

Section IV

India's Challenges: The Neighbourhood and Beyond

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The articles under this section cover a wide range of issues – strategic and economic – related to India's geographic and cyber space. The first of these, by Amitendu Palit, deals with the reasons underlying similar negotiating positions adopted by China and India on global economic issues such as trade and climate change. It provides a prognosis of caution. The second article by Rup Narayan Das provides a historic bird's eye view of the cultural along with the political and economic aspects of the millennia old relationship between these two Asian behemoths. It has an optimistic outlook on the relationship.

The third article by Akshay Mathur outlines a plan for the pacification, economic development and integration of the country's north east by making it a bridge between the hinterland and South East Asia. The fourth paper by Bibhu Prasad Routray is a realpolitik examination of the India's complex relationship with Myanmar. While being important for the security of the insurgency affected north eastern states and for counteracting Myanmar's growing proximity to China, it has to be balanced by the awareness of the human rights violations by the governing military junta.

The fifth paper by Brigadier Arun Sahgal provides various scenarios for Afghanistan and its implications for the region based on the dynamics of the roles played by the Taliban, the ISAF, the Afghan security forces and the regional powers as the Americans begin their withdrawal. The sixth

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and final paper by Pukhraj Singh outlines developments being made in the new world of cyber warfare and cyber defence by the great powers as well as non-state-actors and India's preparedness to meet emerging threats in this "fifth dimension" of warfare.