



—AIYD—
2013
REPORT





AIYD

Australia India
Youth Dialogue

Disclaimer

Date

This report is dated 20 May 2013.

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR, AUSTRALIA INDIA YOUTH DIALOGUE

Friends of the Australia India Youth Dialogue,

It gives me great pleasure to share with you our report of the second conference of the Australia India Youth Dialogue (AIYD) held in Melbourne and Sydney, Australia from 30 January to 1 February 2013.

The AIYD represents a significant step towards the creation of a sustainable, long-term relationship between Australia and India, based on greater mutual understanding, engagement, trust and friendship, initiated at youth level.

With its second successful conference, the AIYD has cemented its role as an innovative and powerful initiative to foster and enhance relationships between the youth of Australia and India. At its second conference, the AIYD's unprecedented channel for dialogue in the Australia-India relationship was a resounding success.

The formula for the dialogue itself is unique and dynamic - it involves direct intellectual, social, cultural and economic exchanges between the best and brightest of Australia's and India's young minds. This was reflected throughout the various discussions that delegates engaged in during the course of the three-day conference in Melbourne and Sydney, and this report provides a brief summary of those discussions and their outcomes.

For the AIYD Steering Committee, compiling this report has also provided us with an opportunity to reflect on our project of passion – the AIYD – from concept to execution and beyond. We have enjoyed the journey, every step of the way.

The future of the AIYD looks incredibly bright. During the course of preparing this report we have finalised a long term partnership with one of our founding partners and greatest supporters - the Australia India Institute (AII). The AII and AIYD have entered into an agreement to transition the AIYD to being housed within the AII over the next two years. In this way, the AIYD will have a long term, sustainable home at an esteemed organisation that not only shares our passion for the Australia-India relationship but our vision and objectives as well.

By the time this report is published, the AII and the AIYD Steering Committee will have started working together to organise the next conference of the AIYD scheduled in India in early 2014. This will present a unique opportunity for our existing partners and supporters to continue their journey with us in the first year of our partnership with the AII.

We also take this opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to our partners, delegates, speakers and other stakeholders.

Finally, we look forward to your greater engagement in enhancing this initiative and welcome your feedback and ideas.

Yours sincerely,



Ruchir Punjabi
Chair, Australia India Youth Dialogue

OUR PARTNERS

Distinguished Partners

The AIYD is extremely grateful for the support and advice of our Distinguished Partners of AIYD 2013. Their tremendous support has assisted our team and delegates to achieve greater networks between both countries and establish the platform for future cooperation and initiatives. The Distinguished Partners of AIYD 2013 include:



We are also extremely grateful for the support and guidance of our Dialogue and Associate Partners.

Dialogue Partners



Associate Partners





CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

AIYD 2013 was held from 30 January to 1 February in 2013 in Melbourne and Sydney, Australia. The official conference programme is set out below.

Time	Agenda	Topic	Speaker(s)
DAY 1: January 30 2013, MELBOURNE			
9:00am Welcome and Introductions			
9:30am	SESSION I	<p>Australia and India: An Overview of the Political and Administrative Landscape</p> <p>Sponsored by the Australia India Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His Excellency Mr Biren Nanda, High Commissioner for India • Mr John McCarthy AO, Chair, Australia India Council and Former Australian High Commissioner to India • MODERATOR: Mr Daniel Flitton, Senior Correspondent, The Age and Sydney Morning Herald
11:15am	Morning Tea at Government House with His Excellency the Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of the State of Victoria		
12:45pm Lunch			
9:30am	SESSION II	<p>Diaspora, Cultural Representation and Soft Power</p> <p>Sponsored by Macquarie University</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Lisa Singh, Australian Labour Party Senator for Tasmania • Professor Naren Chitty AM, Inaugural Director, Soft Power Advocacy and Research Centre (Macquarie University) • Mr Brian Hayes QC, South Australian Government Special Envoy to India and Former Chair Australia India Business Council • MODERATOR: Ms Maxine McKew, Vice Chancellor's Fellow, University of Melbourne, former Member of Parliament and Journalist
2:30pm	Roundtable (and afternoon tea)	Diaspora, Cultural Representation and Soft Power	

Time	Agenda	Topic	Speaker(s)
3.30pm	Day closes		
5:45pm	Private Tour of Richmond Football Club and Meet and Greet with Players/Management		
2:30pm	Gala Opening Dinner	Keynote speech	His Excellency the Honourable Alex Chernov AC QC , Governor of the State of Victoria
DAY 2: January 31 2013, MELBOURNE			
9:00am	SESSION III	Education in Australia and India Sponsored by the Australia India Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Amitabh Mattoo, Director, Australia India Institute and former Vice Chancellor of University of Jammu • Professor Jane den Hollander, Vice Chancellor and President of Deakin University • Ms Kathe Kirby, Executive Director, Asia Education Foundation and Asialink, University of Melbourne • MODERATOR: Professor Fazal Rizvi, Professor of Education, Melbourne Graduate School of Education
10:15am	Roundtable	Education in Australia and India	
11:15am	Morning tea		
11:30am	SESSION IV	Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Simon McKeon AO, Executive Chairman of Macquarie Group's Melbourne office; Australian of the Year (2011); Chairman, CSIRO; Chairman, Business for Millennium Development • Mr Srijan Pal Singh, Former Officer on Special Duty at Office of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and Co-author of "Target 3 Billion"

Time	Agenda	Topic	Speaker(s)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Anne Skipper AM, Chair, Plan International Australia; Director, Plan HK; Chair, Royal District Nursing Service SA; Director, Qantas Foundation • MODERATOR: Ms Hayley Bolding, Founder, ATMA; Projects Officer, Australia India Institute; Victorian Young Australian of the Year (2013)
12:45pm	Lunch		
1:30pm	SESSION V	The Challenge of Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Jon Dee, Founder, Planet Ark; Founder and Managing Director, Do Something!; NSW Australian of the Year (2010) • Scientia Professor Veena Sahajwalla, Director, Centre for Sustainable Materials Research and Technology, UNSW; Winner of The Australian/Shell Innovation award (2012) • MODERATOR: Ms Sara Phillips, Editor, ABC Environment Online
2:45pm	Roundtable	The Challenge of Sustainability	
3.15pm	Day closes and depart to Sydney		
DAY 3: FEBRUARY 1 2013, SYDNEY			
9:00am	SESSION VI	FDI in Australia and India Sponsored by the Victorian Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Neville Roach AO, Chairperson of the Advisory Board, Tata Consultancy Services Australia; Former Chairman and CEO of Fujitsu Australia and Chairman Emeritus, Australia India Business Council • Mr Howard Ronaldson, Secretary, Department of Business and Innovation, Government of Victoria • Mr Robert Milliner, Former Chief Executive Partner of Mallesons Stephen Jaques; Chairman at Foundation for Young Australians

Time	Agenda	Topic	Speaker(s)
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MODERATOR: Mr Matt Wade, Senior Journalist at The Sydney Morning Herald
10:30am	Roundtable	FDI in Australia and India	
11.15am	Morning tea		
11.30am	SESSION VII	International Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lt. General (ret'd) Kamaleshwar Davar, Former Chief, Defence Intelligence Agency and Former Deputy Chief of the Integrated Defence Staff • Mr Paul O'Sullivan AO, Former Director-General, Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) • Mr Rory Medcalf, Director, International Security Program at The Lowy Institute for International Policy and Associate Director, Australia India Institute • MODERATOR: Dr Andrew Carr, Associate Lecturer in the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University
1:00pm	Roundtable	International Security	
1:45pm	Lunch		
2:30pm	Q&A with the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship	Presentation and Q&A session	The Hon Chris Bowen MP , Federal Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
3:30pm	Day closes		
2:30pm	Cocktail reception hosted by The Hon Barry O'Farrell, Premier of New South Wales, at New South Wales Parliament House		
7:30pm	Closing Dinner	Keynote address	The Hon Martin Ferguson AM MP , Minister for Resources and Energy, Minister for Tourism

CONFERENCE SUMMARY

Overview

AIYD 2013 built on the success of the inaugural conference that was held in New Delhi and Mumbai in January-February 2012. The format of the conference remained the same, bringing together a group of 30 young Australians and Indians, with strong and emerging profiles in a diverse range of professional backgrounds and social engagement, including media, social entrepreneurship organisations, business corporations and sports.

The selection process for the conference was two-pronged:

- for each delegation, ten individuals were head-hunted using carefully chosen criteria; and
- the remaining five delegates from each country were selected through a rigorous application and selection process.

The entire selection process was carried out under the oversight and with the approval of the AIYD Board of Directors. While some of the delegates had experience in the Australia-India space, a significant number of delegates on both sides had no prior experience of engagement with the other country. This meant the AIYD was able to create fresh linkages and networks between these young leaders. This process was further stimulated by pairing delegates from both sides and housing them in shared accommodation for the duration of the conference.

The conference programme for AIYD 2013 focused on the following topics in the context of the Australia-India relationship:

- Diaspora, Cultural Representation and Soft Power
- Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation
- Sustainability
- Foreign Direct Investment in Australia and India
- International Security

The program comprised of panels led by distinguished experts from relevant fields who provided delegates with their perspectives on the designated topic. This was followed by an opportunity for delegates to pose questions from the floor. In most cases, expert panels were followed by break-up sessions consisting of roundtable discussions, led by the panellists in small break-away groups of delegates. The outcomes of the roundtable discussions were recorded by delegates and submitted to the Steering Committee for inclusion in this report, and are summarised below.





PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND OUTCOMES

Australia and India: An Overview of Political and Administrative Landscapes

Panel Speakers

- His Excellency Mr Biren Nanda, High Commissioner for India.
- Mr John McCarthy AO, Chair, Australia India Council and Former Australian High Commissioner to India.

Moderator

- Mr Daniel Flitton, Senior Correspondent, The Age and Sydney Morning Herald.

The purpose of this session was to set the stage for the dialogue, and provide an overview of key aspects of the Australia-India relationship that would then be discussed in depth in following sessions. As two stalwart diplomats of Australia and India, the speakers presented their views on recent progress in the Australia-India relationship, and the challenges facing the two countries as they move forward together.

It was noted by both the ambassadors that this was a special time for the bilateral relationship. Both countries have managed to move past the difficulties presented in recent years and there was a distinct positive momentum in the relationship.

The discussion focused on key factors in Australia and India that are most likely to influence the future of bilateral ties. It was noted that the Australia-India relationship is driven by India's demand in the education and resources sectors. Hence, to help this relationship to flourish, it is vital that Australia leverages this demand and becomes the preferred supply partner for India in these areas.

India's demand for education was particularly highlighted given the vocational needs of training hundreds of millions of young Indians to ensure that they are skilled for the job market. Given Australia's experience with successful implementation of the frameworks of vocational education, it was noted that India would welcome help in this area. It was noted that Australian institutions were aware of this opportunity, and are exploring different ways in which this collaboration can work for both sides.

Education in universities in Australia was also discussed. It was considered that the relationship has positively emerged from the depths of 2009 and 2010 following the student crisis. There is now a rising trend in the number of Indian student visa applications being registered in Australia. In this context, the key discussion was around how to ensure that there is greater collaboration between universities in the two countries.

It was pointed out that India's increasing investment in Australia's resource sector is helping to build confidence in the relationship. India's growing demand for Australia's resources means however that the trade deficit in the relationship is significant, and Australia could certainly do more to promote its services in India. The IT services industry was also identified as a key area for investment in Australia.

Both speakers highlighted the importance of the 'soft' aspects of the relationship. The common interest in sports, particularly cricket, in addition to the substantial increase of the Indian diaspora in Australia could both play an important role in fostering stronger Australia-India ties. An Indian Prime Ministerial visit was also mentioned as an important milestone in the relationship required in the next year or so. The overall sentiment for the relationship was that it is at a robust stage with an incredible scope for growth as a strategic partnership.

Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation

Panel Speakers

- Mr Simon McKeon AO, Executive Chairman of Macquarie Group's Melbourne office; Australian of the Year (2011); Chairman, CSIRO; Chairman, Business for Millennium Development.
- Mr Srijan Pal Singh, Former Officer on Special Duty at Office of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam and co-author of "Target 3 Billion".
- Ms Anne Skipper AM, Chair, Plan International Australia; Director, Plan HK; Chair, Royal District Nursing Service SA; Director, Qantas Foundation.

Moderator

- Ms Hayley Bolding, Founder, ATMA; Projects Officer, Australia India Institute; Victorian Young Australian of the Year (2013).

The focus of the Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation session was to evaluate the growth in this space in both Australia and India. While the volume of the collaboration on social innovation between Australia and India remains relatively low, discussion focused on evaluating the opportunities that currently present themselves in these areas.

From an Australian perspective, it was noted that a large part of the activity occurs in the form of non-profit organisations and ventures and not many in the form of what is widely understood as 'social entrepreneurship'. Anne Skipper and Simon McKeon highlighted that the Australian non-profit community was too closely dependent on direct government funding. Nevertheless, there are signs that this attitude is changing, and it is now government interests and businesses in Australia who are lagging behind their counterparts in Britain, Europe and North America in this regard.

Through organisations such as Social Ventures Australia, the notion of social entrepreneurship is gradually starting to gain more traction in Australia as a practice. However, the need for more such initiatives was highlighted.

Another large part of the discussion focussed on Australia's global interests in social enterprise. The mobility and involvement of Australians in global issues, including in India were noted as quite important in bringing momentum in these areas.

Srijan Pal Singh highlighted a few different aspects of the social enterprise work taking place in India. He discussed the idea of 'jugaad' that is quite important to innovation at the grassroots level in India. It was described as the Indian way of making things work although it was considered to be a quick fix method, rather than sustainable innovation.

Discussion also focused on the road map for 'PURA' – Providing Urban amenities in Rural Areas. This road map described ways to abolishing poverty by focusing on social enterprise in rural areas. A constructive environment that involves various enterprises ranging from private and public organisations would play an important role in India. In this context, it was noted that PURA is now part of India's future five-year plan. Lastly, the rise of social entrepreneurship and the key requirement of education were brought up as some of the most important aspects for India's future.

Overall, it was observed that there are a few areas Australia and India could collaborate in, including exploring the possibility of a joint social innovation forum that would allow an exchange of ideas between key stakeholders in Australia and India. This was considered an important way to complement initiatives such as the CEO forum to support an exchange of great themes and ideas.

Education in Australia and India

Panel Speakers

- Prof Amitabh Mattoo, Director, Australia India Institute and former Vice Chancellor of University of Jammu.
- Prof Jane den Hollander, Vice Chancellor and President of Deakin University.
- Ms Kathe Kirby, Executive Director, Asia Education Foundation and Asialink, University of Melbourne.

Moderator

- Prof Fazal Rizvi, Professor of Education, Melbourne Graduate School of Education



During the session on 'Education in Australia and India', AIYD delegates engaged with panel experts in two key areas: primary and secondary education, and higher education. The discussion on primary and secondary education revolved mainly around the nature and standard of teaching methodologies in Indian schools at these levels. Discussions on higher education focused on industry collaboration, rankings and research, which are all co-related in delivering a robust higher education model. An overview of the key discussions is provided below.

Indian approaches to teaching could benefit by learning from the experiences of other countries such as Australia, China, Finland and Brazil, and by being more open to different ways of delivering content, adopting productive pedagogies which are used in these countries and enhancing the learning experience. Such experiences can be gained from site visits and student exchange programmes. Regular and mandatory audits on teacher training could also be pursued as a way of strengthening the standard and quality of teaching.

Public school standards in India generally tend to fall well below those prevailing in the country's private schools. Here, the Indian government could take a more pro-active approach in areas such as augmenting hard infrastructure with other quality resources. The question of feasibility of the use of online education to counter the problem of poor school attendance by children in rural areas in India is an important one. While a great deal of scepticism continues to exist around this issue, models to facilitate online teaching in classes are already being developed in India. This may be one of the ways to overcome some of the limitations affecting the current primary and secondary public education sector.

In the context of higher education, there is strong interest in India in rankings of universities both at home and overseas. Traditionally, most public universities in India have tended to place greater emphasis on teaching compared to research. They do not feature highly in international university rankings that rate universities on both teaching and research. There is, however, greater movement within higher education institutes (HEI's) in India to collaborate with universities and

higher education institutes overseas. In this wider context, there is evidence of growing appetite in a number of HEI's in Australia and India to enter into research collaborations with one another.

For example, Deakin University in Australia and the Energy Research Institute (TERI) in India signed a Memorandum of Understanding in 2010 to establish the new BioNanotechnology Research Centre in New Delhi. It is envisaged that by 2015, the Centre will have approximately 70 researchers, including 50 PhD students enrolled at Deakin and co-supervised by Deakin and TERI staff. Ultimately, it is a combination of policy tools, mutually recognised teaching good practice and strategies, and collaborative initiatives such as those between Deakin University and TERI that will help pave the way for cross-country recognition of higher education learning. It was noted that Macquarie University is also trying similar models with different institutions in India and these were noted as positive steps for the Australia-India relationship.

The area of vocational education and training (VET) continues to represent a unique opportunity for the governments and institutions of Australia and India to collaborate for mutual benefit. Indian attitudes and perceptions in this area generally remain relatively poor. Australia, on the other hand, has a great respect for VET courses and places strong emphasis on aligning these courses with industry to support supply and demand in specific sectors. The role of government has been key here in terms of developing cross-country linkages – for example, the Government of Victoria has entered into two agreements, one with the Karnataka government and the other with the Maharashtra government in India on teacher training projects. 425 teachers in India have already been trained through these partnerships.

In meeting the growing demand for skilled labour in India, the role of private public partnerships (PPPs) could be vital. Here, the private sector could play a pivotal role by identifying and assessing skills gaps in relevant industries in India, and working with universities and other private actors in both Australia and India to shape strategies to address these gaps through higher education. The establishment of a joint framework between the two sides that recognises skills attained through such programmes as transferrable, could be considered. There are also a number of credible non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working in the education sector in India, including some run by Australians. Both the Indian and Australian governments could explore the potential offered by such NGOs to build on their work in the education sphere in India.

The ongoing work of organisations founded by AIYD alumni, including Atma and Tara.Ed was also noted as a significant contribution to this dimension of the Australia-India relationship. Similarly, the work of the Asia Education Foundation in Australia was highlighted as providing an important service in the Australian education system to bring students closer to India and Asia on the whole.



The Challenge of Sustainability

Panel Speakers

- Mr Jon Dee, Founder, Planet Ark; Founder and Managing Director, Do Something! and NSW Australian of the Year (2010).
- Scientia Professor Veena Sahajwalla, Director, Centre for Sustainable Materials Research and Technology, UNSW and Winner of The Australian/Shell Innovation award (2012).

Moderator

- Ms Sara Phillips, Editor, ABC Environment Online.



Delegates found the session exploring the challenges on sustainability useful in identifying and understanding the similarities between concerns in this area in Australia and India. For Indian delegates, the insights offered by speakers on the environmental movement in Australia were also illuminating.

One immediate outcome of the experience was that one of the Indian delegates, Amoghavarsha JS, had the opportunity to travel to Tasmania and work with Greg Irons from the Bonorong Wildlife Sanctuary near Hobart to document the rainforests in the region and issues related to mining in the area. They are currently working on a short film documenting their experience and focusing on the importance of the rainforests.

Discussions on the challenge of sustainability were largely focused on innovation as a key driver for addressing this challenge. Delegates and experts explored the need to be sustainable in the backdrop of ongoing industrialisation and economic growth particularly in India. Here, the value of turning to 'low hanging fruit sustainability options' such as power-saving light globes or generating less food waste, was especially emphasised. Other points discussed during the session are detailed as follows.

Sustainability-oriented initiatives at the industry level – for example initiatives undertaken by the plastic and steel-manufacturing industries – in both Australia and India are an important part of meeting the challenge. Recycling in the steel industry is relatively cheap and effective, but not many steel manufacturers appear to promote the practice. This could be an area of focus for both governments.

The private sector has the ability to lead the way in addressing the challenge of sustainability. A number of private companies such as Walmart and Marks & Spencer's have undertaken initiatives to become more sustainable in their

operations. Marks & Spencer's 'Plan A' for example, was launched in January 2007, setting out 100 sustainability-related commitments to achieve in five years. Plan A has now been extended to 180 commitments to be achieved by 2015, with the ultimate goal of Marks & Spencer's becoming the world's most sustainable major retailer. The commitments include simple common-sense initiatives like re-using or recycling clothes hangers. Such initiatives by private companies are welcome and contribute towards generating a wider culture of sustainability, not just amongst consumers and within the organisations where they are adopted, but also amongst business associates, and would ultimately have a positive impact on profitability.

In providing businesses the impetus to become more sustainable, energy performance contracts could play a key role. These are contracts under which an energy service company is engaged by an organisation to improve the energy efficiency of a facility. Energy savings are guaranteed, and subsequently provide the capital for investment in sustainability measures by the contracting organisation. An increasing number of government organisations in Australia use energy performance contracts as a way to achieve energy efficiency and save money at the same time, and this is an option that could be taken up more widely in both the public and private sectors in India.

The challenges of accepting and adopting sustainable practices differ in Australia and India, given that the former is a developed country and the latter continues on the development path. At the same time, the solutions to tackling carbon emissions, waste, environmental degradation and pollution may not always be the same in each context. Nonetheless, there is much that one country could learn from the other, and it is imperative that there is greater engagement in this regard. This is particularly significant in the context of climate change and resource scarcity.



FDI in Australia and India

Panel Speakers

- Mr Neville Roach AO, Chairperson of the Advisory Board, Tata Consultancy Services Australia; Former Chairman and CEO of Fujitsu Australia and Chairman Emeritus, Australia India Business Council.
- Mr Howard Ronaldson, Secretary, Department of Business and Innovation, Government of Victoria.
- Mr Robert Milliner, Former Chief Executive Partner of Mallesons Stephen Jaques and Chairman at Foundation for Young Australians.

Moderator


- Mr Matt Wade, Senior Journalist at The Sydney Morning Herald



Discussions on FDI in Australia and India revolved substantially around how government policy frameworks shape FDI inflows in Asian countries. 'Location-specific factors' may also act as barriers in terms of government policies and behaviours that exercise decisive influence over such things as security of property rights, regulation and taxation, provision of infrastructure, the functioning of financial and labour markets and the rules determining corporate and public governance.

Australia's focus on, and engagement with, India as a source of FDI has strengthened remarkably in the past decade or so. Apart from Australia's reliance on Indian investment in resources, states such as Victoria are 'above ground' economies and also depend on revenue from services. They have seen significant investment from India recently: nine Indian Information and Communication Technology (ICT) companies have launched operations in Melbourne. Government trade missions and political visits have played a significant role in the last few years in accelerating this process.

Australia recognises India's role as a global economic powerhouse and is taking a long-term perspective in this regard. With the new AUS\$5 million business visa regulation, Australia is trying to become lucrative as an investment destination. The S P Jain School of Global Management has recently opened its campus in Sydney as part of a joint venture, and provides a model for collaboration in this area. Sydney leads the way in financial services in Australia, with more than half a dozen Indian banks having established operations in the city. There have also been significant investments by Indian companies in Australia's mining sector, such as the Adani Group's multibillion-dollar investment in Queensland's coal mining sector.



A large part of this relationship will be driven by India's demand for resources and education – demands that Australia is able to meet at least for the next 2-3 decades.

Australian businesses wishing to invest in India continue to face several challenges, many of which could be attributed to India being unfamiliar investment territory for them.

Another perspective however, would be to compare the Australia-India trade and investment relationship at this point in time to the early phase in the Australia-China relationship in this area 40 years ago. Australian businesses will venture into countries where they are aware of the risks and regulations, rather than invest in markets that they are uncertain of. Clarity around the complexities of investing in India is important, and although this may take some time to accomplish for those wishing to participate in India's economic success, persistence will be key.

It was recognised that while the opportunity for Australian businesses in India is immense, it would be better to see India as a collection of 29 states. Given the diversity of demographics within India, focusing on different states as different economies for business allows for a more structured entry point in India. This perspective is likely to generate more successful results.

A further point of note was the need for Australian businesses to view India as a more long-term opportunity. The examples of ANZ's and Telstra's forays into India were mentioned as negative example of Australia's business relationship with India given their very public exits from India. However, discussion also focussed on the positive example of IAG's partnership with the State Bank of India which was pointed out as a significant relationship based on shared values, mutual understanding and respect and a focus beyond short-term gains.

Australia and India are moving towards a better cultural understanding of one another through various means, not least through exchanges between students and young people. Government trade missions have facilitated political support for greater bilateral engagement, triggered the bilateral engagement support by the political visits. As the relationship moves from engagement towards partnership, both sides would do well to explore in-depth what each has to offer the other. Australia has much to offer in many sectors, including vocational education, clean technology, mining, food and beverage manufacturing and distribution, building and construction.

It was noted that the choice of partner in India for a joint venture relationship is critical, and there are enough channels to assist and support in scoping and validating the partner profiles like the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and the Federated Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), local state offices (5 Australian states have local offices in India) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) (through Austrade).

Progress on the Free Trade Agreement was also noted as an important step moving ahead. It is critical that an agreement is reached soon to allow a greater flow of trade and investment resulting in a stronger relationship between Australia and India.

International Security

Panel Speakers

- Lt. General (ret'd) Kamaleshwar Davar, Former Chief, Defence Intelligence Agency and Former Deputy Chief of the Integrated Defence Staff.
- Mr Paul O'Sullivan AO, Former Director-General, Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO).
- Mr Rory Medcalf, Director, International Security Program at The Lowy Institute for International Policy and Associate Director, Australia India Institute.

Moderator

- Dr Andrew Carr, Associate Lecturer in the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Australian National University




The session focused on international security included discussions between delegates and panel experts on the security challenges and opportunities for Australia and India in the Asia-Pacific. Both Australia and India view the Indo-Pacific region as significant in the context of national and regional security, and seek leading roles in the region's security politics. In this respect, each appears to be mindful of the role the other can play in creating stability and peace in the region.

Although there have been marked differences from an international security perspective between the two countries in the recent past, Australia has sent India overt signals on its desire to see India take the lead in creating the conditions for stability and peace in the Indo-Pacific region. In the last few years, Australian leaders such as former Prime Minister Kevin Rudd and Deputy Secretary (Strategy) Peter Jennings have pointed out that Australia and India are natural partners in the region, with shared interests in contributing to the regional security architecture. The Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation signed in November 2009 represented a key step in formally acknowledging these interests. At the end of her visit to India in October 2012, Prime Minister Julia Gillard emphasised that “The India-Australia relationship is anchored in shared values as liberal democracies, converging interests and shared opportunities in the Asian century.”¹

The Lowy Institute's second Australia-India Roundtable, held in December 2012, identified several areas for enhanced engagement between the two countries in the security realm.

¹PM Julia Gillard, quoted in Greg Sheridan, 'Let's put more passion into courting India,' The Australian, 20 October 2012, available at <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/opinion/columnists/lets-put-more-passion-into-courting-india/story-e6frg76f-1226499473686>.



These include:

- the close coordination of diplomatic and other related policies to safeguard and promote shared strategic interests in the Indo-Pacific region;
- embedding growing ties between Australia and India in the security sector (e.g. defence, maritime security) within a broader regional diplomatic architecture;
- maritime cooperation to deal with humanitarian assistance, disaster relief and oceanography; and
- greater focus on cooperation and collaboration in the area of energy security.

The role of maritime multilateralism in particular was discussed at the AIYD as an effective tool for the two countries to enhance cooperation since both Australia and India pursue shared national and regional security interests. These include combatting problems such as terrorism, maritime piracy, natural disasters, health pandemics, drug trafficking, money laundering, climate change and environmental degradation. Such challenges require cooperation beyond borders and the pooling of specific expertise, resources, information and intelligence.

Both Australia and India are strongly interested in China's positive participation in regional cooperation efforts to combat security challenges in the Indo-Pacific region. China's ongoing and spectacular economic growth means its energy demand will continue to escalate steeply in the coming decades, and as almost 80% of its oil supply passes from Middle East/West Asia through the Indian Ocean, it can ill-afford to have a confrontation with the other nations of the Indian Ocean.

Lastly, the progress made on the uranium issue was considered critical for all of this discussion to take place. It was noted that the relationship is appears to be starting from a clean slate that allows for a strong bilateral relationship on international security.



AIYD IN THE MEDIA

Print and Online

'15 young Indians at AIYD 2013', The Hindustan Times, 6 February 2013, available at

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AIYD 2013 DELEGATES AUSTRALIA



Niki Ariyasinghe

Niki is a Sydney-based management consultant, specialising in corporate strategy. He is currently the head of Strategy & Planning at ING DIRECT Australia where he is responsible for providing strategic advice to the CEO and executive team of Australia's fifth largest retail bank. Prior to this, Niki was a management consultant with Accenture where he advised large Australian and global financial services, logistics and government clients on strategic direction.

Niki is an alumnus of the Australian National University where he graduated with a BA/LLB (Hons.) and majors in International Trade Law, International Relations and History (with a focus on Ancient and Modern Indian history). Niki is passionate about the potential for education to drive economic and social change in India. He is on the management committee of Tara.Ed, an International Education NGO focused on improving the quality of teaching provided to rural school children in India, a member of the Australia-India Business Council and was a delegate at the recent Australia-India Institute conference, „The Argumentative Indian. Niki keenly follows cricket, rugby and tennis; he enjoys travelling, hiking and surfing in his spare time.



Anthony Anisse

Anthony Anisse is a corporate lawyer at national law firm TressCox Lawyers and focuses on corporate advisory, banking and financial services. He advises several national and international clients on the establishment of their operations and their licensing, compliance and governance requirements. The firm has a dedicated pro-bono practice which Anthony has advised and is involved in the charitable association, Investing for Charity. Furthermore, a strong focus for Anthony has been his involvement in a cloud-based electronic health record (EHR) software company which is moving towards the development of a private ehealth network in Australia. The company aims to share the innovative technology with Government Health Departments in the hope of improving the quality of health care infrastructure provided around the world.

In 2012 Anthony was elected as a Councillor on Hornsby Shire Council and has been actively involved in the fostering of dialogue between government and the prominent Indian community within his constituency. He has been a member of the Young Liberals since 2009 and has been involved in the organisation, co-ordination and strategy of campaigns.

Anthony has also played representative rugby in Australia and Sweden. He holds a double degree in Commerce (Economics) and Laws from Macquarie University. He is a self-professed TED talk devotee and is currently studying to become a Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst with the CAIA Association.



Amy Barber

Amy is an Associate in the Major Projects group at leading international law firm Baker & McKenzie. She has worked in the Tokyo, Sydney and Melbourne offices, focusing on dispute resolution for large-scale construction clients. Baker & McKenzie's global India Focus Group has worked in tandem with Indian legal firms and Indian companies in the infrastructure sector for over forty years.

Amy particularly enjoys working on pro bono matters and was the first Pro Bono Associate in the Melbourne office. She is currently involved in a pro bono immigration matter in the High Court of Australia and works with cancer patients at the Peter McCallum Cancer Hospital in Melbourne.

Amy has travelled extensively and before joining Baker & McKenzie worked in Chambers at the UN International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) in Tanzania and later in Geneva for the UN Advisor on Human Trafficking at the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). In Geneva, Amy developed a keen interest in public international law work particularly in the human trafficking and women's rights field. She has worked with survivors of human trafficking over the last few years to ensure they have the opportunity to receive higher education.

A graduate of the University of Western Australia (BA, LLB), Amy completed her studies whilst working part time as a piano teacher. Amy has a strong affinity for India. Between performing in Bollywood movies she volunteered at Mother Theresa orphanage in Kerala and studied basic Hindi.



Latika Bourke

Latika was born in Bettiah in the impoverished Indian state of Bihar and adopted eight months later by Australian parents. She was raised in New South Wales Central West and became a journalist at the age of 20, presenting her own talkback radio show in Bathurst and is now a Political reporter in the Canberra Press Gallery.

She returned to India for the first time last year and plans to write a book about her experiences.



Brendan Hodgson

Brendan is currently the Business Liaison Officer in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Victoria State Office. Prior to taking up this position Brendan completed a three-year diplomatic posting to New Delhi (2009-13). As a member of the Australian High Commission's political section, Brendan focused on India's foreign policy, regional strategic issues and counter-terrorism. Brendan has also held various roles in the department in Canberra including working on Australia's relationships with Iraq and China. Brendan holds a Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws from Monash University. He enjoys photography and bushwalking.



James Brown

James Brown served as an officer in the Australian Army prior to joining the Lowy Institute. He commanded a cavalry troop in Southern Iraq, served on the Australian task force headquarters in Baghdad, and was attached to Special Forces in Afghanistan. He was awarded a commendation for work in the Solomon Islands and as an operational planner at the Australian Defence Force Headquarters Joint Operations Command. James also instructed at the Army's Combat Arms Training Centre. James is the Military Fellow at the Lowy Institute and his research focuses on military issues and defence policy. He coordinates a project investigating the use of private military security companies in disaster and conflict zones. The first paper in this project, *Pirates and Privateers: managing the Indian Ocean's private security boom*, was released in September 2012.

James studied economics at the University of Sydney and completed graduate studies in strategy at the University of New South Wales.



Michael Feller

Michael Feller is a leading financial commentator, having worked as chief investment strategist for Eureka Report, Australia's most-read investment newsletter, and subsequently as a strategist for Macro Associates, an independent economic research and analysis firm. Previously, Michael worked as an equities analyst at Lincoln Indicators, a top-rated share market information service, and as capital markets columnist for news website Business Spectator. He is an experienced public speaker and media presenter, with contributions in *The South China Morning Post*, *The Age*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *Crikey*, *FT Alpha Vile*, *Japan Times*, *El Confidential* (Spain) and *Sunday Independent* (South Africa) among others. Moving to a career at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in 2013 he also has a deep interest in Australia's relationship with Asia and India in particular. He is an ambassador for Opportunity International

Australia, a pioneering not for profit microfinance organisation that funds independent social lenders throughout India and in 2006 he completed an honours degree specialising in South Asian history. Michael was a member of the practitioner review board for the microfinance edition of *The Journal of Cost Management* and a contributing editor for a forthcoming monograph on microfinance measurement. Michael has volunteered as editorial advisor for the Australian Institute of International Affairs student magazine *Quarterly Access*, and is an active member of various community organisations. He is currently on leave of absence from a Master of Arts in International Relations at Deakin University. In 2012 he was named a Leader of Tomorrow at the prestigious St Gallen Symposium in Switzerland.



Jo Haylen

Jo Haylen is a senior adviser to the Prime Minister of Australia. As the Director of Governance and Liaison she is responsible for the strategic management of the Government's relationship with Independent Members of the House of Representatives and the Greens Party. Jo was recently elected to Marrickville Council as a Labor Councillor for North Ward. Jo has over 10 years experience across a range of political and advisory roles at all levels of Government – including senior political adviser to the Leader of the House, adviser to a Shadow Minister; electorate officer; an adviser to a Councillor in Local Government; and an assistant to a Minister in the NSW Government. Jo has served as a member of the Australian Labor Party's National Policy Committee and held policy, campaign and organising roles within the Party both locally and nationally. She held a senior role in the 2010 federal election campaign managing the itineraries of Ministers across the country.

Jo has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Sydney. Jo served on the University Senate, the Academic Board, was editor of the student newspaper and President of the Students Representative Council.



Kyle Kutasi

Kyle is the General Manager of PGS Industries, a leading engineer and manufacturer of electrical products based in Perth, Western Australia. He also recently started Westralian Goldfields Pty Ltd with two friends and the company is due to commence gold mining operations in the Eastern Goldfields region in late 2013. Prior to this, Kyle had a range of business experience, including growing up and working in his family's food manufacturing business in Sydney. He moved into the electrical industry following a long stint (2006-2012) with the National Electrical Contractors Association, during four of which he was the State Secretary managing an organisation that employed 900 persons and is one of the most successful not-for-profit businesses in Australia.

Kyle received Bachelor of Law and Bachelor of Commerce degrees from the University of Sydney in 2004 and was admitted as a Lawyer of the Supreme Court of New South Wales in 2005, after which time he practised briefly as a Solicitor before gravitating back into the business world. He will complete an MBA at Henley Business School (U.K.) in 2013. He also had a brief stint actively involved in politics prior to 2005 which included a term as Vice President of the NSW Young Liberals in 2003.

He is married with one child (so far) and is passionate follower of all things to do with Australian cricket, Balmain Tigers Rugby League and the Rangers Football Club.



Fiona Lander

Fiona Lander is a medical doctor and legal graduate whose interest areas include health rights, law and global health. After graduating with a double degree in Medicine and Law from Monash University in 2009, Fiona moved to Mumbai to work with Lawyers Collective, a non-government organisation established by Mr Anand Grover, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health.

During Fiona's two years in Mumbai, she undertook international fact-finding missions to Guatemala, Syria, Ghana and Australia, and organized regional consultation meetings in Kenya, Russia, Hungary, and Afghanistan. During this time she also lectured at the Copenhagen School of Global Health, and was selected as a participant in Geneva's Graduate Institute Executive Course in Global Health Diplomacy.

Fiona is currently undertaking research in Australian/Indian comparative public health law, and the intersection between global human rights law and economics. She works as a doctor at Austin Health, and will commence working as a graduate lawyer with Corrs Chambers Westgarth in 2013. Fiona previously worked with the Health and Human Rights team in WHO, Geneva, and was a Board Member of the Victorian Division of the Australian Red Cross. She received an Australian Leadership Award from the ADC Forum in 2012.

Fiona also works as a singer in her spare time, and enjoys travelling and speaking Hindi (very badly).



Gönül Serbest

Gönül Serbest is the Executive Director, Trade in the Department of Business and Innovation, State Government of Victoria. She leads a team that drives economic growth in Victoria by facilitating exports through the development of trade strategies to key markets such as India, China, SE Asia and Middle East. In the last year, Gönül has been instrumental in the development and implementation of the largest Super Trade Missions to leave Australia into India and China. Previously, Gönül was specifically charged with developing a dedicated Trade Engagement Program for India which resulted in a number of significant collaborations between Victorian and Indian companies. She has also served as Executive Director, International Coordination Office where she managed the Government's network of international offices and was responsible for the successful delivery of Victoria's trade and cultural activities at Shanghai World Expo 2010.

Gönül served on the Board of Radio 3ZZZ, Australia's largest ethnic community radio station, working with over 60 ethnic groups across multicultural Melbourne. Gönül has a Bachelor in Social Science (Hons) from RMIT University, and given her strong passion for India, recently undertook a Harvard Business School Course in Mumbai on Building Global Enterprise in India. In 2011 she completed the Committee for Melbourne's Future Focus Group program: a two-year business leadership program for emerging leaders.

Gönül has a strong interest in film. Outside work you will find her watching the latest Hindi blockbusters. She enjoys the colour and excitement of these films and firmly believes that it is a medium which can connect and engage communities.



Simon Rowell

Simon Rowell works for Big Society Capital, the world's first social investment bank, on strategy and market development. Within this role, he works with universities, think tanks and consultants to develop market-leading research, lobbies national and EU governments on the social investment policy and manages strategic projects to help develop a sustainable social investment market to provide affordable finance to charities and social enterprises.

Prior to Big Society Capital, Simon worked as a corporate lawyer for Linklaters LLP advising large investors and multinational companies on their strategic activities, capital raisings, joint ventures and restructurings through Europe and Asia, including high-profile transactions in India. In addition, he has helped develop long-term strategy and stakeholder coordination as part of the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (LOCOG). He has also recently worked on promoting education reform within the Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet in Canberra. Simon holds a Master in Public Administration from the Harvard Kennedy School where he focused on emerging international models of public service reform and delivery. He also has dual degrees in Commerce and Laws from the University of Queensland.

Simon is passionate about Australia's foreign policy and relationships within the Asia-Pacific region and loved travelling extensively throughout India and Asia. As a cricket tragic, he is particularly looking forward to engaging with our Indian colleagues at the second Dialogue.



Gautam Raju

Gautam Raju is Director and Co-founder of OurSay. OurSay is a democratic media website that connects the public with decision makers and has partnered with Google Australia, Fairfax Media, News Ltd and the ABC. Gautam is currently based in Delhi where he is working on launching OurSay, as well as on developing a digital communications strategy for Oxfam India.

Gautam has extensive experience working for a number of Australian and international NGOs, in a variety of roles and has held policy development roles in the Victorian government.



Jacob Taylor

Jacob is a professional rugby player, a budding anthropologist, and an active advocate for improving cultural intelligence. Jacob has represented Australia for the past four years in his chosen sport of Rugby Sevens (the 20Twenty Cricket of Rugby Union). Alongside rugby, Jacob is fluent in Chinese, having developed a strong association with China through study, work, and sport. In 2010, Jacob completed an Arts Languages degree at Sydney University, receiving the University Medal for his honours thesis in social anthropology entitled "Tackling Rugby in China".

In 2011, Jacob was a delegate at the Australia-China Youth Dialogue, before joining the organising team in 2012. In 2012, Jacob also co-founded the Engaging China Project, a national, youth-driven China-literacy platform designed to ignite the idea of China in Australian high schools. Within academia, Jacob is interested in how the human body and mind play a central role in cultural, social, and political interactions. Jacob is bound for Oxford University to pursue these questions as the 2013 NSW Rhodes Scholar-elect.



Victoria Vidler

Victoria Vidler has worked in politics, business and education. She is passionate about the education of girls as future leaders and is a teacher of social sciences at Kincoppal-Rose Bay in Sydney. Her particular interest is in the role technology and social media can play in enhancing student learning globally.

Victoria has previously worked in financial corporate communications for investment banks and the mining sector and as media adviser to the Hon. Julie Bishop MP, Deputy Leader of the Opposition when she was Federal Education Minister. Prior to working in Federal Politics Victoria was a Research Assistant in the European Parliament. While working in Brussels she also worked as a researcher for New York Times bestselling author Richard Minter. Raised in Perth, Western Australia, Victoria has studied in the United States, Australia and France. She has an interest in history, languages and international affairs and loves to spend her spare time surfing.

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George Alexander

George Alexander has done his Master's in Business Administration from University of North Carolina's Kenan & Flagler Business School and bachelors in Mechanical Engineering from University of Kerala College of Engineering. He currently works as Vice President of Muthoot Finance, taking care of operations in the State of Karnataka. He also has the additional responsibility of monitoring Global Operations of the Muthoot Group in USA. Muthoot finance is the Gold Loan (NBFC) – Financial Services Company and is also the flagship company of The Muthoot Group. It was listed in 2011 and is traded in all the major stock exchanges in India. It is the largest Gold Loan Company in the country.

Apart from Muthoot Finance, The Muthoot Group has 16 other divisions, to name a few are Hospitality, Health Care, Equity & Commodity Trading. The group is four generations old and George Alexander represents the fourth generation. Prior to joining his family business, George had worked for ING and Kotak Mahindra Bank in India.

Apart from his work life, George enjoys travelling and the outdoors. He has travelled to 14 countries and enjoys skiing and scuba-diving. He has PADI certification for Open Water Diving and is also contemplating a trek to Machu Pichu in August this year.



Vandana Goyal

Vandana Goyal is the CEO of Akanksha Foundation. Vandana worked with the Boston-based non-profit organization Citizen Schools, an organization dedicated to changing the life trajectories of underprivileged children in urban areas, for four years. She is a graduate of Claremont McKenna College, with a degree in Economics, and as part of her undergraduate studies spent a year at the London School of Economics.

At Akanksha, Vandana served on the team to create a blueprint for Teach for India, later moving on to manage the Beyond School department serving all adolescent children of Akanksha. In 2007, she became the Director of The School Project, launched to create a network of high-achieving schools within the government system. She took over as CEO in January 2010.



Bhuvana Anand

Bhuvana Anand is currently Director, Development & Communication at Centre for Civil Society, a non-profit think tank in Delhi. Bhuvana has worked extensively with civil society groups and donors in various countries, including India, Afghanistan, Sudan and USA, in designing development programs and executing research studies in economic growth, infrastructure provision, and public service delivery. At the Centre, she has developed a high impact program for skilling and employability using vouchers reaching out to 3000 trainees. She manages business development including strategy planning, fundraising and new program incubation.

Before coming to the centre, she worked with the Sudan Operations Centre at UNOP in Juba, South Sudan where she coordinated the MDG funded joint Youth Employment programme with 11 other UN agencies. She served as the focal point for the Basic Infrastructure and Settlement Development Sector for the UN in Sudan, and drafted the infrastructure input into the 2009 UN work plan and assisted communities and partners in identifying regional priorities through sector discussions.

Prior to that, she was with Deloitte, Touche Tohmatsu Emerging Markets Group, serving in their home office in Washington DC, and in their project office in Kabul, Afghanistan.

She has a Master of Arts in Law & Diplomacy, specializing in Development Economics and Trade from The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy at Tufts University, and a Bachelor's degree in Economics from St. Xavier's College, Mumbai University.



Neha Khanna

Neha Khanna is a Senior Correspondent and news anchor with New Delhi Television, popularly known as NDTV 24x7, India's oldest, most respected and premier English news television channel.

Neha majored in Political Science Honours at Hindu College, Delhi University. Subsequently, she pursued a postgraduate programme in Broadcast Journalism at the Indian Institute of Mass Communications (IIMC) in Delhi. In 2009, she studied the Hansard Research Scholars Programme in Democracy and Public Policy at the London School of Economics and Political Science, on a Chevening Scholarship.

While at LSE, Neha undertook an internship with the BBC Parliamentary Programmes Team at Westminster, London and worked for some of the most popular shows of their flagship channel, including BBC Radio 4 and BBC Parliament. During her internship, she reported on the election of the Speaker of the House of Commons, precipitated by the ouster of his predecessor, in the wake of the MPs' expenses scandal I – a first in British Parliamentary history.

Neha has been with NDTV 24x7 since May 2004, covering a wide array of social, and political issues as well as foreign affairs. Her forte, however, is legal reportage, and she has reported on some of the most high profile court cases in India over recent years, including the ongoing telecom scam trial, believed to be the biggest scam in the country's history.



Hakimuddin Habibulla

Hakim, Co-Founder and Principal Consultant at Winning Matters Consulting Pvt. Ltd., is an Olympian swimmer (2000 Sydney Olympic Games) with over 20 years of experience in the Indian sporting domain. Beyond his illustrious sporting career, he has worked closely with Government, Industry, Public Sector, NGOs, International/National Sporting events, High Performance Sports Centres, and Elite Athletes and Teams in India and beyond in areas ranging from Policy to Programs towards enabling Participation and Performance.

Hakim, an engineer by education, returned to the Indian sports domain in 2006, after a five year stint with Tata Consultancy Services Limited, to explore ways in which he could contribute to realize India's sporting potential.

Prior to starting Winning Matters Consulting, Hakim was the co-Founder and Director at GoSports (India) Pvt. Ltd. (2006-2010) and also the Founder Trustee of GoSports Foundation (2008-2011).

Hakim has chaired and spoken at various prestigious Sports Conferences including FICCI's Global Sports Summits "TURF" and "Delhi 2010: The Games and the Commonwealth" (An initiative of The Times of India and South Asia Research Foundation). During the 2010 Delhi Commonwealth Games, He was a part of the elite panel of experts on Times Now, India's top English news channel.

Hakim has been a member of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry's Sports Committee since 2010. He believes in the power of sport towards enabling socio-economic development and envisions an India where sporting excellence and participation are an integral part of Indian culture.



Mayuri Mukherjee

Mayuri is a young journalist from New Delhi, India. Currently, she works at The Pioneer -- one of India's oldest and most highly regarded English dailies. As a member of its Edit-Oped team, Mayuri regularly write the paper's editorials, and also contributes her own fortnightly column. Her core interests are international relations and Indian foreign policy. She also has experience in international advocacy and human rights work. Before Mayuri moved to New Delhi, she worked for a year-and-a-half in New York with the Asia programme of the Committee to Protect Journalists, an international, non-profit organisation that promotes freedom of the press.

She has an MS in Journalism from West Virginia University and a BA in English Literature from St. Xavier's College, Calcutta University.



Amrut Joshi

Amrut Joshi is the Founder Partner of Gamechanger Sports Ventures (“Gamechanger”), an exciting professional sports consulting start-up with a presence in India and Singapore. Amrut graduated from National Law School of India University, Bangalore in 2003, and worked with some of India’s leading law firms, before founding Gamechanger in October 2011.

Simultaneously, Amrut also founded Gamechanger Law Advisors, a boutique law practice focused on servicing clients in the Sports, Start-ups and Small & Medium Enterprises (SME) segments in India.

Over a decade-long career, Amrut has advised on several landmark venture capital, private equity, mergers and acquisitions transactions in India, and also acquired vast experience in working with various constituents of the sports industry.

As a sports lawyer, Amrut has particularly played a critical role in the legal and commercial structuring of several sports leagues in India. He has also represented clients in landmark sport-related litigation, player representation transactions, broadcast rights negotiations, and in licensing & merchandising rights transactions. Amrut is widely published on sports law, and is currently a Member of the Editorial Board of World Sports Law Report, a leading global publication on sports law issues.

At Gamechanger, Amrut has been focused on developing the Firm’s proprietary content platform, www.gamechangerindia.com, to promote awareness on various legal and business issues confronting the sports industry. Amrut and his Gamechanger Team are currently involved in shaping a unique Anti-Doping Education, Advisory and Advocacy initiative, apart from also providing cutting edge sponsorship consulting, digital marketing, football business and cricket business solutions to the global sports market.



Vivek Kumar

Vivek Kumar is currently working as the Deputy Consul General at the Consulate General of India in Sydney.

Born in September 1981, Mr Kumar is a Chemical Engineering graduate from the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay. After a brief spell as a Business Development Manager in a telecom software start-up, Mr. Kumar joined the Indian Foreign Service in September 2004. Prior to his assignment in Sydney, he has served as Consul General of India in Vladivostok, and as Second Secretary in Moscow, in addition to working at the Ministry of External Affairs in New Delhi. Mr Kumar is a technology enthusiast, and enjoys reading extensively across a wide range of topics.



D N V Kumara Guru

D N V Kumara Guru is Director – External Relations at the Indian School of Business (ISB). A native of Bangalore, he did his B.Sc. from Bangalore University. He then worked at his alma mater, the Jain Group of Institutions where he led various functions for the group including Admissions, Marketing, Public Relations and helped establish the group’s University Project. In 2004, he took a break and went back to school at XLRI Jamshedpur.

In 2005, Guru joined the Indian School of Business where he has held positions in the Dean’s Office, Development and has overseen Library, HR and IT functions in transitory roles. He is a member of the school’s Management Group and has been a member of the Dean’s Council. He most recently worked on the integration of the existing campus in Hyderabad and the new campus in Mohali. In his current role, he manages the school’s relationship with key external stakeholders and is a member of the start up team at the new campus in Mohali. Guru received the Best Cadet Award at the Advance Leadership Camp (1995), National Cadet Corps. He is an alumnus of the Indo-Canada Youth Exchange Programme (1994-95) and the US State Department’s International Visitor Leadership Program (2009). Guru is a member of the CII Young Indians and has been named the incoming National Vice Chairman for 2013-14.

Guru follows Indian politics and gets restless if he cannot lay his hands on a newspaper in the morning. He enjoys reading, travelling and is an aspiring long distance runner.



Amoghavarsha JS

Amoghavarsha is a wildlife photographer and filmmaker. He has travelled extensively, documenting the planet’s bio-diversity and helping conserve through photographs and film. He has photographed the thick evergreens of Arunachal, the barren landscapes of Ladakh, the Western Ghats in south India and the vast plains of Africa. He began his career as a Software Engineer at Amazon.com and worked with two Internet start-ups before he switched to full-time photography and filmmaking. Having worked as a naturalist and hailing from a technology background, he makes use of new media to help spread the message of conservation.

His recent projects include “Secrets of the King Cobra” – a National Geographic documentary and “Jaya hey Kannada Thaye” – India’s first wildlife music video which was launched on six channels and gained two million views in two days. He works closely with State Governments on wildlife and conservation based activities. He has been one of the main contributors for the mobile exhibition "Science Express - Biodiversity Special", a Ministry of Environment and Forests initiative which toured the entire country over a year. He also actively works with non-profits such as CEE (Centre for Environment Education) and WWF (World Wildlife Fund) to carry out conservation messages. Amoghavarsha also teaches photography and organizes wildlife expeditions across the globe and strongly believes that education is the first step in conservation.



Rohit Kumar

Rohit is a corporate lawyer and is currently the General Counsel of United Phosphorus Limited (UPL), Asia's largest, and the world's third largest generic agriculture chemical company. He is based out of UPL's corporate head office in Mumbai. In this role, Rohit is responsible for: mergers and acquisitions; drafting, reviewing and negotiating commercial agreements; and safeguarding company's interest in strategic disputes, litigations.

Prior to joining UPL, Rohit worked at the Melbourne office of Freehills, a leading Australia-based international law firm. He was part of Freehills' corporate team and advised on several international M&A. While at Freehills he led the firm's effort into India, including conducting a road show in India, in 2009, in partnership with the Austrade and KPMG, Australia.

While in Australia, Rohit was also one of the Young Leaders in the Asia Society-Asialink run program: Asialink Leaders Program 2009. Rohit's interest in the Australia India corridor was strengthened during the program and he continues to take active interest in that space. Rohit regularly speaks at public forum/conferences. He was recently invited by the Inter Pacific Bar Association to speak at their annual convention on challenges in doing international M&A. He was also recently interviewed by Asia Law Business in the General Counsel section.

Besides work, Rohit loves travelling (not on work!!), reading and spending time with family and friends. His reading habit is diverse - from psychology to history to geography - but on top of all is a biography nut.



Bhairavi Jani

Bhairavi is a fourth generation entrepreneur and a Director at SCA Group of Companies founded in 1896 by her great-grandfather. The SCA Group comprises of various companies offering unique and world-class services in the field of supply chain and logistics.

Bhairavi has a BSc in Business with Magna Cum Laude from Miami University, Ohio, USA. Post her graduation in 1999, she worked with KPMG Consulting in Washington D.C., mainly in the area of supply chain, public services consulting and business process reengineering.

Bhairavi returned to India in 2001 and set up a fourth party logistics company in India called i3pl. The company is credited with building the first of its kind supply chain and promotional logistics solutions in India. She successfully scaled up the company and exited from it in 2005. In 2005 after completing the MyGlobe Executive Education Programme at INSEAD in France, Bhairavi became the Director for all the companies under the SCA Group. As Director, She provides strategic and operational guidance and is in-charge of new projects, joint ventures and strategic alliances for the entire group. Bhairavi worked very closely with the Government, Civil Society and Corporate India on the India@75 agenda, an initiative for realizing the dream of an inclusive, sustainable and developed India by the year 2022, when India completes 75 years of Independence. She is the Past National Chairman and Founding member of Young Indians, CII.



Saritha Thomas

Saritha Thomas is part commercial and part public broadcaster; part creative, marketing, networking and fundraising manager; part community trainer; part researcher and tutor; part „radio comedy presenter; part community radio activist cum actionist and a social entrepreneur.

Saritha completed her post-graduation in Social Communications and Media at Sophia's Polytechnic, Mumbai, India. She began her broadcast career with Radio City, at the turn of the Millennium and launched the first 24-hour commercial radio station in the country. She then moved to the UAE and the Arabian Radio Network. Two years later, she joined the BBC World Service Radio and Radio 4, London - a childhood dream came true.

In 2009 she went back to school, to the School for Social Entrepreneurs (SSE), London to attempt to give another passion, wings. She began People's P.ow.e.r (Participatory OWnership Empowerment Radio) Collective during her fellowship. The organisational mission of P.ow.e.r is to set up community radio stations with the goal of not only empowering rural, isolated and marginalised communities and giving them a 'voice' but also creating a sustainable and powerful, participatory grassroots mechanism to share relevant information, tackle local common issues (e.g. maternal health, sanitation, education, the environment and livelihoods) and celebrate local language, culture and heritage.

Owned, managed and run by the communities themselves, community radio is a perfect tool for social inclusion, community cohesion, empowerment and grassroots driven change, especially in media-dark areas of India.



Bhakti Vithalani

Bhakti Vithalani is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of BigSpring. Bhakti also serves as Executive Director of Alliances and Business Development of Global Aviation Services a leading provider of travel & logistics in India.

Prior to this, Bhakti worked as a Management Consultant at McKinsey & Company in Singapore and Mumbai, leading client engagements across the aviation, private equity and high-tech sectors across Asia. She started her career in Silicon Valley in enterprise software product development at Siebel Systems (acquired by Oracle), where she drove key functionalities for Siebel's CRM (Customer Relationship Management) product.

Bhakti holds an MBA in Entrepreneurial Management from The Wharton School of Business, where she was a Joseph Wharton Fellow, and earned a B.S. in Computer Engineering & Business Administration with University Honours from Carnegie Mellon University. Bhakti grew up in India, has lived in the United States, Singapore and Beijing and travelled to over 35 countries.



Ravindra

Ravindra has successfully completed his PhD (in August, 2012 at National Institute of Technology Karnataka, India) on environmentally friendly and economic benefits processes to synthesize carbon nanostructures and also their applications in catalysis and hydrogen storage. He concurrently collaborated as a research fellow for Defence Research and Development Organization sponsored project, on carbon nanomaterials and its application in energy field. He has published 15 research articles in international journals and also presented his work in 12 national and international conferences and meetings.

In 2013, Ravindra joined SMaRT@UNSW as a Research Associate with Director, Scientia Professor Veena Sahajwalla. SMaRT Centre research interests include sustainability of materials and processes with an emphasis on environmental and community benefits. SMaRT Centre works collaboratively with Australian companies and overseas companies/institutions and has established strong partnerships and a deep knowledge of industrial processes and issues/problems.

Ravindra is collaborating with Australia India Strategic Research Fund (AISRF) project on "Novel approach for processing electronic hazardous materials." The Commonwealth operates the AISRF which supports Australian scientists from both the public and private sectors to collaborate with Indian partners on leading edge science and technology in order to contribute to Australia's economic, social and environmental wellbeing. This project is being established between a multi-disciplinary team from Australia: SMaRT@UNSW and India: Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology, Bhubaneswar; Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi; and Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee.

AIYD 2013 KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



The Hon Chris Bowen MP Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

Chris Bowen is the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship and a senior member of the Labor Government's ministry. He was first elected to the Australian Parliament in October 2004.

Since taking up the immigration portfolio in September 2010, Chris's responsibilities have intersected economic, social policy and national security matters. He has overseen significant changes to Australia's student visa program and reforms to the skilled migration program to better position the Australian economy into the future.

Chris also played a key role in bringing innovative solutions to irregular maritime arrival issues including the establishment of a Regional Cooperation Framework with other countries in the region. Chris was elevated to Cabinet as Minister for Human Services in June 2009 and also served as Minister for Financial Services, Superannuation and Corporate Law; Assistant Treasurer; and Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs. During that time he maintained responsibility and a personal commitment to policies that will continue to develop Australia as a financial services hub. He enacted the largest reform agenda to consumer and competition policy in Australia in decades through the criminalisation of cartel conduct; reducing barriers of entry for foreign investment; and empowering consumers through the introduction of a national unfair contract terms law and a component pricing regime. Immediately before being elected to Parliament, Chris was chief-of-staff to Carl Scully, then New South Wales Minister for Roads, Housing and Leader of the House. This followed his time as Mayor of Fairfield and President of the Western Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils. Chris holds a Bachelor of Economics from the University of Sydney.



His Excellency The Hon Alex Chernov AC QC, Governor of Victoria

Alex Chernov was born in Lithuania and, with his Russian parents, immigrated to Australia as a young boy. He was educated at Melbourne High School and then at the University of Melbourne where he gained the degrees of B.Com. and LLB (Hons). In 1968, Alex Chernov signed the Roll of Counsel at the Victorian Bar and in 1980, was appointed Queens Counsel in Victoria.

Whilst a barrister, Alex Chernov played a significant role in the leadership of the legal profession and legal education in Australia and in our region. His career includes Independent Lecturer in Equity for the Council of Legal Education, Honorary Consultant to the Australian Law Reform Commission, Chairman of the Victorian Bar, Vice President of the Australian Bar Association, President of the Australian Law Council and Vice President of LawAsia.

In 1997, Alex Chernov was appointed a Judge of the Trial Division of the Supreme Court of Victoria and, in 1998, was appointed to its Court of Appeal. In 1992, he became a member of the Council of the University of Melbourne and chaired a number of its major committees. In 2004, he was elected a Deputy Chancellor of the University of Melbourne and in 2009, was elected as its Chancellor. Alex Chernov was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2008 and was awarded a Companion of the Order of Australia in the 2012 Australia Day Honours. Alex Chernov was sworn in as the 28th Governor of Victoria on 8th April 2011.



The Hon Martin Ferguson AM MP Minister for Resources and Energy, Minister for Tourism

Martin was born in Sydney in 1953 and was educated at St Patrick's, Strathfield. He has a Bachelor of Economics degree (Hons) from Sydney University.

Martin was elected to Federal Parliament as the Member for Batman in 1996 and served continuously as a Shadow Minister until the election of the Labor Government on 3 December 2007. His portfolios included Employment and Training (March 1996-August 1997); Employment and Training, Population and Immigration and Assistant to the Leader on Multicultural Affairs (August 1997-October 1998); Employment, Training and Population (October 1998 to 3 October 1999); Regional Development, Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Services and Population (October 1999-November 2001); Regional and Urban Development, Transport and Infrastructure (November 2001-August 2002); Regional Development, Transport, Infrastructure and Tourism (August 2002-July 2003); Urban and Regional Development, Transport and Infrastructure (July 2003-October 2004); Primary Industries, Resources and Tourism (October 2004-June 2005); Primary Industries, Resources, Forestry and Tourism (June 2005-December 2006) and Transport, Roads and Tourism (December 2006- December 2007).

Previously, Martin was President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) after working for the Federated Miscellaneous Workers' Union of Australia since 1975. As president of the ACTU, Martin was a member of advisory councils and foundations including the Social Security Review, the Economic Planning Advisory Council, the National Labour Consultative Council and the Advance Australia Foundation. Martin was also a member of the ILO Governing Body from 1990 to 1996. Martin and his wife Patricia have two children. He was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in June 1996.



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP **Premier of New South Wales Minister for Western Sydney**

Barry O'Farrell was sworn in as the 43rd Premier of NSW on 28 March 2011. Barry was born in Melbourne. His father's army career saw the family move to Darwin where Barry completed his schooling. In 1980 he graduated from the Australian National University with a Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Australian History and Aboriginal Studies. Barry has a strong background in public policy having worked in the field at both State and Federal levels. Immediately prior to his election to Parliament he was State Director of the NSW Liberal Party.

Barry has been a member of the Liberal Party since 1980 and was first elected to the NSW Parliament as the Member for Northcott in 1995. He has been the Member for Ku-ring-gai since 1999. He served as Leader of the Opposition between 2007 and 2011. As well as Premier, Barry is the Minister for Western Sydney. Barry leads a Government which is focused on returning quality services to the people of NSW, building and renovating the State's infrastructure and maintaining a strong Budget position. Barry is married to Rosemary and they have two sons. He is active in his local community, is a keen bushwalker and supporter of the Wests Tigers.

AIYD 2013 PANEL EXPERTS



Professor Naren Chitty AM

Professor Naren Chitty is Associate Dean (International), Director of the Soft Power Advocacy and Research Centre (SPARC) and Foundation Chair in International Communication at the Faculty of Arts, Macquarie University

He is the author of Framing South Asian Regional Cooperation and editor of Mapping Globalization and Faces of Globalization. He is co-editor of Studies in Terrorism and Alternative

Media. He has authored or co-authored several articles on soft power, public diplomacy and international communication and is currently co-editing a book on „Soft Power of International Communication . He is the Foundation Editor-in-Chief of The Journal of International Communication, now in its 18th year and on the editorial board of several international journals including Asian Journal of Communication. He is also Editor-in-Chief of The Journal of Global Communication which is published in India.

Professor Chitty received his PhD in International Relations from the School of International Service of The American University in Washington DC where he was posted as a senior diplomat during the Reagan Administration. His undergraduate studies were completed at the University of Westminster in London.



Lt General Kamal Davar

Lt General Kamal Davar retired from the Indian Army in 2004 after a most distinguished service spanning four decades. He has held coveted command, staff and instructional appointments both in India and abroad. For his distinguished services of the most exceptional order the Government of India awarded him the Param Vishisht and Ati Vishisht medals.

A renowned operational soldier, General has served in all theatres of operations in India and was also wounded in action in the 1965 operations. His last appointment at Army HQ, for which he was especially selected by the Government, was as the first Chief of The Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) and Deputy Chief of the Integrated Defense Staff. During his tenure many intelligence initiatives were taken and widely appreciated by the government and the three Service Headquarters.

The 68-year-old General is an MSc in Defense Studies from Madras University and now also holds a Doctorate in Security Studies from Meerut University. He has been a Corps Commander responsible for the defense of the 10 Punjab besides being the first Armoured Corps officer to have commanded the entire Ladakh sector where he had also launched the widely acclaimed „Operation GOODWILL. He was subsequently again posted to J&K as Chief of Staff of the Nagrota based Corps HQ. Prior to his raising of the DIA, India, he served as Director General of the Mechanized Forces. General Davar is a known and prolific writer, a keen environmentalist besides having been an all-round sportsman.



Jon Dee

Jon Dee is one of Australia's most influential figures on environmental issues. He was the 2010 NSW 'Australian of the Year' and is the Founder and Managing Director of the Australian advocacy organization "Do Something!"

Jon initiated the lobbying campaign that led to Australia's 3 year phase out of incandescent globes and has been the driving force behind the campaigns to ban plastic bags and phosphates in cleaning products. As an author, Jon's 'Sustainable Growth' book has become the definitive sustainability guidebook for Australian business. Since 2010 it has shifted 80,000 copies.

Together with Pat Cash, Jon founded Planet Ark, an organization that he headed up for 15 years. Together with Olivia Newton-John he also founded National Tree Day, an event that has planted 16 million trees. He also initiated DoSomethingNearYou.com.au to promote volunteering in 565 different communities around Australia.

Since 1992, Jon has played a leading role in waste reduction initiatives. He instigated National Recycling Week and RecyclingNearYou.com.au. He also launched national campaigns to promote the recycling of steel cans, printer cartridges and mobile phones. His campaign to ban plastic bags has helped to bring about a ban on plastic bags in South Australia, the NT, ACT and Tasmania. He has also directed over 50 recycling related TV ads. In 2003, Jon also pulled together Australia's first national food waste stats. His FoodWise.com.au campaign with Do Something! Aims to reduce the \$7.8 billion that Australians spend on food waste every year. In 1989, Jon founded Rock Aid Armenia - a music fundraiser for which he recruited the help of Pink Floyd, Queen, Bon Jovi and other leading rock bands. In recognition of Jon's ongoing work in the Armenian earthquake zone, in 2009 the President of Armenia awarded Jon 'The Order of Honor'. This is the highest honor that Armenia can bestow on a foreign citizen. Jon is a prolific public speaker and lives with his family in the Blue Mountains.



Professor Amitabh Mattoo

Professor Mattoo is Director of the Australia India Institute and Professor of International Relations at the University of Melbourne. He concurrently serves as Professor of Disarmament Studies at the Centre for International Politics, Organization and Disarmament at New Delhi's Jawaharlal Nehru University.

Professor Mattoo has been a Member of the National Knowledge Commission, a high-level advisory group to the Prime Minister of India and the National Security Council's Advisory Board. Professor Mattoo was the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Jammu from 2002 – 2008. He received his doctorate from the University of Oxford and has been a visiting Professor at Stanford University, the University of Notre Dame, the University of Illinois, and the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme in Paris. He has published extensively, including nine books and more than a hundred articles. He has been awarded the Padma Shri, one of India's highest civilian awards, for his contribution to education and public life.



Brian Hayes

Brian Hayes Q.C. is a leading South Australian Queen's Counsel and Adjunct Professor at the University of South Australia. He was born in Mumbai and did his early primary education as, a boarder, in Darjeeling. He graduated from London University with an Honours degree in Law and has practiced for over 40 years in Australia and internationally.

He established the SA Chapter of the Australia India Business Council in 2004 and was its first President and then the National Chairman of the AIBC. He has led six business delegations to India with the Premier of South Australia and two Federal Government trade delegations and has been involved over the last 12 years in building bilateral trade between Australia and India. As National Chairman, he has chaired two Joint Business Council Meetings in Australia and India. In 2008, he was appointed the Premier of South Australia's Special Envoy to India to develop bilateral trade and business between South Australia and India and to assist South Australian companies to export and import. In 2012, he was appointed as the strategic advisor to the Premier on India.



Kathe Kirby

Kathe Kirby is Executive Director of the Asialink Centre of The University of Melbourne and of the Asia Education Foundation (AEF). Asialink is Australia's largest Asia-Australia institute with a mission to foster knowledge and networks between Australia and Asia. The AEF works nationally and internationally and is a joint activity of Asialink and Education Services Australia, established by the Australian Government in 1992 to lead, promote and support the studies of Asia in Australian schools as part of developing a curriculum relevant to Australians – and Australia – in the twenty-first century. Through the AEF, Kathe has worked in and with China, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Indonesia, India, the USA and New Zealand.

Kathe has a background in school education with a focus on innovation in education. In 2001, Kathe was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to investigate internationalizing curriculum in the USA, UK, Japan and Republic of Korea. She is a Board Member of the Foundation for Young Australians and the Australia Malaysia Institute, and a consultant to the Global Education Leaders Program. She is a regular contributor to the media on issues related to Asia literacy in Australian schools.



Professor Jane den Hollander

Professor Jane den Hollander has been Vice-Chancellor and President of Deakin University since July 2010.

At Deakin, Professor den Hollander has introduced LIVE the future, an aspiration for Deakin to drive the digital frontier in higher education, harnessing the power, opportunity and reach of new and emerging technologies in all that it does.

Professor den Hollander holds a BSc (Honours) First Class in Zoology and a Master of Science degree from Wits University, Johannesburg. Her PhD is from the University of Wales, Cardiff. She is currently a board member of Universities Australia, Education Australia Limited, and UniSuper, a member of the Advisory Board of the Office of Learning and Teaching, and a trustee of the Geelong Performing Arts Council. From 2005–2008, Professor den Hollander was a Board member of Graduate Careers Australia, and from 2008–2011 on the Board of the Australian Learning and Teaching Council. Prior to taking up her appointment as Vice-Chancellor of Deakin University, Professor den Hollander was Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at Curtin University of Technology in Western Australia.



John McCarthy AO

John McCarthy has served as Australia's Ambassador to a number of countries including:

Vietnam (1981-83), Mexico (1985-87), Thailand (1992-94), the United States (1995-1997), Indonesia (1997-2001) and Japan (2001-2004). John has also served in Damascus, Baghdad and Vientiane. For the period 1994-95, John was Deputy Secretary in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Canberra. In 2004 he was appointed as High Commissioner to India, serving in this role until 2009.

Born in Washington D.C., John was educated at Cambridge University where he received a Master of Arts and a Bachelor of Laws degree. He is a barrister-at-law and practiced in London from 1965 to 1966. He worked with the New York law firm of Shearman & Sterling from 1966 to 1967 and joined the then-Australian Foreign Service in 1968. He has two daughters.

Mr McCarthy is now Chair of the Australia-India Council and National President of the Australian Institute of International Affairs.



Simon McKeon AO

Simon McKeon is Executive Chairman of Macquarie Group's Melbourne office and was the 2011 Australian of the Year.

He is also Chairman of CSIRO, Business for Millennium Development and the Federal Government's Panel presently conducting a Strategic Review of Health and Medical Research. Simon is a Director of Vision Fund, World Vision International's microcredit arm, Global Poverty Project and Red Dust Role Models. He is an Australia Day Ambassador for the Victorian Government and serves on the Federal Government's Human Rights Grants Scheme Advisory Panel, the Federal Government's Aus AID Business Engagement Steering Committee and the Victorian Government's NDIS Implementation Task Force. He previously served as Founding President of the Federal Government's Australian Takeovers Panel, Founding Chairman of MS Research Australia and Founding President of the Federal Government's Point Nepean Community Trust. Simon is the helmsman of Macquarie Innovation which in March 2009 became the first sailboat in the world to sustain more than 50 knots and in so doing, peaked at a speed of 100 kmh (54 knots). He is also a Founding Patron of the Australian Olympic Sailing Team which won two gold and a silver medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics and three gold and a silver medal (and was the leading sailing nation) at the 2012 London Olympics.



Scientia Professor Veena Sahajwalla

Professor Sahajwalla is an international award-winning scientist and engineer, whose achievements include inventing a process of recycling plastics and rubber tyres in steelmaking. The benefits of this technology for Australian and International steel making include reduced energy use and a reduction in landfill volumes, which means lower greenhouse gas emissions. She is the Director of Sustainable Materials Research & Technology Centre at the University of New South Wales, (SMaRT @UNSW) and Associate Dean (Strategic Industry Relations) in the Faculty of Science at UNSW.

She is also an Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellow and Commissioner, Federal Government's Climate Commission.

Vienna's research interests include sustainability of materials and processes with an emphasis on environmental and community benefits. She is an international award winning scientist and engineer who has presented widely on her research and experiences, nationally and around the world. Her various awards include the CRC Australian collaborative Innovation Award 2012, the Banksia Award GE Eco Innovation Award for Individual Excellence 2012, the Overall winner of The Australian Innovation Challenge Award 2012 and the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award given by the Government of India for her outstanding achievement in the field of Science in 2011. This is the highest honour for Overseas Indians.

In 2012, Veena completed Department of Foreign and Trade diplomacy tour of China and India, promoting science and technology. She has also been one of the judges on the ABC TV show, "The New Inventors"



Robert Milliner

Robert Milliner was Chief Executive Partner of Mallesons Stephen Jaques from 2004-2011. He retired from Mallesons on 31 January 2012 to take up a role in the corporate sector. During this time Robert led the firm's regional expansion, including its combination with King & Wood to form King & Wood Mallesons, as well as a substantial change program focused on redirecting the firm's business model around its culture, people and clients to increase retention and engagement of staff and deliver an observable service difference to clients.

Robert was a director of the Business Council of Australia from 2005-2011, and chaired the Business Reform Task Force and was a member of the Global Engagement Task Force. He was a participant in the 1st and 2nd Australia-China CEO Roundtables in Australia in 2010 and China in 2011.

He was a director of Asialink – Asia Society Australasia Centre and is a member of the International Legal Services Advisory Council which advises the Federal Attorney-General on the export of legal services. Robert was Deputy Chairman of the firm's Mallesons in the Community Board from 2004-2011 and also a director of Australian Business and Community Network and the Australian Charities Fund. He is chairman of the Foundation for Young Australians.

He chaired the Large Law Firm Group which represents Australia's 9 largest law firms and is the only law firm member of the Law Council of Australia, from 2006-2011. Robert has a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from the University of Queensland and an MBA from the University of Western Australia. In 2010 he attended the Advanced Management Program at Harvard Business School. Prior to his appointment as Chief Executive, Robert was Managing Partner, International for Mallesons based in Hong Kong. Robert has been ranked as one of the world's leading energy and natural resources lawyers and written and spoken extensively on a range of legal and law firm management issues in Australia and overseas.



His Excellency Biren Nanda Indian High Commissioner to Australia

Upon completion of his Post Graduation in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics, Mr. Biren Nanda joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1978.

Mr. Nanda has previously served as a diplomat in Indian Missions in Singapore, Beijing, Shanghai, Washington, D.C. and Tokyo. He was the Consul General of India in Shanghai from 1996-2000, Deputy Chief of Mission in the Embassy of India in Tokyo from 2000-2004 and Ambassador of India in the Republic of Indonesia from 2008-2012.

Prior to taking up his assignment in Jakarta, Mr. Nanda was the Head of the Division in the Ministry of External Affairs which looks after relations between India and countries of Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Mr. Nanda is presently High Commissioner of the Republic of India to the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia since April 26, 2012. Mr. Nanda is married to Mrs. Rukmani Nanda and has one son, aged 26 years.



Paul O'Sullivan AO CNZM

Prior to taking up his most recent appointment as Australia's High Commissioner to New Zealand, Mr O'Sullivan was Director-General of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO) from 2005 until 28 February 2009. He was concurrently a Commissioner of the National Crime Commission. In 2004 and 2005, Mr O'Sullivan was the Senior Adviser (International) in the office of the Prime Minister (The Hon John Howard MP).

Mr O'Sullivan served overseas as Australia's Ambassador in Bonn and Berlin (1999-2003), Deputy Chief of Mission in Washington (1996-1998) and Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations, based in Geneva and New York (1991-1994). Mr O'Sullivan has also served in the Australian Embassies in Rome and Cairo. He was Australian Commissioner-General for the 2000 World Expo held in Hanover. In Canberra, Mr O'Sullivan has held a range of senior positions in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade including Acting Secretary (2002-2003), Deputy Secretary (2003-2004), First Assistant Secretary, International Organisations and Legal Division (1995-1996) and First Assistant Secretary, Americas and Europe Division (1994-1995).

Mr O'Sullivan was made an Officer of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day 2010 Honours List, for service to public administration through significant contributions to the advancement of Australia's security and the development of international relations. In 2012, he was made a Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for service to Trans-Tasman relations. He holds a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) degree from the University of Sydney. Mr O'Sullivan is married and he and his wife, Merrilyn, have three sons.



Rory Medcalf

Rory Medcalf is Director of the International Security Program at the Lowy Institute. Rory's professional background spans diplomacy, journalism and intelligence analysis. His experience as an Australian diplomat included a posting to New Delhi, a secondment to Japan's foreign ministry, and truce monitoring after the civil conflict in Bougainville. He has contributed to three landmark reports on nuclear arms control: the Canberra Commission, Tokyo Forum, and International Commission on Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament. He has also worked as a senior strategic analyst with the Office of National Assessments, Canberra's peak intelligence agency.

His earlier work in journalism was commended in Australia's leading media awards, the Walkleys. He is a Nonresident Senior Fellow with the Brookings Institution in Washington DC, a Senior Research Fellow in Indian strategic affairs at the University of New South Wales and a Fellow at the Australia-India Institute.

His research focuses on geopolitical changes and strategic challenges across Indo-Pacific Asia, especially surrounding the rise of India and China. He closely follows Australia's relations with India and is the Australian co-chair and founding convener of the Australia-India Roundtable, the leading informal dialogue between the two countries.



Neville Roach AO

Neville Roach AO has enjoyed a distinguished career in the Information Technology and Telecommunications industry. He was appointed Chairman and CEO of Fujitsu Australia in 1997. He retired as CEO in 2000 and as Chairman in 2004. Neville is currently Chairman of the Advisory Board of Tata Consultancy Services in Australia and New Zealand. He is a graduate of the University of Bombay, India, where he majored in Economics and Political Science at St Xavier's College. In October 2001, Mr Roach was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) by the University of New South Wales, for his eminent service to the community.

Mr Roach has served as a member of the Australian Government's Cooperative Research Centre Committee, the inaugural Chairman of National ICT Australia Limited and Chairman of TAFE Global. Mr Roach has served as Chairman of the National Multicultural Advisory Council and its successor, the Council for Multicultural Australia, which provided advice to the Australian Prime Minister, and the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs. He has also been a Director and then Deputy Chairman of SBS, Australia's national multicultural radio and television network.

Mr Roach became National Chairman of the Australia India Business Council (AIBC) in 2000 and is now Chairman Emeritus. He is also a member of the Advisory Councils of both Asia Society's AustralAsia Centre and of Asialink.

Mr Roach was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia (AO) on Australia Day, 2000 for service to business, particularly in the Information Technology Industry and for his contribution to the development of Australian multiculturalism. In January 2008, Mr Roach received the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (Overseas Indian Honour Award), the highest Overseas Indian award, from the President of India.

In 2009, Mr Roach was appointed by the Indian Government a member of the Indian Prime Minister's Global Advisory Council of Overseas Indians. The Council comprises 20 prominent leaders of Indian origin from around the world. Mr Roach is the only appointee from Australia.



Howard Ronaldson

Howard Ronaldson was appointed to the position of Secretary, Department of Business and Innovation (DBI), State Government of Victoria in May 2008.

Prior to joining DBI, Mr Ronaldson was the Secretary of Department of Infrastructure, a position he held from December 2002. He brings vast experience to DBI in negotiating complex commercial arrangements between the private sector and government and providing strategic policy advice on key links between infrastructure and the economy. Mr Ronaldson has held executive positions in the Department of Premier and Cabinet, and was previously the Director of Gaming, Director of Crown Lands and Director of Housing in Victoria.

He also worked in Canberra as the Chief Executive and Under Treasurer of the Department of Treasury, Australian Capital Territory.



Senator Lisa Singh

Lisa Singh is a Tasmanian Labor Senator in the Australian Senate who commenced her term on 1 July 2011. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree with Honours from the University of Tasmania and is regarded as the first person of South Asian descent to be elected to the Australian Parliament.

Lisa was elected as the Labor member for Denison to the Tasmanian House of Assembly from 2006 - 2010, and was appointed Minister for Workplace Relations, Minister for Corrections and Consumer Protection and Minister Assisting the Premier on Climate Change in 2008. Lisa has worked in management positions in community and public sectors as well as previously working as an adviser for State and Federal parliamentarians. Lisa is committed to the protection and promotion of human rights globally, and has previously held the positions of President of the United Nations Australia Association -Tasmanian Division, President of the YWCA Tasmania, and Director of the Tasmanian Working Women's Centre and Board Member of the Hobart Women's Health Centre. Lisa has been actively involved in the Australian Republican Movement and is the founding CEO of Asbestos Free Tasmania Foundation.

Lisa recently participated in the Lowy Institute's Australia-India Roundtable in New Delhi. She has also visited India to meet representatives on issues including asbestos and workplace health and safety. In July 2012, Lisa was invited by the Australian-Tibetan Council to visit the exiled Tibetan parliament in Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh, where she met with representatives of the Tibetan Government and human rights sector. Lisa was given the role of caucus liaison to facilitate Federal parliamentary Labor party engagement on the Australia in the Asian Century White Paper. Lisa is a passionate supporter of the Australia-India relationship and looks forward to working to develop and strengthen ties between both countries through her role as an Australian Senator.



Anne Skipper AM

Anne is an experienced businesswoman and company director – she has been a nurse, change agent, business owner, board director and advocate for children in Australia and internationally. Her diverse portfolio has included working in government, private sector and the not-for-profit sector in the areas of health, finance, social welfare, women's affairs, leadership, children and young people.

Anne is currently the Principal of Anne Skipper and Associates a specialist organisation consulting in corporate governance, board dynamics and strategic facilitation. Her career highlights have been; founding the highly successful leadership development business The Teleran Group, Chairing the International year of the Family and in 2000 being awarded a Member of the Order of Australia for community service.



Srijan Pal Singh

A progressive farmer, an Electrical Engineer and Management graduate from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA). At IIMA, Srijan was head of the student council and was engaged in a variety of social and developmental activities and projects with the police, local political institutions and MPs, the National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), the Public Distribution System (PDS) and many youth organizations. He was awarded the IIMA Gold Medal for the Best All-rounder student from the graduating batch of 2009.

From 2009-2012, he worked with Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, former President of India, in promoting various assignments like What Can I Give, Energy Independence for the nation, nuclear and space missions, and PURA(Providing Urban Amenities in Rural Areas). He also lectures on community action, leadership and development at IIM Ahmedabad and IIM Indore and has contributed to various journals and forums like TEDx on issues of development. Previously, he has worked in the corporate world as a consultant with the Boston Consulting Group where he worked in close association with the World Food Program on improving governance and transparency in the PDS in Naxal-affected areas of Orissa. He has co-authored a bestseller book with Dr Kalam, Target 3 Billion, which is based on sustainable development of the rural areas of the world. The idea of PURA evolved in the book is now being taken up as a major national program by the Government of India in association with many Indian corporates in a Private-Public-Partnership Model. Srijan has also co-authored Excellence in Management published by UNDP, which is a study of best practices in management of Public Sector Organizations in the developing world, specifically the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation. His most recent work was in the area of microfinance and how it can create entrepreneurship at the field level.

AIYD 2013 MODERATORS



Hayley Bolding

Hayley Bolding has an extensive background in international development and education in Australia and India.

At the age of 23, Hayley founded a non-profit organization in Mumbai called Atma (www.atma.org.in). Atma (meaning “Soul” in Hindi) was the inspiration Hayley envisioned from seeing the educational challenges the underprivileged faced in India. She recognized that the greatest impact could come by building capacity within the key leaders, educationalists and organizations who were creating and developing educational change in India. Her vision was, and continues to be, to challenge the struggling mainstream educational status quo and showcase that innovative and child-centred educational approaches are not only possible, but create genuine equalizing outcomes for the marginalized.

Under Hayley’s leadership, Atma has moved from a start-up to a well-respected non-profit organization engaging multiple partner organizations which impact over 11, 00 beneficiaries. International fundraising chapters for Atma have also been set up in Australia, Canada, Hong Kong and The Netherlands.

Hayley successfully successional out of Atma in 2011, leaving a dynamic local team which continues to grow Alma’s work. Returning to Australia after six years in India, Hayley is now undertaking a Masters in Philanthropy and currently works at the Australia India Institute. She was a participant in the inaugural Australia India Youth Dialogue in 2012 and was awarded Young Australian of the Year 2013 for Victoria in recognition for her work in India. She is passionate about promoting people-to-people exchange between India and Australia.



Andrew Carr

Dr Andrew Carr is an Associate Lecturer in the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre at the Australian National University (ANU). He has previously worked as an Associate Editor for the Lowy Institute for International Policy and as a lecturer at the University of Canberra. He has a PhD on Australian foreign policy and published on the foreign policy of the Rudd government. He was awarded first class honours from the University of Canberra along with the Herbert Burton Medal. His research interests include Australian foreign and strategic policy, middle power theory, irregular migration and Asia-Pacific security. He is also a co-editor of the peer-reviewed journal Security Challenges.



Daniel Flitton

Daniel Flitton is senior correspondent for The Age covering foreign affairs and politics.

He is a former intelligence analyst for the Australian government where he examined on terrorist organisations in South Asia and was at one-time a university lecturer specialising in international relations. He was invited to India to speak on Australia's ties with Asia in 2011, delivering lectures in Delhi, Chennai and Mumbai. He appeared in a Bollywood film in 2003, A Hero: Love Story of a Spy.



Maxine McKew

Maxine McKew's career spans both politics and journalism. In November 2012, Maxine published her memoir "Tales from the Political Trenches". Maxine McKew is a Vice Chancellor's Fellow with the University of Melbourne and works as an advisor on education for the not for profit group Social Ventures Australia. She is also Chair of Playgroup Australia and a member of the board of Per Capita. At the 2007 federal election Maxine McKew won a spectacular victory against John Howard and wrote herself into Australian political history as only the second candidate to have ever defeated a Prime Minister in his constituency seat. She was immediately elevated to the executive and served as Parliamentary Secretary for Early Childhood, and later as Parliamentary Secretary for Infrastructure, Regional Development and Local Government. Before making the switch to politics, Maxine had a thirty-year career as a broadcast and print journalist. Her hosting of Lateline in the mid 1990 s, and later, as the part-time anchor of The 7.30 Report, earned her a reputation as one of the country's most authoritative interviewers.

Her television reporting has been recognised by her peers with both Logie and Walkely awards for broadcast excellence, while her work for the Bulletin Magazine saw her secure the Magazine Publisher's award for Columnist of the Year.

Maxine is involved in a range of voluntary activities. She is a member of the Dean's Advisory Council for Macquarie University's School of Advanced Medicine and is an ambassador for Alzheimer's Australia.



Matt Wade

Matt Wade is a Senior Writer with the Sydney Morning Herald and The Age newspapers based in Sydney. He is a regular commentator on economic issues and takes a special interest in Australia's economic and political ties with Asia. Matt was the New Delhi-based South Asia Correspondent for the Sydney Morning Herald and The Age from 2007 until 2011. Before that he worked as the Herald's Economics Writer and its Canberra-based Economics Correspondent.



Professor Fazal Rizvi

Professor Fazal Rizvi is a Professor in Education at the University of Melbourne, as well as an Emeritus Professor at the University in 2010 from the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign. At Melbourne, he is developing an online Masters program in Global Studies in Education. He has previously held academic and administrative appointments at a number of universities in Australia, including as Pro Vice Chancellor (International) at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology and as the founding Director of the Monash Centre for Research in International Education. His most recent book is *Globalizing Education Policy* (Routledge 2010). He is a board member of the Asia Education Foundation and a fellow of the Australian Academy of the Social Sciences.



Sara Phillips

Sara Phillips has been an environment journalist and editor for more than 10 years. With degrees in Arts and Science she completed a Graduate Diploma in Science Communication at the ANU. She got her start on environmental trade publications, and went on to be deputy editor of 'Cosmos', a science magazine and editor of 'G', a green lifestyle magazine. She is currently the editor of ABC Environment online, a role she has held for three years.

She has won several awards for her work including the 2006 Reuters/IUCN award for excellence in environmental reporting for a story on the water crisis in Australia. While editor of G, she also won the 2008 Bell Award for editor of the year and won the 2007 Bell Award for best consumer magazine of the year (print run over 30,000).

AIYD Team



Monika Barthwal-Datta

Monika Barthwal-Datta is a Lecturer in International Security in the School of Social Sciences, University of New South Wales (UNSW) in Sydney.

Prior to joining UNSW, Monika was leading a two-year research project funded by the MacArthur Foundation on 'Food Security in Asia: Strategic risks and mitigation' as a postdoctoral research fellow at the Centre for International Security Studies (CISS), University of Sydney.

Monika moved to Sydney in late 2010 from the UK, where she was working as a Lecturer in International Relations at the University of Sussex. She was awarded her PhD in International Relations by Royal Holloway College, University of London in 2010 and holds an MScEcon in Security Studies from Aberystwyth University. She also has a Master's in International Journalism from Cardiff University, and has worked as a Broadcast Journalist for the BBC World Service Radio in London for several years. Monika is the author of *Understanding Security Practices in South Asia: Securitization Theory and the role of non-state actors* (Routledge 2012).



Ruchir Punjabi, Chair

Ruchir Punjabi is the founder and Managing Director of Langoor, a web services and products agency with offices in Sydney, Australia and Bangalore, India.

Ruchir is the Founding Chair of the Australia India Business Council NSW Young Professionals Chapter and currently the Vice-Chair of the same. Ruchir is the Vice President of International Advertising Association Australia Young Professionals and a member of the Australian Web Industry Association National Committee, Australian Interactive Media Industry Association (NSW) Committee and the Australia India Business Council NSW Management Committee.

Ruchir sits on the Board of International House at the University of Sydney and is a former President of the University of Sydney Union. Ruchir was also actively involved in raising awareness and helping mitigate problems around issues faced by international students in Australia during 2005 - 2010.



Vidyananda Vijaya Sagaram

Vidyanand Sagaram is the Director - Strategic Projects at the Victorian Government Business Office (VGBO) India. He completed his engineering from Bangalore University and Masters in Telecommunication Engineering from Monash University, Australia in 2003. He started his career with the Australian telecommunication provider, Telstra and after two years, moved to Hobsons Australia, an innovative technology and integrated marketing solutions provider for universities in Australia. During his tenure at Hobsons, Vidya engaged across various levels with the universities in Australia to enable them to increase their market share from India. He returned to India in 2008 to manage La Trobe University's business development activities.

Since 2009, Vidya has been working for the Victoria Government in India, initially managing their skilled and business migration portfolio for South and South East Asia market and now their corporate and government relations, which has a strong focus on working with the various chambers, associations and local governments. He also assists and coordinates trade missions travelling from Victoria to India.



Sanushka Seomangal, Secretary

Sanushka Seomangal is a Senior Associate in HWL Ebsworth Lawyers Sydney office where she specialises in corporate finance and corporate law. With particular expertise in public and private equity fundraising, initial public offerings (IPOs), and mergers and acquisitions involving both private and listed companies, Sanushka also advises her clients on general corporate matters.

Sanushka holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Natal, South Africa, a Master of Applied Law from the University of Queensland, Australia and a Master of Business Law from the University of Sydney, Australia.

Sanushka has a particular interest in India and is also the Chair of the Australia India Business Council NSW Young Professionals Chapter and a member of the Women in Business Chapter Committee of the Australia India Business Council NSW.



Shaun Star

Shaun was awarded the Prime Minister's Australia Asia Endeavour Award in 2010. After undertaking studies at the National Law School of India University, Bangalore, Shaun worked as a foreign legal consultant at the Law Offices of Nandan Kamath in Bangalore.

Prior to moving to India, Shaun worked at one of Australia's leading law firms, Clayton Utz, in Sydney. Committed to developing links between Australian and Indian lawyers, Shaun is currently editing a book which compares the Australian and Indian legal systems. Shaun commenced working as an Associate at one of India's largest law firm's Amarchand & Mangaldas & Suresh A Shroff & Co in Delhi in February 2013. Shaun is passionate about strengthening the Australia-India relationship and would like to engage more young leaders from Australia to experience and embrace India's rich culture. In the development space, Shaun is also actively involved in Tara.Ed, an Australian education NGO which aims to provide sustainable quality education in rural India.

Shaun holds a Masters in Law (BCL) with Distinction from Oxford University and a Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Laws (with first class honours) from Macquarie University. He completed his undergraduate degree as the top graduating student and received a Vice Chancellor's commendation for academic excellence.



Rishi Suri

Rishi Suri is a senior editor convening international affairs at The Daily Milap, India's oldest and largest circulated Urdu daily newspaper. He is an internationally recognized journalist known for his strong views and opinions on global politics and diplomacy. His interviews with various international personalities and heads of states and his articles on different subjects in the Middle East have been widely acclaimed and appreciated.

Rishi is a certified diplomatic correspondent by the Ministry of External Affairs in India and has been part of various international delegations and programs, the most recent being the International Visitor Leadership program run by the State Department of the United States of America.

Apart from being an Editor, Rishi also plays an administrative role in the publication as he is part of the fourth generation of the family running the newspaper, started by Mahashay Khusal Chand Ji, later known as Mahatma Anand Swami Saraswati in Lahore (now in Pakistan) on the 13th of April, 1923. The Daily Milap was a social reformist newspaper and an instrument of social change while fighting tooth and nail for the freedom of the country. Gradually through the love of the people, Milap grew and prospered and, even in its current functioning, carries with it many values which it has stood for over the years. It is this lineage which has greatly contributed to Rishi's knowledge, personality and development of his thought process.



Rommel Varghese

Rommel Varghese completed his International Relations/Political Science degree in 2011 and is in the final semester of his Business degree at the Australian National University. Rommel is an intern at the Federal Parliament focusing on Foreign Affairs and Trade and is a freelance journalist reporting on Politics and International Affairs. He co-authored the Australia India Youth Dialogue's submission for the Asia Century White Paper and the dialogue was mentioned in the final document as an institution that has developed "relationships... to nurture people-to-people Connections" between Australia and India. He has also advised and led community service projects for Lions Australia and his local church in promoting cultural dialogue and youth leadership.

In 2010-2011 with young scholars and academics at the ANU College of Asia and Pacific, he and the team created Asia Pacific Week, one of the region's premier economic and strategic conferences for young scholars and was the Deputy Project Director in the inaugural year. Prior to commencing full time studies at the ANU, Rommel worked two years for Pricewaterhouse Coopers in Sydney working on major banking, property and NGO clients. He also worked for News Limited's subsidiary News Digital Media. Rommel is a recipient of the Australian Defence Force Academy Award for Leadership and Young Citizen of the Year by Hornsby Shire Council in its centenary year. Rommel is currently working on an entrepreneurship program that looks at the education sector in New South Wales and is passionate about Australia's engagement in the Asia-Pacific region. Rommel spent his formative years in the Middle East and came to Australia as a migrant when he was fourteen. He is a proud supporter of the Parramatta Eels football club.

AIYD Board of Advisors



His Excellency Biren Nanda Indian High Commissioner to Australia

Mr. Nanda is presently High Commissioner of the Republic of India to the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia since April 26, 2012.

Upon completion of his post-graduation in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics, Mr. Biren Nanda joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1978.

Mr. Nanda has previously served as a diplomat in Indian missions in Singapore, Beijing, Shanghai, Washington, D.C. and Tokyo. He was the Consul General of India in Shanghai (1996-2000), Deputy Chief of Mission in the Embassy of India in Tokyo (2000-2004) and Ambassador of India in the Republic of Indonesia (2008-2012). Prior to taking up his assignment in Jakarta, Mr. Nanda was the Head of the Division in the Ministry of External Affairs which looks after relations between India and countries of Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

Mr. Nanda is married to Mrs. Rukmani Nanda and has one son, aged 26 years.



Geoffrey Conaghan Commissioner to India, State of Victoria, Australia

Geoffrey Conaghan commenced as Commissioner to India for the State Government of Victoria in 2009. He heads the Bangalore based Victorian Government Business Office which actively pursues India/Victoria partnerships in trade, investment and education.

His career spans the public and private sectors. Between 1994-2009 he held senior positions at Melbourne Airport in business development, corporate affairs and marketing and between 1985-1994 he worked for Tourism Training Australia, including founding Executive Director of the Tourism and Hospitality Industry Training Board.

He was appointed for five successive terms during 1998-2009 as a Director of Tourism Victoria, the Government's tourism commission. His achievements in tourism and aviation were recognised with the 2009 Victorian Tourism Award for Outstanding Contribution by an Individual.

He was a Board member and Chairman of Melbourne's St. Kilda Centre for Contemporary Art 2001-2009.



John Fisher
Director, Australia-India Council

Mr Fisher is a career officer now with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and is currently the Director of the Australia-India Council, a position held since December 2010.

Mr Fisher joined the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in 2002. After an initial term in the Office of the Status of Women (2002-2003) he commenced work in the Ceremonial and Hospitality Branch successfully managing numerous visits to Australia by heads of government and heads of state, and coordinating major ceremonial occasions and events. Mr Fisher has served as an Advisor in the office of the (former) Prime Minister Kevin Rudd (November 2007 – June 2009) and managed numerous Prime Ministerial visits abroad.

Prior to joining the Australian Public Service, Mr Fisher was a Relationship Manager with Westpac Banking Corporation. He studied at the Australian Business Academy and the University of Canberra.



Vinod Mirchandani
Associate Director, Australia India Institute

Vinod Mirchandani, Associate Director, is based in Mumbai and provides a base in India for the Institute to increase its in-country engagement. He also provides strategic advice in developing its priorities and programs. He has over 10 years of experience in account management, business development, implementation of service strategy, staff training and development, market research and change management.

Vinos Masters is from the University of Buckingham and he has completed the first year of a PhD in Marketing at the University of Melbourne.

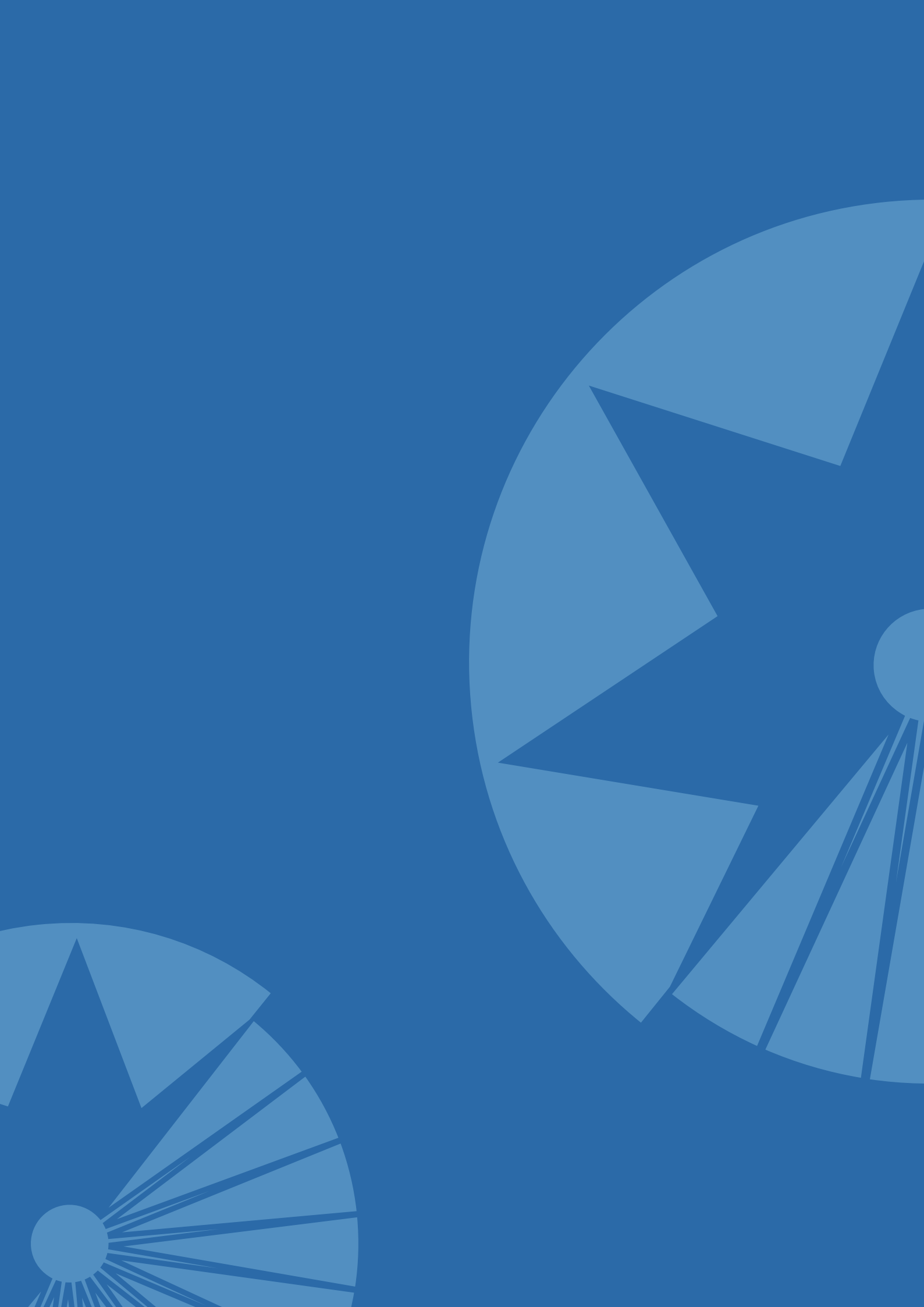


Shankar Vanavarayar **Chair, AIYD Board of Advisors**

Shankar Vanavarayar is the Correspondent/President of NIA Educational Institutions and Executive Director of Sakthi Auto Motors Ltd a part of the Sakthi Group based out of Coimbatore. Shankar Vanavarayar has a Bachelors Degree in Commerce from PSG Arts and Science College Coimbatore, MBA from the Cardiff University in the UK and a Masters in International Education Management from the University of Leeds UK.

Shankar Vanavarayar plays various roles in 1.0 Billion USD Sakthi Group, now he plays a passionate and dynamic role in the management of NIA Educational institutions which educates more than 12000 students from school to higher educations. The 9 institutions including schools, engineering – polytechnic – agriculture colleges are under NIA and all are Not for Profit being located in the rural parts of Tamilnadu. With international exposure in education he is able to bring a modern outlook into education and is also involved in strategic visioning process for the institutions. His main focus is to bring about a student centered approach in the institutions.

Shankar Vanavarayar has been a part of Young Indians for the past 6 years playing various roles from chapter to national positions of Strategy, Communication and Events. He is passionate about the role of Young Indians in making the India of tomorrow. Shankar Vanavarayar is passionate about the heritage of the land and works for the cause of preservation through INTACH and also The Vanavarayar Foundation founded by him to work in the areas of history, architecture, culture and heritage.





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