

Annual Report

2017



IPCS

INSTITUTE OF PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

INNOVATIVE RESEARCH | INDEPENDENT ANALYSIS | INFORMED OPINION

Contents

Message from the Patron	1
Amb (Retd) Salman Haidar	
<i>Former Foreign Secretary, Government of India</i>	
Introduction	2
Ruhee Neog	
<i>Director</i>	
NumberSpeak	6
Programmes	9
Themes	10
Security and Defence	
Commentaries	11
Events	17
Nuclear Policy and Strategy	
Commentaries	25
Events	30
Podcasts	32
Economic Affairs	
Commentaries	35
Special Report	39
Event	40
Book Three Years of the Modi Government	41
Foreign Policy	
Commentaries	42
Events	50

Book Reviews	53
---------------------------	-----------

Country Focus

Commentaries	55
Special Report	64
Events	65

Environment

Commentaries	69
Policy Briefs	71
Events	74

Message from the Patron

Ambassador (Retd) Salman Haidar

Former Foreign Secretary, Government of India

2017 was another good year for IPCS. We initiated new projects, welcomed new colleagues, and produced significant policy literature. We maintained our established priorities on security and foreign policy analysis while stretching more fully into new areas of inquiry including water and renewable energy, and reinvigorated our focus on economics.

Much of this innovative thinking was reflected in our publications. There was a comprehensive assessment of the Narendra Modi government's three years in office, presenting an interdisciplinary report card of the government. Similarly there were several long form publications, two of which, for government, focused on renewable energy and on ideating solutions to overcome the unique challenges of the Indian energy sector. In addition, our faculty produced over 100 topical commentaries published in-house, and over 400 commentaries in the national and international press. Our efforts at primary research involved several interactions both in India and abroad, and notable guests at IPCS included presidents and prime ministers.

Most importantly, since IPCS believes in human capital, in 2017, we were happy to welcome new colleagues who will assist us in our unceasing primary goal - that of capacity building the evolving generation of policy experts. In all, a fulfilling year that sets us up to scale greater heights in 2018.



Introduction

Ruhee Neog

Director

For 21 years, the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS) has worked to study contemporary global politics from a uniquely South Asian perspective. By leveraging the tools at our disposal - innovation in research, dialogue with government and non-government stakeholders within and outside India, and capacity-building of the next generation of emerging specialists - we have constantly endeavoured to foster informed and inclusive public discussion. Taking cognisance of India's role in an evolving global order, the activities undertaken in 2017 were timely, policy-oriented, and representative of a rich cross-section of expert opinion from across the region and the world.

2017 saw a renewed push towards these goals, with a body of research and activities that reflected the developments that shaped the year, within IPCS' four research verticals: Centre for Internal and Regional Security, China Research Programme, Nuclear Security Programme, and Southeast Asia Research Programme.

This annual review points to the emergence of several broad themes within foreign policy, economy, security and defence, nuclear policy and strategy, and environment, with the geographical focus ranging from countries in South, Southeast and East Asia, to Europe and the US. As India increasingly flexed its diplomatic muscle, perhaps as a natural extension of its growing economic confidence, 2017 saw writings on how policy has evolved, and what returns on domestic and diplomatic investment were witnessed in how India has dealt with the world. India's state legislative assembly elections, China's growing regional and global footprint, its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the Doklam military standoff, and US policies under President Donald Trump dominated much of this conversation.

To mark the 3-year milestone of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government, and in recognition of foreign policy as an important bellwether in assessing overall policy direction, IPCS published Three Years of the Modi Government, an edited volume in which Indian scholars and practitioners critically evaluated the Modi government's performance on a range of domestic and foreign policy indicators. IPCS produced six Special Reports in 2017 of which two were Policy Briefs to the Government of India on

revamping the country's renewable energy sector and India-Netherlands cooperation towards green economy innovation and social and environmental sustainability. These themes are particularly relevant as IPCS expands its research to more comprehensively include the study of both traditional and non-traditional security concerns. Encouraging competing - and sometimes contrarian - approaches that account for the relationship between theory and practice were key to arriving at holistic policy recommendations. IPCS also published over 100 commentaries, its roster of columnists wrote 57 monthly columns on their areas of expertise, and its research faculty collectively accounted for close to 400 bylines in the year.

IPCS was equally active in engaging with a broader audience through its events and discussions. 2017 saw the conclusion of its Twentieth Anniversary Plenum Series, featuring lectures by notable individuals from the fields of academia, politics, and diplomacy. Among others, former National Security Advisor of Afghanistan, Dr Rangin Dadfar Spanta, spoke on politico-security dynamics within Afghanistan; Michael Krepon, Co-Founder and Senior Associate, Stimson Center, shared his perspectives on the global nuclear future; Varun Gandhi, member, Lok Sabha, spoke on the need for political reform in India, and Ambassador of Israel to India, Daniel Carmon, evaluated the Israel-India relationship and its future trajectory. IPCS held several closed-door briefings for visiting foreign delegations on India's security and foreign policy landscape. Events were also held collaboratively with institutions from India and across the world, such as Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), Pangoal Institution, Renmin University of China, and the US Air Force School for Advanced Nuclear Deterrence Studies (SANDS). IPCS produced 12 podcasts in 2017, featuring short interviews with subject-matter experts on wide-ranging issues like hydrological conflict, India's nuclear policy, Jammu and Kashmir, the India-China relationship, and nuclearisation on the Korean Peninsula. IPCS' social media presence, another element of its effort to amplify reach and build more robust engagement, continues to go from strength to strength with the help of its online audience.

IPCS research faculty were invited to participate in national and international conferences and workshops related to their individual areas of research through the course of the year. Among these, a delegation from IPCS travelled to South Africa for the 11th annual GIBSA (Germany India Brazil South Africa) Quadrilogue, a partnership launched in 2007 by four think-tanks - Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik (SWP), IPCS, Centro Brasileiro de Relações Internacionais (CEBRI), and the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) - from countries that are considered agenda-setters in their respective regions. GIBSA

2017 brought together delegations from the four think-tanks to discuss themes within the ambit of Seismic Shifts in Global Security: A New World Order? IPCS will host the 12th GIBSA Quadrilogue in India this year.

IPCS launched two new initiatives in 2017. Evolving Discourses of Security in International Politics was initially envisaged as a year-long project, but will now continue into 2018 on the basis of tremendously positive feedback and interest in the series. These discussions explore language through which security is understood, represented, and practiced in various contexts. By examining how security is enacted and experienced by particular actors and groups – ranging, for instance, from nuclear strategists to women in armed conflict situations – the aim is to engender better-informed approaches to address contemporary challenges. The second, Reel Politik, is a pioneering platform for the study of security issues through visual representation. Under Reel Politik, IPCS has begun showcasing films that are closely interlinked with its research, followed by roundtable discussions on the subjects they cover. In so doing, it is hoped that the visual medium will provide insights into the extraordinary complexities that form the basis of strategic analysis, as well as expand these critical conversations to a wider audience of stakeholders.

In 2017, IPCS welcomed KM Singh, former member, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and former Director General, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF); Lalitha Kumaramangalam, former Chairperson, National Commission for Women (NCW); Dr TCA Raghavan, former Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan; and Arun Chaudhary, former Director General, Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) as members to its Governing Council, and Dr Tara Kartha, former Director, National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS), as Distinguished Fellow. Their involvement will contribute meaningfully to IPCS' academic stewardship, and we are honoured to have them on board.

Finally, IPCS' immersive internship programme, which offers scholars and recent graduates an opportunity to observe geopolitical and security developments from an Indian perspective and training in policy analysis and writing, and facilitates their access to Delhi's strategic community, was particularly busy this year. IPCS hosted 15 interns from universities and institutions in India, Nepal, the US, Germany, the UK, Belgium, and the Netherlands.

I invite you to read, in more detail, the range of activities undertaken by IPCS in 2017 in

the following pages of its Annual Report, and as always, welcome your feedback at ruhee.neog@ipcs.org.

On behalf of IPCS, my very best wishes for the new year, and I thank you for your continuing support.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruhee Neog." The signature is written in a cursive style with a period at the end.



NumberSpeak





544125
website hits



Net followers: **13,490**
New follows in 2017: **2647**
Net likes: **13,557**
New likes in 2017: **2131**
Net reach in 2017: **2,76,936**

15 interns



Net followers: **4713**
Average monthly follows in 2017: **428**
Total Impressions in 2017: **736,000**
Total profile vists in 2017: **35,890**
Total mentions in 2017: **1854**

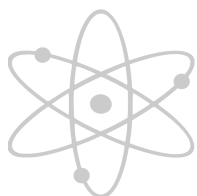
new faculty
members **5**



Total podcasts: **26**
Podcasts in 2017: **11**
Plays in 2017: **1808**



PROGRAMMES



Nuclear Security Programme



China Research Programme



South East Asia
Research Programme



Centre for
Internal and Regional Security

Colour Key



Please use this colour key as reference for all publications and events, which are colour-coded to their respective programmes.

THEMES



The diagram features a light gray world map as a background. Overlaid on the map are several vertical bars and connecting lines. There are four dark gray vertical bars and three dark blue vertical bars. Lines connect these bars to various thematic labels. The labels are: 'Foreign Policy' (connected to a gray bar), 'Country Focus' (connected to a gray bar), 'Economic Affairs' (connected to a gray bar), 'Nuclear Policy and Strategy' (connected to a gray bar and a blue bar), 'Security and Defence' (connected to a gray bar), and 'Environment' (connected to a blue bar). The word 'THEMES' is at the top in a large, bold, blue font.

**Foreign
Policy**

**Country
Focus**

**Economic
Affairs**

**Nuclear Policy
and Strategy**

**Security
and Defence**

Environment

SECURITY AND DEFENCE

14
COMMENTARIES

2
SPECIAL
COMMENTARIES

13
COLUMNS

14
EVENTS

Commentaries

6 January

Line (Out) of Control

Joy Mitra argues that risks to general stability in the region remain entrenched in the dynamics of the India-Pakistan conflict and that it could lead to an uncontrollable conflict trajectory

IN FOCUS — US Policy Orientation

18 January

Donald Trump's Counter-Terrorism Policy

Angshuman Choudhury and Husanjot Chahal look at why a major tactical shift in US' CT policy, either at home or overseas, cannot be rationally anticipated

Column I Red Affairs

31 January

Forecast 2017: LWE Still Holding On

Dr Bibhu Prasad Routray notes that although LWE may be ebbing, its survival will be ensured by the state's own follies

24 February

J&K: Need for an Urgent Review

Dr Ashok Bhan argues that the political leadership at the Centre and in the State urgently need to take appropriate initiatives to in order to prevent recurrence and escalation of the violence and protests of 2016

Column I J&K Focus

6 March

J&K: A Strategy is What May Still Be Elusive

Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain writes that it would be imperative for India to identify key goals and develop an overarching detailed and comprehensive strategy vis-a-vis Jammu and Kashmir

12 April

Evolving External Influence in Jammu and Kashmir (Part I)

Lt Gen (Retd) Syed Ata Hasnain identifies recent developments that might have a bearing on the situation in J&K in the coming months

14 April

Evolving External Influence in Jammu and Kashmir (Part II)

Lt Gen (Retd) Syed Ata Hasnain identifies recent developments that might have a bearing on the situation in J&K in the coming months

Column I Strategic Space

19 April

US-North Korea Military Swashbuckling and China's Role

Dr Manpreet Sethi cautions against the risks of the evolving scenario, not least from inadvertent escalation as a result of incidents or accidents

Special Commentary

19 April

Jammu and Kashmir: A Saga of Neglect

Arun Chaudhary comments on the deteriorating situation in the state, drawing from his own experiences in the armed forces

Column I Red Affairs

1 May

Rumour of Triumph

Dr Bibhu Prasad Routray assesses the policy lacunae that adversely impact India's efforts to counter Left Wing Extremism in the country

16 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

Dealing with Left Wing Extremism: No Permanent Solution?

Dr Bibhu Prasad Routray assesses the outcomes of the counter-LWE strategy over

16 June

Responsibility to Protect: Quo Vadis?

John Schabedoth asks if R2P has served its intended purpose in recent conflicts, and explores the future of the concept in the Public International Law domain

Column I J&K Focus

7 June

Evolving Situation in J&K: Summer 2017 (Part I)

Lt Gen (Retd) Syed Ata Hasnain analyses the changing nature of militancy in Jammu & Kashmir and identifies impending issues that need to be addressed

16 June

Evolving Situation in J&K: Summer 2017 (Part II)

Lt Gen (Retd) Syed Ata Hasnain writes why summer 2017 in J&K will be about getting a mix of hard and soft power right, and makes recommendations towards the same

31 July

Handling J&K: What is Right and What More Needs To Be Done?

Lt Gen (Retd) Syed Ata Hasnain identifies a strategy to deal with the situation in J&K over the coming months

15 July

Three Years of the Modi Government

Defence under the NDA Government

Abhijit Iyer-Mitra analyses the state-of-affairs in India's defence sector over the past three years and argues that there has been more continuity than change

17 July

Three Years of the Modi Government

Jammu & Kashmir Policy: Innovative Solutions Needed

Sarral Sharma reviews the state-of-affairs in J&K and says New Delhi will require to employ innovative solutions to address the internal dimension of the security situation

Column I The Strategist

7 August

A Pug, a Terrier and the Doklam Stand Off

Vice Admiral (Retd) Vijay Shankar assesses the standoff at Doklam and says any conflict will be waged on terms advantageous to India

5 September

New Indian Defence Minister: A List of Priorities

Gp Capt (Retd) Murli Menon says that Nirmala Sitaraman has the opportunity to orchestrate a transformation in India's defence capabilities

IN FOCUS ————— Doklam Dispute

5 September

Doklam Dispute Part I: A Brief History

Amb (Retd) VP Haran, in the first of this two-part series, explores the historical context of the border dispute

5 September

Doklam Dispute Part II: Understanding the Tri-Junction Question

Amb (Retd) VP Haran sheds light on the history of the border in the context of the India-China military standoff in the second part of the series

Special Commentary

26 September

Weapons in Space: Conventional War in the Cosmos?

Allyson Rimmer examines why omitting a clause that bans all weapons from entering outer space is an oversight that presents significant dangers

4 October

Kabul Security: The NUG's Achilles Heel?

Bismillah Alizada assesses the security situation in Kabul and the broader political implications the current state-of-affairs could trigger

Column I The Strategist

4 October

The Curious Case of USS McCain

Vice Admiral (Retd) Vijay Shankar considers the vulnerabilities of computerised warship systems to cyber-attacks

Column I East Asia Compass

9 October

Shinzo Abe's North Korea Strategy

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra comments on the ways in which Abe is using the threat to advance his narrow domestic and foreign policy goals

9 October

The Future of US Troops in Afghanistan: Assessing Potential Roles


Rajat Ahlawat assesses the current deployment structures and likely roles the new US troops will be deployed for, in Afghanistan

Column I J&K Focus

26 October

J&K: Operation 'All Out' and Prospects for Winter

Lt Gen Syed Ata Hasnain evaluates the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir and makes projections for the upcoming winter in the state



6 November

India-China Border Agreements: Political Negotiation Needed

Dr Amit Ranjan provides an overview of the colonial history of border agreements between India and China

27 November

The R4+S Approach for Afghanistan

Rajat Ahlawat analyses the US' R4+S strategy for Afghanistan and argues that this strategy is largely old wine in a new bottle and that it will be marred by several complexities

Events

Book Discussion

18
Jan



Faith, Unity, Discipline: The ISI of Pakistan

chair

speaker

Ambassador (Retd) TCA Raghavan
Former Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan

Dr Hein Kiessling
Historian and Political Scientist

Discussion

Evolving
Discourses of
Security in
International
Politics

**Diplomacy and
the Politics
of Language**



15
Mar

chair

speakers

**Ambassador (Retd)
TCA Rangachari**
Member, Governing
Council, IPCS

Dr Soumita Basu
Assistant Professor,
Department of International
Relations, South Asian University

Dr Sanjeev Kumar
Professor, Department of
Political Science,
University of Delhi

Talk

25
May



Impact of Demographics on Global Politics

speaker

Dr Amit Gupta

Associate Professor,
Department of International Security Studies,
USAF Air War College

Talk



21
June

Dealing with Dirty Wars

chair

Lt Gen (Retd) Syed Ata Hasnain

Former Commander,
XV Corps &
19th Infantry Division

speaker

Dr Tara Kartha

Former Director, National Security Council
Secretariat, Government of India

23
June



Children of War



A Hindi-language drama film set against the background of the tumultuous 1971 Liberation War of Bangladesh (then East Pakistan). Directed by debutante director Mrityunjay Devvrat, the film has received wide acclaim at film festivals around the world and has been hailed as an epic war saga alongside films like *Schindler's List*, *Sophie's Choice*, *A Bridge Too Far*, and *Bandit Queen*.

Round-table



17
Aug

Dominant Narratives on Kashmir

Evolving Security Dynamics in the Valley

speakers

Lt Gen (Retd) Syed Ata Hasnain

Former Commander, XV Corps & 19th Infantry Division

Fahad Shah

Independent journalist;
founder and editor, *The Kashmir Walla*

Aarti Tikoo Singh

Senior Assistant Editor, *The Times of India*

chair

KM Singh

Former Director General, Central
Industrial Security Force (CISF)

23
Aug



Discussion

Chinese Military Reform, 2013-2020

chair

Col (Retd) Ajai Shukla
Columnist, *Business Standard*

speaker

**Lt Col (Retd)
Dennis J Blasko**
Former Senior Military Fellow,
National Defence University,
US; former US Military Attaché
in Beijing, China



30
Aug

Tibetan Caravans: Journeys from Leh to Lhasa

by Abdul Wahid Radhu

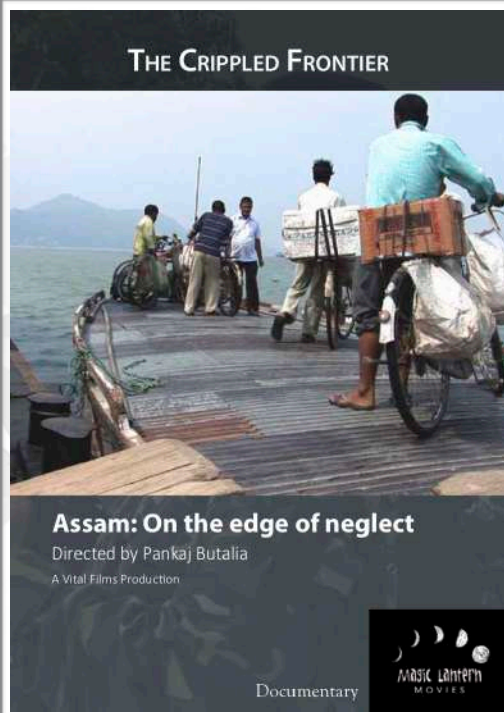
speaker

Professor Siddiq Wahid Radhu
Historian of Tibetan and Central Asian politics,
and Editor, *Tibet's Relations with the Himalaya* (2017)

chair

Salman Haidar
Patron, IPCS, and former Foreign
Secretary, Government of India.

26
Sep



Assam: On the edge of neglect

by Pankaj Butalia

The film delves into the ethnic conflicts and violence in Assam over the past several decades through multiple testimonials.

Round-table



2 Nov

Evolving Discourse of Security in International Politics

Investigating Crises in South Asia

chair

Rana Banerji

Former Special Secretary,
Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India

speakers

Hannah Haegeland

Research Associate,
South Asia Programme, Stimson Center

Saikat Dutta

South Asia Editor, *Asia Times*;
Policy Director, CIS

Ruhee Neog

Director, IPCS



**24
Nov**

How the BJP Wins

chair

Salman Haidar

Patron, IPCS;
Former Foreign Secretary,
Government of India

speaker

Prashant Jha

Associate Editor, *Hindustan Times*;
and author of *How the BJP Wins: Inside
India's Greatest Election Machine*

Talk

**27
Nov**



Rehabilitation & Re-integration in J&K

speaker

K Skandan

Former Joint Secretary
(Kashmir),
Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA),
Government of India

chair

Dr Tara Kartha

Distinguished Fellow, IPCS;
Former Director,
National Security Council
Secretariat,

30
Nov



Film
Screening

**Taala Te Kunjee:
Lock and Key**
by Shilpi Gulati

The film explores the pervasive problem of substance abuse in the north Indian state of Punjab through familial narratives of four recovering addicts who now assist other addicts through the recovery process.

Discussion



1
Dec

Dominant Narratives on Kashmir

Ceasefire Violations in J&K: A Line on Fire

chair

Ruhee Neog
Director, IPCS

speaker

Dr Happymon Jacob
Associate Professor of Diplomacy
and Disarmament Studies,
School of International Studies, JNU

discussants

Lt Gen (Retd) Vinod Bhatia
Former Director General Military Operations
(DGMO), Indian Army

SS Sandhu

Commandant, Western Theatre
Headquarters, Border Security Force (BSF)

Col (Retd) Ajai Shukla

Columnist, *Business Standard*



NUCLEAR POLICY & STRATEGY

11
COMMENTARIES

13
COLUMNS

1
SPECIAL
COMMENTARY

4
EVENTS

Commentaries

Special Commentary

3 January

India's Nuclear Energy Policy: Bottlenecks to Implementation

Niharika Tagotra argues that India's legislative-regulatory mechanism is inadequate for its ambitious nuclear energy programme

Column | Strategic Space

27 January

Forecast 2017: Unclear Nuclear Pathways

Dr Manpreet Sethi examines the global nuclear issues that are likely to grab President Trump's attention this year

Column | East Asia Compass

6 March

US Tactical Nukes in the Korean Peninsula?

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra argues that the recent deliberations over redeployment of the US tactical nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula seem to be an act of over-doing

Column I Strategic Space

20 March

Nuclear Ban Treaty Conference and Universal Nuclear Disarmament

Dr Manpreet Sethi looks at the limitations of the proposed conference

10 April

India's Nuclear Doctrine and Strategy

Abhijit Iyer-Mitra weighs in on the recent debate on the possible evolution of Indian nuclear strategy

Column I The Strategist

1 May

The Value of a Declared No First Use Nuclear Policy

Vice Adm (Retd) Vijay Shankar provides a global overview of nuclear doctrinal commitments

Column I Strategic Space

16 May

New NPR: Can It Break New Ground?

Dr Manpreet Sethi recommends political dialogue and a downplaying of military might to tackle the current slew of challenges

19 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

Indian Nuclear Policy and Diplomacy

Dr Manpreet Sethi considers the government's initiatives and performance in the nuclear field

20 June

Civil Nuclear Energy Initiatives

Niharika Tagotra weighs in on the policy moves in the nuclear energy sector

28 June

NSG Membership: Pakistan's Past and Nuclear South Asia's Future

Allyson Rimmer considers why non-membership will have greater consequences for Pakistan while exacerbating the already existing imbalance in the region

Column I The Strategist

28 June

Nuclear Crises in the Time of Orwellian Wars

Vice Adm (Retd) Vijay Shankar weighs in on the dangers posed by nuclear proliferation and non-state actors

Column I Strategic Space

19 July

Chinese Responsibility on DPRK: No 'Theory', Immutable Reality

Dr Manpreet Sethi evaluates the dimensions and potential implications of China's dismissal of its responsibility in resolving the North Korean nuclear crisis as mere

Column I East Asia Compass

13 August

The US' Acrobatic Responses to the North Korean Riddle

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra analyses the potential reasons for, and implications of, the US' policy stances towards North Korea

22 August

China's Nuclear Programme: Modernising or Multiplying?

Allyson Rimmer considers the evidence in support of the claims regarding China's nuclear weapons programme

29 August

North Korea: Time to Focus on Minimisation, Not Denuclearisation

Rahul Raj argues that North Korea has reason to distrust the US and hold onto technology that levels the playing the field

31 August

Nuclear Weapon Ban Treaty: Addressing Normative Concerns

Shivani Singh considers the successes and failures of the recently adopted treaty

Column I East Asia Compass

6 September

North Korea: Testing the Limits of US-South Korea Relations

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra considers the bilateral relationship in light of North Korea's latest nuclear test

Column I Strategic Space

18 September

The Bomb Banned: By and For the NNWS, For Now

Dr Manpreet Sethi asks whether the Ban Treaty may be able to facilitate universal nuclear disarmament

21 September

India-Japan Civil Nuclear Cooperation: Contextualising Abe's Visit

Shivani Singh considers the existing bottlenecks to the full implementation of the agreement in light of Abe's recent visit

21 September

A Looming Nuclear Arms Race In East Asia?

Nopur Siingh analyses regional security dynamics in the context of North Korean

IN FOCUS ————— An Interview with **Dr Siegfried Hecker**

30 September

North Korea's Nuclear Behaviour and US Diplomacy

Modified version of an earlier interview conducted by Elisabeth Eaves for the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, with additional questions from **Ruhee Neog** for IPCS



Column I Strategic Space

24 October

Meaningful Disarmament, Not Unnecessary Distractions

Dr Manpreet Sethi considers the importance of countries that are serious about nuclear disarmament mobilising global support for achievable targets



Column I Strategic Space

24 October

‘Gas Chamber’ Cities and Dangers Nuclear

Dr Manpreet Sethi contextualises the fallout of nuclear use in the hazardous air quality across the Indo-Gangetic plain

21 November

Why are Nuclear Disarmament Initiatives Bound to Fail?

Shivani Singh identifies three challenges that stand in the way of disarmament efforts

Column I Strategic Space

20 December

India-EU Partnership for Non-Proliferation: Challenges and Opportunities

Dr Manpreet Sethi on why there is renewed opportunity to bridge the bilateral estrangement on nuclear non-proliferation

Events

22
Mar



Briefing

Briefing for the US Air Force School for Advanced Nuclear Deterrence Studies

Closed-door briefing for a visiting delegation from USAF SANDS on **Nuclear Dynamics in Southern Asia.**

Talk

31
Mar



Evolving Discourses of Security in International Relations

India's Nuclear Strategy

chair

Col (Retd) Ajai Shukla

Columnist

Business Standard

speaker

Professor Vipin Narang

Mitsui Career Development Associate Professor

of Political Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Talk

8
Aug



The Nuclear Future

speaker

Michael Krepon

Co-founder & Senior Associate,
Stimson Center, Washington DC

chair

Ambassador (Retd) Salman Haidar

Patron, IPCS; and
Former Foreign Secretary, Government of India

Talk



21
Sep

North Korean Crisis: Implications and Options

speaker

Professor Sandip Kumar Mishra

Associate Professor, Center for East Asian Studies,
JNU; and Visiting Fellow, IPCS

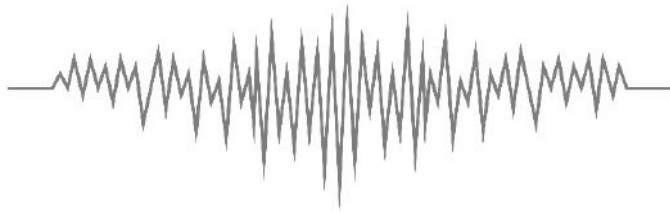
chair

Lt Gen (Retd) AS Lamba

President, IPCS; and
Former Vice Chief of Staff, Indian Army



Podcasts



Faith, Unity, Discipline: The ISI of Pakistan

Dr Hein Kiessling

A Year in Transition: Assessing Democracy in Myanmar

Ambassador (Retd) Rajiv Bhatia, Dr Nehginpao Kipgen,
Dr Kenneth Holland



Diplomacy and the Politics of Language

Dr Soumita Basu, Dr Sanjeev Kumar

How did the States Vote: 2017 Indian Assembly Elections

Manoj Joshi, Ajay Vir Jakhar



India's Nuclear Strategy

Dr Vipin Narang, Colonel (Retd) Ajai Shukla

Recent Developments in the Korean Peninsula

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra



The Situation in Afghanistan

Dr Rangin Dadfar Spanta

Kashmir on the Boil

Dr Ashok Bhan





Hydrological Conflicts in South Asia

Sonali Mittra

Dalai Lama's Arunachal Visit & India-China Bilateral Relations

Jayadeva Ranade



Security Situation in Afghanistan

Dr Avinash Paliwal





ECONOMIC AFFAIRS



Commentaries

31 January

India: Acting East after the End of the TPP

Roshan Iyer analyses the status of the RCEP and argues that India's attractive market can be an asset only if it strategically leverages it to its benefit

Special Commentary

1 February

CPEC: 'Third Party' Dilemma and Cracks in the Corridor

Amit Kumar argues that optimism regarding the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor might be waning, with apprehensions increasingly being voiced in China

9 February

US Exit from the TPP: Opportunities and Alternatives for Japan

Chandrali Sarkar argues that the US' exit from the TPP does not necessarily mean trouble for Japan and that Tokyo has other alternatives it can tap to its benefit

Column I Regional Economy

20 March

Pakistan's Economy: Significance of MSCI Elevation and FTSE Inclusion

Prof Amita Batra says that the turnaround is promising given the simultaneity of positive developments

28 March

Manipur: Uncertainty Remains Despite End to the Economic Blockade

Dr Nehginpao Kipgen says that the manner in which the UNC demands are handled and addressed will largely determine the fate of the BJP government in Manipur

Column I The Strategist

28 March

The CPEC: Corridor to Chinese Coffers

Vice Admiral (retd) Vijay Shankar explores whether the economic benefits from the CPEC are destined for China and whether it is another lease-for-debt deal

19 May

India-Sri Lanka: A Grim Tale of Economic Cooperation

Husanjot Chahal says that even though the need for engagement is strong, in practice, very little has been achieved on the economic front

23 June

Seizing 'The Belt and Road' Opportunity: Challenges for Nepal

Pramod Jaiswal argues that the Nepal can benefit from the BRI only if it creates a favourable environment by addressing the genuine concerns of both its neighbours

13 July

Three Years of the Modi Government

Preferring the Bilateral to the Multilateral: Personal Diplomacy and India's Trade Negotiations

Mihir S Sharma assesses India's trade negotiations over the past three years and identifies a pattern where the preference seems to tilt towards bilateral over multilateral formats

18 July

Three Years of the Modi Government

Reviving the Indian Economy: Structural Reforms Needed

Prerana Priyadarshi assesses the state-of-affairs of the Indian economy over the past three years and says structural reforms would be required to revive it

Column I Maritime Matters

7 August

Dhow Trade in the North Arabian Sea

Dr Vijay Sakhuja reviews the risks and traditions associated with Dhow trade in the North Arabian sea and identifies recent trends

Column I Regional Economy

28 September

India's Trade Options

Prof Amita Batra identifies actionable recommendations that would be in India's best interest

30 October

19th Party Congress: Understanding the Economics in Xi's Speech

Prof Amita Batra analyses China's growth and reform in light of the purported consolidation of its economic might

Column I Maritime Matters

3 November

Short Sea Shipping in Bay of Bengal Takes Baby Steps

Dr Vijay Sakhuja considers the significance of new initiatives in the Bay region

Column I Maritime Matters

27 November

Microbeads and Microfibre: A Big Challenge for Blue Economy

Dr Vijay Sakhuja analyses the impact of these minuscule materials on marine life

Column I Maritime Matters

29 December

India and Blue Economy in the Bay of Bengal

Dr Vijay Sakhuja argues for the pooling of national resources to augment regional cooperation among the littorals

Special Report

May 2017



BCIM Economic Corridor: Facilitating Sub-Regional Development

In this paper, **Roshan Iyer** attempts to analyse the economic aspect of the Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar Economic Corridor, focusing on the reasons for stalling of the it's progress, and explore measures to take the initiative forward.

31
Mar



IPCS-RUSI Workshop

Development and Illicit Financial Integrity in Central and South Asia

moderator

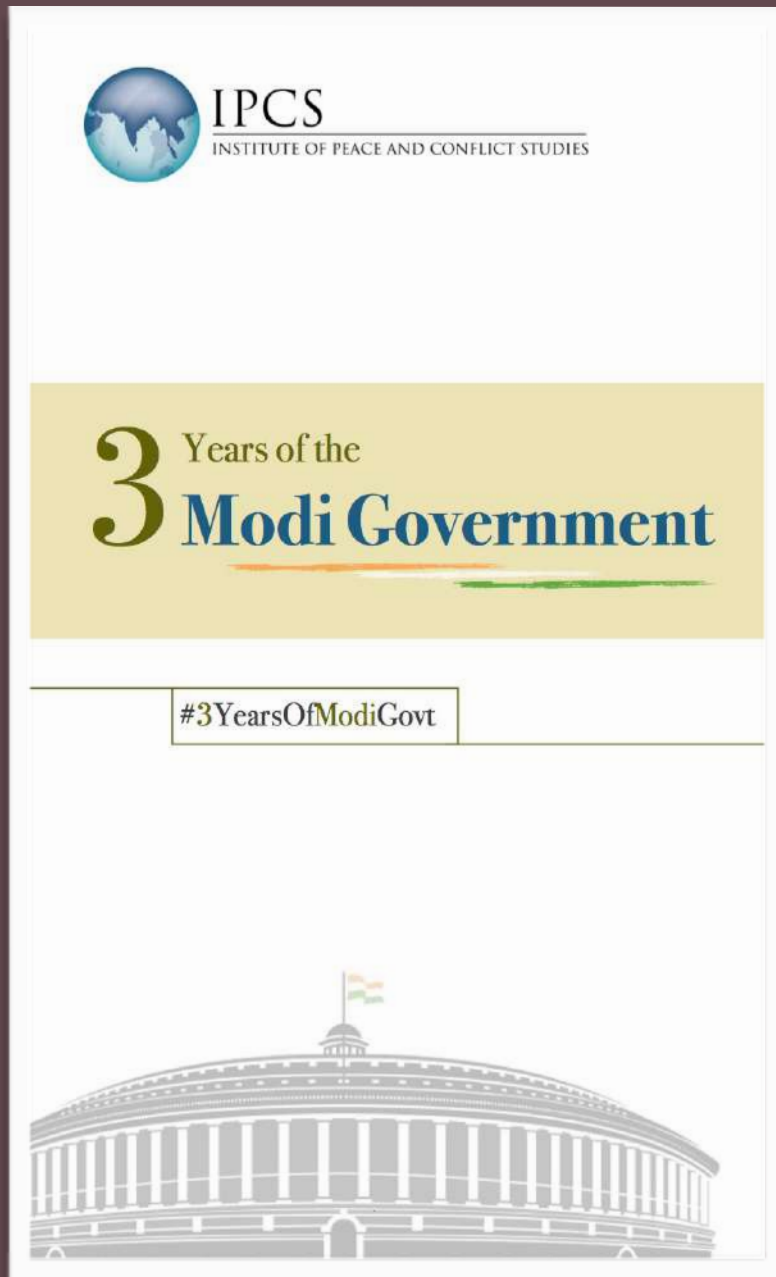
Tom Keatinge

Director, Centre for Financial Crime and Security Studies,
Royal United Services Institute (RUSI)

The Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), UK, and IPCS conducted a closed door one-day workshop on Illicit Flows in South Asia and Myanmar at IPCS. The regional workshop focused on Nepal, India, Bangladesh, and Myanmar, bringing together a select group of experts from the public and private sectors to examine, among others, the routes and actors involved in facilitating regional illicit flows (in commodities and finances), how this is impacted by criminality, corruption, and weak governance, and how these illicit flows are transformed into legitimate funds through anti-money laundering techniques.

Book

Domestic economy left-wing extremism **India-Pakistan**
international trade **foreign policy** bilateral relations



US-India **Jammu & Kashmir** **security & defence** **Nuclear policy**
renewable energy **NE India**

In this edited volume, IPCS brings together a host of experts to review the Narendra Modi government's policy successes and failures, gauge continuity and change, and assess policy effectiveness during the first three years of his administration.

FOREIGN POLICY

31

COMMENTARIES

13

COLUMNS

6

EVENTS

Commentaries

3 January

India, Afghanistan and the Heart of Asia: Reading Between the Lines

Sarral Sharma analyses the recent Heart of Asia conference and the implications for Pakistan

9 January

India and Vietnam: Strengthening Bilateral Relations

Amruta Karambelkar reflects on recent high-level visits to India to analyse the nature of bilateral ties

Column | East Asia Compass

10 January

Japan-China Contestation in 2017

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra reviews the Tokyo-Beijing bilateral and identifies the potential trajectory the relationship in 2017

Column I East Asia Compass

6 February

Forecast 2017: East Asia

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra identifies phenomena that will become more pronounced in East Asia in 2017

13 February

The Future of US-Taiwan Relations Under China's Shadow

Namrata Hasija argues that the US-Taiwan relationship under Trump remains uncertain in terms of upgradation but certain in terms of continuation

Column I Spotlight West Asia

15 February

India-UAE: An Emerging Special Relationship

Amb (Retd) Ranjit Gupta assesses the trajectory of India-UAE relations and makes recommendations towards taking the bilateral further

Column I The Strategist

15 February

Forecast 2017: Carnage Ahead?

Vice Admiral (Retd) Vijay Shankar illustrates why the pulling away from multilateral alliances and the potential for new strategic orientation would appear to be the new norm

28 February

The 'Two-State Solution' in Israel-Palestine: An Accelerated Demise?

Derek Verbakel explores possible trajectories the Israel-Palestine issue will take with Donald Trump as the US president

Column I Eagle Eye

20 March

Forecast 2017: India-US Strategic Partnership

Prof Chintamani Mahapatra traces the trajectory of the India-US strategic partnership and identifies opportunities and challenges

29 March

India-Bangladesh: What to Expect During Prime Minister Hasina's Visit?

Dr Amit Ranjan assesses the New Delhi-Dhaka relationship in the context of Bangladesh's Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina's, upcoming visit to India

3 April

Sino-Indian Strategic Dialogue: Differences in Strategic Thinking

Siwei Liu analyses the recently concluded Sino-Indian strategic dialogue and says an open and creative attitude would be a way forward

11 April

Trump's Strike Against Syria: International Implications

Amb (Retd) KP Fabian assesses the potential implications of US President Donald Trump's missile strike on Syria's Shayrat air base

13 April

Trump Vs Obama: US Policy Towards Adversarial States

Kimberley Anne Nazareth on the elements of continuity and change in US strategy towards Syria, North Korea and Iran

13 April

Asia-Pacific: Is Middle Power Multilateralism Possible?

Chandrali Sarkar assesses the plausibility of a middle power coalition between India, Japan and Australia as a counter to a rising China

27 April

China-Philippines Ties: Lessons for India and Japan

Tapan Bharadwaj considers the opportunities for India and Japan to re-engage with Southeast Asia

Column I East Asia Compass

1 May

Trump's North Korea Policy: Regional Implications

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra considers regional perspectives on the US administration's approach towards North Korea

Column I Dateline Colombo

15 May | **Dateline Colombo**

Steering Co-operation Across Oceans

Asanga Abeyagoonasekera analyses Sri Lanka's role in the world, in the backdrop of the One Belt One Road conference in China

Column I Eagle Eye

15 May

100 Days in Office: The Trump Administration

Prof Chintamani Mahapatra reviews Donald Trump's foreign policy moves thus far

Column I East Asia Compass

6 June

South Korea-North Korea: A New Version of Engagement

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra talks about why the initiation of the engagement policy under President Moon Jae-in will not be easy

9 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-Pakistan: Three Years of Wasted Effort?

Rana Banerji reviews India's relations with Pakistan and related developments and policies over the past three years

12 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-Bangladesh: Engagement with More Stakeholders Required

Dr Amit Ranjan reviews India's relations with Bangladesh and related developments and policies over the past three years and makes recommendations

12 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-West Asia: With Relations Boosted, Consolidation Must Follow

Ambassador (Retd) Ranjit Gupta reviews India's relations with West Asia and over the past three years and makes recommendations

15 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-ASEAN Relations: Progress and Possibilities

Amb (Retd) Rajiv Bhatia offers an evaluation keeping in view recent history and the changing power dynamics in the region

19 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-China Relations: A Mixed Bag

Amb (Retd) TCA Rangachari assesses how India-China relations have developed over the past three years and identifies key trends

21 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

India and the Koreas: Promises and Follow-ups

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra analyses India's relations with South Korea and North Korea and the implications of the same, over the past three years

21 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-US: Convergences and Divergences

Prof Chintamani Mahapatra argues that while there may be periodic turbulence in the India-US bilateral, the new paradigm of relations will not face any existential threat

21 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-Bhutan: Furthering Common Interests

Ambassador (Retd) VP Haran analyses the trajectory of the New Delhi-Thimphu relationship over the past three years

28 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-Sri Lanka: Reorienting the Relationship?

Husanjot Chahal assesses the trajectory of India-Sri Lanka relations over the past three years and identifies trends in three key areas

28 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-Maldives Relations: A Tale of Two Concerns

Dr N Manoharan assesses New Delhi-Malé relations over the past three years and identifies irritants in two areas, political and strategic

30 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-Russia: Navigating New Geopolitical Waters

Amb PS Raghavan reviews India-Russia relations and says there are strong reasons for consolidating bilateral relations even as New Delhi seeks to strengthen relatively newer strategic links

3 July

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-Japan: Past Trends Continue

Dr Shamshad A Khan writes that the India-Japan relationship has deepened further in the past three years, and says agreed but unfinished projects need special attention

Column I East Asia Compass

10 July

Japan's 'New Approach' to Russia: Is it Moving Forward?

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra analyses recent developments in Japan-Russia relations and argues that the prospects of Tokyo's 'New Approach' towards Moscow do not look positive

11 July

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-Myanmar: Fast-tracking the Eastward Push

Angshuman Choudhury assesses the trajectory of India-Myanmar relations since 2014 and argues that there has been substantial forward movement in several sectors

14 July

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-EU: Potential Partners in the Emerging World Order?

Amb (Retd) KP Fabian assesses India-European Union (EU) relations since 2014, the state of the EU, and identifies areas for future cooperation between the two

16 August

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-Nepal Relations: Mixed Fortunes

Dr Pramod Jaiswal reviews the trajectory of New Delhi-Kathmandu relations since 2014 and says it has seen several ups and downs

17 August

Three Years of the Modi Government

India-Afghanistan Relations: Innovating Continuity

Rajeshwari Krishnamurthy reviews India's Afghanistan policy under the Modi government

Column I Eagle Eye

25 August

Testing the Trump-Modi Partnership

Prof Chintamani Mahapatra analyses the challenges facing the India-US relationship

26 August

Fifty Years of ASEAN: Between Assertion and Reinvention

Angshuman Choudhury cautions that geopolitics and structural issues may restrain the organisation from realising its ambitious new agenda

21 September

Russia-Turkey: Implications of the New Arms Deal

Monish Gulati examines the potential geopolitical implications of the recent Russia-Turkey agreement involving the purchase of the S-400 Triumf air defence

24 October

Will the US' Pressure on Pakistan Deliver Results?

Dr Shalini Chawla evaluates the recent developments in the US-Pakistan relationship and explores whether Washington's pressure on Islamabad can deliver positive results

Column I East Asia Compass

24 October

Trump's Visit to East Asia

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra looks at why the trip might be unprecedented, but the outcomes are most likely not going to be so

Column I East Asia Compass

5 December

Denial and Provocation: Failure of US' North Korea Policy

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra argues that Trump's policy is detrimental to security because it has allowed huge North Korean nuclear and missile advancements in a short span of time

11 December

The Neglected Dimension of Iran's Opposition to Iraqi Kurdistan's Independence

Pieter-Jan Dockx argues that Iran's opposition to Iraqi Kurdistan stems less from the Kurdish issue in its own territory and more from the Iraqi Kurds' relationship with Israel

11 December

Zimbabwe: Political Solutions to Legal Questions Undermine the Rule of Law

Phephelaphi Dube assesses the impact of the recent political changes in Zimbabwe for rule of law in the country and reflects on ongoing developments in South Africa

Events

Talk



31
Mar

The Roles and Dimensions of S&T in India's Foreign Policy

speaker

Dr V Siddhartha

Emeritus Scientist (Retd), Defence Research and Development Organisation

chair

Ruhee Neog

Director, IPCS

1
Jun



India-Nepal-China Trilateralism

speakers

Dr Chen Xiaochen

Head, Dept of International Studies, Chungyang Institute for Financial Studies, Renmin University of China

Prof Zhang Shubin

Deputy Director, Nepal Study Centre, Hebei University of Economics & Business

Dr Pramod Jaiswal

Senior Fellow, IPCS

chair

Amb (Retd)

TCA Rangachari

Former Indian ambassador to China

Discussion

6
Jun



Talk

IPCS Twentieth Anniversary Plenum Series

25 Years of Diplomatic Relations between India and Israel and the Way Forward

speaker

Ambassador Daniel Carmon

Ambassador of Israel to India

chair

Ambassador (Retd) Salman Haidar

Patron, IPCS; former Indian Foreign Secretary

Book Discussion

28
Jul



India-China: Revisiting the Himalayan Conflict Theatre

speaker

Dr Bérénice

Guyot-Réchard

Lecturer, King's College;

Author, *Shadow States:*

India, China and the

Eastern Himalayas

chair

Professor Srikanth

Kondapalli

Professor in Chinese Studies,
Centre for East Asian Studies,
School of International Studies,
JNU

Discussion



13
Sep

Sino-Indian Relations

speaker

Dr Wang Dong

Secretary General,
Academic Committee,
Pangoal Institution,
Beijing, China

chair

Amb (Retd) TCA Rangachari

Former Indian ambassador to China



14
Sep



The People Next Door: The Curious History of India's Relations With Pakistan

speaker

Amb (Retd) TCA Raghavan

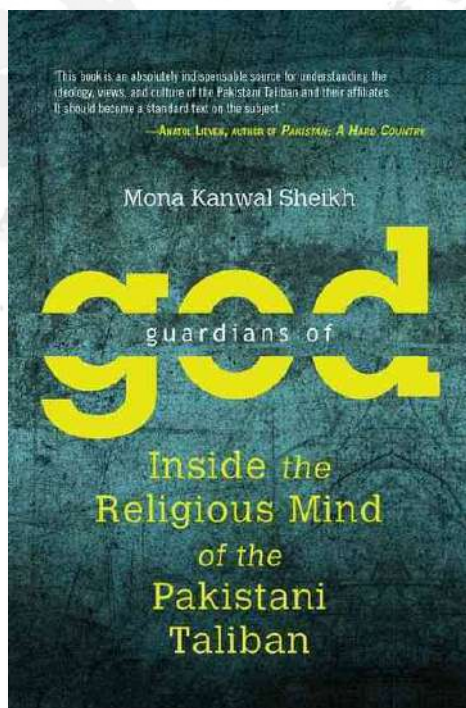
Member, Governing Council, IPCS;
Former Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan

chair

Amb (Retd) Salman Haidar

Former Indian ambassador to China

Book Reviews



Guardians of God: Inside the Religious Mind of the Pakistani Taliban

Mona Kanwal Sheikh

Oxford University Press, 2016

What Motivates the Pakistani Taliban?

Commodore (Retd) Uday Bhaskar

Distinguished Fellow, IPCS

The New Arthashastra: A Security Strategy for India

Gurmeet Kanwal (ed.)

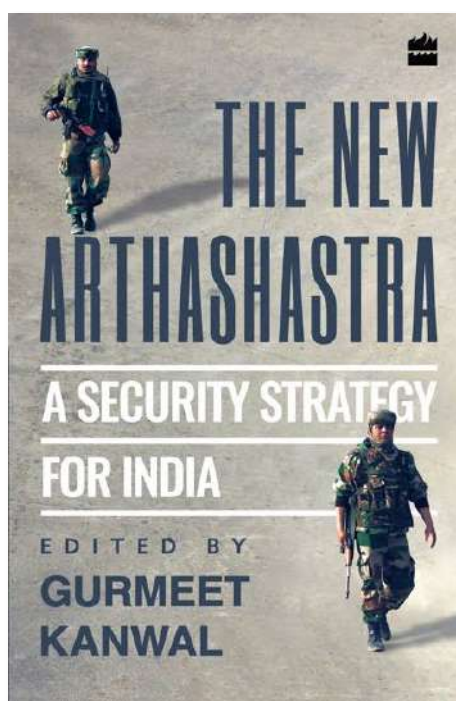
Harper Collins, 2016

New Thinking on India's Emerging Security Challenges

Lt Gen (Retd) Arvinder Singh Lamba

President, IPCS;

former Vice Chief of Staff, Indian Army





COUNTRY FOCUS



Commentaries

12 January

India: Crises in Command?

Gp Capt (Retd) Murli Menon assesses the appointment of India's new army chief and makes recommendations for the process of reforms to the personnel policies of the Indian armed forces

Column I Spotlight West Asia

19 January

West Asia Six Years After the 'Arab Spring': Prognosis for 2017

Amb (Retd) Ranjit Gupta assesses the political and security related developments of the past six years, and identifies the trajectories for 2017

1 February

South Korea: Two Moons and the Future of a Nation

Dr Rahul Raj provides a preliminary assessment on the two potential presidential candidates in the upcoming presidential election in South Korea

3 February

Where is Egypt Headed?

Amb (Retd) KP Fabian traces the trajectory of Egypt's political history and assesses the current state-of-affairs

18 February

Forecast 2017: Sri Lanka

Asanga Abeyagoonasekera assesses how Sri Lanka fared in 2016 and makes recommendations for 2017

20 February

Inadequate Budgetary Allotment and India's Defence Preparedness

Brig (Retd) Gurmeet Kanwal recommends the establishment of a roll-on, non-lapsable defence modernisation fund as national security imperative

16 March

Nepal: Local Body Elections Amid Uncertainty

Pramod Jaiswal assesses the build up to and the prospects of Nepal's upcoming local body elections

2017 Indian Assembly Elections

17 March

Goa: Staging Post of the Resourceful

Dr Bibhu Prasad Routray analyses the outcome of the Legislative Assembly Elections in Goa

18 March

Manohar Parrikar as Defence Minister: A Positive Record

Brig (Retd) Gurmeet Kanwal says Manohar Parrikar's achievements as India's Defence Minister far outweigh the disappointments

21 March

Afghanistan and the Attempted Exhumation of the QCG

Rajeshwari Krishnamurthy says that the US seeks to revive the relevance of the QCG with an objective to remain in the 'lead' on the Afghan issue

Column I Dateline Colombo

21 March

Re-building Sri Lanka: An Island at a Crossroads

Asanga Abeyagoonasekera writes that there are three potential options Sri Lanka could consider in order to bring credibility and results to the reconciliation process

2017 Indian Assembly Elections

22 March

Manipur: A Turning Point

Angshuman Choudhury analyses the outcome of the Legislative assembly elections in Manipur

22 March

Punjab: Congress and Strong Regional Leaders

Niharika Tagotra considers how state elections work differently than national elections, using Punjab as an example

22 March

Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand: A Clear Mandate

Prerana Priyadarshi and **Saral Sharma** analyse the outcome of the Legislative Assembly Elections in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand

4 April

Forecast 2017: Nepal

Dr Pramod Jaiswal assesses how Nepal fared in 2016 and identifies the challenges the country will have to overcome in 2017

Column I East Asia Compass

4 April

Park Geun-hye's Impeachment and South Korean Foreign Policy

Dr Sandip Kumar Mishra looks at the implications for East Asian regional politics

10 April

Operation Twilight: A Turning Point in Bangladesh

Angshuman Choudhury traces the evolving nature, capabilities and tactics employed by terrorist outfits in Bangladesh and the security forces' responses to them

19 April

Obama, Trump, and Abiding Authoritarianism in Egypt

Derek Verbakel asks if there has been a policy shift in the US' approach towards Egypt and assesses the trajectory of Egypt's political situation

Column I Dateline Colombo

20 April

Sri Lanka: National Interests in a Globalised World

Asanga Abeyagoonasekera argues that the Sri Lankan government should take into account and assess its national interests while deciding on policies

21 April

Pakistan and the Panama Papers Verdict

Rana Banerji analyses the verdict delivered by the Supreme Court of Pakistan and assesses the potential implications of the same

6 May

New Complexities in Myanmar's Peace Process

Angshuman Choudhury assesses the potential implications of the parallel channel of political dialogue created by Ethnic Armed Organisations (EAOs) in Myanmar

23 May

Forecast 2017: The Future of the European Union

Ambassador (Retd) KP Fabian assesses the EU's trajectory in the recent years and identifies the challenges the country will have to overcome in 2017 and beyond

23 May

Local Elections in Nepal: Is the Second Phase Possible?

Dr Pramod Jaiswal assesses the recently held local elections in Nepal and explores the prospects of the next phase of the local elections

Column I Dateline Colombo

20 June

Crisis and Foresight Analysis

Asanga Abeyagoonasekera writes about the importance of preparing foresight maps and situation analysis on a long term framework for developing countries

27 June

Three Years of the Modi Government

Maritime Issues: Proactive Initiatives

Dr Vijay Sakhuja argues that over the past three years, India's focus on 'matters maritime' have become more proactive and comprehensive

27 June

Unpacking Recent Violence against Egypt's Copts

Derek Verbakel traces the evolving trends in the attacks against Coptic Christians in Egypt, and the role of the interplay between state and societal forces in the phenomenon

28 June

Second 21CPC and Myanmar's Stuttering Peace Process

Angshuman Choudhury reviews the proceedings and context of the 21CPC meeting in May 2017 and identifies emerging trends in Myanmar's peace process

3 July

The ISI and Kulbhushan Jadhav's Second "Confession"

Rana Banerji analyses the contents and circumstances involving the release of Kulbhushan Jadhav's second "confession" and argues that the ISI has tied itself into knots of its own making

5 July

China's Maritime Strategy in the South China Sea

Tapan Bharadwaj reviews the maritime component of China's grand strategy in the Indo-Pacific, and argues that its strategy in the SCS has begun delivering results for Beijing

Column I Dateline Colombo

24 July

The Forgotten Professions: The Plight of a Nation

Asanga Abeyagoonasekera writes that Sri Lanka's political culture, economy and universities can all be reinvented to generate real innovation and creativity

Special Commentary

2 August

Pakistan: The Nawaz Ouster

Rana Banerji analyses the ouster of Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif and the implications of the same

17 August

Three Years of the Modi Government

The State and the States: The Northeast in the Centre's Vision

Sanjoy Hazarika and **Niyati Singh** consider the Centre's policy initiatives towards the region

22 August

Trump's Afghanistan Strategy

Rana Banerji weighs in on Donald Trump's long-awaited pronouncement on his administration's approach to Afghanistan

Column I Dateline Colombo

22 August

Sri Lanka: Leveraging the Politics of Geography

Asanga Abeyagoonasekera considers how the country can reap the political benefits of its geostrategic location

24 August

Nepal's Disaster Management Preparedness: Taking Stock

Avasna Pandey looks at the obstacles in the way of effective disaster management in the country

Column I The Strategist

31 August

"The World is Not Peaceful"

Vice Admiral (Retd) Vijay Shankar weighs in on the dogmas, past and present, that guide Chinese strategic thinking

6 September

China's Indian Ocean Strategy

Tapan Bharadwaj examines the motivations for China's enhanced presence in the region

7 September

Pakistan: Census Complexities

Rana Banerji analyses the implications of the country's sixth population census

8 September

Myanmar: Contextualising the Violence In Northern Rakhine

Angshuman Choudhury argues that the 25 August attacks are part of a conflict continuum in the region

15 September

In Context: NA-120 Lahore By-election

Sarral Sharma contextualises the circumstances and relevance of the potential outcomes of the upcoming by-election for Lahore's National Assembly constituency, (NA)-120

4 October

German Elections Results: Impact on Foreign Policy

Dr Kai Fürstenberg assesses the outcome of the German federal elections and its potential impact on Berlin's overall foreign policy and its policies towards South Asia

Column I Dateline Colombo

9 October

Monuments Over Mortality?

Asanga Abeyagoonasekera presents his thoughts on popular mobilisation against corruption in Sri Lanka and the larger neighbourhood

6 November

China's Signaling Under President Xi Jinping

Air Commodore Prashant Dikshit VM (G) traces the pattern in China's signaling to the world under the leadership of President Xi Jinping and makes projections

Column | Dateline Colombo

14 November

The Geopolitics of Floating Bases and the New World Order

Asanga Abeyagoonasekera weighs in on China's strategic vision that combines economic might with geopolitical prowess

Special Commentary

15 November

Unpacking the Unprecedented Churning in Saudi Arabia

Amb (Retd) Ranjit Gupta analyses the domestic and foreign policy dynamics in the unfolding changes in Saudi Arabia's political set-up

21 November

The Pangsangh Alliance and the Future of Myanmar's Peace Process

Angshuman Choudhury says that there can be no peace in Myanmar without the cooperation and compliance of the northern EAOs

Column | Dateline Colombo

28 November

"Taking Centre Stage in the World"

Vice Adm (Retd) Vijay Shankar looks at why restoring the lost grandeur of the Silk Route has many challenges that may not be overcome

Column | Dateline Colombo

4 December

Changing Political Horizons in Sri Lanka?

Asanga Abeyagoonasekera reflects on Sri Lanka's political culture ahead of local and provincial elections in the country



11 December

Nepal Elections: Reading the Results

Dr Pramod Jaiswal assesses the results of Nepal's recently held provincial and federal elections and the potential near and long-term implications for Nepal and India

26 December

Trump and Jerusalem: Long Term Implications

Amb (Retd) KP Fabian analyses the big picture issues related to US President Donald Trump's recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital and related developments that ensued

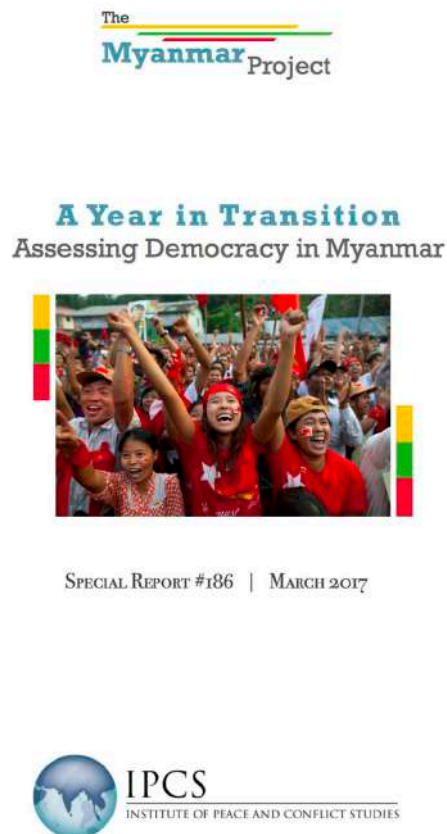
27 December

Election Year in Pakistan: Key Dynamics and Prospects

Rana Banerji identifies key election-related factors that will have a bearing on domestic politics in Pakistan in 2018

Special Report

March 2017



A Year in Transition: Assessing Democracy in Myanmar

On **7 February 2017**, the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS) hosted a panel discussion, titled '**A Year in Transition: Assessing Democracy in Myanmar**'. It was chaired by Ambassador (Retd) Rajiv Bhatia, former Indian Ambassador to Myanmar. The panellists were: Professor Nehginpao Kipgen, Executive Director, Centre for Southeast Asian Studies, Jindal School of International Affairs; Dr Bibhu Prasad Routray, Visiting Fellow, IPCS, and Director, Mantraya; and Professor Kenneth Holland, Executive Director, Centre for International Development, Ball State University (US). IPCS Special Report #186 contains the introductory remarks and an overview of the issues discussed.

Events

Discussion

7
Feb



A Year in Transition: Assessing Democracy in Myanmar

chair

**Amb (Retd)
Rajiv Bhatia**

Former Indian ambassador
to Myanmar

speakers

Professor Nehginpao Kipgen

Executive Director, Centre for
Southeast Asian Studies, Jindal School of
International Affairs, OP Jindal Global University

**Dr Bibhu Prasad
Routray**

Director, Mantraya;
Visiting Fellow, IPCS

Prof Kenneth Holland

Executive Director, Centre for
International Development,
Ball State University, US

Discussion

speakers

Manoj Joshi

Senior journalist;
Distinguished Fellow, ORF

Ajay Vir Jakhar

Member, IPCS Executive
Committee;
Chairman, Bharat Krishak
Samaj
(Farmer's Forum India)

moderator

Niharika Tagotra

Researcher, IPCS



21
Mar

2017 Indian Assembly Elections: How Did The States Vote?

11
Apr



Talk

Lok Sabha By-polls: Reading J&K

speaker

Ashok Bhan

Distinguished Fellow, IPCS;
Former Director General of
Police, J&K; former member,
National Security Advisory
Board (NSAB), India

Talk

3
May



Investigating the Need for Political Reform

speaker

Feroze Varun Gandhi

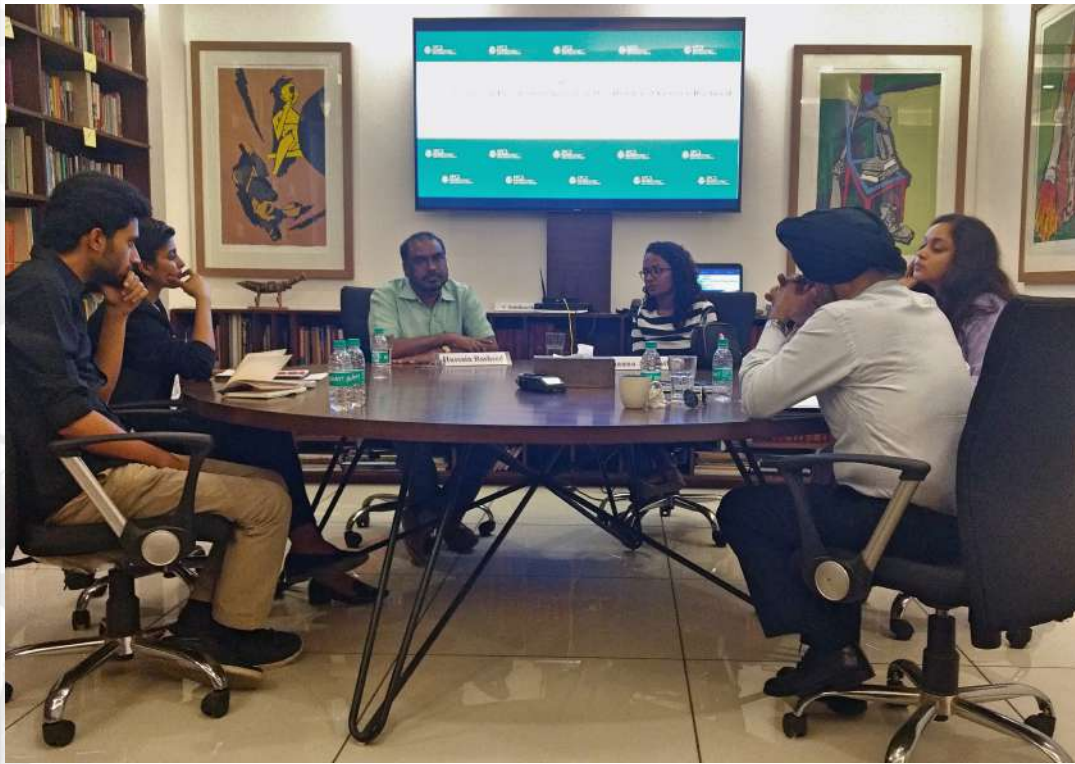
Member of Parliament,
Lok Sabha

chair

Let Gen (Retd) Arvinder Singh Lamba

President, IPCS;
Former Vice Chief of Staff, Indian Army

19
May



Maldives:
Contextualising Freedom of Speech in the Murder
of Yameen Rashid

moderator

**Rajeshwari
Krishnamurthy**
Deputy Director, IPCS

speakers

Hussain Rasheed
Father of slain Maldivian
blogger, Yameen Rashid

Shauna Aminath
Former advisor to
Mohamed Nasheed, former
President of The Maldives



ENVIRONMENT

6

COMMENTARIES

2

COLUMNS

1

EVENT

2

POLICY
BRIEFS

Commentaries

13 April

Why India's Economic Reforms are Climate Unfriendly

Niharika Tagotra explores how India's Budget 2017 and the Goods and Services Tax could impact the country domestically as well as New Delhi's international obligations

8 May

India: Missing the Bus on Sustainable Development Goals?

Garima Maheshwari looks at how sustainability has become a burden of technocratic formality rather than a policy-implementable mainstay

18 July

Three Years of the Modi Government

Environmental Protection: A Mixed Bag

Garima Maheshwari assesses the state-of-affairs of environment protection in India in the past three years

14 July

Global Warming-Induced Migration: An International Convention Needed

John Schabedoth analyses the implications of global warming-induced migration for international relations and argues that a binding international convention will be needed

Column I Maritime Matters

5 September

Marine Mammal Stranding: Myth, Mystery and Facts

Dr Vijay Sakhuja analyses the phenomenon of increasing numbers and incidents of marine mammals getting stranded ashore or washing aground in India

6 October

Nepal: Climate Change and Human Mobility

Avasna Pandey argues that climate change-induced migration in the country merits closer analysis

Column I Maritime Matters

10 October

Plastic Litter: The Challenge at Sea

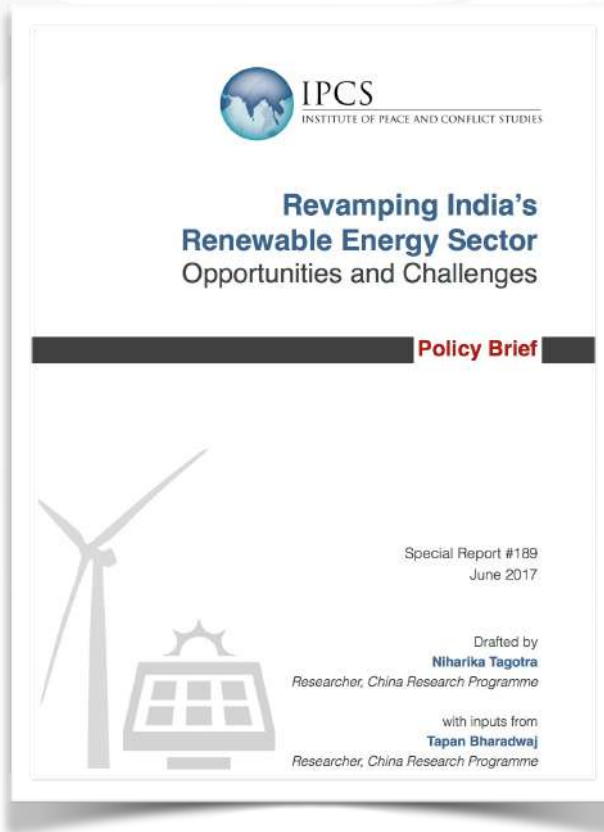
Dr Vijay Sakhuja discusses initiatives aimed at ensuring that water bodies remain environmentally and ecologically stable

28 November

COP-23 Climate Negotiations: Politics Over Just Commitments

Garima Maheshwari analyses the unfolding developments at COP-23 and their implications for global climate change related policymaking

June 2017



Revamping India's Renewable Energy Sector: Opportunities and Challenges

This IPCS Policy Brief draws from the conclusions of the seminar on '**Indian and Chinese Energy Policies Addressing Energy Needs and Climate Change**' held in **February 2017**. It was organised by IPCS in collaboration with the Centre for East Asian Studies (CEAS) and Energy Studies Programme, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi.

The five policy recommendations listed in the brief have been identified on the basis of an assessment of government intent and willingness, actionability, availability of resources, and affordability. An elaboration of each recommendation follows in the next section, flagging also the challenges that may be faced in their implementation.

Drafted by Niharika Tagotra and Tapan Bharadwaj, China Research Programme



IPCS
INSTITUTE OF PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

Indian and Chinese Energy Policies

Addressing Energy Needs and Climate Change

Remarks made during a joint panel discussion at
Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi

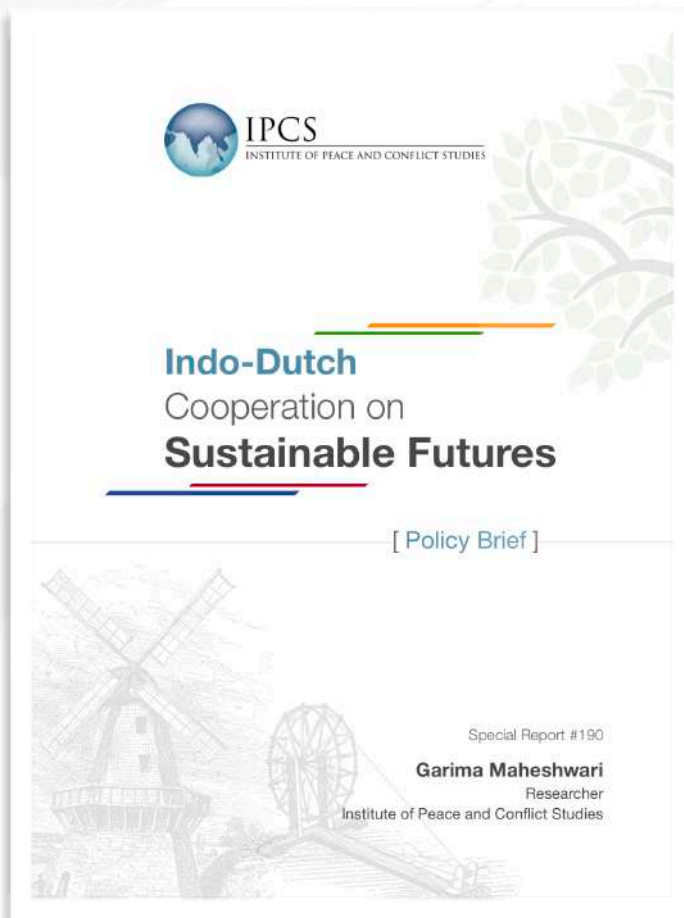
- Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS)
- Centre for East Asian Studies (CEAS), JNU
- Energy Studies Programme, JNU

Special Report #188 | June 2017

June 2017

Indian and Chinese Energy Policies: Addressing Energy Needs and Climate Change

This IPCS Policy Brief draws contains the remarks made during a joint panel discussion titled '**Indian and Chinese Energy Policies Addressing Energy Needs and Climate Change**' held in **February 2017**. It was organised by IPCS in collaboration with the Centre for East Asian Studies (CEAS) and Energy Studies Programme, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi.



Indo-Dutch Cooperation on Sustainable Futures

Garima Maheshwari | Researcher, IPCS

India is eager to harness research and technologies in sustainable resources and in a way that is investment-driven. Many of the existing cooperative initiatives are being executed in a public-private mode and are focused on selection of models from the Netherlands, knowledge exchange, and research collaborations and trainings. Given how cooperation between India and the Netherlands on this matter hinges mainly on investment and scientific exchange, the way forward should take account of five key aspects.

Events



22 Feb

Indian and Chinese Energy Policies: Addressing Energy Needs and Climate Change

speakers

Dr Nanda Kumar Janardhanan

Assistant Professor, Energy Studies Programme, JNU

Prachi Aggarwal

Assistant Professor,
Sanchi University of Buddhist-Indic Studies

Tapan Bharadwaj

Researcher, China Research Programme
Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS)

PC Maithani

Adviser, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy,
Government of India

chair

Professor Srikanth

Kondapalli

Chairperson,
Centre for East Asian Studies,
School of International Studies, JNU;
Distinguished Fellow, IPCS



IPCS

INSTITUTE OF PEACE AND CONFLICT STUDIES

The Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS) was founded in 1996 as an independent think-tank, and aims to develop an alternative framework for peace and security in South Asia through independent research and analysis.

Dedicated to independent, non-partisan research and analysis, its policy recommendations do not subscribe to any particular political view or interests.

Design and compilation
Angshuman Choudhury

With inputs from
Pieter-Jan Dockx
Albert van Wijngaarden
Prerana Priyadarshi