

## **India-US Bilateral Relations**

India and United States enjoy a comprehensive global strategic partnership covering almost all areas of human endeavor, driven by shared democratic values, convergence of interests on a range of issues, and vibrant people-to-people contacts.

### ***High-Level Exchanges***

2. Regular dialogue between the Leaders is an important element of the expanding bilateral ties. India has been working with successive US Administrations - Republican and Democrat. PM Modi was one of the first leaders to congratulate President Trump on his re-election, through a tweet followed by a phone call. They spoke subsequently in January, June, September and December 2025. They also spoke on February 2, 2026, wherein U.S. made the announcement of reducing tariff on Indian products to 18%.

3. President Trump hosted Prime Minister Modi for an Official Working Visit in Washington, DC on February 13, 2025. During the visit the leaders launched new initiative – the "U.S.-India **COMPACT** (Catalyzing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce & Technology) for the 21st Century" – to drive transformative change across key pillars of cooperation. Under this initiative, they committed to a results-driven agenda with initial outcomes this year to demonstrate the level of trust for a mutually beneficial partnership.

4. During the visit, Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard and former NSA Michael Waltz called on Prime Minister. The discussions touched upon ways to further deepen the India-U.S. Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership, with a focus on strategic technologies, as well as defense industrial cooperation and civil nuclear energy with an emphasis on small modular reactors, and counterterrorism. Elon Musk, Head of the U.S. Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) and CEO of Tesla also called on Prime Minister. They discussed strengthening collaboration between Indian and US entities in innovation, space exploration, artificial intelligence, and sustainable development. Their discussion also touched on opportunities to deepen cooperation in emerging technologies, entrepreneurship and good governance.

5. In March 2025, DNI Tulsi Gabbard and Commander INDOPACOM Paparo visited India to participate in the Raisina Dialogue. DNI Gabbard called on Prime Minister, wherein they exchanged views on further advancing the bilateral

strategic partnership, including through combating terrorism and enhancing maritime and cyber security cooperation. She also interacted with EAM and RM.

6. In April 2025, Vice-President J.D. Vance paid an Official Visit to India and was accompanied by Second Lady Mrs. Usha Vance, their children, and senior members of the U.S. Administration. This was his first visit to India wherein he met with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 21 April 2025. During the visit, Vice President Vance and Prime Minister Modi announced the Terms of Reference for a bilateral trade agreement between the United States and India. Vice President had other engagements in Delhi and thereafter visited Jaipur and Agra before departing for Washington, D.C., on 24 April 2025.

7. In May 2025, Foreign Secretary Shri Vikram Misri visited Washington, D.C. from May 27–29, 2025, for a series of high-level engagements with senior officials of the U.S. Administration. The visit was a follow-up to the Prime Minister's visit to the United States on February 13, 2025, during which both sides launched the India-U.S. COMPACT (Catalysing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce & Technology) for the 21st Century. Deputy National Security Advisor Shri Pavan Kapoor was also part of the Indian delegation. During his visit, Foreign Secretary Misri held wide-ranging discussions with counterparts across the Department of State, National Security Council, Department of Defense, Department of the Treasury, and the Department of Commerce. Consistent with the vision outlined in the COMPACT, detailed inter-agency discussions were held on a range of strategic areas including defence cooperation, energy security, TRUST initiative, counter-terrorism, the Indian Ocean Strategic Venture, and collaboration through platforms such as the Quad, I2U2, and IMEEC.

8. External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar undertook an official visit to United States of America from 30 June to 02 July 2025 to participate in the next edition of the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting (QFMM), scheduled for 1 July 2025. The Quad Foreign Ministers built upon the discussions held during the last QFMM, which took place in Washington D.C. on 21 January 2025. They exchanged views on regional and global developments, particularly those concerning the Indo-Pacific, and review the progress made on various Quad initiatives. While in Washington D.C., EAM also held meetings with U.S. Secretary of Defence Pete Hegseth, Secretary Energy Chris Wright, DNI Gabbard and FBI Director Kash Patel. EAM and Secretary Rubio had a meeting on 22 September 2025, in New York, on the sidelines of UNGA meetings. They also met in KL on October 26, 2025. EAM and Secretary Rubio also held discussions on the sidelines of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Canada, on 12 November

2025. External Affairs Minister recently visited Washington D.C. on 3-4 February 2026 to participate in the U.S. led Critical Minerals Ministerial. During the visit, EAM also met for a bilateral meeting with Secretary Rubio and U.S. Secretary of Treasury Scott Bessent. Earlier, in January 2026, MeitY Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw participated in a US-hosted Critical Minerals Finance Ministerial Meeting in Washington D.C., organized by U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent.

9. At the invitation of the U.S., MOS KV Singh attended the Gaza Peace Summit at Sharm el-Sheikh on 13 October 2025, as a special representative of the Prime Minister.

10. The Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Allison Hooker visited India for the Foreign Office Consultations, co-chaired with Foreign Secretary, on 9 December 2025. She also visited Bengaluru for engagements at ISRO.

### **Parliamentary Exchanges**

11. India-US relations enjoy strong bipartisan support in the US Congress. The India Caucus in the US Congress comprising the Senate India Caucus and the House Caucus on India and Indian Americans is one of the largest single country Caucus in the US Congress with more than 100 members.

12. A multi-party Parliamentary Delegation led by Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, visited Washington D.C. from 3-6 June, 2025. The delegation engaged with members of the U.S. Congress, U.S. think tanks and media professionals to brief about Operation Sindoor, terrorism faced by India and regional security. The delegation called on Vice President J.D. Vance and also held discussions with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau. The constructive and useful discussion resulted in comprehensive exchange on India's fight against terrorism, advancing counter-terrorism cooperation and enhancing technological cooperation between the two countries. The shared commitment to deepening the India-US strategic partnership was also reaffirmed.

### **Defence Cooperation**

13. India-US defence cooperation is based on "New Framework for India-US Defence Cooperation", which was renewed for ten years in 2015. In 2016, the defence relationship was designated as a Major Defence Partnership (MDP). On

30 July 2018, India was moved into the Tier-1 of the US Department of Commerce's Strategic Trade Authorization license exception.

14. Defence cooperation is multifaceted and includes regular institutionalized bilateral dialogue, military exercises, and defence procurements. At the apex of dialogue mechanisms is the 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue co-chaired by the Minister of External Affairs and Minister of Defence and the US Secretary of State and Secretary of Defense. This dialogue provides guidance on political, military and strategic issues. The fifth 2 + 2 Ministerial Dialogue took place in November 2023 in New Delhi. RM visited US in August 2024. Security of Supply Arrangement (SoSA) and MoA regarding Assignment of Liaison Officers were signed during the visit. On February 6, 2025, RM spoke with Defence Secretary Hegseth. They had their first in-person meeting on October 31, 2025 in KL at the ADMM+. After the meeting, both leaders signed the 'framework for the US-India major defence partnership' which will usher a new era in an already strong defence partnership. The 2025 framework marks a new chapter to further transform the partnership over the next 10 years. It is intended to provide a unified vision and policy direction to deepen defence cooperation.

15. The Defense Policy Group (DPG) headed by the Defence Secretary and Under Secretary of Defense (Policy) provides a platform for a comprehensive review of defense dialogues/mechanisms. The 17<sup>th</sup> DPG was held in Washington D.C. in May 2023. Defence procurement from the US is growing and amounts to more than US\$20 billion. Major US-origin platforms in use include C-130J, C-17, Apache, Chinook, MH60R helicopters, and P8I. Other bilateral dialogue mechanisms are the Defense Production and Procurement Group (DPPG), Joint Technology Group (JTG), bilateral Maritime Security Dialogue, Industrial Security Summit and the Defence Trade and Technology Initiative.

16. Since 2022, four US' Maritime Sealift Command ships have visited Indian Shipyards for repair and allied services based on commercial contracts.

17. Important defence agreements which provide the framework for interaction and cooperation are: Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (2016); Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (2018); Industrial Security Agreement (2019); and Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (2020) and Memorandum of Intent for Defense Innovation Cooperation (2018); Security of Supplies Arrangement (SOSA). Both sides also signed the deal on MQ-9B Reapers in October 2024.

18. The India-US Defence Industrial Cooperation Roadmap which concluded in May 2023, seeks to fast-track technology cooperation and co-production in areas of mutual interest. The India-US Defense Acceleration Ecosystem (INDUS X) – a network of universities, incubators, corporates, think tanks, and private investment stakeholders was launched in June 2023. The second INDUS X Summit was held in New Delhi in February 2024 and subsequently a INDUSX Investors Summit was held in September 2024. The 24th India-US Joint Technical Group (JTG) plenary meeting was hosted by DRDO in New Delhi on February 3-4, 2026, focusing on advancing defense science, technology, and collaborative innovation.

19. Military to Military exchanges take place through high-level visits, Exercises, Training Courses, and regular service-specific bilateral mechanisms. In January 2026, U.S. Secretary of Army Dan Driscoll visited India for counterpart engagements. In February 2026, U.S. INDOPACOM Commander Admiral John Paparo travelled to India, and visited the headquarters of India's Western Army Command, apart from New Delhi and Bengaluru. India has the largest number of military exercises with USA, which are growing in scale and complexity. Important bilateral exercises include Yudh Abhyas (Army), Vajra Prahar (Special Forces), Malabar (Navy), Cope India (Air Force), and Tiger Triumph (tri-services). Red Flag, RIMPAC, CUTLASS Express, Sea Dragon, Milan are some of the Multilateral Exercises in which the two countries participate. India joined the multilateral Combined Maritime Force (CMF) based in Bahrain, as an Associate Partner in April 2022.

### ***Counter Terrorism Cooperation***

20. Cooperation in counter terrorism is one of the pillars of the bilateral partnership featuring information exchange, capacity building, operational cooperation and regular dialogue through the India-U.S. Joint Working Group on Counter terrorism. In 2017, both sides initiated a dialogue on domestic and international terrorist designations listing proposals. The 21st Meeting of the India-USA Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism (JWG-CT) and 7th Designations Dialogue was held in New Delhi on 6 December 2025.

### ***Security Cooperation***

21. The Homeland Security Dialogue (HSD) at the Home Minister/Secretary of Department of Homeland Security level was established in 2010. There are five joint sub-groups under HSD dealing with Border and Global Supply Chain Security, Law Enforcement Engagements and Cooperation, Capacity Building, and Aviation Security. US' Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Deputy Secretary Kristie Canegallo and India's Home Secretary Ajay Bhalla co-chaired the US-India Homeland Security Dialogue in February 2024 in New Delhi. Both sides signed a MoU to enhance cooperation in cybercrime investigations, on 17 January 2025, in Washington DC.

### ***Counter-Narcotics Cooperation***

22. A Memorandum of Understanding to launch the U.S.-India Drug Policy Framework for the 21st Century, signed during PM's visit to the US in September 2024. India also joined the US-led Global Coalition on Synthetic Drugs, leading a working group within in it. EAM participated at the Ministerial Summit of the Global Coalition held on the sidelines of UNGA in September 2024. A team from White House Office of National Drug Control Policy visited India from 10-14 August, 2025 and held meetings with officials from MEA, NCB, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

23. On January 20-21, 2026, the United States hosted the inaugural meeting of the U.S.-India Drug Policy Executive Working Group in Washington, D.C. The Executive Working Group, led by ONDCP's Acting Deputy Director, Debbie Seguin, and the Narcotics Control Bureau's Deputy Director General, Monika Ashish Batra, worked with the U.S. and Indian delegations, respectively, to deliver tangible, measurable outcomes in advancing the critical counter narcotics partnership.

### ***Cyber Security Cooperation***

24. The India-US Cyber Framework signed in September 2016. India-US Cyber Dialogue was held in Washington D.C. in September 2022, led by respective DNSAs. India also participated in the U.S. led Counter Ransomware Initiative meeting in Washington D.C. in November 2023.

### ***Trade & Economic Relations***

25. US is the largest trading partner of India with overall bilateral trade in goods and services of \$210.1 billion for calendar year 2024. (Source: US Census data)

***India-US Bilateral Trade (Millions of US\$):***

| Year                           | 2020           | 2021           | 2022           | 2023           | 2024           |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| US Goods Exports to India      | 27,081         | 40,130         | 47,332         | 40,117         | 41,753         |
| US Goods Imports from India    | 51,254         | 73,260         | 85,671         | 83,768         | <b>87,416</b>  |
| Merchandise Total              | 78,336         | 113,390        | 133,003        | 124,060        | 129,169        |
| Merchandise Deficit            | <b>-24,172</b> | <b>-33,130</b> | <b>-38,339</b> | <b>-43,311</b> | <b>-45,663</b> |
| US Services Exports to India   | 16,317         | 16,720         | 25,571         | 33,999         | 40,264         |
| US Services Imports from India | 26,225         | 28,989         | 32,862         | 36,406         | 40,749         |
| Services Total                 | 42,542         | 45,709         | 58,433         | 70,405         | 81,013         |
| Services Surplus/Deficit       | <b>-9,908</b>  | <b>-12,269</b> | <b>-7,291</b>  | <b>-2,407</b>  | <b>-485</b>    |
| Total Exports to India (G+S)   | <b>43,398</b>  | <b>56,850</b>  | <b>72,903</b>  | <b>74,116</b>  | <b>82,017</b>  |
| Total Imports from India (G+S) | 77,479         | 102,249        | 118,533        | 120,174        | 128,165        |
| Total Trade                    | <b>120,878</b> | <b>159,099</b> | <b>191,436</b> | <b>194,290</b> | <b>210,182</b> |
| Total Trade Deficit            | <b>-34,080</b> | <b>-45,399</b> | <b>-45,630</b> | <b>-45,718</b> | <b>-46,148</b> |

26. During FY 2024-25, US was the third largest source of FDI into India with inflows of USD 5.45 billion accounting for almost 11% of total FDI equity inflows. In FY 2025-26 (April- September), US has become the second largest source for FDI in India with USD 6.6 billion (19% of total FDI). From April 2000 to September 2025, India has received USD 77.27 billion as cumulative FDI inflow from the US, which 10% of total FDI inflow to India. Many Indian companies are investing in the US and adding value. According to a CII study released in April 2023, 163 Indian companies invested over \$40 billion in the US and created over 425,000 direct jobs.

27. Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal visited Washington D.C. on March 3-6, 2025 and thereafter in May 2025. A team of officials from the office of United States Trade Representative visited India on 16th September 2025. In continuation of these discussions, a delegation led by the Commerce and Industries Minister, Shri Piyush Goyal visited the United States for meetings with the U.S. side on 22nd September 2025. The delegation plans to take forward the discussions with a view to achieve early conclusion of a mutually beneficial

Trade Agreement. A US delegation led by Deputy USTR visited India in December 2025 to take forward the BTA discussions.

28. India and the United States reached a framework for an Interim Agreement regarding reciprocal and mutually beneficial trade (Interim Agreement) on 6 February 2026. Both sides are working towards concluding a mutually beneficial Bilateral Trade Agreement [BTA] consistent with the roadmap agreed in the Terms of Reference.

29. ***Dialogue Mechanisms:***

- **India-US Trade Policy Forum (TPF):** Established in 2005, TPF discusses market access and trade related matters. The 14th TPF was held in New Delhi, India, on January 12, 2024, led by CIM and USTR.
- **India-US Commercial Dialogue:** Focuses on cooperation in standards, ease of doing business, travel & tourism, and other important issues of commercial significance. It is co-chaired by CIM and the U.S. Secretary of Commerce. The fifth Commercial Dialogue was held in New Delhi on 10 March 2023, and the sixth in Washington DC on 03 October 2024. Under the Supply Chain track of the sixth Commercial Dialogue, both nations signed an MoU to "Expand and Diversify Critical Mineral Supply Chains," which will leverage complementary strengths and promote the mutually beneficial development of critical minerals exploration, extraction, processing, recycling, and related activities.
- **India-US CEO Forum:** Established in 2005, the Forum meets on sidelines of the Commercial Dialogue and submits recommendations to the Commercial dialogue. The CEO forum met on 02 October 2024 at Washington DC.
- **Information and Communications Technology:** A Joint Working Group on ICT was established in 2005 to bring together government and industry from both sides to discuss cooperation in electronics & IT sector. Most recently, Secretary, MeitY co-led the India-US Information and Communications Technology Working Group meeting with US Coordinator for International Communications and Information Policy Ambassador Steve Lang on 17 October 2024 in New Delhi.
- **India – US Economic and Financial Partnership Dialogue (EFP):** Co-led by Finance minister and the US Secretary of the Treasury, the 9th ministerial EFP Dialogue was held in November 2022 in New Delhi. 11<sup>th</sup>

Financial and Regulatory Dialogue was held in March 2023, in Gandhinagar.

- **Indo-Pacific Economic Framework [IPEF]:** India joined the launch of the IPEF in May 2022 along with 13 Partner countries. India joined three of the four Pillars of IPEF, related to supply chains (2), fair economy (4) and clean economy (3). Text of Pillar 2 'Supply chain resilience' was finalized in May 2023 which has come into force since February 2024. IPEF Ministerial Meetings this year, were held in March 2024 and June 2024. Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Clean Economy Investor Forum ("Investor Forum") was held on 6 June 2024, on the sidelines of the last ministerial at the Sands Expo and Convention Centre, Singapore. India signed IPEF Pillar-3, Pillar-4 and Overarching Agreement ahead of the PM visit to US in September 2024, and EAM handed over the copies to Secretary Blinken in the presence of PM.

### ***Strategic Energy Partnership/ Climate & Clean Energy Agenda 2030***

30. India and US have a strong bilateral partnership in energy sector. In April 2021, an India-US Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership was launched, with two tracks i.e. Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP); and Climate Action and Finance Mobilization Dialogue (CAFMD). The SCEP has five pillars: 1) Power & Energy Efficiency, 2) Renewable Energy, 3) Responsible Oil & Gas, 4) Sustainable Growth, and 5) Emerging Fuels and Technologies (hydrogen biofuels and waste to energy). An Energy Storage Task Force supports integration of renewable energy needed to support the clean energy transition. The last SCEP Ministerial meeting led by US Energy Secretary and Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas was held in Washington DC on 16 September 2024. MoPNG and DOE are working on the contours of renewed partnership.

31. United States is India's sixth largest energy trade partner and During FY 2024-25, India's hydrocarbon import stood at around USD 10.27 billion, increasing by 31% compared to last year FY 2023-24 of USD 7.83 billion. In the first 3 quarters of FY 2025-26, it has reached to USD 10.85 billion.

32. During the visit of Hon'ble PM of India to the USA in February 2025, both leaders agreed on an ambitious Energy Partnership. The Joint Statement lays out the contours of Energy Security Partnership between India and the US in oil, gas and civil nuclear energy. Both sides agreed to increase energy trade, as part of efforts to ensure energy security, in line with the growing needs and priorities

of our economy. Both sides also launched Strategic Mineral Recovery initiative to recover and process critical minerals (including lithium, cobalt, and rare earths) from heavy industries like aluminum, coal mining and oil and gas. An inaugural expert meeting was held on 15th July, 2025. DOE and Ministry of Mines are taking forward this initiative.

33. A delegation led by Coal Secretary visited USA in August, 2025, to explore possibilities of collaboration on coal gasification. Both sides have shown deep interest in future collaboration. Indian companies are also exploring commercial tie-ups with US companies in coal gasification.

34. US is also a Member of the Coalition for Disaster Relief Infrastructure (CDRI). India participated in the Major Economies Forum hosted by the US with focus on climate actions.

35. During the visit of Hon'ble PM to the US in June, 2023, setting up of US-India Green Transition Fund (USIGF) was announced and it was formalized during the meeting of two leaders on the sidelines of India's G20 Leaders' Forum in Sept, 2023. Objective of USIGF is to help lower the cost of capital and attract international private finance at scale to accelerate the deployment of greenfield renewable energy, battery storage, and emerging green technology projects in India. Towards this end, India's National Investment and Infrastructure Fund and the U.S. Development Finance Corporation exchanged letters of interest to each provide up to US\$500 million to anchor a renewable infrastructure investment fund called the Green Transition Fund. The terms and conditions of the fund are under discussions at USDFC.

### ***S&T and Space Cooperation***

36. Science and technology cooperation has been a cornerstone of the strategic partnership between the world's two largest democracies- India and the United States of America. The Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement signed in October 2005, was renewed for 10 years in September 2019. The Indo-US Science and Technology Forum (IUSSTF), a bi-national, autonomous body established by both sides in 2000, promotes cooperation and joint research in S&T and Innovation between Indian and US researchers. U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and India's DST, MeITY and DBT signed three different Implementation Arrangements to support research collaboration in AI, advanced communication networks, quantum science, Internet of Things, Interdisciplinary

Cyber Physical System, biotechnology manufacturing, bio safety and bio-security etc. A Memorandum of Cooperation was signed between the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and India's Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) in February 2025, to strengthen institutional research partnerships, enable joint research programs, workshops, and coordinated scientific priorities.

37. India and the US have a long history of cooperation in the civil space arena in Earth Observation, Satellite Navigation, Space Science and Exploration. Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has a robust civilian space cooperation with the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA); US Geological Survey (USGS) and academic institutions. India-US have setup a dialogue mechanism "Civil Space Joint Working Group (CSJWG)" for continuous evaluation and fostering the Space Cooperation. The last meeting of CSJWG was held in Washington D.C. in January 2023, co-chaired by Scientific Secretary, ISRO Associate Administrator of NASA and Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Department of State.

38. NISAR (NASA ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) – the joint microwave imaging satellite by ISRO & NASA was launched on July 30, 2025 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in India. ISRO contributed S-band Radar, spacecraft bus systems, GSLV launch vehicle and is also responsible for mission operations. NASA/JPL has contributed L-band Radar, GPS receiver, solid state storage and high data rate downlink system. The initial phase operation of the satellite is highly satisfactory and commissioning of the satellite for science phase is under progress. NASA and JPL teams led by Casey Swails, Deputy Associate Administrator, NASA took part in the launch. The launch of Indian satellite GSAT-N2 (GSAT-20) onboard the US' launch vehicle Falcon-9 took place from Florida, US in November 2024.

39. ISRO availed NASA/JPL's Deep Space Network Antenna support Chandrayaan-2 mission, and Chandrayaan-3 satellite missions. ISRO and NASA successfully implemented Professional Engineer and Scientific Personnel Exchange Programme (PESEP) in earth observation applications under the framework signed in April 2017.

40. In January 2024, ISRO and NASA signed a Joint Statement of Intent to deepen their partnership in space exploration and mount a joint effort to the

International Space Station. ISRO and NASA signed an IA for Strategic framework for cooperation in human spaceflight in March 2024. The IA identifies responsibilities towards potential participation in robotic and human spaceflight activities, ground-based research, personnel exchange, advanced training, interoperability of systems and standards and collaboration on technologies. As per a Spaceflight Agreement, ISRO nominated two Indian astronaut candidates/ Gaganyaatris for training in the US. After the training, ISRO nominated Gaganyaatri Shubhanshu Shukla took part as a Pilot in the joint ISRO-NASA mission (Axiom-4) to ISS. The mission launched on June 25, 2025, and returned to Earth on July 15, 2025, after 18-days of science and outreach activities. Hyper Velocity Impact Test (HVIT) agreement between ISRO & NASA was signed in December 2024 for usage of NASA facility for testing of MMOD (Micro Meteoroidal Orbital Debris) impact on ISRO's Gaganyaan module. Bluebird 6 satellite from M/s. AST SpaceMobile, USA was launched from SriHariKota, India through LVM3 on 24th December 2025 by NSIL.

41. Secretary, Department of Space visited NASA Kennedy Space Center, Florida and NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston during the Axiom-4 Launch timeline in June 2025. He met with the NASA Acting Administrator Janet Petro. He also visited space industries in Florida and Houston working on next generation space stations. He also witnessed and reviewed the docking of the crew capsule with International Space Station (ISS) at NASA Johnson Space Center.

42. A Space Trade Mission was organized by U.S. Department of Commerce between 9-13 February 2026 in Bengaluru & New Delhi and 23 Executives from 14 American space companies visited India and interacted with space related stakeholders at Bengaluru & New Delhi. As part of this, the U.S. Consulate General, Chennai hosted the U.S.-India Space Business Forum in Bengaluru during February 10-11, 2026. Secretary, Department of Space, Government of India delivered the keynote address during the Business Forum. The engagements during the forum convened more than 200 government and industry participants from both countries.

43. Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA) Shri Ajay Sood visited Washington DC and California in August 2024 for the second bilateral meeting of Quantum Coordination Mechanism and related lab and industry visits.

44. Both sides continue to facilitate strategic technology collaborations in critical and emerging technologies, co-development, and co-production, connect the respective innovation ecosystems especially in AI, quantum, telecom, space, biotech, semiconductors, emerging defence technologies and biotech.

### ***Health Cooperation***

44. There is a longstanding research collaboration in the health sector to develop new therapeutics and diagnostics. Under the Bilateral Vaccine Action Program (VAP), a ROTAVAC® vaccine to counter diarrhea in children was developed by an Indian company at an affordable cost. The 34th JWG of VAP was held in Washington DC in 2022 and the 35th meeting was held on 26-27, October 2023 in New Delhi.

45. There are more than 200 active collaborations between US National Institutes of Health network of labs and leading research agencies, to deliver affordable health-care solutions. 47% of all generic prescriptions filled in the US were supplied by Indian companies in 2022. In terms of numbers, Indian companies supplied 1.8 billion out of 6.7 billion prescriptions in the US in 2022. Overall, generic drugs saved \$408 billion in 2022 whereby contributions from Indian companies were \$219 billion. Indian companies contributed 46% of the \$2.9Tn in generic savings to the U.S. healthcare system over the last decade through supplying generic medicines. It is estimated that over the next 5 years, Indian companies are estimated to provide \$1.3 trillion in savings for the U.S. health system by supplying generics and biosimilars into the market. India has the highest number of United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) compliant companies with plants outside the USA. About eight out of 20 global generic companies are from India, and it's the only country in the world that possesses more than 858 US FDA-approved plants. Indian pharmaceutical companies have manufacturing units in about 14 locations in US. Indian Institutions are collaborating to promote Ayurveda.

46. The India-US Health Dialogue is led by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of India and US Department of Health and Human Services. In 2021, the fourth Dialogue was held in New Delhi. The fifth dialogue was held in Washington DC during 9-12 Oct 2023 which discussed several areas of cooperation including pandemic preparedness, health safety and security, digital health, vaccine development, maternal and child health, traditional medicines, food and drug administrations, etc.

47. India participated in the US-led Global Action Plan (GAP) launched in February 2022 to bridge policy gaps and end the COVID.

48. Under the US initiative, Cancer Moonshot, launched in June 2023, India's DBT and US National Cancer Institute facilitate public and private sector's commitments to reduce the burden of cancer in India. First meeting of the India-US Cancer Dialogue under the Cancer Moonshot program was held on 5-6 August 2024 in New Delhi.

### ***Education & Cultural Cooperation***

49. Cultural cooperation is rich and manifests in diverse ways. There are India-focused educational programs in universities and educational institutions. Indian Embassy and Consulates organize various cultural events to showcase diverse facets of Indian culture. Artists and technical experts from both countries undergo training in each other's institutions. Programs highlighting Indian cultural heritage, Indian festivals, and initiatives such as International Day of Yoga, World Hindi Diwas, Gandhi Jayanti, Ayurveda day are organized from time to time with participation of Indian diaspora and friends of India. Indian Diaspora cultural organizations are engaged in actively promoting Indian culture especially in younger generation.

50. India and the US signed the first ever 'Cultural Property Agreement' in July 2024 in New Delhi to prevent and curb the illicit trafficking of antiquities. On the sidelines of the India-U.S. bilateral meeting at Delaware on 21 September 2024, the U.S. side, in a symbolic gesture handed over to Prime Minister a select few pieces of antiquities that had been stolen or trafficked from India. The US side repatriated a total of 297 such antiquities to India in 2024 alone. The total number of cultural artefacts returned from US to India since 2016 stands at 578.

51. Education partnership is an important pillar of India-US ties with strong linkages and history of higher education collaborations. Under the Fulbright-Nehru bi-national Program, both countries support Fulbright-Nehru scholarships and grants to US and Indian scholars, professionals, and students.

52. The India-US Working Group on Education and Skill Development (WGESD) was launched in May 2023 to focus on skilling and vocational education, certification and recognition, matchmaking between higher

educational institutions and engaging with private sector. Subcommittees on Linkages in higher education, Leveraging Private Sector, Skilling and Vocational Training, and Certification and Recognition were launched in February 2024.

53. The US is one of the favored destinations of Indian students for higher education. As of January 2025, there are about 300,000 Indian students, mostly in graduate (Masters) programs in STEM fields.

54. In September 2023, the Council of Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT Council), and the Association of American Universities (AAU) signed an MOU to establish India-US Global Challenges Institute which will bring together leading research and higher-education institutions for S&T collaboration in sustainable energy and agriculture, health and pandemic preparedness, semiconductor technology and manufacturing, advanced materials, telecommunications, artificial intelligence, and quantum science.

55. The academic collaboration has been multifaceted, encompassing joint research, faculty and student exchange programs, joint degree programs, and other activities. There are growing multi-institutional collaborative education partnerships in critical and emerging technologies. IIT Bombay joined the Chicago Quantum Exchange as an international partner. Several IITs have strong ongoing academic research partnerships with universities in the US.

### ***Diaspora/People-to-People ties***

56. About 5.4 million Indian Americans/Indian origin people reside in the US [per MEA data; includes around 2.07 million NRIs]. Persons of Indian origin constitute the third largest Asian ethnic group in the US. There are many Indian American community organizations and professional organizations of Indian Americans. Indian Americans are one of the most successful communities and excel in diverse fields, including politics. The Indian diaspora has been a catalyst in cementing closer ties between India and the US. There are six persons of Indian origin in the US Congress.

57. The last meeting of the India-US Consular Dialogue was held in New Delhi in February 2024.

\*\*\*