

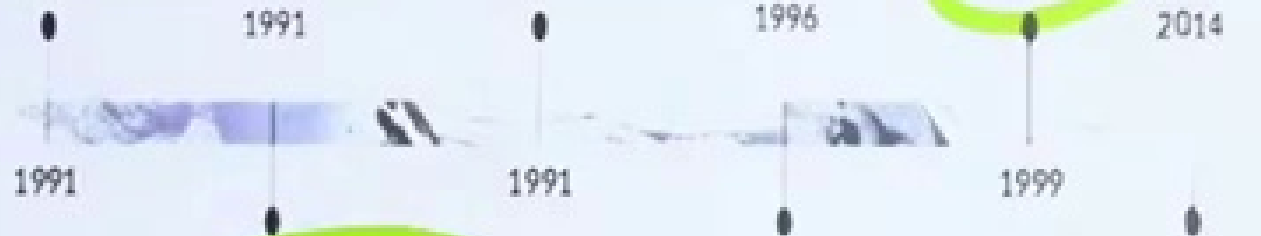
# TIMELINE Post 1991

Collapse and disintegration of the USSR

Look East Policy

Kargil war

Act + EIA



Change of government

Gajral Doctrine

Modi Doctrine

## INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY



# The first phase 1991-98

- The **collapse of USSR** overturned the balance of power and international diplomacy ethos.
- India went through **globalization, privatization and liberalization** due to the looming economic situations in 1990.
- The process of globalization and a multi polar world now gained momentum.
- Indian diplomacy had to move from policy of non-alignment to policy of **multi-alignment**, here the **NAM seemed to lost its relevance** for the moment.
- India had to search for economic partners rather than long lasting friendships.

1991 → Reforms  
BoP crisis → GPL



*The immediate  
cause for 1991  
economic  
crises*

← 1991

- Anticipating a spike in oil prices because of Saddam Hussein's invasion and occupation of Kuwait (1990), India had purchased considerable amounts of petroleum on the spot market thereby draining its treasury of much-needed foreign exchange.
- The government of India was forced to repatriate over 100,000 workers from the Persian Gulf at short notice.
- It lost very substantial remittances that the workers from the Gulf had contributed to the Indian exchequer.

# P. V. Narasimha Rao



28 June 1921 – 23 December 2004

**Former Prime Minister**

## The first phase 1991-98

- India decided to **deregulate and integrate into world economy.**
- **Look East:** In 1992 India entered into a **Sectoral Dialogue Partnership with ASEAN** which was upgraded to Full Dialogue Partner status in 1996.
- Soon after the collapse of the Soviet Union both **India and the US** began talking of forging a 'strategic friendship'.
- India also took a keen interest in developing relations with the countries of **Africa, Latin America, the Gulf region and Central Asia.**

Former Prime Minister, Late Mr. I.K. Gujral propounded the **Gujral Doctrine** when he was the Union Minister of External Affairs in 1996-1998



## Gujral Doctrine

- First, with the neighbours like **Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives and Sri Lanka**, India does not ask for reciprocity but gives all that it can in good faith and trust.
- Secondly, no **South Asian** country will allow its territory to be used against the interest of another country of the region.
- Thirdly, none will interfere in the **internal affairs of another**.
- Fourthly, all South Asian countries must respect each other's **territorial integrity and sovereignty**.
- And finally, they will settle all their **disputes through peaceful bilateral negotiations**.

## The second Phase II 1998-2014

- This phase saw the accession of a BJP-led government and was marked by the nuclear issue following the tests of May 1998.
- In the Kargil war of Spring 1999, the US backed India and pressed Pakistan to withdraw its troops (Triad India-US-Israel).
- Indo Pak relations renewed (Lahore Bus and Agra talks) → 2001
- In 2004 a long 10 year rule of UPA was established in India.
- India-USA relations stronger (Indian diaspora), also the role of 123 agreement. India supported the war on terrorism and cooperation in space and nuclear science.
- Deepening ties with ASEAN, diversification of Goodwill diplomacy (Africa & Afghanistan).

# The second Phase II 1998-2014

## JOLTS

- Pakistan's nuclear tests
- Attack on Kashmir assembly and Indian Parliament (2001)
- The Mumbai attacks in 26/11.
- U.S.A. war on Iraq 2003

2008

16



A photograph of three men shaking hands. On the left is a man in a dark suit and blue tie. In the center is Narendra Modi, wearing a light blue kurta and vest. On the right is a man in a dark suit and blue tie, wearing glasses. They are standing in front of a light-colored wall. To the left is a European Union flag, and to the right is the Indian national flag. The text 'Foreign policy under Modi since 2014' is overlaid at the bottom.

# Foreign policy under Modi since 2014

2014 → SAARC

## Foreign Policy Objectives of the Modi Government:

- Priority is to improve the relations with **immediate neighbours** as **peace and tranquillity in South Asia** is essential for realizing development agenda.
- The concept of **para diplomacy** to be introduced in India where each state and city would have the liberty to forge special relations with countries or federal states or even cities of their interest.
- Bilateral trade will dominate the relations with most countries except few important global powers with which India shares a strategic partnership.

- Modi invited all the SAARC leaders for his swearing-in ceremony after being elected as the Prime Minister. All the SAARC leaders, along with the leader of Mauritius, which is an observer in SAARC, attended the ceremony.
- One of the important goals for the Modi government is to put India back on the global stage, from which it had fallen in the recent times, according to all objective analysts and observers.
- Another goal is to re-establish international investor confidence in Indian economy and polity.

## Changes in Foreign Policy under Modi:

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- Centrality of economic and technological development.
- Integrations of domestic and foreign policy.
- Emphasis on national power (Military and Economic).
- Greater emphasis on global socio-politics and soft power.



## Neighborhood first policy

The neighbourhood first policy of Modi government actively focuses on improving ties with India's immediate neighbours. It is one of the major policy initiatives of the Modi government to bring back the focus on its immediate neighbourhood in South Asia.

Modi invited all the SAARC leaders to his swearing-in ceremony and on the subsequent day he held bilateral talk with all of them individually.

Recently in a launch event at ISRO, Modi asked Indian scientists to take the endeavour to develop a dedicated SAARC satellite to share the fruits of the technology like tele-medicine, e-learning etc. with the people across South Asia to complement the currently operating Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme in the region.



# Act East policy

- Look East policy was initiated during the period of **Narasimha Rao in 1992** for better engagement with **ASEAN** and **East Asian** countries.
- External Affairs minister Sushma Swaraj proposed a new outlook towards these countries with the “Act East Policy” during her visit to Vietnam. The new policy emphasis a more proactive role for India in ASEAN and East Asian countries





India First

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THAAD → Pre

- "India First" means that what India needs/wants from each economic and technology power will be expressed with greater clarity and specificity and these countries have to respond in the way think appropriate. ✓
- India's decisions will then be based on comparative benefit-cost ratio of dealing with different countries on a defined set of issues, not on philosophical and/or ideological consideration of (non-) alignment.



Link West Policy



In an attempt to strengthen ties with India's western neighbors specially the gulf countries Modi proposed this policy to complement his Act East policy concerning East Asia.

Although it is called "Link West" (west of India) which gives it a bigger geographical connotation, it is most likely to focus on the middle-east and some of the India's strategic thinkers are calling it as Modi's middle-east policy

# Indian Ocean Outreach

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Net Security

Through this policy initiative, India started to reach out its maritime neighbours in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) with proposals of **enhanced economic and security cooperation**.

This policy was unfolded during the recent visit of Modi to Sri Lanka, Mauritius, and Seychelles.

With this **India can project that it commands a strategic supremacy** over the IOR and its relations with its maritime neighbours are far more cordial than that of China's with particular reference to South China sea.

# Fast-track Diplomacy



- The external affairs minister has said that the catchphrase for her tenure was "fast-track diplomacy" and it had three faces - proactive, strong and sensitive.
- On completion of the first 100 days of Modi govt the External Affairs Ministry published a booklet called "Fast Track Diplomacy" showcasing the achievement made in the foreign policy arena.



# Challenges in Front of India-

- A Stronger China
- Growing Russia-China Axis
- Middle East Equations
- Defunct NAM and SAARC
- Weakening Ties with Neighbour

**Ques:** In the light of the changing actualities of the international situation, India must cautiously play foreign policy, if it wants to emerge as a global rather than an aspirational player. Comment