

ICS Update



DEAR FRIENDS,

The **Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS)** remains actively engaged in disseminating informed analysis and fostering discussions on a broad range of topics related to China and East Asia. The internship program continues to attract fresh talent, as evidenced by the substantial number of applications received. ICS provides a dynamic and intellectually stimulating environment for young scholars committed to Chinese and East Asian research and studies. In August and September 2025, six new interns joined Team ICS.

NEW TEAM MEMBER ALERT

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER

ALKA VERMA, RESEARCH INTERN

Alka Verma is currently a doctoral scholar at the Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Her doctoral research focuses on the critical discourse analysis of China's economic transition. Her broader research interests include discourse analysis, political economy with a focus on China, gender studies, and labour rights. [Read More >>](#)



ANN ELZA VARUGHESE, RESEARCH INTERN

Ann Elza Varughese is currently pursuing a diploma in Japanese language at the Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi. Her research interests skew towards examining the interplay of cultural, social and institutional dynamics of East Asia in general and Japan in particular. [Read More>>](#)



AVANI ABHA, RESEARCH INTERN

Avani Abha holds a master's in political science from Pondicherry University. Her research interests include political economy, India-China relations, geopolitics of East Asia, and comparative analysis of developmental models and their influence on domestic politics and international positioning. [Read More>>](#)



OM RANJAN, RESEARCH INTERN

Om Ranjan is currently a doctoral scholar at the Rashtriya Raksha University, Gujarat. His research focuses on China's strategic culture, combining classical Chinese philosophy with contemporary statecraft. [Read More>>](#)



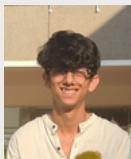
TRIDISHA THAKURIA, RESEARCH INTERN

Tridisha Thakuria holds a master's degree in East Asian Studies from the Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi. Her research interests focus on identity politics in contemporary China, cultural affinities between communities and tribes in Northeast India and China, and border studies. [Read More>>](#)



WRIJU BANERJEE, RESEARCH INTERN

Wriju Banerjee is currently a doctoral scholar at the Centre for East Asian Studies in Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. His research interests include state-society relations in China, the role of ideology and legitimacy in CPC rule, labour and rural protests, and comparative approaches to climate policy in India and China. [Read More>>](#)



EVENTS

The ICS conducted **eight** events in August and September 2025

AUGUST

The ICS organised a seminar titled, **Viewing the Present in the Mirror of the Past: A Search for New Approaches in the Study of India-China Bilateral Relations through History** on 6 August 2025. The seminar focused on the present realities of India-China relations and argued that the relationship cannot be understood in isolation but should be seen in continuum with its past. The speaker was **Dhriti Roy**, Head and Associate Professor, Department of Chinese, School of Languages and Literature, Sikkim University, Gangtok. The speaker emphasised the need of new insights and approaches, observing that history, as an interdisciplinary field, has not been fully utilised to understand the complexity of the India-China relations. The session was chaired by **Madhavi Thampi**, former Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi; and Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi. She emphasised the enduring continuity of interactions, the pivotal role of borderlands and non-state actors, and the importance of understanding how these factors shape people's perceptions of the other country. ([YouTube](#))

The ICS organised a seminar titled, **An Indian Perspective on the Dalai Lama's Statement on Reincarnation** on 13 August 2025. The seminar focused on the issue of the Dalai Lama's succession and various dimensions associated with it. The speaker was **Swati Chawla**, Associate Professor, Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities; and Assistant Director, Centre for Learning and Innovative Pedagogies (CLIP), OP Jindal Global University, Sonapat. The speaker explored several key themes, including the pivotal role played by faith in legitimising the Dalai Lama's reincarnation, the significance of Himalayan communities in preserving religious autonomy, the reciprocal ties between India and the Tibetan exile community, and the socio-economic and spiritual contributions of Tibetan institutions in exile. The session was chaired by **Gokul K.S.**, Assistant Professor, Amity Institute of International Studies, Amity University, Noida; Co-founder, Tibetscapes, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai. The chair highlighted the geopolitical challenges plaguing India, which prevent it from taking on a larger role with respect to the Tibetan struggle. ([YouTube](#))

The ICS organised a seminar titled, **China's Approach to Global AI Governance: A New Political Economy Perspective** on 20 August 2025. The seminar explored China's AI governance and how it links the state, the private sector and the international arena. The speaker was **Rityusha Mani Tiwary**, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, University of Delhi; and Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi. The speaker argued that China's AI governance is not neutral; rather, it seeks to restructure global AI governance with values such as sovereignty, security and multipolarity. The session was chaired by **Ravi Bhoothalingam**, Emeritus Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi; and Fellow, Royal Geographical Society, London. The chair highlighted the competition China faces from the US-led model, emphasising the need for flexibility in tweaking its AI governance framework as it navigates pressures from both the Global South and other actors. ([YouTube](#))

The ICS, the Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies, Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi NCR and MIT School of Government, MIT World Peace University, Pune jointly organised the **2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China**, at the Shiv Nadar Institute of Eminence, Delhi-NCR, from 28-29 August 2025. The theme of the conference was **Evolving State-Society Relations**. Several eminent scholars in the field of Chinese Studies presented their papers. The sub-themes included Rule of Law and State-Civil Society Relations, Rural-Urban Governance in China, Science and Technology, Innovation and Governance, Party-State and Ethnic Relations, Labour and Welfare in the Party State and State Capitalism, Industry and Private Sector. The keynote address of the conference was delivered by **Manoranjan Mohanty**, Emeritus Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, Delhi. **Anand P. Krishna**, Fellow, Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies, Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi-NCR; and Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, and **Bhim B. Subba**, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad; and Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, were the Co-convenors of the conference.



2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China at the Shiv Nadar Institute of Eminence.

SEPTEMBER

The ICS organised a seminar titled, **China's Rise as a Norm Builder and Challenges to the Idea of Democracy** on 3 September, 2025. The seminar examined China's redefinition of democracy and its implications for global governance and India's strategic outlook. The speaker was **Avinash Anil Godbole**, Professor and Associate Academic Dean, Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities, O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat. He argued that Xi Jinping's call to "tell the Chinese story well" reflects the growing centrality of discourse power in foreign policy and global image-building. The session was chaired by **Rityusha Mani Tiwary**, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, University of Delhi; and Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi. The chair highlighted how China challenges the notion that liberal democracy is a prerequisite for development, thereby redefining development itself and creating strategic challenges for the world order and India. **(YouTube)**

The ICS organized a seminar titled, **Interpreting the Translated: Mo Yan's *Biàn* (变) across Chinese, English, and Hindi** on 10 September, 2025. The seminar examined Mo Yan's novella *Biàn* 《变》 (Change), and explored its trajectory through English and Hindi translations. The speaker was **Nishit Kumar**, an independent researcher who explained the method of relay translation and used it to illustrate how meaning, nuance, and cultural context evolve in this process. He explored how the novella *Biàn* transforms in meaning, tone, and cultural context through relay translation from Chinese to English to Hindi, highlighting the translator's agency in global literary circulation. The session was chaired by **Sabaree Mitra**, Professor, Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; and Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi. She explained how translations shape cultural geographies, influencing what literature is visible and accessible and how this impacts cross-cultural understanding. ([YouTube](#))

The ICS organised a seminar titled, **Line of Riparian Control: China, India and the Brahmaputra River Basin** on 17 September 2025. The seminar focused on the intertwined political, ecological, and social dimensions of Himalayan river governance, particularly the Brahmaputra and Yarlung Tsangpo. The speaker was **Mirza Zulfiqur Rahman**, Visiting Associate Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi. The speaker explored the strategic and symbolic dimensions of large dams, which serve as markers of sovereignty while interacting with local resistance and ecological fragility. The seminar was chaired by **Nimmi Kurian**, Professor, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi; and Member, External Advisory Board, India China Institute, The New School, New York. The chair emphasised that, while the river has become a quintessential metaphor of conflict at the national level, it also offers opportunities for cooperation through innovative beneficiary models, thereby broadening the imagination of the river. ([YouTube](#))

The ICS organised a seminar titled, **Tibet: China's Renewable Energy Ace** on 24 September 2025. The seminar provided an in-depth analysis of China's renewable energy landscape, with a particular focus on the Tibet Autonomous Region. The speaker was **Y. Nithyanandam**, Professor and Head of the Geospatial Research Programme, The Takshashila Institution, Bengaluru. The speaker explored the current status of China's renewable energy sector, with reference to its national targets and achievements, along with the implications for China's carbon neutrality drive and strategic concerns for India. The session was chaired by **Atul Bhardwaj**, Visiting Fellow, Department of International Politics, City St. George's, University of London; and Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi. The chair commended China's commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2060 and its pioneering role in renewable energy technologies, emphasising that India could draw lessons from China to expand its own renewable energy capacity. ([YouTube](#))

PUBLICATIONS

SEPTEMBER

Ritika Sharon, Former Research Intern, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, wrote a paper titled, **Ebb and Flow: A Strategic Analysis of China's Assertions and the Philippines' Response** for ICS Analysis in September 2025. [Read More>>](#)



Hemant Adlakha, Vice-Chairperson, and Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, translated an article titled, **'Mao Keji: In the AI Era, India is Still a 'Supporting Role' Rather than a 'Protagonist'** (in Chinese) which was published under *ICS Translations* in September 2025. [Read More>>](#)



FACULTY UPDATE

AUGUST

Alka Acharya, Director, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, served as the Chair of the session titled, **Labour and Welfare in the Party-State** held as part of the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China at the Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi-NCR from 28-29 August 2025.

Ambassador Kishan S. Rana, Former Indian Ambassador/ High Commissioner to Algeria, Czechoslovakia, Kenya, Mauritius and Germany; Professor Emeritus, DiploFoundation, Malta and Geneva; and, Emeritus Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, served as the Chair of the inaugural session of the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China, organised at the Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi NCR campus from 28-29 August 2025.

Anand P. Krishna, Fellow, Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies, Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi NCR; Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, wrote a commentary piece for *360info* titled, **Tianjin test: Modi to meet Xi amid fragile reset**, published on August 27, 2025. He presented a paper titled, **Cast in the Party's Image and Interests: Identity and Role of All-China Federation of Trade Unions in the New Era** at the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China held on 28-29 August 2025 at the Shiv Nadar Institute of Eminence, Delhi NCR.

Aravind Yelery, Associate Professor, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Honorary Fellow Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, presented a paper titled, **Unfolding Industrial Policy, Entrepreneurship and Privatization in Post-2017 China** at the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China held on 28-29 August 2025 at the Shiv Nadar Institute of Eminence, Delhi NCR.

Bhim B. Subba, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad; Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, presented a paper titled, **Party is the Law: Legal Reforms in Authoritarian China** at the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China held on 28-29 August 2025 at the Shiv Nadar Institute of Eminence, Delhi NCR.

Debasish Chaudhuri, Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, presented a paper titled, **Ethnic Policy Making Process Amidst Deepening of Reform** at the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China held on 28-29 August 2025 at the Shiv Nadar Institute of Eminence, Delhi NCR.

G. Venkat Raman, Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Indore; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, presented a paper titled, **Is Innovation Possible in a Centralized Political System?: Examining the Efficacy of China's Science and Technology Policy** at the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China held on 28-29 August 2025 at the Shiv Nadar Institute of Eminence, Delhi NCR.

Jabin T. Jacob, Director, Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies and, Associate Professor, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi-NCR; and Honorary Fellow, ICS, co-authored a column with Devendra Kumar titled, **Why India must rethink its Tibet policy**, which was published by the Indian Express on 6 August 2025. He served as a panellist at The Himalayan Dialogue titled, **Tianxia System in the New Era and Limits to China-Pakistan All-Weather Relations** held at the India International Centre, New Delhi on 7 August 2025. He delivered a lecture titled, **China's Rise: Historical, Political & Strategic Dimensions** as part of the 38th Naval Higher Command Course at the Naval War College, Goa, on 22 August 2025. He served as the Chair of the session titled, **Science and Technology, Innovation and Governance** as part of the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China, held at the Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi-NCR from 28-29 August 2025.

Manoranjan Mohanty, Emeritus Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi delivered the Keynote Address titled, **Conceptual Challenges in Governance Studies: A Perspective on China's Experience** in the inaugural session of the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China, organised from the 28-29 August 2025 at the Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi-NCR. He also served as the Chair of the session titled, **Rule of Law & State-Civil Society Relations** held as part of the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China.

Rityusha Mani Tiwary, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, University of Delhi; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, presented a paper titled, **Discontents in Science, Technology and Innovation Governance in China: Mapping the Social in Managing Frameworks Through Green Development and Social Inclusivity** at the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China held on 28-29 August 2025 at the Shiv Nadar Institute of Eminence, Delhi-NCR.

Usha Chandran, Assistant Professor, Centre for Chinese & South East Asian Studies, School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, presented a paper titled, **Gendered Governance: Family Planning Policy in China from Pre-Modern to Contemporary Era** at the 2nd Conference on Domestic Governance in China, organised from the 28-29 August 2025 at the Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi-NCR.

SEPTEMBER

Jabin T. Jacob, Director, Centre of Excellence for Himalayan Studies and, Associate Professor, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, Delhi-NCR; and Honorary Fellow, ICS, has co-authored an opinionated piece with Anand P. Krishnan titled, **Only Leaning; India is Not Aligning** (in Malayalam), which was published by *Malayala Manorama* on 2 September 2025. He has co-authored an article with Anand P. Krishnan titled, **Is the grass greener in China?** (in Malayalam), which was published by *Mathrubhumi* on 4 September 2025. He served as a panellist in the discussion titled, **SCO Summit and New Rapprochement in India-China Relations** organised by the Jindal Global Centre for G20 Studies at the JGU International Academy, Hotel Taj Mahal, New Delhi, on 18 September 2025. He served as a speaker as part of a webinar hosted by *Mint* titled, **Power, Trade & the Global Order: From Modi-Putin-Xi at SCO to Trump's trade wars—are we seeing a new world order emerge?** on 25 September 2025.

Poonam Surie, Adjunct Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, was a panellist at the book launch and discussion titled, **Unwrapping the China Enigma** based on the book *China: Indian Perspectives on China's Politics, Economy, and Foreign Relations* at the India International Centre, New Delhi on 18 September 2025.

Usha Chandran, Assistant Professor, Centre for Chinese & South East Asian Studies, School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi, wrote a research paper titled, **Nora's Travel to Asia: Finding the Asian 'Nora' in Lu Xun's 'Zi Jun' and Tagore's 'Mrinal**, which was published in bilingual journal *Culture in China* (in Chinese) (ISSN 2563-0458) 2025, No-3, Issue-1, in September, 2025. She also presented a paper titled, **The Birth of "New Women" in Modern India and China** (in Chinese) at the First World History Frontiers Forum organised by Chinese Academy of History, Chinese Academy of Social Science (CASS), from September 12-13, 2025 in Beijing, China. She also delivered a lecture on the invitation of the Chinese Academy of History, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) titled, **Birth of "New Women" in Lu Xun and Tagore's Selected Work** (in Chinese) in September 2025.

MEDIA UPDATE

AUGUST



Anand P. Krishna on **Can China be Trusted?**

[View Here >>](#)



Anand P. Krishna on **China Considers India as a Competitor.**

[View Here >>](#)

How a faster than expected US decline is a cause for worry in China?

In the US and West, the inescapable feeling is growing that the US is losing in the race against China. However, the biggest worry in China is that the US is declining much faster than expected.

Hemant Adlakha AUGUST 11, 2025

Hemant Adlakha on **How a faster than expected US decline is a cause for worry in China?**

[Read More >>](#)



Why India's China Crisis Isn't Over Yet

Jabin T. Jacob on **Why India's China Crisis Isn't Over Yet**

[View Here >>](#)

Why many Chinese foreign affairs analysts reacted critically to PM Modi's likely China visit

Beijing has officially welcomed PM Modi to attend the SCO summit this month-end. However, "sever others" India could make a 180-degree turn to strike a deal with US President Trump and skip the SCO, were in China say.



Hemant Adlakha on **Why many Chinese foreign affairs analysts reacted critically to PM Modi's likely China visit.**

[Read More >>](#)

India's China policy at a crossroads

The irony is that this formalisation of India with China is not one that is the result of hard bargains or one that shows any advantages for India.



Jabin T. Jacob on **India's China policy at a crossroads**

[Read More >>](#)



Jabin T. Jacob on **India-China thaw – real progress or an impression of progress?**

[Read More >>](#)

SEPTEMBER



Anand P. Krishna on **Only Leaning; India is Not Aligning** (in Malayalam)

[Read More >>](#)



Anand P. Krishna on **Is China "Grass is Greener on the Other Side?" [for India]** (in Malayalam)

[Read More >>](#)

Expert Explains: After Modi-Xi meeting, what is the view in China

What has been the view in China about the recent warming up with India? An analysis of academic and journalistic articles, and social media chatter, throws up three clear camps.

Written by Hemant Adlaka
New Delhi, September 20, 2025



EXPRESS Security

Singapore woman linked to car die in fire, says Kerala Police

An 18-year-old student was arrested for killing a 70-year-old woman software engineer in Singapore. The victim, identified as

Hemant Adlaka on **After Modi-Xi meeting, what is the view in China.**
[Read More >>](#)

MODERN DIPLOMACY
AN OVERSIGHT WORKS

India Must Define Its Own Position in the Great Power Contest

In the Western alliance's vision, India can, on the one hand, check and balance China, and on the other hand, serve as a substitute for China in the "de-risking" policy towards China. But what India urgently needs is to give up its antagonistic relationship with China

By Hemant Adlaka | September 13, 2025



Hemant Adlaka on **India Must Define Its Own Position in the Great Power Contest**
[Read More >>](#)

MODERN DIPLOMACY
AN OVERSIGHT WORKS

Nearly a month after Wang Yi's assurance, no sign of end to China drought of rare earths to India

It's nearly a month since Wang Yi reportedly promised to Indrakumar in New Delhi that his government would still supply rare earth minerals export to India. However, no one in China – neither its foreign ministry nor the state-run media – has acknowledged the Chinese foreign minister making such promises

By Hemant Adlaka | September 20, 2025



Hemant Adlaka on **Nearly a month after Wang Yi's assurance, no sign of end to China drought of rare earths to India.**
[Read More >>](#)

DW

Xi and Modi show unity at China summit


Can the SCO challenge the global order led by the United States and its allies? | DW News



Jabin T. Jacob on **Can the SCO challenge the global order led by the United States and its allies?**
[View Here >>](#)

Jabin T. Jacob
China specialist and Associate Professor, Shaheed Nizami University

There is a Pakistan problem in India's China policy: Jabin T. Jacob | Latitude



Jabin T. Jacob on **There is a Pakistan problem in India's China policy**
[View Here >>](#)

China 中国
Global South Project

English | Français | Español

View Feed | Analysis | Podcast | Video | Newsletters | Special Reports | Data Tools

JABIN JACOB
Associate Professor
SHAH NIZAMI UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

China-India Relations Remain Fragile Despite Warming Ties



Jabin T. Jacob on **China-India Relations Remain Fragile Despite Warming Ties**
[Listen Here >>](#)

The **ICS Website**, **Facebook**, **LinkedIn**, **Instagram**, and **X** accounts are among several ways to get the latest on the Institute's publications and activities. You can also subscribe to our monthly newsletter to remain updated regarding our events and publications and browse our **YouTube** channel.

We look forward to your participation in our events and activities in the coming days and hope for your continued support. Please consider contributing to ICS. Click **here** to contribute.

COMING UP

18th AICCS

Special Theme: Rewiring Globalization –
The China Factor in Trade, Technology, and
Sustainability in a Multipolar World

[KNOW MORE](#)

3rd GVPDML

Theme: Sandwiched between China
and the US: South Korea's Quest of
Transcending Diplomacy

[KNOW MORE](#)

[CURRENT ISSUE](#)

[ARCHIVE](#)

[SUBSCRIBE](#)

You're receiving this e-mail because you are subscribed to the newsletter.
Was this e-mail forwarded to you? [Sign up](#).

CONTRIBUTE

WWW.IC SIN.ORG

