

ANNUAL REPORT  
2016/17

# STUDYING CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIA



ISAS



Institute of South Asian Studies

# STUDYING CONTEMPORARY SOUTH ASIA

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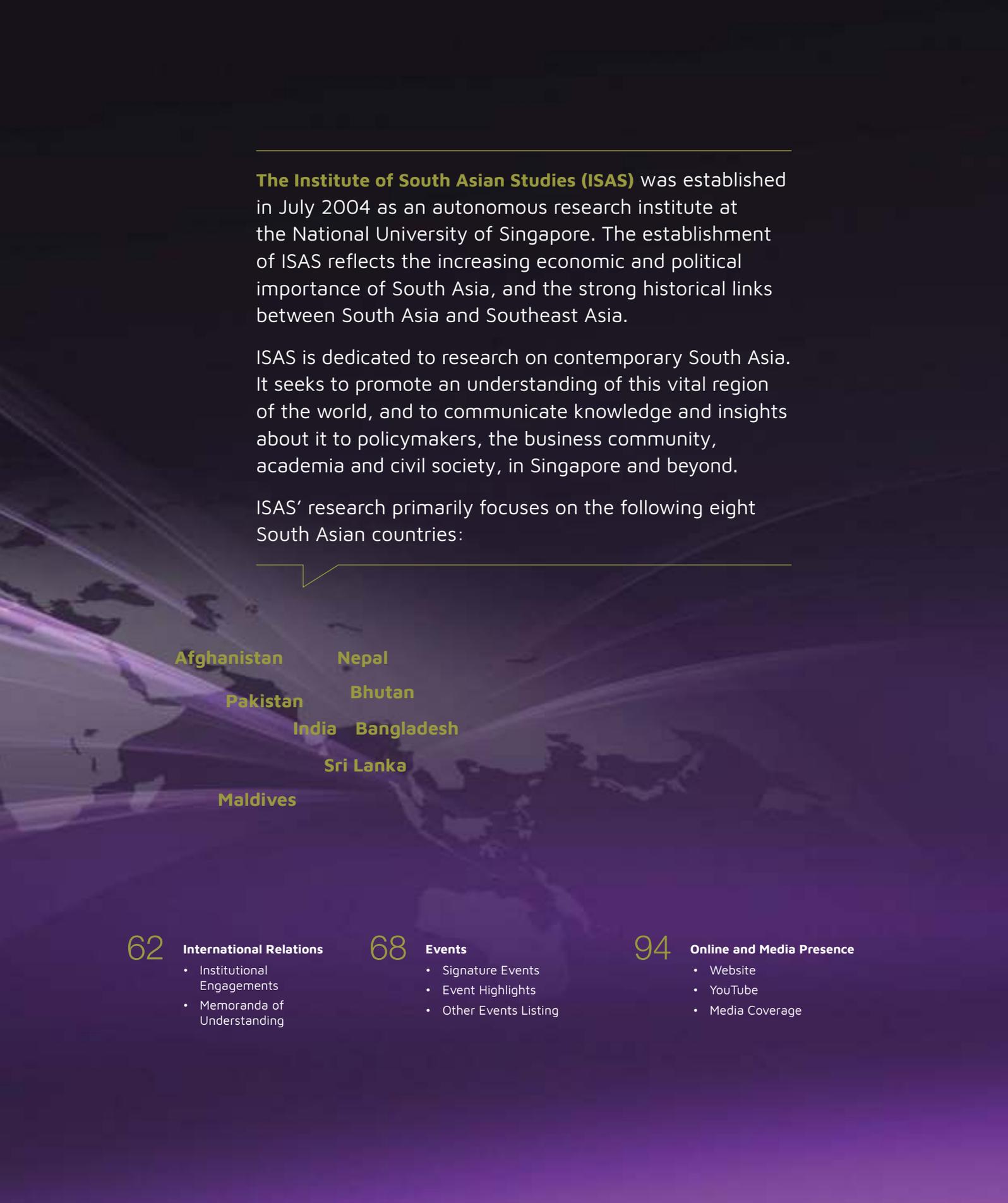
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**The Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS)** was established in July 2004 as an autonomous research institute at the National University of Singapore. The establishment of ISAS reflects the increasing economic and political importance of South Asia, 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  
Pakistan  
India  
Sri Lanka  
Maldives  
Nepal  
Bhutan  
Bangladesh

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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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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, 11<sup>th</sup> 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

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

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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.

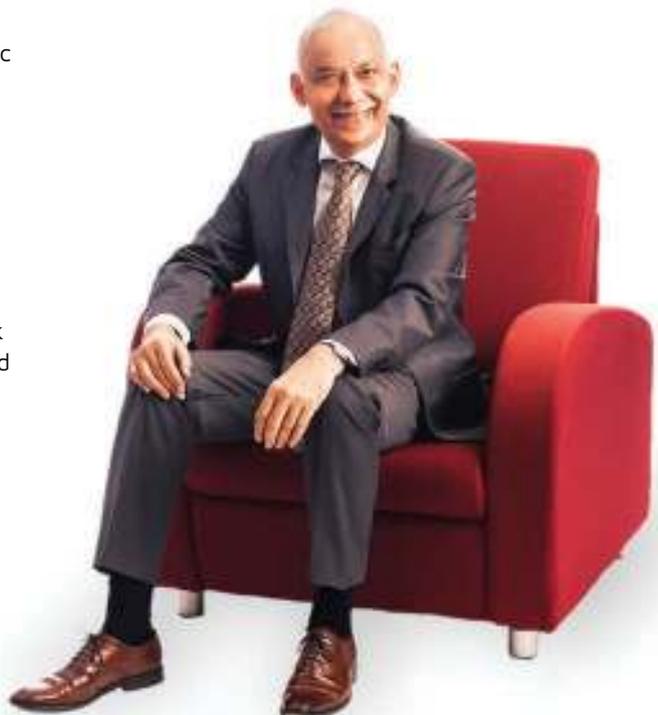
**Professor Subrata Kumar MITRA**

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

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

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# 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



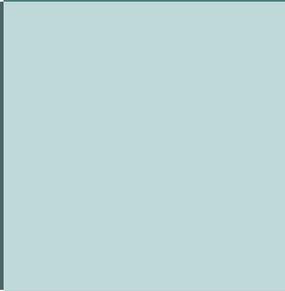
**Professor CHILAMKURI Raja Mohan**  
Visiting Research Professor



**Professor Robin Bannerman JEFFREY**  
Visiting Research Professor



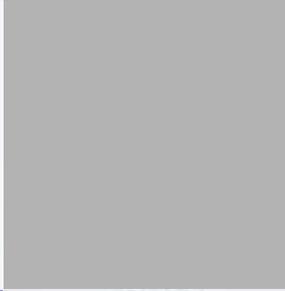
**Professor Pratap Bhanu MEHTA**  
Visiting Research Professor  
(Term ended on  
10 November 2016)



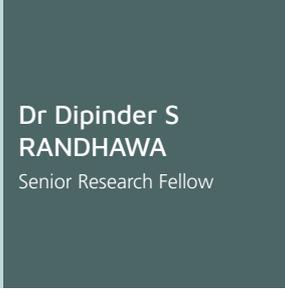
**Dr S Narayan**  
Visiting Senior  
Research Fellow



**Dr Amitendu PALIT**  
Senior Research Fellow



**Dr Dipinder S RANDHAWA**  
Senior Research Fellow



**Dr Sinderpal SINGH**  
Senior Research Fellow  
(Term ended on 31 July 2016)





**Professor John Charles HARRISS**

Visiting Research Professor  
(Term ended on  
11 September 2016)



**Professor Riaz UI HASSAN**

Visiting Research Professor



**Mr Shahid Javed BURKI**

Visiting Senior  
Research Fellow



**Mr Vinod RAI**

Visiting Senior  
Research Fellow



**Dr Md Mizanur RAHMAN**

Senior Research Fellow



**Dr Ronojoy SEN**

Senior Research Fellow



**Dr Aasim Sajjad AKHTAR**

Visiting Research Fellow  
(Term ended on 30 June 2016)



**Dr Rupakjyoti BORAH**

Visiting 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

<p><b>Mr Johnson Paul DAVASAGAYAM</b> Senior Associate Director (Term ended on 6 February 2017)</p>		<p><b>Ms Sithara DORIASAMY</b> General Manager (Chairman's Office); and Head, Communications and Strategic Events</p>		
	<p><b>Ms GOH Hui Chin, Sally</b> Assistant Manager (Human Resources)</p>		<p><b>Ms SEE Bee Lian</b> Senior Executive (Finance)</p>	
<p><b>Ms Amanda Wendy CHAN</b> Management Assistant Officer (Personal Assistant, Director's Office) (Term ended on 15 May 2016)</p>				<p><b>Ms TAN Suat Peng, Peggy</b> Management Assistant Officer (Personal Assistant, Director's Office)</p>

# Research Interns

	<p><b>Mr KOO Ming Yew, Matthew</b> 25 April 2016 to 1 July 2016</p>			<p><b>Ms GOH Shu Li</b> 4 May 2016 to 21 July 2016</p>
<p><b>Mr Rodney SEBASTIAN</b> 28 October 2016 to 7 November 2016</p>			<p><b>Ms Roshni KAPUR</b> 5 December 2016 to 24 February 2017</p>	



**Mr P S  
Suryanarayana**  
Editor (Current Affairs)

**Mr ANG Qi Yang,  
Jordan**  
Assistant Manager (Events)



**Mr KOW Jun Hao,  
Keith**  
Executive (Human Resources)  
(Term ended on  
2 February 2017)



**Ms PANG Shi Lin**  
Executive  
(Human Resources)



**Ms HUANG Lijun,  
Joyce**  
Management  
Assistant Officer (Finance)

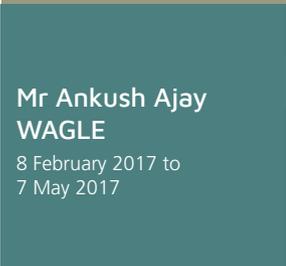
**Mr Muhammad  
Yusuf Bin YACOB**  
Management  
Assistant Officer  
(IT/General Administration)



**Ms GAN Hui Shi**  
1 June 2016 to  
5 August 2016

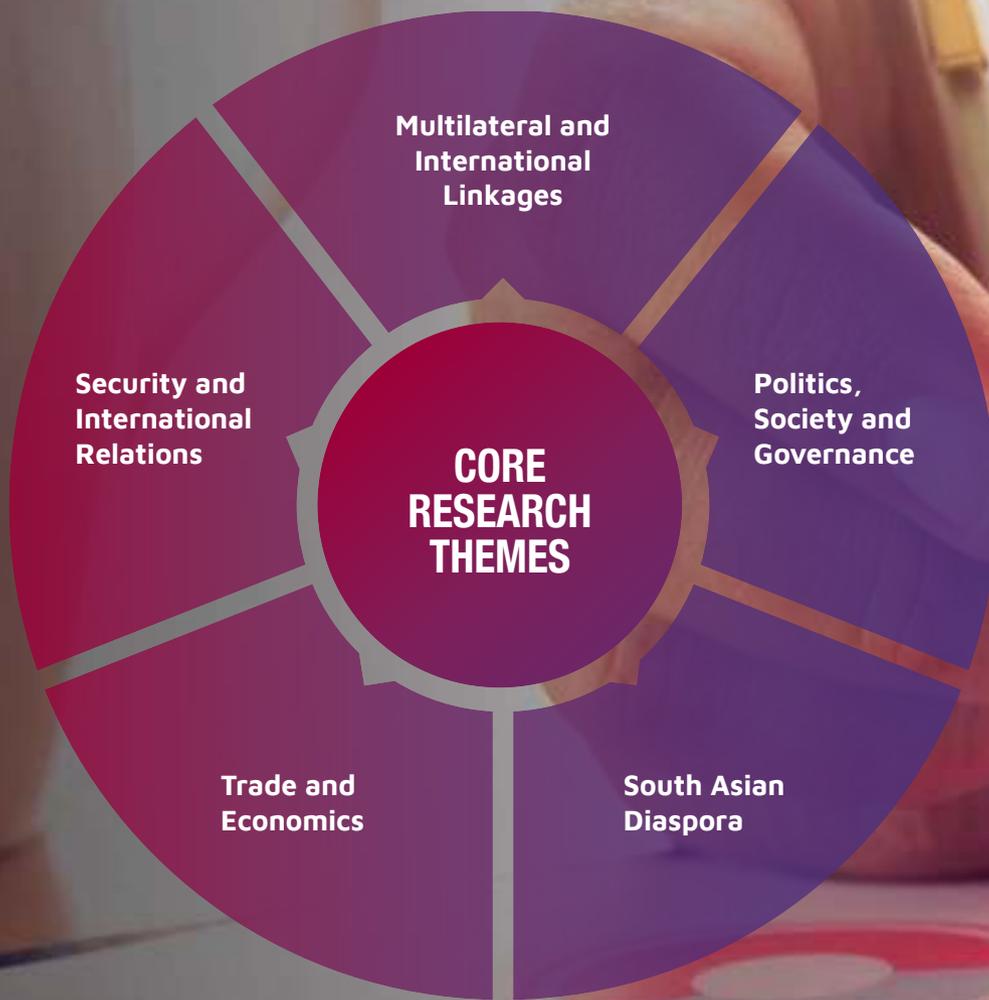


**Mr Anish MISHRA**  
6 June 2016 to  
31 August 2016



**Mr Ankush Ajay  
WAGLE**  
8 February 2017 to  
7 May 2017





**CORE  
RESEARCH  
THEMES**

**Multilateral and  
International  
Linkages**

**Politics,  
Society and  
Governance**

**South Asian  
Diaspora**

**Trade and  
Economics**

**Security and  
International  
Relations**

# 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

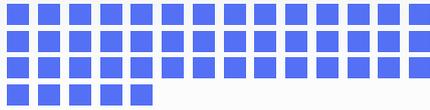
In FY2016/17, the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) continued to focus on the regular publication of Briefs, Insights, Working Papers and Special Reports based on the five research areas. We published a total of 152 such papers. This averaged three papers a week.

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.

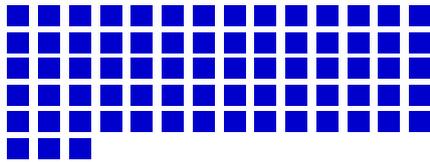
An equally important element of ISAS' work, which adds value to its reputation as a serious and respected academic institution, is the publication of books. In FY2016/17, we produced five edited books and, seven, authored and co-authored books.

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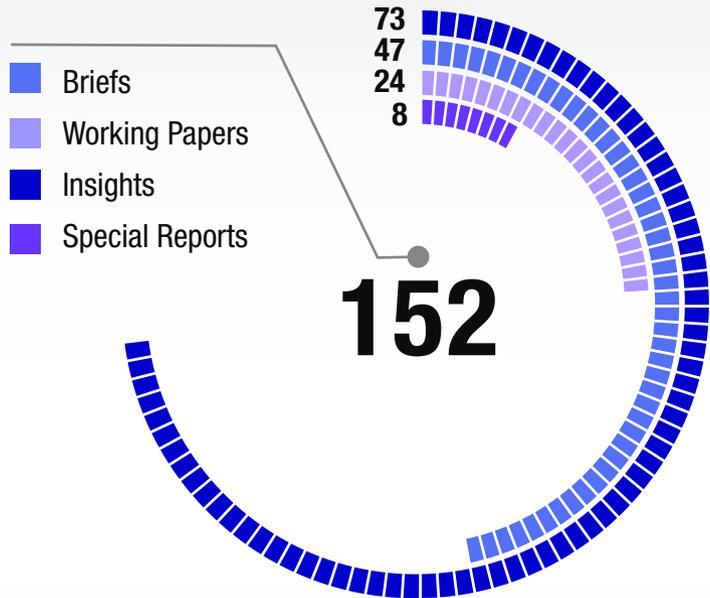
**73** Insights



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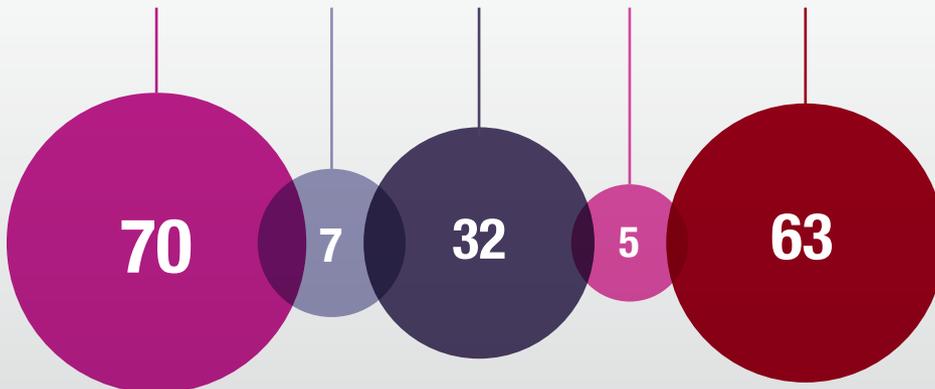


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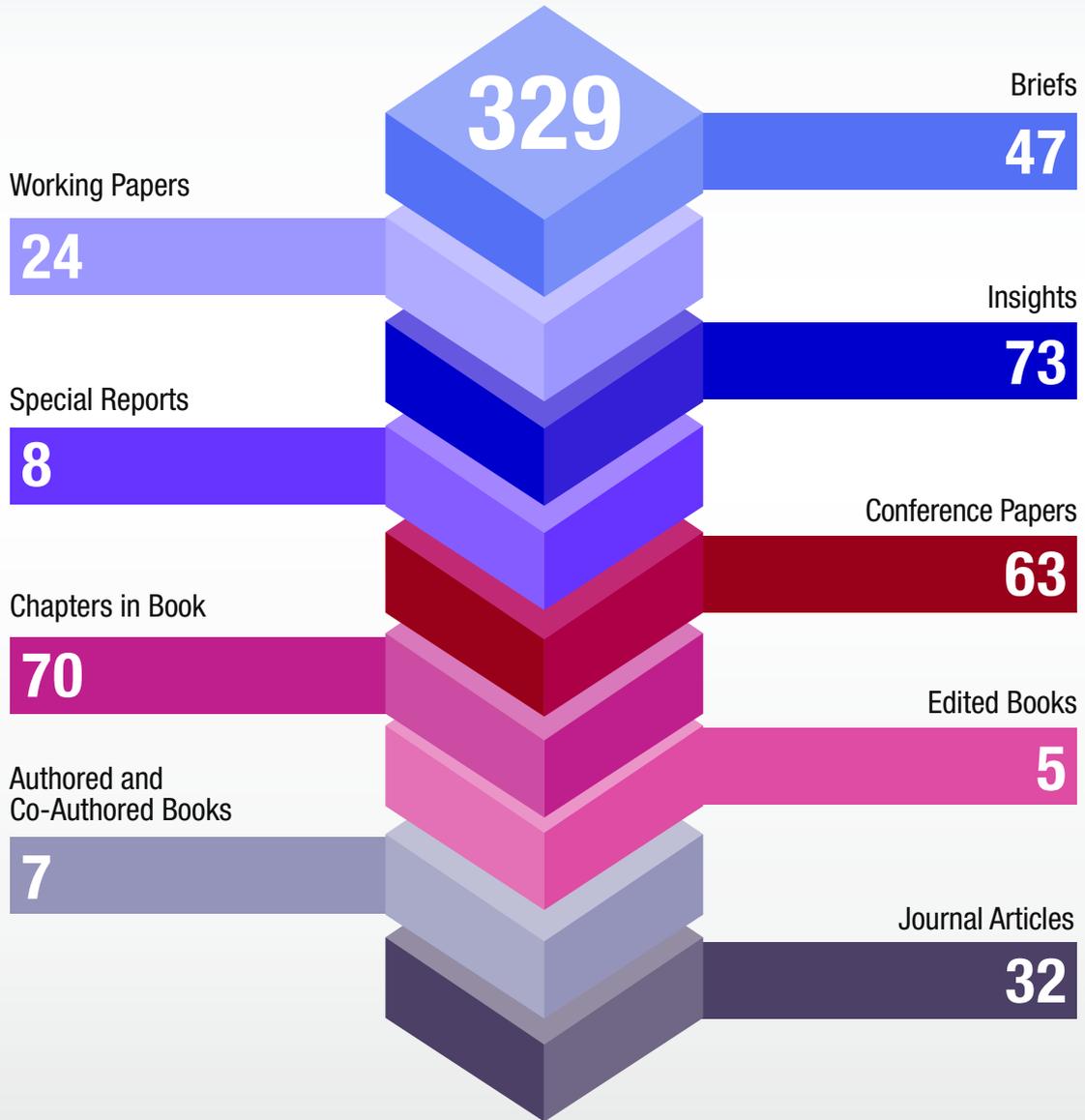


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20 January 2017

252. **Dealing with Trump's America**

**Mr Shahid Javed Burki**

Visiting Senior Research Fellow, ISAS

20 January 2017

253. **Recent Trends in India's China Policy: The Imperative for Greater Room to Manoeuvre**

**Professor Subrata Kumar Mitra**

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

**Dr Srikanth Thaliyakkattil**

Visiting Research Fellow, ISAS

20 January 2017

254. **What Demonetisation Sought: Was it a Bridge Too Far?**

**Dr Dipinder S Randhawa**

Senior Research Fellow, ISAS

25 January 2017

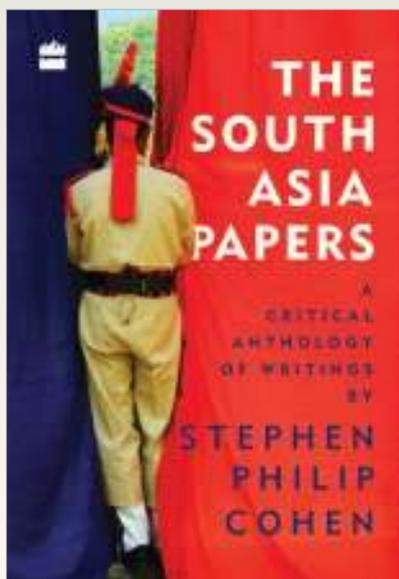
255. **Sri Lanka's Ethnicised Experience of Democracy: A Reading from the Sri Lankan Survey Results of State of Democracy in South Asia**

**Dr Pradeep Peiris**

Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Science and Public Policy, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

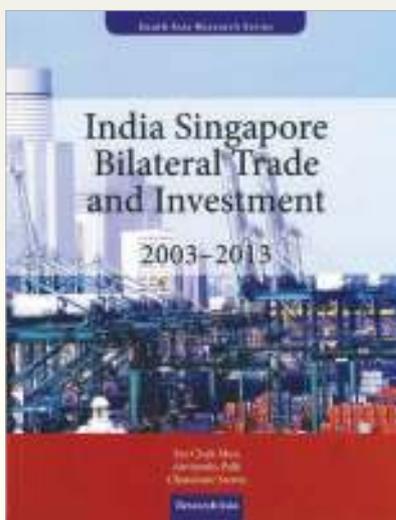
9 February 2017

# Authored and Co-Authored Books



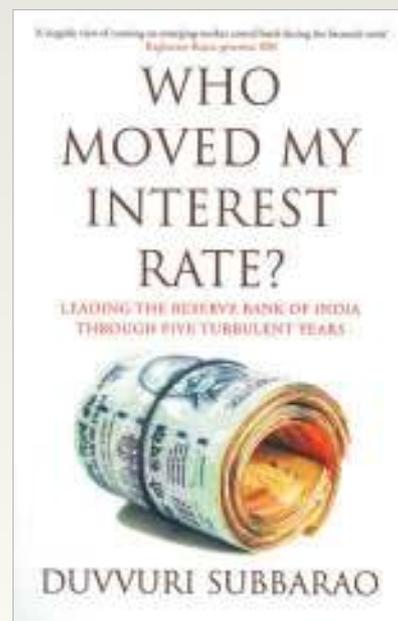
**The South Asia Papers: A Critical Anthology of Writings by Stephen Philip Cohen**

AUTHOR:  
Stephen Philip Cohen  
IMPRINT:  
Brookings Institution Press  
DATE PUBLISHED:  
April 2016



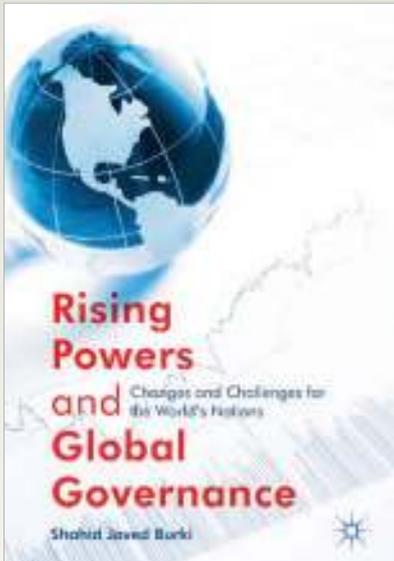
**India Singapore Bilateral Trade and Investment, 2003 – 2013**

AUTHOR:  
See Chak Mun  
Amitendu Palit  
Chandrani Sarma  
IMPRINT:  
Market Asia  
DATE PUBLISHED:  
May 2016



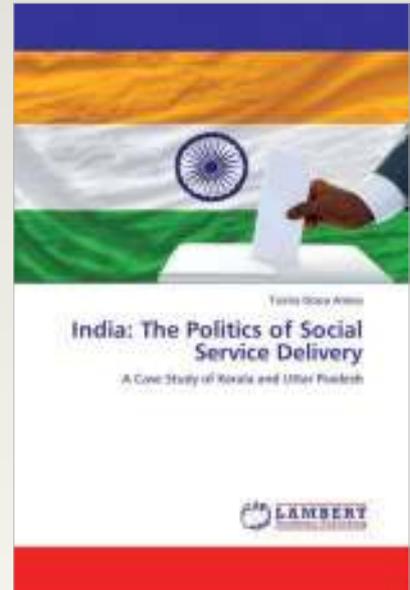
**Who Moved My Interest Rate? Leading the Reserve Bank of India through Five Turbulent Years**

AUTHOR:  
Duvvuri Subbarao  
IMPRINT:  
Penguin Viking  
DATE PUBLISHED:  
July 2016



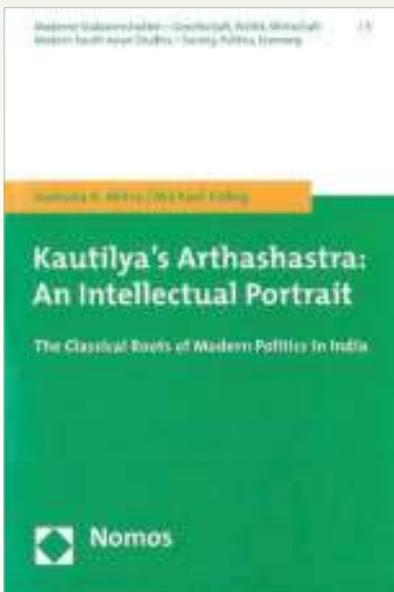
**Rising Powers & Global Governance**

AUTHOR:  
Shahid Javed Burki  
IMPRINT:  
Palgrave Macmillan, United States  
DATE PUBLISHED:  
February 2017



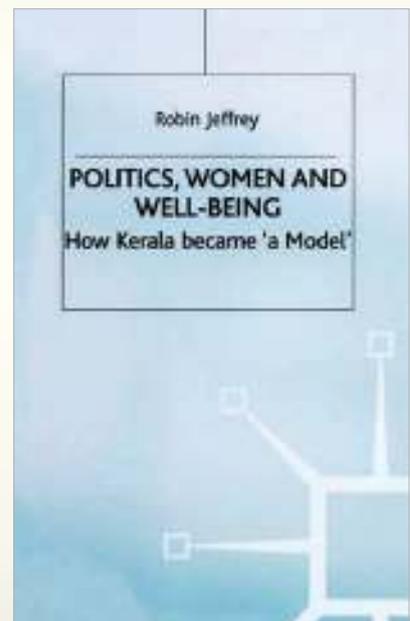
**India: The Politics of Social Service Delivery**

AUTHOR:  
Taisha Grace Anthony  
IMPRINT:  
Lambert Academic Publishing  
DATE PUBLISHED:  
December 2016



**Kautilya's Arthashastra: An Intellectual Portrait - The Classical Roots of Modern Politics in India**

AUTHORS:  
Subrata K Mitra  
Michael Liebig  
IMPRINT:  
Nomos  
DATE PUBLISHED:  
November 2016



**Politics, Women and Well-being: How Kerala became 'a Model'**

AUTHOR:  
Robin Jeffrey  
IMPRINT:  
Springer  
DATE PUBLISHED:  
July 2016



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1. **Mani A.** "Fifty Years of Singapore Tamil Literature" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 6
2. **Mohd Sanjeer Alam.** "Religious and Caste Differentials in Accessing White-Collar Jobs In India: Does Education Level the Playing Field?" In *Indian Muslims Struggling for Equality of Citizenship*. Melbourne University Publishing (2016): 4
3. **Sajjad Ashraf.** "Pakistanis in Singapore" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 14
4. **Darshana M Baruah.** "China's MSR: A Strategic View from India" In *Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: South and Southeast Asia*. Wiley-Blackwell (2017): 8
5. **Rakesh Basant.** "Discourse and Perspectives on Muslims in India: Has the Sachar Committee Report Made a Difference?" In *Indian Muslims Struggling for Equality of Citizenship*. Melbourne University Publishing (2016): 2
6. **Manu Bhaskaran.** "The Indian Contribution to Singapore's Economic Development" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 10
7. **Jayati Bhattacharya.** "Less Remembered Spaces and Interactions in a Changing Singapore: Indian Business Communities in the Post-independence Period" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 11
8. **Medha Bisht.** "Arthaśāstra: Reflections on Thought and Theory" In *The Arthaśāstra in a Transcultural Perspective: Comparing Kautilya with Sun-Zi, Nizam al-Mulk, Barani and Machiavelli*. Pentagon Press (2017): 5
9. **Pesi B Chacha.** "The History of Parsis in Singapore" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 15
10. **See Chak Mun.** "Strategic Intent: Singapore's Viewpoint on Strategic Engagement & Regional Cooperation" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 2



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12. **Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy.** "The 21st Century Maritime Silk Road" In *Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: South and Southeast Asia*. Wiley-Blackwell (2017): 4
13. **Pramit Pal Chaudhuri.** "The Diaspora: Advantages of Diversity from Phased Migration" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 17
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
15. **Tarun Das.** "A to Z of India – Singapore Relations: Where Do We Go From Here?" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 5
16. **Sreeradha Datta.** "India: The Bridge Linking South and Southeast Asia" In *Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: South and Southeast Asia*. Wiley-Blackwell (2017): 2
17. **Iromi Dharmawardhane.** "Maldives" In *Handbook of Terrorism in the Asia-Pacific*. World Scientific (2016): pp. 335-367
18. **Iromi Dharmawardhane.** "Sri Lanka" In *Handbook of Terrorism in the Asia-Pacific*. World Scientific (2016): pp. 297-335
19. **Raheel Dhattiwala.** "Next-Door Strangers: Explaining 'Neighbourliness' among Hindus and Muslims in a Riot-affected City" In *Indian Muslims Struggling for Equality of Citizenship*. Melbourne University Publishing (2016): 7
20. **Pradeep Kumar Gautam.** "Understanding Kautilya's Arthashastra: Origination, Migration and Diffusion." In *The Arthashastra in a Transcultural Perspective: Comparing Kautilya with Sun-Zi, Nizam al-Mulk, Barani and Machiavelli*. Pentagon Press (2017): 3

21. **Prabir Kumar Ghosh and Khursheed Anwar Siddiqui.** "Progress of School Education among Socioreligious Communities in *India Post-Sachar*" In *Indian Muslims Struggling for Equality of Citizenship*. Melbourne University Publishing (2016): 9
22. **Arunabha Ghosh and Karthik Ganesan.** "Entrepreneurs & Entrepreneurship: A Three-Point Agenda for the Two Brands of Entrepreneurship" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 9
23. **Jamshyd Godrej.** "Enhancing Engagement: Importance of Greater Private Sector Involvement" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 3
24. **S Gopinathan and N Varaprasad.** "Capacity Building: Education & Skills Development for the Increasing Employability". In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 11
25. **Riaz Ul Hassan, Mikhail Balaev and Abusaleh Shariff.** "Spatial Dimensions of Muslim Well-Being In India: A Comparative Study of Indian Districts" In *Indian Muslims Struggling for Equality of Citizenship*. Melbourne University Publishing (2016): 5
26. **Riaz Ul Hassan.** "Introduction" In *Indian Muslims Struggling for Equality of Citizenship*. Melbourne University Publishing (2016): 1
27. **Christophe Jaffrelot.** "The Muslims of Gujarat during Narendra Modi's Chief Ministership" In *Indian Muslims Struggling for Equality of Citizenship*. Melbourne University Publishing (2016): 10
28. **Tariq A Karim.** "Connecting South Asia with Southeast Asia: A Reality Check" In *Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: South and Southeast Asia*. New Delhi, Wiley-Blackwell (2017): 1
29. **K Kesavapany and Asad Latif.** "The Singapore Indian Community towards SG100" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 16
30. **Sat Pal Khattar.** "Placing Entrepreneurship in the Singapore-India Context" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 8
31. **Tommy Koh.** "Standing Together: A Perspective on India-Singapore Bilateral Relations" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process. (2016): 6

32. **Gauri Parimoo Krishnan.** "Singapore's Indian Heritage Centre: Curating and Negotiating Heritage, Diversity and Identity." In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 3
33. **Gauri Parimoo Krishnan.** "Arts & Heritage: Invoking History and Reclaiming Heritage for Indian Arts & Culture in Singapore" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 14
34. **Amitabh Kundu.** "Education and Health Facilities and Indian Minorities: Issues of Access and Utilization" In *Indian Muslims Struggling for Equality of Citizenship*. Melbourne University Publishing (2016): 3
35. **Asad Latif.** "Indian Political Participation in Singapore" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 9
36. **Michael Liebig and Saurabh Mishra.** "Introduction." In *The Arthaśāstra in a Transcultural Perspective: Comparing Kautilya with Sun-Zi, Nizam al-Mulk, Barani and Machiavelli*. Pentagon Press (2017): 1
37. **Michael Liebig.** "Kautilya and Machiavelli in a Comparative Perspective" In *The Arthaśāstra in a Transcultural Perspective: Comparing Kautilya with Sun-Zi, Nizam al-Mulk, Barani and Machiavelli*. Pentagon Press (2017): 4
38. **Saurabh Mishra.** "Rajadharma, Legitimacy and Sovereignty in the Arthaśāstra" In *The Arthaśāstra in a Transcultural Perspective: Comparing Kautilya with Sun-Zi, Nizam al-Mulk, Barani and Machiavelli*. Pentagon Press (2017): 6
39. **Subrata Kumar Mitra.** "Kautilya Redux? Re-use, Hybridity, Trans-cultural Flow and Resilience of the State in India" In *The Arthaśāstra in a Transcultural Perspective: Comparing Kautilya with Sun-Zi, Nizam al-Mulk, Barani and Machiavelli*. Pentagon Press (2017): 2
40. **Jaya Mohideen.** "Indian Contribution to Visual and Performing Arts in Singapore" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 5
41. **Amitendu Palit.** "The MSR Economic Corridor: Character and Implications" In *Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: South and Southeast Asia*. Wiley-Blackwell (2017): 7
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43. **Amitendu Palit.** "RCEP: An Indian Perspective" In *Trade Regionalism in the Asia-Pacific: Developments and Future Challenges*. ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute (2016): 9
44. **Girija Pande.** "Newly Arrived Indian Professionals – Contributing to a Globalising Singapore" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 12

45. **Gopinath Pillai.** "A Place in the Sun" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 1
46. **Gopinath Pillai.** "Economic Logic: Gaining Momentum for India-Singapore Economic Relations" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 4
47. **Gopinath Pillai.** "Forging Relations: Towards A Calibrated Strategic Partnership" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 18
48. **M S Prathibha.** "Kautilya and Sun-Zi" In *The Arthaśāstra in a Transcultural Perspective: Comparing Kautilya with Sun-Zi, Nizam al-Mulk, Barani and Machiavelli*. Pentagon Press (2017): 7
49. **Nirmala Sreeram Purushotam.** "Little India: 50 Years of Being and Doing 'Indian' in Singapore." In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 4
50. **Rahul Mukherjee.** "Is India a Developmental State?" In *The Asian Developmental State*. Palgrave Macmillan, the United States (US), 2016.
51. **Rajesh Rai.** "Rising from the Ashes" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 7
52. **Rajesh Rai.** "Indians in the Modelling of the Global Metropolis" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 2
53. **Rajesh Rai.** "Two-Way Ties: How to Leverage the Diaspora" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 16
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
55. **Uma Rajan.** "To Singapore with Love" In *50 Years of Indian Community in Singapore*. World Scientific (2016): 13
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
64. **Raphael Susewind.** "Urban Segregation a Decade after the Sachar Report" In *Indian Muslims Struggling for Equality of Citizenship*. Melbourne University Publishing (2016): 6
65. **Tan Tai Yong and A K Bhattacharya.** "Introduction – Fifty Years of India-Singapore Relations" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): Introduction



66. **Shashi Tharoor.** "Cultural Connect: Building The Future on The Strength of The Past" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 13
67. **T S Vishwanath.** "Improving Connectivity: A Blueprint for Harmonized Markets & Trade Links" In *Looking Ahead: India and Singapore in the New Millennium Celebrating 50 Years of Diplomatic Relations*. Lustra Print Process (2016): 7
68. **K Yhome and Rajeev 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> South Asian Diaspora Convention, 20 July 2016.
8. **Riaz UI Hassan.** "Nation Building with non-Nationals: South Asian Workers in the United Arab Emirates". Paper presented at the Diaspora and Citizenship Plenary Session, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.
24. **Kwa Chong Guan.** "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.

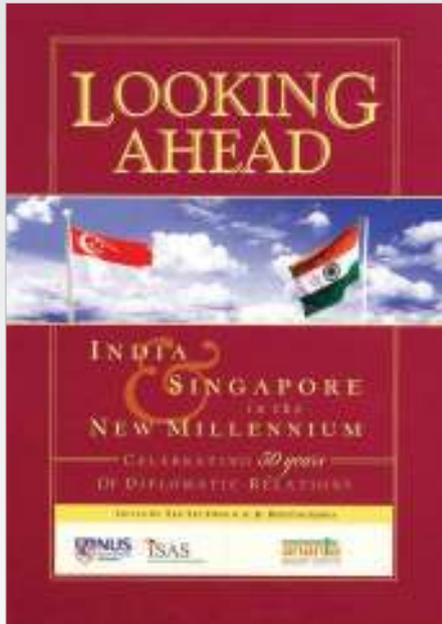
25. **Rajesh Unni.** "A Maritime Growth Triangle: Singapore, Sri Lanka and India". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 29 November 2016.
26. **Frank Lavin.** "Is India a Responsible Stakeholder?". Paper 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.
29. **Martin Sebastian.** "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.
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.
31. **Itty Abraham.** "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.
32. **Christopher Len.** "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.
33. **Doug McKay.** "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.
34. **James Alix Michel.** "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, 30 November 2016.
35. **Bob Carr.** "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, 30 November 2016.
36. **S D Muni.** "Ocean States and Economics". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 30 November 2016.
37. **James Alix Michel.** "Ocean States and Economics". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 30 November 2016.
38. **Bob Carr.** "Ocean States and Economics". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 30 November 2016.

39. **David Brewster.** "Governing the Ocean: Indian Ocean Perspectives". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 30 November 2016.
40. **Marianne Peron-Doise.** "Governing the Ocean: Indian Ocean Perspectives". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 30 November 2016.
41. **V N Attri.** "Governing the Ocean: Indian Ocean Perspectives". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 30 November 2016.
42. **Hosena Lunogelo.** "Governing the Ocean: Indian Ocean Perspectives". Paper presented at the ISAS Workshop on Maritime Governance in South Asia: The Potential for Trade, Security and Sustainable Development, 30 November 2016.
43. **Shen Dingli.** "Building Economic Partnership with South Asia". Paper presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> ISAS International Conference on South Asia, 3 March 2017.
47. **Marie Lall.** "Myanmar's Balancing Act in Regional Politics". Paper presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> ISAS International Conference on South Asia, 3 March 2017.
48. **Md Shahidul Haque.** 2017, "South Asia to the East". Paper presented at the 11<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 26<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 Manoeuvre". 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.
60. **P S Suryanarayana.** "Indian Ocean and the Bay of Bengal: A Strategic Factor in China-South Asia Relations". Paper presented at the ISAS-RCSS Workshop on China in South Asia-South Asia in China, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 5-6 December 2016.
61. **Mohan Lohani.** "China-South Asia Relations: A Nepalese Perspective". Paper presented at the ISAS-RCSS Workshop on China in South Asia-South Asia in China, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 5-6 December 2016.
62. **Deeparghya Mukherjee.** "International Trade at Transaction Level and Effects of Global Recession". Paper presented at the 5<sup>th</sup> 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

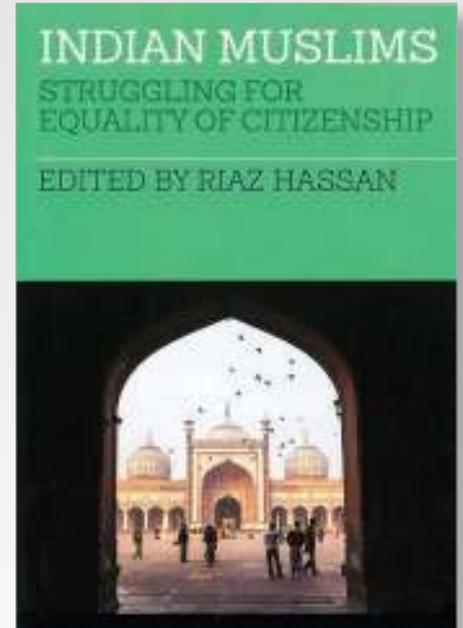


**Looking Ahead:  
India and Singapore in  
the New Millennium –  
Celebrating 50 Years of  
Diplomatic Relations**

EDITORS:  
Tan Tai Yong  
A K Bhattacharaya

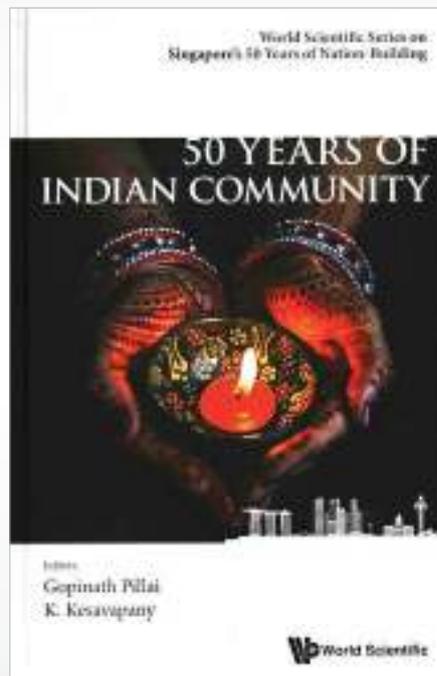
IMPRINT:  
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DATE PUBLISHED:  
April 2016



**INDIAN MUSLIMS  
STRUGGLING FOR  
EQUALITY OF CITIZENSHIP**

EDITED BY RIAZ HASSAN



**50 Years of  
Indian Community**

EDITORS:  
Gopinath Pillai  
K Kesavapany

IMPRINT:  
World Scientific

DATE PUBLISHED:  
August 2016

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

EDITOR:  
Riaz Hassan

IMPRINT:  
Melbourne University Press

DATE PUBLISHED:  
October 2016

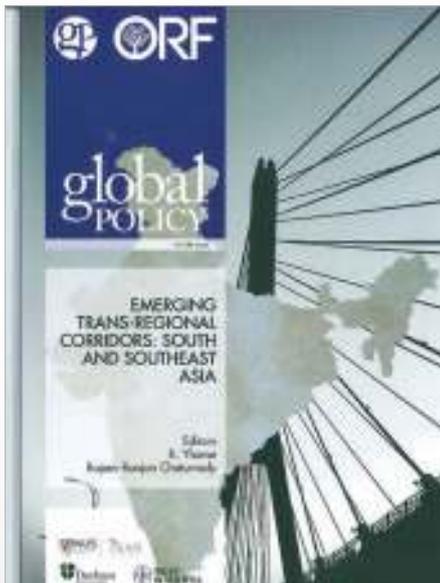
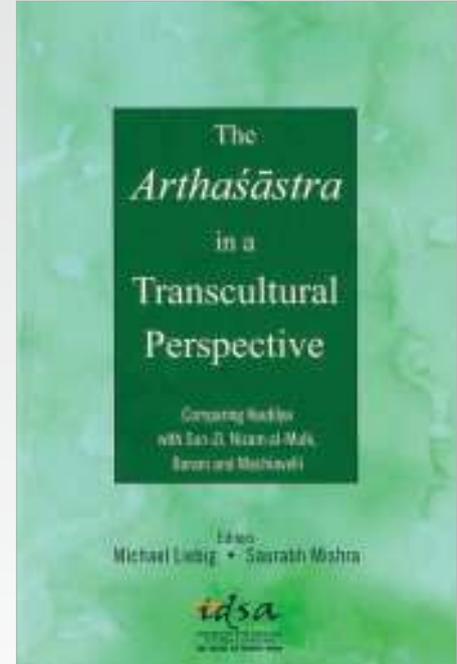
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**The Arthaśāstra in a Transcultural Perspective: Comparing Kautilya with Sun-Zi, Nizam al-Mulk, Barani and Machiavelli**

EDITORS:  
Michael Liebig  
Saurabh Mishra

IMPRINT:  
Pentagon Press

DATE PUBLISHED:  
January 2017



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**Emerging Trans-Regional Corridors: South and Southeast Asia**

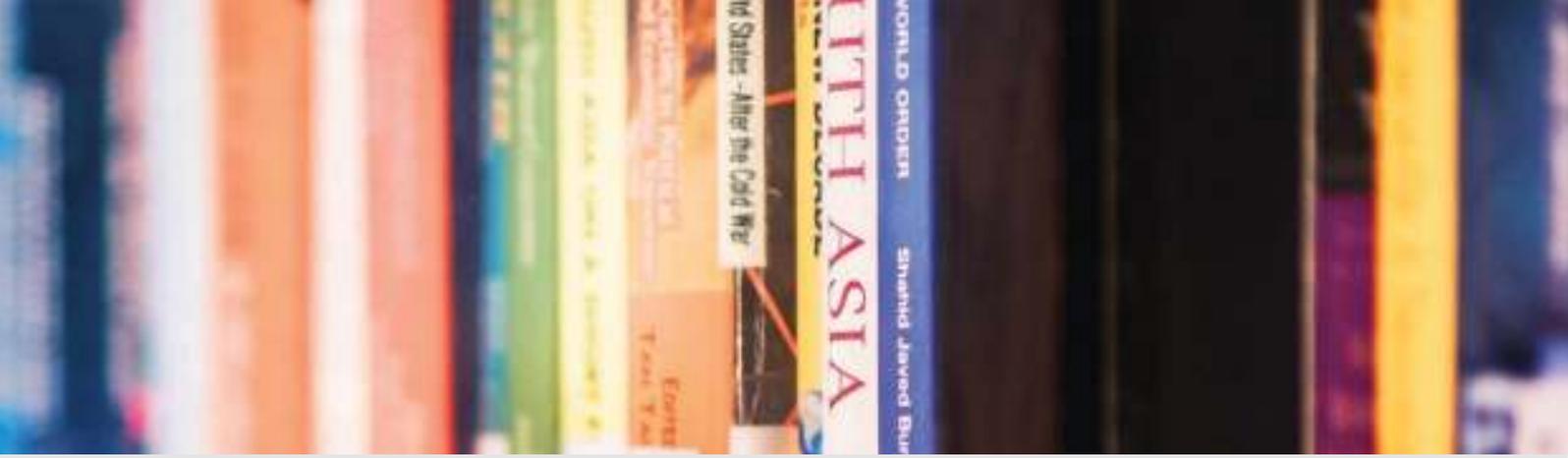
EDITORS:  
K Yhome  
Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy

IMPRINT:  
Wiley-Blackwell

DATE PUBLISHED:  
January 2017

# 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. Rajaratam 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.



12. **D M Nachane.** "Global Crisis, Regulatory Reform and International Policy Coordination". *South Asian Journal of Macroeconomics and Public Finance* 5, No. 1 (2016): pp. 63-95.
13. **D M Nachane.** "Dynamic Stochastic General Equilibrium (DSGE) Modelling in Practice: Identification, Estimation and Evaluation". *Macroeconomics and Finance in Emerging Market Economies* (2016): pp. 1-28.
14. **Ganesh Iyer and David A Soberman.** "Social Responsibility and Product Innovation". *Marketing Science* (2016).
15. **Gyanesh Kudaisya.** "The 'Regional' Turn in the Writing of Modern Indian History: Some Notes on the State of the Field". *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* 39, No. 1 (2016): pp. 271-285.
16. **Subrata Kumar Mitra.** "Encapsulation without Integration? Electoral Democracy and the Ambivalent Moderation of Hindu Nationalism in India". *Studies in Indian Politics* 4, No. 1 (2016): pp. 90-101.
17. **Subrata Kumar Mitra and Jivanta Schoettli.** "India's 2014 General Elections". *Asian Survey* 56, No. 4 (2016): pp. 605-628.
18. **Subrata Kumar Mitra.** "India Rising: Fresh Hope, New Fears by Ravi Velloor". *Contemporary Southeast Asia: A Journal of International and Strategic Affairs* 38, No. 2 (2016): pp. 315-317.
19. **Deeparghya Mukherjee.** "A World Trade Organization for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Asian Perspective ed. by Richard Baldwin, Masahiro Kawai and Ganeshan Wignaraja (review)". *Journal of Southeast Asian Economies* 33, No. 1 (2016): pp. 111-112.
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.

21. **Deeparghya Mukherjee.** "IT Services in the Indian Economy – An Analysis and Comparison with Selected Countries". *Journal of South Asian Development* (2016).
22. **Amitendu Palit.** "India's Act East Policy and Implications for Southeast Asia". *Southeast Asian Affairs* 2016, No. 1 (2016): pp. 81-91.
23. **Amitendu Palit.** "India's Economic and Strategic Perceptions of China's Maritime Silk Road Initiative". *Geopolitics* (2017): pp. 1-18.
24. **Amit Ranjan.** "Christopher Snedden. Understanding Kashmir and Kashmiris; and Aman M Hingorani. Unravelling the Kashmir Knot". *Asian Affairs*, Volume 48, Issue 1 (2017): pp. 167-169.
25. **Amit Ranjan.** "India-Bangladesh: What to Expect during Prime Minister Hasina's Visit?". *South Asian Monitor*, Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, (2017).
26. **Ashley South and Marie Lall.** "Language, Education and the Peace Process in Myanmar". *Contemporary Southeast Asia: A Journal of International and Strategic Affairs* 38, No. 1 (2016): pp. 128-153.
27. **Jivanta Schoettli and Markus Pauli.** "Modi-nomics and the Politics of Institutional Change in the Indian Economy". *Journal of Asian Public Policy* 9, No. 2 (2016): pp. 154-169.
28. **Ronojoy Sen.** "'Sedition' and the Courts". *South Asian History and Culture* 7, No. 3: pp. 317-318.
29. **Ronojoy Sen.** "Narendra Modi's Makeover and the Politics of Symbolism". *Journal of Asian Public Policy* 9, No. 2 (2016): pp. 98-111.

30. **Ronojoy Sen.** "India's 2014 Elections: A Modi-led BJP Sweep. Edited by Paul Wallace (Review)" *Pacific Affairs* 90, No. 1 (2017): pp. 172-174. [March 2017]
31. **Sojin Shin.** "Baldev Raj Nayar, Globalization and India's Economic Integration and Amrita Narlikar and Aruna Narlikar, Bargaining with a Rising India: Lessons from the Mahabharata". *Political Studies Review* (2016).
32. **Raj Verma.** "David M Malone, C Raja Mohan and Srinath Raghavan (eds). *The Oxford Handbook of Indian Foreign Policy*". *Asian Affairs* 47, No. 2 (2016): pp. 311-313.





# 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**  
7<sup>th</sup> Oceanic Conference on  
International Studies  
Brisbane, Australia  
4–6 July 2016

**Dr Sinderpal Singh**  
7<sup>th</sup> Oceanic Conference on  
International Studies  
Brisbane, Australia  
4–6 July 2016



**Dr Ronojoy Sen**  
13<sup>th</sup> 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**  
5<sup>th</sup> Session of the World Peace Forum  
Beijing, China  
16–17 July 2016

**Mr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy**  
7<sup>th</sup> Xiangshan Forum  
Beijing, China  
10–12 October 2016



**Mr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy**  
6<sup>th</sup> 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**  
3<sup>rd</sup> National Standards Conclave  
New Delhi, India  
23–24 June 2016

**Dr Deeparghya Mukherjee**  
5<sup>th</sup> 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**  
7<sup>th</sup> 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



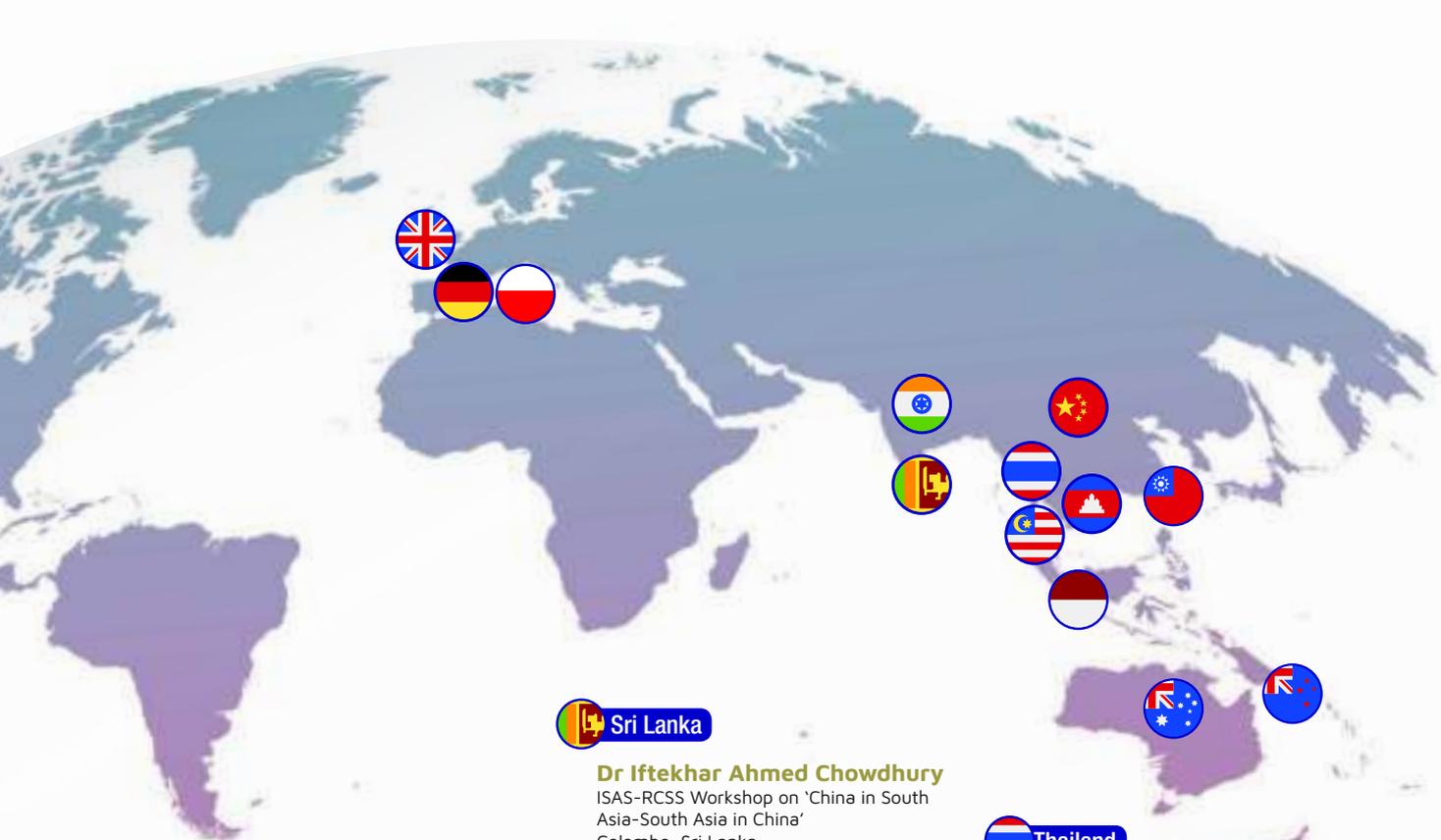
**Professor Subrata Kumar Mitra**  
International Conference on 'Prospects and  
Promotion of Trade, Intercommunication and  
Historical Ties'  
Aceh, Indonesia  
23–24 April 2016



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

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

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



 **Sri Lanka**

**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

 **Taiwan**

**Mr Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedy**

14<sup>th</sup> Conference on 'Global Strategy and Taiwan-Strait Security'  
Taichung, Taiwan  
4 November 2016

 **Thailand**

**Ms Ayesha Wijayalath**

3<sup>rd</sup> Academic International Conference on 'Interdisciplinary Legal Studies'  
Oxford, UK  
1-3 March 2016

 **United Kingdom**

**Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury**

Conference on 'South Asia : Peace, Prosperity and Regional Cooperation'  
Oxford, United Kingdom  
20-29 April 2016

 **United States**

**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**

26<sup>th</sup> International Conference of the International Trade and Finance Association  
Occidental College  
Los Angeles, California, United States  
22-25 May 2016

 **New Zealand**

**Dr Amitendu Palit**

Public Lecture on 'India, APEC and TPP: Navigating a Complex Landscape'  
Wellington, New Zealand  
21 April 2016

 **Poland**

**Dr Sojin Shin**

24<sup>th</sup> IPSA Annual Conference  
Poznan, Poland  
23-28 July 2016

**Dr Ronojoy Sen**

24<sup>th</sup> 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

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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

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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 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

# 9<sup>th</sup> India-Singapore Strategic Dialogue

29 and 30 August 2016  
Singapore

Singapore hosted the 9<sup>th</sup> 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 Rajaratam 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.



## 11<sup>th</sup> ISAS International Conference on South Asia

# Contemporary South Asia: Regional Dynamics and Changing Global Politics

3 March 2017  
Singapore

The 11<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 decades 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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**

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

**Mr Vinod Rai**

Senior Research Fellow, ISAS; and  
11<sup>th</sup> 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



11 April 2016, Singapore  
**SEMINAR**

**Jammu and Kashmir:  
Past, Present and Future**

**Lieutenant-General  
Ata Hasnain**

Ex-Corps Commander, Indian Army



12 May 2016, Singapore  
**AMBASSADORS' LECTURE**

**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  
11<sup>th</sup> 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 UI 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 Shafiu 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 Mahub 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](http://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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