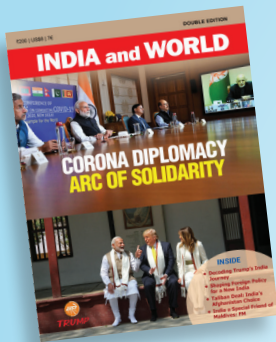


INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WEBINAR

UNSCRAMBLING POST-COVID
GEOPOLITICAL ALPHABET

July 2, 2020, Thursday | 6-7.30 pm IST (UTC +05:30);
8.30 a.m. to 10 a.m. EST

SPEAKERS

H.E. The Hon Barry O'Farrell AO



H.E. The Hon Barry O'Farrell AO is Australia's High Commissioner to India. Mr O'Farrell served in the Parliament of New South Wales from 1995 to 2015, including as the State's 43rd Premier between 2011 and 2014. Australia's most populous and multicultural State, New South Wales generates a third of the nation's Gross Domestic Product. As Premier, Mr O'Farrell initiated and led annual trade missions to India to promote economic, cultural and social links between New South Wales and the states of India. He has also served as NSW's Special Envoy for India and has made a significant contribution as the Deputy Chair of the Australia India Council Board. Mr O'Farrell has a Bachelor of Arts from the Australian National University, Canberra. Born in Melbourne, Mr O'Farrell grew up in Darwin. He is married to Rosemary and they have two adult sons.

Amb. Kanwal Sibal



Amb. (Retd) Kanwal Sibal is a former foreign secretary of India and well-known commentator on foreign policy issues. Amb. Sibal joined the Indian Foreign Service in July 1966 and served as India's Ambassador to Turkey, Egypt, France and Russia. In 2017, he was conferred the Padma Shree award by the President of India. While with the Indian Foreign Service, he served in numerous locations, including Dar-es-Salaam, Lisbon, and Kathmandu. Sibal also served as Joint Secretary (Administration/West Europe) in the Ministry of External Affairs of the Government of India and the Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of India in Washington. Sibal graduated from the World Information Distributed University with the scientific degree of International Doctor of Philosophy and the scientific degree of Grand Doctor of Philosophy, in June 2006. He is the First Grand Doctor of Philosophy in India. He received the title of Full Professor from the European Academy of Informatization and the World Information Distributed University-WIDU.

Amb. Richard Verma



Ambassador Richard Verma is Vice Chair and Partner at The Asia Group, where he leads the firm's growth in South Asia. He previously served as the U.S. Ambassador to India from 2014 to 2017, where he is credited for the historic deepening of bilateral ties. A leading expert on trade and diplomacy in Asia, Ambassador Verma brings 25 years of experience across senior levels of business, law, diplomacy, and the military.

Nominated as U.S. Ambassador to India by President Obama and unanimously confirmed by the Senate, Ambassador Verma oversaw one of the largest U.S. diplomatic missions in the world, including four consulates with staff from nearly every agency in the U.S. Government. During his tenure, he championed historic progress in U.S.-India relations, with critical evolutions to bilateral cooperation in defense, trade, and clean energy. The Ambassador also oversaw several meetings between President Obama and Prime Minister Modi – leading to over 100 new initiatives and more than 40 government-to-government dialogues.

Amb. Anil Wadhwa



Amb. (Retd) Anil Wadhwa served in the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) for 37 years. He served as Secretary (East) in India's Ministry of External Affairs. His diplomatic career includes stints as India's Ambassador to Poland and Lithuania; the Sultanate of Oman; the Kingdom of Thailand; and the Republic of Italy and San Marino. He is currently Distinguished Fellow, Vikvekananda International Foundation (VIF). Ambassador Wadhwa was also a United Nations Disarmament Fellow in Geneva and India's Permanent Representative to several Rome-based United Nations agencies.

He also drew up the Most Favoured Nation Agreement between India and China in 1984, the first-ever agreement between the two countries since 1954.

Amb. Gautam Bambawale



Amb. (Retd) Gautam Bambawale is a former Indian Ambassador to Bhutan, Pakistan and China. He is currently Distinguished Professor at Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Pune. He worked in the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) for 34 years between 1984-2018. He headed the Indian Cultural Centre, Berlin and was posted in Washington D.C. during the Indo-U.S. nuclear deal. He has worked at the Prime Minister's Office. He has had 17 years of experience dealing with China, in various capacities. He is fluent in Chinese and German. He has an M.Phil in Economics from the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune.

Moderator

Manish Chand



Manish Chand is Founder-CEO of India Writes Network, an emerging think tank and media-publishing platform focused on international affairs, and TGII Media Private Limited. He is Editor-in-Chief, "India and World," a magazine-journal focused on international affairs. An alumnus of the prestigious St Stephen's College, he heads The Global Insights India (TGII), the research consultancy-cum-think tank set up by India Writes Network. A well-known foreign affairs analyst who has been widely quoted and interviewed by media outfits, he has authored and edited many books including "Journeys Across Continents: A New India on the Global Stage," the first-of-its-kind book that maps Prime Minister Narendra Modi's journeys to various foreign countries. He has worked closely with India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on a host of publications, research reports and public diplomacy projects. A widely-travelled journalist and strategic expert, he has accompanied India's Prime Minister Foreign Minister and Vice-President to over 50 foreign countries on bilateral visits. He is co-editor of "India-Africa Partnership: Towards Sustainable Development" (published by RIS and FIDC, 2015) and Co-editor of "Engaging with Resurgent Africa," (published by McMillan and ORF, 2009).

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