

SaGHAA



An international
panel of speakers

MANAGING THE POLAR OCEANS SUSTAINABLY

WEBINAR ON

SEPTEMBER 28 & 29, 2020

**Session Themes: Clean and healthy oceans | Oceans - weather and climate
Maritime jurisprudence | Create value from ocean resources**

Organised by The Science and Geopolitics of Himalaya-Arctic-Antarctic (SaGHAA), a Delhi based think tank. Conceptualised in 2011, SaGHAA has been organising an international bi-annual conference committed to addressing challenging issues facing the global community, apart from writing in prominent newspapers and journals. It is the first in India to focus exclusively towards holistic tri-polar issues under the aegis of LIGHTS, an NGO working in multiple environmental and educational domains.

ONLINE REGISTRATION TO COMMENCE FROM
SEPTEMBER 1, 2020 AT SaGHAA.ORG

WHY THE POLAR OCEANS?

The Polar oceans are a global responsibility. Keeping that in mind the United Nations has declared 2021-2030 to be the Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development. Devised to draw attention and accelerate scientific developments that will ensure the safety and sustainability of the vast oceans, the UN's initiative is a challenging milestone. In the context of the Polar oceans this role's enormity magnifies. The Polar oceans cover about one fifth of the total surface area of earth and are among the coldest. In recent decades however, they are experiencing the most rapid oceanic warming which has resulted in major physiological changes, exacerbating the vulnerability of the organisms inhabiting these waters. Safeguard of these extreme realms whilst exploring new avenues and opportunities across scientific, policy and commercial domains is an engagement that calls for collaborative efforts of a multitude of nations. Globally shared interests necessitate legal and policy reforms to ensure sustainable and equitable management of the Polar oceans. SaGHAA Webinar 2020 will serve as a teaser to initiate constructive dialogue on these issues to set the ball rolling towards a sustainable future of our Polar oceans.

Science and Geopolitics of Himalaya, Arctic and Antarctic (SaGHAA) is the only Indian think tank focusing exclusively on discourse related to the dynamic geopolitical and environmental developments in the polar regions of the world. We at SaGHAA, believe that engaging in an inclusive dialogue with nations, small and big, will push for greater Indian involvement in the Arctic in all its dimensions—climatic, geological or resource utilization. The Arctic discourse therefore holds immense relevance for India.

WHY WEBINAR?

Over the years SaGHAA's biennial conferences have been a grand affair. Experts from all over the world congregate in New Delhi for two days of presentations, panel discussions and networking events. With the Coronavirus pandemic raging through India at the moment, it has forced us to shelve our physical interactions in this year's event in New Delhi.

But with a revolution of IT platforms and more importantly considering safety of participants, we have decided to go ahead with the best digital option available to us, a webinar. The webinar will be hosted seamlessly in real time by the team at SaGHAA on the most cutting edge and user friendly platform available. A host of digital activities are planned to create the best experience for all our esteemed delegates on the same dates i.e. the 18th and 19th of September. An actual follow up conference is also planned for the month of March, 2021.

WHY SAGHAA?

SaGHAA works under the aegis of Learning in Geography, Humanities, Technology and Science (LIGHTS). SaGHAA has been working for greater Indian involvement in Polar Regions since 2011. Our core competencies lie in facilitating high level dialogues between the Indian scientific and social science community with their international counterparts from the Polar Countries. SaGHAA has organized 5 uniquely successful editions of conferences by the same title, with the assistance and participation from Ministry of Earth Sciences, NCPOR, IITM, SASE, DRTL, Norwegian Embassy (to name a few) as well as many other members of the Indian scientific community and bureaucracy. SaGHAA's president is a well-known authority on polar discourse. SaGHAA has been invited to various high level international meetings like the Reykjavik annual Arctic Circle Assembly, 2019 and the high-level Antarctic Parliamentarians Assembly organised by the all-party parliamentary group (APPG) headed by UK parliamentarian James Gray, at Westminster, London, 2019. The opinions and efforts of SaGHAA have been covered widely in the press, a testament to the efficacy and influence of the organisation. Lastly, the strength of SaGHAA lies in the 'SaGHAA people' — the high-level experts. Every organisation in India working on anything that is even distantly 'Polar' participates in each event. Heads of scientific establishments and policy bodies assiduously attend, contributing emphatically and freely to the discourse. The first outcome of SaGHAA is, therefore, its stature that draws from its myriad stakeholders providing a body of recommendations that serves as an illuminated path for policy makers. Proceedings of two SaGHAA Conferences have been published by Springer.

CURATION OF TOPICS

SaGHAA's organising committee has carefully curated only the most relevant and timely topics for deliberation and debate during the Webinar. Every topic has been arrived at after rigorous research and approval of the committee. The panel for each discussion will feature world renowned domain experts to ensure the highest quality of discourse is presented before the learned audience. A perfect balance of Polar ocean sustainability, and scientific issues are presented to ensure equitable time and attention is given to each dimension. SaGHAA Webinar 2020 hopes to set a benchmark in the Polar Ocean debate in India. SaGHAA will also provide opportunities to budding scholars to present their research and earn certificates.

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SEPT 28, 2020

Day 1: 4:00 to 7:00 pm		SaGHAA WEBINAR	
INAUGURATION 4:00 to 4:15 pm (15 mins)	SaGHAA Chairman (Dr Rasik Ravindra) Organising Chairs (Dr Ravichandran and Dr Nalan) : Introduction to the Webinar and a brief talk about the relevance of the Polar Oceans and inclusive views on sustainability in the perspective of the UN's decade of the Oceans. Convenor introduction to Chief Guest		
CHIEF GUEST ADDRESS 4:15 to 4:35 pm (20 mins)	HE Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, Fmr President, Iceland		
Keynote Address (TBC) 4:35 - 4:55 pm (20 min)	Prof Victor Smetacek, Bremen, Germany		
SESSION 1: 4:55 to 5:45 pm (50 mins)	PANEL DISCUSSION I CLEAN AND HEALTHY OCEANS Polar oceans and its degradation Pollution in the polar oceans Micro- plastics and its impact Biodiversity loss in the Polar ocean		
Chair /Moderator	Dr Shailesh Nayak, Director, NIAS		
Panellists	Dr S Singh, Director, National Institute of Oceanography Dr Pushp Bajaj, Associate Fellow, National Maritime Foundation Dr Babulal Jena, Senior Scientist, NCPOR Dr Ole Arve Misund, Norwegian Polar Institute, Norway Dr Anders Turesson, Chair, AMAP, Norway (TBC)		
5:45 to 5:55 (10 mins)	Questions from the audience		
SESSION 2: 5:55 to 6:45 pm (50 mins)	PANEL DISCUSSION I POLAR OCEANS - WEATHER AND CLIMATE Atmospheric bridge, Ocean tunnel and the Indian monsoon Arctic oscillations		
Chair / Moderator	Dr M N Rajeevan, Secretary, MoES		
Panellists	Dr Ravichandran, Director, NCPOR Dr Nalan Koc, Research Director, Norwegian Polar Institute, Norway Dr Lasse Petterson, NERSC, Norway Dr Lisa Loseto, SAON, Committee on Observations and Networks, Canada (TBC) Dr Gregory M. Flato, Environment and Climate Change, Canada (TBC) Dr Aleksandr Klepikov, Deputy Director AARI, RAE Head, Russia (TBC)		
6:45 to 6:55 (10 mins)	Questions from the audience		
Rounding off 6:55 to 7:00 pm (5 mins)	Organising Chair /s summary of the webinar and special mentions. Convenor: Invite for the following day and a brief intro of the panellists and keynote speaker of the next day.		

Disclaimer: TBC: To be confirmed. They have been identified by the organising chairs and various other experts and in some cases are aware about the event, but are yet to give their confirmation.

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SEPT 29, 2020

Day 2: 4:00 to 7:00 pm		SaGHAA WEBINAR
RECAP 4:00 to 4:10 pm (10 mins)	Convenor Organising Chairs (Dr Ravichandran and Dr Nalan) : Introduction Guest of Honour, key note speaker, Session Chairs and Panellists and a brief talk about day's sessions.	
GUEST OF HONOUR 4:10 to 4:30 pm (20 mins)	James Gray, Member of Parliament, United Kingdom	
Keynote Address 4:30 - 4:50 pm 20 min	Dr S W A Naqvi, Distinguished Scientist, CSIR (TBC)	
SESSION 3: 4:50 to 5:40 pm (50 mins)	PANEL DISCUSSION I MARITIME JURISPRUDENCE Strategic convergences and divergences on sharing of common spaces I International law and the Arctic-Antarctic	
Session 3 Chair / Moderator	Vice Admiral Pradeep Chauhan, Director General, National Maritime Foundation	
Panellists	Captain Sarabjeet Parmar, Executive Director, National Maritime Foundation Dr R Ravindra, FmR Director, NCPOR Dr Paula Kankaanpää, PAME Chair, SYKE, Finland (TBC) Dr M Sudhakar, Director, CMLRE	
5:40 to 5:50 (10 mins)	Questions from the audience	
SESSION 4: 5:50 to 6:40 pm (50 mins)	PANEL DISCUSSION I BLUE ECONOMY Food from the oceans I Non-living resources I Technology development	
Session 4 Chair / Moderator	Dr P S Goel, Fmr Secretary, MoES	
Panellists	Dr Atmanand, Director, NIOT Ambassador to India in Iceland Armstrong Changsan, Dr Sameer Guduru, Associate Fellow, National Maritime Foundation Dr John Kurian, Senior Scientist NCPOR Dr Jan-Gunnar Winther, Centre for the Ocean and the Arctic, Norway	
6:40 to 6:50 (10 mins)	Questions from the audience	

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Valediction and Vote of thanks 6:50 to 7:00 pm (10 mins)	Chairs to present a summary of the webinar and special mentions. Special guests may be invited to give their closing remarks. Most participatory student /s will be mentioned too. Online certificated awarded.
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lights.org.in

LIGHTS SECRETARIAT

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