

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

FACT SHEET

October 25, 2020

**SECRETARY POMPEO TRAVELS TO INDIA TO ADVANCE U.S.-INDIA
COMPREHENSIVE GLOBAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

“Let's seize this moment to deepen cooperation between two of the world's greatest democracies.”

– U.S. Secretary of State Michael R. Pompeo, July 22, 2020

Secretary Michael R. Pompeo will travel to New Delhi, India, October 26-27, 2020, where he and Secretary of Defense Mark T. Esper will meet with External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and Defense Minister Rajnath Singh for the U.S.-India 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue. Secretary Pompeo will also meet with Prime Minister Modi and hold discussions with other government and business leaders on ways to advance the U.S.-India Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership.

**THE U.S.-INDIA RELATIONSHIP: ROOTED IN DEMOCRATIC TRADITIONS AND
GROWING IN NEW STRATEGIC DIMENSIONS**

- The United States and India have a strong and growing bilateral relationship built on shared values and a commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific.
- As the world's oldest and largest democracies, the United States and India enjoy deeply rooted democratic traditions. The growth in the partnership reflects a deepening strategic convergence on a range of issues. Our cooperation is expanding in important areas including health, infrastructure development, energy, aviation, science, and space.
- Holding the third U.S.-India 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue in just over two years demonstrates high-level commitment to our shared diplomatic and security objectives.
- President Trump made a historic visit to India earlier this year, speaking in Ahmedabad before over 100,000 people. Secretary Pompeo's visit marks the fourth visit to India by a Secretary of State during the Trump Administration.

INDIA IS A REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEADER

- As outlined in our National Security Strategy, the United States welcomes India's emergence as a leading regional and global power. The United States looks forward to collaborating closely with India during its upcoming term on the UN Security Council.
- The recent Quadrilateral Ministerial meeting in Tokyo convened by Secretary Pompeo and his counterparts from India, Japan, and Australia, demonstrated the strong cooperative ties among Indo-Pacific democracies interested in strengthening a rules-based order in which all nations are sovereign, strong, and prosperous. The Quad has proven to be an effective multilateral

mechanism, helping to create resilient supply chains, promote transparency, counter disinformation, and increase maritime security.

- India, with its large economy, strong support for entrepreneurship and innovation, and its growing international trade, is one of the world's leading economic powers and is well positioned to promote our shared vision for a free and rules-based Indo-Pacific where all nations can prosper.

OUR DEFENSE AND SECURITY COOPERATION IS INCREASINGLY STRONG

- We are expanding cooperation between our two militaries. This includes our navies, which play a critical role in ensuring freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific.
- In July 2020, the Indian Navy successfully completed a passing exercise with the U.S. Navy as the Nimitz Carrier Strike Group transited through the Indian Ocean Region.
- In 2019, the U.S. and India held their first-ever tri-service exercise, Tiger Triumph, in which the U.S. Navy and Marines, Air Force, and Army participated in a bilateral exercise with their Indian counterparts. The United States welcomes Australia joining the Malabar naval exercise alongside India and Japan.
- Defense trade has increased significantly over the past two decades. India maintains the largest fleets of C-17 and P-8 aircraft outside of the United States, and as of 2020 the United States has authorized more than \$20 billion in defense sales to India.
- The United States and India enjoy robust defense industrial cooperation. Through the U.S.-India Defense Technology and Trade Initiative, the United States and India work together on co-production and co-development of defense equipment.

OUR PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE TIES: AN UNBREAKABLE BOND OF FRIENDSHIP

- Indian students enrich our universities and colleges, contribute to the American economy, and build lifelong bonds with Americans. The number of Indian students studying in the United States has increased five years in a row, more than doubling from 96,000 students in the 2012-13 academic year to more than 200,000 in 2018-19.
- The Indian diaspora in the United States is nearly four million strong. More than 50,000 Indian-Americans gathered in Houston over a year ago to attend the "Howdy Modi" rally, the largest-ever gathering with a foreign political leader in the United States.
- The Fulbright-Nehru Program is central to fulfilling the February 2020 commitment by President Trump and Prime Minister Modi to increase higher education collaboration. Since its creation 70 years ago, the program has awarded more than 10,000 Fulbright scholarships and nearly 9,000 other awards to U.S. and Indian students, scholars, and professionals.
- In 2019, the U.S. Department of State launched Partnership 2020 to fund fifteen research partnerships between American and Indian higher education institutions in key 21st century fields such as financial technology, artificial intelligence, renewable energy, and public health.

- In 2021, the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs will expand the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) in India in support of the White House-led Women's Global Development and Prosperity (W-GDP) initiative. AWE will help women develop the skills, resources, and networks needed to start and scale successful businesses.

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