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India's Foreign Policy for South and Central Asia Post 9/11: Embracing Strategic Realism

INTRODUCTION

The terrorist attacks on the World Trade Tower and the Pentagon on 11 September 2001 proved to be a watershed moment in the practice of international relations. It altered the global security scenario. International Relations as an academic discipline has been altered since 9/11 and with the consecutive unilateral invasions of Iraq (2001) and Afghanistan (2003). As the new world order came into existence, this discipline has been largely preoccupied with 'transnational issues of security'. The issue of radical Islamic terrorism has occupied the debate of contemporary international relations. The threat of terrorism defies the traditional state policy response and in the present day scenario requires various nation states to come together to defeat it. The failed and failing states have a potential to involve themselves into violent civil wars that pose new threats to the international security. It has thus become imperative to curb Islamic terrorism and help the potential failing states in all the aspects. It has been realized both by the developed and the developing countries that national security and international stability can no longer be fulfilled only through military measure and so the efforts have been multidimensional in nature. Both security and stability have become increasingly intertwined and a security threat now is being considered anything that hinders