Chapter 7

Conclusion
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CONCLUSION

The post cold war has initiated a renewed interest in the subject in particular about the scope and content of modern political geography and its impact on global, regional and national political processes. The relevance of various paradigms of the subject is being critically evaluated with respect to the need for evolving new areas of research. Geopolitical Codes also take into account the mosaic of policies, national interests, national power, functions of policy making and the role of policy makers. In brief in geopolitical codes we study the influence of geography and political environment in the formulation of the foreign policy of a country. During the study of geopolitical codes of India the emphasis in this research has been towards relationships of India with great, medium and small powers taking into consideration developed and developing countries, and towards democratic as well as non-democratic states. The basic aim of this study has been to study Indian Geopolitical Codes in post-Independence era and to find out the challenges and prospects for India’s Geopolitical Codes in the months and years ahead. The challenges are manifold. Peace and security in our neighbourhood and in our region as a whole has been a priority for. The combat against international terrorism presents an immense challenge. Energy security, creating favourable conditions for Indian economic development, coping with the consequences of instability or military conflict in the middle east, the reform of the Security Council, promoting multi-polarity, finding an adequate response to doctrines diluting the principles of sovereignty and seeking to establish the right to intervene, promoting a more equitable equation between the developed and the developing world in the political, economic and technological domains are some of the challenges facing Indian Geopolitical Codes. The prospects by definition are a function of India’s success in meeting the challenges. On the whole, given India’s geographical and demographic size, a huge and growing market, our human resources, the advances we are making in the knowledge economy, our steady economic growth, our desire to integrate ourselves more fully into the global market, our
democracy which gives India enormous resilience, and the prospects, are bright.

Faced immediately on independence with extremely difficult problems, especially the problems of millions of uprooted people, from the two wings of Pakistan, landing in India without a parallel world history, the tricky use of the five hundred princely states, India got over these and other problems with the determination and sagacity which came as a surprise to many advanced countries. The way these problems were tackled gave India a confidence under Nehru’s leadership. It was the confidence in himself and the faith in the destiny of the nation, that enabled India to launch on programmes of development which have made possible qualitative and quantitative changes. With the formulation of Geopolitical Codes India adopted some goals and always attempted to secure its national interests. India wanted to promote and protect its national interest and for that purpose sought change and adjustment in the behaviour of other states, and change its own behaviour also and these attempts at adjustments of behaviour have been the core of Geopolitical Codes. The strength in the modern world means economic growth for which geography of state is the most permanent and stable factor on which the geopolitical code of a country can depend and in the case of India its geographic location has always proved to be of immense importance.

The main concepts of the study by reviewing earlier studies, hypothesis, objectives and methodology, within the framework of World System’s Approach have been introduced in the first chapter. In the Second chapter a study of India’s Geopolitical Codes on the Local Level with the countries of SAARC has been done. It is to be concluded that the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) has not been doing so well. South Asia has emerged as a regional entity in the international political system with the creation of SAARC but it failed to strengthen regional cohesiveness. Regional cooperation in South Asia cannot be said to have evolved into a complete bloc in terms of ‘regionalism and economic integration’ due mainly to the prevalence of conflict over the desire of peace and stability. Given the historical legacy and contemporary reality of endemic conflicts and mistrust in the region, the fact that the formal cooperation...
process in the region has survived recurrent setbacks is testimony of resilience of the organisation. The antagonistic nature of relations with large sets of outstanding issues, low levels of intra-SAARC trade and joint economic ventures, inadequate information and infrastructure facilities; independent and largely uncoordinated economic policies pursued by each country in the subcontinent and increasing militarisation and religionisation of the region are all indicators of lack of 'region-ness' and herald a bleak future for any type of sustainable economic integration.

A regional economic integration is one of the most important trends in the contemporary world economy. These attempts at regional economic integration in different parts of the world have been prompted, among other factors, by the heightened emphasis on international competitiveness in the wake of global trade liberalization. Countries have responded by forming regional trading blocs to mobilize their resources to strengthen their competitiveness with industrial restructuring. Though South Asia is a geographically integrated region, the economic integration level is still low despite a number of initiatives taken by the governments, private sector, NGOs and other agents. South Asia is yet to enter the mainstream of this worldwide phenomenon. The emergence of several trading blocks and economic groupings all over the world clearly indicates that economic survival and prosperity of any nation in this increasingly competitive post-Cold War era crucially depend on their ability to successfully integrate with other economies. It must also be remembered that without any integrated economy none of the South Asian countries can ever hope to become significant global players. The realisation of durable peace and the future of economic integration through SAARC lie on the ability and interest of South Asian leaders to resolve domestic as well as long-standing differences. The South Asian experience has demonstrated that political factors can cause long-lasting breakdown of establishment of economic links. Moreover, if peace is to be achieved through integration or vice-versa a new paradigm of forward looking process needs to be employed by the South Asian nations wherein they can discuss contentious issues such as Kashmir; border problems and distribution of natural resources. Therefore it can be argued that unless these
problems are not ironed out even the supposed economic integration in South Asia will not bring the peace and the process itself will remain at crossroad. The dilemma with South Asian states is that they are not ready for full scaled economic integration for the fear of being swamped up into Indian economy due to its hegemonic behaviour or losing their sovereignty to some extent.

India is today one of the most dynamic and fastest growing economies of the world. It constitutes not only a vast and growing market, but also a competitive source of technologies and knowledge-based services. Countries across the globe are beginning to see India as an indispensable economic partner and seeking mutually rewarding economic and commercial links with our emerging economy. Although India has tried to maintain cordial relations with all the countries of the SAARC since its independence, still almost each of the member countries project India as a threat to their security and to their national interests. Relations with the countries of SAARC since India’s independence has shown that certain areas of potential cooperation still stay in the background, which demand attention collectively. Each of these countries instead of working together to stand united in the international arena move differently from each other, giving way to the other external powers to meddle in the internal affairs of the region. The pre-eminence of India in the South Asian power configuration given its geography, demography, economics, and ecology is something about which neither India nor its neighbours can do nothing but accept. SAARC countries should envisage their own security and development in cooperation with India instead of hostility to India or by seeking to isolate themselves from India against the logic of geography. The challenge for our diplomacy lies in convincing our neighbours that India is an opportunity not a threat, that far from being besieged by India, they have a vast, productive hinterland that would give their economies far greater opportunities for growth than if they were to rely on their domestic markets alone. It is true that as the largest country in the region and its strongest economy, India has a greater responsibility to encourage the SAARC process. In the free markets that India has already established with Sri Lanka, Nepal and Bhutan, it has already accepted the principle of non-reciprocity. India is prepared to do more to open its markets to
all its neighbours. India is fully aware that its destiny is inseparable from what happens in its neighbourhood and for sustained economic development and the welfare India needs a peaceful and tranquil periphery. Economic integration in the sub-continent must restore the natural flow of goods, peoples and ideas that characterized our shared space as South Asians, and which now stands interrupted due to political divisions. India wishes to reassure its neighbours that it respects their independence and sovereignty. What it regards as unhelpful is the display of narrow nationalism based on hostility towards India that often becomes a cover for failure to deliver on promises made to their own peoples. This inhibits the development of normal relations, including economic cooperation, and prevents our region from emerging as a region of both political stability and economic dynamism.

Psychological factors have tended to shape and condition the relationship between India and Pakistan. Nevertheless there are areas where India and Pakistan and indeed all the countries of the SAARC can trade and benefit naturally but it will require imaginative cooperation and political will based on the shared perception for the future of the region. India has acquired a decisive edge in terms of capital and intermediate technology and could easily meet the needs of other countries especially as its technology is better geared to fit the conditions of labour surplus and skill scarce countries. The technology is not only cheaper but also better adapted to the special needs of the region. The expansion of trade in South Asia will require a restructuring of economic relationships based on recognition of mutual benefit. This calls for a collaborative ventures which will identify projects and commodities whereby one country will make room for certain exports from another country while the other country through individual and collaborative efforts develops a capacity to provide the goods. It will no longer be possible to think of economic planning at merely national levels but will require a regional approach in which the natural resources and capacities of each state will be used in complex restructuring of the regions economy so far as to achieve a trade balance. Only by achieving balanced trade and the attitude of India and Pakistan as the larger economies-can the region enhance its self sufficiency and lessen its dependence on the core countries of the west.
India already has a set of bilateral relationships with its neighbours, which vary in both political and economic intensity. Clearly, the creation of a free market of 1.3 billion people, with rising purchasing power, can be a significant additionally for all SAARC members. Currently, intra-regional trade accounts for only 5% of SAARC’s total foreign trade and this need to be addressed. But the mere lowering of tariffs and pruning of negative lists do not add up to a true free market. The political lines dividing South Asia have also severed the transport and communication linkages among member countries. The road, rail and waterway links that bound the different sub-regions of the sub-continent into a vast interconnected web of economic and commercial links still remain severed. Transit routes, which would have created mutual dependencies and mutual benefit, have fallen prey to narrow political calculations. Unless we are ready to restore these cross-border linkages and transportation arteries throughout our region, SAFTA would remain a limping shadow of its true potential. Regional cooperation is no just longer another option but a necessary thrust upon the countries of south Asia so that they can move towards development by mutual co-operation because global changes demand development. Purposive efforts continue to be made to improve regional economic as well as political cooperation. The hope and fulfillment of Indian aspiration to play a crucial role in the emerging Asian Community lies in first strengthening SAARC and leveraging the organisational resilience for its pivotal role in the Asian and global context.

In the context of Relations between both the countries can improve if Pakistan trades with India on MFN basis, infrastructure needs to improved, and more rail and road routes should be opened up while the existing capacities on operational routes need to be expanded. Pakistan should remove the restriction on items to be traded on the existing road route. Entering into Mutual Recognition Agreements would help in recognizing each other’s technical standards. Since the partition both the countries have been looking towards each other with mistrust suspicions and fear. The ultimate aims of both the countries to uplift their low standard of living have been greatly hampered by their corrosive quarrels and conflicts. Both India and Pakistan are deeply traditional and religious societies. It is difficult to expect
them to become completely secular. Somehow the two nations must find a way to accommodate the political impulses of their faith-based communities without undermining the civil liberties of minorities, without disrupting political and economic development, and most importantly, without raising nuclear security dilemmas. Indian approach to Pakistan is rooted in her national consensus, which favours moving relations ahead with Pakistan over a broad front through the composite dialogue process. These approaches derive their strength from India’s confidence as a mature nation dedicated to peace, democracy and freedom. It is our earnest hope to build-on the opportunities that are now available and think of the welfare of coming generations. the Indo-Pak relations at formal level have to be underlined in the context that India’s concern is that strong Pakistan is essential for the South Asian region and the debatable issues can be resolved through peace process. If the two countries are to live amicably with one another, they will have to address the issue, contain the dangers, and pursue—and eventually implement—a settlement to resolve their rivalry and reach an accord over Kashmir.

Democracy in Bangladesh is in a nascent state and is passing through a consolidation phase. It is yet to mature. So, mobilisation of the masses for political purposes based on ties of kinship, religion and language are bound to take place. The occasional flaring up of anti-India sentiments, based on the question of Islamic identity, is to be expected. In the longer run, with maturing of democracy, secular forces will come to play a greater and well-defined role in Indo-Bangladesh relations. A study of the history of relations between these two South Asian states, which have strong cultural links between them, reveal that on the one hand they have been successful in reaching agreements and resolving disputes through peaceful negotiations and in the spirit of mutual accommodation but on the other hand there has been continuously present sense of fear, suspicion and political problems and disputes between them. Even after years of peaceful, friendly and cooperative living as India’s South Asian neighbour, Sri Lanka continues to regard India as a critical factor in the South Asian regional power system and as a potential power which can inflict at will any harm to the security and other interest of Sri Lanka. India backs a unified Sri Lanka, where legitimate Tamil aspirations are
incorporated within the constitutional framework. The LTTE is a terrorist organisation, which if successful would not remain confined to Sri Lankan borders. Although both the ethnic groups in Sri Lanka trace their origins to India, the Tamil population in India identifies itself with Sri Lankan Tamils. As long as Sri Lanka is friendly or neutral India has nothing to worry about, but if there be any danger of the island falling under the domination of a power hostile to India. India cannot tolerate such a situation endangering her territorial integrity.

Economic relationship between Nepal and India is unique. Trade relationship between these two countries often goes beyond the economic reason significantly influenced by the social-ethical norms and values. Research and studies reveal that both the countries have comparative cost advantages in trading amongst themselves for several reasons. Historic trade relation, geographical proximity, identical culture, similar agriculture productions are cited few examples quite repeatedly. India fully respected the sovereignty of Nepal and deals with Nepal on an equal basis. Realising the strategic importance of Nepal, Indian geopolitical codes have been very actively engaged in the process of developing Indo-Nepal ties. Nepal also now realises better the importance of its relations with India. It bas become confident that India does not want to interfere with the internal political affairs of Nepal. Both the countries are now working towards the further cementing of their relations. India, as a major power of South Asia has the responsibility to help the realization of the aspirations of small states like Nepal. Nepal, though fully committed to the concept of zone of peace, now realises India's positioning a better way. SAARC spirit has helped the two countries develop further their friendly cooperation despite differences over Zone of peace issue. Even relations between India and Nepal are close yet fraught with difficulties stemming from geography, economics, the problems inherent in big power-small power relations, and common ethnic and linguistic identities that overlap the two countries borders. It is true, the two neighbours would be losing enormous opportunities for meaningful cooperation if they continue to harbour permanent mistrust against each other.

Chapter third of this study focuses on India's relationship with the other
two regional powers of Asia i.e. China and Russia. The study of relations with these two countries in the regional context since Independence of India in 1947 emphasises that although Chinese-Indian relations have achieved major progress over the last decade, obstacles to future development remain. Unresolved territorial disputes, mutual suspicions, and growing rivalry in the areas of energy, regional influence, and realignment of great-power relations, if not managed well, could deny the two rising Asian giants the opportunity to cooperate and realize their potentials as the engines of growth and pillars of stability in Asia and beyond. China and India have worked where the two countries national interests coincide, chiefly in the areas of trade and the pursuit of energy. It has not worked when it come to security issues – though the boundary talks may yet reach normative results based on soft borders and freedom of movement. China has in fact continued to pursue a mixed and partly non-normative approach towards India. China’s support for India’s observer status at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the pacts signed in 2005, especially for joint energy acquisition when China had previously outbid India, imply that normative policies have been pursued only when they have coincided with Chinese national interests (lower energy prices). Despite the end of Cold War, China maintained close military and political relations with Pakistan. But even after improvement in Sino-Indian relations in the field of science, technology, culture, trade and other economic activities, its continued alliance with Pakistan is not quite understandable. China continues to associate itself with Pakistan’s nuclear programme. The bilateral problems existing between the two countries are not such can be solved instantly. The process of negotiations and normalization would take its own time because it is always affected by favourably or adversely by the domestic and international milieu prevailing in the two countries and in the world at a particular time and moreover also in view of the complex nature of the border issue the main irritant in the Sino-Indian relations.

Both India and China need to take advantage of the factors of geographical contiguity. Hitherto geo-political compulsions have prevailed at the cost of geo-economic objectives. In recent years, China has setup diverse trans-border linkages across China’s borders in all directions. The time has
now come to explore possibilities of such linkages between the two countries. While a beginning has been made in border trade between India and the Tibet region of China, more points remain to be opened. Considering the two Asian giants upward trajectory in economic and military power, both are sensitive about their respective spheres of influence. Regular strategic dialogues at high levels will be required to prevent conflicts. To the east of India and to the south-west of China there is a vast populated region, which includes Bangladesh, Myanmar and some countries in ASEAN, where India and China could separately engage in building up infrastructural and communication linkages, trade and investments to the benefit of the area as a whole. Given these considerations, sustained efforts at the highest political level will be required to translate many of the blueprints for progress into reality. The two governments and leaders of trade and industry should open up to the realities of geo-economics in order to bring the needed development to an important area in the neighbourhood of our countries. There is great potential for expansion of trade and economic and technical cooperation between the two countries (India and China) if both countries can take some preferential measures between them. A stable peace between India and China would have to rest not only on a satisfactory resolution of the border dispute on agreed principles - necessarily involving some territorial give and take - but also on a clear recognition of their relative power status and geo-political stakes in the region is widely accepted.

Whereas in the context of Russia we conclude that both, India and Russia will continue to see each other as important partners. There never have been any major points of contention between Moscow and New Delhi since the mid-1950s, and it seem unlikely that any major disputes could arise in the foreseeable future. They have an obvious interest in maintaining a cooperative relationship. It is therefore logical for Russia to endeavour to cultivate it as a major partner. Both powers have an interest in opposing Islamic inspired terrorism, and Moscow is likely to welcome an active Indian role in Central Asia for this purpose. Indian influence in Central Asia and Afghanistan is from Moscow's standpoint a useful counter to Pakistani influence, particularly if an extremist Islamic regime ever comes to power in
Pakistan. Moscow may also see an expanded Indian role in Central Asia as a useful check on Chinese influence in this region. Although Russo-Chinese relations are currently very cordial, China is arguably a serious long-term threat to Russian security interests, and Russia may see India as a counter-weight if this threat does emerge, much as the USSR did during the Cold War. India's value to Russia at the moment lies in India's aspiration towards a multipolar international system, both powers have an interest in opposing American unilateralism. However, India's opposition to US foreign policy is now less strong than it was during the Cold War. Relations improved markedly during the 1990s, although they did cool during the Clinton Administration given US opposition to Indian nuclear testing. Relations with the Bush Administration have improved, and US-Indian military cooperation has stepped up since 2001. India's potential value to Moscow as a means of mounting a significant challenge to the USA's current position is limited. However, India's growing importance means that Russia will continue to see New Delhi as a major partner, and seek to develop its political, economic and military relationship with it. India has been irritated by the US decision in June 2004 to accord Pakistan the status of Major Non-NATO Ally, which may slightly enhance New Delhi's estimation of its relationship with Moscow.

In the fourth chapter a study has been done to explain India's relationship with the United States. This study lays down the Geopolitical Codes of India on the Global Level which have emerged since the World War on the principles of Non-Alignment. It was in this environment of cold war the countries of Asia and Africa attained independence. Their raging desire was to maintain their freedom and keep themselves away from the sinister shadow of their erstwhile colonial masters. They found it expedient to follow the policy of peace, not through alignment, but through an independent approach to every issue that affected their sovereignty, political freedom and economic development, free from control and influences. Non-alignment was made a foreign policy choice of India as it was considered the best means not only to give fuller meaning and content to her newly achieved independence, both at the domestic and international level, but also to ensure rapid
socioeconomic development. India considered cold war as injurious to international peace and development of the country, so vital in the initial stages of independence. In India’s view, Non-Alignment, in essence, is the retention of a substantial measure of freedom of policy and action in world affairs, especially in relation to the policies and postures of the two power blocs. In this context, it is also to be underlined that India never meant, by Non-Alignment, equidistance from blocs nor has it ever given credence to the theory of ‘natural ally’. It may also be added here that the leaders of non-aligned India understood it unambiguously that the conduct of foreign policy was not an exercise in sainthood and, therefore, pursuit of national interest should have primacy over all other objectives and the national interest of India, as also of other countries, is determined by her geo-political, economic and other considerations pertaining at a particular point of time.

However Indo-US relations have not always been so cosy. Indeed the two countries, increasing closeness represents a major transformation of their past relationship. Although the countries shared a number of important interests and values, their relationship was historically characterised more by suspicion and resentment than by cooperation. But due to the convergence of their interests the bilateral relationship seems to be extremely promising at the moment. In the nuclear arena both the countries have invested considerable political capital and there are strong incentives for both sides to overcome their differences. If they are unable to do so, any resulting short term damage to their relationship is likely to be outweighed by long term interests between the two countries. On the diplomatic front even though American officials have touted the growing bilateral partnership, they have also taken great pains to acknowledge India’s independent international stature and policy autonomy. On the economic front, most analyses calls for continued robust economic growth for the foreseeable future.

Chapter fifth and sixth project India as a Regional and a Global Power. As India is a large country its actions have regional implications and occasionally global implications. Recognizing this, and despite occasional talk of an aggressive stance on issues such as energy
security and the need to maintain ties that were forged in the era of Non-
Alignment with the third world (and even earlier, as with the Middle East
and Central Asia), the study focuses on India's will accommodate other
dominant forces on external issues. Evidence on this comes from several
sources. For example, following the nuclear tests of 1998, the Indian
strategy on deployment and expansion appears to be directed more at
border protection from threats by Pakistan and China than an aggressive
external posture. Broadly, Asia confronts two contradictory trends. On one
side are the territorial disputes, competition over scarce resources,
improved military capabilities and increasingly fervent nationalism that are
threatening to imperil security and growing prosperity. On the other side is
the rising Asian interdependence through trade and investment,
communications, technology and tourism. Asia also has to cope with
resilient jingoism, protectionism and diverse kinds of negative trans-border
influences, including terrorism, subversion and illegal migration. The Asian
strategic landscape is also evolving in response to the efforts of the major
players to fashion new equations and expand their strategic space.

In a little more than 50 years since independence, India has moved
from a colony with more than a thousand ethnic, religious, and linguistic
groups to a viable, democratic country whose economy is now among the top
10 in the world. Its political and cultural influence is felt throughout Asia and
beyond. Its military arsenal includes numerous conventional forces with
modern arms, medium-range missiles, satellites in orbit, and nuclear
weapons. Indians are not dreaming of conquering foreign territories. What
they want is to guarantee by sufficient means, including nuclear weapons and
ballistic missiles, that their unique civilization will make it to the sixth
millennium of its existence. Re-establishing and maintaining world power
status are long-term and unifying goals for India. India has always
approached the subject of security in its larger framework, beyond that implicit
in defence strategy and military forces. The concept of security has involved
the presentation and the perpetuation of the core values of the Indian nation
state: democracy, a secular society, a federal polity, moral and ethical
principles, equal rights, and, last but not least, national strength and power.
Those core values are enshrined in the Indian constitution (if not always practiced throughout the country). The strength of those values has provided the political resilience and stability that many outside the country find amazing in such a multinational, multilingual, and multicultural entity. Every major political force in the country supports India’s global aspirations, but Indians have been divided on how to restore their country’s greatness. When India was a weak third world country, the only option for it was to protest against the injustices of the global order. But as India has become a great power, it is among those who maintain stability and order.

As a global power, India would be called upon in the coming days to promote peace and reconciliation in its neighbourhood especially with Pakistan and contribute more vigorously to the management of regional and global balance of power. India should find it easier to make this transition as one of its long-standing gripes against the international system-nuclear discrimination. India in the past feared other great powers taking interest in the Subcontinent. Today, it has begun to find convergences with the US on promoting regional as well as global stability. The shared values of India and the United States could not help the two nations overcome the strategic differences during the Cold War period. For the first time in six decades there is no longer a contradiction between the common values of religious pluralism and democracy and their respective national interests. As two of the world and biggest victims of terrorism, both India and the United States recognize that democracy is the biggest anti-dote to the scourge of terrorism. While they might differ on the means to promote democracy, India and the United States have reaffirmed, despite doubts in both countries, that they would work together to support fledgling democracies. There are also perceived notions of civilizational conflicts as also spurts in conflicts. This demands that India’s national interest must be protected and pursued more vigorously. Our diplomacy must, therefore, be proactive rather than being merely reactive without sacrificing the values of peace, equality and cooperation.

In a globalised world, just as India engages the world, India is also being engaged by the world. The most dramatic transformation has been in the India-US relationship. Freed from Cold War rhetoric, these two countries
have moved from being estranged democracies to engaged democracies. The new dynamism in the India-US relationship is so profoundly different that the US, for the first time in its bilateral relation with India, is engaging it as totally de-hyphenated from Pakistan. Second, it is pursuing a Strategic Partnership with India that endorses India’s current and future potential for the region and the world. Third, the India-US Civil Nuclear Deal de facto recognises India as a nuclear power and has secured for it exemptions from the current nuclear regime. In other words, India has been engaged on its own terms. India’s strength and its ideational proximity to the West lie in its being the world’s largest non-Western democracy. India has successfully integrated its pluralism and diversity with institutionalised democracy that has the potential to be a model for others. Two issues are critical here – one, for the old order, the US and Europe – the issue of integrating the rising powers. Second, for the emerging powers – India – the issue of what it might do with its new position, what type of power India aspires for and the kind of linkages that the government has in mind to enhance its stature and power. India’s pursuit of a nuclear power status and a permanent seat on the UN Security Council has raised the question of whether it is a follower of global norms or a contender to change the post-World War II status quo.

India’s challenge is the lack of such a dynamic immediate neighbourhood and the existence in India of a rigid bureaucracy. India’s engagement at the international level – here it has an intrinsic national interest to see peace and security in as large a region as possible. That is one reason why India has participated in UN efforts to promote peace and peacekeeping. India aspires to a multi-polar, rule based, multilateral system. However, it is India’s political and economic relations with the existing major powers and emerging powers that will have a major impact on future global political and economic governance. India’s Geopolitical Codes looks beyond the neighbourhood to secure its economic interests – especially access to raw materials and energy supplies – both of which can put it on a competition course with China, especially in Central Asia and Africa. There is increasing evidence that civilizational states like China and India will be players in changing world politics. However, India’s security strategy is still evolving. The
absence of a cohesive security strategy will slow down India’s ability to transform itself into a major global actor. The evolving international order is going to be Asia centred and polycentric for a variety of reasons. Since India’s interests encompass far more than just the region mentioned, it is thus in its interest to shape that Asia centred century into a more co-operative space. India has to project itself as a confident and dynamic country that is ready to play a larger role to ensure stability, security and peace in the world.

There has been a large gap from 1947 -2005 and if we try to analyze the Geopolitical Codes of our first Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru with the present Prime Minister we will find that the same principles still make the foundation of our foreign policy as advocated by our first Prime Minister. Geopolitical codes of India have gradually evolved acquiring greater substance while responding to various challenges, we are securely moored in the framework of an inalienable perspective, that of Panchsheel, Non-Alignment, developing friendly relations with all ,and retaining an enlightened self interest. Geopolitical Codes constitute an endless dialogue between the powers of continuity and the powers of change. There is first the persistence through time of the general features of the international system in which the states live and to which later or sooner, their external behaviour must confirm. The striking feature however of India is that in the course of time, India is adjusting to its requirements, practising for example the balance of power through the policy of Non-Alignment. India Geopolitical Codes have shown continuity since its origin even though small alterations have been made due to changes in its domestic and international environment as political system of a India has responded to the changes in international environment, and in this respect domestic variables have influenced its geopolitical behaviour. Indian Geopolitical Codes have always been working in a direction to promote its national purpose and interest and at the same time to make a modest contribution to the promotion of peace and understanding in the world. The interest of peace has been more important to India as on the basis of its past experiences it knows that if war comes every one suffers and self-interest may itself demand a policy of cooperation with other nations. Geopolitical Codes of India form the focus of current research that keeps on analyzing and
interpreting the main themes of geopolitical codes on local, regional and
global levels. With the emergence of India as an independent country the prime
motive of the government has been to make India a self-reliant country
aspiring to play an important role in world affairs, and thus the geographical
factor was the first permanent, stable and reliable factor to support India as it
provided a strategic location to India from where she could play her role and
make a place for herself in the transforming world.