

## **President's Visit to Cyprus**

President Ram Nath Kovind visited Cyprus in the first leg of his visit to three-nation in Europe.

- Memorandum of Understanding signed
  - MoU between Financial Intelligence Unit, India and Unit for Combating Money laundering of Cyprus to facilitate investment cross-flows.
  - MoU on cooperation in the field of environment.

## **Importance of Cyprus**

- Nuclear Suppliers Group membership and UNSC reform
  - Cyprus is the member of 48-Member Nuclear Suppliers group and India is seeking membership of NSG. Thus, support of Cyprus is vital for India to gain membership of NSG.
  - Cyprus has also shown favor for UN- Security Council Reform and publicly endorsed its support to India's bid for a permanent seat in the reformed UNSC.
- Cyprus as European Union Member
  - Cyprus is a member of European Union since 2004. Cyprus is also a part of the Eurozone.
    Thus, Cyprus can prove to be an important base for Indian industries to invest in the European Union.
- Economic relations
  - India has substantial economic ties with Cyprus. Cumulative foreign direct investment (FDI) from Cyprus to India amounts to USD 9.2 billion, making it the 8th largest investor in India.

## **Republic of Cyprus**

- The Republic of Cyprus is an island country in the Eastern Mediterranean and third largest and most populous island country in the Mediterranean.
- It was divided in North and South Cyprus in 1974 after Turkey invaded Cyprus after a Greece backed military coup in Cyprus.

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