

India's Development Cooperation with Ethiopia



*Anurag Srivastava**

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India has long standing partnership in developmental cooperation with Ethiopia which has been the largest recipient of a long -term concessional credit in Africa. In 2006, India donated a US\$ 640 million line of credit to Ethiopia for the development of its sugar industry. The ongoing Government of India's partnership in developmental projects in Ethiopia has continued with sanctioned lines of credit worth more than US\$1 billion to Government of Ethiopia for rural electrification, sugar industry and railway sectors. In line with Ethiopia's priorities, India has extended support for growth of sugar industry and infrastructure projects. Finchaa and WonjiShoa sugar factories have been completed, and Phase I of the Tendaho sugar factory is being built in Ethiopia under the EXIM Banks' lines of credit.

India has also provided to Ethiopia a 64-Slice CT Scan Machine to Black Lion Hospital in Addis Ababa as a part of grant assistance. The flagship Pan African e-network Project, an initiative aimed at sharing India's expertise in the field of Healthcare and Education with member- countries of the African Union Commission was launched in July 2007 in Addis Ababa. Tele-Education and Tele-Medicine services have been offered till late at nodes set up in Black Lion Hospital in Addis Ababa and in Addis Ababa University and are well-received. The Tele-Education project has been replicated by the Ethiopian side, and linkages have been established between the Addis Ababa University and the Indian Institutes of Technology at Delhi and at Kanpur. Phase II of the project is planned to be launched sooner.

The Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme with Ethiopia has been very successful. The professionals from Ethiopia have been attending

* High Commissioner of India to Ethiopia

training courses, both civilian and defense, in India to enrich their professional skills. This programme covers areas, like agriculture, information technology, telecommunication, management, rural development, accounts, audit, banking, finance, health, environment and renewable energy. There has been a steady increase on the number of training slots offered. So far, Embassy of India at Addis Ababa has sent more than 2142 Ethiopian students and around 45 students from Djibouti under the programme. The ITEC courses have been much appreciated in Ethiopia and are found very useful in making contacts between India entrepreneurs and the Ethiopian decision-makers. India also provides available services of the experts in variety of 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 the Commerce Ministry was deputed under the ITEC to Ethiopian Ministry of Industry to share knowledge regarding international trade. India regularly deposes Indian experts to the Ethiopian Foreign Service Institute for short-term training of their diplomats.

In December 2011, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research (EIAR) had signed an MOU. Its priority areas of cooperation included agricultural research in horticulture, crop science, fisheries, animal science, agricultural engineering and natural resource management, agricultural extension and agricultural education. The cooperation has been through exchange of scientists, scholars, technologies, literature, information and research projects. A

number of Ethiopians visited India on short training courses, organized by the Indian government. Ethiopia has also been the beneficiary of India government's scholarship scheme under the ICCR programme where a large number of Ethiopians pursued Master's and doctoral degrees. This year, 43 Ethiopians would be participating in getting training in 15 different types of agriculture programmes in India.

An agreement on Cooperation in Science and Technology was signed in 2007; and in pursuance of this, a Programme of Cooperation was signed in December 2010. This provided cooperation in five areas suggested by Indian side – agricultural sciences, water technologies, health sciences, bio-technology and new sources of energy. It also provided cooperation in four areas suggested by Ethiopian side – traditional knowledge, textiles and garments, leather and leather products, ICT and microelectronics. This Programme also envisaged establishment of a Joint Committee on Scientific & Technological Cooperation. Ethiopian side requested India's assistance in their flagship programme of establishing 16 Centers of Excellence in Adama Science and Technology University (ASTU) and Addis Ababa Science & Technology University (AASTU). Ethiopia has also signed on to the International Solar Alliance; initiated by India and France in Paris in 2015. Ethiopia is one of the first signatories of the International Solar Alliance and . of the International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement.

In 2010, 41-member team of Indian professionals from Central Leather Research Institute and the Footwear Design and Development Institute

trained Ethiopian leather industries personnel in a project funded by Ethiopian Government. The Ethiopian Textile Industry Development Institute and the National Institute of Fashion Technology of India on August 2013 had launched twinning partnership scheme. A twinning agreement has also been registered between Ethiopia's Textile Industry Development Institute and Mumbai's Institute for Chemical Technology in 2014. A delegation led by Dr. Girish Sahani, DG, Council of Scientific Research and Industrial Research (CSIR), visited Addis Ababa in June 2017 for signing of a twinning agreement between CSIR and Metal Industries Development Institute (MIDI), Ethiopia. This provided training and capacity- building of sciences and technology manpower to transform the

metal and engineering sector in Ethiopia.

In terms of the FDI, Indian companies identify Ethiopia as a stable country to invest in with sound macroeconomic policies and attractive incentive package. There are more than 574 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 agriculture and floriculture, engineering, plastics, manufacturing, cotton and textiles, water management, consultancy and ICT, education, pharmaceuticals and health-care. Indian companies are the biggest investors in commercial farming in Ethiopia. About 18% of Indian investment is in agriculture including floriculture, cotton plantation, sugar production, tea plantation, horticulture, etc.

MEETING OF BRICS MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AT UNGA73

BRICS Ministers of Foreign Affairs held their annual meeting on the margins of the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA73) on 27 September 2018, chaired by Brazil in the country's capacity as the incoming BRICS Chair for 2019. The ministers exchanged views on current issues of global significance in political, security, economic, financial and sustainable development spheres, as well as three-pillar intra-BRICS strategic cooperation. The Ministers underlined the progress achieved by BRICS, in particular the establishment of the New Development Bank (NDB), including its Africa Regional Centre in Johannesburg, South Africa, the Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), the formulation of the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership, BRICS Action Agenda on Economic and Trade Cooperation and the BRICS Agricultural Research Platform (ARP). They welcomed the constitution of the BRICS Energy Research Cooperation Platform, the upcoming establishment of the Americas Regional Office of the NDB in São Paulo, the BRICS Partnership on New Industrial Revolution (PartNIR), and the BRICS Vaccine Research and Development Centre.

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