



ANNUAL REPORT
2022-23

Dialogue is the most effective way
of resolving conflict.

– DALAI LAMA

**ANANTA CENTRE
ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23**

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“The pandemic has forced all of us to re-evaluate business as usual in the face of uncertainty.”



Message from the Chairman

It always gives me great satisfaction to introduce the annual report of the Ananta Centre. Each issue strengthens my belief that constructive change is possible, one important conversation at a time.

Change is the consequence of action.

As the world grapples with climate change, economic disparities, social injustice, and geopolitical tensions, it is becoming increasingly important to have institutions like the Ananta Centre that work to inspire exemplary action through leadership and dialogue.

Public policy is an important area of work for the Centre. It holds public sessions and roundtables to help different groups exchange ideas and perspectives. The discussions this year focused on issues that are becoming increasingly critical for India's development: energy and fuels, technology and R&D, and crypto digitization. International conversations were crucial as well. Experts from 20 different countries convened for the Digital Roundtables on China's Foreign Policy Towards Asia to share perspectives on China's engagement with the key regions in its neighbourhood. The Centre also convened a roundtable on the India-UAE Partnership to deliberate on the opportunities available to both countries in the wake of CEPA. Signing the agreement has unlocked a hundred billion dollars in bilateral trade; both countries need to create conditions under which economic, technological, and regional cooperation can move forward.

The Ananta Centre held the Trilateral Commission Plenary meeting in New Delhi this year. This was the first plenary meeting held in India and commemorated

the 50th anniversary of the Commission. The plenary covered a wide range of key topics, including India's politics, economy, and society; the war in Ukraine; geopolitics in the Indo-Pacific; the global food crisis; supply chains; and whether social media enhances or undermines democracy.

The Ambassador Series also grew in strength. This initiative is unique in that it allows an audience to interact with ambassadors and high commissioners and understand various aspects of the relationships between the countries. Recovery was a recurrent theme across these conversations.

The pandemic has forced all of us to re-evaluate business as usual in the face of uncertainty.

In uncertain times, countries look to their leaders for solutions. Godrej Ideas India 2022, a leadership initiative of the Kamalnayan Bajaj Fellows, based its deliberations on this very theme. An eclectic set of leaders and thinkers from across sectors and regions converged to discuss stewardship in times of uncertainty.

This annual report highlights the Centre's work but, more importantly, underscores the power of collective action in addressing the most pressing challenges of our time. I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each of you who have placed your trust in Ananta and its mission. Your generosity and support are what propel us forward.

Let us continue to work towards a more just, peaceful, and prosperous world in the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jamskyd Godrej".

JAMSHYD GODREJ
Chairman, Ananta Centre



INTERNATIONAL

Public Sessions & Roundtables

CONVERSATION

Interaction with Mélanie Joly, Canadian Foreign Minister, on Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy



6 FEBRUARY 2023 / Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy aims to foster economic, security and political interest in the region. Ananta Centre's CEO, **Indrani Bagchi**, engaged in an energetic and dynamic interaction with Canada's Foreign Minister, **Mélanie Joly**, over their new Indo-Pacific strategy. The interaction discussed benefits, resilient supply chain, sustainable growth, shared perception of security, politics and economics in the region. The platform provided a deep understanding of India and Canada's shared vision of the region and recognising areas of collaboration to achieve goals to shape the future of the Indo-Pacific.

CONVERSATION

India and the US: The Decade Ahead

16 FEBRUARY 2023 / To mark the successful conclusion of the annual Tata Sons – Hoover Institution Roundtable Discussion, Ananta Centre collaborated with the roundtable hosts on a public session. The hour-long conversation explored new avenues of collaboration in the India-US relationship, which is arguably the most consequential bilateral of the twenty-first century. It stands poised to set the rules of the road across many arenas – a free and open Indo-Pacific, I2U2, cybersecurity, AI, friend-shoring and much more.



ROUNDTABLE

India-UAE Partnership: Unfolding Opportunities

11 MAY 2022 / The Ananta Centre and the Embassy of the United Arab Emirates in New Delhi convened a roundtable titled 'India-UAE Partnership: Unfolding opportunities' on 11th May 2022.

The interaction on emerging avenues of cooperation and opportunities between India and UAE was held with **Abdulla Bin Touq Al Marri**, UAE Minister of Economy; **Ahmad Belhoul Al Falasi**, UAE Minister of State for Entrepreneurship & SMEs; **Ahmed Albanna**, UAE Ambassador to India. **Anuj Poddar**, Executive Director, Bajaj Electricals Limited & Trustee, Ananta Centre chaired the roundtable.

The roundtable recognized that the signing of the UAE-India CEPA unlocked a hundred billion dollars of bilateral trade over the next five years between the two nations. The participants acknowledged an opportunity for both the countries to work towards regional security, to create



a larger condition under which the economic cooperation, technological cooperation, and regional civilization can move forward. The deliberations was closed-door and held under Chatham House rules.

ROUNDTABLE

China's Foreign Policy Towards Asia

24 MAY – 14 JUNE 2022 / The Ananta Centre, in conjunction, with the Centre for Contemporary China Studies convened the 2nd series of Digital Roundtables on 'China's Foreign Policy Towards Asia', bringing together 57 experts from 20 different countries to share their perspectives on China's engagement with the key regions in its neighbourhood. Four roundtables were held on key themes, focusing on each region in China's neighbourhood :

- China and South East Asia
- Central Asia & China
- China & East Asia: Assertion in The Backyard

- China in West Asia – Stepping in a Vacuum?

The roundtables recognized that although China has made concerted efforts to promote the concept of a 'harmonious worldview', declaring itself a responsible great power and dispelling fears of a China threat, this does not mean that China's neighbours are not wary about its increasing influence, which has significant political, military, and economic implications for the region. All deliberations in the series were closed-door and held virtually under Chatham House Rule.

TRIBUTE

Tribute to Shinzo Abe: His legacy and the future of Indo-Pacific

22 JULY 2022 / The tragic assassination of the former Japanese PM Shinzo Abe not only shocked the world, it prompted a reflection on how many geopolitical alignments changed because Prime Minister Abe imagined a different global system. Certainly, India lost a friend. From the first strategic partnership with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in 2006 to the 'special partnership' between Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Abe-san straddled India's political divides



with ease. We at Ananta Centre too have lost a friend. Over the past 15 years, our Japan portfolio has grown enormously – from strategic dialogues to MPs exchanges and the India-Japan Forum, Ananta has worked hard to establish deep bonds with our partners in Japan. Abe-san was a staunch supporter of our work, and was always available for our delegations whenever they visited Japan, making time to meet them, quiz them on the outcome of the dialogues, offer suggestions and ideas.

On July 22, Ananta Centre put together a tribute to Shinzo Abe by a high level panel from all the Quad countries – Abe-san is generally regarded as the father of the Quad. Foreign minister **S. Jaishankar** and Ananta's founder trustee **Tarun Das** joined from India, **Kurt Campbell**, Indo-Pacific Coordinator at the White House and **John Hamre**, President and CEO, CSIS; **Tony Abbott**, former PM of Australia and **Tomohiko Taniguchi** and **Eichi Hasegawa**, Abe-san's closest advisers joined in from different corners of the world.

STRATEGIC DIALOGUE

India-Bangladesh Strategic Dialogue



18 MAY 2022 / Ananta Centre, with the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Dhaka, convened the inaugural India-Bangladesh Strategic Dialogue, held virtually. **Vikram Doraiswami**, then Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh addressed the members. The dialogue, co-chaired by **Naushad Forbes**, Chairman, Ananta Aspen Centre, and **Fahmida Khatun**, Executive Director, Centre for Policy Dialogue, focused on:

- Strengthening people-to-people ties
- Geopolitics and Strategy
- Climate Change and Energy
- Indo-Pacific and Cooperation in regional and global multilateral organizations
- Infrastructure, Trade, Investment, and Economic Cooperation
- Defence Cooperation and Humanitarian Crisis
- Water and Border Issues

The Ambassador Series

THE AMBASSADOR SERIES engages with ambassadors and heads of foreign missions to facilitate expansion of India's multi-dimensional ties with countries across the world. It is a unique initiative that allows an audience to interact with ambassadors and high commissioners and understand various aspects of the relationships between the countries.

The Philippines: India's New Indo-Pacific partner

Shambhu S. Kumaran with Prमित Pal Chaudhuri

5 APRIL 2022 / The India-Philippines relationship has traditionally centred itself around trade and commerce, political cooperation, and people-to-people ties. As the Indo-Pacific gains focus, so has the partnership in areas such as defence, security, cybersecurity, healthcare, and advanced technologies like AI. The Brahmos deals between the two countries clearly outline a strengthened and forward-looking bilateral relationship. This special session with Shambhu S. Kumaran,



Ambassador of India to Philippines, chaired by Prमित Pal Chaudhuri, Columnist and former Foreign Editor, Hindustan Times and Visiting Fellow, Ananta Aspen Centre had provided insights into new avenues for cooperation between the two countries.



Green Strategic Partnership: Re-energising India Denmark Relations

Freddy Svane with Indrani Bagchi

16 JUNE 2022 / The 'Green Strategic Partnership' between India and Denmark came into being on 28 September 2020 for making the countries both greener and eco-friendly. The partnership has multiple layers that help both the countries to cooperate and engage in dialogue. The core elements of this Partnership are water, energy, climate and green finance. This special session with Freddy Svane, Ambassador of Denmark to India, chaired by Indrani Bagchi, Chief Executive Officer, Ananta Centre had provided insights into new avenues for cooperation between the two countries.

Sri Lanka crisis: Role of India and the way forward

Gopal Baglay with C. Raja Mohan

8 AUGUST 2022 / The Sri Lanka economic crisis has been a test of India's role as a first responder in the region through its 'Neighbourhood First' policy. The India-Sri Lanka relationship is alive to the various economic and political geographies in the emergent Indo-Pacific. This special interactive session with Gopal Baglay, High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka, chaired by C. Raja Mohan, Senior Fellow,



Asia Society Policy Institute, New Delhi provided insights into new avenues of cooperation between the two countries.



India-Indonesia: Recover Together, Recover Stronger

Ina Hagniningtyas Krishnamurthi with Gurjit Singh

20 SEPTEMBER 2022 / India-Indonesia relations have gained strength and shared diversity, philosophies, multi-ethnic nuances, and historical and developmental experiences. India and Indonesia have recovered together as they worked hand in hand against the COVID-19 pandemic through continuous exchange of medical supplies between the two

countries. India and Indonesia have recovered from the pandemic with robust economic growth, and stronger ties which will prove beneficial to the Indo-Pacific region at large. This special session with Ina Hagniningtyas Krishnamurthi, Ambassador of Indonesia to India, chaired by Gurjit Singh, former Ambassador of India to Indonesia, provided new avenues for cooperation between the two countries.

India's UNSC Presidency: New approach for Reformed Multilateralism and Counter Terrorism

Ruchira Kamboj with Harsh V. Pant

20 DECEMBER 2022 / In its eighth term in the UNSC, India's priorities are reformed multilateralism and counterterrorism. The universal threat of terrorism requires a collective global response from all UN member states. This special session with Ruchira Kamboj, Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations, chaired by Harsh V. Pant, Vice



President, Studies and Foreign Policy, Observer Research Foundation, provided many insights on India's approach towards reformed multilateralism and vital areas for the two countries to hold discourse and collaborate on.

Trilateral Commission

Annual Plenary Meeting

10–12 MARCH 2023, NEW DELHI, INDIA

The Trilateral Commission New Delhi Plenary meeting was held between 10–12 March, 2023. Over 260 members and guests attended the first plenary meeting held in India. The Plenary also commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the Commission which was celebrated with a gala hosted by the Indian Group.

During the three days of meetings, participants heard from **S. Jaishankar**, India's Minister for External Affairs; **Gan Kim Yong**, Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry;

and **Taro Kono**, Japan's Minister for Digital Transformation, among others.

Indicating India's growing importance on the global stage, the plenary covered a wide range of key topics such as Indian politics, economy, and society, alongside the war in Ukraine, geopolitics in Indo-Pacific, the global food crisis, supply chains, and whether social media enhances or undermines democracy.



The Trilateral Commission Asia Pacific Group

Regional Meeting

19–20 NOVEMBER 2022, TOKYO, JAPAN

The Trilateral Commission Asia Pacific Group Regional Meeting was held to promote dialogue on key issues facing the international community. Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan **Yoshimasa Hayashi** also gave a speech and held discussions with the participants from Asia Pacific Group.

The discussions focused on the current political, security, economic, and social situations of countries in Asia Pacific; the normalization of fiscal and monetary policies in the post-COVID era and its impact on emerging economies;

new geo-economic conditions and supply chains; emerging regional frameworks; and the impact of new technologies on people's lives and on policy. The meeting recognised the need to engage China in the Asia-Pacific as the region's largest economy. The discussion further expanded into current geopolitical events and India's engagement with regional geopolitical realities.



The India-US Forum



Co-chairs

Vinay Kwatra, Foreign Secretary, Government of India; **Jamshyd N. Godrej**, Chairman, Ananta Centre and Chairman & MD, Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Company Limited

Co-hosts

Ananta Centre and Ministry of External Affairs, Govt of India

Speakers included

S. Jaishankar, Minister of External Affairs, Government of India; **Hardeep Singh Puri**, Minister for Housing & Urban Affairs & Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India; **Ashwini Vaishnaw**, Minister of Railways, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology; **Antony Blinken**, US Secretary of State; **Gina Raimondo**, US Secretary of Commerce; **Jennifer Granholm**, US Secretary of Energy; **N. Chandrasekaran**, Chairperson, Tata Sons

The first in-person edition of the Forum since the pandemic was bigger and better than ever before. Held in January, 2023 it brought together 200 eminent representatives from across stakeholder groups under one roof including three Indian Cabinet ministers and three US Cabinet Secretaries.

A closed-door engagement held under the Chatham House Rules, the Forum reaffirmed the depth of the bilateral relationship and explored new avenues of collaboration in the Indo-Pacific, defence production, emerging tech, data governance, energy, supply chains, climate change, G20, trade, and economic engagement while assessing the evolution of the great power dynamics in the aftermath of the pandemic, the Russia-Ukraine war and other geopolitical shifts.

High level engagements and bilateral summits have intensified and indicate a growing commitment by the leadership on both sides. Looking ahead, New Delhi and Washington must continue to build on their strategic convergence and partner closely as India takes on the G-20 Presidency.



Antony J. Blinken
U.S. Secretary of State

Salient points

- Friend-shoring should not become a euphemism for de-globalisation. A cautionary tale, given the preeminent position of the US and India's position in the G20 this year, there are two risks. First is the slowing growth and second is ill anticipation of financial accidents after decades of liquidity. This is where the US and the G20 need to come together.
- To become geopolitically strategic, India-US relations have to become more strategic in economics and technology. India has been proactive in taking this relationship forward, resulting in a growing confidence in each other. The continuing implications of the pandemic on the global economy, the fundamental questions it raised about supply chains and reliance of the global economy on a single country are still in play.
- The sign of a mature relationship is having multiple lines of efforts, whether it is political investment or strategic imperatives. If too much burden falls on “the next big thing” and it does not actualise then the relationship is considered to have failed in some ways. Strategic convergence in the Indo-Pacific can be considered “the next big thing”.
- Two new domains have emerged— technology and the need to diversify supply chains out of China into geographies that can be trusted. This will entail a degree of home shoring and friend shoring. It does not mean there will be complete agreement and alignment.
- Neither the US nor India control the means of production over technology. A lot of the technology used around the world is produced by China. Both governments are pushing forward on various actions to be taken against China on technology. There will be a lot of US companies that would want to move out of the Chinese markets into markets around the region. Companies will have to be incentivised to move to India and South East Asia, places with like-minded values.
- The issues of data governance and data trade should be recognised as central to US-India shared interests and shared security concerns.
- India and the US are extremely aligned right now, their shared vision for the Indo-Pacific is driven by a lot of convergence. Without a strong US-India defence partnership, a militarily capable US and a militarily capable India, there is no scope for maintaining a stable balance of power in the region. Increasingly, those capabilities have to be interoperable so they can respond to crises together.
- The US-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Tech-



nologies (iCET) and other initiatives in the US Department of Justice (DoJ) are a big focus of their bilateral conversations.

- The ecosystem of challenges experienced by India and the US across the maritime stretch of the Indo-Pacific makes the Indian Ocean an opportune area of discovering and shaping new partnerships. Conceptually, one of the challenges in the Indo-Pacific is maritime multicentricity — within which the Indian Ocean is a key central focus.
- In the next 30 years, India is going to face an energy

demand which is equal to the size of the European Union's current energy demand. India has to be able to use the fact that it is a major player in the energy segment going forward. The US will play a pivotal role not only in supporting India's rise as a global power but also in supporting India's rise as a global superpower for green energy. The bilateral SCEP gives a strong platform to focus on the shared decarbonisation challenge.

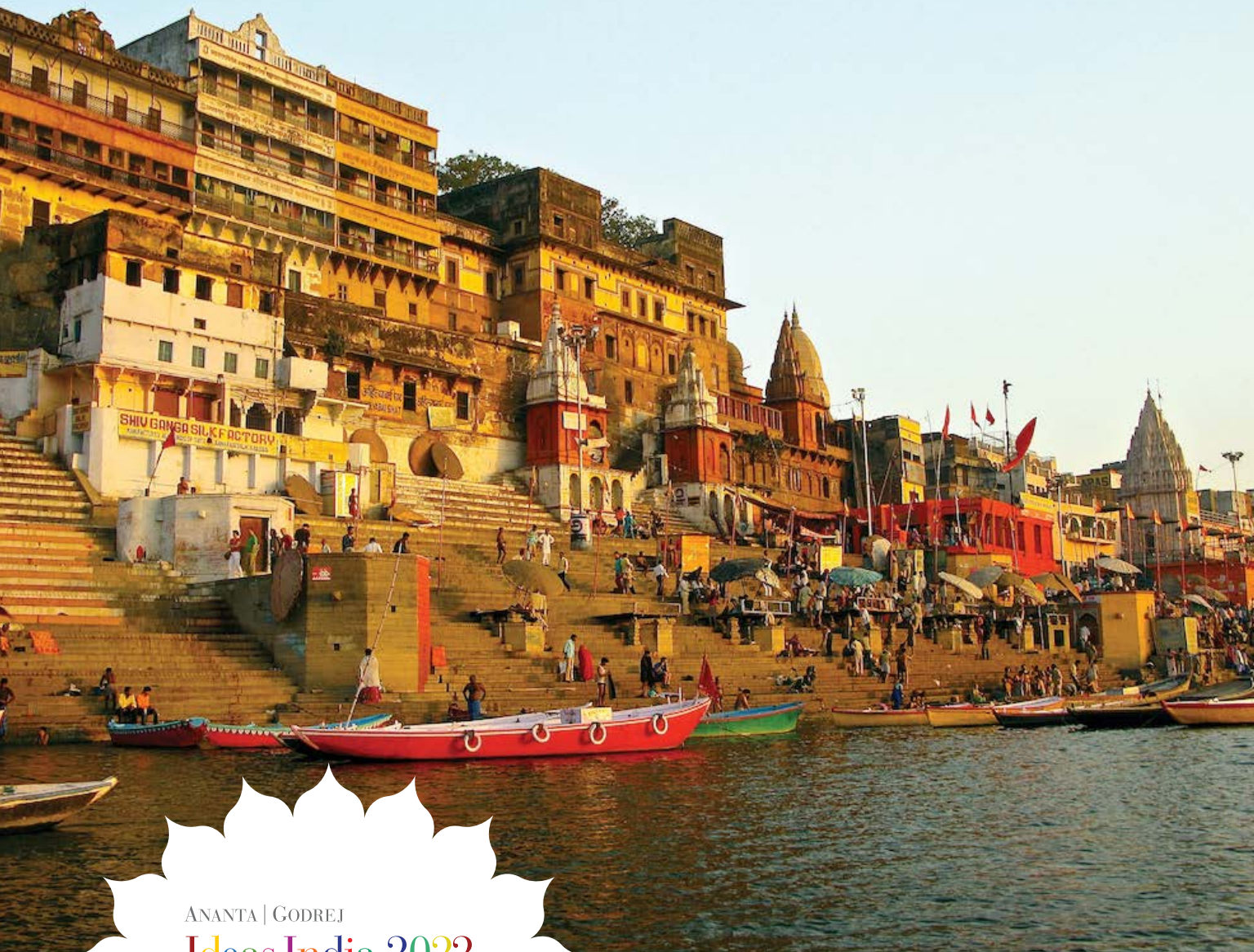
- Critical minerals security requires resilience and foresight which the world has not yet shown. Forums like the Quad have to figure out how to get access to these raw materials.
- There is a huge pipeline of Indian students into America and that is worth preserving. There are many issues around visas and immigration that the US needs to deal with domestically. It should be highlighted that this is a positive two-way exchange. There has been talk of a “million talent programmes”. To bring in talent from around the world to work together in STEM, India is a key place. This two-way flow of talent should continue to build the ties between people in these fields.







LEADERSHIP



ANANTA | GODREJ
Ideas India 2022

stewardship in times of uncertainty

9-11 Sept, 2022, Varanasi

Ideas India, an initiative led and driven by the Kamalnayan Bajaj Fellows, encourages discussion on a set of pressing themes and critical challenges faced by society. The event draws an eclectic set of leaders and thinkers from across sectors and regions to engage in text-based dialogues and specially curated sessions designed to help reflect on one's values and spur them into action.

Stewardship in Times of Uncertainty drew a stream of Ananta Aspen fellows to one of India's oldest cities, Varanasi. Ideas India 2022 signalled a shift towards re-defining leadership goals in a transformed world. The Socratic Dialogue, a unique and reflective module of Ananta Centre deliberated on humility, selflessness, humanity and honesty. The mesmerizing eighty-minute session on Diversity and Difference led by the Tamasha group from Mumbai warmed all our hearts.



The artists took us through a whirlwind of emotions through music and dialogue. The action dialogues and the Masterclasses, curated by the Leadership team, touched upon several pertinent issues. Conversations ranged from rewriting the social contract to sustainable community, public health and mental health. Shared stories and conversations among Ananta Aspen fellows reinvigorated the collective responsibility to transform society with a reimagined sense of purpose

“True leadership is not about being the loudest voice in the room, but rather about inspiring others to find their own unique voices and empowering them to create a harmonious symphony of collective brilliance.”



Ananta Values-Based Leadership



ANANTA | GODREJ
Ideas India 2022
stewardship
in times of
अनुत्तरावस्था
9-11 Sept, 2022, Varanasi



The Ananta Values-Based Leadership course was the first virtual leadership programme launched by us during lockdown last year. This course used Socratic dialogues to explore the tensions between achieving goals through leadership while being anchored in values. The course is designed for accomplished leaders to build purpose in their lives and their organisations through honing traditional skills.

The Ananta Values-based Leadership Programme is based on our flagship Kamalnayan Bajaj Fellowship and the GP Birla Fellowship. This is a three-seminar course and must be taken in sequence.

Seminar 1: 14 – 18 November, 2022

Seminar 2: 09 – 13 January, 2023

Seminar 3: 13 – 17 March, 2023

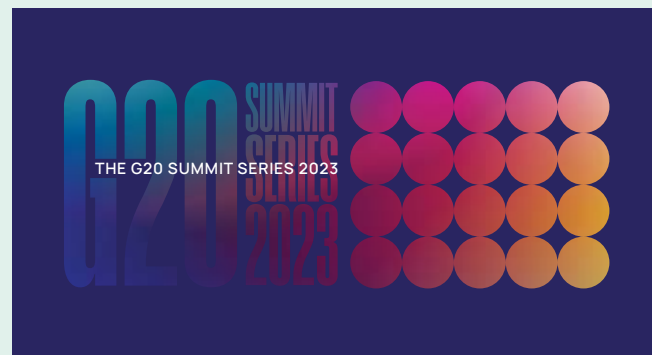
Class 4 was held successfully and was moderated by **Pallav Patankar**, Vice President, Digital Bharat Collaborative, Piramal Swasthya, Kamalnayan Bajaj Fellow and **Lavanya Nalli**, Vice-Chairperson, Nalli Silk Sarees Pvt. Ltd, Kamalnayan Bajaj Fellow. Seventeen Fellows graduated from this edition.

The alumni include senior management from Forbes Marshall, JCB India Ltd, Ambuja Neotia, Jet Synthesis, Giving Tuesday among others.



PUBLIC POLICY





The G20 Summit Series 2023, organized by the Ananta Centre, provides a comprehensive examination of the challenges facing the international community as India assumes the G20 Presidency. The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on global economies and societies, and the Summit aims to address the ongoing economic recovery and efforts to mitigate the pandemic's long-term effects. Additionally, the Summit will address rising geopolitical tensions, food and energy security concerns, growing debt distress, and inflationary pressures.

LiFE: India's Mission for Green Transition

Speakers: **Arunabha Ghosh, Nidhi Madan**
Moderator: **James Abraham**



31 JANUARY 2023 / The Development Working Group meeting observed LiFE (Lifestyle for the Environment) as a major part of its G20 Green agenda, with an aim to integrate development and climate issues. Our first session under this series focused on the primary objective of this initiative and ways make the lifestyle of people environment-friendly and sustainable. This conversation also explored LiFE as a concept for commercial benefits and explored methods to provide economic services that fit into the LiFE vision.

Fuels of the Future: Envisaging a Global Alliance on Biofuels

Speakers: **André Corrêa do Lago, Rahoo Pai Panandiker**
Moderator: **Pramit Pal Chaudhuri**



22 FEBRUARY 2023 / The Government of India stated that under India's G20 Presidency they will advocate for a global alliance on biofuels at the G20 summit. This discussion focused on what the global agreement in regards to bio fuels should be about and what methods can the G20 nations in the world adopt to implement them.

Crypto Digitisation: The Next Chapter

Speakers: **Arnab Kumar, Jaideep Reddy**
Moderator: **Srikumar Misra**



28 MARCH 2023 / As part of its G20 Presidency agenda, India is seeking to get governments to agree to a common regulatory framework for crypto assets like Bitcoin and Ethereum. A collective global endeavor needs to be made to deal with a cutting edge digital technology that also carries with it considerable disruptive potential. Hence this discussion explored the future of crypto digitisation and how the G20 nations can come together to make this possible.



“The key long-term challenge for developing nations like ours is to drive economic growth by creating employment opportunities in higher productivity sectors. Promotion policies should focus on labor-intensive industries such as apparel, footwear, food processing, & tourism.”

Is India Facing a Twin-Deficit Challenge?

Speakers: **Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Ila Patnaik, Indira Rajaraman**
Moderator: **A.K. Bhattacharya**



23 AUGUST 2022 / With higher commodity prices and rising subsidy burden leading to an increase in both fiscal and current account deficit, it was the first time the government had explicitly talked about the possibility of fiscal slippage in the current fiscal year. Key matters such as India's position on international trade agreements, the accurate reflection of the central deficit and the way forward with the twin-deficit challenge were discussed in this session.

Budget 2023 – What is in Store for You?

Speakers: **Chandrajit Banerjee, Poonam Gupta, N.K. Singh**
Moderator: **A.K. Bhattacharya**



19 DECEMBER 2022 / The pre-budget session for our economy and policy series discussed ideas, tax proposals and policy goals that can help the 2023-24 Union Budget make an impact on the Indian economy. The session shaped an understanding of a possible route for the Budget and examined possible government proposals to steer the economy to a higher growth path.

Union Budget 2023 & Beyond

Speakers: **Naushad Forbes, Rajiv Kumar, Kavita Rao**
Moderator: **A.K. Bhattacharya**



16 FEBRUARY 2023 / The presentation of the Union Budget for 2023-24 provided clarity on how the government intends to overcome India's financial challenges. This session discussed the target areas for the 2023-24 Union Budget and further examined the policy announcements, growth assumptions, revenue projections and expenditure priorities of the Union government.

Pure Science Roundtables

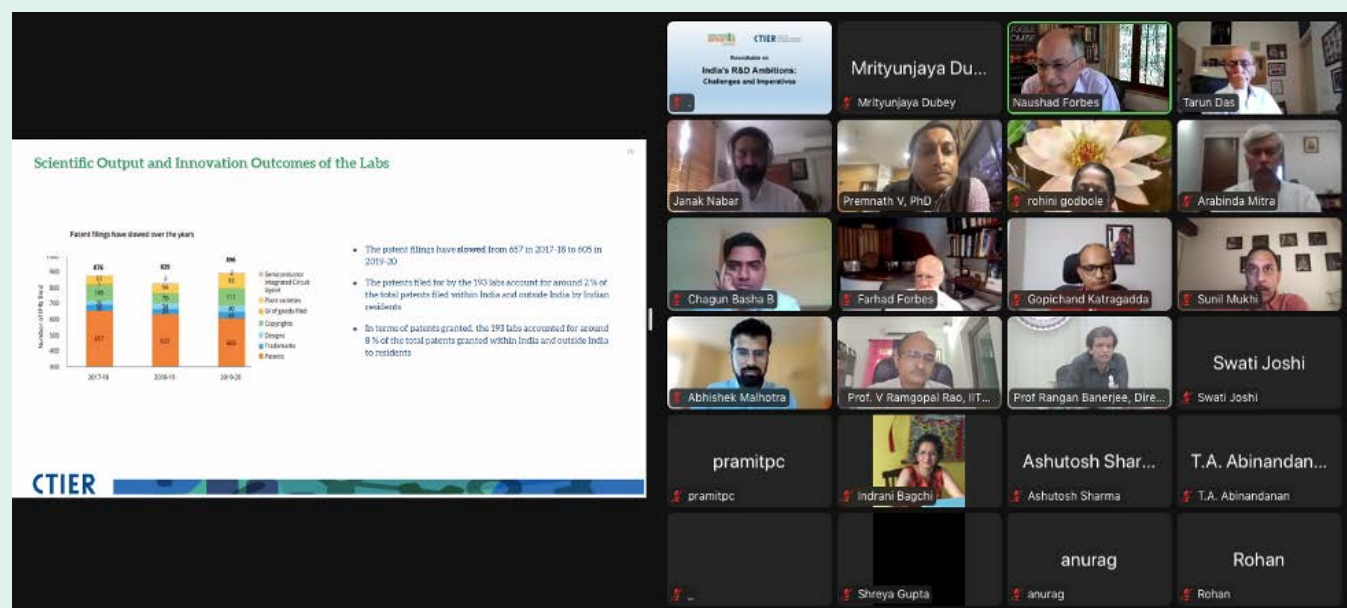
India's R&D ambitions: Challenges and Imperatives

2 JUNE 2022 & 29 SEPTEMBER 2022

The Ananta Centre and the Centre for Technology, Innovation and Economic Research (CTIER) organized a closed-door round table discussion on India's R&D ambitions. The discussion on 2 June was on 'Transforming India's Public Research Landscape'. As with previous discussions, this discussion followed the Chatham House Rules to encourage candid discourse among the participants.

The second session focused on defence sector innovation and featured a select group of nearly 25 participants from industry, academic and policy organisations.

“Science tends to not respect borders, innovation tends to be much more geographically limited. The goal of science is to be first, the goal of innovation is to win in the market.”



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Brazilian ambassador offers green growth solution to stubble burning in India

Speaking at an Ananta Centre function, Brazilian ambassador to India, Andre Ananho Correa do Lago referred to a new development, the manufacture of flexcars-- a new kind of hybrid-- he said they can use both green fuels like ethanol and also, run on electricity. India has already imported a few from Brazil where they are manufactured to test them out.

Reported by: Srinjoy Chowdhury | Updated Feb 23, 2023 | 10:39 AM IST

Brazilian ambassador offered a solution to stubble burning problem of India.

VIDEOS

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Indrani Bagchi appointed as CEO of Ananta Centre

Ananta Centre is a not-for-profit organisation that 'focuses on value-based leadership development and open dialogue on important issues facing Indian society, to help foster its transformation'

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SPOTLIGHT

Operation Breaking Dawn' Portends New Trends In The Middle East

Ananta Aspen Centre | September 30, 2022

MARIA ELIZABETH JOSEPH
September 30, 2022

The truce between Israel and the Islamic Jihad holds firm after tensions flared in Gaza on August 7. And while the three-day conflict took place in a familiar setting, Hamas, the de facto leadership in Gaza since 2007, observed Israel's advances from the sidelines. Publicly, Hamas expressed solidarity with the Islamic Jihad, but the decision to stay out highlights a prudent shift in strategy from within the movement. In addition, it paints a rather interesting picture of the limits to Iran's influence over both Hamas and the Islamic Jihad.

On August 1, Israeli security forces arrested Bassam al-Saadi, the head of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad in Jenin, West Bank. The arrest followed three tense days in southern Gaza as the Islamic Jihad vowed to avenge the arrest of al-Saadi. Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) issued a high alert in the southern region and closed all roads leading to the Gaza strip. On August 5, Israel's air force assassinated Iranian backed Palestinian Islamic Jihad's (PIJ) northern Gaza commander Tayisir al-Jabari. On August 7, another air strike killed Khaled Mansour, a counterpart of al-Jabari in southern Gaza. Following the assassinations, PIJ launched over 1100 rockets at Israel, of which 200 landed in Gaza. At 11:30 pm on August 7, an Egyptian-mediated ceasefire came into effect, following which the Israeli security agencies reopened the Erez crossing from Gaza for Palestinians working in Israel.

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SPOTLIGHT

"De-Nationalizing" The R&D Landscape In India: A Roadmap For The Future

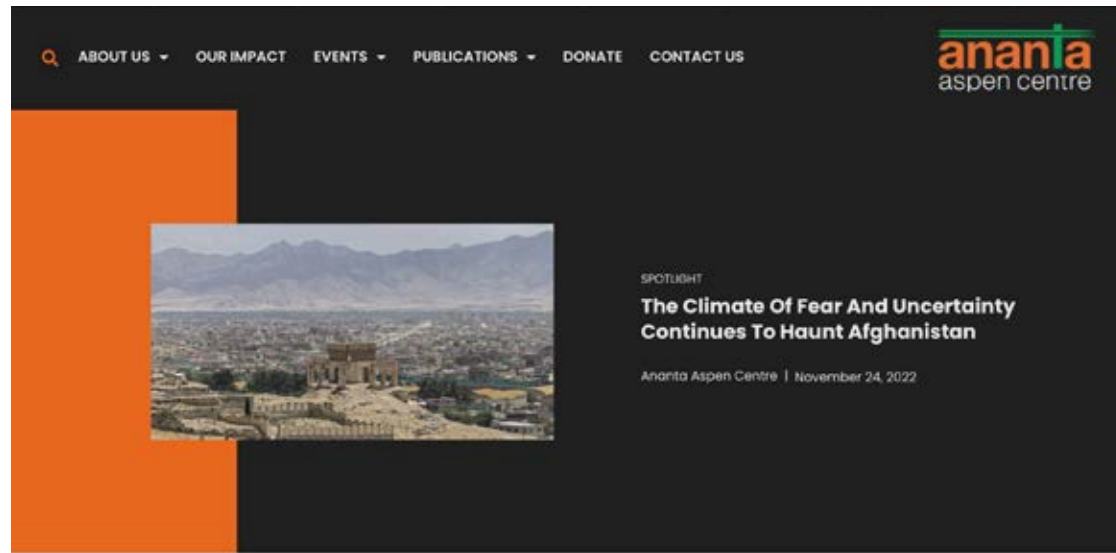
Ananta Aspen Centre | November 1, 2022

ROHAN GIRISH RAJ
November 1, 2022

KEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- Sector-wise R&D expenditure in India
- Industry and Academic Collaborations with regard to R&D
- Innovation-oriented impediments faced by domestic SMEs
- A policy framework/enabling mechanism to encourage private sector participation
- Emphasis on an R&D-centric disclosure and funding mandate

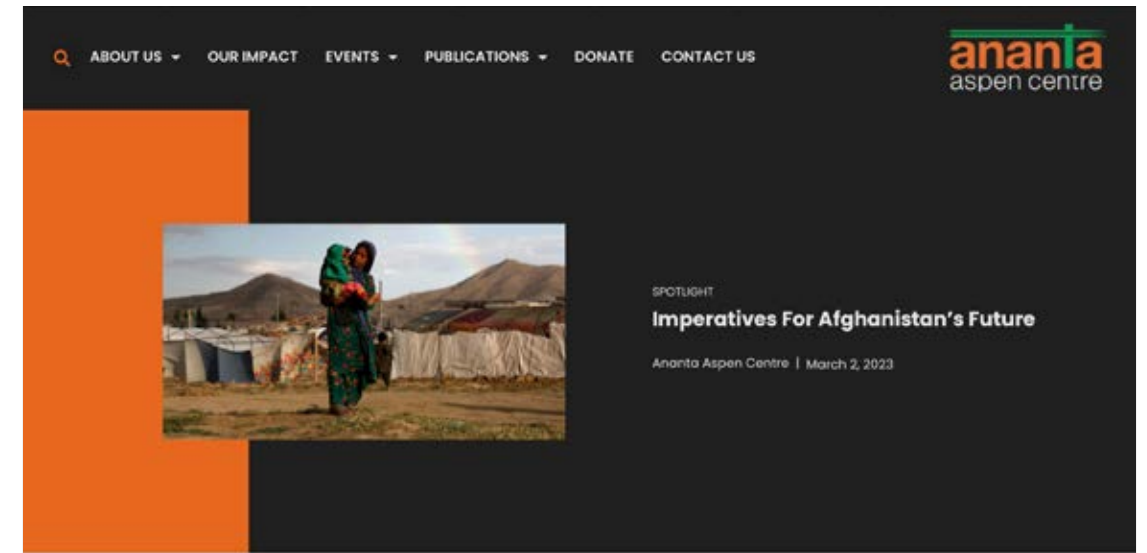
The relationship between science and innovation within R&D has been looked at for decades by scholars worldwide. Science is seen as very much of a global endeavour as it reflects knowledge, which flows seamlessly across borders in the form of publications and findings. Innovation, on the other hand, tends to be more geographically limited not only within national boundaries but even within the borders of organizations. In the field of R&D, it is observed that the private sector continues to be a significant contributor in nations that are deemed as global leaders in R&D. In terms of the share of R&D in national R&D expenditure by sector (2018), industry on average globally accounted for about 70% (world average). In India, it was very little at



SWATI SINHA
November 24, 2022

Despite the Taliban's several assurances towards moderation during the innumerable reconciliation processes in the last two years, it all came to be a watershed after the insurgent group captured Kabul on 15 August 2021. The previous year of Taliban rule has been defaced by an upsetting **rollback** of women's fundamental rights and privileges. It almost dissipated the 20 years of hard-earned efforts of Afghan women. It became more prominent after Mawlawi Hebatullah Akhundzada, a hardliner, earlier this week formally ordered the **full implementation of Islamic Law** in Afghanistan. It raises more concerns over the growing human rights situation in Afghanistan. Combined with Afghanistan's existing patriarchal culture, and the excessive control over women's mobility, and fundamental rights, the Taliban policies only raise more concern.

The **Moscow format consultations on Afghanistan** that India was part of, which concluded on November 16, and discussed the current humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. The **Moscow format** is a platform for national stakeholders, both



SWATI SINHA
March 2, 2023

The sad reality of Afghanistan is that although the war has ended, violence continues. The security situation is grave, and amid the political chaos and the absence of structured institutions, the Taliban are unable to effectively tackle the resistance groups in the country. Several non-state actors are thriving in the political vacuum: the Islamic State Khorasan (IS-K) has carried out several offensive strikes, and directed assaults in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan, and al-Qaeda has been laying its bases under the radar.

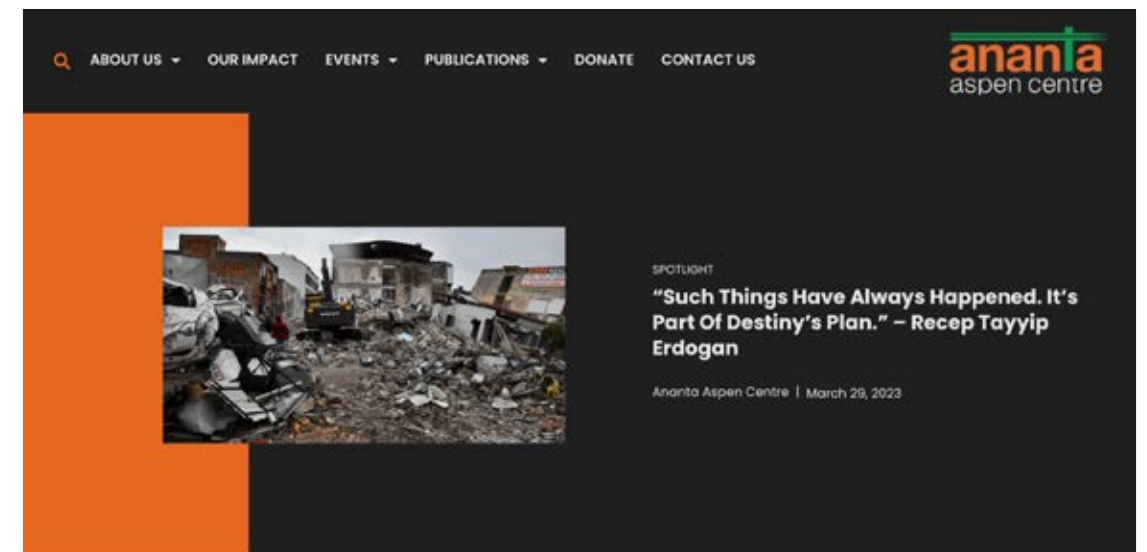
These events have turned hope into despair, and the future of Afghanistan is seen as resting on a knife-edge. The Afghan crisis points to the importance of a stable political administration that is crucial for peacebuilding and preventing the ascent of non-state actors. Law and order in Afghanistan are in shambles, with public foggings, revenge attacks on the old regime, **disappearance**, and **sexual** **harassment**. The country is in the midst of a serious humanitarian and economic crisis.



MARIA ELIZABETH JOSEPH
November 28, 2022

The rare **diplomatic breakthrough** between Israel and Lebanon on the Maritime Border Agreement is a strategic and economic bargain between the two countries. Mediated by the United States of America at a UN base near the border, the agreement does not signal a move to normalize relations. It will, however, significantly reduce short term conflicts between the two warring countries.

Israel and Lebanon have contested the boundary agreement separating the exclusive economic zones for over a decade. The disputed waters contain the Karish and Qana prospect gas fields, lucrative gas deposits in the Eastern Mediterranean. In 2011, Israel and Lebanon submitted their respective EEZ demarcations to the UN. Israel asserted their maritime boundary north of Line 1, giving it the right to operate in Karish with access to other gas reserves. Lebanon marked their maritime boundary further south at Line 2. In 2012, a UN mediator suggested a midway boundary line called the 'half line' but neither

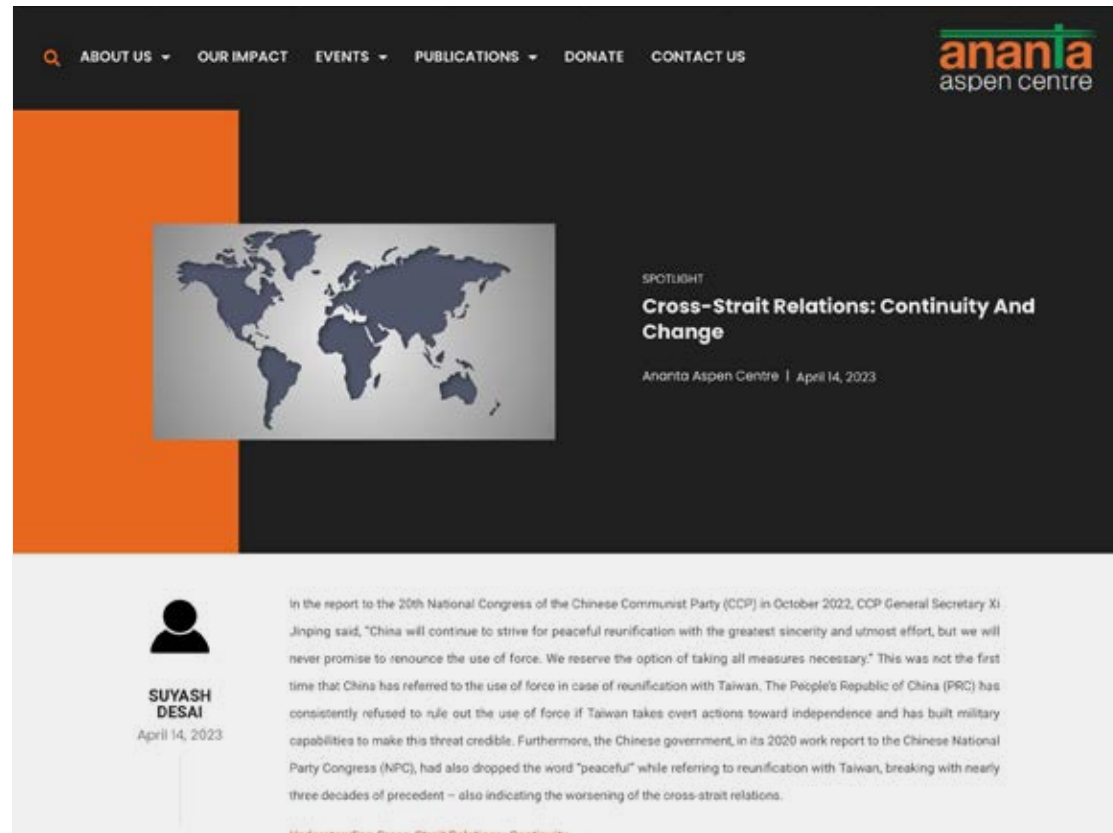


ANANTA ASPEN CENTRE
March 29, 2023

Following the disastrous earthquakes that struck Turkey and Syria on 6 and 7 February 2023, the administration of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan scrambled to save face as slow relief efforts and reports and videos on construction scams fuelled public outrage. With elections for the presidency and parliament just months away, the emergency powers invoked by Erdogan to deal with the aftermath of the catastrophe could curtail public opinion, gag the media, and even lead to the postponement of the elections.

The first earthquake, of 7.8 magnitude and lasting 75 seconds, struck at 4:17 am local time on 6 February, in the middle of a winter storm. Nine hours later, a second earthquake of 7.5 magnitude hit, followed by one of 5.6 magnitude and another of 5.5 magnitude on 7 February. Estimates by the Turkish government in the middle of March put the loss of lives in Turkey at more than 42,000.

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SPOTLIGHT

Cross-Strait Relations: Continuity And Change

Ananta Aspen Centre | April 14, 2023




**SUYASH
DESAI**
April 14, 2023

In the report to the 20th National Congress of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) in October 2022, CCP General Secretary Xi Jinping said, "China will continue to strive for peaceful reunification with the greatest sincerity and utmost effort, but we will never promise to renounce the use of force. We reserve the option of taking all measures necessary." This was not the first time that China has referred to the use of force in case of reunification with Taiwan. The People's Republic of China (PRC) has consistently refused to rule out the use of force if Taiwan takes overt actions toward independence and has built military capabilities to make this threat credible. Furthermore, the Chinese government, in its 2020 work report to the Chinese National Party Congress (NPC), had also dropped the word "peaceful" while referring to reunification with Taiwan, breaking with nearly three decades of precedent – also indicating the worsening of the cross-strait relations.

[Understand Cross-Strait Relations: Continuity](#)



**The Ravi Shankar Centre,
7 Dr Jose P. Rizal Marg,
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi
www.anantacentre.in**

