



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 – 18)

September 18th - September 30th, 2014

Neighbourhood

South Asia

SAARC

[PM Modi talks 'strong SAARC' with Rajapaksa, Hasina and Koirala](#)

PTI / India TV News | September 28th, 2014

The South Asian leaders congratulated India on its recent Mars orbiter mission and said they were looking forward to progress on SAARC satellite mission announced by Modi earlier.

Pakistan

[Pakistan climbs down to admit: 'our Hurriyat invite was bad timing'](#)

The Financial Express | September 29th, 2014

Pointing out that while meetings between Pakistani diplomats and Hurriyat leaders have been a "regular practice for the last 30 years and there was nothing new in it", Pakistan's National Security and Foreign Affairs Advisor Sartaj Aziz said in New York, "In this case perhaps, the timing was not totally right because the substantial discussion on Kashmir was yet to start."

Bangladesh

[India suspects coup in Bangladesh, JeI plans to de-stabilise Sheikh Hasina government](#)

The Economic Times | September 25th, 2014

The Indian security establishment has received reports from Dhaka that JeI, that maintains close links with ISI, could be plotting to remove Hasina from power with the support of few radical elements in the Bangladesh Army, South Block sources told ET.

Asia Pacific

China

'Xi Jinping's India Visit'

[Chinese President Xi Jinping in India](#)

The Hindu | September 18th, 2014

Agreements on 2 Chinese industrial parks & commitment to \$20 billion Chinese investments in 5 years signed.

[Five big takeaways from Xi Jinping's visit to India](#)

The Economic Times | September 19th, 2014

China finally opened up its money bags to India, although just a trickle at \$20 billion in investments in the next five years. While for the last four years Indian leaders have been complaining about the burgeoning trade deficits (with which India lost \$169 billion in trade deficits to China between 2007 and 2013) and non-opening of China's economy to Indian products, etc, the agreements suggest to some breakthrough, although we need to monitor the progress.

'Chinese Incursion in Ladakh'

[Modi talks tough on Ladakh incursions](#)

The Hindu | September 19th, 2014

In a strong statement, Prime Minister Modi said, "Respect for each other's sensitivities and concerns, and peace and stability in our relations and along our borders are essential for us to realise the enormous potential in our relations."

[Chinese incursion in Ladakh: A little toothache can paralyze entire body, Modi tells Xi Jinping](#)

Times of India | September 20th, 2014

Even as hectic politico-diplomatic interventions are underway to defuse tensions after the Modi-Xi summit, defence sources said there was "no change in the ground situation" till Friday evening at Chumar, where around 1,000 soldiers from each side are holding five to six "tactical positions" spread along a 2.5-km front in sub-zero temperatures at an altitude of around 14,500feet.

[Indo-China stand-off worsens: Chinese pitch seven tents in Chumar](#)

PTI / Deccan Chronicle | September 21st, 2014

Nearly 100 personnel of the PLA strength was estimated around Point 30R, a strategically important post, as it helps India to keep a vigil deep inside the occupied territory of Chinese, they said.

[India, China agree on withdrawal of troops from Ladakh](#)

PTI / Deccan Herald | September 26th, 2014

Swaraj said the withdrawal of the troops will begin today and will be completed by September 30, adding that the troops of both the nations will return to their positions as they were on September 1, 2014.

Japan

[Japan Keen to Help India Improve Road Network in Northeast](#)

PTI / NDTV | September 25th, 2014

The offer was made by visiting Japanese Minister for Land, Infrastructure and Tourism Akihiro Ohta during his meeting with Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari in the national capital. Mr Ohta said his country, which has expertise in constructing roads in mountainous regions, can "actively contribute" in building such infrastructure in the Northeast.

United States

'PM Narendra Modi's US visit'

[PM Modi wants 2 lakh MW more from sun, wind with US help](#)

Hindustan Times | September 23rd, 2014

In the run-up to the visit, the government has already scrapped a plan to impose additional duties on solar panels imported from the US and elsewhere.

[For Make in India, it's Talk to America](#)

The Indian Express | September 24th, 2014

At his meetings with US President Barack Obama, Vice President Joseph Biden, Secretary of State John Kerry and Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel on September 29-30, Modi will raise the issue of increased trade and investment between the two countries. India will focus on issues of defence, maritime security, science and technology, and areas of cooperation in third countries.

[PM hopes US visit will mark a 'new chapter' in ties](#)

PTI / The Hindu Business Line | September 25th, 2014

"I see the United States as a vital partner for our national development, drawing especially on the rich possibilities of partnership in education, skills, research, technology and innovation — and, above all, a shared commitment to human values," the Prime Minister said.

[India will be open and friendly for business, ideas: Modi](#)

PTI / ABP News | September 26th, 2014

"We will create world-class infrastructure that India badly needs to accelerate growth and meet people's basic needs. We will make our cities and towns habitable, sustainable and smart; and we will make our villages the new engines of economic transformation," Modi said.

[PM Modi Speaks At Madison Square Garden: Highlights](#)

NDTV | September 29th, 2014

The Prime Minister said that "In 2022, it will be 75 years of our independence.... It is an important landmark in Indian culture... I have a dream that by 2022, there should be no one in India without a roof over his head."

[Modi, Obama release vision statement 'Chalein saath, saath' ahead of talks](#)

Hindustan Times | September 30th, 2014

"As leaders of two great democratic nations with diverse traditions and faiths, we share a vision for a partnership in which the United States and India work together, not just for the benefit of both our nations, but for the benefit of the world," the statement said.

[Narendra Modi cautions US against hasty troop withdrawal from Afghanistan](#)

PTI / Live Mint | September 30th, 2014

“The process of withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan should be very slow. Afghanistan should be allowed to stand on its feet and then only can it stop the rise of the Taliban,” Modi said.

Europe

Russia

[Russia favours India's inclusion into permanent SCO membership](#)

PTI / DNA | September 21st, 2014

The Indian government is of the view that SCO membership will offer India more opportunities to work closely with China in certain areas including in Afghanistan. India also feels as SCO member, it will be able to play a major role in addressing the threat of terrorism in the region.

France

[France asks India to finalise joint missile project soon](#)

PTI / The Hindu Business Line | September 21st, 2014

The deal has been under negotiations for over five years and has been awaiting final clearance after French President Francois Hollande and then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in 2013 announced that talks have been concluded between both the sides on the missile development project.

Middle East/Israel

[Narendra Modi and Benjamin Netanyahu discuss defence cooperation, West Asia in rare meeting](#)

AFP / The Asian Age | September 29th, 2014

"We are very excited by the prospects of greater and greater ties with India. We think the sky's the limit," Netanyahu said, describing the countries as "ancient civilizations" that are also democracies.

Miscellaneous

[South Asia facing new threats of terrorism: Rajnath Singh](#)

PTI / DNA | September 19th, 2014

Singh said groups with radical and extremist ideologies do pose threats across national boundaries, in this volatile security environment and these groups even have no compunction in issuing threats publicly against neighbouring and regional countries.

‘Make in India Campaign’

['Make in India' campaign launch: As it happened](#)

ZEEBIZ (Zee News) | September 25th, 2014

Prime Minister Modi said for him the term FDI for the domestic industry did not expand to "foreign direct investment" but "first develop India". "We have to create opportunities of employment. If the poor get jobs the purchasing power of families will increase."

[Narendra Modi's clarion call to investors – Let's Make in India, soon the world will come to us](#)

The India Express | September 25th, 2014

The Prime Minister said "My government is committed to development, and has no political agenda, says Modi".

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