

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 2164**  
ANSWERED ON- 07/08/2025

**THINK TANK DIPLOMACY TO STRENGTHEN INDIA'S GLOBAL INTELLECTUAL  
FOOTPRINT**

2164. SHRI SATNAM SINGH SANDHU

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Ministry has initiated any think tank diplomacy programmes to strengthen India's global intellectual footprint;
- (b) the list of think tanks or academic forums supported by Government for foreign policy dialogue;
- (c) whether partnerships have been established with international think tanks for India-centric research; and
- (d) the plans to institutionalize annual strategic dialogues led by Indian institutions abroad?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to d)

- i. The Ministry of External Affairs provides budgetary support to the following two autonomous think-tanks to carry out research, publishing and engagements with domestic and international think-tanks: the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) established through an act of Parliament, and Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), established as a registered society.
- ii. Through the Policy Planning and Research (PP&R) Division, the Ministry also engages with other think tanks, universities, research organizations and academic institutions and supports research studies, conferences and seminars by these institutions on topics of relevance to our foreign policy. The Ministry also extends some funding support for foreign policy outreach initiatives/dialogues, including the Raisina Dialogue, Indian Ocean Conference, Global Technology Summit, Asia Economic Dialogue, India-US Forum, India-Japan Forum, among others. There is a strong participation of reputed international think-tanks and research institutions in many of these dialogues.
- iii. The list of think-tanks, educational and research institutions whose specific initiatives have been supported by the Ministry in 2024-25 is attached at **Annexure A**.
- iv. Our Embassies and Consulates also receive support from the Policy Planning and Research Division of the Ministry of External Affairs to participate in and promote foreign policy and strategic dialogues in their respective countries, including through engagement with reputed think-tanks and research institutions.

**The list of think-tanks, educational and research institutions whose specific initiatives have been supported by the Ministry of External Affairs in FY 2024-25**

Sl. No.	Think-Tank/Organization	Purpose
1.	Ananta Aspen Centre, New Delhi	India Korea Dialogue 2023; India-US Forum 2024; Inaugural edition of the India Nordic Dialogue 2024; India-Korea Dialogue 2024; India-EU Dialogue 2024
2.	Asian Confluence, Shillong	India-Japan Intellectual Conclave 'Kizuna' 2024; Research Project
3.	Association of Indian Diplomats, New Delhi	For publishing Indian Foreign Affairs Journal and other research activities
4.	Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Pune	Research Project
5.	Carnegie Endowment for International Peace India, New Delhi	Global Technology Summit 2023; Inaugural edition of the GTS Innovation Dialogue 2024
6.	Delhi Policy Group, New Delhi	India-Japan Indo-Pacific Forum 2024
7.	Gateway House: Indian Council of Global Relations, Mumbai	Inaugural edition of the India-Indonesia Dialogue 2024
8.	Global Counter Terrorism Council, Noida	India-EU Roundtable 2024
9.	India Foundation, New Delhi	Indian Ocean Conference 2023; Indian Ocean Conference 2024
10.	Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi	International Conference of ISIL 2024
11.	Manipur University, Imphal	India – Myanmar Relations Conference 2023
12.	Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis, New Delhi	Research Project
13.	National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru	Polar Dialogue
14.	Northeastern Development Finance Corporation, Guwahati	Research Project
15.	Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi	Raisina Young Fellows Programme 2024; Inaugural edition of the Quad Think-Tank Forum 2024; Raisina Forum for Future of Diplomacy; Raisina Dialogue 2024
16.	Organisation for Research on China and Asia, Noida	Global Conference on New Sinology 2024
17.	Pune International Centre, Pune	Asia Economic Dialogue 2024
18.	Rashtriya Raksha University, Gandhinagar	Research Project; Asian African Treaty Law and Practice Conference 2024
19.	Symbiosis School of International Studies, Pune	International Relations Conference 2023
20.	The Energy Forum, New Delhi	International Conference on 'Purvodaya Perspectives' 2024
21.	Usanas Foundation, Udaipur	Maharana Pratap Annual Geopolitics Dialogue 2024

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