Under the aegis of Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, the Department is organising a Lecture on the topic "Strategic Dimensions of India's Foreign Policy."

This is a part of the larger initiative of the MEA, GOI to create awareness among the youth and student population of India on India's foreign policy through the program "Distinguished Lecture Series." The program is scheduled on 30<sup>th</sup> October at 5:30 pm in DMS Auditorium. The lecture will be delivered by Shri JN Misra, who retired as grade 1 Officer from Ministry of External Affairs equivalent to the rank of Secretary GOI in 2016. His short profile is as under:

Indian Foreign Service (Retd.) Former Ambassador to Portugal and Laos Former Consul General in Ho Chi Minh City Advisor to Government of Odisha on Sports and Tourism Visiting Professor Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution Jamia Millia Islamia Vice President Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society Member, Board of Advisors Centre for Asian Studies, Bhubaneswar Member, Management Committee Lotus Valley International School Noida Extension

A graduate of Mayo College and St Stephen's College Misra, is a distinguished diplomat. He will be talking on India's Foreign Policy in Current day Strategic Challenges with Focus on Rise of China. The emphasis is on India's stance in the fast changing global geopolitical order.

Issues like Chinese presence in Indian Ocean and the position of Maldives are matters of concern to India. Infact, China is now a major world player in the global power game and even US seems to have little clue as to what China is upto. Thus, given the vulnerability of India, what the country will be doing in terms of diplomacy to counteract rise of China will matter a lot. West Asia has also become strategically important and that is beyond the remittances. Oil is a major issue and India has to keep West Asia in good humor. Israel and Iraq again are important in terms of strategic consideration and how to balance Iraq and US relations is a major foreign policy challenge. Thus the global situation calls for a major thrust of the foreign policy front and India has to pay more attention to diplomacy and build new relations.

Pramod Pathak Co-Ordinatior