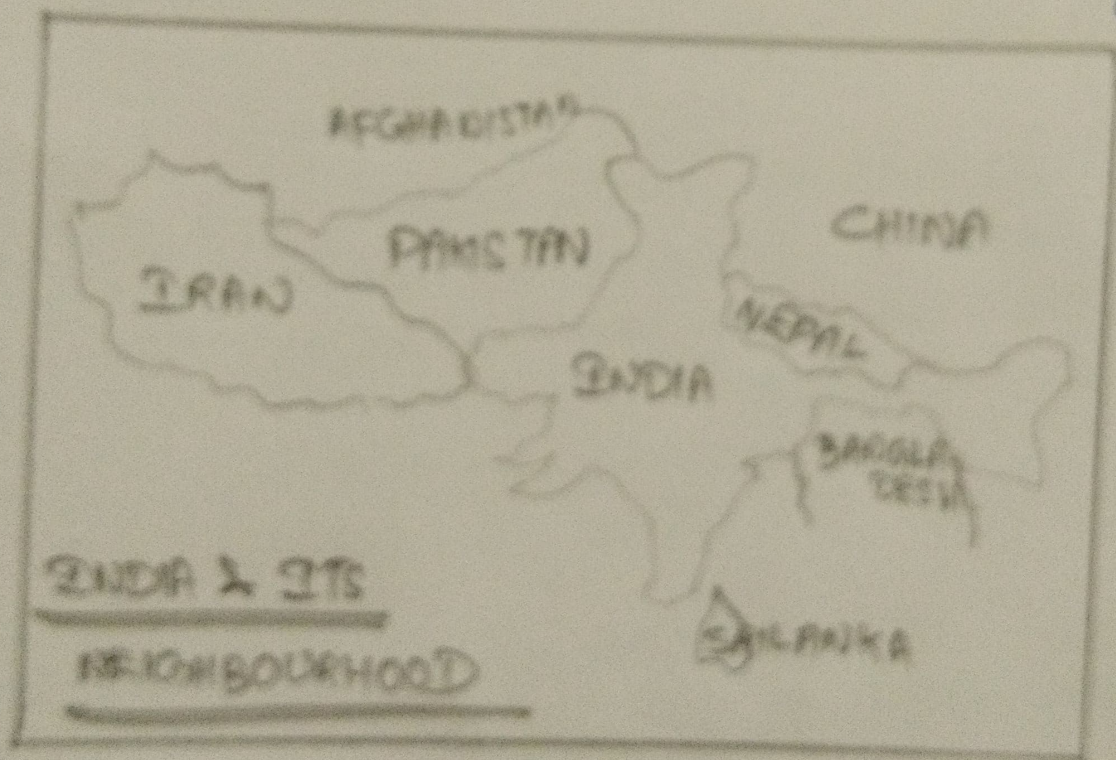


From some time, it has been echoed in global politics that - "India's standing in its neighbourhood has been on the decline, as it lacks the strategic depth to claim its due share in global politics."

At the regional or global level, "strategic depth is the combination of strategies to deal with different countries based on trade, economic, social, cultural, demographic, political and military factors."



Reasons for lack of strategic depth in India's foreign policy :-

- **China** :- India is perhaps facing its gravest national security crisis with China along the LAC, due to deepened partnership with US, which turned China hostile.
- **Nepal** :- India has historical and cultural ties with Nepal, but Nepal has turned hostile and sided with China.
- **Bangladesh & Sri Lanka** :- India enjoyed traditional goodwill and influence in both these countries. But now, Bang. miffed at CAA, 2019 & Sri Lanka has tilted towards China.
- **Afghanistan** :- India had made investment and cultivated vibrant ties with Afgh. which is also undergoing a major change as India is out of multi-party talks of Afgh.
- **Iran** :- India had committed itself to multilateralism in Iran but this ties also change due to steady erosion in strategic autonomy of India i.e., India now began steadily aligning its policies with US interests.

Conclusion :- To address the current crises India has to reconsider its foreign policy trajectory as it has world's biggest military and natural naval force in the India ocean.