

## **India - Canada Relations**

1. India-Canada share a strategic partnership underpinned by shared values of democracy and pluralism. These have expanded significantly in recent years aided by heightened economic engagement, regular high level interactions and long-standing people-to-people ties.
2. Canada is home to over 1.2 million Persons of Indian Origin (PIO) who comprise more than 3% of its population. The highly educated, affluent and industrious PIOs, one of the largest immigrant groups in Canada are well integrated with the mainstream and also active politically.
3. At the political level, the relations in recent years have been marked by regular high level interactions. Over the years an array of institutional mechanisms have been put in place to promote bilateral cooperation.
4. Prime Minister Jean Chretien visited India in 2003 and PM Paul Martin in 2005. PM Stephen Harper paid an official visit to India from 15-18 November 2009. PM Dr. Manmohan Singh visited Toronto from 25-26 June 2010 to attend the G-20 Summit, when a bilateral component was also added on 27<sup>th</sup> June. Both sides held the second round of the Strategic Dialogue in New Delhi on 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 co-chaired by External Affairs Minister (EAM) Salman Khurshid and Foreign Minister John Baird. The first round was held in Toronto on 23 September, 2013. Governor General David Johnston, paid a state visit to India from 22 February to 2 March 2014, covering New Delhi, Bangalore and Mumbai.
5. PM Modi's bilateral visit to Canada on April 14-16, 2015 was historic. He visited Ottawa, Toronto and Vancouver. He held extensive discussions with Canada's political, business and academic leaders and also addressed some 10,000 PIO's & friends of India, at Toronto on 15<sup>th</sup> April.
6. Documents signed during the visit include: MoU between ISRO and the Canadian Space Agency concerning Cooperation in the field of Space; MoU between the Ministry of Railways and Department of Transport of Canada on Technical Cooperation in Rail Transportation ; MoU between Ministry of Civil Aviation and Department of Transport of Canada on Deepening Cooperation in Civil Aviation; Letter of intent Between Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology and Grand Challenges Canada for the implementation of Collaboration in disease elimination and Saving Brain Initiative. An Agreement between the Indian Department of Atomic Energy and Cameco of Canada for long-term supply of uranium to India was also concluded (Second shipment reached India in December 2016).
7. On 21<sup>st</sup> October 2015, PM Modi called to congratulate Mr. Justin Trudeau on his election as the Prime Minister of Canada. PM invited him to pay an official visit to India. PM Modi met Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on the margins of the Nuclear Safety Summit in Washington D.C. on March 31/1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. PM Justin Trudeau had a telephone conversation with PM Modi on June 19, 2017. PM Modi congratulated PM Trudeau on the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Canada as a Federation. Both leaders also discussed issues of mutual interest. They also met on the margins of the G-20 summit

in Hamburg on 7<sup>th</sup> July, 2017. They discussed India-Canada relations and measures to further the bilateral partnership in areas such as education, trade, investment, connectivity and combating climate change. Again on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2017 PM Trudeau called PM Modi to discuss the flood situation in India.

**Recent Indian Delegation's visit to Canada:**

- Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, MOS for Commerce & Industry to attend the 3rd Annual Trade Ministers' Dialogue on 28 -30th September, 2016;
- Shri Arun Jaitley, Finance Minister for Financial Dialogue in Toronto on October 2 -5, 2016;
- Dr. Arvind Gupta, Deputy NSA and Secretary, National Security Council Secretariat for the 3rd India- Canada Security Dialogue in Ottawa on 24 -27 January, 2017;
- Shri Ravi Thapar, Additional Secretary(CT) to attend the Joint Working Group Meeting on Counter Terrorism on 21st February, 2017;
- Shri B.V. Sudhakar, Secretary(Posts), Ministry of Communications, GOI ; Ottawa/Toronto on 13 -17th February 2017
- Smt. PreetiSaran,Secretary(East)/Sh. MunuMahawar, JSAMS), MEA visited Toronto and Ottawa from July 10-13, 2017
- Shri Chaudhary Rao Birender Singh, Union Minister for Steel visited Toronto, Calgary and Winnipeg, on July 9 -14, 2017
- Shri Ajay Narayan Jha, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, accompanied with Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, JS, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change visited Montreal on September 14-16 to attend the Climate Change Conference.

**Recent Canadian Delegation's visit to India:**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> India-Canada Security dialogue Ottawa 24-27 January, 2017
- Mr. Ian Shugart, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs -27 Feb till 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2017
- Mr. FrancoisPhillippe Champagne – Minister International Trade- 3.3.2017
- Mr. LwarenceMacAuley, Minister of Agriculture– 4-11 March, 2017
- Ms. BardishChagger, Government House Leader in the House of Commons, and Minister of Small Business and Tourism from March 23 to 31, 2017
- Mr. Harjit Singh Sajjan, Defence Minister from April 17 to 23, 2017

**Trade and Economy:**

8. The two-way trade has increased from C\$ 4.2 billion (US\$ 3.21 bn approx.) in 2010 to C\$8.02 billion(US \$6.05 bn approximately) in 2016, but does not reflect the true potential. India accounts for only 1.95% of Canada's global trade. Major items of India exports to Canada include gems, jewellery and precious stones, pharmaceutical products, readymade garments, textiles, organic chemicals, light engineering goods, iron & steel articles, etc. India's import from Canada include pulses, newsprint, wood pulp, asbestos, potash, iron scrap, copper, minerals and industrial chemicals, etc.

9. The cumulative India FDI, as per Statistics Canada in 2016 was C \$2811 million(US\$ 2093.53 million) as against Canadian FDI of C\$ 1210 million(US\$ 901.1693 million) in India. Indian companies have invested especially in the IT, software, steel and natural resources sectors. Substantial operations in Canada

include Aditya Birla Group, Essar Steel, Tata Consultancy Services, Tata Steel Minerals Canada, Tech Mahindra, WIPRO, Infosys Technology, Jubilant Life Sciences, Abellon Energy Inc, IFFCO and Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited(GSFC), Two Banks-State Bank of India and ICICI, have seven and nine branches respectively in Canada.

10. In the Joint Statement, issued during the visit of PM Modi, both sides agreed to pursue specific measures in this regard including early finalization of the Bilateral Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement(BIPPA). The two leaders also welcomed the agreement on road map to expeditiously conclude a progressive, balanced and mutually beneficial CEPA. CEPA negotiations commenced in November 2010. The 9<sup>th</sup> round was held in New Delhi in March 2015.

11. India and Canada have also established institutionalized mechanisms to promote bilateral economic ties including Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment; Trade Policy Consultations at the level of Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce; and the Economic and Financial Sector Policy. The India-Canada CEO Forum was constituted in 2013 to improve bilateral trade and investment flows. The inaugural meeting of the Forum was convened in November 2013 in New Delhi. The secretariat for the Forum is provided by the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) and the Canadian Council of Chief Executives (CCCE). The Forum identified natural resources, infrastructure, education, information and communication technology and financial services as priority sectors.

#### **Canada - India Parliamentary Friendship Group:**

12. Canadian Parliament has constituted a new Canada- India Parliamentary Friendship Group (CIPEG) with over 80 MPs from both Houses of Parliament cutting across party lines signing for its membership, making it the largest ever CIPEG. A six member (MPs/Senators) Canadian Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) delegation visited India on September 10 -14, 2016.

#### **Cooperation in Energy sectors:**

13. Nuclear Energy: The Nuclear Cooperation Agreement (NCA), which was signed in June 2010, came into force in September 2013. The Appropriate Arrangement (AA) for the NCA was signed in March 2013, under which a Joint Committee on Civil Nuclear Cooperation was constituted. It held its first meeting in Mumbai on 29 November, 2013. The 2nd meeting was held in Ottawa in November 2014. On 15th April 2015, the Department of Atomic Energy signed a \$350 million contract with Cameco, a Saskatoon-based company, to purchase 7 million pounds of uranium concentrate over the next 5 years. The first shipment arrived in India in December 2015.

#### **Energy Dialogue:**

14. Canadian Minister for Natural Resources Jim Carr led a government's first official visit and trade mission delegation to New Delhi, India for India – Canada Energy Dialogue on September 7 - 9, 2016. The delegation comprised twenty representatives both officials and representatives from Canada's oil and gas,

renewables and electricity, and academic sectors and were successful in creating new partnerships and new applications for renewable energy and clean technology. A MOU on PNG cooperation between Ministry of PNG and NRCan was concluded. In addition, an Expression of Intent on collaboration between Alberta Marketing Petroleum Commission (APMC) and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) was also signed, creating a framework to explore the prospects of APMC selling crude to IOC under term contracts.

### **Education Sector:**

15. Over 100,000/- Indian students study in Canada. Education is a key area of collaboration between the two countries. The MOU on Cooperation in Higher Education was signed in June 2010, which covers student and faculty exchange, research and curriculum development, organization of workshop and seminars, twinning between institutions of higher learning, facilitate mutual recognition of educational qualifications, policy dialogue in areas of mutual interest, among others.

16. IC-IMPACTS (the India-Canada Centre for Innovative Multidisciplinary Partnerships to Accelerate Community Transformation and Sustainability), which is a Canada-India Research Centre of Excellence dedicated to the development of research collaborations between Canada and India, seeks to bring together researchers, industry innovators, community leaders, government agencies, and community organizations from across India and Canada to work together to find solutions to the key challenges facing the communities. IC-IMPACTS is working with the National Mission for Clean Ganga to find innovative technological solutions to clean the river Ganga; the 'Water for Health' collaboration with Department of Biotechnology and with DST on 'Safe and Sustainable Infrastructure' and 'Integrated Water-Management' initiatives.

### **S&T and Space:**

17. India and Canada have been cooperating since 1990s in the areas of space science, earth observation, satellite launch services and ground support for space missions. ISRO and CSA (Canadian Space Agency) have signed MOUs for cooperation in the field of exploration and utilization of outer space and two Implementation Arrangements specifically addressing satellite tracking and space astronomy. ANTRIX, the Commercial arm of ISRO, has launched nine nanosatellite under a commercial arrangement with University of Toronto - Institute of Aerospace Studies (UTIAS). ANTRIX also launched a microsatellite SAPPHIRE (commercial contract with MacDonald, Dettwiler & Associates (MDA), Canada and NEOSat (contract with Microsat Systems, Canada) as auxiliary satellites on the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C20) in February 2013. The PSLV-C23, which was launched in June 2014 carried two Canadian satellites, CanX-4 and CanX-5, from the University of Toronto's Institute for Aerospace Studies Space Flight Laboratory.

**Indian Diaspora:**

18. The Diaspora is well represented in federal Parliament and provincial legislatures. In the present House of Commons (elections held on 19 October 2015), there are 21 MPs of Indian origin (up from 9). Four PIOs now hold Cabinet berths (up from two of Ministers of State in the last Cabinet). Prominent Indo-Canadian organisations include Canada India Business Council (CIBC), Canada India Foundation (CIF), Indo-Canada Chamber of Commerce (I-CCC) and other local chambers and associations.

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