

## **India's Asia-Pacific Strategy: A Bridge to the Asian Neighbourhood**

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Since early 1990s, globalisation of the world economies intensified international competition and at the same time gave rise to a new wave of regionalism. India's rapid economic growth and international and regional economic challenges motivated the Indian policy makers to forge a policy that aimed to bring the Asia Pacific region closer. In view of China's unaccounted rise in the arena of world politics, India decided to play a greater strategic role in the Asia-Pacific region through deepening links with countries like Japan, Vietnam and Australia along with the whole of Southeast Asia.

China's overwhelming presence in the Indian Ocean and her assertiveness in maritime diplomacy in East Asia in recent years have reinforced the importance of an enhanced Indian role in the Southeast Asia in particular and Asia-Pacific region in general. It is in this backdrop, the paper aims to focus on New Delhi's Asia-Pacific strategy with special emphasis on the tenure of Narendra Modi.