

PSIR & GS-2

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Briefs, scans the best academic platforms, national newspapers & leading think tanks to pick the most relevant articles & research. It converts them into crisp, high-impact points you can directly use in your mains answers.



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The future of American economic power



Source: Getty

PAPER

The Future of American Economic Power

The future of American economic power will be determined by the interplay between Trump's ambitions and the global backlash against them, as well as economic developments outside the direct control of the government, such as advances in AI.

PDF



By Peter Harrell
Published on Jun 29, 2026

President Donald Trump's second term represents a pivotal moment for the future of American economic power. Since coming to office on January 20, 2025, the Trump administration has invested far more energy into policies intended to

Context Whether the US can hold on to its global economic dominance amid Trump's aggressive policies and worldwide backlash pushing allies and rivals.

Facts

US entities on sanctions list - from 912 in 2000 to 17000 by end 2025.

US share of global GDP risen to 25-26% but share of trade stayed at 11-12%.

US manufacturing fell from 13% to 10%, but is world's second largest manufacturer behind China.

Analytical Crux

America's economic power is not falling apart in the aggregate. Its GDP share, the dollar, its capital markets and its chip chokepoints are steady or even rising. What has changed is how the US uses power. From 1945 to 2001 it built an open system. After 9/11 it shifted to weaponising the interdependence that system created and Trump has pushed that to its limits. Every act of coercion teaches others to build escape routes, and once those alternatives like payment rails, chips, supply chains reach a "minimum viable scale," US leverage weakens even its market share stays huge. The paradox is, the harder US squeezes, the faster the world diversifies away from it, and the decisive variables sit largely beyond any President's control.

Verbatim Quotes

"Power depends less on America's aggregate share of a type of economic power than it does on whether other countries are able to develop an alternative network with a minimum viable scale to escape American economic hegemony." - Peter Harrell

Modi -Takaichi summit - Deepening India Japan ties in Indo Pacific



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AUTHOR : SUJAN CHINYOY

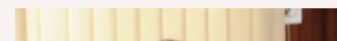
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Japan's proactive security policies and India's Atmanirbhar Bharat create a timely opportunity to advance defence manufacturing, technology collaboration, and economic resilience

Author



Context Japan's switch to a proactive, arms-exporting defence posture and India's Atmanirbhar Bharat drive have opened a window for defence co-production & technology ties.

Facts

India is one of 17 nations with a Japanese Defence Technology cooperation agreement.

India Japan set a target of 10 trillion yen in private investment over 5 years & a plan to exchange 500,000 personnel.

Analytical Crux

India - Japan is moving from an economic - and - diplomatic partnership into a defence - industrial. Takaiichi has dismantled decades of arms - export restraint and Tokyo can finally co-develop and co-produce lethal systems. China as the "omnibus threat", US shifts from USINDOPACOM to USPACOM are pushing the Quad's Asian members to hedge by strengthening ties among themselves. This is the right moment for Japan's new policies to meld with India's Atmanirbhar Bharat in defence manufacturing. India must fix to turn Japanese goodwill into real co-production to counter Chinese assertiveness and American unpredictability.

Verbatim Quotes

"Both India and Japan can play a major role in building a multipolar Asia. This is even more relevant today when Trump speaks of a putative G-2."

- Sujan Chinoj

A unified policy architecture for India's energy future

A unified policy architecture for India's energy future

India has made remarkable progress in transforming its energy landscape over the past decade. From achieving near-universal household electrification and expanding access to clean cooking fuel to becoming one of the world's fastest-growing renewable energy markets, it has demonstrated a strong commitment to ensuring energy access while advancing sustainable development.

As India looks ahead to the goals of energy self-reliance by 2047 and net-zero emissions by 2070, the next phase of the energy transition will require an increasingly integrated approach to planning and governance. A policy brief released by the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) in May 2026 highlights the importance of a unified national energy framework that can help align diverse energy resources, technologies and institutions towards common national objectives.

The complexity of India's energy system

The need for such an approach is evident from the scale and complexity of India's energy system. While domestic energy production continues to expand, there is a dependence on imports for a significant share of oil and natural gas requirements. At the same time, energy demand is expected to grow steadily as economic development, industrialisation and urbanisation continue. Managing these multiple priorities, energy security, affordability, sustainability and economic growth, requires coordinated planning across sectors and fuels.

India has already established strong foundations through initiatives such as the Saubhagya Scheme, the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, and ambitious renewable energy programmes. Renewable energy installed capacity has grown from approximately 40 GW in 2015 to approximately 260 GW by 2025, reflecting a determination to diversify the energy mix. As



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A policy brief
from the
INSA-Centre for
Science,
Technology,
Innovation and
Policy outlines a
four-pillar
framework

the energy ecosystem becomes more diverse, however, greater coordination among generation, transmission, storage, distribution and emerging technologies will become increasingly important.

How the framework works

The INSA policy brief proposes a framework built around four mutually reinforcing pillars: adequacy, access, affordability and appropriate sustainability.

First, adequacy focuses on ensuring reliable and diversified energy supplies through a balanced portfolio of conventional and emerging energy sources, supported by modern infrastructure, energy storage and digital technologies. The objective is to strengthen energy resilience while reducing long-term vulnerabilities.

Second, access emphasises reliable and equitable energy services for all citizens. Building on the country's achievements in electrification and clean cooking access, the framework advocates strengthening last-mile delivery, improving service quality and expanding decentralised energy solutions where appropriate.

Third, affordability recognises that a successful energy transition must remain economically viable for households, businesses and industries. The framework highlights the role of innovative financing mechanisms, efficient markets and consumer-focused safeguards in supporting an inclusive transition.

The fourth pillar, appropriate sustainability, underscores the importance of pursuing sustainability in a manner that is aligned with India's developmental priorities and resource endowments. Rather than adopting a one-size-fits-all approach, the framework advocates solutions that reflect India's unique social, economic and environmental context.

This includes support for local communities, workforce development and region-specific transition pathways.

The policy brief also identifies circular economy practices and carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) as important cross-cutting enablers that can complement renewable energy deployment and contribute to reducing emissions from industrial sectors.

Recognising that energy transitions occur over decades, the framework proposes a phased approach. Near-term priorities include strengthening infrastructure, accelerating renewable energy deployment, supporting emerging technologies such as green hydrogen, and developing institutional mechanisms that can facilitate long-term coordination. Over time, the emphasis would shift toward deeper integration of low-carbon technologies, expanded use of bio-resources and the development of a more interconnected and resilient energy ecosystem.

Viewing energy as whole

At its core, the framework highlights the value of viewing India's energy system as an integrated whole. Coal, renewables, biomass, natural gas, waste-to-energy systems and emerging clean technologies each have a role to play in supporting the country's development aspirations. Their effectiveness can be enhanced through greater coordination and long-term strategic planning.

India's energy transition is not only about expanding capacity; it is about creating a resilient, affordable and sustainable energy system capable of supporting future growth. By providing a common framework for aligning diverse energy pathways, the proposed approach offers a constructive road map for advancing national priorities while strengthening energy security for generations to come.

Context India must adopt one unified national energy framework that treats the whole energy system as a single integrated whole for energy self-reliance.

Facts

India's twin goals: energy self-reliance by 2047 and net-zero emissions by 2070.

Renewable installed capacity: from 40 GW in 2015 to 260 GW by 2025.

The INSA framework on 4 pillars: adequacy, access, affordability and appropriate sustainability.

Analytical Crux

India's energy problem is no longer about adding capacity but it is about coordination. Coal, renewables, biomass, natural gas, waste-to-energy systems and emerging clean technologies each have a role to play in supporting the country's development aspirations. But planning them in silos produces contradictions. The INSA proposes a single framework on 4 pillars: adequacy, access, affordability and appropriate sustainability. Rather than adopting a one-size-fits-all approach, the framework advocates solutions that reflect India's unique social, economic and environmental context. Therefore, the energy security, affordability and climate are not three competing goals to be traded off, but parts of one system to be optimised together.

Verbatim Quotes

“India's energy transition is not only about expanding capacity; it is about creating a resilient, affordable and sustainable energy system capable of supporting future growth.”

— Anjan Ray & Famida Khan

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