



## FEATURE ARTICLE

### The ASEAN-India Partnership: Common Vision of the Region

Shri S. M. Krishna, External Affairs Minister of India

I am delighted to join you today for the First Round Table of the ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT), organized by Research and Information System for Developing Countries. I would like to commend Chairman RIS and his team for taking up this significant initiative in this important year for ASEAN and India - a year in which we are commemorating 20 years of our partnership. It is also timely as India and ASEAN are seeking to break new ground in identifying the future roadmap and content of their partnership.

Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh, conceptualized the Round Table of ASEAN-India Think-Tanks in 2009 India-ASEAN Summit to bridge the information gap and also to provide policy inputs to the Government of India and ASEAN countries on future areas of cooperation.

The ASEAN-India partnership is a natural one, founded on congruent ideas and a common vision of the region and the world, under-pinned by strong civilizational linkages through the millennia. We are convinced of the unique ability of our partnership to further progress and prosperity, peace and security in the region. Our strengths lie in the fact that we together constitute a 1.8 billion people, a market with resource and demand, a region with complementary capacities and resources. These have contributed to the tremendous resilience that our economies have been able to show since the time of the downturn in the global economy in 2008.

ASEAN-India trade has already crossed the target of 70 billion US\$ to reach nearly 80 billion US\$, showing a very significant growth rate of 37 per cent in 2011-12. The ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in Trade in Goods has been a positive contributor in enhancing trade. We would now like to see early finalization of ASEAN-India FTA in Investments and Services. This would allow us to truly focus on our collective human resource development. It would also allow India and ASEAN to begin talks on the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) initiative, to further accelerate regional economic integration. ASEAN Secretariat is currently processing projects worth over 70 million US\$ suggested by India under the ASEAN-India Plan of Action for the period 2010-15. These are across sectors to enhance people-to-people and institutional connectivity between ASEAN and India. The human resource in our countries, the demographic advantage, the potential in an expanding canvas for ASEAN-India relations are

some of the drivers in these projects. This region's future lies in its youth, the building blocks for the future, constitute 40 per cent and 50 per cent of the ASEAN and India populations respectively.

India accords a very high priority to enhance physical connectivity with ASEAN. India began discussions with ASEAN at the Land Transport Working Group Meeting in early July. There are multiple ideas and possibilities, apart from India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway wherein we have just recently taken on additional commitments at the request of Myanmar. There are ideas about extension of the Trilateral Highway to Laos and Cambodia and also a new highway linking India-Myanmar-Laos-Vietnam-Cambodia. The study by Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia on a Comprehensive Asia Development Plan and the Master Plan for ASEAN Connectivity Plus adopted at the 6th East Asia Summit are also of interest and practical relevance. I hope your discussions today will cover practical aspects of these ideas and also examine the feasibility of public private partnership (PPP) and joint venture route into the programmes of the concerned Governments.

We have endorsed ASEAN centrality in the geopolitical and economic architecture of the region. We wish to further enhance cooperation with ASEAN countries in confronting non-traditional security challenges before us – fight against international terrorism, drug trafficking, maritime issues, climate change, disaster management, food and energy security. These transnational issues require new and innovative responses. I hope AINTT would deliberate on these issues and come up with practical recommendations.

I am confident that your deliberations would come up with tangible and implementable suggestions to aid decision-making, which would help governmental efforts to further strengthen India-ASEAN partnership. I also wish to see that the future Round Table meetings are held with regular periodicity in ASEAN countries as well as in India, propelling issues and opportunities to the attention of the Governments. The deliberations in these Round Table meetings covering ASEAN and India, the two significant regions in Asia, will have greater salience as we now witness a gradual geopolitical shift in gravity to Asia.

*(Excerpted from the Inaugural Address delivered by External Affairs Minister at the First Round Table on ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks, 7 August 2012, New Delhi).*

## Economists Mixed on ASEAN Labour Flow

Integration in some areas in ASEAN such as labour should come gradually to ease the risk of a “brain-drain”, according to experts speaking at the World Economic Forum on East Asia.

Joseph E. Stiglitz, a Nobel Laureate in Economics and a Professor at Columbia University, stressed the need for a managed flow of talent in order to prevent the “hollowing out” problem. “With countries investing in people who later on move somewhere else, there needs to be a form of compensation for that country,” he said.

“Asia has a lot of diversity. The concern of all doctors going from poor to rich countries should be a real concern, and there should be assistance from richer companies for them to maintain adequate healthcare,” he said.

ASEAN Secretary-General Surin Pitsuwan said unlike the European model, which uses the free movement of people, the diversity of the ten economies in ASEAN requires free movement of skilled labour. The AEC would pave the way for the free flow of skilled labour in eight professions

comprising doctors, dentists, nurses, engineers, architects, accountants, surveyors and the tourism industry.

However, it has to be step by step, as there will be economic migration into a country like Thailand, which has a relatively stronger economy than its neighbouring countries, said Mr. Surin. “If there is free movement of labour, countries like Thailand and Malaysia will be engulfed,” said Mr. Surin.

He said the specific industrial strengths of each nation will lead to a natural selection process. For instance, the electronics industry will go to Malaysia; banking, finance and logistics to Singapore; automotive and food processing to Thailand; and extracting natural resources to Indonesia.

“We have to invest in the creativity of our people, and countries moving fast will attract more. That’s why competition in ASEAN is important. A lot of multinational corporations are creating an advantage in this landscape, and

we have to encourage ASEAN labour to move around and help develop all these economies,” said Mr. Surin.

Rajat M. Nag, Managing Director-General, ADB, said there has to be first a movement of goods and services, so the labour segment should not be rushed. “But ultimately, you must not stop people from going where the opportunities are,” he said.

On the other hand, Malvinder M. Singh, Executive Chairman, Fortis Healthcare, said, “The free flow of talent should happen earlier rather than later due to demand in the healthcare business. We should look at ASEAN as one economy and let the market decide where people want to go and work, as well as where investors will go. As long as you are able to provide a framework, let the markets play. This will ensure competitiveness and bring more investment.”

(Excerpted from the *bangkokpost.com*, 5 June 2012).

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## Asian Businesses Seek Closer Regional Integration

Leading Asian business people called for deepening integration in finance, trade and investment among East Asian countries to combat the European sovereign debt crisis and financial uncertainty, which is casting a shadow over the world economy.

At the third Asian Business Summit held in Bangkok, leaders from 14 business organizations from twelve Asian economies shared similar views that the continent should establish a regional financial center so as to be less reliant on Western countries.

They said deeper integration among ASEAN, ASEAN+3 and ASEAN+6 would pave the way for establishment of the Free-Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP) by 2020.

Mr. Nelson An-ping Chang, Vice Chairman of Taiwan’s Chinese National Association of Industry and Commerce, said that amid the global uncertainty, Asia should set up an efficient mechanism for stable exchange rates in the region and with trading-partner countries. “Asia needs to promote closer financial cooperation

and help small- and medium-sized enterprises ensure sustainable growth in the region,” he said.

Chang added that countries in Asia should also strengthen cooperation through public-private partnerships as governments could not alone drive growth amid global difficulty.

Mr. Twatchai Yongkittikul, Secretary-General of the Thai Bankers Association, said the euro crunch would have impacts, direct and indirect, on every Asian country. To promote sustainable growth of Asia, it needs to boost intra-regional trade and integration, and increase financial buffers in the capital market.

Mr. Hiromasa Yonekura, Chairman of the Japan Business Federation (Keidanren), said it was essential to launch the FTAAP by 2020 and move Asian countries forward to deeper cooperation. The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and ASEAN+3 and ASEAN+6 Economic Partnership Agreements will be important stepping stones to achieve the FTAAP.

To promote trade and investment among Asia, he also urged all countries to reduce tariff

rates further, promote cross-border movement of people with professional skills, ease restrictions on foreign-owned businesses in investment and services. Asia should also relax restrictions on energy and mineral resources and improve the public procurement market.

Mr. Yu Ping, Vice Chairman of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, said ASEAN and partner countries should set up a clear time frame for concluding the ASEAN+3 and ASEAN+6 agreements to promote further integration among Asia-Pacific countries.

The meeting also proposed establishment of an Asian bond market to stabilize regional financial growth. To boost regional growth, business leaders at the Summit also stressed that they would like to see closer integration on energy and environmental issues, while promoting innovation and development of human resources and infrastructure.

(Excerpted from *chinapost.com*, 16 July 2012).

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## RIS and ASEAN Secretariat Organized the Round Table on ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT)

Prime Minister of India conceptualized the Round-Table of ASEAN-India Think-Tanks in 2009 India-ASEAN Summit to bridge the information gap and also to provide policy inputs to the Government of India and ASEAN countries on future areas of cooperation.

As its initiative, RIS has been supporting the process of regional economic integration in Asia with a series of high-level policy dialogues on Asian economic integration besides a number of research studies. To boost further, the Round Table on ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks (AINTT) was organized by RIS in collaboration with ASEAN Secretariat, in New Delhi on 7-8 August 2012.

In the inaugural session, Hon'ble Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman RIS, delivered the Welcome Address. In his Welcome Address, he acknowledged that both India and ASEAN have successfully moved from a dialogue partnership to a summit partnership, and was confident about their ability to reach the trade target of US\$ 100 billion by 2013.

Mr. Nyan Lynn, Deputy Secretary General for Political Security Community, ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta in his Special Address stressed on the importance of physical connectivity, institutional development and people to people connectivity. Enhanced ASEAN connectivity would promote ASEAN centrality in the regional architecture, facilitate the building of an ASEAN Community and serve as a foundation for a more enhanced connectivity beyond the region. Expanding and improving road, rail, inland waterways, maritime and air linkages would also be crucial for enhanced connectivity for economic development and narrowing development gaps.

Hon'ble Shri S. M. Krishna, Minister for External Affairs, delivered the Inaugural Address. In his Address, he stated that the ASEAN-India partnership is a natural one, founded on congruent ideas and a common vision of the region and the world, underpinned by strong linkages through the millennia.

### Strengthening India-ASEAN Partnership

...the impressive growth in India-ASEAN relations is something we in India are proud about. Since the reorientation of Indian foreign policy in 1992, when the Look East Policy was initiated, our achievements have been significant. We have successfully moved from a dialogue partnership to a summit partnership, established a free trade regime in goods and hope to extend this to investment and services. The volume of India-ASEAN trade is currently US\$ 80 billion but we have a target of US\$ 100 billion by 2013. There is every reason to be confident about our ability to reach the target, given the fact that our trade and economic relations have continued to grow in spite of the ongoing global financial and economic crisis.

*(Excerpted from the Welcome Address delivered by Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman, RIS at the First Round Table on ASEAN-India Network of Think-Tanks, 7 August 2012, New Delhi).*

Further, he added that apart from ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement in Trade in Goods which has been a positive contributor in enhancing trade, now India would like to see early finalization of ASEAN-India FTA in Investments and Services. India accords a very high priority to enhance physical connectivity with ASEAN and wish to further enhance cooperation with ASEAN countries in the field of fight against international terrorism, drug trafficking, maritime issues, disaster management, energy security, climate change and food and energy security.

In all, the Round Table had participation of eminent scholars, experts, policy makers and heads of policy think-tanks from ASEAN countries, viz. Indonesia, Singapore, Cambodia, Malaysia, Thailand, Myanmar,

Vietnam, Brunei Darussalam, the Philippines, Lao PDR, and the ASEAN Secretariat including India was overwhelming. The Round Table touched upon wide ranging issues on the selected themes.

The main themes of the Round Table were the Leveraging ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement in Goods; Exploring Opportunities through Deeper Integration in the Services and Investment; Enhancing Connectivity for Promoting ASEAN-India Economic Integration; Joint Ventures in Third Countries; Strategies for Meeting the Challenges of Food Security; Meeting the Challenges of Climate Change and Cooperation in Biodiversity and Traditional Medicines. Presentations made at the Round Table are available on the RIS website: [www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in)



## Strengthening Global Partnership for Education and Humanity

The First East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (1st EAS EMM) was convened on 5 July 2012 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The Meeting was preceded by the 1st EAS Senior Officials Meeting on Education (1st EAS SOM-ED) held on 3 July and the 7th ASEAN Education Ministers Meeting (7thASED) and 1st ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers Meeting (1st APT EMM) held on 4 July 2012.

The Meeting was chaired by His Excellency Prof. Mohammad Nuh, Minister of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia, and was attended by the Education Ministers or their Representatives from ASEAN+6, the Russian Federation and the United States of America, as well as the ASEAN Secretariat.

The Ministers recalled the 2005 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on the EAS to establish the EAS as an open, inclusive, transparent and outward looking forum for dialogue on broad strategic, political and economic issues of common interest and concern with the aim of promoting peace, stability and economic prosperity in East Asia.

They also recalled the Leaders statements at different EAS which underscored the importance of education, and agreed to enhance quality and adaptability of education through, *inter alia*, promotion of education exchange, networking and innovation and welcomed cooperation among EAS participating countries on education and training initiatives which contribute to advancing ASEAN's integration goals and improving the lives of its people.

The Ministers recalled their commitment at the Informal EAS EMM of 2011 to prioritize education quality improvement in their future cooperation and reiterated the pivotal role of education, not only in promoting human resources development, but also as a means for bridging development gaps, enhancing regional competitiveness, achieving sustained economic development, and promoting friendship and mutual understanding among people in the region.

The Meeting welcomed the report by His Excellency Prof. Mohammad Nuh, Minister of National Education of the Republic of Indonesia on the implementation of the projects recommended by the Education Cooperation Task Force (ECTF) to foster closer education cooperation among the EAS participating countries.

The Ministers welcomed the success and achievements of the UNESCO conference hosted by Japan in November 2011 to adopt the revised UNESCO Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific. This conference followed the EAS education cooperation project led by Australia in 2011 to promote awareness and understanding of the revised UNESCO Convention.

The Ministers welcomed with appreciation the progress of Australia's project to develop a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) which has been developed in consultation with many EAS participating countries and was now moving to in-country workshops in five EAS countries to identify capacity building needs.

The Ministers reaffirmed the importance of promoting and assuring high quality student exchange as well as university exchange in higher education among EAS participating countries.

In this regard, the Ministers welcomed Japan's initiative to promote cooperation among EAS universities and appreciated the successful holding of the "International Symposium on Exchange among Universities with Quality Assurance in East Asia Region" hosted by Japan in September 2011.

The Ministers noted the progress in India's initiative to establish Nalanda University in collaboration with EAS participating countries. The Ministers also welcomed gracious commitment and financial support made by the governments of Australia, China, Lao PDR and Thailand as well as other independent donors.

In order to provide direction and momentum to education cooperation and promote a more comprehensive cooperation based on the principle of unity in diversity, the Ministers adopted the EAS Education Action Plan (2011-2015) developed by the 1st EAS SOM-ED and urged participating countries to support the education cooperation projects identified under the Action Plan or otherwise in support of strengthening education systems, building a community based on mutual understanding and supporting connectivity through the elimination of barriers to the mobility of students, academic and education providers within the EAS in order to expand educational benefits and opportunities.

Reaffirming their strong commitment to strengthen regional cooperation on education by convening the EAS Education Ministers Meeting (EMM) on a biennial basis, in conjunction with ASED and ASEAN +3 EMM Meetings, the Ministers agreed on the Terms of Reference of the EAS EMM which provide for effective coordination with relevant regional and international organizations including the ASEAN University Network and the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation.

(Excerpted from the Joint Statement of the First East Asia Summit Education Ministers Meeting (1st EAS EMM), Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 5 July 2012).

### ADB Includes Indian Rupee for Its Trade Finance Programme

Reflecting an increasing dominance of the Indian rupee, multilateral lender ADB has decided to support projects denominated in the domestic currency. "ADB's Board of Directors approved the inclusion of Renminbi and Indian rupee in the Trade Finance Programme (TFP)," the Manila-based institution said in a statement. TFP fills market gaps by providing guarantees and loans to banks to support trade.

The ADB's TFP, which so far aided deals in US dollars, yen and euros, has supported over US\$ 10.6 billion in trade since 2009. The TFP is scheduled to end in 2013.

"At present, 90 per cent of all foreign trade in Asia is settled in US dollars, but this percentage is expected to decline," ADB said.

Intra-regional trade in Asia in the next ten years is expected to account for at least half of all foreign trade for Asian countries.

"This move will encourage the use of regional currencies in trade and reduce reliance on the US dollar as a settlement currency, which is in short supply in many countries," said Mr. Steven Beck, Head of ADB's Trade Finance Programme.

The TFP is active in sixteen countries, including Bangladesh, Vietnam, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal. Its volumes have increased 40 per cent in the first half of 2012 compared to the same period of the previous year.

(Excerpted from the *Economic Times*, 17 July 2012).  
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## EAS Countries to Enhance Energy Cooperation

The Sixth East Asia Summit Energy Ministers Meeting (EAS EMM) was held on 12 September 2012 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The Meeting was chaired by H.E. Suy Sem, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy of Cambodia, and co-chaired by H.E. Keiro Kitagami, Parliamentary Vice Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan. The Meeting was attended by the Ministers and senior officials responsible for energy from the EAS Countries namely, ASEAN Member States, Australia, People's Republic of China, Republic of India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russian Federation and the United States. The Secretary-General of ASEAN was also in attendance.

In response to the global economic outlook, heightened uncertainty in the global energy market, and the growing energy demand in East Asia, the Ministers urged EAS countries to continue enhancing EAS energy cooperation towards overcoming these challenges. The Ministers welcomed the steady progress made by EAS countries in the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Work Stream. This includes the adoption, on a voluntary basis, of energy efficiency goals and national plans on energy efficiency, which resulted in a reduction in energy intensity in most EAS countries in the period 2005-2009.

The Ministers commended the energy officials for the further progress made in the Biofuels for Transport and other Purposes Work Stream, particularly the further development of the Biofuels Database in East Asia Countries to include good practice of biofuel utilisation in respective countries, the research activities undertaken under the Asia Biomass Energy Researchers Invitation Programme, and the joint studies on Biodiesel Fuel Standardisation and Sustainability Assessment of Biomass Utilisation in East Asia conducted by ERIA.

The Ministers expressed appreciation to ERIA for its contribution to the work of the Energy Market Integration Work Stream by conducting the Study on "Energy Market Integration (EMI) in East Asia: Theories, Electricity Sector and Subsidies." The Ministers tasked the Senior Officials to consider the recommendations of the Study for possible practical adoption. The Ministers also expressed appreciation to Singapore and New Zealand for the organisation of the inaugural EAS Energy Market Deregulation Forum in October 2012 in Singapore, to be held in conjunction with the Singapore International Energy Week 2012.

In order to enhance EAS energy cooperation and energy security, the Ministers acknowledged the importance of sharing medium-to-long term outlooks for energy supply and demand, given the growing energy demand in the region and taking into account the possible implications of natural disasters on existing energy infrastructure. In this regard, the Ministers acknowledged that ERIA, in coordination with ACE, will collaborate with the International Energy Agency (IEA) in conducting studies on energy outlooks.

With respect to further enhancement of EAS energy cooperation, the Ministers noted the commencement of the research studies by ERIA with support from Japan. The Ministers welcomed the establishment of a new energy unit at ERIA and requested ERIA to report on the progress of the new research studies and cooperation initiatives at future ministerial meetings.

The Ministers also recognised the important role of diffusing low carbon technologies, products and services to achieve reduction of greenhouse gas emission on a global scale.

(Excerpted from the Joint Ministerial Statement of the Sixth EAS Energy Ministers Meeting (6th EAS EMM), 12 September 2012, Phnom Penh).

## New Zealand-India Pact to Boost Bilateral Trade

New Zealand and India bilateral trade is poised for big spurt with more businesses looking at cooperation and the possibility of expanding the number of goods.

"The discussion on the FTA is progressing well. We hope this would be finalised at the earliest. Most negotiations relating to FTA are complex and they take time to conclude," Mr. Gavin Young, New Zealand Counsel General and Trade Commissioner, said.

Mr. Young told *Business Line*, "The bilateral trade between India and New Zealand has been growing with the latter's exports to India going up by 6.55 per cent and exports from India to New Zealand increasing by over 8.7 per cent. While the current two-way trade is \$1.3 billion, the target is to take it up to \$3 billion by 2014."

"Our experience with China shows that a comprehensive agreement opens up trade. The bilateral trade has increased 152 per cent with China which has become New Zealand's second largest trading partner," he explained. Clean technology is one area where there is immense scope for mutual cooperation. These could be conversion of waste gases into ethanol as a renewable energy fuel which is being tested in Mumbai. "Zespri Kiwifruit and Pure Apples are gaining popularity here. We expect to take part in the Indian retail growth story as it blossoms," he said.

New Zealand has abundant high grade iron sands that can be a replacement for iron ore used in the steel industry. There is scope to acquire licences around mining the product, or partnering in a joint venture or investment to create a plant to produce a feedstock for steel mills. There is potential to supply wood for construction sector.

(Excerpted from the *Business Line*, 13 July 2012).

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## Thailand Contributes US\$ 100,000 to Nalanda University

In a recent visit to India, Prime Minister of Thailand, H.E. Ms. Yingluck Shinawatra met Indian Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh and both recognized that education is an important area of cooperation between India and Thailand and welcomed the progress made towards the revival of Nalanda University. During this visit, Prime Minister of Thailand pledged to donate US\$ 100,000 to the University.

In fulfillment of the pledge, the Ambassador

of Thailand to India, H.E. Mr. Pisan Manawapat presented a cheque for US\$ 100,000 to the Vice Chancellor (designate) of the University Dr. Gopa Sabharwal in February 2012 along with the sum of US\$ 5000 contributed by a Thai private company.

Later, during Indian Prime Minister's visit to Republic of Korea (ROK), Prime Minister informed President Lee Myung-bak about the

rapid progress in the establishment of new Nalanda University as a symbol of excellence in learning in a resurgent Asia and mentioned that he looked forward to Korean participation in this endeavour.

Further, Nalanda University also initiated to hold Distinguished Lecture Series as a forum for nurturing and sharing ideas in both Delhi and Patna.

[www.nalandauniv.edu.in](http://www.nalandauniv.edu.in)

## India Funds Three-Nation Road

India, one of ASEAN's six partner countries, has granted a US\$ 500-million (Bt15.7-billion) loan to Myanmar, part of which will be used to finance construction of a 3,200-km trilateral highway linking India, Myanmar and Thailand, according to Mr. Anil Wadhwa, the Indian Ambassador to Bangkok.

In an interview with *The Nation*, the Ambassador said, New Delhi would also host an Indian-ASEAN Summit from December 19-22 this year to mark the 20th anniversary of India's relations with the 10-country regional group. During the summit, which will be attended by most ASEAN leaders, including Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra - India's connectivity with other ASEAN countries via roads, rail and other forms of transportation would be at the top of the agenda, the Envoy said.

Indian Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh recently visited Myanmar and extended the credit line to his counterpart, of which about \$100 million is earmarked for roads inside Myanmar as part of the trilateral highway.

The 3,200km route will run from India's

northeastern states into Myanmar, where over 1,600 km of roads will be built or improved. Other sources of funds include the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank. "This will connect India with Myanmar all the way down to Mandalay. After that, we will connect with a place where the Thai authorities are building a highway, which is 63 km from the Thai border into Myanmar," the Ambassador said. The trilateral highway project will allow freight and container trucks to move across the borders from India to Myanmar and Thailand via Chiang Rai and border towns.

The Ambassador also added that it will play a crucial role in boosting trade and investment flows in the three countries, creating jobs and other benefits. We expect this to benefit India's northeastern region as well, as four of our states are on the border with Myanmar, especially if there is connectivity to ports like the planned Dawei deep-sea port and industrial estate in Myanmar. The trilateral highway will form the so-called East-West economic corridor linking India with Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam.

In addition, there is also a North-South corridor linking southern China with the rest of mainland Southeast Asia from Myanmar and Thailand all the way down to Malaysia and Singapore. According to the Indian Ambassador to Bangkok, "the feasibility study on the trilateral highway is complete." However, there have been some changes on the routing in Myanmar to avoid hills and valleys. "Construction work has started as we also aim to improve the existing roads and bridges. This project should be completed by 2016," he said.

The Indian Government plans to hold a series of events to promote this project, including a cross-border India-ASEAN rally planned for later this year to pass through several ASEAN countries, including Thailand - twice - and then connect to Myanmar and India. "This will help test the routing. Even today, we can drive up all the way to India, but we need a highway that can take container traffic to allow movement of goods."

(Excerpted from *The Nation*, 12 August 2012).

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## Five Lessons for East Asia from Euro Crisis

Giving a public lecture at Chulalongkorn University on lessons from the current European crisis for regional monetary and financial integration in East Asia, Mr. Ulrich Volz, Senior Economist at the German Development Institute, said there were five lessons to be drawn. These are: don't rush with monetary integration, rethink costs and benefits of international financial integration, bolster crisis prevention and resolution mechanisms before crises hit, strengthen surveillance and monitoring of regional financial markets, and recapitalise banks swiftly after any crisis.

He explained that he did not mean that financial integration was bad *per se*.

"There is still a strong case for monetary and exchange-rate cooperation in East Asia, but over-ambitious monetary and exchange-rate integration schemes will backfire," he said, referring to the threat of the collapse of the euro.

He said East Asian countries were not ready for a regional exchange-rate system, let alone monetary union. A high level of

political agreement and commitment is needed among countries to pursue successful monetary integration, as well as close macro-economic and fiscal coordination, he said.

Mr. Volz said the European crisis highlighted once again that international financial integration will not automatically lead to efficient allocation of capital and that it contributes to the development of unsustainable imbalances.

International financial integration increases contagion risk. East Asian countries should be careful about liberalising financial markets too fast, he said.

"East Asia should pursue a very gradual approach to monetary integration that allows for much flexibility and room for adjustment." He said Asia had strong links to the US dollar that created the problem of high exchange-rate volatility for the region. He suggested managed floats guided by currency baskets as one option to keep relative intra-regional exchange-rate stability.

He urged ASEAN+3 to increase efforts to improve financial architecture - an emergency credit-line agreement known as Chiang Mai Initiative Multilateralisation. The credit line of US\$ 240 billion (Bt 7.56 trillion) is very small, as each member can draw only 30 per cent of its allotment in the fund, beyond which it must ask for assistance from the International Monetary Fund, he said.

He also encouraged the region to strengthen surveillance and monitoring of regional financial markets. More resources need to be devoted to the ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office, a regional financial-surveillance body, he urged.

In regard to the banking sector, he suggested that policy-makers respond swiftly to banking crises with swift recapitalisation. He blamed European leaders for acting too slowly to clean up the banking sector, like Japan did in the past, contributing to that country's "loss decade."

(Excerpted from *The Nation*, 7 August 2012).

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## India Strongly Pushes for Early Conclusion of FTA in Services with ASEAN

Addressing the ASEAN-India Ministerial meeting in Phnom Penh, External Affairs Minister S. M. Krishna highlighted the growing congruence in India's ties with the bloc and emphasised the need for strengthening private sector participation and encouraging cross-country private-public partnerships in improving connectivity between ASEAN nations and India.

The story of economic growth in our partnership is meeting expectations despite the global economic downturn. Two-way trade between ASEAN and India in 2011-12 reached US\$ 80 billion.

'We believe that the early conclusion of the ASEAN-India Services and Investment Agreements would give a strong fillip to our economic engagement,' he told the annual meeting attended by Foreign Ministers and top officials of the ASEAN countries.

India and the ASEAN have already implemented a free trade agreement in goods and are engaged in intense negotiations to widen its base and include services and investments. The India-ASEAN Trade in Goods (TIG) Agreement was signed in August 2010 after six years of negotiations and it came into force on January 1 last year.

Services and Investments could not be included in that free trade agreement as the two sides failed to reconcile their differences in time and it was decided to have a separate pact on these sectors.

India's relationship with ASEAN is a key cornerstone of our foreign policy and the foundation of our Look East Policy. We have attempted to anchor this within the larger context of Asia as an engine for global growth and prosperity. Seeking expansion of the ties, he said a number of project proposals are being finalised between ASEAN and India through the ASEAN Secretariat, reflecting the 'earnest desire' of the two sides to deepen the engagement in diverse sectors.

'Geographic, institutional and people-to-people connectivity, e-linkages, capacity building across sectors, cooperation in frontier areas like space technology, agriculture, energy, environment and biodiversity are some of the areas that would need particular attention in the months ahead,' he said.

Noting that 2012 marks two decades of ASEAN-India Dialogue Partnership, the Minister said the Government of India was looking forward to the privilege of welcoming

the ASEAN Leaders and Ministers at the special ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit in New Delhi from December 20-21, 2012. 'The Commemorative Summit will present a special opportunity to pronounce together a new era in the ASEAN-India partnership,' he said.

'The civilizational strengths and historical linkages between India and ASEAN countries need to be extended further to improve road, sea, rail, digital and people-to-people connectivity in present times. This is an imperative if we are to reinforce the economic foundations in our region for collective progress and prosperity,' the Minister said.

The meeting took stock of the entire gamut of India-ASEAN relationship.

A number of countries, including Vietnam and Singapore, also emphasized the need to finalize the FTA with India in services and investment as early as possible.

(Excerpted from the *Islamic Republic News Agency*, 12 July 2012).

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## India for Stable and Cooperative Relationship with China

External Affairs Minister S. M. Krishna has said that India's key foreign policy priority is to invest in building a stable and cooperative relationship with China which will be a source of stability and prosperity in the region.

The Minister, who participated in the UN General Assembly session, said that a stable and secure Asia, Indian Ocean and the Pacific region is a key requirement of India's own security and prosperity in the 21st century.

"We will continue to invest in building a stable and cooperative relationship with China that is mutually beneficial, and also a source of regional stability and prosperity," he said in his lecture titled 'India's Foreign Policy Priorities for the 21st Century' at Rhode Island's prestigious Ivy league institution Brown University.

He cautioned that Asia's extraordinary accomplishments in the last few decades could be reversed if "great power rivalry, national chauvinism and arms race" take hold of the region.

"India is determined to avoid such an outcome by contributing actively to the deeper economic integration of the region and construction of a stable and inclusive political and security order for Asia and the Pacific."

On India's relations with the US, the Minister termed US an "important partner" in India's development efforts, and also added that the success of the bilateral partnership would not only contribute to the prosperity of the two nations, but would be a model of international partnership and a factor of global and regional peace, security and stability. For India, it will remain a relationship of great priority and importance in the 21st century.

The Minister stressed that India would work to build a regional architecture that promotes cooperation and reinforces convergence, reduces the risks of confrontation and conflicts, and draws all countries of the region into a common framework of norms and principles of engagement.

(Excerpted from the *Economic Times*, 29 September 2012).

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## The Boao Review Launched

The Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) launched its official publication, the *Boao Review* magazine, on June 27, 2012 in Beijing.

BFA Secretary General, Mr. Zhou Wenzhong congratulated the magazine's inauguration. He also wished that *Boao Review* would use its reason and expertise to forge an Asian consensus, spread an Asian voice, explore an Asian path, and advocate the Asian spirit.

Mr. Zhou hopes the magazine will facilitate global economic management, inspire ideas, consolidate consensus and encourage cooperation amongst Asian and global economies so that all sides can enjoy mutual and win-win development.

*Boao Review* is the only official BFA publication magazine. Its independent voice will provide a platform for the exchange of ideas, contributing to the social and economic development of the Asia Pacific region. *Boao Review* will be a quarterly magazine published globally in both Chinese and English languages started by July.

(Excerpted from the *China.org.cn*, 28 June 2012).

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## Whither the Asian FTA?

Biswajit Dhar, Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries, New Delhi

In recent weeks, leaders of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have made overtures to India to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) that ASEAN members have agreed to pursue. At the conclusion of their last summit meeting in Indonesia, the leaders agreed that RCEP would be an ASEAN-led process under which ASEAN would “engage interested ASEAN free trade agreement (FTA) partners in establishing a RCEP agreement and, subsequently, with other external economic partners.”

RCEP is aimed at establishing the centrality of ASEAN in the economic dynamics of Asia. For more than 15 years, since the decision by ASEAN member states to create an FTA, the grouping has sought to position itself as the hub in the Asian region. In order to realize this objective, the grouping adopted a carefully crafted two-pronged strategy. The first was to engage in a process of regional economic integration, the culmination of which will be the formation of FTAs with all the countries in its immediate neighbourhood; India, Japan, China, Korea, Australia and New Zealand. In a way, the grouping had succeeded in forming the hub and spoke structure by reaching out to all its major partner countries. There was, however, one major weakness in this structure—the level of economic integration was not even. While with China, Korea, Australia and New Zealand, integration was fairly deep for it included not only the goods sector, but services and investment as well. With India and Japan, the integration was rather shallow: very little progress beyond a FTA in goods has been achieved.

For RCEP to materialize, several challenges will have to be overcome. The most significant being the proposed trilateral free trade agreement between China, Japan and Korea (CJK-FTA). The CJK-FTA will be the third largest FTA next to only the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and the European Union (EU), and which according to some estimates, would cover a population of 1.5 billion and would represent 70 per cent of the Asian economic aggregate.

The feasibility study for CJK-FTA was completed at the end of last year, which recommended the formalization of a comprehensive and a high-level agreement covering goods, services and investment, besides a host of other issues such as non-tariff barriers and intellectual property rights. Although the formal negotiations for CJK-FTA will begin towards the end of this year, leaders of the three countries took a major step some months back by signing an agreement on promoting, facilitating and protecting investments. This agreement on investment is not just the first agreement among these three countries; it establishes the institutional arrangements for the three countries to encourage investment flows. But perhaps more importantly, the investment agreement could provide the much needed political impetus that could put CJK-FTA negotiations on a fast track. And, if CJK-FTA does proceed quickly, the future of RCEP could be uncertain.

On the other hand, a successful RCEP could deal a body-blow to a more comprehensive regional economic integration that the East Asia Summit (EAS) members had initiated towards the middle of the past decade. This grouping, which brings the ASEAN members together with the “plus-6 countries”, viz. India, Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan and Korea had agreed to forge a Comprehensive Economic Partnership for East Asia (CEPEA). The feasibility study for CEPEA was concluded in 2009 and this proposal was immediately accepted by the leaders in their summit the same year.

## India-Singapore Committed to New Bilateral Initiatives

So, the Look East policy which India has pursued and India’s policy of reform and liberalization has been a success for India and for the entire region and a boon for Singapore too. This policy remains just as relevant today.

...But it is important that Singapore and India go beyond economic and financial issues and strengthen ties across a broad range of areas – arts, culture, education, security, defence, and so on. So I welcome the new bilateral initiatives which have been launched on this visit.

—Speech delivered by Prime Minister of Singapore, Lee Hsien Loong at the Business Summit hosted by the CII, FICCI and ASSOCHAM. 11 July 2012, India.

When it was mooted, CEPEA could have made a significant impact on at least three counts. The first was that it brought together some of the most rapidly expanding economies, which had considerable presence in the global economy. Just less than one-third of the global merchandise trade was being conducted by countries supporting CEPEA. In the commercial services trade, the share of these countries was consistently rising, aided by the performance of two of the largest countries in the developing world, viz. China and India. In terms of foreign direct investment, the ASEAN+6 members accounted for more than one-fifth of the inflows and were contributing more than one-sixth of the total outflows. A second factor that made CEPEA important was that forging of close ties between the strong and resilient economies could have given the global economy a much needed support, using which it could have overcome the weaknesses that it faces. A third factor was that CEPEA was truly the “second-best” solution to further the process of global economic integration, given that the “best solution” provided by the World Trade Organization (WTO) was headed nowhere. In the decade-long pursuit for finding multilateral solutions for economic integration between its member states, WTO has witnessed disagreements galore. CEPEA could have provided the much needed signal that countries can and do negotiate to further their economic engagements.

Despite its pluses, CEPEA has remained in the back-burner. With the impending threat of the region being sliced out into overlapping and competing FTAs, leaders of the member countries must take effective steps to implement CEPEA.

(Excerpted from the *livemint.com*, 13 August 2012).

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## Safeguarding Asia's Growth

Lee Jong-Wha, Senior Adviser to the President of South Korea and Professor of Economics, Korea University

The Asian region's success has been underpinned by dynamic growth in China and India, which account for almost 60 per cent of the continent's total GDP in purchasing power parity terms. Furthermore, economic-policy changes and structural reforms that were enacted in the wake of the 1997-1998 Asian financial crisis significantly reduced the region's vulnerability to financial shocks over the past decade.

But Asia cannot be complacent: financial systems remain fragile; economies are burdened with high fiscal and current-account deficits; and Asia remains too heavily dependent on North American and European export markets, increasing its vulnerability to external shocks.

Moreover, if conditions in the eurozone continue to deteriorate, Asia could be more severely affected. Already, spillover effects from trade and financial transmission channels are beginning to take their toll: China's GDP growth rate in the second quarter of 2012 averaged 7.6 per cent, reflecting a significant slowdown, and India's growth rate is expected to decline to roughly 6 per cent this year.

China's potentially strong domestic-demand base and ample room for policy maneuvers can help it to avoid a hard landing. It has already aggressively loosened monetary policy, and it can employ further fiscal stimulus. But policy mismanagement and structural weaknesses in the financial sector and local governments could undermine efforts to safeguard growth.

Meanwhile, India, constrained by a high fiscal deficit and persistent inflationary pressure, has less scope for expansionary policies and faces significant challenges in pursuing credible structural reform.

This has serious implications for the rest of Asia. Over the last three decades, increased economic and trade integration has bolstered the region's growth. For example, segmented production for global supply chains has stimulated trade in intermediate goods and promoted foreign direct investment. Now, however, closer economic integration means that sluggish growth in China and India will reduce job opportunities and slow the rate of poverty reduction throughout the region.

Faced with weak demand in advanced countries, Asian economies are working to rebalance their sources of growth by shifting toward domestic and regional markets. As a result, growth in intra-regional trade has outpaced overall trade growth, with intra-Asian trade now accounting for more than half of the continent's total trade turnover.

But China's established role as the assembly hub for the region's production-sharing networks means that it is becoming a source of autonomous shocks – with a large and persistent impact on business-cycle fluctuations. So, what policies must emerging Asian economies pursue to reduce their vulnerability to regional and global volatility?

The most immediate challenge is to safeguard the financial system's stability against external shocks. Policy reform should aim to promote market transparency, improve risk management, and strengthen effective supervision and regulations.

Second, emerging countries must develop more effective macroeconomic frameworks, including better macro-prudential regulation and a broader monetary-policy framework that takes into account asset prices and financial-market stability. Third, emerging

## India's Relationship with ASEAN is a Key Cornerstone of our Foreign Policy

India's relationship with ASEAN is a key cornerstone of our foreign policy and the foundation of our Look East Policy. We have attempted to anchor this within the larger context of Asia as an engine for global growth and prosperity. It is in this spirit that we have suggested project proposals to the ASEAN Secretariat covering multifaceted dimensions of our cooperation as envisaged under the Plan of Action for 2010-2015.

—Opening Remarks by India's External Affairs Minister at the Open Session of the 10th ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting, 11 July 2012, Phnom Penh.

economies must further rebalance their sources of growth. Reducing dependence on external demand is crucial. Supply-side policies that promote small and medium-size enterprises and service industries accommodating domestic demand are also critical to ensuring more inclusive and sustainable growth.

Finally, enhanced regional and global financial cooperation – including closer policy coordination at the G-20 and IMF – would help countries to respond more effectively to shocks and crises. A key regional initiative is the \$240 billion multilateral reserve pool of the ASEAN+3, which can provide short-term liquidity to members when needed. Institutional arrangements in regional liquidity provision and economic surveillance must be enhanced.

Asians need not be pessimistic; the perfect storm of a hard landing in China, a double-dip recession in the US, and a collapse of the eurozone is unlikely. But they cannot rule out the downside risk of a synchronized global downturn. Only with pre-emptive policies designed to manage risk better can emerging Asian countries protect economic growth from the threat of current and future crises.

(Excerpted from *The Guatemala Times*, 21 August 2012).

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## Will this be the 'Asian Century'?

Stephen P. Groff, Vice-President, Asian Development Bank

Asia's rapid rise is the most successful story of economic development in recent history. Income per capita reached nearly \$5,000 in purchasing power parity terms in 2010. Investment rates averaged 35 per cent of GDP over the decade. The number of people living below the \$1.25-a-day poverty line fell by 430 million between 2005 and 2010.

With such achievements at a time when much of the rest of the world struggles with austerity measures and economic recovery, Asian leaders might be tempted to switch to autopilot. But closer examination of the region's economic and social prospects soon reveals many paradoxes.

The world's fastest growing region remains home to nearly half the world's extreme poor. While Asia has made tremendous inroads in the fight against poverty, not enough of the region's economic prosperity is reaching its poorest people. Nearly half a billion Asians still lack access to safe drinking water and infant mortality in many nations is more than ten times higher than the levels seen in developed economies.

While "Factory Asia" may be true for manufacturing and information technology services, vast numbers of its people are illiterate and unemployed. Its financial sector is underdeveloped, with many people having no access to simple banking, let alone other financial services. Asia's future prosperity, and the eradication of extreme poverty, will require much more than simply high growth. Growth must be accompanied by a narrowing of inequality.

It is essential to balance the region's economic expansion with more inclusive policies. Cut off by poor roads, telecommunications, or government policies that don't allow them to easily borrow or save, Asia's poor and vulnerable are watching the chasm between rich and poor grow ever wider. That gap in prosperity can aggravate simmering social, economic and political tensions.

Asian governments can help stem widening inequality by creating better conditions for the private sector to take the lead on economic expansion, continuing to promote economic diversification, and by spending on social services, education and healthcare, and regional road, sea and air networks that will open more opportunities to more people.

There are areas where western governments can help too. By investing in infrastructure alongside public lenders, they can help attract much larger sums from the private sector. Asia can also capitalise on financial lessons from the west, particularly when it comes to setting banking regulations, strengthening regional links, and promoting bonds to better utilise Asian savings.

When describing where Asia stands today, it's useful to remember that what we are witnessing is not the emergence of Asia, but rather the re-emergence of Asia.

The recent ADB study suggests that we could see Asia producing over half of global GDP by mid-century, and 3 billion Asians would be considered part of the rich world, with capita income levels equal to that of Europe today.

Carefully calibrated government support can help steer Asia's economic potential, reducing political risks while opening new markets to help move the west beyond the current crisis. In the long run, an Asian economy built on sustainable growth can support greater levels of trade, and generate growth in tourism. Conversely, a weaker Asia presents a host of threats to the west's future growth and prosperity.

Embracing globalisation and regional cooperation has helped bring developing Asia success. By further strengthening this process by

focusing on greater access and inclusion within economies, and pursuing sustainable development and improved governance, an "Asian century" is both plausible and within reach.

But policies that worked when Asia was low-income and capital scarce are less likely to work today and unlikely to work in the future. Asia's leaders must devise bold and innovative national policies while pursuing regional and global cooperation. Long-term prosperity will depend on the intensity of resource use, including water and food, and success in managing the region's carbon footprint.

Asia's challenges remain formidable, and its future prosperity must be earned. The right policy choices today could indeed make this the "Asian Century," but this is far from preordained.

(Excerpted from the *guardian.co.uk*, 18 April 2012).

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### Launch of the logo for the Special ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit

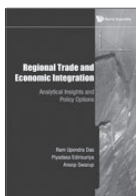
#### Note on the ASEAN-India logo



The design cluster, an improvised five-spoked wind turbine, represents energy, motion, progress, connectivity and dynamism. The spokes have been stylised to symbolise the radiation of energy in an outward direction, and to reflect the spiralling motion of growth; as well as the expanding canvas of ASEAN-India partnership.

The wind turbine also represents the cleanest and most sustainable form of energy available to mankind and thereby reflects the sustainable nature of our partnership. The spokes have also been adorned in the colours of the Indian and ASEAN flags. The tagline 'Progress and Prosperity' captures the theme of the ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit, linking it directly with the aims and objectives of the summit.

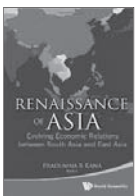
## Regional Trade and Economic Integration: Analytical Insights and Policy Options



Ram Upendra Das, Piyadasa Edirisuriya and Anoop Swarup  
World Scientific Publishing Company, 2012  
ISBN: 978-981-4374-60-6  
ISBN: 978-981-4374-61-3

The Asia-Pacific region has emerged as a dominant player in trade and will continue to be an influential pole of world trade and economics, with the center of gravity shifting to this region. This book presents analytical insights into the various regional and bilateral trade agreements (RTAs) and their beneficial effects on bilateral trade and development. It provides an incisive analysis and a roundup of all major RTAs and also presents an overview of all major agreements between the countries involved, which might propel their trade flows and influence future economic engagements.

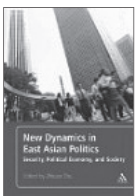
## Renaissance of Asia: Evolving Economic Relations Between South Asia and East Asia



Pradumna B. Rana (Author, Editor) and Barry Desker (Editor)  
World Scientific Publishing Company, 2012  
ISBN-10: 9814366501  
ISBN-13: 978-9814366502

This unique book argues that now led by the economic dynamism and “re-encountering” between China and India we are witnessing Asia’s “re-emergence” and “re-integration” or the “Renaissance of Asia”. Asia’s prosperity is rising. Also, as in the bygone eras, Asia’s integration within itself and the global economy is intensifying, only it is now driven by market-oriented production networks and economic policies. Asia is starting to be “re-centered” as trade and investment relations between South Asia and East Asia surge. Asia’s rise is a restoration of the past, not a revolution.

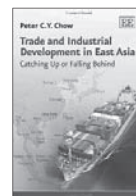
## New Dynamics in East Asian Politics: Security, Political Economy, and Society



Editor: Zhigun Zhu  
Continuum, 2012  
ISBN-10: 1441166211  
ISBN-13: 978-1441166210

East Asia is changing and students need to grasp the new dynamics that shape politics and society across the region. This collection of essays examines the impact of development at the societal, national, and international levels on the conduct of politics in East Asia. The chapters in this unique comparative tool are organized in sections around the themes of security and foreign policy, the new political economy, and changing societies, with each section featuring a mix of region-wide and country specific chapters. The book explains what are the new features and developments in East Asian politics today. It also examines how nations, more specifically China, Japan, both Koreas, and Taiwan are responding to challenges such as globalization, information technology, and the global recession as well as the impact of resulting domestic and foreign policies for the region and the world.

## Trade and Industrial Development in East Asia: Catching Up or Falling Behind

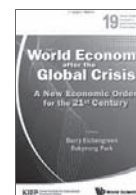


Peter C.Y. Chow  
Edward Elgar Publisher, 2012  
ISBN-10: 1849804826  
ISBN-13: 978-1849804820

Trade as an engine of growth has played a catalyst role in East Asian development; through vigorous study of performances in past decades, East Asian trade and industrialization experiences may offer some lessons for other developing countries. This book covers trade and industrial structures for ten countries and regions including Japan, China, Hong Kong, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

The author addresses the comparative advantages and trade similarity indices of Asian economies from regional and global perspectives. He also analyzes the impacts of regional trade agreements from both member and non-member countries’ perspectives. After a vigorous examination of the sources of export growth by the methodology of the constant market share analysis, the book examines the trade-investment nexus, the development of fragmentation of manufacturing production, and trade in parts and components as the dominant trade flows after the mid-1980s.

## The World Economy after the Global Crisis: A New Economic Order for the 21st Century

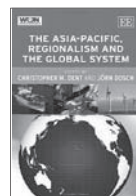


Barry Eichengreen and Bokyeong Park  
World Scientific Publishing Company, 2012  
ISBN-10: 9814383031  
ISBN-13: 978-9814383035

The global credit crisis of 2008-2009 was the most serious shock to the world economy in fully 80 years. It was for the world as a whole what the Asian crisis of 1997-1998 was for emerging markets: a profoundly alarming wake-up call. By laying bare the fragility of global markets, it raised troubling questions about the operation of our deeply integrated world economy. It cast doubt on the efficacy of the dominant mode of light-touch financial regulation and more generally on the efficacy of the prevailing commitment to economic and financial liberalization. It challenged the managerial capacity of inherited institutions of global governance. And it augured a changing of the guard, pointing to the possibility that the economies that had been the leaders in the “global growth stakes” in the past might no longer be the leaders in the future.

What the crisis means for reform, however, is still unclear. This book brings together leading scholars and policy analysts to describe and weigh the options. Successive chapters assess options for the global financial system, the global trading system, the international monetary system, and the Group of 20 and global governance. A final set of chapters contemplates the policy challenges for emerging markets and the advanced economies in the wake of the financial crisis.

## The Asia-Pacific, Regionalism and the Global System



Christopher M. Dent and Jorn Dosch  
Edward Elgar Publisher, 2012  
ISBN-10: 1781004463  
ISBN-13: 978-1781004463

Ever since the Asia-Pacific transformed from an ‘institutional desert’ into one of the most networked



areas in the world, questions of the region's future and the future of the global system have become closely intertwined. This volume explores the key issues of regional cooperation, economic and political integration, security relations and international affairs within and across the Asia-Pacific.

The expert contributors shed critical light on how significant developments are impacting on the global system. In particular, they consider emerging forms of global governance, and how the Asia-Pacific as a region, individual countries such as China, Japan, South Korea and the US, and regional organizations and forums like APEC are shaping the world. Uniquely, the discussion is not limited to East Asia but also takes Latin America prominently into the equation.

## Southeast Asia between China and Japan



Lam Peng Er (Author, Editor), Victor Teo (Editor)  
Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2012

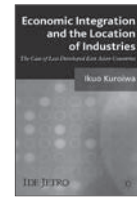
ISBN-10: 1443835080

ISBN-13: 978-1443835084

Triangular relations which frame China and Japan as two sides of an isosceles triangle usually focus on the United States as the significant third side. This edited book examines another relatively underexplored set of triangular relations - those between China, Japan and Southeast Asia. The region, comprised of eleven small and medium-size states, is often considered inconsequential in the tempestuous world of international politics where political clout, economic prowess, military strength and soft power matter most. Often seen as easily dominated by extra-regional great powers, this volume reconsiders the region's relationship with China and Japan, their two Asian neighbours to the northeast which also happen to be the world's second and third largest economies. While China and Japan do compete

for turf in Southeast Asia, states in the region do not perceive themselves as strategic pawns of these two great Asian powers but instead as proactively engaging China and Japan in the region.

## Economic Integration and the Location of Industries: The Case of Less Developed East Asian Countries (IDE-JETRO Series)



Ikuro Kuroiwa

Palgrave Macmillan, 2012

ISBN-10: 0230389414

ISBN-13: 978-0230389410

A comprehensive picture of the effects of economic integration on industry location in less developed East Asia - particularly in Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, and Myanmar - who pursued trade liberalization and economic integration after the 1990s. Studies include detailed empirical analyses of regional industry locations as well as country overviews.

## NEW ASIA MONITOR

**Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)**, a New Delhi based autonomous think-tank under the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, is an organization that specializes in policy research on international economic issues and development cooperation. RIS is envisioned as a forum for fostering effective policy dialogue and capacity-building among developing countries on international economic issues.

The focus of the work programme of RIS is to promote South-South Cooperation and assist developing countries in multilateral negotiations in various forums. RIS is engaged in the Track II process of several regional initiatives. RIS is providing analytical support to the Government of India in the negotiations for concluding comprehensive economic cooperation agreements with partner countries. Through its intensive network of policy think-tanks, RIS seeks to strengthen policy coherence on international economic issues.

RIS has been supporting the process of regional economic integration in Asia through in-depth policy studies. Besides the pioneering work on economic integration in South Asia, RIS has also been making significant contributions to the debate on India's economic integration with its major partner countries in Asia.

The **New Asia Monitor**, a quarterly journal launched by RIS, seeks to disseminate the news, viewpoints and information about resources among the policy circles and think-tanks to promote the cause of regional economic integration in Asia. The information provided in the journal is compiled from various sources, as cited, and is purely for educational and dissemination, and not for commercial purposes. The copyrights of the material included here remain with the original sources. Printed copies of the **New Asia Monitor** can be obtained free of cost from RIS or can be downloaded from [www.ris.org.in](http://www.ris.org.in)

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Editor: Dr. Beena Pandey

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