जीवन में इतना तो संघर्ष कर ही लेना चाहिए कि अपने बच्चे का आत्मविश्वास बढ़ाने के लिए दूसरों का उदाहरण न देना पड़े.
What 'America First' means for India

India is at the epicentre of US-Pakistan-China-Turkey. To respond to the different threats, domestically and internationally, the administration needs to chart a clear strategy. The Indian Foreign Ministry needs to take these policies into account.

Rewiring the WTO

Creating liberalised trade, and expanding globalisation to allow a market opportunity, is India's role. The role in the global marketplace should be the prime approach. 

Disability and the culture of violence

What makes a country of peace, where the disabled are not just延伸ed, but valuable? This can also be applied to the culture of violence, which is prevalent in the society.
A set of new sanctions imposed on Iran by USA over a missile test has taken ties between the two countries- incredible improve buy Obama era.

Bilateral relations were particularly hostile during the presidency of George W. Bush, who had threatened military action over Iran’s nuclear programme.

Barack Obama took a different line, moored in political realism- He reached out to the Iranians and finally clinched the nuclear deal last year, a far-sighted diplomatic solution to a complex international crisis.

The U.S. and other world powers took years to find a common ground with Iran, which prevented the country from acquiring nuclear weapons in return for removal of international sanctions.

The deal, viscerally opposed by Israel, allowed Iran to mend ties with European countries, boost its oil production and trade with other countries, thereby minimising the pain its people had suffred due to economic sanctions.

The U.S. and Iran cooperated on the battleground in Iraq against the Islamic State- And domestically, it strengthened the hands of Iranian moderates.

This progress stands threatened by President Donald Trump’s hostility towards Iran.
Mr. Trump may not repeal the nuclear deal as it is a multilateral agreement. But by putting immigration curbs on Iranian citizens, imposing new sanctions on Iran and branding the country the “greatest state sponsor of terrorism”,

If Mr. Obama’s Iran policy was defined by pragmatism, Mr. Trump appears determined to pursue the agenda of restoring the bipolar balance between Saudi Arabia and Israel, the U.S.’s strongest allies in West Asia.

Any meaningful effort to stabilise West Asia calls for Iran’s cooperation, not hostility the primary reason for destabilisation in West Asia is the ongoing cold war between Saudi Arabia and Iran.

Finally, the world, including the U.S., needs Iran’s cooperation to fight the Islamic State, particularly in Iraq, where Iranian-controlled Shia militias played a key role in liberating cities.

If Mr. Trump ignores these realities, he runs the risk of making West Asia even more chaotic than it is
UNDER THE NUCLEAR DEAL, INTERNATIONAL INSPECTORS WILL MONITOR IRAN'S NUCLEAR PROGRAM AT EVERY SINGLE STAGE
THE U.S. JUST SECURED A DEAL THAT ACHIEVES WHAT WE ASKED FOR:
PREVENTING IRAN FROM OBTAINING A NUCLEAR WEAPON

- Increase the time it would take Iran to acquire enough material for 1 bomb from 2-3 months to at least 1 year
- Reduce Iran’s stockpiles of enriched uranium
- Reduce the number of Iran’s installed centrifuges by two-thirds
- Prevent Iran from producing weapons-grade plutonium
- Track Iran’s nuclear activities with robust transparency and inspections

THE IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL WILL CUT OFF ALL OF IRAN’S POTENTIAL PATHWAYS TO A BOMB:

- Highly enriched uranium at Natanz facility - BLOCKED
- Highly enriched uranium at Fordow facility - BLOCKED
- Weapons-grade plutonium - BLOCKED
- Covert attempts to produce fissile material - BLOCKED
What ‘America First’ means for India

- From this day forward, it’s going to be only *America first, America first,*” said Donald Trump, moments after taking oath as the 45th President of the United States.
- Since then several world capitals have heard various renditions of this decree (हुक्मनामा), resulting in a more uncertain world- What does this decree mean for New Delhi?
- Many policymakers and observers in Washington DC see India-U.S. relations as a case of American generosity (उदारता).
- Expert Ashley Tellis wrote recently: “The current U.S. commitment to the rise of Indian power - presumption that helping India expand in power and prosperity served the highest geopolitical interests of the United States in Asia and globally — namely, maintaining a balance of power that advantaged the liberal democracies.
- Accordingly, it justified acts of extraordinary U.S. generosity toward India, even if specific policies emanating from New Delhi did not always dovetail with Washington’s preferences.”
Mr. Trump’s personality has two parts

1) The transactional - The transactional Mr. Trump believes that all international relations are based on give and take.

There is no larger moral goal to be pursued, such as promotion of democracy, free market or human rights, slogans

2) The ideological - The ideological Mr. Trump sees the world as one in which Islam is threatening the existence of the Judeo-Christian civilisation.

So there are alliances to be built and wars to be fought to secure the survival of the U.S. and Israel, of Christianity and Judaism, which he believes are threatened by Islamist terror.

Mr. Trump would be open to dealing with India with an ideological frame of reference and a pragmatic, transactional one, simultaneously.

At the ideological level, the defeat of Islamism could be a common ground between Mr. Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

Both Mr. Modi and Mr. Trump have pivoted their politics on a hybrid of religious identity and the promise of economic betterment, defined more precisely as job creation.
But they could be competing for the same thing here - The growth of bilateral cooperation in recent decades has involved a movement of U.S. jobs to India, and of Indian workers to the U.S. Pressure on H-1B

On the temporary movement of Indian workers to the U.S. under the H-1B programme, the Trump administration has been clear that it will end its “misuse”.

But Mr. Trump might want India to openly partner with, or even be frontline in tackling, China, according to one view

If the Trump administration pressures regional powers to do more to counter China, it will most likely start with its allies like Japan, Korea, and Australia - likely demand more from the relationship with India.

Demand for troops

Afghanistan-Pakistan - India’s consistent demand that the U.S. bring more pressure on Pakistan to take action against terrorist groups could be met with another demand from the Trump team — for Indian boots on the ground in Afghanistan.

By ratcheting up tensions with Iran, the Trump administration has limited its latitude to pursue an Afghan policy less dependent on Pakistan.

It is also not clear whether the Trump team will be pro-active on India’s bid for membership in the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

“Mr. Modi’s Make in India approach and Mr. Trump’s Buy American, Hire American can go together,” - Many watchers of India-U.S relations think that the pragmatism of Mr. Trump and Mr. Modi will prevail over their ideological streaks and will make them good partners.
Disability and the culture of violence

Since ancient times, numerous wars have been fought and entire civilisations have been destroyed.

The end results of every war has been seen in binaried like ‘victory’ and ‘loss’, ‘life’ and ‘death’, ‘pride’ and ‘humiliation’.

But, one binary which generally escapes attention of war historians is ‘able-bodiness’ and ‘disability’.

This potential is purely biological at first, where a part of the body loses its usual ability to function properly.

But afterwards it transforms into the loss of ‘social potential’ where a person due to his/her disability is not accepted in the mainstream society and hence the real potential of the person is not realised.

As a result, persons with disabilities become a victim of ‘pervasive (व्यापक) violence’.

Johan Galtung, who is the father of peace studies, defined pervasive violence as “the cause of the difference between the potential and the actual, between what could have been and what is.” - Sachin

Violence is that which increases the distance between the potential and the actual

It differs from society to society because of different levels of stigmatisation of disabled people in different societies.

Disabled population - leading to their double exploitation,

1) firstly due to their limited physical potential and

2) secondly the societal discrimination that arises after becoming physically disabled. This violence is highly structural in nature.

This structural violence has two types,

1) one where a large disabled population exists due to some war or natural disaster, - Syria

2) the other case being where no ‘war’ - , India has 26.8 million disabled people as per the 2011 Census
Here the disabled population is one of the most marginalised sections of the country and also one of the largest minority groups, though disability is yet to be formally recognised as a ‘minority group’ in the country.

Discrimination in itself is a kind of violence; plenty in India where representation of disabled people in all sectors of the economy is extremely low—deny a job to a disabled person—leading to non-realisation of potential within.

This is the result of ‘structural violence’ of society towards the disabled—it creates an environment of ‘negative peace’ within a society.

Negative peace refers to the absence of violence.

Whereas positive peace is filled with positive content such as restoration of relationships, the creation of social systems that serve the needs of the whole population and the constructive resolution of conflict.

In the context of disability, one can safely conclude that societies which have more disabled people have more ‘negative peace’.

This is because the stigma attached with disability leads to the marginalisation of disabled people as a result of structural violence.

Throughout history, physical punishment has been inflicted upon people by making them disabled by cutting of the limbs, tearing out the eyes, cutting their tongue, etc.

Those who were already disabled by birth have been seen as those who had committed some grave sin in their previous birth so as to be born disabled in this birth.

This logic of previous birth sin leads to the legitimisation of discrimination and hatred towards persons with disabilities across cultures.

Hence, a ‘culture of violence’ is born and is legitimised further.

In every sphere, a disabled person’s life is pervaded with violence in some form or the other, the magnitude of this violence might differ, but its existence can’t be denied.
Rewiring the WTO

- The visit of Roberto Azevêdo, Directo General of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) to India, from February 8, comes at a juncture when the framework of global trade rules is undergoing a shake-up. [Q-Name change-?]  
- The Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) — which had almost become the standard bearer of trade rules — has been dealt a death blow by the Trump presidency.  
- The TPP found itself in this position after the United States orchestrated the move to make the WTO virtually irrelevant during the 10th Ministerial Conference of the organisation, in Nairobi(Kenya) in 2015.  
- The conference ended without a decision on the most important area of work of WTO members — the Doha(Qatar) Round negotiations.  
- These negotiations were mandated by the Doha ministerial conference in 2001 to review extant trade rules in order to make the WTO more responsive to the needs of the majority of its membership- the developing countries.  
- With the Nairobi ministerial failing to decide on the future of the Doha negotiations, the WTO’s relevance has been questioned since the organisation does not have a work programme.  
- The developing world has largely been questioning the relevance of the WTO for some years now, when the richer nations gained the upper hand in setting the priorities for the organisation.  
- **Silence on food stockholding**- In agriculture, WTO rules have been loaded in favour of the developed countries- provided subsidised food -“peace clause”
11th Ministerial Conference to be held in Buenos Aires in December 2017, ground is being prepared by the major economies for another exercise at “cherry picking”

The issues that have been identified for inclusion in the WTO are electronic commerce and investment. Their inclusion has been supported by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) [Q-HQ] and the B-20 (Business 20, representing the business groups of G-20 countries)

The ICC and B-20 tabled a proposal in September 2016 for the adoption of a “WTO package” on e-commerce. Interestingly, this proposal speaks of promoting micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) through the better adoption of e-commerce.

The proposal argues that e-commerce environment would level the playing field between large and small businesses, thus enabling the latter to overcome the hurdles in accessing markets.

The WTO Director General has given strong endorsement to e-commerce. He has pointed out that the increase in Internet penetration (43% of the global population) provides the basis for “changing the traditional way of doing business and conducting trade”.

But the number that Mr. Azevêdo cites is far removed from reality- In 2015, Internet penetration in the least-developed and low income countries was 12.6%

It is quite clear that the inclusion of ecommerce and investment in the WTO would further drive the wedge(कील) between the rich and the poor nations.

Growing disenchantment with the existing model of globalisation is also a historic opportunity to frame new rules granting equal opportunities to all in the global marketplace.
The P5+1 refers to the UN Security Council's five permanent members (the P5); namely China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States; plus Germany.

The sixth edition of ‘Heart of Asia- Istanbul Process of Afghanistan’ conference, an annual regional gathering of Asian and other countries was held in Amritsar, Punjab (India). It was inaugurated jointly by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani. It concluded with adaptation of Amritsar Declaration with its prime focus on terrorism.

The theme of this edition of the conference was “Addressing Challenges, Achieving Prosperity”

The three big issues of the conference were

(i) countering terrorism to create stability in Afghanistan,
(ii) Providing Afghanistan connectivity to strengthen economic activities and
(iii) the development which is essential for its progress.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) is an intergovernmental organization which regulates international trade.

The WTO officially commenced on 1 January 1995 under the Marrakesh Agreement, signed by 123 nations on 15 April 1994, replacing the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which commenced in 1948.

The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC; French: Chambre de commerce internationale (CCI)) is the largest, most representative business organization in the world. Its hundreds of thousands of member companies in over 130 countries have interests spanning every sector of private enterprise.

ICC lobbies the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, and many other intergovernmental bodies, both international and regional, on behalf of international business. ICC was the first organization granted general consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

Headquarters Paris, France