Nagaland 19th AICCS

ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF CHINA STUDIES

印度全国中国研究会议

28-30 OCTOBER 2026,
NAGALAND UNIVERSITY



AI, EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES, AND ETHICS IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH

INDIA-CHINA PERSPECTIVES

Institute of Chinese Studies
ICS
中国研究所 DELHI

Policy Planning & Research Division
Ministry of External Affairs
Government of India

NAGALAND UNIVERSITY
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— ABOUT —

ALL INDIA CONFERENCE OF CHINA STUDIES (AICCS)

The Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS) has been organising the All India Conference of China Studies (AICCS) as a flagship event since 2006. Convened annually, usually in November-December, in partnership with an institution where research and teaching in China Studies is being carried out, it is meant to generate interest in and strengthen research on China Studies in India.

In addition to a special theme each year, the conference also showcases a survey of recent scholarship in different aspects of China Studies, globally and in India. As a pan-Indian outreach initiative, the previous editions of AICCS have been held in Delhi (2006 & 2009), Jadavpur University (2010), Central University of Hyderabad (2011), Visva- Bharati University (2012 & 2021), IIM Kozhikode (2013), Banaras Hindu University (2014), Sikkim University (2015), University of Mumbai (2016), Goa University (2017), CHRIST University (2018), O.P. Jindal Global University (2019), IIT Madras (2021), IIT Guwahati (2022), Central University of Hyderabad (2023), Manipal Academy of Higher Education (2024) and IIM Indore (2025).

Each year, the best paper presented by a young and emerging scholar is selected for the Mira Sinha-Bhattacharjea Award, instituted in the memory of one of India's most eminent scholars of China Studies. The Award carries a prize of 25,000 INR, and the selected paper is published by the ICS. The selection is made by a committee comprising senior China scholars, based on originality of the topic, methodology, argument, and presentation.

— CONCEPT NOTE —

The 19th All India Conference of China Studies (AICCS) is scheduled from 28-30 October 2026.

Background and Rationale

The All India Conference of China Studies (AICCS), convened annually by the Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS) since 2006, is a flagship platform for advancing research and dialogue on China in India. It brings together scholars, practitioners, and students across disciplines to engage with evolving trajectories in China's domestic transformations and global engagements. Over the past two decades, China Studies in India has witnessed significant expansion in terms of institutional presence, interdisciplinary approaches, and access to primary sources. At the same time, rapid changes within China and in the global order, economic restructuring, political consolidation, technological transformation, and shifting geopolitical alignments have generated new questions and research agendas. The 19th AICCS seeks to consolidate these developments by combining a reflection on the state of the field, a platform for new research, and a focused engagement with emerging themes shaping India–China relations and the Global South.

Conference Structure

The Conference will be organised into three components:

Part I: China Studies- State of the Field

This component reflects on the evolution of China Studies globally and in India, focusing on emerging directions, methodological innovations, and shifts in knowledge production.

Sub-themes:

- Global trends in China Studies
- China Studies in India: trajectories and challenges
- Language, archives, and methodological innovations
- Interdisciplinary and comparative approaches
- Rethinking theoretical frameworks in China Studies
- Social Development in China

Part II: New Research on China in India

This section provides a platform for scholars, particularly early-career researchers and doctoral candidates, to present original research across diverse themes in China Studies.

Sub-themes:

- Domestic politics, governance, and the Party-state
- Political economy, development, and inequality
- Society, culture, and identity transformations
- Environment, sustainability, and resource governance
- Science, technology, and innovation in China
- Foreign policy, strategy, and security
- China in regional and global governance
- Health, Education, Women's Development, Population trends, Urban-Rural Issues, Migrant labour

Part III: Special Theme

AI, Emerging Technologies, and Ethics in the Global South: India–China Perspectives

Technological transformations are increasingly reshaping global power structures, governance models, and normative frameworks. In this context, India-China relations are entering a new phase where emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, digital infrastructure, and advanced computing, are central to both competition and cooperation. At the same time, these developments raise broader questions for the Global South concerning technological dependency, digital sovereignty, and ethical governance. This special theme will examine these dynamics as a focused segment within the broader conference.

Sub-themes:

- Technology and shifting configurations of power
- AI, data governance, and digital sovereignty
- Competing regulatory and governance models
- Digital infrastructure, dependency, and Global South engagements
- Strategic autonomy and techno-geopolitics
- Ethical questions: labour, security, surveillance, and justice

— PROGRAMME —

TUESDAY, 27 OCTOBER, 2026

6:00 PM onwards: Arrival of Participants

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, 28 OCTOBER 2026

9:30 AM –10:00 AM: Registration for Conference Attendees

INAUGURAL SESSION
10:00 AM -11:30 AM

VENUE: Conference Hall (First Floor), Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: H. John Sema, Professor, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University, Lumami

Opening Remarks: Alka Acharya, Director, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi

Welcome Address: Dasarathi Bhuiyan, Professor and Head, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University, Lumami

Inaugural Address: Samudra Gupta Kashyap, Chancellor, Nagaland University, Lumami

Special Address: Jagadish K. Patnaik, Honourable Vice Chancellor, Nagaland University, Lumami

Convenor's Remarks: Rityusha Mani Tiwary, Convenor, 19th AICCS; Associate Professor, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi

Keynote Address: Nimmi Kurian, Professor, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi

MEA Representative's Remarks: Lt. Col. Amardeep Singh Multani, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Contemporary China Studies (CCCS) Division, Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi

Vote of Thanks: **Deepak Kumar Bhaskar**, Co-Convenor and Organising Secretary, 19th AICCS; Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

11:30 – 12:00: High Tea

SPECIAL PANEL I

CURRENT DISCOURSES IN CHINESE STUDIES

China Studies in India: Trajectories, Pedagogies, and Emerging Knowledge Frameworks

12:00 PM -1:30 PM

VENUE: Conference Hall (Ground Floor), Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: Sabaree Mitra, Professor, Centre for Chinese Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies

Speakers:

Samuel Sangtam, Research Scholar, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University, Lumami

China Studies in India: Structural Constraints, Knowledge Production, and the Path Toward Indigenous Theoretical Frameworks

Nishit Kumar, Assistant Professor, Subhas Chandra Bose Chair of International Relations, Chanakya University, Bengaluru

From Language to Knowledge Production: Reconfiguring China Studies in Contemporary India

Prashant Kaushik, Assistant Professor, Centre for Chinese Studies, Central University of Gujarat, Vadodara

National Education Policy 2020 and Chinese Language Education in India: A Perspective from the Periphery

Shanky Chandra, Assistant Professor & HOD, Department of Chinese Studies, Doon University, Dehradun

Studying China Beyond Metropolitan Centers: Emerging Institutional Spaces and Regional Knowledge Production in India

Snehal Ajit Ulman, Assistant Professor, Department of Chinese, School of Languages and Literature, Sikkim University

Rethinking Chinese Language Learning in India's Northeast: Future Prospects and Suggestions

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM: Lunch (First Floor, Lunch Area, Department of Political Science)

2:30 PM– 4:00 PM: Thematic Panels I & II (Parallel Sessions)

THEMATIC PANEL I

China's Political Economy: Environment, Energy and Regional Development

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

VENUE: Conference Hall (First Floor), Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: Akhil Ranjan Dutta, Professor, Department of Political Science; Director (i/c), Gauhati University Institute of North East India Studies (GUINEIS), Gauhati University

Speakers:

Prachi Aggarwal, Assistant Professor, Department of East Asian Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Delhi, New Delhi

China's Energy Structure in the Xi Jinping Era

Saumya Soni, Doctoral Scholar, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

From Wenzhou Model to City Brain: Institutional and Regional Innovation in China's Zhejiang Province

Mallika Bora, Doctoral Scholar, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Peripheralisation of China's Borderlands: A Critique of the Political Economy of Ethnic Textile and Handicraft Industries in Yunnan

Ana Sinha, Assistant Professor, International Business, FORE School of Management, Delhi

Water Stress, Carbon Transition Risk, and the Environmental Governance Gap in India–China Semiconductor and AI Infrastructure Investment

THEMATIC PANEL II

State, Society and Governance in Contemporary China

2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

VENUE: Lecture Room-I, Ground Floor, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: Sreemati Chakrabarti, Chairperson, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi

Speakers:

Prabir Kumar Talukdar, Independent Researcher

Meritocracy, Mobility, and Withdrawal: Tang Ping (躺平) and the Erosion of Perceived Upward Mobility Among Chinese Youth

Bidisha Seth, Assistant Professor, Department of Chinese Language and Culture, Bhasha Bhavana, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan

State Feminism and Political Control: Contradictions in China's 2025 Global Leaders' Meeting on Women

Rityusha Mani Tiwary, Convenor, 19th AICCS; Associate Professor, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi

Saima Iqbal, Associate Professor, Political Science, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

A Comparative Gendered Political Economy of Women's Movements in China and India: State Power, Developmental Transformations and Feminist Mobilisations

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM: Inaugural Dinner & Networking

DAY 2: THURSDAY, 29 OCTOBER, 2026

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM: Thematic Panels III & IV (Parallel Sessions)

THEMATIC PANEL III

Emerging Technologies as a Factor in Strategic Competition: Regional and Global Perspectives

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

VENUE: Conference Hall (Ground Floor), Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: G. Chandra Sekaran, Assistant Professor, Centre for South East Asian Studies, Nagaland University

Speakers:

Bhagyashree Nimbalkar, Doctoral Scholar, Centre for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; General Advanced Scholar, Fudan University, Shanghai

China's Contest for Technological Supremacy: Mapping AI Self-Sufficiency Strategies against US-led Weaponised Interdependence

Nandini Ghosh, Research Scholar, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Artificial Intelligence, Critical Minerals and Strategic Competition in Central Asia: An India–China Perspective

Parth Lathiya & Sudeep Kesharwanee, Academic Associate, Indian Institute of Management, Indore

The New Status Game: Artificial Intelligence, Emerging Powers, and the Remaking of Global Hierarchy

THEMATIC PANEL IV

India-China Historical Interactions and Politics of Culture in China

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

VENUE: Conference Hall (First Floor), Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: Suraj Beri, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Nagaland University, Lumami

Speakers:

Athira Anand, Assistant Professor, Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Epistemology, Jain (Deemed-to-be) University, Bengaluru

Pre-modern China's Links with the Kerala Coast: Scopes of Constructivist Local-Archival Methods

Supradip Das, Doctoral Scholar, Centre for Chinese Studies, School of Language, Literature and Culture Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

From Brush Strokes to Algorithms: Artificial Intelligence, Imagination and Cultural Governance in Contemporary Chinese Literature

Chinmai Rahangdale, Doctoral Scholar, Department of East Asian Studies, University of Delhi, New Delhi

Dramas of Statehood: The Age of Awakening and the Participatory Culture of Youth Digital Nationalism

11:30 AM– 11:45 AM: Tea Break

SPECIAL PANEL II

Strategic Autonomy and Techno-Geopolitics:

AI, geopolitical power, technological sovereignty and where India stands

11:45 AM– 1:30 PM

VENUE: Conference Hall (First Floor), Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: **Amb. Smita Purushottam,** Founder SITARA; Former Ambassador to Switzerland, the Holy See & Liechtenstein

Speakers:

Srinivas Yanamandra, Professor, Institute for Development and Research in Banking Technology (IDRBT), Hyderabad

Beyond the Brussels Effect: Algorithm Registries and the Global Diffusion of China's AI Regulation

Ravi Shankar Bose, Co-Founder & Director, Fugumobile, India

The Sovereign Tech Stack: Aligning Enterprise AI Deployment with Competing National Frameworks

G. Venkat Raman, Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Indore

Building India's AI Capability amid US–China Technology Rivalry

Ashish Sonal, Founder & CEO, ORKASH Labs, Gurugram

Strategic Autonomy & Military Intelligentization

Ayonam Ray, Founder & Director, R. R. Logic Systems Private Limited, Bengaluru

AI Technology stacks and where the US, China and India stand in it

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM: Lunch (First Floor, Lunch Area, Department of Political Science)

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM: Thematic Panels V & VI (Parallel Sessions)

THEMATIC PANEL V

China's Trade Relations: Emerging Technologies shaping Strategies and Policies

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

VENUE: Conference Hall (Ground Floor), Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: G. Venkat Raman, Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Indore

Speakers:

Nilanjan Banik, Professor & Program Chair (PhD), School of Management; Head, Economic Policy Centre, Mahindra University, Hyderabad

Emerging Technology and India–China Trade Relations

Subhash Bhambhu, Doctoral Scholar, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, Shiv Nadar University, Delhi-NCR

China's Anti-sanctions Playbook: Evolution, Uniqueness and Contradictions

Vibha Ghaty Sreesh, Independent Researcher and Analyst, Horizon Intelligence

Standards as Strategy: Chinese Technical Norms and Governance Influence in the Global South

THEMATIC PANEL VI

Digital Infrastructure and China's International Presence

2:30 PM – 3:45 PM

VENUE: Conference Hall (First Floor), Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: Shasanka Sekhar Pati, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University, Lumami

Speakers:

Ashna Shetty, Early-Career Researcher in International Relations

China's Smart City Systems in Malaysia: Theoretical Assessment of the ET City Brain and Mobile Payment System

Vivek Y. Kelkar, Independent Researcher and Visiting Faculty, IIM Indore; ABV-IIITM, Gwalior

Beyond Alignment Choices: The Quad, Techno-Geoeconomic Hedging, and China's Expanding Structural Power

DAY 3: FRIDAY, 30 OCTOBER, 2026

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM: Thematic Panels VII & VIII (Parallel Sessions)

THEMATIC PANEL VII

Technology, Innovation and Sovereignty: China in the Making of Global Norms

10:00 AM-11:15 AM

VENUE: Lecture Hall-II, Ground Floor, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: Likhase Sangtam, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University, Lumami

Speakers:

Om Ranjan, Doctoral Scholar, School of International Cooperation, Security and Strategic Languages (SICSSL), Rashtriya Raksha University, Gujarat

Beyond Made in China 2025: Strategic Technology Statecraft and the Evolution of China's Innovation Trajectory (2015–2025)

Vishnupriya P. K., Doctoral Scholar, International Politics, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Rewriting the Norm Cycle: China as a Technological Norm Entrepreneur and India's Quest for Digital Sovereignty

THEMATIC PANEL VIII

AI and Governance in Global South: Comparative Perspectives

10:00 AM – 11:15 AM

Chair: Monalisa Tase, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University, Lumami

Speakers:

Shikha Shaurya, Doctoral Scholar, Chinese Studies (International Relations), Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

China's Digital Humans and Its Governance Infrastructure

Wriju Banerjee, Doctoral Scholar, Centre for East Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Postsocialist AI and the Colonial Matrix of Power: Rethinking the Politics of Machine Intelligence in the Global South

Gadde Surya, Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College, University of Delhi, New Delhi

State of Exception as the Engine of Biometric Normalisation: A Comparative Study of India and China

11:15 AM– 11:45 AM: Tea Break

11:45 AM – 1:00 PM: Thematic Panels IX & X (Parallel Sessions)

THEMATIC PANEL IX

China's High-Tech Security Architecture: Implications for India and the US

11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

VENUE: Conference Hall (First Floor), Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: Deepak Kumar Bhaskar, Co-Convenor and Organising Secretary, 19th AICCS; Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Speakers:

Rakshit Kweera, Assistant Professor, Chanakya University, Bengaluru

Emerging Security Implications of Global Chinese High-Tech Trade: A Study of Chinese Video Surveillance Companies in India

Nistha Kumari Singh, Doctoral Scholar, Manipal Academy of Higher Education; Researcher, Geostrategy Programme, The Takshashila Institution, Bengaluru

Sino-American Strategic Competition in Smart Cities and Cybersecurity Dilemma

Bhumika Sevkani, Research Analyst, The Takshashila Institution, Bengaluru

Analysing India's Reliance on Chinese Battery and Energy Storage System Suppliers for Energy Transition

THEMATIC PANEL X

Infrastructure, Connectivity and China's Technological Outreach

11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

VENUE: Lecture Room-I, Ground Floor, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: Santosh Pai, Partner, Dentons Link Legal; Treasurer & Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi

Speakers:

Himanshi Sharma, Communications and Partnerships, Youngistaan Foundation, Hyderabad

Undersea Infrastructure and Cyber Sovereignty: China's Role in Global Digital Connectivity

Mohammed Afsal K.H., Doctoral Scholar, International Relations, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

Digital Lock-in and the Geopolitics of Technological Dependency: China's Digital Silk Road and Strategic Alignment in the Gulf

Abhishek Yadav, Doctoral Scholar, Centre for East Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

China's Space Export Diplomacy in the Global South: Dual Realities of Dependency and Sovereignty

1:00 PM – 1:45 PM: Lunch (First Floor, Lunch Area, Department of Political Science)

THEMATIC PANEL XI

India–China Relations: Historical Perspectives and Models of Regional Interactions

1:45 PM - 3:00 PM

VENUE: Conference Hall (First Floor), Department of Political Science, Nagaland University

Chair: Rityusha Mani Tiwary, Convenor, 19th AICCS; Associate Professor, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi

Speakers:

Monika Doley, Assistant Professor, Silapathar College, Assam; Doctoral Scholar, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University, Lumami

The Evolution of India–China Relations, 1947–2026: Competing Imperatives of Cooperation, Conflict, and Coexistence

Pavan Kumar, Assistant Professor, School of Global Affairs, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University Delhi, New Delhi

China–India Competition in Nepal: Balancing, Bandwagoning, or Hedging?

Shrishti Khare, Academic Associate, Indian Institute of Management, Indore

Harmony and Hierarchy: Chinese IR Theory and China's Behaviour in the SCO, BRICS and G20

VALEDICTORY SESSION

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

Chair: Moamenla Amer, Professor, Department of Political Science; Director (i/c), Centre for South East Asian Studies, Nagaland University, Lumami

Special Remarks: B. Kilangla Jamir, Dean, School of Social Sciences, Nagaland University, Lumami

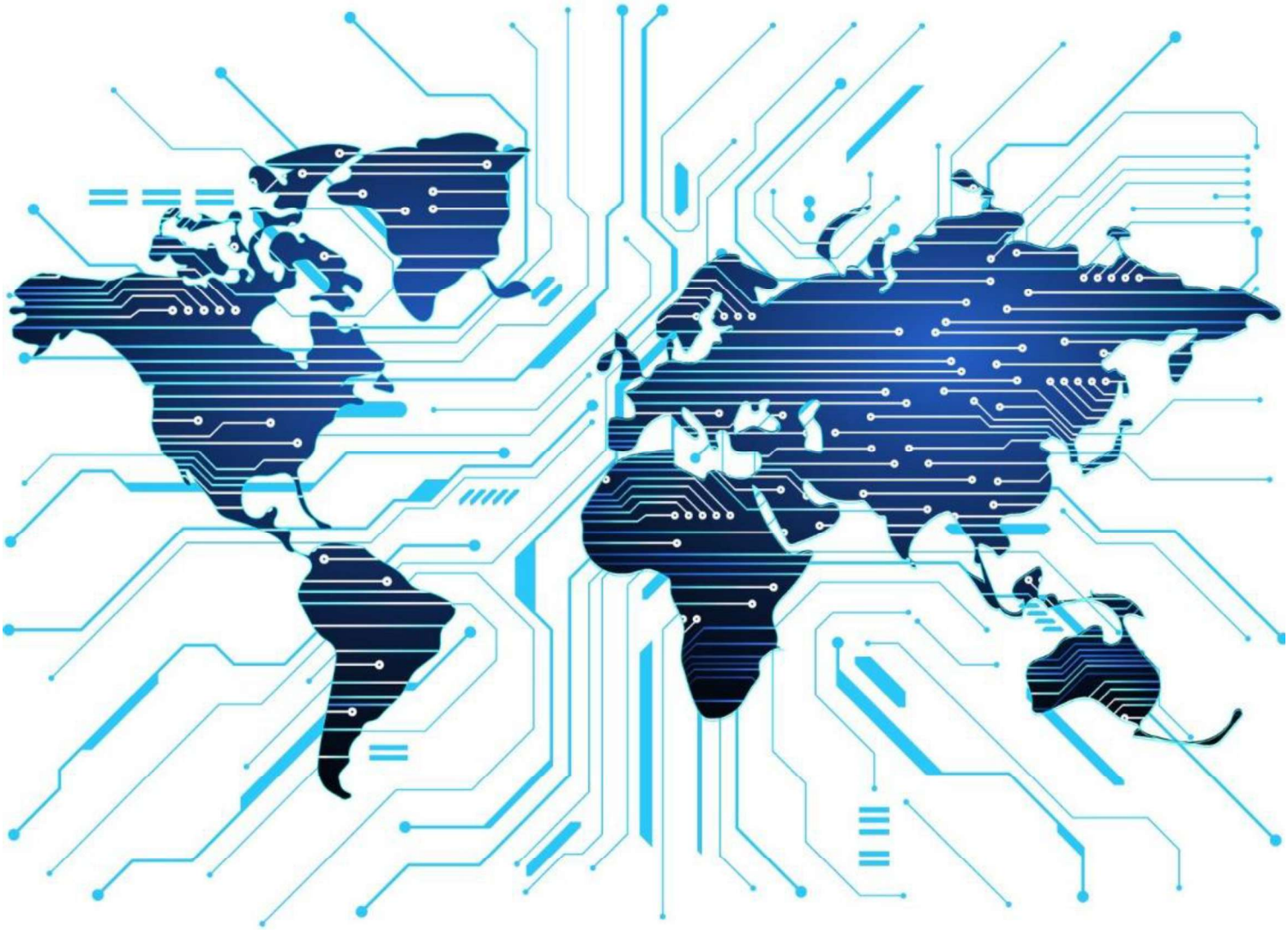
Valedictory Address: **Alka Acharya,** Director, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi

Presentation on ICS-HYI Multi-Year Fellowship: **Tiasangla Longkumer,** Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Hyderabad–Harvard Yenching Institute

Convenor's Report: **Rityusha Mani Tiwary**, Convenor, 19th AICCS; Associate Professor, Shaheed Bhagat Singh College; Honorary Fellow, Institute of Chinese Studies, New Delhi

Welcoming Delegates to the 20th AICCS: Nishit Kumar, Assistant Professor, Subhas Chandra Bose Chair of International Relations, Chanakya University, Bengaluru

Vote of Thanks: **Deepak Kumar Bhaskar**, Co-Convenor and Organising Secretary, 19th AICCS; Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, Nagaland University



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