



Panel Discussion on Geopolitical Churning, Technological Disruptions and Modern Warfare

The **World Intellectual Foundation (WIF)**, in collaboration with the **Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC)**, New Delhi, successfully organized a high-level panel discussion on **16 September 2025** at **Dr. Ambedkar International Centre**.

The seminar, titled “**Geopolitical Churning, Technological Disruptions and Modern Warfare: Navigating Conflict, Strategic Autonomy and India’s Readiness in an Uncertain Age,**” brought together distinguished military leaders, diplomats, scholars, and journalists to deliberate on the evolving nature of conflict and India’s preparedness in a rapidly changing global environment.

Distinguished Panel

- **Lieutenant General Raj Shukla, PVSM, YSM, SM (Retd.)**, Former GOC-in-C, ARTRAC & Member, UPSC
- **Ambassador Anil Trigunayat, IFS (Retd.)**, Distinguished Fellow, WIF
- **Lieutenant General Devendra Pratap Pandey, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd.)**, Former GOC Chinari Corps & Commandant, Army War College
- **Sandeep Unnithan**, Editor-in-Chief, Chakra News & Consulting Editor, India Today

Moderator:

- **Col. Akash Patil**, Director, Dr. Ambedkar International Centre

Special Guests

The event was graced by the presence of **Prof. Jagdish Mukhi**, Former Governor & Chairman, WIF; **Shri Sudhanshu Mittal**, Founder & Mentor, WIF; **Prof. Rubina Mittal**, Director – Research & Innovation, WIF; **Lt. Gen. Sanjay Kulkarni, PVSM, AVSM, SC, SM, VSM (Retd.)**; representatives from **High Commissions and Embassies**, members of the **academic fraternity**, and **students, including international scholars** studying in India.

Key Takeaways

- **Geopolitical Realignment:** Great power rivalries, trade wars, and tariff disruptions (notably during the Trump era) have reshaped the global order, making **strategic autonomy** central to India's foreign and security policy.
- **Technological Disruptions:** The rise of **AI, drones, cyber warfare, and autonomous systems** is fundamentally changing modern warfare, as evidenced by the ongoing Russia–Ukraine conflict.
- **National Resilience:** India must balance the **welfare needs of 140 crore citizens** with investments in cutting-edge defence technologies, rare earth elements, and semiconductors to reduce external dependencies.
- **Atmanirbharta in Defence:** Strengthening domestic R&D ecosystems and promoting **innovation-driven manufacturing** are crucial for India's military and economic security.
- **Evolving Security Doctrine:** National security now extends beyond borders to include **economic security, resilience, and societal cohesion**, demanding continuous adaptation.

Closing

The event concluded with the unveiling of the **coffee table book – *Operation Sindoor***, symbolizing India's spirit of service and sacrifice, followed by high tea and networking.

The seminar reaffirmed the importance of building India's future readiness through a **synergy of military preparedness, technological innovation, economic resilience, and strategic foresight**.