

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2457
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2022

INDIA'S RELATION WITH ISRAEL

2457. Dr. V. SIVADASAN:

Will the Minister of **External Affairs** be pleased to state:

- (a) the dates and duration of Indian Prime Minister's visit to Israel during the last five years;
- (b) the number of bilateral agreements signed with Israel during the last five years;
- (c) the number of times India has voted in favour of Israel in the General Assembly or in any councils of the UN;
- (d) the purpose of Israel visit by the Prime Minister on July 4-6, 2017; and
- (e) whether any agreements or deals were signed during the Israel visit in 2017, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) & (d) Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Israel on July 4-6, 2017 in a historic first-ever visit by an Indian Prime Minister to the country, twenty-five years since the establishment of diplomatic ties. During the visit, bilateral relations were upgraded to a strategic level with a special focus on agriculture and water, especially in the fields of water conservation, waste-water treatment and its re-use for agriculture, desalination, water utility reforms, cleaning of the Ganges and other Indian rivers using advance water technologies and reinforcement, expansion of the existing Centers of Excellence in horticulture to promote viable business models involving Farmer Production Organizations, provision for quality planting material, transfer of post-harvest technical know-how and market linkages. The two countries agreed to broad base the existing cooperation by closely collaborating in development, technology, innovation, entrepreneurship, defence and security essential for the success of India's flagship initiatives such as 'Make in India', 'Swachh Bharat', 'Digital India' and 'Startup India'. India-Israel CEO forum was tasked to realize the full potential of bilateral trade and investment.

(b) Sixteen G2G agreements/MoUs were signed with Israel during the last 5 years.

(c) India's voting pattern at the UN and other international organizations is based on the considerations of India's national interest and its steadfast commitment to multilateralism and not to support or oppose any particular country.

(e) During the visit, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed for establishing the India-Israel Industrial R&D and Innovation Fund by the Department of Science and Technology, India and the National Authority for Technological Innovation, Israel with a

contribution of USD 20 million from each side. Two MoUs and a plan of cooperation was signed in the areas of cooperation in atomic clocks, GEO-LEO optical link and electric propulsion for small satellites. A three-year agriculture work program for 2018-20, an MoU between Uttar Pradesh Jal Nigam and the Ministry of National Infrastructure, Energy and Water Resources, Israel for water utility reforms and an MoU between the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, India and the Ministry of National Infrastructure, Energy and Water Resources, Israel for water utility reforms were signed during the visit. PM Modi also interacted with the Indian community in Israel. A joint statement was issued during the visit.
