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Message

I am happy that the 9th edition of the Delhi Dialogue is being jointly hosted by the Ministry of External Affairs, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry and the Observer Research Foundation from July 4-5, 2017. On behalf of the Government of India, I extend a very warm welcome to all the participants.

This year India and ASEAN celebrate 25 years of their Dialogue Partnership, 15 years of Summit Level interaction and 5 years of Strategic Partnership. Honouring the long standing friendship, the theme for this year’s Dialogue is aptly titled ‘Charting the Course for India-ASEAN Relations for the Next 25 Years.’ At a time when the world is experiencing a number of complex challenges and transitions, consolidating and institutionalising old friendships is key to the growth and stability of our region.

I am confident the different panels of the Delhi Dialogue will discuss the various dimensions of the theme and throw new light into the possible ways for India and ASEAN to move forward on common traditional and non-traditional challenges. I convey my best wishes for the success of the deliberation and truly believe that this partnership will define the region’s future.

Sushma Swaraj
Message by Smt. Preeti Saran
Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, India

THE DELHI DIALOGUE is an important platform for discussions on geo-political issues between India and ASEAN member states. The year 2017 is a landmark year, as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the ASEAN-India Dialogue Partnership. We are delighted that the 9th edition of the Delhi Dialogue has elicited such an overwhelming response. We warmly welcome senior leaders, thinkers and strategic experts from all the ASEAN countries who are participating in this Dialogue. The choice of its theme — Charting the Course for India-ASEAN Relations for the Next 25 Years — will provide an important opportunity to identify new areas of cooperation. It will also help to address and find solutions to challenges faced in our region.

The Asia-Pacific region is one of the most dynamic regions, spearheading the global economy. The establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015 was a major breakthrough in regional economic integration. ASEAN and India are natural partners in shaping the regional architecture to ensure economic prosperity.

I would like to thank the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry and the Observer Research Foundation for joining us to host the Delhi Dialogue this year. I would also like to extend my warmest greetings to all the participants of this Dialogue.
Message by Dr A. Didar Singh
Secretary General, FICCI

India and ASEAN share a strong relationship that transcends time. In the recent years, the economic reforms of 1991 which guided India’s transition into an open and liberalised economy were closely followed by the announcement of the ‘Look East Policy’ indicating that India considered ASEAN region its natural ally with promising complementarities and historic linkages.

The new re-christened “Act East Policy” by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India not only seeks to revive and reinvigorate India’s relations with ASEAN but expand the country’s engagement beyond the region making it a strong and powerful group.

As India-ASEAN celebrate 25 years of its dialogue partnership, it is time for the two to review the past and suggest ways to further strengthen the relations. FICCI has been working towards creating opportunities for the industry on both sides to explore new areas for collaboration. As part of the celebrations of the 25 years, FICCI is working on several projects showcasing the partnership in different areas.

The Delhi Dialogue, an annual track 1.5 forum to discuss politico-security, economic and socio-cultural engagement between ASEAN and India has over the years established itself as the most important strategic dialogue between the two regions.

During this year’s Delhi Dialogue FICCI in association with FICCI Ladies organization and the ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs Network will be launching the India-ASEAN Women Business Forum. This forum aims to bring together women entrepreneurs and professionals of India and ASEAN member countries to engage, interact and recognise the increasing contribution of women leaders and the significant

“The Delhi Dialogue, an annual track 1.5 forum to discuss politico-security, economic and socio-cultural engagement between ASEAN and India has over the years established itself as the most important strategic dialogue between the two regions.”
role they play in the economic and trade relations between India and ASEAN.

I take this opportunity to thank the Ministry of External Affairs for giving FICCI the opportunity to be associated with Delhi Dialogue since its inception.

I am certain that the deliberations at this year’s conference will open up new avenues of cooperation between India and ASEAN and will chart the course for the next 25 years.
Message by Mr Sunjoy Joshi  
Director, Observer Research Foundation (ORF)

It gives me great pleasure to welcome distinguished leaders and thinkers from India and ASEAN to the ninth edition of the Delhi Dialogue, a joint initiative of India’s Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) and Observer Research Foundation (ORF).

The Delhi Dialogue is an Indian initiative to host ASEAN’s leaders and thinkers and engage them in a discussion on emerging global issues affecting the region and articulating India’s vision and polices towards its East.

The Delhi Dialogue has become a melting pot of ideas where political, strategic and military leaders from ASEAN and India discuss the most pressing issues of the region. The theme of the conference ‘Charting The Course For India-ASEAN Relations for the Next 25 Years’, seeks to provoke conversations in this direction.

Many of our assumptions of the last 70 years around globalisation, free trade, traditional and non-traditional security, climate change and many other such fields are being challenged. There is an opportunity for us in India and ASEAN countries to be co-creators of the new alternates that will fashion much of the 21st century that lies ahead of us.

We have tried to bring together key questions around the themes on trade, security, cyber and climate change and hope these deliberations form the basis for cooperation in our quest for peace and security in our region and the world.

We welcome you all again and look forward to these deliberations over the next two days.

“Many of our assumptions of the last 70 years around globalisation, free trade, traditional and non-traditional security, climate change and many other such fields are being challenged. There is an opportunity for us in India and ASEAN countries to be co-creators of the new alternates that will fashion much of the 21st century that lies ahead of us.”
INTRODUCTION

to The Delhi Dialogue 2017
RECOGNISING the need for greater engagement with the ASEAN region, the Delhi Dialogue is an international conference to chart, for leaders and business investors, the issues and dynamics facing the Asia-Pacific region. The inaugural Delhi Dialogue, on 21-22 January 2009, was supported by India’s Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). It was organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and the SAEA Group Research (SAEA) with the institutional support of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS).
Delhi Dialogue I, 21-22 January 2009

Beginning as an annual track II conference focusing on Asian security cooperation and economic concerns, the Delhi Dialogue I was inaugurated by H.E. Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the then Minister for External Affairs, and H.E. Dr Surin Pitsuwan, the then ASEAN Secretary-General. The two-day conference hosted an estimated 250 participants and dealt incisively with three key topics: Energy Security: The Way Forward for ASEAN and India; Global Financial Turmoil: Economic Security Concerns for India and ASEAN; and India-ASEAN Connectivity, Logistics and Security Concerns.

Delhi Dialogue II, 21-22 January 2010

Continuing along the same line, the Delhi Dialogue II focused on regional security and cooperation with the theme of *Examining India and Southeast Asia in the Changing Regional Economic Dynamics of Asia: Shared Interests and Concerns*. The then External Affairs Minister of India, H. E. Shri S.M. Krishna and the then Deputy ASEAN Secretary General H.E. Mr Pushpanathan Sundram graced the Delhi Dialogue II.

Delhi Dialogue III, 3-4 March 2011

The third in the series, Delhi Dialogue III, was hosted by India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in partnership with the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and FICCI, together with the support of ISEAS, SAEA Group Research, and ERIA. The theme of the third edition was *Beyond the First Twenty Years of India-ASEAN Engagement*. A number of ASEAN ministers and high-level dignitaries participated in the Dialogue. It emerged during the discussion that both India and ASEAN should proactively engage each other in the politico-socio and economic spheres. The Dialogue provided an additional avenue for policy makers, think tanks, academics and business leaders to deliberate on new policy areas and find innovative solutions to challenges facing the region.

Delhi Dialogue IV, 13-14 February 2012

Celebrating two decades of their engagement, the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi, in partnership with Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), and supported by the Institute of South East Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore, and the SAEA Group Research (SAEA), Singapore, organized the Delhi Dialogue on 13-14 February 2012 in New Delhi. The theme for the Delhi Dialogue IV was *India and ASEAN: Partners for Peace, Progress and Stability*, which highlighted India’s increasing engagement with ASEAN and explored options for consolidation of the relationship in the coming years.
Delhi Dialogue V, 19-20 February 2013

The Indian-ASEAN Delhi Dialogue V, titled India-ASEAN: Vision for Partnership and Prosperity was held on 19-20 February 2013 in New Delhi. This Dialogue highlighted India’s increasing engagement with ASEAN countries and explored means to strengthen the relationship in the coming years. The Dialogue also attempted to assess and incorporate issues and perspectives that had emerged from the India-ASEAN Commemorative Summit 2012 to help identify areas of greater engagement between India and ASEAN countries.

Delhi Dialogue VI, 6-7 March 2014

The India-ASEAN Delhi Dialogue VI, titled Realising the ASEAN-India Vision for Partnership and Prosperity was held on 6-7 March 2014 in New Delhi. This conference was divided into four sessions in which the participants spoke and deliberated upon the following themes: Translating the Vision Statement Role of Northeast India in India’s Look East Policy, Regional Architecture in Asia-Pacific: Roles of India and ASEAN, and Delhi Dialogue: The Way Forward. The Dialogue was organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, in partnership with the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), and supported by the Institute of South Asian Studies, Singapore (ISAS), SAEA Group Research, Singapore, and Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta.

Delhi Dialogue VII, 11-12 March 2015

The India-ASEAN Delhi Dialogue VII, with the theme ASEAN-India: Shaping the Post-2015 Agenda, was scheduled for 11-12 March 2015, in New Delhi. The Business Session, with participation of CEOs from ASEAN and India, formed an integral part of the dialogue. It had two panel discussions, the first: ASEAN Economic Community: Benefits for the ASEAN and Indian Industry, and the second: Trade in Services as Driver for Future Economic Cooperation: Views from India & ASEAN.

In the academic discussions the next day, the main theme was taken up in four sessions: Geopolitical Issues (Maritime Security and Cyber Security); Socio-Cultural Issues; Economic Issues; The Way Forward. The Dialogue was once again organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, in partnership with the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA); the ASEAN-India Centre at RIS; the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA); Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI); Institute of South Asian Studies, (ISAS), Singapore; SAEA Group Research, Singapore; Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta; Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS), Malay-
sia; Institute of Security and International Studies (ISIS), Thailand; and Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV). The associates were All India Association of Industries (AIAI); The Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM); Indian Chambers of Commerce (ICC); Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER); and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). The partners and associates organised some run-up events prior to Delhi Dialogue VII.

**Delhi Dialogue VIII, 17-19 February 2016**

Delhi Dialogue VIII, with the theme *ASEAN-India Relations: A New paradigm*, took place on 17-19 February 2016. The Business Session was a full day event with private sector participation from India and ASEAN countries. The Ministerial Session had two panel discussions, the first: Connectivity Creating Pathways to a Shared Future, and the second: ASEAN Economic Community and India: Integrating Regional Value Chains and Production Networks. The Academic Session had four sub-sessions: ASEAN and the Security of the Asia Pacific, ASEAN–India and the Ocean Economy Dynamics, Reinvigorating the Civilizational Links, and Way Forward: Towards 25th Anniversary of ASEAN-India Relations.

The Dialogue was organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, in partnership with the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) along with other partners and associates.

**Delhi Dialogue IX, 4-5 July 2017**

Delhi Dialogue IX, with the theme *Charting the Course for India-ASEAN Relations for the Next 25 Years*, is scheduled to be held in New Delhi on 4-5 July 2017. This year, we are celebrating 25 years of India-ASEAN Dialogue Partnership, 15 years of Summit Level interaction and 5 years of our Strategic Partnership, which coincides with ASEAN’s own golden jubilee. The commemorative 9th edition will see deliberations spanning two days on the nature, direction and priorities of our engagement over three sessions – Ministerial, Business and Academic – and will also endeavour to prepare a roadmap for the Golden Jubilee of ASEAN-India relations.

The Dialogue is organised by the Ministry of External Affairs, India in collaboration with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), with the support of other partners and associates.
CONCEPT NOTE

for The Delhi Dialogue 2017

DELHI DIALOGUE is an annual Track 1.5 forum for discussing politico-security, economic and socio-cultural issues between ASEAN and India. Since 2009 when the conference was first held, Delhi Dialogue has emerged as an important forum at which political leaders, policy makers, researchers, academicians, business leaders and media persons converge to brainstorm on a range of issues pertaining to ASEAN-India relations.

As the global community grapples with issues ranging from a lack of strategic stability, increasing non-compliance with a rule-based approach and rising trade protectionism, Asia needs countries who can preserve current multilateral rules and foster new ones that undergird the liberal and progressive international order that we cherish.
India and the ASEAN are two actors that are taking lead in playing an indispensable role in forging a rules-based regional architecture, which is open, inclusive and equitable, as well as in finding new approaches to address current geopolitical uncertainties. At the 14th ASEAN India Summit held in Vientiane in September 2016, Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, affirmed that India and ASEAN are driven by common strategic priorities of securing our societies and bringing peace, stability and prosperity to the region. Our ties are a source of balance and harmony in the region.

This year, we are celebrating 25 years of our Dialogue Partnership, 15 years of our Summit Level interaction and 5 years of our Strategic Partnership, coinciding with ASEAN’s own golden jubilee. The celebrations commenced with the exchange of congratulatory messages between Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and H.E. Rodrigo Roa Duterte, President of the Philippines and ASEAN Chair for 2017 on 28 January 2017. A series of events are being undertaken throughout the commemorative year both in India and in ASEAN countries, on the theme “Shared Values, Common Destiny.” Our celebrations span the politico-security, economic, and socio-cultural pillars of engagement and will greatly strengthen and deepen ASEAN-India strategic partnership for peace, progress and shared prosperity. They will go a long way in promoting people-to-people links between ASEAN countries and India.

In the past 25 years, all three pillars of our partnership – security, economic and socio-cultural – have registered good progress. While celebrating the strong foundations of our shared values, we need to work together to chart our future course of action to strengthen our common destiny. To address this need, the 9th edition of Delhi Dialogue is themed ‘Charting the Course for India-ASEAN relations for the Next 25 Years.’

The commemorative 9th edition will see deliberations on the nature, direction and priorities of our engagement over three sessions – Ministerial, Business and Academic – spanning two days and will also endeavour to prepare a roadmap for the Golden Jubilee of ASEAN-India relations.

**Day 1: 4th July 2017—Ministerial Session**

The External Affairs Minister, dignitaries from ASEAN countries and Chief Ministers of North-Eastern States of India will inaugurate the Ministerial Session. It will include a keynote speech by the External Affairs Minister and two panel discussions:
(i) Waters of Asia: Cultural, Social and Political Ties and (ii) Technology, Innovation and Big Data. Panelists would be Heads of Delegation from the ASEAN countries and Chief Ministers of the North-Eastern States of India.

Panel Discussion I
Waters of Asia: Cultural, Social and Political Ties
Rivers have been the lifeline and spiritual inspiration for people. Rivers have connected cultures and shaped civilisations in the flow of time. India and the countries of ASEAN are essentially riverine cultures, flourishing on the banks of the Ganga, Brahmaputra, Irrawaddy, Salween and Mekong, which have shaped the lives and livelihoods of millions of people in the region. India is also one of the only two Dialogue Partners that shares both maritime and land boundaries with ASEAN countries. In this context, the panel will deliberate upon the socio-political economy of water and discuss issues such as the need for a rules-based maritime order in the Asia-Pacific; cooperation among regional states to develop maritime infrastructure and their ability to exercise greater control over their exclusive economic zones; feasibility of developing a seamless chain of maritime security coalitions spanning the Asia-Pacific as well as increasing stress on bilateral cooperation among states in the maritime domain.

Day 2: 5th July 2017—Business and Academic Sessions

BUSINESS SESSION

Panel Discussion I
International Economic Trends and Their Impact on India and ASEAN
The world is experiencing tectonic shifts in economics and politics both in terms of discourse and practice. In Europe, the Macron Presidency and Germany appear set to look at changing EU treaties in order to allow a further integration of the Euro Zone and the UK grapples with uncertainties of BREXIT even as the continent battles terror and contemplates tightening of asylum laws. The US faces increasing isolationism post its pullout from the Paris climate pact and shifting direction in trade, immigration while in the East, driven by ASEAN, regional integration is gaining momentum. Amidst pervasive rise of protectionism, global economic growth is expected to strengthen in 2017 according to the World Bank’s recent Global Economic Prospects. In Asia, India retains its lead as the fastest growing major economy in the world with the World Bank projecting more than 7 per cent growth over the next few years. Panelists would assess how these developments will impact India and the ASEAN and how both India and ASEAN can turn these developments into advantage for each other.
Panel Discussion II
India-ASEAN Trade Relations

Over the last one year the global trading regime has gone through an unexpected turbulence because of the change in US administration and BREXIT result. The ‘America-First’ trade policy, as stated in the ‘2017 Trade Policy Agenda and rising clamor for protectionism in developed nations is likely to impact the export prospects of both India and ASEAN because of their high dependence on these markets. While this new scenario throws open a big challenge for them, at the same time provides an opportunity to strengthen their trade and investment relations. The ASEAN-India economic integration process has got a fillip with the creation of the ASEAN-India Free Trade Area in July 2015, following the entry into force of the ASEAN-India Trade in Services and Investment Agreements. Conclusion of a balanced Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement will further boost our trade and investment ties with the region. Given this new emerging challenges on global trading landscape, the panelists would examine: ways for ASEAN and India to leverage the existing institutional arrangements including FTA to increase bilateral trade and investment flows; how the Indian and ASEAN business communities mutually benefit from the coming into existence of the ASEAN Economic Community; what measures should be taken in order to enhance bilateral trade figures between India and ASEAN.

Panel Discussion III
India-ASEAN Partnership: Building Regional Network to Promote SMEs and Women’s Empowerment

SMEs are an integral part of the ASEAN and Indian economy. SMEs have contributed significantly in terms of employment, exports, entrepreneurial activity and economic empowerment and played an essential role in the economic success of ASEAN countries as well as India. Increasing SME cross border activities across India and ASEAN will help in boosting economic growth and development and will further increase their competitiveness. Women entrepreneurs who form an important part of the SME sector face economic, social and cultural obstacles such as access to finance, legal issues and societal pressures. The Panelists would deliberate upon capacity building; integration with global value chain; application of innovative technologies and women empowerment in the SME sector.

Panel Discussion IV
India-ASEAN Infrastructure Investments: Current Scenario and the Way Forward

Infrastructure decisions and investments made in coming years will be vital to efforts to meet our shared objective to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and to promote quality infrastructure development, which ensures economic efficiency in view of life cycle cost, safe-
ty, resilience and sustainability, job creation, capacity building, transfer of expertise and know-how. Infrastructure development, as a means to uplift living standards of our peoples, resolve urban transport problems, meet the increasing energy demand, enhance connectivity and increase trade and investment within the region, contributes to the region’s sustainable economic development. The Panelists would focus on India-ASEAN Partnership in developing infrastructure in the ASEAN region and deliberate upon ways to support and facilitate regional cooperation in sustainable infrastructure development initiatives, including resource mobilization, sharing of expertise, best practices and, management and sustainable use of natural resources.

Panel Discussion V

Trade & Tourism through Connectivity—Focus North-East & East

Improvement of trade between India and a few ASEAN countries has happened through developing the existing trade infrastructure, functionalizing proposed Land Custom Stations (LCSs), removal of several Tariff and Non-Tariff Barriers and simplifying the existing documentation processes through application of IT & ITeS etc. The India-ASEAN trade started growing remarkably after the coming into force of India–ASEAN FTA. The establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015 is another milestone in the regional economic integration agenda in ASEAN, ensuring people to people connect and offering opportunities in the form of a huge market of US$2.6 trillion and over 622 million people. The Panelists would focus on issues like: Reviewing emerging trends in trade and investment relationship among ASEAN countries; Need for investments in the Connectivity Infrastructure Projects; Way Ahead for enhanced People to People connect in ASEAN; How North-East region can take advantage.

ACADEMIC SESSION

Panel Discussion I
Regional Geopolitics: Great Power Politics in the Asia-Pacific

ASEAN is at the centre of geopolitical developments in Asia, often engineered by major powers. With the rise of China and India, and apparent shift in USA’s ‘Pivot to Asia’, the importance of ASEAN countries has increased. ASEAN as a regional multilateral organisation will be a principal agent shaping the outcomes of power struggles in the larger Asia-Pacific. Apart from establishing strong relations with ASEAN, India has taken the lead in crafting regional initiatives, such as Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) and Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC). India is also an active participant in several ASEAN-centric regional forums like the East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), ASEAN Defense Minister’s Meeting-Plus (ADMM+) and Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF). Panel-
ists will assess the larger geopolitical impulses at play in Asia, taking note of specific developments that heighten concerns around the security and stability of its common spaces.

Panel Discussion II
New Connectivity Paradigms in the Asia-Pacific
As recent developments in Asia indicate, connectivity projects have both economic as well as political dimensions. As new connectivity projects bring together communities, countries and economies in the region, Asian powers should assess whether they will create new rules or play by the existing ones. Like other major powers, India too wants to cultivate economic and trade relations by promoting connectivity in the region. This panel will evaluate the current state of progress of connectivity projects involving India and the ASEAN partners. In addition, it will take stock of other trans-regional connectivity projects, such as China’s Belt and Road Initiative, and their impact on existing political configurations in Asia.

Panel Discussion III
Technology, Innovation & Big Data
ASEAN-India science and technology collaboration formally started in 1996 with the establishment of ASEAN India S&T working group (AIWGST). To further boost collaboration, India established a dedicated fund named ASEAN India S&T Development Fund (AISTDF) in 2008 that would support R&D projects and associated activities. Emphasis of this collaboration has been on the areas of health, environment, biodiversity, and outer space, among others. Being an early adopter of technological advancements, the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) is set to become one of the world’s biggest single markets in the future. One of the most prominent game-changing trends that has contributed to the rapid economic transformation of the AEC is Big Data. India and ASEAN are also alive to the promise of the digital economy boom, which requires governments and businesses to incubate new technologies and manage the disruption caused by automation to their workforces. The panelists will assess the current state of collaboration between India and ASEAN, and consider how contemporary trends in technology, innovation and Big Data can be used to enhance collaboration.

Panel Discussion IV
Socio-Cultural engagement and Diaspora Links
An essential aspect of the ASEAN-India partnership is the people-to-people connectivity and cultural relations. The presence of a significant Indian diaspora in Southeast Asian countries further enhances diplomatic, economic and security relations between India and ASEAN. This panel will reflect on the ongoing socio-cultural engagement between ASEAN nations and India, and explore ways to take the engagement forward. The panelists will also discuss specific ways in which the Indian
diaspora can contribute to future progress in India-ASEAN relations.

CONCLUDING SESSION
Select panelists from the Business and Academic Sessions will get together at this session to chart a roadmap for India-ASEAN relations in the next 25 years.

OUTCOME
The main outcome of Delhi Dialogue IX will be a summary of proceedings encapsulating panel discussions and recommendations of the panelists.
Ministerial Session

Panel Discussion I: Waters of Asia: Cultural, Social and Political Ties
Rivers have been the lifeline and spiritual inspiration for people. Rivers have connected cultures and shaped civilisations in the flow of time. India and the countries of ASEAN are essentially riverine cultures, flourishing on the banks of the Ganga, Brahmaputra, Irrawaddy, Salween and Mekong, which have shaped the lives and livelihoods of millions of people in the region. Yet, questions are now emerging regarding the sustainability of these rivers both because of environmental degradation and due to policies of upper riparian states. China’s infrastructural development in the high Himalayas threatens lower riparian states in South Asia and Southeast Asia. Maritime encroachments in Southeast Asian waters have also emerged as one of the major challenges in recent years. The waters of Asia are becoming increasingly contested.

India is one of the only two Dialogue Partners that shares both maritime and land boundaries with ASEAN countries. This shared geography provides a platform for both to engage in a dialogue on issues concerning rivers and maritime waters. In this context, the panel will deliberate the political economy of water and discuss issues such as the need for a rules-based maritime order in the Asia-Pacific; cooperation among regional states to develop maritime infrastructure and their ability to exercise greater control over their exclusive economic zones; and the feasibility of developing a seamless chain of maritime security coalitions spanning the Asia-Pacific as well as increasing stress on bilateral cooperation among states in the maritime domain.

Academic Session

Panel Discussion I: Regional Geopolitics: Great Power Politics in the Asia-Pacific
ASEAN is at the centre of geopolitical developments in Asia, often engineered by major powers. With the rise of China and India, and the apparent shift in USA’s ‘Pivot to Asia,’ the importance of ASEAN countries has increased. ASEAN as a regional multilateral organisation would be a principal agent shaping the outcomes of power struggles in the larger Asia-Pacific. Apart from establishing strong relations
with ASEAN, India has taken the lead in creating regional initiatives, such as the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) and Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC). India is also an active participant in several ASEAN-centric regional forums like the East Asia Summit (EAS), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), ASEAN Defense Minister’s Meeting-Plus (ADMM+) and Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (EAMF).

If ASEAN is going to shape the future of Asian geopolitics, the time is ripe to debate its role in three major areas. The first concerns the balance of power in the Indo-Pacific. China’s assertiveness in the region, manifested in its claims over the South China Sea, is a reflection of how altering power equations can create instability in the region. This strategic flux also has ramifications for the rules and norms guiding state behaviour in the larger Asian space. ASEAN, which has always championed the cause of peaceful settlement of disputes and freedom of navigation in international waters, has a challenging task ahead in this period of increasing geopolitical turmoil. Asian geopolitics is steadily moving towards a scenario where use of force and armed conflict may become a principle element in inter-state interaction. Lastly, ASEAN has to rethink some of its internal chasms, which hinder its effective functioning as a neutral arbiter in the region’s various territorial and maritime disputes. Most importantly, it has not been able to devise a coherent strategy towards the power transition where China’s ascendance is replacing US hegemony. Internal division within the ASEAN has circumscribed the organisation’s influence in shaping the current trajectory of Asian geopolitics.

Panelists will assess the larger geopolitical impulses at play in Asia, taking note of specific developments that heighten concerns around the security and stability of its common spaces. In this larger debate, India’s role in strengthening ASEAN’s influence and synergising the bilateral partnership in stabilising the region is equally important.

Panel Discussion II: New Connectivity Paradigms in the Asia-Pacific
As recent developments in Asia indicate, connectivity projects have both economic as well as political dimensions. As new connectivity projects bring together communities, countries and economies in the region, Asian powers should assess whether they will create new rules or play by the existing ones. Principle among the concerns on connectivity are issue of territorial sovereignty, economic sustainability and se-
curity. Democratic decision-making and equal dialogue among various stakeholders is a pre-requisite for inter-state cooperation. Connectivity projects must therefore be a result of dialogue and debate rather than top-down decision-making by a few. Otherwise, such connectivity projects may appear to be drivers of economic hegemony. Rather than fomenting economic cooperation and prosperity, such economic initiatives may only lead to competition, both economic and military.

Like other major powers, India too wants to cultivate economic and trade relations by promoting connectivity in the region. The principle point of debate therefore is what India offers in this regard and what ASEAN expects from New Delhi. India-ASEAN cooperation on regional connectivity has a potential to lay the groundwork of an alternative conception of cooperation on connectivity issues. India and ASEAN therefore need to evaluate their respective approaches, develop synergies and address deficiencies when it comes to cooperation on connectivity. Cooperation on infrastructure development needs institutionalisation within the ASEAN-India bilateral relationship, borrowing from the best practices of both sides. Completion of projects must be a high priority especially when it comes to linking India’s North-East with the Southeast Asian landmass.

This panel will evaluate the current state of progress of connectivity projects involving India and the ASEAN partners. In addition, it will take stock of other trans-regional connectivity projects, such as China’s Belt and Road Initiative, and their impact on existing political configurations in Asia.

Panel Discussion III: Technology, Innovation & Big Data

ASEAN-India science and technology collaboration formally started in 1996 with the establishment of ASEAN India S&T Working Group (AIWGST). To further boost collaboration, India established a dedicated fund named ASEAN India S&T Development Fund (AISTDF) in 2008 that would support R&D projects and associated activities. Emphasis of this collaboration has been on the areas of health, environment, biodiversity, and outer space, among others. Being an early adopter of technological advancements, the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) is set to become one of the world’s biggest single markets in the future. One of the most prominent game-changing trends that has contributed to the rapid economic transformation of the AEC is Big Data. India and ASEAN are also alive to the promise of the digital economy boom, which requires governments and businesses to incubate new technologies and manage the disruption caused by automation to their workforces. India has recently launched a satellite for the South Asian nations and space is emerging
as a major avenue for regional cooperation and integration. Tangible cooperation in outer space, including agriculture, weather forecasts and knowledge dissemination, can immensely benefit both India and ASEAN. The panelists will assess the current state of collaboration between India and ASEAN and consider how contemporary trends in technology, innovation and Big Data can be used to enhance collaboration.

Cybersecurity is a key component of this conversation, as only a secure digital ecosystem can foster innovation and guarantee the integrity of Big Data. The Delhi Dialogue is an opportunity for both sides to evaluate the progress made by the international community in creating cyber norms, especially as it relates to the protection of critical infrastructure and digital networks. The ASEAN Regional Forum in recent years has mooted the creation of regional Confidence-Building Measures (CBMs) in cyberspace and proposed working towards a common understanding of cybersecurity issues. With threats to cyberstability on the rise, a regional consensus on security becomes important, which India and ASEAN can jointly incubate and promote.

Another element of dialogue and cooperation on cyber issues is digital trade. ASEAN and India can conceptualise a common minimum framework for digital trade to ensure the free flow of information and help the integration of the region’s markets. Panelists at the Delhi Dialogue will also take stock of ongoing multilateral and bilateral negotiations to foster electronic commerce and digital trade.

Panel Discussion IV: Socio-Cultural Engagement and Diaspora Links
An essential aspect of the ASEAN-India partnership is people-to-people and cultural relations. The presence of a significant Indian diaspora in Southeast Asian countries further enhances diplomatic, economic and security relations between India and ASEAN. Religious and civilisational ties have connected the two regions historically. Indian epics have influenced Southeast Asia’s culture and tradition; the religion of Buddhism connects the two regions spiritually. This historical interaction has also shaped lingual, cultural and culinary milieus of the two. Indian languages have influenced local dialects in Southeast Asia; Indian cuisine has left a similar impression. These linkages have always been a binding factor in India-ASEAN relations.

India and ASEAN are targeting tourism as an important element in their socio-cultural interaction. There are considerable opportunities for this sector to grow cementing a mutually beneficial relationship. India and ASEAN also require more people-to-people contacts. Students and education can be a major element in this endeavour.

This panel will reflect on the ongoing socio-cultural engagement between ASEAN nations and India, and explore ways to take the engagement forward. The panelists will also discuss specific ways in which the Indian diaspora can contribute to future progress in India-ASEAN relations.
### Agenda

**Venue:** Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi

**Day 1: MINISTERIAL SESSION**

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| 11:00-17:30 | **Registration**  
Venue: Roshanara Hall / Sheesh Mahal |
| 16:00     | **All invitees requested to be seated at Shah Jehan Hall** |
| 16:15     | **Commencement of Ministerial Session**  
Mr Ashok Malik, Distinguished Fellow, Observer Research Foundation (ORF), India, calls the house to order and conducts the session |
| 16:30-16:35 | **Welcome Remarks by Dr Jyotsna Suri**  
Past President, FICCI and CMD, The Lalit Suri Hospitality Group |
| 16:35-16:40 | **Special Address by Smt. Preeti Saran**  
Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, India |
| 16:40-16:55 | **Keynote Address by Smt. Sushma Swaraj**  
Hon’ble Minister of External Affairs, India |
| 16:55–17:15 | **Addresses by Cabinet Ministers from ASEAN countries**  
- **H.E. Mr Pham Binh Minh**  
Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs, Viet Nam  
- **H.E. Mr U Kyaw Tint Swe**  
Union Minister, Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor, Myanmar |
| 17:15-17:25 | **Address by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal**  
Chief Minister of Assam |
| 17:25–17:30 | **Inaugural Address by H.E. Mr Hirubalan V. P.**  
Deputy Secretary-General, Political-Security Community Department, ASEAN Secretariat |
| 17:30-17:35 | **Electronic Launch of India-ASEAN Women Business Forum (IAWBF)**  
by Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon’ble Minister of External Affairs, India  
in presence of Indian and ASEAN Co-Chairs:  
- ASEAN Co-Chair: **Ms Pacita Juan**  
Chair, ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs Network (AWEN)  
- Indian Co-Chair: **Ms Vinita Bhimbhet**  
Immediate Past President, FICCI Ladies Organisation (FLO) |
<p>| 17:35-17:40 | <strong>Vote of thanks by Dr Samir Saran, Vice President, ORF</strong> |
| 17:40-17:45 | <strong>ASEAN Ministers/Heads of Delegation and Chief Ministers of North-Eastern States invited on stage for family photo</strong> |</p>
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<th>Time</th>
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| 17:45-18:30  | **Panel Discussion: Waters of Asia: Cultural, Social and Political Ties** | **General (Dr) V. K. Singh (Retd)** Minister of State for External Affairs, India  
**H.E. Mr Dato Erywan Pehin Yusof** Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam  
**H.E. Dr Sok Siphana** Advisor to the Royal Government, Cambodia  
**H.E. Mr Sengphet Houngbounngnouang** Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lao People's Democratic Republic  
**H.E. Dr Maliki Osman** Senior Minister of Defence, Singapore  
**H.E. Mr Virasakdi Futrakul** Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Thailand  
**Moderator:** **Shri Sanjeev Sanyal** Principal Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance, India |
| 18:30-19:15  | Reception hosted by **Smt. Preeti Saran,** Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, India  
Venue: Durbar Hall |
| 19:15-19:45  | **Cultural Programme** (by invitation only)  
Venue: Shah Jehan Hall |
| 19:45-20:45  | Dinner hosted by **Smt. Sushma Swaraj,** Minister of External Affairs, India (by invitation only)  
Venue: Shah Jehan Hall |
## Day 2: BUSINESS & ACADEMIC SESSIONS

### WEDNESDAY  
**July 05, 2017**

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| 09:30 onwards      | **Registration**  
                     Venue: Shah Jehan Hall                                                  |
| 10:15-10:18        | Welcome Remarks by **Ms Naina Lal Kidwai**, Past President, FICCI and    |
|                    | **Chairman, Max Financial Services and Advent Private Equity**           |
| 10:18-10:33        | Keynote Address by **Smt. Preeti Saran**, Secretary (East), Ministry of |
|                    | **External Affairs, India**                                             |
| 10:33-10:36        | Remarks by **Ms Shobana Kamineni**, President, CII & Executive Vice     |
|                    | Chairperson, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Limited                         |
| 10:36-10:39        | Remarks by **Mr Sandeep Jajodia**, President, ASSOCHAM                   |
| 10:39-10:42        | Remarks by **Mr Aditya V. Agarwal**, President, ICC                     |
| 10:42-10:45        | Remarks by **Dr Samir Saran**, Vice President, ORF                       |
| 10:45-11:00        | Tea/Coffee Break                                                         |
| 11:00-12:00        | **Panel Discussion I:**  
                     **International Economic Trends and Their Impact on India and ASEAN**  |
|                    | **Moderator:** **Mr Pranjal Sharma**, Economic Analyst and Writer &     |
|                    | Columnist, Business World and DNA                                        |
|                    | **Special Address by Ambassador Anil Wadhwa**, Former Indian Ambassador |
|                    | Panelists: **Ms Pacita Juan**, Chair, ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs Network,|
|                    | Philippines                                                               |
|                    | **Mr Dato Ramesh Kodammal**, Co-Chair, India ASEAN Business Council,     |
|                    | Malaysia                                                                  |
|                    | **Mr O. P. Lohia**, Managing Director, Indo Rama Synthetics (I) Ltd, India|
|                    | **Mr Dilip Gaur**, Managing Director, Grasim Industries Ltd, India        |
| 12:00-13:00        | **Panel Discussion II:**  
                     **India-ASEAN Trade Relations**                                        |
|                    | **Address by Session Chair Ambassador Jayant Dasgupta**, Former Indian    |
|                    | Ambassador to WTO                                                        |
|                    | **Address by Dr Anup Wadhawan**, Additional Secretary, Trade Policy      |
|                    | Division, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India                       |
|                    | **Address by Representatives from ASEAN countries**                      |
|                    | Panelists**Dr Ajit Ranade**, President & Chief Economist, Aditya Birla   |
|                    | Group, India                                                              |
|                    | **Professor Subrata K. Mitra**, Director, Institute of South Asian       |
|                    | Studies, Singapore                                                        |
|                    | Closing Remarks by **Ambassador Jayant Dasgupta**                        |
| 13:00-14:00        | **Lunch**  
                     Venue: Shah Jehan Hall                                                  |
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| 14:00-15:00  | **Panel Discussion III:** India–ASEAN Partnership: Building Regional Network to Promote SMEs and Women’s Empowerment  
Moderator: Mr Vijay Kalantri, President, All India Association of Industries (AIAI)  
Panelists:  
Ms Roslina Chai, Chief Learning Officer, Gnowbe, Singapore  
Mr Hemant Mishr, MD, India Capital Finance & Investment Advisory, India  
Mr Johnny Chotrani, Chairman, Philippine-India Business Council, Philippines  
Mr George Barcelon, President, Philippine Chamber of Commerce, Philippines  
Mr Benny Y. P. Siahaan, Director, Directorate for ASEAN External Cooperation, MOFA, Indonesia |
| 15:00-16:00  | **Panel Discussion IV:** India-ASEAN Infrastructure Investments: Current Scenario and the Way Forward  
Moderator: Mr Jyoti Prakash Gadia, Managing Director, Resurgent India  
Panelists:  
Mr Jones Gabriels Ponudorai, Head-Power Transmission and Distribution-ASEAN, Larsen & Toubro  
Dr Rati Ranjan Mandal, Senior Advisor, SREI Infrastructure Finance Ltd  
Mr R. K. Gupta, Chairman, ASSOCHAM India-ASEAN Business Promotion Council and CMD, Wapcos Ltd  
Mr Neak Okhna Kith Meng, Council Chairman & President of Cambodia Chamber of Commerce (CCC) & Chairman, CEO of the Royal Group of company |
| 16:00-16:30  | Tea/Coffee Break  
Shah Jehan Hall |
| 16:30-17:30  | **Panel Discussion V:** Trade & Tourism through Connectivity—Focus North-East & East  
Chair & Moderator: Mr Rajat Nag, Chair, Act East Council, ICC and Former Managing Director General, Asian Development Bank  
Panelists:  
Dr Arpita Mukherjee, Professor, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)  
Mr Debasish Mallick, Deputy Managing Director, EXIM Bank, India  
Professor Sanjoy Hazarika, Managing Trustee, The Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research (C-NES) & Director, CHRI  
Dr Shekhar Shah, Director-General, National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)  
Summing up session by Mr Rajat Nag |
### ACADEMIC SESSION

**Venue: Mumtaz Hall**

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<tr>
<td>11:00-13:00</td>
<td><strong>Panel Discussion I:</strong> Regional Geopolitics—Great Power Politics in the Asia-Pacific</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong> Mr Ashok Malik, Distinguished Fellow, ORF, India</td>
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|               | **Panelists:** Dr Anak Agung Banyu Perwita, Professor, School of International Relations, President University, Indonesia
|               | Professor Nguyen Thai Yen Huong, Senior Research Fellow & Vice President, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, Viet Nam
|               | Mr Bunn Nagara, Senior Fellow at Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia
|               | Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia, Distinguished Fellow, Gateway House         |
| 13:00-14:00   | Lunch                                                                 |
|               | **Venue:** Roshanara Hall / Sheesh Mahal                             |
| 14:00-16:00   | **Panel Discussion II:** New Connectivity Paradigms in the Asia-Pacific  |
|               | **Moderator:** Ambassador Nalin Surie, Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs, India |
|               | **Panelists:** Dr Pavin Chachavalpongpun, Associate Professor, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University
|               | Dr Deth Sok Udom, Political Science & IR, Rector, President Zaman University, Cambodia
|               | Ms Anita Prakash, Director General, Policy, Policy Panning Department, ERIA, Indonesia
|               | Professor Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Center, Research and Information System for Developing Countries, India |
| 16:00-16:15   | Tea/Coffee Break                                                      |
|               | **Venue:** Mumtaz Hall                                               |
| 16:15-17:15   | **Panel Discussion III:** Technology, Innovation and Big Data        |
|               | **Moderator:** Mr Arun Mohan Sukumar, Head, Cyber Initiative, ORF     |
|               | **Panelists:** Dr Bouadham Sengkhamkhoulavong, Director, Asia Research Centre, Laos
<p>|               | Mr R. Ravindran, Speaker, SAEA Research Group, Singapore              |
|               | Mr Rajat Kathuria, Director and Chief Executive, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi  |
|               | Dr Gulshan Rai, Coordinator, National Cyber Security, Prime Minister’s Office, India |</p>
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| 17:15-18:15| **Panel Discussion IV:**  
Socio-Cultural Engagement and Diaspora Links  
**Moderator:** Ambassador Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairman, Research and Information System for Developing Countries, India  
**Panelists:**  
Dr Joefe B. Santarita, Dean, Asian Centre, University of the Philippines, Quezon City  
Mr U Kyaw Myaing, Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MiSIS)  
Professor Sunaina Singh, Vice Chancellor, Nalanda University  
Professor C. J. Thomas, ASEAN Studies Centre, Shillong, India |
| 18:20-19:30| **Concluding Plenary: Looking Ahead**  
This session will focus on key takeaways from DD9 to chart the course for India-ASEAN relations for the next 25 years.  
**Venue:** Shah Jehan Hall (by invitation only)  
**Moderator:** Professor Harsh V. Pant, Distinguished Fellow & Head of Strategic Studies programme, ORF  
**Panelists:**  
Professor Subrata Mitra, Director, Institute of South Asian Studies, NUS, Singapore  
Professor Nguyen Thai Yen Huong, Senior Research Fellow & Vice President, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, Vietnam  
Ms Naina Lal Kidwai, Past President, FICCI and and Chairman, Max Financial Services and Advent Private Equity  
Mr George Barcelon, President, Philippine Chamber of Commerce, Philippines  
Ambassador Jayant Prasad, Director General, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, India  
Ambassador Biren Nanda, Senior Fellow, Delhi Policy Group |
| 19:30      | Dinner hosted by Smt. Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, India  
Shah Jehan Hall (Buffet Dinner) |
3

SPEAKERS
MINISTERIAL SESSION
Inaugural Ministerial Panel

Smt. Sushma Swaraj
Hon. Minister of External Affairs, India

Smt. Sushma Swaraj is the Minister of External Affairs of India. She was first elected as a Member of the Rajya Sabha in April 1990. In 1998, she took over as the first woman Chief Minister of Delhi. Later, she returned to national politics and was the Minister for Information and Broadcasting from 2000-2003 and the Minister of Health & Family Welfare and Parliamentary Affairs from 2003 to 2004. She served as the Chairperson, Committee on Home Affairs, Rajya Sabha from 2004-2009 and Chairperson, Standing Committee on External Affairs, 2009-2010. Smt. Swaraj is the first woman MP who was honoured with the ‘Outstanding Parliamentarian Award’ in 2004. She has also served as the Leader of Opposition, Lok Sabha from 2009-2014.

H.E. Mr Pham Binh Minh
Deputy Prime Minister cum Minister of Foreign Affairs, Viet Nam

In January 2016, he was elected as a member of the Politburo of the 12th Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam, member of the 12th Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam. Prior to that time, he was designated as the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam by the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam since November 2013. He was appointed as the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam from September 2006 to August 2011. After being elected as an alternate member of the 10th Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam in April 2006, he became a member of the 10th Central Committee of the Communist Party of Viet Nam since January 2009. In November 2008, he was elected as a member of the 13th National Assembly. From March 2003 to September 2006, he was designated as the Acting Director General and then the Director General of the Department for International Organizations, and the Head of Delegation for Dialogue on Human Rights with other countries.
H.E. Mr U Kyaw Tint Swe  
Union Minister, Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor, Myanmar

U Kyaw Tint Swe is the incumbent Minister for the Office of the State Counsellor of Myanmar. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1968 and has served in various capacities in the embassies of Myanmar in Malaysia, Japan, Thailand, Israel and Germany. From 2009 to 2015, he was the elected representative of Myanmar to the ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights (AICHR). He has also served as the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Myanmar to United Nations from 2001 to 2009. Mr Swe was elected as the Vice President of the General Assembly thrice (2004, 2006, 2008) and the Chairman of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee of the General Assembly.

Shri Sarbananda Sonowal  
Chief Minister, Assam, India

Shri Sarbananda Sonowal hails from an agrarian family and is a devout follower of Vaishnavism. An ardent sportsman, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal is a keen enthusiast of football, cricket and badminton.

Shri Sarbananda Sonowal was declared as BJP Chief Ministerial candidate for 2016 Assam Assembly election. He led the BJP and its alliance to a landslide victory in the 2016 Assam Assembly election winning 86 of the 126 seats. Shri Sonowal won the Assembly election from Majuli Constituency. He was sworn in as the 14th Chief Minister of Assam in the first ever government of the Bharatiya Janata Party in the state.

Smt. Preeti Saran  
Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, India

Smt. Preeti Saran is the Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Govt of India. She started her career as an Indian Foreign Service officer in 1982. Smt. Saran has held several important positions, including Third Secretary to the Embassy of India, Moscow and Under Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs. She was appointed as the Deputy Secretary/Director (Establishment)/ East Asia, MEA from 1994 to 1999. Thereafter, she held the position of Joint Secretary (SAARC/North) from 2005 to 2008. She has also served as the Consul General of India, Toronto, and as the Ambassador of India to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.
H.E. Mr Hirubalan V. P.
Deputy Secretary-General, Political-Security Community Department, ASEAN Secretariat

Mr Hirubalan V. P. is appointed as the Deputy Secretary-General (DSG) of ASEAN for Political-Security Community from 15 February 2015 to 14 February 2018. Hirubalan served in Singapore’s Ministry of Defence in various appointments before his transfer to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in June 1996. He was appointed as Singapore’s Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from February 2006 to July 2009. Concurrently, he was accredited as the non-resident Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain from September 2007 to July 2009 and Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman from April 2007 to April 2008. Upon his return, he was appointed as the Director in the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia Directorate from July 2009 to February 2012. He was then appointed as Singapore’s Ambassador to Philippines from March 2012 to January 2015. He was awarded the Long Service Medal in 1995 and the Public Administration Medal (Silver) in 1996. In January 2015, President Benigno S Aquino III conferred him the Order of Sikatuna with the rank of Grand Cross, Gold Distinction, in recognition of his significant contributions in further strengthening and deepening bilateral relations between Philippines and Singapore.

Dr Jyotsna Suri
Chairperson & Managing Director, Bharat Hotels Limited

Dr Jyotsna Suri, CMD of Bharat Hotels Limited, is the driving force behind the Group’s operations. Under her stewardship, The Lalit Suri Hospitality Group (an enterprise of Bharat Hotels Limited) is today the largest privately owned Hotel Chain in India. A multifaceted personality, she is known for promoting Indian tourism globally. Her initiative ‘Developing destinations and not just Hotels,’ to popularize destinations and boost tourism has inspired her to organise events in places like Drass, Leh, Srinagar, Khajuraho, Chitrakoot & Bekal. Her social initiative ‘Project Disha’ assists school students and local youth get access to “quality education leading to employment”. Dr Suri holds various portfolios with Industry Associations – Immediate Past President of FICCI; Chairperson of FICCI Tourism Committee; only Indian woman member on the International Executive Committee of WTTC; Founder member of WTTC (II) and Executive Member of HAI.
Dr Samir Saran  
Vice President, Observer Research Foundation (ORF), India

Dr Samir Saran spearheads ORF’s outreach and business development activities. Samir is a frequent commentator on issues of global governance (climate change and energy policy, global development architecture, cyber security and internet governance) and on India’s foreign policy. He is featured regularly in Indian and international print and broadcast media. Samir is Commissioner, The Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace, and member of the South Asia advisory board of the World Economic Forum as well as part of its Global Future Council on Cybersecurity. He is Director of the Centre for Peace and Security at the Sardar Patel Police University, Jodhpur, India.

Mr Ashok Malik  
Distinguished Fellow, Observer Research Foundation (ORF), India

Mr Ashok Malik is a Distinguished Fellow, ORF. His work focuses on Indian domestic politics and foreign/trade policy, and their increasing interplay, as well as on the broader process of globalisation and how it is influencing policy choices in not just the economy but in social sector spheres such as health, education and urbanisation. A journalist for 20 years, Ashok is a columnist for several leading Indian and international publications (such as Times of India, Hindustan Times, YaleGlobal Online).
Panel Discussion: Waters of Asia—Cultural, Social and Political Ties

General (Dr) Vijay Kumar Singh (Retd)
Minister of State for External Affairs, India

General Vijay Kumar Singh, PVSM, AVSM, YSM (Retd) was born on 10 May 1951. An alumnus of Birla Public School, Pilani and National Defence Academy, he served as the 26th Chief of Army Staff of the Indian Army from 31 March 2010 to 31 May 2012. On 11 March 2011, Singh was inducted into the United States Army War College (Class of 2001 graduate) International Fellows Hall of Fame. He is the 33rd International Fellow and the first Indian Armed Forces officer to be inducted. General Singh joined the Bhartiya Janata Party on 1 March 2014 and successfully contested Lok Sabha election from Ghaziabad constituency (2.4 million plus electorate).

Presently, he is Minister of State for External Affairs. As Minister of State for External Affairs, General Singh has represented India at several bilateral and multilateral events as well as Special Assignments in Asia, Africa, Latin America & the Caribbean region and Europe.

H.E. Mr Dato Erywan Pehin Yusof
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Brunei Darussalam

Mr Yusof is the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Brunei. In 1989, he joined Civil Service as a Veterinary Chemist in the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources. In 1991, he assumed the duties of Head of Unit for the Miscellaneous Crop Unit. Later in 1994, he undertook duties on ASEAN Agriculture Matters and became the focal point for ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (AMAF) Meetings. At present, Mr Dato Erywan is also appointed as Joint Deputy Chairman of the Brunei Strategy Council (BSC) and Deputy Chairman of Brunei Economic Development Board.

H.E. Dr Sok Siphana
Advisor to the Royal Government of Cambodia

Dr Sok is a practicing attorney and the Managing Partner at Sok Siphana & associates/a Member of Zicolaw, a law and consulting firm specialized in international trade, corporate and banking law in Phnom Penh. Dr Sok was appointed by Prime Minister Samdech Decho Hun Sen to hold concurrently the position as Advisor of the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC), as Advisor to the Supreme National Economic Council (SNEC), and as Advisor to the Council for Development of Cambodia (CDC) with rank of Minister in August 2009 and
November 2011 respectively. Since 2011, he has served as the Chairman of the Board of Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI), which is the country’s oldest and prominent independent research institute. Previously from 1999 to 2005, Dr Sok served as Secretary of State (Vice Minister) at the Ministry of Commerce. Dr Sok is holder of a Juris Doctor (J.D.) from Widener University School of Law in Delaware, United States (1992) and a Ph.D. from Bond University School of Law in Queensland, Australia (2009). He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. on Comparative Laws with the Université de Paris 2, Panthéon-Assas.

H.E. Mr Sengphet Houngboungnuang
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lao PDR

Sengphet Houngboungnuang is the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Lao PDR. Prior to this, he served as the Director General of the Organization and the Personnel Department. From 2006 to 2009, he was the First Secretary in charge of the affairs of Lao embassies in Poland, Czech, Slovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania. He has also served as the Second Secretary, Deputy head of the Mission of Lao Embassies in several European countries.

H.E. Dr Maliki Osman
Senior Minister of State for Defence and Foreign Affairs

Dr Mohamad Maliki Osman was elected a Member of Parliament (MP) for the Sembawang Group Representation Constituency (GRC) in 2001 and 2006. He was elected as one of the MPs for the East Coast GRC in May 2011. Dr Maliki served as Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of Community Development Youth and Sports (MCYS) from August 2004 to June 2006 and the Ministry of Health (MOH) from August 2004 to October 2005. He moved on to become the Parliamentary Secretary for the Ministry of National Development (MND), and was promoted to Senior Parliamentary Secretary on 1 November 2010. Dr Maliki is also the Deputy President of SAFRA and member of the Committee to Strengthen National Service (CSNS) in MINDEF. He is the Deputy Chairman of the Advisory Council on Community Relations in Defence or ACCORD. At the community level, Dr Maliki is Advisor to the Centre for Promoting Alternative to Violence (PAVe), ADAM Association and East Coast GRCs’ Grassroots Organisations. Dr Maliki graduated with his Bachelor and Masters degrees from the National University of Singapore (NUS). He obtained his doctorate in Social Work from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1998 and became an Assistant Professor at the NUS Department of Social Work and Psychology that year.
H.E. Mr Virasakdi Futrakul
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs (Cabinet Minister), Thailand

H.E. Mr Virasakdi Futrakul is the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand. He joined the Ministry as Third Secretary, South and West Asia Division, Department of Political Affairs. Mr Futrakul served as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to Japan, United States of America, France, and Canada. He was also appointed as the Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Thailand to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva. For two years in a row (2014 & 2015), he was elected as a member of the National Legislative Assembly and Advisor to the Prime Minister and Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Mr Sanjeev Sanyal
Principal Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance, India

Sanjeev Sanyal is an Indian economist, bestselling writer, environmentalist, and urban theorist. Currently he is the Principal Economic Adviser in the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. He is widely regarded as one of Asia’s leading economists and was Deutsche Bank’s Global Strategist and a Managing Director till 2015. A Rhodes Scholar and Eisenhower Fellow, he was named “Young Global Leader 2010” by the World Economic Forum at Davos.
## Special Invitees

### Shri Chowna Mein
**Deputy-Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh, India**

Shri Chowna Mein is the Deputy-Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh from July 2016 under Chief Minister Pema Khandu. He also held the post of Deputy-Chief Minister in Arunachal Pradesh from March to July 2016 led by the Kalikho Pul.

In 1995, 1999 and 2004, he was elected from the Lohit district's Lekang assembly constituency of Arunachal Pradesh.

### Shri Yanthungo Patton
**Home Minister, Nagaland, India**

Shri Yanthungo Patton completed his Bachelor of Arts (BA) at St. Anthony College Shillong. He has held the Presidency of the Lotha Student Union, Shillong and the Chairmanship of the Lotha Ho-Ho. He has been an active politician since 1982. Shri. Patton was elected on the BJP ticket in March 2008 to the Nagaland Legislative Assembly.

### H.E. Ms Ma. Teresita C. Daza
**Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines in New Delhi**

Ambassador Ma. Teresita C. Daza is a career diplomat and has served the Embassy of the Philippines in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, The Embassy of the Philippines in Bucharest, Romania (Charge d’ Affaires) and the Philippine Permanent Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta, Indonesia (Deputy Permanent Representative).

She also served in various capacities in the Home Office since joining the Department among which are as Director for Culture and Information, ASEAN-Philippines National Secretariat, Director for Socials Division, Office of the Protocol and State Visits and Special Assistant at the Office of the Secretary. Prior to her assignment as Ambassador of the Republic of the Philippines to India, she served as Executive Director/ Deputy Director-General at the ASEAN-Philippines National. She was also Head of the Research and Information Division of the Foreign Service. Ambassador Daza was awarded Gawad Mabini Award Ranggo Dakilang Kasugo for her valuable work during the ASEAN Summit Philippine Chairmanship in 2007. Ambassador Daza is married to Mr David Jose John V. Daza, Jr. They have two children, Ma. Bernadette C. Daza and David Nestor C. Daza
H.E. Mr Nor’Azam Mohd Idrus
Chargé d’affaires, High Commission of Malaysia in New Delhi

Nor’Azam Mohd Idrus started his Diplomatic career in May 2002 as the Assistant Secretary (Americas Division) at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Malaysia. His first posting was as the Second Secretary at the Embassy and Permanent Mission of Malaysia in Vienna, Austria in 2005. He subsequently was posted as the Charge d’affaires at the High Commission of Malaysia in Suva, Fiji in 2009. In 2014, he returned back to the Ministry as the Principal Assistant Secretary (CLMV & O Division). Currently he serves as the Charge d’affaires cum Deputy High Commissioner at the High Commission of Malaysia in New Delhi, India since July 2016.

Mr Anurag Bhushan
Joint Secretary (ASEAN ML and South & Nalanda), Ministry of External Affairs, India

Mr Anurag Bhushan is Joint Secretary (ASEAN ML and South & Nalanda), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. A graduate of IIT Kanpur in Chemical Engineering, he is a 1995 batch Indian Foreign Service Officer with diplomatic experience in Germany, Bangladesh, Japan and the United Arab Emirates among others. His experience spans multilateral issues such as energy, security, international trade and finance. He has also played a pivotal role in developing extensive linkages between Indian and international trade and industry bodies, state governments, GOI ministries and other entities.
SPEAKERS
BUSINESS & ACADEMIC SESSIONS
Mr Aditya V. Agarwal  
President, ICC

Mr Aditya Vardhan Agarwal, Director, is a second generation Promoter Director of the Emami Group. Aditya Vardhan holds leadership positions and memberships in various national committees and boards of research, civil, professional and corporate institutions. Currently, Aditya holds the position of the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Ethiopia in Kolkata and has recently been appointed as the Vice President of Indian Chamber of Commerce, Kolkata. He is also a member of YPO (Young Presidents’ Organization), an adviser to the Academy of Ayurvedic Doctors in India and is the Vice President of the West Bengal Basketball Association. He holds the distinction of being the youngest ever (former) President of the Merchants Chamber of Commerce. Aditya is a former Executive Committee Member of ASSOCHAM, and a former Director of West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation (WBIDC). A prolific speaker, Aditya has spoken in various forums, seminars and conferences addressing matters on family business, diversification and policy issues. He has been conferred with prestigious awards and industry recognitions like the Global Man of the Year Award and ET Now Leap of Faith Award in the year 2011.

Mr George Barcelon  
President, Philippine Chamber of Commerce, Philippines

Mr George Barcelon is the current President of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), the highest private business organization recognized by the government and international institutions. He seats as private sector representative at the DTI-Board of Investment’s (BOI) Industry Development Council and the National Competitiveness Council. He is a Trustee and Treasurer of the Philippines Exporters Confederation. He owns four companies involved in IT logistics, rubber and plastic manufacturing and realty development namely ICS-ICT Corporation, Paramount Vinyl Products, Interpolymer Corporation and Keywest Realty Corporation.

Mr Barcelon is also one of the Philippine representative to the ASEAN Business Advisory Council.
Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia
Distinguished Fellow, Gateway House

Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia IFS (retd.) is Distinguished Fellow, Gateway House. He is Chair of FICCI’s Task Forces on Blue Economy and BIMSTEC. He is a former ambassador/high commissioner to Myanmar, Mexico, Kenya and South Africa. In 2016, he served as a member of India-Indonesia Eminent Persons Group at the request of the Government of India. As Director General of the Indian Council of World Affairs from 2012-15, he played a key role in strengthening India’s Track-II research and outreach activities. A prolific columnist, he regularly contributes research articles and Op-Eds to a variety of publications, on South Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa and oceanic dimensions of the Indian foreign policy. Mr Bhatia was Senior Visiting Research Fellow during 2011-13 at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore. He holds a Masters degree in political science from Allahabad University. His book India-Myanmar Relations: Changing contours (Routledge 2016) has received critical acclaim.

Dr Pavin Chachavalpongpun
Associate Professor, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University

Pavin Chachavalpongpun is associate professor at the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, Kyoto University. Earning his PhD from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), Pavin is the author of several books, including “A Plastic Nation: The Curse of Thainess in Thai-Burmese Relations” and “Reinventing Thailand: Thaksin and His Foreign Policy”. His latest book, as an editor, is “Good Coup Gone Bad: Thailand’s Political Development Since Thaksin’s Downfall”. Pavin is a chief editor of the online journal, Kyoto Review of Southeast Asia—the world’s only journal which translates all articles, apart from the English language, into Japanese, Thai, Bahasa Indonesia and Vietnamese. He is currently teaching a graduate course at Kyoto University and serving as guest lecturer at Doshisha University. Pavin has been offered prestigious fellowships in the past, including those from Stanford University, University of California at Berkeley, University of Cambridge and The London School of Economics and Political Science.
Ms Roslina Chai
Chief Learning Officer, Gnowbe, Singapore

Roslina Chai is a serial entrepreneur, lawyer, organizational change strategist, professional speaker and executive coach who is passionate about elevating human consciousness. Having been involved in human development for over 2 decades, Roslina is widely recognized for her ability to create environments that catalyzes quantum changes. Roslina’s professional life traversed industries such as technology, private equity, strategy consulting, shipping, urban development, F&B and education. Having been at the forefront of innovation for the past 2 decades, across multiple functions, sectors and countries, at both the regional and global level, Roslina has honed the unique ability to recognize systemic patterns, intuite trends, and build international stellar teams. A seeker of beauty and a modern-day polymath, Roslina embraces the eternal quest for knowing and peace. Committed to giving voice to the voiceless, Roslina works with organisations that exist to provide marginalized children with a fighting chance to realise their dreams. From University of Canterbury, Roslina holds a LLB with a focus on human rights; a dual BA in Cultural Studies and Modern Asian History; and a post-graduate Management diploma with a focus on change-management leadership.

Mr Johnny Chotrani
Chairman, Philippine-India Business Council, Philippines

Mr Johnny Chotrani is the Chairman of the Philippines-India Business Council (PIBC), a subsidiary designated “India Desk” under the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI). He has been working on bringing the Philippines and India together, way back from 2002, officially beginning during his term as President for the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). He has also represented the Philippines under the ASEAN-India Business Council, when he led the Philippine Delegation to India together with, then, VP Binay for the ASEAN-India Business Conclave in 2011, and various ASEAN-India Business Council Meets in across ASEAN since then.
Ambassador Jayant Dasgupta  
**Former Indian Ambassador to WTO**

Dr Jayant Dasgupta is an Executive Partner at Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan, New Delhi. He heads the Environmental Law Practice and also advises on Trade Remedy measures, WTO Dispute Settlement Foreign Trade Policy, Food Law and other Regulatory areas. Before joining legal practice in 2014, Dr Dasgupta had served as Ambassador/PR of India to the WTO; Secretary, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister; Chief Advisor, Bihar Planning Board; Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce and Director (Exports), Ministry of Textiles. During his long career in government, he has also presided as a quasi-judicial authority for the implementation of various national and state Acts.

Dr Dasgupta has spoken on public policy, domestic and international trade issues at Oxford University, ECIPÉ, Florence, UNCTAD, WTO Public Forum, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi, ASCI, Hyderabad and LBSNAA, Mussoorie.

Prof. Prabir De  
**Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre & Professor, RIS, India**

Prof. Prabir De is a Professor at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi. He is also the Coordinator of ASEAN-India Centre (AIC). Dr De works in the field of international economics and has research interests in international trade and development. He was a Visiting Fellow of the Institute of Developing Economies (IDE-JETRO), Chiba; Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Tokyo; and visiting Senior Fellow of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Bangkok. He has been conducting policy research for the Government of India and several international organisations. Prof. De has a Ph.D. in Economics from the Jadavpur University, Kolkata. He has contributed several research papers in international journals and written books on trade and development. His recent publication include “Myanmar’s Integration with the World: Challenges and Policy Options (Palgrave Macmillan, 2017). He is also the Editor of South Asia Economic Journal, published by Sage.
Mr Jyoti Prakash Gadia  
**Managing Director, Resurgent India**

Mr Jyoti Prakash Gadia is the Managing Director of Resurgent India, an Advisory firm focusing on MSMEs in the areas of fund raising through equity & debt instruments, merchant banking, operational improvement and domestic and international Joint Ventures. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (FCA), a qualified Chartered Financial Analyst, qualified Company Secretary, Associate Member of Institute of Cost & Works Accountant of India (AICWA) (All India 8th rank holder) and holds an MBA in Finance. Further he is also an Executive Council Member of Assocham (Banking and Finance Committee), Chairman of Banking and Finance Panel of CII – Delhi. To add to it, Mr Gadia is also a Task Force Member of Steel and other Minerals formed by the Department of Public Enterprises, Government of India. He is also an Honorary Consultant to the School of Finance of the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs, and is on the Governing Council of The National Institute of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD).

Mr Dilip Gaur  
**Managing Director, Grasim Industries Ltd, India**

Mr Gaur is Managing Director of Grasim Industries Limited & Business Director of the global Pulp & Fibre Business of the group which has operations across seven countries around the world. He is also Director of Aditya Birla Management Corp. Pvt. Ltd., the apex Leadership Team of Aditya Birla Group. Prior to his current assignment, he has done stints with Ultra Tech Cement Ltd. as Deputy Managing Director & Chief Manufacturing Officer, with Hindalco as Head of Copper Business, with Birla Carbon as Managing Director of the Egyptian business and as President & Country Head of Group’s Edible Oil & Oleo Chemicals business in Malaysia/Philippines. Mr Gaur joined Aditya Birla Group in 2004 after spending 24 years at Hindustan Unilever Ltd in Foods, HPC & Specialty Chemicals Business and was a member of the Foods Management Committee. Dilip is a Chemical Engineer by training and has undergone several National & International programs in Management & Leadership Development including AMP at Harvard. He has spent best part of his professional career in Managing Transformational changes and turning around fledgling businesses across geographies. He enjoys working in a multi-cultural global business environment and is a firm believer in the Power of ‘Teams’.
Mr R. K. Gupta  
Chairman, ASSOCHAM India-ASEAN Business Promotion Council and CMD, Wapcos Ltd

Shri R.K. Gupta, Chairman-cum-Managing Director of WAPCOS Ltd, a Government of India Enterprise under Union Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation has over 36 years of experience in securing and implementing 1000+ consultancy projects from conceptualization to commissioning in diverse fields such as water resources, power, infrastructure development, skill development, institution building, projects of national and international importance under bilateral agreements etc. Shri Gupta is a Fellow Member of Institution of Engineers (India), Indian Water Resources Society, Corporate Member, International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage, Member Consulting Engineers Association of India and Life Member of Indian Society for Rock Mechanics and Tunneling Technology. He is also President, India Water Partnership; Chairman of Indian Section of Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry India-Cambodia & India-Laos Business Forums; Chairman, Town Official Language Implementation Committee (TOLIC), Gurgaon; Chairman, India-ASEAN Business Promotion Council of ASSOCHAM; Co-Chairman, India-AFRICA Business Promotion Council of ASSOCHAM; Co-Chairman, Task Force of Africa Committee on Infrastructure & Power Sectors of Confederation of Indian Industry; Member, Executive Board, Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (SCOPE); Member, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Delhi State Council and many prestigious organizations. Recognizing his outstanding contribution, Hon’ble President of India presented “SCOPE Meritorious Award-Corporate Governance” and “SCOPE Award for Excellence and Outstanding Contribution to the Public Sector Management”.

Prof. Sanjoy Hazarika  
Managing Trustee, The Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research (C-NES) & Director, CHRI

Prof. Sanjoy Hazarika is Director, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative and former founder Director, for Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research, JamiaMilliaIslamia, New Delhi where he held the Dr SaifuddinKitchlew Chair. He is Founder and Managing Trustee of North East Studies (www.c-nes.org) which runs the pioneering boat clinics on the Brahmaputra in Assam. Mr Hazarika is one of North East India’s, best known commentators and has held number of advisory positions both in Central and State Government Committees and Universities. Prolific author, writer, commentator & documentary filmmaker, Mr Hazarika has authored several number of acclaimed books on the North East including Stranger of the Mists, Rites of Passage & Writing on the Wall. A major new book on the region will be published in 2017.
Prof. Nguyen Thai Yen Huong  
Senior Research Fellow & Vice President, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam

Nguyen Thai Yen Huong is a Senior Research Fellow and presently Ambassador, Vice President of the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV). She directly is responsible for American Studies at DAV. So far, she has been considered as one of an expert on America of Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs owing on her experiences on teaching and research on America since 1985. She was bestowed by the National Committee for Professor Title as the Professor of History (2014), received Ph.D. degree in Contemporary and Current History at Ha Noi National University (2003), MA degree in International studies from University of Notre Dam, Indiana, USA in 1992, and a BA in International Relations from IIR (1984). In addition, she participated in some books writing and editing. The most recent list of her publications is: 1) Confidence building Measures: One of the Solutions to Marine Security in Southeast Asia Journal of International Studies. No 26. 2012; 2) Book title ”The 30 years of Sino-US relations under the theory of balancing of power”, The Gioi Publisher 2012; 3) Vietnam in the Context of Emerging Asia – Pacific within the Current International Politics: Opportunity and Challenges. International Conference on “Japan in the Age of Asia”, Ha Noi 2013.

Mr Sandeep Jajodia  
President, ASSOCHAM

Mr Sandeep Jajodia, 50, is result-oriented leader with a vision to achieve milestones in the industry and sports with a passion for improving the quality of country’s human resource. He heads a well diversified Monnet Group of companies with interests in steel, coal and real estate. During his corporate journey, Monnet group launched its initial public offering in 1993 and was listed on all major stock exchanges. Adept at creating strategic alliances with organization leaders to effectively align with and to support key business initiatives, he brought foreign & Indian development financial institutions on board as strategic equity partners. Sandeep Jajodia, besides being the driving force behind the growth of the Monnet Group, is also actively involved in other aspects relevant to industry and society. Presently, he is holding prestigious positions as President of ASSOCHAM. He has been associated as Chairman of Sponge Iron Manufacturers Association (SIMA) in the past. He is also committed to MIEL’s CSR activities, promoting various programmes through the Monnet Foundation.
Ms Pacita U. Juan  
Chair, ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs Network, Philippines

Social Entrepreneur. Green Advocate. Coffee Crusader and Advocate for Women Empowerment through business. She is the Chair of the Women’s Business Council of the Philippines (WomenbizPH) and the ASEAN Women Entrepreneurs Network (AWEN). She also is the Founder of the PH chapters of International Women’s Coffee Alliance (IWCA), the Women Corporate Directors (WCD), and Slow Food Manila. She writes for Starweek magazine, the Philippine Tatler’s Traveller magazine and online portal ph.asiatatler.com, and writes a weekly commentary in www.manilaspeak.com

Mr Vijay Kalantri  
President, All India Association of Industries (AIAI)

Mr Vijay Kalantri, an eminent and versatile business leader, is a first generation entrepreneur who has made remarkable contribution to Industry & Trade Promotion, Infrastructure Development, Development of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Sector, Financial Services and Globalization of Indian Business. Mr Kalantri is the pioneering spirit behind the Balaji Group of Industries, which owns businesses in the Textiles, Leasing Finance and Infrastructure Development sectors. Currently, he also serves as the Chairman & Managing Director of Dighi Port Ltd, Maharashtra’s first private sector port and port-based Special Economic Zone (SEZ). Mr Kalantri is also the President of All India Association of Industries (AIAI), the Indian Council of Foreign Trade and the Indo-Polish Chamber of Commerce & Industry, besides serving as the Vice Chairman of World Trade Centre (WTC) Mumbai and as a member of the Board of Directors of World Trade Centers’ Association (WTCA), New York. He also serves as a member on several committees of the Reserve Bank of India, such as the Standing Committee for Small Scale Industries, the Exchange Control Committee, and the All India Export Advisory Committee.
Ms Shobana Kamineni
President, CII & Executive Vice Chairperson, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Limited

Shobana Kamineni is the Executive Vice Chairperson of Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Limited and a member of its founding family. Apollo Hospitals is the pioneer of private healthcare in India and is Asia's foremost healthcare conglomerate. Championing Special Initiatives for over 7 years, Shobana had steered the organization’s emergence as a proponent of integrated healthcare in India. She continues to helm Apollo Global Projects Consultancy and the Research & Innovation divisions of the organization. She also heads Apollo Pharmacy, India's largest pharmacy chain with a pan-India network of over 2500 stores, 19000 employees; it serves 3,00,000 customers a day. She is the founder and a Whole Time Director on the Board of Apollo Munich Health Insurance, acknowledged as India's best specialized Health Insurance Company for 6 years, consecutively. She is an Independent Director on the Boards of Blue Star Limited and Hero MotoCorp. Shobana also serves on the Advisory Council of the National Cadet Corps (NCC). She was an Advisor to CISCO India’s External Board. An active member of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Shobana has been elected as President for the year 2017-18. She is the first woman President of CII since its inception in 1895. In addition, Shobana is Vice-Chairperson of the KEI Group, a diversified logistics, leisure & infrastructure business founded with her husband.

Dr Rajat Kathuria
Director and Chief Executive, ICRIER, New Delhi

Rajat Kathuria is Director and Chief Executive at Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER), New Delhi. He has over 20 years experience in teaching and 15 years experience in economic policy, besides research interests on a range of issues relating to regulation and competition policy. He has taught undergraduate economics at the University of Maryland and is currently on leave from the International Management Institute (IMI), New Delhi where he teaches Managerial Economics and International Trade. He has worked with the World Bank, Washington DC as a Consultant and carried out project assignments for a number of international organizations, including ILO, UNCTAD, LirneAsia, World Bank and ADB. He has published in international and national journals, besides in popular magazines and newspapers. He is founder member of Broadband Society for Universal Access and served on the Board of Delhi Management Association. He currently is an independent director on the Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN) and on several government committees. He is also on the research advisory council of SBI. He has an undergraduate degree in Economics from St. Stephens College, a Masters from Delhi School of Economics and a PhD degree from the University of Maryland, College Park.
**Ms Naina Lal Kidwai**  
**Past President, FICCI and Chairman, Max Financial Services and Advent Private Equity**

Naina Lal Kidwai is Chairman, Max Financial Services and Advent Private Equity; a Non-Executive Director on the global board of Nestle, CIPLA Ltd and Larsen and Toubro and Past President of FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry). She retired on December 2015 as Executive Director on the board of HSBC Asia Pacific and Chairman HSBC India. An MBA from Harvard Business School, she makes regular appearances on listings by Fortune and others of international women in business and is the recipient of awards and honours in India including the Padma Shri for her contribution to Trade and Industry, from Government of India. Her interests in Water and the environment are reflected in her engagements with The Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, International Advisory Council of the Inquiry of United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Global Commission on Economy & Climate, Chair of FICCI Sustainability Energy and Water Council and Chair of the India Sanitation Coalition.

**Mr Dato Ramesh Kodammal**  
**Co-Chair, India ASEAN Business Council, Malaysia**

Dato Ramesh Kodammal is the Chairman of Goldtex Group of Companies, a company which he founded since 1976 specialising in import & export of garments and textiles, as well as manufacturing of home furnishings. Dato Ramesh has been appointed by the Ministry of International Trade & Industry (MITI) Malaysia as the Chairman of ASEAN-India Business Council Malaysia and the Co-Chairman of ASEAN-India Business Council (AIBC). He is also a Council Member of the ASEAN Business Advisory Council (ASEAN-BAC) since 2010, which has been mandated by ASEAN Leaders since 2003 to provide private sector feedback and guidance to boost ASEAN’s efforts towards economic integration. He is also the Malaysian representative in the MSME ASEAN-BAC Working Group. Dato Ramesh is an Honorary Member of the Kuala Lumpur Malay Chamber Of Commerce (KLMCC). Dato Ramesh actively promotes the interests of the business community between ASEAN-India and he has been actively involved in the visits by Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi to Malaysia as part of this initiative. He has actively participated in various international forums and seminars representing Malaysia as a moderator and speaker. Among the posts which Dato Ramesh has held previously include the Deputy President of Kuala Lumpur Selangor Indian Chambers Of Commerce (KLSCCI), Vice President Of Malaysia Associate Indian Chambers & Industries and Treasurer of National Chambers of Commerce and Industries Of Malaysia (NCCIM). He currently still holds various positions in other non-governmental organisations (NGOs).
Mr O. P. Lohia
Managing Director, Indo Rama Synthetics (I) Ltd, India

Mr O. P. Lohia is the Chairman & Managing Director of Indo Rama Synthetics (India) Limited, which is India’s second largest dedicated Polyester manufacturer. Mr Lohia’s contribution to Indian Economy and Industry was recognised with the ‘Udyog Ratna Award’ from the Government of Madhya Pradesh and an ‘Outstanding Personalities Award’ from Karnataka Employers’ Association. The SMART Manager, has chosen him as “one of the top 25 managers of India” for steering Indo Rama to greater heights. He is the past President of the All India Organisation of Employers (AIOE) and has represented India in the ILO conference held in Geneva.

Mr Debasish Mallick
Deputy Managing Director, EXIM Bank, India

Mr Debasish Mallick has been appointed by the Government of India as Deputy Managing Director of Export-Import Bank of India w.e.f 21st July 2014. The responsibilities in Exim Bank include Corporate Banking, Overseas Investment Finance, and Export Credit among others.

Prior to this appointment, Mr Mallick was the Managing Director and CEO of IDBI Asset Management Company Ltd., where he had intensive and extensive experience in dealing in the Equity and Debt Capital markets in India.

A post graduate in Economics and a Certified Associate of Indian Institute of Bankers, Mr Mallick has nearly three decades of experience in the Banking industry, in the areas of Corporate Banking, International Banking, Resource Mobilization, Treasury and Retail Banking, among others.
Dr Rati Ranjan Mandal
Senior Advisor, SREI Infrastructure Finance Ltd, India

With an M.Tech from IIT-Delhi, Masters in Project Management & Ph.D from Manchester University, U.K., he comes with an experience of nearly 40 years in National Policy making, Project Financing of large Central Public Enterprises, Monitoring & Evaluation of performances including five years’ experience in United Nations affiliated organization, spear heading Industrialization and Trade Promotions in Member countries including European Union member nations. Has worked in the Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Govt. of India prior to joining SREI for about 25 years. He has widely travelled across the world either leading a delegation or being a part of it. Has successfully negotiated many bilateral and multilateral programs. Has played a key role in privatizing a number of central public sector units. Having worked as a CEO with SREI Group for over 10 years, currently he is serving as Senior Advisor to the Group Company.

Mr Hemant Mishr
MD, India Capital Finance & Investment Advisory, India

Hemant founded Asia Cap after quitting Standard Chartered Bank as the Head of the South East Asia’s Strategic Financial Markets business. At SCB he was based out of Singapore and responsible for the business in 10 countries including Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Australia etc. With over 22 years of Financial markets experience Hemant has a proved track record of building regional Financial Markets business in Asia. Prior to taking over the SE Asia role, Hemant led SCB's Wholesale Banking for the South Asia region. He was nominated as the Chairman of the South Asia Wholesale MANCO and to the SCB Global Leadership team. Along with his core team Hemant was responsible for formulating the investment strategy and risk management for a balance sheet of US 25 bio and an Investment book of US 15 bio. He has a B Tech, MBA and an AMP from the Wharton Business School. Hemant is passionate about Financial markets and the right to a good education. He is involved in community initiatives focused on providing access to education to the girl child.
Prof. Subrata K. Mitra
Director, Institute of South Asian Studies, Singapore

Subrata K. Mitra, Ph.D. (Rochester) is Director, Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS), and Visiting Research Professor, NUS, Singapore. The dynamic interaction of culture and rationality has deeply influenced his research profile, which focuses on governance and administration, citizenship, hybridity and re-use, the evolution of the Indian state from classical to modern times, the transition to democracy and its consolidation, and security and foreign affairs of South Asia. He has published widely, with numerous books, journal articles and chapter contributions in each of these areas, contributing both to the theory of political science as well as empirical studies and comparative research in area studies. Culture and Rationality (Sage 1999), The Puzzle of India's Governance (Routledge 2005), Re-use: the Art and Politics of Integration and Anxiety (Sage 2008), Politics in India (Routledge 2011, next edition due in September 2017), Kautilya's Arthashastra: Classical Roots of Modern Politics in India (Nomos 2016) represent different facets of his oeuvres.

Dr Arpita Mukherjee
Professor, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)

Dr. Arpita Mukherjee is a Professor at ICRIER. She has several years of experience in policy-oriented research, working closely with the government in India and policymakers in the European Commission and its member states, United States, ASEAN and in East Asian countries. She has conducted studies for international organizations such as ADB, ADBI, ASEAN Secretariat, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (UK), UK Trade and Investment, Italian Trade Commission, Konrad-Adenauer Stiftung, OECD, Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre, UNCTAD, WB and WTO. She has worked with Indian industry associations such as NASSCOM, FICCI, Indian Beverage Association, Indian Direct Selling Association and Express Industry Council of India, and foundations such as Amway Opportunity Foundation. Her research areas include trade and investment in services; special economic zones; economic corridors; food supply chain; retail; migration and labour market; WTO; bilateral and regional agreements. She has authored chapters in Joint Study Group reports set up by Indian government and has led research teams contributing to India’s domestic policy reforms in areas such as logistics, retail, special economic zones and mega food parks.
Mr U Kyaw Myaing  
Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS)

U Kyaw Myaing is a retired diplomat with 20 years of service. After retiring from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs he joined the UNDP Country Programme in Yangon as a National Programme Officer and worked there for four years. From 1992-1993 he worked for the UNTAC – United Nations Transnational Authority in Cambodia as Team Leader of the Border Control Team. In 1994 he began working at the UNDP headquarters in New York in the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific as a consultant for Programme Development and Information Management. He is currently the External Relations Director of the Myanmar-US Chamber of Commerce (New York). He holds a B.Sc. degree from the Rangoon Arts and Science University, MIPP (Master of International Public Policy) from the School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Washington D.C., USA. and a Certificate in Information Management from the School of Continuing and Professional Studies, the Information Technologies Institute, New York University in New York., USA. Currently he is member of Myanmar ISIS (Myanmar Institute of Strategic & International Studies) and also advisory board member of AIPR – Asean Institute for Peace and Reconciliation.

Mr Rajat M. Nag  
Chair, Act East Council, ICC and Former Managing Director General, ADB

Rajat M. Nag is concurrently a Distinguished Fellow at India’s National Council of Applied Economic Research, Delhi and a Senior Fellow at the Emerging Markets Forum, a think tank based in Washington DC. He also serves as Chair, Look East Council of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and is a Visiting Professor at the Stephen Zuellig Graduate School of Development Management, Asian Institute of Management in Manila and the Emerging Markets Institute at the Beijing Normal University, China. Mr Nag was till December 2013 the Managing Director General of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). With broad experience across Asia, he played a critical role in providing strategic and operational direction to ADB so it achieves its mission of helping its developing member countries reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of their people. He holds engineering degrees from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi and the University of Saskatchewan, Canada. He also has a MBA from the University of Saskatchewan and a M.Sc (Econ) from the London School of Economics.
Mr Bunn Nagara  
**Senior Fellow, Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia**

Mr Bunn Nagara is a Senior Fellow at ISIS Malaysia, an Affiliate of the Thai Studies Programme at the University of Malaya, a member of the Perak Academy and a commentator on strategic issues. He was Senior Analyst and Visiting Fellow at ISIS, Research Fellow at the Institute of South-East Asian Studies (Singapore) and ASEAN Fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs (Tokyo). He held senior posts at New Straits Times, New Sabah Times, The Star and TV3 News, was Editor of New Voice of Asia journal, Contributing Editor of South Review, analyst at Malaysian Industry, regional commentator for ABC (Australia) Radio, guest commentator on Asiaweek magazine, Aljazeera television and Channel News Asia, and Consultant Editor for Moderation Monitor journal. For his reports and analyses of the 1986 People Power Revolution he received a Medal of Honor nominated by Philippine media and church leaders. Besides publishing in international journals and the Asian press, he has written book chapters on the media and conflict resolution, East Asian regional order and the rise of China. He has also contributed to courses in undergraduate and civil/public service institutions. He graduated from Southampton University and obtained a Post-Graduate Diploma from Uppsala University.

Ambassador Biren Nanda  
**Senior Fellow, Delhi Policy Group**

Upon completion of his Post Graduate degree in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics, Mr Biren Nanda joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1978. Mr Nanda has previously served as a diplomat in Indian Missions in Singapore, Beijing, Shanghai, Washington, D.C., and Tokyo.

He was the Consul General of India in Shanghai from 1996-2000, Deputy Chief of Mission in the Embassy of India in Tokyo from 2000-2004, Ambassador of India to the Republic of Indonesia from 2008 to 2012 and High Commissioner of India to Australia from 2012 to 2015. Mr Nanda retired from the Indian Foreign Service in January 2015. He is presently a Senior Fellow in the Delhi Policy Group, a Think Tank based in Delhi.
**Prof. Harsh V. Pant**  
*Distinguished Fellow and Head, Strategic Studies Programme, ORF*

Professor Harsh V Pant is Distinguished Fellow and Head of Strategic Studies at Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi. He holds a joint appointment as Professor of International Relations in Defence Studies Department and the India Institute at King’s College London. He is also a Non-Resident Fellow with the Wadhwani Chair in US-India Policy Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, DC. He has been a Visiting Professor at the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore; a Visiting Fellow at the Center for the Advanced Study of India, University of Pennsylvania; a Visiting Scholar at the Center for International Peace and Security Studies, McGill University; and an Emerging Leaders Fellow at the Australia-India Institute, University of Melbourne. His current research is focused on Asian security issues.

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**Dr Anak Agung Banyu Perwita**  
*Professor, School of International Relations, President University, Indonesia*

Anak Agung Banyu Perwita is Professor in International Relations, School of International Relations, President University, Kota Jababeka, Cikarang-Bekasi, Indonesia. He obtained his MA in Strategic Studies and International Relations from Lancaster University, UK, funded by British Chevening Scholarship and got his PhD from Flinders University, Australia, funded by Australian Development Scholarship. He is actively involved with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defence, Republic of Indonesia. His latest book is “Maritime Security in the Indo-Pacific” (in English), published by PT Graha Ilmu, Yogyakarta, 2016.
Mr Jones Gabriels Ponudorai
Head-Power Transmission and Distribution-ASEAN, Larsen & Toubro

Jones joined Larsen & Toubro in 2016. He is currently the Business Unit Head of ASEAN, Power Transmission and Distribution operating from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He has over 25 years' experience in the field of Transmission & Distribution having held various senior positions in MNCs, namely Alstom Grid (later GE Grid Solutions), and ABB. A highly experienced professional in his field, his core experience has been in providing Extra High Voltage and Medium Voltage solutions for customers in a number of sectors including, Energy Utility, Infrastructure, Heavy Industry, Mining and Oil & Gas. He has successfully delivered large Substation projects besides also being involved in Sales & Business development in the Asia Pacific region. Jones holds a Master Degree in Business Administration and a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. He has also successfully completed an Executive Leadership Course at Harvard University and Advanced Management Program at INSEAD.

Ms Anita Prakash
Director General, Policy, Policy Planning Department, ERIA, Indonesia

Anita Prakash is Director General (Policy Design Department) at the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) in Jakarta, Indonesia. Her key role at ERIA is policy support to Leaders and senior officials in the governments of Southeast Asia, East Asia and Oceania on political economy, growth, narrowing development gaps, regional economic integration and related matters. She works closely with ASEAN Member states and their Dialogue Partners in the Asia Pacific Region, and also in Europe. Earlier, she worked with Government of India in the Ministry of Human Resource Development and Ministry of Commerce. Her writings cover economic development and cooperation issues in South East and East Asia. She has worked extensively on the trade agreements in ASEAN and East Asia, economic and technical cooperation for the least developed countries in ASEAN, and the economic and political architecture in East Asia. Her current efforts are in Asia's connectivity with Europe and Africa. She edited the 'Asia Europe Connectivity Vision Document 2030' for the ASEM Summit in Mongolia in 2016. She is presently a Visiting Fellow at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.
Ambassador Jayant Prasad  
Director General, IDSA

Jayant Prasad is Director General, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi. He was India’s Ambassador to Afghanistan, Algeria, Nepal, and the UN Conference on Disarmament, Geneva. Before his 37-year public service career, he was lecturer in history, St. Stephen’s College, University of Delhi, after completing his studies at Modern School, St. Stephen’s College, and Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Ambassador Hardeep Singh Puri  
Chairman, Research and Information System for Developing Countries, India

Hardeep Singh Puri has had a distinguished four-decade career in diplomacy spanning the multilateral arena, including as India’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations in both Geneva (2002-2005) and New York (2009-2013). He is one of the few Indians to preside over the United Nations Security Council and the only one to have chaired its Counter-terrorism Committee. He most recently served as Vice President at the International Peace Institute and as Secretary-General of the Independent Commission on Multilateralism in New York. Ambassador Puri is the author of the book ‘Perilous Interventions: The Security Council & The Politics of Chaos, a Harper Collins publication (September 2016). On 15 March 2017, Ambassador Puri was appointed as the President of the Governing Body and Chairman of the Governing Council of the Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries (RIS), a New Delhi based autonomous think-tank that specializes in policy research on international economic issues and development cooperation.
Dr Gulshan Rai  
Coordinator, National Cyber Security, Prime Minister’s Office, India

Dr Gulshan Rai has over 25 years of experience in different areas of Information Technology which include Cyber Security, e-Governance, Legal Framework and the Information Technology Act for e-commerce, and several related fields. At present, he is Director General, CERT-In (Indian Computer Emergency Response Team) and Group Coordinator of E-Security and Cyber Law Division in the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology. Prior to this he was Executive Director, ERNET India for over 7 years and he was instrumental in setting up of the first large scale education and research network in close collaboration with the leading educational and research institutions in the country. Dr Rai has been working since 1998 in the area of evolving legal framework to address issues arising out of cyberspace. His sustained efforts in the area has resulted in second Technology Legislation in the History of India i.e. Information Technology Act and recent amendments in the Act. Dr Rai is particularly focused on developing security capabilities in the country through increased security education programs. He has initiated several programs in this area with industry and educational institutions. He has enhanced the security of government infrastructure through an effective security framework that prescribes standards, and audits by a panel of independent auditors. Dr Rai holds a doctoral degree and M.Tech., and has published several papers, and reports on e-commerce, cyber security, cyber laws, education and networking and has presented the same in several national and international conferences.

Dr Ajit Ranade  
President & Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group, India

Dr Ajit Ranade is the Chief Economist at Aditya Birla Group, Corporate Economics Cell (CEC), a research-based advisor for the Aditya Birla Group. He has also served as Chief Economist at ABN AMRO Bank. He serves as a Director on the Board of Hindalco Almex Aerospace Limited, a joint venture company of Hindalco and Almex Inc. of USA between 2007 to 2011. He was Government of India’s nominee as Independent Director of Multi Commodity Exchange of India Ltd., from September 22, 2007 to April 1, 2010. He has served on various committees of the Reserve Bank of India, including the committee for Fuller Capital Account Convertibility and the committee to review FEMA for Individuals.

He chairs the Research Advisory Panel of the Indian Institute of Banking and Finance. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the of Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay. He is also a columnist with Mumbai Mirror, writes at FirstPost, Business Standard, IBNLive, The Economist Times and has authored several books.
Mr R. Ravindran
Speaker, SAEA Research Group, Singapore

Mr Ravindran is the Chairman of SAEA Research Group (SAEA) based in Singapore. SAEA undertakes research on strategic and economic issues in the Asia Pacific region with a special focus on South Asia and ASEAN. He is a partner with Colin Ng & Partners LLP and has been in legal practice for more than 30 years. He holds a LL.B and LL.M. He sits on the Boards of Singapore listed companies. He was a former Member of Parliament in Singapore and Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for Defence and Foreign Affairs. Other prior appointments include Deputy Chairman of the Government Parliamentary Committee for Home Affairs and Law, the Marine Parade Town Council, the South East Community Development Council, the Singapore Institute of Directors and the Singapore Academy of Law.

Dr Joefe B. Santarita
Dean, Asian Centre, University of the Philippines, Quezon City

Joefe B. Santarita is currently the Dean and an Associate Professor of the University of the Philippines’ Asian Center as well as faculty affiliate in the UP Open University (UPOU). He completed his doctoral degree in South Asian Studies from the National University of Singapore. His research interests focus on Indian Studies, Migration Studies, Philippine Culture and Society, Maritime History, and Southeast Asian Political Economy. His publications include Growth and Government: The Rise of Information Technology Enabled Services’ Centres in India and the Philippines. State, Society and Information Technology in Asia (Surrey: Ashgate, 2014); Capitalizing on Cultural Connections: Indian Influences in the Philippines. Civilizational Dialogue: Asian Inter-connections and Cross-cultural Exchanges. (New Delhi: Manohar, 2013); Construction, Negotiation and Reproduction of Identity: The Sikhs in the Philippines. Sikhs in Multicultural Southeast Asia – Negotiating an Identity (Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS). 2011); and Contemporary Indian Communities in Western Visayas. Rising India and Indians in East Asia (Singapore: ISEAS, 2008). Moreover, Dr Santarita also served as writer contributor in the UPOU’s module on Selected Topics on Social Studies and Anthropology as well as recipients of several awards and grants both in the Philippines and abroad.
Dr Bouadam Sengkhamkhoutlavong
Director, Asia Research Centre, Laos

Associate Professor Dr Bouadam Sengkhamkhoutlavong, currently, he is the Director of the Asia Research Center (ARC), National University of Laos (NUOL). He has been awarded Doctor of Philosophy in the Educational Administration. His academic interest lies in the field of education management. He has been engaged for more than 32 years of his active life in teaching and service in the education management in the NUOL. Prior to his appointment as the Director of Asia Research Center, he ably shouldered responsibility as Vice Dean for student development in the Faculty of Architecture, NUOL from 2004-2006. He became associate professor in 2006. Assoc. He has also conducted research, published and translated from English to Lao several text books. He has attended and presented papers in various international workshops, seminars, academic conferences and forums. In his current role, Assoc. Prof. Dr Bouadam S. has undertaken efforts to accelerate research activities, focusing on the development of guidance, research methodology and management as well as promoting academic conference and training in NUOL.

Dr Shekhar Shah
Director-General, NCAER, India

Dr Shekhar Shah is the Director-General of NCAER. Prior to joining NCAER, Shah was the World Bank’s Regional Economic Adviser for South Asia and, earlier Sector Manager in the Bank’s research complex and a principal author of the 2004 World Development Report, Making Services Work for Poor People. During a career at the Bank spanning more than two decades, Shah served as the Bank’s Deputy Research Administrator, Sector Manager for Governance and Public Sector Management for Europe and Central Asia, South Asia Governance Adviser and Public Sector Coordinator, and Lead Economist for Bangladesh. Before joining the Bank in 1989, he was the Ford Foundation’s Program Officer for Economics for South Asia. He worked earlier in the financial services sector in Washington DC consulting for the Federal Reserve Board, FDIC, the OCC, and bank holding companies in the US. He received his BA in Economics from St Stephens College at Delhi University and his MA and PhD in Economics from Columbia University.
Mr Pranjal Sharma
Economic Analyst and Writer, Columnist, Business World and DNA

Pranjal Sharma is an economic analyst, advisor and writer who focuses on technology, globalisation and media. He guides projects on economic forecasting, business intelligence and public diplomacy with Indian and global organisations. Pranjal creates and develops research projects that interpret policy impact on industry and society. He works with leading chambers of industry on policy advocacy and leads public discourse at several industry platforms in India and abroad. Pranjal served as a member on the Global Agenda Council on Transparency and Anti-Corruption at the World Economic Forum for eight years. He is now on the Advisory Board of Partnership Against Corruption Initiative of WEF. He is also a Speaker at The Outstanding Speakers Bureau. He edited and contributed to FICCI book Economy of Jobs. He is also the co-author of The Z Factor. He is writing his next book on how technology is changing business models. Pranjal has written and edited several reports and papers on economic development. He is visiting and guest faculty at post graduate schools. Apart from his economic advisory role, he hosted a weekly conversation show The Appointment on leadership and strategy for Zee Network and is now working on a new show. He writes opinion pieces for Business World magazine, DNA Newspaper among other publications.

Mr Benny Y. P. Siahaan
Director, Directorate for ASEAN External Cooperation at MOFA, Indonesia

Benny Y. P. Siahaan (Mr) is appointed as Director for ASEAN External Cooperation on 3rd January 2017. Prior to his current position, he was assigned to various Indonesian missions abroad, namely the Consulate General of the Republic of Indonesia in New York (2013-2017), the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Nations in Geneva (2006-2010) and the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Damascus (1998-2002). He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1994. In the Ministry, he mostly dealt with multilateral affairs with emphasis on human rights and humanitarian issues, which was reflected in his position as Deputy Director at the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Directorate (2010-2013), Head of Section for Civil and Political Rights Promotion at the Human Rights and Humanitarian Affairs Directorate (2002-2003; 2005-2006) and Acting Head of Section of Disarmament Affairs at the Directorate of International Organizations (1996-1998). Mr Siahaan received his Bachelor’s Degree in International Relations from University of Jayabaya in Jakarta (1993) and a post graduate degree (M.A.) from Tsukuba University in Japan, majoring in Southeast Asian Studies in 2004 (with distinction). As a career diplomat, he completed his Junior Diplomatic Training (Sekdilu) in 1995, Mid-Level Diplomatic Training (Sesdilu) in 2005 and Senior Level Diplomatic Training (Sesparlu) in 2012.
**Prof. Sunaina Singh**  
*Vice Chancellor, Nalanda University*

As the Vice Chancellor of an internationally acclaimed historical University, Prof. Sunaina Singh is among the most prominent leaders of higher education in the South Asian region. A distinguished academician and administrator, she also holds the position of the Vice President of Indian Council for Cultural Relations. She has the distinction of being the first Indian woman to head as the President of the Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute, a bi-national research institution. Before joining Nalanda she served a full term of 5 years as the Vice Chancellor of the English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad. Prof. Singh brings with her a rich blend of scholarship, professional integrity and administrative competency. Her impeccable and proven track record as an able and a visionary administrator is acknowledged by the numerous awards bestowed upon her: Education Leadership Award, 2017; Bharat Gaurav Award, 2016 (IIFS); Chanakya Award for Excellence in Good Governance, 2014 (PRCI); Education Leadership Award, 2014 and 2016 (World Education Congress). An acclaimed Professor of ‘Comparative Literature’ and ‘Culture’, Prof. Singh presents a rare blend of excellence in both her roles as an academic and as an administrator. She is widely known for her leadership and integrity.

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**Mr Arun Mohan Sukumar**  
*Head, Cyber Security and Internet Governance Initiative, ORF, India*

Arun Sukumar heads ORF’s Cyber Security and Internet Governance Initiative and is the Co-Chair of CyFy: The India Conference on Cyber Security and Internet Governance. He is the elected Vice Chair of the Asia-Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum. By invitation from the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), Arun recently served as an independent legal expert to the UN GGE, the intergovernmental forum tasked with conceiving cyber norms. He was also the non-governmental representative in India’s official delegation to the Tallinn Manual consultations to articulate laws of armed conflict in cyberspace.

Arun is a member of the World Economic Forum’s Global Future Council on the Digital Economy and Society. He has previously served on the editorial board of The Hindu, and is a lawyer by training.
Ambassador Nalin Surie  
Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs, India

Nalin Surie trained as an economist and completed his Masters from the Delhi School of Economics in 1972. He joined the Indian Foreign Service in July 1973. He has served in Indian missions in Hong Kong, Brussels, Dar-es-Salaam, Thimphu, New York (as Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN), as Ambassador in both Warsaw and Beijing and High Commissioner to the United Kingdom. At headquarters he has served both in the Department of Economic Affairs (Ministry of Finance) and the Ministry of External Affairs. In the latter his assignments included, on separate occasions, Head of the East Europe and East Asia Divisions and as Secretary (West). Nalin Surie is a seasoned diplomat who has extensive cross-sectoral experience on issues ranging across India’s northern neighbourhood, China, Eastern Europe, The European Union, Africa, Latin America, Canada, IBSA and the UN. During his career he also focused on India’s external economic relations and the international economy. He retired from the Indian Foreign service in August 2011 and was President of The Association of Indian Diplomats during 2014-15. He was appointed as Director General of The Indian Council of World Affairs on 24, July 2015.

Prof. C. Joshua Thomas  
ASEAN Studies Centre, Shillong, India

Prof. C. Joshua Thomas is presently the Deputy Director at the ICSSR North Eastern Regional Centre, Shillong. He is also the Coordinator, ASEAN Studies Centre, funded by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.

He is known for his pioneering research in diverse fields of social sciences in North-East India. His areas of interest include: issues related to ethnicity, insurgency, peace process, cross border trade, and India’s relations with neighbouring countries particularly with Bangladesh, China and Myanmar. Some of his co-authored and co-edited books include: Act East and India’s North-East (with Sarda, 2017: Pentagon Press); Look East to Act East Policy – Implications for India’s Northeast (with Gurudas Das, 2016: Routledge), India-China: Trade and Strategy for Frontier Development (with Gurudas Das, 2010: Bookwell), BCIM Forum for Regional Cooperation: Geo-economic and Geo-politics (with Gurudas in press: Routledge). He is the Managing Editor of the Journal Man and Society – A Journal of North-East Studies. He can be reached at: cjoshuathomas@gmail.com
Dr Deth Sok Udom

**Political Science & IR, Rector, President Zaman University, Cambodia**

Dr Sok Udom Deth is an Associate Professor of International Relations and the Rector of Zaman University (Cambodia). He is concurrently a Senior Research Fellow at the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP) and an Advisory Board member of ActionAid Cambodia. Dr Deth earned his Bachelor’s degree with High Honors in Sociology from Boğaziçi University (Turkey), Master’s degree in Southeast Asian Studies from Ohio University (USA), and PhD in Southeast Asian Studies from Humboldt University of Berlin.

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Ambassador Anil Wadhwa

**Former Indian Ambassador**

Mr Anil Wadhwa has been a member of the Indian Foreign Service since July 1, 1979. Mr Anil Wadhwa has served as the Indian Ambassador to Poland (March 2004 to August 2007), to the Sultanate of Oman (August 2007 to September 2011), to the Kingdom of Thailand (Nov 2011 to Jan 2014), Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs (January 2014 to March 2016), and Ambassador to Italy (March 2016 to May 2017). He holds a Master’s Degree in History with specialization in Chinese history and Medieval Indian history and architecture. He has undertaken several prestigious diplomatic assignments in various capacities.