

# KIIPS DIARY

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KALINGA INSTITUTE OF  
INDO-PACIFIC STUDIES

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# ABOUT KIIPS

## **Kalinga Institute of Indo-Pacific Studies**

Kalinga Institute of Indo-Pacific Studies (KIIPS) has been established to study, analyse, explain, and disseminate all relevant information and developments related to Indo-Pacific region. KIIPS is a young think tank devoted to the vision and mission of providing a dynamic platform to discuss multifarious issues relating to the emerging geopolitical region of Indo-Pacific. In a short span of time, KIIPS has been able to organise a number of national and international conferences on significant developments of the Indo-Pacific region, and has been regularly publishing a number of commentaries written by both experienced hands as well as young voices. Through its internship programme, it has also been making a humble attempt to help train the budding geopolitical analysts of India.

Since the Indo-Pacific Region is relatively a recent concept, its meaning is not confined just to its geography. It encompasses a wide range of issues related to diplomacy, strategy and economics, society etc. The Government of India has already begun to recognize Indo-Pacific region as a reference point for its foreign policy strategy. The goal of KIIPS will be to monitor multifarious developments and issues in this region and bring out publications, seminar proceedings and hold workshops and symposia from time to time.

For more information visit, [www.kiips.in](http://www.kiips.in)

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Distinguished Lecture on "Regional Implications of Western Disengagement from Afghanistan"

Distinguished Lecture on "Institutionalizing the Quad: Blending the Partners"



**Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra**  
**Founder and Honorary**  
**Chairperson, KIIPS.**

# **Message from the Founder**

Kalinga Institute of Indo-Pacific Studies (KIIPS) is dedicated to study, research, analyse and explain important developments occurring in the Indo-Pacific region. It regularly uploads brief but sharp commentaries on various issues and developments affecting peace and stability, which reaches a wide audience in various parts of the globe. Some of the commentaries have been cited in respectable reports and writings and this indicates the seriousness of the efforts made by our team and the contributors.

KIIPS has a select team of interns who are young, energetic and devoted to learning. They are encouraged to write commentaries as part of their learning process. Senior academics and analysts, some of whom are part of the advisory board of KIIPS, also contribute commentaries to educate the masses on Indo-Pacific affairs.

Significantly, KIIPS has been organising numerous webinars on key developments in the Indo-Pacific region drawing upon the expertise of scholars, academics and officials. A large number of people participate in these webinars not only to familiarise themselves on the issues and events but also to contribute their insights to the discussion.

The present KIIPS Diary is an effort to document the KIIPS activities and disseminate some of the commentaries for wider use of students, scholars and policymakers.

Let me take this opportunity to extend my appreciation to the Founding Director Dr. Netajee Abhinandan, Director Dr. Monish Tourangbam, Deputy Director Dr. Shreya Upadhyay and the entire team of interns and technical coordinators of KIIPS for their selfless dedication and commitment to work.

# Articles



**January-June 2021**

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# January 2021

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## **Assault on Democracy in the United States**

The Americans have always been proud of their democracy, and successive American administrations have adopted policies aimed at promoting democracy abroad. But the attack on Capitol Hill by a large crowd of ferocious mobs when the US Congress was in session to certify the results of the 2020 Presidential Election has tarnished the image of American democracy beyond repair. One can always argue that American democracy cannot be faulted by the savage attack on the American symbol of popular democracy by a mob of protesters. Some American analysts and commentators have called it an attack by domestic terrorists, while others have described it as insurrection. But the fact that the American President reportedly incited the assailants has not gone unnoticed. President Donald Trump's presidency has been mercurial for years, but his open call to a huge crowd of people on the 6th of January for defending his perceived victory in the 2020 election by use of brute force and show of muscular might has actually exposed the weakness of the American political system.

Many experts initially believed that Donald Trump Administration would be an anomaly in American history. But more than seventy million people who voted for him in the 2020 presidential election has changed the observation and opinion of analysts and commentators. Now it is believed that Trumpism will survive the exit of Donald Trump from the American White House. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/assault-on-democracy-in-the-united-states/>

## **India and the “New Imperatives” for Regional Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific Region**

The year 2020 can be considered tumultuous as far as the question of the developments that are taking place in the Indo-Pacific region is concerned. The onset of Covid 19 pandemic and its subsequent impact on geopolitical rhetoric propelled a new kind of geopolitical realignment in the Indo-Pacific region. While some scholars perceived it as the phenomenon of “New Cold War” others have looked at the emergence of “rimland geopolitics” in the global geopolitical map. However, whatever strategic imbroglio might have happened during the last couple of years (especially after 2015) it showed that global politics is based on a more competitive geopolitical logic. The emergence of the Indo-Pacific concept is one such example. The post-Cold War logic of power dynamics has a new set of actors in the global arena along with new challenges. The Indo-Pacific power matrix is one such example where India, Vietnam, Japan, South Korea, the Philippines and to some extent Eurasian countries like Russia (despite its aversion to the concept of Indo-Pacific) and Kazakhstan can play a major role in defining the Indo-Pacific structure. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/india-and-the-new-imperatives-for-regional-cooperation-in-the-indo-pacific-region/>

## **Indo-Nepal Relations and Chinese Economic Domination**

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal is set to take off on 14 January 2020 to participate in 6th meeting of Nepal-India Joint Commission. Meanwhile, Nepal politics once again stole the limelight when Chinese delegation visited Kathmandu in last week December 2020, post-dissolution of the House of Representatives. A conundrum is emerging with an ensuing visit of Pradeep Gyawali with China flexing muscle in Nepal and India being cautious through its traditional approach towards building relations. China is pushing hard to provide infrastructural support to not only Nepal but to other neighbours of India as well. Is China strengthening the security ring around India or is it focused on its rise at world forum in the 21st century? Can the Chinese support to Nepal be linked to an attempt towards dampening Indian spirits in Ladakh imbroglio? Answers could be in the affirmative to some or all of them.

The rise of communists in Nepal has not been very encouraging for India-Nepal relations. Nepal has openly welcomed the Chinese Communist Party and Chinese leadership to intervene in its domestic politics. The politics behind the visits of Chinese leaders to Nepal in a bid to prevent a vertical split between Prachanda led Nepal Communist Party (Maoist centric) and current PM Oli led CPN-UML couldn't be more obvious. Guo, the Chinese delegation leader made every effort to prevent the split. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/indo-nepal-relations-and-chinese-economic-domination/>

## **Taiwan 2020: Year in Review**

Taiwan's President Tsai Ing-wen has started 2021 by confirming her willingness to talk with the People's Republic of China (PRC), while not ignoring the mounting military pressure from Beijing at the Taiwan Strait. On her New Year's Eve speech, President Tsai stated that Taiwan is ready to have "meaningful" talks with China as long as they are willing to put aside confrontation. The PRC still regards Taiwan as a part of its own territory; however, it has no sovereign control over it. The year 2020 was indeed eventful for Taiwan. Taipei has come under increasing pressure from Beijing, which has ramped up military activities and drills near the island. In the speech, President Tsai criticized the near-daily patrols of Chinese military ships and aircraft in the Taiwan Strait. For Tsai, Chinese military actions near Taiwan have threatened peace and stability in the Indo-Pacific region. She has also requested Beijing to restore the formal talks mechanism, which China cut off in 2016 after Tsai first won office. Since then, China has repeatedly rejected Tsai's advances and has refused to conduct any talks with Taiwan unless she accepts the "one China" principle. Since 2016, President Tsai has tried to place her democratically elected government as a bulwark against increasing PRC's influence in the Indo-Pacific region. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/taiwan-in-2020-a-review/>

## **Assessing Joe Biden's Policy towards ASEAN**

Foreign policies simply are strategies to uphold a country's national interest through relationships with other countries. These strategies are dynamic in nature and always mould according to the circumstances of a nation. As such, foreign policy always gets a different shape as per the leader in power, as any policy is the brainchild of a group of individuals and the party in power. Thus, it always varies from person to person, as well as party to party. Accordingly, with the victory of Democrat Joe Biden in the 2020 US presidential election, there will be a change in the US' approach to maintaining a lead in the global order and the country's overall approach to international relations. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/assessing-joe-bidens-policy-towards-asean/>

## **Russia-China Cooperation in the Arctic Region**

The Arctic is facing its second warmest year since the year 1900 with the continuation of unprecedented warming, environmental transformation and most importantly, melting of ice in the High North. The Arctic is entirely a new water body which earlier was useful only to indigenous people and unavailable for human use for all history of humankind.

Since the year 2007, the minimum amount of sea ice extent has never increased above its level. With the sea ice becoming thinner day by day, the Arctic waters are becoming warmer. These warmer waters were also connected to dense warmer air in the lands of the Arctic, which are prompting glacial melts along the peripheries of the Arctic Ocean. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/russia-china-cooperation-in-the-arctic-region/>

## **Political Economy Strategies by the Communist Party of Vietnam: Many More Doi Moi Ahead**

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## **How America's Deep Racial Issues and Protests Shaped the 2020 Presidential Election's Result: An Analysis**

John Arthur in his work, *Race, Equality and the Burdens of History* (2007), wrote that racial relations and racism had "scarred American history", and they continue to shape America's quest for understanding itself. In recent times, violence and discrimination against the African-American community across the United States shook the fundamental basis on which the new the nation was founded after it was liberated from British colonialism. The George Floyd's tragic chokehold-death in the hands of law authorities has not only propelled the famous Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement across the U.S. but also exposed America's untreated old wounds of complicated race relations. This has resulted in a polarized American politics marked by debates on the racialization process, racial prejudice, police defund, police reform, and how the two primary mainstream parties fair when it comes to policies for genuine upliftment of the African-American community. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/how-americas-deep-racial-issues-and-protests-shaped-the-2020-presidential-elections-result-an-analysis/>

## **Indo-Pacific Policy Under the New US Administration**

On 20th January, 2021, the US President Elect Joe Biden will take over the office from incumbent President Trump. The preceding years of Trump administration have been riding on the wave of 'America First policy', fomenting unpredictability of foreign policies. This was further transcended by the Covid-19 pandemic, with China remaining the focal point embroiled with both clash of interest and value. It is an undeniable fact that the Trump effect will reflect in formulation of US domestic and foreign policies for some time, leading the upcoming Biden administration to confront certain permanent structural shifts arising from it. The immediate and long term effects , particularly at a time when the US' soft power has relatively become weaker in the face of growing Chinese economic clout seems to be strengthening Chinese emergence as the next hegemon from Asia. In such a scenario the strategically important Indo-Pacific is of immense value for both the US and China, and controlling its sphere of influence will give an advantageous position, which the Biden administration will be well aware of. The ASEAN will hold the key in exploiting the true potent of free and open Indo-Pacific which the upcoming Biden administration would like to leverage. This article sheds light on the probable policy options of Biden towards one of the most sensitive zone during the course of evolution of this century. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/indo-pacific-policy-under-the-new-us-administration/>

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# March 2021

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## **India, Quad Summit and the Geopolitical Dynamics of the Indo-Pacific**

The Virtual Quad Summit, which took place on 12 March 2021, can be considered as significant and a milestone event as far as the evolution of Quad as a strategic regional grouping is concerned. It is necessary to throw light on some of the major developments, in fact, what can be called as the structural factors, which took place prior to the recent Quad Summit to understand its geopolitical significance. They are :a) this Summit is taking place in the post-Pandemic global order where the core issue is how to address the health crisis and assisting each other like joint “vaccine development” and creating a “supply chain of vaccines” to contain the pandemic; b) Growing concern over the hegemonic design of China in global politics (especially after the post-Pandemic era) is a cause of concern to the international community, the same can be visible in the in the Indo-Pacific region also; c) Emergence of India as an major supplier of covid vaccines to the global community; and d)A shared commitment to the Indo-Pacific order as a catalyst for securitisation of this region by the member countries of Quad. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/india-quad-summit-and-the-geopolitical-dynamics-of-the-indo-pacific/>

## **War between Humans & Non-humans**

The year 2020 can be considered tumultuous as far as the question of the developments that are taking place in the Indo-Pacific region is concerned. The onset of Covid 19 pandemic and its subsequent impact on geopolitical rhetoric propelled a new kind of geopolitical realignment in the Indo-Pacific region. While some scholars perceived it as the phenomenon of “New Cold War” others have looked at the emergence of “rimland geopolitics” in the global geopolitical map. However, whatever strategic imbroglio might have happened during the last couple of years (especially after 2015) it showed that global politics is based on a more competitive geopolitical logic. The emergence of the Indo-Pacific concept is one such example. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/war-between-humans-non-humans/>

## **Post-COVID International Order**

It is a well-known fact that international orders take decades to form and yet remain fragile due to diverse and intermittent challenges. The communist international order has been dead for quite some time. The liberal international order is visibly crumbling. The US domination in international affairs is fading, and China’s burgeoning international influence has hit the wall since the outbreak of the COVID-19. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/post-covid19-international-order/>

## **India- Myanmar Relations Amid COVID-19 Pandemic**

The Coronavirus pandemic is one of the biggest challenges in front of the entire humanity in the contemporary global scenario. The implications of the Coronavirus pandemic is multifaceted and multidimensional in which both healthcare as well as the global economy have been badly impacted due to the restrictions on travelling, public gathering, social distancing and the quarantine policies as implemented by the Heads of state. This has had a serious impact on the human psyche which has direct implications on the economy. Under such situation, the most interesting aspect is the diplomatic and strategic relationship among countries. In this context of relationship between countries, it is important to analyse and assess the India-Myanmar relationship in the times of of COVID-19. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/india-myanmar-relations-amid-covid-19-pandemic/>

## **The United Kingdom and the Indo- Pacific : Policy Possibilities**

On January 1st of this year, United Kingdom entered a new era after the end of its transition period on 31st December 2020, ending four decades of its membership with the European Union. Though the UK formally left the European Union on 31st January 2020, it was followed by another 11 months of transition period to chart out a deal for future course of relations between the two. Within these 11 months of transition, countries around the world have witnessed unprecedented havoc created by the Covid-19 pandemic, layers of protectionism scaring the globalist perception and ever increasing threat to security prospects triggered by rising Chinese aspirations in the geopolitical landscape of the Indo- Pacific. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/the-united-kingdom-and-the-indo-pacific-policy-possibilities/>

## **India and US Relation in Biden Era**

Joe Biden took office of the President of the US on 20th January 2021. Biden is poised to continue the upward trajectory of relations between India and US, this is evident from his record as Vice President in the Obama administration demonstrated his sensitivity to Indian concerns and encouraged a growing bilateral relationship. Throughout his long career in Washington, he also cultivated important friendships in the Indian American community, a constituency whose political engagement and impact have grown with each passing election. This can be clearly seen as his running mate and now Vice-President Kamala Harris who is of Indian origin. This provides hope to India that Biden truly trusts his relationship with India and will take the bilateral relations to greater heights. Biden has also surrounded himself with many Indian Americans at high positions. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/india-and-us-relations-in-biden-era/>

## **The Bangladeshi Dilemma: Balancing BRI and IPS**

A littoral of the Bay of Bengal, Bangladesh is integral to the Indo-Pacific region, which has off late become a region of contention among growing powers. Bangladesh was dubbed a bottomless breadbasket during the first few years of its independence. However, it has shown steady growth for the past 20 years with a consistent increase in exports in the sectors of ready-made garments, agriculture, food grains, cattle, fish, vegetables and manpower etc. which was put to a brief halt by natural calamities, political unrest and pandemic-driven lockdown. With such growth, Bangladesh earlier surpassed India in several social, health, mortality, and fertility indices. Given such advantages in addition to its strategic location, Bangladesh has emerged as a country of great potential in the Indo-Pacific, making it all the more important for the United States which is pursuing the Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS). Alongside the United States, lies a potential opponent, China that in terms foreign investment has surpassed other countries in winning deals to build several mega projects in Bangladesh thus making it an important component in China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which also crisscrosses the Indo-Pacific region, despite Beijing refusing to acknowledge the relevance of this new geopolitical construct. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/the-bangladeshi-dilemma-balancing-bri-and-ips/>

## **Translating India's Stance as a Global Power: Scaling New Heights in the Space Sector**

Noam Chomsky stated, 'The development of space technology, including space warfare today, is similar in its technological-industrial significance to the development of navies a hundred years ago.' Earth orbital space, commonly referred to as Outer Space or Space is a militarily and economically critical arena whose importance has augmented over time with countries across the globe developing the means to not only access and exploit the space, but to also conduct space warfare. From the first satellite launched by the Soviet Union in 1957, to the current capabilities possessed by several other countries, space has moved from an isolated domain to one that connects the operational capabilities of a nation in the traditional domains of land, air and sea. What began as a tool for communication and broadcasting through space technology has now evolved to provide critical information for weather prediction and disaster management among other uses like satellite-based navigation, forestry management etc. The wide range of capabilities offered by outer space has resulted in a rise in the significance of space assets. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/translating-indias-stance-as-a-global-power-scaling-new-heights-in-the-space-sector/>

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# April 2021

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## Blow to democracy in Myanmar

The military coup in Myanmar orchestrated by the military junta led General Min Aung Hlaing; the Commander in chief of Myanmar defence forces was a serious blow to nascent democracy in the country that was ruled by the military for the major of its independent history. The country became independent in 1948, a year after India but Myanmar has had autocratic military rule for 53 years from 1962 to 2011.

On 1 February 2021, the world woke up to the military taking over Myanmar and the uncanny arrest of Aung San Suu Kyi, leader of National League for Democracy (NLD). Democratically elected NLD leader Suu Kyi was heading for a show down despite her landslide victory in November 2020. Tatmadaw; the military rulers are setting the new rules of governance in Myanmar. Myanmar citizens were awestruck and government employees, teachers, bankers, lawyers and even students took to streets to protest. Initially, the resistance was weak, fearing reprisals but got strong with all sections of society joining hands and international support lending assurances of hope. Resistance soon spread from the Capital to other main cities like Yangon. It was not as easy to go against the power of gun, but Burmese people did go against the tide of bullets. General Hlaing was very curt and clear when he justified the military takeover and said that the military was with the population and that true and disciplined democracy will return to Myanmar. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/blow-to-democracy-in-myanmar/>

## France is 'Back' in the Indo-Pacific

Paris has a relatively strong military presence in the Indo-Pacific region. It has about 4,000 troops operating in the Indian Ocean, while in the Pacific – some 3,000 troops.[i] France's commitment to the Indo-Pacific is a natural process for at least two reasons. France is not a foreign country in that area as it has its territories there, such as Mayotte and Réunion islands, the Antarctic Territories in the Indian Ocean, and in the Pacific, among others, New Caledonia and French Polynesia. French Indo-Pacific territories are inhabited by approximately 1.5 million people. France also has extensive Exclusive Economic Zones there – 9 million square kilometers.[ii] It is also worth remembering that France is both a nuclear power and a permanent member of the UN Security Council, which also contributes to the country's readiness to take on greater responsibility and activity in the international arena. The center of the world has shifted towards the Indo-Pacific and French defense concepts take this into account. The 2017 French Defense and National Security Strategy clearly shows the growing importance of this region both for France itself and for international security. This was further highlighted in the 2019 political report "France and Security in the Indo-Pacific" published by the French Ministry of Defense. [iv][iii] To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/france-is-back-in-the-indo-pacific/>

## India-Japan Ties and the Role of Assam and the Northeast

Under the Act East Policy, the Central Government has taken various steps to take the Northeast region of India, including Assam, forward on the path of development. On 15 February 2021, Japan's Ambassador Satoshi Suzuki took part in a symposium along with the External Affairs Minister of India, S.Jaishankar, Chief Minister of Assam Sarbananda Sonowal and other top ranking officials of Assam Government held at "Srimanta Sankardev Kalakhetra", Guwahati. They spoke on Japan's collaboration in the state of Assam and the Northeast. The focal topic of the Symposium was on "Act East Policy and India-Japan co-operation in North-East India with a special focus on Assam". The Symposium also plans to take forward more development work in Assam in co-operation with Japan in the near future. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/india-japan-ties-and-the-role-of-assam-and-the-northeast/>

## Nationalist Politics in Sri Lanka

Sinhalese Buddhists derive their sense of history from a sixth-century text called the Mahavamsa (Great Chronicle). Written by Theravada monks, the Mahavamsa claims that the Sinhalese arrived from North India and settled in Sri Lanka. In the third century B.C.E., the Indian Emperor Ashoka sent his son, monk Mahinda, to establish Buddhism, although the chronicle also claims that Buddha visited the island thrice to prepare it as the repository of Buddhism and designate Sri Lanka as Ssihadipa (island of the Sinhalese) and Dhammadipa (island ennobled to protect and propagate Buddhism). This paper discusses about the growth of Nationalist politics in Sri Lanka in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/nationalist-politics-in-sri-lanka/>

## The Way Ahead for Quad with its Quad Plus Partners

In a first, the leaders of the Quad countries met virtually on 12 March 2021. The Quad summit reveals that even with changes in leadership in two of the four democracies, there has been a need for advancing a shared vision of the Indo-Pacific and continued regional engagement in the arena despite an ongoing global health and economic crisis. The summit marks a turning point in how the grouping envisions itself as more than just a counter to China. India, Japan, Australia and the United States affirmed that the Quad is striving for a region that is free, open and inclusive. Moreover, the group is also committed to working with a range of partners. The Quad has in some shape or form contoured the security architecture of the Indo-Pacific, and expanded its horizons over time. After a lull period of 10 years, it was revived in 2017 where the group was more engaged and proactive in the region. Since 2017, it has sculpted its objectives and reconfigured long-term goals. The group's momentum partially owes its continued vigour to the Quad plus partners.

To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/the-way-ahead-for-quad-with-its-quad-plus-partners/>

## Peace Talks in Afghanistan and India's Playbook

India's role in the Afghanistan peace process has been a resonating theme of discussion in the strategic community within India and beyond. Calling for a "double peace" both within Afghanistan and in the region, External Affairs Minister (EAM), Dr. S. Jaishankar reiterated India's support for Intra Afghan Negotiations (IAN), in the recent 9th Heart of Asia Conference in Tajikistan. In the September 2020 historic intra-Afghan inaugural talks held in Doha, the Minister Jaishankar emphasised on India's long held support for an "Afghan-held, Afghan-owned and Afghan-controlled" peace process. On the other hand, the US has been assertive of India's role in Afghanistan emphasising on a unified and inclusive approach to the peace process. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/peace-talks-in-afghanistan-and-indias-playbook/>

## India-Bhutan Relations: The Way Forward

India has not only been doing an applaudable work in the Covid-19 vaccination drive within the country but internationally too India has been supporting many nations with its vaccine supply. Amongst the many countries, India chose its friendly neighbour Bhutan as the first country to import its vaccines. Once again, post the Doklam standoff, India made all reflect upon its friendly relations with Bhutan vis-a-vis the geo strategic changes that is occurring in the South Asian region in consonance to China's increasing involvement. The relationship between India and Bhutan goes a long way back. Buddhism and Guru Padmasambhava had been a strong link in the cultural relations between India and Bhutan. With the exception of few direct and indirect engagements with British India, Bhutan managed to remain out of British colonization. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/india-bhutan-relations-the-way-forward/>

## Legalities and Technicalities of Unmanned Marine Systems

Drones - we have heard of them, we have seen them in action, and we have had our own interpretation of how they work. However, the one thing we all understand is that their autonomous nature is a technological stride, and that autonomous systems are being developed rapidly, not just in the most commonly observed aerial format, but also for use under water. These are called the "Unmanned Marine Systems", further subdivided as Unmanned Underwater Vehicles (UUVs) or USVs (Unmanned Surface Vehicles). With new and emerging forms of warfare taking over the world, a few questions remain unanswered in the context of UMSs. For example, to what extent do existing international regulations govern the UMS's use, development and proliferation? What is the scope for interpretation and reform, in terms of the autonomy these vehicles exercise and the legalities they can work with? To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/legalities-and-technicalities-of-unmanned-marine-systems/>

## Act East Policy and North East India

Among the various initiatives taken by the Government of India to strengthen diplomatic relations with other countries, Act East policy is one of the significant aspects to push India's foreign policy into another stage. The Act East policy is the successor of the 'Look East Policy' adopted by the PV Narasimha Rao government in the year 1991. The Look East policy was adopted in such a time when the whole world was experiencing a great turmoil because of the disintegration of the USSR and the end of the Cold War. The entire world entered into a new world order, with the USA becoming the only great power, so for India it was necessary to tie up with other nations for the fulfilment of its national interest. The Look East policy played a decisive role to strengthen India's ties with South East Asian nations. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/act-east-policy-and-north-east-india/>

## India-Nepal Kalapani Border Dispute

India and Nepal, two bordering countries, have been involved in a dispute over the Kalapani region, a strategic vantage point and a tri-junction between India, Nepal and China. Despite having close socio-cultural and religious relationship since ancient times, the issue of Kalapani, has strained this relationship over time. Both the countries lay their claim on this disputed area claiming it to be a part of their territory. The governments of both the countries have been releasing new maps showing the area to be a part of its territory, undertaking various projects in this area and giving official statements in the media. However, they have not been able to reach any agreement making it difficult to solve the issue. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/india-nepal-kalapani-border-dispute/>

## The European Union in Indo-Pacific Waves

"In many ways the path of the future world order will be set in the Indo-Pacific region as it has become a global economic and political centre of gravity" said Charles Michels, President of European Council. With the world entering the third decade of 21st century, dices rolling and stakeholders evolving, Indo-Pacific waves have picked up a new momentum. Moving beyond the traditional importance given to the maritime cooperation, the region has witnessed its offshoots in geopolitics and geoeconomics. The Indo Pacific is not a new concept and the region's prominence has been recognised for a long time but of late, it has elevated the intrigue of European Union, which is planning, on joining the bandwagon of Indo-Pacific enthusiasts while shaping up the multiplicity of strategies for the Indo-Pacific region back at Brussels. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/the-european-union-in-indo-pacific-waves/>

## **Coup d'état and Global Responses: The Current Situation in Myanmar**

The democratic spirit in Myanmar has faced several backlashes since the time of its inception as an independent country. The recent coup in 2021 has reflected the similar narrative of curbing the democratic aspects of the country where the military rule was imposed by overthrowing the elected government. The imposition of military rule in the country has negatively impacted the relations with other countries, which has led to severe sanctions from the big powers of the world. The history of Myanmar (formerly known as Burma) has witnessed several coup d'état since its independence in the year 1948 and the establishment of dictatorship from the military (Tatmadaw). In the dawn of 2021, Myanmar witnessed another coup d'état removing the democratically elected government and establishing the military rule and implementing emergency rule for one year. The aftermath of this incident has led to severe repercussions both from inside and outside of the country. In the internal context, it has been seen that a mass revolt by the people against the military rule, and even the international media is anticipating civil war in the country. In the external context, nations across the world is vehemently raising their voice against the military rule in Myanmar and imposing sanctions in terms of trade and diplomatic ties. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/coup-detat-and-global-responses-the-current-situation-in-myanmar/>

## **Rethinking Human Rights in the Struggle against Terrorism in Sri Lanka**

“Human rights and security are widely regarded as opposing principles. In the creation and execution of any counter-terrorism policy, it is generally recognised that newly heightened security climate puts at risk a range of fundamental rights and freedoms, along with the rights to a fair trial, privacy, and the freedoms of association and faith or belief, including international human rights law. The case of Sri Lanka is no exception. The April 2019 Easter bombings in Sri Lanka is one of the deadliest attacks Sri Lanka has seen in its history. Hundreds of Christians and foreign visitors were killed and wounded in a series of suicide bombings. Three Christian churches in the capital Colombo, in Negombo (north of Colombo), and in the eastern town of Batticaloa including three high-end hotels in Colombo, as well as a small guesthouse south of the capital, were attacked in the seven coordinated bombings. The attacks were Sri Lanka’s first taste of jihadist mass terror, perpetrated by a rogue offshoot of a Sri Lankan Salafi militant group, the National Tawhid Jamaat (NTJ), with inspiration and funding from individuals suspected of having links to the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS).. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/rethinking-human-rights-in-the-struggle-against-terrorism-in-sri-lanka/>

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# May 2021

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## **India Needs to Follow Cautious Approach towards QUAD**

India's Indian Ocean strategy has two basic components. One is to consolidate India's regional naval presence with exploration into options for establishing bases in littoral states so that a deterrence can occur to external power dominance. Two is to promote economic and technical cooperation with initiatives such as the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) and Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR). These two components have been guiding India's efforts to answer the China initiated Maritime Silk Road as part of its Belt and Roads Initiative (BRI). To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/india-needs-to-follow-cautious-approach-towards-quad/>

## **Australia's Media Code Battle and Government Regulation of Tech Giants**

Over the last decade, with the growth of Google and Facebook, it is also time for news agencies to face new challenges - as traditional media audiences decreases, and more of ad spent have poured into social media. According to the latest Business Insider's report, the market share of digital advertising in 2020 by Google and Facebook has sharply increased from 75% in 2019 to 78% from 66% two years ago. In Australia alone, in 2019, Facebook, Google and Amazon's total revenue, was many times higher than the Government's budget revenue; Google and Facebook together earn some 6 billion Australian dollars (\$4 billion) a year from advertising in the country.[i] According to a study, about 40% of Google's search engine clicks are to read news, bringing in tens of billions of dollars in profits, while they pay nothing for the press and publishers. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/australias-media-code-battle-and-government-regulation-of-tech-giants/>

## **Against the U.S. Critical Infrastructures: Super Terrorism makes a Comeback**

The United States of America akin to the rest of the international ecosystem is facing confrontational and debilitating state and non-state actors, in a turbulent global-scape. With the ongoing global pandemic in addition to the wars and conflicts over energy and water, the non-conventional modes of waging invisible and silent wars have come to the foreground in the current global polity. With U.S.-Russia relations being at their lowest ebb, a Russian connection is being surmised, in the recent disabling of the Colonial pipeline in the American heartland. This has affected all the American states and is an apt pointer in the direction of the subterfuge and mal practice adhered to by some nations to benefit their vainglorious and hegemonic national interests materialized by their power and material capabilities. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/australias-media-code-battle-and-government-regulation-of-tech-giants/>

## **QUAD and the Indo-Pacific Region: Towards a Multifaceted Future**

During the last few decades, certain geopolitical developments have shaped the Indo-Pacific region. In the 21st century, the region has emerged as a center of power politics due to its geopolitical and geostrategic significance. Currently, the region has been undergoing new geostrategic and geopolitical dynamics due to geostrategic moves of the major powers towards this region. This geopolitical and geostrategic maneuver is creating concerns for the existing regional security framework in the region. The strategic location, natural resources, oil and mineral resources inherent in the region have been some of the major reasons for turning it into an arena of geopolitical rivalry among world powers and regional states. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/quad-and-the-indo-pacific-region-towards-a-multifaceted-future/>

## **Stakes will be high for India after U.S. Withdrawal from Afghanistan**

The U.S. has decided to finally close the book on one of its longest military interventions. The subcontinent however, will not be exempt from the ripple effects of Afghanistan's future even after the U.S. forces leave. While the expected withdrawal throws open agency for Afghanistan to chart its own future, it also ushers in a new round of regional geopolitical changes. The current Chief of Defence Staff of India, General Bipin Rawat expressed that India's primary concern is "disruptors" that would most likely fill in the power vacuum after the U.S. and NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) forces leave. An unstable Afghanistan could have a spillover in its neighbourhood as the lion's share of India's Afghanistan policy has been contoured by its rivalry with Pakistan. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/stakes-will-be-high-for-india-after-u-s-withdrawal-from-afghanistan/>

## **What Lies Ahead for SAARC?**

Will SAARC thrive or continue to be in a debacle has been continuously contested and discussed by various stakeholders. An outright "Yes" or "No" has less probability as history has been witness to a number of ups and downs and the future is filled with overwhelming possibilities. Nevertheless, an analysis can be made. SAARC was formed with lots of aspiration in 1985. The organization has failed to deliver the best with less scope of renewal. The failures and challenges outweigh the achievements of SAARC. However, SAARC's modest achievements over the decades deserves credit, particularly in the non-political realm. It has made some significant contribution towards social cohesion and economic integration. The issues of women, health, agriculture, poverty, and population issues have always been prioritized. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/what-lies-ahead-for-saarc/>

## China's Military Strategy: The Past, Present and Future

China's rise across all parameters of power has been undeniable and it is most likely to overtake the United States in terms of economic size. According to the estimates of Graham Allison, China's absolute size will become equivalent to the United States economic size by 2040. Economic growth is a useful means to steer military power to achieve political objectives. As China is rising, it is aspiring to find a respectful position in the international system, and more importantly, wants to regain its lost glory. Moreover, even the structural forces are pushing China towards a collision course with the United States. As security is treated as a premium interest in international politics, states will tend to arm themselves to protect their territorial integrity from the other states. Rising power found it difficult to reconcile with the status quo power, resulting in skirmishes over economic, political, and social issues. Besides, security there are other interests like prestige and status that needs to be achieved. This pushes states like China to adopt different strategies to reach their goals.

To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/chinas-military-strategy-the-past-present-and-future/>

## Drugs-Taliban Nexus in Afghanistan and the US withdrawal

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Opium Survey of Afghanistan, 2020 reports that the country is responsible for 85 percent of the opium supply for the past five years. In the fiscal year that ended in March 2020, a report commissioned by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) reports that the Taliban earned around \$1.6 billion of which \$416 million was earned through production and export of drugs. This revenue is later used for operations of the Taliban. The Taliban imposes a 10% tax on the cultivation of opium, on the conversion of opium into heroin and other forms, and on the export of drugs. Thus, the Drug Economy has become a major source of revenue for the Taliban. Such statistics reveal the grave situation of drug economy in Afghanistan. In the context of the uncertain future of Afghanistan and the ensuing US withdrawal, it becomes pertinent to ask how the Pandora box of socio-political-economic aspects of Afghan society could unravel concerning the future of this drug economy. The drug problem is not new in Afghanistan. It goes back to the days of the Soviet Occupation (1979-1989) when the unemployment and suitable environment for poppy cultivation incentivised the local population to grow opium. Subsequently, the tribal lands on the border of Afghanistan and Pakistan became the hub of opium production. Post-Soviet withdrawal, the Taliban strengthened itself by bringing the warlords and drug lords under the same umbrella. In the year 1996, when the Taliban formed its government, the country became the hub of illicit production and export of drugs.

To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/drugs-taliban-nexus-in-afghanistan-and-the-us-withdrawal/>

## Taiwan's Status: The Past, Present and Future

Taiwan officially known as the Republic of China is an island located ninety miles off the southern coast of China and is home to the Austronesian tribes, migrants Fujian (Fukien) province and Guangdong. Contemporarily the island is independently governed from the mainland yet the first instances of Chinese control date back to the Second World War post the victory of the allies, who concurred to the Chinese accession of Taiwan. This accession resulted in the break out of a civil war led by Chiang Kai-shek, an erstwhile Chinese leader, and his troops, the KMT and supporters, who were beaten back by Mao Zedong's armies. The war ended with Martial Law being imposed in the country till 1987. Ever since the relations between China and Taiwan have improved given China's policy of 'One Nation, Two Systems', wherein Taiwan would be given significant autonomy if it accepted Chinese reunification. Although Taiwan rejected the offer, it relatively eased norms for investment and Chinese visits. Following this, Taiwan democratised its erstwhile authoritarian rule with its first election held in 2000 putting an end to the KMT's rule. Following the 2004 election with the re-election of President Chen Shui-bian China passed an anti-secession law, stating China's right to use "non-peaceful means" against Taiwan if it tried to "secede" from the mainland. Twelve years after consistent fights and pushbacks, in 2006, Taiwan Democratic Progressive Party took a stance leaning towards official independence from China. To read more, visit <http://www.kijps.in/research/taiwans-status-the-past-present-and-future/>

## India's Rise and the Indian Ocean Region

A pioneer of India's maritime power theory, KM Panikkar said that, "to other countries the Indian Ocean could be only one of the important oceanic areas, but to India it is a vital sea because its lifelines are concentrated in that area, its freedom is dependent on the freedom of that coastal surface". India's interest in the Indian Ocean region is vast and its engagement is deep. According to the Indian Port Industry Report, around 95% of India's trading by volume and 70% by value is done through maritime transport. As a primary power in the Indian Ocean region, the strategic interest of India is interconnected to both its security and economic interests. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that India must assume "our responsibility to shape its future" and declared the Indian Ocean region to be at the top of India's policy priorities. India as a major power in the region is working towards translating India's natural geographical advantage and close cultural ties with other littoral countries in the region, to promote and protect its interest in the region. India and partnering countries have been working to ensure a safe, secure and stable Indian Ocean region. India believes collective action and cooperation will best advance way to established peace and security in the region.

To read more, visit <http://www.kijps.in/research/indias-rise-and-the-indian-ocean-region/>

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# **June 2021**

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## Indo-Nepal Relations on the Anvil

While the world is grappling with the singular threat of COVID-19 pandemic, Nepal is fighting the enemy on two fronts; the pandemic on one hand and survival of her democracy on the other. China has reversed her stance of non-involvement to active influence in Nepal power play pre and post 2008 respectively. The 2015 elections onwards, Nepal has seen the fructification of the power strokes and micro-management of this small Himalayan state by the Dragon. Open borders and kinship relations over 1850 km of Indo-Nepal border has become a cause of concern. Why such a drastic change in our neighbourhood nation is a moot question? Nepal is a land locked country neighbouring India and both are inter-dependent on each other for strategic, diplomatic and economic challenges facing South Asia. The fact is evident by four visits of Mr. Narendra Modi, Indian PM to Nepal since he came to power in 2014 and equal number of visits of Nepal President, PM, Deputy PM and Army bosses. Many a committee from both countries have visited each other. Strategic relations of both countries are based on very strong pacts; India-Nepal Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950, India-Nepal Joint Commission, support during earthquake of 2015, Indo-Nepal Battalion-level Joint Military Exercise SURYA KIRAN are to name a few. The 2015 earthquake in Nepal saw Indian Disaster relief assistance worth US\$ 67 million, reconstruction package of US \$ 250 million. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/indo-nepal-relations-on-the-anvil/>

## Biden's Europe Visit and the Dragon in the Room

As President Biden wrapped up his consequential foreign tour culminating in the G7 and NATO summits, his meetings with EU leaders and with President Vladimir Putin, no other issue seemed as paramount as the China challenge. Breaking new grounds, America's transatlantic allies sounded the China alarm, although a consensual voice has yet to emerge on how to tackle the threat of an aggressive China. There is a greater clarity that the aggressive turn in China's rise reaching a peak during the pandemic, is the most preeminent threat to a rules based international order. China's military adventurism across the Indo-Pacific waters, at the India-China Line of Actual Control (LAC), and its intransigent behaviour over any criticism relating to its callous handling of the pandemic outbreak has accentuated concerns. President Biden during his official European tour categorically called out for a more concerted effort to deal with the China challenge. Besides, for long, China's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has often been accused of indulging in predatory economics, making a number of developing countries beholden to China, through a debt trap diplomacy. Therefore, a major running theme of discussion among the G7 countries was the imperative to rally around "building back better" and promising a transparent and consultative infrastructure plan, that could prove an alternative to BRI.

To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/bidens-europe-visit-and-the-dragon-in-the-room/>

## **China's AI Development: Progress, Military Applications and Impact on China's Military Strategy**

As strategic competition between the US and China is intensifying, both the giant and the rising titan, respectively, are obsessed with securing their strategic interests. Since emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) yields promising security returns, countries are busy incorporating such technologies into their weapon system. AI technologies offer speed, accuracy, and prompt destruction. An inability to utilize such innovation may mean being outpaced by the competitor. But adopting AI comes with potential challenges. As machines will be trusted and given more autonomy, such changes could have potential ramifications as these systems, analytically, escalate wars. Moreover, data must be interpreted in a contextual setting, which the AI-equipped machines seldom do. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/chinas-ai-development-progress-military-applications-and-impact-on-chinas-military-strategy/>

## **Iran's Teetotum Stakes in Afghanistan**

Anthony Blinken, the Secretary of State of United States of America, in his letter written in March this year, to Ashraf Ghani the President of Afghanistan proposed a "UN led peace conference" with a group of countries which share a common interest of stable Afghanistan comprising of India, China, Pakistan, Iran, Russia and USA as plus two. This proposal was put forward with the purpose of developing future plans for Afghanistan. Iran, which shares approximately 900 km long border with Afghanistan is bound to play a critical role in determining the future of Afghanistan. Iran has had a longstanding involvement in the internal matters of Afghanistan and has played a crucial role in the power dynamics that exists within Afghanistan. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/irans-teetotum-stakes-in-afghanistan/>

## **India-US Synergy towards a Greener Future**

The United States and India are the second and third largest emitter of green house gases respectively, which when seen from the lens of climate action reflects the significant role they can play in averting climate change related issues which transcend national boundaries. India and the USA have evolved as partners transcending the conventional domains of cooperation while recognizing climate change as a central pillar of strategic partnership. The ambitious pathway being paved by both the countries has the potential to advance global climate progress, affirm global climate leadership and create sustainable markets. Thus, an India-US partnership on climate change will go a long way in transitioning towards a greener future. To read more, visit <http://www.kiips.in/research/india-us-synergy-towards-a-greener-future/>

## **USAID and India: Trump, Biden and the Future of Foreign Assistance**

For a brief moment in April 2021, it seemed that the Biden administration would lose its reputation of goodwill, which it had garnered since stepping into office. The administration came under criticism for its refusal to send raw materials and aid to India at a time when the country was witnessing a deadly surge in coronavirus cases. A tumultuous week kindled the indelible image of twists and turns in the 60's attributed to the PL-480 plan. However, apprehensions about the Biden Presidency did not last very long when the administration did a one-eighty on vaccine exports. As the pandemic persists, great powers have been recommitting to soft power strategies through vaccine diplomacy and economic aid to countries that are grappling with Covid-19. In this context, agencies such as the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) have already begun assuming increasing significance. In an era of strategic competition, aid and assistance to countries in dire straits have been an important model in soft power strategies to further foreign policy objectives. To read more, [visit http://www.kiiips.in/research/usaid-and-india-trump-biden-and-the-future-of-foreign-assistance/](http://www.kiiips.in/research/usaid-and-india-trump-biden-and-the-future-of-foreign-assistance/)

## **The Pandemic and the Military Dimension of India's National Security**

For any country, national security is the foremost agenda to achieve and for achieving this, one has to have a strong and effective military. National Security has been defined traditionally only in military terms, but the conception of national security is beyond this notion and includes several dimensions, whether it is terrorism, insurgencies, natural calamities or the COVID-19 pandemic that has shaken global health security and international affairs at large. As the pandemic hit India's national health system, with a severity that was unexpected and astonishing, the specter of non-military threats confronted the nation and security of the citizens became paramount. However, geopolitics even in the times of the pandemic cannot be discounted in the calculus of India's national security. Whether it is internal security or external security, or the complex socio-economic dimension, they all are inter-related or interconnected with one other and play an important role at the times of crisis. The security threat that emerged during the pandemic from China's aggression in the 'Galwan Valley' has disturbed peace and stability at the border and deteriorated India-China relations severely. What is more troubling is that China's challenge to India's national security comes at a time when India has been acutely hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. To read more, visit <http://www.kiiips.in/research/the-pandemic-and-the-military-dimension-of-indias-national-security/>

## KIIPS Events

### January 2021

Webinar on "Violent Attacks on US Congress: Issues & Ramifications"

Chair:  
Prof. Arvind Kumar

Keynote Address:  
Shri Seshadri Chari

Speakers:  
Dr. Vivek Mishra  
Dr. Monish Tourangbam  
Dr. Saumyajit Ray  
Prof. M.B. Alam  
Prof. K.P. Vijaylakshmi

Initial Remarks:  
Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra

CCUS & LAS, JNU AND KIIPS  
Invite all to a Round Table Discussion  
on  
"Violent Attacks on US Congress: Issues and Ramifications"

Time: 5 PM  
Date: 10th January, 2021

Platform- Google Meet

Initial Remarks: Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra, Rector, JNU & Honorary Chairperson, KIIPS

Keynote Address: Shri Seshadri Chari

Chair: Prof. Arvind Kumar, Chairperson, CCUS & LAS

Introduction- Anindita

Speakers:  
Dr. Vivek Mishra, IITWA  
Dr. Monish Tourangbam, Manipal University  
Dr. Saumyajit Ray, JNU  
Prof. M.B. Alam, Formerly from Janta Mitra Institute  
Prof. K.P. Vijaylakshmi, JNU

Vote of Thanks- Uphar Dutta

Distinguished Lecture on "American Presidency That Was: Trump's Legacy & Road Ahead"

Speaker:  
Prof. Henry W. Brands  
Chair: Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra

KALINGA INSTITUTE OF INDO-PACIFIC STUDIES  
invites all to a distinguished lecture  
on  
American Presidency That Was: Trump's legacy & Road Ahead

Speaker  
Prof. Henry W. Brands  
Jack S. Blanton Sr. Chair in History, University of Texas at Austin, USA

25th January, 2021  
6 PM IST  
Platform- Zoom

Chair- Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra  
Vote of Thanks- Dr. Vivek Mishra

# KIIPS Events

## February 2021

Webinar on "New Joe Biden Administration in the US: International Perspectives"

Chair:

Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra

Speakers:

Prof. Arvind Kumar

Prof. Srabani Roy Choudhury

Dr. Priti Singh

Prof. Srikanth Kondapalli

Speakers:

Prof. Aswini Kumar Mohapatra

Prof. Ummu Salma Bava

Prof. Shankari Sundararaman

Prof. Arvind Kumar



## KIIPS Events

### April 2021

Webinar on "QUAD & Its Evolution: Perspectives and Challenges"

Chair and Moderator:  
Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra  
Introduction to Speakers:  
Dr. Roshan Khanijo  
Speakers:  
Prof. Arvind Kumar  
Prof. Srabani Roy Choudhury  
Amb Deepa Gopalan Wadhwa

Welcome Remarks:  
Maj. Gen. BK Sharma  
Vote of Thanks:  
Dr. Monish Tourangbam  
Speakers:  
Vice Adm. Anup Singh  
Prof. Shankari Sundararaman  
Prof. Srikanth Kondapalli

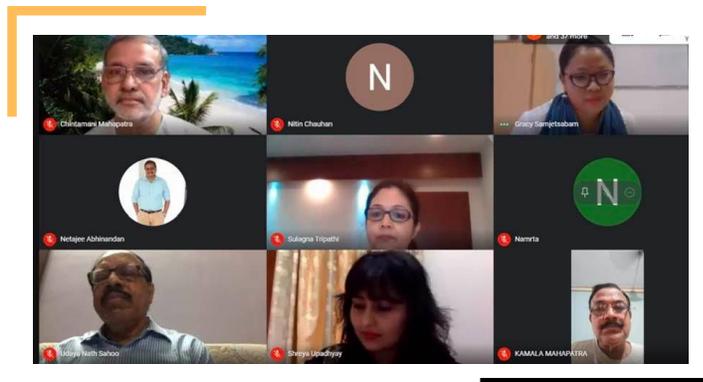


Webinar on "Writing Skill in Research & Release of the book: Enchantments with Squeals of Delight" by Meera Mahapatra

Guest of Honour: Prof. Udayanath Sahoo

Keynote Speakers:  
Prof. Arvind Kumar  
Dr. Monish Tourangbam  
Moderator:  
Dr. Shreya Upadhyay

Speakers:  
Ms. Mamta Tripathy  
Dr. Netajee Abhinandan  
Ms. Gracy Samjetsabam



# KIIPS Events

## April 2021

Webinar on "The Coup and the Future of India-Myanmar Relations"

Speakers:

Amb. Rajiv Bhatia

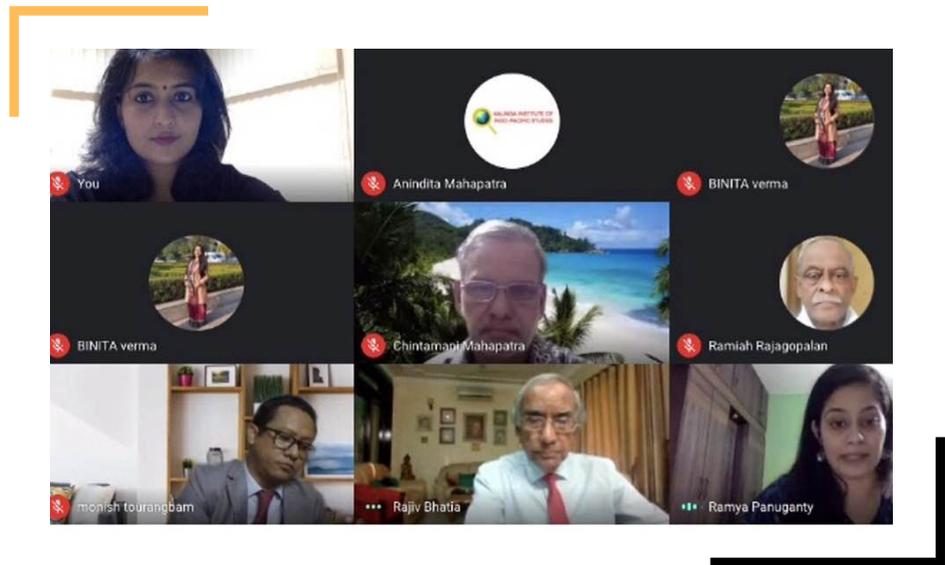
Dr. PS Ramya

Discussant:

Dr. Shreya Upadhyay

Chair and Moderator:

Dr. Monish Tourangbam



## KIIPS Events

### May 2021

Distinguished Lecture on "US Withdrawal from Afghanistan: What Lies Ahead?"

Speaker:  
Amb. Richard Olson

Chair and Moderator:  
Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra

Vote of Thanks:  
Dr. Monish Tourangbam

KALINGA INSTITUTE OF INDO-PACIFIC STUDIES

invites all to a distinguished lecture on  
**"US Withdrawal from Afghanistan: What Lies Ahead?"**

Chair and Moderator: **What Lies Ahead?"** Speaker:

*Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra, Founder and Honorary Chairperson, KIIPS*

*Ambassador Richard Olson, Senior Advisor, United States Institute of Peace and Former U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan*

Vote of Thanks:  
*Dr. Monish Tourangbam, Honorary Director, KIIPS*

**5 May 2021  
Wednesday**

**6 PM IST**

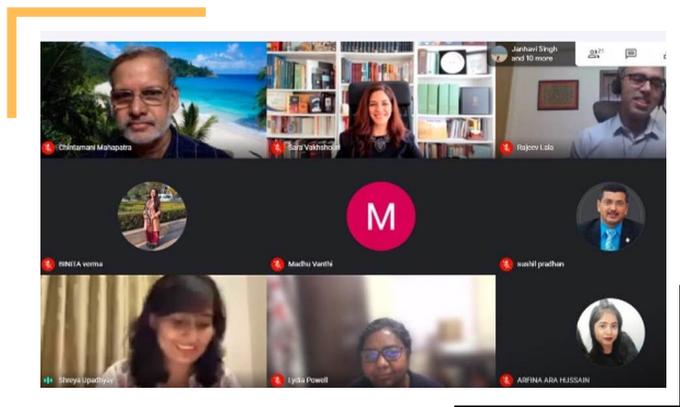
Webinar on "The Geopolitics of Energy in the Indo-Pacific"

Welcome Remarks  
Dr. Monish Tourangbam

Chair and Moderator:  
Lydia Powell

Speakers:  
Dr. Sara Vakhshouri  
Rajeev Lala

Vote of Thanks:  
Dr. Shreya Upadhyay



## KIIPS Events

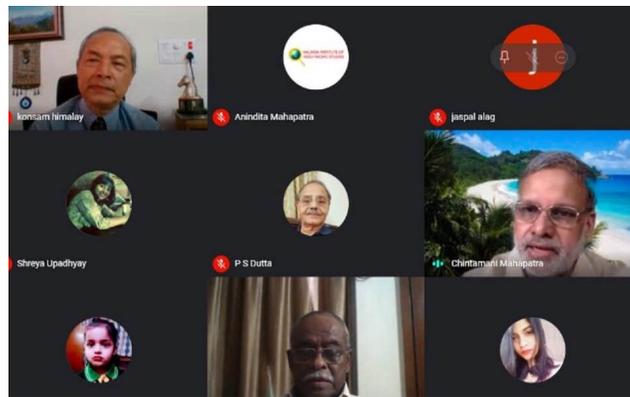
### May 2021

Distinguished Lecture on "Securing the Land Borders of India: Reflections from East, West and Northern Fronts"

Speaker:  
Lt. Gen Konsam Himalay Singh

Chair and Moderator:  
Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra

Welcome Remarks and Vote of Thanks:  
Dr. Monish Tourangbam



Webinar on "The Pandemic and Its Impact on India's National Security"

Inaugural Address:  
Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra

Chair:  
Prof. Arvind Kumar

Speakers:  
Dr. Vivek Mishra  
Dr. Anshu Joshi  
Dr. Shreya Upadhyay  
Dr. Monish Tourangbam

Discusants:  
Binita Verma  
Neil Banerjee  
Harshita Singh  
Priyanjali Simon



# KIIPS Events

## June 2021

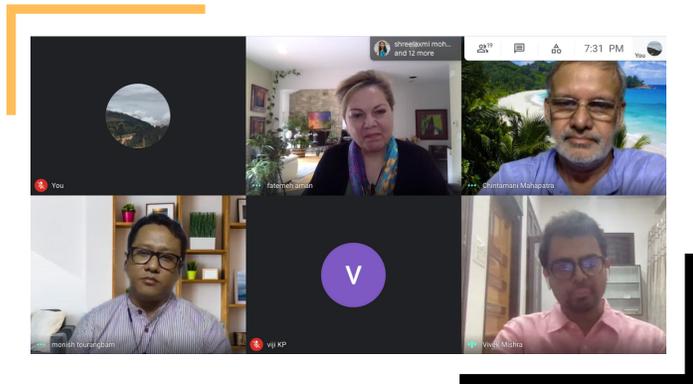
Distinguished Lecture on "Regional Implications of Western Disengagement from Afghanistan"

Speaker:  
Fatemeh Aman

Chair:  
Dr. Monish Tourangbam

Welcome Remarks:  
Dr. Netajee Abhinandan

Vote of Thanks:  
Dr. Vivek Mishra

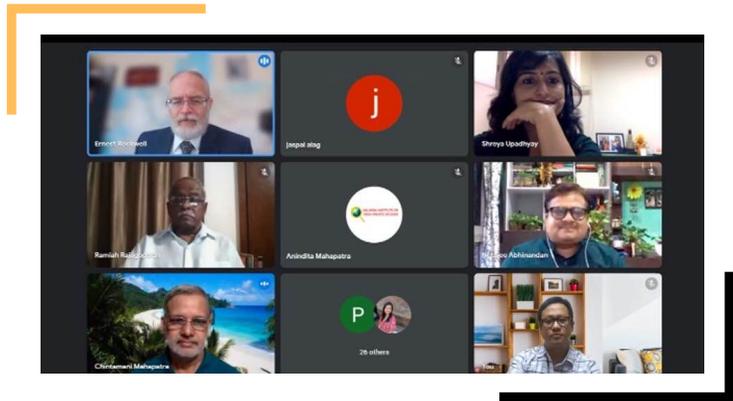


Distinguished Lecture on "Institutionalizing the Quad: Blending the Partners"

Chair:  
Prof. Chintamani Mahapatra

Welcome Remarks and Vote of Thanks:  
Dr. Monish Tourangbam

Speaker:  
Dr. Ernest Gunasekara-Rockwell



# Editor

Dr. Monish Tourangbam

Hon. Director, KIIPS

# Compiled by

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Neil Banerjee (Research Intern, KIIPS)

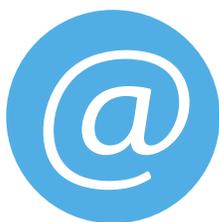
Priyanjali Simon (Research Intern, KIIPS)

Rahul Jaybhay (Research Intern, KIIPS)



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