India should not Appease Junta in Myanmar, Says Tharoor

Express News Service

New Delhi: India cannot and should not seek to outdo China in appeasing the military junta in Myanmar. Its natural instincts lie with the Burmese democrats, Aung San Suu Kyi and the former students for whom it has, over the years, shown its support, according to Shashi Tharoor, MP.

He was inaugurating a national seminar on ‘Democratization in Burma: Challenges and Prospects’ organised by the Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi.

He said with Washington signalling a willingness to take Myanmar’s political openness at face value, the stage is set for the region’s democracies, especially India, to open Burma’s windows to the world. China will be watching closely, he added.

“One inescapable fact of geopolitics remains; you can put your ideals on hold, but you cannot change who your neighbours are,” he said. Dr George Mathew, Chairman, Institute of Social Sciences, also spoke.