



## **Groundwork for Democratic Partnership: President Carter and U.S.-India Ties**

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On January 3, 1978, President Jimmy Carter and First Lady Rosalynn Carter traveled to the Indian village of Daulatpur Nasirabad, an hour southwest of New Delhi. He was the third American president to visit India and the only one with a personal connection to the country – his mother, Lillian, had worked there as a health volunteer with the Peace Corps during the late 1960s. The visit was so successful that shortly after, village residents renamed the area “Carterpuri” and remained in contact

America ranked India among the 10 countries where freedom of expression is most under threat, trailing closely behind China, Saudi Arabia, and Iran. Meanwhile, the previous year, Freedom House ranked India as only “partly free” due to a sharp decline in protections for political rights and civil liberties.

The economic downturn has exacerbated these fault lines, posing an obstacle to foreign investment in India, while the recent crisis in Ukraine has brought

