

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 3
ANSWERED ON 20.07.2023

MoUs/AGREEMENTS SIGNED DURING PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO THE US

#*3. SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- a) whether Government has signed a number of MoUs/Agreements with United States' Government during visit of the Prime Minister to the United States during June, 2023;
- b) if so, the details thereof, MoU/agreement-wise; and
- c) the details of other achievements of visit of the Prime Minister to the US?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR]

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) IN RESPECT OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 3 FOR REPLY ON 20.07.2023 REGARDING “MoUs/ AGREEMENTS SIGNED DURING PRIME MINISTER’S VISIT TO THE US”.

(a) to (c) Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi travelled to the United States of America from 20-23 June 2023 for an Official State visit at the invitation of President of USA H.E. Mr. Joseph Biden. During the visit, Prime Minister Modi and President Biden had productive conversations and agreed to elevate bilateral relations through futuristic and enhanced collaborations in technology domains, diversifying defence cooperation, boosting commercial ties, and strengthening people-to-people contacts.

2. The various outcomes of PM’s visit to USA are reflected in the Joint Statement on 22 June 2023. The key ones are highlighted below:

(a) Both sides agreed to augment technology cooperation, especially through the initiative for Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET) focussing on artificial intelligence, semiconductors, space, quantum, and telecom etc.

(b) Under a Defence Industrial Cooperation Roadmap, the defense industries and startups of both countries announced their intent to engage in co-production and other activities. A US company, General Electric Aerospace announced that they would manufacture jet engines in India through transfer of technology for our Light Combat Aircrafts’ indigenous production. India was included as a member in the Mineral Security Partnership, which aims to accelerate the development of sustainable global critical energy minerals supply chains.

(c) During Prime Minister’s visit, Indian Space Research Organisation [ISRO], signed the Artemis Accords with the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration [NASA] for cooperation in civil exploration of outer space for peaceful purposes. NASA and ISRO announced that they would cooperate in human space flight and launch a joint effort to the International Space Station in 2024.

(d) Both countries resolved six outstanding bilateral trade disputes in WTO through mutually agreed solutions. They agreed to strengthen collaboration between the respective SMEs and boost innovation linkages. In the telecommunication sector, both sides agreed to collaborate towards a bilateral "Trusted Network/Trusted Sources" framework; enable participation of Indian companies in the U.S. Rip and Replace Program; and undertake ORAN reciprocal pilot projects.

(e) In the semiconductor domain, three US companies made announcement for building a semiconductor assembly and test facility in India; and for training Indian engineers and workforce.

(f) India and USA also agreed to accelerate cooperation in green hydrogen and other emerging technologies.

(g) To deepen the people to people ties which are anchored in a 4.4 million Indian Diaspora in USA, the US announced its decision to open two new consulates in Bengaluru and Ahmedabad. India will open a new consulate in Seattle later this year and identify locations for two more new Consulates in USA. The US will undertake a

pilot later this year to adjudicate domestic renewals of certain petition-based temporary work visas, including for Indian nationals.

(h) Both countries agreed to further strengthen higher education partnerships. The US Government announced that they would return to the Government of India 105 cultural antiquities that were illegally trafficked. This has since taken place.

3. Given their shared vision of a free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific, both countries agreed to commence an Indian Ocean Dialogue and USA announced that it would join the Indo-Pacific Ocean Initiative that was announced by India in 2019.

4. India and USA will work together for development of Digital Public Infrastructure and strengthen Multilateral Development Banks to address global challenges.
