



Director's Pick

Issue XXIII



Vivekananda International Foundation

General N C Vij, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM

Director, VIF



Dear Readers,

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Of the events dominating the past fortnight, the discourse on the implementation of the path-breaking tax regime of the Goods & Services Tax (GST) is a salient one. No doubt, this tax regime will change the nation's economic administration into an efficient source of revenue, foster foolproof taxation, and boost infrastructural assets.

There, however, remains ensconced in the mind of small traders and laymen public, a sense of apprehensions of losing out on their individual profits and common facilities. More seriously, that concern is shared even by big entrepreneurs, and that, combined with hazy notions, makes the situation out of sync with such a progressive step. Public perception, right or wrong, matters after all. We, in the Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF), have done our bit in dispelling the fog through our website - www.vifindia.org - publications, two of which – one explaining the concept and the other the nuances – are listed under.

The other issue which has raised serious concern regarding India's external security and the benign neighbourhood policy is China's force-entry into Bhutan's Doklam Plateau to alter the status quo, much contrary to the mutually agreed principle of confidence building measures. As if China's blatantly aggressive conduct against the small nation was not enough, it has gone ahead to 'warn' India of military action for the latter's fulfillment of its promise to come to Bhutan's aid. Indeed, the Chinese road map to the so called 'Chinese 'Dream' seems to be paved with torment of its neighbourhood. That such road maps invariably land the perpetrator into disaster, has been articulated in another paper listed below.



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There are other interesting articles, one of which offers insight into US-China Security Dialogue and the other into the Anti-Daesh coalition military operations in the Philippines. Both events have notable repercussions on our part of the world.

On the home front, our concerns for the preservation of internal security and stability was expressed through organisation of a high level conference under the title of 'Homeland Security Conference 2017 – Modernisation of India's Internal Security Mechanism'. A report on this landmark event is listed for the readers to take note. We also have appended a piece on 'Twenty-Five Years of India-Israel Relations', which, given the Modi Government's thrust on strengthening of Indo-Israel relations, would be of interest to the readers.

Of course, there are many more uploads on our website which I recommend our readership to go through. I am sure that these articles would bring more light to the common understandings among the intellectual community.

Yours Sincerely,



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Contents

Articles:

China: Growing Out of Malfeasant Image to be a Global Power

- *Lt Gen Gautam Banerjee, Distinguished Fellow & Editor, VIF*

Appreciating the Saliency of the GST

- *Rajesh Singh*

China-US Diplomatic and Security Dialogue

- *Dr Teshu Singh, Senior Research Associate, VIF*

Joint Military Operations against Daesh in Southern Philippines

- *Maj Gen (Retd.) P K Chakravorty*

GST: A New Era in Indian Taxation

- *Akash Solanki*

Reports:

Homeland Security Conference 2017 – Modernisation of India's Internal Security Mechanism

Twenty-Five Years of India-Israel Relations: Achievements and Prospects



About VIF

Vivekananda International Foundation is a non-partisan institute for dialogue and conflict resolution from a nationalist perspective. Some of India's leading experts in the fields of security, military, diplomacy, governance, etc have got together under the institute's aegis to generate ideas and stimulate action for greater national security and prosperity, independently funded.

VIF is not aligned to any political party or business house.

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