



Public Diplomacy Division
Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India

RIS
Research and Information System
for Developing Countries

7th SAES
SOUTH ASIA ECONOMIC SUMMIT

Towards South Asia Economic Union | 5-7 November 2014
New Delhi, India

Co-organisers

CENTRE FOR POLICY DIALOGUE (CPD)
BANGLADESH
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SDPI

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CII
Confederation of Indian Industry

THE WORLD BANK

UNITED NATIONS
ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Agenda

5 November 2014 (Wednesday): Venue: The Oberoi

- 11.00 – 12.00** **Media Interaction [Venue: Ball Room, The Oberoi]**
[By invitation]
- In Chair:* Amb. Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS, New Delhi
- **Bangladesh:** Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
 - **India:** Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, New Delhi
 - **Nepal:** Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, President, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), Kathmandu
 - **Pakistan:** Amb. Shafqat Kakakhel, Chairman, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad
 - **Sri Lanka:** Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS), Colombo
- 14.00** **Registration**
- 15.00 – 15.45** **Inaugural Session**
- Welcome by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS
 - Opening Address by Amb. Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS
 - Special Address by Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
 - Inaugural Address by Hon'ble M. Hamid Ansari, Vice-President of India
 - Vote of Thanks by Prof. Prabir De, RIS

- 16.00 – 16.30** **Book Release**
- **Democracy, Sustainable Development, and Peace: New Perspectives on South Asia**, Edited by Akmal Hussain and Muchkund Dubey
 - **Towards a Stronger Dynamic and Inclusive South Asia** [Proceedings of 6th SAES], Edited by Saman Kelegama and Anushka Wijesinha
 - **Regional Integration in South Asia: Trends, Challenges and Prospects**, Edited by Mohammad A Razzaque and Yarendra Basnett

17.00 – 18.30 **Plenary Session 1: South Asia Regional Integration: Past, Present and Future**

In Chair: Hon'ble Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce Minister, India

- Hon'ble Mohammad Mustafa Mastoor, Deputy Minister for Finance, Afghanistan
- Hon'ble Gowher Rizvi, Adviser for International Affairs to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Bangladesh
- Hon'ble Lyonpo Namgay Dorji, Finance Minister, Bhutan
- Hon'ble Ram Sharan Mahat, Finance Minister, Nepal
- Hon'ble Sarath Amunugama, International Monetary Cooperation Minister, Sri Lanka

18.30 – 19.30 **Cultural Programme**

19.45 **Welcome Dinner, Hosted by Amb. Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS & NSAB**
[Venue: Ballroom, The Oberoi]

6 November 2014 (Thursday): Venue: India International Centre (IIC)

09.00 – 11.00 **Plenary Session 2: South Asia Economic Union: Challenges and Tasks Ahead**
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]

In Chair: Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, Council of Social Development (CSD), New Delhi

Special Address: Ms. Sujata Mehta, Secretary (DPA & ER), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India

Lead Presentation: Prof. Selim Raihan, Dhaka University & Executive Director, South Asian Network on Economic Modelling (SANEM), Dhaka

Panellists

- Amb. Sheel Kant Sharma, Former Secretary General, SAARC Secretariat

- Dr. Arvind Mehta, Jt. Secretary (SAARC/Iran), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MoCI), Government of India
- Dr. Akmal Hussain, Distinguished Professor of Economics, Forman Christian College, Lahore
- Prof. Jim Rollo, Sussex University, Brighton
- Ms. L. Savithri, Director (Economic, Trade and Finance), SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu

11.15 – 11.30 **Tea/Coffee Break**

11.30 – 13.00 **Plenary Session 3: South Asia Connectivity: Regional Agenda for South Asia Economic Union [with Special Reference to Economic Corridor and Trade at Border]
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]**

In Chair: Amb. Shafqat Kakakhel, Chairman, SDPI, Islamabad

Special Address: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Head, United Nations ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi

Special Remarks: Mr. K L Thapar, Chairman, Asian Institute of Transport Development (AITD), New Delhi

Lead Presentation: Dr. Prabir De, RIS

Panellists

- Dr. A. M. Gondane, Jt. Secretary (SAARC and Border Connectivity), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India, New Delhi
- Mr. Y S Shahrawat, Chairman, Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI), New Delhi
- Dr. Dushni Weerakoon, Dy. Director & Fellow, IPS, Colombo

13.00 – 14.00 **Lunch**

14.00 – 15.30 **Plenary Session 4: Cooperation for South Asia Investment Bloc
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]**

In Chair: Dr. Mohan Man Sainju, Chairperson, Institute for Integrated Development Studies (IIDS), Kathmandu

Special Address: Dr. Anup K Pujari, Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India

Lead Presentation: Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS), Colombo

Panellists

- Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS
- Dr. Sanjay Kathuria, Lead Economist, The World Bank, New Delhi
- Amb. Farooq Sobhan, President, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI), Dhaka
- Dr. Anjum Assad Amin, Director – General, Pakistan Institute of Trade and Development (PITD), Islamabad

15.30 – 15.45

Tea / Coffee Break

15.45 – 17.15 Parallel Sessions

Session I Seminar Hall I	Session II Seminar Hall II	Session III Seminar Hall III	Session IV Multipurpose Hall	Session V Conference Room II
<i>Non-tariff measures including standards and regulations</i>	<i>Macroeconomic performance, prospects and policy coordination</i>	<i>Financial and monetary cooperation</i>	<i>Trade facilitation including customs cooperation</i>	<i>Services trade, mutual recognition and trade reforms</i>
<i>Chair: Prof. Rajat Acharyya, Dean, Jadavpur University, Kolkata</i>	<i>Chair: Prof. B B Bhattacharya, Former Vice-Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi</i>	<i>Chair: Mr. Syeduzzaman, CPD Board of Trustee and Former Finance Minister, Bangladesh, Dhaka Special Remarks: Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, New Delhi</i>	<i>Chair: Prof. Abhijit Das, Head, Centre for WTO Studies, New Delhi Special Remarks: Mr. T A Khan, Vice Chair, UN/CEFACT</i>	<i>Chair: Dr. Mia Mikic, Chief, Trade Policy and Analysis Section, Trade and Investment Division, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok</i>
<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Rajan Ratna, Trade Policy and Analysis Section, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok • Mr. S Dave, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), New Delhi • Mr. Puspa Sharma, SWATEE, Kathmandu • Mr. Raveen Ekanayake, IPS, Colombo • Mr. Ahmad Shah Mobariz, Gharjistan Institute of Higher Education, Kabul 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Tom Richardson, International Monetary Fund (IMF), New Delhi • Dr. Famida Khatun, CPD, Dhaka • Dr. Vatcharin Sirimaneetham, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok • Dr. Saikat Sinha Roy, Jadavpur University, Kolkata • Mr. Sohaib Shahid, World Bank, Islamabad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ashima Goyal, IGIDR, Mumbai • Dr. Khondaker Golam Moazzem, CPD, Dhaka • Dr. Somya Kanti Ghosh, State Bank of India, Mumbai • Prof. Amita Batra, JNU, New Delhi • Mr. Samir Amir, Pakistan Business Council (PBC), Islamabad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Tengfei Wang, Trade Facilitation Section, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok • Mr. Ismail Nashid, Maldives Customs, Male • Mr. Raghu Dayal, AITD, New Delhi • Mr. Shasank Priya, Commissioner, Patna • Ms. Dharshani Premeratne, IPS, Colombo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Rupa Chanda, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Bangalore • Prof. Shahid Ahmed, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi • Ms. Rajju Malla Dhakal, South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS), Kathmandu • Mr. Anushka Wijesinha, IPS, Colombo • Mr. Nitya Nanda, TERI, New Delhi

18.15 – 19.45 **Special Event: India – Pakistan Cooperation and Implications for South Asian Economic Union**
[Venue: Nilgiri Hall, Oberoi]

Opening Remarks & Session Moderation: Mr. Rakesh Bharti Mittal, Chairman, CII Agriculture Council, Vice-Chairman & Managing Director, Bharti Enterprises Ltd., Gurgaon

Presentation by: Dr. Martin Rama, Chief Economist, The World Bank, New Delhi

Panellists

- Mr. Zubair Ahmed Malik, Immediate Past President, Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), New Delhi
- Mr. Deepak Amitabh, Chairman and Managing Director, Power Trading Corporation (PTC), New Delhi
- Mr. Syed Mazhar Ali Nasir, Vice President, Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry

20.00 **Dinner, Hosted by Smt. Sujatha Singh, Foreign Secretary of India** [by invitation]
[Venue: Nilgiri Hall, The Oberoi]

7 November 2014 (Friday): Venue: India International Centre (IIC)

09.00 – 10.30 **Plenary Session 5: Strengthening South Asia Value Chain: Prospects and Challenges**
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]

In Chair: Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Senior Fellow, Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi

Lead Presentation: Dr. Vaqar Ahmed, Dy. Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad

Panellists

- Dr. S K Mohanty, Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi
- Dr Keshab Das, Professor, Gujarat Institute of Development Research (GIDR), Ahmedabad
- Prof. Ajitava Raychaudhuri, Head, Centre for Advanced Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata
- Dr. Mohammad Razzaque, Adviser & Head, International Trade Policy, Commonwealth Secretariat, London
- Mr. Pradeep K. Shrestha, Managing Director, Panchkanya Group, Kathmandu

10.30 – 10.45 **Tea / coffee break**

10.45 – 12.00

Plenary Session 6: Regional Cooperation for Food Security in South Asia
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]

In Chair: Dr. S. Mahendra Dev, Director, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai

Special Address: Dr. P K Joshi, Director, South Asia, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), New Delhi

Lead Presentation: Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, President, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SWATEE), Kathmandu

Panellists

- Dr. Abid Suleri, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad
- Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
- Prof. I N Mukherjee, New Delhi
- Mr. Matthew Hammill, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations ESCAP, South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi

12.00 – 13.15

Plenary Session 7: Post-2015 Agenda: South Asian Perspectives
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]

In Chair: Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Head, United Nations ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi

Special Address: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, RIS

Lead Presentation: Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka & Chair, Southern Voice on Post-MDGs network

Panellists

- Mr. Tanmay Lal, Joint Secretary (UN), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India, New Delhi
- Mr. Rabi Shanker Sainju, Programme Director, National Planning Commission (NPC), Kathmandu
- Dr. Aliya H Khan, Dean, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad
- Dr. Manmohan Agarwal, RIS

13.15 – 14.15

Lunch

14.15 – 15.45 Parallel Sessions

Session VI Seminar Hall I	Session VII Seminar Hall II	Session VIII Seminar Hall III	Session IX Multipurpose Hall	Session X Conference Room II
<i>Regional Energy Security</i>	<i>South Asia Development Bank</i>	<i>Science & Technology including IPR</i>	<i>Media Cooperation</i>	<i>South Asia Growth Zone</i>
<i>Chair: Amb. Rajeev Bhatia, Director-General, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi</i>	<i>Chair: Prof. S K Mohanty, RIS</i>	<i>Chair: Prof. Pranav Desai, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi</i>	<i>Chair: Mr. T N Ninan, Chairman, Business Standard</i>	<i>Chair: Amb. Sheel Kant Sharma, Former Secretary General, SAARC Secretariat</i>
				<i>Special Address: H.E. Sumith Nakandala, Secretary-General, BIMSTEC, Dhaka</i>
<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Leena Srivastava, TERI University • Dr. Mahendra Lama, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi • Dr. Sunil Khosla, Task Manager, CASA Project, World Bank • Mr. Bipul Chatterjee, CUTS, Jaipur • Mr. Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedi, ISAS, Singapore 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. David Rasquinha, EXIM Bank, Mumbai • Dr. Hiramani Ghimire, SWATEE, Kathmandu • Mr. Pranav Kumar, CII, New Delhi • Mr. Arvind Kumar, TERI, New Delhi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Santosh Kumar, SAARC Disaster Management Centre, New Delhi • Dr. T C. James, RIS • Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas, RIS • Ms. Dilani Hirimuthugoda, IPS, Colombo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Pranab Dhal Samanta, India Today, New Delhi • Mr. Shawkat Hossain, Prathom Alo, Dhaka • Mr. Prateek Pradhan, Nagarik News Daily, Kathmandu • Mr. Mosharraf Zaidi, The News Daily, Islamabad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amb. Dago Tshering, Former Ambassador of Bhutan to India • Dr. Bishnu Dev Pant, IIDS, Kathmandu • Dr. Kavita Iyenger, Asian Development Bank (ADB), New Delhi • Dr. Biswajit Nag, IIFT, New Delhi • Dr. Mizanur Rahman, Dhaka University, Dhaka

- 15.45 – 16.00** **Tea / Coffee Break**
- 16.00 – 17.30** **Plenary Session 8: Summary, Conclusions and Way Forward
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]**
- Co-Chair 1:* Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
- Co-Chair 2:* Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, Council of Social Development (CSD), New Delhi
- Presentation of Summary* by Prof. Prabir De, RIS
- Remarks by*
- Dr. Saman Kelegama, IPS, Colombo
 - Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, CPD, Dhaka
 - Dr. Abid Suleri, SDPI, Islamabad
 - Mr. Pradeep S Mehta, CUTS International
 - Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, SWATEE, Kathmandu
 - Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS
- 17.30 – 17.45** **Concluding Session**
- Remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, RIS
 - Closing Remarks by Amb. V S Seshadri, Vice-Chairman, RIS
 - Vote of Thanks by Prof. Prabir De, RIS
- 20.00** **Dinner, Hosted by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General,
RIS [Venue: Nilgiri Hall, Oberoi]**
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