

CIC NEWS DIGEST



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UP NEXT...

**TUESDAY, JUNE 11TH, 2019,
5:30 PM**

MULTILATERALISM FOR GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

RAMESH SUBRAMANIAN

DIRECTOR GENERAL

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

IN CONVERSATION WITH

MR KRISHNAN, IAS



THE MIGHT OF A SMALL STEP

“Whether we have to cover one mile or a thousand, the first step always remains the first, for the second cannot be taken until the first has been taken” MK Gandhi.

A small communication initiative taken early this year has encouraged many of you to take a step forward and offer something of value. This expression of support has come in the form of program ideas, speaker suggestions, new fellowship referrals, constructive feedback and many more creative ways of engagement. It is encouraging and truly heartening to see the promising possibilities one can realize through the power of collaboration.

Taking that small step has resulted not just in an interesting array of programs in the calendar, but a spread of program suggestions in the pipeline through the forthcoming months, with the engagement, involvement and extensive support from CIC Fellows.

As the fellowship base is growing steadily in strength, it is heartening to note and share how each one of your contributions has indeed been instrumental in further supporting a larger cause of knowledge empowerment and balanced information propagation to students as well as curious and intelligent minds who benefit from them.

While measures are in place to ensure quality programming, we invite feedback and engagement to keep the communication and collaboration active. The Centre has also initiated work towards acquisition of a property.

With all your support we march ahead, taking small steps each month towards realizing the institution’s larger vision of being a spa for the mind. It will be our contribution to sustaining Chennai’s position as the nation’s intellectual capital.

Sincerely,

Vanitha Shankar,

Executive Director, CIC

A GLIMPSE OF OUR ACTIVITIES

Starting the year with Dr Rajiv Kumar's presentation on Strategy for New India, the Centre has hosted many activities since. In alignment with the diverse fabric, the programs have ranged from economics and politics to healthcare and education. It is also noteworthy that most of the suggestions and program ideas have emanated from the CIC fellowship.

Besides bimonthly programs, a newer initiative at the center has been focus group discussions. The objective is to facilitate deep dive conversations by bringing smaller interest groups together. The first such session by Dr Arthur Brooks focused on capitalism and its impact in the society. Titled America's growth problem, the session was well attended by prominent leaders including the Consul General of US and some CIC Fellows.



The subsequent session by Prof Devesh Kapur from Johns Hopkins University on the topic of dilemmas of higher education invited the participation of CIC fellows from the educational sector as well educationists and university deans.



It was a truly a privilege when Indian nuclear physicist Dr Anil Kakodkar visited the center and spoke on the usage of clean core thorium as an alternate energy fuel, to a group of technologists from the community. A similar session presented by noted economist Dr Indira Rajaraman was the latest one.

A series on Business Visionaries was initiated in February this year with the objective of bringing to the fore experiences of Chennai visionaries making a mark on the globe. The series was launched with a session by Sridhar Vembu of Zoho Corp. The series will present many more such visionaries from Chennai.

IN THE PIPELINE

- July 6th 2019, Saturday, Dr Shashi Tharoor for the book launch of Life's lessons by Dr Nandita Krishna
- July 20th, 2019, Dr Swapan Das Gupta, Indian Journalist, Member of Parliament

CIC aspires to be a change agent, and our programs are designed to inspire, provoke a thought, plant an idea, understand context. Have an idea? Wish to refer a speaker? Please connect with us!

FELLOWSHIP

Some of you have been engaging on a continuous basis, sharing thoughts, ideas, and feedback. We are thankful for the participation that keeps the fabric of organization alive. Through this column, we wish to share a slice of the periodic communication received. Presenting some picks from the recent communication:

“Very good program of Ashok Alexander’s. Didn’t expect it to be this impactful! I think CIC has created a great forum for Chennaites to discuss matters of national impact in a collegiate forum. It has added great value to me, and I congratulate the organization for hosting such events.”

V Shankar, Founder CAMS

CIC Fellow



“I think CIC is a much-needed free-thinking and ideating space. Kudos to the team and the trustees for the commitment in creating this environment consistently for nonpartisan discussions. Congrats to you all for bringing such speakers and a BIG Thank you for providing a learning as well exchange platform.”

Sowmithra Srinivasan,

CIC Fellow

“Ramesh really enjoyed attending the election huddle organized last Saturday. Pity I couldn’t make it, but I think CIC pulled off another interesting program! It’s taking over all our other weekend programs!”

Meenakshi Ramesh, Founder, Citizen Matters Chennai,

CIC Fellow



What a luminary of speakers sharing the stage! It was really a moment of pride to see Justice Sanjay Kaul, Shri Gopal Gandhi, US Consul, Mr Robert Burgess, and eminent people at Sriram Sir’s book launch. I really hope to able to support the vision of CIC by joining as a Fellow!

Student attendee at CIC



“Good to see that CIC has brought a wide range of events, topics and speakers. Quietly, CIC events have risen to occupy an important place in the calendars of its members. In this regard, I would like to suggest that you go through the following to identify interesting and useful speakers for the upcoming programs...”

Dr Anantha Nageswaran, Dean, IFMR,

CIC Fellow



“I really look forward to...and enjoy the CIC events. The collegiate atmosphere and the participation of students adds a nice relaxed academic touch. I make it a point to attend whenever I’m in town!”

Karthik Krishna, MD & CEO, MultiCall Ltd

CIC Fellow

“Prof Asher Susser’s insights to Israel and Palestine and his clear enunciation of a possible resolution made me think of India & Pakistan. Great Program!”

Aruna Subramaniam, Director, Bhoomika Trust,

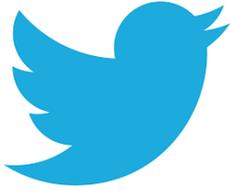
CIC Fellow



While positive feedback inspires productivity, we are also thankful to Fellows who have taken the effort to formally communicate improvisation measures. Action does take deliberation, time and collective opinions to fructify. Every feedback received is being recorded earnestly and considered for action. So please do keep them coming!

As a Fellow of CIC, we encourage you to invite curious minds to become a part of the growing community.

THE SOCIAL BUZZ



Any program at the CIC is never complete without a buzz in the Twitterati community! They are often live tweeted, discussed and debated for days!

We wish to share a glimpse of what it is like, so you can follow us, engage and help build an online community to bring the discussions alive offline!!

“We all know the ‘Whats’, but it’s the ‘How’, ‘When’ and ‘Who’ that matters in execution”. @PMOIndia has monthly pragati review of key projects and quarterly review of 11 key infra ministries with real time data NITI Aayog Rajiv Kumar @CIC_Chennai

Gopal Srinivasan,
Chairman CIC

I love his Veshti dress code. He came for our convocation as orator in the same veshti-shirt combo @Sridhar Vembu

Vaidhyasubramaniam, CIC Fellow

“We give cows, goats, hens; we are #1 in egg production. This is value added farming. That is why we don’t have farmers suicide in Tamil Nadu @MaFoi Pandiarajan speaking @CIC_Chennai

Mridula Ramesh, Fellow, CIC

He (CAMS Shankar) made such a serious subject very interesting! Made it lively. Was tempted really about the cake! 😊

V Nagappan, CIC Fellow

“Interesting discussion on the poll numbers and what they mean. Mukund Padmanabhan, Jayanthi Natarajan, Rajeeva Karandikar @CIC_Chennai

Sumanth Raman, CIC Fellow

“The more marginalized they are, the more impactful they are when they join together, because they understand their problems with a lot of clarity” says Ashok Alexander @ CIC_Chennai

Bala Kavikkal, CIC Fellow

“When mediation can resolve disputes 2 satisfaction of the parties concerned, why get to arbitration/ litigation. Cracker of an event around the launch of Sriram Panchu’s book

K Ramakrishnan, CIC Fellow

Join the Twitterati community and engage in the live discussions @CIC_Chennai. If Digital Marketing is your thing, come and give us a helping hand in reaching out widely!



Together, let’s unite in intellect and power a progressive future!