



— Research shaping the development agenda

## 'Relationship with ASEAN Foundation for our Act East Policy' — Smt. Sushma Swaraj



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

To commemorate 25 years of ASEAN-India Partnership, RIS and ASEAN India Centre (AIC) at RIS invited Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, Government of India, to deliver the Keynote Address

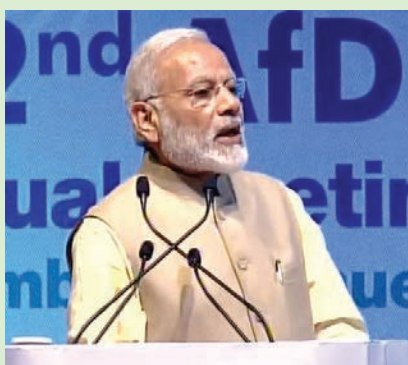
on "ASEAN-India Partnership" on 22 June 2017 at New Delhi. More than 500 participants attended. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, gave welcome remarks. Amb. Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS

gave the Introductory remarks. In her keynote address, Smt. Sushma Swaraj discussed many aspects of India's strategic partnership with ASEAN. India is working

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## Prime Minister Lauds Vision Document on "Asia Africa Growth Corridor"

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, in his address at the inauguration of the Annual Meeting of the African Development Bank (AfDB) on 23 May 2017 at Ahmedabad, underlined: "I gladly recall my detailed conversation with Prime Minister Abe during my visit to Tokyo. We discussed our commitments for enhancing growth prospects for all. In our joint declaration, we mentioned an Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC) and proposed further



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

conversations with our brothers and sisters from Africa. India and Japanese research institutions have come up with a Vision Document. I congratulate RIS, ERIA and IDE-JETRO for their efforts in putting it together. This was done in consultation with think-tanks from Africa. I understand the Vision Document would be presented at the Board meeting later. The idea is that India and Japan, with other willing partners, would explore joint initiatives in skills, health,

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



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

The RIS, jointly with the NITI Aayog and the UN in India organized the National Consultations with States with focus on specific SDG goals. As part of this series, two National Consultations were held at New Delhi on SDG 5 related to Gender Equality issues on 11 April 2017 and SDG 2 on Zero Hunger on 13 April 2017. The Consultation on Gender Equality began with the welcome remarks by Dr. Ashok Kumar Jain, Adviser (Rural Development and SDGs), NITI Aayog. Shri Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS delivered special remarks and Shri Arvind Panagariya, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog, gave inaugural address. Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Minister of Textiles, gave the keynote address. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS also addressed the participants.

The Hon'ble Minister stressed that SDG 5 would connect with achieving various targets efficiently. She also emphasised about the role of education which is going to make a huge difference in bringing

equality between men and women in decision making power, not limiting only to parliamentary or panchayat level, but also at the lower levels and in narrowing wage gap between the male and the female. She also referred to Prime Minister's ambitious initiatives for promoting gender equality like *Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao*, *Mudra Yojana*, *Ujjwala Scheme* and to build toilets for girls in all schools.

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

*Sashtikaran*; equal voice participation and leadership in decision-making, *Samaanta Bhagidari Netritva*.

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

Dr. Bibek Debroy, Member, NITI Aayog chaired the Session I on Ensuring Food and Nutrition Security. The panelists in the session included Shri Amod Kanth, Founder Prayas; Shri Deepak Kumar, Joint Secretary, Department of Food & Public Distribution; Dr. A. Laxmaiah, Scientist, National Institute of

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



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

As India is in the process of implementation of GST, it may be relevant to explore its possible implications on India's trade policy. In this context, RIS in collaboration with the Department of Commerce, Government of India, organized a Mid-Term Review of the Foreign Trade Policy (2015-2020) on 6 May 2017 at New Delhi. Hon'ble Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of State (Independent Charge)

for Commerce and Industry, Government of India, chaired the meeting. The programme began with the welcome remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Ms. Rita Teatota, Commerce Secretary, made initial remarks. Ambassador Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS also addressed the participants. Presentations were made by Shri A. K. Bhalla,

Director General of Foreign Trade, (DGFT) and Prof. S. K. Mohanty, RIS. Thereafter, participants discussed over various issues. The second session was for discussion on Export Promotion Measures in Other Asian Economies. Shri Nikunj Kumar Srivastava, Additional Director General of Foreign Trade, made concluding remarks.

### Roundtable Discussion on 25 Years of ASEAN-India Partnership

The RIS and ASEAN India Centre (AIC) at RIS jointly organised a Roundtable on "25 Years of ASEAN-India Partnership" on 22 June 2017 at New Delhi.

The programme began with the welcome remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. The session was Chaired by Amb. Hardeep S Puri, Chairperson, RIS. Amb. Amar Sinha, Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, gave special remarks. ASEAN Ambassadors, Indian diplomats, Academicians and Researchers were the main participants.



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

Dr. Prabir De, Coordinator ASEAN-India Centre at RIS, made a presentation on 25 years of ASEAN-

India relations, covering trade, investment, connectivity and cultural linkages. All ASEAN Heads of Mission shared their opinions.

### Workshop on Job Creation in Manufacturing Sector as a Strategy for Sustainable Economic Growth in South Asia



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

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

was organised on 5 December 2016 in New Delhi with expert participants from South Asian countries.

As the follow-up, RIS jointly with SACEPS and Asia Foundation organised the second one-day Workshop on “Job Creation in Manufacturing Sector Strategy for Sustainable Economic Growth in South Asia” on 21 June 2017 at New Delhi. The programme started with the welcome remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, and Executive Director,

SACEPS. Dr. Sagar Prasai, Country Representative, Asia Foundation and Professor Deepak Nayyar, Emeritus Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, made opening remarks. In different sessions, issues related to Manufacturing Sector and Job Creation; Industrial Policy, External Sector and Employment; and Skills, Competitiveness and Sustainability were discussed. The detailed agenda is uploaded on the website: [www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in)

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with ASEAN towards evolving regional security architecture in the Asia-Pacific that hinges on peaceful settlement of disputes, finding collaborative solutions to emerging and non-traditional challenges, and support for the centrality of ASEAN. She reiterated that India is actively engaged in Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership negotiations involving ASEAN and its six FTA partners, which, when finalized, would be the largest regional trading arrangement, accounting for about 40 per cent of the world trade. The Minister said that efforts were on

to enhance connectivity by land, air and sea to transform corridors of connectivity into corridors of economic cooperation.

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

#### **Financial Cooperation among BRICS Countries**

The RIS Breakfast Seminar on “Financial Cooperation among BRICS Countries: Existing Mechanisms and Future Discourse” was held on 7 April 2017. Dr. Priyadarshi Dash, Research Associate, RIS, gave a presentation on the topic. Mr. Alok Dimri, Joint Secretary (MER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, chaired the seminar.

### Roundtable on Deepening India-Russia Partnership: Exploring New Vistas



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

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

The roundtable started with welcome remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and initial remarks by Ambassador Hardeep S. Puri, Chairperson, RIS. Ambassador P. S. Raghavan, Former Ambassador of India to the Russian Federation, chaired the inaugural session. H.E. Mr. Anatoly V. Kargapolov, Charge d' Affairs,

Embassy of the Russian Federation, New Delhi, and Mr Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India, New Delhi, delivered special addresses. Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Professor, RIS gave closing remarks.

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

Naval Command, Government of India, were the main speakers.

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

### Blue Economy Framework for Sustainable Development and Economic Prosperity

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

In the recent years, Blue Economy has emerged as a major development paradigm for coastal economies. Ocean sector is a key driver of economic growth for littoral countries, and maintenance of good ocean health is the foremost requirement for sustainable use of ocean resources. In this regard, SDG 14 would certainly complement efficacy of Blue Economy in coastal economies in accomplishing high



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

economic growth. For taking this process forward, domestic, regional and global ocean policies need to be integrated for shaping effectiveness of the Blue Economy policies.

The programme began with welcome remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General,

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

#### PM lauds Vision Document on “Asia Africa Growth Corridor”

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infrastructure, manufacturing and connectivity.”

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

The AAGC would be raised on four pillars of Development and Cooperation Projects, Quality Infrastructure and Institutional Connectivity, Enhancing Capacities and Skills and People-to-People partnership. The centrality of people to people partnership would be the unique feature of this initiative. The strengths of the AAGC would be aligned with the

development priorities of different countries and subregions of Africa, taking advantage of simultaneous homogeneity and heterogeneity among them. This would be undertaken to improve growth and interconnectedness between and within Asia and Africa for realizing a free and open Indo-Pacific region.

The AAGC would give priority to development projects in health and pharmaceuticals, agriculture and agro-processing, disaster management and skill enhancement. The connectivity aspects of the AAGC will be supplemented with quality infrastructure. The AAGC, led growth in Africa and Asia would be responsive to collective commitment for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The AAGC Vision Study would use Geographical Simulation Model (GSM) to bring out economic gains

for Africa through its integration with India, South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia and Oceania. The AAGC would contribute to develop institutional mechanisms and models for connecting businesses, people and think tanks which represent and contribute to integration efforts in Asia and Africa.

RIS, the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta, and the

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



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

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

This Policy Dialogue was organised in pursuance to the announcement of Hon’ble Minister of State for External Affairs at the 7th Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) Ministers Meeting, held at Vientiane on 24 July 2016. During that meeting, the State Minister announced that



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

India would host a seminar on the MGC focusing on building stronger connectivity and enhancing multi-dimensional ties with the AIC at RIS. MGC member-countries had nominated participants to the policy dialogue, and over 100 delegates including senior officials from foreign offices also attended the event. The Policy Dialogue was divided into four sessions aimed at facilitating an in-depth discussion on various aspects relating to experiences of India and Mekong countries with respect to

new initiatives and ideas for helping in formulation of an actionable policy agenda for strengthening the MGC through connectivity. The themes focused were: Physical and Digital Connectivity; Trade, Investment, Value Chains; and Cultural Relations and People-to-People Contacts and howling Ahead: Harnessing the Diversity, Building the Future.

Dr. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC, presented the summary and extended the vote of thanks.

### Delegation from Chulalongkorn University

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

The team members included Dr. Surat Horachaikul, Director, Indian Studies Centre, Faculty of Political Science; Dr. Piti Sirsangnam, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Economics; Dr. Anupama Devendrakumar, Researcher, ASEAN Studies Centre;



Members of the Chulalongkorn University (CU), Bangkok, with RIS faculty-members.

and Mr. Kittipong Boonkerd, Lecturer (Hindi Language), Faculty

of Arts, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand.

### National Consultation on Responsible Research and Innovation

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



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

At the inaugural session, Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas, RIS welcomed the gathering. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS, made presentation on the RRI; and Dr. Parveen Arora, Sc-G and Head-CHORD Division,

DST presented key remarks; Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, DST, Govt. of India, delivered inaugural address, and Dr. Amit Kumar, RIS, extended the vote of thanks.

The detailed agenda is available on RIS website: [www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in)

### Stakeholder Consultation on Traditional Knowledge Digital Library

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

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



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

The Consultation opened with welcome address by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. The inaugural address was delivered by Dr. Manoj Nesari, Advisor (Ayush) Ministry of AYUSH on behalf of Dr. Rajesh Kotecha, Special Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH. Prof T. C. James, Member Secretary, FITM,

presented the issues to be addressed by the stakeholders during the consultation. Dr. Rakesh Tiwari, Head, TKDL Unit, CSIR, apprised of the participants regarding the current status of TKDL.

The detailed agenda is uploaded on RIS website: [www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in)

### National Consultation on Responsible Research and Innovation

***“Access, Equity and Inclusion are key to RRI in the Indian context”***



**Prof. Ashutosh Sharma**

The topic of responsible research and innovation has got two pillars. The first is technology and the second one is its socio-economic political connect with the society. How to leverage this interconnectedness in a meaningful way for the benefit of the society as a whole, is big question; more so with the coming of Industry 4.0 into force sooner than later. In this very sense, the idea of Scientific Social Responsibility, as advocated by the Prime Minister, is very pragmatic and timely.

S&T is the key to socio-economic development of the country and a scientific institution has certain responsibility towards society. The new framework in the form of RRI, being deliberated within the academic and policy circles in Europe, particularly in recent times, has delved into science-technology-society studies and has come out with a set of RRI keys. However, it is important to give Indian meaning to the six keys of the RRI (viz. ethics, societal engagement, gender equality, open access, science education and governance), as propounded by the European Commission.

In countries like India, there are many challenges related to basic needs of the society such as safe drinking water, healthcare, sanitation, clean environment, etc. The fruits of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) have not reached to those who need them the most; particularly to those belonging to the lower socio-economic strata of the society. Therefore, any technological intervention, which brings in innovative solutions to address these basic challenges, must also take care of the issues of access, equity and inclusion. In this context, Access, Equity and Inclusion (AEI) framework is very apt for explaining RRI in the Indian context.

Inclusion, in its broader meaning, encompasses gender inclusion, geographic inclusion and educational inclusion. This inclusion also brings in people living in villages, farmers, young people, students, and specially-abled people. DST has undertaken many key initiatives for promoting inclusion. In the domain of promoting gender equality in S&T research in India, DST has launched a programme called KIRAN, which would help women scientists to relocate and re-start their career.

Science communication is very important and in this area, Vigyan Prasar has been playing a key role through various outreach activities. One such successful endeavour has been the Science Express, which travels to remote corners of the country to disseminate scientific ideas and nurture scientific temperament among the large population across the nation.

Given the great potential that the technology can play in addressing many societal challenges, it should also be kept in mind that the technology can be both, an enabler as well as a differentiator; and this socio-political aspect is the key policy challenge, which needs to be treaded carefully. While talking about future, we need to emphasis about ethics.; issues which are related to social engagement, equity and governance and so on, that are all technology dependent. As the technology landscape is changing very fast in the face of big data analytics and the rise of intelligent machines, which are connected to the world, decision-making has become far more complex that human mind can handle. This calls for expanding the horizon of ethics.

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At the same time, there is going to be new models of governance and all that might happen in near future. It would go on happening continuously. It is not about the singularity of Artificial Intelligence (AI) alone, that may or may not come to pass, but we would see continuous changes in the way we view the interaction among technology, machines and the society of the future.

In this scenario, there is a greater role for science policy in shaping how technology should interact with the society for greater public good and societal welfare, as this relates to paradigm shift. A new framework based on the contextual realities and requirements needs to be discussed and evolved for the interconnectedness between technology and society that leads to harmony rather than discontent.

*Excerpts from the Inaugural Address delivered by Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India at the National Consultation on Responsible Research and Innovation held on 28 April 2017 at New Delhi*

### *National Consultations...*

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Nutrition; Dr. Shivendra Srivastava, Scientist, National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research; Dr. Prema Ramachandran, Nutrition Foundation of India; and Shri Vishal Kumar Dev, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Women and Child Development, Government of Odisha.

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

Session III on Sustainable Agriculture and Doubling Farmer's Income was chaired by Prof Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI Aayog. Key panelists in this session were Dr. H. K. Bhanwala, Chairman, NABARD; Shri K. K. Mittal, Additional Chief Secretary & Agriculture Production Commissioner, Government of Assam; and Dr. Raka Saxena, Senior



*Shri Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog speaking at the National Consultation on SDG 2.*

Scientist, National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research. In the concluding session special lecture on 'Global Perspectives on Hunger and Malnutrition' was delivered by Mr Shyam Khadka, FAO Representative, India. The way forward was delivered jointly by Shri Jan Delbaere, Deputy Representative, WFP and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS. The closing remarks were given by Dr P. K Anand, Senior Consultant, NITI Aayog.

The day, long consultation focussed comprehensively on issues of national importance on the subject, immediate priorities and policy

programmes of the Government of India, global experience and trends in the context of SDGs and best practices on policy and implementation from States. The role of civil society organisations in achieving specific targets in these areas was also explored. Key issues under deliberation included: National Food Security Act; Direct Benefit Transfers (Cash Transfers) in PDS; nutrition outcomes among women and children; impact of climate change and adaptation strategies; agricultural income and credit; quality of data, indicator development on SDGs and monitoring.

## Capacity Building Programme

### RIS-EXIM Bank Summer School International Trade Theory and Practices

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

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

Exim Bank has been entrusted with the task of promoting India's



*Ms. Rita Teatota, Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India inaugurated the RIS-EXIM Bank Summer School.*

international trade. Besides promoting, facilitating and financing India's international trade, Exim Bank of India has under taken many initiatives to encourage scholars for focussing on economic research studies.

The Course Structure included the following topics: Module 1 : Recent Developments in Trade Theory; Module 2 : Databases

and Information on International Trade; Module 3 : Tools and Techniques in Trade Analysis; Module 4 : Understanding FTAs and Regional Trading Blocs; Module 5 : Issues of Trade in Technology and Classification Issues; Module 6 : Trade and Development: IPRs and New Issues; and Module 7 : Group Presentations. More than 35 scholars from all-over India participated in the capacity building programme.



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

## New Research Studies and Initiatives

### PACER Plus and the Future of Trade and Investment Prospects of the Pacific Island Economies

The Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the Pacific, popularly clubbed as Pacific Island Countries (PICs), are placed in terms of their economy, size, resource endowments, size of population, nature of risks and vulnerability and geo-political relations. PICs depend on two large and advanced economies in the region, Australia and New Zealand for imports of large variety of consumption and luxury goods, investment and for development assistance.

Besides unilateral trade and investment policies, PICs are party to a few existing trade agreements. Pacific Agreement on Closer Economic Relations (PACER Plus) is a new trade and economic integration agreement among Australia, New Zealand and 12 PICs. PACER Plus has attracted mixed response from different stakeholders there is a growing discontent among some PICs regarding some provisions of the agreement. In collaboration with some national institutions from the PICs region, RIS aims to undertake studies to examine benefits and the costs of the PACER Plus for PICs, and link them to economic growth and development processes of the ocean-dependent economies. For further details, please contact: Dr. Priyadarshi Dash: pdash@ris.org.in

### FIDC North East Regional Consultations

A series of regional consultations is being planned with the objective of evolving a dialogue among various stakeholders on the issues associated with Indian development cooperation policy and Ministry of DoNER's vision about development in the North East. This consultation series is designed to provide an opportunity to discuss scope, objectives and modalities in the realm of development process of North East states and beyond. The idea is to explore possibility to enhance people-to-people contact beyond the national boundary and situating North-Eastern states as an effective hub for creating regional value chain from an Act East perspective.

Effort would be made at the North Eastern regional consultations to identify key partners to enhance the sense of partnerships at the local level. For further details, please contact: Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti: milindo.chakrabarti@ris.org.in

### Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM)

The Ministry of AYUSH has established the Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM) in RIS as a common platform for all actors and stakeholders to come together to contribute to pragmatic policy-making in the area and to develop a proactive strategy to be championed by India at the international level. The FITM would commission studies, award Fellowships and

Scholarships for studies in the area of Traditional Medicine, arrange guest lectures invited talks by national and international experts, and organise periodic consultations with stakeholders in different places in India, and provide policy advice to government. For further details, please contact: Prof. T. C. James: tcjames@ris.org.in

### Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement: Need for a Strategy

RCEP member-countries cover half the world population, 30 per cent of world GDP and a quarter of world trade. The regional grouping has several countries including China whose economies are among the most export competitive in the world. The negotiations would be a very challenging one for India. India's earlier FTAs or CEPAs with countries in this region have not been models of success in their implementation even as there have been benefits. If RCEP has to be more successful, a great deal of planning and strategising is critical. India has to become more competitive for the concessions it secures to translate into realisable market access. It should also secure sufficient flexibilities to be able to ensure that domestic players have a fair playing field in being able to withstand competition. This paper outlines a possible approach and strategy.



Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister with other dignitaries on the occasion of the programme on 25 years of ASEAN-India Partnership.

## Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

### Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General

- Participated in the India-Africa Health Sciences Collaboration – Working Group Meeting organised jointly by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Ministry of External Affairs on 6 April 2017, New Delhi.
- Chaired the session on ‘Role of Media in the India-China relationship’ at the ICWA-China Soong Ching Ling Foundation (CSCLF) dialogue on 7 April 2017, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on ‘Connectivity in the Context of Development of Trade and Economic Relationship between India and China’ at the ICWA- China Soong Ching Ling Foundation (CSCLF) dialogue on 7 April 2017, New Delhi.
- Delivered Keynote Address at the Conference on "Strengthening Cooperation among BBIN Countries: The Road Ahead", organised jointly by Institute for Strategic and Socio-Economic Research (ISSR), UN ESCAP, The Asia Foundation and Pavilion Group on 17 April 2017, Kathmandu.
- Participated in the Third Meeting of the BIMSTEC Network of Policy Think Tanks (BNPTT), organised jointly by the Government of Bangladesh and the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka on 22-23 April 2017, Dhaka.
- Panelist at the session on Strategies to accomplish SDGs at the National conference on Sustainable Development Goals: India’s preparedness and role of agriculture organised jointly by TAAS, IFPRI and ICAR on 12 May 2017, New Delhi.
- Delivered a special address on ‘Research and International Effectiveness: How to Leverage Indian Capabilities’ at the Foundation Day Programme of Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) on 12 May 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated in the NeST Global Executive Meeting on 28 May 2017, Berlin.
- Participated in the Informal exchange on "The Future of the GPEDC", organised by German Development Institute (GDI), on 28 May 2017, Berlin.
- Participated in the High-level T20 Summit under German presidency, organised by German Development Institute (GDI) on 29 May 2017, Berlin.
- Made a presentation on ‘India’s Food Security Concerns at the Multilateral Negotiations’ at the Joint Workshop on India’s Food Security: Local and Global Dimensions, organised jointly by Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) and Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis (IDSA) on 30 May 2017, Oslo.
- Made a presentation on ‘Health and Environment in the Context of the Sustainable Development Goals’ at the National Consultation on Environmental Health organised jointly by Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), Centre for Environmental Health and TISS, on 5 June 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the BRICS Civil Society Organization (CSO) Forum on 9 June 2017, Fuzhou, China.
- Made a presentation on ‘Thoughts and Suggestions on further Enhancing the BRICS Cooperation Mechanism’ in the Ninth BRICS Academic Forum on 10-13 June 2017, Fuzhou, China.
- Participated in the International conference on ‘G20 Africa Partnership - Investing in a Common Future’, organised jointly by the German Federal Ministry of Finance, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Deutsche Bundesbank on 12-13 June 2017, Berlin.
- Made a presentation on ‘India-Russia Economic Cooperation’ in the Roundtable Discussion on the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Russia and India, organised by Diplomatic Academy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia on 15 June 2017, Moscow.
- Participated in the Roundtable Discussion on New Faces and New Strategies: HR and Funding Challenges for Think Tanks, organised jointly by McKinsey & Company, ORF and TTCSP on 21 June 2017, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on ‘Smart Panchayats for New India with SDGs’ at the Conference of State Panchayati Raj Ministers, organised by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj on 27 June 2017, Bhopal.

## Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

- Made a presentation on 'Globalization, Regional Trade Alliance and WTO' at the 57th NDC Course, organised by National Defence College (NDC) on 30 June 2017 at New Delhi.

### Prof. S. K. Mohanty

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

### Prof. T. C. James

#### Visiting Fellow

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

organized by the DIPP Chair on IPR and National Law University, Jodhpur on 8 and 9 April 2017 and delivered talks on Access to Knowledge and Information.

- Participated as Guest of Honour in the National Workshop on Piracy in the Entertainment Industry, organised by Delhi University, Campus Law Centre I on 20 April 2017, New Delhi.
- Delivered talk as Distinguished Panelist at the Round Table Discussion organised at Campus Law Centre II, on Copyright Law with special reference to Academic Institutions on 27 April 2017, New Delhi.
- Participated as a resource person in the Orientation Programme on SDGs for Nodal Officers, jointly organised by the Himachal Pradesh Government, NFI and Himachal Pradesh Institute of Public Administration (HIPA) and delivered talks on SDGs in India: Union to State level at HIPA, Dhalli, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, on 30 May 2017.
- Delivered talks on legal concepts of Intellectual Property Rights and Issues of Trial and Procedure in the Orientation Programme on IPRs and Enforcement for Delhi Judicial Service Officers at the Delhi Judicial Academy, New Delhi on 19 May 2017.

### Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas

#### Visiting Fellow

- Participated in the kick off meeting of NewHorizon Project, held at Vienna on 15-16 May 2017.

### Dr. Priyadarshi Dash

#### Research Associate

- Represented RIS in the 2nd IORA Blue Economy Ministerial Conference held in Jakarta, during 8-10 May 2017.
- Made a presentation as panelist in the plenary and thematic sessions on Blue Economy in the India-Pacific Islands Sustainable Development Conference held in Suva, Fiji on 25-26, May 2017.
- Participated in the India-China Think Tanks Forum Meeting held at Beijing, China, during 22-26 June 2017 and delivered lecture on the topic 'Bilateral Cooperation in Manufacturing between India and China'.

### Dr. Sabyasachi Saha

#### Assistant Professor

- Made a presentation on 'Digital Economy for Emergence, Transformation and Inclusion: Recent Strides in India' at the International Conference on "Emergence of Africa (ICEA)", organised by UNDP and Government of Cote d'Ivoire at Abidjan during 28-30 March 2017.
- Made a presentation on 'Intra-BRICS Trade in High Technology: Opportunities of Industrial Value Chains in BRICS' at the 2017 BRICS Think Tank Symposium on BRICS Cooperation and Global Value Chains, held at Guangzhou, China, on 16 May 2017.

## Latest Publications

### REPORTS



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

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



#### Mekong-Ganga Cooperation: Breaking Barriers and Seeking New Heights

AIC - RIS, New Delhi, 2017

### RIS DISCUSSION PAPER

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

### RIS POLICY BRIEF

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

### JOURNALS

**Asian Biotechnology and Development Review**  
Vol. 19 No. 1, March 2017

**South Asia Economic Journal**  
Vol. 18 No. 1, April 2017

### RIS DIARY

Vol. 13 No. 2, April 2017

### BLUE ECONOMY POLICY BRIEF

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

### Contributions to Outside Publications by RIS Faculty

Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. 'India's Rising Economic  
Clout and Global Role: The Nexus of Growth  
and Poverty and Relevance to U.S. Policy'.  
ASPEN Institute Congressional Program on India  
Emergence and Development Challenges: Policy  
Implications for the U.S. on 18-26 February 2017,  
New Delhi and Hyderabad, Vol.33 No.1.

Chaturvedi, Sachin and Krishna Ravi Srinivas. 2017.  
'Intellectual Property Rights, Innovation and Rice  
Strategy for India' in *The Future Rice Strategy for  
India* by P.Chengappa, M.Hegde and S.Mohanty  
(Eds) - Elsevier/IRRI - Pp 277-299.

Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. 'Modi in Germany: Will  
India's FTA pragmatism bring EU out of its shell?',  
*Business Standard*, 29 May

Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2017. 'How to cut across corridors'.  
*The Economic Times*, 14 June, New Delhi

De, Prabir. 2017. 'Look East to Act East: India's  
Economic Engagements with ASEAN' in C. J  
Thomas and K Sarda (eds.) *Act East and India's  
North-East*, Pentagon Press, New Delhi.

De, Prabir. 2017. 'Contemporary Contours of ASEAN-  
India Relation'. in World Trade Centre (ed.)  
*Handbook: International Trade*, Mumbai.

De, Prabir. 2017. 'South Asian Countries Building  
Connections'. *East Asia Forum*, 24 June 2017.

De, Prabir. 2017. 'BBIN: From Transit to Economic  
Corridors'. *Trade Insight*, Vol. 12, No. 3.

Mohanty, S. K. 2017. Contributed a chapter in the  
*Knowledge Paper on Blue Economy Vision 2025:  
Harnessing Business Potential for India Inc. and  
International Partners*. Published by FICCI Task  
Force, April.

Mohanty, S.K., Priyadarshi Dash, Sanura Fernandez  
and Pankhuri Gaur. 2017. Draft India-Mauritius  
Joint Study Group Report. Ministry of Commerce  
and Industry, for discussion, June.



## RIS

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## Professor Sukhamoy Chakravarty's Contribution to Development and Indian Policy

Prof. Chakravarty was a scholar with an astonishing breadth of knowledge. Even as an economist, he engaged in a wide ranging set of activities. He was a teacher, a policy-maker, a development economist who trides to develop a new unified consensus on development theory and was involved in developing research agenda. He headed many bodies that pushed forward economic research, including RIS. He was involved with RIS from its very inception, including its establishment. Given his world view, he believed in the need to enhance cooperation on research how the international system interaction with the needs of developing countries. The research would lay the foundation for South-South Cooperation.



*Prof. Manmohan Agarwal*

He placed a strong emphasis on scholarship and democratic debate. He did not fit into the stereotype of economists and policy-makers, interested merely in growth, despite his considerable familiarity with models of growth and his own contributions in that field.

His research dealt with the following categories: (i) Mathematical explorations of many development issues; (ii) Conceptual basis of development economics, stressing both its historical and intellectual origins; (iii) Issues relating to Indian development, particularly planning; and (iv) Monetary and financial aspects of development leading to integration of real and financial issues in the development economics.

Prof. Chakravarty's experience showed the importance of a political consensus for consistent policy making over an extended period of time. In 1950s and 1960s, there was a consensus about development policy as exemplified by the Report in 1951 of the UN expert group. The consensus lasted for over a quarter of a century before finally crumbling in 1980s; the argument was made that the same economics applied to developed and developing economies despite differences in their income levels.

Growth of agricultural productivity was necessary to bring about development. Only then the surplus labour can be transferred to industry. But for rapid growth, capital goods production was necessary. Together with the spread of education, health and nutrition, it would lead to rapid growth and exploitation of economies of the scale potentially existing in the industrial sector.

His preferred policy for agricultural development was to boost productivity of small farms. But this required deep rooted reforms based on the proper assessment of the physical factor endowments, knowledge of techniques of production and property rights. According to him, a small holder-based development path would produce crops preferred by poorer households and help draw out the potential surplus available on small holdings. After all this was the development strategy stressed in earlier writings on development. The potential implicit in rural employment patterns stressed by these early writings could be used for asset formation through a rural employment scheme.

Prof. Chakravarty stressed that one of the shortcomings of Indian performance was the inability to develop technological capabilities. The technological gap in Indian industry had increased. Imports of knowledge and capital goods were needed as much of technical progress is embodied in them. But imports should not stifle domestic capabilities. Also, reliance on FDI might not lead to cheaper capital goods, which is the way that beneficial effects spread. He believed that the best way of acquiring foreign technology was the Japanese way which succeeded in separating import of technology from supply of capital, namely FDI.

Furthermore, investment in human capital was essential to enable appropriate learning by doing from foreign technology. While he continued to stress the importance of production of capital goods in India, he changed his views regarding appropriate pattern of investment for a labour surplus economy from one stressing capital goods to one stressing investments, which would bring about agricultural transformation and increase production of goods consumed by the poor.

Prof. Chakravarty underlined that main responsibilities of the state were to complete agrarian transition, to improve capacity to assimilate new technology and to improve health and education facilities, all necessary for a transition to a more humane society.

*\* Excerpts from the special lecture on Prof. Sukhamoy Chakravarty's Contributions to Development and Indian Policy, delivered by Prof. Manmohan Agarwal at RIS on 17 March 2017, New Delhi.*