

Press Release

On September 8, 2022, the Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), based in Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, hosted a conversation between Russia's Ambassador to India, Mr Denis Alipov and Dr Jaimini Bhagwati, Distinguished Fellow, CSEP and former Indian Ambassador to the European Union. The discussion centred on "India's Economic-Classified Ties with Russia and Prognosis about the Conflict in Ukraine".

As both countries celebrate 75 years of diplomatic relations, the conversation began by recalling Russia-India technological-economic cooperation dating back to even pre-independence times. On collaboration in generating nuclear power, Ambassador Alipov mentioned that the Kudankulam project is a "landmark" for collaboration between India and Russia and that the world needs clean and reliable nuclear power.

On defence sector cooperation, Ambassador Alipov referred to the possibility that MiG-29K fighter aircraft and helicopters could be onboard the INS Vikrant, the recently launched, indigenously built new aircraft carrier. Mr Alipov remarked that India is a major defence partner for Russia. The discussion also referred to the hitherto relatively limited trade and investment ties between India and Russia.

Ambassador Alipov, in explaining Russia's reasons for the current conflict in Ukraine, said "we have been accused of unjustified and unprovoked aggression and that is wrong on both accounts" and he provided Russia's perspective to substantiate this statement. On the West's reaction to the on-going hostilities in Ukraine, Ambassador Alipov remarked that "it has clearly become a conflict between us and NATO. Ukraine has become a tool."

You can watch the conversation between Mr Denis Alipov and Dr Jaimini Bhagwati on the CSEP website - https://csep.org/dialogue_category/russian-ambassador-to-india-mr-denis-alipov-and-dr-jaimini-bhagwati-discuss-indias-economic-classified-ties-with-russia-and-the-conflict-in-ukraine/

About CSEP: The [Centre for Social and Economic Progress](https://csep.org/) (CSEP) conducts in-depth, policy-relevant research and provides evidence-based recommendations to the challenges facing India and the world. It draws on the expertise of its researchers, extensive interactions with policy makers as well as convening power to enhance the impact of research. Our researchers work across domains including, but not limited to, Growth, Finance & Development; Energy, Natural Resources and Sustainability; and Foreign Policy and Security. All our research and policy recommendations are freely available to the public.

For media-related queries, contact:

Aruna Bose

Senior Manager – Communications

Email: Abose@csep.org

CSEP Research Foundation

Regd. Off: Second floor, 6, Dr Jose P Rizal Marg
Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110 021 India
T: +91 11 2415 7600 E: info@csep.org W: www.csep.org

