

Ambassador Lecture Series

Topic: South Asia and Indo-Pacific: The Way Forward

Speaker: Ambassador Daniel Shields

Date: 28 July 2022



Key Takeaways

The Centre for East Asian Studies (CEAS) in collaboration with the Consulate General of the United States, Chennai, organized a lecture on “South Asia and Indo-Pacific: The Way Forward.”

Ambassador Daniel Shields examined the various issues in the Indo-Pacific region and the role of the US in forming the QUAD, and the idea of “Freedom to exercise.” He quoted several instances where the Chinese Army was a threat to the Indo-Pacific region and the South Asian region, in which the US focused on security matters.

The future prospects of the relations with other countries in South Asia and the Pacific rim were also discussed. Additionally, strengthening ties between the US and India was seen as a convincing action and outcome of the session.

Several topics were raised in the Q/A session, like the AUKUS deal, Climate Change, SCO, US' response to the Arctic Sea route, US' involvement in the present Sri Lankan crisis, etc. Scholars also enquired about the US' reaction to recently escalated relations between China & Solomon Islands and the Chinese threat to the Pacific Islands. To this, the ambassador responded and provided a bureaucratic point of view and the handling of multilateral relations from a diplomatic standpoint.

Following the thought-stimulating interaction, the event concluded with a Vote of Thanks given by Prof Vinod.

Reported by V. Mahesh Adithya, Blog & Documentation Team Coordinator, MAIS, Christ University.