# India-Japan Alliance

## What is the issue?

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- The rise of China and uncertainty over America’s role in Asia is necessitating an alliance between India and Japan.
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- It is important that India and Japan overcome the bureaucratic limitations and find ways of materialising an alliance.
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## What have created a need for this?

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- The emerging dynamism in the geo-politics of the Asian region is increasingly creating the need for India and Japan getting closer.
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- **Rise of China** - China's accelerated economic growth in the last few decades has brought it closer to the aggregate GDP of the United States.
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- This has dethroned Japan as the number one economic power in Asia.
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- The purposeful military modernisation over the last few decades has given Beijing the prospects to contest US military dominance over Asia.
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- Also, the imbalance between Beijing and its Asian neighbours has grown massively.
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- **Uncertainty of US's role** - The Trump era is exhibiting an unprecedented political turbulence in the United States.
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- Trump's stance is uncertain on the US acting as the market for Asian goods.
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- He is also uncertain of  bearing the main burden of defending US's allies in the Asian region, including Japan.
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- These oscillations in US policy make Asian powers doubt the future role of US in the region and the sustainability of their reliance on US.
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## What lies ahead for India and Japan?

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- Given the above conditions, it is high time that India and Japan take the bilateral relationship to the next level.
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- Although India has been firm on the “non-alignment” principle, decisions now are ought to be less by tradition and more by the demands of current developments.
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- Despite the military exchanges over the last few years the two sides are far from a **credible defence partnership**.
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- India and Japan should overcome the bureaucratic limitations and take forward the talk on defence partnership.
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- This is more a prerequisite for any meaningful **alliance-like partnership** between the two countries .
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**Source: Indian Express**

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