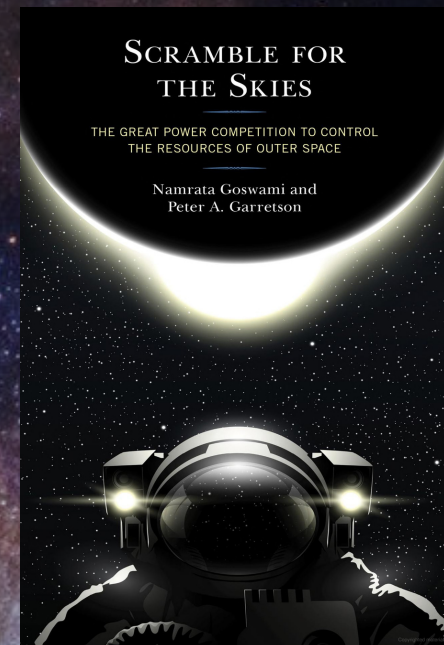


BOOK DISCUSSION

Scramble for the Skies: The Great Power Competition to Control the Resources of Outer Space

13 April, 2022 – 6:30 PM IST



Concept Note

Space exploration has gathered significant pace ever since private players like SpaceX, Blue Origin, Orbital Sciences Corp., Planet labs, and Virgin Galactic along with United Launch Alliance – a joint venture of old established players Lockheed Martin and Boeing have entered the domain that was until recently the exclusive preserve of the State. Private industries in China, India, Russia, and the EU are also entering the Space business. Rapid technological developments in the last two to three decades have energised deep space exploration from the perspective of commercial viability. Space mining for critical resources is now a very viable activity, along with the prospects of permanent colonies on Moon and other planetary bodies by the end of this century.

However, national power is governed by geopolitical competition on Earth that has always been one of competition for resources. Will Space be an exception? Is a New Space race in the offing?

The authors of this book – "Scramble for the Skies" – believe the world is witnessing a second Space race. They believe this time the primary components are not status-seeking for a global audience, but lasting economic power. Hence, their central question – 'Are we observing the beginning of a race or scramble for Space resources?'

The question raises many paradoxes. Space is unlimited and unbounded. Its resources are beyond comprehension. Space mining will be constrained by technology, economic viability, and investment capability. Hence, it will be limited to a few Space-faring nations. Since Space is a common heritage for mankind, no country can be prevented from using it. Competition enters the discussion only when resources are limited and so is the concept realistic? The concept of ownership of assets and property in Space raises serious questions of international Space law and Space governance. These are issues that will be raised and discussed by the panel of distinguished experts.

Program Schedule

06:30 PM - 06:35 PM IST *Welcome Address*

06:35 PM - 06:40 PM IST *Introductory Remarks by the Chair*

Air Marshal M Matheswaran AVSM VM PhD (Retd)

06:40 PM - 07:30 PM IST *Panel Discussion on the Book*
Moderated by Air Marshal M Matheswaran

Scramble for the Skies: The Great Power Competition to Control the Resources of Outer Space

07:30 PM - 07:50 PM IST *Q & A*

07:50 PM - 07:55 PM IST *Concluding Remarks*

07:55 PM - 08:00 PM IST *Vote of Thanks*

About the Distinguished Panelists



Dr. Namrata Goswami
Co-Author of the Book

Independent scholar
Space Policy and Great Power Politics

Dr Namrata Goswami is an independent scholar on space policy and Great Power Politics. Recently, she has been invited to teach at the Thunderbird School of Global Management, Arizona State University for their Executive Masters in Global Management, Space course. In April 2019, Dr Goswami testified before the US–China Economic and Security Review Commission on China’s space program. She is author of the book Scramble for the Skies: The Great Power Competition to Control the Resources of Outer Space.

About the Distinguished Panelists



Lt. Col. Peter A. Garretson
Co-Author of the Book

Senior Fellow - Defense Studies
American Foreign Policy Council

Peter Garretson is a Senior Fellow in Defense Studies with the American Foreign Policy Council and co-director of its Space Policy Initiative and host of the Space Strategy Podcast. He was previously the director of Air University's Space Horizons Task Force, an Air Force think tank for space, and was founder and deputy director of the U.S. Space Force's Schriever Scholars Strategy Seminar, America's premier military space strategy program. He is the author of Scramble for the Skies: The Great Power Competition to Control the Resources of Outer Space.

About the Distinguished Panelists



Dr. V Siddhartha

Emeritus Scientist, DRDO

Former Scientific Consultant (Advanced Technologies) to the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Govt of India

Dr V Siddhartha is Emeritus Scientist in DRDO, and retired in 2004 after working directly with four Scientific Advisors to the Raksha Mantri over nearly twenty years. During 2007-09 he served in New York, at the invitation of the Secretary General of the United Nations, as a member of the Experts Group of the Committee On UN Security Council Resolution 1540. Upon returning, he served in 2009-10 as the Scientific Consultant (Advanced Technologies) with the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Govt of India. Dr Siddharth functioned as consultant to the MEA on export control and S&T issues in international security, and on the Indian WMD Act 2005. He has also served with the UN Environment Program in Geneva, and also as Secretary of the Science Advisory Council to the Prime Minister.

Dr Siddhartha holds a PhD from the Imperial College of Science & Technology, London, and a BTech in mechanical engineering from IIT, Madras. He has served with various organs of India's S&T system including the ISRO, CSIR, DRDO, and Dept of Science and Technology (DST). He is a founder-member of the Institute of Social and Economic Change, and a member of the Governing Council of the National Maritime Foundation.

About the Distinguished Panelists



Dr. Ranjana Kaul

*Partner – Dua Associates and Expert on International Law of Outer Space
Former Counsel to the Union of India
Affiliate of International Institute of Space Law, Paris*

Dr Ranjana Kaul is a partner at Dua Associates – Advocates and Solicitors in New Delhi. Her practice areas include joint ventures and contracts, including company law, FDI, foreign exchange regulations, intellectual property rights and dispute resolution, across sectors. She specialises in the International Law of Outer Space and advises on specific issues related to the interrelation between international regulations and Indian domestic policy and regulations. She has served as Counsel for the Union of India at the High Court of Delhi, and as Counsel for the state of Maharashtra in the Supreme Court.

An affiliate of the International Institute of Space Law, Paris, Ranjana was awarded the IISL 2017 Distinguished Services Award for contribution to the development of National Space Law. She serves on the Editorial Board of The Space Journal.

She holds an LLM from the Institute of Air and Space Law, McGill University, Canada, a Bachelor of Law from the University of Delhi, and Doctorate from the University of Poona. She also served as Member, Delhi State Commission for Women, and has been a consultant to the World Bank, and the Indian Council for Research in International Economic Relations.

About the Chair



Air Marshal M Matheswaran AVSM VM PhD (Retd)

President, The Peninsula Foundation

Air Marshal M Matheswaran is an Indian Air Force veteran with 39 years of active service. He is the founder- President of The Peninsula Foundation. He is the former Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff responsible for Policy, Plans, and Force Development. The Air Marshal is a recipient of Presidential Awards – AVSM (Ati Vishisht Seva Medal) and VM (Vayu Sena Medal) and a Commendation by the Chief of Air Staff. He has a PhD from the University of Madras, Chennai, an alumni of the National Defence College, New Delhi and is a Senior Fellow in International and National Security from the Harvard Kennedy School.

Event Details

Registration Link

<https://bit.ly/3j5ZpvH>

Meeting ID: 895 2783 3454 | Passcode: 891884

Date: 13 April, 2022 (Wednesday)

Time: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM IST

