

## **Rise of Modi and Its Impact on the South Asian Balance of Power**

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By virtue of its geographical, economic and political factors, India appears to assume a natural leadership role in the South Asian region. Therefore, the foreign policy of India which is significantly volatile and highly dependent on its leader, plays a key role in determining the nature of South Asian political pattern. The objective of this study is to identify the potential impact of Narendra Modi's rise on the South Asian balance of power. Five elements of incipient Modi doctrine was employed in order to understand the nature of Modi doctrine and to evaluate its impact on the South Asian balance of power. The analysis was qualitative in nature and was based on secondary data. Based on the analysis, it was revealed that India will succeed in claiming its rightful place in Asia as a true leader while creating an environment which facilitates goal congruence. Furthermore, if India succeeds in making its neighbours dependent on India and thereby create soft power through the 5 Ts, it might enjoy a hegemonic position in the region. Modi's innovative approach in countering terrorism will have a favourable impact on the creation of regional peace and stability. Hence, the threats emanating from non-state actors which affect the balance of power in the South Asian region will lose its power and influence in the region.

**Key words:** Balance of power, Foreign policy of India, Modi doctrine hegemony

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