

March 4, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP) Hosts Second Annual India in Asia: Deeper Engagement Conference

The Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP) hosted the second edition of its flagship event, the **India in Asia: Deeper Engagement Conference**, held at the Neemrana Fort-Palace in Rajasthan, India, from March 1-3, 2024. Under the theme 'New Industrial Policies: Asian Perspectives,' this gathering brought together leaders, scholars, and policymakers from across India and Asia. The conference was co-chaired by **Rakesh Mohan**, President Emeritus and Distinguished Fellow, CSEP and **Danny Quah**, Dean and Li Ka Shing Professor of Economics, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore.

Representatives from various Asian countries, including Japan, China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, South Korea, Singapore, Thailand, and Malaysia, participated in the event. The India in Asia: Deeper Engagement Conference 2024 served as a pivotal platform for thought exchange, dialogue and debate on critical issues shaping the region's economic landscape.

Increasingly countries, both developed and developing, are adopting industrial policies that provide different types of support to specific industries and firms. This adversely impacts free trade on the one hand but enables the growth of specific sectors and firms. The conference participants discussed the challenges and opportunities thrown up by new industrial policies, how different is this practice from the past, and whether countries within Asia needed to be aligned. The deliberations also included how to reduce the costs and maximise the benefits of industrial countries for South, southeast, and East Asian countries, including India.

The conference featured five thought-provoking sessions: Geopolitical Rivalry and Use of Industrial Policy as a Strategic Weapon; New Industrial Policies: How are They Different From Those That Promoted Growth in Asia?; New Industrial Policies and Geo-economic Fragmentation: Implications for Trade

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and Global Value Chains; Climate Change, Decarbonisation, Energy Transition:
Options for New Industrial Policies?; and New Growth Policy Paradigms for
Asia in a Fragmenting Global Economy: Impact of New Industrial Policies.

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