

RIS

Annual Report 2007/08 and Work Programme 2008/09

— Policy research to shape the international development agenda



RIS
Research and Information System
for Developing Countries

RIS A Think-Tank of Developing Countries

RIS is a New Delhi-based autonomous policy think-tank supported by the Government of India and devoted to trade and development issues. Its work programme focuses on policy research and capacity building in multilateral trade and financial negotiations, regional economic cooperation in Asia, South-South cooperation, new technologies and development, and strategic policy responses of developing countries to globalisation, among other issues. The work of RIS is published in the form of research reports, books, discussion papers, policy briefs and journals.

RIS has networked effectively with other prominent policy think-tanks, government agencies, industry bodies and international organisations in Asia and other parts of the world for collaborative research and joint activities. It has a consultative status with UNCTAD, and has been accredited to the Summit Meetings of NAM and WTO Ministerial Conferences. It 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, Commonwealth Secretariat and the South Centre.

For more information about RIS and its work programme, please visit its website: www.ris.org.in.

— Policy research to shape the international development agenda



RIS

**Research and Information System
for Developing Countries**

Core IV B, 4th Floor, India Habitat Centre,

Lodhi Road New Delhi 110003, India

Tel.: 91-11-24682177-80 Fax: 91-11-24682173-74

Email: dgooffice@ris.org.in

Websites: www.ris.org.in / www.newasiaforum.org

Contents

Chairman’s Message iii

Director-General’s Report..... v

I Policy Research 1

II Policy Advisory Services 21

III Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences, Symposia and Workshops 23

IV Capacity Building and Training Programmes 47

V Outreach, Global Presence and Networking 52

VI Publications Programme 60

VII Documentation Centre 68

VIII Human Resources 70

IX Financial Statements 73

Clip Board 78

RIS Governing Council

Chairman

Dr. Arjun K. Sengupta
Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) and
Chairman, National Commission for Enterprises
in the Unorganised Sector

Vice-Chairperson

Amb. L.K. Ponappa
Dy. National Security Adviser
National Security Council

Ex-Officio Members

Shri Shivshankar Menon
Foreign Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs

Shri G.K. Pillai
Commerce Secretary
Ministry of Commerce

Mr. Ashok Chawla
Secretary
Department of Economic Affairs
Ministry of Finance

Dr. T. Ramasami
Secretary
Department of Science and Technology
Ministry of Science and Technology

Shri H.S. Puri
Secretary (ER)
Ministry of External Affairs

Non-Ex-Officio Members

Professor B.B. Bhattacharya
Vice-Chancellor
Jawaharlal Nehru University

Dr. Arvind Virmani
Chief Economic Adviser
Ministry of Finance

Commodore C. Uday Bhaskar, VSM
Former Director
Institute for Defence Studies & Analysis

Member-Secretary (Ex-Officio)

Dr. Nagesh Kumar
Director-General, RIS

Research Advisory Council

Chairman

Professor Muchkund Dubey
President,
Council for Social Development

Members

Ambassador Arjun Asrani
Former Ambassador

Ambassador A.N. Ram
Former Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs

Shri B.L. Das
Former Secretary to the Govt. of India

Professor N.S. Siddharthan
Honorary Professor,
Madras School of Economics

Professor Manmohan Agarwal
Centre for International Governance
Innovation (CIGI), Ontario,
Canada

Professor Pulin B. Nayak
Director, Delhi School of Economics

Ex-Officio Member

Shri Yogendra Kumar
Additional Secretary (MER)
Ministry of External Affairs

Convenor

Dr. Nagesh Kumar
Director-General, RIS



DR. ARJUN K. SENGUPTA, M. P. (RAJYA SABHA)
Chairman, RIS
and National Commission for Enterprises
in the Unorganised Sector, Government of India



Chairman's Message

The turning of the US sub-prime financial crisis into a full scale global economic downturn in 2008 demonstrates the extent of international economic interdependence. This interdependence has resulted from the process of liberalization trade and investment regimes undertaken by the governments across the world over time in the framework of multilateral trade negotiations, bilateral and regional arrangements and autonomous reforms undertaken by different countries. Developing countries like India face the challenge of taking strategic interventions to exploit the emerging opportunities emanating from globalization and minimize the threats, but also to participate effectively in the global negotiations to shape the emerging global economic governance to protect their interests. They have to also evolve their own bilateral and regional economic cooperation arrangements with other nations to promote their own interests. While doing so the basic objectives of economic development have to be kept in mind, viz. to remove poverty, expand employment opportunities and protect the vulnerable sections of our peoples engaged in agriculture, manufacturing and services.

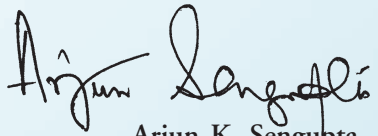
Policy makers need highly specialized analytical inputs for handling these challenges. It is here that the role of policy think-tanks such as RIS comes into picture. RIS was established by the Government of India, in response to a felt need for such capability to assist the policy-makers within the country and in other developing countries facing similar challenges.

It is gratifying to note that RIS has acquired substantial expertise on various issues of global economic governance, regional economic integration in Asia, South-South cooperation and strategic responses to globalization among other aspects of development to deliver its mandate. Besides its own policy research and capacity building initiatives on international economic issues, RIS has been providing analytical inputs to various Ministries of Government of India.

I am happy to note that the work of RIS in the past year has assisted in policy formulation with respect to a number of initiatives in international economic relations. It completed the regional study for advancing the agenda of South Asian regional cooperation to cover trade in services which has now led to negotiations of a framework agreement, besides contributions for the processes linked with East Asia Summit, India-Brazil-South Africa Trilateral Commission, joint study groups with a number

of countries and other such initiatives. RIS has also conducted a number of policy dialogues and capacity building programmes involving researchers from a number of developing countries.

We need to further strengthen the institutional capacities of the type RIS represents in the coming years in the context of increasing global economic integration and growing complexity of the policy making process as RIS enters its 25th year.



Arjun K. Sengupta

Director-General's Report



The work of RIS in the areas of policy research and consultations, policy dialogue, capacity building, outreach and institutional networking crossed new milestones in the year 2007/08. Major research programmes, policy dialogues, and advisory assignments were completed and new ones launched in the four broad fields of its work, viz. global economic governance, regional economic integration in Asia, South-South cooperation, and strategic responses to globalization.


A major highlight in terms of policy research was completion of the regional study on extending the SAFTA Agreement to cover trade in services to deepen economic integration in South Asia prepared and finalized in collaboration with the national think-tanks in all the eight SAARC countries as a part of the mandate of SAARC leaders. The study was later adopted by the SAFTA Ministerial Council which assigned the preparation of the Draft SAARC Framework Agreement on Trade in Services (SAFAS) to RIS while commending its work. The year saw RIS becoming deeply involved in the Track II initiatives launched by the leaders of the East Asia Summit, namely the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement for East Asia (CEPEA) along with think-tanks of ASEAN+6 countries. RIS represents India on the regional research network of ERIA and contributed to various research programmes initiated by the fledgling institution besides coordinating the regional study on infrastructure development in Asia. RIS is also represented on the Track II Study Group of CEPEA set up by the ASEAN Secretary-General in June 2007 and hosted the Fourth Meeting of the Study group in New Delhi in February 2008, besides contributing to the Draft Report. New studies were launched during the year on contemporary issues such as climate change and development, on evolving a Southern Consensus on globalization and development, development cooperation policy of India besides studies launched to contribute to the work of Joint Study Groups set up by the Government for exploring comprehensive economic partnership agreement respectively with Indonesia, New Zealand, and Australia.

RIS organized major policy dialogues around its work programme including the Sixth High-Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration in New Delhi with participation of heads of think-tanks of Asian countries inaugurated by the External Affairs Minister, besides events organized on potentials of India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA), South Asia economic cooperation, emerging countries' role in the development of poorer countries, among others, jointly with the think-tanks from within the

country and outside. RIS also organized presentations of its flagship publication *World Trade and Development Report 2007* to developing country negotiators and members of development community in Geneva. The capacity building activities of RIS expanded during the year with a new programme on Global and Regional Economic Cooperation Issues (GRECI) with eight participants conducted in collaboration with IDE-JETRO under the framework of ERIA. RIS' flagship capacity building programme IEIDP (International Economic Issues and Development Policy) held during February/March 2008 attracted 10 participants from Ethiopia, Ghana, Sri Lanka, Oman, Mauritius, Uzbekistan, Russia, Estonia, and Belarus.

The institutional networking was further strengthened with RIS organizing joint studies and policy dialogues with institutions such as the South Centre and the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) both based in Geneva; International Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (IDDRI), Paris; the Commonwealth Secretariat, London; UN-ESCAP, Bangkok; SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu; Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore; IDE-JETRO, Chiba, Japan; Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka; Global Development and Environment Institute (GDAE), Tufts University, Medford, US; Research Centre for Economic Change (CENIT), Argentina; South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS), Kathmandu, besides strengthening links with the institutions involved in regional research networks, such as SAARC Network of Researchers, ERIA, CEPEA, Asian Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) network of think-tanks, Asia Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT), in which RIS participates. RIS received delegations of parliamentarians of Indian origin from UK, Europe and US for briefings on prospects on Indian economy.

In the coming years, RIS seeks to further strengthen its institutional capacities to respond to the high expectations the society has from us and emerge as a world class institution in the developing world, as a part of the vision document endorsed by its Governing Council as it enters the Silver Jubilee year of RIS' establishment in 1984. I am confident that we will succeed in achieving this cherished goal under the inspiring guidance and vision provided by our Chairman, Hon'ble Professor Arjun K. Sengupta, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) and other distinguished Members of the RIS Governing Council, and of the Research Advisory Council chaired by Professor Muchkund Dubey, with the continued support of the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and other agencies supporting RIS work, and with the dedicated work of the faculty and staff members.


Nagesh Kumar

I. Policy Research

The core of the RIS work programme includes policy research in four broad areas, namely: (a) Global Economic Governance; (b) Regional Economic Integration in Asia; (c) South-South Cooperation; and (d) Strategic Responses to Globalisation. This Report summarises the major research programmes undertaken at RIS during 2007/08 in each of these broad areas as well as the ongoing work in 2008/09.

A. Global Economic Governance

A.1. Studies on WTO's Doha Round Issues

[Ongoing]

The RIS has continued to follow the ongoing Doha Round negotiations and issued position papers and policy briefs on specific aspects to assist the developing country negotiators and policy makers. RIS issued a policy brief (#35) summarising the proposals for building a development-friendly trading system. RIS also issued a discussion paper (#132) by Mr. B.L. Das on the ongoing negotiations presenting a detailed assessment of the different proposals on the table. Subsequently, RIS issued a policy brief (#36) on the gains from the conclusion of the Round for developing countries for the mini-Ministerials in Geneva. RIS also organised the presentations of its *World Trade and Development Report 2007* to developing country negotiators in London and Geneva.

A.2. Towards Inclusive Globalisation: Evolving a "Southern Consensus" on Globalisation and Development

[2008/10]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. Kavin Gallagher, Dr. Andres Lopez and Other Colleagues

RIS has launched jointly with the Global Development and Environment Institute (GDAE), Tufts University, US; the Research Centre for Economic Change (CENIT) based in Argentina, and other partners, a major global research programme aimed at identifying development policies. This collaborative effort will look at policies that have been successful (as well as those that have not) to help facilitate a discussion on the



From left: Prof. Graham Dutfield, Centre for International Governance, Leeds University; Dr. Sheila Page, Senior Research Associate, Overseas Development Institute (ODI); Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Dr. Ivan Mbirimi, Principal Adviser, the Commonwealth Secretariat; Dr. Amrita Narlikar, Cambridge University; and Mr. Shishir Priyadarshi, Counsellor, Development Division, WTO at the Discussion Meeting on RIS' World Trade and Development Report held at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London on 31 May 2007.

strategic response of developing countries to globalisation. It also proposes to outline an agenda for evolving a more development-friendly global economic governance. It will identify the most and least successful development policies in the past and present, examine the extent to which emerging trade and other global rules are squeezing the space to pursue such policies, and facilitate the formulation of a strategic response on the part of the developing world to preserve those policy spaces and advocate for those that are challenged. The two-year programme will include the undertaking of several studies apart from organisation of a high-level international conference at New Delhi which will bring together leading development thinkers and policy makers. RIS and its partners launched this programme with the support of the Ford Foundation, New York in March 2008. RIS would also be organising a session at the WTO Public Forum 2008 on the theme of the project.

A.3. Climate Change and Developing Countries

[2007/09]

Research Team: Dr Ramgopal Agarwala and Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas

The year 2007 witnessed major concern expressed globally over the damage to the planet by the accumulation of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere. There were well publicised reports, e.g. the Stern Review, the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report, besides others. The G8 Summit (Heiligendamm) Communiqué devoted considerable attention to the issue of climate change. The 2007 Nobel Peace Prize to Al Gore and IPCC has further raised the public profile on climate change issues. Despite enormous efforts to persuade the world of the dangers of climate change and the need for quick corrective action, there is little progress toward a global compact for managing climate change. A credible global compact must be comprehensive, realistic, equitable, efficient and effective. An equitable global compact for managing

climate change would essentially set per capita targets of carbon emissions to which all the countries whether developed or developing would conform to. It would also provide adequate incentives, resources and access to technology for encouraging stakeholders in developing countries to better their targets. Developing countries also need to discuss their mutual cooperation in managing climate change besides coordinating their position in negotiations with developed countries on the subject to protect their interests. As climate change is now part of the global negotiating agenda, RIS launched a study on the subject. The focus of the study is to examine the contours of a development friendly global compact on climate change including ways and means of facilitating the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries. RIS has already issued a policy brief (#34) on the subject. More detailed work on the transfer of environmentally sound technologies is in progress.

A.4. Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA) in Doha Development Round Negotiations: A Research and Advisory Project

[Phase II: 2005/08]

Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta and Pooja Agarwal

The main objective of this project, sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, is to understand the implications of negotiations to further liberalise trade of non-agriculture goods for developing countries like India. It also aims to provide analytical assistance in the ongoing WTO negotiations on Non-Agriculture Market Access (NGMA) and take note of the concerns of India and other developing countries. The project includes consultations and inputs provided by RIS to the NAMA negotiating team in the Ministry on a regular basis. A database, created at the RIS on industrial tariffs, is kept updated and employed for simulations of implications of various proposals and



the modalities of tariff reduction that are being proposed at the WTO negotiations. As a part of this project, a series of analytical studies have been conducted to assist in the formulation of India's position in the ongoing NGMA process. In addition, the RIS has provided consultations and comments to the Ministry on the NGMA documents and proposals apart from an analysis of the impact that withdrawal of GSP benefits by the US and EU will have on India's exports. The final report of the project was submitted in February 2008. RIS is currently discussing the third phase of the project with the Department of Commerce.

A.5. Traditional Knowledge and Benefit Sharing with Developing Countries

[2006/09]

Research Team: Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, in collaboration with network institutions.

In the context of commercial exploitation of biodiversity and traditional knowledge by corporations, benefit sharing is an area of increasing international debate at different levels of policy making including at the WHO, WTO and WIPO. RIS is participating in an international project launched by the University of Central Lancashire and supported by the European Commission on Sharing with Developing Countries – from Biodiversity to Human Genomics. The other partner institutions are the University of Preston, United Kingdom; University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa; Centre d'Ethique, France; Vilnius University (VU), Vilnius, Lithuania; and University of the Philippines (UP), Manila, Philippines. Despite the central significance of this area especially in the context of economic implications for the indigenous community, these issues have hardly been discussed or researched in depth. Benefit sharing occurs mainly in two areas: human genetic banking for the purpose of pharmacogenomics or population genomics research (human genetic resources), and use of traditional



(From left): Dr. Vasantha Muthuswamy, ICMR; Prof. Thomas Pogge, Yale University; Mr. B. S. Parsheera, Additional Secretary, MoEF; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS; and Prof. Doris Schroeder, University of Central Lancashire at the International Conference on Access and Benefit Sharing for Genetic Resources, held in New Delhi on 6-7 March 2008.

knowledge from indigenous communities mainly by the pharmaceutical industry to develop new products (non-human genetic resources). As a part of this project, a study on the Kani case from Kerala was undertaken to demonstrate the nuances of a possible model for an access and benefit sharing regime. This study along with other four case studies was presented at an international conference on ABS, hosted by the RIS in New Delhi. Since this debate is extremely relevant to the on-going global negotiations in the realm of biodiversity conservation and protection of indigenous knowledge at forums such as the CBD and WTO, RIS invited key negotiations to the conference. In 2008, RIS is expected to provide inputs for the project work, on the basis of key arguments from the debates at the other relevant fora like WIPO so as to enhance the policy relevance of all the case studies. Another mandate from the project this year is to explore the possible inclusion of human genetic resources in the current CBD framework.

A.6. Intellectual Property Rights, Innovative Activity and Development

[2008/10]

Research Team: Dr Nagesh Kumar and Dr Sachin Chaturvedi

In the last few years, limitations of the current patent regime have become

obvious, particularly in the context of public health emergencies, most notably the AIDS crisis, which pits the vital needs of poor patients against the need of pharmaceutical companies to recoup their investments in research and development. Amending the current system represents one of the major 21st century challenges, namely delivering reasonably priced health care to patients around the world. This is a challenge that lies at the heart of biomedical ethics striving for sustainable world development. Besides other studies on IPRs and innovation in developing countries, the RIS was invited to join a consortium of institutions in different countries seeking to develop a plan for amending the current Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) regime (being called P-2) for rewarding pharmaceutical innovations without compromising the interests of the poor patients.

The project is supported by the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme for Science and Society. The project consortium has representations of institutions from Asia, Europe and the US. Apart from the RIS in Asia, there are two more institutions from China (National Research Centre for Science and Technology for Development, Beijing) and the Philippines (National University of the Philippines). The institutions from Europe include University of Central Lancashire, UK, Assistance Publique-Hôpitaux de Paris, Centre d'éthique clinique at Hôpital Cochin, Paris and Wageningen University, the Netherlands. In order to forge a policy consensus, the project has some of the most influential social philosophers and economists associated with it. These include Professor Joseph Stiglitz, Professor Peter Singer, University of Melbourne, Professor Arjun Sengupta and Professor Thomas Pogge (Yale University).

The RIS hosted an informal meeting of the partner institutions on the sidelines of the international conference on access and benefit sharing in March 2008. The project was formally launched in August 2008.

A.7. Emerging Patterns of Growth in the World Economy and Trade and Outlook

[2007/09]

Research Team: Dr Manmohan Agarwal

This study analyses the implications of the rapid growth of China and India for the structure of the world economy and the distribution of economic power among the different countries. It examines the relative importance of the different economies and how that has changed over the past four decades. The study looks at how their relative importance may change in the future, giving illustrative examples of their relative size in 2025 and 2050. In this analysis the increasing importance of some emerging economies, in particular, India and China is underlined. Since the share of an economy in world trade is also an indicator of its importance in the world we also examine how the share of different economies in world trade has changed over the years and what is likely to happen in the future. A draft of the analytical study has been completed and will be presented in an RIS Discussion Paper series.

B. Regional Economic Integration in Asia

B.1 Research Programme on an Asian Economic Community

[Phase III: 2006/09]

The RIS has been working on regional economic integration in Asia under a programme supported by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan since 2002. Under this programme, the RIS developed a proposal for broader regional economic integration in Asia, bringing together all the major dynamic economies of the continent in one single grouping to create a seamless market, to begin with a core group of Japan, ASEAN, China, India and Korea (JACIK). Subsequently, a new forum, namely East Asia Summit (EAS) bringing together leaders of all the JACIK countries and Australia and New Zealand,

was launched in December 2005 in Kuala Lumpur. Hence, the focus of the ongoing work programme of RIS on Asian economic integration, shifted to supporting the EAS process, through research, policy dialogue and institutional networking as summarised below.

B.I.1. New Asia Forum

[ongoing]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Dr. Beena Pandey

New Asia Forum is a dedicated network of think-tanks in Asia devoted to assist the process of regional integration and thus help in building a New and Economically Integrated Asia with ideas. It has been set up by RIS as a part of the Asian Economic Integration programme. The *New Asia Monitor*, a quarterly journal of the Forum, was launched in March 2004 to disseminate the news, viewpoints and analysis of the economic outlook and developments in the region among policy circles and think-tanks to promote the cause of regional economic integration. *New Asia Monitor* has been received well. During the year under review, four issues of the *Monitor* were brought out. The Forum has also set up a dedicated website www.newasiaforum.org as a melting pot for all the relevant information and resources on the subject. This site is kept up-to-date and is being linked with those of the think-tanks connected with the Forum.

B.I.2. Broader Regional Economic Integration in Asia: the Agenda for East Asia Summit

[2006/09]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar and other members of faculty

The launch of the East Asia Summit (EAS) in Kuala Lumpur in December 2005 is an important step in the direction of broader regional cooperation in Asia. Bringing together ASEAN and all its dialogue partners covering virtually all the major Asian economies in an annual Summit, the EAS is an appropriate forum to launch the process of formation of an East Asian Community



(EAC) which could be a stepping stone for pan-Asian economic integration and the formation of an Asian Economic Community. RIS has been supporting the EAS process through its research and policy dialogue.

During the year under review a paper was prepared on the relevance of broader regional integration in Asia which was jointly published with the UNDP Regional Centre, Colombo (UNDP/RCC). The results of a study conducted in the GTAP/CGE framework comparing welfare gains from economic integration within EAS forum as opposed to ASEAN+3 was completed and issued as an RIS Discussion Paper (#126). To assist the fledgling EAS process, the RIS organised a number of policy dialogues on a possible agenda of EAS. RIS also organises a series of High-Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration in collaboration with other Asian think-tanks to foster a policy dialogue and advocacy on the subject. In the year under review the sixth High-Level Conference was organised in New Delhi in November 2007, as reported later.

RIS' Contribution to the Asian Policy Agenda

The RIS proposal of broader regional cooperation in Asia by forming an Asian Economic Community in a phased manner with Japan, ASEAN countries, China, India and South Korea (JACIK) as its core was first presented and discussed at the High-Level Conference on an Asian Economic Community organised by RIS in New Delhi in March 2003 in collaboration with the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research and the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Jakarta. Since then a number of Asian statesmen and leaders have spoken on the relevance of an Asian Economic Community as an inclusive grouping of JACIK, among other countries, as a way forward for regional economic cooperation in Asia, as excerpted below. Subsequently, the East Asia Summit (EAS) was launched as a forum for dialogue on Asian cooperation in December 2005 in Kuala Lumpur covering all the JACIK countries, and Australia and New Zealand. The EAS at its second session has launched a Track-II study on Comprehensive Economic Partnership of East Asia (CEPEA), and an Economic Research Institute of Asean and East Asia (ERIA). RIS is involved in both these initiatives.

Asian Leaders on the Asian Economic Community

"If the 14 of us (viz. ASEAN-10, India, Japan, China and South Korea) combine into a broader Asian Economic Community, it can promote our overall competitiveness and create a new engine of growth for the entire region."

— Prime Minister Shri A.B Vajpayee at the ASEAN-India Summit, Bali, October, 2003.

"It is only inevitable that we seek to take the existing India-ASEAN relationship to a higher level, where we envision an Asian Economic Community, which encompasses ASEAN, China, Japan, Korea and India. Such a community would release enormous creative energies of our people. One cannot but be captivated by the vision of an integrated market, spanning the distance from the Himalayas to the Pacific Ocean, linked by efficient road, rail, air and shipping services. This community of nations would constitute an "arc of advantage", across which there would be large-scale movement of people, capital, ideas, and creativity. ... This is an idea whose time is fast approaching, and we must be prepared for it collectively."

— Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh at the Third India-ASEAN Business Summit, 21 October 2004.

"In time, [India-Singapore Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement] CECA can eventually lead to an Asian Economic Community linking South Asia, Southeast Asia and Northeast Asia. Such a Community will result in a strong and prosperous Asia, with India as one of the key pillars."

— Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong of Singapore while accepting the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding in New Delhi, July 2004.

"There is the emerging ASEAN +3+India, and that will be a formidable regional grouping that can negotiate then with the European Union, the Americas, Africa and such regional economic groupings."

— President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, Republic of the Philippines at the ASEAN Business Summit, Vientiane, Laos, 28 November 2004.

"India should join in [East Asian Community], as ... it will expand the market, force more specialization, division of labour, and India has some thing to contribute in economic, political, diplomatic as well as the security fields. So I believe it is to the advantage of the ASEAN countries that any such East Asian Community should include India."

— Singapore's Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew's address to the Foreign Correspondents Association of Singapore, reported in The Straits Times, 22 December 2004.

"Recognising the need for concerted efforts among Asian countries to translate the positive developments into an 'Arc of Advantage and Prosperity' involving growth, prosperity, stability and closer integration in Asia, the two leaders acknowledged the responsibility that the two countries have in this new emerging Asian era and thus committed to work together to promote the vision of an Asian Economic Community."

— India-Japan Joint Statement issued during the visit of Prime Minister Koizumi to India during April 2005.

"We feel confident that in the next few years, we may see the rise of a Pan-Asian Free Trade Area covering all major Asian economies, including India, Korea, China, Japan, ASEAN and possibly extending to Australia and New Zealand. This could be the third pole of the world economy after the European Union and the North-American Free Trade Area and will open up new growth avenues for all our own economies."

— President Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam of India addressing the Major Business Chambers of Korea, Seoul, 7 February 2006.

"An East Asia Summit (EAS) FTA by 2020 can be envisaged... and the region is likely to become a major driver of the global economy sometime in the first half of this century."

— Singapore's Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. George Yeo at Boao Forum for Asia Annual Meeting, 22 April 2006.

"The proposed Asian trade zone (consisting of the 10-member ASEAN, plus Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea) would benefit from having a population of three billion people and current economic activity of nine trillion dollars.... We are certain it will be to the benefit of all the countries of the region."

— Mr. Toshihiro Nikai, Minister of Economy Trade and Industry, Japan, after Meeting with ASEAN Trade Ministers in Kuala Lumpur, as reported in the International Herald Tribune, 24 August 2006.

We welcomed ASEAN's efforts towards further integration and community building, and reaffirmed our resolve to work closely together in narrowing development gaps in our region.To deepen integration, we agreed to launch a Track Two study on a Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia (CEPEA) among EAS participants."

— Chairman's Statement at the Second East Asia Summit, held in Cebu on 15 January 2007.

"We stressed our conviction that the EAS should continue to help build a united and prosperous East Asia, with ASEAN as the driving force working in close partnership with other participants of the East Asia Summit. We reaffirmed that the East Asia Summit is an important component of the emerging regional architecture and would help build an East Asian community."

— Chairman's Statement at the Third East Asia Summit, held in Singapore on 21 November 2007.

At its Second Session held in Cebu on 15 January 2007, the EAS agreed to launch a Track-II study on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Arrangement of East Asia (CEPEA) and endorse the decision of the Economic Ministers of EAS to establish an Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA).

RIS is represented in the ERIA Expert Group covering thinktanks representing each of the 16 EAS Member countries set up by the ASEAN Secretary-General as a follow-up of the Economic Minister's decision. RIS participated in the meetings of the ERIA Expert Group held in Manila in April 2007, in Kuala Lumpur in May 2007, in Bangkok in January 2008 and in Tokyo in March 2008. In 2007/08, the RIS also participated in a number of studies and capacity-building programmes launched within the framework of the ERIA, as reported elsewhere. Director-General, RIS was nominated by the Government of India on the Track II Study Group on Comprehensive Economic Partnership of East Asia (CEPEA). The RIS contributed a number of papers to the work of the Study Group, participated in its meetings starting with the first meeting in Tokyo in June 2007 as summarised later. RIS also issued a volume *Asia's New Regionalism and Global Role* as a part of this programme.

B.1.3. Comprehensive Economic Partnership of East Asia (CEPEA): A Track-II Study [2007/09]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar

The Track-II study on the feasibility of CEPEA has been launched as per the mandate of the Second East Asia Summit held on 15 January 2007 in Cebu, the Philippines. A Study Group was constituted comprising the experts nominated by the governments of EAS countries. Following his nomination to the study group by the Hon'ble Commerce and Industry Minister, Dr. Nagesh Kumar, DG-RIS participated in the



Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs launching RIS publication Asia's New Regionalism and Global Role at the occasion of the Sixth High Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration held in New Delhi, on 12-13 November 2007. Also seen in the picture are (from left): Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Ambassador K. Kesavapany, Director, ISEAS, Singapore; Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P. and Chairman, RIS; Dr. Hidetoshi Nishimura, Special Adviser to IDE President on ERIA, IDE/JETRO, Tokyo; and Prof. Yao Chaocheng, Shanxi University of Finance and Economics, Taiyuan, P.R. of China.

meetings of the study group held in different locations throughout the year. RIS has contributed notes and papers to the work of the study group including a draft chapter on Cooperation. RIS hosted the fourth meeting of the Study Group in New Delhi in February 2008, as a further contribution to its work. The group is expected to complete its work by the middle of 2008 and presented its Report to Economic Ministers of the EAS in August 2008 and the Leaders at the fourth summit in December 2008.

B.2. Sectoral Studies in Asian Cooperation

B.2.1. Financial and Monetary Cooperation in Asia: Implications for India

[2007/08]

Research Team: Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Dr. Ramkishan Rajan, Priyaranjan Dash, and Abhishek Maiti

This Study was undertaken at the request of the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India. It provided inputs for preparing the government's position towards a number of

proposals being discussed in different forums on financial and monetary cooperation in Asia. These proposals include an Asian Currency Unit (ACU), the Asian Bond market, and various proposals for pooling of foreign exchange reserves. This study builds upon a number of earlier studies conducted at the RIS especially the recent one on Regional Mechanism for Infrastructure Financing in Asia. The *Report* was submitted to the Department of Economic Affairs in October 2007. A Discussion Paper (#133) has also been prepared on the subject.

B.2.2. Infrastructure Development in Asia

[2007/08]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Dr. Prabir De

RIS was assigned to lead the ERIA project on infrastructure development in EAS countries. The project involved preparation of country reports by the EAS member country teams in addition to thematic analysis and preparation of a policy brief summarising policy recommendations. Building on the earlier work of the RIS, an infrastructure index was prepared to examine the relative rankings of the countries in terms of infrastructure availability and quality and to identify infrastructure gaps between the EAS countries. The inception workshop of the project was held at the Bangkok Research Centre of the Institute of Developing Economies of JETRO on 15 July 2007. RIS prepared the country study for India, developed an infrastructure index and prepared the policy brief for the policy makers on the basis of the work done within the framework of the project. A volume based on the project was published in March 2008.

B.2.3. Industrial Clusters in East Asia

[2007/08]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. Sunil Ashra, Dr. N. Bhusnurmath

Industrial clusters play an important role in the industrial development of a country.

As a part of the ERIA work programme a study of industrial clusters was organised to understand the patterns and conditions of industrial agglomeration in the region and the impact of regional economic integration on industrial organisation in Asia, and industrial policies including FDI policies and technology policies. As a part of this larger study, the RIS has undertaken a study of automotive clusters in the National Capital Region and in and around Chennai to understand the patterns of clustering in India, the challenges faced by them and the potential for regional cooperation in Asia. The study aims at drawing policy inferences for strengthening the process. Similar studies were being conducted in a number of East Asian countries to facilitate learning from cross-country experiences. The RIS team presented the study at the ERIA project workshop held in Bangkok in February 2008. Subsequently, the final report was published by ERIA/IDE/Jetro.

B.2.4. RTAs, Investment Liberalisation and Emerging Regional Production Networks in Asia

[2006/08]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar

Building on the previous work, this study deals with the conceptual rationale for investment liberalisation to fully exploit the potential of regional trading arrangements. It goes on to examine the treatment of investment in emerging FTAs/RTAs in the Asia-Pacific region and the specific investment provisions and their consistency with the existing multilateral provisions on investment, viz. WTO's TRIMs Agreement. It discussed the provisions of the ASEAN framework on the investment area and on industrial cooperation. It also summarised the emerging patterns of efficiency-seeking industrial restructuring unleashed by RTAs and investment liberalisation in Asia and concluded with a few remarks on the



importance of a broader framework for regional economic integration. An initial version was issued as a Discussion Paper (#125). Another paper on investment cooperation within the EAS framework was submitted as an input for the ERIA study on the Roadmap for East Asian Economic Integration.

B.2.5. Biotechnology and Asian Development

[Ongoing]

Research Team: Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi [and Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas, in 2008-09]

In the second phase of the RIS work programme on biotechnology and Asian development launched in 2001 with support from the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, the RIS initiated studies on the strategies of various national governments in Asia in the area of biotechnology. This programme has also facilitated the publication of the journal, the *Asian Biotechnology and Development Review (ABDR)* which appears thrice a year. This programme has also supported the development of an informal network of policy makers, researchers and practitioners working on different aspects of biotechnology. As a part of this programme, RIS has started a series of Asia-level policy dialogues, organised every two years, titled Conferences on Biotechnology for Asian Development to facilitate exchange of experiences within the region.

B.3. Studies on Bilateral Economic Cooperation between India and EAS Countries

B.3.1. Building Capacity through South-South Cooperation: Case of Mekong-India Cooperation

[2006/08]

Research Team: Dr. Prabir De et al.

This interactive research project aims to strengthen the capacity building process of the private sector and of institutions



(From right): Ms. Mercy O. Simorang Kir (ASEAN Secretariat); Prof. Ichiro Araki, Japan; Prof. Hirokazu Okamura, Visiting Professor, Graduate School of Law Politics, University of Tokyo; Mr. Risaburo Nezu, Senior Managing Director, Fujitsu Research Institute, Japan; Mr. N. Ravi, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS at the Fourth Meeting of the CEPEA Study Group hosted by RIS in New Delhi on 1-2 February 2008.

representing the interests of industry in the Mekong subregion. It also plans to foster the partnership between India and the Mekong countries in the area of trade, investment and people-to-people contacts by way of training of human resources, dissemination of knowledge, experiences and advocacy. The overall goal of this project is to strengthen the trade and investment-related capacity of Mekong countries through information sharing, dissemination of knowledge and experiences, networking and transfer of skills. Besides, this project will make an effort to frame an appropriate strategy to ensure the best possible cooperation and collaboration between India and the Mekong countries, and also to identify the interfaces for such cooperation in trade, investment, infrastructure or technology. The project supported by the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation involves think tanks from the Mekong region as collaborators and also involve participation of Mekong scholars in the RIS programme on international economic issues and development policy. RIS has also launched a new publication *Mekong-Ganga Policy Brief* within the framework of this project in April 2007. During the year under review three



issues of the Mekong-Ganga Policy Brief have been issued.

B.3.2. India's Economic Relationship and Prospects of Trade and Investment with China

[2006/08]

Research Team: Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Abinash Dash

This study was sponsored by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, for the Trade and Economic Relations Council of the Prime Minister. It aimed to prepare a report on India's economic relationship and the prospects of trade and investment with China. Apart from providing an overview of the state of the economy of China and its implications for India, the RIS study covered developments in the trade relationship of China and their economic significance of this for India; China's bilateral trade relationships with other major trading partners; its approach towards regional agreements and the multilateral trading system, and the policy towards foreign aid and investments. The study concluded with a few remarks on the potential of China-India cooperation. The study has been submitted to the Department of Commerce in May 2007.

B.3.3. Negotiations for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between India and South Korea

[2006/08]

Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta and Shivani Sharma

Following the adoption of the *Report of India-Korea Joint Study Group*, the two countries decided to launch negotiations for a comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA) in 2006. To assist the ongoing negotiations on liberalising trade in goods within the India-Korea CEPA, RIS has undertaken a detailed study, for

the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. The study is aimed at identifying the product lines that are sensitive for India and those that are of export interest to India and South Korea, respectively so that negotiations could address them appropriately. The stakeholders' inputs have been incorporated in the study. Reports have been submitted for the meetings of negotiating groups. The study has been finalised and submitted to the government.

B.3.4. India-Malaysia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement

[2006/08]

Research Team: Dr. Ram Upendra Das

The Department of Commerce had entrusted the RIS to undertake a study on the India-Malaysia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA). The RIS study reviewed the existing bilateral trade between the two countries; identified areas of bilateral trade interest and mutual cooperation, highlighted the areas of future trade potential and collaboration; and identified existing barriers and suggested reform measures for the removal/reduction of such barriers through the proposed comprehensive economic cooperation agreement. It also identified the likely impact (both positive and negative) of such a bilateral arrangement. The study was prepared to provide inputs to the Joint Study Group set up to examine the feasibility of a CECA between the two countries. The RIS has submitted a number of briefings to the Department of Commerce for the meetings of the JSG. The JSG adopted its Report in Kuala Lumpur in August 2007.

B.3.5. India-Indonesia Joint Study Group on the Feasibility of a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement

[2007/09]

Research Team: Dr. Ram Upendra Das

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry approached the RIS to participate in the

India-Indonesia JSG on the Feasibility of a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement. RIS participated in the First JSG meeting in Jakarta in Oct-30-31, 2007. In the Meeting, Dr. Ram Upendra Das was made leader of the working group on Trade in Goods from the Indian side to draft the Chapter on Trade in Goods. Subsequently, the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, GOI approached RIS to prepare the Chapter on Investment Cooperation for the JSG.

B.3.6. India-New Zealand Joint Study Group on Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA)

[2008/09]

Research Team: Dr. Ram Upendra Das
RIS has been approached by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India to participate in the Joint Study Group (JSG) set up by the Governments of India and New Zealand on 'Exploring the Feasibility of a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement between India and New Zealand'.

RIS is represented on the JSG and provides the necessary inputs as needed by the JSG. More specifically, inputs on Trade in Goods and Investment are being prepared by RIS. RIS participated in the First JSG Meeting on 4-5 April 2008 held in New Delhi and the Second JSG Meeting on 22-23 May 2008 held in Auckland, New Zealand.

B.3.7 Study on Feasibility of Possible FTA/CEPA between India-Australia

[2008/09]

Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta and Dr. Ram Upendra Das

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of Australia have formed a Joint Study Group for conducting a feasibility study on the FTA/CEPA between India and Australia.



(From left): Mr. T.C. Venkat Subramanian, Chairman, Exim Bank of India; Dr. Dennis Hew, Senior Fellow, ISEAS; Dr. Sultan Rehman Hafeez, Deputy Director General, ADB; Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Senior Adviser, RIS; and Dr. Hiren Sarkar, Senior Economist, UN-ESCAP, at the Sixth High-Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration: Agenda for the East Asia Summit held in New Delhi on 12-13 November 2007.

RIS is represented on the Joint Study Group and is actively contributing to the work of the Group with inputs on Overview of Indian and Australian Economies; Australia-India Trade Relationship; India-Australia Investment Relationship; Liberalisation of Trade in Goods; and Investment Liberalisation. RIS is also contributing to the modelling exercise being undertaken as a part to the study to assess the gains from a possible FTA.

B.4. Research Programme on South Asian Economic Integration

South Asian economic integration has been a major area of research at the RIS since the early 1990s. RIS studies and analyses have shaped the policy agenda and debates on economic integration in the region. In the period under review, a number of initiatives have been taken in policy research and dialogue to promote the process of regional cooperation, especially with a study to extend the scope of SAFTA to cover trade in services and regional policy consultation on the subject.



Mr. Jairam Ramesh, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry (third from left) at the inaugural session of the Inception Workshop for the Study on Potentials for Trade in Services under SAFTA Agreement held in New Delhi on 10-11 May 2007. Others in the picture (from left) are: Mr. Rajeev Kher, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Mr. Vinay Kwatra, Director, SAARC Secretariat, and Mr. S.Bando, Asian Development Bank.

B.4.1. South Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2008

[2007/09]

SADCR08 will be fourth in the series of flagship reports launched by RIS. These *Reports* have over time emerged as the authoritative documents on monitoring the macroeconomic performance and outlook against the background of global economic trends, and status and prospects for regional economic integration. In addition to some topics that are covered in the *Report*, each issue picks up a few for detailed analysis. *SADCR08* will devote a special chapter to the importance of the services sector in the South Asian economy, trade and regional cooperation. It will also revisit the transport infrastructure and connectivity. *SADCR08* will also focus on the prospects for SAFTA and the challenges that it faces including the trade facilitation. The coverage will be extended to Afghanistan that has joined the grouping. Inputs for the *Report* are obtained from counterpart think-tanks in other SAARC countries in addition to in-house work. It is proposed to

launch the *Report* in early 2008 to serve as a background document for the SAARC Summit 2008.

B.4.2. Potential for Trade in Services under SAFTA Agreement

[2007/09]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. Ram Upendra Das, and Dr. Prabir De in collaboration with National Research Teams in other SAARC Countries

The SAARC Secretariat had asked RIS to conduct this study in consultation with the researchers from the other SAARC countries within the framework of the SAARC Network of Researchers on Global Financial and Economic Issues. The study was supported by the Asian Development Bank and was launched at an Inception Workshop on 10-11 May 2007 in New Delhi. RIS, as a coordinator, prepared a Regional Study on the subject with the help of national inputs received from the Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Afghanistan; D.Net (Development Research Network) and Tariff Commission, Bangladesh; Ministry of Trade and Industry, Bhutan; Centre for Economic Development and Administration (CEDA), Nepal; Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Maldives; Ministry of Commerce, Pakistan; and Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka.

The Regional Study was deliberated upon in the Regional Consultation Meeting held in New Delhi on 6-7 February 2008. The study was subsequently finalised in the light of the comments received, and submitted to the SAARC Secretariat on 25 February 2008.

The study highlights the importance of the services sector in the South Asian region and its increased relevance in its trade profile. The study analyses the bilateral trade linkages among SAARC members and identifies sectors with trade potential. It also identifies constraints that obstruct a fuller realisation of the intra-

RIS Contributes to Emerging Policy Framework on Trade in Services in South Asia

The Third Meeting of SAFTA Committee of Experts (COE) held in New Delhi on 1-2 March 2008 considered the RIS Study on Trade in Services in South Asia. The Meeting commended RIS for the hard work done in the preparation of the Study. The Meeting noted the importance of Trade in Services in the Region. It recalled directives of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth SAARC Summits, including “finalisation of an Agreement in the services sector at the earliest.” It recommended that RIS may be requested to draft a Draft SAARC Framework Agreement on Trade in Services (SAFAS) by 30 June 2008. Subsequently, considering the above recommendations of the SAFTA COE, the Third Meeting of the SAFTA Ministerial Council held in New Delhi on 3 March 2008, decided as follows: “The Meeting appreciated the fact that the Regional Study on Potential of Trade in Services under SAFTA Agreement has since been concluded. It commended the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, and the National Focal Points for their hard work in finalising the Study. ... The Meeting endorsed the recommendations of the Third Meeting of SAFTA COE and decided that RIS be requested to draft the text of Draft SAARC Framework Agreement on Trade in Services (SAFAS) by 30 June 2008.”

regional trade potential of services and recommended a South Asian Framework Agreement on Services (SAFAS). The RIS study was adopted by the SAFTA Ministerial Council and RIS was directed to prepare a draft SAFAS for negotiation by an intergovernmental group (see Box).

B.4.3. Afghanistan as a Member of the SAFTA Agreement: An Analysis of Its Economic Implications [2006/08]

Research Team: Dr. Ram Upendra Das

Afghanistan joined SAARC as its eighth member at the SAARC Summit held in New Delhi in April 2007. This participation also extends to Afghanistan's membership of the SAFTA Agreement. In order to understand the economic implications of this development in a comprehensive manner, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India approached the RIS in January 2007 to conduct a study. Besides

analysing the economic implications of Afghanistan's membership of the SAFTA Agreement, the study also assesses the possibilities of its reconciliation with the India-Afghanistan PTA. In addition, the study explores the following: the possibilities of identifying the HS 6-digit items which could be included by Afghanistan under SAFTA; identifying items of export interest to India; a possible sensitive list that India could maintain vis-à-vis Afghanistan; identifying products where product-specific rules would be required; finding opportunities for strengthening trade-investment linkages and potentials for investment cooperation with Afghanistan within the SAFTA framework; and the imperatives of extending SAFTA plus benefits to Afghanistan on a non-reciprocal basis. The study was finalised and submitted to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in 24 August 2007 in the light of the discussions held on earlier occasions in the Ministry.

C. South-South Cooperation, New Technologies and Development

C.1. Emergence of Large Developing Countries: Implications for Co-Developing Countries

[2006/09]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. S.K. Mohanty and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi along with researchers in Brazil, China and South Africa

The last decade has seen continued growth in the South-South trade and investment linkages. The share of South-South trade in global trade increased from 34 per cent in 1990 to around 43 per cent by the end of the decade and it is growing at a rate of 10 per cent per year, which is more than twice that of the recorded rate of growth in global trade. Such unprecedented growth in South-South trade may be viewed against the trend of the last few decades whereby developing countries have built up substantial industrial-technological capabilities which in turn provided scope for exploiting synergies among themselves by sharing of knowledge and technologies on the one hand and investment on the other. In particular, the emergence of large countries in the developing world such as China, India, Brazil and South Africa (henceforth emerging economies) has created new avenues for South-South Cooperation while also creating some apprehensions. This study maps the role of emerging countries in the development of developing countries with special reference to Africa. In particular, the study begins by documenting the rise of emerging economies and their growing importance in terms of various parameters of the global economy and integration. Then it examines the importance of emerging economies as markets for developing countries, and their emergence thereafter as sources of investments and technology. Finally, the study discusses the role that emerging economies are

playing and may play in shaping the global economic architecture including the world trading system, thereby making it more development-friendly. The study will conclude with some broad lessons for international development policy that could facilitate a fuller exploitation of the potential of such cooperation between emerging economies and other developing countries especially in Africa. The study has been undertaken with the support of the Commonwealth Secretariat, London. The initial drafts of study were presented and discussed at an International Workshop on the subject organised by the RIS and the Commonwealth Secretariat in New Delhi in June 2007. The revised drafts are being issued as discussion papers. RIS plans to publish the output of the project in the form of a volume in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat, London.

C.2. Feasibility of SACU-India-Mercosur Economic Partnership: Trade and Investment

[2006/08]

Research Team: Dr. S.K. Mohanty and Dr. Prabir De

This research builds on an earlier RIS study on the potential of India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Partnership conducted in 2005/06. The earlier study while finding significant synergies between the three countries in different sectors concluded that a trilateral FTA between them was not feasible as Brazil and South Africa were members of two different customs unions, namely Mercosur and the SACU with a common external tariff with other partners. Therefore, it has been decided to explore the possibility of trade negotiations with the Mercosur and SACU group of countries. To frame India's position and to understand the issues involved, the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India has entrusted the RIS to conduct a study on trade in industrial goods and investment as part of exploring the

possibility of a trade arrangement with Mercosur and SACU. The empirical findings suggest that the distribution of gains from the proposed arrangement with the involvement of a large number of regional partners, is likely to be more equitable and just, irrespective of the size of the partner country in the proposed regional caucus.

C.3. IBSA Academic Forum

[2007/09]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. S.K. Mohanty and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi

As a part of the IBSA process, the IBSA Summits are preceded by a meeting of the IBSA Academic Forum. Government of India nominated the RIS to be the coordinator of the IBSA Academic Forum from India. RIS participated in the Johannesburg Summit of IBSA in October 2007 and made three key presentations. RIS will be hosting the Academic Forum meeting at the Third IBSA Summit to be held in New Delhi in October 2008.

C.4. Global System of Trade Preferences: Towards the Third Round

[2005/8]

Research Team: Dr. S.K. Mohanty

The Agreement establishing the Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) among Developing countries entered into force on 19 April 1989. To date 44 countries, including India, have ratified the Agreement. The Agreement provides for exchanging tariff preferences on products of mutual interest. The Third Round of negotiations under the GSTP was launched in June, 2004. The negotiations are to be held on a request and offer basis and will be multilateralised among the Round participants. China and other Members of the G-77, who have not acceded, have also been invited to accede to the Agreement. In order to identify Member countries with whom India will engage in market access negotiations and draw out request lists to these countries, the Department of Commerce has requested the RIS to



From right: Dr. Ivan Mbirimi, Principal Adviser, Economic and Trade Division, the Commonwealth Secretariat, London; Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) and Chairman, RIS; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS at the International Workshop on Emergence of Large Developing Countries and Implications for International Development held in New Delhi on 28-29 June 2007.

undertake this study. The study has identified items on which India should seek tariff concessions under the GSTP. It has also identified country-wise products (6 digit HS level) on which India should seek and negotiate preferential market access from the negotiating GSTP Member countries by taking into account the current trends of trade with them in the bilateral as well as global context. The inputs based on detailed analysis were submitted to the Department of Commerce for their preparations for the ongoing negotiations. The study will be concluded with the negotiations.

C.5. South-South Cooperation in Genomics Innovation and Health Biotechnology

[2006/09]

Research Team: Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi

This study aims to explore how far policy regimes and industrial enterprises are responding to the growing idea of South-South Cooperation in the realm of pharmaceuticals particularly in genomics. The project also looks into issues such as factors and conditions that contribute towards successful South-South cooperation and the pattern of collaborations in genomics/health biotechnology, and compare formal versus informal collaborations. The preliminary

results of the study were presented at a project meeting which suggests that the impact of the southern collaborations in the area of genomics has expanded manifolds as almost all the countries, under the study, have enhanced their allocations for medical biotechnology.

This project has moved into its penultimate year when most of the field work is over. The project is structured in such a way that each team members studies the linkage of the respective team members country with two other developing countries. RIS is expected to analyse India's linkages with Brazil and Bangladesh while the team from China is studying academic and entrepreneurial linkages with India and Thailand. The other key partners are from Brazil, Egypt and South Africa. The project is being led by the University of Toronto. The project would also cover issues like examination of collaborations both in research activities as well as in product development; and commercialisation activities. It would also identify the key hurdles in promoting the collaborations and the different roles of participants in the collaborations apart from examining the areas which deserve urgent policy attention in this regard.

C.6. Relevance and Potential of an India-GCC Preferential Trade Arrangement

[2006/08]

Research Team: Dr. Ram Upendra Das and Dr. Samir Ranjan Pradhan

RIS was assigned the task of preparing a study on exploring the feasibility of investment cooperation between India and GCC countries by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. A preliminary draft was submitted to the Ministry on November 14, 2005. In the light of the feedback received during the stakeholder consultation, the study was finalised and submitted to the Ministry on 12 April 2007.

The study analysed the subject in the context of India's growing attractiveness

as an investment destination in recent times. It also made an assessment of the current investment regimes of India and GCC countries. Apart from documenting the current bilateral investment linkages, the study also identified certain sectors for setting up joint ventures as well made certain policy suggestions for improving the investment linkages between India and GCC countries.

C.7. China, India and Russia in the Global Economy: Enhancing Trade and Cooperation

[2007/08]

Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta

In the last several years China, India and Russia have emerged among the most dynamic economies of the world. In 2006, the share of China, India and Russia in the global GDP, by current US \$ exchange rate, amounted to 5.53 per cent, 1.88 per cent, and 2.05 per cent, respectively. On recalculating by purchasing power parity, the GDP shares of China, India and Russia are even more impressive – 15.1 per cent, 6.3 per cent and 2.6 per cent, respectively, and thus the total contributions by three countries to the global economy would approach the mark of 24 per cent. The main objective of this study is to look into issues such as (i) Russia, India and China in the world policy and economy: the current and near-term perspective of objective prerequisites for trilateral cooperation; and (ii) bilateral relations within the trilateral format as a basis for trilateral cooperation: attainments and problems.

C.8. Africa-India Partnership in the 21st Century

[2008/10]

Research Team: Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi and Dr. Anshuman Gupta

This project builds on the previous work of the RIS on India-Africa partnership and the more recent study on emerging countries and their implications for poorer countries.

RIS organised an international workshop jointly with the Commonwealth Secretariat, London in June 2007 on the role of emerging countries like India in African development as reported elsewhere. RIS organised an international conference on the Africa-India Partnership on 2-3 April 2008 in the context of the forthcoming India-Africa Forum Summit. The Conference was attended by experts and scholars from African policy think-tanks and Indian institutions and deliberated on emerging patterns of trade, investment, technology transfers and development cooperation between India and Africa in an attempt to identify the potential and challenges. In 2008-09, RIS will launch a major work programme on the subject covering policy research, institutional networking and capacity-building on international economic issues in collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat, London.

D. Strategic Responses to Globalisation

The process of globalisation of the world economy has thrown up many policy challenges that require to be supported by analytical inputs. RIS work in this area deals with some of the important emerging challenges for policy as summarised below.

D.1. Strategy for Export-Oriented Manufacturing

[2004/08]

Research Team: Dr. S.K. Mohanty and Dr. Robert Arockiasamy

This research study attempts to formulate a comprehensive export strategy to improve its stake in the global trade. The study has identified the potential of India in the manufacturing sector and has hinted at the need for undertaking the required restructuring of the domestic manufacturing sector to meet with the specific requirements of importing countries. The study explores the possibilities of venturing into new markets for exports



(From left): Dr. Arjun Sengupta, Chairman, RIS, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs; Mr. Nalin Surie, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS at the Valedictory Session of the IBSA Editors Conference held in New Delhi on 3-4 September 2007.

besides consolidating its position with the traditional trade partners. It has examined the competitiveness of India's exportable products while showing the extent to which India's export structure matches with the export structure of the world economy. The study found evidence to support that India's exports consistently match with the global demand for different products in broad sectors. The study identified certain key sectors which need to be prioritised in the 'medium term export strategy' for boosting export. Taking into account the changing global standards of exports in important export destinations of India, and persistently evolving WTO rules, the study also examines the possibility of extending certain state-sponsored WTO-compatible incentives/schemes to domestic industries to enable them to manufacture export-oriented products for specific export markets. The study involves extensive fieldwork for interviews with industry in different states. Analysis of the secondary data has been completed during 2007 and the field work was being undertaken. The study team submitted an interim report in June 2006. A revised version was submitted to the Department of Commerce in April 2008. This was sponsored by the Department of Commerce under Market Access Initiatives.

D.2. Implications of the WTO Tariff Proposals on Indian Paper and Newsprint Industry

[2004/08]

Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta and Pooja Agarwal

The process of non-agriculture market access negotiations is being conducted within the Negotiating Group of Market Access (NGMA) at WTO. NGMA has been proposing different approaches for negotiations with the main emphasis being on the non-linear formula. The objective of this RIS study is to provide early signals to the Indian paper industry regarding the progress of negotiations. In other words, the RIS study analyses the impact of the WTO/NGMA approaches on the Indian paper industry. The study has been conducted in collaboration with the Central Pulp and Paper Research Institute (CPPRI) for the benefit of the industry. The study team has made presentations of select results at the Meetings at the Department of Industrial Promotion and Policy (DIPP). A final report was submitted in June 2007. Subsequently, RIS presented the findings of the study to the stake holders at a workshop organised jointly with CPPRI in New Delhi on 13 September 2007.

D.3. Development Cooperation Policies of Emerging Economies: Implications for India

[2007/09]

Research Team: Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi

With sharp economic growth, the international focus on 'aid' programmes of emerging economies has gone up considerably. Apart from their bilateral assistance programmes they are also contributing towards several international initiatives for creating global public goods. The economic cooperation programmes from these economies is in the South-South cooperation framework and is very different from the one within which the traditional donors are trying to achieve

harmonisation and transparency under the Paris Declaration. Meanwhile India has also announced consolidation of the outgoing assistance and the placing of economic cooperation related programmes under a specialised agency. In this context, RIS has launched a study to explore what all policy options are available to the emerging economies for establishing international linkages of their respective national agencies and how well they are placed in terms of adopting various global commitments as part of their efforts towards the global discipline for the global aid flow. The project also examines issues related to the proposed Global Development Forum under the auspices of the UN. In the first phase, India-specific policies would be studied.

D.4. Outward FDI from India: Trends, Patterns and Determinants

[2007/09]

Research Team: Dr. Nagesh Kumar

Outward investment is becoming an important aspect of the corporate strategy of enterprises in developing countries such as India to strengthen their international competitiveness especially in knowledge-based industries. Outward investment by Indian enterprises has grown rapidly over the past decade and has undergone a change compared to earlier investments. This study takes stock of the patterns, trends, motivations and determinants of outward investment by Indian enterprises. It will also undertake case studies of select industries and companies that have emerged as important players. It builds on an earlier study on the strategic approach to international competitiveness in knowledge-based industries as a part of which an exclusive data base was created on outward investments by Indian enterprises. A paper mapped the emerging changing patterns, motivations, ownership advantages and entry strategies of Indian outward investments over the past decades in three distinct phases of evolution. Another paper analysed the outward investment by Indian companies in a Chinese comparative

perspective. in the steel industry. These papers will be appearing in refereed international journals and eventually into a volume besides appearing in the RIS Discussion Paper series.

D.5. Evaluating the Development Impact of IT in Trade Facilitation

[2008/09]

Research Team: Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi

The proposed research will evaluate the impact of information technology (IT) use in trade facilitation on the trade participants by looking at experiences in trade transactions that promote the use of IT. Among many trade facilitation measures that have been proposed at the WTO, one is the extensive application of information technology (IT) in the trade formalities. Experience in some countries has shown that automation of procedures and documentation in connection with imports and exports speeds up the entry and exit of goods, reduces errors, and safeguards governance. However, its limited and often partial application in many developing and least developed countries suggests that there may be adverse effects of IT application on the wider development of traders, exporters and domestic manufacturers especially SMEs. The responsible factors may also include absence of the enabling factors (e.g. broader use of IT across public and private sectors) perhaps even exacerbated by the institution of special privileges (e.g. traders with gold card status or super-green access).

The project is supported by the ARTNeT of UNESCAP, Bangkok and apart from RIS includes institutions from China, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, The Philippines and South Korea.

D.6. Empowerment and Poverty Eradication in South Asia: Case Studies from India

[2007/08]

Research Team: Dr. Beena Pandey

This paper was prepared as a part of SACEPS/CPD (Dhaka) larger study on

the role of empowerment of the poor through asset transfers in poverty alleviation. RIS was assigned the examination of India's experience for which it took up three case studies, viz. Amul dairy cooperatives, Lijjat self-help group and Tata Tea's initiatives in giving stakes to workers in tea plantations. The study was submitted to the CPD in March 2008.

D.7. Trade and Gender: Policy Options

[2008/10]

Research Team: Dr. Ram Upendra Das and Dr. Beena Pandey, under supervision of the the project steering committee

Considering that the relationship between trade expansion and gender is not understood clearly, especially in a country-specific context, the Commonwealth Secretariat and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India have together initiated a research-cum-capacity building project to mainstream gender into the trade policy-making process of India. For this purpose, a Project Steering Committee has been formed and RIS has been asked to execute this programme. Under this initiative various institutions and stakeholders are being invited to submit research proposals focusing on different dimensions of trade-gender linkages. Based on the research findings, that will be deliberated upon in a Research Finalisation Workshop in 2009, policy recommendations would be made for taking into account the gender implications of trade policies. A Capacity Building Programme for sensitising the policy-makers and stakeholders is also planned.

D.8. Impact of India's RTAs/FTAs: Ex-Post Analysis

[2008/09]

Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta

India has already signed a number of regional/bilateral free trade agreements namely, the Indo-Singapore FTA, Indo-Sri

Lanka FTA, SAFTA, Indo-Thailand FTA, etc. The main objective of this study is to examine the *ex-post* gains of these FTAs to India. We start our analysis with a case study of Indo-Sri Lanka Free Trade Agreement.

D.9. Non-Tariff Barriers Affecting India's Exports

[2008/10]

Research Team: Dr. Rajesh Mehta

Governments use many mechanisms to restrict imports. Till the beginning of 1970s, tariffs (custom duties) were the principal mode of protectionism. But with successive rounds of GATT negotiations, there was a large drop in the average tariff levels of manufactured goods in the developed country markets. When tariffs paled into insignificance, these countries resorted to a form of administered protection known as Non-Tariff Measures (NTM) for example:- Quantitative restrictions, tariff quota, voluntary export restraints, orderly marketing arrangements, export subsidy, export credit subsidy, government procurement, import licensing, antidumping/countervailing duties, technical barriers to trade, to name a few.

The main objective of this study is as follows: (i) to make an inventory of different NTBs imposed by different countries, (ii) to quantify the impact of NTBs on global trade, and (iii) to analyse the impact of different WTO-NAMA proposals keeping in view the Doha mandate "... reduction and elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers, particularly on products of developing countries".

RIS will also be associated with an inter-country project for conducting a long-term study on Assessment of the Impacts of Non-Tariff Barriers along with other institutions in different countries seeking to create a database on NTBs that obstruct or can obstruct agro-exports for select countries, like the US, Russia, Canada, Japan, etc.. This project will be funded by an EU grant and is likely to take-off in December 2008.

D.10 Foreign Direct Investment Inflows and Economic Development in India

[2008/10]

Research Team: Dr Nagesh Kumar

Building on the earlier work conducted at the RIS on the quality of FDI and empirical relationships between FDI inflows and domestic investments and growth, this study compares the performance of India in terms of both quality and quantity of FDI in a global comparative perspective. It also examines the role of FDI inflows in India in balanced regional development with an analysis of the determinants of FDI inflows across Indian States with the help of a panel data for 15 years. It will also draw policy lessons for the FDI policy of India including on the national security exceptions in the light of global experiences for FDI among other aspects. The analysis will be reported in a number of papers during the course of 2008/09. A few policy notes will also be prepared for the relevant government agencies based on the work done.

D.11. India 2050: Long Term Prospects, Implications and Challenges

[2008/10]

Research Team: Dr Ram Agarwala

The objective of the study is to explore whether it is feasible for India to achieve by 2050 the level of social and economic development that the developed countries have today. It will begin with conventional sources of growth analysis which will assess contributions of the growth of labour, capital and total factor productivity to India's growth in the last fifty years. Then the study will explore alternative scenarios in the growth of these factors so as to achieve by 2050 the developed country per capita income as of today. It will proceed to identify the likely constraints in achieving this target and explore the policies and programmes needed to overcome these constraints. The study will also assess the relative role of India in the world economy and world society in 2050 if the goal of becoming a developed country by 2050 is to be realised.

II. Policy Advisory Services

East Asia Summit and Asian Economic Community

- A Note on India's Economic Relations with EAS Countries and Inputs for the agenda of the Third EAS were provided to the Ministry of External Affairs on 2 and 3 November 2007.
- A Note on India's Look East Policy – Challenges for Sub-Regional Cooperation was made available to the Ministry of External Affairs on 22 September 2007.

ASEAN-India FTA and ASEAN-India Economic Relations

- Inputs for the Inter-Ministerial Preparatory Meeting on 11th India-ASEAN Working Group were provided on 11 April 2007.
- Copies of some RIS publications on the India-ASEAN partnership were made available to the Ministry of External Affairs on 12 April 2007 as inputs for preparation for the 11th India-ASEAN Working Group Meeting.
- Inputs for the 12th Meeting of the ASEAN-India Working Group (AIWG), held on 30-31 October 2007 in Jakarta, were provided to the Ministry of External Affairs on 26 October 2007.

Mekong-Ganga Cooperation

- A Note on 'Towards Deepening Mekong-Ganga Cooperation: Some Proposals' was made available to the

Ministry of External Affairs on 26 July 2007.

SAARC Summit and SAFTA Negotiations

- Concept Note on SAARC Economic Cooperation was submitted to the Public Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India in August 2007.
- A Note on Sub-regional Economic Cooperation under SAARC – Focusing on Energy, Food, Environment and Water was submitted to the Ministry of External Affairs on 17 August 2007.
- A Note for the 13th SAARC CEC Meeting held in Dhaka, on 21 November 2007 was prepared for the Commerce Secretary and sent.

IBSA Summit

- The Report on IBSA Academic Seminar held in Johannesburg, South Africa was sent to the Ministry of External Affairs on 31 October 2007.

APEC and India

- Notes on Relevance of APEC for India; Work of APEC; and APEC Membership Obligations were made available to the Ministry of External Affairs on 5 May 2007.
- Note on Relevance of APEC for India was sent to the Ministry of External Affairs on 29 January 2008.

India-Korea Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement

- Inputs were provided to the Department of Commerce on Negotiations for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between India and Korea as part of the study being conducted by RIS on India-Korea CEPA.

G-8 Summit

- Inputs for G-8 Summit 2007 were provided to the Ministry of External Affairs on 15 May 2007.
- Inputs on the Common Draft of the Joint Position Paper of the State and/or Government of Brazil, China, India, Mexico and South Africa, participating in the G-8 Heiligendamm Summit, June 2007, were provided to the Ministry of External Affairs on 21 May 2007.
- Two presentations at the Session V: Role of BICS in Building a Development-Friendly World Trading System at the Workshop on Emergence of Large Developing Countries and Implications for International Development, organised by RIS and the Commonwealth Secretariat were made available to the Ministry of External Affairs on 11 July 2007.

Asian Cooperation Dialogue

- Inputs were provided for the first meeting of High-level study group of Asian Cooperation Dialogue, held in Bangkok on 18 August 2007.

India-Indonesia Trade Cooperation

- Note on Prospects for India-Indonesia Trade Cooperation was submitted to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 15 October 2007.

India-China

- A Note on India and China in the 21st Century was sent to the PMO on 25 December 2007 in the context of the Prime Minister's visit to China.

WTO

- Inputs were provided to the Ministry of Commerce and Indian Mission to WTO at Geneva on Technology Transfer.

Other inputs to the Government of India

- Inputs were provided to the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance on 20 April 2007 on the chapter India's Key Challenges to Sustaining Growth in the OECD survey on Indian economy.
- Inputs on Rajya Sabha Provisionally Admitted Question regarding investment of surplus forex reserves were provided to the Economic Division, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, on 3 May 2007.
- A Note on Export and Employment Growth in India was sent to the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 24 December 2007.
- Note on Global Economic Prospects and Emerging Countries was sent to the Ministry of External Affairs on 7 March 2008.

III. Fostering Policy Dialogue: Conferences, Symposia and Workshops

Sixth Conference on Asian Economic Integration: Agenda for East Asia Summit

The RIS organised a High-Level Conference on 'Asian Economic Integration: Agenda for the East Asia Summit' in collaboration with the Institute of South East Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore; and the Institute of Developing Economies (IDE)/JETRO, Tokyo. It was supported by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF), Tokyo and took place on 12-13 November 2007 in New Delhi. The Conference aimed at contributing to the process of regional economic integration in Asia as also to provide inputs for the Third East Asia Summit (EAS), held in Singapore on 21 November 2007 with leaders of 10 ASEAN countries, Japan, China, South Korea, India, Australia and New Zealand. The Conference was Sixth in a series of the High-Level Conferences on the subject launched by the RIS in March 2003 and conducted in collaboration with other think-tanks in Asian countries. The previous Conferences were held in New Delhi (March 2003), Tokyo (November 2004), and Taiyuan, P.R. of China (September 2005), New Delhi (November 2005), and Singapore (2006). Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, Government of India inaugurated the Conference at a session

chaired by Dr. Arjun Sengupta, Member of Indian Parliament and Chairman, RIS. Hon'ble Mr. Mukherjee also released the book, *Asia's New Regionalism and Global Role – Agenda for the East Asia Summit*, brought out jointly by RIS and ISEAS, Singapore. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Ambassador K. Kesavapany, Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore; and Dr. Hidetoshi Nishimura, Special Adviser to IDE President on ERIA, IDE/JETRO, Tokyo also addressed the inaugural session. The first business session, which addressed the



(From left): Mr. Jairam Ramesh, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry delivering the valedictory address at the Sixth High-Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration: Agenda for the East Asia Summit held in New Delhi on 12-13 November 2007. Also seen in the picture are (L-R) Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. H. Nishimura, Ambassador Leela Ponappa (in Chair), Ambassador K. Kesavapany, and Dr. Ram Upendra Das.



(From left): Dr. Tetsuji Kawamura, Professor, Faculty of Economics, Hosei University; Dr. Chayodom Sabhasri, Center for International Economics, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok; Ambassador Arjun Asrani, Chairman, India-Japan Forum; Dr. Jayanta Roy, Principal Adviser, CII; and Dr. Soon Cheoul Lee, Fellow, KIEP, Seoul at the Sixth High Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration held in New Delhi on 12-13 November 2007.

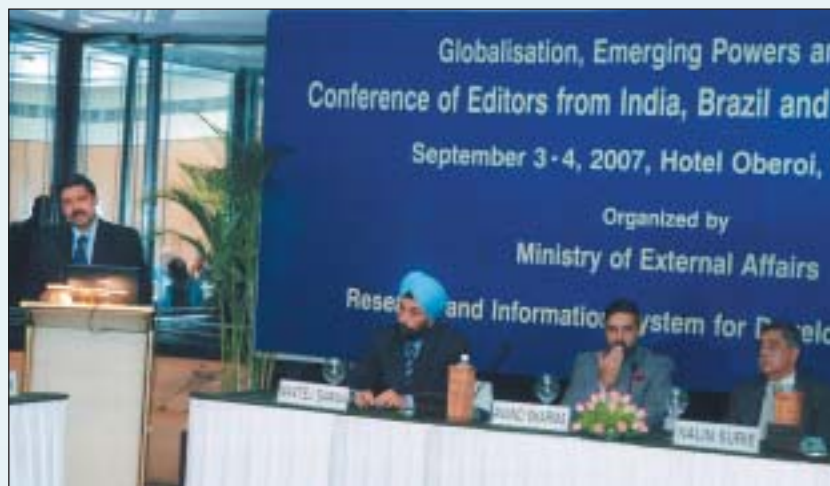
theme of Asia's New Role in the Global Economy and the Relevance of Asian Economic Integration, was chaired by Mr. Gopal Pillai, Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. It had key presentations as for example, on Regional Cooperation and Asia's New Role in the Global Economy by Dr. Sultan Rahman Hafeez, Deputy Director General, ADB, Manila; Relevance of Broader Asian Economic Integration and Approaches by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, RIS; and Towards a Vision of an Integrated East Asia: Comprehensive Economic Partnership of East Asia (CEPEA) and ERIA by Dr. Hidetoshi Nishimura, Special Adviser to IDE President on ERIA, IDE/JETRO, Tokyo. The distinguished panelists included: Ambassador K. Kesavapany, Director, ISEAS, Singapore; and Dr. Brian Lynch, Director, New Zealand Institute of International Affairs. It was followed by the session on Regional Trade and Investment Liberalisation: Building Blocs and Emerging Approaches, chaired by Professor Muchkund Dubey, President, CSD. The key presentations included ASEAN and Broader Economic Integration in Asia by Dr. Josef T. Yap, President, Philippine Institute for Development Studies, Manila; ASEAN+6 versus ASEAN+3

Approaches for Regional Economic Integration: Lessons from CGE Simulations by Dr. S.K. Mohanty, RIS and Dr. Sanjib Pohit, NCAER; Asia-India Trade Relations and Growth: Implications for Regional Economic Integration Policy by Professor Tran Van Hoa, Director, ASEAN Research Program, CSES, Victoria University, Australia (in absentia); and Trade Costs in Asia: Importance of Trade Facilitation and Improved Connectivity by Dr. Prabir De, RIS. Dr. Rahul Sen, Fellow, ISEAS, Singapore; and Dr. Amita Batra, Hindu College, University of Delhi were the discussants. Dr. Sultan Rehman Hafeez, Deputy Director-General, ADB, Manila chaired the session on Monetary and Financial Cooperation in Asia. The key presentations were: Towards Asian 'Brettonwoods' by Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Senior Adviser, RIS; Asian Exim Banks Cooperation by Mr. T.C. Venkat Subramanian, Chairman and Managing Director, Export-Import Bank of India; Financial Cooperation for Infrastructure Development in Asia by Dr. Hiren Sarkar, Chief, Development Policy Section (PDD), UN-ESCAP, Bangkok; and Financial Cooperation in East Asia Summit by Dr. Dennis Hew, Senior Fellow, ISEAS, Singapore. The session on Strategic Relevance of Asian Regionalism had Ambassador Kesavapany, Director, ISEAS, Singapore in the Chair. The Distinguished Panelists included: Professor Yao Chaocheng, Shanxi University of Finance and Economics, Taiyuan, P.R. of China; Dr. Brian Lynch, Director, New Zealand Institute of International Affairs; Mr. M.K. Venu, Senior Editor, *The Economic Times*; Ambassador P.S. Sahai, CRRID, Chandigarh. The theme of the next session was Emerging Comprehensive Economic Partnership of EAS Countries: A Business Perspective and was chaired by Ambassador Arjun Asrani, Chairman, India-Japan Forum. It had presentations

on Business Strategies and Roles of Major Japanese Companies and the significance of ERIA by Dr. Tetsuji Kawamura, Professor, Faculty of Economics, Hosei University; Promoting Economic Cooperation between India and South Korea: A Business Perspective by Dr. Soon Cheoul Lee, Fellow, KIEP, Seoul; and Business Potential of CEPEA: An ASEAN Perspective by Dr. Chayodom Sabhasri, Center for International Economics, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok. Dr. Jayanta Roy, Principal Adviser, CII was the discussant. Mr. Jairam Ramesh, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry delivered a valedictory address at the concluding session, chaired by Ambassador Leela K. Ponappa, Vice-Chairperson, RIS. Ambassador K. Kesavapany, Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS also spoke at the valedictory session. Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow, RIS presented the Report of the conference. The Conference was participated in by nearly a hundred delegates comprising heads of policy think-tanks in EAS countries, policy makers, media and members of civil society. The RIS has issued the Report of the Conference in RIS Policy Brief (#33) which was circulated to the delegations at the East Asia Summit.

MEA/RIS Conference of IBSA Editors on Globalisation and Emerging Powers

The Trilateral IBSA Forum, set up in 2003, has emerged as an important and unique forum of three leading emerging democracies from the developing world from the three Southern continents. The forum addresses issues of global concern besides exploiting their synergies for mutual benefit. There is a critical role for South-South Cooperation in the media. India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) are the three important countries of the South that have a vibrant and free press.



(From right): Mr. Nalin Surie, Secretary (West), MEA; Mr. Anand Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs; Mr. Navtej Sarna, Joint Secretary (XP), MEA; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar at the opening Session of the IBSA Editors Conference held in New Delhi on 3-4 September 2007.

Therefore, in the context of IBSA, there is need for deepening contacts between the civil society organisations, media and think-tanks for facilitating mutual cooperation and dialogue on emerging global issues and to evolve their perspective. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) in collaboration with RIS organised a two-day conference of Editors from India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) in New Delhi on 3-4 September 2007 on the theme of Globalisation, Emerging Powers and Media. The Conference opened with inaugural remarks by Mr. Navtej Sarna, Joint Secretary (XP), MEA and Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS and Moderator of the Conference. Mr. Anand Sharma, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, delivered the inaugural address. Session I on IBSA and the Media – The Macro Picture addressed the theme of Globalisation, Emerging Powers and the World Order: Challenges which Mrinal Pande, Editor, *Hindustan* chaired. The leader speakers which included from India: Mr. Raj Chengappa, Managing Editor, *India Today*; from Brazil: Mr. Vinicius Mota, Opinion Editor, *Folha de Sao Paulo*, and from South Africa: Ms. Nalini Naidoo, Political Editor, *The Witness*. The Session II on IBSA – Economic and Media Cooperation

had as its theme: Economic and Media Cooperation in IBSA: Potential and Prospects. Dr. Sanjaya Baru, Media Adviser to Prime Minister of India chaired. Lead Speakers were: Mr. Chandan Mitra, Editor, *The Pioneer*, India; Mr. Nicolino Spina, CEO, *Valor Economico*, Brazil; and Mr. David Canning, Editor, *The Mercury*, South Africa. In Session III on Democracy, Technological Revolution and Image Building there was a discussion on two themes. The first included the impact of democracy and technological revolution on the Media in IBSA: Emerging Trends and Challenges, chaired by Mr. Joao Claudio Garcia Rodrigues Lima, International Affairs Editor, *Correio Braziliense*. It had lead speakers: Mr. Nikhil Lakshman, Editor-in-Chief, Rediff.com, India; Mr. Luciano Suassuna, Editor-Director, *Editora Tres* (Istoe), Brazil; and Mr. Tyrone August, Editor, *Cape Times*, South Africa. The second theme was: Western media stereotyping of developing countries - approaches for positive image building by IBSA media. Mr. Peter Ndoro, Director, Corporate Communications/Senior Editor, CNBC Africa, was in the chair. The lead speakers included: Mr. Amit Baruah, Diplomatic Editor, *Hindustan Times*, India; Mr. Erick de Miranda Bretas, Editor-in-Chief, TV Globo & Jornal da Globo, Brazil; and Mr. Craig Peets, Editor-in-Chief, *African Mirror*, South Africa. In the concluding session, Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble Minister for External Affairs delivered the valedictory address. Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P. and Chairman, RIS also addressed the participants. Earlier, Mr Navtej Sarna, Joint Secretary (XP), MEA made the opening remarks. The Conference Moderator, Dr. Nagesh Kumar summed up the issues raised at the Conference.

MEA-RIS-FICCI-GIF Conference on SAARC Economic Cooperation

RIS, jointly with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry

(FICCI), and Global India Foundation (GIF), organised the National Conference on SAARC: Accelerating Cooperation through Connectivity on 1-2 September 2007 in Kolkata. Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P., and Chairman, RIS chaired the inaugural session of the Conference. Mr. Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal, delivered the inaugural address and Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs, delivered the keynote address. Prof. Omprakash Mishra, Member-Secretary, GIF; and Mr. Sudhir Jalan, Past President, FICCI also spoke at the opening session. The first session of the national conference addressed the theme of Globalisation and Economic Integration: Imperatives for South Asia Regional Economic Cooperation. Dr. Arjun Sengupta, MP and Chairman, RIS chaired this session. Prof. Pulin B. Nayak, Director, Delhi School of Economics; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS; and Mr. M.K. Saharia, Executive Committee Member, SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry made presentations. Prof. Sushil Khanna, IIM-Kolkata and Prof. Ajitava Raychaudhury of the Jadavpur University were the panelists. Mr. Bishwajit Bhattacharya, Sr. Advocate, Supreme Court, chaired the Second Session on Strengthening Physical Connectivity in South Asia. Mr. M. Jamshed, Director, Ministry of Railways, Dr. Anup Chandra, Chairman, Kolkata Port Trust; Dr. Prabir De, Fellow, RIS; and Mr. B.K. Bajoria, Executive Committee Member, SAARC Chamber of Commerce & Industry made the presentations. The third session on Fostering People-to-People Connectivity in South Asia was chaired by Ambassador A.M. Khaleeli. The panelists included Ambassador V.K. Grover; Prof. Jayanta Kumar Ray, Chairman, MAKAIAS, Kolkata; and Mr. Rathikant Basu, Chairman, Tara News, Kolkata. Dr. Kheya Bhattacharya, Jt. Secretary (SAARC), Ministry of External Affairs, presented the summary of the discussions

that took place over the two days of the National Conference.

Inception Workshop for the Study on Potentials for Trade in Services under SAFTA Agreement

RIS, jointly with SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu, Nepal, organised the Inception Workshop for the Study on Potentials for Trade in Services under SAFTA Agreement in New Delhi on 10-11 May 2007. The SAARC Secretariat has assigned RIS to conduct this study in consultation with researchers from other SAARC countries within the framework of the SAARC Network of Researchers on Global Financial and Economic Issues. The study is funded by the Asian Development Bank.

Mr. Jairam Ramesh, Hon'ble Minister of State for Commerce and Industry inaugurated the Inception Workshop on 10 May 2007. In his inaugural address Mr. Jairam Ramesh underlined, among others things, the importance of the significant contribution of the services sector in the GDP of all the SAARC member countries and mentioned that the study may focus on informal and formal services sectors in South Asia, importance of remittances in the South Asian economies and issues related to migration.

Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Mr. Vinay Kwatra, Director, SAARC Secretariat, on behalf of Secretary-General, SAARC H.E. Mr. Chenkyab Dorji; and Mr. S.Bando, Asian Development Bank, also addressed the inaugural session. Mr. Rajeev Kher, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, proposed the vote of thanks. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS, and the leader of the delegation of India, was elected Chairperson of the Workshop. The country presentations in different business sessions discussed the importance of services in the economy; extent of trade in services; service sector liberalisation and barriers and potential for services under SAFTA. The presentations also



(From left): Mr. Arif S. Khan, Addl. Secretary, MEA; Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs; Mr. Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee, Hon'ble Chief Minister of West Bengal; Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P., and Chairman, RIS; and Mr. Sudhir Jalan, Past President, FICCI, at the inaugural session of MEA-RIS-FICCI-GIF Conference on SAARC: Accelerating Cooperation through Connectivity held in Kolkata on 1-2 September 2007.

included the suggestions regarding issues to be addressed by the study. Country presentations were made by the following delegations, viz.: Dr. Ananya Raihan, Executive Director, D.Net (Development Research Network), and Dr. Mostafa Abid Khan, Deputy Chief, Bangladesh Tariff Commission: Bangladesh; Mr. Pema R. Rinchen, Deputy Director (WTO), Foreign Trade, Ministry of Trade and Industry: Bhutan; Dr. Pooja Sharma, Fellow, RIS: India; Dr. Ramesh C. Chitrakar, Executive Director, Centre for Economic Development and Administration (CEDA): Nepal; Mr. Fazal Abbas Maken, Minister (Trade), High Commission of Pakistan: Pakistan; and Mr. Deshal de Mel, Research Officer, Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka. From the Indian side the Workshop included participation of, among others, Mrs. Preeti Saran, Joint Secretary (SAARC), Ministry of External Affairs; Mr. Rajeev Kher, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry; Mr. Rajeev Kumar, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Ms. Sonia Pant, Deputy Director, Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Mrs. Apoorva Srivastava, Under Secretary (SAARC-III), Ministry of External Affairs; besides members of the



(From R to l): Prof. Stephen Gelb, Dr. Maria Lucia Padua Lima, Dr. Joseph Karugia and Prof. Arindam Banik at a session of International Workshop on Emergence of Large Developing Countries held in New Delhi on 28-29 June 2007.

RIS faculty. Mr. Vinay Kwatra, Director, Economic Trade and Finance Division; and Mr. Subash Sharma represented the SAARC Secretariat, Nepal. Select participants from the business, industry and academic circles also participated in the discussion. The presentations were followed by extensive discussions. The Workshop also discussed the terms of reference, outline of the study, national inputs to be included in the study, operational approach and time lines to be adopted for the study. It also discussed the work plan and terms of reference made by RIS and as revised during the discussions at the meeting. The two-day programme concluded with the adoption of the Report of the Inception Workshop.

International Workshop on Emergence of Large Developing Countries (BICS) and Implications for International Development

The emergence of large countries in the developing world such as China, India, Brazil and South Africa, has created new avenues for South-South cooperation. At the same time there are some apprehensions also. An in-depth study of the issues involved will help to draw policy lessons for international development

and will facilitate a fuller exploitation of the potential of such cooperation between emerging economies and other developing countries especially in Africa. RIS, with the support of the Commonwealth Secretariat, London, has undertaken a study on the subject. As a part of the study, RIS and the Commonwealth Secretariat, London, jointly organised an international Workshop on the Emergence of Large Developing Countries (BICS) and Implications for International Development in New Delhi on 28-29 June 2007.

Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) and Chairman, RIS, delivered the inaugural address. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; and Dr. Ivan Mbirimi, Principal Adviser, Economic and Trade Division, the Commonwealth Secretariat, London also addressed the opening session.

Dr. Nitin Desai, former Under Secretary-General, United Nations, chaired the first session on Growing Role of Brazil, India, China, South Africa (BICS) in the World Economy in which Dr. Pronab Sen, Chief Statistician of India delivered the Keynote Address on Changing Global Economy by 2050. Professor Anthony Clayton, University of West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica; and Dr. T.K. Bhaumik, Chief Economist, Reliance Industries were the panelists. Ambassador A.N. Ram, former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs chaired Session II on BICS as Markets and Sources of Investments and Technologies for Other Developing Countries: Case of India. The presentations included: India's Emergence as a Market for Developing Countries by Dr. S. K. Mohanty, Fellow, RIS; India as a Source of Investments, Technology, and Assistance by Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow, RIS; and Technical Assistance and Capacity Building in Other Developing Countries - The Case of Exim Bank of India by Mr. K. Muthukumaran, Chief General Manager, Export-Import Bank of India, Mumbai. Dr. Marios Obwona, Ag. Executive Director, Economic Policy Research Centre, Kampala, Uganda; and

Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Director, Ministry of Commerce & Industry were the main commentators. Session III on BICS as Markets and Sources of Investments and Technologies for Other Developing Countries: Case of China was chaired by Prof. Patricia Uberoi, Director, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi. Dr. Guanghua Wan, UNU-WIDER, Finland; and Dr. Song Hong, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Beijing, China made presentations. Dr. Joseph Karugia, African Economic Research Consortium, Nairobi; and Dr. Sunil Ashra, Management Development Institute, Gurgaon were the commentators.

Dr. Joseph Karugia, African Economic Research Consortium, Nairobi chaired the Session on BICS as Markets and Sources of Investments and Technologies for Other Developing Countries: Cases of South Africa and Brazil. It had presentations on The Case of South Africa by Dr. Stephen Gelb, Executive Director, The EDGE Institute, Johannesburg, South Africa; and The Case of Brazil by Dr. Maria Lucia Padua Lima, Coordinator, Center of International Strategic Studies at FGV/ EAESP, Sao Paulo. Professor Anthony Clayton, University of West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica and Professor Arindam Banik, International Management Institute, New Delhi were the Commentators. Dr. Ivan Mbirimi, Commonwealth Secretariat, London chaired the Session V on the Role of BICS in Building a Development-Friendly World Trading Systems. It had presentations by Professor Manmohan Agarwal, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, RIS. Mr. Abhijit Das, Senior Trade Officer, UNCTAD, India was the Commentator. The Workshop concluded with remarks by Dr. Ivan Mbirimi, Commonwealth Secretariat, London; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS. A number of experts participated in the extensive deliberations and open discussion in sessions of the Workshop.



Members of the Track-II Study Group on CEPEA at their Fourth Meeting hosted by RIS in New Delhi on 1-2 February 2008.

Fourth CEPEA Study Group Meeting

The East Asia Summit held in Cebu on 15 January 2007 had launched a Track II study on a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Arrangement for East Asia (CEPEA) to deepen the economic linkages among the 16 EAS countries in a comprehensive manner. Subsequently, the ASEAN Secretariat has set up a Study Group comprising nominees of the governments of the 16 EAS Member countries. RIS hosted the Fourth Meeting of the Study Group in New Delhi on 1-2 February 2008. The Fourth Meeting opened with the Inaugural Address by Mr. N. Ravi, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, after brief welcome remarks by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS and a Member of the Study Group. Mr. Ravi highlighted the importance India attaches to working with partners in the East Asia Summit to build a broader Asian Community that has been envisioned by Dr. Manmohan Singh, the Prime Minister of India. In the sessions that followed, Chairman Mr. Risaburo Nezu of Japan briefed the Meeting about the Report of the Secretary-General of ASEAN to the leaders at the Third East Asia Summit on the progress of CEPEA which indicated the plan to submit the final



(From left): Dr. Vasantha Muthuswamy, Deputy Director General, ICMR; Dr. S.K. Bhattacharya, acting Director General, ICMR; Dr. Fernando Casas; Dr. Miltos Ladikas, UCLAN; Mr. Timothy Hodges, Canada; Professor Gurdial Singh Nijar, Malaysia; Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow, RIS at the International Conference on Access and Benefit Sharing for Genetic Resources, held in New Delhi on 6-7 March 2008.

report by August 2008 in time for ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting (AEM Meeting). He also drew attention to the Chairman's Statement at the Third East Asia Summit held in Singapore on 21 November 2007 which encouraged the CEPEA Study Group to maintain good momentum in their work and submit a final Report of the recommendations to the Fourth East Asia Summit through Economic Ministers. It also said that "CEPEA should build upon and add value to the existing FTAs". Thereafter, the Meeting discussed the early versions of the draft chapters of the Report of the Study Group. The different sessions also had presentations which were followed by open discussion. These included: Trade Facilitation by New Zealand; Cooperation for Narrowing Development Gaps by India; Environment and Energy Cooperation in East Asia by China; Information and Communication Technology (ICT) by Malaysia; CEPEA Institutional Framework of EAS by Indonesia; Objectives and Scope of CEPEA prepared by Japan; and Roadmap to CEPEA by Japan. RIS had also arranged presentations by two Indian business houses. These included one by President of Tata Steel in Singapore and the other by the Vice-President of NIIT Ltd.

International Conference on Access and Benefit Sharing for Genetic Resources

Linkages between TRIPs and indigenous knowledge system (IKS) emerged as one of the most contentious issue at the Doha round of WTO negotiations. One of the possible policy options suggested by the developing countries as part of reconciliation is the possibility of access and benefit sharing (ABS). There has been an intense debate about the various aspects of the ABS of genetic resources at national and international levels. This calls for urgent and substantive policy responses both at the national and at the international level. In order to discuss the issues involved, RIS in collaboration with the University of Central Lancashire (UCLAN), the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF), Government of India and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi organised the International Conference on Access and Benefit Sharing for Genetic Resources in New Delhi on 6-7 March 2008. The Conference began with welcome remarks by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS. Mr. B. S. Parsheera, Additional Secretary, MoEF delivered the inaugural address. Prof. Doris Schroeder, Project Leader, GenBenefit, University of Central Lancashire explained the GenBenefit project. Prof. Thomas Pogge, Yale University delivered the Keynote Address on ABS and International Trade and Legal Regimes. Dr. Vasantha Muthuswamy, ICMR extended the vote of thanks. Mr. Timothy Hodges, Canada chaired the Session I: Panel Discussions on Issues in ABS Debate. The issues presented included Overview of Negotiations at WTO Forum by Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Former Director, Ministry of Commerce & Industry; Overview of Negotiations at CBD Forum by Prof. Gurdial Singh Nijar, Malaysia; ABS and Human Genetics by Dr. Véronique Fournier, Director, CE Centre, Paris, France; and ABS and Gender Issues by



Delegates at the Regional Consultation Meeting held in New Delhi on 6-7 February 2008 (seated L-R): Mr. Shahid Bashir, Pakistan; Mr. Rajiv Kher, Dr. Kheya Bhattacharya, Dr. Nagesh Kumar, India; Dr. Saman Kelegama, Sri Lanka; and Mr. Raja Manzoor Ahmed Kayani, Pakistan.

Prof. Fatima Alvarez-Castillo, University of Philippines. Session II on Indigenous Knowledge System, ABS and Evidence from Plant based Case Studies was chaired by Dr. Fernando Casas, Colombia. It had presentations on San Hoodia Case and ABS by Dr. Roger Chennels, Stellenbosch; ABS and Kani Case by Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, RIS; and ABS Arrangements in Peru by Dr. Bram De Jonge, Wageningen University. Session III on Emerging ABS Trends in Human Genetics was chaired by Prof. R. Kumar, IIS, Bangalore. It had presentations on ABS Issues and Icelandic Biobank by Dr. Gardar Arnason, Manchester University; and Majengo HIV/AIDS Research Case by Prof. Doris Schroeder and Dr. Pamela Andanda, University of the Witwatersrand. The Session on Implementation of ABS and National Legal Regimes was co-chaired by Prof. Madhav Menon, Member, CCSR; and Dr. R. S. Rana, Member, UNEP-CBD Tech Expert Group on Tech Transfer. Dr. Dafna Feinholz, Executive Director, NCB, Mexico; Dr. Lifeng Guo, Researcher, CASTED, China; Prof. P. Pushpangadan, AIHB, Kerala; Mr. Jack Beetson, Aboriginal Philosopher, FIAEP, Australia; and Dr. K. Venkataraman, Secretary, NBA, Chennai addressed the session. Dr. Miltos Ladikas, University of Central Lancashire, UK chaired the Valedictory Session. Mr. Timothy Hodges;

Dr. Fernando Casas; and Dr. S. K. Bhattacharya, Additional Director General, ICMR addressed the participants at the Valedictory Session on the ABS Policy Lessons and Way Forward.

Regional Consultation Meeting on the Study on Potential for Trade in Services under SAFTA Agreement

RIS and SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu jointly organised the Regional Consultation Meeting on the Study on Potential for Trade in Services under the SAFTA Agreement in New Delhi on 6-7 February 2008. The Meeting began with opening remarks by the SAARC Secretary-General's Representative Mr. Vinay Kwatra, Director, Economic Trade and Finance Division, SAARC Secretariat. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS was unanimously elected the Chairperson for the Meeting. In the first business session, presentations were made by the country delegations. They included: Mr. Nisar Ahmad Masoud, Director, Ministry of Commerce and Industries, Afghanistan; Mr. Sayed Ahmadullah Majeed, Commercial Counsellor, Embassy of Afghanistan, New Delhi; Mr. Mohd Khalid Yousufzai, Supporting Officer, Afghanistan; Dr. Ananya Raihan, Executive Director, D.Net (Development Research Network), Bangladesh; Dr. Mostafa Abid Khan, Joint



From right to left: Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Dr. Ricardo Melendez-Ortiz and other participants at the Discussion Meeting on RIS' World Trade Development Report 2007 in Geneva on 5 June 2007.

Chief, Bangladesh Tariff Commission, Bangladesh; Mr. Pema R. Rinchen, Head (WTO), Foreign Trade, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Bhutan; Mr. Abdulla Thawfeeq, Director, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Malé; Ms. Laila Manik, Legal Officer, Ministry of Tourism and Civil Aviation, Malé; Dr. Ramesh C. Chitrakar, Executive Director, Centre for Economic Development and Administration (CEDA), Nepal; Mr. Shiva Prasad Tripathi, Officer, Ministry of Industry, Commerce & Supplies, Nepal; Mr. Shahid Bashir, Joint Secretary (FTI), Ministry of Commerce, Pakistan; Mr. Fazal Abbas Maken, Minister (Trade), High Commission of Pakistan, New Delhi; Mr. Raja Manzoor Ahmed Kayani, Deputy Secretary (WTO), Ministry of Commerce, Islamabad, Pakistan; Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka; Mr. Deshal de Mel, Research Officer, Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka; Mr. Vinay Kwatra, Director, Economic, Trade and Finance Division; and Mr. Subash C. Sharma, Economic, Trade and Finance Division, SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu. The Indian delegation included: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Mr. Rajeev Kher, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry; Dr. (Ms.) Kheya Bhattacharya,

Joint Secretary (SAARC), Ministry of External Affairs; Mr. Amit Yadav, Director, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry; Mr. Rajeev Kumar, Director, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow, RIS; Dr. Prabir De, Fellow, RIS; and Ms. Apoorva Srivastava, Under Secretary (SAARC), Ministry of External Affairs. The meeting extensively discussed the draft regional study prepared by RIS. The study was subsequently finalised in the light of the comments received, and submitted to the SAARC Secretariat.

RIS/Commonwealth Secretariat Seminar on RIS' World Trade and Development Report 2007, London on 31 May 2007

The Commonwealth Secretariat, London and RIS jointly organised a discussion meeting on the *World Trade and Development Report 2007: Building a Development-Friendly World Trading System* in London on 31 May 2007. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the contents of the Report, take stock of the state of play in the Doha Round negotiations and suggest ways in which a development friendly outcome could be achieved.

The Meeting began with opening remarks by Ambassador Edwin Laurent, Head, International Trade and Regional Cooperation, Economic Affairs Division (EAD). Thereafter Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS presented the main highlights and recommendations of the *Report*. The presentation of the highlights and recommendations of the *Report* was followed by a Panel Discussion moderated by Dr. Ivan Mbirimi, Principal Adviser, the Commonwealth Secretariat. The Panelists included the following: Prof. Graham Dutfield, Centre for International Governance, Leeds University; Dr. Sheila Page, Senior Research Associate, Overseas Development Institute (ODI); Dr. Amrita Narlikar, Cambridge University; and Mr. Shishir Priyadarshi, Counsellor,

Development Division, WTO. After the panel discussion, an open discussion also followed in which invited participants took part. RIS was complimented for bringing out the *Report* and for highlighting the development concerns in the ongoing Doha Round.

RIS/ICTSD Seminar on World Trade and Development Report 2007: Building a Development-Friendly World Trading System, Geneva, 5 June, 2007

RIS and the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), Geneva, organised a Discussion Meeting on the *World Trade and Development Report 2007: Building a Development-Friendly World Trading System* in Geneva on 5 June 2007. The *Report* has been published jointly by RIS and Oxford University Press. The meeting opened with remarks by Dr. Ricardo Melendez-Ortiz, Chief Executive, ICTSD. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS presented the highlights and recommendations of the *Report*. This was followed by comments and discussions by a panel of discussants which included: H.E. Shree Baboo Chekitan Servansing, Ambassador, Permanent Mission of Mauritius to the WTO; Professor Thandika Mkandawire, Director of UNRISD; Dr. Chiedu Osakwe, Director DDA, WTO Secretariat; and Professor Carlos Murillo, International Centre of Economic Policy for Sustainable Development (CINPE), Costa Rica. The panel discussion was followed by an open discussion which had participation of a large number of invited experts.

RIS/South Centre Seminar on Global Trade Governance and the Role of the South, at WTO Public Forum 2007, Geneva

RIS, jointly with South Centre, Geneva organised two-part sessions at the WTO



Dr. Werner Corrales-Leal; Dr. Mark Halle; Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Ambassador Faizel Ismail at the session on International Trading System and Development, organised by RIS at the Conference on Emerging Power in Global Governance – New Challenges and Policy Option held in Paris on 6-7 July 2007.

Public Forum 2007 held in Geneva on 5 October 2007. This provided the forum for an integrated discussion linking academic and practitioner perspectives on how the rapidly changing context of global geopolitical and economic relations should be addressed through a more active role of the South in for example: (a) participating in global economic governance institutions such as the WTO; and (b) improving the ability of the WTO to facilitate Southern participation in its governance processes to improve the development-orientation of the ongoing negotiations. The panel event aimed at a better understanding of both the theory and practice of improving WTO governance mechanisms to enhance its ability to promote development outcomes. The speakers included H.E. Dr. A. M. Maruping, Ambassador of Lesotho and LDC Coordinator; H.E. Mr. Faizal Ismail, Ambassador of South Africa to WTO and NAMA 11 Coordinator; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Mr. Vicente Paolo Yu, GGDP Coordinator, South Centre; Dr. Carolyn Deere, Oxford University; Dr. Manfred Elsig, World Trade Institute; University of Bern; and Mr. Mayur Patel, Oxford University. The Sessions attracted sizeable attendance and intensive discussion from the floor.



(From left): Dr. T.K. Roy, Director, CPPRI; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Professor Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission; Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow, RIS; and Mr. Bipin Menon, Department of Commerce at the Seminar on Implications of the WTO Proposals on India Paper and Newsprint Industry held in New Delhi on 13 September 2007.

Seminar on Emerging Countries and Trade and Development, Paris, 6-7 July 2007

The current impasse in the Doha Round of trade negotiations suggests that all is not well with the present system. Developing countries tend to view these negotiations as occasions used by industrialised countries to extract trade concessions from them and as instruments used to circumscribe their development policy space. Although the Doha Round was to address the development concerns of poor countries, the proposals on the table might deliver the opposite. The emergence of coalitions of developing countries in the present Round, for example, G-20, led by larger countries such as Brazil, India, China, South Africa, Indonesia has helped them raise their concerns in a more effective manner. The present impasse offers an opportunity to pause and reflect on the broader issues of reform negotiations and consider ways and means of making developing country participation more effective and broad based to ascertain a development friendly outcome for the Doha Round. *The World Trade and Development Report 2007*, prepared by RIS, has summarised an agenda for reform of the multilateral trading system to make it more development friendly. This provided the basis for the panel discussion in a special

session on International Trading System and Development organised by the RIS at the international conference on Emerging Powers in Global Governance-New Challenges and Policy Options. The Conference was organised by the Paris-based Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations in partnership with Sciences Po; International Institute for Sustainable Development; and School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University in Paris on 6-7 July 2007. Dr. Mark Halle, European Representative, IISD, chaired the session. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS made the lead presentation. This was followed by discussion among the distinguished panelists namely: Dr. Werner Corrales-Leal, Senior Fellow, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development; and Ambassador Faizel Ismail, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the World Trade Organisation. The noted participants in the Session comprised Sir Nicholas Stern, Adviser to H.M. Head of Government Economic Service, UK; Prof. John Humphreys of IDS Sussex, among many other leading experts.

Seminar on Implications of the WTO Proposals on Indian Paper and Newsprint Industry

RIS and the Central Pulp & Paper Research Institute (CPPRI) organised a Seminar on Implications of the WTO Proposals on Indian Paper and Newsprint Industry, on 13 September 2007 in New Delhi. Professor Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission, chaired the Seminar. The Seminar opened with welcome remarks by Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS followed by some words by Professor Anwarul Hoda, Member Planning Commission. Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow, RIS made a presentation of the study on WTO Proposals and Indian Paper and Newsprint Industry. Mr. Bipin Menon, Department of Commerce and Industry, followed with a presentation on NAMA

Negotiations in Doha Round: State of Play. These were followed by an open discussion by a large number of participants from government, business, industry and academic circles. Dr. T.K. Roy, Director, CPPRI extended the vote of thanks.

Seminar on Governance and Voice in the International Financial Institutions

There has been an ongoing debate on the need for reform of the governance of international financial institutions (IFIs) which reflects the economic structures of the early post-war period and not the current realities. It is in this context that RIS organised a Seminar on Governance and Voice in the International Financial Institutions (IFIs) on 10 August 2007. Mr. C.M. Vasudev, former Secretary, Government of India and Executive Director, World Bank, Washington D.C. chaired the Seminar. Dr. Amar Bhattacharya, Director, G-24 Secretariat, Washington DC made the presentation which was followed by open discussion.

Seminar on Regional Cooperation and Integration Prospects in Asia

RIS organised a Seminar on Regional Cooperation and Integration Prospects in Asia on 5 December 2007. Mr. Rajat Nag, Managing Director-General, Asian Development Bank, Manila delivered a talk on the theme of the seminar. Dr. Parthasarathy Shome, Adviser to the Finance Minister Chaired the Seminar. The talk was followed by open discussion. In his talk Dr. Rajat Nag, among others, underlined the strong opportunity that exists for South Asian countries to benefit from intensifying regional ties. As the region continues to build its economic infrastructure and new cross-border projects are implemented, these will not only intensify trade in goods and services, but also facilitate the movement of people.



(From left): Mr. Rajat Nag, Managing Director-General, Asian Development Bank; Dr. Parthasarathy Shome, Adviser to the Finance Minister; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS at the Regional Cooperation and Integration Prospects in Asia held in RIS on 5 December 2007.

Easing existing cross-border impediments to trade and labour movements, will likely be the strongest economic driver over the coming decade. Economic cooperation and integration will be possibly the key pillar of the region's future development. A large number of participants from business, industry, academic, government, and media circles participated.

Seminar on the Third East Asia Summit and Future Prospects

Bringing together leaders of 16 major and most dynamic countries in Asia-Pacific, EAS has emerged as an important forum for dialogue on regional cooperation related issues. The Prime Minister of India attended the third session of the East Asia Summit (EAS) held in Singapore on 21 November 2007. To take stock of the outcome of the recent EAS in Singapore and discuss the future prospects, RIS, jointly with the Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS), New Delhi, organised a Seminar on 18 December 2007. At this Seminar a Panel comprising, Dr. Mukul G. Asher, Professor, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore and an adjunct Senior Fellow, RIS; Mr. M.K. Venu, Senior Editor, *The Economic Times*; Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Senior Adviser, RIS; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS raised discussion issues before an open discussion. Commodore



(From left): Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala; Professor Patricia Uberoi; Commodore C. Uday Bhaskar, VSM; Dr. Mukul G. Asher; Dr. Nagesh Kumar; and Mr. M.K. Venu at the seminar on the Third East Asia Summit and Future Prospects held in RIS on 18 December 2007.

C. Uday Bhaskar, VSM, formerly Director, Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis and Member, RIS Governing Council, moderated the Session. Professor Patricia Uberoi, Hony. Director, Institute of Chinese Studies, thanked the panelists on behalf of the organisers. A large number of participants took part in the open discussion that followed.

Seminar on Governance Matters: Examining the Dimensions of Governance Relevant for Private Investment

The issue of the role of institutions and governance in determining investment and growth has been highlighted in the literature, although the empirical evidence is rather poor because of measurement and data problems. RIS organised a Seminar on Governance Matters: Examining the Dimensions of Governance Relevant for Private Investment on 27 December 2007. Dr. Meenakshi Rishi, Associate Professor of Economics, Albers School of Business and Economics, Seattle University made a presentation on the subject based on her recent empirical study. Professor Manmohan Agarwal, School of International Studies, International Trade and Development, JNU, New Delhi chaired Seminar. The presentation was followed up by open discussion.

Seminar on Regional Cooperation in Asia: Lessons from the Nordic Cooperation

RIS organised a Seminar on Regional Cooperation in Asia: Lessons from the Nordic Cooperation on 16 November 2007. Mr. Caj Lars Soderlund, Senior Adviser to the President of Finland of the Nordic Council of Ministers made a presentation on the subject and initiated the discussion. Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Senior Adviser, RIS chaired. A number of participants took part in the open discussion that followed the presentation of Mr. Caj Lars Soderlund.

Roundtable Discussion on Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's Visit to China: Charting Future Directions in India-China Relations

RIS and the Institute of Chinese Studies, CSDS jointly organised a Roundtable Discussion on Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's Visit to China: Charting Future Directions in India-China Relations in New Delhi on 8 February 2009. The discussion began with welcome remarks by Professor Patricia Uberoi, Honorary Director, Institute of Chinese Studies who also chaired the first session. Session I had the following presentations: Political Dimension by Dr. Alka Acharya, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Economic Dimension by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS and Commercial Dimension by Mr. Jayant Bhuyan, Confederation of Indian Industries. Professor Manoranjan Mohanty chaired and moderated the Session II on Discussion and Question & Answer. Ambassador Vinod Khanna, Emeritus Fellow, ICS was the Discussant. A large number of participants took part in the open discussion that followed. Dr. Srinkanth Kondapalli, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University summed up the discussion and extended the vote of thanks.

Seminar on India's Trade Policy Options: Multilateral Trade Negotiations vs. Bilateral Arrangements

The past few years have seen a number of developments with respect to trade policy negotiations in the country. While India has emerged as a key participant among the developing countries in the Doha round of negotiations, it has also engaged some of its key trade partners into bilateral and regional trade negotiations. India has concluded preferential bilateral trade arrangements with Sri Lanka and Singapore, and is currently negotiating with ASEAN, Japan, South Korea, and is studying such arrangements with China, the European Union, Indonesia, Malaysia, among other countries. To discuss the merits of different options, RIS organised a Seminar on India's Trade Policy Options: Multilateral Trade Negotiations vs. Bilateral Arrangements on 9 January 2008. After the opening remarks by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS, Dr. Sandra Polaski, Director, Trade, Equity and Development Programme, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Washington initiated the discussion. She is the lead author of a recent Carnegie Study on India's Trade Policy Choices. This presentation was followed by a Panel Discussion on the findings by Professor Manmohan Agarwal, School of International Studies, JNU; Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Senior Adviser, RIS; and Dr. T.K. Bhaumik, Chief Economist, Reliance



(From left): Dr. Alka Acharya; Prof. Patricia Uberoi; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, and Mr. Jayant Bhuyan at the Seminar on Charting Future Directions in India-China Relations, held in New Delhi on 8 February 2008.

Industries Limited. The presentations were followed by open discussion.

Seminar on Deepening Asian Integration: Issues and Challenges

RIS organised a Seminar on Deepening Asian Integration: Issues and Challenges on 11 March 2008 in New Delhi. The Seminar began with opening remarks by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS. Professor Muchkund Dubey, President, CSD and Chairman, Research Advisory Council, RIS chaired. Dr. Srinivasa Madhur, Director, Office of Regional Economic Integration, Asian Development Bank, Manila, spoke on the theme of the Seminar. It was followed by open discussion. Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Senior Adviser, RIS was the Discussant.



(From left): Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Dr. Sandra Polaski, Prof. Manmohan Agarwal, Dr. Nagesh Kumar, and Dr. T.K. Bhaumik at the Seminar on India's Trade Policy Options, held in RIS on 9 January 2008.



(From right): Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Professor Muchkund Dubey, President, CSD; and Chairman, Research Advisory Council, RIS; Dr. Srinivasa Madhur, Director, Office of Regional Economic Integration, Asian Development Bank, Manila; and Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Senior Adviser, RIS at Seminar on Deepening Asian Integration, held in RIS on 11 March 2008.

Contributions of RIS Faculty to Outside Policy Dialogues

Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General

- Nominated by the Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry as a Member of Track Two Study Group on Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia (CEPEA), constituted by the Secretary-General, ASEAN, on April 2007.
- Made a presentation on Pan-Asian FTA and EAS at the India-Malaysia Strategic Dialogue, organised by the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi on 9-10 April 2007.
- Made a presentation on FDI in India and Competition at the National Conference on Expanding Freedom: Towards Social and Economic Transformation in a Globalising World, organised by the Institute of Economic Growth on 11-13 April 2007 in New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on Outward Investments from India at the Workshop on Intra-Asian FDI Flows: Magnitude, Trends, Prospects and Policy Implications, organised by ICRIER in New Delhi on 25 April 2007.
- Participated in the Meeting of the Experts on Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), organised by the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research, in Malaysia on 26-27 May 2007.
- Participated in the First Meeting of the Expert Committee on Development of Service Price Index (SPI) in respect of Air Transport and Port Services, organised by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi on 29 May 2007.
- Participated in the Brainstorming and Interactive Session on the Future Directions for India's Public Diplomacy, organised by the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on 29 May 2007.
- Nominated as Member of the High Level Study Group of the Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), constituted at the Sixth Meeting of the Foreign Minister of the Asian Cooperation Dialogue, held at Seoul on 4-5 June 2007.
- Participated in the 7th Meeting of the Governing Board of ICTSD, held in Geneva on 7-8 June, 2007. Also took part in the Meetings of the Executive Council as well as Publications Committee of ICTSD, held on 5-6 June 2007 in Geneva. Held meetings with senior officials of UNCTAD, WTO and the South Centre in Geneva.
- Participated in the first meeting of Track-Two Study Group on Comprehensive Economic Partnership in East Asia of ERIA, organised by Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO) in Tokyo on 15-16 June 2007.
- Nominated as a Member of the High Level Committee on Economic Affairs, constituted by FICCI, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vijay Kelkar.
- Chaired the Workshop on International Infrastructure Development in East Asia: Toward Effective and Balanced Regional Integration, organised by Bangkok Research Centre, IDE-JETRO as a part of ERIA work programme on 15 July 2007.
- Made a presentation on Investment Provisions in Regional Trading Arrangements in Asia: Relevance, Emerging Trends, and Policy Implications at the ARTNeT Consultative Meeting on Trade and Investment Policy Coordination, organised by UNESCAP in Bangkok on 16-17 July 2007.
- Participated in the First Meeting of the Strategy Advisory Committee of the Export-Import Bank of India held in Mumbai on 28 July 2007.
- Released to the press the UNCTAD's Annual Publication *Trade and Development Report 2007 – Regional Cooperation for Development* at UN Information Centre in New Delhi on 5 September 2007.

- Participated in the Brainstorming Session on the contents and presentation of the *Economic Survey*, organised by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance in New Delhi on 17 September 2007.
- Participated in the Second Meeting of the Economic Affairs Committee of FICCI held in New Delhi on 21 September 2007.
- Addressed the 54th Session of UNCTAD's Trade and Development Board, held in Geneva on 3 October 2007 on Regional Economic Integration in Asia.
- Nominated by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India to participate the IBSA Academic Seminar held at Johannesburg, South Africa on 15-16 October 2007 on the eve of IBSA Summit.
- Participated in the 3rd Meeting of the Track Two Study Group on CEPEA held in Bangkok on 26-27 October 2007.
- Participated in the Inter-Ministerial Meeting in preparation of the SAARC Committee on Economic Cooperation held in the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi on 16 November 2007.
- Participated in the Meeting of the Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP), held in ICWA, New Delhi on 15 November 2007.
- Chaired a session on Impact of ICT at the Workshop on ICT Measurement for Knowledge Economy, organised by the Department of Information Technology (DIT), Ministry of Communications and Information Technology and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in New Delhi on 20 November 2007.
- Participated in the preparatory Meeting of the India-Indonesia Joint Study Group held in the Department of Commerce, New Delhi on 10 November 2007.
- Participated in the Forty-Second Meeting of the Board of Governors of ISID held on 7 December 2007.
- Participated in a meeting of the Selection Committee for selecting candidates for the IORARC Chair, held in the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi on 11 December 2007.
- Participated in the Consultation Meeting on the Regional Study on Trade in Services under SAARC in the SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu, Nepal on 28 December 2007.
- Participated in the Steering Committee Meeting on the Project on Trade and Gender, funded by the Commonwealth Secretariat, London, held in the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi on 7 January 2008.
- Participated in the Meeting of Economists with Hon'ble Finance Minister for Pre-Budget Consultations, held in New Delhi on 9 January 2008.
- Participated in the Roundtable Discussion on India's Potential Role in Improving Multilateral Trade Organisation's Effectiveness, organised by TARU in New Delhi on 15 January 2008.
- Made a presentation on Policy Measures Required for Investment Environment in Bhutan, organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and CII in New Delhi on 15 January 2008.
- Chaired the Workshop on International Infrastructure Development in East Asia: Towards Effective and Balanced Regional Integration; and participated in the Research Project Leaders Meeting of ERIA, organised by the IDE-JETRO Bangkok Research Center on 19-21 January 2008.
- Delivered a Keynote Address at the Regional Policy Dialogue on Pro-poor Housing Finance, organised the National Housing Bank, India in association with UNESCAP in New Delhi on 30 January 2008.
- Chaired the Session on Trade, Investment and Labour Markets in the Conference on Growth and Macroeconomic Issues and Challenges in India, organised by the Institute of Economic Growth in New Delhi on 15 February 2008.
- Panelist at the Budget Discussion, organised by the PHD Commerce and Industry in New Delhi on 29 February 2008.
- Made a presentation at SAFTA Committee of Experts: Third Meeting held in New Delhi on 1 March 2008 hosted by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- Participated in the ERIA Workshop for Roadmap Project and ERIA Tokyo Forum on Creation of the World's Largest Business Space, organised by the IDE-JETRO in Tokyo on 3-4 March 2008.
- Made a presentation on India's Economic Relations with East Asia at ADB-ICRIER Seminar on India's Role in Asian Economic Integration, held in New Delhi on 10 March 2008.

- Participated in the Meeting of the Board of Governors of the ISID, held in New Delhi on 24 March 2008.
- Delivered the Inaugural Address at the National Seminar on Asian Economic Integration, organised by the Department of Economics, Kurukshetra University, Haryana on 25 March 2008.
- Chaired the Session on Benefit from Transport Facilitation and Trade in Services in SAFTA at the Seminar on Regional Cooperation in South Asia, organised by FICCI, ADB and UNCTAD-India Programme in New Delhi on 28 March 2008.

Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Senior Adviser

- Panel Speaker at the Conference on Investing in BRIC Economies: Opportunities and Challenges, organised by ASSOCHAM in New Delhi on 18 April 2007.
- Presented a paper on Challenges and Opportunities of Sovereign Wealth Accumulation in the South: An Indian Perspective at the Sovereign Wealth Funds Seminar, organised by the Andean Development Corporation (CAF) in London on 18 February 2008.
- Participated in the Symposium on the theme Can the Dynamism of Asia be Sustained?, organised by Keizai Koho Centre in Tokyo on 24 March 2008.
- Presented a paper on India's Role in Sustaining Dynamism of Asia at the seminar held at Asian Development Bank Institute, Tokyo on 25 March 2008.

Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow

- Participated in a Brainstorming Meeting on Research Agenda for 2nd phase of South Asian Policy Analysis Network (SAPNA) at New Delhi on 3 April 2007.
- Participated in the International Seminar on Dynamics, Economic Growth, and International Trade, DEGIT – XII at University of Melbourne, Australia on 29-30 June 2007.
- Visiting Professor at the University of Melbourne, Australia from 16 June to 4 July, 2007.
- Presented a Seminar on Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements: Case Study of India at the Centre for Strategic Economic

Studies, Victoria University, Melbourne on 3 July 2007.

- Presented a Seminar on WTO Negotiations on Non-Agriculture Market Access: A Developing Country Perspective at the School of Economics and Finance, Campbelltown Campus, University of Western Sydney, Australia on 11 July 2007.
- Participated in the UNCAD and APEDA's Seminar on Non-Tariff Measures: Implementing an Analytical Framework at the NCUI Auditorium on 8 August 2007, New Delhi.
- Participated in the Workshop on Going Beyond Doha Negotiations: Promoting South-South Trade, organised by the Ministry of Commerce, FICCI, and UNCTAD on 9 August 2007 in New Delhi.
- Participated in the International Seminar on Growth and Development of Animal Industry in India, held in New Delhi on 16-18 August 2007.
- Organised a four-day module on 5-8 September for MFPI, Quality Council of India (QCI). Made key presentation on SPS Agreement and Its Implications in the Technical Session on Food during the special event on Future Vistas for Food Safety, held on 5 September 2007 in New Delhi.
- Visiting Fellow at the Department of Economics, Asian Economics Centre, The University of Melbourne, Victoria, Australia during June-July 2007.
- Participated in the meeting with Members of Indian Mission regarding 7th Trilateral China-India-Russia Track-II Academic Conference held in New Delhi on 9 October 2007 and 19 October 2007.
- As a Member of Indian Delegation participated in the meeting with Russian Sinologists at IFES, Russian Academy of Science, Moscow on 24 October 2007.
- Presented a paper on China, India and Russia in the Global Economy: Enhancing Trade and Cooperation and participated as a Member of Indian Delegation in the 7th Trilateral China-India-Russia Track-II Academic Conference, organised by the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), IFES in Moscow on 25-27 October 2007.
- Presented a paper on Global Poultry Sector Trends and External Drivers for Structural Change – A Case of India at the FAO International Conference on Poultry in the

21st Century, held in Bangkok on 5-7 November 2007.

- Made a presentation on India-ASEAN Economic Relations: A Way Forward at the National Conference on ASEAN Summit 2007: Opportunities and Challenges for India, organised by the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS) on 26 November 2007 in New Delhi.
- Participated in the Meeting on Indo-Korea-CEPA Negotiations, held under Chairmanship of Commerce Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry in New Delhi on 5 December 2007.
- Participated in 8th International Technical Conference and Exhibition on PAPEREX 2007, organised by the Indian Agro and Recycled Paper Mills Association in New Delhi on 8 December 2007.
- Participated in the Russia-India-China (RIC) Trilateral Seminar on Evolution of Geo-Political Strategic Trends, organised by the ICWA, New Delhi in collaboration with ICS, New Delhi on 27 March 2007.
- Made a presentation on Implications of the WTO Tariff Proposals on Indian Paper and Newsprint Industry at the Development Council for Pulp, Paper and Allied Industries, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 28 March 2008.

Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Fellow

- Made a presentation on India and East Asia Integration at the Workshop on India-Southeast Asia Relations, organised by the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, New Delhi on 18 August 2007.
- Made a presentation on WTO Moratorium on Electronically Delivery Software: A Developing Country Perspective Based on Indian Experience at the 2007 EAIEL ICT Research Network Symposium, organised by then East Asian International Economic Law and Policy Programme, The University of Hong Kong on 23-24 August 2007, Hong Kong.
- Made a presentation on Trade in Environmentally Sensitive Goods and Sustainable Development in Asian Countries at the International Workshop on Building the Common Good in Asia, held on 9-16 September 2007 in Beijing, China.
- Made a presentation on Challenges of Connectivity at the IBSA Academic Seminar

held in Johannesburg on 15-16 October 2007.

Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow

- Made a presentation on Trade Integration in South Asia: Emerging Bilateral and Regional Arrangements including SAFTA at the South Asian People's Summit, organised by SANSAD, New Delhi on 2 April 2007.
- Made a presentation on Indo-German Development Cooperation: Issues and Prospects at the German Development Institute (DIE), Bonn on 21 May 2007.
- Made a presentation on What Does India Expect from German Development Cooperation? at the German Development Institute (DIE), Bonn on 23 May 2007.
- Made a presentation on Emerging Anchor Countries: Implications for Global Governance at the International Conference on Democratizing Global Governance: Perspectives of Emerging Powers and G-8 on Summit Reform and the United Nations, organised by the German United Nations Association, Berlin on 31 May 2007.
- Made a presentation on Incentives for Innovations and New Technologies at the Health Congress 2007 on Innovation, Technology and Equity in Health on 17 July 2007 in Salvador, Brazil.
- Made a presentation on Experiences from FTA Engagement at the Brainstorming Meeting on Indo-EU FTA, organised by CENTAD and Oxfam International on 21 August 2007 in New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on WTO and Trade in Electronically Delivered Software (EDS): Emerging Challenges and Policy Options - An Indian Perspective at the 2007 EAIEL ICT Research Network Symposium, organised by the University of Hong Kong on 23 August 2007 in Hong Kong.
- Made a presentation on Deciphering US Farm Bill 2007: Moving Forward Falling Behind at the National Consultation on What the Doha Development Round Means for India on 29 August 2007 in New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on Prospects for Biotechnology Investment and Collaborations at the Planning Workshop of Indo-Swiss Collaboration in Biotechnology (ISCB) Phase 3 held on 7-8 September 2007 at Manesar, New Gurgaon.
- Made a presentation on ABS and Kani Case in India at the GenBenefit Project Meeting,

- held on 9-14 September 2007 in Nairobi, Kenya.
- Made a presentation on Global Economic Scenario and Emergence of South at the National Conference on Strategies for Sustainable Economic Turn Around, organised by Indraprastha University, New Delhi on 16 October 2007.
- Made a presentation on Development Aid Policies: Emerging Experience from India at the Conference on Emerging Powers and their Development Aid Policies, organised by International Network on Development Aid, held in Johannesburg, South Africa on 29 October 2007.
- Made a presentation on Emerging Global Order: Role of India at the Conference on Emerging Powers and their Role in Global Economic Governance: Impetus for Reform, organised by SAIIA, Johannesburg, South Africa on 30 October 2007.
- Made a presentation on Environmental Risk Assessment, Socio-Economic Considerations and Decision-Making Support for LMOs in India at the Workshop on Biosafety Capacity Building Project: Outcome and the Way Forward, organised by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India, in New Delhi on 6 November 2007.
- Made a presentation on Trade Facilitation and Regional Integration: Emerging Trends from South Asia at the Inter-Regional Forum on Trade Facilitation and Regional Trade Agreements, organised by UN-ESCWA, Amman, Jordan, on 14 November 2007.
- Made a presentation on GPNs and Indian Biopharmaceutical Industry: Emerging Linkages and Prospects at the International Workshop on Global Production Networks and Decent Work: Recent Experience in India and Global Trends, organised by IILS, ICSSR, IHD and ISCE, Bangalore on 19 November 2007.
- Made a presentation on Vulnerability and Kani Case in India at the GenBenefit – Vulnerability Workshop, held in Cape Town, South Africa on 28-30 November 2007.
- Made a presentation on Global Experience with ABS: Emerging Evidence from India and South Africa at the Workshop on India's Experiences on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing, held in New Delhi on 18 December 2007.
- Made presentation on Changing Structure of Indian Seed Industry: Policy Prospects and Emerging Lessons at the South Asian Conference on Harnessing Gains from Trade: Domestic Challenges and Beyond, held in New Delhi on 20 December 2007.
- Made a presentation on Indigenous Knowledge System (IKS) and Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) at the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Trivandrum on 1 March 2008.
- Made a presentation on South-South Linkages in Genomics at Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advance Studies, Bangalore on 29 February 2008.
- Made a presentation on Industry Associations as Agents of Change at the Discussion Meeting on Innovation System and Economic Growth in India, organised by IIM, Ahmedabad on 4 January 2008

Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow

- Made a presentation on Afghanistan Study in the Department of Commerce on 16 April, 2007, New Delhi.
- Speaker at the Roundtable on SAFTA: An Enabler of South Asian Regional Integration, organised by the SAARC Chamber of Commerce and Industry, FPCCI and FNSt on April 17-18, 2007 in Bhurban, Pakistan.
- Participated in the India-ASEAN Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) Meeting, held on May 9-11, 2007 in New Delhi.
- Participated in the India-Malaysia JSG Meeting, held in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 25 May 2007.
- Speaker at Regional Conference on SAARC: Fourteenth Summit & Beyond, organised by ICWA and KAF in New Delhi on 1-2 June 2007.
- Participated in the Meeting on Asian Think Tanks: Strengthening Knowledge Management and Knowledge-Sharing, organised by ADBI on 5-8 June, 2007 in Tokyo, Japan.
- Participated in the Meeting of the Government of India's Expert Group on Preferential Rules of Origin, held in New Delhi on 15 June, 2007.
- Participated in the Meeting on Trade in Audio-Visual Services held in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, New Delhi on 28 June 2007.

- Participated in the discussion meeting on Knowledge Sharing Session-Intra SAARC Trade, organised by AT Kearney Ltd, Mumbai, on 11 July 2007.
- Participated in the Industry Consultation on Rules of Origin Issues under Free Trade Agreements, organised by Ministry of Commerce and Industry and FICCI in New Delhi on 19-20 July 2007.
- Speaker at the Seminar on Investing in Indonesia, organised by Embassy of Indonesia and CII in New Delhi on 24 July 2007.
- Speaker at the 1st Meeting of the Honorary Consuls of Maldives in India and Nepal, organised by the High Commission of Maldives, New Delhi on July 25, 2007.
- Participated in the Meeting on India-Malaysia JSG with the officials of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and High Commission of Malaysia at RIS on 1 August 2007.
- Participated in the Drafting Committee meetings and the Adoption Meeting of the Report of the Joint Study Group on the Feasibility of Establishing A Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement between India and Malaysia at Kuala Lumpur on 10-11 August 2007.
- Participated in the Discussion Meeting on Economic Cooperation in the South Asian Region organised by the British High Commission in New Delhi on 5 October 2007.
- Participated in Meeting on India-Indonesia JSG held in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 10 October 2007.
- Participated in the Meeting on Government of India Expert Group on Preferential ROO, organised by CII in New Delhi on 11 October 2007.
- Participated in the Annual Meeting of ITEC Institutions, organised by Ministry of External Affairs on 12 October 2007.
- Speaker at the Meeting on Export Development and Inclusive Growth, organised by CII in New Delhi on 22 October 2007.
- Participated in the First India-Indonesia JSG Meeting on India-Indonesia CECA, held in Jakarta on 30-31 October 2007.
- Participated in the Meeting with Commerce Secretary on the Agenda of 13th SAARC Committee on Economic Cooperation



(From left): Dr. Rahul Sen; Dr. Amrita Batra; Prof. M. Dubey; Dr. Josef T. Yap; Dr. S.K. Mohanty; Dr. Prabir De at the Sixth High-Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration: Agenda for the East Asia Summit, held in New Delhi on 12-13 November 2007.

- (CEC) Meeting, held on 16 November 2007.
- Presented paper on Trade-FDI-Poverty Linkages in a Regional Grouping: Some Evidence from South Asia in International Conference on Regional Economic Integration Beyond Europe, organised by German Development Institute, Bonn, December 19-20, 2007. Also Discussant of the paper on Understanding the Emerging Pattern of Regional Trade and Economic Cooperation in Asia presented by Biswanath Bhattacharyay at the Conference.
- Participated in Meeting on ITEC held in the Ministry of External Affairs on 26 December 2007.
- Presented a paper on Are Trade Openness and Financial Development Complementary? (Co-author Meenakshi Rishi) at the ASSA Annual Meeting held in New Orleans, USA on 5 January 2008.
- Participated in the Meetings on SAARC Services Study in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 24 January 2008 and 5 February 2008.
- Participated in the Discussion Meetings on India-Indonesia JSG held in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 29 January 2008 and 9 February 2008.
- Participated in the Preparatory Meeting for SAFTA Committee of Experts in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 18 February 2008.
- Participated in the Meeting on India-Oman Economic Cooperation held in the Ministry of External Affairs on 22 February 2008.

- Participated in the Meeting on SAFTA Committee of Experts held in New Delhi on 1-2 March 2008.
- Participated in the Meeting of SAFTA Ministerial Council held in New Delhi on 3 March 2008.
- Participated in the Meeting on India-Oman Economic Cooperation in the Ministry of External Affairs on 6 March 2008.

Dr. Pooja Sharma, Fellow

- Discussant on the paper on Services Trade Liberalisation in India, at the International Conference on Trade in Services in South Asia: Opportunities and Risks in Liberalisation, organised by the Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung on 4-5 April 2007 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Dr. Somesh K. Mathur, Fellow

- Presented a paper on the Indian IT Industry: A Data Envelopment and Malmquist Analysis at Conference on Globalisation and Economic Freedom, organised by the Institute for Economic Growth in New Delhi in April, 2007.
- Delivered a Short Talk on Global Health on TRIPS and Mailbox Applications, at the ESFIFW Conference, Salgau, Germany, 7-10 May, 2007.
- Presented a paper on TRIPS and India at the Conference on Innovation in the Health Sector, held at Andrassy University, Budapest on 10-12 May, 2007.
- Presented a paper on The Role of ICTs in Enhancing Cooperation in the South Asia at the International Telecommunication Society Conference 2007, held in Perth, Australia on 26-28 August 2007.
- Presented a paper on Theoretical Justification of Using Cobb-Douglas Production in Convergence Analysis at the Faculty of Humanities, IIT, Kanpur on 27 September 2007.
- Presented a paper on Convergence among Countries in Latin America held at the Department of Economics, University of Puebla, Mexico on 22 November 2007.
- Presented a paper on Indian IT Industry: A Review from 1960s at the Max Plan IISc International Conference on Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Economic Growth,

held in IISc Campus, Bangalore on 25-27 October 2007.

- Presented a paper on Indian IT Industry: A Model for South-South Cooperation International Seminar on IT Industry in India-Prospects, Retrospects and Policies, organised by the Department of Economics, Jamia Millia Islamia in collaboration with the Ministry of Science and Technology, and ICSSR on 1-2 November 2007.
- Participated in the International Meet on Solidarity on Health Issues, organised by the Ministry of Labour, Ministry of External Affairs and the French Prime Minister's Delegation in New Delhi on 21 December 2007.

Dr. Prabir De, Fellow

- Participated in the 3rd Northeast Business Summit, organised by the Ministry of DoNER, Govt. of India and Indian Chamber of Commerce, Kolkata, in New Delhi, on 10-11 April 2007.
- Participated in the Inter-Ministerial Preparatory Meeting on 11th India-ASEAN Working Group, organised by the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on 12 April 2007.
- Presented a paper on India's Look East Policy and Its Implications for Northeast India, at the National Seminar on Dynamics and Issues of Development in North-East India, organised by the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata in collaboration with the Department of Economics, Mizoram University, Aizwal, at Aizwal, Mizoram on 19-20 April 2007.
- Participated in the 11th India-ASEAN Working Group Meeting, 9th India-ASEAN Joint Cooperation Committee Meeting, and 9th India-ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting, organised by the Ministry of External Affairs at Kolkata, on 25-28 April 2007.
- Made a presentation on India-Vietnam Economic Relations: Profile and Potentials, at the Commemorative Seminar to Mark the 35th Anniversary of the Establishment of Full Diplomatic Relations between India and Vietnam, organised by the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi, in association with the Vietnam Academy of Social Science, Hanoi and the Indian Embassy in Vietnam, at Hanoi on 19 June 2007.



Participants at the Sixth High-Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration, organised by RIS in New Delhi in November 2007.

- Made presentations on Trade Flows and Trade Costs in Asia, and Role of Infrastructure in Reducing Trade Cost in South Asia at the International Conference on Trade Costs in Asia, organised by the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADB), in Tokyo, on 25-26 June 2007.
- Made a presentation on India-Vietnam Economic Relations: Profile and Prospects, at the India-Vietnam Business Forum, organised by FICCI, CII, VCCI, and ASSOCHAM in New Delhi on 6 July 2007.
- Made a presentation on Enhancing India's Exports to China: Issues and Ways Forward, at the 3rd K2K (Kolkata to Kunming) International Conference, organised by the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS) at Kolkata on 21-22 July 2007.
- Participated in the Joint Business Meeting in Honour of Prime Minister of Japan and Accompanying Business Delegation from Japan, organised by CII, FICCI and ASSOCHAM in New Delhi on 2 August 2007.
- Participated in the International Conference on Going Beyond Doha Negotiations: Promoting South-South Trade, organised by FICCI, DFID, UNCTAD and Ministry of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi on 9-10 August 2007.
- Participated as Discussant in a Regional Conference on Towards BIMSTEC-Japan Comprehensive Economic Cooperation: Sri Lankan Perspective, organised by IPS, Sri Lanka in Colombo on 17 August 2007.
- Made a presentation on Transport Connectivity and Relevance of Regional Cooperation: India and ASEAN, at a special course for ASEAN diplomats, organised by FSI in New Delhi on 31 August 2007.
- Participated in the International Conference on Intermodal Logistics, organised by the Asian Institute of Transport Development (AITD), New Delhi; Planning Commission, New Delhi; and UNESCAP, Bangkok, in New Delhi on 8-9 October 2007.
- Presented a paper on Trade in Services in India: Implications for Poverty and Inequality at the Research Workshop on Emerging Trade Issues for Developing Countries in Asia-Pacific Region, organised by UNESCAP, at Macao, P. R. China on 10-11 December, 2007.
- Participated in the Multi-Stakeholder Steering Committee Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNeT), organised by UNESCAP, held at Macao, P.R. China on 12 December, 2007.
- Made presentations on Infrastructure Development in India: Profile and Prospects; and East Asian Infrastructure Development in a Comparative Global Perspective: An Analysis of RIS Infrastructure Index at the ERIA Infrastructure Project Concluding Meeting on International Infrastructure Development in East Asia: Towards an Effective and Balanced Regional Integration, organised by the IDE-JETRO on 20-21 January 2008 at JETRO, Bangkok.

- Made a presentation on Challenges and Opportunities in India-Bangladesh Economic Cooperation at the Seminar on Current Development in Bangladesh: Implications for India, organised by the Academy of Third World Studies (ATWS), Jamia Millia Islamia University in New Delhi on 7-8 February 2008.
 - Made a presentation on Trends in National and Regional Investors Financing Cross-border Infrastructure Projects in Asia at the Inception Workshop on ADBI Flagship Study on Infrastructure and Regional Cooperation, organised by the Asian Development Bank Institute (ADBI), in Tokyo on 18-20 February 2008.
 - Made a presentation on India's Economic Opportunity with Myanmar: Prospects and Strategies at the international conference on India-Myanmar Relations: Dynamics and Issues, organised by the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies (MAKAIAS), Kolkata and Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS), Yangon in Kolkata on 26-27 February 2008.
 - Made a presentation on India's Economic Opportunity with Myanmar: Prospects and Strategies at the Roundtable Discussion on Recent Developments in Myanmar and Its Implications for India, organised by Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) in New Delhi on 13 March 2008.
 - Participated as discussant in the seminar on ADB-UNCTAD Study on Regional Cooperation in South Asia: Benefits from SAFTA and the Way Ahead, organised by ADB/FICCI/UNCTAD in New Delhi on 28 March 2008.
 - Participated in the internal meeting of the 13th ASEAN-India Working Group (AIWG) Meeting, 10th ASEAN-India Joint Cooperation Committee (JCC), and the 10th ASEAN-India Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM), organised by the MER Division, Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on 26 March 2008.
- Dr. K. R. Srinivas, Associate Fellow**
- Made a presentation on Risk Governance, Technology and Technology Assessment Workshop on Science-Society Interface in Emerging Technologies, organised by TERI & NISTADS in New Delhi on 27-28 March 2008.
 - Participated in the CPR-NYU Workshop on Global Regulatory Governance, held in New Delhi on 5-6 January 2008.
 - Participated in the Special Event on Ethics Based Climate Change Regime – Legal, Economic and Political Aspects, organised by Helsinki Process & TERI on 8 February 2008 in New Delhi.
 - Participated in the Facilitation Workshop on Technology Climate Change, organised by EC and TERI in New Delhi on 21-22 February 2008.
 - Participated in the International Workshop on Adaptation and Mitigation Options for Global Cooperation: Developing Countries' Perspectives, organised by the ADAM Project and TERI in New Delhi on 25-26 February 2008.

IV. Capacity Building and Training Programmes

In order to contribute to the process of capacity building on international economic issues in developing countries RIS has launched its annual four week IEIDP programme meant for experts and officials of developing countries. In 2007-08, RIS was also requested by IDE/JETRO to conduct another programme for East Asian experts on global and regional issues (GRECI). It continued to organise a training module for Indian Foreign Service probationers. In addition members of RIS faculty regularly deliver lectures at capacity-building programmes organised by the Foreign Service Institute, Institute of Economic Growth, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, among others.

International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP) Programme, New Delhi, 18 February-14 March, 2008

RIS conducted the Capacity Building Programme on International Economic Issues and Development Policy (IEIDP) in conjunction with the ITEC programme of the Ministry of External Affairs from 18 February-14 March 2008. This was the third batch in the revised and upgraded format and the participants included: Mr. Andrew Allimadi from Ethiopia; Ms. Theresa Boasiako Korang from Ghana; Mrs. Suneetha Swarnakanthi Ranhoti Gedara from Sri Lanka; Mr. Ibrahim Bin Seif Mohammed Al Hamdani from Sultanate of Oman; Mrs.

Munesh Iswaree Ramchurun from Mauritius; Ms. Gulnara Khalimbetova from Uzbekistan; Ms. Inna Yasenovskaya from Russia; Ms. Liis Elmik from Estonia; Ms. Yulia Kapshyna from Belarus; and Mr. Alexander Shust from Belarus. The programme began with an Orientation Session conducted by Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow RIS and also the Course Coordinator. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS delivered the lecture on World Trading System and Development. The IEIDP Programme covered modules on the world trading system and developing countries, international financial architecture and developing countries, South-South cooperation and regional economic integration, India's development strategy, etc. among other



Participants of the IEIDP Capacity Building Programme with Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Dr. Ram Upendra Das



Participants of the GRECI Capacity Building Programme with Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Dr. Ram Upendra Das

topics. They also made presentations and had self-study sessions in the RIS library. They also visited industrial establishments and attended outside seminars. At the joint feedback session certificates were distributed to the participants of the GRECI and the IEIDP capacity building programmes. Dr. Nagesh Kumar and Ms. Primrose Sharma, Joint Secretary (TC), Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India addressed the participants.

Global and Regional Economic Cooperation Issues (GRECI) Programme, New Delhi, 11 February-7 March 2008

RIS organised the first Capacity Building Programme on Global and Regional Economic Cooperation Issues (GRECI) in collaboration with IDE-JETRO, Tokyo under the framework of the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) from 11 February-7 March 2008 in New Delhi. This programme was designed to build analytical capacity among the researchers and officials in East Asian developing countries with a special focus on CLMV countries. The participants included: Mr. Carlos Mangunsong from Indonesia; Mr. Johan Khalidi B. Mohd Mokhtazar

from Malaysia; Mrs. Ing Maleny, Mr. Kim Sovanna and Mr. Sum Sochenda from Cambodia; Ms. Daw Yin New Aung and Mr. Htun Zaw from Myanmar; and Mr. Nattawat Kittayanawat from Thailand. In the initial phase the participants were given a module on Asian economic integration covering the relevance, emerging trends and patterns as well as sectoral issues. This included an opening session in which Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS addressed the participants on Emerging Trends and Patterns Towards Regionalism in Asia. Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow, RIS and Course Coordinator briefed the participants on the programme. They also attended modules on world trading system, international financial architecture and developing countries, India's development strategy among other themes. They made presentations and had self-study sessions in the RIS library. They also visited industrial establishments and attended outside seminars.

Module on Global Economic Regime and India's Regional Economic Engagements for IFS Probationers

RIS, on behalf of the Ministry of External Affairs, organised a training programme for IFS Probationers (2006 Batch) on the theme of Global Economic Regime and India's Regional Economic Engagements on 27-31 August 2007. The programme began with an introductory session by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS and Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow, RIS. The agenda of the training programme included themes such as world trading system and development; international financial system; India's trade performance under reforms; FDI in a globalised economy, theory and Indian experience; emerging international regime concerning bio-diversity and international trade in GMOs; regional economic cooperation in South Asia: potentials and constraints; transport connectivity and



IFS Probationers with Professor Muchkund Dubey; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Mr. B. A. Roy, Addl. Secretary (FSI); and Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow, RIS at the Valedictory Session of the training programme for IFS Probationers (2006 Batch).

relevance of regional cooperation; emerging trends in East Asian regionalism; strategic options for India; monetary and financial cooperation in Asia; and India's economic integration with ASEAN: prospects and challenges. The IFS probationers also made presentations on different themes during the workshops that were held during the course of the training programme. The faculty members who addressed the trainees included: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Senior Adviser, RIS; Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Fellow, RIS; Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow, RIS; Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow, RIS; Dr. Prabir De, Fellow, RIS; apart from Mr. R.S. Ratna, Director, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Professor Muchkund Dubey, former Foreign Secretary and presently President, CSD, New Delhi, delivered the valedictory address.

Lectures Delivered by RIS Faculty Members at Outside Training Programme

Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General

- Delivered a Talk on India and Regional Cooperation in Asia at the 43rd Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats, organised by the Foreign Service Institute (FSI), Ministry

of External Affairs in New Delhi on 13 July 2007.

- Delivered a Talk on WTO and Developing Countries at the 43rd Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats, organised by the FSI in New Delhi on 24 July 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on Regional Economic Integration to a group of Japanese scholars from Nihon Fukushi University, Nagoya, at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on 25 August 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on WTO and Developing Countries at the Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats organised by the FSI, New Delhi on 28 January 2008.
- Delivered a lecture on India's Look East Policy the Third Orientation Course for Senior IPS Officers, conducted by the FSI on 19 February 2008 in New Delhi.

Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow

- Delivered a lecture in the Introduction Training Programme for the Indian Statistical Service Officer on Econometric Theories and Applications on Macro Econometric Models of External Sector at the Institute for Integrated Learning in Management, New Delhi on 16 May 2007.
- Delivered lectures on Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA); and Regional Trading Arrangement at the Training Programme for the Indian Economic Service (IES) Officers, organised by Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) in New Delhi on 22 August 2007.

- Delivered a lecture on Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA) at the Training Programme on International Economics, Terms of Trade and WTO Issues for Indian Statistical Service Officers, organised by the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) in New Delhi on 31 March 2008.

Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Fellow

- Delivered a lecture on Non-Agricultural Market Access Negotiations: Development Dimensions of Developing Countries at the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India on 25 July 2007, New Delhi.
- Made a presentation on India's Trade Performances under Reforms at the FSI Training Programme, held in New Delhi on 28 August 2007.

Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow

- Made presentations on Biotechnology and International Trade Issues: Impact of WTO Agreement on Transboundary Movement at the Training Workshops for Customs Officers on Biosafety, organised by the National Academy of Customs, Excise and Narcotics in Chennai on 30 April 2007, in New Delhi on 8 May, 2007, and in Bangalore on 14 June 2007.
- Made a presentation on Emergence of

BioPharmaceutical Industry and Biotechnology Policy: Emerging Linkages and Prospects at the Seminar on Strategic R&D Management, organised by the Human Resource Development Centre, CSIR, Ghaziabad on 27 March 2008.

Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow

- Delivered a lecture on Structure & Working of WTO, organised by ICAI's Post Qualification Course in International Trade Laws & WTO, held in New Delhi on 18 June 2007.
- Speaker at Training-cum-Orientation Programme for the Railway Staff College Faculty on Regional Economic Cooperation in Asia, organised by the Asian Institute of Transport Development, Vadodra on July 28, 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on Regional Economic Cooperation in South Asia: Potentials and Constraints, organised by the FSI in New Delhi on 11 September 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on India's Economic Integration with ASEAN: Prospects and Challenges, organised by the FSI on 12 September 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on Implications of WTO for Developing Countries, to Foreign Journalists, organised by IIMC in New Delhi on 15 October 2007.



GRECI participants at a visit to Red Fort, Agra.



IEIDP participants take a break for site-seeing.

- Delivered a lecture on India's Economic Integration with ASEAN: Prospects & Challenges, organised by FSI in New Delhi on 21 November 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on India-ASEAN Economic Cooperation, organised for the Foreign Diplomats by the FSI in New Delhi on 24 January 2008.
- Delivered a lecture on WTO Implications for Developing Countries, organised by the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), New Delhi on 4 March 2008.

Dr. Somesh K. Mathur, Fellow

- Delivered two lectures on Economic Growth and Convergence at the Asian Institute of Management, Delhi on 23 June, 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on Indian IT and ICT Industry: A Performance Analysis Using DEA and Malmquist Index at the Jan Tinbergen European Peace Science Conference, held in Netherlands on 25-28 June, 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on Methodological Issues Accounting for East Asian Growth, 1960-

2000 at the Centre for East Asian Studies, School of International Studies, JNU on 20 September 2007.

- Delivered a lecture on Applying DEA Techniques on International Trade and Convergence Analysis at IIFT on 29 September 2007.

Dr. Prabir De, Fellow

- Delivered a lecture on Transport Economics to the Students of Export and Import Management, IIFT, New Delhi, on 7 June 2007.
- Delivered a lecture on the Role of Infrastructure in India's Economic Development at the 45th Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats, organised by the FSI in New Delhi on 17 January 2008.
- Delivered a lecture on Scopes and Opportunities in Higher Education Services Trade in India at the National Conference on Opportunities and Challenges in Emerging Markets: Focus on Asia, organised by the Jaipuria Institute of Management at Noida on 9 February 2008.

V. Outreach, Global Presence and Networking

RIS has taken steps to strengthen the institutional networking and international visibility of its work by organising seminars at the global events besides other joint activities and studies. In the past year a number of policy dialogues were organised jointly with partner institutions in different parts of the world. These included seminars organised in London, Paris and Geneva as a part of important global events to enhance RIS' international visibility and effectiveness in association with collaborating institutions such as the South Centre, International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), IDDRI, the Commonwealth Secretariat. The RIS delegation also participated and made key presentations in the IBSA Academic Forum organised in Johannesburg as part of the Second IBSA Summit in October

2007. In addition, the RIS has also organised a number of policy dialogues with international institutions and other collaborative institutions in India including UN-ESCAP, SAARC Secretariat, Commonwealth Secretariat, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies-Singapore, Institute of Developing Economies (IDE) of Japan, among others.

RIS has entered into MoUs providing a framework for joint activities with a number of similar institutions in different countries such as with the institute of Policy Studies (IPS) of Sri Lanka, the Development Research Centre (DRC) of the State Council of China, Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP), Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore, Institute of Developing Economies (IDE/JETRO) in Tokyo, International Institute of Trade and Development in Bangkok, and NAM Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation in Jakarta, among others.

RIS continued to take part in the ERIA (Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia) Expert Group and ERIA's 16 Institute Network contributed to its research and capacity-building programmes. Another important regional research network was the launch of the Track-II Study Group on Comprehensive Economic Partnership of East Asia (CEPEA) set up in 2007 with designated institutions from 16 EAS member



(From left): Mr. Mayur Patel, Oxford University; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; H.E. Mr. Faizal Ismail, Ambassador of South Africa to WTO and NAMA 11 Co-ordinator; and Mr. Vicente Paolo Yu, GGDP Coordinator, South Centre at the RIS/South Centre Session at the WTO Public Forum 2007 in Geneva on 5 October 2007.

countries. RIS hosted a meeting of the study Group in New Delhi besides contribution to its work in collaboration with other regional institutions.

RIS collaborated, with Global Development and Environment (GDAE) Institute at Tufts University in the USA and Research Centre for Economic Change (CENIT) in Argentina for developing a research programme on Inclusive and Development Friendly Global Economic Governance: Evolving a Southern Consensus. This collaborative programme was launched in February 2008 for two years. As reported earlier RIS forms part of a collaborative research project on genetic resources with institutions from different countries coordinated from a University of Central Lancashire team and another on South-South Cooperation in Genomics.

Among other regional think-tank networks, the RIS is also represented on the Governing Boards of the ARTNeT set up by UN-ESCAP, of SACEPS based in Kathmandu, and ICTSD based in Geneva. RIS represents India on the ACD Think-Tank and on Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Institute Network.

As reported earlier, the RIS coordinates the New Asia Forum as a network of institutions and experts to promote regional economic integration in Asia. This network has developed its own dedicated website www.newasiaforum.org and has launched a quarterly journal *New Asia Monitor* which has been received well. The Forum website is fast becoming a rich repository of news, analysis and documentation on Asia's development prospects and regional cooperation while the journal, offers a forum for exchange of information, resources and analysis on regional economic cooperation and analysis on regional economic cooperation in Asia. During the past years the RIS maintained contacts with a number of national, regional and international policy think-tanks and civil society organisations. A list of select organisations is given below:

International Organisations

UNCTAD, Geneva.
UNESCO, Paris.
UNDP, New York.
World Bank, Washington D.C.
OECD Secretariat, Paris, France.
South Centre, Geneva.
International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), Geneva.
International Institute for Sustainable Development, Canada.
International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington D.C.
Commonwealth Secretariat, London.

Regional Organisations

UN ESCAP, Bangkok.
Asian Development Bank, Manila.
Asian Development Bank Institute, Tokyo.
Asia-Pacific Research and Training Network on Trade (ARTNet), ESCAP.
South Asia Centre for Policy Studies, (SACEPS) Dhaka and Kathmandu.
IUCN-Asia Region, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
UNDP Regional Centre, Colombo.
FAO, Regional Office for Asia and Pacific, Bangkok.
Third World Network, Malaysia, and Geneva.
NAM Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation (NAM-CSSTC), Indonesia.
Asia and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT), New Delhi.
ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta.
SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu.
Institute of Boao Forum for Asia, Beijing.
Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD) Network of Think-tanks.
Economic Research Institute of ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Chiba (Japan).
Bangkok, and Jakarta.

National Institutions in Other Countries

Development Research Centre for the State Council of China, Beijing.
Global Security Research Institute, Keio University, Tokyo.
Waseda University, Tokyo.
Institute of Energy Economics of Japan, Tokyo.
National University of Singapore.

- Centre for Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong.
- Bangladesh Enterprise Institute, Bangladesh.
- Bangladesh Academy of Science (BAS), Bangladesh.
- Nanjing Institute of Environmental Sciences, China.
- Coalition of Biotechnology, The Philippines.
- CLRRI, Vietnam.
- National Science and Technology Development Agency (NSTDA), Thailand.
- National Institute for Science and Technology Policy and Strategy Studies (NISTPSS), Vietnam.
- Danish Institute for International Studies (DIIS), Denmark.
- Inha University, South Korea.
- Kyoto University, Japan.
- Council on East Asian Ecommunity, Tokyo.
- International Institute for Trade and Development (ITD), Bangkok.
- Thammasat University, Bangkok.
- Australian National University, Australia.
- University of Melbourne, Australia.
- Brunei Darussalam Institute for Policy Studies, Brunei.
- University Brunei Darussalam, Brunei.
- Institute of Foreign Affairs, Lao PDR.
- Asia Centre, University of the Philippines.
- Institute of International Relations, Vietnam.
- Institute of Security and International Studies, Bangkok.
- Institute of Developing Economies of JETRO (IDE/JETRO), Chiba, Japan.
- Institute for South East Asian Studies, Singapore
- Institute of South Asian Studies, Singapore
- Singapore Centre for Applied Policy and Economics (SCAPE), National University of Singapore
- Institute for Policy Studies, Singapore
- LKY School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore
- Singapore Institute for International Affairs, Singapore.
- Malaysian Institute of Economic Research, Malaysia.
- Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia.
- Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan.
- Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA (SPFUSA).
- Royal Institute for International Affairs, London.
- Institute of International Economic Studies (IEEI), Brazil.
- Academy of Social Sciences, Vietnam.
- Institute for Development Studies, Sussex, Brighton, UK.
- Research Centre for Economic Change (CENIT), Argentina.
- Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales (IDDRI), France
- Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka.
- Pakistan Institute for Development Economics, Islamabad.
- Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP), Korea.
- Ethiopian Development Research Institute, Ethiopia.
- China Centre for Contemporary World Studies, China.
- Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation, China.
- Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, China.
- Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok.
- Centre for Economic Development and Administration, Kathmandu.
- University of World Economy and Diplomacy, Uzbekistan.
- Asia Pacific Foundation, Canada.
- University of Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka.
- Shanxi University of Finance and Economics China.
- New Zealand Institute of International Affairs
- Asian Strategy & Leadership Institute (ASLI), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Global Development and Environment Institute (GDAE), Tufts University, USA.
- Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR).

Institutions within India

- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).
- The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM).
- PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry.
- Federation of Indian Small and Medium Enterprises (FISME).
- Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT).
- Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.

Dr. Noeleen Heyzer, Executive Secretary, UN-ESCAP, visits RIS

Dr. Noeleen Heyzer, Under Secretary General, United Nations and Executive Secretary, UN-ESCAP visited RIS on 27 March 2008 for an interactive session on the work programme of RIS along with a delegation of the senior officials of UN-ESCAP. It included: Dr. Ravi Ratnayake, Director N. PDD UN-ESCAP;



Dr. Tata Srinivas, Special Assistant to the ES; Dr. Amitava Mukherjee, Special Adviser, PDD UN-ESCAP; Mr. Hak Fan-lau; Director UNIS Bangkok; and Mr. K. Ramanathan, Head and Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Asia and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT), New Delhi. The Meeting began with welcome remarks by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director General, RIS. Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P., Chairman, RIS made the opening remarks. Dr. Nagesh Kumar also made a detailed presentation on the work programme of RIS. Dr. Noeleen Heyzer, Under Secretary General, United Nations and Executive Secretary, UN-ESCAP addressed the Meeting.

(From left): Dr. Noeleen Heyzer, Under Secretary General, United Nations and Executive Secretary, UN-ESCAP; Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P., Chairman, RIS and National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganised Sector; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS at the interactive session held at RIS on 27 March 2008.

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR).

Delhi School of Economics

Institute of Economic Growth

Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID), Chandigarh.

Central Pulp and Paper Research Institute (CPPRI), Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh.

Centre for SAARC Studies, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam.

Centre for Indian Ocean Studies (CIOS), Osmania University, Hyderabad.

Asia Centre, Kolkata.

Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID), New Delhi.

Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi.
International Management Institute, New Delhi.

Management Development Institute, Gurgaon.

Department of Economics, Jadavpur University

Export-Import Bank of India, Mumbai

Institute for Chinese Studies, New Delhi

Foreign Service Institute, New Delhi.

Council for Security Cooperation in the Asia Pacific (CSCAP) India.

Centre for Trade & Development (Centad), New Delhi.

Annex I

Important Visitors/Delegations Received from abroad

❖ Dr. Sarojini Ganju Thakur, Acting Head of Gender Section, Social Transformation Programmes Division-Gender Section, Commonwealth Secretariat, London on 3 April 2007.

❖ Dr. Rizwanul Islam, Director, ILO, Geneva on 5 April 2007.

❖ Mr. Patrick Deboyser, Minister-Counsellor, Health & Food Safety, European Union,

Delegation of the European Commission, Bangkok and Shri Chaitanya Kaushal, Trade Officer, Trade and Economic Affairs, European Union, Delegation of the European Commission to India, Bhutan and Nepal, New Delhi on 11 April 2007.

❖ Hon. Navdeep Singh Bains, P.C., M.P., Mississauga-Brampton South, Canada; Mr. Barrett Bingley, Policy Adviser-International

Briefing on India's Economic Performance and Future Prospects for Visiting Parliamentarians from the UK, Europe and the US



The delegation of the Parliamentarians of Indian Origin from UK, Europe and US at RIS on 25 October 2007.

A Delegation of Indian Origin Parliamentarians from UK, Europe and the US visited RIS on 25 October 2007 for an interactive session on India's Economic Performance and Prospects. The Delegation included: Dr. Ashok Kumar (Labour); Lord Bhikhu Parekh (Labour); Lord Adam Patel (Labour); Baroness Sandip Verma (Conservative); Lord Mohammed Sheikh (Conservative); Mr. Shailesh Vara (Conservative); Baroness Usha Prashar (Crossbench); Lord Kamlesh Patel (Crossbench); Lord Karan Bilimoria (Crossbench); Lord Diljit Rana (Crossbench); and Mr. Virendra Sharma, MP; from UK; and Mr. David Geerts and Mr. Claude Moraes from European Parliament; and Hon'ble Swati Dandekar from the USA. These distinguished parliamentarian were in India at the invitation of the Public Diplomacy Division, Ministry of External Affairs. During the interactive session, Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS briefed the visiting parliamentarians on the RIS work programme, followed by a detailed presentation on the performance of the Indian economy in recent years. He also spoke about the prospects and outlook for the Indian economy and challenges that it faces. The presentation was followed by open discussion in which the visiting parliamentarian took part.

Trade; Office of the Minister of International Trade and Minister for the Pacific Gateway and the Vancouver-Whistler Olympics, Canada; and Ms. Tejdeep Kaur, Economic Analyst, Canadian High Commission, New Delhi on 19 April 2007.

- ❖ H.E. Mr. Graeme Waters, New Zealand High Commissioner; Mr. Tim McIvor, Head EAS Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; and Ms. Tui Dewes, Second Secretary, New Zealand High Commission on 23 April 2007.
- ❖ A delegation from Sri Lanka on 24 April 2007, including Mr. H.L. Tissera, Acting Secretary, Ministry of Youth Empowerment and Socio Economic Development; Mr. M. Vamadevan, Senior Adviser, Ministry of Resettlement & Disaster Relief Services; Mr. M.K.D.G. Meegoda, Adviser, Ministry of Youth Empowerment and Socio Economic Development; and Mr. R. Ellegala, Director

General, Plantation Human Development Trust. From Sri Lanka High Commission Mr. A. Saj U Mendis accompanied the delegation.

- ❖ Dr. Daisuke Hiratsuka, Director-General, Development Studies Centre, IDE-JETRO, Chiba, Japan on 25 April 2007.
- ❖ ESCAP-ARTNeT delegation: Ambassador Mr. Supperamaniam Manickam, former Ambassador / PR of Malaysia to WTO; Mr. Yann Duval, Economic Affairs Officer, Dy. ARTNeT Coordinator, UNESCAP on 26 April 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Dilek Aykut, The World Bank Washington DC and Dr. Andrea Goldstein, OECD Development Centre, Paris on 27 April 2007.
- ❖ Asian Development Bank Delegation: Mr. Tadateru Hayashi, Economist/Country Programs Specialist and Mr. S. Bando, ADB on 9 May 2007.

UK 'Labour Friends of India' MPs Visit RIS

A delegation of 6 UK 'Labour Friends of India' (LFIN) MPs from the Labour Party visited RIS on 14 February 2008. The delegation included; Mr. Stephen Pound, Chairman, LFIN; Dr. Stephen Ladyman; Mr. Denis Murphy; Ms. Sharon Hodgson;



Hon'ble Mr. Stephen Pound and members of the delegation in RIS on 14 February 2008.

Dr. Howard Stoate; and Baroness Jean Corston. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS briefed the visiting parliamentarians on the RIS work programme. It was followed by a detailed presentation on the performance of Indian economy in recent years. He also spoke about the prospects and outlook for the Indian economy and challenges that it faces. The presentation was followed by open discussion.

- ❖ The ERIA Delegation from IDE/JETRO: Dr. Toshitaka Gokan, Researcher, Economic Integration Studies Group, Inter-Disciplinary Studies Center, Institute of Developing Economies; Mr. Ikumo Isono, Researcher, Inter-Disciplinary Studies Center, Institute of Developing Economies; and Dr. Yasushi Ueki, Research Fellow, Inter-Disciplinary Studies Center, Institute of Developing Economies, on 17 May 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Sun Weidong, Counsellor (Political), Mr. Zhang Biao, Dy. Chief of Political Section, Embassy of the People's Republic of China, New Delhi on 21 May 2007.
- ❖ Ambassador Aftab Seth, Chairman, International Advisory Committee, Keio University, Japan, on 26 June 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Naoyoshi Naguchi, Director-General, JETRO, Delhi Office; and Mr. Daisuke Matsushima, Director, JETRO on 27 June 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Jai-Joon Hur, Senior Economist, Korea Labour Institute, Seoul.
- ❖ Mr. Neelesh Hundekari, AT Kearney on 28 June 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Simon Atkinson, External Relations, Political Department and Mr Mark Clayton, First Secretary, British High Commission, New Delhi, 18 July 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Kamal Malhotra, Senior Adviser (Policy), Socio-Economic Development Group, Bureau of Development Policy, UNDP, New York on 2 August 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Sanjay Sudhir, Counsellor, PMI, Geneva on 14 August 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Rakesh B. Sambharya, Professor of Management & International Business, School of Business, Rutgers University, Camden, USA on 21 August 2007.
- ❖ Mr Simon Pemble, South Asia and Balkans Economist, Global Economy Group; Foreign & Commonwealth Office, Mr. Mariene Lange, Economist and Mr. Chris Alexander, Economist, Department for Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform, UK, 22 August 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Mohan Chutani, First Secretary (designate), Embassy of India in Tokyo on 23 August 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Masanori Kondo, Associate Professor of Economics, Division of International Studies, International Christian University, Japan on 4 September 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Tetsuo Kogra, New Delhi Chief of Bureau, *The Asahi Shimbun* on 6 September 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Daisuke Matsushima, Senior Director, JETRO, New Delhi and Mr. Noburu Yoshida, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia, JETRO, Japan on 7 September 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Tetsuya Watanabe, Director, Asia and Pacific Division, Trade Policy Bureau,

Meeting on the Scope for Economic Cooperation between India and Africa



(From left): Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Mr. Virendra Gupta, Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Mr. Ashok Kumar, ADG, ICWA, Dr. Ram Upendra Das and the African and Indian journalists at the Meeting held at RIS on 19 March 2008.

RIS organised a Meeting of Experts and Journalists from Africa and India on 'Scope for Economic Cooperation between India and Africa' in New Delhi on 19 March 2008. The programme began with welcome remarks and introduction about the work programme of RIS by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS. Mr. Virendra Gupta, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs also addressed the participants. Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow, RIS made a presentation on 'Scope for Economic Cooperation between Africa and India'. The distinguished journalists who participated in the discussion included Mr. Kiganda Noah Ssonko, Correspondent, *The New Vision*, Uganda's Leading Daily, Kampala, Uganda, and Mr. Thebeyame Ramoroka, Senior Information Officer, Department of Informatic Service, Botswana; Mr. John Cherian, Chief of Bureau, *Frontline*; Ms. Jyoti Malhotra, Foreign Editor, *Mint*; Mr. Sebastian PT, *Outlook Business*; Mr. Manish Chand, Assistant Editor, IANS; Ms. Aasha Khosa, *Business Standard*, Ms. Nirmala Ganpathy, *The Economic Times*, Huma Siddiqui, *The Financial Express*, Mr. Kallol Bhattacharjee, *The Week*, and Ms. Seema Sirohi, *Outlook*. Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow, RIS wrapped up the discussion.

- Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), Japan on 10 October 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Ulrich Volz, GDI, Bonn, 1 October 2007.
- ❖ Mr. D. Matsushima, JETRO, New Delhi Office on 17 October 2007
- ❖ Mr. Dragan Bisenic, Journalist from Danas Newspaper of Serbia on 5 November 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Phil Champain, Director of Programmes, Asia and Eurasia, International Alert, UK on 15 November 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Somesh Adhikari, IIDS, Kathmandu on 15 November 2007.
- ❖ Prof. Garry Pursel, Visiting Professor, ANU, Australia on 21 November 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Sarah Taylor, Director of Asia Division, International Assessment Staff at the Privy Council Office, Government of Canada on 20 November 2007.
- ❖ Mr. P. Vaidyanathan Iyer, Senior Associate Editor, *Business World* on 26 November 2007.
- ❖ Dr. T. Zarook A. Samsudeen, Executive Director, Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation, Mauritius on 26 November 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Kunio Senga, Director General, South Asia, Asian Development, Manila on 28 November 2007.
- ❖ H.E. Mr. Wilfred Kenely, High Commissioner, Malta High Commission, New Delhi on 29 November 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Ichiro Araki, Professor of Law, International Graduate School of Social Sciences, Yokohama National University on 30 November 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Arunabha Ghosh, Associate, Trade Project, Global Economic Governance Programme, University of Oxford on 4 December 2007.
- ❖ Prof. Satya Paul, Professor of University of Western Sydney on 5 December 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Carlos M. Correa, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina on 13 December 2007.
- ❖ Mr. Donghyun Park, Senior Economist, Macroeconomics and Finance Research Division, Economic and Research Department, Asian Development Bank, Manila on 17 December 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Pradeep Kanta Ray, School of Organisation and Management, The

Australian School of Business, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia on 19 December 2007.

- ❖ Dr. Alka Chadha, National University of Singapore on 26 December 2007.
- ❖ Dr. Harsh Vardhan Singh, Deputy Director General, WTO on 4 January 2008.
- ❖ Mr. Malminderjit Singh, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore on 17 January 2007.
- ❖ Dr. L. Delgado, Strategy and Policy Adviser, The World Bank, on 19-22 January 2008.
- ❖ Professor Sisira Jayasuriya, Director, Department of Economics, Asian Economics Centre, The University of Melbourne, Australia on 2 February 2008.
- ❖ Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka, Bangladesh on 10 February 2008.
- ❖ Mr. John Komen, Programme Manager,

Programme for Biosafety Systems, Netherlands on 13 February 2008.

- ❖ Ms. Claudia Astarita, Researcher from Centre of Asian Studies, University of Hong Kong on 21 February 2008.
- ❖ Mr. Olivier Louis, Senior Researcher, IFRI, France on 28 February 2008.
- ❖ Ambassador Kant Bhargava, former Secretary-General, SAARC on 7 March 2008.
- ❖ Dr. Dana De La Fontainer, Germany on 7 March 2008.
- ❖ Dr. Masanori Kondo, Associate Professor of Economics, Division of International Studies, International Christian University, Tokyo Japan on 27 March 2008.
- ❖ Dr. Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, National Director, South African Institute of International Affairs on 31 March 2008.

VI. Publications Programme

Books/Reports

Trinity of the South: Potential of India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) Partnership, 2008.

Published by RIS in association with Academic Foundation, ISBN 978-81-7188-679-1.



In this study RIS makes an exploratory attempt to examine the potential of IBSA economic partnership in the areas of trade in goods, services, investments, technology cooperation and other areas of economic cooperation between the three countries given the extensive complementarities and synergies capabilities that can make cooperation in a number of sectors highly fruitful. The Report makes a number of recommendations for exploiting this potential of the IBSA economic partnership.

Asia's New Regionalism and Global Role – Agenda for the East Asia Summit by Nagesh Kumar, K. Kesavapany & Yao Chaocheng (eds.). Published jointly by ISEAS, Singapore and RIS. 2007.

The lack of an effective broader regional arrangement has prevented Asia from exploiting some fruitful opportunities for regional cooperation and from exercising its influence in global economic governance commensurate with its rapidly growing economic weight. Recognising the potential of regional cooperation over the past decade ASEAN has not only deepened the sub-regional cooperation between its 10 member states, but has also facilitated the cause of broader cooperation by holding plus one Summits with major Asian countries. The launch of the East Asian Summit is December 2005 in Kuala Lumpur as an annual forum for bringing together ASEAN, Japan, China, India, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand in an important initiative in this direction. The leading experts of the region in their contributions to this volume examine the case for broader regionalism in Asia, its potential, challenges, possible approaches, and roadmaps. The book also discusses the potential of cooperation in specific areas of trade and investment, money and finance, and energy security.



Asian Biotechnology, Innovation and Development – Issues in Measurement and Collection of Statistics by Sachin Chaturvedi and S R Rao (eds). 2007.

In the recent past adoption and diffusion of biotechnology has raised several policy challenges for the governance of

biotechnology especially in developing countries. OECD and a few other developed countries have launched initiatives in various institutional settings. Developing countries have yet to come up with any major initiatives in this area. It is in this respect that RIS launched Asian Biotechnology Innovation and Development Initiatives (ABIDI) in January 2007 at New Delhi. It is very important to sort out with a finality all the issues that are involved in developing a sound and reliable base of indicators, measurements, statistics which are internationally comparable. The Report contains the papers presented at a conference organised by RIS in January 2007.



IBSA: Globalisation, Emerging Powers and the Media. Report of the Conference of Editors from India, Brazil and South Africa. Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and RIS, 2007.



Towards Broader Regional Cooperation in Asia by Nagesh Kumar. UNDP/RCC, Colombo and RIS, December 2007.

This paper briefly summarises the relevance of broader regional economic integration in Asia, highlighting the gains from such integration and outlining an approach for broader or pan-Asian economic integration. The paper concludes with a discussion of the priorities for future EAS meetings.



The Study on Infrastructure Development in India - RIS Infrastructure Index. 2008. Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Tokyo: IDE-JETRO.



Industrial Agglomeration, Production Networks and FDI Promotion-the Experience of Auto Component Industry in Two Clusters in India.

RIS, 2008. Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), Tokyo: IDE-JETRO.



International Infrastructure Development in East Asia: Towards Balanced Regional Development and Integration (ed.). Nagesh Kumar, ERIA Research Project Report 2007 No. 2, Tokyo: IDE/Jetro, March, 2008.



Environmental Risk Assessment, Socio-Economic Considerations and Decision-Making Support for LMOs in India by Sachin Chaturvedi, Wendy Craig, Vanga Siva Reddy and Decio Ripandelli. Published jointly by MoEF, GEF, World Bank, ICGEB and RIS, October 2007.



Unpublished Reports

Resurgent China: Imperatives for India. the Report prepared for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, May 2007

Deepening Financial Cooperation in Asia: An Indian Perspective. Report prepared for the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

Negotiations for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement Between India and Korea: Study on Trade in Goods. Report prepared for the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

Implications of the WTO Tariff Proposals on Indian Paper and Newsprint Industry, a research project in collaboration with CPPRI and supported by DOIPP, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

Market Access for Non-Agricultural Products in WTO Negotiations A Research Advisory Project: Phase II, sponsored by Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

SAARC Regional Study on Potential for Trade in Services under SAFTA. Prepared on the basis of National Inputs by RIS.

Policy Briefs

#35 ***Building a Development-Friendly World Trading System***

This policy brief highlights the asymmetries in the multilateral trading system and presents a compelling case for a reform of the trade architecture to make it serve the interests of developing countries that constitute the majority of WTO membership. Drawing upon the RIS' *World Trade and Development Report 2007*, it also summarises the proposals for achieving a more development friendly outcome from the ongoing Doha Round of negotiations.

#34 ***Towards a Global Compact for Managing Climate Change***

Despite heightened awareness in the world about the dangers of climate change and the need for quick corrective action, there is little progress toward a global compact for managing climate change. A credible global compact must be: comprehensive, realistic, equitable, and effective. A more meaningful global compact for managing climate change is clearly needed. An equitable global compact for managing climate change would essentially set per capita targets of carbon emissions to which all the countries would conform to whether developed or developing while providing incentives, resources and technology for encouraging developing countries to do better. This policy brief outlines the contours of a development friendly global compact on climate change. It also summarises some proposals for regional cooperation in Asia on the theme.

#33 ***Broader Regional Economic Integration in Asia: An Agenda for the East Asia Summit***

Brought out on the eve of the East Asia Summit held in Singapore in November 2007, the Policy Brief argues that the EAS agenda could concentrate on taking some visible concrete steps towards economic integration, instead of diffusing the agenda to cover diverse issues. It also suggests key priorities for the EAS process for creating an institutional framework for promoting regional cooperation in select areas like Comprehensive Economic Partnership Arrangement





#32 *Strengthening International Competitiveness in Knowledge-based Industries: A Strategic Approach*

After a quantitative analysis based on secondary data covering a sample of nearly 4,500 Indian companies across a wide spectrum of industries, different size, classes and ownership patterns, a recent RIS study conducted more qualitative analysis for five select knowledge-based industries. The context has been the continued domination of India's export structure by relatively simple, slow-moving and low-value adding labour-intensive goods while the East Asian countries have made a major mark in the exports of fast moving knowledge-based goods. The imperative of strengthening international competitiveness has assumed greater salience in view of the rupee appreciation over the past year. The Policy Brief suggests some measures for strengthening the international competitiveness of Indian enterprises especially in the knowledge-based industries and for making their presence in the global markets more visible.

#31 *Towards an Asian Regional Mechanism for Addressing Excess Foreign Exchange Reserves, Infrastructure Deficits and Global Imbalances*

The foreign exchange reserves of Asia are now more than \$3 trillion and are increasing at more than 10 per cent per year. While such abundance of reserve is a cause for comfort in many Asian countries, with recent memories of a foreign exchange crisis, there are also major problems associated with it. Apart from discussing these problems, the Policy Brief talks about the promising reforms in public-private partnership for infrastructure, in better returns from foreign exchange reserves, and the developing of regional bond markets. It also identifies the way forward and answers questions pertaining to regional mechanism for infrastructure development in Asia. The Policy Brief concludes with a discussion of the proposed institutional set-up either within the framework of the Asian Development Bank or independent of it.

Discussion Papers

#135 *East Asian Infrastructure Development in a Comparative Global Perspective: An Analysis of RIS Infrastructure Index*

Development of infrastructure is one the key priorities of East Asia Summit (EAS) countries. By constructing an Infrastructure Index for 104 countries comprising all the EAS members, 2005, this paper examines the infrastructure attainment of EAS countries in a comparative global perspective over time and space. It makes observations on the gaps between EAS countries in terms of infrastructure development, their overtime performance, and provides some policy recommendations for narrowing the gaps. The Infrastructure Index developed in this paper reveals very wide gaps in terms of infrastructure attainment across the EAS region, which seems to have widened rather than narrowed over time calling attention for narrowing these gaps.



#134 *India-Africa Economic Partnership: Trends and Prospects* by S. K. Mohanty and Sachin Chaturvedi

With growing internationalisation, the traditional old linkages between India and Africa are gradually emerging as a dynamic and vibrant trade and investment partnership, benefiting all the partner economies. The rapid economic transformation of the Indian economy and her emergence as major market has provided huge opportunities to the partner countries. The trade between India and Africa has almost doubled in last couple of years with a rapid rise in Indian investments in the region. This may contribute substantively towards the South-South cooperation model as was perceived at Bandung. It is in this context that India and Africa are also playing a key role at various global fora such as WTO.

#133 *Towards An Asian "Bretton Woods" for Restructuring of the Regional Financial Architecture* by Ramgopal Agarwala

Despite a plethora of programmes for increased financial cooperation in Asia, there has been very little real progress in developing a regional architecture for financial cooperation in Asia. While the risks of repetition of the 1997-98 style financial crisis in Asia are not high today, there are new risks of financial turbulence originating from the sub-prime crisis in the US and new opportunities for using the financial strength of the region for accelerated growth with equity. To guard against these risks and to exploit these opportunities, a bold new initiative in the region is needed. The paper outlines such a proposal.

#132 *The WTO's Doha Negotiations: An Assessment* by Bhagirath Lal Das

The lure of big benefits from successful conclusion of the multilateral negotiations and the risks of bilateral and regional routes if these negotiations fail should not be taken by the developing countries as determining factors in their moves in the current WTO Doha negotiations. Working together, the developing countries have much greater negotiating strength than if they were to form small interest groups and negotiate with the major developed countries separately. Such cohesion of strength and strategy can be built up on the basis of mutual trust and recognition of various interests among them. If there are conflicting interests sometimes, there would be a need for rational adjustment. Total transparency among the developing countries and being continuously on guard against mutual suspicion are important preconditions for deepening their cooperation and consolidation in multilateral negotiations.

#131 *Regional Cooperation and Integration Prospects in Asia* by Rajat Nag

There is indeed a strong opportunity for South Asian countries to benefit from intensifying regional ties. As a regional policy dialogue becomes stronger and barriers are gradually eliminated, or at least substantially reduced, economic integration will intensify in the next decade or two. This is partly due to the very low level of integration it starts from. For instance, intraregional trade in South Asia accounts for only 5.5 per cent of total trade, as opposed to East Asia's almost 60 per cent. As the region continues to build its economic infrastructure and new cross-border projects are implemented, these

will not only intensify trade in goods and services, but also facilitate the movement of people. Easing existing cross-border impediments to trade and labour movements, will likely be the strongest economic driver over the coming decade. But the key to any experiment in cooperation and economic integration is political will.

#130 *Deepening India–Bangladesh Economic Cooperation: Challenges and Opportunities* by Prabir De and Biswa N. Bhattacharyay

In recent years, South Asia has received growing attention as a region that is integrating successfully into the global economy. To maximise the benefits in terms of faster growth and poverty reduction, the region will need to strengthen regional and bilateral cooperation in several areas. In this context, closer bilateral cooperation and integration between major South Asian countries, such as between India and Bangladesh, will strengthen the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and help ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of their activities. Cultural, trade, and economic exchanges between the two countries are long standing. Rapid domestic economic development and mutual cooperation have demonstrated broad prospects for further cooperation between the two countries. A remarkable growth in two-way trade between India and Bangladesh has resulted in robust growth of the economies in the region. Compared with their strength, much potential exists for developing trade and economic relations between the two countries. This paper discusses various opportunities and associated prospects and problems in strengthening the India–Bangladesh economic cooperation and integration agenda in the context of SAARC.

#129 *Intellectual Property Regime, Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Access and Benefit Sharing: Drawing Lessons from Kani Case* by Sachin Chaturvedi

Since the Doha Ministerial, the developing countries have been raising issues related to the indigenous knowledge system (IKS) and access and benefit sharing (ABS) in the context of conflict between the CBD and the TRIPs. Though the Doha Development Agenda (Paragraph 19) did acknowledge the need of CBD and TRIPs relationship to be looked into, however most of the developed countries rejected ABS on the pretext that the ABS is not a viable preposition and that ABS should be addressed at the national level rather than placing it as part of multilateral regime. The emerging evidence from the Kani case in India suggests that a nuanced approach to the benefit sharing regime may help in ensuring an equitable distribution of gains through a formal mechanism which may prove to be sustainable in long run. The study also shows that national regimes are not sufficient to check global misappropriation of IKS.

#128 *WTO and Trade in Electronically Delivered Software (EDS): Emerging Challenges and Policy Options – An Indian Perspective* by Sachin Chaturvedi and S. K. Mohanty.

In this paper the authors make an effort to address the concerned issues in the light of the Indian experience

with the usage of ICT in trade transactions. Section II summarises key issues being debated at various committees of WTO while Section III provides India's growing interests in software exports. Section IV enumerates the perspectives on emerging debate at the multilateral fora and also provides policy recommendations.

#127 *Brazilian Economy: Recent Evolution and New Perspectives for South-South Cooperation* by Maria Lúcia L.M. Pádua Lima

The paper initially studies the possibilities of Brazilian economic development stressing the external sector of its economy. As widely known, Brazil is not a very representative partner on external trade. Nevertheless, Brazil already is an important player on food trading and could be, in the future, a very significant player in the international commerce of biofuel and bioproducts. For this reason, this paper also focuses on Brazilian experiences in the production of food, bioproducts and energy generated by renewable sources. In order to illustrate that Brazilian reality, it uses the sugarcane case. The Brazilian agricultural preponderance, contrary to presupposition, required a great amount of research effort and technological improvements, especially which involved the production of biofuel and bioproducts. On the other hand, some Brazilian studies indicated the noteworthy capacity of this kind of agricultural chain to incorporate the work force in the rural areas. Finally, it discusses the feasibility of reproducing abroad successful the agricultural Brazilian experience, what could be a very promising subject to the South-South cooperation.

#126 *Welfare Gains from Regional Economic Integration in Asia: ASEAN+3 or EAS* by S.K. Mohanty and Sanjib Pohit

The experiences of Asian countries suggest that the region has substantial economic potentials and the synergies between these countries can be better tapped by comprehensive economic cooperation. With this approach the formation of an Asian Economic Community is not too far away. The next phase of liberalisation in Asia should focus on deep economic integration. In ASEAN's economic liberalisation in Asia the core issue is, which group of countries between the ASEAN+3 or East Asian Summit (EAS) countries, would elicit maximum benefit to the region in general and ASEAN in particular? Using an Applied General Equilibrium model in a monopolistic framework, the paper suggests that the next Round of economic liberalisation may start with EAS.

#125 *Investment Provisions in Regional Trading Arrangements in Asia: Relevance, Emerging Trends, and Policy Implications* by Nagesh Kumar

This paper summarises the conceptual rationale for investment liberalisation to fully exploit the potential of regional trading arrangements. It goes on to examine the treatment of investment in emerging FTAs/RTAs in the Asia-Pacific region and the specific investment provisions and their consistency with the existing multilateral provisions on investment, viz. WTO's TRIMs Agreement. The provisions of ASEAN framework on the investment area and industrial cooperation are summarised in Section 4. Section 5 briefly examines the trends in India's RTAs policy in Asia and the emerging patterns of efficiency-seeking





industrial restructuring unleashed by it. Finally Section 6 concludes the paper with a few remarks on the importance of a broader framework for regional economic integration.

#124 *Emergence of Indian Biopharmaceutical Sector: Issues and Prospects* by Sachin Chaturvedi

This paper attempts to analyse how from being a major generic exporter India's is likely emergence at the global biopharmaceutical market. This shift in technological trajectory and related economic growth has evoked a great deal of interest. Apart from tracking down growth in the sector, the paper brings forth the missing linkages between the sectoral systems of innovation (SSI) and the National Systems of Innovation (NSI). It does so in the light of major expansion in the Indian pharmaceutical industry and the new efforts to incorporate strategies for targeting of biotechnology for high-end innovation. The paper studies the policy regime facilitating this new era and discusses the future growth prospects of the Indian biopharmaceutical industry.

#123 *Regional Economic Integration, Foreign Direct Investment and Efficiency-Seeking Industrial Restructuring in Asia: The Case of India* by Nagesh Kumar

This paper examines India's RTAs policy in Asia and the emerging patterns of efficiency-seeking industrial restructuring unleashed by it. Section 2 provides a discussion of the analytical relationship between RTAs, patterns of trade, FDI resulting from the industrial restructuring. It also summarises some examples of industrial restructuring of the type the EU's Single Market Plan has led to. Section 3 summarises India's RTA policy in Asia and indicators of its growing economic integration with East Asian countries. Section 4 highlights the emerging patterns of industrial restructuring resulting from India's RTA's policy. Section 5 concludes the paper with a few remarks on the importance of a broader framework for regional economic integration.

#122 *Community-based Rights and IPR Regime: Revisiting the Debate* by Srividhya Ragavan and Jamie Mayer

This paper examines whether the *Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Act, 2001* along with the proposed Seed Bill fulfills India's obligations under Article 27.3 of TRIPS. Further, the paper analyses the benefits India is likely to derive from fulfilling these obligations. Thus, Part I examines Article 27.3 of TRIPS to analyze the constituents of the "effectiveness" requirement of the article. In analysing whether the *sui generis* system in UPOV is effective, Part II details that UPOV's effectiveness is questionable considering that it has diluted eligibility standards, exaggerated scope of breeders' rights, and limited exceptions to breeders' rights. Part III examines the effectiveness of PPVFA and the proposed Seeds Bill. This part concludes that India should refrain from enacting the Seeds Bill but should, instead, strengthen the PPVFA by plugging existing loopholes to achieve national objectives. The conclusion highlights PBRs *per se* can potentially lead to increased research in agriculture despite the resulting privatisation/monopolisation.



Journals

❖ *South Asia Economic Journal* Vol. 8, No.2, July-December 2007

Contents: Research Papers: Textiles and Clothing in South Asia: Current Status and Future Potential by *Ratnakar Adhikari and Chatrini Weeratunge*; Determinants of Private Saving in South Asia by *Rabindra Bhandari, Dharmendra Dhakal, Gyan Pradhan and Kamal P. Upadhyana*; Exploiting Sri Lanka's Free Trade Agreements with India and Pakistan: An Exporter's Perspective by *Ravindra A. Yatawara*; Estimation of the Export Demand Function Using Bilateral Trade Data: The Case of Bangladesh by *Mohammed Nur, Albert Wijeweera and Brian Dollery*; Competition in Indian Banking: An Evaluation by *A. Prasad and Saibal Ghosh*; and Socio-economic Development in Nepal: Past Mistakes and Future Possibilities by *Surendra R. Devkota*. Research Notes: Pakistan's Economy since 1999: Has There Been Real Progress? by *Shahrukh Rafi Khan*; and SPS Regulations and Competitiveness: An Analysis of Indian Spice Exports by *C. Nalin Kumar and V.R. Muraliedharan*. Book Reviews. Document: Declaration of the Fourteenth SAARC Summit, New Delhi.

❖ *South Asia Economic Journal*, Vol. 8 No. 1. January-June 2007.

Contents: Does Migration Matter in Trade? A Study of India's Exports to the GCC Countries by *Sajitha Beevi Karayil*; Effects of Proposed Free Trade Agreement between India and Bangladesh by *Mahinda Siriwardana and Jinmei Yang*; Impact of Structural Adjustment Programmes on Overall Social Welfare in Pakistan by *Nina Gera*; The Economic Effect of the Asian Tsunami on the "Tear Drop in the Indian Ocean": A General Equilibrium Analysis by *Jayatilake S. Bandara and Athula Naranpanawa*; Saving, Investment and Growth in India: An Application of the ARDL Bound Testing Approach by *Reetu Verma*; Asymmetric Volatility and Risk-return Relationship in the Indian Stock Market by *Madhusudan Karmakar*; and Benchmarking and Regulation for the Electricity Distribution Sector in Pakistan: Lessons for Developing Countries by *Muhammad Saleem*. Book Reviews. Document: Joint statement of the Ninth BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting, 9 August 2006, New Delhi.

❖ *Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, Vol. 10.1 and 10.2, 2007. Special Issue on Biorefineries: Prospects, Problems and Perspective for Developing Countries by Guest Editor: Edgar J. DaSilva

Contents: Mining of Biowealth through Use of Clean and Green Technologies by *Edgar J. DaSilva*; A Model for Zero Emission Biotechnology in Asian Countries by *Hitomi Ohara*; Biorefineries: A Contribution to the Human Face of Biotechnology by *Horst W. Doelle and Edgar J. DaSilva*; From Petro to Agro: Seeds of a New Economy by *Robert E. Armstrong*; Bioconversion Energy Technologies: Catalysts for Bioeconomical Development in the ASEAN Region by *Kamaruddin Abdullah*; Marine Biotechnology: A Natural Biorefinery Source of Marine Products and By-products for Human Welfare by *Indrani Karunasagar and Iddya Karunasagar*; Renewable Energies for North and Central Asian Countries: Bioeconomics, Environment and Social Impact by *Aldo Iacomelli*; and In Memory of Dr. Edgar DaSilva by *Lucy Hoareau*

❖ *Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, Vol. 9, No 3, November 2007

Contents: Domestic Policy Options: International Trends in liability and Redress by Philippe Cullet; Biosafety and Emerging Socio Economic Issues by N. Lalitha; Biotechnology, Bioethics and National Ethical Guidelines in Biomedical Research in Iran by Bagher Larijani and Farzaneh Zahedi; Redesigning the Production of the *Bacillus thuringiensis* Bio-Pesticide within the Context of Subsistence Agriculture in Andhra Pradesh, India by Daniel Puente Rodriguez; and Reorientation of Agricultural Research for Addressing Food Security Issues through Agricultural Biotechnology by Harbir Singh; Document; Bio Web and Bio Stat.

New Asia Monitor

- ❖ *New Asia Monitor*, Vol. 4, No. 2, April 2007.
- ❖ *New Asia Monitor*, Vol. 4, No. 3, July 2007.
- ❖ *New Asia Monitor*, Vol. 4, No.4, October 2007.
- ❖ *New Asia Monitor*, Vol. 5. No. 1, 2008

Mekong-Ganga Policy Brief

- ❖ *Mekong-Ganga Policy Brief*, No.2, October 2007.

Newsletter

- ❖ *RIS Diary*, Vol. 5 No. 2, April 2007
- ❖ *RIS Diary*, Vol. 5 No. 3, July 2007
- ❖ *RIS Diary*, Vol. 5 No. 4. October 2007
- ❖ *RIS Diary*, Vol. 6 No. 1, January 2008

Outside Publications of the RIS Faculty Members

Books/Monographs/Research Papers

- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2007. *Agricultural Biotechnology-based (Green)Enterprise Development for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods and Economic Growth: Opportunities with Biofuel in Selected Asian Economies*. United Nations Asian and Pacific Centre for Agricultural Engineering and Machinery (UN APCAEM), Beijing, December.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2007. 'Putting the environment into Trade Facilitation' in Adil Najam, Mark Halle and Ricardo Meléndez-Ortiz (eds.) *Trade and Environment: A Resource Book*. ICTSD and IISD, Canada.
- Chaturvedi Sachin. 2007. 'Exploring Interlinkages between National and Sectoral Innovation Systems for Rapid

Technological Catch-up: Case of Indian Biopharmaceutical Industry', *Technology Analysis & Strategic Management*, Vol. 19, Issue 5 September 2007, pp. 643-657, Routledge Taylor & Francis.

- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2007. "Environmental Concerns and Biotechnology in South Asia". *South Asia Journal*, Vol. 18 Issue 4, December.
- Das, Ram Upendra. 2007. "Developing a Comprehensive View on Rules of Origin". *Indian Engineering Exports*, September.
- De, P. 2008. "Realising the Gains from Full Regional Connectivity in South Asia: The Transport Costs Dimension". *Man and Development*, Vol. 30, No. 1.
- De, P. 2008. "Trade Costs and Infrastructure: Analysis of the Effects of Trade Impediments in Asia". *Journal of Integration and Trade*, Vol. 12, No. 28, pp. 241-266.
- De, P. 2008. "Infrastructure Development in India" in *International Infrastructure Development in East Asia: Towards Balanced Regional Development and Integration*, Tokyo: IDE-JETRO.
- De, Prabir. 2007. "Impact of trade costs on trade: Empirical evidence from Asian countries" in UNESCAP (ed.) *Trade Facilitation Beyond the Multilateral Trade Negotiations: Regional Practices, Customs Valuation and Other Emerging Issues*. Trade and Investment Division, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Bangkok, December, pp. 281-310.
- De, Prabir. 2007. "Maritime transport revamp will boost IBSA trade". *Indian Engineering Export* (a journal of EEPC), Vol. 1, No. 1, October, pp. 12 -17.
- De, Prabir. 2007. "India's International Trade Policy". *Chindia Journal* (a journal of POSCO), Vol. 15, November, pp. 40-42.
- De, Prabir. 2007. "Diversifying India's Exports to China". *Indian Engineering Exports* (a journal of EEPC), Vol. 2, No. 2, December, pp. 4-12.
- De, Prabir (co-author). 2007. "Barriers to Trade in Higher Education Services: Empirical Evidence from Asia-Pacific Countries". *Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Review*, Vol. 3, No. 2, December, pp. 67-88.
- De, Prabir. 2007. "Enhancing Exports to Bangladesh: Possibility of an FTA". *Indian Engineering Exports* (a publication of Engineering Export Promotion Council), Vol. 1, No. 8, July.
- De, Prabir (co-author). 2007. Assessing Barriers to Trade in Education Services in Developing Asia-Pacific Countries: An



- Empirical Exercise, ARTNeT Working Paper No. 34, UNESCAP, Bangkok, June.
- De, Prabir. 2007. Role of Infrastructure in Reducing Trade Costs, in *Indian Engineering Exports*, Vol. 1, No. 2, April-May, Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC).
- De, Prabir (co-author). 2007. Prospects of India-Bangladesh Economic Cooperation: Implications for South Asian Regional Cooperation. *Discussion Paper # 78*. Asian Development Bank Institute, Tokyo, September, 2007.
- Gallagher, Kevin P. (co-author). 2007. *The Enclave Economy: Foreign Investment and Sustainable Development in Mexico's Silicon Valley*. The MIT Press.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2008. "ASEAN FTAs & Prospects of Broader Regional Cooperation in Asia". *Japan Spotlight*. March/April.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2008. "Investment Cooperation and Liberalisation in ASEAN+6" in *Deepening Economic Integration in East Asia – the ASEAN Economic Community and Beyond* (ed) Hadi Soesastro. Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA). Tokyo: IDE-JETRO.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2008. "India" in *Developing a Roadmap toward East Asian Economic Integration* (ed) Hadi Soesastro. Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and Member Research Institutes. Tokyo: IDE-JETRO.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. Potential and Challenges of East Asian Cooperation. *Economic & Political Weekly*. 3 November. pp 23-26.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. 'Emerging TNCs: trends, patterns and determinants of outward FDI by Indian enterprises'. *Transnational Corporations*, UN: New York. Vol.16, No.1, April-June: pp. 1-26.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. 'Building a Development-friendly World Trading System'. *Bridges* (Geneva: ICTSD), No.5, August.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. 'The internationalization of R&D and developing countries'. *Research Policy*, 36: pp. 1291-4.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. 'What Ails India's Policy, while China Succeeds'. *Economic Journalist*, July.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. "India in 21st Century Asia-Pacific" in Y. Yagama Reddy (ed) *Emerging India in Asia-Pacific* New Delhi: New Century.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. "Infrastructure Availability, FDI Inflows and Their Export-orientation: A Cross-Country Exploration". *The Indian Economic Journal*. Vol. 54, No. 1, 2006, pp. 125-144.
- Mathur, S.K. 2007. Review article of the book *ICTs and Indian Economic Development: Economy, Work and Regulation* by Ashwani Saith and M Vijayabhaskar. *Indian Economic Journal*, Vol. 54, No 4, Jan-March.
- Mathur, S.K. 2007. "ICT and Cooperation among South Asian Countries". Published in the Proceedings of International Conference on Leveraging Innovation for Development, Ministry of Science and Technology, New Delhi, October 15-16.
- Mathur, S.K. 2007. *Perspective of Economic Growth and Convergence in Selected South Asian and East Asian Economies: A Data Envelopment Analysis*. Hyderabad: ICFAI University Press.
- Mathur, S.K. 2007. *Global Economic Trends and South Asia*. Hyderabad: ICFAI Press.
- Mathur, S.K. 2007. "Indian IT Industry: A Model for Possible Adoption". MPRA Paper No. 2368. Munich.
- Mathur, S.K. 2007. "TRIPS: Issues, Impact and the Way Forward for Developing Countries, including India". American Law & Economics Association 17th Annual Meeting. *Working Paper 7*. April.
- Mathur, S.K. 2007. "Indian IT & ICT Industry: A Performance Analysis Using Data Development Analysis & Malmquist Index". *Global Economy Journal*, May, Vol. 7: No. 2, Article 3. The Berkeley Electronic Press, US.
- Mehta, Rajesh (co-author). 2007. "Impact of Trade Liberalization on Import Demands in India: A Panel Data Analysis for Commodity Group" in *Trade Liberalization: Impact on Growth and Trade in Developing Countries*. Singapore: World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd. pp.105-130.
- Mehta, Rajesh. 2007. "India's Processed Food Products Exports: Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary Regime" in S. Bhaskaran and K.S. Kumaravel (eds) *India's Agricultural Trade Challenges and Opportunities* ICFAI Books, The ICFAI University Press. pp. 99-126.
- Mehta, R. 2008. "Non-tariff Barriers affecting India's Export" in *Trade Policy, Industrial Performance and Private Sector Development*. New Delhi: OUP.
- Mehta, Rajesh. 'Non-Tariff Barriers in the context of WTO'. *FOCUS WTO*. (June-July).
- Mehta, Rajesh. 2007. "Non-Tariff Barriers in the Context of WTO". *FOCUS WTO*. (May-June).

- Mohanty, S.K. and Sachin Chaturvedi. 2007. "Impact of SAFTA on Trade in Environmentally Sensitive Goods in South Asia: Emerging Challenges and Policy Options". *Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Review*, Vol. 2 No. 2. Bangkok.
- Srinivas, K.R. 2008. "Biocommons and Patents". *STEM Newsletter*. Vol 3 No 1 January.
- Srinivas, K.R. 2008. "Traditional Knowledge and Intellectual Property Rights: A Note on Issues, Some Solutions and Some Suggestions". *Asian Journal of WTO & Int'l Health Law and Policy*. Vol.3 No. 1, pp 81-120, March.
- RIS. 2008. "India" in *Developing a Roadmap toward East Asian Economic Integration – Perspectives from 16 Countries*. Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) and Member Research Institutes. Tokyo: IDE-JETRO.
- De, Prabir. 2007. 'Regional trends influence rising economies'. *The Financial Express*. October 17.
- De, Prabir. 2007. 'India and China should open up trade in education services'. *The Financial Express*. November 7.
- De, Prabir. 2007. Trade imbalance with China must be rectified. *The Financial Express*, December 19.
- De, Prabir. 2007. 'Riding the Big Boom in Services Trade'. *The Financial Express*, 1 August, 2007
- De, Prabir. 2007. 'Strengthening Trading Routes across Border'. *The Financial Express*, 22 August.
- De, Prabir. 2007. 'Peppering the Multilateral Curry'. *The Financial Express*, 12 September.
- De, Prabir. 2007. 'Changing dynamic of work'. *The Financial Express*, April 18.
- De, Prabir. 2007. 'Building a partnership based on trade'. *The Financial Express*, May 2.
- De, Prabir. 2007. 'FDI flows in the emerging markets'. *The Financial Express*, May 23.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2008. 'Sixty Years since GATT: Towards a More Democratic WTO'. *The Economic Times*. 1 January.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2008. 'Can global financial turmoil derail India's growth?'. *The Economic Times*. 25 March.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. 'Leveraging Asian resurgence for sustaining rapid growth'. *The Financial Express*. 14 August
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. 'East Asia Summit and broader economic integration in Asia'. *The Jakarta Post*. 21 November.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. 'Should India forge an FTA with ASEAN'. *The Economic Times*. 27 November.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. 'European Union Kee Raha Per Chalney Kee Jaroorat'. (Need to Follow the Path of European Union). *Hindustan*. 2 April.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2007. 'Employment-oriented Thrust'. *Chartered Financial Analyst*. June.

Popular Columns

- Agarwala, Ramgopal. 2008. 'How can Asia help the US economy?' *The Economic Times*. March 24.
- Agarwala, Ramgopal. 2008. 'How Can Asia Help in the Current Financial Crisis of the US Economy?'. *The Economic Times*. 25 March.
- Agarwala, Ramgopal. 2007. "A model salutary use of Asia's forex reserves." *The Economic Times*. April 7.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2007. "Should the export incentives be reduced? Pay greater Attention to Market Development". *The Financial Express*, April 2.
- De, P. 2008. 'Connecting Mekong region with India through infrastructure links'. *The Financial Express*, 6 February.
- De, P. 2008. 'India needs to be more open to Chinese investments'. *The Financial Express*, 20 February.
- De, P. 2008. 'Strengthening relations with Myanmar'. *The Financial Express*, 19 March.

VII. Documentation Centre

The RIS Documentation Centre has been functioning as a well stocked-up-to-date library on literature related to issues such as the world economy, international trade, world trading system, international monetary and financial system, South-South economic cooperation including regional economic cooperation schemes like SAARC, ASEAN, IOR-ARC, 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 Documentation Centre caters not only to the research staff of the RIS but also to researchers, policy makers, etc. from the government, academic, business and industry circles.

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 organisations/institutions. It has a fair collection of electronic documents and is equipped with Internet facilities. RIS has introduced Delnet (Delhi Library Network) services for acquiring references and ascertaining the availability of the documents and journals in Delhi libraries.

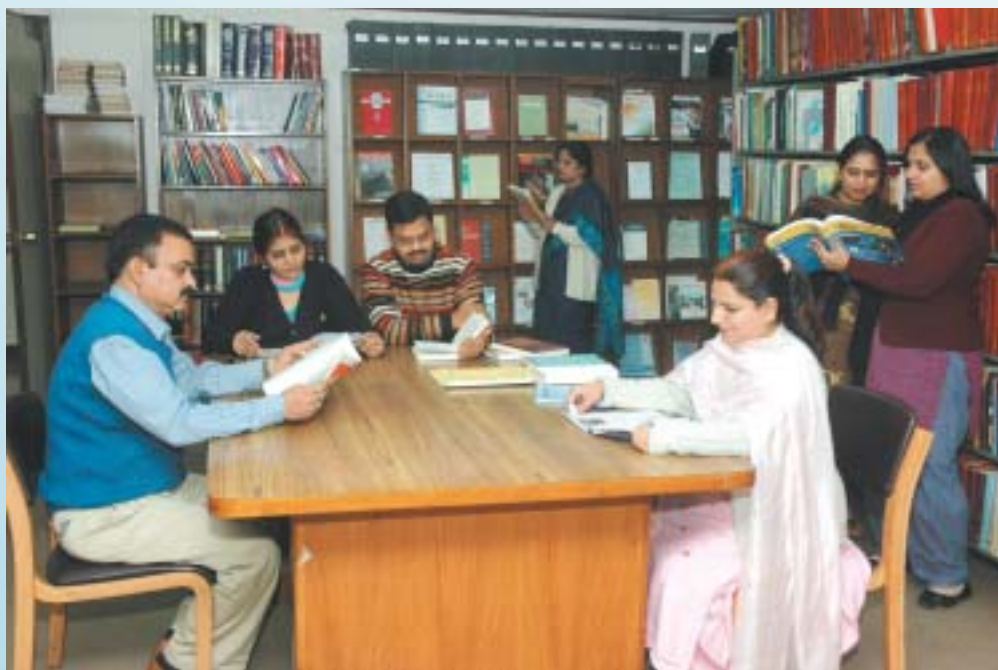


RIS Online Documentation Centres

The online RIS website has been kept up to date in order to facilitate the dissemination of RIS publications. Most of the output of RIS, viz. Research Reports, Policy Briefs, Discussion Papers, conference reports, journals and newsletters, and op-ed articles contributed by RIS faculty can be downloaded by users anytime. The site is also registered with various search engines. The RIS website is visited by an increasing number of visitors. The main website viz. www.ris.org.in has received more than 1.5

million successful hits during a 12 month period upto September 2008. Another interesting aspect of visitors to RIS website is the fact that only about 22 per cent of them were from India and about 78 per cent from different countries across the globe. An indication of growing popularity of the institute among its peers and its website can be had from the fact that nearly 52 per cent of visitors came directly to the site, 48

per cent being referred by search engines. The other website hosted by RIS, viz. www.newasiaforum.org is a dedicated website for promoting regional economic cooperation in Asia. This website pools together resources and links from all over the world on subjects other than RIS studies. It has also received over 2 lakh successful hits over the past year with over 85 per cent visitors from outside India.



A view of the RIS Documentation Centre.

VIII. Human Resources



Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Ph.D. (Delhi School of Economics)

Director-General

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, global economic governance.

Faculty



Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, Ph.D. (Manchester)

Senior Adviser

Specialisation: Macro-modelling, Macro-economic management, regional economic cooperation, pension system reforms, foreign aid for development and development policy paradigm.



Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Ph.D. (Delhi School of Economics)

Senior Fellow

Specialisation: WTO, trade policy reforms, regional trading blocs, patterns and determinants of trade flows, forecasting, trade and development, tariff and non-tariff barriers.



Dr. S.K. Mohanty, Ph.D. (Sardar Patel Institute of Economic and Social Research)

Senior Fellow

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, Ph.D. (JNU)

Senior Fellow

Specialisation: Regional economic cooperation; rules of origin; trade, growth and technology; labour market implications of economic reforms and the WTO Agreement on Textiles and Clothing.



Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Ph.D. (Agra)

Senior Fellow

Specialisation: National innovation system and biotechnology, biodiversity conservation, intellectual property regime and indigenous knowledge system, food security, trade and standards.



Dr. I.N. Mukherji, Ph.D. (Patna)

Senior Consultant

Specialisation: Regional economic cooperation in South Asia, international trade and development



Dr. Prabir De, Ph.D. (Jadavpur)

Fellow

Specialisation: Trade and transport, regional economics, and regional economic cooperation.



Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas,

Ph.D. (National Law School University, Bangalore)

Associate Fellow

Specialisation: IPRs and global trade.



Dr. Gurpreet Singh Bhatia, Ph.D. (National University of Singapore)

Associate Fellow

Specialisation: Industrial economics and competitiveness



Dr. Anshuman Gupta, Ph.D. (J.N.U.)

Visiting Associate Fellow

Specialisation: International trade and finance



Dr. Beena Pandey, Ph.D. (Jamia Millia Islamia)

Research Associate

Specialisation: Social sector, gender empowerment and development issues.



Mr. Priyadarshi Dash, M.Phil. (IIT, Bombay)

Research Associate

Specialisation: Macroeconomics and international finance.



Mr. U.S. Rana, M.A. Economics (Kumoun University)

Research Analyst

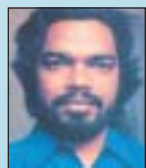
Specialisation: International trade and development, and regional trading blocs.



Mrs. Pooja Agarwal, M.A. Economics (Delhi School of Economics)

Research Analyst

Specialisation: International trade.



Mr. Sayan Samanta, M.A. Economics (JNU)

Research Analyst

Specialisation: Development economics and econometrics

Adjunct Senior Fellows



Prof. Mukul Asher,
*Professor, Lee Kuan Yew
School of Public Policy,
National University of
Singapore.*



Dr. Manmohan Agarwal,
*Professor, Centre for
International Governance
Innovation, University of
Waterloo, Canada*



Dr. Amrita Narlikar,
*International Political
Economy at the Centre of
International Studies,
University of Cambridge,
UK.*

Adjunct Fellows



Dr. Kevin P. Gallagher, *Professor,
Department of International
Relations, Boston University; Senior
Associate, GDAE, Tufts University.*



Dr. Ramkishan S. Rajan,
*Associate Professor, School of
Public Policy, George Mason
University, Washington D.C.*



Dr. Suma Athreya,
*Reader, Brunel
Business School, Brunel
University, Uxbridge*



Dr. Srividhya Ragavan, *Associate
Professor of Law, University of
Oklahoma College of Law, Norman,
Oklahoma*

Adjunct Researchers



Dr. Rahul Sen,
*Lecturer in Economics, Business
Economics Department, Auckland
University, New Zealand*



Dr. Alka Chadha, *Lecturer,
National University of
Singapore*

Visiting Members of Faculty for part of the year



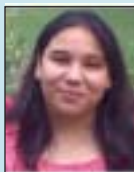
Dr. Pooja Sharma, *Ph.D. (University of Cincinnati)
Fellow (till 2 March 2008)
Specialisation: International trade, political economy
of trade policy, applied general equilibrium, regional
economic integration, agriculture*



Dr. Somesh Mathur, *Ph.D. (JNU)
Fellow (till 17 April 2008)
Specialisation: New trade and growth
theories, operational research, WTO
areas like TRIPs*



Ms. Shivani Sharma
*M.A. Economics
(Delhi School of Economics)
Research Assistant
(till 25 July 2008)*



Ms. Priyanka Dhawan
*M.A. Economics
(Delhi School of Economics)
Research Assistant
(till 24 January 2008)*



Ms. Monika
*M.A. Economics
(Jamia Millia Islamia)
Research Assistant
(till 22 Feb 2008)*

Research Interns

Mr. Ritadhi Chakravarty
*(Grinnell College, Iowa, USA)
June 2008 to August 2008*

Ms. Harpreet Kaur
*(Delhi School of Economics)
28 April 2008 to 30 June 2008*

Ms. Mehak Sindhwani
*(Delhi School of Economics)
28 April 2008 to 30 June 2008*

Mr. Abhinav Narayanan
*(JNU)
1 May 2008 to 30 June 2008*

Mr. Souamyadip Roy
*(JNU)
1 May 2008 to 30 June 2008*

Ms. Mallika Garg
*(Jamia Millia Islamia)
1 May 2008 to 15 July 2008*

Ms. Pragya Madan
*(Jamia Millia Islamia)
1 May 2008 to 15 July 2008*

Ms. Swati Chitkara
*(Jamia Millia Islamia)
1 June 2007 to 20 July 2007*

Ms. Somya Srivastava
*(Jamia Millia Islamia)
1 June 2007 to 20 July 2007*

Other Staff Members

Lt. Col. (Retd.) Bharat Panwar
Finance & Administrative Officer



Publications & Documentation Centre

Shri Tish Kumar Malhotra, *Publications Officer*
Mrs. Sarita Kapoor, *Documentation Officer*

Information Technology/Databases Unit

Mrs. Sushma Bhat, *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 (Programmes)*
Shri Harkesh, *Dispatch Clerk*
Mrs. Anu Bisht, *Receptionist*

Research Support

Ms. Kiran Wagh, *Private Secretary*
Mrs. Sujata Taneja, *Pers. Assistant*
Shri Sanjeev Sharma, *Jr. Pers. Assistant*
Shri Surender Kumar, *Jr. Pers. Assistant*
Mrs. Poonam Khurana, *Jr. Pers. Assistant (on leave)*

Project Support

Mrs. Poonam Malhotra, *Data Entry Operator*
Ms. Ritu Taneja, *Jr. Project Assistant*
Ms. Sushila, *Jr. Library Assistant*
Ms. Jyoti Goel, *Jr. Library Assistant*

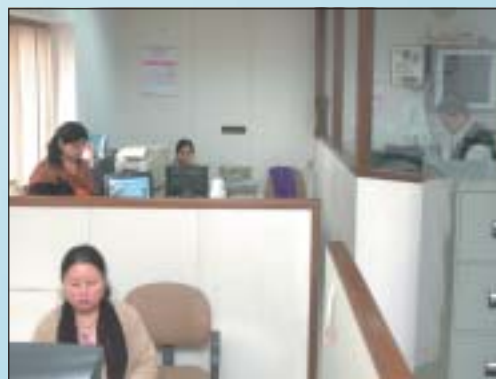
Support Staff: Shri Satyavir Singh (Staff Car Driver), Shri Balwan, Shri Pradeep, Shri J.B. Thakuri and Shri Raju.



F&AO (right) in a meeting with his colleagues



A view of DG's office



A view of Computer Centre



THAKUR, VAIDYANATH AIYAR & CO.

Chartered Accountants
New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai
Patna, Hyderabad and Chandigarh

221-223, Deen Dayal Marg, New Delhi – 110002

Phones: 011-23236958-60, 23237772

Fax: 011-23230831

E-mail: tvand@vsnl.com
tvande@rediffmail.com

Auditor's Report

We have audited the attached Financial Statements comprising the Balance Sheet of **Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi** as at 31st March 2008, and also the Income and Expenditure Account of the Society for the year ended on that date.

These 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 misstatements. An audit includes examining, on test 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 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 accounts 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 7 and our separate report dated 19th September 2008 addressed to the Members of Governing Council, give a true and fair view:
 - a) in the case of the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the Society as at 31st March 2008; and
 - b) in the case of the Income and Expenditure Account, of the Surplus for the year ended 31st March 2008.

For **Thakur, Vaidyanath Aiyar & Co.**
Chartered Accountants

Sd/-
(K.N. Gupta)
Partner
M. No. 09169

Place: New Delhi

Date: 19.09.2008

Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi
(A Society Registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860)
Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2008

Financial Statements

Particulars	Schedule	As At 31.3.2008 Rs.	As At 31.3.2007 Rs.
Liabilities			
Research And Development Fund	1	42115544.42	33935122.00
Asset Fund (Assets created out of Grant-in-Aid from GOI)		26273582.00	27569543.00
Asset Fund (Assets created out of Various Sponsored Projects-(Non-FCRA)	2	1126820.00	1334771.00
Asset Fund (Assets created out of Various Sponsored Projects-(FCRA)	}	21241.00	-
Unspent Balances			
A. Sponsored Projects as per schedule attached (Non-FCRA)	3	8080742.00	6993726.00
B. Sponsored Projects as per schedule attached (FCRA)	}	9754771.00	5760704.00
Current Liabilities and Provisions (Non-FCRA)	4	2723259.00	2002550.00
Total		90095959.42	77596416.00
Assets			
Fixed Assets (Assets created out of Grant-in-Aid from GOI)		26273582.00	27569543.00
Fixed Assets (Assets created out of Various Sponsored Projects) - Non-FCRA	5	1126820.00	1334771.00
Fixed Assets (Assets created out of Various Sponsored Projects) - FCRA	}	21241.00	-
Amount Recoverable			
A. Sponsored Projects as per Schedule Attached (Non-FCRA)	3	3532579.00	1615989.00
B. Sponsored Projects as per Schedule Attached (FCRA)	}	-	-
Current Assets, Loans, and Advances, etc. (Non-FCRA)		31737988.23	28229180.00
Current Assets, Loans, and Advances, etc. (FCRA)	6	27403749.19	18846933.00
Total		90095959.42	77596416.00
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts	7		

Schedules 1 to 13 form an integral part of Accounts.
Subject to our report of even date.
Examined and found correct.

New Delhi

Sd/-
Chartered Accountants

Dated 19 September 2008

Sd/-
Fin. & Admn. Officer

Sd/-
Director General

Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi
(A Society Registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860)
Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31st March, 2008

INCOME	Schedule	Current Year Amount (Rs.)	Previous Year Amount (Rs.)
Grant-in-aid received from Ministry of External Affairs		17500000.00	15000000.00
Grants/Fees transferred to meet expenditure on sponsored projects (Non-FCRA) and (FCRA)		12660103.00	6519526.00
Amount Transferred from Sponsored Projects (Excess amount transferred on completion of projects)	3	6467478.42	6528469.00
Income from Royalty, Publications etc.		194330.23	175132.00
Interest Earned:			
On Term Deposits - FCRA		331023.86	373748.00
On Term Deposits - Non-FCRA		1423704.42	991360.00
On Savings Accounts - Non-FCRA		440.00	4211.00
On Loans Employees/Staff - Non-FCRA		5180.00	9135.00
Other Miscellaneous Income Non-FCRA		94206.49	45093.00
Transfer to Assets Fund (Depreciation on Fixed Assets acquired out of Grant-in-Aid from Government of India/Sponsored Projects)	2	2292222.00	2423384.00
Total		40968688.42	32070058.00
EXPENDITURE			
Programme Expenses	8	12635113.00	6446026.00
Establishment Expenses	9	10514665.00	9150988.00
Other Administrative Expenses	10	6536715.00	5445177.00
Expenses Incurred on Purchase of Fixed Assets transferred to Assets Fund (Non FCRA & FCRA)	5	809551.00	949229.00
Depreciation on Fixed Assets acquired out of Grant-in-Aid from Government of India/Sponsored Projects	5	2292222.00	2423384.00
Surplus transferred to Research and Development Fund	1	8180422.42	7655254.00
Total		40968688.42	32070058.00
Significant Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts	7		

Schedule 1 to 13 form an integral part of Accounts.

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

New Delhi
Dated 19 September 2008

Sd/-
Chartered Accountants

Sd/-
Fin. & Admn. Officer

Sd/-
Director General

Research and Information System for Developing Countries Summary of Sources and Utilisation of Funds for the Year Ended 31st March 2008

Sources	Current Year		Previous Year		Utilisation	Current Year			Previous Year		
	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)	Amount (Rs)		Expenses incurred out of Core Grant from MEA Amount (Rs)	Expenses incurred out of Grants/ Fees received from Sponsored Projects Amount (Rs)	Consolidated Total Amount (Rs)	Expenses incurred out of Core Grant from MEA Amount (Rs)	Expenses incurred out of Grants Fees received from Sponsored Projects Amount (Rs)	Consolidated Total Amount (Rs)
Grant-in-Aid received from Ministry of External Affairs	17500000		15000000		Salary/Consultancy Charges	10514665	2800393	13315058	9150988	2923981	12074969
Grants/Fees received from Sponsored Projects of which	22292074		15824911		Conference/Seminar/ Training Expenses	176606	7986206	8162812	222640	2071521	2294161
- (Non-FCRA)	8962978		9986930		Travelling and Conveyance Expenses	384401	1325306	1709707	268079	973919	1241998
- (FCRA)	13329096		5837981		Other Expenses	5975708	523208	6498916	4954458	476605	5431063
Interest on FDRs for Savings Bank etc.	1760348		1378454		Expenditure incurred on purchase of Fixed Assets	784561	24990	809551	875729	73500	949229
Income from Publications and Royalty	194330		175132		Amount refunded to the Sponsoring Agency	-	-	-	-	126741	126741
Other Miscel. Income	94206		45093		Total Expenditure	17835941	12660103	30496044	15471894	6646267	22118161
					Surplus transferred to Research and Development Fund	-	-	8180422	-	-	7655254
					Adjustment of Opening/ Closing Balances of Unspent/ Recoverable Grants from Non-FCRA and FCRA	-	-	3164492			2650175
Total	41840958		32423590		Total			41840958			32423590

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

India's export strategy continues with its employment generation thrust

The widespread use of ethanol in small industries—powered by microturbines, instrumentation and automation—reduces the need for large capital expenditure—a crucial in the effort.

The emphasis on promotion of export of information goods is a well-deserved priority. But we should not overlook India's potential of reaping its global manufacturing by reworking or skill intensive goods that overseas

high value-added, per cent of exports. India's service competitive in some of the industries, gives a good example of

A number of Indians began to achieve global recognition in the 1980s, looking to strengthen

in East Asia like China, Thailand and Malaysia, have created millions of jobs by developing export-oriented manufacturing industries. In the context of shrinking employment in the organized sector, despite acceleration in GDP growth, the importance of job creation through export-oriented production cannot be overemphasized. An RIS study, "Towards an Employment-oriented Export Strategy", prepared for the Ministry of Commerce

THE WTO negotiations to conclude the Doha trade round are deadlocked and prospects for salvaging them appear increasingly dismal. Trade ministers from six

Why is there no urgency? Even though the bulk of the estimated \$96 billion benefits from a "likely" outcome of the Doha negotiations go to developed countries, Prof Dan Rodrik of Harvard University

Kevin Gallagher, in their paper 'Relevance of policy space for development: implications for multilateral trade negotiations' argue that developing countries should thus seek to preserve policy flexibility and retrieve the space that has been eroded

Ministerial Meeting Identifies Areas To Facilitate Travel Among Member States

[illegible]

Share Of Hi-Tech Products In India's Export Basket Is Quite Low

TECHNOLOGY INTENSIVE EXPORTS

Year	Exports (US\$ million)
1995	~100
1996	~150
1997	~200
1998	~250
1999	~300
2000	~350

TECHNOLOGY EXPORT POTENTIAL

Year	% of GDP
1995	~1.0
1996	~1.2
1997	~1.4
1998	~1.6
1999	~1.8
2000	~2.0

Providence would point India in a policy that engages — or rather induces — China, an approach where Moscow is furthering its own national interest. Nothing

It is a far-reaching one, because it means that the president is in a position to have his own agenda. It is a far-reaching one, because it means that the president is in a position to have his own agenda. It is a far-reaching one, because it means that the president is in a position to have his own agenda.

1. 11. 2014

© 2004 Blackwell Publishing Ltd *Journal of Internal Medicine* 255: 105–112

[illegible]

© 2006 Blackwell Publishing Ltd, *Journal of Internal Medicine* 260: 101–108

The Economic Policy Group's preliminary analysis of the economy is as well as a pre-budget assessment. It is also the first time the group has published its findings on the economy's performance since the 1997 election.

Is this really tomorrow? *Major events and a meeting with the head of tomorrow*

[illegible]

With Asean pact in limbo, India now looks at E Asia

Several problems with the free trade agreement (FTA) being worked out with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) are likely to delay its finalisation. The ADB is a regional economic cooperation agency (RCEA) with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) members, including the Asian countries, China, India, New Zealand and New Zealand.

The ADB is a regional economic cooperation agency (RCEA) with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) members, including the Asian countries, China, India, New Zealand and New Zealand.



Minister Manmohan Singh (left) and Prime Minister Wen Jiabao (right) shake hands after a meeting in Beijing.

India too flexible for FTA with Asean: Ramesh

Statesman/News Service

NEW DELHI, Nov 12: With a free trade agreement (FTA) on the Prime Minister's agenda when he attends the Asean summit in Singapore next week, India is keen to conclude

ty in the Asean FTA," he said addressing the valedictory session of a conference on Asian Economic Integration, organised by the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RISDC).

tion on hold. "Not just because of its economic importance, the Prime Minister sees trade integration as a larger political significance. It is not just an economic instrument but an instrument of strategic partnership," he

Korea, India keen on FTA... and then pan Asia

Industry & Economy - Events

Economic conference in D



The two-day high-level Conference on Integration is being held here from substantive inputs for the forthcoming (EAS), scheduled to take place in Si the ASEAN Summit meeting. The Prime Minister Singh, will take part in t organised by the Research and Info developing countries, the Institute of Singapore and the Institute of Devi the conference would discuss the ec relevance of Asian economic integra and the specific issues concerning t money and finance, according to th

A two-day high-level Conference on Integration is being held here from substantive inputs for the forthcoming (EAS), scheduled to take place in Si the ASEAN Summit meeting. The Prime Minister Singh, will take part in t organised by the Research and Info developing countries, the Institute of Singapore and the Institute of Devi the conference would discuss the ec relevance of Asian economic integra and the specific issues concerning t money and finance, according to th

East Asia forum to work on economic integration

Delhi/News



AHEAD OF THE World East Asia Summit (WEAS) in Singapore on November 20 and 21, to be attended by leaders from 14 nations (ASEAN + 4) including Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, a panel of experts have suggested that the region should liberalise trade and investment barriers in a phased manner by 2020. The region must also eventually work towards creating an Asian currency unit and manage its financial integration, suggested from a conference organised jointly by the Indian Institute of International Business and International

It is upon us to place a political and economic architecture that is conducive to Asia's emergence as a pre-eminent region of stability and prosperity equal to the Americas, Europe and Japan.

As Japan, Korea trade had increased from 20 per cent to 18 per cent in 2006. And ASEAN + 4 trade which includes India, Australia and New Zealand rose from 10 per cent in the same period. High level of economic integration East Asia is comparable to the rest of the world. India would work to its neighbours to create a vibrant Asian Economic Community to ensure that the East century Asian Century.

नई ट्रेड ट्रीटी के हक में हैं प्रणव

प्रणव प्रणव

ए एशियाई देशों के साथ भारत का द्विपक्षीय व्यापार 40 से 50 प्रतिशत तक बढ़ा पाये है और इस तरह एशिया का भारत का सबसे बड़ा व्यापारिक भागीदार बन चुका है। भारत को इस बात का पता है कि एशियाई देशों के साथ बढ़ती व्यापारिक भागीदारी को और बढ़ावा देने के लिए भारत को नई ट्रेड ट्रीटी के हक में हैं प्रणव।

एशियाई देशों के साथ भारत का द्विपक्षीय व्यापार 40 से 50 प्रतिशत तक बढ़ा पाये है और इस तरह एशिया का भारत का सबसे बड़ा व्यापारिक भागीदार बन चुका है। भारत को इस बात का पता है कि एशियाई देशों के साथ बढ़ती व्यापारिक भागीदारी को और बढ़ावा देने के लिए भारत को नई ट्रेड ट्रीटी के हक में हैं प्रणव।

एशियाई देशों के साथ भारत का द्विपक्षीय व्यापार 40 से 50 प्रतिशत तक बढ़ा पाये है और इस तरह एशिया का भारत का सबसे बड़ा व्यापारिक भागीदार बन चुका है। भारत को इस बात का पता है कि एशियाई देशों के साथ बढ़ती व्यापारिक भागीदारी को और बढ़ावा देने के लिए भारत को नई ट्रेड ट्रीटी के हक में हैं प्रणव।

India non-committal on trade concessions

Our Bureau

Delhi

ASIAN hopes of cementing trade relations with India in the form of a free trade agreement (FTA) might not be realised. India has not been forthcoming in making trade concessions to the Asian countries, according to Asian countries.

India has not been forthcoming in making trade concessions to the Asian countries, according to Asian countries.

India has not been forthcoming in making trade concessions to the Asian countries, according to Asian countries.

Surviving the financial turmoil in the U.S.

Experts say Asia needs to diversify, use regional funds for regional needs

By P. K. SINGH



Dr. P. K. Singh



Dr. P. K. Singh

As the Asian financial crisis deepens, experts are warning that the region must diversify its economy and use regional funds for regional needs. The crisis has exposed the region's vulnerability to external shocks and the need for a more diversified economy.

As the Asian financial crisis deepens, experts are warning that the region must diversify its economy and use regional funds for regional needs. The crisis has exposed the region's vulnerability to external shocks and the need for a more diversified economy.

Free trade on Manmohan-Wen talks table

Our Bureau

Delhi

China's interest in free trade with India is growing. The two leaders, Manmohan Singh and Wen Jiabao, have discussed the possibility of a free trade agreement (FTA) between the two countries.

China's interest in free trade with India is growing. The two leaders, Manmohan Singh and Wen Jiabao, have discussed the possibility of a free trade agreement (FTA) between the two countries.

China's interest in free trade with India is growing. The two leaders, Manmohan Singh and Wen Jiabao, have discussed the possibility of a free trade agreement (FTA) between the two countries.

As the Asian financial crisis deepens, experts are warning that the region must diversify its economy and use regional funds for regional needs.

As the Asian financial crisis deepens, experts are warning that the region must diversify its economy and use regional funds for regional needs.

FTA prospects appear bleak

Analysis

Delhi

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

Nov 12

The joint study group formed in 2005 to study the complementarity between the economies of China and India had suggested that there was a potential for a possible regional trading agreement which needed to be studied further. An official level taskforce was subsequently formed to look into the issue, which is yet to submit its report.

Speaking to ET, RIS director general Nagesh Kumar, who was a member of the joint study group, said that an FTA could only happen in a phased manner. "One would begin with a FTA involving a few commodities and then, when Indian companies have gained enough confidence, a globally more liberalised FTA," he said.

India could use the FTA to trade services.

– Policy research to shape the international development agenda



RIS

**Research and Information System
for Developing Countries**

Core IV-B, Fourth Floor, India Habitat Centre
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003, India.

Ph: 91-11-24682177-80 Fax: 91-11-24682173-74

Email: dgoffice@ris.org.in

Websites: <http://www.ris.org.in/> <http://www.newasiaforum.org>