

Principal Goals for Neighboring Countries in Indian Foreign Policy

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Abstract

India's foreign policy aims at maintaining international peace and security, as well as opposing imperialism including apartheid policy, standing against untouchability and anarchy, peaceful and political settlement of international disputes, promoting peaceful coexistence. To promote, be non-aligned and non-committal. Is. and to maintain the unity and solidarity of the Third World. Important objectives of India's foreign policy include protection of national interests, achievement of world peace, disarmament, independence of Afro-Asian nations. These objectives have been incorporated into foreign policy through some guiding principles like Panchsheel, Non-Aligned Movement and others..

[**Keywords:** Non Aligned Panchsheel Anti Imperialism, Anti Racism and Anti Colonialism and other Factors]

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Introduction

India's Foreign Policy is being put to the test in terms of options and partners in the international system. In recent decades, India has adopted a more expansive foreign policy that includes the SAARC-embodied neighborhood first strategy as well as the Look East policy to create more wide economic and strategic partnerships with other East Asian countries.

National security has been a major concern of policy makers since India gained independence in 1947. After the Indo-China war of 1962, India became more concerned about its security in the international scene. To secure a safe internal as well as external environment for a

country it is necessary to provide military and economic security to the people. Economic security of a country acts as a pillar of national security as it is financially self-sufficient. The country stands firmly in the international environment. It is possible that after independence, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru highlighted its importance. Economic policies for India's foreign policy. He defined his views in the following words, "Talking about foreign policies and we come to the house, these are not just empty struggles on the chessboard. There are all kinds of things behind them. Ultimately, Foreign policy is the result of economic policy, and unless India develops its economic policy properly, its foreign policy is ambiguous; the new definition of security is not only limited to hard power and diplomacy but is now referred to as economic security. India's turbulent economic situation will provide better opportunities in both internal and external security environment India conducted the first nuclear test in the year 1974, the main objective of which was to make the world aware that now India is also a nuclear power. Scientific knowledge knows, but in the year 1998 India again conducted a new series of nuclear tests and formally declared its status as a nuclear weapon power under the government of the then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Security from China and Pakistan nuclear weapons to fight threats The discovery was a necessary step. China conducted its first nuclear test in 1964 and Pakistan did it in 1998, when India conducted its nuclear tests. This situation made security concerns more worrisome for India as India failed to obtain nuclear security guarantees from the United States and Britain during the 1960s, thus forcing India to enter the nuclear club in 2018. did.

Non Aligned

The cornerstone of Indian foreign policy has always been non-alignment. By refusing to join any military alliance established by the United States and the Soviet Union following World War II, non-alignment seeks to preserve national independence in international affairs. Non-alignment is not addressed in anything. Do it with impartiality, disinterest, or isolationism. It was a flexible viewpoint, denoting a lack of commitment to any military alliance and the adoption of an independent attitude on international affairs based on the circumstances.

Panchsheel

International peace was something Nehru firmly believed in. He understood the connection between India's peace and the growth and survival of the globe. He had witnessed the destruction wrought by the two world wars and understood that a country could not advance without a protracted period of calm. In a contract it signed with China on April 28, 1954, India argued that all nations, especially the Great Powers, had a duty to conduct bilateral relations in accordance with the five guiding principles known as Panchsheel. had accountability and desired amicable interactions. depending on the reality of the situation and the neighbouring countries.

- This includes:
 - o Mutual respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity.
 - a. Mutual restraint.
 - b. Non-interference between parties.
 - c. Mutual gain and equality.
 - d. Coexistence in peace.

Anti Imperialism, Anti Racism and Anti Colonialism

India has consistently been a fierce opponent of racism and colonialism. India spoke out whenever there was an injustice, for instance, in 1947, when it opposed Dutch colonialism and supported Indonesian identity. India protested South Africa's unlawful occupation. the notorious apartheid system in South Africa and Namibia. India was a fervent advocate for Communist China's admission to the UN.

Reinforcement of the UN

India has traditionally viewed the UN as a tool for bringing about peace and peaceful transformation in the globe. Additionally, India has consistently expected the UN to actively participate in discussion or dialogue to assist nations in resolving their concerns. India has furthermore called on the UN to take a more active part in the development of third world nations. India has requested an unified front of third world nations at the UN.

Multilateralism that works

It acknowledges the fact of the rise of several nations and knows that the voices of the many, rather than the opinions of the few, should define the global agenda. It also strives to undermine any power's hegemony. India started establishing ties with nations that weren't getting as much attention, mostly due to the deadlock in policy based on this strategy. India is a member of the Quad, which also includes the United States, Australia, and Japan. It is also a member of the RIC (Russia, India, China), and the BRICS. It also has effective connections to supply its energy needs and connect with INSTC via Central Asia.

India opposes regime change and the transfer of ideas

India respects and believes in democracy, but it opposes the transfer of ideology. India has therefore made an effort to cope with the existing government, whether it be a democracy, a monarchy, or a military dictatorship. India holds the opinion that the people of the nation should have the authority to elect or dismiss their leaders as well as the authority to maintain them in office. Alternately, alter the form of governance.

India Does Not Support Unilateral Sanctions or Military Actions

India is opposed to imposing sanctions or taking military action against a single nation or group of nations unless the United Nations has sanctioned it as a consequence of an international accord. India therefore only takes part in military actions that support the United Nations Peacekeeping Force. The majority of all nations, India, has deployed almost 195,000 troops to UN operations and has taken part in over 49 deployments, with 168 Indian peacekeepers offering their lives in UN missions. Eminent UN Force Commanders have also been given by India and are still being provided.

India stays out of it but steps in when required

India disapproves of meddling in other nations' internal affairs. However, India does not hesitate to intervene quickly and in a timely way if any action - whether innocent or malevolent - by any nation is likely to undermine India's national interests. Keep in mind that each intervention has a unique nature, particularly when it is carried out at the government's

request. Examples include Bangladesh from 1971, IPKF from 1987 to 1990 in Sri Lanka, and Maldives from 1988.

India and its Relationships with its Neighbors

India is a nation where the populace values collaboration and has good connections with its neighbours. India has always been seen as a nation that values peace. The majority of nations have official political ties with India. India is considered the world's second-most populous democratic country. The world's fastest expanding economy is its own. It has the third-largest armed forces, the seventh-largest nominal rate economy, and the third-largest purchasing power parity economy in the world. It also has the eighth-largest military budget. India is a prospective superpower, a regional force, and a growing global power. India is increasing its influence abroad and is a powerful voice in international trade. The Indian economy is growing into an industrialised nation. It has a long history of working together with other nations, is a component of the BRICS, and plays a significant role in the developing globe. The Asian Development Bank, the G-20 major economies, the Non-Aligned Movement, and the United Nations all have India as one of their founding members. In other international organisations like the East Asia Summit, World Trade Organization, International Monetary Fund (IMF), G8+5 and IBSA Dialogue Forum, India has also had a significant and powerful presence. At the regional level, SAARC and BIMSTEC both have India as a member. The Ministry of External Affairs is the department of the Indian government in charge of the country's international affairs. He has cabinet status as a member of the Council of Foreign Ministers. India's worldwide standing has in the past changed in the years after independence. In the 1950s, India enjoyed strong moral standing and prestige, which enabled it to obtain development assistance from both the East and the West. Despite the reputation India received from its non-alignment, the region's interstate ties in South Asia were nevertheless influenced by Cold War politics. In the 1960s and 1970s, conflicts with China and Pakistan, disagreements with other South Asian nations, and Pakistan's assistance from the US and China by joining the Indo-Soviet pact helped balance India's position on the international stage between developed and developing nations. The Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation became effective in August 1971 as a consequence of India's efforts. While keeping tight links with the Soviet Union, India built relations with the United States, other industrialised

nations, and China in the late 1980s. In the middle of the 1990s, India made the world aware of Pakistan-supported terrorism in Kashmir. The Kargil War gave India a significant diplomatic triumph. The European Union and the United States put pressure on Pakistan to leave Kargil after acknowledging that Pakistani soldiers had trespassed on Indian soil. Several anti-Indian terrorist organisations with bases in Pakistan have received terrorist organisation designations from the United States and the European Union. After the terrorist events of September 11, 2001, Indian intelligence agencies gave the American government crucial information on the activities of al-Qaeda and associated groups in Pakistan and Afghanistan. India's diplomatic ties with numerous nations have benefited from both its important commitment to the fight against terrorism and the expansion of its economy.

First Policy of Neighbors country

The government's strategy is to enhance relations with both its neighbours and the island nations of the Indian Ocean. Through a holistic approach to regional foreign policy, it accomplishes a number of goals. In order to cooperate on trade, infrastructure, commercial links, and transit facilities, India has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with members of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Connectivity is a fundamental component of this policy. These agreements guarantee the unrestricted movement of commodities, labour, information, and resources across international borders. India's resource assistance to its neighbours in the form of money, equipment, human resource development, and diplomatic relations is another important element of this strategy. For instance, India sent its neighbour Nepal more than 1,700 tonnes of relief supplies and medical assistance following the 2016 earthquake. India's ability to become a regional leader in South Asia depends in large part on regional institutions. In support of this, India has contributed to SAARC and made investments therein as a means of promoting regional growth. However, in order to move forward more quickly and effectively without being hampered by a lack of agreement, it has started to create issue-specific committees. The Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal (BBIN) Energy Development Group, which focuses on inter-grid connection, hydropower management, and the automobile industry, is one example of this.

Implement East Policy

The "Look East" strategy was put into place by PM Narasimha Rao's administration in 1992. The current administration modified its name to "Act East" to represent its active involvement in advancing the integration of India with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and East Asian nations due to changes in geopolitical and economic factors. example The Prime Minister engages in high-level negotiations with the member nations as part of his participation in the biennial ASEAN Summit. India's most recent involvement in the Bay of Bengal Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation Initiative (BIMSTEC) shows how committed it is to this strategy. The three main objectives are trade, culture, and networking. Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam (CLMV) are among the least developed countries that have received special attention from the India Act East Policy.

India may establish new global value chains through such strategic collaborations, which is significant in light of manufacturing efforts like "Make in India." A Project Development Fund of Rs 500 crore has been established in support of this to make it easier for India to have a manufacturing footprint in these nations. The policy also prioritises the execution of initiatives meant to improve regional defence, security, and integration. Improving border infrastructure to provide better land access to Southeast Asia is a contemporary governmental objective.

Issues in Indian Foreign Policy

Indian foreign policy also includes issues that affect its internal and external policies as well, some of the factors affecting these are as follows:

- a. Standard Security**
- b. Economic expansion**
- c. Security of Energy**
- d. Possibility of Nuclear War and Nonproliferation**
- e. Strategic Influence and Direction**

a. Standard Security : As the military standoff in late 2001 and early 2002 showed, Pakistan has long been seen as India's main conventional threat. China conquered India in a war in 1962 at the same time. As indicated by India's claim that its 1998 nuclear tests were a reaction to the China threat, China is also its closest military opponent. The pervasive internal militancy is being eradicated by the Indian military (in the northeast, in the east, and in Jammu and Kashmir.) Notably, no confirmed Taliban or al-Qaeda members from India have been found (excepting the 2006 Heathrow plot). A coup is now taking place in Bangladesh, and there are continuous conflicts, insurgencies, and instability in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.

b. Economic expansion : India has always maintained a 1.5–3% annual GDP growth rate, or what economists refer to as a "Hindu" pace. Growth quadrupled following the 1991 economic reforms, and it has stayed steady at 8–9.5% since 2006. However, India would need to dramatically boost its foreign investment if it wants to develop the 60% of its population that lives in rural regions and keep constructing infrastructure. The "Look East" strategy of the early 1990s and the current increased involvement with ASEAN, BIMSTEC, and the recent SAFTA pact are examples of how interactions with India's neighbours have aided the country's growth. In addition to seeking regional deals (with free trade agreements with Singapore and a possible bilateral investment treaty with the United States), India is also the worldwide leader in the World Trade Organization's Doha discussions. India, which has had average annual growth of more than 10% since 2000, has benefited from China's expansion. The two nations will, however, battle more fiercely as India enters China's traditional manufacturing sector and China concentrates on the services industry.

c. Security of Energy : Currently, 50% of India's gas and 70% of its oil are imported. It anticipates importing 80% of its energy by 2025. While studies reveal that the Indian people are concerned about environmental issues, India feels that it should be permitted to raise its energy consumption and emissions as long as its per capita levels match those of Western nations. is growing increasingly worried and is becoming more and more aware of the value of paying attention. India is one of the top R&D locations for solar and wind energy and is

increasingly looking at nuclear power as an alternative energy source (presuming the civil nuclear deal between the United States and India is finalised in July 2005). On the other hand, just 6% of available non-conventional energy sources have been utilised thus far. To secure access to energy resources, India will continue to concentrate on the Middle East, notably Iran (including the Iran-Pakistan-India oil pipeline). India is extending its quest for energy resources in Africa and Latin America at the same time (although India usually loses its bid to China).

d. Possibility of Nuclear War and Nonproliferation : India's tense ties with China and Pakistan, as well as the recent rise in nuclear proliferation in the area, have affected the country's nuclear strategy. By integrating land, air, and sea-based capabilities, it seeks to provide a "reliable minimum deterrent." Since 2002, the India-Pakistan Composite Dialogue has greatly lowered tensions and produced a number of agreements to lessen the likelihood of an unintended nuclear strike. India will be able to play a more active role in directly supporting non-proliferation if the United States-India civil nuclear accord is successful (see India-Iran relations briefing document). This objective has long been in India's national interest. is situated. is accepted. has been deemed significant.

e. Strategic Influence and Direction : According to purchasing power parity, the economy of Namibia comes in fourth place globally. India's diplomatic, economic, and military influence are all expanding, and its soft power is still quite potent. India is a democratic, ethnically and religiously diverse nation. India, a rising star in the developing world, is now seeking entry into the advanced continent. Given the unrest in South Asia, India has a number of possibilities to concentrate on promoting peace in Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, which are its neighbours. referred to as significant. According to purchasing power parity, the economy of Namibia comes in fourth place globally. India's diplomatic, economic, and military influence are all expanding, and its soft power is still quite potent. India is a democratic, ethnically and religiously diverse nation. India, a rising star in the developing world, is now seeking entry into the advanced continent. Given the unrest in South Asia, India has a number of possibilities to concentrate on promoting peace in Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka, which are its neighbours. referred to as significant.

The foreign policy of India : India now lives in a more unstable, economically sluggish, and deadly global environment. India's rivals, whether state, non-state, or both, as in the case of Pakistan, are gaining strength in an evolving globe. Most powers' internal politics and security will become as unpredictable and uncertain as the outside world. Traditional institutions and governmental institutions are ill-prepared to address, control, or resolve these issues. The goal of India's foreign policy is to defend and uphold the nation's sovereignty, people, values, and resources while also facilitating the country's growth and transition into a modern society where each Indian may reach his full potential. The task of foreign policy experts is to aid India's transition and provide an atmosphere that supports that progress. India won't be able to adapt and will be better able to control its internal social and political turbulence if it carries on with business as usual or attempts to emulate China's experience over the previous 40 years. failing in It might end up being a developed nation if it fails. The ultimate kind of strategy, according to any tradition or book—be it Sun Tzu, Kautilya, or Machiavelli—is to avoid conflict and accomplish one's objectives. The progress India has made toward its principal objective of modernising India may be seen by looking at its performance during the past 70 years after independence. The ultimate goal of India's journey to becoming a great power should be to realise Mahatma Gandhi's vision of "wiping the tears from the eyes of every Indian." It is consistent with India's fundamental principles and national objectives. This is the proper objective for a large nation like India.

Conclusion

Only so much can be accomplished by foreign policy, and diplomacy can only be successful to the extent that a nation is politically, socially, and economically stable. India has had the good fortune to enjoy significant progress and prosperity during the past three decades. India now has more influence over foreign policy and is able to devote far more resources to diplomacy, developing and bolstering our diplomatic presence globally. India has definitely shown its determination to take the lead in the international arena and be recognised as a "pole" in its own right under the current system. India will be able to accomplish this aim if there is political consensus on broad foreign policy principles as well as continuing home stability and prosperity.

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