

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

**Pakistan takes SCO
presidency at a crucial
time : The Diplomat**

ARTICLE

O2

**BRICS, GAZA & the limits
of southern solidarity :
The Wire**

ARTICLE

O3

**Why India & China need
a new modus vivendi :
VIF**

Pakistan takes SCO presidency at a crucial time



Context After the SCO summit at Bishkek, Pakistan has taken over the organisation's rotating chair for 2026-27 and presents CPEC as flagship project in line with SCO goals.

Facts

- 2027 SCO summit will be held in Islamabad : Theme "Turning Vision into Action : Connectivity, Innovation and Shared Prosperity."
- Pakistan's priorities : connectivity, trade, energy & counter-terrorism, consensus that water should not be weaponised.
- Pakistan presents CPEC new routes : through Iran & Central Asia linking the Belt & Road Initiative to Arabian Sea. India opposes CPEC through PoK.

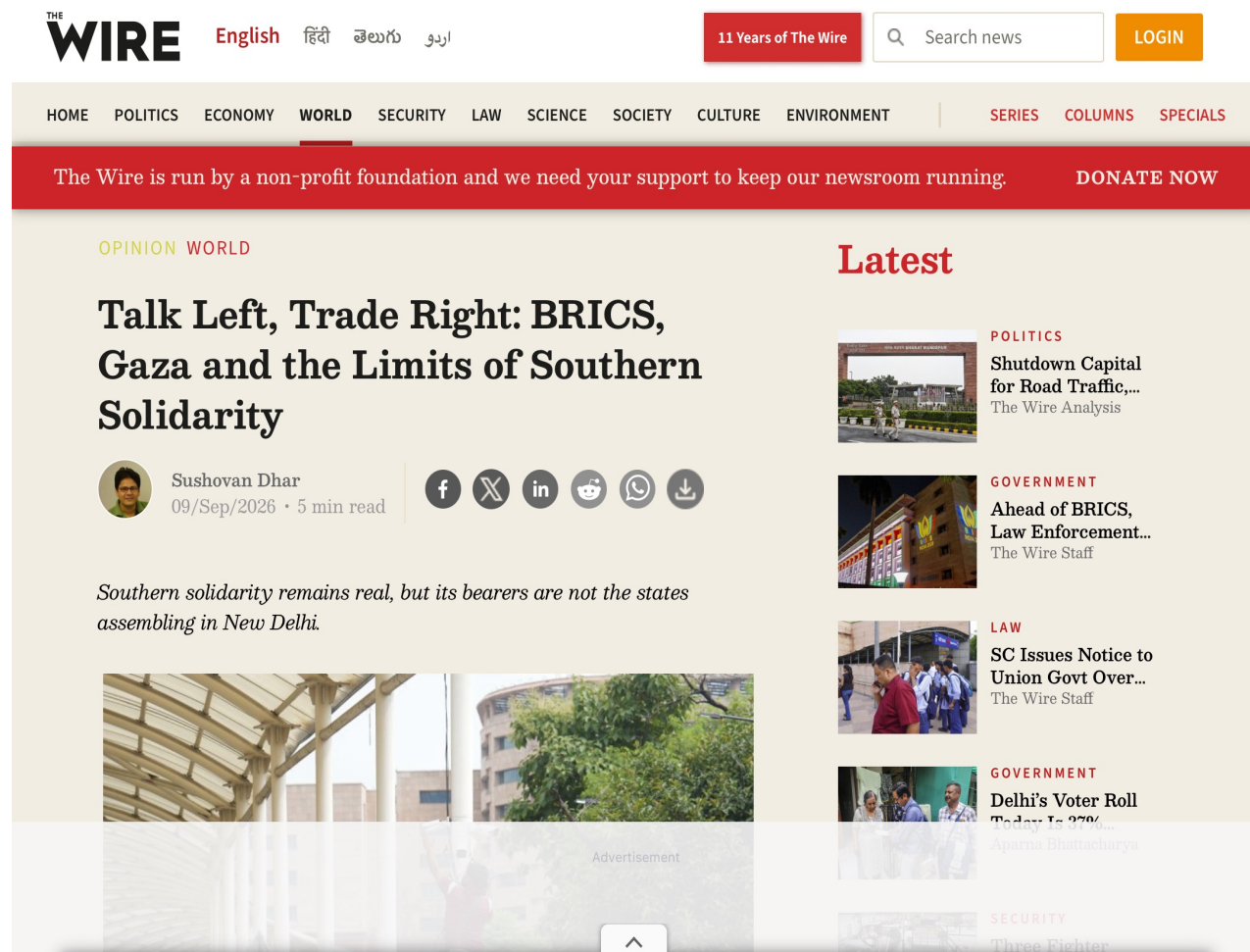
Analytical Crux

The SCO reaches consensus by agreeing on principles & staying silent on names. That is how India, Pakistan, Iran and the Central Asian states could all sign the Bishkek declaration on the Iran war. Pakistan takes the chair with a larger international profile after mediating between Iran and US, and present itself as a transit hub linking the Belt & Road Initiative to the Arabian Sea. CPEC passes through PoK, India rejects it on grounds of sovereignty, and unrest on the Afghanistan - Pakistan border can stall Central Asian link. The question is whether a chair that depends on consensus can move a corridor agenda that one member refuses to accept.

Verbatim Quotes

"On the SCO at Bishkek, the forum "arguably demonstrated its capacity to build a functional consensus amid complex geopolitical fault lines."

BRICS, GAZA & the limits of southern solidarity



Context Ahead of the 18th BRICS summit in New Delhi bloc's record on Gaza exposes the limits of its claim to speak for the Global South.

Facts

Theme of 18th BRICS summit: Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation & Sustainability."

India has abstained at UNGA on the resolution whose humanitarian wording the Rio text later borrowed.

In 2024, nearly every BRICS member except Iran expanded trade with Israel, led by energy and military goods.

Analytical Crux

The members of BRICS are intermediate powers inside the global capitalist order, and their ruling classes want a better position within it. The Rio Declaration used the language of solidarity, but India kept buying Israeli arms and co-producing drones. Most members expanded trade with Israel in 2024. The reserve arrangement has never been used, the NDB lends in dollars, and BRICS declarations back an IMF in which the US holds a veto. Therefore, the lack of a common position on Gaza shows what BRICS is, and solidarity in the South rests with movements and Unions outside the summit.

Verbatim Quotes

"BRICS ruling classes seek a better seat at the table of global capital, not a different table."

— Sushovan Dhar

Why India & China need a new modus vivendi



Context

With Xi Jinping arriving in India after 2019, India and China need new working rules to compete without conflict.

Facts

■ At 25th round of Special Representatives: India China reached an 8-point consensus. It reaffirmed the 2005 Political Parameters and Guiding Principles, more military meeting points & hotlines.

■ India - China trade in 2025 was about \$156 billion, with a Chinese surplus of \$116 billion.

■ China supplied 48.9% of India's semiconductor imports in 2025-26, down from 64% & 83.6% of its battery imports.

Analytical Crux

India & China cannot go back to the pre-Galwan relationship and need a new arrangement for rivalry. An unresolved border and wide power gap rule out a conventional strategic partnership, and the 25th Special Representatives' talks show that crisis prevention is the realistic aim. The economic explain why engagement still matters as trade is large but one-sided. There is a need to widen contact through flights, trade and tourism while India builds its own supply chains through the critical minerals and semiconductor missions and the PLI schemes. Therefore, dependence that makes engagement necessary is the reason India must reduce it.

Verbatim Quotes

"Xi's visit as a chance to focus on informal rules that can accommodate competition without turning it into confrontation."
— Rahul Pandey

- PSIR 2026, Paper II: What strategic options can India exercise as a response to the tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan?
- PSIR 2026, Paper II: Discuss the three areas of security co-operation between India and Israel.
- GS 2026, Paper II: “China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has transformed South Asia from a regional space into a theatre of great power competition.” Analyse the strategic implications of the BRI for India’s security and regional influence in South Asia.
- GS 2026, Paper II: “BRICS acts as a powerful counterweight in global governance, actively amplifying the voice and influence of the Global South.” Explain the role of BRICS in projecting itself as an alternative to other groupings.
- PSIR 2024, Paper II: Does the idea of the 21st century as ‘Asian century’ continue to remain feasible given the growing friction between India and China?
- GS 2024, Paper II: “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.

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INSIDE EVERY SESSION

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|----|-----------------------------|--|
| 01 | CONTEXT | Where the development comes from, and what it follows. |
| 02 | THE RECORD | Dates, official wording, and the document it came from. |
| 03 | THE ANALYSIS | The argument it raises, and the positions taken on it. |
| 04 | THEORY & VERBATIM QUOTATION | The concept on the syllabus, in the scholar's own words. |
| 05 | FURTHER QUOTATIONS | More lines to cite, each one carrying its source. |
| 06 | PRACTICE QUESTIONS | On the theme, at 10, 15 and 20 marks. |



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