



## AIC-RIS Activities on 25 Years Celebration of ASEAN-India Partnership



### Events

#### 5th Roundtable of the ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT), 6-7 January 2018, Jakarta

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS in collaboration with the Indonesian Institute of Science (LIPI), Indian Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta, ASEAN Secretariat, Ministry of External Affairs of India, Indonesian Foreign Ministry organized the

5th Roundtable of the ASEAN-India Network of Think Tanks (AINTT) on 6-7 January 2018 at Jakarta, Indonesia. The title of the Roundtable was "ASEAN and India: Partners of Integration in Asia". The roundtable provided space for

experts and scholars from ASEAN countries and India to exchange views on strengthening the already established linkages in political, economic and socio-cultural areas between the two regions. Welcome Address was given by Amb. Suresh



Group photo of 5th Roundtable of AINTT participants

## Events

Reddy, Ambassador to ASEAN. Hon'ble Sushma Swaraj, External Affairs Minister of India delivered the Inaugural Address. Keynote Address was given by H.E. Retno Marsudi, Foreign Minister of Indonesia. Special Remarks was delivered by H.E. Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary General of ASEAN. The 4th AINTT Proceedings on "ASEAN-India: Strengthening the Ties That Bind" was released at this roundtable. Vote of Thanks was extended by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi. All the ASEAN

countries nominated their officials and experts to the Roundtable, and over 100 participants including senior officials attended this event.

The Roundtable was divided into five major sessions to identify the maritime challenges between ASEAN and India that need to be addressed through greater cooperation; to review the barriers to services trade between ASEAN and India and make a series of recommendations to strengthen the economic relations; to deal with cultural heritage of ASEAN and India and identify the scope and opportunities in promoting shared cultural

relations; to identify the barriers to educational cooperation and design a way forward to strengthen the partnership and finally, to discuss the potential and challenges of ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and implication for India and other dialogue partners. The Roundtable discussed analysed and had put together the various components that would help strengthening the partnership between ASEAN and India. Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC presented the summary of the roundtable and delivered the Vote of Thanks.



*Release of AINTT Report by External Affairs Minister of India and Foreign Minister of Indonesia*



## Events

### International Conference on “ASEAN-India @ 25: Retrospection and the Way Ahead”, 12 January 2018, New Delhi

To commemorate the 25 Years of ASEAN-India Partnership, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS organised an International Conference on “ASEAN-India @25: Retrospection and the Way Ahead” at New Delhi on 12 January 2018. Welcome Address was given by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Opening Address was delivered by Amb. Mohan Kumar, Vice-Chairman, RIS. H.E. Mr. Sidharto Reza Suryodipuro, Ambassador of Indonesia in India gave the Special

Address. Special Remarks was given by Amb. Sudhir Devre, Chairperson of RIS Research Advisory Council and Former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC made a presentation on e-compendium. The event also marked the release of e-compendium of RIS's Contributions to ASEAN-India Relations. The Conference was divided into three sessions: Look East to Act East: India's Journey from Dialogue Partnership to Strategic

Partnership; achievement and way forward on ASEAN-India Economic Partnership. Senior scholars from Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand and Indonesia attended the event as panellists. ASEAN HOMs in Delhi also attended and nominated their senior representatives. The panellists and participants of the Conference were government officials, practitioners, academicians, researchers and media. Prof. Prabir De extended the Vote of Thanks.



*Release of AIC-RIS e-compendium on ASEAN-India relations*

## Events

### Keynote Address on ASEAN-India Partnership by Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs, Government of India, 22 June 2017, New Delhi

To commemorate the 25 years of ASEAN-India Partnership, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, Government of India delivered a Keynote Address at RIS on "ASEAN-India Partnership" on 22 June 2017 at India Habitat Centre (IHC), New Delhi. Welcome Remarks was given by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairman, RIS gave Introductory Remarks. H.E. Ton Sinh Thnh, Ambassador of Vietnam to India and Amb. Amar Sinha, Secretary

(Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India were the distinguish panelists of the discussion. Ambassadors from various ASEAN member countries, Senior Officials from ASEAN countries, Indian Ambassadors and Senior Officials, academicians and researchers attended this event.

In her Keynote Address, Smt. Sushma Swaraj discussed various aspects of India's strategic partnership with ASEAN. India has been working with ASEAN towards evolving regional security architecture

in the Asia Pacific that hinges on the peaceful settlement of disputes, finding collaborative solutions to emerging and non-traditional challenges, and support for the centrality of ASEAN. According to the EAM, India was actively engaged in Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) negotiations involving ASEAN and its FTA partners, which, when finalized, would be the largest regional trading arrangement, accounting for about 40 per cent of



(From L-R) Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairman, RIS, Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs and H.E. Ton Sinh Thnh, Ambassador of Vietnam to India



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Participants of ASEAN India Partnership of 25 years celebration

world trade. EAM said that efforts were on to enhance connectivity by land, air and sea to transform

the corridors of connectivity into corridors of economic cooperation. The Northeast Region is a 'natural

partner' in India's Act East Policy (AEP). Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC extended the Vote of Thanks.

## Policy Dialogue on Mekong-Ganga Cooperation “Stronger Connectivity and Enhancing Ties”, 8th April 2017, New Delhi

ASEAN India Centre (AIC) at RIS in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), organized a Policy Dialogue on Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) titled “Stronger Connectivity and Enhancing Ties” on 8 April, 2017 at India Habitat Centre (IHC), New Delhi. Welcome Address was given by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairman, RIS gave the Opening Address. Dr Dinesh Dua, representing the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), delivered a Special Address. Prof. Lokesh Chandra, President, Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) extended a Special Address. Amb. Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) delivered the Keynote Address



Amb. Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India releasing the AIC-RIS report entitled “Mekong-Ganga Cooperation: Breaking Barriers and Seeking New Heights”. (From left to right) Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi; Ms. Pooja Kapoor; Joint Secretary, MEA; Amb. Hardeep S Puri; Prof. Lokesh Chandra, President, Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR); and Dr Dinesh Dua, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

and released the AIC-RIS Report on “Mekong-Ganga Cooperation: Breaking Barriers and Seeking New Heights”. Ms. Pooja Kapoor, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) extended the Vote of Thanks.

The Policy Dialogue was organised in pursuance to the announcement of Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs at the 7th Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) Ministers Meeting, held at

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*Participants of the Policy Dialogue on Mekong-Ganga Cooperation*

Vientiane on 24 July, 2016. All MGC member countries have nominated participants to this Policy Dialogue, and over 100 delegates including senior officials from foreign offices attended this event. The Policy Dialogue was divided into four

sessions aimed at facilitating an in-depth discussion on various aspects relating to the experiences of India and Mekong countries with respect to new initiatives and ideas, that would help formulate an actionable policy agenda for strengthening the MGC through

connectivity. The themes focused on at these sessions were: Physical and Digital Connectivity; Trade, Investment, Regional Value Chains; and cultural relations and People-to-People contacts. Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS presented the summary and Vote of Thanks.

## Second International Conference on “Cultural and Civilisational Links between India and Southeast Asia”, 19 January 2017, Jakarta, Indonesia

ASEAN-India Centre at RIS in association with Indian Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta, ASEAN Secretariat, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, Indonesian Foreign Ministry, Government of Indonesia organized the 2nd International Conference on Cultural and Civilizational Links between India and ASEAN at Jakarta on 19 January 2017. H.E. General (Dr.) V.K. Singh (Rtd.), Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India extended the Keynote Address. Amb. Suresh K.



*Participants of the 2nd International Conference on “Cultural and Civilisational Links between India and Southeast Asia” with General V.K. Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs, GoI and Amb. Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), MEA*



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Reddy, Ambassador of India to ASEAN gave the Opening Remarks. Special Address was given by H.E. Mr. A. M. Fachir, Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Indonesia. H.E. Mr. Vongthep Arthakaivalvatee, Deputy Secretary General of ASEAN and H.E. Nguyen Quoc Dung, Dy. Foreign Minister, Vietnam made the Remarks. Amb. Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India made the Valedictory Address. Dr Prabir De, Professor, RIS and Coordinator, AIC extended the Vote of Thanks.

All the ASEAN countries nominated their officials and experts to the Conference, and overall 100 participants including senior officials attended this one-day event. This Conference was the follow up of the 1st International Conference on “ASEAN-India Cultural Links: Historical and Contemporary Dimensions”, held at New Delhi on 23-24 July 2015. The 2nd Conference was also the first event to commemorate the celebration of 25 years of Dialogue level Partnership between ASEAN

and India. The Conference was divided into four sessions to identify emerging challenges to ASEAN-India strategic partnership through people to people connectivity and cultural relations, and to identify the feasible policy options to overcome the challenges from the perspective of ASEAN community blueprints. The Conference discussed, analysed and had put together the various components that would help understanding the cultural links between ASEAN and India.

## Delhi Dialogue 9 – ‘ASEAN-India Relations: Charting the Course for the Next 25 Years’, 4-5 July 2017, New Delhi

Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon’ble External Affairs Minister, Government of India inaugurated the two-day Delhi Dialogue IX on 4-5 July 2017 at New Delhi, on the theme “ASEAN-India Relations: Charting the Course for the Next 25 Years”. This dialogue is being organized

by the Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS), Singapore, SAEA Group Research, Singapore, Economic

Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta, Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS), Malaysia, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and ASEAN-India Centre. It is supported by the Indian Council for Research on



*Smt. Sushma Swaraj, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, Government of India with other dignitaries of ASEAN countries at the Delhi Dialogue IX*

## Events

International Economic Relations (ICRIER); the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII); the Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM); All India Association of Industries (AIAI), Mumbai; and Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Kolkata. Political leaders, policy makers, senior officials, business leaders, think tanks, academics from India and ASEAN were participated in this two-day event. The session were also participated by Gen. (Dr.) V.K. Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs; Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Chief Minister of Assam; H.E. Mr. Pham Binh Minh, Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs, Viet Nam; H.E. U Kyaw Tint

Swe, Union Minister, Ministry of the Office of the State Counsellor, Myanmar and H.E. Hirubalan V P, Deputy Secretary-General for ASEAN Political-Security Community Department, ASEAN Secretariat.

The Delhi Dialogue IX was broadly divided into three sessions viz. Ministerial Sessions, Business Sessions, and Academics Sessions to facilitated the debate on various aspects on ASEAN India relations. Some of the panel discussions held during the event were on 'International economic trends and their impact on India and ASEAN', 'India-ASEAN Trade Relations', 'India-ASEAN Partnership: Building Regional Network to promote SMEs

and Women's Empowerment', 'India-ASEAN Infrastructure Investments: Current Scenario and the Way Forward', 'Trade and Tourism through Connectivity - Focus North East and East', 'Regional Geopolitics: Great Power Politics in the Asia-Pacific', 'New Connectivity Paradigm in the Asia-Pacific', 'Technology, Innovation and Big Data', and 'Socio-Cultural Engagement and Diaspora Links'. Dr. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC was a Pannellist at the Panel Discussion on **"New Connectivity Paradigms in the Asia-Pacific"** and made a presentation on the ongoing India's connectivity projects with several ASEAN countries.

## ASEAN-India Connectivity Summit: Powering Digital and Physical Linkages for Asia in the 21st Century, 11-12 December 2017, New Delhi,

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) organized the first ever ASEAN-India Connectivity Summit (AICS) on 11-12 December 2017 at New Delhi. AICS was organized to commemorate the 25 years of ASEAN-India dialogue partnership. The objective of AICS was to discuss and identify potential of collaboration across the various modes of connectivity with a special thrust on digital connectivity. Ms. Shobana Kamineni, President, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) gave the Welcome Address and



From (L-R): Ms Anita Prakash, Director General, Policy Department, ERIA; Mr Rajat Nag, Distinguished Fellow, NCAER; Vice Admiral Pradeep Chauhan, Director, National Maritime Foundation; Mr M J Akbar, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India; Mr Ryoji Furui, Industrial Researcher, JETRO India and Representative of Ministry of Economy, International Trade and Industry of Japan in India; Mr Ronald Buting, Director, South Asia, Asian Development Bank, Philippines and Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC), RIS at the Special Plenary session on Connectivity: Mega Corridors-India's Initiatives



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Moderated the Inaugural Session. Gen. (Dr.) V.K. Singh (Retd), Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India delivered the Special Address. Special Address was also given by H.E. Phan Tam, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Information and Communications of Vietnam, Government of Vietnam. Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister for Road, Transport and Highways, Shipping and Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India delivered the Keynote Address.

This Two-Day Summit was consisting of one inaugural session, followed by one special plenary, six plenary and four parallel sessions. The event was attended by government officials, policy-makers, investors, business leaders, trade bodies and associations and entrepreneurs of ASEAN countries and India. Several senior ministers of India and ASEAN countries



From (L-R): Mr Pankaj Tandon, Vice President, T&D-SAARC, KEC International; Mr Prashant Agarwal, JS (DPA – I), Ministry of External Affairs, GOI; Mr S Selvakumar JS (ABC), Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance; Mr Nadeem Panjatan, CGM – LoC Group, EXIM Bank and Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, DG, RIS at Plenary Session on Building Connectivity: Line of Credit.

addressed to the AICS apart from inaugural sessions are Mr. M.J. Akbar, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India; Mr. Lim Cheen, Director, ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta; Mr. Manoj Sinha, Hon'ble Minister of State for Communication (Independent Charge), Government of India and Mr. P.D. Rai, Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) including Mr. Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Shipping and Water Resources, River Development and Ganga

Rejuvenation, India. This Summit reflects India's strong commitment to work together with all the stakeholders to enhance connectivity in India, with ASEAN and with other countries in the Indo-Pacific region. India's connectivity initiatives spanning across physical and digital projects are tailored to complement the strategic areas of Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025 especially sustainable infrastructure, digital innovation, seamless logistics, regulatory excellence and people mobility.

## ASEAN-India Forum on “Philippines and India: Strengthening ASEAN-India Partnership”, 21 November 2017, Manila

To commemorate 25 years of ASEAN-India Partnership, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS in collaboration with ASEAN India Business Council, Asia Pacific Pathways to Progress Foundation, Inc., Philippines; Insperon, Philippines; New Era University, Philippines and Embassy of India, Manila, Philippines organised a ASEAN-India Forum on Philippines

and India: Strengthening ASEAN-India Partnership at Manila on 21 November 2017. Mr. James Manzanero, COO, Eagle Broadcasting Corporation gave the Welcome Remarks, Hon. Manuel Antonio J. Teehankee, Undersecretary for International Economic Relations, Department of Foreign Affairs, the Philippines made a Special Address, H.E. Ambassador

Jaideep Mazumda, Ambassador of India to the Philippines delivered the Keynote Address. Dr. Carlos C. Tabunda, Director, ASEAN Studies Centre, New Era University (NEU) extended the Vote of Thanks.

The Forum was divided into four sessions to identify the challenges and way forward in strengthening India and Philippines relationship through exploring the

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Philippine's perspective on economic cooperation, political convergence and strategic partnerships and how India's Act East Policy have gained the momentum; to explore the trade and connectivity aspects of ASEAN-India relations with particular focus on the Philippines; to endorse people-to-people links and cultural relations and a session on discussing the challenges to India-Philippines relations and highlight the way forward. Dr. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS and Dr. Carlos Tabunda Jr., Director, ASEAN Studies Center, NEU extended the Vote of Thanks.



*Participants of ASEAN-India Forum on Philippines and India relation*

## Joint International Workshop on India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Relations, 6-7 September, 2017, Kolkata

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS, New Delhi; ASEAN Studies Center and Indian Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, in collaboration with Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAISAS), Kolkata and Centre for Studies in International Relations and Development (CSIRD), Kolkata organised a joint international workshop on "India-Myanmar Thailand Trilateral Relationship: Way Towards a Stronger ASEAN-India Partnership" on 6-7 September 2017 at MAKASIS, Kolkata. Dr. Binoda Mishra, Director, Centre for Studies in International Relations and Development (CSIRD), Kolkata welcomed the participants. Dr. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS, New Delhi delivered an Opening Remarks. Prof. Suthiphand Chirathivat, Executive Director, ASEAN Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University,



*Participants of the International Workshop on India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Relations*

Bangkok gave the Inaugural Address. Amb. Rajiv Bhatia, Distinguished Fellow, Gateway House, Mumbai, and Former Indian Ambassador to Myanmar delivered a Special Address.

The objectives of the workshop were to (i) identify the challenges that India-Myanmar-Thailand

trilateral relationship has been facing in the context of ASEAN-India partnership; (ii) present the strategies and policies to be undertaken in order to strengthen the trilateral relationship; and (iii) publish the research findings to the attention of the policy-makers. The event was attended by over 25



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delegates, which included academic researchers, government officials and foreign official's representatives. The workshop had seven sessions which included an opening session, a session each focusing on Dynamics of Trilateral Cooperation; Foreign Policy and Security Issues; Cultural Links; Trade and Investment related issues. The workshop aimed at

facilitating an in-depth discussion on various aspects relating to the experiences of India, Myanmar and Thailand with respect to new initiatives and ideas, that would help formulate an actionable policy agenda for strengthening the Trilateral Cooperation. Towards the end, Prof. Suthiphand Chirathivat, ASEAN

Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok and Dr. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC summed up the proceedings. Closing Remarks was given by Prof. J K Ray, National Professor, Kolkata. Finally, Vote of Thanks was delivered by Dr. Arpita Basu Roy, Senior Fellow, CSIRD, Kolkata.

## Roundtable Discussion on 25 Years of ASEAN-India Partnership, 22 June 2017, New Delhi.

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS organised a Roundtable on "25 Years of ASEAN- India Partnership" on 22 June 2017 at India Habitat Centre (IHC), New Delhi. Welcome Address was given by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS. The Session was Chaired by Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairman, RIS. Opening Address was given by H.E. Ton Sinh

Thnh, Ambassador of Vietnam to India. Special Remarks was given by Amb. Amar Sinha, Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. Ambassadors and Senior Officials of ASEAN member countries, former Ambassadors of India, academicians and researchers attended this programme. Prof. Prabir De made a presentation

on 25 years of ASEAN-India relations covering trade, investment, connectivity and cultural linkages, followed by discussion across the table. All participants discussed the success story of ASEAN-India relations and highlighted several policy measures for the way forward. Finally, Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC extended the Vote of Thanks.



*In picture (from right to left) Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; H.E. Ton Sinh Thnh, Ambassador of Vietnam to India; Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairman, RIS; Amb. Amar Sinha, Secretary (Economic Relations), MEA; Dr. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS.*

## Events

### Kolkata Roundtable “ASEAN@50 and ASEAN-India@25”, Calcutta University, 22 December 2017, Kolkata

To commemorate the 25 years of ASEAN-India Partnership and 50 years of ASEAN, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS in partner with Institute of Foreign Policy Studies (IFPS) of Calcutta University and Centre for Studies in International Relations and Development (CSIRD) organised a roundtable on “ASEAN@50 and ASEAN-India@25” at Calcutta University, Alipore Campus, Kolkata on 22 December 2017. Welcome Address was given by Prof. Shantanu Chakraborty, IFPS, Calcutta University. Opening Speech was given by Prof. Hari Vasudevan. Ambassador Sarbajit Chakravarti delivered the Special Address.



*Participants at the Kolkata Round table on ASEAN@50 and ASEAN-India@25*

Panellists in this roundtable were Mr Ambarish Dasgupta, Founder Director of Intueri Consulting, Lt Gen John Mukherjee; Dr. Ishani Naskar, Professor, Rabindra Bharti

University, Kolkata; Maj. Gen Arun Roye, CNRES-K, Kolkata; and Dr. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC. Finally, Dr Binoda Mishra delivered the Vote of Thanks and summarised the roundtable.

## ASEAN-India Eminent Person Lecture

### ASEAN-India Eminent Person Lecture by Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray, 13-27 February 2017, Vietnam

ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS with support of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India and ASEAN Secretariat has been organizing the ASEAN-India Eminent Person Lecture Series (AIEPLS). The objective of the AIEPLS is to facilitate people-to-people contact between India and ASEAN through exchange of

eminent scholars and policy makers. Prof. Himanshu Prabha Ray, who was formerly with the Jawaharlal Nehru University and Chairperson, National Monuments Authority, Ministry of Culture, visited Vietnam under the AIEPLS and delivered two lectures. Her first lecture was on “Writing, Power And Identity: The Literate Tradition across The Bay of

Bengal” at Ho Chi Minh City on 13 February 2017, organised by the Center of Archaeology, Southern Institute of Social Sciences, Vietnam. Her second lecture was on “Shared Maritime Heritage: Towards a Sustainable Future”, which was delivered on 27 February 2017 at Hanoi.



## Visit of Delegation

### Visit of ASEAN Journalists, 4 July 2017

A group of 20 journalists of ASEAN countries visited the AIC at RIS on 4 July 2017. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi gave Opening Remarks. Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairman, RIS presented an overview of the ASEAN-India strategic partnership and the changing dynamics of Indian foreign policy. Activities of the AIC were also briefed to the visiting journalists. Amb. Puri also answered the questions raised by the visiting journalists. Vote of Thanks was given by Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC.



*RIS Faculty with ASEAN Journalists.*

### Visit of ASEAN Permanent Representatives, 7 July 2017

ASEAN's Permanent Representatives visited the AIC at RIS on 7 July 2017. Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairman, RIS gave a presentation on the significance of ASEAN-India strategic partnership given the dynamic changes in geo-political scenario. ASEAN Diplomat had a fruitful interaction with Amb. Puri. Finally, Vote of Thanks was given by Prof. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC.



*ASEAN CPRs with Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri and Amb. Suresh Reddy, ASEAN Mission to Jakarta.*

### Visit of Delegation from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, 11 August 2017



*Members of the Chulalongkorn University (CU), Bangkok, with RIS faculty-members.*

Young scholars and research team from ASEAN Studies Centre and India Studies Centre of Chulalongkorn University (CU)

Bangkok visited the ASEAN-India Centre at RIS on 11 August 2017. The delegation was headed by Dr. Surat Horachaikul, Director,

Indian Studies Center, Faculty of Political Science, Chulalongkorn University. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS Welcomed the Delegates and gave Opening Remarks. His Excellency Mr. Chutintorn Gongsakdi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to India gave Special Remarks. Dr. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC at RIS gave presentation on India-Thailand Relationship. Followed by young scholars, Delegates and RIS faculty members had exchanged views on India-Thailand relations.

## Culture Programme

### The ASEAN Quiz, 1 September 2017, New Delhi

The Royal Thai Embassy, in collaboration with the ASEAN New Delhi Committee and the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS, organized 'The ASEAN Quiz' on 1st September 2017 at Arya Auditorium, New Delhi. The event marked the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of ASEAN and the 25th anniversary of ASEAN-India Dialogue Relations & aimed to spread awareness of ASEAN and its achievements among the Indian public especially Indian youths, leading to greater understanding of the organization

and its Member States, their peoples & their interactions with India over the last 25 years. 150 teams, each of 3 students, from various schools and colleges across Delhi-NCR participated in the Quiz, which was focused on ASEAN, its history, achievements, and Member States, along with their cultures; financial, technological and industrial developments; sporting and individual achievements; as well as questions in the realms of art, leisure and entertainment in the Member States, individually and as a community.

His Excellency Mr. Chutintorn Gongsakdi, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Thailand to India and current Chair of ASEAN New Delhi Committee, gave a Keynote Address before the Grand Finale. A special Vote of Thanks was presented by Mr. Apirat Sugondhabhirom, Minister & Deputy Chief of Mission of the Royal Thai Embassy, who thanked the ASEAN New Delhi Committee, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC), and the participants for making the ASEAN Quiz a huge success. Dr Durairaj Kumarasamy represented AIC at the programme.



*Group Photo with the ASEAN Delegates and Grand Finale Contestants, 1 September 2017, New Delhi.*



## Book Release

### Release of AIC-RIS Report 'India-Singapore: Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)', 27 March 2017, New Delhi

Smt. Rita Teatia, Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India and Ambassador Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India released the AIC-RIS Report entitled "India-Singapore: Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)" on 27 March 2017. This Report launch was organised by ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), New Delhi. Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director

General, RIS delivered the Welcome Address. Opening Remarks extended by Mr. Shreekanth Somany, Member, CII National Council and Chairman and Managing Director, Somany Ceramics Ltd. Ms. Rita Teatia, Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry delivered the Special Address. Ambassador Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs gave the Special Address. Special Remarks were made by Dr. Edmund Chia, Acting High Commissioner, Singapore High

Commission in New Delhi and Mr. Gagan Sabharwal, Director, NASSCOM. Ambassador V.S. Seshadri made a presentation on the Report. The Report examines the India-Singapore bilateral economic relations in the light of India-Singapore CECA and ASEAN-India FTA. This Report has important policy recommendation to encourage bilateral trade in both goods and services between India and Singapore. Dr Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC extended the Vote of Thanks.



*Smt. Rita Teatia, Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India and Ambassador Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India released the AIC-RIS Report entitled "India-Singapore: Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)" on 27 March 2017. Photo from (left to right) Dr. Edmund Chia, Acting High Commissioner, Singapore High Commission in New Delhi; Ambassador V.S. Seshadri, Vice Chairman, RIS; Smt. Rita Teatia, Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Ambassador Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs; Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS; Mr. Shreekanth Somany, Member, CII National Council and Chairman and Managing Director, Somany Ceramics Ltd; Mr. Gagan Sabharwal, Director, NASSCOM*

## Publications



### Mekong-Ganga Cooperation: Breaking Barriers and Scaling New Heights, 2017

This Report discusses various aspects of India-Mekong relations such as India-Mekong trade, strengthening regional value chains, facilitating foreign direct investment, connectivity, harnessing border economic zones, Mekong-Ganga cultural fusion, among others. The comprehensive Report makes significant policy recommendations for further strengthening of Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC).



### Mekong-Ganga Policy Brief, No. 7, 2017

Mekong-Ganga Policy Brief (MGPB) seeks to disseminate the policy-related research, news, viewpoints, and information about resources to promote the cause of deeper cooperation between India and Mekong countries. Focus of this issue is on cultural relations between India and Mekong countries. Besides, Mekong-Ganga Cooperation activities, news on MGC, statistics, etc. were also carried out.



### India-Singapore CECA - An Appraisal, 2017

This study has sought to capture trends in bilateral economic relations in trade in goods, services and investment in the light of the various commitments made by the two countries under CECA and subsequently, under the India-ASEAN free trade agreement in goods. The first review of CECA in 2007 expanded the concessions but the second review, which commenced in 2010, has so far remained inconclusive.



### Enhancing Economic Relations between India and Mongolia: Tasks and Opportunities, 2017

Mongolia and India share a long history. To strengthen the India-Mongolia strategic partnership, it is imperative that both sides engage in constructive dialogue on areas of mutual interest such as connectivity, trade in goods and services, investment, etc. Given the thrust of the Act East Policy (AEP) of India, this book analyses the scope and opportunities interdependence in economic areas between India and Mongolia, for and presents an assessment of economic cooperation, identifies challenges, and highlights policy issues to be dealt with to foster bilateral relations.

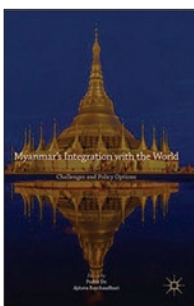


### Celebrating the Third Decade and Beyond: New Challenges to ASEAN-India Economic Partnership, 2017

This book is a timely initiative to review the past and suggest ways to further strengthen economic partnership. It primarily deals with the economic integration issues between ASEAN and India, assesses policy priorities, effectiveness, implementation imperatives and challenges. Each chapter in this book intends to capture essential features of the crosscutting issues and attempts to draw some policy implications.



## Publications



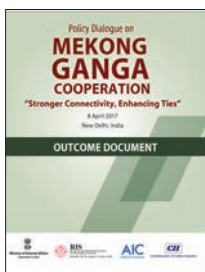
### Myanmar's Integration with the World Challenges and Policy Options, 2017

This book comprehensively investigates the challenges to Myanmar's access to the global market. Myanmar is a late entrant in the global trade and investment scenario after years of isolation. However, it has large untapped potentials for trade and investment in minerals, agro and forest based industries, other labour intensive industries, services like tourism, IT, etc. The book explores the implication of democratic transition of Myanmar, the progress of Myanmar's industry and infrastructure, its international linkages and feasible options for integrating more in regional economic groups and also analyses how far Myanmar could exploit the global value chain.



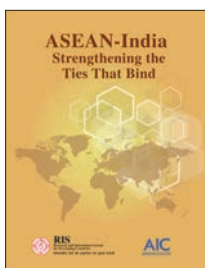
### India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Cooperation (IMT-TC): Way towards a Stronger ASEAN - India Partnership, 2017

This is an outcome document of the International Workshop on "India - Myanmar - Thailand Trilateral Relations: Way Towards a Stronger ASEAN - India Partnership" held on 6 - 7 September 2017 at Kolkata. The document contains summary of deliberations of the workshop and a number of valuable recommendations. The workshop covered different issues including across border trade and investment; value chain linkages; strengthening connectivity for deeper integration with ASEAN and South Asian countries; developing mechanism at the trilateral level to deal with security challenges among others.



### Outcome Document of Mekong-Ganga Cooperation "Stronger Connectivity, Enhancing Ties", 2017

This is an outcome document of the policy dialogue entitled "Stronger Connectivity, Enhancing Ties", held on 8 April, 2017 at New Delhi. This recommended hosting of an MGC seminar focusing on building stronger connectivity and enhancing our multi-dimensional ties. The ASEAN-India Centre at RIS was entrusted with the task of convening such an interaction and providing a platform for sharing of views, ideas and proposals aimed at strengthening MGC. This volume has several policy suggestions for the way forward.



### ASEAN-India Strengthening the Ties That Bind, 2018

This is the proceedings of the Fourth Roundtable of the ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT) held on 7-8 August 2015 at Royale Chulan, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It is part of the process of strengthening the ASEAN-India relationship that RIS had initiated to generate new ideas and suggestions for strengthening ASEAN-India Partnership. This report is bringing several useful ideas and suggestions emerging from the

## Publications

deliberations at the AINTT in one place, which took the following themes for discussion: non-traditional security threats, regional security architecture, and new dimensions of ASEAN-India economic partnership, ASEAN-India cultural links and post-2015 agenda of ASEAN.

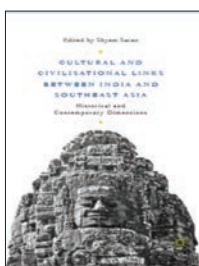
### E-Compendium of RIS Publications of ASEAN-India Relations, 2018

The e-Compendium contains details about the publications that have been there from RIS and AIC since 1993 on various aspects of the ASEAN-India relationship. It covers all publication such as occasional papers, discussion papers, books, reports and journal articles that are focused on ASEAN-India. It is hoped that this e-Compendium would serve as a ready reference for all those interested in analytical studies for promoting and deepening ASEAN-India partnership.



### Cultural and Civilisational Links between India and Southeast Asia: Historical and Contemporary Dimensions, 2018 (Forthcoming)

The book presents the results of the study undertaken by the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) on India's cultural links with Southeast Asia, with particular reference to historical and contemporary dimensions. It traces ancient trade and maritime links, Chola Empire and Southeast Asia, religious exchanges (the Hindu, Buddhist and Islamic heritage), language, scripts and folklore, performing arts, painting and sculpture, architecture, role of the Indian Diaspora, contemporary cultural interaction, etc.





## About RIS

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), a New Delhi based autonomous think-tank under the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, is an organisation that specialises in policy research on international economic issues and development cooperation. RIS is envisioned as a forum for fostering effective policy dialogue and capacity-building among developing countries on international economic issues. The focus of the work programme of RIS is to promote South-South Cooperation and assist developing countries in multilateral negotiations in various forums. RIS is engaged in the Track II process of several regional initiatives. RIS is providing analytical support to the Government of India in the negotiations for concluding comprehensive economic cooperation agreements with partner countries. Through its intensive network of policy think tanks, RIS seeks to strengthen policy coherence on international economic issues. For more information please visit [www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in)

## About AIC

Considering the work of the ASEAN-India Eminent Persons Group (AIEPG), and its Report with recommendations for forging a closer partnership for peace, progress and shared prosperity, the Heads of the State/Government of ASEAN and India at the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit 2012, held at New Delhi on 19-20 December 2012, recommended the establishment of ASEAN India Centre (AIC) using existing resources at New Delhi. AIC was formally inaugurated by the Honourable External Affairs Minister of the Government of India on 21 June 2013. The AIC is serving as a resource centre for ASEAN Member States and India to fill the knowledge gaps that currently limit the opportunities for cooperation. The AIC is closely working with both the ASEAN Division of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to undertake and disseminate policy research and provide analytical policy recommendations. For more information please visit <http://aic.ris.org.in>



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Core IV-B, Fourth Floor, India Habitat Centre  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003, India  
Tel.: +91-11-2468 2177-80, Fax: +91-11-2468 2173-74  
E-mail: [aic@ris.org.in](mailto:aic@ris.org.in); [dgoffice@ris.org.in](mailto:dgoffice@ris.org.in)  
Website: [www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in); <http://aic.ris.org.in>