

## India-EU Bilateral Brief

- **India-EU bilateral relations date to the early 1960s with India being amongst the first countries to establish diplomatic relations with the European Economic Community** in 1962. We celebrated the Golden Jubilee of our engagement in 2013. A **Cooperation Agreement signed in 1994** took the bilateral relationship beyond trade and economic cooperation. The Cooperation Agreement together with the **Joint Political Statement** signed in 1993, opened the way for annual ministerial meetings and a broad political dialogue. A multi-tiered institutional architecture of cooperation has since been created, presided over by the India-EU Summit since 2000. The first India-EU Summit took place in Lisbon on 28 June 2000 and marked a watershed in the evolution of the relationship. Since then, fourteen annual bilateral Summits have been held.
- The relationship was upgraded to a **‘Strategic Partnership’** during the 5th India-EU Summit held at The Hague in 2004. A **Joint Action Plan was adopted in 2005** (which was reviewed in 2008) and it provided for strengthening dialogue and consultation mechanisms in the political and economic spheres enhancing trade and investment, and bringing peoples and cultures together.
- India-EU relations were reinvigorated through the 13th India-EU Summit at Brussels on March 30, 2016 that was held after a gap of over 4 years since the previous Summit in New Delhi in Feb 2012. The India-EU strategic partnership has attained full momentum, the partnership diversifying beyond trade, at the 14<sup>th</sup> India-EU Summit held in New Delhi on 6 October 2017.

### 14<sup>th</sup> India-EU Summit

- **14<sup>th</sup> India-EU Summit:** The 14th India-EU summit was held in New Delhi on 6 October 2017. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi led the Indian delegation while European Council President, Mr. Donald Tusk and European Commission (EC) President, Mr. Jean Claude Juncker led the EU side. EU HR Ms. Federica Mogherini also attended the Summit meeting.
- At the 14th India-EU Summit, leaders adopted a **Joint Statement**, reaffirming their commitment to strengthen the EU-India strategic partnership. Leaders also reaffirmed to step up cooperation in tackling terrorism and adopted the **Joint Statement on Cooperation in Combating Terrorism**

- Both sides reiterated their commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement and committed to lead and work together to combat climate change, implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and encourage global low greenhouse gas emissions, climate resilient and sustainable development. Leaders also resolved to promote the global clean and low greenhouse gas emission energy transition, towards sustainable, affordable, reliable and modern energy services and adopted the **Joint Statement on Clean Energy and Climate Change**.
- The leaders also agreed to enhance EU-India cooperation on Urban Development with increasing involvement of Indian States and cities, EU Member States and regions/cities, building on regular dialogue on issues such as infrastructure, energy, sanitation and water management, to promote dialogue and partnership/twinning between local, regional and state entities and adopted the **Joint Declaration on partnership for smart and sustainable urbanization**
- The following documents were also agreed during the summit:

Implementing Arrangement between the Science & Engineering Research Board (SERB) and the European Research Council (ERC). New **€500 million EIB loan agreement** for Bangalore Metro Phase-II Project. Joint Declaration between the **Interim Secretariat of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), and the European Investment Bank (EIB)** aimed at mobilizing investments for broad-based deployment of affordable solar energy applications across the 121 prospective member countries of the ISA

### **Political/Security:**

- India and the EU interact at Foreign Minister's level with the last **India-EU ministerial** meeting taking place in New Delhi on 21 April 2017. EUHR Ms. Federica Mogherini held delegation level talks with EAM, Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Minister of State for External Affairs, Shri M J Akbar.
- **India-EU Foreign Policy Consultations** take place at the level of Secretaries. The first meeting took place in New Delhi on 15 November 2011. The last (5<sup>th</sup>) Foreign Policy and Security consultation was held in New Delhi on August 25, 2017 led by Secretary (West) Ms. Ruchi Ghanashyam from MEA and Deputy Secretary General, Mr. Jean Christophe Belliard from EU side.

- The Security Dialogue has now been merged with the Foreign Policy Consultations.
- In 2013, both sides agreed to the institution of a **dialogue on non-proliferation and disarmament under the umbrella of the Security Dialogue**, and the first meeting of this dialogue took place in New Delhi in May 2014. The last meeting was held on July 2017. Dr. Pankaj Sharma, JS(DISIA), MEA led the Indian Side and Mr. Jacek Bylica of EEAS (Special Envoy for Non-Proliferation and Disarmament) led the EU side.
- An India-EU **Ad-hoc Dialogue on Human Rights** is held in New Delhi, the eighth meeting of which took place on 27 November 2013.
- India and the EU also hold a Cyber Dialogue. The **4<sup>th</sup> India-EU Cyber Dialogue** was held in New Delhi on 29 August, 2017. The Indian side was led by OSD (AD), Shri. Sanjay Kumar Verma. Representatives from the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, National Security Council Secretariat, CBI, DoT, National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre and the National Investigation Agency were part of the Indian delegation. The EU side was led by Mr. Pawel Herczynski, Director for Security Policy, European External Action Service, who was accompanied by representatives from the EEAS and officials from the EU Delegation in New Delhi.
- The **informal meeting on India-EU Maritime Security** was held on 31 August 2017 in New Delhi. It was led by Dr. Pankaj Sharma, JS (DISIA), MEA from the Indian Side and by Mr. Pawel Herczynski, Director for Security Policy, EEAS from the EU Side.
- India and EU have an **institutionalized Dialogue on Counter-Terrorism**. The 10th India-European Union Counter Terrorism Dialogue was held on 30 August 2017 in New Delhi. The Indian side was led by Joint Secretary (CT) Shri Mahaveer Singhvi, while the EU side was led by Mr. Pawel Herczynski, Director for Security Policy, European External Action Service. The next (11<sup>th</sup>) India-EU Counter Terrorism Dialogue will take place in Brussels in 2018 on a mutually convenient date.
- A **Delegation for Relations with India (D-IN)** was formally constituted in the European Parliament (EP) in 2007 to follow relations with India. The Chairperson of the 45 member Delegation in the incumbent European Parliament is Mr. Geoffrey Van Orden. A delegation from the D-IN led by the Chairperson visited India and met the Indian political leadership in February 2017.

### **Trade and Investment**

- The EU as a bloc of 28 countries is India's largest regional trading partner while India was the EU's 9<sup>th</sup> largest trading partner in 2016. India's bilateral trade with EU 28 in 2017 (Jan-Oct 2017) stood at €70.7billion (\$79.89 billion) with India's exports valued at €37.3billion (\$42.15billion) and India's imports from the EU at €33.4billion (\$37.74 billion). During the first ten months of 2017, the trade balance in goods was in India's favour by €3.9 billion (\$4.41 billion). The trade balance actually increased by €1.5 billion (\$1.69bn) in 2017 compared to trade balance of €2.4 (\$ 2.71billion) during the corresponding period in 2016 (Jan-Oct 2016). India-EU bilateral trade in services was €28.54billion (\$32.09 billion) in 2016 comprising Indian exports of services to the EU worth € 14.7billion (\$16.61 billion) and Indian imports from the EU worth €13.84billion (\$15.64 billion).
- Over the period April 2000 to June 2017, FDI equity flows from EU countries totalled \$ 83.7 billion. At 24.45% of total FDI flows to India (\$ 342.39billion), this makes the EU India's largest source of FDI.
- India and the EU are negotiating a bilateral **Broad-based Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA)** since 2007.
- The **India-EU Joint Commission dealing with economic and commercial issues meets annually**, as do its **three Sub-Commissions on Trade, Economic Cooperation and Development Cooperation**. The last **India-EU Joint Commission** meeting was held in Brussels on 14 July 2017. The Indian side was led by Smt. Anita Praveen, JS, Dept of Commerce and the EU side was led by Mr Gunnar Wiegand, MD, Asia Pacific, EEAS
- The last **India-EU Sub- Commission on Trade** was held in Brussels on 12 July 2017. The meeting on Trade was co-chaired by Smt. Anita Praveen, JS, Dept of Commerce from the Indian side and Ms Helena Konig, Director, DG Trade from the EU side.
- The last **India-EU Sub Commission on Economic Cooperation** was held at New Delhi on 16 October 2015 chaired by Mrs. Anita Praveen, Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce, from the Indian side and Mrs. Maria Castillo Fernandez, Head of Division for India, Nepal and Bhutan at the European External Action Service, from the EU.
- The last **Sub Commission on Development Cooperation** met on 3 June 2014 in New Delhi.

- A **Macroeconomic Dialogue at Secretary Level along with a Dialogue on Financial Services Regulations** has also been instituted and takes place annually.
- The **India-EU Energy Panel** which was constituted at the 5<sup>th</sup> India-EU Summit at The Hague in 2004 for closer cooperation in the field of energy has met seven times in the past.
- Separate sub **Joint working Groups have been constituted under the Energy Panel dealing with Coal, Clean Coal Technology, Energy Efficiency/ Renewable Energy**, etc.
- **India-EU JWG on Energy Security** is the latest sub group created under India-EU Energy Panel as per the decision taken at the Indi-EU Energy Panel meeting of the 27 March 2014 held at Brussels. The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the **India-EU Energy Security** was held at New Delhi on 26 Oct 2016 along with the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the India-EU Energy Panel. The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the JWG took place in Bruges on 13 July 2017 along with an India-EU Expert Seminar towards an India-EU dialogue on low carbon energy security on 14 July 2017.
- India and EU adopted a **Joint Declaration on Clean Energy and Climate Partnership** at the 13<sup>th</sup> India-EU Summit that paves the roadmap for bilateral cooperation in the field of renewable energy and climate technologies.

### **Science & Technology**

The **India-EU Science and Technology Steering Committee** meets annually to discuss cooperation in this field and held its 11<sup>th</sup> meeting on S & T Steering Committee in Brussels from 6-8 June 2017.

- A **Dialogue on Information & Communications Technology** has also been instituted and the last meeting of the JWG on ICT took place on 13 -14 June 2016 in Brussels.
- India and the EU on 14 July 2017 announced the establishment of an Investment Facilitation Mechanism (IFM) for EU Investments in India as to enable a close coordination between the EU and India with an aim to promote and facilitate EU investment in India.

### **Infrastructure**

- European Investment Bank's (EIB) is providing a loan of €450 million for the Lucknow Metro project. The release of the first tranche of €200 million of the total €450 million loan amount was signed during the

13<sup>th</sup> India-EU Summit. **EIB has opened its first office for South Asian region headquartered in New Delhi on 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2017. A new €500 million EIB loan agreement for Bangalore Metro Phase-II Project was agreed to during the 14<sup>th</sup> India-EU Summit held at New Delhi on 6 October 2017. The **Horizontal Agreement on Civil Aviation between India and the EU became operational in February 2018.****

### **Consular**

- High-Level **Dialogue on Migration and Mobility** has been instituted at Secretary Level between the **Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs and DG Home Affairs**, the third round of which took place in New Delhi on 2 July 2012. At the 13<sup>th</sup> India-EU Summit, India and EU adopted a **Joint Declaration on Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility (CAMM)** that facilitates legal migration on both sides.
- **The 4<sup>th</sup> High Level Dialogue on Migration and Mobility** was held in Brussels on 4 April, 2017. The four priority areas listed in the Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility dealing with Regular and irregular migration, development aspect of Migration & International protection was discussed in the meeting.

India and the EU have in total around 30 institutionalized dialogue mechanisms on diverse sectors including JWGs on Agriculture and Marine Products, SPS/TBT issues, textiles, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology etc

\*\*\*\*\*

---

17 March 2018