



Association of  
**ASIA SCHOLARS**



**CONFERENCE**

**INDIA AND CHINA IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

**NOVEMBER 24-25, 2013**

**ORGANISED BY**

**MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD INSTITUTE OF ASIAN STUDIES,  
KOLKATA**

**AND**

**ASSOCIATION OF ASIA SCHOLARS (AAS)**

**VENUE:**

**AZAD BHAVAN, MAKAHAS, KOLKATA**

## **INDIA AND CHINA IN SOUTHEAST ASIA**

### **The Concept Note**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

MAKAIAS is a well-known Institute for Asian studies in Kolkata and has undertaken several initiatives to strengthen India's relations with countries not only in the developing world but also with emerging economies in Southeast Asia. It has also been focused on examining and exploring role of India's northeast region as bridge, barrier or buffer in linking India to Southeast Asia and especially on sub-regional cooperation models like BCIM (Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar) and BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Sectoral Cooperation in Science, Technology and Economic Cooperation).

AAS, is an Asia-wide network and was formally registered in November 2005, first as South Asian alumni of Asia Fellows with the aim of Asianizing Asian Studies and then in July 2009 expanded as an Asia-wide network with expanded focus on Globalizing Asia. Asia Fellowships were originally started by the International Institute of Education, USA in 1999 and after three years, an autonomous Asian Scholarship Foundation (ASF) was set up in Bangkok. ASF has since had ten cohorts of Asia Fellows in last ten years. AAS that now has alumni from the ten cohorts of Asia Fellows during 2000-2010 has 286 Asia Fellows across Asia and has since opened itself to non-Asia Fellows who are experts in Asian Studies. The AAS has conducted several projects, conferences and lecture series, details of which can be seen at [www.asiascholars.org](http://www.asiascholars.org)

#### **OUTLINE OF MAKAIAS – AAS CONFERENCE SESSIONS**

**Inaugural Session on Conference Theme of INDIA AND CHINA IN SOUTHEAST ASIA** will include heads of MAKAIAS and AAS as also leader of visiting team from Yunnan

**First Working Session on INDIA'S LOOK EAST POLICY AND EAST ASIAN INTEGRATION** will include papers by Indian experts (especially from business, industry and technical sectors) on India-ASEAN relations. They will also debate on security, economic, political and cultural issues. It will also involve participation of experts from India's Northeast.

**Second Working Session on INDIA AND CHINA IN SE ASIA: COOPERATION OR CONFRONTATION** will include papers by experts from India and China on India-China relations. While they will focus on both conventional and future issues, the experts are also expected to suggest constructive operative strategies for resolving future partnerships to ensure their peaceful rise as world powers.

**Third Working Session on SOCIETY, DEMOGRAPHY AND MIGRATION IN SOUTH- EAST ASIA WILL** deliberate on Asia's transnational challenges like pandemics, migrations, capital flows, trafficking of drugs and crime and terrorism and their impact on society in South East Asian countries. This session could also involve experts from visiting team from Yunnan.

**Fourth Working Session** on **REGIONAL COOPERATION MECHANISMS IN SOUTH & SOUTH EAST ASIA** will be devoted to experts presenting papers on partnerships within the Asian region for trade, security and development cooperation. Regional groupings as SAARC, ASEAN, SCO, BIMSTEC and others will be discussed.

**Fifth Working Session** on **ROLE OF INDIA'S NORTHEAST REGION (BARRIER, BUFFER, BRIDGE) IN STRENGTHENING INDIA'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL LINKAGES TO SOUTHEAST ASIA** will focus on India's enhancing engagement with its neighbouring countries in the East and will include bilateral issues with Myanmar and Bangladesh, within the context of the significance of the North East.

#### **The Valedictory/ Concluding Session**

A brief report of the Conference and its recommendations will also be presented at this session.

# **PROGRAMME**

## **Sunday, 24 November 2013 (Day 1)**

**01.30 pm – 02.00 pm Registration**

**02.00 pm – 02.30 pm Inaugural Session**

**Welcome Address: Shri Sitaram Sharma**, Chairman, Executive Council, MAKAIAS

**Inaugural Remarks: Professor Swaran Singh**, President, Association of Asia Scholars (AAS),

**Inaugural Address: Prof. Jayanta Kumar Roy**, Maulana Azad Fellow and Former Chairman, MAKAIAS

**Vote of Thanks: Dr Sreeradha Dutta**, Director, MAKAIAS

**Tea/Coffee Break: 2:30 pm-2:45 pm**

**02:45pm – 4.00 pm**

**Session I: INDIA'S LOOK EAST POLICY AND EAST ASIAN INTEGRATION**

**Chair : Dr. Sreeradha Dutta**

**Speakers :**

- **Ms. Amrita Pritam Gogoi**, Assistant Professor Department of Political Science, Dibrugarh University, *India's Look East Policy and East Asian Integration*
- **Prof. Sangeeta Thapliyal**, Assistant Professor, Centre for Inner Asian Studies, School of International Studies, JNU: *India's policy, approach and relations with China*

**4.00 pm – 5.30 pm**

**Session II: INDIA AND CHINA IN S E ASIA: COOPERATION OR CONFRONTATION**

**Chair : Prof. Swaran Singh**

**Speakers :**

- **Prof. B.R. Deepak**, School of International Language, JNU: *India's interests in South China Sea.*
- **Dr. Krishnendra Meena**, Assistant Professor, JNU : *India and China in Indonesia*
- **Dr. Chen Yahui**
- **Mr. Subhadeep Bhattacharya**, Research Fellow, MAKAIAS : *India's Southeast Asia Security Policy and the China Factor*

**Discussant : Dr. Kakoli Sengupta, Jadavpur University**

**Director's Dinner- 7.30 onwards**

## **Monday, 25 November 2013 (Day 2)**

**9.30 am – 10.30 am**

### **Session III: SOCIETY, DEMOGRAPHY & MIGRATION IN SOUTH EAST ASIA**

**Chair : Prof. B.R. Deepak**

**Speakers :**

- **Prof Arvind Kumar**, Professor and Head, Department of Geopolitics & International Relations, Manipal University : *Growing Influence of India in ASEAN and East Asia Summit*
- **Dr. Avijit Banerjee**, HOD and Associate Professor, Dept. of Chinese Language and Culture (Cheena Bhavan), Viswa Bharati, Shantiniketan

**TEA/COFFEE BREAK: 10:30 AM-10:45AM**

**10.45 am – 12.15 pm**

### **Session IV: REGIONAL COOPERATION MECHANISMS IN SOUTH & SOUTH EAST ASIA**

**Chair : Prof. Sangeeta Thapliyal**

**Speakers**

- **Prof. Swaran Singh**, School of International Studies, JNU and Dr. Reena Marwah, Senior Academic Consultant, ICSSR and Secretary General, Association of Asia Scholars. : *India's engagement in IOR-ARC: The China factor*
- **Dr. Sanjay Bhardwaj**, Assistant Professor, Centre for South Asian Studies School of International Studies , JNU : *China's strategic involvement in Bangladesh: Implications for India*
- **Dr. Amrita Dey**, Research Fellow, MAKAIAS : *Myanmar' and 2014 ASEAN Chairmanship : Examining its Role in promoting Regional Cohesion*

**12:15 pm – 1:45 pm**

**Session V : ROLE OF INDIA'S NORTHEAST REGION (BARRIER, BUFFER, BRIDGE) IN STRENGTHENING INDIA'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL LINKAGES TO SOUTHEAST ASIA**

**Chair : Prof Arvind Kumar**

**Speakers**

- **Dr. Sharad Soni**, Assistant Professor, Centre for Inner Asian Studies, School of International Studies JNU: *Mongolia as a factor in India's new role in South East Asia*
- **Dr. Satyabrata Sinha**, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science *Role of India's Northeast Region (Barrier, Buffer, Bridge) In Strengthening India's Social And Political Linkages To Southeast Asia*
- **Mrs. Sayantani Sen Mazumdar**, Research Fellow, MAKAIAS: *North East India's Tourism Prospect through Mekong Ganga Cooperation: Venturing New Opportunities*

**LUNCH: 1:45 PM TO 2:45 PM**

**02:45 pm – 3:30 pm**

**CONCLUDING SESSION**

**YASS Delegation Interaction**

**Concluding Remarks :**

- **Professor Swaran Singh**, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi
- Report of Conference by **Dr Reena Marwah**, Secy-Gen, AAS

**CULTURAL PROGRAMME: 4.00 - 4.30 PM**

***PATACHITRER GAAN***