



*The emergence of India as a strong economic power is receiving widespread recognition in the region and beyond. Today, it has expanded its footprints and engagement in multiple fields across all continents. Accordingly, India's foreign policy and international conducts should reflect upon its new global stature. In this backdrop, Ananta Aspen Centre is pleased to launch a new initiative -- a bi-weekly digest of all the major news related to India's Foreign Policy. Our sincere effort is to keep you informed and updated on all the major international developments that have implications on India's foreign policy. Hope you will benefit from the initiative. We value your feedback, comments and recommendations.*

### **India and the World – an Update**

*A bi-weekly News Digest on India's Foreign Policy*  
(Volume 1 – 17)

***September 4th - September 17th, 2014***

### **Neighbourhood**

#### **South Asia**

#### ***Pakistan***

#### **[No full stop, only comma in \(Pak\) diplomacy: Sushma](#)**

The Indian Express | September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Asked if Modi will meet Sharif on the sideline of UN General Assembly later this month, Swaraj said it will depend on how the situation will emerge in the coming days, and they were not going with any "preset mind". She also played down the Pakistan Foreign Ministry's statement offering help to India, in which Kashmir was referred to as India-occupied Kashmir.

#### **[India slams Pak for clean chit to Hafiz Saeed, demands his arrest](#)**

PTI / ABP News | September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The sharp reaction by India came within hours of Pakistan High Commission Abdul Basit's remarks that "Hafiz Saeed is a Pakistani national so he is free to roam around. So what is the problem...he is a free citizen so there is no issue as far as Pakistan is concerned. Courts have already exonerated him. There is no case pending against him."

## ***Sri Lanka***

### [53 fishermen arrested by Sri Lankan Navy](#)

PTI / IBN Live | September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Officials said a total of 68 fishermen and 72 boats are in the custody of the Sri Lankan government.

## ***Bangladesh***

### [India, Bangladesh sign MoU on traditional medicine, homeopathy](#)

IANS / Zee News | September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Training, research, exchanges of experts and setting up an academic chair are the highlights of this new cooperation envisaged in the MoU Tuesday, bdnews24.com reported.

## **Asia – Pacific**

### ***China***

### [Closer ties with Japan will not impact India-China relations: Experts](#)

ANI / Business Standard | September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Experts, at a public discussion organized by Ananta Aspen Centre on "India and China-A New Engagement?", opined that closer ties with Tokyo will not impact the relationship between New Delhi and Beijing. The panelists also underscored the need for policy reforms in India to boost growth manufacturing.

### [India focus on Arunachal Pradesh](#)

The Asian Age | September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014

"When China's foreign minister came, we gave them a message (that) we (India) believe in a One-China policy. You should believe in a One-India policy. ... When they (the Chinese) raise the issue of Tibet and Taiwan, we appreciate their sensitivities. We also want that they should appreciate our sensitivities regarding Arunachal Pradesh," External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj said.

### [Chinese president Xi Jinping meets Modi envoy, talks of bonding with India](#)

The Times of India / Agencies | September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Xi said Doval's visit to finalise the programme testifies the great importance placed by Modi and the Indian government to the overall relationship with China. "It also sends a positive signal to the outside world and I appreciate that," Xi also the general-secretary of the ruling Communist Party of China told Doval.

### [Xi Jinping should fix trust deficit](#)

Times of India | September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014

On the economic front, apart from Chinese non-tariff barriers on Indian exports, there is the issue of "non-economic" pricing of Chinese exports resulting in anti-dumping action by India. There are products being exported to India at unbelievably low prices to outcompete and in fact destroy Indian industry in those sectors. All this has to change and a new level of transparency needs to surface in the bilateral trade relationship.

### [Ahead of Xi's visit: China on track to develop Indian railways](#)

Reuters / Business Standard | September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Beijing is looking to invest another \$50 billion in building India's ports, roads and a project to link rivers, part of an infrastructure push that Modi has said is his priority to crank up economic growth. Chinese investment will also help narrow a trade deficit with India that hit \$31 billion in 2013.

[India-China relations go beyond 'plain arithmetic', says PM Modi](#)

PTI / Business Today | September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014

China's foreign exchange reserves, the largest in the world, reached a record US \$3.95 trillion in March and it plans to invest around US \$500 billion overseas in the next five years, a share of which is expected to find India's way.

***Japan***

[India-Japan ties blossom at the confluence of Modi-Abenomics](#)

Hindustan Times | September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014

India has made repeated efforts to address the concerns of Japanese investors but progress has remained modest. Japanese investment accounts for just 7% of India's FDI and trade 18.51% during 2012-13.

***Vietnam***

[Vietnam an important pillar in India's Look-East policy: President](#)

ANI / Zee News | September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Giving his assessment on Indo-Vietnamese ties in the current situation, the President further added, " Bilateral relations between India and Vietnam are excellent. They have never been better than what they are today. Our Strategic Partnership, which was established in 2007, is now entering its eighth year of implementation.

[Pranab Mukherjee in Vietnam: Modi's Asian Power](#)

The Indian Express | September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Faced with an intensifying maritime territorial dispute with China, Vietnam has been specially interested in strengthening naval cooperation with Delhi. Indian Navy frequently visits Vietnamese ports and has been training Vietnamese submarine force.

***The United States***

[US MPs unhappy as PM Narendra Modi may not get to address US joint session](#)

The Economic Times | September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Modi's US visit, which begins on September 30, is seen as giving momentum to bilateral ties that have slumped since 2011.

[America calling: No stops for Prime Minister Narendra Modi in US visit](#)

IANS / Hindustan Times | September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014

President Barack Obama will host a dinner for him September 29 before bilateral talks at the White House the next day and this will be followed by a lunch hosted by Vice President Joe Biden at the State Department.

***Australia***

### [India, Australia seal civil nuclear deal](#)

The Hindu | September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Australia will now be a “long-term reliable supplier of uranium to India,” said an External Affairs Ministry press release, and will provide for the “supply of uranium, production of radio isotopes, nuclear safety and other areas of cooperation.”

### [The discovery of Australia](#)

The Times of India | September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014

In November Prime Minister Modi will visit Australia for the G-20 summit. This will be the first bilateral visit by an Indian prime minister in 28 years. It is critical that the political leadership remain in charge of the relationship until it acquires real momentum.

## **Europe**

### [India won't oppose Marine return](#)

The Asian Age | September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014

“As regard to the Italian Marine’s application in the Supreme Court, we are not opposing that application on humanitarian grounds. If the court decides to give him this bail and allows him to return to Italy, we will not oppose it,” said External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.

## **Latin America**

### [India-Brazil ties a strategic partnership: President](#)

IANS / India TV News | September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Extending his greetings on Brazil's Independence Day (September 7), Mukherjee, in his message to his Brazilian counterpart Dilma Rousseff, said: "The relationship of India and Brazil, as two emerging economies, has acquired the significant dimensions of a strategic partnership."

## **Miscellaneous**

### [IPR policy on the cards to protect national interests, says Nirmala Sitharaman](#)

The Economic Times | September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014

"We are going to have a national IPR policy in place soon. It will not be restrictive but promote national interest. India has well-established IPR laws, but it is important to spell it out in the form of a policy for the entire world to see," commerce & industry minister Nirmala Sitharaman said.

### [Likely to unveil 'different' foreign trade policy by Sept-end, says Nirmala Sitharaman](#)

PTI / The Financial Express | September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The Commerce Ministry is scheduled to announce the new five-year Foreign Trade Policy (2014-19) as it seeks to boost manufacturing and exports, among other things. The new policy would focus on a wide range of issues, including services exports, standards and branding of products.

[Strategic networking in the Indo-Pacific](#)

The Hindu | September 12th, 2014

Mr. Abbott's statements about India — calling it “a model international citizen,” “a country that threatens no one and is a friend to many” and “the world's emerging democratic superpower” — marks a change in Australian perceptions.

[Narendra Modi's 'Mausam' manoeuvre to check China's maritime might](#)

The Times of India | September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014

While India is also among the countries invited to join China's maritime silk route initiative, New Delhi has been alarmed by the interest shown by Sri Lanka and Maldives in the Chinese proposal, which ostensibly seeks to revive ancient economic linkages.

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