



# Delhi Policy Group

Advancing India's Rise as a Leading Power



## INDIA'S PROXIMITY ARCHIVES

June 17, 2026

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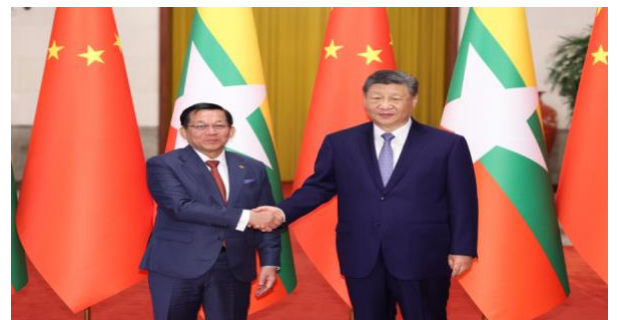
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**Delhi Policy Group**

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### ABOUT US

Founded in 1994, the Delhi Policy Group (DPG) is among India's oldest think tanks with its primary focus on strategic and international issues of critical national interest. DPG is a non-partisan institution and an independently funded non-profit Trust. Over past decades, DPG has established itself in both domestic and international circles and is widely recognised today among the top security think tanks of India and of Asia's major powers.

Since 2016, in keeping with India's increasing global profile, DPG has expanded its focus areas to include India's regional and global role and its policies in the Indo-Pacific. In a realist environment, DPG remains mindful of the need to align India's ambitions with matching strategies and capabilities, from diplomatic initiatives to security policy and military modernisation.

At a time of disruptive change in the global order, DPG aims to deliver research based, relevant, reliable and realist policy perspectives to an actively engaged public, both at home and abroad. DPG is deeply committed to the growth of India's national power and purpose, the security and prosperity of the people of India and India's contributions to the global public good. We remain firmly anchored within these foundational principles which have defined DPG since its inception.

### India's Proximity Archives

India's Proximity Archives covers major developments in South Asia, Southeast Asia, West Asia, Central Asia and Indian Ocean Region of strategic relevance to India, compiled from open-source media. The research team includes Shreyas Deshmukh, Sanket Joshi, Jayantika Rao T.V., and Divya Rai, Research Associates. Your comments and feedback can be addressed to Sanket Joshi at [sanket@dpg.org.in](mailto:sanket@dpg.org.in).

*The views expressed in this publication are those of the authors and should not be attributed to the Delhi Policy Group as an Institution*

### Cover Images:

1. 57th Border Security Force (BSF) – Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) DG Level Border Co-Ordination Conference held at BSF Force Headquarters, New Delhi from June 8-11, 2026. Source: [X/@BSF India](#)
2. President of Myanmar, Min Aung Hlaing was greeted by Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing on June 16, 2026. Source: [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of People's Republic of China](#)
3. U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance discusses the Iran peace deal in a television interview on June 16, 2026. Source: [Official X Handle/Vice President Vance](#)

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## Watch Points

◇ <i>Improved India-Bangladesh border outlook after BSF-BGB talks</i>
◇ <i>Xi Jinping holds talk with Myanmar's military chief-turned-president Min Aung Hlaing</i>
◇ <i>Pakistan mediated U.S.-Iran Memorandum of Understanding</i>
◇ <i>Three Indian Seafarers Killed in US Strike on Palau-Flagged Tanker MT Settebello</i>

## South Asia

by

Shreyas Deshmukh

The Jammu Kashmir Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC) [continued to protest](#) in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK), demanding political, economic and human rights. The ongoing demonstrations are a consequence of 11 individuals being killed by security forces during clashes with protesters on June 8. Though authorities stated that the protest campaign had ended, the JAAC's activists and supporters continued to assemble in Rawalkot, drawing thousands. A week-long shutdown strike was observed in most areas of PoK, including Muzaffarabad. Meanwhile, the Pakistani government escalated its actions against the leadership of JAAC, suspending national identity cards for all 31 principal members and revoking their passports.

*The Pakistan government's use of force against peaceful activists protesting for their long-standing political and economic rights in PoK is intensifying the movement and attracting support from all sections of society.*

The 57th Director General (DG)-level [Border Conference](#) between the Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) and the Border Security Force (BSF) of India was held in New Delhi from June 8 to 11. The [joint press release](#) from both sides detailed their in-depth conversations about implementing robust measures against transnational crimes. This included efforts to stop the smuggling of narcotics, arms, counterfeit currency, gold, and other illicit goods, as well as to prevent illegal border crossings and human trafficking. Discussions between the two sides encompassed border fatalities, irregular or compelled crossings, advancements in border infrastructure, the application of the Coordinated Border Management Plan, measures to foster confidence, and the importance of diligent cooperation in confronting evolving security concerns along the border. To combat trans-border criminal networks, they decided to enhance coordinated patrols, sharpen vigilance, facilitate better real-time information sharing, and intensify joint initiatives. Raising awareness among those living near the border concerning international border laws and regulations, and enhancing public consciousness to thwart illegal acts in border territories, were also key focuses. A diplomatic spat broke out between India and Bangladesh. The cause was the detention and questioning of Zahed ur Rehman, an adviser to Bangladesh's Prime Minister, at New Delhi airport on June 14. Media reports indicate that Zahed ur Rehman's name was identified during a standard security screening. He was traveling with a conventional Bangladeshi passport and a SAARC visa, not a diplomatic one.

*As the new administration, led by BNP's Tariq Rehman, is consolidating its position, India-Bangladesh relations are currently facing considerable challenges. Compared to the prior interim government under Prof. Yunus, relations have seen a dramatic improvement with this government.*

## **Other Developments**

[Pakistan Budget 2026-27: Defence gets Rs3tr amid security concerns](#)

[Beijing raises concerns over US initiatives in Nepal](#)

[Trilateral energy boost as Nepal resumes hydropower supply to Bangladesh via India](#)

[UN Security Council Extends UNAMA Mandate in Afghanistan Until 2027](#)

## Southeast Asia

by

Jayantika Rao T.V.

On [June 16](#), Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks with President of Myanmar Min Aung Hlaing at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. President Xi endorsed the political leadership of Myanmar's military chief-turned-President Min Aung Hlaing and mapped out the future development of bilateral ties. He emphasised that China, a neighbour with whom Myanmar shares the longest border, is a trustworthy friend and partner. The two agreed to steadily advance the construction of major projects such as the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor on the basis of ensuring safety and security to support Myanmar in growing its economy and improving livelihoods. The two presidents witnessed the signing of multiple cooperation documents in transport, livelihood and other areas. The visit is Min Aung Hlaing's second international visit since he was sworn in as President in April, with the first being to India.

*The visit consolidates China's role as Myanmar's primary external partner while highlighting Myanmar's careful balancing act between Beijing and New Delhi. The advancement of corridor projects, coupled with livelihood initiatives, reflects China's strategy of embedding economic dependence alongside political endorsement.*

Speaking at the Asia Economic Summit in Jakarta on June 17, Singapore's Minister for Digital Development and Information Josephine Teo said when it [assumes the ASEAN chairmanship in 2027](#), artificial intelligence will be a major priority encourage greater AI adoption among micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). During her speech, she also cautioned against what she described as a narrow interpretation of "AI sovereignty", arguing that it would be unrealistic for most countries to seek ownership of every layer of the AI ecosystem, from chips and models to data and applications. Instead, she said countries should focus on ensuring they can govern AI effectively, make their own choices about technology partners and build strong domestic AI ecosystems.

*Singapore's decision to prioritise AI during its ASEAN chairmanship in 2027 reflects a dual strategy: advancing national digital ambitions while shaping regional governance norms.*

### Other Developments

[Malaysia's fight for Malay votes becomes a multiparty scrum](#)

[Taiwan President says he 'won't give up' on defence spending after Parliament cuts](#)

[Vietnam presides over opening session of 36th meeting of States Parties to UNCLOS](#)

[Philippine President Marcos heads to Kazan for ASEAN-Russia Summit, meeting with Russian counterpart Putin](#)

## West Asia

by

Sanket Joshi

On June 15, Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif announced that the U.S. and Iran had [agreed on a peace deal](#), leading to immediate and permanent termination of military operations on all fronts including in Lebanon. It is expected that the deal will be formally signed in Switzerland on June 19. Reports indicated that the MoU includes an agreement for the simultaneous lifting of Iran's closure of the [Strait of Hormuz and the U.S.' blockade](#) of Iranian ports. U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance said that the MoU will lay the foundation for future technical negotiations with Iran regarding its nuclear programme. He stressed that "a core part of the agreement is that the U.S. and the IAEA are going to help Iran [destroy its highly enriched Uranium stockpile](#)".

*A Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. and Iran establishes a framework for resuming diplomacy on Iran's nuclear program, reopens the Strait of Hormuz, and allows the two sides a 60-day window to reach a comprehensive agreement.*

Iranian military leadership, on its part, [declared a strategic victory](#) against the U.S. and Israel. IRGC Quds Force Commander, Brig. Gen. Esmail Qaani claimed that the "Axis of Resistance" (Iran, Houthis, Hezbollah, and Hamas) has endured unprecedented destruction unleashed by Washington and Tel Aviv, without abandoning the resistance. Adding that, "the resilience demonstrated by the Axis of Resistance has discredited the U.S. on the global stage, while accelerating the decline of the Zionist regime (Israel)". Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu hailed the U.S.-Israeli military operation as causing enormous [damage to Iran's nuclear and ballistic missiles](#) programme, its terror proxies in Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, and Gaza, making Israel stronger in the region.

*Lebanon (Hezbollah) is likely to remain a trigger for renewed clashes between Israel and Iran despite Pakistan's claim that Lebanon is included in the U.S.-Iran peace deal.*

### Other Developments

[Turkish-Saudi rail that bypasses Israel will link to Jordan and Syria, minister says](#)

[Donald Trump says Syria should fight Hezbollah instead of Israel](#)

[Trump Stages an Iran Retreat](#)

[Iran's top negotiator Qalibaf to attend signing of interim deal with US](#)

## Central Asia

by

Jayantika Rao T.V.

On [June 15](#), Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev met the Chief Executive Officer of the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), Ben Black. Tokayev described the visit as a continuation of agreements reached during talks in Washington in November 2025 and an important step toward deepening Kazakhstan's multifaceted partnership with the United States. He said relations between Astana and Washington had intensified since President Donald Trump returned to office. Tokayev added that Kazakhstan's political and economic reforms are aimed at shifting the country from a resource-dependent model to a diversified, knowledge-based economy, and noted that the DFC's investment priorities align closely with Kazakhstan's development agenda. The two sides discussed prospects for cooperation in critical minerals, transport connectivity, agriculture, digitalization, and artificial intelligence. They also reviewed the possibility of opening a permanent DFC office in Kazakhstan.

*The substance of this meeting leans heavily toward critical minerals and DFC engagement, which fits a broader pattern of Washington trying to build alternative supply chains outside China, and Kazakhstan positioning itself as a willing partner given its uranium, rare earth, and other mineral endowments.*

On [June 15](#), envoys from the European Union, Central Asian countries, and the United Nations met in Almaty to coordinate approaches on Afghanistan, focusing on regional stability, connectivity, and long-term socio-economic development. Participants reviewed developments in Afghanistan and discussed their impact on regional security, emphasizing the need for coordinated international engagement. A key theme was the expansion of transport and transit routes through Afghanistan to enhance trade between Central and South Asia and strengthen ties with Europe. Kazakhstan highlighted its commitment to diplomatic solutions, regional trust-building, and cooperation under United Nations coordination. The country also underlined its support for humanitarian and educational initiatives in Afghanistan, as well as efforts to advance regional economic ties.

*This meeting reflects Central Asia's push to position itself as a stability anchor and connectivity hub amid Afghanistan's uncertainty, leveraging trans-Afghan transit ambitions to link South Asia and Europe, while Kazakhstan's emphasis on UN-coordinated engagement signals careful avoidance of Taliban legitimisation even as practical economic and humanitarian cooperation deepens.*

### Other Developments

[Indian Ambassador Says Shared Spiritual Legacy Reflects Indo-Uzbek Solidarity](#)

[U.S.-Iran Framework Could Reopen Central Asia's Southern Route](#)

[Pro-Russian opposition party calls for Armenian election result annulment](#)

[Azerbaijan, Armenia Hold Direct Talks as Peace Efforts Continue](#)

## Indian Ocean Region

by

Divya Rai

India lodged a strong [diplomatic protest](#) against the United States after a US military strike killed three Indian seafarers aboard the Palau-flagged tanker MT Settebello in the Gulf of Oman on June 11, 2026. The United States claimed that the vessel was violating its blockade of Iranian ports and failed to comply with instructions, describing it as a “precision” strike against the ship after its crew did not follow directions. This was the third attack in a week on vessels carrying Indian mariners off Oman, following separate attacks on the Marivex, Settebello, and Jalveer on June 8, 9, and 11 respectively.

*The killing of three Indian nationals touches on New Delhi's create serious concern about the safety of Indian mariners in geopolitically sensitive waters. It also adds friction to US-India relations already at one of their lowest points in decades.*

India has [signed a ₹449 crore contract](#) with Bengaluru-based ACCORD Software and Systems Private Limited (ASSPL) for 20 Enhanced Capability Global Navigation Satellite System (ECGNSS) Jammers, marking a major boost to the Indian Navy's maritime electronic warfare capabilities with 75% indigenous content under the Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured) category. These jammers will disrupt adversary GNSS signals for navigation, positioning, and targeting while performing signal spoofing and deceptive jamming to create confusion in hostile networks, providing critical operational advantages in contested waters as modern conflicts increasingly depend on satellite-based systems. The procurement, signed by Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh on June 10, 2026.

*The procurement is expected to strengthen India defence indigenisation while enhancing the Navy's ability to operate safely in complex multi-threat maritime environments across the Indian Ocean Region.*

### Other Developments

[India chairs 28th IORA senior officials committee meeting, reinforces cooperation for a peaceful IOR](#)

[10<sup>th</sup> Thailand-India Defence Dialogue took place in Bangkok](#)

[INS Sharda departed Colombo, Sri Lanka after a successful port call](#)

[INS Tarkash arrived at Port Victoria, Seychelles for her operational deployment to the Southwest Indian Ocean Region](#)

[U.S. Navy and a good Samaritan vessel rescued 14 Indian mariners](#)



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