

# 7<sup>th</sup> SOUTH ASIA ECONOMIC SUMMIT

*Towards South Asia Economic Union*

5-7 November 2014  
New Delhi, India

Co-organisers



Partners



## Tentative Agenda

**5 November 2014 (Wednesday): Venue: The Oberoi**

**11.00 – 12.00 Media Interaction [Venue: Ball Room, The Oberoi]**

*In Chair:* Amb. Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS, New Delhi

- **Bangladesh:** Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
- **India:** Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS, New Delhi
- **Nepal:** Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, President, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE), Kathmandu
- **Pakistan:** Amb. Shafqat Kakakhel, Chairman, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad
- **Sri Lanka:** Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka(IPS), Colombo

**14.00 - 15.00 Registration**

**15.00 – 15.45 Inaugural Session**

- Welcome by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, RIS
- Opening Address by Amb. Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS
- Special Address by Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
- Inaugural Address by Hon'ble M. Hamid Ansari, Vice-President of India
- Vote of Thanks by Prof. Prabir De, RIS

**16.00 – 16.30**      **Book Release**

**17.00 – 18.30**      **Plenary Session 1: South Asia Regional Integration: Past, Present and Future**

*In Chair:* Hon'ble Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce Minister, India (tbc)

- Hon'ble Mohammad Mustafa Mastoor, Deputy Minister for Finance, Afghanistan
- Hon'ble Gowher Rizvi, Adviser for International Affairs to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Bangladesh
- Hon'ble Lyonpo Namgay Dorji, Finance Minister, Bhutan
- Hon'ble Mohamed Saeed, Economic Development Minister, Maldives
- Hon'ble Ram Sharan Mahat, Finance Minister, Nepal
- Hon'ble Sarath Amunugama, International Monetary Cooperation Minister, Sri Lanka

**18.30 – 19.30**      **Cultural Programme**

**19.45**                **Welcome Dinner, Hosted by Amb. Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS & NSAB]**  
**[Venue: Ballroom, The Oberoi]**

**6 November 2014 (Thursday): Venue: India International Centre (IIC)**

**09.00 – 11.00**      **Plenary Session 2: South Asia Economic Union: Challenges and Tasks Ahead**  
**[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]**

*In Chair:* Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, Council of Social Development (CSD), New Delhi

*Special Address:* Ms. Sujata Mehta, Secretary (DPA & ER), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India

*Lead Presentation:* Prof. Selim Raihan, Dhaka University & Executive Director, South Asian Network on Economic Modelling (SANEM), Dhaka

*Panellists*

- Dr. Arvind Mehta, Jt. Secretary (SAARC), Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce & Industry (MoCI), Government of India, New Delhi
- Dr. Akmal Hussain, Distinguished Professor of Economics, Forman Christian College, Lahore
- Prof. Jim Rollo, Sussex University, Brighton
- Ms. L. Savithri, Director (Economic, Trade and Finance), SAARC Secretariat, Kathmandu

- 11.15 – 11.30**      **Tea / coffee break**
- 11.30 – 13.00**      **Plenary Session 3: South Asia Connectivity: Regional Agenda for South Asia Economic Union [with Special Reference to Economic Corridor and Trade at Border] [Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]**
- In Chair:* Amb. Shafqat Kakakhel, Chairman, SDPI, Islamabad
- Special Address:* Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Head, United Nations ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi
- Lead Presentation:* Dr. Prabir De, RIS, New Delhi
- Panellists*
- Mr. K L Thapar, Chairman, Asian Institute of Transport Development (AITD), New Delhi
  - Dr. A. M. Gondane, Jt. Secretary (SAARC and Border Connectivity), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India, New Delhi
  - Mr. Y S Shahrawat, Chairman, Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI), New Delhi
  - Dr. Dushni Weerakoon, Dy. Director & Fellow, IPS, Colombo
- 13.00 – 14.00**      **Lunch**
- 14.00 – 15.30**      **Plenary Session 4: Cooperation for South Asia Investment Bloc [Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]**
- In Chair:* Dr. Mohan Man Sainju, Chairperson, Institute for Integrated Development Studies (IIDS), Kathmandu
- Special Address:* Dr. Anup K Pujari, Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India
- Lead Presentation:* Dr. Saman Kelegama, Executive Director, Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS), Colombo
- Panellists*
- Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS, New Delhi
  - Dr. Sanjay Kathuria, Lead Economist, The World Bank, New Delhi
  - Amb. Farooq Sobhan, President, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute (BEI), Dhaka
  - Dr. Anjum Assad Amin, Director – General, Pakistan Institute of Trade and Development (PITD), Islamabad
- 15.30 – 15.45**      **Tea / Coffee Break**

<b>Session I Seminar Hall I</b>	<b>Session II Seminar Hall II</b>	<b>Session III Seminar Hall III</b>	<b>Session IV Multipurpose Hall</b>	<b>Session V Conference Room II</b>
<b><i>Non-tariff measures including standards and regulations</i></b>	<b><i>Macroeconomic performance, prospects and policy coordination</i></b>	<b><i>Financial and monetary cooperation</i></b>	<b><i>Trade facilitation including customs cooperation</i></b>	<b><i>Services trade, mutual recognition and trade reforms</i></b>
<i>Chair:</i> Prof. Rajat Acharyya, Dean, Jadavpur University, Kolkata	<i>Chair:</i> Prof. B B Bhattacharya, Former Vice-Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi	<i>Chair:</i> Mr. Syeduzzaman, CPD Board of Trustee and Former Finance Minister, Bangladesh, Dhaka	<i>Chair:</i> Prof. Abhijit Das, Head, Centre for WTO Studies, New Delhi	<i>Chair:</i> Dr Mia Mikic, Chief, Trade Policy and Analysis Section, Trade and Investment Division, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok
<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Rajan Ratna, Trade Policy and Analysis Section, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok</li> <li>• Mr. S Dave, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), New Delhi</li> <li>• Prof. Nisha Taneja, ICRIER, New Delhi</li> <li>• Mr. Puspa Sharma, SWATEE, Kathmandu</li> <li>• Mr. Raveen Ekanayake, IPS, Colombo</li> <li>• Mr. Ahmad Shah Mobariz, Gharjistan Institute of Higher Education, Kabul</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Tom Richardson, International Monetary Fund (IMF), New Delhi</li> <li>• Dr. Famida Khatun, CPD, Dhaka</li> <li>• Dr. Vatcharin Sirimaneetham, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok</li> <li>• Dr. Saikat Sinha Roy, Jadavpur University, Kolkata</li> <li>• Dr. Mizanur Rahman, Dhaka University, Dhaka</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Ashima Goyal, IGIDR, Mumbai</li> <li>• Dr. Ramgopal Agarwala, New Delhi</li> <li>• Dr. Khondaker Golam Moazzem, CPD, Dhaka</li> <li>• Dr. Soumya Kanti Ghosh, State Bank of India, Mumbai</li> <li>• Prof. Amita Batra, JNU, New Delhi</li> <li>• Mr. Samir Amir, Pakistan Business Council, Islamabad</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Tengfei Wang, Trade Facilitation Section, United Nations ESCAP, Bangkok</li> <li>• Mr. T A Khan, Vice Chair, UN/CEFACT</li> <li>• Mr. Raghu Dayal, AITD, New Delhi</li> <li>• Mr. Shasank Priya, Commissioner, Patna</li> <li>• Dr. Sohaib Shahid, World Bank, Islamabad</li> <li>• Ms. Dharshani Premeratne, IPS, Colombo</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Rupa Chanda, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Bangalore</li> <li>• Prof. Shahid Ahmed, Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi</li> <li>• Ms. Rajju Malla Dhakal, South Asia Centre for Policy Studies (SACEPS), Kathmandu</li> <li>• Dr. Abid Khan, Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute (BFTI), Dhaka</li> <li>• Mr. Anushka Wijesinha, IPS, Colombo</li> <li>• Mr. Nitya Nanda, TERI, New Delhi</li> </ul>

**18.15 – 19.45**      **Special Event: India – Pakistan Cooperation and Implications for South Asian Economic Union**  
**[Venue: Nilgiri Hall, Oberoi]**

*Moderator:* Mr. Chandrajit Banerjee, Director-General, Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), New Delhi

*Presentation by:* Dr. Martin Rama, Chief Economist, The World Bank, New Delhi

*Panellists*

- Mr. Bashir Ali Mohammad, Chairman, Pakistan Business Council & Chairman, Gul Ahmed Textile Mills Limited, Karachi
- Mr. Syed Yawar Ali, Co-Chair, Pakistan – India Joint Business Forum & Chairman, Nestle Pakistan Ltd., Islamabad
- Mr. Rakesh Bharti Mittal, Chairman, CII Agriculture Council, Vice-Chairman & Managing Director, Bharti Enterprises Ltd., Gurgaon
- Mr. Deepak Amitabh, Chairman and Managing Director, Power Trading Corporation (PTC), New Delhi

**20.00**      **Dinner, Hosted by Smt. Sujatha Singh, Foreign Secretary of India** (by invitation)

**7 November 2014 (Friday): Venue: India International Centre (IIC)**

**09.00 – 10.30**      **Plenary Session 5: Strengthening South Asia Value Chain: Prospects and Challenges**  
**[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]**

*In Chair:* Dr. Rajeev Kumar, Senior Fellow, Centre for Policy Research (CPR), New Delhi

*Special Address:* Mr. Rajeev Kher, Commerce Secretary of India (tbc)

*Lead Presentation:* Dr. Vaqar Ahmed, Dy. Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad

*Panellists*

- Dr. S K Mohanty, Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi
- Prof. Ajitava Raychaudhuri, Head, Centre for Advanced Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata
- Dr. Mohammad Razzaque, Adviser & Head, International Trade Policy, Commonwealth Secretariat, London
- Mr. Pradeep K. Shrestha, Managing Director, Panchkanya Group, Kathmandu

**10.30 – 10.45**      **Tea / coffee break**

**10.45 – 12.00**      **Plenary Session 6: Regional Cooperation for Food Security in South Asia**  
**[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]**

*In Chair:* Dr S. Mahendra Dev, Director, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), Mumbai

*Special Address:* Dr P K Joshi, Director, South Asia, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), New Delhi

*Lead Presentation:* Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, President, South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SWATEE), Kathmandu

*Panellists*

- Dr. Abid Suleri, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad
- Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
- Prof. I N Mukherjee, New Delhi
- Mr. Matthew Hammill, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations ESCAP, South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi

**12.00 – 13.15**      **Plenary Session 7: Post-2015 Agenda: South Asian Perspectives**  
**[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]**

*In Chair:* Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Head, United Nations ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office, New Delhi

*Special Address:* Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, RIS

*Lead Presentation:* Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka

*Panellists*

- Mr. Tanmay Lal, Joint Secretary (UN), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India, New Delhi
- Mr. Rabi Shanker Sainju, Programme Director, National Planning Commission (NPC), Kathmandu
- Dr. Aliya KH Khan, Dean, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad
- Dr. Manmohan Agarwal, RIS, New Delhi

**13.15 – 14.15**      **Lunch**

14.15 – 15.45 Parallel Sessions

Session VI Seminar Hall I	Session VII Seminar Hall II	Session VIII Seminar Hall III	Session IX Multipurpose Hall	Session X Conference Room II
<i>Regional Energy Security</i>	<i>South Asia Development Bank</i>	<i>Science &amp; Technology including IPR</i>	<i>Media Cooperation</i>	<i>South Asia Growth Zone</i>
<i>Chair: Amb. Rajeev Bhatia, Director-General, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi (tbc)</i>	<i>Chair: Prof. S K Mohanty, RIS</i>	<i>Chair: Prof. Y S Rajan (tbc)</i>	<i>Chair: Mr. T N Ninan, Chairman, Business Standard</i>	<i>Chair: Amb. Sheel Kant Sharma, Former Secretary General, SAARC Secretariat</i>
				<i>Special Address: Ambassador Sumith Nakandala, Secretary-General, BIMSTEC, Dhaka</i>
<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>	<i>Panellists:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Leena Srivastava, TERI University</li> <li>• Dr. Mahendra Lama, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi</li> <li>• Dr Sunil Khosla, Task Manager, CASA Project, World Bank</li> <li>• Mr. Bipul Chatterjee, CUTS, Jaipur</li> <li>• Mr. Rajeev Ranjan Chaturvedi, ISAS, Singapore</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. David Rasquinha, EXIM Bank, Mumbai (tbc)</li> <li>• Dr. Hiramani Ghimire, SWATEE, Kathmandu</li> <li>• Mr. Pranav Kumar, CII, New Delhi</li> <li>• Mr. Arvind Kumar, TERI, New Delhi</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Santosh Kumar, SAARC Disaster Management Centre, New Delhi</li> <li>• Ms. Nihad Kabir, Advocate, Bangladesh Supreme Court, Dhaka</li> <li>• Dr. T C. James, RIS, New Delhi</li> <li>• Dr. K. Ravi Srinivas, RIS, New Delhi</li> <li>• Ms. Dilani Hirimuthugoda, IPS, Colombo</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Pranab Dhal Samanta, India Today, New Delhi</li> <li>• Mr. Shawkat Hossain, Prathom Alo, Dhaka</li> <li>• Mr. Prateek Pradhan, Nagarik News Daily, Kathmandu</li> <li>• Mr. Musharraf Zaidi, The News Daily, Islamabad</li> <li>• Mr. Indika Sakalasooriya, Mirror Business, Colombo</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amb. Dago Tshering, Former Ambassador of Bhutan to India</li> <li>• Dr. Bishnu Dev Pant, IIDS, Kathmandu</li> <li>• Dr. Kavita Iyenger, Asian Development Bank (ADB), New Delhi</li> <li>• Dr. Biswajit Nag, IIFT, New Delhi</li> </ul>

- 15.45 – 16.00**      **Tea / Coffee Break**
- 16.00 – 17.30**      **Plenary Session 8: Summary, Conclusions and Way Forward  
[Venue: Multipurpose Hall, IIC New Building]**
- Co-Chair 1:* Prof. Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka
- Co-Chair 2:* Prof. Muchkund Dubey, President, Council of Social Development (CSD), New Delhi
- Presentation of Summary* by Prof. Prabir De, RIS
- Remarks by*
- Dr. Saman Kelegama, IPS, Colombo
  - Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, CPD, Dhaka
  - Dr. Abid Suleri, SDPI, Islamabad
  - Mr. Pradeep S Mehta, CUTS International
  - Dr. Posh Raj Pandey, SWATEE, Kathmandu
  - Prof. Ram Upendra Das, RIS, New Delhi
- 17.30 – 17.45**      **Concluding Session**
- Remarks by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, RIS
  - Closing Remarks by Amb. V S Seshadri, Vice-Chairman, RIS
  - Vote of Thanks by Prof. Prabir De, RIS
- 20.00**                **Dinner, Hosted by Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General,  
RIS [Venue: Nilgiri Hall, Oberoi]**

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