

Nation

DH Dialogue: Peace-creating prosperity could be a new approach, says Ram Upendra Das

Boost economic activity in Asia-Pacific: Economist

NEW DELHI: Noted economist Ram Upendra Das called for enhancing economic activity in Asia-Pacific region which is emerging as the centre of economic activity in terms of both demand and supply.

He said the region's material prosperity has the potential to lead to peace and security in a faster way.

"I think the time has come to create and convert investment in the region that helps create higher level of economic activity through agriculture, manufacturing and services which eventually translates into job creation for millions of youth," Das said at DH Dialogue: "The Asia-Pacific Century: India and big power interplay".

"Peace-creating prosperity" could be a new approach whereby the countries in the region could be integrated economically.

Role of trade

In this, he said, trade plays a crucial role in converting the different regions into hubs of economic activities.

Das, a professor at Research and Information System for Developing Countries, has been accredited with lending this term to the economic world.

He said Asia-Pacific pros-

perity is significant in the wake of a shift of economic activity in this region in the coming times.

"From demand side, there is a vast majority of Asian middle class with demand impulses, from supply-side, the region's value chain is determining the course of trade and investment engagements," Rao said.

He said in the new world order, trade and commerce are getting some kind precedence over politics and countries with political differences also have no qualms in engaging with one another economically.

DH News Service



Professor Ram Upendra Das at the DH Dialogue on Saturday. DH PHOTO



ALL EARS: DH Dialogue brought dignitaries from different fields together in New Delhi, on Saturday. DH PHOTO

Frequent meets mooted

NEW DELHI: India and China will have high-level engagements in 2016 as leaders of both the nations are likely to visit each other for multilateral conclaves and are expected to hold bilateral parleys on the sidelines.

"Next year, BRICS Leaders' Meeting will be held in India and G20 Summit will be held in Hangzhou, China, setting

the stage for leaders' engagement," said Le Yucheng, Beijing's envoy to New Delhi, while addressing the DH Dialogue on "The Asia-Pacific Century: India and Big Power Engagement". Chinese President Xi Jinping is expected to visit India to attend the BRICS summit, which New Delhi would host sometime in the middle of next year. Prime Minister

Narendra Modi is also expected to visit Hangzhou in China to attend the G-20 summit towards the end of 2016. While Xi visited New Delhi in September 2014, Modi was in Beijing last May. "There is a famous saying by William Shakespeare, what's past is prologue. I would add, what's ahead in China-India relations will be more splendid," said Le.

Strong but difficult, Madhav sums up India-China relations

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Describing India-China relations as "strong but difficult," senior BJP leader Ram Madhav on Saturday said the government is making efforts to deepen ties in areas of common interest.

Madhav, considered the brain behind Prime Minister Narendra Modi's engagements with the Indian diaspora during his foreign visits, said the leadership in both the countries, in the past and the present, have been working to improve relations.

In his inaugural address at the second DH Dialogue "The Asia Pacific Century: India and Big Power Engagement," Madhav said India's relationship with China was "difficult but continuous" and both were engaged in an "unfortunate war" in 1962.

Effort over the years

Emphasising that it took 16-17 years to resume bilateral relations, he said governments in the past and present have consistently made efforts to strengthen bilateral relations with China.

Both the countries, he said, are trying to maintain good relations and peace along the



RAM MADHAV: Both the countries are trying to maintain good relations and peace along the border... We are trying to deepen relationship in areas of common interest... It is most important relationship which we have to ensure that it endures... It is not just about military power, it is also about the economy

border. "We are trying to deepen relationship in areas of common interest... It is most impor-

Power

Madhav was of the view that the power equation was shifting from the Pacific-Atlantic region to Indo-Pacific and here in this region lies the major axis of global power.

"It is not just about military power, it is also about the economy," he added.

He said former prime minister P V Narasimha Rao initiated the Look East policy in the 1990s while A B Vajpayee took it forward with an Act East policy. The current Prime Minister is taking it in a more vigorous way, he added.

Chairing the session, Rajya Sabha member and former diplomat Pavan K Varma said the Asia-Pacific region is bubbling with aspiration, adding that this region accounts for two-third of the middle class of the world.

Addressing the gathering, former Union minister Manish Tewari said the Indo-Pacific region is going to be shaped by the interplay of five major powers the US, Russia, China, Japan and India.