

Information on dissertation submitted for the PhD degree of National research
Tomsk State University

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Title of the dissertation: The Significance of India in the US Pivot to Asia (2011-2017)

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Abstract of the dissertation

The US-India relations experienced vicissitudes until the collapse of the USSR although the relations gained momentum after India liberalized its economy in 1991. The US-India relations have been moving in the upward trajectory particularly after signing of the nuclear deal between the two countries. China's assertiveness on the global stage has led to the development of the US-India strategic partnership.

However, there is a plausible reason for the US to cooperate with China since the US has high stakes in China's economic rise. On the other hand, India and China cooperate on regional and global issues although they have incompatible positions in South Asia. Hillary Clinton in an article titled 'America's Pacific Century' in 2011 drew attention to the US-India relationship being labelled as one of the defining partnerships of the 21st century nonetheless she also remained privy to the obstacles in the relationship.

The US pivot to Asia has provided a remarkable opportunity for US-India civil and defence cooperation since the US regards India's rise as more responsible than China's. However, India is not ready to become a military ally of the US for its reluctance to raise tensions with China. Moreover, some Indian strategic thinkers are anxious about the loss of strategic autonomy in India's foreign policy if it closely aligns with the US. Therefore, the significance of India in the US pivot to Asia remains a subject of discussion hence the research in question.

The dissertation analyses the significance of India for the US in the Afghanistan-Pakistan (Af-Pak) region and the Asia-Pacific besides overviewing the US-India relations until the declaration of the US pivot to Asia.

The data collection is systematic in nature and literary sources such as online newspapers, journals, magazine, websites, YouTube videos and eBooks have been reviewed for finding answers to the research problematic. The findings of the research provide a comprehensive account of India's developmental and security initiatives in the Af-Pak region and the Asia Pacific. Overall, the research in focus provides India's answer to the US pivot to Asia with scope for further research on the same topic in a decade or so.