

26/11/14

India - Russia

Present status of relations

Official status

Special and privileged partnership since 2010.

Significance

Uptil 2014 only Russia had this status of special partnership. The only other country which got same status is Japan. Still with Russia partnership is privileged which means over and above any other relationship.

Current trend

Uptil now if any country can be called as India's "all-weather-friend", it is Russia.

However since 2011-12 we see the relations are stagnating. One

One alarming development is Russia entering into defence pact with Pakistan

on 20/11/14. The time is significant, that is just before Russian President's visit to

India for Annual Summit in December.

Recently Russian Defence Minister visited Pakistan, agreed for supplying 20 combat/attack helicopters. MI 35 Defence pact includes

• ^{Port} ~~Coast~~ of call - visits by warships

• Cooperation in counter-terrorism and

Afghanistan's stability

• Boost to bilateral trade

US > Fr > Israel > Russia. Supply of arms to India.

1. US.

2. At

no C.W. situation - no bipolarity.
diversifying the relations.

India U.S.S.R. Relations

1st Phase: During the time of Stalin

- Stalin was critic of NAM. He held that either you are with us or against us.

2nd Phase: 1960's - 1990's (Khrushchev Period)

- Foundations of strong Indo-Soviet relations were laid down during Khrushchev Period.

Reasons

- Sino-Soviet rift
- India was looking for dependable friend.
- Russia has helped in the establishment of basic industries & India's scientific and technological development.

Treaty of Peace and Friendship - 1971

Significance

- It is the highest point in Indo-Soviet friendship.
- For all practical purposes it was like a collective defence pact.

Article 9 of the Treaty

- Contracting parties would inform each other at earliest if there is a friction with the 3rd any other country.
- Contracting parties will take all necessary steps to remove the threat and will take measures to maintain security of the region.

defence - specific.
security - generic term. can be economic, etc.

How Treaty benefited India?

- India could protect its territorial integrity.
- Despite US-Pak axis, U.S.A. could not intervene in Kashmir.
- It gave new confidence to India in dealing with Pakistan, specially in 1971 war.
- India also got economic aid.

Benefits of Treaty to U.S.S.R.

- It built U.S.S.R.'s positive image among the third world countries.
- It can be considered as diplomatic gain of U.S.S.R. in context of Cold War.
- U.S.S.R. got market for its defence industries.
- India also got benefit for industrialization.
- There was special arrangement by which India could pay back to U.S.S.R. in the form of exports.

India could manage its defence and economic needs singularly with U.S.S.R.

India - Russia relations since end of COLD WAR

1st Phase [1990 - 2000 (Putin became President)]

Yelstin's Era

- Yelstin had pro-West approach and he neglected India.
- Till that time India and U.S. didn't have close relations with each other.
- U.S.A. wanted India to join NPT & CTBT

because of
Pak's wish.

- U.S.A. used Russia. US. put R pressure on Russia to cancel the sale of cryogenic engine & technology.

Even at that point of time Russia could not completely neglect India. In 1993, Yelstin visited India, entered into a new Treaty of Friendship ~~of~~ with India. New treaty also has similar features except ~~Art~~ mutual guarantee assurance of 1971. | Art 9
Yelstin could resolve rupee - ruble controversy also.

India's decision to go nuclear shows that India recognised that Russia is not a guarantee to India's defence like U.S.S.R.

With Primakov replacing Kasygin as a foreign minister of Yelstin, India Russia started coming closer. Russia recognised that West is not interested in genuine friendship with Russia, ~~if~~ will never treat Russia as a successor of great empire but a defeated nation.

West is only interested in the loot of Russian resources.

Primakov proposed Russia - India - China triangle in 1998. Russia-India-China triangle formally came into existence in 2000.

Since then regular annual Summits of the 3 foreign ministers have been taking place.

Peaceful
rise
China's official
policy

Analysis of RIC triangle.

- Declared objectives
 - Promote regional security and stability.
 - Strengthen multilateralism.
 - Strengthen U.N. (i.e. weaken U.S.A.).
 - It also has agenda of cooperation in the field of energy and non traditional security threats (terrorism, disaster, drug trafficking, etc).
- India has not been an enthusiastic partner because RIC can be treated as anti-U.S platform. India is seen as "odd man out" there.

Russia-China Relations

- Russia-China equations always have impact on India-Russia equations.
- R-U.S.S.R. came near to India only after Sino-Soviet rift.
- Russia and China came closer in context of resisting U.S. unilateralism. However Russia has not been very comfortable with China and looks India as balancer in RIC triangle and SCO. However, India has been reluctant w.r.t. both the two platforms. Presently Russia-China relations are in the best of their state. Also factor for Russia's engagement with Pakistan.
- Since Arab spring they have developed exceptional convergence on all global issues. Western actions in Ukraine have further brought them together. Western sanctions against Russia have impacted Russian economy.

bargaining

geopolitical & factors: Rus-Chi
geo economic coming closer

Russian economy is in recession.

There are geopolitical, geo economic and geostrategic reasons for closer Russia-China relations.

Some of the recent developments include.

- \$456 billion gas deal with China. It is a 30 yr deal. First energy deal circumventing dollar & transacted in Yuan.

¥/¥

- Agreed for cooperation in satellite navigation.

- Russia is likely to deliver some of the latest military equipments to China including newest submarine-Armur 1650 as well as Sukhoi 35 fighter jets.

- Bilateral trade has already crossed \$50 billion mark where (Ind-Rus bilateral \$11 billion.)

According to the experts, present state of relations

is more of a marriage of convenience. India is a natural partner of Russia, not China. In future,

China may be a threat to Russia. China believes

that Russian Empire in 19th century has annexed

Chinese territory. China is in advantageous position

towards Eastern Russia. [Oil rich area, limited Russian population, heavy Chinese population].

- 2000 Putin's visit to India resulting

- Resulting into India-Russia strategic partnership.

It led to the structured cooperation in defence and other areas. It also resulted into

institutionalised relations. It resulted into

establishment of 2 commissions.

- (1) Inter-governmental commission on military technical cooperation.

10 year extension of defence framework.
recent visit to US.

[[Russia - no resources
India - no technology.

> Defence cooperation has been central to India-Russia relations since the time of Soviet Era.

It is also central in privileged partnership.

> Purpose of the Commission:

To meet challenges in defence cooperation and to carry it forward.

India-Russia Defence cooperation.

- India-Russia have exceptional defence cooperation.

They have moved away from buyer-seller relationship

& they are involved in joint research, production,

marketing and sales.

- Russia has contributed in development of India's defence capabilities, specially sea based system.

eg. INS Vikramaditya, Brahmos Supersonic cruise missile, INS Chakra (on lease).

co producer
Brahmos
cruise
missile.

- Russia's cooperation strengthened India's offensive powers.

Comparison betn Ind-US & Indo-Rus defence cooperation

- Once Russia was the leading supplier but today it is on the 4th position.

- U.S.A. has become the leading supplier, next France & then Israel.

- Russia has following concerns.

• Denial of opportunity to Russia impacts its overall credibility as a manufacturer of world class equipments.

- Deals with USA have not been transparent.

They have been manipulated by politicians & bureaucrats in India. USA loses

contracts in competitive biddings.

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- U.S.A. does not supply offensive weapons.
- U.S.A. is not willing to share transfer of technology
- U.S.A. imposes many restrictions like EDMA (End Use Monitoring Agreement).
- Uptil now Russia has restrained itself from supplying weapons to Pakistan.
- U.S.A. never offered any such guarantee to India.
- According to Brahma Chellany Indian taxpayer's money is subsidising U.S. military industrial complex.

Annual value of India's ~~co~~ arms contract to U.S.A. have surpassed figures of ~~\$m~~ U.S. military aid to any country except Israel.

India's concerns

- There has been delays in delivery by Russia
- Russia increases the cost
- In the past Russia has stopped supplying offensive weapons to China but has restarted
- Russia has gone for defence pact with Pakistan

What is to be done?

- It is a symbiotic relationship.
Russia is dependent on India because on its own it will not be able to make huge investment in R & D
- India benefits from Russian expertise as well as gets world class equipments.
- They have to address each other's concerns.
In the past Russia had established a service centre in India. (Rosoboron Services).

(2) India-Russia intergovernmental commission on Trade, Economic & cultural cooperation.

at
foreign
minister
level.

- India & Russia have cooperation in space, high technology.

- India & Russia relations have a concern area w.r.t. bilateral trade. Bilateral trade at present is around \$11 billion which is much below potential.

They need to seriously improve the trade situation.

In this context a CEO Forum has been established.

Russia and India are currently considering Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement of India with Eurasian Custom Union.

(Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus).

- Another weak part of Ind-Rus relations is low level of people-to-people contact. There is a need to strengthen Track 2 diplomacy.

- India has invested in Russia's gas & energy sector.

OVL has got stakes in Sakhalin I Project.

It has got stakes in Satpayev oil fields on Caspian Sea.

• They are thinking of developing pipelines for delivery of Russian Natural gas.

- Russia is significant for India's energy security including civil nuclear energy Kudankulam Nuclear reactor.

Russia and India have convergence in geopolitical issues.

- Multipolar World order

- Multilateralism

- Terrorism

There is no convergence betⁿ India & U.S. w.r.t
counter terrorism. But there is a convergence betⁿ
India & Russia.