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Indian Council of World Affairs
Sapru House, Barakhamba Road
New Delhi

Press Release

India-Russia Heads of Think Tanks Meeting

(22-23 September, 2016 at Moscow)

At the behest of Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Ambassador Nalin Surie, Director General of Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) led a delegation comprising of eight prominent Indian think-tanks to Moscow for the 1st round of India-Russia Heads of Think Tank Meeting on 22-23 September 2016.

The Indian delegation comprised of the following:

- Ambassador Nalin Surie, Director General, ICWA
- Mr. Ajaneesh Kumar, Deputy Director General, ICWA
- Dr. Indrani Talukdar, Research Fellow, ICWA
- Ambassador Hemant Krishan Singh, Director General, Delhi Policy Group (DPG)
- Brig. Arun Sahgal, Senior Visiting Fellow, DPG
- Ambassador Jayant Prasad, Director General, Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA)
- Professor P. Stobdan, Senior Fellow, IDSA
- Professor Baldev Raj, Director, National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS)
- Dr. M. Mayilvaganan, Assistant Professor, NIAS
- Ms. Manjeet Kripalani, Executive Director, Gateway House (GH)
- Mr. Akshay Mathur, Director of Research, GH
- Ambassador T.C.A. Rangachari, Distinguished Fellow, Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF)
- Mr. Sushant Sareen, Senior Fellow, VIF
- Mr. Nandan Unnikrishnan, Head of the Eurasian Studies, Observer Research Foundation (ORF)
- Ms. Ritika Passi, Fellow and Project Editor, ORF
- Dr. Ram Upendra Das, Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)

In addition, Mr. Santosh Jha, JS (PP&R and GCI), MEA also accompanied the delegation to Moscow.

Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO), the host for the event and MoU partner of the Council, led the Russian side comprising of the following:

- Mr. Sergei Glazeyev, Aide to the President Vladimir Putin
- Mr. I.V. Morgulov, Deputy Foreign Minister
- Mr. Anatoly Torkunov, Chancellor, MGIMO
- Mr. Evgeny Kozhokin, Vice Rector for Scientific Work, MGIMO
- Mr. Fyodor Lukyanov, Chairman of the Presidium of the NGO Council on Foreign and Defense Policy, editor-in-chief of the journal Russia in Global Affairs
- Mr. Viktor Sergeev, Director of the Centre for Global Problems
- Ms. Irina Potapova, Associate Professor of the Department of World Economy
- Mr. Alexandra Safronova, Deputy Director of the Institute of Africa and Asian Studies of Moscow State University
- Ms. Natalia Galishev, professor of the Department of World Economy
- Professor Sergej Lunev, Department of Oriental Studies
- Ms. Tatiana Shaumyan from Institute of Oriental Studies of the Russian Academy of Science
- Ms. Anna Glazova, Deputy Director of the Russian Institute for Strategic Studies
- Mr. Vladimir Yurtaev, Director of the Centre of African Studies
- Mr. Andrey Kazantsev, Director of the Analytical Centre
- Mr. Dmitry Strelstov, Head of the Department of Oriental Studies, MGIMO
- Mr. Leonid Gusev, Representative of the Analytical Centre
- Mr. Alexander Viligzhanin, Head of the Department of International Law, MGIMO

The Inaugural Session was graced by the Mr. Sergei Glazeyev, Aide to the President Vladimir Putin, Mr. I.V. Morgulov, Deputy Foreign Minister and Mr. Anatoly Torkunov, Chancellor, MGIMO. The Indian side was represented by Ambassador Pankaj Saran and Ambassador Nalin Surie, DG, ICWA.

The deliberations, which were free and frank, were primarily based on the following five themes:

- The Fourth Industrial Revolution in the West: Directions and Problems
- Russian and Indian Relations: Present and Future
- Regional Integration and Transport Corridors in Eurasia
- Afghanistan, SCO, the Issues of Terrorism and Stability in Central Asia
- The Role of Russia in Asia (Including the Role of China and the Situation in the Asia-pacific Region)
- The Future of the Arctic Region

The interactions addressed points of concerns and opportunities for the future to strengthen the existing bilateral relationship between India and Russia in all dimensions: politically, economically and culturally. Both sides took note of each other's views, opinions and analyses on all the five thematic issues. The meeting concluded with a broad agreement to continue the exchange at the next round to be held in India in the following year.
