



ASPEN INSTITUTE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM
.....MORE



UNDERSTANDING CHINA
.....MORE



WHEN CHINA RULES THE WORLD
.....MORE



THE NEXT AMERICAN PRESIDENT: FOREIGN POLICY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OBAMA AND ROMNEY
.....MORE

inside

VOLUME XI

Aii news

ASPEN INSTITUTE INDIA

INDIA & SINGAPORE: A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP



Singapore PM HE Lee Hsein Loong in conversation

Aspen India, for the first time, hosted Prime Minister of any country. Singapore PM, H.E. Mr. Lee Hsien Loong participated in a unique Singapore Symposium jointly organized with Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS) on July 12.

The one day Symposium also witnessed Education Minister of Singapore, Mr. Heng Swee Keat addressing the audience and two panel sessions that brought together leaders from both the countries who broadly discussed issues concerning India and Singapore in a global context.

Top business leaders, eminent foreign policy analysts, edi-

tors, noted experts and strategists participated in the session with the Prime Minister that focused on bilateral ties, synergy between the two countries, Singapore's growth story, its advice

for Indian economy, and ASEAN.

India's important role not just in the sub-continent but across Asia and the world was highlighted. Besides Singapore's investments in India, its development process, governance and challenges, its diversity and long-term strategic plans were among the key talking points.

Singapore's education system and its links with economic development was explained. Similarly, the next phase of education reforms that will prepare the city state for future challenges was elucidated.

.....WATCH VIDEO



PM with Trustees of Aspen India

contents

PAGE 02

– ASPEN INSTITUTE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM

PAGE 03

– UNDERSTANDING CHINA
– LEADERS FOR TOMORROW
– HOW DO INDIANS PERCEIVE INDIA & THE WORLD?

PAGE 04

– C K PRAHALAD ANNUAL MEMORIAL LECTURE 2012
– WHEN CHINA RULES THE WORLD

PAGE 05

– 21ST CENTURY DIPLOMACY: A PRACTITIONER'S GUIDE
– PAX INDICA: INDIA AND THE WORLD OF THE 21ST CENTURY

PAGE 06

– MALGUDI TO MACONDO -JOURNEY OF AN INNOCENT INDIAN THROUGH SEDUCTIVE LATIN AMERICA

– INDIA-BANGLADESH RELATIONS: TOWARDS INCREASED PARTNERSHIP

PAGE 07

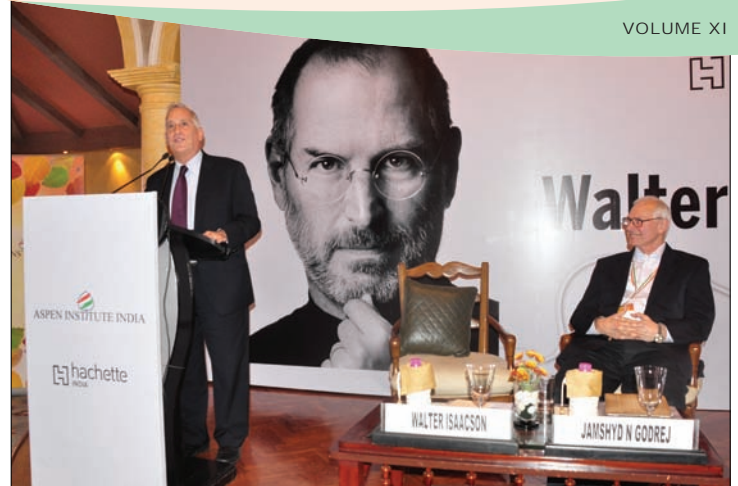
– THE NEXT AMERICAN PRESIDENT: FOREIGN POLICY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OBAMA AND ROMNEY

– TOWARD STRATEGIC COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIA, THE UNITED STATES, AND EUROPE

PAGE 08

– FIFTH INDIA-ISRAEL FORUM
– FIRST INDIA-TURKEY FORUM

ASPEN INSTITUTE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING AND SYMPOSIUM



Walter Isaacson on Steve Jobs

Current developments in India and its challenges as well as the country's foreign policy priorities were among the key issues that were deliberated by representatives from different Aspen Institutes around the world – US, Italy, Romania, Japan, France and Germany. They all gathered under one roof to also discuss the growth, challenges, and achievements of Aspen chapters in their respective countries. The delegates also held brainstorming sessions to review the current agenda of

Aspen, challenges before it, future roadmap and achievements made by the Aspen Institute India within a short span of time.

This was the first time that the International Committee Meeting was organized in India and the three day meeting kickstarted with a Gala Reception and Dinner on 10th October that was hosted by Gautam Thapar, Chairman, Aspen Institute India. The keynote speaker on the occasion was Mr. Walter Isaacson, President, The Aspen

Institute & Author of "Steve Jobs- A Biography" who was in conversation with Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Trustee, Aspen India and Member of Parliament.

An important highlight of the evening was the announcement of the winner for \$100,000 McNulty International Prize for 2012. Amit Bhatia, CEO of Aspire, was the fifth winner of Prize, that was jointly named by Aspen Institute India and Anne Welsh McNulty, Trustee of Aspen Institute, US. Bhatia is an India

Leadership Initiative Fellow of the Aspen Global Leadership Network from 2007. Aspire, created to address the critical gap between education and industry, gives youth studying in semi-urban and rural educational institutions the knowledge, skills and behavioral skills to gain employment and succeed in their chosen career.

During the three-day Meeting, a public session was organized on October 11 where Mr. Isaacson shared his experience about writing biography on Steve Jobs and his interview sessions with the modern day genius. The session that was moderated by Mr. Jamshyd Godrej, Chairman Emeritus, Aspen India, was a packed house. Steve Jobs' personality, his genius, his creativity, innovation and his India links as explained by Mr Isaacson captivated the audience that included government officials, industry leaders, college students and school goers. Jobs philosophy of simplicity, influenced by oriental religions and reflected in Apple Products, was a key take away from the session.



Amit Bhatia (1st from Right) Winner of \$100,000 McNulty 2012 International Prize

.....WATCH VIDEO

UNDERSTANDING CHINA



Understanding China

China has become one of the most complex countries to fathom in recent years. It is a rapidly emerging country as the world looks at Beijing with awe. China has registered a phenomenal growth during

the past three decades.

China is India's biggest neighbour. But both look very differently at each other - both are unsure about how to deal with one another. China regards India as poor and chaotic

to be a rival, as it is aware of its strengths compared to India. However, a growing India with strong ties with the US bothers China. Undoubtedly China is a very complex country. But is the muscle of today's global economy and therefore other nations are engaging Beijing to boost their growth.

These views were part of a session on "Understanding China" organized in collaboration with iLead on July 6 in Kolkata. Ms. Indrani Bagchi, Diplomatic Editor, Times of India was the key note speaker. The session was moderated by the Prof. Surendra Munshi (retd) of IIM, Calcutta and an academician and writer.

[.....READ ON](#)



Bruce Stoke explains Pew Survey on India

HOW DO INDIANS PERCEIVE INDIA & THE WORLD?

What are the Indian attitudes towards the domestic challenges of corruption, the market system, the economy etc.? How do Indians perceive the role of state in society? In what way do Indians see the loss of traditional way of life? How do Indians view countries like USA, China and Pakistan? The Pew Survey answers this in a comprehensive fashion. The survey highlighted amongst other things the opinions of Indians towards the state of the economy. According to the Survey 92 % of the people feels that the government is to be blamed for the current crisis in the economy.

Mr. Bruce Stokes, Director, Global Economic Attitudes, Pew Research Centre explained the survey and methodology in his talk on 12th September.

[.....READ ON](#)

LEADERS FOR TOMORROW

India is entering a "demographic dividend" and is reaping an increasingly young population. The need of the hour is to nurture the next generation of India's leaders, in engaging their efforts and passions in the direction of India's growth, creating an Indian society that embraces values and promotes ethical leadership.

To create leaders for tomorrow's India it is very important for parents to allow the children to be independent as it makes them think independently, it is most important trait of an entrepreneur which allows him to take risks. Businesses hold tremendous responsibility in checking corruption and it is interest of every one when society operates optimally, which can be

achieved only if (privileged) society takes care of (unprivileged) society.

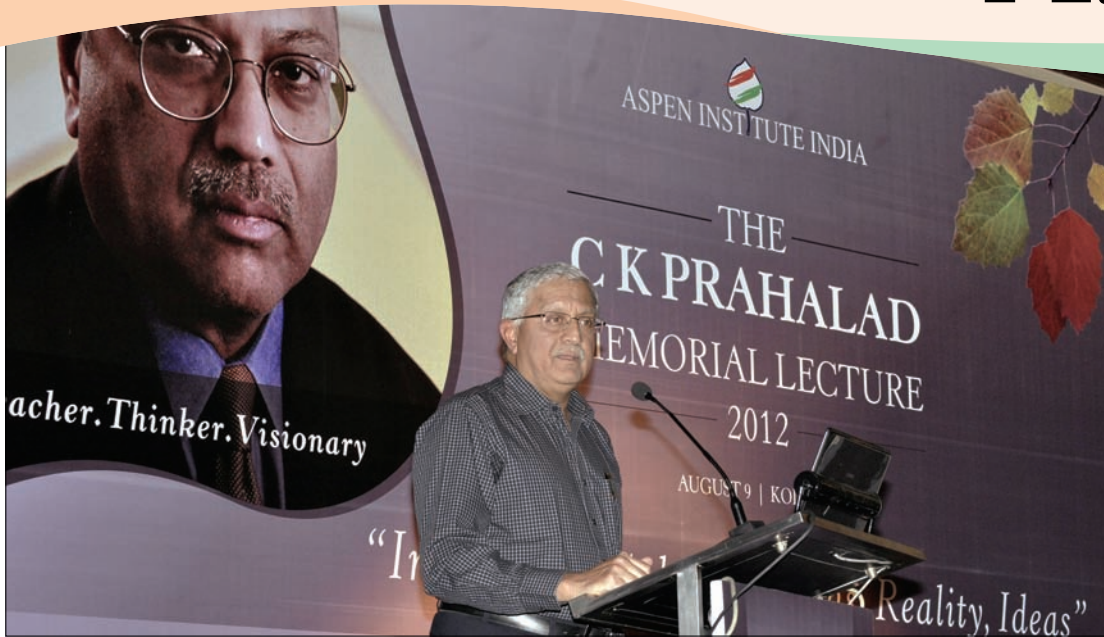
These thoughts were part of an inspiring talk by N.R. Narayana Murthy, Chairman Emeritus, Infosys Technologies Ltd in July in Mumbai. The inter-

active session was part of Aspen series on Extraordinary Leaders and was moderated by Jamshyd Godrej, Chairman Emeritus, Aspen Institute India and Chairman of the Board of Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Company Limited.

[.....READ ON](#)



Narayana Murthy and Jamshyd N Godrej on Leaders for Tomorrow



◀ C K Prahalad Annual Memorial Lecture

C. K. Prahalad. C. K. Prahalad was a teacher, a thinker, a visionary and passionate in his belief in India's inherent potential. He strongly felt that a country with a billion people should not look outward for best practices but innovate next practices.

The first annual Memorial Lecture as a tribute to C K Prahalad was organised on 9th August in Kolkata and Mr R. Gopalakrishnan, Director of Tata Sons, delivered an insightful talk on "Innovation Culture: Myths, Reality, Ideas" on the occasion. This session was chaired by Mr. Sanjiv Goenka, Trustee of Aspen Institute India and Chairman RP Sanjiv Goenka Group.

.....READ ON

C K PRAHALAD ANNUAL MEMORIAL LECTURE 2012

Innovation is in the mindset, it should be spontaneous and it does not always have to be "big bets". Mindset is what creates innovation. And there are two

types of mindsets, the fixed mindset and the growth mindset. The idea of research and development as a measure of innovation is a myth, as is the concept that innova-

tion is more difficult in services than in products.

These were among key take-aways from an evening dedicated to teacher, thinker, visionary and management guru,

WHEN CHINA RULES THE WORLD

A new world order is being driven by China's emergence as a global power. So far the changes wrought by China's rise have done little to disturb the calm of global waters, yet their speed and enormity suggest that there exists an era of profound instability that contrasts strongly with the Cold War. How will the impact of China's economic rise be felt and perceived in ten year's time? Will China continue to

operate within the terms of the established international system as it has done for the last decade or so, or become the key architect and protagonist of a new one?

An insightful book "When China Rules the World" makes startling predictions on what the future may look like, and gets to the heart of the deeper meaning of China's rise to power. A session was organised with the author Martin Jacques, Author "When China Rules the World" & Senior Visiting Fellow

at IDEAS, a Centre for Diplomacy and Grand Strategy, London School of Economics, and Visiting Professor, Tsinghua University, on July 25th in New Delhi and on July 26th in Kolkata. Ambassador Vinod C.

Khanna, former Indian Ambassador to Cuba and Emeritus Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies and Maj. General Arun Roye (retd) chaired the sessions in Delhi in Kolkata respectively.

.....READ ON



Martin Jacques & Ambassador Vinod C Khanna on China

PAX INDICA: INDIA AND THE WORLD OF THE 21ST CENTURY

Indian foreign policy has gone beyond the area of non-alignment and entered the political arena of multi-alignment. There is a need for rethinking India's diplomatic role in a global context and how its foreign policy is necessarily intertwined with the Indian as well as the international community. An attempt on this has been made in "Pax Indica" by Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Trustee, Aspen India and Member of Parliament.

Pax Indica begins with the chapter 'Brother Enemy', describing India's long and complex diplomatic relations with Pakistan. What follows are chapters about China, Afghanistan, South Asian affairs and some global political implications. India's prosperity with regard to food security, energy and health are inevitably interlinked to the stability of its neighboring countries.

A panel discussion on Pax Indica was organized on 27th August in New Delhi. The session



Shashi Tharoor on New Age Indian Diplomacy

that was chaired by Ambassador M. Rasgotra, President of the Centre for International Relations and the Observer Re-

search Foundation featured Dr Tharoor and Mr. B.J. Panda, Member of the Parliament.

.....READ ON

21ST CENTURY DIPLOMACY: A PRACTITIONER'S GUIDE

The art of diplomacy is the most important part of the Foreign Policy of any country. This art has to continuously evolve to deal with different challenges at different times. Nothing deals with this concept

better and in a threadbare fashion than "21st Century Diplomacy: A Practitioner's Guide" authored by Ambassador Kishan S. Rana, Former Indian Envoy to Germany.

The book focuses on the

changing nature of diplomacy through its lucid description of the nature, necessary skills, and challenges of the profession. The book was born out of Ambassador Rana's recent experience as a teacher of diplo-

macy and is intended to be a textbook. The book rightly recognizes that a fundamental part of change is continuity. Certain values will remain constant like the primacy of national interest. But when there is a conflict between principles and interest, interest will prevail.

A panel discussion was organized on August 9th in New Delhi to discuss the incisive book. Ambassador C. Gharekan, former Indian envoy to Egypt, UN and Former PM's Special Envoy for West Asia & Middle East Peace Process, chaired the panel that also featured Inder Malhotra, Former Editor, The Times of India and C Raja Mohan, Distinguished Fellow at the Observer Research Foundation.

.....READ ON



Participants discussing Ambassador Kishan Rana's Book



◀ Journey through *Latin America*

R. Viswanathan who spent 14 years of his diplomatic career in Latin America.

As the title of the book suggests, it is a journey of an innocent Indian traversing from one fictional land (Malgudi) to another (Macondo), two contrastingly different worlds sharing no similarity other than a common first letter.

A session with was organized on 28th August, based on his book. Ambassador Viswanathan's entertaining and engaging presentation, was complemented by the witty questions of Mr. Tarun Das and a well-informed and curious audience.

.....[READ ON](#)

MALGUDI TO MACONDO-JOURNEY OF AN INNOCENT INDIAN THROUGH SEDUCTIVE LATIN AMERICA

Latin American region has undergone fundamental economic, social and political

transformations over the years. This has been best captured in a book "Malgudi to Macondo -

journey of an innocent Indian through seductive Latin America" authored by Ambassador

INDIA-BANGLADESH RELATIONS: TOWARDS INCREASED PARTNERSHIP

India and Bangladesh are close neighbours sharing common history, culture and tradition. People-to-people contacts are excellent and the relationship has deepened over the past few years. India and Bangladesh's geographical locations complement each other and present an opportunity for both to further develop their connectivity links and economies.

Even as there are challenges in the relationship, India and Bangladesh are working towards creating new areas of co-

operation and stronger partnership. With this in mind a Round Table on "India-Bangladesh Relations: Towards Increased Partnership" was organised in July. The round table identified the challenges in relationship and explored new areas of cooperation between India and Bangladesh.

The round table brought together the Prime Minister's Special Envoy, a senior official in the Ministry of External Affairs, senior editors, business and industry leaders, analysts and former dip-

lomats including one of India's former High Commis-

sioner to Bangladesh.

.....[READ ON](#)



MEA Special Secretary **Pinak R Chakravarty**

THE NEXT AMERICAN PRESIDENT: FOREIGN POLICY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN OBAMA AND ROMNEY

With the global eye transfixed on the 2012 U.S. Presidential Elections, much has been quoted on the intellectual potentials of incumbent Barack Obama and Mit Romney. While most of it has been skewed towards domestic policy, little has been discussed on the foreign policy stances of the two presidential candidates.

Romney, who is more west-sensitive has a traditional republican approach while Obama is convinced of the fact that in the long-run, the world's view on

the US is going to have an important bearing. While both of them agree on the majority of political policy approaches to international concerns, for instance, exit of NATO forces from Afghanistan, a cautioned US military intervention in Syria and emerging role of China in international relations, differences have been observed on the economic front.

On the more important question of America's relationship with India, the political elite in the United States support a 'strategic



Ambassador **Robert D Blackwill** & Ambassador **Shyam Saran** on Next American President

partnership' rather than an 'alliance' with India. The relationship has not figured in a serious way in any of the two political campaigns and it would be pertinent how India fits in the new structure of American policy-making.

Old India hand and former US Ambassador to India Robert D. Blackwill dealt with these issues at length on September 28th in New Delhi and on October 1 in

Mumbai. The session in New Delhi was chaired by Ambassador Shyam Saran, Chairman Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) and former Foreign Secretary and in Mumbai by Mr. Gautam Trivedi, Aspen India Leadership fellow and Managing Director & Head of Equities at Religare Capital Markets.

.....[READ ON](#)

TOWARD STRATEGIC COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIA, THE UNITED STATES, AND EUROPE

India, Europe, and the United States – the three largest democratic polities – are today facing crises of confidence. Recent liberalization attempts by the incumbent United Progressive Alliance (UPA) in New Delhi highlight the inevitable diffusion of power to regional parties in the states and the fractionalization of politics at the center. Meanwhile, Europe confronts serious questions about the future of its common currency and the viability of further integration. And the United States – in an important election year – faces key choices about how to curtail rising national

debt and overcome high unemployment as its political parties adapt to the country's fast-changing demographics.

And yet, there are silver linings. The United States promises broad continuity in its foreign policy regardless of the outcome of the November 2012 elections. Europe's crisis has been stabilized – although not entirely averted – by several recent developments. And while regional parties in India will remain vital stakeholders, the two major national parties can be expected to continue providing a modicum of political stability at the centre.

Such were the emerging contours of consensus at the opening session of the fifth India Trilateral Forum, held in Gurgaon on September 14-15, and organized by the German Marshall

Fund of the United States (GMF) and the Aspen Institute India. The discussants included noted experts from the US, India, Sweden, France, Germany, and Poland.



India-US-Europe Trilateral



FIFTH INDIA-ISRAEL FORUM

The fifth India-Israel Forum held in New Delhi on October 31-November 1 was a huge success. Israel has developed world class expertise in water management, health services and energy security. India provides an excellent market for Israeli ventures. Similarly Indian entrepreneurs are ready for joint projects with their Israeli counterparts.

The Forum brought to-

gether top Indian government officials, business leaders and experts from both sides to explore cooperation and partnerships in a wide range of key sectors including energy, water and health care. Sam Pitroda, Indian PM's adviser on Public Information Infrastructure and Innovations outlined how technology and innovation can be utilised to improve quality of life and ex-

plained how India presents an opportunity to the world.

Besides meeting Finance Minister P Chidambaram who outlined strengths of Indian economy and investment opportunities to the Israeli delegation, Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia elaborated on India's growth story and aspirations of the country's population. New

Minister of State for Corporate Affairs Sachin Pilot presented the opportunities that young India presents.

The Israeli delegates highlighted their expertise and expressed deep interests in expanding their ventures and setting new ones in India. The Forum came up with recommendations for enhancing bilateral ties across various sectors of business and technology.

FIRST INDIA-TURKEY FORUM

Leaders in their respective regions India and Turkey have undergone immense social, political and economic transformation over the last two decades. The post-9/11 period heralded new security environment for both India and Turkey with regard to terrorism and security issues. Both India and Turkey are emerging economies that are making their presence felt in various parts of the globe.

To explore avenues of further cooperation between the two countries Aspen India convened the First India-Turkey Forum on

October 18-19 in Istanbul. The Forum brought together experts of the two countries from diverse fields to take stock of Indo-Turkish relations in a changing world and explore opportunities for trade, investment and technology. It was felt that India and Turkey could cooperate in the areas of trade, energy and security. There was unanimity among the delegates that the scope for increasing economic cooperation was tremendous. Enhancing people-to-people contacts was considered a key by the delegates for expanding ties between the two countries.

The forum took place under the leadership of Ambassador S K Lambah, Special Envoy to the Prime Minister of India

and Ambassador Cem Duna, Former Ambassador of Turkey to the EU and President AB Consultancy Services.



Delegates at the 1st India-Turkey Forum in Istanbul