

ANNUAL REPORT
2016/17

STUDYING CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIA



ISAS

Institute of South Asian Studies

STUDYING CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIA

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The Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) was established in July 2004 as an autonomous research institute at the National University of Singapore. The establishment of ISAS reflects the increasing economic and political importance of South Asia, and the strong historical links between South Asia and Southeast Asia.

ISAS is dedicated to research on contemporary South Asia. It seeks to promote an understanding of this vital region of the world, and to communicate knowledge and insights about it to policymakers, the business community, academia and civil society, in Singapore and beyond.

ISAS' research primarily focuses on the following eight South Asian countries:



Afghanistan Nepal
Pakistan Bhutan
India Bangladesh
Sri Lanka
Maldives

62	International Relations
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Chairman's Message

Extending ISAS' Imprint Across South Asia

The Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) is driven by its mandate to enhance the understanding of South Asia – a diverse, complex and an increasingly important region. Home to nearly a quarter of humanity and a growing share of the global gross domestic product, there is seldom a quiet moment in South Asia. In the last financial year, the region had more than its fair share of noteworthy events. At ISAS, we closely monitored the many key events that had a bearing not only on South Asia, but also on Singapore and beyond. These included the election of the United States (US) President Donald Trump and the consequences of the 'America First' policy for the region, demonetisation in India, regional integration and security concerns in South Asia, and uncertainties in maritime zones, among others.

I am pleased to report three developments that stood out at ISAS over the last financial year. Firstly, ISAS has deepened and extended its imprint across South Asia through conferences and direct links with institutions in India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, further enhancing Singapore's relationship and engagement with the region. Secondly, the diverse range of ISAS' publications and events helped catalyse greater engagement between South Asia and Singapore and Southeast Asia in the areas of governance, development, security, regional connectivity and commerce. Lastly, the increased social, print and audiovisual media coverage reflected the growing interest in ISAS' events and research output across Singapore and South Asia as well as further afield in places such as the United Kingdom and the US.

ISAS hosted the landmark third South Asian Diaspora Conference (SADC) in July 2016. The two-day event attracted more than 1,000 guests. Over the years, the SADC has evolved into one of the largest conclaves of South Asian and Singaporean statesmen and leaders in business, education, technology and civil society, which facilitates engagement with partners across the globe. Singapore's Prime Minister, Mr Lee Hsien Loong, was the Guest-of-Honour while the Prime Minister of

Sri Lanka, Mr Ranil Wickremesinghe, was the special guest at SADC 2016. Mr Lee engaged the audience in an interactive session at the SADC gala dinner. Singapore's sixth President, Mr S R Nathan, was honoured with the Outstanding Member of the South Asian Diaspora 2016 Award at the dinner. The late Mr Nathan was not only an outstanding Singaporean and leader, but he had also contributed much to the global South Asian community. The SADC was first mooted by Mr Nathan as a platform for Singapore to engage with prominent members of the South Asian diaspora. Top political leaders from Singapore and the region also engaged with the participants at the various plenary sessions that included topics on geo-politics, trade and economics, security, infrastructure and entrepreneurship. The convention also witnessed two book launches.

Another signature series of ISAS is the Singapore Symposium held in the South Asian countries. The Singapore Symposium held in Mumbai, India, in April 2016 witnessed a stimulating and insightful discussion between Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister, and Dr Raghuram Rajan, then-Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. On the same evening, Mr Tharman launched the book, *Looking Ahead: India & Singapore in the New Millennium – Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*, in New Delhi. The book, co-edited by ISAS and Ananta Aspen Center, commemorates 50 years of diplomatic relations between India and Singapore.

ISAS had the honour of hosting Mrs Chandrika Kumaratunga, Former Prime Minister of Sri Lanka, to a public lecture on 'Terrorism and the State: Transforming Conflict, Building Peace' while she was in Singapore, in June 2016.

In August 2016, Professor Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and Mr Jamshyd N Godrej, Chairman of the Board, Godrej and Boyce Manufacturing Company Ltd, India; co-chaired the 9th India-Singapore Strategic Dialogue,



an event that has become an integral part of the annual calendar of wide-ranging engagements between India and Singapore.

During the 11th ISAS International Conference on South Asia in March 2017, 21 local and international speakers from 11 countries participated in a series of plenary sessions to discuss issues on the theme of 'Contemporary South Asia: Regional Dynamics and Changing Global Politics'. Singapore's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, delivered the keynote address at the event.

Since its establishment in 2004, ISAS has steadily consolidated its reputation as an intellectually vibrant and globally connected institute. In FY2016/17, our scholars travelled to countries on almost all continents to share their research at international conferences. The last financial year was also extremely productive for ISAS. We produced more than 200 academic and policy-oriented papers, and 12 authored, co-authored and edited volumes. Such efforts further add to ISAS' reputation as a premier international institute on the study of South Asia.

The Institute is host to a cohort of distinguished and accomplished officials at apex-level positions, including Dr Duvvuri Subbarao, Former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India; Mr Shivshankar Menon, Former Foreign Secretary and National Security Advisor, India; Mr Shahid Javed Burki, Former Finance Minister, Pakistan; Mr Vinod Rai, 11th Comptroller and Auditor General, India; Dr Ifthekar Chowdhury, Former Foreign Minister, Bangladesh; and Dr S Narayan, Former Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister of India. Together with ISAS' research team, these scholar-practitioners have raised the tenor of debates at ISAS and have sharpened Singapore's understanding of South Asia.

As mentioned earlier, South Asia is constantly abuzz with activities. The Institute's research focus must remain vigilant to the changing landscape in the region. Of immediate interest to ISAS is the consequences of

ISAS has steadily consolidated its reputation as an intellectually vibrant and globally connected institute.

the rise of populism in large swathes of the West; the role of Islam in South Asia; democracy and governance in the South Asian countries; social-sector and development policies in India and its interaction with its neighbours and the rest of the world; the impact of the Belt and Road Initiative on South Asia; the development of Amaravati, the new capital of Andhra Pradesh in collaboration with Ascendas-Singbridge; and the role of new technologies in creating opportunities in South Asia.

Looking ahead, ISAS will continue to remain deeply engaged in the challenges and opportunities of the times – challenges to the multilateral trading system, global geopolitical shifts, role of Islam in politics, prospects for regional integration and greater engagement between Singapore, Southeast Asia and South Asia – areas where the South Asian and Southeast Asian regions have deep historical as well as contemporary interests. ISAS will look to extend its imprint across South Asia through engagement and research relevant to our stakeholders and policymakers in particular, and the global academic and research fraternity, in general. To that end, I am grateful to our stakeholders – the Ministry of Trade and Industry, MFA and the Tote Board – for their support for our work.

Ambassador Gopinath PILLAI

Chairman
Institute of South Asian Studies
National University of Singapore; and
Ambassador-at-Large
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore

Director's Message

Beyond The Beaten Track

For the community of researchers and administrative personnel at the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS), FY2016/17 was a busy, productive and forward-looking year. In August 2017, India and Pakistan, two key countries in our prime focus at ISAS, are expected to celebrate 70 years of their post-independence existence. Their relationship has been marked by almost continuous strife. Unsurprisingly, therefore, these two countries have attracted considerable attention from our researchers during the year under review.

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proactive diplomatic engagements around the world, and a smooth change of guard at the powerful helm of military affairs in Pakistan were closely analysed, among a range of other developments concerning these two countries. The political phenomenon of Donald Trump's election as President of the United States (US) on an 'America First' platform stirred much interest and concern in world capitals. We at ISAS continue to assess its impact on South Asia. Chinese President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) for connectivity between his country and the rest of the world, including, in particular, South Asia, caught our imagination and led to analyses throughout the year, even before the BRI was formally launched in May 2017. The changing dynamics in the Muslim world was also on our radar, especially insofar as this impacted the region of our mandated study.

While continually assessing the impact of key international events on South Asia, ISAS has kept a keen eye on the political and economic changes and trends within the region, notably in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

India's demonetisation of currency notes of certain denominations, which accounted for a huge proportion of the money in circulation in the country, has been keeping our analysts busy beyond the financial year that has gone by. This dramatic development did not, however, diminish our intellectual and policy-related interest in the pace and substance of India's challenging economic reforms, including, in particular, the saga of the Goods and Services Tax which has important implications for fiscal federalism in India.

Other subjects that have influenced our agenda included terrorism in and out of Pakistan, especially cross-border terrorism affecting India; Bangladesh's improving government-to-government relations with India despite the unsettled issue of sharing the cross-border Teesta river waters; and the growing importance of Sri Lanka as a country in search of national reconciliation and as a new arena for India-China competition.

In an effort to streamline our research activities within this broad canvas, we have classified them into various areas of thematic focus for both policy analyses and academic output. While 'Politics, Society and Governance' and 'Trade and Economics' are consistent with conventional categorisation, we have aimed at a nuanced approach. Developments in the political, and trade and economic fields in one or more South Asian countries and in their sub-national states, at any given time, are analysed in their specific local milieu and also in a broader international context. In addition, skills development, South-Southeast Asian connectivity by the way of trade and infrastructure, and the emerging relationship of Africa-India-Japan have emerged as growing foci of interest among

our researchers. Moreover, we have begun to focus increasingly on 'Governance' as a factor for not only political stability, but also economic development. The impact of 'Globalisation' on the South Asian states and their sub-units has, in our view, assumed importance in the context of how globalisation itself is being shaped by these states and their constituent units. The role of the 'South Asian Diaspora' in this environment is well-recognised by us.

As regards foreign policy analyses, too, we have been trying to go beyond the beaten track by studying various strands of the two-way 'China-South Asia' engagement in the emerging situation of not only China's rise, but also that of India, albeit at asymmetric levels. Another new area of study at ISAS is 'Maritime Governance', with particular relevance to the Indian Ocean as an arena of potential contestation among China, India, and other major powers.

In all, ISAS is thinking afresh on how to deepen and diversify its mandate of studying contemporary South Asia. In doing so, suitable linkages are drawn with classical South Asia as well through some serious work on India's ancient specialist on statecraft, Kautilya, and the exploration of classical roots of modern politics in South Asia.

Professor Subrata Kumar MITRA

Director and Visiting Research Professor
Institute of South Asian Studies
National University of Singapore

In all, ISAS is thinking afresh on how to deepen and diversify its mandate of studying contemporary South Asia.



Management Board



Mr Albert CHUA

Second Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore



**Ambassador
Gopinath PILLAI**

Ambassador-at-Large
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore; and
Chairman, Indian Heritage Centre



Mr Luke GOH

Deputy Secretary (Trade)
Ministry of Trade and Industry, Singapore



Professor TAN Tai Yong

Executive Vice-President (Academic Affairs)
Yale-NUS College
National University of Singapore



Professor TAN Eng Chye

Deputy President (Academic Affairs); and
Provost, National University of Singapore



**Ambassador
Bilahari KAUSIKAN**

Ambassador-at-Large; and
Policy Advisor
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore



Mr Girija PANDE

Chairman
Apex Avalon Consulting Pte Ltd



Dr SHAHZAD Nasim

Group Executive Chairman
Meinhardt Group International Ltd



Mr S Chandra Das

Managing Director
NUR Investment & Trading Pte Ltd; and
Singapore's Non-Resident
High Commissioner to Sri Lanka



Ms CHONG Siak Ching

Chief Executive Officer
National Gallery Singapore; and
Singapore's Non-Resident
Ambassador to Chile



Professor Brenda S A YEOH

Vice-Provost (Graduate Education)
National University of Singapore

Organisational Structure



DISTINGUISHED VISITING FELLOW

Dr Duvvuri SUBBARAO

PRINCIPAL RESEARCH FELLOW

Dr Iftekhar Ahmed CHOWDHURY

VISITING RESEARCH PROFESSORS

Professor CHILAMKURI Raja Mohan

Professor John Charles HARRISS
(Term ended on 11 September 2016)

Professor Riaz UI HASSAN

Professor Robin Bannerman JEFFREY

Professor Pratap Bhanu MEHTA
(Term ended on 10 November 2016)

VISITING SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

Mr Shahid Javed BURKI

Mr Vinod RAI

Dr S Narayan

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWS

Dr Amitendu PALIT

Dr Md Mizanur RAHMAN

Dr Ronojoy SEN

Dr Dipinder S RANDHAWA

Dr Sinderpal SINGH
(Term ended on 31 July 2016)

VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWS

Dr Aasim Sajjad AKHTAR
(Term ended on 30 June 2016)

Dr Rupakjyoti BORAH

Dr Deeparghya MUKHERJEE

Dr Amit RANJAN

Dr Jivanta SCHOETTLI

Dr Sojin SHIN

Dr Srikanth THALIYAKKATTIL

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

Mr Rajeev Ranjan CHATURVEDY

Ms Iromi DHARMAWARDHANE
(Term ended on 18 November 2016)

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

Ms Taisha Grace ANTONY

Mr Rajeev S/O ARUMUGAM
(Term ended on 22 October 2016)

Ms Rinisha DUTT
(Term ended on 2 January 2017)

Ms Nurul Liyana Binti OTHMAN

Ms Faiza SALEEM

Ms Chandrani SARMA
(Term ended on 11 November 2016)

Mr Jayant SINGH
(Term ended on 17 July 2016)

Ms Silvia TIERI

Ms Ayesha Kalpani WIJAYALATH
(Term ended on 31 July 2016)

SENIOR ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Mr Johnson Paul DAVASAGYAM
(Term ended on 6 February 2017)

GENERAL MANAGER (CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE); AND HEAD, COMMUNICATIONS AND STRATEGIC EVENTS

Ms Sithara DORIASAMY

EDITOR (CURRENT AFFAIRS)

Mr P S Suryanarayana

ASSISTANT MANAGER (EVENTS)

Mr ANG Qi Yang, Jordan

ASSISTANT MANAGER (HUMAN RESOURCES)

Ms GOH Hui Chin, Sally

SENIOR EXECUTIVE (FINANCE)

Ms SEE Bee Lian

EXECUTIVES (HUMAN RESOURCES)

Mr KOW Jun Hao, Keith
(Term ended on 2 February 2017)

Ms PANG Shi Lin

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT OFFICERS (PERSONAL ASSISTANT, DIRECTOR'S OFFICE)

Ms Amanda Wendy CHAN
(Term ended on 15 May 2016)

Ms TAN Suat Peng, Peggy

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT OFFICER (FINANCE)

Ms HUANG Lijun, Joyce

MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT OFFICER (IT/GENERAL ADMINISTRATION)

Mr Muhammad Yusuf Bin YACOB

Research Team



Professor Subrata Kumar MITRA
Director and Visiting Research Professor

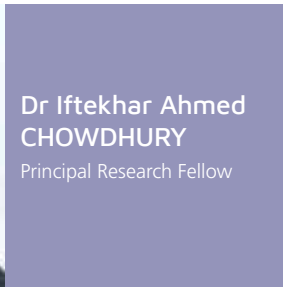
Dr Duvvuri SUBBARAO

Distinguished
Visiting Fellow



Dr Iftekhar Ahmed CHOWDHURY

Principal Research Fellow



Professor CHILAMKURI Raja Mohan

Visiting Research Professor



Professor Robin Bannerman JEFFREY

Visiting Research Professor



Professor Pratap Bhanu MEHTA

Visiting Research Professor
(Term ended on
10 November 2016)

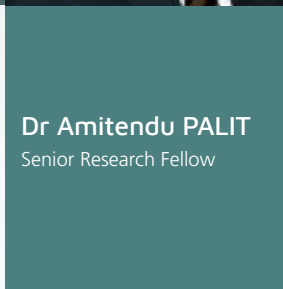
Dr S Narayan

Visiting Senior
Research Fellow



Dr Amitendu PALIT

Senior Research Fellow



Dr Sinderpal SINGH

Senior Research Fellow
(Term ended on 31 July 2016)

Dr Dipinder S RANDHAWA

Senior Research Fellow



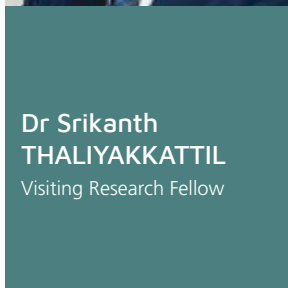


Research Team



**Dr Deeparghya
MUKHERJEE**
Visiting Research Fellow

Dr Amit RANJAN
Visiting Research Fellow



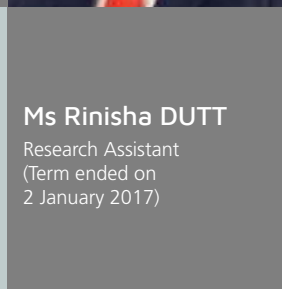
**Dr Srikanth
THALIYAKKATTIL**
Visiting Research Fellow



**Mr Rajeev Ranjan
CHATURVEDY**
Research Associate



**Mr Rajeev S/O
ARUMUGAM**
Research Assistant
(Term ended on
22 October 2016)



Ms Rinisha DUTT
Research Assistant
(Term ended on
2 January 2017)



**Ms Chandrani
SARMA**
Research Assistant
(Term ended on
11 November 2016)



Mr Jayant SINGH
Research Assistant
(Term ended on
17 July 2016)



**Dr Jivanta
SCHOETTLI**

Visiting Research Fellow



Dr Sojin SHIN

Visiting Research Fellow



**Ms Iromi
DHARMAWARDHANE**

Research Associate
(Term ended on
18 November 2016)



**Ms Taisha Grace
ANTONY**

Research Assistant



**Ms Nurul Liyana
Binti OTHMAN**

Research Assistant



Ms Faiza SALEEM

Research Assistant



Ms Silvia TIERI

Research Assistant



**Ms Ayesha Kalpani
WIJAYALATH**

Research Assistant
(Term ended on 31 July 2016)



Administrative Team

**Mr Johnson Paul
DAVASAGAYAM**

Senior Associate Director
(Term ended on
6 February 2017)



**Ms Sithara
DORIASAMY**

General Manager
(Chairman's Office); and
Head, Communications and
Strategic Events



**Ms GOH Hui Chin,
Sally**

Assistant Manager
(Human Resources)

Ms SEE Bee Lian

Senior Executive (Finance)



**Ms Amanda Wendy
CHAN**

Management
Assistant Officer
(Personal Assistant,
Director's Office)
(Term ended on
15 May 2016)



**Ms TAN Suat Peng,
Peggy**

Management
Assistant Officer
(Personal Assistant,
Director's Office)

Research Interns



**Mr KOO Ming Yew,
Matthew**

25 April 2016 to 1 July 2016



Ms GOH Shu Li

4 May 2016 to
21 July 2016

**Mr Rodney
SEBASTIAN**

28 October 2016 to
7 November 2016

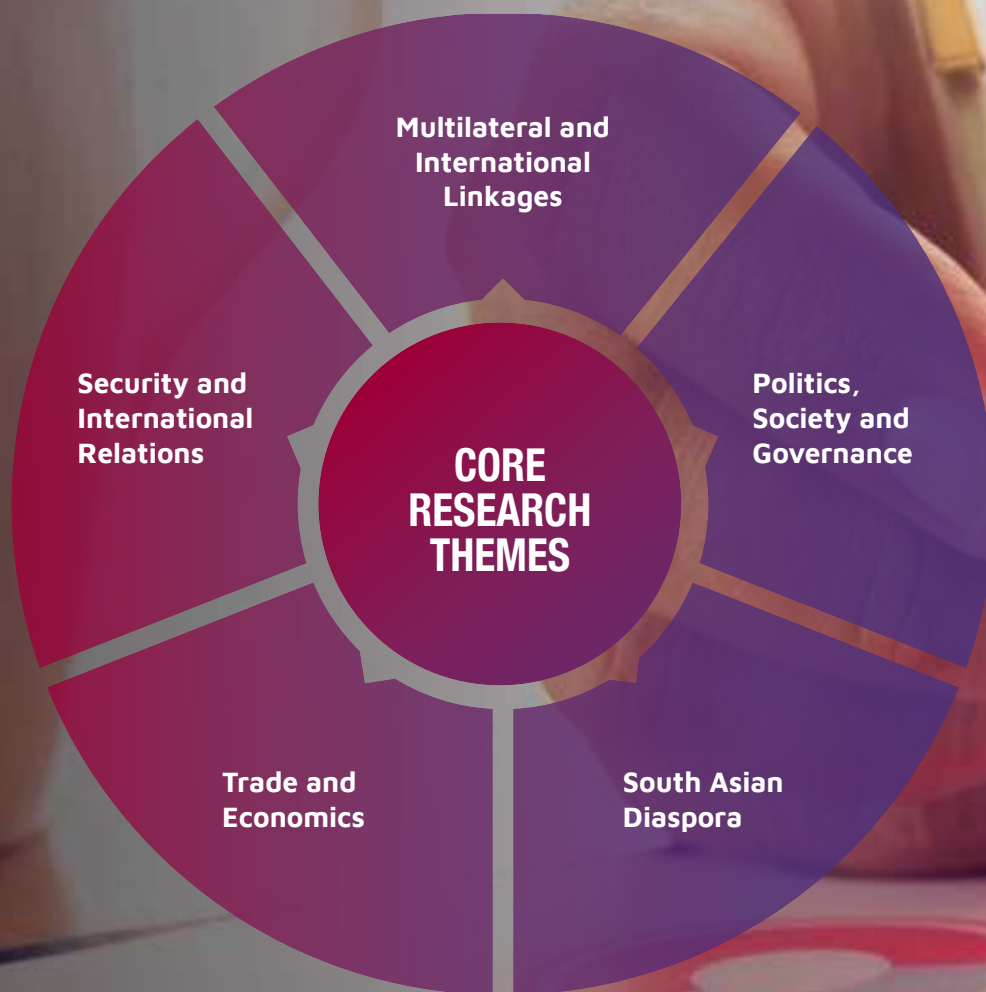


Ms Roshni KAPUR

5 December 2016 to
24 February 2017







The background of the entire page is a soft-focus photograph of hands holding a globe. Overlaid on the top right of the image is a pattern of white dots of varying sizes, creating a bokeh effect. The overall color palette is warm, with shades of orange, pink, and light brown.

RESEARCH FOCUS

The Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) is cognisant of the dynamic and ever-changing South Asian landscape. It is, therefore, important and necessary for us to respond to developments in South Asia, individually the states of Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, in an informed, timely, effective and efficient manner. This effort entails the need to ensure that we identify and focus on the core areas of research on South Asia, and critically analyse the issues and generate insights into appropriate policy choices and institutional innovation.

Security and International Relations

This programme seeks to study and publish papers on the emerging security imperatives in the South Asian region. It researches on various issues, ranging from border conflicts, arms trade and nuclear proliferation to conflict resolution and peace building. It also examines South Asia's relations with the Southeast Asian states as well as the manner in which the states in South Asia interact with major global powers like Japan, China and the United States (US).

Four key research areas form the core of this programme. The first is South Asia's relations with the Southeast Asian region in the realm of geopolitics, defence and diplomacy. The second is South Asia's relations with countries in East Asia, specifically in the fields of maritime security and regional multilateral institutions. The third is an examination of South Asia's regional security, looking predominantly at how the states in South Asia frame their bilateral relationships. The fourth comprises India's relationship with major powers in international politics, consisting of relations with China, Japan and the US.





Multilateral and International Linkages

This programme focuses on how the region relates to the major international institutions and key global players in contemporary times. South Asia's political, economic and military significance is growing. This has two-fold ramifications. On the one hand, South Asia is moving closer to the centre-stage of the international scene. On the other, it is recalibrating its relationships with the rest of the world. India, located at the centre of this constellation, faces the double challenge of balancing China and the US on the one hand, and seeking an appropriate role for itself in the Asian arena in the face of the emergence of China as the leading Asian power. ISAS delves into these issues in terms of its research and events on the

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, Belt and Road Initiative, BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) and other multilateral bodies.

The programme examines how South Asia is helping to reshape the norms and activities of major international organisations like the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. It studies the important roles the countries of the region are playing in spreading global standards and values throughout the world as well as their contributions in peace-building, peacekeeping and counter-insurgency. Additionally, it seeks to analyse the political, strategic and economic relations the nations of South Asia have with major states such as the US, China, Japan and members of the European Union. The programme assesses the impact of its burgeoning military clout on the rest of the world. It aims to monitor the policy dimensions of the South Asian states with regards to emerging thematic issues like climate change, poverty alleviation, development and non-proliferation as they affect and are affected by international norms, institutions and politics. It also studies regional relations and the ways and means of strengthening regional cooperation as well as linkages with other regional organisations.



Politics, Society and Governance

This programme seeks to identify and explain key issues in the domestic politics and governmental practices of the countries of South Asia. Though the programme analyses important events and issues as they emerge, it intends to focus on some select themes. One ongoing area of research and analysis is national and important state/provincial elections in all the South Asian countries. In addition, the cluster has identified three areas where research is being conducted in collaboration with other institutions and external researchers. First, under the broad rubric of 'Domestic Politics in South Asia', the programme examines several topics. These include minority-majority relations, social development indicators, class and politics, state and society, ethnic movements and internal security threats. Second, the programme studies comparative state politics in India. With the rise of regional parties over

the past two decades, Indian federalism has undergone a structural change. The cluster focuses on the more important Indian states to meaningfully explain this change. Third, the programme analyses the transition to democracy and its consolidation in South Asia, with a focus on democratic institutions, including political parties, the Parliament, the Election Commission, the judiciary and audit bodies.

Alongside the three major projects, the programme focuses on projects centred on individual researchers. Primary research on urban development is a priority. Public sanitation and waste management are high on the agenda of the new government in India. The youth bulge in the region and its aspirations is another area of focus. The programme also analyses the role of traditional media as well as social media in South Asia.

Trade and Economics

The emphasis of this programme is to study the significance of emerging regional trade architectures for the South Asian countries. New trade compacts in the Asia-Pacific, such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership and the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, are re-writing regional trade rules and governance standards. This programme researches the implications of the new rules and standards, and looks closely at the key aspects influencing trade negotiations.

The other core areas of research focus include the integration of Indian states with global trade and business, the comparative positioning of India and other South Asian countries in regional value chains, and bilateral trade and investment linkages between India and the Southeast Asian countries. The critical analysis of annual budgets, major financial and legislative reforms, like the Indian Goods and Services Tax and demonetisation, are an integral part of this programme.

This programme focuses on the study of the South Asian diaspora and transnationalism as well as South Asia-Southeast Asia/Singapore relations. ISAS has an established reputation in the aforementioned fields, with several important works already published, including *The Encyclopedia of the Sri Lankan Diaspora*; *The Political Economy of South Asian Diaspora*; and *Diaspora Engagement and Development in South Asia*.

The programme is committed to building on its established scholarly reputation in these areas. With reference to the South Asian diaspora and transnationalism, ISAS researchers are now focused on key themes where scholarly literature has remained relatively under-developed, for example, diaspora and transnationalism in port cities; migrant remittances in South Asia; international migration and development in South Asia; and Hindutva nationalism in the diaspora. In regard to Southeast Asia/Singapore relations with the South Asian states, several scholars at ISAS are currently engaged in projects focused on India-Association of Southeast Asian Nations relations. The programme intends to further develop its competency through specific and in-depth research of South Asian and Southeast Asian country-to-country bilateral relations.

South Asian Diaspora





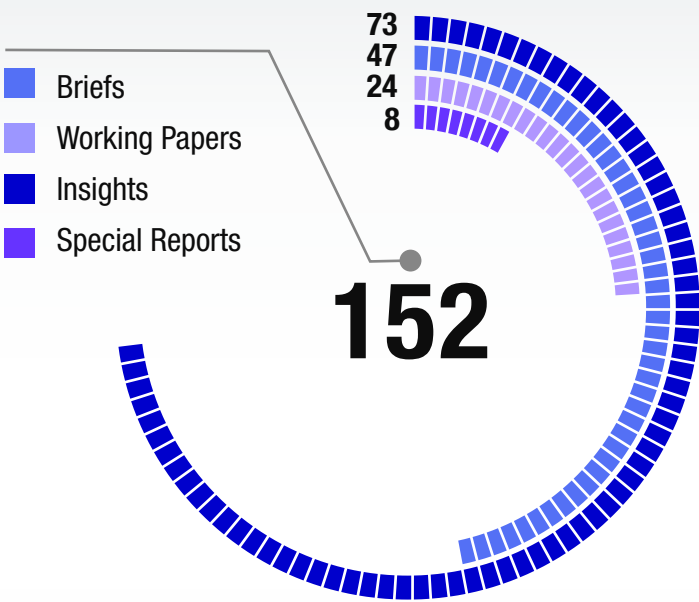
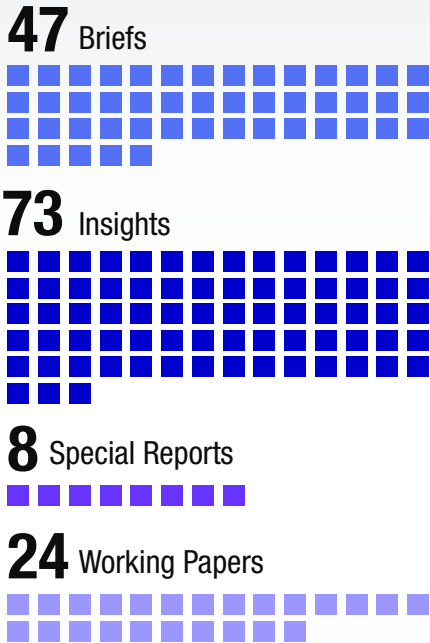
PUBLICATIONS

In FY2016/17, the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) continued to focus on the regular publication of Briefs, Insights, Working Papers and Special Reports based on the five research areas. We published a total of 152 such papers. This averaged three papers a week.

At the same time, ISAS produced conference papers and journal articles as well as contributed chapters in ISAS' and other publications. We published 63 conference papers and 32 journal articles, and provided 70 chapters in books.

An equally important element of ISAS' work, which adds value to its reputation as a serious and respected academic institution, is the publication of books. In FY2016/17, we produced five edited books and, seven, authored and co-authored books.

PAPER OUTPUT FY2016/17

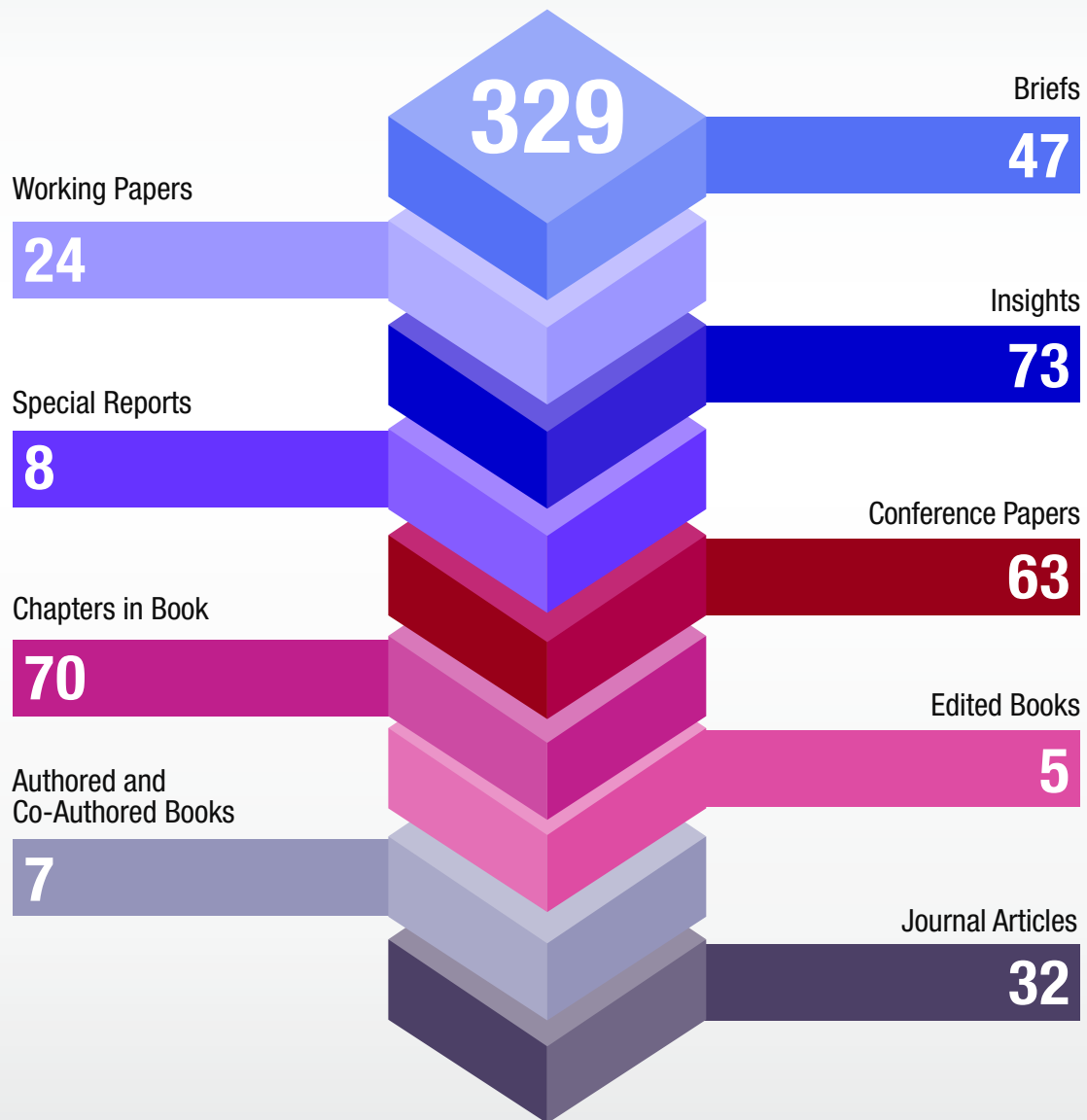


PUBLICATION OUTPUT FY2016/17



ACADEMIC OUTPUT

FY2016/17





Briefs

415. **The Final Nuclear Security Summit: Some Implications for South Asia**

Mr Shahid Javed Burki

Visiting Senior Research Fellow, ISAS

5 April 2016

416. **Make in India – Why it will Succeed**

Mr Girija Pande

Member, ISAS Management Board

5 April 2016

417. **The Security of Nuclear Weapons: Challenges for South Asia and the Muslim World**

Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury

Principal Research Fellow and Research Lead (Multilateral and International Linkages), ISAS

8 April 2016

418. **Assam Assembly Elections: BJP has the Momentum**

Dr Ronojoy Sen

Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead (Politics, Society and Governance), ISAS

12 April 2016

419. **Bangladesh: Not in Crisis, but at Cross Roads?**

Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury

Principal Research Fellow and Research Lead (Multilateral and International Linkages), ISAS

12 April 2016

420. **West Bengal Assembly Elections: Despite Setbacks Trinamool Congress has the Edge**

Dr Ronojoy Sen

Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead (Politics, Society and Governance), ISAS

22 April 2016

421. **China-India Talks: Markers for the ‘Marathon’**

Mr P S Suryanarayana

Editor (Current Affairs), ISAS

28 April 2016

422. **BCIM Corridor: Brightening Prospects of India’s Economic Engagement in South and Southeast Asia**

Dr Deeparghya Mukherjee

Visiting Research Fellow, ISAS

28 April 2016

423. **India’s Trade Negotiations: The Imperative of Flexibility**

Dr Amitendu Palit

Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead (Trade and Economics), ISAS

4 May 2016



424. **Tempered Progress as US Defence Secretary Visits India**

Mr Jayant Singh

Research Assistant, ISAS

4 May 2016

425. **Nepal: Unfolding Internal Political Contradictions**

Professor S D Muni

Professor Emeritus, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India; and Distinguished Fellow, Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi, India

11 May 2016

426. **Tamil Nadu Polls: Populism and Political Reverberations**

Dr S Narayan

Visiting Senior Research Fellow, ISAS

13 May 2016

427. **West Bengal Elections: Trinamool Congress' Rural Vote blunts Opposition Alliance**

Dr Ronojoy Sen

Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead (Politics, Society and Governance), ISAS

17 May 2016

428. **Implications of an Indo-Iranian Initiative**

Dr Jivanta Schoettli

Visiting Research Fellow, ISAS

20 May 2016

429. **A Tale of the Troubled Taliban: Mullah Mansoor and his Men**

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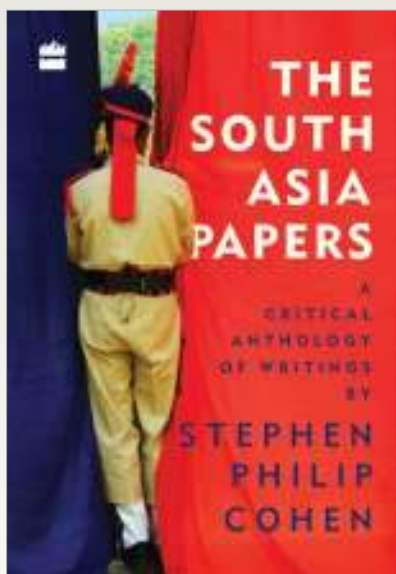
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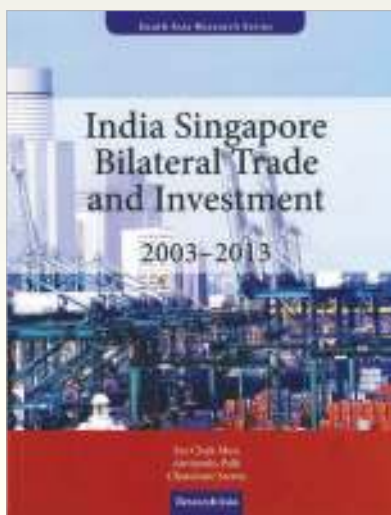


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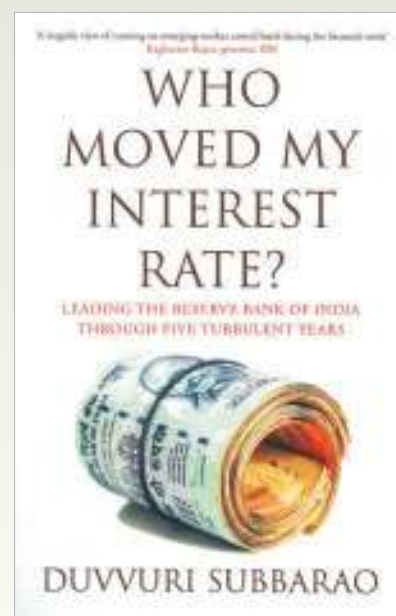


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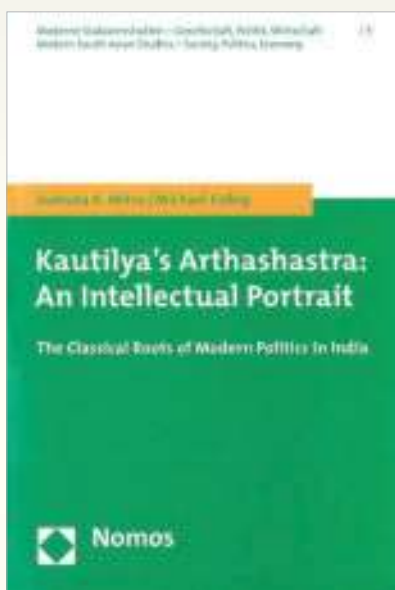
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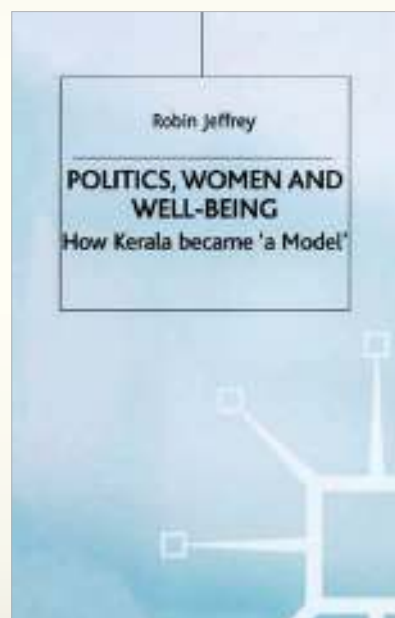
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14. **Dilip Chinoy.** "Education & Skills: Towards Inclusive and Sustainable Development" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 12
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51. **Rajesh Rai.** "Rising from the Ashes" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 7
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54. **C Raja Mohan.** "Growing Partnership: Heralding the Fourth Phase" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 19
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56. **S Ramadorai.** "Lionizing Innovation: How to Harness Diversity & Harvest Disruption" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 10

57. **Madhukar S J B Rana.** "Trans-Himalayan Economic Corridor: Nepal as a Gateway" In *Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: South and Southeast Asia*. Wiley-Blackwell (2017): 6
58. **Shyam Saran.** "Engagement & Cooperation: Exploiting Asymmetries to Strengthen Relations" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 1
59. **Chandrani Sarma and Amitendu Palit.** "Mumbai: The City that Never Sleeps" In *Building Resilience in Cities under Stress*. International Peace Institute (2016): 4
60. **Martin A Sebastian.** "China, ASEAN and the MSR: A Southeast Asian Perspective" In *Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: South and Southeast Asia*. Wiley-Blackwell (2017): 9
61. **Abusaleh Shariff.** "Pathways to Link Communities with Governance at the Grassroots in India: A Case for a Field-Based Approach" In *Indian Muslims Struggling for Equality of Citizenship*. Melbourne University Publishing (2016): 8
62. **Vineeta Sinha.** "Cultural Connect: The Shape of Singaporean Hinduism" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 15
63. **Shakari Sundararaman.** "Indo-Pacific Economic Corridor: A Vision in Progress" In *Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: South and Southeast Asia*. Wiley-Blackwell (2017): 3
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68. **K Yhome and Rajeew Ranjan Chaturvedy.** "Introduction – Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: Perspectives from South and Southeast Asia" In *Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: South and Southeast Asia*. Wiley-Blackwell (2017): Introduction
69. **K Yhome.** "The BCIM Economic Corridor: Prospect and Challenges" In *Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: South and Southeast Asia*. Wiley-Blackwell (2017): 5
70. **Seyed Hossein Zarhani.** "Fatawa-ye jahandari:" Hybrid Political Theory in the Delhi Sultanate (Perso-Islamic and Endogenous Traditions of Statecraft in India)" In *The Arthaśāstra in a Transcultural Perspective: Comparing Kautilya with Sun-Zi, Nizam al-Mulk, Barani and Machiavelli*. Pentagon Press (2017): 8



Conference Papers and Workshop Presentations (Selected)

Local Conferences and Workshops

1. **Devesh Kapur.** "The Other One Percent: Indians in America". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary Session, 3rd South Asian Diaspora Convention, 19 July 2016.
2. **Didar Singh.** "Politics of Migration: Indian Emigration in a Globalised World". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary Session, 3rd South Asian Diaspora Convention, 19 July 2016.
3. **Dnyaneshwar M Mulay.** "India's Engagement with the Diaspora". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary I, 3rd South Asian Diaspora Convention, 19 July 2016.
4. **Anthony P Costa.** "Diaspora and Techno-Economic Community: Indian IT Professionals in Japan". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary Session, 3rd South Asian Diaspora Convention, 20 July 2016.
5. **Mohan J Dutta.** "Cultural Performance as (be) longing: Negotiations of Online and Offline Spaces among Bangladeshi Construction Workers in Singapore". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary Session, 3rd South Asian Diaspora Convention, 20 July 2016.
6. **Jonah Blank.** "Global Diaspora, (Neo) Traditionalist Islam: How the Daudi Bohras Use Modern Tools to Forge a Six-Continent Community". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary II, 3rd South Asian Diaspora Convention, 20 July 2016.
7. **Robin Bannerman Jeffrey.** "Bi-lingual, Multi-cultural, Dual-national: Reflections of an Austral – Canadian Indophile on 'Diasporic Relationship'". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary Session, 3rd South Asian Diaspora Convention, 20 July 2016.
8. **Riaz Ul Hassan.** "Nation Building with non-Nationals: South Asian Workers in the United Arab Emirates". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary Session, 3rd South Asian Diaspora Convention, 20 July 2016.
9. **Habibul Khondker.** "Class, Mobility and Identity: Bangladeshi Diaspora in the Age of Globality". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary Session, 3rd South Asian Diaspora Convention, 20 July 2016.
10. **Amjad Mohamed-Saleem.** "What's Diaspora Got to do with it?". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary Session, 3rd South Asian Diaspora Convention, 20 July 2016.

11. **John Solomon.** "Old and New: Layered Migrations and the Indian Diaspora in Singapore's History". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary Session, 3rd South Asian Diaspora Convention, 20 July 2016.
12. **Subrata Kumar Mitra.** "India at Cross-road: Beyond the Dilemma of Democratic Land Reforms". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Land and Business: Insights and Experiences from India and the Asian Region, 10 October 2016.
13. **Sanjoy Chakravorty.** "Land and Development in India: Know Unknowns for a Research Agenda". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Land and Business: Insights and Experiences from India and the Asian Region, 10 October 2016.
14. **Qin Yu.** "Changes in Distribution of Land Prices in Urban China During 2007 – 2012". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Land and Business: Insights and Experiences from India and the Asian Region, 10 October 2016.
15. **Fan Yi.** "Effects Restricting the Concurrent Ownership in Public & Private Housing: A Natural Experiment in Singapore". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Land and Business: Insights and Experiences from India and the Asian Region, 10 October 2016.
16. **Huang Ying Hong.** "To Improve the Land Acquisition by Perfecting the Land Market: How Market Mechanism Can Be Utilised in Land Acquisition in Foshan and Sanand". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Land and Business: Insights and Experiences from India and the Asian Region, 10 October 2016.
17. **Subhomoy Bhattacharjee.** "The New State Government Approaches to Land Acquisition as seen from a Business Perspective". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Land and Business: Insights and Experiences from India and the Asian Region, 10 October 2016.
18. **Cristian Badarinza.** "The Indian Household Savings Landscape: The Role of Real Estate". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Land and Business: Insights and Experiences from India and the Asian Region, 10 October 2016.
19. **D Parthasarathy.** "Beyond State and Market in Coastal Cities: Land, Common, Regulation and Environmental Imperatives". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Land and Business: Insights and Experiences from India and the Asian Region, 10 October 2016.
20. **Shubhagato Dasgupta.** "Urban Land for and as Business: Can the New Urban Strategy in India Alter the Status Quo?". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Land and Business: Insights and Experiences from India and the Asian Region, 10 October 2016.
21. **Tommy Koh.** "Maritime governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 29 November 2016.
22. **Md Khurshed Alam.** "Maritime governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 29 November 2016.
23. **Razeen Sally.** "A Maritime Growth Triangle: Singapore, Sri Lanka and India". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 29 November 2016.
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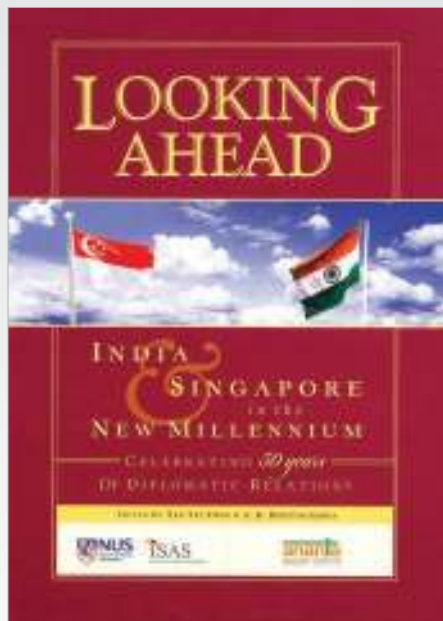
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26. **Frank Lavin.** "Is India a Responsible Stakeholder?". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 29 November 2016.
27. **Munshi Faiz Ahmad.** "Is India a Responsible Stakeholder?". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 29 November 2016.
28. **Abhay Kumar Singh.** "Is India a Responsible Stakeholder?". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 29 November 2016.
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30. **Adriana Elisabeth.** "Ports, Maritime Cooperation and Sustainable Development in South Asia". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 29 November 2016.
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43. **Shen Dingli.** "Building Economic Partnership with South Asia". Paper presented at the 11th ISAS International Conference on South Asia, 3 March 2017.
44. **Jayant Prasad.** "Global Developments and South Asia: Challenges for India's Rise". Paper presented at the 11th ISAS International Conference on South Asia, 3 March 2017.
45. **Alexei Voskressenski.** "Non-Western IR Theories on Regionalization and its Consequences for Practical Geopolitics in South East Asia". Paper presented at the 11th ISAS International Conference on South Asia, 3 March 2017.
46. **K S Nathan.** "The Strategic Role of Defence and Diaspora in Strengthening India-ASEAN Linkages". Paper presented at the 11th ISAS International Conference on South Asia, 3 March 2017.
47. **Marie Lall.** "Myanmar's Balancing Act in Regional Politics". Paper presented at the 11th ISAS International Conference on South Asia, 3 March 2017.
48. **Md Shahidul Haque.** 2017, "South Asia to the East". Paper presented at the 11th ISAS International Conference on South Asia, 3 March 2017.

Overseas Conferences and Workshops

49. **Matthew Koo.** "From Insurgency to Governance: The International Determinants of Rebel Administration in Myanmar's Multiparty Civil War". Paper presented at the University of Chicago, 30 April-10 June, 2016.
50. **Subrata Kumar Mitra.** "Lone Warrior, Regional Actor or Global Player? Asian Perceptions of Indian Foreign Policy in the 21st Century". Paper presented at the International Conference on Prospects and Promotion of Trade, Intercommunication and Historical Ties: Andaman-Nicobar Island and Weh Island-Sabang, Aceh, Indonesia, 23-24 April 2016.
51. **Deeparghya Mukherjee.** "India-ASEAN Trade in Intermediates and Final Products: A Sector Level Study". Paper presented at the 26th International Conference of the International Trade and Finance Association Occidental College in Los Angeles, California, US, 22-25 May 2016.
52. **Amitendu Palit.** "Mega-RTAs, Standards and Challenges for India". Paper presented at the 3rd National Standards Conclave, New Delhi, India, 23-24 June 2016.
53. **Sojin Shin.** "State-Society-Foreign Capital Nexus in Tamil Nadu and Odisha". Paper presented at the IPSA's World Congress, Poznan, Poland, 23-28 July 2016.
54. **Amitendu Palit.** "China, India and the TPP: Outsider Perceptions". Paper presented at the Conference on Shaping a New Political Order in the Asia-Pacific, Berkeley, California, US, 21-22 October 2016.
55. **Amitendu Palit.** "TPP and Developing Countries: Implications and Challenges" Paper presented at the Symposium on Global Governance and Trans-Pacific Partnership, New York, US, 4-5 November 2016.
56. **Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury.** "China and Bangladesh: New Strategic Partners". Paper presented at the ISAS-RCSS Workshop on China in South Asia-South Asia in China, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 5-6 December 2016.
57. **Deeparghya Mukherjee.** "Bilateral Economic Interests of India and China: Rethinking Respective Roles in an Evolving World Economy". Paper presented at the ISAS-RCSS Workshop on China in South Asia-South Asia in China, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 5-6 December 2016.
58. **Srikanth Thaliyakkattil.** "Rhetoric and Reality in Modi's China Policy: India's Need for Greater Room to Manoeuver". Paper presented at the ISAS-RCSS Workshop on China in South Asia-South Asia in China, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 5-6 December 2016.
59. **P S Suryanarayana.** "China and South Asia: Towards an Uncharted Order". Paper presented at the ISAS-RCSS Workshop on China in South Asia-South Asia in China, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 5-6 December 2016.
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62. **Deeparghya Mukherjee.** "International Trade at Transaction Level and Effects of Global Recession". Paper presented at the 5th Conference on Empirical Issues in International Trade and Finance, Kolkata, India, 16-17 December 2016.
63. **Subrata Kumar Mitra.** "Regional Governance in India: A Preliminary Analysis of Bihar, Tripura and West Bengal". Paper presented at the International Conference on Bihar and Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Visio, Bihar India, 24-27 March 2017.

Edited Books



Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium – Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations

EDITORS:

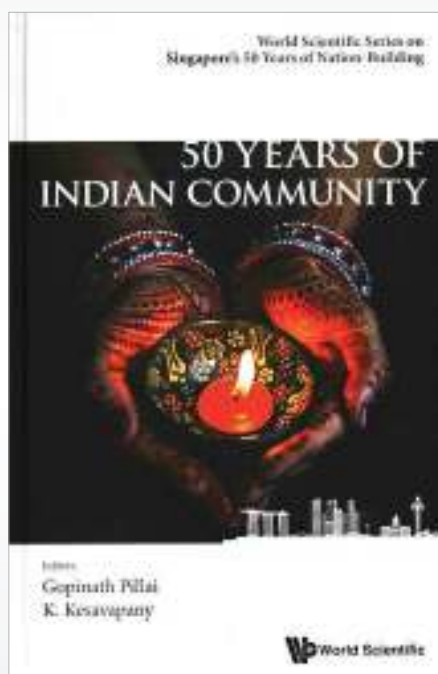
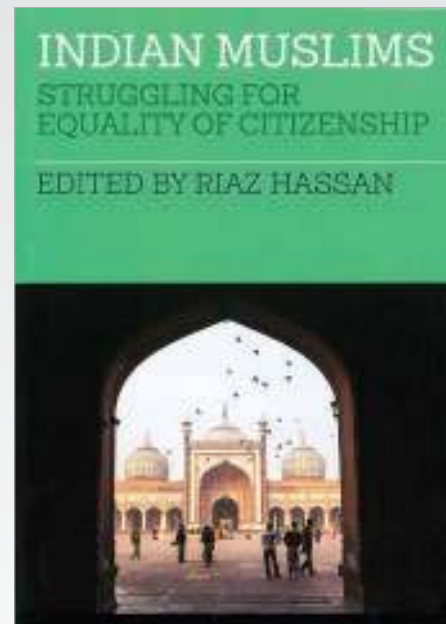
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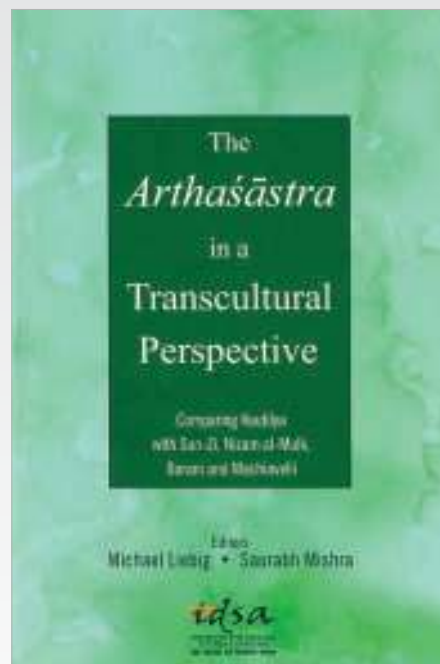
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EDITORS:

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Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy

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Journal Articles

1. **Aasim Sajjad Akhtar**. "Failing State or Fragmented Hegemony: The Political Economy of Change in Pakistan". *Asia Colloquia Papers* 6(1). Toronto: York Centre for Asian Research, (2016).
2. **Aasim Sajjad Akhtar**. "Dreams of a Secular Republic: Elite Alienation in Post-Zia Pakistan" *Journal of Contemporary Asia* 46, No. 4 (2016): pp. 641-658.
3. **Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy**. "China's Strategic Access to Gwadar Port: Pivotal Position in Belt and Road". *S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) Commentary*, (2017).
4. **Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy**. "Regional Integration in South Asia: Essays in Honour of Dr M Rahmatullah (Review)". *Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade*, No. 33 (2017): pp. 1-4.
5. **Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy**. "Indian Foreign Policy in Transition: Relations with South Asia. By Arijit Mazumdar". *Pacific Affairs* 90, No. 1 (2017): pp. 176-178.
6. **Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy**. "The Geopolitics of Chinese Maritime Silk Diplomacy". *Global-is-asian*, LKY School of Public Policy, 2016.
7. **Ian Hall**. "Multialignment and Indian Foreign Policy under Narendra Modi". *The Round Table* (2016): pp. 1-16.
8. **John Harriss**. "Autobiography of an Archive: A Scholar's Passage to India by Nicholas B. Dirks (review)". *Anthropological Quarterly* 89, No. 2 (2016): pp. 613-617.
9. **John Harriss**. "Caste and Class and The Urban Poor: A Comment On 'To Be Cared For: The Power of Conversion and Foreignness of Belonging in An Indian Slum'". *Contemporary South Asia* (2016): pp. 1-3.
10. **Riaz UI Hassan**. "ISS 22 Indian Muslims: Struggling for Equality of Citizenship". *Islamic Studies Series*, Melbourne Univ. Publishing, 2016.
11. **Riaz UI Hassan**. "Modernization, Religion and Female Feticide in India". *Journal of Management and Public Policy*, Vol. 8, No. 1 (2016): pp. 11-20.



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20. **Deeparghya Mukherjee.** "India-ASEAN Trade in Intermediates and Final Products: A Study of Selected Sectors". Global Economy Journal 16, No. 4 (2016): pp. 721-743.

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22. **Amitendu Palit.** "India's Act East Policy and Implications for Southeast Asia". *Southeast Asian Affairs* 2016, No. 1 (2016): pp. 81-91.
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25. **Amit Ranjan.** "India-Bangladesh: What to Expect during Prime Minister Hasina's Visit?". *South Asian Monitor*, Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, (2017).
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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

International relations is an important and necessary function of the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) in the pursuit of its mandate. The outreach effort helps to build ISAS' brand name globally as well as enables it to reach out to relevant institutions that add value to its research, publications and events.

Institutional Engagements

ISAS' scholars are invited regularly to international conferences, workshops and seminars. These provide an opportunity for the scholars to share their research on South Asia with a global audience. At the same time, these are important platforms to reach out to and explore possible collaborations with institutes and scholars in the same fields.

In the course of FY2016/17, ISAS was represented at major conferences, workshops and seminars in the South Asian countries of India and Sri Lanka as well as in Australia, Cambodia, China, Germany, Indonesia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Poland, Taiwan, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States.



Mr Jayant Singh
7th Oceanic Conference on
International Studies
Brisbane, Australia
4–6 July 2016

Dr Sinderpal Singh
7th Oceanic Conference on
International Studies
Brisbane, Australia
4–6 July 2016



Dr Ronojoy Sen
13th Asia Pacific Sociological
Association Conference
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
24–25 September 2016



Mr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy
The Third Shanghai Maritime Forum
Shanghai, China
18 May 2016

Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury
5th Session of the World Peace Forum
Beijing, China
16–17 July 2016

Mr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy
7th Xiangshan Forum
Beijing, China
10–12 October 2016



Mr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy
6th Berlin Foreign Policy Forum
Berlin, Germany
28–29 November 2016



Dr Sinderpal Singh
Counter Terrorism Conference 2016
Jaipur, India
2–3 February 2016

Dr Amitendu Palit
3rd National Standards Conclave
New Delhi, India
23–24 June 2016

Dr Deeparghya Mukherjee
5th Conference on 'Empirical Issues in
International Trade and Finance'
Kolkata, India
16–17 December 2016

Dr Amitendu Palit
FIEO Interactive Session
Mumbai, India
2–4 January 2017

Dr Ronojoy Sen
7th Asian Forum on Global Governance
New Delhi, India
11 January 2017

Professor Subrata Kumar Mitra
International Conference on 'Bihar and
Jharkhand: Shared History to Shared Vision'
Bihar, India
24–27 March 2017



Professor Subrata Kumar Mitra
International Conference on 'Prospects and
Promotion of Trade, Intercommunication and
Historical Ties'
Aceh, Indonesia
23–24 April 2016



Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury
30th Session of Asia Pacific Roundtable
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
30 May–2 June 2016

Dr Jivanta Schoettli
5th MIMA South China Sea Conference
(SCS) 2016
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
29–30 August 2016

Mr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy
5th MIMA South China Sea Conference
(SCS) 2016
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
29–30 August 2016



Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury

ISAS-RCSS Workshop on 'China in South Asia-South Asia in China'

Colombo, Sri Lanka

5-6 December 2016

Dr Deeparghya Mukherjee

ISAS-RCSS Workshop on 'China in South Asia-South Asia in China'

Colombo, Sri Lanka

5-6 December 2016

Dr Srikanth Thaliyakkattil

ISAS-RCSS Workshop on 'China in South Asia-South Asia in China'

Colombo, Sri Lanka

5-6 December 2016

Mr P S Suryanarayana

ISAS-RCSS Workshop on 'China in South Asia-South Asia in China'

Colombo, Sri Lanka

5-6 December 2016

Dr Ronojoy Sen

International Conference on 'Identity and Change: The Basic Structure in Asian Constitutional Orders'

Bangkok, Thailand

29-30 November 2016



Mr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy

14th Conference on 'Global Strategy and Taiwan-Strait Security'

Taichung, Taiwan

4 November 2016



Ms Ayesha Wijayalath

3rd Academic International Conference on 'Interdisciplinary Legal Studies'

Oxford, UK

1-3 March 2016



Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury

Conference on 'South Asia : Peace, Prosperity and Regional Cooperation'

Oxford, United Kingdom

20-29 April 2016



Dr Amitendu Palit

Conference on 'Shaping a New Political Order in the Asia-Pacific'

Berkeley, California, United States

21-22 October 2016

Dr Amitendu Palit

Symposium on 'Global Governance and Trans-Pacific Partnership'

New York, United States

4-5 November 2016

Dr Deeparghya Mukherjee

26th International Conference of the International Trade and Finance Association

Occidental College

Los Angeles, California, United States

22-25 May 2016



Dr Amitendu Palit

Public Lecture on 'India, APEC and TPP: Navigating a Complex Landscape'

Wellington, New Zealand

21 April 2016



Dr Sojin Shin

24th IPSA Annual Conference

Poznan, Poland

23-28 July 2016

Dr Ronojoy Sen

24th European Conference on South Asian Studies

Warsaw, Poland

27-30 July 2016

Memoranda of Understanding

ISAS collaborates with think tanks, academic institutions, business, industry, private and public organisations and the community, locally and internationally, to achieve its mission of studying contemporary South Asia. These partnerships bring invaluable expertise, perspectives and resources to ISAS and our partnering institutions and organisations.

In the last financial year, ISAS signed memoranda of understanding (MoU) with two research institutions:



Berkeley APEC Study Center

ISAS signed a MoU with the Berkeley APEC Study Center (BASC) on 1 November 2016. The BASC conducts multidisciplinary research on political, economic and business trends in the Asia-Pacific, especially related to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum. The Center is based in California, United States.

The two-year agreement will see ISAS and the BASC collaborate in several key research areas. These include regional political and economic developments; emerging strategic and trade architectures; and issues of contemporary relevance to Asia-Pacific, South Asia and Singapore.



Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies

On 7 March 2017, ISAS penned a MoU with the Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BISS) for two years. BISS is a statutory institution based in Dhaka. It undertakes and promotes research and deliberation on international affairs, and security and developmental issues. It also advances knowledge and understanding of contemporary international and strategic issues in national and regional perspectives.

Under the agreement, ISAS and BISS will work together in a number of research areas. These include regional socio-political and economic developments; emerging strategic and trade architectures and issues of contemporary relevance to the Asia-Pacific, South Asia and Southeast Asia; and global peace and conflict issues.





EVENTS

Focusing on the five broad research areas, events of the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) act as important platforms to create a more in-depth understanding of issues relating to South Asia and beyond. At the same time, these events aim to create a greater awareness among Singaporeans on socio-economic and political developments in the South Asian countries. Lastly, these events help to generate discussions and research on the key developments.

In FY2016/17, ISAS organised a total of 60 events, independently and in partnership with like-minded institutes in Singapore and overseas. This averaged one event every six days. These events included book launches, closed door sessions, conferences, panel discussions, public lectures, round table discussions, seminars, symposiums and workshops.

Signature Events

Singapore Symposium 2016

Partnering for Growth in Uncertain Times

7 April 2016
Mumbai, India



ISAS organised the fourth Singapore Symposium in Mumbai, India, on 7 April 2016. Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies, was the Guest-of-Honour at the event titled "Partnering for Growth in Uncertain Times".

In his opening address, Mr Tharman noted that Singapore and India could do much more together and listed several areas for further collaboration – productivity and finance; air connectivity; education and skills training; and smart cities development. He expressed his confidence in India and stated that Singapore was keen to be part of the India story – to contribute to and benefit from it.

Following his address, Mr Tharman participated in an interactive session with Dr Raghuram Rajan, then-Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. The session was moderated by Mr T N Ninan, Chairman, Business Standard Ltd, India.

Organised in partnership with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), the symposium was attended by about 250 businessmen, industrialists and policymakers.

The Singapore Symposium, organised in India, is part of ISAS' ongoing efforts to foster closer exchange and cooperation between Singapore and India. These events are highly successful in facilitating a frank and candid sharing of views and perspectives on India-Singapore relations, and on their interactions with other parts of the world.

South Asian Diaspora Convention 2016

Growth through Interaction: The South Asian Opportunity

18 and 19 July 2016
Singapore

The third South Asian Diaspora Convention (SADC) on 18 and 19 July 2016 brought together more than 50 of the region's leading policymakers, business leaders, academics and civil society leaders. The speakers discussed and debated critical topics in business, economy and policy that could affect the South Asian region's future and its role in global geopolitics in the 21st century.

Globalisation took centre stage at the two-day convention.

Addressing about 1,000 people at the SADC gala dinner, Singapore's Prime Minister, Mr Lee Hsien Loong, noted that globalisation had brought considerable benefits to people in South Asia, China and all over the world. He added that the way forward was more globalisation. However, he stressed that there must be greater distribution of the benefits of globalisation "to those who have not enjoyed it or may be at risk of its side effects". Besides the effects of globalisation, the discussion



session that followed Mr Lee's address touched on India-China relations and India's potential, among other issues. The session was moderated by Ambassador Shyam Saran, India's Former Foreign Secretary.

Singapore's sixth President, Mr S R Nathan, was honoured with the Outstanding Member of the South Asian Diaspora 2016 Award at the gala dinner. Mr Nathan was not only an outstanding Singaporean and leader, but he also had contributed much to the global South Asian community. The SADC was first mooted by Mr Nathan as a platform for Singapore to engage with prominent members of the South Asian diaspora.

SADC 2016 addressed critical questions relating to the geo-economic and geo-political challenges affecting South Asia and the world. These included the key engines of growth in South Asia at a time of global economic slowdown; the sustainability of South Asia's growth and the opportunities for global corporates and small and medium enterprises; further opening the region's economies to international trade, investment, and finance; prospects for the acquisition of modern technology; greater integration of South Asian economies; connectedness of South Asia's future to that of the world; and the impact of China's growing presence in South Asia on business and trade in the region.

9th India-Singapore Strategic Dialogue

29 and 30 August 2016
Singapore

Singapore hosted the 9th India-Singapore Strategic Dialogue (ISSD) on 29 and 30 August 2016.

The event was co-chaired by Professor Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) Singapore, and Mr Jamshyd N Godrej, Chairman of the Board, Godrej and Boyce Manufacturing Company Ltd, India. The two sides comprised eminent members from the public and private sectors from their respective countries. The Singapore side included Ambassador Gopinath Pillai, ISAS' Chairman, and Ambassador-at-Large, MFA;

Mr Vikram Nair, Member of Parliament and Chairman, Parliamentary Friendship Group for India; Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, Executive Deputy Chairman, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University (NTU), and Ambassador-at-Large, MFA; and Ambassador Robert Chua, Singapore's Ambassador to Myanmar, among others. The Indian team comprised Mr N K Singh, Senior Member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Former Member of Parliament; Ambassador S K Lambah, Chairman, Ananta Aspen Centre, and Former

Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of India; and Members of Parliament, Dr Shashi Tharoor and Mr B J Panda, among others.

During the two days, the participants discussed several notable issues relating to strengthening the economic pillar of the strategic partnership; the implications of India's maritime policy for Southeast Asia; and new opportunities for India and Singapore in Iran and Myanmar.

The members also engaged in dialogue sessions with Singapore leaders, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Deputy Prime Minister, and Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies; and Mr Ong Ye Kung, then-Acting Minister for Education (Higher Education and Skills), and Senior Minister of State for Defence. The public forum on "India: A Bright Spark in a Gloomy World Economy?", organised as part of the strategic dialogue, was attended by about 150 guests.

The ISSD is an annual Track II forum for both sides to discuss issues of mutual concern and to better understand each other's viewpoints and positions pertaining to global, political, economic and regional security issues. It is hosted alternatively by India and Singapore.



11th ISAS International Conference on South Asia

Contemporary South Asia: Regional Dynamics and Changing Global Politics

3 March 2017
Singapore

The 11th edition of the ISAS International Conference on South Asia brought together 21 distinguished speakers from 11 countries and renowned institutions, both locally and internationally. The speakers shared their views and perspectives on a number of key issues on “Contemporary South Asia: Regional Dynamics and Changing Global Politics”.

Delivering the keynote address, Singapore’s Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, spoke about the past, present and future of South Asia and Southeast Asia in terms of linkages between the two regions and the potential for further collaborations.

During the conference, the panellists examined South Asia in the light of developments within the broader region and explored the impact of global economic and political currents. These included globalisation and anti-globalisation sentiments, the upsurge in protectionism as rhetoric and policy, the move towards greater regionalism and, concurrently, the forces of localism and nationalism. Focusing on South Asia, the deliberations considered the role of history, culture and memory,

the constraints of geography and politics, and the promise of infrastructure in the making and re-making of the region’s identity and importance.

Close to 200 participants from the public and private sectors, diplomatic community, academia and civil society attended the event.



Event Highlights

Book Launch

Looking Ahead: India & Singapore in the New Millennium – Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations

7 April 2016
New Delhi, India



Singapore celebrated 50 years of diplomatic relations with India in 2015. To commemorate the occasion, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Singapore's Deputy Prime Minister, and Coordinating Minister for Economic and Social Policies, along with India's Minister of State for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy, Mr Piyush Goyal, launched a commemorative book, in New Delhi, India, on 7 April 2016.

The book, *Looking Ahead: India & Singapore in the New Millennium – Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*, is a joint publication by ISAS and Ananta Aspen Centre in New Delhi. Professor Tan Tai Yong, ISAS Management Board member, and Executive Vice President (Academic Affairs), Yale-NUS College, is the co-editor of the volume, together with Mr A K Bhattacharya, Editor, Business Standard, India.

Panel Discussion

India under Modi: A Mid-term Appraisal of the BJP Government

26 May 2016
Singapore

In May 2014, Mr Narendra Modi assumed office as India's Prime Minister. For the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), the 16th general elections marked its emergence as a national party, giving it a clear majority. The momentum and energy generated by the election, captured in the persona of Mr Modi himself, warranted a serious assessment of the achievements of a government two years into the job.

On 26 May 2016, ISAS hosted a panel of distinguished Indian speakers on the theme "India under Modi: A Mid-Term Appraisal". The speakers included Mr Karan Thapar, President, Infotainment Television New Delhi; Mr Vinod Rai, Senior Visiting Research Fellow, ISAS, and 11th Comptroller and Auditor-General, India; Dr Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament, and Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs, India; Mr Ashok Malik, Distinguished Fellow, Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi; Dr Surjit Bhalla, Chairman, Oxus Investments, New Delhi; and Professor Pratap Bhanu Mehta, Visiting Research Professor, ISAS, and President, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi.



Covering a wide range of topics across politics, governance, the economy and foreign policy, the panel brought out the nuances and challenges of assessing change, taking into account the perceived stalemate of the previous decades, and on the usage of its benchmark – should it be the pace or quality of change measured in terms of policy and output; effectiveness

and impact captured through socio-economic indices; the strengthening and weakening of institutions or the intangibles of reviving qualities such as professionalism, integrity and civic consciousness.

More than 250 representatives from the Singapore business community, government agencies, research fraternity and civil society attended the event.

Public Lecture

Terrorism and the State: Transforming Conflict, Building Peace

24 June 2016
Singapore



The ISAS public lecture on “Terrorism and the State: Transforming Conflict, Building Peace” was delivered by Mrs Chandrika B Kumaratunga, Former President of Sri Lanka. The session was aimed at shedding light on the causes of extremism in Sri Lanka and the post-war efforts by the government to rebuild the country.

Delivering her address, Mrs Kumaratunga stated that one of the most critical causes of conflicts is identity. She stressed that when individuals are excluded from the national polity and feel that their basic rights are denied as a result of sectarian or ethnic profiling, they may resort to extremism to seek redress. She noted that, in

this respect, the government must make a conscious effort to be inclusive, and to ensure that every citizen is treated fairly and benefits equally from government policies and programmes. She added that all communities must be involved in the socio-political and economic process in the country.

Following the address, a three-member panel examined some of the key socio-economic and political challenges faced by Sri Lanka following three decade of civil strife. The panellists were Professor S D Muni, Distinguished Fellow, Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), India; Professor Vineeta Sinha, Head, South Asian Studies Programme, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore (NUS); and Professor Riaz Ul Hassan, Visiting Research Professor, ISAS, and Director, International Centre for Muslim and non-Muslim Understanding, University of South Australia.

Public Forum

India: A Bright Spark in a Gloomy World Economy?

30 August 2016
Singapore



It was not plain sailing for Ascendas-Singbridge when it made its first foray into India some 20 years ago. Mr Manohar Khiatani, the company's Deputy Group Chief Executive, stated that, "We have faced delays in projects, changes in government policies, lack of clarity and consistency in tax environment and also, until two years back, a sharply depreciating rupee... We have had our 'hits and misses' but overall the experience has been positive."

Mr Khiatani was speaking at a public forum organised by ISAS on 30 August 2016 on the sidelines of

the 9th India-Singapore Strategic Dialogue (ISSD). The theme of the session was "India: A Bright Spark in a Gloomy World Economy?". The other speakers were Mr Manu Bhaskaran, Director, Centennial Group, and Chief Executive, Centennial Asia Advisors; Mr Ashok Malik, Senior Columnist and Author, India; Dr Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament, and Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs, India; and Co-chairs of the 9th ISSD, Mr Jamshyd N Godrej, Chairman of the Board, Godrej and Boyce Manufacturing Company Ltd, India; and Professor Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore.

The panellists lauded the Indian government's commitment to making positive changes and stressed that it needed to be more pro-business. With several factors in its favour such as urbanisation trends and an expanding young workforce, the panellists felt that India needed to focus on growing its manufacturing sector and continuously moving up the value chain in the information technology sector as well as promoting greater entrepreneurship.

Joint Business Forum

Vibrant Gujarat: Gateway to Global Opportunities

12 October 2016

Singapore



The Indian state of Gujarat played host to the 8th Vibrant Gujarat Summit from 10 to 13 January 2017. The event was aimed at bringing together business leaders, investors, corporations, thought leaders, policy and opinion makers to explore potential business and investment opportunities in the state.

As a prelude to the Summit, ISAS and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry jointly organised a business forum on "Vibrant Gujarat: Gateway to Global Opportunities" on 12 October 2016.

Following the addresses by Mr Douglas Foo, President of the Singapore Manufacturing Federation, and Her Excellency Mrs Vijay Thakur Singh, High Commissioner of India to Singapore, the panellists shared their views on the business and investment opportunities offered by the state. The panellists included Ms Prena Soni, Investment Lead, Infrastructure and Financial Services, Invest India; Mr Ashwini Kumar, Secretary (Housing and Nirmal Gujarat) and Commissioner, Gujarat Housing Board, Urban Development and Urban Housing Department, Government of Gujarat, India; Mr Paresch Vasani, Honorary Secretary, Electronic Industries Association of India; Mr Jitendra Shah, Managing Director, Tipsons Financial Services; and Mr Liou Jia-Ciao, Director, Maxis Rubber India Pvt Ltd.

Panel Discussion

Indian's Foreign Policy and the Modi Doctrine

20 October 2016
Singapore

ISAS organised a panel discussion on "Indian's Foreign Policy and the Modi Doctrine" on 20 October 2016 to understand India's foreign policy thrust under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The panel comprised Dr Vijay Chauthaiwale, In-Charge, Foreign Affairs Department, BJP, India; Professor C Raja Mohan, Director, Carnegie India; and Visiting Research Professor and Research Lead (Security and International Relations), ISAS; and Mr James Crabtree, Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, NUS.

The panellists examined several key issues relating to India's foreign policy. These included the emergence of the 'Modi Doctrine' in India's foreign policy and the evolution of new paradigms in India's external engagements. The panellists agreed that Prime Minister Modi's outlook on global affairs retains the main thrust of India's approach to the world. However, there has been a nuanced aim of linking India's foreign policy



to domestic transformation under his leadership. While his policies have been designed to attract foreign capital and technology, and seek foreign markets for Indian products, they have also been geared towards a closer linkage of regional stability, peace and prosperity.

Panel Discussion and Workshop

Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential of Trade, Security and Sustainable Development

29 and 30 November 2016
Singapore



During the panel discussion, Mr Michel and Professor Carr were joined by Professor S D Muni, Distinguished Fellow, IDSA, India. The panellists shared their views on maritime governance in the Indian Ocean in terms of national and transnational strategies of the various countries.

The panel discussion was a sequel to the international workshop on maritime governance in South Asia held on 29 November 2016.

Professor Tommy Koh, President of the Third United Nations Conference on Law of the Sea, and Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore, delivered the special address. He focused on the significance of the Indian Ocean, its vastness and incredible diversity. This was followed by four panel discussions that touched on issues of governing the Indian Ocean, economic dynamics, territorial disputes, strategic competition between the major powers, non-traditional security threats and the role of powerful navies such as the Indian navy, in ensuring a stable, open and inclusive regional architecture.

The ISAS panel discussion on maritime governance in South Asia was organised on 30 November 2016 to discuss the evolving maritime dynamics of trade, security and sustainable development.

Mr James Alix Michel, the third President of the Republic of Seychelles, delivered the first keynote address at the event. This was followed by the second keynote address by Professor Bob Carr, Former Foreign Minister, Australia

Public Forum

The Indian Ocean

9 January 2017
Singapore

Mr Shivshankar Menon, Former National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister of India, Chairman, Advisory Board, Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi, and Distinguished Fellow, Brookings Institution, Washington, the United States (US), visited Singapore under the ISAS Distinguished Visitor Programme from 8 to 15 January 2017.

During his visit, ISAS organised a public forum on “The Indian Ocean” on 9 January 2017. Joining Mr Menon on the panel were Dr Harsha de Silva, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka; and Mr Sanjeev Sanyal, Economist and Writer, and Visiting Fellow, IDFC Institute, Mumbai, India.

Mr Menon presented an in-depth analysis of the current geopolitical and security climate in the Indian Ocean, illustrating its importance as a lifeline for international trade and energy flows. Speaking on Sri Lanka’s role in the Indian Ocean and the changing global dynamics, Dr de Silva pointed out that the Indian Ocean economies were more integrated with the rest of the world than with one another, unlike the Asia-Pacific. He also shared the Sri Lankan government’s plan to leverage the country’s geostrategic position to enhance its relationship

with its partners so as to reposition the country as a hub of the Indian Ocean as well as a transshipment port for the Bay of Bengal trade. In his presentation, Mr Sanyal provided a historical perspective of the Indian Ocean.

The public forum highlighted the geopolitical and geostrategic importance of the Indian Ocean. The speakers unanimously called for a security architecture involving

regional and extra-regional powers, to improve cooperation and build institutions, without the supremacy of any one power. It was recognised that, instead of an overarching, rigid structure, small steps would be beneficial to improving maritime security, humanitarian and disaster relief and cooperation.

Close to 100 participants attended the forum.



Symposium

India Budget 2017: Analysing the Impact

7 February 2017
Singapore



India's Union Budget FY2017/18 was presented by Mr Arun Jaitley, India's Finance Minister and Minister of Corporate Affairs, on 1 February 2017. The budget focused on a number of key areas, including the agriculture sector, infrastructure development, young Indians, the poor and needy, the rural sector, and fiscal and tax administration, among others. There were also concerns on the impact of the demonitisation initiative in November 2016 and the

imminent introduction of the Goods and Services Tax in July 2017 on businesses in India.

ISAS organised a symposium on 7 February 2017 to analyse the budget and assess its impact on and implications for businessmen and investors in India as well as from Singapore.

The panellists comprised ISAS' Chairman, Ambassador Gopinath Pilla; Professor Subrata Kumar Mitra,

Director and Visiting Research Professor, ISAS; Dr Amitendu Palit, Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead (Trade and Economics), ISAS; Dr Jahangir Aziz, Chief Asia Economist, J P Morgan Bank; Mr Rohan Solapurkar, Tax Partner, Deloitte Singapore; Dr Venkatraman Anantha Nageswaran, Former Chief Investment Officer, Bank Julius Baer; and Mr Vikram Khanna, Associate Editor, The Business Times, Singapore.

Joint Panel Discussion

India-Singapore Relations in the Changing Global Scenario

20 February 2017

Singapore



The CII Core Group visited Singapore from 19 to 21 February 2017. Represented by senior members of the business community in India who sit on the CII Board, the annual visit provides an opportunity for the exchange of views and perspectives on India-Singapore relations between the group and Singapore government officials and business community.

During the visit, ISAS and CII organised a panel discussion on "India-Singapore Relations in the Changing Global Scenario" on 20 February 2017. The Core

Group representatives included Dr Naushad Forbes, President, CII and Co-Chairman, Forbes Marshall Pvt Ltd; Mr N Kumar, Past President, CII, and Vice Chairman, Sanmar Group; and Mr Chandrajit Banerjee, Director General, CII. The Singapore side was represented by Ambassador Ong Keng Yong, Executive Deputy Chairman, S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), NTU, and Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore; Mr Sanjiv Aiyar, Founder, ApKar Consulting Private Limited, and President, Pan-IIM Association; and Professor Subrata

Kumar Mitra, Director, Visiting Research Professor and Research Lead (Souh Asian Diaspora), ISAS.

The interactive session witnessed interesting exchanges among the panellists and the audience on issues of economic and political importance to India and Singapore. The panellists stressed the value of the relationship to both countries and expressed the need to ensure that both sides continue to remain engaged at various levels to further enhance the relationship.

Other Events Listing



7 April 2016, Mumbai, India
**JOINT ROUNDTABLE
DISCUSSION**



11 April 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR



12 May 2016, Singapore
AMBASSADORS' LECTURE

Navigating Choppy Waters: Maritime Developments around India and their Strategic Implications for Business

Mr Vinod Rai

Senior Research Fellow, ISAS; and
11th Comptroller and Auditor General, India

Ambassador Neelam Deo

Director and Co-founder Gateway House, India

Dr S Narayan

Visiting Senior Research Fellow, ISAS; and
former Economic Adviser to the
Prime Minister of India

Dr Amitendu Palit

Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead
(Trade and Economics), ISAS

Dr Sinderpal Singh

Senior Research Fellow, ISAS
Co-research lead (Security and
International Relations), ISAS

Ambassador Neelam Deo

Director and Co-founder Gateway House, India

Vice Admiral Anil Chopra

Distinguished Fellow Maritime and
International Security Studies, India

Mr Sameer Patil

Fellow, National Security, Ethnic Conflict and
Terrorism Studies, Gateway House, India

Jammu and Kashmir: Past, Present and Future

Lieutenant-General Ata Hasnain

Ex-Corps Commander, Indian Army

Ambassadors' Lecture: Nordic Security Issues and Defence Cooperation: A Study in Small States-Big Neighbour Relations

His Excellency Hakan Jevrell

Ambassador of Sweden to Singapore



20 May 2016, Singapore
**BOOK LAUNCH AND
PANEL DISCUSSION**



2 June 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR



8 June 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR

**Making it Big: The Inspiring
Story of Nepal's First Billionaire
in his own Words**

Mr Binod Chaudhary

Chairman, Chaudhary Group, Nepal

Ambassador Gopinath Pillai

Chairman, ISAS; and
Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore

Dr S Narayan

Visiting Senior Research Fellow, ISAS; and
Former Economic Adviser to the
Prime Minister of India

Mr Michael Perlis

President and Chief Executive Officer
Forbes Media LLC

**From "Look East" to "Act East"
Policy: India's Engagements
with Southeast Asia**

Professor G V C Naidu

Professor of Southeast Asian Studies,
Jawaharlal Nehru University,
New Delhi, India

**Eelam War IV, 2006-2009:
Realities, Ramifications
and Misreadings**

Professor Michael Roberts

Associate Professor of Anthropology
University of Adelaide, Australia



8 June 2016, Singapore
CLOSED DOOR SESSION

India-Mauritius Tax Treaty: Changes and Implications

Mr Rohan Solapurkar
Tax Partner, Deloitte Singapore



10 June 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR

Supreme Court of India: Is it really Judicial Activism?

Mr Vinod Rai
Senior Visiting Research Fellow, ISAS; and
11th Comptroller and Auditor-General, India



21 June 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR

Region, System, and Order: The Mughal Empire in Islamicate Asia

Dr Manjeet Pardesi
Lecturer, University of Victoria,
New Zealand



20 July 2016, Singapore
WORKSHOP

Diaspora and Citizenship

Professor Subrata Kumar Mitra
Director, Visiting Research Professor and
Research Lead (South Asian Diaspora), ISAS

Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury
Principal Research Fellow and Research Lead
(Multilateral and International Linkages),
ISAS; and Former Foreign Minister,
Bangladesh

**Professor Robin
Bannerman Jeffrey**
Visiting Research Professor, ISAS

Mr Shahid Javed Burki
Visiting Senior Research Fellow, ISAS; and
Former Finance Minister, Pakistan

Professor Riaz Ul Hassan

Visiting Research Professor, ISAS; and
Director, International Centre for Muslim
and non-Muslim Understanding,
University of South Australia

Dr Ronojoy Sen

Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead
(Politics, Society and Governance), ISAS

Dr Jivanta Schoettli

Visiting Research Fellow, ISAS

Professor Anthony P D'Costa

Chair and Professor Contemporary Indian
Studies, Australia-India Institute University
of Melbourne, Australia

Professor Mohan J Dutta

Head, Department of Communications and
New Media, Faculty of Arts and
Social Sciences, NUS

Dr Jonah Blank

Senior Political Scientist, RAND Corporation,
Santa Monica, California, United States

Dr Habibul Khondker

Professor, College of Sustainability Sciences
and Humanities, Zayed University,
United Arab Emirates

Mr Amjad Mohamed-Saleem

Country Director, International Alert, Sri Lanka

Dr John Solomon

Assistant Professor, Department of History,
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, NUS



30 June 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR

Islam and the Others

Mr Hadi Qazwini

Adjunct Professor of Islamic Studies,
Bayan Claremont Islamic Graduate
University, California, United States



1 and 2 July 2016, Singapore
JOINT WORKSHOP

Asian Women's Writer's Festival 2016

Professor Subrata Kumar Mitra

Director, Visiting Research Professor and
Research Lead (South Asian Diaspora), ISAS



19 July 2016, Singapore
**BOOK LAUNCH AND
INTERACTIVE SESSION**

Who Moved my Interest Rate?

GUEST-OF-HONOUR

Mr Ravi Menon

Managing Director,
Monetary Authority of Singapore

Dr Duvvuri Subbarao

Distinguished Visiting Fellow, ISAS; and
Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India

Ambassador Gopinath Pillai

Chairman, ISAS; and
Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore



8 August 2016, Singapore
CLOSED DOOR SESSION

Indian Foreign Policy: Emerging Opportunities and Gathering Challenges

Professor C Raja Mohan

Director, Carnegie India; and Visiting
Research Professor and Research Lead
(Security and International Relations), ISAS



29 August 2016, Singapore
CLOSED DOOR LUNCHEON

Mr Ong Ye Kung

Acting Minister for Education
(Higher Education and Skills) and
Senior Minister of State
Ministry of Defence, Singapore



29 August 2016, Singapore
**CLOSED DOOR INTERACTIVE
SESSION AND BOOK LAUNCH**

Smart Diplomacy: Exploring China-India Synergy

GUEST-OF-HONOUR

Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam

Deputy Prime Minister; and Co-ordinating
Minister for Economic and Social Policies,
Singapore

Professor Tommy Koh

Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore

Mr P S Suryanarayana

Editor (Current Affairs), and Author, Smart
Diplomacy: Exploring China-India Synergy,
ISAS



31 August 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR

Linking India and East Africa through the Island States of the Western Indian Ocean

Mr Graham Sherbut

Regional Director of Monitoring, Evaluation
and Research, Aga Khan Foundation, Canada



2 September 2016, Singapore
CLOSED DOOR SESSION

US Policies and Perspectives in South Asia

Ms Nisha D Biswal

Assistant Secretary of State, South and
Central Asian Affairs, United States



13 September 2016, Singapore
CLOSED DOOR SESSION

Bangladesh Civil Service

Mr Mohammad Shafiul Alam

Cabinet Secretary,
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Shyam Sunder Sikder

Secretary, Department of ICT,
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Mesbah UI Alam

Secretary, Ministry of Land,
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Md Sohorab Hossain

Secretary, Ministry of Education,
Government of Bangladesh

Mr Tarique M Barkatullah

Deputy Project Director, LICIT Project,
Government of Bangladesh



10 October 2016, Singapore
WORKSHOP

Land as Business: Insights and Experiences from India and the Asian Region

Professor Subrata Kumar Mitra

Director, Visiting Research Professor and
Research Lead (South Asian Diaspora), ISAS

Dr S Narayan

Visiting Senior Research Fellow, ISAS; and
Former Economic Adviser to the
Prime Minister of India

Professor Deng Yongheng

Director, Institute of Real Estate Studies,
NUS

Professor Sanjoy Chakravorty

Department of Geography and Urban
Studies, Temple University, United States

Assistant Professor Qin Yu

Department of Real Estate
School of Design and Environment, NUS

Assistant Professor Fan Yi

Department of Real Estate
School of Design and Environment, NUS

Dr Amitendu Palit

Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead
(Trade and Economics), ISAS

Associate Professor

Huang Ying Hong

School of International Relations,
Sun Yat Sen University, China

Mr Subhomoy Bhattacharjee

Consulting Editor, Business Standard, India

Assistant Professor Cristian Badarinza

Institute of Real Estate Studies, NUS

Professor D Parthasarathy

Head of Department of Humanities
and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of
Technology, Mumbai, India

Mr Shubhagato Dasgupta

Honorary Fellow, ISAS; and
Senior Fellow, Centre for Policy Research,
New Delhi, India



23 September 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR



7 October 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR

Professor Subrata Kumar Mitra

Director, Visiting Research Professor and Research Lead (South Asian Diaspora), ISAS

Mr Johnson Paul

Senior Associate Director, ISAS

Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury

Principal Research Fellow and Research Lead (Multilateral and International Linkages), ISAS; and Former Foreign Minister, Bangladesh

Dr Srikanth Thaliyakkattil

Visiting Research Fellow, ISAS
Mr Rajeev Arumugam
Research Assistant, ISAS

India: An Indo-Pacific Regional Power

Professor Jakub Zajaczkowski

Professor of International Relations, University of Warsaw, Poland

Defence and Developmental Dilemmas in South Asia

Major-General (Ret) Dipankar Banerjee

Ex-Commander, Jammu and Kashmir, Indian Army



11 October 2016, Singapore
PANEL DISCUSSION



19 October 2016, Singapore
AMBASSADORS' LECTURE



21 October 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR

US Presidential Elections, Immigration and India Diaspora

Ambassador Gopinath Pillai

Chairman, ISAS; and Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore

Ambassador Curtis Chin

Former United States Ambassador, Asian Development Bank

Professor Sanjoy Chakravorty

Department of Geography and Urban Studies, Temple University, United States

Mr Subhomoy Bhattacharjee

Consulting Editor, Business Standard, India

Bangladesh: Promoting Regional Cooperation in South Asia and Beyond

His Excellency Mahbub Uz Zaman

High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Singapore

International Law, Self-Determination and the Partitions of British India and Mandate Palestine (August-November 1947)

Dr Victor Kattan

Research Fellow, Middle East Institute, NUS



1 November 2016, Singapore
CLOSED DOOR SESSION

**National Management College
National School of Public Policy
Lahore, Pakistan**

Dr Duvvuri Subbarao

Distinguished Visiting Fellow, ISAS and Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India

Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury

Principal Research Fellow and Research Lead (Multilateral and International Linkages), ISAS; and Former Foreign Minister, Bangladesh

Mr P S Suryanarayana

Editor (Current Affairs), ISAS

Mr Shafiq Hussain Bokhari

Chief Instructor, National Management College, Pakistan Administrative Service

Mr Arshad Ali Khan

Director General, Postal Services Group, Pakistan

Mr Muhammad Nadeem Arif

Director General, Inland Revenue Service, Pakistan

Mr Passand Khan

Director General, Government of Balochistan

Mr Shoukat Ali

Director General, Pakistan Administrative Service

Dr Muhammad Syrus

Sajjad Qazi

Director General, Pakistan Custom Service

Mrs Zeenat Ahmed

Director General, Military Land and Cantonments Group, Pakistan



4 November 2016, Singapore
AMBASSADORS' LECTURE

**ASEAN: Need for
a New Paradigm?**

His Excellency

Illango Karuppannan

High Commissioner of Malaysia to Singapore



22 November 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR

**Politics and Governance
in Indian States:
The Case of Tripura**

**Professor Harihar
Bhattacharyya**

Professor of Political Science, University of Burdwan, India



30 November 2016, Singapore
JOINT SYMPOSIUM

**Riding the Wave of India's
Growth and Transformation**

Dr Amitendu Palit

Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead (Trade and Economics), ISAS



5 December 2016, Singapore
BOOK LAUNCH

**Indian Muslims: Struggling for
Equality of Citizenship**

Professor Riaz Ul Hassan

Visiting Research Professor, ISAS; and Director, International Centre for Muslim and non-Muslim Understanding, University of South Australia

Ambassador Gopinath Pillai

Chairman, ISAS; and Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore



11 November 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR

Iran as Emerging Focus of India-China Rivalry

Professor John Garver

Emeritus Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology, United States



14 November 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR

Bangladesh: the Silicon Valley of Financial Inclusion: A Practitioner's Narrative

Dr Atiur Rahman

Professor, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh



17 November 2016, Singapore
JOINT SEMINAR

Rescued from the Nation, Returned to the Region: Anagarika Dharmapala as South Asian

Professor Steven Kemper

Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asia Research Institute, NUS



6 December 2016, Singapore
PANEL DISCUSSION

De-monetisation of the Indian Rupee: Objective and Impacts

Dr Amitendu Palit

Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead (Trade and Economics), ISAS

Dr Duvvuri Subbarao

Distinguished Visiting Fellow, ISAS; and Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India

Dr Jahangir Aziz

Head, EM Asia Research, JP Morgan Bank



6 December 2016, Singapore
ROUNDTABLE

Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore

Professor Subrata Kumar Mitra

Director, Visiting Research Professor and Research Lead (South Asian Diaspora), ISAS

Dr Duvvuri Subbarao

Distinguished Visiting Fellow, ISAS; and Former Governor, Reserve Bank of India

Dr Amitendu Palit

Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead (Trade and Economics), ISAS



5 to 7 December 2016, Colombo, Sri Lanka
JOINT WORKSHOP

China in South Asia-South Asia in China

Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury

Principal Research Fellow and Research Lead (Multilateral and International Linkages), ISAS; and Former Foreign Minister, Bangladesh

Professor Imtiaz Ahmed

Executive Director, Regional Center for Strategic Studies, Bangladesh

His Excellency Yi Xianliang

Ambassador of the People's China to Bangladesh

Dr Sarath Amunugama, MP

Minister for Special Assignments, Government of Sri Lanka

Continued ...

5 to 7 December 2016, Colombo, Sri Lanka
JOINT WORKSHOP



15 December 2016, Singapore
SEMINAR

Dr Minna Thaheer

Associate Director, Regional Center for Strategic Studies, Bangladesh

Mr Halimullah Kousary

Head, Research and Legal Program; and Team Leader, Centre for Conflict and Peace Studies, Afghanistan

Dr Wang Shida

Director, Southwest Asia Research Office, South Asia, Southeast Asia and Oceania Research Institute, Contemporary International Relations Research Academy of China, China

Dr Mohan Lohani

Advisor, China Study Centre, Nepal

Dr Srikanth Thaliyakkattil

Visiting Research Fellow, ISAS

Dr Zhang Liyan

Professor and Director, Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Tianjin University, China

Dr Deeparghya Mukherjee

Visiting Research Fellow, ISAS

Ambassador Nihal Rodrigo

Former Foreign Secretary of Sri Lanka; and Former Secretary General of SAARC Secretariat

Dr Wang Zhen

Associate Professor, International Studies, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, China

Mr P S Suryanarayana

Editor (Current Affairs), ISAS

Mr Wu Hang

Associate Research Fellow, China Center for Contemporary World Studies, China

**Making of the Boundary
(and the Dispute) between India
and China**

Professor Joe Thomas K

Indian Institute of Technology
Madras, India



19 January 2017, Singapore
AMBASSADORS' LECTURE



23 January 2017, Singapore
SEMINAR



13 February 2017, Singapore
SEMINAR

**BRICS:
Which Way will it be Headed?**

His Excellency Flavio S Damico

Ambassador of Brazil to Singapore

**Sino-Indian Rivalry in the Age of
Globalisation**

Professor T V Paul

James McGill Professor, International Relations, McGill University, Canada

**Climate Change: Cooperation
amongst South Asian States**

Ambassador Shafqat Kakakhel

Chairman, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Pakistan; and Former Assistant Secretary General United Nations



2 January 2017, Dhaka, Bangladesh
SEMINAR

Rise of China and the implications for Bangladesh, the Region and the world

Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury
Principal Research Fellow and Research Lead
(Multilateral and International Linkages),
ISAS; and Former Foreign Minister,
Bangladesh



12 January 2017, Singapore
BOOK LAUNCH

Choices: Inside the Making of Indian Foreign Policy

Mr Shivshankar Menon
Former National Security Advisor to the
Prime Minister of India; Chairman, Advisory
Board, Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi; and
Distinguished Fellow, Brookings Institution,
Washington

Professor Tommy Koh
Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore

Ambassador Gopinath Pillai
Chairman, ISAS; and
Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore



12 January 2017, Singapore
PUBLIC LECTURE

Security in the Asia Pacific

Mr Shivshankar Menon
Former National Security Advisor to the
Prime Minister of India; Chairman, Advisory
Board, Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi;
and Distinguished Fellow, Brookings
Institution, Washington

Professor Tommy Koh
Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore

Ambassador Gopinath Pillai
Chairman, ISAS; and
Ambassador-at-Large, MFA, Singapore



16 February 2017, Singapore
AMBASSADORS' LECTURE

India's Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Its Role in the Making and Implementation of Foreign Policy

His Excellency Jawed Ashraf
High Commissioner of India to Singapore



14 March 2017, Singapore
CLOSED DOOR SESSION

RCEP, Trade and Regional Integration: Implications for South Asia

Mr Jordan Schwartz
Director, World Bank Group, Singapore

Dr Amitendu Palit
Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead
(Trade and Economics), ISAS

Dr Deeparghya Mukherjee
Visiting Research Fellow, ISAS

Mr Sebastian Sæz
Lead Economist, Trade and Competitiveness
South Asia, World Bank Group, Singapore

Dr Deborah Elms
Executive Director, Asian Trade Centre,
Singapore



27 March 2017, Singapore
AMBASSADORS' LECTURE

Pakistan at 70

His Excellency Nasrullah Khan
High Commissioner of Pakistan to Singapore



ONLINE AND MEDIA PRESENCE

Online and media presence is an essential component of the Institute of South Asian Studies' (ISAS) effort to showcase its diverse range of research initiatives and events on South Asia and beyond. Apart from enhancing the ISAS brand name, this strategy enables us to reach out to audiences in different parts of the world, who are able to easily access ISAS' scholarly work at the click of a button or at the flip of a page.



Website

The ISAS website (www.isas.nus.edu.sg) is an important platform to reach out to our stakeholders, in particular, and the global community, in general. Since its creation in 2005, the ISAS website has witnessed a significant growth in its content and coverage.

Between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017, the website had more than 23,000 site visits. Of these, close to 71 per cent or 13,457 were unique visitors, that is, those who visited the ISAS website for the first time. Singapore came in top in the visitor traffic by

countries. It was followed by India, the United States (US), Pakistan and the United Kingdom (UK).

The ISAS papers were widely accessed online. We had close to 3,000 downloads of the Briefs and approximately 2,400 downloads of the Insights. These were followed by the Working Papers (about 1,900), Special Reports (about 1,000) and Conference Papers (about 650).

BETWEEN 1 APRIL 2016 AND 31 MARCH 2017

More than **23,000** site visits

71 percent or **13,457** were unique visitors

DOWNLOADS

650 Conference Papers

1,000 Special Reports

1,900 Working Papers

2,400 Insights

3,000 Briefs

YouTube

The video recordings of ISAS’ key events, including symposiums, workshops, conferences, public lectures and seminars, are uploaded onto YouTube and linked to the ISAS website.

The YouTube initiative was started in 2011. In just over five years, ISAS has uploaded close to 500 videos on

YouTube. This amounted to almost seven uploads a month. In FY2016/17, 234 new subscribers registered on the ISAS YouTube platform. The viewership recorded approximately 37,000 page views. The highest viewership came from India, followed by Pakistan, the US, Singapore and the UK.

VIDEO UPLOADS



SUBSCRIBERS



PAGE VIEWS



Media Coverage

ISAS receives considerable media coverage, both locally and internationally, for its signature events as well as for its key initiatives. The views and perspectives of ISAS' Chairman, Director and scholars on the South Asian states and their interaction with the rest of the world are widely sought by the media.

Many of ISAS' scholars also write regular opinion editorials and commentaries in both local and international media.

In FY2016/17, ISAS was covered or mentioned close to 750 times in the media. This averaged two media stories or mentions in a day. In addition, ISAS' scholars contributed more than 200 opinion editorials or commentaries in the same period.

DETAIL	FREQUENCY
Media Mentions*	243
South Asian Diaspora Convention (SADC) 2016	243
Coverage of ISAS events	36
Ratio of Media Mentions to Events	6.8:1
Ratio of Media Mentions to Events <i>(inclusive of SADC 2016)</i>	0.9:1
Opinion Editorials/ Commentaries	227

*Scholars or staff quoted or cited.



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