

## **FOREIGN POLICY OF INDIA DURING NARENDRA MODI GOVERNMENT**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The Prime Minister of the India have been playing a very important role in deciding foreign policies of India. The foreign policy of India has changed its form from the election of Narendra Modi as Prime Minister in 2014. Though, not many differences are seen in it since the post-independent times, some noticeable differences are seen in it. The priority in Indian foreign policy is changed. This research paper focuses since last two years, the interest shown by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the foreign policy, the time for it and plans made for it are certainly going to give new direction to a Indian foreign policy.

**Keywords:** External Affairs, Strategic Planning, Alliance, Colonialism, Non-Aligned Movement, Unipolar, Diplomacy, Neighborhood.

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**Introduction :**

It is very important to maintain friendly economic, social, cultural, educational, health- related science and technological and political relations with others countries for the progress of our nation. These relations are based on some particular principles and policies. Such policies and principles are called 'foreign policy'. In modern age, each and every nation is a part of international community. Due to this, every nation has to decide its foreign policy in order to strengthen and maintain the relations with other nations of the international community.

The foreign policy of every country is influenced by its geographical situation, the opinion of its citizens, the need of defence related things, neighboring countries, international politics and the political leadership of that country. Along with it, the thoughts of political leaders, their mindset, attitude, accepted values, their understanding of global situations, and the formation of their psychology also influence the foreign policy of a country. The foreign policy is decided upon the political leaders' assumptions about the objectives of welfare of that nation. The Prime Minister of India have been playing a very important role in deciding foreign policies of India. Whatever changes that have been made in objectives of foreign policies of India, are the results of the transformations in Prime Ministers and their understanding of the changing global situations. In result, the foreign policy of India has changed its form from the election of Narendra Modi as Prime Minister in 2014. Though, not many differences are seen in it since the post-independent times, some noticeable differences are seen in it. The priority in Indian foreign policy is changed.

Almost four years have been passed to the Prime Ministership of Narendra Modi. It won't be proper to say that the foreign policy of India has changed thoroughly during these four years. But despite of this, the direction of his foreign policy is made clear. During this four years, Modi has visited more than sixty five countries and the chiefs of more than eighty five countries have visited India. Along with this, the country's External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj has discussed with the external affair ministers of more than hundred countries through divers platforms. The previous

Prime Minister of India and his associates had tried to establish the image of India as a super power in the world politics. The same attempts are being made by Narendra Modi and his government. The interest shown by the Prime Minister Modi in the foreign policy, the time for it and plans made for it are certainly going to give new direction to a Indian foreign policy.

The characteristics of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's foreign policy are as follows:

1. Tried to improve relations with neighboring countries while implementing foreign policy of 'Neighbourhood First' is upheld.
2. Tried to improve the image of India on the world platform.
3. Without entertaining the idealism in the foreign policy, tried to give an objective policy for the welfare of the nation.
4. Stress is given on the protection of economic vested interests.
5. Recognizing the importance of ocean in a nation's welfare, gave importance to the ocean – policy.
6. Tried to include the states in foreign policy.
7. Recognizing the importance of NRIs, gave preference to keeping the vested interests through them.
8. Tried to give preference to the strategic planning while attempting for completing the energy related needs of the nation by improvement of relations with West Asian countries through the “Look West” policy.
9. Attempt of 'Energy Conservation' were made assuming it as an important part of Indian foreign policy.
10. Attempts of regional unity were done by using space related technology of India for improvement of relations with south asian countries. For example, the idea of SARC satellite.
11. To improve the global influence of India by taking the support of India's cultural and historical heritage and to underline the importance of Indian culture through the world approval to our cultural and historical heritage. For example, International Yoga Day and Buddhist Philosophy.
12. Tried to keep the national welfare by establishing relations with some countries newly. For example, Vietnam, Canada, Mangolia.

13. Provided stress on the relations with globally influential countries.

### **New Neighborhood Policy:**

Instead of inviting SAARC for the BRICS Summit Conference held in 2016, India had invited BimsTech (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Co-operation). At the times when our relations with Pakistan were at delicate stage, the decision of inviting BimsTech is an important decision. India publically announced the surgical strike in Pak occupied Kashmir. This has resulted into tension between Indo-Pakistan relations. Thus PM Narendra Modi's foreign policy of 'Neighborhood First' has taken a sudden turn. The discussion on India's relations with Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and China is done. Along it, the analysis of relations between India-Vietnam, India-Singapore, India-Japan is also done. After it the discussion is done about the relations with all powerful countries in the world.

### **India - Pakistan:**

The relations of India and Pakistan have been always of conflict since beginning. There are four points on which Indo- Pak conflict stands. The most important and extra sensitive issue is of Jammu – Kashmir. The second issue is of cross border terrorism. The follow the issues of Siachin and Sircrick.

Bhartiya Janta Party and especially Narendra Modi had criticized the UPA government on the issue of policy about Pakistan. India should have taken their strong decisions against Pakistan such statements were announced through public meetings. This gave a room for guessing the situations of conflict between India and Pakistan after Modi's election as Prime Minister. But Narendra Modi adopted a policy which clearly denied this expectation.

By taking the support of the policy of Ex-Prime Minister Mr. Atal Bihari Vajpayi, Modi initially, adopted the same policy. He tried to protect economic vested interest and improve trade relations while upholding the peace on one hand. As a first attempt

of improving Indo-Pak relations, he invited the chiefs of all neighbouring countries including Pakistan for his oath – taking ceremony. The Prime Minister of Pakistan Nawaz Sharif attended the ceremony and agreed to initiate the peace – making process which had ceased from 2008. Modi has adopted the 'neighborhood first' policy by recognizing need of good relations with neighbouring countries for India's attempt of becoming the world superpower and her today's place as a superpower in Indian subcontinent. The attempt of improving the Indo- Pak relations is done according to it.

It was hoped that the Indo-Pakistan relations will improve but because of sudden cross border terrorist activities, the discussions between both the countries stopped. Many innocent people died because of the shoot at the border. Because of the secrete attacks on the army also irritated Indian citizens. As a result, India also accepted the 'tit for tat' policy about Pakistan. The attitude of replaying with fire to the shooting was accepted. Pakistan was given the answer in her own language by the operation 'Surgical Strike'. This resulted in to a warlike situation between India and Pakistan.

The second important stance of Modi government is its stress on the bipolar discussions between this two nations only. It expected the absence of Hurriyat in this discussion. It goes away from Nehru's stance on the issue of Kashmir. Vajpayi and Manmohan Singh had given a place of importance in this discussion. Modi government does not approve the existence of Hurriyat Conference in this issue. This means that the doors are closed for Hurriyat Conference in the discussion on the issue of Kashmir. Since Nehru To Manmohan Singh, Kashmiri leaders were made to praise either Delhi or Islamabad in their discussion. Shyama Prasad Mukharji had disdained Nehru's stance about Kashmir, Modi government is going forward with same track. Modi government seems ready to break the traditional stance over the Kashmir issue. According to Pakistan, India should follow the tradition. Atal Bihari Vajpayi had included Hurriyat leaders in the discussion with the humanity's point of view. But Narendra Modi is refusing this thing.

By bringing forward the issue of exploitation of Kashmiri Pundits, BJP put forward the subject of article 370. But due to the absence of power BJP had opted to keep mum about the issue of article 370 and Kashmiri Pundit. But, now, because of fully independent government of the center, BJP more interested in article 370 rather than discussion with Pakistan on the Kashmir issue. In such situations, the government cannot possibly give approval to the separatist Hurriyat leaders.

On the other hand, Modi government has taken the stance of excluding Pakistan from the world platform. India has always tried to expose Pakistan's hypocritic behaviour on the world platform, whenever possible. In result Pakistan is seized by the Modi government in global politics. In it, the policy of befriending the friend nations of Pakistan and increasing the closeness with the enemies of Pakistan is adopted. India has tried to trap Pakistan by improving strategic relations with Saudi Arabia, Iran, Afghanistan, Bangladesh and America.

Because of this policy of India, it is seen that Pakistan does not have any other trusted friend except China on the world scenario. The vivid example of this can be seen in the form of American President Barak Obama's avoidance to visit Pakistan after his visit to India.

Nowadays, because of the attack on Line of Control (LoC) and international borders by Pakistan, the Indo-Pak relations are under stress. Both the countries have nuclear powers. None of them can afford a war now. Thus both the countries should develop an atmosphere of mutual trust between themselves. For this purpose, by keeping a side the issues of tension, both the countries should improve their trade relations. Pakistan should give India the status of 'The Most Forward Nation's and India should increase import from Pakistan. Such attempts are necessary to create a milieu of trust between both the countries.

It is hoped that India-Pakistan relations will improve after the political upheavals in Pakistan. The prime Minister of India Hon. Mr. Narendra Modi has congratulated

newly elected prime minister of Pakistan Mr. Imran Khan. Mr. Arif Alvi, the newly elected president of Pakistan, has said in his parliament speech that they want peaceful and healthy relations with India. He further mentioned that the people of Kashmir have the right to take their own decision. He also appealed the international community to look into this matter and help on the Kashmir issue. In short, it is observed that India has been trying to maintain the relations between both the countries, i.e. India and Pakistan. But still Pakistan is trying to neglect it and not to co-operate India in this regard. Whatever the situation may be either war or peace, there is no change in the policies of Pakistan. Since the partition, India has been experiencing such bitterness and hostility from Pakistan.

While thinking about India –Pakistan relation, following four factors in Pakistan should be taken into consideration. They are political leaders, military, fundamentalists and terrorist. For the real improvements in Indo-Pak relations, these four factors must agree. But that is not possible. Despite of this, the inclusion of Pakistani military in the discussion can be an option. Inclusion of Pakistan's army into the discussion may arrest the cross border terrorism. It may also result into an environment of mutual trust between both the countries.

### **India – Sri Lanka:**

Sri Lanka is also considered as an important neighbor to India. Both the races in Sri Lanka, Sinhalese in majority and Tamil in minority, have been closely related to India. Sinhalese are Buddhist while Tamils are Hindus. Indo- Sri Lankan relationship has gone through many ups and downs. While maintaining the relations with Sri Lanka, the issues of maintaining welfare of minority Hindu Tamils in Sri Lanka, improving trade relations with Sri Lanka and to arrest China's increasing influence on Sri Lanka are mostly preferred.

The issue of Human Rights in Sri Lanka is in under debate these days. The Human Rights Conference of UNO has passed three resolutions against Sri Lanka. Two among them were voted against Sri Lanka by India and remained absent for one. This

resulted into a tension between both the countries. During the times of Sri Lanka President Rajapaksa, the interests of minority Tamilian were not protected. Trade was not improved, too. On the other hand, to avoid the pressure of India, Rajapaksa increased the proximities with China. While being influenced by China, the relations with Pakistan were also improved. Narendra Modi's Sri Lanka policy proves its importance on this background.

In the presidential elections of Sri Lanka held in January 2015, Sirisena was elected. This shift in the government is of good hope for India. Sirisena began his foreign tour from India. Sri Lanka wants to improve her relations with India through it. The nuclear trust and the trust to overcome trade loss are important things happened during his visit to India. This contract will definitely improve the relations between both the countries as well as diminish the influence of China on Sri Lanka.

Narendra Modi has used the nation's cultural and historical heritage in his foreign policy for protecting our vested interests. As a part of this, the relations with Buddhist countries are being improved to keep our vested interests. Buddhism is originated and developed in India. Nalanda University is being developed in India in this regards. China and Japan were included in this project. Sri Lanka was also added to it after the visit of Sirisena. The attempt of forming the cultural unity bond is done through it. Narendra Modi visited Sri Lanka during 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> march 2015. This was a first visit of an Indian Prime Minister after 1987. During his visit, he visited Jafna which is predominantly occupied with minority Tamilians. 27000 Tamilian homeless people were handed over with homes on this occasion. This also helped to propagate a message that Modi Government is sensitive towards the rehabilitation of Tamil minority. Along with this, the schemes of visa concession, border fees, youth development, Ravindranath Tagore monument, currency swap such agreements were passed.

While maintaining the relations with Sri Lanka, protection of our vested interests and arresting the influence of China on Sri Lanka are going to be big challenges in front of

Modi Government.

### **India - Nepal:**

India and Nepal have such geographical locations that they are bound to influence each other. Nepal is very important country for India for military purpose. The increasing influence of Maoists in Nepal and political instability is a threat to India while a profitable things for China. Therefore, it is beneficial for India to establish a stable and democratic government in Nepal. For it, it is essential that the constitution should come into existence there. After the end of monarchy in 2008, the task of forming the constitution began. But due to its complicatedness, it was not completed within the stipulated time. During this time, India accepted the non-aligned policy about Nepal. But China increased its influence during this time.

The new constitution of Nepal came into existence on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2015. The followers of monarchy and Hindu fundamentalists wanted to have Nepal declared as the country of Hindus. This group had sympathy and co-operation from India. Nepal declared cow as the national animal to appease this group. But accepted a secular state. Secondly, India suggested that Nepal should prepare the downtrodden classes while forming the constitution. But Nepal neglected India's suggestions. Along with it, Nepal accused that India is interfering in Terai provinces and disturbing the peace in Nepal. While China was strongly rooted in Nepal to accomplish its geo-political ambitions, India had to take careful steps. Narendra Modi's Nepal visit proves vital on this background.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Nepal in 2014. In this visit he signed an important hydroelectric agreement. Through this, the attempt of eradicating the misunderstandings of Nepal about India was done. The insensitivity of India about Nepal was finished through it. In the same visit, Narendra Modi took the HIT(Highway, Information and Transport) project in hand. In it he has taken Nepal in confidence.

He also declared the decision of respecting the sovereignty of Nepal. The defence of Nepal is directly related to the defence of India and therefore Pandit Nehru had done and agreement in 1950. According to it, Nepal has to seek permission from India while deciding its foreign policy, defence related policy, defence agreements and purposing armaments. This agreement was a kind of interfere in their interior matters according to Nepal. During his address in the parliament of Nepal, Prime Minister Modi announced that India is ready to change this agreement. Modi made it clear that India does not have any interest in Nepal's internal affairs. On the other hand, India wants to establish the relations of equality with Nepal and India will help to keep Nepal's sovereignty and freedom. It was the first time when such an authorized statement was proclaimed by India that India wants to establish the relations of equality by changing previous agreement. In result, there is an improvement in the trust of Nepal on India.

Taking into consideration the need of power of India, it is essential to produce electric power. For this purpose, the South Asian Nations and the South East Asian Nations are being viewed as the sources of electric power. Nepal has the most capacity of hydro-electric generation power among all the neighboring countries of India. By keeping this in the mind, Narendra Modi signed the agreement related the electric power. India will raise the hydro-electric projects, Nepal will first use the electricity from the project and India will used remaining power from it. India's welfare is in Nepal's economic development. Therefore, for the development of resources in Nepal, India has a given the financial help of one thousand million dollars to Nepal.

After getting an invitation from the Prime Minister of Nepal Hon. Mr. K. P. Sharma Oli, PM Narendra Modi visited Nepal on 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2018. During the visit, the attempts were made to strengthen and improve the relations between both the countries in future. Both the countries agreed to accelerate the progress in both countries and to play the role of messengers of transformation for each other's people. It was said that there is an urgent need to improve economic relations between the two nations and to develop the transportation system through the air, road & water. The

need of more effort was emphasized. Nepal-India Ramayana circuit was started in order to improve the cultural and religious relation between the people of both countries. Under this, two routes/roads were inaugurated which connected the birthplace of Sita, Janakpur, Ayodhya and other two important religious places. The bus service from Janakpur to Ayodhya was started by the prime ministers of both countries at Janakpur. This will help in strengthening the bilateral relations.

Modi has tried to create an atmosphere of trust. But up to what extends India can fulfill it and what kind of attempts China dose to keep Nepal under her influence are the factors on which the future of Indo-Nepalese relations depend.

### **India - Bangladesh:**

The longest border of India is connected to Bangladesh. Therefore, the relations of India with Bangladesh are crucial for the defence purpose. Especially for the continue development, peace and law and order of north-east states of India, it is essential to keep good relations with Bangladesh. The Huji terrorists' organization is seen operating in India. These days, Bangladesh is suffering from internal conflict on the issue of religion. Sheikh Hasina and her party Awami League support secular principals on the other hand Bangladesh National Party of Khalida Zia supports religious fundamentalist principals. On the background of such religious conflicts in Bangladesh, India needs the party with secular principals in Bangladesh. But it would be more dependent on the role of Narendra Modi and BJP which are supporters of Hinduism.

The most important decision of Modi government regarding India-Bangladesh relationship is of passing of the 119<sup>th</sup> amendment bill which was pending since 41 years. This decision was regarding the agreement of land-borders between India and Bangladesh. The important decision of carrying out the agreement with all its modified arrangements was taken. This is going to result into handing over of disputed lands in both the countries. The boundary fixation and re-structuring is going to be done because of this agreement. In result, it will be possible to control terrorism

near borders, crimes, smuggling of drugs and smuggle of women and children, etc. because of this pact, the India-Bangladesh relationship is going to achieve a new height. It has created a positive image of India in the minds of Bangladeshi people.

The Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Bangladesh on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> June 2015. The chief Minister of West Bengal Mamata Banarji was also with him during his visit. During the visit the economic assistance of two thousand million dollars was agreed to provide to Bangladesh for power, road, railway and health developments. For the handover of land 'Land-Border Agreement, 1974' and 'Protocol 2011' are started to be implemented. Along with this factors, 22 bipolar agreements were signed. But no appropriate way could be sought regarding the division of water of Tista and Feni rivers.

Now a days, the terrorist actions are increasing in Bangladesh. ISIS, the terrorist organization which is in search of new members, has turned towards Bangladesh for enlarging their network. On 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2016 there was a serious terrorist attack on Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh. There is the possibility of increasing the influence of ISIS in Bangladesh in upcoming days. It is a serious issue for India. There is 4000 Km. border between India and Bangladesh. The intrusion from Bangladesh has been increasing. The separatist organizations from the North-East India are supported by fundamentalist organization from Bangladesh. Due to such condition, if ISIS settled in Bangladesh, India will have to keep a close look at the eastern borders between Bangladesh and India. In the days to come, there can be the danger for India from the east.

### **India - Afghanistan:**

American army was camping at Afghanistan on the campaign against Taliban up to December 2014. To stop the influence of Taliban after the withdrawal of U.S. army from Afghanistan, Afghanistan has extended his co-operative relations with neighboring countries. The improvement of Talibani influence in Afghanistan is hazardous for India and helpful for Pakistan. At this background, India has extended

the co-operation with Afghanistan by providing economic assistance on a large scale. Afghanistan is at the second order in the nations who have received economic assistance from India during the period of Modi. India has adopted the policy of helping Afghanistan for developmental purposes.

As a part of policy of improving the relation with South Asian neighboring countries, PM Narendra Modi visited Afghanistan on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2015 for one day. The 'National Assembly Building' was presented to the Afghanistan which was built under 'Indo- Afghanistan Development Co-operation' programme in presence of Modi and president of Afghanistan Ashraf Ghani. And one part of the building is named Atal Bihari Vajpayi. India will co-operate Afghanistan by taking into consideration its needs and priorities.

The prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi visited Afghanistan in June, 2016. India has spent approximately 1700 cr. rupees to reconstruct 'Salma Dam' in Afghanistan. This dam is the symbol of friendship between India and Afghanistan. Therefore it is given name 'Friendship Dam', This dam plays the vital role to irrigate the land as well as to produce electricity as per the requirement in Afghanistan. According to the Strategic Partnership Agreement, India has been helping Afghanistan indirectly, Yet India's role in Afghanistan is getting importance. It is disapproved by Pakistan. There is a competition between India and Pakistan to increase the influence in Afghanistan. If the democracy doesn't survive in Afghanistan, Pakistan will increase its influence in Afghanistan with the help of Taliban. If this happens, Afghanistan will be controlled by Pakistan and there is the possibility of Afghanistan going against India. Similarly, China also has started investing a lot in Afghanistan. It is also one of the causes of concern for India.

Afghanistan has sympathy for India because we have given a big financial help for their development. In result, PM Narendra Modi has received Afghanistan's biggest civilian award 'Aamir Omanulla Khan'. Despite of this the President Ashraf Ghani is not as much zestful as Hamid Karzai for making closer relations with India. After

accepting the presidential duty, he had visited China first. His priority should be taken in to consideration. Increase of Chinese influence is beneficial for Pakistan and harmful for India. In some provinces of Afghanistan a terrorist organization called 'Islamic State' has become active. Such are the report of Indian intelligence agency. The beginning of terrorists activities in Afghanistan is harmful for us.

### **India - China**

The relation of India and China have been changing dramatically. They change from mutual co-operation, brotherhood to extreme hate and of enmity. After the end of coldwar, especially after the increased influence of globalisation both the countries increased mutual co-operation and both the countries stressed on economic aspects. Despite of this, the hidden competition of becoming the superpower is going on between both countries. Both countries try to keep mutual strategic relations. Along with it, both the countries try to defeat each other on the global platform.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is seen taking planned steps to defeat China and becoming a global superpower in near future on this background. To invite the chiefs of all SAARC countries for the oath-taking ceremony 26<sup>th</sup> May, first visit to Bhutan, presence at the BRICS conference and the Nepal tour are the part of this plan.

The President of China Zi Jinping visited India during 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2014. In his visit he met the president Pranab Mukharji and PM Narendra Modi. At this moment, both countries made clear their promise for a peace and prosperity through policy making and co-operation, consciousness of mutually related problems, and keeping the peaceful co-existence with mutual respect. It was also decided to make strategic economic dialogue. Economic investments, cultural exchange, opposition to terrorism etc. And issues were agreed upon during this visit.

To control China, India is giving importance to the strategic elements. As a part of it, India is helping Vietnam in the dispute of ocean under South Chinese territory. This policy is exactly like China's policy of helping Pakistan against India. In the India

visit of Vietnam's Prime Minister, it was agreed to handover modern naval armaments to Vietnam. India is warned many times not to interfere in this dispute and not to help Vietnam technically for crude oil excavation. India is training Vietnamese soldiers to operate submarines. Along with it, the Vietnamese companies are invited to be a part of 'Make in India' by PM Narendra Modi. To sum up, it can be said that the Indian leadership is attempting to increase its influence in this territory and facing the Chinese challenge.

While thinking about the relations with China, Modi is seen stressing on trade relation with China. According to India, China is a huge market place for India and India is a great market place for China, according to China. Therefore by implementing trade – related policies, Modi wants to show that we do not lag behind China in any aspect. Modi has proved India's 'Super-Power' fullness by showing China through his Bhutan and Nepal visits and by improving the friendly relations with those countries. With the increased dominance of India among the neighbouring countries, the Chinese influence is going to diminish and that is going to benefit India.

During the prime ministerial period of Narendra Modi, China is trying to establish the relations of peace and co-operation with India. Because of China's expansionist policy in East and South Chinese Ocean, the milieu is antagonistic to China. China has tensed relations with Japan, Philipines, Vietnam and Indonesia these days. Therefore, China doesn't want conflict on its south borders (With India). The alliance of sympathetic countries is forming against China because of its interference in territories of Asia – Pacific Ocean. America is supporting this alliance. Japan is leading it. Japan, South Koria, Philipines, Indonesia, Vietnam and Australia are the participants in it. China is attempting to keep India aloof from this alliance. Japan is a supporter of hard nationalism. PM Narendra Modi and his party BJP is also a party which express nationalistic thought. This is resulting in to the improvement of relations between Japan and India. It has also raised a challenge in front of China. Along with this America also things of India's development as a 'Counterweight' to the increasing power of China in Asia. At this background, China is also conscious

that India should not go closer to USA. Therefore, China is deliberately trying to establish the closer relations with India.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited China during 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May, 2015. In this visit, he signed understandings and bipolar agreements. In it, to establish hotline between military headquarters of both countries for communication, to establish a workforce to overcome the deficiency in trade, to organize training camps for the fight against terrorism, etc. agreements were done. During this visit Modi used the cultural diplomacy. He visited Shian city. Shian city is important for Buddhism. Old Buddhism exists there. China should take positive steps to resolve border – related issues, such a invocation was done by India. Along with this, India demanded for a reconsideration by China over China's co-operation to Pakistan and support for permanent membership defence conference. The speciality of this visit was that he chose the chief ministers of Maharashtra and Gujrat for his accompaniment. The expansionist stance of China, the continuous border- disputes, trade imbalance, closeness to Pakistan and the encroachment of China in South Asia are the issues which create negative emotions in the minds of Indians about China. In result, the incidents of the boycott on Chinese products happened usually in India. Both the countries are coming closer in economic and political terms but the milieu of trust and emotions has not been developed yet.

18<sup>th</sup> Summit of Shanghai Cooperation Organization was held at Qingdao on 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2018. Qingdao Declaration was published in this Summit. In it, the plan was made for three years to fight against the terrorism, separation and extremism. The need of good neighbours, friendship and cooperation agreement and its implementation was highlighted in the declaration. China's 'One belt, one road project' was opposed by India in Qingdao resolution of the summit. India has put forward its cooperative stand about the project regarding the autonomy, economic development, unity and communication between the countries, etc. On this occasion, the Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi has put forward the concept of 'SECURE' in front of the member countries.

In Johannesburg, South Africa, the BRICS Summit was held from 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 to 27<sup>th</sup> July, 2018. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the President of China Xi Jinping have met in the Summit. On this occasion, both have taken the decision to accelerate and maintain the progress in relations between India and China. Both of them have agreed to maintain healthy relations between both nations and to review time to time improvement in mutual relationship. PM Modi has also asked Jinping to take necessary decisions regarding this by their own. Xi Jinping also agreed with PM Modi's views and showed readiness to support and cooperate to strengthen mutual understanding and healthy relations.

For the improvement in Indo- Chinese relationships India should decrease the trade deficiency, while improving economical relations, the military development should also be focused without remaining assured. It is expected that, India should involved in anti-China alliance to preserve its own vested interest and should do the strategic politics. For that purpose, our relations with Maldives, Madagaskar, Japan, Taiwan, Australia and South Koria should be improved.

### **Friendly Enmity**

China has agreed to discuss about the participation in NSG and the distribution of Brahmaputra river-water. Such an attractive lure is shown by China but India has to remain alert and take the careful steps regarding them.

Pakistan is lonely on the global platform these days. When Pakistan supported terrorists attacked Uri in Kashmir, enough atmospheres against the attack was formulated worldwide and then surgical strike was done. At that moment no nation supported Pakistan. But during the same period the issue of arresting the water of Sindhu was thought about which awakened China. Then China was seen as the only country supporting Pakistan on the global platform. India's relations with China have been of love – hate since the China's attack on MacMohan Line even before forgetting the slogan 'Indian and Chinese are Brothers' declared by Pandit Nehru and Chau N Lie. In the BRICS meeting of 2016 at Goa, China is proposing friendship on one hand

while warning India on the other hand. It has underlined the hypocritical nature of China.

### **India -Vietnam**

Vietnam is a small country in South Chinese Ocean. But because of imperialistic attitude of China, it has conflicts with China. Though Vietnam is a member of ASEAN trade Union, India didn't have any relations because of China's phobia. But the Modi government broke this tradition. The government gave the priority to develop the trade and economic vested interest by improving relations with South East Asian countries through its “Look East” policy. Along with it, the relations with Vietnam are important for power – conservation and connectivity.

India is attempting to restrict China's increasing aggressive expansion in South Asian as well as global politics. The growing co-operation with Vietnam is an important step toward that direction. India has decided to provide the anti-submarine missile 'Brahmos' To Vietnam, which has important strategically location in the South China sea.

India's president Pranab Mukharji visited Vietnam in 2014 in this respect. President Pranab Mukharji and the Prime Minister of Vietnam common expressed one thing. According to it, every nation wants a freedom of communication in the South China sea. Every nation should resolve the disputes related to the Oceanic territories according to 'Law of the Sea' of UNO and not through aggressive ways. Such an expression is, in away, warning to China.

This visit was also vital for actualization of India's power-policy. Vietnam has given the task of excavation of crude oil in its sea – borders to an Indian company named ONGC. The attempts of military co-operation with Vietnam are also done. Mukharji proclaimed to provide the loan of hundred billions dollars to Vietnam. Vietnam is going to purchase military armaments. India has assured to provide fighter- ships to Vietnam without caring for China's anger. This is going to increase the military co-

operation between India and Vietnam.

China is trying to form a multipolar global politics and a unipolar Asian politics. Therefore, India is trying to empower its place in Asian territories. India's attempt to co-operate Vietnam is a part of warning China. In a jointly published declaration of Vietnamese Prime Minister and PM Narendra Modi, there is a deliberate mention of anti-Chinese international arbitration of free-trade in South Chinese sea. India is using the same tactic to pressurize China by extending co-operation to other North-Eastern countries. India attempts to show the Chinese dishonor of international laws on international platform to arrest Chinese influence. The friendship with Vietnam is going to form the circle of influence in South-East Asia and warn China at this backdrop.

### **India-Singapore:**

India-Singapore relation has completed its 50 years in 2014. Singapore is important for extending Indian influence in South-East Asia. The relations with Singapore are important for trade and military aspects. Singapore is known as the door to ASEAN which is a powerful important trade organization. India's Minister of External Affairs-Sushma Swaraj visited Singapore in September 2014 at this background. During her visit she stressed on connectivity, smart city, city development, water management, skill development and the increase of trade between both the countries in future.

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Singapore two times. During his visit, postal tickets were published on the incidence of completion of 50 years for the relations. In this tour the 'Singapore India Economic Connection' was organized. Communication on the level of defence ministers, combined practice of defence, co-operation in defence industry, etc related bipolar agreements were signed. Along with these, the attempts for increase in trade were also made. Singapore is important in India's investment abroad and foreign investment in India. The important 'India-Singapore Strategic Partnership' pact was signed in this visit.

**India-Japan:**

After becoming the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, the Indo-Japanese relations are rapidly improving. The two visit of Japanese PM Zinsho Abbey and PM Narendra Modi's five days' tour to Japan support the above statement. The result of Indo-Japanese improving relations can be seen in the balance of power in Asian continent. PM Modi visited Japan in October' 2014. The China-Japan relations are under tension these days because of the issue of Sen. Kakoo Island. Therefore, Japan looks at this visit through the aspect of defence. The objectives behind Japan tour were to get economic and technical help of Japan for the fundamental development in India, to be done with nuclear pact, and to sign the defence agreement.

The highlighting features of PM Narendra Modi's Japan tour was his extreme criticism on Pakistan in-front of media. Through this, it was suggested that India can get the assistance from Japan like China does to Pakistan. China's expansionist attitude was also criticized. The message was also given to China that India can join the anti-Chinese alliance which already consists of Japan, South Korea, Philippines and Indonesia. So it can be said that the Japan-tour was to warn China.

Japanese PM Zinsho Abbey visited India in December' 2015. The visit proved vital because of Mumbai-Ahmadabad Bullet Train, co-operation for development of basic developments, partnership in Indo-Japanese economic development and the most important nuclear co-operation related agreements. Because of the signing of long pending nuclear pact, India is going to receive nuclear reactors. The nuclear pact signed with Japan is important for India for the completion of nuclear pacts signed with USA and France. One more vital element of Zinsho Abbey's visit is that Japan has agreed to provide the most sensitive technology in defence to India.

There has never been a trouble in Indo-Japanese relationship. India has always been respectful Japanese progress. Both the countries have cultural bonds. Buddhist Philosophy is the connecting thread to both the countries. Zinsho Abbey is also elected with a large amount of votes through nationalistic thought. Same is the case of

Narendra Modi. In result, both the governments are leading to personal friendship. Because of similar vested interests, these days, Indo-Japanese relations are improving rapidly. Economically, Japanese multinational industries need international market for their development. On the other hand India needs capital and technology from Japan for its own development. Secondly, by considering the strategy of 'enemy's enemy is our friend ', both the countries need mutual co-operation to defect China. In result, Indo-Japanese relations are improving.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Japan in November 2016, again. India wanted nuclear technology from Japan but Japan was not interested in it. Japan insisted that India should get atomic reactors, instead. But India was not agreeing upon it. A lot time was wasted in this fuss. But after it the nuclear pact was signed. While signing this agreement there wasn't any miracle of Modi or it is also not a overpowering on Japanese PM Zinsho Abbey. Japan agreed to sign to pact only because India also agreed to mend its role. Initially, Japan should only give technology and we will decide of the atomic reactors such an attitude India had. But now India is going to buy atomic reactors along with the technology. Such an extreme contrast stance has been taken by the Modi. Therefore, he should be congratulated for it

### **India's Relations With Other Countries in the World**

#### **India - Central Asia :**

Large storage of petroleum oil, the availability of natural gas, huge amount of uranium – storage, etc make the world ever – attentive towards central Asia. India is not a exemption to it. India also tried to establish good relations with central Asian countries by recognising the energy – needs of the country. PM Narendra Modi visited the central Asian countries like Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in July 2015 by keeping their importance in mind. These countries are important strategically and martially. Especially the border of Tajikistan touches the borders of China, Afganistan and Pak Occupied Kashmir. Therefore, keeping good to avail us with the opportunity of having a watch on China's operations in PoK( Pak Occupied Kashmir).

India is going to need energy on large scale for his own development. To overcome its storage, he has to do the energy production on large scale. India needs uranium for the production of nuclear energy. To get the uranium, we have to establish the relations with these countries. Along with this, PM Narendra Modi attended the Shanghai Co-operation Organisation's meeting during this tour.

Shanghai Co-operation Organisation is economically and martially crucial group. China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Ujbekistan and Tajikistan are the five members of this group. Russia has supported for India's membership in the Shanghai group. After getting the membership of these nations, India will be able to improve his relations with the central Asian nations, information regarding terrorists's activities would also be received. It is also beneficial for economic welfare of the country.

#### **India - Russia :**

India's relations with Russia are of mutual trust since the times of the coldwar. 1990s was the time when a small period of aloofness came between Russia and India. But after 2000, the relations started to improve again. The 15<sup>th</sup> Summit between Russia and India was organised in December 2014. The relations between USA and Russia are under stress these days because of the issue of Ukrain. USA and Europe have imposed financial restrictions on Russia. The value of Russia currency has fallen. Russia wants to improve his relations with India on this background. In it, Russia wants to increase the trade in the defence sector. India has started to purchase the defence armaments from Israel, France and USA these days. Recently, Narendra Modi has signed the defence agreements of four thousand million dollars with USA. This has increased the anxiety of Russia. Therefore, Putin stressed on increasing the defence- trade in this Conference.

Russia co-operates India in the creation of nuclear power. Russia is a leading country in all the uranium suppliers of the nation. Seventeen Nuclear power stations are going to be reised in the India with the co-operation from Russia. Two nuclear power stations have been started at Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu with the help of Russia.

India has the skills regarding shaping and polishing of the diamonds. Russia is going to provide raw diamonds to India and is going to get them shaped and polished. Modi and Putin attended an international exhibition of diamonds. India and Russia have initiated a new relationship in the sector of diamonds.

USA has disliked India-Russia meet on the background of tension between USA and Russia. USA has stated that the time chosen by India for this agreement is not proper. It is thought that when India-USA relationship is improving India should not increase the trade with Russia. India needs Russia as a permanent member of security council on the global level. It is also an opportunity to show that India is an independent and responsible nation of realist thinking while improving the relations with USA. An old friend is always better than new friends and by keeping this in mind, Narendra Modi is more inclined towards Russia. Though USA's policy is Pro-India, the bitter experiences of China and Pakistan would let India accompany Russia to challenge them.

By signing an agreement with Russia on 4 February, 2016 for the production of the machines, India has created a group at local level to produce the machine in India which are necessary for Atomic Energy Projects. It includes the production or manufacturing of all such machines in India by getting expertise and proficiency in this field. This local Machine manufacturing programme is very important for India's ambitious Make in India policy.

### **India – Iran :**

India –Iran friendship is crucial for political influence, economic development and trade in western Asia. This friendship is not limited for bipolar relations only but also strategically. This can change the political equations and economic relations of South Asia and Central Asia. Therefore, the Iran visit of 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016 by PM Modi is important. According to Chanakya, if the neighbouring country is not our friend then his neighbor can be our friend. Such policy is adopted here. Iran had antagonism about India because of his vote against Iran in international nuclear power institute.

Along with it, because of financial restrictions imposed upon Iran by USA and other European countries, it was difficult to trade with Iran. Because of agreement between USA and Iran, this restrictions were eliminated. After it India has established friendly relations with Iran. The agreement regarding the development of Chabahar Port and the agreement for connectivity among India-Iran-Afghanistan signed during Modi's Iran visit are crucial for both the nations. Many Indian companies are eager to invest in Chabahar-economic-sector. This investment can exist in the petro-chemical, fertilizers, metallurgy, etc sectors. Because of the development of Chabahar port, India's access to Afghanistan will be easy. India can avail the traditional root of Afghanistan Central Asia to Europe.

By establishing friendship with Iran and by doing the agreement of developing Chabahar Port, India has posed a great challenge in front of China and Pakistan. The martial importance of Chabahar Port can be understood only after taking into consideration its distance from port Gwader which is only 100kms. Port Chabahar is in away answer to China's expansion in the Indian Ocean. Chinese companies were interested in having the contracts of development of Port Chabahar. But because of India's agreement regarding Chabahar, she can enter the Bay of Oman strategically, now.

In this visit, PM Narendra Modi discussed with Iranian leaders about the situations raised because of terrorism and ISIS. India and Iran both can be harmed from them, therefore both the agreed upon conveying information for a combined resistance of this harms. PM Modi's Iran visit, they agreement regarding Port Chabahar is the beginning of improving relations with an upcoming power in Western Asia.

Hassan Rouhani, the president of Iran, has visited India on 17 February, 2018. He discussed the issues like terrorism, trade and energy security, with PM Narendra Modi. An agreement was signed between Iran Port and Maritime Organization and Ports Global Limited of India to take the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of work of Shahid Behreshti Port of Chabahar Port on lease for 18 months. During his visit to India, the discussion took

place on the regional conditions. The stress was also given on the necessity of peaceful, wealthy and stable Afghanistan. In order to stop terrorism, the decisions were taken to control and stop the factors spreading terrorism, control the cyber crime, etc. Iran is the second country which has been supplying crude oil to India. As well as, India is one of the important countries which have invested a great deal in the oil and gas industries. Many students from Iran have been studying in India. Specially, they are more in numbers in the cities like Pune and Bengaluru.

### **India – Israel:**

India traditionally supported Palestine in the Israel-Palestine conflict. But never opposed Israel openly. Because it is the next big armament supplier of India after Russia. Central Home Minister Rajnath Singh visited Israel in November 2014. The aim of this visit was India's internal security. The threat of religious fundamentalism is increasing in Western Asia. Isis has started to increase its influence in this region. Many youngsters from India are joining ISIS, too. Therefore, to keep watch on such activities through internet, India wanted a technical help from Israel.

Israel provides India with automatic war vehicles, military helicopters, aero-planes, small armaments, bombs, etc. Along with these, all the tools for keeping a control on Pakistan – border are imported from Israel. Therefore, Israel is the great partner of India in defence sector. Attempts are also being made regarding the co-operation in cyber – security sector. Israel has extremely advance technology of monitoring and controlling the spreaded network of internet. India needs it. Israel is advanced in health related technology, too. The advanced technology of treatment using various rays is developed by Israel. Rajnath Singh attempted to get these technologies, too.

The Israel chief Rabin Ravelin visited India in November' 2016 for six days. 2017 is the silver jubilee year of India-Israel relations. PM Narendra Modi is going to visit Israel on that background, next year. Ravelin's visit is seen as the rehearsal of that visit. India has announced 'Make in India'. The attempt of modernisation of defence sector of India is being done through 'Make in India'. In it to raise the combined

projects and to hand over the technology such policies are adopted. Israel has supported India's 'Make in India' project. India expects the co-operation from Israel in being able in export, too. Agricultural technology is the point of closeness between both countries. To solve the water problem for agriculture in India, she wants Israel's developed technology of farming with small amount of water.

The prime minister of Israel Mr. Benjamin Netanyahu came to India on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2018 on his 6 day tour of India. Prior to this, the Indian prime Minister Narendra Modi, has also visited Israel in July 2017 for his 3 day foreign tour. This year, 25 years will be completed by India- Israel relations. During his tour various bilateral agreements were signed such as Co- production of films, Air- transportation agreement, Cyber Security Co-operation Agreement, Research Co-operation Agreement in metal air batteries field, Homeopathy field, etc; Co-operation Agreement in the field of fuel and gas, Technological Research Co-operation Agreement in solar and atomic energy sector, investment agreement, Space technology research Co-operation Agreement, etc. Along with it, Teen Maruti chawk in Delhi was named as 'Teen Maruti – Haifa Chawk'. Especially there is bilateral cooperation between India and Israel in the field such as Security, defense, agriculture, irrigation, terrorism, detective agencies, etc.

### **India – France:**

The relation of India and France are crucial economically since Indian independence. In the recent times, new important relation are being develop between the two countries regarding defence and nuclear energy sector. PM Narendra Modi visited France during 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> April' 2015 to promote more intimate relationships with France. During this visit, 20 agreements of understanding were signed including defence agreements. It was decided to purchase 36 Rafel aeroplanes for improving the ability of Indian air-force. The proforma for establishing on nuclear power projects at Jaitapur, Maharashtra was still incomplete even after agreement. In this tour, the obstacles in the agreement are eliminated through the agreement of understanding among Nuclear Power Corporation of India and Orewa, Larsen and Turbo and Orewa.

In the combined proclamation, both the countries expressed their promise of strategic partnership and stressed that their combined attempts of handling global challenges will continue. The attack on the weekly 'Chalie Hebdo' was also memorised and it was decided to fight cordially against the terrorism. In this visit France supported India's 'Make in India' project. Along with it, India's claim for a permanent membership in the security council of UN was invited for the Republic Day function of 2016 as a chief guest. He accepted the invitation and attended the function. Indo-France relations have reached to new heights at this background.

On the invitation of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the French President Emmanuel Macron visited India during 10 to 12 March, 2018. Both the leaders of two countries showed the positive commitment for the continuation of mutual partnership. It was done on the completion of 20 years for strategic partnership between India and France. PM Modi has recalled the memories of the bravery of French and Indian soldiers in the World War I, Mr. Narendra Modi has also expressed his will to participate in the centenary programme of the end of World War I, which will be held on 11 November, 2018 at Paris. On this occasion of Mr. Macron's visit, total 14 agreements were signed in the fields of confidential and Protected information, cooperation in Hind ocean area, ban on illegal use of drugs, educational qualification, technological cooperation in railway sector, environment, space and atomic research, etc.

### **India – USA :**

India – USA relations are not just bipolar relations but they decide India's position in Asia. India's relations with Pakistan, Afghanistan and China are dependent on her relations with USA. USA needs India because of the issue like the increasing differences between Russia and USA, the challenge of ISIS, China challenge in Asia, to form alliance in Asia pacific region, to play military role in Afghanistan, to gain economical profit by increasing trade with India and to get support of Indians in USA. On the other hand, India needs USA for economic investment, technology, energy security, arresting the aggression of China, to get a permanent membership of security

council of UN, etc. related issues. This has brought both the countries closer especially after the election of Modi as the Prime Minister.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited America during 26<sup>th</sup> September to 01<sup>st</sup> October 2014. Narendra Modi was welcomed after being Prime Minister while the visa was rejected to him before it. PM Modi appealed to NRIs to contribute to India's development and also expressed the bondage towards taking Indo- USA relations to a new height. In his visit he addressed to the non-residential Indians at Madison Square Garden and promised them for raising the India of their dreams.

Modi and Obama revealed the structure of combined progress and declared the vision statement. They also wrote a combined editorial of 'Let's go together' theme which is the result of central concept of mutual relations.

USA president Barak Obama attended the Republic Day Ceremony of 2015 by keeping the respect of Indian PM Narendra Modi's invitation. In this visit, the important step in Indo- USA can nuclear pact was completed. The obstacles in the pact were eliminated. Along with this, some agreements regarding defense were signed, too. Military to military instructions, counter terrorism, trade in defense sector are the important points in it. Along with this for increase in the trade sector 'Bilateral Investment Treaty' was signed. India guaranteed that the essential atmosphere for the American companies for the investment will be provided.

The influence of Indian and American co-operation was seen on the international platform. It was decided to do combined attempts for keeping peace in Indian Ocean and Asian Pacific sector. This is an indirect warning to China. USA wants India to play a positive role in pacific sector and not only to become a superpower in the division. And according to it, India's 'Look East' policy was decided to combine with America's pivot to Asia.

The military and strategic co-operation of India and USA is increasing these days. As

a part of it, Indian Defense Minister Manohar Parrikar signed 'Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA)' pact. According to it, USA and India will provide the service of communication. This service will be regarding the supply of vital goods, medicines, parts of vehicles, storage and repairs. During the times of Obama, India USA relations were of co-operation and of forming close bipolar relations. In the recent American elections Donald Trump of Republican Party got elected as USA president. Trump has been a controversial personality and he has expressed various controversial statements regarding terrorism to women. Therefore, only the upcoming time can decide the kind of relations India will have with USA in future. But in spite of it, Trump's respectful expressions about Hinduism, antagonism towards terrorism, opinion about Pakistan, demand of trade related case against China in World Trade Organization, and calling China a country of practicing dishonesty of currency, etc suggest that Indo-USA relations will remain good in coming future, too. But Trump's 'America First' and 'Make America Great Again' campaigns may affect India. Trump's policy of giving the preference to Americans in employment & industry may affect Indian businessmen and the employees in information technology sector.

United States of America has given STA-1 status to India on 31 July, 2018. The USA has included India in Strategic trade Authorization. Therefore, it will be easy for India to import the advanced technology from America. While considering India's position in America's export control system, this decision will be useful and beneficial to strengthen the economic and defense relations with America. India is the only country to get this status. It will surely help in strengthening the mutual relations between India and America.

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