

Proceedings of the China-India-US Workshop on Science, Technology and Innovation Policy

Appendix D – National Institute of Advanced Studies

The National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS – www.nias.res.in/with) was conceived and founded in 1988 by the late Sri JRD Tata, who sought to create an institution to conduct advanced interdisciplinary research. Housed in a picturesque green campus in Bangalore, NIAS serves as a forum to bring together individuals from diverse intellectual backgrounds. They include administrators and managers from industry and government, leaders in public affairs, eminent individuals in different walks of life, and academicians in the natural and life sciences, humanities, and social sciences.

The objective of NIAS is to nurture a broad base of scholars, managers, and leaders who would respond to the complex challenges that face contemporary India and global society, with insight, sensitivity, confidence, and dedication.

The mission of NIAS is to:

- integrate the findings of scholarship in the natural and social sciences with technology and the arts through multi-disciplinary research on the complex issue facing Indian and global society; and
- assist in the creation of new leadership with broad horizons in all sectors of society by disseminating the conclusions of such research through appropriate publications and courses as well as dialogues with leaders and the public.

The philosophy underlying NIAS is given shape by its schools and programs. The schools are Humanities, Natural Sciences and Engineering, and Social Sciences. The programs include the Centre for Philosophy as well as the International Strategic and Security Studies Programme. NIAS is unique in its integrated approach to the study of the intersections between science and technology, social issues, humanities, and leadership.

NIAS also serves as a nodal agency to oversee international collaborations such as establishing and strengthening of Zonal Water Partnerships in India and the dialogues to evolve guidelines for conflict resolution of Inter-State Transboundary Water Sharing in India.

The NIAS logo depicted on the cover of these proceedings can be traced back to a Sanskrit work composed before the 6th century B.C. It displays a layer of bricks in an alter with the shape of an eagle or falcon. Thus, it represents imagination that inspires great mathematics and engineering – an apt logo for NIAS.

