



# RIS Diary

— Research shaping the development agenda

## South Asia Comes Together for Implementing SDGs



Distinguished panelists during the deliberations of the South Asia Forum on SDGs.

RIS in partnership with the UNESCAP and NITI Aayog organised the South Asia Forum on Sustainable Development Goals - Subregional preparatory meeting for the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) on 4-5 October 2018 at New Delhi.

The meeting aimed to provide subregional perspectives and inputs to the Sixth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) to be held in Bangkok in early 2019. As the principal platform for follow-up and review of achievements in implementing the 2030 Agenda

of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the APFSD supports preparations for the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in the context of both the United Nations Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

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## SACEPS hosts Policy Dialogue on Unlocking the Potential of Regional Cooperation in South Asia

RIS in partnership with the UNESCAP and South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS) organised Policy Dialogue on Unlocking the Potential of Regional Cooperation in South Asia for achieving Sustainable Development Goals: The Way Forward on 6 October 2018 at New Delhi.



Lead participants at the Policy Dialogue.

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### Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Impact Assessment and Development Effectiveness

The FIDC in collaboration with the Southern Voice, Dhaka organised an Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on “Impact Assessment, Development Effectiveness and Measurement: Emerging Policy Choices in the Era of SDGs” on 5 October 2018 at New Delhi. The programme began with welcome remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka. Amb. Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS Chaired the meeting. Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya,



Amb. Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS chairing the expert group meeting.

Distinguished Fellow, CPD and Chair, Southern Voice made lead presentation which was followed by open discussion. A large number of participants took part in it.

### NeST Invited at Paris Peace Forum

Organised from 11 to 13 November, 2018, the Paris Peace Forum (PPF) celebrated the 100th anniversary of the end of World War 1, and brought together governance actors to discuss issues of transnational importance to achieve durable peace through international cooperation. The forum functions in three spaces, wherein debates, solutions and innovations are brought to the fore. A total of 121 global governance projects were presented at the space for solutions, out of which 10 were selected for a special support for one year.



Amb. Mohan Kumar, Chairman RIS with Mr. Pranay Sinha, Visiting Fellow, RIS at Paris Peace Forum.

The Network of Southern Think Tanks (NeST), RIS, was presented as one of the global governance projects. A collaborative initiative for the South and by the South, NeST is primarily a think tank and academic forum that provides policy inputs into the arena of SSC.

NeST also looks at assessment of impact of development projects under South-South Cooperation. The motivation to participate in PPF

emerges from the values of SSC characterised by solidarity within the Global South which is a pre-requisite to inclusive development cooperation forming the basis for global governance and sustainable peace. NeST and PPF, being an embodiment of this, collectively form an appropriate partnership under successful international cooperation.

At PPF, NeST was represented by Chairman, RIS, Dr. Mohan Kumar, leading the delegation with Mr. Pranay Sinha, Visiting fellow, RIS, and Dr. André de Mello e Souza, Coordenador de Intercâmbio e Cooperação Internacional (COINT), Diretoria de Estudos e Relações Econômicas e Políticas Internacionais (DINTE), Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Brazil.

### Policy Dialogue on Act East and North East

Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) and North East Council (NEC) in collaboration with the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) organized the Policy Dialogue on Act East and India's North East on 28 October 2018 in New Delhi. The Welcome Address was given by Ms. Mamta Shankar, Economic Advisor, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), Government of India. Mr Ram Muivah, Secretary, NEC and Mr. Ravi Capoor, Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam, Guwahati delivered the Special Address in the Inaugural Session. Keynote Address was delivered by H.E. Mr. Chutintorn Gongsakdi, Ambassador of Thailand to India whereas Mr. Naveen Verma, Secretary, DoNER delivered the inaugural address.

Dr. Prabir De, Professor, AIC at RIS made a lead presentation on Act East and Northeast India's Economic Integration with Southeast Asia. Followed by his presentation, there was a panel discussion on the strategic and



L to R: Mr. Ravi Capoor, Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam, Guwahati; Mr Ram Muivah, Secretary, NEC; Mr. Naveen Verma, Secretary, Ministry of DoNER; Ms. Mamta Shankar, Economic Advisor, Ministry of DoNER; Dr Prabir De, AIC at RIS; H.E. Mr. Chutintorn Gongsakdi, Ambassador of Thailand to India

economic linkages between North-East India and India's eastern neighbourhood, its challenges and the way forward. The session was chaired by Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Distinguished Fellow, NITI Aayog. Special Address was given by Mr. Kenichi Yokoyama, Country Director, Asian Development Bank (ADB) Indian Resident Mission. The panelists of this session were Mr. M P Bezbaruah, Formerly Member, NEC and Secretary (Tourism) to the Government of India; Ms Priya Mathur, Consultant, The World Bank; Amb. Gautam

Mukhopadhyay, Former Indian Ambassador to Myanmar; Dr. Priyoranjan Singh, Professor, Manipur University, Imphal; Dr Gurudas Das, Professor, National Institute of Technology (NIT) Silchar; and Mr. Sabyasachi Dutta, Director, Asian Confluence, Shillong. Finally, in the Concluding Session, the valedictory address was delivered by Mr. Biman Dutta, Member, NEC while the vote of Thanks was extended by Ms. Mamta Shankar, Economic Advisor, MDoNER.

### India, Afghanistan and Iran Partnership: Understanding the Emerging Contours

The 28th Breakfast Seminar in the series was held on 24 October 2018 at RIS on 'India, Afghanistan and Iran Partnership: Understanding the Emerging Contours'. Ambassador Vivek Katju Chaired the session. Amb. Amar Sinha, Distinguish Fellow, RIS was the lead speaker. A large number of participants took part in the discussion that followed.



At the 28<sup>th</sup> Breakfast Seminar, Amb. Amar Sinha, the lead speaker with Amb. Vivek Katju who chaired the meeting.



### Protecting the Global Trading System and the Role for Multilateralism

RIS has been carrying out extensive research work to strengthen India's trade and economic relations with Japan. RIS has carried out considerable work on the Asia Africa Growth Corridor (AAGC), an initiative lauded by the Prime Minister in Ahmedabad during the AfDB Annual Meeting in 2017. RIS has brought out eight Discussion Papers to translate the concept of AAGC into reality. In order to forge linkages with Japanese institutions, RIS co-hosted the meeting of the Asia Pacific Forum in Delhi on 22-23 November 2018 at New Delhi in partnership with the Japan Economic Foundation (JEF).

JEF is a public interest foundation supervised by the Japanese Cabinet Office and Mr Kazumasa Kusaka is its current Chairman and CEO. Since its establishment in 1985, JEF co-hosts this event every year with its partner countries to deepen mutual understanding between Japan and other countries to promote economic and technological exchanges. Over the years it has



Ms. Preeti Saran, former Secretary (East), MEA with all the distinguished panelists at the Asia-Pacific Forum 2018.

organized many conferences in Asia, USA and Europe.

The main programme of APF 2018 was its public symposium under the theme 'Protecting the Global Trading System and the Role for Multilateralism' on 22 November 2018 consisting of three panel sessions focusing on Trade and New Technology; Imperatives for Regional Integration: Growing Role of Service Sector; and Importance and Role of SDGs in the Indo-Pacific Region: Strategies for Attainment of SDGs. The public symposium was addressed by

eminent scholars from Asia Pacific Region joined by Indian experts. The public symposium registered participation of subject experts, academia, think tanks, national and international organizations, resident diplomats, serving and former high ranking officials. The keynote address at the public symposium was delivered by Ms. Preeti Saran, former Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. The public symposium was followed by close door consultation with APF members lead by Director General, RIS and Chairman, JEF on 23 November 2018.

### De-briefing Session on G-20

In order to discuss the issues emerging out of the recent G-20 Summit, RIS organised a 'De-briefing Session on G-20' on 12 December 2018. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS gave welcome remarks and initiated the discussions. Shri Alok Dimri, Joint Secretary (MER), MEA chaired the meeting. Dr. Rajat Kathuria, Director and Chief Executive, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) and Shri Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Consultant, RIS gave their remarks thereafter.



Shri Alok Dimri, Joint Secretary (MER), MEA chairing the session on G20.

### REWARD Project Meeting

RIS is a partner institution in the REWARD Project funded by European Research Council. The project started in 2014 ends in 2019. As a component of this project the funding agency has approved the study on 'A learning health system for secondary prevention in cardiovascular disease in Kerala using informatics and non-physician health workers(LHS-CVD)' is for one year.

To review the study a project meeting was held on 16 December 2018 at Kumarakom, Kerala. The meeting started by welcome remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS. Professor Thomas Pogge, Leitner Professor of Philosophy and International Affairs, Yale University; Dr Miltos Ladika, Centre for Professional Ethics, University of Central Lancashire made presentation on the REWARD Project. Dr. K.



*Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS delivering the welcome remarks at the REWARD project meeting.*

Ravi Srinivas, Consultant, RIS made a presentation which was followed by a presentation on Kerala Study and the progress so far and next steps and the deliverables by Dr Jaideep C Menon, Head, Preventive Cardiology, Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences. Also there was a Dinner Talk on 'Broad Trends in Genome Editing-Emerging Experience from China'

by Dr Miltos Ladika, Centre for Professional Ethics, University of Central Lancashire. Professor Thomas Pogge, Leitner Professor of Philosophy and International Affairs, Yale University; and Dr. Vasantha Muthuswamy, Former Senior Deputy DG, ICMR, President, FERCI (Forum for Ethics Review Committees in India) were the discussants.

### South-South Civil Society Conclave

The South-Asia and South-East Asian region has been a witness to a range of development cooperation initiatives that weave around the objective of equitable growth, technology access and ease of doing business. The unique multilateralism of this region has culminated in the evolution of platforms for facilitating comprehensive economic development agendas that have been prioritized according to foreign policy objectives. Platforms such as the BBIN (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal) and The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) are now becoming viable vehicles for delivering localized impacts

and catering to developing a strong regional framework in cross-border economic development. On similar lines, ASEAN's growing relationship with South-Asia is pushed by economic compulsions of combating regional competitiveness and trade hegemony. For effectively targeting development indicators, there is need for policy coherence and inclusive collaboration with institutions that can be key players in engineering a sound and efficient cooperation framework. Development cooperation in multilaterals cannot exempt without the participation of civil societies.

Keeping this background in view, Voluntary Action Network India (VANI) and the FIDC organised a two day 'South-South Civil Society Conclave' with leading

civil society organizations of South Asia and South-East Asian region from 17-18 December 2018 at New Delhi to seek a vibrant conversation on the objectives of these groupings and how civil society organizations across Asia can track development cooperation of South Asia with mutual exchange of knowledge and data. The conclave was organized in two formats with Indian Civil Society Organizations being apprised on the global footprints of India's development cooperation on 17th December 2018 and 18th December 2018 witnessing the 'South-South Civil Society Conclave' which solicited the participation of Indian and International CSOs.



## India and Vietnam to Explore Cooperation in Traditional Medicine

Vietnam has been India's strategic partner for quite long. This goodwill and trust is reflected in our multi-faceted and multi-sectoral cooperation. This cooperation is based on a wide range of issues that include defence and security; trade and commerce; science and technology; capacity building; health, education, culture, tourism and people to people exchange; and international, regional and sub-regional forums. Keeping this in view, it is imperative to explore further synergies in areas related to traditional medicine.

In order to move forward in this direction, RIS and FITM, in collaboration with Embassy of Vietnam, organised a half day conference on "Traditional



Mr. Pramod Kumar Pathak, Addl. Secretary, Ministry of Ayush, chairing the conference on "Traditional Medicine in India and Vietnam."

Medicine in India and Vietnam" at New Delhi on 10 December 2018. Mr. Pramod Kumar Pathak, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Ayush was the Chief Guest on this occasion. The programme began with welcome remarks by

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS and opening remarks by Ms. Tran Quynh Huong, Director, Vietnam Institute of Journalism and Social Media. H.E. Mr. Pham Sanh Chau, Ambassador of Vietnam to India delivered the Special Address.

## STIP Lecture Series

	SPEAKERS	TOPIC
	<b>Dr. Sune Kaur-Pedersen</b> Counsellor, Research & Innovation/Deputy Head, Innovation Centre, Embassy of Denmark, India and	<b>Science, Technology and Innovation for Development: Role of Science Diplomacy</b>  31 October 2018
	<b>Ms. Tania Friederichs</b> R&I Counsellor for India & Bhutan Delegation of the European Union to India	
	<b>Shri Rajani Ranjan Rashmi</b> Distinguished Fellow, Earth Sciences and Climate Change, TERI and	<b>IPCC's 1.5-degree Report and the Future of the Paris Agreement: A debate on Science and Politics of Climate Change</b>  13 November 2018
	<b>Dr. Navroz K. Dubash</b> Senior Fellow, Centre for Policy Research and Coordinator, Climate Initiative	
	<b>Prof. Helen Lochhead</b> Dean of the Faculty of Built Environment, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia	<b>Towards More Sustainable Cities</b>  12 December 2018

### An Interaction with Economics Students from Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi University

An Interactive session with Economics Students from Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Delhi University was organised at RIS on 24 October 2018. More than 20 students participated in this interactive session. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS presented an Overview of RIS activities in the sphere of Research & Global Economy: Inequality and SDGs. Dr. Priyadarshi Dash, Assistant Professor made a presentation on International Trade: Theories and



Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS interacting with the students from Lady Shri Ram College at RIS.

Dr. Sabyasachi Saha spoke on Policy Options and Trade, Technology and

Employment. This was followed by Question Answer session.

#### South Asia Comes Together for Implementing SDGs

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The Forum began with opening remarks by Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director & Head, UNESCAP South and South West Asia Office (UNESCAP-SSWA); Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS); Mr Yuri Afanasiev, United Nations Resident Coordinator, India and H.E. Dr Ismail Rahimi, Hon'ble, Dy. Minister of Economy, Afghanistan. Dr Puspa Raj Kadel, Vice-Chairman, National Planning Commission, Nepal delivered the Keynote Address. Dr Rajiv Kumar,

Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog, India gave the Inaugural Address.

The meeting had the following sessions: Review of progress and achievements in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in South Asia; Review of selected Goals for HLPF 2019 in South Asia; Review of selected Goals for HLPF 2019 in South Asia: Reporting by the Working Groups and the Way Forward; Subregional perspectives on the 2019 APFSD and HLPF theme "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and

equality"; Means of implementation of SDGs in South Asia: Identifying key gaps in finance, technology, and capacity-building (SDG 17); Means of implementation of SDGs in South Asia: Indicators, data, statistics and follow-up and review (SDG 17); Regional cooperation for accelerating achievement towards the SDGs; and Wrap up and closing session: The way forward. A large number of experts from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and India took part in the deliberations.

#### SACEPS hosts Policy Dialogue on Unlocking the Potential.....

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Dr Nagesh Kumar, Head, United Nations ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office (UNESCAP-SSWA); Amb. (Dr) Mohan Kumar, Chairman, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS); Prof. Deepak Nayyar, Co-chair, South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS) gave the opening remarks. Mr Rajneesh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry delivered Special

Address and Inaugural Address was delivered by H.E. Dr Puspa Raj Kadel, Vice-Chairman, National Planning Commission, Nepal and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, RIS extended the vote of thanks.

The dialogue had sessions on: Potential and challenges for regional economic cooperation in South Asia against the backdrop of emerging global trends; Potential

and Challenges of Transport and Energy Connectivity; Regional Cooperation in Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition; Round-table on Think-tanks Cooperation for Achievement of SDGs in South Asia; and Wrap up and Closing session. Representatives from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and India took part in the deliberations.

## Capacity Building Programme

### Learning South-South Cooperation

ITEC Capacity Building Programme on Learning South-South Cooperation was conducted on 12-23 November 2018 at RIS. The programme began with Introductory Session by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, Prof. S. K. Mohanty, Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti and Mr M. C. Arora, RIS. Mr Alok. A. Dimri, Joint Secretary (MER), Ministry of External Affairs also addressed the participants. Twenty nine participants from 21 countries participated in the programme. Besides exposing the participants to some examples in Development Cooperation, the programme covered modules on Theoretical Framework of South-South Cooperation, Global Architecture for SSC; India's Development



*Participants of the ITEC Capacity Building Programme on Learning South South Cooperation with RIS faculty members.*

Cooperation; and Current Global Issues for SSC. During the course, the participants enthusiastically engaged in the technical sessions and group discussions. They identified critical areas to deliberate upon

and came up with status papers, highlighting regional and global contexts and country experiences. They were brought out as a Report entitled "South- South Cooperation: Experiences and Challenges".

### Delegation / Visitors Received at RIS

- A delegation of UN ESCAP led by Mr. Hong Joo Haim, Officer-in-Charge, UN-ESCAP; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director and Head, UN-ESCAP and Mr. Rajan Sudesh Ratna, Economic Affairs Officer, UN-ESCAP visited RIS on 9 October 2018.
- Delegation from French Institute for Strategic Research (IRSEM) consisting of Dr. Jean-Baptiste Jeangene-Vilmer, Director, IRSEM and Mr. Sophie Gauthier, Counsellere (Politics), Embassy of France in New Delhi visited RIS on 30 October 2018.
- Six member delegation from EKHOS, Argentina, an organisation that aims to build bridges between Latin America and India, on Social Impact visited RIS on 16 November 2018.
- Delegation of Vale India Private Limited consisting of Mr. Paulo Bergman, Country Head; Mr. Renan Cury, Estrategia e Novos Negocios, Vale, S.A.; Mr. Amit Malhotra, Divisional Manager, Vale; and Ms. Neeta Gulgani visited RIS on 23 October 2018.
- Ms. Nandita Baruah, Country Representative, The Asia Foundation visited RIS on 26 October 2018.
- Ambassador of Georgia H.E. Mr. Archil Dzuliashvili visited RIS on 26 October 2018.
- The External Publicity Division's (XPD) outreach programme to enhance awareness and understanding of contemporary India and its heritage in foreign countries, a 20 Senior Journalists/Editors from Print and Electronic Media from Sri Lanka visited RIS on 27 November 2018.
- Mr. Remi Marechaux, Director for Africa and Indian Ocean, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Republic of France, along with Mr. Nicolas Dasnois, Advisor to the Director and Mr. Claire Thuaudet, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of France in New Delhi visited RIS on 11 December 2018.
- Mr. David Kaatrud, Regional Director, World Food Programme Bangkok; along with Dr. Hameed Nuru, Country Director, WFP India and Ms. Pradnya Paithankar, SDG Manager, WFP India visited RIS on 12 December 2018.
- The External Publicity Division's (XPD) outreach programme to enhance awareness and understanding of contemporary India and its heritage in foreign countries, a 15 Member delegations of Journalists/Editors from China for a Familiarization programme visited RIS on 20 December 2018.



## Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

### Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

#### Director General

- Made a presentation on, 'RRI in Large Developing Country: The Case of India' at the International Workshop on RRI in China and Abroad: An International Dialogue, organised by Chinese Academy of Science and Technology for Development on 9 October 2018, Beijing, China.
- Made a presentation on 'Partnering for Access to Medicinal Products: Bi-Lateral Treaties and Regional Agreements: Focus on SDGs' at the 2nd World Conference on Access to Medical Products-Achieving the SDGs 2030 organised jointly by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and World Health Organisation, India on 11 October 2018, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Roundtable Discussion to discuss, 'ADB's Draft RCI Operational Plan (2019-2030)' and trade presentations organised by Asian Development Bank, 29 October 2018, Bangkok.
- Delivered a Special Lecture on 'Physical and Social Infrastructure for Regional Development' organised by Nehru Memorial Museum & Library, New Delhi jointly with A. N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies on 5 November 2018, Patna.
- Panelist in the session on 'Act East: Making it Work' at the Commemorating the 70th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Myanmar and India on the occasion of Myanmar Day organised jointly by India Foundation and Embassy of Myanmar on 13 November 2018, New Delhi.
- Delivered Dr. GK Chadha Memorial Lecture on 'Agriculture and SDGs: Global Policy Coherence, Imperatives and New Strategies' at the 26th AERA Annual Conference on Agriculture and Sustainable Development Goals organised jointly by Agricultural Economics Research Association and National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal on 16 November 2018, Haryana.

- Made a presentation on 'SDGs: Emerging Indian Experience' at the Interpreting SDGs for South Asia: In Search of a Regional Framework organised by Centre for Policy Dialogue on 20 November 2018, Dhaka.
- Panelist at the side event on Using National Zero Hunger Strategic Reviews to accelerate progress towards SDG 2 in the Asia-Pacific region organised jointly by IFPRI-WFP on 30 November 2018, Bangkok.
- Made a presentation on 'SDGs and private sector' at the Tokyo kick-off meeting for T20 on December 4-5, 2018. Organised by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Tokyo.
- Delivered a keynote address on "Prospects and Challenges of Globalising Ayurveda - International Scenario" at the JIGNASA ArogyaFair and International Conference on Conglomeration of Health Traditions in Bharathavarsha organized by TarunyaShikshanaSeva Trust, Bengaluru in collaboration with Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India on 8 December 2018, Bengaluru.
- Panelist at the Panel Discussion on Make in India for the World organised jointly by Federation of Indian Micro & Small and Medium Enterprises (FISME); at Amazon Digital Utsav on 13 December 2018, New Delhi.
- Delivered Keynote Address on Agriculture and Rural Economy: Leveraging Technology and Trade at the 101st Annual Conference of the Indian Economic Association (IEA) on 15 December 2018, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on DBT - International Cooperation Department at the International Strategy Meet organised by Department of Biotechnology on 21 December, 2018, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on Analyzing Development Plans at the Third India-China Think-Tank Forum organised by ICWA on 21 December 2018, New Delhi.

### Prof. S. K. Mohanty

- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on 'Blue Economy Working Group 4', organised by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister at NITI Aayog, New Delhi on 31 October 2018.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting of the 'Blue Economy Working Group: 1 (National Accounting Framework for Blue Economy and Ocean Governance)' held at Ministry of Earth Sciences' at New Delhi on 9 November 2018.
- Participated, as a member of Indian delegation, in the 'First India-Russia Strategic Dialogue' held at St. Petersburg, Russia on 23-27 November 2018.
- Made a presentation on 'National Maritime Policy', organised by NITI Aayog, New Delhi on 30 November 2018.

### Prof. T. C. James

#### Visiting Fellow

- Participated in the Orientation Programme on Intellectual Property Rights and Enforcement for Judicial Officers organised by the Delhi Judicial Academy and made presentations on Protection of Traditional/ Indigenous Knowledge and Agricultural Products and Plant Varieties Protection on 6th October, 2018.
- Participated in the BRICS Seminar on Innovation and Knowledge Sharing towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) at Johannesburg on 22nd October, 2018 and made presentations on 'Towards Universal Health Coverage in BRICS', Innovation and Knowledge Sharing towards UHC' and 'Way Forward.'
- Participated in the "2018 BRICS Think Tank International Symposium on Promoting Traditional Medicine Cooperation in the BRICS Countries and Building a Community of Human Health" held in Beijing on 1st and 2nd November, 2018 and made presentation on 'Healthy City Construction and International Cooperation in Traditional Medicine.'

## Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

- Participated in the World Intellectual Property Forum held in New Delhi during 14-17 November, 2018 and spoke on Economics of Registration of Geographical Indications in India: Marketing Strategies and Brand Building’.
- Participated as a Resource Person in the international programme on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy, organized by Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru and took a session on "Intellectual Property Rights: National and International Scenario (PCT)" on 19 November, 2018.
- Participated as a panellist in the Panel Discussion on 'Practical Experience and Challenges for Commercializing Technologies from Research Laboratories', in the ASEAN Innovation Summit organised by Ministry of Science and Technology and FICCI on 30 November, 2018 in New Delhi.
- Participated as a Resource Person in the Sensitization Training Programme on Sustainable Development Goals for the Officers of Punjab organised by the Mahatma Gandhi State Institute of Public Administration, Chandigarh and made a presentation on 'Social SDG Goals -Towards Good Health & Health and Well Being (SDG Goal -3)', on 3rd December, 2018.
- Made a presentation on 'Protecting Literary Works, Software, Fair Use Provisions in Digital Medium and Prevalent Practices' at the TIFAC-DRDO Advanced Workshop on IPR on 6th December, 2018.

### Dr P. K. Anand

#### Visiting Fellow

- Participated as a panelist in the High level Consultation on 'Localizing SDGs and benchmarking good practices', through the interaction among government, multilateral institutions, civil society and academia organized by the Government of Andhra Pradesh at Vijayawada on 30th October 2018.
- Participated and gave suggestions in the 2nd Meeting of the 'NITI Forum for North East' at Guwahati on 12th December 2018.
- Participated and made recommendations in the 'Chintan Shibir' on making Tripura a prosperous State, held in Agartala during November 2-4, 2018.
- Participated and also Chaired a session in the 2-day Workshop on Localization of SDGS organized by the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh at Itanagar on 21-22 December 2018.
- Participated as a panelist in the Seminar on 'Sustainable Development Goals' organized by SEWA International on 6th December 2018 at New Maharashtra Sadan, New Delhi.
- Participated as a panelist in the 'South-South Civil Society Conclave' organized by VANI comprising of the leading Civil Society Organizations of South Asia and South-East Asian with the support of FIDC and RIS, during 17th-18th December 2018, at the India Islamic Cultural Centre, New Delhi, India.

### Dr K. Ravi Srinivas

#### Visiting Fellow

- Made a presentation with Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi on 'RRI in a Large Developing Country: The Case of India' in RRI in China and Abroad: An International Dialogue on 9th October 2018 at Beijing, organized by CASTED.
- Made a presentation on 'RRI: Perspectives from India' at New HoRRizon Consortium Meeting held on October 22nd at Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna.
- Delivered a talk on "Science Diplomacy Today: Challenges and Prospects" on October 23rd, at Institute of Technology Assessment, Vienna.
- Made a presentation 'Horizon 2020 and ERC funding: Experiences' at Horizon 2020 Information Day held on 4 December 2018, Hyderabad Central University.
- Made a presentation 'Technology, State and Human security and Non-Traditional Security Challenges' in 11th South Asia Conference Non-traditional Security Challenges in South Asia: Agenda for Cooperation, December 18, 2018, at IDSA, New Delhi.

### Mr Krishna Kumar

#### Visiting Fellow

- Participated in the 'Chintan Shibir' on making Tripura a prosperous State held in Agartala during November 2-4, 2018.
- Participated in the 2nd Meeting of 'NITI Forum for North East' at Guwahati on 12th December 2018.

### Dr Sabyasachi Saha

#### Assistant Professor

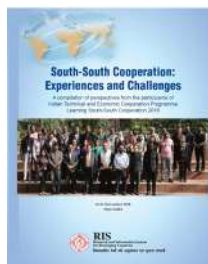
- Participated in T20 JAPAN 2019 Inception Conference, 4-5 December 2018 in Tokyo, Japan. Selected as Member of the Task Force on Trade, Investment and Globalization

### Visit of Thai Delegation

King Prajadhipok's Institute conducted a study visit to India titled "Politics and Governance in Democratic System for Executives" from 26 November to 1 December 2018. AIC at RIS organised an interaction with the visiting delegation on "India's Economic Reformation in 21st Century" on 26 November in Pravashi Bharatiya Kendra (PBL), New Delhi. Over 60 delegates from Thailand attended the session and Prof. Surat Horaichakul, Director, India Studies Centre, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok was Head of Delegation. The discussion was lead by Dr. Prabir De, Professor, AIC at RIS who made a presentation on Act East Policy and India's Northeast.



## REPORT



### South-South Cooperation: Experiences and Challenges

RIS, New Delhi, 2018

## RIS DISCUSSION PAPERS

- # 235 Is India Digitally Prepared for International Trade?  
By Rashmi Banga
- # 234 Evolving Conceptual Framework and Monitoring  
Mechanism for SDGs in India by Krishna Kumar  
and P.K. Anand

## RIS POLICY BRIEFS

- # 86 Health City Planning and Traditional Medicines:  
Learning from International Experiences by Prof.  
T.C. James
- # 85 Emerging Dynamics on RCEP by V.S. Seshadri
- # 84 The Why and How of the RCEP by Rajeev Kher
- # 83 RRI: An Indian Perspective (English)
- # 82 RRI: An Indian Perspective (Hindi)

## DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION REVIEW (DCR)

Vol. 1 No. 7, October 2018

## SOUTH ASIA ECONOMIC JOURNAL

Vol. 19, No. 2 (July - December 2018)

## FITM SCOOPING PAPER

- #2 Protection of Traditional Knowledge in India,  
October 2018

## ASIAN BIOTECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT REVIEW (ABDR)

Vol. 20 No.1 & 2 March, July 2018

## Contributions to Outside Publications by RIS Faculty

- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2018. 'Blue Economy' in Bibek  
Debroy, Anirban Ganguly and Kishore Desai (eds.)  
*Making of New India: Transformation under Modi  
Government*. New Delhi: Wisdom Tree.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin and Chakrabarti, Milindo. 2018.  
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## Moving Towards a National Maritime Policy



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Currently India is engaged in putting in place a national maritime policy to help develop a holistic maritime commerce ecosystem. The emphasis in on-going debate is on a comprehensive assessment of the enormous potential of the nation as well as the possible internal and external synergies that can help make seaborne trade an engine for inclusive and sustainable growth and development. It is essential in this regard to integrate effective coastal regions, hinterland and multi-modal transportation systems to, in turn, boost India's external trade and propel the country to be a global leader in the maritime sector.

India is a major maritime nation in the Indian Ocean region with vast coastline and diverse sectors. The country is also a key player in the global seaborne trade with very strong historical and civilizational linkages with countries in the Indian Ocean Rim spreading from Southeast Asia, Middle East, South Asia to countries in Eastern Africa. Trade between India and other littoral countries in the Indian Ocean and other parts of the world in tradable commodities flourished in the past. Although India has experienced significant growth in seaborne trade over the years, there is hardly any knowledge about the trends and patterns in maritime commerce in a holistic sense that includes seaborne trade and exports and imports in marine goods and services such as raw and processed fish products; marine biotechnology products like nutraceuticals, drugs, etc; tourist arrivals in coasts, sea beaches, etc; and other marine goods and services. In order to bridge this information gap, the proposed National Maritime Policy has dedicated a section on maritime commerce which covers the entire range of sectors and sub-sectors of maritime economy in the country.

India is engaged in maritime commerce in several products and services for a very long period. In the context of National Maritime Policy, maritime commerce covers blue economy, regional maritime connectivity and a number of marine services including port services, coastal shipping, marine finance and insurance, marine personnel services, marine legal services, marine certification and consultancy services, marine salvage services, freight forwarding, cargo handling, and so on. Except fisheries, trade in blue economy sectors is an opaque field at this stage. There is no systematic record of exports and imports as a separate category as per the modern statistical systems except some scattered information on different maritime sectors. Lack of data on the products traded in blue economy sectors complicates trade policy as inputs on tariff rates and non-tariff barriers are not available. Besides gaps in statistical reporting, it is also not clear whether trade in blue economy products and services is advantageous for India or not.

Like goods, marine services trade in India is characterized with similar features. For most of the services sectors, the most obvious reasons that affect India are lack of proper physical infrastructure, inadequate penetration of information technology applications, shortage of trained personnel, absence of educational programmes on maritime technologies and services, lack of standardization in certification of maritime skills, and other regulations. For instance, inefficiency in supply of spare parts into shipyards forces the shipping companies to outsource ship repair services to Colombo Port. Another crucial area of concern is financing shipping projects. Shipping finance has been perceived as a high-risk sector which discourages the bankers to fund such projects. Maritime connectivity is an important aspect of maritime commerce which was not emphasized before in the context of maritime commerce. As India is now part of several multilateral and regional trade agreements, the growth of maritime commerce depends on the extent and quality of maritime connectivity infrastructure such as port hinterland connectivity, cross-border connectivity projects and other modes.

Taking into consideration the issues and challenges in the different maritime sectors, there has been intensive discussions on the range of services that are generally traded in the sectors globally, maritime transport services, hinterland connectivity including port-land and sea route connectivity, etc. Since trade expansion in marine products and services depends on the overall growth of the sectors, these discussions highlight the future potential for growth in different sectors, employment generation in those sectors, and the regulatory and policy changes that are warranted. Towards the end, many sector-specific policy recommendations for promoting maritime commerce of the country are being put forward. It is high time to consolidate them at one place to move forward towards a national maritime policy.