

INDIA-SUDAN RELATIONS

Indian Liaison Office opened in Khartoum in April 1955, before Sudan's independence on 01 January 1956. Sukumar Sen, India's Chief Election Commissioner organized Sudan's first Parliamentary elections in 1953. At the April 1955 Afro-Asian Relations Conference in Bandung, Sudan's delegation did not have a flag. Jawaharlal Nehru wrote "Sudan" on his handkerchief, thus reserving a place for Sudan in the international community.

Political Relations

Cordial and friendly. Shared perceptions on nonalignment, South-South cooperation and national sovereignty.

Important Bilateral Treaties and Agreements

1. MoU on Consultations between the Foreign Ministries
2. Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA)
3. Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (BIPPA)

Bilateral visits from India to Sudan

Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru (1957); Vice President Dr. Zakir Hussain (1963); President Fakruddin Ali Ahmed (1975); President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam (2003)

Bilateral visits from Sudan to India

Interim Prime Minister Ismail El Azhari (1955); President Ismail El Azhari (1957); President Ibrahim Abboud (1964); President Jaffar Nimeiri (1974)

Commercial and Economic Relations

India sells manufactured goods, machinery and equipment, transport equipment, chemicals and pharmaceuticals, foodstuffs, wheat, and textiles and buys raw hides and skins, cotton, leather, ores and metal scrap.

Boost to economic relations in 2003 with India's investment in the oil sector. BHEL is building a 500 MW thermal power plant in Sudan.

Bilateral trade (in US\$ million)

YEAR	INDIA'S EXPORTS	INDIA'S IMPORTS
2007-08	407.51	433.14
2008-09	485.07	415.53

Since 2007, increasing numbers of Sudanese from all parts of the country have been travelling to India for medical treatment.

ITEC Programme Assistance

Over 150 ITEC slots utilized so far.

Other Indian assistance

Foreign Service Institute's courses for Foreign Diplomats. 20 diplomats from the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs were trained in September-October 2005 and 15 Officials from the Government of Southern Sudan in April-May 2008.

Indian Credit Lines/Official Assistance

India has extended lines of credit of around US\$ 1 billion to Sudan for various projects.

Cultural and Educational Exchanges

ICCR sponsored the 11-member Abhinaya Bharatnatyam troupe in November 2007 and the Pioneers of Quepem from Goa in November 2008. Under the ICCR and Africa Scholarships Schemes, India offers 20 Scholarships for post-graduate and doctoral studies to Sudan.

Estimated NRI/PIO population

Approximately 10,000

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