

India made a qualitative shift from Look East to Act East Policy, says Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar

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India's **Look East Policy** was launched in the year 1992. Look East policy **focused on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries + Economic Integration.**

India's Look East Policy is an effort to cultivate extensive economic and strategic relations with the nations of Southeast Asia in order to bolster its standing as a regional power and a counterweight to the strategic influence of the People's Republic of China.

The 'Act East Policy' announced in November, 2014 is the upgrade of the "Look East Policy".

Act East Policy focused on **ASEAN countries** + **Economic Integration** + **East Asian countries** + **Security cooperation**.

It is a diplomatic initiative to promote economic, strategic and cultural relations with the vast Asia-Pacific region at different levels.

It involves intensive and continuous engagement with Southeast Asian countries in the field of connectivity, trade, culture, defence and people-to-people-contact at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels.

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