

REPORT

Hybrid Format Seminar on “India and UN Peacekeeping: An Appraisal” organised by the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (MP-IDSA) on October 01, 2021.

The Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (MP-IDSA) organised a hybrid format seminar on “India and UN Peacekeeping: An Appraisal” at the MP-IDSA Auditorium on October 01, 2021. The welcome remarks were delivered by Amb. Sujan R. Chinoy, Director General, MP-IDSA. The seminar was chaired by Lt. Gen. Satish Nambiar (Retd) (First Force Cdr, UNPROFOR, Yugoslavia). The panelists included Amb. Vijay Nambiar (former Dy. NSA and Chief of Staff, UN), Maj. Gen. Mono Bhagat (Retd) (Cdr. Indian Bde UNOSOM, Mil Adv to UNSG, Head of Admin and Logs, UN Mission in Congo and Sierra Leone), Col. (Dr.) D.P.K. Pillay (Retd) (Research Fellow, MP-IDSA), Lt. Gen. J.S. Lidder (Retd) (Force Cdr UNMIS and DSRSG (Political)), Maj. Gen. Michael A.J. Fernandez (Addl DG (SD), Army HQ), Lt. Gen. K.S. Brar (DG Armoured Corps, Former Sector Cdr of a Brigade in South Sudan), Air Vice Marshal M. Bahadur (Retd) (IAF Contingent Cdr, UNMIS), Ms. Ruchita Beri (Senior Research Associate and Coordinator Africa, LAC & UN Centre, MP-IDSA), Ms. Rachita Bhandari (Director (UNP), MEA) and Dr. Rajeesh Kumar (Associate Fellow, MP-IDSA). The vote of thanks was delivered by Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Bipin Bakshi (Retd), Dy Director General, MP-IDSA. MP-IDSA scholars and external guests attended the seminar physically or via Cisco WebEx.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A key focus area of the seminar was India’s August 2021 presidency at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). The signature themes of its presidency – maritime security, counter terrorism and safeguarding peacekeepers were mentioned by some speakers. The seminar shed light on the Indian peacekeeping missions around the world and several success stories were shared by the panelists. The role of Indian troops in missions in Bosnia, Congo, Korea and many more countries was praised for its neutrality, goodwill and excellent work. The panelists comprised of Indian diplomats who had been part of the United Nations (UN), Army Officers who had served as peacekeepers, led Peacekeeping contingents and, scholars working on the theme who shared personal experiences and anecdotes which shed light on aspects that could be enhanced to make the peacekeeping missions more successful. Some of the key issues highlighted by the speakers were the need to ensure greater attention to preventive deployment to reduce casualties, challenges faced by peacekeepers due to budget constraints and the importance of drawing media and public attention to India’s extensive efforts in the UN Peacekeeping missions.

In his welcome remarks, Amb. Chinoy highlighted India’s presidency at the UNSC and praised the success of Indian Peacekeeping missions across the world. He drew attention to India’s efforts on assimilating technology in peacekeeping operations to meet contemporary challenges. The

chair, Lt. Gen. Satish Nambiar in his inaugural remarks noted the unique nature of peacekeeping, where armed forces are called upon, not to wage war but to maintain peace. Amb. Vijay Nambiar spoke about the dynamics of peacekeeping, peace building and peace making; and presented an overview of the UN since its foundation in 1945. He highlighted the role of the P5 countries and underscored the need for reform of the UNSC. Maj. Gen. Mono Bhagat shared his on-field experiences and stressed on the need for preventive deployment. Col. (Dr.) D.P.K. Pillay highlighted India's role in the Korean Peacekeeping Mission and praised the roles of Gen. Thimayya and Col. Rangaraja in the crisis. Lt. Gen. J.S. Lidder focused on the role of technology as a force multiplier in UNPKO rather than a replacement of the physical involvement by armed forces. Maj. Gen. Michael A.J. Fernandez provided a historical outline of India championing the cause of UNPKO and threw light on the complexities of peacekeeping missions as well as budget constraints faced by the peacekeepers.

Lt. Gen. K.S. Brar shared his first hand experiences of peacekeeping in South Sudan and drew attention to the impact of lack of infrastructure on peacekeeping operations. Brig. Arindam Saha focused on the efforts by the Indian contingent in MONUSCO currently deployed in Congo. Air Vice Marshal M. Bahadur underscored the importance of integrating airpower with on-ground troops for peace assurance and highlighted India's airpower contribution in UNPKO. Ms. Rachita Bhandari talked about India's experience in UN peacekeeping missions and highlighted four proposals that the Ministry of External Affairs is currently seeking with MoD for sending Indian peacekeeping troops for future missions in Africa. She also stressed on the role of women in UNPKO. Ms. Ruchita Beri spoke about India's UN Peacekeeping missions in Africa and highlighted the role of Indian peacekeepers in enhancing India-Africa bilateral and multilateral relations. Dr. Rajeesh Kumar emphasised the role of technology and prospects of India as a tech contributor to UN peacekeeping missions.

DETAILED REPORT

The event began with the welcome remarks delivered by Amb. Sujan R Chinoy, DG, MP-IDSA. He emphasised the role played by India during its presidential tenure at the United Nations Security Council (UNSC). He presented an overview of the many initiatives taken by the UNSC during August 2021, concerning maritime security, counter-terrorism and technology related to peacekeeping operations. He also referred to the report presented by UN Secretary General on the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP).

Praising the Indian peacekeeping missions in Yugoslavia, Bosnia and South Sudan, Amb. Chinoy explained the meaning of peacekeeping, which is to assist countries to create conditions for lasting peace. He listed India's contribution to the UN peacekeeping operations, in terms of personnel served and the number of missions undertaken. He expressed that India's lead in assimilating technology in peacekeeping operations, to enable the troops to meet contemporary challenges, is noteworthy. Its four point framework, outlined this August, includes digital platforms. Stating that

there is a need to further discuss these issues, Amb. Chinoy concluded by inviting Lt. Gen. Satish Nambiar, PVSM, AVSM, VrC (Retd) to present the inaugural remarks and chair the seminar.

Lt. Gen. Nambiar began by noting the unique nature of peacekeeping, where armed forces are called upon, not to wage war but maintain peace. He distinguished between collective security and peacekeeping. The latter is supposed to be politically impartial, essentially non coercive and involves the consent of the party to the conflict. He stated that the use of force in peacekeeping operations cannot be ruled out completely. At times it adds fuel to the fire, but there are times when it serves as a catalyst for peaceful resolution and a deterrence against violence. He opined there is no single answer to the question of using force and that one requires an analysis of the situation. Concluding his inaugural remarks, the Chair, Lt. Gen. Satish Nambiar called upon the speakers to make their presentations.

Amb. Vijay Nambiar expatiated on the topic 'UN: Past and Future'. He provided an overview of the seventy six years of historical journey of UN and its evolution. He referred to Kofi Annan's statement that UN symbolizes the four ideas of independence, peace, development and human rights; which reflect mankind's deepest concerns. Tracing back to the moments when Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian National Congress felt that India should be represented by an Indian or not be represented at all in the UN, he recollected Mrs. Vijay Lakshmi Pandit being denied entry at the San Francisco Conference. He remarked it was only after independence that India could take a nationalist stance at the UN and shed the robe of a colonised nation. He stated that Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's concern was to preserve peace in a nuclear age and he believed that UN and Indian foreign policy's success would be tested on this parameter. Pandit Nehru along with diplomat V.K. Krishna Menon, played an important part in successfully negotiating the armistice in Korean crisis.

Amb. Nambiar spoke about the core responsibility of UN, which rests with UNSC and the importance of the P 5 nations. China for instance, is the second largest contributor in peacekeeping and financing of peacekeeping but its activities are closely linked to its national interests. He observed that China is supporting UNPKO in countries linked to its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Amb. Nambiar spoke about new players in UNPKO, from governments to civil society, NGOs and business sectors. Talking about external intervention and its impacts, he mentioned the ways in which "Responsibility to Protect" has been misused in cases such as Libya. Another issue is that of movements of migrants and refugees from Syria, Iraq, Yemen and Myanmar, especially to those countries which are not signatories to the Refugee Convention. Amb. Nambiar concluded on the note that the basic structure of the UNSC needs to be reformed in order to better address global concerns.

Maj. Gen. Mono Bhagat, PVSM (Retd) presented his thoughts on the theme 'An Appraisal of the UN and its Peacekeeping Structure'. He shared his on-field experiences of the UNPKO. Maj. Gen. Bhagat shed light on the sensitive and scientific nature of peacekeeping along with the challenges faced by the forces on ground. He underlined that for UNPKOs to be a true success, collective

involvement of politicians, scholars, civilians and peacekeepers is required. Discussing about the military, he reflected that no defence force is defined merely in terms of numbers. It is the structure, formation and functionality of the forces that define the military.

Maj. Gen. Bhagat stated that the mandate of UNSC which governs the UNPKO is actually simple and encompassing, it should not be lengthy and complex. Rules on using force in peacekeeping is much debated upon but there is no middle path. He stated that either one indulges in it or stays out completely. He appreciated the logistics of UN and clarified that there is no shortage of funds, only its mismanagement. He asserted that the need for preventive deployment is much more now than ever. It will reduce casualties and increase success stories like Macedonia.

Col. (Dr.) D.P.K. Pillay, SC (Retd) shared his remarks on the topic 'India's First Peacekeeping Mission – An Appraisal of the Korean experience seven decades later. He gave a brief account of the Korean history and the 38th Parallel, which divided North Korea from South. He observed that this was the first major confrontation between the two blocs led by USSR and China with the DPRK on one side and the other under the ROC with US and allied support. The UN did not give recognition to the former, but the latter was recognized due to the American influence. After a lighting invasion by the Chinese backed DPRK forces that led the South Korean side to a tiny exclave in Pusan, the UN convened an emergency session where resolution 82 and 83 were passed, allowing the use of force. Resolution 377 (Uniting for Peace Resolution) was passed in 1950 to aid a situation, where any of the P 5 members abdicates its responsibility to restore order and peace. It called for member nations to contribute troops towards UN missions. Being a founding member, India decided to send troops on UN Peacekeeping missions, the first being Korean crisis.

Col. Pillay explained that the participation was feather in the cap for India and mentioned that the Prime Minister met each member of the team, which comprised some of the most decorated officers of the Indian forces. He shed light on the role played by Col. Rangaraja and his medical team as part of the Parachute Field Ambulance. Later the 27 July Armistice Agreement, called for creation of the Neutral Nations Repatriations Committee, comprising two nations from western and eastern blocs each, and chaired by General Thimayya. The prisoner swap needed a force which again was provided by India and led by Gen Thorat with 6000 troops and called the Custodian Force of India. Col. Pillay concluded by sharing that to commemorate the role played by Indian peacekeepers in Korea, there is a memorial and a friendship path in Delhi's cantonment area.

Lt. Gen. J.S. Lidder, UYSM, AVSM (Retd) joined the seminar online from Chandigarh and spoke on the theme 'Technology as a Force Multiplier in Contemporary UNPKO'. He began by underscoring that in the recent past there has been a fundamental shift in the environment in which the United Nations operates. It has become more violence prone and more riddled with new threats such as those in the cyber domain. Stating that technology in certain digital innovations has become particular to peacekeeping, the speaker focused on how technology is a force multiplier; it multiplies human skill, and should not be allowed to replace human decision making. He

discussed the new strategy for digital transformation for UN Peacekeeping, with some of the salient features including four goals - prime innovation, maximise potential of current and new technology, understand threats to safety of peacekeepers and mandate implementation for safety.

Lt. Gen. Lidder underlined that the main motivation for the use of technology was the safety and security of the peacekeepers. The emphasis is on two things: the literal transformation of the field, and transparent non-intrusive application of technology. He opined that there is a need to engage the host nation when it comes to digital transformation since many nations find it intrusive to their culture. The need is to only use the technology which is necessary for the area. He highlighted that technology is there to assist people and not to replace the physical involvement outside the post. It is important to have technology but not be enslaved by it. Lt. Gen. Lidder concluded by referring to cyber security and stressed on the importance of security since the cyber space has been weaponised which also includes social media.

Maj. Gen. Michael A.J. Fernandez, VSM, made a presentation on the theme 'An Assessment of India's missions and its impact in the countries of employment'. He began by stating that the UN since its inception has maintained a mandate for peacekeeping and remarked that India has long championed the cause of peacekeeping. He provided a factual overview of India in the UN Peacekeeping which included the 71 missions that India has been part of and the several force commanders from India who have led the UNPKOs. India's current involvement includes eight missions with four major troop contributions in MONUSCO, Lebanon, South Sudan and Golan Heights. He gave a historical outlook of the peacekeeping missions from the mission in Korea, to the Middle East, to armed groups and ethnic violence and protection of civilians in various African nations.

Maj. Gen. Fernandez emphasised on the increased complexities ranging from the traditional to human rights, disarmaments, demobilisation and supporting efforts. He mentioned about budget constraints, which in recent times have been reduced. He shared that the Indian contingent is working with budget constraints with the aim of civilian protection, humanitarian causes and fighting against various groups including radicalised groups. He spoke about the humanitarian causes including support of NGOs and disaster relief work like during a recent volcanic eruption in Congo. Referring to medical relief, the speaker stated India is the first nation to have fully vaccinated peacekeepers and highlighted that there are medical camps all over. . Maj. Gen. Fernandez concluded on the note that India continues to champion the cause of peacekeeping.

Lt. Gen. K.S. Brar, shared rich insights on the theme 'Chapter VII – Implications in South Sudan – Experiences of a Sector Commander'. Sharing images of South Sudan, he discussed the conflict in the country. He stated that it is a nation besieged by tribal wars, cattle raids and power struggle. He remarked on the uniqueness of the country with reference to cattle raids and cow currency. The speaker gave a historical evolution of the conflict and the tribal connections in the conflict from 2013 onwards. Commenting on the lack of transportation infrastructure and dearth of roads in the region; he exclaimed that the mandate given for the protection of the civilians was huge. Lt. Gen.

Brar shared that the largest troops in the contingent were from India and the fighting units comprised troops only from the Asian nations; including a Chinese battalion. Recollecting his first-hand experiences of the deployment, he explained that South Sudan was divided into four sectors and he had been assigned responsibility for the Eastern Sector.

The speaker narrated his experiences in the country and also discussed his involvement in the peacekeeping operations. He provided an insight into the working of peace settlements and remarked on the lack of leadership among the tribes. He expressed disappointment at the lack of attention by Indian media to India's involvement in peacekeeping operations. He stated that Indian media needs to visit the location of deployment of Indian peacekeepers and provide on-ground reports. Lt. Gen. Brar concluded by proposing the need for improvement of conditions and infrastructure in host countries for the success of UNPKO.

Brig. Arindam Saha, Cdr. Indian Bde of MONUSCO currently deployed in Congo joined the seminar online. Sharing the experiences of the Indian contingent, he expressed his remarks on the theme 'India and UN Peacekeeping: An Appraisal'. Presenting an outline of Congo, he threw light on the resources and economic aspects of the country. The speaker provided an overview of the issues present in the country like insurgency, drug trade and border issues with Uganda and Rwanda. He discussed the role of the Indian Brigade in MONUSCO starting from its historical involvement since 1960 to the current situation.

He highlighted the role played by the Indian Brigade in the development of hospitals and medical assistance. Mentioning that the Indian contingent manages a large portion of the land as part of its peacekeeping activities which is a tremendous challenge in Congo; he expressed that they had been successful in ensuring that it was the most stable region. The speaker stated that the combination of hard power and soft power leads to smart power which has been used by the Indian brigade. In his conclusion, Brig. Saha emphasised on the need to exploit the good work done by the Indian contingent in order to mark our footprints in the various regions across the world.

Air Vice Marshal M. Bahadur spoke on the topic 'Use of the Airpower in UNPKO – opportunity to leverage Technology'. He began with the statement, "Airpower in peacekeeping finally comes to peace assurance." He emphasised that in dealing with conflicts, the integration of air power and land power is essential. Commenting on the special handling of airpower, the speaker stated that although it is not authorised by Chapter VII of the UN Charter; the use of air power in UNPKO has been established due to its highly potent capability.

Air Vice Marshal Bahadur stated that from a strategic perspective, the effects of airpower are based on three principles: first, capability enhancement; second, conveying an intent and; third, boosting credibility of UN Forces. He mentioned India's contribution of airpower for peacekeeping missions including in Somalia and Sierra Leone. Air Vice Marshal Bahadur concluded by underscoring that the integration of airpower with ground troops had to be from the beginning of the mission rather than as a last resort.

Ms. Rachita Bhandari, Dir (UNP), Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi presented her talk on the topic 'India and UN Peacekeeping - Past, Present and Future'. Ms. Bhandari started her presentation by highlighting India's contribution to UN peacekeeping missions across the world. Ms. Bhandari mentioned that India has deployed more than 250,000 troops across 49 missions, which is the highest number compared to any other troop contributing country. Till date 174 gallant Indian soldiers have laid down their life in the line of duty in these peacekeeping missions. She stated that currently India is the second largest troop contributing country to UN peacekeeping missions. Ms. Bhandari mentioned that prior to the second Covid-19 wave, India had donated 200,000 doses of Covid-19 vaccine for UN Peacekeepers all around the world. Ms. Bhandari highlighted that India's gesture to be the first responder to the volcanic eruption in Goma to save many civilians and UN personnel was much appreciated. Mentioning about India's presidency in UNSC for August 2021 she highlighted that UN peacekeeping was India's signature event in this presidency which was chaired by the External Affairs Minister. She stated that this event led to four major outcomes - 1. A resolution on Protecting the Protectors, 2. Presidential Statement that was adopted by all UNSC members on enhancing the use of technology in peacekeeping missions, 3. India's contribution to UNITE Aware Platform and 4. Signing of MoU between India and UN for training of peacekeepers.

Ms. Bhandari reiterated that the first UNSC resolution unanimously adopted by consensus under India's presidency by all UNSC members along with the support of 80 UNGA members was related to the crimes against UN peacekeepers. Shedding light on the way forward, she shared that there were four proposals that MEA is currently looking at with MoD. These include the deployment of air assets to MINUSMA in Mali; deployment of Indian Naval assets in Lebanon; new troop deployments in MINUSCA in Central African Republic and new troop deployments in Abyei. Commenting on the women, peace and security agenda in UN peacekeeping missions, Ms. Bhandari highlighted the honor received by Indian peacekeeper Major Suman Gawani and called for increasing the role women in peacekeeping missions. Underscoring the success of women peacekeeping in Liberia, Ms. Bhandari concluded her presentation by highlighting the role played by the Indian female police unit in encouraging Liberian women to join Liberian security forces.

Ms. Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate & Coordinator Africa, LAC & UN Centre, MP-IDSA delivered her talk on the topic 'India and UN Peacekeeping in Africa: An Assessment'. She started her presentation with the remark that India has the record of being the longest and the largest peacekeeping contributors in UN Peacekeeping activity in Africa. India's involvement in the continent started in 1960 from Congo and India's peacekeepers are currently present in four places (in DRC, South Sudan, Abyei and Western Sahara). Ms. Beri highlighted three crucial points in her talk: India's contribution to the UN peacekeeping operations in Africa is unique; India maintains strong solidarity with African countries; and bilateral relations between India and African countries have significantly strengthened over time. She underlined India's professionalism, its dealing with humanitarian concerns and promotion of gender equality in its peacekeeping missions in Africa. Highlighting India's contributions in Liberia, she asserted the

fact that there were only one percent women in Liberian security sphere before deployment of Indian peacekeeping forces in Liberia in 2017 and this number increased to 17 per cent when Indian peacekeepers left Liberia in 2018.

Acknowledging the evacuation efforts by Indian peacekeepers at the volcanic eruption in Goma, Ms. Beri stated that India's peacekeeping contributions in the continent have been applauded by many African countries, especially because most western countries had withdrawn their peacekeeping forces post the Rwandan genocide. Ms. Beri emphasised that developing closer relations with Africa remains a top priority of the Indian government and India's engagements with Africa are guided by African priorities. She mentioned that Indian government has also announced several initiatives in the last two decades to strengthen relations with African countries that include focus Africa program to promote trade, team-9 initiative, the India-Africa forum summits and a number of high level visits between the two. Commenting on the success of Indian peacekeeping missions in strengthening India-Africa bilateral and multilateral relation; Ms. Beri highlighted the success story of these missions by giving the example of Liberia, and simultaneously highlighted the challenges of UN Peacekeeping particularly related to the incidents of sexual misconduct and gold smuggling by UN peacekeepers. She pointed out that India has a 'zero tolerance policy' against sexual misconduct by peacekeepers. Ms. Beri concluded her presentation on the note that Indian peacekeepers are ambassadors of India in the host country and they need to maintain a positive image of India in the country.

Dr. Rajeesh Kumar, Associate Fellow, MP-IDSA, spoke on the topic 'Technology and Peacekeeping: Can India become a Tech Contributing Country'. Dr. Kumar started his presentation by mentioning the 'Brahimi Report' of 2000 and the 'Report on the Expert Panel on Technology and Innovation in UN Peacekeeping' which deal with employing advance technologies in UN Peacekeeping missions primarily in two areas i.e. providing basics for the missions and operational imperatives. He discussed the various technologies currently used by UN peacekeeping forces, some of which include motion detection, emergency communications, tampering and tracking, IED detection technology, camera technology and advance geospatial imaging tools. He stated that for operational imperatives, the current technologies in use include command and control, monitoring and reconnaissance, ICT technologies, GIS and satellite technologies, UAV's and big data.

Dr. Kumar argued that the attacks against peacekeepers are increasing and there is a need for the troops to be equipped with modern advanced technologies. He mentioned that considering the climatic conditions and other operational hindrances in developing countries, Indian technologies are economically and otherwise much better as compared to western technologies. Dr. Kumar underscored the point that since satellite imagery is widely used in UN peacekeeping missions, India can significantly contribute in this domain owing to its cost efficient space technology solutions. Highlighting on the issue of use of diesel power generators for electricity in peacekeeping missions, he called for leveraging India's solar power credentials. Dr. Kumar concluded by strongly advocating for the use of ICT centers established in many African countries

for training peacekeepers in ICT technologies where women peacekeepers could play a significant role as digital peacekeepers.

The closing remarks of the seminar were delivered by the Chair, Lt. Gen. Satish Nambiar. He observed that UN as an international organization has little future unless it undergoes radical overhaul. He said that UNPKO is one of the few activities that confers it some degree of credibility. He mentioned that UN is being probably used by major powers to serve their vested interests that too without any investment of their personnel and equipment. Lt. Gen. Nambiar conveyed that his suggestion to practitioners in UN Peacekeeping missions is to focus on the key issues which includes protection of innocent civilians, women and children, conflict resolution, providing access to basic infrastructure and medical facilities etc. He stressed on the importance of preventive deployment in such missions. Lt. Gen. Nambiar called for engaging in discussions on operational principles with representatives, scholars and analysts of countries that actually provide the forces for UNPKO. In his concluding remarks, Lt. Gen. Nambiar highlighted there is a need to insist that key command and staff positions at UNDPKO and in the mission areas must be held by those countries who are actually providing troops for Peacekeeping missions.

Amb. Sujan R. Chinoy, DG, MP-IDSA, expressed his immense thanks and regards to all the presenters and participants. The formal vote of thanks was delivered by Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Bipin Bakshi, AVSM, VSM (Retd), Dy Director General, MP-IDSA. He particularly thanked the speakers for their candid and insightful presentations. Maj. Gen. Bakshi formally thanked DG, MP-IDSA and all the participants and organizers of the event. Briefly sharing his experience of the Angola peacekeeping mission, Maj. Gen. Bakshi concluded the seminar with the popular quote *“Peacekeeping is not a soldier’s job, but only a soldier can do it”*.

(Written by Ms. Anandita Bhada, Mr. Jason Wahlang, Mr. Bipandeep Sharma and Ms. Sindhu Dinesh)

Panelists

- ❖ Amb. Sujan R. Chinoy, Director General, MP-IDSA
- ❖ Lt. Gen. Satish Nambiar (Retd), former DCOAS, DGMO and First Force Cdr, UNPROFOR, Yugoslavia
- ❖ Amb. Vijay Nambiar, former Dy. NSA, NSCS , PR UN at New York and Spl Advisor of SG on Myanmar and Chief of Staff, UN
- ❖ Maj. Gen. Mono Bhagat (Retd), Cdr. Indian Bde UNOSOM, Mil Adv to UNSG, Head of Admin and Logs, UN Mission in Congo and Sierra Leone
- ❖ Col. (Dr.) D.P.K. Pillay (Retd), Research Fellow, MP-IDSA
- ❖ Lt. Gen. J.S. Lidder (Retd), Force Cdr UNMIS, DSRSG (Political)
- ❖ Maj. Gen. Michael A.J. Fernandez, Addl DG (SD), Army HQ
- ❖ Lt. Gen. K.S. Brar, DG Armoured Corps, former Sector Cdr of a Brigade in South Sudan
- ❖ Brig. Arindam Saha, Cdr. Indian Bde of MONUSCO
- ❖ Air Vice Marshal M. Bahadur (Retd), IAF contingent Cdr, UNMIS
- ❖ Ms. Ruchita Beri, Senior Research Associate & Coordinator Africa, LAC & UN Centre, MP-IDSA
- ❖ Ms. Rachita Bhandari, Dir (UNP), MEA
- ❖ Dr. Rajeesh Kumar, Associate Fellow, MP-IDSA
- ❖ Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Bipin Bakshi, (Retd), Deputy Director General, MP-IDSA