

**International Conference on India-Myanmar Relations: Federalism at Work,
Yangon, 18-19 October, 2016**

As India's closest South East Asian neighbour, Republic of the Union of Myanmar holds a special and privileged position in India's "Act East" policy. The advent of a democratic government in Myanmar has added a new momentum to India-Myanmar relations and opened up new vistas of opportunities for a meaningful and mutually beneficial relations between the two countries.

It is against this backdrop, the Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi and the Burma Centre Delhi, in collaboration with Heinrich Boll Foundation, India and Heinrich Boll Stiftung, Yangon, are organising a two-day conference on "India-Myanmar Relations: Federalism at work" in Yangon on 18-19 October 2016.

Mr U Mint, director-General, Strategic Studies Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of the Union of Myanmar, will deliver the keynote address and Shri B. Shyam, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of India in Myanmar, will be the guest of honour. Other participants in this conference include present and former officials from both the governments, civil society representatives, media persons and academics.

The Institute of Social Sciences and Burma Centre Delhi have organised several conferences and workshops in Delhi on Democratisation in Myanmar, the Peace Process and Federalism. This conference in Yangon is in continuation of the two earlier conferences, one involving civil society and the other, the media with the primary objective of strengthening India-Myanmar relations. In all our conferences and workshops civil society representatives, media persons, former diplomats and practitioners from Myanmar and India have actively participated. The main objective of this conferences is to promote and strengthen people-to-people relations between India and Myanmar. The two-day conference will revolve around key aspects of federalism—managing diversities, devolution of power and sharing and management of resources. The conference will draw from the experiences of other federal countries. Other aspects of India-Myanmar relations including connectivity, people-to-people relations too will be discussed.