

India – Denmark Relations

Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's visit to Denmark in 1957 laid the foundation for a friendly relationship between India and Denmark. Bilateral relations have been cordial and friendly, based on synergies in political, economic, academic and research fields. Several high level visits have taken place between the two countries. Some important visits are as follows:

Visit of Prime Minister of Denmark (4-8 February 2008): Mr. Anders Fogh Rasmussen, the then Prime Minister of Denmark, accompanied by a large business delegation, paid a State visit to India from February 4-8, 2008. He visited Infosys, Biocon and IIM in Bangalore and Agra. During his visit, Mr. Rasmussen called on the President, met PM, Chairperson UPA and EAM. He launched an 'India Action Plan', which called for strengthening of the political dialogue, strengthening of cooperation in trade and investments, research in science and technology, energy, climate and environment, culture and education.

Visit of Prime Minister of Denmark (11 September 2009): The then Danish Prime Minister Lars Lokke Rasmussen paid a one day Working Visit to India on 11 September 2009 as Host of the COP15. He met Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and discussed climate change, regional and bilateral issues.

Visit of Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh (17-18 December 2009):

Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh visited Denmark on 17-18 December 2009 to participate in COP15. PM's visit was brief and dedicated for the COP- 15; there was no bilateral meeting with the Danish dignitaries.

Visit of Minister of Water Resources, Mr. Salman Khurshid (June 8-9,2011)- The then Minister of Water Resources, Mr. Salman Khurshid visited Denmark from June 8-9, 2011. He held a detailed meeting with Ms. Karen Ellemann, Danish Minister of Environment.

Visit of Parliamentary Delegation led by Hon'ble Speaker, Smt. Meira Kumar (June 16-18, 2011) - A Parliamentary Delegation led by Hon'ble Speaker, Smt. Meira Kumar visited Denmark from June 16-18, 2011. During the visit, the delegation called on the Queen of Denmark and also had meetings with The Danish Presidium led by Mr. Thor Pedersen.

Inaugural Meeting of India-Denmark Joint Commission: The inaugural meeting of India-Denmark Joint commission was held in New Delhi on 14-15 December, 2010. The meeting was co-chaired by Danish Foreign Minister Ms. Lene Espersen and the then External Affairs Minister Mr. S.M. Krishna. The two sides discussed key areas of bilateral cooperation as well as regional and global issues of importance to both countries. It was agreed to set up three new Joint Working Groups on (i) Shipping; (ii) Food, Agriculture and Fisheries; and (iii) Environment. The two sides also agreed to convert the three joint committees established earlier into Joint working Groups, viz. (i) Biotechnology; (ii) New and Renewable Energy; and (iii) Labour Mobility. During her visit, Danish Foreign Minister Ms. Lene Espersen also led a 17- member business delegation. She inaugurated a business seminar "Indo-Danish Business Days" on energy and cleantech organised by the Confederation of Danish Industry in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry and Embassy of Denmark, New Delhi. She also visited a number of business establishments in sectors like IT, pharmaceutical, energy and environment.

Important existing Bilateral Treaties and Agreements between India and Denmark:

- Technical Cooperation Agreement – 1970
- Agreement on an Integrated Fisheries Project at Tadri, Karnataka - 1981
- Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPA) - 1995
- Protocol on Avoidance of Double Taxation (DTAA) - 1995
- MOU for cooperation between CII and Confederation of Danish Industries – 1995
- Protocol on Foreign Office Consultation - 1995
- Joint Business Council Agreement between FICCI and the Danish Industry (DI) - 2002
- MOU on Biotechnology for Bilateral Cooperation – 2004
- Agreement for establishment of a Bilateral Joint Commission for Cooperation – Feb 2008
- MOU for Cooperation in New and Renewable Energy – Feb 2008
- Arrangement on Gainful Employment for Family Members of the Diplomatic Mission or Consular Posts – Feb 2008
- MOU on Clean Development Mechanism – Oct 2008
- MOU on Cooperation in the area of Environment – September 2009
- MOU on Labour Mobility Partnership – September 2009
- Social Security Agreement – February 2010

Bilateral Visits: India to Denmark (2008 onwards):

1	Minister of State for New & Renewable Energy, Mr. Vilas Muttemwar	7-9 April 2008
2	Minister of Overseas Indian Affairs Mr. Vayalar Ravi	28-29 Sept 2009
3	Minister of State for Environment & Forests, Mr. Jairam Ramesh	9-11 Oct 2009
4	Minister of State for Environment & Forests, Mr. Jairam Ramesh	15-17 Nov 2009
5	Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh (for COP15)	17-18 Dec 2009
6	Minister of Water Resources, Mr. Salman Khurshid	8-9 Jun 2011
7	Parliamentary delegation led by Speaker of Lok Sabha, Mrs. Meira Kumar	16-19 Jun 2011

Denmark to India (2008 onwards):

1	Prime Minister Mr. Anders Fogh Rasmussen	4-8 Feb 2008
2	Minister of Climate & Energy Ms. Connie Hedegaard	4-6 Feb 2009
3	Minister of Environment Mr. Troels Lund Poulsen	18-21 Feb 2009
4	Prime Minister Mr. Lars Lokke Rasmussen	11 Sept 2009
5	Minister of Climate & Energy Ms. Connie Hedegaard	22-23 Oct 2009

6	Minister of Climate & Energy Ms. LykkeFriis	5-7 Feb 2010
7	Minister of Employment Ms. Inger Stojberg	15-17 Feb 2010
8	Minister of Transport Mr. Hans Christian Schmidt	18-22 Jun 2010
9	Minister of Foreign Affairs Ms. LeneEspersen	14-15 Dec 2010
10	Minister of Economy and Business Affairs Mr. Brian Mickkelsen	3-7 Jan 2011

Commercial and Economic Relations: Though small in size, Denmark is a rich country with an open economy which relies heavily on foreign trade and investment. It's total global trade was US\$ 295.7 billion (2015). It has a GDP of about US\$ 295 billion (2015) and a GDP per capita of US\$ 52,164 (2015).

Total volume of bilateral trade between India and Denmark was US\$ 2838 million in 2015. Balance of trade in 2015 was slightly in favour of Denmark- India's imports being US\$1446 and exports US\$ 1392. Trade of goods between India and Denmark has more than doubled from US\$ 530.9 million in 2003 to reach a level of US\$ 1051 million in 2015. As compared to 2014, our exports to Denmark decreased by 18% from US\$1697 million in 2014 to US\$ 1392 million in 2015. Danish exports to India decreased by 16% from US\$ 1718 million in 2014 to US\$ 1446million in 2015 (Source: Statistics Denmark).Bilateral services trade was worth US\$ 1787 million in 2015, which was 14% less than US\$ 2074 million recorded in 2014. India's service exports to Denmark decreased by 9% from US\$ 793 million in 2014 to US\$ 725 million in 2015, while Denmark's service exports to India decreased by 17% from US\$1281 million in 2014 to US\$1062 million in 2015. (Source: Statistics Denmark).

Major Danish Exports to India are medicinal/pharmaceutical goods, power generating machinery, industrial machinery, metal waste and ore, organic chemicals, etc. Major Indian Exports to Denmark are apparels/ready-made garments, textiles/fabrics/yarns/carpets, road vehicles and components, metal goods, iron and steel, footwear, travel goods including leather goods, industrial machinery and accessories, chemical material and products, etc.

As per Denmark statistics, Direct investment inflows from Denmark to India during CY 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 were US\$877 million, US\$931, US\$ 731 & US\$ 854 million respectively. The investments have been made in sectors like harbour/port modernization and expansion, beer breweries, wind turbine/rotor blade manufacturing, agro-intermediates/insecticides, and the engineering sector. There is scope for additional investments in renewable energy, pharmaceuticals, food processing, shipping, electronics and infrastructure sectors. Indian investments to Denmark in CY 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 were US\$ 112, US\$103, US\$ 89 million and US\$ 71 million respectively.

Major investing companies from Denmark include the Danish Shipping Giant, AP Moller Maersk Group which has made significant investments in the port infrastructure in India, acquiring a major equity stake in the Gujarat Pipavav Port, development of a bulk terminal at the Jawaharlal Nehru Port to a container terminal, Cheminova Agro, F. L. Smidth & Co., Danfoss, CHR Hansen, Danisco, LM Glasfiber, Lundbeck, Egmont International Holding, Novozymes, Novo Nordisk, Carlsberg, Ramboll, ISS and others.

The presence of Indian companies in Denmark is rather small. Among IT companies, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and L&T Infotech have their offices in Denmark since 1990 and 2000 respectively. In the last few years, other Indian IT majors, viz.,

Infosys Technologies, ITC Infotech, Mahindra Satyam and Ubiqube Systems have also started their operations in Denmark at a small level. Suzlon Energy Ltd., the Pune-based wind turbine producer, opened its overseas marketing office in Aarhus in Denmark in 2005. Novozymes and Praj Industries have entered into an agreement in 2009 whereby Novozymes would provide enzymes that will enable the Indian company to refine the process for making bioethanol – an organic and carbon-free alternative to petrol. Thermax India acquired Danstoker A/S, Denmark, a leading European boiler manufacturer and its German subsidiary, Omnical Kessel in November 2010. EcronAcunova, a full-service expert Clinical Research Organization (CRO) acquired 75% ownership of aCROnordic a/s. Vimta Labs, contract research and testing organization, is in the process of establishing an office in Copenhagen for its European business.

Commercial Activities

A business delegation led by Danish Trade and Development Minister Mogens Jensen along with representatives from 18 Danish companies participated at the main business and investment platform “Vibrant Gujarat 2015” on 10-12 January, 2015 with its focus on inclusive and sustainable growth. The purpose of the business delegation was to promote Danish competencies within water, energy, food technology and urbanization.

A 15 member business delegation mounted by Confederation of Indian Industries visited Copenhagen on May 4th 2016. From the business side, the delegation was led by Dr. Rajiv I Modi Chairman and Managing Director Cadila Pharmaceuticals Limited and represented by companies covering a broad cross section of sectors like water waste management, environment and energy, biotech, infrastructure, IT, legal etc. The delegation was accompanied by Ms. Kavita Choudhry, Regional Director-Europe and

Mr. Mohsin Khan, Deputy Director (Europe) of CII. Ambassador Rajeev Shahare briefed the delegation on India Denmark Relations and potential business opportunities. The delegation inter-acted with matching Danish companies and the Danish Confederation of Industries, the major industry association in Denmark.

The Embassy of India participated in a business seminar hosted by the India Danish Forum on 01 April 2016 wherein Ambassador Rajeev Shahare delivered a key note address on India’s flagship programmes and initiatives.

The Embassy of India participated in a Business Seminar on 08 June 2016, co-hosted by the Asia House and Denmark Embassy in India. The focus of the seminar was India’s 100 Smart Cities Mission and opportunities for Danish companies. Ambassador Shri Rajeev Shahare made a key note address highlighting the potential in the economic relationship between India-Denmark, opportunities for collaboration specifically arising out of India’s flagship programmes like Make in India, Smart Cities Mission, Digital India etc. Ambassador of Denmark to India Peter Taksøe-Jensen also addressed the gathering of select Danish companies, Industry Associations and Chamber of Commerce. Three separate case studies with specific opportunities for Danish Companies in the cities of Udaipur, Erode and Kakinada were highlighted. There was a report launch on the Smart Cities Mission by a Danish Consulting Company Quercus.

This Mission organised an event on 19 June 2016 to mark the 2nd International Yoga Day. Ms Lone DenckerWisborg, Danish State Secretary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs was the Chief Guest accompanied by some officials from the Ministry. The programme was initiated by Indian Ambassador to Denmark, Shri Rajeev Shahare who also participated in the yoga session that followed. The programme was properly arranged to spread awareness of yoga in all aspects, both for the uninitiated as well as the practitioners. There was enthusiastic participation at the event by about 450 people, from among a broad cross section of Danish society.

Important streets and public places named after Indian leaders: Gandhi Parken (Gandhi Park) located at the junction of BorupsAlle and Hvidkildevej in Copenhagen has a bronze statue of Mahatma Gandhi in sitting posture. City of Aarhus has a Nehru Road near Aarhus University.

ICCR Chairs: ICCR Chair for Indian Studies was established at Aarhus University under the MOU signed in 2011 and renewed till academic session 2016-17 A Professor from Jadavpur University, Kolkata was deputed to man the Chair from September, 2012- December 2012. Dr Radhika Chopra was the Indian Chair from March 2016- June 2016.

Visa requirements for Indian officials: Holders of diplomatic and official passports do not require a visa for entry into Denmark for a stay upto three months, after which period a residence permit becomes necessary. Others require a visa. Visa may be required to transit through other EU countries while travelling to Denmark. The details and types of visas issued to tourists, businessmen and students are available on the Danish Embassy's website.

Air links with India: There is no direct flight from Copenhagen to India, but likelihood of Air India starting operations on this sector from early 2017. Finnair operates direct flight to India via Helsinki. Convenient links to get an Air India flight to India are from London, Paris and Frankfurt. Other connections are via Vienna, Moscow, Istanbul, Doha and Dubai.

Estimated NRIs/PIOs: The size of the Indian community in Denmark is 8572 (6326-NRIs and 2246-PIOs) as on 1.1.2016. The PIOs came to Denmark in the 1970s and 80s from Punjab and neighbouring countries of Europe. There has been steady increase in the number of NRIs due to arrival of IT professionals, doctors, students and others from India in the recent times. There are several Indian Cultural Associations in Denmark who organise cultural programmes during festive seasons.

Present status of relations: India-Denmark relations have got affected since July 2011, due to the Kim Davy extradition case and the resultant stalemate over its resolution.

Useful Resources:

Embassy of India, Copenhagen website:

<http://www.indian-embassy.dk/>

Embassy of India, Copenhagen Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Embassy-of-India-Copenhagen/264658443616392>

Embassy of India, Copenhagen Twitter:

www.twitter.com/Indian in Denmark

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