

India – Ethiopia Relations

Historical linkages between India and Ethiopia go back about 2,000 years of recorded history. Trade between the two countries flourished during the ancient Axumite Empire (1st century AD), which is seen to be origin of modern Ethiopia. Indian traders flocked to the ancient port of Adulis in the 6th Century AD trading silk and spices for gold and ivory. In the 16th century AD, the Portuguese assisted the Christian King in Ethiopia to repel Muslim invaders, and with them came Indians from Goa. In 1935, General Robert Napier led a punitive expedition to obtain the release of European diplomats and missionaries who had been imprisoned by Emperor Tewodros II in his bunker fort at Makdala. The 30,000 strong force had 13,000 soldiers from India, mostly Sikhs. The British Army that ended the Italian occupation of Ethiopia (1936-41) also had a sizeable contingent of Indian soldiers. General William Plat, who led one of the three simultaneous attacks, commanded a force consisting of the 4th and 5th Indian Divisions.

2. Soon after achieving independence, a goodwill mission led by Sardar Sant Singh was sent to Ethiopia. Diplomatic relations at legation level were established in 1948. Full diplomatic relations were established in 1950 with Sardar Sant Singh as the first Ambassador.

3. India's relations with Ethiopia have been traditionally close and friendly. Successive Ethiopian regimes have been appreciative of the fact that India was never been hostile to Ethiopia's interests. However, our relations have passed through various phases largely in response to the change in regimes in Ethiopia. Relations during Emperor Haile Selassie regime (1941-74) were close. He encouraged a large number of Indian teachers to come to Ethiopia and who worked in the remotest parts of Ethiopia which brought tremendous goodwill that India still enjoys. The subsequent Communist Derg Regime (1974-91) favoured the Soviet bloc and many resident Indian businessmen and teachers left Ethiopia. India enjoys close and friendly relations with the current democratic regime that came to power in 1991 and which has slowly moved to democracy with a cautious and calibrated opening of the economy.

4. Despite the change in regimes, Ethiopia had been consistent in her support for India in the international fora on various issues. There is a positive alignment of views on cross-border terrorism and other issues sensitive to India viz. expansion of UNSC, Kashmir issue etc. On January 02, 2017, Ethiopia officially began its two-year term as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC).

5. Ethiopia greatly appreciates India's understanding of the problems of the countries of Africa, its support to their economic development and sensitivity to their needs. Ethiopia admires India's economic, social, scientific and technological achievements and values India as an important partner in its developments efforts. Ethiopia has received US\$ 1 billion in concessional credit from us which is more than any other country, save our neighbourhood. Our cooperation is also valued as India is seen as not interfering in internal affairs of the country. Late PM Meles Zenawi stated that India and China are Ethiopia's preferred partners. Now the current leadership under PM Hailemariam Desalegn looks at India as a strategic partner along with China, Japan and Korea.

Institutional Framework

6. An agreement to establish a Joint Commission was signed during the visit of ShriPranab Mukherjee, then EAM to Ethiopia in July 2007. The first meeting of the Joint Commission was held in New Delhi in December 2010. A Protocol on Foreign Office Consultations was signed during the visit of the then EAM to Ethiopia in July 2007. The first round of Consultations was held in New Delhi in March 2010 and the second meeting was held in Addis Ababa in January 2012. Last Foreign Office Consultations were held in Addis Ababa on 6th February 2017. Dr. Neena Malhotra, Joint Secretary (E&SA) led the Indian delegation.

Bilateral visits

7. Emperor Haile Selassie visited India in 1956 and again in 1968. Col. Haile Mariam Mengistu, who headed the Communist regime that ruled the country from 1974-91, visited India in 1983 for the NAM Summit. He later paid a State visit to India in 1985. Prime Minister Meles Zenawi visited India on a bilateral visit in March 1997. He again visited India for the 4th International Conference on Federalism in November 2007 and in 2008 for the 1st India Africa Forum Summit-I. He again visited India for the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit in February 2011. Former Foreign Minister (present PM), Hailemariam Desalegn visited India for the first meeting of the Joint Commission in December 2010. Most importantly, Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn attended the 3rd India-Africa Forum Summit in New Delhi from 26-29 October 2015 and also had a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister.

8. From our side, President S. Radhakrishnan visited India in 1965. This was followed by the visit of Vice President Zakir Hussain in 1967 and President V.V. Giri in 1972. Smt. Indira Gandhi visited Ethiopia as Minister of Information and Broadcasting in 1964. ShriPranab Mukherjee, then External Affairs Minister visited Ethiopia in 2007. MOS (PK) Ms Preneet Kaur visited Ethiopia on 27-31 January 2011 to attend the African Union Summit. She again visited Ethiopia on 1-2 September 2012 to attend the funeral of PM Meles Zenawi. The India Africa Forum Summit-II held in May 2011, at Addis Ababa, saw the culmination of the bilateral relations to higher levels. Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr Anand Sharma, External Affairs Minister, Shri S.M. Krishna and the Prime Minister paid visit to Addis Ababa for the IAFS-II. Vice President Shri Hamid Ali Ansari visited Ethiopia on 25 May 2013, to attend the Golden Jubilee celebration of the African Union. During the visit, he had a meeting with Ethiopian PM, Hailemariam Desalegn on the sidelines. PM had a pull-aside meeting with Ethiopian PM on the sidelines of G20 Summit in St Petersburg, Russia, on 5-6 September 2013.

9. The IAFS-II saw the first ever state visit of the Prime Minister of India to Ethiopia. He inaugurated the IAFS-II in Addis Ababa on 24-25 May 2011, which was attended by HoSs/HoGs of 17 countries. Two documents were adopted during the summit, (i) Framework for enhanced cooperation and (ii) The Addis Ababa Declaration. PM also held bilateral meetings with PM Meles Zenawi and announced that the trade between the two countries to reach a target of US\$ 1 billion by 2015. He also announced a new credit line of US\$ 300 million for Ethiopia-Djibouti Railway line. This LoC remained unutilized for various reasons and it appears that the Ethiopian Government has no interest in utilizing these for the Railway Line, as they received funding for this project

from other sources. Ethiopian side has recently requested for re-purposing this LoC and utilizing it for power transmission lines, road projects etc. Two agreements were signed – Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement and MoU between National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) of India and Federal Micro and Small Enterprise Development Agency (FEMSEDA) of Ethiopia.

10. Prof K.V. Thomas, Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution visited Addis Ababa from 5-7 July 2011. A four member delegation led by Mr. Rajiv Mehrishi, Director General of Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Secretary, Indian council of Agricultural Research visited Ethiopia from 11-13 December 2011. A team led by Mr M.Ganapathi, Secretary (West), visited Addis Ababa for 18th Annual Session of the Executive Council of AU from 26-28 January 2012. A delegation led by Mr.SudhirVyas, Secretary (West) visited Addis Ababa for the 20th Executive session of the African Union in January 2013. Mr.DinkarKhullar, Secretary (West) was in Addis Ababa for the 22nd Executive session of the African Union in January 2014. Secretary (West) NavtejSarna was in Addis for African Union Executive Session in January 2015 and in August 2015 to meet AUC Chairperson. JS(E&SA) Dr NeenaMalhotra headed the Indian delegation for the AU Summit's Executive Session in January 2016. JS (E&SA) Dr.NeenaMalhotra also headed the Indian delegation for the Foreign Office Consultations in Addis Ababa in February, 2017.

Bilateral agreements

11. The bilateral agreements signed by the two countries are:
- i) Air Services Agreement (1967); 4 MoUs were signed subsequently, in 1972, 1993, 2004 and 2008.
 - ii) Agreement on Technical, Economic and Scientific Cooperation (1969)
 - iii) Cultural Agreement (1983)
 - iv) Trade Agreement (1997)
 - v) Agreement on Cooperation in Micro Dams and Small Scale Irrigation Schemes (2002)
 - vi) Agreement on Establishment of Joint Ministerial Commission (2007)
 - vii) Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (2007)
 - viii) Agreement on Cooperation in the field of Science and Technology (2007)
 - ix) Educational Exchange Programme (2007)
 - x) Protocol on Foreign Office Consultations (2007)
 - xi) Double Taxation avoidance treaty (2011)
 - xii) MOU between NSIC, India and FEMSEDA (2011)
 - xiii) MOU between ICAR and Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research in December 2011

Bilateral Trade and Investment

12. Since the opening up of the Ethiopian economy in the last decade, business ties between the two countries have increased significantly especially in the area of infrastructure projects like roads, power, telecommunications and water resources. A trade agreement, signed by the two countries in 1997 provides for the establishment of a Joint Trade Committee (JTC). The first meeting of the JTC was held in Addis Ababa in February 1998 and the fifth was held in Addis Ababa in October 2008. A Joint

Business Council was established in June 1997 through an agreement between FICCI/ASSOCHAM and the Ethiopian Chamber of Commerce. A Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement was signed on 5 July 2007 but it has not been operationalised. Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement signed in May 2011. During the India-Africa Forum Summit in April 2008, PM Dr. Manmohan Singh announced a Duty Free Tariff Preference Scheme for LDCs and Ethiopia was among the first countries to accede to the DFTP scheme.

13. **Bilateral Trade:** Bilateral trade in 2016 stood at US\$1.37 billion, of which India's exports to Ethiopia were US\$1.30 billion and imports were US\$68.4 million. Exports from India mainly include primary and semi-finished iron and steel products, drugs and pharmaceuticals, machinery and instruments, manufactures of metal, etc. Major imports by India from Ethiopia were: pulses, precious and semi-precious stones, vegetables & seeds, leather and spices. Sugar and pharmaceuticals are India's major export items to Ethiopia, accounting for 14.5% and 13.0% respectively of India's total exports to Ethiopia. It was followed by iron and steel products (12.1%), rice (12.0%) and machinery (4.8%). Pulses are the major items imported from Ethiopia, accounting 38.8% of India's total imports from Ethiopia. It was followed by seeds (29.8%), oil seeds (11.0%), precious & semi precious stones (6.6), leather (5.1%) and spices (4.4%). India is the third important source of imports for Ethiopia, contributing 7.7% of all of Ethiopia's imports next to China and USA.

14. **Investment:** There is no Ethiopian Investment in India. Indian companies maintained their reputation as being in the top three foreign investors in Ethiopia with newer Indian multinationals marking their presence in Ethiopia. There are more than 540 Indian companies in Ethiopia with licensed investment of over US\$ 4 billion of which about US\$ 2 billion is estimated to be on the ground. Indian companies have invested in various sectors like agriculture and floriculture, engineering, plastics, manufacturing, cotton and textiles, water management, consultancy and ICT, education, pharmaceuticals and healthcare. About 55% of Indian investment is in the manufacturing sector, followed by agriculture (18%). Some major investments by Indian companies announced in 2015 and 2016 include Asian Paints, Arvind Mills, Raymonds, Kanoria, Fontana Flower PLC, Balaaji Manufacturing PLC, Samaka Stones Pvt. Ltd. Co., MSP Steel & Power Limited and Esdee Paints Limited and Velocity Apparel. Recent Indian investments have been in the textile and garments sector, which is a priority sector in the Growth and Transformation Plan-II. Arvind Mills set up a six-million-piece garment plant in Ethiopia. Kanoria Africa Textiles PLC's denim factory in Bishoftu was opened by Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn on 24 October 2015. Raymond signed a US\$100 million investment agreement with the Ethiopian Government during the Ethio-India Investment Forum held in Mumbai in October 2015. The production inauguration of Hawassa Industrial Park was carried out by Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn and Arvind and Raymond have started operations in the Park. An Indian company, MSP Steel & Power Limited, received license to mine or process iron ore in West Wolega Zone, Oromia. GEC Steel Manufacturing PLC started construction of a steel plant in Ethiopia with an investment of USD 300 million.

15. **Business opportunities in Ethiopia:** The areas with most promising potential for investments in the country are agriculture, food-processing, leather & leather products, textile & garments, horticulture, sugar & related industry, chemicals industry, pharmaceutical industry, cement industry, metal & engineering industry, tourism,

construction, mining & oil and hydropower. Leading non-agricultural sectors and investment include: renewable energy, information technology and communications (ICT), construction, tourism and aviation. Sub-sectors such as mobile banking services and outsourcing services, website software and technologies, software development for eGovernment services, and ICT training services are going to be among the major investment opportunities in the country. The ambitious road construction and expansion projects in the country also offers opportunities either to directly involve in the construction work or export of construction machinery, chemicals, and building materials as well as consultancy and supervision services.

16. **Lines of Credit:** The ongoing Gol assistance in developmental projects in Ethiopia continued with sanctioned Lines of Credit worth more than US\$1 billion to the Government of Ethiopia for sectors such as rural electrification, sugar industry and railways. Ethiopia is the largest recipient of long term concessional credit from India in Africa. Out of the three Sugar Factory projects being undertaken through LoC funding of US\$ 640 million, Finchaa Sugar Factory has already been completed and handed over to the Ethiopian side. The other two, WonjiShoa and Tendaho Phase-I have commenced production and would be handed over to the Ethiopian side after the completion of some balance works. More requests from Ethiopian Government for LoC funding in projects related to power transmission, wind energy, road construction, etc. are under consideration of the Gol.

17. India has also donated to Ethiopia a 64-Slice CT Scan Machine to Black Lion Hospital in Addis Ababa as part of our Grant Assistance. The flagship Pan African e-network Project, an Initiative of Govt. of India aimed at sharing India's expertise in the fields of Healthcare and Education with member countries of the African Union Commission, was launched in Addis Ababa in July 2007. Tele-Education and Tele-Medicine services were being offered till recently at nodes set up in Black Lion Hospital in Addis Ababa and in Addis Ababa University and were well-received. The Tele-Education project has been replicated by the Ethiopian side and linkages established between the Addis Ababa University and the Indian Institutes of Technology at Delhi and Kanpur. Phase II of the project is expected to be launched soon.

18. Indian companies from public and private sectors have secured several contracts in the infrastructure sector, including consultancy works, in roads, power, etc. Some prominent ones are:

- (i) An Indian company, MSP Steel & Power Limited, had received a license to secure a mining license to mine or process iron ore in West Wolega Zone, Oromia. The license would enable the company to produce 155,000 tons of magnesite and ilmenite annually.
- (ii) Ethiopian Electric Power (EEP) and Tata Group signed an agreement for the installation of 403 kilo meter long power transmission line. The project set to be completed within 18 months and cost US\$106.4 million.
- (iii) JMC Projects (India) Limited has been awarded a contract for the part 258 km of Nekempte-Bure Road upgrading project. The project cost is estimated to be Birr1.8 billion (US\$80 million), fully funded by the World Bank.

- (iv) JMC Projects (India) Limited has also been awarded another road project, Mega-Moyale road, which is part of the Mombasa-Nairobi-Addis Ababa Road Project. The 109 km asphalt concrete road will be at a cost of 1.5 billion birr.
- (v) Ethiopian Electric Power (EEP) concluded US\$60 million (1.2 billion Birr) agreement with Larsen Arsen& Toubro Limited for capacity improvement and expansion project at power distribution stations.
- (vi) Mahindra Consulting Engineers Limited (MACE) is actively working with UNIDO and Ministry of Industries, Government of Ethiopia in developing integrated Agro Industrial parks (IAIP) and Rural Transformation Centers (RTC) in four regions of Ethiopia.
- (vii) Tech Mahindra Ltd. (TechM), an Indian company specializing in digital transformation, consulting and business re-engineering, has signed a deal with the Development Bank of Ethiopia (DBE) to implement Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and Business Intelligence Systems, at a cost of US\$780,000.
- (viii) Ethiopia's Government concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ArvindEnvisol, water Management Company, in the aim of building Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) solutions for the country's industry parks. ArvindEnvisol had earlier installed ZLD solutions for Hawassa Industrial Park.
- (ix) Hyderabad based hospital operator, Global Hospitals Group, has unveiled a plan to set up a US\$ 200 million Tertiary Referral Hospital which can serve Ethiopia and the whole region.

19. **Exchange of business delegations:** Momentum has been maintained in trade and economic engagements with participation of Indian business delegations in Trade Fairs, BSMs, etc. Embassy facilitated trade delegations and also organized Exhibitions and Buyer-Seller Meets. A delegation of Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (CAPEXIL) of India visited Addis Ababa from 3-6 June 2015. The Third International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD3) was held in Addis Ababa from 13-16 July 2015 and India was represented by ShriJayantSinha, Hon'bleMoS (Finance). 18 Indian companies representing building and construction materials participated in the 6th Addis Build Construction Exhibition in Addis Ababa. A 21-member (18 companies) delegation from the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) led by Mr. Mahesh K Desai, Regional Chairman visited Ethiopia from 20-23 March 2016 to explore mutually beneficial business opportunities. A multi-sectoral business delegation of the Basic Chemicals, Cosmetics & Dyes Export Promotion Council (CHEMEXCIL) of India visited Ethiopia from 2- 3 August 2016. The CHEMEXCIL delegation led by ShriSuhass G. Bharadi, Executive Director, Chemexcil had a fruitful visit and held a Buyer Seller Meet (BSM) on 3 August 2016 at Hilton Hotel in Addis Ababa. ASSOCHAM participated in the 9th Ethio Chamber International Trade Fair from 10-14 November 2016. A 17-member delegation organized by India's leading business association, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), visited Ethiopia from 2-4 February 2017. The first Indian Medical Tourism Destination (IMTD) Exhibition - IPHEX Ethiopia was held at Millennium Hall, Addis Ababa on 20 & 21 February 2017. 19 Indian companies representing diverse sectors participated in the Addis Chamber

International Trade Fair (ACITF) from 23 February to March 1, 2017 under the motto “Conducive Environment For Enhanced Export Performance.” held at the Addis Ababa Exhibition Center. The Synthetic & Rayon Textiles Export Promotion Council (SRTEPC) of India, with the assistance of this Embassy, organized an Indian Textile Exhibition (INTEXPO- Ethiopia) on 6th and 7th March 2017, at Sheraton Addis Hotel.

20. Important business delegations visiting from Ethiopia include in Vibrant India First-B2B Trade Summit in Ahmadabad, in India Electronics Expo in New Delhi, visit of State Minister of Mines with a delegation to Jaipur to learn best practices in precious and semi-precious stones sector and by Health Minister to attend Call to Action Summit-2015 in New Delhi. A separate Ethio-India Business Forum was organised in New Delhi on 29 October 2015 by the Ethiopian Embassy and in Mumbai on 30 October 2015 by the Ethiopian Consulate. The Forum in Mumbai was also addressed by the Prime Minister HailemariamDesalegn. Dr TedrosAdhanom, then Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr.ArkebeOqubay, Adviser to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Mr.FitsumArega, Commissioner, Ethiopian Investment Commission and Mr.Mayur Kothari, Convener, India Business Forum participated in the Forum.A 19-member Ethiopian business delegation led by the Secretary General of the Ethiopian Chambers of Commerce & Sectoral Associations visited the SVUM 2016 International Trade Show at Rajkot from 11 to 15 February 2016. A-6 member high level delegation team of Ministry of Public Enterprises, led by Ms.DemituHambisa, Minister of public Enterprise visited India in March 2016. The delegation met Minister of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises of India. An 11-member delegation from the Ethiopian Chambers of Commerce & Sectorial Association participated in the CAP India 2016- a joint initiative of CHEMEXCIL, PLEXCONCIL, CAPEXIL and SHEFEXIL in the Chemicals & Plastics Sector which was held from 20 to 22 March 2016 at Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai. Ms.Aysha Mohammad, Minister of Construction and Mr.GebremeskelChala, State Minister of Construction participated in the 12th CII-EXIM Conclave on India Africa Project Partnership 2017 in New Delhi from 9-10 March, 2017. Dr. Abraham Tekeste, Minister of Finance and Economic Cooperation and Mr.FissehaAberra, Director, International Financial Institution Cooperation Directorate of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Cooperation participated in the 52nd Annual Meetings of African Development Bank Group at Gandhinagar, Gujarat from 22 to 26 May 2017. An Ethiopian delegation, including government officials and textile industry representatives, visited the Government Polytechnic Nagpur (GPN) in Nagpur, India in the first week of May 2017.

Cooperation in Capacity Building

21. The Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme was started in Ethiopia in 1969. Training is one of the major activities under ITEC and it has been very successful in Ethiopia. The professionals and people from Ethiopia have been attending training courses, both civilian and defence, in different centres of excellence in India which empower them for professional skills. This programme covers areas like agriculture, information technology, telecommunication, management, rural development, accounts, audit, banking, finance, health, environment and renewable energy.

22. In 2007-08, the number of training slots offered by us were 25. There has been a steady increase since then. On account of decision taken during the India Africa Forum Summit-II, ITEC slots were enhanced to 135 for 2011-2012, 160 slots for 2012-13, 220

slots for 2013-14, 200 slots for 2015-16 and 250 slots for 2016-17. So far Embassy of India, Addis Ababa has sent about 2142 Ethiopian students and around 45 students from Djibouti under this programme. ITEC courses are much appreciated in Ethiopia and have been very useful in making contacts between Indian entrepreneurs and the Ethiopian decision makers.

23. India also makes available services of experts in various fields under ITEC programme. From October 2010-June 2011, consultancy to Ethiopian Revenue and Customs Authority to support implementation of WTO customs evaluation was provided. In 2014, an Indian expert from Commerce Ministry was seconded to Ethiopian Ministry of Industry to assist in Import-Export coefficient. India has also regularly deputed Indian experts to the Ethiopian Foreign Service Institute for short term training of their diplomats.

24. The Central Leather Research Institute and the Footwear Design and Development Institute from India are cooperating with Ethiopian Leather Development Institute. In 2010, a 41 member team of Indian professionals, from both institutions, provided training to Ethiopian leather industries in a project funded by Ethiopian Government. CLRI and FDDI of India signed a twinning arrangement with ELDI of Ethiopia for a 3 year period in a contract launched in September 2011, which has been successfully completed. Currently, Twinning Phase-II contract is in operation from 2015 to 2018. The Ethiopian Textile Industry Development Institute and the National Institute of Fashion Technology of India also launched twinning partnership scheme on 17 August 2013. DG, NIFT visited Addis Ababa in May 2017 to discuss modalities for extending this twinning partnership. A twinning arrangement has also been entered into between Ethiopia's Textile Industry Development Institute and Mumbai's Institute for Chemical Technology in 2014.

25. A delegation led by Dr. Girish Sahani, DG, Council of Scientific Research and Industrial Research (CSIR) visited Addis Ababa during 6-9 June, 2017 for signing of a twinning agreement between CSIR and Metal Industries Development Institute (MIDI), Ethiopia. The Agreement was signed on 7 June, 2017 at Addis Ababa and provides for training and capacity building of sciences and technology manpower in order to transform the metal and engineering sector in Ethiopia. This twinning agreement between CSIR and MIDI is another milestone in bilateral cooperation in the science and technology sector between India and Ethiopia.

26. The Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) offers scholarships to students from African countries every year for University studies in India. Every year we receive applications from Ministry of Education, Government of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia and from private students for the courses in Ph.d in Management, Ph.d in Sport Science, Ph.d in Accounting and Finance, Masters in Engineering, Ph.d in Social anthropology, Ph.d in Mathematics, Masters Degree in Tourism, Master's Degree in Urban & Rural Planning, Masters Degree in Economics, Ph.d in Educational Leadership Management, Ph.d in History, Masters Degree in Law, Ph.d in Environmental Science and for Under Graduate courses in Electrical Engineering; Accounting; Architect etc. Scholarships are also given for learning Indian dance, music, painting, sculpture, etc. These scholarships are much appreciated by the Ethiopians and have contributed to capacity building. So far the Embassy has sent about 430 Ethiopian students and 51 Djiboutian students.

Cooperation in Science and Technology

27. An agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology was signed in 2007. In pursuance of this, a Programme of Cooperation was signed in December 2010. This provides cooperation in five areas suggested by us viz. agricultural sciences, water technologies, health sciences, bio-technology and new sources of energy. It also provides for cooperation in four areas suggested by the Ethiopian side viz. traditional knowledge, textiles and garments, leather and leather products, ICT and micro electronics. The Programme of Cooperation envisages the establishment of a Joint Committee on Scientific & Technological Cooperation. A space cooperation programme has since been initiated. Ethiopian side has requested for India's assistance in their flagship program of establishing 16 Centres of Excellence in Adama Science and Technology University (ASTU) and Addis Ababa Science & Technology University (AASTU). The proposal was considered in the framework of India-Ethiopia S&T cooperation during the Joint committee meeting scheduled was held in February 2017 in New Delhi, India. An MoU on enhancing cooperation in S&T Sector between the two countries was signed and a draft implementation plan based on the issues discussed during JCM meeting and mentioned in the MoU, particularly, on PhD programs, visiting fellowships, faculty visits, GIS training, Joint R&D projects and, technology transfer is under consideration to move further.

28. During IAFS-III, PM had announced doubling of the scholarships/fellowships for Africa. It is proposed to offer 1000 C.V. Raman Scientific Fellowships over the period of 5 years. This is to be implemented by Department of Science & Technology/Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI). Since beginning of this fellowship in 2010, 23 candidates from Ethiopia have been sent so far. Further, to replicate the success of Indian plant tissue culture in African countries, total of 270 slots [over the period of 5 years] have been allocated to impart Plant Tissue Culture Training through Department of Bio-technology, Ministry of Science & Technology.

29. Ethiopia has also signed on to the International Solar Alliance initiated by India and France in Paris on 30 November, 2015 on the side-lines of the CoP-21 Summit. Ethiopia is one of the first signatories of the International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement.

Cultural Cooperation

30. The Embassy has been actively promoting Indian culture in Ethiopia. The Missions has been celebrating the International Day of Yoga and the 3rd *International Day of Yoga* was celebrated on 17 June 2017 in Addis Ababa with the participation of more than 1000 people, including local and foreign Yoga enthusiasts/experts, children, women, Ministers and senior government officials, etc. Legendary Ethiopian runner and youth icon Haile Gebreselassie participated in the International Yoga Day event organised by the Embassy and endorsed the benefits of yoga.

31. The Mission also participated in the 11th Ethiopian International Film Festival (ETHIOIFF) from 14 to 16 November 2016 with screening of three Amharic-subtitled Hindi films. Kathak and Rajastani folk dance performances were organized. Dr.NegeriLencho, Minister of Government Communication Affairs Office of Ethiopia

visited India from 19 to 27 March 2017 under ICCR's Distinguished Visitor's Programme. Ms.MeskeremAssegued, a renowned art critic in Ethiopia and Director, Zoma Contemporary Art Centre, Addis Ababa was sent to India from 21 February to 3 March 2015 under ICCR's Academic Visitor's Programme. Ms.ZenebuTadesseWoldetsadik, Ethiopian Minister of Women, Child & Youth Welfare was selected by ICCR in 2015 for the Distinguished Alumni Award for her outstanding contribution towards bilateral relations between India and Ethiopia in the field of promotion of welfare of women, children and youth in Ethiopia. The textile exhibition 'Vastram - Splendid World of Indian Textile' curated by Ms. Shelly Jyothi was mounted in Addis Ababa in December 2015. Ethiopian traditional dance troupe **YeTemesgenLijoch**, was sent to India in October 2015 for performance during IAFS-III. Another Ethiopian cultural troupe performed in India during the Africa Day Celebrations from 25-26 May 2017 in New Delhi.

People-to-People contact

32. Ethiopian Airlines has daily flights to Mumbai and Delhi The traffic between the two countries is largely limited to the Indian community in Ethiopia, Ethiopian students studying in India, and Indian businessmen. Given the lack of tourism infrastructure in Ethiopia, there is little tourist traffic from India to Ethiopia. The number of visas issued by the Embassy annually is in the range of 5000 of which about 1500 travel for medical treatment.

Indian Community

33. The early settlers among the Indian community in Ethiopia came from Gujarat. They came to this country in the latter years of the 19th century. During imperial times, there were also tens of thousands of Indian teachers in schools all over Ethiopia, even in the most remote parts. The number of Indian nationals has been on the rise in Ethiopia due to increase in Indian investments in this country. There are also several Ethiopian companies who engage Indian workers. With more and more Indian businesses/investors entering Ethiopia, the number of Indian nationals is expected to increase further in the coming days.

34. The Indian community has a sizeable presence in the educational sector of Ethiopia. The number of Indian Lecturers/Professors is increasing every year and currently there are about 2000-2500 Indian Academics in about 30 Universities and higher educational institutions. Although exact figures of Indian community in Ethiopia is not available since many of them residing/employed in Ethiopia have not registered with the Mission, it is estimated that the size of Indian Diaspora is between 5000-6000.

September 2017