

INTERNATIONAL VISITOR LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Promoting U.S.-India Space Cooperation

Roundtable and Reception with Indian Space Scientists

U.S. Chamber of Commerce | 1615 H St. NW | Washington, DC.

Monday, April 30, 2018 | 3:00 PM Roundtable | 5:30 PM Reception

The U.S. India Business Council (USIBC) is pleased to launch a three-week cultural exchange promoting space exploration and scientific cooperation between the United States and India. In a program conceptualized in 1940 by Nelson Rockefeller, the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) is a professional exchange program funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The IVLP mission offers current and emerging international leaders the opportunity to experience the richness and diversity of American political, economic, social and cultural life through tailored exchanges that reflect participants' professional interests and the public diplomacy objectives of the United States government. The exchange brings up to 5,000 professional emerging global leaders to the United States each year for three-week programs.

The concept for the U.S.-India Space Cooperation IVLP program came from U.S. diplomats stationed in India, where Officers nominate and select participants based on their future leadership potential. From April 30 to May 18, 2018, our Indian guests will visit Washington, DC, Colorado, California and Florida where they will forge links between U.S. and Indian scientists, engineers, and public policy experts focused on space as they examine U.S. policies governing sharing of cutting-edge space technology. The delegation will further bilateral cooperation in the area of space sensors and consider potential applications for more capable satellites, from planetary science to assessments of natural resource availability. The program will also examine the role of non-government research institutions in advancing space science and consider the benefits of increased cooperation between U.S. and Indian academic institutions and government space agencies.

Please join USIBC for a roundtable discussion and welcome reception as we together seek to enhance and promote academic and commercial support for the U.S.-India space relationship.

Indian Delegation:

- **Mr. Kumar ABHIJEET**, Assistant Professor, National Law School of India University
- **Dr. Jossia JOSEPH**, Scientist D, National Institute of Ocean Technology
- **Mr. Srinivasa RAGHOTHAM**, Assistant Editor, Deccan Herald
- **Dr. Krishnan Sundara RAJAN**, Associate Professor and Head of the Lab for Spatial Informatics, International Institute of Information Technology (IIIT-H) Hyderabad
- **Prof. Nandan Kumar SINHA**, Professor, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, Department of Aerospace Engineering

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3:00 PM **Registration and Networking**

3:30 PM **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Call to Order:

Jay Gullish, Sr. Policy Director, Digital Economy, U.S.-India Business Council, U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Setting the Stage:

Victoria Samson, Washington Office Director, Secure World Foundation

3:45 PM **The Foundations of the U.S.-India Space Diplomacy**

The United States and India have a storied history of jointly exploring our universe and studying our planet, from the early NASA/ISRO sounding rocket missions, to the personal journey and tragedy of Indian-American astronaut Kalpana Chawla. Recent joint successes include confirming water on the lunar surface and co-orbiting Martian missions. Today, U.S.-India space cooperation touches the deepest ocean, joint research into monsoon forecasting, and planned missions to explore our solar system and beyond. As our governments develop a robust bilateral civil space program, their activities stimulate our imagination and possibilities, as representatives discuss the potential and plans of U.S.-India space diplomacy, scientific collaboration, and exploration of our planet and universe.

*David A. Turner, Deputy Director Space & Advanced Technology
U.S. Department of State*

Discussion and Questions to Follow

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4:15 PM *The Role of Industry and Academia in the Indo American Space Enterprise*

Academia and industry have long played a critical role in supporting the government space and weather enterprise through cutting-edge research, technology commercialization, information distribution, and end-user feedback to governments. Over the past several years, the Indian Meteorology Department has begun the assessment process to understand when and where to leverage academia and industry within its domestic sector. Led in part by a nascent but growing domestic industry and the India Meteorological Society, India is on the cusp of its own commercial weather revolution. This panel will discuss the opportunity and challenges of the multi-stakeholder weather enterprise, emphasizing the role for collaboration between the United States and India across government, industry, academia and civil society.

Moderator: *Tom Fahy, Capitol Meteorologics*

Panelists: *Mr. Jatin Singh, CEO Skymet Weather*

Jim Anderson, Senior Vice President, Earth Networks

Matthew Alto, Manager, Global Data Partnerships, AccuWeather

5:00 PM *The Indian Experience*

Indian space leadership in exploration, Earth science and weather is based on its sizeable constellation of satellites, probes, and growing academic and commercial sectors. Each year, the monsoon season drives a widespread and public debate about weather, rainfall, and its impact on the Indian agricultural sector. Yet the Indian weather enterprise provides significant room to develop and disseminate next generation forecasts that integrate information from space, air, land, and sea targeted toward new end-users in the transportation, agriculture and renewable energy sectors. Financial and movement users also depend on this data for insurance, risk-management, and disaster planning. So where does India go from here? The panelists will discuss if and how the government could fully utilize the skills and capabilities of academia and industry, and work with the United States to optimize the potential of its Earth science ecosystem.

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Mr. SRINIVASA RAGHOTHAM, Assistant Editor, Deccan Herald*

Closing Thoughts: *USIBC and FICCI discuss plans to collaborate in the area of commercial space advocacy.*

Remarks: *Ridhika Batra, Country Head - Director - FICCI - USA*

5:30 PM *Move to Reception*

7:00 PM *Event ends*