COSATT
Regional Conference on
"Refugees in South Asia"
May 2-3, 2016
Hotel Annapurna, Kathmandu

Organized by
Centre for South Asian Studies (CSAS) in cooperation with
Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

May 1, 2016 (Sun.)
Arrival of Delegates (All Day)

18:30 hrs. Welcome Dinner at Arch Room (Guest of Honour Ms. Jacqueline Groth, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany to Nepal)

May 2, 2016 (Mon.)
Inaugural Session (Arch Room)
9:00 hrs. Registration and tea/coffee
9:30 hrs. Welcome Address by Dr. Nishchal N. Pandey, Director, CSAS
9:45 hrs. Inauguration of the conference by chief guest Honourable Anup Raj Sharma, Chairman, National Human Rights Commission of Nepal and former chief justice by lighting the traditional Nepali lamp
9:47 hrs. Address on “South Asian Refugees: The Desperation Factor” by Prof. Imtiaz Ahmed, Executive Director, Regional Centre for Strategic Studies (RCSS), Colombo

10:00 hrs. Address on “Refugees in South Asia: An Indian Perspective” by Lt. Gen. (retd.) PK Singh, PVSM, AVSM, Director, United Service Institution (USI) of India, New Delhi

10:15 hrs. Presentation on “Refugees of South Asia” by Maj. Gen. (retd.) ANM Muniruzzaman, President, Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS), Dhaka

10:30 hrs. Address by the chief guest Honourable Anup Raj Sharma, Chairman, National Human Rights Commission of Nepal and former chief justice

10:45 hrs. Group Photo/Tea/Coffee

First Session

11:15 hrs. Address on “Present and (with no) Future: The Refugees in South Asia 2016” by Prof. D. Suba Chandran, International Strategic and Security Studies, National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore, India

11:30 hrs. Address on “Sri Lankan Tamil Refugees in India” by Prof. A. Subramanyam Raju, Head, Institute of South Asian Studies, Pondicherry University, India

11:45 noon Address on “Refugees and Radicalization - Understanding the Dynamics” by Shafqat Munir, Associate Research Fellow, Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS), Dhaka

12:00 noon Address on “Refugees and IDPs: Implications for South Asian Connectivity” by Dhruva Jaishankar, Fellow for Foreign Policy, Brookings Institution India Centre, New Delhi

12:15 noon Floor Discussion

13:00 hrs. Response by Speakers (5 mins. each)

13:15 hrs. Lunch (At Ghar-e-Kabab)
Second Session

14:15 hrs. Address on “Managing the Rohingya Crisis: Need for Increased Multi-Level Engagement” by Md. Nazmul Islam, Research Officer, Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS), Dhaka

14:30 hrs. Address on “Re-Settlement of Afghan Refugee: Socio-Politico Costs and Humanitarian Dimensions” by Salma Malik, Assistant Professor, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad

14:45 hrs. Address on “Prospects and Challenges of the Re-settled Bhutanese Refugees” by Lekhanath Pandey, Special Correspondent, The Himalayan Times daily, Kathmandu

15:00 hrs. Floor Discussion

15:30 hrs. Response from Speakers (5 mins each)

15:45 hrs. Tea/Coffee/End of Day One

19:00 hrs. Dinner (outside the hotel-venue to be notified)

May 3, 2016 (Tue.)

Third Session (Arch Room)

9:30 hrs. Address on “Refugees in South Asia”, by Alok Bansal, Director, India Foundation, New Delhi

9:45 hrs. Address on “The Refugee Imbroglio with Special Focus on Tibetan and Bhutanese Refugees in Nepal” by Prof. M.P. Lohani, Former Nepali Ambassador to Bangladesh and DPR to United Nations

10:00 hrs. Address on “Migration in Northeast India: A Live Politico- Electoral Issue” by Ms. Rani Pathak Das, Senior Research Associate, Centre for Development and Peace Studies, Guwahati
10:15 hrs.  Address on “Rohingya Refugees in India: Challenges and Resolutions” by Dr. Nihar Nayak, Research Fellow, Institute of Defense Studies and Analyses (IDSA), New Delhi

10:30 hrs.  Floor Discussions

11:00 hrs.  Response by Speakers (5 mins. each)

11:20 hrs.  Tea/Coffee

Fourth Session:

11:45 hrs.  Address on “IDPs in Pakistan” by Aymen Ijaz, Assistant Research Officer, Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI), Islamabad

12:00 noon  Address on “IDPs in Bangladesh” by Ashique Rahman, Research Fellow, Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS), Dhaka

12:15 hrs.  Floor Discussion

12:45 hrs.  Response by Presenters (5 mins. each)

Concluding Session:

13:00 hrs.  Final Words by Dr. Nishchal N. Pandey, Director, CSAS

13:10 hrs.  Vote of Thanks by Ms. Megha Sarmah, Research Officer, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), Singapore

13:20 hrs.  Conclusion of the Conference /Lunch (at Arniko room)

18:30 hrs.  Farewell Dinner at Thamel

21:00 hrs.  Return to Hotel Annapurna

May 4, 2016 (Wed.)

Departures