

India-Russia relations: As an overview in 21st century

Kumari Anupama

PhD Scholar, CRCAS, SIS, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

Abstract

This paper seeks to contemporary India-Russia relations. It emphasises the enduring mutual cooperation between two sides in terms of political, economic, defence, science & technology, health & medicines and cultural spheres. Historically, Indo- Soviet relations were never based on ideological affinities. In fact this relationship was projected in Soviet time as a model of close friendship between two countries with different socio-political systems. Worldwide events formed a situation under which India and Soviet Union came to close in fifties. Demise of the Soviet Union, however revised the international system completely. It proclaimed the ending of contentious bloc politics of the Cold War era. New Russia which is ideologically free had new options and new way to maintain its foreign relations with other countries. This paper depicts the commonness in the foreign policies of both countries. Both nations have been sharing the same multilateral forum such as U.N, G-20, BRICS, SCO, RIC where they have shared common interests. Both countries have taken similar steps on international steps. This article also focuses on various joint declarations and high level visits from both sides and presents the bilateral and multilateral meetings and agreements on various occasions. This paper also discusses the recent issues which have arisen some apprehensions between two sides but it is not true because Russia is India's time tested friend. Relations of both nations are based on a constructive and practical approach, which reflects the fact that apparently they have long term interests.

Keywords: BRICS, India, Russia, SCO, U.N

1. Introduction

The initial years after the end of cold war were the era of disappointment and frustration and the Russian foreign policy which figured out after vigorous debates and discussions was pro-western with the expectation of the financial assistance. But later the relations between India and Russia, (earlier known as Soviet Union) have begun to develop strongly immediately after the independence. These two sides have been benefiting for a long political, economic, military, and strategic and diplomat relationship. India-Russia relations are time tested. Relations between New Delhi and Moscow have traditionally been based on continuity, faith, trust and mutual understanding of the people and government of these two countries. Strong attachments between two nations are marked by close understandings and junction of views on all major issues ^[1]. After the demise of the Soviet Union and the emergence of Russia as an independent state, has been considered as a successor of the USSR. Russian leadership has described Russia's relations with India as being "special". Former president Boris Yeltsin in his public reference to India declared Russia would continue "traditionally friendly relations" and continuing "cooperation with this great Asian country." But after the collapse of the USSR the socio-economic conditions of the country had deteriorated. Kozyrev, who was associated with the pro-West inclination was replaced by leaders like Yevgeny Primakov. Moscow had no yearning to cope with or reject the West, yet it needed a theoretical framework to contest with the existing unipolar world. Primakov was credited with idea of multipolar as in opposition to unipolar world order which create the

environment for the Russia to develop and diversify its relationship with other countries.

The newly formed state was in chaos. Gradually Putin made a specific space for himself in Russian politics and appointed as president on May 7, 2000. Strong leader was needed to Russia in order to bring it out from the vicious circle. Putin proved himself to be the one. Putin approved the Russian foreign policy concept on 28 June 2009. It affirmed that the Russian federation's foreign policy was pre-determined by the geopolitical position of Russia as one of the largest powers. Thus it stressed Russia's role as a part of Europe as also of Asia and emphasized on multi-polar system in new world order. This concept also emphasized on the Near Abroad, especially the southern periphery ^[2]. The importance of the rapport between two sides is characterized by the fact that both countries are world's power and now also running behind the bigger economies. Both countries have conveyed interest in advancing and diversifying their close and multifaceted ties to establishing a strategic partnership ^[3].

A declaration on strategic partnership between the republic of India and Russia Federation was signed during the visit of president Putin to India in October 2000. This agreement made strong foundation of Indo-Russian relation in the 21st Century also followed by several accords which was signed by the two. This specific partnership would preserve the principles of bilateral relations contained in the bilateral treaties of peace, friendship and cooperation of August 9, 1971, of Friendship and Cooperation of January 28, 1993, the Declaration on further development and enhancement of cooperation of June 30, 1994 and the Moscow Declaration on

the Protection of Interests of Pluralistic States of June 30, 1994. During the visit of the Russian President to India in December 2010, the strategic Partnership was elevated to the level of a “Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership”^[4].

Both countries have several common features that bring them together which impart quite uniqueness in its relationship. Issues link with issue of economic development, multi-polarity, terrorism, extremism and separatism. India and Russia have been enjoying a great extent of political, economic, defence, technological & space and cultural relationship.

2. Political Relations

After the collapse of the Soviet Union the first major political relations between India and Russia commenced with the Strategic Partnership signed between two countries in 2000. “The Declaration on Strategic Partnership between India and Russia signed in October 2000 became a truly historic “Russian president Putin written an article in “The Hindu”^[5]. The annual summit meeting between the Prime Minister of India and the President of the Russian Federation is the highest institutionalized dialogue mechanism in the strategic partnership between India and Russia^[6]. So far eighteen annual summit meetings have taken place alternatively in India and Russia. Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited to Russia at St. Peterburg from 31st May to 02 June 2017, for the 18th annual summit, which resulted in 12 agreements today in sectors covering nuclear energy, railways, gems and jewellery, traditional knowledge and cultural exchanges^[7]. Both leaders were agreeing on a vision for 21st Century. The bilateral relationships of two countries are a new growth trajectory and both nations are celebrating the 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations^[8].

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Vladimir Putin communicated positive attitude and feelings towards the partnership. Indian Prime Minister articulated St. Petersburg declaration has considered as a standard of peace and stability in a tumultuous, interdependent and interconnected world. India’s was contemplated as a guest country in SPIEF will favour in deepen economic engagement with two sides in future^[9].

Energy cooperation has been described as a cornerstone of the relationship between India and Russia. Under this sector nuclear, hydrocarbon and renewable energy took place as a part of discussion. In this context he referred the agreement of Units and 6 of the KundanKulam Nuclear Power Plant. Prime Minister Modi accentuated the role of the private sector in intensifying trade and commercial ties between the two countries, further he added that it is to be expected that investment between India and Russia will be around 30 billion US dollars worth by 2025. Leadership of both countries focused on improving connectivity between two countries in International North South Transport Corridor. Among other initiatives, the Prime Minister mentioned the “bring to innovation” to promote startups and entrepreneurship, and the forthcoming commencement of discussions on a Free Trade Agreement with the Eurasian Economic Union^[10].

The two nations have been expressing similar views on most of the issues such as the idea of multi-polar world and shifting the construction of global governance to display the realities

of current world scenario like emergence of the new powers and relatively turn down of the West and close cooperation in fighting terrorism. The leaders of both countries conveyed the similar views on the situation in Afghanistan and turmoil in West Asia^[11]. Recently, 9th BRICS summit held in XAMEN from 3 to 5 September 2017, where leaders of two countries talked about security circumstances in the Afghanistan with an aim to combating terrorism and stabilizing the state^[12]. President Putin affirmed that India is our candidate number one in order to expanding the geographical representation of the Security Council^[13].

Both have been sharing multi lateral forum such as G-20, BRICS, SCO, and Russia- India-China (RIC) trilateral. Russia supports India’s bid for a permanent seat in UN Security Council as well as membership of the Nuclear Supplier Group (NSG). Recently, Russia’s increasing engagement with Pakistan has been raising some apprehensions between the India and Russia relationship. The First ever joint military exercise and the first ever foreign office consultations have taken place between Russia and Pakistan on December 14th 2016 somewhere have the potential to produce uneasiness in the bilateral relation of India and Russia. But it is axiomatic that the dimensions of deep cooperation between Russia and India can’t be weigh against Pakistan because it is many hundred times more^[14].

3. Economic Relation

Economic ties are the second most important strand in the Indo-Russia relations. For maintain strong economic ties both countries have given priority to each other. The Soviet Union played a significant role in India’s development and Industrialisation. In the Soviet Period trade touched with India was US\$ 5.5 billion. In December 2014 both countries have decided to set an objective of US \$30 billion bilateral trade by 2025. According to Russian Federal Customs Service data, bilateral trade in year 2016 was US\$ 7.71 billion where as India’s export was US\$ 2.39 billion and Russia’s export to India was US\$ 5.32 billion. Major products export from India to Russia consist of Pharmaceuticals, tea, coffee and tobacco, machinery and mechanical appliances, organic chemicals and electrical machinery and equipments. India imports major products from Russia include pearls, precious and semi-precious stones and metals, nuclear power equipment mineral oil and products, iron and steel and optical and surgical equipment^[15].

ICICI bank’s opening its subsidiary ICICI Bank Eurasia in Russia. TATA motors have launched a project to assemble its duty trucks at Russia’s Ural automobiles and motor plant and assembling buses at Volzhanin and Samotlor plant^[16]. India and Russia are preparing a roadmap for building a “Green Corridor” for easy availability of goods to enhancing and augmenting the bilateral trade which is far below the potential despite having the strong political knots^[17]. A number of institutionalized methods have taken place at governmental and nongovernmental levels facilitate enlargement of economic cooperation between two countries. While the India Russia Intergovernmental commission for Trade, Economic, Science & Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC) directs the conduct of economic cooperation at the Governmental level. It is the apex body of G2G forum for bilateral economic

cooperation. Aggregate investment of India in Russia for the period of 2000-2014 are mounted to be about US\$ 8 billion and the Russian investment in India total about UD\$ 3 billion [18].

The 22nd session of IRIGC-TEC was held in September 13, 2016 in New Delhi. India and Russia have agreed to have expanded Indian participation in the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) in a period of globalization, economic links construct on the basis of sustained strategic partnership [19]. India and Russia have to understand the limitations very carefully which are creating the hurdles in strengthening and reinforcing the economic ties between these two countries. Unfortunately, because of geographical factor our bilateral trade is objectively limited. India's strained relation with Pakistan and the continued instability in Afghanistan have become major reason for the access the trade and transportation route. The "north-south corridor" project has become an important option to improve the connectivity between two sides. This will take time to be fruitful, but both countries have given certain level of priority in their bilateral meetings. India and Russia should not deal with those items, require the surface transport and ought to be focused on investments, particularly through joint ventures [20]. Recently, Russia's economy is struggling because of economic sanctions imposed by the West after its incursion into Ukraine which lead to a sharp decline in oil prices and the costs of Moscow's military involvement in Syria. Russia is recently watching that India is growing economies in the world, and as strong economic country it will help in decreasing Russia's economic problems. From India's point of view, it's Make in India initiative would welcome Russian companies from the public and private sector. Both countries continue to expand, diversify and deepen economic engagement. Business and Industry between our two countries are linked more deeply today. Trade and investment ties are on the upswing. With the Russian President Backing, it is to be expecting that India will soon sign the Eurasian Economic Union Free Trade agreement. In 9th BRICS summit Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian president Putin had conversation regarding expanding trade and investment ties, energy ties including oil and natural gas, tourism and youth exchanges [21].

4. Defence Relation

Cooperation in defence sector comprises the most significant feature of Indo-Russia Bilateral relation. It is based on long term inter Governmental Military- Technical Cooperation (MTC) programme and remains a robust pillar of the bilateral strategic partnership. Since the days of the Soviet Union, Russia has been a source of military hardware and superior military equipment for the Indian Armed forces. The defence equipment cooperation between India and Russia is important from the perspective that Soviet Union appeared as the trustworthy supplier of military equipment when India was subjected to sanctions by the western governments. It had provided quite a lot of high-tech weapons platform to India when it was not technologically rich. Further it has become the necessity of the two governments to further develop and strengthen the cooperation in defence sector in the sphere of R&D, production and after sales services. Both sides also have

periodic exchanges of armed forces personnel and military exercises. Around 70 percent of India's defence procurements have dependent on Russia. In 2008, the high level Monitoring Committee (HLMC) was established with the defence secretary from the Defence Ministry of India and Director of Federal Service for Military Technical Cooperation from Russia for enhancing maintain constructing approach in defence sector. Lots of bilateral projects are in process including indigenous production of T-90 Tanks Su-30-MKI aircraft, supply of MiG 29 K aircraft and Komov-31 and Mi-17 helicopters and supply of Multi-Barrel Rocket Launcher Smerch. India and Russia signed two significant defence deals on the sidelines of the 8th BRICS summit in Goa [22].

Two countries had signed defence deal of a Rs 39,000 to acquire Moscow's most advanced anti aircraft defence system- S 400 Triumph, which will offer India a ballistic shield. In second key agreement that was an immense advancement for the Modi government's Make in India initiative, firstly India will import and then manufacture Russian Ka-226 T light utility helicopters. Both countries will also work together to jointly manufacture four state of art Admiral Grigorovich-class (Project 11356) guided missile stealth frigate. Two countries have also agreed to conduct an annual military conference. PM Modi stated the "highly productive" results of the meetings clearly establish the special and privileged nature of strategic partnership between the countries. Modi's idea took place to build a defence industry in India with the help of the joint venture of Russia. Consent arrived at the manufacturing of the Russian Kamov 226 helicopters in India, which will meet with the need of Indian defence forces. Joint agreement has been signed on shipbuilding and specialist training in Andhra Pradesh [23].

In 18th annual summit in June 2017 PM Modi and President Putin have approved to work towards a qualitatively higher level of military to military cooperation. This will provide a huge benefit to India because its Armed Forces are the largest and long time users of Russian weapon platforms like the Sukhoi Mki fighters and T-90 main battle Tank [24].

In June 2017, 3 days of the 17th meeting of India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Military Technical Cooperation Held in Moscow, representation of India was done by the Defence Minister Arun Jaitly with his counterpart Russian Defence Minister Mr. Sergei Shoigu. Positive outcomes were displayed after the meeting both sides delivered the greater degree of extent at the concrete progress that has been made. A roadmap was developed for bilateral defence cooperation and augmented cooperation in the field of political and military dialogue, exercise, exchange of visits, military cooperation and training of military personal. Agreements related to after sale support mechanism and novel chances for Russian companies to participate in the Indian defence manufacturing sector which will become a driving force of the "Make in India" programme, under the new strategic partnership of military personnel [25].

Accentuating on the strategic dimension of the Russia relationship, the Prime Minister mentioned the first ever Tri-Service INDRA 2017, between the countries. The Minister welcomed Russia's unrestricted support to India on the Issue of cross border terrorism [26]. Both countries had signed an inter-governmental pact for the fifth-generation fighter aircraft

FGFA project in 2007. Stage one has been done. But there are some hindrances in this joint programme. Many of time Russia has not completely unfolded or shared the problems and challenges with India which has been facing by it. Second, Russia has done agreements with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as a joint partner in the FGFA programme. Such kinds of steps taken by Russia raising the trust deficit between India and Russia, as it shows that Russia will not consult India in collaborating with other states^[27].

But both sides are planning and discussing for the commencement of the second stage of this much delayed program^[28]. The new thrust of our defence cooperation is joint design, joint development of military hardware and technology transfer in the place of only a buyer- seller relationship. However, there are also some hurdles in the delivery of spare parts, delays and cost escalation in upgradation of Admiral Gorshkov aircraft carrier, forming the reasons of irritant between India-Russia defence cooperation^[29].

5. Oil and Energy Cooperation

As orderly, energy scant and energy additional countries, India and Russia are mutually interested in maintaining big cooperation in this sector. According the report of International Energy Agency, India will become as the world's third largest energy consumer by 2025, behind only the US and China^[30]. Energy security for India therefore depends on assured and secure supplies of energy meet future demand. Presently, India's oil and natural gas imports are depend on West Asia, while coal imports from Australia, South East Asia and South Africa. Now a day's increasing demand for energy resources and competition between rising economies such as India and China for acquiring the energy resources, there is a need for diversification of such kind of resources to meet the future demand. And diversification of the energy resources has become the important strategy of energy security. As a part of this, India can boost its bilateral political and trade relations as well as hope to gain access to energy demand in future^[31].

Indian companies made in investment in Russia like ONGC Videsh Limited has some certain stake in Skhalin –I. In 2008 Russia offered the possibility of a joint venture in Skhalin III between ONGC Videsh limited and Rosneft as well as Rosneft is also interested in ONGC's proposed LNG terminal in Manglore. Gazprom and Gas authority of India Limited (GAIL) have jointly development a gas block in the Bay of Bengal. ORF ISSUE BRIEF June 2017 Issue No. 181. 70 years of India Russia Ties “ India –Russia Economic and Energy Cooperation: The Way Head Himani Pant. Lately in august 2017 Rosneft had successfully closed strategic deal for the acquisition of 49.13% of Share of Essar Oil Limited (EOI) from Essar Energy Holdings limited and its affiliates. It has acquired a stake in a first class asset with potential development. The Vadinar refinery located in the state of Gujrat, possesses high feedstock flexibility^[32].

On June 1, 2017 Prime Minister Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin both signed the joint declaration accentuating on enlarging cooperation in the energy sector. In the energy sector India and Russia are complementary for each other. Both leaders express their desire to build an “Energy Bridge”

between our states and expand bilateral relations in all areas of energy cooperation, including nuclear, hydrocarbon, hydel and renewable energy sources and in improving energy efficiency^[33]. On the Investment front significant development has been made in the enlargement of cooperation in oil & gas sphere. In the meeting both sides decided to launched an industry level Working Group-led by Russian largest gas company Gazprom and a consortium of Indian oil and gas companies for constructing an “Energy Bridge” between the two countries through possible gas pipelines for direct delivery from Russia to India^[34].

On 10th august 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi President Vladimir Putin and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J. Jayalithaa inaugurated first 1,000 MV unit of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KNPP) via video conferencing. This is the big milestone to strengthening the bilateral relation between India and Russia. The project will supply electricity to Tamilnadu, Karnatka, Andhra Pradesh and Kerla^[35].

In the 18th Annual Summit bilateral talks emphasized on peaceful uses of nuclear energy has emerged as one of the touchstone of the strategic partnership between two countries. With joint attempt on both sides, there has been a series of sound and sure achievement in our civil nuclear partnership. Third and fourth nuclear power units are in progress. Deals for Kundankulam 5 and 6 have also been signed^[36].

6. Geopolitical Concern

If there is no route of penetration and the access cost imposes on the resources, the availability of affordable energy means little. When we discuss about Russia the biggest obstacle is the absence of viable routes for supply of energy. Lack of connectivity turn into a transportation gridlock, on the part of private sector it shows the lack of enthusiasm. At this part Russia will not considered as a best energy partner until and unless some substitute mechanism and routes are recognized on the ground level. One of the important alternative is the INSTC is a multi modal Transportation agreement which was signed on September 2000 in St. Petersburg by Iran, Russia and India. When this corridor translates into reality, it could decrease the cost and transportation time considerably. Swap deals are another way to expand cooperation. For example, Russia can export oil to Northern Iran and in turn Iran could export equal quantity of oil to India from its southern part. Another swap proposal includes Russia, Japan, West Asia and India. But the deal has been on the table. According to this agreement Japan's imports from West Asia could be swapped by supplies of gas from India's stakes in Sakhalin-1. If India and Russia will follow these optional methods in supply of oil and gas Russia could be the best energy partner to meet the future need of energy resources.

7. Space Cooperation

Cooperation in space is a key pillar strategic partnership between India-Russia relationships. The first artificial satellite, Sputnik was launched by the Soviet Union on October 4, 1957. Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, the first man who became the first traveler to space. Russia has played a very crucial role in India's space journey. Rakesh Sharma the first Indian, who made travel to outer space, on board the Soyuz T-11 spacecraft with a Russian commander and a

Russian flight engineer. Since then India has a long path^[37]. When Russian President Vladimir Putin visited India in December 2004, the two sides signed agreements linked to space cooperation, namely the 'Inter-governmental Umbrella Agreement on Cooperation in Outer Space for Peaceful Purpose' and the 'Inter Space Agency Agreement on Cooperation in the Russian Satellite Navigation System GLONASS'. In 2007 an agreement was signed between ISRO and Russia's space agency Roscosmos to jointly develop India's Chandrayaan-2 mission^[38].

Indian and Russian space agencies have signed a MoU on enhancing cooperation the field of exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purpose. In the 17th India Russia Annual Summit expressed their commitment to develop enormous potential to cooperate in outer space with a view to advance socially useful applications and scientific knowledge station. They mentioned in joint declaration to allow setting up and utilizing ground station in each other's region to increase the effectiveness of their respective navigation satellite constellations of GLONASS and NAVIC^[39].

8. Cooperation on Science and Technology

India and Russia have enough level of cooperation in the field of science and technology. Satisfaction progress in various ongoing scientific sectors, in both basic and applied sciences, in such fields as Material Science, Information and Communication Technology, Biotechnologies, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, etc. huge cooperation in basic science under DST-RFBR program and the integrated long term program (ILTP)^[40].

Two new programmes linked with cooperation in the area of Science, Technology and Innovation introduced in October 2013 methods, these have favored first batch of 11 joint R&D projects in 2014. Indian Council of Medical Research and Russian Foundation of Basic Research signed an agreement for cooperation in health research in December 2014. On 8 May 2015, Department of Science & Technology (DST) and Russian Science Foundation entered into an agreement to support basic and exploratory research^[41].

21st June 2017 Indian Defence minister Arun Jaitley and Russian Deputy Prime Dmitry Rogozin they met at the first meeting of India Russia joint committee on Science and Technology Cooperation under which several number of key areas were identified to strengthen cooperation in the science and technology sector including space and marine technologies, IT and deep ocean engineering. This new mechanism will lead in opening up highly developed and sophisticated areas of cooperation which will benefit the future generations. The sitting of joint committee took place along with the fifth edition of TECHNOPROM, an annual forum focusing on innovation and technology^[42].

9. Cultural Cooperation

Both countries, enjoying a rich cultural heritage and guided by the centuries old traditions of friendship, have the same opinion to make enlarge use of each other's culture and arts and the mutual lively interest in these. Jawaharlal Nehru Cultural Centre at the Embassy of India, Moscow (JNCC) has been maintaining close cooperation with leading Russian institutions. Apart from Hindi language many of other

languages are taught in Russian Institution. Russia people and students are fond of Indian hero, movies, dance, music, yoga, and ayurveda. Cultural programmes are organized by both Indian and Russian institutions to promote people to people contacts between two sides^[43]. In 18th Annual Summit of India and Russia both countries has decided for the program of cultural exchanges between the Ministry of Cultural of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Cultural of the Republic of India for 2017-2019^[44]. Both sides are agreed to continue holding regular Russian cultural festive in India and Indian cultural festivals in Russia.

10. Cooperation with Multilateral forum

India and Russia both have been sharing various organizations namely G-20, SCO (Shanghai cooperation Organisation), RIC (Russia, India, China) and BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Asia). These organizations have enhanced their shared goal. By re-constructing the relationship with proficiency, to describe the dynamics of the emerging multipolar world, not only will the bilateral relation between India and Russia become stronger and more relevant, but the global profile of the two countries will also be enlarged in future. India became the full member of SCO on 2nd June 2017 with the backing of Russia. It is a Eurasian economic, Political and military organisation came into existence with the aim of preserving and safeguarding peace, security and stability in this region and also focusing on the separatism, extremism and terrorism^[45].

G20 is an international organization primarily made to identify the challenges to international financial stability. It is crucial platform for countries like India and Russia to address economic and financial issues of mutual concern systemic importance^[46]. The 12th edition of the G20 Summit held in July 2017 in the port city of Hamburg, Germany focused on the two things first "terrorism" and second was ways to improve open trade. The theme of the summit is "Shaping an Inter-connected World". Combating against terrorism and enhancing trade and economic cooperation between the member states will boost the relation between two sides. BRICS is another important multilateral forum platform sharing by both countries with the objectives of cooperate between the member states for development, provide financial assistance, and support various projects and infrastructure^[47]. On 4th September 2017 ninth BRICS summit held in Ximen main focused objective was combating approach in combating terrorism including counter radicalization and blocking terror financing sources. All member states including India and Russia took the Unanimous decision on Pakistan based Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed listing as a terrorist groups^[48]. Both countries have been sharing many international organizations with common goals and objectives. These are the forums through which have curbed unipolarity and major issues concerned by both countries such as the emerging polycentric world order, regard for national sovereignty, support for multilateralism etc.

11. Conclusion

After the demise of USSR, Russia became the successor of it and new chapters of bilateral relations started between Republic of India and Russian federation. Both sides have

adjusted their relations with new realities, reorientation. At the part of Russia restoring the past glorious position in the world, is the central point of Russian foreign policy. Moreover Russia retains veto in UN Security Council, rich capable of natural resources and well educated people. For India, therefore it creates positive situation to be friendly with largest Eurasian power which is rich for huge natural resources, use technologies and good big market for India. Both countries have agreed to work together in energy, oil, and gas sector and defence sector. After the signing the agreement related to strategic partnership both countries have enhanced their area of cooperation. Indian and Russian industries have indentified the areas of mutual interest such as information technology, Pharmaceutical, telecommunication, financial services, energy, oil, gas textiles, diamond. People to people contact also increasing by cooperating in education sector. Both countries have very strong and innovative space cooperation which proves successful and effective joint work. GLONASS and this system could together offer a viable commercial package. But it is the fact that the currently India Russia commercial relations are not corresponding with the existing potential. Delayed in delivery of military spare parts and Admiral Gorchakov and Russia's taking step ahead to form new relation with Pakistan have raised the hiccups between the bilateral relation of India and Russia. But in an Interview President Putin clearly mentioned that Russia doesn't have any "tight" military relationship with Pakistan and asserted that its close friend with India cannot be diluted. Further he said no other countries in this world have "deep cooperation" in delicate areas including missile technology, and it benefits from cooperation with India. Recently India and Russia wrapped up the 18th Annual Summit in which two countries have been marked by a high degree of convergence on various bilateral and global matters. Joint declaration of 18th Annual Summit issued as a standard of stability in a turbulent interdependent and interconnected world. But 21st century dictates that there is a need to take Indo-Russia collaboration to greater heights.

12. Reference

1. Nivedita Das Kundu. India-Russia Strategic Partnership Challenges and Prospects Academic Foundation, New Delhi, 2010.
2. VD Chopra. New Significance of Indo-Russia Relations in 21st Century Gyan Publishing House, New Dehi 2008.
3. Sanjay Deshpande. Two Decades of Re-Emerging Russia: Challenges and Prospects, KW Publishers Pvt Ltd, 2015.
4. https://www.mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/India_Russia_Relation_DEC2016.pdf
5. <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/for-russia-deepening-friendship-with-india-is-a-top-foreign-policy-priority/article4232857.ece>
6. http://www.mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/India_Russia_May.pdf
7. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163331>
8. <http://www.indiastrategic.in/2017/06/04/india-russia-ties-on-new-growth-trajectory/>
9. http://capsindia.org/files/documents/CAPS_Infocus_CR_2_2.pdf
10. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163331>
11. <http://www.dailyo.in/politics/vladimir-putin-brics-summit-go-russia-india-russia-ties-modi-defence/story/1/13438.html>
12. <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/brics-summit-india-russia-agree-to-expand-cooperation-to-stabilise-fghanistan/articleshow/60368365.cms>
13. http://www.idsa.in/system/files/jds_6_3_RichardWeitz.pdf
14. https://www.rbth.com/economics/cooperation/2016/12/28/russia-india-relations-in-2016-a-review_670298
15. http://www.mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/India_Russia_May.pdf
16. Nivedita Das Kundu, India-Russia Strategic Partnership Challenges and Prospects Academic Foundation, New Delhi, 2010.
17. <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-russia-to-put-in-place-a-green-corridor-to-enhance-bilateral-trade/articleshow/54355281.cms>
18. http://indianembassy.ru/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=705&Itemid=705&lang=en
19. http://www.mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/India_Russia_May.pdf
20. Rajiv K. Bhati, Vijay Sakhuja, Indrani Talukdar, India and Russia Deepening the strategic partnership (Shipra Publication, Delhi, 2014).
21. <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/brics-summit-india-russia-agree-to-expand-cooperation-to-stabilise-afghanistan/articleshow/60368365.cms>
22. <http://www.indianembassy.ru/index.php/bilateral-relations/india-russia-defence-cooperation>
23. <http://www.dailyo.in/politics/vladimir-putin-brics-summit-go-russia-india-russia-ties-modi-defence/story/1/13438.html>
24. <http://www.indiastrategic.in/2017/06/04/india-russia-ties-on-new-growth-trajectory/>
25. <http://pib.nic.in/mobile/mbErel.aspx?relid=166875>
26. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163331>
27. <http://www.orfonline.org/research/india-russia-military-technical-cooperation-beyond-commercial-relations/>
28. <http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/first-stage-of-negotiations-on-india-russia-fgfa-these-over/articleshow/59662807.cms>
29. http://associationdiplomats.org/Publications/ifaj/Vol11/11.4/11.4-DEBATE-India_Russia%20Relations%20in%20a%20Fast%20Changing%20Global%20Order.pdf
30. https://www.gita.org.in/Attachments/Reports/IndiaEnergy_Outlook_WEO2015.pdf
31. Nivedita Das Kundu, India-Russia Strategic Partnership Challenges and Prospects (Academic Foundation, New Delhi, 2010).
32. <https://www.rosneft.com/press/releases/item/187527/>
33. http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/energy-cooperation-in-focus-india-and-russia-vow-to-widen-scope-of-bilateral-ties-117060101808_1.html
34. http://www.mea.gov.in/pressreleases.htm?dtl/27387/India_Russia_Intergovernmental_Commission_Meeting_in_New_Delhi_September_13_2016
35. <http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/pm-putin-and->

- jayalalithaa-dedicate-first-unit-of-kudankulam-n-power-plant-to-nation/1/737045.html
36. www.indiastrategic.in/2017/06/04/india-russia-ties-on-new-growth-trajectory/
 37. http://www.aerospaceguide.net/astronaut/rakesh_sharma.html
 38. <http://www.makeinindia.com/article/-/v/70-years-of-india-russia-space-exploration> In 2015,
 39. <http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/for-global-peace-and-stability-india-russia-joint-statement-full-text/story-VxRhbqZ6SkgSNGuLWV5nQN.html>
 40. <http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/for-global-peace-and-stability-india-russia-joint-statement-full-text/story-VxRhbqZ6SkgSNGuLWV5nQN.html>
 41. https://mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/Russia.13_01_2016.pdf,
 42. http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/india-russia-to-step-up-cooperation-in-science-technology-117062101302_1.html
 43. https://mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/Russia.13_01_2016.pdf
 44. <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163331>
 45. <http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-to-get-sco-full-membership-in-astana-say-russia-and-china-4685157/>.
 46. <http://www.g20.utoronto.ca/docs/g20history.pdf>
 47. <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/videos/beauty-pageants/foreign-pageants/top-7-most-intelligent-miss-universe-winners/videoshow/60359564.cms>
 48. <http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/in-win-for-india-brics-statement-names-let-jaish-as-terror-concerns-clubs-them-with-islamic-state/story-Yage9hN02IWLnwXt9twFeK.html>