



# AIYD REPORT 2020

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29 February 2020

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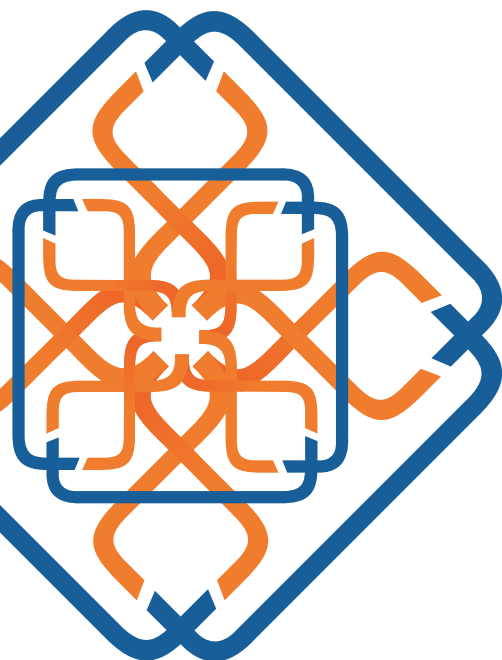
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## WELCOME FROM AIYD CHAIR



Friends,

I am pleased to present the Report of the ninth edition of the Australia India Youth Dialogue (AIYD) which took place between 15 and 18 January 2020 in New Delhi and Chennai. The theme of this year's Dialogue was '2035: Creating Our Sustainable Future'.

AIYD has emerged as the leading Track II Dialogue between young and emerging

leaders of the two countries. The themes of this year's Dialogue merged traditional strengths of the bilateral - Diplomacy, Trade and Economics - with those that are less understood - Cultural Links, Innovation and People-to-People Ties. Strong, shared concerns across the Indo-Pacific about environmental issues provided an ideal platform to discuss the question of sustainability. Consequently, these were some of the key questions that dominated this year's Dialogue.

*Are the two countries doing enough to meet the challenges of climate change?*

*Are the two countries collaborating on cutting-edge innovation and sharing expertise to strengthen their relationship?*

*Are the two countries thinking and doing enough to be equitable partners in an increasingly evolving world order?*

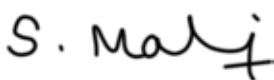
You will find this Report to be a fair record of our annual flagship event and one that effectively showcases the key outcomes.

AIYD 2020, like in all previous years, would not have been possible without the support of our Partners, the Board of Advisors and the Steering Committee. We are grateful to our Partners for supporting AIYD and all its work; we are truly appreciative of the support extended by the Governments of the two countries and Diplomatic Missions for sharing our vision of the bilateral.

At the end of AIYD 2020, the Steering Committee bids farewell to Mosiqi Acharya, James Edwards, Christopher Higgins and Guru Prakash from the Steering Committee. They have worked tirelessly to build AIYD into what it is today and I can not thank them enough for all that they have done for this organization.

I hope you will enjoy reading this Report and that this Report will supplement your views, opinions and hopes for the Australia India bilateral relationship.

Sincerely,



**Manuraj Shunmugasundaram**  
Chair, Steering Committee  
Australia India Youth Dialogue

## MESSAGE FROM OUR PATRON



### OUR PATRON'S MESSAGE

"You are among our two countries' best and brightest. At the 2020 AIYD Conference in Delhi & Chennai you will have an opportunity to affect change that will impact & resonate positively around the world. The Conference theme, 'Creating our sustainable future', is timely. As Patron of dialogue, I encourage you to put your friendships & new contacts & networks to good use."

*-Governor General of Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd).*

## HON. SCOTT MORRISON MP, PRIME MINISTER OF AUSTRALIA



PRIME MINISTER

### **MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER**

#### **2020 AUSTRALIA INDIA YOUTH DIALOGUE**

India and Australia have long been natural partners and friends. The last two decades in particular have shown just what can be achieved when two multicultural, innovative, liberal democracies come together in a spirit of trust and understanding.

Our two nations are bound by our commitment to democratic institutions, enormous goodwill and strong people-to-people linkages.

The Australia India Youth Dialogue is a wonderful opportunity to consider how India and Australia might work together to realise more of the enormous potential of our long and trusted association.

I hope delegates will also reflect on how we might build on the success of our economic, strategic and people-to-people ties, and respond to the challenges and opportunities that will shape our region's prosperity and security into the future

Governments are only part of this process. It's our people who will help to make the difference to India and Australia's relationship in the years and decades ahead.

So thank you to each Delegate for your interest and involvement in this year's Dialogue. I encourage all of you to make the most of this opportunity.



The Hon Scott Morrison MP  
Prime Minister of Australia

15 January 2020

## OUR PARTNERS

The AIYD would not be possible without the generous support of all of our sponsors. Each sponsor brings unique value to the Dialogue and on behalf of all our delegates and the Steering Committee, we would like to thank them for their support.

### Distinguished Partners



### Dialogue Partners



### Associate Partners





## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Australia India Youth Dialogue's annual flagship conference was held between 15 and 18 January 2020. The conference brought together 15 delegates from India and 15 delegates from Australia to deliberate on issues of bilateral importance.

This year's cohort of delegates included, amongst others, Members of Parliament, an Emmy Award nominee, Miss Australia Universe pageant winner, members of the Diplomatic Corps, an Indian Revenue Service officer, Foreign Affairs Editor of a Newspaper, a Publisher, civil society activists, business leaders and academics.

In each edition of the AIYD, there has been a pronounced emphasis on discussing and deliberating on vital issues that occupy the bilateral space. AIYD 2020 was curated around '2035: Creating Our Sustainable Future'.

The theme of AIYD 2020 combines the traditional strengths of the bilateral – economics, diplomacy and trade – with the areas that are bound to fortify the relationship in the next fifteen years – cultural ties, innovation and people-to-people links.

The AIYD 2020 conference received letters of support from Hon Scott Morrison, Prime Minister of Australia and His Excellency David Hurley. The Dialogue was addressed by a number of leaders including Foreign Minister of Australia Hon. Marise Payne, Principal Economic Advisor to Government of India - Sanjeev Sanyal, Ambassador Toby Feakin (Australia's Ambassador for Cyber Affairs), Ambassador Anil Wadhwa (Head, CII Taskforce on Australia Economic Strategy), educationist Sonam Wangchuk, General Secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party - Ram Madhav, Paralympic Medalist Deepa Malik, High Commissioner of Australia to India - Harinder Sidhu, Anand Barot (CEO, Bounce Inc.), Member of Parliament for North Chennai Dr Kalanidhi Veerasmy, Consul General for South India - Susan Grace and cultural activist, Anita Ratnam.

One of the most exciting aspects of the Dialogue is the Group Challenge, which brings together delegates to address key problems that concern the bilateral relationship. This year's Group Challenge outcomes have explored a variety of themes and have provided exciting opportunities for collaboration in the bilateral.



# AIYD 2020 PROGRAMME

## Programme Overview - Australia India Youth Dialogue 2020

15 - 18 Jan 2020, New Delhi and Chennai, India

Theme: 2035: Creating our sustainable future

### DAY 1, Wednesday 15/01/2020

New Delhi

Time	Activity	Location
9:00 AM - 9:30 AM	Delegates arrive at the Hotel	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM	AIYD Welcome and Speed Networking	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	Morning Tea & Coffee	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Changing World Order</b> <b>Speakers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Darren Lim</li> <li>• Varghese George</li> </ul> <b>Moderator: Guru Prakash</b>	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM	<b>Scientific Temper: Cyber-tech In The Digital Century</b> <b>Speakers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ambassador Toby Feakin</li> <li>• Arun Mohan Sukumar</li> </ul> <b>Moderator: Priya Sahgal</b>	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
2:30 PM - 2:45 PM	Afternoon Tea & Coffee	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi

2:45 PM - 4:00 PM	<b>Panel Discussion: The Indo-Pacific Economic Challenges</b> Opening Remarks: <b>Michelle Wade</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sanjeev Sanyal</b></li> <li>• <b>Ambassador Amit Das Gupta</b></li> <li>• <b>Erin Watson-Lynn</b></li> </ul> <b>Moderator: Ruchir Punjabi</b>	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	<b>Group Challenge: Introduction and Working Session 1</b>	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	<b>Cultural Intelligence Workshop</b> <b>Ian Stern</b> Introduced by <b>Chris Higgins</b>	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Dinner	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi

## DAY 2, Thursday, 16/01/2020

New Delhi

Time	Activity	Location
7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	Breakfast	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	<b>Panel Discussion: Leadership and Diplomacy</b> <b>Speakers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Amb. Anil Wadhwa,</b></li> <li>• <b>Prof. James Curran</b></li> <li>• <b>Daniel Mookhey MLC</b></li> <li>• <b>Melissa Conley Tyler, Asialink</b></li> </ul> <b>Moderator: Smita Sharma</b>	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
10:30 AM - 10:45 am	Morning Tea & Coffee	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
10:45 AM - 11:00 AM	<b>Business Across Borders</b> Anand Barot in Conversation with Mosiqi Acharya	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Equitable Readings 1</b> Facilitated by <b>Achyutha Sharma, Kuppal Palaniappan, Will Taing &amp; Sandeep Chandra</b>	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Lunch	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
1:30 PM - 2:15 PM	<b>Security, Space and Strategy</b> • <b>Dr. Rajeswari Pillai</b> • <b>Dr. Bec Strating</b> <b>Moderator: Jyoti Malhotra</b>	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
2:15 PM - 2:30 PM	Afternoon Tea & Coffee	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
2:30 PM - 3:00 PM	Commute to Australian High Commission	Bus
3:00 PM - 3:45 PM	<b>AIYD Townhall</b> with <b>Foreign Minister Hon. Marise Payne</b>	Australian High Commission, New Delhi
3:45 PM - 4:00 PM	Commute to Rashtrapathi Bhavan	Bus
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM	<b>Rashtrapathi Bhavan Tour</b>	President's Estate, New Delhi
5:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Commute to Hotel Lalit	Bus
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	<b>Opening Gala Dinner</b> <b>Keynote:</b> • <b>Padmashri Deepa Malik</b> • <b>Sonam Wangchuk</b> • <b>Rod Hilton</b> • <b>Ram Madhav</b>	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi

**DAY 3, Friday, 17/01/2020**

Chennai

Time	Activity	Location
6:00 AM - 7:00 AM	Breakfast	Hotel Lalit, New Delhi
7:00 AM - 7:40 AM	Commute to Airport	Bus
9:45 AM - 12:40 PM	<b>Fly to Chennai</b> (Group Challenge Working Session 2)	AI 429 (dep.T3 New Delhi)
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM	<b>Commute to Leela Palace &amp; Check-in to Hotel</b> followed by Lunch	Bus, Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
3:00 PM - 4:15 PM	<p><b>Panel Discussion: Partnerships for A Sustainable Future</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raj Cherubal</li> <li>• Ashok Vardhan Shetty</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator: Dr Jayani Nadarajalingam</b></p>	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
4:15 PM - 4:30 PM	Afternoon Tea & Coffee	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM	<p><b>Equitable Readings 2</b></p> <p>Facilitated by <b>Achyutha Sharma, Kuppal Palaniappan, Will Taing &amp; Sandeep Chandra</b></p>	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
6:00 PM onwards	Free Evening	

## DAY 4, Saturday, 18/01/2020

Chennai

Time	Activity	Location
7:30 AM - 8:30 AM	Breakfast	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Introduction to the day and the theme (pitching day)	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
9:15 AM - 10:15 AM	<b>Panel Discussion on Innovation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr Julian Droogan</li> <li>• Hemendra Marthur</li> <li>• Margaret Faux</li> <li>• Merrill Cherian</li> </ul> <b>Moderator: Will Taing</b>	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
10:15 AM - 10:30 AM	<b>Morning Tea &amp; Coffee</b>	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	<b>Politics of Environment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening Remarks by Tania Rhodes-Taylor</li> <li>• Ricky Kej</li> <li>• Tanya Spisbah</li> <li>• Dr Kalanidhi Veerasamy MP</li> </ul> <b>Moderator: Kuppal Palaniappan</b>	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM	Group Challenge Working Session - 3 & <b>Lunch</b>	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
1:30 PM - 2:30 pm	Group Challenge - PITCHING SESSION	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
2:30 PM - 2:45 PM	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
2:45 PM - 4:00 PM	<b>DANCE WORKSHOP</b> Facilitated by <b>High Kicks</b>	Hotel Leela Palace, Chennai
6:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Commute to Madras Club	Bus
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM	<b>Closing Dinner</b> Keynote: <b>Susan Grace</b> Keynote: <b>Anita Ratnam</b> <b>Group Challenge Winner Pitch</b> MC: <b>Rohini Rau</b>	The Madras Club, Chennai

## AIYD 2020 GROUP CHALLENGE

The group challenge is one of the most exciting elements of AIYD as it allows delegates to explore, in depth, opportunities for Australia and India to collaborate to address issues in relation to the AIYD 2020 theme – 2035: Creating our Sustainable Future.

Often some of the most important challenges and solutions are not always what we think they are. By bringing together delegates with different experiences and perspectives, the group challenge helps us identify emerging challenges and find new ways to collaborate that can strengthen and progress the Australia-India relationship. Working together over the 4 days, the group challenge gave delegates a chance to form even closer working relationships that will endure beyond the dialogue. At the end, there may be support available to get the most worthy idea off the ground.

Groups were asked to identify what they consider to be an issue in relation to the theme or sub-themes and how Australia and India can collaborate to respond to it. The definition of the challenge is left open to encourage creativity and fresh ideas from the groups. It could be something specific to Australia and India or it could be a more universal issue to which Australia and India could make a unique contribution. The essential components are:

- It must involve collaboration between the two countries
- It must engage or impact young people
- It must be executable by your group (don't include components that you can't take forward through your own skills or resources)

Delegates were split up into six groups. Groups were allocated based on their skills and experience, as well as in a way that ensures geography and gender balance within each team. An AIYD Steering Committee member was allocated to each group to mentor the group. The groups were formed to emulate that of the following skillsets:

- Creatives, Marketing & Comms
- Analytics & Technical
- Academia, Social Sciences
- Business, Startup
- Strategy & Policy



Each group had three working sessions together prior to the final pitch on Day 4, Saturday 18 January. Each group considered what it believes is a significant issue in relation to ‘2035: Creating our Sustainable Future, taking guidance from the three sub-themes, and proposed how Australia and India can work together to address the issue. The final day pitch consisted of a 3 minute presentation to a judging panel, outlining the issues and collaboration opportunity they worked on. This was followed by a 2 minutes of question time.

The groups were assessed by a panel of judges comprised of AIYD partners. They were encouraged to score the pitches based on the following key criteria:

<b>Problem: Relevance for Aus-India relations</b>	Why is the problem important to solve in the context of the Australia/ India relationship and driving closer ties? Why is it relevant?
<b>Solution: Collaboration Idea</b>	How is the group suggesting the problem be solved? Is the group’s solution to the problem the best way to approach it?
<b>Model</b>	What is the business/mission for creating scalable impact? Is it efficient and viable?
<b>Implementation pathway</b>	What are the major steps in implementing the solution in the next 6 months? What resources are required and how will they be sufficiently attained?
<b>Team</b>	How strong is the team to deliver on their idea?





A short synopsis of each of the group challenge pitches is included below:

### **Group 1 - Boys 2 Men**

Group 1 decided to create a safe online platform 'Boyz to Men' for adolescence boys experiencing mental health issues in India and Australia. This online platform would be home to a short film featuring Indian cricketer legend Srinath highlighting the need to address mental health issues of adolescence boys. The website would feature exhaustive tools and resources for young boys and provide them with information, guidance and links on where to seek help in their country and region. The website aims to highlight how critical this issue is among young boys in both countries and stresses there is help available.

### **Group 2 - 'It is ok! Day' – An Indian adaptation of 'R U Ok?' Day**

The pitch was premised on the impact of mental health among school-aged children in India. With over 430 million adolescents currently, India is expected to have the largest working population by 2030. Statistics suggest however, that at any given time, approximately 50 million young people will be suffering with some form of mental health issue and 9.8 million of those aged between 13 and 17 alone suffer from depression and other mental health disorders. Despite this, talking about mental health is still considered a taboo in India, leaving many to deal with it alone. Drawing on the experience of group members in both working with young people that have experienced mental health issues and involvement in targeted mental health campaigns, the group proposed an Indian adaptation of the Australian-based 'R U Ok? Day' campaign. Research into the impact of the 'R U Ok?' campaign showed that people are six times more likely to reach out to someone experiencing mental health issues. Given the stigma around the issue in India, the pitch proposed a partnership with 'R U Ok? Day' in Australia to deliver a pilot campaign in middle-income schools in Mumbai called 'It Is Ok! Day'. The campaign would prompt meaningful conversations about mental health – highlighting to children that it is ok to talk to your parents and friends, and to parents that it is ok to talk to your kids. Drawing on the group's networks in Mumbai, several schools would be approached to rollout the adapted pilot campaign, which would involve training teachers to have conversations with parents about how to talk about mental health with their children, and a tool kit with important information, ideas for campaign activities and support material for parents, children and teachers. The group proposed a review at the end of 12 months to explore the opportunity to scale state-wide, using teacher and student 'champions' to promote the campaign.

### **Group 3 - P2P The Australia India Schools Program**

Group 3 focused on the problem that the lack of early two-way exposure has on limiting future connections, understanding and opportunities. It was recognised that across Australia there are only 2 universities teaching Hindi, only two primary schools in Victoria and six in New South Wales offering Hindi, and no high schools teach Hindi as a main foreign language anywhere in Australia. Group 3 proposed a one-year primary school program exposing Australian children to the importance of India in our region and for our future. This would involve linking a pilot school with a school in India with technology, and then culminating in an immersion experience. Themes explored would include Indian culture and identity, environment, traditional wisdom and storytelling, food and folklore.

#### **Group 4 - ASHA632**

This year's winning group challenge was ASHA632. It's a simple idea that is equally simple to execute. Mulching. The idea was born during the AIYD 2020 group visit to Rashtrapati Bhavan, when on a rainy day the group noticed how much of the top soil from the gardens had been lost to the footpath. This was contrasted with Australian public gardens which have for a long time been managed with sophisticated mulching practices, which also reduce the irrigation demands of gardens by 70%. The idea had real momentum after a panel discussion that included the CEO of Chennai Smart City Ltd, who emphasised the immediate and ongoing concern for the city of Chennai when managing increasingly scarce water reserves. The numbers are compelling - by utilising Australia's sophisticated mulching practices and mulching Chennai's 632 public gardens, the group decided estimated that they could achieve a 70% reduction in daily irrigation demand and reduce the burden on Chennai's drinking water reserves by 4%. This is more than a gardening initiative, the project would provide water security and hope (Asha being the Hindi word for hope) to people in Chennai reliant on scarce water sources. The group also pitched the idea to the CEO of Chennai Smart City Ltd and received verbal approval to pilot the idea on 10 public parks.

#### **Group 5 - Food for Thought**

Group 5 explored how to use food to open doors to new cultural connections. While Australians celebrate life in a multicultural society, many people do not deeply understand the cultural groups around them. Aside from working or studying with people of different religions or backgrounds, have you been to their houses? Or celebrated their festivals?

The team members of group 5 already have experience with an established program in Delhi, in which muslim families welcome small groups into their homes during festivals, to share food and explain the festival and how it is celebrated. The team believes that the same model can work in Australia, particularly given the higher propensity for people to pay for food experiences, and the financial support offered by local government towards multicultural activities. The program would commence with a test run in Melbourne and Brisbane. If successful, the group will next develop an app to connect hosts and guests and recruit hosts from a wider range of communities.

#### **Group 6 - UPStander**

The issue group 6 were aiming to address is the bystander effect in regard to violence against women, targeting high schools in Australian and colleges in India. Violence against women represents the inequality that exists in both nations. Safety is a basic human right. Group 6 want to create a societal shift, away from the idea that a victim is defined by their circumstances and putting the accountability on society to act.

Group 6 proposed linking with arts organisations such Zen Zen Zo Physical Theatre Company (Australia) and Attakalari in Bangalore to produce a workshop. The workshop comprises of three parts. The first would have the participants in a round circle where they would witness 5-minute theatre work depicting an act of violation created by our Artistic collaborators from India & Australia. It would be prefaced that they can respond however they would like to this work. In the second part of the workshop, participants be given a framework that encompasses many different invention techniques when one is a witness to an act of personal invasion. The third and final part of the workshop would comprise of reflection and discussion to create a ensure participants are emotionally supported after what may be a very vulnerable, confronting and potentially triggering process. This would be accompanied by resources to be an active part of this social change.

# READINGS FOR EQUITABLE DIALOGUE 2020

## AIYD 2020 Day 2 & 3

The AIYD strategy vision document released in 2018 articulated its vision of Australia and India working together collaboratively and equitably for mutual prosperity. We aim to nurture diverse and equitable dialogue among our outstanding young leaders from Australia and India. Readings for Equitable Dialogue allows young leaders to have a deeper conversation on the ideas of equity, sustainable development, liberty, rights and leadership. The readings from global leaders bring fundamental concepts of equitable dialogue that are prompted with questions and ideas on Australian, Indian and the bilateral context. Equitable dialogue in an international context also aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### **About the readings session:**

The readings were shared with the delegates in advance to read and reflect on the content and concepts. The delegates are encouraged to make notes and mark out specific lines that resonated with them in context to their own journey of leadership and their socio-cultural context of Australia and/ or India. On Day 2 session, the delegates will be divided into two groups of equal representation from Australia and India with two facilitators for each group. The session will be opened by facilitators prompting reflective questions while delegates read out excerpts of the chapter, building momentum on conversations among delegates to share their thoughts. Each delegate will be allowed to share their own experiences and views on the concepts and topics based on the questions posed by facilitators, allowing other delegates to build on it or contribute along. This gives each delegate an opportunity to share their background in the bilateral context irrespective of the sector or industry they represent. The intent is also allowing Australian and Indian delegates to have a more interactive session of conversations on the bilateral “people-to-people” relationship. The outcome is to build deeper bilateral and cultural understanding between delegates from both countries.

This tool of dialogue is an educational/ learning practice in many international organisations that focus on leadership dialogues such as Acumen Fund, Aspen Institute, Swedish study circle and in Australia, organisations such as **Cranlana**.

In the AIYD 2020 equitable dialogue, chapters from the following 3 literature were deeply explored:

- Letter from Birmingham Jail by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Dark Emu by Bruce Pascoe, Chapter 6
- Development as Freedom by Amartya Sen, Chapter 1

### Why the readings?

AIYD young leaders come to the dialogue with a view about the bilateral relationship, about leadership, their unique socio-cultural backgrounds and how to fit that in their intent of building bilateral relationships. But so often those in a position of leadership may not have a holistic understanding of what opinions they hold and why, the Australia – India context for these opinions. So, we are left with a lack of a conducive environment and opportunity to have deeper equitable conversations among delegates discovering common values and ideas which are universal in nature.

AIYD's focus on nurturing an equitable dialogue sits with the readings session where thoughts/ ideas of leaders that have represented not just their own country but represent a global view influencing leaders across boundaries, including India and Australia. Our definition of equitable dialogue and equity in the bilateral relationship is:

- To find shared values and common ground in building positive and sustainable relationship.
- The idea that all are equal and relationships are built with the intent of mutual equality.

Success in going through the readings for equitable dialogue will be for individuals to:

- Have greater understanding of shared values and context to leadership in building bilateral relationships.
- Have a shared understanding among each other of how our socio-cultural context have been framed, a shared vocabulary for having these conversations, and, potentially, agreement on the values we share as a larger AIYD community.

Our starting point at AIYD is the belief that the bilateral relationship should and can be equitable aligned to our vision. Moral imagination among leadership is critical for having successful reading sessions, and we believe AIYD delegates selected through a rigorous process represent that: listening to others, tuning in to one's own socio-cultural compass, learning to recognize others' socio-cultural compasses, this should be at the core of all of these conversations. The more diverse the group is, and the more everyone comes being ready to listen, the more opportunity everyone has to practice these skills and to understand what is ultimately at stake in the bilateral relationship we are building. Ultimately our goal is that we can talk within and across societies – that is what is needed in today's world where dialogues are often polarised and “oppositional” in approach.

# SESSION SUMMARIES

**Day 1 - Wednesday 15th January, New Delhi**

## **PANEL SESSION - CHANGING WORLD ORDER**

The very first session of the AIYD2020 dialogue set the scene for emphasising the case of a new world order. Mr Guru Prakash (AIYD Steering Committee), welcomed panel members Dr Darren Lim (Senior Lecturer, School of Politics, Australia National University); and Varghese George (Associate Editor, The Hindu and Author of Open Entrance: India-US ties in the Age of Modi and Trump).

In this session, the discussion centred around the shift of unilateral balance of powers to a multipolar one in the region that poses several questions and challenges for countries, in particular the United States. It is also largely accepted in the status quo that China is a threat to America's growth and prosperity and there is strong support in the United States that this needs to be neutralised. This constantly evolving American perspective towards China is often a result of the ruling party and its dialogue with China. For example - during the Bush era, there was an unwritten policy of "letting China grow" which progressed into fostering strategic reassurances with China in 2009 and then in 2011, that turned into a 'Pivot to Asia' outlook. This of course has changed to a more hostile reaction since Trump's administration commenced. With these dynamics in play, the panellists suggest that India will need to navigate this ambiguous relationship with this changing dynamic. On the one hand, the decentralisation of global economic powers has led to an economic boom in India which would lead us to believe that India welcomes this diversification; on the other, the increase in market control and international politics exercised by China is a major concern for India and its local markets/production centres.

It was discussed that with Australia's long-standing ally with the United States, the decentralisation of power and changing world order could lead to complex political and economic circumstances that increasingly require Australia's foreign policy to be both tactical and strategic.

## **PANEL SESSION - SCIENTIFIC TEMPER: CYBER-TECH IN THE DIGITAL CENTURY**

In this session moderated by Priya Saghal (Senior Executive Director of NewsX), and panellists Ambassador Tobias Feakin (Australian Ambassador for Cyber Affairs), and Arun Mohan Sukumar (Author of Midnight's machine: A Political History of Technology in India) the role of cyber-security in the region was discussed.

There was a recognition that in today's digital age, cyber security strategies are becoming an important part of foreign policy discourse and hence collaborations across borders. For the two countries, cyber diplomacy and protection of the Cyberspace have also rapidly gained traction as shared interests between the two nations - this has translated into India-Australia Cyber Dialogues, the 3rd edition of which was held in September 2019. The Dialogue aims for the two governments to come together and discuss current and emerging cyber security issues including emerging ICT technologies, national approaches to cyber security policy and legislation, critical technologies, and cooperation to address cybercrime. Examples were also shared around that two nations and their handling of Huawei and government responses to their entrance into the market.

## PANEL DISCUSSION: THE INDO-PACIFIC ECONOMIC CHALLENGED

This exciting session was introduced with opening remarks by Victorian Government's Commissioner for South Asia, Ms Michelle Wade. Ms Wade commented on the numerous collaborations from Victorian companies such as Oracle and CISCO that have helped to work on localised challenges in India, and also the favourable regulatory environment that is incentivising Victorian companies to shift their attention from countries such as China to India.

The panel was moderated by Ruchir Punjabi - who created the Australia India Youth Dialogue. Ruchir introduced Sanjeev Sanyal, an internationally acclaimed economist and best-selling author; Ms Erin Watson-Lynn who is the Perth USAsia Centre's Senior Fellow; Ambassador Amit Das Gupta, who has been appointed the Inaugural Indian Country Director; and Tim Kendall.

Mr. Sanjeev Sanyal opened the floor by commenting on the Indian Ocean worldview framework which also includes Middle East, Indonesia, Malaysia. He further adds that if the maritime view of the world is taken into concern, neighbours would include Australia, Kenya, Indonesia. The panel discussed the importance of this view and therefore the maritime partnerships, and should extend to education, skills exchange, climate change, patents, and intellectual property. Ms Erin Watson Lynn supported the above statement emphasising that Australia's trade is currently very concentrated with China (representing 38%), more than the combined trade with US, Japan and Korea. Mr Amit Das Gupta referred to greater collaborations in the following areas are needed through better understanding of the needs of both nations for:

- Sustainable housing
- Photovoltaics
- Cyber security

In light of this, there was discussion about the Peter Varghese' report An India Economic Strategy to 2035 and the pending Indian report to be prepared by Mr Anil Wadhwa. The panels agreed that this approach is a bold effort from both nations to bring the relationship and partnership forward and the recommendations should be accepted by the governments of the two nations individually.

## WORKSHOP: CULTURAL INTELLIGENCE

The Cultural Intelligence workshop was an interactive session conducted by Ian Stern that aimed at improving the delegates' efficacy in different cultural backdrops. Since Australia and India are culturally diametrically opposite in nature, it could be hard for an Australian to fit into an India work environment and vice versa.

The session covered conflict management techniques and the different approaches that one can take to neutralise an aggressive or downward spiraling work situation. Many typical traits specific to each country were noticed and thus resolutions were modeled upon them.

For example, Australian companies and work spaces follow a low power distance model, meaning power is decentralised and de-emphasised, and subordinates are just as respected as their superiors. Thus in a situation like this, the burden of expressing is on the offended party and problems are solved through talks and analysis of behavior and promises to do better.

## Day 2 - Thursday 16th January, New Delhi

### PANEL DISCUSSION: LEADERSHIP AND DEMOCRACY

At a point in time when the world is witnessing a constant ebb and flow of ideologies and dynamic shifts in political beliefs, the role of leaders in democracies is constantly under scrutiny. The age old philosophical debates of what comprises moral leadership, and how governance is affected by socio political identities, have become the focus of the discussion.

This set the tone as moderator Smita Sharma (Senior Independent Journalist) introduced the session panel consisting Ambassador Anil Wadhwa (Lead CII Taskforce Aus-India Economic Strategy, a report for Government of India), Professor James Curran (University of Sydney), Daniel Mookhey (Member of Legislative Council Australian Parliament), and Melissa Conley Tyler (Asialink Director of Diplomacy, University of Melbourne).

The panellists drew significant parallel with both Australian and Indian scenarios that spoke to the challenges of leadership today. Examples were provided on leaders that were able to garner success and support due to their deeply rooted leadership in the nation's history and cultural identity.

Considerable time was given to the subject of communication and examples of the challenges that the current Australian Prime Minister had for his response to the bushfires, and comparisons being made to the response of the New Zealand's Prime Minister over the terrorist attacks, and even the response of the leaders on the 9/11 attacks.

The panel also discussed the increased geopolitical complexity in which both nations are surrounded by and the role that both nations should play to take a stand where human rights violations are being committed and at times contradict international policies that run in parallel.

### CONVERSATION: BUSINESS ACROSS BORDERS

Mosiqi Acharya, Steering Committee of AIYD, is in conversation with Anand Barot, Director of Stratospheric Entertainment that has got BOUNCE Inc to India. Mr Barot shares with the audience his personal journey and foray into starting a new venture and exploring this collaboration with BOUNCE Inc. The partnership saw the BOUNCE Inc business brought across to India in the state of Maharashtra Mumbai and a successful launch. Mr Barot talks about the process of identifying how, when, where, and what areas and parameters suited the BOUNCE Inc business model. The success of BOUNCE Inc means that Mr Barot will be looking to expand to metropolitan areas such as New Delhi, Chennai, and Amhedabad.



## PANEL SESSION: SECURITY, SPACE AND STRATEGY

This panel session was moderated by Jyoti Malhotra (National and Strategic Affairs editor at The Print New Delhi), in conversation with panellists Dr Bec Strating (Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Relations), and Dr Rajeswari Pillai (Nuclear and Space Policy Initiative at the Observer Research Foundation).

Ms Malhotra began with opening remarks on the challenges being faced in the field of space research with regard to the global outreach and relations between the countries. Focus is given to the concept of anti-satellite test (AST) which was done by the United States of America in 1984 and later by China in 2007. An area of mutual concern has been around the crowding of outer space with debris and pieces of technology, the need to clean it up to ensure a safe, secure and continued access to space. It was discussed the anti-satellite tests (AST) that are taking place and increased territorial programs for outer space.

In light of these discussions, Dr. Bec Strating raised that an alliance approach with like-minded states can lead to a betterment in space missions and projects, and how the same can lead to the development of research sector, as well as freedom of navigation. Specifically, Dr Strating puts forward the view that Australia sees Indo-pacific areas as replacement of Asia-Pacific. It realises the Indian Ocean is also an ocean surrounding Australia and wants to bring India into the fold of alliance.



Day 3 - Friday 17th January, Chennai

## PANEL DISCUSSION: PARTNERSHIPS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

### PANEL SESSION: Partnerships for a sustainable future

In this session, we shifted our focus away from the federal level and, instead, focused on sub-national political actors such as states and cities. One strength of federalism - both India and Australia are federal states - is that when there is inaction at one level in relation to a particular issue, there are different levels that can be strategically targeted and utilised in order to progress. This is becoming increasingly the norm in relation to climate change. In fact, UN Secretary General recently stated that, in the context of climate change, "[w]e need clear moves not only by national Governments but also by other actors such as subnational governments, businesses and investors".

Esteemed panelists Raj Cherubal and Ashok Vardhan Shetty joined moderator Jayani Nadarajalingam to discuss the role played by subnational actors - with a particular focus on cities - in creating a sustainable future.

Among other things, the panelists discussed: (a) how cities can respond effectively to the demands of climate change in a way that is inclusive of all of the people, regardless of wealth, caste, race or gender; (b) how to build institutional (particularly bureaucratic) capacity that is able to adequately respond to the scale of the problems and (c) how to set and work towards institutional goals that are value-laden and a long time horizon. Concrete problems discussed included the 2018 Chennai Water Crisis and the 2019/2020 Australian bush-fires.



## Day 4 - Saturday 18th January, Chennai

### PANEL SESSION: INCREDIBLE INNOVATION

The Incredible Innovation started with opening remarks from William Taing (Steering Committee AIYD) setting the scene with the notion that “there will be no next Silicon Valley - there will be 30” and introducing to the audience the significant innovation clusters of Bangalore and Mumbai. This was complemented by the significant growth in the number of startups established, incubators and accelerators, and a 25x growth in early stage venture funding.

William welcome esteemed panellists Margaret Faux (Founder & CEO, Synapse Medical Services) Merril Cherian (Partner KPMG), Dr Julian Droogan (Senior Lecturer at the Macquarie University), and Hemendra Mathur (Bharat Innovation Fund). The panel moved from exploring the key challenges to identifying some of the emerging technologies, models and solutions that are likely to help move forward to shared challenges faced between both nations. Ms Faux and Mr Mathur shared their perspectives on the joint challenges around water security and hygiene being critical in both health and agriculture. Dr Droogan was quick also to raise the perils of the new digital age where increased sharing data economy brings with it challenges around cybersecurity and data exploitation with perverse private and public costs.

Mr Cherian was passionate about training the next generation of young girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. He poses the challenge that if a majority of future highly skilled jobs require STEM, we must rise to the challenge to ensure that young girls are actively engaging in STEM given the falling numbers.

### PANEL SESSION: POLITICS OF ENVIRONMENT

The Politics and Environment discussion began with heartfelt opening remarks from Sydney University Vice Principal External Relations, Tanya Rhodes-Taylor. Tanya shared her sentiments in relation to the Australian Bushfires and how leadership and accountability plays a key role when responding to major environmental crises.

Tanya was joined by a distinguished panel of speakers including Dr Kalanithy Veeraswamy MP (Lok Sabha, Tamil Nadu), Tanya Spisbah Director at the Australia India Institute and Grammy Award Winner, Ricky Kej; and moderator Kuppal Palaniappan, AIYD Steering Committee. The panel began with a poignant quote from David Suzuki who is a Canadian academic, science broadcaster and environmental activist, “the way we see the world shapes the way we treat it. If a mountain is a deity, not a pile of ore; if a river is one of the veins of the land, not potential irrigation water; if a forest is a sacred grove, not timber; if other species are biological kin, not resources; or if the planet is our mother, not an opportunity—then we will treat each other with greater respect. This is the challenge, to look at the world from a different perspective”.

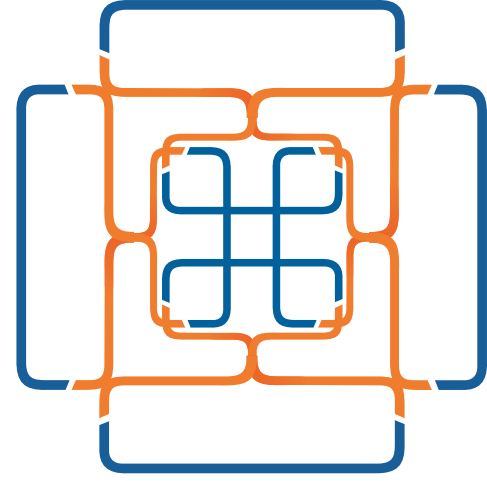
The panel shared their views and thoughts on how young leaders can play an active role in shaping the conversation around environmental sustainability. In particular a key call to action from all panelists was to continue to speak up and to avoid sitting back waiting for politics to resolve environmental issues.

## ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

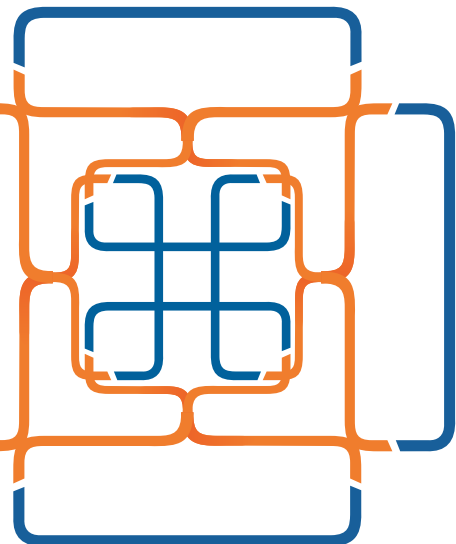
In 2018, we launched AIYD Alumni Chapters with Delhi and Sydney in order to engage with the 200+ alumni from the past years of the Dialogue. Former Steering Committee Members and alumni, Talish Ray, Rishi Suri and Rishabh Gulati will lead the Delhi Chapter; whereas, Karan Anand, Dani Rajendram and Ben Krinsky will lead the Sydney Chapter. The Chapters will hold regular events and provide ongoing networking opportunities for those alumni based in the respective countries.

In general, AIYD alumni have continued to pursue path-breaking opportunities to develop tangible collaborations in the Australia-India space. Some examples from 2018/19 are as follows:

- AIYD 2018 delegates Shaili Chopra (Founder, shethepeople.tv) and Damian Thompson (Community Relations, The Conversation) collaborated immediately following the dialogue and now SheThePeople is carrying the Conversation's content in India
- AIYD 2018 alumni Ihitashri Shandilya and Shaili Chopra collaborated across two of their ventures, with Shaili's organisation SheThePeople coming on board as a content partner to TAES 2018, an Arts & Entrepreneurship summit organised by Ihitashri
- AIYD 2018 Delegate Nikhil Sharma, COO of Ginger Hotels became the official hospitality partner for 2018 delegate Vaibhav Chauhan's organisation Sahapedia's "India Heritage Walk Festival" - a collaboration that happened on day 2 of AIYD 2018!
- AIYD 2017 alumnus Guru Prakash organised for 2017 alumnus Erin Watson Lynn to speak on "Emerging Issues and Contemporary Challenges in Australian Foreign Policy" at an event held by his organisation, the India Foundation
- AIYD Founder Ruchir Punjabi & AIYD 2017 alumna Mitali Mukherjee have partnered with ProBono Australia to co-found Samarthan, a platform for civil society to engage, connect & grow. Samarthan is the only specialist publisher in the social sector space in India and provides digital marketing services specifically for Civil Society participants.
- AIYD 2014 Alumnus & Former Steering Committee member, Achyutha Sharma is launching a "Cultural Diplomacy" initiative. He has partnered with 2018 alumnus Wesa Chau to represent the cultural diplomacy initiative in Australia.



# AIYD 2020 DELEGATES



## AUSTRALIAN DELEGATES 2020



### **Andrea Lam**

#### **Director of Dance Masala Bollywood Dance Company**

Andrea Lam is the director of Dance Masala Bollywood Dance Company, one of the largest independent Bollywood Dance Companies in Australia. She has been in the Dance Industry for 11 years. In 2012, she launched Dance Masala Bollywood Dance Company. Dance Masala currently offer 13 specialist classes in Bollywood, Bollyhop, Semi-Classical, Bollyfit and Bhangrafunkl and train three performance teams. Andrea's 11-year career has seen her collaborating with Queensland Symphony Orchestra to create bespoke choreography to accompany renowned Sitar Player Ustad Shahid Parvez Khan Concert performance (2016). She has also choreographed for & worked with major Bollywood Playback singers such as Mika Singh, Neha Kakkar & Jasmine Sandlas. A recent highlight was being invited to choreograph a bespoke, site-specific performance work involving 15 dancers for APT9 Summer Festival's Up Late Program. In addition to Dance Masala, Andrea also produces the Bollywood Australia Dance Convention (BADC), a three-day expo-style event with professional development, industry events and a dance competition aimed to unify the Indian Dance Community while capacity building. She also was an Event Planner with the Indian Cultural & Sports Club and is instrumental in programming, producing and managing major events such as The Mini-Festival of Indian Dance (2019), Brisbane Holi (2017 & 2018); and Queensland Diwali (2017). She has spoken on panels about creative practice for BrisAsia Festival in 2015 and 2018, and has been a guest speaker of Creative Mornings in 2019.



### **Anika Wells**

#### **Federal Member for Lilley**

Anika Wells MP is the youngest woman in the Australian House of Representatives. She worked as a lawyer before succeeding in the federal seat of Lilley in May 2019 from the Honourable Wayne Swan, former Deputy Prime Minister and Treasurer. Anika currently serves on the Joint Standing Committee for Northern Australia; the House of Representatives Committees for Privileges and Members' Interests and as Deputy Chair for Publications. In her First Speech to parliament in July, she outlined her defining purpose in public life is to be a good ancestor. She is particularly interested in driving policy for our sustainable future, a more equal nation and making Australia the best place to be a child in the developed world.

 [@AnikaWells](https://twitter.com/AnikaWells)





## Apurwa Sarve

### Head of Strategy at Swisse Wellness

Throughout his professional life, Apurwa has managed to combine his passion for sport and health with his career as a strategist. As the Head of Strategy at Swisse Wellness, an iconic Australian wellness company, Apurwa has been at the forefront of putting Swisse on the global stage, developing its market expansion strategy. Of all the growth initiatives he is working on, he's most excited and optimistic about leading Swisse's entry into India and truly believes the organisation can help make millions of Indians healthier and happier. Prior to Swisse, Apurwa spent five years in Cricket Australia's Strategy Team, working on cricket's most significant strategic initiatives during a growth phase for the sport in Australia. Some of these initiatives include the restructure of the Australian Cricket schedule, the creation of the Women's Big Bash League and the development of the current Australian Cricket Strategy. Apurwa started his career as a management consultant, working at both KPMG and LEK. Outside of work, Apurwa is an avid sportsman, having played over twenty years of competitive cricket at various levels, including a season in the UK. He is a big advocate for holistic health and believes that everyone can achieve this by working on their fitness, mental health and nutrition.

 [@apssuave](#)



## Bodean Hedwards

### Manager of Monash University's Global Immersion Guarantee program

Dr. Bodean Hedwards is the Manager of Monash University's Global Immersion Guarantee program, an Australia-first, funded international study program that provides first-year students with the opportunity to engage with local leaders implementing innovative and sustainable solutions to some of the world's greatest challenges in India, Indonesia, Italy, China and Malaysia. Bodean is responsible for the design and delivery of the program across all countries, including the development of a range of strategic partnerships that provide opportunities for broader, long-term engagement.

Bodean is also a criminologist, with her research focusing primarily on slavery and human trafficking. She has extensive experience working on this issue with governments, NGOs and leading universities both in Australia and abroad and most recently worked alongside UN Women and the International Labour Organisation as part of the Monash University team leading research on safe and fair migration for women migrant workers around the ASEAN region. Prior to this, Bodean was a Researcher with the Walk Free Foundation where she specialised in assessing government responses to modern slavery across Asia. Bodean has also worked with the Australian Institute of Criminology in Canberra on a range of issues, including anti-human trafficking, countering violent extremism and Indigenous justice programs. Outside her formal employment, Bodean co-founded 'A Million Hands Project', a small NGO that supported a health clinic in Lucknow, India. Bodean holds a PhD from Monash University, during which she was a Visiting Study Fellow at Oxford University's Refugee Studies Centre.

 [@bodeanhedwards](#)





## Erin Hughes

### Senior Surface Water Engineer at Hydrology and Risk

With water being fundamental to life, no wonder it is being heralded as the next global crisis. Growing up in the Torres Straits, Erin was surrounded by water and saw first-hand the impact engineering could have on local communities when trying to manage water challenges. As a result, surface water engineering became the focus of Erin's career. Erin has worked predominantly within the private sector on a variety of projects which have shaped our nation, including supporting local councils after the 2011 Brisbane floods to being involved in large infrastructure projects like Sydney's WestConnex. She holds a Masters of Integrated Water Management from the International Water Centre and a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) from the University of Queensland.

As a result of Erin's background she is passionate about STEM education and improving the quality of life in remote indigenous communities. Her belief is that it can be achieved through both sustainable, evidence based engineering projects and the two-way sharing of knowledge and cultures underpins her practice. In her free time you still can't get her away from water as she loves free diving, beach combing and hanging out with her family



## Joseph Haweil

Joseph Haweil holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and History, an Honours degree in History and a Master of International Relations degree, all from the University of Melbourne. Additionally, he is a graduate of the prestigious Australian Institute of Company Directors, having successfully completed the corporate Company Directors course. Professionally, Joseph has worked as a Federal Australian Civil Servant including in the fields of Immigration and Border Protection, Social Services and Home Affairs. His operational and policy roles have focused on border security, legislative decision making and most recently in settlement policy. In 2016 at the age of 27, he was elected to Hume City Council (one of the largest municipalities in Victoria) as one of the state's youngest municipal Councillors, for which he has worked actively in leading on areas such as multicultural affairs, arts and culture, community development, gaming reform. Joseph has been particularly active on supporting the settlement, integration and empowerment of new and emerging communities to reach their full potential. In addition, Joseph's international experience includes offshore government postings, Masters degree level studies including an overseas intensive course at Indonesia's Universitas Gadjadara and youth cultural exchange program in Moscow hosted by the Russian Orthodox Church. His experience also includes a previous Regional Youth Interfaith Forum hosted by the European Union and Australia, and he has represented Hume in a local government delegation to the Republic of Timor-Leste focused on decentralization, aid and development and enhancing cultural ties between municipalities and peoples. He is actively engaged with numerous local Australian institutions including the Victorian Multicultural Commission where he provided strategic and thematic advice on issues of multiculturalism and citizenship as an advisor appointed to a Regional Advisory Council.



## Marcus Agnew

### Chief of Staff to the CEO of UPL

Marcus is Chief of Staff to the CEO of UPL, a leading global agri-inputs company with a strong presence in India and more than 130 countries. Marcus is passionate about the intersection of agriculture and technology, and the need to improve sustainability within global food systems while simultaneously helping raise farmers' standards of living. He sees the transformation of modern agriculture as integral to addressing the planet's key environmental challenges – climate change, the overuse of scarce resources, and biodiversity loss – while simultaneously ensuring sustainable food security for the growing global population. He believes in the power of collaboration between the private, public and social sectors to help agriculture deliver change at a local level, through technology investments that improve environmental sustainability and efficiency, regulation to ensure better incentives, and social movements to build consumer awareness about how their choices impact outcomes.



## Mohit Bhargava

### General Manager Sales & Marketing, BIG4 Holiday Parks

Mohith has over 15 years of marketing leadership & business development experience working across some of Australia's leading entertainment & media brands such as Nova Entertainment, Village Roadshow, and presently he is charged with inspiring Australians to take the great Aussie holiday in his role as GM – Marketing & Sales at BIG4 Holiday Parks, Australia's leading Holiday Parks brand. In 2017, he was one of the youngest executives to be recognized amongst the Top 50 most innovative marketers in Australia and went on to make the Top 10 Marketing Leaders list in the CMO Australia Rankings the following year. Today, he is widely regarded as one of the leading entertainment marketers in Australia, offering council as a board member and keynote speaker to a range of Australian businesses.



## Priya Serrao

### Policy Adviser for the Victorian government

Priya Serrao is the first Indian-born Australian to win the title of Miss Universe Australia. She also works as a policy adviser for the Victorian government. Priya completed an undergraduate degree in Arts from Monash University and also has a postgraduate degree in Law from Melbourne Law School. She was born in India, grew up in the Middle East and migrated to Australia at the age of 10. Her interest in social change has seen her work with several local community organisations as well as international organisations such as the UNDP. More recently, she has used her title to speak about creating inclusive societies and aims to continue using her platform to engage in issues important to her.

 [@priya\\_serrao](https://twitter.com/priya_serrao)



## Rachel Nicoll

### **Manufacturing Production & Logistics Manager, Howard & Sons Pyrotechnics**

Rachel fulfills an important multifaceted role at Howard & Sons Pyrotechnics. Since joining the company in 2009 she has worked to improve pyrotechnic and explosive management systems and just two years into the role appeared in the 2011 National Geographic Mega Factories: Pyrotechnics documentary. Renowned for working with leaders across industry, corporations and governments, Rachel was appointed to sit on the Australian Chamber Explosives Reference Group – Strategic Issues on Explosives (SIG-Explosives) in explosives legislation reform and in 2016 was selected to participate in the Standards Australia Young Leaders Program. Passionate about their family farm and the rich offerings of rural and regional Australia, Rachel became the youngest and first female Chair of the NSW Farmers Association Hartley Branch and in January 2018 was selected as an emerging leader in the National Farmers Federation EU-UK trade delegation. Rachel also holds elected positions on the Rural Affairs Committee and Chair of Young Farmers presenting as a speaker and panellist at the Unicef Youth Drought Summit. Rachel's interests are vast and attributes her love of STEM to early experiences at the Siemens Science School and National Youth Science Forum, returning as a host emcee. As someone who fiercely believes in the benefits of life-long learning she enjoys diversity of ideas and disciplines, involved in a number of projects in youth engagement and entrepreneurship, STEM, business and community development. Rachel is a graduate of the Australian Mental Health Leaders Fellowship with the National Mental Health Commission and sits on a number of advisory groups.



## Rayali Banerjee

### Communications Manager at SyngentaANZ.

Rayali Banerjee is the Communications Manager at Syngenta, Australia and New Zealand (ANZ). She is responsible for driving the business sustainability agenda through excellence in media relations, brand and reputation management and corporate responsibility. She also works with the executive leadership team to support the strategic direction and achievement of business objectives.

Her cultural ties to India began when she was born in Kolkata. After moving to Australia, she visited India at age 13 with family, interacting with smallholder farmers during her trip. Growing up, she questioned how consumers have access to fresh food in Australia whilst smallholder farmers struggle to feed their families. Her passion to make a difference in the lives of farmers motivated her to complete a double degree in Agricultural Science and Business at La Trobe University.

Over the past 5 years, Rayali has worked in agricultural investment implementing strategies for investing in land for Australian almonds; on farm enterprises and has provided complex financial advice to ASX listed and international Agribusinesses. She has conducted workshops for smallholders in India which increased their yields and worked for Syngenta across Singapore and India, building relationships with government to enhance the business' License to Operate.

Rayali is the founder of Ag Bootcamps, where she cultivates the capabilities of diverse future leaders through mentoring and experiential learning. She collaborates with her co-founders on 'This is Aus Ag', a social campaign which builds interactive relationships between producers and consumers. Rayali is recognised as the NSW 2019 Rural Achiever, evokeAG future young leader and National Farmers' Federation 2030 leader.

 [@rayali\\_banerjee](https://twitter.com/rayali_banerjee)



## Simon O'Connor

### Adviser (North Asia) in the Australian Department of the Prime Minister

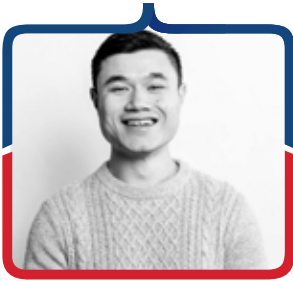
Simon O'Connor is Adviser (North Asia) in the Australian Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. He provides policy support for the Prime Minister's engagement in North Asia as well as coordination and coherence in international policy making and implementation across government. Prior to joining the department, he completed a three-year posting in the political team of the Australian High Commission in New Delhi. In his role, he focused on India's foreign policy and strengthening cooperation between India and Australia, particularly in the areas of maritime security, counter-terrorism and security as well as supporting cooperation in multilateral and regional fora. While in India, he served as Chair of Australia's Direct Aid Program – a grants-based program to support the valuable work of civil society organisations in communities across northern India and Bhutan. He led the design and implementation of the High Commission's #Development4All campaign to promote inclusive development for people living with disabilities in India. The campaign promoted inclusive development discourse and showcased projects, often implemented with Australian partners, which delivered tangible benefits to their communities. The campaign supported the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation between Australia and India in the disability sector in 2018. Simon is passionate about supporting the India-Australia relationship reach its full potential. Links between business, research, civil society, people and communities are key to driving the partnership forward beyond.



## Tim Hall

### Policy Officer in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)

Tim Hall is a Policy Officer in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). Tim previously served as a diplomat at the Australian Consulate-General in Mumbai between 2016-2019, where he advanced Australia's commercial, economic and political interests in India. Tim started with DFAT in 2014, gaining experience in free trade, Melanesia, counter-terrorism and the Green Climate Fund. Tim has earlier experience reporting on international climate change negotiations, and has worked in non-governmental environmental organisations, non-profit education and in the Parliament of Victoria. He has also worked abroad in Ghana and Guatemala. Tim holds a BA (First Class Honours) in Anthropology and Media and Communications and a Universitas 21 Diploma in Global Issues from the University of Melbourne.



## Tim Lo Surdo

### Founder and National Director of Democracy in Colour

Deeply passionate about people-powered change, Tim has spent the past eight years creating opportunities for everyday people to take collective action. He is currently the Founder and National Director of Democracy in Colour – Australia’s first racial and economic justice organisation led by people of colour. Previously, he was a Senior Organiser at United Voice where he helped low-paid workers start Hospos Voice – a new union in hospitality. He has led campaigns at Oaktree, been an adviser to two Senators, was the Campaigns Director at Jhatkaa, led national communications at UN Youth Australia, and co-founded Open Sky – one of India’s most well-known performance art communities. Tim is also on the Boards of Plan International Australia, the Southern Migrant & Refugee Centre, Stop the Traffik, Climate for Change, and The Wilderness Society (Vic).

 [@timlosurdo](https://twitter.com/timlosurdo)



## William Crowe

### Co-founder, High Earth Orbit Robotics

William co-founded a company, High Earth Orbit Robotics, with a long-term vision to prospect and utilise asteroid resources and an immediate goal of using the same technology to inspect and resolve anomalies on satellites in orbit. His company counts the Royal Australian Air Force as a customer and went through UNSW’s Founder10x program. William has represented the company to win a place on the NSW/Austrade space bootcamp in Silicon Valley and win the Australian Space Research Conference’s Goldfish startup competition. He has a PhD in Aerospace Engineering from UNSW Sydney. His research focus was on the use of swarms of spacecraft to characterise asteroids during flyby. He won several international awards for his research, including the competitive Space Generation Advisory Council “Move an Asteroid” scholarship for his work on using small spacecraft in Earth orbit to intercept asteroids as they pass through the Earth-Moon system.



## INDIAN DELEGATES 2020



### **Anil Antony**

#### **Managing Director of Pythia Data**

Anil is a graduate of Stanford University, USA and College of Engineering, Trivandrum.

He is currently the Managing Director of Pythia Data and an advisor of multiple technology startups including CasperLabs, a Silicon Valley based blockchain platform and GSTi Technologies, a cloud computing solutions provider.

He has previously worked in MNCs including Cisco Systems, Grant Thornton and Beceem Communications (A Silicon Valley based semi conductor startup acquired by Broadcom Inc).

Anil was appointed as the Convener of the Kerala chapter of the digital media cell of the Indian National Congress, chaired by Dr. Shashi Tharoor M.P early this year. His roles included setting up and managing the state war room of the party for the Parliament elections and managing Wayanad constituency social media handles and digital campaigns for the then Congress President Mr. Rahul Gandhi. He was also a member of the All India Congress Committee's Lok Sabha 2019 Central Election Control Room.

He is also the Vice President and trustee of Navoothan Foundation, a non-profit working for empowerment of women; and in cancer awareness and care.

His opinion columns appear frequently for several national publications including The Hindu, Hindustan Times, The Print, The week, and National Herald.

Anil had earlier been chosen as a delegate of the Indo-German Young Leaders forum Conference in Berlin in 2019; and was a participant of the Government of Japan initiated 'JENESYS2016' India Global Future Leaders Interaction program held across three Japanese cities in 2017.

 [@anilkantony](https://twitter.com/anilkantony)





## Asha Sundarmurthy

### PhD scholar on the Indo-Pacific region

Asha Sundaramurthy is a PhD scholar in the Indo-Pacific Studies in Jawaharlal Nehru University. She worked as a researcher in the Vivekananda International Foundation with an area focus on the Indo-Pacific region. She has presented and published on a range of topics affecting the region such as assessing China in India's Act East policy, mapping the counter-terrorism convergence between India and Philippines, looking at the maritime boundary limitation between India and Indonesia, the aid relations between Australia and Nepal, and Indian engagement with the Pacific Island states. She was also a visiting scholar to University of Malaya, where she worked on India-ASEAN relations. The topic of her M.Phil dissertation was the China factor in India-Australia relations. Her current PhD topic is on regional stability through bilateral relations in the Indo-Pacific region with a case study on India-Australia ties.

 [@ashasmurthy](https://twitter.com/ashasmurthy)



## Kaushik TG

### Deputy Director in the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI)

Kaushik is from the 2014 batch of the Indian Revenue Service (Customs & Indirect Taxes), currently working as Deputy Director in the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI). Prior to joining DRI, he was with the GST Council where he was part of the team that laid the foundation for the Goods and Services Tax (GST), India's largest taxation reform and rolled it out to the country on 1 July 2017.

He is a Computer Science Engineer who did his Bachelors from Anna University, Chennai and Masters from Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago. He worked for 2 years in the Financial Markets in Chicago before returning to India to prepare for the Civil Services.

He is keenly interested in the intersection of economics, public administration and technology and strongly believes that good economics and a firm technological foundation can greatly contribute to effective public administration, thereby significantly accelerating the pace of the nation's development.

When not consumed by work, he is a passionate quizzer. He loves Roger Federer and filter coffee (in no particular order) and believes that the debate over the GOAT in tennis is redundant (irrespective of whether 20 is breached).



## Krishna Lavu

### Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha)

Sri Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu Member, Standing Committee on Human Resource Development and Member, Consultative Committee on Animal Husbandry, Dairy & Fisheries.

Sri Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu working as a Vice Chairman of Vignan Group of Institutions, headquartered at Guntur district of Andhra Pradesh. The Vignan Group of educational institutions are under Lavu Educational Trust, (founded in 1983), the flagship institution of the group being Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research (VFSTR), a Deemed-to-be University located in Vadlamudi of Guntur district. The Vignan Group is serving all layers of education from primary to tertiary levels, with a current student base of around 45,000 spread across the two states of Andhra Pradesh & Telangana.

Over the last 4 ½ decades Vignan has been rendering yeoman service towards promoting high standards in education and contributing to the socio-economic development of the region.

Thanks to Vignan, though the University is set up in a rural area has been able to produce 75% first time graduates and contributed towards upliftment of families belonging to the agricultural background by raising them from the lower rungs of the society to high income levels and enjoying good standard of life.

Sri Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu, son of the visionary Chairman of the Vignan Group, Sri. Lavu Rathaiah is an erudite, socially committed humanitarian, who within a short span of 4 to 5 years of joining the Vignan Group has given a new direction to the institutions. Presently, he is heading and helping to shape the institutions by incorporating best practices of premiere institutions from across the world.

Sri Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu, received a popular mandate and has won the recently concluded parliamentary elections in India to become one of the youngest parliamentarians in June 2019. He is currently an Honourable Member of Standing Committee on Human Resource Development & Member of Consultative Committee on Animal Husbandry, Dairy & Fisheries, Government of India.

 [@krishnalavu](https://twitter.com/krishnalavu)



## Milee Ashwarya

### Publisher of Ebury Publishing and Vintage Publishing Groups at Penguin Random

Milee Ashwarya is the Publisher of Ebury Publishing and Vintage Publishing Groups at Penguin Random House India. She has been responsible for establishing and spearheading the publishing vision and list first at Random House India and now at Penguin Random House India. She has been responsible for discovering new trends and exploring new genres. Her focus has been on championing the best voices in fiction and non fiction while publishing a range of bestsellers across segments. Her authors include Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Piyush Pandey, S. Hussain Zaidi, Hindol Sengupta, R. Gopalakrishnan, Karan Johar, Ravi Subramaniam, Anand Neelakantan, Navi Radjou, Shilpa Shetty, Novoneel Chakraborty, Twinkle Khanna, Amjad Ali Khan, Shradha Sharma, Sonali Bendre, Radhakrishnan Pillai and Payal Gidwani Tiwari to name a few. A TEDx speaker, she is passionate about issues related to working women, and children. She was awarded the Women Achievers' Samman 2017 for publishing by the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO), the Distinguished Alumni Award 2018 for Excellence in Publishing by Hindu College, Delhi University, and the Exceptional Woman of Excellence Award by the Women Economic Forum in 2019

 [@mileeashwarya](https://twitter.com/mileeashwarya)



## Minket Lepcha

### Awarded Young Green Filmmaker 2016 at Woodpecker International Film Festival 2016

Minket Lepcha has been engaged with documenting stories and folklore based on ethnic communities of Darjeeling and Sikkim for few years. She got an opportunity to direct a film on River Teesta through SOPPECOM and traced the river from the source till the river leaves the mountain. She documented many communities along the river. She was also engaged in teaching for 4 years, she experienced massive gap between the education system and ground reality after her film experience. The lack of opportunity to educate local and traditional knowledge to the young generation was a concern. Having always been inspired by Lepcha folklore and believing that the ecological wisdom are hidden in these stories, she has created a workshop based on the folklore of Himalayan Communities especially Lepcha folklore. She uses this workshop tool to inspire, influence and educate young minds to connect with river and mountains and provide an experiential learning towards their surrounding rivers and mountains. She has been travelling for the past 2 years narrating stories of river, seeds, birds, mystical creatures to school and college students across India and Nepal. She wishes to disseminate this data collected during the workshop in a form of a film or a blog in future. Besides that, she is associated with various social work around Darjeeling and Sikkim region concerning environment like Sustainable Development Goals workshops, Free River Flowing campaign organized by International Rivers and ACT, supporting local farmers and artisans.

She is an awardee of Young Green Filmmaker 2016 in Woodpecker International Film Festival for her film 'Voices of Teesta'. This film also earned 10th position amongst 110 films in World Water Forum in Brazil 2018.



## Nazia Erum

### Media and Advocacy at Amnesty International India

Nazia Erum is leading Media and Advocacy at Amnesty International India. Her work includes storytelling for change to create enabling environment for effective policy, programme and legislation. Previously, she has handled communications for the Global Fund and lead projects for development organizations including the UNDP. Nazia is also the author of the critically acclaimed book, 'Mothering a Muslim' and was named among the Stand-out Voices for 2018 by the Telegraph and in the Women Change-makers of 2018 by Mid-Day. She has actively sought to give voice to anti-bullying campaigns as well as inter-faith harmony. Her work finds mention in the BBC, The Guardian, Le Monde, Washington Post among other national and international media.

 [@nazia\\_e](https://twitter.com/nazia_e)



## Nishtha Satyam

### Head, Strategic Partnerships, Policy Impact and Public Relations at UN Women

Nishtha Satyam was appointed as the Deputy Country Representative for UN Women, the entity of the United Nations that is dedicated to working towards Gender Equality and Woman's Empowerment, in India in January 2018. She is the youngest Deputy Country Rep for the Entity of the UN across 193 countries. She formerly managed Strategic Partnerships, Policy Impact and Public Relations for the UN Women Multi Country Office for India, Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka. Nishtha has also served as the Private Sector Partnerships Specialist with the Office of the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations and UNDP. Prior to her career with the UN, Nishtha worked with leading firms such as

KPMG and American Express as an Economist. As a futurist and feminist, she is an advocate of the urgency to mainstream women across the marketplace, workplace and community. Nishtha has authored a number of studies on the business value of inclusion and continues to be excited about using her multi-sectoral experience to inform the interplay of policy, politics and people to foster lasting change for the most marginalized.

Nishtha holds a Master's Degree in International Business from the University of Nottingham, UK and a Bachelors in Economics from Delhi University.

 [@satyamnishtha](https://twitter.com/satyamnishtha)



## Nitesh Jangir

### Co-founder at Coeo Labs

Nitesh K. Jangir is an Electronics Engineer with focus on Embedded System Design, with an experience that includes stints at defence, industrial automation, medical devices etc. Nitesh is a co-founder of Coeo Labs, a medical device company with a vision to prevent preventable deaths in the field of emergency and critical care. He was also a part of Stanford India Biodesign Program where he developed and commercialized a device to safely tap pleural fluid in patients with pleural effusion. This technology (Thorashield) was licensed out to a medical device manufacturing company. Nitesh is an active inventor and has filed and granted six patents in – field of medical devices and artificial intelligence. Nitesh is a Commonwealth Innovation Award Winner, Forbes 30 Under 30 (India and Asia), Acumen India Fellow, a Leaders in Innovation Fellow-Royal Academy of Engineers UK and an INK Fellow.

 [@niteshtech](https://twitter.com/niteshtech)



## Omkar Sathe

### Head of Innovation & New Product at UltraTech Cement

Omkar is a Mechanical Engineer from Pune University & an MBA from IIM Calcutta, who's worked for marquee companies including Asian Paints & Reliance Jio. He currently serves as the Head of Innovation & New Product at UltraTech Cement, a \$5 Billion dollar company within the Aditya Birla Group conglomerate. His work in Sales & Marketing spans across product lines- from Toffee to Technology – & with diverse exposure- from legal, packaging supply chain, R&D and even creating TV commercials.

With Reliance Jio, he worked on building their next big retail technology business. With Asian Paints, he's worked with Sales & Marketing, one of the highlights being the creation of a market for an environmentally friendly paint – Royale Aspira – the only product in India certified by Green Seal™, USA.

Public policy is a keen area of interest, where he has pursued formal short term courses including Kautilya Fellows Program, held by India Foundation in association with the Ministry of External Affairs. These have been applied in policy research work, including on India's affirmative action program & on Data protection laws.

Omkar also volunteers for a Rural development initiative, helping bridge the urban-rural income inequality gap. In his spare time, he plays football, sings terribly, reads science fiction & drinks unhealthy amounts of coffee. Travel is a huge passion, & he's visited 20 countries so far.



## Sadhana Subramaniam

### Emmy Nominated Filmmaker

Sadhana Subramaniam is an Emmy nominated documentary director. Her debut documentary, India's Forbidden Love, which was nominated for the International Emmy, tells a terrifying story of a young girl's fight for justice after her husband fell victim to honour killings and caste brutality in India.

Sadhana has a keen interest in telling the stories of human condition caught up in the mire of politics and violence. Her belief in the power of story telling as an agent of change in the society has been instrumental in all her outreach efforts.

Sadhana has worked on various journalistic projects for the BBC, Al Jazeera, and Channel 4.

 [@isadhanas](https://twitter.com/isadhanas)



## Sonakshi Chaudhry

### Trustee at the Woman of the Elements Trust

Sonakshi Chaudhry is a Trustee at the Woman of the Elements Trust, which she started along with her mother in 2012. The Trust provides free legal aid to women and child victims of domestic violence. She is also a freelance editor, writer, and content creator. She is currently working as a Researcher and Editorial Lead for a podcast examining female labour force participation in India.

Previously, Sonakshi has worked as a Consultant at the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, in the Economic Advisor's Bureau. Prior to that, she was a Research Assistant at the Observer Research Foundation, working on the Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) project.

Sonakshi was among the youngest recipients of the 2016-17 Chevening scholarship through which she pursued an MA in Gender, Violence and Conflict at the University of Sussex. She completed her undergraduate studies at St. Stephen's College in Delhi in 2014 and subsequently worked as an Assistant Editor at Vayu Aerospace and Defence Review. She has also edited and written several titles for a leading children's book publisher in Delhi.

 [@sonakshi\\_93](https://twitter.com/sonakshi_93)





## Waheed-ur-Rehman Para

### Youth President and Spokesperson of the Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Democratic

Waheed-ur-Rehman Para is the Youth President and Spokesperson of the Jammu and Kashmir Peoples Democratic Party (JKPDP), which was lastly the ruling the northern state of Jammu and Kashmir. He became the youngest spokesperson of the party after it won the elections in 2015. Before joining politics, he worked actively as a social and political activist.

Before joining politics, he was a youth activist. He was trained for an investigative journalism program at Boston University. Para did his masters in Peace & Conflict Studies from IUST, Awantipora and was awarded a peace scholarship by the SIT Graduate Institute, Vermont USA.

He was also a member of “Kashmir Committee” revived in 2011 by Ram Jethmalani, former Member of Indian Parliament and Union Minister. As a member of Peoples Democratic Party, he played a crucial role in mobilizing support for the 2014 parliamentary elections.

In 2015, he was appointed “Political Analyst” to Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir and served as a secretary of Jammu & Kashmir sports council. He engaged around 1,20,000 youth in sports activities across J&K in 2017. He designed various programs and strategies for the development of peace through sports. Waheed took part in 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference, held in Paris, as a special representative from the state of J&K. He presented a speech on the community-based development that addressed the climate change and the role of youth in overcoming the challenges of climate change.

 [@parawahid](https://twitter.com/parawahid)



## Stanly Johny

### International Affairs Editor

Stanly Johny is the international affairs editor at The Hindu. He is a regular contributor on geopolitics to The Hindu, The Hindu Business Line and Frontline. His first book, The ISIS Caliphate: From Syria to the Doorsteps of India, was brought out by Bloomsbury India in 2018. He has contributed several chapters to edited volumes on Indian foreign policy and geopolitics, including India National Security Annual Review -2016-17. His writings and analyses have been featured in global think tank forums such as The Middle East Institute (Washington DC), Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (Singapore) and the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (New Delhi), and other media outlets including Russia Today, Economic and Political Weekly, Business Standard, The Gulf Today, and TV18. He has reported for The Hindu group from several parts of the world such as Moscow, Washington DC, Montgomery, Seoul, Ramallah, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Amman, Singapore, Brussels and Luxembourg. A PhD in West Asian Studies from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Stanly teaches critical international issues at Asian College of Journalism, Chennai, and is a visiting scholar at Kerala University, Thiruvananthapuram.



# AIYD PROGRAMME SPEAKERS

## DAY 1

Changing World Order

Wednesday, 15/01/2020



### **Dr. Darren Lim**

Dr. Darren Lim is a Senior Lecturer in the School of Politics and International Relations at the Australian National University, a member of the ANU National Security College Futures Council, and co-host of the “Australia in the World” podcast. His academic research focuses on geoeconomics and economic statecraft, the rules-based international order, technology competition, and foreign policy responses to major-power rivalry, with a regional focus on the Indo-Pacific. In the policy domain, he has published commissioned research with the Brookings Institution, Global Asia and the Asan Forum, as well as numerous commentary pieces. He received his PhD and MPA from Princeton University, and holds first class Honours degrees in economics and law from Monash University. Prior to his postgraduate studies he worked professionally as a corporate lawyer, Associate to the Chief Justice of the Federal Court of Australia, and as a researcher at the International Crisis Group in Brussels.



## Varghese George

Varghese George, is the founder CEO & Managing Director of ExtentorTquila, a software services company in the Enterprise Cloud Computing space with a presence in Australia, India, UK, Germany and Japan. Before founding Extentor in 2011 George worked in the IT industry for 21 years. George spent the first 12 years of his career in Japan, starting from 1990. He joined Infosys Technologies Limited in 1996 to help start their Japanese operation in Tokyo. He also managed a joint venture between Infosys and KennichiOhmae, the world renowned management consultant from Japan and an author to several best sellers.

Post Japan George worked for Infosys in Australia for 8 years eventually leading their Banking and Capital Markets business unit for the ANZ region. In his 14 years with Infosys, George has taken up several other roles including that of Business Development Manager in Japan, Head of Public Sector in Australia, NSW State Sales Manager and Head of Sales for the northern region in Australia. In 1998, George won the Infosys Business Development Award for Outstanding Performance, followed by the Chairman's Award for Excellence in 2000.

He led the company's entry into the Korean market during the dot-com era. George was also responsible for negotiating one of the first end-to-end (consulting to implementation) multi-million dollar projects for Infosys. Before joining Infosys, George was with Hitachi as an Application Systems Engineer and prior to that he worked with IBM Japan. George also sits on the board of Tequila International as well as several organisations in the IT and Education sector. He is also a consultant at the Executive Forum of the Coleman Research Group. George is a magician, motorcycle rider and folk dance artist going by his hobbies.

## MODERATOR



## Guru Prakash

After completing his Law from National Law Institute University, Bhopal and LL.M (Human Rights) from Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, Guru Prakash is presently pursuing his doctoral research on the topic of Article 370 of the Constitution of India from the University of Delhi. He is currently a Senior Research Fellow & Project Head at a New Delhi based Think Tank, India Foundation. He is also looking after the youth outreach program of Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry(DICCI) as National President, DICCINextGen Program. He regularly contributes as a columnist for Huffpost, Press Information, Bureau, Govt. of India etc.

 [@guruprakash88](https://twitter.com/guruprakash88)



## Ambassador Toby Feakin

Dr Tobias Feakin is Australia's inaugural Ambassador for Cyber Affairs. He leads Australia's Whole of Government international engagement to advance and protect Australia's national security, foreign policy, economic and trade, and development interests on the internet and in cyberspace.

Ambassador Feakin was a member of the Independent Panel of Experts that supported the Australian Cyber Security Review to produce Australia's 2016 Cyber Security Strategy. He was the Director of National Security Programs at the Australian Strategic Policy Institute from 2012 to 2016 and established the Institute's International Cyber Policy Centre.

He has also held a number of research and advisory positions, including with the Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies, Oxford University Global Cyber Security Capacity Centre, the Global Commission on Internet Governance and the Global Commission on the Stability of Cyberspace.

Ambassador Feakin holds an Honours Degree in Security Studies and a Doctorate of Philosophy in International Politics and Security Studies, both from the University of Bradford.



## Arun Mohan Sukumar

Arun Mohan Sukumar is a PhD candidate at The Fletcher School, Tufts University. He is the author of *Midnight's Machines: A Political History of Technology in India*, published in November 2019 by Penguin RandomHouse. Arun is a lawyer by training, and graduated from NALSAR, Hyderabad. He headed the Technology Initiative of the Observer Research Foundation, India's biggest think-tank, between 2015 and 2019. Arun was a member of the multi-stakeholder group set up by India's National Security Advisor in 2017 on 'cyber norms', or rules of conduct for states and businesses in cyberspace. He has been a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on the Digital Economy and Society (2016-2019).

Currently a PhD candidate at The Fletcher School, Tufts University, Arun Mohan Sukumar is the author of *Midnight's Machines: A Political History of Technology in India*, published in November 2019 by Penguin RandomHouse. Graduating from NALSAR, Hyderabad, Arun is a lawyer by training. He led the Technology Initiative of the Observer Research Foundation, India's biggest think-tank, between 2015 and 2019. He has been a member of the World Economic Forum's Global Future Council on the Digital Economy and Society (2016-2019).

## MODERATOR



### Priya Sahgal

Priya Sahgal is the senior executive editor at NewsX channel, where she anchors two political shows: 'The Roundtable' & 'Cover Story'. The shows are based on current political affairs and the tone of her shows is explanatory and analytical, not confrontational. The shows have won the Best Talk Show award by Exchange for Media twice over (2015 & 2017).

A political journalist for nearly three decades, Priya has worked at Sunday, Outlook and India Today (magazines). She is also a political columnist for The Sunday Guardian.

She has also authored a book, *The Contenders*, (published by Simon & Shuster) in November 2018. This profiles 16 GenNext politicians including Rahul Gandhi, Akhilesh Yadav, Tejashwi Yadav, the Badals, Omar Abdullah and Arvind Kejriwal. Through candid conversations and sharp profiles the book gauges how they stack up in the Age of Modi.

She also won the British Council's prestigious Hansard Fellowship (2002) which included an internship at the House of Lords and a course at the London School of Economics. She was recently awarded the Young Achiever's Award by YFLO (Young Ficci Ladies Organization) in the field of media.



## Sanjeev Sanyal

Sanjeev Sanyal is an internationally acclaimed economist and best-selling author. He is currently the Principal Economic Advisor to the Government of India and also serves as the Co-Chair of the G-20 Framework Working Group. Prior to joining the government, he spent two decades in the financial sector and was Global Strategist & Managing Director at Deutsche Bank. He was named Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum in 2010. He is also a well known environmentalist and urban theorist. In 2007, he was awarded the Eisenhower Fellowship for his work on urban dynamics. He has been a Visiting Scholar at Oxford University, Adjunct Fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies, Singapore and a Senior Fellow of the World Wide Fund for Nature. In 2016, he served in the Future City Sub-Committee of the Singapore government tasked with building a long-term vision for the city-state and is currently a member of the committee tasked with writing a new National Urban Policy for India (to be published 2018).

Sanjeev attended Shri Ram College of Commerce, Delhi and Oxford University where he was a Rhodes Scholar (1992-95). His best-selling books include *Land of the Seven Rivers*, *The Indian Renaissance* and *The Ocean of Churn*, all published by Penguin. In addition, he had published around 200 articles, columns and reports in leading national/international publications. He was given the inaugural International Indian Achievers Award for contributions to Literature in 2014. He has been a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, London and a Visiting Fellow of IDFC Institute, Mumbai.



## Ambassador Amit Das Gupta

UNSW has appointed distinguished former Indian diplomat, author and educator Amit Dasgupta as its inaugural India Country Director. He is currently based out of Noida.

During his diplomatic career, Mr Dasgupta served in a range of overseas postings including as India's Consul General in Sydney (2009-12), Ambassador to the Philippines as well as other stints serving in Germany, Belgium, Egypt and Nepal. He also served as the Ministry of External Affairs' Director of Finance and was the first head of the Ministry's Public Diplomacy Division.

Mr Dasgupta served with particular distinction in Sydney and was awarded a medal by the NSW Community Relations Commission in recognition of his efforts promoting harmony. In his capacity as Consul General, he had a long association with UNSW and was instrumental in securing the installation of the Mahatma Gandhi bust and the creation of UNSW's signature Annual Gandhi Oration. He has also been appointed as Distinguished Fellow Australia- India Institute.

Prior to UNSW, Mr Dsgupta was based in Mumbai as the Head of the SP Jain School of Management's new campus. Mr Dasgupta said he strongly believed in the power of education to transform lives and society for the better.



## Erin Watson-Lynn

Erin Watson-Lynn is the Perth USAsia Centre's Senior Fellow, where she develops high level content and leads a range of programs on Indo-Pacific issues. Erin has delivered Track I.5 and II dialogues and programs across the Indo-Pacific and has an established network across think tanks, academic, government and the media.

While her early research focused primarily on gender and South Asia, Erin has developed broader expertise in Australia's engagement with the Indo-Pacific and track II multilateralism including ASEAN and the G20. Erin has represented Australia at G20 Summit's in Turkey, China, Argentina, Japan, and will lead the Australian W20 delegation to Saudi Arabia. Erin is regular foreign affairs commentator on Australian television and has appeared on leading programs including ABC's QandA and the Drum, and on SKY News Australia.

Prior to joining Perth USAsia Centre, Erin was Director of Asialink Diplomacy at the University of Melbourne, and previously was appointed at Monash University, United Nations ESCAP and Swinburne University of Technology. Erin is currently Chair of the Advisory Board of the National Centre for Student Equity in Higher Education, a federally funded research and policy centre at Curtin University. She is alumna of the Australia India Youth Dialogue 2017 and co-founder and Australia Chair of the Australia Latam Emerging Leaders Dialogue.

## MODERATOR



## Ruchir Punjabi

Ruchir is a Co-Founder & Chief Digital Officer at Distributed Energy ([www.de.energy](http://www.de.energy)). Distributed Energy matches investors with renewable energy projects across Africa, Middle East and India.

Ruchir formerly founded Langoor ([www.langoor.com](http://www.langoor.com)) - one of APAC's largest independent digital agencies that was later sold to Havas Group in 2019. Langoor started in his living room in Sydney before growing to a 200+ people digital agency across the Asia Pacific. He continues to be a Board Director and Evangelist for the business.

Passionate about social change, Ruchir has started a number of social and not for profit organisations. After the International student crisis in Australia in 2010, Ruchir created the Australia India Youth Dialogue, a track II diplomatic dialogue between the young leaders of Australia and India. Ruchir is also the Founder of a School of Policy and Governance and Samarthan India.

Ruchir is a Computer Science graduate from Sydney University and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He serves as Director on a number of not for profit and business Boards, including investing in some of them.



## Ian Stern

Ian Stern is a Scotsman living in India. He is an international facilitator and joint Managing Director of Holistic Training Solutions; a leadership development company, co-founded in India in 1994.

Ian holds a Master's in Entrepreneurship from the Scottish Business school at the University of Stirling, UK. He has over 25 years of international training, consulting and coaching experience.

He has worked with mid-level and senior Executives in over 200 companies based in India and over 25 countries in Asia, UK and Europe, North America and Africa. He has trained more than 35,000 people. His specialization is the development of leaders. Some the clients Ian has worked with recently include: GE, BP, Bain and Co, Boston Consulting Group, WHO and a Himalayan NGO.

Ian is married to Lynda, a Tibetan, and they have two children. Ian loves the mountains, and has the long term plan is to set up a small hotel in Darjeeling in the Himalayas! Currently, Ian is researching and writing a book on Leadership and Cross Culture communication called "Leading in India", in which he shares his experiences of working in global teams.

## INTRODUCED BY



## Christopher Michael Higgins

Chris Higgins is a Business Head at Ideate Labs, one of India's most established digital marketing agencies. He oversees digital strategy and advertising for companies across India and the Middle East from the real estate, education, fashion, and retail industries.

Previously, Chris was the President of Annapurna International School of Film and Media (AISFM), a filmmaking, animation and liberal arts college in Hyderabad, India. He was a member of the founding team for the school, and helped to develop some of India's first university qualifications in film production. He was also a member of the founding team at Whistling Woods International, a Mumbai film school where he headed admissions and international affiliations. Chris was also the Indian National Head of Business Development for UK media sales agency SpaceandPeople.

Chris has a Bachelors of Business from UTS and is completing a Masters in Advertising from Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University (JNAFAU) in Hyderabad, India.





## Ambassador Anil Wadhwa

Ambassador Anil Wadhwa was a member of the Indian Foreign Service from 1979 to 2017 and has served as Indian Ambassador to Italy, Thailand , Oman, Poland , San Marino and Lithuania . As Secretary ( East) in the Ministry of External Affairs of India he oversaw relations with South East Asia , Gulf and West Asia , Pacific and Australasia. He has served as the Indian Ambassador and Permanent Representative to FAO, IFAD , WFP, UNESCAP and worked with the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in The Hague heading the Government Relations and Media and Public Affairs Branches . Ambassador Wadhwa has been India's chief delegate to the East Asia Summit, Asean - India, Asem, ACD, the Arab League , Mekong Ganga Cooperation, and ARF meetings. He has been leading the CII task force for writing the Australia a Economic Strategy Report for the Indian government. Ambassador Wadhwa is currently a Distinguished Fellow with the Vivekananda International Foundation, New Delhi and an Independent Director on the Boards of some Corporate firms.

Ambassador Anil Wadhwa, a member of the Indian Foreign Service. A member of the Indian Foreign Service from 1979 to 2017, Ambassador Anil Wadhwa has served as Indian Ambassador to Italy, Thailand , Oman, Poland , San Marino and Lithuania. As the eastern secretary in the ministry of External Affairs of India, he looked after the relations with SouthEast Asia , Gulf and West Asia , Pacific and Australasia. He has served as the Indian Ambassador and Permanent Representative to various organisations and has worked with the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in The Hague heading the Government Relations and Media and Public Affairs Branches. He has been India's chief delegate to the East Asia Summit, Asean. He has been running the CII task force for writing the Australia a Economic Strategy Report for the Indian Government.



## Prof. James Curran

Professor James Curran specialises in the history of Australian and American foreign relations, Australian political culture and the relationship between history and grand strategy. In 2013 he held the Keith Cameron Chair at University College Dublin, and in 2010 was a Fulbright scholar at Georgetown University. Prior to joining academia, Curran worked in The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Office of National Assessments. His commentary on foreign affairs and political culture has appeared in The National Interest, major Australian newspapers as well as the East Asia Forum, China-US Focus and the Council on Foreign Relations 'Asia Unbound' series. His books include The Power of Speech: Australian Prime Ministers Defining the National Image (2004), The Unknown Nation: Australia After Empire (2010, with Stuart Ward) Unholy Fury: Whitlam and Nixon at War (2015) and Fighting with America (2016). He is currently writing a book on Australia's China debate for NewSouth Press.





## Daniel Mookhey MLC

Daniel Mookhey was elected to the Parliament of NSW on 6 May 2015 as a Member of the Legislative Council. The son of Indian migrants, Daniel was the first MP to be sworn into an Australian Parliament on the Hindu religious text The Bhagavad Gita. Prior to entering the Parliament Daniel held senior roles in the Australian Council of Trade Unions. Daniel has been a passionate advocate for the people of NSW, especially in rural and regional communities.



## Melissa Conley Tyler

Melissa comes to Asialink after 13 years as National Executive Director of the Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA). Under her leadership, the AIIA was recognised as the Top Think Tank in Southeast and the Pacific and one of the top 50 think tanks worldwide in the University of Pennsylvania's Global Go To Think Tanks Index for three years running.

She has delivered more than 40 dialogues at the AIIA, establishing and sustaining networks among Australian and international leaders through Track II dialogues involving academics, government officials, media and business. She is also a regular commentator on Australian international relations.

Melissa is a lawyer and specialist in conflict resolution, including negotiation, mediation and peace education. She was Program Manager of the International Conflict Resolution Centre at the University of Melbourne and Senior Fellow of Melbourne Law School.

In 2017, she co-authored Think Tank Diplomacy, the first-ever book length discussion of the role of think tanks in modern diplomacy.

In 2019 Melissa was honoured as a Fellow of the Australian Institute of International Affairs in recognition of her distinguished contribution to international affairs. Melissa Conley Tyler, National Executive Director of the Australian Institute of International Affairs After 13 years, Melissa comes to Asialink after 13 years as National Executive Director of the Australian Institute of International Affairs (AIIA). Under her guidance and leadership the AIIA was recognised as the Top Think Tank in Southeast and the Pacific and one of the top 50 think tanks worldwide in the University of Pennsylvania's Global Go To Think Tanks Index for three years running. She has delivered more than 40 dialogues at the AIIA. She is also a regular commentator on Australian international relations. Melissa is a lawyer and specialist in conflict resolution and was Program Manager of the International Conflict Resolution Centre at the University of Melbourne and Senior Fellow of Melbourne Law School. She co-authored Think Tank Diplomacy in 2017, the first-ever book length discussion of the role of think tanks in modern diplomacy. Last year, she was honoured as a Fellow of the Australian Institute of International Affairs in recognition of her distinguished contribution to international affairs.

## MODERATOR



### Smita Sharma

Smita Sharma is a senior award winning independent journalist. She writes on foreign policy and security issues for various news organisations including ETV Bharat , Huffington Post and Dainik Bhaskar. She was the Consulting Executive Editor for TV9 Bharatvarsh and Deputy Editor with The Tribune in the past. In more than 16 years of her journalism career she has also been a bilingual prime time anchor and foreign policy Incharge with leading TV news channels- India Today/ Aajtak/ CNN-IBN/ IBN7 and DD News. Her reportage of the Kashmir conflict in 2010 won the Ramnath Goenka Award. She is an alumna of the Asia Pacific Centre for Security Studies (DKI-APCSS) in Hawaii.

She has been invited as a panelist in several international conferences including The Carnegie Nuclear Dialogue in DC , The Strategic Studies Centre International Seminar in Thailand and the ICRC Asia Media Conference in Thailand.

Business Across Borders

Thursday, 16/01/2020



### Anand Barot

Anand leads the BOUNCE Inc India business. Anand is a Director of Stratospheric Entertainment Pvt Limited (SEPL) that has got BOUNCE Inc to India. SEPL holds the exclusive rights for BOUNCE Inc in India which is a team strength of 100 Employees (Venue and HQ staff). BOUNCE India recently launched its first venue in Mumbai which is 42,000 sq ft with over 130+ Trampolines and over 20 activities.

In his career, Anand has had the best of the both of worlds having studied and graduated as top of his batch in both IIT Bombay and IIM Lucknow. Anand has had significant exposure with industry leaders and top brands of the world such as the Boston Consulting Group and American Express. After a diverse experience, Anand decided to take the plunge and took to entrepreneurship.



## Mosiqi Acharya

Mosiqi Acharya is a Journalist and a Senior Digital Content Producer with SBS Radio, based in Melbourne. She has written extensively on issues connecting Australia and India for SBS along with reporting news and current affairs.

Mosiqi is passionate about Australia-India relations, has written a White Paper on the Australia India Economic Trade relations published by the Australia India Institute and Australia India Business Council.

Prior to SBS, she worked as a senior television journalist in India for a decade where she covered politics, news, business and current affairs for India's leading news channels – India Today, CNN IBN.

Mosiqi has a Masters of International Journalism (Broadcast) from University of Westminster, UK. She was selected as a delegate for the Australia India Youth Dialogue in 2015 and has been a Steering Committee Member since 2017.

Equitable Readings 1

Thursday, 16/01/2020

## FACILITATED BY



## Achyutha Sharma

Achyutha has a decade of experience in Brand, Design, Retail and Marketing. He is a fashion graduate from the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Delhi. He currently runs Collaborative Community, a brand and design consulting firm that works with start-up businesses and the development sector. The brand firm has worked with start-ups and other businesses in the area of apparel, food & beverage, e-commerce, and retail brand across sectors. In the development sector, it has worked with diverse nonprofit and social enterprises across themes such as education, livelihood, craft, energy, water and sanitation.

He also runs Sulochana Development Trust, a charitable trust that supports Creative Arts & Design for Social Impact. He has been a speaker at Indian and international conferences, a fellow with AIYD 2014, Acumen Fund India fellow 2014 and has been nominated for the Young Creative Entrepreneur Awards 2012 by British Council India.

Achyutha's interest specifically in the Australian-Indian relationship is in the area of design, entrepreneurship, social sector, arts & culture. He is continuing the Samaanata dialogue on craft & culture that originated from an Australian project. Achyutha is passionate about building brands and articulates his insights under Designing Growth and Design Impact blogs.



## Kuppal Palaniappan

Kuppal Palaniappan is a management consultant at Deloitte who was recently selected in the top 100 most talented women across Deloitte Australia as part of the Deloitte Aspiring Women's leadership program. At Deloitte, Kuppal consults on matters of strategy and technology across social impact, not for profit and the public sector.

Kuppal was a delegate in the 2017 Australia India Dialogue and won the group challenge. Her group proposed to decrease the approx 100,000 drowning incidences in India every year, by bringing the best of Australian Surf Life Saving skills and expertise to India.

Kuppal is also the co-founder of Soleful Shoes, an online shoe store which advocates for an inclusive fashion community. Soleful Shoes sells shoes to women with feet size 1-5 and 10-14, who due to size are traditionally excluded from the shoe industry.

Kuppal has a double degree in Business and Technology from UTS and a postgraduate in Social Impact from UNSW.



## Will Taing

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Will currently serves as AgriFutures Australia's Emerging Industries Advisory Panel; on Australian China Business Council's Committees and the AIYD Steering Committee. He was a AIYD 2019 delegate.

In 2019, Will was selected as "40 under 40: Most Influential Asian-Australian" at the Asian-Australian Leadership Summit founded by Asialink, PwC and the Australian National University.



## Sandeep Chandra

Sandeep is a Strategy Consultant at Monitor Deloitte and specialises in Corporate and M&A Strategy. He has worked in Consumer Business & Retail, Energy & Utilities and Government sectors, with a particular focus on supporting clients to expand in the Asia Pacific region.

He has a Bachelor of Engineering (First Class Honours) and Bachelor of Commerce, from the University of New South Wales, Sydney.

He is passionate about the role India and Australia play in the Asia Pacific region, in business, trade and social contexts. He joined the AIYD Steering Committee in 2019.

Security, Space and Strategy

Thursday, 16/01/2020



## Dr. Rajeswari Pillai

Dr. Rajeswari Pillai Rajagopalan is a Distinguished Fellow and heads the Nuclear and Space Policy Initiative at the Observer Research Foundation. She was also the Technical Advisor to a new UN Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on Prevention of Arms Race in Outer Space (PAROS) (July 2018-July 2019). As the senior Asia defence writer for *The Diplomat*, she writes a weekly column on Asian strategic issues. Dr. Rajagopalan joined ORF after a five-year stint at the National Security Council Secretariat (2003-2007), where she was an Assistant Director. Prior to joining the NSCS, she was Research Officer at the Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi. She was also a Visiting Professor at the Graduate Institute of International Politics, National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan in 2012. She has authored and edited nine books including *Global Nuclear Security: Moving Beyond the NSS* (2018), *Space Policy 2.0* (2017), *Nuclear Security in India* (2015), *Clashing Titans: Military Strategy and Insecurity among Asian Great Powers* (2012), *The Dragon's Fire: Chinese Military Strategy and Its Implications for Asia* (2009). She has published research articles in edited volumes, and in peer reviewed journals such as *India Review*, *Strategic Studies Quarterly*, *Air and Space Power Journal*, *International Journal of Nuclear Law and Strategic Analysis*. She has also contributed essays to newspapers such as *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Times of India*, and *The Economic Times*. She has been invited to speak at international fora including the United Nations Disarmament Forum (New York), the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) (Vienna), Conference on Disarmament (Geneva), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and the European Union.



## Dr. Bec Strating

Dr Bec Strating is the acting Executive Director of La Trobe Asia and a Senior Lecturer in Politics and International Relations in the Department of Politics, Media and Philosophy at La Trobe University in Melbourne. Her current research interests include maritime disputes in the Indo-Pacific and Australian foreign policy. In 2019, she was awarded an Asia Studies Visiting Fellowship at the East-West Center in Washington DC, and was a visiting fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore.

Bec received her PhD in politics from Monash University in 2013, and in her academic career has published two monographs and numerous scholarly articles and book chapters. In 2018, her article on the Timor Sea maritime dispute was awarded the prestigious Boyer Prize by the Australian Institute of International Affairs for best article published in the Australian Journal of International Affairs in 2017. She is regularly invited to present at public and academic seminars and conferences, and is an advocate for greater visibility of women in Australian International Relations debates and discussions.

Bec contributes regularly to public debates about politics and foreign policy, writing for policy forums such as Broad Agenda, Lowy Interpreter, Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative and Australian Strategic Policy Initiative, and is a commissioning editor for the Australian Institute of International Affairs' publication Australian Outlook. She has provided expert comment for global and Australian media organisations including the ABC, The Age and Reuters, and in 2017, she was invited to testify as an expert witness in Australian federal parliament.

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## MODERATOR



## Jyoti Malhotra

Jyoti Malhotra is National and Strategic Affairs editor at The Print website in New Delhi, India. She has been a journalist for 35 years and writes on foreign policy and politics, especially as it intersects with India's neighbourhood, as well as how South Asia is impacted by great power politics. For power to be responsible, she believes, it must be imbued with both morality and the realisation that neighbours have no option but to live next to each other.



## KEYNOTE



### Padmashri Deepa Malik

Dr. Deepa Malik has the unique distinction of being the First Female Para-athlete in India to win a medal at the Asian Games, the World Championships, and the only Indian Female Para-athlete to win a medal at the paralympics and the coveted Highest Sports Honour of the country, the Khel Ratna. Deepa has a tally of 58 national Gold Medals & 23 International Medals to her credit. She is the only Indian Woman to win medals in 3 consecutive asian games, with a new asian record each time. She has to her credit, 5 President Of India Awards including the Padma Shri and Arjuna Award, and has been recognized by United Nations and NITI Aayog with the Women Transforming India award.

On her Mission of 'Ability Beyond Disability', she has gone on to create 4 Limca World Records in Adventure, becoming the First Paraplegic Woman in biking, river swimming, high altitudemountain driving and car rallies like Desert Storm and Raid-De-Himalaya.

Her impact on the International Paralympic Movement has earned her the recognition of Global Woman of the year 2019 by the International Paralympic Committee among 176 member countries. This year she dons the very important role of being the New Zealand Prime Minister's Fellow and representing 130 crore Indians for the bilateral relations between New Zealand & India.

She is most proud of the work done through her foundation Wheeling Happiness which has impacted & empowered over 10,000 Divyaangs through international advocacy, inclusion workshops, accessibility aides, accessibility audits, rural outreach and counselling & mentoring. The work has been applauded internationally by the Head of the Commonwealth, Queen Elizabeth II as well as the Vice President of India.

The work of Wheeling Happiness Foundation is about to feature in an upcoming Karamveer Fundraiser episode of Kaun Banega Crorepati on 11th October 2019. Deepa has contributed towards betterment of Inclusive Sports Policies as a member of the Five-Year Planning Commission 2012-2017 and has been a brand ambassador for Government initiatives like Swachch Bharat; Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao; Jaago Grahak Jaago, Khelo India and the Fit India Movement to name a few.



## Sonam Wangchuk

Mr Sonam Wangchuk was born in the trans-Himalayan region of Ladakh in Jammu & Kashmir, India.

Though a Mechanical Engineer by education, he has been mostly working in the field of education reform for more than 30 years. In 1988, just after he finished his engineering studies, he founded SECMOL (Students' Educational and Cultural Movement of Ladakh), which aims to bring reforms in the government school system in Ladakh.

In 1994 he was instrumental in the launch of Operation New Hope, a triangular collaboration of the government, village communities and the civil society to bring reforms in the government school system.

In order to solve the water crisis facing mountain regions due to climate change and fast melting glaciers he invented the Ice Stupa artificial glacier which stores the wasting stream waters in winter in the form of giant ice cones or stupas and releases the water in late spring as they melt... just when farmers needs water for irrigation.



## Rod Hilton

Rod Hilton is a senior career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). He commenced in the role of Deputy Head of Mission in New Delhi in May 2018.

Mr Hilton has previously served overseas as Minister Counsellor (Economics and Governance) Port Moresby (2014-2018), and in Canberra has held a range of positions, with the most recent being Assistant Secretary, Global Development. In this role he also served on the boards of the Green Climate Fund and the Global Green Growth Institute. Mr Hilton has also worked as Deputy Chief of Staff to the Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, and the Minister for Defence Personnel, Materiel and Science.

Mr Hilton holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) and Laws from the Australian National University.





## Ram Madhav

Ram Madhav is an Indian politician, writer and journalist. He is currently serving as the National General Secretary of the Bharatiya Janata Party. He has also been a former member of the National Executive of the Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS).

He is a Member, Board of Governors of India Foundation, a premier think tank based in Delhi. Mr Madhav has also authored several books in English and Telugu, with his latest one being 'Uneasy Neighbours: India and China after 50 years of war'.

Madhav was born in Amalapuram in the East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. Primarily a student of engineering, he earned his Diploma in Electrical Engineering from Andhra Pradesh. He has a post-graduate degree in Political Science from the University of Mysore, Karnataka.

Madhav's association with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh began as a teenager. He volunteered to be a full-time worker for RSS in 1981 and was assigned to several key positions in the organization.

He was the editor of Bharatiya Pragna, a monthly magazine in English published by Pragna Bharati, and associate editor of Jagriti, a Telugu weekly.

## MODERATOR



### **Rishabh Gulati**

Rishabh Gulati is a television journalist, currently the Managing Editor of the National English News Channel, NewsX, where he also serves as the principal prime time news anchor. A student of journalism in Delhi University, he pursued his post graduation in International Relations from the University of Manchester, England. Rishabh is the Executive Director of Global Youth, an organisation that mentors young people and promotes gender empowerment in taking leadership roles in engaging with foreign, strategic, economic and social policy initiatives. A published poet, Rishabh was also recognised as the Young Professional of the Year by the National Broadcasters Association in 2015. He's also helped found and contributes to organisations undertaking activities in theatre, leadership training and social service in India. Rishabh is also an alumnus of the Australia India Youth Dialogue (AIYD 2016) and the Asian Forum on Global Governance (AFGG 2014).

Rishabh Gulatti, a television journalist, is currently the Managing Editor of the National English News Channel, NewsX, where he also serves as the principal prime time news anchor. After completing his course on journalism in Delhi University, he pursued his post graduation in International Relations from the University of Manchester, England. He is also, the Executive Director of Global Youth, an organisation that mentors young people and promotes gender empowerment in taking leadership roles in engaging with foreign, strategic, economic and social policy initiatives. He was recognised as the Young Professional of the Year by the National Broadcasters Association in 2015. He is an an alumnus of the Australia India Youth Dialogue (AIYD 2016) and the Asian Forum on Global Governance (AFGG 2014).

## DAY 3

### Panel Discussion: Partnerships for A Sustainable Future



### Raj Cherubal

Raj Cherubal is CEO of Chennai Smart City Limited (CSCL). Smart Cities is a flagship initiative of the GoI, being implemented by the Government of Tamil Nadu and Greater Chennai Corporation, to improve infrastructure and services of the city, and thereby improve the quality of life of all its citizens. Raj was Director-Projects for Chennai City Connect (CCC), a platform for industry and civic organisations, envisions vibrant Indian cities that deliver world-class quality of life, infrastructure and services. He is interested in improving urban governance, urban quality of life. He has worked on sustainable transportation and urban planning, pedestrianisation, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and integrated, multi-modal public transportation, solid waste management, restoration of urban water bodies, sustainable financing of urban infrastructure, redevelopment of business district and regional planning. He has worked to promote decentralisation and urban good governance. Also to promote economic freedom for entrepreneurs, especially poor like street vendors and others in the informal sector and for their recognition as profit seeking entrepreneurs.

He holds a M.S. in Physics from the University of Louisville and a M.S. in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He has worked in the software industry in areas like computational physics, visualisation, telecom and finance.



## Ashok Vardhan Shetty

K. Ashok Vardhan Shetty, who hails from Karnataka, was formerly a member of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS) of Tamil Nadu Cadre of the 1983 batch. He had a brilliant academic career throughout and stood 4<sup>th</sup> in the State in the S.S.L.C public examination of 1973. He has a B.E (Honours) in Mechanical Engineering and B.L. He dropped out of the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore after the 1<sup>st</sup> year to join the IAS in 1983 but went on to complete his MBA from the University of Birmingham, U.K in 2002 securing 'Distinction' and first rank. As a student, Mr. Shetty won more than 30 prizes in District and State level Quiz and Debating competitions, and was awarded the 'Outstanding Quiz Competitor Award' in 1979 by UNI-YMCA. He also won the highest number of prizes in sports and extra-curricular activities (13 prizes) during his training at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (for IAS Officers), Mussoorie (1983-85).

Starting out as Sub Collector, Hosur in 1985, Mr.Shetty held a number of key assignments including Registrar of the University of Madras between 1989 and 1991 (the first IAS officer to hold the post since 1857 and the youngest Registrar ever at the age of 31); Deputy Commissioner (Commercial Taxes), Madras North (1991-93); District Collector, Villupuram (1993-94); Director of Rural Development (1996-98); Managing Director, TASMAL (1998-99); Secretary, Chief Minister's Secretariat (1999-2001); Managing Director, SAGOSERVE, Salem (2003-06); Principal Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department (2006-10); Principal Secretary, Municipal Administration and Water Supply (2010-11), among others. After taking voluntary retirement from the IAS, he also served as the Vice Chancellor of the Indian Maritime University, Chennai, a Central University under the Union Ministry of Shipping, between 2014 and 2017.

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## MODERATOR



## Dr Jayani Nadarajalingam

Jayani is a lecturer with the Melbourne School of Government and currently in the final stages of her PhD (undertaken at Monash University's Law and Arts (philosophy) faculties). She has a BA(Hons)/LLB(Hons) from Monash University and an LLM (Legal Theory) from New York University. Her research methodologies are primarily from political philosophy, constitutional theory and social theory. She is interested in applying these methodologies to law, politics and public policy, with a particular focus on institutional change, social justice and political leadership. Before joining the University of Melbourne in January 2019, she taught a wide range of subjects at Monash University in both the Law and Arts (philosophy) faculties. Last year she was a Kathleen Fitzpatrick visiting fellow with Professor Adrienne Stone's Laureate Program in Comparative Constitutional Law at the Melbourne Law School.

## FACILITATED BY



### Achyutha Sharma

Achyutha has a decade of experience in Brand, Design, Retail and Marketing. He is a fashion graduate from the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Delhi. He currently runs Collaborative Community, a brand and design consulting firm that works with start-up businesses and the development sector. The brand firm has worked with start-ups and other businesses in the area of apparel, food & beverage, e-commerce, and retail brand across sectors. In the development sector, it has worked with diverse nonprofit and social enterprises across themes such as education, livelihood, craft, energy, water and sanitation.

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## Will Taing

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In 2019, Will was selected as "40 under 40: Most Influential Asian-Australian" at the Asian-Australian Leadership Summit founded by Asialink, PwC and the Australian National University.



## Dr Julian Droogan

Dr. Julian Droogan heads the terrorism research program at the Department of Security Studies and Criminology, Macquarie University, where he is also the Editor-in-Chief of the international Journal of Policing, Intelligence and Counter Terrorism (Routledge).

Dr. Droogan's research focusses on countering violent extremism, online radicalisation and violent extremist narratives. He currently co-leads a number of funded research projects including an ARC Discovery grant examining the relationship between online extremist materials and real-world violent action, as well as a project for the NSW Government mapping far right violent extremism in Australia. He was responsible for the creation of the \$10 million COMPACT CVE program currently operated by the NSW state government aimed at fostering societal resilience to extremist narratives among diverse communities. He serves on the NSW Premier's Countering Violent Extremism Advisory Board.

Dr. Droogan has published extensively on the confluence of terrorism and online technology and social media, Islamist online recruiting methods, far-right extremism, and terrorism in the Asia-Pacific region. He has an academic background in the anthropology of religions and South Asian studies.



## Hemendra Marthur

Hemendra has over 23 years of experience in venture capital, private equity, management consulting and investment banking.

Hemendra in his career has invested in several early stage agritech and mid-sized companies in the agricultural supply chain. He is a mentor, investor and board member in many food and ag-tech start-ups working on innovations in areas such as agri-inputs, market linkages, mechanization, food nutrition and value chain financing.

He is working as Venture Partner with Bharat Innovation Fund –investing in early stage deep-tech start-ups across sectors. Hemendra is also co-founder of ThinkAg – a platform for accelerating the adoption of innovations in agriculture space. He also is the Chairman of FICCI Task Force on Agri Start-ups.

He has authored many papers on the subject and speaks regularly at conferences pertaining to food and agribusiness sector as well as start-up ecosystem. He is a management graduate from IIM (Ahmedabad) and Agricultural Engineer from Rajasthan Agricultural University.

 [@hemendramathur](https://twitter.com/hemendramathur)





## Margaret Faux

Margaret is the Founder and CEO of international medical administration company, Synapse Medical Services, a Lawyer and Registered Nurse, who has been involved in the administration of health financing transactions for over 30 years. Synapse's disruptive technologies are designed to relieve doctors, hospitals and governments from manual, expensive, inefficient administrative processes and redirect health budgets to patient care.

Synapse operates in multiple health systems around the world and, as the CEO of a rapidly expanding global business, with over 100 staff in three countries, Margaret travels the world extensively on business and is regularly asked to speak at various forums on the topic of health financing systems.

Margaret is also a published PhD researcher on the topic of Australia's health financing system, Medicare, and will submit her doctorate 2020. She contributes regularly to peer review journals, public health blogs and radio forums, and is considered one of Australia's leading experts on the legal and administrative structure and operation of Australia's health system.

Margaret is passionate about technology and drives innovation in her business using disruptive technologies to streamline health service delivery and stay ahead of the curve and, as an entrepreneur, she is constantly looking for new ways to improve efficiencies in health administration around the world.



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## Merrill Cherian

Experienced professional with a demonstrated history of working in the consulting industry. Strong business development professional skilled in cyber security, IT Service Management, IT Strategy, and Business Transformation.

## MODERATOR



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Politics of Environment

Saturday, 18/01/2020



### Tania Rhodes-Taylor

Tania Rhodes-Taylor joined The University of Sydney in February 2017 as Vice-Principal, External Relations.

In addition to overseeing the University's engagement with industry and community, Tania has direct responsibility for the University's Marketing and Communications, Media and Public Relations, Museums and Cultural Engagement, Events and Student Recruitment, Admissions and Mobility.

Prior to joining The University of Sydney, Tania was Director of Marketing and Communications at Queen Mary University of London where she had overall responsibility for external relations and reputation development. Tania has previously worked in the corporate and government sectors and began her career with Unisys, including a period working in Asia, before moving to work for government agencies and, since 2007, within the higher education sector.



## Ricky Kej

Grammy® Award Winner, US Billboard #1 artist, UNCCD ‘Land Ambassador’, United Nations “Global Humanitarian Artist”, UNESCO MGIEP’s “Global Ambassador for Kindness” & UNICEF ‘Celebrity Supporter’ Ricky Kej is an internationally renowned Indian Music Composer, Environmentalist and Professor. Ricky has dedicated his life and Music to creating awareness on the Environment, and positive social impact. He has performed at prestigious venues in over 30 countries, including at the United Nations Headquarters in New York and Geneva.

Ricky Kej composed and produced his album ‘SHANTI SAMSARA’, which was launched by Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Francois Hollande at the United Nations COP21 Climate Change Conference in Paris. His past repertoire of work includes 16 studio albums released internationally, over 3500 commercials and 4 feature films, including the natural history documentary ‘Wild Karnataka’ narrated by Sir David Attenborough. He scored music for the opening ceremony of the Cricket World Cup 2011, held in Dhaka-Bangladesh.

In addition to winning more than a 100 music awards in over 20 countries, Ricky has been awarded “United Nations Global Humanitarian Artist” & “Youth Icon of India”. Real Leaders’, has named Ricky Kej as one of the 100 Real Leaders who ‘Inspire the Future’ The House of Commons, Parliament of Canada awarded Ricky for his “Outstanding Musical and Humanitarian Achievement”. A chapter on Ricky’s life and musical journey is taught in the 7th grade English textbooks in India (ICSE). Ricky Kej is a professor at the prestigious National Institute of advanced Studies (at the Indian Institute of Science) and an Ambassador to Earth Day Network.



## Tanya Spisbah

Tanya Spisbah is a renowned and influential expert on Australia-India relations, particularly with respect to health and sustainable development. A career diplomat with the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for more than a decade, Ms Spisbah served from 2014-17 at the Australian High Commission, New Delhi, specialising in health and technology diplomacy for inclusive, sustainable growth. She notably led the health agenda resulting in the Australian and Indian Prime Ministers exchanging an MoU for Health and Medicine, paving the way for cooperation on digital health. Other areas of policy leadership include smart cities and infrastructure, governance and investment. Previous roles in the Department include placements in Moscow and Baghdad. She has negotiated free trade agreements with a number of Asian partners, including China, South Korea and ASEAN, led Australia's education agenda in the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation and represented Australia at the World Trade Organization on intellectual property and environment. Ms Spisbah was formerly a lawyer with Minter Ellison, specialising in IP and technology. Most recently, Ms Spisbah was Head, Strategic International Engagement, at the University of New South Wales, Sydney. Ms Spisbah is passionate about the Australia-India relationship and sustainable development. She holds degrees in law, philosophy and economics and a Masters of Laws from University of Melbourne in International Trade and Development.



## Dr. Kalanidhi Veerasamy MP

Dr Kalanidhi Veeraswamy is an Indian politician. He was elected to the Lok Sabha, lower house of the Parliament of India from Chennai North, Tamil Nadu in the 2019 Indian general election as member of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam. After election to the Parliament, he continues his social work to the general public of his constituency especially in the field of health and medicine. Before entering politics, Dr Veerasamy was a dedicated Plastic Surgeon.

## MODERATOR



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Kuppal has a double degree in Business and Technology from UTS and a postgraduate in Social Impact from UNSW.

## KEYNOTE



### **Ms Susan Grace**

Ms Grace is a career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and was most recently Deputy Head of Mission, Australian Embassy, Abu Dhabi. In Canberra, positions she has held include Director, Gulf States Section and Director, Counter-Terrorism Policy Section. She has previously served overseas as Ambassador to Nepal; Deputy Head of Mission, Australian Embassy, Tehran and First Secretary, Australian High Commission, New Delhi.

Ms Grace holds a Master of International Law from the Australian National University, and a Bachelor of Arts from Melbourne University.



## Anita Ratnam

Anita Ratnam, based in Chennai (Madras), India, is highly respected as a performer, writer, speaker and arts entrepreneur and culture mentor. She has been described as an “intersectionist”, whose work weaves the many disciplines of dance, theatre, spoken word, ritual, archaeology, dramaturgy and women's issues. For over 40 years, her distinguished career has witnessed over 1300 performances in 37 countries. Her formal training in Bharata Natyam, Mohiniattam, and Kathakali has given Dr.Ratnam a distinctive movement vocabulary that she has named Neo Bharatam - a contemporary Indian kinetic situated on a mature body. Using voice, singing, Vedic hymns, drumming, contemporary mythology and devised movements, her acclaimed choreographies include Gajaanana, Daughters of the Ocean, Seven Graces, Ma3ka, A Million Sitas, Neelam, Stone and Naachiyar Next. She was a founding board member of the Balasaraswati School of Music and Dance from 1985 to 1989 and of Lotus Music and Dance from 1989 to 1994. Anita served as a member of the Executive Board of the Sangeet Natak Akademi, India's largest apex body for the performing arts, and the ICCR, India's Government panel to select performers for international tours, a fellow of the World Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a voting member of the Dance Critics Association, USA. A PhD in Women's Studies, Anita was awarded the Presidential Medal in 2016 for her contribution to Contemporary Dance in India. She has served as a distinguished member of several Cultural Committees and convened numerous arts festivals and performance conclaves.

In 2016 she also received the first International Arts Award – Vishwa Kala Ratna – by UK-based Indian Arts Development Tryst, MilapFest. The award, was conferred on Anita for her sterling contribution towards **NARTHAKI.COM**, a 19-year-old dance portal that has been chronicling, commenting and critiquing the many worlds of Indian dance practice, performance and presentation across the world.



## Rohini Rau

Dr Rohini Rau is India's former top woman sailor. Her best World ISAF Ranking was 94 and 5th in Asia. She created history by winning India's first international gold medal by a women's youth team at the Asian Sailing Championship in 2004. She has participated in 8 World Championships, winning 6 international medals and 32 National Medals including 8 Consecutive National titles in the Laser Radial. She campaigned for the 2012 Olympic Games.

She completed her medical degree (MBBS) at Chengalpet Govt Medical College and her MSc Internal Medicine (University of Edinburgh). She works as a Senior Resident Doctor at Kauvery Hospital, Chennai, India. She is the Outgoing Curator of the Chennai Hub Global Shapers Community ( an initiative of the World Economic Forum ) and a 2009 TED Fellow.

She has worked as a health researcher with the National Geographic Okavango Wilderness Project 2016. She was in Angola for 3 weeks for a Health survey assessment. She serves as part of the Global Shapers Alumni Advisory Council since 2018.

Rohini is India's first Medical Clown and trainer. She has worked with The Little Theatre's Hospital Clowns Troupe since 2015.

In 2018 she was a Facilitator for 4 International Design Thinking projects in Ethiopia, Nepal, Singapore and Kenya. She is an International motivational speaker (TED, TEDx, WEF, TiECON, Yi conferences). She has acted on stage since the age of 5 and been part of numerous musical theatre productions since then. She is a trustee of The Little Theatre - a 28 year old not-for-profit Children's theatre organisation and has been involved in most of their productions. She is a lyricist and has been part of International productions operating the light and sound. She has learnt Bharatnatyam, Jazz Ballet, Tap and Salsa dancing. She plays the piano and the violin. Has acted in numerous stage shows and an Italian feature film 'Gills' age 12. She has sung playback for a Tamil film 'Three Roses'.

After 7 years, Rohini made a comeback into competitive sailing - forming an All Women's sailing team to represent India at the J/80 World Championship in Bilbao, Spain 12 - 20 July 2019. Team YATRA placed 4th in the Women's Category.



## STEERING COMMITTEE



### **Astik Sinha**

#### **Public Policy Professional - Minister of State for Finance & Corporate Affairs**

Astik Sinha is public policy professional who works with Minister of State for Finance & Corporate Affairs, India. He has previously served with the Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology, a New Delhi based foreign affairs think tank and the Indian Cricket Board (BCCI). He is also an election and digital campaign strategist, having worked on state elections (2012 & 2017) as well as national elections (2014 & 2019).

Astik is a Member of the International Adenauer Network of Global Leaders, Alumna – Asia Internet Coalition, Alumna – Konrad Adenauer School for Young Politicians, Alumna – Discover Israel Political Young Leaders Program, Alumna – Oxford University LPP, Alumna – Russian State Duma New Generation Program and Alumna – Australia India Youth Dialogue 2018.

 [@astiksinha](https://twitter.com/astiksinha)



### **Chris Higgins**

#### **Chief Analytics Officer, IdeateLabs**

Chris Higgins is a Business Head at Ideate Labs, one of India's most established digital marketing agencies. He oversees digital strategy and advertising for companies across India and the Middle East from the real estate, education, fashion, and retail industries.

Previously, Chris was the President of Annapurna International School of Film and Media (AISFM), a filmmaking, animation and liberal arts college in Hyderabad, India. He was a member of the founding team for the school, and helped to develop some of India's first university qualifications in film production. He was also a member of the founding team at Whistling Woods International, a Mumbai film school where he headed admissions and international affiliations. Chris was also the Indian National Head of Business Development for UK media sales agency SpaceandPeople.

Chris has a Bachelors of Business from UTS and is completing a Masters in Advertising from Jawaharlal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University (JNAFAU) in Hyderabad, India.

 [@chrismhiggins](https://twitter.com/chrismhiggins)



## Guru Prakash

### Senior Research Fellow, India Foundation

After completing his Law from National Law Institute University, Bhopal and LL.M (Human Rights) from Indian Law Institute, New Delhi, Guru Prakash is presently pursuing his doctoral research on the topic of Article 370 of the Constitution of India from the University of Delhi. He is currently a Senior Research Fellow & Project Head at a New Delhi based Think Tank, India Foundation. He is also looking after the youth outreach program of Dalit Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry(DICCI) as National President, DICCINextGen Program. He regularly contributes as a columnist for Huffpost, Press Information, Bureau, Govt. of India etc.

 [@guruprakash88](https://twitter.com/guruprakash88)



## James Edwards

### Specialist Adviser- South Asia, Victoria State Government

After being a delegate in 2016, James joined the AIYD Committee in 2017. He is the Victorian Government's Specialist Adviser for South Asia leading Victoria's economic engagement with the region from Melbourne. He previously worked in the Victorian Premier's Department developing Victoria's India Strategy: Our Shared Future.

James is passionate about increasing connections between India and Australia with a particular focus on economic outcomes, youth leadership and cultural understanding. James was also the Founding India Editor at Asia Options, which he started to provide advice and resources that encourage and support young Australians to engage with India through study, work or leadership opportunities.

 [@jimledwards](https://twitter.com/jimledwards)



## Kuppal Palaniappan

**Manager, Deloitte & Co-founder, Soleful Shoes**

Kuppal Palaniappan is a management consultant at Deloitte who was recently selected in the top 100 most talented women across Deloitte Australia as part of the Deloitte Aspiring Women's leadership program. At Deloitte, Kuppal consults on matters of strategy and technology across social impact, not for profit and the public sector.

Kuppal was a delegate in the 2017 Australia India Dialogue and won the group challenge. Her group proposed to decrease the approx 100,000 drowning incidences in India every year, by bringing the best of Australian Surf Life Saving skills and expertise to India.

Kuppal is also the co-founder of Soleful Shoes, an online shoe store which advocates for an inclusive fashion community. Soleful Shoes sells shoes to women with feet size 1-5 and 10-14, who due to size are traditionally excluded from the shoe industry.

Kuppal has a double degree in Business and Technology from UTS and a postgraduate in Social Impact from UNSW.

 [@kuppalani](#)



## Manuraj Shunmugasundaram (Chair)

**Advocate, Ganesan and Manuraj Legal LLP**

Manuraj Shunmugasundaram is the National Media Spokesperson for the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam party. He is also a lawyer and practices at the Madras High Court. He is also a part of the Steering Committee for the School of Policy and Governance.

In the past, he has also served as a Policy Advisor to Members of Parliament. In November of 2010, Mr. Shunmugasundaram was selected as a Fellow with the Legislative Fellows Program, organized by the U.S. State Department. He also participated in the European Union Visitor Program in 2013 as well as the Australia-India Youth Dialogue in 2014. He was a part of Project Interchange Indian delegation to visit Israel & Palestine in 2017. Mr. Shunmugasundaram works to advance the cause of responsible politics, participatory governance, and evidence-based public policy. He is a regular contributor to the Times of India, Indian Express and The Print.

Mr. Shunmugasundaram holds a B.Sc. (Honours) as well as a M.Phil from the Australian National University, where he was the recipient of the International Undergraduate Scholarship and Masters Departmental Research scholarship. He also holds a graduate law degree from the University of Delhi.

 [@manuraj1983](#)



## Mitali Mukherjee

### CEO & Co- founder, Samarthan

Mitali Mukherjee is a TEDx speaker and one of the most well known faces in the world of business journalism in India. With over 15 years experience in the television industry, she has handled a wide range of issues — from politics to global & local economics.

She is the CEO & Co- founder at Samarthan, a platform to enable civil society sectors and industries and engage them in the social economy. Samarthan helps organisations and people connect and gain knowledge to grow the Social Economy.

She also is the co-founder and editor of The MoneyMile. A key focus area for her is spreading awareness amongst women on the need & importance of investing.

She was previously News & Markets Editor at CNBC TV18 for over a decade. She has also worked with the TV Today group, Doordarshan (India's National Broadcaster) & BBC World.

In 2017 she represented India as a youth leader at The Australia India Youth Dialogue (AIYD) held in Sydney & Melbourne. She's a gold medallist in Political Science from Delhi University & a gold medallist in TV Journalism from The Indian Institute of Mass Communication.

 [@MitaliLive](#)



## Mosiqi Acharya

### Digital Content Producer, SBS Radio

Mosiqi Acharya is a Journalist and a Senior Digital Content Producer with SBS Radio, based in Melbourne. She has written extensively on issues connecting Australia and India for SBS along with reporting news and current affairs.

Mosiqi is passionate about Australia-India relations, has written a White Paper on the Australia India Economic Trade relations published by the Australia India Institute and Australia India Business Council.

Prior to SBS, she worked as a senior television journalist in India for a decade where she covered politics, news, business and current affairs for India's leading news channels – India Today, CNN IBN.

Mosiqi has a Masters of International Journalism (Broadcast) from University of Westminster, UK. She was selected as a delegate for the Australia India Youth Dialogue in 2015 and has been a Steering Committee Member since 2017.

 [@Mosiqi](#)



## Sandeep Chandra

Strategy Consultant, Monitor Deloitte

Sandeep is a Strategy Consultant at Monitor Deloitte and specialises in Corporate and M&A Strategy. He has worked in Consumer Business & Retail, Energy & Utilities and Government sectors, with a particular focus on supporting clients to expand in the Asia Pacific region.

He has a Bachelor of Engineering (First Class Honours) and Bachelor of Commerce, from the University of New South Wales, Sydney.

He is passionate about the role India and Australia play in the Asia Pacific region, in business, trade and social contexts. He joined the AIYD Steering Committee in 2019.



## Will Taing

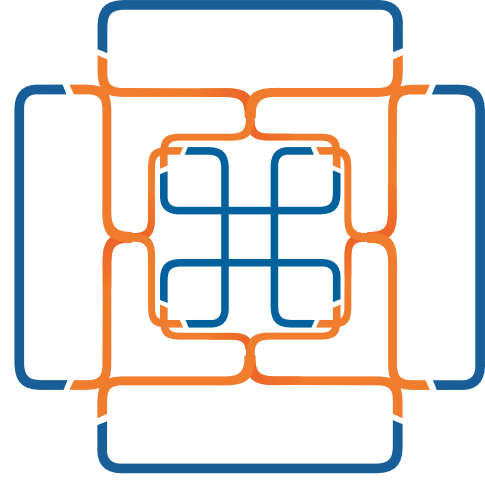
Co-Founder - Beanstalk

Will is Co-Founder of Beanstalk, an open innovation company creating a platform to solve mega challenges in agriculture and food in the Asia-Pacific region. He believes that by creating pathways for high growth and emerging tech startups to mainstream tech into major agriculture and food businesses across the Asia-Pacific, we can have scaleable impact. He works on challenges around food waste, soil health, drought resilience, ocean health and plastics, animal welfare, and new protein.

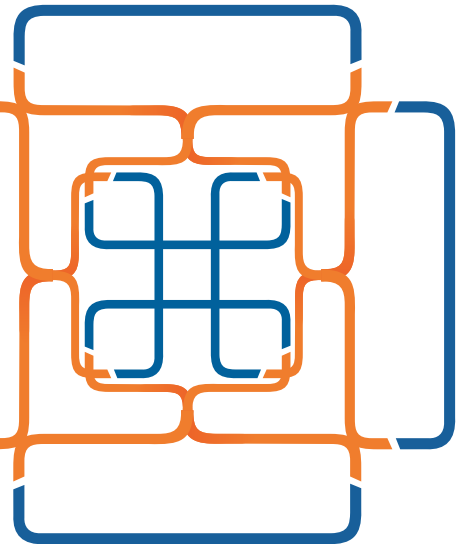
Will currently serves as AgriFutures Australia's Emerging Industries Advisory Panel; on Australian China Business Council's Committees and the AIYD Steering Committee. He was a AIYD 2019 delegate.

In 2019, Will was selected as "40 under 40: Most Influential Asian-Australian" at the Asian-Australian Leadership Summit founded by Asialink, PwC and the Australian National University.

 [@willtaing](https://twitter.com/willtaing)



# AIYD IN THE MEDIA



Each year, we receive immense interest from the media to interview our stellar, high-calibre delegates. During AIYD 2020, many of our stellar delegates were interviewed for a televised round-table discussion, one-on-one interviews for electronic and print media in India.

This year, we particularly focused on our social media engagement with an aim to reach our audiences in Australia and India as well as amplify the social participation from our delegates, speakers and stakeholders alike.

We are pleased to inform you that we made over **102,518** impressions and over **6,771** engagements on Twitter and reached over **143,698**, created **144,445** impressions and engaged **20,468** on Facebook during the four-day period.

We also hired a professional photography and videography agency to take photos and deliver a video of AIYD 2020. The photos and the video can be viewed on our **website** and on our social channels – **Facebook** and **Twitter**.

Please find below some glimpses of the media coverage, AIYD 2020 and delegates received in print, electronic and online.

**The India Australia Roundtable | The Roundtable | NewsX: <https://bit.ly/3a01gLU>**





Exclusive Interview with Miss Universe Australia 2019, Priya Serrao | NewsX:  
<https://bit.ly/2SXRN27>



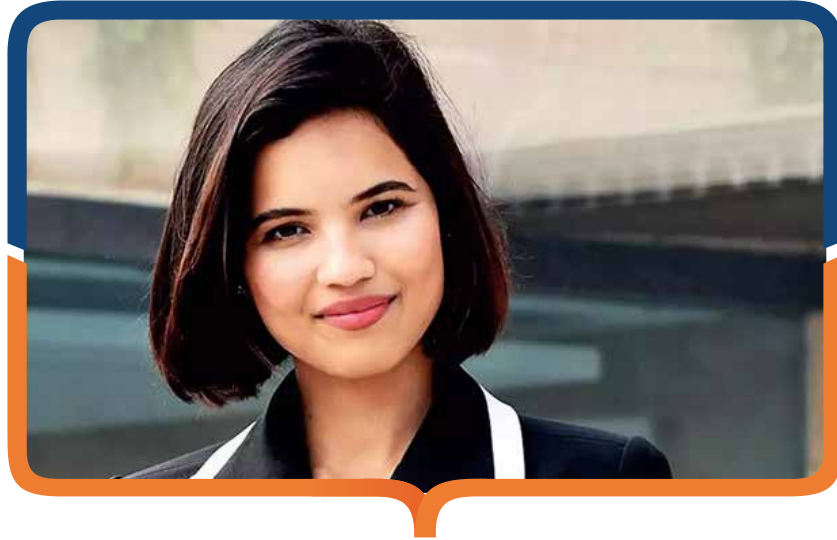
Exclusive interview with Sonam Wangchuk on Ladakh | NewsX: <https://bit.ly/3a6D4aI>



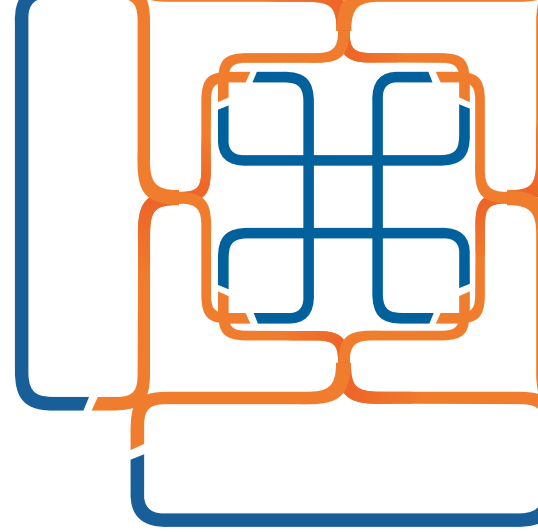
## **Priya Serrao: Miss Immigrant**

Growing up in Melbourne, Hyderabad-born Priya Serrao felt like an outsider. Then one day, the lawyer was chosen Miss Universe Australia, *From The Economic Times, By Sunaina Kumar*

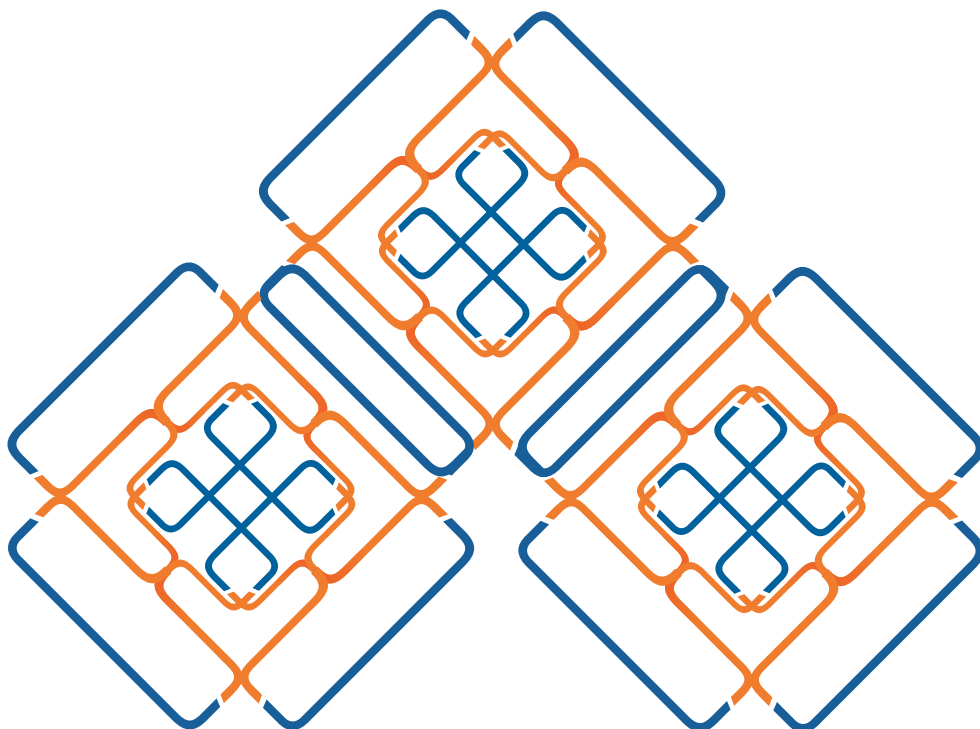
<https://bit.ly/2T0Q1gQ>



For more photos and videos, check out our social channels – Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.



# 2020 PARTNER MESSAGES





# A PLACE IN THE SUN FOR INDIA'S BEST

2020 scholarships are now available

## The future is now

At UNSW we're investing in students who are ready to re-imagine the world around us. To support students from India with big ideas and who seek out the bigger picture, we've opened exciting scholarship opportunities.

Our Future of Change India Scholarships provide eligible students from India, who commence their study in Terms 1, 2 and 3 2020, with \$5,000 per annum for the duration of the program.

The Scholarships are available for undergraduate and postgraduate study across all disciplines at UNSW Sydney.

[international.unsw.edu.au/futureofchange](http://international.unsw.edu.au/futureofchange)

**FUTURE  
OF  
CHANGE**





## Why UNSW Sydney?

We're redefining the future through world-class research and innovation. With the help of our elite students, teachers and industry partners, we strive to tackle the world's biggest challenges and issues.

*/ The most efficient silicon solar cell – we created it*  
*/ The technology to turn old tyres into steel – we engineered it*  
*/ The quantum computer – we started it*

UNSW Sydney offers an incredible study environment to nurture growth and encourage forward-thinking. As the hub for innovation and entrepreneurship, we provide outstanding experiences for you to reach your full potential and build your future career.

## Are you the future of change?

The UNSW Future of Change India Scholarships are now open and you do not need to apply separately to be considered. The scholarships will be awarded based on academic merit and issued shortly after your offer of admissions on a rolling basis.

To find out and check your eligibility visit:

[international.unsw.edu.au/futureofchange](http://international.unsw.edu.au/futureofchange)

CRICOS Provider Code 00098G

FUTURE  
OF  
CHANGE



Giving back to the AIYD  
through innovation.





At Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), we believe that technology has the power to create positive change. That's why we're committed to helping organisations like the Australian India Youth Dialogue (AIYD). In partnership with the AIYD, we're helping connect the future leaders of tomorrow in each country through our extensive networks of contacts, as well as providing sound advice behind the scenes.

Through TCS's Community Innovation Program, we deliver over \$1 million of in-kind services ranging from application and website development to IT consulting and technology optimisation.

With over 12 major charitable partners such as The Indigenous Marathon Foundation participating in the 2020 Community Innovation Program, we're looking forward to helping many more in the years to come.

**TATA**  
CONSULTANCY  
SERVICES





# Innovating for impact since 1850

As Australia's first university, we've been tackling the world's greatest problems for over 160 years.

The University of Sydney was founded on the principle of providing a higher education for all. We were one of the first universities in the world to admit students solely on academic merit, and women on the same basis as men.

Find out more [sydney.edu.au](https://sydney.edu.au)



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**SYDNEY**

## 1st

in Australia and 4th in the world for graduate employability<sup>1</sup>

## Top 50

in world university rankings<sup>2</sup>

## 73,000

students from 130+ nationalities

## 5,000+

community of entrepreneurs<sup>3</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2020
- <sup>2</sup> QS World University Rankings 2020
- <sup>3</sup> In our Incubate and Genesis start-up programs



# Deepening our engagement with India

We are committed to deeper engagement in India by investing in research and collaborating with industry partners, while supporting education for students to achieve their full potential.

## Collaborating for impact

---

We build strategic global partnerships that change lives through high-impact collaboration, leadership in research, teaching and international experiences.

60+ academic and industry partnerships with India, including:

- **Tata Institute of Social Sciences** to collaborate on research focused on the impacts of climate change
- **Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay** to collaborate in health, nanotechnology, engineering and science
- **Tech Mahindra** to collaborate in digital innovation and provide students with experiential learning opportunities.

## Scholarships for India's next visionary leaders

---

Each year, we offer 28 scholarships ranging in value from \$10,000 to \$50,000 to enable students from India to study at the University of Sydney.

This scheme attracts the most outstanding students in India, supporting our vision to develop leaders who will change the world around us.

**Find out more [sydney.edu.au](https://sydney.edu.au)**



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
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# (You)<sup>US</sup> | Discover our story

DISTINCTIVE, PROGRESSIVE AND TRANSFORMATIONAL



Established in 1964, Macquarie University began as a bold experiment in higher education. Built to break from traditions: to be distinctive, progressive, and to be transformational. Today our pioneering history continues to be a source of inspiration as we celebrate our place among the best and brightest minds. Recognised internationally, Macquarie University is consistently ranked in the top one per cent of universities in the world (QS, 2019) and within the top 10 in Australia (Best Global Universities Rankings, 2018).

Macquarie is home to five faculties. The fifth and newest - Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences - was formed in 2014. We are also home to some of Australia's most exceptional facilities - hubs of innovation that unite our students, researchers, academics and partners to achieve extraordinary things. Our research is leading the way in ground-breaking discoveries. Our academics are at the forefront of innovation and, as accomplished researchers, we are embracing the opportunity to tackle the big issues of our time.

## A FEW FACTS ABOUT US



100 per cent of our research activity is regarded by the Australian Government as being of world standard or higher



Awarded 5 stars in prestigious QS Stars rating system for high performance in teaching, research, graduate employability and facilities



Hub of innovation & excellence, located in one of the largest business and technology precincts in the southern hemisphere



126-hectare park-like campus protected by our award-winning sustainability practices



Australia's first and only private, not-for-profit hospital on a university campus



Significant investment in facilities & infrastructure, including the most high-tech university library in Australia

## OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH AIYD AND ENGAGEMENT WITH INDIA

Macquarie University is proud to be the Founding Academic Partner of AIYD. In line with our research priorities and strengths, the AIYD brings together young leaders' from Australia and India to address contemporary societal and business challenges including workforce futures and digital disruption. We are committed to expanding our global reach and impact through strategic partnerships with institutions in India. As part of this commitment, we provide support to all eligible students from India through a scholarship of AU\$10,000 per year for the duration of their Bachelor or Master coursework degree.





The Faculty of Arts and Macquarie Business School are proud to be leading Macquarie University's engagement with AIYD. We invite you to discover more about us.

## MACQUARIE BUSINESS SCHOOL



Macquarie Business School's Finance Decision Lab

Macquarie Business School is a leading Australian business school with a global outlook and a commitment to creating value for all our stakeholders through partnership.

We focus on innovation and collaboration to create and communicate insights which impact the world. We are optimistic and future focused, helping our students to find and achieve their own sense of purpose through learning that engages deeply with business and the wider world.

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Among the top 100 universities worldwide in Accounting & Finance (QS, 2019)

1st and longest running Actuarial Studies program in Australia & recognised as a Centre of Actuarial Excellence by the Society of Actuaries

Top 3 MBA program in Australia and top 100 worldwide (FT Global MBA Ranking, 2019)

10 accredited business programs to meet industry talent development demands

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## FACULTY OF ARTS

The Faculty of Arts is committed to serving students and the community through transformative education and world-leading research that addresses local, national and

global challenges. Our areas of expertise span ancient, Indigenous and contemporary cultures, languages, law, media and communications, creative arts, and security and intelligence.

The Faculty is deeply committed to engaging with community, not just in Australia but around the world. We are very active in India and have established partnerships that include teaching and research partnerships with Lady Shri Ram College, Tata Institute of Social Sciences and St Xavier's Kolkata, a range of longstanding arrangements with NGOs for in-country student learning opportunities through our PACE programs and a range of emerging industry partnerships.

### CORE STRENGTHS

Ranked #100 in the world for Arts & Humanities (Times Higher Education, 2020)

Ranked #34 in the world for Philosophy (QS, 2019)

Bachelor of Arts the 7<sup>th</sup> most popular course (University Admissions Centre NSW, 2019)

Research quality rated above world standard in Communication and Media Studies, Applied Ethics, Sociology, Anthropology and Literary Studies, and well above world standard in Philosophy

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To find out more, visit us at <https://www.mq.edu.au/faculty-of-arts>.

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When your potential is multiplied by a university built for collaboration, anything can be achieved. That's YOU to the power of us.







**At the University  
of Melbourne,  
we are committed  
to developing  
partnerships with  
India, building  
capacity across  
both our societies  
and shaping the  
opportunities  
of a shared future.**

We are strengthening collaborations of mutual interest to address global challenges, increasing joint research projects across industry and academic institutions. Fostering a growing cohort of students and researchers, we are creating wider networks of dynamic learning and unique in-country study opportunities.

Learn more about our shared future at:  
**[www.unimelb.edu.au/global](http://www.unimelb.edu.au/global)**

Artwork: Untitled 1, by Victoria College of the Arts graduate, Hannah Raisin. Undertaken during a residency in Bangalore.



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
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CRICOS 00116K





## MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA ALWAYS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Victoria and its capital Melbourne boast a vibrant and dynamic economy where growing businesses can thrive and succeed.

Victoria is proud of its competitive and dynamic business environment. The Victorian State Government is committed to supporting industry, innovation and growth.

India and Victoria share an important economic partnership that is growing stronger by the year. India is Australia's fourth largest trading partner, with two way merchandise and services trade valued at A\$29.1 billion.

Victorian Government Trade and Investment aims to strengthen industry and government relationships, develop collaboration and partnership projects between the two regions, and introduce Victorian companies to India. Victorian Government Trade and Investment assists with investment attraction, export development, innovation capability, tourism, and education.

To find out how Victorian Government Trade and Investment can work with you, contact:

**Victorian Government Trade and Investment – Bengaluru**

Level 1, Pride Elite  
10 Museum Road,  
Bengaluru, India – 560001

**Victorian Government Trade and Investment – Mumbai**

Level 7, Tower 2A,  
1 Indiabulls, Lower Parel,  
Mumbai, India – 400013

91-80-41227560  
india@global.vic.gov.au

[global.vic.gov.au](http://global.vic.gov.au)





# Deakin in India

## Celebrating 26 years

Deakin University, Australia, is proud to be celebrating 26 years of engagement with India. As the first international university to establish an office in India, Deakin has developed a range of unique partnerships in research, teaching and learning, and industry projects.

Deakin looks forward to continuing to support engagement between Australia and India.

[deakin.edu.au/india](http://deakin.edu.au/india)

Deakin University CRICOS Provider Code: 00113B



# Bonds of Steel



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At the University of  
Technology Sydney (UTS)  
we believe in disrupting  
the world to build a  
brighter future.



Meet Deepa Gupta – a community activist, driven by a commitment to social justice.

She studied a Bachelor of Business at UTS, combining a degree part-time with a cadetship at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), one of the world's largest professional services firm.

This experience taught her a lot about social change. "I got to learn about the business angle, convincing businesses to do socially-responsible work. I got to understand what motivates a partner within an organisation, or a CEO, to do something for social welfare," Deepa says. "And I really got to understand how much the bottom line actually drives everything."

In her third year, Gupta also took a semester off study to co-found a not-for-profit organisation, the Indian Youth Climate Network in 2008, and then spent every university holiday supporting its activities.

She has co-launched Greenpeace India's mobile advocacy platform, established Change.org's India office in 2011, and now runs a not-for-profit, Jhatkaa.org, a grassroots advocacy organisation using technology to mobilise people across India fighting for social change.

For many international students, their pathway to UTS starts with UTS Insearch where they develop the skills, knowledge and confidence for university, preparing them to be part of an exciting and dynamic world.

UTS Insearch  
is a proud  
Partner of the  
Australia India  
Youth Dialogue

 **UTS Insearch**  
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY SYDNEY

Discover more:  
[mystory.uts.edu.au](https://mystory.uts.edu.au)

UTS Insearch CRICOS provider code: 00859D | UTS CRICOS provider code: 00099F  
Insearch Limited (UTS Insearch) is a controlled entity of the University of Technology Sydney (UTS), and a registered private higher education provider of pathways to UTS, 442851735\_0120.

# Growing together

KPMG in Australia and India work together to support our clients with their trade, investment and business initiatives in our respective markets. We share a strong working relationship and can quickly establish multi-disciplinary teams that provide a seamless service, with one central point of contact.

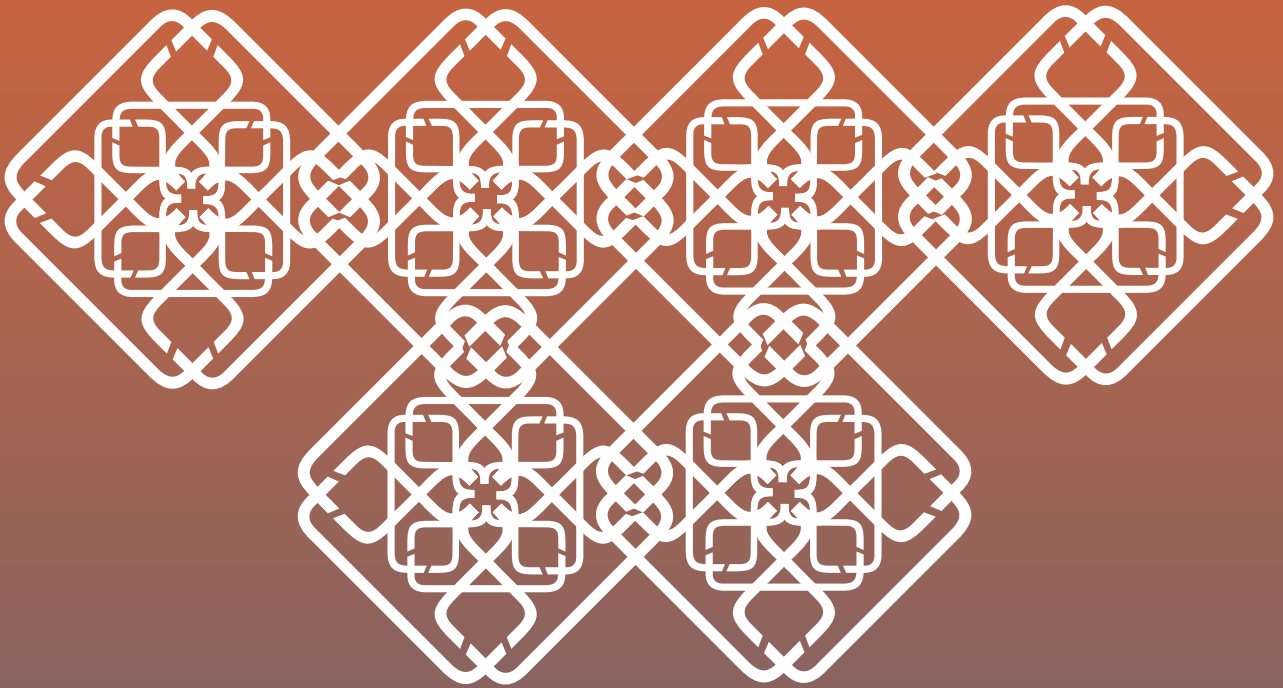
**By partnering with the Australia India Youth Dialogue (AIYD) we are supporting and helping future leaders and the creation of new skills and solutions for Australia, India and beyond.**

KPMG would like to congratulate all of the AIYD 2020 delegates and steering committee.

**Anticipate tomorrow. Deliver today.**

[KPMG.com.au](https://KPMG.com.au)  
—  
[home.KPMG/in](https://home.KPMG/in)





[www.aiyd.org](http://www.aiyd.org)