

PSIR & GS-2 Daily Brief

About this initiative : 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.

PSIR
Optional by
Amit Pratap
Singh
| ForumIAS |



Article - 1

India's strategic autonomy needs a reset :
The Pioneer

Article - 2

Why southeast Asia's just energy transition have stalled: The Diplomat

Article - 3

A new Lexicon of Indo - US ties : Financial express and ORF

Article - 1 : India's strategic autonomy needs a reset

The Pioneer TRUSTED SINCE 1865 English

BREAKING NEWS Protests erupt at Ministry Of Education office in Delhi's ITO · West Bengal Cabinet Expansion: 35 BJP

India's strategic autonomy needs a reset

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By Ashok K Mehta



New Delhi's carefully cultivated policy of balancing competing powers is facing unprecedented stress. The larger question is whether India's current approach is adequate for a world where power politics is being rewritten in real time

Context India's strategic autonomy is under pressure because balancing too many powers is becoming difficult in a fast-changing world order.

Facts

India has no formal national security strategy document despite six drafts reportedly pending.

Balancing the U.S., Russia, China, Israel, EU and Vietnam has created too many priorities.

The 1971 India-USSR treaty worked almost like an alliance, though India kept the language of non-alignment.

Analytical Crux

Strategic autonomy cannot mean only avoiding a clear stand. India's foreign policy must balance flexibility with credibility, especially before the Global South & the neighbourhood. Too much balancing may create confusion if India does not clearly protect its own red lines. India must move from passive strategic autonomy to active strategic autonomy.

Verbatim Quotes

"Strategic autonomy is a dynamic policy that requires periodic recalibration in line with contemporary geopolitics and geo-economics."

"To become a Viksit Bharat, India must play a more proactive role and truly avoid bowing to anyone."

Article - 2 : Why southeast Asia's just energy transition have stalled

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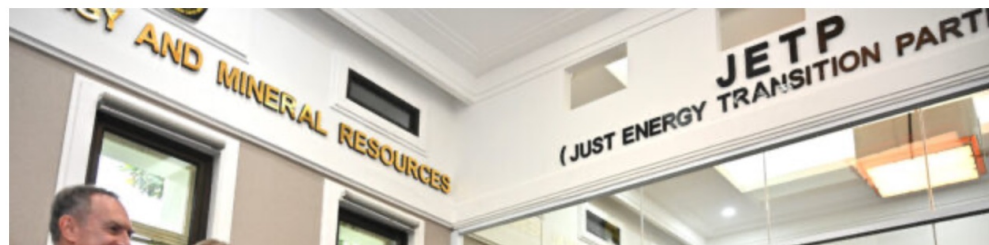
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Why Southeast Asia's Just Energy Transition Partnerships Have Stalled

Despite high hopes and billions in funding pledges, the scheme has paid insufficient attention to the political and economic realities of the recipient countries.



By James Guild and Indra Overland
May 29, 2026



Context

Just Energy Transition partnerships in South Africa, Indonesia and Vietnam have slowed down despite large climate-finance promises.

Facts

- South Africa's 2021 JETP was the world's first JETP and carried an \$8.5 billion pledge.

- Vietnam's wind and solar boom happened mostly outside the JETP framework.

- Indonesia's solar and wind target is to rise from 0.2% in 2022 to 14% by 2030.

Analytical Crux

Climate finance cannot succeed only by announcing big numbers. Energy transition depends on domestic politics, electricity prices, public debt and the power of state-owned utilities. JETPs slowed down because private investors wanted lower risk, while recipient states feared higher prices and debt. Climate justice must be joined with political economy realism.

Verbatim Quotes

“In emerging markets like Indonesia, South Africa and Vietnam financially fragile but politically powerful state-owned utilities often dominate the supply and distribution of electricity.”

Article - 3 : A new Lexicon of Indo - US ties



A New Lexicon of Indo-US Ties

AUTHOR : HARSH V. PANT

Originally Published [Financial Express](#) Published on *May 30, 2026*



India and the US are increasingly aligning on resilient supply chains, critical technologies and Indo-Pacific security, even as both sides continue balancing strategic autonomy with deeper economic and geopolitical cooperation.

Author



Facts

The critical minerals framework was the most substantive outcome of Rubio's India visit.

The Quad is moving towards practical cooperation in ports, undersea cables, maritime & energy security.

Context

India - U.S. ties are now driven by critical minerals, supply chains, technology, energy & the Indo-Pacific, while India still protects strategic autonomy.

Analytical Crux

India - U.S. relations are no longer about defence or democracy. The new pillars are critical minerals, supply chains, energy, strategic technology and the Indo-Pacific. India wants U.S. cooperation but not alliance control. India - U.S. ties are moving from emotional partnership to structural convergence.

Verbatim Quotes

“Both countries recognise the challenge posed by China's rise, both seek resilient supply chains, technological competitiveness and a stable Indo-Pacific maritime order.”

“India remains deeply uncomfortable with treaty based security structures that could constrain its strategic autonomy.”

UPSC LINK

- **PSIR 2025:** “India continues to invoke its time-tested policy of strategic autonomy vis-à-vis both the United States of America and Russia by rejecting US' offer of mediation on Kashmir issue and by refusing to criticize Russia in its ongoing war against Ukraine. Comment.”
- **PSIR 2024:** “India and USA have become such strong strategic partners that they need not become formal allies.” Comment.
- **PSIR 2023:** “Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QUAD) performs an important role in India's strategic balancing act to withstand the dominance of China in Asia. Discuss.”
- **GS-2 2025:** “Energy security constitutes the dominant kingpin of India's foreign policy, and is linked with India's overarching influence in Middle Eastern countries.” How would you integrate energy security with India's foreign policy trajectories in the coming years?
- **GS-2 2024:** “The West is fostering India as an alternative to reduce dependence on China's supply chain and as a strategic ally to counter China's political and economic dominance. Explain this statement with examples.”
- **GS-3 2025:** “Write a review on India's climate commitments under the Paris Agreement (2015) and mention how these have been further strengthened in COP26 (2021). In this direction, how has the first Nationally Determined Contribution intended by India been updated in 2022?”

PSIR & GS2 Daily Brief

The Programme in Political Science and International Relations emphasize research, critical thinking, and enhances interdisciplinary understanding. It provides comprehensive coverage in structured key way for strategic advantage in upsc.

PSIR OPTIONAL FOUNDATION

The program focuses on Comprehensive coverage of the topic mentioned in PSIR Syllabus supplemented with regular handouts.

Upcoming Batch: 6th July, 2026

OGP (OPTIONAL GUIDANCE PROGRAM)

Focus will be on conceptual clarity and building the ability of the candidates to interlink static portion with current developments.

Upcoming Batch: 9th June, 2026

PSIR DYNAMICS

The program focuses on Current-Relevant dedicated classes cover national and international developments, integrated with PSIR syllabus.

Upcoming Batch: 22nd June, 2026

ATS (AUGMENTED TEST SERIES)

ATS sharpens structure, presentation, and depth converting effort into higher score.

Upcoming Batch: 26th April, 2026

O-AWFG (ANSWER WRITING FOCUS GROUP)

The answer writing program creates discipline and enhances skills. It helps students develop structure, articulation, coherence, and approach.

Upcoming Batch: 20th April, 2026

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The test series program enhances speed, flow and dynamic understanding of the subject.

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PYQ Mastery Series

The series focuses on PYQ practice anchored in conceptual clarity and contemporary relevance.

Upcoming Batch: 22 June, 2026

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Note: Edit program names/offering as per the latest ForumIAS schedule.