

**3<sup>rd</sup> DPG-AusCSCAP WORKSHOP**  
**December 01, 2020**  
**0930 – 1215 IST (1500 – 1745 AEDT)**

**Event Profile**

The Covid-19 pandemic, the most devastating event in living memory since World War II, has changed the world beyond recognition and will continue to impact our lives in ways that are difficult to fathom. It came at a time when the international system was already stressed due to rebalancing of the global economy and power equations, disenchantment with globalisation and concerns about inequity, the failure of the multilateral system to effectively grapple with the challenges of terrorism and climate change, and the emergence of new threats in the digital and cyber domains. China's moves to reshape accepted international rules for its exclusive advantage have only added to these complex challenges and have led to a change in the US outlook towards Asia. Leadership transitions in Japan and the US also generate uncertainties.

The Indo-Pacific has replaced the Atlantic as the primary theatre of global contestation, bringing great power competition to Asia. Regional and extra-regional stakeholders including ASEAN, Australia, France, Germany, India, Japan and the US have announced their respective Indo-Pacific visions, but doubts persist about their ability to harness these collectively to buttress rules based order. The Quadrilateral security dialogue has progressed towards regularisation and even prospective formalisation. China denounces this trend as attempts at containment, but maintains its coercive and expansionist assertions across the region.

India and Australia, following a series of setbacks and false starts over a decade, have established a comprehensive global and strategic partnership and set out a shared vision for maritime cooperation in the Indo-Pacific on June 04, 2020. The partnership calls for bilateral engagement across 11 pillars designed to strengthen cooperation in stabilising the Indo-Pacific and tackling emerging challenges, including the pandemic. Their shared vision for maritime cooperation in the Indo-Pacific highlights common concerns, while seeking solutions through strengthened domain awareness and deeper cooperation between navies, coastguards and law enforcement agencies, as well as working together to support the regional architecture in line with shared values and interests. The forward momentum of the Quadrilateral dialogue and the invitation to Australia to participate in Exercise Malabar have enhanced security ties between the two nations.

Against this backdrop, the 3rd DPG-CSCAP Australia Workshop will seek to promote strategic communication between India and Australia through a candid exchange of views to foster better understanding of each other's vital interests and generate ideas to strengthen bilateral relations in the strategic, security, defence and economic dimensions.

DPG and AusCSCAP delegations will meet virtually under the Chatham House Rule on December 01, 2020 to discuss global and regional developments and the advancement of the India-Australia strategic partnership for a stable and secure future for the Indo-Pacific.

## AGENDA

<p>0930 – 0945 IST [1500 – 1515 AEDT]</p>	<p><b>Opening Session</b></p> <p><b>Remarks by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Amb. Hemant Krishan Singh</b>, Director General, DPG</li> <li>➤ <b>Remarks by Amb. Ric Smith</b>, Co-Chair, AusCSCAP</li> </ul>
<p><b>Panel I: Global and Regional Developments</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Prof. Anthony Milner, Co-Chair, AusCSCAP (five minutes)</i></p> <p>(This session comprises an exchange of views on the impact of recent global and regional developments on Asia’s future, including the pandemic, great power competition and changes in leadership of key stakeholders).</p>	
<p>0945 – 1100 IST [1515 – 1630 AEDT]</p>	<p><b>Presentations</b> [Total time 75 minutes]:</p> <p><b>DPG</b> [20 minutes]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Amb. Hemant Krishan Singh</b>, Director General: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Geopolitical Developments and Impact of Leadership Changes</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Mr. Sanjay Pulipaka</b>, Senior Fellow Research Programmes and Strategic Neighbourhood: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Impact of COVID on Asia</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>AusCSCAP</b> [20 minutes]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Prof. Brendan Sargeant</b>, Head, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, Coral Bell School of Asia Pacific Affairs.</li> <li>➤ <b>Dr. Pradeep Taneja</b>, Fellow of the Australia India Institute, University of Melbourne.</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b> [25 minutes]</p>

<p>1100 – 1115 IST [1630 – 1645 AEDT]</p>	<p><i>Break for Tea/Coffee and to Sanitise Meeting Room</i></p>
<p><b>Panel II: Strengthening Bilateral Cooperation for Prosperity, Security and Stability</b></p> <p><i>Moderator: Amb. Nalin Surie, Distinguished Fellow, DPG (five minutes)</i></p> <p>(This session encompasses an exchange of views on strengthening bilateral cooperation to realise the economic and security objectives of the Australia-India Comprehensive Global and Strategic Partnership)</p>	
<p>1115 - 1230 IST [1645 – 1800 AEDT]</p>	<p><b>Presentations</b> [Total time 75 minutes]:</p> <p><b>DPG</b> [20 minutes]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Amb. V.S. Seshadri</b>, Senior Fellow for Global Economy and Trade: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Cooperation for prosperity</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>Cmde. Lalit Kapur (Retd.)</b>, Senior Fellow for Maritime Security: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Cooperation for Security and Stability</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>AusCSCAP</b> [20 minutes]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Prof. Ian Hall</b>, Deputy Director (Research), Griffiths Asia Institute</li> <li>➤ <b>Dr. David Brewster</b>, Senior Research Fellow, National Security College of Asia and the Pacific, ANU</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion</b> [25 minutes]</p>
<p>1230 - 1245 IST [1800 - 1815 AEDT]</p>	<p><b>Closing Session</b></p> <p><b>Remarks by:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Amb. Hemant Krishan Singh</b>, Director General, DPG</li> <li>➤ <b>Prof. Anthony Milner</b>, Co-Chair, AusCSCAP</li> </ul>

## List of Participants

alphabetical order

<b>DPG</b>		<b><i>Participating Sessions</i></b>
Comde. Lalit Kapur (Retd.)	Senior Fellow for Maritime Security, DPG	All
Mr. Sanjay Pulipaka	Senior Fellow for Research Programmes and Strategic Neighbourhood, DPG	All
Brig. Arun Sahgal (Retd.), Ph.D.	Senior Fellow for Strategic and Regional Security, DPG	All
Dr. V.S. Seshadri	Senior Fellow for Global Economy and Trade, DPG	All
Amb. Hemant Krishan Singh	Director General, DPG	All
Amb. Nalin Surie	Distinguished Fellow for Diplomacy, DPG	All

<b>AusCSCAP</b>		<b><i>Participating Sessions</i></b>
Dr. David Brewster	Senior Research Fellow, National Security College of Asia and the Pacific, ANU	All
Prof. Ian Hall	Professor in the School of Government and International Relations at Griffith University, and the Deputy Director (Research) of the Griffith Asia Institute	All
Prof. Anthony Milner	Co-Chair, AusCSCAP	All
Prof. Brendan Sargeant	Head of Centre, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre, ANU	All
Amb. Ric Smith, AO PSM	Co-Chair, AusCSCAP	All
Mr. Pradeep Taneja	Fellow, Australia India Institute at the University of Melbourne, Lecturer in Asian politics, political economy and international relations in the School of Social and Political Sciences.	All