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

1st August 2012

Press Release

on

Lecture by Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs at Jindal Global University

On 1 August 2012, Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia, Director General of Indian Council of World Affairs, delivered a lecture on 'India in the Globalised World' at the School of International Affairs, O. P. Jindal Global University (JGU).

2. JGU, a young institution located in Sonipat, Haryana, is devoted to the cause of higher education in a global setting and is guided by the vision to promote world-class academics and professionals. Its School of International Affairs runs as combined M.A. programme in diplomacy, law and business. Ambassador Bhatia was the chief guest at the commencement of the academic session 2012-13 at the School.

3. The speaker dwelt on the challenges and opportunities for India's foreign policy and diplomacy in the backdrop of globalizing economy and changing geo-politics of the world. He delineated the key causes and manifestations of globalisation, highlighting how the international stage had become far more complex than before. The evolution of foreign policy was briefly analyzed from independence till the present day. India has, he argued, the potential to be a Great Power, but it would need to increase its political cohesion, enhance inclusive governance, revert to a high growth trajectory, improve infrastructure, and augment military and technological strength.

4. Besides, India would need to learn to wield 'smart power' i.e. a judicious mix of hard and soft power. Since independence, India has come a long way in making its presence felt as it strives to pursue its national interests in an enlightened manner. India is widely

perceived as a benign power, except in parts of South Asia.

5. The lecture, backed by a PowerPoint presentation, triggered a lively Q & A session with students on diverse subjects.

6. Prof. Dr. C. Raj Kumar, Vice Chancellor of JGU, presented a university memento to the speaker in appreciation of his insightful lecture.

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