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AIC
ASEAN-India Centre at RIS



CMEC
Centre for Maritime Economy
and Connectivity
समुद्री अर्थव्यवस्था व संयोजन केंद्र

Roundtable Discussion

Fostering Maritime Connectivity and Enhancing Supply Chain Resilience between India and ASEAN

10:00 AM | Thursday, 30 April 2026

Casuarina Hall, India Habitat Centre (IHC), New Delhi (Hybrid)

Tentative Agenda

10.00 - 10.30 hrs.

Registration

10.30 – 11.10 hrs.

Inaugural Session

- **Welcome Remarks:** **Dr. Pankaj Vashisht**, Associate Professor & Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS, New Delhi
- **Opening Remarks:** **Prof. Sachin Kumar Sharma**, Director General, RIS
- **Remarks:** **Dr. T K Ramachandran**, Former Secretary, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India and Professor of Practice, Centre for Maritime Economy and Connectivity (CMEC) at RIS
- **Special Remarks:** **Ambassador Srinivas Gotru**, Indian Ambassador to ASEAN (tbc)
- **Keynote Address:** **H.E. Dato' Muzafar Shah Mustafa**, Ambassador of Malaysia to India

11.10 – 11.30 hrs.

Group photo, tea/coffee

11.30 – 13.00 hrs. Session I: Strengthening India–ASEAN Maritime Connectivity: Trade and Infrastructure Dimensions

This panel will examine the evolving landscape of maritime connectivity between India and ASEAN, focusing on both trade and infrastructure. Discussions will explore the maritime trade pattern, and development of port infrastructure, shipping routes, coastal and transshipment hubs, and multimodal connectivity linking maritime transport to inland logistics networks. Particular attention will be given to regulatory coordination, logistics challenges, and the role of regional frameworks in facilitating seamless connectivity. The panel will also assess how improved maritime infrastructure and policy alignment can enhance trade flows and deepen economic integration between India and Southeast Asia.

Chair: Dr Nisha Taneja, Senior Visiting Professor,
Indian Council for Research on International
Economic Relations (ICRIER)

Panellists

- **Ms. Azhar Jaimurzina Ducrest**, Chief of Transport Connectivity and Logistics, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) (Online)
- **Dr. Peter Brian M Wang**, Deputy Head, Centre for Economics and Public Finance Studies at the National Institute of Public Administration (INTAN), Malaysia (Online)
- **Cmdr. (Dr.) Shishir Shrotriya (Retd.)**, Coordinator, Centre for Maritime Economy and Connectivity (CMEC) at RIS
- **Dr. Pritam Banerjee**, Professor and Head, Centre for WTO Studies (CWS), Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), New Delhi (tbc)

Q&A

13.00 – 14.00

Lunch

14.00 – 15.30

Session II: Building Resilient Supply Chains

The second panel will focus on strengthening supply chain resilience through deeper India-ASEAN cooperation. Participants will discuss strategies to diversify production networks, reduce overdependence on single-source supply chains, and leverage digital technologies for logistics transparency and efficiency. The panel will also explore opportunities in emerging sectors such as digital logistics, green shipping, and sustainable maritime infrastructure. By identifying collaborative mechanisms between governments, industry, and regional institutions, the discussion will highlight pathways for building robust, secure, and adaptive supply chains capable of withstanding future disruptions.

Chair: Cmde. Abhay Kumar Singh (Retd.),
Research Fellow, MP-IDSA, New Delhi

Panellists

- **Dr. Arshinder Kaur**, IIT Madras
- **Dr. Amitendu Palit**, Senior Research Fellow and Research Lead (Trade and Economics), Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, Singapore
- **Prof Nazery Khalid**, Adjunct Professor, Universiti Malaysia Terengganu, and Business Development Director, LBB International (Online)
- **Mr Jesse M Pascasio**, Director, Department of National Defence, Philippines (Online)

Q&A

15.30 - 15.45hrs.

Closing Session

- *Vote of Thanks:* **Capt. Sarabjeet S Parmar (Retd.)**, Visiting Fellow, RIS