



— Policy research to shape the international development agenda

## Ambassador Shyam Saran Chairman, RIS



*Ambassador Shyam Saran*

The Prime Minister's Special Envoy for Indo-US civil nuclear issues and Chief Negotiator on Climate Change, Ambassador Shyam Saran has been appointed Chairman of RIS. For his distinct contribution to the Indian civil service, the President of India awarded him Padma Bhushan in 2011. After a career spanning 34 years in the Indian Foreign Service, Ambassador Shyam Saran was appointed as India's Foreign Secretary in 2004 and held that position till his superannuation from service in September 2006. He holds a post-Graduate degree in Economics.

Ambassador Shyam Saran served as Prime Minister's personal representative or "Sherpa" at the Gleneagles and St. Petersburg G8+G5 Summits and was present at the Toyako and L'Aquila Summits as an adviser on climate change issues. He also attended the Pittsburg G-20 Summit as a member of the Indian delegation.

After joining the Indian Foreign Service in 1970, he served in several capitals of the world including Beijing, Tokyo and Geneva. He has been India's Ambassador to Myanmar, Indonesia and Nepal and High Commissioner to Mauritius.

*continued on page 4*

## World Conference on Recreating South Asia: Democracy, Social Justice and Sustainable Development



*His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Nasheed, President, Republic of Maldives delivering the inaugural address. Also present on dais (from left to right): Dr. Ajay Chhibber, Assistant Secretary General and Regional Director for Asia and Pacific, UNDP, New York; Prof. Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Laureate, Founder and Managing Director, Grameen Bank; Prof. M. G. K. Menon, President, India International Centre, New Delhi; Prof. Amartya Sen, Nobel Laureate, Thomas W. Lamont University Professor, Harvard University; and Prof Muchkund Dubey, President of Council for Social Development and Chairman, Research Advisory Council of RIS and Co-Chair, SACEPS at the Inaugural Plenary.*

RIS, jointly with the South Asia Centre for Policy Studies, Kathmandu and India International Centre, New Delhi; organized a two-day World Conference on Recreating South Asia: Democracy, Social Justice and Sustainable Development in New Delhi on 24-26 February 2011. The brains trust behind the Conference was Prof Muchkund Dubey, President of Council for Social Development Chairman, Research Advisory Council, RIS and Co-Chair, SACEPS. The Conference was supported by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN-Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

His Excellency Mr. Mohamed Nasheed, President, Republic of Maldives delivered the inaugural address. Prof. Amartya Sen, Nobel Laureate, Thomas W. Lamont University

Professor, Harvard University delivered the keynote address. Prof. Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Laureate, Founder and Managing Director, Grameen Bank; and Dr. Ajay Chhibber, Assistant Secretary General and Regional Director for Asia and Pacific, UNDP, New York also delivered special addresses at the inaugural plenary.

The Conference took up the following themes for discussion: South Asian monetary and financial cooperation and its contribution to redesigning the emerging global financial architecture; democracy; inclusive growth; environment; peace; civilization and culture. Eminent speakers included Hon'ble Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of India; Hon'ble Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, Finance Minister, Bangladesh; Hon'ble Dr. Ram

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# Fifth Asian Biotechnology and Development Conference

The Fifth Asian Biotechnology and Development Conference (ABDC) on 'Bringing Benefits of Biotechnology to Small Economies' was held at Kandy, Sri Lanka on 15-17 December 2010. The Conference was organized jointly by RIS and the Council for Agricultural Research Policy (CARP), Sri Lanka in collaboration with the Michigan State University (MSU), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and was supported by many organizations from public and private sectors.

His Excellency Mahinda Yapa Abayawardane, the Hon' Minister of Agriculture, Sri Lanka inaugurated the Conference. H.E. Mr. K. E. Karunathilake, Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Sri Lanka; Dr. S.R. Rao, Coordinator, Asian Biotechnology, Innovation and Development Initiative (ABIDI); Dr. J.D. Samarasinghe, Chairman, Sri Lanka Council for Agricultural Research Policy; and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Senior Fellow, RIS also addressed the inaugural session. Ninety-eight delegates from 24 countries and representatives of seven international organizations/agencies participated in this conference.

The agenda of the conference had the following themes: Bringing benefits of biotechnology to small economies; biotechnology and development in Sri



*Inaugural Session of the Fifth Asian Biotechnology and Development Conference - Dignitaries on the dais: (from left to right) Dr.Sachin Chaturvedi, Prof.J.D.Samarasinghe, Hon. Mahinda Yapa Abeywardene, Prof Tissa Vitarana, Mr. K. E. Karunathilake, Prof.Frank Fear, Prof.Karim Maredia and Dr.S.R.Rao.*

Lanka; Panel Discussion on Benefits from Advances in Biotechnology: Strategies and Policy Options for Small Economies; ABIDI: International Review; Agricultural Biotechnology and Health Biotechnology; Utilization of Agriculture Biotechnology; Access to Medicines and South-South Cooperation; Biotechnology and Society Interface; Accelerating South-South Cooperation; Emerging Policy Trends in

IPR, Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS); Emerging Research Trends: Biotechnology, Sustainability and Climate Change'; Panel Discussion on Ethical and Responsible Conduct of Research; Recommendations and the Way Forward. From RIS, Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Senior Fellow and Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas participated in the Conference. The Report of the Conference and presentations made are available on the RIS website: [www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in)



*Participants of the Fifth Asian Biotechnology and Development Conference.*

# Seminar on International Trade and Climate Change: Emerging Issues

RIS and the India Trade Promotion Organization (ITPO) organized a joint seminar on International Trade and Climate Change: Emerging Issues in New Delhi on 16 November 2010. Mr. Subas Pani, Chairman and Managing Director, ITPO gave the welcome address. Dr. Biswajit Dhar, Director General, RIS delivered the theme address.

The seminar had the technical sessions on Issues related to Market Access for Environmental Goods and Technology Transfer; and Global Carbon Market and India. The speakers were: Dr. Aparna Sawhney, JNU; Mr. K.M. Gopakumar, TWN; Mr. Bishal Thapa, ICF; Mr. R. K. Sethi, MoEF; and Dr. Kaushik Ranjan Bandyopadhyay, Senior Fellow, AITD. From RIS, presentations were made by Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Senior Fellow and Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Senior Fellow.



*Dr. Biswajit Dhar, Director General, RIS delivering the theme address. Also seen in the picture (from left to right): Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Senior Fellow; Mr. Subas Pani, Chairman and Managing Director, ITPO; and Mr. K.M. Gopakumar, TWN.*

## Dialogue on India-Baltic Sea Region Cooperation

The Baltic Sea Region (BSR) has been playing an important role in regional development in European Union (EU). The BSR Programme 2007-2013 is envisioned to promote regional development through transnational cooperation with participation of 11 European countries. In order to discuss the India-Baltic Sea Region (BSR) cooperation issues, RIS has organized a Dialogue on India-Baltic Sea Region (BSR) Cooperation on 1 February 2011 in New Delhi. Dr. Biswajit Dhar, Director-General, RIS made welcome remarks. Mr. Arvind Kumar, Additional Secretary and Adviser, Ministry of Shipping, Government of India; Mr. Pritam Banerjee, Head (International Policy and Trade), Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), New Delhi; and Mr. Pavel Svitil, Minister-Counsellor, and Dy. Head of Delegation, Delegation of the European Union to India, New Delhi made special addresses. Ms. Banashri Bose Harrison, Joint Secretary (Central Europe), Ministry of External



*(From left): Dr. Prabir De, Fellow, RIS; Dr. Biswajit Dhar, Director General, RIS; Ms. Banashri Bose Harrison, Joint Secretary (Central Europe), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Mr. Pavel Svitil, Minister-Counsellor, and Dy. Head of Delegation, Delegation of the European Union to India, New Delhi*

Affairs, Government of India gave the keynote address. From RIS, Dr. Prabir De, Fellow made a presentation on BSR-India Trade Exchange and Transnational Connectivity. Dr. Wiktor Szydarowski,

TransBaltic Project Manager made a presentation on TransBaltic: Implications for EU-India Cooperation. A team of 10 delegates from BSR participated in the discussion.

## World Conference....

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Sharan Mahat, former Finance Minister of Nepal; Hon'ble Mr. Mohamad Aslam, Minister of Housing and Environment, Republic of Maldives; Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan, Chairperson, IIC-Asia Project, India International Centre; Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, Chairman, M.S. Swaminathan Research, Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Bangladesh; Dr. Akmal Hussain, Distinguished Professor, Beaconhouse National University, Pakistan; Dr. Kamal Hossain, President, Gono Forum, Former Foreign Minister,

Dhaka; Dr. Gowher Rizvi, Adviser to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh; Dr. Syed Babar Ali, Co-Chair, SACEPS, Pro-Chancellor, LUMS, Lahore and Former President WWF; Mr. Shoaib Sultan Khan, Chairman, National Rural Support Programme, Pakistan; Mr. Muhammad Suheyl Umar, Director, Iqbal Academy, Pakistan; Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, IPS, Sri Lanka; Prof. Rounaq Jahan, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka; Prof. Deepak Nayyar, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Dr. T. K. Oommen, Professor Emeritus, JNU; Dr. Amit Mitra, Secretary General, FICCI; Dr. Ela Bhatt, Founder and General Secretary, SEWA; Prof. Imtiaz Ahmed,

Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh; Dr. R. K. Pachauri, Director General, The Energy & Resources Institute, New Delhi; Dr. Ashis Nandy, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Chief Economist and Director Micro Policy and Development Division, UNESCAP. From RIS Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman; Dr. Biswajit Dhar, Director-General; and Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Distinguished Fellow, participated. Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Senior Fellow, was the Coordinator of the Conference.



*Prof. Amartya Sen, Nobel Laureate, Thomas W. Lamont University Professor, Harvard University addressing the Conference on Recreating South Asia: Democracy, Social Justice and Sustainable Development.*



*Prof. Muhammad Yunus, Nobel Laureate, Founder and Managing Director, Grameen Bank addressing the Conference on Recreating South Asia: Democracy, Social Justice and Sustainable Development.*



*Hon'ble Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of India addressing the Conference on Recreating South Asia: Democracy, Social Justice and Sustainable Development.*



*Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS addressing the Conference on Recreating South Asia: Democracy, Social Justice and Sustainable Development.*

## Chairman, RIS

*continued from page 1*

In the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, Ambassador Shyam Saran headed the Economic Division and the Multilateral Economic Division and also headed the East Asia Division which handles relations with China and Japan. As a Joint Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office in 1991/92, he

advised the Prime Minister on foreign policy, nuclear and defence related issues.

Currently, Ambassador Shyam Saran is a member of the National Security Advisory Board under the National Security Council. He is also Senior Fellow with the Centre for Policy Research, a prestigious think tank, which covers a wide range of political, social

and economic issues, including foreign policy related issues. He speaks and writes regularly on a variety of subjects.

Under the able leadership and guidance of Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS, the institute will continue its endeavour for crossing new milestones and realizing all its goals.

## Glimpses of Some of the Events



## Capacity Building Programmes



*Participants of the RIS/ERIA Capacity Building Programme on Global and Regional Economic Cooperation Issues (GRECI) with RIS faculty members.*

**RIS/ERIA Capacity Building Programme on Global and Regional Economic Cooperation Issues (GRECI) Under the Framework of Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta**  
15 November-10 December 2010.

**Capacity Building Programme on International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP), under ITEC/SCAAP, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India**  
14 February-11 March 2011



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



*Participants of the Capacity-Building Programme on Trade and Economic Cooperation: Global and Regional Perspectives, organized for Diplomats from Afghanistan with RIS faculty members.*

**Capacity-Building Programme on Trade and Economic Cooperation: Global and Regional Perspectives for Diplomats from Afghanistan, on behalf of the Foreign Service Institute (FSI), Ministry of External Affairs**  
6 December 2010.

**Capacity-building Programme on Trade and Economic Cooperation: Global and Regional Perspectives for the foreign diplomats on behalf of the Foreign Service Institute (FSI), Ministry of External Affairs**  
10 January 2011.



*Participants of the Capacity-building Programme on Trade and Economic Cooperation: Global and Regional Perspectives with RIS faculty members.*

## Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

### Dr. Biswajit Dhar, Director-General

- Delivered a talk on Patent Protection and Indigenous Development in the Training Programme for Corporate Sector, organized by ISID in New Delhi on 5 October 2010.
- Participated in the Meeting on Traditional Knowledge, organized by FICCI in New Delhi on 8 November 2011.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on Climate Change, held in the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi on 10 November 2010.
- Participated in the Meeting Asian Development Cooperation Meeting convened by the Hon'ble Minister of Strategy & Finance, Republic of Korea in Seoul on 18-20 November 2010.
- Participated in the ADBI/ADB Asian FTA Forum meeting held in Beijing, China on 8- 9 December 2010.
- Participated in the Regional Institute Network Meeting, held in Bangkok on 8-9 January 2011.
- Chaired Panel III on Trade and Investment at the Conference on India-EU Economic Relations, organized by the Institute of Economic Growth in New Delhi on 14 January 2011.
- Participated in the Conference on India S&T 2011, organized by NISTAD in New Delhi on 20 January 2011.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on Traditional Knowledge, organized by FICCI in New Delhi on 20 January 2011.
- Inaugurated the seminar and delivered Keynote Address on Service Sector: An Agenda for India's Growth, organized by NIILM, Greater Noida on 4 March 2011.
- Delivered a lecture at the 42nd Refresher Course in Economics, organized by the Centre for Economic Studies, School of Social Sciences, JNU, New Delhi on 10 March 2011.
- Participated in 77th Meeting of the Governing Council of IHC, held in New Delhi on 4 March 2011.
- Chief Guest at the Conference on Agricultural Subsidies & Their

Distortions for Free Trade, organized by the Department of Economics, Hindu College, Delhi University on 11 March 2011.

- Spoke on the issue of South South cooperation at the Conference on Partners for Health in South-East Asia, organized by Who-India in New Delhi on 17 March 2011.
- Addressed the opening session of the National Seminar on Agriculture Policy Reforms, organized IIC and NAFA in New Delhi on 22 March 2011.
- Participated in the Meeting of the Advisory Group for Conference on India-Africa Academic Forum: Partnership for Enhancing Development and Growth, organized ICWA in New Delhi on 29 March 2011.
- Participated in the Conference on Global Ethics in Science and Technology held at the Hague on 30 March-3 April 2011.

### Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Senior Fellow

- Delivered a lecture on RTAs at the Personal Contact Programme under the ICAI's Post Qualification Course in International Trade Laws & WTO in New Delhi on 12 January 2011.
- Guest Speaker in a Seminar on "Toward the Expansion of Economic Relations between Japan and India", held in Tokyo on 17-21 January. Also participated in the programme organized by the Keizai Koho Centre (Japan Institute for Social and Economic Affairs).
- Delivered Keynote Address in the International Seminar on Economic, Cultural and Political Viability of Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in Global Environment: Issues and Challenges, held on 13 March 2011.
- Participated in the Workshop on Asia 2050 Study Country Consultation, organized by Asian Development Bank in New Delhi on 17 March 2011.
- Discussant at the Seminar on Examining India's Cross-Border Connectivity with Bangladesh and Myanmar, organized by the Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses, in New Delhi on 18 March 2011.

- Delivered a lecture on India's Experience with FTAs like ASEAN at IILM, New Delhi on 28 October 2010.
- Speaker at the 4th Annual Forum of Developing Country Investment Negotiators, organized by the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD), Geneva; Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion; FICCI; and South Centre, Geneva in New Delhi on 27 October 2010.
- Delivered a lecture on Regional Trade Cooperation and Sustainable Development at the Training Programme on Trade and Sustainable Development, held in TERI, New Delhi on 6 December 2010.

### Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Senior Fellow

- Made a presentation on Common Policy Grounds between India and China on HIF, Traditional Medicines and China-India Collaboration on Health Impact Fund at the Innova P-Second Meeting on Traditional Medicines and China-India Collaboration on Health Impact Fund, held in Shanghai on 28-29 October 2010.
- Made a presentation on Industry Trends in GM and Non-GM Seeds - Rationale for Legal Interventions and Price Regulation at FARMER, New Delhi on 18 November 2010.
- Made a presentation on Emergence of the Biopharmaceutical Sector and Indian Innovation System at the Rising Powers Workshop, organized by JNU (CSSP) and King's College London in New Delhi on 19 November 2010.
- Made a presentation on Indian Development Partnership: Issues and Policy Directions at the Conference on Asian Approaches to Development Cooperation Dialogue: Lessons for Development Effectiveness held in Malaysia on 22-24 March 2011.
- Made a presentation on Emergence of the Biopharmaceutical Sector and Indian Innovation System at the meeting organized by the Centre for

## Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

Contemporary Studies, Indore on 26 March 2011.

- Made a presentation on Indian Development Cooperation Policy and Triangular Cooperation at the Workshop on Triangular Cooperation: Towards Horizontal Partnerships, But How?, held in Bali, Indonesia on 27 February-1-March 2011
- Made a presentation on Indian S&T Policy and Its Priorities at the Global Ethics in Science and Technology (GEST) Project Kick-off Meeting held on 31 March-1 April 2011 at The Hague the Netherlands.

### Dr. Prabir De, Fellow

- Presented a paper on India Country Report on Trade Procedures and Processes at the ARTNeT Trade Facilitation Research Team Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Trade Facilitation Forum 2010 on Improving Regional Trade Procedures and Processes, organized by the UNESCAP Trade and Investment Division in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 4-6 October 2010.
- Presented a paper on Measuring Barriers to Trade in Services in India at the ARTNeT/ADB Conference on Reforming Services for Inclusive and Sustainable Development of Asia and the Pacific, organized by the UNESCAP Trade and Investment Division and Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) in Bali, Indonesia on 11-12 October 2010.
- Panelist in the pre-ASEAN summit briefing through video conference, organized by the World Bank at TERI Conference Hall, New Delhi on 26 October 2010.
- Panelist and made a presentation on Way to Increase Trade in South Asia at the international conference on Korea-South Asia Cooperation in an Era of Rising South Asia, organized by the Korea Institute for International Economic Studies (KIEP) with support from the NRCS (National Research Council for Economics, Humanities, and Social Sciences) of Korea in Seoul, Korea on 25 November 2010.
- Delivered a lecture on India's Current Engagements in Regional Trade

Agreements, organized by the Korea Institute for International Economic Studies (KIEP) in Seoul on 26 November 2010.

- Panelist in Asian Development Bank (ADB)-Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI) Conference on Future Trade Policy Challenges in Asia, held at the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Tokyo on 14 December 2010.
- Invited delegate at the symposium on Socialising the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity, organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Vietnam Government and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam on 17 December 2010.
- Panelist and made a presentation on India as an Emerging Market: Experience after Economic Crisis at the international conference on India and Central Europe in Evolving Global Context, organized by the Institute of Foreign Policy Studies (IFPS), Calcutta University, in collaboration with the Centre for Contemporary India Research and Studies, University of Warsaw, Poland, at the Calcutta University, Kolkata on 10 January 2011.
- Made a presentation on Trade Facilitation in BCIM: Challenges and Opportunities at the 9th BCIM Regional Economic Cooperation Forum, as an Indian delegate, organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of People's Republic of China, in association with Yunnan Provincial Government in Kunming, China on 17-19 January 2011.
- Panelist and made a presentation on Unlocking Bangladesh-India Trade Potential: Connectivity Holds the Key at the India-Bangladesh Dialogue, organized the Centre for Policy Research in New Delhi on 9-11 February 2011.
- Delivered a lecture on the Role of Regional Infrastructure in East Asian Integration at a symposium on Economic Integration of East Asia, Upgrading of Regional Infrastructure and Business Opportunities for

Japanese Companies, organized by the Kwansai Gakuin University, Institute for Industrial Research, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), and Kansai Economic Federation at Kansai Economic Federation, Osaka on 17 February 2011.

- Made a presentation of the draft report on Expansion of North East India's Trade and Investment with Bangladesh and Myanmar: An Assessment of Opportunities and Constraints at the Meeting on Border Trade, held in the Ministry of Development of Northeastern Region, Government of India on 23 February 2011.
- Participated in the first meeting of the working group on India-ASEAN Connectivity: Comprehensive Asia Development Plan Phase II and presented the mid-term Indian country report, organized the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta in Bangkok on 19-20 March 2011.
- Panelist and made a presentation on ASEAN-India Connectivity: The Emerging Architecture at an international conference on Emergence of India as a Global Player, organized by the Global India Foundation (GIF) in collaboration with the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS) at Jadavpur University, Kolkata on 24-26 March 2011.

### Prof. I.N.Mukherji, Senior Consultant

- Participated in Round Table Discussion on SAARC @ 25 at Lok Sabha TV Channel on 6 December 2010.
- Participated as Panelist in the Third South Asia Economic Summit in Session on Emerging Economic Outlook and Policy Challenges for South Asian Economies, and as Commentator in Session on Integration Issues for South Asian LDCs., held in Katmandu on 17-19 December 2010.
- Participated in the Third Meeting of the Advisory Committee of UGC-SAP in the Department of Economics, Kurukshetra University on 4 March, 2011.

## Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

- Made a presentation on India and China in South Asian Trade at International Seminar on India and China in Global Economy, organized by Department of Economics, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra on 5 March 2011.

### Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas, Associate Fellow

- Discussant at National Consultation on Access to Patented Platform Technologies and Compulsory Licensing, organized by CENTAD in New Delhi on 20 October 2010.
- Participated in the Meetings held at Shanghai and Beijing on Innova P2 project, on 28-29 October 2010 and 1-2 November 2010, respectively.
- Participated in the International Seminar on Shifting Perimeters: Social and Ethical Implications of Human Genomics Research held at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore on 15-16 November 2010.
- Participated in the Workshop on Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDI) Intellectual Property, held in New Delhi on 4 December 2010.
- Panelist in DSDS 2011 Special Event on Fast-Tracking Energy Conservation in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in the Session on Climate Technology Innovation Centers, held in New Delhi on 2 February 2011.
- Made a presentation on Regulatory Governance of Nanotechnology in Agriculture and Food Sector at the Workshop on Prospects of Nanotechnology in Agri-value Chain, organized by the National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Hyderabad on 22 February 2011.

### Ms. Kasturi Das, Consultant

- Delivered lectures for the course Climate Change and Development as a part of the MBA (Business Sustainability) Programme of the TERI University, New Delhi, during November 2010.
- Delivered a lecture on An Introduction to Climate Change with a Particular Focus on Afghanistan at the Special Course for Diplomats

from Afghanistan, organized by the Foreign Service Institute (FSI) Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, in New Delhi on 2 December 2010.

- Delivered a lecture on Climate Change Post-Cancun: An Indian Perspective at the Training Programme for the Indian Foreign Service Probationers, organized by the FSI in New Delhi on 28 February 2011.
- Delivered a lecture on Climate Change Negotiations: Copenhagen to Cancun and Beyond at the Special Course for Commonwealth Diplomats, organized by the FSI in New Delhi on 8 March 2011.

### Mr. Reji K. Joseph, Consultant

- Participated in the Workshop on Legal Regime for the Protection of TK of Medicinal Plants, organized by TERI in New Delhi on 18 March 2011.
- Nominated by the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India, as an expert to participate in the online discussion on Cooperation on identification of capacity-building needs for research and information exchange on socio-economic considerations under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety of Convention of Biological Diversity.

### Dr. Arindam Banerjee, Consultant

- Participated in a panel discussion on Diversification and De-carbonization at the ESCAP/WTO/UNCTAD/ARTNeT Research Workshop on Trade Diversification in the Context of Global Challenges held in Economic

Research Institute of Trade (ERIT) on 27-29 October 2010 at Vientiane.

- Presented a paper on Structural Changes in Land Distribution and Its Implications for Improving Access to Land at the National Seminar on Land Policies for Accelerated and Inclusive Rural Growth, organized by Rural Development Institute and Council for Social Development in New Delhi on 9-10 November 2010.
- Presented a paper on Identification of the Poor in the context of the National Food Security Bill at the National Symposium on Social Attributes of Exclusion and Poverty in Rural India: Issues for Identification and Inclusive Policy, organized by the UGC Centre for Study of Social Exclusion And Inclusive Policy, University of Rajasthan on in Jaipur on 12-13 January 2011.
- Rapporteur to the global conference on New Directions for Smallholder Agriculture organized by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), held at the IFAD Headquarters in Rome, Italy on 24-25 January, 2011. Also prepared the synthesis and report for the conference.
- Presented a paper on Patterns of Labour Exploitation and Accumulation under Neo-liberalism: A Peasant-class Approach at the Conference on Accumulation, Immiserisation and Development, organized by the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on March 7-9, 2011 in the honour of Prof. Prabhat Patnaik and Prof. Utsa Patnaik.



Winners of Habitat Bank India Habitat Centre Quiz 2010 Mr. H. H. Naqvi, Ms. Sheela Malhotra and Dr. Arindam Banerjee of RIS with Dr. Biswajit Dhar, Director-General, RIS and Lt. Col. (Retd.) Bharat Panwar, Finance and Administrative Officer, RIS.

## POLICY BRIEFS

### # 49 **Contours of South-South Cooperation and Biotechnology in Asia: Strategising for Agricultural and Industrial Growth**

A focused approach to biotechnology is essential for developing countries in Asia and calls for closer interaction and effective collaboration among countries and among various funding agencies, bilateral/multilaterals, besides UN agencies. While the potential of biotechnology is obvious the progress so far is the proof of the pudding. Hence the lessons learnt so far combined with well developed strategies will propel many countries to the next stage of developing and utilization of biotechnology. The policy brief has identified some issues that deserve attention lest the bottlenecks should impede the utilisation of biotechnology. It advocates some plans besides increased commitment from national governments, aid agencies and UN agencies. The progress in Africa is gathering momentum and this progress has to be sustained. South-South cooperation can play an important role in this. While some problems are specific to the respective countries some common problems are faced by many countries and finding innovative solutions for them would benefit all these countries. (For details, please see *RIS Policy Brief # 49.*)

## DISCUSSION PAPERS

### #172 **South-South Cooperation in Health and Pharmaceuticals: Emerging Trends in India-Brazil Collaborations by Sachin Chaturvedi**

**Abstract:** India-Brazil partnership in the health sector is an area in which the two major economies have increasingly collaborated not only bilaterally, but also in several international forums. At the bilateral level, both the countries have identified common diseases for joint research. They have established new fellowships for supporting research in their respective economies. Besides, the two countries have been developing partnerships for setting the agenda in multilateral forums like the WHO and WTO as well as in the IBSA and the BRICS forums. Apart from facilitating trade negotiating positions at WTO, for export of drugs and pharmaceuticals to the affected countries, India and Brazil have also launched joint R&D projects in biomedicine both at the bilateral level and also under the aegis of IBSA. This emphasis at IBSA on health diplomacy is rather new and it demonstrates that health is emerging as an important area for joint collaboration among emerging economies. The Section II of the paper provides an overview of the trade linkages between the two economies with special reference to pharmaceutical sector while section III presents the recent initiatives at various levels for expansion of ties in the health sector. Section IV looks into research and entrepreneurial linkages. The conclusions are drawn in the last section. (For details, please see *RIS Discussion Paper # 172* by Sachin Chaturvedi.)

### #171 **India's Union Budget: Changing Scope and the Evolving Content by Rajeev Malhotra**

**Abstract:** The paper reflects on the changing scope of the Union Budget and the Finance Minister's speech and assesses the evolving content of these policy instruments in recent years. The analysis undertaken is based on a framework highlighting some inter-related objectives that government budget serves in public policy making. These objectives include the use of budget as a tool for implementing fiscal policy, as an accountability tool for government functioning, a planning tool to operationalise a multi-year plan perspective and as a tool for anchoring policy coherence and coordination. The paper identifies some assessment criteria implicit in these objectives for assessing the budget content and its preparatory process. It suggests several measures and some pending reforms in fiscal policy and the underlying budget processes to address the identified objectives more effectively and makes a case for speeding up their implementation. (For details, please see *RIS Discussion Paper # 171* by Rajeev Malhotra.)

### # 170 **Revisiting the Global Food Crisis: Magnitude, Causes, Impact and Policy Options by Arindam Banerjee**

**Abstract:** The magnitude of the food crisis demands urgent action on the part of governments, multilateral agencies and all those who cherish the

vision of a hunger-free world. A correct identification of the causes of the food crisis and rising hunger is, crucial for the adaptation of policies and strategies in this battle against hunger and food-deprivation. In this backdrop, this paper seeks to review the various strains of the discourse that has emerged on this issue. The volatility of food prices in the short run has been an important factor behind the vulnerability of the vast mass of net food buyers across the Third World nations. While the impact of the skyrocketing of oil and grain prices, in the recent past, on the access to food in these countries needs to be traced out, the global financial crisis and the associated loss of livelihood and employment is also crucially linked to the question of food security. Looking at the issue from the lens of a longer historical time-frame, one is also drawn towards a review of the trade policies of developing countries and the export-oriented agricultural production that has gained prominence in large parts of the Global South over the last few decades. In this regard, the structural change in many developing country food stocks policy and public distribution mechanisms is one policy aspect that also assumes importance from the perspective of food security. (For details, please see *RIS Discussion Paper # 170* by Arindam Banerjee.)

### #169 **International Food Safety Standards and India's Food Exports An Analysis Based on Gravity Model Using Three-Dimensional Data by Rajesh Mehta**

**Abstract:** The paper tries to understand precisely how the food safety regulations applied by the industrialized countries have an effect on India's export of processed food to these markets. It also examines the information deficiencies of Indian firms about international food safety standards, which influence their current performance. In the light of these objectives the paper tests a few hypotheses using primary data. This has been carried out by estimating gravity model using three-dimensional statistics. Our results show that India stood to loose around 156 per cent of actual exports because of higher stringent food safe regulations in select developed countries. It also proves that foreign collaborators provide better information about the prevailing food safety regulations and how to meet those obligations. (For details, please see *RIS Discussion Paper # 169* by Rajesh Mehta.)

### # 168 **Technological Change and New Actors: Debate on Returns and Regulations by Sachin Chaturvedi**

**Abstract:** New technology in the seed sector has brought in new actors and new requirements for regulation. It is important to discuss how far India is working on new opportunities and policy options for effective and rationale regulatory framework. Equally important is to analyze how socio-economic dimension is often overlooked while evolving regulatory frameworks both for biosafety as well as for price control of seeds. There is systemic lack of technological sensitivity in the agricultural R&D system. We fail to appreciate the kind of technological support farmers are looking for and how best a delivery system for new technologies should be put in place. In this regard, India would have to evolve a dynamic innovation and technology policy to address diverse agricultural challenges and growing environmental concerns. There is need to do is to overhaul the institutional set-up and its linkages with ground-level experiences. This includes gearing up of decision making process for newer crops; setting up of necessary infrastructure and trained manpower for any eventuality related to biohazard; and, on top of that, identifying correctly the technological expectations from agricultural R&D systems. (For details, please see *RIS Discussion Paper # 168* by Sachin Chaturvedi.)

### # 167 **The Food-Feed-Fuel Triangle: Implications of Corn-based Ethanol for Grain-Use Competition by Arindam Banerjee**

**Abstract:** This paper attempts to draw out the new theoretical tenets of grain-use dynamics that have emerged with the new food-feed-fuel competition. The crude oil prices appear to play a more important role in the competition for grains between the various end-uses. Along with this, the equilibrating role that animal-feed has played in the grain-use dynamics in developed countries, with large middle-classes, is jeopardized with the advent of grain-based bio-fuels like corn-ethanol. The examination of the issue reveals that the US bio-fuels targets can have more serious implications for food security in the future that what meets the eye. (For details, please see *RIS Discussion Paper # 167* by Arindam Banerjee.)

## JOURNALS FROM RIS

- **South Asia Economic Journal**

Vol. 12, Number 1, March 2011

**Contents:** Exchange Rate Pass-through: How Much Do Exchange Rate Changes Affect the Prices of Indian Exports and Imports by *Aruna Kumar Dash and V. Narasimhan*; What Criteria Should Policy-makers Use for Assisting Households with Educational Expenditure?: The Case of Urban Bangladesh by *M. Najeeb Shafiq*; Inflation Model for India in the Context of Open Economy by *Ajit R. Joshi and Debashis Acharya*; Solving the Forward Discount Bias Puzzle in a Small Open Developing Economy: Evidence from Sri Lanka by *Bilesha B. Weeraratne*; Contracting and Efficiency in the Surgical Goods Cluster of Sialkot, Pakistan by *Theresa Thompson Chaudhry*; Bangladesh's Export Opportunities in the Indian Market: Addressing Barriers and Strategies for Future by *Mustafizur Rahman, Towfiqul Islam Khan, Ashiqun Nabi, and Tapas Kumar Paul*; Book Reviews

- **South Asia Economic Journal**

Vol. 11, Number 2, September 2010

**Contents:** India–Sri Lanka Bilateral Trade: A General Equilibrium Approach by *Chandrima Sikdar*; EU-India Free Trade Agreement: Deal or No Deal? by *Sangeeta Khorana and Nicholas Perdikis*; Evaluating the Impact of Geographic Concentration on Nepalese Agricultural Export by *Sujan Piya, Akira Kiminami, and Hironori Yagi*; Oil Prices and Economic Activity in Pakistan by *Afia Malik*; The Significance of Capital Assets in Moving Out of Poverty: A Case Study of Sri Lanka by *Chandika Gunasinghe*; Financial Development and Economic Growth in India: An Analysis of the Post-reform Period by *Indrani Chakraborty*; Economics of Sericulture in Assam: A Comparative Analysis of Three Cultivars by *Utpal Kumar De and Manjit Das*; Book Reviews

- **Asian Biotechnology and Development Review**

Vol. 13, No.1, March 2011

**Contents:** Development of Biotechnology in China: Key Policies and Priorities by *Li Zhe and Guo Lifeng*; Patent Holdings of Indian Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Companies in International Markets of Different Sizes by *Teena E. Sebastian, Jyoti P. R. Pattnayak, Sajna Soby and Gayatri Saberwal*; Are We Missing Something in the Debate on Bt Eggplant in India? by *Deepthi Elizabeth Kolady*; Reflections on the Missing Actors and Institutions: The Case of Rhizobium Inoculants Bio-Innovation in Madhya Pradesh, India by *Sunita Sangar and Wafa Singh*; Book Review Report: Fifth Asian Biotechnology and Development Conference

- **Asian Biotechnology and Development Review**

Vol. 12, No.3, December 2010

**Contents:** The Intergovernmental Science-Policy on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services: Capacity-building Related Considerations from a UNESCO perspective by *Lucy Hoareau and Salvatore Arico*; Plant Genetic Resources and Germplasm Use in India by *Curan A. Bonham, Ehsan Dulloo, Prem Mathur, Pratibha Brahma, Vandana Tyagi, R. K. Tyagi and Hari Upadhyaya*; Traditional Conservation Practices, Biodiversity Conservation and Ecosystems by *Yogesh Gokhale*; Community Protocols and Access and Benefit Sharing by *Harry Jonas, Kabir Bavikatte and Holly Shrumm*; International Regime on Access and Benefit Sharing: Where Are We Now? by *Reji K. Joseph*; and Perspective: Biotechnologies, Mertonian Communism and Schizophrenic Intellectual Property Policies by *Daniel Puente-Rodriguez*

- **Asian Biotechnology and Development Review**

Vol. 12, No.2, July 2010

**Contents:** Managing Biotechnologies for Resource Poor Farmers Using “Interactive Bottom Up” Process: A Case Study of the Biotechnology Programme for Dryland Agriculture by *P. S. Janaki Krishna, M. L. N. Rao, V. Anji Raju and R. K. Mishra*; Pesticide Applications in Bt cotton Farms: Issues Relating to Environment and Non-Tariff Barriers by *N. Lalitha and P. K. Viswanathan*; Biodiversity Associated Traditional Knowledge and Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS): A Critical Appraisal of Kani Experience from a Customary Law Perspective by *Salvin Paul*; Genetically Modified Crops: Global and Indian Perspective by *Amrita Chatterjee and Arpita Ghose*. Book Review

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUTSIDE PUBLICATIONS BY THE RIS FACULTY MEMBERS

### RESEARCH PAPERS

- Banerjee, Arindam. 2011. “Food, Feed, Fuel: Transforming the Competition for Grains”. *Development and Change*, Vol. 42 No.2, March, pp: 529–557.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2010. “Assessing the Market Openness Effects of Regulation in India: An Overview of Emerging Trends and Policy Issues”. *Journal of World Trade*, 44(5), October, Geneva.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2011. “Mainstream Heiligendamm: Should Focus on Food Security and Access to Essential Pharmaceuticals”. *Development & Cooperation*, 38 (1), January, Boon, Germany.
- Das, Kasturi. 2010. “Conventional Farming to Organic Agriculture”. *Financing Agriculture*, Vol. 42(11). Agriculture Finance Corporation Ltd., Mumbai.
- De, Prabir. 2011. “Trade Facilitation in India: An Analysis of Trade Processes and Procedures”. ARTNeT Working Paper Series, No. 95, UNESCAP, Bangkok.
- Mukherji, I. N. 2011. “Global Financial Slowdown and *South Asia-with Special Reference to Bangladesh*” in T. Nirmala Devi (ed) *South Asia and Global Financial Crisis: Issues and Challeng*, pp. 63-80. New Delhi: Pentagon Press.
- Srinivas, K. Ravi. 2010. Shifting Perimeters: Social and Ethical Implications of Human Genomics Research. Report of the International Seminar held at National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore November 2010, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore and Indian Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla. <http://eprints.nias.res.in:8081/184>
- Srinivas, K. Ravi. (co-author) 2010. “Public Engagement with Nanotechnology: Initiatives, Strategies and Challenges”. Proceedings of the 11th International Conference on Public Communication of Science & Technology (11th PCST-2010), 6-10 December, New Delhi.

### POPULAR COLUMNS

- Dhar, Biswajit. 2011. ‘A pill for generic troubles.’ *Mint*, 28 March.
- Dhar, Biswajit. 2011. ‘Crisis on the world’s plate.’ *Mint*, 14 March.
- Dhar, Biswajit. 2011. ‘Doha merry-go-round on trade.’ *Mint*, 31 January.
- Dhar, Biswajit. 2011. ‘The long way from farm to market.’ *Mint*, 17 January.
- Dhar, Biswajit. 2011. ‘The pitfalls of bilateral deals.’ *Mint*, 3 January.
- Dhar, Biswajit. 2010. ‘What Cancun didn’t achieve.’ *Mint*, 21 December.
- Dhar, Biswajit. 2010. ‘The new development aid donors.’ *Mint*, 22 November.
- Dhar, Biswajit. 2010. ‘Lost promises could haunt Obama.’ *Mint*, 9 November.
- Dhar, Biswajit. 2010. ‘Safe passage to America.’ *The Financial Express*, 4 November.
- Dhar, Biswajit. 2010. ‘Uses and abuses of capital controls.’ *Mint*, 26 October.
- Dhar, Biswajit. 2010. ‘Some good news on generics.’ *Mint*, 12 October.
- Saran, Shyam. 2011. ‘Is nuclear renaissance dead?’ *Business Standard*, 16 March.
- Saran, Shyam. 2011. ‘A different dialogue this time round?’ *Business Standard*, 16 February.
- Saran, Shyam. 2011. ‘Unleashing India’s innovative impulse’. *Business Standard*, 19 January.
- Saran, Shyam. 2011. ‘Neighbours only since 1950’. *Indian Express*, 12 January.
- Saran, Shyam. 2010. ‘Are celebrations premature?’ *Business Standard*, 15 December.
- Saran, Shyam. 2010. ‘Time for just looking East over’. *Business Standard*, 17 November.
- Saran, Shyam. 2010. ‘An election, a release, an Opportunity’. *Indian Express*, 26 November.
- Saran, Shyam. 2010. ‘India in the UN Security Council’. *Business Standard*, 20 October.

## Important Delegations/Visitors Received



A delegation, headed by H.E. Mr. Newal Gebre-ab, Economic Adviser (Cabinet Minister Rank) to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, visited RIS on 21 March 2011.



H.E. Ms. Fathimath Dhiyana Saeed (Maldives), SAARC Secretary General-designate in an interactive session with RIS Faculty on economic and trade issues related to in South Asia, on 30 November 2010.

- Dr. Ashok Kumbamu, University of Alberta on 24 November 2010.
- Professor Koichi Ishikawa, Institute for Asian Studies, Japan; Mr. Seiya Sukegawa, Vice President & Senior Economist (Asia Region), Jetro Bangkok; and Mr. Kei Kawano, Director, Japan External Organization (Jetro), New Delhi on 5 October 2010.
- A three-Member Delegation from Vietnam on 3 December 2010.
- A Five-Member Delegation from Saranrom Instt. of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (SAFA), Thailand on 15 March 2011.
- Dr. Kavita Iyengar, ADB New Delhi Office on 14 January 2011.
- Mr. John Subritzky, Dy. High Commissioner of New Zealand on 19 January 2011.
- Mr. A. Pradhan, Chief, NRDC on 7 February 2011.
- Mr. Peter Allen, Commonwealth Office, U.K. and Mr. Simon Sharpe, Second Secy., British High Commission, New Delhi on 11 March 2011.
- Dr. Chamundeeswari Kuppuswamy, University of Sheffield on 18 March 2011.
- Mr. Steve Cook and Mr. D. J Rao, British High Commission, New Delhi on 18 March 2011.
- Dr. Marc G.L. Derveeuw of UNFPA on 23 March 2011.

### Seminar on Economic Opportunities under India-Indonesia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement



Discussion Meeting on India-Indonesia JSG Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) with H.E. Dr. Mari Pangestu, Hon'ble Minister of Trade of Indonesia, held in RIS on 16 December 2010.

RIS organized a Seminar on Economic Opportunities under India-Indonesia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement in New Delhi on 16 December 2010.

The seminar began with the welcome remarks by Dr Biswajit Dhar, Director-General, RIS. H.E. Dr. Mari Pangestu, Hon'ble Minister of Trade of the Republic of Indonesia made special remarks. Dr Ram Upendra Das, Senior Fellow, RIS made a presentation on the main findings of the JSG Report. The panelists who took part in the discussion that followed were: Mr. Marzuki Usman, Ministry of Trade, Indonesia; Mr Thee Kian Wie, Senior Economist, Indonesian Institute of Sciences; Mr. Sumanta Chaudhuri, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Mr. Arun Kumar Goel, Joint Secretary (South), Ministry of External Affairs; and Mr. S. K. Reddy, Joint Secretary (MER-ASEAN), Ministry of External Affairs. Mr. V. L. Kantha Rao, Director, Ministry of Commerce and Industry extend the vote of thanks.



Dr. Theresa Carpenter, Executive Director, CTEI Graduate Institute of International Development Studies, Geneva delivering a Talk on Regionalism and Multilateral Trading System at RIS on 5 January 2011.

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

RIS Diary appears in January, April, July and October. It is available from RIS or can be downloaded from RIS website.



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