



INDIA

Background

In 1947, Jawaharlal Nehru became the first prime minister of India following its independence from the British Empire. Nehru's legacy influenced Indian politics for several decades; his Indian National Congress party dominated the government until the late 1990s, and both his daughter and grandson served as prime minister of India. In 1966, two years after Nehru's death, his daughter, Indira Gandhi, became

prime minister. Gandhi held that post until 1977, when she was defeated in national elections following a government-declared state of emergency in response to economic stagnation and the population's growing dissatisfaction with the government. A series of unstable and interim governments succeeded Gandhi and in 1980, she was once again appointed prime minister. Gandhi held the post until she was assassinated in 1984 by her Sikh bodyguards. Indira Gandhi was succeeded by her son, Rajiv Gandhi, who headed the most stable Parliament in several years and succeeded in passing much needed economic reforms as leader of his grandfather's Congress party. However, corruption scandals within Rajiv Gandhi's party led to early elections and galvanized opposition groups. Despite winning a majority of seats in the 1989 elections, the Congress party could not form a clear majority coalition and subsequent coalitions dissolved, necessitating new elections in 1991.

While campaigning in 1991, Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by Sri Lankan Tamil extremists. The Congress party won a majority in the elections and Gandhi was succeeded as prime minister by P.V. Narasimha Rao, whose government served its full five-year term. More corruption allegations within the Congress party resulted in electoral failure for the party in 1996 and the rise to power of the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which had only periodically controlled Parliament over the past 30 years. Lacking a full parliamentary majority, another series of coalitions emerged, none of them lasting for more than a year, and new elections were called in 1998. Again, the BJP won a plurality of seats—but not a majority—and coalition efforts failed, leading to elections yet again in 1999. A new coalition, the National Democratic Alliance, headed by the BJP won a majority, and served a full five-year term under the leadership of Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Manmohan Singh became prime minister following the Congress Party's victory in the next series of national elections held in April and May 2004.

Country Profile: India	
Total Armed Forces	1,325,000 active; 1,155,000 reserve
Military Expenditure (in millions of U.S. \$)	\$19,400 (2004)
Military Expenditure (as percentage of GDP)	3.02% (2004)
Human Rights Record 2005	Human rights generally respected but numerous serious problems remained

Under Prime Minister Singh, India has seen a rapprochement with the United States, which culminated in 2005 with the implementation of the U.S.-Indian strategic framework that encompasses several areas of cooperation, including a controversial plan to assist India with its civilian nuclear energy program. As a result of two nuclear weapons tests conducted in 1998 (India's first test was in 1974) outside of the rules and regulations of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), the Clinton administration imposed economic and military sanctions on the country. Members of the U.S. Congress have objected to the Bush administration's nuclear cooperation proposal as India still remains outside of the NPT. No similar deal has been offered to India's neighbor, Pakistan, which also tested nuclear weapons outside of NPT regulations.

According to the U.S. State Department's 2005 Human Rights Report, although the Indian government respects the rights of its citizens in many cases, serious problems remain. Extrajudicial killings by security forces, including faked encounter killings and deaths in custody, are a pervasive problem, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir as well as in several northeastern states. Corruption permeates both the government and the police force and citizens often have to bribe the police to receive their protection and services. Police frequently use excessive force indiscriminately against demonstrators, leading to deaths. Police have been known to beat journalists, demonstrators and Muslims, and commit abuses against indigenous tribal persons. Although illegal, torture, disappearance, and arbitrary arrest and detention occur as well. The State Department report lists Indian prison conditions as "life-threatening," and custodial rape occurs with frequency. Members of the police and security forces are allowed to commit these "numerous, serious human rights abuses," as the laws barring their actions are laxly enforced and, when investigations are conducted, convictions are rare. Further, special counterterrorism legislation, such as the Armed Forces Special Powers Act of 1958, still in effect in certain parts of the country including Jammu and Kashmir, permits security forces to shoot any person seen breaking the law, or to destroy any building suspected of harboring insurgents or weapons.

Elections in India are generally considered free and fair, and the judiciary generally operates as an independent and unbiased branch of government, except in Indian-administered Jammu and Kashmir where insurgents and militants undertake targeted election violence and threaten members of the judiciary. Women, persons of low caste status, indigenous tribal persons, and religious, racial and ethnic minorities are discriminated against and police intervention on their behalf rarely occurs. The government generally protects freedom of the press, the right to privacy, freedom of assembly, religious freedom, and freedom of movement; however, Indian authorities sometimes fail to ensure these rights, particularly in the Indian-administered regions of Jammu and Kashmir.

The State Department reported in its FY 07 congressional budget justification for Foreign Operations that, "India has been the victim of more terrorist attacks, both domestic and international, on its territory than any other country." A variety of militant groups are active and carrying out attacks throughout India. The People's War Group, a Maoist Naxalite group, has carried out various terrorist attacks within the country, killing 123 civilians in 2005. In India's northeastern states, separatist insurgents are active and carrying out attacks against civilians and government officials alike. Additionally, India has suffered from widespread communal violence, often rooted in religious, ethnic and caste differences, and exacerbated by the country's complicated and hierarchical social and ethnic divisions. Violence has targeted groups that traditionally face discrimination in India, including Christians, Muslims, Dalits (the so-called "untouchables"), and indigenous tribal persons. Such attacks frequently occur without punishment and the Indian government has even used the rhetoric of the "war on terrorism" to justify repression of religious minorities and political opponents.

In the three decades following independence, India has fought three full-scale wars with Pakistan—from 1947-49, in 1965, and in 1971—the first two of which were fought over the disputed state of Kashmir. India currently lays claim to the region of Jammu and Kashmir, home to 9 million Kashmiris, while Pakistan controls a smaller portion of the state, known as Azad Jammu and Kashmir, home to 3 million Kashmiris. The long-standing confrontation over the disputed region dates from 1947, when Pakistan and India gained independence from Britain. Kashmir wanted to remain independent, but Pakistan argued that the territory—which is more than 60 percent Muslim—was religiously and culturally Pakistani. Pakistani tribesmen invaded Kashmir in 1947 to stake their claim to the territory, but the Maharajah of Kashmir turned to India for help in executing a referendum on independence for Kashmir. The referendum never occurred and, instead, Indian troops moved into Kashmir and the ensuing conflict between Indian and Pakistani forces created the current international boundary between the two regions of Kashmir. Pakistan crossed this boundary in 1965, in an attempt to reclaim the territory, igniting the second Indo-Pakistani war.

In the late 1980s, Muslim separatist groups began a violent insurgency against Indian rule of Jammu and Kashmir. India has accused Pakistan of providing support for these groups, which has made relations between the two countries even more tense. Tensions in Kashmir elevated to a crisis state in 1999 when Pakistan-backed forces intruded into Indian-held territory near Kargil, nearly causing the outbreak of another full-scale war. Indian-Pakistani tensions also heightened following an attack on the Indian Parliament in December 2001, after which India accused Pakistan of failing to rein in the activities of terrorist groups operating within Pakistan and Pakistani-administered Kashmir.

In 2004, Singh and Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf began peace negotiations in order to resolve the issue of Jammu and Kashmir (among other contentious issues) and, in May 2005, both sides declared the peace process “irreversible.” The bombing attack on the Mumbai subway in July 2006, which India alleged was carried out by militant groups operating within Pakistan and possibly involved the assistance of Pakistani intelligence, derailed the negotiations for a number of months. However, Singh and Musharraf met again in September 2006 in Cuba, where they renewed their commitment to pursuing options for Kashmir. Musharraf has stated that he will relinquish his claim to Indian-administered Kashmir if India supports his proposals for limited self-government for Kashmir and a phased troop withdrawal, with the boundaries remaining as they stand now. India wants Pakistan to bring pressure onto the militant groups operating in Pakistani-administered Kashmir and conducting attacks in India and Indian-administered Kashmir. However, no deal has been finalized, militants continue to operate freely in the region, and security forces from both sides continue to operate with impunity, denoting that the issue, although closer to resolution than before, is still far from resolved.

U.S. Military Assistance Prior to Sept. 11, 2001

Between 1990 and 2001, India participated in the UN Register of Conventional Arms, but did not report any major conventional arms imports from the United States. Indian relations with the United States during the Cold War were negatively influenced by India’s cordial relationship with the Soviet Union. India’s implicit support for the Soviet Union’s 1979 invasion of Afghanistan and denouncement of U.S. arms sales and military assistance to Pakistan also adversely affected India-U.S. relations during the 1980s. In 1998, the United States imposed sanctions on economic and military assistance to India following the country’s nuclear tests; these sanctions were required by the 1994 Glenn Amendment that bans U.S. foreign assistance to countries outside of the NPT that detonate nuclear explosive devices. Similar sanctions were imposed on Pakistan, under the Pressler and Symington amendments, for its 1998 nuclear weapons tests. In fiscal year (FY) 2000, however,

Congress gave the administration the ability to waive the application of the Glenn, Symington and Pressler amendments to Pakistan (and India) indefinitely.

India received International Military Education and Training (IMET) funding each year between FY 90 and FY 01, for a 12-year total of \$3.7 million. Between FY 90 and FY 94, almost \$200 million in Direct Commercial Sales (DCS) was concluded and \$5.2 million in Foreign Military Sales (FMS) were transacted prior the application of Glenn amendment sanctions in FY 98. Prior to FY 01, India received no Foreign Military Financing (FMF) and received no weapons through the Excess Defense Articles (EDA) program.

U.S. Military Assistance Since Sept. 11, 2001

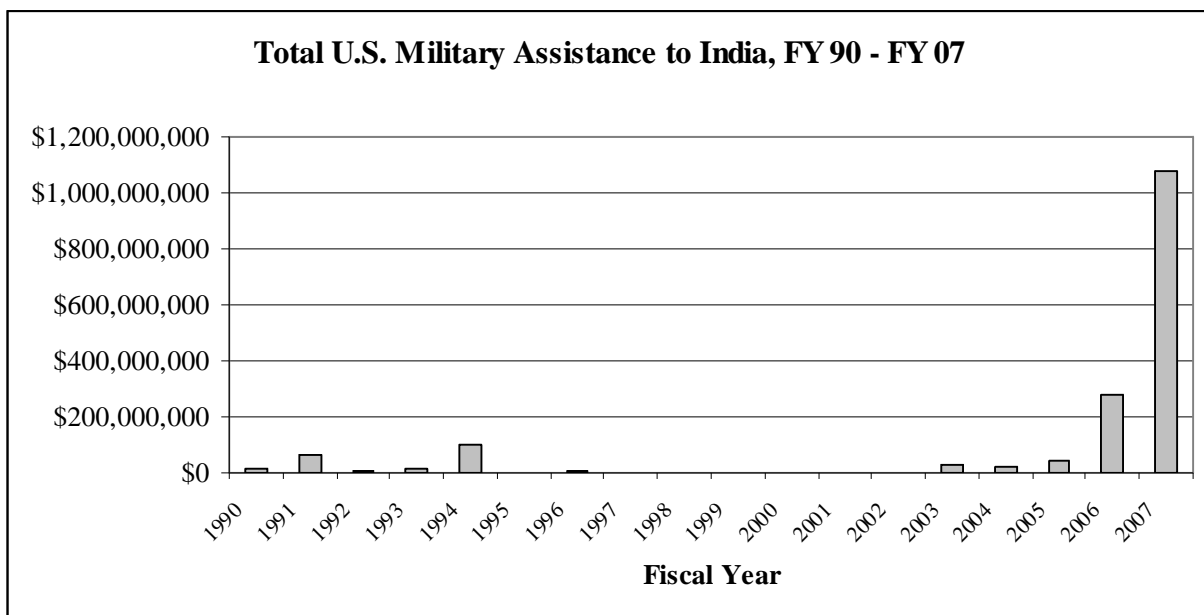
India has cooperated closely with the United States to combat terrorism since Sept. 11, 2001 and U.S. and Indian military and law enforcement officials have participated in joint military and training exercises. India has cooperated with international efforts to curb the financing of terrorist activities, and has also passed controversial legislation that significantly broadens government powers to apprehend suspected terrorists. In late September 2001, the United States lifted remaining Glenn Amendment sanctions that had been imposed on India in FY 98, re-allowing military assistance and weapons sales.

After Sept. 11, 2001, India continued to receive IMET, but at a significantly higher rate, receiving, on average, nearly four times as much IMET each year than it had been receiving, for a total of \$4.8 million between FY 02 and FY 05 alone. The FY 06 estimate and FY 07 request for IMET funding are \$1.2 million and \$1.5 million, respectively. Both FMS and DCS resumed following FY 02 and record weapons sales to India are predicted for FY 06 and FY 07. India bought \$11 million worth of U.S. defense articles through FMS in FY 05, but estimates place FY 06 weapons sales at \$264 million and FY 07 sales at over \$1 billion. India concluded \$31.9 million worth of DCS in FY 05 and post-Sept. 11 DCS totals are expected to top \$110 million by FY 07. India only received FMF in FY 02 (\$800,000) and did not receive any weapons through the EDA program.

The United States has provided millions of dollars in counterterrorism training to India, which faces terrorist attacks from many different domestic and international groups. India has been a recipient of Regional Defense Counterterrorism Fellowship Program (CTFP) funding, receiving \$200,000 in both FY 05 and FY 06. Additionally, through the Foreign Operations budget's Anti-Terrorism Assistance program (NADR-ATA), which is part of the Nonproliferation, Antiterrorism, Demining, and Related Activities account, India received \$3.6 million in FY 05, and is slated to receive another \$2 million in FY 06.

In June 2005, India and the United States signed their first formal defense pact since India's 1998 nuclear tests that had resulted in a series of punitive U.S. sanctions. The agreement calls for closer military cooperation, including technology transfer and joint weapons production. India is beginning to modernize its armed forces and is currently shopping for new fighter jets for the Indian air force and is considering U.S.-made F-16 or F-18 fighter jets. The statement of Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs John Hillen at the most recent plenary meeting of the U.S. Defense Trade Advisory Group—that India presents “big opportunities” for U.S. defense industry—implies that greater weapons sales and military cooperation are in the future for India.

U.S. Military Assistance to India, FY 90 - FY 07						
	IMET	FMF	DCS	FMS	EDA	Total
1990	\$263,000	\$0	\$17,389,000	\$4,000	n/a	\$17,656,000
1991	\$226,000	\$0	\$62,210,000	\$359,000	n/a	\$62,795,000
1992	\$310,000	\$0	\$4,503,000	\$36,000	n/a	\$4,849,000
1993	\$362,000	\$0	\$10,440,000	\$12,000	\$0	\$10,814,000
1994	\$152,000	\$0	\$97,367,000	\$31,000	\$0	\$97,550,000
1995	\$208,000	\$0	\$0	\$24,000	\$0	\$232,000
1996	\$357,000	\$0	\$0	\$4,497,000	\$0	\$4,854,000
1997	\$404,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$404,000
1998	\$177,000	\$0	\$0	\$171,000	\$0	\$348,000
1999	\$241,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$241,000
2000	\$480,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$480,000
2001	\$498,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$498,000
1990-2001	\$3,678,000	\$0	\$191,909,000	\$5,134,000	\$0	\$200,721,000
2002	\$1,012,000	\$800,000	\$0	\$38,000	\$0	\$1,850,000
2003	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$5,651,000	\$20,507,000	\$0	\$27,158,000
2004	\$1,354,000	\$0	\$15,516,000	\$6,675,000	\$0	\$23,545,000
2005	\$1,462,000	\$0	\$31,891,000	\$10,970,000	\$0	\$44,323,000
2002-2005	\$4,828,000	\$800,000	\$53,058,000	\$38,190,000	\$0	\$96,876,000
2006	\$1,188,000	\$0	\$14,126,000	\$264,000,000	\$0	\$279,314,000
2007	\$1,480,000	\$0	\$45,975,000	\$1,028,000,000	\$0	\$1,075,455,000
2002-2007	\$7,496,000	\$800,000	\$113,159,000	\$1,330,190,000	\$0	\$1,451,645,000



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