

# RIS

## Annual Report 2015-16



POLICY RESEARCH SHAPING THE GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT AGENDA



# RIS

Research and Information System  
for Developing Countries

विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली

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## MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN



**Ambassador Shyam Saran**  
Chairman, RIS

The implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has been engaging the attention of the international community, particularly developing countries. This has a domestic dimension, with countries designing the Goals in keeping with their national particularities. It also has an international dimension, exploring opportunities for collaboration, sharing of best practices and evaluating progress. In this regard, the role of institutions like Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) assumes enhanced significance. As desired by the Hon'ble External Affairs Minister Smt. Sushma Swaraj, RIS, along with Ministry of External Affairs, NITI Aayog, the UN Office in New Delhi and other Departments of Government of India, has been actively involved in the contributing to the effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

The institute has also provided important inputs during the Third India-Africa Forum Summit held at New Delhi in October 2015. The Summit has mandated that the Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC) set up in RIS should strengthen linkages among academia, journalists, media entities and civil society for documenting successful development interventions by civil society among communities in developing countries.

Another significant dimension of the RIS work programme at the global level is its role in strengthening the process of South-South Cooperation. Keeping in view the different modalities, emerging through the evolving narrative on South-South cooperation, RIS organised the International Conference on South-South Cooperation in March 2016. The Network of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST) was also launched on this occasion. The institute also launched the ITEC capacity-building programme on 'Learning South-South Cooperation' to familiarise the participants with the broader concepts of South-South Cooperation.

The institute has also been active at multilateral forums and launched its flagship *World and Trade Development Report* during the Nairobi WTO Ministerial conference held in December 2015. At regional level, the Institute contributed by publishing another flagship publication, viz. *South Asia Development and Cooperation Report*. Another important input at the regional front includes the report entitled *Prospects of Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean*. The ASEAN-India Centre at RIS published *ASEAN-India Development and Cooperation Report*. These contributions have been welcomed as valuable reference material by policy makers, academics and researchers.

As part of the work programme for fostering policy dialogue, a number of conferences, workshops, consultation meetings and seminars, were also organised by RIS jointly with prominent organisations. RIS faculty members have also made significant contributions through their participation in various national and international events. The ASEAN-India Centre at RIS continues to provide policy research inputs by publishing research studies and organising a number of events as mentioned in the Annual Report.

I also take this opportunity to convey thanks to Dr. V.S. Seshadri, Vice-Chairman and other colleagues in the Governing Council for their valuable support in carrying forward activities of the Institute. I am certain that under the leadership of Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS would continue to fulfill its mandate of providing analytical policy research support to the Government of India and developing countries at the global level.



**Shyam Saran**

## REPORT OF DIRECTOR GENERAL



**Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi**  
Director General

The research programme of RIS continues to focus on four key areas: Global Economic issues and South-South Cooperation, Regional Initiatives on Trade and Investment, Regional Cooperation, Trade Facilitation and Connectivity, and New Technologies and Development issues. Under these four major themes, the studies that are being undertaken by the Institute are reported in the first chapter on Policy Research of this Annual Report.

Under the dynamic leadership of Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, RIS initiated special work programme on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In association with the Ministry of External Affairs; NITI Aayog; the United Nations Office in New Delhi; and other Departments of the Government of India, RIS has been on the forefront in this field and contributed effectively by providing perspectives from India and Global South for implementation of the SDGs agenda. Among other key areas that RIS has been working on are the Blue Economy as well as Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)-Practice.

The Institute also revived and brought out its flagship publications, the *South Asia Development and Cooperation Report* and the *World Trade and Development Report*. These pioneering publications aim to provide analytical perspectives on regional and multilateral issues for the benefit of developing countries.

On the eve of the Third India-Africa Forum Summit held in New Delhi during October 2015, two special Reports, viz. *India-Africa Partnership Towards Sustainable Development* and *India-Africa Partnership in Health Care: Accomplishments and Prospects* were brought out. Apart from these, RIS published the report entitled *Prospects of Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean* and a number of other publications. The ASEAN-India Centre at RIS also came out, among others, with the *ASEAN-India Development and Cooperation Report 2015*.

As our work programme is based on the international economic agenda, the Institute organised conferences, workshops, consultation meetings, seminars and discussion meetings on various themes in order to generate policy cohesion. These included Conference on South-South Cooperation, Consultation on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Consultation on Financing for Development and Post 2015 Agenda, National Consultations on Sustainable Development Goals, Conference on WTO and SDGs: Issues before the Nairobi Ministerial, Panel Discussion on Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), Consultation on India-Africa Partnership, IORA Blue Economy Dialogue on Prospects of Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean, Seminar on India-Central Asia Economic Cooperation, among others.

Since its inception, RIS has been actively and effectively engaged in the process of South-South Cooperation. As part of this continuing endeavour, a major international conference on South-South Cooperation was organised in New Delhi in March 2016. The Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC) established in RIS has also been involved vigorously in this task and has brought out Policy Briefs on the specific themes of promoting development cooperation. FIDC also organised consultations at Chennai and Jaipur to discuss India's development cooperation programme keeping in view the broader framework of South-South Cooperation.

The Institute continues to have close association with other networks like the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC), IBSA (India, Brazil and South Africa), BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa), Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), etc. In this regard, it needs to be underlined that the Network of Southern Think-tanks (NeST), which has been conceptualised and established by RIS, was also launched during the International Conference on South-South Cooperation held in New Delhi.

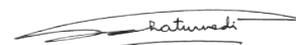
As part of its capacity-building work programme, RIS organised the first edition of the newly launched Indian Technical Economic Cooperation (ITEC) study programme on 'Learning South-South Cooperation' for the benefit of the participants from the South. The Institute also conducted its annual capacity-building programme on 'International Economic Issues and Development Policy' (IEIDP). The institute is also going to initiate a new ITEC capacity- building Programme on Science Diplomacy from 2017.

The ASEAN-India Centre at RIS is engaged in effectively strengthening the process of promoting ASEAN-India economic integration. It jointly organised Delhi Dialogue VIII on the theme ASEAN-India Relations: A New Paradigm. It also organised International Conference on ASEAN-India Cultural Links, EAS Conference on Maritime Security and Cooperation, ASEAN-Indian Eminent Person Lectures, Fourth Roundtable on ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks, Roundtable on ASEAN-India: Integration and Development, Roundtable on ASEAN-India Connectivity, among other important events. The Centre also published, among others, the reports titled *ASEAN-India Cultural Links: Historical and Contemporary Dimensions*, and *ASEAN-India Economic Relations: Opportunities and Challenges*, and *India and APEC: An Appraisal*.

RIS continues to disseminate its activities through its website, print and electronic media, and social media platforms.

Here I also wish to express my sincerest thanks to Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS and the members of the RIS Governing Council for their support and guidance for carrying forward the research agenda of the Institute. Thanks are also due to the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and other Departments like the Department of Economic Affairs; Ministry of Commerce and Industry; and Department of Science & Technology and all collaborating institutions for their continued association with our work programme.

I also take this opportunity to thank my senior colleagues in the RIS faculty and all the other members of the research and administration teams for their support in realising the aims and objectives of RIS.



**Sachin Chaturvedi**

During the year 2015-16, the thrust areas of RIS Work Programme included: (a) Global Economic Issues and South-South Cooperation (SSC); (b) Regional Initiatives on Trade and Investment; (c) Regional Cooperation, Trade Facilitation and Connectivity; and (d) New Technologies and Development Issues. Several studies, as mentioned below, under these broad themes were undertaken during this period.

## **A. Global Economic Issues and South-South Cooperation**

### **Post-2015 Global Development Agenda**

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas/Prof. T.C. James/  
Dr. Sabhyasachi Saha /Mr. Amit Kumar/Mr. Pratyush*

RIS, with the support from the Ministry of External Affairs, NITI Aayog, the department of Government of India and the UN in India, is spearheading a programme of consultations among lawmakers, policymakers, academia, private sector and the civil society in India on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ensure maximum awareness and participation at an early date towards drawing up a roadmap for the implementation of relevant targets in India as enshrined in this agenda. RIS is also collaborating with key international think-tanks and organisations in India on specific issues related to the SDGs for strengthening knowledge partnerships.

Under this work programme, in its first phase, RIS organised a series of Consultations on SDGs in India ahead of the formal adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda in September 2015 by the UN General Assembly. Two consultations were organised on financing for development, prior to the UN mandated Third International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD3) at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia that preceded the adoption of the SDGs. The first consultation was organised in New Delhi on 8 July 2015 and another at Addis Ababa on 14 July 2015 as a side event on the sidelines of the FfD3. Following these meetings a media interaction on the outcome and India's position at the FfD3 was organised in New Delhi.

These meetings were attended by members of the official Indian delegation. Hon'ble Minister of State for Finance, Mr. Jayant Sinha inaugurated these meetings. Senior officials from the Ministry of External Affairs and the Ministry of Finance joined the discussions. A larger High Level National Conference on the SDGs was organised in partnership with NITI Aayog in September 2015 in New Delhi. Finally, RIS organised high level panel discussions at the UN Headquarters in New York and the New York University in September 2015, alongside the UN General Assembly that formally adopted the SDGs to explore issues around Southern perspectives and the global institutional architecture (on economics, technology and environment).

In 2016, RIS would continue its work programme on SDGs and intensify the discourse around the social and economic dimensions of the SDGs and would also deepen the engagement on means of implementation of the SDGs covering global, national and sub-national issues. Regional consultations involving the principal actors at the level of the states, including the governments, would be undertaken to ensure ownership of the SDGs in coherence with national and state level welfare programmes and to promote action oriented approach towards developmental targets as enshrined in the SDGs. Special care would be taken to engage with states at both ends of the spectrum and hence strengthen national level policy understanding on cooperative federalism as an instrument to attain the SDGs. This initiative is being organised under the Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC) at RIS. RIS would also come up with a substantive publication based on position papers focussed on respective goals under the SDGs and principal cross-sectoral issues like finance and technology.

## **Classification of Countries and G-20**

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Prof. Manmohan Agarwal*

The Turkish Presidency for G-20 has declared inclusion as the main theme of their focus. The paper has thrown up several conceptual issues which need to be examined in detail before we move further with the proposal from the Turkish Presidency. The exclusion of India from the Low Income Developing Countries (LIDC) group as suggested by the Turkish Presidency would take away India's leadership on several

global issues that concern the interests of the developing countries. Apart from bringing out a Policy Brief on this issue, RIS continues to work further in this area.

### Issues before Nairobi WTO Ministerial

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Prof. S.K. Mohanty/Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas/  
Prof. T.C. James*

- (i) The World Trade Organisation (WTO) Director General Roberto Azevêdo called for solutions to the remaining issues of the Doha Development Agenda ahead of the 10th Ministerial Conference in Nairobi, Kenya. However, this appears to be a daunting task. Nevertheless, RIS has continued working on various WTO issues, particularly relevant for the Nairobi Ministerial Conference. RIS also launched its flagship report '*World Trade and Development Report*', analysing the impact of mega regionals in light of development multilaterally. One such issue is finding a 'permanent solution' to the food security concerns of the developing countries within the ambit of Agreement on Agriculture (AoA). RIS objectively evaluated the present challenges on the issue and suggested possible way forward.
- (ii) With respect to IP issues, following are the potential issues that needed attention:
  - Intellectual Property and Innovation
  - Intellectual Property and Climate Change
  - Review of Article 27.3(b), and Relationship between the TRIPS Agreement and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and Protection of Traditional Knowledge and Folklore
  - Implementation of the TRIPS Agreement by Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and extension of transition period for LDCs.
  - Extension of moratorium on non-violation and situation complaints under the TRIPS Agreement.
  - Plain packaging requirements for tobacco products.
  - Whether negotiations should be limited to Geographical Indicators (GIs) for wines and spirits or whether these negotiations should be extended to cover GIs for goods other than wines and spirits. There is consensus on this.
  - Trade and Transfer of Technology, the potential IP related issues that stem from implementing Article 66.2 of TRIPS
- (iii) Regarding the issue of Duty Free and Quota Free (DFQF) market access to LDCs, examined various dimensions of the issue:
  - Analysing the debate on the issue from Hong Kong Ministerial (2005) to Bali Ministerial (2013).
  - Examining the impact of India's Duty Free Trade Preference (DFTP) scheme on market access of LDCs.

- Exploring the implications of India's decisions to increase the coverage up to 97 per cent of its total tariff lines.
- Reviewing the present status of some developing countries with regard to DFQF scheme, particularly, countries like China, Brazil and Russia.
- Empirically examining the implications of DFQF policies of all developing countries, especially those having global exports more than \$ 200 billion per annum.

In case developed and developing countries reach an agreement to offer DFQF market access to LDCs to the extent of 97 per cent of their product lines, the pattern of the global trade would be different.

## Global Governance of Trade and Investment Issues and G-20

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Prof. Ram Upendra Das*

Trade and investment are not an end by themselves but important instruments to achieve developmental objectives such as employment generation, poverty alleviation and so on. Trade and investment flows have assumed much greater importance in the era of globalisation and enhanced mutual interdependence across nations and regions. Given the nature of these flows and the bilateral, regional and multilateral policy regimes and institutions, that govern such flows have only highlighted tremendous governance gap, having important global implications that require high level policy attention. Since trade and investment have significant growth and developmental implications, it is important to ensure high level global attention so that overall global economic performance through national level successful outcomes could be ensured.

For this to happen, research is underway to prepare a blue-print of certain action points that need to be considered by the G-20 leaders. RIS has been actively taking part in the G-20 processes and participated in the G-20 meetings held in Istanbul in February 2015; Antalya in November 2015 and Beijing in December 2015.

## India-ASEAN Sectoral Cooperation in Global Value Chains

*Prof. S.K. Mohanty*

India's new manufacturing policy can be comprehensively integrated with that of the ASEAN countries in several high-tech industrial segments such as machinery, electrical & optical products and automobile sector, including parts and accessories to begin with. Special attention on these sectors seems important as they are among key trading sectors between India and ASEAN. These sectors assume importance in the framework of India-ASEAN FTA where International Production Network will be crucial for these sectors, impacting the SMEs sector. The study would explore the possibilities to build cross-border networks within those industries on which India has

manufacturing capacities and complementarities that match with the demand or supply capacity of ASEAN and vice versa. Besides, this study would make an attempt to identify the challenges in building the production networks within the region. The study would also identify the gaps in connectivity and trade facilitation in promoting production networks between ASEAN and India, and provides possible remedies.

### **South-South Cooperation: India-Africa Development Cooperation**

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Prof. S.K. Mohanty/Prof. T.C. James/Mr. Amit Kumar*

RIS-FIDC, in association with the DPA, conducted a study on some of the success stories of India's development cooperation in Africa. The study provided inputs for the agenda of the Third India-Africa Forum Summit, New Delhi in 2015. The study focused on grassroot level capacity-building projects successfully implemented by India in the region, which effectively showcase the transformational nature of India's development cooperation programmes in the developing countries. RIS brought out a Report showcasing these success stories on the eve of the third-India Africa Summit held in New Delhi during October 2015.

### **Global Database on Trends in Southern Partnership**

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti / Mr. Sushil Kumar / Mr. Pratyush/Ms. Shruti Sharma*

A common platform for the collection, compilation, processing, analysis and dissemination of development cooperation information from the South is certainly possible but, with caveats. South-South Cooperation (SSC) is neither an all encompassing concept nor is exacting in its function. The Southern countries undertake a development initiative which comes under the wider sphere of SSC and it varies from country to country based on their needs and existing areas of cooperation. Not all Southern nations are engaged in a similar nature of SSC and each Southern country can devise their own set up for collection and analysis of development cooperation information. Thus, there cannot be a standard SSC statistical management system which can incorporate practices of all the Southern countries. Evidence-based analysis offers a powerful tool for policy and strategy development and should be exploited with greater attention. Currently, good data sets are available in some areas like trade and FDI, but are limited in the area of services and development cooperation or in countries with weak economic institutions. In the recent past, there is major proliferation in Southern partnerships. However, there is no one place where details are collated and systematic analysis is undertaken. The data base would help in overcoming this limitation.

## Export Sophistication in Developing Countries: Emerging Trends and Challenges

*Prof. Prabir De/Ms. Sreya Pan*

The study would have two major objectives. First, it would measure the export sophistication, and second, it would attempt to understand the major determinants of export sophistication. Outcomes of this study would tell us how developing countries fare with developed world in export sophistication. It would also provide a policy direction to achieve an opportunity to developing countries to upgrade their export basket.

## B. Regional Initiatives on Trade and Investment

### Lessons from Indian Economy for a Globalising Central Asia

*Prof. Ram Upendra Das*

Within the ambit of regional economic integration in the Asia-Pacific, the Central Asian region has an important place. Not only that the region has been at the helm of the historic Silk Route, its geographical location is an economic melting-pot for integrating the East, Southeast, South, North and West Asia. In short, the Central Asian region is potentially a new hub of global integration, especially when the centre of economic gravity has shifted to Asia. While the Central Asian countries have been endowed with rich natural, mineral and human resources with enormous economic potential waiting to be tapped, their transition from earlier economic paradigm is far from being complete. They also have relatively modest experiences with the economics of regional integration. Against this backdrop, the paper also aims to analyse the contours of Central Asian economic development and highlights some of the major challenges that the region confronts. In this context, an attempt has been made to draw some lessons from the Indian economic growth and development. The paper would also dwell upon some important aspects of India-Central Asia economic cooperation in future with a view to harness the full potential of the Central Asian region in its pursuits of globalisation.

### Emergence of the 'Blue Economy' as a Strategic Sector Opportunities and Challenges

*Prof. S.K. Mohanty/Dr Priyadarshi Dash/Ms. Aastha Gupta*

Global attention in blue economy has multiplied with ever expanding demand for the sea-based resources in the recent past. It also reflects the trade-off between increased demand for sea-based resources for production and human consumption and environmental degradation. It focuses on sustainable use of marine resources with the strategy of inclusive growth.

Under the IORA, the vital aspect of the blue economy approach is its contribution to the causes of poverty reduction and elimination

of social and economic vulnerability. Oceans are rich treasures of natural resources that could be recycled and restocked through their own biological processes. In fact, oceans can absorb the risks of excess consumption of marine resources provided suitable conservation and adaptation measures are implemented. By enhancing the scope of blue economy, the probability of poor and vulnerable people missing the opportunities for upward economic mobility could be lowered significantly over successive generations.

While blue economy is viewed as an integral component of sustainable development, popularising it as a separate initiative would probably sensitize the global community about the massive potential of marine and coastal resources and highlight the flaws in the resource-intensive “brown” development model (brown referring to minerals) that seems to be inherently biased towards resource extraction with proportionately less attention on restocking and resilience of the ocean-based natural resources. Orienting national development policies in line with the virtues of blue economy, economy-ecology interface and conflicts may become explicit and suitable mechanisms may be devised to combine both the objectives for inclusive growth and sustainable development.

Blue economy is spreading into several sectors. Mapping of the blue economy and its impact assessment on the rest of the economy are important for evolving new strategy for the sector.

The study would focus on the following sectors: (i) *Living Resources* - Fishing, aquaculture, seafood processing, sea weeds, algae, aquatic plants, fish hatcheries, etc.; (ii) *Transportation* - Deep sea freight, inland water transport, marine passenger transportation, coastal and great lakes passenger transportation, marine warehousing and storage, other support activities for water transportation, etc.; (iii) *Water-based tourism and recreation* - Marine leisure, scenic and sightseeing transportation, recreation goods rental, sports and recreation instruction, boat dealers, full service restaurants, hotels, motels & lodging places, marinas, recreational vehicles parks and campsites, scenic water tours, etc.; (iv) *Marine industrial activities* - Marine manufacturing including ship & boat building, search & navigation equipment, production of boating net, marine sporting goods, etc.; (v) *Energy including marine renewable energy*, wind, wave, tidal, thermal conversion, biomass, etc.; (vi) *Hydrocarbon exploration* - offshore oil and gas exploration, pipeline and construction of related structures, etc.; (vii) *Education* - Marine science and training, particularly marine engineering, geo-informatics, metrology consultancy, hydro-survey, etc.; (viii) *Exploration of minerals on the seabed*- Crude petroleum and natural gas extraction, polymetallic nodules, cobalt crusts, sulphide, yttrium, dysprosium and terbium, industrial sand mining, geophysical exploration and mapping services, etc.; (ix) *Port activities* - dredging, Ro Ro, Ro Pax, Lo Lo, ship painting, port and harbour operations, marine cargo handling, ship and boat repair, etc.; (x) *Marine services* - high tech marine services, marine financial services, marine insurances and marine legal services, marine

related research & development, amusement & recreation services, navigational services to shipping, etc.; and (xi) *Marine construction & engineering* including heavy construction-marine, bridge & tunnels marine, etc.

## **Economic Aspects of Fisheries in IORA Region**

*Prof. S.K. Mohanty/Dr. Priyadarshi Dash*

IORA has emerged as a vibrant regional grouping in the Afro-Asian region during the last decade. Though region's Intra-Regional Trade (IRT) is recorded at 29.2 per cent in 2013, it has to pursue 'open regionalism' on account of presence of five customs union in the region. This limits the possibility of an FTA in IORA. As an alternative policy strategy, regional economic activities can be concentrated at the sectoral level and the visionaries of the region in the past have identified fisheries sector as a priority sector for regional cooperation. Contribution of the fishing sector to the economy of the member states is significant in many respects, particularly for food, nutrition, employment creation and foreign exchange earnings.

The present work programme of RIS on fisheries sector would focus on economic dimensions of the sector in the region. The ongoing study would examine specific sectoral issues in the fisheries sector such as livelihood security, food security, production structure, trade dimensions and the feasibility of a regional institutional mechanism in IORA to take the regional forum forward. There are several other economic issues which need detailed research such as volatility in fish prices, sectoral subsidy issues (though it is discussed in the WTO), NTBs, discussion on regional standard on fisheries, food processing, etc. The future work programme of RIS on fisheries would focus on these issues for further analysis.

## **Impact of TFTA on India-Africa Economic Cooperation**

*Prof. S.K. Mohanty*

Africa has initiated the process of consultation of regional groupings to move towards the process of integration of Africa under the aegis of African Union. Last year this process has been initiated in the East and the Southern African region, which includes 26 economies of Africa. It is being called as Tripartite Free Trade Agreement (TFTA) which comprises Common Market for Eastern & Southern Africa (COMESA), Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and East African Community (EAC). The economic impact of such an arrangement is being followed at RIS. India's comprehensive economic cooperation with Africa expanded during the last two decades. Though India is a net importer with Africa, its export presence has been significant in many countries. Africa has been a major source of outward FDI for India.

## India's FTAs /CECAs: Impact and Future Direction

*Prof. Ram Upendra Das*

Given the current narrative that the impact of India's FTAs has been far from positive, the study would make an objective assessment of various related aspects. Consultation meetings are being planned.

## Belt and Road Initiative

*Prof. S.K. Mohanty*

RIS is closely following the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and its implications for India and the other developing countries. The BRI is to identify and implement projects for establishing the route with all its attendant facilities. The second important issue is what will be the impact of the project on trade and investment flows. The initiatives proposed evoke a mixed response across countries: one is of apprehension at the possible geo-political implications of the project and the other is of missing out on a potential opportunity.

This is one of the most significant and far-reaching initiatives that China has ever put forward – a trans-Eurasian project spanning from the Pacific Ocean to the Baltic Sea – along with the New Maritime Silk Route covering the Pacific and Indian oceans. This ambitious project would connect almost the entire Euroasian mass. The Northern road would be a land road and would pass mainly through North of India. The Southern road is a maritime route and would touch India.

## Joint Feasibility Study on Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) and India

*Prof. Ram Upendra Das*

Recognising the potential complementarity between India on the one hand and the Economic Union of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and the Russian Federation (EAEU), a Joint Study Group (JSG) has been established to recommend the approach and process for economic cooperation engagements of India with this Economic Union. Given India's recent economic dynamism as well as the economic performance of the members of the grouping, it appears imperative to engage with them in a comprehensive way including trade in goods, trade in services and investment, as well as on other areas of economic cooperation. The need for the study also stems from the fact that this region has had much stronger economic linkages in the past and that can be strengthened due to the imperatives of energy security as well. RIS has been approached by the MoC&I to serve on the JSG for undertaking the study. RIS participated in the First Meeting of the Joint Feasibility Study Group (JFSG) held in Moscow in July 2015.

## South Asia as an Economic Hub for Integrating East and South-East Asia with the Rest of Asia

*Prof. Ram Upendra Das*

South Asia's recent economic dynamism, led by India, including its future prospects as the fastest growing region in 2016 highlighted by various credible projections along with the emphasis of Indian policy making on the 'Make in India' initiative, suggests that South Asia and India can emerge as an economic hub for integrating East Asia, ASEAN on one hand with South Asia, Central Asia, West Asia and even the eastern coast of Africa, on the other. Also due to their geographical location, South Asia and India hypothetically appear to be well suited for becoming an economic hub for different parts of Asia. However, this is a subject matter which has not been analysed in its entirety. Nor has this subject been explored in terms of identifying the exact sectors and dimensions for this purpose and thus far these have not received adequate policy attention. In this backdrop, the proposed study has the following basic objectives: (i) To provide analytical and empirical basis for making India as an economic hub for integrating different parts of Asia; (ii) To identify dimensions and sectors across sub-regions where India can play such a role; and (iii) To suggest policy measures and modalities for creating enabling conditions for the above. The study is being conducted for the ERIA, Jakarta.

## India-Myanmar Border Trade

*Prof. Ram Upendra Das*

India has recently launched a strategy for economic integration with the Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) region. This focusses on building supply chains through India's trade and investment cooperation in areas that are attuned to the economic priorities of the CLMV. More specifically, through Myanmar, regional cooperation focusing India's North-Eastern Region can be extended to the Mekong region, comprising Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand, and Vietnam. In this regard, a study has been launched to enhance India-Myanmar Border Trade covering areas of trade in goods, trade in services, investment, banking & finance and connectivity. The study is being conducted for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

## India-COMESA CEPA Joint Study Group Report

*Prof. S.K. Mohanty*

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I), Government of India launched a joint study in 2012 to examine the feasibility of formalising the India-COMESA Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) which is under consideration of both the parties. RIS has prepared the Joint Study Group (JSG) Report which covers all important areas relating to trade liberalisation in goods, trade liberalisation in services and investment liberalisation. The Report identifies the potential in key economic sectors for expansion of trade, investment

promotion and other areas of cooperation in India as well as in the COMESA countries. Besides indicating the magnitude of trade potential that could accrue to both the parties from the India-COMESA CEPA, the study highlights the existing structure of tariff, non-tariff barriers, rules of origin, trade facilitation, and FDI policies and the roadmap for further reforms in those areas. While tariff reduction is expected to result in substantial expansion of trade between India and COMESA, the importance of reforms in rules of origin, trade facilitation, customs procedures, SPS and TBT measures has been emphasised. Besides trade in goods, the study finds strong complementarity in trade in services between India and COMESA. By comparing the competitiveness of both the parties in different sectors, it is observed that both India and COMESA are well-placed to negotiate on services in the context of the proposed CEPA. In all important spheres of trade policy, the broad recommendations of the study are visualised keeping in mind the competition for preferential market access that both India and COMESA countries face in the recent years.

### **IBSA: Research Programme and Visiting Fellowships**

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Prof. S.K. Mohanty/Dr. Beena Pandey*

In association with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, RIS would offer IBSA Visiting Fellowships to two research scholars from each of the two other partners countries of India under the IBSA Dialogue Forum - Brazil and South Africa. The programme focusses on development of an effective multilateral institutional framework to coordinate, support and enable sustainable development in coherent and integral manner. It is opened for Research scholars and academicians from South Africa and Brazil having profound interest in carrying out deeper research towards the realisation of the aims and objectives of the IBSA Dialogue process in the partner countries.

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

### **Assessing Impacts of Economic Corridors**

*Prof. Prabir De/Ms. Opinder Kaur*

The study aims to develop an economic geography model to be tested with sub-national data, and assesses the impact of economic (transport) corridors in India with special reference to Indian states in terms of growth. Four important corridors, connecting India with eastern neighbours, have been selected, namely, (i) The Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar (BCIM)-Economic Corridor, (ii) East-West Corridor (part of Golden Quadrilateral project), (iii) Trilateral Highway, and (iv) Kaladan multimodal transit transport project.

## Policy and Implementation Measure to Enhance India-Myanmar Border Trade

*Prof. Ram Upendra Das*

Approximately 98 per cent of the North-Eastern region's borders form India's international boundaries; it shares borders with China in the north, Bangladesh in the southwest, Bhutan in the northwest, and Myanmar in the east. The North-Eastern region's locational advantage and rich natural resources provide a backdrop to its development as a base for cooperation not only with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) but also with other neighboring countries such as Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Nepal. More specifically, as part of India's 'Look East' or 'Act East' policy through Myanmar, regional economic integration with several ASEAN countries such as Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, and Vietnam can be made possible. Addressing the border trade with India which is the mainstay of Myanmar's economy, a beginning could be made to integrate India not only with Myanmar but as part of the wider strategy of India Cambodia-Lao PDR-Myanmar-Vietnam (CLMV) cooperation. To harness the potential and to evolve policy mechanisms, Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoC&I) had requested RIS to conduct a study on the subject. The study is in the final phase.

## Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs) in ASEAN-India Trade

*Prof. Prabir De/Dr. Durairaj Kumarasamy*

The study analyses the NTMs faced by India in ASEAN and *vice versa* in select products. Out of 16 classified NTMs, this study considers SPS and TBT. This ongoing study is based on both primary and secondary data.

## Emerging Production Networks between India and ASEAN

*Prof. Prabir De/Dr. Durairaj Kumarasamy*

This study explores emerging production network scenario between India and ASEAN countries, especially in manufacturing sectors, viz. machinery, electrical & optical products and automobile sector. This study also makes an attempt to identify the challenges in building the production networks. In particular, the study identifies the gaps in connectivity and trade facilitation in promoting the production networks between ASEAN and India, and provides the possible remedies.

## India-Mongolia Economic Relations

*Prof. Prabir De/Ms. Sreya Pan*

This study is being conducted on request of the Indian Embassy in Mongolia. It aims to present the economic relations between India and Mongolia with particular focus on connectivity.

## Exploring Closer Economic Cooperation with East and South East Asia

*Ambassador V.S. Seshadri*

A report on 'India and APEC: An Appraisal' was submitted to the government in February 2015. The report was formally released by Secretary (East) at a joint RIS-FICCI event. A study on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between India and Republic of Korea was also taken up and the report was released at an RIS-AIC event on 8 September 2015. A study of India's CEPA with Japan is currently underway. The study may also review implementation of CEPAs with Singapore and Malaysia.

## RIS South Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2015

*RIS Team*

The *South Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2015 (SADCR 2015)* makes a departure from the way South Asian economic integration has been viewed until now. This Report is an economic summit of ideas and approaches. It presents a paradigm of 'reverse causality' running from regional prosperity to peace. It presents a more balanced perspective with newer insights with considerable degree of objectivity, so very crucial for academic and policy-oriented studies and the research methodologies used for conducting those studies. The Report highlights that the South Asian region is not the 'least-integrated region'. It also underscores that the approach to glorify the successes of other regional economic groupings and only find faults with the South Asian economic integration is to be changed. This entails also acknowledging the successes of the South Asian economic integration initiatives while at the same time learning lessons from the failed initiatives of other regional groupings as well.

The central theme of SADCR 2015, viz. 'Economic Integration for Peace – Creating Prosperity' is also a new way of looking at the South Asian economic integration process outcomes, the imperatives of achieving peace in the region; and the potential for making South Asia a prosperous region. While the causality between peace and prosperity may run in both the directions, the Report emphasises on making prosperity the prime objective, achieved through South Asian economic integration, which, in turn is 'peace-creating'. In this endeavour the Report is novel in its approach and rich in its content, which may be found useful to different stakeholders within the SAARC region and beyond. The Report was released by Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister for Railways, Government of India on 25 June 2015.

## India's Strategy for Economic Integration with CLMV

*Prof. Ram Upendra Das*

Historically, India and Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) Region have had civilisational, cultural and economic relations since ancient times. People, goods, capital and ideas have travelled between India and the CLMV countries over a long period of time. However, these linkages today are characterised with untapped potential. It is noticed that while there is a development divide between the CLMV region and the rest of the ASEAN region, India's Look East or Act East policy has also not focused adequately enough in terms of India- CLMV economic integration.

The ASEAN region as a whole is characterised by the presence of strong production networks and Regional Value Chains (RVCs) both within and outside the ASEAN. On the other hand, India is almost left out of any significant regional value chains in her neighbourhood. The regional value chains have somewhat bypassed the CLMV region too when compared to the rest of the ASEAN.

Considering that RVCs have emerged as important vehicles for regional economic integration, they need to be facilitated with adequate policy responses so as to achieve developmental imperatives of employment generation, poverty alleviation and improving quality of life.

The study in this context, by way of a major contribution to the subject, provides analytical and empirical basis for India's economic integration with the CLMV region and suggests certain policy steps that could harness the vast commercial and developmental potential that this relationship offers. The study has been completed and the Report was launched by Ms. Rita Teatia, Commerce Secretary, Government of India on 14 August 2015.

## D. New Technologies and Development Issues

### Developing Guidelines and Methodologies for Socio-economic Assessment of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) in Agriculture

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Prof. Manmohan Agarwal/Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas/ Mr. Amit Kumar*

This project is being implemented under the UNEP-GEF Capacity Building Phase-II Project on Biosafety. The main aims of this project is to design model questionnaires; develop guidelines, tools and methodologies for the socio-economic assessment as well as to develop guidelines and questionnaires for cost benefit analysis of Living Modified Organisms (LMOs) also called as Genetically Modified Organism (GMOs). The partner institutions are Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi; Gujarat Institute for Development Research, Gandhi Nagar; Tamil Nadu Agricultural University,

Coimbatore; University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur; National Academy of Agricultural Research Management, Hyderabad; and Institute for Socio-Economic Change, Bangalore. This two year project is slated for completion by mid-2016.

### **ProGReSS: Promoting Global Responsible Research and Social and Scientific Innovation**

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas/Mr. Amit Kumar*

ProGReSS is an EU FP-7-sponsored project for the period 2013-2016. There are ten project partners in this project from all over the world including RIS from India. The main aim of this project is to establish a global network on responsible research and innovation (RRI) involving academia, SMEs, international organisations, policy advisors, research funders, NGOs and industry. It would try to link existing international networks of RRI with relevant societal actors on a global scale to focus innovation on societal desirability; complete a major fact-finding mission comparing science funding strategies and innovation policies in Europe, the US, China, Japan, India, Australia, and South Africa; advocate a European normative model for RRI globally, using constitutional values as a driver to inform societal desirability; and develop a strategy for fostering the convergence of regional innovation systems at the global level. For RIS this is the first project in the emerging concept of RRI. RIS would engage with this concept and contextualise it for India.

### **IPR across FTAs and Proposed Indian Policy Draft**

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Prof. T.C. James/Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas*

Given the emergence of new mega FTAs, issues related to IPR are becoming extremely important for prospective members. RIS would deepen its work in this area in the days to come given the fact that India has come up with a new draft policy proposing to change the basic framework of India's IPR policy framework. Even at the sectoral level the implications of new IPR provisions are immense particularly in the areas like health, climate change, and food security. Earlier, RIS and the South Centre had worked together and organised special events. Building upon our past relationship with the South Centre, there are many issues in which both the South Centre and RIS can work together like IP issues, access to medicines, etc. RIS would also work on IP issues in collaboration with International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) and WIPO. The team from RIS has held discussions with South Centre, ICTSD and WIPO on this.

### **Policy Responses for Strengthening R&D Activities: Performance-based Innovation Rewards**

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas/Mr. Amit Kumar*

REWARD is an EU FP 7-sponsored project for the period 2014-2019. UCLAN (UK) and RIS are the project partners in this. This project would try to open up new horizons in complementing the international

intellectual property rights (IPR) system. The project's ambitious output is an ethically and legally sound performance-based reward mechanism for pharmaceutical innovation, which complements the existing patent regime, yet mitigates its considerable disadvantages for the global poor. In an interdisciplinary collaboration of ethicists, lawyers, economists, and statisticians, with experts in medicine, science and technology policy and gender studies the selected mechanism would be tested in a developed and a developing country.

## Trade, Technology and Growth in Developing Countries

*Prof. Ram Upendra Das*

The relationships and causalities between trade and growth as well as trade and technology are often analysed in a binary framework of theoretical and empirical explorations. The study attempts at building a conceptual framework, substantiated with empirical evidence on the inert-linkages among trade, technology and growth. It is aimed at arriving at policy implications especially in the developing countries of South and South-east Asia whereby synergies across trade, technology and growth can be tapped for shifting the development frontier in these countries.

## Seed for Food Security and Poverty Reduction - India and Africa seed industry collaboration

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Mr. Amit Kumar*

It is an IDS-led project involving RIS from India, CABE from Kenya, EIAR from Ethiopia and IDS (UK). This project aims to do scoping and mapping research that investigates the proposition that the Indian seed industry, in collaboration with African actors, can provide low cost seed technology and marketing capacity for smallholders that would reduce poverty through improved agricultural production, if certain financing, capacity and policy gaps/barriers are addressed. It would examine whether the seeds technologies on offer meet the food security needs of poorer farmers in Africa, and whether there are lessons from India's wider seed system - from R&D through to marketing - for improving the productivity and resilience of African seed systems to meet food security and poverty reduction challenges. Stakeholder dialogue on the findings of the investigation would be used to strengthen partnerships and identify follow on actions geared to catalysing the potential development impact of Indian companies.

## Science Diplomacy

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas / Mr. Amit Kumar*

Science Diplomacy has become important in India's economic engagement with other developing countries. Science Diplomacy is an important activity in international S&T cooperation and is part of the strategy to engage with other countries. USA and European Union

have used Science Diplomacy as part of their activities in S&T cooperation and international aid and capacity building. Royal Society, and, American Association for Advancement of Science (AAAS) are among the science bodies that are working on Science Diplomacy and they have published reports and organised meetings on this. Given the larger framework India's engagement with countries and regional groupings of nations and its aspirations to be a global player, Science Diplomacy can be part of the strategic programme to use science as a tool for advancing India's economic interests and deepen engagements with developing countries and LDCs.

Science Diplomacy as an activity and thrust initiative needs planning, promotion of different plans and activities and needs policy relevant inputs and constant engagement with developments in S&T and in foreign policy. AAAS has identified three processes in Science Diplomacy, viz. Science in Diplomacy, Diplomacy for Science and Science for Diplomacy. The three processes are inter-linked. Science in Diplomacy includes providing inputs from scientific community to foreign policy makers and this includes MoUs, treaties and joint ventures in strategic S&T collaboration and S&T programmes as part of Overseas Development Assistance. Diplomacy for Science enables scientific exchanges and scientific cooperation and Science for Diplomacy involves facilitation of diplomacy through S&T and this offers scope for S&T cooperation. The Science Diplomacy Programme at RIS would involve providing inputs to these processes and would facilitate greater integration of S&T activities in multilateral and bilateral level with economic and foreign policy based initiatives and vice versa.

The proposed programme would focus on science, economics and international affairs. The four major activities under the proposed programme would be: (i) External Inflow; (ii) Creation of International Base; (iii) Developing Networks; and (iv) Strategic Thinking. Besides the above, the programme would undertake other relevant activities in consultation with DST and MEA and would also work with other organisations and bodies including Science Academies, engaged in multilateral and bilateral S&T cooperation. It would leverage the relevant RIS work programmes and projects. RIS has proposed a training programme in Science Diplomacy to MEA and it is likely to be started in 2017 and would be modelled after ITEC Programmes of RIS.

### **Responsible Research and Innovation- Practice**

*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi/Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas / Mr. Amit Kumar*

RRI-Practice (Responsible Research and Innovation- Practice) is a project funded by the European Commission for three years (2016-2018), to be launched in the second half of 2016. Fourteen institutions in Europe, Australia, USA and Asia are partner institutions in this project and RIS is the partner institution from India. RIS is also a partner institution

in ProGreSS Project, a three year (2014-2016) project on Responsible Research and Innovation funded by EC. The project has been completed and RIS has contributed many inputs to the deliverables besides participating in project meetings.

The main aim of RRI-Practice is to examine implementation of RRI in 24 research conducting and research funding organisations, in countries across the world, and understand, identify and promote best practices in implementation of RRI for scaling up at European and global levels. This project is co-ordinated by Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences. The project was officially started with a meeting and workshop at Oslo in September 2016

## **Study on Indian Pharmaceutical Industry and Access to Medicine in the TRIPS Regime**

*Prof. T.C. James/Ms. Deepati Bhatia*

India has fully implemented the TRIPS obligations with effect from 1 January 2005. This has maximum impact on pharmaceutical industry during the period 1972-2004. As India had not provided for product patents in the field of pharmaceuticals. Consequently, India was able to manufacture and supply generic versions of the latest drugs at much lower prices than the patented versions. The Indian pharmaceutical industry also developed manufacturing capability and saw tremendous growth during this period. However, with the introduction of the product patent regime in pharmaceuticals with effect from 1 January 2005, the Indian generic pharmaceutical companies lost this advantage. There has been no research study on the impact of the 10 years of the TRIPS regime on Indian pharmaceutical industry and access to medicine.

This study focusses on how the new Intellectual Property Regime (IPR) has affected the pharmaceutical industry and also access to affordable medicine in India and other developing countries. The scope of the study extends to the history and growth of Indian pharmaceutical industry (i) from pre-Independence days to 1972, (ii) from 1972 to 2005 (when there was no product patents) and (iii) from 2005 to the present; visible trends in the sector post 2005, the current status of the industry, issue of access to medicines in India and other developing countries in the present scenario, and innovation in pharmaceuticals as reflected in patenting.

It covers rules and regulations affecting the pharmaceutical industry; industry growth statistics; medicine price statistics; import-export figures; SWOT analysis of the current status; major growth indicators and the way forward.

The study also aims to examine the various policy statements that have an impact on access to affordable health care such as Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, Medical Devices Policy, Health

Policy, AYUSH Policy, National Manufacturing Policy, National Intellectual Property Policy, Make in India campaign as well as government's approach to the AYUSH sector. Special focus would also be given to the development cooperation activities in healthcare sector by India in Africa.

As part of this study, a Policy Brief has already been published and provided to the government on the dangers of India's over dependence on a single source for its bulk drug requirements. Another Policy Brief on Draft National Intellectual Property Policy was also published. One more Policy Brief on Medical Devices Policy would be published soon.

## **Study on Clinical Trials in India for WHO**

*Prof. T.C. James/Ms. Nivedita Saxena / Mr. Zakhir Thomas*

Following the intervention of the Supreme Court (SC) of India in *Swasthya Adhikar Manch V/s Union of India & Ors* the clinical trial regulations in India underwent an overhaul in the recent years. Several changes have been made to the regulations following Expert Committee suggestions. These changes have been implemented in field in the past couple of years. The impact of these changes is not yet known.

This study would propose to understand the changes made to the clinical trial regulations and its impact in the field. The study would cover the following areas: the laws relating to clinical trials in India, the decision of the Supreme Court of India in *Swasthya Adhikar Manch V/s Union of India & Ors*: the context, content and directives, the regulations relating to clinical trials in India before the SC judgment and the changes made subsequent to the judgment.

The study has the following components: overview of the current Clinical Trial Guidelines; clinical trials registered with the Central Drug Standard Control Organisation (CDSO) and their numbers over the years; examination of the numbers of clinical trials approved in India before and after the SC judgment; working of the new regulations: Conduct of a field study to get responses of Hospitals; clinical research organisations, experts and CDSO; how does the Indian law compare with Regulations of US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), European Medicines Agency (EMA) and UK and approaches of ASEAN countries; principles of good clinical trial governance and these are elements incorporated in India's approach; regulations for a special approach for neglected diseases; and identifying areas for action.

The first part of the study has been completed and a peer reviewed report has been submitted to the World Health Organisation.



# POLICY RESEARCH INPUTS

## Foreign Policy of India

- A detailed Note on India's broad foreign policy contours and specific measures was submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

## India-Africa

- Note on 'India's Trade Linkages with Selected Countries in Africa' was provided to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.
- Note on 'Trade Potential of India in Selected African States: Product Level Analysis', was provided to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.
- Note on 'Trends in Untapped Trade Potential of India in Africa' was provided to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.
- Note on 'India-Africa Economic and Development Partnership in Health and Pharmaceuticals: Experience and Way Forward' was provided to the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

## India-Central Asia

- A detailed note on 'India-Central Asia Economic Cooperation', partly based on outcomes of the seminar organised by RIS on the same subject, was submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India as part of preparations for Hon'ble PM's visit to Central Asia.

### Central American Integration System

- Note on 'A Brief Profile on India - The Central American Integration System (SICA) Trade and Investment Relationship', was provided to the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

### Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement

- Note on 'Reopening of the Fourth Round of Trade Negotiations under Asia-Pacific Trade Agreement', was provided to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

### IORA

- Inputs on the proposal submitted by Tanzania to hold an IORA Workshop on Development of a Regional Strategy to Address the Sustainable Management of Development of Fisheries Resources in the Indian Ocean Rim Region were provided to the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

### India-Iran

- Note on 'India's Trade Potential in Iran' was provided to the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Government of India.

### India-Sri Lanka

- Note on 'Export Potential of India in Sri Lanka' was provided to the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Government of India.

### Country-Classification

- Note on country classification was provided to the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

### FTAs

- RIS has provided active research inputs in the form of analytical background notes for India's ongoing negotiations of FTAs with partner countries and regional groupings notably the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)

### Sustainable Development Goals

- A brief digest on 'Partnership for Resurgent India: SDGs as Catalysts of Change' containing perspectives on socio-economic and governance analysis of the issues on Health, Education, Inclusive Growth & Equity and Climate Change was prepared and sent to the Lok Sabha Secretariat.



# FOSTERING POLICY DIALOGUE: CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA AND WORKSHOPS

## Conference on South-South Cooperation

RIS, in association with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India (GoI), organised the International Conference on South-South Cooperation (SSC) in New Delhi on 10-11 March 2016.

The conference began with the renowned scholars and experts underscoring the growing importance of South-South Cooperation in the changing international development landscape. The inaugural session chaired by Ambassador S.T. Devare, Chairman, Research Advisory Council, RIS and Ram Sathe Chair for International Studies, Symbiosis International University, Pune, stressed on the increasing intra-south trade in investment and development cooperation.



*Ms. Sujata Mehta, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, delivering keynote address. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Prof. Li Xiaoyun, Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, Mr. Jaokim Reiter, Ambassador S.T. Devare, Mr. Wu Hongbo, Prof. Anuradha Chenoy, and Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu.*



**Dr. S. Jaishankar**  
*Foreign Secretary,  
Government of India*



**Ambassador Jayant Prasad**  
*Director General, Institute for  
Defence Studies and Analyses  
(IDSA), New Delhi*



**Mr. Branislav Gosovic**  
*Eminent expert on SSC, Geneva*



**Mr. Joakim Reiter**  
*Deputy Secretary-General,  
UNCTAD, Geneva*

Ambassador Devare said, 'The focus of RIS work programme has been promoting SSC and this conference is a major step towards that.' Ms. Sujata Mehta, Secretary (West), MEA, GoI in her keynote address highlighted the emergence of the South.

Dr. S. Jaishankar, Foreign Secretary of India delivered valedictory address. Ambassador Jayant Prasad, Director-General, IDSA chaired the valedictory session. Ambassador V. S. Seshadri, Vice-Chairman, RIS made special remarks. Mr. Branislav Gosovic, Eminent expert on SSC from Geneva also made remarks. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS extended the vote of thanks.

Placing broader issues concerning SSC in perspective, Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS in his welcome address said, 'Conference on South-South Cooperation is being held in the backdrop of the changing narrative of North-South cooperation and evolving new paradigm of South South Cooperation, particularly, in the context of South emerging as a new centre of economic gravity. This is all the more important in light of the recent economic upheaval that the Southern economies are going through.' Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India, applauded RIS for holding the conference at a very opportune time when the world is witnessing the rise of SSC and the global agenda on Sustainable Development Goals has been laid. Mr. Li Xiaoyun, Chair, China International Development Research Network (CIDRN) addressing the gathering said, 'Starting 1980s the world has seen structural change with the rise of the South.' Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under Secretary General, United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, in his special address emphasised that the conference is a timely initiative as 2030 agenda calls for partnership among all nations. Prof. Anuradha Chenoy, Dean, School of International Studies, JNU, and Chairperson, FIDC, reiterated the fact that the SSC is different from North South Cooperation as it is not just about economic growth but about taking people out of poverty and all types of insecurities.

Mr. Jaokim Reiter, Deputy Secretary-General, UNCTAD, Geneva in his special address underlined the growing importance of the rising South by giving some statistical evidences that South-South trade has increased to 25 per cent from 6 per cent in the 1990s and exhibits growth in South-South FDI.

Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu, Joint Secretary, MEA, GoI and Coordinator of the South-South Conference extended the vote of thanks.

On this occasion, RIS also released two important publications capturing different facets of SSC entitled 'South South Cooperation: Mapping New Frontiers' and 'Resurging South: Stylized Facts' prepared by RIS core team.

The Conference aimed to situate SSC within the broader global macro-economic context. Thus, the first plenary session explored the broad issues associated with the idea of global justice. Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, Council for Social Development, New Delhi chaired

the session. Panellists for the session included Mr. Jaokim Reiter, Deputy Secretary General, UNCTAD, Geneva; Prof. Thomas Pogge, Director, Global Justice Program, Yale University, New Haven; and Prof. Deepak Nayyar, Emeritus Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

The second plenary session on Global Aid Architecture, SSC and Triangular Development Cooperation addressed the issues of traditional institutional architecture of aid from the North and the different modalities being practised under the SSC strategies. Ambassador Asoke Mukerji, Former Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations chaired the session. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Head, South and South-West Asia Office, UN-ESCAP, New Delhi; Dr. Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Former FAO Assistant Director-General for Economic and Social Development, Rome; and Dr. Manuel Montes, South Centre, Geneva were the panellists.



**Dr. Nagesh Kumar**  
Head, South and South-West  
Asia Office, UN-ESCAP, New  
Delhi

The third plenary session discussed southern development narrative and role of southern think-tanks. Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka was the chair for the session. Dr. Vicente Yu, South Centre, Geneva; Prof. Li Xiaoyun, Chair, CIDRN, Beijing; Dr. André de Mello e Souza, Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Rio; Prof. Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, Director, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), Johannesburg; Dr. Samar Verma, Senior Programme Officer, Think Tank Initiative, IDRC, New Delhi; Mr. Erik Solhiem, DAC Chair, OECD, Paris; and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi were the panellists.



**Mr. Vicente Yu**  
South Centre, Geneva

SSC does not operate on 'one size fits all'. The fourth plenary session thus discussed regional experiences of SSC from Africa, Central Asia, Latin America and South East Asia. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi chaired the session. Dr. Thomas Fues, GDI, Bonn co-chaired. Dr. Anthea Mulakala, Asia Foundation, Kuala Lumpur; Mr. Francisco Simplicio, Assistant Director, UN Office for South-South Cooperation, New York; Ms. Sanusha Naidu, Institute for Global Dialogue, Cape Town; Mr. Edgar Alejandro Huezo, PIFCSS, San Salvador; and Mr. James Bichachi Wafula, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kampala were the panellists.



**Mr. Amar Sinha**  
Secretary, (ER), Ministry of  
External Affairs, New Delhi

The fifth plenary session deliberated on role of CSOs and private sector in SSC. Mr. Amar Sinha, Secretary, Economic Relations, MEA, GoI chaired the session. Dr. Rajesh Tandon, President, PRIA, New Delhi co-chaired. Mr. Shankar Venkateswaran, Tata Sustainability Group, New Delhi; Ms. Vinita Sethi, Bharti Airtel, New Delhi; Dr. Paulo Luiz Moreaux Lavigne Esteves, BRICS Policy Center, Rio; Dr. Sunil Motiwal, CEO, SAARC Development Fund, Thimphu; Dr. Manon Bernier, UNV Regional Manager, Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok; and Mr. Harsh Jaitli, Voluntary Action Network India (VANI), New Delhi were the panellists.

Apart from these plenary sessions, the conference also had four parallel sessions. Mr. Arun Sahu chaired the parallel session I(a) on Climate Change, Sustainability and Financing for Development. Prof. Swaran Singh, JNU co-chaired. Dr. Vicente Yu, South Centre, Geneva;



**Prof. Wenping He**  
*Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing*

Ms. Nisha Agarwal, OXFAMIndia, New Delhi; Prof. Swaran Singh, JNU; Dr. Athula Senaratne, Head, Environmental Economics, Institute of Policy Studies, Colombo; and Dr. Rajni Bakshi, Senior Fellow, Gateway House, Mumbai were the panellists.

Prof. Gulshan Sachdeva, JNU and Prof. Wenping He, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing chaired the parallel session I(b) on SSC and Regional Growth: African Union - Agenda 2063. Dr. Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate, IDSA; Prof. Suresh Kumar, Head, Department of African Studies, University of Delhi; Dr. Fanwell Kenala Bokosi, Executive Director (AFRODAD), Harare; Mr. Neissan Besharati, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), Johannesburg; and Ms. Renu Modi, University of Mumbai were the panellists.

Mr. Henk Bekedam, WHO Representative to India, New Delhi and Prof. T.C. James, Visiting Fellow, RIS chaired the parallel session I(c) on Health. Dr. Halla Thorsteinsdottir, Adjunct Professor, University of Toronto; Dr. Jorge A. Pérez Pineda, Mora Institute, Mexico City; Ms. Ornela Garelli Rios, UNAM, Mexico City; Prof. Tirtha Prasad Mishra, Chairman, Nepal Netra Jyoti Sangh, Kathmandu; and Dr. Urvashi Aneja, Fellow, ORF, New Delhi and Jindal School of International Affairs, Sonapat were the panellists.



**Prof. S.K. Mohanty**  
*RIS*

Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Prof. Radharaman Chakrabarti, University of Calcutta, Kolkata chaired the parallel session II(a) on Theoretical Framework for SSC. Prof. S.K. Mohanty, RIS; Prof. Saikat Sinha Roy, Jadavpur University, Kolkata; Dr. Sreeram Chaulia, Dean, Jindal School of International Affairs, Sonapat; Mr. Larry Strange, Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI), Phnom Penh; and Dr. Michelle Morais de Sa e Silva, Harvard Kennedy School and ENAP, Brasilia were the panellists.

Mr. Alok A. Dimri, Joint Secretary (MER), MEA, GoI and Dr. Archana Negi, Associate Professor, JNU chaired the parallel session II(b) on Role of ECOSOC/Development Cooperation Forum (DCF). Mr. Navid Hanif, Director, Office of ECOSOC Support and Coordination, UNDESA, New York; Prof. Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, The South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), Johannesburg; Dr. Thomas Fues, GDI, Bonn; and Prof. Wang Yihuan, China Agricultural University, Beijing were the panellists.



**Mr. Alok A. Dimri**  
*Joint Secretary (MER), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi*

Mr. Shyam Khadka, FAO Representative in India, New Delhi and Prof. Rasigan Maharajh, Institute for Economic Research on Innovation, Tshwane University, Pretoria chaired the parallel session II(c) on S&T, Agriculture and Natural Resources. Dr. Jose Bellini, EMBRAPA, Brasilia; Dr. H.S Shylendra, IRMA, Anand; Prof. Diran Makinde, ABNE-NEPAD and University of Ouagadougou; Prof. Pranav Desai, JNU; and Dr. Alluri Venkata Nagavarna, Andhra University, Vizag were the panellists.

Dr. Rathin Roy, Director, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi and Prof. S. K. Mohanty, RIS chaired the



**Dr. Rathin Roy**  
*Director, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi*



**Prof. Thomas Pogge**  
*Director, Global Justice Programme, Yale University, New Haven*



**Prof. Syed Munir Khasru**  
*The Institute for Policy, Advocacy and Governance, Dhaka*



**Ms. Nargiza Alymkulova**  
*International Ataturk Alatoo University, Bishkek*

parallel session III(a) on Evaluation Methodologies and Accounting. Prof. Silvia Lopez, SEGIB, Madrid; Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, Visiting Fellow, RIS and Sharda University, Greater Noida; Dr. André de Mello e Souza, Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Rio; Dr. Nan Li Collins, South-South and Triangular Cooperation, Asia Pacific United Nations Development Programme, Bangkok; and Mr. Pranay Sinha, University of Birmingham were the panellists.

Prof. Thomas Pogge, Director, Global Justice Programme, Yale University, New Haven and Dr. Luis Carbrera, Griffith University, Brisbane chaired the parallel session III(b) on SSC and “One World Global Citizenship”. Mr. Ajay Mehta, SEVA Mandir, Udaipur; Ms. Narayani Ganesh, Editor, *Speaking Tree*, New Delhi; Dr. W. James Arputharaj, Member, Global EC, WFM/ Institute for Global Policy and National Coordinator, UNPA Campaign, New Delhi; Prof. Syed Munir Khasru, The Institute for Policy, Advocacy and Governance, Dhaka; and Mr. Chandrachur Singh, University of Birmingham, Birmingham were the panellists.

Dr. Nisha Taneja, Professor, ICRIER and Prof. Manmohan Agarwal, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram chaired the parallel session III(c) on SSC, Trade and Investment Dynamics. Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS; Prof. Shahid Ahmed, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi; Prof. Cho Cho Thein, Yangon University of Economics; and Ms. Swati Ganeshan, TERI, New Delhi were the panellists.

Dr. Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate, IDSA, New Delhi chaired the parallel session IV (a) on Young Scholar’s Forum on SSC. Ms. Rediet Desalegn, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Addis Ababa; Mr. Carlos E. Timo Brito, The Pandia Calogeras Institute, Ministry of Defense, Brasilia; Ms. Leticia Estevez, National University of Avellaneda, Buenos Aires; Ms. Nargiza Alymkulova, International Ataturk Alatoo University, Bishkek; Dr. S. B. Yadav, Matsya University, Alwar; Mr. Saidu Nasiru Sulaiman, Phd Student, Sharda University, Greater Noida; Dr. Kyialbek Akmoldoev, Head of Economics Department, International Ataturk Alatoo University, Bishkek; Mr. A Krishna Prasad, Phone2Vote and Ms. Laura Karina Gutierrez Matamoros, Mora Institute, Mexico City were the panellists.

Dr. Thomas Muhr, Friedrich-Alexander University, Erlangen and Dr. Jyoti Chandiramani, Director, Symbiosis School of Economics, Pune chaired the parallel session IV(b) on Education and Capacity Building. Prof. Gerardo Bracho, Senior Adviser, AMEXCID, Mexico City; Ms. Karin Costa Vazquez, Brazilian Center for International Relations, Brasilia; Dr. Juan Pablo Prado Lallande, Associate Professor, Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, Mexico City; Prof. Phillip O. Nying’uro, University of Nairobi, Nairobi; and Dr. Vijay Gupta, Vice-Chancellor, Sharda University, Greater Noida were the panellists.

Prof. Manmohan Agarwal and Prof. S. S. Parmar, Visiting Fellow, RIS chaired the parallel session on IV(c) Public-Private Partnership and South-South Cooperation. Mr. Nilanchal Mishra, KPMG; Mr. Abhaya Agarwal, Partner, Ernst and Young, New Delhi; Dr. Taekyoon



**Prof. Manmohan Agarwal**  
Centre for Development  
Studies, Trivandrum

KIM, Seoul National University, Seoul; Ms. Tamar Bello, Head, Global Partnerships, DFID India; and Mr. Denis Nkala, UN Office for South-South Cooperation, New York were the panellists.

The reports from the above mentioned parallel sessions were presented in the Way Forward session chaired by Mr. Branislav Gosovic, Eminent expert on SSC from Geneva and Prof. Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, SAIIA, Johannesburg.

The conference also had a cultural programme “‘Saptavarna’ – the Seven Shades of Indian Classical Dance” directed by Ms. Aruna Mohanty. More than 100 eminent speakers from abroad, in addition to a large number of Indian scholars, researchers, subject experts, high ranking officials from government, academia, civil society members, etc., participated.

### NeST

In a pioneering move, the Network of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST), which brings together leading institutions and think-tanks of South, was also launched at the conference. NeST will serve as a knowledge and information bridge for Southern countries, sharing similar developmental experiences and socio-economic challenges.

### Exhibition on South-South Cooperation

Exhibition on South-South cooperation was inaugurated by Ambassador S.T. Devare as part of the two-day conference, in the presence of senior diplomats, officials from UN agencies and experts from around the world. In the exhibition 38 institutions comprising of government, private and international, showcased their products and core competencies which are furthering South-South Cooperation.



*(From right): Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under Secretary General, United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations, inaugurating the SSC exhibition. Also seen in picture are Ms. Sujata Mehta, Ambassador S.T. Devare, and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi.*

## India-Africa Partnership: Future Directions

In the run up to the third India-Africa Forum Summit from 25 to 29 October 2015, RIS organised a consultation on the “India-Africa Partnership: Future Directions” in association with the Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), Brookings India and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in New Delhi on 20 October 2015. Ms. Sujata Mehta, Secretary (M&ER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India made special remarks. H.E. Dr. Genet Zewide, Ambassador of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to India and Dean of African Diplomatic Corps delivered keynote address. Ambassador Jayant Prasad, Director General, IDSA chaired the inaugural session. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS delivered the welcome address. Remarks were also made by Dr. Subir Gokarn, Senior Fellow and Director Research, Brookings India; Mr. Arun Kumar Sahu, Joint Secretary (DPA-II), MEA; and Mr. Pranav Kumar, Head-International Policy and Trade, CII. Ms. Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate and Coordinator Africa, UN, LAC Centre, IDSA extended the vote of thanks.

Ms. Sujata Mehta underlined that India has entered into development cooperation as desired by African partners across continents. The partnership is based on non-interference, respect for sovereignty, equality and spirit of partnership rather than donor recipient relationship. India has provided US\$ 7.5 bn through LoC across 137 projects in 41 countries in Africa.

She also outlined the objectives of India-Africa Forum Summits, which were to develop a new architecture for a structured engagement between India and Africa. They constitute a vital platform to engage with Africa at regional, sub-regional and bilateral levels. Development cooperation naturally plays an important role in this regard, she added. India’s technical cooperation and capacity-building programmes in Africa were the greatest force multipliers in terms of the strengthening bilateral ties. Around 25,000 scholarships have been provided during the last three years.



*H.E. Dr. Genet Zewide, Ambassador of Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to India and Dean of African Diplomatic Corps delivering keynote address at the consultation. Also seen in picture are (from left to right) Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr. Subir Gokarn, Ms. Sujata Mehta and Ambassador Jayant Prasad.*

H.E. Dr. Genet Zewide said that emergence of Africa as fast-growing region with a GDP growth of 5.5 per cent combined with abundant resources is attracting many players, including India, for economic cooperation. India's relations with Africa didn't start in recent past but centuries ago. It was based on mutual respect and benefit, genuine partnership with a sense of solidarity. "India does not prescribe any medicines for our problems", she argued, adding that "India has surpassed all other countries with its support in the field of human resource development".

Ambassador Jayant Prasad argued that the "world has changed, so has India and Africa." Elaborating, he added, that while the 19th century belonged to Europe, 20th to America, the 21st century belongs to Asia and Africa. On the areas of India's future partnership with Africa, Ambassador Prasad articulated that the first area was food security and agricultural cooperation, followed by bilateral engagement in energy and ICT. In addition, he said that institution building, human resource development, training of trainers and similar types of schemes for capacity-building would be the next areas of cooperation.

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi in his welcome address noted that this consultation would address the broad areas of engagement that the India-Africa Forum Summit might want to focus on. As there are broad areas of interest between India and Africa, this Summit would lead to a consolidation of India's development agenda.

On this occasion, Ms. Sujata Mehta also launched three special publications: "*India-Africa Partnership Towards Sustainable Development*" by RIS; "*India-Africa: Common Security Challenges for the Next Decade*" by IDSA and "*India Africa: Forging a Strategic Partnership*" by Brookings.

The consultation had three sessions, viz. 'Geo-Strategic Linkages and India-Africa Partnership', 'Trade and Investment' and 'Sectoral Perspective'.

Shri Navtej Singh Sarna, Secretary (West), MEA delivered the valedictory address. In the concluding session remarks were also made by Ambassador Jayant Prasad; Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi; and Dr. Subir Gokarn. Mr. Pranav Kumar extended the vote of thanks.

## **National Consultation on India-Africa Partnership**

Ahead of the third India-Africa Forum Summit, RIS, in collaboration with the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Brookings India, organised a National Consultation on "India-Africa Partnership: Priorities and Prospects" on 16 September 2015 in New Delhi. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS delivered the Welcome Address, in which he complimented Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India for the excellent logo for the forthcoming India-Africa Forum Summit which represents both "past history and ideas for the future". Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), MEA, Government of India delivered the inaugural address.



*Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India speaking at the National Consultation on India-Africa Partnership: Priorities and Prospects. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia; Ms. Ruchita Beri, IDSA; and Dr. WPS Sidhu, Senior Fellow, Brookings India.*

Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia, delivered the Keynote Address. Remarks were also made by Dr. W.P.S. Sidhu, Senior Fellow, Brookings India, New Delhi and Mr. Pranav Kumar, Head - International Policy & Trade, CII. Dr. Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate and Coordinator, Africa, LAC and UN Centre, IDSA extended the vote of thanks.

The various sessions of the consultation deliberated on (i) India-Africa Partnership and Global Context; (ii) Trade, Investment and Development Issues; (iii) Energy, Climate Change and Maritime Security; and (iv) People-to-People: Education, Civil Society and Social Sector.

The India-Africa Forum Summit is a mechanism devised to strengthen the ancient ties between India and Africa. India and Africa share a long history of friendship and cooperation in development. Our relations quintessentially define the modern concept of development compact that is based on shared responsibility and helping one another meet their developmental goals.

RIS has been actively facilitating discussions on various aspects of the India-Africa Cooperation through lectures, discussion meetings and publications. In early 2015, RIS organised a conference on India-Africa Partnership in New Technologies in Agriculture in New Delhi. This consultation was a step in this direction.

Mr. Navtej Sarna, Secretary (West), MEA, GoI in his inaugural address remarked that this consultation was the opening event of the India-Africa Forum Summit that was five weeks away and hoped that this consultation would provide some key research inputs – on trade, investment and development; energy, climate change and maritime security; and people-to-people endeavours in the domain of education, civil society and social sector – for the Forum Summit. In the present global context, it is very important that India-Africa partnership strengthens further. Given the wide range of complementarities between the regions, there is ample scope to enhance the India-Africa partnership in areas like agriculture, food security, climate change, energy security and so on in a concerted manner.

On this occasion Mr. Navtej Singh Saran, Secretary (West), MEA launched the RIS publication 'India-Africa Partnership in Healthcare: Accomplishments and Prospects'. The consultation ended with closing session chaired by Mr. Tanmaya Lal, Joint Secretary (E&SA), MEA, GoI. Dr. Ruchita Beri presented the conference report. It also had remarks by H.E. Ambassador Dr. Hassan E. El Talib, Non-Resident Ambassador to Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh and Maldives, Embassy of the Republic of Sudan, New Delhi; Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and Mr. Pranav Kumar, Head - International Policy & Trade, CII. Dr. W. P. S. Sidhu, Senior Fellow, Brookings India extended the vote of thanks.

## President of Liberia at RIS



*H.E. Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Hon'ble President, Republic of Liberia delivering the special address.*

FIDC-RIS organised a special address on 'India-Africa Partnership and Sustainable Development Goals' by H.E. Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, Hon'ble President, Republic of Liberia in New Delhi on 31 October 2015. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made welcome remarks.

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, welcoming the President said that we were immensely glad to have H.E. President Sirleaf who has provided intellectual and policy leadership on issues relating to the MDGs and now the SDGs. He also mentioned that RIS and UN in India have launched a major research programme engaging lawmakers, policymakers, academia and the civil society in India on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) whereby possible implementation strategies are also being explored.

In her special address, President Sirleaf said that 'Rising Africa' is characterised by economic growth, improving social indicators, aspiring young population ready to compete, and the stage is all set for its development partnership with India. We must give this partnership more attention, she emphasised. In this regard, she appreciated Prime Minister Modi's concrete commitments towards Africa for scaling up trade, investment, capacity development, among other areas. She particularly emphasised on the India-Africa partnership in education and agriculture revolution. As one of the three Co-chairs at the UN on

SDGs, she expressed satisfaction over the adoption of the SDGs. But implementation of SDGs is a much greater task especially in terms of mobilisation of human and financial resources, she underlined. The SDGs are a set of 17 Goals and 169 targets covering social, economic and environmental dimensions of development across the globe. SDGs are slated to focus on global systemic reforms to remove main impediments to development and secure an accommodating international environment for sustainable development.

Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India made special remarks. He remarked that there is sufficient scope of cooperation between India and Africa especially through the UN at large and the SDGs in particular. Mr. Dinesh Bhatia, Ambassador of India to the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, and concurrently accredited to the Republic of Liberia and the Republic of Guinea also addressed the gathering. Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS extended the vote of thanks.

### National Consultation on Road to Sustainable Development Goals: Focus on Health and Education (SDG 3 and 4)

In September 2015, the Prime Minister of India along with the world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which includes a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and tackle climate change by 2030. Building on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the new SDGs, and the broader sustainability agenda, would go much further than the MDGs, addressing the root causes of poverty and the universal need for development that works for all people. The global agenda has been set and now it is the responsibility of the individual countries to take it forward to meet their own development targets.



Prof. Bibek Debroy delivering the inaugural address. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Prof. T.C.A. Anant, Ms. Sujata Mehta, Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, and Dr. P. K. Anand.

With the aim of creating awareness and simultaneously exploring the implementation strategies at the Centre and in the States, RIS in association with the NITI Aayog, Government of India and the UN in India organised the National Consultation on Road to Sustainable Development Goals, particularly focussing on Health and Education (SDG 3 and 4) in New Delhi on 9-10 February 2016. Prof. Bibek Debroy, Member, NITI Aayog, Government of India delivered the inaugural address. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India delivered welcome addresses. Ms. Sujata Mehta, Secretary (West), MEA, Government of India spoke about SDG Framework and Global Processes. Prof. T.C.A. Anant, Chief Statistician of India and Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI), Government of India delivered special address. Dr. P. K. Anand, Sr. Consultant, NITI Aayog, Government of India extended vote of thanks.

The first day of the consultation focussed on SDG 3: Ensure Healthy Lives and Promote Well Being of All at All Ages by 2030. The first plenary session on Promotion of Wellness through Healthy Ecosystem chaired by Dr. Henk Bekedam, WHO Representative to India took up key issues like inter-connectedness of all SDGs; role of sanitation, water management, clean air and water, and safe food; public health management and community health care, addressing issues of vulnerable groups; anticipation of pandemic outbreaks and disaster management; availability of modern energy and transport; strategies for life-style diseases alleviation - Wellness (peaceful mind and healthy body); role of education and health education in schools; tackling alcoholism, smoking, drug abuse; mental health issues; and role of public advocacy and media.

Dr. P. K. Anand, Sr. Consultant, NITI Aayog chaired the second plenary session on targets and indicators. The key issues taken up included global monitoring framework and principles for development of national indicators; monitoring SDGs and identification of periodic targets; standardisation, harmonisation and periodicity issues; coordination among different Ministries/Departments; and data collection and new approaches.

Mr. Alok Kumar, Adviser (Health/WCD), NITI Aayog chaired the third plenary session on health care delivery, infrastructure and medical expenditure. The key issues taken up included access to affordable medicines, hospitals, pathological labs, access to finance for patients, health insurance and human resource gaps.

The first day also had three parallel sessions focussing on reduction of mortality rates and disease control; role of drug development and generic medicines in SDG 3 and role of Indian Systems of Medicine (ISMs) in SDG 3.

The second day of the consultation deliberated on SDG 4: Ensure Inclusive and Equitable Quality Education and Promote Lifelong Learning Opportunities for All. Prof. Ramesh Chand, Member, NITI

Aayog chaired the first plenary session of day two on quality, access, equity and inter-sectoral linkages. The key issues taken up included learning outcomes and quality of teaching; childhood development and pre-primary education; access and equity at all levels; inclusiveness and gender issues; and sustainable development and health values.

Mr. Abhimanyu Singh, Educationist, Jaipur and Mr. Amitabh Behar, Executive Director, National Foundation for India chaired the second plenary session on education and skill development programmes – sharing of experiences. The key issues discussed included access and equity of education for all at affordable and quality training; and skill development for better employment and entrepreneurship.

Dr. Krishna Kumar, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation chaired the third plenary session on global and national indicators for quality and equity. The key issues taken up included global monitoring framework and principles for development of national indicators; measuring quality and equity; standardisation, harmonisation and periodicity issues; and data Collection and new approaches.

Mr. V. K. Saraswat, Member, NITI Aayog chaired the valedictory session. Prof. Nagesh Kumar, Head, UNESCAP (SSWA) made remarks. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS delivered valedictory address. Dr. P. K. Anand, Sr. Consultant, NITI Aayog made special remarks. Prof. T. C. James, Visiting Fellow, RIS extended the vote of thanks.

The two-day national consultation aimed to chalk the way forward for India and to come up with a positive agenda for implementing these SDGs within the existing policy framework of India. The consultation highlighted that the states and centre have to work together for achieving sustainable development goals which are extremely important for ensuring inclusive economic growth through social equality of which health is a crucial factor. Senior government officials, eminent speakers from academia and civil society organisations took part in the consultation.

## **IORA Blue Economy Dialogue on Prospects of Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean**

RIS, jointly with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF), New Delhi organised an International Conference on the “Prospects of Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean” on 17-18 August 2015 in Goa. The conference began with the Welcome Remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Mr. Samir Saran, Vice President, ORF and Mr. Alok Dimri, Director (MER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India made Special Remarks. Prof. V. N. Attri, Chair, Indian Ocean Rim Studies, IORA delivered the Keynote Address. Prof. S. K. Mohanty, RIS extended the vote of thanks.



*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS making Welcome Remarks at the conference. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. V. N. Attri, Chair, Indian Ocean Rim Studies, IORA; Mr. Alok Dimri, Director (MER), MEA; Mr. Samir Saran, Vice President, ORF; and Prof. S. K. Mohanty, RIS.*

Mr. Alok Dimri, Director (MER), MEA chaired the first session on 'Developing a Comprehensive Accounting Framework for Blue Economy'. The second session on Fisheries and Aquaculture was chaired by Dr. H. P. Rajan, Deputy Director (Retired), Division for Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea, UN. The third session chaired by Dr. Vikrom Mathur, Senior Fellow and Head, Climate Initiative, ORF deliberated on 'Renewable Ocean Energy'. The fourth session on 'Ports, Shipping, Manufacturing and Other Sectors' was chaired by Dr. H. Purushottam, Chairman and MD, NRDC. The fifth session was chaired by Mr. Randolph Payet, Secretary General, Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, Seychelles. The session discussed issues related to 'Sea-bed Exploration and Minerals'.

The concept of blue economy is a relatively new one in the development literature. Many ponder over the difference that it brings to the green economy philosophy which has been an integral part of development strategies in several countries. However, one can still identify the relevance of blue economy from the angle of the weight assigned to blue resources in the development process. Blue resources whose universe is not yet defined properly typically cover oceans, rivers, lakes and other form of water bodies and water-related activities. In precise terms, both freshwater and marine water coverage of a country and the natural resources and activities such as fishing, minerals, aquatic plants, oil, water tourism and leisure, marine biotechnology, deep sea mining of hydrocarbons, thorium, etc., and the related activities on land are parts of blue economy. The protagonists of this approach visualise a great potential for growth and job creation in the blue economy sectors as it blends the two important objectives of sustainable and harmonious use of resources and greater exploitation of resources for faster economic growth. Island and coastal economies are expected to gain more from the blue economy orientation in their development policies.

Following the blue economy paradigm, the major oceans of the world are likely to attract more investments into aquaculture, seafood processing, marine technology development and research, marine-

based services and so on. By that logic, Indian Ocean covering four different sub-regions, e.g. South East Asia, South Asia, Middle East and Africa, is the third largest ocean in the world with enormous potential for harnessing blue economy resources. It carries half of the world's container ships, one-third of the bulk cargo traffic and over two-thirds of the world's oil shipments. For the member states of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) this notion of blue economy offers an opportunity for more efficient and scientific exploitation of blue resources for catalysing growth and employment in the region. Mauritius and Seychelles, the two small island developing countries, have already embarked upon a holistic marine policy strategy for implementing blue economy principles in their respective economies. Other countries in IORA are considering of embracing this development paradigm in full spirit so as to seize the opportunities emerging from blue economy sectors for higher growth, social welfare and ecological balance.

In view of the importance of the subject, RIS took initiative to organise this important conference. Academicians, policymakers, diplomats and informed intelligentsia representing the Indian Ocean Rim countries and from other parts of the world participated in the Conference. The conference ended with concluding session that was chaired by Prof. V. N. Attri, Chair, Indian Ocean Rim Studies, IORA. It also had presentation of Conference Summary by Prof. S. K. Mohanty, RIS and vote of thanks by Dr. Vikrom Mathur, Senior Fellow and Head, Climate Initiative, ORF.

### **RIS Events on the Sidelines of United Nations General Assembly, New York**

#### **The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: Southern Perspectives**

RIS organised two side events alongside United Nations General Assembly in New York. The first side event on "The 2030 Agenda



*(From left to right) Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India; Ambassador Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the UN; Ms. Helen Clark, Administrator, UNDP; Prof. Arvind Panagariya, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog, Government of India; Ambassador Asoke Kumar Mukerji, Permanent Representative of India to the UN; Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; and Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor, RIS at the 21 September 2015 consultation at the UN Headquarters, New York.*

for Sustainable Development: Southern Perspectives” was held on 21 September 2015 at the UN Headquarters in partnership with United Nations Foundation and Centre on International Cooperation, New York University. The meeting was convened in collaboration with the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations. Welcome Remarks were delivered by Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor, RIS. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and Ambassador Asoke Kumar Mukerji, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations made Opening Remarks. Prof. Arvind Panagariya, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog delivered the Keynote Address. Ms. Helen Clark, Administrator, UNDP delivered the Special Address. The event was graced by Ambassador Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the UN; Ambassador David Donoghue, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN and the co-facilitators of the Open Working Group on SDGs. Senior diplomats and policymakers, members of the permanent delegations to the UN, UN officials, prominent academics, members of the civil society and the media, from Southern countries participated.

The first panel discussion was on 2030 Agenda: What it means for developing countries? The panellists included Prof. Carlos Correa, The South Centre, Geneva; Ms. Sarah F. Cliffe, Director, Centre on International Cooperation, New York University; Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India and Ms. Minh-Thu Pham, Senior Policy Director, UN Foundation. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets framed by the UN promises to connect five Ps – People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership. The SDGs are universal, integrated and interlinked, and pledge to leave no one behind. While implementation of the SDGs rests with individual countries, the developing world must have access to adequate resources. In this light, the first panel explored why fulfilment of objectives under this agenda would be critically hinged on the successful North-South Partnership and South-South Cooperation.

The second panel discussion was on: 2030 Agenda: Challenges and Opportunities for a Rising South. It was moderated by Mr. Amitabh Behar, Executive Director, National Foundation for India. The panellists for this session included Prof. Sanjay Reddy, The New School for Social Research, New York; Ambassador Carlos Sergio Sobral Duarte, Deputy Permanent Representative of Brazil to the UN; Dr. Samir Saran, Vice-President, Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi; and Dr. WPS Sidhu, Senior Fellow, Brookings India, New Delhi.

The main challenges for the South over the next 15 years are: resource, capacity and technology. Global governance architecture on economy, technology, and environment, therefore, will have to comprehensively facilitate and support implementation of the agenda across countries. Means of Implementation (MOI), an integral part of the agenda, addresses issues of finance, technology, capacity building, trade and systemic issues internationally. The second panel discussed why the multilateral institutions would have to accommodate the rise

of emerging powers and aspirations of the developing world to make the delivery of this agenda effective on all the counts.

## **Consultation on Institutional Architecture and Development and Access to Technology**

The second side event organised by RIS in collaboration with the Centre on International Cooperation, New York University was on 'Consultation on Institutional Architecture and Development and Access to Technology' at the New York University Midtown Center on 22 September 2015. The first session was on Institutional Architecture and Development. It was moderated by Dr. W. P. S. Sidhu, Senior Fellow, Brookings India. The speakers included Dr. Thomas Fues, German Development Institute; Dr. Sarah Hearn, Centre on International Cooperation, New York University; Dr. Reneta Giannini, Senior Researcher, Instituto Igarape; and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. As Goal 16 under the SDGs focuses on peace and justice and Goal 17 calls for revitalising global partnership for development. These goals offer Southern players a chance to clarify their roles and ambitions in the global system. The panel deliberated on the legitimacy of wider global participation in multilateral institutions and necessity of enhanced provision of global public goods to fulfil the SDGs. It also focussed on how Southern institutions can support the resource needs of the developing world and shape the outcome of the Post 2015 agenda.

The second session was on Institutionalising TFM: IP and Access to Technology. The panellists for this session were Mr. Amit Narang, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of India to the UN; Dr. Davis O'Connor, UN-DESA; and Prof. Carlos Correa, The South Centre, Mr Samir Saran, Vice-President, Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi. Current institutional arrangements are insufficient to deliver immediate and urgent technology development, deployment, dissemination, and transfer to developing countries. There are barriers like IP rights and lack of capacity to absorb technology. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda documents the final decision on part of world leaders to establish a technology facilitation mechanism (TFM) under the Post 2015 Development Agenda. UN system is now working on giving life to this proposal. Thus, the second panel explored the possible framework under TFM to institutionalise commitments by countries on access to technology and technology transfer, capacity building and financing of innovation at the global level.

## **Consultations on Financing for Development**

Ahead of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD 3) in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, RIS in association with the UN in India and the Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC), organised consultations on Financing for Development to discuss the core issues of the FfD 3.

The first consultation was organised in New Delhi on 8 July 2015 in which Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, RIS made Welcome Remarks. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS made Chairman's Remarks. Dr. Adarsh Swaika, Director, UN Economic and Social Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Prof. Deepak Nayyar, Professor Emeritus of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; and Dr. Akmal Hussain, Distinguished Professor of Economics, Forman Christian College, Lahore were the key panellists.

The panellists flagged India's position in the run up to the FfD3. The FfD3 was taking place in a context that would decide the global development architecture for the next 15 years. It also builds on the 2002 Monterrey Consensus and the 2008 Doha Declaration that sought to mobilise resources for development and for the effective use of all these resources in the global partnership for sustainable development – the three dimensions of which are: the promotion of inclusive growth, protecting environment and promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies.

Presentation on the Draft Outcome Document of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development were made by Dr. Priyadarshi Dash, Research Associate, RIS; Mr. N. Paul Divakar, General Secretary, Dalit Arthik Adhikar Andolan; Mr. Subrat Das, Executive Director, Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability, New Delhi; Mr. Amitabh Behar, Convenor, Wada Na Todo Abhiyan; and Mr. Harsh Jaitli, Voluntary Action Network India (VANI). This session was chaired by Ms. Rebecca Reichmann Tavares, Representative, UN Women Office for India.

The panellists were of the opinion that India's position should be that the Financing for Development process should feed into the wider canvas, which includes post-2015 development agenda, climate



*Prof. Deepak Nayyar, Professor Emeritus of Economics, JNU speaking at the consultation. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS; Dr. Adarsh Swaika, Director, UN Economic and Social Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Dr. Akmal Hussain, Distinguished Professor of Economics, Forman Christian College, Lahore; and Mr. Amitabh Behar, Board Member, FfD3 and Executive Director, National Foundation for India (NFI).*

change, and development cooperation. The issues on Financing for Development cover aid, international financial architecture, domestic resource mobilisation and global tax issues.

The second consultation was organised in Addis Ababa on 14 July 2015 on the sidelines of FfD 3. Mr. Jayant Sinha, Hon'ble Minister of State for Finance, Government of India made Chairperson's remarks. Ambassador Sanjay Verma, Ambassador of India to Ethiopia and Djibouti made Welcome Remarks. Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, Visiting Fellow, RIS; Dr. Manuel Montes, Senior Advisor, Finance and Development, The South Centre, Geneva; Mr. Amitabh Behar, Executive Director, National Foundation of India; and Mr. Danny Sriskandarajah, Secretary General, Civicus presented views from academia and civil society. Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor, RIS extended the vote of thanks.

The outcomes of these consultations in the form of a policy communiqué were presented to the Minister of State for Finance, Mr. Jayant Sinha, who led the Indian delegation to Addis Ababa, and were later fed into the inter-governmental process on the post-2015 development agenda underway at the General Assembly in New York in September 2015. RIS has collaborated with the UN and was the key partner from academia/research for the first consultation on SDGs in India.

## Financing for Development and Post 2015 Agenda

RIS, in association with the UN in India and the Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC) convened a seminar on 'Financing for Development and Post 2015 Agenda: Way Forward from Addis' on 2 September 2015 in New Delhi. It formed a part of the RIS work programme on Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. Jayant Sinha, Hon'ble Minister of State for Finance, Government of India delivered the Keynote Address. Welcome



Mr. Jayant Sinha, Minister of State for Finance, Government of India delivering keynote address at the seminar. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Dr. Bhaskar Chatterjee, Director General and CEO, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Government of India; Ms. Sujata Mehta, Secretary (M&ER), MEA; Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS; Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India; Ms. Nisha Agarwal, CEO, Oxfam India; and Mr. Amitabh Behar, Executive Director, National Foundation for India / Wada Na Todo Abhiyan, and Convenor, FIDC Working Group on Emerging Development Agenda.

remarks were delivered by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS gave the Chairman's Remarks and Ms. Sujata Mehta, Secretary (M&ER), MEA delivered the special remarks. Ms. Nisha Agarwal, Oxfam India and Dr. Bhaskar Chatterjee, Director General & CEO, Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, Ministry of Corporate Affairs were the other panellists. Mr. Amitabh Behar, Executive Director, National Foundation for India/Wada Na Todo Abhiyan, and Convenor, FIDC Working Group on Emerging Development Agenda extended the vote of thanks.

### NeST Meeting at UNDP, New York

RIS organised a consultation in collaboration with UNDP's Bureau for Policy and Programme Support on South-South and Triangular Cooperation at UNDP Office in New York on 22 September 2015 in which the future work programme of Network of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST) was discussed in detail. Dr. Xiaojun Grace Wang, Lead Advisor, UNDP made the opening remarks. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made special remarks. Other panellists included Dr. Wang Yihuan, Director, Research Center for International Development (RCID), China Agricultural University (CAU); Mr. Jesus Velazquez Castillo, Delegate of Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations; Ms. Angela Trenton-Mbonde, Senior Advisor, UNAIDS; Dr. Thomas Fues, German Development Institute; and Prof. Manuel Montes, The South Center.

The panel discussed the need of collaboration between North-South partnership and South-South Cooperation. In this regard, the emergence of collaborative efforts undertaken by the Southern think-tanks was also discussed.



*(From left to right) Mr. Doningnon Soro, Policy Analyst, South-South and Triangular Cooperation, UNDP; Dr. Thomas Fues, German Development Institute; Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Dr. Wang Yihuan, Director, Research Center for International Development (RCID), China Agricultural University (CAU); Dr. Xiaojun Grace Wang, Lead Advisor, South-South and Triangular Cooperation, UNDP; Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor, RIS; Mr. Pratyush, Research Assistant, RIS; and Ms. Shams Banihani, Policy Analyst, South-South and Triangular Cooperation, UNDP at the meeting.*

## Fourth Roundtable of the ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT)

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS, jointly with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia; the ASEAN Secretariat; and the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia organised the Fourth Roundtable of the ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT) on the theme 'ASEAN-India: Strengthening the Ties That Bind' on 7-8 August 2015 in Kuala Lumpur. Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa, Chairman and Chief Executive, Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia made Welcome Remarks. Hon Dato' Seri Reezal Merican Naina Merican, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia delivered the Keynote Address. General (Retd) Vijay Kumar Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India delivered the Inaugural Address. Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), MEA, GoI and Ambassador V. S. Seshadri, Vice Chairman, RIS and AIC made Special Remarks. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and AIC made concluding remarks.

At the Roundtable 'ASEAN-India Economic Relations: Opportunities and Challenges', AIC/RIS Proceedings of the 3rd AINTT Roundtable and 'ASEAN-India: Shaping the Post-2015 Agenda', IDSA Proceedings of the 7th Delhi Dialogue were also released. The first session of the Roundtable deliberated on issues relating to non-traditional security threats such as maritime security, cyber security and transnational crime including international terrorism. Ambassador V. S. Seshadri, chaired this session.

The second session dealt with existing and emerging regional security architectures and discussed the challenges that the countries have been facing in the region. Ms. Elina Noor chaired this session. The



(From left to right) Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and AIC; Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Hon Dato' Seri Reezal Merican Naina Merican, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia; Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa, Chairman and Chief Executive, Institute of Strategic and International Studies Malaysia; General (Retd) Vijay Kumar Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India; and Ambassador V. S. Seshadri, Vice Chairman, RIS and AIC.

third session discussed issues relating to regional economic architecture such as ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), and the way forward. It was chaired by Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Chancellor, Gokhale Institute of Economics and Politics, Pune and Senior Fellow, Centre for Policy Research (CPR).

The fourth session chaired by Prof. Prabir De, RIS and Coordinator, AIC discussed past and present cultural links between ASEAN and India and suggested a way forward to strengthen the links.

Tan Sri Dato Ajit Singh, Advisor (India Business), IJM Corporation Berhad and Former Secretary-General, ASEAN Secretariat chaired the fifth session on 'Post-2015 Agenda of ASEAN and the Way Forward.'

The Roundtable concluded with the vote of thanks by Prof. Prabir De and Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa. Senior officials from India and ASEAN member countries participated in the Roundtable. The outcomes of the Roundtable would be used in the preparation of the 13th ASEAN-India Summit to be held at Kuala Lumpur later this year. The detailed programme of the Roundtable is available on the RIS website.

## Indian Approach to South-South Cooperation

On the sidelines of the final meeting of the ProGreSS project for evolving a common understanding of the emerging concept of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) and development approaches, tools and mechanisms to facilitate the uptake of RRI across Europe and beyond, held on 14-15 January 2016 at the Headquarters of European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) in Brussels, the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States) in collaboration with the Indian Embassy organised a presentation on Indian approach to South-South Cooperation by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS on 13 January 2016. The presentation was based on the book *Logic of Sharing: Indian Approach to South-South Cooperation* authored by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi. More than 50 ACP diplomats, led by ACP Secretary General



*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi presenting the book titled 'The Logic of Sharing: Indian Approach to South-South Cooperation' to H.E Dr. Patrick Gomes. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Mr. Philippe Latriche, Ambassador Manjeev Singh Puri, Prof. Doris Schroeder, and Dr. James Mackie.*

H.E. Dr. Patrick Gomes, representatives of the European Commission and academics, including Prof. Doris Schroeder, University of Central Lancashire and Dr. James Mackie of ECDPM took part. Mr. Manjeev Singh Puri, Ambassador of India to EU also graced the occasion.

The meeting provided an excellent opportunity to project India's huge and growing contribution in promoting and strengthening South-South cooperation. Participants welcomed the publication '*Logic of Sharing*' as the most important contribution in bridging the gap in concrete data about South-South cooperation.

### **Third INDIALICS International Conference on Innovation and Sustainable Development**

Last few decades witnessed unprecedented changes in varied spheres of economies and societies in the developing world. This was induced, among others, by technological and institutional innovations resulting in increased integration among countries. In the emerging context of globalisation, international competitiveness remains the sole means of survival. Instances of high rates of growth even in large developing countries under globalisation suggest that achieving faster economic growth is within the reach of developing world. However, along with the episodes of high growth, there has been growing inequality at all levels and over-exploitation of exhaustible resources. The emerging challenge, therefore, is to accomplish sustainable development and competitiveness from a broader perspective of economy, ecology and society, which is the focus of United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Against this background, RIS and Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvanthapuram (CDS) organised the third INDIALICS conference that aimed at exploring the role of innovation in its broad sense (technological, institutional and organisational) in addressing this new development challenge of achieving inclusive and sustainable development in Kerala on 16 -18 March 2016.

INDIALICS is the India chapter of Globelics - an international network of scholars who apply the concept of Learning, Innovation and Competence building System (LICS) as a framework for promoting inclusive and sustainable development in developing countries, emerging economies and societies in transition.

Mr. Jairam Ramesh, Member of Parliament, formerly Minister of Environment and Forests delivered the inaugural address. Mr. K. M. Chandrasekhar, Chairman, CDS chaired the inaugural session. Prof. Amit Shovon Ray, Director, CDS made welcome remarks. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made opening remarks. Felicitation from Globelics was made by Prof. Jose E Cassiolato, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Representative in India made special address. Dr. T. M. Thomas Isaac, Member, Legislative Assembly, Kerala and Honorary Fellow CDS delivered keynote address. Prof. K. J. Joseph, CDS extended the vote of thanks.

The different sessions of the conference deliberated on issues ranging from MDGs to SDGs: tasks, challenges and way forward; SDGs, innovation and globalisation; innovation, inequality and sustainable development; low carbon innovation; innovation and governance for sustainable development; manufacturing issues and sustainable development; innovation for inclusive and sustainable development: the southern perspective; innovations for sustainable agriculture; plantation agriculture; innovation beyond R&D for inclusive and sustainable development: reflections from Kerala's development experience; social sector innovations (Health/Education); the excluded and sustainable development; grassroots innovation; and innovation for inclusive and sustainable development: focus on plantation agriculture. A large number of government officials, stakeholders from academia, industry, national and international organisations took part in the conference.

## South Asia Regional Consultation on Agriculture and Food Systems in the Era of Sustainable Development

RIS, in association with the Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition and the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), organised the South Asia Regional Consultation on Agriculture and Food Systems in the Era of Sustainable Development in New Delhi on 11-12 February 2016.

The consultation was organised in continuation of the RIS work programme on SDGs. It intended to identify opportunities for multi-sectoral action to meet SDGs particularly in agriculture and nutrition.

Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS chaired the opening session. Prof. K. Srinath Reddy, President, Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and Member, Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition made welcome remarks. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS presented the objectives of the consultation. Prof. Sandy Thomas, Director, Global Panel on Agriculture and Food



*(From left to right) Prof. K. Srinath Reddy, Prof. Sandy Thomas, Ambassador Shyam Saran, and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi at the opening session.*

Systems for Nutrition talked about the Panel's programme to support the development of improved nutrition outcomes in the context of food and agriculture systems. Dr. P.K. Anand, Sr. Consultant, NITI Aayog, Government of India made special remarks. His Excellency John Kufuor, Former President of Ghana also gave a special message for the consultation.

The technical sessions deliberated on climate change and sustainable agriculture in South Asia; improved nutrition for South Asia; ensuring nutrition security and dietary diversity for global health; quality of crops and health: pesticide residue, water contamination, water scarcity; the road to achieving SDGs and improved nutrition outcomes through agriculture and food systems; catalysing multi-sectoral partnerships and financial incentives; strengthening the evidence base for policy making; identifying priorities for convergent action at policy level; and agriculture R&D and Cooperation in South Asia.

Media in India has played an important role in highlighting the subject of Climate Change, Health, Food Systems, Nutrition and Agriculture. With this view the consultation also had a special media interactive session on the second day to deliberate upon issues of improved agriculture, food systems, health and nutrition and growth in South Asia.

Ambassador Shyam Saran, Dr. K. Srinath Reddy, Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Prof. Sandy Thomas, and Prof. Tom Arnold, Member, Global Panel for Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition were the speakers.

Participants comprised senior policymakers and representatives from organisations in India, Sri Lanka, Bhutan, Nepal, and Bangladesh.

The deliberations at the Consultation underlined that good nutrition provides a vital foundation for human development. Much has already been achieved in South Asia in the drive to address malnutrition, and in tackling the multiple challenges at the nexus of agriculture, food and nutrition. A significant example is the reduction of stunting in India in children under the age of 5, from 48 per cent in 2005-2006 to 39 per cent in 2014.

Despite these gains, India is experiencing the "double burden" of both underweight and obesity. It is felt that new policies across the food and agriculture systems dealing with production, marketing, processing and consumption will need to be coherent and based on the best available evidence. Only by aligning their strategies and policies even more closely, will South Asian countries make informed and effective progress at the necessary pace to achieve the goal of nutritional well-being for all.

Governments working in concert with civil society, business, and the knowledge community will need to create integrated approaches and develop a strategic view of food systems and agriculture to help ensure that today's decisions and investments are robust to future uncertainties.

## India-Africa Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation

RIS organised a major international conference on 'India-Africa Partnership on Science, Technology and Innovation: Special Focus on Agriculture, Food Security and Biosafety' in New Delhi on 21 January 2016.

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS delivered the welcome address. Mr. R. K. Singh, Joint Secretary (Seeds & IC), Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India delivered the inaugural address. Dr. Adugna Wakjira Gemelal, Deputy Director General, Ethiopian Institute Agricultural Research, Ethiopia made keynote remarks. Dr. Kalyan Goswami, ED, National Seed Association of India made special remarks.

The first session of the conference focussed on resource mobilisation and regional cooperation. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi chaired the session. The key panellists for the session included Prof. Ramkishen S. Rajan, Professor of International Economic Policy, George Mason University, USA; Dr. Daniel Bradley, Food and Resource Security Adviser, DFID India; and Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, Visiting Professor, RIS.

The second session on agriculture and food security was chaired by Dr. R. K. Mittal, OSD (International Relations), DARE-ICAR, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. Mr. Ibrahim Awadhi Mdee, Permanent Secretary, The Office of Vice-President, Tanzania; Mr. Surendra Makhija, Advisor, Jain Irrigation; Dr. Jaskaran Singh Mahal, Dean, Punjab Agricultural University; Dr. Jai Singh, CEO, Sakata Seeds; and Dr. T. P. Rajendran, Visiting Fellow, RIS were the key panellists.

Dr. Vibha Dhawan, Distinguished Fellow and Senior Director, TERI chaired the third session on issues in biosafety. The key panellists included Dr. Arvind Kaushal, Distinguished Fellow, TERI and former Secretary, ICAR, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare,



*Mr. R. K. Singh delivering the inaugural address. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr. Adugna Wakjira Gemelal, Dr. Kalyan Goswami, and Prof. Karim Maredia.*

Government of India; Dr. DDK Sharma, Additional Plant Protection Advisor, DPPQS, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India; Dr. Moussa Savadogo, Senior Programme Officer, Environmental Biosafety, NEPAD ABNE, Burkina Faso; Mrs. Oluwagbeminiyi Oriyomi Olajitan Popoola, Head, Legal Unit, Office of the Director General, National Biotechnology Development Agency, Nigeria; and Dr. Silas Obukosia Obwogo, Operations Manager, NEPAD Agency ABNE, Uganda.

Dr. S. R. Rao, Advisor, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India delivered the valedictory address. Prof. Karim Maredia, Professor, Michigan State University, USA made concluding remarks.

### **Stakeholder's Consultative Workshop on India-Myanmar Border Trade: Potential, Constraints and Policy Recommendations**

RIS organised a stakeholders' consultative workshop on India-Myanmar Border Trade: Potential, Constraints and Policy Recommendations in Imphal and Moreh on 21-22 January 2016. Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS made welcome and introductory remarks. Prof. Ch. Priyoranjan Singh, Department of Economics, MU moderated the first business session on the General Context of Indo-Myanmar Border Trade and India's Act East Policy. Speakers for the session included Prof. Amar Yumnam, Department of Economics, Manipur University; Prof. Konsam Ibo, Department of Political Science; and Dr. L. Rajen, Department of Political Science.

Prof. Amar Yumnam, Department of Economics, MU moderated the second business session on State-Specific Experience. Speakers for this session included Prof. D. K. Chakraborty, Department of Economics, Dibrugarh University; Prof. E. Nixon Singh, Department



*Prof. Ram Upendra Das speaking at the workshop.*

of Management, Mizoram University; Dr. RKPG Singha, Pachunga University College, Aizwal; Dr. Thiyam Bharat, Reader, CSSEIP, Manipur University; and Dr. T Zarenthung Ezung, Department of Economics, Nagaland University.

The third session sought views from the representatives of trade bodies, traders and other stakeholders. Prof. Ch. Priyoranjan Singh, Department of Economics, MU moderated this session. Key speakers included: Mr. W. Nabachandra, President, Indo-Myanmar Border Trade Union (IMBTU); Dr. Th. Dhabali, President, Manipur Chambers of Commerce and Industry (MCCI); Mr. N. Ibogochoubi, Vice President, Manipur Tourism Forum; Mr. N. Rudramani, Member, IMBTU; Mr. Hoabam Joyremba, MD, CubeTen Technologies Pvt. Ltd.; Mr. T. Rashmani Sharma, IMBTU; Mr. Thokchom Jotin, MCCI; and Mr. Khagemba Sanabam, MCCI. Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS made concluding remarks.

### **Growing Strength of IORA and Roadmap for the Next Decade**

RIS organised a panel discussion on Growing Strength of IORA and Roadmap for the Next Decade in New Delhi on 6 January 2016. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made welcome remarks. Ms. Renu Pall, Joint Secretary (SM&IOR), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India made chairperson's remarks. Prof. V.N. Attri, Chair, Indian Ocean Rim Studies (IORS) for IORA, University of Mauritius, delivered the keynote address. The distinguished panellists included Dr. Pankaj Kumar Jha, Director (Research), ICWA; Dr. Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate, IDSA; and Prof. S.K. Mohanty, RIS.



*Prof. V.N. Attri delivering the keynote address at the panel discussion. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. S.K. Mohanty, Ms. Renu Pall, and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi.*

## Delhi Dialogue VIII – ‘ASEAN-India Relations: A New Paradigm’

Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon’ble External Affairs Minister, Government of India inaugurated the three-day Delhi Dialogue VIII in New Delhi on 17-19 February 2016, on the theme “ASEAN-India Relations: A New Paradigm” to commemorate the successful completion of 25 years of ASEAN-India relationship and to formulate new approach towards India’s engagement with ASEAN. The Dialogue was organised by the MEA, in partnership with the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA); ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS; FICCI; CII; All India Association of Industries (AIAI); Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), etc. Political leaders, policymakers, senior officials, business leaders, think tanks, academics from India and ASEAN participated in this three-day Delhi Dialogue VIII. The Delhi Dialogue VIII was broadly divided into three components - Business Sessions, Ministerial Sessions and Academics Sessions, to facilitate debate on various aspects relating to ASEAN and India relationships. The AIC at RIS organised the session on ‘Reinvigorating the Civilizational Links’. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS chaired the session. Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray, Former Chairperson, National Monuments Authority, Ministry of Culture, New Delhi; Mr. Eddin Khoo, Founder Director of Pusaka Foundation, Malaysia; Prof. Baladas Ghoshal, Secretary General and Director (Academic), Society for Indian Ocean Studies (SIOS), New Delhi; and Mr. Sachidanand Sahai, Advisor, Preah Vihear National Authority, Royal Government of Cambodia, & UNESCO Expert for the Archaeological Complex of Sambor Prei Kuk, Cambodia were the panellists.



*Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Minister for External Affairs, Government of India with other dignitaries at Delhi Dialogue-VIII.*

## FIDC Regional Consultations at Jaipur and Chennai

FIDC-RIS organised the third regional consultation in Jaipur on 22-23 December 2015. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS delivered the welcome address, in the inaugural session. Mr. A.K. Sahu, Joint Secretary (DPA-II), MEA delivered the inaugural address. Professor V.S. Vyas, Professor Emeritus, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Jaipur delivered the keynote address. Dr. Kaustuv Bandyopadhyay, Director, PRIA and convener of the FIDC working group on CSOs delivered the vote of thanks.

In his inaugural address, Mr. Sahu pointed out how since independence India realising the need for capacity building for developing nations launched several fellowship programmes in the early 1950s. In 1964, these scholarships were formalised to be a part of Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC). Apart from capacity building, India's development cooperation is manifested through the modalities of lines of credit, grants and disaster relief. The importance of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in development sector within India and in other developing countries was also discussed.

Professor Vyas in his keynote address focussed on 'Agriculture and South-South Cooperation'. He expressed satisfaction over India's rate of growth in agriculture and over agriculture and rural development being the focus areas of the Indian government. He said that SSC played a critical role in the genetic research in wheat and rice that made Green Revolution possible. However, there is still scope of international cooperation in a number of areas like post-harvest technology; organic farming; integrated pest control; energy management; water harvesting technology; frontier technologies like tissue culture; application of IT in farming and institutional innovation in credit and marketing. It was highlighted that in the field of agriculture, a mere transfer of technology will not go a long way in solving the issues, but institutional support is also required and India can contribute significantly in that area.



*Prof. V.S. Vyas speaking at the Consultation. Also seen in picture are (from left to right) Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Mr. A.K. Sahu, and Dr. Kaustuv Bandyopadhyay.*

The consultation also had three parallel sessions focusing on sectoral evaluation concerns. The first session was on 'Natural Resource Management'. The second one was on 'Rural Development' and the third parallel session was on 'Health and Education'.

The key issues that emerged during the two-day consultation were extremely important for developing an Indian narrative on South-South cooperation.

The Fourth Regional Consultation was organised by FIDC on 15 March 2016 at Chennai. It brought together civil society organisations (CSOs) of the Southern region of the country, members of the academic community and policymakers to discuss India's Development Cooperation and South-South Cooperation (SSC). Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made the welcome remarks. Mr. A.K. Sahu, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India delivered the inaugural address. Prof. Janakarajan Srinivasan of Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS) delivered the keynote address. Prof. Shashanka Bhide, Director, MIDS extended the vote of thanks.

Prof. Chaturvedi in his welcome remarks gave a brief historical review of the four High Level Fora on Aid Effectiveness till date in Busan 2011, Accra 2008, Paris 2005 and Rome in 2003. He explained as to how Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development's (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) steered the discussion in Rome (2003) towards the returns that can be generated against the disbursement of aid to their respective tax payers. In Paris 2005, a series of specific implementation measures were adopted and established a monitoring system to access progress and measure results of aid. The OECD-DAC in the third event in Accra reconciled to the fact that South-South Cooperation (SSC) is different from North-South Cooperation (NSC) and it served as the foundation for SSC commitments. However, at the fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (Busan, 2011) OECD-DAC intended to rationalise SSC as a part of NSC by forming Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC) comprising members from developed and



*Participants of FIDC Regional Consultation at Chennai.*

developing nations, emerging economies, providers of South-South and triangular cooperation and civil society.

Prof. Chaturvedi also mentioned the theoretical differences between NSC and SSC and how the former is premised on Monetarist school of thought and the latter on the Structuralist school. He later underlined the importance of setting up of Development Partnership Administration (DPA) within the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India. He mentioned that DPA is a work in progress towards streamlining the development cooperation projects undertaken by India in various Southern countries.

Prof. Janakrajan Srinivasan of MIDS delivered the keynote address in which he delved into the origins of foreign aid and development cooperation through his discussions on bi-polar world and the paradigm shift that has taken place in the international development cooperation from NSC to SSC. NSC was in existence on unequal terms in the past, however, global events like recession and rise of emerging economies gave strength and confidence to SSC. Demand driven nature of SSC coupled with non-conditionality have made SSC a desirable alternative to NSC.

He also highlighted common challenges of the Southern countries in the areas of poverty, hunger, malnutrition; urban slums; low human development indicators; lack of adequate social security and health care measures; ecological degradation and erosion of natural capital; environmental degradation; climate change threat and increasing consumerism; rapid rise in waste generation; lack of scientific disposal methods that provide an excellent level playing field for SSC to achieve the goals of sustainable development.

Mr. Sahu in his inaugural address tried to contextualise development by questioning the meaning of development and ways of achieving them. The biggest domestic challenge for India, according to him, was the extraction of 20 per cent of India's population out of poverty. However, India is also aware of the developmental challenges faced by other developing countries and India is willingly sharing responsibility of assisting them through its development cooperation programmes.

Mr. Sahu also emphasised the importance of platforms like FIDC which has been created to facilitate the consultation on SSC and India's development cooperation at track II level.

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi chaired the first technical session on India's Development Cooperation: Perspective and Practice. Comm. R.S. Vasan, Director, Centre for China Studies and Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, Visiting Fellow, RIS were the panellists.

Prof. T. C. James, Visiting Fellow, RIS chaired the second technical session on Development Cooperation and Civil Society Organisations. Dr. Bhavani R. V., Programme Manager, M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation; Dr. Kaustuv Bandyopadhyay, Director, PRIA; and Mr. Sandip Mookerjee, Vice President, Hand-in-Hand India were the panellists.

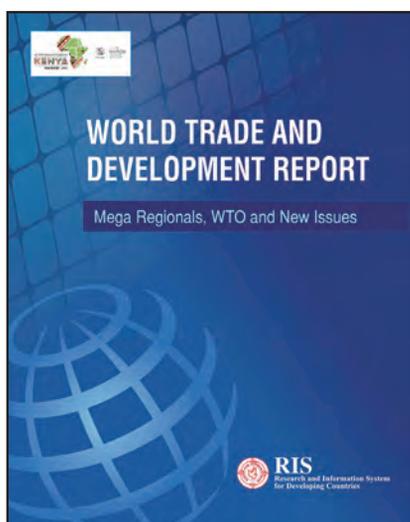
The consultation also had two parallel sessions focussed on agriculture moderated by Dr. P. G. Chengappa, National Professor of ICAR, Institute for Social and Economic Change and Fisheries and Aquaculture moderated by Dr. Y.S. Yadava, Director, BoBP.

## RIS Launches World Trade and Development Report

With the Tenth WTO Ministerial Conference in Nairobi, the efforts for trade liberalisation and strengthening of multilateral trading arrangement came to a full circle. What started in 1995 with graduation from GATT to WTO had come to a point where several challenges for multilateralism were clearly discernible.

Signing of TPP is an unprecedented development in the annals of the economic history of the world. Along with TPP another three mega regionals, viz. TTIP, RCEP and FTAAP, have made significant headway in their negotiations, and are likely to be formed in the coming years. These four regional groupings are distinct from those of other existing regional grouping in terms of their content, scope and impact on the global economy. Legitimising behind the border issues (often called new issues) such as competition policy, labour standards, environmental issues, government procurement, etc., in the regional arrangements may likely be raised in the multilateral forums as well.

To deliberate on these issues, RIS organised a panel discussion on 'Trade, Development, WTO and Mega FTAs' in Nairobi on 17 December 2015, on the sidelines of the WTO Ministerial Conference, in partnership with the South Centre, Geneva and Commonwealth Secretariat at the KICC, Nairobi. On this occasion, RIS flagship publication titled the 'World Trade and Development Report (WTDR)' on the theme "Mega Regionals, WTO and New Issues" was also released and discussed. Mrs. Suchitra Durai, High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Kenya presided over the panel discussion. The distinguished speakers included, Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS;



*Mrs. Suchitra Durai, High Commissioner of India to the Republic of Kenya releasing the 'RIS World Trade and Development Report: Mega Regionals, WTO and New Issues.' Also seen in picture are (from left to right) Prof. S.K. Mohanty, RIS; Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; and Dr. Carlos Correa, Special Adviser, South Centre, Geneva.*

Prof. S.K. Mohanty, RIS; Dr. Carlos Correa, Special Advisor, South Centre, Geneva; Dr. Mohammad Razzaque, Director, Trade Division, Commonwealth Secretariat, London; Ms. Sanya Reid Smith, Third World Network, Geneva, among others.

## Workshop on Clinical Trial Regulations in India

RIS organised a workshop on 'Clinical Trial Regulations in India' in New Delhi on 2 December 2015 to discuss the issues and to share the tentative results of a survey that was conducted by the research team as part of study on the Recent Changes in Clinical Trial Regulations in India introduced consequent to the decision of the Supreme Court in *Swasthya Abhiyan Manch Vs UoI*, and their Impact. The workshop was inaugurated by Prof. S. K. Brahmachari, former Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). It was attended, among others, by Dr. Nandini K. Kumar, former DDG (SG), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR); Dr. K. Satyanarayana, former DDG, ICMR; Dr. Manisha Shridhar, Regional Adviser, South-East Asia Regional Office, WHO; Dr. Suneela Garg, Director Professor, Department of Community Medicine, Maulana Azad Medical College; Dr. Sarala Balachandran, Chief Scientist, CSIR and Project Director, Open Source Drug Discovery (OSDD); Dr. Anant Bhan, Researcher, Global Action for Health; Dr. Swati Subhodh, Member, Ethics Committee, National Institute of Tuberculosis and Respiratory Diseases (NITRD); Dr. Mira Shiva, former Chairperson, Health Action International Asia Pacific (HAI-AP); Dr. Sanjeev Sharma, Head, Clinical Trial Department, Apollo Hospitals; Dr. S. Visalakshi, Sr. Research Consultant, Consortium for Trade and Development (CENTAD); Ms. Leena Meghaney, Regional Head – South Asia, MSF-Access Campaign; Dr. Y. Madhavi, Sr. Principal Scientist, National Institute of Science, Technology and Development Studies (NISTADS); Dr. Roli Mathur, ICMR, besides Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Prof. T.C. James, Visiting Fellow and Mr. Zakir Thomas, former Project Director, OSDD. The technical sessions of the workshop focussed on Regulatory Approval Process, Working of Ethics Committee, Prior Informed Consent and Compensation Guidelines.



*Prof. S.K. Brahmachari delivering inaugural address at the workshop. Also seen in picture are (from left to right) Dr. Nandini K. Kumar, Dr. Manisha Shridhar, Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, and Prof. T. C. James.*

## Conference on WTO and SDGs: Issues before the Nairobi Ministerial

The Tenth WTO Ministerial Conference (MC10) at Nairobi, Kenya in December 2015 had an important bearing on the fate of the only true multilateral trade institution in the world, the WTO. The Doha Development Round needs to be completed at the earliest to ensure support for a rule-based multilateral trading order. The challenges to this regime are rapidly emerging in the form of mega FTAs like TPP.

Keeping this in view, RIS in partnership with Centre for WTO Studies (IIFT), German Development Institute, Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) organised a two-day conference to discuss the important issues before the Nairobi ministerial. The conference was held in New Delhi on 23-24 November 2015. Mr. Sudhanshu Pandey, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, delivered the inaugural address. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Prof. Abhijit Das, Head, Centre for WTO Studies, New Delhi made welcome remarks. Mr. Manab Majumdar, Asst. Secretary General (WTO), FICCI; and Mr. Pranav Kumar, Head, International Trade Policy Division, CII made remarks. Prof. Thomas Fues, Head, Training, The German Development Institute, Bonn extended the vote of thanks.

In his address, Mr. Sudhanshu Pandey said that “times are challenging”. Without offering any prescription for MC10, he added that this would be largely a negotiating ministerial. Mr. Pandey urged the two-day conference to deliberate on the outcome of the Doha Development Round since its core issues, principles and purpose have not significantly changed. He advocated the need for re-dedicating efforts to finding a solution with a collective, mature and responsible appreciation of each others’ views to achieve a consensus on contentious issues. He added that the world is increasingly globalised as technology is fast dissolving boundaries of the centres of production and consumption. If inequalities are getting sharpened, they are not



*Mr. Sudhanshu Pandey delivering the inaugural address at the conference. Also seen in picture are (from left to right) Mr. Manab Majumdar, Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Prof. Abhijit Das, Mr. Pranav Kumar, and Mr. Johannes Blankenbach, Researcher, German Development Institute.*

going to assure us a good tomorrow. The responsibility is collective as developed, developing and least developed countries had to be taken on board towards achieving a basic minimum agreement at MC10 for a win-win situation. He emphasised that agriculture is the core issue in the Doha Development Round as more than 65 per cent of the population in the developing countries live off the land. In addition, the focus must also be on public healthcare requirements of both developing and developed countries for affordable generic drugs.

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi in his opening remarks felt that there were two sharply contrasting views in the run up to MC10. One, strongly supported by the developing world, was to continue with the Doha Round and the other, espoused by a few developed countries, was to bury it and make a new beginning. Referring to the statement made by the Prime Minister Modi at the recent India-Africa Forum Summit, he underlined the need for fulfilment of the commitments made by the developed world for the Doha Round. He wondered about the G-20's commitment for a "successful" Nairobi ministerial and the on-going talk about post-Nairobi trade issues. Prof. Abhijit Das and Mr. Manab Majumdar of FICCI and Mr. Pranav Kumar of CII also shared the same sentiments in their presentations.

Key issues raised in the conference included: Agriculture and Fisheries Subsidies; TRIPS, Trade and Access to Technology; WTO and Likely New Issues, WTO, Mega-regionals and the Future of the Doha Round; International trade and SDG12: How can voluntary standards contribute to implementation of the 2030 Agenda?; Engagement of the private sector for sustainable development: How can corporations use voluntary standards to redesign their global value chains?; and the relevance of standards for the Nairobi ministerial: How can WTO promote sustainable consumption and production? Eminent speakers from industry, academia and media took part in the conference.

## EAS Conference on Maritime Security and Cooperation

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), in partnership with AIC at RIS and the National Maritime Foundation (NMF) organised an International Conference on "Maritime Security and Cooperation" for



*Ambassador Anil Wadhwa delivering keynote address at the conference. Also seen in picture are (from left to right) Prof. Prabir De, Dr. Vijay Sakhuja, Ambassador V. S. Seshadri, Mr. Deepak Shetty, and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi.*

the East Asia Summit (EAS) participating countries on 9-10 November 2015 in New Delhi. All the EAS countries nominated their officials to the Conference, and overall 100 participants including senior officials attended this two-day event. Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), MEA delivered the keynote address. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made the welcome remarks. Ambassador V. S. Sheshadri, Vice Chairman, RIS, made the opening remarks. Dr. Vijay Sakhuja, Director, National Maritime Foundation gave special address. Mr. Deepak Shetty, Director General of Shipping made the special remarks. Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC extended vote of thanks.

The Conference was divided into six sessions aimed at facilitating an in depth debate on Maritime Security and Cooperation and Maritime Connectivity. They were: (1) EAS Perspectives on the Maritime Domain, (2) Emerging Security Architecture in the Asia-Pacific Region, (3) Maritime Connectivity: Building for Trade, (4) Blue Economy and Maritime Conservation, (5) Cooperative Delivery of 'Common Public Good and (6) the Way Forward. The Conference discussed, analysed and had put together the various components that would help strengthen cooperation among EAS participating countries in the maritime domain. Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC summarised the event in its concluding session and extended vote of thanks.

### **Discussion Meeting on Building a Clean Power Platform through Innovative Finance Policy**

RIS organised a Discussion Meeting on Building a Clean Power Platform through Innovative Finance Policy in New Delhi on 18 December 2015. Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS made introductory remarks. Mr. Jeffrey Schub, Executive Director of the Coalition for Green Capital was the lead speaker. Dr. Nitya Nanda, Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) and Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, RIS were the discussants.

The speaker deliberated on innovative financial tools and methods used by governments around the world to “crowd-in” private investment. They emphasised that investment of ample and affordable capital is an essential element to wide-scale deployment of clean energy technologies. The greatest deterrent to the adoption of distributed generation and energy efficiency is the upfront cost of the technology.



*Mr. Jeffrey Schub speaking at the meeting. Also seen in the picture are (from left to right) Dr. Nitya Nanda, Prof. Ram Upendra Das, and Dr. Sabyasachi Saha.*

This barrier can be overcome with third-party financing. Governments around the world are using new public-private partnership structures that aim to draw in private capital, which is currently hesitant to invest in clean energy. These public clean energy financing authorities, or “green banks,” have been launched in all parts of the world, and are leveraging up to US\$ 10 of private investment per US\$ 1 of public investment. These financing structures can bring clean energy markets to scale, harnessing market forces to expand adoption of cost effective clean energy.



## Roundtable on ASEAN-India: Integration and Development

AIC at RIS organised the Roundtable on “ASEAN-India: Integration and Development” on 27 October 2015 in New Delhi. The event also marked the release of AIC study entitled “ASEAN-India Development and Cooperation Report 2015”. The event was also a curtain raiser to the 13th ASEAN-India Summit and 10th East Asia Summit, held at Kuala Lumpur on 21-22 November 2015. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made the welcome remarks. Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), MEA delivered the keynote address. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS delivered the special address. Mr. Shreekant Somany, Chairman, CII (NR) and Chairman & Managing Director of Somany Ceramics Ltd. also delivered special address. Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC made a presentation on “ASEAN-India Development and Cooperation Report 2015”. There were two technical sessions dealing with the key issues and challenges on ASEAN-India strategic partnership and new architecture of global and regional integration. The concluding session of the Roundtable was addressed by Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC and he also extended the vote of thanks.



Ambassador Anil Wadhwa releasing the AIC-RIS Report titled, “ASEAN-India Development and Cooperation Report 2015”. Also seen in picture are (from left to right) Prof. Prabir De, Ambassador Shyam Saran, Mr. Shreekant Somany, Ms. Pooja Kapur, Joint Secretary (ASEAN-ML), MEA; and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi.

## Panel Discussion on Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP)

The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) has been signed. There are varying perspectives on its fall-outs for non-members and particularly for India. In order to discuss wider implications of the TPP, RIS organised a Panel Discussion in New Delhi on 16 October 2015. Mr. Rajeev Kher, former Commerce Secretary, Government of India initiated the discussion. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made welcome remarks. The distinguished panellists included: Prof. S.K. Mohanty, RIS; Mr. Bipul Chatterjee, Deputy Executive Director, CUTS International; and Prof. T. C. James, Visiting Fellow, RIS.

Mr. Kher argued that the challenge is not whether or not to join TPP “but to look inwards”. TPP is not a standalone entity but is happening in a wider global architecture. Unless domestic issues are tackled – production and services – we will not be able to address the challenge of TPP, he added.

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi emphasised that in the light of the recent developments, it would be in India’s broader economic and commercial interest that it helps speeding up of RCEP. Rather than having fear psychosis towards TPP, India must focus on domestic economic reforms.

According to Prof. S.K. Mohanty, India joining the TPP is indeed a critical question. The proposed standards at TPP are a matter of concern in areas like labour standard, environment, government procurement, IPR, etc. India should give due credence to the RCEP and various other bilateral trade negotiations. India must have a nuanced understanding of plurilateral versus multilateral versus bilateral deals.

There are provisions which adversely affect the availability of medicines at affordable rates to patients in developing countries like India, argued Prof. T.C. James. The provision to grant patents to “new uses of a known product” is fraught with grave implications as it may lead to ever-greening. Similarly, the special treatment extended to pharma patents, placing them in a preferred category compared to other technologies, by patent term adjustment for regulatory delays, also will lead to a longer term for patents. The treaty brings in new handicaps for India’s generic pharma industry from getting marketing approvals.



*Prof. T.C. James, RIS speaking at the seminar. Also seen in picture are (from left to right) Mr. Bipul Chatterjee, Prof. S.K. Mohanty, Mr. Rajeev Kher and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi.*

Mr. Bipul Chatterjee of CUTS International said: “TPP per se will not have much impact on the country.” The tariff impact is also minimal. But domestic issues like e-commerce and the digital economy need to be looked at. There is a need to address the agrarian crisis and reform the input markets like land, labour and logistics. Will TPP be ratified in its present form? He was of the opinion that it would happen in a more diluted form, so there is no need to be worried about TPP in India.



H.E. Mr. Albert F. Del Rosario, Secretary (Minister) of Foreign Affairs, the Philippines delivering the Second Rizal-Nehru Lecture.

## AIC at RIS organised the Second Rizal-Nehru Lecture

AIC at RIS organised the 2nd Nehru-Rizal Memorial Lecture at the Jawahar Bhawan, MEA, New Delhi on 14 October 2015. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made the welcome remarks. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS made the opening remarks. Ms. Monika Mohta, Additional Secretary (South), MEA delivered the special remarks. H.E. Albert F. Del Rosario, Secretary (Minister) of Foreign Affairs, Republic of the Philippines delivered the lecture on “Challenges and Opportunities: The Way Forward for Philippines-India Relations”. Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC extended the vote of thanks. The lecture was followed by an interactive session in which representatives from the Philippines, senior bureaucrats, government officials, and academicians participated.

## India-Africa Collaboration in Agriculture

RIS organised a major international conference on ‘India-Africa Collaboration in Agriculture: Opportunities and Challenges’ on 6 October 2015 in Hyderabad. The conference aimed to disseminate the findings of the research study on the challenges and opportunities in the India-Africa seed sector, undertaken by RIS in collaboration with IDS (Sussex, UK), EIAR (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) and CABI (Nairobi, Kenya).



Dr. R. R. Hanchinal speaking at the conference. Also seen in picture are (from left to right) Dr. Pakki Reddy, Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Mr. M. Prabhakar Rao, Dr. Diran Makinde and Dr. Dominic Glover.

Dr. R. R. Hanchinal, Chairman, PPV&FR Authority of India chaired the inaugural session. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS delivered the welcome address. Mr. M. Prabhakar Rao, President, National Seed Association of India (NSAI) and CMD, Nuziveedu Seeds delivered the keynote address. Dr. Dominic Glover, Research Fellow, IDS, Sussex, UK made remarks. Dr. Diran Makinde, Director, ABNE, NEPAD, Burkina Faso made special remarks. Dr. Pakki Reddy, ED, Agri Biotech Foundation, Hyderabad extended the vote of thanks.

The first session on 'India-Africa Cooperation in Agriculture' was chaired by Dr. Diran Makinde, Director, ABNE, NEPAD, Burkina Faso. Dr. Pakki Reddy, ED, Agri Biotech Foundation, Hyderabad; Mr. S. Makhija, Strategic Advisor, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd, New Delhi; Dr. V. N. Kulkarni, Vice- President (R&D), JK Agri-Genetics Ltd, Hyderabad; Dr. Elangovan M, Research Lead, Advanta; and Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas, Consultant, RIS were the panellists.

The second session on RIS/CABE/EIAR/IDS Study on India-Africa Seed Sector Collaboration was chaired by Prof. Karim Maredia, Professor, Michigan State University, USA. Mr. M. Prabhakar Rao, President, National Seed Association of India (NSAI) and CMD, Nuziveedu Seeds was the co-chair for the session. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi; Dr. Hannington Odame, ED, CABE, Nairobi, Kenya; and Dr. Dominic Glover, Research Fellow, IDS, Sussex, UK were the panellists. The discussants for the session included: Dr. Simon Maina, Head (Seed Certification), KEPHIS, Nairobi, Kenya; Dr. Daniel Bradley, DFID India; Dr. Kalyan Goswami, ED, National Seed Association of India, Delhi; and Dr. S. U. Baig, Director, Nath Seeds, Aurangabad.

The third session on 'Seed Trade between India and Africa: Opportunities and Challenges' was chaired by Dr. T. P. Rajendran, Visiting Fellow, RIS. Dr. Arvind Kapur, Director, Rasi Seeds, Gurgaon; Mr. Manish Tyagi, Business Manager (Seeds), Elgon Kenya Ltd., Nairobi; Mr. Kaustubh Joshi, Marketing Manager (Africa), Advanta Seeds; Dr. Jai Singh, MD & CEO, Sakata Seed India; and Mr. Senthil Kumaran, Area Manager (Africa), Asthor Agricola, Ethiopia were the panellists.

The fourth session on 'Dynamics of International Regulations in Seed Sector Collaboration between India and Africa' was chaired by Dr. K. Raja Reddy, Director of Research, Acharya NG Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad. Dr. Simon Maina, Head (Seed Certification), KEPHIS, Nairobi, Kenya; Dr. P. O. Ojo, DG, Nigeria Seed Council, Abuja, Nigeria; Dr. Keshavulu, Professor, Acharya N. G. Ranga Agri. University, Hyderabad; Dr. Ruth Mbabazi, Director, National Council of S&T, Kampala, Uganda; Prof. Karim Maredia, Professor, Michigan State University, USA; and Prof. T. C. James, Visiting Fellow, RIS were the panellists.

The closing session was chaired by Dr. T.P. Rajendran. The speakers included Dr. Hannington Odame, ED, CABE, Nairobi, Kenya; and Dr. Daniel Bradley, DFID India. Dr. Kalyan Goswami, ED, National Seed

Association of India, Delhi presented the way forward. Dr. D. Rama Rao, Director, NAARM, Hyderabad made valedictory address. Dr. Amit Kumar, Research Associate, RIS extended the vote of thanks.

### Roundtable on ASEAN-India Air Connectivity

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS organised a Roundtable on “ASEAN-India Air Connectivity” on 28 September 2015 in New Delhi. Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC made the Welcome Remarks. Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), MEA, GoI delivered the Keynote Address. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS delivered the Opening Address. Mr. Anil Srivastava, Joint Secretary (AS), Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) gave Special Address. The first session of the Roundtable on ‘Air Transportation between India and Southeast and East Asia’ was chaired by Dr. Sanat Kaul, Chairman, International Foundation for Aviation, Aerospace and Development (IFFAAD), New Delhi. Ms. Pooja Kapur, Joint Secretary (AML), MEA delivered the Special Address. Prof. Prabir De, RIS and Coordinator AIC made a presentation on ‘ASEAN - India Air Connectivity’ study. Dr. Shefali Juneja, Director, Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) made Special Remarks. The second session on ‘ASEAN-India Open Sky: Opportunities and Challenges’ was chaired by Mr. Satendra Singh, Former Director-General, Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), New Delhi. The conference ended with the vote of thanks by Dr. Durairaj Kumarasamy, Consultant, AIC.



*Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS and AIC, delivering the opening address at the Roundtable. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC); Mr. Anil Srivastava, Jt. Secretary (AS), Ministry of Civil Aviation (MOCA); Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), MEA, GoI; Ms. Pooja Kapur, Joint Secretary (AML), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.*

### Consultation on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

RIS, in association with the NITI Aayog, Government of India; UN in India; Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC); and Observer Research Foundation (ORF) held a day long consultation with stakeholders on SDGs in New Delhi on 9 September 2015, ahead of the special session of the UN General Assembly held in New York on 25-27 September 2015.

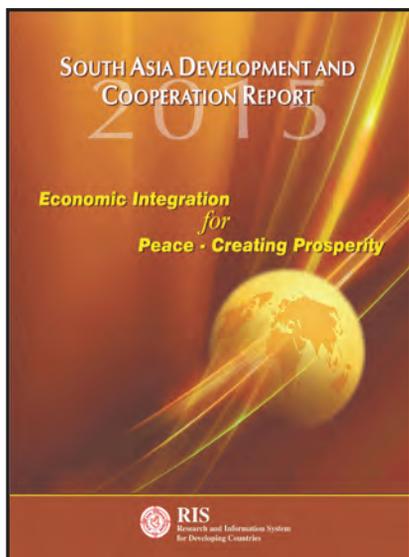


*Ms. Sindhushree Khullar, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog, Government of India delivering Welcome Address at the consultation. Also seen in picture (from right to left) are Prof. Anuradha Chenoy, Chairman, FIDC and Dean School of International Studies, JNU; Mr. Puneet Aggarwal, Joint Secretary (UNES), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS; Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India; and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS.*

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS delivered the Welcome Address. The UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India, Mr. Yuri Afanasiev welcomed the guests. Ms. Sindhushree Khullar, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog delivered the Inaugural Address. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS, made the Chairperson's remarks. Mr. Puneet Aggarwal, Joint Secretary (UNES), MEA made Special Remarks. The concluding remarks in the inaugural session were delivered by Prof. Anuradha Chenoy, Chairman of FIDC and Dean, School of International Studies at Jawaharal Nehru University. The panellists noted that SDGs were complex and raised the question of how to nationalise these goals. The panellists also gave a perspective on how MDGs and SDGs are integral to India's development process enshrined in Five-Year Plans. The work programme of RIS also discussed with them and it was emphasised that development and South-South cooperation is at the top of its agenda and this focus entails innovative ways of working with traditional donors and new partners. The challenges in fulfilling the SDGs were also discussed. It was mentioned that in the 12th Five-Year Plan, there were only 25 indicators, many of which could not be assessed due to data problems and SDGs are even more ambitious with 169 targets.

At this consultation, RIS also released a special issue of its journal *Asian Biotechnology and Development Review (ABDR)* on SDGs. The institute also unveiled a new web page dedicated to SDGs.

The technical sessions of the consultation deliberated on (i) SDGs on Health, Agriculture and Nutritional Security and Human Development; (ii) Science, Innovation and Access to Technology; (iii) SDGs: Inclusive Growth, Gender and Sustainability; (iv) SDGs: Energy



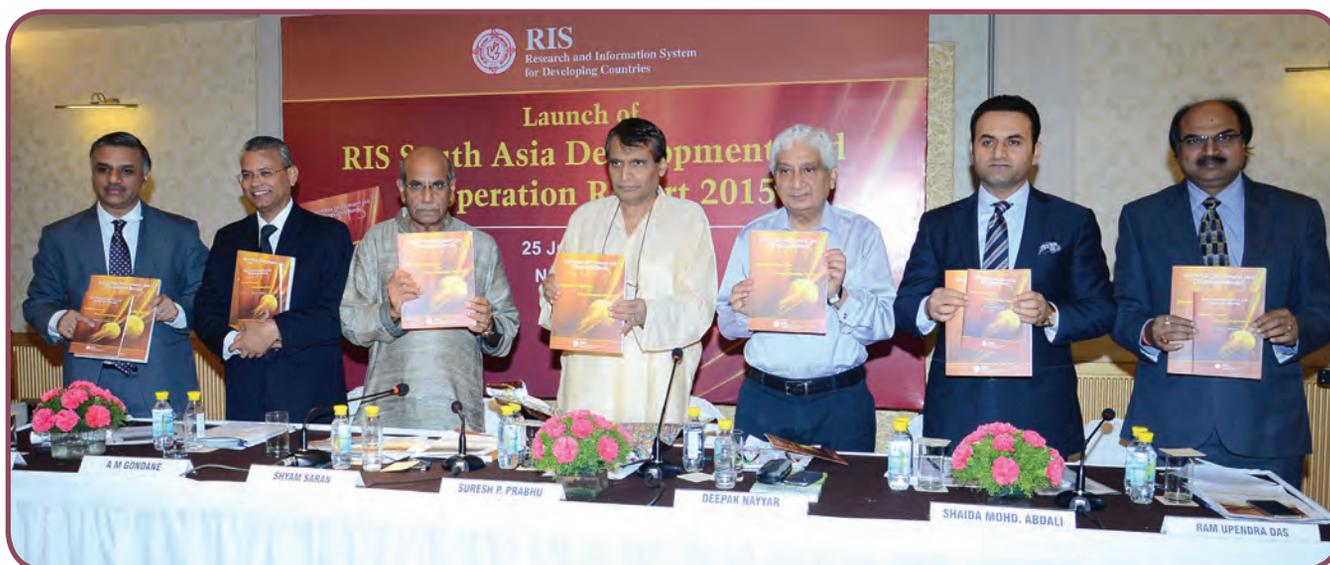
and Environment; (iv) SDGs: Role of Industry, Civil Society and Media; and (v) SDGs: Implementation Issues, Monitoring, Role of States and Global Commitments.

## Launch of South Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2015

RIS launched its flagship publication the 'South Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2015' (SADCR) in New Delhi on 25 June 2015. Mr. Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister of Railways, Government of India released the Report. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS delivered the Welcome Address. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS chaired the inaugural session.

Prof. Deepak Nayyar, Emeritus Professor of Economics, JNU, New Delhi and Co-chair, South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS); Mr. A. M. Gondane, Joint Secretary (SAARC), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; and H.E. Mr. Shaida Mohammad Abdali, Ambassador of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to India, also made special remarks at the inaugural session. Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS extended the Vote of Thanks. The event also had sessions on 'Economic Cooperation for Economic Development in South Asia' and 'New Challenges before SAARC'.

H.E. Ambassador Lyonpo Dago Tshering, Former Ambassador of Bhutan to India chaired the Valedictory Session. Dr. Kavita A. Sharma, President, South Asian University, New Delhi and Ambassador Jayant Prasad were the panellists. Mr. Arvind Mehta, Joint Secretary (SAARC), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India delivered



Mr. Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister of Railways, Government of India releasing the 'South Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2015'. Also seen in the picture (from left to right) are Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Mr. A. M. Gondane, Joint Secretary (SAARC), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS; Prof. Deepak Nayyar, Emeritus Professor of Economics, JNU, New Delhi and Co-chair, South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS); H.E. Mr. Shaida Mohammad Abdali, Ambassador of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to India; and Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS.

the Valedictory Address. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS extended the Vote of Thanks. The event was attended by senior diplomats, government officials, policymakers, academicians, industry representatives and the media.

The Report offers concrete policy recommendations in several crucial areas including trade in goods, trade in services, investment, trade facilitation, connectivity, food security, energy security, climate change, science and technology, development cooperation and social infrastructure.

The dominant narrative regarding South Asia is that it is a non-performing region in the world and that trade integration in the region is low and slow. The SADCR 2015 states that this is a statistical folly. The Report emphasises that far from being a non-performing region, South Asia is today the fastest growing region in the world, led by India. This is a considerable achievement as this region was, like other regions, adversely impacted by the global financial meltdown in 2008-09. Size of SAARC in terms of real gross domestic product (GDP) is larger than regional groupings like the ASEAN, Mercosur, SACU, SADC, COMESA, GCC and CARICOM. According to the Report, the current growth momentum needs to be sustained and one of the ways to achieve this is through regional trade-augmentation.

The Report also dispels misperceptions that trade integration in South Asia is low and slow. The South Asian region under the aegis of SAARC has moved much faster in this regard. Trade within the region has hovered around 5-6 per cent as a proportion of trade with the rest of the world. The fact is that the former has been expanding at the same pace as the latter, keeping the ratio of the two constant at 5-6 per cent. In fact, the success of SAFTA lies in the fact that the intra-SAARC trade has doubled since the region implemented the SAFTA Treaty. The intra-regional exports have increased from US\$ 10 billion in 2006 to about US\$ 22 billion in 2013.

Recent estimates suggest that the formal trade in South Asia can grow to the range of US\$ 44 billion and US\$ 66 billion by 2018 if there are full tariff liberalisation, trade facilitation and productivity improvements by member countries. According to the Report, there is enormous trade potential that remains to be tapped to the tune of US\$ 80 billion by 2018 if adequate measures on sensitive lists, relevant NTBs and completion of trade in services negotiations are ensured.

South Asia may be highly dependent on aid inflows. But this narrative is changing. Besides India, development partnerships have been initiated by Pakistan and Sri Lanka for strengthening South-South Cooperation. The Report underscores the urgent need for launching a SAARC Development Forum to discuss development issues within the region. It also forcefully underscores how S&T cooperation can be utilised for addressing emerging challenges of energy security and climate change while facilitating the transition to low carbon growth. There is also a need for the development of a SAARC Satellite, as

proposed by the Prime Minister of India for providing real-time scientific data for preventing natural disasters, among other things.

The Report has focussed on the theme ‘Economic Integration for Peace-Creating Prosperity’, which is in line with the theme of the 18th SAARC Summit in Kathmandu (2014). The Report stresses on achieving prosperity in the region through economic integration, which in turn could be ‘peace-creating’ and calls for a paradigm shift in cooperative endeavours.

## India-Korea CEPA: An Appraisal of Progress

Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), MEA, GoI released the AIC-RIS report entitled ‘India-Korea CEPA: An Appraisal of Progress’ in New Delhi on 8 September 2015. Ambassador Wadhwa in his Special Address applauded AIC and RIS for bringing out a very timely and useful report as five years after the implementation of India-South Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), the two sides have begun talks to expand the agreement and cover more manufacturing sectors. The Government is keen to look out and benefit from all the opportunities with Korea.

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made Welcome Remarks. Ambassador Shyam Saran Chairman, RIS and AIC made the Opening Remarks. Mr. Amitabh Kant, Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry made Special Remarks and highlighted that this Report would help the Government when the two sides sit for further negotiations to upgrade the agreement. Ambassador V S Seshadri, Vice-Chairman, RIS & AIC, who is the principal investigator of the study, made a presentation on the study. Mr. S. R. Tayal, Former Ambassador of India to Republic of Korea also presented important insights into the India-Korea CEPA.



Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India releasing the report. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and AIC; Ambassador V. S. Seshadri, Vice-Chairman, RIS & AIC; Shri Sanjay Chadha, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Government of India.

The Report is first of its kind that intends to critically evaluate how the FTAs that have come into force and in which India is a partner are being implemented and whether there are ways by which we can ensure better returns. It looks at the implementation of this CEPA in the last five years since it came into effect. It has sought to examine if there is scope for improvement in its implementation and makes specific recommendations. It has also considered whether there is a case for moving towards an upgrade of CEPA at this stage.

## Launch of the Report on ‘India’s Strategy for Economic Integration with CLMV’

Ms. Rita Teatota, Commerce Secretary, Government of India launched the Report on ‘India’s Strategy for Economic Integration with CLMV’ on 14 August 2015 in New Delhi. The Report is brought out by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS, New Delhi made Chairperson’s Remarks. Shri Ravi Capoor, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India presented the Rationale and Genesis of the Report. H.E. Mr. Ton Sinh Thanh, Ambassador of Vietnam to India made Special Remarks. Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS, who authored the Report, presented broad contours of the Report. The launch event ended with vote of thanks by Prof. Ram Upendra Das.



*Ms. Rita Teatota, Commerce Secretary, Government of India launching the Report. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS; Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS; Ms. Rita Teatota, Commerce Secretary, Government of India; Shri Ravi Capoor, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India; and H.E. Mr. Ton Sinh Thanh, Ambassador of Vietnam to India.*

## International Conference on ASEAN-India Cultural Links

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS, in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and Indian Council of Cultural Affairs (ICCR), organised the International Conference on “ASEAN-India Cultural Links: Historical and Contemporary Dimensions” in New Delhi on 23-24 July 2015. Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), MEA, GoI delivered the Keynote Address. Prof. Sachin

Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and AIC delivered the Welcome Address. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS and AIC delivered the Opening Address. Prof. Lokesh Chandra, President, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), New Delhi made Inaugural Address. The conference touched a number of issues related to ancient cultural ties between India and ASEAN and their significance in the present world. The conference also aimed to look how cultural links can help to strengthen the trade links between India and ASEAN.



*Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), MEA, GoI delivering the Keynote Address at the conference. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC; Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS and AIC; Prof. Lokesh Chandra, President, Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR); and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and AIC.*

The various session of the conference deliberated on: (i) Trade and maritime links between South and Southeast Asia; (ii) Continuities and change; (iii) Representations of religions and rituals; (iv) Textual traditions and transmissions; (v) Sacred geographies and localisations of beliefs; (vi) Evolving artistic expressions: from tradition to modernity; and (vii) Writing our own histories: changing methodologies. Eminent scholars from several parts of the world participated in the Conference. Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC gave the vote of thanks. The detailed agenda is available on the RIS website.

## Conference on One Belt, One Road

The Institute of World Economics and Politics (IWEP), Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) organised the “One Belt, One Road” and BCIMS Regional Interconnection Conference in Beijing, China on 25-26 August 2015. RIS was co-organiser of this Interconnection Conference. The programme began with the opening and welcoming remarks by ZHANG Yuyan, Director, IWEP, CASS.

The Bangladesh-China-India- Myanmar Economic Corridor (BCIM-EC) is complementary to achieving the vision of ‘One Belt, One Road’. The BCIM countries fall under the ancient South-western Silk Road connecting Southern part of China, Myanmar, Bangladesh, and India including the northeastern states. After decades of deliberation and discussion as a Track II think tank level initiative, BCIM-EC eventually got official recognition as a Track I inter-governmental initiative in 2013.



*Participants of the One Belt, One Road and BCIMS Regional Interconnection conference.*

Considering the immense potential and opportunities for cooperation, this conference was organised to discuss about the opportunities, identify major challenges and collectively agree on recommendations to expedite the process of BCIM Cooperation. Participants from institutions/think tanks like the Institute of World Economics and Politics (IWEP), China; the Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG), Bangladesh; Observer Research Foundation (ORF), Mumbai; and Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), Sri Lanka, discussed about a wide range of economic, social, and security issues related to ‘OBOR and BCIM cooperation’ and mutual benefit of BCIM, as well as measures to promote regional interconnection. From RIS, Prof. S.K. Mohanty participated in the Conference and made a presentation on “Emergence of A Regional Growth Epicentre in Asia Potential of BCIM with the Policy of ‘One Belt One Road’”.

### ASEAN-India Eminent Persons’ Lectures

As part of ASEAN-India Eminent Persons’ Lecture Series, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS, jointly with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and the ASEAN Secretariat, organised a



*Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS and AIC delivering the Opening Address. Also seen in picture (from left to right) are Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS; Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; H.E. Mr. Evan Garcia, Foreign Affairs Under Secretary of Philippines and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and AIC.*

lecture by H.E. Mr. Evan Garcia, Foreign Affairs Under Secretary, the Philippines in New Delhi on 17 July 2015. Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), MEA, GoI delivered the Special Address. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and AIC made Welcome Remarks. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS delivered the Opening Address.

Ambassador Garcia's lecture examined the current horizon of cooperation and interaction between India and the Philippines and suggested concrete steps to ensure that the level of engagement - bilateral, regional as well as international - continues to deepen and broaden in the years to come. The event came to an end with closing remarks by Ambassador Shyam Saran and vote of thanks by Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC).

The second ASEAN-India Eminent Person Lecture on "ASEAN-India: Partnership for Peace and Prosperity" by H.E. Mr. Le Luong Minh, Secretary General, ASEAN was organised on 10 December 2015 in New Delhi. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made the welcome remarks. Ambassador V. S. Sheshadri, Vice-Chairman, RIS made the opening remarks. Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India delivered the special address. Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC concluded the session and extended the Vote of Thanks.

## Release of Report on APEC and India

ASEAN-India Centre at RIS, jointly with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), organised the launch function for the Report 'APEC and India: An Appraisal' authored by Ambassador V. S. Seshadri, Vice Chairman, RIS on 21 May 2015 in New Delhi.



Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India releasing the Report. Also seen in the picture (from left to right) are Mr. Sidharth Birla, Immediate Past President, FICCI and Chairman, XPRO India Limited; Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS; and Ambassador V. S. Seshadri, Vice-Chairman, RIS.

Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India released the Report and made Keynote Remarks. He appreciated the Report and said, 'The report is timely, as the Indian Lion, the brand image of our flagship economic diplomacy initiative, 'Make in India', is taking purposeful strides across global economic hotspots, where it has been a roaring success!'

Mr. Sidharth Birla, Immediate Past President, FICCI & Chairman, XPRO India Limited made the Welcome Remarks. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS made Special Remarks. Ambassador V. S. Seshadri made a presentation about the Report which was followed by open discussion. Dr. Prabir De, Professor, RIS and Coordinator ASEAN-India Centre at RIS extended the Vote of Thanks.

The Report looks into prospects of India joining APEC. It highlights that it would be desirable for India to join APEC as it would provide an impetus for domestic trade and investment facilitation initiatives; assist in familiarisation with newer issues and best practices developing in a host of areas; offer networking opportunities at official, expert, business and think tank levels; and strategically enable India to have wider options on emerging global trade governance.

## Seminar on India-Central Asia Economic Cooperation

RIS, jointly with the Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi and the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India organised a Seminar on 'Towards India-Central Asia Economic Cooperation' on 11-12 June 2015 in New Delhi. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS, chaired the Inaugural Session. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made the Welcome Remarks.

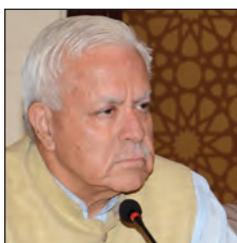
Dr. Ash Narain Roy, Director, Institute of Social Sciences, made the Special Remarks. Shri Navtej Singh Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India delivered the Keynote Address.



*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS making welcome remarks. Also seen in the picture (from left to right) are Mr. Shambhu S. Kumaran, Joint Secretary (ERS), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Shri Navtej Singh Sarna, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS; and Dr. Ash Narain Roy, Director, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi.*

H.E. Mr. Mirzosharif Asomuddinovich Jalolov, Ambassador of Tajikistan to India; Mr. Evgeny Kablukov, Minister Counsellor, Kyrgyz Republic; Mr. Sardar Shihiyev, First Secretary, Counsellor, Turkmenistan; and Mr. Gayrat Tairov, Trade and Economic Counsellor, Uzbekistan also addressed the Inaugural Session.

Ambassador Ashok Sajjanhar, Secretary, National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH) and former Ambassador to Kazakhstan chaired the first session on 'Trade and Investment Linkages'. Prof. S. K. Mohanty, RIS; Ms. Maya A. Sooronbaeva, Adviser, Public Association International Issik-Kul Forum under the name of Chingiz Aitmatov, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan; and Mr. Ikromov Jovid Zafarovich, Senior Expert of Strategic Research Centre under the President of Tajikistan were the panellists.



**Ambassador Ashok Sajjanhar**  
Secretary, National Foundation  
for Communal Harmony (NFCH)

Mr. Shambhu S. Kumaran, Joint Secretary (ERS), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India chaired the second session on 'Role of Regional and Multilateral Frameworks'. Prof. Ash Narain Roy, Director, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi; Dr. Benu Schneider, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Financing for Development Office (FfD), New York; Dr. Anuradha Chenoy, Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi; Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS; Dr. Laura Yerekesheva, Deputy Director, R.D. Suleimonov Institute of Oriental Studies, Almaty, Kazakhstan; and Prof. Arun Mohanty, Professor, Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies, School of International Studies, JNU, New Delhi were the panellists.



**Dr. Anuradha Chenoy**  
Centre for Russian and  
Central Asian Studies, School  
of International Studies, JNU

The third session deliberated on 'Innovation and Technology Transfer collaboration Opportunities'. Dr. Laura Yerekesheva, Deputy Director, R.D. Suleimonov Institute of Oriental Studies and Dr. Ash Narain Roy, Director, Institute of Social Sciences co-chaired the session. Mr. Esenkul Momunkulov, Consultant, Serep Research Institute, Kyrgyzstan; Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; and Mr. Abhishek Sahay, Senior Assistant Director, FICCI, New Delhi were the panellists.

Dr. Sapparbayev Batyr, Head Specialist, Ministry of Trade and Foreign Economic Relations, Turkmenistan chaired the fourth session on 'Development of Entrepreneurial Partnerships and Agenda for Economic Development'. Prof. Sanjay Pal, Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Ahmedabad; Dr. Suchandana Chatterjee, Fellow, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata; Dr. Manjeet Kaur, Additional Director, ASSOCHAM, New Delhi; Ms. Bobojonova Farangis Sobirovna, Expert of Academy of Science of Tajikistan; and Dr. Borjakov Maksat, Head Specialist, Institute on Research Commodity Circulation of Turkmenistan's National Goods, Turkmenistan were the panellists.

India and the Central Asian region share a long history. The closest trade and cultural links between India and Central Asia can be traced to the Indus Valley civilisation. India's close and friendly relations with the erstwhile Soviet Union enabled continuity of India's diplomatic relations

with the Central Asian countries. As is well known, the Central Asian economies are rich in natural, mineral and human resources but quite diverse in terms of their stages of development. This is most evident in terms of their levels of GDP with Kazakhstan's GDP being US\$ 231.88 billion and Kyrgyzstan's GDP being US\$ 7.23 billion. While Tajikistan's GDP is also very low, the other two countries, viz. Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, have their GDPs in the medium range. The varying levels of development among Central Asian economies are an aspect which stands out quite clearly. However, in terms of GDP growth rates except for Kyrgyzstan the other Central Asia Region countries have recorded impressive and high growth rates in recent years.

Central Asia has gained considerable significance in India's foreign policy over the past decade due to its growing strategic importance based on factors such as India's escalating energy requirements, Central Asia's proximity to Afghanistan, and growing Chinese presence in the region. The ongoing instability in Afghanistan and its impact on regional security after the withdrawal of international troops is also a source of concern for India. As the global spotlight is now rapidly shifting towards Asia, India has to pay closer attention to the Central Asian Republics for their geo-strategic importance. Therefore, it would be in India's interest to deepen its trade and economic linkages with the countries of this oil and mineral rich region. Therefore, there is an urgent need for commensurate efforts towards enhancing trade and investment ties with the region.

India's efforts towards exploring trade and investment opportunities and possibilities of expanding manufacturing value chain may be better served through a two pronged approach. First, by promoting bilateral and regional trade with the region and second, by expanding India's role and relevance in regional/multilateral trade regulatory frameworks, including Shanghai Economic Cooperation, Eurasian Economic Union and others that form common platforms for India's engagement with Central Asia.



*Ambassador Rajiv Sikri, Former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India speaking at the seminar. Also seen in the picture (from left to right) are Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS and Dr. Ash Narain Roy, Director, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi.*

The countries of the region have already commenced the process of radically departing from the Soviet-style model of command economy and embarking on the road towards the development of the private sector. In their quest for igniting the spirit of private enterprise to lay the foundations of private sector, the countries of the region look towards India with an extremely high degree of hope and optimism because of its close and friendly relations with these countries. India can utilise this valuable window of opportunity to further deepen its presence in the region by way of sharing the technical know-how for the development of small and medium enterprises.

Critically linked to the development of industrial production base is the availability of technology and indigenous capacity of technological value addition. While the region suffers from insufficient firm-level capabilities to support the creation of technological alliances and acquisition of new technologies, India's role in strengthening national innovation systems and firm level capacities through technology transfer collaborations may be highly relevant and timely.

The seminar was an initiative towards rejuvenating India's interest in the area and to make a fair and up-to-date assessment of the prospective areas of mutually beneficial trade and economic cooperation with the Central Asian countries.

It focussed on key themes that best capture India's opportunities in engaging with Central Asia. Under the broad themes, the seminar covered issues of promotion of bilateral and regional trade; role of regional/multilateral trade regulatory frameworks, including Shanghai Economic Cooperation, Eurasian Economic Union and others; entrepreneurial partnership and agenda for economic development; and innovation and technology transfer collaborations.

Among other things, the seminar explored the possibility of developing a digital platform carrying statistical data and other information on Central Asian countries, which would, *inter alia*, highlight the specific areas and their potential to further strengthen India's trade and economic relations with the region. It would immensely help India's trade and industry organisations to develop a sound understanding of the benefits of engagement with these countries as it is extremely difficult to get relevant statistical information in this regard which is an imperative for deeper engagement with the region. It would also benefit a large number of Indian start-ups, which have recently come up with a wide range of low-cost innovative technologies for the development of consumer goods and services and they are looking for interested partners in the region.

The concluding session of the seminar was addressed by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, and Ambassador Rajiv Sikri, Former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, who delivered the Valedictory Address. Mr. Ash Narain Roy, Director, Institute of Social Sciences extended the Vote of Thanks.

Research scholars, business and industry leaders, academicians, diplomats, senior government officials and other prominent thinkers with specialised knowledge of the region participated in the seminar and shared their knowledge and expertise.

### Third Asia-Pacific NIS Forum at Bangkok

RIS collaborated with Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), New Delhi, India and National Science Technology and Innovation Policy Office (STI), Ministry of Science and Technology, Thailand for organising the Third Asia-Pacific NIS Forum on ‘Diagnosis of NIS and Development of STI Strategies in the Open Innovation Framework’ in Bangkok, Thailand on 8-9 April 2015. In the opening session, Dr. Somchai Chatratana, Associate Professor, National Science Technology and Innovation Policy Office (STI), Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST), Royal Thai Government delivered the Welcome Address. Mr. Michael Williamson, Head, Asian and Pacific Centre of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (APCTT- ESCAP) and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made remarks. Dr. Pichet Durongkaveroj, Minister of Science and Technology, Government of Thailand delivered the Keynote Address. Mr. N. Srinivasan, Coordinator, Science, Technology and Innovation, APCTT-ESCAP gave a background of the Forum and extended the Vote of Thanks. From RIS, Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas, Consultant, also participated in the Forum and made a presentation on ‘Open Innovation Framework as an STI Strategy’.

The programme had country presentations and panel discussions on topics including (a) International and emerging NIS diagnostic approaches, (b) Elements of national and international STI strategies, (c) Emerging concept and business models of open technology innovation, (d) Diagnosis of NIS and development of STI strategies in the Asia Pacific (e) Challenges and opportunities in diagnosis and



*Participants of the Third-Asia Pacific Forum.*

strategy development and (f) Development cooperation in support of NIS diagnosis and development of STI strategy.

Experts from key national institutions studying STI policies and diagnosing innovation systems in Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Iran, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam along with resource persons from national and international institutions participated in the Forum and shared best practices and their experiences on the selected topics of the Forum. The forum was organised for key national institutions studying and analysing their national innovation systems. The objective of the Forum is to foster discussion and exchange experiences among national institutions who study national STI policies, diagnose innovation systems (national, subregional, sectoral) and advise on STI strategies in the context of national development goals thus supporting the policymakers to make evidence-based policy decisions.

The Forum provides a platform for experts to deliberate on the emerging concept of open innovation as an important element of STI strategy as well as South-South and regional cooperation. These deliberations are aimed to identify best practices and methodologies of NIS diagnosis in the participating countries. The open innovation approach as a national STI strategy would strengthen NIS and it could be deployed to forge regional cooperation for co-development of technologies for mutual benefit.

### Panel Discussion on India 2050: A Roadmap to Sustainable Prosperity

RIS organised a Panel Discussion on ‘India 2050: A Roadmap to Sustainable Prosperity’ in New Delhi on 29 May 2015. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made the Welcome Remarks. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS made the Introductory Remarks. Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Chairman, Pahle India Foundation,



*Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Chairman, Pahle India Foundation, New Delhi making the presentation about the book. Also seen in the picture (from left to right) are Prof. B.B. Bhattacharya, former Vice Chancellor, JNU; Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS; Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, CSD; and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS.*

New Delhi made a presentation on his book '*India 2050: A Roadmap to Sustainable Prosperity*', which was followed by a panel discussion. The panellists included: Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, Council for Social Development (CSD); Prof. B.B. Bhattacharya, former Vice Chancellor, JNU; Mr. Manish Singhal, Assistant Secretary General, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI); and Dr. Saikat Sinha Roy, Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Jadavpur University, Kolkata.

### **Interactive Session on South-South Cooperation Strategy of UNDP**

RIS organised an interactive session on 'South-South Cooperation Strategy of UNDP' with Ms. Xiaojun Grace Wag, South-South and Triangular Cooperation, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), New York in New Delhi on 14 April 2015. Ms. Nan Collins, SSC Specialist, UNDP Regional Hub at Bangkok, and Ms. Momin Jaan, Programme Officer, UNDP India Country Office also joined RIS faculty in the discussions.

### **Australia and India: Towards a Peaceful and Prosperous Asian Economic Order**

Two well-reputed Australian public policy Commentators: Mr. Rowan Callick, Asia-Pacific Editor of the Australian Newspaper and Mr. Tom Switzer, Lecturer, Politics and International Relations and Research Associate, United States Studies Centre, University of Sydney visited RIS on 26 May 2015 to have a Roundtable discussion on 'Australia and India: Towards a Peaceful and Prosperous Asian Economic Order'. From RIS, Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General made the initial remarks and provided his insights. He also chaired the session. Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS spoke on the issues related to important elements of the Australia-India economic relations were discussed.

### **Discussion Meeting on India-Africa Economic Arrangements**

RIS organised a Discussion Meeting on India-Africa Economic Arrangements (IAEA) in New Delhi on 12 June 2015. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS chaired the meeting. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made initial remarks. The main speakers in the meeting included: Mr. Syed Akbaruddin, Joint Secretary and Chief Coordinator (IAFS), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Mr. Amit Shukla, Under Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Mr. Rohit Mishra, Under Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; and Prof. S.K. Mohanty, RIS.

## Roundtable on Medical Devices Policy

RIS organised a Roundtable to invite comments/suggestions on the Draft National Medical Devices Policy, 2015 on 10 August 2015. The purpose of the Roundtable was to facilitate coordinated response to the Draft Policy. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General made Welcome Remarks. Prof. T.C. James, Visiting Fellow, RIS presented the Draft Policy. Mr. K. M. Gopa Kumar, Third World Network; Dr. Reji K. Joseph, ISID; Dr. Amit Sengupta, International People's Health University; Dr. Jitendar Kumar Sharma, National Health Systems Resource Centre, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Mr. Zakir Thomas, former Director, OSDD; Dr. Sarojini N B; Dr. Debapriya Dutta, Director, Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research, and Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, Assistant Professor participated in the Roundtable.

## Delegation of National Academy of Politics of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam at RIS

A seven-member delegation, led by Assistant Prof. Dr. Trinh Duc Thao, Director of Institute of State and Law, Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics (HNAP), visited RIS for an interactive session on 15 September 2015. The members of the delegation included: Dr. Nguyen Thi Tuyet Mai, Senior Lecturer, Institute of Leadership and Public Policy, HNAP; Dr. Nguyen Thi Phuong Lan, Lecturer of Institute of Economy, HNAP; Mr. Nguyen Van Duong, MA, PS to Vice President of HNAP in charge of International Cooperation; Mr. Do Khuong Manh Linh, MA, Expert of Centre for Indian Studies, HNAP; and Ms. Vu Van Anh, Expert of International Cooperation, HNAP.



*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and Prof. S. K. Mohanty with Vietnamese delegation.*

## The IBSA Trust Fund as a Tool of South-South Cooperation

RIS organised a seminar on ‘The IBSA Trust Fund as a Tool of South-South Cooperation: Perspective of Emerging Countries’ by Ms. Laura Karina Gutiérrez Matamoros, Research Scholar, International Development Cooperation, Dr. José María Luis Mora Research Institute, Mexico (and Internship Scholar, RIS) in New Delhi on 21 December 2015. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS made the opening remarks. Ambassador Rajiv Kumar Bhatia, former Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) chaired the seminar.



*Ms. Laura Karina Gutiérrez Matamoros speaking at the seminar. Also seen in picture are (from left to right) Ambassador Rajiv Kumar Bhatia; and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi.*

## New Frontiers of RIS Research

RIS has launched a new seminar series for senior researchers called Frontier Research Seminar Series at which discussion on the evolving research programme of the institute would be taken up.

The first seminar in the series on ‘Eurasian FTA and India’ by Prof. Ram Upendra Das was held on 28 August 2015.

In the second seminar on 28 September 2015, Prof. S.K. Mohanty presented an outline for the forthcoming RIS *World Trade and Development Report (WTDR)*.

## RIS Breakfast Seminar Series

RIS Breakfast Seminar Series is a process meant to provide a platform to younger faculty members and early career researchers to disseminate their research findings, discuss ongoing work and receive comments/feedback from experts and peers. Eminent scholars are also invited to this series to speak on subjects of academic and policy relevance. The following seminars were organised under this series:

## RIS Breakfast Seminar Series

Date	Speaker	Topic	Chair
7 April 2015	Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS	Developments in Trade Theory and Practice	Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS
5 May 2015	Mr. Sushil Kumar, Consultant, RIS	India's Development Cooperation with Ethiopia in Sugar Production: An Assessment	Prof. S.K. Mohanty, RIS
2 June 2015	Mr. Sunando Basu, Research Associate, RIS	An Introduction to CGE Modelling and its Application	Prof. S.K. Mohanty, RIS
11 August 2015	Ms. Rashmi Singh, Consultant, RIS	Vietnam - China Greater Mekong Sub-regional Framework of Cooperation (GMS)	Ambassador Jayant Prasad, Visiting Fellow, RIS
11 September 2015	Ms. Aastha Gupta, Research Assistant, RIS	Trade Policy Liberalisation and its Linkage with Trade in India'	Dr. Shahid Ahmed, Head, Department of Economics, Jamia Millia Islamia University
3 November 2015	Ms. Payel Chatterjee, Research Assistant, RIS	Growth of the Indian Pharmaceutical Industry Pre- and Post-TRIPS Regime	
2 December 2015	Mr. Pratyush, Research Assistant, RIS	Debate on Global Development through the lens of the World System Theory	Prof. Ash Narain Roy, Director, Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi
7 January 2016	Ms. Prativa Shaw, Research Assistant, RIS	Fiscal Incentives to Promote Industrial R&D: Cross Country Evidence	Prof. Pranav N. Desai, Centre for Studies in Science Policy, Jawaharlal Nehru University

## Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogue

### Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

*Director General*

- Made a presentation on ‘Socio-Economic Challenges in Biotechnological Projects in India’ at the Workshop on ‘Socio-Economic Methodology’ organised by Indo-Swiss Collaboration in Biotechnology (ISCB) in Switzerland on 20-21 April 2015. Also delivered special remarks about the purpose of the workshop and expectations of ISCB and participated in the Podium discussion on data publishing.
- Made a presentation on ‘Mobilizing Human and Financial Resources for India’s Think Tanks’ at the Think-Tanks, Public Policy and Governance: Ideas, Analysis, Innovation and Impact US-India Think Tank Summit organised jointly by the TTCSP University of Pennsylvania, Observer Research Foundation, Brookings Institution and the Embassy of USA, in New Delhi on 27-29 April 2015.
- Made a presentation on ‘Mechanisms to Encourage Social Innovations for Health in India’ at the Seminar on Responsible Inclusive Innovation in Health organised by World Health Organisation (WHO) in Geneva on 4-7 May 2015.
- Made a presentation on ‘Indian Seeds in African Markets: South-South Cooperation in Trade and Technology’ at Rising Powers in International Development Programme organised by Institute of Development Studies (IDS) in UK on 8 May 2015.
- Made a presentation on ‘Means of Implementation: The Role of Financing and Technology’ at the seminar on ‘Perspectives from India on the Implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda’ organised by Observer Research Foundation (ORF), and Saferworld and the Center on International Cooperation (CIC), in New York on 15 May 2015.
- Made a presentation on ‘BRICS Trade in High Technology Products (HTPs): Trends and Key Policy Imperatives’ at the VII BRICS Academic Forum on “BRICS: Cooperation for Growth, Security and Prosperity” held in Moscow on 22-23 May 2015.
- Participated as a member of the external Advisory Panel at the Advisory Panel Meeting of the FAO Symposium on ‘The Role of Agricultural Biotechnologies in Sustainable Food Systems and Nutrition’ held in Rome on 3-4 June 2015.
- Made a presentation on ‘Western Aid Architecture and South-South Paradigm: Would China provide a New Leadership on Global Framework?’ at the Roundtable Meeting of the ‘China’s Overseas Development Policy in a World Beyond Aid’, held in Bangkok on 9-10 June 2015.

- Participated in the field trip to the Nabanhe National Nature Reserve (NNNR) in the Xishuangbanna region organised by The China International Development Research Network (CIDRN), Yunnan Province on 28 June-2 July 2015.
- Participated at the Third Annual Conference of China International Development Research Network (CIDRN) held in Beijing on 2 July 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Post 2015 Development Agenda' at Speaker's Research Initiative (SRI), held at Parliament House in New Delhi on 23 July 2015.
- Participated in the First Research Institute Network Meeting (RINM) of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), organised by the Bangkok Research Centre and JETRO in Bangkok on 25 July 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Linking Trade, Investment and STI for Sustainable Development' at the Regional Workshop on Harnessing Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development, organised by UN ESCAP in Bangkok on 6 August 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Structural Reform and Challenges of Implementation' at the China-Australia Global Issues Dialogue, organised by the Shanghai Institute for International Studies (SIIS) and East Asia Bureau of Economic Research (EABER), ANU in Shanghai on 14 August 2015.
- Made a presentation in the session on 'Asian Panel Roundtable' at the Symposium on Sustainable Development Goals and Asian Perspective organised jointly by the Korea Association of International Development and Cooperation (KAIDEC) and Korea Foundation (KF) in Seoul on 20 August 2015.
- Lead Discussant in the session on 'Building a South-South Support Structure' at the High-level Multi-stakeholders Strategy Forum on Scaling-up Global Support for South-South and Triangular Cooperation in the Context of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, organised by the Committee on South-South Cooperation and the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) and its Global South-South Development Expo Secretariat (GSSD Expo) in Macao on 25 August 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Sharing Experience of FIDC Work' at the Seminar on India's Development Cooperation with Africa: What Role for the Private Sector, organised by CII in New Delhi on 2 September 2015.
- Delivered the Inaugural Address and chaired the Inaugural Session at the Consultation to Propose Indicators for Climate Change-related Sustainable Development Goals and UNFCCC Bonn Debrief, organised jointly by the Alternative Futures and CANSA in New Delhi on 10 September 2015.

- Made a presentation on 'Macro Perspective: Setting the tone with India's aspirations on Post-2015 development agenda with a specific focus to Goal 16' at the Roundtable Consultation on Goal 6 of the Sustainable Development Goals, organised jointly by the WaterAid India and Wada Na Todo Abhiyan in New Delhi on 14 September 2015.
- Panellist in the session on 'Fair and Equitable Sourcing in Reputation Economy' at the 10th Sustainability Summit, organised by the CII in New Delhi on 15 September 2015.
- Panellist at the Regional Seminar on 'Unlocking The Potential of Regional Economic Integration in South Asia: Priorities for the Islamabad Summit of SAARC', organised by UNESCAP, FICCI and SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi on 16 September 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Natural Resource Trade: A Perspective from the South' at the Conference on Accessing Resources from Global Market: Geo-political Challenges and Strategies, organised by TERI and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung in New Delhi on 17 September 2015.
- Chaired a session on 'Financing Smart City for India at the National Conference on Smart Cities and India's New Urban Imperatives', organised jointly by the Centre for Public Affairs, IIC, National Foundation for India and ICSSR in New Delhi on 29 September 2015.
- Participated in the inaugural session of the roundtable on "An Assessment of India-Africa Strategic Relations" organised by Brookings India in New Delhi on 13 October 2015.
- Participated in the Sub-Committee Meeting of the Third National Report on the Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety organised by the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) in New Delhi on 14 October 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Belt Road Initiative (BRI) and Development Approaches and Growth Aspirations' at the Dialogue with China Finance 40 Forum (CF40) on "China and India: Pathways to A Common Asian Future" organised by NCAER in New Delhi on 19 October 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'India's Development Cooperation with Africa: Experiences and Expectations' at the Pre-India Africa Forum Summit-III Academic Conference on "India-Africa in the 21st Century: Scale and Scope of Comprehensive Partnership organised by the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) in New Delhi on 16 October 2015.
- Lead speaker at the Session on 'Development Partnership with Africa - Trade, Investment, ITEC, Agriculture, etc.,' at the India-Africa Editors' Forum organised by the XP Division of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on 25 October 2015.

- Made a presentation on 'Making South-South Paradigm accountable and Transparent: Roadblocks and Recommendations at the Roundtable on African Voices -People's Perspectives in India's Pitch for a Stronger South organised by ASSOCHAM in New Delhi on 26 October 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'China's One Belt Road, Indian Initiatives and the Idea of Asian Century: Scope for Conflicts, competition and Cooperation' at the Silk Road Forum 2015 organised by the Development Research Council (DRC) of the State Council of the People's Republic of China and the Center for International Relations and Sustainable Development (CIRSD) in Madrid, Spain on 29 October 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'BRICS/IBSA/G77' at the National Consultation on "SDGs and International Processes" organised by Wada Na Todo Abhiyan in New Delhi on 5 November 2015.
- Moderated and anchored a panel discussion on 'Shifts in International Cooperation - India and Germany' at the CICM ALEP Cycle 3, Module 1: Expert resource for session on "Introduction to International Development Cooperation" organised by GIZ in New Delhi, on 6 November 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'An Overview of India's Development Cooperation' at the Workshop on "Policy Implications of Indian Civil Society Participation in India's Development Cooperation" organised by PRIA in New Delhi on 20 November 2015.
- Participated in the WTO Discussion Meeting on the "Global Summits: Where are We Going", organised by New Laundry in New Delhi on 23 November 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'A Decade of East Asia Summit and Economic Regionalism' at the Asia-Pacific Forum 2015, "ASEAN Community Building and Regional Economic Integration in East Asia: Looking Beyond 2015" organised jointly by Japan Economic Foundation, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia and Center for Strategic and International Studies in Jakarta on 26 November 2015.
- Moderator at the session on 'Perspective of IPR Policies in light of International Developments in the field of IPR' at the 2nd International Conference on "IP Laws and Enforcement of IPR - Protect and Commercialise IP in India: Make in India" organised by CII in New Delhi on 1 December 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Emerging Partnership in BBIN: Institutional Architecture and Possibilities of Cooperation' at the conference on "Advancing the BBIN Agenda: Exploring possibilities in Trade, Transit, Energy and Water Cooperation" organised jointly by the Asia Foundation and Observer Research Foundation (ORF) in Kolkata on 3 December 2015.

- Made a presentation on 'Means of Implementation (MoI): An Indian Perspective' at the Eighth South Asia Economic Summit: Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in South Asia organised by Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in Islamabad on 8 December 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'SDGs and STI Imperatives-Technology Facilitation Mechanism' at the Third Meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee organised by the International Centre for Biotechnology, University of Nigeria in Nsukka on 14 December 2015. (In absentia)
- Chaired the UNDP sponsored Panel Discussion on "Post 2015 Development Agenda – From MDGs to SDGs" at the 98th Annual Conference of the Indian Economic Association held at Hyderabad on 28 December 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Biotechnology as a tool for Sustainable Development' at the Regional Dialogue on "Science and Technology in the context of Biotechnology towards Sustainable Development" organised by the Regional Centre for Biotechnology at RCB NCR Biotech Science Cluster Campus, Faridabad on 30 December 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Trade and Investment between Commonwealth Members' at the Consultative Meeting of Commonwealth Expert Group on Trade-Revitalising Global Trade and Multilateralism organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in New Delhi on 31 March 2016.
- Made a presentation on 'SDG Process, Indicators and National Strategy' at the Workshop on 'Achieving Sustainable Development Goals-Opportunities and Challenges for India' organised jointly by the NITI Aayog and Center of Environment Education in Ahmedabad on 10 January 2016.
- Panellist at the session on 'Voices from the World on Open Innovation, Open Science, Open to the World' and Participated in the Roundtable on RRI-Take home message from Plenaries and Parallel workshops at the Conference on Responsible Research and Innovation in Europe and across the World Go4 Joint Final Conference co-organised by 4 EU-funded projects with the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) in Brussels on 15 January 2016.
- Participated at the first LPAC meeting for DST sponsored study titled "Emerging and Contemporary R&D and Innovation Indicators in National S&T System and Policy Implications- A Comprehensive Study", organised by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) in New Delhi on 20 January 2016.
- Chaired a Session on 'Trade in Natural Resources: Economic Implications of Export Restriction' at the Workshop on 'Potential Impacts of Export Restrictions on Natural Resources' organised by TERI in New Delhi on 20 January 2016.

- Participated at the second Research Institute Network Meeting (RINM) for Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), and also at the Semi-Roundtable on TPP and RCEP in Kuala Lumpur on 25 January 2016.
- Made a presentation on 'India's Future Trade Policy Priorities' at the Interactive Session on WTO Nairobi Ministerial Outcomes and India's Future Trade Policy Priorities organised jointly by the CII and Centre for WTO Studies in New Delhi on 27 January 2016.
- Panellist at the Panel Discussion on Sustainable Development Goals - the Role of Think Tanks in Policy Making organised by ORF in New Delhi on 28 January 2016.
- Participated in the 7th Round of the annual MEA-IISS Dialogue co-organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and London based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) in New Delhi on 9 February 2016.
- Chaired a session on 'Social and Economic Impacts of Agricultural Biotechnologies for Smallholders: Taking Stock of the Evidence and Prioritising Future Assessments' and made a presentation on 'South-South Collaboration in Agricultural Biotechnology' at the International Symposium on Agriculture Biotechnologies organised by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Rome on 15-16 February 2016.
- Delivered keynote address at the National Conference on 'Africa since 2000: Transition and Change' organised by the Department of African Studies, University of Delhi in New Delhi on 18 February 2016.
- Participated at the third meeting of CII Africa Committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. Noel Tata, in New Delhi on 23 February 2016.
- Participated in the discussion meeting with Secretary, MoSPI on SDG indicator framework organised by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), Government of India in New Delhi on 26 February 2016.
- Made a presentation on 'International Aid Architecture and Theory of Development Compact and Mission Approach' at the University of Chicago Center in Delhi for the visiting group of students from the Committee on International Relations (CIR) from the University of Chicago on 22 March 2016.
- Participated in the Seminar on 'India-Nepal Relations: Changing Context, Emerging Situations' organised by Antar-Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad, Bharat, India Policy Foundation and Niti Anusandhan Parishad, Nepal, in New Delhi on 26-27 March 2016.

### Prof. S.K. Mohanty

- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on NBA and NTC matters, organised by Ayurvedic Drug Manufacturers' Association in New Delhi on 10 April 2015.
- Participated in Discussion Meeting on China and the Asia Pacific Region Issues in the US Embassy, New Delhi on 15 April 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'India-China Trade Relationship with Africa' at the Africa Division, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, New Delhi on 9 May 2015.
- Participated in discussion Meeting on Trade Potentials of India in Africa with Joint Secretary FT (Africa Division), FT (WANA), EP (CHEMEXCIL) and Administration of EP (CAP), EP (Textiles), PLEXCONCIL and FT (NEA), at Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 11 May 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Biological Resources Trade Classification for India', at the Meeting of Reconstituted Expert Committee on Normally Traded Commodities, organised by the National Biodiversity Authority of India in Goa on 17 May 2015.
- Participated in the Meeting on 'Blue Economy and Reviewing the Mining Sector in Indian Context' held at the Ministry of Mines in New Delhi on 27 July 2015.
- Participated in the Meeting on Blue Economy held at the National Statistical Commission, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation in New Delhi on 29 July 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Towards a Comprehensive Framework for the Blue Economy in IORA' at the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India in New Delhi on 2 August 2015.
- Participated in the Meeting on Prospects of Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean Rim at the National Shipping Board in New Delhi on 4 August 2015.
- Participated in the Meeting on 'Towards a Comprehensive Framework for the Blue Economy in IORA', held at the Central Statistical Office (CSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Government of India in New Delhi on 6 August 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Blue Economy as a Driver of Economic Growth' at the Indian Ocean Dialogue 2015 organised by the Department of Foreign Trade, Australian Government; IORA; ORF and Future Directions International, Australia in Perth, Australia on 5-7 September 2015.
- Participated in the Meeting for upcoming IORA Council of Ministers Meeting (CoMM), held in the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi on 30 September 2015.
- Participated as India's representative in the Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group Meeting (IORAG) under Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting at Padang, Indonesia, during 18-24 October 2015.

- Made presentations on 'Salient Features of RIS Blue Economy Report' and 'Economic Dimensions of Fisheries in IORA' in the Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group Meeting (IORAG) under Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) Council of Ministers (COM) Meeting at Padang, Indonesia on 20 October 2015.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on 'Trade Policy Issues' held in the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 7 January 2016.
- Participated in an Interactive Session on 'WTO Nairobi Ministerial Outcomes and India's Future Trade Policy Priorities', organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Centre for WTO Studies in New Delhi on 27 January 2016.
- Participated in the launching of the 'Third FICCI/PwC Strategy and India Manufacturing Barometer' in New Delhi on 9 February 2016.
- Made a presentation on 'Blue Economy' at the Seminar on 'Good Order At Sea: India's Role', organised by UGC Centre for Maritime Studies, Pondicherry University at Pondicherry on 18-19 February 2016.
- Participated in the Discussion on 'Bangladesh and North-Eastern States of India (BNESI)' organised by the Institute for Policy, Advocacy and Governance (IPAG) through Skype on 29 February 2016.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on Draft Report of the Joint Study Group (JSG) on COMESA, held at the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi on 18 March 2016.
- Made a presentation on "Resurging IORA with Expanding Cooperation in Trade: Addressing Regional Imbalance with GVC Sector" at the International Conference on 'Emerging Geopolitics in the Indian Ocean', organised by the Society for Indian Ocean Studies (SIOS) in New Delhi on 19 March 2016.

### **Prof. Ram Upendra Das**

- Participated in Evaluation of Corporate Skills Development Programme (CSD) held at New Delhi Institute of Management (NDIM) on 11 April 2015.
- Participated in the Inter-Ministerial Preparatory Meeting to discuss initiating of the Joint Study Group on feasibility of a Free Trade Agreement between India and the Eurasian Economic Commission organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 6 May 2015.
- Panellist at the '20th Anniversary of the WTO' organised by Observer Research Foundation (ORF), New Delhi on 13 May 2015.
- Lead Speaker on 'New Foreign Trade Policy' at 'State of the Economy Seminar' organised by NCAER, New Delhi on 14 May 2015.

- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on the BKRU-Customs Union held at the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 4 June 2015.
- Participated in the first meeting of the Joint Feasibility Study Group (JFSG) for entering into a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) and its Members States and the Republic of India in Moscow on 31 July 2015.
- Participated in the First Meeting of the Committee on 'International Trade Policy and Exports', organised by CII in New Delhi on 6 August 2015.
- Participated in the Second Meeting of the Advisory Council on 'Make in India: The Next Leap', organised by ASSOCHAM in New Delhi on 20 August 2015.
- Participated in a meeting on 'Regional Economic Cooperation', organised by the Embassy of the United State of America in New Delhi on 21 August 2015.
- Participated in the Roundtable on 'Economic Cooperation between India-New Zealand', organised by the Embassy of the New Zealand in New Delhi on 22 August 2015.
- Chaired the Session on 'Promoting SAARC Economic Integration' at the Seminar on 'Revitalising SAARC', organised by the National Defence College in New Delhi on 9 September 2015.
- Speaker at the Regional Workshop on 'WTO and Regional Trade Agreements in South Asia: Negotiation and Implementation Challenges', organised by the United Nations ESCAP- SSWA in New Delhi on 16 September 2015.
- Participated in the Expert Group Meeting on 'Regional Cooperation for Inclusive and Sustainable Development: South and South-West Asia Development Report', organised by ESCAP-SSWA in New Delhi on 17 September 2015.
- Participated in the Meeting of Joint Feasibility Study Group (JFSG) on Report for entering into a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the Eurasian Economic Commission (EaEC) and its Member States and the Republic of India, organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India in New Delhi on 22 September 2015.
- Participated in the Conference on 'One Belt One Road', organised by the China-India Association for Promotion and Trade (CAPET) in Kuala Lumpur on 22-25 September 2015.
- Participated in the International Congress on 'The Prospects of Development of Central Asian Countries in 21st Century', organised by the International Ataturk Alatoo University, Kyrgyzstan on 8-10 October 2015.
- Participated in the meeting on 'India-Eurasia' organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi on 29 October 2015.

- Participated in the 'Think 20 Summit/Global Policy Dialogue Platform' conference on 'Sustainable Development', organised by the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (TEPAV) in Turkey on 12-16 November 2015.
- Participated in the Workshop on 'Management and Preservation of Indigenous Knowledge: A North-East Perspective' organised by TERI in New Delhi on 19 November 2015.
- Participated in the workshop on 'EU FLEGT and Timber Trade in South Asia' organised by European Forest Institute in New Delhi on 30 November 2015.
- Participated in the 'T20 Kickoff Meeting' organised by the three Chinese think-tanks, viz., Institute of World Economics and Politics at Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (IWEP, CASS), Shanghai Institute for International Studies (SIIS) and Chongyang Institute for Financial Studies at Renmin University of China (RDCY) in China on 14-15 November 2015.
- Participated in a meeting on 'Joint Feasibility Study Group (JFSG) Report for entering into a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the Eurasian Economic Union (EaEU) organised by Ministry of Commerce, New Delhi on 7 December 2015.
- Panelist in a high level panel at the conference on 'Trade and Employment Challenges in Asia: Insights for South Asia' organised by International Labour Organisation (ILO) and Institute for Human Development, New Delhi on 17 December 2015.
- Participated in a meeting on 'India Myanmar Border Trade Study' organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 18 December 2015.
- Panellist in a dialogue on 'The Asia Pacific Century India and Big Power Engagement' organised by *Deccan Herald* in New Delhi on 19 December 2015.
- Presented a paper on 'Asean Plus Six and Successful FTAs: Can India Propel Intra-Industry Trade Flows?' in the Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association, Allied Social Science Associations, San Francisco, USA on 3-5 January 2016.
- Participated in a meeting on 'India-Eurasian Economic Union (EaEU) FTA' organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry Government of India in New Delhi on 18 January 2016.
- Participated in a review meeting on 'Joint Feasibility Study Group (JFSG) Report for entering into a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the Eurasian Economic Union (EaEU) organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India in New Delhi on 15 February 2016.
- Participated in a meeting on 'Border Trade Committee and Border Haat Committee between India and Myanmar' organised by the

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India in New Delhi on 16 February 2016.

- Participated in a meeting on 'Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP)' organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India in New Delhi on 26 February 2016.
- Participated in a review meeting on 'India-Eurasian Economic Union (EaEU) FTA' organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India in New Delhi on 15 March 2016.
- Delivered a Speech at the High Level Symposium on 'Synergies along the Silk Road for Agenda 2030' organised by Turkic World Educational and Scientific Cooperation Organisation (TWESCO) at the United Nations Headquarters, New York on 28 March 2016.

### **Prof. T.C. James**

#### *Visiting Fellow*

- Appeared on an interview on 'Draft National IP Policy' on CNC News channel on 5 April 2015.
- Participated in the Meeting with the Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha and proposed formation of a Core Group to study and prepare briefs and other materials for Hon'ble Members of Parliament on various selected current topics to enable them to participate more effectively in the Lok Sabha debates and discussions on 6 April 2015. The Core Group was later formed and RIS is represented therein.
- Participated in the first meeting of the Core Group formed by the Hon'ble Lok Sabha Speaker and offered RIS expertise on topics being studied and researched by the Institute such as development cooperation, current economic issues, innovation, IPR and health related issues, and regional and bilateral agreements on investment on 28 May 2015.
- Participated in the Panel Discussion on 'National Intellectual Property Policy' on the Lok Sabha TV on 28 May 2015.
- Participated in the National Workshop of Stakeholders of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants organised by the National Medicinal Plants Board, New Delhi and provided a paper on 'IPR Issues related to Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (Herbs & Their Allied Products)' on 29 May 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Common Objectives and Policies in the area of research, innovation and IPR - a historic opportunity for Indian and European Innovators' and chaired the panel discussion on 'Best Practices in Strengthening IPR administration through cooperation' at the Indo-European Conference on Fostering Economic Development through bi-lateral cooperation in research, innovation and IPR' organised by the EU Business Council and CII in New Delhi on 5 June 2015.
- Delivered a keynote address at the IPR Workshop for entrepreneurs organised by CII in Kochi on 19 June 2015.

- Participated in the Meeting on DNA Bill in Parliament with Professor Thomas Pogge from Yale University, former and present officers of Director General of Health Services and other academics on 21 August, 2015. The meeting examined the various provisions of the Bill.
- Participated in the meeting on Health Impact Fund Proposal on 21 August 2015.
- Participated in the First Meeting of the CII Africa Committee (2015-16) on 17 August 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Access and Benefit Sharing under the Convention on Biological Diversity in the Nagoya Protocol: Implications and Scope for Regional cooperation giving the Indian Perspective' at the regional meeting on 'Conservation, Use and Exchange of Crop Genetic Resources: Promoting Regional Cooperation for Food Secure, Climate Resistant South Asia', organised by the South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE) in Kathmandu, Nepal on 26-27 August 2015.
- Delivered talks on 'IP and Access to Knowledge' and on 'TRIPS and Sustainable Development Goals' at the International Conference on "Evolving Regime in Intellectual Property Protection" organised by Health Economics Association of India in Jawaharlal Nehru University at New Delhi on 2-4 November 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'How to Strengthen Global Health Policy Think Tanks in relation to the Challenge to Implement the SDGs with a view to improve health', besides actively participating in all sessions, in the meeting of Global Health Policy Think Tanks and Academic Institutions organised by the Graduate Institute in Geneva on 12-13 November 2015.
- Participated in the meetings of the Speaker's Research Initiative.
- Presented Indian perspectives on Intellectual Property Law and Copyright and Piracy at the Global IP Fiesta organised by the VIT University, Chennai on 30 and 31 January 2016.
- Delivered a talk on "Commercialisation of Geographical Indications of Goods" to farmers and students of law, economics and agriculture at the Kerala Agricultural University, Vellayani, Thrissur on 4 February 2016.
- Gave a keynote address at the Workshop on "Copyright Limitations and Exception of Libraries and Archives" organised by the National Law School of India University, Bangalore on 4 March 2016 and also made a presentation on "Parallel Imports" on 5 March 2016.

### **Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas**

#### *Consultant*

- Made a presentation on 'Biofuels, Sustainable Development, and Responsible Innovation: The Case of Synthetic Biology' at the Conference on 'Biofuels and (ir)responsible Innovation: Tensions Between Policy, Practice and Sustainable Development' organised

by Eindhoven University of Technology in Eindhoven, Netherlands on 13 April 2015.

- Made a presentation on ‘Open Source, Open Innovation and Commons: Towards an Alternative IP Regime in Agriculture and Plant Breeding’ at the Cultivating Innovation Conference on ‘How (and How Not) to Think about Intellectual Property in Agriculture and Plant Science’ held in Norwich, UK on 14 April 2015.
- Made a presentation on ‘Pricing of Technology Intensive Products, Intellectual Property and Socio-economic Framework’ at ISCB Socio-Economic Methodology Workshop at the School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences HAFL, Zollikofen, Switzerland on 20 April 2015.
- Made a presentation on ‘Rice Germplasm, Seeds, Intellectual Property Rights and Innovation’ at the Lead Authors Workshop on Rice Strategy at the Institute for Socio-Economic Change, Bangalore on 27 June 2015.
- Participated in Open Plant SynBio Meeting and IP Working Group Workshop held in the Cambridge University on 28-30 July 2015.
- Speaker in Session ‘Enhancing Infrastructure for Research and Innovation for Health - Technology Hubs, Science Parks, And More’ in Global Forum for Research and Innovation for Health 2015, organised by the Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED), in partnership with the Philippine Department of Health and Philippine Department of Science and Technology, in Manila on 26 August 2015.
- Made a presentation at the Workshop on the ‘Governance of human genetic information and precision medicine’ in Beijing on 28-29 August 2015.
- Attended FAO Conference on ‘Biotechnology for Food Security and Nutrition’ in Rome on 15-17 February 2016.
- Gave a talk on ‘Socio-economic Assessment of Nanotechnology and Emerging Technologies’ at the Department of Environmental Sciences, Informatics and Statistics, Università Ca’ Foscari Venezia, Italy on 18 February 2016.
- Participated in a discussion meeting with team members of Centre for environmental, ethical, legal and social decisions about emerging technologies at University of Padova on 18 February 2016.

### **Dr. Sabyasachi Saha**

*Assistant Professor*

- Participated as an expert at the 2015 BRICS Think-Tank Roundtable, organised by the Institute of World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in Beijing on 18-19 June 2015.

- Delegate at the Meeting of the Network of Southern Think-Tanks (NeST), UNDP held in New York on 22 September 2015.
- Participated as expert in the Meeting with Parliamentarians on SDGs, organised by the National Foundation for India in New Delhi on 16 September 2015.
- Participated as expert in the Meeting on Proposing Indicators on Four Climate-related Post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals, organised by the Alternative Futures and Action 2015 in New Delhi on 10 September 2015.
- Participated as expert in Consultation Workshop on Goal 16 of the Proposed Sustainable Development Goals, organised by Wada Na Todo Abhiyan in New Delhi on 30 July 2015.
- Participated as an expert at the Organisational Practices for Innovation in Indian Industries: A firm level case study on Human Resources and Work Culture Project Advisory Committee Meeting at the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India in New Delhi on 7 October 2015.
- Made a presentation of Research Project titled “Patents Obtained by Foreign Entities in India: An Analysis” at the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India in New Delhi on 8 October 2015.
- Panellist at the International Meeting on ‘Civil Society Response to India-Africa Summit’ organised by the Voice of the Voluntary Sector (VANI) and Heinrich Böll Stiftung-India in New Delhi on 7-8 December 2015.
- Participated as an expert at the dinner meeting organised in Honour of Mr. Ric Wells, Deputy Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of Australia by Australian High Commission in New Delhi on 17 December 2015.
- Addressed the Inaugural Session and made a presentation on the SDGs at the Seminar on “Taking Sustainable Development and Climate Agenda Post 2015”, organised by Stree Aadhar Kendra, Development Support Team, Pune and Beyond Copenhagen in Pune on 21 February 2016.

### **Dr. Durairaj Kumarasamy**

#### *Consultant*

- Participated in a five-day Workshop on Empirical Methods in Trade: Analyzing Trade Costs and Trade Facilitation organised by WTO/ESCAP 10th ARTNeT Capacity Building Workshop for Trade Research held in Bangkok, Thailand on 15-19 June 2015.
- Made a presentation on Trade and Investment Relations between India and China: Scope and Potentials at the monthly seminar on India’s Connectivity with Neighbours and its Implications for Sino-India Relations, held at the Hainan Institute for World Watch, Haikou, China on 25-28 August 2015.

## CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES

### **ITEC Capacity Building Programme on International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP)**

RIS conducted the capacity building programme on 'International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP)' in conjunction with the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC)/SCAAP Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India in New Delhi during 15 February-11 March 2016. The programme is conducted for participants from developing countries with a view to



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

inculcating enhanced understanding on challenges and opportunities associated with the processes of globalisation and development. The Programme is designed to expose the participants to the growing complexities of global economic issues and negotiations and to build their analytical skills to deal with them. This is a part of the overall capacity-building exercise of RIS activities.

The objective of IEIDP Programme is to contribute to building of analytical capacity in developing countries in the realm of international development policy. The Programme includes capacity building in areas such as global trading system and the WTO, international monetary and financial systems, South-South cooperation, regional economic cooperation, foreign direct investment and multinational enterprises, technology transfer and new technology in development, development policy reforms, among others.

The Programme is expected to equip the participants with capabilities to understand and systematically analyse the implications of different global economic trends for their home countries and to work out suitable policy options and responses.

The participants were engaged in discussion on various crucial subjects of national, regional and global significance specifically from the perspective of developing countries. This was achieved through a series of lectures delivered by RIS faculty, which includes internationally renowned scholars on international economic issues as well as noted experts from other think-tanks/universities, and senior officials from the Government of India. The participants were also exposed to India's economic dynamism through various field visits in and outside Delhi. Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS was the Programme Director. Twenty-seven participants from 17 countries took part in the programme.

### **ITEC/SCAAP Capacity Building Programme on South-South Cooperation**

RIS under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC)/Special Commonwealth Assistance for Africa Programme (SCAAP) of the MEA organised a two-week Capacity Building Programme on South-South Cooperation in New Delhi during 16-27 November 2015.

The programme intended to familiarise the participants with a broader concept of South-South Cooperation (SSC), particularly on Development Cooperation in the context of ongoing resurgence of the economies of the South in the wake of major changes being witnessed in the global aid architecture. The programme, among other things, focused on the rationale, concepts and contours of SSC by building on individual accomplishments of the respective countries, thus explaining the benefits from and barriers to their collective engagements. It also covered the key principles, policies, modalities (that include national sovereignty, national ownership, independence, equality, non-conditionality, non-interference and



*Participants of the RIS-ITEC Capacity Building Programme on South-South Cooperation with RIS Faculty.*

mutual benefit) and practices that were evident across SSC and looked at how the policy orientations or the strengths of SSC could be practically applied.

The programme also discussed how SSC was a different paradigm from the North-South Cooperation (NSC) and how SSC should be viewed as a voluntary partnership which had now developed into a more matured platform transcending the initial foundations of political solidarity and not as a replacement for the NSC in any significant measure.

Participants included officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs/Finance/Commerce or other Ministries dealing with SSC/NSC and civil society representatives engaged in related issues from the participating countries. Apart from intellectual sessions, a study tour was also organised. The participants were also encouraged to share their learning outcomes through group discussions and presentations.

### **Workshops on Trade Policy and Analysis**

RIS supports Myanmar in Building Capacity through its capacity Building programme on Trade Policy and Analysis by organising workshops on a regular basis. Under this, RIS, jointly with the Centre for Economy, Environment, and Society (CESS), Myanmar, organised the fourth workshop at RIS during 9-13 June 2015 in New Delhi. This programme was supported by IPE Global, UK Aid-Department for International Development (DFID), Knowledge Partnership Programme and Myanmar Ministry of Commerce.

Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre at RIS welcomed and made an Introduction about the Programme. Dr. Geethanjali

Nataraj, KPP IPE Global, New Delhi made the Special Remarks. Prof. S. K. Mohanty, RIS made the Opening Address. Mr. San Oo Maung Minister Counsellor, Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar delivered the Inaugural Address on behalf of by H.E. Mr. Aung Khin Soe, Ambassador of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in India.

The programme covered various themes including Trade and Development: Theory and Policy, Trade and Investment Linkages: International and Regional Dimensions, Trade Policy, Preference Utilisation and LDCs, Dealing Non-Tariff Measures, Food Safety and Standards: Indian Experiences, Overview of Bureau of Indian Standards: Perspective on Bilateral Cooperation, Trade Negotiations: Multilateral and Regional Perspective, Trade Facilitation: Building Infrastructure at Border, Global and Regional Initiatives in Trade Facilitation, Indian Customs, India-Myanmar Relations, and National and Regional Connectivity. The participants were also introduced to Trade Databases and Analytics.

There were also special lectures on 'Transforming Connectivity Corridors between India and Myanmar into Development Corridors' by Ambassador V. S. Seshadri, Vice-Chairman, RIS and 'Building a Stronger Global Trading System' by Ambassador Jayant Dasgupta, Former Indian Ambassador to WTO. Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS delivered the Valedictory Address. Prof. Prabir De made the Closing Remarks and also extended the Vote of Thanks.

Earlier, the third workshop was organised by RIS jointly with Centre for Economy, Environment, and Society (CESS), Myanmar, at Yangon University of Economics, Yangon in association with University of Sussex, UNESCAP, Yangon University of Economics, Trade Sift, and Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network (ARTNeT) from 11 to 15 May 2015. This event was also supported by Myanmar Ministry of Commerce, UK Aid-Department for International Development (DFID), and the IPE Global.



*Participants of the Fourth Workshop on Trade Policy and Analysis with Faculty Members.*

U Toe Aung Myint, Permanent Secretary and Director General, Ministry of Commerce delivered the Opening Address on behalf of H.E. Dr. Pwint San, Deputy Minister of Commerce, Myanmar. Mr. Gautam Mukhopadhyaya, Ambassador of India in Myanmar delivered the Keynote Address. Dr. Tun Aung, Pro-Rector, Yangon University of Economics delivered the Special Address. Prof. Prabir De, who is managing the project, gave an introduction of the programme. The programme covered various themes related to international trade. The participants were also introduced to TradeSift, a method and software developed by Sussex researchers to help policymakers and governments overcome the issues of complex and expensive mathematical modelling in order to analyse trade policy simply and cost effectively. The training programmes were attended by senior officials and scholars from Myanmar.

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

#### **Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi**

*Director General*

- Made a presentation on 'WTO: Agriculture Imbroglio' at the 59th Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD) organised by Foreign Service Institute (FSI) in the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on 16 April 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Indian Economic Diplomacy: Genesis and Evolution' at the Training Programme for Indian Information Services (IIS) officers organised by International Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) in New Delhi on 20 May 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'Development Cooperation vs. Foreign Aid: Global Impact' at the 55th course for the select senior defence and civil service officers, organised by the National Defence College in New Delhi on 21 July 2015.
- Made a presentation on 'India's Development Cooperation' at the Training Programme on International Economics and Business Management for the Officer Trainees of the Indian Foreign Service, organised by the IIFT in New Delhi on 3 September 2015.

#### **Prof. S.K. Mohanty**

- Delivered a lecture at the International Summer School (ISS) on 'India and China in the World Economy: Emerging Trends in Trade and Investment', organised by the Jamia Millia Islamia Central University in New Delhi on 16 July 2015.

## Prof. Ram Upendra Das

- Delivered a lecture on 'India's Trade Policy', under Induction Level Training Programme to Indian Economic Service (IES) Officer-Trainees, Batch 2014, at the Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi on 23 April 2014.
- Delivered a Special Lecture on 'New Perspectives on FTAs' at the Department of Economics, Jamia Millia Islamia University in New Delhi on 5 August 2015.
- Delivered a lecture on 'Trade and Sustainable Development: South-South and Regional Cooperation' organised by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) in Haryana on 10 November 2015.

## Prof. T.C. James

### *Visiting Fellow*

- Conducted a half day training programme on 'Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement' for Customs Officers at NACEN, Faridabad on 25 May 2015.
- Delivered lectures on 'Intellectual Property Rights' to newly recruited CSS Officers at ISTM, New Delhi on 26, 27 and 29 May 2015.
- Conducted classes on 'Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights', 'Protection of Geographical Indications of Goods' and 'Protection of Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Traditional Cultural Expressions' at the National Refresher Course for Law Teachers at Cochin University of Science and Technology, Kochi on 24 June, 2015.
- Delivered talks on the 'Legal Concepts regarding IPR Jurisprudence - Scope and Relevance in present day Adjudication, Origin and Development of the IPR Legal Regime, Constitutional Imperatives and Legislative and Judicial responses' at the Orientation Programme on Intellectual Property Rights and Enforcement for the Judicial Officers of the Delhi Judicial Academy (JDA) at the JDA, New Delhi on 4 and 5 December 2015.
- Made presentations in all the sessions of the orientation programme on the 'Role of the Magistracy in Balancing the Rights of the Society and the Rights of the IPR holder in the enforcement of the IPR Regime keeping in view the Social Context' for the Judicial Officers of the Delhi Higher Judicial Services (DHJS) at the DJA on 18 and 19 December 2015.
- Delivered lectures on 'Trade Mark Law of India' at the Indian Academy of International Law, New Delhi.
- Delivered talks on 'Intellectual Property Rights' in the Training Programme on Research Orientation for the Candidates of Integrated M.Tech - Ph.D in Engineering at the CSIR Human Resource Development Centre, Ghaziabad on 27 December 2015.

- Delivered lectures on “Patent Law, Practices and Procedures” and “Trademark law in India” in the Training Programme on WTO with Special Reference to Intellectual Property Rights for the Officers of Indian Administrative Service at IIFT on 12 and 13 January 2016.
- Made presentations on “the Need, Background and Social Context of IP Protection and its International and Transnational Dimensions” and “the Role of the District Judiciary in Balancing the Rights of the Society/Consumer and the Rights of the IPR Holder in the enforcement of the IPR Regime keeping in view the Social Context” in the Orientation Programme for District Judges organised by the Delhi Judicial Academy in New Delhi on 19 and 20 February 2016.

### **Dr. Sabyasachi Saha**

*Assistant Professor*

- Delivered two lectures on “WTO and India” at the Institute of Secretariat Training and Management (ISTM), Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India in New Delhi on 11 May 2015.

# PUBLICATION PROGRAMME

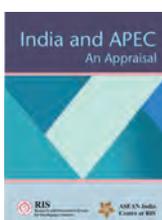
## Reports/Books



### South Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2015

Team RIS

RIS, New Delhi, 2015.



### India and APEC: An Appraisal

V.S. Seshadri

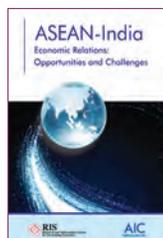
AIC at RIS, New Delhi, 2015.



### India-Korea CEPA: An Appraisal of Progress

V. S. Seshadri

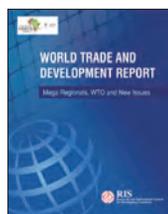
AIC-RIS, New Delhi, 2015



## ASEAN-India Economic Relations: Opportunities and Challenges

*Proceedings of the Third Roundtable on ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT)*

AIC-RIS, New Delhi, 2015



## World Trade and Development Report

Team RIS

RIS, New Delhi, 2015



## India-Africa Partnership: Towards Sustainable Development

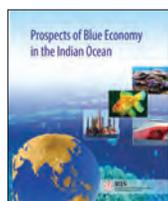
Mahesh C. Arora and Manish Chand

RIS, New Delhi, 2015



## ASEAN-India Development and Cooperation Report 2015

AIC-RIS, 2015, Published by Routledge India



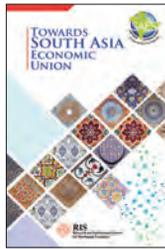
## Prospects of Blue Economy in the Indian Ocean

S.K. Mohanty, Priyadarshi Dash, Aastha Gupta, Pankhuri Gaur,  
RIS, New Delhi, 2015

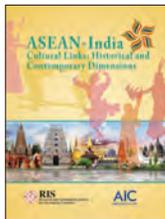


## India-Africa Partnership in Health Care: Accomplishments and Prospects

T.C. James, Prativa Shaw, Payel Chatterjee, Deepti Bhatia,  
RIS, New Delhi, 2015



**Towards South Asia Economic Union**  
*Proceedings of the 7th South Asia Economic Summit (SAES)*  
 RIS, New Delhi, 2015



**ASEAN-India Cultural Links: Historical and Contemporary Dimensions**  
 AIC-RIS, New Delhi, 2015

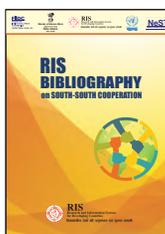


**Journals**

**South Asia Economic Journal**  
 Vol. 16, No. 2  
 Vol. 16, No. 2 (Supplementary Issue)



**Asian Biotechnology and Development Review**  
 Vol. 17, No. 2, July 2015  
 Vol. 17, No. 3, November 2015  
 Vol. 18, No. 1, March 2016



**RIS Bibliography on South South Cooperation**  
 RIS, New Delhi, 2016



**Policy Briefs**

- # 68: New Development Bank: A Contribution to Development Finance, May 2015
- # 69: Access, Technology Development and National IPR Policy, May 2015
- # 70: Access, Equity and Inclusion : Ethical Norms and S&T Policy Outcomes, May 2015
- # 71: Classification of Countries and G-20, May 2015
- # 72: The Contingent Reserve Arrangement: A Redesign of the International Monetary System, May 2015
- # 73: Make in India: State of Manufacturing in India, September 2015
- # 74: Under Sea Pipedreams and India Energy Security, September 2015

## Discussion Papers

### ***No.196 Reconfiguring International Financial Institutions: The BRICS Initiative by Manmohan Agarwal***

*Abstract:* This paper examines the implications of the establishment of the New Development Bank (NDB) and the Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA) for the international financial system and for the BRICS countries. Their establishment is placed in the context of the current international aid architecture and of the international monetary system (IMS) and the economic performance and needs of developing countries. Developing countries have been dissatisfied with the governance system, the operations and the lack of reform of the World bank and the International Monetary System. Dissatisfied at their lack of success in engineering reform developing countries have moved to a positive phase of devising new institutions that could meet their needs. The scope for the NDB to break new ground is greater. Not only additional aid would be made available but the NDB could break new ground in project preparation and implementation that might force the current multilateral development banks to alter their practices. But the task of replacing the IMF is more difficult. A new IMS can only come into being if it is universal. A group of developing countries even if very large cannot develop a new international monetary system. The CRA can only provide a welcome new source of BOP finance.

*Keywords:* BRICS, BRICS Initiative, International Financial Institutions, Reconfiguring

### ***No. 197 Promoting Innovations in Indian Universities: A Theoretical Model of University-Industry Interface by Sabyasachi Saha***

*Abstract:* While India's emergence as a rising economic power is an outcome of dynamic advantages based on technological learning and skills, innovation driven competitiveness has been much less prominent. It is expected that public funded institutions like universities and institutions should deliver on innovative research and ideas that can be commercialised. In this paper, we intend to understand university-industry interactions in India from a game theoretic perspective to capture issues of quality, objectives and incentives. Industry's low appetite for university inventions in India needs careful assessment, even as industry is increasingly engaging with the academia for problem solving inputs. The probability of market success of a university technology is prima facie low because these technologies are allegedly short of significant technological value addition. Often such a deficit in novelty is linked to lesser degree of complexity of research undertaken at Indian universities in the first place. Our model has indicated how various parameters like royalty fees and scientist's share of royalty and consultancy revenue could be used to promote cutting edge research at universities for technology commercialisation

*Keywords:* University-Industry Interface, Technology Transfer, Innovation, India

### ***No.198 India's Development Cooperation with Ethiopia in Sugar Production: An Assessment by Sushil Kumar***

*Abstract:* Ethiopia is one of the few countries in Africa with whom India has enjoyed a long standing partnership in development cooperation. In 2006, India provided a US\$ 640 million line of credit to Ethiopia for development of its sugar industry. In this paper, we analyse the impact of India's line of credit (2007-12) on Ethiopian sugar industry. We find that on completion of the ongoing projects Ethiopia would be able to produce 1.6 million tonnes of sugar per year. This will lead Ethiopia towards self-reliance in sugar production and by the end of 2015 the country will be a net exporter of sugar. We also find that estimated economic gain from sugar and ethanol production in Ethiopia would be close to US\$ 961 million per year. Based on field visits, we have explored several practical challenges to India's endeavour like inadequacy of appropriate mechanisms for monitoring and verification of the project. This leads to delays, information gaps and coordination failures in project implementation. India's engagement in Ethiopia's sugar sector signifies a major boost for the agriculture value chain in Ethiopia; and the ancillary support for railway tracks building is likely to play an important role in facilitating port connectivity and exports.

*Keywords:* Line of Credit, Development Cooperation, Sugar Industry, India, Ethiopia

### ***No. 199 Towards 'Make in South Asia': Evolving Regional Values Chain by Ram Upendra Das***

*Abstract:* One of the most important ways in which several of the common developmental challenges in South Asia could be addressed is by focusing on manufacturing. In the new context, manufacturing becomes key to creating Regional Value Chains (RVCs) in South Asia along with its potential to serve as the engine of growth. For this to happen, the paper presents the theoretical canvass emphasising the need to adopt an integrated approach towards trade in goods, trade in services and investment in a regional framework. In this context, rules of origin within the realm of trade in goods can serve as important instruments for ensuring manufacturing and local value addition besides achieving developmental outcomes like employment generation in all factors of production. Insights from the status of the manufacturing sector in India, followed by an analysis of trade in manufactured products, are further used to empirically identify product-country-wise possibilities for creating RVCs. To address some of the constraints to these processes the paper makes some policy-suggestions towards the Make in South Asia initiative.

*Keywords:* Regional Value Chains, South Asia, Economic Integration

### ***No. 200 Foreign Direct Investment and Poverty Reduction: India in Regional Context by Manmohan Agarwal and Pragma Atri***

*Abstract:* It is widely proclaimed that capital account liberalisation would immensely benefit developing economies because once capital controls are lifted capital would flow from the capital abundant rich countries to the capital scarce developing countries. This free movement of capital could possibly increase growth thereby lifting millions out of poverty. India has been gradually liberalising since the 1980s and throughout more capital inflows were observed compared to outflows. Also, the composition of capital flows has been changing since the 1980s – with foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows rising steadily post 1991 compared to portfolio and debt flows. However, since 2000, FDI outflows from India have also been witnessed. In this discussion paper, we empirically test the impact of FDI flows on poverty in India for the period 1980-2011. To provide a perspective to India's performance we also analyse the link between FDI flows and poverty for SAARC countries. For a better understanding of how FDI flows impact poverty, we analyse the outflows and inflows separately. Interestingly, we find that in India FDI inflows contribute to increases in poverty whereas for other SAARC countries they significantly reduce poverty. The impact of FDI outflows in India too is in complete contrast with other SAARC countries. While FDI outflows significantly reduce poverty in India, they turn out to be insignificant for other regional countries.

### ***No. 201 Sharing of Social Sectors Experiences in IBSA: Assessment of Initiatives and Way Forward by Beena Pandey***

*Abstract:* The establishment of the India-Brazil-South Africa Trilateral Cooperation Forum (IBSA), formalised by the Brasilia Declaration in 2003 is a distinctive international trilateral development initiative to promote SouthSouth cooperation among these countries. In order to assess the overall status of social sectors in IBSA countries since its inception, the paper analyses the select Communiqués and Declarations pertaining to social sectors issued from time to time. In this context, it evaluates the status and performance of social development in each of the IBSA countries and analyses the progress achieved in terms of poverty reduction, health and education towards achievement of MDGs targets. The paper presents an insight from the policy initiatives taken for inclusive growth followed by analysis of their serious commitments into concrete actions to strengthen trilateral cooperation and finally suggests the way forward.

*Keywords:* IBSA, social sectors, health, education, MDGs, DBT, CCT

### ***No. 202 Science, Technology, Innovation in India and Access, Inclusion and Equity: Discourses, Measurement and Emerging***

### **Challenges by Sachin Chaturvedi, Krishna Ravi Srinivas and Rashmi Rastogi**

*Abstract:* The role of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) in economic growth is well accepted. Tracing the debate on the role of science in Indian society in the pre-1947 India, the discourses and narratives on science, technology and society in India are mapped and their impact on policies is discussed. However, in the backdrop of growing inequalities and access to technology the debate on technology and development has assumed greater policy relevance. In this paper, we have used qualitative analysis and quantitative methods to discuss the issues in understanding and evaluating S&T policy in India and measuring access, equity and inclusion (AEI) through indicators. Although AEI as principles can be used for policy analysis and studying the impacts of S&T policies, the need for robust indicators is obvious. But the current indicators of impacts of S&T, or innovation indicators do not capture AEI nor consider them as important values to be measured. In development economics attempts are being made to measure inclusion and exclusion and to study marginalisation or marginality. We have constructed three indices using Principal Component Analysis (PCA) where weights in each index are the variances of successive principal components. The paper suggests that research on AEI should become part of S&T policy process. It is suggested that in major technology initiatives and policy proposals, 3 to 5 per cent of the proposed budgets could be allotted to such research. Another suggestion is to develop new methodologies and models, in the context of emerging technologies and S&T related indicators should be linked to socio-economic indicators.

*Keywords:* Access, Equity, Inclusion, S&T indicators, S&T policy, innovation policy

### **Special Publications for SSC Conference**

#### **RESEARCH BRIEF**

#### **Resurging South: Stylized Facts**

Prof. S.K. Mohanty, Dr. Priyadarshi Dash, Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, Dr. Sushil Kumar and Ms. Aastha Gupta

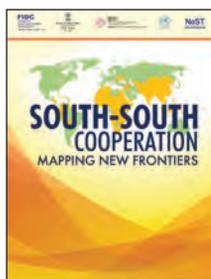
RIS, New Delhi, 2016



#### **BACKGROUND**

#### **South-South Cooperation: Mapping New Frontiers**

RIS, New Delhi, 2016



#### **Profile of Exhibitors**

### FIDC Policy Briefs

- # 5 South-South Cooperation and India: Insights from FIDC Multi-Stakeholder Policy
- # 6 FIDC Regional Consultation at Jaipur
- # 7 Indian Development Cooperation: A Theoretical and Institutional Framework
- # 8 Development Compact – The Cornerstone of India’s Development Cooperation: An “Externalities” Perspective

### RIS Diary

- Vol. 11 No. 2, April 2015
- Vol. 11 No. 3, July 2015
- Vol. 11 No. 4, October 2015
- Vol. 12 No. 1, January 2016

### AIC Newsletter

- Vol.1, No.1, July 2015

### Contributions to Outside Publications by RIS Faculty

#### Books/Reports

- Chaturvedi, Sachin, Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, Jorge A. Pérez Pineda, and Thomas Fues (eds). 2015. *Institutional Architecture and Development: Responses from Emerging Powers*. South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), South Africa.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2015. *The Logic of Sharing: Indian Approach to South-South Cooperation*. New Delhi: Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 978-1-107-12792-0
- Das, Ram Upendra. 2015. *India’s Strategy for Economic Integration with CLMV*, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, August. ISBN: 81-7122-109-2

#### Research Papers

- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2015. “Exploring Indian Engagement in Agriculture and Health: A Case of Angola and Mozambique.” *BRICS Policy Centre Paper*, Vol. 3. No. 03, January-April.
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## DATA AND INFORMATION CENTRE

The in-house RIS Documentation Centre is an integral part of the institution and functions as one of the leading international economics/ social science research and reference libraries in the country with a rich collection of books, journals, government publications, documents of other research institutions in print or electronic form on issues such as the world economy, international trade, world trading system, international monetary and financial system, South-South economic cooperation including regional economic cooperation like SAARC, ASEAN, and IOR-ARC. The thematic areas include capital flows, FDI, technology transfers, technological capacity building, agriculture and food security, new technologies such as IT and biotechnology, environment and sustainable development. The Data and Information Centre caters to the research support to the RIS research faculty as well as to policymakers, administrators, consultants, students and others from all over the country. The RIS library is also open for school students.

The members of RIS Research faculty are also engaged in enriching the documentation centre and in making it a prominent resource centre in the chosen areas of RIS work programme. Linkages with key global institutions like FAO, ILO, OECD, UN, UNCTAD, World Bank, WTO, etc., have been evolved over the years. It includes exchange of publications and collecting annual reports of various Ministries and institutions. Documents include-Working papers, Discussion papers, Reprints, Occasional papers of National and International Organisations in print or electronic form, received either on mutual exchange basis or downloaded through Institutional Websites. The library collection is over fifteen thousand titles covering development studies, economics, demography, statistics, and other allied subjects. It subscribes to 600 journals currently. In addition, it receives about 50 journals by way of gifts or exchange. The library is maintaining an exchange programme of publications with a number of national and international organisations.

## Documentation Centre/Library Collection includes

- Books
- Statistical Yearbooks
- Documents-WP-OP-DP
- Journals/ Periodicals (Print+Online+CD-Rom)
- Newspapers both Indian and International
- Back Volumes
- CD-Rom
- Databases in CD-ROM

## RIS Data Bank

The RIS Data Bank has well maintained Databases. RIS has databases on Trade including Domestic and International, Investment, Employment, Environment and Industries. Some of the databases are online databases, offline on our Server and in CD-ROMs. Keeping in view the usefulness of the databases for our projects and research purpose we update databases on regular basis.

### Global Databases include:

- Trade databases, tariff and Non-tariff measures
- Balance of Payment
- Financial Statistics
- Development Statistics
- Industrial Statistics
- Intellectual Property Services, Policy, Information and Cooperation data

### Indian databases include:

- Time series databases on Trade at 8-digit level
- Indian Company's database and their financial performances
- Socio-economic database
- Customs tariff database

## RIS Website and Online Documentation Centre

[www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in)

The RIS Website is kept updated on the real time basis in every aspect whether in technical terms or content. The Website is updated with additions in all sections like RIS publications, Events, Media Centre, Opinion, and Capacity Building Programmes. Details and resources of all publications such as research reports, policy briefs, discussion papers, conference reports, journals, newsletters and newspaper articles contributed by RIS faculty can be freely downloaded. All the relevant details and information like Agenda, Press Release, Photo gallery and other information regarding conferences/ seminars/ workshops

conducted by RIS are being updated on the website. RIS website has Opinion and Media Centre sections where Media Coverage of RIS events or RIS faculty is provided. RIS website has domain <http://www.ris.org.in> with that other RIS Initiative sub-domains have been developed and these are linked to RIS homepage. The contents from website can be shared via major popular social networks such as Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn. Popularity of RIS website is increasing day by day which is evident from increase in number of Hits. RIS website always emerges at the top of search results powered by Google which means that the website has the best visibility. The website has language translator which makes the website content 'user friendly' all over the world. RIS Digital Diary is being created and emailed quarterly.



### **RIS YouTube Channel**

The RIS YouTube Channel contains coverage of RIS in television and videos of major events. The Facebook page can be accessed through [www.youtube.com/RISNewDelhi](http://www.youtube.com/RISNewDelhi)



### **RIS Facebook and Twitter**

The institute also has a Facebook page and a Twitter handle. The Facebook page can be accessed through <https://www.facebook.com/RISIndia/?fref=ts> and Twitter handle through @RIS\_NewDelhi



# HUMAN RESOURCE



## **Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi**

*Director General*

Specialisation: International Economic Issues, Technology & Innovation and Development Cooperation

## **Faculty**



## **Dr. S.K. Mohanty**

*Professor*

Specialisation: Global & Regional Economic Integration and Development Economic Issues



## **Dr. Ram Upendra Das**

*Professor*

Specialisation: International Economics, Regional Integration and Development Issues



## **Dr. Prabir De**

*Professor/Coordinator, AIC*

Specialisation: International Economics, Trade & Transport Facilitation and Service Trade



**Dr. Beena Pandey**

*Research Associate*

*Specialisation:* Social Sector, Gender Empowerment and Development Issues



**Ms. Sreya Pan**

*Research Associate*

*Specialisation:* International trade



**Dr. Sabyasachi Saha**

*Assistant Professor*

*Specialisation:* Technology & Development Economics and International Trade



**Dr. Amit Kumar**

*Research Associate*

*Specialisation:* Innovation, foresight, and S&T governance.



**Dr. Priyadarshi Dash**

*Research Associate*

*Specialisation:* Macroeconomics and International Finance



**Mr. Imdadul Islam Halder**

*Research Associate*

*Specialisation:* Political Economy, Development Economics & International Trade



**Mr. Sunando Basu**

*Research Associate*

*(till 9 September 2015)*

*Specialisation:* Applied econometrics, law and economics, and development

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## Consultants/Visiting Fellows

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**Prof. T. C. James**

*Visiting Fellow*

*Specialisation:* Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)



**Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti**

*Visiting Fellow*

*Specialisation:* Micro-economics, International Trade and Business



**Dr. T.P. Rajendran**

*Visiting Fellow*

*Specialisation:* Farm Health Management, Biosecurity and Biosafety



**Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas**

*Visiting Fellow*

*Specialisation:* IPRs and global trade.



**Prof. Sandeep Singh Parmar**

*(till 20 July 2016)*

*Consultant*



**Mr. Saidu N. Sulaiman Mnim**

*Consultant*

*Specialisation: Entrepreneurship and Innovation*



**Prof. Chandra Mohan**

*(till 17 December 2015)*

*Visiting Fellow*

*Specialisation: Economic and business commentator*



**Ms. Aditi Gupta**

*(till 31 March 2016)*

*Consultant*

*Specialisation: International trade and macro economics*



**Dr. Sushil Kumar**

*Consultant*

*Specialisation: International trade and finance*



**Mr. Jay Dev Dubey**

*(till 14 April 2015)*

*Consultant*

*Specialisation: Econometrics, Micro-economic and Applied Macroeconomics*



**Dr. Durairaj Kumarasamy**

*Consultant*

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

**Ms. Rashmi Singh**

*(till 6 October 2015)*

*Consultant*

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## Research Assistants

---



**Ms. Aastha Gupta**



**Mr. Pratyush**



**Ms. Deepti Bhatia**



**Ms. Prativa Shaw**



**Ms. Opinder Kaur**



**Mr. Divya Prakash**



**Ms. Ankita Garg**

## Research Assistants



**Ms. Shreya Malhotra**  
*(till 14 June 2016)*



**Ms. Pankhuri Gaur**  
*(till 14 June 2016)*



**Ms. Kashika Arora**  
*(till 15 July 2016)*



**Ms. Nitya Batra**  
*(till 30 April 2016)*



**Harpreet Kaur**  
*(till 30 April 2016)*



**Ms. Akanksha Batra**  
*(till 21 March 2016)*



**Ms. Bhavna Seth**  
*(till 5 February 2016)*



**Mr. Vaibhav Kaushik**  
*(till 30 January 2016)*



**Ms. Payel Chatterjee**  
*(till 30 November 2015)*



**Ms. Vedanta Dhamija**  
*(till 8 November 2015)*



**Ms. Surabhi Agrawal**  
*(till 30 September 2015)*



**Ms. Vrinda Seksaria**  
*(till 23 August 2015)*



**Mr. Manmeet Singh Ajmani**  
*(till 14 August 2015)*



**Ms. Shruti Sharma**  
*(till 3 July 2015)*

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## Adjunct Senior Fellows

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**Prof. Manmohan Agarwal**



**Dr. Amrita Narlikar**

*President, German Institute for Global and Area Studies (GIGA), Hamburg, Germany; Professorial Chair at the University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany; Reader in International Political Economy, POLIS, University of Cambridge; Fellow, Darwin College, Cambridge; and Senior Research Associate, Centre for International Studies, University of Oxford*



**Prof. Mukul Asher**

*Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore*



**Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati**

*Formerly Chairman, National Biodiversity Authority, Government of India*

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## Adjunct Fellows

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**Dr. Kevin P. Gallagher**

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



**Dr. Ramkishan S. Rajan**

*Associate Professor, School of Public Policy, George Mason University, Washington D.C.*



**Dr. Suma Athreya**

*Reader, Brunel Business School, Brunel University, Uxbridge*



**Dr. Srividhya Ragavan**

*Associate Professor of Law, University of Oklahoma College of Law, Norman, Oklahoma*

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## Staff Members

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### **Mr. Mahesh C. Arora**

*Director (Finance and Administration)*

### **DG Office (DGO)**

Mr. Tish Kumar Malhotra, Head, DG's Office

Mr. N.N. Krishnan, PS

Mrs. Ritu Parnami, PA

Mr. Sachin Kumar, Secretarial Assistant

### **Research/Secretarial Support**

Ms. Kiran Wagh, PA

Mr. Surender Kumar, PA

Mr. Alok Kumar, Secretarial Assistant

Mrs. Bindu Gambhir, Stenographer

### **Publications Department**

Mr. Tish Kumar Malhotra, Publication Officer

Mr. Sachin Singhal, Publication Assistant (Designing & Web)

Ms. Ruchi Verma, Publication Assistant

### **Support Staff**

Mr. Satyavir Singh (Sr. Staff Car Driver)

Mr. J.B. Thakuri (Staff Car Driver)

Mr. Balwan (Daftri)

Mr. Pradeep

Mr. Raju

Mr. Raj Kumar

Mr. Manish Kumar

Mr. Raj Kumar

Mr. Sudhir Rana

Mr. Birju

Mr. Pradeep Negi

### **Library and Documentation Centre**

Mrs. Jyoti, Assistant Librarian

Mrs. Sushila, Library Assistant

### **Information Technology/Databases Unit**

Mrs. Sushma Bhat, Dy. Director (Data Management)

Mr. Chander Shekhar Puri, Dy. Director (Systems)

Mrs. Poonam Malhotra, Computer Assistant

Mr. Satya Pal Singh Rawat

Mrs. Geetika Sharma, Data Entry Operator

Mr. Rahul Bharti, Web Designer

### **Finance & Administration**

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

Mr. D.P. Kala, Dy. Director (Administration & Establishment)

Mrs. Sheela Malhotra, Section Officer (Accounts)

Mr. Harkesh, Assistant

Mrs. Anu Bisht, Assistant

Mr. Surjeet, Accountant

Mr. Anil Gupta, Assistant

Mr. Piyush Verma, LDC

Mrs. Shalini Sharma, LDC/Receptionist



# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS





# **SINGH KRISHNA & ASSOCIATES**

**Chartered Accountants**

8, Second Floor, Krishna Market, Kalkaji, New Delhi - 110 019  
Tel.: 32500444, Telefax: 40590344, e-mail: skacamail@gmail.com

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Members of the General Body of

### **RESEARCH AND INFORMATION SYSTEM FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES**

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), a society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2016, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Receipt and Payment Account for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial position, financial performance and receipt and payment of the Society in accordance with the accounting principles generally accepted in India. This responsibility includes the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and presentation of the financial statements that give a true and fair view and are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### **Auditors' Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with the Standards on Auditing issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditors' judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditors consider internal control relevant to the Society's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Society's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

#### **Auditors' Report and Opinion**

We report that:

- (i) we have sought and obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- (ii) in our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the Society so far as appears from our examination of the books;
- (iii) the Balance Sheet, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Receipt and Payment Account dealt with by this report are in agreement with the books of account;

- (iv) in our opinion, the Balance Sheet, the Income and Expenditure Account and the Receipt and Payment Account dealt with by this report comply with the applicable accounting standards issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India;
- (v) in our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said statements give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India:
  - a) in the case of the Balance Sheet of the state of affairs of the Society as at March 31, 2016;
  - b) in the case of the Income and Expenditure Account, of the surplus for the year ended on that date; and
  - c) in the case of the Receipt and Payment Account, of the receipts and payments for the year ended on that date.

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

Sd/-  
(Krishna Kumar Singh)  
Partner  
M. No. : 077494

Place : New Delhi  
Date : 29/09/2016

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

**Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2016**

Amount in ₹

	Sch. #	As at 31-Mar-16	As at 31-Mar-15
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Research and Development Fund	1	92,418,034.41	92,643,533.70
Fixed Assets Fund (Non - FCRA)	} 2	27,176,848.20	23,942,160.00
Fixed Assets Fund (FCRA)		195,808.00	230,362.00
Unspent Balance of Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA)	} 3	4,510,582.97	9,447,691.00
Unspent Balance of Sponsored Projects (FCRA)		5,336,948.56	8,484,119.00
Current Liabilities and Provisions (Non - FCRA)	} 4	40,875,987.38	35,395,171.00
Current Liabilities and Provisions (FCRA)		152,558.00	210,061.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>170,666,767.52</b>	<b>170,353,097.70</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Fixed Assets (Non - FCRA)	} 5	27,176,848.20	23,942,160.00
Fixed Assets (FCRA)		6,300,254.00	7,275,067.00
Amount Recoverable from Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA)	} 3	27,680,987.92	13,097,790.00
Amount Recoverable from Sponsored Projects (FCRA)		4,193,319.00	1,122,702.00
Current Assets, Loans, Advances, etc. (Non - FCRA)	} 6	41,161,692.55	62,110,210.91
Current Assets, Loans, Advances, etc. (FCRA)		64,153,665.85	62,805,167.79
<b>Total</b>		<b>170,666,767.52</b>	<b>170,353,097.70</b>

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts

15

Schedules 1 to 15 form an integral part of the accounts

As per our report of even date attached

for Research and Information System for Developing Countries

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

Sd/-  
(Krishna Kumar Singh)  
Partner  
M. No. 077494

Sd/-  
Mahesh C. Arora  
Director (Finance and Admin.)

Sd/-  
Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi  
Director General

Place : New Delhi  
Date : 29/09/2016

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

**Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended March 31, 2016**

Amount in ₹

	Sch. #	Year Ended 31-Mar-16	Year Ended 31-Mar-15
<b>INCOME</b>			
Grant-in-Aid from the Ministry of External Affairs, GOI	4(a)	52,715,708.00	48,432,521.00
Sponsored Projects Grant transferred to meet Programme Expenses (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	3	61,625,820.29	39,672,955.00
Surplus amount transferred on completion of Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)		1,483,999.07	812,845.00
Income from Royalty, Publications, etc. (Non - FCRA)		97,413.00	110,507.00
Interest Earned :			
On Term Deposits (FCRA)		5,386,779.37	5,214,042.46
On Term Deposits (Non - FCRA)		2,355,234.60	3,533,963.17
On Savings Account/ Auto Sweep A/c (FCRA)		122,731.00	198,415.16
On Savings Account/ Auto Sweep A/c (Non - FCRA)		722,938.00	312,073.27
On Loan to Employees (Non - FCRA)		19,943.00	13,043.00
Other Miscellaneous Income (Non - FCRA)		2,999.92	31,787.00
Recoveries for Overheads from Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)		1,842,243.45	610,481.00
Prior Period Income		138,090.00	21,000.00
Amount transferred from Fixed Assets Fund - W.D.V. of Assets Sold/ Written-off (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	2	59,805.00	431,208.00
Amount transferred from Fixed Assets Fund - Dep. on Fixed Assets Acquired out of Grant-in-Aid from the GOI/ Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)		2,578,323.80	2,114,180.00
Deficit transferred to Research and Development Fund		225,499.29	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>129,377,527.79</b>	<b>101,509,021.06</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Programme Expenses - Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	7	61,625,820.29	39,672,955.00
Establishment Expenses (Non - FCRA)	8	42,537,858.00	41,580,210.00
Administrative and Other Programme Expenses (Non - FCRA)	9	21,662,160.76	15,582,464.20
Administrative and Other Programme Expenses (FCRA)	10	898.94	192,789.00
Depreciation on Fixed Assets (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	5	3,518,582.80	3,205,145.00
Deficit amount transferred on completion of Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA and FCRA)	3	10,371.00	645,900.00
Prior Period Expenses		21,836.00	256,447.00
Surplus transferred to Research and Development Fund		-	373,110.86
<b>Total</b>		<b>129,377,527.79</b>	<b>101,509,021.06</b>

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts

15

Schedules 1 to 15 form an integral part of the accounts

As per our report of even date attached

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

for Research and Information System for Developing Countries

Sd/-  
(Krishna Kumar Singh)  
Partner  
M. No. 077494

Sd/-  
Mahesh C. Arora  
Director(Finance and Admin.)

Sd/-  
Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi  
Director General

Place : New Delhi  
Date : 29/09/2016

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

**Receipt and Payment Account for the Year Ended March 31, 2016**

Amount in `

Receipts		Year Ended 31-Mar-16		Year Ended 31-Mar-15		Payments		Year Ended 31-Mar-16		Year Ended 31-Mar-15	
<b>A</b>	<b>Opening Balances</b>					<b>A</b>	<b>Expenditures (Non - FCRA)</b>				
i)	Cash in Hand (Non - FCRA)	30,987.00		16,296.00		i)	Establishment Expenses (Schedule - 11)	41,225,641.00		36,564,081.00	
ii)	Bank Balances :					ii)	Administrative and Other Programme Expenses (Schedule - 12)	20,948,767.38		13,079,802.20	
	In Savings Account - Andhra Bank	87,412.00		14,585.00		iii)	Programme Expenses - Sponsored Projects (Schedule - 14)	46,802,712.47		22,055,975.00	
	In Savings Account/ Auto Sweep - Bank of India (Non - FCRA)	24,103,735.28		8,845,428.90		iv)	Prior Period Expenses	21,836.00		256,447.00	
	In Savings Account/ Auto Sweep - Bank of India (FCRA)	2,829,948.96		4,273,434.40			<b>Total A</b>		108,998,956.85		71,956,305.20
	In Fixed Deposits - Bank of India (FCRA)	54,475,828.13		53,486,085.00		<b>B</b>	<b>Expenditures (FCRA)</b>				
	In Fixed Deposits - Bank of India (Non - FCRA)	30,047,127.45		44,822,121.50		i)	Administrative and Other Programme Expenses (Schedule - 13)	898.94		555.00	
iii)	Postage Stamps - Balance in Frinking Machine (Non - FCRA)	156,248.00		144,493.00		ii)	Programme Expenses - Sponsored Projects (Schedule - 14)	9,000,881.37		9,442,684.00	
	<b>Total A</b>		111,731,286.82		111,602,443.80		<b>Total B</b>		9,001,780.31		9,443,239.00
<b>B</b>	<b>Grants Received</b>					<b>C</b>	<b>Payment for Fixed Assets</b>				
i)	From the Ministry of External Affairs, GOI	58,500,000.00		52,800,000.00		i)	Payment for Fixed Assets (Non FCRA)	6,745,953.00		3,485,752.00	
ii)	From various Sponsored Projects (Non - FCRA)	34,009,427.97		23,288,760.00		ii)	Payment for Fixed Assets (FCRA)	-		5,327,407.00	
iii)	From various Sponsored Projects (FCRA)	3,926,539.00		9,882,929.00			<b>Total C</b>		6,745,953.00		8,813,159.00
	<b>Total B</b>		96,435,966.97		85,971,689.00	<b>D</b>	<b>Advances and Deposits</b>				
<b>C</b>	<b>Interest Received</b>					i)	Advances (Non - FCRA)	155,179.00		464,396.00	
i)	Interest on Loans, Advances, etc. (Non - FCRA)	19,943.00		13,428.00		ii)	Advances (FCRA)	2,157.00		719.00	
ii)	Interest on Savings Bank Account/ Auto sweep (FCRA)	137,810.00		183,336.16		iii)	TDS Receivable (Non - FCRA)	401,079.00		328,229.00	
iii)	Interest on Fixed Deposit Accounts (Non - FCRA)	6,469,662.02		3,196,548.26		iv)	Security Deposit (Non - FCRA)			3,500.00	
iv)	Interest on Fixed Deposit Accounts (FCRA)	7,183,438.59		4,545,779.53			<b>Total D</b>		558,415.00		796,844.00
v)	Interest on Savings Bank Account/ Auto sweep (Non - FCRA)	719,039.00		292,231.27		<b>E</b>	<b>Others</b>				
vi)	Interest on Savings Bank Account - Andhra Bank (Non - FCRA)	3,899.00		3,080.00		i)	Grants Refunded (Non - FCRA)	520,641.00		2,845,627.00	
	<b>Total C</b>		14,533,791.61		8,234,403.22	ii)	Grants Refunded (FCRA)	-		560,740.00	
	<b>Total Carried Forward</b>		<b>222,701,045.40</b>		<b>205,808,536.02</b>	iii)	Service Tax Paid	1,543,443.00		-	
							<b>Total E</b>		2,064,084.00		3,406,367.00
							<b>Total Carried Forward</b>		<b>127,369,189.16</b>		<b>94,415,914.20</b>

	Receipts	Year Ended 31-Mar-16		Year Ended 31-Mar-15		Payments	Year Ended 31-Mar-16		Year Ended 31-Mar-15	
	<b>Total Brought Forward</b>		222,701,045.40		205,808,536.02	<b>Total Brought Forward</b>		127,369,189.16		94,415,914.20
<b>D Other Income</b>										
i)	Publication Sales (Non - FCRA)	8,500.00		9,210.00						
ii)	Royalty (Non - FCRA)	108,395.00		93,372.00						
iii)	Miscellaneous Income (Non - FCRA)	2,999.92		31,787.00						
	<b>Total D</b>		119,894.92		134,369.00					
<b>E Advances and Deposits</b>										
i)	Recovery of Loan/ Advances (Non - FCRA)	226,746.00		27,620.00						
ii)	Advances Recovered from Staff (Non - FCRA)	282,715.00		47,390.00						
iii)	Recovery of Loan/ Advances (FCRA)	-		15,147.00						
iv)	Stale Cheques (Non - FCRA)	24,355.00		78,527.00						
v)	Amount received in Advance (Non - FCRA)	273,240.00		1,799.00						
	<b>Total E</b>		807,056.00		170,483.00					
<b>F Others</b>										
i)	Sale of Fixed Assets	1,600.00		33,813.00						
ii)	Service Tax Received	1,543,443.00		-						
	<b>Total F</b>		1,545,043.00		33,813.00			97,803,850.16		111,731,286.82
	<b>Total</b>		225,173,039.32		206,147,201.02	<b>Total</b>		225,173,039.32		206,147,201.02

Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts (Schedule -15)

Schedules 1 to 15 form an integral part of the accounts

As per our report of even date attached

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

Sd/-  
(Krishna Kumar Singh)  
Partner  
M. No. 077494

Place : New Delhi  
Date : 29/09/2016

for Research and Information System for Developing Countries

Sd/-  
Mahesh C. Arora  
Director (Finance and Admin.)

Sd/-  
Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi  
Director General



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

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

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

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



## **RIS**

**Research and Information System  
for Developing Countries**

**विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली**

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