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

Media Release

on

National Seminar

on

“Enhancing India-Myanmar Ties: The Road Ahead”

(15 May, 2019)

The Indian Council of World Affairs conducted a one day national seminar on **Enhancing India-Myanmar Ties: The Road Ahead** on 15 May 2019.

The participants of the seminar included three former Ambassadors of India to Myanmar and scholars from eight universities and four Think Tanks across India. The seminar comprised of three sessions on Historical and Civilizational Linkages, Political and Security Cooperation and Economic and Development Cooperation. Opening remarks were delivered by **Dr. T.C.A. Raghavan**, DG, ICWA.

The first session was chaired by **Amb. G. Parthasarathy**, Former Ambassador of Myanmar to India. Speakers in this session included Dr. Vinay Kumar Rao, Associate Professor, Haryana Central University, Department of History and Archaeology, Central University of Haryana, Mahendragarh, Dr. Saswati Mutsuddy, Associate Professor, Department of Pali, University of Kolkata, Dr. Arindam Bhattacharya, Assistant Professor, Department of Pali, Sanskrit College, Kolkata, Dr. Netajee Abhinandan, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack, Odisha, Dr. Ambuj Thakur, Assistant Professor, UGC Centre for Studies on Bangladesh and Myanmar, Dibrugarh University and Mr. Abhijit Dutta, Author, Myanmar in the World, Singapore. The first session dwelt upon the historical trajectory of relations and civilizational links, and linguistic and cultural affinities between India and Burma.

The second session was chaired by **Ambassador Dr. V.S. Seshadri**, Former Ambassador of India to Myanmar. The Speakers at the session included Prof. G.V.C. Naidu (retired), Centre for Indo-Pacific Studies, School of International Studies, JNU, Prof. G. Jayachandra Reddy, Director, UGC Centre for Southeast Asian & Pacific Studies, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati, Mr. Pradip Phanjoubam, Editor, Imphal Free Press, Imphal, Dr. Anshuman Behera, Assistant Professor, Conflict and Security Studies, NIAS, Bengaluru, and Dr. Samatha Mallempati, Research Fellow, ICWA. The second session discussed internal political developments in Myanmar and Myanmar's engagement with regional actors including India and China. Porosity of the IB, the threat of Indian Insurgent Groups (IIGs) in the region and their linkages with Myanmar Groups were also discussed.

The third session was chaired by **Ambassador Gautam Mukhopadhyaya**. Speakers at the session included Dr. Nimmi Kurian, Professor, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi, Dr. Deb Kumar Chakraborty, Professor, UGC Centre for Studies on Bangladesh and Myanmar, Dibrugarh University, Dr. Gadde Omprasad, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Sikkim Central University, Dr. K. Yhome, Senior Fellow, ORF, Delhi, Dr. Puyam Rakesh Singh, Research Fellow, ICWA and Dr. Nongthombam Jiten, Research Associate, Centre for Myanmar Studies, Manipal University. This session discussed trade and investment linkages, development partnership assistance, connectivity, border as bridges approach, and the need to marry federal-local perspectives.

Participants spoke of the need to give impetus to studies on Myanmar in India.

16/05/2019
