

Will Russia-Pakistan Deals Affect/Hurt India?

Despite Russia's 'strategic and privileged' friendship with India and the precarious tie between India and Pakistan, Russia has participated in [two major agreements](#) with Pakistan.

The Deals

Recently, Russia agreed to an arms supply deal with Pakistan. The sealing of this military cooperation proposition marked the first important Russian defense minister visit to Pakistan. Moreover, India acknowledged the fact that this deal means extremely powerful military tools from Russia will be reallocated to Pakistan.

Also, Moscow recently authorized a \$1.7 billion energy agreement with Islamabad for a gasoline pipeline. This Pakistani pipeline will reroute liquefied natural gas (LNG) from Karachi to Lahore. Russia has justified this agreement by saying it was necessitated in order to overtake Western-imposed sanctions and punishments. This deal was non-unique to Pakistan, because Russia has also dealt two gas supply contracts with China following Crimea's secession from Ukraine. Due to its deflating economy and lowered oil prices, Russia has been interested in exporting gas to countries other than Europe, like China.

What about India?

After these large-scale transactions, [India was concerned](#) about its role between these two nations. The energy promise was stifled by India, stating that President Vladimir Putin highlighted to Prime Minister Narendra Modi that Russia's bilateral affairs with Pakistan wouldn't intentionally affect its relationship with India. This reassurance offers some consolation to the Indian government.

Syed Akbaruddin, external affairs ministry spokesman, reiterated, "India and Russia have just concluded a very successful summit where we have been assured that nothing that Russia does will adversely impact on our security interest. Therefore we are confident that our concerns on this matter are understood well by our Russian friends and they will not do anything that adversely impinges on us."

Following this clearing-up, India and Russia are optimistic about partnerships 'in the fields of oil and gas, electric power production, nuclear energy, renewable energy sources, and hydrocarbon companies in oil and gas exploration and production as well as in LNG projects and supplies'. Furthermore, India has shown remarkable grace during what could have been a potential crisis.



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