

## POST 9/11 INDO- US STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIP: AN ANALYSIS

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### Abstract:

*South Asia has remained one of the important regions of the world in all periods of history. American stand towards India has been one of unsureness ever since India attained independence from Great Britain in 1947. It is a fact that during the post-cold war era a genuine transformation in relations between the United States and India has taken place. The new US tilt and its security policy in South Asia in post 9/11 period and its strategic partnership with India is not a sudden development but the result of a gradual convergence of interests between New Delhi and Washington after the disintegration of the Soviet Union. The objective of the proposed study is to analyse the indo-US strategic partnership after the 9/11 attacks. Since 9/11, a growing attentiveness of India's strategic potential has led to serious re-evaluation in the United States of its relationship with India. In order to meet the newer challenges of security and trade, and to pursue its core and national interests, the US has changed its policy towards South Asia in post 9/11 period and reshaped its policy to achieve its goals and is re-examining its political, economic, military and strategic partnership with India. Though India – US bilateral relations have materialised into nuclear deal and a ten year defence pact yet on a parallel front, the rise of china has opened up a plethora of issues between the US and India. The paper will make an attempt to examine the Indo- US strategic partnership after 9/11 attacks. It will also discuss in detail the benefits of deal to India and implications of Indo-US nuclear Deal on India. It will discuss all the aspects of Indo-US strategic Partnership.*

*Key words: India, United States, Nuclear, Defence,*

### 1—INTRODUCTION

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The relations between India and United States have seen many ups and downs from the formative phase of their relations to the nuclearization of south Asia. The post-cold war India-U.S. relations are at the beginning of unprecedented developments. After the end of cold war a remarkable change in the relationship between the two countries can be professed in the nature, content and the scope of the evolving relationship. The bilateral efforts on the part of the two countries and the changing international strategic environment make it possible for the relations to prosper well than ever before in the past. Both countries share multi-faceted relationship spanning political, economic and defence, strategic and security realms. The principal driver of this relationship is the growing convergence of economic and strategic interests and the existence of a large and successful Indian Diaspora in the US (Hussain, 2011).The beginning of 21st century marked an important development in Indo US relations started with Clinton's visit to India by the end of 20th century and further followed by Bush administration during its first term as well as continued in its second term. The current Indo-US rapprochement has been termed as 'irreversible' and is known as Strategic Partnership(Bukhari, 2011).In order to develop a strong strategic partnership both states took several initiatives.This strategic partnership is comprised of a broader range of areas for mutual cooperation which includes economic, trade, space, nuclear technology, missile technology, and defense cooperation.Thus, after 9/11, a growing attentiveness of India's strategic potential has led to serious re-evaluation in the United States of its relationship with India. In order to meet the newer challenges of security and trade, and to pursue its core and national interests, the US has changed its policy towards South Asia in post 9/11 period and reshaped its policy to achieve its goals and is re-examining its political, economic, military and strategic partnership with India.

## **2—STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

The term strategic partnership has been used after the cold war era. The 21<sup>st</sup> century has witnessed a new pattern of in international relationship in which nations enter into freewheeling partnerships with other nations based on complementarily of interests in specific but vital areas (Ganguly.et.al, 2011). India has entered into strategic partnership with many countries in last one decade like United States, Russia, France, and United Kingdom, Germany and Japan and the partnership with these countries are evaluated in the fields of defence cooperation, economic cooperation and political-diplomatic cooperation.

## **3—INDO-US STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

A modest transformation took place in relations between India and US during the post-cold war era. The US strategic partnership with India is not a sudden development but the result of a gradual convergence of interests between New Delhi and Washington after the disintegration of the Soviet Union (Fani,

2009). During the post-cold war era, in 1992 the first negotiation and high level meeting was held between these two countries on their military cooperation and strategic interests. In this meeting the US expressed its concern over the rise of Militant Islam in the region and viewed that India is the only actor who could safeguard the US interests in the region. A joint steering committee of the two navies was set up by US and India in order to further develop and strengthen their relations, which conducted joint naval exercise in 1992. In January 1995, the US and India signed the “Agreed Minute on Defence Relations”<sup>3</sup> with the signing of this agreement the India starts receiving military and economic aid from US. The US president Bill Clinton visit in 2000 to South Asia showed to be a turning point towards improved security relations between India and United States and reflected the coming together of India and U.S (Bukhari, 2011). The document signed by Clinton and Vajpayee in 2000 clearly mentioned that India and the US were strategic partners in providing stability in South Asia and beyond. Since, the Clinton visit to India, the military and economic cooperation between New Delhi and Washington has moved a pace with the Bush Administration continuing and expanding the framework of this strategic partnership (Fani, 2009). It was evident from the Joint Statement that assured to “deepen the India-American partnership in tangible ways.”<sup>4</sup>

After, 9/11 the first major weapon deal between US and India was signed in April, 2002, in which agreed to provide 8 Raytheon Co. long –range weapon locating radars to India worth \$ 146 million to pinpoint enemy’s long- range mortars, artillery, and rocket launchers and on the very next year May 22, 2003, the US approved the sale of Israel’s Phalcon early warning system worth \$ 1.2 billion to India (Fani, 2009).

In 2004 India and the US entered into a Strategic Partnership. In 2004 the next step began which became the building block of deeper bilateral relations, which include civil nuclear activities, missile defence, civil space programs and high technology trade. In Indo- US ties a qualitative transformation was seen in post defence and civil agreement and US administration have repeatedly claimed that they would help India emerge as major world power in the 21<sup>st</sup> century (Ganguly et.al, 2011). In January 2004 President Bush and Prime Minister Vajpayee said in joint statement that “the US-India ‘strategic partnership’ included expanding cooperation in the trinity areas as well as expanding dialogue on missile defence (Kronstadt, 2006). In the October 2004, both U.S and India agreed to create a working group, which presumably will negotiate not only the scope of nuclear cooperation, but also Indian commitments

<sup>3</sup>Ghayoor Ahmed, “India’s Defence Ties with US”, Dawn, Karachi, July 2005. Available at <http://www.dawn.com/news/1068049/dawn-opinion-july-7-2005>.

<sup>4</sup>President Clinton and Prime Minister Vajpayee. Joint Statement. New Delhi, March 21, 2000. Available at <http://www.acronym.org.uk/spvisit.htm>. Accessed on 21/7/2014.

to non-proliferation (Bukhari, 2011). On June 2005, A new framework of Defence relations was agreed upon between India and United States in which both countries agreed to expand their cooperation in the area of defence relations and sketch out a framework for the next ten years which further strengthened India Unites States relations in Strategic partnership (Bukhari 2011). The fundamental motive of the US engagement with India is varied. China's rise and convergence of geo political interest, India's rising economic power, the dynamics of the new great game being played in Af- Pak and America's search for new allies, especially after the relative decline of its old European allies are the main drivers of this new partnership and the Indian diaspora in US in last decades is an important contributor to India – US ties.

#### 4—INDIA- US 10 YEAR DEFENCE PACT

On June 28, 2005 to strengthen the defence and military relations between the United States and India, the defence ministers of both the countries signed a 10-years defence pact in Washington D.C. Paving the way for pace up military ties, including joint weapons production and cooperation on missile defence.<sup>5</sup> The agreement visualize a broad range of joint activities, including collaborating in multinational operations "when it is in their common interest," (outside the peacekeeping domain), strengthening the capabilities of the two militaries to promote security and defeat terrorism, and enhancing capabilities to combat the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.<sup>6</sup> That land mark agreement was a productive instrument for India and would help to facilitate joint weapons production, co-operation on missile defence and the transfer of civil and military technology to India (Fani, 2009). This agreement has paved the way for the possible lifting of US export controls for sensitive military technology to India without signing CTBT (Fani, 2009). *Muhammad Ishaque Fani in his article "The Indo- US Strategic Partnership in Post 9/11: Implication for Pakistan"* has highlighted that the agreement is designed to achieve two main objectives:

- To help India to advance America's strategic goals in Asia.
- To help India to become a major world power this may project its military presence beyond its border.

On 8<sup>th</sup> August 2014, the Prime Minister of India and US defence secretary Chuck Hagel meets at New Delhi a discussed the renewal of Indo- US 10 year defence pact and jointly development and production of military hardware. The two decisions signify a renewal of Indo- Us strategic relationship and an arrest

<sup>5</sup>US-India Sign Defence Pact. Washington (AFP) Jun 28, 2005. Retrieved from <http://www.spacewar.com/news/industry-05x.html>.

<sup>6</sup>ChidanandRajghattaIndia, US sign defence pact. TN N | June 29, 2005. The Times of India. Retrieved from <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/articleshow/msid-1155838,curpg-2.cms>.

of the slide the relationship had witnessed during the last years of the UPA -2<sup>nd</sup>. The three day visit of US defence secretary visit to India is a part of the build- up to PM Modi's talk with President Barack Obama in Washington in September. The trip comes as India is considering a \$1.4 billion deal to buy at least 22 US Apache and 15 Chinook helicopters<sup>7</sup>. The 10-year defence pact, now called the "New Framework for the United States- India Defence relationship" was signed in 2005 and is schedule to end next year". Both sides are keen to extend the agreement well before it ends. Last year, after a meeting between US President Barack Obama and former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh a decision was taken to jointly develop and produce military hardware. But the UPA-II had failed to operationalize and capitalize on the agreement. Stressing on this issue, Defence Minister of India ArunJaitley said "Development of our own aboriginal capabilities is a major objective that guides our present policy. In this direction, we have taken steps to raise the FDI cap in the defence sector." Thus India has a long shopping list for US military hardware, however, did not come up the decision.

### 5—INDO-US NUCLEAR AGREEMENT

On July 18, 2005, President George W. Bush and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh issued a Joint Statement resolving to establish a "global partnership" between the United States and India through increased cooperation on numerous issues, including "full civilian nuclear energy cooperation". On 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2005, India and the United States signed a ten years defence framework agreement that calls for expanding bilateral cooperation in a number of security related areas. Many observers view that in order to counterbalance the rise of china as a major power the US moves to build strategic relations with India (Kronstadt, 2005).

On October 1, 2008, the US congress gave final approval to an agreement facilitating nuclear cooperation between India and the United States. U.S – India bilateral agreement in 2005 represent a new set of landmark in rapidly warming ties between the United States and India as deal lifts a three-decade U.S. moratorium on nuclear trade with India. It provides U.S. assistance to India's civilian nuclear energy program, and expands U.S.-India cooperation in energy and satellite technology (Bajoria and Pant, 2010). On 28 September 2008, The US House of Representatives passed the bill. On October 1, 2008 the US Senate also approved the civilian nuclear agreement allowing India to purchase nuclear fuel and technology from the United States. On October 8, 2008 U.S. President, George W. Bush, signed the legislation on the Indo-US nuclear deal, approved by the U.S. Congress, into law, now called the United

<sup>7</sup>India, US to Renewal 10-year Defence Pact, Jointly Develop Military Hardware. Retrieved from <http://www.currentnewsindia.com/2014/08/09/india-us-to-renew-10-year-defence-pact-jointly-develop-military-hardware/>.

States-India Nuclear Cooperation Approval and Non-proliferation Enhancement Act, or in short the 123 agreement. Heavily permitted by the White House, the agreement is thought to be a major victory to George W. Bush's foreign policy initiative and was described by many lawmakers as a cornerstone of the new strategic partnership between the two countries. The agreement is widely considered to help India fulfil its mounting energy demands and boost US and India into a strategic partnership (UK, 2013).

To build nuclear reactors in India, In July 2009, the New Delhi has selected the two sites for the U.S. companies but a nuclear liability law passed by the Indian parliament in August 2010 is causing a gap with U.S. nuclear suppliers. On the other hand, the Critics of the law contend India's proposal to seek legal redress against nuclear suppliers is a sharp deviation from the international liability regime which holds nuclear operators solely responsible in case of an accident. India would also like the United States to relax some of its restrictions on technology transfer to India (Bajoria and Pant, 2010).

### 5.1—Terms of the Deal:

*Jayshree Bajoria and Easter Pant in their paper The US- India Nuclear Deal has highlighted the various terms of the deal which are as under:*

- India agrees to allow inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA), the United Nations nuclear watchdog group, and access to its civilian nuclear program. By March 2006, India promised to place fourteen of its twenty-two power reactors under IAEA safeguards permanently. Teresita Schaffer director of the South Asia program at the Centre for Strategic and International Studies says these will include domestically built plants, which India has not been willing to safeguard before now. India has promised that all future civilian thermal and breeder reactors shall be placed under IAEA safeguards permanently. However, the Indian prime minister says New Delhi “retains the sole right to determine such reactors as civilian.” According to him: “This means that India will not be constrained in any way in building future nuclear facilities, whether civilian or military, as per our national requirements.” Military facilities and stockpiles of nuclear fuel that India has produced up to now will be exempt from inspections or safeguards.
- India commits to signing an Additional Protocol (PDF) which allows more intrusive IAEA inspections of its civilian facilities.
- India agrees to continue its moratorium on nuclear weapons testing.
- India commits to strengthening the security of its nuclear arsenals.

- India works toward negotiating a Fissile Material Cut off Treaty (FMCT) with the United States banning the production of fissile material for weapons purposes. India agrees to prevent the spread of enrichment and reprocessing technologies to States that don't possess them and to support international non-proliferation efforts.
- U.S. companies will be allowed to build nuclear reactors in India and provide nuclear fuel for its civilian energy program. An approval by the Nuclear Suppliers Group lifting the ban on India has also cleared the way for other countries to make nuclear fuel and technology sales to India.

### 5.2—Highlights of the Deal

- The agreement not to hinder or interfere with India's nuclear programme for military purposes.
- US will help India negotiate with the IAEA for an India-specific fuel supply agreement.
- Washington will support New Delhi develop strategic reserves of nuclear fuel to guard against future disruption of supply.
- In case of trouble, U.S and India will jointly convene a group of friendly supplier countries to include nations like Russia, France and the UK to pursue such measures to restore fuel supply.
- Both the countries agree to facilitate nuclear trade between themselves in the interest of respective industries and consumers.
- India and the US agree to transfer nuclear material, non-nuclear material, equipment and components.
- The ambit of the deal includes research, development, design, construction, operation, maintenance and use of nuclear reactors, reactor experiments and decommissioning.
- The US will have the right to seek return of nuclear fuel and technology but it will compensate for the costs incurred as a consequence of such removal.
- The US to engage Nuclear Suppliers Group to help India obtain full access to the international fuel market, including reliable, uninterrupted and continual access to fuel supplies from firms in several nations.
- The US will have the right to seek return of nuclear fuel and technology.

- Both the countries to set up a Joint Committee for implementation of the civil nuclear agreement and development of further cooperation in this field.
- Sensitive nuclear technology, nuclear facilities and major critical components can be transferred after amendment to the agreement.
- India will establish a new national facility dedicated to reprocessing safeguarded nuclear material under IAEA safeguards.<sup>8</sup>

### 5.3—Benefits to India

India comes out as the major beneficiary of the deal. It is a significant achievement for India to expand its nuclear program. The Indo-US 'deal would greatly improve the Indian capability of developing more nuclear warheads, as it provides assurance on continuous nuclear fuel supply. Although India has not signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) but India becomes the first country of the world with de- facto nuclear status (Khan, 2013). With the signing of Nuclear deal India will improve its nuclear arsenal both qualitatively and quantitatively.

#### 5.3.1—Economic Benefits to India

In India to build infrastructure and manufacturing base there is an urgent need of capital and the only source to get it is US and Europe. But at this time both U.S and Europe are gratified with sending their capital to China. The former very smartly had avoided exporting manufacturing technology to supply high priced, high technology capital goods to China. This component together with auto-parts, pharmaceuticals and computer hardware could herald India into big associations in ten years and beyond (Paddock, 2009). Commercial Aircraft manufacture, ship building, factories to make giant power plants, steel making plants, mining & drilling hardware, petroleum & petrochemical plant building facilities could be ultimately shared with India (Bandyopadhyay, 2006). The latter within ten years will have a workforce sufficiently skilled to undertake all the foregoing. It will be beneficial to US. Labour costs in India, will always stay a third of US, and European costs. That will make India an ideal candidate for this technology transfer.

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<sup>8</sup>Highlights of Indo-US nuclear deal New Delhi, (August 3, 2007), The Financial Express.Retrieved from <http://www.financialexpress.com/news/highlights-of-indous-nuclear-deal/208405/1>.



### 5.3.2—Political Benefits to India

One of the important benefits of this deal to India is the political benefit because after the 50 years India got an opportunity to say something in the world institutions like UN, WTO and world monetary lending institutions, and to be heard (Bandyopadhyay, 2006). This was not the case previously. Reasons – India had no clout. With western economies in the future, tied more and more with India, the latter's clout will improve. On the matters mutual interest there will be frequent inter-government exchanges. India becomes a full member of the select group of G-8 members. The Indo – US Nuclear deal is in fact dumping the past and unlocking the hidden potential of the future. In addition Pakistan may get the signal and begin a rethink of its policies towards India.

### 5.3.3—Military Benefits to India

In order to modernize its military, India is in need to diversify its sourcing of military hardware. Russia is one of the reliable sources of Indian military modernization. This source has to be diversified. Eventually all military hardware will have to be produced in India. But in India the process of developing military hardware is too long and achievement factor is low. This has to be speeded up. The only method for India, in order to develop its own weapon system is to buy its immediate needs and import the technology. The Indo-U.S nuclear deal plays an important role in India's military modernisation.

## 6—IMPLICATIONS OF INDO- US NUCLEAR DEAL ON INDIA

The agreement is more than just about nuclear energy for India. But the agreement has several strategic implications for India. These are as

Firstly, the agreement is a product of the U.S recognition that India is a major power in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and has a vital role play in the emerging Asian strategic framework. It is widely predicted that the 21<sup>st</sup> century is going to be the Asian century, and the major powers of the century would be the US, China, Russia, Japan, and India. Hence, it is strategically important for the US to have a strengthened and broad relationship with India. Both India and U.S have concerns about the rise of china and specifically its military modernization.

Secondly, the Indo-US nuclear agreement is in India's interest. It marks the end of the nuclear apartheid. India has been subject to in the last three decades. The deal recognizes India as a nuclear power which has been of great concern to the non-proliferation ayatollahs of Washington.

Thirdly, the deal cuts an exception for India from the international nonproliferation regime, India has always refused to sign the NPT because it is an unequal treaty, and yet paradoxically, this deal strengthens the West's notion that it can make exceptions to its own rules. This is dangerous.

Fourthly, China is unhappy with this deal, as it made plain with its foot exhausted at the Nuclear Supplier's Group negotiations. China may quite be ready to do a similar deal with its ally Pakistan, just to not let this piece of US strategic manoeuvring go unanswered.

Fifthly, the impact on the deal and civilian nuclear cooperation will be minimal if the global community agrees to a time frame to rid the world of nuclear weapons, which however, remains highly unlikely. The nuclear deal and the civilian aspects of the nuclear programme will not be hampered by a universal disarmament plan (Rajagopalan, 2008).

Lastly, India has to disclose its all nuclear power plants and also agree to 14 of our nuclear power plants to be under the scanner of international atomic power organisation. If India does nuclear test, this agreement gets cancelled and U.S will take back all the machinery, Equipment's and technology supplied to India (Rajagopalan, 2008).

## 7—INDO –US DEFENCE AND SECURITY COOPERATION

Defence cooperation between India and the U.S. has increased exponentially in the last few years and is testimony to the common interests and growing trust between the two partners. The two main reasons behind the defence and security cooperation between India and US are the lack of political understanding and convergent security perception. Defence and Security cooperation include joint military-to-military exercises involving all the branches of the armed forces, armed forces training, supply of arms and equipment, high-level visits, subject matter expert exchanges, etc. The transforming defence and security cooperation aimed at achieving the Inter- operability. It also aimed at developing capabilities and confidence such as protection of the sea lanes of communication, conduct joint peacekeeping operations, combating terrorism and preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). Defence and security cooperation is developing in response to changing role of India as a regional and major power that has a significant role to play in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The foundation for a stronger defence and security cooperation between these countries is that America observes India as a growing world power with which we share common Regional interests, require a stable and a consistent partner, India can be one of them. One of the turning point in India – U.S. defence and security cooperation is the 9/11 incidents and India's total support to the U.S. in the fight against terrorism. The Lifting of sanctions by United States from India after the Pokhran 2<sup>nd</sup> resulted in the increase of joint military exercise. In last

decade the Indian and U.S. forces have participated in more than sixty joint exercise and military to military training programmes.

The joint military exercises will benefit both sides in the following way:

- Get exposure and access to American military technology.
- It would open the way for access to high end technology military equipment.
- Improve our military capability through professional military exchanges, advancing military skills, war-fighting skills at the tactical and strategic levels.

Defence and equipment supply in another area that has made some improvements. Since 2002, India has regularly supply arm from United States. *Mohammad Samir Hussain in his Article India- US Strategic Partnership and its limitations-Analysis* highlighted the major defence deals signed so far and under consideration are given below.

#### Major Defence Deals Signed So Far

- 2002- For 12 AN/TPQ-37 Fire finder weapon-locating radars worth US\$ 190 million.
- 2005- For 3 VVIP Boeing Business Jets worth 937 corers.
- 2006- For amphibious INS Jalashwa (USS Trenton) and 6UH-3H helicopters US\$ 92.5 million.
- 2007- For 6 Lockheed Martin C-130J 'Super Hercules' aircraft worth US\$ 962 million.
- 2009- For 8 P-8I maritime patrol aircraft modified for AWACS operations worth US\$ 2.1 billion.
- 2010- 24 Harpoon Block-II anti-ship missiles for US\$ 170 million.
- 2010- 99 GE F-414 engines for Tejas Light Combat Aircraft for US\$ 822 million.
- 2010- For 512 CBU-105 Sensor-fuzed weapons worth \$257 million.
- 2011- For 10 C-17 Globe master-III strategic airlift aircraft worth \$4.1 billion. (Hussain, 2011).

#### 8—ARMS TRANSFER

With the increasing military to military relations between India and united states the issue of arms sales to India has taken a higher profile. To strengthen the arms sales between India and U.S, a group of 15 private US arms Dealer travelled India in July in 2004 for talks with Indian officials on potential sales. The government of India possesses an extensive list of desired U.S. made weapons including P-3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft, PAC-3 anti-missile systems, electronic warfare systems and f- 16 fighters(Hussain, 2011). The Bush administration in 2005 welcomed the Indian request for F-16 fighter. India has emphasized a desire that security commerce with the United States not be a “buyer-seller”

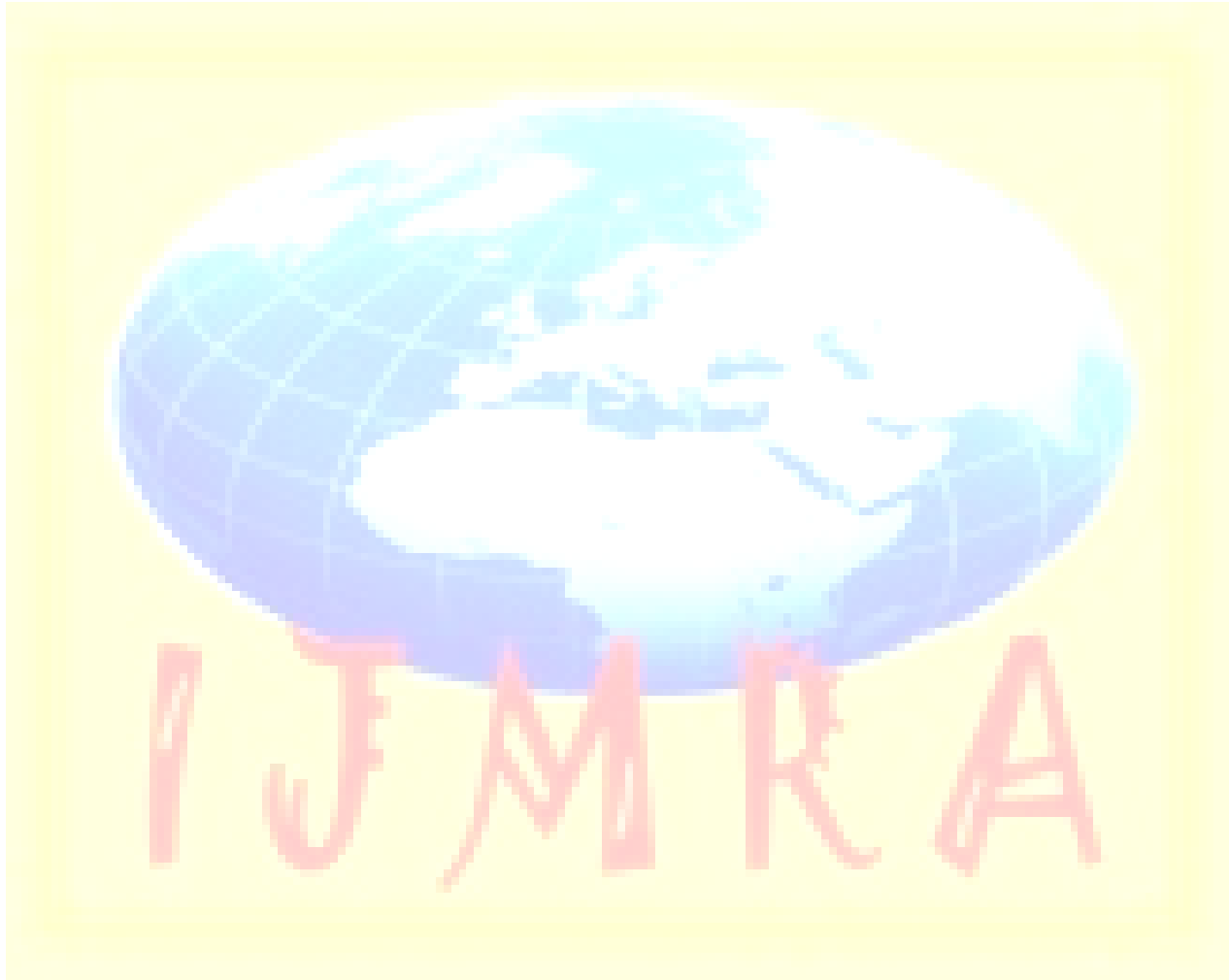
interaction, but instead should become more focused on technology transfers, co-development, and co-production (Hussain, 2011).

## 9—COUNTER-TERRORISM COOPERATION

Cooperation in counter-terrorism has seen significant progress with intelligence sharing, information exchange, operational cooperation and access to advanced counter-terrorism technology and equipment. In order, to expand collaboration on counter-terrorism, information sharing and capacity building a new India-US Counter-Terrorism Cooperation Initiative was signed in 2010. Separately functional level cooperation on counter-terrorism is being followed through a Joint Working Group (JWG) on Counter Terrorism that was established in January 2000 and the Homeland Security Dialogue, which was announced during President Obama's visit to India in November 2010, to further deepen operational cooperation, counter-terrorism technology transfers and capacity building. Janet Napolitano the U.S. Secretary of Homeland Security visited India in May 2011 to hold the first round of this dialogue. In May 2013 the second meeting of this Dialogue was held in Washington D.C. The Dialogue reviewed engagement in each of the Homeland Security Dialogue Sub-Groups, namely: (a) Megacities Policing; (b) Combating Illicit Finance, Bulk Cash Smuggling, and Counterfeiting; (c) Cyber-security and Critical Infrastructure Protection; (d) Port, Border, Maritime, Transportation and Supply Chain Security; (e) Science and Technology Cooperation; and (f) Capacity Building.

## CONCLUSION

India's vital position in South Asia, its strategic position between Western Asia and Southeast Asia and its appearance as an economic power give it an influential place in global politics. The Indo-US nuclear deal has been the logical conclusion of a vision for US-India relations as framed by President Bush and Prime Minister Singh. The US has helped India reach the high-table, but how India makes use of this and shapes the architecture is up to New Delhi. The Indo-US civilian nuclear deal is a remarkable development for India to make it more powerful and stronger to play a vital role in regional politics. The deal fulfilled India's long-standing geo-strategic objectives, the emergence of India as an Asian power to counterbalance China, its nuclear and missile predominance, and its aggressive and evil designs against Pakistan in the region. The deal would legitimize India's nuclear weapon status and ballistic missile capability both qualitatively and quantitatively and enhance its capability of developing more nuclear warheads. It would lead to arms competition between India and Pakistan, thus destabilizing the entire region. US objective of making India global or at least a regional military power to achieve its own perceived interests would also impose upon security interests of other countries, especially Pakistan.



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