Planning for Sustainable Development on 16 January 2020 at Thane.
 - Chaired the Special Lecture on ‘NIS, Economic Growth and Inequality: A Schumpeterian Perspective’ at the Indian Society of Labour Economics (ISLE) 61st Annual Conference organised jointly by Centre for Development Economics and Innovation Studies (CDEIS), Punjabi University, Patiala, and Institute for Human Development, on 7 December 2019 at Patiala.
 - Made presentations on ‘Inclusive Research, Technology and Innovation Policies’ and ‘STI roadmaps for the SDGs – Joint Guideline and Global Pilot Programme’ at the Joint Capacity Building Workshop on Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development Goals organised by United Nations – Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of China on 11 December, 2019 at Guilin, China.
 - Panelist at the Panel Discussions on ‘Future of the global architecture for development cooperation: Specific steps’ and on ‘Outreach for the Development Effectiveness Agenda: Different perspectives’ at the Roundtable on Future of the global architecture of development cooperation - The perspectives from the South-South Co-operation partners organised by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), on 3 December and 5 December 2019 respectively at Seoul, Korea.
 - Participated in the Discussion Meeting on ‘Cooperation for a Global Pilot Programme on STI for SDGs Roadmaps’ organised by the World Bank on December 18-19, 2019 at Tokyo, Japan.
 - Made a presentation on ‘India-Germany Partnership: Exploring Strategic and Economic Dimensions’ at the First India-Germany Strategic Dialogue organised by Indian Council of World Affairs on 1 November 2019 at New Delhi.
 - Participated in the E-Discussion on ‘The Role of South-South Cooperation in Promoting and Deepening Trade and Investment in Africa’ organised by United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) on 5 November 2019 at New Delhi.

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- Made a presentation on 'India's Economic Engagement with the world in 2020, post 2020?' at the Seminar on NIAS Strategic Forecast 2020: Contemporary World Affairs organised by National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) on 16 November 2019 at Bangalore.
- Participated in the Centenary Year Celebration for Committee of Shri Dattopant Thengadi on 10 November 2019 at Nagpur.
- Made a presentation on 'South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Improved Nutrition and Food Security' at the High-Level Event on Inspiration, Inclusion, and Innovation: The Tenth Anniversary of the FAO-China South-South Cooperation Programme and Future Perspectives for South-South And Triangular Cooperation on 26 November 2019 at Entebbe, Uganda.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting with Ambassador Mr Jonathan Fried, Prime Minister's Personal Representative for the G20 and GAC Coordinator for International Economic Relations and Mr Kent, Deputy High Commissioner, Embassy of Canada on 2 October 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting with Ambassador Mr Julian Ventura Valero, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Embassy of Mexico on 9 October 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made presentation on 'International Co-operation for Sustainable Development' at the G-20 Workshop on "Sustainable Development and Inclusive Globalization Giving a Longer-Term Perspective to G20 Policy Actions" organised jointly by UNDP-OECD scheduled on 21 October 2019 at New York.
- Made a presentation at the session on 'Dialogue with G20 Engagement Groups' at the G-20 Workshop on "Sustainable Development and Inclusive Globalization Giving a Longer-Term Perspective to G20 Policy Actions" organised jointly by UNDP-OECD scheduled on 21 October 2019 at New York.
- Participated in the Informal DWG meeting organised during the G-20 Workshop on 22 October 2019 at New York City.
- Made a presentation on 'Promoting Innovation and Disruption in 4IR' at the XII South Asia Economic Summit, organised by Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS), 27 September 2019, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Panelist at the Book launch of Satish Deodhar's, "ECONOMIC SUTRA: Ancient Indian Antecedents to Economic Thought" organised by India International Centre, 16 September 2019, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'India's Trade Policy' at the High Level Meeting of the Board of Trade (BOT) organised by Ministry of Commerce & Industry, 12 September 2019, New Delhi.
- Delivered Remarks on 'Politics of BRI' at the Inaugural Session at the International Conference on Belt and Road Initiative Positioning Bangladesh within Comparative Perspectives organised by Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), 8 September 2019, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Made a presentation on 'Agenda for Future' at the 14th Sustainability Summit organised by CII-ITC Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Development, 29 August 2019, New Delhi.
- Participated as a Member in the IC Group's meeting on Evaluation of International Cooperation (IC) organised by Department of Biotechnology (DBT), 20 August 2019, New Delhi.
- Participated as a Member in the General Council Meeting of the National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development organised by NITI Aayog on 13 August 2019 at New Delhi.
- Keynote speaker at the Joint Side Event on Joining efforts: Measurement of South-South Cooperation contribution to the SDGs at the High Level Political Forum 2019 organised by Colombian Presidential Agency for Cooperation (APC-Colombia), United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD) on 17 July 2019 at New York.



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- Made a presentation at the Side Event on 'South-South Global Thinkers Dialogue - Reflection on BAPA+40 Outcome Document' organised by United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on 17 July 2019 at New York.
- Made a presentation on Innovating Partnerships with the Private Sector: How to Achieve Greater SDGs organised by Ford Foundation on 16 July 2019 at New York.
- Participated in the side event on 'From Commitment to Achievement: India's Experience in Localising the Sustainable Development Goals' organised by NITI Aayog at the HLPF on 16 July 2019 at New York.
- Participated in the Interactive meeting on 'Role of Social Enterprises in Economic Development and scaling up of successful developmental initiatives' organised by the Yale University on 15 July 2019 at New York.
- Made a presentation on 'Effectiveness in South-South Co-operation' at the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation Senior-Level Meeting (SLM) organised by the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID) on 13 July 2019 at New York.
- Panelist at the Post-budget Conclave organised by the News Nation Network on 6 July at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Institutional Change and RRI: An Indian Perspective' at the joint conference "Pathways to Transformation" of the NUCLEUS and RRI-Practice projects, 20 June 2019 at Brussels.
- Made a presentation at the 5th Economists' Huddle on Accelerating India's Economic Growth, organised by NITI Aayog, 18 June 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'India Kyrgyzstan Development Partnership for Sustainable and Inclusive Development' at the India-Kyrgyzstan Business Forum organised by the Embassy of India, Bishkek on 15 June 2019.
- Made a presentation on 'Leveraging STI for SDGs' at the T20 Summit 2019 organised by The Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) on 26 May 2019 at Tokyo.
- Participated in the Interactive Meeting on Agricultural Policies and Action Plan for a Secure and Sustainable Agriculture organised by ICAR-NIAP on 22 May 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Developmental Dynamics of Tribal and Rural Areas of Central India' at the Sewa International Workshop organised by Sewa International in association with Yojak-Centre for Research and Strategic Planning for Sustainable on 16 May 2019 at Pune.
- Delivered Valedictory Address on 'Resetting the Research Priorities for a New Narrative on Development' at the ICSSR-Golden Jubilee Celebration organised by ICSSR, 13 May 2019, New Delhi.
- Panelist at the panel discussion on the book titled *"India's Eastward Engagement: From Antiquity to Act East Policy"* organised by ICWA on 1 May 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on Paradigm Shift: New Context, New Growth Story from India organised by CNRI National Conclave on Financial Inclusion 2019 on 25 April 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC)' at the 67th Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD) organised by the Foreign Service Institute on 8 April 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Intellectual Property Rights & Technology Transfer' at the ASEAN-India Workshop organised by National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) on 5 April 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Financing Sustainable Infrastructure' at the NDB Annual Meeting on 2 April 2019 at Cape Town.

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Prof. S. K. Mohanty

- Participated as an expert on the Selection Committee for appointment of Assistant Professor in Centre for Indo Pacific Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University nominated by Vice-Chancellor, JNU, New Delhi, 3 February 2020.
- Participated in the 2nd Meeting of CII National Council on International Trade Policy 2019-20, and made a presentation on "India's RCEP Pull-out: What Next?" organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), New Delhi on 10 February 2020.
- Participated in the discussion meeting on 'India's Economic Engagement with LAC: Strategy for Trade and Investment', organised and chaired by Joint Secretary (LAC), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi on 14 February 2020.
- Participated as a Guest of Honour in the National Conference on 'Coastal Ocean-Atmosphere Science & Technology (COAST 2020)', organised by Department of Marine Sciences, Berhampur University and made a presentation at Berhampur, Odisha on 28th February 2020.
- Participated as a speaker in the 'Regional Planning Workshop for the Northern/Central Indian Ocean countries as well as ROPME sea area towards the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-30)' and made a presentation on "A Transparent and Accessible Ocean", and also Chair the WG VI: A Transparent & Accessible Ocean organised by IOCINDIO, NIOT and NCCR at Chennai on 8 January 2020.
- Submitted report on 'Regional Economic Cooperation among IORA Countries: A Conceptual Note', to the Commerce & Industry Minister (CIM), Ministry of Commerce and Industries, New Delhi on 16 January 2020.
- Participated as a Panelist in the Seminar on "Stepping Up India's Engagements in Africa", organised by EXIM Bank and made a presentation on "India and Africa: Emerging Challenges and Opportunities", New Delhi on 31 January 2020.
- Participated in the 'First India-Germany Strategic Dialogue', and Chaired the Session on Indian Ocean: A New Area of Indo-German Strategic Cooperation, organised by the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi on 1 November 2019.
- Participated as a Member Delegation in the 'The 4th India-China Think Tank Forum (ICTTF)', led by Director-General, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) in Beijing, China on 25-29 November 2019. Made a presentation on 'Opportunities and Challenges in Global Landscape in Next 20 years', in the Session: Building Closer Developmental Partnership between China and India, on 28 November 2019.
- Participated in the Consultation Meeting on 'Study for Unlocking the Export Potential of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)' organised by Development Commission MSME at New Delhi on 4 October 2019.
- Made a presentation on 'MSMEs in India: Promoting Exports and Imports Indigenisation' at the consultation meeting held in the Office of Development Commission MSME on 9 October 2019. Also submitted report on 'MSMEs in India: Promoting Exports and Imports Indigenisation'.
- Nominated as a Member of Joint Working Group (JSG) for in MSME Sector to represent RIS by the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Office of Development Commission on 14 October 2019.
- Participated in the discussion meeting on 'JAG Export Promotion and Indigenization' held in the Office of Development Commission, MSME, New Delhi on 21 October 2019.
- Participated in the 'Maritime South Asia and the Indian Ocean' Research Workshop Series Inaugural Workshop on Mapping Indian



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- Ocean Studies: Emerging Research Agenda, and made a presentation on 'Emerging Thinking on Blue Economy in India: A New Global Development Paradigm', at South Asian University, New Delhi on 31 October 2019.
- Participated in the Meeting - "Launch Ceremony of 1000 fellowships to ASEAN students", chaired by the Hon'ble External Affairs Minister and Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development organised by the Indo-Pacific Division, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi on 16 September 2019.
 - Participated in the Consultation Meeting on 'Study for Unlocking the Export Potential of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)' held in the Development Commission MSME, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi on 4 September 2019.
 - Participated in the Discussion Meeting of Steering Committee, with the Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Prithvi Bhawan, New Delhi on 22 August 2019.
 - Participated in the Consultation Meeting on 'Progressing Economic Relationship between India and Iran in a Hostile Global Environment' held at the Department of Commerce, New Delhi on 20 August 2019.
 - Participated in the Consultation Meeting on 'India's Export Potential in Iran' held at the Department of Commerce, New Delhi on 14 August 2019.
 - Submitted report on 'India's Export Potential in Iran' to the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Department of Commerce, New Delhi on 14 August 2019.
 - Participated in the Discussion Meeting on 'India's Export Potential in Iran' with the Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 13 August 2019.
 - Participated in the National Seminar on 'Taking Stock of India-Latin America and the Caribbean Relations', organised by Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi on 9 August 2019.
 - Participated as a Selection Committee Member of Jawaharlal Nehru University in the 'Career Advancement Scheme Selection Committee/ Screening-cum-Evaluation Committee for Documentation Officer', organised by Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on 7 August 2019.
 - Participated in the Consultation Meeting on India's Export Potential in Iran held at the Department of Commerce, New Delhi on 21 June 2019.
 - Participated in the Consultation Meeting on "Pre-Budget Meeting 2019-20 with Economist", Chaired by Hon'ble Finance Minister at New Delhi on 14 June 2019.
 - Participated in the Meeting Chaired by Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog on 'Indo-Russian Economic Cooperation' at New Delhi on 11 June 2019.
 - Participated in the Conference on Synergising India Bangladesh Relations for a Mutually Beneficial Future, organised by Antar-Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad (Indian Council for International Co-operation) and made a presentation on 'India-Bangladesh Trade Relations: Emerging Possibilities for economic cooperation', at Kolkata on 8 June 2019.
 - Participated in the Meeting of Steering Committee - Working Group#1: Economic Advisory Committee to Prime Minister, and made a presentation on 'National Accounting Framework for Blue Economy and Ocean Governance', organised by NITI Aayog, New Delhi on 16 May 2019.
 - Participated in the Discussion Meeting on Negotiations on proposed Preferential Trade Agreement between India and Iran organised by the Department of Commerce at New Delhi on 15 May 2019.
 - Participated in the Discussion Meeting of Steering Committee, held at the Ministry of Earth Science, Prithvi Bhawan, New Delhi on 10 May 2019.

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- Participated in the programme on Study Report on 'India's Economic Engagement with LAC- Strategy for Trade and Investment', organised by the Department of Commerce at New Delhi on 6 May 2019.
- Participated in the Induction Training Programme for Indian Foreign Service Officer Trainees (OTs) of 2017 Batch and 2 Bhutanese diplomats and made a presentation on 'A New Paradigm of Development: Blue Economy' organised by the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi on 18 April 2019.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on 'Stakeholder's Consultation' and made a presentation on 'Iran India PTA: An Analysis for Margin of Preference', organised by the Department of Commerce at New Delhi on 14-15 April 2019.
- Participated in the IORA Workshop on the 'Strategic Planning Workshop and Follow-up on the Institutional Strengthening in the IORA Secretariat Workshop and made a presentation on "Proposal on Reforms in IORA Reinvigorating Economic Dynamism", organised by the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) and International Relations & Cooperation Department, Republic of South Africa at Mauritius on 9-10 April 2019.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on 'India's Economic Engagement with LAC: Strategy for Trade and Investment', in Department of Commerce at New Delhi on 5 April 2019.
- Participated in the meeting of Indian Advisory Board of Coca Cola Pvt. Ltd. held on 28 February 2020 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a member of the Steering Committee for the Project Planning & Implementation Division (PPID) of Quality Council of India (QCI) held on 19 February 2020 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Audit and Finance Committee meeting organized by Kirloskar Brother Limited held on 14 February 2020 at Indore.
- Participated in the 2nd meeting of CII National Council on "International Trade Policy 2019-20" held on 10 February 2020 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the 5-Institute Budget Seminar 2020-21 on Reforms and Development perspectives organized by CPR, ICRIER, IDF, NCAER and NIPFP held on 8 February 2020 at New Delhi.
- Participated CRIT evaluation- Meetings with DoC officials held on 5-6 February 2020 at New Delhi.
- Participated in a Brainstorming session on WTO's Appellate Body Crisis organized by Centre for WTO Studies held on 30 January 2020 at New Delhi.
- Participated in an Evaluation Meeting organized by Centre for Research on International Trade (CRIT) held on 23-28 January 2020 at New Delhi.
- Participated in EXIM bank meeting held on 21 January 2020 at Mumbai.
- Chaired the session on Leveraging Trade Agreements to Address the Rising Incidence of Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) held on 15 January 2020 at New Delhi.
- Participated as an Independent Director in the Kirloskar Brothers Limited celebration the completion of its 100 years of incorporation as a public limited company held on 6 January 2020 at New Delhi.

Mr Rajeev Kher

Distinguished Fellow

- Participated in the Rising India 2020 Summit organized by Network18 group held on 18-19 March 2020 at New Delhi.
- Participated as in the meeting on "True North Pathfinders Business Leaders' Conclave" held on 5-7 March 2020 at Gurugram.



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- Participated in the Disciplinary Committee – Bench-II Meeting of Institute of Chartered Accountants of India on 16 December at Delhi and 26-27 December 2019 at Chennai. Also delivered a lecture to members of the ICAI on Contemporary Challenges to India's International Trade.
- Participated as a panelist in a session on standards for Traditional System of Medicine in the International Arogya 2019, 2nd International Exhibition and Conference on AYUSH and Wellness, organised by the Ministry of AYUSH, Ministry of Commerce in association with FICCI at Banaras Hindu University on 19-22 December 2019 at Varanasi.
- Participated in the Report Launch meeting on “Unleashing E-commerce for South Asian Integration”, jointly organised by CUTS and World Bank Group on 17 December 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in a consultation and a survey of the Pharmaceutical industry and the Pharmexcil to pursue an Exim Bank supported study on Domestic Policy constraints and India's export capacities with IKDHWAJ Advisors on 13 and 14 December 2019 at Hyderabad.
- Participated as an Independent Director in the Board Meeting of Kirloskar Brothers Limited and the Audit Committee of the company held on 4 November 2019 through video conference at New Delhi. Also participated through video-conferencing in the meeting of Independent Directors of the company on 16th December 2019.
- Participated in the Fourth Meeting of the CII Core Group on China held on 2 December 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the 15th Annual Meeting of True North Advisors LLP held on 5 December 2019 at Mumbai. Before that attended a consultation with Chief Executives of various investee companies on 14 November, 2019.
- Conducted hearings on 21, 22, and 29 November 2019 and on 3 and 10 December 2019 in an Arbitration case between L&T and SAIL as Presiding Arbitrator.
- Participated in the Third Meeting of the CII International Council 2019-20 on 26 November 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Book launch and panel discussion on ‘Global Value Chains and the Missing Links: Cases from Indian Industry’, organised by ICRIER on 22 November 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Stakeholder Consultation on “FTA Study”, organised by CII on 16 November 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Discussant in the Annual meeting of the Research Institutes Network Meeting (RINM), organised by IDE-JETRO held on 10 November 2019 and the Asia-Pacific Think Tank Summit 2019, organised by ERIA held on 11-12 November 2019 at Bangkok.
- Participated in the Talk on “Cryptocurrencies, Libra and Trade & Investment Agreements”, organised by Centre for WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade on 5 November 2019 at New Delhi.
- Interviewed by CNBC, ET NOW and NEWS X on RCEP on four occasions during October and November.
- Participated as a Member in the release of the HLAG Group's Report by Hon'ble CIM Piyush Goyal on 30 October 2019 at New Delhi and in a Panel discussion organised by CNBC on the same day on the recommendations of the group.
- Participated in the meeting of the Steering committee on the FTA study organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on 25 October 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in a meeting of the Disciplinary Committee (Bench II) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India held on 21 October 2019 at Lucknow.
- Participated on a panel discussion on RCEP recorded by ET NOW on 24 September 2019 at New Delhi.

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- Nominated as Expert Consultant, Interview Board of UP Public Service Commission on 25-27 September 2019 at Allahabad.
- Participated in a discussion on RCEP organized by CNBC TV18 on 20 September 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the meeting of True North LLP on 19 September 2019 at Mumbai.
- Chaired the Task Force on AYUSH classification of products and quality road map on 17 September 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Speaker in the Second RCEP Roundtable Track 1.5 organized by Centre for Research on International Trade (CRIT), MEA on 13 September 2019 at New Delhi.
- Was interviewed on RCEP on the NEWS X on 11 September 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in a Discussion meeting with Secretary, Department of Commerce on the issue of Capacity Development of the Pharma industry to meet with regulatory challenges in principal markets on 9 September 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in a Consultation Meeting convened by the Department of Commerce on issues before the WTO on 9 September 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in a small Roundtable meeting of 6-7 Senior Thought Leaders organized by CII on 5 September 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the second Meeting of CII International Council 2019-20 held on 28 August 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as an Independent Director in the Indian Advisory Board meeting organized by Coca-Cola India Pvt. Ltd on 23 August 2019 at Bangalore.
- Participated in a meeting with Hon'ble Commerce and Industry Minister to present Draft discuss key recommendations of the HLAG on 14 August 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in a meeting on FTA Study organized by CII on 14 August 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in an Interactive Session on 'Creating Conducive Business Environment' organized by Confederation of Indian Industry on 13 August, 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as an Independent Director in the Board of Director's meeting of Kirloskar Brothers Limited on 12 August 2019 at Pune.
- Participated in a meeting of the Disciplinary Committee (Bench III) of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India on 10 August 2019 at Mumbai.
- Addressed the Second Meeting of the CII National Committee on Exports, held on 8 August 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Panelist in the Discussion Meeting on "Challenges and opportunities for India and the US in the emerging global trade scenario" organized by the International Chamber of Commerce India on 7 August 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Speaker in the Workshop on "Facilitating India's Act East Policy: Gap Analysis in Infrastructure at Land Customs Stations in the North Eastern Region of India" organised by ICRIER on 15 June 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Meeting of the CII Core Group on China, organised by CII on 10 June 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the joint meeting of the Board of Trade and the Council for Trade Development and Promotion under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Railways and Commerce & Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, organised by the Director General of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 6 June 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as an Independent Director in the Board of Director's meeting of Kirloskar Brothers Limited held on 16 May 2019 at Pune.
- Participated in the Roundtable Discussion on "Current Trade Issues for Developing Countries" organised by ICRIER on 9 May 2019 at New Delhi.



Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences, Symposia and Workshops

- Participated as a Panelist in the Book Launch and Discussion on “India and Bilateral Investment Treaties: Refusal, Acceptance, Backlash” organised by South Asian University on 7 May 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Member in the meeting of the “Academic Advisory Committee”, organised by Birla Institute of Management Technology on 27 April 2019 at Greater Noida.
- Participated as a Member in the meeting of High Level Advisory Group (HLAG) organized by Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 24 April 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Meeting of the India Advisory Board organized by Coca-Cola India on 21 April 2019 at Mumbai.
- Participated in a meeting of the Disciplinary Committee of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India on 18 April 2019 at Mumbai.
- Participated in the Conference on “Vision for India: 2030” jointly organized by ICRIER and British High Commission on 16 April 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a speaker and Panelist in the CII Annual Session 2019 on “Future of World Trade” held on 5 April 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in Roundtable Discussion on China with General S. L. Narasimhan held at New Delhi on 5 November 2019.
- Discussion Meetings on India-Afghanistan Cooperation on Archives and Museums and Historical Records with Mr Tahir Qadiry, Chargé d’ Affaires, Afghanistan and Shri Raghvendra Singh, Director, Nehru Memorial Museum & Library at New Delhi on 9 November 2019.
- Made a presentation on the Terrorism and Counter Extremism to the Afghan Diplomats held at Foreign Service Institute, New Delhi on 15 November 2019.
- Discussion Meetings with Mr Albert Muchunga, Commissioner for Trade and Industry and Director of UNCEA on SDGs and GDC at Ethiopia on 26-27 November 2019.
- Discussion Meetings on Afghan Politics/ Elections with Mr Hamid Karzai, former President of Afghanistan held at New Delhi on 29 November 2019.
- Discussion Meeting with Mr Ravi Capoor, Secretary, Textiles on North-East at Ministry of Textiles, held at New Delhi on 15 October 2019.
- Participated in Discussion on Sikh Heritage in Nepal and India-Nepal relations held at PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 18 October 2019.

Mr Amar Sinha

Distinguished Fellow

- Chaired a session on “Energy Efficiency and Sustainability at a Conference organised by SDPI at Islamabad on 1 December 2019; also made a presentation on South-South Cooperation Islamabad; made a presentation on Autonomy in the Indian University System at a inter-university Conference held on 2 December 2019.
- Made a presentation on Affordable Housing System at a Workshop organised by the Delhi Center of Chicago University on 9 December 2019.
- Spoke and acted as a Jury member for Selecting Smart Cities under a project supported by the National Institute for Urban Affairs, on 18-19 December 2019.
- Made a presentation at Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF) on the dialogue with The Russian Institute for Strategic Studies (RISS) meetings in Moscow, held at New Delhi on 22 October 2019.
- Discussion Meetings with Mr Nader Naderi, Chairman of Public Service Commission on Afghanistan held at New Delhi on 23 October 2019.
- Made a presentation on India’s Role in the Neighborhood particularly Afghanistan at Discussion Meeting with Mr Henry Kissinger held at New Delhi on 24 October 2019.
- Participated in the Roundtable Discussion on Regional Situation with Mr Jeff Smith held at Vivekananda International Foundation on 24 October 2019.

Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences, Symposia and Workshops

Prof. Amitabh Kundu

Distinguished Fellow

- Spoke at Samiyiki on “Aadhar and National Identity” at AIR on 28 December 2019.
- Delivered a special lecture at the Regional Science Association Conference held at Kolkata on 15 November 2019.
- Delivered the Inaugural Address on the Minorities in Bengal and the Vision of Inclusive India held at the Aila University Kolkata on 16 November 2019.
- Delivered the inaugural address at the Conference on Entrepreneurship and Innovation held at the Rama University Kanpur on 2 November 2019.
- Delivered the inaugural address on Gandhi on Rural Urban Migration and Bread Labour, at the Gandhi Jayanti celebrations held at National Labour Institute on 2 October 2019 Noida.
- Delivered the inaugural address at the Seminar on the Development Prospect of North East India held at Mata Sundari College on 9 October 2019 at New Delhi
- Presented a Paper on Urbanisation and Migration in Asian Countries at a Conference organised by the SAARC Chamber of Commerce at Colombo on 18 October 2019.
- Special lecture on Religion, Development and Peace at the Baha International Centre on 24 October 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered the valedictory Address at the Regional Meeting of Oxfam on Inequality held at Bangkok on 30 October 2019.
- Organized a UNESCO-RIS Workshop on Educational Development in North East of India during 19-20 June, 2019 at Guwahati.
- Presented a paper on Urbanization and De-industrialization in South Asian Urbanization at a Conference on 25-26 June 2019 held at Colombo.
- Delivered a Keynote Address on “Capacity Building and Consumer Welfare” at Consumer

Protection Workshop organized by Institute for Policy Research and Governance at Jammu University on 1 May 2019, Jammu.

- Presented an invited paper in a Seminar on “Migration Trends and Pattern”, organized by the Institute for Human Development at New Delhi.
- Panelist to comment on the presentation on “AIIB- Changing Contours of Infrastructure Financing”, organized by the Indian Council of World Affairs on 14 May 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered an Inaugural Address at the Capacity Building Workshop organized by the Institute for Policy Research on 17 May 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered an Inaugural Address in the Conference on “Implementation of SDGs: Prospects and Challenges”, organized by Jamia Millia Islamia on 20 April 2019 at New Delhi.
- Chaired a Session in Conference on “Financial Inclusion” organized by Confederation of NGOs Rural India (CNRI) on 25 April 2019, New Delhi.
- Confederation of NGOs Rural India (CNRI) Conferred Life Time award for research on participatory development on the 25 April 2019.

Augustine Peter

Visiting Fellow

- Inaugurated the Annual Silver Jubilee Lecture Series of Marian College, an Autonomous College, Kuttikkanam, Kerala on 4th October, 2019 and presented a paper on the ‘State of the Indian Economy’.
- Delivered Sh. George Thomas Kottukappally (Former Member of Parliament) Memorial Lecture at the St. Thomas College, Pala, Kerala on 4 October, 2019.
- Panelist in the Panel Discussion on “Enforcement Developments in Digital Markets in BRICS” as part of the CESSE International Conference in Rhodes, Greece on 5-7 July 2019, on the theme of ‘Advances in the Analysis.



Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences, Symposia and Workshops

Prof. T. C. James

Visiting Fellow

- Delivered a talk on 'Access and Benefit Sharing under Biological Diversity Act, 2002' at Indian Academy of International Studies on 12 February, 2020.
- Delivered a talk on Technology and Intellectual Property Rights at National Workshop organised by Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi and Savitribai Phule University, Pune on 20 December 2019.
- Delivered a talk on IPR and Innovation at the National Workshop organised by Maitrei College, Delhi University on 23rd October, 2019.
- Participated as Member in the ICMR IPR Policy Review Committee Meeting on 17th October 2019.
- Participated as Member in the CSIR-TKDL Technical Review Committee on 1 October 2019.
- Participated in the National Symposium on Creating Conducive Environment for Ayurveda Research organized by the Center for Complementary and Integrative Health, Savitribai Phule University of Pune on 18th August, 2018 and made presentations on Governance and Funding and also Social Sciences and Public Health.
- Participated as Panellist for sessions on Artificial Intelligence and Patents and the Curious Case of Rasagula on 10 July, 2018 in the WIPO-India Summer School organised by MNLU, Nagpur and Rajiv Gandhi National Institute for Intellectual Property Management (RGNIIPM).
- Made a presentation on Copyright, Trade Mark and Industrial Designs at Workshop on International Law at the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi on 20 June 2019.
- Delivered key note address at the National Seminar on Effective Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Expressions: National and Community Experiences at National Law University and Judicial Academy, Guwahati,

Assam on 3-4 May 2019.

- Delivered a talk on 'Border Measures in IPRs under International Agreements' at the Workshop on 'Intellectual Property Rights and Technology Transfer' for ASEAN Member States, organised by Ministry of Science and Technology and the National Research Development Corporation at New Delhi on 2 April 2019.
- Participated as Member in the CSIR-TKDL Technical Review Committee on 1 October 2019.
- Participated as Member in the ICMR IPR Policy Review Committee Meeting on 17th October 2019.
- Delivered key note address at the National Seminar on Effective Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Cultural Expressions: National and Community Experiences at National Law University and Judicial Academy, Guwahati, Assam on 3-4 May 2019.
- Delivered a talk on 'Border Measures in IPRs under International Agreements' at the Workshop on 'Intellectual Property Rights and Technology Transfer' for ASEAN Member States, organised by Ministry of Science and Technology and the National Research Development Corporation at New Delhi on 2 April 2019.

Dr P. K. Anand

Visiting Fellow

- Participated in the meeting of the Governing Council of NILERD at NITI Aayog held on 2 December 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Panelist in the session on 'National Priorities on STI for SDGs: Challenges and Opportunities' held on 4th December 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on the launch of UN Emissions Gap Report, 2019 held on 26 November 2019 New Delhi.
- Made a presentation in the international conference on, 'Non-Traditional Economic

Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences, Symposia and Workshops

and Security Risks in a Globalised World’, in the session on ‘Human and Economic Security: Leveraging SDGs for Economic Development and Social Stability’ held on 28 November 2019 at New Delhi.

- Made a presentation on ‘Good Governance and SDGs’ at HIPA (Haryana Institute of Public Administration) held on 3 October 2019 at Gurgaon.
- Participated in the meeting at NITI Aayog on 18th September 2019 to deliberate about SDG Conclave Report for NE States and Agenda for SDGs conclave.
- Participating a meeting organized by UN Global Compact Network India with IUCN India Leaders for Nature on ‘Circular Economy in Business: A Blueprint for Action Towards SDG-12 Responsible Consumption and Production’, focusing on resource efficiency, on 6th September 2019 at UNESCO, New Delhi.
- Participated and chaired a Session in the ‘12th South Asia Economic Summit’ (SAES) XII with the theme ‘Shaping South Asia’s Future in the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR)’, during 26-27 September 2019 hosted by the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka at Colombo.
- Participated in the ‘Seminar on Issues in State Finances-Analysis of State Budgets 2019-20’ on 20th August 2019, organized by National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) at New Delhi.
- Deliberated alongwith the ITEC participants with Hon’ble Minister Urban Development, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, at Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi on 16th August 2019.
- Participated in the meeting of ‘National Coordination Committee for UNES Global Pilot Program on STI for SDGs Roadmap for India’ Chaired by the Scientific Secretary, on July 22, 2019 at Prithvi Bhawan, New Delhi in the context of RIS as a Knowledge Partner.
- Participated in the International Conference on “Training and Dialogue for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda” organized by the

Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI)-German Development Institute/Managing Global Governance (MGG). Discussed and shared the Indian experience of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with particular focus on the role of the civil services on 24-26 April 2019 at Hyderabad.

- Participated and made a presentation at the Workshop on “Climate Change and Disaster Management in BIMSTEC Countries”, organized by the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS) and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES). Concrete suggestions were given for reducing the risks of disasters on 18 June 2019 at Yangon.

Mr Krishna Kumar

Visiting Fellow

- Participated as a Panelist in the session on ‘National Priorities on STI for SDGs: Challenges and Opportunities’ held on 4th December 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on the launch of UN Emissions Gap Report, 2019 held on 26 November 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation in the international conference on, ‘Non-Traditional Economic and Security Risks in a Globalized World’, in the session on ‘Human and Economic Security: Leveraging SDGs for Economic Development and Social Stability’ held on 28 November 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated and made a presentation at the Workshop on “An Efficiency Based Regional Approach to Realize Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)”, jointly organized on 23rd and 24th September, 2019 by Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT), in Bangkok.
- Participated in the meeting on 18 September 2019 at NITI Aayog to discuss about SDGs document for NE States and Agenda for SDGs conclave.



Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences, Symposia and Workshops

- Participated in the “Seminar on Issues in State Finances-Analysis of State Budgets 2019-20” on 20 August 2019 organized by National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP).
- Participated in the meeting of ‘National Coordination Committee for UNES Global Pilot Program on STI for SDGs Roadmap for India’ Chaired by the Scientific Secretary, on July 22, 2019.
- Participated and made a presentation at the Workshop on “Climate Change and Disaster Management in BIMSTEC Countries”. organized by the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS) and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES). Concrete suggestions were given for reducing the risks of disasters on 18 June 2019 at Yangon.
- Participated in the programme organized by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) for celebrating Statistics Day with the theme Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) on 29 June 2019 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- Participated in the International Conference on “Training and Dialogue for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda” organized by the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI)-German Development Institute/Managing Global Governance (MGG). Discussed and shared the Indian experience of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with particular focus on the role of the civil services on 24-26 April 2019 at Hyderabad.
- Delivered a lecture on ‘Indigenous Knowledge Systems, Intellectual Property Regime, and Access and Benefit Sharing’ in ASEAN-India Regional Capacity Building Workshop on Traditional Knowledge Digital Library (TKDL): Development, Management and Its Utilisation as a Tool of Prior Art Evidence on Biological Resources and Associated Knowledge, organised by the National Biodiversity Authority and TKDL-CSIR on 6 December 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered a Key Note Address ‘Contestation in Crops and Commons: Genetically Modified Crops, Plant Genetic Resources Commons and Open Source Seeds at Republic of Plants, International Conference on 10 December 2019 at IIT-Madras, Chennai.
- Made a presentation on ‘Harnessing South-South Collaboration for Food and Nutrition Security, Environmental Sustainability and Improved Smallholder Farm Value-Chains in Asia and Africa’ at 23rd Annual Meeting of the Council for Partnership on Rice Research in Asia (CORRA) IRRI South Asia Regional Centre, held at Varanasi on 14 October 2019.
- Made a presentation on ‘Biotechnology Landscape in India’ at Evolving AgriFood Systems in Asia Conference organised by IFPRI, ReSAKSS -Asia, and, MIID on 31 October 2019 at Yangon, Myanmar.
- Delivered a talk on ‘What Role for RRI in governance of synthetic biology?’ in a Workshop on ‘Assessing the Impacts of Disruptive Technologies’, organised by CSIRO on 3 May 2019 at Brisbane.

Dr K. Ravi Srinivas

Visiting Fellow

- Panelist in the Session on ‘Reflections from related global, regional and sectoral initiatives’ in the Workshop on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs, on 3 February, Vienna.
- Delivered a talk on ‘Responsible Innovation and Artificial Intelligence’ in RIISE 2020 on 31st January 2020 at in IIIT-Delhi.

Dr Sabyasachi Saha

Assistant Professor

- Participated in the Workshop on Human Development Report 2020 on 3 February 2020 at Seoul, South Korea. Made presentation on “Development and Sustainability: SDG inspired Policy Tools and Partnerships”, organised by UNDP Seoul Policy Centre.

Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences, Symposia and Workshops

- Participated in the Launch of the 2019 OECD Economic Survey of India and related events organised by OECD, Paris on 5 December 2019 in New Delhi; Panelist in the Session on “Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals: New modalities and innovative financing”.
- Participated in the “Third South Asia Forum on SDGs” organised by UNESCAP and the Government of Bangladesh, 8-9 December 2019 in Dhaka, Bangladesh; was panelist in the Session on “Harnessing the Means of implementation for Accelerating SDGs Achievement in South Asia: Finance, technology, capacity-building and trade (SDG 17)”.
- Participated in the “Policy Dialogue on Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in South Asia” organised by UNESCAP and Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS), on 10 December 2019 in Dhaka, Bangladesh; was panellist in the Session on “Potential and challenges of regional economic integration in South Asia in the new global context”.
- Contributed as panelist in Parallel Session D1 on Innovation, Connectivity, and Security in South Asia during 4IR at the 12th South Asia Economic Summit – Shaping South Asia’s Future in the Fourth Industrial Revolution, 26-27 September 2019, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Delivered a Talk on “Innovation Systems and Developing Countries” at the Ambedkar University, New Delhi on 20 September 2019.
- Made presentation on “Quality and Sustainable Infrastructure Investment: Innovations and Institutions” at the roundtable on ‘Indian Civil Society’s Role in Ensuring Quality and Sustainable Infrastructure Investment’ organised by VANI, FIDC and Heinrich Boll Stiftung at New Delhi on 11 October 2019.
- Made presentation on “Infrastructure” as a panelist in the session on ‘New Challenges for Achieving Economic Prosperity’ in the Asia-Pacific Forum 2019 organised by Japan Economic Foundation (JEF), Tokyo and Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS), Kuala Lumpur in Kuala Lumpur on 16-17 October 2019.
- Invited as Speaker to present a paper on “Trade and Investment Opportunities in Services Sector in India” at the International Exchange Centre for Innovative Talents (IECIT), Beijing Municipal UNESCO Club Association, Beijing, China, 14 August 2019.
- Invited as Discussant for Asia Pacific Trade and Investment Report (APTIR) Expert Group Meetings (EGM) on “Navigating Non-Tariff Measures toward Sustainable Development”, UN ESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand, 11-12 July 2019.
- Made a presentation on ‘India-Vietnam Maritime Connectivity: Trade and Investment Opportunities’ at the Inaugural Workshop on India-Vietnam Maritime Cooperation organised by National Maritime Foundation, New Delhi, 23 April 2019.
- Made a presentation on ‘Indian Investment in Vietnam: Scope and Opportunities’, at the interaction with Vietnam Ambassador on ‘Investment Opportunities in Vietnam’ organised by the Embassy of Socialist Republic of Vietnam and The Policy Times, New Delhi, 25 April 2019.

Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy

Consultant ASEAN-India Centre at RIS.

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Assistant Professor

- Participated in T20 Saudi Arabia Inception Conference as authors of policy briefs in Task Force 3 & 8 held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on January 19-20, 2020.
- Made presentation on “Growth Triggers in Asia-Pacific: Digital Economy and Quality

Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Development Programme

ITEC Programmes

Learning South-South Cooperation

RIS conducted the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) on 'Learning South-South Cooperation' on 11-22 November 2019 at New Delhi.

More than 30 participants, including middle level government officials/diplomats, practitioners and scholars from over 25 countries participated in the programme.

The programme had been designed to orient

the participants towards an integrated and multi-dimensional understanding of South-South Cooperation (SSC), exposing them to its diversity and plurality. The programme focused on the theoretical framework, global architecture and deliberated upon the pressing challenges faced to usher in inclusive development

The course also covered efforts and challenges towards regional cooperation and an assessment framework for SSC. Besides in-house faculty, RIS invited eminent experts to give a comprehensive perspective on these issues for the benefit of participants. The report entitled "*Global Issues and Local Actions in South-South Cooperation*" prepared by the participants was also brought out.



Participants with the RIS faculty.



Releasing of the report prepared by the participants.

Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Development Programme

Sustainable Development Goals

In order to create knowledge, awareness and simultaneously exploring the implementation strategies on the SDGs at the national and international level, RIS conducted the second edition of two-week training programme on SDGs under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, at New Delhi on 5-16 August 2019.

The programme had 33 participants from 24 countries. The group had the benefit of interaction and discourse with eminent experts from the fields of academics and policymaking.

The participants also engaged in group deliberations for preparing analytical position papers reflecting on national and global progress

on SDGs. These papers were published in the Report entitled *"Localising SDGs Perspectives from Developing Countries."*

Apart from having thematic sessions, study tours were also organised for participants to visit Parliament of India and other line ministries. They also had the opportunity to have interactive session with the Hon'ble Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Dr Rajiv Kumar, Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) in the Ministry of Housing, and Urban Affairs Shri Hardeep Singh Puri (who is also Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Civil Aviation; and Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry) and Shri Pravin Srivastava, Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). They also visited to historical and popular sites in Delhi and Agra.

The detailed agenda of the programme is available on RIS website.



Participants of the RIS-ITEC Capacity Building Programme on SDGs with the RIS Faculty.

Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Development Programme



Participants of the RIS-ITEC Capacity Building Programme on Trade and Sustainability with the RIS Faculty.

Trade and Sustainability

In order to enhance capacity among officials and scholars working in the field of international trade, RIS launched a specially tailored “ITEC Programme on Trade and Sustainability” in July 2018.

The second edition of the course was organized from 8 to 19 July 2019 with participation of 29 candidates from 16 countries representing South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, Middle East and North Africa, and the Caribbean.

The programme had four broad pillars: Biodiversity and bio-safety issues including Convention of Biological Diversity, Nagoya Protocol, etc.; Trade in environmentally-sensitive goods and services, non-tariff measures, etc.; Financing including green finance, climate finance, regulations, business innovations, etc.; and Environmental provisions in FTAs and RTAs. The participants had the benefit of attending the lectures, and engaging in group assignments on Sustainable Exploitation of Biological Resources in Developing Countries; Genetic Resources for Greater Prosperity; Environmental Good and Services: Challenges and Opportunities for Developing Countries; Green Financing in Developing Countries: Experiences from Mongolia, Kenya and Nigeria; and Environmental

Provisions in Regional Trade Agreements. These were published in the Report entitled “Emerging Issues on Trade and Sustainability.”

ITEC Capacity Building Programme on Science Diplomacy

The Capacity Building Programme on “Science Diplomacy” under the auspices of the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India was organised from 6 to 17 January 2020 at RIS and has 32 participants from 25 countries.

The programme is designed to benefit the participants coming from different countries by familiarizing them to the theory and practice of Science Diplomacy and how developing nations can take advantage of the Science Diplomacy. The programme covered the following modules: Introduction to Science Diplomacy: Concepts and Contours; Sharing Experience in Science Diplomacy; Emerging Technologies such as Gene-Editing and AI; Cyber Security; ICT and Law Enforcement; Digital Economy; Technology Transfer and Trade; and SDGs and South-South Cooperation.

Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Development Programme



Participants of the RIS-ITEC Capacity Building Programme on Science Diplomacy.



Participants at the Valedictory session of the Science Diplomacy Programme.

Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Development Programme



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

In addition to the lectures and group discussions, the participants visited to the International Solar Alliance and ICGEB.

ITEC Capacity Building Programme on “International Economic Issues and Development Policy”

RIS has been conducting an annual flagship Capacity Building Programme on “International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP)” under the ITEC Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India since 2001. This year’s programme took place from 10

February 2020 to 6 March 2020 at RIS. More than 28 participants including middle level government officials/diplomats, policy practitioners and scholars from 23 countries has participated in the programme. The report was also brought out at the end of the programme.

Fourth RIS-EXIM Bank Summer School on International Trade Theory and Practice

RIS jointly with EXIM Bank of India had organised the fourth edition of ‘RIS-EXIM Bank Summer School on the International Trade Theory and Practices’ during 10-19 June 2019. The programme

Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Development Programme



Prof. Deepak Nayyar, Professor Emeritus, JNU delivering the special lecture at the Fourth RIS-EXIM Bank Summer School.

to contribute towards capacity- building of scholars to be specialised in the international trade. The course covered the following themes— recent developments in trade theory; databases and information on International Trade, tools and techniques in trade analysis; understanding FTAs and regional trading blocs; issues of trade in technology; and trade and development: IPR and new issues. There were 49 scholars, including two from BIMSTEC Secretariat and one each from three BIMSTEC countries (Bangladesh, Nepal and Thailand who took part).

The programme began with the welcome remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, followed by remarks by Prof. S. K. Mohanty, RIS. Mr Debasish Mallick, DMD, Export-Import Bank gave the remarks and Inaugural address was given by Mr Rajeev Kher, Distinguished Fellow, RIS. Professor Deepak Nayyar, Professor Emeritus, JNU chaired the inaugural session and delivered special lecture.

The programme exposed students to deeper knowledge of quantitative skills by sharpening their knowledge base on various dimensions of trade theory with the help of eminent subject experts, including high- ranking knowledge providers from all over the country. It covered not only well established estimation and interpretation of trade, investment and services data techniques but also enabled them to have a better understanding of evolving trade and finance global architecture. The two-day practical application workshop was also organised to give them hands on experience to deal with mega data sets for a practical dimension of the theoretical frameworks taught.

The participants were engaged in group assignments on the following themes: India's Trade Performance; Investment, Finance and Exchange Rate; Technology, GVC, Competitiveness; Multilateralism and Regionalism; and Trade and Employment. The short research articles prepared by them have been brought out in the publication: *"International Trade Theory and Practice: Contemporary Issues."*



Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Development Programme

RIS-GDC-PHFI - GDC Fellowship Programme in Public Health Management,

The programme involves exposure to India's extensive initiatives in the field of Public Health Management including flagship programmes of the Government of India such as the National Health Mission, the Ayushman Bharat Scheme, and the institutionalisation of traditional medicine systems through the Ministry of Ayush. The programme also focuses on the component of digital technologies being deployed to ensure the robustness of the systems managing public health in India. The programme participants are drawn from six countries of Asia and Africa namely Bhutan, Myanmar, Kenya, Nepal, Maldives, and Sri Lanka and they are all involved in the public health management process in their countries at the level of the central or provincial authority.

RIS-GDC-SEWA Fellowship Programme on Women's Economic Empowerment

The Fellowship Programme on Women's Economic Empowerment being conducted at Ahmedabad and Delhi from February 24-March 7, 2020 in partnership with the Lok Swasthya SEWA Trust (LSST). The programme involves participants drawn from four countries of Asia and Africa namely Bhutan, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Ethiopia. The programme involves exposure to various facets of grassroots-led empowerment of women which has happened in India with the formation of large numbers of Self-Help Groups (SHGs), leading to an upsurge in the participation and engagement of women in Indian society. The programme also involves exposure to flagship programmes

of the Government of India such as the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) which have empowered women in rural areas to become community leaders as well as given support to local handicrafts and artisans. The systems used for these transitions such as digital technologies that were deployed and organisational structures that were created will also be showcased for a holistic understanding of the model.

Internship at RIS

RIS has been offering internship to students of various Indian universities and institutes pursuing Masters in Economics or in related disciplines. Over the years, the demand for the internship programme has grown significantly which resulted in radical restructuring of the content, supervision and learning components of the programme. In view of the lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic RIS would come up with the Online Internship programme with innovative modes of interactions with faculty and peers, and facilitating interns' participation in different RIS webinars and web-based conferences.

Lecture Delivered by RIS Faculty Members at Outside Training Programmes

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General

- Made a presentation on South-South Cooperation at the IFS Officer Trainees of 2019 Batch organised by Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs on 7 January 2020 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Impact of New Financial Institutions in Regional/Global Financial Growth' at the 59th NDC Course during the module on 'Global Issues & Science and Technology' organised by the National Defence College on 19 June 2019 at New Delhi.

Mr Rajeev Kher

Distinguished Fellow

- Delivered a Lecture on “India & FTAs (with special reference to BTIA & RCEP)” for the diplomats from ASEAN Member States and diplomats from ASEM Member States, organised by Foreign Service Institute on 18 October 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered a lecture on “Changing Dynamics of Global Trade” to the ITEC participants organized by Indian Institute of Foreign Trade on 23 September 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered a lecture on ‘India’s Trade Policy- Emerging Challenges and Opportunities at the Reserve Bank of India on 31 May 2019 at Mumbai on Governor RBI’s invitation.
- Delivered a lecture in an interactive session on the topic “WTO: Concerning Issues” at the Foreign Service Institute, MEA on 8 May 2019 at New Delhi.

Prof. Amitabh Kundu

Distinguished Fellow

- Delivered a special lecture on Development Perspective for Madhya Pradesh at the School of Management, Devi Ahilyabai University, Indore on 26 November 2019.
- Delivered a special lecture on Methodology in Geographical Studies at the Department of Geography, Jammu University on 21 November 2019 and also delivered a special lecture on “Science, Spirituality and statistical Myth” at the J&K Science Congress on 22 November 2019.
- Delivered a Special Lecture on “Politics and Economics of Inequality” to all Oxfam staff and members on 7 June 2019 at New Delhi.

Prof. T. C. James

Visiting Fellow

- Delivered a talk on Technology and Intellectual Property Rights at National Workshop organised by Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi and Savitribai Phule University, Pune on 20 December 2019.
- Delivered a talk on IPR and Innovation at the National Workshop organised by Maitrei College, Delhi University on 23rd October, 2019. Made a presentation on Copyright, Trade Mark and Industrial Designs at Workshop on International Law at the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi on 20 June 2019.

Dr K. Ravi Srinivas

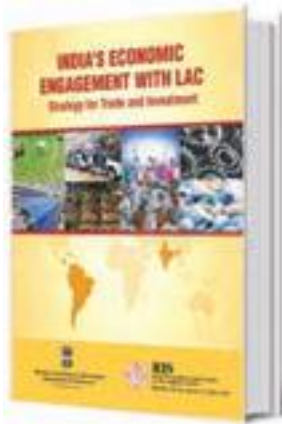
Visiting Fellow

- Delivered a talk on ‘Responsible Innovation and Artificial Intelligence’ in RIISE 2020 on 31st January 2020 at in IIIT-Delhi.

Chapter 6

Publication Programme

Reports/Books



India's Economic Engagement with LAC Strategy for Trade and Investment,
RIS, New Delhi, 2019



International Trade Theory and Practice: Contemporary Issues
RIS-EXIM Bank, New Delhi, 2019

Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs): Evidence from ASEAN-India Trade

AIC and RIS, 2019



India-Central Asia Partnership: Moving for Regional Development and Connectivity

RIS, New Delhi, 2018



E-Commerce Issues at the WTO Discussions and in India

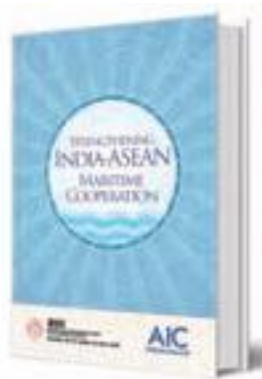
RIS, New Delhi, 2020



KEY TAKEAWAYS: Delhi Process Fifth Conference on South-South and Triangular Cooperation

RIS, New Delhi, 2020

Publication Programme



Strengthening India-ASEAN Maritime Cooperation, 2019

RIS, New Delhi, 2019



Global Governance and Economic Cooperation: Opportunities and Challenges for Developing Countries

RIS, New Delhi, 2020



South-South Ideas - Assessing Impact of South-South Cooperation - Variations in Perspectives (2019)

RIS, UNOSSC 2019

Sailing to Suvarnabhumi: Cultural Routes and Maritime Landscapes Himanshu Prabha Ray and Susan Mishra,

AIC and RIS, 2019



RIS DISCUSSION PAPERS

- #246: **The 2008 Financial Crisis and Shifts in Economic Power** *by Manmohan Agarwal & Amrita Brahmo*
- #245: **Economic Multilateralism in Peril** *by Manmohan Agarwal*
- #244: **Surmount Challenges, Cash in New Trade Opportunities** *by Dammu Ravi*
- #243: **Social Stock Exchange for Social Enterprises and Social Incubators: An Exploratory Study for India** *by Sachin Chaturvedi, Sabyasachi Saha and Arun S. Nair*
- #242: **Income Convergence Experiences among Asian Economies: An Empirical Investigation** *by Sunetra Ghatak and Prabir De*
- #241: **Prospects of Achieving Sustainable Development Goals** *by Manmohan Agarwal and Adrita Banerjee*
- #240: **Sustainable Agriculture and Nutritional Security: Emerging Policy Options with Production Choices** *by P. K. Anand, Krishna Kumar and Shruti Khanna*
- #239: **Monetary Policy Effect on Inflation and Growth** *by Manmohan Agarwal and Irfan Ahmed Shah*

G20 DIGEST

- Vol. 2, No. 5
- Volume: 1 No: 2, July-August, 2019
- Volume: 1 No: 1, May-June, 2019

RIS DIARY

- Special Issue of RIS Diary on COVID-19
- Volume 15 No. 4, October 2019
- Volume 15 No. 3, July 2019
- Volume 15 No. 2, April 2019

DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION REVIEW

- Volume 2 No. 9 December 2019
- Volume 2 No. 5 August 2019
- Volume 2 No. 4 July 2019
- Volume 2 No. 2&3 May-June 2019
- Volume 2 No. 1 April 2019

ASIAN BIOTECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW

- Vol. 21, No. 3 & Vol. 22, No. 1 | November 2019-March 2020
- Volume 21 No. 1&2 March & July 2019

Publication Programme

SOUTH ASIA ECONOMIC JOURNAL

- Vol. 20, No. 2, October 2019
- Vol.20, No.1, March 2019
- Commemorative Issue (2000-2020), RIS & IPS

JOURNAL OF ASIAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

- Vol. 1, No. 2, November 2019
- Vol. 1, No.1, April 2019

RIS POLICY BRIEF

#88 Robotisation of Textile Sector in China: Impact and Imperatives by Amit Kumar

FITM POLICY BRIEF

- #4 Special Wellness Zones for Wellness Tourism: Exploring prospects of creating dedicated ISM hubs by Prof. T.C. James and Apurva Bhatnagar.
- #3 Medicinal Plant Cultivation for Poverty Reduction: Prospects and Challenges by Prof. T.C. James and Dr Namrata Pathak.

FITM SCOPING PAPERS

#4 Protection of Medicinal Plant Genetic Resources in India

SCIENCE DIPLOMACY REVIEW

- Volume 2 No. 1 March 2020
- Volume 1 No. 4 November 2019
- Volume 1 No. 3 July 2019

SCIENCE DIPLOMACY NEWS ALERT

- Issue 22: 16-30 September 2019
- Issue 21: 01-15 September 2019
- Issue 20: 16-31 August 2019
- Issue 19: 01-15 August 2019
- Issue 18: 16-31 July 2019
- Issue 17: 01-15 July 2019
- Issue 16: 16-30 June 2019; Issue 15: 01-15 June 2019
- Issue 14: 16-31 May 2019; Issue 13 : 01-15 May 2019
- Issue 12 : 16-30 April 2019; Issue 11 : 01-15 April 2019



Contributions to Outside Publications by RIS Faculty

- Anand, P. K. and Krishna Kumar. 2019. 'Evolving Conceptual Framework and Monitoring Mechanism for SDGs in India' 2030 Agenda and India: Moving from Quantity to Quality'. Springer.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2019. 'Introduction: Sustainable Development Goals and India'. In: Sachin Chaturvedi, T. C. James, Sabyasachi Saha, Prativa Shaw (eds.) 2030 Agenda and India: Moving from Quantity to Quality, pp 1-13, Springer, Singapore.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin; T.C. James; Sabyasachi Saha; Prativa Shaw. 2019. 'India's Pursuit of SDGs: Unfolding Paradigm Shifts and Convergence. In: Sachin Chaturvedi et al. (eds.) 2030 Agenda and India: Moving from Quantity to Quality. South Asia Economic and Policy Studies. Springer, Singapore.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin; Krishna Ravi Srinivas; Amit Kumar. 2019. 'Cartagena Protocol, Socio-Economic Assessment, and Literature Review of Socio-Economic Assessment (SEA) Studies in India'. In: Chaturvedi, Sachin and Srinivas K. (eds) Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of Genetically Modified Crops. Springer, Singapore.
- Chaturvedi Sachin & Sabyasachi Saha. 2019: Role of BRICS' Economic Cooperation for Global Governance and Institution-Building: An Indian Perspective, Strategic Analysis, DOI: 10.1080/09700161.2019.1694643
- Chaturvedi, Sachin; Krishna Ravi Srinivas and Amit Kumar. 2019. 'Cartagena Protocol, Socio-Economic Assessment, and Literature Review' of Socio-Economic Assessment (SEA) Studies in India in Sachin Chaturvedi and Krishna Ravi Srinivas (eds.) Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of Genetically Modified Crops - Global Implications Based on Case-Studies from India. Springer, Singapore.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin; S. Saha; and A. S. Nair. 2019. Social Stock Exchange for Social Enterprises and Social Incubators: An Exploratory Study for India. RIS Discussion Paper No. 243
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2019. 'Technology Assessment in India' in Constructing a Global Technology Assessment: Insights from Australia, China, Europe, Germany, India and Russia , Julia Hahn and Miltos Ladikas (eds.), Karlsruher Institut für Technologie (KIT), Karlsruhe. (co-authored)
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2019. 'Identify and promote champion sectors'. The Week, 31 August.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2019. 'Agricultural trade in South Asia: issues, challenges and the way forward' in Nagesh Kumar and Joseph George (eds.) Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Food Security in South Asia, Taylor & Francis.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2019. 'Introduction: Challenges Confronting a Rising South Asia – Industry and Employment' and 'Conclusion: Manufacturing and Employment in South Asia' in Sachin Chaturvedi and Sabyasachi Saha (eds.) Manufacturing and Jobs in South Asia: Strategy for Sustainable Economic Growth, Springer.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin and Priyadarshi Dash. 2019. The G20 and Global Governance, Japan Spotlight, May/June Issue.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2019. Trade and Economic Integration for South Asia: Exploring Corridors and Dynamism in Asia. In Deeparghya Mukherjee (ed.) Economic Integration in Asia: Key Prospects and Challenges with the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership. Routledge , London.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. and K. Ravi Srinivas. 2019. Technology Assessment in India. In Julia Hahn and Miltos Ladikas(ed.) Constructing a Global Technology Assessment: Insights from Australia, China, Europe, Germany, India and Russia. KIT Scientific Publishing, Karlsruhe.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin (co-authored). 2019. 'Forward and Beyond' in Cooperation Beyond Convention Independent Report on South-South and Triangular Cooperation, United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation, New York.

Publication Programme

- Chaturvedi, Sachin; Rahman Mustafizur; and Srinivas, Krishna Ravi. 2019. Leveraging Science, Technology and Innovation for Implementing the 2030 Agenda. G 20-2019, T 20 JapanPolicyBrief.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin and K. Ravi Srinivas. 2019. 'Evaluating technology in India: From national to global scale'. In Technology assessment as a method of forecasting socio-economic consequences of technological innovations. International cooperation and regional developments in Russia. A Series of International Parliamentary Experience, Toical Issues, European Parliamentary Technology Assessment (EPTA), December. Department of the Federation Council Bauman Moscow State Technical University Pp 29-37 <http://council.gov.ru/activity/analytics/publications/699/>
- Dash, Priyadarshi (2019). "Bond Market Dynamics in BRICS", Journal of International Economics, Vol. 10, No.2, July-December, pp. 3-43.
- De, Prabir. 2019. Act East to Act Indo-Pacific: India's Expanding Neighbourhood, Knowledge World, New Delhi
- De, Prabir and Charles Kunaka. 2019. "Connectivity Assessment: Challenges and Opportunities", in S Kathuria and P Mathur (eds.) Playing to Strengths: A Policy Framework for Mainstreaming Northeast India, The World Bank, Washington, D.C
- De, Prabir. 2019. "Making BRI Better for South Asia", Trade Insight, Vol. 15, No. 3
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- Peter, Augustine. 2019. 'Online Vertical Restraints and Abuse of Dominant Position: The Emerging Indian Perspectives' in Global Competition Law Enforcement: New Players and New Challenges, Paulo Buccirossi and William Kovacic, Kluwer (Eds) (Co-Authored with Ms Neha Singh)
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- Saha, S. and Prativa Shaw. (2019). Revisiting Industrialisation and Innovation in India: Roadmap for SDG 9. In 2030 Agenda and India: Moving from Quantity to Quality (pp. 41-64). Springer, Singapore.
- Srinivas, K. Ravi and Amit Kumar. 2019. 'International Experience in Socio-economic Assessment'. In: Chaturvedi, Sachin and Srinivas K. (eds) Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of Genetically Modified Crops. Springer, Singapore.
- Srinivas, K. Ravi. 2019. 'A Way Forward: New Trends in Technology and Reference of Socio-economic Assessment'. In: Chaturvedi, Sachin and Srinivas K. (eds) Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of Genetically Modified Crops. Springer, Singapore.
- Srinivas, K. R. (2019). India Country Report (Pp 622-623) in Regulation of International Direct-to-Participant Genomic Research , Country Reports, Zawati, M. H., Chalmers, D., Dallari, S. G., de Neiva Borba, M., Pinkesz, M., Joly, Y., ... Hazel, J. W. The Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics, 47(4), 582-704. doi:10.1177/1073110519897736.
- Kumarasamy, Durairaj and Prabir De. 2019. "Promoting Foreign Direct Investment in the Indo-Pacific Region: Scope and Opportunities", India Quarterly, Vol. 75, No. 4. pp. 1-20.
- Kundu, Amitabh. 2019. Integrated Development and Sustainable Cities: Need for an Alternative Development Paradigm. 2030 Agenda and India: Moving from Quantity to Quality (pp. 97-128). Springer, Singapore.
- Kundu, Amitabh. 2019. 'Urbanisation and Industrialisation in Asian Countries: The Spectre of Premature Deindustrialisation.' In the Volume on Regional Workshop on Managing Urbanization in Asia. Association of Academies & Societies of Science in Asia, Sri Lanka



- Kundu, Amitabh. 2019. 'South-South Cooperation in Building a Knowledge Corridor for Achieving Development Targets' in Suleri, A. (ed.) SDPI volume.
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- Kundu, Amitabh (co-author). 2020. Education in Odisha, Odisha Development Report, Manak Publications.
- Kundu, Amitabh (co-author). 2020. Social Development Indices in Odisha: A Spatial Overview, Odisha Development Report, Manak Publications.
- Kundu, Amitabh (Edited). 2020. Odisha Development Report, Manak Publications.
- Mohanty, S. K. 2019. 'India's Economic Engagement with LAC: Strategy for Trade and Investment'. Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, New Delhi.
- James, T. C. 2019. Defining Traditional Knowledge – National and International Perspectives' in Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions: National and Community Perspectives by Topi Basar (ed.), NLU&JA, Assam, Guwahati.
- Kundu, Amitabh. 2019. Interview on National Statistical System. Mint. 7 May.
- Kundu, Amitabh. 2019. "National Statistical must be Strengthened". Hindustan Times. 26 June.
- Pandey, Beena. 2019. 'Ensure Quality Education for All in India: Prerequisite for Achieving SDG 4.' 2030 Agenda and India: Moving from Quantity to Quality (pp. 165-196). Springer, Singapore.

Newspaper Articles

- De, Prabir. 2019. "Act East to Act Indo-Pacific: Agenda for the New Government", Economic Times, 1 June.
- Kundu, Amitabh. 2019. 'Focusing on health, education of women will bring down population, increase work participation'. Indian Express, (Rep)

Chapter 7

Data and Information Centre

The Documentation Centre of the institute has huge collection of latest specialized publications, reports, databases, e-journals and articles, etc. for providing up-to-date information to RIS Faculty and visiting scholars. It exchange programme of publications with a number of national and international organizations and keeps enriching the resource base by adding more publications and study programmes on issues of critical importance to the developing countries.

RIS Documentation Centre maintains close linkages with key global institutions like FAO, ILO, OECD, UN, UNCTAD, World Bank, WTO, etc. Working Papers, Discussion Papers, Re-prints, Occasional Papers from national and international organizations, in print and electronic formats are received either through mutually exchanged programmes or downloaded through institutional websites. The current collection has more than 25,340 books that include government publications, documents of other research institutions in print and electronic format, in addition to 1850 journals in bound volumes. The centre also subscribes to more than 580 print and online journals/magazines that includes jstor, IMF e-library, Elsevier-sciencedirect, Oxford University Press, Wiley etc. and gets about 50 journals on complimentary basis from prestigious sources. There are more than 350 CD Roms and databases. and being a member of DELNET, it promotes resource-sharing. The Library provides Current Awareness Service among the Faculty members regularly.

The rich collection is available online through intranet for easy access.

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 global database 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.

RIS Data Server

The institute maintains 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 acquired domestic and international time series data for quick reference. It has uploaded vital domestic and international trade data (HS&SITC) on it, along with tariff database, Indian Firms



Data and Information Centre

Database, Direction of trade statistics, (Dots) World Development Indicators (WDI), etc. The databases on 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 faculty.

RIS Website and Online Documentation Centre

(www.ris.org.in)

This website is updated on daily basis with 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 in-house team 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 up-to-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 details of various conferences, seminars, workshops conducted by RIS. During this FY 2018-19, three new sub-domains have been developed in-house and linked to the RIS website for their clearer and wider accessibility. The eleven sub-domains under the RIS main website are:

Asia Africa Growth Corridor

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

ASEAN India Centre

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

Blue Economy Forum

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



Forum for Indian Development Cooperation

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

Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM)

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

Global Development Center

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

Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Initiative

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

New Asia Forum

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

RIS Work Programme on Sustainable Development Goals

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

Network of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST)

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

FISD

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



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

Asian Investment Infrastructure Bank

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

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Forum

<http://ris.org.in/science-technology-and-innovation-policy-stip-forum-and-monthly-lecture-series-0>

Delhi Process

<http://ris.org.in/delhi-process>

Documents on Non-Aligned Movement

<http://ris.org.in/documents-non-aligned-movement>

Summer School

<http://ris.org.in/summer-school-0>

Paris Peace Forum

<http://ris.org.in/deadline-extended-extra-time-submit-your-project-paris-peace-forum>

Other Websites maintained by RIS

Network of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST)

<http://southernthinktanks.org>

FISD

<http://fisd.in>

IBSA

<http://ibsa-trilateral.org>

South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS)

<http://saceps.org.in>

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

The institute has deepened its presence on the social media platforms like Twitter, Facebook and Youtube. RIS Youtube channel is constantly kept updated. Video recorded events are made available in its Playlist for easy access. RIS Youtube channel has recorded increase in viewership and its subscriber's base.

RIS Facebook and Twitter

The number of followers is more than 4k followers on Facebook and its pages have been rated at 4.3 out of 5 on the basis of public opinion polls. The Twitter handle has more than 4k followers. Every major activity of RIS is immediately flashed on both these platforms for quick public access on real time basis and there is response from viewers highly encouraging.

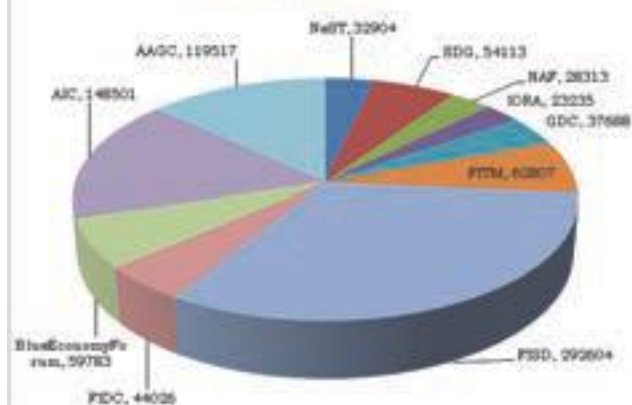


Data and Information Centre

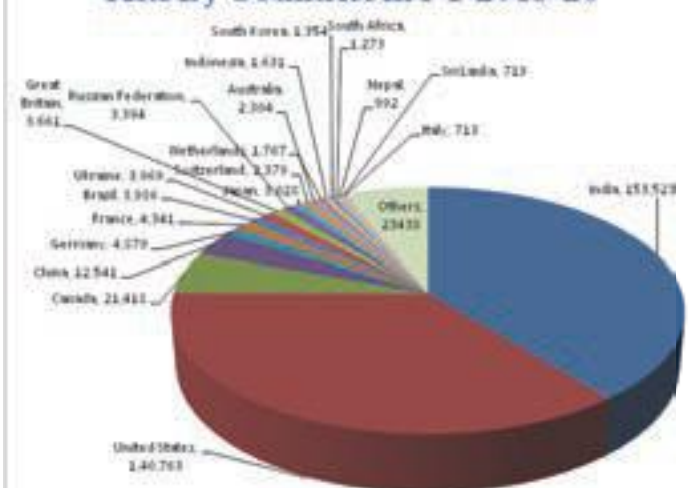
RIS Intranet Facility

Intranet facility for faculty and administrative staff that provides password protected information to employees with regard to their service matters, including leave records, salary slips, medical reimbursements and other details. It also provides research databases for its Faculty which is available in CD format covering among others Direction of Trade Statistics, CUSTADA, World Development Indicators, Government Financial Statistics (IMF), International Financial Statistics (IMF).

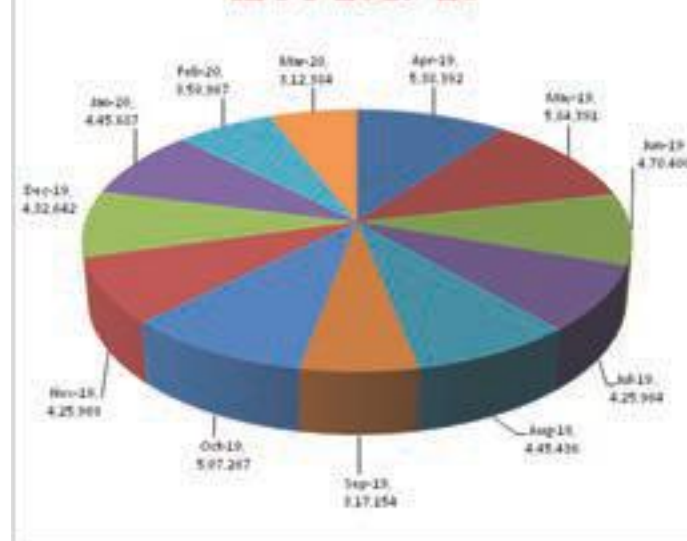
Hits in RIS Sub-Domains in FY 2019-20



Hits By Countries in FY 2019-20



Statistical Hits in RIS Website in FY 2019-20



Chapter 8

Human Resource



Professor Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General

Specialisation: International Economic Development and Cooperation

Faculty



Dr S. K. Mohanty

Professor

Specialisation: Global & Regional
Economic Integration
Trade and Development Issues



Dr Sabyasachi Saha

Assistant Professor

Specialisation: : Technology &
Development Economics and
International Trade



Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Research Associate
(till 31 May 2018)

Assistant Professor
(from 1 June 2018)

Specialisation: Macroeconomics and
International Finance



Dr Beena Pandey

Research Associate

Specialisation: Social Sector,
Gender Empowerment and
Development Issues

Distinguished Fellows



Mr Rajeev Kher

Distinguished Fellow

Specialisation: International trade and
commerce



Ambassador Amar Sinha

Distinguished Fellow

Specialisation: Economic diplomacy and
South-South Cooperation



Professor Amitabh Kundu

Distinguished Fellow

Specialisation: SDGs and methodology for impact
assessment for regional cooperation

Visiting Fellows/Consultants/Research Associates



Mr Bhaskar Balakrishnan
Science Diplomacy Fellow
Specialisation: STI Cooperation and Science Policy



Dr K. Ravi Srinivas
Visiting Fellow
Specialisation: IPRs and global trade



Professor T C James
Visiting Fellow
Specialisation: Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)



Dr Sushil Kumar
Consultant
Specialisation: International trade and finance



Professor Milindo Chakrabarti
Visiting Fellow
Specialisation: Micro-economics, International trade, development cooperation and evaluation



Mr Subhomoy Bhattacharjee
Consultant
Specialisation: Public policy, specially in energy



Dr P K Anand
Visiting Fellow
Specialisation: Economic growth and development



Mr Arun Somachudan Nair
Visiting Fellow
Specialisation: Foreign trade and investment



Mr Krishna Kumar
Visiting Fellow
Specialisation: Official statistics and SDGs



Dr Augustine Peter
Visiting Fellow
Specialisation: Trade investment and Competition Policy



Dr Amit Kumar
Research Associate
Specialisation: Innovation, foresight, and S&T governance



Dr Abha Jaiswal
Visiting Fellow
Specialisation: Public health policy and Management



Ms Nimita Pandey
Research Associate
Specialisation: Science policy



Dr Namrata Pathak
Research Associate
Specialisation: Traditional knowledge



Dr Sneha Sinha
Research Associate
Specialisation: Science and technology studies



Dr Dinesh Kumar
Research Associate
Specialisation: International trade



Dr Tanzeem Hasnat
Research Associate
Specialisation: International and financial economics



Dr Deepika Chawla
Research Associate
Specialisation: Development economics and innovation studies

ASEAN India Centre at RIS



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Professor/Coordinator, AIC
Specialisation: International Economics,
Trade & Transport Facilitation and
Service Trade



Ms Sreya Pan

Research Associate
Specialisation: International trade



Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy

Consultant
Specialisation: International Trade,
Foreign Direct Investment & Applied
Econometrics

Global Development Initiative



Mr Abhinav Jha

Research Associate

Research Assistants



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M. A. (Economics)



Ms Aditi Gupta

M. A. (Economics)



Ms Amika Bawa

*Masters in Diplomacy,
Law and Business
till December 2019*



Mr Ankur Jaiswal

*M.Sc. (Economics)
till February 2020*



Mr Apurva Bhatnagar

*M. A. (Development
Economics)*



Mr Akansh Khandelwal

*M. A. (Economics)
(till June 2019)*



Ms Chandni Dawani

M. A. (Economics)



Ms Geetika Khanduja

*M. A. (Public Policy)
(till July 2019)*

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Ms Sunanda Mahajan
M. A. (Economics)



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Ms Shreya Kansal
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Professor Anil Sooklal

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



Professor Manmohan Agarwal

Formerly RBI Chair Professor, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram



Professor Haribabu Ejnazarzala

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



Professor Shahid Ahmed

Professor and Head, Department of Economics, Jamia Millia Islamia



Dr Benu Schneider

Formerly with UN, UNCTAD & Adviser at the Reserve Bank of India



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Professor Amrita Narlikar

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Dr Ramkishan S. Rajan

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Professor Mukul G. Asher

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



Dr Suma Athreye

Professor, International Business and Strategy, Brunel Business School, UK



Dr Balakrishna Pisupati

Chairperson, FLEDGE and Former Chairman, NBA, Chennai



Dr T. P. Rajendran

Formerly Assistant Director General, ICAR and Visiting Fellow, RIS



Dr Biswajit Banerjee

Chief Economist, Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic and Professor of Economics at Ashoka University, Sonapat, Haryana.



Professor Kevin P. Gallagher

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

Staff Members

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Director (Finance and Administration)

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Mr Tish Kumar Malhotra, Head, DG's Office

Mr N.N. Krishnan, Personal Assistant

Mrs Ritu Parnami, Personal Assistant

Ms Gohar Naaz, Secretarial Assistant

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Ms Sanjay Sharma, Consultant (Editorial)

Mr Sachin Singhal, Publication Assistant (Designing & Web)

Mr Piyush Verma, LDC

Mrs Shalini Sharma, LDC/Receptionist

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Mrs Sushila, Library Assistant

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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 (Till August 2019)

Mr Soumya Ranjan, IT Assistant

Support Staff

Mr Satyavir Singh (Sr. Staff Car Driver)

Mr J.B. Thakuri (Staff Car Driver)

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Mr Pradeep

Mr Raju

Mr Raj Kumar

Mr Manish Kumar

Mr Raj Kumar

Mr Sudhir Rana

Mr Birju

Mr Pradeep Negi

Finance & Administration

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

Mrs Sheela Malhotra, Section Officer (Accounts)

Mr Harkesh, Section Officer (*Till September 2019*)

Mrs Anu Bisht, Assistant

Mr Surjeet, Accountant

Mr Anil Gupta, Assistant

Chapter 9

Financial Statements



SINGH KRISHNA & ASSOCIATES

Chartered Accountants

8, Second Floor, Krishna Market, Kalkaji, New Delhi - 110019

Tele.: 4059034-4, e-mail: sktaeamail@gmail.com

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the General Body of
Research and Information System for Developing Countries

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Research and Information System for Developing Countries, a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, (the entity), which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2020, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Receipt and Payment Account for the year then ended, and schedules to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the entity as at March 31, 2020, of its financial performance and receipts and payments for the year then ended in accordance with the Accounting Standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI).

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing (SAs) issued by ICAI. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the entity in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by ICAI and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance 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, and financial performance of the entity 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.



As part of an audit in accordance with SAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on Other Requirements

We report that:

- 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;
- in our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the entity so far as appears from our examination of the books; and
- 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.

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



(Krishna Kumar Singh)
Partner
M. No. 077494



Place : New Delhi
Date : 20/10/2020

UDIN : 20077494AAAAAM8282

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

Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2020

		Amount in ₹	
	Sch. #	As at 31-Mar-20	As at 31-Mar-19
LIABILITIES			
Research and Development Fund	1	12,12,06,400.18	10,48,86,411.55
Fixed Assets Fund (Non - FCRA)	2	2,04,70,092.00	2,05,63,226.00
Fixed Assets Fund (FCRA)	2	51,914.00	75,259.00
Unspent Balance of Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA)	3	1,17,43,716.58	97,15,074.00
Unspent Balance of Sponsored Projects (FCRA)	3	1,35,45,613.80	33,12,855.81
Current Liabilities and Provisions (Non - FCRA)	4	4,35,87,287.67	5,07,83,177.67
Current Liabilities and Provisions (FCRA)	4	36,04,200.00	28,40,698.00
Total		21,42,09,224.23	19,21,76,702.03
ASSETS			
Property, Plant and Equipment (Non - FCRA)	5	2,04,70,092.00	2,05,63,226.00
Property, Plant and Equipment (FCRA)	5	4,53,210.00	4,78,555.00
Investment (Non - FCRA)	6	3,03,46,419.00	3,80,32,610.00
Investment (FCRA)	6	8,80,50,977.33	8,57,01,574.70
Amount Recoverable from Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA)	3	1,91,88,065.04	1,62,48,645.04
Amount Recoverable from Sponsored Projects (FCRA)	3	14,84,068.18	54,73,025.70
Current Assets, Loans, Advances, etc. (Non - FCRA)	7	2,75,08,130.40	2,12,34,862.38
Current Assets, Loans, Advances, etc. (FCRA)	7	2,67,08,282.28	44,46,203.21
Total		21,42,09,224.23	19,21,76,702.03

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 : 20/10/2020

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, 2020

		Amount in ₹	
	Sch. #	Year Ended 31-Mar-20	Year Ended 31-Mar-19
INCOME			
Grant-in-Aid from the Ministry of External Affairs, GOI	4(a)	11,53,67,123.00	11,69,89,000.00
Sponsored Projects Grant transferred to meet Programme Expenses (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	3	7,81,05,121.82	9,66,37,564.54
Surplus amount transferred on completion of Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)		14,85,367.85	51,01,707.56
Income from Royalty, Publications, etc. (Non - FCRA)		95,624.88	84,647.52
Interest Earned			
On Term Deposits (FCRA)		58,44,535.00	57,66,268.00
On Term Deposits (Non - FCRA)		10,96,315.00	10,04,714.00
On Savings Account/ Auto Sweep A/c (FCRA)		3,81,734.00	2,75,746.00
On Savings Account/ Auto Sweep A/c (Non - FCRA)		7,17,700.00	3,88,124.00
On Loan to Employees (Non - FCRA)		17,751.00	30,456.00
Other Miscellaneous Income (Non - FCRA and FCRA)		3,02,587.50	2,000.00
Recoveries for Training Programs and Overheads from Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)		76,58,289.68	57,51,850.18
Prior Period Income		38,503.00	-
Income on Disposal of Tangible Assets		91,338.00	-
Payable Written Off		2,44,441.00	-
Amount transferred from Property, Plant and Equipment Fund - W.D.V. of Assets Sold/ Written-off (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	2	15,900.00	-
Amount transferred from Property, Plant and Equipment Fund - Dep. on Assets Acquired out of Grant-in-Aid from the GOI/ Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)		47,33,456.00	48,40,957.00
Total		21,61,95,787.73	23,68,73,034.80
EXPENDITURE			
Programme Expenses - Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	8	7,81,05,121.82	9,66,37,564.54
Establishment Expenses (Non - FCRA)	9	7,61,17,846.00	8,86,76,184.00
Administrative and Other Programme Expenses (Non - FCRA)	10	3,93,71,705.98	3,65,42,700.89
Administrative and Other Programme Expenses (FCRA)	11	2,05,856.30	91,987.50
Depreciation on Property, Plant and Equipment (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	5	47,33,456.00	48,40,957.00
Deficit amount transferred on completion of Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	3	11,95,243.00	34,91,628.94
Prior Period Expenses		1,46,570.00	-
Surplus transferred to Research and Development Fund		1,63,19,958.63	65,92,011.93
Total		21,61,95,787.73	23,68,73,034.80

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: 20/10/2020



for Research and Information System for Developing Countries

Maresh 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 1960)

Receipt and Payment Account for the Year Ended March 31, 2020

	Year Ended 31-Mar-20	Year Ended 31-Mar-19	Payments	Year Ended 31-Mar-20	Year Ended 31-Mar-19	Amount in ₹
A Receipts			A Expenditures			
i) Operating Balances			i) Establishment Expenses - Schedule - 12 (Non - FCRA)	9,47,82,161.00	7,70,37,898.00	
ii) Cash in Hand (Non - FCRA)	39,077.00	41,393.00	ii) Administrative and Other Programme Expenses - Schedule - 13 (Non - FCRA)	3,09,56,833.05	3,90,66,714.48	
iii) Bank Balances			iii) Administrative and Other Programme Expenses - Schedule - 14 (FCRA)	2,02,425.30	90,927.50	
iv) In Savings Account - Andhra Bank	38,140.00	38,816.00	iv) Expenses - Sponsored Projects - Schedule - 15 (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	6,93,98,291.14	8,09,62,952.10	
v) In Savings Account - Andhra Bank	1,49,98,045.86	76,10,881.32	Total A	19,13,39,711.09	19,77,78,290.08	
vi) Sweep - Bank of India (Non - FCRA)		31,70,177.46				
vii) In Savings Account - Andhra Bank	43,844.21	7,85,33,429.70	B Payment for Property, Plant and Equipment			
viii) In Fixed Deposits - Bank of India (FCRA)	8,57,07,574.79	3,57,08,765.00	i) Payment for Property, Plant and Equipment (Non - FCRA)	30,62,796.00	29,49,324.00	
ix) In Fixed Deposits - Bank of India (FCRA)	3,80,32,610.00	1,85,222.00	ii) Payment for Property, Plant and Equipment (FCRA)	77,303.00	30,991.00	
x) Postage Stamps - Balance in Handing Machine (Non - FCRA)	2,32,293.00		Total B	51,43,100.00	29,80,015.00	
Total A	13,90,87,784.77	12,53,05,186.48				
B Grants Received			C Advances and Deposits			
i) From the Ministry of External Affairs, GOI	12,00,00,000.00	12,00,00,000.00	i) Advances (Non - FCRA)	13,13,606.00	8,97,576.00	
ii) From various Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA)	4,60,38,917.00	7,70,97,441.00	ii) Advances (FCRA)	1,75,375.00	2,60,626.00	
iii) From various Sponsored Projects (FCRA)	4,58,13,716.62	93,25,520.37	iii) TDS Receivable (Non - FCRA)	3,38,167.00	4,33,077.00	
Total B	21,51,52,633.62	20,64,22,961.37	iv) TDS Receivable (FCRA)	6,24,204.00	3,61,715.00	
C Interest Received			v) State Cheques (FCRA)	1,170.00	-	
i) Interest on Loans, Advances, etc. (Non - FCRA)	16,471.00	30,456.00	Total C	24,53,602.00	16,52,904.00	
ii) Interest on Savings Bank Account/ Auto sweep (FCRA)	3,61,928.00	2,75,552.00	D Others			
iii) Interest on Fixed Deposit Accounts (Non - FCRA)	9,99,136.00	10,24,176.00	i) Grants Refunded	34,46,448.86	-	
iv) Interest on Fixed Deposit Accounts (FCRA)	54,04,651.00	74,17,153.00	ii) Refund of amount received on behalf of Employees	-	1,07,006.00	
v) Interest on Savings Bank Account/ Auto sweep (Non - FCRA)	7,17,700.00	3,87,730.00	iii) Amount paid to RIS Provident Fund	24,25,266.33	-	
vi) Interest on Savings Bank Account - Andhra Bank (Non - FCRA)	-	294.00	Total D	58,71,715.19	-	
Total C	75,19,895.00	91,35,461.00				
Total Carried Forward	34,06,64,268.85	34,06,64,268.85	Total Carried Forward	29,46,09,187.38	29,46,09,187.38	



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	Receipts	Year Ended 31-Mar-20	Year Ended 31-Mar-19	Payments	Year Ended 31-Mar-20	Year Ended 31-Mar-19
D	Total Brought Forward	34,17,60,303.39	34,06,64,208.85	Total Brought Forward	29,48,85,187.28	29,28,27,397.68
D	Other Income			Chasing Balances		39,077.00
i)	Publication Sales	65,576.52	1,600.00	ii) Cash in Hand (Non - FCRA)	50,815.00	
ii)	Royalty	3,41,090.50	81,384.00	iii) Bank Balances	39,140.00	39,140.00
iii)	Miscellaneous Income		400.00	iv) In Savings Account - Andhra	2,16,25,025.52	1,49,59,545.86
Total D		4,26,667.02		Bank (Non - FCRA)		
E	Advances and Deposits			Sweep - Bank of India (Non - FCRA)		
i)	Recovery of Loans Advances (Non - FCRA)	1,19,547.00	1,86,637.00	In Savings Account Andhra	2,32,74,113.28	43,844.21
ii)	Advances Recovered from Staff (Non - FCRA)	8,18,216.00	-	Sweep - Bank of India (FCRA)	8,80,50,877.33	8,57,01,574.70
iii)	State Cheques (Non - FCRA)	21,391.00	3,79,008.00	In Fixed Deposits - Bank of India (FCRA)	3,03,46,419.00	3,80,32,610.00
iv)	State Cheques (FCRA)	13,294.00	82,134.00	In Fixed Deposits - Bank of India (Non - FCRA)		
v)	Amount received in Advance (Non - FCRA)			Postage Stamps - Balance in Franchising Machine (Non-FCRA)	2,29,244.00	2,30,293.00
vi)	Recovery of Loans Advances (FCRA)	2,00,626.00	9,780.00	Total E		
vii)	Amount received on behalf of RIS PI	28,43,965.00	3,08,000.00		16,16,16,315.13	13,90,87,784.77
Total E		40,89,029.00	9,67,365.00			
F	Others					
i)	Deposit of Tangible Assets	1,07,238.00	-			
ii)	Income Tax Refund	28,765.00	-			
Total F		1,45,503.00	-			
Total		34,64,21,562.41	34,19,15,187.85	Total	34,64,21,562.41	34,19,15,187.85

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

Schedules 1 to 15 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



(Niraj Kumar Singh)
Partner
M. No. 077494

Place: New Delhi

Date: 20/10/2020

For Research and Information System for Developing Countries

Mahesh C. Anand
Director (Finance and Admin)

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi
Director General

About RIS

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) is a New Delhi-based autonomous policy research institute that specialises in issues related to international economic development, trade, investment and technology. RIS is envisioned as a forum for fostering effective policy dialogue and capacity-building among developing countries on global and regional economic issues.

The focus of the work programme of RIS is to promote South-South Cooperation and collaborate with developing countries in multilateral negotiations in various forums. RIS is engaged across inter-governmental processes of several regional economic cooperation initiatives. Through its intensive network of think tanks, RIS seeks to strengthen policy coherence on international economic issues and the development partnership canvas.

For more information about RIS and its work programme, please visit its website: www.ris.org.in



RIS

Research and Information System
for Developing Countries

विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली

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