

Vidya Prasarak Mandal's
Centre for International Studies
(Regd.)

Reg. No. E-21777 of 2004

CUMULATIVE REPORT



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Brief History of VPM

Vidya Prasarak Mandal (Regd.) (VPM hereafter) is an educational trust founded in 1960 by Kannada-speaking linguistic minority settled in Maharashtra to manage the then existing Kannada Primary School founded in 1957.

In 1962 the VPM established a Kannada High School. Ten years later, an English Medium Pre-Primary and Primary School came into existence, which in 1976 was named as B.R. Tol English High School.

In 1991 VPM added a Junior College to facilitate the continuing education of the students passing out from the High School. The logical conclusion was the starting of a Degree College with Arts, Science and Commerce streams in 2003. Incidentally, in 1999 a Kannada Balwadi was set up as an offshoot of the Kannada Primary School.

Realizing the demand for increasing diversity of educational needs and to promote professionally useful courses, the VPM established the Institute of Professional Studies in 1997. The VPM also set up the National Institute of Open Schooling in the year 2000, to reach out to school dropouts. With a view to meeting the educational needs of Navi Mumbai the VPM established the National Integration School at

Airoli in June 2005, offering education in English, Kannada and Marathi languages. The school was formally inaugurated by renowned former Supreme Court Judge, Justice B.N. Shrikrishna on 28 June 2005. Justice Shrikrishna has been associated with the VPM as its Life Member. The NIS was meant to bring children speaking different languages together and promote national integration by reducing linguistic prejudices.



The educational institutions set up by the VPM are known for academic excellence. While the Kannada High School is patronized by poorer sections of the society, its students have shown that poverty is no hindrance for academic excellence. Ms. Jyoti Ganagi of the Kannada High School secured 16th rank in the SSC examination in 2001 and stood second in the B.Com examinations of the Mumbai University in 2005.

For the last 39 years B.R. Tol's English High School has maintained a consistent record of 100% results. Year after year the English School has produced rank holders in the Board examinations.

VPM's Centre for International Studies (Regd.)

With the closure of the branch of the Indian Council of World Affairs in Mumbai, there was a felt need among the scholars for a forum for discussing issues relating to national and international affairs. Realizing the absence of an alternate forum, VPM decided in May 1997 to set up the Centre for International Studies to bring together reputed scholars

from across the country for deliberating on issues affecting India's International Relations. The CIS was registered as a separate Trust in June 2004. The Centre has also been recognised as an institution for enrolling students for the award of M.A. (by Research) and PhD Degrees by the University of Mumbai in the year 2006.

Location and Facilities

The CIS is located in the VPM's R.Z. Shah College building. The CIS has a collection of over one thousand books on International Relations (IR), most of which were donated to the CIS by Professor P.M. Kamath. Since 1997, the CIS has been adding further titles to its collection, particularly in International Relations. The CIS has a Conference Room with a seating capacity of 50. The Conference Room was inaugurated by Shri Balbir Punj, M.P (Rajya Sabha) on 20 February 2004.



The CIS provides working space with internet facilities for two Research Scholars. For want of accommodation, the CIS depository



of books is held in the spacious library of the R.Z. Shah College on the same floor. The post-graduate students are provided cubicles in the library.



Aims and Objectives of the CIS

Besides acting as a Forum for discussing contemporary national international issues, the CIS is meant to register aspiring candidates for academic study programme leading to the award of MA (by Thesis) and PhD degrees in the faculty of Arts, especially in the Political Science discipline, with a special reference International Relations. The CIS has been recognised by the Mumbai University as a research institution for guiding ten candidates. Dr. P.M. Kamath, former Professor of Politics in the Department of Civics and Politics of the Mumbai University is a recognised guide. Smt. Prachee Mandar Phadke was the first candidate who registered with the CIS for her PhD on “Cross border Terrorism and Abuse of Child rights in Jammu and Kashmir, 1989-1999”. Mumbai based members of the CIS Governing Council have indicated their willingness to guide students in the areas of their specialization. Dr. (Ms.) Amruta Deshmukh, Head, Dept. of Political Science, Chetana College, Mumbai and Member of the CIS Academic Council is one of the recognized research guides of the CIS. Approval of the Mumbai University has been sought to

recognize Dr. (Mrs.) Vasundhara Mohan, formerly Reader in Central Eurasian Studies as a research guide of the CIS. Similarly former Head, Political Science Dept in SIES College of Arts, Science Commerce Dr (Mrs) Maneesha Tikekar has joined Academic Council of the VPM’s CIS; so also Dr (Mrs) Bindu Chowdary, formerly Head, Dept. Of Political Science, R. J. College. Ph.D. guiding recognition is also sought to these two Professors with long academic guiding experience.

Mrs Prachee Phadke our first Ph.D. Student was awarded her Degree in May 2017, while Mr. Rajiv Gupte, Professor, Mumbai Educational Trust, Institute of Management, Mr Sudhir Shetty and Mrs. Kavita Sharma, Asst. Professor, Department of Political Science, VPM’s R Z Shah College, Mumbai are working at the CIS for their PhD degrees.

The CIS is also intended for conducting independent research on international issues impacting national interests of India.

It is also one of the objectives of the CIS to publish occasional papers on

important subjects in the area of International Relations by eminent scholars in the field independently or in collaboration with like-minded institutions for limited circulation amongst the policy makers.

The CIS is also intended to organise National and International Seminars on important issues concerning India's International Relations.

The CIS aims to organise public lectures on issues concerning International Relations.

Management

Since its inception, affairs of the CIS are looked after by Dr. P.M. Kamath, Professor Emeritus, University of Mumbai, as its Honorary Director. His field of specialization includes International Politics, Foreign Policy, National Security and American Government and Politics. He has guided 15 Ph.D. scholars while in University of

Mumbai in addition to guiding students for M. Phil and M.A. (by Thesis). He is a recognised guide on the panel of the Naval War College Mumbai and continues to guide students for PhD and M. Phil Degrees.

The CIS staff includes Ms. Anita Gujran, Academic Assistant.

Governing Council

To academic activities of the CIS are carried out in accordance with the guidance and direction of a Governing Council consisting of eminent scholars in the field of International Relations.

The members of the Governing Councils have over 30 years of teaching/research experience at the University level. The present members of the Governing Council are:

- Dr. P.M. Kamath as Chairman & Hon. Director,
- Dr. (Mrs.) Vasundhara Mohan, former Director, Centre for Central Eurasian Studies, Mumbai University, Currently Programme Director, Institute of Indian Culture, Mumbai and Convener & Hon. Dy. Director, VPM's CIS.
- Prof C. J. Pai, Former Professor of English as the Hon. Treasurer.

- Amb A. R. Ghanshyam, Former Additional Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) & High Commissioner of India to Nigeria.
- Professor Bharat Karnad, Senior Fellow, National Security Studies, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi;
- Dr. Arvind Kumar, Professor and Head, Department of Geopolitics and International Relations, Programme on Gandhian and Peace Studies, MCES, Manipal University, Manipal;
- Dr. Nalini Kant Jha, Professor and Dean, School of Social Sciences & International Studies, Pondicherry Central University, Puducherry;
- Dr. R.G. Gidadhubli, Former, Professor and Director, Centre for Soviet Studies, University of Mumbai;
- Dr. (Mrs) Maneesha Tikekar, former Prof & Head, Dept. Of Political Science, SIES College, Mumbai.
- Dr (Mrs) Uttara Sahasrabuddhe, Professor, Dept of Civics and Politics, Mumbai University.

Academic Council

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Prof. P.M.Kamath | 4. Dr (Mrs) Vasundhara Mohan |
| 2. Dr (Ms) Amruta Deshmukh | 5. Dr. R.G. Gidadhubli |
| 3. Prof C. J Pai | 6. Ms. Kavita Sharma |

Activities of the CIS since inception

Public Lectures

The CIS organised the following public lectures, inviting renowned academicians and Diplomats and Public officials.

Date	Speaker	Topic
31 Aug. 2001	Lt. Col. (Dr.) K. K. Puri	India Pakistan Relations Since Agra Summit
28 Feb., 2003	Dr. R. G. Gidadhubli	Russia's Quest for Oil Supremacy
23 April 2003	Dr. B.Ramesh Babu	Bush, Blair & World Order
20 Feb. 2004	Shri. Balbir Punj, M.P. Rajya Sabha	Indo-Pakistan Relations: The Way Ahead
31 July 2004	Dr. R.R. Ramchandani	Rich Nations and Poor Nations: Emerging North South Encounter
30 Sep. 2004	Shri Dhananjay Kamlakar IPS	Cyber Terrorisms: Implications for India's Security
25 Sep. 2004	Tibetan Film Festival	One feature film, <i>Kundun</i> , and two documentaries, <i>Cry of the Snowlion</i> and <i>Devotion and Defiance</i> were screened
18 Feb. 2007	Mr. Danny Rubinstein	Crisis in the Middle East
20 Jan. 2008	Prof. Efraim Inbar	Israel's National Security and the Conflict in the Middle East
30 April 2008	Film Show	An Inconvenient Truth: Docu. Film by Al Gore, former Vice-President USA
21 Jan. 2009	Dr. V.S. Sheth	Maritime Challenges with Reference to Piracy in the Gulf of Aden
09 Feb. 2009	Mrs. Orna Sagiv, Consul General of Israel, Mumbai.	Israel's War against Hamas Terror Network in Gaza
07 Jan. 2010	Shri Jay Deshmukh, Dy. Bureau Chief, Agence Franc-Presse	Changing face of Iraq War

03 March 2011	Dr. Paul I. Joseph, political sociologist and former Director of National Peace Studies Association, USA,	War and Democracy
12 Feb. 2012	Dr Manas Chatterjee, Prof. of Management, State University of New York at Binghamton.	BRICS: An Economic Threat to European Union
13 Nov. 2014	Dr Daniel Markey, Sr. Fellow for India, Pakistan and South Asia in Council on Foreign Relations, USA	The Future of US-Pakistan Relations
25 Nov. 2014	Dr Robert Lloyd, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA (USA)	Managing International Conflict: Theory and Praxis
1 Mar.2016	Prof Rajiv M. Gupte, Professor, MET, Institute of Management, Mumbai & Ph. D. Scholar, VPM's CIS	India's Possible Strategic Option For UNSC Permanent Seat

Seminars

Besides public lectures, the CIS held the following Seminars since its inception.

1. Half-day seminar on “India-Pakistan Relations in the Post-Agra Period” on 1 December 2001. Dr. A. P. Rana delivered the keynote address. Dr. (Mrs.) Maneesha Tikekar, Professor of Political Science, SIES College who had spent six months in Islamabad on Asia Foundation Fellowship spoke on the subject of “Agra Summit & Its Aftermath: Perceptions from Pakistan.” Shri Satish Sahney, IPS (Retd.) Executive Director, Nehru Centre, Mumbai presided over the seminar. It was coordinated by Dr. P. M. Kamath.
2. A two-day National Seminar on “India-Pakistan Relations in Pursuit of Peace” on 2 and 3 April 2004 was inaugurated by noted film personality, Shri Mahesh Bhatt who was part of the Indian delegation to Pakistan in 2003. Eminent strategist and foreign policy analyst, Air Commodore Jasjit Singh, Director of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, New Delhi delivered the keynote address.

In addition to the invitees, more than one hundred members of public attended the inaugural function. In all 42 scholars from Mumbai and different parts of the country attended the seminar and actively participated. It was a rare occasion for the local scholars and specialists in International Relations representing different colleges in Mumbai to actively participate in the discussion and interact with the scholars from the various parts of the country. The Valedictory address was delivered by Lt. Gen. (Retd) V. M. Patil, PVSM, on April 3. The Seminar was funded by the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and the ICSSR, Western Regional Centre, Mumbai.

3. In the backdrop of November US Presidential Elections and its outcome, a one day National seminar on “India-US Relations After November Elections: Continuity or New Directions?” was held on December 15, 2004. H E Angus Simmons, Consul General of the US Consulate in Mumbai, who was the Chief Guest, delivered the inaugural address. Dr. A.P Rana delivered the Valedictory address. Eminent scholars and Professors from different parts of the country including H E Gul Hussain Ahmadi, Consul General of Afghanistan attended the seminar. The Seminar was funded by the United States Educational Foundation in India.
4. A two-day International Seminar on “Perspectives on Reforming and Restructuring the United Nations” held on 6 – 7 May, 2005 was inaugurated by veteran journalist Shri M.V. Kamath, Chairman, Prasar Bharti. Special guests at the Seminar were Dr. Pervaiz Iqbal Cheema and Dr. M.V. Naidu from Islamabad, Pakistan and Canada respectively. Indian participants were from different parts of the country. In all ten papers were presented on various facets of the issues related to reforming and restructuring the United Nations. Presentations were made by Dr. B.N. Mehrish (Challenges for the UN in the 21st Century: Need to Restructure and Reform); Dr. Rajesh Basrur (Global Change, Security and the Future of the UN); Brig. A Thyagarajan (UN’s Role in Peace Keeping); Dr. Pervaiz Cheema (Reforming the UN: Restructuring of the Security Council); Dr. A.P. Rana (UN Reforms at the Grassroots in the Age of Flux: a Conceptual Sketch); Dr. M.V. Naidu (North American Perspective on UN Reforms and Restructuring); Dr. Ankush Sawant (African Common Position and the UN); Dr. Sheel Kant Asopa (UN

and Gender Equality); Dr. Annapurna Nautiyal (UN and Human Security); and Dr. Kshitii Prabha (Terrorism: UN Track Record). The valedictory address was delivered by Dr. Cheema from Pakistan. The seminar was partially funded by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata.

5. A three-day National seminar was organized on March 27- 29, 2006 on “India-China Relations: An Agenda for Asian Century”. In all 52 participants attended. Eminent scholars, numbering 16 presented their papers on various aspects of the subjects. On 27 March 2006 Dr. Subramanian Swamy, Former Central Minister & Visiting Professor, Harvard University delivered the Inaugural and keynote address. Dr. A.P. Rana, Former Professor of Political Science & Head, Dept of Political Science, M.S. University, Baroda presided over the function. In all 12 papers were presented on various aspects of the theme. Seminar was attended by 30 teachers from various colleges affiliated to the Mumbai University. The three-day proceedings of the National Seminar ended with Valedictory address by Shri V. Balachandran, Former Special Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat. The Seminar was partially funded by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata and the Ministry of External Affairs.
6. A two-day Seminar on “India-US in a Globalizing World: Many Layers but One Goal of Strengthening Relations” was held on 7 & 8 July 2008. Rtn. Madhukar Deodhar delivered the inaugural address followed by Keynote Address by Mr. Michael Newbill, Chief of the Economic & Political Section, US Consulate, Mumbai. In all 52 scholars from Mumbai and different parts of the country attended the seminar. Valedictory address was delivered by Shri. Satish Sahney, CEO, Nehru Centre. Dr. Dilip Mohite gave the Presidential Address. The seminar was supported by Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India.
7. A half-a-day seminar on “USA and India-Pakistan Equation Since 26/11” was organized on 25 September 2009. Presentations were made by Shri V. Balachandran, former Special Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat on “Terrorist Attack on Mumbai, 26/11: Security Implications”; Dr. P.M. Kamath, former Professor of Politics, University of Mumbai and Hon. Director VPM’s CIS on

“India-Pakistan Joint Statement of *Sharm-el-Sheikh*: One and one half Blunders” and Dr. Ramesh Babu, Formerly Sir Perozeshah Mehta Professor of Politics and Head, Dept. of Civics & Politics, University of Mumbai on “Convergence and Divergence in India-US Relations: An Enduring challenge for India.” Shri Kumar Ketkar, Chief Editor, *Loksatta* chaired the seminar. Papers submitted are edited and published by the VPM’s CIS as its occasional publication under the title “USA and India-Pakistan Equation since 26/11”.

8. The CIS organized a two-day National Seminar on “Terrorism of 26/11: Implications for Indian Foreign Policy” on 26-27 March, 2010. Dr. Prabhakar S. Deodhar, Founder, APLAB Group of Companies and Chairman, Electronics Commission, Govt. of India, 1986-88 inaugurated the Seminar. He highlighted common citizen’s sense of insecurity experienced ever since 26/11. In his Keynote Address, Air Marshal (Retd.) P.P. Rajkumar, PVSM, AVSM, ADC, AOC-in-C, HQ CAC, IAF (Retd) stressed that as long as the Army has a say in the governance in Pakistan it is unlikely to act against main perpetrators of the terrorism of 26/11 as they are considered as an asset in anti-India policy. Pakistani army has not forgotten India’s role in dismemberment of their country in 1971. Mr. R.D. Pradhan, IAS, Former Governor of Arunachal Pradesh & Chairman, High Level Enquiry Committee on 26/11, delivered Presidential Address. The Valedictory address was delivered by Shri. S.K. Mishra, Dy. Secretary (PP&R), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi. He lauded efforts by the VPM’s Centre for International Studies in organizing the seminar and particularly appreciated the high quality of presentations and discussion. Air Marshal (Retd) P.P. Rajkumar delivered the chairman’s speech. Dr. P.M. Kamath, Hon. Director, CIS, thanked the Ministry of External Affairs for partially funding the seminar. On this occasion, the book USA India-Pakistan Equation since 26/11 based on the papers presented at the seminar and edited by Dr. P. M. Kamath was released by Shri Prabhakar S. Deodhar. The Seminar was attended by 54 scholars from different parts of the country.
9. A three-day International Seminar on “Nuclear Disarmament: Global Steps towards Human Security” was held on 20-22 December 2010. The Seminar was inaugurated by Dr. Anil Kakodkar, noted Nuclear Scientist and Homi Bhabha Chair Professor & Member A.E.C. Shri Kanwal Sibal, IFS, former

Foreign Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs delivered the Keynote Address. Former Special Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, Govt. of India, Shri V. Balachandran presided over the function. In all 61 scholars, invitees and participants from Mumbai and different parts of the country attended the seminar. Dr. Anupam Srivastava, Assistant Director (Research & Analysis) Center for International Trade & Security, University of Georgia, Athens, Dr. Yair Evron, Principal Research Fellow, The Institute for National Security Studies, Tel Aviv, Prof. Claude Arpi, Expert on International Relations, France, Dr. Mastura Kalandarova, Sr. Research Fellow, Institute of Oriental Studies Russian Academy of Social Sciences, Moscow were our International participants.

It was an opportunity for the local scholars and specialists in International Relations representing different colleges in Mumbai to actively interact with the scholars from different parts of the country and exchange views. The Valedictory address was delivered by Dr. S.K. Behera, Jt. Secretary (PP&R), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi. Dr. Arvind Kumar, Professor and Head, Department of Geopolitics and International Relations, Programme on Gandhian and Peace Studies, MCES, Manipal University gave the Presidential Address. Dr. P.M. Kamath, Hon. Director, CIS thanked the Ministry of External Affairs for funding the seminar. He said that the CIS in Mumbai gained because of MEA's outreach programme for funding seminars in different parts of the country.

10. A two day National Seminar was organized on 'India as an Emerging Major Power: Foreign Policy Thrust Areas' on 27 and 28 January 2012. The Seminar was inaugurated by Air Commodore Jasjit Singh, AVSM, VrC, IAF (Retd), Former Director IDSA, New Delhi, and currently Director, Centre for Air Power Studies, New Delhi, and the Keynote address by Prof M D Nalapat, eminent journalist, and Professor and Head of Department of Geopolitics and International Relations, Manipal University, Manipal. There was also a Special Lecture by Mr. Prashant Rajan, Political Officer, U S Consulate, Mumbai, during the inaugural programme.

On 28 January 2012, a special Lecture was delivered by Ambassador Sarvajit Chakravarty, Dy. Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA),

New Delhi. Delivering the Valedictory address, Shri Suresh Prabhu, Former MP and Minister of Energy and Environment, stressed the need for intrinsic economic power and a strong domestic policy, as foreign policy is an extension of domestic policy. Shri Prabhu commended VPM's CIS for organising such a seminar since, to quote, "VPM is the only place (outside New Delhi) where India's Foreign Policy is discussed so threadbare and with so much interest and sincerity".

The seminar was partially sponsored by ICWA, New Delhi and the other sponsors being Canara Bank, Mumbai Circle, Shri R Z Shah Trust, Mulund and Fulbright, Mumbai.

11. A two-day International Seminar was jointly organised by VPM's CIS, Mumbai & Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi on "South China Sea: A Flashpoint of Global Conflict" on 1-2, March 2013. Ambassador Shri Ashok Sajjanhar, Former Ambassador of India to Kazakhstan, Sweden and Latvia delivered the inaugural address and the Keynote address was delivered by Dr. Vijay Sakhuja, Director (Research), Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), New Delhi, who had visited the South China Sea as an Officer in the Indian Navy. Air Commodore Jasjit Singh, AVSM, VrC VM (Regd), Director General, Centre for Air Power Studies, a Recipient of President's Medal on three occasions delivered the Presidential Address.

Presided over by Prof. N K Jha of the Central University of Pondicherry the Valedictory address was delivered by Shri Satish Sahney, Chief Executive, Nehru Centre, Mumbai. The Seminar was co-sponsored by Canara Bank, Mumbai Circle.

12. The CIS organized a two- day National Seminar on "National Security: Changing Contours of Concept and its Concern" on 15-16 July 2013. The Inaugural address was delivered by Mr. Sarosh Bana, Executive Editor, Business India. Air Commodore Jasjit Singh, AVSM, VrC VM (Retd.) & Director General, Centre for Air Power Studies, delivered the Keynote Address. Ambassador Shri Ashok Sajjanhar, Former Ambassador of India to Kazakhstan, Sweden and Latvia delivered the Presidential Address. The seminar was a resounding success due to the sparkling and animated

discussion of participants ranging from bureaucrats, academicians to student scholars. The Seminar was sponsored by Indian Council Social Science Research, New Delhi.

The valedictory session was presided over by Prof. Bharat Karnad and Valedictory address delivered by Prof Gautam Sen. Dr (Mrs.) Vasundhara Mohan Hon. Dy. Director, VPM's CIS, proposed the vote of thanks.

13. A National Seminar on “American Withdrawal from Afghanistan in December 2014: Post-Withdrawal Puzzle of Policy Options for India, Pakistan and Afghanistan” held by the VPM's Centre for International Studies on 29-31 July 2014. The former Ambassador for Afghanistan, Nepal and France & country's first Ambassador in charge of Disarmament in Geneva, and recently retired PM's Special Envoy for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Ambassador Rakesh Sood inaugurated the seminar. Prof. Bharat Karnad, Research Professor, National Security Studies at the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi delivered the keynote address. Former Ambassador of India to Kazakhstan, Sweden & Latvia, Shri Ashok Sajjanhar delivered the Presidential Address and Justice H. Suresh discussed about the Human Rights situations in South Asia. Dr. P M Kamath Former, Professor of Politics, University of Mumbai & Hon. Director, VPM's Centre for International Studies and Adjunct Prof, Department of Geopolitics & IR, Manipal University, enlightened the audience about the theme of the three-day deliberations. Dr. (Mrs.) Vasundhara Mohan, Former Director, Centre for Central Eurasian Studies, University of Mumbai and currently Hon. Dy. Director, VPM's CIS introduced the guests.

The Seminar was co-sponsored by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute for Asian Studies Kolkata, Indian Council of World Affairs, and Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi.

14. A three day national seminar was organized on “Nuclear Energy, Non-proliferation and Disarmament: Policy Options for the NDA Government” on 29-31 March 2016 at the VPM's Centre for International Studies, Mumbai. Dr. Bharat Karnad, Professor, National Security Studies at the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi. Keynote Address was delivered by Prof

Chintamani Mahapatra, Professor, at Centre for Canadian, US and Latin American Studies, School of International Studies, JNU & the presidential address was delivered by Prof Ravi Grover, DAE Homi Bhabha Chair, Member of the Atomic Energy Commission. A special address was given by Shri Manvendra Singh, Editor-in-Chief, Defence and Security Alert. The seminar was funded by Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi and ICSSR, New Delhi.

15. A one day seminar was organised on Conflict Management, Peace Management, Peace Economics and Peace Science at VPM's CIS Conference Room. Prof Manas Chatterjee, Professor, School of Management Binghamton University - State University of New York was the main speaker initiating discussions with his presentation on "A Critical Review of the Literature on Military Expenditure and Development" on 5 October 2016. Our other esteemed speakers included-Shri V. Balachandran, Prof P.M. Kamath, Prof Rajiv Gupte, Dr (Mrs) Vasundhara Mohan and Dr R. G. Gidadhubli.
16. A three-day National Seminar was organised on "Act East Policy of NDA II and Primary Goals: Economic Development, Democracy and National Security" on 27-29th April 2017. Shri Ram Madhav, National General Secretary of BJP inaugurated the seminar. Dr Chintamani Mahapatra, Rector and Professor, JNU, delivering the Keynote Address and Ambassador A R Ghanashyam, said that relationships between countries should be built on three levels: People to people, Institution to Institution and Leadership to Leadership. He commended the governing council of VPM's CIS for organizing the scholarly seminar on such an appropriate topic at the most appropriate time while delivering the Presidential Address. The Seminar was sponsored by Ministry of External Affairs.

Workshops

- CIS organised a 15-day Research Methodology Workshop in Social Sciences with Special Reference to International Relations from 15 to 29 November 2010 which was inaugurated on the 15 November 2010 by Prof. Manas Chatterji, Professor, School of Management, State University of New York at

Binghamton and Guest Professor, Peking University. In all 22 candidates participated in the workshop. On the concluding day, Dr. Abhay Pethe, Director, Department of Economics & Honorary Director, ICSSR, Western Regional Centre was the Chief Guest and awarded certificates to the Participants.

- The CIS organized a workshop on “Using and Interpreting Data for Improving Students Learning” on Saturday 11 May 2013. The workshop was coordinated by Dr. Ratna Dhamija, Country Manager at the Australian Council for Educational Research, India. ACER India is working extensively with the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and NCERT, to support the conduction of OECD’s Programme for International Student Assessment program in India. The objective of the workshop was to understand the importance of using a variety of data sources in the school improvement process and planning to apply recommendations and obtain successful results. During the workshop, Dr. Dhamija insisted that education system must be built around ‘evidence-based practice’. The workshop was chaired by Dr. P M Kamath, Director, Centre for International Studies.

Symposia

The CIS organized a half-a-day symposium on “Are Human Rights Absolute?” on Friday, the 25 November 2011. Justice H. Suresh, retired Judge Bombay High Court, author and expert on the subject and Dr. (Ms.) Rashmi Oza, Head Department of Law, University of Mumbai led the discussion. The topic was of considerable interest in the background of the ongoing debate on Right to Life (abolition of death penalty).

Interaction with Prof Sumit Ganguly from Indiana University visited VPM’s CIS on 15 December 2015. Prof Ganguly holds the Rabindranath Tagore Chair in Indian Cultures and Civilizations and directs the Center on American and Global Security. Professor Ganguly is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations (New York) and the International Institute of Strategic Studies (London). The discussion was chaired by Prof. P.M. Kamath and attended by a few academicians associated with VPM’s CIS.

Publications

- ❖ Papers presented at the seminar held in 2004 were edited by Dr. P.M. Kamath and published under the title *India-Pakistan Relations: Courting Peace from the Corridors of War* by Promilla & Co., Publishers/Bibliophile South Asia. The book was released by former Minister for External Affairs, Shri Yashwant Sinha on 16 April, 2005.
- ❖ Papers presented at the seminar in 2005 were edited by Dr. P.M. Kamath and published by Anamika Publishers, New Delhi, under the title of *Reforming and Restructuring of the United Nations*. This was released on 21 July 2007, by Shri Suresh Prabhu, MP and former Minister of Power.
- ❖ The papers presented at the seminar on “India-China Relations: An Agenda for Asian Century” were compiled and published as a book by Gyan Publishers, New Delhi, New Delhi, 2011.
- ❖ *USA and India-Pakistan Equation since 26/11* (Ed.) Dr. P.M. Kamath, VPM’s CIS Mumbai, 2010. (English)
- ❖ *USA and India-Pakistan Equation since 26/11* (Ed.) Dr. P.M. Kamath, VPM’s CIS Mumbai, 2010. (Kannada)
- ❖ Papers presented at 3-day International Seminar on “Nuclear Disarmament: Global Steps towards Human Security” held on December 2010 were published by Emerald Group Publishing Limited, London, UK, 2013 (Ed.) Dr. P.M. Kamath under the title *Nuclear Disarmament: Regional Perspectives on Progress*.
- ❖ Papers presented at the National Seminar on “India as an Emerging Major Power: Foreign Policy Thrust Areas” held on January 2012 was published under the title *India as an Emerging Major Power*, (Ed.) Dr. P.M. Kamath, by Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi, 2014.

- ❖ *American Withdrawal from Afghanistan*, (Ed) Dr P.M. Kamath, Gyan Publishing House, New Delhi, 2016.
- ❖ *South China Sea: A Flashpoint of Global Conflict* (Ed), Dr. P.M. Kamath, Published by VPM's CIS & Printed by Vihaan Print Media, Mumbai, 2016
- ❖ *Terrorism Miscellany* (Author), Dr. P.M. Kamath, compiled of 60 Articles since 1995

Endowment Lectures

The CIS launched a series of lectures on International Relations as reflected in Hindu literature, which were sponsored by Hindu Research Foundation, Mumbai.

The lecture series was initiated by Dr. (Mrs.) Usha Thakkar, Formerly Professor of Political Science, SNDT University, Mumbai with a lecture on “Inter-state Relations In Kautilya’s Arthashastra”, delivered on 26 November 2005.

The second lecture in the series was delivered by Dr. (Mrs.) Sheel K. Asopa, Former Professor of International Politics, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur on *Environmental Ethics: A Hindu Perspective* on 7 January 2006.

The third lecture on Inter-State Relations and Diplomacy in the *Mahabharata* was delivered by Dr. Ashok Chousalkar on 27 August 2006.

Booklets based on these lecturers have been published for wider understanding of the rich contribution of ancient India in the field of International Relations and are available to the public.

Internship Programme

Ph. D. Scholars from other universities in India and abroad spend short periods to refer library material and consult members of Academic Council of the CIS. During 2013, Mr. Abheet Singh Sethi, 2nd year Masters Student from the Department of Geopolitics and International Relations, Manipal University was the internee at VPM's CIS from 1/6/2013 to 31/7/2013.

Shared Activities

The CIS Conference Room is made available to other academic institutions for holding their meetings, conferences and seminars.

1. The Foundation for International Relations, Studies and Thought (Regd) held a one-day seminar on *Hindu Contribution to the promotion of 'Peaceful Co-existence' of States as a Political Conception* 18 November 2006. Shri S. Gurumurthy delivered the keynote address while Param Pujya Pandit Vidyasimhacharya Mahuli presided.

2. Fulbright Alumni Association (FAA), Mumbai Chapter held a one-day seminar on "*India-US in a Globalized World: Many Layers but one Goal of Strengthening Relations*" on 29 February 2008. Ms. Elizabeth Kauffman, Director, American Centre, Mumbai inaugurated the seminar. Dr. Jane Schukoske, Executive Director of United States Educational Foundation in India delivered the keynote address and Dr. P.M. Kamath, President, FAA presided.

Funding

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Dr. P.M. Kamath
Chairman & Hon. Director