



**Forum for Strategic Initiatives and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung  
in collaboration with  
The Centre for Land Warfare Studies**

**Seminar on**

**INDIA AND SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE INDO-PACIFIC IN THE NEW ERA  
NEW DELHI, 12-13 JULY 2018**

**A Brief Background**

An increasing reality today is that the World Order shaped after the Second World War and the Cold War is undergoing a major shift, indeed according to some a ‘transformation’. China’s rapid rise and “America First” policy under Donald Trump are possibly indicators of major future changes. Among others is the emergence of India with its sustained high economic growth and strategic role both globally and particularly in the Indo-Pacific. The defining recent event was the Trump-Kim summit in Singapore in June this year. This reflected both the continuing importance of the region as well as highlighted the new hot spots in the **Indo-Pacific**. This newly defined geo-strategic region rightly defines a major area of confrontation, challenging nations to find suitable policy response.

In his Keynote Address at Shangri La on 01 June, PM Modi accurately defined the Indo-Pacific region as “*home to a vast array of global opportunities and challenges. I am increasingly convinced with each passing day that the destinies of those of us who live in the region are linked.*” Yet, he continued that, “*We live on the edge of uncertainty, of unsettled questions and unresolved disputes; contests and claims; and clashing visions and competing models.*” What then are the specific challenges confronting India? How do we prepare to exploit the opportunities?

In recent years China has improved its fortifications in the South and East China Sea islands and increased its maritime activities in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, both in frequency and capability. Other nations in Asia are acquiring arms, forming alliances or seeking collaboration. Yet, the Quad is far from forming or even agreeing on common concerns, even though as an entity it cannot be ignored. After the scuttling of the Trans Pacific Partnership, the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) has not yet made much progress. While Asian economies continue to do well, the full impact of restrictive US trade policies are yet to be felt.

India’s overall stature in the international community has improved diplomatically and strategically. Its GDP growth remains the highest among all major countries. Yet, tensions with China remain. The Doklam stand-off in mid 2017, where India more than held its own, led to the

Wuhan “informal summit” in May 2018. New Delhi is in dialogue with its critical neighbors in the East, particularly with Vietnam and Indonesia. The Summit in Delhi with all ten heads of government of the ASEAN in January in New Delhi was a major success. How does India build on these developments and help shape a cooperative security architecture? At Shangri La again PM Modi had called upon the assembled leaders, “*to rise above divisions and competition to work together for a brighter future for all*”. How do we provide policy substance to this vision?

In these turbulent times it is necessary to assess the opportunities and challenges for India. This seminar will **examine these and related issues in the Indo-Pacific through an intense dialogue through keynote addresses, panel discussions focusing on strategic, economic and political issues. Finally, it will recommend policy options for India in the coming decade.**



**INDIA AND SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE INDO-PACIFIC IN THE NEW ERA  
NEW DELHI, 12-13 July 2018**

**Day One**

**Manekshaw Convention Centre – Delhi Cantonment**

**12 July 2018 (Thu)**

**Conference Hall – Taber**

(Time/hrs.)	
0930-1000	<i>Tea/coffee and Registration</i>
1000-1010	<b>Introduction to the Seminar</b> – Maj. Gen. Dipankar Banerjee (Retd)
1010-1015	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> – Dr. Arvind Virmani, President, FSI
1015-1030	Address by H.E. Martin Ney, German Ambassador in India ( <i>tbc</i> )
1030-1035	<b>Introductory and Welcome Remarks</b> – Lt Gen VK Ahluwalia (Retd), Director, CLAWS
1035- 1100	<b>Key Note Address</b> – Lt Gen Satish Dua, CIDS, MoD
1100-1130	Tea
1130-1330	<b>Session 1- Panel Discussion- Nuclear and Strategic Challenges in the Indo-Pacific</b>

*Review recent developments in the region affecting strategic developments; including issues of denuclearization in the Korean peninsula, build-ups in the seas and the Pacific Ocean, prospects of the Quad, regional arms build-up, perceptions of threats and challenges, future of ASEAN, Indian security concerns.*

Statement by the Chair 10 mins, opening statements each panel member 20 mins, followed by discussions with the seminar participants and audience 45 mins.

**Chair – Lt Gen Balraj Nagal (Retd)**

**Panelists and Issues**

*“Nuclear, strategic developments in the Korean Peninsula – lessons and implications for the region”* - Lt Gen Amit Sharma, Retd (former GOC in C Strategic Forces Command)

*“US Policies in the Indo-Pacific”* - Dhruva Jaishankar, Brookings, India

*“Strategic Impact on Japan, China and possibilities of Confrontation in the Indo-Pacific”* - Brig Arun Sahgal, (Retd), DG, FSI & Senior Fellow, Delhi Policy Group

**1330-1430 LUNCH – Manekshaw Auditorium**



1430-1600

**Session 2 – Economic and Trade Challenges in the Indo-Pacific**

*Prospects of global and Indo-Pacific economy in the coming decade and their security implications; likely impact of recent policies on trade and tariff and the economic impact of the Belt and Road initiative. What are the current economic challenges for India and the impact of recent developments in the region on future policy options?* Opening statement by the Chair – 10 mins; each speaker – 30 mins, remaining time Q&A.

**Chair – Arvind Virmani, Economist, President, FSI**

**Panelists**

**Speakers – Surjit Singh Bhalla, Economist**

**Pramit Pal Chaudhuri, Ed Hindustan Times**

1600

*Tea/coffee*

*End of Day 1*

**Day Two**

**Manekshaw Convention Centre – Delhi Cantonment**

**13 July 2018 (Thu)**

**Conference Hall – Taber**

*Political and strategic developments in China including, Xi Jinping and China's emerging role, relations with major powers, strategic developments including force restructuring and weapons acquisitions, policies and likely strategies in the Indo-Pacific, and current influences in the region; recent developments in India-China relations and future prospects.* Chair to introduce the topic 10 mins. Panelists 20 mins each. Remainder time interactions with participants and Q&A.

**Panel Discussion**

0900-0930 *Tea/coffee and Registration*

**0930-1215 Chair – Amb Ashok Kantha**

**Panelists -**

**“China in the Xi Jinping Era”** - Nayan Chanda former Ed in Chief, Far Eastern Economic Review and founder Editor, Yale Global Review

**“China's Foreign and Security Policies after the 19<sup>th</sup> CPC”** - Prof Srikanth Kondapally, Professor East Asian Studies, SIS, JNU

**“Promoting Peace and Stability along the LAC”**- Lt Gen Vinod Bhatia (Retd) DG, CENJAWS



*“India-China Relations in the Coming Decade”* – Mr. Zorawar Daulat Singh,  
Research Fellow, CPR

*“China’s Emergence and its implications - A View from Europe”*– Dr. Christian  
Wagner, SWP, Berlin

1215-1230     *Tea/coffee*

1230-1400            **Session 4 – Policy Options for India in the Coming Decade**

*The session will address economic, diplomatic and strategic policy options for India in the coming decade based on the emerging environment. The panelists will be expected to make over arching policy choices for the nation and recommend structural and policy changes required. Each speaker 20 mins. Discussion among participants – 30 mins*

**Chair:**                **Maj Gen Dipankar Banerjee (Retd)**

**Economic- Mohan Guruswamy**

**Strategic – Vice Admiral Pradip Chauhan (Retd), DG, NMF**

**Diplomatic – Amb Vijay Nambiar (Retd)**

1400-1500            **LUNCH - Manekshaw Convention Centre.**