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ASEAN-India Centre at RIS



RIS

Research and Information System
for Developing Countries

विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली



Conference Booklet

30 Years of ASEAN-India Relations

Seventh Roundtable of ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT)

Post-Covid-19 Recovery: Regional Cooperation Agenda for ASEAN-India Partnership

12-13 May 2022

Delhi and Phnom Penh


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Post-Covid-19 Recovery: Regional Cooperation Agenda for ASEAN-India Partnership

In Webex 

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Indian Standard Time (IST)

Agenda

Day I: 12 May 2022

08.30 - 09:30 hrs. Registration / Log-in

09.30 – 10.30 hrs. Inaugural Session

- Welcome by **Dr Prabir De**, Professor and Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC), RIS, New Delhi
- Opening Remarks by **Ambassador Pou Sothirak**, Executive Director, Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP), Phnom Penh
- Remarks by **Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi**, Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi
- Remarks by **Dr. Mohan Kumar**, Chairman, RIS, New Delhi
- Keynote Address by **H.E. Dr. Kung Phoak**, Secretary of State, Cambodia
- Inaugural Address by **H.E. Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh**, Minister of State External Affairs, India

[Release of 6th AINTT Proceedings and Group photo]

10.45 – 11.00 hrs. Tea/Coffee Break

11.00– 12.30 hrs. Session I: Economic and Sustainable Recovery

[ASEAN and India have been working together in creating a conducive and sustainable recovery of the regional and global economies. This session will enable discussion on the prevailing global order and devise new strategies for a renewed role of ASEAN and India in constructing a sustainable society in the post-Covid-19 period.]

Chair: **Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi**, Director General, RIS, New Delhi

Speakers

- **Dr. Rudra Sensarma**, Professor, Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Kozhikode, Kozhikode
- **Dr. Shankaran Nambiar**, Head of Research, Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER), Kuala Lumpur
- **Dr. Radhika Pandey**, Senior Fellow, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi
- **Dr. Wee Chian Koh**, Senior Researcher, Centre for Strategic and Policy Studies (CSPS), Bandar Seri Begawan

Q&A

12.30 – 13.30 hrs. Lunch Break

13.30 – 15.00 hrs. Session II: Cooperation in Health

[Today's global health challenges call for an integrated approach and intensive collaboration between all partners. Collaboration is critical to fight the pandemic and achieve the health-related SDGs. This session will connect participants to some important issues in health cooperation between ASEAN and India such as procurement of vaccines and access to health related regional public goods.]

Chair: **Ambassador Pou Sothirak**, Executive Director, Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP), Phnom Penh

Speakers

- **Dr. V. Sujatha**, Professor, Centre for the Study of Social Systems, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi
- **Dr. Rodrigo Angelo Ong**, Chief Science Research Specialist, Division Chief - Research and Development Division, Department of Health, Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care (PITAHC), Manila
- **Prof. T C James**, Visiting Fellow, RIS, New Delhi
- **Mr. Hakheng Ung**, Research Fellow, Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP), Phnom Penh

Q&A

15.00 – 16.30 hrs. Session III: SDG Implementation and MSMEs Participation

[ASEAN-India Plan of Action 2021-25 describes the cooperation on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a complement to building the ASEAN Economic Community. Both ASEAN and India are major players in carving a path to achieving the UN SDGs, 2030. The ASEAN-India Sustainable Development Agenda is pivotal to the post-pandemic recovery process (Build Back Better). This session will play an important part in coming up with strategies for inching closer to SDGs in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly by ASEAN and India.]

Chair: **Dr. Nagesh Kumar**, Director, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID), New Delhi

Speakers

- **Dr. Jayant Menon**, Visiting Fellow, ISEAS–Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore
- **Dr. Subash S**, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, Chennai
- **Dr. Watcharas Leelawath**, Advisor (Hony.), Bolliger & Company, Bangkok and Former Executive Director, Mekong Institute (MI)
- **Dr. Sabyasachi Saha**, Associate Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi

Q&A

Day II: 13 May 2022

09.00 – 10.30 hrs. Session IV: Connectivity and Supply Chain Resilience

[India has been implementing several physical and digital connectivity programmes with ASEAN. Managing supply chain risk in an economic downturn situation is the priority of ASEAN countries and India. This session will discuss the challenges and the way forward while strengthening connectivity and supply chain resilience in the post-Covid-19 period between ASEAN and India.]

Chair: **Dr Aladin D. Rillo**, Senior Economic Advisor, Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Jakarta

Speakers

- **Mr. Bharat Joshi**, Co-Chairman, CII Institute of Logistics, Chennai

- **Dr. Janya Chanchaichujit**, Associate Professor, Prince Songkla University, Songkhla
- **Dr. Ch Ibohal Meitei**, Professor, Manipur University, Imphal
- **Dr. Somdeth Bodhisane**, Research Fellow, Institute for Industry and Commerce (IIC), Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Vientiane

Q&A

10.30 – 10.45 hrs. Tea/Coffee Break

10:45 - 12:00 hrs. Session V: Way Forward: Towards the Fourth Decade and Onward of ASEAN-India Relations

[In 2022, ASEAN and India complete 30 years of their bilateral relations. India– ASEAN relations will continue to underpin trans-regional strength of Asia and the rising Indo-Pacific. The objective of this session is to review the past and suggest ways to further strengthen the partnership in the fourth decade of ASEAN-India relations. This session will host a panel discussion with key/lead panelists of the 7th AINTT. It will draw a set of actionable projects and also guide us about the next course of AINTT.]

Chair: **Dr. Bradley Murg**, Distinguished Senior Fellow, Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP), Phnom Penh

Panelists

- **Mr. Kavi Chongkittavorn**, Senior Fellow, Institute of Security and International Studies (ISIS), Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok
- **Dr. S K Mohanty**, Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi
- **Dr. Vo Xuan Vinh**, Deputy Director General, Institute for Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS Vietnam), Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS), Hanoi
- **Dr. Joeje B. Santarita**, Professor of Asian Studies, Asian Center, University of the Philippines Diliman, and President, ASEAN Studies Association of the Philippines, Manila

Q&A

12:00 -12:30 hrs. Valedictory Session

- Valedictory Address by **Ambassador Jayant N. Khobragade**, Indian Ambassador to ASEAN, Jakarta
- Closing Remarks and Vote of Thanks by CICP and AIC

(The seventh AINTT Roundtable is supported by the ASEAN-India Fund (AIF). ASEAN-India Centre at RIS acknowledges the support of Dr Sampa Kundu, Dr Nida Rahaman, Ms Kiran Wagh in the arrangement of the 7th AINTT Roundtable.)

Brief Resumes of Speakers

Inaugural Session

Pou Sothirak



Ambassador Pou Sothirak is a Cambodian academic and former politician. He is currently serving as the executive director at the Cambodian Center for Cooperation and Peace. Between 1993 and 1998, he was the Cambodian Minister for Industry, Mines and Energy. He is a former member of the royalist FUNCINPEC and was elected to represent Siem Reap Province in the National Assembly in 2003. Sothirak served as Cambodia's ambassador to Japan between 2005 and 2009.

Mohan Kumar



Ambassador (Dr.) Mohan Kumar is the Chairman of Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) since June 2018. Ambassador Kumar has had an outstanding career in the Indian Foreign Service lasting 36 years which culminated in his posting as India's Ambassador to France based in Paris. Ambassador Kumar is a francophone and a Francophile. The strategic partnership between India and France grew remarkably under his watch in areas as diverse as defence, space, nuclear and solar energy, investment and culture. He was also actively involved in the Climate Change Accord of Paris in 2015. Prior to this, he was India's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain where he was witness to the momentous events of the "Arab Spring".

Sachin Chaturvedi



Professor Sachin Chaturvedi is currently Director General at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), a New Delhi-based Think-Tank. He works on issues related to development economics, involving development finance, SDGs and South-South Cooperation, apart from trade, investment and innovation linkages with special focus on WTO. Currently he is also appointed as Vice Chairman, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis and also ex-officio Vice Chairman of Madhya Pradesh Rajya Niti and Yojana Aayog He is also Member, Board of Governors, Reserve Bank of India.

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi has been part of several important initiatives of the Government of India and takes keen interest in transforming economic policymaking towards integrated and evidence based approaches. He is one of the foremost commentators on India's external sector economic engagements and partnerships. He is considered as most dynamic and affable by his peers and has mentored several bright scholars and researchers in the profession.

He has authored/edited more than 20 books, apart from contributing several chapters in the edited volumes and also publishing several research articles in prestigious journals. He is on the Editorial Board of several journals including the South Asian Economic Journal, IDS Bulletin, Sussex, UK among others. His book *“The Logic of Sharing – Indian Approach to South-South Cooperation”* has been acclaimed internationally as one of the best volumes on international development cooperation. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi was also the ‘Global Justice Fellow’ at the MacMillan Center for International Affairs at Yale University (2009-2010) and has served as a Visiting Professor at the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and was a Developing Country Fellow at the University of Amsterdam (1996), Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla (2003), and Visiting Scholar at the German Development Institute (2007).

Professor Chaturvedi has taken keen interest in building of institutions and in launching of networks. He is credited with the launch of Network of Southern

Think Tanks (NeST) and Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC). He has also created “Delhi Process”, a major forum for exchange of ideas on South-South Cooperation.

Kung Phoak



H.E. Dr Kung Phoak is appointed as Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on 23 October 2021, overseeing works related to ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) and ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC). H.E. Dr Kung is Cambodia’s High-Level Representative for the ASEAN Community’s Post-2025 Vision, and he also serves as the Head of the Office of the Special Envoy of the ASEAN Chair on Myanmar for 2022.

Before assuming his current role, H.E. Dr Kung served as Deputy Secretary-General (DSG) of ASEAN for ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) from 2018 to 2021. He supported the Secretary-General of ASEAN by providing leadership in implementing the ASCC Blueprint and led the ASCC Department of the ASEAN Secretariat.

Prior to joining ASEAN Secretariat, H.E. Dr Kung was the Undersecretary of State at the Office of the Council of Ministers of the Royal Government of Cambodia and was working on foreign policy in the Office of the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

H.E. Dr Kung did his PhD study in political science and international relations at the University of Warwick, United Kingdom. He obtained Master’s degree in Public Policy specializing in Economic Policy and Graduate Diploma in Public Administration at Australian National University. He also obtained a Bachelor’s degree in Industrial and Mechanical Engineering at the Institut de Technologie du Cambodge. He has written and published extensively on foreign policy, defense policy, national politics, and international trade.

Rajkumar Ranjan Singh



Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh is currently serving as the Minister of State, External Affairs Minister of India. He was born on 1st September, 1952 at Kongba Nandeibam Leikai, Imphal East, Manipur. He was sworn in as a Union Minister of State by the President of India on 7th July 2021. He officially took charge as Minister of State for External Affairs and Education on 8th July 2021.

Dr. Singh is a Post Graduate in Geography and earned his Ph. D. from Gauhati University. He served in different capacities including as a Lecturer, Assistant Professor, Deputy Registrar and Registrar. He also served as Director in-charge of the UGC Academic Staff College and College Development Director of Manipur University till his superannuation in 2012. He was a Senior Visiting Fellow in the Department of Geography in Manipur University, until he joined electoral politics in 2013. He has published 8 books and made numerous contributions to various national and international journals, and publications. During his academic career, Dr. Singh also participated in several national and international consultative meetings on Human Resource Management, Security Sector Reforms and Land and Livelihood Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Since his election as a Member of the 17th Lok Sabha in 2019, Dr. Singh has actively participated as a Member to the Parliamentary Committees on Central Council of Health and Family Welfare; Standing Committee for Science & Technology; Environment & Forest and Climate Change; Consultative Committee for DoNER and Parliamentary Rules Committee.

Prabir De



Dr. Prabir De is a Professor at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi. He is also coordinator of the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS. He works in the field of international economics and has research interests

in international trade and development. He was a Visiting Fellow of the Institute of Developing Economies (IDE-JETRO), Japan; Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), Tokyo; and Visiting Senior Fellow of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Bangkok. He obtained Ph.D. in Economics from the Jadavpur University, Kolkata. He has contributed several research papers in international journals and written books on trade and development. His recent book includes *Act East to Act Indo-Pacific: India's Expanding Neighbourhood*, published by the Knowledge World in 2020. He is the Founding Editor of the *Journal of Asian Economic Integration*, published by Sage.

Session I: Economic and Sustainable Recovery

Sachin Chaturvedi



Professor Sachin Chaturvedi is currently Director General at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), a New Delhi-based Think-Tank. He works on issues related to development economics, involving development finance, SDGs and South-South Cooperation, apart from trade, investment and innovation linkages with special focus on WTO.

Currently he is also appointed as Vice Chairman, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis and also ex-officio Vice Chairman of Madhya Pradesh Rajya Niti and Yojana Aayog He is also Member, Board of Governors, Reserve Bank of India.

Professor Sachin Chaturvedi has been part of several important initiatives of the Government of India and takes keen interest in transforming economic policymaking towards integrated and evidence based approaches. He is one of the foremost commentators on India's external sector economic engagements and partnerships. He is considered as most dynamic and affable by his peers and has mentored several bright scholars and researchers in the profession.

He has authored/edited more than 20 books, apart from contributing several chapters in the edited volumes and also publishing several research articles in prestigious journals. He is on the Editorial Board of several journals including the South Asian

Economic Journal, IDS Bulletin, Sussex, UK among others. His book “*The Logic of Sharing – Indian Approach to South-South Cooperation*” has been acclaimed internationally as one of the best volumes on international development cooperation. Professor Sachin Chaturvedi was also the ‘Global Justice Fellow’ at the MacMillan Center for International Affairs at Yale University (2009-2010) and has served as a Visiting Professor at the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and was a Developing Country Fellow at the University of Amsterdam (1996), Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Advanced Studies, Shimla (2003), and Visiting Scholar at the German Development Institute (2007).

Professor Chaturvedi has taken keen interest in building of institutions and in launching of networks. He is credited with the launch of Network of Southern Think Tanks (NeST) and Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC). He has also created “Delhi Process”, a major forum for exchange of ideas on South-South Cooperation.

Radhika Pandey



Dr. Radhika Pandey is a Senior Fellow at the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP). Prior to this, she taught at the National Law University (Jodhpur). Her research interests include Business Cycles, Capital Controls and Financial Sector Regulation, among others. She is part of the core team for the NIPFP-DEA (Department of Economic Affairs) research project. Dr Pandey was the lead co-ordinator for the Ministry of Finance instituted Task-Force on Public Debt Management Agency. She has also worked as a member of various research teams, such as for the Working Group on Foreign Investment chaired by U.K. Sinha; the Financial Sector Legislative Reforms Commission chaired by Retd. Judge. B.N. Srikrishna; and the Report of the Committee to Review the FCCBs and Ordinary Shares (Through Depository Receipt Mechanism) Scheme, 1993 chaired by M. S Sahoo. Dr Pandey holds a Ph.D and M.A. in Economics from JNV University (Jodhpur), and a B.A. (honors) in Economics from Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh).

Rudra Sensarma



Prof. Rudra Sensarma is a Professor of Economics at the Indian Institute of Management in Kozhikode, the 4th ranked Business School in India. Other than teaching and research activities, he has served as Dean (Research and Internationalization), Head of Economics area and Head of Research Office. Previously, he has worked at the Reserve Bank of India, Indian Institute of Management Lucknow, University of Birmingham and University of Hertfordshire. He has a Masters from ISI Kolkata, Ph.D. from IGIDR Mumbai and did his post-doctoral research at University of Birmingham. Prof. Sensarma's research interests are in macroeconomics, banking and development policy. He has published more than 40 articles in international peer-reviewed journals and he regularly writes opinion pieces in print and electronic media. He has completed many research projects funded by Ministry of Commerce and Industry, NITI Aayog, NABARD etc. and also consultancy projects for corporate entities. His current projects are in the areas of financial technology and microfinance.

Shankaran Nambiar



Dr. Shankaran Nambiar is a Senior Research Fellow at the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER). He has been engaged as a consultant for the Ministries of Finance, International Trade and Industry, and the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs in Malaysia. He has also been a consultant for UNESCAP, UNDP, UNECLAC, ILO, ADBI, ASEAN Secretariat, ERIA and JETRO. He is a member of the academic advisory council of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and a visiting fellow at the Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University. Dr Nambiar has been a visiting scholar at the IMF and a visiting fellow at the ASEAN Studies Center, Universitas Gadjja Mada and the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, Singapore.

Wee Chian Koh



Dr Wee Chian Koh is a Researcher at the Centre for Strategic and Policy Studies in Brunei Darussalam. His research interests are in international and development economics, focusing on macroeconomic policy in resource-rich countries. He has worked on a broad range of policy areas, including economic diversification, fiscal policy, productivity, energy, transport, and trade facilitation. Dr Koh obtained his PhD in Economics from the Australian National University.

Session II: Cooperation in Health

Pou Sothirak



Ambassador Pou Sothirak is a Cambodian academic and former politician. He is currently serving as the executive director at the Cambodian Center for Cooperation and Peace. Between 1993 and 1998, he was the Cambodian Minister for Industry, Mines and Energy. He is a former member of the royalist FUNCINPEC and was elected to represent Siem Reap Province in the National Assembly in 2003. Sothirak served as Cambodia's ambassador to Japan between 2005 and 2009.

V.Sujatha



Prof. V. Sujatha (PhD in Sociology) is associated with the Centre for the Study of Social Science, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. She works on Sociology of knowledge, Sociology of health and medicine, Sociological theory and methodology. She is

currently working as a Principal Investigator for an ICSSR-IMPRESS project on ‘Social inequality and medicine: access to medicinal substances by social strata in Central India.’ One of her recent publications is *Global Capital and Social difference*, published by Routledge, India. She has been visiting professor at the First Global Week organized by the University of Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, February 2017, the Department of Sociology, Mumbai University, February 2017, the Faculty of Social Sciences, FLACSO, Buenos Aires, Argentina; Oct- Nov 2012 and few other institutes. She is also the co-ordinator of Transdisciplinary Cluster for Pluralist Health Care, JNU since 2019 and member at the Transdisciplinary Co-operation for Cognitive Justice, Forum for Critical Global Public Health, since 2021 and Committee on Stem Cell Research, National Institute of Immunology (NII), Government of India, since 2018.

T C James



Prof. T.C. James is Visiting Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), and President, NIPO, a non-profit intellectual property (IP) think tank . He is also Guest Faculty on Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) at Indian Academy of International Law and Diplomacy, New Delhi. He is also Member, Speaker’s Research Initiative; Member, Academic Council, Shekhawati University, Sikar.

Rodrigo Angelo Ong



Dr. Rodrigo Angelo Ong is the Chief Science Research Specialist, Division Chief - Research and Development Division, Department of Health, Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care (PITAHC), Manila.

Hakheng Ung



Mr. Hakheng Ung is a research fellow at Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace. His research interest involves great power competition, particularly the U.S.-China Competition and the ramifications thereof on Cambodia as well as Southeast Asia as a whole. His research languages include English, Chinese, and Khmer. Besides being a research fellow, he is also a teaching assistant for economic courses at Paragon International University in Cambodia.

Session III: SDG Implementation and MSMEs Participation

Nagesh Kumar



Prof Nagesh Kumar is Director and Chief Executive of the Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID), a public-funded policy think-tank based in New Delhi. Prior to taking up this role in May 2021, Prof Kumar served as Director at the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) holding several senior management roles during 2009-21. These include Chief Economist of UNESCAP, Director of the Macroeconomic Policy and Development Division (MPDD) and Director of the Social Development Division (SDD), at the UNESCAP headquarters in Bangkok and Head of the South and South-West Asia (SSWA) Office of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) based in New Delhi, that he had the privilege to establish. Prof Kumar is also a Non-Resident Senior Fellow at the Boston University Global Development Policy Centre.

Subash S



Dr. Subash S. is an Associate Professor at IIT, Madras. He has a PhD in Economics from IIT, Bombay. His areas of interest include Foreign Direct Investment, trade and technology, applied industrial economics and so on. He teaches macroeconomics, microeconomics and economics of industrial organizations.

Sabyasachi Saha



Dr. Sabyasachi Saha is Associate Professor at the RIS, New Delhi since 2021. He has been Assistant Professor at RIS (2014-2020) and full-time Consultant at RIS during 2013-14. He specialises in innovation economics, trade and technology, international trade, technology and development policy.

He has co-edited two volumes published by Springer and has made extensive academic contributions in the form of research articles and policy briefs.

He has regularly participated in official policy forums at the UN Headquarters and other UN led platforms and has been an active contributor on partnerships, regional cooperation and technology facilitation for SDGs. He has also been contributing to G20, BRICS and South-Asia Think-Tank forums and networks. Recently, he has also contributed as Member of the Thematic Group on Sustainable Technologies for Govt. of India's forthcoming Science, Technology and Innovation Policy 2020.

He obtained his PhD in Economics from the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in New Delhi in 2013 and completed his M.Phil (2009) and M.A. in Economics (2007) from JNU. He is a recipient of the WIPO Prize for Young Scholars, DAAD funded fellowship of the Government of Germany and Government of India Travel Award. As PhD scholar he has participated in numerous academic conferences globally including at the National University of Singapore, Georgia Tech,

University of Warsaw, and HTW University of Applied Sciences, Berlin. Before joining RIS, he worked as senior research staff at the Jawaharlal Nehru University and at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER).

He is the current Editor of the South Asia Economic Journal, published by Sage.

Watcharas Leelawath



Dr. Watcharas Leelawath is the Honorary Advisor at Bolliger & Company (Thailand), a consulting firm on trade and development; and digital economy, based in Bangkok. He served Mekong Institute (MI) for six years as the Executive Director. He completed his second term there in August 2020.

Prior to joining MI, he was the Deputy Executive Director of the International Institute for Trade and Development (ITD) in-charge of planning, supervising and conducting research projects, training programs and various capacity building activities. Before coming back to Thailand, he worked as Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Minnesota, Morris, USA where he taught International Economics and Mathematics for Economists.

He is a trade economist with a strong interest in trade and development cooperation issues under GMS and ASEAN frameworks. He has extensive research experience in the fields of Development Cooperation and Regional Economic Integration. He has written several papers for presentation in local and international conferences, has published several articles on trade-related topics and has co-authored a book entitled “Economics and Trade in Goods: An Introduction.” He provided his expertise in a number of research and capacity building activities organized by ITC, ADB, UNESCAP and WTO. During his time at MI, he has implemented several development projects related to cross-border trade and investment; and agricultural value chains for Mekong countries.

Dr. Leelawath received his undergraduate degree from Chulalongkorn University. He finished his M.A. and Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Kansas, USA.

Jayant Menon



Dr. Jayant Menon joined the ISEAS – Yusof Ishak Institute in 2020 to continue his work on trade and development in the Asian region, following his early retirement from the ADB. His last post at the ADB was Lead Economist in the Office of the Chief Economist. He began work life as an academic in Australia, spending almost a decade at the Centre of Policy Studies at Monash University, one of the leading centres for computable general equilibrium modelling. He has worked at several other academic institutions including the University of Melbourne, Victoria University, the American University in Washington, DC and the ADB Institute in Tokyo. He has served as a Board Director of CDRI, Cambodia, and on the Advisory Board of the University of Nottingham, Malaysia. He holds adjunct appointments with the Australian National University, University of Nottingham, UK and IDEAS, Malaysia. He has authored/edited 15 books, 40 chapters in books and 80 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Session IV: Connectivity and Supply Chain Response

Aladin D. Rillo



Dr. Aladdin D. Rillo is currently a Senior Economic Advisor for the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA). Prior to that he worked at the ASEAN Secretariat for many years where he served in various positions; the latest as the Deputy Secretary-General for the ASEAN Economic

Community (2018-2021), during which he provided the overall leadership in the implementation of the AEC Blueprint 2025 and ASEAN's economic integration agenda. He also held positions at the Asian Development Bank Institute in Tokyo as Senior Economist (2013-2018) and PricewaterhouseCoopers in Toronto as Senior Manager Transfer Pricing (2006-2007).

Dr. Rillo has written and published extensively on the ASEAN economy and on the broader economic and trade and financial integration issues. He holds PhD and MA degrees in economics from the University of Hawaii, and an AB in economics from the Ateneo de Manila University in the Philippines.

Bharat Joshi



Mr. Bharat Joshi serves on the boards of three companies of the Joshi Group as executive Director. All three companies have interests in logistics, technology and infrastructure: - ACTL (Associated Container Terminal Ltd- <http://www.actlindia.com>) established the first private Dry Port in the hinterland of India, and has been pioneering several Indian and international projects, such as assisting US Customs with CT-PAT roll out (among the first establishments in India, and consistently received highest ratings), and developing Proof of Concept (POC) and rollout of the marquee Logistics Data Bank (LDB) Project for Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (DMICDC); - JKTI (Joshi Konoike Transport and Infrastructure (<http://www.tracl.in>) is an Indo- Japanese joint venture with the Konoike Group of Japan (Estd. 1880). JKTI owns and operates private freight trains under the Tracl brand; and - J-Curve Venture Pvt Ltd (www.jcurve.in) was set up to (a) invest in new technology and businesses, (b) advise foreign companies and trade missions on India and (c) form alliances and joint ventures to pursue opportunities and projects in India and the region. Mr. Joshi has addressed fora in India, China, Japan, New Zealand and Europe. He serves on the National Council of CII (Confederation of Indian Industry), is a charter member of TiE (The Indus Entrepreneurs), Delhi Chair of the INZBC (India-New Zealand Business Council) and was acknowledged in UNCTAD's

World Investment Report 2006. He led a Future Leaders' delegation to Japan in 2017, upon invitation of Japanese Government. He was also made member of the World Cities Summit Young Leader (WCSYL) network, by Singapore's Centre for Liveable Cities (CLC) and the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA). Bharat is a Broadcaster for AIR (All India Radio), writes for print and online publications (Wall Street Journal, CNN IBN, Economic Times, Mint, etc); is visiting faculty at SRCC (Shri Ram College of Commerce), Delhi University; and author of *Navigating India*: a socio-economic commentary and guide for business in India-also translated in Japanese by JICE (Japan International Cooperation Centre). Bharat is alumnus of the University of Bradford and pursuing OPM at Harvard Business School. A keen photographer (www.bharatmrida.com) and sportsman, Bharat lives in New Delhi, India, where his art has been used for fundraising for WWF and Rotary initiatives, and exhibited by ICCR (Indian Council of Cultural Relations, Ministry of External Affairs). He was youngest ever President of Rotary Club of Delhi Midtown (www.rcdm3011.org), and during his term adopted a village in Haryana, with a special emphasis on women's empowerment and rural development. Bharat is the recipient of multiple awards for his contributions in philanthropic, academic and business pursuits.

Ch. Ibohal Meitei



Dr. Ch. Ibohal Meitei is a Professor of Management and Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship and Skill Development (CESD), Manipur University (A Central University), Imphal, India having more than 28 years of academic and industry experiences. At present, he is a member of the Advisory Committee for Industry and Social Development, Govt. of Manipur. He was also the Director, Manipur Institute of Management Studies, Manipur University for two terms. He earned his MBA from AMU Aligarh, India. Further, he had completed FDP from IIM Ahmedabad and PhD from Manipur University. He had twelve PhD research scholars completed under his supervision as on date. He had more than 40

publications in various journals of repute and also he had presented papers/chair the sessions in International and National seminars held at various premier institutions in India and abroad. He had visited Peking University, Beijing, Europe China Business School, Shanghai and Zhejiang University, China, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand and Mandalay University and Monywa University of Economics, Myanmar for academic related activities. He was the Coordinator for the Academic Exposure Programme for the MBA students of Monywa University of Economics, Myanmar held at Manipur University. He had been invited as a resource person in the 3rd Education Sub Forum organized by Yunnan Open University, Kunming, China as a part of 11th China-South Asia Economic Forum. He had attended various courses at IIM Kolkata, IIM Bangalore, IIM Kozhikode, IIM Lucknow, MDI, Gurgaon in the area of Strategic Management and Business Policy. He also attended the International Business Strategy course at Indian Institute of Foreign Trade at New Delhi. He is member various academic bodies of different universities like Mizoram University, Nagaland University and Jawarlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences etc. He is actively involved in the entrepreneurship development and enterprise creation activities in the state of Manipur by organising various training and consultancy activities in collaboration with the industrial units, government agencies and financial institutions etc. He is also extending consulting services in his own capacities for the growth and development of many organisations engaging in entrepreneurial and industrial ventures. He conducts various MDPs and training programmes for working executives, teachers and budding entrepreneurs and Startups in and outside Manipur.

Janya Chanchaichujit



Dr. Janya Chanchaichujit is an Associate Professor in Logistics and Supply Chain Management in the Faculty of Environmental Management, Prince of Songkla University in Thailand. Dr. Chanchaichujit holds a PhD in Logistics and Supply Chain Management from Curtin University in Australia, an MSc in Operational Research from the University of Hertfordshire in the UK, and BSc in

Mathematics from Mahidol University in Thailand. Dr. Chanchaichujit has over 20 years of experience in green and sustainable logistics and supply chain management research and consultancy projects with a strong track record in securing funding from national and international funding agencies and the private sectors. She has successfully undertaken several projects in Thailand and the GMS region, including Green Freight and Logistics, Digitalization, and Technology Adoption, and is actively providing consulting and training services on various topics such as logistics, agricultural, renewable energy, and MSMEs to the Mekong Institute and GMS-Freta (Thailand).

Somdeth Bodhisane



Dr. Somdeth Bodhisane is a research fellow at the Institute for Industry and Commerce (IIC), Ministry of Industry and Commerce (Laos). Before joining the IIC, he used to be a research fellow and a lecturer in Health Economics, Health Financing, Cost-Benefit Analysis, and Research Methodology at the College of Public Health Science (CPHS), Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Thailand. He is an experienced postdoctoral research fellow with a demonstrated history of working in the higher education industry. Skilled in data collection, qualitative and quantitative research methodology, he has published a series of top impact journals (categorized in both ISI and Scopus databases) and book chapters on health economics and trade policies. He is currently a visiting lecturer at the College of Public Health Science (CPHS), Chulalongkorn University. Besides, he has been a reviewer for the International Journal of Health Policy, Management and Journal of Health Research, and other accredited journals.

Session V: Way Forward: Towards the Fourth Decade and Onward of ASEAN-India Relations

Bradley Murg



Dr Bradley J. Murg is Provost and Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Paragon International University (Phnom Penh); Associate Professor and Chair, Department of International Relations and Political Science, Paragon International University and Distinguished Research Fellow, Royal University of Law and Economics, Phnom Penh. Additionally, Dr Murg holds positions as Senior Academic Advisor at Future Forum; Distinguished Fellow and Senior Advisor for Research at the Cambodia Institute for Cooperation and Peace; lead editor of the Journal of Greater Mekong Studies; and is a member of the Advisory Board of IRIC at the Royal Academy of Cambodia. His work, supported by grants from the Social Science Research Council and the International Research and Exchanges Board, focuses on contemporary international relations in Southeast Asia; the political economy of foreign aid; and the politics of the Greater Mekong Subregion as a whole. Dr Murg graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Emory University with a B.A./M.A. in philosophy, received a M.Sc. in economic history from the London School of Economics, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Washington. Most recently he co-edited the three volume Cambodia 2040 book series – a foresighting analysis of Cambodia’s future development and foreign relations. He regularly writes about Southeast Asian affairs in *The Diplomat*, *Asia Times*, *Nikkei*, and *South China Morning Post*.

Kavi Chongkittavorn



Mr. Kavi Chongkittavorn is a senior fellow at Chulalongkorn University’s Institute of Security and International Studies. He has been a journalist for over three decades with the Bangkok-based English-language newspaper *The Nation*, first as

correspondent in Phnom Penh and Hanoi and later as leading writer and editor. He served as special assistant to the secretary general of ASEAN from 1995 to 1996 before returning to journalism. Kavi was a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University from 2001 to 2002 and president of the UNESCO Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize jury from 2004 to 2007. He is the current affairs commentator of Nation News Channel's One World Program. Kavi's column, Regional Perspective, is in its 30th year.

S K Mohanty



Professor Saroj Kumar Mohanty, Ph.D is serving at RIS as an economist, he has researched extensively on issues concerning blue economy and Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA). He has been working on issues relating to bilateral and regional trading arrangements, South-South cooperation and multilateral trading issues. His current research interests are in areas like Asian economic integration, Mega-regionals, Africa, RCEP, SAARC, COMESA, bilateral trade agreements, regional fisheries trade, global value chain, etc among others. He has published several papers in both national and international journals. He has several books to his credit. He is also present heading India's Focal Point for the IORA academic group. He also served the Chairperson of the Academic Group of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) for the years 2011-12 and 2012-13.

Vo Xuan Vinh



Dr. Vo Xuan Vinh is the Deputy Director General, Institute for Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS Vietnam), Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences (VASS), Hanoi.

Joefer B. Santarita



Dr. Joefer B. Santarita is Professor and former Dean of the University of the Philippines' Asian Center. In 2012, he was conferred the Doctor of Philosophy in South Asian Studies at the National University of Singapore. He has been serving as affiliate faculty of the UP Open University's ASEAN Studies Graduate Program, Tri College PhD Philippine Studies Program, and the School of Library and Information Studies. Dr. Santarita's awards and scholarly works are testament to his academic excellence. He has been the recipient of various international travel grants to Indonesia, Japan, Singapore, the United States of America, Germany, and China. This was capped by a Fulbright Scholarship Award in 2011-2012. He is a recognized expert on India-ASEAN relations, diplomacy, and maritime history, and has written books and journals related to these. He received the International Publication Award from the UP System in 2012, and 2015 as well as recipient of several One UP Professorial Chair Awards and UP Diliman Centennial Professorial Chairs and Faculty Grants. His passion for sharing his knowledge with others was recognized by the U.P. Diliman when he was awarded the Gawad Tsanselor Para sa Natatanging Guro in 2019. Currently, he serves as the President of the ASEAN Studies Association of the Philippines.

Valedictory Address

Jayant N. Khobragade



Amb Jayant Khobragade is a member of the Indian Foreign Service. He is currently serving as Ambassador to the Indian Mission in ASEAN, posted in Jakarta. He previously held diplomatic assignments including in Russia, Kazakhstan and Spain. He was India's Ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic since August 2013 for three and a half years. He also worked in the different Divisions of the Ministry of External Affairs including the Disarmament and International Security Affairs.

Concept Note

1. The ASEAN-India relations have made substantial progress in last two decades. India's engagements with Southeast and East Asia have received new momentum under the Act East Policy (AEP). India's relations with ASEAN have grown rapidly from a sectoral dialogue partnership in 1992 to a full dialogue partnership in December 1995 to the summit partnership in 2002. ASEAN and India are going to celebrate the 30 years of dialogue relations in 2022.

2. The relationship between them has been further strengthened with the ASEAN-India FTA in goods and some other initiatives such as agreement for services trade and investment and connectivity projects, etc. The relationship is set to deepen as ASEAN and India step up their collaboration across a range of economic and strategic issues, including trade and connectivity, people-to-people links, maritime security, among others. While prospects for India's trade with Southeast Asia have grown rapidly, challenges too have multiplied. With ASEAN and India working towards establishing Indo-Pacific, their cooperation will be the key to economic stability, competitiveness, growth and integration in the region.

3. The Covid-19 pandemic is in its third year and the new variants are posing many new challenges to the economic recovery process. The importance of achieving 100 per cent vaccination and proper testing and surveillance measures has ratcheted up. This provides an opportunity for ASEAN and India to share vaccine support and best practices to contain the virus. With the global economic landscape shift brought by digital revolution, ASEAN and India together have to explore new sources of growth and avenues to strengthen the partnership. Southeast Asia branches out as a digital hub with increasing population using internet and mobile phones. As much as 98 per cent of the business in ASEAN is driven by SMEs. The enmeshing of digital technology can provide new business strategies and solutions. India is also marked by such digital trends. Thus, it will be imperative for ASEAN and India to come together in roping the small businesses, harnessing their potential in leading the recovery following the pandemic. What follows is that ASEAN and India shall enhance collaboration in order to address common and emerging challenges, particularly in view of Covid-19 pandemic 2 and changing global order. Among other measures, new ideas and an actionable set of

recommendations may lead to strengthening the relationship further. This calls for a stronger network of think-tanks between ASEAN and India.

4. The increasing complexity of the global challenges make it imperative to run and mobilize an effective network of institutions, media and business houses involved in the policy dialogue, which can generate useful documents for policy makers to make informed decisions. Think-tanks generate new ideas in formulating public policy. They make significant contributions in shaping the future discourse of our leadership. The ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT), as an initiative, has successfully enabled our academic community in the region to come together, on a common platform for exchange of views. The last six roundtables of AINTT were held at New Delhi (2012), Vientiane (2013), Hanoi (2014), Kuala Lumpur (2015), Jakarta (2018), Bangkok (2020), respectively. While the first five roundtables were held in physical mode, the sixth roundtable was held in virtual mode. The last six rounds of the AINTT made important contributions towards policy decisions by the ASEAN countries and India, thereby further strengthening the ASEAN-India partnership. Besides, a rich set of literature on ASEAN-India relations was produced from each of these roundtables. Based on the recommendation of the 6th AINTT roundtable, the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS has decided to organise the 7th AINTT roundtable in virtual mode in May 2022. The 7th AINTT roundtable will be supported by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India. The Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace (CICP), Phnom Penh will be the ASEAN host and co-partner.

5. Given above, the broad objectives of the 7th AINTT roundtable are primarily two-fold: First, to identify emerging challenges to ASEAN-India relations through interaction among prominent think-tanks; and Second, to identify the feasible policy options to overcome the challenges from the perspective of ASEAN-India partnership. In general, the seventh edition of the AINTT will make an attempt to discuss the regional cooperation agenda for ASEAN-India partnership in the post Covid-19 period. In particular, the roundtable will discuss the newer challenges that the ASEAN-India region has been facing and present the scope and opportunities for regional cooperation in view of the emerging global situation. The sessions matching with aforesaid objectives are identified as follows: Session I: Economic and Sustainable Recovery: This session will enable discussion on the

prevailing global order and will provide a platform to devise new strategies for a renewed role of ASEAN and India in constructing a sustainable society post the Covid-19 pandemic. Session II: Cooperation in Health: This session will connect participants to some important issues in the developing world of procurement of vaccines and sharing an online portal for monitoring. Discussion on strategies to mitigate these issues would prove beneficial for the region as a whole in coming back to economic track. Session III: SDG Implementation and MSMEs Participation: This session will deliver new avenues of collaborative activities and exercises for discussing a collective path to the SDGs. Though significant progress has been shown on the 17 SDG goals, ASEAN countries and India 3 display a stark contrast. The session will enable discussions on the role of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in attaining the SDGs given their increasing presence in both ASEAN and India. Session IV: Connectivity and Supply Chain Response: Strengthening value chains between India and ASEAN countries in the ongoing pandemic has gained high importance in bilateral relations. This session will present the connectivity and supply chain response in the post Covid-19 period. Session V: Way Forward: Towards the third decade and Onward of ASEAN-India Partnership: This session will review the past and suggest ways to further strengthen the partnership in the third decade of ASEAN-India partnership. This session will host a panel discussion with key/lead panelists of the 7th AINTT. It will draw a set of actionable projects and also guide us about the next course of AINTT.

6. Resource persons from ASEAN countries, India, and ASEAN Secretariat will be invited to attend the roundtable. AIC and CICP will make all arrangements for their participation through virtual / hybrid mode.

7. Cambodia being the ASEAN Chair, senior leaders of Cambodia and India may likely address the aforesaid roundtable. Besides, ASEAN Secretary General and Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) will be invited to deliver a Special Address. Indian Ambassador to Cambodia, Indian Ambassador to ASEAN, Senior officials of the governments of India, Cambodia, remaining AMS and ASEAN Secretariat will attend the 7th AINTT roundtable. The proceedings of the 6th AINTT roundtable will also be released/distributed at the 7 th edition of the AINTT roundtable.

8. The 7th edition of the AINTT roundtable will be coordinated by Dr. Prabir De, Coordinator, AIC, New Delhi from Indian side and Ambassador Pou Sothirak, Executive Director, CACP, Phnom Penh from Cambodia side. Participants of each technical session will be invited to present a research paper at the roundtable. Subsequently, these papers would be expanded/revised and distributed amongst the policymakers and other concerned stakeholders either in the form of working paper or compiled volume. AIC and CACP jointly will also publish the proceedings of the roundtable.

About the AINTT

The increasing complexity of the global economic environment makes it imperative to establish an effective network of institutions, media and business houses involved in the policy dialogue, which can generate considered documents for policymakers to take informed decisions. With the Free Trade agreement (FTA) between India and the ASEAN effective from 1 January 2010, India-ASEAN partnership has taken a new shape. In 2022, the ASEAN and India celebrate their 30 years of dialogue relation and 20 years of summit-level interaction.

India's engagement with the ASEAN is at the "heart" of its Act East Policy. We are convinced that India's future and our economic interests are best served by greater integration with our Asian partners. The implementation of the ASEAN-India FTA in 2010 has opened up new vistas of trade cooperation between the two partners. With both sides showing active interest to deepen and widen process of economic integration through agreements on services, investment, etc., there would be an increasing array of issues on culture, connectivity and commerce, which need to be addressed to strengthen partnership between India and the ASEAN. Deliberations between these organisations would help provide well -considered policy inputs to the governments.

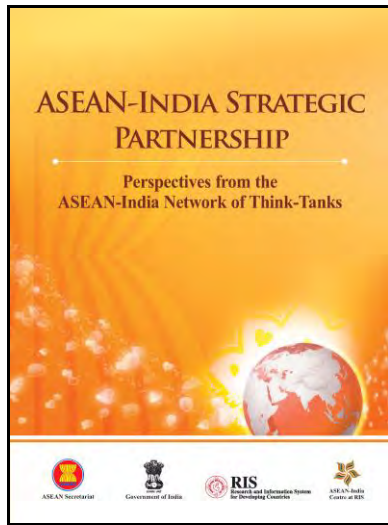
Promoting a long-term cooperative partnership based on equality, shared ownership and mutual respect would enable both India and the ASEAN achieve long- term national and regional development goals. To realise this objective, policy dialogue among relevant institutions, media and business community from India and the ASEAN assumes utmost importance. These deliberations would not only help in promoting awareness about the potential of the India-ASEAN partnership, but would also help in exploring new vistas for strengthening regional cooperation.

The Roundtable of the ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT) is an outcome of Indian Prime Minister's Statement at the 7th India-ASEAN Summit, where he suggested establishment of an India-ASEAN Roundtable, comprising think-tanks to bridge knowledge gap. The objectives of these Roundtables have been to promote awareness about the current status and potential of the ASEAN-

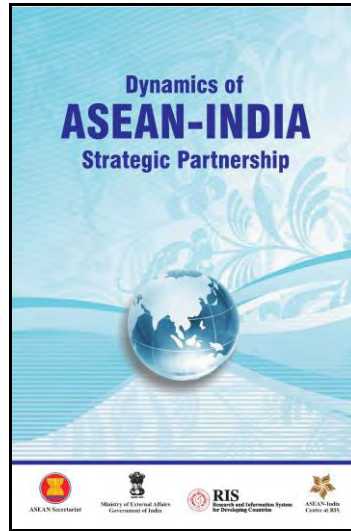
India Partnership and provide long-term perspectives on the development of ASEAN-India relations. The interaction among Think-Tanks would also deepen the ASEAN-India economic partnership through policy research and advocacy. Another purpose of the interaction between think-tanks is to deepen the ASEAN-India partnership through policy research and advocacy. The RIS envisages this forum as high-quality research platform for the policymakers, academics, professionals, and the research communities. The last six roundtables of the AINTT were held at New Delhi (2012), Vientiane (2013), Hanoi (2014), Kuala Lumpur (2015), Jakarta (2018) and Bangkok (2020) respectively. The RIS has been involved in interacting with think-tanks, particularly from the ASEAN region, for a number of years. The first major initiative in this regard was the International Conference that RIS organized in 2004 on ASEAN-India Vision 2020 at New Delhi on behalf of the ASEAN India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT).

The AINTT was formed following a decision taken by the Leaders of the ASEAN and India at their First Summit, held in November 2002. Besides coordinating with think-tanks as a part of the India-ASEAN engagement, the RIS is also actively involved in several other think-tank networks. These include Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA); Asia Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT), coordinated by UNESCAP; and BIMSTEC Network of Policy Think-Tanks, among others. The AINTT Secretariat is located at the ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at the RIS. To know more about this network, please contact Dr Prabir De at prabirde@ris.org.in

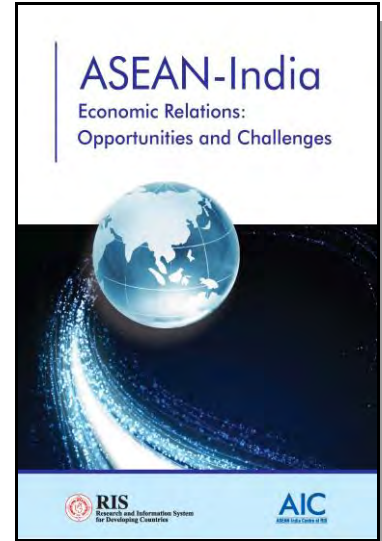
Glimpses of Past AINTT



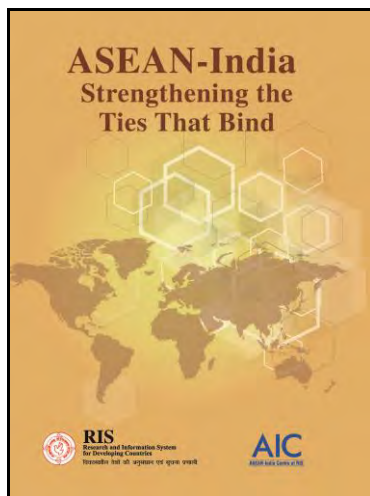
1st AINTT Proceedings



2nd AINTT Proceedings



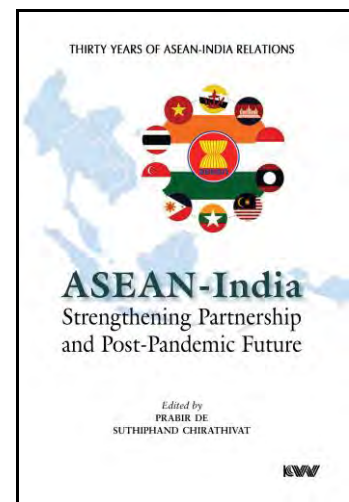
3rd AINTT Proceedings



4th AINTT Proceedings



5th AINTT Proceedings



6th AINTT Proceedings



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