



Delhi Policy Group

Advancing India's Rise as a Leading Power

INDIA'S PROXIMITY ARCHIVES

February 11, 2026

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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 is independently funded by a 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, East 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, Divya Rai and Arshiya Chaturvedi, Research Associates. Your comments and feedback can be addressed to Sanket Joshi at sanket@dpg.org.in.

Cover Images:

South Asia: President of Kazakhstan Kassym-Jomart Tokayev held talks with Prime Minister of Pakistan Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad on February 4, 2026. Source: [Website-President of the Republic of Kazakhstan](#)

Southeast Asia: Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi met the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Anwar Ibrahim at Kuala Lumpur, in Malaysia on February 8, 2026. Source: [Prime Minister of India](#)

Indian Ocean Region: Prime Minister Albanese and the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Prabowo Subianto, signed the historic Australia-Indonesia Treaty on Common Security on February 7, 2026, in Jakarta. Source: [X/Anthony Albanese](#)

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- ◊ *Australia-Indonesia Treaty on Common Security*

South Asia

by

Shreyas Deshmukh

Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, the [President of Kazakhstan](#), and Shavkat Mirziyoyev, the [President of Uzbekistan](#), visited Pakistan on February 3-4 and February 5-6, respectively. The visit of the President of Kazakhstan to Pakistan, the first in 23 years, has led to the mutual decision to enhance bilateral ties to the level of a Strategic Partnership. Pakistan upgraded its bilateral relationship with Uzbekistan to a comprehensive strategic partnership. The Pakistan-Uzbekistan joint declaration affirms their commitment to develop and strengthen cooperation with the objective of supporting each other's sovereignty. The primary focus of discussions during these visits centred on transit trade, security matters, and the evolving situation in Afghanistan.

As Pakistan's relationship with Afghanistan sours, the nation is turning to Central Asian countries for support in pressuring the Taliban, alongside its efforts to find new trading partners.

The first [parliamentary elections](#) since the removal of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina are scheduled for February 12 in Bangladesh. The main participants in the electoral contest are the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), with Tarique Rahman at its head, and a newly constituted eleven-party coalition, spearheaded by the Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami and the National Citizen Party. The Awami League is presently suspended and prohibited from participating in elections. Meanwhile, on February 6, [clashes erupted](#) near the interim government's chief adviser's official residence. This occurred during the Inqilab Moncho sit-in, where participants were demanding an impartial UN investigation into the death of their leader. The police resorted to baton charges, tear gas, and sound grenades, resulting in multiple injuries. In the 60 days following the announcement of the election schedule, Bangladesh has experienced 237 [violent incidents](#), resulting in 17 fatalities. The [interim government](#) has recently faced scrutiny regarding its expedited approval of numerous substantial contracts and projects. Following the announcement of the election schedule, the government has sanctioned 64 projects valued at approximately 107,000 crore Taka, many of which are new.

For Bangladesh to attain political stability, impartial national elections are essential; the rise in political violence, persecution of minorities, and external meddling could destabilise the country's situation.



Other Developments

[Indian Army hands over 50 military utility vehicles to Nepal Army](#)

[UK, Bangladesh strengthen defence partnership with survey vessel sales agreement](#)

[US and Bangladesh set trade deal with tariffs at 19 percent](#)

[Afghanistan Halts Medicine Imports from Pakistan](#)

[ISIS Claims Deadly Mosque Bombing in Pakistan's Islamabad](#)

Southeast Asia

by

Jayantika Rao T.V.

On [February 8](#), India and Malaysia announced new initiatives to deepen cooperation in defence, security, semiconductors, and trade following wide-ranging talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Malaysian counterpart Anwar Ibrahim. Modi described the relationship as “special,” highlighting commitments to strengthen counter-terrorism, intelligence sharing, and maritime security, while broadening defence collaboration. He also emphasized that with support from partners like Malaysia, India aims to expand its engagement with ASEAN, positioning the partnership as both bilateral and regionally strategic.

India–Malaysia initiatives reflect a multidimensional strategy – leveraging economic resilience, regional diplomacy, and security cooperation – to anchor India more firmly in ASEAN and balance China’s influence in the Indo-Pacific.

Thailand’s Bhumjaithai Party [scored a stronger-than-expected victory](#) in the general election held on February 8, securing a projected share of more than 190 seats. Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul has claimed victory and announced plans to form a coalition government in the coming days. Pre-election opinion polls had [largely favoured](#) the progressive People’s Party, with some surveys predicting it could win more than 200 seats in parliament. Only a handful of polls placed Prime Minister Anutin Chanrvirakul’s party ahead. In reality, the People’s Party finished second with an estimated 116 seats, while the Pheu Thai Party of jailed former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra – came in third with 76 seats. Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul described the election result as “a victory for all Thais”.

Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul’s early election call in December proved a calculated gamble that paid off. The Bhumjaithai Party capitalised on nationalist sentiment from Thailand’s conflict with Cambodia, shifting the campaign narrative away from domestic discontent.

On [February 6](#), Indonesia and Australia signed a security treaty on Friday that commits them to consult each other if either country is threatened. The full details of the pact have not yet been disclosed. The treaty was signed in Jakarta, three months after Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto announced in Sydney that negotiations on the pact had been substantively concluded, highlighting their ambition to better utilise the two countries’ past security agreements inked in 1995 and 2006. The 1995 deal was withdrawn in 1999 after Australia led a United Nations peacekeeping force in East



Timor, which had plunged into violence as it sought independence from Indonesia. [Indonesian President Prabowo said](#) “The treaty is a significant extension of our existing security and defence cooperation. It demonstrates the strength of our partnership and depth of our trust and cooperation”.

The new security treaty positions both nations as key players in the Indo-Pacific, reflecting a deliberate effort to strengthen defence ties. While it functions much like a mutual defense pact, it avoids that label to respect Indonesia's non-aligned stance.

Other Developments

[Philippine Congress dismisses Marcos impeachment complaints](#)

[Leader of Myanmar armed group says world is ignoring junta's deadly airstrikes](#)

East Asia

by

Arshiya Chaturvedi

Sanae Takaichi won a [decisive victory](#) in the February 8th snap election, winning 316 out of 465 seats in Japan's Lower House. This is the first time since the establishment of Japan's parliament in 1947 that a single party has secured two-thirds of the chamber. The results also triggered a positive market response, with Japan's stock market reaching a record high. Takaichi's calculated bet on a snap election has proven successful. This majority was necessary to effectively advance her ambitious and assertive fiscal and security policy.

This comprehensive victory delivers a clear and positive verdict of strong public support for Sanae Takaichi's assertive political rhetoric and vision of a stronger Japan.

On February 10, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi addressed the First Senior Officials' Meeting of [APEC 2026](#) in Guangzhou, where he announced the theme for the year as "Building an Asia-Pacific Community to Prosper Together." Wang Yi remarked on the need to further elevate regional cooperation and noted that China's APEC 2026 leadership will be guided by three priority principles: openness, innovation, and cooperation. He outlined the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific (FTAAP) and a network of connectivity as key pathways to be explored further. Other areas of focus for enhanced cooperation among APEC economies, as underscored by the Chinese Foreign Minister, include fiscal policy, transportation, tourism, public health, and security, as well as accelerating digital, smart, and green transformations, among other areas.

China is using multiple international and regional platforms to advance its normative leadership within the international system.

Other Development

[The Top Leaders of the Two Parties and Two Countries Jointly Announce the Launch of the "Year of China-Laos Friendship"](#)

[Taiwan Vice Premier Cheng Li-chiun said it would be "impossible" to relocate 40% of the island's semiconductor capacity to the United States](#)

[President Xi Jinping Has Virtual Meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin](#)

[As software companies lose trillions in market cap why China and South Korea are warn companies against one of the most-popular AI agent OpenClaw](#)

West Asia

by

Sanket Joshi

On February 6, the [U.S. and Iran resumed their indirect nuclear dialogue](#) in Muscat, Oman. President Trump stated that the two sides held "very good talks" and that [Iran was eager to reach a deal](#), but it remains to be seen what that deal looks like. Iran's Foreign Minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi called upon the U.S. to honour its commitments and [pursue dialogue based on equality](#), mutual respect and mutual interest. He reiterated that U.S.-Iran dialogue should only focus on the nuclear issue, and [Iran's ballistic missile program](#) was not negotiable. Iran's Atomic Energy Agency Chief Mohammad Eslami urged the U.S. to [lift all sanctions against Tehran](#) to dilute its 60 percent enriched Uranium.

Although the U.S.-Iran nuclear dialogue has resumed, disagreements about limiting Iran's ballistic missile arsenal and ending support for regional militant groups hinder the prospect of a comprehensive deal.

On February 8, the Israeli government announced measures that would permit further [expansion of the Jewish settlements in the West Bank](#), which is a Palestinian territory. According to reports, Israel's Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich claimed that such measures in the West Bank help Israel prevent the [establishment of a Palestinian state](#). The Arab and Islamic world, including the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Türkiye, Egypt, Jordan, Indonesia, and Pakistan, condemned Israel's actions as [accelerating its illegal annexation](#) of the Palestinian territory. Even Israel's allies, such as [the U.S. and the UK](#) opposed Tel Aviv's settlement activities in the West Bank.

Israel's settlement activities in the West Bank indicate the weakening of the Palestinian Authority (PA) and the diminishing prospects of a two-state solution.

Other Developments

[Saudi Arabia, Syria sign \\$5.3 billion in agreements across key sectors](#)

[Israel's Netanyahu expected to meet Trump in US on Wednesday \(Feb 11\) and discuss Iran](#)

Central Asia

by

Jayantika Rao T.V.

On [February 9](#), U.S. Vice President JD Vance arrived in Armenia – a country that no sitting U.S. Vice President or President has visited before – as the Trump administration offered economic opportunities while working to advance a [U.S.-brokered deal](#) aimed at ending a decades-long conflict with Azerbaijan. Vance and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan signed an agreement to push forward negotiations on a civil nuclear energy deal, and Vance said the U.S. was ready to export advanced computer chips and surveillance drones to Armenia, and invest in the country's infrastructure. Pashinyan expressed his gratitude toward President Donald Trump and Vance, noting that he had accepted an invitation to participate in the first meeting of Trump's [Board of Peace](#) on Feb. 19 in Washington.

Vice President Vance's landmark visit to Armenia reflects a U.S. strategy of combining economic inducements, civil nuclear cooperation, and security engagement to shift Yerevan's geopolitical orientation, and reshape the South Caucasus balance amid waning Russian influence.

On [February 4](#), the second international B5+1 (Central Asia + the United States) business forum opened in Bishkek, bringing together government officials and business leaders to strengthen practical cooperation in trade, investment, and technology across priority sectors. During the meeting, discussions focussed on economic cooperation in finance and banking, critical minerals, agriculture, transport and logistics, tourism, e-commerce, information technology, and the development of practical recommendations to improve the business environment. U.S. Special Envoy for South and Central Asia, Ambassador Sergio Gor highlighted Central Asia's strategic importance for the United States, noting Washington's interest in expanding economic and technological cooperation in the region through the B5+1 platform. The two-day forum is expected to result in updated agreements between governments and businesses to improve the regional investment climate. The [first](#) B5+1 forum was held in Almaty in March 2024.

The second B5+1 forum in Bishkek further highlights Washington's strategy of using economic and technological cooperation – to anchor Central Asia more firmly in U.S. networks, and counterbalance both Russian influence and China's Belt and Road presence.



Other Developments

[China drastically scales back humanitarian aid to Tajikistan](#)

[Ukrainian Ambassador to Kazakhstan: "The War Will End This Year. I Truly Believe In That."](#)

[Breaking into Project Vault: A U.S. Role for Central Asia's Strategic Minerals](#)

Indian Ocean Region

by

Divya Rai

Indonesia and Australia [signed](#) the Treaty on Common Security (also called the Treaty of Jakarta 2026) on February 6, 2026, in Jakarta. The pact builds on the announcement during Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto's November 2025 visit to Australia. The signing of the treaty follows the conclusion of negotiations announced in late 2025 and builds on existing defence cooperation frameworks, including arrangements for joint exercises, defence education, and capacity-building initiatives. Both governments indicated that the [agreement](#) would further strengthen collaboration between their defence institutions and support continued engagement between armed forces. While the agreement does not constitute a formal military alliance or mutual defence obligation, it institutionalises security cooperation that has expanded steadily in recent years. Leaders [emphasised](#) deepened trust under their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, building on 30 years of defence ties.

The Treaty on Common Security strengthens bilateral trust and cooperation between Indonesia and Australia without binding military commitments, enabling regular consultations on shared Indo-Pacific threats.

Defence Secretary Shri Rajesh Kumar Singh [called on](#) Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Diaspora of the Republic of Seychelles, Barry Faure and Chief of Defence Forces, Seychelles Defence Forces Major General Michael Anselme Marc Rosette in New Delhi on February 10, 2026. During the meeting, both sides reviewed the growing defence and security collaboration between India and Seychelles and reaffirmed their shared commitment to enhancing bilateral engagement and contributing towards peace, stability, and security in the Indian Ocean Region. Both sides also [welcomed](#) the upcoming joint military exercise LAMITYE-2026 between the Indian Defence Forces and the Seychelles Defence Forces & capacity-building initiatives. Cooperation in the field of training, hydrography, ships and aircraft visits, defence delegation visits and maritime security were also discussed. The Defence Secretary welcomed the participation of the Seychelles side in the upcoming International Fleet Review as well as the 2026 edition of Exercise Milan in Visakhapatnam.

India-Seychelles maritime cooperation is crucial for securing the Western Indian Ocean's trade routes and countering threats like piracy, IUU fishing, while advancing India's MAHASAGAR vision.

Other Developments

[Indian Navy's Sail Training Ship INS Sudarshini successfully concluded her first port call at Salalah, Oman](#)

[DRDO hosted the 24th Indo-US Joint Technical Group Plenary Meeting in New Delhi](#)

[The US military said it seized a sanctioned oil tanker in the Indian Ocean after tracking it from the Caribbean Sea.](#)

[PM Modi pledges USD 175 million assistance to Seychelles to enhance development and Indian Ocean security](#)



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