

AGREED MINUTES OF INDIA-MONGOLIA JOINT COMMITTEE ON COOPERATION

The 6th meeting of the India-Mongolia Joint Committee on Cooperation was held in Ulaanbaatar on 25 April 2018. The Meeting was jointly chaired by H.E. Mrs. Sushma Swaraj, Minister for External Affairs of India and H.E. Mr. Damdin Tsogtbaatar, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mongolia.

1. The two sides noted the continued development of bilateral relations in the framework of Strategic Partnership based on deep civilizational, historical, spiritual and cultural linkages between India and Mongolia. The two sides have agreed to continue the tradition of working together and mutually supporting each other in regional and international fora. The Mongolian side noted that strengthening relations and cooperation with India, an important third neighbor of Mongolia, is one of the top priorities of its foreign policy.
2. The two sides recalled the historic state visit of H.E. Mr. Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India, to Mongolia in May 2015 during which the partnership between the two countries was raised to the level of Strategic Partnership. Both sides acknowledged the importance of maintaining the momentum generated through reciprocal high level visits, and agreed to further promote exchanges at all levels.
3. The Mongolian side welcomed the formation of the India-Mongolia Parliamentary Friendship Group in the Parliament of India. Both sides noted that the Friendship Groups in both Parliaments will make substantial contributions to our bilateral relations.
4. The two sides noted with satisfaction their cooperation in the areas of national security, defense and border protection. Both sides underscored their desire to continue joint military exercise "Nomadic Elephant" and Indian participation in "Khaan Quest" multilateral exercises.
5. The two sides agreed to further promote the cooperation and direct links between the relevant Ministries and Agencies of both countries. The two sides look forward to the visit by H.E. Mr. Rajnath Singh, Home Minister of India, to Mongolia.
6. Both sides acknowledged the importance of cooperation between the National Security Councils of the two countries. The Indian side reiterated the invitation to the Secretary of the National Security Council of Mongolia to visit India for discussions in areas of mutual interest in May 2018.

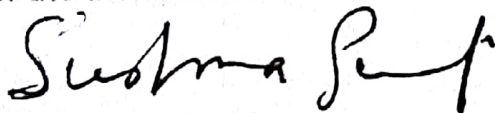
7. Both sides agreed to hold the Foreign Office Consultations on a regular basis, alternating in Mongolia and India, to discuss bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest.
8. Recognizing the need for expansion of trade and investment cooperation between the two countries, both sides decided to promote frequent interactions between the business communities and also encourage their participation in various business events and trade fairs organized in the two countries.
9. The Mongolian side expressed appreciation for scholarships and trainings provided by India to Mongolian students and public servants which is playing an important role in human resource development in Mongolia. The Indian side offered to organize special orientation courses and training programmes for senior Mongolian Government officials at premier Indian institutes in the field of public policy and governance, as well as special training programmes for Mongolian diplomats at the Foreign Service Institute in India. The Mongolian side welcomed the proposals.
10. Given the potential for cooperation in mining and exploration sector, both sides decided to reinvigorate consultations among experts from both sides for further deliberations in the area of mineral processing and mining industry.
11. Both sides agreed to finalize the Detailed Feasibility Study (DFS) report within May 2018 that is being conducted by the Engineers India Limited (EIL) in coordination with the Ministry of Mining and Heavy Industry of Mongolia for the implementation of the Oil refinery plant with crude oil supply pipeline project to be built in Mongolia through a Line of Credit (LOC) of USD 1 billion offered by the Government of India.
12. With an objective to encourage exchange through establishing air connectivity between the two countries, both sides agreed on the need for better air services between Mongolia and India.
13. Given the scope for cooperation in the field of Information and Communication Technology, both sides agreed to create a roadmap for cooperation in this area.
14. Both sides reviewed the progress on "Atal Bihari Vajpayee Centre for Excellence in Information and Communication Technology" project in Ulaanbaatar. Both sides agreed to consider steps for speedy execution of the project.
15. The Indian side proposed to the Mongolian side a familiarization tour to up to 10 Mongolian journalists in India on regular basis, to promote media cooperation between the two countries. Both sides agreed to further strengthen cooperation

between the official public broadcasting agencies. The Indian side also proposed a training programme for personnel from the Mongolian Broadcasting Corporation.

16. Both sides agreed to discuss modalities for expeditious setting up of Mongolia-India Friendship School in Ulaanbaatar announced during the visit of Prime Minister Modi to Mongolia.
17. The two sides agreed to further develop cooperation in education and healthcare sectors.
18. Both sides noted with satisfaction the ongoing cooperation in the field of traditional medicine and decided to expand it further with emphasis on research and development. Both sides welcomed the visit of H.E. Mr Shripad Yesso Naik, Minister of AYUSH to Mongolia later this year to provide an impetus to cooperation in the field of traditional medicine and Yoga.
19. Both sides reviewed the progress on cooperation between the Department of Atomic Energy of India and the Mongolian Nuclear Energy Commission. They noted with satisfaction the successful operation of the Bhabhatron cancer therapy equipment installed at the National Cancer Centre, Ulaanbaatar.
20. The Indian side expressed gratitude to the Mongolian side for celebrating the Centenary of Kushok Bakula Rinpoche in Ulaanbaatar.
21. The two sides agreed to hold the next meeting of the India-Mongolia Joint Committee on Cooperation in New Delhi in 2019.

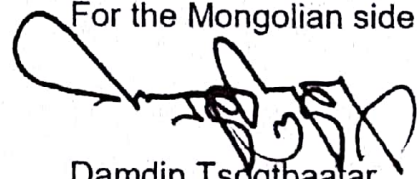
Done at Ulaanbaatar on 25 April 2018.

For the Indian side



Sushma Swaraj
Minister for External Affairs
Government of India

For the Mongolian side



Damdin Tsogtbaatar
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Government of Mongolia