



Norway's PM Visit To India

drishtiias.com/printpdf/norways-pm-visit-to-india

Recently, Prime Minister of Norway, Erna Solberg visited India.

Prime Minister Solberg delivered the inaugural address at the **Raisina Dialogue** and inaugurated the India-Norway Business Summit.

Outcome of visit

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on **India-Norway Ocean Dialogue** was signed and a **joint task force for the blue economy was established.**
- Both countries agreed to collaborate in **achieving the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)** and to work together in tackling the threat of climate change.
- Both countries emphasized the need for the **reform of the United Nations including the UN Security Council.** Norway agreed that **India is a strong candidate for a permanent seat** in a reformed Security Council.
- Norway supported India's application for **membership of the Nuclear Suppliers' Group (NSG).**
- Both countries agreed to urge countries for the early finalization of the **Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT).**

India-Norway Relations

- India and Norway have been enjoying a cordial and friendly relationship since the **establishment of relations in 1947.**
- The two countries respect each other for their **commonly shared values such as democracy, human rights and rule of law.** In recent years, both countries have been increased their engagements in the field of trade and technology.
- Norway has supported India's membership to export control regimes the **Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), the Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) and the Australia Group (AG).**

- Norway's **Government Pension Fund Global** has made a portfolio **investment** of **about \$12 billion in India**.
- India has signed a **Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA)** with Norway in 1986 which was revised in February 2011.
- Norway is an expert on the subject of the Ocean Economy as 70% of Norway's export is from Norway's maritime industry. Starting of **bilateral ocean dialogue** have added **a new dimension in India-Norway relations** and will help India to understand the know-how of the maritime industry.
- Total bilateral trade between India and Norway stands around \$1.1 billion in 2015-16.
- Around **100 Norwegian companies are engaged in India** in areas such as shipbuilding, petroleum-related services, marine/sub-sea drilling equipment, hydropower, clean energy, and IT services.
- Indian companies like **Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)** and Reliance Industries have tie-ups with Norwegian companies in the petroleum and energy sector.
- Three Arctic Missions from India have so far visited Norway, **in 2007, 2008 and 2009. India's Polar Research Station "Himadri" is located at Ny Alesund, Spitsbergen Island, Norway.**

Raisina Dialogue

- The Raisina Dialogue is a **multilateral conference** committed to addressing the most challenging issues facing the global community.
- The conference is hosted by the **Observer Research Foundation** in collaboration with the **Government of India, Ministry of External Affairs.**