Issue: 14 | July - September 2018

ICWA NEWSLETTER

INDIAN COUNCIL OF WORLD AFFAIRS | SAPRU HOUSE, BARAKHAMBA ROAD, NEW DELHI

Amb.TCA Raghavan

Ambassador T. C. A. Raghavan was appointed as the new Director General of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) by the Vice President of India and President of ICWA, Shri Venkaiah Naidu. Ambassador Raghavan assumed office from 24th July 2018. He was the Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan (2013-15), High Commissioner to Singapore from 2009 to 2013, Deputy High Commissioner in Pakistan (2003-2007) apart from assignments in other countries. He was awarded a PhD by the Jawaharlal Nehru University in 1992. His first book was published in January 2017 and is entitled 'Attendant Lords, Bairam Khan and Abdur Rahim-Courtiers and Poets in Mughal India'. His latest book was published recently and is titled 'The People Next Door-The Curious History of India's relations with Pakistan'.

Amb. Nalin Surie Completed His Tenure at ICWA

The Governing Body and Governing Council meeting was held on July 12, 2018 at Sapru House, New Delhi. It was attended by the Vice President of India and President of ICWA, Shri Venkaiah Naidu, External Affairs Minister, Smt. Sushma Swaraj and ICWA Director General Nalin Surie, along with other members of the Governing Body and Governing Council. While appreciating the functioning of ICWA, the members selected Ambassador TCA Raghavan to be appointed as the next Director General of ICWA. After the completion of his three year tenure as the Director General of ICWA, Amb. Surie took leave of office. In his farewell speech he mentioned that "it has been a very satisfying experience; an honour to have been given this responsibility and a pleasure to work with our Research faculty whose output on international relations has been extensive and in-depth not only in geographical terms but also in terms of issues and the diversity of subjects addressed".

ICWA HIGHLIGHTS...

- **Talk by Dr. Lia Rodriguez de la Vega , CARI, Argentina**
- **Speech by Ms. Maria Fernanda Espinosa, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs & Human Mobility of Ecuador and President-elect of the 73rd Session, United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)**
- **Talk by Prof. Yan Xuetong, Tsinghua University, China**
- **Interaction with Mr. Mohammed Benhammou, President of Moroccan Centre for Strategic Studies (CMES)**
- **Talk by Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix, United Nations Under Secretary-General**
- **Interaction with Dr. Seyed Mohammad Kazem Sajjadpour, IPIS, Iran**
- **31st Sapru House Lecture by H.E. Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', former Prime Minister of Nepal & Chairman of Nepal Communist Party**

17th Meeting of the Governing Body, 12 July, 2018

Governing Council Meeting, 12 July, 2018

Talk by Dr. Lia Rodriguez de la Vega, CARI, Argentina 16 July, 2018

Prof. Lia Rodríguez de la Vega, from CARI Argentina delivered a talk on the Changing Political Environment in Latin America on 16 July 2018. Her talk focused on the socio-political and economic conditions in the region and their political impact. She highlighted the reasons for change of government in Mexico and Colombia. She also spoke about the changing political landscape and campaign issues in the elections in Argentina and Brazil. She also elaborated on the relations between the United States and Latin America, while talking about ties between China, India, Iran, Russia and the countries of the region.

Speech by H.E. Ms. Maria Fernanda Espinosa, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs & Human Mobility of Ecuador and President-elect of the 73rd Session, United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) 13 August, 2018

Her Excellency Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President Elect, 73rd UN General Assembly (UNGA) visited the ICWA on August 13, 2018. She delivered a lecture on the topic "Revitalisation of the UN". Ambassador TCA Raghavan, DG ICWA delivered the welcome remarks. Ambassador Asoke Mukherji, former Indian permanent representative to the UN, chaired the event. Ms. Espinosa is the fourth woman president of the UN General Assembly (UNGA). She highlighted the strategy of DARE – a compact of Delivery, Accountability, Relevance and Efficiency – for the revitalisation of the UN and said this will be her priority during her presidency of the UNGA. She also underscored the changes in the election process for the post of the UN Secretary General making it more transparent and democratic in nature. She expressed concern that the hundreds of resolutions adopted by the UNGA have not been followed by tangible actions. However, she asserted that the feeling of the UNGA being in a gridlock was a misconception. She assured that the compact on migration, once signed, would be implemented. She further said that her mission was to bring the UN closer to people.

Speech by Prof. Yan Xuetong, Tsinghua University, China
28 August, 2018

Prof. Yan Xuetong from Tsinghua University, China delivered a talk on the Emerging Bilateralism in Globalization on 28 August 2018. He said that no single country has the capability to deal with the negative impacts of globalisation. As a result, states adopted regionalisation and global governance to cope with the negative impacts. Under the leadership of President Donald Trump, the US policy is going against the trend of globalisation, and at the same time, withdrawing from leadership of the global governance as it finds it too costly. As a result, cooperation among countries has become difficult and continuity of global governance is hampered. At this moment, other countries cannot organise a collective leadership as a substitute to the US leadership. It is beyond the capability of China, EU and India to take joint efforts for providing global leadership. Multilateral diplomacy mainly relies on a strong country providing leadership and multilateralism cannot achieve anything concrete without such leadership. Stressing the need to prepare for future contingencies, Prof. Yan suggested both India and China to use opportunity provided by the advent of "spring" for laying better foundation to deal with looming problems.

Interaction with Mr. Mohammed Benhammou, President of Moroccan Centre for Strategic Studies (CMES), 4 September, 2018

ICWA held an interactive session with Mr. Mohammed Benhammou, President of Moroccan Centre for Strategic Studies (CMES), at Sapru House on September 4 2018. The event was chaired by Director General of ICWA, Ambassador TCA Raghavan and was attended by all faculty members of the ICWA. Mr. Mohammed Benhammou spoke about the current political situation in Morocco and its relationship with neighboring countries. He also touched upon other pressing issues Morocco is facing - like terrorism and rise of Islamic fundamentalism. He informed the audience about the measures the Moroccan government has taken in recent years to combat and contain the terrorism. During his brief interaction with the ICWA faculty members, he also talked about the growing India-Morocco ties and said that there are several common issues which both nations can address together like climate changes, terrorism and the UN reform.

Interaction with Dr. Seyed Mohammad Kazem Sajjadpour, Head, Centre for International Research and Education and President, Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS) Iran, 6 September, 2018.

Dr. Seyed Mohammad Kazem Sajjadpour, President of Institute for Political and International Studies (IPIS) Iran, interacted with ICWA faculty on 6th September 2018. Dr. Sajjadpour's speech dealt with three main themes: Firstly, he spoke about how the ongoing period of global transition from cold war bipolar world to a multipolar world has opened new spaces for multiple actors. No single country can impose its will. He noted Iran is a regional player and in the current world order regional players are well placed to transform themselves from 'standbyers to shakers.' They have the ability to shape the world as they like. Secondly, on regional issues, he spoke about rupture of Arab order. He noted Arab states are under various domestic and external pressures. Formerly powerful regional players such as Egypt and Iraq have now become arena of interventions by other Arab states and extra-regional powers. He noted how UAE is spending money to shape domestic politics of Egypt. He mentioned that his Turkish colleagues have argued that UAE had a role in the failed coup in Turkey and the Kurdistan independence referendum. UAE is present in the Horn of Africa and Libya and represents the new 'Arab Neocons' who take a militaristic approach to issues. Thirdly, on bilateral issues he noted that cooperation on connectivity and energy makes India-Iran relation strategic. However, there is a need to diversify the relationship.

Interaction with Dr. Dan Schueftan, Director, National Security Studies Center, University of Haifa, Israel, 6 September, 2018

ICWA held an interactive session with Dr. Dan Schueftan, Director, National Security Studies Center, University of Haifa, Israel, at Sapru House on 6 September, 2018. Dr Dan Schueftan spoke about the close relations between Israel and the United States. He also said that the solutions to the problems need to be found from within the region with assistance from outside powers. On Iran, he expressed the view that while Israeli people and the society is appreciative of Iranian society and its people, and respects their culture and heritage, however, it has disagreements with the Iranian government which is anti-Israel. The crisis in Yemen and Syria, had grown as a result of the interference of outside powers. Speaking about India and Israel, he expressed the view that the two nations have a lot in common in terms of facing hostile nations in neighbourhoods that were unstable. Apart from defence cooperation he stressed on the need to build a more diverse economic relations.

31st Sapru House Lecture by H.E. Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', former Prime Minister of Nepal & Chairman of Nepal Communist Party, 7 September, 2018

The 31st Sapru House Lecture was delivered by H.E. Mr. Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', former Prime Minister of Nepal & Chairman of Nepal Communist Party on "Recent Developments in Nepal and Advancing India-Nepal Partnership for Shared Prosperity", on 7 September, 2018. The session was chaired by Ambassador TCA Raghavan, Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs.

While delivering the lecture, Mr. Prachanda stated that Nepal is filled with a sense of robust optimism. He described the historic peace process as a road to institutionalise the agenda that people aspired for. He said, traditional force and revolutionary force came on the negotiating table and set the common future agenda to see a political restructuring in Nepal. He added that the entire process culminated in the making of the constitution by the people's elected representatives. MoS in MEA Shri M.J. Akbar attended the lecture.

Underlining the fundamentals of the new constitution, Mr. Prachanda emphasised that the constitution embodied hopes and desires of 20 million Nepali people and it is the best possible outcome of compromise. Nepali constitution is progressive and forward looking that guarantees human rights and fundamental freedoms to Nepali citizens without any discrimination, one-third representation of women in federal Parliament and provincial assemblies and 40 percent in electoral bodies has been granted in the new Nepali Constitution. He said that in accomplishing this historic change, Nepal received valuable support from India and friends and well wishers around the world.

The prosperity of Nepal is closely tied with the prosperity of its two big neighbours. He said, "As a close neighbour we are delighted to see India's rapid march on the path of development and its rising global stature." "India's multidimensional progress not only inspires us but also provides us solid lessons that things are doable. Ours is a civilisational bond from even before our two societies were born as modern states with currently defined boundaries. We have jointly inherited the treasure of tradition," he asserted. Today India's development journey moves with the slogan of "Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas" while Nepal's development vision is captioned in "Samridh Nepal Sukhi Nepali". Talking about India-Nepal relations, Mr. Prachanda said that we had been through difficult times too, but even in difficult times we remained engaged. He stressed, small neighbours have distinct sensitivities that need to be understood. On India-Nepal development partnership, he said the partnership is substantial and we are committed to deepening it. He said that both countries are committed to timely implementation of bilateral agreements and understandings. The talk concluded with a lively question and answer session.

Fifth "India-Central Asia Dialogue", organized by Center for International Relations Studies (CIRS), Uzbekistan, at Samarqand, Uzbekistan, 13-14 September, 2018.

The Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, has mandated ICWA to hold the India-Central Asia Dialogue by rotation in each Central Asian republic. The Dialogue facilitates open exchange of views among government authorities, decision-makers, academicians, strategists, practitioners and representatives from industry at track II level.

Three editions of the Dialogue have been held in Central Asia: Kyrgyzstan 2012, Kazakhstan 2013 and Tajikistan 2014. On the occasion of 25 years of diplomatic relations between India and Central Asian countries, the Fourth Dialogue was organized at New Delhi 2016.

The Fifth India-Central Asia Dialogue was organized in the ancient city of Samarqand in Uzbekistan on 13-14 September 2018. The Center for International Relations Studies (CIRS) under the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan was the co-host of the 2018 Dialogue.

The Samarqand Dialogue broadly covered the following themes; i) Central Asia: Strengthening Local/Regional Political, Economic, Security Initiatives. ii) Central Asia and India: Guarding Against Security Challenges & External/Regional Rivalries. iii) Connectivity, Investment Ushering Change in Region, and iv) Growing India-Central Asia Relations at Bilateral & Multilateral Levels.

Minister of State for External Affairs M. J. Akbar delivered the Valedictory Address. He said that our shared past impels us towards a harmonious future, and there is scope to strengthen relations in IT, pharmaceuticals, medical care, education, science and technology, human resource development, tourism, culture, arts, sports and innovation.

DG, ICWA, Dr. TCA Raghavan led a 13-member delegation from ICWA, consisting of academics, practitioners, scholars and IT expert. Apart from participants from India, scholars and experts from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan presented papers and exchanged views and ideas on ways to increase India-Central Asia relations including in bilateral and regional formats.

A Memorandum of Cooperation between ICWA and the host in Uzbekistan – CIRS – was signed in the presence of Minister of State M. J. Akbar and Ambassador Dilshod Akhatov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan. DG, ICWA, Dr. Raghavan and Dr. Eldor Aripov, Director, CIRS, signed the MoU on behalf of the two institutions.

Round Table Discussion on "Geopolitical Contentions in West Asia: Implications for Global and Regional Security"; Speakers: Ambassador Talmiz Ahmad; and Prof. Bansidhar Pradhan, JNU, 18 September, 2018.

Indian Council of World Affairs organized a Round Table Discussion on "Geopolitical Contentions in West Asia: Implications for Global and Regional Security" at Sapru House. The event was chaired by Director General of ICWA, Ambassador TCA Raghavan. Ambassador Talmiz Ahmad and Prof. Bansidhar Pradhan were the two speakers. They spoke on the current strategic and political issues in the Arab world. Ambassador Ahmed spoke first and he touched upon the evolving political and security scenarios in the region in the aftermath of the Arab uprising. He said that region is passing through turmoil and one cannot predict how long it will be trapped in the regional and global political gambit. He drew attention of the audience towards the political trajectory different countries have adopted in the WANA region. He said, the changes in Bahrain were halted by external intervention while Tunisia witnessed a successful revolution and Libya, Yemen and Syria are passing through a complete break down.

He also spoke about the emerging strategic scenario after the withdrawal of US from Iran nuclear agreement and how internal division within the GCC nations have created the new fault lines in the Arab politics

Prof. Bansidhar Pradhan's deliberation focused on Iran-Saudi Arab rivalries in the region and how the animosity between two have shaped regional politics and created not only new alliances and counter alliances but also deepened sectarian divides in the region at an unprecedented level. He remarked that control of oil in the Arab world is the main bone of contention for major powers, and the protection of Israel, control of oil and stopping others from entering into the Arab strategic plan are the major objectives of US policy in the region. He was candid in his remarks that Arab countries are very important for the US for its long term strategic point of view. In his view, US intervention has always hindered the prospects of evolution of an autonomous political culture in the Arab world. The discussion

Fifth ICWA Bilateral Dialogue with Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA), at China, 25 September, 2018.

Ambassador TCA Raghavan Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), led a five-member delegation to China from 24 to 26 September 2018 to participate in the Fifth ICWA- Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA) dialogue in Beijing. The dialogues were held under the provisions of MoUs, signed in 2005, between the two institutions. The ICWA delegation also met Mr. Kong Xuanyou, Vice Foreign Minister of PRC in Beijing and interacted with officials/faculty of the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR) and Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), Beijing.

The Fifth ICWA – CPIFA Dialogue was held in Beijing on 25 September 2018. The one-day exercise was planned to understand and discuss a number of key issues pertaining to bilateral and multilateral aspect of India-China relations

Dr. TCA Raghavan, DG, ICWA, Amb. Wu Hailong, President, CPIFA and Amb. Gautam Bambawale, Ambassador of India to China, addressed the opening ceremony respectively. Delegates from both sides held discussion on issues of common interest and concern which was proved to be productive and useful. The discussions were open and friendly and both sides underscored the importance of working together.

Talk by Prof. Atsuko Kanehara, Sophia University, Japan, 25 September, 2018.

On September 25, 2018, Prof. Atsuko Kanehara from Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan, delivered a lecture on the "International Maritime Law and Maritime Security". In her lecture, Prof. Kanehara introduced recent developments in Japan's Ocean Policy and its implication for Free and Open Indo-Pacific Strategy. She emphasised that preeminent characteristic of the revised Ocean Policy is its wide understanding of maritime security. Shri Narinder Singh, the former Legal Adviser of the Ministry of External Affairs and Chairman of the UN International Law Commission, chaired the talk.

Interaction and signing of MoU on Cooperation between ICWA and Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies (ISRS), Under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, 28 September, 2018.

ICWA organized an Interaction and Signing of Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies Under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan (ISRS) on 28 September 2018 at Sapru House, New Delhi.

The event was organized on the eve of the State Visit of President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, His Excellency Shavkat Mirziyoyev to India from 30 September to 1 October 2018.

The Uzbek delegation was led by Ambassador Vladimir Norov, Director, ISRS, and Mr. Akmal Burkhanov, Member of Parliament, and Director, Development Strategy Centre, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

DG, ICWA, Dr. TCA Raghavan welcomed the delegates and said that India and Uzbekistan have historical links and the two countries have been strategic partners since 2011. He mentioned that our economic relations need to be strengthened and the young generation should be made aware of our close connections.

Ambassador Norov agreed with it and said that there is scope in developing relations in bilateral, trilateral and multilateral formats. He suggested that areas including, IT, Chemicals and pharmaceutical, have vast potential for cooperation. He also said to explore joint ventures in third countries, including Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

DG, ICWA, congratulated Ambassador Norov on being appointed as the next Secretary General of the SCO. Thanking DG, Ambassador Norov said he would work for greater cooperation among SCO members, including in the field of academic and think tank engagement.

Following the brief interaction, DG, ICWA, and Director, ISRS, signed the MoU on behalf of their respective institutions.

Outreach Programmes of ICWA

Two days International Conference on "Identity and the Politics of Security, Sovereignty and the Challenges of World Politics", Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, 13-14 April 2018

On 15 and 16 September 2018, Centre for Foreign Policy and Security Studies, Gujarat National Law University in collaboration with Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi and Jadavpur Association of International Relations, Kolkata organised a two day international conference on "Identity & Politics of Security, Sovereignty & Challenges of World Politics". The central theme of the conference was recent challenges faced by security structure. Dr. Chayanika Deka, Council's research fellow participated in the panel discussion and chaired four sessions.

ICWA Analyses (July – September 2018)

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27	Dr. Jojin V. John	Situation in Korean Peninsula: Responses of Six Party Members (North Korea, United States, South Korea, China, Russia and Japan) - Who Said What (July 3-9, 2018)
28	Dr. Stuti Banerjee	The Mexican Presidential Elections 2018
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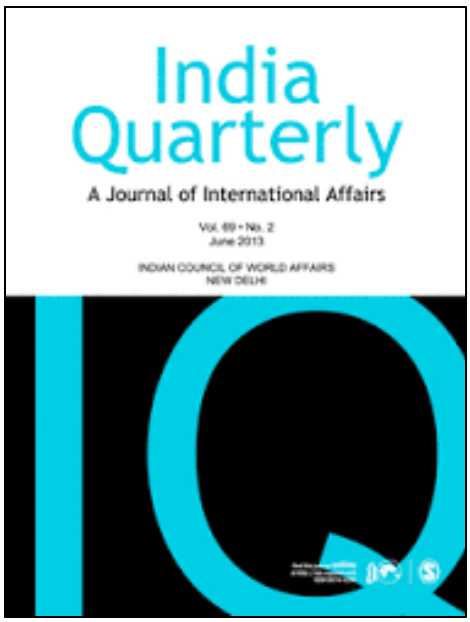

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About **ICWA**

The Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) is India's oldest foreign policy Think Tank, specializing in foreign and security policy issues. It was established before the independence of India in 1943 by a group of eminent intellectuals under the inspiration of Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister. The Indian Council of World Affairs has been declared an "institution of national importance" by an Act of Parliament in 2001.

The Council conducts policy research through its in-house faculty as well as external experts. It regularly organizes an array of intellectual activities including conferences, seminars, round table discussions, lectures and publication. It maintains a landmark and well established library, website and a journal named 'India Quarterly'. It is engaged in raising public awareness about India's role in international affairs and offers to the Government and civil society policy models and strategies, and serves as a platform for multi track dialogues and interaction with other foreign Think Tanks.

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