



CURRENT AFFAIRS

MAIN - 2020

POLITY- 12th Political Science

Unit 9 :India and The World

TRUMP'S VISIT TO INDIA

- This was the **fifth** meeting between the two in the last eight months, underlining the growing maturity of the relationship.
- On a substantive level, India and the US issued a comprehensive joint statement, inked **three memorandums** of understanding, including one in the **energy sector**, and **agreed to initiate talks on a major trade deal**.
- The two leaders decided to raise India-US ties to the level of a **"comprehensive global strategic partnership"**.
- Security and defence ties got a boost, with the two deciding to work more closely on homeland security and combating

global terrorism. There was also an ambitious effort to make defence manufacturers part of each other's supply chains.

- Two arms deals worth over \$3.5 billion for six Apache attack helicopters and 24 Seahawk/Romeo anti-submarine warfare helicopters have been signed, with a \$1.9 billion deal for a missile defence system also in the pipeline.
- The Indo-Pacific remains a special focus, with the US president underlining the need to revitalize the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue initiative involving the US, India, Australia and Japan on counter-terrorism and maritime security.
- The two nations have similar concerns about China's Belt and Road Initiative and, so, there is now a push for greater collaboration on regional infrastructure projects, including the Blue Dot Network, with the aim of supporting projects which are "open and inclusive, transparent, economically viable, financially, environmentally and socially sustainable, and compliant with international standards, laws, and regulations".
- "US exports to India are up nearly 60% and exports of high-quality American energy have grown by 500%."
- India has become the fourth-largest export destination for US crude and the fifth-largest buyer of liquefied natural gas (LNG) from the US.
- During Trump's visit, Exxon Mobil and Indian Oil concluded a deal to help India import more LNG.

U Win Myint's VISIT TO INDIA

- Both sides signed 10 agreements in various fields including infrastructure, energy, communication and health.
- Reaffirming India's 'Act East' and 'Neighbourhood First' policies and Myanmar's non-aligned foreign policy both leaders committed to further strengthen the bilateral relations.
- Both sides agreed to cooperate in countering terrorist groups and their actions. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed full support for Myanmar's peace process between Government, Military and Ethnic Armed Groups.
- Co-operation in defence and security along with matter of enhanced bilateral trade and economic engagements was also discussed. India reiterated its support for peace, stability and development in Rakhine state.
- Coordinated Bus Service between Imphal and Mandalay is expected to begin from April this year.
- The Indian side reiterated its commitment for construction of the Integrated Check Post in Tamu, Myanmar.
- India and Myanmar have decided to work together to launch India's RuPay Card in that country at the earliest and explore the creation of a digital payment gateway.

- The two countries also expressed interest in exploring a bilateral mechanism for settlement in local currency with the aim to boost cross border trade

