China’s Digital Silk Road: Implications for India

Symposium co-organized by the Institute of Chinese Studies, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) and India International Centre on September 25, 2019 (Wednesday) in New Delhi.

VENUE: CONFERENCE ROOM 2, INDIA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE, NEW DELHI

AIM

The objective of the symposium is to assess the emergence of China as a digital power house, the growing global impact its digital strategy and the policy implications for India. Although there has been a vigorous Indian debate on China’s Belt and Road Initiative, there has been little focus on the digital complement to it. China’s Digital Silk Road marks the rapid expansion of China’s role in building terrestrial and space-based communication infrastructure around the world, integration of the world markets into China’s internet economy and the inevitable consequences for international relations. The workshop hopes to initiate an Indian discourse on the issues involved.

AGENDA

Two broad themes present themselves for discussion—China’s digital rise and the policy challenges for India. The two sessions at the symposium will be preceded by keynote address and followed by a wrap-up sessions. The first session, “China’s Digital Rise”, looks at the domestic sources of China’s digital transformation, China’s strategy for leadership in the development and use of Artificial Intelligence technologies and the geopolitical consequences of its digital transformation. The second session, “Impact on India”, then discusses China’s deepening role in India’s digital economy and the resultant policy challenges for the Indian state and society.

TIMELINE, VENUE & PARTICIPATION

The symposium hopes to draw China specialists, digital industry representatives, academics and policy makers into the discussion. The symposium will be held at the India International Centre, Delhi on September 25, 2019.

OUTCOME

The organisers will produce a report, based on the presentations and discussion at the workshop, that could serve as the basis for wider discussion in India.