



Centre for Aerospace Power and Strategic Studies



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Opinions and Trends

55/26

Neighbourhood Insights Series

March 2026

No Winner in Afghanistan-Pakistan War

Mansoor Ahmad Khan | 06 March 2026

“Beyond counter-terrorism, the proposed forum should also help Afghanistan in economic development, regional connectivity and inclusive governance. It goes without saying that there are no winners in a Pakistan-Afghanistan war. A regional peace and economic initiative could be a win-win proposition.”

Read More: <https://www.nation.com.pk/06-Mar-2026/winner-afghanistan-pakistan-war>

Drones as a Force Multiplier in Pakistani Taliban Operations

Bantirani Patro | 11 March 2026

“Pakistan’s patchy record of implementing basic but critical counterextremism policies calls into question the state’s ability to respond decisively to this emerging, advanced-level threat. How Islamabad manages the spread of militant drone capabilities remains to be seen and will go on to shape the broader trajectory of militant adoption of emerging technologies.”

Read More: https://capssindia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/CAPSS_InFocus_BR_11_3_26.pdf

Terrorism from Afghanistan

Dr. Tehmina Aslam Ranjha | 14 March 2026

“With hostility simmering, Pakistan enters into a perpetual war against Afghanistan. Pakistan has expressed its resolve to prolong the war until the backbone of the TTP is broken. It means a long haul. With a huge population to feed, Pakistan’s economy will have to stretch its boundaries further.”

Read More: <https://www.nation.com.pk/14-Mar-2026/terrorism-afghanistan>

War Next Door, Dilemma in Islamabad

Kamran Yousaf | 17 March 2026

“If the war drags on, the chances increase that Pakistan may eventually be forced to pick sides, a dreadful scenario Islamabad desperately wants to avoid. So far, Pakistan has been treading cautiously, walking on a path full of diplomatic landmines where any misstep could prove disastrous.”

Read More: <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2597952/war-next-door-dilemma-in-islamabad>

Pakistan’s Balancing Act in the US–Israel War on Iran

Mohammed Sinan Siyech | 24 March 2026

“The fact that Pakistan has negotiated with Iran to ensure safe passage for fuel shipments through the Strait of Hormuz demonstrates that, despite offering political support to Saudi Arabia, it continues to engage pragmatically with Iran to safeguard its energy security. Another factor working in Pakistan’s favour is the presence of substantial Chinese investments under the CPEC.”

Read More: <https://www.eurasiareview.com/24032026-pakistans-balancing-act-in-the-us-israel-war-on-iran-analysis/>

Pakistan Takes Lead in US–Iran Peace Push

Qamar Bashir | 25 March 2026

“At this decisive moment, Pakistan stands at the intersection of war and peace, navigating one of the most dangerous diplomatic terrains of our time. It has chosen the path of balance, courage, and foresight. And in doing so, it has reminded the world of a profound truth: that the greatest victories are not achieved by those who prolong wars, but by those who have the wisdom and the courage to end them.”

Read More: <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2026/03/25/pakistan-takes-lead-in-us-iran-peace-push>

Iran Crisis and Challenges for Pakistan

Dr Shalini Chawla | 27 March 2026

“Pakistan has been facing strategic complexities and security challenges from all sides of its borders. The likelihood of a Kabul-Islamabad truce is extremely bleak, looking at the Taliban’s reluctance to contain the TTP and the Pakistan military’s continued conviction to opt for kinetic measures against Afghanistan. Continuation of the crisis in Iran will have serious strategic, financial and sectarian repercussions for Pakistan.”

Read More: <https://capssindia.org/iran-crisis-and-challenges-for-pakistan/>

Pakistan’s Economic Fragility Exposed under IMF Reform Demands

Sakib Berjees | 25 March 2026

“Pakistan’s long-term prospects hinge on balancing external discipline with internal reform. The IMF may provide temporary stabilisers, but sustainable growth will come only if Islamabad seizes this moment to broaden its tax base, improve governance, and formalise the economy.”

Read More: <https://www.thefridaytimes.com/25-Mar-2026/pakistan-s-economic-fragility-exposed-imf-reform-demands>

Two Nation Theory

Syed Sheheryar Raza Zaidi | 26 March 2026

“As the Trump regime plays the world’s self-appointed policeman, killing and abducting world leaders and destroying countries, the people of Pakistan face another enemy, one that continues to harass and destroy lives and livelihoods each day. As a nation constantly hopping from one IMF programme to another, it is no surprise that Pakistanis face abject poverty as their worst enemy.”

Read More: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1985454/two-nation-theory>

A Tale of Two Classes

Aima Khan | 11 March 2026

“On one side are the students logging in from secure, high-speed setups; on the other are those for whom “school closure” is not a digital transition but a total halt to progress. Pakistan’s education system now seems to experience more than just the traditional academic calendar. We have entered a cycle of “crisis seasons”, where regional instability and resource scarcity dictate the rhythm of our lives.”

Read More: <https://www.nation.com.pk/11-Mar-2026/tale-two-classes>

Reclaiming a Lost Synthesis

Zabih Ullah Khattak | 13 March 2026

“Bridging this widening gap is not a romantic return to the past; it is a practical necessity if Muslim societies are to reclaim their lost intellectual and moral potential. In Pakistan, a number of institutions have begun reviving elements of this integrated legacy. Darul Uloom Karachi, one of the country’s most influential seminaries, has expanded its academic horizon by engaging contemporary economics, Islamic finance, and modern legal questions.”

Read More: <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2026/03/13/reclaiming-a-lost-synthesis>

State of the Union

Abdul Moiz Jaferii | 13 March 2026

“The direct and indirect price of interference in Pakistan’s democracy has been paid entirely by the people, leaving them poorer, powerless, and disconnected. The same people on whose behalf political and military leaders swore to eat grass in exchange for national strength.”

Read More: <https://www.thefridaytimes.com/19-Feb-2026/jinnah-s-pakistan-long-shadow-power-poverty-misgovernance>

Morality and Engaging Generation Z

Rizwan Ahmad | 14 March 2026

“In recent months, the governance style in Punjab under Maryam Nawaz has drawn attention not merely for policy initiatives, but for the emphasis placed on reshaping the character of public administration itself. Her approach suggests that reform is not only about changing systems; it is equally about changing attitudes.”

Read More: <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2026/03/14/morality-and-engaging-generation-z>

Energy Crisis

Maaz Khan | 16 March 2026

“Pakistan should declare an energy emergency and implement fair and transparent energy rationing. We need to establish strategic petroleum reserves quickly, as this crisis has shown that Pakistan cannot even survive a two-week supply interruption. Additionally, more investment should be redirected towards renewable energy and domestic gas development.”

Read More: <https://www.nation.com.pk/16-Mar-2026/energy-crisis>

Speaking Matters

Arifa Noor | 17 March 2026

“Leaving aside how convincing the speech was, the entire episode once again underlined the struggle of the PML-N to communicate with the people. This has less to do with the PM’s speaking ability and more with the party’s approach to communication. It’s a party which has always found it difficult to communicate directly with the people, unlike the PPP and PTI that as populist parties have thrived on charismatic speakers.”

Read More: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1982921/speaking-matters>

Disaster Readiness

Farhan Anwar | 23 March 2026

“In disaster planning and response, local municipal agencies play a pivotal role in close coordination with centralised emergency management authorities. For Karachi, city-level municipal bodies are neither mandated nor empowered with human and technical resources and finance to play such a role.”

Read More: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1984513/disaster-readiness>

A Generation on the Frontlines of Climate Disaster

Fiza Farhan | 23 March 2026

“Despite contributing less than 1% of GHG emissions, Pakistan bears a disproportionate burden of climate impacts, particularly on its children. Yet, only 2.4% of international climate finance is directed toward child-focused initiatives. This gap highlights a critical need for global action that prioritises children's resilience and protection.”

Read More: <https://tribune.com.pk/story/2598745/a-generation-on-the-frontlines-of-climate-disaster>

Afghan Soil and the Global Challenge of Terrorism

Tariq Khan Tareen | 12 March 2026

“Ultimately, the phenomenon of terrorism emerging from Afghan territory cannot be reduced to a bilateral dispute between two neighbouring states. It is, in essence, a regional and global security concern. The networks operating within this space have demonstrated their capacity to transcend borders, ideologies, and political systems, thereby transforming localized conflicts into broader geopolitical challenges.”

Read More: <https://www.pakistantoday.com.pk/2026/03/12/afghan-soil-and-the-global-challenge-of-terrorism>

The World's Silence in the Face of Pakistan's Strikes on the Taliban

Khawaja Naseer Ahmad | 23 March 2026

"Pakistan's attacks on the Taliban cannot be viewed merely as a border conflict. This event signals a shift in the balance of power in the region. The Taliban, who considered themselves the dominant actor in Afghanistan, now face a reality showing that in today's world order, silence can be the loudest message, a message whose disregard will carry a heavy price."

Read More: <https://8am.media/eng/the-worlds-silence-in-the-face-of-pakistans-strikes-on-the-taliban/>

Pakistan's Attacks and the World's Silence Over Afghanistan

Natiq Malikzada | 26 March 2026

"The illegitimacy of the Taliban does not mean the fundamental rights of the Afghan people have been suspended. If the world today accepts the logic that because Taliban rule is illegitimate, Afghanistan may be attacked, its civilians killed, and everything justified through security arguments, tomorrow that logic will become a dangerous habit at a broader international level."

Read More: <https://thediplomat.com/2026/03/pakistans-attacks-and-the-worlds-silence-over-afghanistan/>

India-Seychelles at 50: Evolving Dimensions

Radhey Tambi | 02 March 2026

"As India and Seychelles dive deeper into the waters of the Indian Ocean, drawing institutional linkages in multiple formats is the right way forward to take the partnership to greater heights. It will not only add another layer to the existing cooperation by strengthening it, but also create a sweet spot for each side to uphold and back the cooperation despite all the ups and downs."

Read More: https://capssindia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/CAPSS_InFocus_RT_02_03_26.pdf

From Nyoma to Moran: Building Runways and Resolve

Air Vice Marshal Anil Golani and Gp Capt VP Naik | 10 March 2026

"India has the advantage of launching air operations from in-depth bases with no major weight and payload constraints and that must be capitalised on. Development of forward airfields and creation of additional Greenfield Airports in EL, Central Sector and the North-East will go a long way in enhancing India's combat effectiveness."

Read More: <https://orcasia.org/article/1625/from-nyoma-to-moran>

Air Power Musings One Nation, One Theatre, and One Plan

Gp Capt VP Naik | 12 March 2026

“Given the possibility of simultaneous pressure from both China and Pakistan, multiple theatres will only fragment war-fighting capability. A One Nation-One Theatre architecture, supported by streamlined regional commands and an integrated network for MDO, would enable India to reduce the teeth-to-tail ratio, preserve national character and strengthen national response in arising contingencies.”

Read More: https://capssindia.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/CAPSS_EV_VPN_12_3-26.pdf

Precision, Power, and Preparedness: Vayushakti 2026

Ms Radhey Tambi, Mr Prahlad Kumar Singh, Ms Priyadarshini Baruah, Dr Javed Alam, and

Ms Saima Azim | 27 March 2026

“Operation Sindoor highlighted India’s resolve in air power to thwart its adversaries, but Vayushakti-26 demonstrated the IAF’s capabilities and future roadmap. Vayushakti 2026 was far more than a display of firepower—it was a captivating display of the IAF’s transformation into a modern force projecting aerospace power in all domains.”

Read More: <https://capssindia.org/precision-power-and-preparedness-vayushakti-2026/>

Is there any Message for Bangladesh in Nepal’s Election?

Altaf Parvez | 25 March 2026

“As the electoral systems in Nepal and Sri Lanka were already reformed to some extent, they are now focusing on economic and administrative reforms. For Bangladesh, the expectations of the uprising have been confined to the controversies of consensus commissions.”

Read More: <https://en.prothomalo.com/opinion/op-ed/0mxq21yrb1>

The Reform Agenda for a New Bangladesh

A Gafur | 05 March 2026

“The election is over. The excuses must end. The post-2026 election period will be remembered either as the moment Bangladesh finally chose reform, or as another chapter of deferred responsibility. History will not judge intentions; it will judge outcomes. This is the time for courage over convenience, institutions over impulses, and reform over repetition.”

Read More: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/opinion/op-ed/404729/the-reform-agenda-for-a-new-bangladesh>

A War in the Gulf, an Empty Wallet in a Bangladesh Village

Tasnuva Sinha | 10 March 2026

“Bangladesh cannot stop this war. But it is long past time to stop describing mobile wallet registration as financial inclusion and start asking what happens when the wallet is empty. Savings products designed for remittance-receiving households, credit histories built through MFS transaction data, insurance tied to migration and income disruption, female agents in high-migration districts, these are not aspirational.”

Read More: <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/views/news/war-the-gulf-empty-wallet-bangladeshi-village-4125356>

Bangladesh's Path from Upheaval to Ballot Box

Pranab Kumar Panday | 16 March 2026

“The BNP’s 2026 triumph indicates that resistance and protest in Bangladesh will not be suppressed. But the party now faces the dual challenge of rebuilding a shattered economy and placating a youth population high on politics. The BNP has triumphed in the ballot by positioning itself as the pragmatic centre.”

Read More: <https://eastasiaforum.org/2026/03/16/bangladeshs-path-from-upheaval-to-ballot-box/>

Why Bangladesh Needs a Balanced Energy Security Strategy

Fahmida Khatun | 17 March 2026

“The ongoing conflict in the Middle East has once again exposed the weaknesses in Bangladesh’s energy security. An energy infrastructure that relies heavily on imports, coupled with limited forex reserves and tight fiscal capacity, makes the economy vulnerable to global energy market fluctuations.”

Read More: <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/news/why-bangladesh-needs-balanced-energy-security-strategy-4130351>

Bangladesh's Trade Future in an Age of Fragmentation

Mazher Mir | 19 March 2026

“Bangladesh is entering a far more complicated global economy than the one that powered its export miracle over the past three decades. The world that rewarded low-cost manufacturing, predictable supply chains, and ever-expanding trade openness is giving way to something colder, more strategic, and more fragmented.”

Read More: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/opinion/op-ed/405804/bangladesh%E2%80%99s-trade-future-in-an-age-of>

Bangladesh: At a Political Cusp?

Sanchita Bhattacharya | 24 March 2026

“The Yunus regime was marked by violence, arbitrariness, unrestrained mob actions, selective repression and institutional paralysis, which undermined the Interim Government’s legitimacy. The failure to forge comprehensive political consensus and the upsurge of factional violence created a void that the BNP, under Tarique Rahman has filled.”

Read More: <https://www.eurasiareview.com/24032026-bangladesh-at-a-political-cusp-analysis/>

Amid Climate Change and Policy Gaps: Socio-Economic Impacts of Demographic Transition

Riza Yehiya | 04 March 2026

“Sri Lanka urgently requires a coherent policy framework to protect its ageing population in the era of climate change. Such a framework must be anchored in a clear national vision: a climate-resilient, age-inclusive Sri Lanka, where older persons are able to live with dignity, security, and meaningful participation in society, while being effectively shielded from climate-related risks through coordinated policy action and strong community systems.”

Read More: <https://www.themorning.lk/articles/vA9txNDcDjXOpq7V4nrA>

A Govt. Drifting as Crisis Tightens Grip

Sugeeswara Senadhira | 20 March 2026

“Instead of being merely a bystander to great power rivalry, Sri Lanka could revive its historic diplomatic tradition and help mobilise a coalition of neutral nations to push for peace. Sri Lanka could propose what might be called a Colombo peace initiative, a diplomatic effort bringing together neutral and middle-power nations that have no direct military stake in the conflict.”

Read More: <https://www.themorning.lk/articles/7f4VNeCDH0cacGyKEEF8>

How is Sri Lanka Responding to the Israel–Iran Conflict: Day 23

Moiz Mustafa | 22 March 2026

“While authorities insist that the country is better prepared than during the 2022 crisis, the situation remains fluid. For now, Sri Lanka’s approach remains clear: maintain neutrality internationally, manage resources domestically, and navigate the crisis through a combination of policy intervention, international cooperation, and public adaptation.”

Read More: <https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/How-is-Sri-Lanka-responding-to-the-IsraelIran-conflict-Day-23/108-334192>

Can The Middle East Crisis Resurrect Sri Lanka's 'Ghost Airport'?

Tang Lu | 24 March 2026

"The management of MRIA has long been a geopolitical chessboard for major powers with vested interests in the Indian Ocean. For years, the facility was caught in a cycle of "defensive positioning" and silent diplomatic friction, where agreements were signed and then discarded as the airport became a landscape of shifting international allegiances."

Read More: <https://www.eurasiareview.com/24032026-can-the-middle-east-crisis-resurrect-sri-lankas-ghost-airport-oped/>

A Nation at the Water's Edge

Rashi Singh | 02 March 2026

"For the Maldives, the question is not simply whether its beaches will survive, but whether the nation can maintain its sovereignty, economic stability, and cultural identity in a world shaped by climate change and global power dynamics. Preserving paradise was never a matter of aesthetics—this battle is a test of governance, international cooperation, and resilience in the face of accelerating global change."

Read More: <https://www.irreview.org/articles/2026/3/2/a-nation-at-the-waters-edgeb>

Nepal's General Election will Test the Political Power of Gen Z

Dr Nayana Prakash | 03 March 2026

"If Oli's Communist Party of Nepal and other establishment parties such as the Nepali Congress perform well, many of the hoped-for gains of the Gen Z protests could be under threat. Given the vast array of candidates and Nepal's mixed electoral system, which has historically often produced coalition governments, the Gen Z protest vote may also splinter."

Read More: <https://www.chathamhouse.org/2026/03/nepals-general-election-will-test-political-power-gen-z>

Post-Democracy Movements in Nepal: Their Aspirations and Achievements

Jiba Raj Pokharel | 04 March 2026

"There has been a big gap between people's aspirations and achievements so far. A new national poll is being held following the Gen Z movement in the country. People should use their judgement and vote for the political party that can address the twin aspirations of the Gen Z movement, which are an end to corruption and bad governance."

Read More: <https://thehimalayantimes.com/opinion/post-democracy-movements-in-nepal-their-aspirations-and-achievements>

Revival of Nepal Monarchy Rising Amid Election Waves

Nava Thakuria | 10 March 2026

“Only a system and structure suited to Nepal's geography and the nature of its society can yield sustainable and positive results, asserted Shah. Paying tribute to Tribhuvan Nripati and all the martyrs for their sacrifice in harnessing democracy in the Himalayan republic, Shah finally called for a system that can safeguard the Nepali identity on the global stage.”

Read More: <https://reviewnepal.com/articles/revival-of-nepal-monarchy-rising-amid-election-waves.html>

Nepal's Electoral Transformation

Martin Duffy | 17 March 2026

“The impact of youth politics in Nepal can be measured as a process, not as a single event. Gen Z protesters have proved that an establishment government could be removed by popular protest. They have already successfully forced an election, defined by their messages and media, which produced a seismic result. There is no one politician who can fix all of Nepal's problems, nor please Gen Z voters, but the process of change will continue.”

Read More: <https://www.e-ir.info/2026/03/17/opinion-nepals-electoral-transformation/>

Travails of Balanced Foreign Policy

Prasanta Kumar BK | 23 March 2026

“We are now at a pivotal moment to observe how the incoming RSP government will reassess policies and redefine relationships while steering the country in an increasingly competitive global landscape. Nepal must adopt balanced diplomacy and pursue its own national interests suitable for Nepali soil.”

Read More: <https://kathmandupost.com/columns/2026/03/23/travails-of-balanced-foreign-policy>

Nepal's LPG Crisis: Rethinking Nepal's Energy Future

Ayush Raj Gyawali | 24 March 2026

“Nepal does not face an energy shortage; it faces a strategic gap in planning and policy. Rather than sustaining losses by selling LPG below international prices, the government could reduce electricity tariffs, cut taxes on electric appliances and provide local subsidies for electric cooking and biogas technologies.”

Read More: <https://myrepublica.nagariknetwork.com/news/nepals-lpg-crisis-rethinking-nepals-energy-future-76-56.html>

Islamic State Khorasan Province and the Strategic Risks for Central Asia

Aidar Borangaziyev | 04 March 2026

“This does not mean that Central Asia is on the verge of destabilization. In the recent years, the region has demonstrated an ability to coordinate policies and pursue pragmatic approaches. However, the evolving nature of security threats requires constant adaptation, particularly as networked extremist structures move beyond traditional security models.”

Read More: <https://timesca.com/opinion-islamic-state-khorasan-province-and-the-strategic-risks-for-central-asia/>

Why Central Asia, Not Washington, Must Drive Critical Minerals Cooperation

Rassul Kospanov and Vlad Paddack | 04 March 2026

“For Central Asia, the alternative is path dependency and gradual absorption into China’s supply and production chains, eroding the region’s political autonomy. Central Asia is currently enjoying a rare moment when its multi-vector foreign policy is paying off, and major powers are competing for the region’s resources.”

Read More: <https://astanatimes.com/2026/03/why-central-asia-not-washington-must-drive-critical-minerals-cooperation/>

No Way Out? Central Asia Faces Risks of Pak-Afghan War

Zeynep Gizem Özpınar | 15 March 2026

“If Afghanistan fails to become a secure and stable transit area, the Central Asian states’ goals of integrating into the global trade system more quickly and cost-effectively may be seriously delayed. The Afghanistan-Pakistan tension can be seen as a strategic breaking point that could affect Central Asia.”

Read More: <https://www.dailysabah.com/opinion/op-ed/no-way-out-central-asia-faces-risks-of-pak-afghan-war>

From Tehran to Europe: Terrorism Risks After the Killing of Iran’s Ayatollah

Graig R. Klein | 09 March 2026

“While Iran’s retaliation, so far, includes several of the anticipated threats, it is likely to take longer and perhaps requires a prolonged military intervention and political instability to trigger these lurking threats.”

Read More: <https://icct.nl/publication/tehran-europe-terrorism-risks-after-killing-irans-ayatollah>

What Larijani's Killing Means for Iran's Power Structure

Shahram Kholdi | 17 March 2026

"Larijani's killing tests not only the state's durability but its capacity to function as a coherent force under sustained pressure. The war may not bring immediate collapse. But without figures such as Soleimani and Larijani, adaptation may hasten, rather than forestall, its demise."

Read More: <https://www.iranintl.com/en/202603177961>

Iran Derails Neighbors' De Escalation Efforts

Dr. Sinem Cengiz | 20 March 2026

"The Riyadh meeting reflected that there is a strong and clear appetite among regional actors to de-escalate the war. However, Iran — through its attacks — undermined this. If it continues to do so, it risks making a grave mistake that erodes its regional support base."

Read More: <https://www.arabnews.com/node/2637081>

Should the Gulf Arab States Join the War Against Iran?

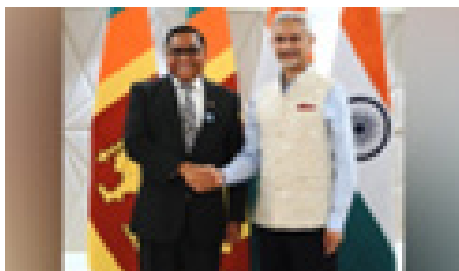
Bilal Y. Saab | 23 March 2026

"The greatest security risk in joining the war is that it would mean choosing to fight alongside Israel. Even before the war in Gaza, any such move would have been politically perilous for a Gulf leader. Choosing to join this fight, alongside Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, could fatally undermine leaders' credibility with swathes of their populations."

Read More: <https://www.chathamhouse.org/2026/03/should-gulf-arab-states-join-war-against-iran>

REGION IN PICTURES

External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar met H.E. Mr. Vijitha Herath, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Employment and Tourism of Sri Lanka on the sidelines of Raisina Dialogue 2026 in New Delhi on 6 March 2026.



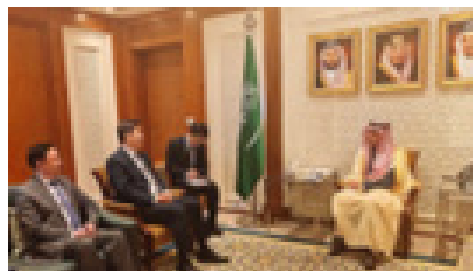
Pic Credits: Ministry of External Affairs of India

Chinese President Xi Jinping held talks with Gurbanguly Berdymuhamedov, Turkmenistan's former president and leader of its People's Council, during the latter's official visit to China. The meeting took place on 18 March 2026 at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing.



Pic Credits: The Times of Central Asia

Zhai Jun, special envoy of the Chinese government on the Middle East issue, meets with Saudi Foreign Minister Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud in Saudi Arabia, 8 March 2026.



Pic Credits: CGTN

IMF Director for the Asia and Pacific Department Krishna Srinivasan paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister Tarique Rahman at the Bangladesh Secretariat in Dhaka on 24 March 2026.



Pic Credits: The Daily Star



**Centre for Aerospace Power
and Strategic Studies**

The Centre for Aerospace Power and Strategic Studies (CAPSS) is an independent, non-profit think tank that undertakes and promotes policy related research, study and discussion on defence and military issues, trends, and development in air power and space for civil and military purposes, as also related issues of national security. The Centre is headed by Air Vice Marshal Anil Golani (Retd).

Centre for Aerospace Power and Strategic Studies
P-284, Arjan Path, Subroto Park, New Delhi 110010
Tel: +91 11 25699130/32, Fax: +91 11 25682533

NOTE: **Regional Opinion and Trends** aims to capture prevailing opinions in South Asia and West Asia.

Editor: Dr Shalini Chawla e-mail: shaluchawla@yahoo.com

Compilation and Designing: Ms Priyadarshini Baruah and Mr Rohit Singh

The views expressed in this brief are those of the author and not necessarily of the Centre or any other organisation.