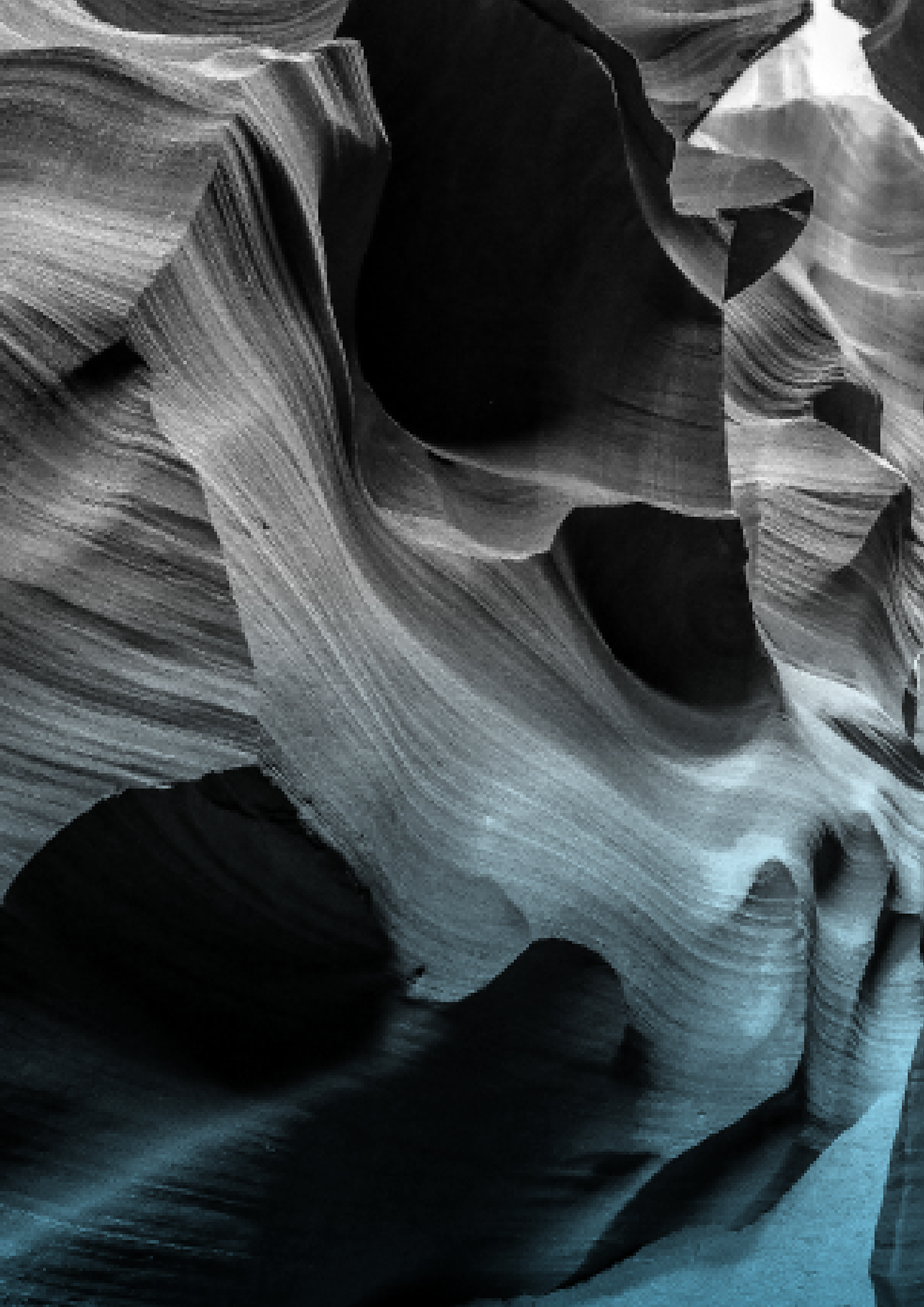
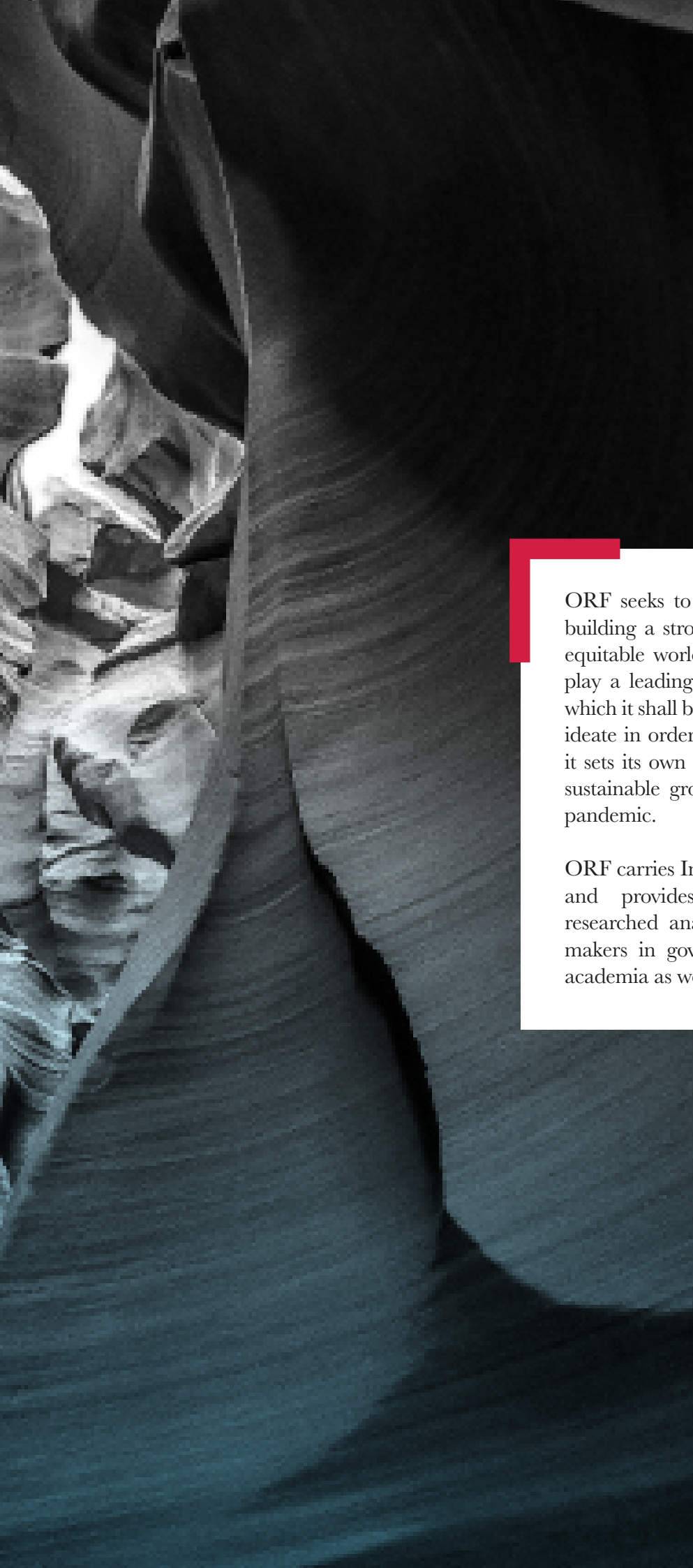




**A N N U A L
R E P O R T
2021**





ORF seeks to lead and aid policy thinking towards building a strong and prosperous India in a fair and equitable world. It sees India as a country poised to play a leading role in the knowledge age—a role in which it shall be increasingly called upon to proactively ideate in order to shape global conversations, even as it sets its own course along a trajectory of long-term sustainable growth, particularly post the COVID-19 pandemic.

ORF carries Indian voices and ideas to global forums; and provides non-partisan, independent, well-researched analyses and inputs to diverse decision-makers in governments, business communities, and academia as well as civil society around the world.

Contents

04	MESSAGE	
	Chairman's Message	06
	President's Message	08
	2020 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report	10
	Board of Trustees	12
	Global Advisory Board	13
	In Memoriam	14

16	RESEARCH	
	Centre for New Economic Diplomacy	18
	Centre for Security, Strategy and Technology	20
	Centre for the Economy and Growth	23
	Strategic Studies Programme	26
	Inclusive Growth and SDGs Programme	29
	Geoeconomics Programme	32
	Health Initiative	35
	Urban Policy Initiative	38
	Eurasian Studies	41
	Neighbourhood Studies Initiative	45

48	FORUMS	
	Raisina Dialogue 2021	50
	BRICS Academic Forum 2021	56
	Colaba Conversation 2021	59
	CyFy 2020	62
	Tackling Insurgent Ideologies 2020	66

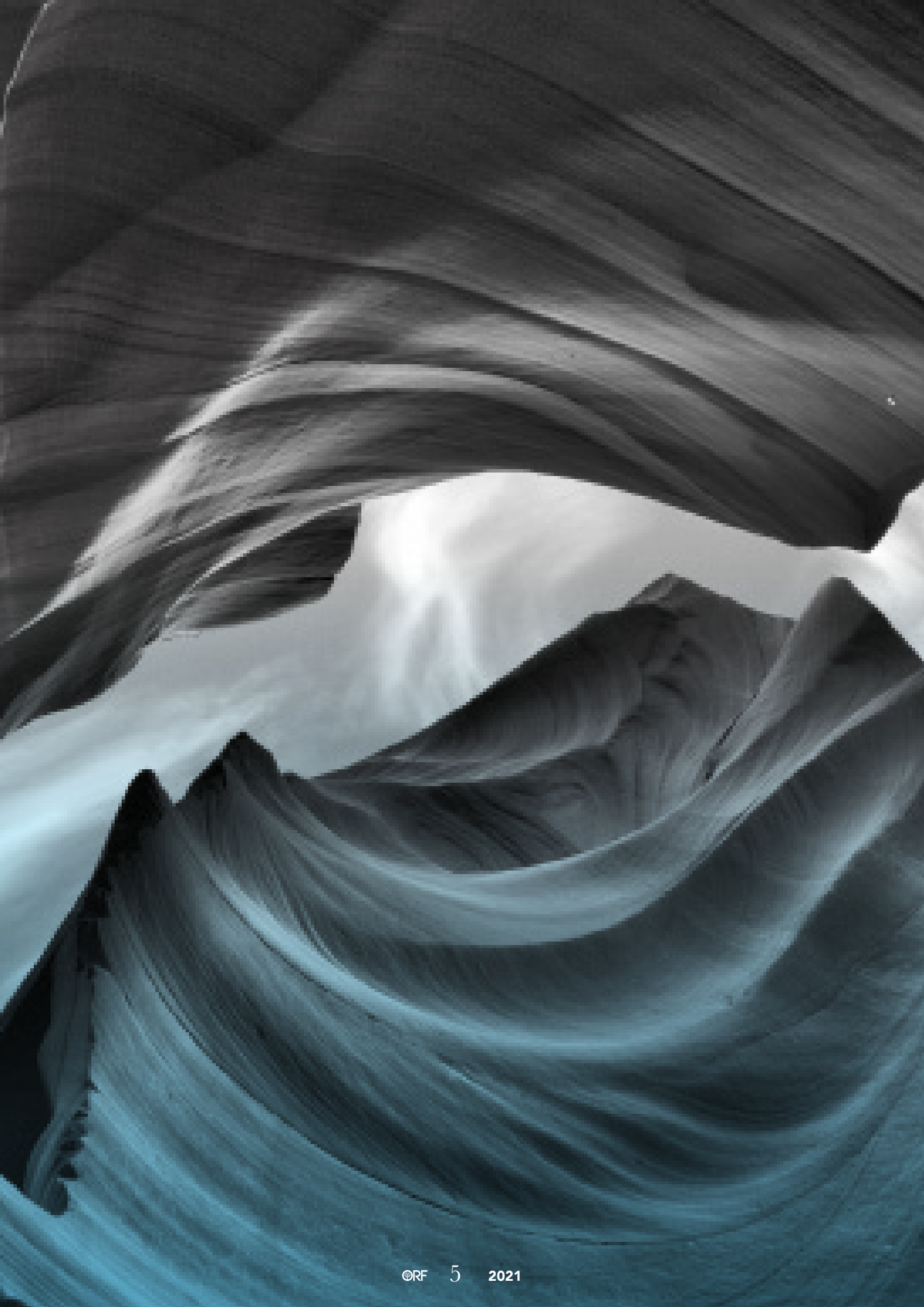
68	ANNEXURE	
	List of Events	70
	List of Publications	81
	Faculty	98
	ORF Organogram	102

104	FINANCIAL REPORT	
	Independent Auditor's Report	106
	Significant Account	117



Message

The Chairman and President of ORF give an insight into the highlights of the past year—key research, analyses, and forums that have ignited debate and informed discussion. They also delve into the future, and the domains that will be of focus for the institution and its scholars for the next year.



SUNJOY JOSHI,

Chairman, Observer Research Foundation



ORF staff and stakeholders not only overcame but embraced the challenges brought about by the pandemic. We will continue to create new means and spaces to make our hybrid world more conducive for the ORF community.



The 2020s were supposed to be the “Decade for Action”. The now or never moment for a world running out of time to find solutions to vexing problems of—development with sustainability, growth with equity, trade without distortions. But, then, the world lurched into 2020 stumbling on a hidden tripwire.

Desperate national lockdowns swept lives and livelihoods online. Wave after devastating wave of COVID-19 saw modern medical infrastructure wobble on the verge of collapse. Today, as a badly shaken world struggles to cope, we realise with humility that we are yet not out of the woods. Families are still trying to come to terms with the helpless sorrow of unwonted loss. Nations struggle to stem the tide of the economic reversal that came in the wake of the pandemic.

The ORF family, too, lost three of its admired and loved colleagues—Prof Hari Vasudevan, Prof KV Kesavan and Dr Joyeeta Bhattacharjee. Our grief over the loss of these scholars who enriched the field of International Studies brings us closer.

Our colleagues surmounted the stress of nursing and caring for family members, and learnt to combine it with the pressures of work, schooling, shopping—all from the confines of their homes. As our systems migrated online, our staff showed agility in adapting and were soon doing what they did best—analysis with objectivity.

Our teams meticulously tracked the pandemic and all related developments—day by day, week by week, region by region. ORF’s COVID and Vaccine trackers are still among the most popular and most granular. Of the 1727 publications ORF produced, 1502 were related to COVID-19, and have become part of our much-referenced COVID-19 Knowledge Centre.

The scourge of this pandemic brought home to us the importance of governance at the para-national level in tackling extraordinary situations where the best technology notwithstanding, centralised structures remain too far removed from the maelstrom. We, thus, convened the first edition of the Colaba Conversation—ORF

Mumbai's flagship conference on the future of globalised cities and states, which must be the driving force of any post-pandemic recovery.

The COVID-19 pandemic also exposed the fragility of the faltering multilateral system. The weakening security arrangements of the post-World War II era, under challenge from the Chinese model of state-led capitalism, has forced countries to explore multiple other security and economic alliances. These minilateral and plurilateral initiatives have become the new defenders of the rules-based international order. The 2021 edition of the Raisina Dialogue, “#ViralWorld: Outbreaks, Outliers and Out of Control”, perhaps, delved into the most critical question of all—who and what will define the post-pandemic world order? And true to the spirit of the times, Raisina 2021 was a fully digital forum. Yet, it gathered over 4000 practitioners and experts from more than 100 countries virtually to discuss all of this and more.

As we now struggle to define the “new normal” that involves tracing apps, vaccine passports and hybrid forms of work, the centrality of technology and its application looms larger in our lives. How far will the 4IR really empower us to predict or control future outbreaks? How will technology assist our ongoing battle against COVID-19?

Technology collaboration allowed for the rapid development and deployment of multiple vaccines in such a short span of time—a feat, indeed, never been accomplished before. Yet, access to the commercial product remained cruelly and inhumanly tied to the hegemony of corporate patents, and the power and economic structures supporting them. The new normal will need to discover ways to challenge these constructs of power that privilege one over another, and ORF will continue to agitate this and proffer solutions in this ongoing debate.

But tied to technology-driven innovation and all its promises are contested frontiers, particularly across privacy and the laws surrounding data governance, the widening divide between the digital ‘haves’ and ‘have nots’, and the individual battling the power of both the sovereign state and Big Tech. Our tech platform, CyFy, examined these highs and lows of technology over a week in October 2020, to lead a conversation on how technology could be a force multiplier for both enabling a just and equal society, and also ensuring a sustainable and green transition from the pandemic.

Over the past year, ORF, its staff and stakeholders, did not only overcome but embraced the challenges brought about by the pandemic. We continue to care and will create new means and spaces to make our hybrid world more conducive for our researchers and the ORF community. I want to convey my best wishes to all on this foundation day and remember those who are now with us on this occasion.

SAMIR SARAN,

President, Observer Research Foundation



Our research will focus on creating inclusive community spaces, accessible public goods, and building green and sustainable mobility systems. Gender-first and gender-led green transitions will be a priority area for ORF.



Institutions have never been about a pin code, an impressive building, or a sprawling campus. They always were, and are, about people who shape them with their energy, creativity and aspirations; temper them with their grit and determination; and nourish them by undertaking every-day and essential tasks. Naturally, the progress made by organisations has to be a function of the journeys of these individuals, their wellbeing and their growth. The #WFH era has announced this stark truth loudly.

The past year was devastating for ORF. We lost Prof Hari Vasudevan, Prof KV Kesavan and Dr Joyeeta Bhattacharjee, three established leaders in their fields of research. But beyond their professional prowess, they were also wonderful colleagues, warm friends, and, above all, caring and kind people. As an institution, we have had to traverse this period of pain and profound loss, and have done so together.

Indeed, all is not well in these turbulent '20s. Be it the COVID-19 pandemic, the developing situation in Afghanistan, polarisation and strife within many democracies, or the increasing frequency of natural disasters, we are being tested as societies and countries; and the ideal of the global village seems more distant than ever. As governments, corporations and individuals cope with these challenges and many others, institutions such as ORF must renew themselves and double down on ensuring that we comprehensively assess, analyse and identify solutions and pathways to respond to these extraordinary circumstances. As we look towards the future, five priorities must form part of our efforts.

The first is to decipher and debate the evolving role of the state and its engagement with its own citizens and with the wider world. With the onset of the pandemic, we saw an accelerated crumbling of the multilateral order and an exaggerated premium being placed on self-reliance. Yet, the events in Afghanistan, climate-induced and other catastrophes, the rise of belligerent actors in the international system, and the weaponisation of trade, technology and currency, all point to an urgent imperative—the need to strengthen multilateralism. We must invest in institutions and frameworks for the future. Be it the rejuvenation of the UN or smart plurilateralism, ORF must explore and identify emerging avenues of collaboration that are needed now.

Our second priority must be to assess the insertions and implications of technology in the conduct of our daily lives. Education, work, and recreation have all gone digital, erasing boundaries and distances and diminishing the role of space and time in society and politics. As we create a new ecosystem, we must engage with its governance, secure its plural character, seek higher standards of digital rights for individuals, and ensure that this ecosystem is accessible to all. Community-led digital societies are essential for the data economy to benefit all; and communities—many excluded until now—must be heard.

Third, the pandemic is teaching us the importance of investing in social and public infrastructure. Health facilities, health workers and professionals, and health laws and regulations all struggled to keep pace with the virulence of COVID-19. It is time to rethink how we need to serve a country of India's size and diversity, and to determine if and how we could cater to others around the world. As we spiral into a climate crisis, we must also rethink habitats and their design. Our research will focus on creating inclusive community spaces, accessible public goods, and building green and sustainable mobility systems. Gender-first and gender-led green transitions will be a priority area for ORF.

Our fourth priority is strengthening our engagement with the youth, who will either be the beneficiaries or will be burdened by the policies that we create today. As India turns 75, ORF aims to increase its products, programmes and platforms that will engage with the youth, to track how young India comprehends the country's domestic and foreign policy agenda. We will work towards infusing public policy debates and discussions with ideas from a generation that must shape this country's role and decide its place in world affairs.

Finally, the pandemic also had a crucial message for India: It has to lead the next iteration of globalisation. Our global partnerships and linkages served us well and allowed us to respond to and recover from the devastating viral spread. Supply chains and trade links; they were our proverbial lifelines. We must examine how global supply chains can be made more resilient and present ideas to strengthen India's integration with global value chains.

ORF is committed to engaging with these issues and many more as a non-partisan, ideas-led and an inclusive organisation. As we look ahead, and look afresh, I would like to thank the ORF board members, our talented faculty, and our partners and stakeholders for their efforts, commitments and support through these trying times. Communities Matter!

Think Tank Index Report

As an institution, ORF has always strived for excellence, and our continuous climb up the Global Go To Think Tank Index is a testament to that effort. In 2020, ORF remained the most-recognised Indian think tank in rankings and the first Indian think tank to be ranked among the global top-20 institutions. These rankings encapsulate ORF's multi-faceted approach as well commitment to sustained pre-eminence in public policy. This year's rankings place ORF as a leading think tank in the following categories:

1 Highest ranked Think Tank in the category 'Best New Idea or Paradigm Developed by a Think Tank'

2 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Top Think Tanks in China, India, Japan, and the Republic of Korea'


4 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Best Think Tank Conference (Raisina Dialogue)'

5 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Think Tank to Watch'

7 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Think Tanks with the Most Innovative Policy Ideas/Proposals'

8 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Top Think Tanks Worldwide (non-U.S.)'

20 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Top Think Tanks Worldwide (U.S. and non-U.S.)'



15 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Think Tanks with Best Use of the Internet'

17 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Best Institutional Collaboration Involving Two or More Think Tanks'

18 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Think Tanks with Best External Relations/Public Engagement Program'

19 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Best Managed Think Tanks'

19 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Top Foreign Policy and International Affairs Think Tanks'

22 Ranking by Area of Research in the category 'Top International Economics Think Tanks'

27 Highest ranked Indian Think Tank in the category 'Top Defense and National Security'

Named as one of the select Think Tanks in the category '2020 Best Policy and Institutional Response to COVID-19'

Board of Trustees



ANNU TANDON

Ex. MP 15th Lok Sabha from Unnao



BHARAT GOENKA

Managing Director, Tally Solutions



ZIA MODY

Founding partner, AZB & Partners



BALJIT KAPOOR

Honorary Secretary, Observer Research Foundation, Former, Director Delhi, Times of India



RAJESH SHAH

Co-Chairman & Managing Director, Mukand Ltd.



JAGANNATHA KUMAR

Honorary Treasurer Observer Research Foundation, CEO, Reliance Foundation



RENUKA MISHRA

Trustee, Shri Shankar Shikshayatan



SAMIR SARAN

President, Observer Research Foundation



SUNJOY JOSHI

Chairman, Observer Research Foundation



LALIT BHASIN

Advocate at the Supreme Court
of India, FCI Arb



CARL BILDT

Former Prime Minister, Sweden;
Co-Chair, European Council on
Foreign Relations



EBTESAM AL-KETBI

Founder & President, Emirates Policy
Centre, United Arab Emirates



JANE HOLL LUTE

President and CEO, SICPA,
United States



JAYANT SINHA

Chairperson, Standing Committee
on Finance and Member of
Parliament, India



KATE HAMPTON

Chief Executive Officer,
The Children's Investment Fund
Foundation, United Kingdom



MARIETJE SCHAAKE

President, Cyberpeace Institute,
Netherlands



STEPHEN HARPER

Former Prime Minister, Canada

Global Advisory Board



In Memoriam

This year, ORF lost three eminent scholars—Professor Hari Vasudevan, Professor K.V. Kesavan, and Dr. Joyeeta Bhattacharjee. As an institution, ORF would like to pay its condolences to their families, friends, and loved ones. Their work has enriched their respective fields of research and will continue to be passed down the generations as excellent pieces of scholarship. They will be deeply missed by all at ORF.



ORF MOURNS THE DEMISE OF DR. JOYEETA BHATTACHARJEE

Senior Fellow, ORF

Who passed away on 20 April, 2021

A scholar of South Asia, Joyeeta was a champion of the India-Bangladesh relationship. Research and engagements on the bilateral relationship were made richer by her contributions.

Joyeeta was a vital member of ORF for 15 years. She will be deeply missed and fondly remembered.

ORF MOURNS THE DEMISE OF PROF HARI VASUDEVAN

Distinguished Fellow, ORF

Who passed away on May 10, 2020

Prof Vasudevan was a fine scholar with a distinguished career spanning more than four decades. He was President, IDS, Kolkata & Professor at Dept of History, Calcutta University.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.



ORF MOURNS THE DEMISE OF PROF. K.V. KESAVAN

Visiting Distinguished Fellow

Who passed away on April 19, 2021



Prof Kesavan was one of India's foremost scholars on East Asian Studies. He was a recipient of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan's Order of the Rising Sun for his exceptional contributions to the India-Japan scholarship.

He was with ORF for 11 years, and we will miss him greatly.



Research

Programmes at ORF are committed to research that strives to find creative policy solutions for some of the key social, economic, political, environmental and cultural challenges the world is facing today. We bring together a number of interdisciplinary programmes and initiatives that transcend traditional disciplinary boundaries and have set pioneering research agendas.





The Centre for New Economic Diplomacy

MISSION STATEMENT

The Centre for New Economic Diplomacy (CNED) is committed to discovering solutions, building transnational partnerships, and strengthening multi-stakeholder responses to the challenges that confront the global community. The Centre focuses on South and South-East Asia, the African continent and the Indo-Pacific region; recognising that these geographies are witnessing the most important development challenges and are designing a new growth paradigm that is cognizant of a world constrained by the pandemic, climate change, people enabled by technology and an uncertain future.

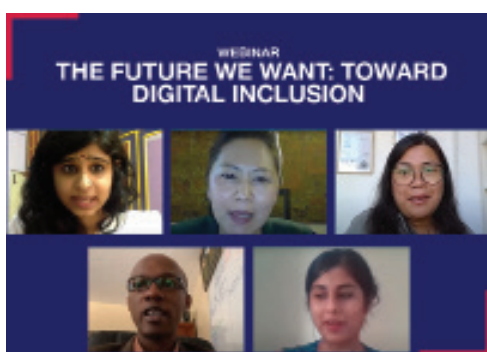
A QUICK VIEW OF THE PAST

CNED produced a series of research papers on the challenges that countries like India faced and the possible solutions that can be achieved through international cooperation. The Centre also launched a video series titled, 'CNED Development Dialogues', in which the faculty conducted interviews with leading experts in the areas of health, gender, climate change, and technology policy to present complex policy issues to the public in an easily accessible manner. Gender was a cross-cutting issue in all the research streams. Research was organised around four pillars, viz., health, climate change, technology, and development cooperation.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The devastation brought about by COVID-19, along with the climate crisis, has brought the world to the cusp of transformative changes. The pandemic has not only set back efforts to realise the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); there is little clarity on the kind of global order that will emerge post pandemic. In an altered political and economic landscape, a 'business as usual' approach to engaging with the world is not desirable. Therefore, the Centre's research in the coming year will focus on how to address the grave challenges of health, extreme climate events, poverty, economic recession, and hunger through regional and international cooperation. The coming year's research is organised around the following pillars: Human capital, climate change, technology, gender, and development cooperation.

EVENTS



Date: August 12, 2020

Name: The Future We Want: Toward Digital Inclusion

Description: As digital tools and services have become the lifeblood of societies and economies, there is a need to expand the scope of what it means to build an inclusive future economy, including bridging divides based on geography, identity, gender and literacy. The webinar focused on how to truly achieve inclusive digital growth.

Speakers:

- Ephraim Kenyanito, Lawyer, Public Policy Analyst, ARTICLE19
- Keyzom Ngodup Massally, Asia Pacific Regional Lead, The Better than Cash Alliance
- Lourdes Montenegro, Lead, Digital Sector Transformation, World Benchmarking Alliance
- Radhika Radhakrishnan, Researcher, Internet Democracy Project

Moderator: Trisha Ray, Associate Fellow, ORF



Date: October 21, 2020

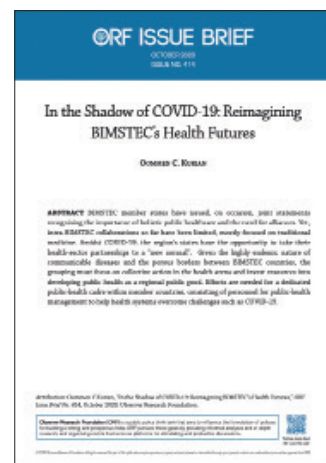
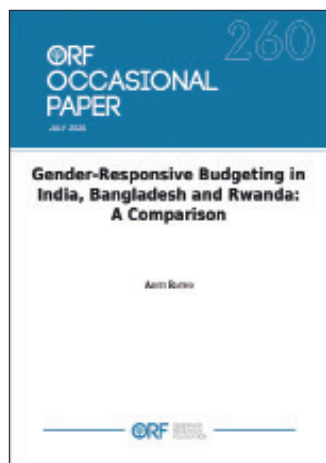
Name: COVID-19's Impact on India-Africa Climate Action Plans

Description: This discussion is the eighth episode of the CNED Development Dialogues. It discusses the impact of COVID-19 on meeting the climate agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030. It explores the kind of partnership required between India and Africa to push for a clean energy transition in a post-COVID era.

Speakers:

- Aparna Roy, Associate Fellow and Lead, Climate Change and Energy, at the Centre for New Economic Diplomacy (CNED), ORF
- Youba Sokona, Vice-Chair, The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS





Centre for Security, Strategy and Technology

MISSION STATEMENT

Critical and emerging technologies are growing ever more enmeshed with geopolitics and international relations. With the future of economies, societies and security at the forefront, nations are racing to shape—rather than be shaped by—the global trajectory of these technologies.

The mission of the Centre for Security, Strategy and Technology (CSST) is to lead global conversations and foster new ideas on the impact of technology on national and international security and its implications for India, the Indo-Pacific and the global order; to inform and amplify Indian perspectives through dialogue with established and emerging voices; to invest in robust, multi-disciplinary research and scholarship in these domains; and to partner with governments, academia, the think tank and policy community in order to create a multi-stakeholder base that is invested in our common tech futures.

A QUICK VIEW OF THE PAST

Over the past year, CSST has worked to expand India's tech partnerships with the Indo-Pacific (including Quad) with projects under the Quad Tech Network in areas such as 5G resilience. The Centre is also working on an AICCTP grants (2021-23) project on quantum meta-ethics with the University of Sydney. In another study with Australia, the Centre is working with the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) on a project studying the effects of COVID-19 on the digital economies of Southeast Asia, suggesting how and where digital and emerging technologies may be able to help with its post-pandemic recovery, and identifying opportunities for India and Australia to engage with.

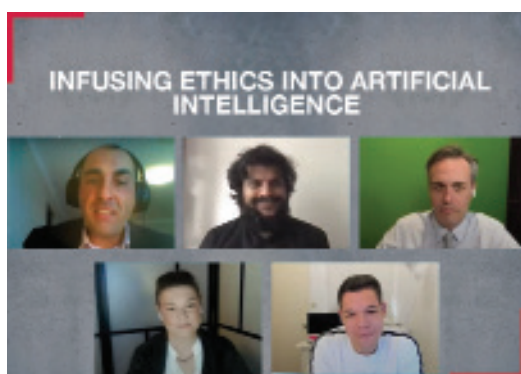
CSST additionally explored new arenas of geopolitics and technologies, including intersections with space, nuclear, climate change and supply chains. The Centre has worked to expand its outreach within the Indian nuclear community as well as space community through its research publications, workshops and webinars on areas such as frameworks for nuclear safety and security, assessing the weaponisation of space, and the need for an open Indian space policy.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

CSST aims to expand its outreach and move from vision documents to concrete areas of cooperation in the areas of tech, nuclear, space, cyber, and other critical and emerging technologies. Key themes for the Centre in the future include: Surveillance, encryption and privacy; tech cooperation in the Indo-Pacific, the intersection of cyber and nuclear security, frontier technologies and the geopolitical implications of uneven access to tech (Quantum, AI etc); and propelling innovation in India's space capabilities and global nuclear security governance.

The Centre—through research, collaboration, public events and workshops—intends to amplify discussions at a national and international level on nuclear, space and emerging technologies. Further, it aims to be the leading space for national and global conversations and research in these domains through partnerships with governments, academia, and the think tank and policy community.

EVENTS



Date: November 8, 2020

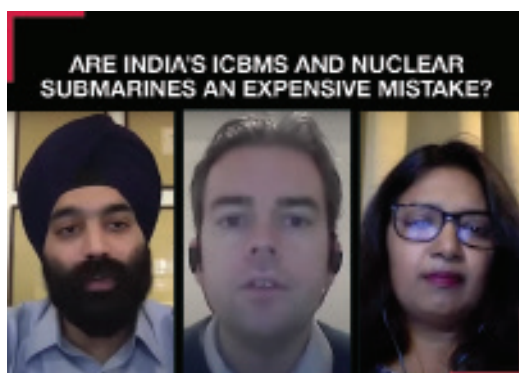
Name: Infusing Ethics Into Artificial Intelligence

Description: This webinar brought together experts from the tech industry, particularly the Artificial Intelligence (AI) sector, to discuss the importance of ethics in the building of AI. What happens if there are unintended consequences of AI? For example, when AI incorrectly identifies someone in a criminal investigation due to inaccuracies in AI-based facial recognition technology. The discussion focused on why ethics is foundational to AI and why companies and organisations are increasingly offering programmes to help employees put ethics at the core of their respective workflows.

Speakers:

- David Hardoon, Senior Advisor on Data & AI, Union Bank of the Philippines
- Edward Santow, Human Rights Commissioner, Australia
- Kathy Baxter, Architect, Ethical AI Practice, Salesforce, USA
- Rahul Panicker, Chief Innovation Officer, Wadhvani AI, India

Moderator: Sassoon Grigorian, Senior Director, Government Affairs, Salesforce



Date: May 10, 2020

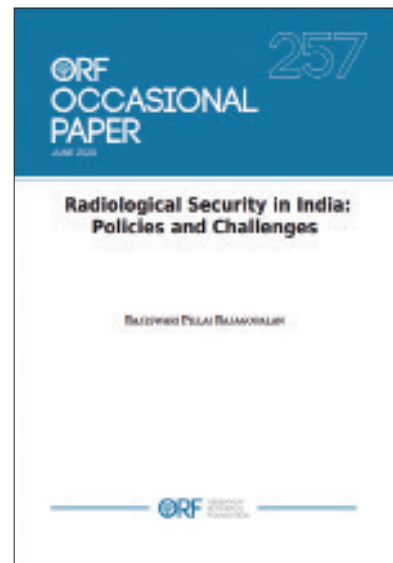
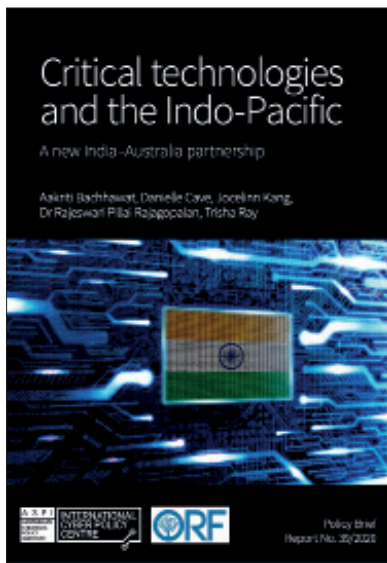
Name: Are India's ICBMs and Nuclear Submarines an Expensive Mistake?

Description: Following the 2017 Doklam standoff, most Indian analysis has concluded that China holds a conventional and nuclear edge over India. However, a report by Frank O'Donnell and Alexander Bollfrass suggests that this pessimistic Indian assessment of the balance of forces may be mistaken and a poor guide for Indian security policy. This conversation with O'Donnell, author of the report, explores the India-China relationship with regard to border security issues

and military forces and discusses potentially more efficient usage of the Indian defense budget.

Speakers:

- Angad Singh, Project Coordinator, Strategic Studies Programme, ORF
- Frank O'Donnell, Postdoctoral Scholar in the Rising Power Alliances Project, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, and Nonresident Fellow, South Asia Program, Stimson Center
- Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan, Director of the Centre for Security, Strategy and Technology (CSST), ORF





Centre for the Economy and Growth

MISSION STATEMENT

Three major shifts will play out rapidly during the 2020s: The transition from villages to cities, the transition to low-carbon modes of production and consumption, and the transition to an increasingly digital world. The effects of these will be felt by all economic actors: Business, markets and finance, as well as workers, consumers and communities. To attain India's goal of becoming a US \$10 trillion economy by the end of the decade, these shifts will have to be harnessed effectively. The Centre for the Economy & Growth conducts research, produces commentary, and provides platforms along five major verticals—Urban Futures, the Green Transition, the New Social Contract, Energy and Resource Security, and Political Economy and Reform. The Centre produces, deliberates on, and promotes policies to reconcile India's political and development aspirations with the imperative of sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

A QUICK VIEW OF THE PAST

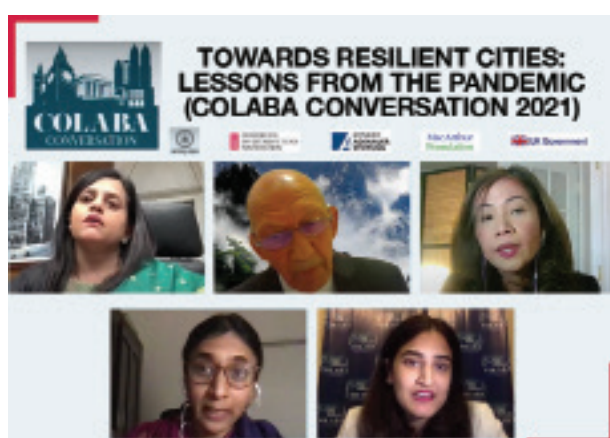
Over the past year, the Centre for the Economy and Growth has focused its efforts on analysing the effects of the pandemic on the macro-economy and welfare, and on how to ensure that the post-pandemic recovery for India and other emerging economies is sustainable, inclusive, and timely. Shortly after the COVID-19 pandemic hit, we produced research and commentary that examined the pandemic's effect on commodity and oil-exporting nations, and also published a significant body of work on how migrants and vulnerable workers were affected, including care workers and women. The Centre contributed effectively to analysis of the government's relief and recovery packages. It also worked on designing mechanisms and institutions that would ensure the free flow of investible funds in order to speed India's emergence from the pandemic-related recession. The Centre also continued its broader work on institutional design for a more inclusive and greener financial system.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Going forward, the Centre for the Economy and Growth intends to sharpen its focus on the design of a sustainable recovery. We take the optimistic view that the emergence from the pandemic provides a unique opportunity for a sustainable and inclusive redesign of multiple economic and geo-economic systems—from the flows of international finance, to energy sources, to urban mobility, to resilient supply chains. These are all in flux thanks to the pandemic, and the Centre's research will focus on the institutional and other changes necessary in order to ensure that the new post-pandemic order is supportive of the aspirations of India and other liberal democracies in the emerging world. We also intend to examine India's position as a global leader going into COP26 and COP27. Our work on infrastructure finance and modelling of the green transition will continue, as well as the Centre's scrutiny of the Indian recovery and government packages for green and long-term elements. We will also intensify our efforts on the analysis of urban recovery and redesign and on the future of work globally post the pandemic.

Centre for the Economy and Growth

EVENTS



Date: February 2, 2021

Name: Towards Resilient Cities: Lessons from the Pandemic (Colaba Conversation 2021)

Description: This session was hosted as part of the Colaba Conversation 2021, ORF Mumbai's flagship conference on the future of globalised cities and states. It looked at how city governance, city planning, and the allocation of resources, investments and financing must be integrated with community engagement to build back better and build back together post the pandemic.

Speakers:

- Ashwini Bhide, Additional Municipal Commissioner, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai, India
- Nicholas Brooke, Chairman, Urban Land Institute Asia Pacific, Hong Kong

- Regina Ramos, Deputy Director, Pilots and Innovation, Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, United States
 - Shruti Narayan, Regional Director, South and West Asia Regions, C40 Cities, India
- Moderator:** Aditi Ratho, Associate Fellow, Observer Research Foundation, India



Date: July 23, 2020

Name: The Case for a Green Frontier Superfund

Description: The discussion provided an overview of green finance, the differing priorities and needs across sectors, and the institutional and regulatory structures that will need to be put in place to achieve a green transition in India.

Speakers:

- Jayant Sinha, Member of Parliament and Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance, India
- Kate Hampton, CEO, Children's Investment Fund Foundation, United Kingdom

Moderator: Mitali Mukherjee, Fellow, ORF, India



Date: December 13, 2020

Name: Book Launch—Fossil Free: Reimagining Clean Energy in a Carbon-Constrained World

Description: The current global energy use, with its overwhelming dependence on fossil fuels, has taken global warming to dangerous levels. In the last decade, a major transformation—the transition to clean, affordable and sustainable energy from the sun and the wind—is beginning to address these challenges. Fossil Free: Reimagining Clean Energy in a Carbon-Constrained World provides a concise introduction to the challenges, realities and complexities of the global and local energy industry, as well as the trends and forces driving the energy transition.

Speakers:

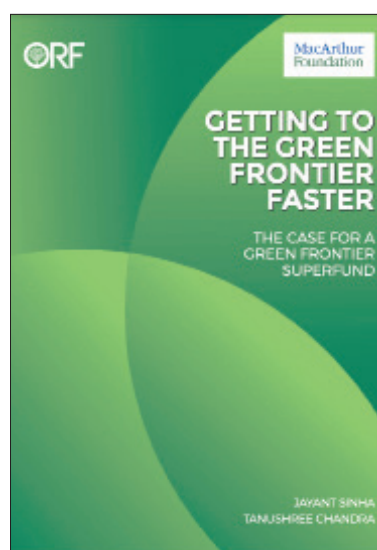
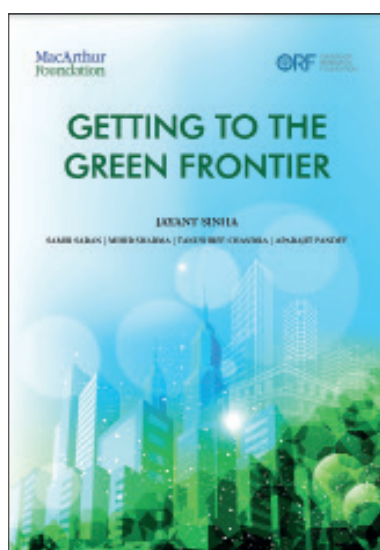
• Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog, India

• Kate Hampton, CEO, Children's Investment Fund Foundation, UK

• Sumant Sinha, Chairman and Managing Director, ReNew Power and author of Fossil Free

Moderator: Samir Saran, President, ORF, India

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS





Strategic Studies Programme

MISSION STATEMENT

The Strategic Studies Programme seeks to shape India's foreign policy and national security choices by deepening understanding and identifying policy interventions on contemporary Indian and global debates. The programme offers original analysis—a mix of theoretical, historical, and practical perspectives—through extensive academic research, interdisciplinary studies, data-driven analysis, and engagement with experts and policymakers. The programme's outreach activities, in the form of seminars and roundtables as well as collaborations with ORF's growing network of global partners, serve to enhance and frame growing public debate, domestically and around the world, on India's power and its purpose.

A QUICK VIEW OF THE PAST

The year gone by saw the programme adjusting to the 'new normal' ushered in by the COVID-19 pandemic. It allowed the researchers to engage with a range of national and global stakeholders in a virtual setup on key themes: The state of global (dis)order post-COVID-19; institutional infirmities and normative shifts; increasing great power contestation; emergence of middle powers; evolving strategic contours in the Indo-Pacific, Eurasia and Africa; maritime challenges and opportunities in and around South Asia; trends in India's neighbourhood; Indian foreign and national security policies; and the changing nature of extremism in India. The programme made important interventions in all the above mentioned areas by producing academic research, policy studies as well as through extensive outreach engagements.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

India is today unmistakably global as it anchors itself as a regional and global stakeholder. A disordered world and the advent of new challenges call for a contemporary understanding of power transitions, key geographies, global institutions, and security threats, critical to inform choices for an evolving and emergent India.

In 2021–22, the Strategic Studies Programme will continue to track regional and global developments and trends that implicate India's capacities and options, now and in the future.

A continuing power transition mandates more scrutiny into Chinese history, politics, and society, and how these are shaping Beijing's foreign policy choices. Rediscovered geographies will likewise continue to be a key and expanding focus area, whether the broad Indo-Pacific and Eurasian spaces, or sub-regions in India's immediate and extended neighbourhood. The programme will increasingly look to offer a comprehensive situation analysis of evolving traditional and non-traditional threats to India's national security. It will also increasingly deliberate on the contours of the geopolitics of technology and what they mean for the changing nature of competition and warfare.

One of the key projects this year would entail a survey of Indian youth and their foreign policy worldview.

The future research agenda aims to be forward-looking.

EVENTS



Date: June 28, 2021

Name: The Future of India and EU Relations

Description: ORF, in collaboration with the Embassy of Portugal in India, hosted a series of virtual discussions as part of the Portugal-India Series. As Portugal took over the European Union Presidency from January 2021 to July 2021, this series explored ways to strengthen relations and foster greater cooperation between India and the EU. This series saw participation by the Portuguese and Indian Foreign Ministers.

Speakers:

- S. Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, India
- Augusto Santos Silva, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Portugal

Moderator: Samir Saran, President, ORF, India



Date: March 5–6, 2021

Name: Exploring Connectivity in the Bay of Bengal Region: Importance of India's Northeast

Description: This Conference, organised by ORF Kolkata in collaboration with the Consulate General of Japan in Kolkata, brought together academics, policy makers and other stakeholders, for an engaging exchange of ideas on the importance of India's Northeast against the backdrop of the Bay of Bengal and wider Indo-Pacific. Featuring renowned experts, the three business sessions were devoted to the themes of trade and development; maritime connectivity; and significance of BIMSTEC, with respect to the Northeast. Inaugural Address: Riva Ganguly Das, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

Address: Nakamura Yutaka, Consul General, Consulate General of Japan, Kolkata

Special Address:

- Tariq Karim, Former Bangladesh Ambassador to India

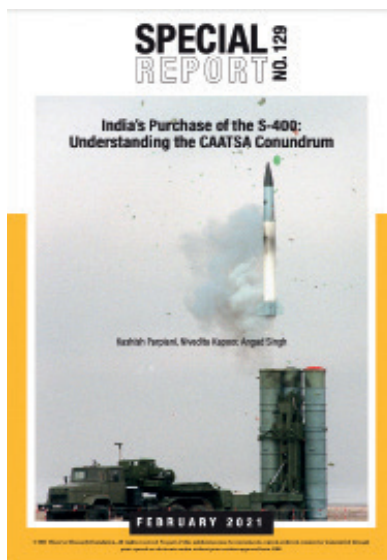
• Lt. Gen. Subrata Saha (Retd.), PVSM, UYSM, VSM, Director — School of Military Affairs, Strategy and Logistics, Rashtriya Raksha University; Member, National Security Advisory Board
Valedictory Remarks: Matsumoto Katsuo, Head of JICA in India

Chairs:

- Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury, Senior Fellow, ORF, India
- Harsh V. Pant, Director of Studies; Head—Strategic Studies Programme, ORF, India
- Nilanjan Ghosh, Director, ORF Kolkata, ORF, India

Strategic Studies Programme

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS





Inclusive Growth & SDGs

MISSION STATEMENT

The Inclusive Growth and SDGs programme is driven by the question, “Can we emerge as the generation to end extreme poverty, combat the climate challenge, bring about distributive justice, and create a more egalitarian and equal world than what exists today?” The programme is aimed at creating a transdisciplinary framework to recast the development paradigm, thereby, challenging the present reductionist development thinking that is solely focused on economic growth without any consideration of the concomitant spatial and temporal distributional issues and the environmental externalities.

The mission of the programme is to conduct rigorous research and inform policy- and decision-makers about the complex problems at the interface of environment, development, society, economy, culture, health, education, amongst others, and their possible resolution mechanisms. For addressing the concern of inclusive growth, the programme attempts to take up the various challenges entailing the four fundamental forms of capital that enable development: Human, natural, manufactured, and social.

A QUICK VIEW OF THE PAST

The programme has so far intervened in the domains of environment and development; blue economy, water governance and hydropolitics; food and nutritional security; development cooperation; energy security; and gender. A large part of FY20-21’s research and events have also gone towards understanding the impact of the pandemic on the various SDGs and other development parameters. This is more so as a fundamental form of capital, namely, human capital, was worst hit by the pandemic.

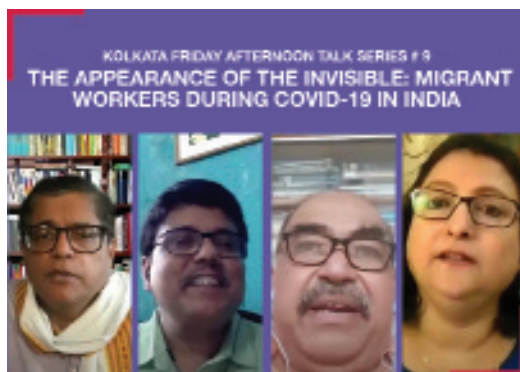
On the other hand, ORF has developed partnerships with the Water Diplomacy programme of MIT-Tufts-Harvard University, and hosted the Ganga-Padma Dialogue in 2017. This collaboration has also resulted in important research on floods and droughts in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna basin. It has also partnered with the World Bank, and later with the British FCDO, on Bangladesh-India cooperation in the Sundarbans. ORF also collaborated with the Japanese government through the Consulate office for events and a series of paper publications on the development of India’s Northeast.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The future research direction will entail aspects on understanding the institutional issues related to food crisis and famine under various governance regimes (e.g., Africa and the North Korea); assessing the relationship between SDG achievement, forms of governance and business environment across nations; the policy regimes, regulatory instruments and public perceptions on adoption of electric vehicles in India; creation of green taxonomies for India and the developing world; delineating the Blue Economy challenges in the Indo-Pacific; understanding and addressing the governance challenges of the Himalayan river systems; climate change and adaptation in the BIMSTEC region; understanding the linkages between natural resource security and nutritional security; using ecological economic instruments for natural resource governance; understanding pandemic preparedness for the future; and understanding the post-pandemic development priorities. The highlight of the programme will also be the use of various state-of-the-art and innovative methodological and theoretical frameworks to create a trans-disciplinary approach to address the areas of interest listed above.

Inclusive Growth & SDGs

EVENTS



Date: May 8, 2020

Name: Kolkata Friday Afternoon Talk Series #9 on The Appearance of the Invisible: Migrant Workers During COVID-19 in India

Description: This panel discussed the impact of nation-wide lockdowns on migrant workers who worked daily wage jobs and were menial labourers in big cities while hailing from rural and semi-urban areas themselves. Lockdown triggered an exodus of such workers from their places of employment, bringing to the fore the questions of social security and safety nets and workers' rights.

Speakers:

- Baijayant Panda, National Vice President and Spokesperson, Bharatiya Janata Party
- Subir Bhaumik, Veteran BBC Correspondent, Author and presently Editorial Director of the Asian news website, The Eastern Link

• Manish K. Jha, Professor, School of Social Work, TISS, Mumbai

Moderator: Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury, Senior Fellow, ORF



Date: June 29, 2020

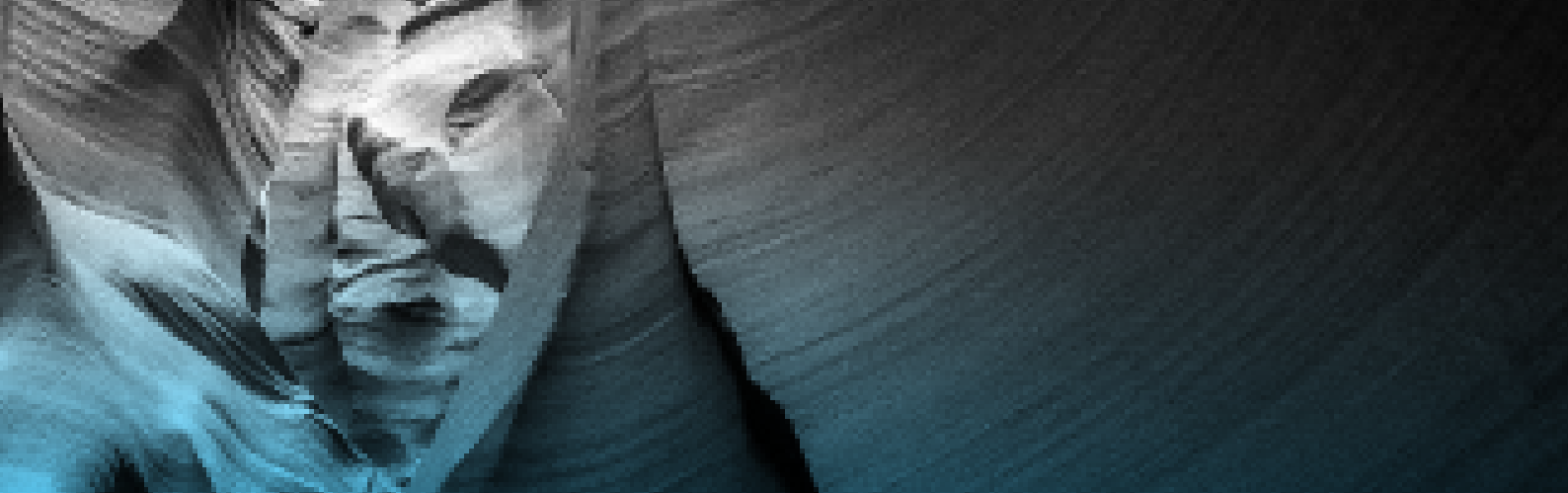
Name: Strategic and Managed Retreat: Adaptation to Climate Change

Description: The webinar looked at the rising number of climate change-induced storms in the ecologically fragile but important Sundarban region. The panellists discussed how a 'business-as-usual' outlook post a natural calamity only results in mounting risks. Strategic and managed retreat, on the other hand, from at-risk locations, can deliver on the development and conservation goals. It can help build on climate resilience as well.

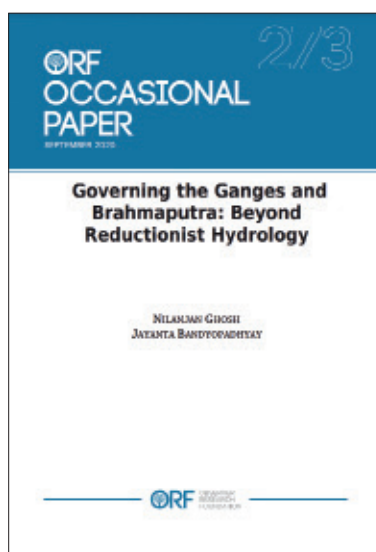
Opening Remarks - Nilanjan Ghosh, Director, ORF Kolkata, ORF

Speaker: A.R. Siders, Faculty, Disaster Research Center, Biden School of Public Policy, University of Delaware, USA

Moderator: Anamitra Anurag Danda, Senior Visiting Fellow, ORF



PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS





Geoeconomics Programme

MISSION STATEMENT

The Geoeconomics programme focuses on the study of India's economic, business, financial and trading relationship with the world. In particular, the programme focuses on four themes: Economic multilateralism, business and geopolitics, global trading systems and international financial architecture. The Programme focused on India's role at the G20 and BRICS, the changing narratives on trade and globalisation, implications for India in the emerging geoeconomics of the Indo-Pacific, strengthening bilateral economic relations, and the role of cities as emerging geoeconomic centres in the world.

A QUICK VIEW OF THE PAST

The programme's work on the G20 was underlined by a conference organised between mid-december 2020 and early January 2021 exploring how India can contribute towards developing a 'long view' for global governance at the G20. The experts were also invited by the UN and the G20 for their research and expertise, particularly on issues related to financial transparency.

For BRICS, an essay compendium was published called the Future of BRICS, with contributions from authors from all BRICS nations on multilateralism, digitalisation, international security, and climate change and SDGs. They organised a series of dialogues with experts from BRICS nations on issues of global health, international security, women-led growth, multilateralism, and climate change. The summary and takeaways were then published in the Road to BRICS Academic Forum report.

Other issues such as globalisation, international trade, role of business in India's foreign policy, and role of India in the geoeconomics of the Indo-Pacific were covered during ORF's signature forums such as the Colaba Conversation and closed-door roundtables.

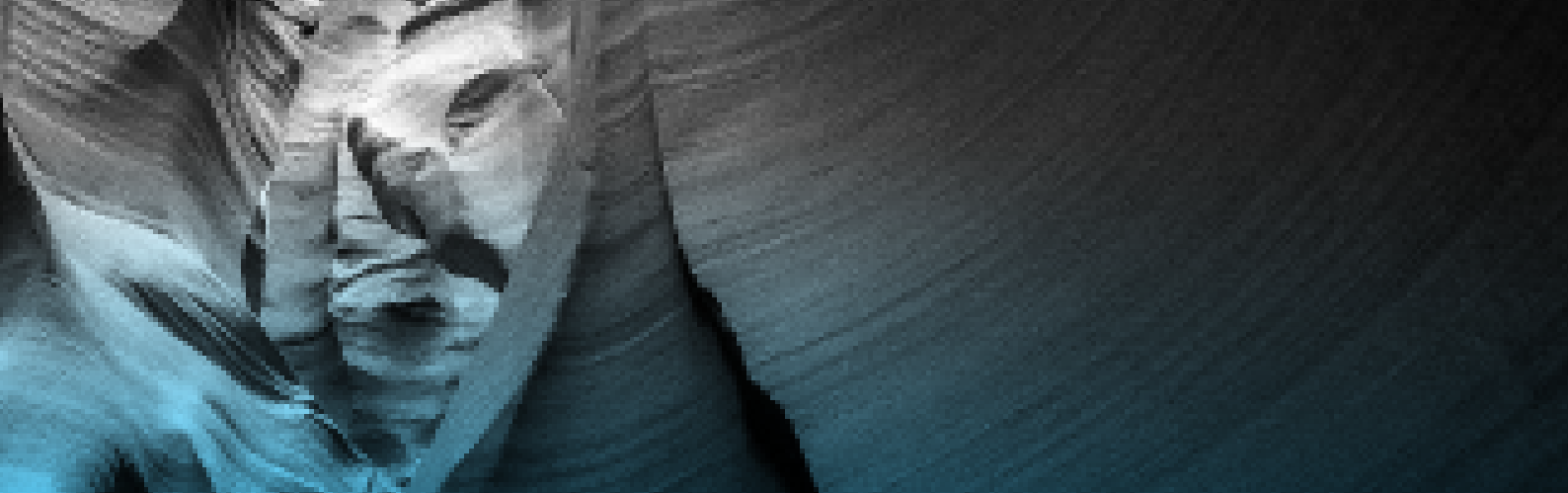
VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Economic multilateralism will continue to remain an important focus area as India completes its presidency of the BRICS in 2021 and enters the troika for chairing the G20 in 2023. Multilateralism will be a key focus area for all our Forums including the Colaba Conversation in December 2021.

Similarly, a continuing focus will be on international financial architecture, particularly emerging global rules and regulations under design and negotiation at the G20, WTO, IMF and FSB, which are likely to have implications for India.

As the Quad strengthens and the Indo-Pacific becomes an important theatre for geoeconomics, we will examine the inter-linkages, especially for Indian and Quad-based multinationals for critical supply chains. A special focus on the influence of business on geopolitics and the role of business in India's foreign policy will be initiated. The Colaba Conversation in December 2021 will explore this issue in greater detail.

COP26 in November 2021 is an opportunity for enhanced debate on climate finance. The main global financial regulations, standards and instruments that India needs to meet its climate goals will be examined.



EVENTS



Date: November 26, 2021

Name: BRICS Academic Forum 2021

Description: ORF in partnership with Research and Information System For Developing Countries (RIS) hosted the BRICS Academic Forum 2021. The Forum is a Track II, peer-to-peer platform where experts, academics and policymakers get together to discuss contemporary issues. This dialogue explored how BRICS can design and propagate a new, inclusive model of global economic recovery, one that respects and accounts for the characteristics of developing nations.

Inaugural Address: Dr. S. Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, India

Valedictory Address: Ambassador Sanjay Bhattacharyya, India's BRICS Sherpa and Secretary (CPV&OIA), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

Opening and Concluding Remarks: Samir Saran, President, ORF, India

Vote of Thanks and Closing Remarks: Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India



Date: June 8, 2021

Name: Addressing risk and transparency in international capital flows (roundtable) and International Finance: Still fit for purpose? (Panel)

Description: ORF, in partnership with ISPI (T20 Italy Chair under Italy's G20 presidency) and with the support of BSE organised a roundtable and a panel discussion on the international financial system. Special address: K. Rajaraman, Additional Secretary, International Economic Relations, Ministry of Finance, India

Speakers:

- Ashish Kumar Chauhan, MD and CEO, BSE, India
- Franco Bruni, Vice President, Italian Institute for International Political Studies; Lead Co-Chair, T20 Taskforce International Finance 2021; Member, European Shadow Financial Regulatory Committee, Italy

• Tom Cardamone, President and CEO, Global Financial Integrity, USA

• Shilpa Kumar, Partner, Omidyar Network, India

• Alicia García-Herrero, Senior Fellow, Bruegel; Chief Economist, Asia Pacific, Natixis

Moderator: Akshay Mathur, Director, ORF Mumbai and Head of ORF Geoeconomics Studies Programme; Co-Chair, T20 2021 Taskforce on International Finance, India

Geoeconomics Programme



Date: June 2, 2021

Name: BRICS Academic Dialogues On Future Of Work: Towards A Women-led Growth Framework

Description: This dialogue explored case studies from BRICS nations that can help seed ideas for women-led growth and examine the idea of having BRICS create a common framework for women-led growth, particularly in light of the fact that the gains made in gender equality over the past few decades were reversed during the pandemic, with many women leaving their jobs and having to take on the lion's share of home and care work in the midst of national lockdowns.

Keynote address: Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog, India

Welcome remarks: Akshay Mathur, Director, Mumbai Centre; Head, Geo-Economics Studies Programme, India

Speakers:

- Sarah Mosoetsa, Chief Executive Officer, National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, South Africa
 - Victoria Panova, Managing Director, Russian National Committee on BRICS Research, Russian W20 Representative, Russia
 - Joana Mostafa, Senior Researcher, Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA), Brazil
 - Rituparna Chakraborty, Co-Founder and Executive VP, Teamlease, India
 - Yang Yujing, Associate Researcher, Women's Studies Institute of China, China
- Moderator: Aditi Ratho, Associate Fellow, ORF

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS





Health Initiative

MISSION STATEMENT

The Health Initiative endeavours to take health, nutrition and their social determinants to the policy high table, and to establish health and nutrition security as important components within the broader national security discourse. This aspect has come to the forefront with the disruption that the COVID-19 pandemic has caused in the economy and society over the last year and a half. The initiative has tracked the national and global pandemic response closely by conducting analyses of up-to-date and relevant datasets, and elevating media discourse through regular publications of evidence-based knowledge products facilitating flow of ideas across borders, and hosting platforms that catalyse cross-learning within the country and across countries. Through its popular COVID-19 Tracker and COVID-19 Vaccine Watch, the initiative provides a real-time picture of developments and relevant analyses of India's pandemic response for a diverse policy audience.

A QUICK VIEW OF THE PAST

The past year was dominated by the daily tracking of different aspects of the pandemic including morbidity levels, mortality rates, testing adequacy and vaccination coverage. In addition to curating digital conversations that added value to the public discourse around the pandemic, the ORF Health Initiative has been prolific in publishing a range of knowledge products, both in-house and commissioned from across the world, giving valuable analysis of the global pandemic response, and pointing to possibilities of cross-learning. As India continues to expand the reach of COVID-19 vaccination to its vast population, the initiative has been closely studying the technical, economic as well as social implications of the pandemic as well as the mammoth response the country has mounted.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The COVID-19 pandemic has underscored the importance of investment in health infrastructure and has put health at the top of the policy high table. ORF's Health Initiative will continue to make meaningful interventions in the public discourse around health and nutrition, inform the media narrative, and establish health security as an important component within the broader national security discourse. It aims to continue its analysis of policies impacting the social determinants of health in India, with an emphasis on India's human capital development. Furthermore, it will track the development of the country's nascent social protection system, a process that will possibly be accelerated by the new challenges posed by the pandemic. The initiative will inform this process by curating national and international platforms for cross-learning, analysing up-to-date and relevant datasets, and intervening in media discourse through regular publications of evidence-based knowledge products.

Health Initiative

EVENTS



Date: June 25, 2020

Name: Technology, Governance Innovation and the Pandemic: Discussing Responses from South Asia and Africa.

Description: This inaugural webinar was the first step towards realising the vision of the ORF Lighthouse Project, which focuses on building transnational partnerships between African, South and Southeast Asian countries, aimed at strengthening multi-stakeholder responses, which could help in the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Speakers:

- Amitabh Kant, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog, India
- Ashok Malik, Policy Advisor, Ministry of External Affairs,

Government of India

- Patricia Appiagyei, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation, Ghana
- Kate Hampton, Chief Executive Officer, Children's Investment Fund Foundation, UK
- Samir Saran, President, ORF, India
- Peter C. Ekweozoh, Director, Environmental Sciences and Technology, Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, Nigeria
- Anir Chowdhury, Policy Advisor, a2i, Bangladesh
- Amandeep Gill, Director, Global Health Centre project, International Digital Health & AI Research Collaborative (I-DAIR)
- Nisha Holla, Technology Fellow, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP)



Date: July 19, 2020

Name: Digital Launch of the GP-ORF Series—The Viral World

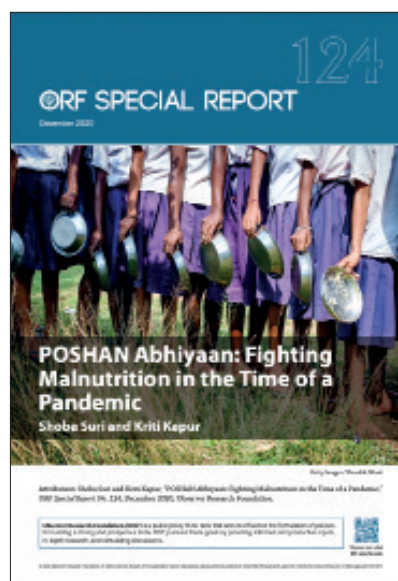
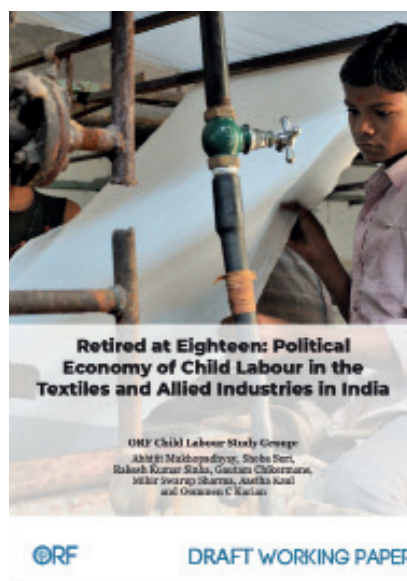
Description: The GP-ORF Series titled, A Viral World, a collection of articles and essays, was launched digitally in the midst of the pandemic. The essays in the volume paint a wide, anthropological canvas of the impact of the Novel Coronavirus on geopolitics and world trade, public health and policy, socio-economic interactions; in fact, on human behaviour, lives and livelihoods, in broad strokes. The Viral World is the first of a

five-part series of policy essays focused on the COVID-19 pandemic.

Speakers:

- Nirupama Rao, former Foreign Secretary, Government of India
- Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Chairperson and Managing Director, Biocon Limited
- Keshav Desiraju, former Health Secretary, Government of India

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS





Urban Policy Initiative

MISSION STATEMENT

The Urban Policy Research Initiative builds its foundation on SDG-11, which is ‘Sustainable Cities and Communities.’ It is under this theme that it aims to contribute to urban policy formulation at the national and state level, which would provide direction to getting urbanisation “right” and in increasing the quality of urban living. The initiative undertakes research, documentation, and quality writing with a view towards proper understanding of urban issues, processes, and challenges. It aims to promote meaningful debate on urban matters with a view to crystallising opinion and direction. It seeks to craft innovative solutions to expand, and, over a period, encompass other global cities in learning and exchange processes.

A QUICK VIEW OF THE PAST

In 2020-21, the programme objectives were realigned. The programme concentrated on the pandemic and the response of Indian and global cities; on how they have been tackling the immediate concerns arising out of this crisis. The research, writings, and events concentrated on capturing the reactions, highlighting the challenges, and crowdsourcing solutions for an inclusive recovery of cities.

And while we documented these new emerging challenges, we did not lose sight of the fallout including the vulnerable communities that were impacted by COVID-19. Migrants, slum dwellers and other vulnerable sections of society were hit both socially and financially, and our team of researchers sought to capture these varied issues through research on affordable housing and slum redevelopment.

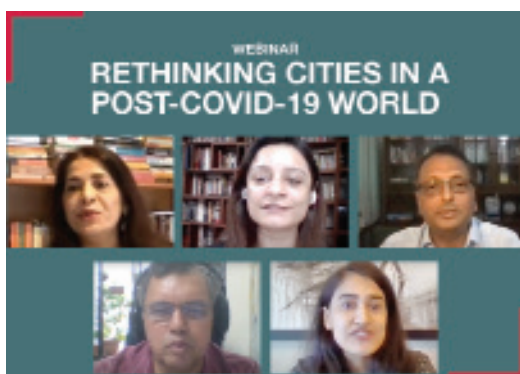
Cities around the world are moving at different paces, and with a change in work and mobility patterns, there was a renewed thrust on the green recovery of cities. Ideas of walking, cycling, and green mobility found resonance in our programme. Overall, the pandemic shaped our work, but it stayed connected with working on the core philosophy of sustainable cities and communities.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

In the light of the mission statement of the initiative and the research focus of the staff, we have drawn up a programme where the events/platforms hosted by the initiative are in sync with the projected research output of each researcher. The work will also remain connected with the two themes of COVID-19 response and recovery from the global cities’ perspective.

The programme will be undertaking events/projects for the Sustainable Cities programme under four larger themes which coincide with the work/specialisations of the research staff, namely, mobility performance, gender performance, governance and cities, and sustainable, climate-friendly cities.

EVENTS



Date: July 30, 2020

Name: Digital Launch of Rethinking Cities in a Post-COVID-19 World

Description: This conversation launched the compendium, Rethinking Cities in a Post-COVID-19 World. This journal of essays explore the fissures that COVID-19 has exposed in city-planning today, and how urban planning systems can equip themselves better for future pandemic management. The webinar touched upon the relationship between the pandemic and factors like urban health infrastructure, climate resilience, informal settlements, work and social infrastructure.

Speakers:

- Arvind Varshney, Advisor, Urban, and Chief Projects Officer, National Institute of Urban Affairs
- Maitreyi Bordia Das, Manager, Urban, Disaster Risk Management,

Resilience and Land Global Practice, World Bank

- Ramanath Jha, Distinguished Fellow, ORF

• Sheetal Ranganathan, VP & Global Head, Life Sciences and Healthcare Operations, Evalserve

Moderator: Aditi Ratho, Junior Fellow, ORF; Co-editor, Rethinking Cities in a Post-COVID-19 World



Date: July 15, 2020

Name: Re-imagining Slums Post COVID-19

Description: This webinar discussed the vulnerability of cities, particularly slums. Slums must be comprehensively and inclusively dealt with from the planning, livelihoods, financial and climate aspects. The panelists deliberated upon exploring the priority tasks within these pillars for reimagining slums.

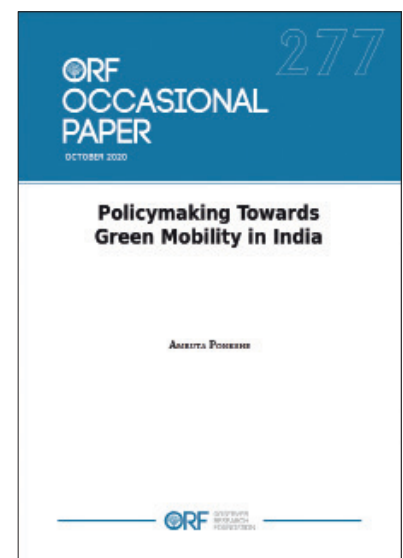
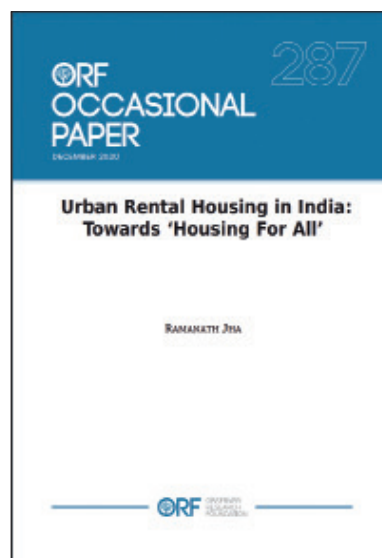
Speakers:

- Amita Bhide, Dean, School of Habitat Studies, TISS, India
- Pedro Ortiz, Urban/Metropolitan Planner; Consultant; Senior Fellow, Marron Institute, New York University, USA
- Priya Deshingkar, Professor of Migration and Development, School of Global Studies, University of Sussex, UK
- Ramanath, Jha, Distinguished Fellow, ORF

Moderator: Sayli Udas-Mankikar, Senior Fellow, ORF, India

Urban Policy Initiative

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS





Eurasian Studies

MISSION STATEMENT

Eurasian Studies aims to promote a better understanding in India about Russia, Central Asia, Central and Eastern Europe and vice versa. The programme seeks to track emerging regional trends, foster closer cooperation with key stakeholders, and provide fresh inputs on leading policy issues in these geographies. Towards this end, stronger engagement with various organisations from Russia, Central Asia, Eastern and Central Europe, the US, Japan, and Iran was pursued. The endeavour is to build on these collaborative efforts, and further expand closer engagement with research and policy making communities in Eurasia.

A QUICK VIEW OF THE PAST

The programme's research for the year was, to a large extent, determined by the impact of the pandemic on the international system. This was reflected in works produced on issues related to great power competition, multilateralism, and ideology—from the perspective of better understanding Russian policy. The key issues explored under these themes related to Russia's relations with the US, China, India, the EU, Central Asia and Afghanistan. The programme also looked at domestic political developments, security policies, and theoretical dimensions of Russia's policy of Greater Eurasia. This helps better understand the long-term trajectory, ambitions, and challenges of future India-Russia relations, as well as the kind of power Russia will emerge to be. The events organised on these themes led to sharing of ideas with international partners and helped build a better understanding of India-Russia relations in the broader discourse.

Despite the pandemic, strong interactions developed with the Moscow-based Valdai Club and the IMEMO, the Washington-based Wilson Center, Tehran-based IPIS, Tashkent-based ISRS and the Tokyo-based Sasakawa Foundation.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The geography of Eurasia has steadily gained in importance in recent years, in light of the world system undergoing a churn. A region populated by several leading powers, possessing immense resources and potential, Eurasia has emerged as an area for great power competition. As India's aspirations in this region also expand, the effort will focus on producing research and building relationships that better inform policy making in this domain. This will be buttressed through fostering closer links with relevant organisations across Central Asia, Russia, Central and Eastern Europe, as well as others like the United States, Japan, and Iran. This includes increased long-term collaborations with academic, policymaking, intellectual, business, and research communities across this geography through regular bilateral dialogues, webinars, and exchange of ideas and research.

Eurasian Studies

EVENTS



Date: May 15, 2020

Name: The India-Russia Bilateral Relationship

Description: The Valdai Discussion Club, in partnership with ORF, brought together experts from Russia and India to discuss the future of the India-Russia relationship. The speakers delved into how current events have affected relations between Moscow and Delhi and how other major powers will influence relations between Russia and India. The panel also discussed whether the post-pandemic world would bring new problems or new opportunities in the bilateral relationship.

Speakers:

- Timofei Borisov, Research Fellow, Center for Analysis of Strategies and Technologies (CAST), Russia
- Anuradha Chenoy, former Dean at School of International

Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

- Sanjay Deshpande, Director, Centre for Central Eurasian Studies, University of Mumbai

- Nivedita Kapoor, Junior Fellow, ORF, India

- Vasily Kashin, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Comprehensive European and International Studies, HSE University, Russia

- Alexey Kupriyanov, Senior Research Fellow, Sector of International Organisations and Global Political Regulation, Department of International Political Problems, IMEMO, RAS, Russia

- Fyodor Lukyanov, Research Director, Valdai Discussion Club, Russia

- Nandan Unnikrishnan, Distinguished Fellow, ORF, India

Moderator: Timofei Bordachev, Programme Director, Valdai Discussion Club, Russia



Date: November 26, 2021

Name: The Future of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

Description: The Valdai Discussion Club in partnership with the Observer Research Foundation hosted a webinar to discuss how the COVID-19 pandemic has reopened the debate over the ineffectiveness of multilateral institutions, which has been fuelled not only by the current crisis, but also by the prospect of the US-China confrontation escalating. The experts in the panel discussed the SCO's ability to become a leading organisation in the new world order and India and Russia's perception of the rise of China.

Speakers:

- Timofei Bordachev, Programme Director, Valdai Discussion Club, Russia
- Vasily Kashin, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Comprehensive

European and International Studies, National Research University, Higher School of Economics, Russia

- Alexey Kupriyanov, Senior Research Fellow, Sector of International Organisations and Global Political Regulation, Department of International Political Problems, IMEMO, RAS, Russia

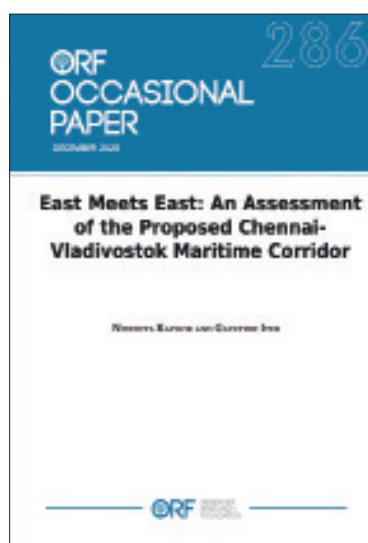
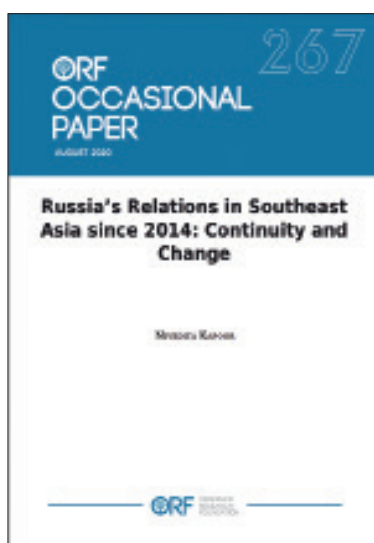
- Ambassador Asoke Kumar Mukerji, Permanent Representative of India to the UN (2013–2015)

- Sriparna Pathak, Deputy Dean, Jindal School of International Affairs, OP Jindal Global University, India

Moderator: Nandan Unnikrishnan, Distinguished Fellow, ORF, India

Eurasian Studies

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS





Neighbourhood Studies Initiative

MISSION STATEMENT

The Neighbourhood First Policy is an important component of India's foreign policy affecting the economic, diplomatic, political and security engagement in the region. A nation's destiny is linked to its neighbourhood; it poses challenges and threats, but also offers opportunities and holds promise. The Neighbourhood Studies Initiative endeavours to analyse emerging trends in India's immediate neighbourhood and offer policy prescriptions that advance India's interests.

A QUICK VIEW OF THE PAST

Over the past year, the Neighbourhood Studies programme held a number of events to discuss the situation in Afghanistan and in Kashmir. Apart from a few long-form papers, the scholars were regularly commenting on developments in the region. Members of the programme were also active in the media through their writings and commentary on television. They also participated in interactions organised by other ORF centres with scholars from across the world. The programme also participated and intervened in the discussions held during the Counter-Terrorism week organised by the United Nations Counter Terrorism Centre.

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The main focus of the Neighbourhood Studies Programme will be on the extremely serious security challenges that are likely to emanate from Afghanistan and Pakistan to the West of India, as also on the developments in these countries and their repercussions on India. At the same time, the programme will explore possibilities of collaborative projects with other neighbouring countries like Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal to build upon convergences and also discuss some dissonance in India's relationship with these countries. The strategic and security aspects will, of course, dominate, but focus will not shift from the increasing importance of economics and connectivity in the region.

Neighbourhood Studies Initiative

EVENTS



Date: June 9, 18 and 30, 2020

Name: The Future of Afghanistan—Great Power Perspective

Description: This event was a three part series of discussions on the future of Afghanistan with scholars, analysts and policymakers from Afghanistan, Pakistan, US, Russia, the Central Asian states and India,

Speakers:

- Luke Coffey, Director, Douglas & Sarah Allison Centre for Foreign Policy, Heritage Foundation, USA
- Ivan Safranchuk, Senior Research Fellow, Institute of International Research, MGIMO University, Russia
- Rakesh Sood, Distinguished Fellow, ORF and Former Indian Ambassador to Afghanistan

• Mariam Wardak, Founder, Her Afghanistan

Moderator: Nandan Unnikrishnan, Distinguished Fellow, ORF, India



Date: May 27, 2020

Name: ORF Kashmir Dialogue

Description: The ORF Kashmir Dialogue consisted of discussions focused on the security, political and social conditions in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the likely challenges that could emerge in the future. The Dialogue brought together expert voices to discuss the current situation in the Union Territory and to deliberate on how the security situation is likely to evolve as well as the roadmap for restoring the political process in the region.

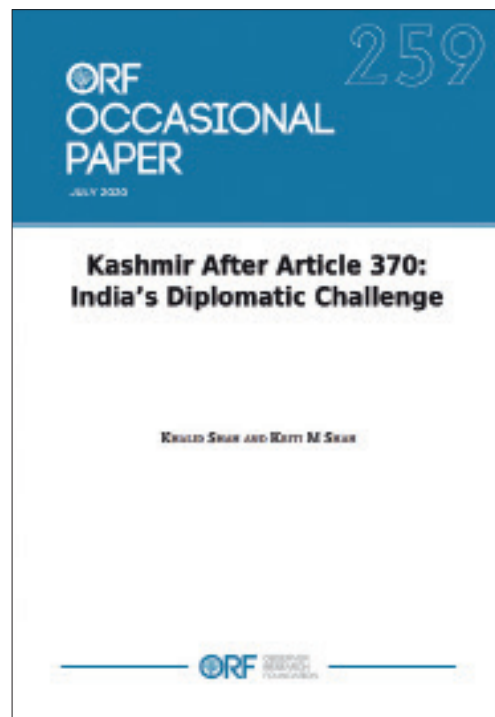
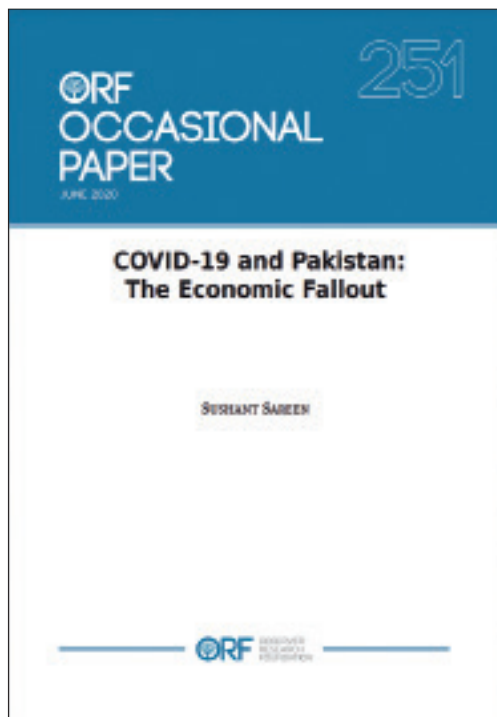
Speakers:

- S.P Vaid, Former Director General, Jammu and Kashmir Police
- Imran Ansari, Former J&K minister and prominent religious leader
- Praveen Swami, Security Analyst and Consulting Editor, Network18

• Navnita Chadha Behera, Academic and author of multiple books on Kashmir

Moderator: Sushant Sareen, Senior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS





Forums

Each year, the Observer Research Foundation organises hundreds of public events including some of the world's most prestigious dialogues, apart from a number of conferences and workshops. In light of the pandemic, this year, ORF has hosted flagship events like the Raisina Dialogue, CyFy, and Colaba Conversation in a fully digital format. These convenings have in attendance some of the most powerful policymakers from across the world, who come together to debate and discover the ideas that will serve the emergence of a new world order and address the most pressing global governance challenges.



Raisina Dialogue 2021

The Raisina Dialogue is India's premier conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics committed to addressing the most challenging issues facing the global community. The Dialogue is structured as a multi-stakeholder, cross-sectoral discussion, involving heads of state, cabinet ministers and local government officials, who are joined by thought leaders from the private sector, media and academia.

The sixth edition of the Raisina Dialogue, held on April 13–16, 2021, was themed, “#ViralWorld: Outbreaks, Outliers and Out of Control”. It delved into how the COVID-19 pandemic has held a mirror up to our societies—calling for urgent resolution to global questions around inequality, polarised politics, economic interdependence, and great power competition.

The panels and high-level discussions at the dialogue were centred around five pillars: WHOse Multilateralism? Reconstructing the UN and Beyond; Securing and Diversifying Supply Chains; Global ‘Public Bads’: Holding Actors and Nations to Account; Infodemic: Navigating a ‘No-Truth’ World in the Age of Big Brother; and The Green Stimulus: Investing in Gender, Growth and Development.

Raisina Dialogue 2021 was hosted in a fully digital format on ORF's bespoke web platform and saw the virtual participation of over 4,000 experts and practitioners from more than 100 countries.

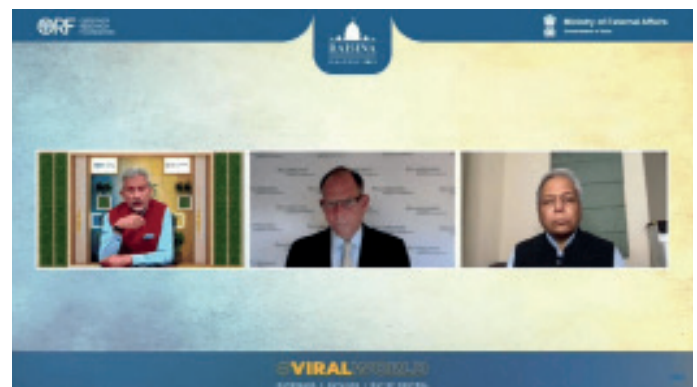
The conference is hosted by the Observer Research Foundation in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.



Left: Prime Minister Narendra Modi making the Inaugural Address at the Raisina Dialogue 2021.



Right (clockwise from top left): Panel on “Insecure Jobs: Towards Social Safety for All” with Amitabh Kant, Junaid Ahmad, Minister Smriti Irani, Shrayana Bhattacharya, and NK Singh.

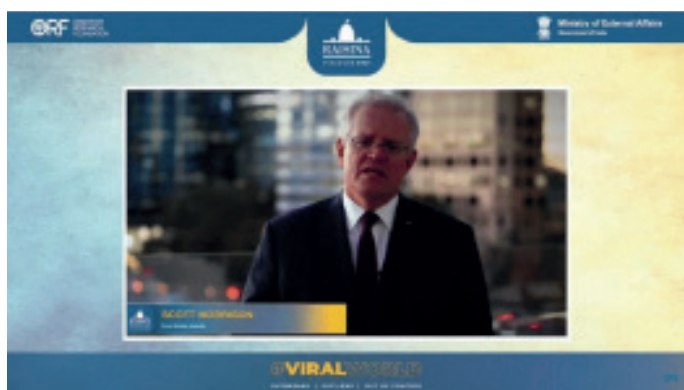


(Clockwise from top left): Panel on “Junction Kabul: The Road to Peace” with Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, Minister S. Jaishankar, Hamdullah Mohib and Palki Sharma Upadhyay; Conversation with Jens Stoltenberg and Samir Saran on “Protecting the Rules-Based International Order”; Address by Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen, Denmark; Panel on “Vaccine Diplomacy: How India is Helping the World Fight COVID-19” with Minister S. Jaishankar, Mark Suzman and K. VijayRaghavan; Address by President Paul Kagame, Rwanda; Panel on “Reclaiming Europe: Navigating the Political Compass” with Minister Bogdan Aurescu, Garima Mohan, Minister Augusto Santos Silva, Milena Lazarevic, and Minister Anže Logar.

Raisina Dialogue 2021

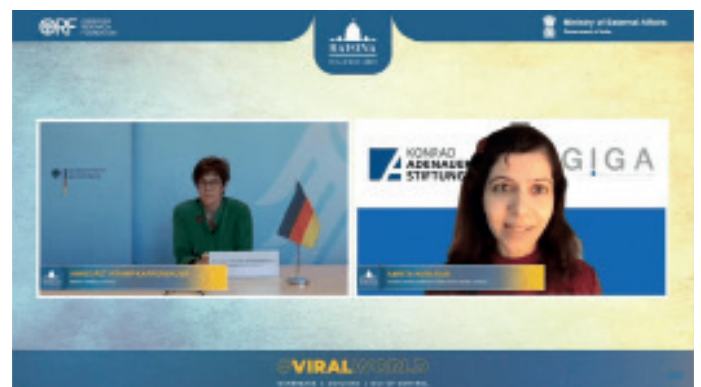


(Clockwise from top left): Vote of thanks by Minister of State V. Muraleedharan; Panel on “Crimson Tide, Blue Geometries: New Partnerships for the Indo-Pacific”; Panel on “Pandemic Poser: Health and the 4IR”; Panel on “On the Trail of the Bear: Russia in a Multipolar World”; Panel on “Left, Right and Woke: Rethinking Democracy and Technology”; and Panel on “Samundra Manthan: The Indo-Pacific in Churn.”



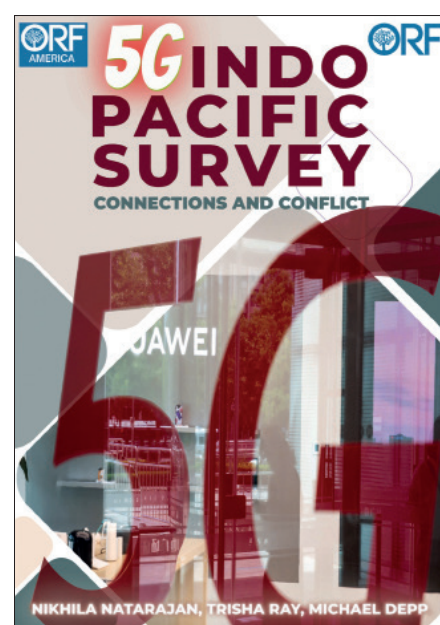
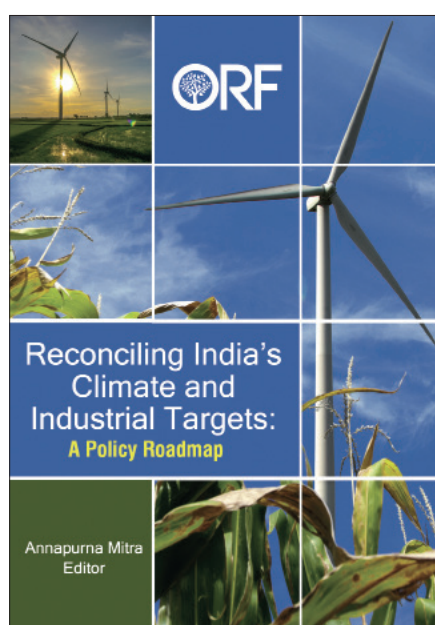
(Clockwise from top left): Address by Prime Minister Scott Morrison, Australia; Conversation on “Beyond Mobility: Jobs and Infrastructure in the Green Transitions”; Intervention by Former Senator John Kerry; Panel on “Recoding Our Future: Looking Beyond the Digital Wars”; Panel on “The Architecture of the Future: Building a New Indo-Pacific”; and Panel on “Future of Conflict: How Will Democracies Respond?”.

Raisina Dialogue 2021



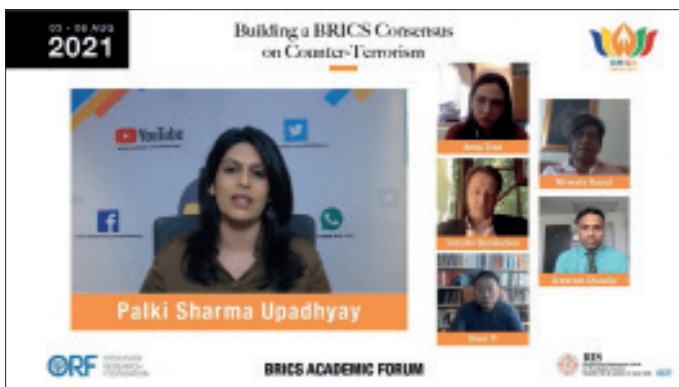
(Clockwise from top left): Sunjoy Joshi in conversation with Margrethe Vestager; Amrita Narlikar in conversation with Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer; and Panel on “South Rising: The Decade for New America” with Minister Andrés Allamand Zavala, Vice Minister Raul Cano-Ricciardi, former Deputy Minister Julián Ventura, Riva Ganguly Das, and Sunjoy Joshi.

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS



BRICS Academic Forum 2021

The Observer Research Foundation and Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) co-hosted the BRICS Academic Forum 2021 from 3-6 August, under India's presidency of the BRICS in 2021. This year's BRICS Academic Forum convened academics, experts, researchers, and analysts on a range of international policy issues affecting the five BRICS nations and the world in the run up to the BRICS Summit 2021.



(Clockwise from top left): Inaugural Address by Minister S. Jaishankar; Opening Plenary on “Post-Pandemic World Order: Challenges and Opportunities for BRICS”; Panel on “Road to COP26: BRICS Climate Agenda”; Panel on “BRICS and the Global Health Agenda”; Panel on “Building a BRICS Consensus on Counter-Terrorism”; and Panel on Sustainable Lifestyles: Rethinking Consumption—The Forgotten SDG.

The forum was privileged to have the inaugural address by India's External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar; valedictory address by Sanjay Bhattacharyya, India's Sherpa for BRICS; and a conversation with P. Harish, India's Sous-Sherpa for BRICS. The policy discussions between experts were guided by the four primary themes of the BRICS academic process for 2021—multilateralism, digitalisation, international security, and climate change and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Specifically, the sessions included topics such as the post-pandemic world order, green energy, sustainable consumption, global health, counterterrorism, trade and resilient supply chains, SDGs, digital public goods, globalisation, skilling and workforce development, and women's leadership. Over the course of four days, the BRICS Academic Forum saw participation from nearly 80 experts and academics.



(Clockwise from top left): Panel on “BRICS Agenda for Trade and Resilient Supply Chains”; Panel on “Mobilising the NDB and Financing SDGs”; Panel on “BRICS and Global Economic Recovery”; and Panel on “BRICS Framework on Digital Public Goods: Health, Education and Financial Inclusion”.

BRICS Academic Forum 2021



Valedictory Address by Sanjay Bhattacharyya.



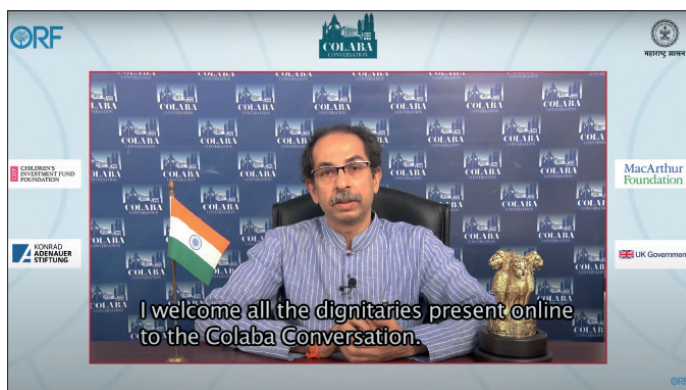
Panel on “BRICS Agenda for Women’s Leadership and Women-led Economic Growth.”

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS



Colaba Conversation 2021

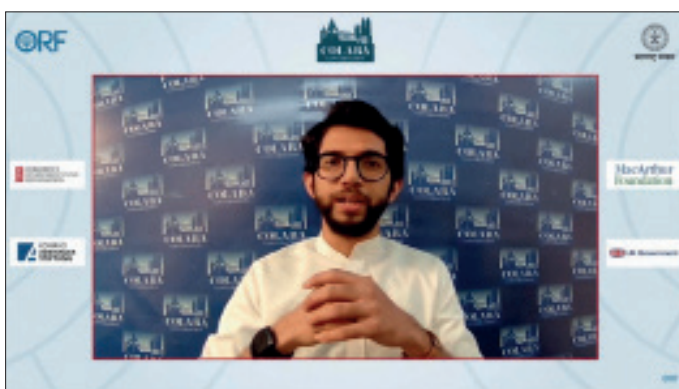
ORF Mumbai was delighted to launch Colaba Conversation 2021—Mumbai's signature forum for dialogue on global, national and local policy issues. The dialogue is named after 'Kulaba', one of the seven islands that created Mumbai. This is a joint initiative between the Observer Research Foundation and the Government of Maharashtra. The inaugural address was given by Honourable Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Uddhav Thackeray, which was followed by keynotes from five world leaders from the United States, Germany, Australia and New Zealand on the role of cities in global, national and regional policymaking.



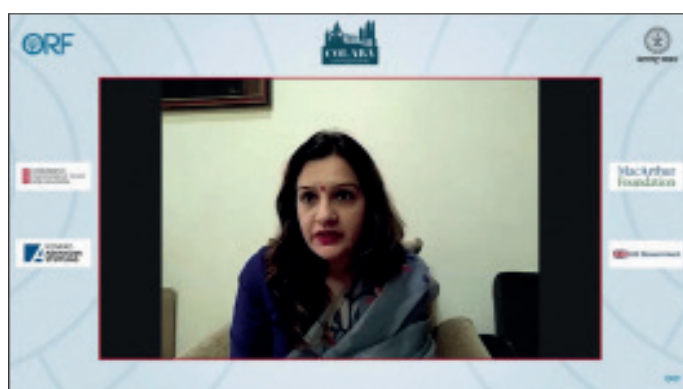
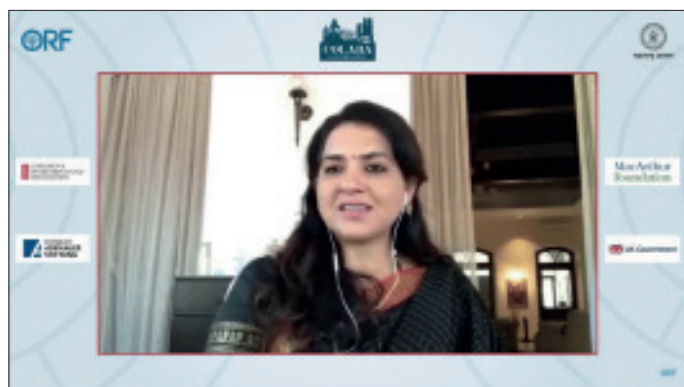
(Clockwise from top left): Inaugural Address by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray; Intervention by Regina Ramos; Intervention by Nadia Schadlow; Keynote Address by Sumant Sinha; Panel on “Chairing the G20: Economic Steering Committee for the World”; and Panel on “Cities 20: Establishing a Global Policymaking Forum for Cities.”

Colaba Conversation 2021

The dialogue saw participation from policymakers, business leaders, experts, and community leaders. The theme for 2021 is “Reset, Resilience and Recovery.” There were 20 sessions spread across two days—a mix of panels, conversations and keynotes—with participation from 70 speakers from over 20 countries. The sessions were designed to focus on globalised cities, green finance, digital governance and para-diplomacy, with a special cross-cutting focus on geoeconomics.

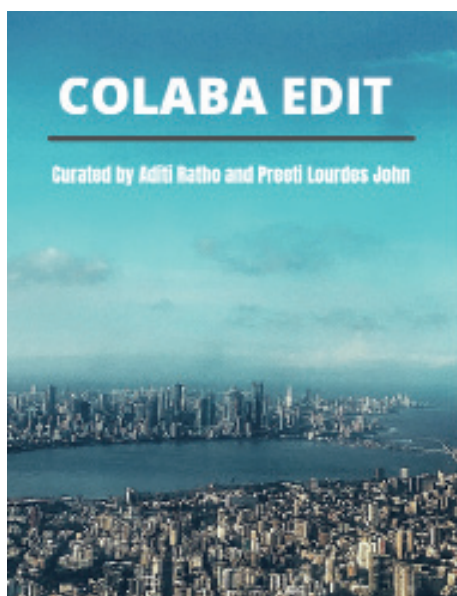


(Clockwise from top left): Panel on “Developing an Arabian Sea Consensus on Growth and Prosperity”; Panel on “Regulations and Responsibilities in the Digital Era”; Intervention by Claudia Warning; Intervention by Oluwatosin Durotoye; Intervention by Aaditya Thackeray; and Panel on “Recovery Towards the Indian New Green Deal.”



(Clockwise from top left): Intervention by Kurihara Toshihiko; Intervention by Shaina NC; and Intervention by Priyanka Chaturvedi.

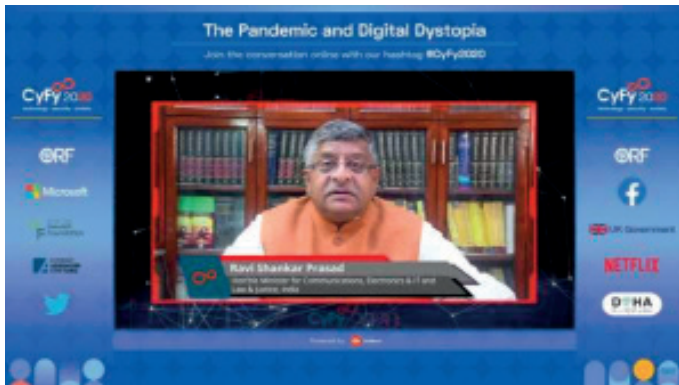
PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS



Colaba Edit Curated by Aditi Ratho and Preeti Lourdes John

CyFy 2020

The global response to the novel coronavirus not only accelerated the process of digitalisation, but also fundamentally altered its trajectory. As a result, a new wave of technologies, norms, government policies and social behaviours will emerge, wither or evolve, compelling rapid resolutions to long festering fault-lines, or, for better or worse, entrenching them.



(Clockwise from top left): Inaugural address by Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad; Address by Minister Moulay Hafid Elalamy; Address by Minister of State The Rt Hon John Whittingdale; Panel on “The Return of the Sovereign: Drawing Boundaries in Cyberspace?”; Panel on “Missed Connections: The Conflict Over 5G”; and Address by Minister Timo Harakka.

CyFy 2020 gathered an international community of experts—for the first time in a virtual setting—to identify, interrogate and interpret the new normal that is emerging in our global digital society. Over the course of a week, five themes undergirded CyFy’s virtual discussions:

In Politics We Trust: Decoupling and Digital Interdependence

Pandemic Promethean: Innovating Through Crisis

iWork: Equity, Employment and Identity in the Digital Economy

Democracy Bytes: By the People, Of the People, Against the People?

Techreation: The Future of Content Creation and Consumption

CyFy 2020 took the conference into cyberspace for the first time, with a viewership of over 6 million. The conference hosted 150 speakers from 43 countries.



(Clockwise from top left): Address by Minister S. Iswaran; Panel on “Supply Chain Reactions: Vulnerabilities at Scale?”; Panel on “In Search of Panacea: Tech in Times of Crisis”; and Panel on “A Tale of Two Cities: Competing Visions for Data Governance.”

CyFy 2020



(Clockwise from top left): Panel on “Trust in Transactions: Resolving Bottlenecks in the Adoption of Digital Payments”; Address by Minister Tomáš Petříček; Panel on “The Ballot Box and the Beast: Securing Our Elections”; Intervention by Nivruai Rai; Panel on “Running Blind: Overtrust in Tech”; and Panel on “The Future of Digital Europe.”



Intervention by Kiran Mazumdar Shaw.



Intervention by Barry O'Farrell

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS



Digital Debates — CyFy Journal 2020

edited by Trisha Ray, Laetitia
Bruce Warjri, Arjun Jayakumar
and Samir Saran | October 2020

Tackling Insurgent Ideologies 2020

The third edition of Tackling Insurgent Ideologies focused on the pandemic world. Held digitally on August 4 and 5, 2020, the conference hosted 9 panels, with 40 panellists from across government, academia, civil society, the media, and tech and social media companies. Centred in, and designed for the global pandemic, TII 2020 discussed the spread of extremist violence, terrorism, and xenophobia.



(Clockwise from top left): Panel on “Terror in Times of COVID: Experiences and Trends”; Panel on “Tackling the Corona Infodemic: Tackling Insurgent Ideologies in a Pandemic World”; Panel on “Kashmir: Caught Between the Extremes”; Panel on “China’s Han Project and Manufactured Consent”; In Conversation with Ram Madhav and Samir Saran on “India’s Extremism Challenge”; and Panel on “Countering Extremism Through Entertainment: The New Narratives”.

In expanding the conversation around Countering Violent Extremism, TII 2020 focused especially on the phenomena of the ‘infodemic’. Was the infodemic, fed by a nature of fake news, religious and radical polarisation, and nurtured in a climate already vitiated by radical ideological violence, a consequence of the pandemic? Through stimulating conversation and engagement on themes such as manufactured consent, populism, radicalism, and privacy—TII 2020 served as a platform to identify and solve existing problems, as well as to tackle emerging problems around hate speech and misinformation.



(Clockwise from top left): Panel on “Populism and its Offshoots: The Rising Threat of Right-Wing Terrorism”; Panel on “Privacy Quarantined: Tackling Insurgent Ideologies”; and Panel on “Deradicalisation: Overlapping Mandates and Conceptual Confusion.”

PROMINENT PUBLICATIONS

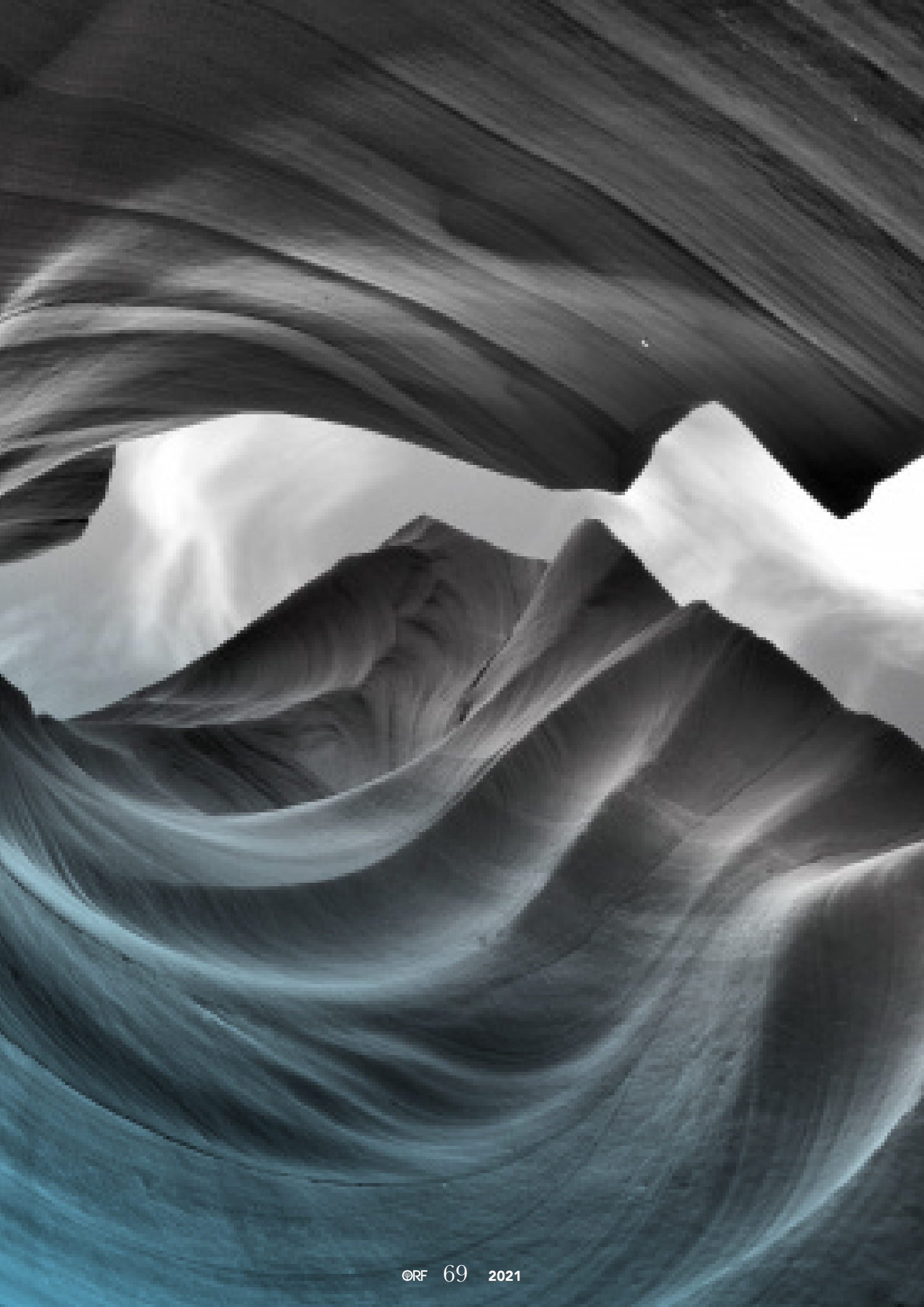


Tackling Insurgent Ideologies in a Pandemic World by Maya Mirchandani | August 2020



Annexure

ORF Events, Publications, Faculty
and Organisational Structure



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES 2020

June 25: Technology, Governance Innovation and the Pandemic :

Discussing Responses from South Asia and Africa; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

June 30: Between a Republic and an Emirate – The Future of Afghanistan: The South Asian Perspective”; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

July 23: Russia-India Relations and the Pandemic Test of Global Governance; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

August 3: Tech Wars, the Liberal Order and the Rise of China; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

August 25: Stability in the Korean Peninsula: How has China’s Interests Evolved? organised by Strategic Studies Programme

October 12-16: CYFY 2020 : India-ASEAN Track 1.5 Dialogue; organised by Tech and Media Programme

November 4: US Polls 2020: Which Way 2021 for India and the World? Organised by Strategic Studies Programme

November 5: Infusing Ethics into Artificial Intelligence; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

December 1: 2020 ROK-India-Japan Trilateral Dialogue organised by Sustainable Development Programme

December 8-9: Moving Forward the France-India Partnership; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

December 9: India And Central Europe: Together Towards a Sustainable Recovery, ORF-CEIF Dialogue; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

December 15: Can the G20 deliver? Priorities for a Post-Pandemic World; organised by Media and Publication Programme

2021

January 5: Farewell Policy Address by Ambassador Kenneth I. Juster on Ambition and Achievement in the U.S.-India Partnership; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

January 19: India-Japan-France Workshop on the Indo-Pacific; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

February 16: Green transitions: Catalysing India-EU Relations for a Green Future; organised by Energy and Climate Change Programme

February 24: BIMSTEC in 2021; organised by CNED

March 5-6: Exploring Connectivity in the Bay of Bengal Region: Importance of India's Northeast; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

March 31: Future Visionaries: India-EU cooperation for Digital Transitions; organised by Tech and Media Programme

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS 2020

April 8: 5G Infrastructure, Huawei's Techno Economic Advantages and India's National

Security Concerns: An Analysis; organised by Media and Publications Programme

April 17: PLA Joint Exercises in Tibet: Implications for India; organised by Media and Publications Programme

April 22: Debating the Contours of a Fiscal Stimulus: Economic Policy in the Age of Corona; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

April 29: Geopolitical and Geo-economic Consequences of COVID-19; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

May 7: Environmental Security in the Sundarban in the Current Climate Change Era: Strengthening India-Bangladesh Cooperation; organised by Media and Publications Programme

May 11: Will China Really Conquer the World? | चीन खरंच जग जिंकले?; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

May 13: The Explosion of Online Education in India during the COVID-19 Pandemic: What Have We Learnt? Organised by Political Economy Programme

May 15: Australia-India Relations and the Indo-Pacific Post-COVID-19; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

May 18: AI in Public Health: Resilience, Privacy and Regulatory Challenges; organised by Tech and Media Programme

May 20: Weighed Down by the Gains: India's Twin Burdens of Malnutrition and Disease" and "How Fares India in Healthcare? A Sub-National Analysis."; organised by Media and Publications Programme

May 22: Indian Migrant Workers during the Pandemic: The Challenges of Governance; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

Events

May 25: Evolution of China's Influence Operations; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

May 26: ORF Kashmir Dialogue; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

May 27: Online School education in India During Covid 19; organised by Political Economy Programme

June 1: "India and Australia in the Indo-Pacific"; organised by Sustainable Development Programme

June 9: Isn't it High Time for Mankind to Change? | माणसाने (आता तरी) कसे वागाव?; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

June 11: The Post-COVID-19 Digital Order; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

June 17: Resolving Bottlenecks in the Adoption of Digital Payments; organised by Media and Publications Programme

June 18: Promoting a 'GDP of the Poor': The Imperative of Integrating Ecosystems Valuation in Development Policy."; organised by Media and Publications Programme

June 24: The Changing Contours of Video Entertainment in the Times of COVID-19; organised by Tech and Media Programme

June 26: UN @ 75: Reform and Revival; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

June 29: Strategic and Managed Retreat: Adaptation to Climate Change; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

July 1: Towards an India-US Consensus on Counter Terrorism Cooperation; organised by Media and Publications Programme

July 9: Between a Republic and an Emirate - The Future of Afghanistan: Perspectives from Central Asia & Iran; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

July 13: African Development: Looking Back, Taking Stock, and Moving Ahead; organised by Energy and Climate Change Programme

July 15: Re-imagining Slums Post COVID-19; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

July 16: COVID-19: Securing Healthcare Online; organised by Sustainable Development Programme

July 17: The Future of Work and Workspaces; organised by Economy and Growth Programme

July 21: The 2020 Lowy Institute Poll Release; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

July 23: भारताची सॉफ्टपॉवर समजून घेताना; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

July 24: U.S. and China: Decoupling in the Era of COVID-19; organised by Media and Publications Programme

July 27: “Is the US Ready for an Indo-US Partnership?”; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

August 5: The World Economy after the COVID-19 Pandemic; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

August 12: The Future We Want: Toward an All-Sector Approach to Digital Inclusion; organised by Tech and Media Programme

August 18: Arabian Sea Dialogues: Culture, Cricket, Films and More; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

August 20: कोरोनाची लस व तुम्ही-आम्ही; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

August 21: Kashmir After Article 370: India’s Diplomatic Challenge; organised by Media and Publications Programme

August 26: Sri Lanka: The Way Forward; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

August 31: Mind it: Mental Health and the Pandemic; organised by Media and Publications Programme

September 2: The Allied Forces in World War II: History and its Consequences & The 21st Century World Order; organised by Forums

September 4: Environmental Regulation in India: EIA and Beyond; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

September 7: Making India Great: The Promise of a Reluctant Global Power; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

September 17: Arabian Sea Dialogues’ on “4th IR and the Future of Work”; organised by Forums

September 18: Gender-responsive Budgeting in India, Bangladesh and Rwanda: A comparison; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

September 23: The Global Race for COVID-19 Vaccine; organised by Forums

October 2: Himalaya Samvad; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

October 23: Subregional Security Cooperation: An Exploratory Study of India’s Approach; organised by Media and Publications Programme

Events

October 28: The 2020 Lowy Institute Asia Power Index; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

November 26: The Future of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation; organised by Energy and Climate Change Programme

November 27: Hong Kong's National Security Law: Implications for India; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

December 21: National League for Democracy's Second Term in Myanmar; organised by Political Economy Programme

December 21: Elements of the China Challenge—A Discussion with Peter Berkowitz; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

December 23: Impact Investments in India: Towards Sustainable Development; organised by Tech and Media Programme

2021

February 10: Post-Pandemic Economic Recovery: Seven Priorities for India; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

March 10: Finding Solutions to Water Scarcity: The Potential of Virtual Water Trade in Agricultural Products; organised by CNED Programme

March 16: Securing Digital India Through Adoption of Standards, organised by Economy and Growth Programme

March 18: The Prospects of a Deeper India-Taiwan Cooperation in the Evolving Dynamics of the Indo-Pacific; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

March 18: Inflation Targeting: Much Ado about Nothing?; organised by Tech and Media Programme

March 18: Africa: Towards a Digital, Sustainable, Equal Society; organised by CNED Programme

March 19: Mapping the Belt and Road Initiative: Reach, Consequences, Implications; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

March 25: Exploring Successful Gender-friendly Workspaces; organised by Tech and Media Programme

BOOK RELEASES AND BOOK DISCUSSIONS 2020

April 14: Contest for the Indo-Pacific by Prof. Rory Medcalf; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

June 15: China's Western Horizon : Beijing and the New Geopolitics of Eurasia; organised by Strategic Studies

Programme

June 19: GP ORF Series–The Viral World Looking to the Future: Lessons Learnt from 2020; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

July 7: Asia's New Geopolitics: Essay on Reshaping the Indo-Pacific by Mr. Micheal R. Auslin; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

July 13: GP ORF Series–Uncharted Territory: Emerging World Order post COVID-19; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

July 30: Rethinking Cities in a Post-COVID-19 World; organised by Political Economy Initiative

September 3: The India Way: Strategies for an Uncertain World.” by H.E. Dr. S. Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, India; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

September 24: China's Strategic Ambitions in the Age of COVID-19; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

October 8: The Routledge Handbook of China-India Relations; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

October 19: Portraits of Power: Half a Century of Being at Ringside; organised by Forums

October 20: Full Spectrum: India's Wars, 1972-2020; organised by Forums

October 22: Kautilya's Arthashastra: Philosophy of Strategy; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

October 28: Isolationism: A History of America's Efforts to Shield Itself from the World; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

October 29: The Ultimate Goal: A Former R&AW Chief Deconstructs How Nations Construct Narratives; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

November 20: A New Idea of India—Individual Rights in A Civilisational State; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

Events

November 24: The Wellington Experience: A Study of Attitudes and Values Within the Indian Army; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

December 9: Fossil Free: Reimagining Clean Energy in a Carbon-Constrained World; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

December 17: Poverty Narratives and Power Paradoxes in International Trade Negotiations and Beyond; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

December 19: Jugalbandi: The BJP Before Modi; organised by Political Economy Programme

2021 **January 11:** China's Search for 'National Rejuvenation': Domestic and Foreign Policies under Xi Jinping; organised by Tech and Media Programme

January 20: Vajpayee: The Years that Changed India; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

January 29: Princetian: How Nehru, Patel and Mountbatten Made India; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

February 26: The Brussels Effect: How The EU Rules The World; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

March 2: The Art of Political Control in China; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

March 19: The Narrow Corridor: States, Society and the Fate of Liberty; organised by Tech and Media Programme

March 23: A World Safe for Democracy: Liberal Internationalism and the Crises of the Global Order; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

TALKS 2020

April 10: Kolkata Talk :The New World Disorder And The Indian Imperative by Shashi Tharoor; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

April 15: The New World Disorder And The Indian Imperative by Shashi Tharoor; organised by Political Economy

April 24: Fateful Triangle: How China Shaped US India Relations During the Cold War by Tanvi Madan; organised by Economy and Growth Programme

April 29: The ISIS Peril: The World's Most Feared Terror Group and its Shadow on South Asia by Kabir Taneja; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

May 8: The Appearance of the Invisible: Migrant Workers During COVID-19 in India by Baijayant Panda; organised by Economy and Growth Programme

June 5: Postcards from Paris: Indo-French Cooperation and the New World Order by Amb. Emmanuel Lenain, Ambassador of France to India; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

July 17: Re-envisioning Regionalism in South Asia in the Post-COVID Era by C. Raja Mohan; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

July 23: Afghanistan's peace process and India's role by H.E. Mohammad Haneef Atmar, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

August 14: Political barriers to retreat as an adaptive strategy to climate change by Mark T. Gibbs, Australian Institute of Marine Science; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

September 18: The Fluid Mosaic: Various Shades of Interstate Water Conflicts in India by Purnamita Dasgupta; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

October 30: The Purity Ruse: Consciousness, Empowerment and Feminine Identity by Koral Dasgupta; organised by Strategic Studies Programme

December 4: India's Northeast: A Gateway to Wider Cooperative Architecture in East and Southeast Asia by Pahi Saikia; organised by Economy and Growth Programme

MONDAY MORNING MEETINGS 2020

April 6: Green Urban Mobility in India— Opportunities and Challenges;

presented by Amruta Ponkshe

April 13: The Governance of Floodplains from an Ecological Perspective; presented by Sayanangshu Modak

April 20: Rules Based' Maritime Security: A View from New Delhi; presented by Abhijit Singh

April 27: Russia's Relations in South East Asia since 2014: Continuity or Change? presented by Nivedita Kapoor

May 4: Mapping the Regional-Federal Interaction in the Indian Political Discourse: A Conceptual Interrogation; presented by Ambar Kumar Ghosh

May 11: Competitive Federalism and FDI Inflow: Disparities within Indian States; presented by Roshan Saha

Events

May 18: Competitive Federalism and FDI Inflow: Disparities within Indian States; presented by Sohini Bose

May 25: How the Xinjiang Policy Looms Large in China's BRI Plans for South and Central Asia; presented by Ayjaz Wani

June 1: A Technology Foreign Policy for India: Initial Priorities for the NEST Division; presented by Trisha Ray

June 8: De-radicalisation Programs and the Indian States; presented by Kabir Taneja

June 15: Can Communal Violence Fuel an ISIS threat in India? Presented by Maya Mirchandani

June 22: Deciphering National Strategic Impulses in Indo-Pacific Region as COVID-19 Unfolds; presented by Abhijit Mukhopadhyay

June 29: Chinese Cruise Missiles Capabilities: Implications for Indian Army and Air Force; presented by Kartik Bommakanti

July 6: Sea-based Nuclear Deterrence in the Indo Pacific: Assessing the Indian and Chinese Stance; presented by Sohini Nayak

July 13: Africa and COVID-19: Impact, Response and Post-recovery Challenges; presented by Abhishek Mishra

July 20: Assessment of ICPs in the India-Nepal Border-Crossings; presented by Joyeeta Bhattacharjee

July 27: Cyber-Nuclear Security Interface: the Indian Context; presented by Pulkit Mohan

August 3: Spatially Examining Mumbai's Health Infrastructure; presented by Siyali Mankikar

August 10: COVID-19: Where is the Money? A Case for Financing a Demand Inducing Stimulus via Debt Monetisation; presented by Ria Kasliwal

August 17: Understanding the US Congress and EU Parliament's Response to India's Abrogation of Article 370; presented by Kashish Parpiani

August 24: Sustainable Development Goals: Opportunities for Post-Pandemic World Economy; presented by Soumya Bhowmick

August 31: China's Suppression of Minorities; presented by Khalid Shah

September 7: Chennai-Vladivostok Maritime Link; presented by Gayatri Iyer

September 14: Building Partnerships under India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative: Challenges and Policy Recommendations; presented by Premesha Saha

September 21: Federalism in the Time of Coronavirus: A Comparative Study of Major Federal Systems; presented by Niranjana Sahoo

September 28: The US-China Tech Rivalry and its implications for Europe; presented by Sabrina Korreck

October 5: Opportunities for Indian EdTech in East Africa; presented by Anurag Reddy

October 12: Federalism and Inter-state River Water Governance in India; presented by Sayanangshu Modak & Ambar Kumar Ghosh

October 19: Building African Capacity—Successes, Limitations and Lessons for India; presented by Malancha Chakrabarty

October 26: India's Economy: From Phenomenal Slump to a Possible Recovery; presented by Abhijit Mukhopadhyay

November 2: India Defence Procurement: Righting the Ship; presented by Angad Singh

November 9: The 2020 U.S. Elections and Implications for India; presented by Dhruva Jaishankar

November 23: Democratic Deliberation and Social Media; presented by Saumya Arora

December 7: India's COVID-19 Vaccine Challenges: An Assessment; presented by Kriti Kapur & Oommen Kurian

December 14: Capturing the Moment: China, Global Infrastructure Finance, and Competition; presented by Ritika Passi

December 21: Master Plan for Delhi—2041: Another Opportunity for Planned Development; presented by Rumi Aijaz

December 28: Journey of ORF Mumbai and the New Roadmap; presented by Akshay Mathur

Events

2021 **January 4:** The Next 10 years are India's Decade; presented by Akshay Mathur

January 11: India's Approach Towards the South China Sea Dispute: Is a Shift in the offing? Presented by Premesha Shah

January 18: Russia-EU Relations—The End of Strategic Partnership; presented by Nivedita Kapoor

January 25: Assessing Educational Opportunities of Rohingya Children in Bangladesh; presented by Sreeparna Banerjee

February 1: Emotions and Vote Choice; presented by Prithvi Iyer

February 15: The 2020 U.S. Elections and Implications for India; presented by Dhruva Jaishankar

February 22: An Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management Along the Bengal Coast; presented by Sayanangshu Modak

March 1: Women on the Move: Assessing the Impact of Safety Concerns on Women's Mobility Choices; presented by Aditi Ratho

March 8: A Legal Toolkit for a Strong Digital Indian Economy; presented by Vikas Kathuria

March 15: Teething Competition Troubles in India's Digital Payments Space; presented by Shashidhar K.J.

March 22: Democracy and Political Violence: The Bengal Exceptionalism; presented by Niranjana Sahoo

List of Publications

April 2020 – March 2021

BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS

- The 5G dilemma: Mapping responses across the world | Aarshi Tirkey, May 2020
- Understanding China: Voices from India's Northeast | Rakhahari Chatterji, Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury, Ambar Kumar Ghosh, May 2020
- A Green Investment Architecture for India: Building a Bridge for Global Capital | Annapurna Mitra, Tanushree Chandra, Nandini Sarma, Ria Kasliwal, June 2020
- A Fountain Pen Story | Bibek Debroy, June 2020
- Life in Lockdown: A survey of India's Urban youth | Aastha Kaul and Terri Chapman, July 2020
- Getting to the Green Frontier Faster: The Case for a Green Frontier SuperFund | Jayant Sinha and Tanushree Chandra, July 2020
- 4 • th India Think Tank Forum: Conference Report | July 2020
- Regional Challenges to Multilateralism: Shedding Light on the Changing International Order | Élise Féron, Marko Juutinen, Jyrki Kähkönen and Karim Maïche, July 2020
- The day after tomorrow: Africa's battle with Covid19 and the road ahead | Sangeet Jain, Meghna Chadha, Kwame Owino and John Mutua, July 2020
- Foreign Direct Investments in Indian States: The SDG Cornerstones | Roshan Saha and Soumya Bhowmick, September 2020
- Rebooting the World: Six Months of COVID-19 | Shoba Suri, Ed., September 2020
- US Elections 2020: A Primer | Soumya Bhowmick and Sangeet Jain, October 2020
- Reimagining Work, Education and Skills in India's Digital Century | Meghna Chadha and Terri Chapman, November 2020
- The Digital Indo-Pacific: Regional Connectivity and Resilience | Trisha Ray, Sangeet Jain, Arjun Jayakumar, Anurag Reddy, February 2021
- Reimagining BIMSTEC: Strengthening Regional Solidarity Across the Bay of Bengal | Rakhahari Chatterji and Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury (Editors), February 2021
- Mapping the Belt and Road Initiative: Reach, Implications, Consequences | Harsh V Pant and Premesha Saha (Editors), February 2021
- Creating Urban Water Resilience in India: A Water Balance Study of Chennai, Bengaluru, Coimbatore, and Delhi | Biplob Chatterjee and Aparna Roy, March 2021
- Battle for Bengal 2021: Political Themes and Electoral Dynamics | Soumya Bhowmick and Ambar Kumar Ghosh, March 2021
- Colaba Conversation Rapporteurs' Report | March 2021

List of Publications

April 2020 – March 2021

GP-ORF

- The Viral World | Maya Mirchandani, Shoba Suri and Laetitia Bruce Warjri, eds., June 2020
- Uncharted Territory: Emerging World Order Post COVID-19 | Aarshi Tirkey, ed., June 2020
- Rethinking Cities in a Post-COVID-19 World | Aditi Ratho and Preeti Lourdes John, eds, June 2020
- Tackling Insurgent Ideologies in a Pandemic World | Maya Mirchandani ed., August 2020
- China's Strategic Ambitions in the Age of COVID-19 | Kartik Bommakanti ed, September 2020
- Digital Debates: CyFy Journal 2020 | Trisha Ray, Laetitia Bruce Warjri, Arjun Jayakumar and Samir Saran, October 2020
- Pushing the Boundaries of Indian Tech: Women on the Frontlines | Nisha Holla and Annapurna Mitra ed, October, 2020
- The Future of War in South Asia: Innovation, Technology and Organisation | Manoj Joshi and Pushan Das, eds, March 2021

OCCASIONAL PAPERS

- Towards an India-US Consensus on Counterterrorism Cooperation | Kashish Parpiani and Prithvi Iyer, April 2020
- Conceptualising a New Multidimensional Poverty Index for India | Renita D'Souza, April 2020
- Formulating Open-Space Policies for India's Cities: The Case of Mumbai | Sayli Udas-Mankikar, April 2020
- India-Africa Partnership for Food Security: Beyond Strategic Concerns | HHS Viswanathan and Abhishek Mishra, April 2020
- Breathing new life into BIMSTEC: Challenges and Imperatives | Pratinashree Basu and Nilanjan Ghosh, April 2020
- Urban Densities and the COVID-19 Pandemic: Upending the Sustainability Myth of Global Megacities | Dhaval D Desai, May 2020
- Migration, River Management, Radicalisation: What Does the Future Hold for India-Bangladesh Relations? | Joyeeta Bhattacharjee, May 2020
- Mainstreaming Sustainability Outcomes in Big Infrastructure Projects | Amruta Ponkshe, May 2020; Sabrina Korreck, March 2021

- India and Counterforce: A Question of Evidence | Rajesh Rajagopalan, May 2020
- From Policy to Practice: Charting a Path for Floodplain Zoning in India | Sayanangshu Modak and Preeti Kapuria, May 2020
- India's 'Look Far East': The Vladivostok Moment in Indo-Russian Relations | Hari Vasudevan, May 2020
- Tracking India's Progress in Clean Water and Sanitation: A Sub-National Analysis | Soumya Bhowmick, Nilanjan Ghosh and Roshan Saha, June 2020
- COVID-19 and Pakistan: The Economic Fallout | Sushant Sareen, June 2020
- Water Supply in Delhi: Five Key Issues | Rumi Aijaz, June 2020
- US and China: Decoupling in the Era of COVID-19 | Manoj Joshi, June 2020
- Strengthening the C4ISR Capabilities of India's Armed Forces: The Role of Small Satellites | Kartik Bommakanti, June 2020
- New Space for the Future of Work: Co-Working in India | Sabrina Korreck, June 2020
- Impact Investments in India: Towards Sustainable Development | Renita D'Souza, June 2020
- Radiological Security in India: Policies and Challenges | Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan, June 2020
- Sweden's 'Soft' COVID-19 Strategy: An Appraisal | Ramanath Jha, July 2020
- Kashmir After Article 370: India's Diplomatic Challenge | Kriti M Shah and Khalid Shah, July 2020
- Gender-Responsive Budgeting in India, Bangladesh and Rwanda: A Comparison | Aditi Ratho, July 2020
- Regulating AI in Public Health: Systems Challenges and Perspectives | Abhinav Verma, Kristina Rao, Vivek Eluri and Yukti Sharma, July 2020
- Deradicalisation as Counterterrorism Strategy: The Experience of Indian States | Kabir Taneja, August 2020
- Towards a Deliberative BIMSTEC | Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury and Rohit Ranjan Rai, August 2020
- The Australia-India-Japan-US Quadrilateral: Dissecting the China Factor | Jyotsna Mehra, August 2020
- The Blue Economy: Charting a New Development Path in the Seychelles | Malshini Senaratne, August 2020

List of Publications

April 2020 – March 2021

- Rules-Based Maritime Security in Asia: A View from New Delhi | Abhijit Singh, August 2020
- Russia's Relations in Southeast Asia since 2014: Continuity and Change | Nivedita Kapoor, August 2020
- Invest, indebt, incapacitate: Is China Replicating its 'Xinjiang Model' in BRI Countries? | Ayjaz Wani, August 2020
- Sino-Indian Border Deadlock: Time to Rewrite India Playbook | Manoj Joshi, August 2020
- From Buyer to Builder: The Indian Navy's Rocky Road to Self-Reliance | Abhijit Singh and Manoj Joshi, September 2020
- Subregional Security Cooperation: An Exploratory Study of India's Approach | K. Yhome, September 2020
- The Paradox of 'Centralised Federalism': An Analysis of the Challenges to India's Federal Design | Ambar Kumar Ghosh, September 2020
- Governing the Ganges and Brahmaputra: Beyond Reductionist Hydrology | Nilanjan Ghosh and Jayanta Bandyopadhyay, September 2020
- The WTO Crisis: Exploring Interim Solutions for India's Trade Disputes | Aarshi Tirkey and Shiny Pradeep, September 2020
- Africa and COVID-19: Impact, Response, and Challenges to Recovery | Abhishek Mishra, September 2020
- Hong Kong's National Security Law: Implications for India | Aarshi Tirkey and Nandini Sarma, October 2020
- Policymaking Towards Green Mobility in India | Amruta Ponkshe, October 2020
- A Primer on US and EU Response to India's Abrogation of Article 370 | Kashish Parpiani and Abhimanini Sawhney, October 2020
- US Engagement in the Indo-Pacific: An Assessment of the Trump Era | Harsh V Pant and Kashish Parpiani, October 2020
- Fulfilling the SDG on Zero Hunger: A Progress Report on BIMSTEC Nations | Shoba Suri and Aditi Tyagi, November 2020
- Crossroads of Artificial Intelligence: Higher Education and Research in India and China | Romi Jain, November 2020
- Strengthening the Online Education Ecosystem in India | Rammohan Khanapurkar, Shalini Bhorkar, Ketan Dandare and Pralhad Kathole, November 2020

- Understanding the Indian Public Opinion–Foreign Policy Relationship | Prithvi Iyer, November 2020
- The Eastern Corridor and the Law of the Sea: Ensuring Sea-Lane Security | Pratinashree Basu, November 2020
- East Meets East: An Assessment of the Proposed Chennai-Vladivostok Maritime Corridor | Nivedita Kapoor and Gayathri Iyer, December 2020
- Urban Rental Housing in India: Towards ‘Housing For All | Ramanath Jha, December 2020
- Xi’s China, China’s Xi: Current Political and Social Challenges | Kalpit A Mankikar, December 2020
- IS Khorasan, the US–Taliban Deal, and the Future of South Asian Security | Kabir Taneja, December 2020
- The India-China Border Question: An Analysis of International Law and State Practices | Utkarsh Pandey, December 2020
- Air Pollution in Delhi: Filling the Policy Gaps | Arpan Chatterji, December 2020
- The Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative: Towards a Coherent Indo-Pacific Policy for India | Premesha Saha and Abhishek Mishra, December 2020
- Towards Zero Deaths: Imperatives for Safer Indian Railways | Dhaval Desai, January 2021
- Federalism and Interstate River Water Governance in India | Sayanangshu Modak and Ambar Kumar Ghosh, January 2021
- Post-Pandemic Economic Recovery: Seven Priorities for India | Abhijit Mukhopadhyay, January 2021
- Countering Disinformation and Hate Speech Online: Regulation and User Behavioural Change | Archit Lohani, January 2021
- Confronting Cascading Disasters, Building Resilience: Lessons from the Indian Sundarbans | Tanaya Dutta Gupta, Amrita Chakraborty, and Anamitra Anurag Danda, January 2021
- Finding Solutions to Water Scarcity: The Potential of Virtual Water Trade in Agricultural Products | Roshan Saha and Preeti Kapuria, February 2021
- Leadership Challenges and the COVID-19 Pandemic | A.S. Bhalla, February 2021
- The Rise of the Xi Gang: Factional politics in the Chinese Communist Party | Srijan Shukla, February 2021

List of Publications

April 2020 – March 2021

- Onward to the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030: Will COVID-19 leave many behind? | Soumya Bhowmick, February 2021
- Strategies for a Two-Front Dilemma: Lessons from History | Ashish Singh, February 2021
- Exploring Prospects for Digital Europe in the Age of the US-China Technology Race | Sabrina Korreck, March 2021
- Digitising Indian Retail: Analysing Challenges and Exploring Growth Models | Preeti Kapuria and Harish S Nalawade, March 2021
- Delhi Master Plan 2021–41: Towards a People's City? | Rumi Aijaz, March 2021
- Embedding Technology in Education: The Potential of India's Solutions in East Africa | Anurag Reddy, March 2021
- A Legal Toolkit for Fair and Competitive Digital Markets in India | Vikas Kathuria, March 2021
- The West Wanes, China Grows: What's at Stake for the Liberal Order? | Niranjan Sahoo, March 2021

ISSUE BRIEFS & SPECIAL REPORTS

- The Role of Monetary Policy in Climate Change Mitigation | Renita D' Souza and Tanya Rana, April 2020
- Towards a Holistic Digital Health Ecosystem in India | Sheetal Ranganathan, April 2020
- How the COVID-19 Pandemic Exposes the Frailty of Social Protection in the US | Terri Chapman, April 2020
- Dr WHO and Mr Hyde | Kriti Kapur, April, 2020
- Free Trade after RCEP: What Next for India? | Nandini Sarma, April 2020
- A Report on Kolkata Colloquium 2019: Reimagining BIMSTEC | Sohini Bose, Roshan Saha and Sayanangshu Modak | April 2020
- Bhutan's 20-Year Economic Development and Transition to Democracy: An Assessment of India's Role | Mihir Bhonsale, April 2020
- Bridging the Healthcare Gap in Afghanistan: A Primer on India's Role | Sohini Bose, April 2020
- The Pandemic in the Gulf: What it Portends for NRIs in the Region | Issac John, April 2020

- India and Nepal's Kalapani Border Dispute: An Explainer | Sohini Nayak, April 2020
- Twin Crises in the Gulf: Implications for India | Annapurna Mitra and Ria Kasliwal, April 2020
- Building India's Global Health Strategy: Beyond the Role of 'Pharmacist of the World' | Sahil Deo and Christian Franz, May 2020
- From Cox's Bazar to Bhasan Char: An Assessment of Bangladesh's Relocation Plan for Rohingya Refugees | Sreeparna Banerjee, May 2020
- Understanding Disease and Shaping Public Health Policy in a Time of Pandemic | Erfan Ibrahim and Shahid Jameel, May 2020
- Gender and the Gig Economy: A Qualitative Study of Gig Platforms for Women Workers | Ria Kasliwal, May 2020
- COVID-19, Blue Economy, and the Climate Change Agenda: The Case of Seychelles | Malshini Senaratne, May 2020
- 50 Days of Lockdown: Measuring India's Success in Arresting COVID-19 | Sanjana Krishnan, Sahil Deo, Shardul Manurkar, May 2020
- State of the States: Two months of the Pandemic | Sangeet Jain and Oommen C Kurian, May 2020
- Regulatory Sandboxes: Decoding India's Attempt to Regulate Fintech Disruption | Shashidhar K.J., May 2020
- Understanding the Risks Posed by COVID-19: A Public Health Perspective | Meenakshi Sharma, May 2020
- The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly: Germany's Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic | Amrita Narlikar, May 2020
- COVID Corrections: How the Pandemic Reveals the Failures of India's Growth Model | Puja Mehra, May 2020
- The Ithai Barrage of Manipur: To Decommission or Not | Jaya Thakur, May 2020
- Perspectives on SARS-CoV-2 Strains | Chitra Pattabiraman, Farhat Habib and Krishnapriya Tamma, May 2020
- US-India Partnership for a Green Future | Samir Saran and Richard Verma, June 2020

List of Publications

April 2020 – March 2021

- Australia-China Relations: The Great Unravelling | Navdeep Suri, June 2020
- COVID-19 and India's Media and Entertainment Sector: Recommendations for Recovery | Vivan Sharan and Laetitia Bruce Warjri, June 2020
- Building Trust in the Time of COVID-19: Lessons from Canada | Sunil Abraham, June 2020
- Regulatory Changes in India in the Time of COVID-19: Lessons and Recommendations | Gautam Chikermane and Rishi Agrawal, June 2020
- What China Wants in South Asia | Derek Grossman, June 2020
- Nutrition Gardens: A Sustainable Model for Food Security and Diversity | Shoba Suri, June 2020
- Developing an Effective Anti-Drone System for India's Armed Forces | Vivek Gopal, June 2020
- SDGs, Indian Cities and Seismic Sustainability | Ramanath Jha, June 2020
- Fast Data for Faster Decision-making: The Utility of High-frequency Economic Indicators | Sahil Deo, Pooja Verulkar and Sanjana Krishnan, June 2020
- China's State Responsibility for the Global Spread of COVID-19: An International Law Perspective | Ipshita Chaturvedi, June 2020
- India and Africa: Charting a Post-COVID-19 Future | Laetitia Warjri and Anushka Shah, June 2020
- Air Power in Joint Operations: A Game Changer in a Limited Conflict with China | Arjun Subramaniam, June 2020
- Atmanirbhar Bharat: Missing a Focus on Air Pollution and Climate Change | Chetan Bhattacharji, June 2020
- India-US Defence Trade Continuity Under Trump | Kashish Parpiani, July 2020
- Addressing the Public Health Crisis | July 2020
- COVID-19 and India's Gig Economy: The Case of Ride-Hailing Companies | Sabrina Korreck, July 2020
- Mapping Skills: A Roadmap for India and the UAE | Navdeep Suri and Manish Kumar, July 2020
- India-Africa Partnership for Sustainability in a Post-Pandemic World | Ayan Sharma, July 2020

- A Primer on Serology (Antibody) Testing | Shoba Suri and Laetitia Bruce Warjri, July 2020
- COVID-19 Vaccine: Development, Access and Distribution in the Indian Context | Sahil Deo, Shardul Manurkar, Sanjana Krishnan and Christian Franz, July 2020
- Harnessing Indian Sea Power Post-Galwan: Considerations of Time, Space and Force | Sudarshan Shrikhande, July 2020
- Unified Payment Interface: Towards Greater Cyber Sovereignty | Sunil Abraham, July 2020
- China's Military Modernisation: Recent Trends | Kartik Bommakanti and Anant Singh Mann, July 2020
- Modern Technology for Sustainable Forest Management in India | Anushka Shah, July 2020
- BIMSTEC and Disaster Management: Future Prospects for Regional Cooperation | Sohini Bose, July 2020
- The Rising Fourth Wave: Feminist Activism and Digital Platforms in India | Shruti Jain, July 2020
- Employing A.I. to Improve Healthcare Delivery | Ashish Airon and Ayesha Jhunjhunwala, July 2020
- The COVID-19 Pandemic: Why it Won't be the Last | Bhavayta Mahajan, July 2020
- Investing in Adolescent Health: Harnessing India's Demographic Dividend | Debarati Mukherjee, Shreya Behal and Oommen C. Kurian, July 2020
- Strategic and Managed Retreat as Adaptation: Addressing Climate Vulnerability in the Sundarbans | Anamitra Anurag Danda, Nilanjan Ghosh, Jayanta Bandyopadhyay and Sugata Hazra, July 2020
- On Ecology and Environment as Drivers of Human Disease and Pandemics | Shahid Jameel, July 2020
- One Year Since the Christchurch Call to Action: A Review | Priyal Pandey, August 2020
- Indigenous Technology as a Strategic Moat for India | Nisha Holla, August 2020
- Protecting Cancer Care through the COVID-19 Crisis and its Aftermath | Mitu Sengupta and Asit Arora, August 2020

List of Publications

April 2020 – March 2021

- Resolving Bottlenecks in the Adoption of Digital Payments | Shivangi Mittal and Aman Grover, August 2020
- Understanding the Impact of GSP Withdrawal on India's Top Exports to the U.S. | Shriya Chauhan, August 2020
- India's Malabar Dilemma | Harsh V Pant and Anant Singh Mann, August 2020
- Beyond Current Nuclear Doctrine Debates: Addressing India's Two Front Challenge | Joy Mitra, August 2020
- Bridging Water Demand and Supply in Delhi: The Potential of Rainwater Harvesting | Rumi Aijaz, August 2020
- China's Belt and Road Initiative: Implications in Africa | Venkateswaran Lokanathan, August 2020
- The Rohingya Crisis and its Impact on Bangladesh-Myanmar Relations | Sreeparna Banerjee, August 2020
- Regionalisation: A Better Strategy in a Post-Pandemic World? | Vinitha Revi, August 2020
- Operationalising Blue Economy in Africa: The Case of South West Indian Ocean | Bineswaree Bolaky, September 2020
- State Responses to COVID-19 and Implications for International Security | Neha Dewan, September 2020
- Can Communal Violence Fuel an ISIS Threat in India? | Prithvi Iyer and Maya Mirchandani, September 2020
- India-Bangladesh Partnership in Post-Pandemic Economic Recovery | Soumya Bhowmick and Syed Mafiz Kamal, September 2020
- Retreating Glaciers and Water Flows in the Himalayas: Implications for Governance | Anjal Prakash, September 2020
- Reasonable Explainability' for Regulating AI in Health | Yukti Sharma, Abhinav Verma, Kristina Rao, and Vivek Eluri, September 2020
- Post-COVID-19 Green Mobility: Time for a Long-Term Vision for Electric Vehicles in India | Purva Jain, September 2020
- Priorities for a Technology Foreign Policy for India | Trisha Ray and Akhil Deo, September 2020
- Finding Solutions to Air Pollution in India: The Role of Policy, Finance, and Communities | Aparna Roy, Tanushree Chandra and Aditi Ratho, September 2020

- Reimagining India's Engagement with BIMSTEC | Suparna Karmakar, September 2020
- Revitalising BIMSTEC through Cultural Connectivity from Northeast India | C. Joshua Thomas, October 2020
- The Social Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic | Sanjay Bhattacharya, October 2020
- Harnessing Agriculture for Achieving the SDGs on Poverty and Zero Hunger | RV Bhavani and Priya Rampal, October 2020
- Climate Change and Sea-Level Rise in the BIMSTEC Region: Towards a Suitable Response | Anamitra Anurag Danda, October 2020
- Demand-Inducing Stimulus as COVID-19 Response: A Case for Debt Monetisation| Ria Kasliwal, October 2020
- Breaking Glass Ceiling? Mapping EU-India Security Cooperation | Lara Klossek, Shounak Set and Tomasz Lukaszuk, October 2020
- Towards an Integrated 'Blue Economy' Framework in the Bay of Bengal | Abhijit Singh, October 2020
- Cyber Security in India's Nuclear Systems | Pulkit Mohan, October 2020
- Critical Technologies and the Indo-Pacific Policy: A New India–Australia Partnership| Aakriti Bachhawat, Danielle Cave, Jocelinn Kang, Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan and Trisha Ray, October 2020
- US Elections 2020: The Battleground States | Soumya Bhowmick and Sangeet Jain, October 2020
- When COVID-19 and Natural Hazards Collide: Building Resilient Infrastructure in South Asia | Madhurima Sarkar-Swaigood and Sanjay Srivastava, October 2020
- In the Shadow of COVID-19: Reimagining BIMSTEC's Health Futures | Oommen C. Kurian, October 2020
- No Child's Play: The Enduring Challenge of Creating Child-Friendly Cities | Devashish Dhar and Manish Thakre, October 2020
- The Bay of Bengal in the Emerging Indo-Pacific | C. Raja Mohan, October 2020
- BIMSTEC into the Mainstream: The Role of the Media | Bertil Lintner, October 2020
- Education as a Pivot in India's Cooperation with BISMTEC Countries | Vivek Mishra and Suranjan Das, November 2020

List of Publications

April 2020 – March 2021

- The Sustainable Development Agenda: Evaluating the G20 as a Stage for National and Collective Goals | Tanu M. Goyal and Prateek Kukreja, November 2020
- Retired at Eighteen: Political Economy of Child Labour in the Textiles and Allied Industries in India | Abhijit Mukhopadhyay, Shoba Suri, Rakesh Kumar Sinha, Gautam Chikermane, Mihir Swarup Sharma, Aastha Kaul and Oommen C Kurian, November 2020
- Harnessing the Power of India's Forests for Climate Change Mitigation | Aparna Roy, November 2020
- How Donald Trump Has Changed the World | Harsh V. Pant, Ed., November 2020
- Strengthening Anti-Human Trafficking Mechanisms in the Bay of Bengal Region | Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury, November 2020
- A New Framework for a Secure Digital India | Utsav Mittal, November 2020
- Tackling Industrial Pollution in India: Where is the Data? | Chetan Bhattacharji and Ronak Sutaria, November, 2020
- The G20 in a Post-COVID-19 World: Bridging the Skills Gaps | Prateek Kukreja, November, 2020
- Opportunities and Challenges in US-India Strategic Relations | Sameer Lalwani, Akriti Vasudeva, Ari Tolany and Angad Singh, November 2020
- Green Recovery: Opportunities for India | Nandini Sarma, November 2020
- Solid Waste Management in Urban India: Imperatives for Improvement | Satpal Singh, November 2020
- India's Draft Health Data Management Policy: ORF Recommendations | Shashidhar K.J., Kriti Kapur, Oommen C. Kurian, November 2020
- India's Access to Criminal Evidence in the U.S.: A Proposed Framework for an Executive Agreement | Peter Swire, DeBrae Kennedy-Mayo and Arjun Jayakumar, December 2020
- Post-COVID-19 Recovery: Harnessing the Power of Investment in Sustainable Infrastructure | Andrea Marcello Bassi, Georg Pallaske and Marco Guzzetti, December 2020
- China's Cruise Missile Capabilities: Implications for the Indian Army and Air Force | Kartik Bommakanti, December 2020
- India's Enduring Challenge of Intelligence Reforms | Vinayak Dalmia, Vindra Kapoor and Saikat Datta, December 2020

- An Intellectual Biography of India's New Farm Laws | Gautam Chikermane, December 2020
- POSHAN Abhiyaan: Fighting Malnutrition in the Time of a Pandemic | Shoba Suri and Kriti Kapur, December 2020
- Between a Republic and an Emirate: The Future of Afghanistan | Shubhangi Pandey and Sushant Sareen, December 2020
- Five Lessons from 2020 | Gautam Dalmia, December 2020
- On the Cusp of Digital History: Nine Lessons for the Future | Samir Saran and Trisha Ray, December 2020
- 21st Century India's Health Story in Graphs: Using NFHS-5 Data to Verify Worrying Child Mortality Trends from SRS | Oommen C. Kurian, December 2020
- Safeguarding Food Self-Sufficiency in the Time of COVID-19: Lessons from Bhutan | Om Bhandari, December 2020
- The India-China Nuclear Dynamic: India's Options | Rajesh Basrur, December 2020
- What Ails Health Systems in Africa? An Economic Perspective | Daniel Mwai & Theresa Ndavi, December 2020
- The Role of SDGs in Post-Pandemic Economic Recovery | Soumya Bhowmick, January 2021
- India's Historic Vaccination Drive: Evaluating the Stakes, Hurdles and Opportunities | Kriti Kapur and Oommen C. Kurian, January 2021
- The New Green Revolution: A Just Transition to Climate-Smart Crops | Ria Kasliwal, January 2021
- Pandemic Reopens Contentious Issues in Nepal-India Ties | Paras Kharel, January 2021
- Health Infrastructure Planning Amid COVID-19: The Case of Mumbai | Sayli Udas-Mankikar, January 2021
- East Asia's History Wars | Shashank Mattoo, January 2021
- Extreme Heat Events in India's Cities: A Framework for Adaptive Action Plans | Ramanath Jha, January 2021
- A Policy Agenda for India's Union Budget 2021-22 | Sangeet Jain, Soumya Bhowmick, and Suyash Das, January 2021

List of Publications

April 2020 – March 2021

- From War Zone to China's Poster Child, to Economic Despair: Angola's 40-Year Journey | Malancha Chakrabarty, January 2021
- Annual Outlook 2021: Silver Linings | Alexis A Crow, January 2021
- Rebooting the Indian Army: A Doctrinal Approach to Force Restructuring | Deepak Sinha, February 2021
- Defence Acquisition Procedure 2020: Imperatives for Further Reforms | Laxman Kumar Behera, February 2021
- COVID-19 and the Changing Geopolitical Order: Challenges to BIMSTEC | Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty, February 2021
- India's Innovation Ecosystem: Mapping the Trends | N. Vedachalam, February 2021
- Indian Defence Procurement: Righting the Ship | Angad Singh, February 2021
- The UK Shifts to the Indo-Pacific: An Opportunity for India-UK Ties | Harsh V Pant and Tom Milford, February 2021
- South Africa's COVID-19 Responses: Unmaking the Political Economy of Health Inequalities | Madalitso Zililo Phiri, February 2021
- India's Enduring War of Water Governance Paradigms | Nilanjan Ghosh, February 2021
- India's Purchase of the S-400: Understanding the CAATSA Conundrum | Kashish Parpiani, Nivedita Kapoor, and Angad Singh, February 2021
- Emotions and Vote Choice: Perspectives from the US and India | Prithvi Iyer, February 2021

- The Impact of COVID-19 on Children and Adolescents: Early Evidence in India | Deepika Bahl, Shalini Bassi, and Monika Arora, March 2021
- In Deep Water: Current Threats to the Marine Ecology of the South China Sea | Pratinashree Basu and Aadya Chaturvedi, March 2021
- Exploring the Promises and Perils of Chinese Investments in Tech Startups: The Case of Germany | Sabrina Korreck, March 2021
- Russia-EU Relations: The End of a Strategic Partnership | Nivedita Kapoor, March 2021
- Perspectives on the 'New Normal' in Kashmir | Ayjaz Wani, March 2021
- Lessons from COVID-19: Promoting Sustainability in Food Production to Limit Zoonotic Transmission | Preeti Kapuria, March 2021
- Arresting India's Water Crisis: The Economic Case for Wastewater Use | Mitali Nikore and Mahak Mittal, March 2021
- Creating Pathways for Disaster Risk Financing Post-COVID-19 | Madhurima Sarkar-Swaigood and Ria Sen, March 2021
- From War to Peace: The Regional Stakes in Afghanistan's Future | Kabir Taneja, Ed., March 2021
- A New Partnership for the Digital 21st Century: Japan, India and France | Shashank Mattoo and Ratnadeep Chakraborty, March 2021
- Maritime Opportunities Await the India-Japan-France Trilateral Partnership | Sohini Nayak, March 2021

STRATEGIC STUDIES PROGRAMME

- Harsh V. Pant, Director, Studies and Head, Strategic Studies Programme
- Aarshi Tirkey, Associate Fellow
- Abhijit Singh, Senior Fellow
- Abhishek Mishra, Associate Fellow
- Anasua Basu Ray Chaudhury, Senior Fellow
- Anchal Vohra, Visiting Fellow
- Angad Singh, Project Coordinator
- Anil Kumar Chopra, Honorary Visiting Fellow
- Ayjaz Ahmad Wani, Fellow
- Bharath Gopalaswamy, Senior Fellow
- Deepak Sinha, Visiting Fellow
- Girish Luthra, Distinguished Fellow
- HHS Viswanathan, Distinguished Fellow
- Hari Bansh Jha, Visiting Fellow
- Javin Aryan, Research Assistant
- Kabir Taneja, Fellow
- Kalpit A Mankikar, Fellow
- Kartik Bommakanti, Fellow
- Kashish Parpiani, Fellow
- Khalid Bashir Shah, Associate Fellow
- Kriti M. Shah, Associate Fellow
- M. Ashraf Haidari, Visiting Fellow
- Mahendra Lal Kumawat, Advisor
- Manoj Joshi, Distinguished Fellow
- N. Sathiyamoorthy, Distinguished Fellow
- Nandan Unnikrishnan, Distinguished Fellow
- Nisha Biswal, Distinguished Fellow
- Nivedita Kapoor, Junior Fellow
- Pinak Ranjan Chakravarty, Honorary Visiting Fellow
- Pratinashree Basu, Associate Fellow
- Premesha Saha, Associate Fellow
- Raghu Raman, Distinguished Fellow
- Rakesh Sood, Distinguished Fellow
- Ritika Passi, Visiting Fellow
- S. Paul Kapur, Visiting Fellow
- Saikat Datta, Visiting Fellow
- Sergey Kurginyan, Visiting Distinguished Fellow
- Sohini Bose, Junior Fellow
- Sohini Nayak, Junior Fellow
- Sreeparna Banerjee, Junior Fellow
- Sushant Sareen, Senior Fellow
- Vikram Sood, Advisor
- Vivek Lall, Visiting Distinguished Fellow

INCLUSIVE GROWTH & SDGS PROGRAMME

- Nilanjan Ghosh, Director, ORF Kolkata and Head, Inclusive Growth and SDG
- Anamitra Anurag Danda, Senior Visiting Fellow
- Aniket, Research Assistant
- Esther Laldinthar Ruolngul, Associate Fellow
- Jaya Thakur, Junior Fellow
- Jayanta Bandyopadhyay, Visiting Distinguished Fellow
- Leena Chandran Wadia, Honorary Senior Fellow
- Manish Vaid, Junior Fellow
- Mona, Junior Fellow
- Oommen C. Kurian, Senior Fellow and Head of Health Initiative
- Preeti Kapuria, Fellow
- Rakesh Kumar Sinha, Associate Fellow
- Rakhahari Chatterji, Honorary Distinguished Fellow
- Renita D'Souza, Fellow
- Satish Kumar Tezaa, Data Analyst
- Sayanangshu Modak, Junior Fellow
- Soumya Bhowmick, Junior Fellow
- Suyash Saurabh Das, Research Assistant

TECHNOLOGY, ECONOMY, AND SOCIETY

- Gulshan Rai, Distinguished Fellow
- Jaibal Naduvath, Visiting Fellow
- Maya Mirchandani, Senior Fellow
- Mitali Mukherjee, Fellow
- Nisha Holla, Visiting Fellow
- R. Ashok, Advisor
- Rohit Bansal, Distinguished Fellow
- Sabrina Korreck, Senior Fellow
- Sean Kanuck, Distinguished Fellow
- Vijay Latha Reddy, Distinguished Fellow
- Vikas Kathuria, Fellow
- Vivan Sharan, Visiting Fellow

GEOECONOMICS PROGRAMME

- Akshay Mathur, Director, ORF Mumbai and Head, Geoeconomics Studies Programme
- Akshobh Giridhardas, Visiting Fellow
- Alexis A. Crow, Visiting Senior Fellow
- Jhanvi Tripathi, Associate Fellow
- Shruti Jain, Junior Fellow

CENTRE FOR SECURITY, STRATEGY AND TECHNOLOGY

- Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan, Distinguished Fellow and Director, Centre for Security, Strategy and Technology
- Antara Vats, Junior Fellow
- Pulkit Mohan, Associate Fellow
- Trisha Ray, Associate Fellow

CENTRE FOR NEW ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

- Navdeep Suri, Distinguished Fellow and Director, Centre for New Economic Diplomacy
- Shashidhar KJ, Associate Fellow
- Aparna Roy, Associate Fellow
- Shoba Suri, Senior Fellow
- Malancha Chakrabarty, Fellow
- Sunaina Kumar, Senior Fellow
- Swati Prabhu, Associate Fellow
- Vikrom Mathur, Program Head

CENTRE FOR THE ECONOMY AND GROWTH

- Mihir Swarup Sharma, Director, Centre for the Economy and Growth
- Abhijit Mukhopadhyay, Senior Fellow
- Akhilesh Sati, Programme Manager
- Ambar Kumar Ghosh, Junior Fellow
- Amrita Narlikar, Non-Resident Senior Fellow
- Atul Chandra, Honorary Advisor
- Gautam Chikermane, Vice President
- H K Dua, Advisor
- Harsh Sethi, Honorary Advisor
- Hindol Sengupta, Visiting Fellow
- Jayant M Mauskar, Advisor
- Lydia Powell, Distinguished Fellow
- Manoj Kumar, Honorary Visiting Fellow
- N K Singh, Advisor to the Board and Distinguished Fellow
- Niranjana Sahoo, Senior Fellow
- Rajan Gupta, Distinguished Visiting Fellow
- Ramanath Jha, Distinguished Fellow
- Rasheed Kidwai, Visiting Fellow
- Rumi Aijaz, Senior Fellow
- Sanjeev Ahluwalia, Advisor
- Satish Misra, Honorary Visiting Fellow
- Sayli Udas Mankikar, Senior Fellow
- Surendra Singh, Honorary Advisor
- Uma Shankar Sharma, General Manager
- Vinod Kumar Tomar, Assistant Manager

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

- Shubh Soni, Head of Forums and Partnerships
- Sitara Srinivas, Executive Assistant to the President
- Tanoubi Ngangom, Chief of Staff and Programmes
- Vijay Kumar Seth, Manager

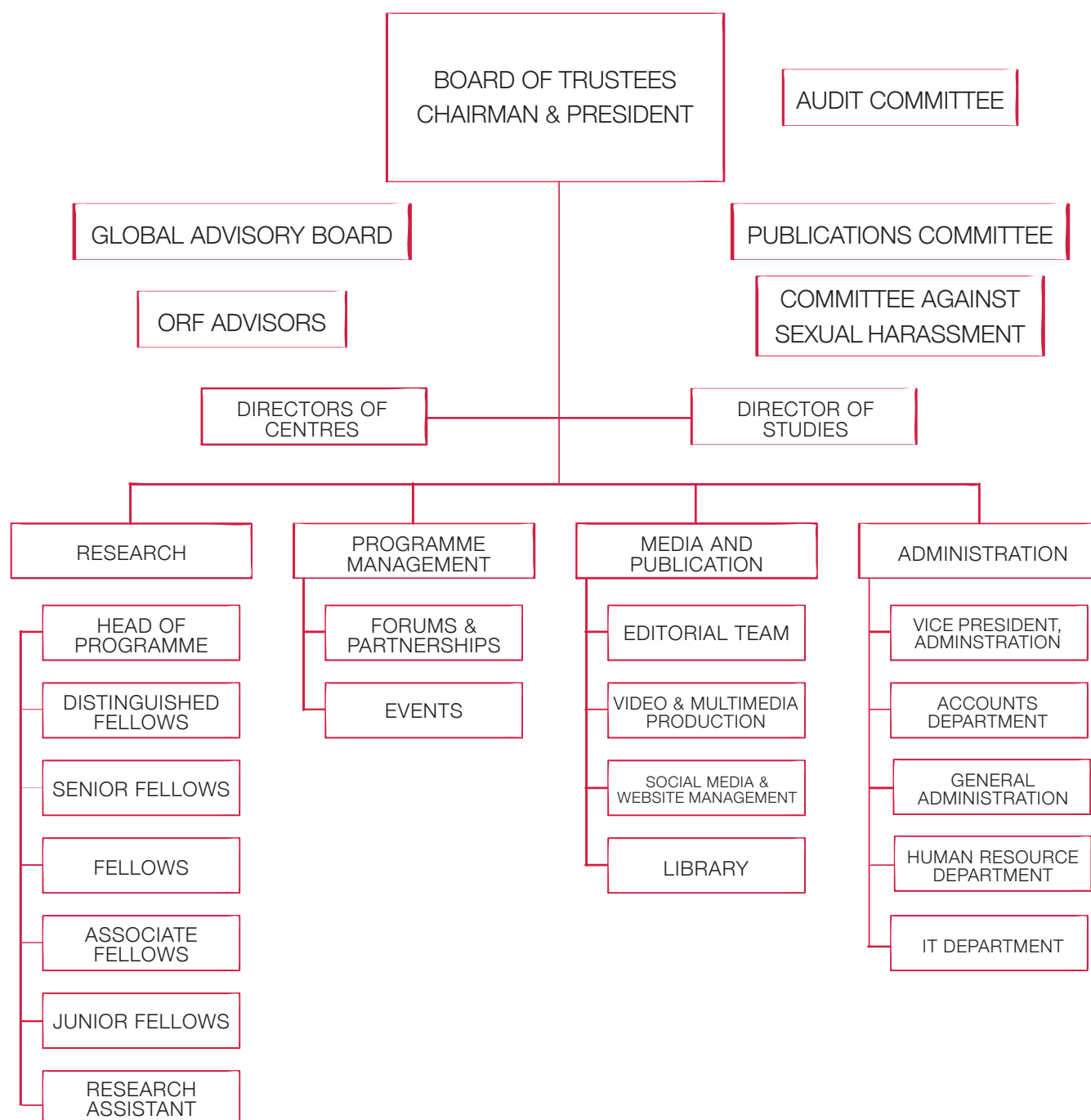
MEDIA AND PUBLICATIONS

- Aamir Rabbani, Multimedia Lead
- Abhishek Sharma, Manager, Visual Media
- Chetan Khanna, Digital Lead
- Karan Kumar, Multimedia Lead
- Laetitia Bruce Warjri, Web Editor
- Naghma Sahar, Senior Fellow, Digital and New Media
- Nilesch Anant Bane, Fellow
- Nisha Verma, Librarian
- Preeti Lourdes John, Deputy Editor
- Rahil Shaikh Miya, Lead, Graphics and Design
- Sanjay Kumar Verma, Manager, Web
- Somnath Sengupta, Head, ORF Digital
- Stelin Paul, Sub Editor
- Sukrit Kumar, Research Assistant
- Swati Arjun, Digital Editor
- Vinia Datinguino Mukherjee, Editor

ADMINISTRATION

- Arun Mehra, Vice President
- Akshay Saxena, Accounts Lead
- Anushka Kelaskar, Administration Assistant
- Asad Abdul Samad, Administration Manager
- Dharmendar Singh, Administration Assistant
- Dhaval Dushyant Desai, Vice President, ORF Mumbai
- Durga Kant Jha, IT and Web Officer
- Geetha S Kumar, Assistant Manager, Administration
- Monika Chhabra, Manager, HR
- N. S. Krishnamani, Executive Assistant to President
- Nanu Thekkumbad, Office Executive and Secretary
- Naresh Krishnakumar Yadav, Accounts Executive
- Nitika Shangari, Office Executive and Secretary
- P. G. Darji, Manager, Finance and Admin
- P. J. Biju, Executive Assistant
- Paramjeet Kaur, Front Office Executive
- Parul Kumar, Administration Assistant
- Prabhu Nath Tiwari, Administration Assistant
- Pradeep Mahajan, General Manager, Accounts
- Ramesh Tiwari, Deputy Manager, Commercial
- Ramit Grover, General Manager, Administration and HR
- Sachin Malik, Lead, HR
- Sonali Sharma, Deputy Manager, Administration
- Tarak Nath Roy, Administration Assistant
- Varun Kumar, Senior Manager, IT

ORF-Organogram (I)



STRATEGIC STUDIES PROGRAMME

- INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY
- INDIAN DEFENCE AND SECURITY POLICY
- AREA STUDIES: NEIGHBOURHOOD; THE INDO-PACIFIC; THE AMERICAS; EURASIA
- MARITIME STUDIES
- THE MULTILATERAL ORDER
- GREAT POWER DYNAMICS

SDGS AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH PROGRAMME

- HEALTH AND NUTRITION
- SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY
- WATER FOR ALL: ACCESS AND AVAILABILITY
- ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND RESILIENCE
- BLUE ECONOMY
- EDUCATION AND SKILLING
- GREAT POWER DYNAMICS

TECHNOLOGY, ECONOMY AND SOCIETY PROGRAMME

- CREATIVE INDUSTRIES AND PLATFORM ECONOMY
- NEW MEDIA STUDIES
- TECHNOLOGY AND DEMOCRACY
- LAW AND DIGITAL MARKETS

GEOECONOMICS PROGRAMME

- ECONOMIC MULTILATERALISM
- BUSINESS AND GEOPOLITICS
- GLOBAL TRADING SYSTEM
- INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE

CENTRE FOR SECURITY, STRATEGY AND TECHNOLOGY

- NUCLEAR SECURITY AND NON-PROLIFERATION
- SPACE POLICY
- CYBER SECURITY AND WEAPONISATION OF TECHNOLOGY
- EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES AND CRITICAL SUPPLY CHAINS
- GREAT POWER DYNAMICS

CENTRE FOR NEW ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY

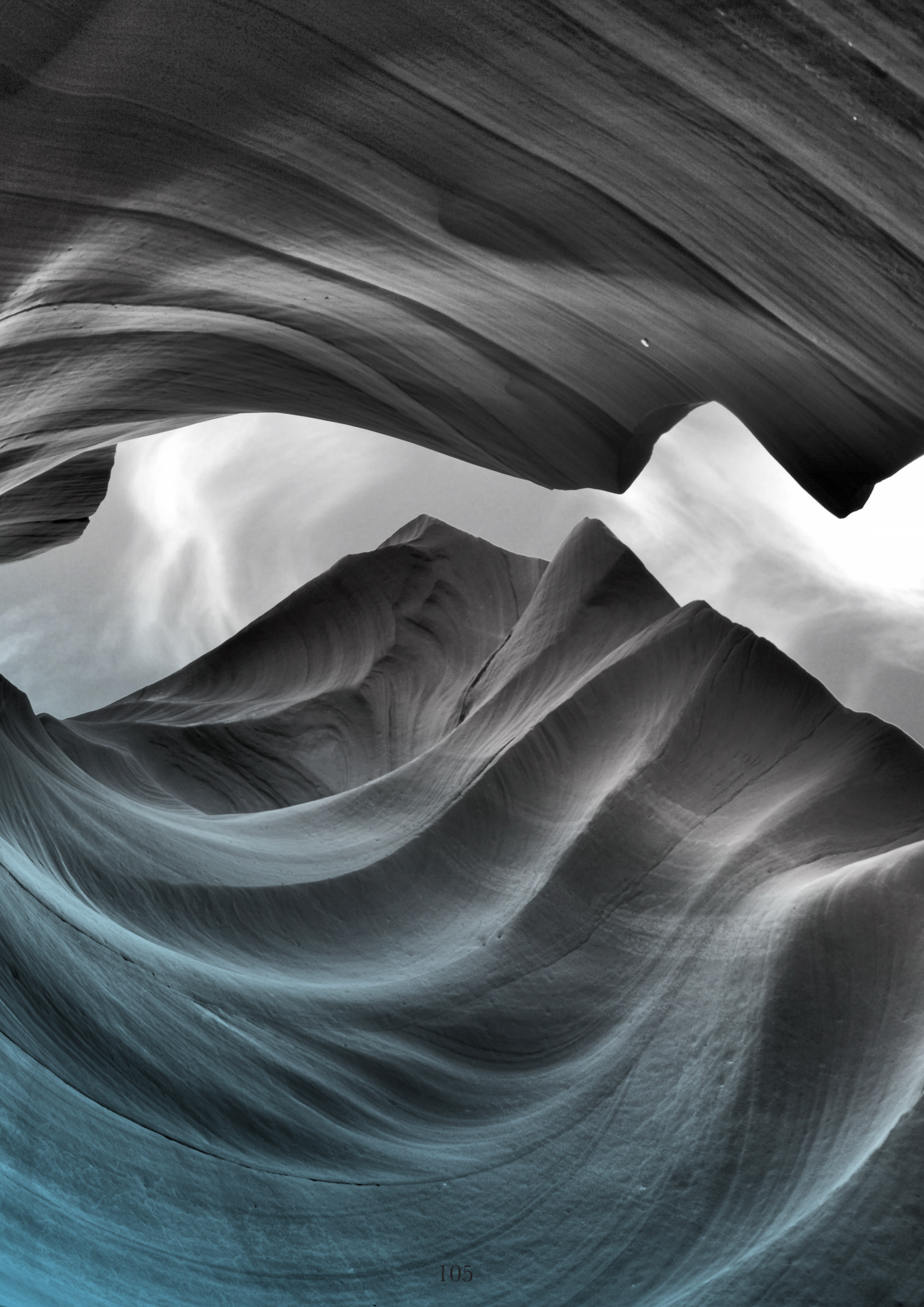
- DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION
- TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT
- INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE POLICIES AND COOPERATION
- HUMAN CAPITAL AND HEALTH DIPLOMACY
- GENDER, WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

CENTRE FOR THE ECONOMY AND GROWTH

- URBAN FUTURES
- THE GREEN TRANSITION
- THE NEW SOCIAL CONTRACT
- ENERGY AND RESOURCE SECURITY
- POLITICAL ECONOMY & REFORM



Financial Report



Independent Auditor's Report

TO THE CHAIRMAN/ SECRETARY OF OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

REPORT ON THE AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

OPINION

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Observer Research Foundation, a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 bearing registration No. S-21779/1991 as at 31st March 2021, which comprise the Balance Sheet as at March 31, 2021 and the Statement of Income & Expenditure account for the year then ended, and a summary of the significant accounting policies and other explanatory information (herein after referred to as “financial statement”). In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements of the societies are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Societies Registration Act 1860 and give a true and fair view in conformity with the accounting principles generally accepted in India

TO THE CHAIRMAN/ SECRETARY OF OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit of the financial statements in accordance with standard on auditing issued by the institute of Chartered Accountant of India (ICAI). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibility for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Society in accordance with the Code of Ethics issued by the institute of Chartered Accountant of India (ICAI) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements under the provisions of the Act and the Rules made thereunder, and we have fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ICAI's Code of Ethics. We believe that the audit evidence obtained by us is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion on the financial statements.

MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Management is responsible for preparation of these financial statements in accordance with Societies Registration Act 1860 & the accounting principles

generally accepted in India, including the accounting Standards issued by Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statement that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Society's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intend to liquidate the Society or to cease operation, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The management of the society are also responsible for overseeing the Society's financial reporting process.

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITY

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Standards on Auditing will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Standards on Auditing, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting

Independent Auditor's Report

TO THE CHAIRMAN/ SECRETARY OF OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION

from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances. we are also responsible for explaining our opinion on whether the Society's has adequate internal financial controls system in place and the operating effectiveness of such controls;
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management;
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Society's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Society's to cease to continue as a going concern; and

We communicate with the members of society regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

OTHER MATTERS

Incorporated in these financial statements are the financial information of head office at Delhi, duly audited by us, two branches (one in Mumbai and other in Kolkata), audited by statutory branch auditor.

These branches account for contribution of Rs. 3,00,00,000 and deficit of Rs. 33,69,516 for the year ended as on 31st March, 2021. While finalizing our opinion on the financial statements of the Trust, we have relied upon the audit reports issued by respective statutory branch auditors.

For **GSA & Associates LLP**
Chartered Accountants
Firm Registration No.000257N/N500339

Tanuj Chugh
Partner
Membership no. 529619

Place: New Delhi
Date: 25th October, 2021

Financial Report

BALANCE SHEET (AS ON 31ST MARCH, 2021)

OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION 20, ROUSE AVENUE, NEW DELHI-110002			
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2021			
Particulars	Schedule	As at 31.03.2021	As at 31.03.2020
Sources of funds:			
Corpus	I	23,68,10,874.71	22,31,07,024.50
Payables	II	5,12,682.55	1,75,16,515.79
Statutory Liabilities	III	1,41,936.00	33,87,195.00
Provisions	IV	3,47,97,479.00	3,28,75,466.00
Unspent Contributions	V	3,49,62,206.46	2,99,39,688.76
Unspent Interest FCRA		27,95,702.63	18,66,682.51
Total		31,00,20,881.35	30,86,92,572.56
Application of Funds :			
Fixed Assets	VI	5,81,62,304.80	5,95,56,776.80
Investments:	VII		
Fixed Deposits		18,01,00,000.00	12,27,00,000.00
GOI Saving Bonds		1,00,00,000.00	1,00,00,000.00
		19,01,00,000.00	13,27,00,000.00
Current Assets:	VIII		
Cash & Bank Balances		3,61,64,820.26	5,71,71,904.87
Security Deposits		2,13,999.59	1,85,816.30
Advances		2,33,109.00	1,76,834.00
Other Receivables		1,85,13,343.95	4,90,51,890.79
Prepaid Expenses		26,46,758.00	20,62,456.00
Income Tax Refundable (TDS Receivable)		39,86,545.75	77,86,893.80
		6,17,58,576.55	11,64,35,795.76
Total		31,00,20,881.35	30,86,92,572.56

Financial Report

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2021)

OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION 20, ROUSE AVENUE, NEW DELHI-110002		
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 31ST MARCH, 2021		
Particulars	For the year ended 31st March 2021	For the year ended 31st March 2020
Income:		
Foreign Contributions for designated Projects	14,37,93,760.82	23,01,48,126.92
Voluntary Contributions (Projects)	1,04,16,286.00	2,63,71,121.93
Voluntary Contributions (General)	10,25,00,000.00	17,22,00,000.00
Interest	1,31,51,801.11	1,68,14,173.20
Other Income	21,30,001.33	4,55,622.20
Total Income	27,19,91,849.26	44,59,89,044.25
Expenditure :		
Expenditure on Projects:		
Expenditure on Designated FCRA Projects	14,41,56,293.70	23,14,91,067.66
India China Centre	-	2,12,45,547.40
Mumbai Initiative	-	3,55,49,996.64
CyFy Expenses	-	9,38,413.04
Economy & Growth Programme	45,84,408.00	16,29,348.00
Energy & Climate Change Programme	56,88,154.19	39,96,155.00
Media and Publications	1,34,69,938.20	1,62,94,535.92
Political Economy Programme	88,42,523.00	79,07,061.00
Programme Appraisal Management	29,64,631.56	45,67,487.00
Raisina Dialogue Expenses	9,88,511.80	1,66,74,452.26
Strategic Studies Programme	1,93,50,304.04	3,47,03,571.35
Sustainable Development Programme	98,72,045.89	1,09,60,411.47
Tech & Media Programme	15,47,303.00	28,96,219.32
Other Expenses :		
Employee Benefit Expenses	2,06,27,366.00	1,91,95,489.00
Printing & Stationery	1,16,943.00	2,08,769.00
Travelling	-	14,03,089.70
Conveyance	9,64,710.00	8,16,389.00

Financial Report

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2021)

Office Expenses	14,20,038.80	13,49,302.20
Communications	15,26,312.92	11,27,945.90
Utilities	31,83,799.00	50,56,164.00
Repair & Maintenance	61,88,254.88	57,79,076.90
Honorarium & Retainership Fee	30,86,800.00	24,05,870.72
Meeting & Conferences	6,34,502.00	11,01,099.00
Insurance Exps	36,584.00	-
Office Lease Rent	64,680.00	64,680.00
Computers & Maintenance	3,83,997.46	16,63,394.94
Books & Periodicals	4,93,885.61	4,19,488.00
Other Expenses	35,23,590.40	25,20,583.58
Amortization of Land	27,198.00	27,198.00
Depreciation	45,45,223.60	26,96,966.74
Total	25,82,87,999.05	43,46,89,772.74
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year (A) - (B)	1,37,03,850.21	1,12,99,271.51
(Deficit)/Surplus transferred to Corpus	1,37,03,850.21	1,12,99,271.51

Financial Report

SCHEDULE TO BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH, 2021

OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION						
20, ROUSE AVENUE, NEW DELHI-110002						
Schedule to Balance sheet as on 31st March 2021						
Schedule I						
Corpus Funds		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
Opening Balance		22,31,07,024.50	21,18,07,751.99			
Addition during the year		-	1.00			
Add: (Deficit)/Surplus for the Year		1,37,03,850.21	1,12,99,271.51			
Total		23,68,10,874.71	22,31,07,024.50			

Schedule II						
Payables		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
Expenses Payable		5,12,682.55	53,63,219.29			
Foreign Contribution to be refunded		-	1,21,53,296.50			
Total		5,12,682.55	1,75,16,515.79			

Schedule III						
Statutory Liabilities		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
TDS Payable		36,700.00	31,95,917.00			
Goods & Services tax		1,01,236.00	1,87,478.00			
Professional Tax Mumbai		4,000.00	3,800.00			
Total		1,41,936.00	33,87,195.00			

Schedule IV						
Provisions		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
Provision for Gratuity		2,77,19,910.00	2,40,55,405.00			
Provision for Leave Encashment		70,77,569.00	88,20,061.00			
Total		3,47,97,479.00	3,28,75,466.00			

Financial Report

SCHEDULE TO BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH, 2021

Schedule V						
Unspent Contribution		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
Related to FCRA Project		3,49,62,206.46	2,99,39,688.76			
Total		3,49,62,206.46	2,99,39,688.76			

Schedule VI						
Fixed Assets - Depreciation chart (As per Income Tax Act 1961)						
Type of Fixed Asset	Dep. Rate	WDV as on 1st April 2020	Additions / (deletions) before 30.9.2020	Additions after 30.09.2020	Depreciation / Amortization for the year	WDV as on 31st March 2021
Leasehold Land at Delhi*	0	21,59,937.00	-	-	27,198.00	21,32,739.00
Land at Kolkata	0	3,52,25,670.80	-	-	-	3,52,25,670.80
Building at Delhi	0	1.00	-	-	-	1.00
Building at Kolkata	0.1	1,40,74,176.00	-	-	14,07,418.00	1,26,66,758.00
Computer Equipments	0.4	19,07,095.00	8,18,153.00	14,11,109.00	13,72,321.00	27,64,036.00
Computer Equipments - Kolkata	0.4	20,29,108.00	-	-	8,11,643.00	12,17,465.00
Computer Equipments - Mumbai	0.4	8,58,322.60	1,92,498.00	-	4,20,328.60	6,30,492.00
Furniture & Fixtures	0.1	3,68,990.00	-	1,23,900.00	43,094.00	4,49,796.00
Office Equipment	0.15	28,59,448.00	39,680.00	5,92,610.00	4,79,315.00	30,12,423.00
Office Equipment - Kolkata	0.15	74,028.00	-	-	11,104.00	62,924.00
Total		5,95,56,776.40	10,50,331.00	21,27,619.00	45,72,421.60	5,81,62,304.80
Notes -						
* As per Lease agreement entered with Land development authority on 31-08-2000 ,this land shall be considered as leasehold land which shall be classified as intangible assets as per AS 26 and amortize over its useful life."						

Schedule VII						
Investments		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
Fixed Deposits *		18,01,00,000.00	15,12,67,312.86			
GOI Saving Bonds		1,00,00,000.00	1,00,00,000.00			
Total		19,01,00,000.00	16,12,67,312.86			
* Current year figure does not include accrued interest which is shown separately.						

Financial Report

SCHEDULE TO BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH, 2021

Schedule VIII - Current Assets						
Cash & Bank Balances		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
Cash in hand						
Cash in Delhi		24,652.01	68,819.01			
Cash in Kolkata		22,855.00	63,718.00			
Cash in Mumbai		5,755.00	9,247.00			
FCRA Cash		30,581.00	30,581.00			
Total (a)		83,843.01	1,72,365.01			

Bank Balance						
Canara Bank 0158101019207		7,32,079.18	1,35,289.91			
Canara Bank 24172010000815		87,357.16	7,64,281.74			
HDFC Delhi		30,50,421.62	1,33,55,901.91			
HDFC Kolkata		6,10,139.39	18,90,117.24			
HDFC Mumbai		7,29,669.02	44,02,191.19			
Bank of Baroda (earlier Vijaya Bank)		49,92,232.88	3,64,51,757.87			
SBI RECEIPTS A/C 39954481918		2,33,78,893.00	-			
SBI UTILISATION A/C 39954482593		25,00,185.00	-			
Total (b)		3,60,80,977.25	5,69,99,539.86			

Security Deposits		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
Security Deposit- Internet & Web		2,500.00	-			
Security Deposit - Tele- phone		8,803.00	8,803.00			
Security Deposit- WBSED- CL		2,02,696.59	1,77,013.30			
Total		2,13,999.59	1,85,816.30			

Financial Report

SCHEDULE TO BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH, 2021

Advances		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
Considered Good						
New India Insurance Co. Ltd		2,33,109.00	1,76,834.00			
Considered Doubtful						
Advance : Bhopal Land		4,03,330.00	4,03,330.00			
Subtotal		6,36,439.00	5,80,164.00			
Less -Provision made for advance against Bhopal land		4,03,330.00	4,03,330.00			
Total		2,33,109.00	1,76,834.00			

Other Receivables		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
FCRA Receivables		22,06,157.50	23,03,465.00			
GST Input Credit		19,59,283.20	28,73,616.56			
Interest Accrued		1,14,19,907.54	3,10,60,986.33			
Lockheed Martin India Pvt Ltd		1,63,128.00	-			
Reliance Jio Infratel Pvt Ltd		-	11,880.00			
Unbilled Revenue		27,64,867.71	1,28,01,942.90			
Total		1,85,13,343.95	4,90,51,890.79			

Prepaid Expenses		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
Prepaid Expenses		26,46,758.00	20,62,456.00			
Total		26,46,758.00	20,62,456.00			

TDS Receivable		As on 31st March 2021	As on 31st March 2020			
TDS Deducted AY 2018-19		-	19,56,414.20			
TDS Deducted AY 2019-20		-	31,51,136.80			
TDS Deducted AY 2020-21		26,79,342.80	26,79,342.80			
TDS Deducted AY 2021-22		13,07,202.95	-			
Total		39,86,545.75	77,86,893.80			

Financial Report

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

A) SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. Basis of preparation of Financial statements

The financial statements comprising the Balance sheet, the Income and Expenditure and Receipt & Payment account are prepared under the historical cost convention, on the accrual basis of accounting. In the absence of any authoritatively established accounting principles for the specialized aspects related to charitable trust which do not carry out any commercial activity, these statements have been prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies as described below.

2. Use of Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements is in conformity with the generally accepted accounting principles requires that the Member of the society make estimates and assumption that affect the reported amounts of income and expenditure for the year and reported assets and liabilities. Any revision to accounting estimates is recognized prospectively in current and future periods. All amounts are stated in Indian Rupees, except as otherwise stated.

3. Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Fixed assets are stated at cost of acquisition, including any attributable cost for bringing the assets to its working condition for its intended use, less accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation is charged on Fixed assets' written down value at the rates specified in the Income Tax Act, 1961.

Intangible assets are stated at cost net of tax/duty credits availed, if any less accumulated amortization. Intangible assets (Leasehold land at Delhi) are amortized over the estimated period of benefit or contractual terms as applicable.

4. Investments:

Investments are either classified as current or long term based on management's intention at the time of purchase. Current investments are carried at the lower of cost and fair value determined separately for each individual investment. Long term investment are carried at cost less diminution, other than temporary, in value, determined separately for each individual investment.

Financial Report

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

5. Donation and Grants

Donation & Grant are received in cash or in kind (from Foreign & domestic) is recognized as income on accrual basis. Such donation are recognized relatable over the period of usage and unspent amount recorded as unspent contribution (includes FCRA and domestic grants) under the head current liabilities.

Donation made with a specific direction that they shall form part of the corpus of the Trust is classified as corpus donation, and are directly reflected as trust fund receipt in the balance sheet.

Non-refundable / recoverable payments like subscription for periodicals are recognized in the year of payment.

6. Income tax

The Society's is registered under section 12A of the income tax Act, 1961 ('the Act'). Under the provision of the Act, the income of the society's is exempted from tax, subject to the compliance of specific terms and condition specified in the said Act.

7. Provisions and contingencies

The provision is recognized when, as a result of obligation events, there is a present obligation that probably required an outflow of resources and reliable estimate can be made of the amount of obligation. The disclosure of contingent liability is made when, as a result of obligating events, there is possible obligation or a present obligation that may, but probably will not, require an outflow of resources. No provision or disclosure is made when, as a result of obligating events, there is a possible obligation or a present obligation where the likelihood of an outflow of resources is remote.

8. Foreign Currency Transactions

Transactions in foreign currencies are accounted at the exchange rate prevailing on the date of the transaction. Gain and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translations of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognized in the income and expenditure Account.

Financial Report

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

B) NOTES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS

1. Interest includes Rs. 12,91,553 received in FCRA Saving Bank Account.
2. Note on AS-15 disclosure:

Defined benefit plan:

The principal assumptions as at balance sheet date used in determining provision for gratuity and leave encashment are as follows:

Economic assumptions:

The discount rate is based upon prevailing market yields of Indian Government Bonds at the valuation date for the expected term of the obligation. The estimate of future salary increase considered takes into account inflation, seniority, promotion and other relevant factors on long term basis

Particulars	As at 31 st March 2021	As on 31 st March 2020
Discount rate	6.80%	6.80%
Salary escalation rate	10.00%	0% for this year and 10% thereafter

Demographic assumptions:

Particulars	As at 31 st March 2021	As on 31 st March 2020
Retirement age	60 Years	60 Years
Mortality rate	IALM (2012-14)	IALM (2012-14)
Withdrawal rate	2%	2%

Financial Report

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Defined contributions plans: The Company's contribution to Gratuity & Sick Leave is a defined contribution plan. An amount of Rs. 44,46,812/- (previous year Rs. 51,27,120) pertaining to Gratuity and Rs. (17,42,492) (previous year Rs. 21,25,976) pertaining to Sick Leave have been recognized as an expense and shown under "Employee benefits" in the Income & Expenditure Account.

3. The Organization's foreign currency exposure not hedged is as follows:

Particulars	As at 31 st March 2021		As on 31 st March 2020	
	Foreign Currency	Rupees	Foreign Currency	Rupees
Trade receivables (GBP)	22,000	22,06,157.50	-	-
Trade receivables (Euro)	-	-	1,500	1,22,985
Trade receivables (USD)	-	-	2,000	1,50,480

4. Related Party disclosures as per Accounting Standard 18.

A. Related parties details :-

Nature of Relationship	Name of the Person
Trustee	Sunjoy Joshi
Trustee	Baljit Kapoor
Trustee	Samir Saran
Member	Arun Mehra
Member	P G Darji

Financial Report

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

B. Transactions with Related Parties during the financial year:

During the year 2020-21			During the year 2019-20	
Particulars	Members	Trustee	Members	Trustee
Salary	39,13,750	1,39,38,996	36,42,300	39,39,000
Retainer ship Fee	-	7,80,000	-	3,40,000
Secretarial Expense	-	-	-	1,08,500
Reimbursement of Expenses	8,07,948	4,32,644	2,020	10,19,831

Closing Balance

As at 31 st March 2021			As at 31 st March 2020	
Particulars	Members	Trustee	Members	Trustee
Outstanding Payments	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

5. Leases as per Accounting Standard -19

Lessor:

There is a lease agreement with Reliance Jio Infratel Pvt. Ltd (now referred as Summit Digital Infrastructure Private Limited) with Minimum lease payment of Rs 22,000 per month (w.e.f 1st June,2020 reduced to Rs. 20,000 per month for the next three years) which is cancellable operating lease.

Lease receipts under operating lease are recognized as an income in the Income and expenditure account.

Financial Report

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES FORMING PART OF THE ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

6. Movement in Provision :

Particulars	Opening Balance 01/04/2020	Addition/ (Reversal)	Utilisation	Closing balance 31/03/2021
Gratuity (Refer Schedule IV)	2,40,55,405	44,46,812	782,307	27,719,910
Leave Encashment- (Refer Schedule IV)	88.20,061	(1,742,492)	-	70,77,569

7. Compliance with Foreign Contribution (Regulation) (Amendment) Rules, 2020:

In compliance with the amendment in section 17 of The Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010, the society has opened the following bank accounts with State Bank of India:

- i) SBI Receipt Account
- ii) SBI Utilization Account

8. Previous year's figures have been regrouped/ rearranged wherever necessary.

Signed By:

Tanuj Chugh (Partner, GSA & Associates LLP – Chartered Accountant)

Sunjoy Joshi (Chairman, Observer Research Foundation)

Baljit Kapoor (Hon. Secretary, Observer Research Foundation)

Jagannatha Kumar (Hon. Treasurer, Observer Research Foundation)



