

POSITIVE IMPRESSEION

More Canadians view India favourably than China



■ Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau (left) and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi in February. AFP FILE

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TORONTO: More Canadians have a favourable view of India than they do of China, according to a new poll. While 44% of those polled by Angus Reid Institute (ARI) had a positive impression of India, that number dipped to 38% for China.

More than half, or 51%, have an unfavourable view of China. The views of Canadians towards India closely matched those they expressed with relation to the United States.

“America is now seen only slightly more favourably (49% say this) than India (44%),” the poll stated. However, there are significant differences when it comes to the views of Canadians towards India and America, especially when it comes to age brackets. The youngest group, those aged between 18 and 34, is far more pro-India than the US – at 51% versus 41%. However, older respondents were more favourably inclined towards the US than India.

The survey stated that Canadians appear to have

mixed views on India, though their views turn to fear when it comes to China. Bringing up the bottom in terms of favourability were China and Saudi Arabia, with just 12% having a favourable view of the latter.

But the really high favourability numbers are for the United Kingdom and Italy, each at more than 80%, while Japan, Germany and France also account for a more than 75% favourability rating.

“The countries Canadians think of most fondly are all members of the G7,” the poll noted.