



RIS Diary

— Research shaping the development agenda

Launch of Initiative on Global Development

RIS, jointly with the Department for International Development (DFID), United Kingdom, organised the launch of an 'Initiative on Global Development' on 9 January 2019 at New Delhi. The initiative begins a journey towards the sharing of development experiences, knowledge and technical know-how, setting forth a new trajectory for an inclusive and equal partnership. The partnership is



Ambassador (Dr) Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS with other distinguished panelists during the launch of Initiative on Global Development.

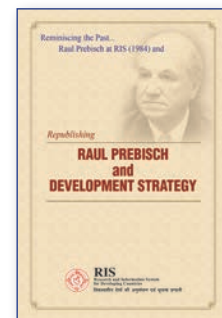
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RIS at BAPA+40

Special focus on RIS Volume on Raul Prebisch and Development Strategy



Distinguished Panelists at the launching of RIS Volume on Raul Prebisch and Development Strategy.



cooperation; showcase the plurality in South-South Cooperation (SSC); underscore the need for better access to health technology; and deliberate upon the issues related to assessment, monitoring and evaluation.

RIS, as an accredited partner organisation with the UN, participated in the Second High-Level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40) held from 20 to 22 March 2019 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. On this occasion, RIS also hosted four

side-events under the auspices of the Network of Southern Think Tanks (NeST). The side events organised around panel discussions with eminent scholars, experts, practitioners and policy makers aimed to bring forth the facets of the Asian approach to development

On 20 March 2019, RIS in partnership with NeST hosted a panel discussion on 'Impact Assessment and Monitoring & Evaluation vis-à-vis South-South Cooperation: The State of the Debate'

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at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship, Palacio San Martin, Buenos Aires. The session was chaired by Dr Philani Mthembu, Executive Director, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa, and co-chaired by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. The panellists included: Professor Xiuli Xu, Deputy Dean, Chinese Institute for South-South Cooperation in Agriculture (CISSCA), CAU, China; Dr André de Mello e Souza Senior Research Fellow, Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Brazil; Dr Stephan Klingebiel, Department Head - Bilateral and Multilateral Development Policy, German Development Institute (DIE), Germany; Mr Mario Pezzini, Director, OECD Development Centre, France; and Professor Milindo Chakrabarti, Visiting Fellow, RIS. The discussion was followed by a question and answer session. On this occasion a monograph on Raul Prebisch titled, *Raul Prebisch and Development Strategy*, was launched. The monograph contains proceedings of the Seminar held on "New Perspectives in North-South and South-South Relations". It also has some important contributions by Raul Prebisch. The discussions



Mr Sanjeev Ranjan, Indian Ambassador to Argentina with other lead panelists during the launch of RIS publication on Health Sector.

noted the conceptual and political differences between impact assessment and monitoring and evaluation and recognised the efforts made by developing countries such as India, Paraguay and Brazil to undertake demand-driven assessment and evaluation activities.

RIS, NeST and China Institute for South-South Cooperation in Agriculture (CISSCA) organised a panel discussion on 'Exploring the Asian Narrative on South-South Cooperation' held on 19 March 2019 at the University of Buenos Aires. The session was chaired by Professor Sun Qixin, President, Chinese Agriculture University (CAU), China and

co-chaired by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. The panellists included: Dr Anthea Mulakala, Director, The Asia Foundation (TAF); Mr Artemy Izmetiev, Director a.i., UNDP Policy Centre in Seoul, South Korea; Dr Sven Grimm, Co-Chair of Inter- and transnational cooperation, German Development Institute (GDI), Germany; Professor Xiuli Xu, Deputy Dean, Chinese Institute for South-South Cooperation in Agriculture (CISSCA), CAU, China; Mr Minyoung Jeong, Deputy Country Director, Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), South Korea; and Mr Pranay Sinha, Visiting Fellow, RIS.

RIS and NeST hosted a panel discussion on 'South-South Cooperation for Access to Health Technology' on 21 March 2019 at the Instituto Nacional Sanmartiniano, Buenos Aires, delved into cooperation at the sectoral level. The event began with the launching of a special RIS publication, *Together Towards a Healthy Future - India's Partnerships in Healthcare*, by Mr Sanjiv Ranjan, Ambassador India to Argentina. The launch was followed by a panel discussion which was co-chaired by Dr Carlos María Correa, Executive Director, South



Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS with fellow panelists.

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An Interactive Session with H.E Ms. Reginah Makgabo Mahaule, Deputy Minister of International Relations, South Africa

RIS organised an Interactive Session with H.E Ms. Reginah Makgabo Mahaule, Deputy Minister of International Relations, South Africa, on 9 January 2019. Dr Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS, chaired the session and welcome remarks were made by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. During the panel discussion on 'India-South Africa Partnership and the New World Order' the following experts took part: Ambassador Virendra Gupta, President, Indian Council for International Cooperation; Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia, former Director General, ICWA; Dr Philani Mthembu, Executive Director, Institute For Global Dialogue, South Africa; and Ms. Ruchita



H.E Ms. Reginah Makgabo Mahaule, Deputy Minister of International Relations, South Africa with other lead panelists.

Beri, Senior Research Associate, IDSA. The panel brought forth the importance of actors in track 1.5 diplomacy towards taking cooperation initiatives and policy dialogues beyond the government. An increased cooperation between the think-tanks of India and South

Africa enhance the scope of relevant, timely and applied research that can bring change on the ground. Such an effort gives impetus to the ongoing tracks of government-to-government and people-to-people cooperation.

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Reform Multilateral Bodies to Reflect Present Global Reality: Ambassador Anil Sooklal

South Africa has called for reforms within the UN system, the UN Security Council (UNSC), the Bretton Woods Institutions (the IMF and the World Bank), and the WTO to make these international bodies reflect the current reality of the global community. It also wanted the leading emerging economies bloc BRICS (comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) to focus on ways to address the prevailing 'semi-paralysis' in the multilateral system.

Advocating reforms within these multilateral institutions, Ambassador Anil Sooklal, the Deputy Director General of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation in South Africa and South Africa's Sherpa (or emissary) in the BRICS, in IBSA



Ambassador Anil Sooklal, Senior Adjunct Fellow, RIS with other distinguished panelists.

and also in the G20 countries, and Senior Adjunct Fellow, RIS, said: "You (now) have a UN system that is semi-paralysed. You have a UNSC that adopts resolutions that no one pays any heed to. And now you have a permanent divide between the P2 and P3." He added: "This is the semi-paralysis that we have in the (entire) multilateral

system. We have to use platforms like BRICS to constantly address these fault-lines and see how we constantly keep it on the radar, until we build enough momentum to get consensus for these views (on reforms) to prevail." The senior diplomat was addressing an audience comprising academics and students at the Centre

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for Development Studies (CDS), Thiruvananthapuram,

Pointing out that the 75th anniversary of the UN will soon be celebrated (in the year 2020), the Ambassador said: "We still have P5, but how effective is this P5? There will come a time when it becomes irrelevant. You will have other major global players that flex their muscle on the global scene and with such an impact that you will have to change the structure (of the UN). Time and the changing global environment will take care of that." He was responding to questions after delivering a lecture on 'Cooperation among Emerging Economies and Global Governance: Lessons from BRICS Experience' at the CDS on January 30, 2019. The event was organised in association with the RIS. In his lecture, Ambassador Sooklal also touched upon various aspects including the need to strengthen cooperation between countries in the global South and the importance of getting more value out of meetings at the global and regional platforms including G20, BRICS and IBSA. Besides, he sought greater people-to-people interaction in BRICS countries and



Ambassador Anil Sooklal, at the interactive session at RIS.

improving partnerships between think-tanks in BRICS countries. The Ambassador also suggested expanding BRICS outreach programs, including more points of interest of the developing world in the G20 Summit declarations.

During his India visit, he also spoke at the Pondicherry University's UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Institute of South Asia Regional Cooperation (UMISARC)-Centre for South Asian Studies. He delivered a lecture on the 'Relevance of Gandhi in the 21st Century', organised in association with the RIS. Ambassador Sooklal spoke about the commonalities in the lives of Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela, and how the principles and philosophies that they stood

for including non-violence, truth and sustainable development are relevant today. He also pitched for creation of a New World Order based on the principles followed by Gandhi and Mandela as well as *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (the world is one family) and Ubuntu ('I am because we are' or the belief in a universal bond of sharing that links the entire humanity). He also delivered lectures on 2 February 2019, at Ahmedabad which was organised jointly with Gujarat Institute of Development Research and Gujarat Vidyapith on the theme "Gandhi Mandela Legacy" and on "India and South Africa in Africa," organised by the School of International Studies, JNU, New Delhi on 28 January 2019. ■

Interactive Session with Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary, UN-ESCAP

Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary, UN-ESCAP visited RIS on 22 January 2019 for an interactive session. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS gave the welcome remarks which were followed by presentation on RIS work programme by faculty members. Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director, South and South-West Asia Office, UN-ESCAP; Dr Rajan Sudesh Ratna, Economic Affairs Officer, UN-ESCAP; Mr K.L. Thapar, Chairman, Asian Institute of Transport Development; and Mr Pranav Kumar, Head, International Trade Policy also joined the interactive session. ■



Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary, UN-ESCAP in the interactive session at RIS.

The Young Diplomats Conclave 2.0-Energising Indo-ASEAN Ties

RIS, jointly with the Vision India Foundation (VIF) organised the Young Diplomats Conclave 2.0-Energising Indo-ASEAN Ties at New Delhi on 17 January 2019. Ambassador A.K. Banerjee, IFS (Retd.) and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS made initial remarks. The First Session on 'The role of Indo-ASEAN relationship in meaningfully shaping the regional architecture in Indo-Pacific' was chaired by Ambassador Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS. In this session Mr Sanjay Pulipaka, Sr. Fellow, NMML spoke on 'ASEAN centrality in the dynamics of Indo-Pacific' and Prof. Harsh. V. Pant, Kings College London addressed on Evolution of 'Quad' as a strategic concept. The session on 'India -ASEAN: Different but related cultures' was chaired by Ms. Arunima Gupta, VIF. H.E. Mr Sidharto Reza Suryodipuro,



Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS speaking at the Young Diplomat Conclave.

Ambassador, Embassy of Indonesia gave an address on Leveraging Indo-Indonesia linkages of past for building a mutually beneficial relationship. Dr Gautam Kumar Jha, JNU addressed on Understanding Indo-ASEAN civilizational interrelatedness. Mr Rajeev Kher, Distinguished Fellow, RIS chaired the session on RCEP and the

Regional Economic Architecture- Opportunities, Challenges, and the Way Forward. Mr Pranav Kumar, Head International Trade Policy, CII spoke on Promoting Cross-Border Trade with ASEAN. The Closing Remarks were given by Mr Shobhit Mathur, Executive Director, VIF. ■

Seminar on 'Role of Macroprudential Policy in Promoting Financial Stability'

RIS, jointly with Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, organised a seminar on 'Macroprudential Policy' on 14 March 2019 at RIS. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS made the welcome remarks. Professor R. Sudarshan, Dean, School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University gave initial remarks. Mr Marek Licak, Director of the Macroprudential Policy, Department of the National Bank of Slovakia made lead presentation, which was followed by panel discussion. The panelists were: Dr Alok Sheel, RBI Chair Professor, ICRIER; Mr Ludovik



Participants at the seminar on Macroprudential Policy.

Odor, Vice Governor of the National Bank of Slovakia; and Mr Bandula Jayasekara, Visiting Fellow, RIS. H.E. Mr Ivan Lancaric, Ambassador and Ms. Katarina Tomkova, Deputy Chief, Embassy of the Slovak

Republic in New Delhi and Prof. Biswajit Banerjee, Chief Economist, Ministry of Finance of the Slovak Republic & Professor of Economics, Ashoka University also joined the participants on this occasion. ■

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Centre, Geneva, and Dr André de Mello e Souza, Senior Research Fellow Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Brazil. The panelists include: Dr Bernabé Malacalza Research Fellow, National Scientific and Technical Research Council National University of Quilmes (UNQ), Argentina; Mr Govind Venuprasad, Coordinator, Supporting Indian Trade and Investment for Africa (SITA), International Trade Centre; Ms. Roxana Mazzola Executive Director, Center for Studies and Policy Development (CEDEP), University of Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Professor T.C. James, Visiting Fellow, RIS.

NeST, along with country chapters from Brazil, Mexico, China, Argentina and Africa, in partnership with RIS and BRICS Policy Centre, Brazil hosted a panel discussion on 'Plurality of South-South Cooperation' on 22 March at the Asociación de Amigos del Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes, Buenos Aires. The session began with special remarks by Mr Jorge Chediek, Director, UNOSSC. The panel discussion was co-chaired by Dr Paulo Esteves, Director, BRICS Policy Center, Brazil and Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. The panelists included: Dr André de Mello e Souza, Senior Research Fellow Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Brazil; Dr Jorge A. Pérez-Pineda, Profesor-Investigador, Universidad Anáhuac, México; Professor Meibo Huang, Director, International Development Cooperation Academy, Shanghai University of International Business and Economics; Mrs. Luara Lopes, Research Coordinator for South-South Cooperation Research and Policy Center Articulação SUL, Brazil; Ms. Nadine Piefer, Policy



Distinguished Panelists at the launching of Special issue of Development Cooperation Review

Analyst, OECD Development Cooperation Directorate, France; Professor Milindo Chakrabarti Visiting Fellow, RIS; Mr Pratyush Sharma, Correspondent (DCR), RIS; and Dr Gladys Teresita Lechini, Universidad Nacional de Rosario, Argentina.

RIS was represented by the following at BAPA+40: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. The delegation included Prof. TC James, Prof. Milindo Chakrabarti, Dr Sabyasachi Saha, Mr Pranay Sinha, Mr Pratyush Sharma and Ms. Amika Bawa. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi also participated in the following programmes: BAPA+40 Interactive Panel Discussion 2 on 'Challenges and the strengthening of the institutional framework of South-South and triangular cooperation' organised by UNOSSC and Government of Argentina; 'Advancing Frontier Research

on South-South and Triangular Cooperation' organised by UNOSSC and UNDP; 'Transition to Sustainable Development: New pathways for co-operation to fulfil Agenda 2030' organised by OECD Development Centre; 'The Power of International Value Chain in the Global South', organised by ITC; Editors Workshop on 'Development Cooperation for Achieving the 2030 Agenda: Contested Collaboration' organised jointly by NeST, DIE and GDI; Expert Workshop on 'Development Cooperation for achieving the 2030 Agenda', organised by NeST, DIE, IPEA, German Development Institute and Managing Global Governance; and 'Contestation and Collaboration in International Development Cooperation for Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals', organised by NeST, IPEA and GDI. ■



Distinguished Panelists at the launching of the ITC-RIS Report of The Power of International Value Chains in the Global South.

STIP Lecture Series

As part of the STIP Lecture Series, the following programmes were organised:



Panel Discussion on Science Movements in India on 10 January 2019. Prof. M Jagadesh Kumar, Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi Chaired. The panelists were Prof. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Swadeshi Science Movement; Dr D. Raghunandan, All India Peoples Science Network; Prof. Dinesh Abrol, Delhi Science Forum and Mr Jayant Sahasrabuddhe, VIBHA .



Lecture on Science, Technology, and Society: The Challenge of Reaching Out on 15 February 2019 by Prof. M. Sai Baba, T.V. Raman Pai, Chair Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru. Shri Gauhar Raza, Leading Science Communicator and Former Scientist, CSIR Chaired.



Lecture on Development of Solar Energy in India on 12 March 2019 by Dr Arun Kumar Tripathi, Director General, National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE). Dr Ashvini Kumar, Senior Director, Renewable Energy, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) Chaired.

Launch of Initiative on Global Development...

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predicated upon the recognition of a diverse development cooperation architecture and existence of a plurality of approaches among developing countries. The initiative creates a platform for the sharing of India's development experiences with fellow developing countries in Asia and Africa.

The inaugural session was chaired by Amb. Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS. Welcome remarks were given by Amb. Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS. Special remarks were given by Mr Manoj Bharati, Additional Secretary (Economic Diplomacy and States Division), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Mr Pete Vowles, Director, Asia, Caribbean & Overseas Territories Division, DFID; and Mr Gavin McGillivray, Head, DFID India. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi,

DG, RIS made a presentation on the 'Initiative on Global Development'.

The inauguration of the Initiative was followed by a panel discussion on 'Contours of Initiative on Global Development', chaired by Amb. Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, RIS. The panelists were Mr Philip Parham, UK's Envoy to the Commonwealth; Professor Anuradha Chenoy, Chairperson, FIDC; and Dr Rajesh Tandon, President, Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA). Some key perspectives that emerged in the discussion drew upon the importance of co-convening dialogues among all stakeholders in developing countries aimed towards mobilisation and systemisation of knowledge, taking local to the global. The discussion was followed by a question and answer session. ■

Breakfast Seminar Series

As part of this series, Dr Gilles Carbonnier, Vice President, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) delivered lecture on "Development Models and Humanitarian Issues" on 9 January 2019 at RIS. Dr Yasmin Ali Haque, Representative in India, UNICEF and Acting UN Resident Coordinator in India chaired the seminar. A large number of participants took part in open discussion that followed. ■

Regional Consultation on Promotion of Indian System of Medicines: Challenges and Best Practices

The Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM) organised a Regional Consultation on “Promotion of Indian Systems of Medicines: Challenges and Best Practices” in Bengaluru on 20th March, 2019. Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH delivered the inaugural address. The eminent speakers in the inaugural session included Shri Rajeev Kher, Former Commerce Secretary and Distinguished Fellow, RIS; Dr B. R. Ramakrishna, Vice Chancellor S-VYASA University, Bengaluru; and Shri Arvind Varchaswi, Managing Director, Sri Sri Tattva, Bengaluru.

The consultation had four sessions on separate themes like ‘Product Standards and Quality Assurance: Successes and Challenges’, ‘Quality Services: Standardisation Mechanisms’, ‘Internationalisation of Indian Systems of Medicine: Sharing strategies for domestic preparedness’ and ‘Medicinal plants governance: Best practices in conservation and cultivation’. The eminent panellists included, among others, Shri Pramod Kumar Pathak,



Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH delivering the inaugural address.

Additional Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH; Shri Sudhanshu Pandey, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Dr Balakrishna Pisupati, Chairperson and Trustee, Forum for Law, Environment, Development and Governance (FLEDGE), Bengaluru, and Smt Meenakshi Negi, Commissioner, Department of AYUSH; Karnataka. A large number of industry representatives besides

government officials and academia participated in the meeting. The deliberations highlighted the challenges that the AYUSH sector is facing and suggested various steps that the government and the industry should take to promote the sector. Special focus was paid to the issues of the MSME sector. Dr Namrata Pathak, Research Associate, RIS gave the vote of thanks. ■

Discussion Meeting on Can Economic Multilateralism Survive?

A Discussion Meeting with Mr Jean Pisani-Ferry, former founder and head of the Bruegel Think Tank set up at Brussels and also former Commissioner General for Policy Planning of the French Government, former Chairman of the Prime Minister’s Council of Economic Advisors

was held on 8 January 2019 at India International Centre (IIC). Mr Jean Pisani-Ferry spoke on ‘Can Economic Multilateralism Survive?’. Dr Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS chaired. Mr Rajeev Kher, Distinguished Fellow welcomed the chief guest and other participants. Participants

included: Dr Sudhanshu Pandey, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, MoC&I; Dr Suman Bery, former Director General, NCAER; Dr Ramgopal Agarwala, Distinguished Fellow, NITI Aayog; and Dr Mukesh Bhatnagar, Centre for WTO Studies. ■

Delegations Received at RIS

- A high-powered delegation comprising of business and community leaders led by Canada India Foundation (CIF) for an interactive session on 16 January 2019.
- Japanese Delegation from Economic Affairs Bureau at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 6 February 2019.

Delegation from Vietnam Visited AIC at RIS, 17 January 2019



A delegation of 60 students from the Vietnam National University (VNU), University of Social Sciences, headed by Prof. Dr Do Thu Ha, visited AIC at RIS on 17 January 2019. Prof. Shankari Sundararaman, Centre for Indo-Pacific Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) opened the discussion. Mr M.C.Arora, Director (A&F), RIS delivered an overview of RIS activities. Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS made the presentation on India's Act East Policy and India-ASEAN relations, followed by Q&A.

Media Delegation from Mongolia Visited AIC at RIS, 1 March 2019



About 20 members of Media delegation from Mongolia visited AIC at RIS on 1 March 2019. Dr Prabir De made a presentation on "India-Mongolia relations", followed by an interaction with the delegation members. A copy of book entitled "Enhancing Economic Relations between India and Mongolia" was also presented to the Head of the Delegation.

Delegation from Indonesian Visited AIC at RIS, 28 February 2019



A two-member delegation from the Indonesian Foreign Affairs Ministry visited AIC at RIS on 28 February 2019. Visit was linked to discuss Indonesia's Indo-Pacific programme and understand India's connectivity initiatives in Indo-Pacific region. The two members were: Ms. Ernawati, Deputy Director for South and Central Asia, Policy Development and Analysis Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia and Ms. Ida Humaidah, Assistant Deputy Director, Policy Analysis and Development Agency, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. Dr Prabir De made a presentation on India-ASEAN economic relations and India's connectivity initiatives.

An Interactive Session with H.E Ms. Reginah Makgabo Mahaule...

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The panel discussion was followed with an address by H.E Ms. Reginah Makgabo Mhaule, Deputy Minister of International Relations, South Africa on the theme "25 Years of Freedom in South Africa". H.E Ms. Mhaule traced the history of South Africa, its partnership with

India from the times of Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela, as well as the growing role of the two countries towards ensuring inclusive southern development. She drew upon the existing multilateral fora's of cooperation between the two countries and detailed the scope

of a deepened cooperation with the signing of MoUs between RIS and its South African counterparts, SAIIA and IGD.

Mr B.J. Joubert, Chargé d' Affaires, High Commission of South Africa in India extended the vote of thanks.

Capacity Building Programme

RIS-ITEC Programme on 'Science Diplomacy'



Participants of the ITEC Capacity Building Programme on Science Diplomacy

The ITEC-RIS Capacity Building Programme on 'Science Diplomacy' was held in RIS during 7-18 January 2019 at RIS. There were 35 participants from 25 countries participated in this

course. The programme covered the following module: Introduction to Science Diplomacy: Concepts and Contours; Sharing of Experience in Science Diplomacy; Biotechnology

and Biodiversity; Climate Change; Cultural Trip; Digital Economy and Emerging Technologies; Technology, Trade and Science Diplomacy; and SDGs and South-South Cooperation. The programme began with Welcome Remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS. Prof. K Vijay Raghavan, Principal Scientific Adviser, Government of India addressed the participants. Remarks were also given by Dr Bhaskar Balakrishnan, Science Diplomacy Fellow, RIS and Former Indian Diplomat and Dr Purnima Rupal, Director, CEFIPRA. The Valedictory Session was held on 18 January 2019, at which Mr Dinkar Asthana, Additional Secretary (DPAII), Ministry of External Affairs addressed the participants. Thereafter the certificates were distributed to the participants. ■

RIS-ITEC Programme on International Economic Issues and Development Policy



Participants of the ITEC Capacity Building Programme on International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP).

The ITEC Capacity Building Programme on "International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP)" was held during 11 February to 8 March 2019. Thirty participants, including middle level government officials/diplomats, policy practitioners and scholars from 20 countries participated in it. The programme covered the following key modules: Global Institutional Architecture on Trade and Finance, Regional Dynamism, Economic Integration and Development

Cooperation; Infrastructure Financing: Imperatives for Developing Countries and Economy; and Society, Partnerships and Culture: Indian Perspectives. Eminent Indian experts gave a comprehensive perspective on various dimensions of these issues.

The programme began with Welcome Remarks by Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS. Mr J.S. Mukul, Dean, Foreign Service Institute (FSI) delivered the inaugural Address. The Valedictory

Session was chaired by Dr Mohan Kumar, Chairman, RIS. Valedictory Address was delivered by Ms. Nagma M. Mallick, Joint Secretary (PP&R), MEA. The following presentations were made by ITEC participants: Group 1 on SDG and Public Policy: by Ms. Karina Mariela Jara Tamayo (Ecuador); Group 2 on Infrastructure/ Connectivity/ Renewable Energy by Mrs. Minakshi Dabee Hauzaree (Mauritius); Group 3 on Trade (Impact of FTAs on Trade Balance & Capital Flow) : by Mr Mosses Lufuke (Tanzania); Group 4 on G20/BRICS: by Mr Helder Paulo Machado Silva (Brazil); Group 5 on Trade (Bargaining Power of Developing Countries in Trade): by Mr Tesfaye Ayalew Mekonen (Ethiopia); and Group 6 on International Financial Architecture, Development Finance and Global Tax Issues: by Dr Hebatallah Hanafi Mahmoud Adam (Egypt). ■

Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General

- Participated in the Roundtable with H.E. Stephen Harper, Former PM of Canada and Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship at the Energy Forum, 7 January 2019, New Delhi.
- Panelist at the Discussion on 'How to ensure clean and healthy Oceans' during the First meeting of the Indo-Norwegian Joint Task Force on Blue Economy organised by Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, 8 January 2019, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Delivering Democracy: Focus on Governance' at the 3rd edition of Houston-India conference organised by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), 11 January 2019, Houston.
- Made a presentation on 'Physical Connectivity' at the 2nd ASEAN-India Youth Summit organised by India Foundation, 3 February 2019, Guwahati.
- Made a presentation on 'Trade War: Challenges and Opportunities for India' at the National Seminar on the theme, 'Globalism Vs. Nationalism: The US-China Trade War & India' organised by Department of Economics, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, 11 February 2019, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on 'Conceptual frameworks : Perspectives from India' at the Regional technical workshop in preparation for BAPA+40 organised by United Nations ESCAP, 12 February 2019, Bangkok.
- Made a presentation on 'Leveraging STI for SDGs' at the conference on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) jointly organised by KDI School and Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) - Research Institute (RI), 15 February 2019, Seoul.
- Made a presentation on 'Role of Think Tanks and Civil Society in India' at the Kautilya Fellows Programme organised by India

Foundation, 26 February, 2019, New Delhi.

- Panelist at a joint conference on 'Governance in an Era of Inequality: Training the Next Generation of Policy Practitioners in South Asia' organised by the NASPAA and the Jindal School of Government and Public Policy and O.P. Jindal Global University, 26 February 2019, New Delhi.
- Chaired the workshop on 'The Future of UK-Indian Trade and Cross Border Investment in a Changing Global Environment' organised jointly by ICSSR-ESRC, UK, 5 March 2019, New Delhi.
- Delivered a Special Address on 'Developing effective and inclusive Science, Technology and Innovation Policies' at the STI Regional Training Workshop on Developing Effective and Inclusive Science, Technology and Innovation Policies organised by UNESCO, 6 March 2019, Faridabad.
- Chaired the Session on 'Japan's G-20 Presidency and Potential Areas for India-Japan Cooperation' at the 9th ICRIER-PRI Workshop on Global Economic Trends and India-Japan Economic Partnership on 8 March 2019, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Editors Workshop on 'Development Cooperation for Achieving the 2030 Agenda: Contested Collaboration' organised jointly by NeST, DIE and GDI on 18 March 2019 at Buenos Aires.
- Moderated Discussion on 'Advancing Frontier Research on South-South and Triangular Cooperation' organised by UNOSSC and UNDP on 19 March 2019 at Buenos Aires.
- Participated in the Expert Workshop on 'Development Cooperation for achieving the 2030 Agenda', organised by NeST, DIE, IPEA, German Development Institute and Managing Global Governance on 19 March 2019 at Buenos Aires.
- Made a presentation on 'New tools and approaches for a paradigm-shift in international co-operation' at the Side-event on 'Transition to

Sustainable Development: New pathways for co-operation to fulfil Agenda 2030 organised by OECD on 20 March 2019 at Buenos Aires.

- Participated at the Side-event on 'Contestation and Collaboration in International Development Cooperation for Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals', organised by NeST, IPEA and GDI on 21 March 2019 at Buenos Aires.
- Panelist in the BAPA+40: Interactive Panel Discussion 2 on 'Challenges and the strengthening of the institutional framework of South-South and triangular cooperation' at the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40), organised by UNOSSC and Government of Argentina, 21 March 2019 at Buenos Aires.
- Made a presentation on 'From BAPA to BAPA+40: India's contribution to South-South trade and investment' at the Side-event on 'The Power of International Value Chain in the Global South', ITC on 21 March 2019 at Buenos Aires.
- Made a presentation on 'Future of BRICS - An Indian Perspective' at the 20th Asian Security Conference organised by IDSA on 28 March 2019 at New Delhi.

Prof. S. K. Mohanty

- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on "Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)", held in the Ministry of External Affairs, on 8 January 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on 'Dialogue with Governments of State and UT', and made a presentation on 'Council for Trade Development & Promotion: Suggestions for Improved Efficiency', held in the Ministry of Commerce and Industries on 10 January 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Video Conferencing Meeting of the Steering Committee for the International Symposium on "Advances in Coastal Research with Special reference to Indo-

Contributions to Outside Policy Dialogues

- Pacific" held in the Ministry of Earth Science on 21 January 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Formal Meeting of the Blue Economy Working Group: 1 (National Accounting Framework for Blue Economy and Ocean Governance) and made a presentation on the same, organised by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister at the Ministry of Earth Science on 22 January 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the discussion meeting of the Blue Economy Working Group: 1 (National Accounting Framework for Blue Economy and Ocean Governance), organised by Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister at Ministry of Earth Science on 31 January 2019 and 19 February 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meetings on LAC Study held in the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, on 21 February 2019 and 26 March 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the discussion meeting on 'National Maritime Policy', organised by NITI Aayog on 25 February 2019, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Fifth TERI-KAS Resource Dialogue on "The Emerging Global Maritime Order - India's Strategy", organised by The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI) and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) in collaboration with the Madras Management Association (MMA) from 7-9 March 2019, at Mahabalipuram, Chennai.
- Participated in the National Conference on "India, China and the Arab World: Exploring New Dynamics" organised by India Arab Cultural Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia University on 26 March 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on India and China in the Arab World in the National Conference on "India, China and the Arab World: Exploring New Dynamics" organised by India Arab Cultural Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia University on 26 March 2019 at New Delhi.

- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on LAC Study held in the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industries on 26 March 2019, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on "India's initiative under Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) - 25th Indian Ocean Rim Academic Group (IORAG), 6th Indian Ocean Dialogue (IOD) and Meeting of Experts on Academic Science & Technology priority area in IORA", the Ministry of External Affairs on 27 March 2019 at New Delhi.

Mr Rajeev Kher Distinguished Fellow

- Participated as a Panelist in the Discussion Meeting on "Revitalizing the WTO" organised by CTIL on 12 January 2019 at New Delhi.
- Chaired in the Closed Door Workshop on India-ASEAN Economic Relationship and Implications for Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) organised by ICRIER on 16 January 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered a lecture to ITEC participants on the topic "Changing Dynamics of Global Trade" at the Centre for WTO Studies, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) on 18 January 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Member in the meeting of High Level Advisory Group (HLAG) organised by Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 22 January 2019 at New Delhi.

- Participated as Additional Director in the Board of Director's meeting of Kirloskar Brothers Limited on 25 January 2019 at Pune.
- Participated in Roundtable Discussion on "New Global Era of Digital Economies" jointly organised by Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) and Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) on 29-30 January 2019 at Jakarta.
- Participated as a Discussant in the Seminar on Asia 2050: Exploring Implications for China, India & Japan organised by ICRIER on 13 February 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated as a Panel Member in the Conference on "Science & Technology, Commerce and Society (STCS 2019) organised by DIT University on 16 February 2019 at Dehradun.
- Participated in the meeting to Review Merchandise Export from India Scheme (MEIS) organised by NITI Aayog on 21 February 2019 at New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on "Prospects for India-UK bilateral trade and investment" in the Workshop on the Future of UK-India trade and cross-border Investment in a Changing Global Environment, organised by the Indian Council of Social Science Research on 5th March 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the 'Pathfinders I Business Leaders Conference I 2019' organised by True North from 7 March to 9 March 2019 at Cochin.
- Participated in the Conference on "Future of the Digital Economy: Cross Currents in Emerging



Mr Rajeev Kher, Distinguished Fellow, RIS addressed the delegates in the Open House Discussion on "Revitalizing the Exports Growth Trajectory" organised by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 27 March 2019 at New Delhi.

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Regimes” organised by ICRIER along with Data Catalyst on 25 March 2019 at New Delhi.

- Addressed the delegates in the Open House Discussion on “Revitalizing the Exports Growth Trajectory” organised by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 27 March 2019 at New Delhi.

Prof. Amitabh Kundu

Distinguished Fellow

- Delivered a Keynote Address on “Human Development”, organised by Rabindra Bharati University on 31 January 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered a Lecture at the Vice Chancellors Workshop on “Equity in Education” organised by NUEPA on 8 February 2019 at New Delhi.
- Chaired a session and made a presentation on “Recommendations on Finance Commission Transfer to States for Forestry Sector” (IIFM Bhopal study) organised by the Ministry of Forests and Environment on 15 February 2019, as an Advisor.
- Chaired the Standing Committee Meeting and its deliberations on “Swachh Bharat Mission” on 22 February 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered a lecture at the national seminar on “Engendering Budgets & Gender Inclusive Urban Development” organised by Aligarh Muslim University on 23 February 2019 at Aligarh.
- Delivered a Keynote Address on “Migrant Children’s Education” organised by America India Foundation on 25 February 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered a Keynote Address at National Seminar on “Negotiating Nature, Culture and the Future” organised by the Presidency University on 28 Feb 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered Inaugural address at National Workshop on “Rural Distress in Contemporary India: Implications and Challenges” organised by Kumaun University on 9 March 2019 at Nainital.

- Delivered a Special Lecture at the Conference on “Social and Regional Development in India: Emerging Policy Issues” organised by the Jadavpur University, on 13 March 2019 at Kolkata.
- Delivered a Special Lecture at Leadership for Academicians’ Programme (LEAP) on “Inclusive Education” organised by Human Resource Development Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia on 14 March 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered a Valedictory Address at the Fortieth Indian Geographers Meet & International Conference on “Water Sustainability Livelihood and Climate Change” organised by Jawaharlal Nehru University on 16 March 2019 at New Delhi.
- Delivered an Inaugural address at the National Conference on “Intersectionality, Religious Minorities and Development of Women in India” organised by the Tata Institute of Social Sciences on 26 March 2019 at Mumbai.
- Delivered a Keynote Address at the National Seminar on “Informal Employment in India: Issues and Challenge” organised by Post Graduate Govt. College for Girls on 28 March 2019 at Chandigarh.
- Participated as a Panelist on “Managing Suburbanisation” organised by World Resource Institute on 29 March 2019 at New Delhi.

Prof. T. C. James

Visiting Fellow

- Delivered a talk on ‘Copyright and Plagiarism’ at the National IPR Conference organised by M.D. University, Rohtak on 19th January, 2019.
- Participated in the T20 African Standing Group Meeting on G20 and Africa: Navigating African Priorities for the G20 on 30 January 2019, in Pretoria, South Africa and presented the Policy Brief on Public Health and G20 in Africa
- Delivered key-note address on ‘Sustainable Development Goals for Public Health: Role of Traditional Medicine’ at the National Conference & Unani Day

Celebrations at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 11 February, 2019.

- Was a panellist at the international Brain Storming Session on Future of Copyright, organised by Cochin University of Science and Technology on 27 Feb 2019 and made a presentation on ‘Access to Copyrighted Works and Shrinking Public Domain: Commercial Practices’.
- Delivered keynote address on ‘Intellectual Property Rights and its various dimensions’ at the National Workshop on Awareness of Intellectual Property Rights and Training Programme at Shri Ratanlal Kanwarlal Patni Girls’ College, Kishangarh on March 30, 2019.

Dr P. K. Anand

Visiting Fellow

- Participated in the Round Table workshop to discuss the paper titled ‘Rural roads & the SDGs: may be small for engineering but definitely big on potential’ at TERI on 18 January 2019.
- Participated in the ‘Resurgent India Yuva Conclave-2019’ conference organised by the National Yuva Cooperative Society (NYCS), in association with the IIT, Delhi on 15 February 2019, New Delhi, with NITI Aayog, AICTE, STPI, policy plan of economic inclusion of youth from rural/ semi-urban areas.
- Participated as a speaker in the inaugural session of Training on the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act organised by TERI on 20 February 2019.
- Participated and made a Presentation at the National Conference on Agri-Nutrition organised by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) and other stakeholders on March 15, 2019, New Delhi.
- Participated in the meeting Chaired by Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to Prime Minister, on 19 March 2019, New Delhi on the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for SDG road

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map for the preparatory meeting on UNES global pilot programme on STI to steer the Technology Facilitation Mechanism.

- Participated in the ICMR Symposium on 'Gandhi & Health @ 150 - Footprints of ICMR's century-long journey' on 26 March 2019, organised by ICMR and National Gandhi Museum.

Mr Krishna Kumar

Visiting Fellow

- Made a Presentation at the National Conference on Agri-Nutrition organised by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) and other stakeholders on March 15, 2019 at New Delhi.
- Participated in the meeting Chaired by Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to Prime Minister, on 19th March 2019 at Prithvi Bhavan, New Delhi on the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for SDG road map for the preparatory meeting on UNES global pilot programme on STI to steer the Technology Facilitation Mechanism.

Dr K. Ravi Srinivas

Visiting Fellow

- Delivered a talk on Science Diplomacy at 'Developing Effective and Inclusive Science, Technology and Innovation Policies' Regional Training Workshop (organised by UNESCO, UIS and RCB) at Regional Center for Biotechnology (RCB), Faridabad, 8 March 2019.

Dr Sabyasachi Saha

Assistant Professor

- Participated in the Brainstorming Workshop on "SDGs in South Asia: in search of a regional framework" on 28 March 2019 in Bangkok (Made presentation on 'SDGs: Emerging Indian Experience')

- Participated in the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40) held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 21 March 2019 organised by International Trade Centre (ITC), Geneva and RIS on "The Power of International Value Chains in the Global South". Made presentation on the key findings of the chapter contributed by RIS Team on the theme 'Resurgence of the Global South'.
- Panelist at th Side Event at the Second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation (BAPA+40) held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 20 March 2019 organised by BRICS Policy Center; DCD/OECD; DIE; RIS on "Engaging Private Actors to Achieve the 2030 Agenda: Learning from South-South and Triangular Cooperation".
- Speaker in the "Resurgent India Yuva Conclave-2019" organised by National Yuva Cooperative Society (NYCS) Ltd. in association with Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi on 15th February 2019 at IIT Delhi Hauz Khas Campus New Delhi. and also delivered lecture in the session on 'Creating Opportunities in Smaller Cities and Rural Areas: Agriculture and Beyond'.
- Participation in the meeting of the T20 Japan Task Force 8 on Trade, Investment and Globalisation as Member of the Task Force on 23 January 2019 in Tokyo, Japan and contributed to the deliberations on Policy Briefs on "Reinvigorating the WTO as a Negotiating Forum" and "Expanding and Restructuring Global Value Chains for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth".

Dr Priyadarshi Dash

Assistant Professor

- Participated in the T20 Japan Africa Task Force Meeting in Pretoria, South Africa on January 29-30, 2019.
- Made presentation on "Drivers of Enhanced Economic Relations between India and Inner Asia: Trade, Investment and Connectivity" in the International Conference on 'Ganga to Volga: India's Connectivity with Inner Asia' held at the Centre for Inner Asia Studies, JNU on March 6-7, 2019.
- Made presentation on "Promoting Financial Sector Cooperation in BIMSTEC" in the International Conference on 'Revitalizing BIMSTEC: Promoting Peace through Cultural and Economic Integration' organised by Sikkim University, Gangtok on March 14-15, 2019.
- Made presentation on "India-Arab Economic Relations beyond Oil Trade" in the National Conference on 'India, China and the Arab World: Exploring New Dynamics' organised by the India-Arab Cultural centre, Jamia Millia Islamia on 25 to 26 March 2019.

Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy

Consultant, AIC at RIS

- Made a presentation on "India-Malaysia Economic Relations: Achievements and Prospects" at the Roundtable on Emerging Dynamics in Contemporary India-Malaysia Relations, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India on 5 March 2019.
- Made a presentation on "SAGAR: India's Experience in Infrastructure Development in Indo-Pacific Region" at the International Seminar on Indo-Pacific Connectivity Outlook, Padang State University, Padang, Indonesia on 11 March 2019.



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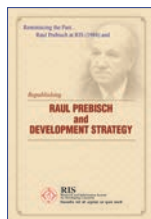


www.youtube.com/RISNewDelhi

BOOK/REPORTS



The Power of International Value Chains in the Global South
ITC and RIS, Geneva, 2019



Raul Prebisch and Development Strategy
RIS, New Delhi, 2019



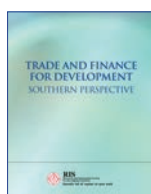
Together Towards a Healthy Future: India's Partnerships in Healthcare
RIS, New Delhi, 2019



Act East: ASEAN-India Shared Cultural Heritage, RIS, AIC, New Delhi, 2019



Southern Perspectives on Science and Technology Cooperation,
RIS, New Delhi, 2019



Trade and Finance for Development: Southern Perspective
RIS, New Delhi, 2019

RIS DISCUSSION PAPERS

- #238 **Pathways for Country's Official Statistical System to Surmount Over Policy Midget** by Krishna Kumar and P. K. Anand
- #237 **Trade in Local Currency: Illustration of India's Rupee Trade with Nepal, Iran and Russia** by Priyadarshi Dash, Monica Sharma & Gulfshan Nizami
- #236 **Government's Policies and Growth of Pharmaceutical Industry in India 1947-2018: A Review** by Prasanta Kumar Ghosh

RIS POLICY BRIEF

- # 87 **Energy Sector and Financial Markets: Opportunities for India** by Subhomoy Bhattacharjee

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DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION REVIEW

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SCIENCE DIPLOMACY REVIEW

Volume 1 No.2, January 2019

SCIENCE DIPLOMACY NEW ALERT

Issue 8 : 16-28 February 2019; Issue 7 : 01-15 February 2019;
Issue 6 : 16-31 January 2019; Issue 5 : 01-15 January 2019

Contributions to Outside Publications by RIS Faculty

- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2019. "Trade, Production and Emerging Economies: Rising Trends In Agriculture and Manufacturing" *Turkish Policy Quarterly*, Winter 2019, Vol. 17.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2019. The interim budget is all about balancing short-term needs & long-term vision. *The Economic Times*, February 03.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin and Priyadarshi Dash. 2019. "Indo-Pacific Cooperation from Indian Perspectives". *Japan Spotlight*, Vol. 38, No. 1, pp. 10-13. January/February.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin (co-author). 2019. *T20 Japan Policy Brief on 'Sustainable Financing for Development'*. March.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin (co-author). 2019. *T20 Japan Policy Brief on 'Leveraging Science, Technology and Innovation for Implementing the 2030 Agenda'*. March.
- De, Prabir, Sunetra Ghatak, and Durairaj Kumarasamy. 2019. "Assessing Economic Impacts of Connectivity Corridors in India: An Empirical Investigation". *Economic and Political Weekly*, Vol. 54, No.11
- De, Prabir and Durairaj Kumarasamy. 2019. "Assessing Linkages between Trade Costs and Trade: Applications of Gravity Model", Chapter 13 in *India's Trade Analytics: Patterns and Opportunities*, (eds.) Biswajit Nag and Debashis Chakraborty, Sage Publication, New Delhi
- Kundu, Amitabh. (co-author). 2019. "Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Man Dhan: A Critical Appraisal." *Geography and You*, 31 January.
- Kundu, Amitabh. 2019. Mobility in India: Recent Trends and Issues Concerning Database" *Social Change*, Dec-Jan.
- Kundu, Amitabh (co-author). 2019. "Migration, urbanisation and interstate inequality in India" in Haque, T. (ed.), *Social Development Report*, Dec-Jan.
- Kundu, Amitabh. 2019. "Windfall Gain for the Poor?" *Business Standard*, 23 February.
- Saha, Sabyasachi (co-author). 2019. T20 Japan Policy Brief on "Reinvigorating the WTO as a Negotiating Forum," March.
- Saha, Sabyasachi (co-author). 2019. T20 Japan Policy Brief on "Expanding and Restructuring Global Value Chains for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth," March.

Moving Together for Impacting Positively



Amb. Anil Sooklal

Deputy Director General,
Department of International
Relations and Cooperation,
South Africa and
Senior Adjunct Fellow, RIS

Since the G7 was formed, for about three decades, global agenda setting was decided not at UN General Assembly, it was decided by the G7 and later the so called G8. Then following the 1997-98 financial crisis, the idea of a G20 was floated to address the challenges facing the global economic and financial environment. Gradually, its agenda was expanded. Due to the interconnectedness of the global environment, you can't avoid the Agenda being expanded constantly. With the Global South rising, they also wanted a global platform to get their voice heard. In the late 2000s, we tried to create a G-South to address the continued marginalisation of the South. But due to 9/11, that was aborted. However, its offshoot was IBSA, which was launched in 2003. Jim O'Neill got a lot of credit for coming up with this term BRICs with a small 's'. However, South Africa was not there. He was upset when we made it a big 'S'. But if that bloc really wanted to be a representative of the global South, it could not leave out

Africa. That is how South Africa became a full member of the BRICS. Now BRICS is here to stay, and is making an impact in shaping the global geopolitical economic architecture. The BRICS agenda started out modestly. Its focus initially was on economic and financial cooperation. But as we started cooperating, the agenda started growing substantially. We realise that as BRICS partners, we can't just concentrate on the cooperation between ourselves. We have to look at the impact we have on the larger world as well. BRICS must encourage cooperation and partnership with regional and global bodies. When China hosted in 2017, it introduced the 'BRICS plus' concept. In that you don't just invite from your region but you invite other developing countries to reshape the global governance architecture. BRICS must cover tracks including intergovernmental, private sector, people-to-people, academia and think-tanks. Though there are vast areas of differences, we try to cooperate and align positions. Rise of unilateralism and protectionism are undermining the WTO. It is the poor and underdeveloped countries that get hurt the most. So we have to ensure that BRICS come together as a grouping to address these issues. None of us can afford to step back even if we wanted to, because the benefits of being part of this configuration for all of us and for the larger global community far outweighs us having reservations on some aspect of how the BRICS work. Last year, we had the focus on the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the 'future of work' and health-related issues, which are relevant areas where we can cooperate. We have floated the idea of a BRICS Research Centre focusing on communicable diseases, an area where we can develop our own technology. We have to innovate ourselves and put together our own resources. If we can put money together and create a (BRICS) Bank, why not in other areas of cooperation where we have the creative energy and where we have the edge in terms of the rising South. There are and there will always be differences. But cooperation in the fundamental areas and a desire to move together in impacting positively on the global environment is very strong.

This year we are observing the 150th birth anniversary of Gandhiji and we are also celebrating the 100th birth anniversary of Nelson Mandela. We look at the many parallels in the lives of these two great icons and stalwarts of the 20th century. Nelson Mandela speaks of the impact that Gandhiji had on his life and how it shaped his philosophy. The indignity of racism, colonialism, apartheid characterised the life of Gandhi and the people he came to serve in South Africa. That is why we claim Gandhi as our own. The Gandhi that came to South Africa was very well attired. But when he left South Africa, he was transformed mentally and physically. We must reflect on the message in this transformation. You have this saying, *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (the world is one family) in India. In Africa, we have *Ubuntu* concept or 'I am because you are', which means I cannot concentrate on my well being alone without taking care of your well being as well, because if you are poor, so am I. Gandhi's philosophy of Satyagraha and *ahimsa* are relevant even today as we live in such a violent world. When the SDGs were adopted, the catchphrases were 'let us create an inclusive society', 'leave no one behind' and 'sustainable development'. Gandhi spoke of these long before. We have to ask what kind of world we want to shape today, and how collectively we can draw on these two great leaders? Let us keep their legacy alive. It is left to each one of us to ensure that the fundamental values of human rights, non-discrimination, freedom of thought and speech are intact. Whatever we do, it must be a people centric world. And Gandhi's philosophy was people centric. And this is the message we have to imbibe. We must ensure that the Gandhi in each and every one of us is kept alive because there is a Gandhi in each and every one of us.

Excerpts from the lectures delivered by Ambassador Anil Sooklal on "Among Emerging Economies and Global Governance: Lessons from BRICS Experience" and "Relevance of Gandhi in the 21st century" at Thiruvananthapuram and Pondicherry.