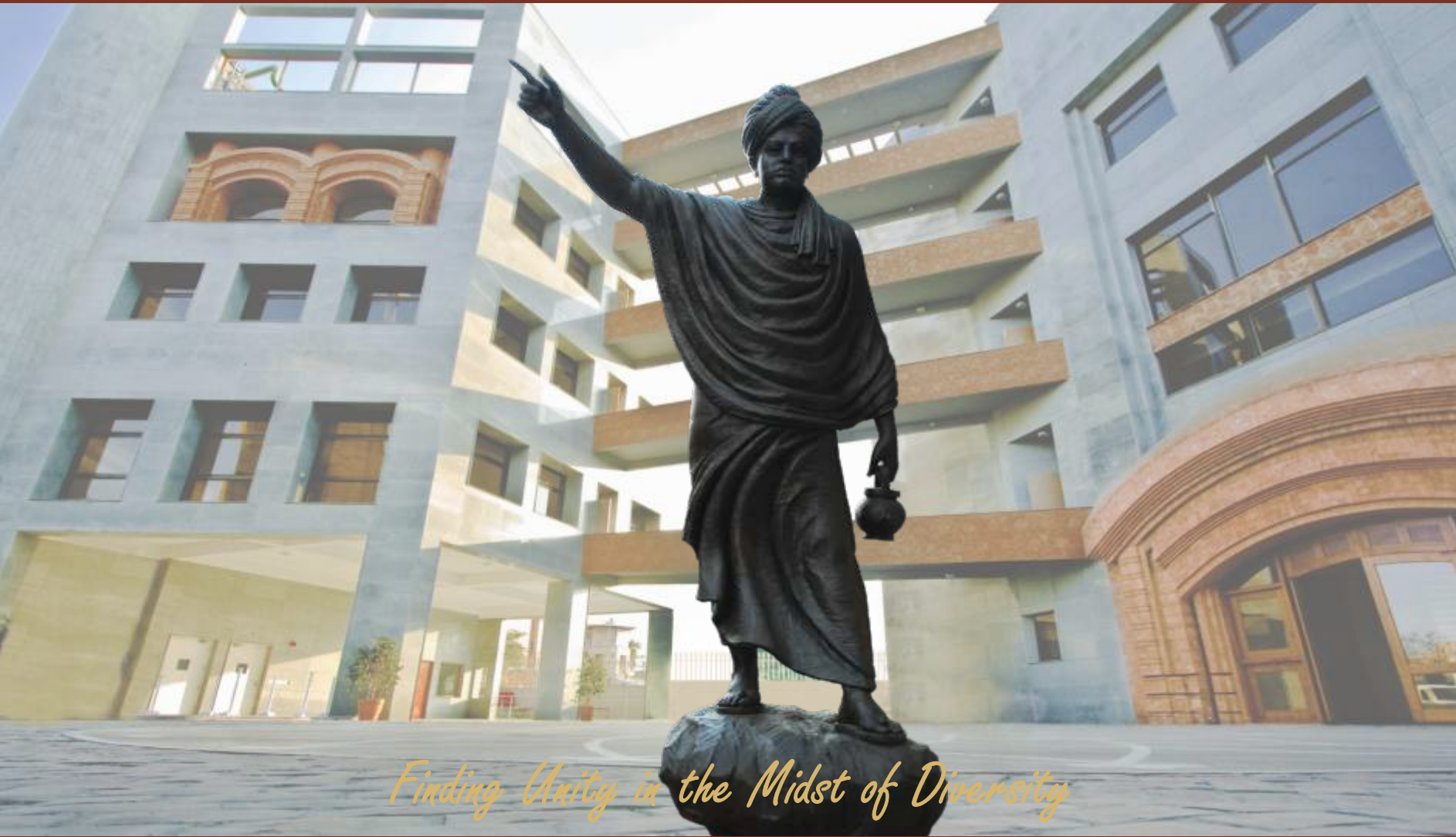




Vivekananda International Foundation



Finding Unity in the Midst of Diversity

Annual Report 2014

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Vivekananda International Foundation



Annual Report 2014

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VIVEKANANDA
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Winds of Change in India

2014 was a momentous year for India that marked the end of coalition governments and brought in a Government with single party majority after 40 years with hopes of good governance and development. Resultantly, perceptions and sentiments about India also improved rapidly on the international front. Prime Minister Modi's invite to SAARC heads of states for his swearing in signified his earnestness and commitment to enhancing relationships with the neighbours. Thereafter, his visits to Bhutan, Japan, meeting President Xi Jinping and later addressing the UN and summit with President Obama underlined the thrust of India's reinvigoration of its foreign and security policies. BRICS, ASEAN and G-20 summits were the multilateral forums where India was seen in a new light because of its massive political mandate and strength of the new leadership which was likely to hasten India's progress. Bilateral meets with Myanmar and Australian leadership on the sidelines of ASEAN and G-20 and visit of the Vietnamese Prime Minister to India underscored PM Modi's emphasis on converting India's Look East Policy to 'Act East Policy'.



International Dynamics

While Indian economy was being viewed with dismay in the first half of the year, now India is fast becoming an important and much sought after destination for investment as the change of government has engendered positive resonance both at home and abroad. Though reforms in coal, insurance, FDI in defence, land acquisition and some other sectors have been undertaken and some more are in the pipeline, yet much more needs to be done. Flows of massive infrastructure funds from Japan, China and some other countries are expected that would further uplift the sentiment on economic prospects. The government's policy of 'Make in India' is expected to spur indigenisation and further add to the economic growth and creation of jobs.

During the year, tensions on Sino-Indian border was a regular feature with major incursions taking place across the LAC and these continued even when China's President Xi Jinping visited India in September, which raises further apprehension about Beijing's intent. While India was ready to go farther on economic cooperation with China in the form of receiving funds for infrastructure development, it continued to impress China on the need for settling



boundary issue at the earliest besides redressing the trade imbalance and impediments relating to market access of Indian goods and services. China's expanding footprints in South Asia and Indian Ocean Region also heightened India's security concerns. Docking of Chinese nuclear submarine in Colombo also raised an alarm. Otherwise too, Chinese submarines are visiting Colombo far too often under the garb of anti piracy missions in Somalia. Such naval activity on the part of China only signified its attempt on projection of its maritime power into IOR.

On the other hand, India and China continued their co-operation at multilateral forums like BRICS and India became the first President of the new BRICS Development Bank. India also took equity in the Chinese sponsored Asian Infrastructure Development Bank as it saw a number of benefits flowing out from it. This also supplements similar efforts by the ADB, World Bank and IMF.

In the context of Sino-Indian relations, the VIF organized a number of seminars and interactions. A record number of delegations from Chinese think tanks such as CICIR, CISS, CIIS, IDCPC, RIIOE and Centre for South Asian Studies, Beijing University visited the VIF to exchange views. Indian perspective on settlement of boundary issue, Af-Pak situation and Pakistan's role in using terrorism as an instrument of state policy was clearly articulated. While Chinese views on Arunachal and border issue have not undergone much change, there was general consensus that both countries should move forward on economic cooperation. They also continued to view terrorism in Afghanistan through the Pakistani prism, despite terrorism spreading its tentacles in their Xinjiang region.

Pakistan and the unfolding situation in Afghanistan remained the focus of concern for India and was central to deliberations at the VIF. Pakistan continued to be at the receiving end from its home grown terrorists due to its differentiated policies on Good and Bad Taliban. There is little realisation that the major problem lies within but they still have to make up their mind as to what is in their best interest. Notwithstanding the dastardly act by TTP in massacring 132 children in Peshawar Army School and avowed intentions of Pakistani establishment on changing their narrative on good and bad terrorists, there is a great degree of skepticism amongst the international and Indian strategic community that Pakistan would be able to make any fundamental change in its outlook.

The VIF organised a number of intellectual gatherings to deliberate on emerging dynamics in Pakistan and on post-2014 situation in Afghanistan. Many American scholars and Pakistani scholars based in US and elsewhere provided insights into Af-Pak future. VIF faculty also took part in a series of conferences on possibilities of cooperation with China on the question of bringing peace, prosperity and stability in Afghanistan that were attended by British and Afghan experts and these also included Pakistani representatives amongst others on a number of occasions.

Another international security concern which became paramount during the year and added a new dimension to the ongoing problem of radical Islamists was the rise of ISIS. Of greater concern were the ramifications of such an



extreme radical thought process, getting closer to the borders of India. Evidently, this new threat needs to be tackled through international cooperation even while remaining doubly vigilant on the home turf. The VIF website carried a number of research papers and opinion pieces on this issue in addition to discussions with visiting foreign dignitaries including the French and British Defence Ministers and Israeli delegations.

Thrust Areas of Our Studies

Internal security situation and governance remained an important aspect of VIF round tables and 'Vimarsha' series of lectures where due attention was given to the developing situation in Left Wing Extremism, proxy war in J& K and the hinterland, insurgency in the North East including a major seminar on Cyber Security. Defence preparedness including indigenisation and problems of procurement, R&D and technological aspects were analysed very critically in the VIF which resulted into a very successful book titled 'Decoding India's Defence Procurement'. Economy was another subject which was dealt with in the VIF as such or as a sub part of the various subjects discussed in the VIF. It also included talks on the subject by a number of eminent economists. Civilisation studies was another focus area wherein the history of ancient India going back to the prehistoric days is being prepared under the guidance of two of the leading experts in the country i.e Drs Dilip K Chakrabarti and Makkhan Lal. Five volumes out of 11 volumes of this path-breaking work, which shows India in its real glory, have been released. Two more are planned to be released in 2015 and the balance over 2016-17. When completed, this will be the most authentic work of its kind in the country.

Our Outreach and National/International Relationship

The year also saw the VIF expanding its cooperation with the international think tanks. Today we have MOUs already signed or in advanced stages of finalisation with 23 Think Tanks, turning us into an institution with maximum outreach both within and outside the country. Our relationship with institutions like Atlantic Council of USA, US-India Security Council, Washington D.C, Heritage Foundation, US and China Institute of International Strategic Studies, Beijing, Research Institution of Indian Ocean Economies, Kunming, Centre for South Asian Studies, Beijing University, Institute for Foreign Policy and Strategic Studies, Vietnam, Pathfinder Foundation, Sri Lanka and think tanks from Russia and Europe are on a firm footing and based on mutual confidence. Existing collaboration with Heritage Foundation, Lowey Institute, Australia in quad and quad plus dialogue continued with more international think tanks willing to join the deliberations. Trilateral project amongst VIF, Royal United Services Institute, U K and China Institute of International Contemporary Affairs on Afghanistan reached an advanced stage of completion during the year. Dialogue with Japan Institute of International Affairs and Korean Institute of Defence Analysis was in addition to existing exchanges with Japanese Institute for National Fundamentals that underscored the significance of these countries in India's



foreign and economic policies and the VIF's thrust in sharing ideas with them. Not only did the above exchanges reflect the growing salience of VIF as a think tank but also the outreach of various VIF faculty members as speakers at a number of national and international conferences and other forums which established VIF as an important contributor to strategic thought and intellectual activity both within the country and internationally.

Our Plans for 2015

Over the last year, we had focussed on International Relations, Defence Preparedness and Self Reliance, Internal Security and Governance. In the coming year, besides above subjects, which will continue to remain under our gaze, we also plan to expand our activities to encompass, Economic Studies, Industry and Civilizational aspects of our history. Some of the more notable events amongst many others in 2015 that we plan to hold/have already been held are :-

- (i) A Quad Plus, an exchange of thoughts amongst leading Think Tanks of US, Japan, Australia, Indonesia and India on 'Security Challenges in the Asia Pacific Region' in February at Bali (Already held)
- (ii) A trilateral dialogue in March amongst Royal United Services Institution (RUSI), VIF and Strategic Analysts from China, on possible developments in 'Af-Pak region and it's security implications post draw down of NATO forces', (Already held)
- (iii) An interaction in March amongst VIF – Atlantic Council and US Embassy on 'Indo-US relations' and some other related issues, (Already held)
- (iv) A visit in March by a Congressional delegation of six Congressmen led by Congressman Ed Royce, Chairman US Foreign Affairs Committee to the VIF on furthering 'Indo-US Relations' and boosting India's effort on 'Make in India', (Already held)
- (v) A two days long national level seminar in June on 'Civilizational Studies' by VIF in collaboration with, Archaeological Survey of India (Ministry of Culture, GoI) and Delhi Institute of Heritage Research and Management,
- (vi) A national level seminar on 'Energy Security', in May,
- (vii) An International Seminar on 'Design and Make in India (Electronics)' in May, and
- (viii) An international seminar on 'Global Hindu – Buddhist Initiative for Democracy Promotion and Conflict Avoidance' in September 2015 by VIF in collaboration with Tokyo Foundation, Japan.

As We Sign Off

During the year, the emphasis was on having focused discussions by way of inviting select group of experts for 'Round Tables' rather than on holding elaborate seminars. Policy of a mix between the two systems provided us the



most useful inputs. These Round Tables and Seminars resulted in sensitising maximum number of experts in the field who could further reach out to the policy/opinion makers. This enabled us to make practical recommendations to the decision makers in the Government. Looking back at 2014, one feels a tremendous sense of satisfaction and pride that the organisational objectives have been achieved by the VIF team with great alacrity.

The year also saw a change of guard with Mr. Ajit Doval, KC leaving us to join as National Security Advisor in the new Government. We wish him happy innings in the new assignment. As the Founding Director, he was the spirit and moving force in conceptualising the setting up of this Institution and creating the finest infrastructure for the VIF. Because of the firm foundation laid by him, the VIF was able to meet the goals set out. What is even more important is that he had assembled a team of very senior practitioners in every field like diplomacy, defence, economy, governance etc, by getting senior practitioners like, Amb Satish Chandra, Lt Gen Ravi Sawhney, Mr CD Sahay and Amb Prabhat Shukla, as the nucleus and many more whose names do not find mention because of limitation of space. Our reservoir of experts who are picked up for various events commensurate to their expertise is very large. As can be seen, our forte has been the collective experience of our members of over hundreds of years in varied fields of governance at the senior most levels.

I wish to convey our gratitude to Sh S Gurusurthy, who is the moving inspiration and support for all our endeavours and plans. I also want to thank Vice Admiral KK Nayyar, PVSM, AVSM Chairman and other members of the Trust, Members of Advisory Board and Executive Council, who with their support and active participation were instrumental in enabling VIF to achieve its goals and objectives.

The coming year brings hope and optimism. The new Government is expected to take India on an unprecedented growth path, make India more secure by giving a practical shape to the process of 'Make in India', strengthen its 'Look East, Act East Policy' and also acquire the status of a leading member of the various international bodies, along with improving the internal governance of the country. The VIF on its part will continue to strive tirelessly to increase its outreach and meet its desired goals and obligations towards our country.

New Delhi
April 2015

(General N C Vij)

PVSM, UYSM, AVSM

Director - VIF

Former Chief of the Army Staff
& Founder Vice Chairman, NDMA



VIF is a non-partisan independent think tank focusing on study of contemporary India: its international relations, security problems, governance and civilisational issues from an Indian perspective. Monitoring the emerging trends, it aims at engaging experts, both within and outside the Foundation, to evolve informed policy options and working out alternative strategies. Through public discourse and interactions, it strives to create greater awareness among the people and partner with the civil society to make people vital stakeholders in national affairs. Some of India's leading experts in the field of security, diplomacy, governance and economy have got together under the aegis of the Foundation to generate ideas and stimulate action that could lead to India's all round empowerment and its ability to contribute to regional and global security and stability. Independently funded, VIF is not aligned to any political party, religious group or business house. Dedicated to India's long term strategic, developmental and civilisational interests, it aims to ideate on fresh ideas and channelize them to those responsible for managing affairs of the nation on the one hand and people at large on the other. VIF works under the guidance of a registered Trust with eminent people in public life as its Trustees. It has an Advisory Board and an Executive Council comprising of distinguished persons from diverse fields with high professional accomplishments and long experience. The Director is the Chief Executive of the Foundation and is nominated by the Trust.

Objectives

- Analyse India's external and internal security environment to offer inputs to shape policies and response strategies.
- Offer policy alternatives to contain internal conflicts caused by India's socio-economic disparities and political rivalries.
- Ideate on economic policies and models that would facilitate the well being and prosperity of one and all.
- Interact with civil society and offer institutional support for exchange of ideas among conflicting groups.
- Deliberate on public policies, the working on national institutions and the democratic bodies and suggest measures for their revival and rejuvenation.
- Evolve benchmarks for good governance and efficiency in public institutions.
- Reassess, formulate and develop India's civilisational and cultural imperatives in an increasingly globalised world.
- Promote initiatives that further the cause of peace and global harmony.

Our Relationship Worldwide



List of Think Tanks having Cooperation/ Exchanges with VIF

- Atlantic Council, Washington DC, USA
- Heritage Foundation, Washington DC, USA
- US India Security Council, Washington DC, USA
- Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada, Vancouver, BC, Canada
- Royal United Services Institute, London, UK
- Utrikespolitiska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden
- Japan Institute for National Fundamentals, Tokyo, Japan
- Japan's Institute of International Affairs, Tokyo, Japan
- Tokyo Foundation, Japan
- The Gorchakov Fund, Moscow, Russia
- Institute for Transnational Studies, Munich, Germany
- Australian Strategic Policy Institute, Canberra, Australia
- China Institute of International Strategic Studies, Beijing, PRC

- Centre for South Asian Studies, Peking University, Beijing, PRC
- Research Institute for Indian Ocean Economies, Yunnan University of Finance and Economics, Kunming, PRC
- Habibie Centre, Bali, Indonesia
- Yuchengco Centre, De La Salle University, Manila, Philippines
- Pathfinder Foundation, Colombo, Sri Lanka
- Institute for Foreign Policy and Strategic Studies, Hanoi, Vietnam
- Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Yangon, Myanmar
- Jerusalem Centre for Public Affairs, Jerusalem, Israel
- Galilee International Management Institute, Nahalal, Israel

Indian Universities

- Gorakhpur University, Gorakhpur, U.P.
- Tumkur University, Tumkur, Karnataka





Activities

If 2013 saw VIF's emergence as a leading intellectual hub in the national capital, in 2014, the organization became the cynosure of all eyes, from think tanks to academia and strategists to students of India's contemporary and long term interests, from across the country and the world. The discussions, seminars, talks and round tables organized by the VIF on issues of national, regional and global importance witnessed wide participation by leading thinkers, strategic analysts, serving and retired diplomats and bureaucrats, scholars of international acclaim, media persons and representatives of internationally acclaimed think tanks. The VIF faculty too participated in major national and international conferences both in India and abroad and interacted with their counterparts on a wide range of key security, strategic, international and socio-economic issues. Leading national and international experts and think tanks sought to understand from the VIF the implications of contemporary developments for India, its neighbourhood and the global geopolitical environment. The co-operative exchanges with leading think tanks from the world over during the year is ample proof of this growing recognition of VIF as the nation's leading think tank. The books and research papers published by VIF, the contents on its website and e-journal were widely read and appreciated by the strategic community with several eminent persons contributing their mite to them.

In the year gone by, VIF succeeded to a great extent in achieving its objective of presenting to national and international policy makers and influencers views on critical security, strategic and economic issues in consonance with India's national interests. We are looking ahead to carry forward our mission as India seeks to claim its rightful place under the sun.





Seminars & Interactions

International Relations & Diplomacy

Interaction with the British High Commissioner to India

Vivekananda International Foundation hosted an interaction with the British High Commissioner to India, Sir James David Bevan KCMG, on 8 January. The interaction was chaired by Vice Adm. (Retd) K. K. Nayyar, Chairman, Board of Trustees, VIF and included retired senior officials, leading thinkers and strategists from the country's diplomatic, intelligence and armed services. The main topic of discussion was the state of relations between India and the UK with particular reference to the issues of trade, economy, security, education and tourism. Referring to the centuries old relation between the two nations, Sir James highlighted that the two nations have a shared history over the last few centuries, similar bureaucracy, shared and strong belief in the virtues of democracy and human rights. He underlined the gradual increase in cooperation between the two nations on global challenges of climate change and energy security. The High Commissioner argued that the relationship is flourishing at present, with manifold increase in joint investments on projects of science and technology, trade and people-to-people exchanges though more is needed to be done to realize the potential for trade. He also stressed on the need to enhance the level of educational exchanges between the two nations. Another critical area for further cooperation was that of foreign policy, especially with regard to the geo-political concerns which India and the UK mutually share. The presentation also covered the emerging challenges in Afghanistan.



Sir James David Bevan KCMG



Vice Adm K K Nayyar &
Sir James David Bevan KCMG



Members of UK Defence Team



Prof Michael Wesley & Bernard Philip



VIF faculty with Prof Wesley

Presentation by UK Defence Team on Global Strategic Trends and Implications

A team from Development of Concepts and Doctrine Centre of the UK's Ministry of Defence led by Brig. Matt Holmes made a presentation on 'Global Strategic Trends: Setting the Strategic Context for Defence and Security' and interacted with the VIF faculty on 10 February. Brig. Holmes explained at length the strategic trends and their trajectory over a period of 20 to 25 years which was considered somewhat as a very long period by the VIF analysts especially where it may not be possible to extrapolate trends in a linear manner. A point about some wild cards or unexpected events upsetting the entire projections was also emphasized.

Talk by Professor Michael Wesley of Australian National University

At an interaction with the VIF faculty on 18 February, Professor Michael Wesley from the Australian National University spoke on a range of topics including Australia's foreign policy towards Asia and South Asia, changing power dynamics in Asia and Australian perspectives on trends in international politics. He was accompanied by Deputy High Commissioner of Australia to India Bernard Philip. The VIF faculty was keen to understand Australia's policy towards China and the emerging dynamics in the Asia-Pacific. He said earlier Australia was more oriented towards Pacific but of late it has started paying more attention to the Indian Ocean. Outlining his perspective, Philip said Indo-Australian relations have been on an ascending trajectory and Australia is keen to enhance its maritime and naval relationship with India. In addition to a broad survey of what is happening in South Asia, the VIF faculty shared its perspective on the evolving situation in Afghanistan which would have tremendous impact on the security environment in the region and beyond.

Glimpses





Delegation from Vietnam at VIF



Amb Prabhat P Shukla & João Cravinho



Members of AJC Delegation

Interaction with Dr. Hoang Anh Tuan from Vietnam

Dr. Hoang Anh Tuan, Director General, Institute for Foreign Policy and Strategic Studies, Hanoi accompanied by Dr Vo Xuan Vinh, Institute for South East Asian Studies, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences had an interaction with the VIF faculty on 06 March. Dr. Tuan spoke on the regional security situation in Asia-Pacific and how Vietnam was coping with the emerging strategic environment. He said that the challenges in the South China Sea have made Vietnam more resolute in defending its interests. Though the U.S. has announced its pivot to Asia strategy, there were doubts among the ASEAN and other regional countries as to whether the Americans would unambiguously stick to its Asia-Pacific strategy when the push comes to a shove by China.

VIF Hosts EU Ambassador to India

On 13 March, VIF hosted an interaction with H.E. João Cravinho, Amb and Head of the Delegation of the European Union to India, under its series of interactions with Foreign envoys based in India. The closed-door interaction was chaired by Amb P P Shukla, the then Joint Director, VIF, and included veteran Indian diplomats and former chiefs of Armed Services and Intelligence agencies of the country as participants. Amb Cravinho underlined the fact that India is one of EU's most important economic and strategic partners and that both the EU and India are set to reap huge benefits the stronger this partnership gets.

American Jewish Committee Interacts with VIF Faculty

A delegation from American Jewish Committee (AJC) visited VIF on 25 March and interacted with the faculty. Ajit Doval, the then Director, VIF welcomed the delegation and said that India has benefited greatly from defence and civil technological cooperation with Israel and there was

need to explore other areas of cooperation. He brought to fore the increasing incidence of radicalization in South Asia and Pakistan's role in terrorism. Members of AJC shared their concerns on risks of terrorism not only in South Asia but also in the Middle-East. They spoke on the US withdrawal from Afghanistan and wanted to know as to how the resulting power vacuum can be addressed.

Talk by French Ambassador to India

In his interaction with the VIF faculty on 26 March, Ambassador of France to India, H.E. Francois Richier identified the similarities between India and France – above all, the commitment to maintaining strategic autonomy. He said India and France were the first strategic partners to each other, and this was a reflection of the close understanding that existed between them, especially in defence cooperation and counter-terrorism. Since the late 1990's, the two countries had shown understanding of each other's concerns – France had been pro-active on India's behalf during the Kargil War, and earlier over the question of sanctions against India after its nuclear tests; in turn, France had enjoyed Indian support during the recent French action in Mali. The interaction was chaired by Vice Adm KKNayyar.

Interaction with Egyptian Ambassador to India

H.E. Khaled Ali Moustafa El-Bakly, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt interacted with members of the strategic community at the VIF on 02 April. The Ambassador spoke on the current situation and the upcoming elections in Egypt. He elaborated on the challenges posed by radical extremists of the Muslim Brotherhood and how the state is coping with them. The Ambassador also offered his perspectives on various aspects relating to Indo-Egypt relations and the situation in Syria.



Members of AJC Delegation with the then Director VIF Ajit Doval



Vice Adm Nayyar & Francois Richier



Khaled Ali Moustafa El-Bakly with the then Director VIF





Glimpses



Swedish Delegation at VIF

A 17 member Swedish delegation led by Henrik Haggstorm from the Swedish Armed Forces HQ interacted with the VIF faculty on 03 April on the regional and international security scenario. The Swedish delegation included Swedish Defence Attaches in Beijing, Washington, Seoul, Canberra, Bangkok, and Islamabad among others. Officials from the Swedish Foreign Affairs ministry also formed part of the group.



Swedish Delegation at VIF

Interaction on Ukraine Crisis with Dr. Klaus Lange, Germany

Dr Klaus Lange, Director of the Institute of Transnational Studies (ITS), Munich with branches in Italy and Gurgaon, India and Dr Klara Knapp, Deputy Director of ITS interacted with the VIF faculty on 04 April. Dr Lange shared his perspective on the Ukrainian crisis which was different from the official European view being articulated. The Indian perspective was presented by Amb Prabhat P Shukla and Lt Gen Sawhney.



Dr Klaus & Dr Klara with Lt Gen Sawhney

Delegation from Royal College of Defence Studies, UK, meets VIF Faculty

A 17-member delegation of senior level defence officers and defence ministry officials from the UK and other countries led by Commandant RCDS, Royal College of Defence Studies (RCDS), Lt. Gen (Retd) Sir David Bill, KCB, visited the VIF on 30 May for a briefing and interaction on Indian economic and security perspectives. Vice Adm Nayyar, Gen N C Vij, Amb K S Bajpai briefed the RCDS delegation on behalf of the VIF.



Sir David Bill, KCB at VIF





Christine Fair with Lt Gen Sawhney

Discussion on Christine Fair's Book

American scholar and academic Dr C Christine Fair presented her latest book 'Fighting to the End: The Pakistan Army's Way of War' before a distinguished gathering of scholars, soldiers and diplomats at the VIF on 14 July. Persuasively arguing that Pakistan was not a 'security seeking state' but a 'greedy state' which sought to acquire more territory not because it was needed for its security but for ideological reasons, Dr Fair shot down the fallacious theory that Pakistan's behaviour can be changed by making it feel more secure. She debunked Pakistan's case on Kashmir and said that Pakistanis keep parroting 'UN resolutions and plebiscite' without ever having read these resolutions.



Kavita Kewal with VIF faculty

Briefing by Kavita Kewal, Department of Defence, Australia

Kavita Kewal, Assistant Secretary, DOD, Australia along with other officials visited VIF on 22 July to interact with the VIF faculty on issues of mutual concern. Kewal explained Australian views on regional security environment including Australia's role in America's pivot to Asia strategy. She also dwelt on the ongoing process of formulation of the Defence White Paper and Australia's requirement of building up its defence capabilities. She stressed on enhancing Indo-Australian defence and security cooperation.



NSA Ajit Doval K C with Gen N C Vij

Seminar on West Asia

VIF organized a seminar on 'Recent Developments in West Asia: Challenges and Implications' on 25 July to analyse the situation in the strife-torn area and its broader ramifications for the region and India. The seminar, inter alia, focused on the sectarian violence in West Asia - its causes and spread, the regional security environment, the emergence

of Islamic State (IS), the external influences on the West Asian conflicts, the process of Arab Islamisation, India's energy security and the safety of Indian workers in the region, the possible impact of violence on India's internal security dynamic, and the diplomatic challenges facing India on the West Asian front. Shri Ajit Doval KC, India's newly appointed National Security Advisor and erstwhile Director of the VIF delivered the keynote address, sharing his perspective on the prevailing situation in Iraq and other parts of the region.



Seminar on West Asia

Interaction with Ambassador of Brazil to India

On 01 August, H.E. Carlos Duarte, Ambassador of Brazil to India, held wide ranging interaction with the VIF faculty on the rising significance of BRICS, an association of five emerging national economies: Brazil, Russia, China, India, and South Africa. The discussions were held primarily against the backdrop of the 6th BRICS summit, held at Fortaleza in Brazil. The discussants jointly carried out an assessment of major agreements reached among BRICS countries at the summit, including the agreements to constitute the new Development Bank and Contingency Reserve Fund. Besides, the progress made in the bilateral relationship between India and Brazil was also reviewed. The session was chaired by Director VIF, Gen N C Vij.



Carlos Duarte with VIF faculty

Deliberations on Indo-US Relations

Marshal Bouton, Interim Director of the Asia Society Policy Institute and President Emeritus of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs, interacted with the VIF faculty on Indo-US Relations on 08 September. Marshal Bouton emphasised on the need for an intensive and ongoing strategic dialogue between both the nations on bilateral, regional and global issues. He concluded by stating that an economically secure and strong India is in itself a constraint on an assertive China.



L to R : Vice Adm Nayyar, Marshal Bouton & Gen N C Vij





Gen Vij & Dr William Antholis



Eminent participants at the interaction with Dr Antholis



RT on PM Modi's US visit

Exchange of views with Dr William Antholis, MD, Brookings Institution

Dr William Antholis, Managing Director, Brookings Institution interacted with the VIF faculty on 09 September on the current state of India, China and US relations and the emerging dynamics. Speaking on 'India, China and the US- Which Way Does the Triangle Tilt', Dr Antholis dwelt on the differences between the coastal provinces and the internal areas in China, the political and social interest and a gamut of governance problems and related issues. He compared Modi's governance model to China's model of governance. Speaking about the relationship between India, China and the US, he said while there is some congruence of views between India and China at the global level, there are strategic differences especially due to the unresolved border dispute. The US- China relations have both cooperative and competitive elements, he said adding strategic tensions between China and US persist. Dr. Antholis was of the view that the triangle tilts in favour of India. He was impressed by energy and enthusiasm imparted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the current discourse in India. The discussion was chaired by the Director VIF, Gen N C Vij.

VIF Round Table on PM Modi's US visit

A VIF Round Table was organized on 15 September to deliberate on core issues in India-US relations on the eve of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the United States. Ambassador Lalit Man Singh, former Foreign Secretary and Ambassador to the US chaired the meeting while General NC Vij, Director VIF, made the introductory remarks and conducted the proceedings. Others present included CD Sahay, Lt Gen Sawhney, Rajiv Kumar, Amb Kanwal Sibal, Amb TCA Rangachari, Amb Sanjay Singh, Amb Rajiv Sikri besides Brig. Vinod Anand and Dr. Harinder Sekhon.

The discussions revolved around trade and economic links, defence and security cooperation, the evolving strategic relationship, climate and WTO issues especially the Trade Facilitation Agreement, regional security issues and global issues.

Discussion on Indo-Russian Relations

Russia's Ambassador to India H.E Alexander Kadakin was invited to VIF on 14 October for an interaction with a select group of strategic experts to discuss 'Indo-Russian Relations and the Way Forward'. With Amb Kanwal Sibal chairing the session, the Russian envoy presented a broad and objective assessment of the complexion of Indo-Russian ties, identifying in the process the positives and the shortfalls as well as the steps needed to reinvigorate the relationship. Welcoming Russia's new surge for its Eurasian identity, Amb Sibal underlined the fact that the flurry of India's recent diplomatic initiatives does not undermine the strength of Indo-Russian relations. Russia, in fact, provides the much needed balance in India's approach to its foreign policy.

Taiwanese Strategist Dr. Francis Yi-Hua Kan at VIF

In an informal interaction with the VIF faculty on 15 October, Dr. Francis Yi-Hua Kan, former Senior Advisor to the National Security Council, Republic of China, discussed Indo-Taiwan relations and the strategic situation in the Asia-Pacific region. Dr. Kan's talk covered a wide gamut of regional issues, including, among others, One-China policy, Taiwan's political and economic relations with the Mainland, the internal political dynamics within Taiwan, the US' rebalancing strategy in Asia-Pacific, and the issue of maritime security as well as navigational freedom in East Asia, especially in the South China Sea. Lt Gen Sawhney, Amb T C A Rangachari, Jayadeva Ranade, Vice Adm Shekhar Sinha were present on behalf of the VIF.



Amb Mansingh chairing the RT on PM Modi's Visit



L to R : Lt Gen Sawhney, Amb Sibal & Amb Alexander Kadakin



Taiwanese Delegation at VIF





Understanding Japanese Perception on Asia-Pacific

The VIF hosted Hitoshi Tanaka, Japan's former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and currently Chairman of the Institute for International Strategy at the Japan Research Institute, on 17 October, for an interaction on the Japanese perception of strategic developments in Asia-Pacific including bilateral relations between India and Japan. He was accompanied by Japan's Ambassador to India H.E. Takeshi Yagi. Tanaka said that as democratic countries, both Japan and India had many shared strategic interests in the region, adding he welcomed India's emergence, particularly in the context of Asia-Pacific. In so far as developments in Asia-Pacific are concerned, he said the region is presently in the throes of tumultuous change, marked by growing economic inter-dependence, changing power balance and uncertainty amid rising sense of nationalism across the region. Much of the region's uncertainty however could be attributed to China. Referring to China's "muscle-flexing" over Senkaku Island, he said it has led to a wave of anti-China sentiments across Japan. The session was chaired by Amb Rajiv Sikri.

Talk by UK's Secretary of State for Defence, Rt. Hon. Michael Fallon, MP

The United Kingdom's Secretary of State for Defence, Rt. Hon. Michael Fallon MP delivered a perceptive talk at the VIF, on 'The UK and India – Together in an Uncertain World', during his one-day visit to India on 30 October. Hon. Michael Fallon supported India's bid for permanent membership of the Security Council, especially in light of India's significant contributions for various UN peacekeeping missions, over eight thousand soldiers, the highest by any country in the world. While lauding India's contributions in rebuilding Afghanistan, the British



Hitoshi Tanaka & Takeshi Yagi at VIF



Understanding Japanese perception on Asia-Pacific



L to R : Director VIF, UK's Secretary of State for Defence & Amb of UK to India

Secretary underlined the need for expanded cooperation between the UK and India, especially keeping in view the broad spectrum of emerging threats - terrorism, sea piracy, pandemics, proliferation in weapons of mass destruction, challenges in cyber and outer space, among others. The session was chaired by Director VIF Gen N C Vij.

VIF Delegation visits Vietnam

A VIF delegation led by its Director, Gen N C Vij, visited Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City from 02 to 05 November. The delegation included Vice Admiral K K Nayyar, Lt Gen R K Sawhney, Amb. TCA Rangachari and Vice Admiral Anup Singh. In Hanoi, the delegation interacted with several academic institutions and think tanks including Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, Institute of Indian and South West Asian Studies, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, Institute for Defence International Relations (IDIR) and Vietnam Centre for Economic and Policy Research. At Ho Chi Minh City, they exchanged ideas on India-Vietnam Strategic Partnership with Fulbright Economics Teaching Program and the Department of External Relations.

Focus on US-Pakistan Relations

Daniel S. Markey, a Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations (C.F.R.) and the author of 'No Exit from Pakistan: America's Tortured Relationship with Islamabad' held an intense and wide ranging interaction with the VIF faculty on 19 November. While the interaction intended to focus on the future trajectory of US- Pakistan relations, other major issues such as Asia's broader strategic contours, defined increasingly by the growing expanse of terrorist networks, the US rebalancing in Asia-Pacific, and the counter measures by China attempting to expand its own sphere of influence across the region with slew of sea and land-based economic corridors, comprising New



Eminent Audience at the talk by Michael Fallon



VIF Delegation visits Vietnam



Director VIF & Daniel S Markey





Discussion on US - Pakistan relations



Director VIF, Gen Vij &
French Defence Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian



L to R : Gen Vij, Amb Ghose & Dr Hoon

Maritime Silk Route and Silk Road Economic Belt, among others, crisscrossing large parts of Asia, formed the bulk of interaction. The session was chaired by Director VIF, Gen N C Vij.

French Defence Minister at VIF

French Defence Minister, Jean-Yves Le Drian, delivered a talk on 01 December at the VIF. Gen N C Vij briefed the visiting delegation about the current state of ties between the two countries in the field of defence, nuclear cooperation, counter-terrorism and space cooperation. The French Minister dwelt on the strategic relations between India and France, and the continuity in their political ties since many years. He concentrated his discourse on the issue of terrorism that is being tackled by France and how his country is fighting this dreaded phenomenon. The role of French troops inside Afghanistan since October 2001 was also mentioned. The Minister acknowledged the menace of terrorism faced by India, particularly from outfits such Lashkar-e-Taiba, and how this threat emanated from the neighbourhood. The minister said Pakistan's role in the fight against terrorism was not helpful.

Interaction with KIDA, a South Korean Think Tank

Dr Cho Nam Hoon, Director, Korean Institute for Defence Analyses (KIDA), leading a three-member delegation, visited VIF on 17 Dec for an interaction on issues bearing strategic relevance to both India and South Korea. The delegation interacted extensively with members of VIF faculty across a wide range of issues, inter alia, economic and defence cooperation between the two countries, the emerging power balance in Asia-Pacific, and South Korea's strategic compulsions. The discussions were held largely against the backdrop of a rising China and growing realisation amongst Asia-Pacific countries for multilateralism across political and economic spectrum. The session was chaired by Amb Arundhathi Ghose.

Glimpses





National Security & Strategic Studies

Release of 'India's National Security Crisis: Reinventing the Republic'

'India's National Security Crisis: Reinventing the Republic' written by Maj Gen (Dr) GD Bakshi SM, VSM (Retd) was released at the VIF on 21 April. The function was presided over by Prakash Singh, former DG, BSF and DG, UP Police. Amb. Kanwal Sibal, was the guest of honour.

In his inaugural address, the then Director of VIF, Ajit Doval spoke of the contrived national narrative crafted by the Nehruvian school that India was premised on soft power and not hard power as other Westphalian states are. Maj Gen Bakshi highlighted how India's national security has been seriously undermined in the current decade.



Release of 'India's National Security Crisis'

Talk on 'The Siachen Saga'

VIF organised a book discussion on 'Beyond NJ 9842: The Siachen Saga', authored by noted defence journalist Nitin A. Gokhale, on 30 April. In his introductory remarks, Gen NC Vij said what makes the book unique is the way the author has approached the subject. While most books on warfare tend to focus on operational details – maps, locations, logistics etc, Nitin's book adds a human dimension to the military conflict. The author's narrative, besides capturing the strategic significance of Siachen Glacier, also highlights the innumerable difficulties faced by the Indian soldiers in sustaining one of the longest military operations on the world's highest battlefield. Another important highlight of the event was an Air Force account of the 'Operation Meghdoot' by AVM (Retd) Manmohan Bahadur who was among the first to land on the Siachen glacier.



Nitin Gokhale on 'The Siachen Saga'



Release of 'Bangladeshi Migrants - A threat to India'



Discussion on Bangladeshi Migrants



Gen Vj & Gen Roy Chowdhury releasing VIF Publication 'Decoding DPP'

Book on Bangladeshi Migrants released at VIF

'Bangladesh Migrants - A Threat to India' authored by P K Mishra, Senior Fellow, VIF, was released at the VIF on 13 May, by Prakash Singh, IPS (Retd.) and former Director General, BSF and a member of the advisory board of VIF. In his welcome address, Lt Gen Ravi Sawhney highlighted the problems faced by the country along its border with Bangladesh and the demographic changes noticed in border states and border districts besides in UP, Bihar, Delhi and various Bangladeshi pockets in most of the states from J&K upto Goa. Recalling his stint at various border out posts along the Indo- Bangladesh border starting from Sunderbans of West Bengal upto Tripura border, Mishra described the demographic changes observed in various border belts and the vast government land and forests occupied by these migrants all along the border. He referred to the oppression of the Hindu minority in Bangladesh at Cox's Bazaar/ Chittagong including burning of Buddhist and Hindu temples, forcible conversions, molestation of Hindu girls, burning of thousands of Hindu houses and their villages in 2012, 2013 and 2014 which forced the community to seek refuge in India.

Release of 'Decoding India's Defence Procurement: An Analysis of Defence Procurement Procedure 2013'

On 12 September, General Shankar Roychowdhury, former Chief of the Army Staff and Member of Parliament released the VIF publication 'Decoding India's Defence procurement: An Analysis of Defence Procurement Procedure 2013' edited by Gen NC Vj. The edited volume is based on the proceedings of a seminar organized by the VIF wherein renowned military and civilian experts expressed their views on a wide variety of issues connected with defence procurement. The preface of the book has been written by Ajit Doval. In the final chapter, a number of





Panelists discussing DPP 2013



Deputy NSA, Dr Arvind Gupta
& Director VIF, Gen Vij



RT on Cyber Security

critical recommendations have been listed which are relevant for the policy makers and practitioners. The function was attended by a large number of both serving and retired military officers representing all the services as also other stakeholders who are concerned with defence procurement and acquisitions.

Round Table on Cyber Security

The VIF held a Round Table Discussion on 18 September to examine the national perspective of Cyber Security in terms of social, economic, political and military dimensions. The panel of discussants, comprising a select group of professionals including Chandrashekhar, President NASSCOM, Kiran Karnik, former President NASSCOM, Dr Gulshan Rai, Director General CERT-In, Dr Kamlesh Bajaj, CEO, Data Security Council of India (DSCI), Dr Prem Chand, Lt Gen (Retd) Davinder Kumar, Cdr (Retd) Mukesh Saini and Loknath Behra, among others, discussed India's lackadaisical cyber defence capabilities and the various remedial measures needed to bring it at par with the developed nations. The team comprehensively dealt with issues such as threat landscape in the cyber domain including the social media, cyber security as a strategic enabler, reviewing and rebooting India's National Cyber Security Policy (NCSP) and building an eco system to enhance and operationalise it, road blocks preventing India to build a robust cyber security capability, and major strategic initiatives. The conference extended over five sessions in a single day, with a session each devoted to Environmental Scan & National Cyber Security Policy (NCSP), Building Comprehensive Capabilities, Protection and Assurance, Cyber Warfare, and Enablers. The keynote address by Deputy NSA, Dr Arvind Gupta highlighted the rapidly changing dynamic of cyber security and its growing linkages with conventional threats including nuclear threats.

Glimpses





The then Director VIF, Ajit Doval
& Prof Stephen Cohen



Doha Conference on Afghanistan



Gen Vij at Doha Conference

Interaction with Prof Stephen Cohen

Prof Stephen Cohen, Senior Fellow at Brookings Institution interacted with members of the strategic community at VIF on 08 January. He spoke on likely scenarios that could unfold in Afghanistan post the withdrawal of US troops and their impact on the regional security environment. He also shared his perspectives on various aspects pertaining to civil-military relations in Pakistan and Indo-Pak relations.

Doha Conference on Preparing for Afghanistan-2014

Scholars and strategic analysts from VIF, RUSI U.K., China Institute of Contemporary International Relations, China Institute for International Studies, China Academy of Social Sciences and other Chinese think tanks and Afghan experts came together for a two day workshop at Doha, Qatar from 26 to 27 February to deliberate on the likely post- 2014 Afghanistan environment and measures that should be taken to work towards peace, stability and prosperity. The VIF delegation comprised of Gen NC Vij, Lt Gen Ravi Sawhney, Amb. TCA Rangachari and Brig Vinod Anand. The conference was a follow up of workshops earlier held in VIF, New Delhi, Beijing and London. The main areas of discussions were the evolving regional dynamics, security environment, economic outlook and ways for cooperation and prospects and status of reconciliation with the Taliban. In the regional dynamics session, the focus of discussion was on the role of regional frameworks like SCO, SAARC, and the efficacy of Heart of Asia process besides other actors. There was general optimism about the security situation post-2014 if the ANSF were given the required wherewithal in terms of military

equipment and other capabilities with regular flow of funds. A negative outcome of the Afghan conflict would definitely affect the region. There were possibilities of India, China and other neighbours cooperating in the economic development of Afghanistan. The Afghan representatives were of the view that talks should be Afghan government led and not merely Afghan led thus making a subtle distinction.

VIF Briefing for Chinese Scholars

A three member delegation from the China Institute of Contemporary International Relations, Beijing led by Dr Li Li, Associate Research Fellow at CICIR visited the VIF on 30 May and interacted with the VIF faculty. The other members of the delegation were Dr Wang Shida and Song Qingrun. The Chinese scholars were very keen to understand the Indian perspective on 'India's Foreign Policy- post 2014 Elections'. This was explained in some detail by Amb. R Rajagopalan. Discussions also revolved around China and South Asian regional dynamics and the questions of terrorism originating from Pakistan. While the Chinese official narrative continues to be that of Pakistan also being a victim of terrorism, there is a growing awareness among the Chinese strategic community of how the increasing incidence of terrorism in Xinjiang is related to what is happening in Pakistan.

Discussion on Pak Nukes

Dr Jeffrey McCausland of the Strategic Studies Institute of the U.S. Army War College interacted with the VIF faculty on 11 June on the subject of Pakistan's tactical nuclear weapons. Gen NC Vij chaired the meeting and pointed out the flaws in Pakistan's approach to nuclear weapons and the possibilities of the same falling into the hands of jihadis/terrorist outfits. Dr McCausland gave a detailed presentation on the implications of the



Doha Conference on Afghanistan



Delegation from CICIR



Dr McCausland & Gen Vij





use of TNW's & how they pose threat not only to the region but to the world.

Interaction with French Delegation on Pak N-Weapons, Counter-Terrorism



L to R : Gen Vij, Amb Richier & Nicholas Roche

On 11 June, Nicholas Roche, Director for Strategic Affairs at the French Atomic Energy Agency and H.E Francois Richier, Ambassador of France to India visited the VIF to deliberate on Pakistan's Tactical Nuclear Weapons and the French experience of counter-terrorist operations in Mali and Libya. Gen. NC Vij said Pakistan's stance on its tactical nuclear weapons not only posed threat to the region but the international community also while Roche gave a detailed presentation on the complications and threats posed by Pakistan's proclivity towards use of tactical nuclear weapons.

Discussion with IDCPC on Sino-Indian Relations



Members of IDCPC delegation at VIF

A four-member delegation of IDCPC (International Department Central Committee of the Communist Party of China) led by Zhang Xuyi, visited VIF on 13 June for a comprehensive interaction on a whole range of bilateral and regional strategic issues, inter alia, the unresolved border dispute between China and India, the growing militarization in the Indian Ocean and strategic cooperation between China and India on terrorism and in Afghanistan. With Gen NC Vij, moderating the interaction, CD Sahay, Vice Admiral Anup Singh, Lt Gen Gautam Banerjee, and Brig Vinod Anand engaged in a free and cordial exchange of views with members of the visiting delegation.

Visit of Nepalese Delegation

A five-member delegation from Nepal Transition to Peace-Institute (NTTP I) visited the VIF on 24 July, for a discussion on a variety of issues of mutual interest. The delegation was led by former Speaker of the Nepalese Parliament Daman Nath Dhungana, Senior Facilitator and Chairman of the Institute and included, among others, distinguished personalities such as Padma Ratan Tuladhar and Vidyadhar Mallik, both former ministers. The VIF delegation was led by Gen N C Vij and included C D Sahay, Lt. Gen. R K Sawhney and others. In their opening remarks, Tuladhar and later Dhungana gave a detailed assessment of the situation in Nepal with special reference to the constitution drafting exercise undertaken by the 2nd Constituent Assembly.



Interaction with Nepalese Delegation

Seminar on ‘Engaging China: Opportunities and Challenges’

A day long seminar titled ‘Engaging China: Opportunities and Challenges’ was organized by VIF on 26 June. The seminar attempted to approach the issue of Sino-Indian relations from a multi-dimensional perspective and included sessions on Geopolitical and Regional Dynamics, India-China Economic Relations and a discussion on the Security Challenges faced by the two countries. In his opening remarks, General NC Vij stressed on the importance of India-China relations to the Asian regional landscape in particular and international political dynamics in general. Deliberating upon the concept of friendship between two equals, General Vij underscored the importance of enhanced military preparedness on the part of India for peaceful engagement and co-existence with China. Amb. Nalin Surie, Amb. TCA Rangachari, Amb. Rajiv Sikri, Sinologist Jayadeva Ranade, Dr. Arvind Virmani, R N Ravi, Dr. Surjit Bhalla, Gen J S Bajwa, Vice-Admiral Anup Singh, were among the key speakers.



L to R : Jayadeva Ranade, Ambs Nalin Surie, Rangachari & Rajiv Sikri



Seminar on ‘Engaging China’





Dr Moeed Yusuf

Interaction with Dr Moeed Yusuf

Dr Moeed Yusuf, Director, South Asia Program at the United States Institute of Peace, visited VIF on 06 August for an idea exchange with the VIF faculty. In a frank and candid talk, Dr Yusuf presented his assessment of the current state of relations between India and Pakistan and the prospects for normalization of ties. He spoke about the challenge posed by terrorism to Pakistan and the state of civil-military relations in that country.



Talk by Amb Hussain Haqqani

Talk by Amb Hussain Haqqani

Pakistan's former Ambassador to USA, Hussain Haqqani, delivered a talk on 'Pakistan: Democracy, Modernism, Jihad' before a distinguished gathering at VIF on 13 August. Amb Haqqani who is currently Director, South and Central Asia, at the Hudson Institute in Washington, said that Pakistan's foreign policy is a reflection of the state of insecurity whose roots can be traced back to the origins of the demand for Pakistan and the worldview of the leaders of the Muslim League. From 'Islam in danger' being the rallying cry for mobilising support for the demand for Pakistan, to 'Pakistan in danger' once the demand was fulfilled was a natural progression.



Interaction with Chinese Scholars

Interaction with Chinese Scholars

An interactive session between eminent scholars from China and the VIF faculty was held on 27 August to discuss Chinese President Xi Jinping's visit to India in September and its implications for India-China relations. The Chinese delegation was represented by Prof. Wang Zhengyi, Prof. Li Li, Prof. Su Changhe, Dr. Wu Chunsi and Dr. Zhang Jiegen. General NC Vij expressed concern over China's non-committal attitude towards resolving the border issue with India. The Chinese

delegation on its part emphasised that the public sentiment in both countries is still not ready for a “give and take formulae” which according to them is the most viable solution for settling the border rift between the two Asian neighbours. Prof. Li, Deputy Director, Institute of South and South-East Asian and Oceanic Studies, CICIR, said that India-China relations today should be viewed from a ‘new context’ perspective.



Interaction with Chinese Scholars

RT on ‘Xi Jinping Visit and India-China Relations’

A Round Table to discuss the visit of Chinese President Xi Jinping to India was organized at VIF on 29 August. In his key note address, Dr Arvind Gupta, Deputy National Security Advisor, reflected on China’s domestic political scenario and its emerging foreign policy construct and said President Xi Jinping’s ‘China Dream’ and his thrust on developing a new concept of ‘Asian Security’ must be viewed within the dynamics of China’s global aspirations.



Dr Arvind Gupta & Gen Vij

Presentation on Nuclear Doctrines of India and Pak

Dr Neil Joeck, a visiting scholar at the Institute of International Studies, University of California at Berkeley and an expert on nuclear weapon issues, visited the VIF on 05 September for an interaction with Indian defence and security experts, scholars and academics. In his presentation on the ‘Nuclear Doctrines of India and Pakistan’, Dr Joeck explained that the US often tended to view South Asia from the prism of Pakistan’s nuclear capability and the challenge it posed to India. He also spoke about the role of China in the region and how it impinged on India’s security.



Gen Vij & Dr Neil Joeck





Amb Lu Fengding & Lt Gen Ravi Sawhney

RTD on China-India Ties Post Xi Visit

A six-member delegation from China, led by former Ambassador Lu Fengding, visited VIF on 25 September for an interaction which sought to assess the outcome of Chinese President Xi Jinping's recent visit to India. Other members of the delegation included, Amb Zhou Gang, two experts on South Asian affairs, Ye Hailin and Gong Yingchun and two officials from China Public Diplomacy Association. Discussants on either side broadly agreed that while China and India share common interests, there are serious differences of perception between the two countries on a number of bilateral issues, including the most critical border problem.



L to R : C D Sahay, Dr Lu Jianzhang & Lt Gen Sawhney

Idea Exchange with Chinese Communist Party Delegation

A six-member Chinese delegation from the International Department, Communist Party of China, led by Dr Lu Jianzhang, Deputy DG of Research Office, exchanged views with the VIF faculty on 20 October. With recurring border incursions casting a pall over President Xi's visit to India, the VIF faculty argued that festering border tension between China and India is detrimental to peace and security in the region. Both sides agreed that China and India should approach their foreign policy towards each other on the basis of equality and mutual understanding.



RT on Afghanistan

Round Table on Afghanistan: Post US Withdrawal 2014

VIF organised a focussed discussion on 17 November on India's options in Afghanistan in view of the emerging scenario post US withdrawal. Eminent experts with both practical and diplomatic experience attended the deliberations. There was a general consensus that despite the nature of political transition and outreach of the new President Ashraf Ghani to Pakistan and China, India should continue to support the current government efforts to work towards peace and development.



Joint VIF-RUSI-CICIR Conference on Afghanistan in Beijing

A trilateral conference ‘China, India, the UK and Afghanistan- A Partnership for Stability’ was held in Beijing from 24 to 26 November under the auspices of VIF, Royal United Services Institute of UK (RUSI) and China Institute for Contemporary International Relations (CICIR). A four member VIF delegation led by Gen. NC Vij took part in the deliberations that were in continuation of a series of discussions held on the same subject between the three think tanks with the objective of exploring ways to bring peace and prosperity to Afghanistan through cooperative efforts between China, India and the UK. Participants from Afghanistan and Pakistan were also invited to broaden the discussions. Broadly, the sessions of the conference were divided into political, security and economic issues, interests of the regional powers and mechanisms for cooperation and future of Afghanistan. A visit to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China was also organized where officials concerned briefed the visitors on China’s efforts in restoring peace and stability in Afghanistan. On the final day, an interaction with representatives of international media was also organized to spread the message of cooperative efforts being made to improve the situation in Afghanistan.



Trilateral Conference on Afghanistan



Trilateral Conference on Afghanistan

Chinese Advocacy on ‘One Road, One Belt’

A five-member delegation from the China Institute of International Studies, led by Dr Guo Xiangang, Senior Research Fellow, called on the VIF faculty on 24 November as part of a larger deliberative process initiated by Chinese think tanks across the Asian region to garner support for China’s proposed ‘one road, one economic belt’, an initiative that seeks to integrate the vast Eurasian landmass through various sea and land-based economic corridors. Announced by China’s President Xi



Chinese Delegation at VIF



VIF Faculty interacting with CIIS delegation



Parliamentary Delegation from Bangladesh with Amb Satish Chandra



Members of CIISS Delegation at VIF

Jingping during his visit to Central Asia in September 2013, the proposed economic corridors are expected to cost China a whopping \$40 billion or even more. The Chinese scholars, while briefing the VIF faculty about the finer points of the proposal, said the initiative is basically aimed at developing China's western region as also other countries that lie along the route. The Indian interlocutors said while they supported BCIM (Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar), they had certain reservations about the rest. India supports inter-connectivity in principle but there remain security related issues which cannot be wished away.

Bangladeshi Parliamentary Delegation visits VIF

On 25 November, a ten-member Parliamentary delegation from Bangladesh held wide ranging talks with the VIF faculty on 'India-Bangladesh Relations and the Way Forward'. Highlighting the upward spiral in India-Bangladesh relations in recent years, Amb. Satish Chandra complimented Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for taking the momentum forward, appreciating, in particular, the extremely supportive stance adopted by her government in tackling terrorism. Lt. Col. Faruk Khan, who led the delegation, said the two countries have shown tremendous maturity in resolving their maritime dispute in the Bay of Bengal, an example for other countries in Asia. Issues of concern such as illegal migration, land boundary, river water sharing etc were also comprehensively discussed.

Interaction with CIISS Delegation

A five-member delegation from the China Institute of International Strategic Studies (CIISS), led by Maj Gen (Retd) Zhu Da, Vice Chairman, and comprising Maj Gen (Retd) Zhang Jianguo, Senior Advisor, Li Jie, Executive Secretary General, Senior Col (Retd) Lin Yu, and He Botao, as members of the delegation, interacted with the VIF



faculty on 02 December. The discussions covered a broad spectrum of bilateral issues, including, among others, regional cooperation on terrorism and Afghanistan, and the evolving security situation internationally.

Round table on India-Sri Lanka Relations

Experts and scholars from Pathfinder Foundation, Sri Lanka and members of VIF faculty discussed a broad range of bilateral issues between India and Sri Lanka on 09 December. The Sri Lankan team was led by Amb. Bernard Goonetilleke, Chairman, and consisted of two other scholars, Dr. VK Valsan and Dr. Indrajit Coomaraswamy. Held over five grueling sessions, the interaction ranged across a complex web of intricate issues confronting the bilateral relationship, inter alia, Tamil ethnicity, fisheries issue, and China's growing footprints in the Indian Ocean. Strategic and security issues, including extra-regional influence, extremist threats to South Asia, bilateral economic cooperation, with a special focus on infrastructure development, bilateral political aspects, including Sri Lanka's 13th Amendment, India's political compulsions vis-à-vis Tamil issue, anti-India forums in Sri Lanka, and non-compliance of bilateral agreements besides cultural and religious issues including Hindu-Buddhist relations prominently figured in the deliberations. The interaction concluded with an understanding between the heads of the two participating institutions to carry forward the dialogue process through periodic exchanges.



Gen Vij & Amb Goonetilleke



Discussion on India-Sri Lanka Relations



Glimpses





Economic Studies

Release of India Uninc

India Uninc, authored by noted economist and Member, VIF Advisory Board, Prof R Vaidyanathan, was released by former Deputy Prime Minister L K Advani, former Union Minister Dr Subramanian Swamy and the then Director VIF, Ajit Doval at a function at the Foundation on 14 February. Speaking on the occasion, Prof Vaidyanathan lamented that the so-called unorganized sector in the country which accounted for 40-50% of the country's income was being treated as a residual sector. He listed regulations and non-availability of credit among the factors hindering the growth of this sector. In his address, Dr Swamy blamed lack of infrastructure, multi-tier Governmental hierarchy and corruption among other factors for hindering the growth of the Indian industry vis a vis its Chinese counterparts. Advani held the last ten years of "misgovernance" by the UPA Government responsible for the all time low witnessed in all aspects of national life while Doval praised Prof Vaidyanathan for highlighting the hitherto neglected aspect of Indian economy in his book.



Release of 'India Uninc'



Release of 'India Uninc'

Talk on 'Economic Outlook for 2015'

On 10 November, Dr V Ananth Nageswaran, Visiting Fellow VIF, gave an illuminating talk, summarizing not just the economic prospects for India, but also how the global economy, especially the economies of the US, China and Japan are likely to evolve in the course of 2015. He gave a detailed account of the measures adopted by various countries to deal with the emerging economic situation. While maintaining that India is placed better than many other countries to emerge as a safe destination for foreign direct investment, he also advised the policy makers to



Dr Nageswaran on 'Economic Outlook 2015'



Talk on 'Economic Outlook 2015'

channel prospective investments in to the right sectors of the economy. He further stressed on the need for the government to remain wary of euphoric market sentiments while framing economic policies. In so far as accelerating India's growth index is concerned, a lot depends on how the government is able to bring about structural adjustments in the crucial sectors of the economy, the noted economist and investment strategist said.





Historical & Civilisational Studies

Release of 'Indra's Net' at VIF

Indra's Net - Defending Hinduism's Philosophical Unity, written by Rajiv Malhotra was released by noted author, journalist and scholar Arun Shourie at an impressive function at the VIF on 29 January.



Release of 'Indra's Net' at VIF

Talk on 'New Historiography for Ancient India'

In his talk on 'New Historiography for Ancient India', delivered at VIF on 21 February, Navratna S Rajaram, a Boston-based Indian mathematician with a keen interest in ancient Indian history, completely debunked the Aryan Invasion Theory. He said even though Indians have lived in the sub-continent for 50,000 years, the newly established theories such as the African origin of mankind, the collapse of AIT and the impact of Toba explosion do not find mention in the Indian text books and history curriculum. Describing the Harappan Civilization as the "twilight" of the Vedic Age, he added that the Harappan architecture and literature were replete with Vedic symbols.



Talk on 'New Historiography for Ancient India'

Release of 'Defining Hindutva'

'Defining Hindutva', authored by Amb O P Gupta, was released at the VIF on 24 February by Dr Mohan Rao Bhagwat, Sarsanghchalak, RSS. Listing out the manifold intellectual challenges before the nation, the then Director VIF, Ajit Doval, in his introductory remarks, emphasised on the importance of a common past and a common vision to build a



Release of 'Defining Hindutva'



Amb O P Gupta



Discussion on 'Defining Hindutva'



Interaction with Students from North East India

strong nation. For this, the current ideology would have to change, he said. In his address, the RSS Chief elaborated on the Sangh's vision of Hindutva and sought to allay many a misapprehension and confusion in this regard. He said Hindu was a geographical term to begin with and it has been scientifically established that the DNA of all the people living on the Indo-Iranian plateau has been the same over the last 40,000 years. He said Hindus were equally responsible for the misinterpretation of the term Hindutva as they themselves were not aware of the concept. He agreed with Doval that Hindutva was infinite and cannot be defined. Speaking on the occasion, Amb Gupta asserted that Hindutva was akin to genuine secularism and Hinduism and Hindutva were not contradictory to each other. While listing out the various grievances of the Hindu community, he said Hindutva was neither anti-minority nor anti-Muslim. Several dignitaries including former Rajya Sabha Chairperson Najma Heptulla, former Union Minister Arif Mohd Khan and Rajya Sabha member Justice Rama Jois were present on the occasion.

Interaction with Students from North East India

An interaction was held with select students from the country's North East region residing in Delhi, on 28 February. The aim of the interaction was to reassure people from the region about their security in the wake of some untoward incidents in the city as well as to seek suggestions on steps that need to be taken to address the problems faced by them in the national capital. The students were addressed by Ajit Doval, Gen (Retd) Shankar Roy Chowdhury, D C Nath, former Special Director, IB, Robin Hibu, Jt Commissioner (Trg), Delhi Police and Lt Col (Retd) Anil Bhat, former DPRO.



Sufi scholar Syed Babar Ashraf interacts with VIF Faculty

Syed Babar Ashraf, noted scholar of Muslim affairs and National Secretary, All India Ulama & Mashaikh Board had a free and frank discussion with the VIF faculty on 23 July. Ashraf traced the history of Wahabism and its growing presence in India. He said the developments in Syria and Iraq reflected the tyrant face of Wahabism. He said the people of Egypt realised that Wahabism was an attack on Islam and thereby overthrew the Muslim Brotherhood regime. Asserting that Wahabism was a danger not only to the values of Islam but also the entire humanity, he expressed serious concern over attempts by Wahabi elements in India to destroy its centuries old Ganga-Jamuni Tehzeeb (composite culture) and take over mosques and other Islamic institutions such as the Waqf Board. The noted Muslim leader urged the Government to take urgent remedial steps to check the threat to national unity and security posed by pro-Wahabi elements and seminaries.



L to R : Lt Gen Sawhney, Syed Babar Ashraf
& C D Sahay

Talk on ‘Civilization-States and India-China Relations’

Well known Chinese Indologist Prof. Tan Chung, who has taught for several years in India, in an interaction with the VIF faculty on 17 September asserted that India and China are the only two places on earth where the lamp of civilization has been burning for millennia at the spot where it was first lit (while other lamp-lighting spots are in ruins). These two precious “civilization-states” have been natural friends as if created by heaven and constructed by earth. A ‘Silk Road’ was inaugurated between them 3,000 years ago, and Indians invented the name “cina/China/country of silk” when China was yet to emerge as a political entity. The two subcontinents of India and China have been one permeated with the spirit of “Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam/the earth is one



Prof Tan Chung & Gen N C Vij



Talk on 'Civilization-State and India-China Relations'



Ladakh Youth Delegation at VIF

family". In modern times, the civilization-states of India and China are oases besieged by the desert of nation-states, and the dynamics of geo-civilizational paradigm of the former are obstructed, inhibited, damaged and sidelined by the geopolitical paradigm of the latter. He dwelt in detail about the leadership dynamics of Prime Minister Modi and President Xi Jinping. Prof. Tan Chung observed that it is important to harmonize the two dynamics and enhance India-China fraternity and collaboration.

Ladakh Youth Delegation at VIF

A youth delegation from Ladakh visited VIF on 09 October. Addressing the delegates, Lt Gen Ravi K Sawhney urged them to preserve their rich heritage and culture. Citing his experience in Lhasa, Tibet, Lt Gen Sawhney said while tourism was important for revenue generation, "it should be developed sensibly". He also exhorted the youth to become environment friendly entrepreneurs and lauded Buddhism for promoting peace, tolerance and understanding. Recalling his visit to Ladakh, K G Suresh told the delegates that river Sindhu, which was the cradle of ancient Indian civilization, flowed through the region and thus has become a pilgrimage centre for millions of Indians. He also praised the people of Ladakh for their fluency over the national language Hindi and urged them to serve as bulwarks against any Pakistani or Chinese misadventure in the region.

Glimpses





Vice Admiral Anup Singh

Economic Potential of India's Maritime Domain and Security Implications

Vice Admiral Anup Singh, PVSM, AVSM, NM, former Commander in Chief, Eastern Naval Command delivered a talk on 'Economic Potential of India's Maritime Domain & Security Implications' on 21 March. Vice-Admiral Singh highlighted that the country has a coastline of 7516 km, can boast of 13 major and 187 minor and intermediate ports; a huge reservoir of fish and minerals; and possesses the benefit of a peninsula that provides invaluable opportunities for location of strategic industries apart from uninterrupted access to the world. "Most Indians just don't know how rich this piece of geography is! India dominates the Indian Ocean as if it has physically configured its peninsular jut, disturbing the symmetry of the North Indian Ocean – as if to oversee all activities in this water body. The economic and geopolitical advantage that accrues to India because of her location is enormous" he said.



Dhirendra Singh

Transforming Centre-State Relations

Former Home Secretary Dhirendra Singh delivered a talk on Transforming Centre-State Relations on 11 July. The session was presided over by former Delhi Lt Governor Vijai Kapoor. Singh pointed out that though the Constitution does not speak of federalism, in the Keshavananda Bharti case, the Supreme Court had held that federalism is a basic structure of the Indian Constitution. He gave several suggestions including strengthening the Rajya Sabha or the Council of States, entrusting it with special responsibility in matters concerning the states, revival of the Department of States under the Ministry of Home Affairs as also reactivation of the Inter-state council and the zonal councils.



Prof J S Rajput

Education and Teachers: Emerging Perspectives

Addressing the Teacher's Day celebrations on 05 September, noted educationist and former NCERT Director Prof J S Rajput outlined the problems Indian education is facing as a fall out of practicing Macaulay's philosophy. Referring to the class structure within the schooling system, he said while on the one hand, many children are taking advantage of the internet, on the other, for many even the basic facilities of chalk and black boards are not available. We must do everything to remove this disparity and provide equal opportunity for best education to one and all, he said.



B P Singh

'Bahudha' in the Post 9/11 World

Adding a new dimension to the ongoing debate on how to deal with ideology-driven terrorism, former Sikkim Governor Balmiki Prasad Singh on 30 October underlined that quintessential harmony among civilisations can be achieved only through cross cultural exchanges and inter-religious dialogues. He cited numerous references from history to bring home the point that Bahudha (a Hindi acronym for pluralism or diversity) in India has existed through the ages, part of the reason the Indian civilisation has survived while many other civilisations across the globe have perished.

Article 370 and Resolution of Kashmir Problem



Lt Gen S K Sinha

VIF organised a talk by Lt Gen S K Sinha, former Governor, Assam and J&K on 'Article 370 and Resolution of Kashmir Problem' on 20 November. In his introductory remarks, Gen NC Vij said while over the years, Article 370 has become an emotive issue for people across India, any attempt to tinker with it at this stage would only lead to flaring up of communal passions. Former Delhi Lt Governor Vijai Kapoor, who chaired the session, said while it is important to preserve Kashmir's diversity, tackling issues such as unemployment, education, health,





infrastructure etc. should be the Government's top most priority in the state. He, however, underlined the need to remain watchful about Pakistan's continued efforts to destabilise the state. Gen SK Sinha, who as in charge of logistics and airlift had played a major role in throwing out Pakistani raiders from Kashmir in 1947, recounted his personal experience of fighting militancy in the Valley from the start. He gave a detailed exposition of the prevailing politico-military environment leading to accession of J&K with the rest of India and subsequent adoption of Article 370. Part of the blame for the messy state of affairs in J&K rests with India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru soft-pedaling the communal and divisive politics of Sheikh Abdullah. After the Tibetan uprising in 1959, a large number of Tibetan Muslims were settled in Kashmir and granted voting rights by Sheikh Abdullah while he denied the same rights to Hindu refugees from West Pakistan. He said a lasting peaceful solution to the vexed Kashmir problem can be found only through dialogue and consensus.

Science of Economics as Applied to India

Dr Rathin Roy, Director & CEO, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) and Member, Seventh Central Pay Commission, Government of India, spoke on the 'Science of Economics as Applied to India' on 18 December. Dr Roy's talk focused on the nature of economy and how it affects economic policies in India. By his own admission, Dr Roy belongs to the growing class of economists who revolt against globally established economic norms and principles, perpetuated by institutions such as IMF and World Bank. While he stressed on the need to synthesize laid down economic principles with local conditions, he also asked global financial institutions including the rating agencies to be more transparent and accountable with their predictive analysis. Dr Roy presented four examples from four different domains to buttress his arguments.



L to R : Gen N C Vij, Lt Gen S K Sinha
& Vijai Kapoor



Dr Rathin Roy



Scholars' Outreach

- 10 January** K G Suresh, Senior Fellow, VIF addressed advocates on 'Swami Vivekananda - An Inspiration for Youth' at the Saket District Court Bar, New Delhi.
- 11 January** K G Suresh chaired a technical session on 'Cinema, Society & Culture' at the National Seminar on Media Issues and Social Transformation - MIST 2014 organised by VIPS, IP University.
- 16 January** Gen N C Vij, Director, VIF, chaired a session on 'Defence and National Security Perspective' organised by Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS).
- 20 January** K G Suresh addressed a seminar on 'Inter-Religious Cooperation for Nation Building' at the National Foundation for Communal Harmony, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
- 24 January** K G Suresh delivered a talk on 'Media and Politics: A Corporate Conjoin' at Convergence 2013-14 organised by Shaheed Sukhdev College of Business Studies, Delhi University.
- 25 January** K G Suresh spoke on 'Realities and Images of Jammu and Kashmir: Role of Media' at a National Seminar in Bhopal organised by the Jammu Kashmir Study Centre in collaboration with Makhanlal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and Communication, Bhopal.
- January 2014** Pravas Kumar Mishra, Senior Fellow, VIF, delivered a lecture on 'Indo- Bangladesh Relations and Border Management in Indo-Bangladesh Border' at India International Centre, organised by India International Foundation.
- 1 February** Brig Vinod Anand, Senior Fellow, VIF, presented a paper on 'China's Forays into the Indian Ocean Region and Implications for India' during a national seminar organized by Forum for Integrated National Security on the theme of 'Development and Security of Bhartiya Coastline and Islands in Indian Ocean Region' held at Goa.
- 2 February** K G Suresh delivered a talk on 'Role of Media in National Development' organised by Vivekananda Kendra at Surat and Navsari, Gujarat.



- 8 February** K G Suresh delivered a lecture on 'Enhanced Role of Media and its Impact on Election' at Panchnad Study Centre, Delhi.
- 11 February** K G Suresh addressed the National Colloquium on Interfaith Paradigm for Social Cohesion, Democracy & Development organised by the National Spiritual Assembly of Bahai's at the Lotus Temple, New Delhi.
- 22 February** Sushant Sareen, Senior Fellow, VIF presented a paper on 'Pakistan: Peace talks with Taliban' at a Roundtable in one Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi.
- 27 February** Dr Dilip K Chakrabarti, Dean, Centre for Historical and Civilisational Studies, VIF delivered a keynote address on 'Folk Elements in Indian Archaeological Tradition' at the Syracuse University seminar on 'Transformations in South Asian Folk Arts, Aesthetics and Commodities'.
- 5 March** K G Suresh participated in a seminar & discussion on 'Freedom to Believe: Pathway to Sustainable, Equitable Societies' organised by Office of Public Affairs, Bahai's of India and the Global Foundation for Civilizational Harmony (India)
- 8 March** K G Suresh addressed the National Seminar on 'Values in Journalism'; organized by Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar, Haryana.
- 12 March** K G Suresh addressed a panel discussion on 'Role of Media in Communal Harmony & Inclusive Societies' at the National Seminar on 'Towards an Inclusive Society', organised by National Foundation for Communal Harmony, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt of India & others.
- 19 March** Gen N C Vij moderated a talk by Director General, Defence Intelligence Agency, Lt Gen Anil Bhalla, organised by United Service Institution of India (USI).
- 19 March** K G Suresh addressed a seminar on 'Youth and Governance' organised by Indian Institute of Public Administration @ India International Centre, New Delhi.
- 24 March** Brig Vinod Anand presented a paper on 'Security Environment in South Asia and India's Approach' to students and faculty of Centre for South Asian Studies, Peking University, PRC.
- 25 March** Prof Makkhan Lal, Senior Fellow, VIF delivered a special lecture on 'Role of Youth in National Building' at Gurushree College of Commerce and Social Work, Tumkur, Karnataka.



- 25 March** Brig Vinod Anand interacted with Dr. Hu Shisheng, Director, Institute of South & South East Asian and Oceania Studies, China Institute of Contemporary International Relations on Af-Pak imbroglio and need for China-India Cooperation
- 26 March** Sushant Sareen was a discussant on the book 'The Pakistan Army: Composition, Character & Compulsions' at Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi.
- 27 March** K G Suresh chaired the technical session on 'Women and Media' at the National Seminar on 'Women & Children in Media: Issues & Perspectives' organised by Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda.
- 28 March** K G Suresh delivered a talk on 'Colours of Society' at Felicity-Enigma 2014, the annual festival of Department of Social Work, Bhimrao Ambedkar College, Delhi University.
- 3 April** Gen N C Vij chaired a session on 'Expanding Nuclear Threat through Development of Tactical Nuclear Weapons' organised by CLAWS.
- 4 April** Sushant Sareen presented paper on 'Talks with Taliban: Endgame for Political Parties' at Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (IPCS), New Delhi.
- 5 April** Gen N C Vij participated in a panel discussion on 'Civil Military Relations in India' organised by IDSA, New Delhi.
- 15 April** K G Suresh chaired the technical session on 'Party System and Elections' at the International Seminar on 'Whither Indian Democracy and State: Towards General Election 2014' organised by the ICSSR at Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, Delhi University.
- 29 April** Sushant Sareen participated as a speaker in the roundtable on 'India's Nuclear Doctrine' at IDSA, New Delhi.
- April 2014** C D Sahay, Distinguished Fellow, VIF, organised and coordinated a meeting of former intelligence chiefs of India and Pakistan in Istanbul. The main theme of this seminar was on terrorism.
- April 2014** Pravas Kumar Mishra was appointed as a mentor by National Defence College, Delhi to judge NDC participants on Left Wing Extremism in India.



- 6 May** Sushant Sareen presented a paper 'Pakistan's Internal Volatility' at the National Seminar on 'Afpak: US Withdrawal and Beyond' organised by Centre for Air Power Studies (CAPS)
- 7 May** Brig Vinod Anand presented a paper on 'Indian perspective on BCIM: Prospects and Issues' at Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences during an international seminar organized at Kunming, PRC.
- 29 May** Sushant Sareen made a presentation at CLAWS roundtable on 'Situation in Pakistan and India's options'.
- May 2014** Pravas Kumar Mishra visited Darbaghati, Jiramghati, Sukma, Narainpur, Malkangiri, Tulsidogri, Kanker, Pakur, Saranda, Bastar, Abuzmar and Dandakaranya naxal belts and interacted with locals, tribals and journalists about 'Operation Green Hunt', development of naxal affected areas, morale of troops and operational strategy of naxals.
- 3 June** Sushant Sareen was a discussant on the book 'Sectarian Challenge in Pakistan' at IDSA, New Delhi.
- 7 June** K G Suresh was the Guest of Honour at the National Media Conference-cum-Retreat on 'Restoring Values in Society: Role of Mass Media' organized by Prajapita Brahma Kumaris Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya, Mount Abu.
- 9 June** Sushant Sareen was a discussant on the book 'Pakistan: A Warrior State' at IDSA.
- 13-14 June** Lt Gen Ravi Sawhney Distinguished Fellow, VIF attended the India Trilateral Forum 8 at Stockholm, Sweden.
- 19 June** Sushant Sareen made a presentation at the Roundtable on 'Talking to Pakistan in its own language' at CENJOWS, HQ (IDS).
- 19-22 June** Lt Gen Ravi Sawhney attended the India-Pakistan Chaophraya Dialogue at Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- 19 July** Dr A Surya Prakash, Distinguished Fellow, VIF attended a Roundtable on Electoral Reforms at India International Centre, New Delhi.
- July 22** Dr A Surya Prakash addressed media delegates from eight island-nations on 'Role and Responsibilities of Indian MPs', Bureau of Parliamentary Standards and Training, Parliament House, New Delhi.



- 27 July** K G Suresh addressed the National Workshop for Advocates on social media organised by Makhanlal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism and Communication, Bhopal.
- 6 August** K G Suresh delivered a talk on 'Role and Relevance of News Agencies' at Shri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce, University of Delhi.
- 7 August** Dr A Surya Prakash addressed participants of Advanced Professional Programme in Public Administration for Senior Government Officers at the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi on 'Role of Media in Governance'.
- 8 August** Dr A Surya Prakash addressed a Parliamentary delegation from Malawi headed by the Deputy Speaker of Malawi Parliament on 'Parliament and the Media', Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training, Parliament House, New Delhi.
- 12 August** Dr A Surya Prakash attended a workshop on Governance organized by the Centre for Policy Studies, Patna at India International Centre, New Delhi.
- 19 August** Brig Vinod Anand presented papers on 'Sino-Indian Relations and the Way Forward' and 'India's Security Environment and Foreign Policy' to the students and faculty of Institute of Management Technology, Ghaziabad at their Noida Campus.
- 4 September** Gen N C Vij chaired a session at the seminar on Disaster Management organised by CLAWS.
- 8 September** K G Suresh addressed students and faculty of Maharaja Agarsen Institute of Management Studies (MAIMS), Delhi on 'Changing Media Paradigm'.
- 21 September** K G Suresh delivered a talk on Defence Indigenisation organised by Swadeshi Jagran Manch in Delhi.
- 22 September** Sushant Sareen was a Member of the delegation of Indian MPs and scholars to NATO HQs, Brussels.
- September** Pravas Kumar Mishra made an on the spot study of heavy firing by Pakistan from across the International Border on Border Security Force posts at Arnia, Kathua, R S Pura, Samba, Ramgarh, Pindi, Pittal, Akhnoor and Nikowal.



- 9 October** K G Suresh addressed the National Leadership Roundtable discussion on 'Clean India -Prosperous India' organised by National Foundation for Communal Harmony, Govt of India, in New Delhi.
- 19 October** Sushant Sareen presented a paper on 'Environmental realities in the neighbourhood and aspirations of India's neighbours – Pakistan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka and Maldives' at the College of Defence Management, Hyderabad.
- Oct 25-Nov4** K G Suresh was a member of the Indian youth delegation which visited China on a 10 day study tour at the invitation of the International Department of the Communist Party of China.
- October 2014** C D Sahay organised and participated in a programme of dialogue between former Intelligence chiefs of India and Pakistan at Istanbul on the topic of dealing with terror.
- 11 November** K G Suresh delivered a talk on 'Relevance of Ramayana in Management' & chaired a session on 'Management Lessons from Ancient Indian Wisdom' at the Institute of Marketing & Management, New Delhi.
- 21 November** Dr Dilip K Chakrabarti delivered a lecture on Indian archaeology and ancient history at the Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 27 November** Dr Dilip K Chakrabarti delivered a lecture on Indian archaeology and ancient history organised by Centre for Policy Research, Delhi.
- 28 November** Sushant Sareen was a discussant on the book 'The Struggle for Pakistan' at IPCS, New Delhi.
- 9 December** Dr A Surya Prakash delivered a special lecture on 'Media in India' at Tumkur University, Tumkur.
- 21 December** Prof Makkhan Lal delivered a lecture on 'Internal Relationship between Hinduism and Buddhism' at Tumkur University in the presence of H.H. Dalai Lama.
- 25 December** Prof Makkhan Lal addressed a seminar on 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: Ek Maulik Badlao ki Pahal', organized by Harishchandra Tyagi Public Library, Ghaziabad.



Resource Research Centre & Library

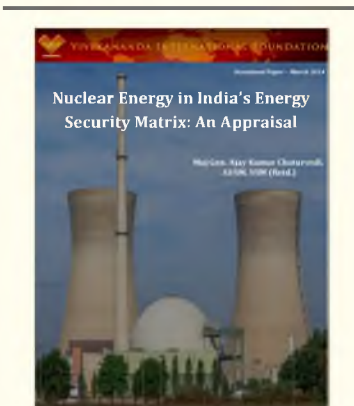
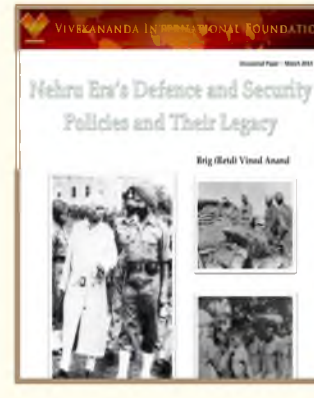
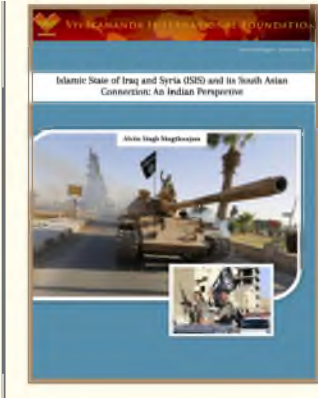
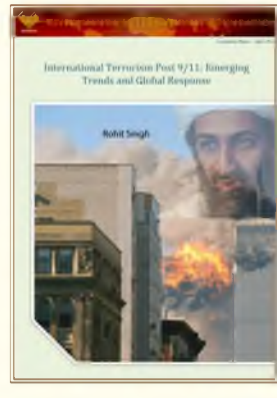
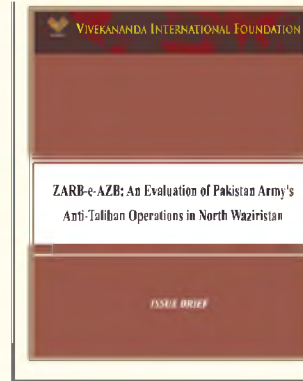
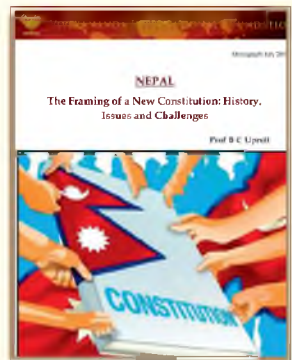
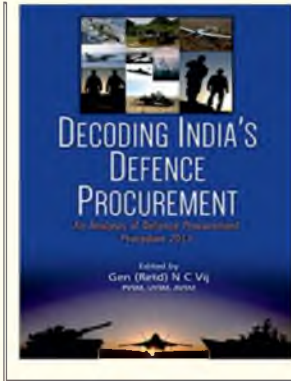


Operational since January 2013, VIF's Resource Research Centre & Library provides crucial support to its research faculty by giving them online access to catalogue of books and other digital resources in its database. The library has a growing collection of peer-reviewed books and articles, both in print and electronic form, primarily in the pre-designated areas of research, as also in general categories to cater to the demands of every reader. Resources are being stored in the database under three categories – Books, Journals and E-Resources. The database presently has 480 E-books and over 6000 E-resources which include reports, monographs, journals, articles etc. About 1300 quality books in print form, relevant to the subjects of studies, have been added to the Library since its inception. Besides, the Library also has a huge collection of Public Opinion Trends (POT) donated by Sushant Sareen. Vice Adm K K Nayyar, Vice Adm Raman Puri & Vijai Kapoor have generously donated books from their private collections to the library.





Publications



Vivek





Website and E-Journal

www.vifindia.org, the website of Vivekananda International Foundation, has over the years become a reference point for policy makers, opinion builders, diplomats, bureaucrats, scholars, strategists, students and people at large across the world to get an Indian perspective of international relations, military affairs, internal security, governance, historical and civilisational studies, economy and media. From a few thousand hits initially, the number of hits received by the site has crossed the 1.5 million mark per month, with the annual figure for January-December 2014 touching 1,44,94,809, reflecting its ever growing popularity.

Apart from highlighting the activities and programmes at VIF, the website offers in depth perspectives through peer reviewed articles, occasional papers & monographs on a wide range of national and international issues written by eminent experts, strategists and scholars etc. The VIF viewpoint section highlights the Foundation's stand on key national and international issues. The website also carries reviews of publications related to the different areas of study undertaken by the VIF.

Vivek - Issues and Options, VIF's E Journal carries exclusive articles by distinguished scholars on diplomacy, strategy, governance, defence, neighbourhood, economy, media, history, science and technological Studies.

Selected articles from the e-journal are also featured regularly on the VIF Website.

Apart from being uploaded on VIF website, the journal is also e-disseminated to a large number of interested persons across the globe.



Gen N C Vij, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, Director
Former Chief of the Army Staff
&
Founder Vice Chairman,
National Disaster Management Authority

DEANS

- **Dr M N Buch, Dean, Centre for Governance and Political Studies**
(Former Secretary to Government of India)
- **Amb Satish Chandra, Dean, Centre for National Security and Strategic Studies**
(Former Deputy National Security Advisor)
- **Lt Gen RK Sawhney, PVSM, AVSM, Dean, Centre for Defence Studies**
(Former Deputy Chief of the Army Staff & Former DGMI)
- **Amb Kanwal Sibal, Dean, Centre for International Relations and Diplomacy**
(Former Foreign Secretary)
- **Dr V K Saraswat, Dean, Centre for Scientific & Technological Studies**
(Member, NITI Aayog & Former DG, DRDO & Scientific Advisor to the Defence Minister)
- **Prof R Vaidyanathan Dean, Centre for Economic Studies**
(Professor of Finance at IIM Bangalore)
- **Dr Dilip K. Chakrabarti, Dean, Centre for Historical and Civilisational Studies**
(Professor Emeritus, Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge)



DISTINGUISHED FELLOWS

- **C D Sahay** (Former Secretary, Research and Analysis Wing, Cabinet Secretariat)
- **Amb Prabhat P. Shukla** (Former Ambassador to Russia)
- **Amb TCA Rangachari** (Former Ambassador to France & Germany)
- **Amb Rajiv Sikri** (Former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs)
- **Vice Adm Raman Puri**, PVSM, AVSM, VSM, (Former C-in-C, Eastern Naval Command & Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to Chairman, COSC)
- **Dr A Surya Prakash** (Chairman, Prasar Bharti & Author and Scholar of Contemporary Studies)
- **Amb Tariq Karim** (Former High Commissioner of Bangladesh to India)
- **Dr Makkhan Lal** (Professor & Founder, Director of Delhi Institute of Heritage Research and Management)

SENIOR FELLOWS

- **Brig Vinod Anand** (Myanmar & China)
- **Sushant Sareen** (Afghanistan & Pakistan)
- **P K Mishra** (Former Additional DG, BSF; Left Wing Extremism)
- **RNP Singh** (Bhutan, Nepal & Bangladesh)
- **K G Suresh** (Senior Consulting Editor, Doordarshan News)
- **Dr Harinder Sekhon** (USA & Europe)

VISITING FELLOWS

- **Ravi Venketesan**, (Former Chairman of Microsoft India and on the boards of Rockefeller Foundation and Infosys)



- **Dr Sudhir S. Bloeria** (Former Chief Secretary, Jammu and Kashmir & Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu & Kashmir)
- **Lt Gen JP Singh**, PVSM, AVSM (Former Deputy Chief of Army Staff & Advisor to DRDO)
- **Vice Admiral Anup Singh**, PVSM, AVSM, NM (Former Commander in Chief, Eastern Naval Command)
- **Lt Gen S A Hasnain**, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM (Bar), VSM (Bar) (Former GOC 15 Corps & Military Secretary)
- **Lt Gen Gautam Banerjee**, PVSM, AVSM, YSM (Former Chief of Staff, Central Command)
- **Brig Gurmeet Kanwal** (Adjunct Fellow, Wadhvani Chair in US India Policy Studies, CSIS)
- **Dr V. Anantha Nageswaran** (Economist)
- **Radhakrishna Rao** (Science and Technology)
- **Deven Verma** (Industrialist: Technology)
- **Lodi Gyaltzen Gyari** (China Expert)

SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

- **Ramanand Garge** (Asia Pacific)

RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

- **Alvite Singh Ningthoujam** (Middle East)

RESEARCH INTERN

- **Anushree Ghisad** (Sri Lanka)



ADMINISTRATION

- **Manash Bhattacharya**, Assistant Secretary
- **Anuttama Ganguly**, Head of Administration & Finances

RESOURCE RESEARCH CENTRE & LIBRARY

- **Sanjay Kumar**, Librarian
- **Abhijit Biswas**, Library Assistant

ADMINISTRATION TEAM

- **Ramphal Vashisth**, Personal Assistant
- **Krishan Redhu**, IT Assistant
- **Abhinandan Rai**, Administrative Assistant
- **Alka Sahasrabudhey**, Front Office Assistant
- **Dinesh Singh**, Maintenance Assistant
- **Vijay Kumar**, Maintenance Assistant
- **Naresh Kumar**, Assistant
- **Naresh Singh**, Assistant

Advisory Board



- **Gen V N Sharma**, PVSM, AVSM (Former Chief of the Army Staff)
- **A K Verma** (Former Secretary, R&AW)
- **Gen Shankar Roychowdhury**, PVSM, AVSM (Former Chief of the Army Staff)
- **Prakash Singh** (Former Director General, Border Security Force)
- **Air Chief Marshal S Krishanaswamy**, PVSM, AVSM, VM & Bar (Former Chief of the Air Staff)
- **Amb Kanwal Sibal** (Former Foreign Secretary)
- **S Gurumurthy** (Author and Financial Expert)
- **Dr R Vaidyanathan** (Professor of Finance, IIM Bangalore)
- **Arif Mohammad Khan** (Former Union Minister)
- **Prabhat Kumar**, IAS (Former Cabinet Secretary)
- **Lt Gen SK Sinha**, PVSM (Former Governor of Jammu & Kashmir and Assam)
- **BP Singh** (Former Governor of Sikkim & Home Secretary)



Executive Council

- **Gen NC Vij, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM** (Former Chief of the Army Staff and Founder Vice Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority)
- **Amb Satish Chandra** (Former Deputy National Security Advisor)
- **Amb Prabhat P Shukla** (Former Ambassador to Russia)
- **Anil Bajjal** (Former Home Secretary)
- **CD Sahay** (Former Secretary, R&AW)
- **Lt Gen Ravi Sawhney, PVSM, AVSM** (Former DGMI & Former Deputy Chief of Army Staff)
- **Ravi Venketesan** (Former Chairman of Microsoft India and on the boards of Rockefeller Foundation, Infosys and Strand Life Sciences)
- **Prof Kapil Kapoor** (Former Pro Vice Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru University)
- **Air Marshal SG Inamdar, PVSM, VSM** (Former Vice Chief of Air Staff)
- **Dr A Surya Prakash** (Chairman, Prasar Bharti & Author and Scholar of Contemporary Studies)
- **Amb TCA Rangachari** (Former Ambassador to France & Germany)
- **Amb Rajiv Sikri** (Former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs)
- **Lt Gen Gautam Banerjee, PVSM, AVSM, YSM** (Former Chief of Staff, Central Command)
- **Dhanendra Kumar** (Former Secretary, Govt of India)
- **Dhirendra Singh** (Former Home Secretary)
- **KM Singh** (Former Member, NDMA and DG, CISF)
- **Rajiv Mathur** (Former Director, Intelligence Bureau and former Chief Information Commissioner)

Finances

Vivekananda International Foundation, created under the aegis of Vivekananda Kendra, Kanyakumari, was registered as an autonomous trust on March 25, 2010 at New Delhi.



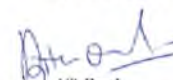



The Trust meets periodically.

In its meeting on May 3, 2014, it adopted the Annual Audited Accounts for the year 2013 - 2014 which is presented here as Annexure I & II

Statutory Auditors :

M/S Purohit & Purohit
Chartered Accountants
New Delhi

Annexure - I

VIVEKANANDA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION 3, Institutional Area, San Martin Marg, Chanakyaपुर, New Delhi - 110 021			
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST MARCH, 2014			
PARTICULARS	SCHEDULE	CURRENT YEAR'S FIGURES	PREVIOUS YEAR'S FIGURES
SOURCES OF FUNDS			
Capital Fund	"A"		
- VIF Corpus Fund		8,965,644.48	772,368.44
TOTAL ::		₹ 8,965,644.48	₹ 772,368.44
APPLICATION OF FUNDS			
Fixed Assets	"B"	528,700.00	602,103.00
Current Assets	"C"		
- Advances, Deposits & Receivables		152,878.00	180,012.25
- Cash & Bank Balances		9,636,948.60	1,336,061.69
		<u>9,789,826.60</u>	<u>1,516,073.94</u>
Less: Current Liabilities	"D"		
- Other Liabilities		1,352,882.12	1,345,808.50
		<u>8,436,944.48</u>	<u>170,265.44</u>
TOTAL ::		₹ 8,965,644.48	₹ 772,368.44
Notes on Accounts and Significant Accounting Policies	"E"		
<p>Signed in terms of our Report of even date. For PUROHIT & PUROHIT (FRN:003282N) Chartered Accountants</p> <p style="text-align: right;">For Vivekananda International Foundation</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  CA. X.K. Purohit, LL.B., MBF, FCA Partner Membership No. 054763 </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  A/JI Doval Director </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  A. Balakrishnan Trustee </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  (Kishor Tohekar) Secretary </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> </div> <p>New Delhi, Wednesday, The 30th day of April, 2014</p>			

VIVEKANANDA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION
3, Institutional Area, San Martin Marg,
Chanakvapuri, New Delhi - 110 021

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 2014

PARTICULARS	CURRENT YEAR'S FIGURES	PREVIOUS YEAR'S FIGURES
(A) INCOME		
Donations	27,806,200.00	14,956,000.00
Grants - from MEA-Govt of India	-	200,000.00
Bank Interest	509,868.00	341,782.00
Other Interest	377.00	667.00
Miscellaneous Receipts	2,185.00	2,254.00
Excess of Expenditure over Income for the year	-	3,948,741.92
TOTAL ::	₹ 28,318,630.00	₹ 19,449,444.92
(B) EXPENDITURE		
Audit Fees	30,899.00	30,899.00
Bank Commission & Charges	5,671.70	11,129.00
Books, Journals, Papers & Periodicals	11,052.00	10,268.00
Conferences, Seminars, Vimarsha & Other Activities	1,159,092.28	1,654,569.38
Depreciation	131,866.00	215,748.00
Gardening Expenses	169,600.00	144,621.00
General up-keep and Cleaning Expenses	640,406.00	717,924.00
History Project Expenses	3,386,094.00	1,274,158.00
Honorarium, Salaries, Fees & Stipend	8,506,033.00	9,336,156.00
Hospitality Expenses	10,041.00	4,967.00
Interest - TDS	700.00	236.00
Legal & Professional Fees	46,164.00	38,203.00
Library Expenses	216,826.00	249,466.00
Office Expenses	489,134.50	515,775.00
Postage & Courier Charges	18,190.12	24,385.00
Power, Fuel Charges & Expenses	2,812,308.61	2,219,424.29
Printing & Stationery	79,341.00	176,740.00
Publication Expenses	299,250.00	262,500.00
Rates, Taxes & Fees	-	708,620.00
Registration & Membership Fees - Universities	25,000.00	25,000.00
Repairing & Maintenance Expenses	855,383.25	623,932.75
Security Services Expenses	322,837.00	292,232.00
Telephone, Mobile & Internet Expenses	142,283.50	151,142.50
Travelling & Conveyance Exp.	551,124.00	546,917.00
Water Charges	205,323.00	207,112.00
Website Renewal & Registration Charges	10,764.00	7,320.00
Excess of Income over Expenditure for the year	8,193,276.04	-
TOTAL ::	₹ 28,318,630.00	₹ 19,449,444.92

Notes on Accounts and Significant Accounting Policies "E"

Signed in terms of our Report of even date.
For PUROHIT & PUROHIT (FRN:003282N)
Chartered Accountants

CA. K.K. Purohit, LL.B., MBE, FCA
Partner
Membership No.054763



For Vivekananda International Foundation

Ajit Doval
Director

A. Balakrishnan
Trustee

(Gishor Tokkar)
Secretary



New Delhi, Wednesday, The 30th day of April, 2014

Annexure - II



3, San Martin Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi-110021

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