

**HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
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Brief on India-Canada Economic & Trade Relations

India and Canada have longstanding bilateral relationship based on shared democratic values, the multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-religious nature of two societies and strong people-to-people contacts. In recent years, both countries have been working to enhance bilateral cooperation in a number of areas of mutual importance. Speaking at Seoul on November 17, 2010 at the G20 Summit, Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh noted that India-Canada relations have undergone a “sea change”.

Canada is one of the wealthiest and top ten trading nations in the world. It is a member of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the G8. Canada has strong democratic traditions upheld through parliamentary government. Canada is endowed with vast natural reserves in potash, uranium, coal, oil and gas, diamonds, forest products, etc. Canada is well-known for its advanced technological base in agriculture, food processing, education, science and technology, innovation, environment, cleaner technologies, etc.

To further expand bilateral relations both in terms of quality and quantity, the two countries have established various mechanisms to interact on an annualized basis in areas of mutual interest. These are:

- Foreign Office Consultations (last held in March 2010)
- Strategic Dialogue (last held in June 2009)
- Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism (last held in March 2010)
- Trade Policy Consultations (last held in October 2009)
- Science & Technology Joint Committee (last held in June 2009)
- Environment Forum (last held in June 2009)
- Energy Forum (Last held in May 2010)
- Joint Working Group on Agriculture (last held in July 2010)
- Steering Committee on Mining (to be held in 2010)
- Health Steering Committee (last met in JUNE 2010)

Bilateral Agreements

- Reciprocal Protection of the Priority of Patents of Invention (1956)
- Air Services Agreement (1982)
- Extradition Treaty (1987)
- Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistant in Criminal Matters (1994).
- Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income and on Capital (1996)
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Mines, Government of the Republic of India and the Department of Natural Resources (represented by the Earth Sciences Sector), Government of Canada concerned cooperation in the Geosciences (April 2003)

- Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, India and the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR), Ottawa, Canada (January 2005)
- Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Canada (November 2005)
- India-Canada Forum for Environmental Cooperation (September 2007)
- Letter of Agreement – Joint Collaborative Projects in Plant Biotechnology, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India and National Research Council of Canada, Plant Biotechnology Institute (September 2007)
- Programme of Cooperation between National Institute of Plant Genome Research, New Delhi and University of Saskatchewan, Canada and Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India (March 2008)
- Memorandum of Understanding – Cooperation Agreement between the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi, India represented by the National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore, India and the Consortium for Research and Innovation in Aerospace in Quebec, Canada (April 2008)
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of India on cooperation in the field of Agriculture and Allied Sectors (January 2009)
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Chennai Port, India and the Halifax Port (January 2009)
- MoU between the Department of Natural Resources of Canada and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of India concerning Cooperation in Science and Technology related to Geospatial Information (November 2009)
- MoU between the Department of Natural Resources of Canada and the Ministry of Power, Government of India concerning Cooperation in the field of Energy (November 2009)
- Agreement between India and Canada for Cooperation in Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy signed (27 June 2010).
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Mines, Government of the Republic of India and the Department of Natural Resources, Government of Canada, concerning cooperation in the field of Earth Sciences and Mining signed (27 June 2010).
- Memorandum of Understanding between India and Canada concerning Cooperation in Higher Education signed (27 June 2010).
- Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Culture, India and the Department of Canadian Heritage on Cultural Cooperation signed (27 June 2010).

Other agreements under negotiations are:

- Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement
- MoU on Joint Study Group for Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement
- Social Security Agreement
- MoU on Cooperation in Surface Transportation

Bilateral Trade:

India-Canada Bilateral Trade during 2005-2009 (January-December)

[Figures in billion US Dollars]

Details	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
India's Exports to Canada	1.474	1.692	1.841	2.065	1.754
India's Imports from Canada	0.897	1.477	1.667	2.268	1.881
Total	2.371	3.169	3.508	4.333	3.635

[Source: Statistics Canada]

The total bilateral trade during 2005 to 2008 showed an upward trend. However, the ongoing global economic recession has taken its toll on India-Canada bilateral trade during 2009. As per latest data available, bilateral trade during the calendar year of 2009 has gone down by US\$ 698 million, i.e. (-) 16 per cent in US dollar terms as against US\$ 4.33 billion in 2008. India's total exports to Canada registered a 15 per cent decline in 2009 over 2008 (US\$ 311 million) whereas Canada's exports to India were down by 17% at US\$ 387 million.

Major Items of Indian Exports: Garments, diamonds, chemicals, gems and jewellery, made-up, sea food, engineering goods, auto parts, marble and granite, knitted garments, rice, electric equipment, carpets, etc.

Major items of Canada's export to India: Pulses, fertilizers, newsprint, ores and concentrates, wheat, communication equipment, wood pulp, nickel, ferrous waste, asbestos, laboratory equipment, worn clothing, aviation equipment, diamond, silver, etc.

India-Canada bilateral trade grows

India-Canada bilateral trade figures indicated an upward trend during the period January-October 2010 as compared to same period in 2009. India's exports to Canada registered a 11.4 per cent increase whereas India's imports from Canada were up by 7.9 per cent over the same period in 2009. Overall bilateral trade during January-October 2010 showed 10.28 per cent increase over the same period in 2009. Bilateral trade figures for the period January-October 2010 are as under:

[Figures in thousand US dollars at the current rate]

Description	Jan-Oct 2009	Jan-Oct 2010	Percentage change
India's Total Exports	1,490	1,660	11.4%
India's Total Imports	1,525	1,645	7.9%
Total Trade	3,015	3,305	11.29

[Source: Statistics Canada]

Bilateral Investment:

The two-way investment figures for the period 2000-2009 are as under:

India-Canada Bilateral Foreign Direct Investment
[2000-2009]

[figures in millions C\$]

Year	Indian FDI in Canada	Canadian FDI in India
2000	NA	129
2001	29	145
2002	31	222
2003	59	204
2004	92	214
2005	171	319
2006	211	677
2007	1,439 (estimated)	506
2008	2,667	785
2009	2,972	601
Total	7,671	3,802

[Source: Statistics Canada]

The cumulative foreign direct investment by India into Canada during 2000-2009 was C\$ 7.671 billion as against Canadian FDIs of C\$ 3.802 billion during the same period. In 2009, India ranked 13 in terms of Indian FDIs into Canada and 42 in terms of Canadian FDIs abroad. Following table provides an overview of bilateral investment in US dollars during 2005-2009:

[Figures in million US dollars]

Details	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
India's investments in Canada	163	201	409	2538	2828
Canada's investments in India	304	644	481	747	572
Total	467	845	890	3285	3400

[Source: Statistics Canada]

CANADIAN OUTWARD AND INWARD FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT
DURING 2000-2009

[Figures in millions C\$]

Year	FDI Outward	FDI Inward
2000	356,506	319,116
2001	399,253	340,429
2002	435,494	356,819

2003	412,217	373,685
2004	448,546	379,450
2005	452,195	397,828
2006	518,839	437,171
2007	513,140	510,139
2008	641,641	540,830
2009	593,291	549,400

[Source: Statistics Canada]

Indian investment in Canada has increased steadily in the recent years, especially in the information technology and software sectors. Indian companies with substantial operations in Canada include VSNL (Tata), Aditya Birla Group, Hindalco, Essar, Tata Consultancy Services, BFL Software, Patni Computer Systems, Satyam Computer Services, WIPRO and Infosys Technology. Two Indian Banks, State Bank of India and ICICI Banks, have six branches each in Canada. Punjab National Bank and Bank of Baroda are in advanced stages of planning to enter Canada. Other areas of significant Indian investment in Canada are financial services and pharmaceuticals. Among the major Indian investments in Canada are the following:

- Aditya Birla Group – US\$ 25 millions – Softwood and Hardwood Pulp – 1998
- Bikanervala Foods Pvt. Ltd. – US\$ 5 million – Agriculture, Food and Beverages – 2003
- Aditya Birla Group – US\$ 146 millions – Acquisition of St. Anne Nackawic Pulp Mill – 2005
- Piramla Healthcare Limited – US\$ 6 millions – Biotechnology and drugs – 2005
- VSNL Limited – US\$ 239 millions – Communications equipment – 2005
- Kavveri Telecom Products Ltd. – US\$ 2.5 millions – Communications equipment – 2006
- Aditya Birla Group – US\$ 125 millions – ICT; acquired Mincas Worldwide – 2006
- Carborundum Universal Limited – US\$ 14 millions – Industrial Goods – 2006
- WF Limited – US\$ 5 millions – Consumer Products and Sales – 2007
- Subex Azure Limited US\$ 164.5 millions – Information-Communications and Technology – 2007
- Hindalco Limited – US\$ 6000 millions – Mining – 2007 – Acquired Novelis
- Baltiboi Limited – US\$ 7 millions – Engineering Services – 2007
- Essar Steel Limited – US\$ 1850 millions – Iron & Steel – 2007
- Aditya Birla Group – US\$ 15 millions – Conglomerate – 2007 – Investment in Atholville, New Brunswick
- Universal Power Transformers – US\$ 7.2 millions – Electronic Instruments & Controls – 2007
- Kavveri Telecom Products Ltd. – US\$ 7 million – Communications Equipment – 2008
- Jubilant Organosys Ltd. – US\$ 255 millions – Biotechnology & Drugs – 2008
- Aditya Birla Group – US\$ 9 millions – Conglomerate – 2008
- Essar Steel Limited – US\$ 135 millions – Iron & Steel – 2009
- Tata Steel Limited – US\$ 300 million – Misc. Fabricated Products – 2009
- Vedanta Resources Plc. – Mining - acquired 10 per cent shares in HudBay Minerals Inc.
- Hind High Vacuum Co. Ltd. – US\$ 240 million – Renewable Energy – Solar – 2010
- Zylong Systems – US\$ 35 million – Acquired Brainhunter Inc. - 2010
- Tata Steel purchased an additional 14,285,714 common shares in the New Millennium Capital Corp. raising its stake from 19.9 to 27.4 per cent - \$ 20 million – June 2010

Canadian investments in India are present in energy, infrastructure, banking, insurance, oil and gas, transportation, etc. sectors, as also in engineering and consultancy services. The Indian economy has attracted many Canadian companies including SNC Lavalin, Bombardier, RIM, CAE Electronics, Sun Life, MDS Nordion, BCE, etc. Royal Bank of Canada and Scotia bank have branches in India. Canadian clean technology companies have also entered into joint ventures with Indian companies in India. Major investments from Canada in India are:

- SNC Lavalin has been active in India since 1960s in various sectors such as chemicals, petroleum, infrastructure, pharmaceutical, power, etc. It has about 150 completed and ongoing projects in India. It has acquired a number of Indian companies in various sectors.
- Quebec's Mediagrif Interactive Technologies Inc. acquired a 50% interest in Mumbai-based Centerac DMCC for US\$1 million. (Feb. 2006)
- Magna Powertrain, a division of Aurora-based Magna International that produces powertrain and drivetrain components, formed a 50-50 joint venture with its long-term parts supplier Amtek Auto of India. (2006)
- CAE Montreal – Helicopter Pilot Training Center in Bangalore – \$ 55 million – 2007
- Bombardier – Metro rail coaches manufacturing plant in India - \$ 41 million
- Marikon Inc purchased the remaining 51% of Matrikon-SoftDel India Private Limited for C\$ 575,000 – 2009
- Export Development Canada (EDC), Canada's official export credit agency, as part of its program to encourage investment from Canada in India has encouraged following investments under its India Equity portfolio:
 - o Avigo SME Fund II – US\$ 7.5 million – August 2007
 - o IDFC India Infrastructure Fund – US\$ 1 billion
 - o Kotak India Private Equity Co. Limited – US\$ 250 million
- Urbana Corporation has taken a C\$26.5 million interest in the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE). This purchase was made indirectly by way of an investment in shares of Caldwell India Holdings Inc. (CIH) and was facilitated by Caldwell Asset Management Inc., Urbana's investment manager. The CIH acquisition of 308,888 BSE shares cost approximately C\$43.5 million, with Urbana owning 60.9% of CIH's equity shares. Urbana is a Toronto-based investment company focused on buying seats and shares in private and public securities exchanges around the world. (2007)
- Montreal-based Alcan Inc. acquired 76% of the shares of Mumbai, India-based Alukbond India Private Ltd. The Indian company will be renamed Alcan Composites India Private Ltd., Alukbond's production facility currently manufactures the Alukbond brand of aluminum composite panels. (2007)
- Montreal-based CAE acquired Bangalore, India-based Macmet Technologies Limited for approximately C\$5 million in cash. (2007)
- Hyderabad-based Matrix Group has entered into a joint venture with Montreal-based Ethica Clinical Research Inc. to create a contract research company, Ethicamatrix Clinical Research Pvt. Ltd. Ethicamatrix will pursue clinical research on biologicals, natural health and drug products and be equally owned by the joint venture partners which plan to invest C\$2.6 million to strengthen operations. (2007)
- CCL Industries Inc., a Toronto-based company that provides specialty packaging and labelling solutions for the consumer products and healthcare industries, announced that it plans to invest \$25 million over 2008 and 2009 to expand its CCL Label operations in Asia. A new start-up in Pune, India will focus on personal care and healthcare customers. (2008)
- Calgary-based Canoro Resources Ltd., an international oil and gas company operating in the Assam/Arakan basin of northeast India, has finalized negotiations with Essar Oil Limited and Essar Energy Holdings Limited to obtain a 30% participating interest in two exploration production sharing contracts in northeast India. (2008)
- Quebec City-based H2O Innovation Inc. signed a joint venture agreement to create H2O Innovation India Limited. The new company will operate out of facilities located in Chembond's centre in Mumbai, and be dedicated to providing water treatment systems and maintenance services to the Indian industrial and commercial markets for the production of boiler feed and process water, for industrial wastewater reclamation and reuse, as well as for wastewater treatment. Chembond will own 51% of the shares of the joint venture and H2O Innovation will own the remaining 49%. (2010)
- Vancouver-based Minaean International Corp., a developer of alternative building technologies using light-gauge steel, announced that its wholly owned subsidiary, Minaean Habitat India Pvt.

Ltd. (MHI), has secured a contract for the turnkey design and construction of the hostel and library covering a total area of 24,000 sq. feet for a new medical college campus in Valsad, Gujarat, India. The new college has been sanctioned by Gujarat's Health & Family Welfare Department. The contract represents revenue of over C\$1.04 million for MHI. (2010)

Important Areas of Bilateral Cooperation

India and Canada have established a number of mechanisms with a view to expanding the scope of their bilateral relations, namely:

Trade Policy Consultations

The two countries have established a mechanism of holding annual trade policy consultations in each country on a rotation basis for expanding bilateral trade and investment ties and to address the issues of mutual concern. So far, six annual Trade Policy Consultation Meetings have been held; the last (6th) meeting was held in Ottawa in September 2009. The meeting is chaired by Commerce Secretary from the Indian side and Assistant Deputy Minister of International Trade from the Canadian side. In each meeting, progress made on decisions arrived in earlier meetings are assessed, issues of mutual concern and new areas of cooperation are discussed, etc.

During the 6th meeting, detailed discussions were held on issues of mutual concern such as comprehensive economic partnership, high level structured energy dialogue, cooperation in mining and earth sciences, social security agreement, civilian nuclear cooperation, India-Canada CEO Roundtable, high level visits, etc. Expressing satisfaction on the existing bilateral trade and economic relations, both sides agreed that enormous potential exists to further expand the scope of this relationship, particularly in areas such as agriculture, energy, environment, mining, science and technology, and including culture, etc. Both the delegations stressed the need to take the bilateral trade from the existing level of C\$ 4.6 billion (2008) to a much higher level given the opportunities and potential that exists between the two countries.

The 7th round of annual India-Canada Trade Policy Consultation meeting was held in New Delhi on 18 October 2010. The Indian delegation was led by Mr. P K Chaudhury, Additional Secretary (ASC), Department of Commerce accompanied by senior officers from DOC, Departments of Information Technology, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Economic Affairs, AYUSH, Industry Policy and Promotion, and the Ministries of External Affairs and Shipping and the Deputy High Commissioner of India in Ottawa, Canada. Mr. Louis Levesque, Deputy Minister of International Trade (DMT), Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT) led the Canadian delegation at the meeting along with senior officers of DFAIT and Canadian High Commissioner (designate) to India and Minister (Commercial) in the Canadian Mission in New Delhi.

Initiating the discussion, Mr. Chaudhury expressed happiness on the positive developments that have taken place in bilateral trade and economic relations between India and Canada since the last TPC meeting held in Ottawa last year. He noted the commitment demonstrated by both sides to further expand and deepen the scope and content of the bilateral trade and investment relations with a view to exploit the potential that exists between the two countries. Deputy Minister Levesque in his remarks observed that both countries are intensely engaged with each other and there has been considerable interest and willingness at the highest level to further the bilateral relationship.

During the meeting, the discussions were held on agreed agenda items which included follow-up action of the last TPC meeting, Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement, Social Security Agreement, Cancellation of National Pilot Program for IT Specialists, Canada-India Intellectual Property Related Matters, Recognition of traditional Indian system of medicine, Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) issues, Atlantic Gateway Initiative, Canada-India Science and Technology Cooperation Agreement, Canada-India CEO Roundtable and CEO Forum, Working Groups on PPP, Finance Sector issues, Regulatory issues in Canada with respect to certain categories of IT enabled services and RIM issue.

Both sides agreed in principle to establish working groups on the private-public-partnership (PPP) model focusing on **Infrastructure, Energy and Mining, Agro-processing, Information and Communication Technologies and Education**. ASC proposed that both sides may initiate identification of nodal persons for the proposed working groups.

Science & Technology Committee

During the visit of Shri Kapil Sibal, Minister for Science and Technology to Canada in November 2005, a major, potentially significant move forward in the bilateral relationship was the signing of the Science and Technology Agreement which was one of the action points identified during Prime Minister Paul Martin's visit to India in January 2005. The Agreement focuses on bridging the gap between scientific R&D and the eventual marketing of the discoveries made. It was decided to fund the agreement through a corpus of C \$ 13.5 million set up with matching contributions from the two sides, with nano-technology as one of the priority areas - a sector with literally limitless applications. The two sides also decided to establish a Canada-India Nano-Technology Centre in Mohali, India.

In June 2008, Minister of State for Science & Technology, Shri Kapil Sibal visited Canada (Toronto) to deliver the key-note address at the India Calling Conference held in Toronto on 16 June 2008 and to hold discussions with Canadian side for cooperation between India and Canada in the field of science and technology. A joint announcement by S&T Minister and Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, David Emerson was made in Toronto on 16 June 2008 launching ten joint initiatives worth USD 17 million to boost cooperation in the field of science and technology, particularly to explore creative ways to develop next generation research as part of a pact signed in 2005. Eight of the joint initiatives are in the field of agriculture, environment, food processing, health, IT, energy, aeronautics and watershed management and two are related to partnership-development activities. Under the latter, the University of Toronto in collaboration with Tata Institute of Fundamental Research will undertake projects of mutual benefits.

The India-Canada Joint Committee on S&T Cooperation holds annual consultations in each country on a rotation basis. So far, three meetings have been held; the last (3rd) meeting was held in June 2009 in Ottawa. The salient features of the meeting were:

- GITA and ISTPCanada to bring a tangible project on water
- DST to develop a mechanism to provide funding for travel costs of Indian students coming to Canada.
- Extension of GSEP (Graduate Scholarship Education Program) from 6 months to 1 year.
- Separation of Biotechnology and Health Research & Medical Devices Sector into two sectors.
- National Research Council, Canada to confirm Canadian coordinators for aerospace and photonics sectors.
- Creation of an International Summer School Program

- Cooperation in Nanotechnology
- ESS, NRCan to re-establish the MoU on Disaster Management and Data Spatial Activities.
- Workshop on Sustainable & Alternate Energy & Environmental Technologies to be organized by the University of Waterloo.
- Synchronize activities in the biofuel activities.
- Recruitment of two persons by both sides to review the current areas of cooperation.

Work on four joint research projects under the India-Canada MoU on S&T Cooperation in the field of development of a software for automatic detection of tumours, the development of rapid diagnostic and screening technologies and head and neck cancer, the development of a cost-effective and rapid diagnostic test for sexually transmitted infections and development of a bioinformatics software platform, and the development of anti-malarial treatment options has been undergoing.

Dr. G. Sundarajan, Director, International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials, (ARCI), Hyderabad and Prof. Ajay Sood, Indian Institute of Sciences, Bangalore visited Canada from May 17 onwards in connection with the proposed India-Canada Nano Biotechnology Centre in Mohali. Their itinerary included visits to the 5 collaborating Universities, namely, University of British Columbia, University of Toronto, Waterloo University, McGill University and University of Alberta.

The next (4th) S&T Joint Committee meeting is scheduled to be held in India in January-February 2011 on the request of the Canadian side.

Earth Sciences

One of the elements of cooperation included in the India-Canada S&T Cooperation Agreement of November 2005 was the Earth Sciences Sector including the geospatial information. Both sides exchanged visits and attended events/workshops concerning this area of cooperation. In November 2009, the Department of Science and Technology, India and the Department of Natural Resources, Canada signed an MoU concerning cooperation relating to Geospatial Information.

During the visit of Indian Prime Minister to Canada in June 2010 for the G20 Summit and India-Canada bilateral discussions, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Ministry of Mines, Government of the Republic of India and the Department of Natural Resources, Government of Canada, concerning cooperation in the field of Earth Sciences and Mining. As part of the ongoing cooperation between the Department of Science and Technology (DST), India and the Earth Sciences Sector (ESS) of the Natural Resources Canada, two delegations from India visited Canada in 2010. Mr. Sanjiv Nair, Mission Director, Mission on Geospatial Applications, DST visited Ottawa and Vancouver from 26 to 30 July 2010 to hold further discussions with the ESS of NRCan and the Canadian private sector for cooperation in the geospatial field. In Vancouver, he held meetings with Delta Municipality on water management, on flood modelling with Fraser River Authority and MDA Geospatial Services. A 3-member delegation led by Ms. Sheila Sangwan, Additional Secretary &FA, DST visited Ottawa and Vancouver from 26 Sep till 02 Oct 2010 to finalise detailed collaborative studies in the area of geospatial information science and technology. The delegation held discussions with the Canada Centre for Remote Sensing on Disaster Mitigation, Mapping Information Branch, the India-Canada Centre for Excellence in Science, Technology, Trade and Policy at the Carleton University, a visit to the Canadian Space Agency in St. Hubert, Quebec, etc. In Vancouver, the program included meetings and discussions with Galdos Systems and MDA-Radarsat.

Environment Forum

During the visit of then Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin to India in January 2005, the Prime Ministers of India and Canada agreed to deepen environmental cooperation. Subsequent to this, in February 2005 India proposed the creation of an India-Canada Technology Forum on Environment Cooperation to be built around the themes of environment and energy management, clean energy and effluent technologies. This was agreed upon by the Canadian side.

The agreement for setting up of the India-Canada Forum for Environmental Cooperation was signed during the visit of Mr. N.N Meena, Minister of State for Environment and Forests to Montreal in September 2007 to attend the 19th Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

As per the Terms of Reference, the Forum will be planned and managed by a committee consisting of representatives from relevant ministries of both countries and will convene at least once a year and involve participants from government, the private sector and research institutions meeting in parallel and jointly.

The 1st India-Canada Joint Committee Meeting on Environment Cooperation was held in Ottawa on 18-19 June 2009. The Indian delegation was led by Mr. Hem Pande, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forest and Co-Chair and the Canadian delegation by Ms. France Jacovella, Ms. France Jacovella, Director General, Multilateral and Bilateral Affairs, Environment Canada and Co-Chair. Possible areas of cooperation between India and Canada, namely, air quality prediction, improved chemical management for reducing exposure, mercury monitoring, peer review of source apportionment studies, etc. were identified during the meeting. Both sides also agreed to hold discussion on the issues of wildlife management, bio-diversity and bio-safety in the next meeting. The two sides also agreed to remain in touch, work on areas of cooperation agreed upon and exchange information, etc. on issues identified and proposed to be taken up in the next meeting. An interim workplan was also developed to initiate activities under the Forum. Under the workplan, a bilateral Air Quality Workshop has been proposed to be held in Canada in 2010. The Indian Environment Ministry has proposed a strong practical training component in the workshop for the Indian participants.

A three-member team from India comprising of Mr. R N Jindal, Additional Director, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Mr. Aditya Sharma, Assistant Environmental Engineer, Central Pollution Control Board and Mr. R. Dhanasekaran, Deputy Manager, AEL, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board visited Ottawa to attend the Air Quality Scientific Training Workshop during 7 to 11 June 2010 as agreed upon during the first meeting of India-Canada Environment Forum held in Ottawa in June 2010.

The second meeting of India-Canada Environment Forum was held in New Delhi on 13-14 September 2010. The Indian delegation was led by Mr. Hem Pande, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment and the Canadian delegation by Ms. France Jacovella, Director General, Environment Canada. During the meeting the discussions were held on agreed agenda items, namely, air pollution and mercury air emissions, air quality management, climate change, cleaner technology and energy partnership, partnership in specific industry, resource and/or public utility sector (waste management, water recycling and re-use, pulp and paper – cheaper technology options for effluent discharge, noise monitoring, etc.), conserving lakes and wetlands, wildlife, biodiversity, wildlife management and protected areas, negotiation of the protocol on Access Benefit Sharing and cooperation in bio-safety.0

Agriculture Cooperation

On January 13, 2009 the MOU on Agriculture Cooperation between India and Canada was signed by Indian Agriculture Minister Sharad Pawar and Minister Gerry Ritz in New Delhi during the visit of latter to India. It was agreed that both countries shall endeavor to promote dialogue and information exchanges and cooperation by other means as may be mutually agreed upon in, but not limited to, the areas of knowledge exchange on emerging technologies, agricultural marketing and animal development. It was also agreed to form a Joint Working Group to look into areas of cooperation between the two countries, address issues of concern in the field of agriculture, prepare a work plan specifying the tasks to be fulfilled by each country, etc.

The first meeting of the Joint Working Group as mandated under the MoU was held in New Delhi on 16-17 March 2010 which led to the creation of three sub-groups on i) knowledge exchange on emerging technologies, ii) animal development, and iii) agricultural marketing. The sub-groups held separate meetings and recommended the following areas of cooperation to be included in the biennial Work Plan 2010-11:

- **Post harvest and processing technology** – *to include supply chain logistic for horticulture produce, supply chain management and storage for food grains, food processing, development of processing varieties of fruits and vegetables, pulse processing, development of functional foods.*
- **Food safety, quality and packaging** – *to include transfer of knowledge, training for human skills development and exchange of information for best practices.*
- **Other areas** – *to include twining with research centre on food processing and pulse processing, exchange of scientists and students, identification of collaborative projects, etc.*
- **Live swine and pork** – *to include development of swine genetic improvement scheme, animal health protocol for live swine and pork and Hog farm management.*
- **Dairy** – *to include identification and registration system for dairy cattle for genetic improvement purposes and traceability initiative, dairy cattle nutrition for higher performance, sexing of bovine semen and sustainable progeny testing.*
- **Agricultural marketing** – *to include grade and standards including organic certification process, marketing information system, risk management and insurance programs and crop forecasting.*

A delegation led by Ms. Upma Chawdhry, Joint Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, India visited Saskatoon and BC, Canada from 22nd June to 1st July 2010, for training under the OECD Seed Scheme. This training was co-ordinated by Canadian Seed Inspection Agency (CFIA).

A 4-member delegation led by Mr. S K G Rahate, Director (PP), Department of Agriculture Cooperation visited Saskatoon and Vancouver from 11 to 17 July 2010 for the second meeting of the **Working Group on Pulses** under the India-Canada MoU on Agriculture Cooperation for holding bilateral negotiations and resolving the fumigation issues of peas and pulses. The GOI, on Canadian request, is considering extending the deadline for the fumigation of pulses, etc. on arrival at Indian ports till 31 March 2011.

At the invitation of Mr. Gerry Ritz, Canadian Agriculture Minister, Hon'ble Mr. Subodh Kant Sahai, Minister for Food Processing Industries, India will lead a 5-member delegation to Canada (Calgary, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Montreal, Toronto) during 01 to 08 September 2010. The visit would focus on utilizing the expertise of Canadian side in Food Science and Food Technology Research and its commercialization, to seek Canadian investment in

India's food processing sector in Mega Food Parks, supply/cold chain logistics, skill development, and benchmarking of food testing and quality control laboratories. He interacted with Canadian Agriculture Minister and other Provincial Ministers, visited research institutions and met the business community. He signed an MoU with the McGill University in Montreal.

Energy Forum

India and Canada agreed to establish an Energy Dialogue, modeled on the pattern that India has with the USA and the EU, to strengthen and expand bilateral cooperation in this important area and to set up an India-Canada Energy Forum. During India-Canada Foreign Office Consultations held in Ottawa in December 2008, the issue of cooperation in energy was discussed in detail laying emphasis on Canadian investment in various energy sectors in India such as hydro, thermal, nuclear, solar, wind, new and renewable energy including collaboration in clean technology. The Indian side suggested an MoU for Cooperation in Energy. This was agreed to by the Canadian side. The MoU was signed during the official visit of Canadian Prime Minister Mr. Stephen Harper to India in November 2009.

The Canada-India Energy Forum set up under the MoU met at Additional Secretary level in Ottawa on 26-27 May 2010. The agenda of the first meeting included overview of legislative and policy framework, investment policies and regulations, technologies and strategic priorities etc. in energy, electric power, renewable energy, energy efficiency, and oil and gas sectors in Canada and India, outlook for future cooperation in these sectors including identifying broad strategic areas for bilateral engagement and developing a roadmap/workplan and associated implementation mechanisms, etc. Among the Indian delegates were: Mr. G B Pradhan, Additional Secretary and Mr. Sudhir Kumar, Joint Secretary from the Ministry of Power, Mr. J Sood, Energy Economist, Bureau of Energy Efficiency, Mr. M M Rawal, Chief Energy, Central Electricity Authority, Mr. M C Bhatnagar, Chief Engineer, Powergrid Corporation of India Ltd., and Mr. S K Dave, General Manager, NTPC.

As agreed during the first meeting of India-Canada energy Forum, the Indian side has constituted the two sub-Groups on Clean Coal, Oil and Gas and Electricity, Renewable and Energy Efficiency. The sub-group on Clean Coal, Oil and Gas will be headed by Mr. I C P Keshari, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Power and the other on Electricity, Renewable and Energy Efficiency by Mr. Devender Singh, Joint Secretary from the same ministry as Co-Chairs. The composition of similar groups from the Canadian side is awaited.

Earlier, the then Indian Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Mr. Mani Shankar Aiyar, visited Calgary, the oil and gas capital of Canada, in early February 2005 for a road show offering 20 new oil and gas exploration blocks in India to Canadian petroleum entrepreneurs. The show demonstrated the new and much higher level of interest among Canadian oil majors in moving to prospect for oil and gas in India. This is undoubtedly due to the striking success of Niko Resources of Alberta, a partner, with Reliance Industries of India, in the largest gas find in the world in 2002, offshore of the Krishna-Godavari basin in south eastern India, as also of another Calgary firm, Canoro, which has struck oil in north-eastern India.

Mr. Ron Stevens, Deputy Premier Alberta (oil city of Canada) accompanied by officials and representatives of business community from the Province visited India in January 2009 primarily to attend PetroTech 2009 in New Delhi.

In April 2009, Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission led a high level delegation from India to participate in the Canada-India Energy Forum organized in

Toronto by the Canada-India Business Council (CIBC) in consultation with the High Commission of India in Ottawa and the Consulate General of India in Toronto to showcase the capabilities of Indian and Canadian energy and energy-related public and private sector companies, provide a platform for the exchange of energy sector specific knowledge and information, promote mutual business opportunities for Indian and Canadian energy companies, etc.

India's Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas organized a Road Show in Calgary (Alberta) on 24-25 August 2009 as part of the Eighth Round of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-VIII) and Fourth Round of Coal Bed Methane Policy (CBM-IV). MOS for Petroleum and Natural Gas Jitin Prasad led the Indian delegation to Calgary, Canada for the Road Show showcasing 70 exploration blocks under New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP-VIII) and 10 blocks under the fourth bid round of Coal Bed Methane (CBM-IV). 94 participants from 50 companies/organizations including representatives from Alberta Government, companies and various business associations like India-Canada Chamber of Commerce and Calgary Economic Development, Alberta Business Council and some financial/consultancy agencies attended the event. The Indian delegates then held one-to-one meetings with local company representatives.

Calgary-based Bengal Energy Ltd., a junior oil and gas exploration and production company, announced that its wholly-owned subsidiary, Bengal Energy International Inc., has received the official award of India Block CY-OSN-2009/1 situated in the Cauvery Basin in Southeast India covering 1,362 sq. km. from the Government of India. The production sharing contract sets out the terms and conditions for the exploration and development of the block. BEI holds a 100% interest in the block. The committed work program capital expenditure is estimated at US\$2 million. Drilling will be required to hold the block after the first four years of exploration is complete. There is a seven-year tax holiday from the start of commercial production.

Mr. Jitin Prasad, Hon'ble Minister of State for Petroleum & Natural Gas visited Alberta during 8-10 June 2010 to participate in the Global Petroleum Show in Alberta.

Mining

During India and Canada Foreign Office Consultations held in Ottawa on 12 December 2008, the Indian side conveyed its interest for a broader MoU on Mining between the two countries. The specific areas of interest for India include potash, urea, gold, diamonds, oil and gas, uranium, clean coal technology, mining prospecting technology, etc.

Accordingly, negotiations for an India-Canada MoU concerning Cooperation in the field of Earth Sciences and Mining were undertaken. The MoU was signed on 27 June 2010 in Toronto during the visit of Indian Prime Minister to Canada for the G20 and the India-Canada bilateral discussions. The MoU provides for:

- organization and support on technical seminars and meetings;
- collaboration on individual research problems of mutual interest in areas of cooperation identified under this MoU;
- exchange of personnel to work on collaborative projects;
- exchange of scientific and technical information relating to the development of work on collaborative projects;
- education, training, and human resource development in the geosciences as well as minerals and metals;

- encouragement of cooperation in earth sciences and mining with the industrial sector, academia, in both countries as well as international financial institutions and other non-government organizations, where appropriate;
- transfer of technology in support of collaborative projects;
- exchange of information on research and development; where appropriate; and
- other forms of cooperation as may be mutually decided upon by the Participants.

The composition of Steering Committee on the Indian side to be headed by Secretary (Mines) as Co-chair has already been conveyed to the Canadian side. The Canadian side has appointed the Assistant Deputy Minister, NRCan as its Co-chair on the committee.

Hon'ble Minister for Mines and DONER, India, Mr. B K Handique (MOM), visited Canada (Toronto, Sudbury, Montreal) during 8/13 July 2010 for meetings and discussions with leading Canadian mining industry association, mining companies, etc. In Toronto, MOM signed a **Memorandum of Understanding** with the Ministry of Northern Development, Ontario, and held meetings with Hon'ble Michael Gravelle, Ontario Minister of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry, PDAC, Canada-India Foundation, and the Canada-India Business Council. In Sudbury, MOM and delegation visited mines, etc. In Montreal, MOM held meetings with Mr. Pierre Arcand, Quebec Minister of International Affairs, Mr. Clement Gignac, Quebec Minister of Economic Development, attended a business luncheon organized by Quebec-India Business Council and met CEOs of SNC Lavalin and Rio Tinto Alcan.

Health Steering Committee

Realizing the needs and justification for collaboration in the field of health and medical sciences, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) signed an MoU in January 2005 initially for a period of two years which was extended for three more years during the first Joint Steering Committee meeting on 8 November 2006. Both the agencies agreed to extend the MoU for one more year in a teleconference meeting held on 29 July 2009. It was also agreed in that meeting to start preparing for a new MoU before end of January 2011. Further steps were suggested to strengthen the collaboration during a discussions meeting held at ICMR with the President, CIHR on 4 November 2009 and with Hon'ble MOS for Health & FW on 5.11.2009. It was agreed to continue with the existing MoU, due to expire in January 2010, till December 2010. The fresh MoU is currently under consideration for approval by the Indian Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Life Style Diseases, Public Health, Disease Surveillance are the areas identified for cooperation between the two institutions. The other areas recently proposed by Canadian side are **Health Services** and **Policy Research; Infection and Immunity; Neurosciences, Mental Health,** and **Addiction; Population and Public Health.**

ICMR and CIHR are promoting direct cooperation through:

- Exchange of scientists
- Exchange of scientific information (through lecture/workshop/seminars), technical data, publications, documents, etc.
- Joint research proposals/projects in mutually identified areas including research, training and the applications of knowledge.

Canada-India Networking Initiative (CINI) on Cardiovascular Health held a conference from June 19-23, 2010 at Surrey. The Conference was organized by Canada India Network

Society and co-hosted by Fraser Health Authority and Simon Fraser University, Government of India, Department of Ayush, sent two experts Dr Rama Jaysundar and Dr. Vasudevan Nampoothiri, from the Department of Ayush, Ministry of Health on Ayurveda to attend this Conference. Approximately 50 Delegates from India, which included doctors, representatives of academic institutions, and research institutes in the field of cardiovascular diseases attended the Conference.

Dr V.M.Katoch, Secretary, Department of Health Research & CG, ICMR, led an Indian Delegation as Co-Chair, for the next meeting of the Joint Steering Committee between Indian Council of Medical Research and Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Ottawa, at Surrey. The other members of the delegation were Prof Syed Hasnain, Vice Chancellor, University of Hyderabad, Dr. Bela Shah, DDG, ICMR & Dr. Mukesh Kumar, DDG, ICMR.

During the Joint Steering Committee in Vancouver on 24 June, 2010, the two sides discussed the outcome of Childhood Obesity Workshop held in January 2009 and Canada-India Networking Society's Conference on Cardiovascular Health held in Surrey from 19 to 23 June 2010. Both sides agreed that the new MoU should focus on:

- Ensuring that the new MOU is finalized and signed before 31st December, 2010. The old MOU which expired in December 2009 was extended for one more year, until 31st December, 2010. The new MOU to be valid for a period of 5 years and could be renewed through an exchange of letters.
- Identifying areas of common interest and specifically state the objective of the bilateral collaboration, the implementation mechanisms, the review processes, address intellectual property management issues, and include a financial table.
- Underlining themes of priority interest such as obesity, perinatal health, health service and infectious diseases.
- Focusing on promising areas of research collaboration, holding workshops which would provide opportunity to the research communities of both sides to develop good research collaborations and to potentially focus on untapped areas such as health services and health system research.
- Including cross-cutting themes of interest such as knowledge translation, research capacity building, mobility, gender and health.
- Considering standalone initiatives in priority areas such as international fellowships, short-term mobility grants to young researchers and summer institutes and explore internally how to operationalize these suggestions.
- On the funding aspect, avoiding confusion in future and that such concept would be clarified in the new MOU.

In March 2011, an ICMR-CIHR workshop on Maternal and Child Health is scheduled to be held in Mumbai.

On 11 January 2011, the College of Surgeons of India (CSI) and the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding in Ottawa to build a strong relationship between the two bodies and to establish the CSI for the development and evolution of an educational partnership between the RCPSC and CSI with

a view to advancement of surgical residency education in India. The MoU was signed by Dr. Narendra Kumar Pandey, President, CSI and Dr. Andrew Padmos, Chief Executive Officer, RCPSC. The MoU is perpetual in nature unless either party provides the other with a not less than 12 months written notice to terminate it. The MoU is intended to enable a strong education partnership between the parties whereas the RCPSC will support the CSI in its efforts to raise the standards and operational performance of surgical training programs in India.

Air Services

India and Canada signed an Air Services Agreement on 20 July 1982. The Agreement entered into force on 31 August 1982 and subsequently undergone amendments on in 1987, 1991, and 1998.

A successful round of negotiations on Civil Aviation in early June 2005 led to an agreement to increase flights both ways by as much as 500%, and Air India restarted a direct service between Toronto and New Delhi from May 15, 2005. From September 2007, Jet Airways, a private airliner from India, also began its flight on sector Delhi-Brussels-Toronto as agreed between the two countries.

During the 5th India-Canada Trade Policy Consultations held in September 2008, the issue of review of the bilateral Air Services Agreement had come up. It was decided to hold further negotiations on this issue.

In May 2009, the matter was again taken up with the Canadian side. It was indicated that Canadian commercial interests that would shape the substance of negotiations are not yet clear enough to support an early meeting, especially that the global economic downturn has severely impacted the airline industry worldwide, including the Canadian industry. Canadian side further indicated to revert as early as possible when position of both India and Canada has been well defined.

Mr. Prashant Sukul, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation during his visit to Canada for the 6th Meeting of the Facilitation Panel of ICAO on 10-14 May 2010 held discussions with Canadian Chief Air Negotiator on expansion of air services including pending civil aviation matters between the two countries.

Atlantic Gateway Initiative

In February 2008, Atlantic Gateway delegation under Minister Peter Mackay, Minister of National Defence, Canada visited India. The purpose of the visit was to publicize infrastructural capabilities of Atlantic Provinces of Canada and promote their case for routing India's trade to North America via ports and airports in Atlantic Canada.

A 5-member Government/Business delegation led by Mr. Anil Mukim, Joint Secretary (NAFTA), Department of Commerce, visited Canada (Ottawa, Halifax) for an on-the-spot study of ports facilities at the Atlantic Gateway Canada and to interact with various departments/agencies in Canada. The delegation held discussions with Canada Border Security Agency (CBSA) and the Department of Transport, Canada in Ottawa and In Halifax with the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), Halifax Port Authorities, officials of Nova Scotia provincial government, etc. The delegation also visited various facilities developed at Halifax Port including the truck and rail corridors for scanning containers, facilities developed and upgraded at Stanfield Halifax airport, an industrial park, etc.

On 28 January 2009, the Chennai Port Trust (ChPT) signed a historic sister port agreement with the Port of Halifax, Canada for cooperation in fields like maritime transportation, port development and the mutual promotion of both Ports. The ports have had a rich history of maritime operations over a century and share similar cargo profiles. The MoU will encompass exchange of experts' technical cooperation in port management, covering operations of specialized terminals like containers, exchange of knowledge, tourism development and development of trade between the two ports.

A delegation of 18 companies and organizations from India visited Halifax, Nova Scotia in a trade mission to Atlantic Canada from August 31 to September 4, 2009. The mission was organized by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), Canada with the objective to promote trade between Atlantic Canada and India, build on the growing international trade potential of the Atlantic Gateway, and examine related business opportunities that can be developed in the short to medium-term. The companies taking part in the mission represent a broad cross-section of India's economy, including sectors such as information and communications technology, manufacturing and shipping.

During the 6th round of Annual Trade Policy Consultations between India and Canada held in Ottawa on 29 September 2009, it was indicated that the dialogue between Halifax port authorities and the Shipping Corporation of India is on and it is ultimately the viability and economics which would lead to a decision. Both sides agreed to keep the dialogue on.

The Ministry of Commerce & Industry, India forwarded a questionnaire from the Indian Ministry of Shipping and Transport in early 2010 seeking information from the Halifax Port Authorities and others concerned. The duly answered questionnaire received from the Canadian side has been forwarded to Delhi in April 2010.

During the 7th annual round of India-Canada Trade Policy Consultations held in New Delhi on 18 October 2010, the issue of Canadian Atlantic Gateway Initiative was again discussed. Based on the inputs received from the Halifax Port Authorities to the questionnaire on the cost benefit aspect of using Canada's Atlantic Gateway infrastructure, the Indian Ministry of Shipping has informed that the container volumes handled by the Halifax Port are very low. Further the assessment charges at Halifax (by the Halifax Employers Association) do not appear to be competitive when considering movement of containers beyond 250 miles inland from New York i.e. US Midwest. There also appears to be some uncertainty in respect of an uninterrupted movement of containers that are pre-examined at Halifax. These factors, according to Indian authorities, do not establish the competitiveness of utilising Halifax port for catering to the US Midwest region's trade, for which calling at New York/US ports would be a preferred route.

Cooperation at Federal/State/Provincial level

Minister of State (Independent Charge), Shri Subodh Kant Sahai visited Canada in February 2007 and held discussions with Mr. Chuck Strahl, Minister of Agriculture and Agrifood Canada. In June 2007, Shri Kamal Nath, Minister of Commerce & Industry came on a short but packed visit to Canada and among others held discussions with Canada's Minister of International Trade, Mr. David Emerson and Mr. Jean Charest, Premier of Quebec. Shri Kanti Lal Bhuria, Minister of State for Agriculture was also on a visit to Canada in June, 2007 and beside others, held discussions with Mr. Chuck Strahl, Minister of Agriculture and Agrifood Canada.

A strong delegation led by Parliamentary Secretary to the International Trade Minister of Canada (Trade Minister, Mr. Emerson himself was unable to go due to illness) was in India in

March 2007. This was the first time that an Infrastructure delegation from Canada visited India. Mr. Emerson himself visited India in April 2007.

Enhanced bilateral relations between India and Canada led to enhanced cooperation at Provincial/State level.

A high profile visit to Canada by the Chief Minister of the Punjab and a productive, business-oriented visit by the Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh were also noteworthy. Shri Hon. Chief Minister of Haryana Mr. Bhupinder Singh Hooda, visited Canada (Toronto) in October 2007. Ms. Rosann Wowchuk, Deputy Premier & Minister of Agriculture of Manitoba called on him to discuss the possibility of cooperation particularly in the agriculture and food processing sectors.

Premiers from two Canadian Provinces (Quebec & Manitoba) visited India in 2006 and Ontario Premier, Mr Dalton McGuinty was in India in early 2007. Ontario Premier of Ontario Mr. Dalton McGuinty, accompanied by Sandra Pupatello, Provincial Minister for International Trade and Investment, along with a large business delegation in the field of clean and green technology visited India (Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad) from 6 to 11 December 2009.

Hon'ble Lyle Stewart, Minister of Enterprise & Innovation, Saskatchewan Province, led an official and business delegation to India (Mumbai, Ahmedabad and New Delhi) from 13-21 February 2009. The visit aimed at strengthening trade and bilateral relations and build investments in sectors such as coal, potash, uranium, oil, gas, pulses and diamonds between India and the Province. While in India, Hon'ble Stewart met Minister of Communication & IT, MOS for Commerce, Chairman, Department of Atomic Energy and senior officials and business people and visited institutions and business organizations.

Hon. Mr. Jean Charest, Premier of Quebec Province, led a high powered delegation to India (New Mumbai, Bangalore, Delhi) from 31 January to 06 February 2010 consisting of 130 members largely drawn from the business circles and Presidents of Quebec based universities and senior officials of the Province. Mr. Pierre Arcand, Provincial Minister of International Relations and Mr. Clement Gignac, Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade, Quebec also accompanied the Premier. The focus of the visit was to forge cooperation in hydro-power, energy, life sciences, aerospace, education, environment, infrastructure, multimedia, R&D, biotech, pharmaceutical and ICT.

Manitoba has had a tradition of its Premiers visiting India. Prior to Premier Doer's visit at least two other Premiers - Premier Howard Pawley and Premier Gary Filmon - have visited India. Premier Filmon, predecessor of Premier Doer, had visited India in 1995. However, Premier Doer was the first to visit with a business delegation in February 2006. His delegation covered a broad spectrum of sectors, including automobiles, civil aviation, buses, engineering, tourism, film, education, processed food etc.

Senator Donald Oliver from Nova Scotia Province led an official Atlantic Mission to India (New Delhi, Mumbai) from 15-23 January 2010 to attend the Global Economic Summit planned in Mumbai. The delegation included Minister McKinley, Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal of Prince Edward Island, Monica Arab from the Department of Economic and Rural Development of Nova Scotia, Mr. Michel Tetu, Director General and other senior officials of the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), and businessmen representing biosciences, alternate energy, food processing, education, seafood, life sciences and digital media sectors.

Mr. Rob Norris, Minister of Advanced Education, Employment, Labour & Immigration, Saskatchewan visited India (Bangalore, Chennai, New Delhi) from May 30 to June 10, 2010 to attend the India Bio 2010 Conference at Bangalore, Canada-India Seminar on Science & Technology in Chennai, meetings in various Ministries in New Delhi to explore possibilities of cooperation and partnerships between Saskatchewan Province and India in the field of agriculture, education, innovation and research, biotechnology, information technology, etc.

These visits and interactions are indicative of importance being attached by both the countries for expanding bilateral relations not only at federal but at provincial level as well.

Recent Developments

2009

Bilateral relations between India and Canada witnessed heightened activity during 2009. The highlight of the year was the **first official visit of Canadian Prime Minister Mr. Stephen Harper to India from 15-18 November 2009** at the invitation of the Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh. During his stay in India, Canadian PM called on the President and the Vice President of India. The Leader of Opposition and the External Affairs Minister called on PM Harper. Business level meetings were held in Mumbai and Delhi including investment and infrastructure roundtables, as also meetings with educationists and the nuclear industry group.

In their meeting, both the Prime Ministers agreed on the importance of working together towards global economic recovery. The two leaders held discussions on the climate change issue, the importance of moving forward constructively on the WTO Doha Round negotiations and intensifying the economic and trade relationship by concluding bilateral economic agreements including Bilateral Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement, the Social Security Agreement and the Civil Nuclear Cooperation Agreement. The two leaders laid emphasis on education as an area of new momentum and the need to facilitate mutually beneficial linkages in science, technology, innovation and building synergies between institutions of higher learning in India and Canada.

Two important MoUs were signed in the presence of two leaders, namely, MoU for Cooperation in the area of Energy and the MoU for the setting up of a Joint Study Group that will explore the possibility of a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between India and Canada. The JSG is assigned to conclude the joint study within six months.

The two leaders set a trade target of \$ 15 billion annually in the next five years. It was also announced that the Year of India will be celebrated in locations across Canada in 2011.

Recognizing the vibrant people-to-people ties linking the two countries, the two Prime Ministers noted the importance of citizens becoming better acquainted with each other through culture, sports and tourism. They looked forward to the Winter Olympics in Canada in February 2010, the Commonwealth Games to be hosted by India in October 2010 and the Year of India to be celebrated in locations across Canada in 2011.

2009 also witnessed visit of 11 Canadian ministers to India both at federal and provincial levels including high level official visits. The important ministerial visits from Canada to India included the visits of Agriculture Minister (Agriculture MoU was signed), Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism, International Trade Minister, and the Industry Minister.

2010

The **main highlight of 2010** was the **historic visit of Prime Minister of India Dr. Manmohan Singh** to Canada (Toronto) from 26 – 28 June, 2010 to attend the G20 Summit followed by bilateral discussions with Canada. The two leaders issued a joint statement outlining a number of areas of cooperation in the bilateral relationship. The joint statement welcomed the signature of the Agreement for Cooperation in Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, which will help facilitate civil nuclear cooperation between the two countries. Both the countries committed themselves to the ratification of the agreement and the completion of all remaining steps necessary to ensure its early implementation. They underscored the potential for mutually beneficial civil nuclear cooperation and trade. The two Prime Ministers also witnessed signing of three MoUs between India and Canada concerning cooperation in the field of Earth Sciences and Mining, Culture and Higher Education.

The two leaders committed to expanding a range of activities and institutional frameworks that will contribute to the shared goal of increasing bilateral trade to \$15 billion annually in the next five years. During Prime Minister Harper's visit to India in November 2009, both countries had signed an MOU to establish a Joint Study Group to explore the possibility of a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between India and Canada. The two Prime Ministers welcomed the conclusion of that report, in which the Joint Study Group identified substantial potential economic gains that both countries could achieve through such an agreement. The two leaders noted that the recommendations in the report will be examined by both countries and necessary processes for obtaining approvals will be initiated immediately and will aim to be completed by the end of October.

The Prime Ministers also announced their commitment to an annual dialogue on trade and investment between Canada's Minister of International Trade and India's Minister of Commerce and Industry. They also welcomed the possibility of an India-Canada CEO Roundtable later this year.

Before his departure to India, the Prime Minister held a meeting with the Canadian MPs and MLAs of Indian origin. He also visited the Air India Plane tragedy memorial in Toronto and laid a wreath in the memory of the victims. He conveyed his condolences to the family members of the victims present there.

The two Prime Ministers met again at Seoul (G20 Summit) on 17 November 2010 and announced the launch of negotiations on the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between India and Canada.

Another important visit was that of Hon'ble Minister for Road Transport and Highways Mr. Kamal Nath to Canada (Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal) for road shows from 22 to 27 March 2010 Canada to sensitize the Canadian business and investor community of the opportunities in the highway sector in India. He was accompanied by senior officials from his Ministry, senior executives of companies in the construction and infrastructure sectors, etc.

In Ottawa, he held meetings with Canadian Minister of Industry Tony Clement, President of the Treasury Board Stockwell Day, Minister of International Trade Peter Van Joan, Transport Minister John Baird and the Canadian National Security Adviser Ms. Marie-Lucie Morin. During his stay in Ottawa, his program included meetings with the Export Development of Canada (EDC), the Senate Foreign Affairs and International Trade Committee, key-note address on the theme "Infrastructure Challenge" at a function organized by the Economic Club of Canada and a reception organized in his honour by Canada-India Parliamentary Association at the Parliament Hill. He also met Mr. Robert C Kay, Chairman of the Board,

Canadian Commercial Corporation, Mr. Paul Davidson, President of the Association of Canadian Universities & Colleges and Mr. David Bowden, President, Glosynergy. The Canadian Council of Chief Executives (CCCE) hosted a dinner meeting in honour of Hon'ble Minister and delegation. Immediately on arrival in Ottawa, Hon'ble Minister appeared on Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) line show "Power & Politics" where he stated GOI position on the demonstrations by some sections of Indo-Canadian community relating to '84 anti-Sikh Riots'. Minister Nath also spoke on the reasons for his visit to Canada. He was also interviewed by National Dailies Globe & Mail, National Post, Montreal Gazette and the PTI.

In Montreal, Hon'ble Minister's program included luncheon meeting with Premier Jean Charest, meeting with Canadian CEOs organized by the Board of Trade of Metropolitan Montreal, meeting with Quebec Institutional & Pension Stakeholders organized by Quebec Minister of Economic Affairs Clement Gignac and meetings with President and CEO, SNC Lavalin and President, SNC Lavalin International, President, Bombardier, Vice President of Tecsumt-Aecom, Arup Canada, Ministerial delegation from Manitoba, and a breakfast meeting with Vice-Chairman of Power Corporation of Canada.

Earlier in Toronto, Hon'ble Minister had meetings with Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty, meeting at the Ministry of Economic Development & Trade, Ontario moderated by Hon'ble Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Transportation, attended breakfast sessions organized by India-Canada Chamber of Commerce and at the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, delivered an address at a dinner by Canada-India Business Council and also held meetings with Bennett Jones law firm, Firefax Financial Holdings and Genuity Capital. He also gave interviews to India Abroad, North American edition of Indian Express, Business News Network, Television Ontario, Asian Television Network and the Toronto Star.

Hon'ble Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology Mr. Sachin Pilot visited Canada (Toronto) from 30 March to 1 April 2010. During his stay, he addressed meetings convened by the Canada-India Business Council and TiE, attended a luncheon meeting arranged by Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Ontario Province and also visited Research in Motion (RIM) in Waterloo.

Finance Secretary Mr. Ashok Chawla, accompanied by Dr. Alok Sheel, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs and Mr. J S Mukul, Joint Secretary (TC & ER), Ministry of External Affairs visited Canada (Ottawa) from 17 to 19 March 2010 to attend the G20 Sherpas meeting and BRIC Sherpas meeting.

Mr. S. Vijay Kumar, Special Secretary, Ministry of Mines, India led a large delegation consisting of senior officers from the Ministry of Mines, New Delhi and State Governments, representatives of state-owned companies in the Indian mining sector and private sector to Toronto from 7 to 10 March 2010 to attend the PDAC 2010 organised by the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada and also to attend the 'India Day' organized concurrently with PDAC 2010. On 8 March, the Canada-India Business Council hosted a dinner meeting for the visiting delegation and other invitees.

Dr. R. Chidambaram, Principal Scientific Advisor to the Prime Minister visited Canada from May 9 to 14, 2010 at the invitation of University of Ottawa for the Bromley Lecture. During his stay, he attended thematic sessions on scientific use of Canada's Advanced Research and Innovation Work (Canarie), Green Chemistry, Biomedical Engineering, Energy Technologies in the context of Climate Change and held meetings with Faculty Club at McGill University in Montreal. In Ottawa, he had a laboratory tour at the National Research Council, Canada and held meetings with Prof. Allan Rock, President of University of Ottawa and other senior faculty members, Dr. Rosean O'Reilly Runte, President of Carleton

University, Dr. Arthur Carty, Executive Director of Waterloo Institute of Nanotechnology, Dr. Henri Rothschild, CEO, ISTPCanada, Mr. Howard Alper of the Science Technology Innovation Council, Ms. Suzanne Fortier, President and Danielle Menard, Director of Policy and International Relations, Natural Science & Engineering Research Council, Ms. Helena Joncas of Canarie, etc. Dr. Chidambaram also had a meeting with Mr. Gary Goodyear, Hon'ble Minister of State for Science & Technology of Canada.

Canadian Finance Minister Mr. Jim Flaherty visited India (New Delhi, Mumbai) during May 17 to 19, 2010. During his stay, he had meetings with Indian Finance Minister Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, attended the inauguration of Scotia Bank's launch of two new products, namely, 10-gram gold round bar and the 141 gram (five ounce) silver round bar in Mumbai, and held discussions with business leaders and heads of industry located in New Delhi and Mumbai.

Mr. John Manely, President and CEO, Canadian Council of Chief Executives (CCCE) and Mr. Roy MacLaren, Chairman, Canada-India Business Council (CIBC) along with Mr. Rana Sarkar, President and Executive Director, CIBC, Mr. Peter Sutherland, Vice-Chairman, CIBC. Mr. Sam Boutziouvis, Vice President, CCCE and Mr. Jason Langrish, Senior Adviser, CIBC visited India (New Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore) from 28 March – 02 April 2010 with the objective to garner support for the proposed India-Canada Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).

Indian Food Processing Industries Minister visits Canada

At the invitation of Canadian Federal Agriculture Minister Mr. Gerry Ritz, Union Minister for Food Processing Industry Mr. Subodh Kant Sahai, visited Canada from 1st to 7th September 2010 (Montreal, Calgary, Saskatoon). He was accompanied by a 5-member high level official delegation. The main focus of the visit was to utilize the expertise of Canadian side in food science and food technology research and its commercialization and seek Canadian investment in India's food processing sector, Mega Food Parks, supply/cold chain logistics, skill development in food science and food technology and benchmarking of food testing and quality control laboratories.

During his stay in Canada, Minister Sahai held meetings with Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz, Premiers of Quebec and Saskatchewan and Minister of Economic Development of Quebec Province Mr. Clement Gignac. During the meeting with Saskatchewan Premier, Saskatchewan's Minister of Agriculture Bob Bjornerud and Minister of Advanced Education Rob Norris were also present. In Montreal, he visited facilities and labs at McGill Faculty of Agriculture and Environment Sciences and also signed an MoU with the McGill University. Minister Sahai's program in Canada also included visits to research centres, institutes, and labs and interaction with scientists, academics and representatives of Canadian food processing industry and a Seminar on 'Food Processing Industry in India' held in Montreal.

Indian Power Minister visits Canada

Hon'ble Union Minister for Power Mr. Sushilkumar Shinde visited Canada (Montreal, Ottawa, Niagara) from 15 to 18 September 2010 leading a high-powered Indian delegation comprising of Secretary (Power), CMDs of National Thermal Power Corporation, Power Grid Corporation and the Power Finance Corporation. About 50 leading Indian energy firms participated in the 21st World Energy Congress held in Montreal (12-16 September 2010).

At the World Energy Congress, Minister Shinde participated in a Ministerial Roundtable on “Transition Timeline to a New Energy World”. On the sidelines of the Congress, Minister Shinde held meetings with Mr. Christian Paradis, Canadian Federal Minister of Natural Resources, Mr. Peter Van Loan, Canadian Federal Minister of International Trade, Ms. Nathalie Normandeau, Vice Premier & Minister of Natural Resources of Quebec Province and CEOs of SNC Lavalin, AECL, etc. and other Canadian companies in the energy sector.

In Ottawa, the Canada-India Centre for Excellence in Science, Technology, Trade and Policy at the Carleton University organised a Roundtable on “Power Up India: Policy, Investment and Project Development” in honour of Minister Shinde.

Minister Shinde and his delegation concluded their visit to Canada by visiting the Niagara Hydro Power Station in Niagara on 18 September.

Indian Commerce & Industry Minister visits Canada for India-Canada First Annual Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment

The Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Anand Sharma, visited Canada from September 23 to 25, 2010 at the invitation of the Canadian Minister of International Trade (MINT), Mr. Peter Van Loan, for the first Annual Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment held in Ottawa on 24 September 2010.

The two Ministers welcomed the establishment of a formal discourse and committed to maintaining open and productive discussions. While reviewing Canada-India bilateral trade and investment relations, the Ministers encouraged the continued strengthening of economic ties between the two countries. The Ministers agreed that there is significant potential for sustained growth in trade and investment flows between the two countries, and reiterated their Prime Ministers’ commitment to increasing trade from the current level of \$ 4.5 billion to \$ 15 billion annually in the next five years.

During the meeting, the Ministers released the Canada-India Joint Study Group Report that examined the feasibility of a comprehensive economic partnership agreement (CEPA). They welcomed the Joint Study Group recommendation that negotiations be initiated towards a substantive and ambitious CEPA to the mutual benefit of each Party.

The Ministers looked forward to the early signing followed by ratification and implementation of the Social Security Agreement. They noted that the Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement was under negotiation and looked forward to its early conclusion. These two agreements will make a significant contribution to the commercial and economic interaction between the two countries. Under the umbrella of the Ministerial Dialogue, both sides agreed in principle to establish working groups on PPP model, focussing on infrastructure, Energy, Mining, Agro-processing, ICT and Education.

They welcomed the commencement of negotiations for an Audio-visual Coproduction Agreement and looked forward to the increased collaboration and the trade that would result from it.

The Ministers also looked forward to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Road Transportation later this year.

The Ministers also reviewed the current status of bilateral cooperation in critical sectors such as energy, environment, mining, information and communication technology, science

and technology, education and training, tourism, financial and other services, agriculture, and infrastructure. They noted the opportunities for our private sector to work together in these sectors in third markets.

The Ministers also underlined the importance of greater contact between Canadian and Indian businesses. In this regard, both sides agreed to expedite the establishment of a Canada-India CEO Forum, a high level representative body that would recommend policy initiatives and identify impediments to the enhancement of investment and trade between the two countries.

The Commerce and Industry Minister also called on the Prime Minister of Canada, Mr. Stephen Harper and apprised him on the current trade and investment scenario between the two countries.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Anand Sharma met the Industry Ministry of Canada, Mr. Tony Clement and discussed with him issues of bilateral interest. Both the Ministers stressed upon the need to enhance investment and technological collaboration between businesses in the two countries.

In the afternoon, Mr. Anand Sharma addressed the India Canada CEO Roundtable meeting, jointly organised by the Canadian Council of Chief Executives and the Confederation of Indian Industry.

The Commerce and Industry Minister also had an interactive session with the Canada-India Centre of Excellence at Carleton University, where an endowed Chair has been established by ICCR.

On 23rd of September, in Toronto, Mr. Sharma addressed a gathering of leading professionals and business of Canada in an event organised by the Canada-India Business Council.

Indian Minister of State for Civil Aviation visits Canada

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Civil Aviation Praful Patel visited Montreal during 27-29 September 2010 to attend the General Assembly Session of ICAO. Minister Patel was accompanied by Secretary, Civil Aviation, Director General, Civil Aviation and other senior officials from the Ministry of Civil Aviation.

On the sidelines of the ICAO session, Minister Patel held meetings with Canadian Federal Minister of Transport Chuck Strahl, his counterparts from other countries (EU, Malaysia, Singapore), Secretary, Department of Homeland Security & Administration, USA, senior executives of Bombardier, CAE Inc., Montreal Airport and DG and CEO, ICAO, DG & CEO, IATA, etc. Minister Patel also hosted a lunch for all the participants at the ICAO General Assembly Session. The program also included a luncheon business meeting jointly hosted by Ministry of Civil Aviation and FICCI.

Canadian Citizenship & Immigration Minister visits India

Canadian Citizenship & Immigration Minister Jason Kenney visited India (New Delhi, Chandigarh) from 7 to 10 September 2010 to review Canada's visa operations in India and to have a dialogue with the Indian Government on visa and consular issues. He was accompanied by three Members of Parliament – Ms. Narinder Kaur Grewal, Mr. Patrick Brown and Mr. Tim Uppal – and officers from the Department of Citizenship and

Immigration. During his stay, he held meetings with officials in the Indian Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs and the Chief Minister of Punjab.

Canadian Agriculture Minister visits India

Canadian Federal Agriculture Minister Gerry Ritz visited India during 16-17 September 2010 to foster cooperation and trade for the benefit of both India and Canada and to discuss sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) Issues, etc. During his stay in New Delhi, he held meetings with Union Agriculture Minister Mr. Sharad Pawar and Minister for Food Processing Industry Mr. Subodh Kant Sahai. Minister Ritz also met Indian industry representatives and was invited to a ribbon-cutting ceremony at a Jivo Wellness canola oil bottling plant.

Canadian Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade visits India

A 13-member delegation of the Canadian Senate Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade (SCFAIT) led by Senator Anita Raynell Andreychuck, Chair of the Committee including 10 Senators and an Analyst and Clerk attached to the Committee visited India from 4 to 10 September 2010 (New Delhi, Hyderabad, Mumbai). The visit was undertaken in connection with SCFAIT's special study on the rise of Russia, India and China in the global economy and implications for Canadian policy.

Canadian Sports Minister visits India

At the invitation of Union Minister for Sports Dr. M S Gill, Canadian Minister of State for Sports Gary Lunn visited India from 2 to 7 October 2010 to represent the Canadian Government at the Commonwealth Games 2010 at New Delhi and to attend the 5th Commonwealth Sports Ministers meeting held in New Delhi on 4 October 2010. Canada has sent a strong contingent of 251 athletes to participate at the Commonwealth Games 2010 in New Delhi.

Dr. R. Chidambaram, Principal Scientific Advisor to PM visited Canada (Waterloo, Regina, Saskatoon) from 24 to 28 October 2010. In Waterloo, Dr. Chidambaram met Prof. Arthur J. Carty, Executive Director, Waterloo Institute of Nanotechnology and other faculty members and attended a seminar entitled "Energy Technologies, Energy Security and Climate change". In Regina, he met Saskatchewan Premier Brad Wall and Mr. Rod Norris, Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour and interacted with University of Regina faculty and officials. In Saskatoon, Dr. Chidambaram gave a presentation at the University of Saskatchewan entitled "Converging Perspectives: India & Canada" and visited Saskatchewan Research Council.

Canadian Minister of International Trade visits India

Canadian Minister of International Trade Mr. Peter Van Loan visited India (New Delhi and Mumbai) from 14 to 18 November 2010 for the inaugural round of India-Canada Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) negotiations in New Delhi. He also participated in the World Economic Forum's India Economic Summit. In Mumbai, he opened the trading session at the Bombay Stock Exchange and outlined Canada's business advantages as a trade and investment partner.

2011

A 30 member business delegation led by 6 Canadian MPs - Mr. Patrick Brown, MP and Chairman, Canada-India Parliamentary Friendship Committee, Mr. Devinder Shory, MP and Member of Immigration Committee, Mr. Rick Dykstra, MP and Parliamentary Secretary to Immigration Canada, Mr. Dean Del Mastro, MP and Parliamentary Secretary to Heritage Minister, Mr. Chris Warkentin, MP and Vice-Chair of Government Operations Committee and Mr. Lee Richardson, MP and Chair of International Trade Committee –visited Gujarat for the Vibrant Gujarat 2011 event in Ahmedabad from 10 to 14 January 2011.

An Atlantic Canada Exploratory Mission will visit India (Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Mumbai). The delegates representing environment, alternative energies, aerospace and defense, boat building, infrastructure sectors and women in business will join the mission. The delegation will be in Ahmedabad from 12 to 18 January 2011 to attend the Vibrant Gujarat 2011. From Gujarat the group will move on to Bangalore for meetings with the World Trade Centre for discussions on possible program elements for the 2012 mission. It will then move to Mumbai on 23 January for a business-to-business program. One delegate from the Mission along with a WTC representative will also take part in the Indian Maritime Technology Conference from 21 to 23 January in Chennai.

An official delegation led by Mr. Michel Tetu, Director General of Trade and Investment, Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) is scheduled to visit New Delhi, and Mumbai beginning 24 January 2011 as part of preparations for a January 2012 trade mission to India. The program will include meetings with government officials in Delhi and business associations such as FICCI and CII. The delegation will also consist of provincial representatives from Newfoundland and Nova Scotia Provinces. The group will make a stop in Gujarat for a visit to the McCain's plant and meetings with Gujarat state officials, before heading to Mumbai on Jan. 26.

Mr. Clement Gignac, Minister for Economic Development, Innovation and Trade of Quebec Province in Canada, will lead a 60-member business delegation from Quebec Province to India (Mumbai, New Delhi) from 29 January to 04 February 2011 for the World Economic Forum in Mumbai and the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit in New Delhi.

Visit of Canadian Public Safety Minister to India

Canadian Public Safety Minister Mr. Vic Toews is scheduled to visit India from 23 to 26 February 2011 to discuss illegal migration and human smuggling, counter terrorism, countering violent extremism, etc. and site visits.

January 2011