

The Foreign Policies of India with the United States

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ABSTRACT

Based on common democratic principles and a growing union of interests on bilateral, global and regional concerns, India and the United States have grown their bilateral relations into a "global strategic partnership." The concentration on growth and decent governance by the Indian government has given a chance to strengthen bilateral ties and cooperation under the mottos "Sanjha Prayas, Sab ka Vikas" (Shared Effort, Progress for All) and "Chalein Saath Saath" (Forward Together We Go), which were adopted during the first two summits between Prime Minister Modi and President Obama in September 2014 and January 2015, respectively. India and the United States were described as "Enduring Global Partners in the 21st Century" in the summit-level joint statement released in June 2016.

Regular high-level political meetings have sustainedly boosted bilateral cooperation, and the extensive and expanding dialogue architecture has laid the groundwork for future India-U.S. engagement. The business and funding, security and defence, educational, and other facets of the bilateral relationship between the United States and India have all expanded and become cross-cutting. Active interpersonal communication and support from the public in both countries help to strengthen our bilateral relationship.

Keywords- India, United States, Foreign policy, Education, Defence.

I. INTRODUCTION

Recently, there have been many more high-level visits and interactions between the U.S. and India. From September 26 to 30, 2014, Prime Minister Modi paid a visit to the United States. While there, he met with President Obama, U.S. Congress members, political figures from different States and localities, and the president's cabinet. Additionally, he contacted leaders in American business and industry, civil society, the Indian-American community and the think tanks. During the visit, a Strategic Vision and a Joint Statement were released.

Following the trip, President Obama travelled to India as the chief guest for India's Republic Day from January 25–27, 2015. A Delhi Declaration of Friendship and a Joint Strategic Vision for the Asia-Pacific and Indian Ocean Region were adopted during the two parties' visit adopted during the visit by the two parties. Both parties upgraded the Strategic and Commercial Dialogue

of Foreign and Commerce Ministers from the Strategic Dialogue among their respective Foreign Ministers.

On September 23–28, 2015, Prime Minister Modi paid a second visit to the United States. During that time, he met with President Obama in a private setting. He spoke with influential figures in business, the media, academia, local government, and the Indian community while visiting Silicon Valley. During the multilateral Nuclear Security Summit President Obama hosted in Washington, D.C., from March 31 to April 1, 2016, the Prime Minister paid a visit there. A short time later, on June 6–8, the prime minister paid an official working visit to the United States, during which he spoke to a joint session of Congress and conducted bilateral conversations with President Obama. The 6th Indian PM to address Congress was Prime Minister Modi. The two nations' presidents frequently communicate with one another via phone calls and meetings that take place outside of international gatherings. Since the former's election in November 2016, President Trump and Prime Minister Modi have spoken three times on the phone. A hotline has

been set up between the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and the American White House.

II. INDIA-US DIALOGUE

Between the two governments, there are more than 50 bilateral dialogue structures. The EAM and MoS (Commerce & Industry) convened the first two meetings of the Strategic and Commercial Dialogue in Washington, DC, in September 2015 and in New Delhi, India, in August 2016. The five traditional pillars of bilateral relations—strategic cooperation; energy and economy, climate change; trade, education and development, agriculture; science and technology; and health and innovation—were the focus of the previous Strategic Dialogue of Foreign Ministers now include a commercial component. On August 30, 2016, the Strategic and Commercial Dialogue had its second meeting in New Delhi. The Homeland Security Dialogue, the Trade Policy Forum, the Financial and Economic Partnership, the Higher Education Dialogue, the Joint Commission Meeting on S&T, and the Energy Dialogue are other Ministerial-level discussions (Energy Dialogue).

III. MAJOR EXCHANGES

In 2015, several high-level delegations were going both ways. John Kerry, the secretary of state, led the American team to the Vibrant Gujarat Summit in Ahmedabad in January. Jacob Lew, the secretary of the Treasury for the United States, came to India in February to participate in the fifth Economic and Financial Partnership Initiative meeting with our finance minister. Anthony Foxx, the secretary of transportation for the United States, travelled to India in April to meet with Indian counterpart ministers. In June, India and Secretary of Defense, Ashton Carter exchanged visitors. The Finance Minister of India and the MOS (IC) for Environment, Forests, and Climate Change both travelled to Washington, DC, in April, the former for the IMF/World Bank Spring Meeting and the latter for the meeting of the Major Economies' Forum. The finance minister returned to the United States in June to encourage investment in India. Together with their American counterparts, the External Affairs Minister and MOS (IC) for Commerce & Industry co-chaired the Strategic and Commercial Dialogue's inaugural meeting in Washington, DC, in September. The Energy Dialogue was held in September in Washington, DC, by the MOS (IC) for Power and his American counterpart. In October, the Secretary of State Kerry hosted Climate, and Clean Energy Investment Forum 2015 was attended by the MOS (IC) for Power, Coal, and New & Renewable Energy. In October, the U.S. Trade Representative and MOS (IC) for Commerce & Industry met for the ninth time at the Trade Policy Forum in Washington, DC. In December 2015, Raksha Mantri travelled to the United States at the invitation of his American counterpart. In August, the

state delegation was led by the Haryana Chief Minister. Senior officials and members of parliament have travelled in both directions on several occasions.

Additionally, to encourage investment in their states, Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan (August), Jharkhand Shri Raghubar Das (September), Telangana Shri Chandra Sekhar Rao (September), and Chhattisgarh Shri Raman Singh (November/December) all paid visits to the United States. The high-level discussions have continued through 2017. In March, US Energy Secretary Mr. Rick Perry met Indian Minister of State (I/C) for Petroleum & Natural Gas Shri Dharmendra Pradhan on his tour to Houston and Washington, DC. For the IMF-WB meeting in April, Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley travelled to the US and met with his American counterpart. The National Security Advisor and Foreign Secretary stayed the United States in March and spoke with a variety of senior American leaders. IN APRIL, NSA H.R. McMaster from the United States paid a visit to India.

IV. STRATEGIC CONSULTATIONS

There have been frequent meetings at governmental levels for the interaction framework, including key Foreign Office Consultations between the U.S. Undersecretary for Political Affairs and the Indian Foreign Secretary. In April 2015, the most recent round of Foreign Office Consultations took place in New Delhi. The Indian Foreign Secretary and the American Deputy Secretary of State began a new high-level consultation in September 2015. They have since met twice, first in New Delhi in December 2015 and once in Washington, D.C., in July 2016. Additionally, in September 2015, a Policy Planning Dialogue was initiated between the two parties.

V. DEFENCE STRATEGIES

With the signing of the "New Framework for India-U.S. Defense Relations" in 2005 and the ensuing intensification of defence trade, joint exercises, personnel exchanges, collaboration and cooperation in maritime security and counter-piracy, as well as exchanges between each of the three services, the defence relationship has emerged as a key pillar of the India-U.S. strategic partnership. In June 2015, the Defence Framework Agreement was amended and extended for an additional ten years.

More bilateral exercises are now carried out between the two nations than they do with any other nation. With an Indian Naval Frigate, India took part in the Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise in July-August 2016 for the second time. The Fuel Exchange Agreement, the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Association (LEMOA), the Technical Agreement (TA) on Information Sharing on White (merchant) Shipping, the Information Exchange Annexe (IEA) on Aircraft Carrier Technologies, and the Agreement on the Exchange of

Information on White (merchant) Shipping were all signed within the past year.

The United States recognised India as a "Major Defence Partner" during the visit of the Indian Prime Minister to the United States in June 2016.

VI. TRADE AND ECONOMIC

Trade in products and services between India and the US rose from \$104 billion in 2014 to \$114 billion in 2016. The value of the two-way merchandise trade was \$66.7 billion. In comparison, India imported \$21.7 billion worth of commodities from the US while exporting \$46 billion worth of goods to the US. \$47.2 billion was traded in services between India and the US. Out of this, India exported services worth \$26.8 billion to the US and imported services worth \$20 billion from the US. Both nations have pledged to make it easier to take the steps required to boost bilateral trade to \$500 billion. The growth trajectory of the bilateral merchandise trade in 2017 is favourable. Bilateral commerce in goods reached \$17.2 billion in the first three months, up from \$16.2 billion in the same time in 2016. India exported \$11.4 billion to the US and imported \$5.8 billion from the US of this total. Additionally, the trade imbalance between January and March 2017 decreased from \$6.4 billion in 2016 to \$5.6 billion in 2017.

The two countries agreed to raise bilateral trade in products and services to \$500 billion during the Prime Minister's visit to the United States in September 2014. In June 2016, Prime Minister Modi and President Obama agreed to look for innovative ways to remove restrictions on the flow of products and services and to facilitate deeper integration into global supply chains in order to boost both countries' employment and welfare.

The US Bureau of Economic Analysis estimates that in 2015, US direct investments in India totalled \$28.33 billion. According to official Indian figures, the US was the fifth most significant source of FDI into India between April 2000 and December 2015, with cumulative FDI inflows totalling around \$ 17.94 billion. This represents about 6% of all FDI into India. Growing Indian investments in the US have become a distinctive aspect of bilateral relations in recent years. In 35 states, 100 Indian companies have made direct investments of \$ 15 billion, according to a CII and Grant Thornton survey published in August 2015. These investments have led to the creation of more than 91,000 American employees. Reliance Industries Limited, Tata Consultancy Services, Wipro, Essar America, Piramal, Mahindra, Lupin, SunPharma, and other large Indian companies have operations in the United States.

VII. EDUCATION

The strategic partnership between the two nations has made cooperation in the education sector a key component. With an expanded scope and joint funding, the Fulbright programme was revived in 2008 to offer more awards for student and scholar exchanges. In the United States, about 130,000 Indian students are seeking higher degrees. The Higher Education Dialogue, which has met four times since 2011 (the most recent in November 2014 in New Delhi), outlined a plan for creating collaborations in vocational education, advancing research and development collaboration, and emphasising junior faculty development.

India is taking lessons from the community college system in the United States in order to suit our needs for skill development. To broaden the scope of education in India, it has been decided to work with American institutions in the fields of technology-enhanced learning and massive open online courses (MOOCs). Up to 1000 American academics would be invited and hosted annually to teach in Indian colleges at their convenience as part of the Global Initiative of Academic Networks (GIAN) that India launched. Additionally, the two parties are working together to open a new Indian Institute of Technology in Ahmedabad.

VIII. CONCLUSION

The use of power, diversity of security partnerships, and the pursuit of status are three fundamental aspects of this depiction of Narendra Modi's strategic approach to foreign policy. The following are its main conclusions. First, while it is usual to link a preference for tough policies with "Hindu nationalism," the idea that Modi's foreign policy contains a Hindu component is not helpful. The data does not point to any particular trend of foreign policy thinking or action by Modi (or even his BJP predecessor Vajpayee) that would indicate a Hindu nationalist bias in Indian foreign policy under the BJP, which is so obvious in the domestic sphere. It is obvious that an explanation for this divergence is necessary, but it cannot be provided here due to space considerations.

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