



— Policy research shaping the global development agenda

RIS Remembers Prof. Sukhamoy Chakravarty

RIS Welcomes Its New Chairperson



Ambassador Hardeep S Puri
Chairperson, RIS

After a distinguished four decade career in diplomacy, Ambassador Hardeep S Puri has been appointed President of the General Body and Chairperson of the Governing Council of RIS. He served as Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in both Geneva (2002-2005) and New York (2009-2013). He is one of the few Indians to preside over the United Nations Security Council and the only one to have chaired its Counter-terrorism Committee.

We welcome Ambassador Hardeep S Puri as Chairperson of RIS.



(From left to right) Prof. Y.K. Alagh, Chancellor, Central University, Gujarat; Prof. Manmohan Agarwal, RBI Chair Professor, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram; Dr. V. S. Seshadri, Acting Chairman, RIS; Hon'ble Dr. Manmohan Singh, former Prime Minister of India and former Chairman, RIS; Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; and Prof. V.R. Panchamukhi, founder Director General, RIS.

Prof. Sukhamoy Chakravarty, Founder Vice-Chairman of RIS (1983-1990) was one of India's most acclaimed development economist. He had an abiding interest in issues relating to the philosophy and methodology of economic planning and development. He was the Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers to Indian Prime Ministers and served three successive Prime Ministers. He had also served as a Member of the Indian Planning Commission during 1970s. Prof. Chakravarty's life was dedicated to spreading of knowledge and making economic planning an useful exercise through his academic brilliance.

RIS has dedicated its Documentation Centre to the memory of Prof. Sukhamoy Chakravarty. On this occasion a special function was organized on 17 March 2017 where a Special Lecture was delivered by

Prof. Manmohan Agarwal, RBI Chair Professor, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram on the life and work of Prof. Sukhamoy Chakravarty.

Hon'ble Dr. Manmohan Singh, former Prime Minister of India and former Chairman, RIS graced the occasion and while chairing the session recalled his impressions about Prof. Chakravarty and his work. Prof. Y.K. Alagh, currently Chancellor, Central University at Gujarat and Prof. V.R. Panchamukhi, founder Director General, RIS also reminisced about the immense contribution made by Prof. Sukhamoy Chakravarty in the development planning process of the Indian economy. A large number of participants, that included some of the former colleagues from the research faculty of RIS, participated.

Director General, WTO Azevêdo at RIS

Negotiations relating to agriculture and fisheries at the WTO have always concerned India due to its vast population dependent on these sectors. RIS has been at the forefront of such deliberations. In continuation of this endeavour, RIS organized an interactive session with Mr. Roberto Azevêdo, Director General, WTO on 9 February 2017 at New Delhi. The session began with opening remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Professor, RIS; Dr. Mukesh Bhatnagar, Professor and Dr. Sachin Kumar Sharma, Assistant Professor, both from Centre for WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade; Dr. Ranja Sengupta, Senior Research Officer, Third World Network; Dr. Ashwani Mahajan, National Co-Convener, SJM; Ms. Dipa Sinha; Right



(Fourth from left) Mr. Roberto Azevêdo, Director General, WTO speaking at the interactive session.

to Food Campaign; Shri Yudhvir Singh, General Secretary, All India Coordination Committee of Farmers Movement, Dr. Vijoo Krishnan, Joint Secretary, All India Kisan Sabha made brief remarks on WTO issues

related to India and other developing countries. In his reply, the Director General, WTO called for collective efforts by the member countries to evolve consensus on the unresolved issues.

Consultation on SDGs: Focus on Affordable and Clean Energy

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development comprising Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), cover the three dimensions of development, i.e. social, economic and sustainability. India has already set for itself more ambitious targets in several areas of economic progress, inclusion and sustainability. The role of state governments is central to the implementation of these targets, as well as in designing convergence with the SDGs.

During the last several months, RIS has partnered with NITI Aayog for organizing National Consultations on SDGs. In this series, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), jointly with RIS and NITI Aayog, organized National Consultation on SDG 7 - "Affordable and Clean Energy" at New Delhi on 23 February, 2017.

Dr. Arvind Panagariya, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog delivered the Keynote address. Dr. Ashok Kumar



Dr. Arvind Panagariya, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog delivering the Keynote Address.

Jain, Adviser (Rural Development), NITI Aayog; Dr. Anil Kumar Jain, Additional Secretary, NITI Aayog; Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; and Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, TERI and Shri Amitabh Kant, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog also addressed the inaugural session.

The agenda included discussions on ensuring universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services; enhancement of share of clean and renewable energy to meet NDC commitments; and energy efficiency.

Emerging Perspectives on Blue Economy: Blue Economy Forum

As part of its research programme on Blue Economy, RIS had also brought out a comprehensive Report on 'The Prospects of Blue Economy for the Indian Ocean.' RIS has been conducting Blue Economy Dialogue for the IORA region under 1.5 track mode since 2015. As Blue Economy is important for India and the Indian Ocean region, RIS aims to consolidate its programme for greater outreach, debate, research, awareness and wider dissemination of research findings by forming the Blue Economy Forum (BEF). In this connection, RIS organized a Seminar on the "Emerging Perspectives on Blue Economy" on 23 January 2017 at New Delhi. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made remarks and Amb. V.



Launching of the Policy Brief on Unleashing the Potential of Blue Economy.

S. Seshadri, Vice-Chairman, RIS, chaired. On this occasion, the Policy Brief entitled "Unleashing the Potential of Blue Economy" was also launched.

Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Professor, RIS briefed about the aims and objectives of the newly launched Blue Economy Forum (BEF).

RIS Breakfast Seminar: Role of Financial Access and Financial Development on Firm's Exportability

In the RIS Breakfast Seminar Series, Seminar on the Role of Financial Access and Financial Development on Firm's Exportability: Empirical Evidence from Asia-Pacific was held on 3 January 2017 at RIS. Shri T.C.A. Ranganathan, former Chairman and Managing Director, EXIM Bank of India chaired. Dr. Durairaj Kumarasamy, Consultant, ASEAN India Centre at RIS was the speaker and presented findings of study on how access to finance and financial development affects ability of firms to export in Asia-Pacific countries. Using firm level data from World Bank Enterprises Survey, the study found that access to finance plays an important role in promoting these firm's ability to export. In addition, development in financial sector translates into a higher likelihood of firms entering into export market. The effect of financial development is more



Seminar on the Role of Financial Access and Financial Development in progress.

prominent in terms of reach of the banking sector. The study found that interplay between access to finance, financial development and location reduces the negative effect of location on firm's ability to export. The study suggests that improvement in access to finance and financial development (increase in reach of banking sector),

firms operating away from capital or main cities would find export market entry easier. The study supports that strengthening financial development would encourage firm's exportability, and also emphasises the need of access to finance to facilitate the firm's exporting activities for remotely located places.

Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report (APTIR) 2016

RIS organised a Seminar on Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report (APTIR) 2016: Main Findings and Implications for the Region on 16 February 2017 at New Delhi. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made welcome remarks. Amb. Jayant Dasgupta, former Ambassador of India to WTO chaired. Dr. Susan F. Stone, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok was the lead speaker. Her presentation was followed by an open discussion.



(First from left) Dr. Susan F. Stone, Director, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok. Amb. Jayant Dasgupta, former Ambassador of India to WTO chaired the meeting.

Delegation from Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs

A delegation from the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA) visited RIS for an interactive session on 21 February 2017. Members of the Chinese delegation included: Ambassador Lu Shumin, Executive Vice President of the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA); Ambassador Peng Keyu, Vice President of CPIFA; Mr. Mao Siwei, Former Consul General to Kolkata; Professor M.A. Jiali, Director of Centre of Strategic Studies China Reform Forum; Mr. Y.E. Hailin, Editorial Director of South Asia Studies, National Institute of International Strategy, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; Ms. Shen Jun, Director of the Department

of Asian, African and Latin American Affairs (CPIFA); Dr. Zeng Aiping, Research Associate of China Institute of International Studies; and Ms Lin Minxue, Staff of CPIFA present from the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) was Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Research Fellow. The RIS delegation included: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General; Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Professor; Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Professor; Prof. T.C. James, Visiting Fellow; Dr. T.P. Rajendran, Visiting Fellow; Dr. Beena Pandey, Research Associate; Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor; Dr. Priyadarshi Dash, Research Associate; Dr. Amit Kumar, Research Associate; and Dr. Sushil Kumar, Consultant.



Members of the Chinese delegation at the interactive session.

Transforming India 2030

The Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Symbiosis International University; RIS; NITI Aayog and UN Information Centre for India and Bhutan organised International Conference on Transforming India 2030: Strategies for Sustainable Development Goals on 15-17 February 2017 at Pune. The themes for discussions included: Poverty and Inequalities; Education & Gender; Sustainable Cities; Jobs and Economic Growth; Partnership for the Goals. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made presentation in the session on Partnership for the Goals. The detailed agenda is available on RIS website: www.ris.org.in

FIDC Seminar Series on Re-engineering of Western Aid

As part of FIDC Monthly Seminar Series, a presentation by Dr. Emma Mawdsley on "Re-engineering of Western Aid: New Opportunities and Challenges" was organized on 22 February 2017 at New Delhi. The programme began with welcome remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Mr. Dinkar Asthana, Joint Secretary (DPA-II), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India chaired.

Dr. Mawdsley explained the underlying domestic and external premises of Western aid and also alluded to the fact that related policy making cannot be bereft of 'non-rational' influences. Contestation of North-South divide, according to the speaker, was a positive assessment of the aid debate along with inclusion of the private sector in all of its diversity. The speaker also talked about the shift in global



(From left) Dr. Emma Mawdsley speaking at the seminar. Shri Dinkar Asthana, Joint Secretary (DPA-II), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India chaired the meeting.

economy from manufacturing and services sector to finance (investment banking, insurance, arbitration, asset management, venture capital, currency trading and so on). This transition was termed as 'Financialisation' by the speaker. Different scales of 'financialisation' were also explained in form of International Political

Economy and Microfinance. She ended her presentation by explaining the deepening Financialisation-Development nexus today through the discussions regarding: the move from 'foreign aid' to 'development finance'; the relationships between micro and macro circuits of financial interests and institutions; and trends amongst bilateral donors.

Report on India-Singapore CECA Released

AIC at RIS in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organized the release of the Report titled 'India-Singapore: Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)' on 27 March 2017, at New Delhi. Ms Rita Teotia, Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India and Ambassador Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India released the AIC-RIS Report entitled "India-Singapore: Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)", written by Dr. V.S. Seshadri, Acting Chairman, RIS. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS delivered the Welcome Address. Opening Remarks were given by Mr. Shreekanth Somany, Member, CII National Council and Chairman and Managing Director, Somany Ceramics Ltd. Smt. Rita Teotia,



Ms Rita Teotia, Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India and Ambassador Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, launching the Report on India-Singapore: Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA).

Commerce Secretary delivered the Special Address. Ambassador Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs also gave the Special Address. Remarks were made by Dr. Edmund Chia, Acting High Commissioner, Singapore High Commission and Mr. Gagan Sabharwal, Director, NASSCOM.

Dr. V.S. Seshadri made a presentation on the Report. The Report examines the India-Singapore bilateral economic relations in the light of CECA and ASEAN-India FTA. This Report carries important policy implications to encourage bilateral trade and investment. Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC extended the Vote of Thanks.

2nd International Conference on Cultural and Civilizational Links between India and Southeast Asia

ASEAN-India Centre at RIS in collaboration with the Indian Mission to ASEAN; ASEAN Secretariat; Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; and Indonesian Foreign Ministry organized the 2nd International Conference on Cultural and Civilizational Links between India and ASEAN at Jakarta on 19th January 2017. Amb. Suresh K. Reddy, Ambassador of India to ASEAN gave the Opening Remarks. General (Dr.) V.K. Singh (Rtd.), Minister of State of External Affairs, Government of India extended a Keynote Address. Special Address was given by Mr. A. M. Fachir, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia. Mr. Vongthep Arthakaivalvatee, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN and Mr Nguyen Quoc Dzung, Dy. Foreign Minister, Vietnam delivered the Remarks. Amb. Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India gave the Valedictory Address. Dr. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC gave the Vote of Thanks.

All the ASEAN countries nominated their officials and



Participants of the conference on Cultural and Civilizational Links between India and ASEAN.

experts to the Conference, and overall 100 participants including senior officials attended this one-day event. This Conference was the follow up of the 1st International Conference on “ASEAN-India Cultural Links: Historical and Contemporary Dimensions”, held at New Delhi on 23-24 July 2015. The 2nd Conference was also the first event to commemorate the celebration of 25th anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue partnership. The Conference was divided into

four sessions to identify emerging challenges to ASEAN-India strategic partnership through people to people connectivity and cultural relations, and to identify the feasible policy options to overcome the challenges from the perspective of ASEAN community blueprints. The Conference discussed, analysed and had put together the various components that would help understanding cultural links between ASEAN and India.

Delegation from Symbiosis School of International Studies

A group of 32 students from Symbiosis School of International Studies, Pune visited RIS on 24 February 2017 for an interactive session. The group was led by Dr. Shivali Lawale, Director, SSIS. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Professor, RIS addressed the group of students on the research activities of RIS.



Interactive session with RIS faculty members.

Consultation on “Traditional Medicine”

On 19 January 2017, RIS, in association with the Ministry of AYUSH, organized stakeholders consultation on developing a strategy on issues related to "Traditional Medicine including Trade, Standards and IPR". The objective of the consultation was to consider steps to be initiated for regular discussion, monitoring and strategizing of global developments, including IPRs and other regulatory measures, that impinge on the prospects of Indian Traditional Medicine (ITM), and strategies to improve access to ITM globally, and also ways to provide for more research studies on Traditional Medicines. Participants were from industry, academic institutions, government departments and organizations and civil society.

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS welcomed the participants and spoke about the technical barriers to trade in ITM products. Mr. Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS in his presidential address emphasised the need to safeguard our traditional knowledge and also the constant need to mobilise this knowledge for health. Shri Ajit M Sharan, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush in his inaugural address highlighted the issues related to benefit sharing in case of access to traditional knowledge. He also called for informed debate to integrate the social and legal perspectives to develop comprehensive view



Shri Ajit M. Sharan, Secretary, Ministry of Ayush addressing the inaugural session.

on the development of ITM and other traditional knowledge. Shri Anil Kumar Ganeriwala, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Ayush spoke about the globalization of Yoga and also highlighted that India’s stand in World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) requires the development of a comprehensive national strategy. Dr Ghazala Javed, Scientist-IV in the Ministry of Ayush gave an overview of globalization of AYUSH systems and the challenges in taking advantage of the opportunities for internationalization of the systems.

It was stated that a Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine is needed to provide regular inputs to the Ministry on Trade, Standards, Traditional Knowledge and IPR related issues. The consultation fully

endorsed RIS proposal for the setting up of a Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM). The participants in the open discussion included, among others, Dr H. Purushotam, CMD, NRDC, Directors of research organizations under the Ministry of Ayush; Advisers, Directors and other technical officers of the Ministry of AYUSH; representatives of other Ministries of the Government of India, academics from universities and research institutes, representatives of industry organisations, and civil society organisations. Prof. T C James, Visiting Fellow, RIS in his concluding remarks proposed that RIS, taking note of the various suggestions made during the consultation, would make appropriate proposal to the Ministry of AYUSH.

A Roundtable on India’s Development Cooperation in Bangladesh

A Roundtable on India’s Development Cooperation in Bangladesh was jointly organized by PRIA; FIDC; and OXFAM India in New Delhi on 24 March 2017. Dr. Rajesh Tandon, Founder-President, PRIA chaired the session

on India’s Development Cooperation with Bangladesh: Key Findings. Mr. Kaustuv Chakrabarti, Senior Programme Officer, PRIA made the presentation. The prominent discussants were: Amb. Pinak Ranjan Chakrabarti, Distinguished Fellow,

ORF; and former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India; and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Dr. Ranu Bhogal, Director-Policy, Research & Campaigns, Oxfam India extended the vote of thanks.

Nigerian South-South Solidarity Models

RIS organized the monthly Breakfast Seminar on the topic of “Nigerian South-South Solidarity Models: Driving Force, Inspirations and Foreign Policy Focus” on 7 February 2017. Dr Saidu Nasiru Sulaiman, Consultant, RIS made a presentation on this topic. It was followed by open discussion.



Seminar on Nigerian South-South Solidarity Models in progress.

Interactive Session on Agenda for BRICS Summit

A five member delegation from the China Center for Contemporary World Studies (CCWS) visited on 22 March 2017 for an interactive session. The member of the Chinese delegation were Dr. Chai Shangjin, Senior Research Fellow; Dr. Wang Liyong; Dr. Chen Ying; Dr. Wu Hang, Associate Research Fellow; Dr. Zhou Yuyun, Counsellor, Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in India. The main purpose of discussion was to exchange views on BRICS think tank cooperation and other international issues of mutual interest. From RIS Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, Prof. S.K. Mohanty; Prof. Ram Upendra Das; Dr. Beena Pandey and Dr. Sabyasachi Saha were present.

For the benefit of the visiting delegation, Prof Sachin Chaturvedi

made a short presentation on the RIS work programme followed by brief interventions by RIS faculty on their individual areas of expertise and research. The visiting delegation appreciated the overlap of interests and opportunities of deeper academic collaboration between the two institutes as well as possibilities of future dialogues. This meeting of the two important think tanks

assumes special significance in the context of BRICS related work programmes and the opportunities of cooperation during the Chinese Presidency of BRICS in 2017. On the request of the visiting delegation, RIS shared details on the programme and outcomes of the BRICS Academic and Civil Society Forums held in 2016 during India's Chairmanship of the BRICS.



The members of the Chinese delegation with RIS faculty members.

Biodiversity Consensus for Sustainable Development

RIS in collaboration with the NITI Aayog, the UN and the WWF for organized the “National Consultation on Sustainable Development Goals : Integrating Biodiversity Concerns, Ecosystem Values and Climate Resilience for India’s Sustainable Development” with Focus on SDGs 13, 14 and 15 in New Delhi on

8-9 February 2017. The agenda included themes such as SDG 15 Life on Land- Terrestrial Ecosystems Conservation and Human Well-Being; SDG 14 Life below Water-Sustainable Management of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems; SDG 13 Build Resilience and Combat Climate Change and its Impacts; Sub group

Recommendations and Next Steps. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS addressed the inaugural session and presented an overview of SDGs 13, 14 and 15. Prof. S.K. Mohanty presented recommendations and also spoke about the next steps. The agenda is available on RIS website: www.ris.org.in

International Conference on Indo-Bangladesh Multi Sectoral Cooperation

RIS jointly with the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata, The Nehru Memorial Museum Library (NMML) and Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi organized an International Conference on Indo-Bangladesh Multi Sectoral Cooperation at New Delhi on 23-24 January 2017. Mr. M. J. Akbar, Hon'ble Minister of State (MOS), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India chaired the inaugural session. Mr. Mozammel Haque, MP, Hon'ble Minister of Liberation War Affairs, Government of Bangladesh was the chief guest. Mr. Arindam Mukherjee, Secretary, Institute of Social and Cultural Studies delivered the welcome address. Ms. Sripriya Ranganathan, Joint Secretary (BM), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India delivered the keynote address. Mr. Syed Muazzem Ali, Hon'ble High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India and Dr. Sachchidanand Joshi,



Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi speaking at the conference. Also seen in the picture Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Government of India.

Member Secretary, IGNC, New Delhi were the guests of honour. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS was one of the lead speakers in the session on "India Bangladesh Economic Cooperation: Challenges and Opportunities". Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani Hon'ble Minister of Textiles, Government of India chaired the session. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi also addressed the participants on way

ahead in the valedictory session. Justice A. H. M. Shamsuddin Choudhury, former Judge, Supreme Court of Bangladesh chaired the session. Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of States (Independent Charge) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India was the chief guest.

The detailed agenda is available on RIS website: www.ris.org.in

India-Africa Economic Partnership

India supports Africa's economic integration. While India engages with all African nations individually, the country also works closely with different African regional bodies for the purpose of creating common public goods that may be accessed by a greater number of people. India thus further bilateral cooperation with ECOWAS, COMESA, and EAS. At the same time, India looks to partner Africa in leveraging the market opportunities that are available to Africa by virtue of pacts like the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). In what ways can India help Africa to get the best out of the opportunities that regional and international agreements provide? How such agreements can yield long-term bilateral institutional partnerships



Prof. Ram Upendra Das at 12th CII-EXIM Bank Conclave on 'India-Africa Economic Partnership' organized by EXIM Bank in collaboration with Government of India & Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Government of India, New Delhi on 10 March, 2017.

and business collaborations? These and other questions were deliberated

upon in the 12th CII EXIM Bank Conclave.

Capacity Building Programme

ITEC Programme on Science Diplomacy



Prof. Baldev Raj, Director, National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) speaking at the inaugural session.

RIS launched the ITEC Capacity Building Programme on Science Diplomacy which was held during 9-20 January 2017 at New Delhi. The inaugural session began with welcome remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Shri Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS chaired the inaugural session at which Prof. Baldev Raj, Director, National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore delivered the inaugural address. Mr. Dinkar Asthana, Joint Secretary (DPA

II), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and Dr. Sadhana Relia, Head, (International Cooperation), Department of Science and Technology, Government of India also spoke on this occasion. Dr. Amit Kumar, Research Associate, RIS extended the vote of thanks. Thirty two participants from twenty one countries took part in the programme.

The programme of the capacity building on science diplomacy included following themes: Culture and Science Diplomacy; Global

Engagements in pursuit of Earth System Science and Services- An Indian Experience; South-South and North-South Discourse in STI; Science Diplomacy and SDGs; Sectoral Focus: Health; Stress Management; Agriculture; Science Diplomacy and TFM; Dual-Use S&T in India's Foreign Policy; Indian Science Diplomacy: Some Game Changing Moments, a Ringside View of a Science Journalist; Role of Science Diplomacy in Technology Transfer; Blue Economy; Technology Transfer and CDM; Role of Science Diplomacy in Capacity-Building in South; International R&D Architecture and Science Diplomacy; Rural Innovation and Science Diplomacy; Convergence of Technologies- Opportunities and Challenges; and Strengthening SSC using Science Diplomacy.

The prominent speakers, who addressed the participants, included: Dr. T. Ramasami, Former Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India; Dr. Shailesh Nayak, Distinguished Scientist and Former Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India; Dr. V. Siddhartha, Former Secretary of Science Advisory Council to



Participants of the ITEC programme on Science Diplomacy with RIS faculty members.

Capacity Building Programme

the Prime Minister of India and Emeritus Scientist, DRDO; Dr. H. Purushotham, Chairman and Mg. Director, National Research Development Corporation (NRDC); Dr. S R Rao, Advisor, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India; Dr. S.K. Saxena, Director,

Export Inspection Council of India; Dr. Sachin Goyal, Senior Consultant, Antarnaad; Prof. Pranav N Desai, Professor, Centre for Studies in Science Policy, JNU; Prof. Aradhana Aggarwal, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark; Dr. Praveen Arora, Head, CHORD, Department of

Science and Technology, Government of India; Dr. Rajeswari Raina, Principal Scientist, CSIR-National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies (NISTADS); Dr. Pallava Bagla, Science Editor, NDTV and Columnist, Press Trust of India.

Capacity Building Programme on “International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP)” under the ITEC / SCAAP

RIS conducted its annual flagship Capacity Building Programme on “International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP)” under the ITEC / SCAAP Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India from 13 February 2017 to 10 March 2017 at New Delhi. More than 32 participants from 24 different countries participated in the programme. The programme covered the following themes:

Multilateralism, Mega Regionals, and WTO; International Trade Architecture and Challenges for Multilateralism; The Agreement

on Agriculture and Food Security in Developing Countries; Development Compact as a Pivot of Economic Cooperation in the South; Importance of G20 and Issues in Global Financial Architecture; Trade in Services and the GATS; South-South Cooperation in the Context of Global Governance; “Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report (APTIR) 2016: Main Findings and Implications for the Region”; Issues Related to Anti-Dumping and Subsidies in WTO; Emerging Architecture of Mega Regional Trade Arrangements; Understanding Agenda 2030 and SDGs; The Paris Climate Agreement and International Cooperation; Adoption of SDGs and

Sustainability Challenges; Science and Technology Cooperation in Addressing Sustainability; Statistical Systems in Developing Countries and SDG Indicators; Re-engineering of Western Aid: New Opportunities and Challenges; Developing Countries and Sustainable Energy; Evolving Dynamics of India-Africa Partnership; Regional Integration in South Asia; India-EU Relations: The Road Ahead; Understanding G20 and BRICS from a Developing Country Perspective; and India’s Energy Sector.

For more information kindly visit RIS website www.ris.org.in



Participants of the ITEC programme on IEIDP with RIS faculty members.

Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General

- Participated in the International Panel Discussion on India-Afghanistan: Current Relations and Future Directions organised jointly by Maulana Abdul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS) and Institute of Social and Cultural Studies (ISCS) on 4 January 2017 at Kolkata.
- Participated in the session on 'Role of Diaspora in transferring knowledge and encouraging innovation' at the 14th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) 2017 Seminar on Convention, organised jointly by Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and FICCI on 7 January 2017 at Bangalore.
- Made a presentation on 'Voluntary National Reviews (VNRS) for HLPF 2017 Template for India' at the meeting of the Task Force for preparing India's VNR organised by NITI Aayog on 9 January 2017 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Evaluation and the SDGs' in the Seminar on Dialogues on Brazilian South-South Cooperation: M&E organised jointly by the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio), Institute of International Relations (IRI/PUC-Rio) and BRICS Policy Center on 16 January 2017 at Brazil.
- Made a presentation on Quantification of South-South Cooperation in the Seminar on 'Dialogues on Brazilian South-South Cooperation: M&E' organised jointly by the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio), Institute of International Relations (IRI/PUC-Rio) and BRICS Policy Center on 17 January 2017 at Brazil.
- Participated in the Meeting on Trade and Investment under the Group of Secretaries on Commerce and Industry organised by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India on 19 January 2017 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'India-Africa relations: New Economic Reality' at the Induction Training Programme for Indian Foreign Service Officer Trainees organised by the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs on 20 January 2017 at New Delhi.
- Panelist at the session on 'TrC from pivotal countries' perspectives' at the NIDC Forum 2017 on Triangular Cooperation: Lesson learned and future prospect organised jointly by the Network of International Development Cooperation (NIDC), The Asia Foundation (TAF), Thailand Research Fund (TRF), and Thammasat University on 26 January 2016 at Bangkok, Thailand.
- Participated in the half-day event on Leveraging national and global evidence on governance and service delivery in India organised jointly by 3ie, GDN and the Campbell Collaboration, and International Initiative for Impact Evaluation on 9 February 2017 at New Delhi.
- Addressed the closing session of the South Asian Speakers' Summit on Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Strengthening regional cooperation and resources for the SDGs organised jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and Parliament of India on 18-19 February 2017, Indore.
- Addressed the concluding session on Advocacy and Alliance for Development Cooperation at the National Seminar and Consultation on 'Future of Development Cooperation: Policy Priorities for an Emerging India' organised jointly by Institute for Sustainable Development and Governance (ISDG) and OXFAM, India on 20 February 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Breakfast Meeting and Speaker at the Roundtable Discussion on India's Rising Economic Clout and Global Role: The Nexus of Growth and Poverty and its Relevance to US Policy organised by Aspen Congressional Conference on 'India's Emergence and Development Challenges: Policy Implications for the U.S.' held on 20-21 February 2017 at New Delhi.
- Delivered Keynote Address at the inaugural session of International Conference on 'Sustainable Energy and Environmental Challenges (SEEC-2017)' organised jointly by International Society for Energy, Environment and Sustainability (ISEES) and Centre for Innovative and Applied Bioprocessing on 26 February 2017 at Mohali.
- Delivered inaugural address at the Seminar on Nepal-Bharat Relations: Economics Development and Cooperation organised jointly by Neeti Anusandhan Pratishthan, Nepal (NeNAP), Indian Council for International Co-operation and Nepal-Bharat Sahayog Manch (NBSM), Birgunj on 3-4 March, 2017 at Birgunj, Nepal.
- Participated in the International Symposium on Research Institute Network Meeting (RINM) on 'New Normal, Integration and Inequality' organised by Bangkok Research Center, IDE-JETRO, Secretariat on 7 March 2017 at Jakarta, Indonesia.

Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

- Delivered Keynote Address at the Inaugural Session and made a presentation on 'Socio-Economic Assessment of LMOs: Outcome and Way Forward' at the Workshop on Phase II Capacity Building Project on Biosafety: Outcome and the way forward organised by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on 15 March 2017 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'SDG Target and Proposed National Indicators, 2017' at the National Consultation on Goal 5: Achieve Gender Equality and Empower All Women and Girls - Collaborators organised jointly by Partnering Hope into Action (Phia) Foundation and Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (WNTA) on 17 March 2017 at New Delhi.
- Chaired a session on Enabling Startups for Fostering Inclusive Growth: National Perspectives at the 43rd NRDC Meritorious Invention Awards Ceremony & Conference on 'Leveraging Innovation Ecosystem for Accelerating Startups', organised by National Research Development Corporation on 24 March 2017 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'India's Evolving Development Cooperation' at the Inception Workshop on Capstone 10 Project on India's development cooperation organised by O. P. Jindal Global University on 27 March 2017 at New Delhi
- Made a presentation on 'Development Oriented Trade Policies and Cooperation: Exploring New Vistas for India-Kenya Partnership' at the Seminar on Connectivity Revisited: India, Kenya and the Indian Ocean organised jointly by High Commission of India, Nairobi, Asian African Heritage

Trust, Nairobi and Institute for Social and Cultural Studies, India on 28 March 2017 at Nairobi.

Prof. S. K. Mohanty

- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on Blue Economy Forum held in the Ministry of External Affairs on 11 January 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on Blue Economy Forum, held in the Ministry of Earth Science on 11 January 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on "Port Logistics Issues & Challenges in India", organized by NITI Aayog on 16 January 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on India-Mauritius Joint Study Group, held in the Department of Commerce on 18 January 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting of Group on "Trade and Investment" under the Group of Secretaries on Commerce & Industry, held in the Department of Commerce on 19 January 2017.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on Trade and Investment, held in the Department of Commerce on 27 January 2017 at New Delhi.

- Presented a joint paper on "Is Economic Performance of South Asia Robust?: Sustained Regional Development Possible with Strong Regional Governance" at the Discussion Meeting organized by UMISARC & Centre for South Asian Studies, Pondicherry University on 7 February 2017.
- Chaired the IERA Award 2016 First Jury Meeting, organised by the EXIM Bank of India on 13 February 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Meetings of Taskforce on Blue Economy, organised by FICCI, on 16 and 20 February 2017.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on Bilateral Trade Linkages of India with Iran, Bangladesh, Maldives and Afghanistan held in the Department of Commerce on 21 February 2017.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on Trade Promotion Events in EU and LAC, held in the Department of Commerce on 28 February 2017 at New Delhi.
- Participated in Discussion Meeting of the 'India-Mauritius Joint Study Group', held in the Department of Commerce on 20 March 2017.



Prof. Ram Upendra Das at T20 Africa Conference themed 'Africa and the G20: Building alliances for sustainable development' organized by the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), Johannesburg, South Africa on 1-3 February 2017.

Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

Prof. Ram Upendra Das

- Participated in meetings on Joint Feasibility Study Group (JFSG) between Indian and EaEU FTA organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 6, 9, 18 & 30 January, 2017.
- Participated in the “First Committee Meeting of the Economic Affairs Committee” organized by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 6 January, 2017.
- Participated as a resource person in the 50th session of the APTA Standing Committee on Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement: A future roadmap on 11-12 January, 2017 and The Fourth session of the Ministerial Council of APTA on 13 January, 2017 organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) held at Bangkok, Thailand.
- Participated in the meeting on India-South Korea Bilateral Economic Relations organized by the Embassy of South Korea, New Delhi on 17 January 2017.
- Participated in Discussion meeting with Prof. (Dr.) Idesbald Goddeeris, Katholic University of Leuven, Belgium, organized by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi on 23 January, 2017.
- Participated in a Discussion Meeting on Trade and Investment organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 27 January, 2017.
- Participated as a panelist in the T20 Africa Conference on Africa and the G20: Building alliances for sustainable development organized by the South African Institute of



Prof. Ram Upendra Das at a Workshop on 'Trade Facilitation in Services (TFS)' organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and World Bank, New Delhi on 23-24 March, 2017.

- Participated in a Brainstorm Session on Rules of Origin negotiations under FTAs organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India, New Delhi on 7 February, 2017.
- Made a presentation on “Employment potential of trade” organized by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India, New Delhi on 14 February, 2017.
- Participated in a preparatory meeting on “Sub-Regional Cooperation between Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) organized by Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi on 14 February, 2017.
- Participated in a Discussion Meeting on RCEP Rules of Origin organized by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India, New Delhi on 15 February, 2017.
- Made a presentation on New Markets New Opportunities: Destination CIS organized by PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 21 February, 2017.
- Made a presentation on India as an Economic Hub for Integrating East and South-East Asia with the Rest of Asia in a Seminar organized by ERIA, Jakarta, Indonesia on 23-26 February, 2017.
- Participated in a Discussion Meeting on India-NAFTA Trade Relations organized by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 28 February, 2017.
- Participated in a Discussion Meeting on FTA with EaEU Countries organized by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 3, 9 and 27 March, 2017.
- Participated in a Discussion Meeting on Trade Facilitation of Seminars organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 07 March, 2017.
- Panelist in the 12th CII EXIM Bank Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnership organized

Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

by EXIM Bank in collaboration with Government of India & Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), New Delhi on 10 March, 2017.

- Participated in a Discussion Meeting on India's proposal on Trade Facilitation in Services (TFS) organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 20 March, 2017.
- Participated as a moderator at the Workshop on Trade Facilitation in Services (TFS) organized by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and World Bank, New Delhi on 23-24 March, 2017.
- Moderated a session in the 10th IDSA South Asia Conference on Economics of Connectivity: Perspective from the Region organized by the Institute for Defence Studies & Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi on 28 March, 2017.

Prof. T. C. James

Visiting Fellow

- Participated as Indian Geographical Indications Expert and made presentations on Commercialisation of Indian Geographical Indications (GIs) in the Workshops on GIs for Producers, Advisors and Attorneys organised by European Union Intellectual Property Office in Kochi, Chennai, Vijayawada and Bengaluru on 16, 18, 20, and 21 January, 2017 respectively.
- Participated in the International Seminar on 'Globalisation and India's innovation System: A Creative Destruction' organised by the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam on 4-6 February, 2017 and spoke about 'Neglected Tropical Diseases and R&D' and also chaired few sessions.
- Spoke at the Cochin University of Science and Technology about

the 'Patent Office Reforms as a response to the TRIPS Agreement' on 6th February, 2017 in Kochi.

- Addressed the scientists of CSIR on 'IPRs and Ethics in R&D' at CSIR HRDC, Ghaziabad on 9 February, 2017.
- Attended the South Asian Speakers' Summit held in Indore on 18 February 2017.
- Gave an Invited Talk on the subject 'Biodiversity, Health and Well-being' at the National Biodiversity Congress 2017 on 24 February, 2017 at Thiruvananthapuram.
- Addressed District Judges of Delhi in the Conference on Integration of Knowledge, Skill and Attitude in Adjudication organized by the Delhi Judicial Academy on 03 March 2017
- Gave a special talk on 'Scope of Geographical Indications for MSME' on 4th March, 2017 during the One-Day Training Programme for Awareness/Sensitization on IPR for MSME sponsored by the Ministry of MSME held at Indian Society for International Law, New Delhi.
- Delivered the keynote address at the Swarna Jayanti One day National Seminar on Awareness on Intellectual Property Rights organised by the Pt. B D Sharma University of Health Sciences, Rohtak on 17 March, 2017.
- Participated in the Asia Pacific Conference: Taking Collective Action to Accelerate Transformation of Official Statistics for Agenda 2030 on 27-28 March 2017 and Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development in Bangkok, Thailand, on 29 March, 2017. The Conference stressed the need to have National Strategy for Development of Statistics. In the Asia Pacific Forum, a

NITI Aayog-RIS pavilion was set up and literature and other publicity material on India's efforts on SDG were presented and provided to visitors.

Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas

Visiting Fellow

- Made a Presentation on Global Value Chains, Seeds and Competition Law at the Conference on Global Value Chains in Competition Law' at Faculty of Laws, UCL, London, 1 February 2017.
- Participated in the Seminar on Alternatives in the Making?: Commons and Open Source Approaches to Plant Varieties/Seeds at CIRAD, Montpellier, France on 8 March 2017.
- Delivered talk on Science and Technology and Innovation Policies and Access, Equity and Inclusion: Issues in Theory, Practice and Measurement at CCS, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore on 22 March 2017.

Dr. Priyadarshi Dash

Research Associate

- Made presentation on BRICS Financial Cooperation: Identified Areas and Further Scope at the 2017 BRICS Think Tank Symposium on Strengthening Financial Cooperation and Promoting BRICS Development held at Chongyang Institute of Financial Studies (RDCY), Renmin University of China, Beijing, China on 22 March 2017.
- Made presentation on Prospects of BRICS: Sino-India Cooperation in BRICS Frame at the Centre for South Asia-West China Cooperation and Development Studies, Sichuan University, Chengdu, China on 23 March 2017.

Latest Publications

REPORTS



Economic Integration and Development Partnerships: Southern Perspectives
RIS, New Delhi, 2017



India-Singapore CECA: An Appraisal
V. S. Seshadri
RIS & AIC, New Delhi, 2017



Report of the Seminar on Heart of Asia and Connectivity: Summary of Proceedings
RIS, New Delhi, 2017

RIS DISCUSSION PAPERS

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RIS POLICY BRIEF

#77 **Indian Economy and Demonetisation: Way Forward** by Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, January 2017

JOURNAL

Asian Biotechnology and Development Review
Vol. 18 No. 3, November 2016

RIS DIARY

Vol. 13 No. 1, January 2017

BLUE ECONOMY POLICY BRIEF

Unleashing the Potential of Blue Economy by
S.K. Mohanty, Priyadarshi Dash and Aastha
Gupta, RIS, New Delhi, 2016

Contributions to Outside Publications by RIS Faculty

Das, Ram Upendra. 2016. "The Central Asian Republics" in Mr. Joong-Wan Cho and Mr. Rajan Sudesh Ratna (eds.): *The Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement: Promoting South-South Regional Integration and Sustainable Development*, Bangkok: UNESCAP.

Das, Ram Upendra. 2016. "Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement: A Future Roadmap" in Mr. Joong-Wan Cho and Mr. Rajan Sudesh Ratna (eds.): *The Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement: Promoting South-South Regional Integration and Sustainable Development*, Bangkok: UNESCAP.

Das, Ram Upendra and Anup Kumar Jha. 2017. "India, Russia to step up geopolitical and economic cooperation in 2017." *Russia and India Report*. Russia Beyond The Headlines, 23 January.

Das, Ram Upendra. 2017. "Coherent G20 Policies towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" *G20 Insights*, 10 March.

De, Prabir. 2017. "Ways to Strengthen Cooperation between BIMSTEC and IORA", in Yogendra Kumar (ed.) *Whither Indian Ocean Maritime Order? Contributions to a Seminar on Narendra Modi's SAGAR Speech*, Knowledge World, New Delhi.

De, Prabir and Sreya Pan. 2017. *Enhancing Economic Relations between India and Mongolia: Tasks and Opportunities*. Knowledge World, New Delhi.

Srinivas, K. Ravi. 2017. 'Why Public Engagement Matters in Science'. *Trends in Biotechnology*, Vol 35 Issue 4 April.



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