

# 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 |

### SOURCES SCANNED TODAY



### ARTICLE

## O1

**The World is giving up on America : Foreign Affairs**

### ARTICLE

## O2

**North East doesnot need sympathy but commitment : The Print**

### ARTICLE

## O3

**India -US defence tech ties, big ambitions, little delivery : The Hindu**

# The World is giving up on America

The World Is Giving Up ...

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

LOG IN MENU ☰

## The World Is Giving Up on America

*This Time Anti-Americanism Is Different*

RICHARD WIKE

July 15, 2026



The Washington Monument in Washington, D.C., July 2026

RICHARD WIKE is Director of Global Attitudes Research at Pew Research Center.

[More by Richard Wike →](#)

### Context

The global disapproval of the US under Trump's second term has caused loss of faith in American democracy and leadership.

### Facts

■ V-Dem downgraded the U.S. from a "liberal democracy" to an "electoral democracy," stating "democracy in USA fallen back to same level as in 1965."

■ Since 2023, "US contributes to peace & stability" has fallen in 19 of 22 countries: by 30+ points in Australia, Canada, Poland, Netherlands and Sweden.

■ Freedom House: Global freedom across 200+ countries & territories has declined for 20 consecutive years.

## Analytical Crux

America's fall in global opinion has moved from a passing dip to structural. In earlier downturns the world disliked particular US policies but respected US values & the freedoms the country stood for. Trump's second term breaks that pattern by combining aggressive use of hard power abroad with rising doubt about democracy & personal liberty at home. Critics argue that a hegemon that stops living up to its own principles loses the willing followership that made its leadership cheap. Legitimacy, once lost, is harder to rebuild than military or economic strength.

## Verbatim Quotes

"But having swapped soft power for hard power & having abandoned its commitment to the freedoms of its own citizens in the eyes of much of the world, it will have to demonstrate that it still cares about those ideals."

- Richard Wike

# North East doesnot need sympathy but commitment

ThePrint

🏠 POLITICS GROUND REPORTS OPINION ▼ DEFENCE DIPLOMACY INDIA ECONOMY THEPRINT ON CAMERA ▼

SOCIETY & CULTURE ▼ HEALTH SCIENCE ▼ WORLD EVENTS ▼ THE SPEAKERS BUREAU SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

THEPRINT STORE MORE ▼

Home › Opinion › The North East does not need sympathy. It needs sincere constitutional commitment

Opinion

## The North East does not need sympathy. It needs sincere constitutional commitment

The people of the North East seek assurance that their identity, language, culture, land, and future generations will be protected within the framework of the Indian Constitution.



PRAMOD BORO 14 July, 2026 02:22 pm IST

### Context

The peace in the North-East depends on passing the 125th Constitutional amendment and putting 6th Schedule's autonomous councils on financial & institutional footing.

### Facts



Article 275 (1) : grants - in - aid from CFI for STs' welfare & raising level of tribal administration.



Bodo Peace accord of 2020 : Surrender of cadres & special development package.



Constitution (125th Amendment) Bill, 2019 : proposes elections through State Election Commissions, State Finance Commissions, anti - defection safeguards, women's representation.

## Analytical Crux

The claim is that peace in the North-East will hold if it is backed by strong, well-funded constitutional institutions, and not by agreements & assurances. Autonomy under 6th Schedule has stayed weak because the Autonomous District Councils lack dependable finances. The 125th amendment matters for putting their money & powers on a firm footing. Baro's key move is to link two fiscal routes i.e. Article 275 grants for tribal welfare & Article 200 devolution through the Finance Commission. It is a case of asymmetric federalism where special autonomy is treated as a founding constitutional promise rather than a favour from the centre.

## Verbatim Quotes

"The strength of India lies not merely in its geographical boundaries but in its extraordinary ability to accommodate diverse identities, cultures, languages & aspirations within a democratic constitutional framework."

- Pramod Boro

# India -US defence tech ties, big ambitions, little delivery

## India-U.S. defence tech ties — big ambitions, little delivery

India-United States defence cooperation has acquired an unenviable reputation in strategic circles for generating ambitious political announcements that fail to translate into industrial outcomes. Over the past two decades, successive administrations in New Delhi and Washington have unveiled defence technology partnerships and industrial collaborations promising to transform bilateral military ties, only for them to become bogged down in protracted negotiations, export-control restrictions, technology-transfer disputes and differing commercial expectations.

The irony is that the relationship itself has expanded considerably. Since 2002, India has acquired over \$22 billion worth of U.S. defence equipment, including Apache and Chinook helicopters, C-17 and C-130J transport aircraft, P-8I maritime patrol aircraft, and M777 howitzers. While the US has become a major defence supplier, meaningful co-production and technology transfer remain elusive.

### The case of the GE engine

The recent impasse over General Electric's (GE) F414 fighter engine, once hailed as the centrepiece of bilateral defence cooperation, is merely the latest — and arguably the most significant — illustration of the gap between political declarations and industrial outcomes. The estimated cost of each F414 engine has reportedly nearly tripled, rising from around ₹70 crore-80 crore to over ₹200 crore. GE has also sought an Indian investment of around \$800 million (₹7,576 crore) to establish a dedicated production line.

Disagreements over technology transfer, intellectual property and export controls have further complicated negotiations. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited is negotiating procurement and licensed manufacture of the F414 for the Tejas Mk-II, while the Defence Research and Development Organisation and Aeronautical Development Agency are separately engaging GE over the same engine for the proposed Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) and the Indian Navy's Twin-Engine Deck-Based Fighter. The result is a web of interlinked negotiations proving difficult to resolve.

The F414 programme was unveiled during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 2023 Washington



**Rahul Bedi**

Defence reporter and analyst based in New Delhi and Chandigarh

visit as the flagship achievement of the Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET), intended to symbolise a shift from a buyer-seller relationship towards genuine defence-industrial collaboration. Instead, it has become another illustration of the enduring gap between political ambition and industrial reality. Nor is this an isolated instance.

### Vision to stagnation

The first serious attempt to institutionalise defence cooperation came in 2012 with the Defence Technology and Trade Initiative (DTTI). Conceived to promote co-development and co-production, it generated years of meetings but delivered no significant military capability before fading into irrelevance.

Its successor, iCET (2022), expanded the agenda to semiconductors, artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, telecommunications, space, biotechnology, drones and resilient supply chains. Among its principal defence initiatives was the GE F414 programme, whose unresolved negotiations have become emblematic of the wider difficulty in translating political ambition into industrial outcomes.

The India-United States Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS-X), launched in 2023 to link defence start-ups, academia and industry, likewise generated enthusiasm but has yet to produce noteworthy co-development outcomes. Other prospective collaborations have fared little better. Discussions on co-producing the Javelin anti-tank guided missile have remained unresolved for more than a decade, while the proposed collaboration on the General Dynamics Stryker infantry combat vehicle has suffered a similar fate. Both now appear increasingly likely to be shelved quietly.

Even India's 2024 acquisition of 31 MQ-9B SkyGuardian and SeaGuardian remotely piloted aircraft from General Atomics through the U.S. government's Foreign Military Sales route for around \$3.5 billion has resembled a purchase rather than the industrial collaboration originally envisaged. Its promised package — including local assembly, partial manufacture and a domestic maintenance, repair and overhaul ecosystem — has yet to materialise.

Taken together, these outcomes reveal a pattern that is difficult to ignore. Successive

India-U.S. defence initiatives have been heralded as "historic", "transformational" or "game-changing", yet implementation has repeatedly fallen well short of the rhetoric.

### The technology transfer divide

At the heart of this disconnect lie fundamentally different philosophies underpinning the two countries' defence sectors. India views defence partnerships as a means of acquiring advanced technologies, strengthening indigenous manufacturing and reducing dependence on imported matériel.

The U.S., by contrast, regards advanced defence technologies as strategic assets governed by stringent export-control regulations, particularly the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), under which the release of technical data and manufacturing know-how remains subordinate to broader security considerations.

The unresolved F414 negotiations illustrate this divide. India has sought manufacturing expertise and intellectual property to build long-term domestic capability, while the U.S. remains constrained by export-control regimes regardless of Washington's broader strategic objectives. The consequence is a defence relationship that has matured as a procurement partnership but far less as a mechanism for transferring capability and strengthening India's atmanirbharta.

Despite the undeniable expansion of India-U.S. strategic ties — marked by increasingly sophisticated military exercises, logistics agreements and enhanced interoperability — the industrial dimension of the relationship has yet to keep pace. The alphabet soup of DTTI, iCET and INDUS-X has largely disappointed, leaving officials in both countries looking to the proposed Reciprocal Defence Procurement Agreement (RDPA) as the next test of industrial cooperation.

The U.S. believes that the RDPA could reshape bilateral defence trade by granting reciprocal access to each other's procurement markets. Yet, that reciprocity could expose India's still-nascent defence manufacturers to direct competition with America's larger, wealthier and technologically more advanced defence giants. Whether this creates genuine balance or simply institutionalises unequal competition is another matter altogether.

## Context

The India-US defence ties keep producing grand announcements while co-production & technology transfer repeatedly stall.

## Facts

Since 2002, India acquired \$22 billion of US defence equipment, including Apache & Chinook helicopters.

ITAR as constraint : India wants technology for self-reliance while US guards it as a strategic asset.

In 2024, India acquired 31 MQ-9B drones from General Atomics.

## Analytical Crux

The India-US defence ties have grown impressively in trade but keep stalling where it matters i.e. in co-production and transfer of technology. Big announcements like the GE F414 engine, and a run of frameworks from DTTI to ICET to INDUS-X, have delivered purchases far more than shared manufacturing capability. The reason is a clash of purposes. India wants technology & intellectual property to build self-reliance, while the US treats advanced defence technology as a guarded strategic asset. The consequence is a defence relationship that has matured as a procurement partnership but far less as a mechanism for transferring capability & strengthening India's atmanirbharta.

## Verbatim Quotes

"Successive India-US defence initiatives have been heralded as 'historic', 'transformational' or 'game-changing', yet implementation has repeatedly fallen well short of the rhetoric."

- Rahul Bedi

**PSIR PAPER II, 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 PAPER II, 2025:** For India, a multipolar world order would also mean a multipolar Asia. Comment.

**GS PAPER I, 2025:** Does tribal development in India centre around two axes — those of displacement and rehabilitation? Give your opinion.

**PSIR PAPER II, 2024:** India and USA have become such strong strategic partners that they need not become formal allies. Comment.

**PSIR PAPER II, 2023:** Discuss the various constraints on American hegemony today. Which of these are likely to become more prominent in the future?

**PSIR PAPER I, 2023:** Does the actual working of Indian federalism conform to the centralising tendencies in Indian polity? Give reasons for your answer.

PSIR OPTIONAL · FOR MAINS 2026

# ATS 2026

AUGMENTED TEST SERIES

**BATCH 3**     **05 JULY**

**BATCH 4**     **19 JULY**

**BATCH 5**     **26 JULY**

TEST SERIES INCLUDES

- ◆ Sectional + Full-Length Tests + Simulators
- ◆ In-depth discussion with Model Answers
- ◆ One-to-one expert evaluation & mentorship

TO ENROL OR FOR GUIDANCE, CALL

**93117 40432**

**AMIT PRATAP SINGH**

PSIR FACULTY · FORUMIAS

PSIR OPTIONAL · FOR MAINS 2027

# OCP 2027

OPTIONAL GUIDANCE PROGRAMME

COMMENCES

## 6 JULY 2026

BATCH 1 · ONLINE & OFFLINE

PROGRAMME INCLUDES

- ◆ 35 live classes – entire PSIR syllabus
- ◆ 35 Daily Answer-Writing Tests
- ◆ Full-Length Tests with Model Answers
- ◆ One-to-one evaluation & mentorship

TO ENROL OR FOR GUIDANCE, CALL

## 93117 40432

AMIT PRATAP SINGH

PSIR FACULTY · FORUMIAS