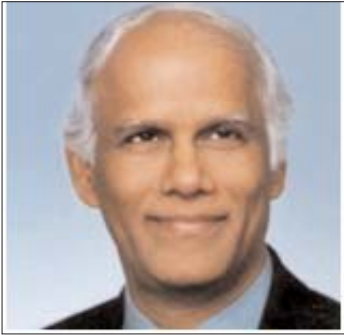


US THREATENS INDIA

India did not start Ukraine-Russia war; nor did it play any role in initiating the ongoing conflicts in west Asia. Another stark fact is that India has to take care of its 1.4 billion people, be it energy or food. Under whatever the circumstances, a democratically elected government cannot let down its people just to please the USA. The leaders in USA need to be told and retold these stark facts when they believe India’s buying the Russian crude is helping Putin continue war with Ukraine. This is in the context of the US Senate and now the House of Representatives passing the sanctions bill targeting India, Russia and perhaps China too. The Bill authorizes the US President Donald Trump to impose tariffs on countries or entities breaking the sanctions regime against buying oil from Russia. Basically the US is too pissed off with the successful BRICS summit in New Delhi in which besides Russia, China, India and Brazil, the entire global south imposed faith in a world with several powers – the multi-polar world. Interestingly barring Russian President, no leader even mentioned the USA. So BRICS was never about taking an anti-USA position; India especially was there to ensure no anti-West message goes out of the BRICS. Anyways, the US reaction was nothing surprising. The Trump administration had in the past too thrown similar fits of fury at India. Almost all these tariffs in the past were reversed but it never made the government complacent. Though India has reacted somewhat harshly to the US action, it has been gearing up for this day even since Trump showed mercurial side of his decision taking capacity. India said it will never stop buying oil from Russia. However, given the geopolitical vagaries, India has already tried to diversify its oil basket and is now gearing up to face the US tariffs.

A Vision for Advanced Packaging: Delivering Maximum Value with Minimum Investment



Prof. Rao R. Tummala

India stands at a pivotal moment in its semiconductor journey. While the nation has achieved global recognition in chip design and software, it now has a unique opportunity to become a leader in advanced packaging and eventually evolve into a world-class Systems Foundry. By focusing on advanced packaging and workforce development, India can create semiconductor-driven economy of the twenty-first century. In my opinion, advanced packaging has emerged as one of the most strategic technologies in the semiconductor industry. It enables the integration of chips, chiplets, memory, photonics, sensors, RF components, and power devices into highly functional systems that power artificial intelligence, high-performance computing, communications, transportation, healthcare, defense, and consumer electronics. As the demand for AI increases, advanced packaging is becoming the key technology that connects semiconductor innovation to real-world applications. This opportunity is further strengthened by a fundamental industry shift from the traditional System-on-Chip (SoC) paradigm to the System-on-Package (SoP) paradigm, a concept pioneered by me at Georgia Tech. For decades, semiconductor progress depended on transistor scaling to improve performance and reduce costs. Today, scaling faces physical, electrical, and economic constraints, while the cost of advanced semiconductor fabrication continues to rise dramatically. As a result, innovation is increasingly moving from the transistor level to the package and system levels. For India, advanced packaging represents a practical and highly attractive pathway into semiconductor manufacturing. Unlike advanced wafer fabrication facilities that require investments of tens of billions of dollars, advanced packaging offers significantly lower capital requirements while creating high-value manufacturing and innovation opportunities. By integrating multiple specialized chips into optimized architectures, advanced packaging delivers greater functionality, higher performance, lower power consumption, faster development cycles, and improved design flexibility. In my opinion, India's ambition should be more than participation in this transformation. The country should aspire to become a global leader in selective strategic areas of advanced packaging. This vision requires the development of a comprehensive Semiconductor-to-Systems

ecosystem that spans system design and architectures, advanced substrates and interconnect technologies, embedded power integration, assembly and testing, reliability engineering, workforce development, commercialization, and startup creation. At the center of this vision is a national innovation ecosystem built through strong partnerships among academia, industry, startups, and government. I propose the establishment of nine Industry Co-Development Technology Centers across leading institutions, including IITs, IISc, and BITS, together with a National System Integration Center and a pilot line at IIT Gandhinagar. These centers would focus on strategic technologies such as chiplet architectures, glass-core substrates, power-efficient packaging, photonic packaging, thermal management, reliability engineering, and advanced testing. The pilot line would serve as a critical bridge between research and manufacturing, accelerating the translation of laboratory innovations into commercially viable products. It would provide researchers, students, startups, and industry partners with an environment to develop, validate, and scale next-generation technologies before commercialization. A defining feature of this strategy is its distributed innovation model. Rather than concentrating resources and expertise in one location, specialized centers across the country would focus on complementary strengths. This hub-and-spoke approach would leverage India's diverse capabilities, develop regional talent, improve resilience, encourage industry participation, and accelerate innovation nationwide. Close industry engagement would ensure that research remains aligned with market needs and rapidly advances toward commercialization. Workforce development is equally important. The semiconductor industry will require thousands of engineers, scientists, technicians, operators, and manufacturing specialists. India can build this talent pipeline through interdisciplinary academic programs, industry internships, professional

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certifications, pilot-line training, and collaborative research initiatives. By aligning education with industry needs, the nation can develop one of the world's largest and most capable semiconductor workforces. Advanced packaging also supports India's broader goals of technological self-reliance, economic growth, and national security. As global supply chains seek trusted manufacturing and innovation partners, India can emerge as a preferred destination for advanced packaging, assembly, testing. This strategy can reduce import dependence, create high-value jobs, attract investments, accelerate startup creation, and strengthen national competitiveness. Achieving this vision will require, however, a sustained commitment, strategic investments, coordinated policies, and deep partnerships among government, industry, and academia. The rewards, however, will be transformative.

(The author is Father of Advanced Packaging, Emeritus Professor, Georgia Tech, Advisor, ISM)

BRICS 2026: GEO STRATEGIC BREAKTHROUGH

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The Term BRIC was coined in 2001 by an economist Jim O'Naill published in a research paper titled "The world needs a better economic BRIC" to break the domination of western economic philosophy, proxied by the allied countries.

The published research article laid the foundations of a world global partnership comprising Brazil,Russia,India, and China. The BRIC was formed with the growing economic growth and mutual economic friendship and global exchange with a shift in foreign policy towards Geo_Strategic relations.

The economic aspect of BRIC transformed into a formal diplomatic framework. The four countries of Brazil, Russia, India and China met in New York in 2006 where the foreign ministers of the four countries finalized the framework of BRIC in 2006.

The inaugural session of BRIC was first



held in 2009 in Yekaterinburg Russia in 2009 focusing primarily on global financial governance in the wake of 2008 global financial crisis.

The geo eco political organizationBRIC

became BRICS when South Africa was invited and attended the samaya summit in 2011, making BRICS intoa geo economic, political and strategic organization.

The BRICS underwent a major expan-

sion involving new members like Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia UAE and Indonesia. making a total of Brics to 11 countries.

The BRICS also incorporated several partner member/ countries for larger economic and wider geo strategic governance.

The BRICS block thus made represents half of the world's global population and 40% of world's GDP.

India hoisted the 18th BRICS summit in Bharat Mandapam on 12and 13 Sept. 2026, New Delhi under theChairship of India's PM Sh. Narendra Modi.

The focus of BRICS in new Delhi was 'building for resilience, innovation, cooperation and sustainability.

The BRICS leaders focusedon recent geo politics of Russia/ Ukraine,the middle East Crisis, the politics of oil, the strait of hormuz and the world tariff on economic growtha joint declaration of BRICS was made in Sept 2026 in New Delhi.

The declaration laid stress on Ukraine/ Russian conflicts, disturbances in middle east, world tariff on trade and domination of finances from world bank and international monetary fund, replacing with banks on reconstruction and development in the developing world.

BRICS Summit success reflects India’s rising global leadership

Rajesh Kumar Singh

The successful conclusion of the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi has once again demonstrated India’s growing influence in shaping the global conversation. More importantly, the summit reflected the vision, diplomatic maturity and decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, under whose guidance India has increasingly emerged as a confident and constructive voice on the world stage. ReadEconomic Reports

Held under the theme “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability”, the summit brought together leaders of the expanded BRICS grouping at a time when the world is facing geopolitical tensions, economic uncertainty, technological disruption and growing challenges to multilateral cooperation. The adoption of the New Delhi Declaration by consensus was one of the most significant outcomes of the summit and a strong endorsement of India's leadership. The success becomes even more significant considering the diversity of the expanded BRICS grouping. Its

members have different political systems, economic structures, strategic interests and regional priorities. Bringing such a diverse group together around a common agenda requires sustained dialogue, mutual respect and the ability to build consensus. India demonstrated precisely these qualities during its chairship.

Prime Minister Modi has consistently advocated a foreign policy based on dialogue, cooperation and strategic autonomy. This approach was clearly visible during the BRICS Summit. Rather than allowing differences among member countries to overshadow areas of common interest, India focused on practical cooperation in areas that directly affect the lives and livelihoods of people.

The scale of India's BRICS chairship itself underlines the seriousness with which the country approached the responsibility. More than 400 meetings and engagements were held across 30 cities, involving ministers, parliamentarians, officials, experts, businesses and civil society representatives. The wide geographical spread of these engagements helped take BRICS beyond a leaders-only platform and brought dif-

ferent sections of society into the process.

A particularly important aspect of India’s leadership was its emphasis on the Global South. India has repeatedly argued that developing and emerging economies must have a stronger voice in institutions of global governance. The New Delhi Declaration reaffirmed the BRICS commitment to greater representation of emerging markets and developing countries in global decision-making structures. It also called for reforms in institutions such as the United Nations, the IMF, the World Bank and the WTO.

This is consistent with Prime Minister Modi's broader vision of India as a bridge between developed and developing nations. India's own development experience gives it credibility when it speaks about digital inclusion, financial inclusion, technology, sustainable development and affordable solutions for developing societies.

Economic cooperation was a major pillar of the summit. Under India's chairship, BRICS advanced work on the Economic Partnership Strategy 2030, resilient global value chains and greater economic cooperation. Discus-

sions on cross-border payments and local currencies also continued.

India's emphasis on innovation was equally significant. Technology and science are increasingly important to economic competitiveness and social development. The summit placed innovation, science and technology at the heart of BRICS cooperation, including emerging technologies and knowledge sharing.

The summit also focused on sustainable development, climate action, healthcare, urban development, women-led development and youth cooperation, highlighting BRICS as a platform for cooperation on issues directly affecting ordinary citizens. India's chairship also highlighted the importance of people-to-people relations. Business, youth, women, academic, parliamentary and civil society forums formed an important part of the year-long engagement. Such initiatives can help BRICS evolve from an intergovernmental platform into a broader partnership among societies.

Prime Minister Modi's leadership has been particularly important in maintaining India's ability to engage simultaneously with countries that

may have competing interests. India's approach has been to keep channels of dialogue open, protect national interests and seek areas where cooperation is possible. This balanced diplomacy has enhanced India's credibility as an independent and reliable partner.

The New Delhi Summit therefore represents more than the successful hosting of an international event. It is a reflection of India's changing place in the world. The fact that BRICS leaders specifically commended India's 2026 chairship and expressed gratitude to the Government and people of India for hosting the summit is an important recognition of the country's stewardship. HireGrant Writers

The summit has also strengthened the idea that the Global South need not remain merely an observer in the making of the international order. India has increasingly sought to ensure that developing nations have a meaningful voice in discussions on global finance, trade, technology, climate change, development and international security. For Prime Minister Modi, the successful BRICS Summit is another milestone in India's continuing diplomatic journey. His emphasis on consensus,

cooperation, innovation and inclusive development has helped India project itself as a country willing to shoulder greater responsibility in global affairs. The message from New Delhi is clear: India is no longer simply responding to changes in the international system; it is increasingly helping shape the conversation about its future.

The successful conclusion of the BRICS Summit, the unanimous adoption of the New Delhi Declaration, the extensive programme conducted during India's chairship and the broad agenda covering economic growth, technology, sustainable development and Global South cooperation together make the summit a significant achievement. It is, above all, a testament to India's growing diplomatic confidence and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership at a time when the world needs greater dialogue, cooperation and trust.

The New Delhi Summit has strengthened India's position as a key voice of the Global South and as an important force in building a more balanced, inclusive and cooperative global order. The writer is a political analyst; Views presented are personal.