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Jindal School of International Affairs
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Jindal Centre for Israel Studies (JCIS)
Jindal School of International Affairs (JSIA)
cordially invites you to a
Public Lecture on
Diplomacy and Statecraft:
The India Experience in Israel and other narratives
by



His Excellency Mr. Arun K. Singh
Former Indian Ambassador

About the Speaker

Arun K Singh completed his assignment as Ambassador of India to US in 2016, after a career spanning nearly four decades in the Indian foreign Service. Earlier he had served as Ambassador to France from 2013- 2015, and to Israel from 2005- 2008. In Spring 2017, Ambassador Singh was Diplomat in Residence at the School of International Service of American University, teaching a course on US Foreign Policy in South Asia. He was also Visiting faculty at School of Advanced International studies (SAIS) of Johns Hopkins University, teaching a course on Current Global Trends and Challenges. During this period he was invited as Distinguished Visiting Fellow by Emory University, and Centre for Advanced Study of India (CASI) at University of Pennsylvania. Aside from intense interactions with students and faculty, he spoke at public platforms on US- India relations, Indian Economic and Technological Trends, US Foreign Policy in South Asia, and Diplomacy and Statecraft. His other diplomatic assignments have included tours of duty in Soviet Union and later in Russia, Japan, Ethiopia, and in the Indian mission to UN in New York. As Ambassador to Israel he initiated and facilitated critical partnerships in defence, technology, scientific collaboration, and people to people and political exchanges. His assignment gave him a detailed exposure to and understanding of the Palestinian issue, fault lines in West Asia, as well as religious and political conflicts playing out in this area of critical interest to India on account of its diaspora presence, and significant energy imports. Arun K. Singh joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1979 after completing his Master's Degree in Economics from Delhi University and teaching at the University for two years. He specialized in econometrics, development policy, macroeconomics and Indian economic history. Ambassador Singh speaks Russian and Japanese and has some knowledge of French and Hebrew.

Abstract

The talk will cover Ambassador Singh's diplomatic experience in the Indian Foreign Service from 1979- 2016. 1979 was a milestone year in global politics marked by the Iranian revolution, the seizure of the Grand mosque in Mecca, burning down of US embassy in Islamabad, and move of Soviet troops into Afghanistan. All these had a bearing on India's security concerns and interests.

The world has changed markedly since, moving from bipolar to unipolar, unification of Germany, construction of the European Union and Eurozone, the economic and military rise of China, and the emergence of terrorism as a major global threat. Rapid technological transformation has also impacted on the conduct of diplomacy. In 1979 there was no internet, personal computers, mobile phones, satellite television, copying and fax machines. Today, twitter, What's App, Facebook have become necessary tools requiring 24/7 social media presence and response. In the framework of these changes, Ambassador Singh will analyse his experience in Israel, Soviet Union, then the Russian Federation, France, Japan, and the experience of coordinating the Indian effort in Afghanistan post 9/11.

The talk will cover the intersection of global politics, economics, and technology as they impacted on conduct of Indian diplomacy, based on his personal experience.

Date: Wednesday, 4 October 2017 | Time: 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Venue: T-2, Global Conference Hall

O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat - 131001