ANNUAL REPORT
2018

ORF

IDEAS | FORUMS | LEADERSHIP | IMPACT

ORF Mandate

Observer Research Foundation (ORF) seeks to lead and aid policy thinking towards building a strong and prosperous India in a fair and equitable world. It sees India as a country poised to play a leading role in the knowledge age—a role in which it shall be increasingly called upon to proactively ideate in order to shape global conversations, even as it sets course along its own trajectory of long-term sustainable growth. ORF helps discover and inform India's choices.

It carries Indian voices and ideas to forums shaping global debates. It provides non-partisan, independent, well-researched analyses and inputs to diverse decisionmakers in governments, business communities, academia, and to civil society around the world. Our mandate is to conduct in-depth research, provide inclusive platforms and invest in tomorrow's thought leaders today.

Ideas l Forums l Leadership l Impact

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1 MESSAGES

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Offering local solutions to global problems

ORF was established at the same time as India opened its doors to the international economic order. Almost three decades later, India has emerged not only as the sixth largest economy in nominal terms, but also as a leading power in international affairs, with the ability to influence and shape global norms. As an institution that takes pride in partnering with a mind-boggling diversity of India's opinion-makers throughout this journey, we at ORF must acknowledge that the opportunities and challenges that face India today have also evolved in tandem with its rise.

For one, the global flow of capital, goods and labour—which had become the *sine qua non* of the globalised world order of the 1990s—has undergone a shift: the flows remain but they are no longer corporeal but rather digital. The age of the digital is disrupting traditional models of economic growth, upending templates of governance, and redefining human endeavour as well as human relationships. The brick and mortar that propped up once familiar institutions is giving way to bits and bytes.

In this, India's own domestic transformation has never been of greater relevance to the world. At a time when democracies around the world are struggling with inequality, when questions around identity are polarising the bastions of the free world—the potential of over a billion individuals continuing to prosper in a diverse, free, multi-religious and multi-ethnic society stands out as a guiding light and a beacon of hope.

ORF's mandate must expand in consonance with India's changing aspirations in an evolving world, and our research and platforms will form a critical part of our endeavour. In the coming years, ORF will continue to lead the formulation of strategic thought and support India's aspirations along four distinct channels.

First, ORF will federalise its research and engagement. Plurality of thought and the free exchange of ideas have always been India's true assets. So too, public policy debates and process can no longer be dominated by voices from New Delhi. Having taken cognisance of this reality, ORF's regional chapters in Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai will lead efforts to focus on regional, state and local governance issues by engaging with the near neighbourhood, state governments, local bodies and grassroots organisations in order to build capacities in the spheres of urban governance, technology, health and education. In doing this, we will

continue to offer global solutions to local problems. By offering evidence-based research and new communication tools at the grassroots level, ORF hopes to strengthen India's domestic reform process. We are proud of our various partnerships including, for example, with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK with whom we hosted capacity building workshops across six states to improve police response to cybercrime.

Second, we are expanding our engagement with new stakeholders and demographics. Today's young population are coming of age in an era where technology not only offers unprecedented opportunity but also presents diverse risks. It is critical for organisations like ORF to mainstream millennial voices in the process of decision-making. To strengthen our outreach with the youth, ORF has partnered with Facebook to create the Voice+ Challenge, an initiative where university students from across the country collaborate on social media initiatives to counter hate speech and violent extremist narratives at home. ORF will expand its partnerships with Indian and global technology companies to support an Indian digital environment that remains accessible, democratic and safe.

Third, ORF will strengthen its outreach to regions that we consider critical to a rules-based global order for universal peace and prosperity. More than at any other time in history, the story of any country will be scripted by its evolving partnerships with the rest of the world. ORF is responding to this imperative by building its presence in key geographies. Whether it is the dynamic economies of South East Asia, the established Atlantic powers or emerging countries from Africa and Central Asia, ORF has been fostering new relationships across the spectrum of stakeholders. We are extremely proud of having successfully hosted CyFy, India's premier dialogue on cyber-space, in Morocco, Africa this year.

Indeed, CyFy Africa is only the beginning of a larger effort to globalise ORF's platforms and engagements. Successful flagship events like the Raisina Dialogue have been extremely effective in bringing the world to India. The time has come to take our uniquely Indian ethos of "engaging-with-all" to the world. As traditional models devised by the Atlantic system fail to address challenges in the developing world, the Indian experience and pathways are becoming more relevant than ever. In the coming year, ORF will host 'Digital in South Asia', a regional forum to address key concerns in building digital societies, as well as the 'Kigali Development Forum', an annual development conference that will bring together international debates to these regions.

Finally, ORF will invest in people and mind-space. We must acknowledge that transformations in communication technologies naturally disrupt the public policy process. The advent of the digital allows us to transcend the limitations of traditional research institutions and engage society in ways hardly possible even a decade ago. The virtual world accords new, effective and efficient forms and forums for organising and engaging. Human capital, unshackled

Sunjoy Joshi
Chairman, ORF

As Chairman, Sunjoy Joshi directs and steers the vision of the Foundation through its centres. During his career spanning over 25 years in the Indian Administrative Service, he has gained experience across the conventional as well as non-conventional energy sectors. His current work focuses on global governance, energy, climate change, and development studies.

Recent Publication: "The new bipolarity: Myth or reality?," Raisina Debates, Expert Speak, May 2018

from the confines of geography and nations, is becoming the single most valuable resource of the fourth industrial revolution. ORF also looks to becoming such a 21st century organisation: lean on brick and mortar, but heavy on ideas and people. Over the next few years, ORF intends to capitalise on this opportunity by investing in a global network of thought leaders and amplifying their voices in the digital domain.

India is "Frontier Nation"— a nation that still has to address several 20th-century imperatives, such as hard infrastructure, governance, health and education for all. Yet the country has boldly embraced the promises and the challenges of the 21st century. As a think tank located in this "Frontier Nation", ORF will continue to discover, innovate and find effective pathways to nurture India and the emerging world's growing aspirations.

— **Sunjoy Joshi**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Guiding an ascendent India through the age of disruption

Now well into the 21st century, it is undeniable that India is in the midst of multiple transitions. At home, the world's largest, and possibly most diverse, working-age population is gearing up to realise the potential of a ten-billion-dollar economy in the coming two decades. This very potential also fuels India's rise on the global stage, where the country is increasingly positioning itself to lead today's fluid international system.

As one of Asia's leading think tanks, the Observer Research Foundation seeks not only to understand the implications of these transitions, but also to actively engage relevant stakeholders, foster institutional partnerships, produce actionable research that informs public-policymaking at the domestic and international level. India and the world are inextricably linked, and India's domestic evolution may well catalyse solutions for the many challenges faced by the developing world.

Perhaps the most pressing challenge for states today is preparing for the disruptions of the fourth industrial revolution. Shifts in technology are altering the relationship between labour and capital—redefining the way individuals work and societies engage in trade and commerce. Policy prescriptions ranging from calls for a universal basic income to taxes on robots, reflect the trepidations that governments and individuals around the world feel as they face the prospects of technological unemployment and a middle class "squeeze."

For developing countries like India, home to millions of young, failing to muster an effective policy response is not an option. To incubate solutions, ORF and the World Economic Forum are collaborating on a 'Future of Work' initiative; conducting research on labour markets in the 'gig-economy,' reforms in education systems, and templates for inclusive growth. Additionally, by collaborating with the Heidelberg Centre on India's 'Smart Cities' initiative, and with Uber on the future of urban mobility, ORF is working to scale the potential of the 4IR in strengthening governance, mainstreaming the marginalised, and accelerating economic growth.

Understanding the future of work also requires an appreciation of the global digital ecosystem that is affecting much of this change. Even as political support for the globalisation of the 20th century appears diminished, the global flow of bits and bytes has supplanted goods

and services to drive a new wave of economic and political integration. Such integration, however, remains interrupted by political differences between states, unpredictable and evolving security risks, and regulatory uncertainty.

As an institutional partner for the 2017 Global Conference on Cyberspace, in conjunction with India's Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, ORF assisted in creating an independent norm-setting initiative for cyberspace led by diverse and emerging economies. The *2017 GCCS Journal*, published by ORF, captured some of these ideas with contributions from ministers, technologists and heads of international organisations.

Providing affordable access, reliable security, and economic opportunity remain high on the priority list; and as a nation straddling multiple identities—a plural, developing, Asian society—India is well placed to offer a replicable and democratic model for digital societies. To assist this endeavour, ORF and Member of Parliament Shri Baijayant Panda provided inputs to the Justice Sri Krishna Committee on Data Protection. The Committee's draft bill, along with emerging policy changes in India's digital economy, continues to remain a subject of study at ORF with support from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation.

Indeed, India's example suggests that many of the solutions for governance in the 21st century will come from Asia and Africa—home to the largest share of human population, and in time, much of its wealth. The need for civil society, businesses, and governments from the developing world to build and sustain bridges with each other has never been greater. Accordingly, ORF is proud to have worked with the Regional Council of the Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima, Morocco to launch the first edition of CyFy Africa, which addressed a range of developing country apprehensions around gender, ethnicity, and equity in the 4IR.

It is worth noting that this broader diffusion of wealth, technology and power is prompting new alignments and propositions in the international order. The limits of the Atlantic system are now evident—its design and structures are outdated. Ideating and implementing solutions for the 21st century will require engaging new constituencies and stakeholders. As an emerging power with a strong democratic ethos, India is well placed to lead this process.

ORF is keen to support India's global engagements—especially with geographies that are increasingly critical to its interests—through partnership with institutions like the Emirates Policy Centre, Abu Dhabi, and platforms such as the Kigali Development Forum, which will host stakeholders from India, the UK and African states to challenge traditional development paradigms. To do this, ORF will exploit the potential of human capital—creating a network of transnational scholars and practitioners to incubate new ideas and cement evolving partnerships. As a part of this initiative, ORF will also host international faculty here in India to facilitate the cross-pollination of ideas and experiences.

ORF is cognisant that the success of India's global role will also depend on its engagement with key international institutions. And whether it is with WEF on the future of work, or with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development on a "Financing Green Transitions" initiative to build resilient and adaptive economies, ORF is collaborating with such institutions to make them more responsive to challenges in the developing world as well as to take solutions from the East and the South to the developed world. These engagements prepare India for its manifest destiny in the 21st century: to claim leadership of the international liberal order.

On a final note, institutions like ORF must acknowledge that in the coming years, many of the conversations and debates highlighted above will be influenced by clamorous issue-based mobilisation in digital spaces. For think tanks and research institutions to remain relevant in today's digital world, engaging with such impermanent "#Communities" must become

Samir Saran
President, ORF

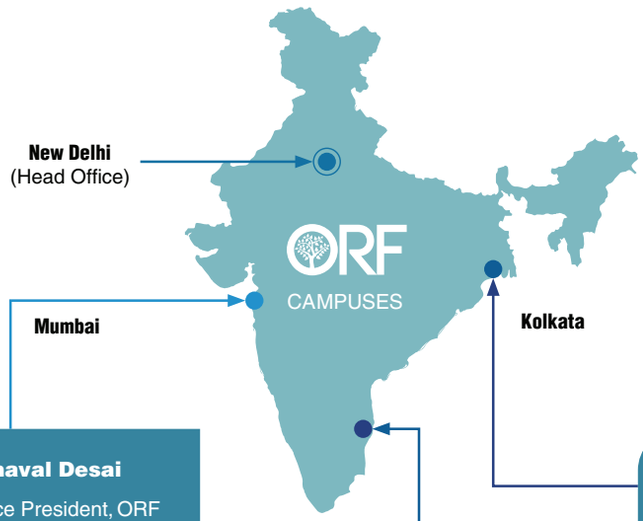
Working with the Board, Samir Saran provides strategic direction and leadership to ORF's multiple centres on fund raising, research projects, platform design and outreach initiatives including stakeholder engagement. He curates Raisina Dialogue, chairs CyFy and is also a Commissioner at the Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace. Samir writes frequently on issues of global governance, climate change, energy policy, global development architecture, artificial intelligence, cyber security, internet governance, and India's foreign policy.

Recent Publication: "Xi dreams: A roadmap for Pax-Sinica," ORF Occasional Paper, May 2018

a priority. Already, ORF is reaching out to such constituencies—partnering with Youth Ki Awaaz and taking conversations to the 'digital streets,' so to speak. We are strengthening this process by expanding our vernacular output; having already launched Hindi and Marathi platforms, ORF also intends to communicate complex policy debates in accessible digital formats.

Fully aware that these transitions are taking place in an era that is increasingly being defined by polarisation and misinformation, ORF's mission of producing evidence-based research, incubating non-partisan conversations and creating equitable global engagements has never been more meaningful. We look forward to an exciting year ahead at ORF.

— **Samir Saran**



Dhaval Desai
Vice President, ORF
Mumbai

Dhaval Desai's research covers diverse topics ranging from urban renewal to international relations, publishing a wide range of reports which have contributed to policy making at the national, state and local levels. He has over two decades of experience in the multidisciplinary and diverse verticals of media, communications and public policy research.

Recent publication: "The road to peace in Kashmir: Public perception of the contentious AFSPA and PSA" Occasional Paper, August 2018

N Sathiya Moorthy
Director, ORF
Chennai

Sathiya Moorthy, a veteran journalist, writes on the intricacies of domestic politics and bilateral/ international relations of India's southern neighbours, mainly the Maldives and Sri Lanka. He is currently writing a book on contemporary Tamil Nadu and national politics, and another on Sri Lanka and the Maldives, with particular reference to their ties with India.

Recent publication: "Maldives poll: Opposition too playing balancing-act on China?" Expert Speak, August 2018

Ashok Dhar
Director, ORF
Kolkata

As Director, Ashok Dhar steers the activities of the ORF Kolkata chapter. A chemical engineer by training, he served on the Board of Directors of Gulf Africa Petroleum Corporation, Mauritius, for ten years. He is currently a member of the Energy Institute, London, and the Refinery Forum of Petroleum Federation of India.

Recent publication: "Planning mobility in cities in future" Expert Speak, March 2018

2017 GLOBAL GO TO THINK TANK INDEX REPORT

As an institution, ORF has always strived for excellence and our continuous climb up the Global Go To Think Tank Index is a testament to that effort. This year, ORF was the most featured Indian think tank in the index ranked across 25 categories, further demonstrating ORF's multi-disciplinary and broad based approach to public policy. This year's rankings also place ORF as a leading think tank in the following categories:

5 Ranked 5th best think tank in China, India, Japan and the Republic of Korea

53 Ranked 53rd in the category 'Top Domestic Health Policy Think Tanks'

35 Ranked 35th among non-US think tanks worldwide (up from 50th position in 2016)

44 Ranked 44th in 'Top Defense and National Security Think Tanks' (up from 77th position in 2016)

59 Ranked 59th in 'Top Education Policy Think Tanks' - **the only Indian think tank in the list**

8 Highest ranked Indian think tank in the category 'Think Tanks with the Most Innovative Policy Ideas/Proposals at 8th position

2 Highest ranked among Indian think tanks in the category 'Best New Idea of Paradigm Developed by a Think Tank' at 2nd position (up from 27th position in 2016)

34 Highest ranked Indian think tank in the category 'Top Energy and Resource Policy Think Tanks' at 34th position (up from 45th position in 2016)

37 Highest ranked Indian think tank in the category 'Top Foreign Policy and International Affairs Think Tanks' at 37th position (up from 64th position in 2016)

33 Highest ranked Indian think tank in the category 'Best Use of Social Networks' at 33rd position (up from 46th position in 2016)

11 Highest ranked Indian think tank in the category 'Best Think Tank Conference' at 11th position (up from 45th position in 2016)

9 Highest ranked Indian think tank in the category 'Think Tank to Watch in 2018' at 9th position

51 Highest ranked Indian think tank in the category 'Best Managed Think Tanks' at 51st position

GLOBAL LEADERS AT ORF

“One of the lessons that we learned from the Arab world is evolution, rather than revolution. It does not mean a status-quo, because the world is changing, you can’t stay where you are. You have to address a younger demographic, you have to address different needs of the population.”

ANWAR MOHAMMED GARGASH

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, United Arab Emirates

In Conversation, 21 March 2018

“In any society, where there is inequality, the ones who suffer most are women and children. The most amount of support must go to mothers and children in these societies… We all need examples of market democracies that are delivering economic growth— one which is felt by the people at the bottom of our society.”

CHRYSTIA FREELAND

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Canada

In Conversation, “Women,Peace and Security”, 22 February 2018

Iran has always adhered to its contract deals and conventions. So long as other countries do not violate it, we will stay on board. This is part of our culture, our religion and the order of God."

HASSAN ROUHANI

President, Iran

Special Address, 17 February 2018

It was our understanding of the principal lesson of Jewish history and also a simple lesson in our turbulent region, and it is this: the weak don't survive. The strong survive. You make peace with the strong. You make alliances with the strong."

BENJAMIN NETANYAHU

Prime Minister,Israel

Inaugural Address, Raisina Dialogue 2018

Until everyone has the right to choose, we need quotas. We need affirmative action to improve representation of women and girls. We need policies to redress existing inequalities and sexist stereotypes."

GABRIELA RAMOS

OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa to the G20

Panel Discussion: "Policy, Politics and Gender", Raisina Dialogue 2018

Prime Minister Modi said in Dhaka: Paas-paas, saath-saath. This is indeed the best way to move forward. In 2017, more than 1.4 million people in the BIMSTEC grouping visited each other's countries. A positive mindset is needed to secure South Asia for the benefit of all its people."

ABUL HASSAN MAHMOOD

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh

Keynote Address, Raisina Dialogue 2018

Our strategic landscape at the moment is more unpredictable than ever, which has led to great uncertainty. The loss of traditional barriers between nations has meant that we are now more dependent on each other."

RYAMIZARD RYACUDU

Minister of Defense, Indonesia

Keynote Address, Raisina Dialogue 2018

We – The Commonwealth – are a family. So understanding how much we hold in common, as individuals, as communities, and as nations brings promise and progress through friendship, cooperation, alliances and partnerships."

RT HON PATRICIA SCOTLAND QC

Secretary-General, Commonwealth

Special Address, 13 December 2017

“The European Union does not have the same leadership as it did 20 years back. Since its enlargement, in 2004, there has not been a discussion on the values and vision of the EU… The EU needs this form of self-reflection to find new ways to develop itself.”

NIKOS KOTZIAS

Minister of Foreign Affairs, Greece

Special Address, 27 November 2017

“India has a dynamic democracy. The Indian health picture is a glass half full — death rates have come down substantially in recent year. The primary healthcare system in India has improved substantially. As the Indian economy grows, there are huge resources that can be used towards improvements in health and education.”

BILL GATES

Co-Chairman, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Panel Discussion: “Human Capital, Growth and Public Policy”, 16 November 2017

“I have always admired the important work of organisations like yours – [creating a] bridge between academic research and politics, between politicians and thinkers. We need this link because we are living in a difficult transition - geopolitical instability is still present, [but] at the same time, economic dynamism… [is] feeding hopes that we are heading towards better times.”

PAOLO GENTILONI

Then Prime Minister, Italy

Special Address, 30 October 2017

India and Australia need collective leadership in the Indian Ocean Region to ensure a strong rules-based order….We must work towards a future where relationships between states are predictable — the rules-based order is an asset."

JULIE BISHOP

Then Minister for Foreign Affairs, Australia

2nd Indo-Pacific Oration, 18 July 2017

"We should be thinking of India, not just as a market, but as a launchpad where we can develop hi-tech capabilities and sell them to new markets. That is why the focus should not be just on manufacturing… it is also important that we work together to design and develop these technologies."

MICHAEL FALLON

Then Secretary of Defence, United Kingdom

Special Address: "UK-India strategic dialogue: Opportunity and security in a changing world", 12 April 2017

2

RESEARCH

Strategic Studies Programme

UNDERSTANDING THE PURPOSE OF INDIA'S POWER

MISSION STATEMENT

As India sheds its role as a balancing power and moves towards a leadership role, the ORF Strategic Studies Programme contributes to the ongoing public debate regarding the purpose of India's power. Through a mix of deep-dive publications, incisive interventions and flagship events, the programme focuses on issues related to core national security and foreign policy. The programme scholars blend strategic theory and comprehensive case studies to craft policy interventions that can shape India's engagement with a world in flux.

RESEARCH THEMES

- **National Security**
  Analysing defence modernisation and the future of warfare
- **Regional Connectivity**
  Connecting Asia to the world
- **Eye on China**
  Tracking China's rise in multiple dimensions
- **India and Global Governance**
  Examining the debates around India's engagement with the global order
- **India and the Study of International Relations**
  Contemplating India's engagement with the academic field of International Relations
- **Twenty Years of Pokhran-II**
  Examining the consequences of Pokhran II and its impact on Indian foreign policy
- **Emerging Themes in Indian Foreign Policy**
  Tracking new themes, concepts and approaches in how India engages with the world
- **The ISIS Debate**
  Studying the activities committed in the name of ISIS by Indian actors, within the country and abroad

FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

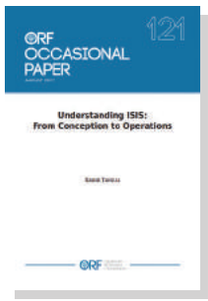
- The Indian Approach to Connectivity
- Online Radicalisation in South Asia
- Russia's Role in the Middle East
- Indo-China Relations

in Spotlight **PROJECT**

Understanding ISIS: From Conception to Operations

Kabir Taneja, August 2017

This paper bridges the gap in the Indian public discourse on the aims of the ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria or Islamic State) and where it stands today as the most formidable terrorist organisation of the 21st century. It explores the ISIS from the perspective of the Middle East, and this approach is crucial in understanding the terrorist organisation and dissecting its hierarchical structures, operational mettle and territorial conquest. It also helps examine the unprecedented use of online media propaganda to further its cause beyond traditional geographical borders.



in Spotlight **PUBLICATIONS**

The Four Faces of 21st Century Asian Geopolitics

Abhijnan Rej, May 2017

As global geopolitics enter the multipolar era, it is important to assess the extent to which strategic concepts from the bipolar era remain valid. This brief extends the notion of a "strategic triangle", which became prominent during the Cold War, to a "great-powers tetrahedron" for Asia in the 21st century. The brief further examines four triangular relationships, involving the four faces of the tetrahedron, namely India, China, Russia and the United States.

The 19th Congress of the Communist Party of China and its Aftermath

Kartik Bommakanti, January 2018

The recently concluded 19th Party Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) shed light on the Party's future direction, where maintaining legitimacy emerged as an overriding concern for the country's political leaders. The Party Congress session addressed deep-seated issues of corruption which may potentially damage the party's capacity to rule. On the other hand, the session displayed the dynamism of the CPC in the form of its resilience, adaptability and discipline.

Indian Regional Media's Perception of China: Analysis of Select Editorials from the Assam Tribune and the Arunachal Times

Rakhahari Chatterji and Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury, February 2018

This report examines regional reporting of issues relevant to India-China ties through the analysis of Arunachal Times and Assam Tribune between 2012 and 2014, as they are the most widely read newspapers in the India-China border region. The purpose of this exercise is two-fold: first, to explore Indian regional media's perception of China in bordering states of India; second, to offer observations comparing perceptions of Indian regional media with those of the national newspapers.

in Spotlight EVENTS

Delhi Dialogue IX: India-ASEAN Ties

4-5 July 2017, New Delhi

Delhi Dialogue is an annual Track 1.5 forum for discussing politico-security, economic and socio-cultural issues between ASEAN and India. The commemorative ninth edition saw deliberations on the nature, direction and priorities of their engagement over three sessions, Ministerial, Business and Academic. Spanning over two days, the Dialogue worked towards preparing a roadmap for the Golden Jubilee of ASEAN-India relations.

in Spotlight FACULTY

Harsh V Pant

Director, Research Studies & Head, Strategic Studies Programme

Professor Harsh V Pant is Director, Research Studies & Head, Strategic Studies Programme. Professor Pant's current research is focused on Asian security issues. His most recent books include The US Pivot and Indian Foreign Policy (Palgrave Macmillan), Handbook of Indian Defence Policy (Routledge), India's Afghan Muddle (HarperCollins), and The US-India Nuclear Pact: Policy, Process and Great Power Politics (Oxford University Press). Professor Pant writes regularly for various Indian and international media outlets including the Japan Times, the Wall Street Journal, the National (UAE), the Hindustan Times, and the Telegraph.

Recent Publication: Beyond JCPOA: Examining the consequences of US withdrawal, Issue Brief, July 2018

Dr Nguyen Thai Yen Huong, Senior Research Fellow & Vice President, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam

Dr Arpita Mukherjee, Professor, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)

PK Jain, Managing Director, ASSOCHAM; Vijay Kalantri, President, All India Associate of Industries; Samir Saran, President, Observer Research Foundation; Naina Lal Kidwai, Chairperson, Max Financial Services; Shobana Kamineni, Executive Vice Chairperson, Apollo Hospitals Enterprise; Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India; Rudra Chatterjee, MD, Luxmi Group

UK-India Strategic Dialogue

12 April 2017, New Delhi

ORF hosted the UK Secretary of State for Defence, Rt Hon Sir Michael Fallon, for a discussion on UK-India strategic ties. The event, held in association with the UK Ministry of Defence and the British High Commission in New Delhi, had panel discussions on: 'The role of private industry in the defence sector — The UK experience and the Indian requirement' & 'A sea of concern — UK and Indian perspectives on maritime security'.

FACULTY in Spotlight

Kriti M. Shah
Junior Fellow

Kriti Shah is a Junior Fellow with ORF. Her research focuses on Afghanistan and Pakistan's foreign and domestic policy, their relationship with each other, the United States and the Taliban. Her other areas of interests include civil-military relations in Pakistan, the Quetta Shura and United States foreign policy.

Recent Publication:"Too little, too late: The mainstreaming of Pakistan's tribal regions" Occasional Paper, July 2018

Abhijit Singh, Senior Fellow and Head, Maritime Policy Initiative, ORF; Gareth Price, Senior Research Fellow, Asia Programme, Chatham House, UK; Harsh V Pant, Distinguished Fellow and Head, Strategic Studies Programme, ORF; Raffaello Pantucci, Director, International Security Studies, Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), UK; Indrani Bagchi, Diplomatic Editor, Times of India

Raffaello Pantucci, Director of International Security Studies, RUSI

Stephon Phipson, Head of Defence and Security Organisation, UKIT

India Trilateral Forum

27-28 April 2017, New Delhi

H.E. Nicos Anastasiades, President of the Republic of Cyprus; Sunjoy Joshi, Chairman, Observer Research Foundation

in Spotlight FACULTY

Kabir Taneja

Associate Fellow

Kabir Taneja is an Associate Fellow at ORF Delhi. His research focuses on West Asia and he is currently working on various projects revolving around the issues of terrorism and insurgencies in the region, specifically the so-called Islamic State.

Recent Publication:"The ISIS phenomenon: South Asia and beyond" Monograph, August 2018

(L to R) Hans-Christian Hagman, Director of Strategic Analysis, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden; Kathy Leach, Joint Head Policy Unit, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, UK; Hardeep Singh Puri, Then Chairman, Research and Information Systems (RIS); Daniel Twining, Then Counselor for The German Marshall Fund of the United States; Dhruva Jaishankar, Fellow, Foreign Policy, Brookings India

2nd Australia India Policy Forum

19 January 2018, New Delhi

Forum Participants

Kartik Bommakanti
Associate Fellow

Kartik Bommakanti is an Associate Fellow with the Strategic Studies Programme at ORF Delhi. He is currently working on a project centred around India's Space Military Strategy vis-à-vis China. Bommakanti specialises in space military issues, and more specifically, the relationship between the space medium and terrestrial warfare.

Recent Publication:"India and China's space and naval capabilities: A comparative analysis" Occasional Paper, July 2018

Neighbourhood Initiative

STUDYING TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN P.A.K. AND HIMALAYAN REGION

MISSION STATEMENT

The security and strategic challenges emerging from India's North-West and East have serious implications on India's foreign and domestic policy. This initiative studies them in a systematic and structured manner focusing on trends in militancy, evolving narratives in Kashmir, developments in the AfPak region and their subsequent impact on India's security and foreign policy. The programme scholars publish well-researched papers on specific issues with long-term implications, hold seminars and discussions on emerging and existing problems and trends, initiate outreach programmes to involve stakeholders, and comment on developments in this area of research. They collaborate with other programmes to organise conferences relevant to this domain of study.

RESEARCH THEMES

- **Internal Security and Counter-Terrorism**
  Mapping the trends of militancy and analysing the dominant narratives in Jammu and Kashmir
- **The AfPak Dynamic**
  Studying internal and external developments in Afghanistan and Pakistan
- **India's Connectivity with its Himalayan Neighbours**
  Analysing India's relations with Nepal and Bhutan

FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

- Pakistan General Elections and The New Political Trends
- The Pashtun Tahaffuz Movement
- Pakistan's Economic Dependence on China
- The Barelvi Assertion in Pakistan
- The Use of Children by Militant Groups in Kashmir
- Narco-trafficking through the Intra-Kashmir trade
- Mapping Militancy in Kashmir
- Analysing the Dominant Narrative in Kashmir
- The Logistics Lines of Afghan Taliban

in Spotlight **PUBLICATIONS**

India's connectivity with its Himalayan neighbours: Possibilities and challenges

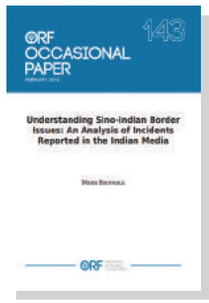
Anasua Basu Roy Chaudhary & Pratnashree Basu, July 2017

India's relations with its Himalayan neighbours, namely Nepal and Bhutan, are of great importance – bilateral ties with these neighbours have strategic significance as they serve as a buffer zone between India and China. This report makes an assessment of the different facets of India-Nepal and India-Bhutan bilateral cooperation. It further examines issues related to trade-transit, joint border management, and energy cooperation.

Understanding Sino-Indian Border Issues: An analysis of incidents reported in the Indian Media

Mihir Bhonsale, February 2018

Reports of incursions by the Chinese People's Liberation Army along the Line-of-Actual Control (LAC) are rife in the Indian media. The media has been routinely accused of sensationalising their reportage of these incursions, or "China's transgressions", as the Indian government calls them. Analysing Indian reportage on such incidents over a period of 12 years, this paper draws meaningful inferences on Sino-Indian border management.



Balochistan: Tyranny, Terror, Turmoil

9 February 2018, New Delhi

Balochistan has been in the throes of its fifth and longest insurgency for nearly two decades. The province has become a virtual no-go area for independent media. Massive human rights violations have been reported, but there seems to be reluctance in holding Pakistan accountable on this issue. This event examined the Balochistan question and assessed the situation in the restive province.

Young Thinkers' Conference-BBIN: Challenges and Opportunities

8-9 November 2017, Kolkata

The conference discussed the opportunities, issues and cooperative possibilities of the Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) collaboration.

Panel discussing ideas of cooperation for Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal

Participants at the Conference

Kashmir: A Dialogue for Peace and integration

7 July 2017, Mumbai

The roundtable conference comprising of career diplomats, military experts, and several prominent figures from Kashmir such as politicians and industry leaders discussed the prevailing situation in the Valley. Focussing on key issues, the daylong conference deliberated on the culture of dissent that has been perpetuated, the implication of unprecedented violence on the next generation and the future prospects of Kashmir.

Mr Shujaat Bukhari, Editor of Rising Kashmir, airing his views at the roundtable 'Kashmir – A Dialogue for Peace and Integration' organised by ORF in Mumbai on 7 July 2017.

Amb TCA Raghavan, former Ambassador of India to Pakistan; Seated (L to R): Mr Saifuddin Soz, senior Congress leader; Mr Sudheendra Kulkarni, Chairman, ORF Mumbai; Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain, Former GOC 15 and 21 Corps.

Mr Saifuddin Soz, Senior Congress leader; Seated (L to R): Mr Sudheendra Kulkarni, Chairman, ORF Mumbai; Amb TCA Raghavan, former Ambassador of India to Pakistan and Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain, Former GOC 15 and 21 Corps.

FACULTY in Spotlight

Sushant Sareen
Senior Fellow

Sushant Sareen is a Senior Fellow at ORF and focuses on Pakistan and terrorism in his research. His published works include "Balochistan: Forgotten War, Forsaken People" (Monograph, 2017), "Corridor Calculus: China-Pakistan Economic Corridor and China's Comprador model of Investment in Pakistan" (Monograph, 2016) and "Zarb-e-Azab: An Evaluation of Pakistan Army's Anti-Taliban Operations in North Waziristan" (Monograph, 2015).

Recent Publication: "Pakistan general elections 2018: What's at stake?" Issue Brief, July 2018

Khalid Shah
Associate Fellow

Khalid Shah is an Associate Fellow at ORF. His research focuses on the Kashmir conflict, Pakistan and terrorism. Khalid was previously associated with leading news channels of India and did a brief stint as a correspondent in Srinagar with WION News, reporting extensively on the conflict in Kashmir.

Recent Publication:"Vajpayee's Kashmir policy was more than a slogan" Expert Speak, August 2018

Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury
Fellow, Kolkata Chapter

Anasua Basu, is a Fellow with ORF's Neighbourhood Regional Studies Initiative. She specialises in South Asian politics, energy politics, forced migration and women in conflict situations in South Asia. As the recipient of the Public Service Broadcasting Trust Senior Media Fellowship 2007, Anasua produced a paper titled "Vernacular Dailies and the Ethnic and/or Religious Stereotypes in the Time of Violence". She has received the Kodikara Award from the Regional Centre for Strategic Studies (RCSS), Colombo, in 1998-99 and published "The Energy Crisis and Sub-regional Cooperation in South Asia" in 2010 at RCSS.

Recent Publication:"India's maritime connectivity: Importance of the Bay of Bengal" Issue Brief, March 2018

Ayjaz Wani
Fellow, Mumbai Chapter

Ayjaz Wani is a Fellow at ORF and is currently working on the project, "Kashmir Conflict, Managing Perceptions and Prospectus for Peace". Designed in the form of questionnaires and surveys with key stakeholders, the project is based on the Kashmiri youth perspective. Wani also tracks the minorities of China (Uyghur); radicalisation in Pakistan; and issues in greater Central Asia. He is widely published in international and national peer reviewed journals.

Recent Publication: "The road to peace in Kashmir: Public perception of the contentious AFSPA and PSA" Occasional Paper, August 2018

Mihir Bhonsale
Junior Fellow, Kolkata Chapter

Mihir Bhonsale is a Junior Fellow with ORF's Neighbourhood and Regional Studies Initiative. He is currently working on a research project titled, "Understanding Events on the India-China Border (2003-2015)". He is the coordinator of ORF's South Asia Weekly monitor and a regular contributor on Bhutan and Myanmar for The Weekly.

Recent Publication: "Understanding Sino-Indian border issues: An analysis of incidents reported in the Indian media" Occasional Paper, February 2018

Maritime Policy Initiative

SECURING INDIA'S POSITION ON THE HIGH SEAS

MISSION STATEMENT

ORF's Maritime Policy Initiative analyses developments in the nautical domain, covering India's maritime strategy, the blue-economy, the Act-East Policy, naval engagement in Asia and Africa, multilateral maritime governance architectures, Indian Ocean trade regimes, shipping and maritime infrastructure in Asia and SLOCs security and non-traditional security challenges. The research is aimed at informing policymakers of developments in the maritime domain, including traditional security and regional governance, India's maritime interests in its near-seas and the wider regional littorals, maritime law, and the geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific region.

RESEARCH THEMES

- **Maritime Security in the Indo-Pacific**
  Evaluating regional security initiatives to combat challenges in the Indo-Pacific region
- **Artificial Intelligence and Naval systems**
  Mapping emerging trends in the use and application of cognitive technologies in ship-borne systems
- **Grey-Zone Warfare on Maritime-Asia**
  Assessing hybrid warfare campaigns in Asia's sensitive littorals for the advancement of territorial and political aims in the contested commons
- **Building India's Coastal infrastructure**
  Studying India's maritime infrastructure initiatives, with particular emphasis on New Delhi's flagship port-building and hinterland connectivity project "Sagarmala"

FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

- Geopolitics and strategic security in the Indo-Pacific region
- Technology and naval modernisation
- Non-traditional security and capacity building in the Indian Ocean littorals
- Evaluating the spectrum of maritime security challenges in the Indian Ocean and Asia Pacific region
- Future Maritime Operations: The Technological Imperatives
- Strategic Security in the Asia Pacific: Threats, Challenges and Opportunities Towards a Rules based Maritime Order in Asia
- Towards a Rules based Maritime Order in Asia

in Spotlight **PROJECT**

The new India-US partnership in the Indo-Pacific: Peace, prosperity and security

Abhijit Singh, Aparna Pande, Jeff M Smith, Samir Saran, Sunjoy Joshi & Walter Lohman, January 2018

Over the years, India earned the epithet of a reluctant power in Asia. However, due to the evolution of challenges in its immediate neighbourhood and beyond, India is embracing a larger role in the far wider theatre of the Indo-Pacific. The US has been a principal guarantor of a liberal economic and maritime order in the Indo-Pacific. Howeverwith Donald Trump's 'America First' strategy, India must use this opportunity to rebalance the Indo-US relationship to reflect a real convergence of strategic interests, as opposed to an abstract engagement based on values alone.

in Spotlight **FACULTY**

Abhijit Singh
Senior Fellow, Head of Maritime Policy Initiative

A former naval officer with command experience in front-line Indian naval ships, Abhijit Singh heads the Maritime Policy Initiative at ORF. His research focuses on security and governance issues in the Indian Ocean and Pacific littorals. His current projects include (a) strengthening Asia's maritime rules-based order (b) Grey zone warfare in the maritime domain. Cdr Abhijit has written extensively about SLOC security and non-traditional security challenges in the Indian Ocean Region.

Recent Publication: "Deciphering grey-zone operations in maritime-Asia" Issue Brief, August 2018

in Spotlight **PUBLICATIONS**

India's Coastal Security Paradox

Mihir Bhonsale, February 2018.

Despite significant improvements in India's near-seas security architecture, the country's coastal security project remains a work in progress. Recent developments show there have been more than a few "misses" in the near-littorals. This report documents and identifies reasons for India's enduring coastal vulnerabilities, explaining how these "critical gaps" in the security architecture continue to hobble India's drive for improved near-seas security.

India's Maritime Connectivity: Importance of the Bay of Bengal

Anasua Basu Roy Chaudhary, Pratnashree Basu, Sreeparna Banerjee and Sohini Bose, March 2018.

The Bay of Bengal is increasingly gaining salience as a strategic maritime space. Covering more than two million square kilometres, the Bay is situated between vital sea routes and has provided the impetus for the growth of maritime enterprises for their densely populated littoral countries. This report examines the dynamics of India's maritime connectivity in the Bay of Bengal, focusing on the geopolitical, geostrategic and geoeconomic dimensions of the connectivity linkages between India and the Bay adjacent countries.

in Spotlight **EVENTS**

The Oceans Dialogue

19-21 April 2017, Thiruvananthapuram

The conference, held in partnership with the Government of Netherlands, focused on security and developmental challenges in the maritime domain. Through 10 plenary sessions spread over two-and-a-half days, participants discussed issues of littoral conservation, marine and infrastructure development, and security in Asia's regional littorals.

Amb. Rajiv Bhatia, Distinguished Fellow, Gateway House; Raghu Raman, Group President, Reliance Industries; Abhijit Singh, Senior Fellow, ORF

Tuneer Mukherjee
Junior Fellow

Tuneer Mukherjee is a Junior Fellow with ORF's Maritime Policy Initiative. His research focuses on Indo-Pacific maritime strategy, specifically looking at security paradigms and blue ocean economics of the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

Recent Publication: "Securing the maritime commons: The role of artificial intelligence in naval operations" Occasional Paper, August 2018

Participants at the discussion

The Quadilateral Dialogue, (L to R) Abhijnan Rej, Senior Fellow, ORF; Anup Singh, Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses; Abhijit Singh, Program Head, Maritime Policy Initiative, Observer Research Foundation; Jayadeva Ranade, President, Centra for China Analysis and Strategy

The Quadrilateral Debate

14 November 2017, New Delhi

The panel discussion deliberated on the viability of the India-Japan-Australia-US grouping, focussing on two important questions that define Asia's security dilemma. Can India, US, Australia and Japan form an effective naval alliance to counter China in the Indo-Pacific? Will Asia's "Concert of Democracies" combine effectively to present a viable alternative to China's BRI?

India's Shrinking Influence in Littoral South Asia - Indrani Bagchi, Diplomatic Editor, The Times of India

India's shrinking influence in littoral-South Asia

2 April 2018

The panellists discussed the possibility that India's authority in its neighbourhood may already have eroded. Triggered by the evolving geopolitical situation in the Maldives, the roundtable discussed India's eroding authority in its neighbourhood.

Participants at the discussion

Sustainable Urbanisation Programme

PRODUCING NEW KNOWLEDGE FOR PROMOTING AND MANAGING URBAN GROWTH

MISSION STATEMENT

There is growing concern over urbanisation; in many places, the gap between the rich and poor is widening, supply of essential infrastructure and services is lagging behind demand, and the overall quality of life is deteriorating. ORF's Sustainable Urbanisation Programme aims to build a greater understanding of urban issues and produce knowledge for managing urban growth in an equitable, orderly and sustainable manner. The aim is being achieved by engaging in collaborative and multi-disciplinary research, networking with national and international organisations, and organising seminars and conferences for sharing research experiences and findings.

RESEARCH THEMES

- **Urbanisation**
  Appraising urban population/migration trends and spatial distribution patterns, as well as effects of urbanisation
- **Urban and Regional Planning**
  Analysing peri-urban growth patterns, and mechanisms for harnessing the development potential of city-regions
- **Urban Development**
  Evaluating sectoral policies, legislations, funding and development programmes and their impacts on society
- **Urban Infrastructure and Services**
  Identifying administrative deficiencies and inequities in access to essential needs of drinking water, drainage, sanitation, mobility and energy
- **Urban Management and Governance**
  Proposing methods and technologies for improving the quality of life (including public safety and environment), and the management of water, energy, waste

FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

- Implementation of urban and regional planning and development initiatives in India
- Development of "Safe Cities" and "Smart Cities" and their implications on urban governance
- "Urban Futures Blog" - documenting expert opinions on emerging sustainable urbanisation challenges

in Spotlight **PROJECT**

Preparing for the Future of Urban Mobility

3 May 2017, Mumbai

As companies explore ways to facilitate mobility in Indian cities through ride-sharing, bus aggregation and car rentals - stakeholders must agree on the guiding principles for regulating the on-demand and ride-sharing industry. Recognising these realities, ORF (with support from American tech company UBER) convened a roundtable on the future of mobility. The participants discussed key concerns pertaining to infrastructure availability, ride-sharing principles and dynamic pricing.

in Spotlight **PUBLICATIONS**

Measuring Urbanisation in India

Rumi Aijaz, December 2017

This publication analyses the criteria used for measuring urbanisation in India and highlights methodological deficiencies in measurement. An underestimation of India's urban population is resulting in chaotic and poor living conditions in the rapidly transforming rural areas. The brief documents options for capturing urban growth and suggests establishing resilient urban governance mechanisms in such areas.

Sustaining Urban Growth through Ecological Restoration: The case of Coimbatore

Anuradha Yagya, November 2017

This report examines the key aspects that concern sustainable development efforts in Coimbatore. It highlights the need for ecological sensitivity in urban planning and development mechanisms to ensure long-term sustainability of the city.

Preparing for the Future of Urban Mobility in India

Madhulika Srikumar, July 2017

Indian cities are becoming increasingly congested and polluted due to the high growth of private motor vehicles running on inferior fuels. This report, based on a roundtable in Mumbai, outlines key mobility concerns and proposes ideas to address the impending crisis. The author concludes by stressing the need to expand public transportation services, formulate suitable principles for regulating ride-sharing industry, along with smarter traffic management through tech-based solutions.

in Spotlight EVENTS

Workshop Participants

Workshop Participants

Smart Cities Workshops

19-20 May 2017, Shimla; 6-7 June 2017, Coimbatore; 21-22 September 2017, Bhubaneswar; 13-14 October 2017 Bengaluru

ORF, in collaboration with Heidelberg Centre South Asia, conducted a series of workshops in different Indian cities to generate knowledge on options and opportunities to transform existing cities into smart cities. The initiative aims at influencing the smart cities debate in India. It also offers inputs to the centre, state and local government functionaries engaged in the ongoing Smart Cities Mission.

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: Achievements and Challenges *7 July 2017, New Delhi*

The Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission) aims to make India free from open defecation and achieve 100 percent scientific management of solid waste. Since its launch in 2014, significant progress has been made at the local level, however, the mission faces numerous difficulties. The roundtable discussion organised by ORF helped identify the challenges and explored practical solutions for achieving the mission's goals.

Discussion participants

(L to R) Parameswaran Iyer, Union Secretary in the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India; Mr Surendra Singh, Advisor, Observer Research Foundation; Rumi Aijaz, Senior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation

SWACCHATHON 1.0 – A Swachh Bharat Hackathon

11 August 2017, Mumbai

The Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India and Government of Maharashtra collaborated with the Observer Research Foundation to organise Swachhathon 1.0 – Swachh Bharat Hackathon. This event aimed at crowdsourcing some of the pressing issues faced during the implementation of SBM. The event saw the attendance and participation of over 400 stakeholders from across the country.

Mr Babanrao Lonikar, Minister of Water and Sanitation, Government of Maharashtra, delivering his address. Seated (From L to R): Dr Satish Umrikar, Head, Water and Sanitation Support Organisation, Government of Maharashtra; Mr Ruchesh Jaivanshi, Deputy Secretary-cum-Project Director, Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Government of Maharashtra; Ms V Radha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitaiton, Government of India and Mr Shyam Lal Goyal, Additional Chief Secretary, Water and Sanitation Department, Government of Maharashtra

Abhay Pethe
Distinguished Fellow

Abhay Pethe is a Mumbai-based urban economist, best known for his work on land markets and public finance. He has held several prestigious positions in the country's leading educational institutions, including the University of Mumbai. He has been a recipient of the post-doctoral Fulbright scholarship at the University of Texas.

Recent Publication: "Financially empowering urban local bodies to get India's cities up and running" Expert Speak, June 2018

Ameya Pimpalkhare
Associate Fellow

Ameya Pimpalkhare is an Associate Fellow at ORF Mumbai and has a master's degree in sustainable energy engineering from the University of Nottingham. He is presently engaged in the study of energy and transportation.

Recent Publication:"Rationalising fares to prevent the financial derailment of Indian Railways" Issue Brief, May 2018

Ramanath Jha
Distinguished Fellow

Ramanath Jha has been an officer in the Indian Administrative Service. During his service and afterwards, he has held key positions in various urban government departments in Maharashtra. He was also the Regional Adviser (South Asia) for the Urban Management Programme of UNDP/ UN-Habitat.

Recent Publication:"Strengthening urban India's informal economy: The case of street vending" Issue Brief, July 2018

Rumi Aijaz
Senior Fellow

Rumi Aijaz is a Senior Fellow at ORF with a background in geography and regional planning. He received his Ph.D. from SPA Delhi and was then a visiting research student at LSE. He joined ORF in September 2007 and has been engaged in urban studies and coordinated projects in partnership with institutions such as RLS, GIZ, PRIO and HCSA. His publications focus on various aspects of urbanisation in India and the BRICS nations.

Recent Publication:"China's urban transformation strategy" Expert Speak, June 2018

Sayli Udas-Mankikar
Senior Fellow, Mumbai Chapter

Sayli Udas-Mankikar is a Senior Fellow at ORF and has a master's degrees in the fields of Journalism and Political Science. She is a recipient of several prestigious awards and fellowships, including the Ramnath Goenka Award and the Reuters Foundation Fellowship. Her research interests include cities, civic engagement in urban governance, open spaces and politics of infrastructure provisioning.

Recent Publication:"Mumbai needs stringent infra audits, more transparency to avoid more tragedies" Expert Speak, July 2018

Health Initiative

TAKING HEALTH AND NUTRITION TO THE POLICY HIGH TABLE

MISSION STATEMENT

Leveraging its events and research, ORF's Health Initiative endeavours to take health and nutrition to the policy high table and establish 'health and nutrition security' as important components within the broader national security discourse. The imitative aims to achieve this through analysis of latest datasets, and elevation of media discourse by regular publication of evidence-based knowledge products.

RESEARCH THEMES

- **Better Data for Better Health**
  Exploring how sub-regional data can inform decision making in health and nutrition
- **Down to the District**
  Making health and nutrition election issues across India
- **Health Policy Analysis**
  Offering policy recommendations, informed by research and analysis of large datasets

FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

- Developing a Human Capital Index for Indian states
- Exploring health system resilience and urban health governance
- Engaging the 15th Finance Commission on the implementation of flagship health schemes
- How to get "Ayushman Bharat" to Fix the Gangrene in Healthcare and Health Insurance
- Weighed Down by the Gains: India's Twin Double-burdens of Malnutrition and Disease
- India Eliminates Leprosy, Again: do these declarations do more harm than good
- The past of Public Healthcare in Mumbai and the road ahead
- India in the Antibiotic Resistance Era
- Public Health in Uttar Pradesh
- India's Health Performance from 1990
- India's Pharmaceutical Policy

in Spotlight **PROJECT**

Down to the district: The health of 5 states going to polls

Through the analysis of the latest data sources, the Down to the District series provides district-level commentary on the coverage and outcome indicators in health and nutrition to elevate the media conversation around policy issues. The series leverages elections and policy events as windows of opportunity to achieve focused media attention on health and nutrition.

in Spotlight **PUBLICATIONS**

Accelerating growth and development in the SDG Era

Oommen C Kurian, March 2018

This report analyses how, as a country aspiring to reach double-digit economic growth rates, and sustain them, India must focus on health and nutrition policy, which are the mainstays of a productive workforce, as reflected in the ambitious Ayushman Bharat initiative as well as the National Nutrition Mission.

The road to universal health coverage

Anjali Nayyar, Dhruv Pahwa, Samir Saran and Oommen C Kurian, March 2018

This Special Report builds on the findings of an earlier study by the Global Health Strategies (GHS), in partnership with the International Vaccine Access Centre (IVAC), Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and the IKP Trust and presents recommendations for a policy audience.

in Spotlight **EVENTS**

Framing the Health Agenda for the G20

25 January 2018, New Delhi

For the first time ever, the G20 made health a priority for action and a major topic of discussion. This roundtable explored how the expansion of G20 action can be made a reality and the areas of cooperation that will open up for this group during 2018.

Andreas Schaal, Director for OECD Relations, OECD

Wulf Reiners, Head of Managing Global Governance, German Development Institute

in Spotlight **FACULTY**

Deepesh Reddy Vendoti

Consultant, Mumbai Chapter

Deepesh Vendoti is a consultant with ORF, Mumbai, associated with the Health Initiative. His current research focuses on pharmaceutical policies, health systems and the emerging problem of anti-microbial resistance.

Recent Publication: "Arresting biological disasters: Role 'smart cities mission' can play" Expert Speak, July 2018

Accelerating Growth and Development in the SDG Era

30 August 2017, New Delhi

Organised in partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, this multi-stakeholder, cross-sectoral dialogue between policymakers gathered to discuss interlinkages between goals, and learn from India's past experiences and innovations at the state level. The roundtable also discussed plans going forward.

Accelerating Growth and Development in The SDG Era - Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog

Accelerating Growth and Development in the SDG Era - Vikrom Mathur, Program Head, Observer Research Foundation; Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in India, United Nations; Sunjoy Joshi, Chairman, ORF

Human Capital, Growth and Public Policy

16 November 2017, New Delhi

ORF, in partnership with the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, organised this conference with the private sector and the Ministry of Finance, to discuss the underlying importance of strong buy-in from these key stakeholders for enhanced investments in human capital.

Human capital, growth and public policy - Bill Gates, Principal Founder, Microsoft Corporation & Founder, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Oommen C Kurian
Fellow

Oomen Kurian is a Fellow at ORF Delhi. He focuses on the interface of nutrition and health policy. He is currently studying health systems in the BIMSTEC countries, assessing women's health insurance access in India and evaluating system preparedness for vector-borne diseases.

Recent Publication:Health: "Wide gaps between policy aspirations and implementation in Karnataka" Expert Speak, May 2018

(L to R) Shakti Sinha, Director, NMML; Sanjeev Sanyal, Principal Economic Advisor, Ministry of Finance, Government of India; Ireena Vittal, Independent Expert, Agriculture and Urban Development, Former Partner with McKinsey & Co. and public policy - Bill Gates, Principal Founder, Microsoft Corporation & Founder, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation; Pratap Bhanu Mehta, Vice-Chancellor, Ashoka University

Health Futures 2030: Leaving No One Behind

20 June 2017, New Delhi

The panel discussion at the second India Think Tank Forum brought together diverse representation of regional, national and international think tanks for an informative and productive exchange on key policy issues regarding health, nutrition and sanitation. The discussion focused on the need to transcend the state-centre binary in health.

Discussion participants

in Spotlight **FACULTY**

Priyanka Shah
Junior Fellow

Priyanka Shah is a Junior Fellow at ORF. Her research focuses on the politics of health, and she is interested in the complex relationships that lie at the heart of the development security nexus in the Global South.

Recent Publication: "Healthcare in Meghalaya: An uphill battle" Expert Speak, February 2018

Nuclear and Space Policy Initiative

ADVOCATING FOR INDIA'S NUCLEAR SECURITY AND UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMICS OF INDIA'S SPACE PROGRAMME

MISSION STATEMENT

Geopolitical challenges and the proliferation of nuclear technology deeply impacts India's nuclear security. Additionally, the number of state and non-state actors in outer space is increasing with easier access to space technology. The Nuclear and Space Policy Initiative contributes to the public debate on strengthening India's nuclear security and creating an all-inclusive space policy. The initiative publishes occasional papers, issue briefs and commentaries, informing the public discourse on these issues. It also organises conferences, bringing together all the relevant stakeholders from India and other countries, for an informed debate on these issues.

RESEARCH THEMES

- **India's Nuclear Security**
  Assessing the status of India's nuclear security with an examination of the institutional, legal architecture and processes
- **Space Power Dynamics**
  Assessing the role of space capabilities in geopolitics and war strategies
- **Space Weaponisation**
  Analysing the early trends towards space weaponisation by examining existing and new weapons as well as new counter-space capabilities
- **Governance of Global Commons**
  Assessing the threats to global commons and debate on preventive measures
- **Space Commercialisation**
  Analysing the dynamics of private space industry including NewSpace 2.0

FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

- China's Design to Capture Regional SatCom Markets
- Geopolitics of Space: Impact on Global Governance
- Radiological Security in India

in Spotlight PUBLICATIONS

Space crises in a multipolar world:Lessons from a simulation exercise

Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan, February 2018

The paper attempts to understand the interaction between contemporary terrestrial geopolitics and the intense, ongoing securitisation of the outer space. The Observer Research Foundation (ORF) organised a half-day simulation exercise (SIMEX) in February 2017. This report provides a brief background of the scenario played in the SIMEX, presents an analysis of the results of the SIMEX, and concludes in the fourth section, with a few brief policy-relevant observations.

Commercial Space Mining:Economic and Legal Implications

Vidya Sagar Reddy, September 2017

The US and Luxembourg have adopted domestic space laws granting certain legal rights to space-mining companies, which has initiated a global debate on the future of this industry. This paper assesses commercial space-mining activities in the broader context of the emerging space economy. It finds that entrepreneurs are increasingly looking at outer space for providing terrestrial solutions, enabling a new industrial age based in outer space.

US-India Space Cooperation

29 March 2018, New Delhi

Civil space cooperation between India and US is a significant aspect of strategic cooperation between the two countries, and a Joint Working Group on civil space cooperation has been established. ORF hosted a high-level delegation from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory to discuss historical context and identify the future possibilities for enhanced space cooperation between the US and India.

Discussion Participants

Dr Alok K Chatterjee, Mission Interface Manager and Launch System Engineer, Jet Propulsion Lab, NASA

Lt. Gen. Larry James, Deputy Director, Jet Propulsion Lab, NASA

Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan

Distinguished Fellow & Head of the Nuclear and Space Policy Initiative

Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan is Distinguished Fellow and Head of the Nuclear and Space Policy Initiative at the Observer Research Foundation. Rajagopalan joined ORF after a five-year stint at the National Security Council Secretariat, where she was an Assistant Director. Prior to joining the NSCS, she was Research Officer at the Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi.

Recent Publication: "Drones: Guidelines, regulations, and policy gaps in India" Occasional Paper, March 2018

VVER-1200 Technology: Evolution and Safety

1 December 2017, New Delhi

This event discussed the collaboration between Russia-based Rosatom State Atomic Energy Corporation & Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India for the construction of Kudankulam NPP.

Great Power Attitude and Aspirations toward Expansionism, Territoriality and Resource Nationalism in Space

18 July 2017, New Delhi

Discussion participants

Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan, Distinguished Fellow, ORF

Talk on North Korean Nuclear and Missile Programmes: History, Strategy and Prospects by Prof Vipin Narang

20 December 2017, New Delhi

Discussion participants

Prof Vipin Narang, Associate Professor of Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

in Spotlight **FACULTY**

Vidya Sagar Reddy

Associate Fellow

Vidya Sagar Reddy is an Associate Fellow with ORF's Nuclear and Space Policy Initiative. His research interests include technological capabilities of major space-faring nations, civilian and military applications of space assets, human spaceflight and planetary exploration. He is also interested in assessing strategic implications of geopolitical and military developments.

Recent Publication: "China's design to capture regional SatCom markets" Issue Brief, July 2018

Energy Initiative Programme

ASSESSING INDIA'S CHALLENGES IN THE ENERGY SECTOR

MISSION STATEMENT

India's energy requirements are expected to grow at a faster rate than China's, because of its ever-increasing appetite for energy due to stagnant supplies that cannot keep up with the pressure to liberalise. Therefore, its three "e-goals" - economic efficiency, energy security and environmental sustainability - must be achieved simultaneously. This can be done through a mixed approach - by widening the debate on energy policy, formulating a cohesive energy policy for India, establishing energy-economy-environment relationships, and conducting multidisciplinary studies on energy policy.

RESEARCH THEMES

- **India's Mineral Wealth**
  Unlocking India's mineral wealth policy priorities
- **Coal Beneficiation**
  Providing an overview of coal beneficiation in India
- **Regional Cooperation**
  Implementing a "knowledge-based advocacy initiative" to facilitate and support effective bilateral cooperation in the Sundarban region
- **Future of Mobility in India**
  Debating outlook and challenges vis-a-vis the future of mobility in India
- **Energy Security**
  Understanding how India balances the trade-off between quality and quantity and its implications on India's energy trajectory

A ROADMAP FOR THE YEAR AHEAD

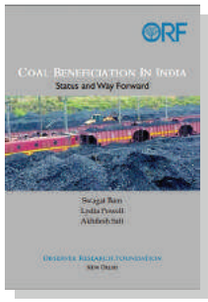
- Energy Transitions in India and China
- Energy Politics in India
- Climate Policies in India and China
- Future of Mobility: Recommendation Report
- ORF-IEF Energy Policy Periodical
- Moving for Climate Now: Cycling Expedition from Vienna to Katowice, for COP24
- Bangladesh-India Sundarban Regional Cooperation Initiative
- International Transboundary Water Cooperation

in Spotlight PUBLICATIONS

Coal Beneficiation: Policy Priorities for India

Lydia Powell & Akhilesh Sati, 7 July 2017

This policy brief presents the economic benefits of coal beneficiation and analyses policy and regulatory regimes in India. It describes the benefits of using washed coal which provide plant and environmental efficiency and these benefits are not necessarily realised at the operating power station level.



Coal Beneficiation in India: Status and Way Forward

Lydia Powell & Akhilesh Sati, 5 July 2017

This report examines policy interventions that will improve the efficiency of coal use in India to maximise strategic and economic gains, and minimise costs imposed on the environment at the local and national level.

Energy Cooperation under BIMSTEC: Are Techno-economic Rationales Sufficient?

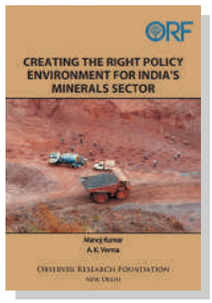
Lydia Powell, 2 November 2017

Despite a compelling techno-economic rationale for BIMSTEC nations, regional cooperation in the field of energy has not moved beyond the drawing board. This publication argues that inadequate investment in regional infrastructure and the lack of political will to invest in shared infrastructure are the consequence of inadequate cooperation between countries in the region, not their cause.

Creating the Right Policy Environment for India's Minerals Sector

Manoj Kumar & A K Verma, 8 March 2018

Based on global mining trends and the reactions of various governments, India should adopt progressive policy measures for the minerals sector. This report suggests a clear mining roadmap for India.



in Spotlight EVENTS

Future of Mobility in India: Outlook and Challenges (Petro India)

16 March 2018, New Delhi

Petro India - Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog

Anil Razdan, Former Union Power Secretary, Government of India

in Spotlight FACULTY

Lydia Powell
Distinguished Fellow

Ms Powell has been with the ORF Centre for Resources Management for over eight years, working on policy issues in Energy and Climate Change. She edits the ORF Energy News Monitor, which is in its seventh year of publication, and routinely contributes papers on Energy Policy, Energy Pricing and Regulation, Climate and Equity. She has represented ORF in several conferences on India's 'Energy Policy and Climate Change' and has authored a number of reports on the same themes.

Recent Publication:"Energy cooperation under BIMSTEC: Are techno-economic rationales sufficient?" Issue Brief, November 2017

India Energy Forum (IEF) and ORF jointly organised Petro India, an annual flagship event. The deliberations took a closer look at the projected revolution in transport and mobility, by provoking a meaningful conversation and debate around the future of mobility and its implications for India.

Petro India - (L to R) Girish Sirodkar, Partner, Strategy&; RK Malhotra, Director General, The Federation of Indian Petroleum Industry; SC Tripathi, Former Secretary of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India; Rumi Aijaz, Senior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation; Raman Srikanth, Professor, National Institute of Advanced Studies

Bangladesh-India Sundarban Region Cooperation Initiative (BI-SRCI)

22 August 2017, New Delhi

Under the BI-SCRI initiative, several interactions have taken place in India and Bangladesh among elected representatives at the national, state and local levels, on cooperation towards the sustainable development of the Sundarban. A recent event titled "Vision for the Sundarban Region: Rationale and Structure for Joint Action" has been the latest addition.

Amb. Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty, Distinguish Fellow, ORF; Amb. Syed Muazzem Ali, Bangladesh High Commissioner to India; Sugata Bose, Member of Parliament, Government of India; J M Mauskar, Advisor, ORF

Unlocking India's Mineral wealth: Policy Priorities

20 November 2017, New Delhi

The roundtable, organised by ORF, discussed the landmark judgment of Common Cause vs. Union of India and Ors., in which the Supreme Court had directed the government to frame a draft of the "New National Mineral Policy" to tackle the existing irregularities and loopholes in the existing National Mineral Policy.

Discussion participants

Dr Manoj Kumar, Visiting Fellow, ORF

P K Malhotra, Former Additional Secretary, Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India

in Spotlight FACULTY

Akhilesh Sati
Programme Manager

Akhilesh Sati is a Programme Manager at ORF Energy Initiative Programme. In his present capacity he provides data and reliable information on Energy. He also supports the organisation by organising national and international conferences and roundtables on themes ranging from energy security to climate change. As a data and numbers expert, he provides data insights for the weekly energy news monitor. His research interests range from tracking household level energy consumption patterns in India to following global shifts in fuel markets.

Recent Publication: "Coal beneficiation: Policy priorities for India" Policy Report, July 2017

Cyber & Media Programme

GUIDING INDIA'S TRANSITION THROUGH THE DIGITAL AGE

MISSION STATEMENT

ORF's Cyber and Media Programme makes strategic interventions in digital policymaking by integrating research with ongoing domestic debates; identifying frontier areas of research relevant to India; and convening platforms for both Indian and global audiences. The programme has not only been in the vanguard of conversations around technology policy in India and abroad, but has also brought the conversation of online radicalisation to the Indian discourse by spearheading the Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) project. In pursuance of India's new de-radicalisation initiatives, the CVE project aspires to highlight crucial challenges and address the role India can play in de-radicalisation domestically and in the region. Our research and forums aim to provide regulatory clarity for policymakers, strengthen individual rights and secure the Indian digital ecosystem by developing comprehensive methods of countering the spread of violent extremism based on religious and political ideologies.

RESEARCH THEMES

- **Capacity-building:**
  Building cybersecurity capacity among India's state police and law enforcement agencies, through a two-year-long project
- **Securing Digital Payments:**
  Working with NITI Aayog, to build a legal framework to support India's growing financial architecture
- **India-US Data Sharing:**
  Finding solutions to the challenges faced by Indian law enforcement agencies in obtaining data from the US for criminal investigations
- **Data Protection and Privacy:**
  Discussing the current upheaval in India with regard to regulatory approaches to online rights and economic activities over cyberspace and the nature of the internet
- **Tackling Insurgent Ideologies**
  Learning from existing global de-radicalisation policies aimed at PVE and CVE
- **Violent Extremism, Terrorism and Majoritarian Radicalisation**
  Understanding the approaches and strategies in tackling the real threat of terror and violence in India
- **Counter-speech on Social Media**
  Analysing social media behaviour for hate speech and counter speech, in the run up to the 2019 elections

FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

- Tracking India's Cyber Attack Vectors
- Countering Disinformation through counter-narrative campaigns
- Cyber-Security Capacity Building: bridging the gap between law and practice
- The Future of Privacy
- CodeX: Cyber Security for National Security
- Algorithms and Inclusion: adopting legacy frameworks to reduce bias in the creation of AI
- Black Box Wars: The Advantages and Challenges of AI-Enabled Weapons
- Digital Hatred, Real Violence: The weaponisation of Social Media as a tool of Majoritarian Radicalisation in India
- CVE Models in Africa and South East Asia
- Role of "Fake News" in Propagation of Hate Speech
- The Role of Arts and Sports in Preventing/Countering Violent Extremism in India

in Spotlight **PROJECT**

Cyber-Capacity Building For Law Enforcement

May 2016 - March 2017, New Delhi

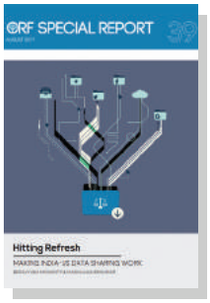
With a grant from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK ORF conducted cyber security capacity building for India's law enforcement agencies. Over the course of six training workshops conducted at police training academies in Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telengana and Kerala, mid-career law enforcement officials were trained in cyber incident response, information sharing and cyber hygiene.

Voice Positive: A Peer to Peer Facebook Challenge

September 2017- June 2018, Pan-India

ORF engaged with over 50 colleges and universities around the country to mobilise young minds in counter-speech messaging on social media and enable them to resist violent ideologies as they encounter them. The exercise was conducted in partnership with Facebook; the teams hosted their messages and a jury of eminent citizens from the world of national security, education and arts judged their work. The finale was held in New Delhi, on 13 June 2018, and the judges announced the winners at the end of the conference.

in Spotlight PUBLICATIONS



Hitting Refresh: Making India-US Data Sharing Work

Bedavyasa Mohanty & Madhulika Srikumar, August 2017

The system for cross-border sharing of data for criminal investigations under Mutual Legal Assistance Treaties (MLATs) — most analysts agree — is broken. Aided by interviews with Indian investigating agencies, policymakers and electronic communication service providers, this paper identifies elements in the data-sharing process that result in inefficiencies. It suggests reforms that can help address those inefficiencies, both in the short and long run.

Our Common Digital Future

Samir Saran, November 2017

This edited volume was the Journal for the Global Conference on Cyberspace hosted by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India. The journal featured normative propositions authored by five ministers from India, The Netherlands, Singapore, EU and the UK in addition to other heads of institutions and thought leaders in the technology space.

Cyber (In)Security: Looking Back at 2017

Samir Saran, December 2017

Cyber (in)security is a great leveller. From an individual tweeting on their cellphone, and the corner storekeeper who relies on digital payments, to the multibillion-dollar corporation and the most technologically advanced nations, no stakeholder is immune from harm. The woes of the world may be the same, but India's government, businesses and civil society cannot escape the reality that the country's digital spaces are uniquely vulnerable.

Encouraging counter-speech by Mapping the Contours of Hate Speech on Facebook in India

Maya Mirchandani, Dhananjay Sahai and Ojasvi Goel, March 2018

Efforts at Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) online have become an important focus for all social networks. CVE targets violent, extremist ideologies at their core, tackling them via alternate narratives that focus on peace-building through community interaction. To identify effective counter-speech on the platform, ORF conducted a study with support from Facebook - to analyse posts and comments on prominent public pages posting in India. These pages belong to the mainstream news organisations, community groups, religious organisations, and prominent public personalities. This paper is the culmination of this study and highlights social media trends with regards to online incitement of violence and counter speech. (This report was cited in the Washington Post)

Conference on Terror, Technology and Ideology: A New Triangle

15 June 2017, New Delhi

Social media has often served as a fuel for civil conflict and public unrest – there have been instances of viral fake news resulting in violent clashes in various parts of the globe and in India, including in Jammu and Kashmir. This roundtable tracked associated debates around internet shutdowns, use of encrypted communication for mass mobilisation and on the most important question of freedom of expression.

S M Sahai, Joint Secretary, National Security Council Secretariat, Government of India

Participants at the roundtable

Arun Sukumar

Head, Cyber Security & Internet Governance Initiative

Arun Sukumar heads ORF's Cyber Security and Internet Governance Initiative and is the Co-Chair for CyFy. He joined ORF in August 2015. He is the elected Vice Chair for the Asia-Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum. By invitation from the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), Arun recently served as an independent legal expert to the UN-GGE, the intergovernmental forum tasked with conceiving cyber norms. He was also the non-governmental representative in India's official delegation to the Tallinn Manual consultations to articulate laws of armed conflict in cyberspace.

Recent Publication:"Asian cybersecurity futures" Issue Brief, December 2017

Launch of Report on India-US Data Sharing for Law Enforcement

9 August 2017, New Delhi

With the most popular communication service providers located in the US, a law enforcement agent in India would have to access data under the India-US Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty. Through this report ORF attempted to identify elements in the current process that cause delays and hinder Indian law officers from acquiring electronic evidence stored in the US.

Discussants engaged in dialogue

N R Wasan, Director General of Bureau of Police Research and Development, India

Vaishali Bhagwat, Partner VP, Shintre & Associates

in Spotlight **FACULTY**

Bedavyasa Mohanty

Associate Fellow

Bedavyasa Mohanty is an Associate Fellow with ORF's Cyber Initiative and joined ORF in June 2015. His current work focuses on encryption and the regulation of lethal autonomous weapons systems. Bedavyasa coordinates ORF's cyber security capacity building for Indian law enforcement officials and is the convenor of CyFy, ORF's flagship conference on cyber security and internet governance. He is a lawyer by training and completed his B.A., L.L.B. (Hons.) from the National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata.

Recent Publication: "Building law enforcement capacity to tackle cyber threats: Lessons from year one of capacity building workshops" Issue Brief, September 2017

Roundtable on Data Integrity and Privacy

18 November 2017, New Delhi

Regulatory principles governing data should be informed by the impetus for innovation, the responsibility to deliver social benefits, and most importantly, the users' expectation of privacy. The ORF hosted a roundtable chaired by Shri Baijayant Panda, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, in New Delhi to hear from a diverse set of stakeholders and understand what direction the data privacy regime in India should take.

Data integrity - Discussion Participants

Ambaika Khurana, Director, Public Policy, Netflix; Baijayant Panda, Former Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha; Samir Saran, President, Observer Research Foundation

Maya Mirchandani
Senior Fellow

Maya Mirchandani is a Senior Fellow at ORF, Delhi and Assistant Professor in the Department of Media Studies at Ashoka University. She joined ORF in April 2016. Currently, she heads the CVE, which looks for ways to build counter-narratives to prevent extremism through dialogue and community intervention and analyses hate speech and the impact of counter-messaging online.

Recent Publication:"Contesting the dragon: India and ASEAN converge"Expert Speak, January 2018

Roundtable on "Creative Economies in a Converged World"

19 July 2017, New Delhi

With the shift of the media landscape from traditional forms to converged digital platforms, where the written word, audio and video are available at the click of a keyboard button often free-of-cost service providers, regulators and governments face several key challenges, particularly relating to the pricing and regulation of creative content. To analyse and understand the convergence of the media economy in India, ORF organised a roundtable conference, where the discussion revolved around the cooperation between different forms of involvement by the state, the platforms and content generators, and the impact that convergence has had on economic viability for consumers and providers.

Creative Economies in a Converged World - (L to R) Dr Mahesh Uppal, Director, Comfirst; Maya Mirchandani, Senior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation; Anish Dayal, Advocate, Supreme Court of India; Pradip Baijal, former chief of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

in Spotlight **FACULTY**

Madhulika Srikumar

Associate Fellow and Programme Coordinator

Madhulika Srikumar is an Associate Fellow and Programme Coordinator with ORF's Cyber Security and Internet Governance Initiative. She joined ORF in September 2016. Madhulika completed her B.A., L.L.B (Hons.) from Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar. Previously, she worked with the Internet and Jurisdiction Project, Centre for Communication Governance.

Recent Publication:"Answering the call: Putting the world in women's hands"Expert Speak, January 2018

Climate Change and Development Initiative

PROVIDING ANALYSIS AND POLICY ADVICE ON INDIA'S ROLE IN GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

Over the past few decades, poverty levels have declined while life expectancy and educational standards have risen. Yet, the world still faces staggering challenges in the global development domain. These problems are exacerbated by the effects of climate change, which has led to increased occurrences of drought, famine, and extreme weather events. At the same time, geopolitical shifts have led to a reordering of the traditional global governance architecture. The Climate Change and Development programme attempts to provide timely and relevant analysis as well as policy advice on overcoming development challenges in a sustainable manner, while accounting for a rapidly shifting world order.

RESEARCH THEMES

- **Global and Indian Climate Change Policy**
  Analysing India's position in global debates and India's domestic policy
- **India as A Provider of Global Public Goods**
  Discussing health, gender equality, food security and humanitarian assistance sectors
- **India's Development Diplomacy**
  Focusing on its Eastern Neighbourhood and African countries
- **Implementing the Sustainable Development Goals in India**
  Shaping the UN agenda; localising SDGs in India; Goals 2 (hunger), 3 (health), 5 (gender)
- **Financing Transformative Change**
  Debating the flow of private capital to green energy and infrastructure, global norms and domestic regulation
- **India-Africa partnerships in Agriculture and capacity building**
  How Indian public and private sector players can play a part in transforming African agriculture
- **Development and Society:**
  Analysing the rise of South-South assistance and its implications
- **Water Diplomacy and resource development:**
  Exploring the state of trans-national water resources across China, Bhutan, India and Bangladesh.

FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

- Scaling up Institutional Investment: finding solutions to facilitate institutional investment in India, Africa and the BIMSTEC region
- Disaster Risk Reduction, Resilience and Sustainable Management of Resources
- Renewable Energy Solutions for renewable energy access at the grassroots level

in Spotlight **PROJECT**

Financing Green Transitions:

The developing world's green infrastructure and clean energy deficit is currently being supported by domestic taxes. The strain this is putting on the national budgets threatens the success of other development goals. The Financing Green Transitions project is designed to find ways to address this dearth of funding by examining ways to mobilise private capital for climate-action projects. The project investigates domestic regulatory barriers, international institutional investor hindrances, and regulations restricting cross-border flow of capital. It aims to find policy solutions to these issues.

in Spotlight **PUBLICATIONS**

India's Low Carbon Transition

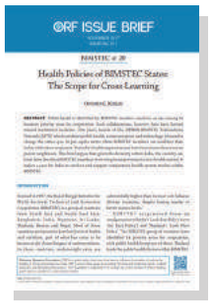
Aparajit Pandey, December 2017

This paper presents the overarching challenges faced by India as it attempts to transition towards a low-carbon economy, and proposes potential solutions to help achieve the ambitious targets laid out by the government.

Indian Investments in Africa: Scale, Trends, and Policy Recommendations

Malancha Chakrabarty, February 2018

This paper undertakes a disaggregated analysis of Indian FDI outflows to Africa from 2008 to 2016, and presents three main findings. First, it confirms earlier analyses that the bulk of Indian investments in Africa are directed to Mauritius, a tax haven. Second, energy security is the main motive behind public-sector investment in Africa. Third, the Indian private sector has also invested in a range of non-energy sectors, including manufacturing.



Health Policies of BIMSTEC States: The Scope for Cross-learning

Oommen C Kurian, November 2017

This brief argues that given the diversity within India, the country can learn from other BIMSTEC members in striving for improvements in its health system. It makes a case for India to conduct and support comparative health system studies within BIMSTEC.

Common Threads: Fabrics from India for Africa (Film, 22 mins)

(Produced with support from ORF, and Directed by Renu Modi, Centre of African Studies, University of Mumbai. Researched by Meera Venkatachalam, and edited by Abhishek Sharma, ORF Mumbai.)

This film was shortlisted for the Zanzibar International Film Festival, 2018, in the short films category.

in Spotlight **EVENTS**

Promoting Indian Investments in Africa for African Development

15 June 2017, New Delhi

Promoting Indian Investments - (L to R) Sebastian Paulo, Fellow, ORF; Souleymane Boureima, 2nd Counsellor, Embassy of Niger in New Delhi; Rajiv Bhatia, Distinguished Fellow, Foreign Policy Studies, Gateway House; Dr Arvind Mayaram, Former Finance Secretary, Ministry of Finance

Trade and investment relations between India and Africa have grown rapidly in the last decade. However, Indian investment in Africa is concentrated in a few sectors and countries. This event examined the expansion of India's development cooperation and the reasons behind the weak correlation between Indian investment and Indian development cooperation initiatives in the region.

Discussion participants

Constrained Capital: Paving the Path for Infrastructure Investments in India and Other Emerging Economies

16 January 2018, New Delhi

The Constrained Capital panel, a follow-up to India's "Infrastructure Challenges" roundtable from the previous year, discussed solutions to capital deficit and explored ways to incentivise institutional investors to direct their funds to the emerging markets.

Constrained Capital - Sanjeev Sanyal, Principal Economic Adviser, Ministry of Finance

Constrained Capital - Sujoy Bose, Chief Executive Officer, National Investment and Infrastructure Fund

PARIS CLIMATE CHANGE PACT -
After Trump pull-out, who'll save the planet?: A talk by former Union Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh
10 July 2017, Mumbai

In view of the US pulling out of the Paris Climate Treaty, ORF Mumbai invited Mr Jairam Ramesh to shed light on the debates on climate change in the domestic and international context. Mr Ramesh emphasised that India is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change, further advocating India to position itself as a global leader in tackling climate change.

Mr Jairam Ramesh, Former Union Environment Minister, delivering his talk on 'Paris Climate Change Pact – After Trump's pullout, who will save the planet?' at ORF Mumbai on 10 July 2017

India-Africa Conference,
23-24 January, 2018, Trident Hotel, Mumbai

The conference aimed at exploring the potential of India's ongoing partnerships with Africa in the field of agriculture, food security and capacity building through bilateral and trilateral initiatives.

in Spotlight **FACULTY**

Malancha Chakrabarty
Fellow

Dr Malancha Chakrabarty is a Fellow with ORF's Climate Change and Development Initiative. Her research interests include economic and social development in Africa and India, and the links between climate change, agriculture and food security. She is currently working on a project that explores India's trade, investment and development cooperation with African countries.

Recent Publication:"Need for a coherent development cooperation strategy to address food insecurity in India and Africa" Expert Speak, July 2018

(L to R): Mr Ashwani Muthoo, Director, Global Engagement, Knowledge and Strategy Division, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Mr Dhaval Desai, Senior Fellow and Vice President, ORF Mumbai; Mr Sudheendra Kulkarni, Chairman, ORF Mumbai; Mr Temesgen Hordofa, Consul, FDR Ethiopia; Ms Reema Nanavaty, Director, SEWA and Dr Renu Modi, Professor, Department of African Studies, University of Mumbai

(L to R): Amb HHS Viswanathan, Distinguished Fellow, ORF; Mr Emile Mwepesi, Consul, High Commission of Rwanda; Mr Subhra Roy, Vice President, International Business Division, Rallis India Ltd.; Mr Kasongo Musenga, Consul, Embassy of Democratic Republic of Congo; Mr G K Pillai, Chairman and Independent Director, Tata International and Dr Renu Modi, Professor, Department of African Studies, University of Mumbai

in Spotlight **FACULTY**

Aparajit Pandey
Programme Director

Aparajit Pandey is a Programme Director with ORF's Climate, Energy and Resources programme. His research focuses primarily on incentivising institutional investors and international debt financing for climate-action projects, domestic policy changes to encourage local investments in climate change, and the effects of macro policy changes on the Indian economy.

Recent Publication: "Untying the Gordian knot: Catalysing green energy investments in emerging and developing economies" Issue Brief, December 2017

Answering the Call: Putting the World in Women's Hands

14 December 2017, New Delhi

Ankhi Das, Director of Public Policy, Facebook (South & Central Asia)

Barkha Dutt, Former NDTV Journalist

Rohini Pande, Professor of International Political Economy, Kennedy School of Governance, Harvard University

Discussion participants

in Spotlight FACULTY

Tanoubi Ngangom

Programme Director and Associate Fellow

Tanoubi Ngangom is an Associate Fellow & Programme Director with ORF's Climate Change and Development Initiative. Tanoubi is interested in the political economy of development — the evolution of global development policy, impact of international regimes on growth trajectories of developing countries and access to innovation for development. Her research focuses on emerging Southern donors and the governance of development finance; India's role as a provider of global public goods; India's foreign policy on development; and the effect of innovation policies on development challenges of the global South.

Recent Publication:"The sharp power of development diplomacy and China's edge" Expert Speak, April 2018

Economy and Growth Initiative

PROVIDING ANALYSIS AND POLICY ADVICE ON INDIA'S ROLE IN THE GLOBAL GEO-ECONOMICS ARCHITECTURE

MISSION STATEMENT

The Economy and Growth Initiative engages with major economic developments in India and the world to better understand India's role in a changing global architecture and advance India's domestic endeavour to become an economic powerhouse. The programme has done extensive work on both the international environment and domestic policies that have impacts on India's economy.

RESEARCH THEMES

- **GST: Birth of an Economic Union of India**
  Examining India's historical economic reform and the potential policy outcomes
- **Future of Work**
  Looking at how the transformations in the Future of Work are unfolding and how various stakeholders need to adapt to leverage these opportunities
- **India's Policy Making Landscape**
  Understanding the history of policymaking in India by analysing the creation and evolution of individual policies

FUTURE RESEARCH DIRECTIONS

- The Future of Work in India
- Young India at Work
- Education and Skills Report
- Women and Work: Re-writing the Rules
- Conceptualising an Inclusive Future of Work in India

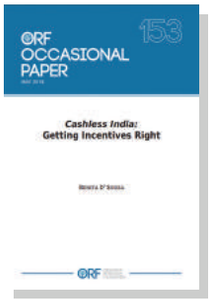
in Spotlight **PROJECT**

70 Policies that Shaped India: 1947 to 2017, Independence to $2.5 Trillion

Gautam Chikermane, July 2018

This book explores the changing landscape of India's policymaking by tracking the creation and evolution of individual policies. It is a rigorous analysis of the 70 policies that have brought India towards becoming the world's fifth-largest economy. It is equally a tribute to, and criticism of, these policies which shaped the economic landscape, the tug-of-wars between various interest groups and, above all, their impact on people.

in Spotlight **PUBLICATIONS**



Cashless India: Getting incentives right

Renita D'souza, May 2018

The debate on digital transactions and the merits of a "cashless" economy engaged public attention in India in the past year. This paper steers the debate towards articulating an appropriate strategy that can bring the Indian economy closer to becoming "cashless". The paper also describes the lessons that can be learnt by India from the experience of the nearly cashless, Sweden, as well as the rapidly transitioning China.

in Spotlight **FACULTY**

Terri Chapman
Associate Fellow

Terri Chapman is an Associate Fellow with ORF's Economy and Growth, and Cyber and Media programmes. She is currently tracking the future of work in India, including the changing nature of employment, structural changes in India's economy, job creation, education and skills. Her research interests include urban and regional development, welfare analysis and inequality.

Recent Publication: "ASEAN and India: Five for the next five" Issue Brief, January 2018

Understanding The GST Reform: A talk by Dr Ajit Ranade, Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group

21 June, 2017, Mumbai

To gain a deeper understanding of the Goods, and Services Tax (GST), ORF Mumbai invited Dr Ajit Ranade, Chief Economist of the Aditya Birla Group, to shed light on the benefits and pitfalls of India's most ambitious tax reforms.

Dr Ajit Ranade, Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group, evaluating the pros and cons of GST at his talk organised by ORF Mumbai on 21 June 2017

Digital Technology for Financial Inclusion and Inclusive Development: An India-China dialogue

14 April 2017, Mumbai

Mr Benny Chen, Managing Director India & Global Strategic Alliance at Ant Financial (Alibaba Group); Seated to his left are: Mr Sudheendra Kulkarni, Chairman, ORF Mumbai and Mr Guo Taojie, Consul, Consulate General of PR China in Mumbai

Gautam Chikermane
Vice-President

Gautam Chikermane is Vice President at ORF. His area of research is international and Indian economic policy. A Jeffersen Fellow (Fall, 2001) at the East-West Center, Honolulu, Gautam has written four books: 70 Policies that Built India: 1947 to 2017, Independence to $2.5 Trillion; Tunnel of Varanavat (Rupa, 2016); The Disrupter: Arvind Kejriwal and the Audacious Rise of the Aam Aadmi (Rupa, 2014); and Five Decades of Decay (Rupa, 1997).

Recent Publication: "70 Policies that Shaped India: 1947 to 2017, Independence to $2.5 Trillion" Book, August 2018

ORF organised a roundtable conference in association with China's Ant Financial (formerly known as Alipay), the Fintech subsidiary of the global Chinese IT giant Alibaba. The deliberations of the roundtable aimed to look at the Digital India mission with a special focus on the evolution of Fintech and its linkages with India's model of inclusive development.

Dialogue participants

The Belt and Road Initiative: India's perspectives on China's ambitious plan for infrastructural connectivity in Asia, Africa and Europe

21 April 2017, Mumbai

Amb. Shivshankar Menon, former National Security Advisor and former Foreign Secretary, Government of India

Mr Zhu Dacheng, SANI Industries, China; (Seated L to R) Mr. Zheng Bin, CEO, Industrial and commercial bank of China, Mumbai, Amb. Ashok Kanta, Director, institute of Chinese studies; Ajit Ranade, Chief economist, Aditya Birla group

Nilanjan Ghosh

Senior Fellow

Dr Nilanjan Ghosh is Senior Fellow & Head of Economics at Observer Research Foundation (ORF), Kolkata, and Chief Economic Adviser at the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) India, New Delhi. He recently set up the Water Governance Studies division at ORF Kolkata. His previous positions include stints as Chief Economist in the financial sector, and faculty at TERI University, New Delhi. His research interests are ecological economics, trade and developmental issues, water resources, and financial markets.

Recent Publication:"China-India relations in economic forums: Examining the regional comprehensive economic partnership" Occasional Paper, August 2018

Mr Ranjit Barthakur, Advisor, TCS; (Seated L to R): Dr Sreeradha Datta, Director, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies; Ambassador Gautam Mukhopadhaya, former High Commissioner of India to Myanmar; Ambassador Tariq Karim, former High Commissioner of Bangladesh; Capt Chen Shaolin, Managing Director, COSCO Shipping; Dr Abid Q Suleri, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Initiatives, Pakistan

New Southbound Policy: India-Taiwan Economic and Trade Cooperation

4 September 2017, New Delhi

Dr Lin Chien Fu, President, Taiwan Institute of Economic Research

Discussion participants

in Spotlight **FACULTY**

Abhijit Mukhopadhyay

Senior Fellow

Abhijit Mukhopadhyay is a Senior Fellow with ORF's Economy and Growth Programme. His main areas of research include macroeconomics and public policy, with core research areas in monetary economics and the political economy of finance. Abhijit has extensive experience in economic and policy research, academia, business-school teaching and academic administration.

Recent Publication: "Finding innovative solutions to India's NPA woes" Issue Brief, July 2018

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FORUMS

THE ASIAN FORUM ON GLOBAL GOVERNANCE (AFGG)

is an annual 10-day policy workshop, jointly organised by ORF and ZEIT-Stiftung Ebelin und Gerd Bucerius, which brings together young leaders from diverse backgrounds. Through exercises and interactions with prominent figures from the world of politics, business and academia, the young leaders discuss and challenge conventional interpretations of complex contemporary realities.

AFGG 2018: 12-21 January 2018, New Delhi

The eighth edition of AFGG focused on "Managing Disruptive Transition: Ideas, Institutions and Idiom," was designed around five major disruptions to the 21st Century world order:

- The erosion of liberalism
- The decentralisation of the nation state
- The impacts of technology
- The influence of the private sector
- The transformation of habitation (the current refrain being smart cities)

Twenty-six young women and twenty-four young men from 31 countries came together to discuss the underlying trends of disruption and propose novel solutions to manage the ongoing global transition. As part of the programme, our participants were also inducted as "Raisina Young Fellow" at the Raisina Dialogue 2018.

ORF also co-organised "Governance Talks" in San Francisco and London in May 2017 and December 2017, respectively. These biannual forums are intended to act as AFGG Alumni networking hubs, with more than 100 Alumni from the AFGG and BSS network gathering to discuss pressing global issues.

(L to R) Sascha Suhrke, Programme Director, ZEIT-Stiftung; Sunjoy Joshi, Chairman, ORF; Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament, Indian National Congress; Samir Saran, President, ORF; Sonali Mittra, Programme Coordinator (AFGG), ORF

Yalda Hakim, Anchor and International Correspondent, BBC News World

Karen Attiah, Global Opinions Editor, Washington Post

Community Visit

Raisina Young Fellows engaged in discussion

Panel on 'Women Entrepreneurship: Illuminating Half the Sky' (L to R) Kavita Gupta, Founding Managing Partner, ConsenSys Ventures; Meagan Fallone, CEO, Barefoot College International; Ineke Buskens, Head, Centre for Research Methodology of the Human Sciences Research

Jaiveer Shergill, Lawyer, Supreme Court of India

General Sir Christopher Michael Deverell, Commander, United Kingdom Joint Forces Command

8th AFGG Participants

(L to R) Jason Davis, Olmsted Scholar, Department of Defense, United States Government; Joshua Morris, Member of Western Victoria, Parliament of Victoria, Australia; Alix Chen, Business Director Asia Pacific, Evonik Specialty Chemicals (Shanghai) Co. Ltd

Lunch Session on '21st Century - Erosion of Global Stability'- Stephen Harper, Former Prime Minister of Canada; Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament, Indian National Congress

CYFY 2017: THE CONFERENCE ON TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND SOCIETY

has emerged as a global platform to discuss, debate and deliver digital policy solutions.

2-4 October 2017, New Delhi

The 2017 iteration broadly addressed five issues:

- Big politics
- Technology and society
- New voices
- Digital economy
- The machine age

In addition to discussing crucial global questions on the management of cyberspace regimes, CyFy also drove dialogue on issues affecting emerging economies, such as affordable access, technology-driven public services and digital-identity initiatives.

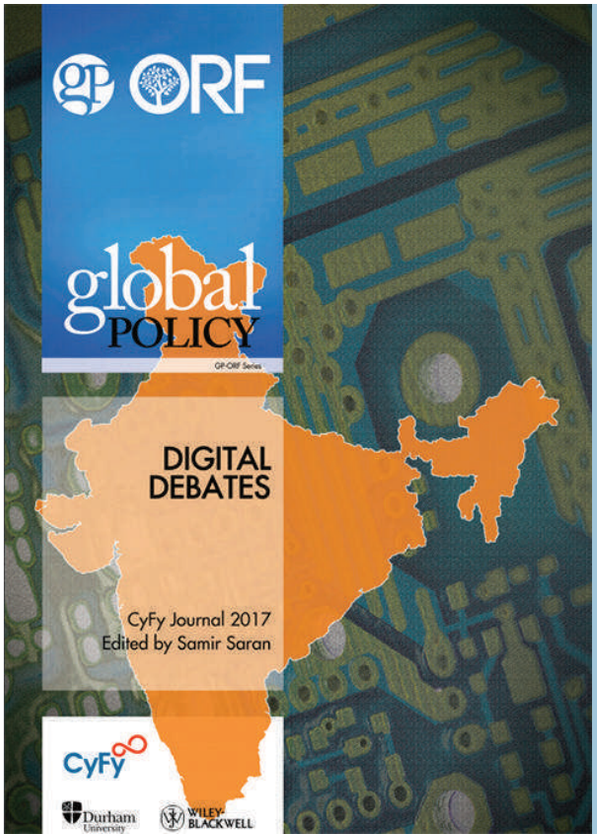
Panel on 'No Man's LAN: The Militarisation of Cyberspace' - (L to R) Lu Chuanying, Senior Fellow, Shanghai Institute for International Studies; Paul Maddinson, Deputy Director Cyber Ops, National Cyber Security Centre, UK; Chelsey Slack, Officer, Cyber Defence, NATO; Paolo Ciocca, Deputy Director General, Security Intelligence Department, the Republic of Italy; Yoko Nitta, Senior Fellow, Japan Society for Security and Crisis Management; Iddo Moed, Cyber Security Coordinator Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Israel; Chris Painter, Former Coordinator of Cyber Affairs, US Department of State

Sean Kanuck, Affiliate, Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University

Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister for Law and Justice and Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India

Mark Field, Member of Parliament and Minister for State and the Asia Pacific,Government of the United Kingdom

Rajat Kathuria, Director and Chief Executive, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations



DIGITAL DEBATES 2017

Edited by: Samir Saran

The CyFy journal, Digital Debates, explores conversations around internet policy that have taken centre stage in domestic and international politics. This edition chronicled the entire gamut of cyber conversations agitating the world today. From cyber security and the threats and opportunities of new technologies to the governance of a new digital economy, the pieces in Digital Debates proposed new and provocative normative frameworks.

Panel on 'NetGov 2.0' - (L to R) John Mallery, Research Scientist, Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Philipp Grabensee, Chairman, Board of Directors, Afilias; Stephanie Maclellan, Research Associate, Centre for International Governance Innovation; Arun Mohan Sukumar, Head, Cyber Initiative, Observer Research Foundation; Chetan Krishnaswamy, Director, Public Policy, India, Google

Book Launch 'Digital Debates' - (L to R) Samir Saran, President, ORF; Madhulika Srikumar, Associate fellow & Coordinator (CyFy), ORF; Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister for Law and Justice & Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India; Mark Field, Minister of State for Asia and the Pacific, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Government of the United Kingdom; Sunjoy Joshi, Chairman, ORF; Bedavyasa Mohanty, Associate Fellow & Coordinator (CyFy), ORF

Smt Smriti Irani, Then Minister for Information and Broadcasting and Textiles, Government of India

Carl Bilt, Former Prime Minister of Sweden

CYFY AFRICA: THE INDIA CONFERENCE ON TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION AND SOCIETY

10-12 May 2018, Tangier, Morocco

At the inflection point of the 4th Industrial Revolution, there is an imminent need to integrate emerging technologies with the needs of the African continent. With many nations, especially in Asia and Africa, banking on technology, robotics and artificial intelligence to reshape humanity, there is an urgent need to discuss and resolve a range of apprehensions around gender, race, ethnicity and equity.

The inaugural Africa edition of CyFy sought to bring African voices to the forefront by engaging thought leaders, innovators and policymakers, from Africa, Asia, America and Europe to identify priorities and share lessons for sustainable growth. The conference was co-hosted by the Government of the Tangier-Tetouan-Al Hoceima Region, Morocco, Ministry of Industry, Investment, Trade and Digital Economy, Morocco, and the Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi.

Moulay Hafid Elalamy, Minister of Industry, Investment, Trade and Digital Economy, Morroco

Pali Leholha, Former Statistician-General of South Africa

Khalila Kellz Mbowe, Founder & MD, Unleashed Africa Company Limited, Tanzania

Helen Hai, Goodwill Ambassador, United Nations Industrial Development Organization

Panel on 'Out of Africa: What the Continent's Technology Revolution can Teach the World' - (L to R) Tariq Sijilmassi, Chairman, Credit Agricole Morroco; Gwendoline Abunaw, Managing Director, Ecobank Foundation, Cameroon; Leila Hassanin, International Development Advisor, and Founder ArabDev; Nimusiima Barbara, Administrator, International Women's Centre for Empowerment; Katharina Jahrling, Spokesperson, Euro-Mediterranean Arab Association (EMA) Board

Panel on 'Data Driven Governance: Capacity-Building for Development' - (L to R) Isaac Mukama, Head innovations and Training ICT4D, Uganda; Venkatesh Krishnamoorthy, Country Manager, Business Software Alliance; Savannah Kunovsky, CTO, Moringa School, Nairobi; Kawsu Sillah, IT Specialist, Abuja, Nigeria

Panel on 'Funding the Next Generation of Startups' - (L to R) Sanaa Tazi, Vice President, Digital and Data Management, Royal Air Maroc; Said Khalil, Head of Digital & Innovation, Med1 TV; Aishwarya Balaji, CEO & Founder of Impact Chain Lab; Abdou Khadre Lo, Director for Africa, Access Partnership; Soline Kauffmann, Global Head of Ecosystems, Early Metrics

Angela Mckay, Senior Director, Cybersecurity Policy and Strategy, Microsoft

Panel on 'Content Continent – Fostering the Growth of Africa's Creative Economy – (L to R) Ashraf Ibrahim, Ambassador of Egypt to Morocco; Tamer Amin, Television Presenter, Al Hayat TV, Egypt; Nosa Dag, Entertainment Mogul, Nigeria; Bharat Bala, Film-maker, India; Catalina Ruiz Navarro, Estreotipas, Colombia; Samir Saran, President, Observer Research Foundation

ORF KALPANA CHAWLA ANNUAL SPACE POLICY DIALOGUE

15–17 February 2018, New Delhi

The Kalpana Chawla Annual Space Policy Dialogue, gathers executives, policymakers, technologists, entrepreneurs, and academicians to discuss disruptive trends in space activities. This platform is unique in advocating the need for a national space policy for India to promote entrepreneurship and innovation in security, civil and commercial space applications.

This year's edition – which saw participation from both Indian and International delegates – saw lively debates and deliberations on space security and sustainability, emerging space actors, emergence of private sector and commercialisation of space activities. Additionally matters related to multilateral space governance architecture, legal issues and militarisation of space, prospects and challenges around small satellites, the changing space environment as well as India's space commercialisation drive were also discussed.

Ravi Kataria, Head, Business Development & Marketing, Larsen & Toubro

Jean-Yves Le Gall, President, Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (CNES)

Friederike Tschampa, Head of Political Section, Delegation of the European Union

Lt Gen Amit Sharma (retd), Former Commander-In-Chief, Strategic Forces Command

Spotlight Speech - A Sivathanu Pillai, Honorary Distinguished Professor, Indian Space Research Organisation; Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan, Senior Fellow and Head, Nuclear and Space Policy Initiative, Observer Research Foundation

Bidushi Bhattacharya, Chief Executive Officer, Astropreneurs HUB

Spotlight Speech - B N Suresh, Honorary Distinguished Professor, Indian Space Research Organisation; Daniel Porras, Space Security Fellow, UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)

Panel on 'Space and Telecommunications' - (L to R) Gagan Agrawal, Analyst, Northern Sky Research; Kriti Trehan, Partner, Law Offices of Panag & Babu; K Krishna, CTO & Regulatory Head, Hughes Communications India Ltd.; Smita Jha, Head, Group Strategy and Investments, Hindustan Times Media

Panel on 'Small Satellites - Potential, Challenges and Risks' - (L to R) Tom Segert, Director of Business Development, Berlin Space Technologies; Stuart Eves, Chair, UK Space Information Exchange (SPIE) Forum; C D Shridhara, Director, Ananth Technologies Limited; Julius Amrit, Director, Axiom Research Labs; Co-Moderator: Alisha Contractor, Systems Engineer, Asteria Aerospace; Moderator: Siddhesh Naik, Founder, Arksa Research Labs

THE RAISINA DIALOGUE

16-18 January 2018, New Delhi

The Raisina Dialogue is India's flagship conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics, hosted in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. It is designed around multiple formats, including a Young Fellows Programme, ministerial sessions, plenaries, debates and roundtables.

The 2018 iteration of the Raisina Dialogue focused on 'Managing Disruptive Transitions: Ideas, Institutions & Idioms' covering over 60 different themes and attracted nearly 600 speakers and delegates from 86 countries. It was jointly inaugurated by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. The Dialogue hosted high-level delegations from several countries including Australia, Russia, US, Singapore, Indonesia, Iran, France, Sweden, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Japan and Poland.

Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India at Raisina Dialogue

Sushma Swaraj, Minister for External Affairs of India, Government of India

Benjamin Netanyahu, Prime Minister of Israel

Panel on 'Afghan Poser' – (L to R) Igor Morgulov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation; Hamid Karzai, Former President, Afghanistan; General (Dr) V K Singh (Retd), Minister of State for External Affairs, India; Yalda Hakim, Host, BBC World New

RAISINA FILES 2018

Edited by: Harsh V Pant and Ritika Passi

Raisina Files, an annual ORF publication, is a collection of essays published and disseminated at the time of the Raisina Dialogue. It strives to engage and provoke readers on key contemporary questions and situations that will implicate the world and India in the coming years. Arguments and analyses presented in this collection will be useful in taking discussions forward and enunciating policy suggestions for an evolving Asian and world order. The 2018 edition explored the 'Disruptions in the World Order'.

Nadia Schadlow, Then Deputy Assistant to the President for National Security Strategy, U S National Security Council

Vijay Keshav Gokhale, Then Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs, India

Panel on 'Policy, Politics, and Gender' - (L to R) Robin Gorna, Global Co-Lead, SheDecides; Wendy Ruth Sherman, Senior Counselor, Albright Stonebridge Group; Smriti Irani, Minister for Textiles and Then Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Government of India; Gabriela Ramos, OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa to the G20; Pascale Fung, Professor, Department of Electronic and Computer Engineering, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; Ankhi Das, Director of Public Policy (India, South & Central Asia), Facebook

Panel on 'Uncharted Waters: In Search for Order in the Indo-Pacific' – (L to R) Dino Patti Djalal, Founder, Foreign Policy Community of Indonesia; Admiral Katsutoshi Kawano, Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, Japan; Vice Admiral Tim Barrett, Chief of Navy, Australia; Admiral Sunil Lanba, Chief of Naval Staff, India; Admiral Harry Harris, Jr, Commander, U S Pacific Command; Indrani Bagchi, Diplomatic Editor, The Times of India

Christopher Pyne, Minister for Defence Industry, Australia

Marek Magierowski, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Poland

General Bipin Rawat, Chief of Army Staff, India

Panel on 'The Rise of City-States: Democracy, Security and Foreign Policy' - (L to R) Daniel Andrews, Premier of Victoria, Australia; Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Housing and Urban Affairs, India; Nisha Desai Biswal, President, USIBC

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ANNEX

ORF is registered at Delhi under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 as a not-for-profit organisation. Donations to ORF enjoy Income Tax exemption under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961. ORF follows the financial year from April to March. Statement of Accounts, audited by a qualified and registered Chartered Accountant, is submitted to the concerned departments in India as per the statutory requirements. Internal audit is conducted by a qualified and registered Chartered Accountant's firm periodically. All donations received by ORF from donors outside India are received as per the FCRA (Foreign Contributions Regulation Act) guidelines. Section 6(1) of the FCRA inter alia provides that an association (organisation) registered under the FCRA shall intimate to the Central Government in India the amount, source and the manner in which such foreign contribution is received and the purpose for and the manner in which such contribution is utilised. These foreign contributions are to be received only through a particular registered and designated bank. For any information on the ORF's financing, please contact: Honorary Secretary, Observer Research Foundation, 20 Rouse Avenue, New Delhi 110002 (Email: baljitkapoor@orfonline.org).

Funds utilisation as per the audited accounts of financial year 2017-18 is shown below. Besides the sums shown, the asset value of ORF's building and infrastructure, Rs 60 million, has been provided at no cost and on a permanent basis by ORF's corporate benefactors. All figures shown are in Rupees (INR).

Balance Sheet (As on 31st March, 2018) :

Particulars	Schedule	As on 31.03.2018	As on 31.03.2017
Sources of funds:			
Corpus	I	19,99,10,604.14	19,69,69,782.11
Payables	II	7,76,418.60	38,10,779.18
Statutory Liabilities	III	64,88,699.07	5,63,021.00
Provisions	IV	1,40,72,609.00	-
Unspent Contributions (FCRA)		2,92,58,916.50	4,67,32,436.61
Unspent Interest FCRA		12,60,967.10	7,60,820.65
TOTAL		**25,17,68,214.41**	**24,88,36,839.55**
Application of Funds			
Fixed Assets	V	5,59,32,323.80	5,79,71,142.80
Investments:	VI		
Fixed Deposits		13,16,19,935.77	12,20,87,826.21
GOI Saving Bonds		1,00,00,000.00	-
		14,16,19,935.77	**12,20,87,826.21**
Current Assets,	VII		
Cash & Bank Balances		3,92,15,701.58	6,10,62,882.37
Security Deposits		74,500.00	17,500.00
Advances		4,03,330.00	4,03,330.00
Other Receivables		81,54,607.16	36,01,560.27
Prepaid Expenses		14,23,875.00	7,05,071.00
Income Tax Refundable (TDS Receivable)		49,43,941.10	29,87,526.90
		5,42,15,954.84	**6,87,77,870.54**
TOTAL		**25,17,68,214.41**	**24,88,36,839.55**

ORF Transparency Initiative

In an endeavour to improve financial practices, ORF now uploads details of both domestic and foreign contributions on its website

www.orfonline.org/declaration-of-contributions/

Income and Expenditure account for the year ended 31st March, 2018 :

Particulars	For the year ended 31st March 2018	For the year ended 31st March 2017
INCOME:		
Foreign Contributions for designated Projects	4,16,64,476.06	8,06,32,925.25
Voluntary Contributions (Projects)	7,20,34,633.50	3,36,51,315.46
Voluntary Contributions (General)	6,50,000.00	-
Interest	1,32,92,576.69	1,32,60,318.06
Other Income	2,70,739.11	4,20,177.00
TOTAL	**12,79,12,425.36**	**12,79,64,735.77**
EXPENDITURE:		
Expenditure on Projects:		
Expenditure on Designated FCRA Projects	4,34,13,881.61	8,17,41,568.25
CRM Initiative Project	58,85,687.00	57,73,733.00
International Initiative Project	9,63,67,071.27	6,84,42,480.42
ISS Project	1,00,78,218.00	96,76,609.00
National Initiative Project	1,79,53,656.62	3,78,84,486.52
Outreach & Development Initiative Project	2,19,65,180.77	1,73,09,546.96
India China Centre	1,30,50,868.94	1,33,19,045.00
Mumbai Initiative	6,93,01,879.40	8,32,57,307.97
OTHER EXPENSES :		
Staff Salaries & Benefits	2,36,31,224.00	89,10,509.00
Printing & Stationery	2,82,001.00	3,55,353.00
Travelling & Conveyance	8,41,960.00	4,97,145.00
Office	15,49,992.00	11,48,111.00
Communications	22,83,546.00	20,96,041.00
Utilities	50,84,702.00	44,76,641.00
Repair & Maintenance	46,97,556.00	41,08,447.00
Rates & taxes*	61,68,319.07	-
Honorarium & Retainership Fee	18,89,816.00	15,65,720.00
Meeting & Conferences	12,60,059.00	9,55,140.00
Office Lease Rent	64,680.00	64,680.00
Computers & Maintenance	12,12,466.00	15,30,303.00
Books & Periodicals	12,61,731.95	11,23,748.80
Other Expenses	11,88,287.70	2,06,145.31
Depreciation	20,38,819.00	22,71,929.00
Total	**33,14,71,603.33**	**34,67,14,690.23**
Deficit)/Surplus for the year (A) - (B)	(20,35,59,177.97)	(21,87,49,954.46)
(Deficit)/Surplus transferred to Corpus	(20,35,59,177.97)	(21,87,49,954.46)

Schedule to Balance sheet as on 31st March 2018

Schedule - I

Corpus Funds	As on 31st March 2018	As on 31st March 2017
Opening Balance	19,69,69,782.11	17,23,19,736.57
Addition during the year	20,65,00,000.00	24,34,00,000.00
Add: (Deficit)/Surplus for the Year	(20,35,59,177.97)	(21,87,49,954.46)
Total	**19,99,10,604.14**	**19,69,69,782.11**

Schedule - II

Payables	As on 31st March 2018	As on 31st March 2017
Expenses Payable	7,76,418.60	38,10,779.18
Total	**7,76,418.60**	**38,10,779.18**

Schedule - III

Statutory Liabilities	As on 31st March 2018	As on 31st March 2017
TDS Payable	6,80,452.00	5,63,021.00
Goods & Services tax	58,08,247.07	-
Total	**64,88,699.07**	**5,63,021.00**

Schedule - IV

Provisions	As on 31st March 2018	As on 31st March 2017
Provision for Gratuity	1,12,52,700.00	-
Provision for Sick Leave	28,19,909.00	-
Total	**1,40,72,609.00**	**-**

Schedule - V

Fixed Assets - Depreciation chart (As per Income Tax Act, 1961)

Type of Fixed Asset	Rate of Depriciation	WDV as on 1st April 2017	Depriciation for the year	WDV as on 31st March 2018
Land at Delhi	-	26,92,557.00	-	26,92,557.00
Land at Kolkata	-	3,52,25,670.80	-	3,52,25,670.80
Building at Kolkata	0.10	1,93,82,365.00	19,38,237.00	1,74,44,128.00
Office Equipment	0.15	6,849.00	1,027.00	5,822.00
Plant & Machinery	0.15	6,63,701.00	99,555.00	5,64,146.00
Total		**5,79,71,142.80**	**20,38,819.00**	**5,59,32,323.80**

Schedule - VI

Investments	As on 31st March 2018	As on 31st March 2017
Fixed Deposits	13,16,19,935.77	12,20,87,826.21
GOI Saving Bonds	1,00,00,000.00	-
Total	**14,16,19,935.77**	**12,20,87,826.21**

Schedule - VII (Current Assets)

Cash & Bank Balances	As on 31st March 2018	As on 31st March 2017
Cash in hand		
Cash in Delhi	81,902.01	54,549.01
Cash in Kolkatta	35,719.00	27,769.00
Cash in Mumbai	12,530.00	12,686.00
FCRA Cash	2,829.00	12,899.00
Total (a)	**1,32,980.01**	**1,07,903.01**

Bank Balances		
Canara Bank	29,544.90	1,36,406.09
HDFC Delhi	1,05,59,587.86	1,02,72,239.17
HDFC Kolkatta	4,14,838.64	12,47,129.64
HDFC Mumbai	12,32,586.68	29,07,829.08
Syndicate Bank	5,30,073.66	9,10,982.39
Vijaya Bank	2,63,16,089.83	4,54,80,392.99
Total (b)	**3,90,82,721.57**	**6,09,54,979.36**

Security Deposits	As on 31st March 2018	As on 31st March 2017
Telephone	14,500.00	14,500.00
Press Trust of India	60,000.00	3,000.00
Total	**74,500.00**	**17,500.00**

Advances	As on 31st March 2018	As on 31st March 2017
Advance for Bhopal Land	4,03,330.00	4,03,330.00
Total	**4,03,330.00**	**4,03,330.00**

Other Receivables	As on 31st March 2018	As on 31st March 2017
Receivables	31,69,847.00	35,60,359.27
Consulate General of Japan	6,46,953.39	-
United India Insurance	-	41,201.00
New India Insurance	1,68,929.00	-
FCRA Receivables	41,68,877.77	-
Total	**81,54,607.16**	**36,01,560.27**

Prepaid Expenses	As on 31st March 2018	As on 31st March 2017
Prepaid Expenses	14,23,875.00	7,05,071.00
Total	**14,23,875.00**	**7,05,071.00**

TDS Receivable	As on 31st March 2018	As on 31st March 2017
TDS DEDUCTED AY 2016-17	14,62,505.80	14,62,505.80
TDS DEDUCTED AY 2017-18	15,25,021.10	15,25,021.10
TDS DEDUCTED AY 2018-19	19,56,414.20	-
Total	**49,43,941.10**	**29,87,526.90**

ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

(A) ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. Basis of Accounting:

The foundation generally follows mercantile system of accounting except for income from membership fees, subscriptions, royalty and interest earned on bonds which are accounted for on cash basis.

2. Fixed Assets:

(a) Fixed assets are stated at historical cost. Cost of additions out of voluntary contributions after 01.04.2005 are being debited to the Income and Expenditure Account in the year of purchase.
(b) Cost of additions out of the Corpus Fund are not being debited to the Income & Expenditure Account.

3. Depreciation:

Depreciation is provided on WDV method at the rate prescribed in Income Tax Rules, 1962.

4. Investments:

Investments are stated at cost. The fixed deposits with the banks are inclusive of interest accrued till the year end.

5. Other Policies to Financial Statements:

(a) Non-refundable / recoverable payments like subscription for periodicals are recognised in the year of payment.

(b) Sums received after deduction of tax at source are treated as contributions.

(c) Income from Foreign Contributions and interest thereon is recognised to the extent utilised. Expenditure on projects to be funded by foreign contribution is recognised on receipt of the contribution.

(d) Expenditure on projects as appearing in the Income & Expenditure A/c comprises of Direct Expenses only.

(B) NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

1. Interest includes Rs. 17,49,406 received in FCRA Saving Bank Account

2. The trust has obtained registration under Goods and Services Tax Act on 25th September, 2018. The Goods and Services Tax liability amounting to Rs. 54,08,338 and interest of Rs. 3,99,910 thereon has been deposited on 15th October, 2018.

3. Previous Year Note:

The comparative financial information of the trust for the year ended 31st March 2017 prepared is based on Financial Statements audited by predecessor auditor Vikas Satish & Company, Chartered Accountants vide their report dated 17th August, 2017.

Previous year figures have been regrouped / rearranged wherever necessary. Where comparable figures, for the previous years, are not available the same are not stated.

Signed By:

1) Tanuj Chugh (Partner, GSA & Associates – Chartered Accountant)

2) Chairman, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, Observer Research Foundation

LIST OF EVENTS

2017

APRIL

3	Roundtable discussion on the **One Belt One Road Initiative (OBOR)**
5	Interaction with **Dr Kasira Pethiyagoda**
6	Roundtable discussion on **Cyber-Attacks in the Internet of Things Ecosystem: Threats to Pervasive Technologies**
6	Interaction with **Media Delegation from Bangladesh**
7	Roundtable discussion on **Mission Overseas: Daring Operations by the Indian Military**
10	Roundtable discussion on **Changing Dynamics of India-Japan Relations**
12	International Conference at Taj Mahal Hotel, New Delhi, on **UK-India Strategic Dialogue**
14	Roundtable conference on **Digital Technology for Financial Inclusion and Inclusive Development: An India-China Dialogue**
15-16	International Conference on **India's Maritime Connectivity : Importance of the Bay of Bengal**
17	International Conference on **The Future of Digital Ecosystem in India**
18	International Conference on **Conflict Prevention and Peacekeeping in a Changing World**
20	Roundtable discussion on **Do multiculturalism, multipolarity and multiple systems of knowledge lend themselves to a stable, peaceful and more equal world?**
19-21	International Conference **on The Ocean Dialogue 2017: Towards a common prosperity framework**
21	Interaction with the **Korean Delegation**
21	Conference on **The Belt & Road Initiative: India's perspectives on China's ambitious plan for infrastructural connectivity in Asia, Africa and Europe** held at **Hotel Trident, BKC, Mumbai**
24	Roundtable discussion on **A New French Revolution? Elections in France and the Future of Europe**
24	Interaction with **Ms Badra Gaaloul, President, CIESSM, Tunisia**
25	Interaction with **Dr Hans-Christian Hagman**
27	International Conference on **The EU-India Strategic Partnership in the 21st Century: A Cyprus Perspective**
27-28	International Conference on **India Trilateral Forum 12**
27-28	International Conference on **Mobilising Private Capital for Clean Energy Infrastructure and Investment**
29	Roundtable discussion on **India-Turkey Relations: Bilateral Prospects and Scope for Cooperation in Security Issues of the Greater Middle East**

2017
MAY

11 International Conference on **Making India-US Data Sharing Work**

16 Talk on **The Rule of Law, Global Prosperity and Strategic calculation: The stakes for the Indo-Pacific Region by Mr Brian Lee Crowley**

16 Conference on **Kashmir: Its Geopolitical Complexities and Positive Solutions at Bharat Chamber of Commerce**

17 Roundtable conference on **RTI Draft Rules 2017 for the Central Information Commission**

19 Roundtable talk on **Threats to Free Speech and Press Freedom: Murder of Prominent Blogger in the Maldives**

23 Interaction with officials from **Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Indonesia**

26 Roundtable conference on Fifty Years of Naxalbari

29 Panel discussion to commemorate **Africa Month - 'India and Africa Avenues for Partnership'**

30 Roundtable conference on **Joint Strategic Doctrine**

2017
JUNE

8 International Conference on **World Famine Crises: What Should be our Response**

8 Lecture talk on **Evolving US-Russia Ties by Prof Timothy J Colton**

8 Interaction with **Delegation of Businessmen from Japan**

9 Talk on **Sustainable Investment Possibilities: A Comparison of Five Indian States**

10 Interaction with **members of the Association of African Students in India**

15 Roundtable talk on **Terror, Technology and Ideology: A New Triangle**

15 International Conference on **Promoting Indian Investments in Africa for African**

16 Roundtable talk on **A Debrief on the Changing Dimensions of Insurgency in Kashmir**

19-21 International Conference on **India Think Tank Forum**

21 Talk on **Understanding The GST Reform by Dr Ajit Ranade**

27 Lecture talk on **Morocco-Africa Relations: Foundations and Perspectives by H E Mohamed Maliki**

28 Roundtable talk on **Strategic Partnership Model for Defence Industrialisation**

2017
JULY

3 International Conference on **SCO Summit**

3 Conclave on **Mental health policy & challenges in India**

4 Roundtable talk on Global Internet Governance and Cyber Security

4-5 International Conference on **Delhi Dialogue 9**

5 International Conference on **Talking Privacy with Rob Sherman**

7 Roundtable talk on **Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (India's Sanitation Mission): Achievements and Challenges**

7 Roundtable talk on **Kashmir: A dialogue for peace and integration**

10 Talk by **Jairam Ramesh on Paris Climate change Pact - After Trump pull-out, who will save the planet?**

11 Roundtable talk on **Jihad as Grand Strategy: Islamist Militancy, National Security, and the Pakistani State**

12-14 International Conference at **Naval Post Graduate School**

14 Release of a report on students' suggestions for the **Revised Draft Development Plan (RDDP) 2014-2034 by Shri Ajoy Mehta, Municipal Commissioner of Mumbai**

17 Interaction with **Delegation from Lockheed Martin**

18 Roundtable talk on **Great Power Attitudes and Aspirations toward Expansionism, Territoriality and Resource Nationalism in Space**

18 International Conference on **Second Indo-Pacific Oration by the Hon Julie Bishop, Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs**

19 Roundtable talk on **Creative Economies in a Converged World**

20 Roundtable talk on **Responding to India's Electronic Insecurity**

26 Roundtable talk on **The current Stand off Between India and China over the Doklam Plateau**

27 Interaction with **Students from Indiana University**

28 Book Launch of **Aparna Pandey**

29 Stakeholder discussion on **Situational analysis towards strengthening of Eye Donation, Banking and Transplantation effort in Greater Mumbai region and beyond**

31 Roundtable talk on **The Future of Syria**

2017
AUGUST

1 Interaction with **Delegation from Korean Culture Center**

3 Interaction with **Delegation from Google**

4 Talk by **Dr AparnaPande on From Chanakya to Modi - The Evolution of India's foreign policy**

5 Roundtable on **Training of Members of Parliament from Myanmar**

7 Interaction with **Mr Michael Krepon (Stimson Centre)**

8 Roundtable on **Shadow States: India, China and the Eastern Himalayas**

9 International Conference on **Hitting Refresh: Making India-US Data Sharing Work**

9 Interaction with **Delegation from Centre for Indian Studies (CIS), Vietnam**

9-11 International Conference on **Ganga Padma Dialogue**

10-11 International Conference on **Terror, Technology and Ideology: A New Triangle**

11 Conference on **SWACCHATHON 1.0 – A Swachh Bharat Hackathon in collaboration with Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Government of India**

11 Talk by **Kallol Bhattacherjee, on his new book, The Great Game in Afghanistan**

15-16 Conference on **India's Maritime Connectivity: Importance of the Bay of Bengal**

21 International Conference on **Bangladesh-India Sundarban Region Cooperation Initiative**

21-22 International Conference on **ORF-Yonsei Dialogue**

22 Lecture talk on **Ten Years On: What can we learn from the Global Financial Crisis by Mr SubirLall**

24 Interaction with **Delegation from Tibet Policy Institute (TPI)**

25 Roundtable on **U S - India Relations: Economic Development and Investment Strategies**

29 Lecture talk on **EU Counter-Terrorism Policy by Dr Radko Hokovský**

30 International Conference on **Accelerating Growth and Development in the SDG Era**

30 Interaction with **Delegation from the South African High Commission**

2017
SEPTEMBER

1 Interaction with **Prof Arase**

4 Roundtable talk on **India-Taiwan Economic and Trade Cooperation**

5 Interaction with **Dr Radwan Masmoudi, President, CSID**

6 International conference on **India's Approach to Data protection - GCCS Outreach**

13 Roundtable on **Think Tank Symposium**

15-16 International conference on **13th India Trilateral Forum**

15 Talk by **Nandan Unnikrishnan on Russia's New Foreign Policy Strategy: Implications for India**

18 Interaction with **Delegation from New Zealand High Commission**

20 Roundtable on **German Elections**

21 Lecture talk on **How the BJP Wins: Inside India's Greatest Election Machine by Mr Prashant Jha**

26 Seminar on **India-Japan Summit by Mr Hideki Asari**

27 Lecture talk on **How India Sees the World: Kautilya to the 21st Century by Amb. Shyam Saran**

28 International conference on **Unveiling of Neighbours in Arms**

2017
OCTOBER

3 Interaction with **Journalist from Latin America**

5 International Conference on **Re-Imagining the Commonwealth: Road to CHOGM 2018**

5 Interaction with **Mr Robert Bosch Indo-German Media**

4-5 International Conference on **Big Politics Technology and Society, New Voices Digital Economy and the Machine Age**

6 International Conference on **Tackling Corruption: What Democracies can Learn from Each other**

10 Interaction with **Mr Mohammed Tawfik Mouline, DG IRES**

10 Release of the report **Endangered Future of Mumbai's Open Spaces by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis**

12 Interaction with **Prof Rwekaza S Mukandala, Vice-Chancellor, and faculty of University of Dar-es-Salam, Tanzania**

13 Talk by **Mr Hideki Asari, Embassy of Japan on Towards a Free, Open and Prosperous Indo-Pacific Prime Minister Abe's visit to India**

17 Conference on **Diplomacy, Politics and Nepal's Forthcoming Elections**

17 **How the BJP Wins Inside India's most powerful election machine** -- A talk by Prashant Jha, senior journalist, Hindustan Times

26 Lecture Talk on **The Future of BRICS: opportunities and Challenges Ahead by Mr Alok Dimri**

30 International Conference on **Italy, the EU and India: A Strong Partnership in a Time of Global Challenges**

2017
NOVEMBER

1	Lecture talk on **What Future for Europe? Macron, Juncker and the New German government by Mr Jakob von Weizsäcker**
1	Interaction with **Mr Richard Sadleir, DFAT**
4	Roundtable talk on **Stand Together Challenge**
7	Roundtable talk on **Understanding Israel: Constructing an India - Israel narrative for the Future**
8	Interaction with **Delegation of British Parliamentarians to India**
9	Roundtable talk on **The 19th Party Congress of the Communist Party of China**
9	Interaction with **Project Team of Horizon 2020 Globus**
9	Roundtable talk on **The 19th Party Congress of the Communist Party of China**
8-9	**Young Thinkers Conference -BBIN: Challenges & Opportunities**
13	Roundtable talk on **Revisiting India's Border Security**
14	Roundtable talk on **Quadrilateral Debate**
16	Discussion on **Human Capital, Growth and Public Policy**
17	Lecture talk on **American public's views on domestic and foreign policy issues by Mr Bruce Stokes**
17	Conference on **Regional Issues including Trade, Connectivity and Security**
18	International Conference on **Data Integrity and Privacy**
20	Roundtable talk on **Unlocking India's Mineral Wealth: Policy Priorities**
21	Commemoratin of the life of **"Oliver Reginald Tambo" anti-partheid icon and former president of the african national congress** on the occasion of his Birth Centenary in collaboration with Consulate General of South Africa
22	Interaction with **Delegation of Japanese Scholars**
23	Lecture on **India-Russia: Enablers & Limits by Mr PetrTopychkanov**
23	Interaction with **NDC Delegation from Bangladesh**
24	Interaction with **Mr Gaddam Dharmendra, JS (PP&R), MEA**
24	Panel discussion on **Post 26/11 How safe is Mumbai?**
27	International Conference on **Greece as a pillar of stability in Southeastern Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean**
29	Interaction with **Canadian Delegation**
30	Lecture on **Our Common Future: Global Challenges, Polarised Politics, and the Information Society by Mr Larry Kramer**
30	Inauguration of exhibition Toilet Manifesto by Shri Ajoy Mehta MCGM at Nehru Science Centre

2017
DECEMBER

1	Interaction with **Dr Olga Momot, ROSATOM**
1	Panel Discussion on **Sanitation for All – Problems and Solutions under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan at Nehru Science Centre**
1-3	International Conference in London on **Governance**
4	International Conference in London on **Green Finance**
4	Interaction with **Parliamentarians from the state of Victoria, Australia**
5	Interaction with **Prof Stephen Burgess, US Air War College**
6	Roundtable conference on **Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation**

6 Interaction with **DFID Officials**

12 Roundtable conference on **America's Enduring Interests in Asia with particular reference to South and East Asia**

12 Release of the book **Bridging the Communication Gap in Science & Technology Lessons from India and panel discussion**

13 International Conference on I**ndia and the Commonwealth: Road To CHOGM 2018**

14 Roundtable conference on **Securing India the Modi Way: Pathankot, Surgical Strikes and More**

14 International Conference on **Answering the Call: Putting the World in Women's Hands**

15 Lecture Talk on **Australia Grapples with Chinese Influence as the Quad Rises by Dr Pradeep Taneja**

18 Interaction with **Dr Rajaraman**

19 International Conference on **ORF Consultation on Data Protection White Paper**

19 Lecture Talk on **Changing profile of Indian Parliament and its Implications by Dr Ronojoy Sen**

20 Lecture Talk on **North Korean Nuclear and Missile Programmes: History, Strategy and Prospects by Prof Vipin Narang**

22 Lecture Talk on **Do Hindu Nationalists Have A Grand Strategy? By Prof Rahul Sagar**

2018

JANUARY

4 Roundtable talk on **Insights from a recent visit to the Pakistani Side of the LoC**

4 Talk by Mr Meng Xiangfeng, Member of the Central Committee of the Communise Party of China on **19th National Congress of the CPC Implications for China, India and the World**

6 Talk on **India-China Mutual Understanding titled De Mystifying China**

10 Talk by Amb. T C A Raghavan on **'The People Next Door' The Curious History of India-Pakistan Relations**

12 Lecture talk on **Emerging Dynamics in Nepal: Society and Politics by Mr Sunil Pant**

12-21 International Conference on **AFGG 2018 Managing Disruptive Transitions Ideas, Institutions & Idioms**

12 **Baburao Paradkar Memorial lecture**

15 Roundtable talk on **India-France**

16-18 International Conference on **Raisina Dialogue 2018**

19 International Conference on **2nd Australia-India Policy Forum**

19-20 International Conference on **India-Russia Bilateral and US-India-Russia Trilateral**

23-24 Conference on **South-South Cooperation: India-Africa Partnerships for Food Security and Capacity Building**

24 Interaction with the **Swiss Delegation**

29 Conference on **Adivasi Music In The Indian Subcontinent A Transcultural Narrative**

30 Conference on **Global Go to Think Tank Index Report, Managing a World in Flux: Policy, Politics and Think Tanks**

2018
FEBRUARY

6	Interaction with the **Korean Ambassador**
9	Lecture talk on Balochistan: **Tyranny, Terror, Turmoil by Abdul Qadeer Baloch**
9	Interaction with **South Korean Delegation**
12	Lecture talk on **Internatiponal Reporting in the Age of Trump by Mr Tom Hundley**
14-17	International Conference on **4th ORF Kalpana Chawla Annual Space Policy Dialogue**
16	Interaction with **Military Personnel from the Federal Academy of Security Policy, Germany**
17	International Conference on **The Priorities of The Foreign Policy of The Islamic Republic of Iran**
19-20	Conference on **India's Maritime Connectivity: Importance of the Bay of Bengal**
22	International Conference on **Women, Peace, and Security**
27	Talk by Dr Happymon Jacob on **Ceasefire Violations and the current state of India-Pakistan Relations**

2018
MARCH

6	Interaction with **Delegation from the ExxonMobil**
8	Talk by Shri Ajaoy Mehta on **'MCGM's BUDGET 2018-19: Matching Finances & Functions post GST'**
14	Interaction with **Japanese Delegation from the National Institute of Defence Studies, (NIDS) Tokyo**
20	Roundtable talk on **Why I Am a Hindu?**
21	Roundtable talk on **Air Force's New Acquisition Plan for Fighter Jets along with the Society for Aerospace Studies**
21	International Conference on **Strategic Relations between India and the UAE and Crisis in the Middle East**
22-23	International Conference on **14th Edition of the India Trilateral Forum**
27-28	International Conference on **Air Pollution in Delhi**
28	Roundtable talk on **India-Italy Relations**
29	Roundtable talk on **India's Declining Influence in Littoral South Asia**

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  H H S Viswanathan & Shubh Soni
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  Samir Saran
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  Ritika Passi & Harsh V Pant
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  Abhijit Singh, Aparna Pande, Jeff M Smith, Samir Saran, Sunjoy Joshi & Walter Lohman

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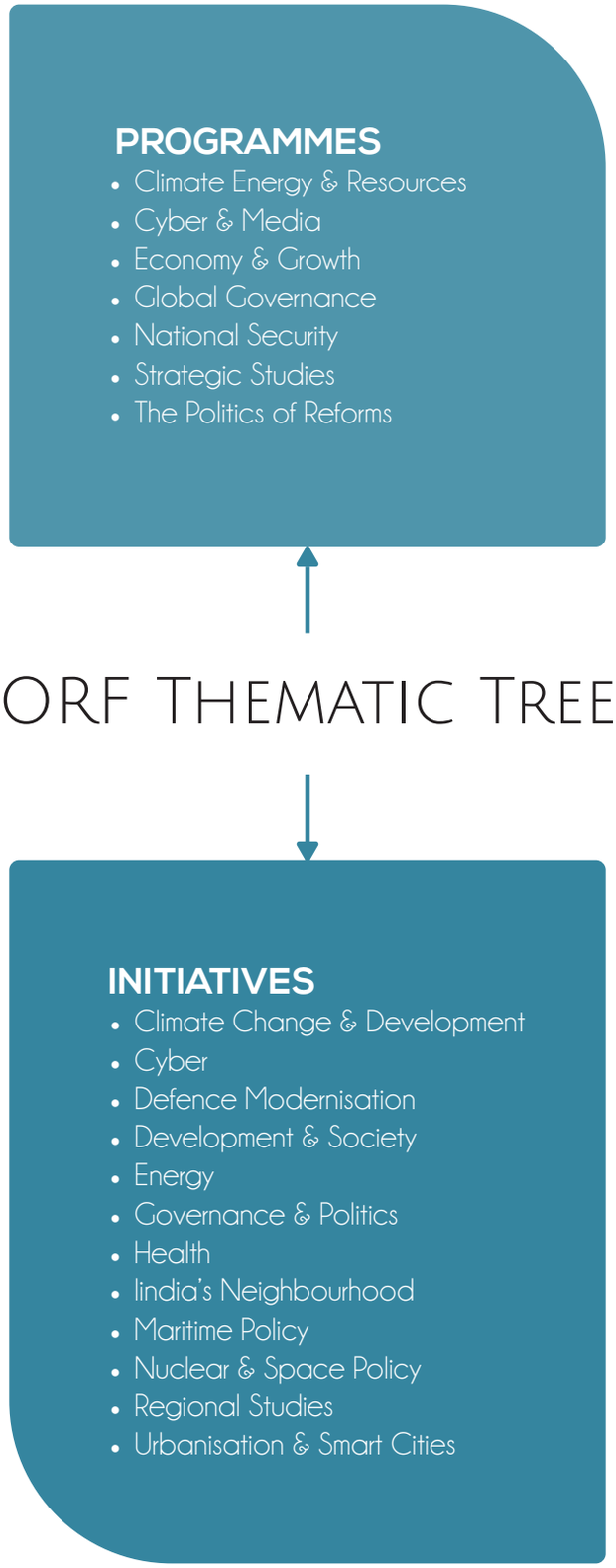

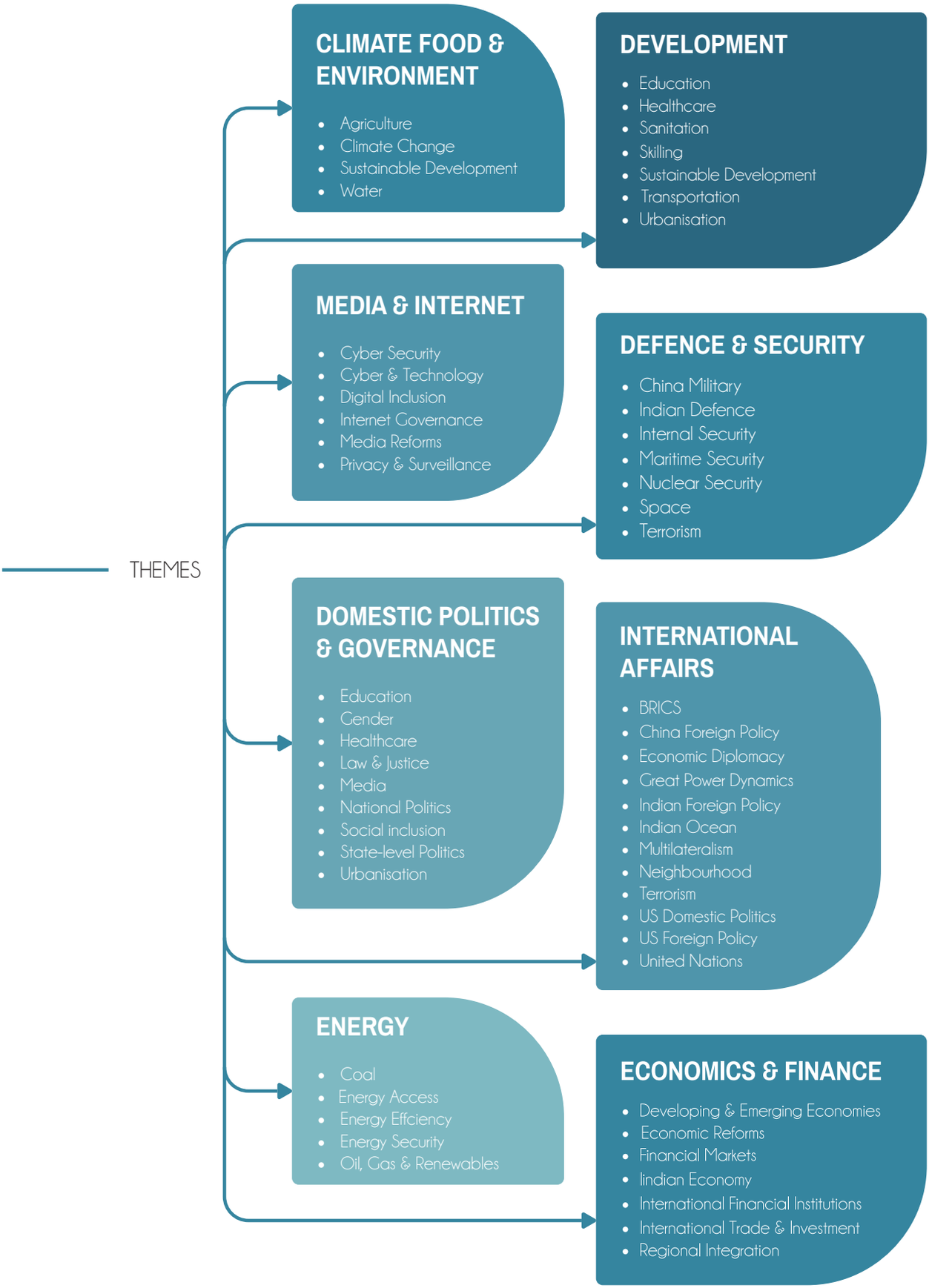
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PRIMARY CAMPUS

20 Rouse Avenue institutional Area, New Delhi-110002
Ph: +91-11-43520020. Fax: +91-11-43520003
www.orfonline.org
email: contactus@orfonline.org

CHENNAI

5th Floor, A-1 Tower (Rear Wing)
89, Dr Radhakrishnan Road, Chennai-6000004
Phone: +91 11 43520020, 30220020
email: orfchennai@orfonline.org

KOLKATA

Plot no ii, D/18, Major Arterial Road,
Action Area ii, New Town, Rajarhat, Kolkata-700156
Ph: +91-33-27062011
email: orfkolkata@orfonline.org

MUMBAI

NKM international house, 5th Floor
178, Backbay Reclamation, Babubhai Chinal Marg
Mumbai 400 020
Ph: +91-22-61313800. Fax: +91-22-22886264
email: orfmumbai@orfonline.org