



# RIS Diary

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## The Fourth High-Level Conference on Asian Economic Community

Continuing its work programme on building a New Asia, RIS organized the Fourth High-Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration: Towards an Asian Economic Community on 18-19 November 2005 in New Delhi in collaboration with Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore. The Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Japan and UNDP Regional Centre, Colombo supported the Conference.

Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) and Chairman, RIS chaired the inaugural session. Hon'ble Shri K. Natwar Singh, the then Minister, Government of India delivered the inaugural address. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Ambassador K. Kesavapany, Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore; and Prof. Akinori Seki, President, Sasakawa Peace Foundation, Tokyo also addressed the inaugural session.

H.E. Mr. Y. Enoki, Ambassador of Japan chaired the first business session on the Asian Century: Relevance of Asian Economic



(From left): Hon'ble Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Dr. Arjun Sengupta, Ambassador K. Kesavapany; and Ambassador S.T. Devare, Vice-Chairman RIS, at the valedictory session of the conference.

Integration, which had key presentations on Economic Integration and Asia's New Role in Global Economy by Prof. Soogil Young, President, NSI Forum, Seoul, South Korea; and Relevance of Broader Asian Economic Community by Dr. Nagesh Kumar. Prof. Mohammed Ariff, Executive Director, MIER, Kuala Lumpur; and Dr. Eric Teo, Council

Secretary, Singapore Institute of International Affairs were the key commentators.

Ambassador K. Kesavapany, Director, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore chaired the next session which dealt with the issue of Regional Trade and Investment Liberalization: Trends and Potential. The session

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## Seminar on "Development" in the WTO's Doha Round, Hong Kong, 12 December 2005

The Seminar was organized by RIS on the eve of the WTO's Sixth Ministerial held in Hong Kong from 13-18 December 2005. The Seminar which was organized at the NGO Centre of the Ministerial Conference included a presentation of the RIS Study on "Making Doha a Truly Developing Round". This study was issued and circulated as RIS Policy Brief # 20. While presenting the study, Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS emphasized that the Doha Round was launched to address the concerns of developing countries arising out of asymmetric distribution of the gains of trade liberalization undertaken in the Uruguay Round. Developing countries were feeling short-changed after the Uruguay Round and were resistant to the launch of a new round at the Doha Ministerial. The Round could be launched only with a promise of putting development at the centre. However, the progress so far in the Round addressing the developmental concerns has been far from satisfactory and suggests some going back on the promises of Doha. The presentation also

covered some specific proposals made by RIS for restoring the development balance in the Doha Round in key areas of negotiations, such as agriculture, NAMA, services, trade facilitation, TRIPs and traditional knowledge, transfer of technology, and special and differential treatment. It concluded with a few proposals for cooperation among developing countries in the area of trade.

The presentation of RIS study was followed by a panel of international experts comprising Dr. Manuel Montes, Regional Programme Coordinator, Asia Trade and Investment Initiative, UNDP Regional Centre in Colombo; Dr. Ivan Mbirimi, Chief Programme Officer, Economic Affairs Division, Commonwealth Secretariat; U.K.; Dr. Hira Jhumtani, Third World Network, based in Jakarta; and Mr. Pavan Kapur, PMI, Geneva



(From R-L): Mr. Pavan Kapur of Permanent Mission of India to WTO in Geneva; Dr. Ivan Mbirimi, Commonwealth Secretariat; Dr. Nagesh Kumar; Dr. Manuel Montes, UNDP/RCC Colombo; and Dr. Hira Jhumtani, Third World Network, Jakarta at RIS Seminar at Hong Kong.

and a member of the Indian delegation. Dr. Montes elaborated on the concerns of developing countries in the ongoing negotiations. Dr. Mbirimi highlighted the special problems faced by smaller and Least Developed Countries in the trade negotiations. Dr. Jhumtani brought the civil society perspective in her presentation. Mr. Kapur made a presentation on the current state of negotiations with respect to special and differential treatment. The key presentations were followed by intensive discussions from the floor, in which among other participants, Mr. Jean-Marie Metzger, Director, OECD Trade Directorate, Paris took part.

# Current Research/Advisory Activities

## Towards Broader Regional Cooperation in Asia: Agenda for the East Asia Summit

The proposed project sponsored by UNDP/RCC is a part of a process of institutional networking between policy think-tanks in the region for conducting studies, policy dialogue and advocacy on the relevance and way forward for broader regional economic cooperation in Asia. RIS has been involved in a major Research Programme on Asian Economic Integration since 2001 as a part of which relevance of regional economic integration in Asia that is broader than the existing sub-regional attempts has been explored. RIS studies have been discussed at the High-Level Conferences organized by RIS to brainstorm on these issues.

The research conducted by RIS finds a compelling case for an Asian Economic Community (AEC) that would be broader in coverage than the current programmes for economic cooperation in regions such as East Asia, South Asia and Central Asia. As part of the project to discuss the studies and brainstorm on the agenda of the EAS process, RIS organized the Fourth High-Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration in New Delhi on 18-19 November 2005. Besides fostering a substantive dialogue on the relevance of broader regionalism in realizing the Asian dream and discussing the agenda for

the East Asian Summit, the Conference Report would reflect the discussions, and the emerging consensus on key issues. It would also have some ideas on future work programme. Further a study paper on Towards an East Asian Community: An Agenda for the East Asia Summit will be prepared on the basis of detailed analysis of welfare gains resulting from broader economic integration in Asia. The analysis will be done using a CGE model of scenarios of economic integration in Asia between EAS participants to begin with. It will also discuss the major sectors for fruitful economic cooperation in Asia and the approaches for achieving that in terms of institutional modalities and a broad road-map. This provides a useful way forward for the EAS process which is likely to become an annual feature and factor in the outcome of the First Summit. Contact for further details: [dgooffice@ris.org.in](mailto:dgooffice@ris.org.in)

## India-Japan Economic Cooperation: Potential and Prospects

An India-Japan Joint Study Group (JSG) has been set up following the visit of Prime Minister Koizumi to India in April 2005 to examine the feasibility of a comprehensive economic cooperation arrangement/ economic partnership agreement between the two countries. DG, RIS has been nominated as a member of the JSG by the Prime Minister of India. The Ministry of

External Affairs has assigned to RIS analytical work on a number of issues to prepare inputs for the work of JSG. In particular, RIS will be assisting the JSG with preparations on the context of economic cooperation, trade in goods, investment, cooperation in other areas, and feasibility of a CECA/ EPA between the two countries. RIS has been providing inputs to the JSG as per the mandate from time to time. Contact for further details: [dgooffice@ris.org.in](mailto:dgooffice@ris.org.in)

## Policy Notes prepared for the Government

- Notes on “Regional Cooperation in Disaster Management in South India” and “SAFTA and Beyond: An Agenda for SAARC” as inputs for preparation for the SAARC Summit were made available to the PMO on 3 November 2005.
- A Note on “India’s Economic Integration with East Asia: A win-win for Asia” was sent to the Ministry of External Affairs on 25 November 2005 as inputs for the East Asia Summit.
- Documents from the Fourth High-Level Conference on Asian Economic Integration on the agenda of EAS, were provided to the Ministry of External Affairs on 25 November 2005.
- A tabular survey of FTAs/RTAs existing in the EAS region was sent to the Ministry of External Affairs on 25 November 2005.

## RIS at the Hong Kong Ministerial Conference on WTO

In view of the extensive focus on the WTO negotiations in its work programme, RIS participates in the WTO Ministerial Conferences as an NGO accredited to the WTO Secretariat. RIS had participated in the Cancun Ministerial and had organized some events on the sidelines of the Ministerial. At the Hong Kong Ministerial RIS launched a set of three Policy Briefs, namely: *Doha Round’s Development Impacts: Shrinking Gains and Real Costs*; *Making Doha a Really Development Round*; and *Trade Facilitation: Need to Strike a Balance between Pragmatism and Caution*. These Policy Briefs were circulated among the participants through the NGO Centre. RIS also organized three events as follows:

● **Symposium on “Development” in the WTO’s Doha Round**, Hong Kong, 12 December 2005. (As reported on page 1).

● **Panel Discussion on Putting Development First: The Need for Policy Space in the WTO**, jointly with GDAE, USA and ICTSD Geneva on 16 December 2005 at the Hong Kong Trade and Development Symposium (HKTDS): The panelists were Dr. Werner Corrales, ICTSD Special Advisor to UNCTAD Secretary-General and former Minister of Development of Venezuela; Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS; Mr. Vincent Yu, South Centre; Mr. Hans-Peter Egler, Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO).

● **Panel Discussion on From Traceability to Biotechnology: Trade and Food Safety Standards**, on 14 December 2005 at the Hong Kong Trade and Development Symposium (HKTDS): Speakers were Dr. Michael Friis Jensen, Danish Institute of International Studies; Dr. Ron Sandrey, Trade Law Centre for Southern Africa, Stellenbosch; Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow, RIS; and Dr. Paolo Vergano, O’connor and Company. This was organized by RIS jointly with Danish Institute for International Studies, and START Network.



(From L-R): Dr. Kevin Gallagher, Dr. Vincent Yu, Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Ambassador Werner Corrales and Mr. Hans-Peter Egler at the Panel on Policy Space.



The Sixth Ministerial Conference of WTO was held in Hong Kong from 13-18 December 2005 amidst protests inside and outside the venue.



# Taking Stock of Monetary and Financial Cooperation in East Asia: Implication for India

Over the past few years, a number of initiatives have been taken in the direction of monetary and financial cooperation in East Asia within the framework of ASEAN+3. These initiatives have important implications for India, given the growing economic links with East Asia. To discuss these initiatives and their implications for India, RIS organized a Seminar on: "Taking Stock of Monetary and Financial Cooperation in East Asia: Implication for India" on 23 December 2005. Dr. Ramkishen S. Rajan, Associate Professor, School of Public Policy, George Mason University, Washington DC, USA and a noted expert on these issues made a presentation on the subject which was followed by an open discussion. Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, formerly of the World Bank and presently Senior consultant, RIS chaired the seminar.



(From left): Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, formerly World Bank and presently Senior Consultant, RIS; Dr. Ramkishen S. Rajan, Associate Professor, School of Public Policy, George Mason University, Washington DC; and Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, RIS.

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(From left): Dr. Nagesh Kumar; Dr. Arjun Sengupta; Hon'ble Shri K. Natwar Singh; and Prof. Akinori Seki on the occasion of releasing of the book *India-ASEAN Economic Relations: Meeting the Challenges of Globalization* published by RIS and ISEAS, Singapore.

Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow, RIS.

The following session on Prospects for Regional Cooperation for Asian Energy Security was chaired by Mr. Talmiz Ahmad, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India in which Mr. Vipul Tuli, Principal, McKinsey & Co. New Delhi; Dr. Shi Yaodong, Research Fellow, Development Research Centre (DRC) of the State Council of China, Beijing; Dr. Sebonti Roy Dadwal, Institute of Defence Studies and Analysis, New Delhi; and Mr. T.K. Arun, Editor, *The Economic Times* made key presentations. Dr. Samir Ranjan Pradhan of RIS was the main discussant.

Ambassador Sudhir Devare, ISEAS and RIS chaired the session on Asian Identity and Strategic Issues. The distinguished panelists were Dr. Sanjaya Baru, Prime Minister's Office, New Delhi; Mr. Kavi Chongkittavorn, Executive Editor, *Nation*, Bangkok; Prof. C. Raja Mohan, JNU, New Delhi; Dr. Eric Teo; and Prof. Yao Chao Cheng, Shanxi University of Finance and Economics, Taiyuan, China.

The conference also had a roundtable on the Agenda for the East Asia Summit. This session was co-chaired by Prof. Mohammed Ariff, and Ambassador Rajiv Sikri, Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. Prof. Soogil Young; Mr. Kavi Chongkittavorn; Prof. Osamu Nariai; Prof. Mukul Asher, National University of Singapore; and Dr. Lay Vannak, Research Fellow, Cambodia Institute for Cooperation and Peace initiated the discussion.

On the concluding day Hon'ble Shri Prithviraj Chavan, Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office delivered the valedictory address. Dr. Arjun Sengupta, M.P. (Rajya Sabha) and Chairman, RIS chaired the valedictory session.

(Papers/presentation/programme of the conference are available at RIS website: [www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in))

had key presentations on East Asia-South Asia Economic Cooperation by Dr. Pradumna B. Rana, Senior Adviser, OREI, Asian Development Bank, Manila; Economics of an East Asian FTA by Dr. S.K. Mohanty, RIS; and ASEAN's Role in Asian Economic Integration by Dr. Gloria Pasadilla, Research Fellow, Philippine Institute of Development Studies, Manila. The main discussants were: Dr. Le Bo Linh, Deputy Director-General, IWEP, Vietnam Academy for Social Sciences, Hanoi; and Dr. Rahul Sen, Research Fellow, ISEAS, Singapore.

The session on Monetary and Financial Cooperation in Asia was chaired by Dr. Parthasarathy Shome, Adviser to Finance Minister, Ministry of Finance. It had key presentations on 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. Ramgopal Agarwala and Prabir De of RIS; and Approaches to Asian Bond Market by Ambassador Manaspas Xuto, President, United Nations Association of Thailand. The main discussants were Prof. Osamu Nariai, Reitaku University, Japan; and



(From L-R): Prof. Osamu Nariai, Prof. Soogil Young, Ambassador Rajiv Sikri, Prof. Mohammed Ariff, Mr. Kavi Chongkittavorn, Prof. Mukul Asher and Dr. Lay Vannak at a session of the Conference.

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

- Delivered the theme address on Regional Economic Cooperation in Asia: Relevance and a Possible Roadmap for a Broader Asian Economic Community at the Seminar on Regional Economic and Financial Cooperation in Asia, organized by the Export-Import Bank of India in Goa on 5 October 2005.
- Made a presentation on possible areas of trade cooperation between India, Brazil and South Africa in the Trade Policy Division of the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 6 October 2005.
- Delivered a lecture on WTO: Doha/Cancun and Beyond at the Special Course for Sudanese Diplomats conducted by the Foreign Service Institute of the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on 7 October 2005.
- Made a presentation at the second session of the Committee on Managing Globalization, organized by UNESCAP in Bangkok on 12 October 2005.
- Made a presentation on New Issues on Trade in the Workshop on the Development Dimension of the Doha Development Round, organized jointly by the Singapore Institute of International Affairs and Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Singapore on 12-14 October 2005.
- Delivered a lecture on Prospects of an Asian Economic Community at the First Diplomacy & Foreign Policy Programme for Foreign Diplomats, organized by the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi on 20 October 2005.
- Participated in the internal Meetings of the Indian Component of the India-Japan Joint Study Group, held in the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance in New Delhi on 20, 26, 31 October and 23 November 2005.
- Chaired the Session on Trade Facilitation at the South Asia Conference on Trade and Development – Mainstreaming Development in Trade Negotiations: Run Upto Hong Kong, organized by the Centre for Trade & Development (CENTAD), New Delhi on 28 October 2005.
- Panelist in the Discussion on Issues before the Hong Kong Ministerial, organized by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade for the Additional Secretaries and Joint Secretaries of the Department of Commerce, Government of India, in New Delhi on 29 October 2005.
- Delivered a lecture on the topic of East Asia Summit at the 39<sup>th</sup> Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats, organized by the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, in New Delhi on 1 December 2005.
- Delivered a lecture on India's Look East

Policy at the Foreign Policy Course for Senior IPS Officers, organized the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs 7 December 2005.

- Made a keynote presentation on World Trade Organization and India at the 88<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the India Economic Association, held in Visakhapatnam on 27-29 December 2005.

## **Dr. Rajesh Mehta, Senior Fellow**

- Chaired the session on Trade in Goods: Agriculture and Non-Agriculture Market Access at the National Seminar on India & WTO: Challenges and Opportunities, organized by University School of Law and Legal Studies, Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi on 7 October 2005.
- Made a presentation on Export Avenues & Opportunities-Post Quota Removal at the Session on Policies Procedures & Opportunities, at the Conference on Export Excellence, organized by CII-Hyderabad on 8 November 2005.
- Made a presentation on Free Trade Agreements at the Business Session on Free Trade Agreements at the International Tax Conference on Cross Border Transactions organized by FICCI in association with OECD and International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation in New Delhi on 17 November 2005.
- Delivered a lecture on Market Access and WTO to the IES Probationers of Batch-XXVII at Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi on 22 November.
- Made a presentation on Issues in Non-Agricultural Market Access (NAMA) at FICCI-Centad Seminar on WTO and India: A Roadmap for Hong Kong Ministerial Conference at the World Trade Centre, Mumbai on 29 November 2005.
- Made a presentation on Estimating Gains from RTAs: Select Issues at the Training Course on Conceptual and Methodological Issues in the New Regime of International Agricultural Trade for Scientists, organized by the Division of Agriculture Economic, IARI, Pusa, New Delhi on 14 December 2005.
- Made a presentation on Environment Standard and Trade, at 4th Refresher Course in Economics for faculty members of different colleges and universities, organized by the Academic Staff College, Jamia Millia Islamia on 21 December 2005.
- Made a presentation on SPS and TBT Issues at Brainstorming Workshop on WTO and Indian Agriculture: Policy and R&D Implications at NAAS, New Delhi on 23 December 2005.

## **Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow**

- Presented a paper on Intellectual Property and Biodiversity: Concerns of LDCs and Developing Countries at the Pre-Hong Kong International Civil Society Forum on LDCs, organized by Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka on 3-5 October 2005.
- Presented a paper on Need and Cost of Selected Trade Facilitation Measures in India: Implications for the WTO Negotiations at the Second ARTNeT Consultative Meeting of Policy Makers and Research Institutions, held at the University of Macau, China on 6-7 October 2005.
- Presented a paper on Need for and Cost of Selected Trade Facilitation Measures in India at the OECD Global Forum on Trade Facilitation, organized by OECD, Paris at Colombo on 18-19 October 2005.
- Participated in the panel discussion on South Asian Free Trade Area: Opportunities and Challenges, organized by USAID on 24-26 October 2005 at New Delhi.
- Presented a paper on Setting the WTO/Trade Agenda: Towards a Common Perspective for the Region at the Asian Meet on WTO, organized by the Voluntary Action Network India (VANI) on 25 October 2005.
- Presented a paper on Financial Incentives, Innovation and New Technologies: Experience with Biotechnology Policies at the Innovation, Knowledge and Development (IKD) Workshop held in collaboration with Open University, UK and Institute of Social Studies at London on 18-20 November 2005.
- Participated in the Panel Discussion on Synergising LDCs' and Developing Country Priorities at WTO Hong Kong Ministerial, a side event organized by the Consumer Unity and Trust Society–Organisation Development and Community Management Trust (ODCMT), Zambia and Africa Resource Centre (CUTS-ARC), Zambia on 13 December 2005 at NGO Centre, Hong Kong.
- Participated in the Panel Discussion on IPR, the Next Issue: Biotech and Development, organized by the Global Business Dialogue (GBD), Inc. on 15 December 2005 at NGO Centre, Hong Kong.

## **Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Fellow**

- Delivered a lecture on WTO Related Issues for Foreign Diplomats, organized by the Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC), New Delhi on 10 October 2005.
- Participated in Fifteenth Meeting of the Expert Group on Preferential Rules of Origin, set up by Government of India, at Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 15 October 2005.

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# Industry Consultations on Rules of Origin

The Government of India is currently in the process of negotiating the Rules of Origin under the proposed India-ASEAN FTA. As reported earlier, RIS has been entrusted to conduct a comprehensive study exploring different options available within the ambit of Rules of Origin that can contribute to the progress in negotiations between India and ASEAN, while being sensitive to the concerns of Indian industry. The Government is also considering different formulations of Rules of Origin under other FTAs including BIMSTEC, SAFTA, GSTP, Bangkok Agreement, among others.

With a view to concretize the understanding on different options of Rules of Origin and to provide timely inputs to the Government of India on this important issue RIS organized a Meeting with different stakeholders on 25 November 2005. The



(From R-L): Mr. Anant Swarup, Department of Commerce; Dr. Ram Upendra Das; Dr. Nagesh Kumar; Mr. P.K. Dash, Joint Secretary Department of Commerce; and Ms. Gitu Siddhu, Department of Commerce at the Consultation.

Meeting was also attended by the senior officials of the Department of Commerce, apart

from the representatives of key industry associations.

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- Made a presentation in the Workshop on Rules of Origin under India-ASEAN FTA, organized by Government of India and ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta, Indonesia on 17-18 October 2005.
- Participated in the Sixteenth Meeting of the Expert Group on Preferential Rules of Origin, set up by Government of India, at Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 31 October 2005.
- Participated in a Meeting convened by the Commerce Secretary on Rules of Origin under India-ASEAN FTA, New Delhi on 31 October 2005.
- Participated as an Expert in the ASEAN-India Trade Negotiation Committee (AITNC) Meeting, New Delhi on 10-11 November 2005.
- Participated in the Seminar on the European Union – Why it Matters to India, organized jointly by the British High Commission and Delhi Policy Group, and supported by the Delegation of the European Commission to India, New Delhi on 6 December 2005.
- Participated in the Seminar on Indo-Bangladesh Dialogue on Trade, Investment and Connectivity, organized by the India International Centre, New Delhi on 6 and 15 December 2005.

## Shri Prabir De, Associate Fellow

- Made a presentation on Exploring Mekong-Ganga Relationship: Role of Infrastructure and Energy at the final consultation of South-South Economic Cooperation: Exploring Mekong Ganga

Relationship project, organized by CUTS, at Bangkok during 26-27 October 2005.

- Participated in the seminar on Public-Private Partnerships in Brazil, organized by the Embassy of Brazil in India on 21 November 2005, in New Delhi.
- Attended the 4<sup>th</sup> Alfred Nzo Memorial Lecture on India-South Africa: Strategic

Perspective on African and the World, delivered by H E Mr. Aziz Pahad, Dy. Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of South Africa, on 13 December 2005 at the Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi.

- Participated in the meeting of the India-Japan JSG on 26 December 2005 in the Ministry of Finance, New Delhi.

## Participants of Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats Visit RIS

The 25 participants from 21 countries undergoing a training programme at the Foreign Service Institute (FSI) of 24 November 2005 visited RIS for a half day session on WTO issues. They were addressed at RIS by Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director-General, and Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Fellow, RIS. RIS Faculty members have been regularly delivering lectures at the courses organized by FSI for Indian as well as foreign diplomats.

## Meeting of the Expert Group on a Consistent Interpretation of the Precautionary Principal/Approach

As reported earlier, an Inter-Ministerial Consultative Group on Trade and Environment has been constituted by the Ministry of Environment and Forests and is co-chaired by the Secretary, Environment and Forests and Commerce Secretary to identify the interface of trade and environment in the context of multilateral/regional negotiations, and organize consultations with stakeholders for the formulation of India's response and position on the emerging negotiations on these issues. The Consultative Group has set up four Expert Groups to make a detailed assessment of major issues. One of these four groups has been set up on 'a consistent interpretation of the precautionary principle in application to different Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)'. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has nominated RIS to be a Lead Institution for this Expert Group and has also appointed Director-General, RIS as the Coordinator for the Group. A meeting of the Expert Group on a Consistent Interpretation of the Precautionary Principal/Approach in Application to Different Agreement was held in RIS on 20 December 2005.



# Latest Publications

## Book

### ***Towards an Asian Economic Community: An Agenda for the East Asia Summit*** Published jointly by RIS and ISEAS, Singapore

The 1990s have witnessed emergence of strong regional trading blocs in different parts of the world led by EU's Single Market and NAFTA among others. Asia has lagged behind in this trend. However, currently there is great interest in Asia in the potential of regional economic integration for exploiting their synergies for mutual benefit as evident from proliferation of initiatives at sub-regional and bilateral FTAs in the region especially those between ASEAN and its dialogue partners, viz. Japan, China, South Korea and India. From these attempts a virtual Asian economic community is emerging. However, the sub-regional and bilateral FTAs have their limitations in fully exploiting the potential of regional economic integration and in providing a seamless market to Asian businesses to become more competitive and productive. It is therefore widely believed that Asia needs a broader pan-Asian framework for regional economic cooperation that could evolve in a phased manner. The East Asia Summit (EAS) is an important event for initiating a broader architecture for regional cooperation in Asia. The EAS participating economies combine between them the largest and most dynamic economies of Asia namely Japan, ASEAN-10, China, S. Korea, and India, and also Australia and New Zealand. Such a participation gives EAS an opportunity to launch the process of formation of an Asian grouping that could be expanded in future to evolve into an Asian Economic Community. This publication presents outcomes of a policy dialogue involving premier Asian think-tanks and leading experts of Asia conducted during 2003-05 on the relevance of broader cooperation, possible approaches and a roadmap. It puts together an agenda for the EAS for building an institutional architecture for exploiting potential of regional economic integration for building an Asia of tomorrow that will be the centre of gravity of the world economy!



## Policy Briefs

### **#18 *Biosafety Protocol, Precautionary Approach and Trade: Identifying Plausible Policy Options***

### **#19 *Doha Round's Development Impacts: Shrinking Gains and Real Costs***

### **#20 *Making Doha a Really Development Round***

### **#21 *Trade Facilitation: Need to Strike a Balance between Pragmatism and Caution***



## Discussion Papers

### **#100 *Towards a Broader Asian Community: Agenda for the East Asia Summit*** by Nagesh Kumar

**Abstract:** Drawing upon the recent work conducted at RIS and other think-tanks, this paper finds a compelling case for broader regional economic integration in Asia. It finds a case for formation of a broader economic community in East Asia coalescing the emerging web of FTAs linking Japan, ASEAN, China, India and Korea into a region-wide or an East Asian RTA that could be a core of an East Asian Community. The East Asian Community could be eventually expanded to cover other Asian countries in an Asian Economic Community. It has been shown that economic integration in East Asia or JACIK could enable the region to resume its rapid growth and help it emerge as the center of gravity in the world economy. The simulations made suggest that such a grouping would enhance welfare of the partners as well of the rest of the world, hence would be a win-win for the world economy. It also discusses the potential of cooperation in other areas such as monetary and financial system, energy security, new technologies, global governance and security. It is concluded with an agenda for the East Asia Summit.

### **#101 *Emergence of China and India in the New Millennium: Will it Facilitate Market Access for LDCs and Developing Countries?*** by S.K. Mohanty and Sachin Chaturvedi

**Abstract:** China and India have emerged as highly dynamic economies in recent years. In the Asian region their growth and economic expansion has generated its own complementarities. The paper has empirically shown that surge in the exports of these two countries have significantly contributed to their overall economic growth. Towards this end, both the countries have relied on LDCs and developing countries for their imports and on markets of industrialised economies for exports. The import dependence of India and China is mostly on the industrial intermediate sector, which is critical for their exports. It is advantageous for LDCs and developing countries to closely tie up with these growing economies to get in to their fast expanding markets, but the process is not automatic. Developing countries, particularly LDCs, have to adopt long term strategies to concretise their economic relationship with these two countries to secure persistent market access. Supply and technology constraints in LDCs and other countries may be addressed explicitly, and relevance of these two countries as suppliers of FDI and technology is examined. India and China have made steady progress in frontier technologies such as ICT and biotechnology, and they may provide easy access to these technologies to LDCs and other developing countries.

### **#102 *Prospects for Environmental Trade under the Regional Process in South Asia: Evidence from SAPTA and Proposals for SAFTA*** by S.K. Mohanty and Sachin Chaturvedi

**Abstract:** The debate about identification of environmentally sensitive goods (ESGs) is highly complex as discussed in the economic literature. In the context of SAFTA, ESGs assumes significance as the region is significantly dependent on these products for trade. In this paper an attempt has been made to formulate a new approach to identify ESGs, and the same definition is used to analyse the nature of trade flows in the South Asian region. The implications of three Rounds of SAPTA trade liberalization in ESGs trade is examined at a disaggregated level separately. The empirical exercise indicates that South Asia has a large market for these products, and nearly one quarter of the regional trade is falling under the medium and high technology product groups. The study has prepared a road map for sectoral trade liberalization, which would promote intra-regional trade in ESG products under SAFTA. An effort has been made to suggest counter balancing measures to minimize negative environmental implications of possible trade expansion once SAFTA is implemented.

### **#103 *Trade and Environment in the WTO: Negotiating Options for Developing Countries*** by Sanjay Kumar and Nupur Chowdhury

**Abstract:** The debate on the trade related environment issues has intensified in the Doha Round at WTO. The idea is to ensure sustainable development as proclaimed in the Preamble to the Marrakesh Agreement. At the Doha Ministerial Conference, Committee on Trade and Environment and the Committee on Trade and Development at the WTO were asked to act as a forum in which the environmental and developmental aspects of the negotiations launched at Doha could be debated. The Paragraph 31 of the Doha Ministerial Declaration is the operative paragraph that sets the guidelines for negotiations on the relationship between WTO rules and specific trade obligations as set out in MEAs and on the reduction or, as appropriate, the elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers to environmental goods and services. This has encouraged India and other developing countries to approach the trade and environment debate in a new dimension. The project based approach instead of the usual list based approach is a major addition to this new strategy, developing countries seems to be thinking of to keep commitment for the sustainable development at the centre stage. The new approach may also help in ensuring access to environmentally sound technologies urgently needed by many developing and least developed countries.

### **#104 *Trade in IBSA Economic Cooperation: The Role of Communication Services*** by Prabir De

**Abstract:** India, Brazil, and South Africa (IBSA) derive from world's three continents, which together share 20 per cent of world population and 10 per cent of world surface area and contribute 4 per cent of world GDP and 2 per cent of world trade. This paper finds that one of the strongest barriers to trade at present in IBSA appears to be the weak transport connectivity. The present study explores the possibilities of strengthening transport network in IBSA to deepen the trilateral cooperation. The paper calls for urgent task to adopt communication enhancement policy in IBSA to attain a modest growth in regional trade.

### **#105 *India-Vietnam Trade: Current Relations and Prospects*** by Rajesh Mehta

**Abstract:** The main objective of this paper is to (i) analyse the level, growth and composition of India-Vietnam Trade in goods, (ii) identify sectors/products in which India has export potential in Vietnam, if a duty free regime is agreed between India and Vietnam, and (iii) examine the implication of India-Vietnam bilateral free trade agreement.

## Journals

### ● ***South Asia Economic Journal*, Vol. 6 No. 2, July-December 2005**

**Contents:** *Behaviour of Stock Markets in South Asia: An Econometric Investigation* by W.L.C.S. Gunasinghe; *Is the Indian Stock Market Integrated with the US and Japanese Markets? An empirical Analysis* by Khan Masood Ahmad, Shahid Ashraf and Shahid Ahmed; *Foreign Capital Inflows and Growth in Pakistan: A Simultaneous Equation Model* by Bushra Yasmin; *The Twin Deficits Problem in Sri Lanka: An Econometric Analysis* by Ali Salman Saleh, Mahendhiran Nair and Tikiri Agalewatte; *Trade Policy, Poverty and Inequity in Nepal* by Kishor Sharma; *Inequality in the Literacy Levels in Pakistan: Existence and Changes Overtime* by Fazal Husain and Muhammad Ali Qasim; Book Reviews; and Document.

### ● ***Asian Biotechnology and Development Review*, Vol. 8 No. 1, November 2005**

**Special Issue on Expanding Frontier of Biotechnology: Biosecurity and Biosafety**

**Contents:** *Expanding Frontier of Biotechnology: Issues in Biosecurity and Biosafety* by Edgar J. DaSilva; *Intellectual Property Rights in Plant Biotechnology: A Contribution to Crop Biosecurity* by Kausar Abdulla Malik and Yusuf Zafar; *Potential Impact of Biological Weapons on Biological Diversity and Indigenous Peoples in Asia* by Joseph P. Dudley and Michael

*Continued on page 7*



## Asia as the next supermarket

THE structural weaknesses creeping into the US economy and its low savings rate and ever-growing current account deficit is making many export-led Asian economies seriously re-examine their excessive dependence on

**MONEY TALK**  
M K VENU

### East Asia Summit a harbinger for Asian integration

Our Bureau  
New Delhi, Nov 18

THE East Asia summit next month in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) might be a harbinger for Asia to take its first step in the long journey towards broader regional economic integration in the form of an Asian Economic Community (AEC) as envisaged by the Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh.

There is what most scholars speaking at a high-level Conference on Asian Economic Integration here today are stating that the process of formation of an AEC combining major Asian economies could be a crucial step in the direction of broader pan-Asian regional economic integration.

very high and drew attention to the fact that the potential of investment of Asian savings for development remained unexploited. The Malaysian Institute of Economic Research's Executive Director, Dr Mohamed Ariff, said that even as globalisation had been facilitated by liberalisation by small cross border

threat to the continuation of Asian dynamism stemmed from proliferation of FTAs with the spaghetti bowl effect, failure of the Doha Round of trade negotiations, and continued stalemate over the global payments imbalances. He said the East Asian summit should

## Call for expanding intra-Asian trade

Major role seen for financial institutions such as Exim Bank and ADB

Special Correspondent

Lamenting that the intra-trade continues to be on account of lack of a comprehensive regional integration, Lahiri, Chief Economic

region-wise objective of mutual benefit. Mr. Lahiri was delivering the keynote address at the inaugural

Rane, Research Kumar, Director General, Research and Information Systems, New Delhi, in his theme address said if Asian

Bank, in this context. Earlier, Chairman and Managing Director of Exim Bank of India, T. Manohar Subramanian in his

### Lahiri moots Pan-Asian structure for exchange rate co-ordination

up to 60 per cent, if one takes into account the human resource available in the region. He also suggested that the exchange rate coordination becomes an important issue in order to take care of the fluctuation in their currencies.

The future of Asian countries, in general and India, in particular is bright but it depends on as to what extent they can rise to the occasion to face the challenges, Dr Lahiri observed.

The director general, Research and Information System, New Delhi, Dr Nagesh Kumar, in his theme address said that if Asian countries can create possibilities of major infrastructure in them, they can enhance their under-utilised capacity which has been lying dormant.

counter. In that context, he emphasised the exchange rate coordination becomes an important issue to take care of fluctuating currencies.

Earlier, the seminar organised by Asian Exim Banks Forum (AEBF) as part of its 11th three-day annual meet was formally inaugurated by the Chief Minister, Mr Pratapsingh Rane, who took the opportunity to invite Asian countries to invest in Goa.

"Despite the fact that Asia has 60% of the world's population and 23rd of world gross domestic product (GDP)", Mr Lahiri, lamented, "the intra-Asian trade continues to be very low on account of lack of a coherent and comprehensive strategy for regional integration."

achieve region-wise objective of mutual benefit. Asserting that Asia has emerged as a growth engine for world led by China and India, he stated that India has been a votary of multilateral trade and strongly believes that multilateral trade co-operation should go hand in hand with bilateral cooperation.

Dr Nagesh Kumar, Director General, Research and Information Systems, New Delhi, said that if Asian countries can create possibilities of major infrastructure, they can enhance a lot of their under-utilised capacity. The Chief, Commodity Finance and Risk Management, UNCTAD, Geneva, Mr Lamou Rutten and the Principal Director, Office of Co-ordinating Operations, Asian

## Rane invites FDI from Asian nations

■ Promises all necessary infrastructure

NT Staff Reporter

Panaji

Mr Rane, stating that India plays a dual role as a member of SAARC and a close ally of ASEAN, mentioned that the Asian countries can also share their intellectual wealth and cultural aspects.

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## SAFTA SEALED

Trade amongst 7 members can jump to \$14 billion in two years

Economic Bureau  
New Delhi, Dec 1

Ushering in a new era in the history of South Asian cooperation, the seven-member Saarc has finalised the South Asia free trade area (Safta) on Thursday.

India, which is the largest of the seven member countries, stands to gain significantly from the pact. Intra-trade with Saarc countries increased over 8% to \$ 5.2 billion in 2004-05. Benefits accruing to India would keep multiplying in the next ten years of the agreement's implementation, trade experts

## INDIA EMPOWERED TO ME IS...

Using exports to create more jobs



Continued from Page 1

"We need a 'manufacturing revolution' in parallel with the 'services revolution' to be able to respond adequately to the massive challenge of employment generation and absorption. Exports represent the incremental production that is not absorbed in the domestic economy. To that extent it represents the potential for export economic activity. Export growth leads to higher employment.

The experience of countries like China, Malaysia, Thailand and others is particularly relevant in this context. They have successfully built up export oriented manufacturing industries creating job opportunities on a massive scale.

Nearer home, there have been numerous individual instances of exports creating income and wealth. There is the instance of the sudden transformation in the lives of women in

address, European leaders are keen to have India (as one of the leaders of the G-20) on their side at the WTO round in Hong Kong, if only to take on the might of the US. The developed countries can't afford another failure such as those in Seattle and Cancun, because they have been the major beneficiaries of the multilateral trading system. Says Mandelstam: "Our interests do not entirely overlap in this round, but we are united in our desire to make the implementation of the Doha negotiations a success in Hong Kong." The EU's promises on reducing agricultural subsidies and allowing the free movement of professionals—sweeteners designed to woo India—however, do not cut much ice with analysts like Nagesh Kumar, Director General, Research & Information System of Developing Countries, a government think tank. "We agreed to sign the Trade-Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS), Agreement on the Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMS) and the General Agreement

## India to help in E Asian economic integration

Economic Bureau  
New Delhi, Dec 4

With a growth rate of 7-8% per annum, a sizeable middle class and strong macro-fundamentals, the Indian economy is poised to give impetus to the East Asian economic integration, say experts.

According to a study by leading think-tank, Research and Information System (RIS), for the non-aligned and other developing countries, large requirements of infrastructure investments, booming demand of final consumption goods in India may help smoothen the process of macro

economic adjustment in the world economy. At present, the Indian economy is rapidly integrating with the East Asian production networks especially in critical knowledge-based parts of the value chain.

Indian enterprises are also developing their own production networks incorporating East Asian countries.

With rapid growth of intra-regional trade, East Asia has emerged as India's largest trade partner, accounting for nearly 40% of the country's total global trade, surpassing the US or EU, it said.

According to the study, it is clear that there is great interest in Asia. There is a

Continued from page 6 (Latest Publications)

H. Woodford; *Strategies of Preparedness against the Threat of Biological Warfare and Bioterrorism in South-East Asia* by Samlee Plianbangchang; *The Argentine Experience in Enhancing Biosafety through Good Laboratory Practices* by Nidia E. Lucero and Faustino Sineriz; and *Ensuring Biosafety and Biosafety through Biopolicy Mechanisms: Addressing Threats of Bioterrorism and Biowarfare* by Ronald M. Atlas; Bio News; Document; Bio Web; New Arrivals; and Bio Stat.

- **New Asia Monitor**, Vol. 2 No. 4, October 2005.
- **RIS Diary**, Vol. 3 No. 4, October 2005.

## Outside Publications of RIS Faculty Members

### Research Papers

- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2005. "Biotechnology and South Asian Regional Cooperation: Policy Options". *South Asia Biosafety Program Newsletter*, Vol. 1 No. 9, December.
- Chaturvedi, Sachin. 2005. "Biotechnology and International Trade Regime: Options before Developing Countries". In Dipankar Sengupta, Debashis Chakraborty and Pritam Banerjee (ed.): *Beyond the Transition Phase of WTO: An Indian Perspective on Emerging Issues*. New Delhi: Academic Foundation.
- De, Prabir. 2005. "Promotion of Trade and Investment between People's Republic of China and India: Toward a Regional Perspective". *Asian Development Review*, Vol. 22, No. 1.

Mehta, Rajesh (co-author). 2005. "India's Regional Trading Agreements", Background Paper, UNDP Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Initiative, Colombo, October 2005.

Mehta, Rajesh (co-author). 2005. "Non-agriculture market access-A Balancing act for South Asia". *South Asian Yearbook of Trade and Development 2005*, Centad, pp. 81-103, October 2005. <http://www.centad.org/tradereport.asp>

### Popular Columns

- Das, Ram Upendra. 2005. "Integrate and trade". *The Financial Express*. November 15.
- Das, Ram Upendra. 2005. "WTO signs uncertain". *The Financial Express*. December 13.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2005. "Making manufacturing more competitive". *The Financial Express*. October 11.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2005. "Quality of flows as important as magnitude". *The Financial Express*. November 3.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2005. "Implement Safta fast to retain its relevance". *The Economic Times*. November 16.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2005. "Can the EAS realize the Asian Dream". *The Financial Express*. December 6.
- Kumar, Nagesh. 2005. "Development hardly visible at Hong Kong ministerial". *The Financial Express*. December 19.



# Important Visitors/Delegations Received

● A three-member delegation from ESCAP Bangkok visited RIS on 24 November 2005 for interaction with DG, RIS. The members of the delegation were: Mr. Shigaru Mochida, Deputy Executive Secretary; Mr. Xuan Zengpei, Director of Trade Division; and Dr. Joong Wan, Investment Division of UN-ESCAP.

● A four-member delegation from the Centre for Bhutan Studies, Thimpu visited RIS on 15 December 2005 for interaction with RIS faculty. The members of the delegation were Dr. Karma Galay, Senior Researcher; Mr. Dorji Penjore; Mr. Tshering Phuntsho; and Mr. Samdrup from CBS, Thimpu.

● Mr. Michio Iwanami, Director for International Trade Policy Negotiations, International Affairs and Fisheries (MAFF); Mr. Nagatomo, Takanori, Deputy Director, International Policy Coordination Division, International Affairs Department, Minister's Secretariat, MAFF; and Mr. Tomofumi Inoue, First Secretary, Embassy of Japan, New Delhi on 22 December 2005.

● Prof. Brian Lynch, Director, New Zealand Institute of International Affairs and Miss Heather Ward, Deputy High Commissioner, New Zealand High Commission, New Delhi on 24 November 2005.

● Prof. Jean Pisani-Ferry, Director, Bruegel, Brussels, and Dr. Jean-Joseph Boillot, Counsellor, Embassy of France, New Delhi on 25 November 2005.

● Dr. Tan Tai Young, Acting Director, Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS), Singapore and Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, National University of Singapore; Dr. Rahul Mukherji (JNU), Visiting Fellow, ISAS, Singapore; and Mr. Kien Pin Chen, Second Secretary, High Commission of the Republic of Singapore on 6 December 2005.

● Mr. Frank Harrigan, Assistant Chief Economist, Macroeconomics and Finance Research Division, Economics and Research Department, Asian Development Bank, Manila on 17 October 2005.

● Dr. Manuel F. Montes, Regional Programme Coordinator, Asia Trade and Investment Initiative, UNDP Regional Centre, Colombo, Sri Lanka 25 October 2005.

● Mr. Daniel Shepherd, First Secretary (Economic/Environment/Trade Policy) and Ms. Caroline Wilson, External Relations, British High Commission, New Delhi, November 15, 2005.

● Dr. Soon Cheul Lee, Research Fellow, Center for Regional Economic Studies, Korean Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP), Seoul, Korea on 9 November 2005.

● Dr. Eric Teo, Council Secretary, Singapore Institute for International Affairs and Managing Director, Savoir Faire Corporate Consultants, Singapore on 17 November 2005.

● Mr. Hiroshi Hawahara, Sr. Manager, Nissan Motors Co. Ltd., Mr. Hiroki Mochida, Group Leader, Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association, and Mr. Takayuki Sajikiyo, Acting Group Manager, GENDAI Advanced Studies Research Organization, Tokyo on 22 November 2005.

## Delegation from China at RIS

A six-member delegation from the DRC Social Development Research Department from China visited RIS on 21 December 2005. The members of the delegation were Dr. Ding, Ningning, Director-General; Dr. Gong, Sen, Senior Researcher; Mr. Cui, Chuanyi, Senior Researcher; Mr. Xiao, Junyan, Senior Researcher; Mr. Lu, Zhiqiang, Senior Researcher and Former Vice President of DRC; and



*Members of the Chinese delegation at RIS.*

Mr. Wei, Jigang, Senior Researcher. Dr. Nagesh Kumar, DG, RIS made a presentation on the RIS work programme for the benefit of delegation. It was followed an interaction with the members of RIS research faculty. The delegation expressed keen desire to work in collaboration with RIS. As reported earlier, RIS and DRC have signed an MoU.

● Dr. Günther Taube, Director of Department International Regulatory Framework, and Dr. Valeska Gruenhagen, Senior Project Manager, India/PR of China, German Development Institute, Bonn, on 23 November 2005.

● Prof. Sol Picciotto, Law School, Lancaster University, UK on 8 December 2005.

● Dr. Sisira Jayasuriya, Director, Asian Economic Centre, Department of Economics, University of Melbourne, Australia, and Dr. Russell Hillberry, Senior Lecture, Department of Economics, University of Melbourne, 8 December 2005.

● Ms. Dasong Chong, Senior Researcher, China/Centre for Regional Economic Studies, Korea Institute for International Economic Policy, Seoul, Korea on 19 December 2005.

● Mr. Materne Maetz, Senior Agricultural Policy Support Officer (Training), Agricultural Policy Support Service, FAO, Rome on 28 October 2005.

● Dr. Sudhir K. Jain, Department of Management Studies, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi on 10 October 2005.

● Dr. Rahul Sen, Fellow, Regional Economic Studies; and Ms Sanchita Basu Das, Research Associate, Regional Economic Studies, Institute of Southeast Asian Studies (ISEAS), Singapore on 24 October 2005.

● Prof. S D Muni, former Indian Ambassador to Laos PDR on 24 October 2005.

● Mr. Y. Teddy Takeuchi, Asian News Reporter, Foreign News Department, *The Asahi Shimbun*, Tokyo on 25 October 2005.

● Mr. P.K. Dash, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce on 28 October 2005.

● Mr. Anant Swarup, Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Commerce on 28 October 2005.

● Prof. Manmohan Agarwal, Dean, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on 3 November 2005.

● Dr. Ratan Bhatia, formerly Director, IMF on 3 November 2005.

● Dr. Ashok Gulati, Division Director, Markets, Trade and Institutions, IFPRI, Washington, 15 November 2005

● Mr. Kavi Chongkittavorn, Executive Editor, *Nation*, Bangkok on 19 November 2005.

● Mr. Siddhartha Kumar, India Correspondent, German Press Agency (*Deutsche Presse-Agentur, dpa*), New Delhi on 24 November 2005.

● Prof M. Dubey, President, Centre for Social Development, New Delhi on 25 November 2005.

● Mr. Shashank Priya, Director (TDP), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi on 25 November 2005.

● Shri G.R. Bhatia, Additional Director General, Competition Commission of India, New Delhi on 1 December 2005.

● Ms Vini Mahajan, Director, Prime Minister's Office, New Delhi on 2 December 2005.

● Mr. Sunit Arora, Senior Editor (Business), *The Indian Express*, New Delhi on 8 December 2005.

● Dr. Kshipra Mishra, Director/Scientist 'F', International Division, Department of Science & Technology, New Delhi on 22 December 2005.

● Dr. Nagesh Singh, Director, Planning Commission, 24 December 2005.

*RIS Diary* appears in January, April, July and October. It is available from RIS or can be downloaded from RIS website.



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