

Policy Dialogue on Mekong – Ganga Cooperation (MGC) “Stronger Connectivity, Enhancing Ties”



**Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre, New Delhi
8 April 2017**

Agenda

08.30 – 09.30 Registration

09.30 – 10.30 Inaugural Session

- Welcome Address by **Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi**, Director General, RIS
- Opening Address by **Amb. Hardeep Singh Puri**, Chairman, RIS
- Special Address by **Prof. Lokesh Chandra**, President, Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR), New Delhi
- Special Address by **Dr Dinesh Dua**, Immediate Past Chairman, CII ó Chandigarh and Vice Chairman, Pharmexcil, and Chief Executive Officer, Nectar Lifesciences Ltd.
[Release of AIC-RIS Report on *Mekong-Ganga Cooperation*]
- Keynote Address by **Amb. Preeti Saran**, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)

10.30 – 11.00 Group Photo and Tea and Coffee Break

11.00 – 12.30 Session 1: Physical and Digital Connectivity

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

Special Address: **Mr Shyamal Ghosh**, Chairman, Telecom Equipment and Services Export Council (TEPC), New Delhi

Speakers:

- **Dr. Ruth Banomyong**, Director, Centre for Logistics Research, Thammasat Business School, Thammasat University, Bangkok
- **Mr. Chasouy Tantsavath**, Department of Planning and Cooperation, Ministry of Public Work and Transport, Lao PDR
- **Mr A D James**, Dy. Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), New Delhi & **Mr Absar Alam**, Consultant, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), New Delhi
- **Prof. Amar Yumnam**, Manipur University, Imphal
- **Mr. Anil Devli**, CEO, Indian National Ship Ownersø Association (INSA), Mumbai

12.30 – 13.30 **Lunch Break**

13.30 – 15.00 **Session 2: Trade, Investment and Value Chains**

Chair: **Amb. Rajiv Bhatia**, Distinguished Fellow, Gateway House, Mumbai

Special Address: **H.E. Dr. Sok Siphana**, Advisor to the Royal Government of Cambodia

Speakers

- **H.E. Mr Chutintorn Gongsakdi**, Ambassador of Thailand to India
- **H.E. Mr. Kyaw Moe Tun**, Director General, International Organization and Economic Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar (SOM Leader Myanmar)
- **Mr. Sisamouth Keoxayya**, Department of Planning and Cooperation, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Lao PDR
- **Mr. Nguyen Phuc Nam**, Deputy Director, Department of Asia - Pacific Markets, Vietnam
- **Prof. Amita Batra**, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi
- **Ms. Amita Dang**, Chief Manager, EXIM Bank, Delhi

15.00 – 15.15 **Tea and Coffee Break**

15.15 – 16.45 **Session 3: Cultural Relations and People to People Contacts**

Chair: **Amb. Sudhir Devare**, Chairman, RIS Research Advisory Council, New Delhi

Special Address: **Mr. Shakti Sinha**, Director, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library (NMML), New Delhi

Speakers:

- **Mr. Bui Hoai Son**, Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism, Vietnam
- **Dr. Sudha Gopalakrishnan**, Executive Director, Sahapedia, New Delhi
- **Dr. Sunil Shukla**, Director, Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), Ahmedabad
- **Mr. Subhash Goel**, Member, National Tourism Advisory Council, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, and Chairman, STIC Travel Group, New Delhi
- **Dr. Ishani Naskar**, Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata

16.45 – 17.45

Session 4: Looking Ahead: Harnessing the Diversity, Building the Future

Chair: **Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi**, Director General, RIS

Speakers:

- **Mr. P D Rai**, Member of Parliament (MP), India (tbc)
- **H.E. Mr. Sok Siphana**, Advisor to the Government of Cambodia (SOM Leader Cambodia)
- **Mr. Vincent Pala**, Member of Parliament (MP), India
- **H.E. Mr. Kyaw Moe Tun**, Director General, International Organization and Economic Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Myanmar (SOM Leader Myanmar)
- **H.E. Mr Chutintorn Gongsakdi**, Ambassador of Thailand to India (SOM Leader Thailand)

17.45 – 18.00

Wrapping up and Vote of Thanks by **Dr. Prabir De**, Professor and Coordinator, ASEAN-India Centre (AIC) at RIS, New Delhi
