

Top Stories

[ISI cultivated Taliban to counter Indian action: Musharraf](#)

PTI / The Times of India | February 13th, 2015

Spies in Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) had given birth to the Taliban after 2001 because the Karzai government had an overwhelming number of non-Pashtuns and officials who were said to favour India, Musharraf said.

[New deal to link South Asian nations in pipeline](#)

Live Mint | February 3rd, 2015

The Saarc Regional Multimodal Transport Study, conducted by the Saarc secretariat in 2005, had recommended multilateral agreements permitting free movement of people, goods and services within the region by road and rail, later endorsed by member countries.

['India, China taking solid steps for new momentum in ties'](#)

PTI / Zee News | February 2nd, 2015

"I have full confidence in India-China relations and I believe that new progress will be achieved in growing this bilateral relationship in this new year," Xi told Swaraj, who called on him at the cavernous Great Hall of the People here on her maiden visit to the communist nation after she assumed charge last year.

India and the World – an Update

A Bi-weekly News Digest on India's Foreign Policy

February 1st - February 15th, 2015

Volume: 2-3

Neighbourhood

Pakistan

[Cricket diplomacy: PM Narendra Modi opens new innings with Pakistan](#)

The Indian Express | February 14th, 2015

During his conversation with Sharif, Modi said that S Jaishankar, who took charge as Foreign Secretary a fortnight ago, will be embarking on a tour of all SAARC countries, including Pakistan, over the next few months. This "will not be one long visit covering all seven countries" but will be decided on the basis of availability of the Foreign Secretary's counterparts and other logistical factors, sources said.

[Pakistan for meaningful dialogue with India: Sartaj Aziz](#)

IANS / India Today | February 15th, 2015

Aziz said Modi's telephone call and the decision to send Foreign Secretary S. Jaishankar to Islamabad was a good start in breaking the ice between the two countries. But whether it would lead to the actual resumption of a meaningful dialogue remained to be seen and depended on the talks between the foreign secretaries.

Bangladesh

[Joint patrolling of Indo-Bangla border by BSF and BGB](#)

PTI / Business Standard | February 4th, 2015

Deputy Commissioner of Rangamati Hill district, Shamsul Arifin said that both sides have laid importance on containing crimes on the borders and decided for a joint patrolling by the border guards of the two countries. The border outposts of BSF have been improved on Indian side and similar initiatives were also taken on the side of Bangladesh to improve the infrastructures of BOPs, he said.

Sri Lanka

[Sri Lanka prez Sirisena arrives in India today to boost ties](#)

Hindustan Times | February 15th, 2015

India also expects Lanka to move swiftly on the issue of giving political rights to Tamil minorities, which is part of a 1987 accord between the two countries. "This is an important issue. We will discuss issues relating to reconciliation and reconstruction in Sri Lanka," external affairs ministry spokesperson Syed Akbaruddin said on Friday.

Asia Pacific

Myanmar

[India to complete Myanmar port project in May](#)

The Hindu Business Line | February 1st, 2015

While the commissioning of the port-cum-waterway will surely boost bilateral relations, India has to wait for years to start transshipment of goods to Mizoram in the North-East, as the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) is yet to kick off the road transport part of the Kaladan project.

China

[India, China major forces of world's multi-polarity'](#)

Hindustan Times | February 1st, 2015

"Both China and India follow independent foreign policies. We give importance to neighbours. We believe India-US and India-China are two separate bilateral relations. We would like India to develop such relations," Wang told Indian journalists after her meeting with Swaraj.

[India, China can realise 'Asian Century': Sushma](#)

The Hindu | February 4th, 2015

Ms. Swaraj stressed that New Delhi-Beijing ties can reach the next level if both sides enforce an "action- oriented approach and a broad-based bilateral engagement". She asserted that the two countries need to achieve "convergence on common regional and global interests" and "develop new areas of cooperation".

[Doval, top Chinese diplomat meet ahead of border talks](#)

PTI / Business Standard | February 8th, 2015

The Chinese official proposed to respect and look after each other's concerns, to push forward negotiations over boundaries and to effectively maintain the peace and safety of border areas, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

[China asks India to sign a new Code of Conduct on Border management](#)

IBN Live (*with additional inputs from PTI*) | February 9th, 2015

China asked India to sign a new Code of Conduct on Border management to which the latter said it was open to the idea. China has called for pushing forward talks to resolve the border issue and remove "disturbances" in bilateral ties. The meeting assumes significance as it takes place ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's maiden visit to China in May.

['PM Modi's China visit set to throw up \\$20-bn investments'](#)

Hindustan Times | February 11th, 2015

"China takes the Indian concern of trade imbalance very seriously. Solving the problem requires joint efforts. China hopes India would ease restrictions on exporting competitive products such as iron ore etc to China, cut tariffs, encourage Indian firms to improve the quality of their products and produce more goods that meet the demand of the Chinese market," said the China's Ambassador to India, Le Yucheng.

[China backs bigger role for India, Brazil at UNSC](#)

PTI / The Economic Times | February 12th, 2015

About the Indian and Brazilian applications to become permanent members, China respects the willingness of the two countries to play a bigger role in the UN body, Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying said. Hua, however, told reporters that Beijing would like to reach a "broadest consensus through diplomatic means" on UNSC reform.

The United States

[Big Pharma groupings urges US to ask India to change its IPR policies](#)

The Economic Times | February 12th, 2015

IPR issues, especially over drugs, have long been a sticky point in India-US bilateral relations though both countries are now trying to resolve the differences through high-level talks. India is already on US' Priority Watch List, which means Washington is closely monitoring New Delhi's efforts to protect IPR.

[US move to make climate changes rejected](#)

PTI / The Asian Age | February 13th, 2015

The US proposed to re-define the basic categories of the Convention at the ongoing six-day talks of the ad hoc working group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action which is tasked with drafting a negotiating text for the next climate change meet in June 2015.

Europe

Spain

[India, Spain to partner for high speed railways](#)

ANI / DNA | February 2nd, 2015

"With almost 25 percent of our energy coming from renewable sources, Spain has the highest percentage of renewable energy in Europe. We are eager to have India also increase its renewable energy production," Spanish Minister of State for Commerce Jaime Garcia Legaz said.

Miscellaneous

[Ajit Doval: India suffers from 'exported terror' in J&K](#)

PTI / The Asian Age | February 9th, 2015

Successive Indian governments have pursued a policy of closely integrating all minority groups into the mainstream of the

society and as a result radical Islamists could not succeed in propagating their extremist ideologies among the Muslim population, Mr Doval said while participating in a panel discussion on “War on Terror” at the 51st Munich Security Conference here Saturday.

[The world is looking at India again: Modi](#)

Hindustan Times | February 14th, 2015

Modi invited GE to manufacture ships and defence equipment and said there are immense opportunities in India. In the first phase of its operations, GE will manufacture products and solutions for the power sector and the oil, gas and transportation industries. The company also announced its second phase on Saturday, in which it explore manufacturing capabilities for aviation engine components and machining for rail locomotives.

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