



## Ministry of External Affairs

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# Summary of agreements signed between India and Syria

November 14, 2003

### **AGREEMENT ON MUTUAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN NATIONAL SMALL INDUSTRIES, INDIA AND SYRIA**

National Small Industrial Corporation, India a premier Public Sector Organisation is engaged in promoting and assessing growth of SSIs since 1955 by providing technical, financial and market support apart from facilitating international business partnerships in the small scale sector. Recognising the need for the SSI in Syria to modernize and be competitive, NSIC and SSI organisation of Syria have agreed to mutually carry out feasibility studies to identify thrust areas for the development of SSIs in Syria along with, facilitating technological transfer, enterprise to enterprise contact, technical workshops and seminars to promote Indian technology, investment from India for specific industrial projects for industrial partnership in Syria. Both countries will exchange and disseminate information on goods, services and hold trade exhibitions/ fairs in each country.

### **MOU BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ( DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY) OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION OF THE SAR ON COOPERATION IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND SERVICES**

Department of IT and The Ministry of Education, Syria have agreed to setup a Working Group on IT to realize the existing potential in IT sector between the two countries in more focused and comprehensive manner. The focus will be on IT software, e-commerce, information security, IT-related education and IT-enabled services. Working Group will undertake the activities related to the exploration, identification, implementation and finance in IT sector. It will promote joint training programmes, seminars, joint ventures in IT hardware and software and various exchange programmes between the two countries.

### **PROGRAMME OF COOPERATION IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC FOR THE PERIOD OF 2003-2005**

Pursuing further the agreement between the Department of Science & Technology and Syria Arab Republic of Feb 16, 1978, and taking note of MOU signed on July 27, 2000 on co-operation in the fields of S&T, both sides have agreed on the broad subject areas of joint co-operation in science policy, technical policy, biotechnology, information technology, R&D, industrial linkages and commercialization of technology transfer.

Both sides have agreed to establish an Indo-Syrian Joint Working Group for determining the areas of mutual interest and co-operation and further for implementation of joint activities and monitoring and review of the same. JWG will meet annually alternatively in India and Syria.

Apart from this, bilateral joint technical workshops, training programmes, annual science conference and exchange of scientists and research workers will be undertaken. The exploratory visit for the scientists will be held for 40 man-weeks per annum and bi-lateral exchange of scientists for 30 man-weeks per annum.

The possibility of training of Syrian scientists in reputed Indian institutes and affiliation of Indian experts with Syrian organisation, twining of Indian institutes with Syrian institutes will also be explored.

#### **EXECUTIVE WORK PLAN BETWEEN DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY, GOVERNMENT OF INDIA & THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION , SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC**

Department of Bio-Technology, Government of India and Ministry of Higher Education, Syrian Arab Republic have agreed on an Executive Work Plan (EWP) for the period of 5 years (2003-2008). The principle objective of the EWP is to facilitate and broaden opportunities for co-operation between the two countries in the field of bio-technology including strengthening of R&D activities of Syrian National Biotechnological Center, exchange of scientific and technological information, joint Research Programme in the areas of agriculture, biotechnology, animal biotechnology, medical biotechnology, microbial biotechnology, environmental biotechnology and bio informatics.

On Syrian request, Indian side would send one eminent expert with two visits of one week per annum to Syria for scientific and managerial advice for setting up of Syrian national bio-tech centre and also assist teaching and R&D.

Indian side would facilitate the procurement of equipments and other necessary items for the development of eco-friendly, sustainable bio-technological products.

Indian side will also facilitate the design, innovation and construction of Syrian National Biotech Centre and its laboratories of international standards.

For human resource development, Indian side will arrange each year five MSc./ PhD slots for Syrian students. It will also provide advance diploma certificate training slot each year to one young scientist below 40 years and 3 slots for short-term training programmes of 3-6 months in reputed Indian university.

#### **EXCHANGE PROGRAMME BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION**

India and Syria have signed a Programme of Cooperation in the field of education to give a boost to already strong relations in the field of education. India offers 19 scholarships to Syrian Students for pursuing higher studied in India, similarly Syria provides 5 scholarships to the Indian students for pursuing courses in Islamic Studies and Arabic Literature in Syria. India also provides short education and technical course under the ITEC Programme. There also have been regular exchanges of scholars between the two countries in various fields. In addition the Programme provides for cooperation in the field of exchange of scholars, exchange of expertise; it also calls for setting up an IT education center in Syria by the Indian Cooperation.

The agreement is based on recognition of the profound impact of education on human resources, economic and social development of both countries and recognizes that greater linkages between both

countries in the field of education would be mutually beneficial. The agreement is based on the Agreement on Cooperation In the field of Culture & Science between the two sides signed in 1975.

#### **EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME FOR CULTURAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC FOR THE YEARS 2003-2006**

Regular cultural exchanges are organised and facilitated between India and Syria under the Cultural Exchange Programme. The executive Programme provides practical framework for organizing these cultural exchanges with an aim to strengthen cultural ties between the two countries. One of the main cultural activities is performances of Indian troupes in Syria. In last 5 years about 10 cultural troupes have visited Syria. All of them were highly appreciated by the Syrian audience and got considerable media attention. Regular film weeks organised in Syria and a full-fledged retrospective of Bollywood in the Damascus International Film Festival to be organised in December 2003. An Exhibition of Islamic Arts and an exhibition of Madhubani Paintings are also being planned in Syria.

#### **CULTURAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ARAB WRITERS UNION IN SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC AND SAHITYA ACADEMY IN INDIA FOR THE YEARS 2003-2005**

In an effort to revive and enhance the old cultural relations between the Arab Nation and the people of India and to get a deeper insight in the culture, art and literature of both the countries, both sides have agreed upon to coordinate their efforts at the international meetings and conferences with the aim of serving the values of humanity and just peace. Both sides will exchange their periodicals (five copies of every issue), their publications (two copies of every book), information, and documents and do their best to introduce each country's literature into the other country. Both sides will also exchange delegations to pursue and practice cultural activities.

#### **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SYRIAN ARABIC REPUBLIC ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE AND ALLIED SECTORS**

The Ministry of Agriculture, India and the Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, Syria with the aim to develop and strengthen the existing friendly relations between the two countries have agreed on a MoU to cooperate in the fields of agricultural science and technology, agricultural production and agro-processing through joint activities and exchanges. The cooperation generally will cover the areas of food processing, high yield crops, animal health and reproduction and administration of soil and water resources. Both sides have agreed on regular Exchange Programme of experts, specialists, trainers and training programme. A Joint Working Group is also proposed to monitor the activities

#### **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC**

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Government of the Republic of India have agreed to facilitate and promote technical cooperation in the form of the joint projects for specific areas of technical cooperation. These areas will reflect the priorities of both countries in the sphere of their respective economic and social development plans and programmes. The joint projects will be in the form of deputation of experts; providing short term training in technical institutions for upgrading professional skills; providing consultancy services; conducting of feasibility studies etc.



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