

FOREIGN POLICY OF INDIA IN CHANGING SCENARIO

Dr. Vivek M. Diwan

*HOD, Dept of Political Science
 RS Mundle Dharampeth Arts and
 Commerce College, Nagpur*

Abstract: -

Each country's foreign policy is driven by its national interests. The main and primary objectives of India's foreign policy are to safeguard India's national interests. Which we see reflected in India's foreign policy. India's diaspora is very strong all over the world and is spread in almost all the countries of the world. India's first neighborhood policy is good, but we must be careful not to get caught up in regional politics and ignore our distant friends. Therefore, the global Brotherhood ' in the sense that it's known as forward, it is necessary to further.

Key words: -

diaspora, disarmament and global governance

Introduction

Each country's foreign policy is its national interests. To achieve that national interest is depended and determined upon the country's geographical location, natural resources and technology science wealth and relations with neighboring nations. India is a not exception. After the independence, India's need was to develop its internal and external infrastructure. There were so many challenges particularly from neighbors Nations. To solve this India made some policies the *Panchsheel* Agreement, Lahore settlement. In the twentieth century there were two superpowers. They form two poles. But India did not join the above poles because it wanted support from both the super powers for its development. Non Alignment movement was such policy through which India made balance relationship with all the countries including super power.

Currently, in changing global context, India's foreign policy is more dynamic and variable. It is what was at the 2019 Raisina Dialogue in Delhi in January, Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale declared, "India has moved on from its non-aligned past. India is today an aligned state—but based on issues." this statement shows India's foreign policy direction.

Future, India's position in multilateral institutions should use by India to create its voice in G 20 and the Indo- Pacific region. Gokhale argued that "in the rules-based order, India would have a stronger

position in multilateral institutions." Its position is depended on it. Bilateral, regional and multilateral relations are included in Foreign policy . The role of country acumen is more important for the preservation of country's interest. This role is also reflecting in domestic politics. The Foreign policy of the countries is designed on geographic location, relations with other countries. These elements play significant role in forming foreign policy.

Foreign policy condition and direction

The main and primary objectives of India's foreign policy are to safeguard India's national interests. Which we see reflected in India's foreign policy. One of the most troubling issues for India is securing its man-made borders, ending terrorism; food security and cyber security are important issues in recent times that we see reflected in India's foreign policy. India needs foreign partners, foreign direct investment, financial assistance and technology for various projects that's why we see that Indian government formed such policies like Make in India, Skill India, Smart Cities, Infrastructure Development, Digital India, Clean India Success.

India's diaspora is very strong all over the world and is spread in almost all the countries of the world. Another objective of India's foreign policy is to engage Indians living abroad and make the most of their presence there, while at the same time protecting their interests. The Chennai Declaration of BJP shows its position on Indian Diaspora that:

We believe that the vast community of NRIs and PIOs also constitute a part of the 'Great Indian Family'. We should endeavour to continually strengthen their social, cultural, economic and emotional ties with their mother country. They are a rich reservoir of intellectual, managerial and entrepreneurial resources. The government should devise innovative schemes to facilitate the investment of these resources for India's all-round development (BJP News Report, 28th and 29th December 1999).

Protecting India from traditional and unconventional threats, creating an environment conducive to India's inclusive growth so that the

benefits of development reach the country's poor. India's voice will be heard globally and to ensure that India can influence various global issues such as terrorism, climate change, disarmament and global governance.

Highlights of Indian Foreign Policy

- 1) India participate in peaceful activities only when these restrictions are imposed by international consensus does.
- 2) India does not believe in interfering in the internal affairs of other countries and will not allow anyone to interfere in it.
- 3) India has emphasized constructively rather than aggression. He believes that war is not the solution to the problem but the beginning of a new problem.

Changing Indian Foreign Policy:

The most important feature of India's current foreign policy is its tendency to take risks more than any previous policy. India's action in Dokloma and the surgical strike against Pakistan are just a few examples. Many experts are of the opinion that India's current foreign policy reflects clarity of thought and action.

In the changing global political environment, India seems to be constantly striving to fulfil its formal and political interests. In order to balance its foreign policy, India has placed more emphasis on maintaining a balanced relationship with the United States and Russia. Excessive dependence on the US can reduce India's strategic autonomy, so a balance must be struck in the relationship.

The direction of India's current foreign policy

Foreign policy is being redefined through dialogue with all countries to advance national interests. India's current foreign policy is not limited to purchasing defence products from other countries, but India is working with developed countries in the field of technical knowledge. India's Minister of External Affairs attends the Virtual Conference of Foreign Ministers of the United Kingdom in the era of COVID. During the meeting, External Affairs Minister Jaishankar said that India was helping about 85 countries to fight the Corona virus epidemic through drugs and other equipment, so that the epidemic could be overcome by fighting these countries as well.

Prime Minister Modi attended a virtual summit with the heads of SAARC countries and later proposed to hold a virtual summit with the heads of the G-20 countries. Through both these summits, Prime Minister Modi used various regional and multilateral fora to eradicate COVID-1P (an epidemic) that has spread across the

country (or across the continent). So at one point all these forums seemed headless.

The present government had earlier invited the member countries of the Multi-Sectoral Council for Technical-Economic Cooperation of BIMSTEC, which borders the Bay of Bengal, for the swearing-in ceremony. The Bay of Bengal is the connecting link between South Asia and Southeast Asia. This includes India's ' Neighborhood First ' and 'Act East ' policies. In contrast, SAARC is limited to the Indian subcontinent, while BIMSTEC connects India to its historical axis.

In the current scenario, Pakistan and China together pose major strategic challenges to India. China is constantly trying to encroach on India's borders. The current government's relations with Sri Lanka are definitely going beyond tradition. The politically stable Government of India has successfully separated India-Sri Lanka relations from Tamil politics and brought them into the hall of cultural unity.

In addition to visiting the island nations of Mauritius and Seychelles and building ties with the Indian Ocean Rim Association, the Government of India has built a strong foundation in the Indian Ocean Territory (IOR). India's engagement at the international level – here it has an intrinsic national interest to see peace and security in as large a region as possible.

Challenges to India's Foreign Policy:

- 1) In terms of foreign policy, India's biggest challenge is how to balance its relations with the world's major powers
- 2) Just how to deal with neighboring, remote neighbors, including ASEAN and West Asia
- 3) Maintaining relations with China is a challenge for India due to global ambitions. China has established a strong influence in India's neighboring countries through its economic and military might, which could stand in the way of its foreign policy objectives. China's ' String of Pearl ' policy is suitable for China-Pakistan Economic Corridor project and Belt and Road project. In fact, it adds to China's influence, which could be strategically unsettling for us. China, Nepal and Sri Lanka are strong and protect your relationship; this is a matter of concern for India.
- 4) India's relations with Russia are very old and diverse, but India's growing relationship with the US administration has created a state of emotional ties with Russia that is a "trusted and old friend."

- 5) The United States is getting India's support in line with its strategic plan for Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean regional cooperation to reduce China's growing influence. But the US has never been a reliable friend of India and there is no reason to doubt it even today.
- 6) India's neighbor Pakistan is constantly escalating terrorist activities in India. Pakistan should not rush India for talks and wait for what Pakistan does on issues like terrorism.
- 7) Resisting China's growing influence in Iran is a major challenge to India's foreign policy.
- 8) The power vacuum that will emerge after the withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan will challenge Indian foreign policy.

Conclusion:

India's first neighborhood policy is good, but we must be careful not to get caught up in regional politics and ignore our distant friends. Therefore, the global Brotherhood ' in the sense that it's known as forward, it is necessary to further. Currently, tensions between the US-Iran, Israel-Palestine, China-USA, US-Russia, etc. are at an all-time high. This has increased not only the political but also the economic crisis. In such a scenario, India will have to consider any issue as all its economic interests are related to all these countries. It may be right to keep Pakistan aloof for a while but not for long. Therefore, the way of communication should always be open, as it is impossible to establish peace in the region without the development of neighbors. Russia is our traditional friend, so despite our strong ties with the United States, good relations with Russia are

essential. By including Australia in a group with similar regional objectives, we should further enhance connectivity with the Indo-US-Japan trilateral dialogue or possibly the quadrilateral.

References:

- 1) *Harsh V Pant and Kabir Taneja, Editors, "Looking Back and Looking Ahead: Indian Foreign Policy in Transition Under Modi", ORF Special Report No. 93, July 2019, Observer Research Foundation*
- 2) *Ibid*
- 3) *INDIA'S Foreign Affairs Strategy, SHIVSHANKAR MENON* Distinguished Fellow, Brookings India IMPACT SERIES | MAY 2020*
- 4) *New Powers for Global Change? India's Role in the Emerging World Order UMMU SALMA BAVA, FES Briefing Paper 4 | March 2007*
- 5) *India's Diaspora Policy and Foreign Policy: An Overview, Dr. Mahalingam, <https://grfdt.com/PublicationDetails.aspx?Type=Articles&TabId=30>*
- 6) *International Relations, Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Anamol Publication, New Delhi, 4th edition 2012*
- 7) *Indian Foreign Policy: An Overview, Harsh V. Pant, Manchester University Press, 2016*
- 8) *India's Foreign Policy: Surviving in a Turbulent World, Arvind Gupta, Editors Arvind Gupta, Anil Wadhwa Publisher SAGE Publishing India, 2020*
- 9) *Indian Foreign Policy: Challenges and Strategies in 21st Century, D.C. Arya*