

# RIS

## Annual Report 2002/03



### RIS

Research and Information System for the  
Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries



# **RIS** A Think-Tank of Developing Countries

RIS is an autonomous research institution established with the financial support of the Government of India. It is India's contribution to the fulfilment of the long-felt need of the developing world for creating a 'Think-Tank' on global issues in the field of international economic relations and development cooperation. RIS has also been envisioned as a forum for fostering effective intellectual dialogue among developing countries.

RIS is also mandated to function as an advisory body to the Government of India on matters pertaining to multilateral economic and social issues, including regional and sub-regional cooperation arrangements, as may be referred to it from time to time. RIS functions in close association with various governmental bodies, research institutions, academicians, policy-makers, business and industry circles in India and abroad. RIS has a consultative status with UNCTAD, NAM and WTO and has conducted policy research and other activities in collaboration with other agencies, including UN-ESCAP, UNCTAD, UNU, Group of 77, SAARC Secretariat, Asian Development Bank (ADB), The World Bank, and the South Centre.

RIS publication programme covers books, research monographs, discussion papers and policy briefs. It also publishes journals entitled, *South Asia Economic Journal*, *Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, and *RIS Diary*.

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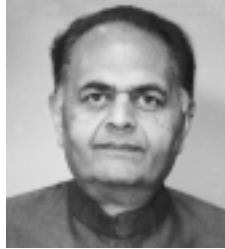
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# RIS Governing Council

(As on March 31, 2003)

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**Chairman**  
**Shri K.C. Pant**  
Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission



**Vice-Chairman**  
**Ambassador S.T. Devare**  
Former Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs

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**Mr. Kanwal Sibal**  
Foreign Secretary,  
Ministry of External Affairs



**Shri Rajiv Sikri**  
Addl. Secretary (ER),  
Ministry of External Affairs



**Dr S. Narayan**  
Secretary, Deptt. of Economic Affairs,  
Ministry of Finance



**Shri Dipak Chatterjee**  
Commerce Secretary



**Dr V.S. Ramamurthy**  
Secretary, Department of Science and  
Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology

## ***Non-Ex-Officio Members***



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Chairman, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation



**Dr S.R. Hashim**  
Member, Union Public Service Commission



**Professor S.L. Rao**  
Ex-Chairman, Central Electricity Regulatory Commission

## ***Member-Secretary (Ex-Officio)***



**Dr V.R. Panchamukhi**  
Director General, RIS (upto September 2002)



**Dr Nagesh Kumar**  
Director General, RIS (Since October 2002)

कृष्ण चन्द्र पन्त  
K. C. PANT



उपाध्यक्ष  
योजना आयोग  
भारत  
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
INDIA

November 3, 2003

## Message

The world economy has seen a rapid movement towards globalization of economic activity since the mid-1980s. One feature of the increasing global economic integration is the completion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral negotiations and the emergence of WTO. Alongside that, however, regional and bilateral free trade agreements have emerged as important factors shaping global patterns of production, investment and trade. These trends pose a tremendous challenge for the economic policy makers in developing countries like India. In order to respond to the increasing pressure of implementation of various WTO commitments they have to carefully prepare their positions on the growing agenda of WTO negotiations to protect their interests. At the same time they have to evolve bilateral and regional economic cooperation arrangements with other nations to promote their mutual interests, pursue economic reforms, and make other strategic interventions to build their economies. This is a tremendous challenge and its effective handling requires highly specialized analytical inputs. A country of India's size and international economic interests needs strong and alert think-tanks which can provide such analytical back-up for policy making.

RIS was established by the Government of India, in response to a felt need for such capability to assist the policy-makers within the country and in other developing countries facing similar challenges. Over the years, RIS has acquired a high level of expertise on various issues of trade negotiations, regional economic integration, investment and technology transfers, and other aspects of development. RIS has been providing analytical inputs to various Ministries of the Government of India. In the past year, RIS has assisted in the process of India's economic engagement with other countries at bilateral, sub-regional, regional and multilateral levels through policy inputs provided to government agencies, policy makers of international organizations and by promoting policy dialogues through a number of well-attended international and national events and publications. The institution has also developed innovative and proactive policy proposals, such as those of an Asian Economic Community, which has received considerable attention in the region and was quoted by the Prime Minister at the Second ASEAN-India Summit held recently in Bali.

As it enters the twentieth year of its functioning, I am confident that RIS would further strengthen its capability and expertise for fulfilling its mandate even more effectively in the years to come.

(K.C. Pant)  
Chairman, RIS

## An Overview

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The outgoing year proved to be an eventful one at RIS. A number of international events were organized including the Fifth Meeting of SAARC Network of Researchers and a Seminar on the Cancun Agenda (July 2002), the Regional Conference on Globalization and South Asian Agriculture (December 2002), an International Conference on Environmental Requirements and Market Access Concerns of Developing Countries (November 2002), a Workshop on Food Safety Regulations and Processed Foods Exports (March 2003). A major highlight was organization of an International Conference on Building a New Asia: Towards and Asian Economic Community in March 2003 with a high-level participation from policy think-tanks and policy making communities in all the major Asian countries.

RIS has assisted the process of policy formulation on international economic issues with analytical inputs and policy-oriented research. The study on the feasibility of the India-Thailand free trade agreement was completed and submitted to the concerned governments. The policy inputs have been provided to support the work of Joint Negotiating Group, set up following the acceptance of the recommendations of the study by the two Governments. Inputs have been provided to the government in preparation of the first ASEAN-India Summit held in Cambodia in November 2002, for the XIII NAM Summit, for the Ministerial Meeting of BIMSTEC, and for the task-force on closer economic cooperation with the neighbouring countries, among others. RIS has been assisting in the preparation of India's position at WTO negotiations particularly at the Negotiating Group on market access (NGMA) for non-agricultural goods and discussions at the WTO's Working Group on Trade and Investment (WGTI) and in preparation of the position for the upcoming Ministerial Conference, with analytical inputs provided to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The work-programme for the year 2003/04, as approved by the RIS Governing Council, involves launch of the *World Trade and Development Report* on the Agenda of the Cancun Ministerial Conference and beyond, preparation of a document on ASEAN-India Vision 2020 as mandated by the First ASEAN-India Summit in consultation with the ASEAN think-tanks, launch of follow-up work-programme on the Asian Economic Community as per the mandate of the March Conference on Building a New Asia, besides studies on globalization and economic and social development in developing countries, and initiation of new work programmes on economic relations with China and Central Asia, among other activities.

Several steps were taken to strengthen the international visibility and outreach of the work of RIS in the past year. RIS prepared a background document on the agenda of the XIII Summit of the Non-aligned Movement and participated in the Summit held in Kuala Lumpur in February 2003, for the first time as a guest organization along with other bodies like UNCTAD, South Centre, Commonwealth Secretariat. RIS has also been invited to participate in the Cancun Ministerial Conference of WTO. Besides publication of a number of books, research reports, discussion papers and journal issues, the year saw the launch of a new newsletter *RIS Diary* to disseminate information on the work and activities of the institution among its constituencies in the policy making and academic communities within and outside the country. The *Diary* is expected to usefully complement the RIS website which has also been upgraded to allow downloads of most of the research output of the institution. Preparations have also been made for launch of a new series of *RIS Policy Briefs* from May 2003 to communicate the results of RIS research on specific policy issues to the policy makers. The networking with a number of national, regional and international policy think-tanks, NGOs and other relevant organizations was strengthened through collaborative programmes and joint studies as listed in the Report.

In the year 2003/04, we entered the twentieth year of functioning. In the coming years, we hope to build further on the strong foundations laid in terms of the institutional capability to pursue the vision of founding fathers of the institution notably Late Shri G. Parthasarathy (Founder and Chairman till 1995), Late Professor Sukhamoy Chakravarty (First Vice-Chairman till 1990), Dr Manmohan Singh (Vice-Chairman: 1991-95, and Chairman: 1995-1999), Professor Muchkund Dubey (Vice-Chairman: 1995-1999), Late Dr I.P. Singh (Vice-Chairman: 1999-2002), and Dr V.R. Panchamukhi (the first Director-General, who superannuated in September 2002 after eighteen years of distinguished service). I am confident that we will succeed in living up to the high expectations from us under the valuable guidance of our Chairman, Hon'ble Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission; Ambassador S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman and other members of the RIS Governing Council, with the continued support of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and through the dedicated work of staff-members.

New Delhi: 31 October 2003

**Nagesh Kumar**  
Director-General, RIS

# Policy Research Activities 2002/03 and Plans for 2003/04

In order to fulfil its mandate, RIS has consciously attempted to build its analytical capability in key areas of development policy research, especially those pertaining to international economic relations.

Some of the specific research studies undertaken by RIS during the year 2002/03 as well as those planned for 2003/04 are reported below.

## 1. World Economy, Globalization, International Finance and Development

### 1.1. Globalization and the Non-Aligned Movement: Globalization and the Non-Aligned Movement: An Economic Agenda for Action

*Report Team: Dr Nagesh Kumar, Dr Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr Ram Upendra Das, S.K. Mohanty and Saikat Sinha-Roy*

RIS prepared a report on the eve of XIII NAM Summit held in Kuala Lumpur on February 24-25, 2003 to serve as a background document for the event. It provides an analysis of the development experience of developing world in an era of globalization and in that light, and presents an inventory of the elements of a possible economic agenda for action for consideration of NAM leaders in the context of globalization, in the coming years. The report consists of, along with an executive summary, six chapters, viz.

- ★ The World Economy: Trends and Prospects;
- ★ World Trading System and NAM Countries: Setting the Agenda for Cancun;
- ★ Capital Flows and Reform of International Financial Architecture;

- ★ Globalization, Growth and Equity: Development Experience of the 1990s and Lessons for Pro-Poor Growth;
- ★ Potential for South-South Trade; and
- ★ An Agenda for Action.

It also has an appendix containing statistical profile of NAM in a Comparative Perspective.

The full report was published in the

form of a CD-ROM along with a hard copy of the Executive Summary. It can also be downloaded from RIS website.

The Report was circulated by the NAM Summit Secretariat among the delegations. It was widely covered by the print and electronic media on the eve of the Summit. Subsequently, it has been circulated among all the Indian Missions abroad.

The Report calls for the reform of the international financial architecture for development, including reform of IMF conditionalities, cautious approach to capital account convertibility, international regulation of credit rating agencies, and reform of Brettenwoods institutions. In the area of world trading system the report calls for levelling of the playing field and coordinated position in WTO negotiations, protection of and benefit sharing from traditional knowledge and genetic resources of developing countries, NAM/G-77 watchdog on implementation of WTO commitments by developed countries, etc. The report advocates a bottomline approach for evolving a coordinated response on WTO issues. Addressing the specific issues related to revitalization of South-South cooperation the RIS report suggests a concrete plan of action that goes beyond the usual rhetoric. Among the areas suggested for South-South cooperation in the RIS report are establishing a NAM Network of Think-Tanks on international economic issues, exchange of experience in moderating the adverse effects of globalization, cooperation in medicines and public health, particularly tropical diseases, mobilizing ICTs for empowering the poor for development, exploiting the potential of biotechnologies for pro-poor growth, enterprise development and cooperation in small and medium enterprises, promoting trade and investment among developing countries, and monetary and financial cooperation by establishing a South Bank. RIS feels that NAM should provide a framework for coordination among the sub-regional groupings to foster inter-regional cooperation.

The RIS study emphasizes that the developing countries can face the challenge thrown by globalization much more effectively with collective action than as a divided lot. As a forum of developing countries, NAM has a major responsibility to assist its Member States in facing the challenge better. It can do so by collectively seeking a reform of emerging North-South asymmetries. NAM can also help its Members to exploit the tremendous potential of mutual cooperation for their development. As a movement of developing world, NAM has a much greater relevance today to assist the Member States in confronting the forces of globalization with a collective response and action. NAM has a critical role to provide a time-tested platform for evolving a coordinated response by developing countries to any challenges faced by them in their journey towards development. NAM will then truly be a Movement for Development (MfD).





## 2. World Trading System and Developing Countries

### 2.1 The World Trade and Development Report 2003 and Other Preparations for the Fifth Ministerial Conference of WTO

*Project Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr. Ram Upendra Das, and S.K. Mohanty*

The Fifth Ministerial Conference of WTO scheduled to be held in Cancun in September 2003 will take decisions of key importance for developing countries. As a part of its mandate to provide policy advice to developing countries, RIS has embarked on the launch of a new series of *World Trade and Development Reports* to provide a developing country perspective on the agenda of multilateral trade negotiations. The first Report in the series is being launched in August 2003 to provide inputs to the negotiators of developing countries at the Cancun Ministerial Conference of WTO.

A number of policy briefs on the specific items of the Cancun Agenda are also being prepared to provide inputs to negotiators.

RIS also plans to organize a number of seminars on the sidelines of the Ministerial Conference in Cancun.

### 2.2. Possible Multilateral Framework on Investment and Developing Countries: A Research and Advisory Project

*Project Team: Dr Nagesh Kumar*

The Ministry of Commerce has sponsored a research and advisory project at RIS in May 2002 to prepare analytical studies on issues concerning possible multilateral framework on investment and its implications for developing countries. Besides preparation of studies, RIS also provides consultations to the Ministry on the agenda of various meetings of the WTO's Working Group on Trade and Investment, the Committee on TRIMs, and for preparations towards the Fifth Ministerial Conference at Cancun. As part of the project, RIS provided inputs for India's submissions at the WGTI Meetings. A draft paper on Investors' and Home Country Obligations was prepared by RIS which formed the basis of India's submission on the subject that has been



*Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee browsing through the RIS Report after he was presented a copy by Vice-Chairman, RIS, at a Meeting with the Indian Delegation at the NAM Summit in Kuala Lumpur. Also seen in the picture are Shri Yashwant Sinha, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs and Shri Brajesh Mishra, National Security Advisor.*

co-sponsored by China, Cuba, Kenya, Pakistan and Zimbabwe (WT/WGTI/W/152, dated November 19, 2002).

India's Ambassador at WTO had invited Dr Nagesh Kumar to address the Like-Minded Group on trade and investment at the WTO Headquarters, Geneva on May 24, 2002. Dr Kumar was also nominated to represent India by the Ministry of Commerce on the UNCTAD Experts Meeting on Investment Treaties, held in Geneva from June 12-14, 2002.

A paper on "Types of Foreign Investment and Their Developmental Impact" was also prepared for discussion at the Second meeting of the Expert Group on Trade and Investment. It was discussed at the Meeting of the Expert Group, chaired by the Hon'ble Commerce and Industry Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley, held on March 17, 2003.

A book manuscript *Protecting Foreign Investment: Implications of a WTO Regime and Policy Options*, coauthored by Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Dr. Carlos Correa was submitted to the Zed Press, London. It is expected to be published in July 2003.

### 2.3. Market Access for Industrial Goods: Tariff Negotiations in WTO

*Project Team: Dr Rajesh Mehta and Pooja Jain*

The fourth WTO Ministerial Conference, held in Doha (Qatar) considered the inclusion of industrial tariffs and other market access as an item of agenda for future multilateral negotiations under the WTO. A detailed analysis of industrial tariffs will enable to prepare ourselves for future negotiations in WTO. The main objective of this study, which has been sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India, is to analyze the adequacy of the levels of current bindings in terms of domestic

sensitivity to competition from imports. Based on the feedback received during presentations of the findings and other observations, the revised final report was submitted to the Ministry of Commerce in November 2002.

The RIS work in the area of Market Access for Non-Agricultural Goods will continue under the proposed Research and Advisory Project on the subject for the following years, currently under discussion with the Department of Commerce.

### 2.4. International Food Safety Regulations and Processed Food Exports from Developing Countries: A Comparative Study of India and Thailand

*Project Team: Dr Rajesh Mehta and Dr J. George*  
This study is being conducted in collaboration with Australian National University; La Trobe University, Melbourne; Thammasat University, Bangkok; and International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), USA under the sponsorship of the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).

Trade conflicts relating to food safety standards, and the effectiveness of the Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Agreement and the related WTO dispute settlement procedures in resolving these disputes have become a major focus of world trade negotiations. This study aims to examine the policy, institutional and technical problems faced by processed food exporters in developing countries in meeting these requirements, and to identify appropriate policy measures to address them while recognizing the legitimate concerns in importing countries about safety and quality. The core of the project is an in-depth comparative study of the export-oriented processed food industries in India and Thailand, including detailed case studies of the food-supply chain of their processed fish, canned fruit and meat industries. Processed food exports are a major component of the agricultural exports of Thailand and India, and currently Thailand is second only to Brazil among developing countries in terms of the total value of processed food exports. Presentations of the Indian case study were made at a Project Workshop, held in Bangkok in October 2002, and at the workshop organized in Delhi by RIS on 27-28 March 2003.

## 2.5. Trade and Investment in the Context of WTO

*Project Team: Nagesh Kumar*

RIS has been invited by the Hanoi based Asia Trade Initiative of UNDP (UNDP/ATI) to contribute to their programme on trade and investment designed to provide guidance to the developing countries in the Asia-Pacific region for the forthcoming WTO Ministerial conference. As a part of this, RIS was invited to participate in the Meeting on Trade and Investment organized by UNDP/ATI, and the Institute of International Economics, Nankai University, Tianjin, China on April 1-2, 2003. Subsequently a paper summarizing Indian experiences highlighting the role of policy and implications for the WTO debate has been submitted.

## 2.6. Implications of Agricultural Trade Liberalisation in Industrialised Countries for Trade Prospects of South Asian Countries: A CGE Modelling Analysis

*Project Team: S.K. Mohanty, Sanjeeb Pohit and Saikat Sinha-Roy*

This study attempted to examine the implications of partial and complete trade liberalisation in agriculture by the EU, the US and Japan on the Asian economies, particularly the South Asian region. Using the CGE modelling approach, the study allowed trade liberalisation in the areas of domestic support, TBs and NTBs and export subsidy in agricultural sector. The results of the study indicate that such liberalisation efforts would enhance global welfare including those of Asia, South Asia and also the liberalising countries. The study strongly supports the argument that such protected economies should liberalise their agricultural sector on a fast track. This paper was presented at the joint Conference organised by RIS, IPS and IFFRI on South Asian Agriculture in New Delhi on December 4-5, 2002.

## 2.7. WTO, Agreement on Agriculture and IPRs in South Asia

RIS was assigned the responsibility to organize a regional conference on WTO and South Asian Agriculture jointly with the Institute for Policy Studies of Sri Lanka by the SAARC Network of Researchers on Global Financial and Economic Issues at its Meeting held in 2001. As a part of

the preparation for this conference, a number of papers were prepared by different scholars and their initial versions were presented at the Conference held in New Delhi on December 4-5, 2002. The revised versions were published in a special issue of the *South Asia Economic Journal* (Jan-June 2003). The Special Issue includes six research studies on the subject, viz. Globalization, South Asian Agriculture and the WTO by Alan Bullion; Agreement on Agriculture: Issues of Market Access for South Asian Countries by Posh Raj Pandey; Market Access in Agricultural Trade: Issues Concerning India by Rajiv Mehta; IPRs and Agriculture: South Asian Concerns by Anitha Ramanna; The Corporate Pharmaceutical Model and the Legacy of Doha: Whither a Global Consensus on Public Health Governance? by Joseph Savirimuthu; India, the European Union and Geographical Indications: Convergence of Interests and Challenges Ahead by Sachin Chaturvedi; and The WTO and Nepal: Compatibility and Contradiction between the Agreements and the Acts by Bhubanesh Pant.

## 3. Economic Cooperation and Regional Economic Integration in Asia

### 3.1. Enhancing Trade and Investment Cooperation in Asia: Issues Policies and Institutional Reform

*Project Team: Dr Nagesh Kumar, Dr Ramgopal Agarwala, Dr Vineeta Shankar, S.K. Mohanty, Dr Ram Upendra Das, Saikat Sinha-Roy, Sanjeeb Pohit, a.o.*

RIS started this major research project in October 2001 as a part of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF)'s Research Programme on Future of Asia: Institutional and Structural Changes, also involving the Malaysian Institute for Economic Research (MIER) and Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Indonesia and Reitaku University, Japan.

In the second phase (2002/03) of the project, following specific studies were undertaken: Relevance of Asian Economic Community: An Overview by Nagesh Kumar; Towards a Multipolar World of International Finance: Financial Cooperation in Asia by Ramgopal Agarwala; Implications of Economic Cooperation Among JACIK Countries: A CGE Modelling Approach by S.K. Mohanty, and Sanjib Pohit; A Historical



*A delegation of select distinguished participants of the New Asia Conference led by Hon'ble Mr. Koichi Kato called on the External Affairs Minister of India at his office in the South Block (in the background) on March 10, 2003.*

Perspective on Asian Regional Cooperation by Vineeta Shankar; and Complementarities and Potential of Intra-regional Transfers of Investments, Technology and Skills in Asia by Saikat Sinha-Roy. These studies find a compelling case for an Asian Economic Community to be implemented in a phased manner with Japan-ASEAN-China-India-Korea (JACIK) taking a lead.

The project team made presentations of draft papers prepared at a Workshop held in Bali on 30 September-1 October 2002. An International Conference on "Building a New Asia: Towards an Asian Economic Community" was organized by RIS in New Delhi on March 10-11, 2003 as a part of this project (see page 10). The papers prepared under the framework of the project were presented at the Conference. The final report entitled *Towards an Asian Economic Community: Relevance, Scope and a Way Forward*, putting together the substantive output of the project has been submitted to the Sasakawa Peace Foundation in the end of March 2003.

In the coming year, a volume based on the work completed in the project will be published by an international publisher. RIS is in discussion with SPF for a three-year follow-up to take the mandate of the March 2003 Conference further (see page 11). The follow-up project Towards an Asian Economic Community: The Way Forward involves keeping the institutional network created at the March Conference active and organization of New Asia Conferences in 2004 (Tokyo) and 2005 (New Delhi).

### 3.2. Feasibility Study on Free Trade Agreement between India and Thailand

*Project Team: Dr Ram Upendra Das, Dr. Somchai Ratanakomut, and Sothitorn Mallikamas*  
This study was conducted by RIS in collaboration with the Faculty of Economics,



From left: Mr. Rajiv Sikri, Additional Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs; Ambassador A.N. Ram, former Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs; Ambassador S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; and Mr. Rajiva Misra, Jr. Secretary (MER), Ministry of External Affairs at a discussion meeting on India-ASEAN Vision 2020 held in RIS.

Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok and has been completed and adopted by the Inter-governmental Joint Working Group (JWG) between India and Thailand at its final meeting held in Bangkok in December 2002. It assesses the impact of FTA at the macro and sectoral levels both through a computable general equilibrium (CGE) model and other techniques. A broad architecture of the FTA is also recommended in the study. The study formed the basis for the discussions in the First Meeting of Joint Negotiating Group (JNG) for Drafting a Framework Agreement on India-Thailand FTA during December 23-24, 2002 in Bangkok. RIS participated in the meetings of the JNG held in December and in March 2003.

### 3.3. Feasibility Study of Extending Unilateral Tariff Preferences to the Least Developed Members of ASEAN

Project Team: S.K. Mohanty

The first India-ASEAN Summit, held in November, 2002 in Cambodia was a significant milestone in the growing partnership between India and ASEAN. RIS assisted the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, in their preparation for the Summit with the preparation of a Feasibility Study of Extending Unilateral Tariff Preferences to the least developed members of ASEAN. The study has identified 1607 products, which CLMV countries can export to India. The study also identified 411 products, where India's proposed offer would critically benefit one or more CLMV countries in a significant manner. Considering various economic aspects, the study has concluded that India can consider the proposal for extending unilateral tariff concessions to the new ASEAN-4 countries. The study also

examined revenue implications for the Indian Government. The study was completed in October 2002 and submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs.

### 3.4. India-ASEAN Partnership in An Era of Globalization

On the occasion of the ASEAN-India Summit in November 2002, RIS prepared a volume

entitled *India-ASEAN Partnership in An Era of Globalization: Reflections by Eminent Persons*. This volume is based on the texts of the lectures delivered under the India-ASEAN Eminent Persons Lecture Series coordinated by RIS. The volume also contains a perceptive introduction on the main issues raised by the eminent persons in their lectures, and a Foreword by Hon'ble Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chairman, RIS.



### 3.5. ASEAN-India Vision 2020

Project Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar and S.K. Mohanty

The ASEAN-India Summits held in Cambodia and Bali have put a lot of emphasis on the preparation of an ASEAN-India Vision 2020 Paper by RIS and the ASEAN think-tanks. RIS has started to prepare a long-term vision paper on ASEAN-India relationships in collaboration with ASEAN Think-Tanks. A Concept Note on the subject prepared by RIS was circulated among the ASEAN Think-Tanks. Currently, RIS is working on preparation of the Draft Paper on ASEAN-India Vision 2020. Inputs were sought in Fall 2002 from different governmental and non-government agencies. The Meeting of JCC and Senior Official Meetings held in April and May 2003 have suggested that the Vision 2020 Paper is presented to the 2004 India-ASEAN Summit. Accordingly, RIS has worked out a work schedule that involves preparation of an Indian Draft with consultation with different stake holders in the country by late 2003 with a series of workshops. This Draft will be refined further at Joint Workshops with ASEAN Think-Tanks during October-December 2003 before submission to the Official Process in early 2004.

### 3.6. Future Directions of BIMST-EC

At the last Ministerial Meeting of BIMST-EC, held in Yangon in December, 2002, India had proposed that RIS, in consultation with think tanks and other relevant institutions in BIMST-EC countries, would develop ideas on the future direction and priorities for cooperation in BIMST-EC. At the suggestion of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, RIS prepared a Concept Note "Economic Cooperation in the Framework of BIMST-EC" to facilitate discussions of the Indian delegation at the BIMST-EC Working Group. The paper, which is seen as a think-tank input into the evolving BIMST-EC process, has been circulated among the member countries to elicit the comments. The paper outlines cooperation in the area such as implementation of regional FTA, investment promotion and protection agreement, taxation avoidance agreement, attracting extra-regional sources of FDI, BIMSTEC Fund for regional projects, harmonization of custom procedures and transit documentation, clearance and payment arrangements and local currency trading, and regular interactions among think-tanks.

The Concept Note will be elaborated further in the coming year for consideration by the First Summit of BIMSTEC scheduled in February 2004 with a special emphasis on transport and communication.

### 3.7. Implications of Economic Cooperation Among JACIK Countries: A CGC Modelling Approach

Project Team: S.K. Mohanty, Sanjib Pohit and Saikat Sinha Roy

This study was prepared as a part of the larger project on Enhancing Trade and Investment Cooperation in Asia (3.1) supported by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation. The study focuses on the implication of the formation of FTA among JACIK countries of the regional prospect in the framework of GTAP. The study is also examining the effects of further liberalisation within the regional partners including free movements of investment also. In order to make the model more realistic, monopolistic competition has been incorporated in the model. The results show that India is likely to benefit from the regional trade and investment liberalisation along with other

countries in the region. Preliminary results of the model were presented at an international conference, held in Bali, 30 September-1 October 2002. Final results were presented at the International Conference on Building a New Asia: Towards an Asian Economic community, held in New Delhi on March 10-11, 2003.

### 3.8. Closer Economic Cooperation with Neighbouring Countries

*Project Team: Dr Nagesh Kumar, S.K. Mohanty, Dr Ram Upendra Das, Dr Gauri Modwel*

At the request of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, RIS prepared a comprehensive Concept Note on Initiative for Closer Economic Cooperation with Neighbouring Countries in South Asia. The RIS Note makes a number of proposals for strengthening of trade and investment links for consideration of the Task Force set up by the External Affairs Minister to examine these issues. These proposals include FTAs with Bangladesh and Myanmar, fostering industrialization in South Asian countries, mobilization of extra-regional sources of FDI, recycling of trade surpluses for investment, harmonization of customs procedures and documentation, transport and transit facilities, infrastructure development, clearance and payment arrangements and local currency trading, increasing value addition, dealing with emerging SPS measures and TBTs, etc. The Note also has detailed annexures on potential of intra-regional trade and sectors of cooperation, analysis of experiences with regional cooperation, and infrastructure development.

### 3.9. Towards A Free Trade Area in South Asia: Charting A Feasible Course for Trade Liberalization with Reference to India's Role

*Project Team: Professor I.N. Mukherjee*

This study has been conducted within the framework of the SAARC Network of Researchers. This study has attempted to examine the impact of SAPTA on bilateral preferential trade flows on conceded products both from the point of view of India's imports as well as exports since SAPTA negotiations were implemented by the end of 1995. The study shows that import liberalization by India has stimulated preferential imports from Bangladesh both in

value and share terms but imports from Sri Lanka show no such buoyancy. A first draft of the study has been completed. It will be finalized soon with the revision and updation with more recent data that has become available.

### 3.10. Intra-Regional Trade Liberalization in South Asia – SAPTA and SAFTA

*Project Team: S.K. Mohanty*

RIS completed a study on a SAARC Preferential Trading Arrangement (SAPTA), which has been prepared at the request of UN-ESCAP as a contribution for its Expert Group Meeting on Regional Trade Agreements in Asia and the Pacific. The study examines the status of trade flows among SAPTA member countries and assesses to what extent the Agreement has contributed to boosting of intra-member trade flows. The study also discusses other agreements, including bilateral trade agreements, to which SAPTA member countries are party to, and the effects of these agreements on intra-SAPTA trade flows. Further, it assesses the potential economic impact of recently offered concessions as well as further trade liberalization between SAPTA member countries. The study was presented at the UNESCAP Expert Group Meeting on Regional Trade Agreements in Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok on January 30-31, 2003.

### 3.11. Study on India-Mauritius Free Trade Agreement

*Project Team: Dr Rajesh Mehta*

This research study sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce aims at understanding the benefits and costs of India's possible bilateral free trading arrangement with Mauritius. Conducted in two phases, the study includes an in-depth analysis of trade patterns of India with Mauritius, reviewing existing bilateral/regional arrangements of India and Mauritius with other countries, and carrying out an estimate of likely increase in trade flows after the formation of India-Mauritius FTA/PTA. The Phase I report has been submitted to the Ministry of Commerce. Further work on the Desirability



*Participants at the Regional Conference on Globalization and Agriculture: Challenges for South Asia.*

of Negotiating a Preferential Trade Agreement between India and Mauritius is under way. A consolidated report is being finalised and will be submitted to the Ministry of Commerce soon.

### 3.12. India-Central Asia Economic Cooperation

*Project Team: Dr Ramgopal Agarwala, Dr Raj Chhikara, Dr. Ram Upendra Das and Mrs. Barnali Nag*

RIS organised a discussion meeting on "Towards Sustained Growth in Kazakhstan: Potentials of Economic Cooperation" on October 24, 2002. This discussion meeting was to be followed up with another discussion meeting on "Economic Cooperation between India and Central Asian Republics with special reference to Uzbekistan", to be organized in May, 2003. A number of policy papers are also planned to be prepared on India-Central Asia Cooperation. It is proposed to launch, in collaboration with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), a work programme on India-Central Asia Economic Relations with a special reference to energy. The work programme would cover preparation of a number of research/policy papers and organization of seminars in Delhi and Mumbai with trade and industry representatives.

### 3.13. India-China Economic Relations

*Project Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar and S.K. Mohanty*

The India-China trade and investment relations have expanded rapidly over the past few years suggesting their potential and complementarities. China is now a member of the Bangkok Agreement and India has exchanged tariff preferences with it recently. There is perhaps a need to establish some mechanism for trade facilitation and addressing non-tariff



From (right to left): Dr. K. Govindan (PM's Deptt. Malaysia), Ambassador Pang Eng Fong (Singapore), H.E. Mr. Koichi Kato (Japan), Dr. Yunjong Wang (KIEP Korea), Ambassador A.N. Ram (India) and Dr. Nagesh Kumar (RIS) at a panel discussion at the Conference on Building a New Asia: Towards an Asian Economic Community, held on March 10-11, 2003 in New Delhi.

barriers and to examine the potential and feasibility of a framework for liberalizing bilateral trade and investment. RIS has begun some preliminary work on these lines. A Discussion Paper on "A Road to Common Prosperity-Examination of An FTA between India and China" by Mr. Li Wei has been prepared and was presented at the International Conference on "Building a New Asia: Towards an Asian Economic Community" on March 10-11, 2003. RIS also proposes to do work on the relevance of India-China FTA. RIS will also be examining the relevance of the Kunming Initiative from an Indian perspective. Some links have been established with the Chinese think-tanks which will be further strengthened in the coming year.

### 3.14. SAARC Poverty Profile: Case of India

*Project Team: Saikat Sinha Roy in collaboration with Nagesh Singh (Planning Commission) and C. Ravi (CESS, Hyderabad)*

This study was undertaken at the request of the SAARC Secretariat. The SAARC Secretariat and the UNDP have launched preparation of a Regional Poverty Profile. RIS along with collaborating institutions, viz. the Planning Commission and the Center for Economic and Social Studies, was requested to provide the Indian component of the SAARC Profile. The Indian report contains seven chapters. Apart from the discussion on the globalisation and macroeconomy of India, the report discussed on population profile, incidence of poverty and profile of the poor, social sector developments such as improvements in educational, health and environmental indicators aiding poverty alleviation. Under this project, apart from

preparing the paper, the project team collected large volumes of data on macro overview, demographic profile, poverty indices and profile of the poor, social sector developments such as educational, health and environmental indicators. The report also provided a status report on certain

empowerment indicators. The report was completed in November, 2002.

### 3.15. South-Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2003/04

South-Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2003/04 will be prepared and launched towards the end of 2003 on the eve of the SAARC summit to be held in Pakistan in early 2004. The SADCR 2003/04 is part of a series of Reports launched by RIS in 1998/99. Since then these reports have become authoritative documents on the region and are looked forward by the policy makers and others concerned with the region. Like the 2001/02 Report, the forthcoming volume will examine the macroeconomic performance and outlook of the region against the background of the world economic trends.

## 4. Strategic Responses to Globalization

### 4.1. A Strategic Approach to Strengthening the International Competitiveness in Knowledge-based Industries

*Project Team: Dr Nagesh Kumar, Jaya Prakash Pradhan along with a team of industry experts*

This project seeks to analyze the relative roles of affiliation with MNEs and FDI, own technological effort and outward investments of national enterprises in promotion of knowledge intensive exports in India with a view to draw strategic policy lessons. This two- year project was launched in late 2001 with the financial support of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Government of India.

As a part of the project, a quantitative analysis of the factors affecting enterprise-

level export performance for a panel data set, covering about 4000 Indian enterprises classified in 30 broad industry groups over the 1989-2000, has been completed and reported in RIS Discussion Papers # 42-44 and submitted to DSIR. Preparations are being made for the launch of field studies for five industries to refine the findings of quantitative analysis in the light of observations from the field and to prepare a set of policy recommendations. A research team has been set up to undertake the field work in specific industries, in the coming year. This includes Professor K.J. Joseph (JNU): IT Hardware, Dr Aradhana Agarwal (ICRIER): Pharmaceutical; Dr Padma Suresh (DU): Non-Electrical Machinery Industry; Dr V.K. Kaul (DU): Chemical Industry; and Dr Neelam Singh (LSRC, DU): Automotive Industry.

### 4.2. Foreign Direct Investment, Trade and Development

*Project Team: Dr Nagesh Kumar and Jaya Prakash Pradhan*

This project is part of a programme initiated by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Manila on the subject. RIS has been assigned by the ADB to prepare a study on foreign direct investment and development in the context of emerging multilateral framework on investment from the perspective of India. The other countries covered under the ADB programme are: China, South Korea, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam. As a part of this, RIS was invited to make a presentation at the Workshop organized by the ADB in Bangkok on 20-21 February 2003. Subsequently a draft report was submitted in May 2003. The study will be revised and finalized later in the year. The study discussed the evolution of FDI policy framework in India and against this background analyzes the patterns of FDI and its impact on different parameters of development. Finally, it provides the lessons for policy at national and international level.

### 4.3. Performance Requirements on FDI as Tools of Development Policy: Experiences of India and Other Developing Countries

*Project Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar*

Governments in developed and developing countries have extensively imposed



performance requirements of various types to improve the quality of FDI inflows and maximize their contribution to the process of their development. Currently, there is a lot of debate on the relevance on the role of these policies in the context of the WTO's TRIMs Agreement that phases out certain types of performance requirements. This study examines the global patterns and experiences. An early version was presented at the UNCTAD's Expert Meeting on Development Dimension of FDI, held in Geneva on November 6-8, 2002. More detailed version has been presented at the International Conference on Investment, trade and Development organized by the Ministry of Commerce and UNCTAD in New Delhi in May 2003. A revised version has been issued as a RIS Discussion Paper.

#### 4.4. Industrial Restructuring and Export Competitiveness of the Textiles and Clothing Sector in South Asia in the Context of MFA Phase-out

*Project Team: Dr Ram Upendra Das*

This project forms part of the Research Agenda of the SAARC Network of Researchers on Global, Financial and Economic Issues assigned to the National Focal Point for India, that is RIS, for implementation. The phase-out of the MFA quotas by first January 2005 under the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC) of WTO presents both challenges and opportunities for the SAARC countries. The textile and clothing sector has emerged as the most important source of foreign exchange for almost all the SAARC countries. Hence, challenges for maintaining export competitiveness and industrial restructuring need to be analyzed on an urgent basis. This study explores the issues related to the sustainability of textile and apparel export growth of the SAARC member countries. The data on patterns of textiles and garments exports from South Asian countries have been analyzed to examine the trends in their international competitiveness. This is being followed up by a field survey to gather insights into the potential of restructuring at the regional level in strengthening international competitiveness and draw policy implications.

#### 4.5. Short-term Forecasting of India's Exports

*Project Team: Dr Rajesh Mehta, Sushma Bhat, Parul Mathur*

The main objectives of this study, which has been undertaken at the request of the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India, are: (i) to develop an appropriate econometric model for India's export sector, which can give short-term forecast, (ii) to give short-term forecast of India's export sector on regular basis, at regular intervals before the start of the financial year (i.e. February), (iii) to update annual forecasts keeping in view the changes in external/domestic factors throughout the financial year (at regular intervals), say mid-year of financial year. The annual forecasts will be submitted to Ministry during Feb./March and Aug./September in next three years. Based on the suggestions received from the Ministry of Commerce, RIS submitted the revised version of the report, "On the Estimation of A Short-term Econometric Forecasting Model for India's Export Sector" to the Ministry in October 2002. A paper analyzing Indian exports by countries and commodities and presenting 2003/04 forecasts was submitted to the Ministry of Commerce in March 2003.

#### 4.6. Biotechnology and Development

*Project Team: Dr Sachin Chaturvedi*

RIS has been working on a Department of Biotechnology (DBT) funded project entitled "Biotechnology and Development". As part of this project RIS initiated work on three broad areas. One was to make developing countries part of the global initiatives to define and statistically measure biotechnology so as to assess its economic contribution. For this RIS is working very closely with OECD. Efforts have also been made to establish linkages with Asian and other developing countries so as to exchange mutual experiences with this technology and evolve common policy approach towards biotechnology. Secondly, *RIS Biotechnology and Development Review* was relaunched as



From left: Dr Joachim von Braun, Director General, IFPRI, Washington DC, delivering a Pre-Dinner talk on "From food security to food safety" on the eve of the "Workshop on International Food Safety Regulations and Processed Food Exports". Also seen in the picture are Ambassador S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS and Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS.

#### *Asian Biotechnology and Development Review.*

UNESCO has also supported this initiative. Two issues of this journal were recently brought out. The third level of RIS work involves in-depth studies on issues like economic impact of Genetically modified plants such as Bt Cotton. Primary data are being collected to examine the productivity contribution of Bt Cotton. As part of this we are also looking into the various facets of biotechnology innovation and development in the Asian countries exposing technology inherent and technology transcending problems. The needs and priorities of developing countries in Asia have been identified and are found to be different in terms of crops, consumer preferences, food and nutritional security.

#### 4.7. Organic Products: Opportunities for India

*Project Team: Dr Sachin Chaturvedi*

As part of the ongoing work on environment related non-tariff barriers, RIS initiated a study on possibility of promoting organic goods as environmental goods and making them eligible for special and differential treatment under WTO provisions including trade preferences, to organic products originating in developing countries. The study is also looking into the ways to facilitate imports by developed countries of organic products through enhanced transparency and practical application of the concept of equivalence, taking into account the WTO Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade. A presentation was made in this regard at the RIS/OECD International Conference on Environmental Requirements and Market Access held in November 2002 in New Delhi.

## II

# Consultations, Policy Advice and Analytical Support Provided to Government and International Institutions

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Given below is a selective list of notes/inputs provided to the Ministries and other governmental and non-governmental bodies:

- Prepared a Note on The Chiang-Mai Initiative and Its Implications for India at the request of the Ministry of External Affairs.
- A Concept Note on Initiative for Closer Economic Cooperation with Neighbouring Countries in South Asia was prepared for the Ministry of External Affairs.
- A detailed note on the Feasibility of Extending Unilateral Trade Concessions to new members of ASEAN was prepared for the Ministry of External Affairs as inputs for their preparations for the first ASEAN-India Summit held in November 2002. Subsequently, another Note on the Revenue Implications of the Proposal of the Unilateral Trade Concessions to CLMV Countries was prepared for the Ministry of External Affairs.
- A Note on the Terms of Reference for the Study on Strengthening the Investment Linkages between Singapore and India was prepared for the MEA in the context of India-Singapore Joint Study Group.
- Dr. Ram Upendra Das participated in the First and Second Meetings of the Joint Negotiating Group on India-Thailand FTA held in Bangkok and Delhi, respectively. RIS has also provided inputs on lists of products for early harvest for the Third Meeting of the JNG.
- RIS provided inputs on tariffs and other trade policy measures applicable to lists of products being discussed by the India-Singapore Joint Study Group (JSG) at the request of the Ministry of Commerce.
- RIS prepared a Concept Note on ASEAN-India Vision 2020 and sent to the Ministry of External Affairs for circulation among the ASEAN-Think Tanks through the ASEAN Secretariat.
- RIS provided comments on the Thai proposal of Asian Bonds to the MEA.
- Dr. Nagesh Kumar visited Muscat with the Indian Delegation to attend the meeting of IOR-Academic Group (IOR-AG) on May 5, 2002.
- Mr. Saikat Sinha Roy participated in preparation of India's Poverty Profile as a part of the SAARC Poverty Profile prepared by the SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu in collaboration with the UNDP. The Profile was completed and submitted in November 2002.
- RIS contributed to the Advisory Group on Energy and Environment organized by the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi on June 7, 2002.
- Final integrated report on Feasibility of FTA and Special Economic Co-operation between India and Singapore was submitted to the Ministry of Commerce, June 2002.
- Dr. Rajesh Mehta attended the Second Meeting of Group of Experts under BIMSTEC, June 2002.
- Dr. Nagesh Kumar served as an Expert for the Selection Board for the IOR Chair Professor at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi on July 15-16, 2002.
- Mr. S.K. Mohanty participated in the ESCAP's Expert Group Meeting on RTAs in Asia.
- Inputs were provided to the PMO for preparation for the XIII NAM Summit and NAM Business Forum in February 2003.
- Inputs were provided to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on Trade and Investment in the context of WTO for the meetings of the WTO's Working Group on Trade and Investment on Scope and Definition, Transparency, and on Development Dimension, among others. In addition, a Draft Paper on Investors' and Home Government Obligations (October

2002), was prepared which was subsequently submitted by India and was co-sponsored by five countries. A paper on Types of Investment was also prepared for the Meeting of Expert Group on Trade and Investment on March 17, 2003.

- Dr. Nagesh Kumar made a presentation at the Like Minded Group at the WTO Geneva at the WTO Headquarters on Relevance of a Multilateral Framework on Investment issues, at the request of India's Ambassador to WTO.
- Dr. Nagesh Kumar was nominated by the Ministry of Commerce to represent India at the UNCTAD Expert Group Meeting on Experiences with Bilateral and Regional Approaches to

Multilateral Cooperation in the Area of Long-Term Cross Border Investment, particularly Foreign Direct Investment, held in Geneva, June 12-14, 2002.

- RIS provided comments on WTO/UNCTAD Joint Study on Trade-Related Investment Measures and Other Performance Requirements at the request of the Ministry of Commerce for the India's intervention at the Committee on Trade-related Investment Measures of WTO.
- As a Member, Dr. Nagesh Kumar contributed to the work of Expert Group on Trade and Investment, set up by the Trade Policy Division, and chaired by the Minister of Commerce and Industry.

- Inputs have been provided to the Ministry of Commerce regarding the India's submissions on market access for industrial goods at WTO.
- Dr. Rajesh Mehta made a presentation on Industrial Tariff: WTO Negotiations report before the Commerce Secretary and Other Senior Officials of MoC on October 11, 2002.
- A Note on GM Mustard – Issues and Potential Cost was prepared at the request of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.
- Policy advice on Impact of WTO on Indian Poultry Industry, to leading enterprises in the sector during October 2002.



*From (right to left): Prof. Mukul Asher (National University of Singapore), Prof. Osamu Nariai (Reitaku University, Japan), Air Commodore Jasjit Singh (CSIS, New Delhi), Ambassador Kesawapany (Institute for Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore), Ambassador Shashank (Ministry of External Affairs, India - in chair), Mr. Li Wei (Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation), and Dr. Vineeta Shankar (Consultant, RIS) at a Panel Discussion at the Conference on Building a New Asia: Towards an Asian Economic Community, held in New Delhi on March 10-11, 2003 in New Delhi.*

# III

## Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences/Workshops/Seminars/Lectures

### 1. Towards an Asian Economic Community: International Conference on Building a New Asia

March 10-11, 2003

RIS organized the International Conference on “Building a New Asia: Towards an Asian Economic Community” on March 10-11, 2003 in New Delhi. The Conference was organized in collaboration with the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER) and the Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Jakarta, and with the support of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation of Japan. Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chairman, RIS delivered the inaugural address at the Conference. Hon’ble Mr. Koichi Kato, former Secretary General of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan delivered the keynote address. Hon’ble Shri I.K. Gujral, the former Prime Minister of India, delivered the valedictory address. Ambassador S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS and Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS also addressed the inaugural session. A delegation of the distinguished conference participants also called on Hon’ble Shri Yashwant Sinha, External Affairs Minister of India at his office.

The Conference had the participation of about 120 including senior scholars, experts and policy makers from China, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand besides India, representing leading policy think-tanks of the region. The first session on “The Relevance of the Asian Economic



*Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chairman, RIS inaugurating the International Conference on Building a New Asia: Towards an Asian Economic Community. Also seen in the picture (from left) are Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS; Hon’ble Mr. Koichi Kato, former Secretary General of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan; and Ambassador S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS at the inaugural session of the Conference.*

Community” was chaired by Hon’ble Mr Koichi Kato at which Dr Nagesh Kumar presented the theme paper on the Relevance of the Asian Economic Community. This presentation was followed by observations by four distinguished panelists, viz. Ambassador Pang Eng Fong (Singapore), Dr. K. Govindan (of PM’s Department Malaysia), Dr. Yunjong Wang (KIEP, Korea) and Ambassador A.N. Ram (India).

Ambassador Shashank, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, India chaired the second session on “Asian Identity and the Sub-regional Perspectives”. Professor Muchkund Dubey, Chairman, Council for Social Development, chaired the third session which had a panel discussion on regional cooperation in multilateral arrangements especially in agriculture, labour and environment. The fourth session, chaired by Ambassador

K. Kesavapany, Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, addressed the theme of regional cooperation in finance and monetary policy. The fifth session on regional cooperation in trade, investment, technology and skills was chaired by Dr Mohammad Ariff, Executive Director, MIER. Professor S.L. Rao, former Chairman, Central Electricity Regulatory Authority, India chaired the sixth session on corporate governance and financial restructuring in Asia. At the concluding session, chaired by Ambassador S.T. Devare, a general discussion on the way forward took place. A Delhi Consensus, summarizing the general agreement at the Conference as well as follow-up action points, was also adopted. RIS is planning to bring out the proceedings of the Conference in a book form. Follow-up action, as mandated by the Conference, will be taken up soon.

## Call for an Asian Economic Community The Delhi Consensus

The International Conference on 'Building a New Asia: Towards an Asian Economic Community', held in New Delhi on 10-11 March 2003, had participation of eminent scholars, experts and policy makers from China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. The participants have been affiliated with premier think-tanks of Asia such as the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation, Korea Institute for International Economic Policy, Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Jakarta, Malaysian Institute of Economic Research, Institute of South East Asian Studies, Singapore, National University of Singapore, Wee Kim Wee Centre Singapore, National Economic Action Council, Malaysia, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand, International Institute for Trade and Development, Bangkok, Reitaku University Japan, Tamagawa University Japan, Japan Centre for International Finance, RIS India, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, Asian Development Bank, among a number of others. The Conference was inaugurated by Hon'ble Shri K. C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission. Hon'ble Mr Koichi Kato delivered the keynote address and Hon'ble Shri I.K. Gujral, the former Prime Minister of India, delivered the Valedictory Address. Hon'ble Shri Yashwant Sinha, External Affairs Minister of India, received a delegation of participants at the Foreign Office.

There was a general consensus at the Conference that the Asian Economic Community is an idea whose time has come. Voices for more intensive economic cooperation among Asian countries are emanating from different places. It is also evident from the importance that is being attached by different Asian countries to regional economic integration at the bilateral or sub-regional levels. Formation of a broader pan-Asian economic community could enable the region to resume its rapid growth despite the uncertain global economic outlook and emerge as the centre of gravity in the world economy. It could also do away with the need for concluding multiple pairs of bilateral or sub-regional agreements. Regional trade liberalization accompanied by freer movements of investment, technology and skills among the Asian countries would generate substantial efficiency gains by enabling the participating countries to exploit their complementarities to mutual advantage. Furthermore, regional Keynesianism based on cooperation in finance and monetary policy including the Asian bonds has the potential to help the region recover hundreds of billions of dollars of potential output lost due to underutilization of capacity and pull the major economies such as Japan out of prolonged recession besides helping the region in achieving the exchange rate stability. However, an important precondition for the integration to be successful would be a common minimum agenda of reforms undertaken in different economies. Asian countries could also benefit from exchange of experiences with respect to reforms, financial restructuring and corporate governance and strengthen their leverage in international negotiations by greater coordination. In particular, agriculture is an area of major interest for most of the countries in the region.

An ambitious programme of Asian economic integration has to be implemented in a gradual or evolutionary manner. First of all, there could be a phasing of the participation of countries, taking cue from the experience of successful groupings of the world. A beginning could be made with a core group combining the major economies that have already made some attempts at regional economic integration such as ASEAN+3 and ASEAN+1. This core group of major economies, viz. Japan, ASEAN, China, India and Korea (JACIK) alone accounts for half of the world's population, a GDP larger than EU's, exports larger than NAFTA's and foreign reserves larger than those of EU's and NAFTA combined. Once the programmes of economic integration have consolidated and have produced some results, other interested countries in Asia could be admitted. Similarly, a phasing of the areas of cooperation could be advisable with cooperation in finance and money taking the lead and trade and investment liberalization following it closely. The sectoral areas of cooperation need to be identified. Some sectors that have a great deal of potential include joint R&D and technology generation in new and high technologies, shipping and maritime cooperation, tourism, among many other sectors. Technology including ICT is a strength of Asian countries which could be a key to successful cooperation. Given the expanding demand of oil and gas in the region, a consideration of cooperation in energy sector was also of paramount importance.

A study of Asian history shows that in the pre-colonial period, a virtual Asian economic community existed as evident by vibrant intra-regional exchanges of goods, cultures and values. One should not underestimate the political, social and institutional challenges to getting an ambitious programme such as this off-the-ground. Political or strategic implications of an Asian Economic Community also need to be studied. The economic logic of cooperation could overcome the challenges posed by reservations, if any, on political or strategic grounds.

The think-tank community of Asia has a critical role to play in realizing the dream of building a New Asia by showing the way forward to the policy makers with specific proposals for implementation. We agree to keep the informal network of think-tanks created at this Conference alive and active as a springboard for generating new ideas. This Network (or New Asia Network) should conduct research on different aspects of Asian economic integration to follow-up and further refine the ideas generated at this Conference. It should regularly exchange ideas among the participants and others interested in the subject and launch a Newsletter to serve as a forum of exchange of views and research. Having taken the initiative to organize the Conference and assemble these think-tanks under one roof, RIS could serve as a nodal point of the New Asia Network and coordinate its work until alternative arrangements are made.

We strongly urge the Governments of the region to consider the recommendations made by the New Asia Network. We could meet again in fall 2004 at a location in Japan and again in New Delhi in 2005 and make presentations based on our work till then. At these Conferences, participation of representatives of the JACIK Governments would help in taking the ideas generated by the Network to their logical conclusion.





*From left: Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chairman, RIS; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS; Dr. Jurgen Wiemann, Deputy Director, German Development Institute; Mr. Enrique Lendo Fuentes, Director General Adjunto, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Mexico and Co-chairperson of the OECD Working Party on Trade and Environment; Mr. Jean-Marie Metzger, Director, OECD Trade Directorate, Paris; and Mr. S.N. Menon, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Govt. of India, at the Inaugural Session of the Workshop.*

## 2. RIS/OECD International Workshop Environmental Requirements and Developing-Country Exports

November 27-28, 2002

RIS, jointly with the OECD Trade Directorate, Paris, organized the "International Workshop on Environmental Requirements and Market Access: Addressing Developing-Country Concerns" in New Delhi on November 27-28, 2002. Along with 30 OECD members, 14 developing countries participated in the Workshop. The prominent developing countries included China, Sri Lanka, The Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Fiji, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda and Senegal. RIS had hosted the Workshop in collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India. Shri K. C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chairman, RIS, inaugurated the conference. Mr. Jean-Marie Metzger, Director, OECD Trade Directorate; Shri S. N. Menon, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS also addressed the inaugural session. Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry of India, Shri Rajiv Pratap Rudy, delivered the Valedictory Address at the Workshop. Dr. Jurgen Wiemann, Deputy Director of the German Development Institute, delivered the keynote speech on "Environmental Measures and Market Access: Impacts and Opportunities" at the inaugural session. The other sessions addressed Market Access Effects

of Environmental Measures: Developing-Country and OECD-Country Environmental Agency Experience; Organics Trade: Realizing the Market Opportunities – EU, US and Japanese Schemes; and Capacity Building: Assessing Developing – Country Needs in Meeting Environmental Standards to Improve Market Access.

The event, which was also supported by UNCTAD, provided an excellent opportunity to India and other developing countries to put forth their concerns effectively before the OECD countries. From India, RIS had arranged key presentations by, among others, Shri S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS, Mr. A.K. Thakur, Ministry of Commerce, (session chairs), Ms. Shashi Sareen, Director, Exports Inspection Council, Mr. R. Gopalan, Mr. Manoj Joshi, and Mr. R.S. Ratna, from Ministry of Commerce and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, RIS.

RIS and OECD are also publishing all the documentation of the workshop in the form of a CD-ROM for further dissemination. The further work on the issues discussed at the Workshop is continuing especially in context of forthcoming WTO Ministerial Meeting in Mexico.

## 3. Regional Conference on Globalization and Challenges for South Asian Agriculture

December 4-5, 2002

The "Regional Conference on Globalization and Agriculture: Challenges for South Asia" was organized in New Delhi on December 4-5, 2002 jointly by RIS, New Delhi and the

Institute for Policy Studies (IPS), Colombo, in collaboration with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington, DC as a part of the mandate given to RIS and IPS by the SAARC Network of Researchers on Global, Financial and Economic Issues at its Fourth Meeting held in New Delhi on 22-23 March 2001. The Conference was supported by the SAARC-Japan Special Fund of the SAARC Secretariat.

Dr. S. P. Gupta, Member, Planning Commission, inaugurated the conference. Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, IPS; Dr. Ashok Gulati, Division Director, IFPRI; Mr. R. O. Wallang, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS also addressed the inaugural session. Sessions were chaired by Ambassador S.T. Devere; Dr. V.R. Panchamukhi, Chairman, ICSSR; Mr. Tilak Collure, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Sri Lanka; Dr. G.K. Chadha, Vice-Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, IPS (Sri Lanka); Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, CSD (New Delhi); and Mr. Md. Abdus Satter, Director, BARI (Bangladesh). More than 75 participants including delegations from SAARC countries such as Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Maldives, Sri Lanka and other experts from different stakeholders such as government, industry, NGOs, academia, WTO, IFAD, (Rome), IFPRI, World Bank, media, etc. took part.

The Conference covered discussion on the issues arising from the WTO Agreements, namely Agreement on Agriculture, SPS/TBT and TRIPs for the South Asian Agriculture in the context of preparations for the ongoing WTO negotiations and the forthcoming Ministerial Conference at Cancun in September. The Report of Conference has been circulated to the SAARC Secretariat and the relevant Ministries for follow-up.

## 4. Workshop on International Food Safety Regulations and Processed Food Exports

March 27, 2003

An interim Workshop on "International Food Safety Regulations and Processed Food Exports" was organized by RIS in

New Delhi on March 27, 2003 along with the collaborating partner institutions: the Australian National University and the University of Melbourne from Australia; the University of Thammasat, Bangkok, Thailand; and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington, DC. Hon'ble Shri Sompal, Member, Planning Commission, Government of India, inaugurated the workshop. Ambassador S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS chaired the inaugural session. Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS; Dr Ray Trewin, Research Programme Manager, ACIAR and Dr Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow, RIS also addressed the inaugural session. On the eve of the interim workshop, Dr Joachim von Braun, Director General, IFPRI, Washington DC, delivered a talk on "From food security to food safety" at the Dinner hosted by Ambassador S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS. More than 60 participants from Australia, Thailand, the USA, and India, representing academia, research institutions, business and industry circles, government agencies and media took part in the deliberations.

The inaugural session was followed by three thematic technical sessions. The first technical session addressed the theme of "Food Safety Regulation Concerns: Some Perspectives" and was chaired by Dr Ray Trewin, Research Programme Manager, ACIAR. Prof. V.R. Panchamukhi, Chairman, ICSSR, chaired the second Technical Session on "Food Processing Industries: Preparedness to Meet Challenges". The third technical session on "Pathways and Paradoxes of Institutional Framework" which was chaired by Prof. Prema-chandra Athukorala of Australian National University. The workshop was followed by a smaller discussion meeting of the members of Australian, Indian and Thai teams which was chaired by Dr Sisira Jayasuriya, Director, Asian Economic Centre, University of Melbourne, Australia.



*From left: Mr. Md. Abdus Satter, Director, Bangladesh Agriculture Research Institute (BARI); Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies (IPS), Sri Lanka; Mr. S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS, India (Chair); Mr. R. Gopalan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India; Dr. Hussain Rasheed Hassan, Director, Ministry of Fisheries, Agriculture and Marine Resources, Maldives; Mr. Pirthiman Pradhan, Programme Director, RNR Research Centre, Bhutan; and Prof. Pushpa Shrestha, Centre for Economic Development and Administration (CEDA), Nepal at the Regional Conference on Globalization and Agriculture.*

## 5. SAARC Network Meeting and the Seminar on World Trading System and South Asia: Post Doha Challenges July 22-23, 2002

The Government of India has appointed RIS as the National Focal Point for the SAARC Network of Researchers on Global Financial and Economic Issues that has been set up as per the Colombo Declaration of the SAARC Summit in 1998. As per the work programme of this Network RIS hosted the Fifth Meeting of the national focal points of the SAARC Network on July 22, 2002. Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and

Chairman, RIS inaugurated the Meeting. The meeting was followed by a one-day Seminar on World Trading System and South Asia: Post Doha Challenges on July 23, 2002.

Shri S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS and Mr. R.O. Wallang, Joint Secretary (SAARC), Ministry of External Affairs also addressed the inaugural session of the meeting. After the inauguration, the Fifth Meeting of the National Focal Points of the SAARC Network of Researchers on Global Financial and Economic Issues had intensive discussions during the Business Session, which lasted till evening.

The SAARC Network Seminar on World Trading System and South Asia: Post Doha Challenges followed on July 23, 2002.

Shri S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS chaired the seminar. The seminar began with observations by Dr V.R. Panchamukhi, the then Director General, RIS which was followed by a special address by Shri S.N. Menon, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry on "Post-Doha Challenges: South Asian Concerns and the Road Map to Mexico".

The first session of the seminar was devoted to 'New Issues: Investment, Competition Policy and Environment'. It began with a presentation by Dr V.S. Seshadri, Joint Secretary,



*From left: Ambassador S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS; Hon'ble Shri I.K. Gujral, former Prime Minister of India; Hon'ble Mr. Koichi Kato, former Secretary General of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan; and Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS at a discussion on the sidelines of the International Conference on "Building a New Asia: Towards an Asian Economic Community".*



*From left: Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS; Shri Sompal, Member, Planning Commission, Government of India; Ambassador S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman, RIS; Dr Ray Trewin, Research Programme Manager, ACIAR; and Dr Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow, RIS at the inaugural session of the Workshop.*

Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 'Competition Policy and Developing Countries'. Thereafter, Dr Nagesh Kumar, the then Deputy Director General, RIS made a presentation on 'Proposed Multilateral Framework on Investment and Developing Countries'. This was followed by a presentation by Dr Veena Jha, UNCTAD, New Delhi on 'Trade and Environment: The Doha Mandate'. The afternoon session on 'Market Access: Agriculture, Industrial Products and Services' was chaired by Professor Muchkund Dubey, President, Council for Social Development, New Delhi. In this session, Dr Anwarul Hoda, former Deputy Director General, WTO made a presentation on 'Negotiations on Agriculture'. This was followed by presentations by Dr Biswajit Dhar, Senior Fellow, RIS, on 'Agreement on Agriculture and Market Access for South Asian Countries' and by Dr Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow, RIS on 'Industrial Tariffs and Market Access'. In the third session, Dr Dushni Weerakoon, Fellow, Institute of Policy Studies, Colombo made a presentation on 'Agreement on Textile and Clothing and Market Access: A Sri Lankan Perspective'. This was followed by three more presentations by Dr Nephil Maskay, Deputy Director, Nepal Rashtira Bank, Kathmandu on 'Financial Services in WTO: A South Asian Perspective'; Dr Neela Mukherjee, Development Tracks, New Delhi on 'Market Access in GATS: Movement of Natural Persons'; and Dr Sachin Chaturvedi, Research Associate, RIS on 'Environmental Standards and South Asia's Exports'.

The seminar had participants from a large sections of representatives from government, NGOs, business, industry, academic and media circles.

## 6. Workshop on WTO Negotiations regarding Agreement on Agriculture and Consultation with the States

May 11, 2002

A workshop on "WTO Negotiations regarding Agreement on Agriculture and Consultation with the States", was organised on May 11, 2002 jointly by the

RIS and the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture. This workshop was organised at the instance of Ministry of Agriculture. Dr V.R. Panchamukhi, the then Director General, RIS and Shri J.N.L. Srivastava, Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation made preliminary remarks. Dr Biswajit Dhar, Senior Fellow, RIS, and Ms. Alka Bhatia, Department of Commerce initiated the discussions by making substantive presentations on the main issues of concern. RIS had prepared a background paper of this workshop for discussion and circulation among the participants. The workshop was attended by senior officials of the Ministry of Agriculture, senior officials of the States from North India, and others.

## 7. Seminar on Biotechnology Statistics in India

January 18, 2003

A half-day seminar on "Biotechnology Statistics in India" was held on January 18, 2003 in RIS. Dr A.P. Kulshreshtha, Director, Centre for Science & Technology of Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries, New Delhi chaired the meeting. Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS welcomed the participants and initiated the discussion. Dr S.R. Rao, Director, Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Research Associate, RIS, made key presentations. A large



*Hon'ble Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chairman, RIS inaugurating the Fifth Meeting of the SAARC Network of Researchers. Also seen in the picture are Mr. R.O. Wallang (MEA, New Delhi), Professor Abullaish (CEDA, Nepal), Dr. V.R. Panchamukhi (RIS), H.E. Dr. Bekh Bahdur Thapa (Ambassador of Nepal in India), Ambassador S.T. Devare (Vice-Chairman, RIS), and Dr. Nagesh Kumar (RIS).*

number of experts from research institutes, concerned government departments, NGOs and industry representatives took part in the discussion on the issues raised in the RIS background paper circulated among the participants.

## 8. Inception Workshop on International Food Safety Regulations and Processed Food Export India

June 29, 2002

RIS organised a project-launching workshop on **International Food Safety Regulations and Processed Food Export India**, June 29, 2002. The main objective of this workshop was to get the perceptions of the Government, policy makers, industry and academia. In this workshop the three main presentations were made by Ms Sashi Sareen, Director, (EIC), Dr Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow, RIS and Mr S.K. Singh, VH Group of Industry. The outcome of the workshop was intended to be used for long-term project that is been undertaken by RIS.

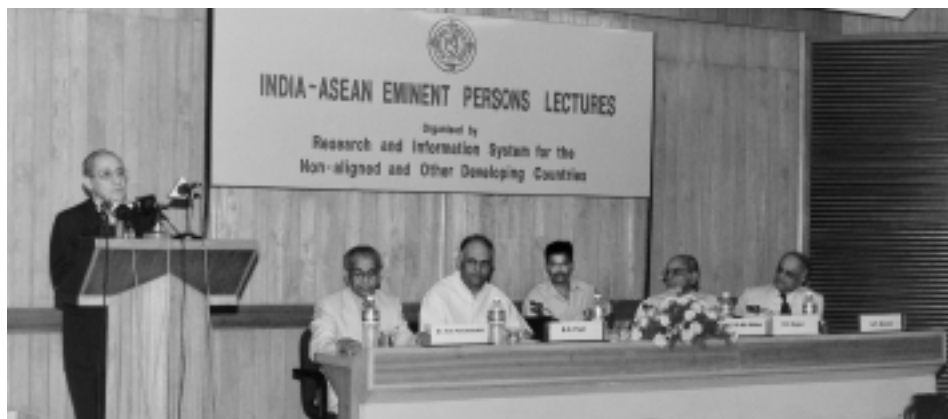
## 9. India-ASEAN Eminent Person Lecture by H.E. Dr. Ali Alatas

August 27, 2002

H.E. Dr. Ali Alatas, Former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Indonesia delivered a lecture on "International Relations in the Era of Globalization: Challenges and Opportunities for India-ASEAN Cooperation" at New Delhi on August 27, 2002. Shri K.C. Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission and Chairman, RIS presided over the lecture programme. Shri I.K. Gujral, former Prime Minister of India made initial remarks. A large number of audience attended the lecture. They included dignitaries from foreign missions in India, senior government officials, academicians, policy makers, representatives from business, industry and media circles.

H.E. Dr. Alatas also delivered another public lecture on the similar topic, organized by RIS and CII on August 9, 2002 in Mumbai.

This lecture was part of the India-ASEAN Eminent Persons Lecture Series. The India-ASEAN Eminent Persons Lecture Series was launched in December 1996 by



*Hon'ble Dr. Ali Alatas delivering the India-ASEAN Eminent Persons Lecture. Also seen in the picture are Dr. V.R. Panchamukhi, Hon'ble Shri K.C. Pant, Hon'ble Shri I.K. Gujral, and Ambassador S.T. Devare.*

the Government of India with the objective of promoting awareness about the reality and potential of the India-ASEAN partnership into the 21st century. Under this programme, eminent leaders and opinion makers, senior academics and media personalities, technologists and captains of trade and industry are invited to give public lectures on different aspects of economic, political, cultural and security ties between ASEAN countries and India. The Lecture Series seeks to present a balanced and holistic picture of what is happening in India and ASEAN in the new matrix of India-ASEAN relations and to place this in the larger regional and global context in which India-ASEAN partnership will find its shared destiny. RIS has been designated by the Government of India as the nodal institution to organize this Lecture Series.

## Seminars and Discussion Meetings

### Agreement on TRIPs and the Development Issues

April 2, 2002

**Dr Pedro Roffe**, Adviser, UNCTAD, Geneva initiated the discussion. Participants included RIS faculty, senior officials from the economic ministries of Government of India, representatives of business and academic circles, and researchers from different research institutes.

### Foreign Direct Investment, Externalities and Economic Growth

April 24, 2002

**Dr Nagesh Kumar**, the then Deputy Director General, RIS made a presentation of study done jointly by him and Shri Jaya Prakash Pradhan of RIS. Shri Shashank, Secretary (ER),

Ministry of External Affairs, chaired the seminar. Among those present at the seminar included Mr. S.N. Menon, Additional Secretary, (TPD), Dr V.S. Seshadri, Joint Secretary, and Mr. R. Gopalan, Joint Secretary (TPD) Ministry of Commerce, representatives of business and academic circles, researchers from different research organisations, and members of RIS faculty attended and participated in the seminar.

### Trends in Foreign Direct Investment and their Implications for Developing Countries

April 26, 2002

**Dr Karl Sauvant**, Director of the UNCTAD's Division on Investment, Technology and Enterprise Development, Geneva was the main speaker. The seminar was well attended by senior government officials including Dr V.S. Seshadri, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Dr Pradipto Ghosh, Additional Secretary, Prime Minister's Office, researchers, representatives from business and academic circles besides RIS faculty.

### Towards Sustained Growth in Kazakhstan: Potentials of Economic Cooperation

October 24, 2002

Some of the Central Asian countries, such as Kazakhstan, have tremendous potential of economic cooperation for India. The meeting discussed the issues of economic development of Kazakhstan and prospects for economic cooperation. **Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala**, formerly Senior Advisor, The World Bank and currently Senior Consultant, RIS, initiated the discussion. Shri S.T. Devare, Vice Chairman, RIS and former Secretary (ER), Ministry of External



*Professor Muchkund Dubey (in chair) and panelists at the at the Regional Conference on Globalization and Agriculture: Challenges for South Asia, sharing a lighter moment.*

Affairs, Government of India, chaired the meeting. Dr. S.R. Hashim, Member UPSC, and formerly India's Ambassador in Kazakhstan, also spoke at the meeting.

#### **Asian Economic Community and India's Place on Asian Economic Map**

November 29, 2002

**Prof. Manoranjan Dutta, Professor of Economics, Rutgers University, Newark NJ, USA**, initiated discussion with a presentation on the theme of the meeting. Shri S.T. Devare, Vice Chairman, RIS and former Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, chaired the meeting. Shri Shashank, Secretary EAA, Ministry of External Affairs, also participated in the discussion.

#### **RIS Faculty's Presentations and Contributions to Outside Conferences/ Workshops/Seminars**

**Dr. V.R. Panchamukhi, Director-General (till September 31, 2002)**

- Chaired a session on WTO's Doha Declaration at the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of the Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi on 6 April 2002.
- Panelist at the seminar on Women and Poverty Alleviation organized by the All India Women's Conference and ICSSR in New Delhi on April 12, 2002.

- Delivered the inaugural address at the Workshop Programme for the Project "India 2025", organized by the Centre for Policy Research in New Delhi on April 18, 2002.
- Released to the Press the ESCAP's Annual Publication *Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2002* at UN Conference Hall in New Delhi on April 26, 2002.
- Addressed the Faculty Members of the Institute of Economic Growth on The Emerging Issues in Social Sciences in India on May 3, 2002.
- Chaired a session at the International Symposium on Kautilya's Arthashastra, held at University of Mysore and organized by Oriental Research Institute, University of Mysore on June 13, 2002.
- Chaired a lecture-cum-discussion on The Earth Charter and Ecological Security by Dr. Kamla Chowdhry organized by Foundation for Ecological Security and India International Centre in New Delhi on June 28, 2002.
- Delivered Prof. G. Rama Reddy Memorial Lecture on Fifty Years of Development Struggle – Some Reflections at Hyderabad on July 2, 2002.
- Presided over a book release function of the volume *Exploring Indo-ASEAN Economic Partnership in Globalising World* written by Atul Sarma and

Pradeep Kumar Mehta at India International Centre, New Delhi on July 12, 2002. Dr Arun Shourie, Hon'ble Minister for Disinvestment released book and Mr. Digvijay Singh, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs was the Chief Guest.

**Dr. Nagesh Kumar**, Deputy Director-General (till 30 September) and Director-General (since October 1, 2002)

- Made presentation at the Seminar on Post-Doha WTO and India: A Roadmap to Mexico organized by FICCI in New Delhi on April 9, 2002.
- Visited Muscat with the Indian Delegation at the Meetings of the IOR-ARC. Participated and represented India at the meetings of the IOR Academic Group (IOR-AG) on May 5, 2002.
- Delivered a talk on the Indo-US Trade and Economy Relations at a Seminar organized by the Research and Development Foundation for Integral Humanism in New Delhi on May 1, 2002.
- Made a key presentation on Investment at a Scoping Workshop on EU-India Network on Trade and Development, held in Brussels and organized by the CUTS Centre for International Trade, Economics & Environment, India and University of Sussex, UK on May 21, 2002.
- Represented India at the nomination by the Minister of Commerce and Industry at the UNCTAD Expert Group Meeting on Experiences with Bilateral and Regional Approaches to Multilateral Cooperation in the Area of Long-term Cross-border Investment particularly Foreign Direct Investment, held in Geneva on June 12-14, 2002. Presented a paper on Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Treaties: India's Experience.
- Released the UNCTAD's *World Investment Report 2002: TNCs and Export Competitiveness* (WIR 2002) at the UNDP, New Delhi on September 17, 2002.
- Made a keynote presentation on FDI and Export-Oriented at the Workshop on FDI and Export



Competitiveness organized by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade in New Delhi on September 20, 2002.

- Participated in a Research Coordinating Meeting on Enhancing Trade and Investment Cooperation in Asia: Issues, Policies and Institutional Reform held in Bali on 30 September-1 October, 2002 and Chaired a session.
- A lead speaker on “India-ASEAN Relations” in a seminar organized by the Indonesian Foreign Office in Bandung on October 3, 2002.
- Delivered a talk on Biotechnology Industries in India: Present and Future at the India International Centre, New Delhi on October 22, 2002.
- A lead presentation on “Use and Effectiveness of Performance Requirements: What Can Be Learnt from the Experiences of Developed and Developing Countries?” at the UNCTAD’s Expert Meeting on Development Dimension of FDI organized by the UNCTAD, Geneva on November 6, 2002.
- Chaired a session and made a presentation on “Developing Countries in International Division of Labour in Software and Service Industry: Lessons from Indian Experience” at the International Seminar on Information and Communication Technologies, held in Bangalore and organized jointly by IHD and ISS, the Hague, on December 9, 2002.
- Made a presentation on “Asian Economic Community: Towards a Framework for Indo-Japan Partnership in the 21st Century” at the Indo-Japan Seminar, organized by Indian Council of Social Science Research in New Delhi on January 9, 2003.
- Made a presentation on “A Framework for India-ASEAN Economic Partnership” at the 30th World Marketing Congress, organized by the Institute of Marketing & Management in New Delhi on January 10, 2003.
- Participated as a Lead Commentator on the Report on Investment Cooperation at the Seminar on South Asian Cooperation, organized by the India International Centre and South Asia



*Participants at RIS/OECD International Workshop on Environmental Requirements and Developing-Country Exports*

Centre for Policy Studies in New Delhi on January 10, 2003.

- Addressed as a Special Invitee Speaker the Seminar on NAM Summit: Priorities and Challenges, organized by the Foundation for Peace and Sustainable Development in New Delhi on February 18, 2003.
- Made a country presentation at the Workshop on FDI, TRIMs and Development, organized by the Asian Development Bank in Bangkok on February 20-21, 2003.

**Dr. Rajesh Mehta**, Senior Fellow

- Made a presentation on Industrial Tariff: WTO Negotiations, at a Workshop Negotiating Industrial Tariffs: The Road Ahead, organised by CII, April 2002.
- Participated in the conference on Economic Reforms and Food Security – The Role of Trade and Technology organized jointly by IFPRI-ICAR-ICRIER during April 24-25, 2002 at India Habitat Centre.
- Participated in the Inception Workshop for Livestock Industrialization Study, held at Las Banos, Philippines, organized by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), Livestock, Environment and Development (LEAD) Initiative, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), on August 12-15, 2002.
- Participated along with Dr. J. George, Consultant, RIS and presented India Country Paper on “International Food Safety Standards and Processed Food Exports: A Case Study of India” in the workshop held in Bangkok, on October 1-3, 2002, and organized by ACIAR and Thammasat University, Thailand.
- Participated in the FAO Workshop on Public Policy Challenges for the Asian Livestock Sector: Looking to 2030, held in Bangkok on November 25-27, 2002.
- Presented a background paper on “Addressing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement: A Case Study of Select Processed Food Products In India” (co-author) at Trade Policy, WTO and South Asian Agriculture: South Asia Initiative Training Workshop, organized by RGOB, MoA-WBI-IFPRI, Bhutan on November 26-30, 2002.
- Made a presentation at Technical Workshop on Listening to What the Research Institutions are Working On, on the occasion of International Food Tec India 2003 organized by Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and its food wing Confederation of Indian Food Trade & Industry (CIFTI) at Hyderabad from February 1-4, 2003
- Participated in the JNU-IFPRI Workshop on The Dragon and the Elephant: A Comparative Study of Economic and Agricultural Reforms in China and India, on March 25-26, 2003 in New Delhi.

**Dr. Biswajit Dhar**, Senior Fellow

- Participated in the international seminar on Systems of Protection of Traditional Knowledge, organized by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India and UNCTAD in New Delhi on April 3-5, 2002.
- Participated in the seminar on 2002 Trade, Competition and Investment, organized by the Center for International Environmental Law (Geneva) on May 1-2, 2002 in Geneva.
- Participated in the Congress on Sustainable Development in the Context of the Johannesburg Summit, organized by Misereor, Germany on June 15-17, 2002 in Bonn, Germany.

**Shri Ganapati Bhat**, Deputy Secretary

- Presented a paper on "Privatization of State Owned Enterprises in India: A Case Study of India Tourism Development Corporation Limited (ITDC)" at Expert Group Meeting on NAM Reform: Privatization and Public-Private Partnership, held at Brunei Darussalam on December 16-18, 2002.

**Shri S.K. Mohanty**, Research Associate

- Made presentation on Some Estimates of Gains from Regional Economic Integration in Asia at the Workshop on The Future of East Asia: Institutional and Structural Changes, held in Bali on 30 September-1 October, 2002.



*Shri S.K. Mohanty, (RIS) (second from left) making presentation at the Workshop on The Future of Asia: Institutional and Structural Changes, held in Bali on September 30-October 1, 2002.*



*Dr. Ram Upendra Das (RIS) (second from left) at the Second Meeting of Joint Working Group to Undertake the Feasibility Study on Free Trade Area between India and Thailand, held in Cha-am, Thailand on August 26-27, 2002.*

- Presented a paper on "Implication of SAPTA on Intra-regional Trade Flows of the South Asian Region: An Empirical Assessment" at the Expert Group Meeting on Regional Trade Agreements in Asia, organized by UNESCAP in Bangkok on January 30-31, 2003.
- Participated as a discussant in the International Conference on Indo-Canada Dialogue on East Asia and Regional Cooperation, organized by Centre for Policy Research in New Delhi on February 14-15, 2003.

**Dr. Ram Upendra Das**, Research Associate

- Participated in the Second Joint Working Group Meeting in Cha-am, Thailand, held during August 26-27, 2002 as a member of the Indian Delegation and presented the Feasibility Study on India-Thailand Free Trade Agreement.
- Presented the Draft Feasibility Study on A Free Trade Agreement between India and Thailand, as a member of the Indian Delegation during the Third Joint Working Group (JWG) Meeting between India and Thailand at New Delhi during November 13-14, 2002.

- Presented the finalized Draft of the Feasibility Study on A Free Trade Agreement between India and Thailand, as a member of the Indian Delegation in the Fourth and Final JWG Meeting at Bangkok, Thailand during December 22-

23, 2002; and on this occasion also participated in the First Meeting of Joint Negotiating Group (JNG) for drafting a Framework Agreement on India-Thailand FTA.

- Participated in the Brain Storming Meeting on Current Situation in South Asia and the Future of SAARC, organized by CPR, ICSAC and CASAC, New Delhi on February 13, 2003.

- Participated in the second India-Thailand Free Trade Joint Negotiating Group Meeting, organized by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of India in New Delhi on March 10-12, 2003.

**Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi**, Research Associate

- Presented a paper on "India, EU and Geographical Indicators" at the International Seminar on India, the European Union and the WTO, organized by Centre de Sciences Humaines (CSH), JNU; EC Delegation; Konrad Adenauer Foundation; and Fundacao Oriente on October 16-17, 2002.
- Presented a paper on "New Issues in Doha: Environment" at IIFT on October 25, 2002.
- Attended the Consultative Meeting on Future Cooperation of NAM Centres and presented three broad proposals on Cooperation between NAMCSSTC and RIS at Jakarta on November 4-5, 2002.
- Made a presentation on "Agricultural Biotechnology and New Trends in IPR Regime: Challenges before the Developing Countries" at the International Conference on Health Care and Food: Challenges of Intellectual Property Rights, Biosafety and Bioethics, organized by NISTADS on December 1-5, 2002.
- Made a presentation on "Economic Burden and Nutritional Deficiency" at the International Symposium on Biotechnology for Food and Nutritional Security, organized by Tata Energy Research Institute (TERI), New Delhi on December 12-13, 2002.

- Presented a paper on “Non-Trade Issues in WTO (Environment)” at Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), New Delhi on December 18, 2002.
- Presented papers on “Biotechnology and Investment Opportunities for Food Industry” and “Biosafety Guidelines and Food Processing Industry: Challenges for Export” at Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Patiala, on December 20-21, 2002.
- Made a presentation at the National Workshop on Implications of WTO-TBT Agreement on Exports, organized by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) in New Delhi on January 7, 2003.
- Participated in the CODEX Technical Seminar organized by U.S. Codex Manager and USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, Government of India, in New Delhi on January 15-17, 2003.
- Participated in the Genomic Policy Executive Course held under an Indo-Canadian initiative and organized by the Indian Council of Medical Research and the University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics, Canada in Kerala on January 20-24, 2003.
- Participated in the Expert Group Meeting on Genetically Modified Vitamin A Rich Rice, organized by TERI, in New Delhi on February 26, 2003.



*Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, (RIS) (second from left) at the Consultative Meeting of NAM Centres on Future Cooperation organized by NAM CSSTC, Indonesia on November 4-5, 2002 in Jakarta. At the Meeting Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi presented three broad proposals on cooperation between NAM CSSTC and RIS.*

#### **Shri Saikat Sinha Roy, Research Associate**

- Participated in the Workshop on "Formulating Poverty Eradication Strategies and Programme" organized by NAM-CSSTC in Jakarta, Indonesia on April, 29-30, 2002.
- Participated in the SAARC-UNDP Start-up Workshop on Regional Poverty Profile organized by the SAARC Secretariat and SAPAP/UNOPS at Kathmandu, Nepal during 27-29 May 2002. Made a presentation on Poverty in India: Status, Causes and Policies prepared jointly with Nagesh Singh, C. Ravi and K. Seeta Prabhu.
- Paper on "The Determinants of India's Exports: A Simultaneous Error-Correction Approach" was accepted for presentation at the Regional meet of South and Southeast Asia Econometric Society Conference, held at Lahore during December 28-30, 2002. It was also accepted at the Annual Conference on Development Economics, held at Jadavpur University, Kolkata on December 16-17, 2002.

#### **Dr. J. George, Consultant**

- Participated in the CII – National Disaster Management Summit, New Delhi on November 21, 2002 as Member, CII-National Disaster Mitigation Advisory Committee.
- Participated in the Technical Workshops on the Occasion of International Food Tec India 2003, organized by CIFTI of FICCI at HITEC City, Hyderabad, held on February 1-4, 2003.
- Participated in the Workshop on Grain Policy organized by the Centre for Development Economics, Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, held in New Delhi on February 18, 2003.

#### **Dr. Murali Kallummal, Consultant**

- Presented a paper on “WTO and Harmonisation of Non-Preferential Rule of Origins: With Special Reference to Indian Automobile Sector” at the SIAM meeting, held on November 30, 2002.
- Participated in the IDEAs Conference on International Money and the Macroeconomic Policies of Developing Countries, organized by the Economic Research Foundation at Madras on December 16-19, 2002.

#### **Shri Jaya Prakash Pradhan, Consultant**

- Presented the paper on “Economic Reforms, WTO and Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Industry: Implications of Emerging Trends” (prepared jointly with Dr. Nagesh Kumar) at the seminar on Economic Reforms and Health Sector in India, organized by the Centre for Multi-Disciplinary Development Research (CMDR) in Dharward on Feb. 11-12, 2003

## IV

# Capacity Building, Training and Visiting Fellowships

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### 1. Visiting Research Fellowships in International Economic Issues and Development Policy Research

RIS in collaboration with India Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India has instituted a Visiting Research Fellowships Programme in international development policy research for researchers and officials from developing countries. Under this programme, RIS receives three Visiting Fellows each year for a duration of four months each.

Earlier, Mr. N. Makhanov, Chief Economist, Ministry of Finance, Government of Kazakhstan; and Mr. Thatsaphone Noraseng, Institute of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lao PDR were awarded Visiting Fellowships in RIS in "International Economic Issues and Development Policy Research".

In February 2003, Three Visiting Fellows, Dr. Gyanu Raja Shrestha, Tax Officer, Ministry of Finance, Internal Revenue Office, Nepal; Mr.

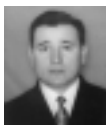


Gyanu Raja Shrestha, Nepal



Abdel Hamid Saba Elregal, Egypt

Abdel Hamid Saba Elregal, Economic Analyst, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Arab Republic of Egypt; and Mr.



Abdurahim Okhunov, Uzbekistan

Abdurahim Okhunov, Senior Research & Economic Analyst, University of World Economy and

Diplomacy, Uzbekistan joined RIS for a period of four months under this programme. They would be working on the following research themes: Economic Cooperation between India and Central Asian Republics with Special Reference to Uzbekistan (Abdurahim Okhunov Abduraxmonovich); Nepal-India Bilateral Trade Relations: Problems and Prospects (Gyanu Raja Shrestha); and Economic Cooperation between India and Egypt (Abdel Hamid Saba Elregal).

### 2. Training Workshop for the Officials of Tariff Commission

RIS organized a Training Workshop for the Senior Officials of the Tariff Commission, Government of India during October 28-31, 2002. This workshop comprised the second part of the training course designed for the Tariff Commission. The first module of the course was conducted from February 19, 2002 to April 4, 2002. The second and final module of this training programme, delivered during October 2002, covered the following themes:

India's Industrial Tariffs: Towards WTO Development Round Negotiations; Market Access Issues Relating to WTO Agreement on Agriculture; Current Status of Negotiations on WTO Agreement on Agriculture; WTO GATS Negotiations: Implications for India, Treatment of Price in ERP Calculations; India's Industrial Tariffs: Towards WTO Development Round Negotiations; WTO SPS and TBT Agreements: Implications for India; WTO and

Non-Tariff Related Issues; Strategy for India on Non-MAI Singapore Issues; Economic Analysis of the Impact of Tariffs; Analytical assessment of select case studies by the Tariff Commission; An evaluation of the analytical and methodological issues relating to impact analysis studies; Conceptual and methodological issues in protection; India's economic relations with other countries: tariff-related studies; and Evaluating the impact of tariff system: methods and case studies.

Apart from providing study materials, RIS arranged special lectures by senior experts, government officials, and members of its own RIS research faculty for the benefits of the participants.

### 3. Lectures by RIS Faculty to Training Programmes Organized by Other Organizations

**Dr. Nagesh Kumar**, Director-General

- Delivered a lecture on Foreign Direct Investment to participants of the CPDHE refresher course in Economics organized by the Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.
- Delivered a Lecture on "Relevance of Performance Requirements on FDI" at IIFT-UNCTAD Training Programme on International Investment Agreements at IIFT, New Delhi, on November 29, 2002.
- Delivered a Lecture on "TRIMS, FDI & India" for IAS orientation Programme at IIFT, New Delhi, on December 17, 2002.

- Delivered a Lecture on "The Relevance of Foreign Investment to Developing Countries" at the Ram Lal Anand College, University of Delhi, on December 18, 2002 on the occasion of the Annual Day of the College.

**Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow**

- Delivered a lecture on "Industrial Tariff: the Negotiating Issues" to the Senior Officers of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade under 5-Day Management Development Programme on Export-Import Management and the New Trade Regime (Advanced Course), organized by Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) in New Delhi on January 15, 2003.
- Delivered a lecture on "Tariff and Non-Tariff Barriers" to participants of the CPDHE Refresher Course in Economics, Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University, May 8, 2002.

**Dr. Biswajit Dhar, Senior Fellow**

- Delivered lectures on "World Trade Organization and Its Impact on

Indian Economy" at Professional Development Programme for Under Secretaries of the Central Secretariat Service conducted by Institute of Secretariat Training & Management, Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India in New Delhi on June 20, 2002.

**Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Research Associate**

- Delivered lectures on "WTO Agreements: Opportunities and Challenges before Developing Countries" and "Strategies for Meeting the Challenges of Globalisation" at the Training Programme for Foreign Journalists at Indian Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi on October 25 and November 1, 2002, respectively.

**Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Research Associate**

- Delivered a lecture on "Select Issues in SPS Agreement on WTO" at the training course for civil servants

conducted by the Department of Personnel, Government of India, at IIFT in New Delhi on February 15, 2003.

**Dr. J. George, Consultant**

- Delivered lectures on "Future of Agro Processing Industries in Haryana" at Haryana Institute of Public Administration (HIPA), Gurgaon on October 31, 2002.
- Delivered lecture on "Role of Agro Industries in Global Environment" at Haryana Institute of Public Administration (HIPA), Gurgaon on November 11, 2002.
- Delivered lecture on "Food Exports and Agro Industries" at Haryana Institute of Public Administration (HIPA), Gurgaon on November 14, 2002.
- Delivered a lecture on "Select Issues in SPS Agreement on WTO" at the training course for civil servants conducted by the Department of Personnel, Government of India, at IIFT in New Delhi on February 15, 2003.



*Mr. Prabir Sengupta (Indian Institute of Foreign Trade), Prof. Mukul Asher (National University of Singapore), Prof. Suthipand Chiratrivat (Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok), Prof. Mohammad Ariff (Malaysian Institute of Economic Research) in Chair, Shri S.K. Mohanty (RIS), Shri Saikat Sinha Roy (ADB), Mr. Li Wei (Chinese Academy for International Trade and Economic Cooperation, Beijing) at a Session of the International Conference on Building a New Asia, New Delhi, March 2003.*



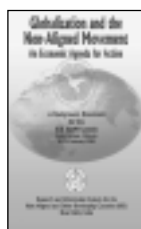
# V

## RIS Publications 2002-2003

RIS publication programme covers books, research monographs, occasional papers and discussion papers. It also publishes two journals. A list of the publications brought out during 2002-2003 is given below:

### Books

#### ● *Globalization and Non-Aligned Movement: An Economic Agenda for Action*, RIS, New Delhi



The experience with the process of globalization over the past decade is attracting a widespread rethinking in different parts of the world, if not a backlash. It is clear that the process of global integration needs to be carefully calibrated, moderated and regulated to produce optimal outcomes. Developing countries can face the challenge thrown by globalization with collective action much more effectively than as a divided lot. As a forum of developing countries, NAM has a major responsibility to assist its Member States in facing the challenge better. It can do so by collectively seeking a reform of emerging North-South asymmetries. It can also help them exploit the tremendous potential of mutual cooperation for their development.

NAM, as a movement of developing world, has a much greater relevance today to assist the Member States in confronting the forces of globalization with a collective response and action. It has a critical role to provide a time-tested platform for evolving a coordinated response by developing countries to any challenges faced by them in their journey towards development.

This Report presents elements of an agenda for action for NAM in the context of globalization. The action on the Agenda itself may bring about a further cohesion among the Membership and revitalize the Movement besides providing much needed spur for growth. NAM will then truly be a Movement for Development (MfD)!

#### ● *India-ASEAN Partnership in An Era of Globalization: Reflections by Eminent Persons*, RIS, New Delhi, 2002.

The India-ASEAN Eminent Persons Lecture Series was launched by the Government of India in December 1996 to enhance people-to-people interactions between India and the ASEAN countries to complement the growing India-ASEAN partnership.

Since its launch in December 1996, the Lecture Series coordinated by the RIS has established itself as an

institution of influence and standing. Lectures have been delivered under the Series by very distinguished statesmen and experts from the ASEAN countries in India and by equally noted Indian experts in ASEAN countries. These lectures are serving a very useful purpose of strengthening the linkages between India and the ASEAN economies and helping the opinion makers in the respective economies to acquire a better appreciation of the contemporary issues and the policy options open to the governments. Over the past few years since its launch, the Lecture Series has facilitated over twenty exchanges of visits by eminent persons between India and ASEAN countries. These Lectures provide valuable reflections on a number of themes concerning the ASEAN-India partnership in the current context of globalization.

Given the high profile of the speakers, the Lectures delivered under the Series represent an authoritative thinking. Therefore, it was decided to publish the texts of these lectures in a volume to facilitate their further dissemination and to carry forward the debate they have generated.

The eminent contributors to the volume include:

- ☆ Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Bin Mohamad, Prime Minister of Malaysia;
- ☆ Dr. Thaksin Shinawatra, Prime Minister of Thailand;
- ☆ Professor Juwono Sudarsono, Minister of Education and Culture, Republic of Indonesia.
- ☆ Professor Tommy Koh, Ambassador-at-Large, Republic of Singapore;
- ☆ Mr. Syed Hamid Albar, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia;
- ☆ Mr. Soubanh Srihirath, Minister in the Office of the President of the Lao PDR;
- ☆ Dr. Ali Alatas, Former Minister for Foreign Affairs, Republic of Indonesia;
- ☆ Mr. Nguyen Dy Nien, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Vietnam;
- ☆ Mr. Hor Namhong, Senior Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Cambodia;
- ☆ Dr. Rodolfo C. Severino Jr., Secretary-General, ASEAN;
- ☆ Dr. C. Rangarajan, former Governor of Andhra Pradesh, India;
- ☆ Mr. Kavi Chongkittavorn, Executive Editor, *The Nation*, Thailand;
- ☆ Professor J. Soedradjad Djiwandono, Former Governor, Bank Indonesia;
- ☆ Dr. Mohamed Ariff, Executive Director, Malaysian Institute of Economic Research;
- ☆ Dr. M. S. Swaminathan, Chairman, M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai;



- ☆ Professor U.R. Rao, Member, Space Commission, India;
- ☆ Dr. P.N. Tandon, Professor of Neuro-Surgery, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi;
- ☆ Dr. R.A. Mashelkar, FRS, Director General, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research; and
- ☆ Mr. Narayana N. R. Murthy, Chairman, Infosys Technologies Limited.

#### ● *Globalization and the Quality of Foreign Direct Investment* by Nagesh Kumar, Oxford University Press, New Delhi, 2002.

With increasing globalization in recent years, FDI has received considerable attention from researchers and policy analysts. Governments in developing countries have attempted to attract overseas investments to fill resource gaps that constrain development. However, they continue to overlook to quality dimension in terms of developmental impact and favourable externalities such a knowledge spillovers.

One of the first books to define the parameters of quality of FDI from a development perspective, this volume covers various branches of industry across countries over time; evolves analytic models with structural, geopolitical, and policy factors as determinants to explain the patterns of quantity and quality of inflows; enables countries to assess their comparative advantage for specific types of inflows; analyses implications of the merging WTO regime; and draws policy implications for international intervention in the context of developing countries.



#### ● *The Rise of China: Threat or Opportunity?* by Ramgopal Agarwala, Bookwell and RIS, New Delhi, 2002.

In recent years, the rise of China is a much talked about topic. Some believed that China's rapid growth is a myth perpetrated by government propaganda. Many others thought that the lack of democracy and the unfinished nature of reforms under China's "socialist market economy" would lead to an implosion as in the erstwhile Soviet Union. China has so far proven them wrong. There is now very little doubt that China has stood up and will be a dominating factor in Asia and the world during the twenty-first century. Many in Asia are now getting reconciled to China's rise but they now see as a threat. In this book Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala argues that even after allowing for weaknesses on China's



statistics, China represents the most impressive and, because of its size, the most important development success story in the world history. Increasingly, 'look east' will mean looking to China. Within a generation economy in the world and in that position it has much to contribute to developed and developing countries in terms of trade and investment and above all, in terms of ideas on development. This potential can, however, be realized only if the world integrates China into the world development community as an important member. If, however, the world continues to treat her as a threat, it will become one.

## Reports

1. **Feasibility of Extending Unilateral Tariff Preferences to Newer Members of the ASEAN**, Report for the Ministry of External Affairs, October, 2002.
2. **On the Estimation of A Short-Term Econometric Forecasting Model for India's Export Sector**. Part I of the project on Modeling of Export Sector for Short-term Forecast sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce, October 2002.
3. **Environmental Requirements and Market Access: Addressing Developing Country Concerns** (Available on RIS website). It is also being brought out in CD-ROM by RIS and OECD). Report of the Conference organized jointly with OECD Trade Directorate, Paris, November 2002.
4. **Globalization and Agriculture: Challenges for South Asia** (Available on RIS Website). Report of the Conference organized jointly with with IPS, Sri Lanka and in collaboration with IFPRI, Washington, December 2002.
5. **A Feasibility Study on A Free Trade Agreement between India and Thailand**. Prepared for Joint Working Group on India-Thailand Trade Agreement set up by Ministry of Commerce, Government of India and Ministry of Commerce, Government of Thailand, December 2002.
6. **2003-2004 Forecasts of India's Exports: A Disaggregated Analysis by Countries and Commodities** Part II of the project on Modeling of Export Sector for Short-term Forecast sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce, February 2003.
7. **Towards an Asian Economic Community: Relevance, Scope and a Way Forward**. Final Report prepared under the Sasakawa Peace Foundation Project, March 2003.
8. **Indian Industrial Tariffs – Towards WTO Development Round Negotiations** Report of the project sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce, March 2003.

## Discussion Papers

(Available at RIS Website)

- #23 **Establishment of Free Trade Arrangement Among BIMST-EC Countries: Some Issues** by Rajesh Mehta, 2002.
- #24 **Potential of India's Bilateral Free Trade Arrangements: A Case Study of India and Thailand** by Rajesh Mehta, 2002.
- #25 **Intellectual Property Rights, Technology and Economic Development: Experiences of Asian Countries** by Nagesh Kumar, 2002.
- #26 **Infrastructure Availability, Foreign Direct Investment Inflows and Their Export-orientation: A Cross-Country Exploration** by Nagesh Kumar, 2002.
- #27 **Foreign Direct Investment, Externalities and Economic Growth in Developing Countries: Some Empirical Explorations and Implications for WTO Negotiations on Investment** by Nagesh Kumar and Jaya Prakash Pradhan, 2002.
- #28 **Status and Development of Biotechnology in India: An Analytical Overview** by Sachin Chaturvedi, 2002.
- #29 **Persistence in India's Manufactured Export Performance** by Saikat Sinha Roy, 2002.
- #30 **Measuring Developments in Biotechnology: International Initiatives, Status in India and Agenda before Developing Countries** by Sachin Chaturvedi, 2002.
- #31 **WTO and Indian Poultry Sector: Lessons from State Support Measures in Select Countries** by Rajesh Mehta, 2002.
- #32 **Towards an Asian Economic Community – Vision of Closer Economic Cooperation in Asia: An Overview** by Nagesh Kumar, 2002.
- #33 **Towards an Asian Economic Community: Monetary and Financial Cooperation** by Ramgopal Agarwala, 2002.
- #34 **Towards an Asian Economic Community: The Relevance of India** by Nagesh Kumar, 2002.
- #35 **India, the European Union and Geographical Indications (GI): Convergence of Interests and Challenges Ahead** by Sachin Chaturvedi, 2002.
- #36 **WTO and Product Related Environmental Standards: Emerging Issues and Policy Options before India**, by Sachin Chaturvedi and Gunjan Nagpal, 2002.



- #37 **The Determinants of India's Exports: A Simultaneous Error-Correction Approach** by Saikat Sinha Roy, 2002.
- #38 **Analysis of Environment Related Non-Tariff Measures in the European Union: Implications for South Asian Exports** by S.K. Mohanty and T.R. Manoharan, 2002.
- #39 **Addressing Sanitary and Phytosanitary Agreement: A Case Study of Select Processed Food Products in India** by R. Mehta, M. Saqib, and J. George.
- #40 **Liberalisation, Firm Size and R&D Performance: A Firm Level Study of Indian Pharmaceutical Industry** by Jaya Prakash Pradhan, 2003.
- #41 **Economic Co-operation Between India and Singapore: A Feasibility Study** by Rajesh Mehta, 2003.
- #42 **Export Performance of Indian Enterprises in Knowledge-based Industries: Recent Trends, Patterns and Implications** by Nagesh Kumar and Jaya Prakash Pradhan, 2003.
- #43 **Export Competitiveness in Knowledge-based Industries: A Firm-Level Analysis of Indian Manufacturing** by Nagesh Kumar and Jaya Prakash Pradhan, 2003.
- #44 **Determinants of Outward Foreign Direct Investment From A Developing Country: The Case of Indian Manufacturing Firms** by Nagesh Kumar and Jaya Prakash Pradhan, 2003.

## Occasional Papers

- #65 **Status of Biotechnology in Singapore** by Sachin Chaturvedi, 2002.
- #66 **Capital Inflows and Effects of Market-Driven Investments: A Focus on Southeast Asian Crisis** by Biswajit Dhar and Murali Kallummal, 2002.



Dr. S.P. Gupta, Member, Planning Commission, Govt. of India releasing the Vol. 3 (2) of the South Asia Economic Journal, at the Inaugural Session of the Regional Conference on Globalization and Agriculture. Also seen in the picture are (from left) Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS; Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, IPS, Sri Lanka; and H.E. Mr. Mangala Moonesinghe, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka in India.

## South Asia Economic Journal

The *South Asia Economic*

*Journal* is published under the joint auspices of the Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka and RIS, in collaboration with the SAARC Network of Researchers on Global Financial and Economic Issues by Sage Publications. The Journal seeks to provide a regional forum for scholarly debate on economic analysis and policy options to promote economic development and regional cooperation in South Asia.

***South Asia Economic Journal*, Vol. 3 (1), January to June, 2002.**

Articles: Exceptional Protection: The Way Ahead—A Developing Country Perspective by Sarath Rajapatirana; Aid and Growth in India: Some Evidence from Disaggregated Aid Data by *George Mavrotas*; Why Did a Slump Follow Land Reforms in Kerala? by *Pulapre Balakrishnan*; Redistributive Effects of Public Expenditures in Urban and Rural Areas of Pakistan by *Nasim Shah Shirazi*, *Muhammad Ilyas* and *Mehboob Ahmad*; Does Human Development Policy Matter for Economic Growth? Evidence from Indian States by *Jaya Prakash Pradhan* and *Vinoj Abraham*; and Regionalism in South Asia: The Relevance of SAPTA for Sri Lanka by *Dushni Weerakoon* and *Janaka Wijayasiri*.

***South Asia Economic Journal*, Vol. 3 (2), July to December, 2002.**

Articles: Impact of China's Accession to the Bangkok Agreement on Intraregional Trade Flows by *Ravi Ratnayake*; Export Performance of Bangladesh: A Constant Market Share Analysis by *Merlinda Ingo* and *Tonia Kandiero*; Trade Policy Reforms in South Asia and Australia-South Asia Trade: Intensities and Complementarities by *Jayatilake S. Bandara* and *Christine Smith*; Interest Rates and Inflationary Expectations: Evidence on the Fisher Effect in Sri Lanka by *Arusha Cooray*; Elasticity of Household Expenditure on Education in Rural India *Jandhyala B.G. Tilak*; and Convergence across Indian States: Cross-Sectional and Panel Estimations by *Tishar Kanti Das*. Notes: Public-Private Partnership for Development in the Maldives by *Mohamed Latheef*; and Constructing the Human Development Index: Effect of the Adaptive Multi-Step Formulation of Utility Function—A Research Note by *Ravi Kant Bhatnagar*.

***South Asia Economic Journal*, Vol. 4(1), January to June, 2003. (Special Issue on the WTO, South Asian Agriculture and IPRs).**

Articles: Globalization, South Asian Agriculture and the WTO by *Alan Bullion*; Agreement on Agriculture: Issues of Market Access for South Asian Countries by *Posh Raj Pandey*; Market Access in Agricultural Trade: Issues Concerning India by *Rajiv Mehta*; IPRs and Agriculture: South Asian Concerns by *Anitha Ramanna*; The Corporate Pharmaceutical Model and the Legacy of Doha: Whither a Global Consensus on Public Health Governance? by *Joseph Savirimuthu*; India, the European Union and Geographical Indications: Convergence of Interests and Challenges Ahead by *Sachin Chaturvedi*; and The WTO and Nepal: Compatibility and Contradiction between the Agreements and the Acts by *Bhubanesh Pant*.

## Asian Biotechnology and Development Review

The *Asian Biotechnology and Development Review* is published by RIS to generate wider

awareness of the issues involved and emerging developments in the area of biotechnologies. *ABDR* is a continuation of *RIS Biotechnology and Development Review* series.

***Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, Vol. 4 (2), May, 2002.**

Article: Biotechnology and Development: Challenges and Opportunities for Asian Region by *K.C. Pant*; Biotechnology, Innovation and Development by *William G. Padolina*; Biotechnology in Europe – 20 Years' Experience and Current Strategy by *Mark Cantley*; Status of Agribiotechnology in the Philippines by *Reynaldo E. de la Cruz*; and WTO, Biosafety Regulatory Regime and Trade in Genetically Modified Goods: Options before Developing Countries – An Indian Perspective by *Sachin Chaturvedi*.

***Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, Vol. 4 (3), November, 2002.**

Articles: Indian Biotechnology Developments in Public and Private Sectors - Status and Opportunities by *S.R. Rao*; The Current and Future Outlook of Agricultural Biotechnology in Malaysia by *Hasan Mat Daud*; Agricultural Biotechnology in Thailand by *Nares Damrongchai*; and Biotechnology in Bangladesh by *Naiyum Choudhury* and *M. Serajul Islam*.

***Asian Biotechnology and Development Review* Vol. 5 (2), March, 2003**

Articles: Biotechnology, GMOs and Development: Economic Implications by *Edgar J. DaSilva* and *Sachin Chaturvedi*; How Well Does Japan Meet Its Challenges and Responsibilities in Biotechnology and Development for Asia by *Darryl R. J. Macer* and *Minakshi Bhardwaj*; Crop Biotechnology Initiatives in Asia: Progress, Opportunities, and Challenges by *Randy A. Hautea*; and Protecting Bio-Assets of Third World: Emerging Challenges for South Asia by *Manoj Kumar Sahu* and *Panchanan Bhoi*.

## RIS Diary

The activities of the RIS in policy research, advice, capacity building and other relevant areas have expanded considerably over the past 19 years of its existence. *RIS Diary's* objective is to inform the policy research community and other experts about the various activities that are undertaken by the institute from time to time. It will appear in January, April, July and October every year. The inaugural issue of the *RIS Diary*, summarizing the work of RIS in the last quarter of 2002, came out in January 2003.

## Other Publications of the RIS Faculty

Chaturvedi, Sachin and Gunjan Nagpal. 2003. "WTO and Product-Related Environmental Standards: Emerging Issues and Policy Options". *Economic and Political Weekly*, January 4.

Das, Ram Upendra. 2002. "Implications of FDI – Development Linkages for Developing Countries". *Focus WTO*, September-October.

Kumar, Nagesh. 2002. "Exploiting the Potential of Information and Communication Technologies for Development in South Asia" jointly with Alka Chadha, *South Asian Survey*, Vol. 9, No.2, July-December.

Kumar, Nagesh. 2002. "Liberalization and Japanese Foreign Direct Investments in India" in *Building A Global Partnership: Fifty Years of Indo-Japanese Relations*. K.V. Kesavan (ed.). New Delhi: Lancer's Books.

Kumar, Nagesh. 2003. "Intellectual Property Rights, Technology and Economic Development – Experiences of Asian Countries". *Economic and Political Weekly*, January 18.

Mehta, Rajesh. 2002. "Indo-Japanese Trade: Recent Trends" in *Building A Global Partnership: Fifty Years of Indo-Japanese Relations*. K.V. Kesavan (ed.). New Delhi: Lancer's Books.

Mehta, Rajesh. 2002 "Market Access in Non-Agriculture Sector – Negotiating Strategy for Developing Countries in Millennium Round", *Focus WTO*, July-August.

Mehta, Rajesh. 2003. "WTO and the Indian Poultry Sector" in *WTO and New International Trade Regime – Implication for Indian Agriculture* by A.K. Vasishth and Alka Singh (eds.), published by Division of Agricultural Economics, Indian Agricultural Research Institute.

Mohanty, S.K. 2002. "Food Security and Structural Adjustment Programme". *Productivity Journal*, Vol. 43(1), April-June, pp 5-13.

Pradhan, Jaya Prakash. 2002. "Liberalisation, Firm Size and R&D Performance: A Firm Level Study of Indian Pharmaceutical Industry". *Journal of Indian School of Political Economy*, October-December.

Pradhan, Jaya Prakash. 2002. "Foreign Direct Investment and Economic Growth in India: A Production Function Analysis". *The Indian Journal of Economics*, April.

## VI

# Outreach, International Networking and Visitors

In order to improve its effectiveness and visibility at the major international events, besides networking with influential policy think-tanks in the different parts of the world, RIS has strived to obtain consultative status with intergovernmental organization. As part of these mandates RIS participated in the XIII NAM Summit held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in February 2003, as an Observer Institution.

RIS has also obtained a Consultative Status with UNCTAD. RIS is in touch with the WTO secretariat for participating in its Fifth Ministerial Conference scheduled to be held in Cancun, Mexico in September 2003. These affiliations are expected to enable RIS to influence the international development agenda much more effectively by attracting attention for its work.

RIS has also taken steps to strengthen networking with other policy think-tanks for collaborative activities. RIS was invited by the NAM Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM-CSSTC) to a Consultative Meeting on Future Cooperation of NAM Centres, held in Jakarta on 4-5 November 2002 to explore the possibilities of collaborative work. (See also box on Joint Statement). Currently, an MoU is being negotiated with the International Institute for Trade and Development (ITD), set up by the Thai Government with the UNCTAD's support in Bangkok.

In addition to these formal agreements, contacts by way of collaborative activities have been established with the following institutions during the period of the Report:

### International Organisations

OECD Trade Directorate, Paris  
International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington D.C.  
UNCTAD, Geneva  
UNESCO, Paris

### Regional Organizations

UNDP Asia Trade Initiative, Hanoi  
UN ESCAP, Bangkok  
Third World Network, Malaysia  
NAM Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM-CSSTC), Indonesia  
Asian Development Bank, Manila

### National Institutions in Other Countries

Thammasat University, Bangkok  
Australian National University, Australia

## RIS at the XIII NAM Summit

RIS participated in the XIII Summit of Non-Aligned countries which took place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on February 20-25, 2003 as a Guest Observer Institution for the first time along with a number of international organizations such as Commonwealth Secretariat, Group of 77, Group of 8, UNCTAD, UNIDO, WHO. RIS was represented at the Summit by Shri S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman and Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS.

RIS report - *Globalization and the Non-*



*Aligned Movement: An Economic Agenda for Action* – was circulated, as a background document, by the NAM Secretariat among the delegations and representatives of media from different countries at the Summit.

RIS also participated in the NAM Business Forum held in conjunction with the Summit. A small exhibition of RIS publications was also organized at the venue of the NAM Business Forum.

The Malaysian National TV Channel RTM 1 interviewed the DG-RIS on the priorities and the agenda for NAM in a detailed prime time telecast on the eve of the meeting of the Heads of States/ Governments on 23 February. The RIS Report on the NAM Economic Agenda was also shown and discussed at the programme.



*Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General in consultation with Dr Omar Halim, Executive Director (right), Mr Rachdi Iskander, Director, Admin (centre) and Mr Achmad Roffie, Programme Director (left) of the NAM Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation, Jakarta at the venue of the NAM Summit.*

Asian Economic Centre, University of Melbourne, Australia  
 Malaysian Institute of Economic Research, Malaysia  
 Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia  
 Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan  
 Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka  
 Korea Institute for International Economic Policy, Korea  
 Institute of South East Asian Studies, Singapore

Ethiopian Development Research Institute, Ethiopia  
 Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation (CAITEC), China  
 Development Research Centre of the State Council of China, Beijing  
 Chulalongkorn University, Thailand  
 University of Buenos Aires, Argentina  
 Centre for Economic Development and Administration (CEDA), Nepal

## Select Visitors/Delegations

- Ambassador Rachadi Iskandar, Director of Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM-SSTC) and Mr. Suhadi M. Salam, Minister Consellor, Embassy of Indonesia, New Delhi on May 3, 2002.

- A group from the Royal College of Defence Studies, UK visited RIS on September 24, 2002 for a briefing on international economic issues. The Group comprised of Air Vice Marshal S Goddard, RCDS Import Senior Directing Staff, (Tour Leader); Colonel J H Gordon, British Army (Deputy Tour Leader); Mr. B O Riedel, United States Department of Defence; Mr N B Gurr, MOD; Mr T Sato, Japanese Defence Agency; Captain M Kimmons, RN; Colonel B Maurice, French Air Force; Brigadier M J Rutledge, British Army; Mr H Baumanis, Latvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Group Captain K Dennison, RAF; Colonel H Liechiti, Swiss Armed Forces; Colonel R J M Veger, Royal Netherlands Army; and Wing Commander A S C Culbert, RCDS Directing Staff (Air).

- A delegation consisting of Dr. Somchai Ratanakomut, Associate Professor, Faculty of Economics, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand; Dr. Sothitorn Mallikamas, Associate Professor and Associate Dean, Faculty of Economics, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok; Mr. Twaan Jaroenthai, Minister Counsellor (Commercial), Royal Thai Embassy, New Delhi; Ms. Suwapat Tonggool, Senior Trade Officer, Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of

Commerce, Thailand; and Ms. P. Wongmongkol, Trade Officer, Department of Trade Negotiations, Ministry of Commerce, Thailand visited RIS on October 10-11 and November 11-12, 2002 in connection with the Joint Study on Indo-Thai FTA.

- Dr. Walter R. Erdelen, Assistant Director-General for Natural Sciences, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Paris; and Dr. M.S. Alam and Dr. Jayakumar, UNESCO, New Delhi office on October 25, 2002.

- Mr. Philippe Meyer and Mr. Carlo Pettinato, European Commission, Brussels on November 25, 2002.

- Mr. Dale Andrew, Head of Trade Policy Linkages Division, OECD Trade Directorate,

France; and Mr. Ronald Steenblik, Principal Administrator, OECD Trade Directorate, France on November 25, 2002.

- Mr. Enrique Lendo, Deputy Director General of Economic Cooperation, SEMARNAT, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Mexico; and Professor Youfu Xia, Chairman, China Research Center for Technical Barriers to Trade and SPS (CCTBT), China on November 29, 2002.

- Dr. Newai Gebre-ab, Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister and Director, Ethiopian Development Research Institute, Ethiopia, and H.E. Dr. Teketel Forssido, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Ethiopia in India, on January 24, 2003.



### Consultative Meeting on Cooperation among NAM Centres

Upon the invitation of the Board of Directors of the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM CSSTC), a consultative meeting of NAM Centres on "Future Cooperation" was held in Jakarta on November 4, 2002.

The Representatives from the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM CSSTC), The Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) in India, the Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (RIS) and the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Cuba (IPK), were present. The Meeting adopted a Joint Statement on Cooperation among NAM Centres.

- Dr. Yuen Pau Woo, Vice-President & Chief Economist, Asia-Pacific Foundation, Canada along with a delegation, on February 17, 2003.
- Dr. Mazula Brazao, Rector of the Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique on November 12, 2002.
- Professor Madan K. Dahal, Head, Central Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University (TU), Nepal and Mr. Shankar Aryal, Research Associate, Institute for Integrated Development Studies, Kathmandu, Nepal on January 7, 2003.
- Professor Erik Baark, Associate Professor, Division of Social Science, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, on January 30, 2003.
- Ambassador K. Kesavapany, Director, and Mr. Rahul Sen, Fellow from Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore, on March 12, 2003.
- Prof. Prema-chandra Athukorala, Australian National University, and Dr. Sisira Jayasuriya, Director, Asian Economic Centre, University of Melbourne, Australia on March 24, 2003.
- Dr. Joachim von Braun, Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and Dr. Ashok Gulati, Director, Market and Structural Studies Division, IFPRI, Washington DC on March 24, 2003.
- Prof. (Dr.) Jeroen Van Wijk, Rotterdam University, The Netherlands on December 11, 2002.



*Hon'ble Mr. Rajiv Pratap Rudy, the then Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, India (third from left) at the Valedictory Session of the RIS/OECD International Workshop Environmental Requirements and Developing-Country Exports, held on November 27-28, 2002. Also seen in the picture are (from left) Mr. S. N. Menon, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India; Dr. Nagesh Kumar (RIS), New Delhi; Ms. Harriët Lapidaire-van Ree (The Netherlands) and Mr. Enrique Lendo (Mexico), (Co-chairs of the Joint Working Party on Trade and Environment, OECD); and Dr. Veena Jha (UNCTAD).*



## VII

# RIS Documentation Centre

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As we have been reporting in the previous issues of the Annual Report, RIS Documentation Centre has assumed a proactive role in procuring, organizing and disseminating Information. It caters not only the research staff of the RIS but also to researchers, policy makers, etc. from the government, academic, business and industry circles.

RIS Documentation Centre serves as a well stocked-up-to-date library on literature related to issues like world economy, international trade, world trading system, international monetary and financial system, South-South economic cooperation including regional economic cooperation schemes like SAARC, ASEAN, IORARC, North-South cooperation, capital flows, FDI, technology transfers and MNCs, technological capacity building, agriculture and food security, new technologies such as IT and biotechnology, environment and sustainable development, etc.

The collection of the research material at the RIS Documentation Centre has been growing constantly. It has been enriched by not so easily available publications, i.e. occasional papers/working papers/reprints/reports, unpublished documents, etc. obtained with the help of networking exercises with the national and international organizations/institutions. It has a fair collection of electronic documents and is well connected with the networks of Internet and Delnet. We have been able to acquire references and research papers through Internet. RIS introduced Delnet services for greater access to electronic data and other information. Delnet is useful in acquiring references and ascertaining availability of the documents and journals in Delhi libraries.

RIS Documentation Centre also maintains press clippings on over 80 subjects of common interest of users.



## VIII

# RIS Faculty

(As on September 30, 2003)

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**Dr Nagesh Kumar, *Director General***  
*M.A., M.Phil, Ph.D.*

**Specialisation:** FDI and technology transfers, industrial and technology development policies, world trading system, regional economic integration, economic reforms and development, knowledge-based industries and development.



**Dr Rajesh Mehta, *Senior Fellow***  
*M.A., Ph.D.*

**Specialisation:** Trade policies of South Asia, regional trading blocs, econometric modelling, trade and development, tariff and non-tariff barriers.



**Dr Biswajit Dhar, *Senior Fellow (on leave)***  
*M.A., Ph.D.*

**Specialisation:** International trade and finance with particular emphasis on issues arising in the WTO, Agreement on Agriculture, TRIPS, TRIMS, bio-diversity.



**Shri S.K. Mohanty, *Fellow***  
*M.A., M.Phil.*

**Specialisation:** WTO issues, regional trading arrangements, human development and social sector issues, economic reforms, food security and productivity analysis, services sector.



**Dr Ram Upendra Das, *Fellow***  
*M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D.*

**Specialisation:** SAARC economic cooperation; rules of origin; trade, growth and technology; India-ASEAN economic partnership; labour market implications of economic reforms and the WTO Agreement on Textiles and Clothing.



**Dr Sachin Chaturvedi, *Fellow***  
*M.A., Ph.D.*

**Specialisation:** Economics of biotechnology and biodiversity, Intellectual Property Regime; trade and environment.



**Shri Saikat Sinha Roy, *Research Associate (on leave)***  
*M.Sc., M.Phil*

**Specialisation:** Applied trade and development, and economic statistics.



**Ms. Barnali Nag, *Research Associate***  
*M.A. (Ph.D. Submitted)*

**Specialisation:** Energy and environment economics



**Dr. Mirza Allim Baig, *Research Associate***  
*M.A., M.Phil, Ph.D.*

**Specialisation:** Open economy, macroeconomic issues



**Shri Prabir De, *Research Associate***  
*M.Sc. in Economics*

**Specialisation:** Regional economics



**Dr. Soan Ray, *Research Associate***  
*M.Sc., Ph.D.*

**Specialisation:** Economics of technology, microeconomics

## Other Affiliated Scholars

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### Consultants (Full time)

**Dr J. George, *Senior Consultant***

**Dr. K. Murali, *Consultant***

(January 3, 2000-April 9, 2003)

**Dr. Gauri Modwel, *Consultant***

(July 9, 2001 to August 29, 2003)

**Shri Jaya Prakash Pradhan, *Consultant***

(September 18, 2001-July 31, 2003)

### External Research Advisors/

#### Consultants (Part time)

**Dr Ramgopal Agarwala,**

*formerly of the World Bank*

**Dr. I.N. Mukherji,**

*Jawaharlal Nehru University*

**Dr. Vineeta Shankar,** Manila

*formerly of Delhi School of Economics*

**Dr. K.J. Joseph,**

*Jawaharlal Nehru University*

**Dr. Neelam Singh,**

*Lady Sri Ram College, University of Delhi*

**Dr. Aradhna Aggarwal,**

*K.M. College, University of Delhi*

**Dr. M. Padma Suresh,**

*Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi*

**Dr. V.K. Kaul,**

*University of Delhi, South Campus*

**Dr. Sanjeeb Pohit**

*National Council of Applied Economic Research*

**Professor J. Mahender Reddy**

*Osmania University*

**Professor Manmohan Agarwal**

*Jawaharlal Nehru University*

**Mr. S.K. Singh**

*Venkateswara Hatcheries Limited*

**Mr Mohammed Saqib**

*Rajiv Gandhi Foundation*

### Visiting Fellows

**Dr. Raj Chhikara, *Visiting Senior Fellow***

(August 2003-November 2003)

Senior Economist, World Bank

and later Programme Director,

Asian Development Bank Institute,

Tokyo

**Dr. Sweta C. Saxena, *Visiting Fellow***

(during August-September 2002 and May-June 2003)

Assistant Professor,

Graduate School of Public and

International Affairs,

University of Pittsburgh,

USA

**Visiting Fellows under RIS Visiting Fellowship Programme on International Economic Issues and Development Policy Research**

(February 3, 2003 to June 2, 2003)

**Dr. Gyanu Raja Shreshta**

*Tax Officer, Ministry of Finance,*

*Internal Revenue Office, Nepal*

**Mr. Abdel Hamid Saba Elregal**

*Economic Analyst, Ministry of Foreign Trade,*

*Arab Republic of Egypt*

**Mr. Abdurahim Okhunov,**

*Senior Research & Economic Analyst,*

*University of World Economy and Diplomacy,*

*Uzbekistan*

### Research Assistants

**Shri U.S. Rana**

**Mrs. Beena Pandey (on leave)**

**Mrs. Pooja Agarwal**

**Ms. Parul Mathur**

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## Other Staff Members

**Shri Ganapati Bhat**

*Finance & Administrative Officer*

### Publications & Documentation Centre

**Shri Tish Kr. Malhotra, *Publications Officer***

**Mrs. Sarita Kapoor, *Documentation Officer***

### Computer/Databases Unit

**Mrs. Sushma Bhatt, *Research Associate/Computer Programmer***

**Shri C.S. Puri, *Computer Programmer***

### Finance & Administration

**Shri V. Krishnamani, *Accounts Officer***

**Shri D.P. Kala, *Desk Officer***

**Shri N.N. Krishnan, *Private Secretary to DG***

**Mrs. Sheela Malhotra, *Pers. Assistant***

**Shri Ramesh Chand, *Administrative Assistant***

**Shri Harkesh, *Dispatch Clerk***

**Mrs. Anu Bisht, *Receptionist***

### Research Support Staff

**Ms. Kiran Wagh, *Private Secretary***

**Mrs. Sujata Taneja, *Pers. Assistant***

**Shri Phool Singh, *Jr. Per. Assistant***

**Shri Sanjeev Sharma, *Jr. Per. Assistant***

**Shri Surender Kumar, *Jr. Per. Assistant***

**Mrs. Poonam Khurana, *Jr. Per. Assistant***

### Project Support Staff

**Mrs. Poonam Malhotra, *Data Entry Operator***

**Shri Anoop Kotnala, *Jr. Project Assistant***

**Ms. Ritu Teneja, *Jr. Project Assistant***

**Shri Balwant Singh Bisht, *Jr. Project Assistant***

**Shri Vivek Kumar, *Jr. Project Assistant***

**Shri Pradeep Kumar, *Publication Assistant***

**Ms. Sushila, *Jr. Library Assistant***

**Ms. Jyoti Goel, *Jr. Library Assistant***

**Support Staff:** Shri Satyavir Singh (Staff Car Driver), Shri Balwan, Shri Pradeep, Shri J.B. Thakuri and Shri Raju.

# IX

## Financial Statements

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THAKUR, VAIDYANATH AIYAR & CO.  
Chartered Accountants  
New Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Chennai  
Patna, Chandigarh and Hyderabad

212, Deen Dayal Marg, New Delhi – 110002  
Phones: 23236958-60, 23237772  
Fax: 23230831  
E-mail: [tvand@vsnl.com](mailto:tvand@vsnl.com)

## Auditor's Report

We have audited the attached Financial Statements comprising the Balance Sheet of Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries, New Delhi as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2003, and also the annexed Income and Expenditure Account of the Society for the year ended on that data.

The Financial Statements are the responsibility of the management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conduct our audit in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in India. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material mis-statements. An audit includes examining, on text basis evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the management as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

We report that:

- i) We have obtained all information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of the audit.
- ii) The said accounts are in agreement with the books of accounts maintained by the Society.
- iii) In our opinion, proper books of account have been kept by the Society as far as appears from our examination of the books.
- iv) In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to explanations given to us, the said accounts subject to accounting policies and notes to the accounts given in Schedule 8 and our separate report dated 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2003 addressed to the Director General, Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries, New Delhi give a true and fair view:
  - 1) in the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Society as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2003.
  - 2) in the case of the Income and Expenditure Account, of the surplus for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2003.

For Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar & Co.  
Chartered Accountants

Sd/-  
(K.N. Gupta)  
Partner

Place: New Delhi

Date: 30 September, 2003

# Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries, New Delhi

## (Society Registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860) Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2003

| Particulars  | as at 31.3.2003    | as at 31.3.2002    |
|--|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>   |                    |                    |
| Research and Development Fund                              |                    | 5923541.17         |
| Asset Fund (Assets Created Out of Grant-in-Aid from GOI)   | 10147048.30        | 31807492.73        |
| Asset Fund Created Out of Various Sponsored Projects       | 31347298.00        | 2455390.32         |
|  | 2317155.00         |                    |
| <b>UNSPENT BALANCES</b>                                    |                    |                    |
| A. Sponsored Projects As Per Schedule Attached (Non FCRA)  | 1728765.40         | 3916604.58         |
| B. Sponsored Project As Per Schedule Attached (FCRA)       | 3594114.30         | 1826747.80         |
| Current Liabilities and Provisions                         | 649468.50          | 14400.00           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>49783849.50</b> | <b>45944176.60</b> |
| <b>ASSETS</b>  |                    |                    |
| Fixed Assets (Assets Created Out of Grant-in-Aid From GOI) | 31347298.00        | 31807492.73        |
| Assets Created Out of Various Sponsored Projects           | 2317155.00         | 2455390.32         |
| <b>AMOUNTS RECOVERABLE</b>                                 |                    |                    |
| A. Sponsored Project as Per Schedule Attached (Non-FCRA)   | 1789980.88         | 992192.30          |
| B. Sponsored Project as Per Schedule Attached (FCRA)       | 200891.00          | 1234.00            |
| Investments (At Cost)                                      | 2688983.00         | 3182128.00         |
| Current Assets, Loans, Advances, Etc. (Non-FCRA)           | 8046038.81         | 5679945.94         |
| Current Assets, Loans, Advances, Etc. (FCRA)               | 3393502.81         | 1825793.31         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   | <b>49783849.50</b> | <b>45944176.60</b> |
| Significant Accounting Policies                            |                    |                    |
| Contingent Liabilities and Notes on Accounts               |                    |                    |

Previous year's figures have been regrouped/reclassified to make them comparable with current year's figures.

Subject to our report of even date.  
Examined and found correct.

New Delhi

Dated 30 September, 2003

Sd/-  
Chartered Accountants  
Sd/-  
Fin. & Administrative Officer  
Sd/-  
Director General



**Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries**  
**(Society Registered Under the Societies Registration Act of 1860)**  
**Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31st March, 2003**

|  | Amount Rs. | Amount Rs.<br>Current Year | Amount Rs.<br>Previous Year |
|--|------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>  |            |                            |                             |
| Grant-in-aid received from Ministry of External Affairs  |            | 13700000.00                | 13700000.00                 |
| Amount Transferred from Sponsored Projects<br>(Excess amount transferred on completion of projects)                                |            | 3075267.76                 | 814885.71                   |
| Income from royalty, publications etc.   |            | 19712.00                   | 43033.80                    |
| <b>INTEREST EARNED</b>   |            |                            |                             |
| On Term Deposits   | 1023209.00 |                            | 198842.00                   |
| On Savings Accounts  | 188079.00  |                            | 154626.00                   |
| On Loans : Employees/ Staff  | 10155.00   | 1221443.00                 | 13026.00                    |
| Other Misc. Income   |            | 33129.00                   | 42640.50                    |
| Transfer to Assets Fund (Depreciation on Fixed Assets acquired out of<br>Grant-in-Aid from Government of India/Sponsored Projects) |            | 2204473.05                 | 2292536.00                  |
| <b>Total (A)</b>   |            | <b>20254024.81</b>         | <b>17259590.01</b>          |
| <b>EXPENDITURE</b>   |            |                            |                             |
| Establishment Expenses   |            | 8198056.00                 | 8145850.05                  |
| Other Administrative Expenses  |            | 4322445.63                 | 4811234.61                  |
| Expenses Incurred on Purchase of Fixed Assets out of Grants Received from<br>Govt. of India, transferred to Assets Fund            |            | 1305543.00                 | 1085992.56                  |
| Depreciation on Fixed Assets acquired out of Grant-in-Aid from<br>Government of India/Sponsored Projects                           |            | 2204473.05                 | 2292536.00                  |
| Amount transferred to Research and Development Fund  |            | 4223507.13                 | 923976.79                   |
| <b>Total (B)</b>   |            | <b>20254024.81</b>         | <b>17259590.01</b>          |

Previous year's figures have been regrouped/reclassified to make them comparable with current year's figures.

Subject to our report of even date.  
Examined and found correct.

New Delhi

Dated 30 September, 2003

Sd/- Chartered Accountant      Sd/- Fin. & Administrative Officer      Sd/- Director General

# Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries

## Sources and Utilisation of Funds for the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2003

| SOURCES  | Amount (Rs.)   | Amount Rs.<br>Current Year |
|--|----------------|----------------------------|
| Grant-in-Aid received from Ministry of External Affairs                                      |                | 1,37,00,000.00             |
| Grants/fees received from various sponsored projects (Non-FCRA)                              | 39,43,266.00   |                            |
| Grants/fees received from various sponsored projects (FCRA)                                  | 50,46,730.00   | 89,89,996.00               |
| Interest earned:   |                |                            |
| On Term Deposits   | 10,23,209.00   |                            |
| On Savings Account   | 1,88,079.00    |                            |
| On loans: employees/staff  | 10,155.00      | 12,21,443.00               |
| Income from royalty, publications etc. and other miscellaneous income                        |                | 52,841.00                  |
| Adjustment of opening/Closing balances of unspent/ recoverable grants from Non-FCRA and FCRA |                | 14,17,918.26               |
|  | Total          | 2,53,82,198.26             |
| <b>UTILISATION</b>   |                |                            |
| Expenses incurred out of core grant received from Ministry of External Affairs to meet:      |                |                            |
| 1. Recurring expenditure   | 1,25,20,501.63 |                            |
| 2. Non-recurring expenditure   | 13,05,543.00   | 1,38,26,044.63             |
| Expenses incurred on sponsored projects (Non-FCRA)   | 38,53,626.00   |                            |
| Expenses incurred on sponsored projects (FCRA)   | 3479020.50     | 73,32,646.50               |
| Total Expenditure  |                | 2,11,58,691.13             |
| Transferred to the Research and Development Fund   |                | 42,23,507.13               |
| <b>Total</b>   |                | <b>2,53,82,198.26</b>      |

Subject to our report of even date.  
Examined and found correct.

Sd/-  
Director General

Sd/-  
Finance & Administrative Officer

Sd/-  
Chartered Accountants

New Delhi  
Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2003

# Study Suggests Moratorium On Strengthening Of IPR Regime

ANITH SEN

New Delhi, July 14

Developing countries should protect their interests in the trade-related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) regime of the World Trade Organisation, by pushing for a number of issues including putting a moratorium on further strengthening of intellectual property rights

(IPR) regime, greater flexibility in implementation of TRIPS provisions and incorporating specific provisions for transfer of technology, a study done by Research and Information Systems (RIS) for non-aligned and other developing countries has said.

In its proposals presented to the commission on IPR, London, the study by RIS deputy

director general Nagabh Kumar pointed out that there was a tendency in some developed countries to treat provisions of TRIPS as the minimum standard. These countries were constantly attempting to evolve stronger norms through unilateral or bilateral approaches. A consensus needs to be built on the need to put a moratorium on such

approaches for the next couple of decades or so, the study suggested.

Most of the adverse effects concerning TRIPS in poor countries arise not because of IPR regime but from the attempts to harmonise them across the countries at different levels of development, the study observed. It said that developing

countries should come together to push for a possible revision of TRIPS which could incorporate a provision that grants developing countries a flexibility to implement the TRIPS obligations until they reach a per capita income of the level of \$1,000.

Another possibility could be to shorten the term of product patents applicable to low income countries, it said.

The TRIPS agreement does not pay adequate attention to the transfer of technology, the report observed adding that access to technology was increasingly becoming difficult for developing countries. There is a need for defining conditions, norms and practices for facilitating transfers of technology for production

of essential drugs and other critical inputs.

As compensation to low income countries for adverse effects of strengthened IPR regime, increased technical assistance and R&D funding should be provided to low income countries to help local enterprises build local capabilities, the study said.

## Close SAARC cooperation must to protect interests in WTO, says Rahim

New Delhi

INDIA AND other members of the regional trade bloc, SAARC, must work towards closer cooperation to ensure that the post-Doha negotiations stick to what was agreed at the Doha WTO ministerial. SAARC secretary general Q A M A Rahim said on Monday.

"It is vital that we begin the process of consultations with each other in understanding the finer print and implications of what was agreed to in Doha," he said in his address to the fifth meeting of the SAARC network of researchers on global financial and economic issues here. Mr Rahim, whose address was read out on his behalf, said the need for consultations was important since there were already "rumblings in Geneva that there is disagreement on what was agreed to and signed".

"You and I are aware as to how the English language tends itself to subtle twists and turns that ultimately end up saying the exact opposite of what we intended," he said. Mr Rahim also emphasised there was no reason for SAARC countries to budge from the stated position that developmental issues should constitute the core of any trade agenda, particularly in a global trading system where some countries are very rich and the others extremely poor.

Deputy chairman planning commission K C Pant in his address said issues which merited special consideration were restoration of effective development dimension in different WTO agreements so that the development process of developing countries is not adversely affected. "There has been a tendency in recent trade negotiations to dilute provisions that relate to special and differential treatment of developing countries," he said.

Mr Pant pointed out that in the Uruguay round agreement, the differential treatment provided to developing countries was reduced to only a longer transition period than that allowed to other countries for implementation.

"Even such longer transition period than that allowed to developing countries has been diluted in certain cases, for instance, in case of the TRIPS agreement, where the provision of pipeline protection has been removed," he said.

## 'SAARC nations must work unitedly on WTO issues'

Our Bureau

NEW DELHI, July 22

THE South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (SAARC) countries should build momentum towards furthering co-operation on various WTO issues, including the four new issues (Singapore issues) of investment, competition policy, transparency in Government procurement and trade facilitation.

"The WTO agenda is constantly being expanded to bring more and more issues to the negotiating table. We have to prepare ourselves not only for the ongoing (mandated) negotiations but also for dealing with

ning Commission, said here.

In his inaugural address at the fifth meeting of the SAARC Network of Researchers on Global Financial and Economic Issues and Seminar on 'World Trading System: Post-Doha Challenges', Mr Pant said the SAARC countries had coordinated effectively on WTO issues in the past. He said the Mr K.C. Pant in Commerce Ministers of SAARC countries had met before the Ministerial Conferences of WTO in Seattle and Doha to evolve



He also highlighted the tendency in the recent trade negotiations to dilute the provisions of Article XVIII B of GATT that provides for special and differential treatment of developing countries. "The challenge before researchers is to propose ways and means of incorporating enforceable provisions in different agreements that take care of the special needs of developing countries", Mr Pant said.

SAARC countries need to be "fully cognisant of the deeper ramifications of the Declaration that was signed in Doha last year".

With a little over a year to go before the commencement of Fifth WTO Ministerial Conference in Mexico, Mr Rahim stressed the need for the SAARC countries to begin the process of consultations with each other in understanding the fine print and implications of what was agreed to in Doha.

"Already there are rumblings in Geneva that there is disagreement on what was agreed to and signed", he said.

Nepal's Ambassador to India, Dr Bheesh B Thapa, highlighted

## Call For Closer Indo-Asean Ties

OUR ECONOMIC BUREAU

New Delhi, Aug 7

India and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) need to co-ordinate their advocacy more closely in organisations such as the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to make the developed world also greater notice of their needs, former minister for foreign affairs, Republic of Indonesia, Dr Ali Alatas has said.

Delivering the 14th India-Asean eminent persons lecture, organised by the Research and Information System (RIS)

for the Non-Aligned and other developing countries here on Wednesday, Dr Alatas pointed out that globalisation had proven to be an indiscriminate force, incapable of distinguishing between advanced and developing countries.

"Globalisation is opening up vast opportunities for economic progress only to the stronger economies capable of seizing those opportunities."

He said that a deepening of dialogue relations between India and Asean is positive

ment for political and economic co-operation in the Asia Pacific and all nations would benefit out of it.

Speaking on the occasion, Planning Commission deputy chairman KC Pant said that India had moved on to become a full dialogue partner of Asean from sectoral dialogue partnership forged in 1992. He added that there were expectations of the ties to get stronger at the Asean summit level meeting to be held in

with the Asian Free Trade Area (Afta) through trade facilitation arrangements. Dr Alatas said. He pointed out that trade between India and Asean had plenty of room for expansion and investments too could be substantially enlarged.

## Indo-ASEAN ties

FORMER INDONESIAN Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has called for closer cooperation between India and

## 'India-ASEAN dialogue beneficial'

By Anil Bhasin

NEW DELHI, Aug. 7. A deepening of the dialogue between India and the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) will have a "positive impact" on the environment for political and economic cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.

Stressing this point in the Fourteenth Indo-ASEAN Eminent Persons Lecture, the former Indonesian Foreign Minister, Ali Alatas, said here today that all nations in the Asia-Pacific would benefit from such an

move on the issue of terrorism after the September 11 attacks on the U.S., Dr. Alatas said that in earlier move had been slow and tentative even with regard to the issue of piracy in the Malacca Straits.

Referring to the well-timed declaration issued in 2001 and a subsequent work plan issued by the ASEAN, he said that there were a number of activities that India could take up with the ASEAN. The most obvious was exchange of information that may help each side in its own efforts to combat terrorism and other forms of transnational

criminal terrorism threatens every nation's security — those in which India and the ASEAN can do together and for each other," he said.

In the economic field, he said, India could be connected with the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA) through trade facilitation arrangements. "Trade between India and the ASEAN has plenty of room for expansion," he said. The ASEAN countries can serve as forward posts for India's trade and investment initiatives towards South-East Asia and the South-West Pacific.

He also drew attention to the geo-strategic at the Asian level involving the developed

so deepening the involvement as opted as a new

## Differences within developing world mar cooperation in WTO

NEW DELHI: THERE is an urgent need to remove contradictions within developing countries so that they frame an integrated approach to resist pressure from the developed world in negotiations under WTO. This is one of the conclusions of an international conference on "Globalisation and Agriculture: Challenges for South Asia" organised here by Research and Information Systems for the Non-aligned and other developing countries (RIS).

There are conflicts among the developing countries themselves due to which they are unable to project a joint front against the developed world in the WTO less, RIS director general Nagabh Kumar said in the conference. He said a crisis in India is present which arises from the WTO and

Institute of Policy Studies, and the International Food Policy Research Institute, he said India's proposal, submitted to the World Trade Organisation in November states that the country is in favour of methodologies for minimal tariff reduction and for provisions of special safeguards against import surges. Currently, developed countries have these provisions while developing and less

## Differences Within Developing World Mar Cooperation In WTO

NEW DELHI, DEC 8

There is an urgent need to remove contradictions within developing countries so that they frame an integrated approach to resist pressure from the developed world in negotiations under the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

This is one of the conclusions of an international conference on "Globalisation and agriculture: Challenges for South Asia" organised here by Research and Information Systems for the Non-aligned and other developing countries (RIS).

There are conflicts among the developing countries themselves due to which they are unable to project a joint front against the developed world in the WTO less, RIS director general Nagabh Kumar said in the conference. He said a crisis in India is present which arises from the WTO and

There was a strong view among developing countries that they should not stamp on the foot of another while dealing with the developed world.

A consensus was needed in the form of high priority standards imposed by the US and the EU. "Our stand should be to seek technical or financial assistance to meet these standards," he said.

## Differences within developing world mar cooperation in WTO

PI/New Delhi

THERE is an urgent need to remove contradictions within developing countries so that they frame an integrated approach to resist pressure from the developed world in negotiations under WTO.

This is one of the conclusions of an international conference on "Globalisation and agriculture: challenges for south Asia" organised here by Research and Information Systems for the Non-aligned and other Developing Countries (RIS).

There are conflicts among the developing countries themselves due to which they are unable to project a joint front against the developed world in the WTO less, RIS director general, RIS, Nagabh Kumar said in the conference.

He said, a crisis in India is present which arises from the WTO and

or instance in interest of the entire sector, on the other, small economies with focus on single commodity exports may fall prey to a few commodity doled out by the developed countries, executive director Institute of Policy Studies, Semen Kregan said.

Colombo-based Kregan said if there is cooperation amongst the developing countries they can have large access to each other's markets for their domestic or their products in the developed world.

Kregan said need of the hour is such a strategy in which one developing country does not depend on the aid of another while dealing with the developed world.

A consensus strategy needs to be framed rather than to the individual

Meanwhile, there should be enhanced co-operation amongst the south Asian countries in research for meeting the sanitary and phytosanitary standards food under WTO, he said. India's access to negotiating the Afta levels in groundnut can be shared with its neighbour.

Experts in the conference felt developed countries will insist on cross-subsidies to get concessions in investments and services to reduce the growing market access to exports from the developing countries.

"However our strategy should be to frame a common stand amongst ourselves and then put forth the views sector by sector to be in a strong position in each of them," said Ram Upadhyaya, a research associate with RIS.

## Pant lashes out at developed nations

## Farm protection tops India's WTO agenda



**PLANNING** Commission deputy chairman K.C. Pant today accused the developed nations of exploiting the discretion available in the WTO agreements to put up non-tariff barriers.

He said a plethora of environmental and health requirements on goods such as product standards and regulations, voluntary measures, standards set by private sectors and buyers requirements were being used as protectionist measures by developed countries to impose conditions which were more stringent than international norms.

Speaking at an international workshop on

India's priorities in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) negotiations on agriculture will include protection of domestic agricultural production and welfare of farmers. It would be done by conceding minimal market access and making minimal commitments, a senior commerce ministry official said.

After consulting various stakeholders, the government has decided to bring in appropriate measures to ensure food security, livelihood and rural development. Obtaining market access for products of export interest to India was also on the agenda, said R Gopalan, joint secretary in the department of commerce.

He said India's recent call

also called for immunity from challenges for the Article 6.2 measures, he said.

A steep reduction in export subsidies of developed countries and a call for disciplining export credit, guarantees and insurance provided by developed countries like the US are part of the paper. The country was also in favour of developing countries retaining marketing and transport subsidies on exports, Gopalan said.

Speaking at the inaugural session, S P Gupta, member, Planning Commission, said, "agricultural trade liberalisation as agreed under the Uruguay Round has been undermined by developed countries through dirty tariff policies. The EU has set tariff bindings for the base period at about 60 per cent above the actual tariff levels

## Pant criticises developed nations' trade barriers

NEW DELHI, Nov. 27. — Developed countries have imposed a plethora of environmental and health requirements on trade which are often used as non-tariff barriers, said Mr K C Pant, deputy chairman, Planning Commission.

Speaking at an international workshop on 'Environmental Requirements and Market Access: Addressing Developing Country Concerns' organised by the OECD Global Forum and RIS, he said that these requirements include product standards and regulations, voluntary measures, standards set by private sectors, buyers requirements and supply chain management.

## NAM urged to work out common stance on WTO

SHARED of the 36th summit of the Non-Aligned Movement, NAM in Kuala Lumpur, as an independent think-tank has called for coordination among the NAM members as being of "critical importance" in order to get a better deal out of the WTO negotiations for the developing countries.

The New Delhi-based think-tank, Research and Information System for the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (RIS) has said this in a background monograph for discussion at the Kuala Lumpur

ing a delegation of RDS. The members of the RDS stated that while there could be differences in between the WTO members on select sectoral issues, a bottom-line approach could be hammered out for coordination.

For instance, there could be coordination on broad issues such as market access concerns in developed world for goods produced by developing countries, effective market access and national treatment commitments on the movement of natural persons by developed countries, on the implementation issues of mandates given by the WTO Ministerial

The report makes out a strong case for NAM to play a critical role in the global era.

## Experts To Discuss Asian Economic Union Next Week

OUR ECONOMIC BUREAU  
New Delhi, March 7

Senior scholars and policy-makers from nine major Asian countries will meet here next week for working on the idea of developing an Asian economic community on the lines of the regional agreements in the Americas and Europe.

Addressing the press here on Thursday, RIS director-general Nagesh Kumar said a study carried out by his institute showed that if as

formed by freer trade, investment and flow of labour, it would result in an additional generation of output worth \$200 billion.

Dr Kumar pointed out that the potential of sub-regional groupings like the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean) and the South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation (Sasac) were limited as the members had similar factors affecting their economies. However, in a regional grouping the scope for co-operation becomes broader.

"While countries like Japan, deficient in labour, countries like India and other Sasac members are deficient in capital. This could result in effective co-operation," Dr Kumar said.

Foreign participants in the conference include former secretary general of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party Koichi Kato, head of the national economic action council of the Malaysian prime minister's department K Govindan, director of Institute for Southeast Asian Studies of Singapore, Kuvapany, and Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economics.

## Enlarged tech mkt for India can help Japanese revival

**Our Delhi Bureau**

**C**AN Asian economic policymakers transcend their self and its policies when it comes to devising financial and economic policies for the world? A global resurgence of the crisis of 1997-1999 would hit Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Indonesia and, of course, India as having a go-around, are workshop organized here by the Business and International Systems for the non-aligned and other developing countries (BIS).

**ECONOMY, TRADE, ASEAN, ASIAN-5, ISO-ABC, ISBAETEC** — Mr. Punt pointed out that Asian countries will have not hit upon a commonly acceptable definition of innovation in order to combat it. This advance is the need for a political/economic underpinning for economic cooperation, trade and



## Asian Trade Experts Call For Joint Efforts At WTO

OUR ECONOMIC BUREAU

Trade experts from the developing countries in Asia believe that the region will stand to gain if it negotiates together on issues of common interest including farm, environment and labour at the WTO.

Speaking at a session on regional cooperation at the international conference on *Building a new Asia: Towards*

was important for Asian countries to forge consensus on issues of common interests. "There should be a pooling of negotiating efforts," he said, adding Asian countries should strive for regional agricultural policies.

The seminar has been organized by the Research and Information Systems for the Non-aligned and Other Developing Countries (RIS).

Berner, foreign secretary

## Pant calls for review of globalisation

### Business Standard

NEW DELHI, March 18. — The current form of globalisation needs to be critically reviewed and new programs designed to tackle the challenges of the new environment need to be developed, said KC Pant, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.

Inaugurating an international conference on 'Building a New Asia: Towards an Asian Economic Community' organised by Research and Information Systems for the New Asian

To make the voice of Asia heard at the global level, parallel programmes should be undertaken to boost regional integration. "In fact, at present Asia is the only region that lacks a fully developed institutional mechanism for pan-regional cooperation", Puri said.

Enhancing programmes of regional cooperation should, however, not be at the cost of efforts to reform the international system.

## India, 3 Others To Study Export Standards In Developed World

**AMITI SEN**  
New Delhi, March 24

With food safety standards becoming a major impediment to exports to the developed world, research institutes from India, Australia, Thailand and the US have decided to carry

And Developing Countries of India, International Food Policy Research Institute of the US, the Australian National University and University of Melbourne of Australia, and the University of Thammasat, Thailand.

A workshop on 'International Food Safety Regulations and Processed Food Exports' will be organised by the RIS in New Delhi this week to discuss the develop-

The joint study aims to examine the policy, institutional and technical problems faced by processed food exporters in India and other

comparative study of the export-oriented processed food industries in India and other countries, including detailed case studies of the food-supply chain of their processed fish, canned fruit and meat industries.





## **RIS** A Think-Tank of Developing Countries

RIS is an autonomous research institution established with the financial support of the Government of India. It is India's contribution to the fulfilment of the long-felt need of the developing world for creating a 'Think-Tank' on global issues in the field of international economic relations and development cooperation. RIS has also been envisioned as a forum for fostering effective intellectual dialogue among developing countries.

RIS is also mandated to function as an advisory body to the Government of India on matters pertaining to multilateral economic and social issues, including regional and sub-regional cooperation arrangements, as may be referred to it from time to time. RIS functions in close association with various governmental bodies, research institutions, academicians, policy-makers, business and industry circles in India and abroad. RIS has a consultative status with UNCTAD, NAM and WTO and has conducted policy research and other activities in collaboration with other agencies, including UN-ESCAP, UNCTAD, UNU, Group of 77, SAARC Secretariat, Asian Development Bank (ADB), The World Bank, and the South Centre.

RIS publication programme covers books, research monographs, discussion papers and policy briefs. It also publishes journals entitled, *South Asia Economic Journal*, *Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, and *RIS Diary*.



## **RIS**

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