



*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 – 19)

**October 1st - October 16th, 2014**

### **Neighbourhood**

**South Asia**

***Pakistan***

#### **[Ceasefire violation: Times have changed, Rajnath warns Pakistan](#)**

The Times of India | October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The violation drew strong reactions from India, with both defence minister Arun Jaitley and home minister Rajnath Singh condemning the "continuous" border provocations by Pakistan and warning it of a befitting reply by "fully-ready" Indian troops.

#### **[No breakthrough in talks as India, Pakistan DGMO officials discuss ceasefire violations](#)**

PTI / Deccan Chronicle | October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Officials of the Directorate Generals of Military Operations (DGMOs) talked over hotline for five minutes during which both sides accused each other of violating the ceasefire, Army sources said.

#### **[PM Modi takes tough stand, says no talks with Pakistan till border firing continues: Report](#)**

Zee News (*with Agency inputs*) | October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The Pakistan Rangers targeted 50 border out posts (BoPs) and 35 hamlets overnight along

the 192-km boundary. The escalation has triggered an exodus, with 16,000 people moving to safer areas from border villages.

[Jaitley warns Pakistan, Modi praises troops as ceasefire violations continue](#)

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

Defence Minister Arun Jaitley on Thursday warned Pakistan that it would have to bear an “unaffordable” cost if it continued with its “adventurism”. He ruled out talks with Pakistan and praised Indian forces for a “commendable” job in the “face of these unprovoked acts of aggression”.

[Ban asks India, Pakistan to resolve their issues through dialogue](#)

PTI / ABP Live | October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Eight civilians have been killed in India as Pakistan targeted dozens of army outposts and villages; more than 80 have been injured. Pakistan says it has lost 11 civilians.

[UN ignores Pakistan bid to seek intervention on Kashmir](#)

PTI / India TV News | October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014

In the letter to UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, Sartaj Aziz, adviser to Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif on national security and foreign affairs, said Pakistan believes the UN has an important role to play in promoting the objective of peaceful resolution of the Kashmir issue, including through his “good offices”.

***Bangladesh***

[Bangladesh to create SEZ for Indian investors to forward the bilateral relations](#)

PTI / The Economic Times | October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

"Bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh have improved a lot. The neighbouring country has announced to create Special Economic Zone for the Indian investors," Indian Deputy High Commissioner in Dhaka, Sandip Chakraborty told reporters last night.

[India-Bangladesh projects in Tripura making rapid progress](#)

ANI / Business Standard | October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014

During his three-day visit to Tripura, Indian Deputy High commissioner in Dhaka Sandeep Chakravorty met ministers and top officials and took stock of the progress of various India-Bangladesh projects.

***Bhutan***

[India still committed to 10,000 MW by 2020](#)

Kuensel Online | October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014

“I can assure the Bhutanese people that the government of India is committed to the target of 10,000MW electricity by 2020 set between the Bhutanese and the people of India,” said the Indian Ambassador to Bhutan Gautam Bambawale adding, Bhutan and India must first focus to complete the ongoing joint venture projects, while at the same time exploring what can be done to future projects.

## *Nepal*

### [India, Nepal working together to link Lumbini, Bodh Gaya](#)

PTI / India TV News | October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014

“The idea is to link the two Buddhist circuits so that Buddhist pilgrims visiting either Nepal or India can enjoy a total Buddhist package in an integrated way,” said Indian Ambassador to Nepal Ranjit Rae.

## *Afghanistan*

### [India will stand as friend and partner, Modi tells new Afghan president](#)

IANS / Mid-Day | October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014

PM Modi expressed confidence that President Ashraf Ghani's "expertise, global experience and grassroots knowledge, borne out of travel to every district of Afghanistan, will help him implement his bold agenda of economic reforms and development in Afghanistan". He said President Ghani's "experience will be beneficial for India and the region", said an official statement.

## *Asia Pacific*

### *China*

### [PLA aborts Narendra Modi's China reset](#)

Live Mint | October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

When Chinese leaders have visited India, their trips have been preceded by or coincided with territorial provocations. It was just before then president Hu Jintao's 2006 visit that China began claiming Arunachal Pradesh as South Tibet. Likewise, prior to former premier Wen Jiabao's 2010 trip, Beijing began questioning India's sovereignty over Jammu and Kashmir, one-fifth of which China occupies. And Premier Li Keqiang's 2013 visit followed a PLA encroachment into Ladakh's Depsang plateau.

### [China border road on table](#)

The Telegraph | October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Starting from Tawang (10,000ft) on Arunachal's westernmost tip, the highway will run virtually parallel to the McMahon Line and pass through Dong, where the sun first rises in India. It will have scores of mountain tunnels and will end in Vijaynagar (4,200ft), located in a thumb-like protrusion of Indian territory into Myanmar.

## *The United States*

### [Narendra Modi-Barack Obama meet: Key takeaways](#)

Zee News (with Agency Inputs) | October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

In New York, Modi held meetings with a host of top American businessmen including breakfast with CEOs of Fortune 500 companies. He was also called upon by top American leaders like Bill and Hillary Clinton, and former New York mayor Michael Bloomberg.

### [The second chance](#)

The Indian Express | October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

During his visit to the US, Modi sought to convince the American corporate sector that India is back in business, signalled a readiness to engage on difficult issues like climate change and trade, and seized the moment for deepening defence and security cooperation.

### [US shows sensitivity to govt's stand on food security, intellectual property rights](#)

PTI / Business Today | October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014

A top US trade official on Thursday told American corporate leaders that the Obama Administration was supportive of the Indian stand on affordable medicine and food security; which of late has emerged as the most contentious issues between the two countries.

## *Australia*

### [Australia announces 13 innovative projects with India](#)

PTI / The Hindu Business Line | October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The latest initiatives will be supported through Australia-India Council (AIC) grants programme, said Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop. She said “AIC’s grants, totalling over A\$ 565,000, will support new partnerships between Australian and Indian universities, professional bodies, private sector organisations and arts communities in areas of strong mutual interest and where the bilateral relationship has the greatest capacity to grow”.

## **North America**

### *Canada*

### [India, Canada clinch nuclear deal in record time](#)

The Times of India | October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014

John Baird, Canada's foreign minister also said "We are excited about being a reliable supplier of oil and gas and helping India attain its development goals. Canadian companies have a lot of experience in green energy, and we hope they can lend their expertise to the new government as it seeks to tackle its challenges."

## **Middle East**

### *Israel*

### [Indo-Israel relations: Time to walk the last mile](#)

Hindustan Times | October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014

The strength and contribution of India-Israel relations lies elsewhere — in the cooperation between the two countries in all forms of innovative agricultural techniques, water conservation, water usage and water management and the application of hi-tech models designed to produce higher crop yields for the Indian farming community.

## Europe

### [India, Russia discuss joint ventures in aviation, pharma](#)

The Hindu Business Line | October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014

India and Russia are already exploring the possibility of a Free Trade Agreement to boost bilateral trade from the existing \$6 billion, which is less than one per cent of India's total foreign trade. Russia is interested to do more business in areas such as tractors, industrial machinery and civil aviation, while India wants to attract investments in the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridors, the New Manufacturing and Investment Zones and export more pharmaceuticals and agriculture products.

### [President Pranab Mukherjee on Scandinavia visit to boost ties](#)

Asian Age | October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014

India is looking at investments and expertise of the Scandinavian country, which shared cordial relations with India and supported its case for waiver in Nuclear Suppliers' Group and observer in Arctic Circle, in the high end technology in fisheries, ports construction and infrastructure.

### [Sushma to visit UK](#)

The Telegraph | October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014

A key aim behind her visit will be to counter perceptions in the UK and much of Europe that the Modi government has so far ignored the country and continent that dominated the world for two centuries, senior officials have confirmed to The Telegraph.

### [Plans on for Modi's visit to UK, likely to inaugurate Gandhi statue](#)

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

The statue will stand amid monuments to other statesmen, including Nelson Mandela, Winston Churchill and Abraham Lincoln.

### [Germany to assist in urban sanitation, to fund €4 million](#)

Live Mint | October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014

It aims to promote development in the urban sanitation sector, formulation of state and city sanitation policies and support states for technical innovation. The focus will be on enabling effective measures against discharge of untreated waste water into surface and ground water.

### [President Pranab Mukherjee invites Norwegian firms to join 'Make in India' campaign](#)

PTI / DNA | October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Mukherjee hoped for an early conclusion of talks between India and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) on free trade agreement, which will facilitate further promotion of economic ties with Norway and other member states.

## Miscellaneous

### [Modi to attend 3 multilaterals; address joint Aus Parliament](#)

PTI / Business Standard | October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014

The Prime Minister will first travel to Myanmar capital Nay Pyi Taw for East Asia Summit (EAS) on November 12-13 from where he will go to Brisbane for G-20 on November 15-16.

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