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

Media Release

on

ICWA-NIAS Interaction on “Science Diplomacy”

(23 April, 2019)

An interaction with a group of eminent scientists from National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bangalore was held at Sapru House on 23 April 2019 on the theme “Science Diplomacy”.

The team from NIAS included Dr. V.S. Ramamurthy, Former Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Dr. N. Ramamurthy, Former Director, Division of Physical and Chemical Sciences, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Prof. Rajaram Nagappa, Head, International Strategic and Security Studies Programme, NIAS, Dr. P.M. Soundararajan, Former Director, Defence Avionics Research Establishment (DARE), DRDO, Dr. L.V. Krishnan, Former Director, Safety Research and Health Physics Programmes, Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, Kalpakkam and Dr. D. Suba Chandran, NIAS.

DG, ICWA Dr. T.C.A. Raghavan, highlighted the importance of the subject of “Science Diplomacy” and underscored the need for ICWA to integrate frontier disciplines like science and technology into traditional area studies, which has been the focus in the Council. Dr. Suba Chandran briefed about NIAS’s ongoing project on the use of Indian expertise and developments in science and technology as a tool for the conduct of foreign relations.



The team of scientists shared briefly their perspectives on the strengths of their respective domains such as space, nuclear, defence, aerospace and artificial intelligence in contributing to diplomatic strategy with other countries especially neighbours. India's expertises in nuclear technologies in the health care sector were emphasized.

During the course of the discussions, it was suggested that Science and Technology projects can form a defined subset of MEA's Development Partnership Administration, including its flagship technical cooperation programme ITEC, in the context of "Science Diplomacy".
