

# RIS

## **Annual Report** 2006/07 **and Work Programme** 2007/08

— Policy research to shape the international development agenda



# RIS

Research and Information System  
for Developing Countries

# **RIS** **A Think-Tank of Developing Countries**

RIS is a New Delhi-based autonomous policy think-tank supported by the Government of India devoted to trade and development issues. Its work programme focuses on policy research and capacity building in multilateral trade and financial negotiations, regional economic cooperation in Asia, South-South cooperation, new technologies and development, and strategic policy responses of developing countries to globalization, among other issues. The work of RIS is published in the form of research reports, books, discussion papers, policy briefs and journals.

RIS has networked effectively with other prominent policy think-tanks, government agencies, industry bodies and international organizations in Asia and other parts of the world for collaborative research and joint activities. It has a consultative status with UNCTAD, and has been accredited to the Summit Meetings of NAM and WTO Ministerial Conferences. It has conducted policy research and other activities in collaboration with other agencies, including UN-ESCAP, UNDP, UNCTAD, UNU, Group of 77, SAARC Secretariat, Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank, the South Centre, and the Commonwealth Secretariat.

For more information about RIS and its work programme, please visit its website: [www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in).

**— Policy research to shape the international development agenda**



## **RIS**

**Research and Information System  
for Developing Countries**

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Chairman, RIS  
and National Commission for Enterprises  
in the Unorganized Sector, Government of India



## **Chairman's Message**

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The global economic integration of the world economy has continued to deepen facilitated by multilateral trade negotiations, a number of regional and bilateral free trade arrangements and autonomous liberalization of trade and investment regimes across the world. Developing countries like India need to respond to the challenges of implementation of various WTO commitments, and prepare their position on the growing agenda of WTO negotiations to protect their interests. We also need to evolve our own bilateral and regional economic cooperation arrangements with other nations to promote our own interests, as well as pursue economic reforms, and take other strategic interventions to exploit the emerging opportunities in the most optimal manner. While doing so the basic objectives of economic development have to be kept in mind, namely to remove poverty, expand employment opportunities and protect the vulnerable sections of our people engaged in agriculture, manufacturing and services.

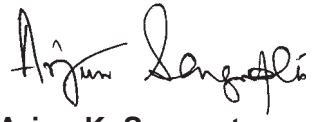
Policy makers need highly specialized analytical inputs for handling these challenges. It is here that the role of policy think-tanks such as RIS comes into picture. RIS was established by the Government of India, in response to a felt need for such capability to assist the policy-makers within the country and in other developing countries facing similar challenges.

It is gratifying to note that RIS has acquired substantial expertise on various issues of multilateral trade negotiations, regional economic integration in Asia, South-South cooperation, and strategic responses to globalization, among other aspects of development to deliver its mandate. Besides its own policy research initiatives on international economic issues, RIS has been providing analytical inputs to various Ministries of the Government of India.

I am happy to note that the work of RIS in the past year has assisted in policy formulation with respect to a number of initiatives of regional economic integration in Asia and multilateral trade negotiations. It provided inputs for preparations for the East Asia Summit, the SAARC Summit and has also been involved in proactive track-II dialogue with its network partners in promoting broader regional economic integration and the process of community building in Asia. RIS has also conducted important studies on South-South cooperation

and assisted in preparations for the IBSA Summit and the NAM Summit, among other events.

It is my firm belief that institutional capacities of the type that RIS represents should be strengthened in the coming years in the context of increasing globalization and growing complexity of policy making process.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arjun Sengupta', with a stylized, cursive script.

**Arjun K. Sengupta**

## Director-General's Report

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RIS' work in the areas of policy research and consultations, policy dialogue, outreach and networking and capacity building crossed new milestones in the year 2006/07. Major research programmes, policy dialogues, and advisory assignments were completed in the four broad fields of its work, viz. Global Economic Governance, Regional Economic Integration in Asia, South-South Cooperation and New Technologies, and Strategic Responses to Globalization.

RIS' *World Trade and Development Report 2007* published by Oxford University Press, was launched by Hon'ble Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Kamal Nath in New Delhi in February 2007. The Report was presented to and discussed with developing country negotiators in London in May 2007 and in Geneva in June 2007 at events coorganized jointly with the Commonwealth Secretariat and the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) respectively. The year also saw RIS providing policy inputs to the government in preparation of the Second East Asia Summit held in January 2007 in Cebu, for the NAM Summit held in Havana in September 2006, for the First IBSA Summit held in Brasilia in September 2006, and for the SAARC Summit held in New Delhi in April 2007. RIS conducted studies on Asian regional cooperation for infrastructure development, on South Asian economic integration including operationalizing and deepening of SAFTA, and provided analytical assistance to the ongoing negotiations on ASEAN-India FTA, India-South Korea bilateral FTA, among many others. Studies on International Competitiveness of Knowledge-based Industries, and on Environmental Requirements and Market Access in South Asia were published in the book form by Oxford University Press and Academic Foundation respectively, among other publications.


RIS organized a regional seminar on the agenda of SAARC Summit jointly with SACEPS, inaugurated by the Hon'ble External Affairs Minister Shri Pranab Mukherjee; a High-Level Policy Dialogue with UN-ESCAP graced by Hon'ble Finance Minister of India, Shri P. Chidambaram and Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Shri Jairam Ramesh; and a High-level Roundtable



on the Agenda of the NAM Summit inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs Shri Anand Sharma.

As a part of policy advocacy, outreach and institutional networking activities RIS organized a seminar jointly with ASEAN Secretariat on pan-Asian integration on the sidelines of IMF/World Bank Meetings in September 2006 in Singapore, another one jointly with ISEAS, ADB and others in November 2006 in Singapore on the East Asia Summit agenda and a Session on Regional Economic Integration in Asia at the GDN Conference in Beijing in January 2007, among others. RIS also became involved in the Track-II processes resulting from the East Asia Summit, namely ERIA (Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia) and CEPEA (Comprehensive Economic Partnership of East Asia) along with think-tanks of ASEAN+6 countries. The RIS' capacity building programme on International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP) held during February-March 2007 was participated by 14 participants from 12 developing countries representing different regions across the world including a Member of Parliament from South Africa.

I am confident that we will be able to further strengthen the institutional capacities at RIS and live up to the high expectations that the society has from us, as we enter the 25<sup>th</sup> year of RIS, under the inspiring guidance and vision provided by our Chairman, Hon'ble Professor Arjun K. Sengupta, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) and other distinguished Members of the RIS Governing Council, and of the Research Advisory Council chaired by Professor Muchkund Dubey, with the continued support of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and other agencies sponsoring RIS work, and with the dedicated work of the faculty and staff members.

  
Nagesh Kumar



# I. Policy Research

The core of RIS' work programme includes policy research in four broad areas, namely: (a) Global Economic Governance; (b) Regional Economic Integration in Asia; (c) South-South Cooperation; and (d) Strategic Responses to Globalization. This Report summarizes the major research programmes of RIS undertaken during 2006/07 in each of these broad areas as well as the ongoing work in 2007/08.

## A. Global Economic Governance

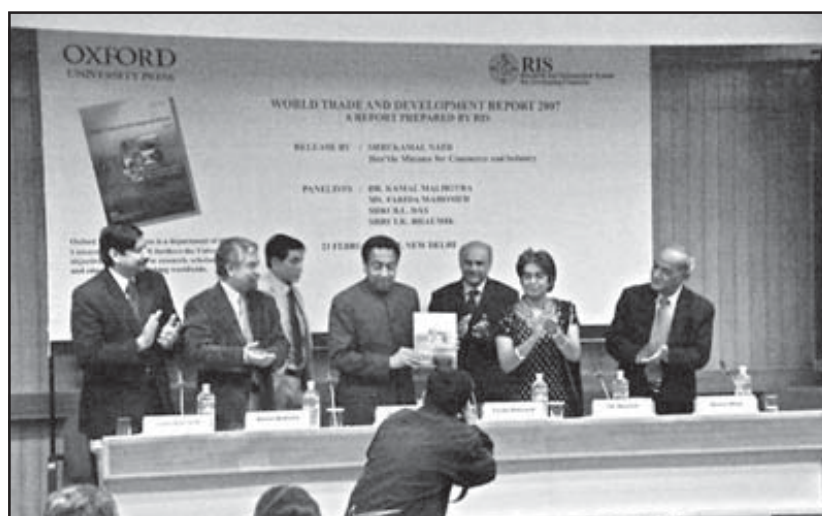
### A.1. Work Programme on WTO's Doha Development Round and Developing Countries

RIS assisted the developing countries in the WTO negotiations with analytical studies and policy dialogues. The work programme covers the overall process as well as the sectoral negotiations, as summarized below.

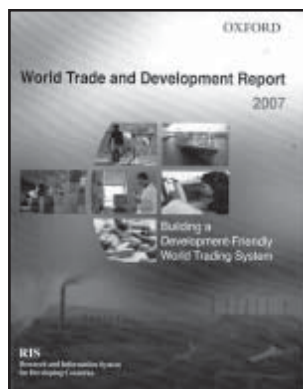
#### A.1.1. World Trade and Development Report 2007 [2005/07]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr. Pooja Sharma, Dr. Somesh Mathur, Mr. Abinash Dash, et al. RIS work on the Doha Round of WTO Negotiations includes analytical support provided to negotiators of developing countries in select areas of negotiations, as summarized elsewhere in this Report. In addition, RIS takes a broader view of the world trading system as emerging from these negotiations and its

implications for development. As a part of this the RIS launched the *World Trade and Development Reports (WTDR)* in 2003. Favourable feedback received from policy makers and the international development organizations prompted the RIS to produce this *Report* regularly. RIS published the *World Trade and Development Report 2007 – Building a Development Friendly World Trading System* in February 2007. The *Report* presents a broad overview of the emerging multilateral trading system including the asymmetries, its impact on development and challenges for developing countries. Then it reflects on the development issues and makes proposals for a development friendly-outcome for each of the key issues in the Doha Round, viz. agriculture, non-agricultural market access (NAMA), trade



Hon'ble Minister for Commerce and Industry Mr. Kamal Nath (centre) launching the RIS' WTDR 2007 in New Delhi. Also seen in the picture (from left) are: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Dr. Kamal Malhotra (UNDP, New York); Mr. Manzar Khan (Oxford University Press); Hon'ble Ms Farida Mahomed, Member of Parliament, Republic of South Africa; and Mr. T.K. Bhaumik (Reliance Industries Ltd).



in services; trade facilitation, TRIPs, indigenous knowledge, and geographical indications; dispute settlement understanding. Finally, the *Report* highlights the importance of South-South cooperation in achieving a more development-friendly outcome in the Round besides promoting mutual trade and investments. The *Report* was launched by Mr. Kamal Nath, Hon'ble Minister of Commerce & Industry, Govt. of India, at a joint event organized by RIS and Oxford University Press in New Delhi on 23 February 2007. A draft version of the *Report* was earlier presented and discussed at the WTO Public Forum held in Geneva in September 2006 (see report elsewhere). *WTDR07* has been supported by the UNDP, New York and the Commonwealth Secretariat, London.

### **A.1.2. Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA) in Doha Development Round Negotiations: A Research and Advisory Project [Phase II: 2005/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta and Pooja Agarwal*

The main objective of this project sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is to understand the implications of negotiations to further liberalize trade of non-agriculture goods for developing countries like India. It also aims to provide research assistance in the ongoing WTO negotiations on Non-Agriculture Market Access (NGMA) and take note of the concerns of India and other developing countries. The project includes consultations and inputs provided by RIS to the NAMA negotiating team in the Ministry on a regular basis. A database, created at the RIS on industrial tariffs, is updated and employed for simulations of implications of various proposals and the modalities of tariff reduction that are being proposed in the WTO negotiations. As part of this project, a series of analytical studies have been conducted to assist in the formulation of India's position in the ongoing NGMA process. In addition, RIS has provided consultations and comments to the Ministry on the documents of and proposals made at the NGMA.

### **A.1.3 Studies on Doha Round Issues [Ongoing]**

The RIS has continued to follow the ongoing Doha Round negotiations and has issued position papers and policy briefs on specific aspects to assist the developing country negotiators and policy makers. Among the other studies conducted during the year, a paper was prepared on the importance of the policy space for development, how it was being squeezed under multilateral trade negotiations and how developing countries could try to retrieve it in the Doha Round negotiations. This paper has been issued as a Discussion Paper (#120). Another paper has examined the gains and losses from the emerging modalities and proposals in the negotiations. It has been issued as a Policy Brief (#22).

### **A.1.4. Traditional Knowledge and Benefit Sharing with Developing Countries [2006/09]**

*Research Team: Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi*

In the context of commercial exploitation of biodiversity and traditional knowledge by corporations, benefit sharing is an area of increasing international debate at the different levels of policy making including at WHO, WTO and WIPO. RIS is participating in an international project launched by the University of Central Lancashire and supported by the European Commission on "Sharing with Developing Countries – from Biodiversity to Human Genomics". The other partner institutions are the University of Preston, United Kingdom; University of the Witwatersrand; University of South Africa; Centre d'Ethique, France; Vilnius University (VU), Vilnius, Lithuania; and University of the Philippines (UP), Manila, Philippines. Despite the central significance of this especially in the context of economic implications for the indigenous community, these have hardly been discussed or researched in depth. Benefit sharing occurs mainly in two areas: human genetic banking for the purpose of pharmacogenomics or population genomics research (human

genetic resources), and use of traditional knowledge from indigenous communities mainly by the pharmaceutical industry to develop new products (non-human genetic resources). This project seeks to establish an interdisciplinary team of economists, ethicists, lawyers, medical doctors, specialists in gender studies, representatives of indigenous communities and policy-advisors from the five continents. The teams will study four paradigmatic international case studies (from India, South Africa, Iceland, and Kenya) to provide a profound state-of-the-art analysis for benefit sharing in the context of human and non-human resources. Based on this comparative research, the main aim of this project is to promote policy developments by developing an “economies/ethics health check” for benefit sharing agreements involving vulnerable groups and communities in the area of human genetics.

## **A.2. Monitoring the Global Economy**

The focus of this work is to constantly monitor the emerging trends in the world economy from a development perspective and develop proposals for necessary reforms to be taken up by developing countries at the international forums. The work done during the period under review is summarized below.

### **A.2.1. Addressing the Global Imbalances [ongoing]**

The recent work of the RIS in this direction has focused on the risks arising from global imbalances and the importance of addressing them for an orderly adjustment of the world economy. During the period under review, the RIS has developed a major proposal of regional financial cooperation in Asia for addressing the excess reserves, infrastructure deficits and global imbalances (as elaborated later). This proposal has been discussed at the High-Level Policy Dialogue on Regional Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific organized jointly by RIS and UN-ESCAP in March 2007.

### **A.2.2. Globalization and Development: Proposals for UNCTAD XII [2007/08]**

UNCTAD XII to be held in Ghana in April 2008 will provide a high-level forum to developing countries for a discussion on the opportunities and challenges arising from globalization for development. As in the past, the RIS proposes to prepare a policy brief on the theme of the Conference for assisting developing country preparations. The policy brief will reflect on various sub-themes such as the global and regional approaches for sustainable economic development and poverty reduction, trade policy issues in the context of the changing geography of the world economy, mobilizing of resources and the harnessing of knowledge for development, strengthening productive capacity, as well as trade and investment in developing countries, and making recommendations for strengthening UNCTAD’s role and institutional effectiveness.

### **A.2.3. Towards Inclusive Globalization: Evolving a “Southern Consensus” on Globalization and Development [2008/10]**

RIS has initiated a preliminary dialogue with the Global Development and Environment Institute (GDAE) at the Tufts University in the US and Research Centre for Economic Change (CENIT) based in Argentina, among other partners, to develop a major global research programme identifying development policies that have been successful (as well as those that have not) to help facilitate a discussion on a strategic response of developing countries to globalization. It also preposes an agenda for evolving a more development-friendly global economic governance. The programme will cover preparation of several studies and organization of a high-level international conference in New Delhi bringing together leading development thinkers and policy makers. RIS and its partners will







be approaching funding agencies for raising financial resources for launching the programme during the year 2008/9.

## B. Regional Economic Integration in Asia

### B.1 Research Programme on an Asian Economic Community [Phase III: 2006/09]

RIS has been conducting a major research programme on Asian Economic Integration since 2002 supported by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF) Tokyo. The research conducted under the framework of the programme has found a compelling case for an Asian Economic Community (AEC). It was shown that such a grouping would facilitate a fuller exploitation of the region's considerable resources for expediting the process of its development. Besides conducting studies on various areas of cooperation, the Programme has planned a series of high-level conferences organized in collaboration with other Asian think-tanks in New Delhi (March 2003), Tokyo (November 2004), Taiyuan, P.R. of China (September 2005), and New Delhi (November 2005). A new institutional



network, New Asia Forum, has been set up with a dedicated website [www.newasiaforum.org](http://www.newasiaforum.org), and *New Asia Monitor*, a new quarterly journal, besides other outreach activities.

As a result of this research, policy dialogue and the advocacy undertaken, there is now a greater awareness in Asia of the relevance of broader regional economic integration. Asian leaders including two successive Indian Prime Ministers have articulated the vision of an Asian Economic Community at their speeches at the ASEAN Summits, among other forums. India and Japan have also agreed to work together to build an Asian Economic Community during the visit of Prime Minister Koizumi to India in April 2005. A new forum East Asia Summit (EAS) was launched in December 2005 in Kuala Lumpur with participation of all the major Asian countries, viz. ASEAN countries, Japan, China, South Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand.

In the year under review, a third phase of the programme for 2006/09 was launched. Building on the work done during 2002/06, the focus of the project would be on the agenda for action towards the vision of Asian economic integration developed earlier. In particular, the programme proposes to assist the EAS process with studies on the relevance and roadmap for a possible Comprehensive Economic Partnership Arrangement of East Asia (CEPEA) and supporting the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA). During the year under review, a number of studies have been conducted and policy dialogues have been organized within the framework of the programme as summarized below and elsewhere.

### B.1.1. New Asia Forum [ongoing]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Dr. Beena Pandey

New Asia Forum is a dedicated network of think-tanks in Asia devoted to assist the process of regional integration and thus help in building a New and Economically Integrated Asia with ideas. It has been set up by RIS as a part of the

Asian Economic Integration programme. The *New Asia Monitor*, a quarterly journal of the Forum, was launched in March 2004 to disseminate the news, viewpoints and analysis on the economic outlook and developments in the region, among the policy circles and think-tanks to promote the cause of regional economic integration. *New Asia Monitor* has been received well. During the year under review, four issues of the Monitor were brought out. The Forum has also set up a dedicated website [www.newasiaforum.org](http://www.newasiaforum.org) as a melting pot for all the relevant information and resources on the subject. This site is kept up-to-date and is being linked up with those of the think-tanks connected with the Forum.

### **B.1.2. Broader Regional Economic Integration in Asia: the Agenda for East Asia Summit [2006/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar and other members of faculty*

The launch of the East Asia Summit (EAS) in Kuala Lumpur in December 2005 is an important step in the direction of broader regional cooperation in Asia. Bringing together ASEAN and all its dialogue partners covering virtually all the major Asian economies in an annual Summit, the EAS is an appropriate forum to launch a process of formation of an East Asian Community (EAC) which could be an important step in the direction of pan-Asian economic integration and the formation of an Asian Economic Community.

To assist the fledgling EAS process RIS organized a number of high-level policy dialogues on a possible agenda of EAS during the year under review. A Seminar was organized at the Annual IMF/World Bank Meetings in Singapore in September 2006 on ASEAN and Pan-Asian Economic Integration jointly with the ASEAN Secretariat with a very high-level panel comprising ASEAN Secretary-General and the President of the Asian Development Bank (see report elsewhere). RIS issued a Policy Brief on ASEAN and Pan-Asian Economic Integration on the occasion to serve as a



*(From left): Mr. Haruhiko Kuroda, President of ADB; Ambassador Chan Heng Chee, Singapore PR at the UN; Dr. Ashok Lahiri, Chief Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance; and Mr. Ong Keng Yong, Secretary-General of ASEAN at the Seminar on ASEAN and Pan-Asian Integration, organized by ASEAN Secretariat and RIS on 16 September 2006 in Singapore, as part of the programme of seminars (PoS) coinciding with the 2006 annual meetings of the IMF-World Bank.*

background document. In November 2006, the RIS organized a Conference on South Asia-East Asia Economic Cooperation and Pan-Asian Integration jointly with the Asian Development Bank and three Singapore based institutions in Singapore. In January 2007, the RIS organized a Session at the Global Development Network (GDN) Annual Conference in Beijing on Pan-Asian Economic Integration with a high-level panel of speakers. RIS has also issued a policy brief #28 on Regionalism with an 'Asian Face': An Agenda for the East Asian Summit. This policy brief summarizes contours of a programme for a comprehensive economic partnership arrangement of EAS countries for promoting their development in a balanced and equitable manner.

At its Second Session held in Cebu on 15 January 2007, the EAS agreed to launch a Track-II study on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Arrangement of East Asia (CEPEA) and endorse the decision of the Economic Ministers of EAS to establish an Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA). RIS is represented in the ERIA Expert Group covering think-tanks representing each of the 16 EAS Member countries set up by the ASEAN Secretary-General as a follow-up of the Economic Ministers decision. RIS participated in the meetings of the ERIA Expert Group held in Jakarta in November 2006, December 2006 and in Manila in



## RIS' Contribution to the Asian Policy Agenda

The RIS proposal of broader regional cooperation in Asia by forming an Asian Economic Community in a phased manner with Japan, ASEAN countries, China, India and South Korea (JACIK) as its core was first presented and discussed at the High-Level Conference on an Asian Economic Community organized by RIS in New Delhi in March 2003 in collaboration with the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research and the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Jakarta. Since then a number of Asian Statesmen and leaders have spoken on the relevance of an Asian Economic Community as an inclusive grouping of JACIK, among other countries, as a way forward for regional economic cooperation in Asia, as excerpted below. Subsequently the East Asia Summit (EAS) was launched as a forum for dialogue on Asian cooperation in December 2005 in Kuala Lumpur covering all the JACIK countries, and Australia and New Zealand. The EAS at its second session has launched a Track-II study on Comprehensive Economic Partnership of East Asia (CEPEA), and an Economic Research Institute of Asean and East Asia (ERIA). RIS is involved in both these initiatives.

### Asian Leaders on the Asian Economic Community

"If the 14 of us (viz. ASEAN-10, India, Japan, China and South Korea) combine into a broader Asian Economic Community, it can promote our overall competitiveness and create a new engine of growth for the entire region."

— Prime Minister Shri A.B Vajpayee at the ASEAN-India Summit, Bali, October, 2003.

"It is only inevitable that we seek to take the existing India-ASEAN relationship to a higher level, where we envision an Asian Economic Community, which encompasses ASEAN, China, Japan, Korea and India. Such a community would release enormous creative energies of our people. One cannot but be captivated by the vision of an integrated market, spanning the distance from the Himalayas to the Pacific Ocean, linked by efficient road, rail, air and shipping services. This community of nations would constitute an "arc of advantage", across which there would be large-scale movement of people, capital, ideas, and creativity. .... This is an idea whose time is fast approaching, and we must be prepared for it collectively."

— Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh at the Third India-ASEAN Business Summit, 21 October 2004.

'In time, [India-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement] CECA can eventually lead to an Asian Economic Community linking South Asia, Southeast Asia and Northeast Asia. Such a Community will result in a strong and prosperous Asia, with India as one of the key pillars.'

—Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong of Singapore while accepting the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding in New Delhi, July 2004

"There is the emerging ASEAN +3+India, and that will be a formidable regional grouping that can negotiate then with the European Union, the Americas, Africa and such regional economic groupings."

— President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Republic of the Philippines at the ASEAN Business Summit, Vientiane, Laos, 28 November 2004

'India should join in [East Asian Community], as ... it will expand the market, force more specialization, division of labour, and India has some thing to contribute in economic, political, diplomatic as well as the security fields. So I believe it is to the advantage of the ASEAN countries that any such East Asian Community should include India.'

— Singapore's Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew's address to the Foreign Correspondents Association of Singapore, reported in The Straits Times, 22 December 2004.

"Recognising the need for concerted efforts among Asian countries to translate the positive developments into an 'Arc of Advantage and Prosperity' involving growth, prosperity, stability and closer integration in Asia, the two leaders acknowledged the responsibility that the two countries have in this new emerging Asian era and thus committed to work together to promote the vision of an Asian Economic Community."

—India-Japan Joint Statement issued during the visit of Prime Minister Koizumi to India during April 2005.

"We feel confident that in the next few years, we may see the rise of a Pan-Asian Free Trade Area covering all major Asian economies, including India, Korea, China, Japan, ASEAN and possibly extending to Australia and New Zealand. This could be the third pole of the world economy after the European Union and the North-American Free Trade Area and will open up new growth avenues for all our own economies. "

—President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam of India addressing the Major Business Chambers of Korea, Seoul, 7 February 2006.

"An East Asia Summit (EAS) FTA by 2020 can be envisaged... and the region is likely to become a major driver of the global economy sometime in the first half of this century."

—Singapore's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. George Yeo at Boao Forum for Asia Annual Meeting, 22 April 2006.

"The proposed Asian trade zone (consisting of the 10-member ASEAN, plus Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea) would benefit from having a population of three billion people and current economic activity of nine trillion dollars.... We are certain it will be to the benefit of all the countries of the region."

— Mr. Toshihiro Nikai, Minister of Economy Trade and Industry, Japan, after Meeting with ASEAN Trade Ministers in Kuala Lumpur, as reported in the International Herald Tribune, 24 August 2006.



March 2007 in conjunction with the Senior Economic Officials Meeting of EAS countries. In 2007/08, the RIS is participating in a number of studies and capacity-building programmes launched within the framework of the ERIA. During 2007/08, RIS will also be participating in the CEPEA Track-II study launched by the ASEAN Secretariat, following the nomination of DG-RIS on the Track-II Study Group by the Government of India.

### **B.1.3. Regional Financial Cooperation for Infrastructure Development in Asia [2005/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Dr. Prabir De, Dr. Samir Ranjan Pradhan with inputs from Dr. N. Banik and Dr. Vidya Muthuram*

Benefits of geographical proximity in Asia are often lost due to inadequate transport linkages. Studies on development of transport connectivity therefore have been undertaken in conjunction with RIS work on various approaches to regional cooperation in Asia. Transport infrastructure and connectivity has earlier been examined in the context of SAARC and BIMSTEC. The importance of the development of infrastructure is being studied in the context of the ongoing programme on Asian Economic Integration. The focus of the current work has been on the role of regional financial cooperation for meeting these requirements. Asian countries together hold two thirds of world's foreign exchange reserves. However, because of lack of a regional framework, it is not possible to harness them for the region's massive infrastructure deficit. In a study supported by the Department of Commerce, RIS developed a proposal for a regional mechanism for providing institutional intermediation between the excess foreign exchange reserves and growing financial needs for infrastructure development in Asia. The report was presented and discussed at the high-level Policy Dialogue on the subject held on 21-22 March 2007 in New Delhi and co-hosted by RIS and UN-ESCAP with senior participation from the entire region (as reported elsewhere).



*(From left): Dr. Nagesh Kumar; Dr. Kim Hak-Su, Executive Secretary, UNESCAP; Hon'ble Finance Minister Mr. P. Chidambaram; Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P. and Chairman, RIS; Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Mr. Jairam Ramesh; and Mr. Shivshankar Menon, Foreign Secretary at the release of the RIS Report on Regional Cooperation for Infrastructure Development in Asia: Towards A Regional Mechanism for Public-Private Partnership, during the inaugural session of the RIS-UNESCAP High Level Policy Dialogue, held in New Delhi on 21-22, March 2007.*

### **B.1.4 Asian Currency Unit (ACU) and Other Aspects of Financial and Monetary Cooperation in Asia**

**[2007/08]**

*Research Team: Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Dr. Ramkishan Rajan, Priyaranjan Dash, Abhishek Maiti*

Ever since the East Asian financial crisis of 1997, there has been a great deal of interest in enhancing regional monetary and financial cooperation in Asia. Asian Development Bank has proposed the creation of a regional unit of account, viz. Asian Currency Unit (ACU) that could help bring about a relative stability of intra-regional exchange rates. By providing opportunities for invoicing regional financial and trade transactions in ACU, it could help in reducing the dependence of the region on the US dollar and could emerge as a parallel currency. There are also proposals for broadening and deepening the Chiang-Mai Initiative that links up ASEAN countries and their three dialogue partners, viz. China, Japan and South Korea into a web of bilateral currency swap arrangements to address any impending liquidity crisis of the type faced by the region in 1997. There are some initiatives towards development of Asian Bond Markets and cooperation among the Exim Banks, among others. Against that background, this study by RIS will







examine the potential of regional monetary and financial cooperation in Asia and various proposals emanating in different forums and evaluate their relevance from an Indian perspective. These include proposals for ACU, a regional financial or infrastructure bank in Asia to facilitate mobilization of Asian foreign exchange reserves, among others. It will offer policy recommendations for preparations for the third East Asia Summit to be held in November 2007 in Singapore. The Study has been sponsored by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

#### **B.1.5. Economic Cooperation between East and South Asia [2006/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Dr. Pooja Sharma*

In the context of intensified efforts at regional economic cooperation and integration between the East and South Asian economies in recent years, the Asian Development Bank is conducting a major policy research study on the subject. The study seeks to identify gains from closer economic cooperation between the East and South Asian economies and inform public and private sector stakeholders of the policy steps required for effective economic cooperation and integration between the two subregions. The RIS was assigned the task of preparing a country study of India for the study by ADB. The RIS study begins with a short description of emerging trends in India's economic structure and external orientation, and goes on to examine the evolution of India's economic cooperation and integration with East and South Asian countries in particular, with respect to merchandise trade and investment, services trade, and infrastructure and trade facilitation. It concludes with a few remarks on policy lessons while outlining a vision for pan-Asian economic integration in Asia. The outline of the study was presented at the inception workshop held in Manila in May 2006, a draft was presented at a workshop organized by ADB in Singapore in November 2006. Subsequently, a final version of the study has been submitted.

#### **B.1.6. RTAs, Investment Liberalization and Emerging Regional Production Networks in Asia [2006/08]**

*Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar*

The past decade has seen a strong rise in intra-regional trade in Asia, driven by the emergence of regional production networks. This trend has been facilitated by liberalization of trade and investment regimes in the multilateral, regional and sub-regional contexts. Although the Asian production networks are generally confined to East Asia, India is increasingly getting integrated with these networks as the region's enterprises discover the locational advantages of the country. The Indian participation in the regional networks is not only driven by Japanese, South Korean or Chinese companies, but Indian companies are also evolving their own regional production networks in Asia to exploit the synergies. An RIS study paper took stock of India's increasing participation in the regional production networks, its characteristics and potential. A preliminary version of the paper presented at a workshop on Asian Industrial Cooperative Strategy organized by Institute of the World Economics and Politics of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Beijing in March 2006 has subsequently been revised and issued as an RIS Discussion Paper in 2007. Further work in this direction being undertaken in 2007/08, examines the emerging trends and patterns of investment provisions in emerging Asian RTAs.

#### **B.1.7. Biotechnology and Asian Development [2004-2007]**

*Research Team: Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi*

In the second phase of the RIS work programme on biotechnology and Asian development launched in 2001 with support from the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, the RIS initiated studies on the strategies of various national governments in Asia in the area of biotechnology. This programme has also facilitated the publication of a journal, the *Asian Biotechnology and Development*

*Review (ABDR)* which appears thrice a year. This programme has also supported the development of an informal network of policy makers, researchers and practitioners working on different aspects of biotechnology. As a part of this programme, RIS has started a series of Asia-level policy dialogues, organized every two years, titled Conferences on Biotechnology for Asian Development to facilitate exchange of experiences within the region. The first two conferences in this series were held in 2002 and 2004 in New Delhi. The third Conference in the series was organized in Manila in November 2006 in collaboration with the Biotechnology Coalition of the Philippines among other organizations with very high-level participation (as reported elsewhere).

## **B.2. Research Programme on South Asian Economic Integration**

South Asian economic integration has been a major area of research at the RIS since the early 1990s. RIS studies and analyses have shaped the policy agenda and debates on economic integration in the region. In the period under review, a number of initiatives have been taken in policy research and dialogue to promote the process of regional cooperation, including a seminar organized to assess the experience of the India-Sri Lanka bilateral FTA, the first major experiment with regional trade liberalization in South Asia.

### **B.2.1. Economic Integration in SAARC: Challenges for SAFTA and Beyond [2006/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. Saman Kelegama, Dr. Ram Upendra Das and Sejuti Jha*

The South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) is a landmark in the evolution of SAARC as a regional grouping. The limited experiences with trade liberalization that South Asia has had so far in the framework of SAPTA or bilateral FTAs in the region, provide useful pointers for the gains from regionalism in terms of efficiency-seeking industrial restructuring. However, a look at the text on SAFTA clearly suggests that it is a case of “too little, too late.” Given the emergence of competing regional trading



*Dr. Estrlla Alabastro, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Philippines launched the special issue of the RIS' Asian Biotechnology and Development Review on "Bioethics in Asia" at the Third Asian Biotechnology and Development Conference, organized by RIS in collaboration with Biotechnology Coalition of the Philippines, among other organizations, in Manila on 9-10 November 2006. RIS Ajunct Senior Fellow Dr. Edgar DaSilva presented her the special issue.*

arrangements such as BIMSTEC FTAs and various bilateral FTAs as also the ongoing trade liberalization at the multilateral level, a slow track move by SAFTA for attaining a free trade area would make the arrangement largely irrelevant. This calls for efforts to considerably enhance the pace of regional trade liberalization as well to expand its scope. This study attempts to provide a policy agenda for increasing the effectiveness of SAFTA and suggest other measures for fully exploiting the potential of regional economic integration in South Asia. This study was undertaken by RIS in collaboration with the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka, Colombo within the framework of South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS), Kathmandu and supported by resources obtained by SACEPS from the ADB. A study was submitted to SACEPS and presented at the conference organized by it in Kathmandu in September 2006 and also at the conference on SAARC Economic Cooperation organized by RIS and SACEPS in New Delhi in March 2007.

### **B.2.2 Potential for Trade in Services under SAFTA Agreement [2007/08]**

*Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Dr. Pooja Sharma, and Priyanka Dhawan in collaboration with National Research Teams in other SAARC Countries*

Intra-regional trade in SAARC is expected to rise significantly as a result of SAFTA. However, it is understood that the full



(From left): Hon'ble External Affairs Minister Mr. Pranab Mukherjee at the inaugural session of the RIS/SACEPS Regional Conference on Economic Cooperation in SAARC: SAFTA and Beyond, held in New Delhi on 19 March 2007. Others in the picture (from left): are Dr. Nagesh Kumar; Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P. and Chairman, RIS and Co-Chairman, SACEPS; Mr. Sayed Babar Ali, Co-Chairman, SACEPS; and Dr. Sridhar Khatri, Executive Director, SACEPS, Kathmandu

potential of SAFTA will not be realized until its scope is expanded to cover trade in services and investments. This is because the economies of SAARC Member States are dominated by the services sector. In view of this, at the 7th Meeting of the SAARC Network of Researchers on Global Financial and Economic Issues, held on 5-6 May 2005 in Kathmandu, it was unanimously agreed that a study on this subject would be commissioned by the SAARC Secretariat with RIS working as the coordinator of the study. Subsequently, the Declaration of the Thirteenth SAARC Summit, held in Dhaka in November 2005, emphasized the importance of trade in services and investment and called for a study. The New Delhi Summit of SAARC held in April 2007 endorsed the decision to launch a study on the feasibility of extending the scope of SAFTA to cover trade in services. As a follow up of this mandate, the RIS has undertaken a study for the SAARC Secretariat with the support of the ADB. Broadly, the study aims at assessing the potentials for and constraints in regional cooperation in trade in services under the SAFTA Agreement as also to make policy recommendations for augmenting intra-SAARC trade in services. RIS hosted an inception workshop for the study in cooperation with the SAARC Secretariat in May 2007 which was participated in by resource persons from all the SAARC Member States.

### B.2.3. Towards a Prosper-Thy-Neighbour Policy for Southern Asia: Some Proposals

[2006/07]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. S.K. Mohanty, and Dr. Prabir De

This study comprised of a policy paper prepared for the government as an input for the New Delhi Summit of SAARC. The paper made a case for non-reciprocal duty-free access to the Indian market for LDCs in the SAARC and also suggested measures for developing supply capabilities in other SAARC countries. It also made a case for reviving transport links in South Asia such as the Afghanistan-Pakistan-India-Bangladesh-Myanmar (APIBM) road corridor and other measures for improving overland connectivity and trade facilitation. This paper was submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs in February 2007. Subsequently, the portions with proposals concerning the transport connectivity in South Asia in the paper were highlighted in two Policy Briefs (viz. #29 and #30) issued in the run up to the SAARC Summit.

### B.2.4 Trade Facilitation Measures in South Asian FTAs: An Overview of Initiatives and Policy Approaches

[2006/07]

Research Team: Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi

Several South Asian countries have joined the current wave of bilateral and sub-regional free trade agreements (FTAs) in the region. Though intra-regional trade has expanded over the years, it remain far below its potential as not enough attention is being paid to the launching of trade facilitation (TF) measures. RIS with support from ARTNeT, UN-ESCAP, Bangkok, conducted a study to take a stock of incorporation of TF measures in the various FTAs in South Asia. The study also looked into the individual initiatives being made by the South Asian countries for advancement of trade facilitation especially in the context of Articles V, VIII and X. The TF measures assume importance in the context of intra-regional trade in South



Asian infrastructural constraints at the land custom stations, under the Article V, and are the major challenges to be addressed. The current texts of FTAs are not very assuring in this regard. Insufficient efforts are being made to overcome TF related constraints. Except in the Indo-Singapore FTA, which later graduated to a comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA) not many FTAs have detailed provisions for capacity building and for measures related to infrastructure development. The study explored whether regional cooperation may help achieve some of these objectives as is being attempted through SAARC. The study was presented at the ARTNeT Workshop held in Bangkok in August 2006. Subsequently, a revised version has been submitted.

### **B.2.5. South Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2007/08 [2007/08]**

The *South Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2007/8* will be the fourth in the series of Reports launched by RIS to provide an analysis of the macro-economic performance of South Asian economies against the background of global trends and the policy challenges being faced by them with a special focus on the role that regional economic integration could play. The previous Reports have been received very well and have established themselves as authoritative documents on the economic prospects of the sub-region. The last issue of SADCRC was launched in New Delhi, Dhaka and Islamabad at special seminars and presented to key policy makers in the respective capitals. The *SADCRC 07/08* will continue in the same tradition and cover the development outlook and regional cooperation in South Asia. In particular, it will cover issues concerning SAFTA and the prospects and challenges for making it operational and effective and the vision beyond SAFTA towards a South Asian Union. It will be launched in early 2008 to serve as a background document for the fifteenth SAARC Summit.

### **B.2.6. India-Pakistan Trade and Economic Relations: Prospects and Challenges**

**[2005/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Ram Upendra Das and Ramaa Sambamurty*

The study has been requested by the Department of Commerce, Government of India. The relevance of a vision of closer economic cooperation is discussed along with the historical economic linkages; the macroeconomic context; major economic reforms; bilateral aggregate trade and investment linkages; and existing institutional mechanisms of economic cooperation. It addresses the ways and means for enhancing cooperation in trade in goods, trade barriers and trade facilitation, investment policy regimes in India and Pakistan, trade in services, and transport linkages. RIS has submitted a draft of the study to the Department. The study will be finalized on the basis of extensive consultations held with the stakeholders at different locations to be organized jointly with the industry bodies and FIEO.

### **B.2.7 Afghanistan as a Member of the SAFTA Agreement: An Analysis of Its Economic Implications**

**[2006/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Ram Upendra Das and Ramaa Sambamurty*

Afghanistan joined SAARC as its eighth member at the SAARC Summit held in New Delhi in April 2007. This participation also extends to Afghanistan membership of the SAFTA Agreement. The economic implications of this development need to be understood in a comprehensive manner. In this context, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India has approached RIS to conduct a study. Besides analyzing the economic implications of Afghanistan's membership of the SAFTA Agreement, the study also assesses the possibilities of its reconciliation with the India-Afghanistan PTA. In addition, the study explores the possibilities of identifying the HS 6-digit items which could be included by Afghanistan under SAFTA; identifying items of export interest to India;



a possible sensitive list that India could maintain vis-à-vis Afghanistan; identifying products where product-specific rules would be required; finding opportunities for strengthening trade-investment linkages and potentials for investment cooperation with Afghanistan within the SAFTA framework, and the imperatives of extending SAFTA plus benefits to Afghanistan on a non-reciprocal basis. A draft report of the study was submitted in March 2007. It will be finalized in the light of comments received from MEA.

### **B.3. Fostering ASEAN-India Economic Partnership**

RIS has been supporting the ASEAN-India Partnership with policy research and promoting the dialogue and networking of think-tanks. The work accomplished during the period is summarized below.

#### **B.3.1. Rules of Origin under ASEAN-India FTA**

**[2005/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Ram Upendra Das*

Building on the earlier work on the subject undertaken during 2004/05 the RIS has undertaken this study at the request of the Department of Commerce. It aims at examining the dimensions specified below in order to contribute to the understanding of the General Rules of Origin as well as Product-Specific Rules (PSRs): (i) the analytical context; (ii) identification of products (HS 6-digit) requiring CTH + 40 per cent domestic content because CTH alone does not ensure 40 per cent value addition; (iii) identification of products (HS 6-digit) where CTS + 40 per cent domestic content required because CTS alone does not ensure 40 per cent value addition; (iv) identification of products (HS 6-digit) in (ii) and (iii) where value addition could be less than or greater than 40 per cent domestic content; (v) identification of products (HS 6-digit) where only 40 per cent domestic content is sufficient; and (vi) exploring some new modalities in determining origin. As part of the study, the RIS has organized a number of sectoral consultations with industry. Field work has also been

undertaken at the World Customs Organization, Brussels to gather data and information. RIS has provided inputs for preparations for different meetings of the Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) of the ASEAN-India FTA.

#### **B.3.2. India-Malaysia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement [2005/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Ram Upendra Das*

The Department of Commerce had entrusted RIS to undertake a study on the India-Malaysia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA). The RIS study reviewed the existing bilateral trade between the two countries; identified areas of bilateral trade interest and mutual cooperation, highlighted the areas of future trade potential and collaboration; and identified existing barriers and suggested reform measures for the removal/reduction of such barriers through the proposed comprehensive economic cooperation agreement. It also identified the likely impact (both positive and negative) of such a bilateral arrangement. The study was prepared to provide inputs to the Joint Study Group set up to examine the feasibility of a CECA between the two countries. RIS has submitted a number of briefings to the Department of Commerce for the meetings of JSG. The JSG adopted its Report in Kuala Lumpur in August 2007.

#### **B.3.3. Building Capacity through South-South Cooperation: Case of Mekong-India Cooperation [2006/08]**

*Research Team: Dr. Prabir De et al.*

This interactive research project aims to strengthen the capacity building process of the private sector and of institutions representing the interests of industry in Mekong subregion, and to foster the partnership between India and the Mekong countries in the area of trade, investment and people-to-people contacts by way of training of human resources, dissemination of knowledge, experiences and advocacy. The overall goal of this

project is to strengthen the trade and investment related capacity of Mekong countries through information sharing, dissemination of knowledge and experiences, networking and transfer of skills. Besides, this project will make an effort to frame an appropriate strategy to ensure the best possible cooperation and collaboration between India and the Mekong countries, and also to identify the interfaces for such cooperation the trade, investment, infrastructure or technology. The project supported by the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation will involve think tanks from the Mekong region as collaborators and will also involve participation of Mekong scholars in the RIS programme on international economic issues and development policy. RIS has also launched a new publication *Mekong-Ganga Policy Brief* within the framework of this project in April 2007.

## **B.4. India-Northeast Asia Economic Cooperation**

### **B.4.1. India-China Policy Dialogue**

RIS has established an MoU with the Development Research Centre (DRC) of the State Council of China to facilitate policy dialogue and exchange of views on development issues of mutual interest. A high-level delegation of the DRC led by Dr. Sun Xiaohu, Vice-President and Vice-Minister visited RIS in March 2004 when a Joint Policy Dialogue on certain issues concerning economic reforms and macroeconomic performance, trade and WTO related issues took place. Subsequently, the DRC has also collaborated in organizing High-Level Conferences on the Asian Economic Community, held in Tokyo and participated in the New Delhi Conference in November 2005. A delegation from the Socio-economy Department of the DRC visited RIS in December 2005. DG-RIS visited the DRC in March 2006 and January 2007 to continue the dialogue. RIS proposes to send a delegation to the DRC and organize a policy-dialogue on China-India economic relations and Asian Economic Integration during 2007/08.

### **B.4.2. India's Economic Relationship and Prospects of Trade and Investment with China [2006/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Abinash Dash*

This study was sponsored by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, for the Trade and Economic Relations Council of the Prime Minister. It aimed to prepare a report on India's economic relationship and prospects of trade and investment with China. Apart from providing an overview of the state of the economy of China and its implications for India, the RIS study covered developments in the trade relationship of China and their economic significance of this for India; China's bilateral trade relationships with other major trading partners; its approach towards regional agreements and the multilateral trading system, and policy towards foreign aid and investments. The study concluded with a few remarks on the potential of China-India cooperation. The study has been submitted to the Department of Commerce in May 2007.

### **B.4.3. India-Japan Economic Cooperation: Potential and Prospects [2005/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Dr. Prabir De*

An India-Japan Joint Study Group (JSG) was set up following the visit of Prime Minister Koizumi to India in April 2005 to examine the feasibility of a comprehensive economic cooperation arrangement/economic partnership agreement between the two countries. DG, RIS was nominated as a Member of the JSG by the Prime Minister of India. The Ministry of External Affairs assigned to RIS to do analytical work on a number of issues to prepare inputs for the work of JSG. In particular, the RIS has assisted the JSG with preparations in the context of economic cooperation, trade in goods, investment, cooperation in other areas, and feasibility of a CECA/EPA between the two countries. RIS provided inputs to the JSG as per the mandate from time





(From left): Dr. Nagesh Kumar; Mr. R. Vishwanathan, Jt. Secretary, MEA; H.E. Mr. Jose Vicente De Sa Pimentel, Ambassador of Brazil, New Delhi; Dr. Arjun Sengupta; Mr. Jayant Dasgupta; Mr. T.S. Vishwanath, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry; and Dr. Veena Jha, UNCTAD, New Delhi at the Seminar on Economic Cooperation in IBSA: Exploiting Synergies, organized jointly by RIS and CII in New Delhi on 31 August 2006.

to time and participated in the meetings of the JSG held in India and Japan. The JSG concluded its work at the final meeting held in Tokyo in June 2006. Subsequently, an agreement was reached to launch the negotiations for a CECA between India and Japan.

#### **B.4.4 Negotiations for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between India and South Korea [2006/08]**

Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta and Shivani Sharma

Following the adoption of the Report of India-Korea Joint Study Group, the two countries decided to launch negotiations for a comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA) in 2006. To assist the ongoing negotiations on liberalizing trade in goods within the India-Korea CEPA, RIS has undertaken a detailed study, for Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. The study is aimed at identifying the product lines that are sensitive for India and those that are of export interest to India and South Korea, respectively so that negotiations could address them appropriately. The stakeholders' inputs have been incorporated in the study. Reports have been submitted for the meetings of negotiating groups. The study will be finalised once the negotiations are concluded in late 2007.

## **C. South-South Cooperation, New Technologies and Development**

### **C.1. Feasibility of SACU-India-Mercosur Economic Partnership: Trade and Investment [2006/08]**

Research Team: Dr. S.K. Mohanty and Dr. Prabir De

This research builds on an earlier RIS study on the potential of India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Partnership conducted in 2005/06. The earlier study while finding significant synergies between the three countries in different sectors concluded that a trilateral FTA between them was not feasible as Brazil and South Africa were members of two different custom unions, namely Mercosur and the SACU and are bound to maintain a common external tariff with other partners. Therefore, it has been decided to explore the possibility of trade negotiations with Mercosur and SACU group of countries. To frame India's position and understand the issues involved, the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India has entrusted RIS to conduct a study on trade in industrial goods and investment as part of exploring the possibility of a trade arrangement with Mercosur and SACU. Apart from conducting the study on trade in industrial goods and investment, the RIS will also prepare a synthesis report covering inputs from the studies on agricultural goods and trade in services conducted by other institutions. An interim draft of the study was submitted to the Department of Commerce in May 2007. It will be finalized in light of the comments received from the Department.

### **C.2. Building Capabilities in Information Technologies: Exchange of Experiences between Developing Countries [2006/08]**

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. K.J. Joseph and Dr. Somesh Mathur

Exchange of development experiences between developing countries is an



important aspect of the South-South Cooperation. In this context, the emergence of India as an important player on the global scene in the area of IT software has attracted attention from the development community. The Indian success serves as a role model for other developing countries. Earlier RIS studies documented the factors especially public policy measures that led to India's success in the sector and possible lessons for other developing countries specifically the lesser developed ASEAN (CLMV) countries. Building on the earlier work, the present study places the India achievement in a national and international perspective. It also covers: (a) implications and externalities of the rise of the IT software industry for different parameters of national development, and (b) role of policies and institution-building in building capabilities to draw lessons for other developing countries. The study is being conducted in conjunction with the Southern Development Solutions Programme launched by the UNDP, New York (South-South Cooperation Unit).

### **C.3. Relevance and Potential of an India-GCC Preferential Trade Arrangement [2006/08]**

*Research Team: Dr. Ram Upendra Das and Dr. Samir Ranjan Pradhan*

Further to the India-GCC investment study, the Department of Commerce has asked the RIS to undertake a detailed study on the feasibility of an India-GCC trading arrangement. This study makes a comprehensive analysis of the trends and patterns of bilateral trade between India and the GCC countries and examines the potential of a preferential arrangement in promoting mutual trade while putting forth recommendations to the Department on the scope and coverage of a possible arrangement. The study also expects to draw upon consultations with the relevant stakeholders. The work on the study was launched in 2006 and will be completed in 2007.

### **C.4. Seizing New Opportunities for South-South Cooperation [2006/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala et. al.*

In 1990 when the South Commission Report was released, the developing countries were described as existing on the periphery of the North, as mostly weak and powerless in the world arena. However, things have changed over time and the South has now emerged as an important player on the world economic stage. Development patterns over the past decades suggest that the South is no longer a 'backward' group. Different countries and even sub-regions within the countries are at vastly different 'stages of development'. Thus the complementarities within the group have increased tremendously. Members of the South working as a bloc can extend mutual help in vital areas such as trade, finance, investment, energy, environment, labour mobility, technology, the designing of development strategy, while correcting a global imbalances in an orderly fashion.

A number of initiatives have been taken in the past to promote SSC in the regional and global contexts. Some of these initiatives need to be expanded in scope and newer ones need to be taken. The study was undertaken to provide a background material and inputs for the Havana Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement held in September 2006. RIS also contributed to the work of the Special Committee on the Economic and Social Issues on the NAM Agenda appointed by the Government of India to identify some of the proposals that NAM can consider for seizing these new opportunities for SSC. The study was presented in an RIS Policy Brief # 27, copies of which were sent to the Summit with Indian delegation. RIS also organized a Roundtable on the agenda of the summit in New Delhi (reported elsewhere) in August 2006.





*(Third from left): Mr. Anand Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs inaugurating the Roundtable Discussion on Non-Aligned Movement: Relevance in the 21st Century and the Agenda, organized by RIS in New Delhi on 5 September 2006. Also seen in the picture are (from left) Dr. Nagesh Kumar; Dr. Arjun Sengupta, MP (Rajya Sabha) and Chairman, RIS; and Mr. Sanjiv Arora, Jt. Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs.*

### **C.5. Global System of Trade Preferences: Towards the Third Round [2005/7]**

*Research Team: Dr. S.K. Mohanty*

The Agreement establishing the Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) among Developing countries entered into force on 19 April 1989. To date 44 countries, including India, have ratified the Agreement. The Agreement provides for exchanging tariff preferences on products of mutual interest. The Third Round of negotiations under the GSTP was launched in June, 2004. The negotiations are to be held on a request and offer basis and will be multilateralized among the Round participants. China and other members of G-77, who have not acceded, have also been invited to accede to the Agreement. In order to identify member countries with whom India will engage in market access negotiations and draw out request lists to these countries, the Department of Commerce has requested the RIS to undertake this study. The study has identified items on which India should seek tariff concessions under the GSTP. It has also identified country-wise products (6 digit HS level) on which India should seek and negotiate preferential market access from the negotiating GSTP Member countries by

taking into account the current trends of trade with them in the bilateral as well as global context. The inputs based on detailed analysis were submitted to the Department of Commerce for their preparations for the ongoing negotiations. The study will be concluded with the negotiations.

### **C.6. Emergence of Large Developing Countries: Implications for Co-Developing Countries [2006/08]**

*Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. S.K. Mohanty and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi along with researchers in Brazil, China and South Africa*

The last decade has seen continued growth in the South-South trade and investment linkages. The share of South-South trade in global trade increased from 34 per cent in 1990 to around 43 per cent by the end of the decade and it is growing at a rate of 10 per cent per year, which is more than twice that of the recorded rate of growth in global trade. Such unprecedented growth in South-South trade may be viewed against the trend of the last few decades whereby developing countries have built up substantial industrial-technological capabilities which in turn provided scope for exploiting synergies among themselves by sharing of knowledge and technologies on the one hand and investment on the other. In particular, the emergence of large countries in the developing world such as China, India, Brazil and South Africa (henceforth emerging economies) has created new avenues for South-South Cooperation while also creating some apprehensions. This study maps the role of emerging countries in the development of developing countries with special reference to Africa. In particular, the study begins by documenting the rise of emerging economies and their growing importance in terms of various parameters of the global economy and integration. Then it examines the importance of emerging economies as markets for developing countries, and their emergence

thereafter as sources of investments and technology. Finally, the study discusses the role that emerging economies are playing and may play in shaping the global economic architecture including the world trading system, thereby making it more development-friendly. The study will conclude with some broad lessons for international development policy that could facilitate a fuller exploitation of the potential of such cooperation between emerging economies and other developing countries especially in Africa. The study has been undertaken with the support of the Commonwealth Secretariat, London. The initial drafts of study were presented and discussed at an International Workshop on the subject organized by RIS and the Commonwealth Secretariat in New Delhi in June 2007.

### **C.7. South-South Cooperation in Genomics Innovation**

**[2006/09]**

*Research Team: Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi*

In recent past, the relevance of the South-South collaboration in the area of genomics has expanded manifold as several developing countries have enhanced the allocations for biotechnology. In this context, RIS in collaboration with Toronto University has launched a study to understand the nature of collaborations in genomics and health biotechnology amongst developing countries. The project would also look into issues such as factors and conditions that contribute towards successful South-South cooperation and the pattern of these collaboration in genomics/health biotechnology; and compare formal versus informal collaborations. The project is for two years in which it would also cover issues like examination of collaborations both in research activities as well as in development; and commercialization activities; identify the reasons for the collaboration and the different roles of participants in the collaborations; examine factors that have encouraged and hindered South-South collaborations; evaluate the impacts of the

collaboration on genomics/health biotechnology development in general and evaluate the impact of the collaboration on genomics/health biotechnology development in countries that are not amongst the innovating developing countries (IDCs). The project involves international collaborations with groups in the developing countries like Centro de Desenvolvimento Sustentável, University of Brasília, Brazil; University of Zambia, Zambia. The project is funded by Genome Canada with co-funding from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Canada.

## **D. Strategic Responses to Globalization**

The process of globalization of the world economy has thrown many policy challenges that require to be supported by analytical inputs. RIS work in this area deals with some of the important emerging challenges for policy as summarized below.

### **D.1. International Food Safety Regulation and Processed Food Exports from Developing Countries: A Comparative Study of India and Thailand**

**[2002/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta and Dr. R.G. Nambiar*

RIS has undertaken a research study on International Food Safety Regulation and Processed Food Exports from Developing Countries: A Comparative Study of India and Thailand. The project is funded by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR). The core research team consists of P. Athukorala, Project Co-coordinator, RSPAS, Australian National University (ANU); S. Jayasuriya, Project Co-coordinator, University of Melbourne; R. Mehta, Leader, Indian research team from RIS; and B. Nidhiprabha, Leader, Thai research team, Thammasat University, Bangkok. The main objectives of this study were: (a) to

understand more precisely how the food safety regulations applied by the industrialized countries affect India's exports of processed food to these markets (i.e. the relationship between India's exports to these markets and the prevailing FSS regulations in these countries), (b) to identify the technical, institutional and policy constraints faced by the firms in meeting SPS requirements, (c) to prepare a comprehensive inventory of existing SPS standards and actual practices, and (d) compare them with international standards like Codex in order to demonstrate how the former deviate from the latter. The substantive work of the project was completed by the respective country teams in 2005. However, ACIAR has extended the project duration till July 2007 to enable preparation of a synthesis report.

## **D.2. Strategy for Export-Oriented Manufacturing [2004/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. S.K. Mohanty and Dr. Robert Arockiasamy*

This research study sponsored by the Department of Commerce seeks to develop a comprehensive export strategy to improve India's share in the global economy. For achieving this objective, the study will identify the required restructuring of the domestic manufacturing sector to meet the specific requirements of importing countries. The study explores the possibilities of venturing into new markets for exports besides consolidating the presence in the traditional trade partners. The export competitiveness of India is examined for a selected number of products in the light of the 'Medium term export strategy' of India. Taking into account the changing global standards of exports in important export destinations of India, and persistently evolving WTO rules, the study also examines the possibility of extending certain state-sponsored WTO-compatible incentives/schemes to domestic industries to enable them to manufacture export-oriented products for specific export markets. The study involves extensive fieldwork for interviews with industry in

different states. Analysis of the secondary data has been completed during 2005 and the field work was being undertaken. The study team submitted an interim report in June 2006. A revised version was submitted to the Department of Commerce in June 2007.

## **D.3. Impact of EU/US GSP Scheme on India's Trade [2006/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta and Pooja Agarwal*

The Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India has requested the RIS to conduct a detailed study relating to the EU/US GSP Scheme. The US and EU have re-configured the continuation of GSP preferences extended to developing countries. This study will analyse the impact of new the EU GSP Scheme on India's exports, including taking into account exports of key competitors, to the EU following repeal of the Drug Window with effect from 1 July 2005 and the coming into force of the GSP scheme on 1 January 2006; utilization of preferences by India under the EU GPS and US GSP Schemes; and the likely trade impact on Indian exports with the possible withdrawal of GSP benefits to India by the US. This study is being conducted as a part of the RIS Research Advisory Project on NAMA sponsored by Ministry of Commerce.

## **D.4. Implications of the WTO Tariff Proposals on Indian Paper and Newsprint Industry [2004/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta and Pooja Agarwal*

The process of non-agriculture market access negotiations is being conducted within the Negotiating Group of Market Access (NGMA) at WTO. NGMA has been proposing different approaches for negotiations with the main emphasis on the non-linear formula. The main objective of this RIS study is to provide early signals to the Indian paper industry regarding the progress of negotiations. In other words, the RIS study analyses the



impact of the WTO/NGMA approaches on the Indian paper industry. The study has been conducted in collaboration with the Central Pulp and Paper Research Institute (CPPRI) for the benefit of the industry. The study team has made presentations of select results at the Meetings at the Department of Industrial Promotion and Policy (DIPP). An interim report has also been submitted. The final report would be submitted after a final consultation with the industry representatives and officials to be held in September 2007.

### **D.5. Study on Trends, Structure and Competitiveness of Indian Seeds Industry [2004/07]**

*Research Team: Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi*

This RIS study launched with the support from the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington D.C. is in its final stage of submission. The study analyses the structure, progress and degree of competitiveness of the seed industry since the introduction of New Seed Policy in 1988. It specifically focusses on the high value low volume crops in which the private sector has a predominant presence such as corn, millet, sorghum, cotton and vegetables. However, it was found that recently the private sector is showing keen interest in developing a high volume high value market as well. As a result it was found that the hybrid rice market is also emerging in a major way. The study looks into the implications of the new IPR regime (after January 2005) for the seed sector and the consequent changes

following the Seeds Act 2001. Apart from this, the study also looks into other issues such as the magnitude and nature of FDI in the Seeds Industry. The study involves extensive field work. A draft report was submitted in May 2007 which would be finalized in the light of comments received.

### **D.6. Outward FDI from India: Trends, Patterns and Determinants [2006/2008]**

*Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar*

Outward investment is becoming an important aspect of the corporate strategy of enterprises in developing countries such as India to strengthen their international competitiveness especially in knowledge-based industries. Outward investment by Indian enterprises has grown rapidly over the past decade and has undergone a change compared to earlier investments. This study takes stock of the patterns, trends, motivations and determinants of outward investment by Indian enterprises. It will also undertake case studies of select industries and companies that have emerged as important players. It builds on an earlier study on the strategic approach to international competitiveness in knowledge-based industries as a part of which an exclusive data base was created on outward investments by Indian enterprises. The determinants of outward investments by Indian enterprises on the basis of an exclusive dataset of 4500 Indian companies was analyzed and reported in RIS Discussion Paper #116. Further work will be conducted in the latter part of 2007/08.



## II. Policy Advisory Services

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RIS continues to fulfill the mandate of providing policy advisory services to the Government of India and others. We give below a selective list of the inputs provided to the Ministries and other governmental bodies during the year:

### **East Asia Summit and Asian Economic Community**

- Inputs on India's trade and investment with East Asian countries were provided to the Ministry of External Affairs on 19 October 2006.
- Notes on "Financial and Monetary Cooperation in Asia" and "Disaster Management in Asia" were made available to the Ministry of External Affairs on 15 November 2006 in preparation of the East Asia Summit.
- Notes on "Some Points on ASEAN-India Summit" and "Some Points for Interventions at Foreign Ministers Lunch at EAS" were provided to the Ministry of External Affairs on November 27.
- Report on the Meetings on Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) held in Jakarta on 4 November 2006 and on 1-2 December 2006 was provided to the Ministry of External Affairs on 5 December 2006.
- Key presentations from the Conference on South Asia-East Asia Economic Cooperation and Pan-Asian Integration were provided to the Ministry of External Affairs on 5 December 2006. The conference was organized jointly by RIS with ADB

and three Singapore-based institutes, on 29-30 November 2006.

### **SAARC Summit and SAFTA Negotiations**

- Note on "Towards a Prosper-Thy-Neighbour Policy for Southern Asia: Some Proposals" in the context of India's Chair of SAARC and BIMSTEC was prepared and sent to the Ministry of External Affairs on 28 February 2007.
- A Concept Note on Potentials for Trade in Services under the SAFTA Agreement was sent to the SAARC Secretariat on 4 August 2006.
- Comments on "A Vision of the Third Decade of SAARC" were submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs on 19 July 2006.

### **IBSA Summit**

- Inputs for the preparation for the IBSA Summit were made available to the Ministry of External Affairs and the Department of Commerce on 22 August 2006 and 24 August 2006, respectively.
- Copies of an RIS Policy Brief on the Potential of IBSA Economic Partnership were sent to the Summit with the Indian delegation.

### **NAM Summit**

- Draft of the Note on "South-South Cooperation on Trade Issues: Some Proposals for NAM Summit" was made available to the Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of External Affairs.

- A Note on “South-South Cooperation in Science and Technology, Energy and Exchange of Development Experiences” was made available to the Ministry of External Affairs.
- Copies of an RIS Policy Brief, prepared on the NAM Summit Agenda were sent to the Summit with the Indian delegation.

#### **ASEAN-India FTA and ASEAN-India Economic Relations**

- Note on “Safeguarding the Sensitivities of the Agriculture Sector in ASEAN-India FTA: Lessons from FTAs and EPAs of the ASEAN Countries and Some Developed Countries” was sent to the Ministry of External Affairs on 14 July 2006.
- Inputs were provided to the Ministry of External Affairs for the Tenth Meeting of the ASEAN-India Working Group scheduled for 16-17 October 2006.

#### **APEC and India**

- A comprehensive Note on “Relevance of APEC for India” was prepared and made available to the Ministry of External Affairs on 10 April 2006 for internal discussion in the context of the possible lifting of moratorium on APEC Membership.

#### **India-Japan Economic Relations**

- Final drafts of Chapters 6 and 7 of India-Japan Joint Study Group were submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

#### **BIMSTEC**

- Note on “A Vision for the Second Decade of BIMSTEC” was prepared for and sent to the Ministry of External Affairs on 11 January 2007.

#### **India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement**

- Inputs on sensitive products were provided for negotiations on India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

#### **Other inputs to the Government of India**

- Note on “Asia Pacific Bank for Infrastructure Investment” was prepared and sent to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 2 March 2007.
- Inputs on Globalisation were provided to the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance on 29 March 2007.



### III. Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences, Symposia and Workshops

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#### **RIS-UNESCAP High-Level Policy Dialogue on Regional Cooperation for Infrastructure Development and Financing, New Delhi, 21-22 March 2007**

RIS and UNESCAP, Bangkok jointly organized the Policy Dialogue in New Delhi with a high-level participation on 21-22 March 2007. The inaugural session began with the opening remarks by Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P. and Chairman, RIS. Dr. Kim Hak-Su, Under-secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of UN-ESCAP delivered the welcome address. Mr. P. Chidambaram, Hon'ble Minister of Finance, released the Report prepared by RIS on *Regional Cooperation for Infrastructure Development in Asia: Towards*

*A Regional Mechanism for Public-Private Partnership*. Mr. Jairam Ramesh, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Mr. Shivshankar Menon, Foreign Secretary, and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS, also addressed the inaugural session. About 100 participants including ministers, government officials and academics and private sector CEOs, representing 20 countries, participated in the deliberations.

The session on "Regional Cooperation for Infrastructure Financing in Asia" was chaired by Dr. Bambang Susantono, Hon'ble Deputy Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Cooperation, Indonesia. Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Senior Adviser, RIS presented the RIS study report.

The session on "Financing Infrastructure in Asia and the Pacific: Role of Revenue Bonds" was chaired by Ambassador L.K. Ponappa, Vice-Chairperson, RIS. Professor Naoyuki Yoshino, Keio University, Japan; and Mr. Toshiro Nishizawa, Deputy Director General, JBIC Institute made presentations. Dr. Jayanta Roy, Principal Adviser, CII and Mr. Pang Yee Ean, Senior Vice President, Ascendas India were the panelists.

The panel discussion on "Financing Infrastructure Investment: Lessons from Asia-Pacific Experiences" was moderated by Dr. John Hewson, Executive Chairman, Elderslie Finance Corporation Ltd and former Leader of the Australian opposition.



(From left): Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala; Mr. Suwat Wanisubut; Hon'ble Dr. Bambang Susantono, Deputy Minister, Indonesia (in Chair); Ms Seung-yeon Lee; and Dr. Hiren Sarkar at the Session I of the RIS-UNESCAP High Level Policy Dialogue, held in New Delhi on 21-22, March 2007.

The panelists included: Mr. Gao Jian, Vice Governor, China Development Bank, China; Mr. N.K. Madan, Vice President, India Infrastructure Finance Company Limited; Prof. G. Naidu, Consultant, Malaysia; and Mr. Mark Yeo, Managing Director, IMC Pan Asia Alliance Pte Ltd., Singapore.

The Session on “Experiences in Infrastructure Financing in Asia-Pacific” was chaired by Dr. Kim Hak-Su. It had a presentation by Ms. Rita Nangia, Director, Asian Development Bank, Manila which gave a regional lender perspective; and one by Mr. Sanjeev Moholkar, JBIC, New Delhi giving a bilateral donor’s perspective. The panelists were: Mr. Shyam Sundar Sharma, Joint Secretary, National Planning Commission, Nepal; and Mr. Sharat Goyal, Assistant Vice President, Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services Limited (ILFS), New Delhi.

The Session on “Issues and Challenges of New Mechanisms for Infrastructure Financing” was chaired by Dr. Ravi Ratnayake, Director (PDD), UNESCAP. Mr. Evgeny Vinokurov, Senior Analyst, Strategic Planning Coordinator, EDB made the presentation on Eurasian Development Bank. Mr. Ruben S. Reinoso, Jr. Assistant Director-General, National Economic and Development Authority, Philippines; and Dr. Partha Mukhopadhyay, Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi were the panelists.

The Session on “Innovative Regional Mechanisms for Financing Infrastructure Investment” included the presentation of the Draft Policy Outcome by Dr. Kim Hak-Su. It was commented upon by eminent panelists, viz. Dr. Bambang Susantono, Hon’ble Deputy Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Cooperation, Indonesia; Mr. Narayana Murthy, Chairman, Infosys Technologies Ltd, India; Dr. John Hewson, Executive Chairman, Elderslie Finance Corporation Ltd; Mr. Amarananda Abeygunasekara, Additional Director General, External Resource Department, Ministry of Finance and Planning Secretariat, Sri Lanka; Ms. Shyamala Shukla, Director, Ministry of Finance, India; and Mr. Mohanjit Singh, Joint General Manager



*(From left): Dr. Prabir De; Dr. Rahamtullah; Ambassador Leela Ponappa (in Chair); Ambassador Rajiv Sikri; Dr. Sultan Rahman Hafeez, ADB; and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi at the Session on "Regional Connectivity and Trade Facilitation in South Asia" of the RIS/SACEPS Regional Conference on Economic Cooperation in SAARC: SAFTA and Beyond, held in New Delhi on 19 March 2007.*

& Head (North), L&T Infrastructure Finance Company Limited, New Delhi.

Dr. Kirit S. Parikh, Member, Planning Commission of India, delivered the valedictory address.

### **RIS/ SACEPS Regional Conference on Economic Cooperation in SAARC: SAFTA and Beyond, New Delhi, 19 March 2007**

RIS and SACEPS, Kathmandu, jointly organized a one-day “Regional Conference on Economic Cooperation in SAARC: SAFTA and Beyond”, in New Delhi on 19 March 2007, ahead of the SAARC Summit, held in New Delhi in the first week of April 2007. Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Hon’ble Minister for External Affairs, delivered the inaugural address. Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P. and Chairman, RIS and Co-Chairman, SACEPS; Mr. Sayed Babar Ali, Member of the Economic Advisory Board, Government of Pakistan and Co-Chairman, SACEPS; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS also addressed the inaugural session.

In his address, Mr. Mukherjee said that SAARC region has to become a dynamic component of the larger process of regional cooperation. A small beginning has been made in this regard. The South Asian Free Trade Agreement is a visible symbol of the recent progress but there are many difficulties that remain to be overcome. The full implementation of SAFTA would go a long way towards enabling the region to fulfill its



*From left: Dr. Tetsuya Watanabe; Dr. Nagesh Kumar; Ambassador K. Kesavapany; and Dr. Denis Hew at the session on Pan-Asian Economic Integration of the RIS/ADB/ISAS/SCAP Conference on South Asia-East Asia Economic Cooperation and Pan-Asian Integration, held in Singapore on 29-30 November 2006.*

undeniable potential. He, therefore, urged that the realization of genuine free trade in the region is not undermined by linking it to extraneous political considerations.

The first session of the conference on the theme “SAFTA: Prospects and Challenges” was chaired by Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, CSD, New Delhi. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS made the theme presentation; and Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, CPD, Dhaka; and Ms. Poonam Barua, Public Affairs Management, New Delhi were the panelists.

The session on “Regional Connectivity and Trade Facilitation in South Asia”, chaired by Ambassador Leela Ponappa, Vice-Chairperson, RIS, had presentations on SAARC Multimodal Transport System by Dr. Rahamtullah, CPD, Dhaka; Facilitating Overland Trade in South Asia by Dr. Prabir De, RIS; and Trade Facilitation and Customs Valuation in SAFTA by Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, RIS. The panelists were: Ambassador Rajiv Sikri, former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; and Dr. Sultan Rahman Hafeez, DDG, South Asia Department, Asian Development Bank, Manila.

Professor Rehman Sobhan chaired the session on “Strengthening the SAARC Process” which had a presentation on Monitoring of SAARC Programmes and Policies by Prof. M.P. Lama, JNU. The panelists were: Mr. Ibrahim Hussain Zaki, former Secretary General, SAARC and former Minister of Planning, Maldives; Ambassador

A.N. Ram; Prof. S.D. Muni, ORF; Dr. Mohan Man Sainju, Chairman, IIDS, Kathmandu; Dr. Satish C. Jha, Member, Economic Advisory Council to Prime Minister and former Chief Economist, ADB; and Dr. Sridhar Khatri, Executive Director, SACEPS, Kathmandu.

### **RIS/ADB/ISEAS/ISAS/SCAPE Conference on South Asia-East Asia Economic Cooperation and Pan-Asian Integration, Singapore, 29-30 November 2006**

RIS organized this conference jointly with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Singapore Centre for Applied and Policy Economics (SCAPE-NUS), Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS), and Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS) on 29-30 November 2006 in Singapore. The first day of the conference was devoted to presentation of studies conducted by ADB on South Asia-East Asia cooperation and potential of cooperation in select sectors. The second day programme organized by RIS and ISEAS was devoted to issues in the broader economic integration and the agenda of the East Asia Summit.

The first session on “Approaches for Pan-Asian Economic Integration” was chaired by Ambassador K. Kesavapany, ISEAS. It had the following presentations: ‘Relevance and Approaches for a Broader Asian Community’ by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, RIS; ‘Towards a Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia: The Japanese Perspective’ by Dr. Tetsuya Watanabe, Director, Office of East Asian Economic Integration and Development, METI, Japan; and ‘ASEAN’s Role in fostering Pan-Asian Economic Integration’ by Dr. Denis Hew, ISEAS. It was followed by a Panel Discussion on Regional Economic Cooperation in Asia: Agenda for the East Asia Summit moderated by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, DG-RIS and included as panelists: Dr. Mukul Asher, LKYSPP: Cooperation in Services in Asia; Ambassador Sudhir Devare, ISEAS: Regional Cooperation for Energy Security; and Dr. Tan See Seng, IDSS: A Strategic perspective.

The Conference had participation of a large number of policy makers, business people and academics based in Singapore and other Asian countries.

### **RIS' Session on Pan-Asian Economic Integration at GDN Conference in Beijing, 15 January 2007**

A dynamic and integrated Asia is newly-emerging with the resurgence of China and India as engines of growth, the recovery of Japan from a decade old recession, the rise of Asian middle class as source of final demand, apart from high and growing proportions of intra-regional trade and investments. There is also an attempt to build on this growing 'functional' interdependence to form more institutionalized forms of cooperation. ASEAN has played an important role in evolving a framework for broader cooperation by bringing together major Asian countries like Japan, China, India and South Korea as dialogue partners. These dialogue partners are all working on ASEAN+1 FTAs and are also studying bilateral FTAs between themselves. There is a need to build on these sub-regional and bilateral attempts a broader regional framework to provide a seamless market facilitating the exploitation of synergies more effectively. The East Asia Summit (EAS) was launched in Kuala Lumpur in 2005 with the participation of ASEAN10, Japan, China, South Korea, India and also of Australia and New Zealand. By giving to the leaders of the largest and most dynamic economies of Asia a forum for dialogue, EAS is expected to facilitate the cause of community building in Asia.

Against that backdrop, the RIS organized a special Panel Discussion on the "Pan-Asian the Economic Integration: Its Relevance, Approaches and Challenges" at the GDN Annual Conference 2007 held in Beijing on 15 January 2007. The panelists discussed the relevance and possible approaches for pan-Asian economic integration and the challenges that it may face.

Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS presented the theme paper. The



*(From left): Prof. Zhang Yunling; Dr. Masanori Kondo; Dr. Hadi Soesastro; Dr. Pradumna B. Rana; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar at the RIS' Session on Pan-Asian Economic Integration at GDN Conference, held in Beijing on 15 January 2007.*

distinguished panelists included: Dr. Hadi Soesastro, Executive Director, CSIS, Jakarta (Moderator); Professor Zhang Yunling, Director, Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing; Dr. Masanori Kondo, International Christian University, Japan; and Dr. Pradumna B. Rana, Senior Adviser, OREI, Asian Development Bank. It was followed by an open discussion.

### **RIS/ASEAN Secretariat Seminar on ASEAN and Pan-Asian Integration, at the Fund/Bank Annual Meetings, Singapore, 16 September 2006**

A Seminar, organized jointly by ASEAN Secretariat and RIS on 16 September 2006 in Singapore, as part of the programme of seminars (PoS) coinciding with the 2006 annual meetings of the IMF-World Bank Group, provided opportunities for leading Asian thinkers to share their vision, ideas and strategies for shaping the concept of pan-Asian integration in ways that will best maintain its economic dynamism, enhance regional security and preserve peace and stability among themselves.

The distinguished panelists at the Seminar were Mr. Haruhiko Kuroda, President of ADB; Mr Ong Keng Yong, Secretary-General of ASEAN; Dr. Ashok Lahiri, Chief Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance; and Ambassador Chan Heng Chee, Singapore PR at the US. Dr. Rodolfo Severino, former Secretary-General, ASEAN





*Hon'ble Mr. Kamal Nath speaking at the launch function of the WTDR 2007, held in New Delhi on 23 February 2007.*

was the moderator. On this occasion, the RIS also issued and circulated a Policy Brief on the theme of the seminar to provide a background of the discussion. The panelists agreed with the emerging views that pan-Asian integration is becoming a reality. Trade and investment liberalization, emergence of global value chains, improved physical connectivity, reductions in transport and logistic costs, and technological progress have brought Asian economies ever closer. To date, 81 regional and bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs) have been implemented in Asia. Emerging trends indicate that pan-Asian integration has gathered significant momentum in a number of areas. A multi-track and multi-speed approach is, therefore, appropriate for pan-Asian integration. A group of countries that are ready, able and willing to move forward toward pan-Asian integration should play a leadership role. The participation of India, Australia and New Zealand in the first East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur last December should help to facilitate cross-regional integration across South Asia, East Asia and Oceania. Pan-Asian integration is becoming not only a reality, but a necessity in the wake of increasing economic interdependence in the region.

### **Launch and Discussion of RIS' *World Trade and Development Report 2007*, New Delhi, 23 February 2007**

Mr. Kamal Nath, Hon'ble Minister for Commerce and Industry, launched RIS' *World Trade and Development Report 2007*

– *Building a Development-Friendly World Trading System* at a function, organized jointly by RIS and the Oxford University Press in New Delhi on 23 February 2007. The Report, prepared by a RIS team, has been published jointly by RIS and Oxford University Press.

The programme began with welcome remarks by Mr. Manzar Khan, Managing Director, OUP. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS presented the highlights of the Report. A large number of participants from government departments, research institutes, academia, business and industry circles, diplomatic missions, and media attended.

Mr. Kamal Nath expressed his concern over the stalemate that continues to beset the current round of WTO negotiations. But he lauded the efforts of RIS in providing valuable analytical support to developing countries by bringing out such a useful and timely Report. He underlined the fact that developing countries lost out in the Uruguay Round of trade negotiations as they lacked such analytical support.

The launch of the *WTDR 2007* was followed by a panel discussion. The eminent panelists included: Dr. Kamal Malhotra, Senior Adviser, UNDP, New York; Ms Farida Mahomed, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Republic of South Africa; and Mr. T.K. Bhaumik, Chief Economist, Reliance Industries Ltd.

The panelists complimented RIS for producing this important Report which puts forward the viewpoints of developing

countries on critical issues of concern to them in the current round of world trade negotiations.

### **Discussion on ‘World Trade and Development Report’ Draft, WTO Public Forum, Geneva, 26 September 2006**

A pre-publication draft of the RIS’ forthcoming ‘World Trade and Development Report 2007: Building a Development Friendly World Trading System’ was discussed at the WTO Public Forum 2006 in Geneva on 26 September 2006. The presentation of the WTDR highlights by Dr Nagesh Kumar, DG, RIS, was followed by a panel discussion on its contents. Ambassador Faizel Ismail, Head of the South African Delegation to the WTO moderated the panel discussion. He described WTDR as a ‘contribution to the process of struggle of developing countries to reclaim the development content of the Doha Round’.

The Draft was commented upon by eminent panelists, Dr Yash Tandon, Executive Director, South Centre; Dr Sam Laird, Spl. Adviser, Office of Secretary-General, UNCTAD; and Dr Martin Khor, Director, Third World Network. Dr. Martin Khor, Director of Third World Network said that he was proud of the Report as it was written by an independent think tank based in a developing country. It lived upto the expectations created by the first Report by RIS.

### **Seminar on India-Sri Lanka FTA: Trends and Prospects, New Delhi, 20 April 2006**

The free trade arrangements/regional trading arrangements (FTAs/RTAs) have become important aspects of India’s trade policy. Therefore, it is important to examine and discuss the emerging trends and patterns resulting from the India-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement (ISLFTA) which was signed in 1998 and became effective from April 2000. At present

negotiations are going on to expand the scope the ISLFTA to cover trade in services and investments. The ISLFTA can also be seen as a limited laboratory experiment in regional economic cooperation within South Asia – as a precursor to South Asia FTA (SAFTA) launched this year. In order to discuss the issues involved in the aforesaid process, RIS organized a Seminar on the India-Sri Lanka FTA: Trends and Prospects in New Delhi on 20 April 2006. Dr. Arjun K. Sengupta, Chairman, RIS chaired the Seminar. Thereafter, the discussion was led by Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka, Colombo and Professor I. N. Mukherji of the School of International Studies, JNU, who presented the Sri Lankan and Indian perspectives, respectively. Remarks were made by H.E. Mr. C.R. Jayasinghe, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, Ambassador Shashank, former Foreign Secretary, Ambassador I.P. Khosla, President, Association of Indian Diplomats, Dr. Nagesh Kumar, DG-RIS, among other participants. A large number of participants from government, business and industry, and academic circles attended the seminar and participated in the discussion.

### **Roundtable on the Agenda of NAM Summit, New Delhi, 5 September 2006**

The 14th Non-Aligned Summit was held in Havana, Cuba on 11-16 September 2006. In preparation of the Summit and to reflect on the relevance of the movement in the contemporary scenario and its agenda, the RIS organized a Roundtable Discussion on Non-Aligned Movement: Relevance in the 21st Century and the Agenda, in New Delhi on 5 September 2006. Hon’ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri Anand Sharma delivered the inaugural address. Dr Arjun Sengupta, MP (Rajya Sabha) and Chairman, RIS and Chairman of the Special Committee on the Agenda of NAM, chaired the Roundtable. In his welcome remarks Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director-General also



*(From left): Ambassador Shashank; Dr. Nagesh Kumar; H.E. Mr. C.R. Jayasinghe, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka, New Delhi; Dr. Arjun K. Sengupta, Chairman, RIS; Professor I. N. Mukherji (JNU); and Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, IPS, Sri Lanka at the Seminar on India-Sri Lanka FTA: Trends and Prospects, held in RIS on 20 April 2006.*

highlighted the work programme of RIS in the direction of South-South cooperation and promoting the relevance of NAM in the changing world scenario.

In his thought provoking inaugural address, the Hon'ble Minister said that NAM should focus on a contemporary and progressive agenda dealing with key issues of common concern to all its members such as multilateralism, combating terrorism, reform of the UN system, democratization of international institutions, etc. On the economic side Shri Anand Sharma, underlined that NAM should focus on issues such as development, constructive North-South engagement, South-South cooperation, globalization, sustainable development, pandemics like HIV/AIDS, natural disasters and digital divide. In this context, he particularly stressed the need to strengthen South-South cooperation. He emphasized that India remains strongly committed to a collective effort to revitalize NAM.

Among those who made observations and contributed to the discussion at the roundtable included Dr. Sanjaya Baru, Media Advisor to PM; Dr. Devaki Jain, formerly Member, South Commission; Dr. Parthasarathi Shome, Advisor to Finance Minister; Prof. S.D. Muni; Dr. C. Rajamohan; Prof. A. K. Pasha; Mr. Siddharth Vardarajan; Dr. Mridula Mukherjee, among others.

The participants were of the view that NAM representing the developing countries can influence the international politics. Through mutual, coordination and South-South cooperation it can influence effectively the course of international economic development.

### **RIS/CII Seminar on Economic Cooperation in IBSA: Exploiting Synergies, New Delhi, 31 August 2006**

It is widely recognized that India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Trilateral Dialogue could be of immense economic and strategic value in view of the dynamism and complementary strengths of these economies. The first IBSA Summit held in Brasilia, Brazil in September 2006 gave a new thrust to the fledgling grouping.

On the eve of the Brasilia IBSA Summit, RIS jointly with CII organized a Seminar on Economic Cooperation in IBSA: Exploiting Synergies on 31 August 2006 in New Delhi, as a preparation for the IBSA Summit.

The seminar began with remarks by Dr Arjun Sengupta, M.P., Chairman, RIS and National Commission on Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector, who was in the chair. Thereafter, the RIS study on the potentials of IBSA were presented by Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS. It was followed by presentations by Mr. T.S. Vishwanath, Head-International Trade Policy, CII and Dr. Veena Jha, Programme Coordinator, UNCTAD India, New Delhi.

These presentations were followed by remarks by Mr. R. Vishwanathan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs and Mr. Jayant Dasgupta, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, highlighting the importance and potential of this emerging partnership. Then H.E. Mr. Jose Vicente De Sa Pimentel, Ambassador of Brazil made his observations.

It was followed by an intensive open discussion in which a large number of participants who attended the seminar took part.



The RIS Policy Brief on “India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Economic Cooperation: Towards a Comprehensive Economic Partnership” (# 26) was also circulated at the seminar to provide a background to the discussions.

### **Seminar on Emergence of China and India - Implications for African Development, New Delhi, 5 October 2006**

The emergence of China and India as major economic powers have created new opportunities for integration with other developing countries, particularly in the African region. To take stock of this emerging scenario which holds great promise for wider South-South cooperation, the RIS, jointly with Export-Import Bank of India, organized a Seminar on Emergence of China and India - Implications for African Development on 5 October 2006 in New Delhi.

The Seminar was chaired by Ambassador L.K. Ponappa, Vice-Chairperson, RIS.

At the Seminar the discussion was initiated by Dr. Andrea-Enrico Goldstein, Senior Economist, OECD Development Centre, Paris, who has led an OECD Development Centre Study on the subject.

The presentation was discussed and commented upon by Mr. S.R. Rao, Executive Director, Export-Import Bank of India, and Dr Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow, RIS. It was followed by open discussion in which a large number of participants from business and industry, government, academic and research circles took part.

### **RIS/IEG Seminar on India and Globalization, New Delhi, 1 February 2007**

A one-day Seminar on India and Globalization was organized jointly by the Institute of Economic Growth and RIS in New Delhi on 1 February 2007 in honour of Prof. N.S. Siddharthan. The seminar began with welcome remarks by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS. Prof. Kanchan Chopra, Director, IEG,



*From right: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Dr. Andrea-Enrico Goldstein; Ambassador L.K. Ponappa; Mr. S.R. Rao; and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi at the RIS/Export-Import Bank of India Seminar on Emergence of China and India - Implications for African Development, held in New Delhi on 5 October 2006.*

made the introductory remarks. Prof. S.R. Hashim, former Chairman, UPSC, delivered the inaugural address.

The Session on “India and Foreign Direct Investment” was chaired by Prof. K.L. Krishna, formerly of Delhi School of Economics. The following presentations were made: ‘Impact of Trade Liberalization on FDI in Indian Industries’ by Prof. Rashmi Banga, UNCTAD-India and Prof. Bishwanath Goldar, IEG; ‘Location of Plants of Foreign Companies in India’ by Prof. Bishwanath Goldar, IEG; ‘Rise of India’s Outward Investments’ by Dr. Nagesh Kumar; and ‘International Mergers: The Role of Asymmetric Information’ by Dr. Uday Bhanu Sinha, Delhi School of Economics.

The Session on ‘Globalization and the Knowledge Economy’ was chaired by Prof. P.V. Indiresan, former Director, IIT Madras. It had presentations on ‘Knowledge Intermediation: Issues for Governance and Business’ by Dr. Y.S. Rajan, Principal Adviser, CII; and ‘Globalization and Changing Social Contract between Science and Society Relations: Some Implications’ by Dr. V.V. Krishna, Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Prof. B.L. Pandit, Delhi School of Economics, chaired Session on “Globalization and Industry Performance”. In this session the main presentations were: ‘Engaging for India in the Age of Globalization: The Case of Pharmaceutical Industry’ by Dr. Dinesh Abrol, NISTADS;







(From left): Prof. Kanchan Chopra; Prof. N.S. Siddharthan; Prof. S.R. Hashim and Dr. Nagesh Kumar at the inaugural session of the RIS/IEG Seminar on India and Globalization, held in New Delhi on 1 February 2007.

‘Technological Efforts, Firm Size and Exports in Basic Chemical Industry in India’ by Dr. K. Narayanan, ‘Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai; Indian Dairy in the Emerging Trade Order’ by Dr. Brajesh Jha, IEG; ‘Software Industry Performance in India and China’ by Dr. Stanley Nollen, Georgetown University, and ‘Stock Return Volatility Patterns in India’ by Dr. Amita Batra, ICRIER.

The Session on ‘Globalization and Labour’ was chaired by Dr. Alakh Sharma, Director, Institute of Human Development. It had presentations on ‘Globalization: Its Impact on Labour in India’ by Mr. P. D. Shenoy, former Secretary, Ministry of Labour; ‘Industry and Informal Sector in the Context of Globalization’ by Dr. Arup Mitra, IEG; and ‘The Influence of Labour Markets on FDI’ by Dr. Aradhna Aggarwal, University of Delhi.

### **Third Asian Biotechnology and Development Conference, Manila, 9-10 November 2006**

The Third Asian Biotechnology and Development Conference was held on 9-10 November 2006, in Manila, which saw participation of 220 people from Australia, India, Indonesia, Italy, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore and the United States. The Conference was part of a series initiated by RIS in 2002 and was organized in collaboration with the

Biotechnology Coalition of the Philippines among other organizations.

The theme of the conference was ‘Biotechnology Opportunities for Developing Countries’. The conference began with Dr. Edgar DaSilva reading a backgrounder on Asian Biotechnology Conferences written by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS. Thereafter Dr. Edgar DaSilva requested Dr. Estrella Alabastro, Secretary of Department of Science and Technology, Philippines to release the special issue of RIS publication, *Asian Biotechnology and Development Review* on “Bioethics in Asia”. Dr. William Padolina, Deputy Director-General of the International Rice Research Institute gave the welcome address. Dr. Hubert Gijzen gave an idea of UNESCO’s interest in biotechnology. Dr. Estrella Alabastro delivered the keynote address.

The session on ‘World Perspectives on Bio-commercialization’ was chaired by Dr. Gurinder Shahi. It had presentations by Dr. S. R. Rao, Advisor to the Department of Biotechnology of India; Atty. Peter Tabor, International Economist, US Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service; Dr. Saturnina Halos; and Dr. Patricio Faylon, Executive Director, Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development of the Department of Science and Technology.

The session on ‘Essential Issues’ was chaired by Dr. Edgar DaSilva. It had presentations by Dr. Wendy Craig of the Biosafety Unit, ICGEB; Dr. Hector Quemada, Western Michigan University; and Dr. Ernesto del Rosario and his colleagues at University of the Philippines.

The session on medical biotechnology was chaired by Dr. Jaime Montoya, Executive Director, Philippine Council for Health Research and Development. Presentations were made by Dr. Gurinder Shahi; Dr. Nina Gloriani Barzaga of the University of the Philippines and Nagoya City University Graduate School of Medical Sciences; and Dr. Filipinas F. Natividad.

Two major issues, intellectual property rights and ethics were covered in the

session on 'Enabling Issues' run by Dr. Reynaldo Ebor, Executive Director, Philippine Council for Advanced Science and Technology Research and Development. Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi of RIS brought out the major concerns regarding plant variety protection, patents, protection of traditional knowledge and folklore, access to biodiversity and benefit sharing. Another presentation on Ethics was made by Bishop Jesus Varela.

The session on 'Advancement and Prospects in Agri-Biotechnology in Asia: Status and Priorities' was chaired by Dr. George Fuller, Executive Director, CropLife Asia. In the overview lead paper, Dr. Randy Hautea described the global trends in agri-biotechnology.

Dr. Bharat Char, Mahyco Research Centre, Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co., Ltd., of Jalna, India, described efforts being made to bring the Bt eggplant to commercial production. Dr. Jerry Flint, Director, Technical Development-Asia Pacific, Monsanto, described the history of Bt corn development and factors leading to its successful commercial deployment in the Philippines. Dr. Rhodora R. Aldemita, Chief Science Research Specialist, Philippine Rice Research Institute described the pioneering work of Ingo Potrykus and Peter Beyer in building in beta carotene into rice. Dr. Kiran K. Sharma, of Genetic Transformation Laboratory, ICRISAT described completed and ongoing research at ICRISAT to alleviate poor production in drought susceptible areas. Dr. Dennis Gonsalves, Center Director, Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center, Hawaii, related his success with papaya resistant to the papaya ring spot virus (PRSV) in Hawaii and his experience in transferring the technology to Thailand.

### **IFPRI/RIS International Policy Dialogue on Economic Consideration of Biosafety and Biotechnology Regulations in India, New Delhi, 24-25 August 2006**

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington DC, USA and



*Dr. Estrella Alabastro, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Philippines addressing the participants at the Third Asian Biotechnology and Development Conference, held in Manila on 9-10 November 2006. Also seen in the picture are Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi and Dr. Edgar DaSilva.*

the South Asia Biosafety Program (SABP), India in collaboration with RIS, organized the International Policy Dialogue on Economic Consideration of Biosafety and Biotechnology Regulations in India on 24-25 August, 2006, in New Delhi.

Dr. G. K. Chadha, Member, Prime Minister of India's Economic Advisory Council delivered the inaugural keynote address.

Dr. Purvi Mehta-Bhatt, India Coordinator, SABP; Dr. Ashok Gulati, Director in Asia, IFPRI-Delhi Office; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Dr. Mark W. Rosegrant, Director, Environment and Production Technology Division, IFPRI, USA; and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow, RIS also addressed the inaugural session.

The Dialogue was designed to establish greater awareness, an intensified dialogue, and consensus among various stakeholders in India on the benefits, costs, important policy trade-offs, and directions forward for biosafety regulations in India.

The key stakeholders include the key ministries in India such as Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Agriculture, and Ministry of Environment, and other relevant government agencies; corporate sector and the consumers and producers of such crops.

To achieve this objective, the dialogue brought together a cross-section of stakeholders to promote a dialogue among



(From left): Dr. G. K. Chadha; Dr. Purvi Mehta-Bhatt; Dr. Ashok Gulati; Dr. Mark W. Rosegrant; Dr. Nagesh Kumar; and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi at the inaugural session of the IFPRI/RIS International Policy Dialogue on Economic Consideration of Biosafety and Biotechnology, held in New Delhi on 24-25 August 2006.

them on some of the identified key issues on biotechnology and biosafety regulations.

The dialogue, while standing on technical (scientific) bases focused upon the policy related issues of regulations, field applications and sustainable policy implications.

The participants included public and private sector stakeholders, including policy makers, public research centre scientists, industry representatives, farmers, communicators, and 'like minded' international agencies.

The Dialogue provided a unique opportunity for them to come together and discuss these issues to identify the weaknesses and strengths of present and proposed biosafety and biotechnology regulations in India.

### **RIS/DBT Workshop of Asian Biotechnology Innovation and Development Initiative, New Delhi, 25 January 2007**

Asian Biotechnology Innovation and Development Initiative (ABIDI) was launched at a day-long workshop organized by RIS in New Delhi on 25 January 2007, in collaboration with the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India. At this meeting more than 12 representatives from different Asian countries participated. The idea was to bring together the policy community, academics and interested

institutions for facilitating greater understanding on policy aspects related to innovation and development of biotechnology. During the launch meeting of ABIDI, it was agreed upon that Asian countries should evolve an analytical framework for policy-makers in the area of biotechnology, relevant to the region's requirements. In a globalized world as innovation is influenced by several interdependent regional systems, it would be useful to launch this initiative at the Asian level. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS made the opening remarks and Prof. Anthony Arundel delivered the keynote address. The perspectives on ABIDI were discussed by Dr. S. R. Rao, Adviser, DBT. Ms. Brigitte Vanbeuzekom of OECD also gave an overview on the biotechnology statistics collection plan of OECD. Outside participants at the meeting included: Dr. Nina Gloriani, The Philippines; Dr. Virginia G. Novenario-Enriquez, The Philippines; Dr. Prasartporn Smitamana, Thailand; Ms Watcharin Meerod, Thailand; Dr. Karim Maredia, MSU; Prof. Dongsoo Lim, South Korea; Dr. Ann Jinhui, China; Dr. Bambang Purwantara, Indonesia; Dr. Durga Datta Dhakal, Nepal; Prof Phua Kai Hong, Singapore; and Dr. Anil Jayasekera, Sri Lanka.

### **Seminar on East Asia Summit: Strategic and Economic Issues, New Delhi, 26 April 2006**

The East Asia Summit held in Kuala Lumpur in December 2005 was an important milestone in launching broader regional cooperation in Asia. With leaders of ASEAN, Japan, China, South Korea, India, Australia, and New Zealand, EAS is widely seen as a Forum that could spark off a process of community building in East Asia, culminating eventually into an Asian Economic Community as proposed by India. RIS has been following the emerging trends and development in this respect as a part of its work programme on Asian Economic Integration.



To take stock of the emerging strategic and economic configuration in the post-Kuala Lumpur phase, the RIS organized a Seminar on the East Asia Summit: Strategic and Economic Issues on 26 April 2006. Ambassador A. N. Ram, former Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs chaired the event. Dr. Eric Teo Chu Cheow, Council Secretary, Singapore Institute of International Affairs, Singapore and an eminent analyst and commentator on Asian affairs, made a presentation to initiate the discussion. The Seminar was also addressed by Professor Muchkund Dubey, President, Council for Social Development, and Mr. Rinzing Wangdi, Secretary (ER & Coord.), MEA. It had an extensive open discussion by a large number of participants.

### **Consultative Meeting on Implications of the WTO Negotiations on Indian Paper and Newsprint Industry, New Delhi, 19 January 2007**

RIS and CPPRI jointly organized a consultative meeting on Implications of the WTO Negotiations on Indian Paper and Newsprint Industry in New Delhi on 19 January 2007. The seminar opened with remarks by Dr. T.K Roy, Director, CPPRI. Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow, RIS initiated the discussion with his presentation on 'The Implications of the WTO Tariff Proposals on Indian Paper and Newsprint Industry'. It was followed by intensive discussion from the senior participants from government and the Indian paper and newsprint industry. They included Mr. S.P. Maurya, Director, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India; Mr. Anil Kumar, Executive Director & CEO, Shreyans Industries Limited; Mr. R. Narayan Moorthy, Secretary General, Indian Paper Manufacturers Association (IPMA); Mr. S.P. Gupta, Narsingh Dass & Company; Mr. A.K. Bhargava, Secretary General, Indian Agro and Recycled Paper Mills Association (IARPMA); and Mr. Ranjan Kumar, Khatema Fibres Ltd.



*(From left): Professor Muchkund Dubey; Mr. Rinzing Wangdi; Ambassador A N Ram; Dr. Eric Teo Chu Cheow; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar at the Seminar on East Asia Summit: Strategic and Economic Issues, held in RIS on 26 April 2006.*

### **Seminar on Japan's Foreign Policy in Retrospect, New Delhi, 24 May 2006**

RIS organized a seminar on Japan's Foreign Policy in Retrospect by Ambassador Akira Sugino from Japan on 24 May 2006. Ambassador A.N. Ram, former Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs chaired the Talk. The participants included Mr. Rinzing Wangdi, Secretary (ER & Coord.), MEA, Mr. Rajshekher, Director (East), MEA, among others. The seminar had a intensive discussion on the evolution of Japan's foreign policy in the post-World War period and its implications.

### **Seminar on International and Product Diversification, R&D and Innovative Capabilities, New Delhi, 12 January 2007**

RIS organized a Seminar on International and Product Diversification, R&D and Innovative Capabilities in the World's largest Multinational Corporations on 12 January 2007. Prof. N.S. Siddharthan, Head, V.K.R.V. Rao Centre for Studies in Globalisation, Institute of Economic Growth, chaired the Seminar.

Dr. Rakesh B. Sambharya, Professor of Management & International Business, School of Business, Rutgers University, Camden, USA made the presentation on the subject. His presentation was followed by an open discussion in which participants took active part.





(From left): Dr. Nagesh Kumar; Prof. N.S. Siddharthan and Dr. Rakesh B. Sambharya at the Seminar on International and Product Diversification, R&D and Innovative Capabilities, held in RIS on 12 January 2007.

### **Screening of the Film on NAM, New Delhi, 29 June 2006**

A special session for screening the documentary film *The Unfinished Revolution* was organized in RIS on 29 June 2006 for the benefit of the RIS faculty members and other select invitees. The programme began with the welcome remarks made by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, DG-RIS. Mr. Rinzing Wangdi, Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs presided over the event. The documentary, directed by noted film maker Mr. Suhas Borker, traces the evolution of NAM from Belgrade (1961) to Durban (1998) and examines the validity and relevance of the NAM for the future.

### **Outside Engagements of the Members of RIS Faculty**

#### **Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General**

- Participated in the informal Meeting of SACEPS Executive Board in New Delhi on 12 April 2006.
- Chaired the Meeting of the Expert Group on a Consistent Interpretation of the Precautionary Principle/Approach in Application to Different Agreements, held on 17 April 2006.
- Participated in the Steering Committee Meeting of the 34th World Marketing Congress, organized by the Institute of

Marketing & Management, New Delhi on 21 April 2006.

- Participated in the Editorial Luncheon with Mr. Michael Elliott for a discussion on Is There Room for Two? India-China and the Global Economy, organized by the *Time* Magazine in New Delhi on 28 April 2006.
- Made a presentation on India's External Trade Challenges with respect to recent changing world trade patterns at the Corporate Checkmate, organized by the Jagan Institute of Management Studies in New Delhi on 29 April 2006.
- Participated in the Luncheon Meeting with the visiting Members of Parliament, Japan, organized by CII in New Delhi on 1 May 2006.
- Participated in the First Meeting of the Working Group on Challenges and Opportunities of Globalization on External Sector for formulation of the Eleventh Five Year Plan, organized by the Planning Commission in New Delhi on 8 May 2006.
- Chaired the Seventh Audit Committee Meeting of India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on 12 May 2006.
- Participated in the Indian component meeting of the India-Japan JSG held in New Delhi on 29 May 2006.
- Participated in India-Japan JSG Meeting held in Tokyo on 6-7 June 2006.
- Made a presentation on the RIS study *Towards an Employment-Oriented Export Strategy* in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 12 June 2006.
- Nominated as a Member of the Special Committee of the Non-Aligned Movement on Economic and Social Issues, set up by the Ministry External Affairs, Government of India and participated in its meetings held on 26 July, 10 August, 18 August and 4 September 2006.
- Made a presentation on Employment - Oriented Export Strategy at the Workshop on Trade and Poverty Alleviation, chaired by Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Shri Jairam Ramesh, at ITPO Hall, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi on 27 July 2006.
- As Guest Speaker made a presentation on Regional Architecture at the Session II of the Conference of Indian Heads of Missions for Countries of South East Asia and East Asia, organized by the Southern Division of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on 1 September 2006.
- Participated in the SACEPS Board Meeting in Kathmandu on 22 September 2006.

- Made a presentation at the SACEPS Workshop on Economic Cooperation in SAARC: SAFTA and Beyond, held in Kathmandu on 23 September 2006.
- Participated in the WTO Public Forum, organized by the WTO Secretariat in Geneva on 25 September 2006.
- Discussant in the Plenary Session III on Global Comparisons in the International Seminar on Knowledge Based Industries, Employment and Global Competitiveness, organized by the Forum for Global Knowledge Sharing in New Delhi on 7 October 2006.
- Participated in the First Meeting of the Study Steering Group on Area: FDI in R&D Sector, organized by the Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC) in New Delhi on 11 October 2006.
- Presented to the press UNCTAD's Annual Publication *World Investment Report 2006* at UN Information Centre, New Delhi on 16 October 2006.
- Participated in the Kick-start Meeting of the GISD-SDC Partner Institutions for GMS, organized by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation in New Delhi on 16 October 2006.
- Delivered a Special Address on Can India Catch Up with China? at the Seminar on Achieving the Asian Miracle in India, organized by the Department of Economics, Jesus and Mary College, New Delhi on 27 October 2006.
- Participated in the preparatory meeting on Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), organized by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Jakarta and Institute of Developing Economies (IDE-JETRO), Japan in Jakarta on 4 November 2006.
- Moderator at the session on Economic Relations between Korea and India at The Korea-India Economic Forum, organized by *The Economic Times* in Mumbai on 23 November 2006.
- Participated in the Finalization Workshop for the Study on Economic Cooperation between East Asia and South Asia, organized by ADB in Singapore on 27-28 November 2006.
- Participated in the Workshop on Economic Research Institute on ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) hosted by Secretary-General, ASEAN on 1-2 December 2006 at ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta.



(From left): Mr. Rinzing Wangdi; Ambassador A.N. Ram; Ambassador Akira Sugino; and Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow, RIS at the Seminar on Japan's Foreign Policy in Retrospect, held in RIS on 24 May 2006.

- Speaker in the session on How India is managing the new paradigm in globalization - the lessons, in FICCI-KAF Colloquium on Globalization: Change Management and New Roles Views from India and Germany, organized by FICCI and Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAF) in New Delhi on 9 December 2006.
- Participated in the interactive session on Making Globalization Work for India with Prof. Joseph Stiglitz, University Professor, Columbia University, organized by ICRIER in New Delhi on 19 December 2006.
- Speaker at the Session on Global Issues at the Seminar on Towards Consensus in Indian Foreign Policy, organized by the ICWA in New Delhi on 22 December 2006.
- Participated in the Meeting with a Group of Economists for Pre-Budget Consultations called by the Hon'ble Finance Minister of India in New Delhi on 30 December 2006.
- Made a presentation on FDI and Development at the Workshop on India-Canada Trade and Investment Scenario, organized by the South Campus, University of Delhi on 5 January 2007.
- Participated in the preparatory Meeting on SAARC Summit called by the Foreign Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs on 17 January 2007.
- Made a presentation on Integration in Asia: Lessons from EU at the Seminar on Uniting People: Jean Monnet and the Construction, at India International Centre in New Delhi on 2 February 2007.
- Made a presentation at the Session on Asian Dynamism and Challenges for Synergising Internal and External Cooperation of South Asia and Co-Chaired, Session II on Perspectives of Relations between South Asia and Other Regions at the Conference on SAARC

2015: Expanding Horizons and Forging Cooperation in a Resurgent Asia, held in New Delhi on 10 February 2007.

- Participated in the Inter-Ministerial Meeting on Enhancing Intra-SAARC Trade, organized by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 20 February 2007.
- Made a presentation at the session on IP Rights, Foreign Direct Investment and International Technology Transfer at the WIPO National Roundtable on the Economics of Intellectual Property, organized by WIPO and IIT, Delhi on 6 March 2007.
- Presentation on Asian Regionalism at the Fostering Trade through Private-Public Dialogue – Expert Meeting on Regional Integration in India organized by ICRIER and International Trade Centre, UNCTAD/WTO in New Delhi on 28 March 2007.
- Participated in the Meeting of Heads of Institutions involved in Economic Research Institute of ASEAN; and in the Session with Senior Economic Officials Meeting for informal briefing, organized by IDE-JETRO, Japan in Manila on 31 March 2007.
- Made a presentation on Current State of Play in WTO Negotiations, Role of India and the position of Developing Countries and LDCs at The International Workshop on Food, Trade and Nutrition: Emerging Issues in the Wake of Suspension of Doha Development Round of World Trade Organization (WTO), organized jointly by the Food, Trade and Nutrition Coalition and the Center for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society (CECOEDECON) on 17 August 2006 in New Delhi.
- Acted as discussant in the Technical Session IV: Vertical Co-ordination and Integration in Poultry Industry in India, at IFPRI/IEG Workshop on From Plate to Plough: Agricultural Diversification and its Implications for the Smallholders, held on 20 September, in New Delhi.
- Participated in the Agriculture Summit 2006: Reforms for Empowering the Farmer, organized jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture, and FICCI, October 18-19, 2006.
- Presented a joint paper on Meeting Food Safety Standards in Export Markets: Issues and Challenges Facing Firms Exporting from Developing Countries at the IATRC Summer Symposium, Food Regulation and Trade: Institutional Framework, Concepts of Analysis and Empirical Evidence, Bonn, Germany, 2006.
- Presented Summary of the detailed paper on TBT Measures and South Asia at CENTAD South Asia Conference on Trade & Development 2006 Multilateralism at Crossroads: Reaffirming Development Priorities, on 19-20 December, 2006.
- Participated in the International Seminar on Saving Doha and Delivering on Development, organized by Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, in New Delhi on 12-13 March 2007.
- Participated in the seminar on India-Bangladesh Trade organized by NCAER, in New Delhi on 20 March 2007.

#### **Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow**

- Made a presentation on Non-Tariff Barriers and South Asia at the Session on Non-Agriculture Market Access in the South Asia Consultation on WTO and South Asia: Strategies Beyond Hong Kong, organized jointly by Centad and UNDP-Colombo on 21-22 April 2006.
- Jury Member for Exim Bank International Economic Development Research Annual (IEDRA) Award 2006, and examined entries related to International Economics, Trade & Development and related Financing.
- Prepared a paper on Impact of WTO on India and as Group Coordinator presented coordinator report on WTO and South Asia at the *South Asian Journal* Conference on Envisioning South Asia organized by the South Asian Free Media Association (SAFMA) on 29-30 April.
- Made a presentation on NAMA Negotiations at Dialogue with MPs from United Kingdom on India Concerns in WTO NAMA Negotiations, organized by the Centre for Education and Communication (CEC) on 17 July 2006 in New Delhi.

#### **Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Senior Adviser**

- Made a presentation at the National Seminar on India, The Indian Ocean and the Global Challenge, organized by the Society for Indian Ocean Studies in New Delhi on 23 September 2006.

**Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Fellow**

- Participated in the First Sub-Regional Workshop on Trade and Environment in the Pacific, organized by UNESCAP in Suva, Fiji on 7-8 June 2006.
- Presented a paper on Towards India-SACU PTA: Emerging Policy Option at the Seminar on India-SACU PTA: Opportunities and Challenges organized by ASSOCHAM on 6 October 2006.
- Participated in the Workshop on Post-Doha Agenda for Developing Countries on 30-31 October, 2006 and Third ARTNeT Consultative Meeting of Policymakers and Research Institutions organized by UNESCAP on 1-2 November, 2006 in Macao, China.
- Participated in the Seminar on Employment and Development - Good Jobs, Bad Jobs, organized by ICRIER in New Delhi on 13 November 2006.
- Participated in the Seventh IOR-ARC Ministerial and Academic Group meetings, held in Tehran, Iran on 3 March 2007.

**Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow**

- Made a presentation on Biosafety and Trade Related Issues at the Short-term Orientation Course on Biosafety and Biotech Regulations, organized by TERI School of Advanced Studies in New Delhi on 7 April 2006.
- Made a presentation on the Labelling, Traceability and Trade related Issues at the National Consultation on Regulation of Genetically Modified Food, organized by BCIL on 27 April 2006.
- Made a presentation on Impact of Globalization on Select MDGs: Assessing Policy Options at Commonwealth Parliamentary Association/ 21st Century Trust, held on 13-19 May 2006 in Bangalore.
- Made a presentation (in absentia) on Prior Informed Consent, Benefit Sharing and Kani Case in India at the Project Meeting, organized by University of Cape Town and Wellcome Trust on 1-2 June 2006 in Cape Town, South Africa.
- Made a presentation on New Technologies in Agriculture: What are the Policy Issues, at the International Conference on Sustainable Agriculture for Food and Nutritional Security, organized by TERI in New Delhi on 26 May 2006.
- Made a presentation on Trade Issues in Transboundary Movement of LMOs at the Technical Programme on Biosafety organized

by Ministry of Environment and Forest, 18-19 September, 2006.

- Made a presentation on Technology Frontier: Realising the Biotechnology Potential at the Workshop on Role of Agribusiness in Poverty Reduction, organized by the Oxfam International and Centad, 30 August 2006.
- Made a presentation on Harmonizing Trade Related Regulations of GM Food at the International Dialogue on Economic Consideration of Biosafety and Biotechnology Regulations in India: A Policy Dialogue, organized by International Food Policy Research Institute, 24 August 2006.
- Made a presentation on Experience with Implementation of Agreement on Customs Valuation in India: Identifying Trade Facilitation related Concerns at the UNDP/ESCAP ARTNET Consultative Meeting on Trade Facilitation and Regional Integration, held on 17-18 August 2006, in Bangkok.
- Made a presentation on Implications of New Patent Regime for Developing Countries: Urgent Need for Strategic Response at the International Seminar on India and the New Global Intellectual Property Rights Regime, organized by Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, on August 1-3, 2006.
- Made a presentation on Bt Cotton Controversy: Issues and Policy Options at the Panel Discussion on Cottoning on Bt Cotton organized by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, on 31 July 2006.
- Made a presentation on ABS and Kani Case in India at the Inaugural Meeting of the GenBenefit Project, on 2-3 November 2006, organized by University of Central Lancashire, London.
- Made a presentation on Biofuels in India at the Department of Energy, Alternative Fuels and Energy Technology Division, Manila, on 10 November 2007.
- Made a presentation on National System of Bio-innovation in Singapore and India: Lessons for Other Developing Countries at the Integrated Policies for Bio-Innovations in Agriculture and Health in Asia, organized by Asian Institute of Technology, AIT, Pathumthani, Thailand, on 13-14 November 2006.
- Made a presentation on Agricultural Biotechnology-based (Green) Enterprise Development for Sustainable Rural Livelihood and Economic Growth: Opportunities with Biofuel in Select Asian Economies at the Second Meeting of the



- Technical Committee of APCAEM, Suwon, Republic of Korea, on 20 November 2006.
- Made a presentation on Recent Biotechnology Policy Initiatives in India at KRIBB, Daejeon, South Korea on 21 November 2006.
- Made a presentation on Trade and Environment and TRIPs at the ICAI's Post Qualification Course in International Trade Laws and WTO on 6 December 2006.
- Made a presentation on Biotechnology Statistics and Policy Priorities: Where are the Gaps? at the Workshop on Measuring the Outputs and Impacts of Biotechnology, OECD, Paris, on 11 December 2006.
- Made a presentation on Innovation, Environmental Ethics and Corporate Responsibility at the Workshop on Bioethics for Indian Society organized by UNESCO-NISTADS, New Delhi on 14 December 2006.
- Made presentations on Dynamics of Biotechnology Research and Industry in India; and on Emerging Anchor Countries: Implications for Global Governance at the Workshop on Managing Global Governance: Major Challenges and Main Actors, organized by German Development Institute, Bonn on February 7-9, 2007.
- Participated in the Roundtable meeting on South-to-South Collaboration in Genomics Innovation, organized by University of Toronto, Canada on 26 February 2007.
- Made a presentation on Investment Cooperation between India & GCC under the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement in the Interactive Session on India-GCC Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement, jointly organized by FICCI and the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India on 1 May 2006 in New Delhi.
- Participated in the Meeting of the Joint Study Group (JSG) on the Feasibility of Establishing Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between India and Malaysia, organized by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry on 20 April 2006 in New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on SAARC: Potentials and Problems at Special Course for Afghan Diplomats, organized by the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs on 18 April 2006 in New Delhi.
- Made a presentation at the National Seminar on Rules of Origin, organized by World Customs Organization, Brussels, at National Academy for Customs, Excise and Narcotics (NACEN), Government of India on 13 April 2006 in Faridabad.
- Presented paper on Regional Trading Arrangements of India: Conceptual and Policy Issues at International Conference on The Indian Economy in the Era of Globalisation, organized by Maison des Sciences de l'Homme and University of Paris X, Paris on 28-29 September 2006.
- Visited the United States between 26 October-17 November 2006 under International Visitors Leadership Programme of US Department of States on the theme US Trade Policy. During this period made a number of presentations in leading institutions and held meetings with eminent experts on topics such as global economic issues, world trade, trade blocs, WTO and issues from developing countries, etc.
- Participated in the meeting on Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation programme organized by the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi, on 28 November 2006.
- Participated in the Twenty-First Anniversary of the SAARC Charter at SAARC Disaster Management Centre, New Delhi on 8 December 2006.
- Speaker at the Roundtable on Regional Economic Cooperation in South Asia on the occasion of SAARC Charter Day, organized by FICCI, New Delhi, on 8 December 2006.

#### **Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow**

- Made a presentation on Potential of Trade and Economic Cooperation between India and Pakistan in the Workshop on Infrastructural Linkages between the Pakistan-Punjab and Indian-Punjab, organized by the Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID) on 12 May 2006 in Chandigarh.
- Made a presentation on Trade and Investment Cooperation between India & GCC under the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement in the Interactive Session on India-GCC Free Trade Agreement, jointly organized by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) on 4 May 2006 in Mumbai.
- Key Speaker on Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation: Analytical and Policy Issues at the Workshop on WTO-related Issues for Government Officials in the SAARC Region, organized by TERI on 3 May 2006 in New Delhi.

- Keynote Speaker on Professionalisation of Engineers in WTO/GATS Environment and Challenges Ahead at the 4th National Conference on Towards International Competitiveness of Indian Engineers – Challenges Ahead organized by Engineering Council of India, New Delhi on 15 December 2006.
- Participated in the meeting called by Foreign Secretary on SAARC on 17 January 2007, New Delhi
- Participated in the Expert Group Meeting on Rules of Origin at the Ministry of Commerce, on 18 January 2007 in New Delhi.
- Speaker for the Session on Intra-Asian Trade Flows at the 2nd Asian Textile Conference, held on 19 January 2007 in New Delhi.
- Delivered a lecture on SAFTA: Potentials and Constraints in the Seminar on SAARC Economic Cooperation, organized by IDSA-ICRIER on 16 March 2007 in New Delhi.
- Respondent on Prospects of Asian Integration at the Expert Group Meeting on Regional Integration in Asia, organized by ITC/UNCTAD/WTO and ICRIER, on 29 March 2007 in New Delhi.
- Participated in the National Workshop on TRIPS & Public Health: Data Protection Under Article 39.3 of TRIPS, organized jointly by the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and World Health Organization on 13 July 2006 in New Delhi.
- Presented the paper on TRIPS: Issues, Impact and the Way Forward for Developing countries including India at the 2nd Annual Workshop on the Law and Economics of Intellectual Property and Information Technology, organized by the University of Manchester, Manchester (UK) on 27-28 July 2006.
- Participated in the Workshop on WTO and the Fisheries Sector, organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi on 14 September 2006.
- Presented papers on TRIPS and Copy-right Provisions and Dispute Settlement Process: A Review at the Asian Law and Economics Association Meeting held in Bangalore on 8-9 December 2006.
- Presented the *Country Report on the Indian IT Industry*, at the E- Governance Course organized by the Korean Agency for Digital Opportunity and Promotion, Seoul (Korea) on 22 November-1 December 2006.
- Presented a paper on TRIPS and Health at the Italian Health Economics Association Meeting held at Venice on 16-17 November 2006.
- Presented a paper on Indian IT Industry: Past, Present and Future and a Tool for National Development at the Joint Conference of KEBA, RCIE, and KIET on Globalization and Regional Economic Development held on 15-16 December 2006 in Gyeong Ju, Korea.
- Presented paper on TRIPS and Its Impact on Developing Countries Including India at WIPO Roundtable Conference, organized by IIT Delhi and WIPO on 6-7 March, 2007 in New Delhi.

#### **Dr. Pooja Sharma, Fellow**

- Made a presentation on economic cooperation between India and East Asia, at the Project Inception Workshop on Asian Development Bank Study on Economic Cooperation between East Asia and South Asia, held on 1-2 June 2006 in Manila, Philippines.
- Made a presentation, on India's Trade and Investment Relationship with East Asia and rest of South Asia, at the Project Finalization Workshop, Asian Development Bank Study on Economic Cooperation between East Asia and South Asia, held on 27-28 November 2006 in Singapore.

#### **Dr. Somesh K. Mathur, Fellow**

- Paper on Growth Accounting for Some Developed, Newly Industrialized and Developing Countries from 1966-2000: A Data Envelopment Analysis was accepted for presentation at the Spring Meeting of Young Economists held at Seville, Spain on 26-28 May 2006.
- Participated in the Knowledge Symposium on Owning the Future: Ideas and Their Role in the Digital Age, organized by Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi and Red Hat, Incorporation on 24-25 August 2006.

#### **Dr. Prabir De, Fellow**

- Participated as discussant in a Dialogue on India – China Economic Cooperation, organized by the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata on 3 April, 2006.
- Presented a paper on Why Trade Costs Matter? at the WTO/ESCAP Second ARTNeT Capacity Building Workshop on Trade Research, held on 17-21 April 2006 in Bangkok.

- Participated in the International Seminar on Developing Countries and Services Negotiations, organized by ICRIER on 6–7 June, 2006 in New Delhi.
- Presented a paper on Regional Trade in Northeast Asia: Why Do Trade Costs Matter? at Venice Summer Institute Workshop 2006 on Understanding Latest Wave of Regional Trade and Cooperation Agreement, organized by CESifo, Munich at Venice on 19-20 July 2006.
- Made a presentation on India's Economic Engagement with Asian Countries: Trends and Future Prospects at the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies, Vienna, on 25 July, 2006.
- Presented a paper on International Trade in Services: Evolving Issues for Developing Countries at WTO/ESCAP/ARTNeT Advanced Regional Seminar on Multilateral Negotiations in Services for Asian and Pacific Economies, held at Kolkata on 19-21 September 2006.
- Participated in the National Conference on Building Infrastructure: Challenges and Opportunities, organised by Planning Commission, Government of India at New Delhi on 7 October 2006.
- Participated in the 10th ASEAN-India Working Group Meeting, organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, at New Delhi on 16-17 October 2006.
- Participated in the roundtable discussion on China: Today and Tomorrow, organized by the Observer Research Foundation at New Delhi, on 17 October, 2006.
- Presented a paper on Empirical Estimates of Trade Costs for Asia at LAEBA 2006 Third Annual Conference on Regional Integration and Regional Cooperation in Asia and Latin America: The Role of Regional Infrastructure, organized by the ADB Institute and Inter-American Development Bank at Seoul on 16-17 November 2006.
- Presented a paper on Role of China, India and Thailand in Trade Facilitation in GMS Countries at a Regional Conference on Advocacy for Trade & Investment Facilitation in the GMS Region, organized by SDC-CUTS-UNESCAP in Bangkok on 23-24 November 2006.
- Participated in a Regional Conference on Linkages between Trade, Development and Poverty Reduction, organized by CUTS, held at Bangkok, on 24-25 November 2006.
- Participated in the discussion on India-China Relationship: Chinese President Hu Jintao's Visit, organized by the Observer Research Foundation at New Delhi on 1 December 2006.
- Participated as a panelist in a roundtable discussion on Regional Cooperation and Integration in South Asia, organized by the ADB and ICRIER at New Delhi on 13 December 2006.
- Participated in the International Conference India Infrastructure Investment Forum 2007, organized by CII and Commonwealth Business Council (CBC), in New Delhi, on 15-16 January 2007.
- Participated in the Bilateral Dialogue on India-Japan Cooperation, organized by the IDSA and Japan Institute for International Cooperation in New Delhi on 17-18 January 2007.
- Participated in the research workshop on Role of Infrastructure in Reducing Trade Costs, organized by the Asian Development Bank Institute, Tokyo on 29-30 January 2007.
- Participated in the International Conference on Meeting India's Infra-structure Needs with Public-Private Partnerships: The International Experience and Perspective, organized by the World Bank, held in New Delhi on 5-6 February 2007.
- Made a presentation on Cooperation in Infrastructure Sector between India and Myanmar: Scopes and Opportunities at the International Conference on India – Myanmar Trade and Commerce, organized by the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Kolkata and Myanmar Chamber of Commerce & Industries, Mumbai, in Kolkata on 15 February 2007.
- Presented a paper on Enhancing India's Merchandise Exports to China: Issues and Ways Forward, at the National Seminar on India-China Border Trade: Strategy for Frontier Development, organized by ICSSR North Eastern Regional Centre, Shillong at Gangtok, Sikkim, on 5-6 March 2007.
- Participated in the meeting on Kunming Initiative, organized by CPR and Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS), Delhi University in New Delhi on 8 March 2007.
- Participated in the Symposium on Japan-India Strategic Partnership in the Era of Asian Regional Integration, organized by CII and Government of Japan in New Delhi on 9 March 2007.

- Made a presentation on The Importance of Trade Costs: A Gravity Model Application at the 3rd ARTNeT Capacity Building Workshop on Trade Research, organized by UNESCAP, Bangkok on 26-30 March 2007.
- Presented a paper on India-GCC Economic Cooperation in the Era of Globalization at the Centre for West Asian and African Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on 30 October, 2006.

**Dr. Samir Ranjan Pradhan,  
Visiting Research Associate**

- Participated in the Second ARTNeT Capacity Building Workshop for Trade Research, organized jointly by UNESCAP and WTO in Bangkok on 17-21 April 2006.
- Attended the Two Day Energy Conclave on Implementing the Integrated Energy Policy: The Way Forward, organized by IRADe, Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi, 26-27 July 2006.
- Participated in International Seminar on India and Tajikistan in International Affairs, jointly organized by India-Central Asia Foundation and the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi on 8 August 2006.
- Presented a paper on Asia's Energy Insecurity: Issues, Challenges and the Way Forward, at the Urja Vichar Manch, India Energy Forum, PHDCCI House, New Delhi, on 25 August 2006.
- Participated in the Ninth Power India Summit and the Sixth Non-Fossil Summit, organized by India Energy Forum in New Delhi on 15-17 September, 2006.

**Abinash Dash, Visiting Research Associate**

- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on two studies: India and China into WTO – Building Complementarities and Competitiveness in the External Trade Sector; and Employment Implication of Growing Exports – With Special focus on Services Exports, organized by the Institute for Studies in Industrial Development on 1 May 2006 in New Delhi.
- Participated in the Seminar on: Hu Jintao's Recent Visit to the US and Africa, organized by ICS (CSDS) on 10 May 2006 in New Delhi.
- Participated in the Seminar on An Assessment of China's Development in the Next Ten Years and Its Implications for the Neighboring Countries, organized by the Centre for the Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) in New Delhi on 17 May 2006.
- Participated in the International Seminar on Developing Countries and Services Negotiations, organized by ICRIER on 6-7 June in New Delhi.



## IV. Capacity Building and Training Programmes

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### **RIS Programme on International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP)**

IEIDP is RIS' main programme organized for capacity building in other developing countries with a view to inculcate an enhanced understanding of the challenges and opportunities associated with the processes of globalization and development. The Programme is designed to expose participants to the growing complexities of global economic issues and negotiations and to build their analytical skills for the same. This is a part of the overall capacity-building exercise of RIS activities. The IEIDP programme is offered to researchers, officials and journalists of other developing countries. Launched in

2005/06 in its new compact four week long instruction based format, the programme covers key modules on WTO and developing countries, global economic governance, South-South cooperation, regional economic integration, and emergence of the Indian economy. The IEIDP Programme is offered by RIS in conjunction with the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC)/SCAAP Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

The IEIDP programme for 2006/07 was organized from 19 February-16 March 2007. Favourable feedback for the 2005/06 programme helped in expanding the participation this year from six to fourteen participants representing twelve countries. The participants included Ms. Farida Mahomed, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, South Africa; Ms. Seema Ramnarain, South Africa; Mr. Said Al Riyami, Oman; Mr. Ram Hittoo, Mauritius; Mr. Nagabila Oumarou, Burkina Faso; Mr. Samnang Yeap, Cambodia; Mr. Rafael Fernando Velasquez Zepeda, Honduras; Ms. Sharon Bell Gracia, Suriname; Ms. Maria Luciana Sayanes, Argentina; Dr. Ibragim Mavlanov, Uzbekistan; Ms. Evgeniya Nefedova, Russia; Mr. Khut Chandara, Cambodia; Mr. Nguyen Van Ha, Vietnam; and Mr. Somboune Phomdouangdy, Lao PDR. The participation of three participants from Mekong countries was funded out of the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation project at RIS supported by the Swiss Development Cooperation Agency.



*IEIDP Participants (2006/07) with RIS Faculty.*

The IEIDP programme began on 19 February 2007 with welcome remarks and programme-orientation by Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow & Programme Coordinator, RIS. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS delivered the inception lecture. The faculty of the programme included eminent experts from academic institutions and government besides members of RIS faculty. The IEIDP programme also featured workshop sessions involving presentations by the participants themselves. The participants also visited a number of scientific and industrial establishments during their four-week long stay at RIS. At the valedictory session held on 16 March 2007 certificates were distributed to the participants. The participants provided feedback on the programme. Ms. Arundhati Das, Under Secretary (ITEC), MEA also made remarks.

### **Training Module on Global Economic Regime and India's Economic Engagements for IFS Probationers**

On behalf of the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, RIS hosted IFS Probationers (2005 Batch) at RIS during 12-16 June, 2006 for a training module. The programme began with an introductory session by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS and Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow, RIS. The topic covered during the training programme were: emerging international regime concerning bio-diversity and international trade in GMOs; world trading system and development, textiles and clothing; meeting the challenges of a quota-free environment; India's trade performance under reforms; FDI in a globalized economy: theory and Indian experience; regional economic cooperation in South Asia: potentials and constraints; India's economic integration with ASEAN; rules of origin (ROO); conceptual issues and India's negotiating concerns; emerging trends in East Asian



*IFS Probationers with Prof. Muchkund Dubey and Dr. Ram Upendra Das at the valedictory session of the Training Module on Global Economic Regime and India's Economic Engagements, held in RIS on 12-16 June 2006.*

regionalism: strategic options for India; regional economic integration in ASEAN; and Asian energy cooperation. Special workshops at which trainees made their own presentations were also held during the course of the programme. The experts, who addressed the trainees, included: H.E. Mr. See Chak Mun, High Commissioner of Singapore; Mr. Talmiz Ahmad, Director-General, ICWA; Mr. B.S. Bishnoi, Joint Secretary (MER), Ministry of External Affairs; Mr. D.K. Nair of the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry; New Delhi; Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow, RIS; and Dr. Pooja Sharma, Fellow, RIS. Professor Muchkund Dubey, President, Council for Social Development, New Delhi delivered the Valedictory Address. Dr. Ram Upendra Das was the course coordinator.

### **Training Workshop on International Economic Issues for Officials of the Cabinet Secretariat**

RIS organized a special Training Workshop on International Economic Issues for officials of the Cabinet Secretariat on 22-23 June, 2006 at RIS. The topic covered during this special training programme were: WTO negotiations and implications for developing countries; WTO agreement on agriculture: The post-Hong Kong debate; TRIPS, public health and traditional knowledge; some perspectives of commercial diplomacy; international trade flows and

security concerns; FDI in a globalized economy: theory & Indian experiences; regional economic cooperation in South Asia: potentials and constraints; and emerging trends in east Asian regionalism: strategic options for India. The faculty for the programme included experts from RIS, the Government of India, and other research institutions. Dr. Ram Upendra Das was the course coordinator.

### **Special Orientation on WTO for Foreign Diplomats**

At the request of the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, the RIS organized a two lecture session on the International Trading System for the Afghan diplomats on 25 April 2006. In this session Dr. Nagesh Kumar, DG-RIS and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow, RIS addressed the participants on the theme.

### **Lectures Delivered by RIS Faculty Members at Outside Training Programmes**

#### **Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General**

- Delivered a lecture on India's Look East Policy at an orientation session for the officers of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on 10 July 2006.



*Participants of IEIDP Programme (2006/07 Batch) participating in a session.*

- Delivered a Talk on Regional Trade Blocs at the 41st Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD), organized by the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi on 7 November 2006.
- Delivered a lecture on WTO and India' at the Refreshers Course on Development Economics and Indian Scenario for the Indian Statistical Service Officers, organized by the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi on 19 January 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on WTO and Development at the Training Programme on International Economics, Terms of Trade and WTO for the Officers of the Indian Statistical Service, organized by IIPA, New Delhi on 6 February 2007.
- Delivered a Talk on Prospects of an Asian Economic Community to the IFS Probationers of the 2006 Batch at the Foreign Service Institute, New Delhi on 22 February 2007.
- Delivered the Valedictory Address at the Training Programme on International Economics, Terms of Trade and WTO for the Officers of the Indian Statistical Service, organized by IIPA in New Delhi on 2 March 2007.

#### **Dr Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow**

- Delivered a lecture on India's Regional Trading Agreements at the Training Course for IES Officers, Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), 12 October 2006.
- Delivered a lecture on Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA) at the Training Course for IES Officers, IEG, Delhi on 30 October 2006.
- Delivered a lecture on Environment Standard: SPS and TBT to the Officers of the Indian Statistical Service at a Training Programme on WTO: Agreements and Issues, organized by IIPA on 7 February 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on the Non-Agricultural Market Access at the Training Programme on International Economics, Terms of Trade and WTO Issues for the Probationers of Indian Statistical Service, at IIPA, on 28 February 2007.

#### **Dr Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow**

- Made a presentation on Biotechnology and Trade Related Issues at TERI School of Advanced Studies, New Delhi on 8 June 2006.

- Made a presentation on Biosafety and Trade Related Issues at the National Orientation Course on Biosafety Considerations for Evaluation of Transgenic Crops organized by NBPGR, New Delhi on 7 December 2006.
- Made a presentation on SPS and TBT Issues in WTO and Agricultural Exports at the Training Programme on WTO for the MMTC Officials, organized by IIFT on 20 February 2007.
- Made a presentation on SPS and TBT Issues in WTO at the Training Programme for African Diplomats at IIFT, on 15 February, 2007.

### **Dr Ram Upendra Das, Fellow**

- Course-leader for the course on SAARC Integration in the First SAARC Chamber Academy, organized by EUROCHAMBERS, Brussels and SCCI on 24-27 May 2006 at Kandy, Sri Lanka.
- Delivered a lecture on India's Engagements under Regional Trading Agreements at The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, New Delhi on 1 July, 2006
- Delivered a lecture on Conceptual and Policy Issues in India's RTAs, organized by SHARE-DSE at Delhi School of Economics, New Delhi on 29 August 2006.
- Delivered a lecture on WTO Issues from Developing Countries' Perspective at Indian



*Some IEIDP Participants taking a break to visit Taj Mahal in Agra.*

- Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi, on 20 October 2006.
- Delivered a lecture on India's Engagements under Regional Trading Agreements, at The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India, New Delhi, on 6 December 2006.
- Delivered lecture on Agreement on Textile and Clothing organized by IIPA on 8 February 2007 in New Delhi.
- Delivered a lecture on Issues in Trade Policy during Programme on Development and Planning Models, organized by IEG, on 22 March 2007 in New Delhi.



## V. Outreach, Global Presence and Networking

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In order to fulfill its mandate of policy research to shape the international development agenda, the RIS participates in major international events relevant to its work programme. It has taken a Consultative Status with international organizations such as with UNCTAD, WTO and NAM and participates in ministerial conferences or Summits. In 2006/07, RIS organized a seminar as a part of the Programme of Seminars (PoS) at the IMF/World Bank Annual Meetings in Singapore in September 2006 jointly with the ASEAN Secretariat. It also organized a session at the WTO Public Forum at the WTO Headquarters in Geneva in September 2006 and at the Global Development Network's Annual Conference held in Beijing in January 2007. These events provided to RIS an

access to high-level audience present at these meetings.

The institutional networking and outreach activities were strengthened by organizing joint activities and collaborative programmes with counterpart institutions. These include the conference organized jointly with the Asian Development Bank; Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore; Institute of South Asian Studies; and SCAPE at the National University of Singapore, in Singapore in November 2006. A High-level Policy Dialogue was organized jointly with UN-ESCAP on Regional Cooperation for Infrastructure Development in Asia in New Delhi in March 2007. As reported elsewhere, this policy dialogue had participation from 20 countries in Asia covering ministers, policy makers and analysts and business leaders. A Regional Conference on the agenda of SAARC Summit was organized in New Delhi jointly with SACEPS based in Kathmandu with participation from major think-tanks from all SAARC countries. RIS has also been approached by IDDRI, Paris, for collaboration in organization of a high-level conference on globalization and emergence of new powers in Paris in July 2008 by arranging a session on international trade and development.

The RIS continued to conduct its policy research and related activities in collaboration with other agencies like UN-ESCAP; UNDP; SAARC Secretariat;



*(From left): Dr. Martin Khor, Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Ambassador Faizel Ismail, Dr. Yash Tandon and Dr. Sam Laird at a discussion of draft of WTDR at the WTO Public Forum, Geneva at a Session organized by RIS in September 2006.*

Asian Development Bank; International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development, Geneva; Commonwealth Secretariat, London; Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Tokyo; South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS); Australian National University; University of Melbourne; Thammasat University, Bangkok; Australian Centre for International Agriculture Research, etc. RIS, as the National Focal point, represents India in the SAARC Network of Researchers on Global Financial and Economic Issues. Jointly with the Institute of Policy Studies (IPS) of Sri Lanka, RIS brings out the *South Asia Economic Journal*. The relationship with the IPS, Colombo was further strengthened by signing an MoU. An MoU was also signed with Korea Institute of International Economic Policy (KIEP) to formalize growing institutional links. An effort is being made to strengthen institutional links with think-tanks based in Mekong countries as a part of the research project on Mekong-Ganga partnership.

An important development of the year under review was involvement of RIS in the ERIA process. As a follow-up of the decision taken at the Economic Ministers Meeting of the East Asia Summit in August 2006 to set up an Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), an expert group was set up by the ASEAN Secretary-General with heads of 16 think-tanks in Asia representing 16 countries that are members of the East Asia Summit. RIS represents India on this expert group and participated in its meetings held in November 2006 and December 2006 in Jakarta, March 2007 in Manila and hosted by the ASEAN Secretary-General. This participation ensured that RIS became part of a new network of mainstream policy think-tanks EAS countries that are active in policy research on regional economic integration in Asia.

Among other regional think-tank networks, the RIS is also represented on the Governing Boards of the ARTNeT set up by UN-ESCAP, of SACEPS based in Kathmandu, and ICTSD based in Geneva.



*Dr. Kim Hak-Su, Executive Secretary, UNESCAP addressing the inaugural session of the RIS-UNESCAP High Level Policy Dialogue, held in New Delhi on 21-22, March 2007. Others in the picture (from left) are Dr. Nagesh Kumar; Hon'ble Finance Minister Mr. P. Chidambaram; Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P. and Chairman, RIS; Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Mr. Jainam Ramesh; and Mr. Shivshankar Menon, Foreign Secretary.*

RIS represents India on the ACD Think-Tank and on Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Institute Network. As reported earlier, the RIS launched the New Asia Forum as a network of institutions and experts to promote regional economic integration in Asia. This network has developed with its own dedicated website [www.newasiaforum.org](http://www.newasiaforum.org) and launched a quarterly journal *New Asia Monitor* which has been received well. The Forum website is fast becoming a rich repository of news, analysis and documentation on Asia's development prospects and regional cooperation and the journal, a forum for exchange of information, resources and analysis on regional economic cooperation and analysis on regional economic cooperation in Asia. During the past years the RIS has established contacts with a number of national, regional and international policy think-tanks and civil society organizations. A list of select organizations is given below:

### **International Organizations**

- UNCTAD, Geneva.
- UNESCO, Paris.
- UNDP, New York.
- World Bank, Washington D.C.
- OECD Secretariat, Paris, France.
- South Centre, Geneva.
- International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), Geneva.
- International Institute for Sustainable Development, Canada.

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington D.C.  
Commonwealth Secretariat, London.

### **Regional Organizations**

UN ESCAP, Bangkok.  
Asian Development Bank, Manila.  
Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNet), ESCAP.  
South Asia Centre for Policy Studies, (SACEPS) Dhaka and Kathmandu.  
IUCN-Asia Region, Colombo, Sri Lanka.  
UNDP Regional Centre, Colombo.  
FAO, Regional Office for Asia and Pacific, Bangkok.  
Third World Network, Malaysia.  
NAM Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM-CSSTC), Indonesia.  
Asia and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT), New Delhi.  
ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta.  
SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu.  
Institute of Boao Forum for Asia, Beijing.  
Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Network of Think-tanks.  
Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

### **National Institutions in Other Countries**

Development Research Centre for the State Council of China, Beijing.  
Global Security Research Institute, Keio University, Tokyo.  
Waseda University, Tokyo.  
Institute of Energy Economics of Japan, Tokyo.  
National University of Singapore.  
Centre for Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong.  
Bangladesh Enterprise Institute, Bangladesh.  
Bangladesh Academy of Science (BAS), Bangladesh.  
Nanjing Institute of Environmental Sciences, China.  
Coalition of Biotechnology, The Philippines.  
CLRRI, Vietnam.  
National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA), Thailand.  
National Institute for Science and Technology Policy and Strategy Studies (NISTPSS), Vietnam.  
Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS), Denmark.  
Inha University, South Korea.  
Kyoto University, Japan.  
Council on East Asian Ecommunity, Tokyo.

International Institute for Trade and Development (ITD), Bangkok.  
Thammasat University, Bangkok.  
Australian National University, Australia.  
University of Melbourne, Australia.  
Brunei Darussalam Institute for Policy Studies, Brunei.  
University Brunei Darussalam, Brunei.  
Institute of Foreign Affairs, Lao PDR.  
Asia Centre, University of the Philippines.  
Institute of International Relations, Vietnam.  
Institute of Security and International Studies, Bangkok.  
Institute of Developing Economies of JETRO (IDE/JETRO), Chiba, Japan.  
Institute for South East Asian Studies, Singapore  
Institute of South Asian Studies, Singapore  
Singapore Centre for Applied Policy and Economics (SCAPE), National University of Singapore  
Institute for Policy Studies, Singapore  
LKJ School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore  
Singapore Institute for International Affairs, Singapore.  
Malaysian Institute of Economic Research, Malaysia.  
Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia.  
Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan.  
Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA (SPFUSA).  
Royal Institute for International Affairs, London.  
Institute of International Economic Studies (IEEI), Brazil.  
Academy of Social Sciences, Vietnam.  
Institute for Development Studies, Sussex, Brighton, UK.  
Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka.  
Pakistan Institute for Development Economics, Islamabad.  
Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP), Korea.  
Ethiopian Development Research Institute, Ethiopia.  
China Centre for Contemporary World Studies, China.  
Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation, China.  
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China.  
Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok.  
Centre for Economic Development and Administration, Kathmandu.  
University of World Economy and Diplomacy, Uzbekistan.  
Asia Pacific Foundation, Canada.  
University of Buenos Aires, Argentina.  
Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka.  
Shanxi University of Finance and Economics, China.

New Zealand Institute of International Affairs  
Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI),  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.  
Global Development and Environment Institute  
(GDAE), Tufts University, USA.  
Australian Centre for International Agricultural  
Research (ACIAR).

### **Institutions within India**

Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)  
Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and  
Industry (FICCI).  
The Associated Chambers of Commerce and  
Industry of India (ASSOCHAM).  
PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry.  
Federation of Indian Small and Medium  
Enterprises (FISME).  
Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT).  
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.  
Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR).  
Delhi School of Economics  
Institute of Economic Growth

Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial  
Development (CRRID), Chandigarh.  
Central Pulp and Paper Research Institute  
(CPPRI), Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh.  
Centre for SAARC Studies, Andhra University,  
Visakhapatnam.  
Centre for Indian Ocean Studies (CIOS), Osmania  
University, Hyderabad.  
Asia Centre, Kolkata.  
Institute for Studies in Industrial Development  
(ISID), New Delhi.  
Centre for Northeast India, South and Southeast  
Asia Studies, OKD Institute of Social Change  
and Development, Guwahati.  
CUTS Centre for International Trade, Economics  
and Environment, Jaipur  
Indian Council of World Affairs.  
Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia  
Pacific (CSCAP) India.  
Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Contemporary Studies.  
Centre for Trade & Development (Centad), New  
Delhi.

## **Annex I**

### **Important Visitors/Delegations Received from abroad**

- ❖ Mr. Christopher Langman, Head, Australia's Office of Trade Negotiations and a key WTO negotiator for Australia on 5 April 2006.
- ❖ Ms. Jamie M. Zimmerman, Associate Director, Globalization Studies, Washington Center, Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, on 18 April 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Shivesh K. Sinha, Development Director-Asia, LAFARGE, Malaysia on 19 April 2006.
- ❖ Dr. B. Balakrishnan, Ambassador of India to Greece on 24 April 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Francois Kruger, Financial Counsellor and Mr. Colas Hennion, Deputy Financial Attache, Embassy of France, New Delhi on 19 May 2006.
- ❖ Prof. John Whalley, University of Western Ontario, Canada on 1 May 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Sun Weidong, Counsellor (Political), Embassy of China, New Delhi on 11 May 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Maxim G. Ternovskiy, First Secretary, Embassy of Russia, New Delhi and Mr. Alexey M. Moiseev, Adviser of the Trade Representative, Trade Representation of the Russian Federation, New Delhi on 15 May 2006.
- ❖ As part of the sixth session of the Diplomatic Institute of France, a delegation consisting of high rank officials from various French ministries, like Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Defence, etc. visited RIS on 23 May 2006 for an interactive session at RIS.
- ❖ Mr. Oike, Director, Economic Partnership Agreement, Japan on 31 May 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Oscar Kerketta, Deputy Secretary (SAARC), Ministry of External Affairs on 6 June 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Regis Avanthay, Head, Global Issues and Sustainable Development Divison, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Switzerland; Mr. Adrian Marti, Deputy Country Director, Swiss Cooperation Office India, Embassy of Switzerland, New Delhi; and Dr. Sailendra Narain, Regional Advisor, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Mumbai on 16 June 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Jaspal Singh Sindharh, Ph.D Candidate, Department of International Relations, School of Advanced International Studies, John Hopkins University, Washington D C on 27 June 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Masanori Kondo, Associate Professor of Economics, Division of International Studies International Christian University, Japan on 22 June and 29 August 2006.
- ❖ Mr. John Arnold, Consultant, Asian Development Bank on 30 June 2006.
- ❖ Ambassador Aftab Seth, former Ambassador to Japan on 30 June 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Ray Trewin, Australian Centre for



International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) on 24 April 2006.

- ❖ Ms. Heather Ward, Deputy High Commissioner, New Zealand High Commission in India on 31 May 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Tomofumi Inoue, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, New Delhi on 23 June 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Sakata Hisashi, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, New Delhi on 23 June 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Garry Pursell, World Bank on 19 June 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri, Assistant Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad, Pakistan on 15 June 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Decio M. Ripandelli, Director, ICGEB, Italy on 29 June 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Eija Pehu, The World Bank on 29 June 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Yuichi Baba, Economist, Planning Department, Pacific Consultants International Tokyo (JICA Study Team Office, Gurgaon, India) and Mr Kiminari Takahashi, Planning Department, Pacific Consultants International (JICA Study Team Office, Gurgaon, India) on 13 July 2006.
- ❖ Ms. Heather Ward, Deputy High Commissioner, New Zealand High Commission, New Delhi on 14 July 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Keita Nishiyama, Director, Asia and Pacific Division, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Government of Japan on 18 July 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Richard Vokes, Director; and Mr. Masaaki Nagata, Head of Regional Cooperation Unit, Principal Programs Specialist, Operations Coordination Division, South Asia Department, Asian Development Bank, Manila on 19 July 2006.
- ❖ Ms. Min Ye, Research Fellow, Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, USA on 1 August 2006.
- ❖ Prof. Ayubur Rahman Bhuyan, Team Leader, Feasibility Study on Bilateral FTA within SAARC Region, ADSL, Bangla-desh on 9 August 2006.
- ❖ Prof. Makoto Kojima, Director, Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies; Prof. Shinotsuka Toru, Dean, Faculty of International Development; Professor Ikuo Kayahara M. Gen. (Ret); Prof. Takayoshi Fujimura; Prof. Fujimoto Koji; and Prof. James Jin Du, Faculty of International Studies, Takushoku University, Tokyo on 11 August 2006 for interaction with the RIS faculty.
- ❖ Ms. Juneyoung Chol, Researcher/Outreach Team, Centre for Regional Economic Studies, Korea Institute for International Economic
- ❖ Mr. Ken Moritsugu, Special Correspondent, The Mchlaty Company, New Delhi on 29 August 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Derek Ireland, Director, Chresod Ltd, Ottawa, Canada on 29 August 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Tetsuji Kawamura, Professor, Faculty of Economics, Hosei University, Tokyo
- ❖ Mr. Bill Cole and Mr Erik Jensen, Stanford Law School on 20 September 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Y. Teddy Takeuchi, Senior Journalist, *The Asahi Shimbun*, Tokyo on 29 September 2006.



*Members of the French delegation with RIS faculty members.*

- ❖ Prof. Stephen Gelb, Executive Director, The EDGE Institute and Visiting Professor of Economics, University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa on 11 October 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Jorgen Dige Pedersen, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Aarhus, Denmark on 18 October 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Sisira Jayasuriya, Department of Economics, University of Melbourne, Australia on 28 October 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Keita Nishiyama, Director, Asia and Pacific Division, METI, Government of Japan on 30 October 2006.
- ❖ A delegation from the University of Maryland consisting of Prof. C.D. Mote, President; Prof. V.S. Subrahmanian, Director, Institute for Advanced Computer Studies; Prof. Saul Sosnowski, Associate Provost for International Affairs, and Director of Latin American Studies Center; Prof. Ashok K. Agrawala, Director of Maryland Information and Network Dynamics Laboratory; Prof. Cheng-I Wei, Dean of College of Agriculture and Natural Resources; and Prof. Raymond J. Miller, Director, International Programs in Agriculture and Natural Resources, on 30 October 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Leonardo Burlamaqui, Ford Foundation, New York and Mr. Bishnu Mohapatra, Ford Foundation, New Delhi on 30 October 2006.
- ❖ Prof. Jim Rollo, Director, Sussex European Institute, University of Sussex and Ms Mani Lamba, CUTS, Delhi Resource Centre, New Delhi on 7 November 2006.
- ❖ Ms. Miriam Prys, University of Oxford and Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi on 20 November 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Hiroki Kitajima, Deputy Director, Asia and Pacific Division; and Mr. Yuta Mizuno, Economic Partnership Division, METI, Tokyo; and Mr. Daisuke Matsushima, Senior Director; and Mr. Yozo Komuro, JEXSA Expert, JETRO, New Delhi on 27 November 2006.
- ❖ Ms Elizabeth Ward, Assistant Secretary, Agriculture and Food Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australian Government; and Mr. Luke Davies, First Secretary (Political), Australian High Commission, New Delhi on 28 November 2006.
- ❖ Mr. T. Kogure, *The Ashashi Shimbun*, Tokyo on 5 December 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Arndt Michael, Research Fellow, Arnold Bergstraesser Institute for Socio-Cultural Research, Germany on 5 December 2006.

## Interaction with IDSC of Egypt

During the recent visit to India, Ambassador Mr. Hussein Elkamal, Advisor to the Information and Decision Support Centre (IDSC), a major Think-Tank of Egypt visited RIS on 13 December 2006.



*From right: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Ambassador Mr. Hussein Elkamal, and Mr. Mohamed Ahmed Helmy.*

Ambassador Mr. Hussein Elkamal, who had been Ambassador to

several countries and attached to the President office for foreign relations, held extensive discussions with Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS and faculty members of RIS to explore institutional relationship with RIS. Ambassador Mr. Elkamal was accompanied by Mr. Mohamed Ahmed Helmy, Third Secretary, Embassy of Egypt, New Delhi.

As a follow-up of the interactive session with Ambassador Mr. Hussein Elkamal, it is hoped there would be more visits by authorities of the IDSC to RIS to take these discussions further and explore the possibilities of collaborative research programme.

- ❖ Dr Paul M. Evans, Co-CEO and Chairman of the Executive Committee, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, Vancouver on 5 December 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Naved Hamid, Principal Economist, ADB Manila on 6 December 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Baldev Raj Nayar, Professor Emeritus, McGill University on 8 December 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rehman, Deputy Director General, South Asia Regional Department, ADB on 11 December 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Shridhar Khatri, Executive Director, SACEPS, Kathmandu on 12 December 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Torfinn Harding, Senior Executive Officer, Unit for macroeconomics, Statistics Norway, Oslo on 14 December 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Razeen Sally, Director, European Centre for International Political Economy, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK on 14 December 2006.
- ❖ Mr. I. Garcia-Bercesio, Director, European Commission on 15 December 2006.
- ❖ Mr. Michael Gressot, Dy Chief, CISD - SDC, Bern on 18 December 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Hiren Sarkar, Chief, Development Policy Section, Poverty and Development Division, UNESCAP, Bangkok on 18-22 December 2006.
- ❖ Dr. Shigeki Higashi, Asstt Director, South Asia Studies Group I, IDE-JETRO on 19 December 2006.

- ❖ Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, CPD, Dhaka, Bangladesh on 8 February 2007.
- ❖ Prof. Horimoto, Takenori, Faculty of Policy Studies/Graduate School, Shobi University, Japan on 12 February 2007.
- ❖ H.E. Mr. Charles Chauvel, New Zealand Member of Parliament; H.E. Mr. Graeme Charles Waters, High Commissioner of New Zealand; and Ms Tui Dewes, Second Secretary, High Commission of New Zealand on 15 February 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Richard Joyce, University of London on 21 February 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Tadateru Hayashi, Economist/Country Programs Specialist, Country Coordination and Regional Cooperation Division, South Asia Department, Asia Development Bank (ADB), on 28 February 2007.
- ❖ Ms Heather Ward, Deputy High Commissioner, New Zealand High Commission, New Delhi, on 1 March 2007.
- ❖ Prof. Masao Oka, Faculty of Economics, Musashi University, Tokyo, on 5 March 2007.
- ❖ Prof. Junko Maru, Faculty of Economics, Musashi University, Tokyo, Japan, on 5 March 2007.
- ❖ Prof. Masamitsu Sato, Fellow, Research Institute of Musashi University, Tokyo, Japan, on 5 March 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Tetsuji Kawamura, Faculty of Economics, Hsei University, Japan, on 5 March 2007.
- ❖ Prof. Yoriuzumi Watanabe, Professor of International Economy, Kieo University on 8 March 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Bruce Stokes, Economist, *National Journal*, Washington on 14 March 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Amitava Mukherjee, Chief Technical Adviser, on Poverty Reduction UNESCAP, Bangkok on 15 March 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Regis Avanthay, Head, Global Issues and Sustainable Development Division, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Switzerland; and Dr. Sailendra Narain, Chairman, Centre for SME Growth & Development Finance, Mumbai on 23 March 2007.

## VI. Publication Programme

### Reports and Books

#### *World Trade and Development Report 2007 - Building a Development-Friendly World Trading System*

RIS and Oxford University Press, 2007  
ISBN 0-19-568968-2.

The Report argues that weaker partners the developing countries have a stake in the multilateral rule-based trading system. However, the processes of agenda-setting and rule-making are heavily dominated by developed countries. The challenge before developing countries therefore is to seek reforms to ensure that the system serves their needs better. The Report proposes an agenda for building a more development-friendly and sustainable trading system. It offers recommendations from a development perspective for revitalizing the Doha Round of trade talks in key areas of agriculture, market access for industrial goods, services, trade facilitation, intellectual property rights, and dispute settlement rules among others. It further highlights the potential of strengthening South-South Cooperation for building a development-friendly trading system.



#### *International Competitiveness & Knowledge-based Industries in India*, Editors: Nagesh Kumar and K.J. Joseph

RIS and Oxford University Press, 2007  
ISBN 10: 0-19-568671-3

The book analyses the international competitiveness of India's exports through an empirical analysis covering a sample of more than 4000 enterprises. A detailed study of five key knowledge-based industries – electronic, pharmaceuticals, chemical, automotive, and non-electrical machinery – provides an in-depth coverage of the issue. The focus is on corporate strategies such as scale of operations, technological dynamism, multinational affiliation, and outward investment. The volume advocates a strategic approach to enhance export competitiveness of enterprises in India and outlines policy lesson for the government, industry bodies, and enterprises.



#### *Environmental Requirements and Market Access: Reflections from South Asia*, Editors: Nagesh Kumar and Sachin Chaturvedi. New Delhi: Academic Foundation, 2007.

ISBN 81-7188-466-0

The book examines the incidence of environmental requirements in the North and their impact on market access for Southern products especially those from South Asia.



The book deals with various dimensions of such environmental and health related standards and their prohibitive effect, discriminatory impact and high compliance costs. The volume concludes with an agenda of action points for governments, business houses and international agencies to address the challenge.

#### *Economic Considerations of Biosafety and Biotechnology Regulations in India*

RIS, International Food Policy Research Institute and South Asia Biosafety Programme, 2007

This Report is based on the proceedings of the conference which brought together Indian stakeholders and well-known international and Indian economists and regulatory experts working on agricultural biotechnology and biosafety regulations. Areas examined range from domestic production and consumption to international trade, information exchanges, and environmental issues.



### Books Under Publication

- *India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Economic Cooperation: Towards a Comprehensive Economic Partnership*, in association with Academic Foundation, New Delhi.
- *Asia's New Role in the Global Economy: Agenda for the East Asia Summit* edited by Nagesh Kumar, K. Kesavapany and Yao Chao Cheng, jointly with Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore.

### Unpublished Reports

- 'Regional Cooperation for Infrastructure Development in Asia: Towards A Regional Mechanism for Public-Private Partnership'.
- 'Prospects of Making India's Manufacturing Sector Export-Oriented'.
- 'A Feasibility Study of Investment Cooperation between India and GCC under the Framework Agreement on Economic Cooperation'.
- 'Resurgent China: Imperatives for India'.



## RIS Policy Briefs

### #30 *Restoring Afghanistan-Pakistan-India-Bangladesh-Myanmar (APIBM) Corridor: Towards a New Silk Road in Asia*

Development of APIBM corridor along with adoption of transport and transit agreements in South Asia to allow through movement of vehicles, along with development or construction of modern border crossings in South Asia in order to facilitate transit of both passengers and freight, and adoption of facilitation measures and simplified customs procedures for efficient clearance of goods across the border points, could be important priorities for SAARC. The APIBM corridor with appropriate interconnections with Nepal and Bhutan, could over time become an important 'arc of advantage and shared prosperity' in South Asia and broader Asia.



### #29 *Facilitating India's Overland Trade in the Eastern Neighbourhood*

The key objective of the regional cooperation in trade should be to achieve more rapid growth in trade through improvements in transport and logistics. Since countries in this region are geographically contiguous, deeper regional cooperation towards facilitating overland trade will be fruitful in terms of mobilising local resources and income generating activities. However, in order to gain anything meaningful from the overland trade, associated soft infrastructure to support trade facilitation should be in place. These include: (i) approval and implementation of required legal and policy reforms; (ii) implementation of effective border crossing and transport services; (iii) effective agreement on trade and transit treaties; (iv) customs modernisation and setting up of new LCSs; (v) involvement of local economy in border trade; and (vii) uninterrupted overland transportation linkages.

### #28 *Regionalism with an 'Asian Face': An Agenda for the East Asia Summit*

Launch of EAS as a forum for dialogue between Asian leaders represents a landmark development in the direction of regional cooperation in Asia. In the coming years it will hopefully prove to be an important vehicle for charting the agenda for broader regional cooperation and integration for realizing the Asian dream!

### #27 *Seizing New Opportunities for South-South Cooperation: Some Proposals for the 14th NAM Summit*

The South has emerged as a more confident participant in the international division of labour in the 21st century. It has accumulated resources, experiences and capacity to shape its destiny more decisively than in the past. We believe that SSC can help in exploiting their synergies for mutual benefit and assist the South in meeting the many challenges it is facing. As a global forum of the South, NAM has a major role in fostering the SSC. It is in this context that an agenda had been outlined above for the XIV NAM Summit.

### #26 *India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Economic Cooperation: Towards a Comprehensive Economic Partnership*

IBSA constitutes a large and expanding economic space where in the total two-way trade is close to US\$ 400

billion currently. The share of intra-IBSA trade in their total trade has been approximately 2 per cent (about US\$ 5 billion) in 2002. The New Delhi Action Plan has put an ambitious goal for doubling the mutual trade by 2007. To achieve this target several measures will be necessary. To exploit the synergies and potential of cooperation for mutual benefit, IBSA countries can explore an IBSA Comprehensive Economic Partnership Arrangement covering various aspects covered in the Policy Briefs.

### #25 *Case for a Robust India-Taiwan Economic Partnership*

India needs to pursue more result-oriented and skilful economic diplomacy if it is to take advantage of mutually beneficial opportunities in engaging Taiwan. On its part, Taiwan needs to engage more deeply with India by shedding some of its cultural and other inhibitions if it is to diversify its global trade and investment risks, and expand its economic space.

### #24 *Towards Comprehensive Economic Co-operation between India and Central Asian Republics*

There are several areas where India and Central Asian Republics (CARs) can co-operate for mutual benefit. There is an urgent need to develop an institutional mechanism for promoting such broad-based co-operation. The old approach of forming FTAs is inadequate for that purpose. Comprehensive Economic Co-operation Agreement (CECA), as initiated between India and Singapore, could be a better model for promoting co-operation between India and CARs.

### #23 *The Case for an Asian Currency Unit: Need for a Broad-based Approach*

The ACU has a far better chance for success (in terms of becoming a significant regional vehicle currency) if a larger set of countries is included in the basket. In this regard it is imperative that the ACU be broadened from the proposed ASEAN plus Three (APT) countries to also include India, Australia and New Zealand [the other members of the inaugural East Asian Summit (EAS)], all of which have significant financial market depth. It is myopic for monetary and financial regionalism to be limited to only the APT economies while excluding the large and dynamic Indian economy and a mature and well-developed Australian economy, both of which, along with New Zealand, are consciously looking to integrate themselves with the rest of East Asia and have been doing so on a *de facto* basis.

## Discussion Papers

### #121 *India's Rising Role in Asia* by Mukul

G. Asher

This paper analyses recent developments in India's external economic relations, with particular reference to Asia. India's demonstrated capacity to sustain moderately high growth over a prolonged period, primarily led by private-sector companies provides an avenue for global risk diversification for major economic powers. The paper demonstrates that India's qualitative and quantitative integration with the rest of Asia (and the world) is far deeper than commonly perceived. India must continue with the integration process; and with efforts to shift to 8 to 10 per cent sustained growth path if it is to reduce poverty and improve quality of life of its 1.1 billion people. The paper strongly urges India's political parties, media, and other



elites to strategically and vigorously pursue the country's core economic and strategic interests to meet challenges arising from competing nations.

### **#120 Relevance of 'Policy Space' for Development: Implications for Multilateral Trade Negotiations** by Nagesh Kumar and Kevin P. Gallagher

This paper makes a compelling case for public intervention for fostering industrial development. Evidence suggests that present day developed countries have extensively employed infant industry protection, industrial policy and performance requirements, soft intellectual property protection regimes, subsidies, government procurement and regional economic integration among other policies in their process of industrialization. A development-friendly outcome of the Doha Round would provide flexibility from the TRIPs and TRIMs obligations for facilitating transfer of technology and building up local capabilities in developing countries besides allowing them adequate space for pursuing infant industry protection in the tariff reduction commitments.

### **#119 India-Sri Lanka Bilateral Free Trade Agreement: Six Years Performance and Beyond** by Saman Kelegama and Indra Nath Mukherji

The India-Sri Lanka Bilateral Free Trade Agreement signed in 1998 was a pioneering attempt in the direction of trade liberalization in South Asian region. This paper examines the performance of the Agreement in the first six years of its coming into being and draws lessons from its success that could be relevant in the context of SAFTA and other such initiatives.

### **#118 Trade Facilitation Measures in South Asian FTAs: An Overview of Initiatives and Policy Approaches** by Sachin Chaturvedi

Several South Asian countries have joined the current wave of bilateral and sub-regional free trade agreements (FTA) in the region. The dynamics of regional cooperation is supported by the rapid economic expansion which is creating complementarities for trade expansion. Though intra-regional trade has expanded over the years but it is far below its potential as not enough attention is being paid to the launching of trade facilitation (TF) measures. This paper makes an effort to take stock of various FTAs in South Asia from the point of view of incorporation of TF measures in the text of FTAs. It also looks into the individual initiatives being made by the South Asian countries for the advancement of trade facilitation.

### **#117 Emerging Multinationals: Trends, Patterns and Determinants of Outward Investment by Indian Enterprises** by Nagesh Kumar

This paper analyzes the trends, patterns and determinants of outward investments by Indian enterprises that have increased notably since the onset of reforms. It finds that the sharp rise in outward investments since 1991 has been accompanied by a shift in geographical and sectoral focus of Indian investments. It develops an analytical framework for explaining the probability of an Indian enterprise investing abroad in an exclusive large dataset of Indian enterprises. The findings suggest

that Indian enterprises draw their ownership advantages from their accumulated production experience, cost effectiveness of their production processes and other adaptations to imported technologies made with their technological effort, and some times with their ability to differentiate product. Firm size exerts a positive but a non-linear effect. Enterprises that are already in export markets are more likely to be outward investors. Finally, the policy liberalization of 1990s it turns out pushed Indian enterprises abroad.

### **#116 Addressing Global Growth Asymmetries through Regional Trade Integration: Some Explorations** by Ram Upendra Das and Ramaa Sambamurty

The globalization process has entailed trade openness, greater emphasis on foreign direct investment, stabilization policies, redefining the role of the state, among others. Given that another major global trend observed is one of regional trade integration, the paper explores whether due to this trend there has been any concrete relationship with the growth convergence/divergence outcomes. Tests of Beta-convergence under different model specifications suggest that over time developed and developing countries have not converged in terms of their real per capita GDP though they have converged within their own groups of developed and developing countries. Thus, it is concluded that regional trade integration leads to growth convergence regionally and that both openness to global trade and regional trade openness are important. However, the results of the paper need to be interpreted with caution due to the presence of non-stationarity, though the problem is not uniform across variables, tests and regional groupings. A policy inference that can be drawn is that at the global level 'economic cooperation for economic growth convergence' needs to be flagged and appropriate institutional mechanisms created to intensify the processes of trade and FDI integration. Broadly, the results are in consonance with the predictions of the New Growth Theories.

### **#115 Trade Facilitation and Customs Valuations in India : Identifying the Gaps** by Sachin Chaturvedi

In the recent past, India has taken several measures to implement the trade facilitation measures. These have helped the private sector in a major way and have also helped in setting the stage for a WTO agreement in this regard which is all set to be launched – depending on the negotiation dynamics. However, one of the key areas of concern among the private sector firms relates to the customs valuation. There are varying perceptions regarding the implementation of WTO Customs Valuation (CV) Agreement in India especially in the context of trade facilitation (TF). In this paper, author presents results of a survey conducted to understand the major issues confronting this important link of CV to achieve a TF friendly trade regime in India.

### **#114 India's Regional Trading Arrangements** by Rajesh Mehta and S. Narayanan

This paper presents a brief non-technical overview of the conceptual basis of RTAs by highlighting the implications of concepts like trade creation and trade diversion. The paper then moves to pinpointing some of the global trends in RTAs to place the Indian engagements in a perspective. The patterns of India's





regional economic initiatives are analyzed by presenting the factual account of the same. A brief over view of possible welfare and human development implications of RTAs in general and of India in particular are also dealt.

### #113 FDI and Spillover Effects in the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry by Annika Bergman

Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is widely considered to be beneficial for the host economy since it can result in positive externalities (spillover effects) through various transmission channels, for instance, transfer of technology, increased competition and imitation effects. This study analyses intra-industry spillover effects of FDI in the pharmaceutical industry in India. A literature review, interviews and an econometric analysis are carried out in order to examine FDI's impact on the industry. The Indian pharmaceutical industry has developed through a range of governmental incentives and, foreign firms that have invested in the industry, have additionally contributed to the growth. The results are mixed. Spillover effects are visible in many of the spillover channels from FDI and the regression results show that firms with foreign ownership experience higher productivity levels. However, the correlation between FDI and productivity in domestic firms is insignificant, due to various reasons depending on whether the benefits from FDI are materialized, local firms' absorptive capability and factors such as the market structure, competitiveness, trade and technological policies. It is in the interest of the state to provide public policies and a sound economic environment to encourage benefit from FDI.

### #112 Regional Cooperation for Asian Energy Security' by Vipul Tuli

This paper attempts to convey three key messages: First, interdependence in energy among Asian countries is vital for the economic development of key Asian countries. Second, there are several key impediments to increasing Asian interdependence; the paper addressing these impediments is critical. Finally, we suggests some ideas on opportunities for Asian nations to find a 'common ground on energy security, stability and sustainability.

### #111 Demographic Complementarities and Outsourcing: Implications and Challenges for India' by Mukul G. Asher and Amarendu Nandy

This paper analyses the implications of differing global demographic trends for India's competitiveness in outsourcing and offshoring. It also briefly notes the implications of differing demographic trends among the Indian states. The paper argues that demographic complementarities with high-income countries provide India with one-time opportunity to sustain its growth rate and occupy all segments of global outsourcing and offshoring activities. India has used the labor cost advantage to gain reasonable market share in these activities. It, however, faces serious internal and external challenges in sustaining its international competitiveness, particularly with respect to labor cost. With sustained focus on human resource development, diversification and upgradation policies India can continue to at least maintain its global market share, and help nurture globally competitive companies.

### #110 'Reinventing Unctad: Some Proposals for the UNCTAD Mid-term Review' by Muchkund Dubey

Developed countries have made a concerted effort to change and dismantle UNCTAD over a period of nearly 15 years. It may take the developing countries many years to revive and reinvent the organization. But, UNCTAD must recover its voice and regain the support and respect of developing countries who have identified with it and its mission for decades. There cannot be a more opportune moment than now to begin a campaign to restore the pre-eminence of UNCTAD and bring it back to the forefront of multilateral effort to deal with the current complex global development challenges and build a stable, viable and genuinely democratic international community. UNCTAD's broad mandate is singularly suited for a new age where promoting development, democracy and equity is one of the principal challenges and pre-conditions for a peaceful and cooperative world.

### #109 Trade Facilitation Priorities in India and Commitments at WTO: An Overview of Current Trends by Sachin Chaturvedi

The current mandate of the Negotiating Group for Trade Facilitation (NGTF) is to clarify and improve the three articles, viz. Articles V, VIII and X of the GATT 1994. India has initiated several measures as part of the Trade Facilitation (TF) programme. While most of the measures have already been put in place in the context of Articles VIII and X, the ones left involve significant costs and require careful planning for implementation. In case of Article V, there are certainly major gaps. In countries like India, where trade facilitation is an ongoing exercise, precise cost estimation is a difficult preposition. This includes additional efforts required to support and strengthen the level of communication at the border points. Most of the Land Customs Stations (LCSs) require better infrastructure. The current TF programme may have to go beyond the current mandate and take into account specific WTO commitments which may emerge during the ongoing negotiations as per the GATT Articles V, VIII and X. In this paper, an effort is made to take stock of the needs, priorities and cost of implementation of these Articles for India. These ground realities hold important implications for any undertaking by India at the TF negotiations of the WTO. However, given the considerable infrastructural gaps, the Indian negotiating team should exhibit extreme caution towards the new proposals and ideas but should display pragmatism, at least for the measures that have already been implemented in India.

## Journals

### ❖ South Asia Economic Journal, Vol. 7, No. 2, July-December 2006

Contents: 'Learning from South Asian 'Successes': Tapping Social Capital' by Sharukh Rafi Khan; 'NAMA Negotiations in the WTO and Preference Erosion: Concerns of Bangladesh and Other Asia-Pacific LDCs' by Mustafizur Rahman and Wasel Bin Shadat; 'Predicting Stock Returns: An Experiment of the Artificial Neural Network in Indian Stock Market' by Chakradhara Panda and V Narasimhan; 'Public-Private Investment Linkage





in Pakistan: A Multivariate Cointegration Analysis' by Abdul Rashid; 'Internal Trade Barriers in India: Fiscal Check-posts' by Arindam Das-Gupta; and 'Gender Bias in Nutrient Intake: Evidence from Selected Indian States' by Geoff Lancaster, Pushkar Maitra and Ranjan Ray. Review article. Book reviews. Document.

❖ ***South Asia Economic Journal*, Vol. 7 No. 1. January-June 2006.**

**Contents:** 'Impact of Protection on Domestic Processing of Primary Commodities for Export Markets: An Example from the Sri Lankan Tea Industry' by Gaminda Ganewatta, Robert Waschik, Sisira Jayasuriya and Geoff Edwards; 'Trade Policy Reforms and Openness of Indian Agriculture: Analysis at the Commodity Level' by Seema Bathla; 'Money, Income and Prices in Pakistan: A Bivariate and Tri-variate Causality' by Kalbe Abbas and Fazal Husain; 'Market Efficiency for the Pakistan Stock Market: Evidence from the Karachi Stock Exchange' by Madhumita Chakraborty; 'Analysing India's Trade Dynamics vis-à-vis SAARC Members Using the Gravity Model' by Biswajit Nag and Anisha Nandi; 'On the Incentives of Violence: Greed and Pride in Sri Lanka's Civil War' by Benedikt Korf and Stefanie Engel.

❖ ***Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, Vol. 9 No. 2. March 2007**

**Contents:** 'Transnational Factors and National Linkages: Indian Experience in Human Vaccines' by Y. Madhavi; 'GM Cotton in Gujarat: General Madness or Genuine Miracle?' by Sudarshan Iyengar and N. Lalitha; 'Plant Biosecurity in India - Status and Strategy' by R. K. Khetarpal and Kavita Gupta; 'Biotechnology Inventions and the Patent Regime' by T.V.S. Ramamohan Rao; 'WTO Ruling on the EU-US Biotech Products Dispute: A Review of Issues' by Biswajit Nag and Debashis Chakraborty; Document; Bio Web; New Arrival; and Bio Stat.

❖ ***Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, Vol 9, No.1, November 2006.**

**Special Issue on Bioethics in Asia**  
**Guest Editors: Leonardo D. de Castro and Ciriaco M. Sayson, Jr.**

**Contents:** 'Bioethics in Asia: An Overview' by Leonardo D. de Castro; 'Asian Bioethics: Theoretical Background' by Ciriaco M. Sayson, Jr.; 'Genetically Modified Food Seeds: Health, Socio-economic, Environmental and Religious Aspects, An Israeli Perspective' by Frank J. Leavitt; 'The Debate on Establishing a Biobank in Taiwan' by Michael Cheng-tek Tai; 'Ethics of Bioinformatics: A Convergence between Bioethics and Computer Ethics' by Soraj Hongladarom; 'The Moral Status of the Human Embryo in Chinese Stem Cell Research' by Yanguang Wang; and 'The Rise and Fall of Embryonic Stem Cell Research in Korea' by SONG Sang-yong. Document: Proceedings of the Third Conference on Biotechnology and Development. Bio Web. Bio Stat.

❖ ***Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, Vol. 8, No. 3, July 2006**

**Contents:** 'Risk Assessment and Management of Genetically Modified Organisms under Australia's Gene Technology Act: Considerations for Regulatory Development' by Nicholas A. Linacre; Jose Falck-Zepeda; John Komen; and Donald MacLaren; 'Biotech Promotion Policy and Technology Transfer Issues: Evidences from Aquaculture and Marine Biotechnology'

by A. S. Ninawe; 'Biosafety Capacity Building in Developing Countries: Evidences from India' by Manoranjan Hota; 'Stem Cell Research in India: Emerging Scenario and Policy Concerns' by Alka Sharma; 'Regulation of Biotechnology Goods and Issues for Developing Countries before the Multilateral Trading System' by Amrit Rajapakse. Bio News. Document. Bio Web. New Arrival. Bio Stat.

❖ ***Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, Vol. 8 No. 2. March 2006.**

**Special Issue on Biofuels and South Asia:**

**Policy Options Guest Editor: K.V. Raju**

**Contents:** 'Biofuels in South Asia: An Overview' by K.V. Raju; 'Improved Livelihoods and Environmental Protection through Biodiesel Plantations in Asia' by Suhas P. Wani, M. Osman, Emmanuel D'Silva, and T.K. Sreedevi; 'Liquid Biofuels in South Asia: Resources and Technologies' by Linoj Kumar NV, Prabha Dhavala, Anandajit Goswami, and Sameer Maithel; 'Biofuel Laws in Asia: Instruments for Energy Access, Security, Environmental Protection and Rural Empowerment' by M P Ram Mohan, G T Thomas Phillippe and M V Shiju; 'Biofuels and WTO: An Emerging Context' by R S Deshpande • Bio News • Document: Biofuel Policies in Asia • Bio Web • Bio Stat.

**New Asia Monitor**

❖ ***New Asia Monitor*, Vol. 4, No. 1, January 2007**

❖ ***New Asia Monitor*, Vol.3 No.4, October 2006**

❖ ***New Asia Monitor*, Vol. 3, No. 3, July 2006**

❖ ***New Asia Monitor*, Vol. 3 No. 2, April 2006**

**Newsletter**

❖ ***RIS Diary*, Vol. 5 No. 1, January 2007**

❖ ***RIS Diary*, Vol. 4 No. 4, October 2006**

❖ ***RIS Diary*, Vol. 4 No. 3, July 2006**

❖ ***RIS Diary*, Vol. 4 No. 2, April 2006**

**Publications by RIS Faculty Members outside**

**Research Papers**

Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2006. "India, the European Union and Geographical Indications", in Rajendra K Jain and Hartmut Elsenhans (eds) *India, the European Union and the WTO*. New Delhi: Radiant Publishers.

Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2006. "Agricultural Biotechnology and Trade Concerns in India: Issues and Policy Options". *World Review of Science, Technology and Sustainable Development*, Vol. 3 No. 4, December.

Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2006. "An Evaluation of the Need and Cost of Selected Trade Facilitation Measures in India: Implications for the WTO





- Negotiations: A Summary”, in *Studies in Trade and Investment (STI) No. 57 entitled An Exploration of the Need for and Cost of Selected Trade Facilitation Measures in Asia and the Pacific in the Context of the WTO Negotiations*. Bangkok: UN ESCAP.
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- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2006. “Biosafety and Trade Issues for Biotechnology Products: Emerging Dynamics and Policy Options”, in D. D Verma and Manoranjan Hota (eds.) *Biosafety: Issues and Challenges*. Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2006. “Opportunities for Biofuel in Select Asian Economies: Emerging Policy Challenges” in *Linking Trade, Climate Change and Energy*, ICTSD Trade and Sustainable Energy Series, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development, Geneva, Switzerland, November.
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- Kumar, Nagesh. 2006. "Liberalisation, Foreign Direct Investment Flow and Development: Indian Experience in the 1990s" in R. Sthanumoorthy (ed.) *Economic Reforms in India: An Appraisal*. Hyderabad: The ICFAI University Press.
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## Popular Columns

- Agarwala, Ramgopal. 2006. "Breaking the pension system reform logjam". *The Financial Express*. April 4.
- Agarwala, Ramgopal. 2006. "Time to develop a new paradigm". *The Hindu Business Line*. November 17.
- Agarwala, Ramgopal. 2007. "First bridge the infrastructure deficit: We must get the public-private partnership modalities right on viability gap funding". *The Financial Express*. 13 February.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2006. "Foreign Trade: The Unfinished Agenda". *Deccan Herald*. June 12.
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## VII. Documentation Centre

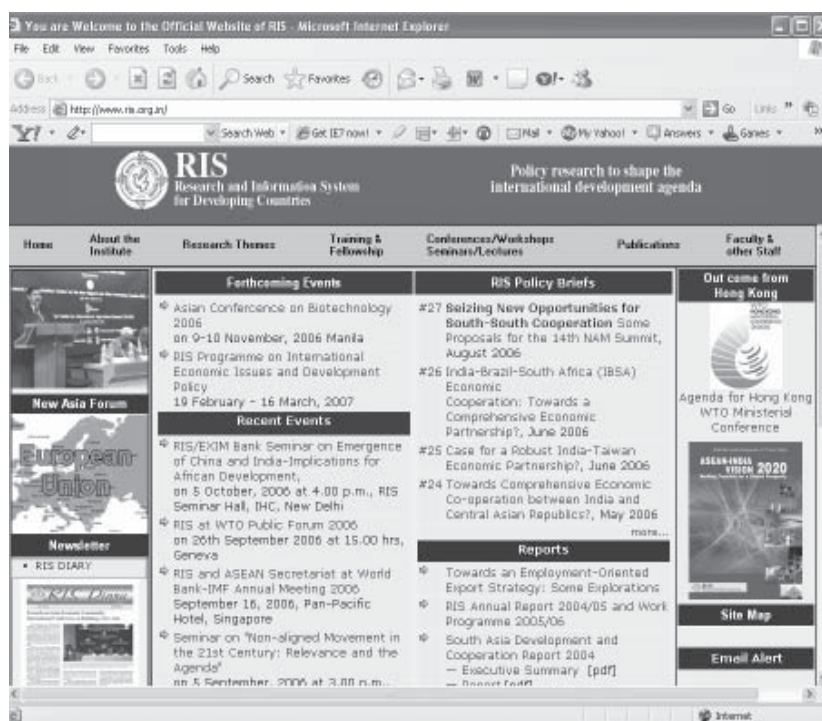
Over the years, the RIS Documentation Centre has functioned as a well stocked-up-to-date library on literature related to issues as for example: world economy, international trade, world trading system, international monetary and financial system, South-South economic cooperation including regional economic cooperation schemes like SAARC, ASEAN, IORARC, North-South cooperation, capital flows, FDI, technology transfers and MNCs, technological capacity building, agriculture and food security, new technologies such as IT and biotechnology, environment and sustainable development, etc.

The Documentation Centre caters not only to the research staff of the RIS but also to researchers, policy makers, etc. from the government, academic, business and industry circles.

The collection of the research material at the RIS Documentation Centre has been growing constantly. It has been enriched by not so easily available publications, i.e. occasional papers/working papers/reprints/reports, unpublished documents, etc. obtained with the help of networking exercises with the national and international organizations/institutions. It has a fair collection of electronic documents and is equipped with Internet facilities. RIS has introduced Delnet (Delhi Library Network) services for acquiring references and ascertaining the availability of the documents and journals in Delhi libraries.

### RIS Online Documentation Centres

Online RIS website has been renovated completely in order to facilitate the dissemination of RIS publications. Most of the output of RIS, viz. Research Reports, Policy Briefs, Discussion Papers, conference reports, journals and newsletters can now be downloaded by users anytime. The site is also registered with various search engines. The RIS website are visited by an increasing number of visitors. The main website, viz. [www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in) has received about





110000 successful hits per month on average during the first quarter of 2007.

RIS had also set up a special webpage on the Doha Development Agenda in preparation of the Hong Kong Ministerial at its website putting together all the RIS resources on the subjects.

The other website hosted by RIS, viz. [www.newasiaforum.org](http://www.newasiaforum.org) is a dedicated website for promoting regional economic cooperation in Asia. This website pools together resources and links from all over the world on subjects other than RIS studies.



*A view of the RIS Documentation Centre.*

# RIS

## Annual Report 2006/07 and Work Programme 2007/08

— Policy research to shape the international development agenda

### **VIII. Human Resources**



# RIS

Research and Information System  
for Developing Countries

# Faculty



**Dr Nagesh Kumar, Ph.D. (Delhi School of Economics)**

**Director-General**

*Specialisation:* FDI and technology transfers, industrial and technology development policies, world trading system, regional economic integration, economic reforms and development, knowledge-based industries and development.



**Dr Ramgopal Agarwala, Ph.D. (Manchester)**

**Senior Adviser**

*Specialisation:* Macro-modelling, Macro-economic management, regional economic cooperation, pension system reforms, foreign aid for development and development policy paradigm.



**Dr. Prabir De, Ph.D.(Jadavpur )**

**Fellow**

*Specialisation:* Trade and transport, regional economics, and regional economic cooperation.



**Dr Rajesh Mehta, Ph.D.(Delhi School of Economics)**

**Senior Fellow**

*Specialisation:* WTO, trade policy reforms, regional trading blocs, patterns and determinants of trade flows, forecasting, trade and development, tariff and non-tariff barriers.



**Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas,**

*Ph.D. (National Law School University, Banglore)*

**Associate Fellow**

*Specialisation:* IPRs and global trade.



**Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Ph.D.(Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research)**

**Fellow**

*Specialisation:* WTO issues, regional trading arrangements, human development and social sector issues, economic reforms, food security and productivity analysis, services sector.



**Dr. Beena Pandey, Ph.D.(Jamia Millia Islamia)**

**Research Associate**

*Specialisation:* Social sector, gender empowerment and development issues.



**Dr Ram Upendra Das, Ph.D.(JNU)**

**Fellow**

*Specialisation:* Regional economic cooperation; rules of origin; trade, growth and technology; labour market implications of economic reforms and the WTO Agreement on Textiles and Clothing.



**Mr. Priyadarshi Dash, M.Phil.(IIT, Bombay)**

**Research Associate**

*Specialisation:* Macroeconomics and international finance.



**Dr Sachin Chaturvedi, Ph.D.(Agra)**

**Fellow**

*Specialisation:* National innovation system and biotechnology, biodiversity conservation, intellectual property regime and indigenous knowledge system, food security, trade and standards.



**Mr. U.S. Rana, M.A. Economics**

*(Kumoun University)*

**Research Analyst**

*Specialisation:* International trade and development, and regional trading blocs.



**Dr Pooja Sharma, Ph.D.(University of Cincinnati)**

**Fellow**

*Specialisation:* International trade, political economy of trade policy, applied general equilibrium, regional economic integration, agriculture



**Mrs. Pooja Agarwal, M.A.Economics**

*(Delhi School of Economics)*

**Research Analyst**

*Specialisation:* International trade.



**Dr Somesh Mathur, Ph.D. (JNU)**

**Fellow**

*Specialisation:* New trade and growth theories, operational research, WTO areas like TRIPs



**Ms. Rupa Subramanya, M.A. (International Affairs); and M.A. Economics (Carleton)**

**Research Analyst**

*Specialisation:* Global political economy.

## Adjunct Senior Fellows



**Prof. Mukul Asher**, *Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore.*



**Prof. Edgar J. DaSilva**, *former Director, Life Science Division, UNESCO, Paris and Honorary Professor University of Vrystaat, South Africa.*

## Adjunct Fellows



**Dr. Kevin P. Gallagher**, *Professor, Department of International Relations, Boston University; Senior Associate, GDAE, Tufts University.*



**Dr. Ramkishan S. Rajan**, *Associate Professor, School of Public Policy, George Mason University, Washington D.C.*



**Dr. Srividhya Ragavan**, *Associate Professor of Law, University of Oklahoma College of Law, Norman, Oklahoma*



**Ms. Shivani Sharma**  
*M.A.Economics  
(Delhi School of Economics)  
Research Assistant*



**Ms. Priyanka Dhawan**  
*M.A.Economics  
(Delhi School of Economics)  
Research Assistant*



**Ms. Monika**  
*M.A.Economics  
(Jamia Millia Islamia)  
Research Assistant*

## Visiting Members of Faculty for part of this year



**Dr. Robert Arockiasamy**, *Ph.D. (Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research)  
Visiting Fellow (Till January 31, 2007)  
Specialisation: Trade in food processing and quantitative analysis.*



**Ms. Richa Chintan**, *M.Phil.(JNU)  
Visiting Research Associate (Till March 31, 2007)  
Specialisation: Indian agriculture and trade*



**Dr. Samir Ranjan Pradhan**, *Ph.D.(JNU)  
Visiting Research Associate (Till July 10, 2007)  
Specialisation: Energy cooperation in Asia and India's international economic relations.*



**Mrs. Anandita Ghosh**,  
*M.Phil.(JNU)  
Research Analyst (Till September 2007)  
Specialisation: Indian economy*



**Mr. Abinash Dash**, *M.Phil.(JNU)  
Visiting Research Associate (Till December 15, 2006)  
Specialisation: FDI, Indian industry and trade and development.*



**Ms. Ramaa Sambamurty**, *M.A. Economics  
(Delhi School of Economics)  
Research Assistant (Till July 16, 2007)*

## External Research Advisors/Consultants/Collaborators (Part-time)

**Dr A.K. Kundra**, *(formerly Secretary, Department of Mines, Government of India), ICSSR Senior Fellow (part time) (since February 2004).*

**Mr Pawan Chopra**, *formerly Secretary, Information and Broadcasting.*

**Dr R. G. Nambiar**, *Director, Institute of Management, Nirma University of Science and Technology, Ahmedabad.*

**Professor K.J. Joseph**, *Fellow, Centre of Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram.*

**Dr I.N. Mukherji**, *Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*

**Dr K. Harilal**, *Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram.*

**Dr S.R. Rao**, *Director, Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Govt. of India.*

**Dr Vidhya Muthuram**, *Coordinator, Centre for Development Finance, Institute for Financial Management, Chennai.*

**Dr Nilanjan Banik**, *Centre for Development Finance, Institute for Financial Management, Chennai.*



## Other Staff Members

**Lt. Col. (Retd.) Bharat Panwar**  
*Finance & Administrative Officer*



### Publications & Documentation Centre

Shri Tish Kumar Malhotra, *Publications Officer*  
Mrs. Sarita Kapoor, *Documentation Officer*

### Information Technology/Databases Unit

Mrs. Sushma Bhat, *Computer Programmer*  
Shri C.S. Puri, *Computer Programmer*

### Finance & Administration

Shri V. Krishnamani, *Accounts Officer*  
Shri D.P. Kala, *Desk Officer*  
Shri N.N. Krishnan, *Private Secretary to DG*  
Mrs. Sheela Malhotra, *Pers. Assistant*  
Shri Ramesh Chand, *Administrative Assistant (Programmes)*  
Shri Harkesh, *Dispatch Clerk*  
Mrs. Anu Bisht, *Receptionist*

### Research Support

Ms. Kiran Wagh, *Private Secretary*  
Mrs. Sujata Taneja, *Pers. Assistant*  
Shri Phool Singh, *Jr. Pers. Assistant (on leave)*  
Shri Sanjeev Sharma, *Jr. Pers. Assistant*  
Shri Surender Kumar, *Jr. Pers. Assistant*  
Mrs. Poonam Khurana, *Jr. Pers. Assistant (on leave)*

### Project Support

Mrs. Poonam Malhotra, *Data Entry Operator*  
Ms. Ritu Taneja, *Jr. Project Assistant*  
Shri Vijay Kumar Bali, *Graphic Designer*  
Ms. Sushila, *Jr. Library Assistant*  
Ms. Jyoti Goel, *Jr. Library Assistant*

**Support Staff:** Shri Satyavir Singh (Staff Car Driver), Shri Balwan, Shri Pradeep, Shri J.B. Thakuri and Shri Raju.



*F&AO (left) in a meeting with his colleagues*



*A view of DG's office*



*A view of Computer Centre*

## Recent RIS Titles



## RIS Periodicals



THAKUR, VAIDYANATH AIYAR & CO.  
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Patna, Chandigarh and Hyderabad

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Phones: 23236958-60, 23237772  
Fax: 23230831  
E-mail: [tvand@vsnl.com](mailto:tvand@vsnl.com)  
[tvande@rediffmail.com](mailto:tvande@rediffmail.com)

## Auditor's Report

We have audited the attached Financial Statements comprising the Balance Sheet of Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007, and also the Income and Expenditure Account of the Society for the year ended on that date.

These financial statements are the responsibility of the Management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conduct our audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in India. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on test basis evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We report that:

- i) We have obtained all information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purpose of the audit.
- ii) The said accounts are in agreement with the books of accounts maintained by the Society.
- iii) In our opinion, proper books of accounts have been kept by the Society as far as appears from our examination of the books.
- iv) In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to explanations given to us, the said accounts subject to accounting policies and notes to the accounts given in Schedule 7 and our separate report dated 24<sup>th</sup> September 2007 addressed to the Members of Governing Council, give a true and fair view:
  - 1) in the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Society as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007; and
  - 2) in the case of the Income and Expenditure Account, of the Surplus for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007.

For **Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar & Co.**  
Chartered Accountants

Sd/-  
(K.N. Gupta)  
Partner  
M. No. 09169

Place: New Delhi

Date: 24.09.2007

**Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi**  
**(A Society Registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860)**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2007**

Particulars	Schedule	As At 31.3.2007 Rs.	As At 31.3.2006 Rs.
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Research And Development Fund	1	33935122	26279868
Non-fcra Rs. 20848893			
Fcra Rs.13086229			
Asset Fund (Assets Created Out of Grant-in-aid From GOI)	2	27569543	28870066
Asset Fund (Assets Created Out of Various Sponsored Projects)		1334771	1508403
<b>Unspent Balances</b>			
A. Sponsored Projects As Per Schedule Attached (Non-FCRA)	3	6993726	6338067
B. Sponsored Projects As Per Schedule Attached (FCRA)	4	5760704	3329152
Current Liabilities And Provisions (Non-FCRA)		2002550	1145758
<b>Total</b>		<b>77596416</b>	<b>67471314</b>
<b>Assets</b>			
Fixed Assets (Assets Created Out of Grant-in-aid from GOI)	5	27569543	28870066
Fixed Assets (Assets Created Out of Various Sponsored Projects)		1334771	1508403
<b>Amount Recoverable</b>			
A. Sponsored Projects As Per Schedule Attached (Non-FCRA)	3	1615989	1178953
B. Sponsored Projects As Per Schedule Attached (FCRA)		-	-
Current Assets, Loans, And Advances, etc. (Non-FCRA)	6	28229180	22495538
Current Assets, Loans, And Advances, etc. (FCRA)		18846933	13418354
<b>Total</b>		<b>77596416</b>	<b>67471314</b>
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts	7		

Schedules 1 to 11 forming an integral part of Accounts are available from RIS on request

Subject to our report of even date.

Examined and found correct.

New Delhi

Dated: 24 September 2007

Sd/-  
Chartered Accountants

Sd/-  
Fin. & Admn. Officer

Sd/-  
Director-General



**Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi**  
**(A Society Registered Under the Societies Registration Act of 1860)**  
**Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31st March, 2007**

Income	Schedule	Current Year Amount (Rs.)	Previous Year Amount (Rs.)
Grant-in-aid received from Ministry of External Affairs		15000000	15000000
Grants/Fees transferred to meet expenditure on sponsored projects		6519526	6860050
Amount Transferred from Sponsored Projects (Excess amount transferred on completion of projects):N-FCRA 3933603+FCRA 2594866	3	6528469	4409496
Income from Royalty, Publications etc.		175132	171030
<b>INTEREST EARNED:</b>			
On Term Deposits - FCRA Rs. 373748			
On Term Deposits - Non-FCRA Rs. 991360		1365108	621991
On Savings Accounts FCRA 99+N-FCRA 4112		4211	409460
On Loans Employees/Staff		9135	8338
Sale of fixed Assets out of Grants	5	-	38000
Other Miscellaneous Income FCRA Rs.28313+N-FCRA 16780		45093	13075
Transfer to Assets Fund (Depreciation on Fixed Assets acquired out of Grant-in-Aid from Government of India/Sponsored Projects)	2	2423384	1801649
<b>Total</b>		<b>32070058</b>	<b>29333089</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Establishment Expenses	8	12074969	11363916
Other Administrative Expenses	9	8967222	9209011
Expenses Incurred on Purchase of Fixed Assets transferred to Assets Fund	5	949229	1446193
Depreciation on Fixed Assets acquired out of Grant-in-Aid from Government of India/Sponsored Projects	5	2423384	1801649
Surplus transferred to Research and Development Fund	1	7655254	5512320
<b>Total</b>		<b>32070058</b>	<b>29333089</b>
Significant Accounting Policies And Notes On Accounts	7		

Schedule 1 to 11 forming an integral part of Accounts are available from RIS on request.

Subject to our report of even date.  
Examined and found correct.

New Delhi

Dated: 24 September 2007

Sd/-

Chartered Accountants

Sd/-

Fin. & Admn. Officer

Sd/-

Director-General

## Research and Information System for Developing Countries

### Summary of Sources and Utilisation of funds for the Year Ended 31st March 2007

Sources	Current Year		Previous Year		Utilisation	Current Year			Previous Year	
	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)		Expenses incurred out of Core Grant from MEA Amount (Rs)	Expenses incurred out of Grants/ Fees received from Sponsored Projects Amount (Rs)	Consolidated Total Amount (Rs)	Expenses incurred out of Core Grant from MEA Amount (Rs)	Expenses incurred out of Grants/ Fees received from Sponsored Projects Amount (Rs)
Grant-in-Aid received from Ministry of External Affairs		15000000		15000000	Salary/Consultancy Charges	9150988	2923981	12074969	9158966	2204950
Grants/Fees received from various Sponsored Projects (Non-FCRA)	9986930		7925255		Conference/Seminar/ Training Expenses	222640	2071521	2294161	306289	2348068
Grants/Fees received from various Sponsored Projects (FCRA)	5837981	15824911	5502551	13427806	Travelling and Conveyance Expenses	268079	973919	1241998	160372	1521191
Interest on FDRs, Savings Bank etc.		1378454		1039789	Other Expenses	4954458	476605	5431063	4318537	554554
Income from Publications and Royalty		175132		171030	Expenditure incurred on purchase of Fixed Assets	875729	73500	949229	1214906	231287
Other Miscellaneous Income		45093		51075	Amount refunded to the Sponsoring Agency	-	126741	126741	-	186254
					<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>15471894</b>	<b>6646267</b>	<b>22118161</b>	<b>15159070</b>	<b>7046304</b>
					Surplus transferred to Research and Development Fund	-	-	7655254	-	-
					Adjustment of Opening/Closing Balances of Unspent/ Recoverable Grants from Non-FCRA and FCRA	-	-	2650175		1972006
<b>Total</b>		<b>32423590</b>		<b>29689700</b>	<b>Total</b>			<b>32423590</b>		<b>29689700</b>

Previous year's figures have been regrouped/reclassified to make them comparable with current year's figures.

New Delhi

Date: 24 September 2007



## Exports emerge as key job source

By OUR CORRESPONDENT

New Delhi, April 7: Exports have emerged as an increasingly important source of job creation in the Indian economy, according to a report 6499-

The report says that in 2004-05, the export sector is reported to have generated incremental direct employ-

Nath says "It is only with a conscious effort that we can address the massive challenge of finding job opportunities for millions of our unemployed youth and export-oriented production has a huge potential for generating jobs."

The report said that in 2004-05, the export sector is reported to have generated incremental direct employment of 14.85 lakh over the previous year, bringing the total employment generated by the export sector in India to 69.16 lakh.

The export sector has generated incremental direct employment of 1.4 m in 2004-05. Exports emerging as source of job creation

Business

With a labour force growing at 2% per annum and the growth rate of employment at 1.5% per annum, exports have emerged as an important source of job creation, according to a report by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India.

Major sectors like textiles, gems and jewellery, engineering goods, IT services, and pharmaceuticals have emerged as major export sectors. The report also mentions that the export sector has generated incremental direct employment of 1.4 m in 2004-05 over the previous year.

The report has identified 12 export sectors as major employment generators. These are textiles & garments, leather goods, gems & jewellery, engineering goods, IT services, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, metals, and transport equipment.

However, the report also points out that the export sector has not been able to generate enough jobs to meet the demand of the growing labour force. It has also pointed out that the export sector has not been able to generate enough jobs to meet the demand of the growing labour force.

If the target of doubling exports to \$150 bn by 2009-10 is achieved, another 1.5 lakh jobs may be created in five years.

## Focus on jobs and gems in Nath's trade policy

ISS ECONOMIC BUREAU

NEW DELHI, APRIL 7

COMMERCE and industry minister Kamal Nath today set a 20% export growth target for the current fiscal and sought to expand the export basket and diversify the export base.

Addressing media and industry, he said inter-alia that the government has decided to focus on jobs and gems in its trade policy.

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## 'India should aim at becoming part of Asian Economic Community'

It can evolve into a trade bloc comparable to EU

Business

NEW DELHI, APRIL 7

India must actively take part in the Asian Economic Community (AEC) with the aim of becoming part of it, Commerce Minister Kamal Nath said today.

He said that the government has decided to focus on jobs and gems in its trade policy. He said that the government has decided to focus on jobs and gems in its trade policy.

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## Centre seeks inputs for Ceca with GCC

Economy Bureau

NEW DELHI, APRIL 7

The government has asked the Centre for Economic Cooperation and Development (CEC) to provide inputs for the Ceca with GCC.

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By 2017, South Asia To Become Free-Trade Region With Less Than 5% Duty Pact Kicks In

## Safta trade to treble in 5 year

Business

NEW DELHI, APRIL 7

The South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) trade is expected to treble in five years, according to a report by the Ministry of Commerce.

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## India to take up Pak decision at SAARC Ministerial Council

Deal of trade liberalisation programme under SAFTA by Islamabad

Business

NEW DELHI, APRIL 7

India will take up the decision of Pakistan to extend the first TLP with India, when all other signatories have agreed to extend their commitments on a reciprocal basis, against the spirit of SAFTA because SAFTA provides for only a negative list.

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## Pak claims up on Safta obligations

Business

NEW DELHI, APRIL 7

Pakistan has claimed that India has not fulfilled its obligations under the South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA).

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## SAFTA takes effect from today

Business

NEW DELHI, APRIL 7

The South Asian Free Trade Area (SAFTA) has taken effect from today, according to a report by the Ministry of Commerce.

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## Plan for NAM as a trade bloc

Business

NEW DELHI, APRIL 7

The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is planning to set up a trade bloc, according to a report by the Ministry of Commerce.

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## Clip Board

**WORLD DEVELOPMENT**, Feb. 2014. The current global trade rules under the aegis of the World Trade Organization (WTO) offers an open market and resolve the broader issues in processes of agenda setting and decision in multilateral trade talks so as to make them more robust and democratic; the World Trade Organization's (WTO) role in the world economy.

In its analysis of the state of play in 'A workable negotiation for reactivating the dialogue to bring development focus onto the first stage of the agenda, the report prepares Research & Information System for the Countries (RISC), a New Delhi-based think tank, has been set up by the organization's member, Mr. Kunal Mishra, here last evening for South-South Cooperation (SSCI) in trade.

Mr. Mishra and India will shortly have a far-reaching developing countries. This packing for a stand alone initiative and is not part of WTO negotiations, he added. It is pure advanced development countries'.

Think-tank says focus must be on percentage reduction, not on fixed formulas **New Delhi** war

have had such a  
reducing poverty, it  
indiscriminate liber

In its world trade and development report, the Secretariat

The report was released by UNCTAD.

**\$300-b SPV mooted for Asian infrastr**

**Infrastructure: Asian re**

### Can an Asia-Pacific Special Purpose Vehicle serve the objective?

committee of senior officials to be set up

1 6 1 6

### Can an Asia-Pacific Special Purpose Vehicle serve the objective?

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## Massive infrastructure projects in Asia

...and the...  
...and the...  
...and the...

**FOR CORE SPECIAL TRAINING**

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The first part of the book contains a brief overview of the history of the field, followed by a chapter on the current state of the field. The second part of the book contains a series of chapters on the various aspects of the field, including the history of the field, the current state of the field, and the future of the field.

[illegible]

Together we can prosper through trade and fight common enemies like poverty, violence, drugs and human trafficking.

[illegible]

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For more information, contact the following:

Withhugs (slaves of Russia)

[illegible]

our weekly column on research made si-

strike a deep chord in Japan that resembles conceptions of a

## By Ken Mortenson

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## Beyond the rhetoric

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## RIS Periodicals



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for Developing Countries

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– Policy research to shape the international development agenda