



NEWSLETTER

REGIONAL CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES, COLOMBO

Vol. 10 No. 1

January 2004

Summer Workshop on Defence, Technology and Cooperative Security in South Asia

In our previous Newsletters we announced plans to hold the RCSS Summer Workshop at the end of 2003 in Shanghai, China from 3rd to 13th of December 2003. RCSS organized the workshop in collaboration with Centre for American Studies, Fudan University, Shanghai, and with the assistance of the Nuclear Threat Initiative. This was the 10th Summer Workshop which dealt with security and strategic issues in South Asia, having a global reach.

The workshop was intended to equip participants with a knowledge on practical aspects of Defence, Strategic thinking, and stimulate informed discourse on various shades of opinion on them, facilitate debate impinging on extra-regional factors, and encourage new thinking on Defence and Security in South Asia.

The workshop began with the Keynote Address by Prof. Stephen P Cohen on Nuclearization in the shadow of 9/11 and the Future of South Asia and went on to discuss other special subjects by the experts in the Faculty. The participants added substance, of academic and practical value, drawn from the countries they represented.

As all three countries are overtly nuclear, the workshop concentrated on three issues of relevance, in the field of Defence, Technology, and Cooperative Security in South Asia, namely, the changing nature of “arms control”, the potential changes in the international system, including American policies, and the future of South Asia, along with China’s and America’s regional role. These issues have become crucial, in the light of the disputes, among and between these three countries; therefore, they were placed firstly on a time and a space perspective, it being an enlightened discussion on defence issues.

In the second half of the 20th Century, the then nuclear States faced similar dilemma, which culminated in the signing of International Agreements, on the varied aspects of nuclearization, and the establishment of Organizations, and Institutions, to limit nuclear proliferation. The nuclear “powers” of South Asia too are placed in the same predicament today, to avoid possible confrontation, which could lead to their use of nuclear arsenal. In their pursuit of avenues to reduce conflicts, the utility-value of these



The 10th Summer Workshop on Defence, Technology and Cooperative Security in South Asia
December 3-13, 2003, Shanghai

The Faculty Members included:

Prof Lok Raj Baral

Executive Chairman, Centre for Contemporary Studies
Kathmandu, NEPAL.

Prof.P. R. Chari

Research Professor, Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies New
Delhi, INDIA.

Dr Pervaiz Iqbal Cheema

President, Islamabad Policy Research Institute Islamabad,
PAKISTAN

Amb Cheng Ruisheng

Deputy Director, General China Centre for International Studies
Beijing, CHINA.

Prof Stephen P Cohen

Senior Research Scholar, The Brookings Institution Washington,
DC. 20036, USA.

Mr Charles B Curtis

President, Chief Operating Officer Nuclear Threat Initiative
Washington DC 2006, USA.

Prof Muchkund Dubey

Former Foreign Secretary, Former High Commissioner to
Bangladesh, President, Centre for Social Development New
Delhi, INDIA.

Mr Ejaz Haider

News Editor, *The Friday Times* and Foreign Editor, *Daily Times*
PAKISTAN.

Prof Sridhar K Khatri

Executive Director, Regional Centre for Strategic Studies,
Colombo 5, SRI LANKA.

Amb I P Khosla

New Delhi 110091, INDIA.

Prof NI Shixiong

Dean of the School of International Relations and Public Affairs
Director Center for American Studies Shanghai 200433,
CHINA.

Dr John Olsen

Physicist, Sandia National Laboratories USA.

Dr M V Ramana

Researcher, Program on Science and Global Security, Princeton
University NJ 08544, USA.

Amb Nihal N Rodrigo

Sri Lanka Embassy in Beijing, P.R.CHINA

Prof Varun Sahni

Chairperson, Centre for International Politics Organization &
Disarmament Jawaharlal Nehru University New Delhi –
110067, INDIA.

Amb Teresita C Schaffer

Director for South Asia Centre for Strategic and International
Studies Washington DC 20006, USA.

Prof Shen Dingli

Professor of International Relations Co-chairman, Program on
Arms Control and Regional Security P.R. CHINA.

Dr Ayesha Siddiqi

Security Analyst Correspondent Jane's Defence Weekly Islamabad,
PAKISTAN.

Dr W P S Sidhu

Senior Associate International Peace Academy USA.

Dr Chris N Smith

Director, Centre for South Asia Studies International Policy
Institute UK.

Amb Farooq Sobhan

President, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute BANGLADESH.

Mr Ahmer Bilal Soofi

Senior Associate, Ahmer Bilal Soofi & Company, Lahore,
PAKISTAN.

Mr Michael Vannoni

Engineer, Sandia National Laboratories USA.

Prof Yang Fujia

Academician Former President, Fudan University PR CHINA

Dr Iftekhar Zaman

Executive Director, Bangladesh Freedom Foundation
BANGLADESH.

Prof Major General ZHU

Chenghu, Institute for Strategic Studies National Defence
University Beijing, P R CHINA.

PARTICIPANTS

CHINA

Ms LI Ningning

Institute of International Studies
Tsinghua University, Beijing

Ms LIU Li

Associate Professor
Institute of South Asia Studies,
Sichuan University, Sichuan

Ms WU Fuzuo

Assistant Research Fellow
The Institute of South Asia Studies
Sichuan University, Chengdu

Mr YANG Yiqi

Editor, Wenhui Daily
Shanghai.

Mr ZHANG Ji

Department of International Politics
in SIRPA
Fudan University, Shanghai

Ms ZHANG Jie

Deputy Director of Research Department
Institute of Asia-Pacific Studies,
Centre for Regional Security Studies
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
Beijing

Mr ZHANG Jiegen

PhD Candidate
School of International Relation
and Public Affairs, Fudan University
Beijing

Ms ZHONG Jing

Associate Professor
Teaching Division for Military
Technology and Arms Studies
National Defense University, Beijing

INDIA

Ms Abanti Bhattacharya

Associate Fellow
Institute for Defence Studies & Analyses
New Delhi

Dr D Suba Chandran

Assistant Director -Research
Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies
New Delhi

CONCEPTUALIZATION AND PLANNING CONFERENCE

On The Role of Civil Society in the Prevention of Armed Conflict in South Asia:

RCSS conducted the above Conference at Club Palm Bay, Marawila, Sri Lanka on the 8th and 9th of November 2003. The background to this conference had been discussed, in detail, in the preceding issues of the Newsletter of RCSS. The Centre has been identified as an integral part of the “Global Partnership Programme for the Prevention of Armed Conflict”. The brochure on this programme, published by the European Centre for Conflict Prevention states, “Regional Centre for Strategic Studies (RCSS) in Sri Lanka already had a regional mandate to support NGOs on conflict prevention issues and was thus a natural choice for Regional Initiator” It speaks much for the commitment of the Centre for Prevention of Conflict situations, in the region, and the Global Partnership.

RCSS in its Newsletters, in the previous issues, outlined the urgency with which the world community called for the Prevention of Armed Conflict, notwithstanding the rationale, and the quarters from which, such conflicts arise. The world leaders have realized the need to set in motion a thoroughly researched, ground tested and well-planned conflict prevention programme of action. In his report on the Prevention of Armed Conflict, recommendation 27 in June 2001, the UN. Secretary-General Kofi Annan made his historic appeal to NGOs to organize an International Conference on conflict prevention and armed conflict. The European Centre for Conflict Prevention headed by, Executive Director Paul Van Tongeren proposed an Integrated Global Programme of research consultation and discussion, leading to an International Conference at UN. Headquarters which was accepted. At a meeting held at Soesterberg in Netherlands an International Steering Group (ISG) was selected and Soesterberg was accepted as the Secretariat Headquarters.

At this meeting RCSS was assigned the task of co-ordinating the work in South Asia and after the preliminary meeting in Chiang Mai, Thailand. RCSS is continuing the work on holding the series of meetings leading to the Regional Conference.

The meeting held at Club Palm Bay, Marawila, Sri Lanka was, thus, the first “Conceptualization and Planning Conference on The Role of Civil Society in the Prevention of armed Conflict in South Asia.”

The members of leading Research Institutions, Civil Society Groups, Academics and key individuals who have been involved in this area of work, drawn especially from

the Region participated in this conference, as seen from the following list:

Prof Moonis Ahmar

Professor, Department of International Relations, Department of International Relations, University of Karachi

Dr Meenakshi Gopinath

Women in Security Conflict on Management of Peace India Habitat Centre Lodhi Road New Delhi, India.

Dr John Gooneratne

Deputy Director - General, Secretariat for Coordinating of Peace Process, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Dr Abdur Rob Khan

Research Director, Bangladesh institute of International & Strategic Studies, Dhaka Bangladesh.

Mr Sardar Amjad Yousaf Khan

President, Kashmir Institute of International Relations Kashmir.

Dr Saba Gul Khattak

Executive Director, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Islamabad, Pakistan.

Mr Shirantha Perera

Consortium for Humanitarian Agencies, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Mr Shah Ghulam Qadir

Chairman, Executive Board, Kashmir institute of International Relations Kashmir.

Dr P Saravanamuttu

Executive Director, Centre for Policy Alternatives, Colombo Sri Lanka.

Mr Karan Sawhny

Director, International Centre for Peace Initiatives, New Delhi India.

Mr Tony Seneviratne

Governing Council Member, National Peace Council Colombo 05, Sri Lanka.

Dr Peter R de Souza

Co-Director, Lokniti Institute for Comparative Democracy Centre for Study of Developing Societies, New Delhi, India.

Prof Sridhar Khatri the Executive Director was the coordinator of the Conference. Prof R A Ariyaratne Senior fellow and Director of RCSS, S B Atugoda Associate Director and Minna Thaheer, Programme Officer and the staff of RCSS assisted the arrangements at Marawila.

At the Inaugural Sessions Co-Chairpersons, Executive Director of RCSS Professor Sridhar Khatri and Pamela Matinde, Programme Officer, Asia and the Pacific of the ECCP, outlined the nature and the magnitude of the

The Brainstorming Session on the Regional Data Base on Terrorism, held in Karachi

This conference was held to work on one subject, of the four aspects of the Project, undertaken by RCSS, in the area of Non-Traditional Security in South Asia. These parts of the project had been discussed, briefly, in our previous Newsletters. The task of developing a database and profiles of terrorist groups, and the chronology of terrorist activities in the Region, was given to Professor Moonis Ahmer, University of Karachi. The conference was thus, organized by the Program on Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution of his University sponsored by RCSS, and was held in Karachi during the first week in January 2004.



The meeting was attended by the following members associated with the project.

1. Prof Moonis Ahmer, University of Karachi- Project Director
2. Prof Sridhar Khatri, RCSS-Executive Director
3. Syed M Ibrahim, Institute of Hazrat Mohammad (SAW), Dhaka
4. Prof Mutahir Ahmad, University of Karachi
5. Prof Haron-ur-Rashid, University of Dhaka
6. Mr Deepak Thapa, Himal Association, Kathmandu
7. Dr S I Keethaponcalan, University of Colombo
8. Mr Naeem Ahmad, University of Karachi
9. Ms Nausheen Wasi, Pakistan Institute of International Affairs
10. Ms Wajeeha Khurshid, Research Associate
11. Ms Munizeh Zuberi, Research Associate

Prof Khatri explaining the objective of the project said that in order to understand and respond to the

problem of terrorism in all its facets, the data base is a pre-requisite component; it is, in fact, the first such attempt. The categorization of terrorist activities, their interests, mode of countering them, effect of terrorism on society, economy and politics, and the role of the State are fundamental in such a study.

Prof. Moonis Ahmar discussed the outline of the project, and said that the data base will cover the period since 1971, as it was a landmark year when the geo-political landscape of South Asia changed dramatically. The study will cover the, chronology, profiles, and events since June 2003 - June 2004 of terrorist activities, and also similar data on security forces of South Asia. The documents referred to will include national legislatures, international conventions, official statements, and civil society declarations on the subject.

The data will be on a project website as well as in a printed form and a bibliography of the sources will be documented.

The website will be launched in three months under the name South Asian Information Base on Terrorism (SAIBOT)

Society Responses - The Case of Sri Lanka. Centre for Conflict Resolution - Working Paper 2:1-2452

Ye, Zhang(2003)

China's Emerging Civil Society. www.brook.edu/dybdocroot/fp/cnaps/papers/ye2003.pdf:1-24

Thiagarajah, Jeevan(1999)

Management of Diversity and Its Implications for Regional Civil Society. In: South Asia and its Eastern neighbours: building a relationship in the 21st century, Chapter 14.268-282

Quinn, Mick(2002)

More Than Implementers: Civil Society in Complex Emergencies - A Discussion Paper. www.international-alert.org/pdf/pubdev/67143_2nd_Briefing.pdf

Saravanamuttu, Paikiasothy(2003)

Civil Society Presentation.

Encarnacion, Omar G.(2003)

Beyond Civil Society: Promoting Democracy after September 11. Orbis

(1999)

The United Nation and Civil Society: The Role of NGOs. <http://reports.stanleyfoundation.org/Issues99.pdf>:31

(2001)

Report of the UN Civil Society Outreach Symposium. <http://reports.stanleyfoundation.org/UNCS01.pdf>:26

Kaul, Kapil(2002)

Role of Religion in Politics: Impact on the Civil and Military Society of Pakistan. Strategic Analysis. 26(3):356-369

Cardoso, Fernando Henrique

Civil Society and Global Governance. www.un.org/reform/pdfs/cardosopaper13june.htm:1-9

Modes of CSO influence in the UN and global governance. www.un.org/reform/pdfs/modes.htm:1-2

The diversity of actors within the UN System. www.un.org/:1-3

UN System and Civil Society - An Inventory and Analysis of Practices. www.un.org/reform/pdfs/hlp9.htm:1-26

Books

State and Civil Society in Pakistan: Politics of Authority, Ideology and Ethnicity/ by Iftikhar H. Malik.—London: Macmillan, 1997

Civil-Military Relations in South Asia: Pakistan, Bangladesh and India/ by Veena Kukreja.—New Delhi: Sage, 1991

Civil-Military Relations and Peacekeeping/ by Michael C. Williams.—London: IISS, 1998

Shaping the Future: A South Asian Civil Society Dialogue/ edited by Dipankar Banerjee.—Colombo: RCSS, 2002

Civil Wars, Civil Peace: An Introduction to Conflict Resolution/ by kumar Rupesinghe and Sanam Naraghi Anderlini.—USA: Pluto Press, 1998

Elusive Peace: Negotiating an End to Civil Wars/ edited by I. William Zartman.—Washington D.C.: The Brookings Institution, 1995

Breaking the Conflict Trap: Civil War and Development Policy/ .—Washington(<http://econ.worldbank.org>): Oxford University Press, 2003

Civil Society in Sri Lanka: New Circles of Power/ by Nira Wickramasinghe.—New Delhi: Sage Publications, 2001

Civil-Military Relations in Pakistan: The Case of the Recent Military Intervention (October 12, 1999) and Its Implications for Pakistan's Security Milieu/ by Abdul Shakoor Khakwani.—University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign: ACDIS, 2003

Civil society Voices and the International Monetary Fund/ by Jan Aart Scholte.—Ottawa: The North-South Institute, 2002

RCSS has also completed a "Bibliography on Women in War and Peace-building. It will be published in RCSS Newsletter in April 2004.

Conceptualization and Planning ... Contd. from page 6

In the Valedictory Session the Executive Director of RCSS Professor Sridhar Khatri explained the Role of the RCSS in the Partnership Programme, and stressed the need to obtain the support of the Civil Society, improve interaction between State and Other Agencies and Civil Society to help Conflict Prevention.

Pamela Matinde of ECCP gave a summary of the proceedings and expressed happiness at the good organization including having two representatives from Kashmir, at the conference.

The next stage of this exercise will be the Country Conferences and one Regional Conference, before the final report of the South Asia group is submitted to the International Conference.