

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS SCHOLASTIC CONCLAVE (IRSC) 2026

Strategic Autonomy and Global Re-alignment Exploring India's Prospects in a Multipolar World

9th , 10th & 11th September
Jadavpur University Main Campus, Kolkata

Day 1 - 9 September 2026	
10:00- 10:30	Registration
Opening Session Theme: Strategic Autonomy and Global Re-alignment - Exploring India's Prospects in a Multipolar World Venue : Triguna Sen Auditorium, Jadavpur University Main Campus Session Chair : Dr. Kamaran M K Mondal, Head of Department, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University	
10:30-12:15	Introduction and Welcome : Dr. Subhajit Naskar Coordinator, IRSC 2026 & Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University Keynote Address : <i>Strategic Autonomy in a Multipolar World: India's Evolving Global Posture</i> J. N. Choudhury (ex- IPS) Special Monitor for Criminal Justice, NHRC & Distinguished Fellow, United Service Institution of India (USI) Vote of Thanks : Dr. Shibashis Chatterjee Convenor, IRSC 2026 & Professor, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University

12:15-12:30	Coffee Break
Special Session I Theme : From Carbon Borders to Strategic Autonomy: The Political Economy of the India-EU FTA in the Quest for Viksit Bharat 2047 Venue : K.P. Basu Auditorium, Jadavpur University Main Campus Session Chair : Dr. Rajat Acharyya, Professor, Department of Economics, Jadavpur University, Kolkata	
12:30-14:30	Special Lecture : <i>Carbon and Semiconductor Autonomy in the Political Economy of India-EU FTA: Strategic Pathways to Viksit Bharat 2047</i> Prof Saibal Kar Reserve Bank of India Chair Professor of Economics, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta (CSSSC) Special Lecture : <i>Towards Viksit Bharat 2047: Economic Diplomacy and Strategic Autonomy</i> Prof. Manish Professor & Dean, School of International Studies (SIS), Central University of Gujarat
14:30-15:00	Lunch

Distinguished Lecture I (MEA) Venue : K.P. Basu Auditorium, Jadavpur University Main Campus Theme : India's Act East Policy and the continued Relevance of the Indo-Pacific Vision. Session Chair: Dr. Kamaran M K Mondal, Head of Department, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University	
15:00-15:45	Distinguished Lecture <i>India's Act East Policy and the continued Relevance of the Indo-Pacific Vision.</i> Ambassador Suchitra Durai Former Ambassador of India to Thailand, High Commissioner of India to Kenya & Ambassador of India to Somalia and Eritrea
First Academic Session Venue : Triguna Sen Auditorium, Jadavpur University Main Campus Theme: South-South Cooperation: From Bandung to BRICS and Reclaiming Global South Agency Chair : Swami Vedeswarupananda Maharaj, Director-in-Charge of the Vivekananda Archive, Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture (RMIC), Gol Park, West Bengal	
16:00-17:00	Lecture: <i>India as the 'Vishwa Mitra': Redefining South-South Development Cooperation</i> Sreeram Sundar Chaulia Professor & Dean, Jindal School of International Affairs (JSIA) & Director General, Jindal India Institute

Day 2 - 10 September, 2026	
11:00-11:30	Registration
Second Academic Session Venue : K.P. Basu Auditorium, Jadavpur Main Campus Theme: Internal Migration and Structural Inequality: How Caste shapes Informality, and Social Exclusion. Session Chair : Dr. Kamaran M K Mondal, Head of Department, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University	
11:30-13:30	Lecture 1 : <i>Caste, Informality and Structural Inequality: Patterns of Internal Migration in India</i> Dr. Subhajit Naskar Coordinator, IRSC 2026 & Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University Lecture 2 : <i>Internal Migration and Structural Inequality</i> Dr. Ch. Satish Assistant Professor Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata Lecture 3: <i>Social Exclusion and Labour Mobility: The Intersection of Caste and Migration</i> Dr. Abdul Matin Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University
13:30-14:00	Lunch

Third Academic Session

Venue : K.P. Basu Auditorium, Jadavpur Main Campus

Theme: Beyond SAARC: BIMSTEC and India's Strategy to Reshape Regional Governance in the Indo-Pacific.

Session Chair : Dr. Iman Kalyan Lahiri, Professor, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University

14:00-16:00

Lecture 1 :

BIMSTEC and India's Indo-Pacific Strategy: Reshaping Regional Governance

Captain S.S. Parmar

Former Indian Navy Officer & Strategic Analyst ,
Distinguished Fellow, Council for Strategic and Defense
Research (CSDR), New Delhi.

Lecture 2 :

Energy Security and Regional Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific

Dr. Vivek Mishra

Deputy Director of the Strategic Studies Programme,
Observer Research Foundation (ORF), New Delhi.

Lecture 3 :

Beyond SAARC: Institutional Innovations and India's Regional Leadership

Prof. Samir Kumar Das

Professor of Political Science & Director,
Institute of Foreign Policy Studies, University of Calcutta

Distinguished Lecture II (MEA)

Venue : K.P. Basu Auditorium, Jadavpur University Main Campus

Theme : Regional Governance in the Indo-Pacific

Session Chair: Ratan Mandal, Former Dean, ISLM, Director, School of Energy Studies, Jadavpur University

16:00-17:00

Distinguished Lecture

Regional Governance in the Indo-Pacific

Ambassador Jaideep Mazumdar,
Former Secretary (East),
India's Ministry of External Affairs
Distinguished Visiting Research Fellow,
NUS Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS),
Singapore.

Day 3 - 11 September	
10:00-10:30	Registration
Special Session II Theme : Epistemic Swaraj and Strategic Autonomy: Reclaiming Knowledge Sovereignty in a Post-Liberal World Order Venue : Dr. H.L. Roy Building , Jadavpur University Main Campus Session Chair : Prof. Debi Chatterjee (Retd.), Retired Professor, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University	
10:30-12:30	Special Lecture : <i>Sovereignty, Hierarchy and Historical Consciousness: Decolonising South Asian International Thought</i> Dr. Atul Mishra Associate Professor and Head, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies at Shiv Nadar University, Delhi-NCR. Special Lecture : <i>The Making of Indian Diplomacy: Indigenous Traditions and the Challenge to a Western-Ordered World</i> Dr. Navnita C. Behera Professor of International Relations, Department of Political Science, University of Delhi, New Delhi.
12:30-12:45	Coffee Break

Fourth Academic Session Theme : From Source to Sea: Rethinking River and Climate Governance from the Himalaya to the Bengal Delta Venue : Dr. H.L. Roy Building , Jadavpur University Main Campus Session Chair : Dr. Nilanjan Ghosh, Director, Observer Research Foundation (ORF), Kolkata	
12:45-14:30	Lecture 1 : <i>Sundarbans and Climate Governance: Local Ecological Knowledge in a Changing Climate</i> Dr. Anamitra Anurag Danda, Director, Sundarbans Programme at WWF-India & Senior Visiting Fellow with the Energy and Climate Change Programme at the Observer Research Foundation Lecture 2 : <i>Sediment Starvation and Rising Seas: The Physical Unmaking of the Sundarbans Delta and Its Implications for Upstream River Governance</i> Dr. Sugata Hazra Professor of Coastal Zone Management and the former Director of the School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University, Kolkata.
Fifth Academic Session (Parallel Session) Theme : Bridging the Hiatus of History: India's Maritime Civilisational Networks, the Bay of Bengal Region, and the Strategic Evolution of India's Eastward Policy Venue : K.P. Basu Auditorium, Jadavpur University Session Chair : Dr. Ishani Naskar, Professor, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University	
12:45-14:30	Lecture 1 : <i>Bay of Bengal Region and the Strategic Evolution of India's Act East Policy</i> Dr. Anindya Jyoti Majumdar Professor, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University

	Lecture 2 : <i>The Evolution of India's Practice of Strategic Autonomy: From Non-Alignment to Multi-Alignment</i> Dr. Monish Tourangbam Fellow and Senior Research Consultant, Chintan Research Foundation, Honorary Director, Kalinga Institute of Indo-Pacific Studies
14:30-15:00	Lunch
Sixth Academic Session Theme: India's Maritime Strategy and the Quest for Regional Primacy in the Indian Ocean Venue : K.P. Basu Auditorium, Jadavpur Main Campus Session Chair : Prof. Rajkumar Kothari, Professor and Head of the Department of Political Science at Diamond Harbour Women's University (DHWU) & Former Vice-Chancellor, Sanskrit College and University	
15:00-16:30	Lecture 1: <i>India's Maritime Strategy: Balancing Regional Primacy and Multipolar Realities</i> Colonel (Dr.) Guru Saday Batabyal Military Veteran, Author and Visiting Faculty, Army War College, Mhow, Madhya Pradesh. Lecture 2 : <i>Maritime Security and Regional Primacy in the Indian Ocean: Challenges and Prospects</i> Dr. Sreeradha Dutta Professor, Jindal School of International Affairs (JSIA), O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat
16:30-17:00	Coffee Break

Closing Session

Venue : K.P. Basu Auditorium, Jadavpur Main Campus

Session Chair : Dr. Kamaran M K Mondal, Head of Department, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University

17:00-19:00

Valedictory Address :

Prof. Rakhahari Chatterjee,
Honorary Distinguished Fellow,
Observer Research Foundation (ORF), Kolkata

IRSC Key Outcomes :

Dr. Shibashis Chatterjee,
Convenor, IRSC 2026 & Professor,
Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University

Vote of Thanks :

Dr. Subhajit Naskar,
Coordinator, IRSC 2026 & Assistant Professor,
Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University