



**Session On
Keith Lieberthal on "China: How it works and What it Seeks"
Feb 10th, 2010.**

"What China is seeking is to achieve wealth and power and be respected as a great nation and protect its sovereignty/territorial integrity" Said Dr. Kenneth Lieberthal, Director of the John L. Thornton China Center and Senior Fellow in Foreign Policy and Global Economy and Development at the Brookings Institution, USA while addressing a session on "China: How it Works and What it Seeks" in New Delhi on February 10, 2010. According to him, China's has already achieved spectacular success in economic reforms in last thirty years with an average annual growth of 17 percent in foreign trade and foreign exchange of USD 2.4 trillion. The authoritarian 'one party rule', extraordinary breadth of 'reach' of the political system directly into economy, education, social, public health and other spheres, substantial domestic coercive capability of the party, highly flexible, entrepreneurial and internally competitive environment and decentralized and very pragmatically adaptive nature of the system were mainly responsible for rapid economic growth of China, according to Dr. Lieberthal. "Political economy has been a key driver of sustained development that made the China's political system into a growth machine", he said. "As political power is a rule to harness rapid economic growth in China, CCP has become in reality the China Bureaucratic Capitalist Party," he said. According to Dr Lieberthal "The current global economic crisis has increased China's global role faster than anybody in China anticipated. The new major power status has produced a new attitude in China that is confident and becoming increasingly arrogant. China is in the midst of a debate as to how to handle new opportunities and responsibilities."