

CONFERENCE:

OCSI DIALOGUES - INDIA PERSPECTIVES

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NAMES AND BIODATA OF PARTICIPANTS

Mr. Swapan Dasgupta

Mr. Dasgupta is a Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) and one of India's most widely read political columnists. Having worked in India's leading publications in senior editorial positions, he has been an independent columnist since 2003. His political commentaries, laced with strong conservative inclinations, are published in Times of India, Telegraph, Pioneer, Open magazine and Hindustan Times. He was educated at St Stephen's College and received his doctorate from SOAS in 1980. He was subsequently a Research Fellow of Nuffield College, University of Oxford. He was a member of the India-UK Round Table from 1998 to 2004. He sits on the Board of India Foundation and on the Executive Council of Nehru Memorial Museum & Library. He is a Honorary Fellow of the Centre for Media Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. In 2015 he was awarded the Padma Bhushan by the President of India and nominated to Parliament in 2016.

Mr. Pavan K. Varma

Mr. Varma is a writer-diplomat and now in politics, where he was till recently an MP in the Rajya Sabha, and earlier Advisor to the Chief Minister of Bihar, with rank of Cabinet Minister. Author of over a dozen best selling books he has been Ambassador in several countries, Director of The Nehru Centre in London, Official Spokesperson of the MEA, and Press Secretary to the President of India. He is currently the National General Secretary and National Spokesman of the Janata Dal (United). Mr. Varma was conferred an Honorary Doctoral Degree for his contribution to the fields of diplomacy, literature, culture and aesthetics by the University of Indianapolis in 2005. He was also awarded by His Majesty the King of Bhutan, the Druk Thuksey Award, Bhutan's highest civilian Award. Mr. Varma's new book, 'AdiShankaracharya: Hinduism's Greatest Thinker', will be launched in April, 2018.

Mr. Suman Bery

Mr. Bery is based in New Delhi and is currently a Non-resident Fellow of the Brussels think-tank Bruegel, as well as a Senior Fellow of the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth. Till mid-2016, he was Shell's Chief Economist, based in The Hague, The Netherlands. Mr. Bery has recently joined Board of Counselors of McLarty Associates. He had earlier served as Director-General (Chief Executive) of the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi. At various times, he was a member of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, of India's Statistical Commission and of the Reserve Bank of India's Technical Advisory Committee on Monetary Policy. Prior to NCAER, he was with the World Bank in Washington DC with a particular focus on Latin America and the Caribbean. His professional writing includes contributions on the political economy of reform, financial sector and banking reform and energy trends and policy. Mr. Bery has studied at University of Oxford and Princeton University.

Dr. Arunabha Ghosh

Dr. Ghosh is a public policy professional, adviser, author, columnist, and institution builder. As the founder-CEO of the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), since 2010, he has led CEEW to the top ranks as one of South Asia's leading policy research institution and among the world's 20 best climate think-tanks in 2016. He has been actively involved in the design of the International Solar Alliance since inception. He conceptualised and is founding board member of the Clean Energy Access Network (CLEAN). He is the co-author/editor of four books: The Palgrave Handbook of the International Political Economy of Energy; Energizing India: Towards a Resilient and Equitable Energy System; Human Development and Global Institutions; and Climate Change: A Risk Assessment. He is a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader, member of WEF's Global Future Council on Energy and an Asia Society Asia 21 Young Leader. He holds a D.Phil from University of Oxford and topped Economics at St. Stephen's College, Delhi.

Mr. Ashok B. Lall

Mr. Lall is presently Design & Technology Chair at Kamla Raheja Vidyanidhi Institute for Architecture (KRVA), Mumbai. His current interest is in developing strategies for sustainable urban development in the context of rapid urbanization. He graduated from the University of Cambridge in Architecture & Fine Arts and obtained the Architectural Association Diploma in 1970. His architectural firm (estd. 1981) is committed to an architectural practice based on the principles of environmental sustainability and social responsibility. The firm has won a number of awards and its work has been published widely. Engaged in architectural education since 1990, he has developed curricula and teaching methods to address environmental issues. He has published many articles and presented papers and spoken on environmentally sustainable design in India and abroad.

Mr. Vikram Singh Mehta

Mr. Mehta started his career with the Indian Administrative Service in 1978. He resigned in 1980 to join Phillips Petroleum in London as their senior economist. In 1984 he returned to India to join the government company, Oil India Limited as its advisor, strategic planning. Subsequently, he joined Shell International in London in 1988. He was appointed managing director of Shell Markets and Shell Chemical Companies in Egypt in 1991 and Chairman of the Shell Group of Companies in India in 1994. He left Shell in October 2012 and is currently the Executive Chairman of the think tank, Brookings India and senior fellow of Brookings Institution. Mr. Mehta studied Mathematics at St. Stephen's College, Delhi, Economics at University of Oxford and holds a post-graduate degree in energy economics from Fletcher School Of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University.

Dr. Gyanendra Badgaiyan

Dr. Badgaiyan is former Chief Economist, UNDP, and was, until recently, the Director General of the National Centre for Good Governance, Government of India. Earlier, he was a member of the IAS from 1991 until 2013. After taking voluntary retirement from the IAS, Dr. Badgaiyan worked in the office of the Executive Director, World Bank, Washington, DC and as Research Fellow, UN University, WIDER, Helsinki. Dr. Badgaiyan has been associated with a number of pioneering governance reforms such as the deadline-based handling of applications, Delhi Right to Information Act and community involvement in governance through the Bhagidari Programme in Delhi. For his contribution to public service, he was chosen as one of the 12 Indians for the Excellence in Leadership

(Gurukul Scholarship) Award by British Council and the London School of Economics. Dr. Badgaiyan earned a Masters' degree in Economics from Delhi School of Economics (gold medalist), MPhil Economics degree (honourable mention for Stevenson Prize) from University of Cambridge and MPP (best graduating student) and PhD degrees from Princeton University, USA.

Dr. Rajiv Lall

Dr. Lall is Founder MD & CEO of IDFC Bank since October 1, 2015. A veteran economist for 30 years, he has been an active part of the finance and policy landscape, both in India and internationally. In his diverse career, he has also held leadership roles in global investment banks like Warburg Pincus and Morgan Stanley and multilateral agencies like the World Bank and ADB. His expertise spans banking, project finance, private equity/venture capital, international capital markets, trade, infrastructure and macroeconomic policy issues, with a particular focus on emerging markets including India and China. He is an active speaker and columnist on macro-economic and public policy issues. He currently chairs the Asia Business Leaders Advisory Council (ABLAC Canada); is a Director on the Board of US-India Business Council (USIBC); is on the Advisory Board of Columbia University Global Centers, South Asia; is a member of the Founders Circle, Brookings, India. Dr. Lall earned his BA in politics, philosophy and economics from the University of Oxford, and holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Columbia University.

Prof. K. VijayRaghavan

Prof. VijayRaghavan is a Distinguished Professor at the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS), Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bengaluru. He was involved in the founding, and then the development of the NCBS into India's premier biological sciences research and an internationally recognised institution. He also led, on the same campus, the founding of the Institute of Stem Cell Research and Regenerative Medicine (inStem) and the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP). From February 2013 until February 2018, he was Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology (DBT). His research at the NCBS is on nerves and muscles and how complex behaviour emerges during animal development. He studied Chemical Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur and holds a Ph.D. in Molecular Biology from the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (Mumbai University), Mumbai. He was awarded the Padma Shri by the Government of India in 2013.

Mr. Manish Kumar

Mr. Kumar is the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). He is responsible for providing a strategic vision to NSDC in ensuring that the team moves cohesively towards achievement of Skill India Mission. Prior to joining the NSDC, he was working as Country Coordinator and Senior Institution Development Economist, The World Bank. He was Task Team Leader for USD 1.5 billion Bank's loan to India for "Swaachh Bharat". Manish has earlier served in the Indian Administrative Service, occupying many responsible positions, his last being Secretary to Government of Tripura, Power & Home Departments. He was selected as a Mason Fellow at Harvard University for his leadership in empowering tribal women living in remote hills of Tripura. Mr. Kumar holds a Bachelor of Technology degree in Mining Machinery from IIT (ISM), Dhanbad, a Master in Public Administration degree from

Harvard University, USA, and PhD in Public Policy from The George Washington University, Washington DC, USA.

Dr. Rathin Roy

Dr. Roy is Director, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi and Member, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister. He has taught at the Universities of Manchester and London and served as Economic Adviser with the Thirteenth Finance Commission. He has worked in several senior positions as an economist and in senior management at the United Nations Development Programme, with postings in New York, Kathmandu, Brasilia and Bangkok. Dr. Roy holds an MPhil and Ph.D in Economics from the University of Cambridge and a B.A (Hons) in Economics from St. Stephen's College, University of Delhi.

Dr. Shailaja Fennel

Dr. Fennell is Director of Research at Cambridge Central Asia Forum, a University Lecturer in Development Studies, and a Fellow of Jesus College. She was awarded her degrees of BA, MA, and MPhil in Economics from the University of Delhi, and then went on to read for her MPhil and PhD at the Faculty of Economics and Politics, University of Cambridge. Her doctoral research was on long term agricultural trends in India and China. She has been researching the linkages between rural development, environmental, and educational strategies in India, China, and Central Asia since 2004. She has specialised in the fields of institutional reform, rural development, gender and household dynamics, kinship and ethnicity, and educational provision. Her recent publications include *Rules, rubrics and riches: the relationship between legal reform, institutional change and international development* (Routledge, 2010) and *Gender Education and Development: conceptual frameworks, engagements and agendas* (Routledge, 2008) edited with M. Arnot.

Mr. Nicholas Ray

After qualification at Cambridge and University College, London, Mr. Ray worked in London for the Shankland Cox Partnership on housing and for Colin St John Wilson and Partners on the British Library. On returning to Cambridge in 1973 he practised within Hughes and Bicknell Architects, where he became an Associate and later Partner, before founding Nicholas Ray Associates in 1989, which morphed into NRAP in 2007. His most prominent buildings in Cambridge are the Quayside Development, on the banks of the river Cam opposite Magdalene College, and major additions to the Department of Chemistry. He has been responsible for new and refurbishment projects for numerous Colleges, as well as buildings and projects for the University and for private clients. He was first appointed to an Assistant Lectureship in 1974, and from then his teaching was primarily focused on design. Mr Ray's publications to date have concentrated on studies of 20th century architects (Alvar Aalto, 2005 and Rafael Moneo, 2015, both with Yale University Press), and more theoretical work (*Architecture and its Ethical Dilemmas*, 2015 and *Philosophy of Architecture*, 2014).

Ms. Helen Pennant

Ms. Pennant has been Director of the Cambridge Commonwealth European and International Trust since July 2013. She, in consultation with a board of trustees, sets strategy and implements Trust policy. She is also responsible for building its value to

students and representing the Trust externally, travelling extensively to connect with partners, prospective students and alumni. Ms. Pennant is a former civil servant with experience working in European and International engagement. She has worked at the British Embassy in Paris and the European Commission, and spent seven years in Canada where she was Executive Director and Special Advisor to the President at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. She holds a joint degree in French and History from the University of Oxford, and is a Fellow of Clare Hall Cambridge.

Prof. Saugata Bose

Prof. Bose is Gardiner Professor of Oceanic History and Affairs at Harvard University. His field of specialization is modern South Asian and Indian Ocean history. He obtained his Ph.D from the University of Cambridge. His books include *His Majesty's Opponent: Subhas Chandra Bose and India's Struggle against Empire* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2011) and *A Hundred Horizons: the Indian Ocean in the Age of Global Empire* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2006). In *A Hundred Horizons*, Bose crosses area studies and disciplinary frontiers as he bridges the domains of political economy and culture. He was a recipient of the Guggenheim Fellowship in 1997. He is currently writing a book titled *Asia after Europe: Decline and Rise of a Continent* (under contract with Harvard University Press) and working as General Editor on *The Cambridge History of the Indian Ocean*.

Prof. Robin Spence

Robin Spence is a structural engineer and Emeritus Professor of Architectural Engineering in the Department of Architecture at the University of Cambridge. He is also a director and past chairman of Cambridge Architectural Research Ltd.

After five years of structural design practice with Ove Arup and Partners he spent two years teaching at the University of Zambia, followed by two years as Research Officer for ITDG (now Practical Action) researching small-scale building materials technology in Africa and India. After obtaining his PhD in the Engineering Department at Cambridge, he has been with the Architecture Department since 1975 and was Director of the Martin Centre for Architectural and Urban Studies 1992-1997. He is a Fellow of Magdalene College.

His principal research and consultancy interests are disaster risk assessment and disaster mitigation. He has directed numerous research and consultancy contracts and he is the author of several books and more than 150 technical papers in these areas.

He was President of the European Association for Earthquake Engineering (2002-2006), and Mallet-Milne Lecturer at the Institution of Civil Engineers (2007).