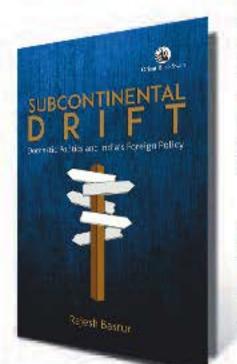
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OF TANGLED WEBS, AT HOME AND ABROAD

One of the most vital developments in today's evolving international system is the emergence of India as a rising power. However, the country is beset by domestic constraints. Subcontinental Drift by Rajesh Basrur explains why India's foreign policy is often characterised by hesitations and diversions that may hamper its growth to power.

He analyses the concept of "policy drift" through the lens of neoclassical realist theory to explain why this drift occurs so regularly in Indian foreign policy, and how it affects India's quest for major-power status. Using four cases — the India-US strategic partnership, India-Sri Lanka relations, India's nuclear strategy, and cross border terrorism — Basrur identifies two fundamental root causes of India's indecision on critical issues, one material, the other ethical. In doing so, he offers a fresh theoretical basis for understanding the relationship



between India's foreign and domestic policies. Subcontinental Drift also provides analysis on how policymakers might lower the costs of policy drift.

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