

Top Stories

[Modi woos Asean with 'new' economic journey](#)

PTI / Business Standard | November 13th, 2014

Noting that India's "Look East" policy has become "Act East" policy, Modi assured the Asean leaders that he will give his "sustained personal" attention to India's relations with the regional bloc.

[Narendra Modi paving 'third revolution' in India: Shimon Peres](#)

PTI / Hindustan Times | November 7th, 2014

In the area of agriculture, the former Israeli President said that India must make efforts for collaboration between India-Israel-Australia to achieve food and water security and explore work in marine and medical agriculture. He was speaking at a discussion on 'Creating a Second Green Revolution in India', organised by Ananta Centre and Pratt Foundation in New Delhi.

[India looks to build greater road, air links with Saarc](#)

Live Mint | November 12th, 2014

While the organization will sign a motor vehicle agreement laying down the protocol for vehicular traffic movement between Saarc countries for better people-to-people connectivity and cargo movement, various Indian government departments have also drawn up a list of proposals to be presented at the 26-27 November summit.

India and the World – an Update

A bi-weekly News Digest on India's Foreign Policy
November 1st - November 14th, 2014
Volume: 1-21

Neighbourhood

South Asia

Pakistan

[MEA welcomes Pentagon reports on Pakistan using terrorists against Indian Army as proxy](#)

November 4th, 2014 | IBN Live

The Pentagon informed the Congress that India continues to support Afghanistan, believing a secure and stable Afghanistan will benefit the region and facilitate economic corridors into Central Asia.

Bangladesh

[Bangladesh and India decide on inter-connection line](#)

PTI / DNA | November 3rd, 2014

Leader of the Bangladesh team, Chowdhury Alamgir Hossain, Director of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh said, from Suryamaninagar substation, the line would be drawn by the Indian government up to Konaban, the crossing point to Bangladesh, covering a distance of about 24 km. From Konaban the line would enter Bangladesh territory and would be drawn by the Bangladesh government up to Comilla grid covering a distance of about 27 km which would cost about 135 crore Bangladeshi taka (Rs 106.75 crore).

[JMB suspect held in Bardhaman blast case](#)

The Hindu | November 11th, 2014

National Security Adviser Ajit Doval briefed Gowher Rizvi, Senior Adviser to Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, about the latest developments in the case. According to sources, the Bangladesh government has expressed appreciation over India sharing details about the JMB's activities, including a suspected plot to assassinate Ms. Hasina.

Nepal

[Indian Army Chief General Dalbir Suhag in Nepal; Discusses Military Ties](#)

PTI / NDTV | November 12th, 2014

Gen. Singh met with Gen. Rana and discussed matters relating to bilateral cooperation, issues of mutual interest and ways to enhance bilateral defence ties, army sources said. He also met with other senior officials of Nepalese Army.

Bhutan

[India, Bhutan can contribute to outcomes in SAARC, says President Pranab Mukherjee](#)

PTI / DNA | November 8th, 2014

"I would like to suggest that India and Bhutan must take up, with all earnestness their role within SAARC to move our regional cooperation towards positive and productive programmes for the advancement of the region and global peace, security and development," Mukherjee said on the last day of his two-day Bhutan visit, the first by an Indian head of state to the country in the last 26 years.

Sri Lanka

[After PM Modi's intervention, five Indian fishermen on death row in Sri Lanka to be sent back](#)

Zee News | November 10th, 2014

The case dates back to 2011 when the five fishermen set out to fish from Rameswaram and were apprehended by the Sri Lankan Navy on the charge of possessing narcotics. On October 30, the Colombo High Court sentenced to death the five fishermen on charges of allegedly smuggling heroin into Sri Lanka.

Mauritius

[Mauritius assures help to India in black money probe](#)

PTI / The Hindu | November 4th, 2014

According to Sebi, Mauritius accounted for Rs 3.31 lakh crore worth 'assets under custody' of foreign institutional investors in the Indian equity and debt markets at the end of 2013, as against over Rs 4.37 lakh crore in case of the US.

Fund flows from Mauritius have fallen amid concerns about suspected money-laundering, even though this Indian Ocean island nation has been consistently denying such allegations.

Asia – Pacific

China

[Chinese submarine docking in Lanka ‘inimical’ to India’s interests: Govt](#)

The Times of India | November 3rd, 2014

As reported by Sunday TOI, Sri Lanka allowed the docking despite NSA Ajit Doval's warning to Lankan defence secretary Gotabaya Rajapaksa that any presence of a Chinese submarine in Sri Lanka would be unacceptable to India.

[Clubbing with China on climate hurting us, says PM’s sherpa](#)

The Indian Express | November 6th, 2014

“We have not gained much from this kind of partnership. In fact, I would say it was a tactical mistake by India to almost totally align itself with China at Copenhagen (in 2009) and thereafter,” Mr. Prabhu said.

The United States

[WTO deal: India, US resolve impasse over food security, clears way for TFA](#)

PTI / The Financial Express | November 13th, 2014

With the US agreeing to support India’s proposal on public stockpiling of food, it would now go for ratification by the WTO General Council to facilitate signing of Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA) that has been stalled for months.

Australia

[Tony Abbott Calls PM Modi to Talk About G-20; Says Keenly Waiting to Meet Him](#)

PTI / NDTV | November 7th, 2014

"Prime Minister Abbott invited Prime Minister Modi to share, in particular, his vision for accelerating global economic growth and employment generation, based on his personal experiences of reforms and growth at the state level and his plans for India. Prime Minister Abbott also sought PM's support for Australia's infrastructure initiatives in the G-20," a PMO release said in New Delhi.

[Australia-India relationship an idea whose time has come](#)

Sydney Morning Herald | November 11th, 2014

Together Prime Ministers Abbott and Modi have the chance to transform the bilateral relationship between their countries from one characterised by missed opportunities into a genuine strategic partnership. The long shadow of the Cold War, India's autarkic economic policies, the White Australia policy, and Canberra's decision not to transfer uranium to India, have kept the two countries apart for several decades. But this is now history.

Myanmar

[‘Fraternal’ Myanmar, India for closer links](#)

The Hindu | November 12th, 2014

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Myanmar President Thein Sein, at their meeting at Nay Pyi Taw, also discussed other economic ties and cooperation in the oil and gas sector, as well as the need for more cultural contacts, including sending Myanmar students to Nalanda University.

East Asia Summit

[PM Narendra Modi arrives in Myanmar to attend ASEAN, East Asia summits](#)

India Today | November 11th, 2014

"At the East Asia Summit, I look forward to discussing with ASEAN and seven global leaders how we can strengthen regional institutions, international norms and regional cooperation in pursuit of peace, stability and prosperity," the Prime Minister said in the statement.

[Many complex security concerns in East Asia region: PM Modi](#)

PTI / Business Standard | November 13th, 2014

Modi in his intervention at the ninth East Asia Summit here in Myanmar's capital underlined the need for a serious and sustained dialogue to strengthen the climate of understanding and confidence among all stakeholders in the region.

Europe

Russia

[India, Russia iron out wrinkles before Putin's India visit next month](#)

The Times of India | November 6th, 2014

The 20th meeting of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC) was co-chaired here by foreign minister Sushma Swaraj and Russian Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin. One of the "key" decisions taken during the meeting was to work on a proposal for establishment of a Smart City in India by Russian company AFK Sistema.

[Visa on arrival to Russian businessmen at 18 airports soon: Nirmala Sitharaman](#)

PTI / The Economic Times | November 7th, 2014

Commerce Minister Nirmala Sitharaman also expressed India's commitment to removing red tape and provide single window clearance to investors. She also expressed hope that the recent liberalisation in FDI regime in India, including those in defence and railway sector, will create new opportunities for joint ventures by Indian and Russian countries in these areas.

[PM Modi meets Russian Premier Medvedev](#)

PTI / Business Standard | November 13th, 2014

During their conversation, Modi also spoke on the need for the federal units - states and regions of the two countries to cooperate more, a view which Medvedev endorsed.

Middle East

[Rajnath Singh in Israel to bolster ties](#)

PTI / The Asian Age | November 7th, 2014

“India is a very important ally for us and we view the home minister’s visit as very significant. We are looking forward to fruitful discussions that will strengthen cooperation between the two countries,” a senior Israeli official said.

[India and the Middle East: Finding a New Balance](#)

The Indian Express | November 9th, 2014

Modi met the Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on the margins of the United Nations, during his visit to the United States in September. This has been followed by the visit of the Israeli National Security Adviser to Delhi last month and home minister Singh’s trip to Tel Aviv last week. The two sides have agreed to intensify bilateral security cooperation.

Miscellaneous

[WTO to take up India’s demand for permanent food security solution](#)

The Times of India | November 10th, 2014

The US, Australia, Canada, Japan and Thailand have asked India to make disclosures of the support it gives to its farmers for all 25 crops. India refused to ratify the trade facilitation deal in July, seeking a simultaneous permanent solution on public procurement for food security. Officials said India is now willing to accept the US' offer of an indefinite peace clause instead of a four-year window under which no country can be penalized for breaching the farm subsidy cap.

[Narendra Modi embarks on 10-day tour to attend key summits, first stop Myanmar](#)

PTI / Deccan Chronicle | November 11th, 2014

The Prime Minister will meet over 40 leaders from countries in Asia, Africa, Europe, North America, South America and Pacific Region during the India-ASEAN and East Asia summits on November 12-13 in Myanmar's capital Nay Pyi Taw, the G 20 Summit in Brisbane and the visit to Fiji Islands.

[US-China climate deal, bad for the world: Sunita Narain](#)

The Hindu Business Line | November 12th, 2014

Speaking on the sidelines of the India-US cooperation on climate change and energy, organised by the Ananta Centre, along with the Aspen Institute and Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, Ms. Narain, Director General of the Centre for Science and Environment, said that the deal struck by the US and China on Wednesday at the end of the APEC Trade Summit held in Beijing was actually “not ambitious enough or effective enough and may be bad for the entire world”.

[India, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan form TAPI company](#)

Business Standard | November 14th, 2014

“It is a tangible sign of transformational cooperation among the parties that presages enhanced energy security, business prospects and overall peace and stability in the region, promised by the pipeline,” Klaus Gerhauer, director-general of ADB’s Central and West Asia department, said.

If you do not want to receive this News Digest, please let us know at this e-mail id: admin@anantacentre.in

About Ananta Aspen Centre

Ananta Aspen Centre is an independent and not-for-profit organisation that seeks to foster positive change in society through dissemination of knowledge. The Centre facilitates discussions on issues of international significance, values-based leadership and cross-sector outreach by engaging the civil society, government, private sector, and other key stakeholders.

*To know more, Please log on to
www.anantaaspencentre.in*