

INDIA-KYRGYZ REPUBLIC BILATERAL RELATIONS

General

1. Historically, India has had close contacts with Central Asia, especially countries which were part of the Ancient Silk Route, including the Kyrgyz Republic. During the Soviet era, India and the then Kyrgyz Republic had limited political, economic and cultural contacts. Following the independence of Kyrgyz Republic on 31st August, 1991, India was among the first countries to establish diplomatic relations on 18th March 1992. The resident Mission of India was set up on 23rd May 1994. The year 2022 is being marked as the 30th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and the Kyrgyz Republic.

Political Relations

2. Bound by historical and civilizational links, political ties between India and the Kyrgyz Republic have traditionally been warm and friendly. India and Kyrgyz Republic are Strategic Partners. Kyrgyz Republic supported India in securing full membership of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) and has also supported the bid of India for permanent membership of the UN Security Council. In recent times, India-Kyrgyz relations have expanded in several areas of bilateral engagement, including defence, security, trade and investment. Both countries also share common concerns on threat of terrorism, extremism and drug-trafficking.
3. Since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1992, the two countries have exchanged several visits at a high political level. These are as follows:
 - (a) **From India:**
 - i. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi (13-14 June 2019)
 - ii. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi (11-12 July 2015)
 - iii. Former Vice President Shri Krishan Kant (August 1999)
 - iv. Former Vice President Shri K.R. Narayanan (September 1996)
 - v. Former Prime Minister Shri Narasimha Rao (September 1995)

- (b) **From Kyrgyz Republic:**

- i. Former President Mr. Sooronbay Jeenbekov (30 May 2019)
- ii. Former President Mr. Almazbek Atambayev (December 2016)
- iii. Former President Mr. Askar Akaev visited India four times in March 1992, April 1999, August 2002 and November 2003
- iv. Former Prime Minister Mr. Apas Jumagulov (May 1997)

Visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to the Kyrgyz Republic in June 2019

4. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi attended the Summit meeting of the Heads of States of SCO which was followed by an official visit to the Kyrgyz Republic on 13-14 June 2019. Prime Minister and then Kyrgyz President Mr. Sooronbay Jeenbekov met both in narrow and extended formats. Fifteen bilateral agreements/documents including a Bilateral Investment Treaty, Protocol amending Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation and Fiscal Evasion, MoU on cooperation in Health, Information and Communication Technology, and Defence Cooperation were signed. In addition to the above, Joint Statement on Strategic Partnership and a five-year roadmap for Trade and Economic cooperation were adopted during the visit.
5. President Jeenbekov and Prime Minister Modi jointly inaugurated the India-Kyrgyz Business Forum. During the visit, India-Kyrgyz Joint Textile Exhibition was held in Bishkek. Prime Minister also announced a Line of Credit (LoC) of US\$ 200 million for financing development projects in the Kyrgyz Republic.
6. President of Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Sadyr Zhaparov met Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on the sidelines of COP26 at Glasgow in November 2021. Both leaders discussed a broad range of bilateral and multilateral cooperation issues.

1st India-Central Asia Summit

7. At the initiative of PM Shri Narendra Modi, the 1st India-Central Asia Summit (ICAS) was held on 27th January 2022 in virtual mode. All the five Presidents of the Central Asian Republics, including President of the Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Sadyr Zhaparov, participated in the ICAS. A Declaration was adopted at the Summit.

Foreign Minister Level visits/ meetings

8. Then External Affairs Minister (EAM) Smt. Sushma Swaraj visited the Kyrgyz Republic on 3-4 Aug 2018 during her three nation tour of Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.
9. Mr. Chingiz Aidarbekov, then Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, visited India on 29th January 2019 and had bilateral meetings with then EAM and Minister of State for Finance Mr. Shiv Prakash Shukla.
10. Then External Affairs Minister Smt. Sushma Swaraj visited Bishkek on 21-22 May, 2019 to attend the Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of SCO member states.
11. EAM Dr. S.Jaishankar met then Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Mr. Ruslan Kazakbaev on the sidelines of the SCO Foreign Ministers Meeting in Dushanbe in September 2021.
12. EAM later paid an official visit to the Kyrgyz Republic on October 10-11, 2021. During this visit, EAM held bilateral meeting with Mr. Ruslan Kazakbaev, then Kyrgyz Foreign Minister, and called on President of the Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Sadyr Zhaparov. A Dictionary of Common Words in Hindi and Kyrgyz languages was unveiled and books were gifted to the Mahatma Gandhi Manas Library during the visit. EAM also handed over an offer of LoC of US\$ 200 million, which was announced in June 2019 during the visit of Prime Minister Modi to the Kyrgyz Republic. An MoU on Indian Grant Assistance for implementation of High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP) in the Kyrgyz Republic was signed during the visit.
13. The 3rd Meeting of the India-Central Asia Dialogue was held in Delhi on 18-19 December 2021 at which then Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Mr. Ruslan Kazakbaev participated.
14. Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs and Culture Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi visited the Kyrgyz Republic from 9-12 June, 2022. During her visit, MoS called on the Chairman of Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Akylbek Zhaparov and reaffirmed India's commitment to be a reliable partner in the developmental journey of the Kyrgyz Republic. During her meeting with the Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Mr. Zheenbek Kulubaev, MoS

took stock of the state and prospects of bilateral relations and also exchanged views on regional and international issues of importance. MoS discussed ways to further enrich India- Kyrgyz Republic cultural cooperation in her meeting with then Kyrgyz Minister of Culture, Information, Sports and Youth Policy Mr. Azamat Zhamankulov and also signed the bilateral Cultural Exchange Programme for the period 2022-26. MoS participated in the Curtain Raiser events leading to the International Day of Yoga as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations in the Kyrgyz Republic. MoS also interacted with the Indian community, including students, in Bishkek and Cholpon-Ata (Issyk-Kul Lake). The visit of MoS provided impetus to further deepen our strategic relations with the Kyrgyz Republic bilaterally and in the framework of India-Central Asia Summit.

15. EAM Dr. S.Jaishankar met Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Mr. Zheenbek Kulubaev on the sidelines of the SCO Foreign Ministers Meeting in Tashkent on 29 July, 2022.
16. Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Zheenbek Kulubaev participated in the 23rd meeting of the Council of Foreign ministers of Shanghai Cooperation Organization(SCO) to be held in Panaji, Goa from 4 to 5 May 2023. He had a bilateral meeting with EAM Dr. S Jaishankar on the sidelines of the meeting on 5 May, 2023.

Defence Minister Level visits/ meetings

17. Smt Nirmala Sitharaman, then Raksha Mantri, visited Kyrgyzstan from 28-30 April 2019 to attend the Meeting of the Defence Ministers of SCO member states.
18. Shri Rajnath Singh, Raksha Mantri, met Lt. Gen. Baktybek Bekbolotov, Minister of Defence of the Kyrgyz Republic, on 24 August, 2022 at Samarkand in Uzbekistan on the sidelines of the meeting of the Defence Ministers of SCO Member States. Both sides discussed issues of bilateral defence cooperation between the two countries.
19. Kyrgyz Defence Minister Lieutenant General Bekbolotov Asankalievich participated in the SCO Defence Ministers meeting on 28th April, 2023 in New Delhi. He also held a bilateral meeting with

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh on the sidelines of this meeting in New Delhi on 28th April, 2023.

Other Ministerial level visits/ meetings

20. Then Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh led the Indian delegation for meeting of the Heads of Emergency Departments of the SCO member states on 24-25 August, 2017.
21. Secretary of the National Security Council of the Kyrgyz Republic Marat Imankulov visited India for the 1st India-Kyrgyz Republic Strategic Dialogue in New Delhi on 26 October, 2021. Mr. Imankulov visited New Delhi again on 10 November 2021 for the Delhi Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan.
22. Mr. Marat Imankulov, Secretary of the Security Council of the Kyrgyz Republic, participated in the First India-Central Asia Meeting of National Security Advisers/ Secretaries of Security Councils held on 6 December, 2022 in New Delhi. The National Security Advisers/ Secretaries of the National Security Councils of India, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan also participated in the meeting. Turkmenistan was represented by their Ambassador in New Delhi. Mr. Imankulov also had a bilateral meeting with Mr. Ajit Doval, National Security Adviser of India. A Joint Communiqué was issued at the end of the meeting.
23. Minister of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr. Taalaibek Ibraev participated in the 1st Edition of India's flagship energy event "India Energy Week -2023", held under patronage of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, GoI, at the Bangalore International Exhibition Center from 6th to 8th February 2023.
24. Minister of Transport and Communications of the Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Tekebaev Tilek Kydyrmaevich along with three delegates participated in the 10th Session of the Transport Ministers of the Member States of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) held on 28th April 2023 in New Delhi, India.
25. The Second Security Dialogue between India and the Kyrgyz Republic was held in the Kyrgyz Republic on 17-18 July, 2023. The delegation from India was led by H.E. Mr. Vikram Misri, Deputy National Security Advisor of India, while the Kyrgyz Republic was led by H.E. Mr. Marat Mukanovich Imankulov, Secretary of the

Security Council of the Kyrgyz Republic. Discussions at the Security Dialogue focused on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual concern, the threats and challenges being faced by both the countries, including the situation in Afghanistan. Both sides welcomed the similarity of views on these matters and agreed upon further steps to enhance cooperation on counter-terrorism, combating radicalization, narcotics control and defence cooperation. H.E. Mr. Vikram Misri also called on H.E. Mr. Zheenbek Kulubaev, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Foreign Office Consultations (FOC)

26. The 12th round of India-Kyrgyz Republic Foreign Office Consultations were held in Bishkek on 14th November, 2022. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Sanjay Verma, Secretary (West), Ministry of External Affairs, and the Kyrgyz delegation was led by Mr. Aibek Muhtarovich Artykbaev, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic.
27. During the consultations, both sides undertook a comprehensive review of their bilateral ties in diverse areas including Political, Economic, Commercial, Defence, Development Partnership, Capacity Building, Education, Consular Matters, Cultural cooperation and Connectivity. Both sides examined the implementation of the decisions taken during the First India-Central Asia Summit held on 27th January, 2022. The discussions also included how to increase trade and investment between the two countries. The two sides also exchanged views on regional and international matters of mutual interest and agreed to strengthen their cooperation in UN and other multilateral forums.
28. During this visit, Secretary (West) also had a meeting with Ms. Indira Sharshenova, Deputy Minister of Digital Development of the Kyrgyz Republic. The possibilities of cooperation in the field of IT sector, including sharing of experience from India's digital initiatives were discussed.

Commercial Relations

29. India-Kyrgyz Republic bilateral trade during the year 2022 was nearly US \$ 118 million. India's exports to the Kyrgyz Republic were US \$ 107 million, while India's imports were US \$ 11 million.

Indian exports have registered a growth on year-to-year basis. Kyrgyz Republic's share in India's total global exports was 0.01%. Annual bilateral trade (exports and imports) during 2018 to 2023 is as follows:

(in millions US\$)

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 (Jan-May)
Imports from India	31.45	42.01	41.72	45.48	107.39	38.35
Exports to India	5.77	3.10	6.75	5.17	10.47	1.33
Turnover	37.22	45.11	48.47	50.65	117.86	39.68

30. India's export to Kyrgyz republic among other comprise of sugar & sugar confectionery, pharmaceutical products, electric machinery & equipment, articles of clothing & clothing accessories (knitted, crocheted or crocheted), organic chemical compounds & nuclear reactors.
31. Kyrgyz Republic exports to India include oil-seeds, fruits, medicinal plants, straw, fodder, mineral fuel, oil and products of their distillation, vegetables, tubers etc.
32. Kyrgyz Republic has received a small investment from Indian businessmen in the mining and hospitality sectors. Agro-processing, education, pharmaceuticals, IT, Textiles are some other areas of opportunities.
33. A five-year Road-map for Trade and Economic Cooperation was adopted during the visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in June 2019. Roadmap is aimed at creation of favourable conditions for accelerated growth of bilateral trade, diversification of products and increase in foreign investment.
34. India-Kyrgyz Business forum was held on 14-15 June 2019. Then Kyrgyz President Jeenbekov and Prime Minister Modi jointly inaugurated India-Kyrgyz Business Forum on 14th June 2019. 150 Kyrgyz participants and 50 participants from India including delegation from FICCI attended the event. Addressing the Business Forum, Prime Minister Modi highlighted the opportunities for investors from India in areas of medicines, textiles, railways,

hydropower, mining and minerals and tourism.

35. During the visit of Prime Minister, India-Kyrgyz Joint Textile Exhibition was held in Bishkek from 13-26 June 2019. Both sides agreed to explore joint collaborations and cooperation in the fields of textiles, handicrafts, fabrics and arts.
36. Implementing Prime Minister's announcement during his visit, India-Kyrgyz Trade Expo titled 'Namaskar Eurasia' was organised in Bishkek from 9-11 October 2019 by FICCI in partnership with Embassy of India, Department of Commerce and the Kyrgyz Government. The Expo was inaugurated by then Kyrgyz Minister of Defence General Raimberdi Duisheniyev and Deputy Chairman, State Agency of Industry, Energy and Subsoil Use, Amanbai Kayipov. A Joint India-Kyrgyz Symposium on Defence Production was also organised during the Expo.

India-Kyrgyz Republic Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation (IKIGC)

37. The IKIGC on Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation was set up in 1992. The 10th session of IKIGC was held in a virtual format on 3rd November, 2022. It was co-Chaired by Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Textiles, Government of India, and Mr. Talantbek Oruskulovich Imanov, Minister of Digital Development of the Kyrgyz Republic. The talks were held in a warm and friendly atmosphere.
38. IKIGC held that there was immense potential for expansion of bilateral trade between India and the Kyrgyz Republic. Both sides discussed mutual cooperation and steps to further enhance them in the fields of Trade & Economy, Development Partnership, Investment, Digitalization, Intellectual Property, Agriculture, Healthcare & Pharmaceuticals, Textiles, Education, Environment, Standardization & Metrology, Banking, Transport, Labour, Mining and Power sectors. Emphasis was given to increase the bilateral trade and investment opportunities. India is keen to participate in trade shows and exhibitions in the Kyrgyz Republic and invited the Kyrgyz Republic to take part in trade expos in India. The sides agreed to take necessary measures to increase the interaction of exporters and importers of the two countries and expand the trading basket.

39. A Protocol of the 10th session of the IKIGC was signed between India and the Kyrgyz Republic.

Development Cooperation

40. During the Second Meeting of the India-Central Asia Dialogue held on 28 October 2020, India announced a Government of India LoC offer/ availability of USD 1 billion for five Central Asian Countries including the Kyrgyz Republic. In addition, India has also made an offer of LoC of US\$ 200 million to the Kyrgyz Republic, which was announced in June 2019 during the visit of Prime Minister Modi to the Kyrgyz Republic. The LOC are for priority developmental projects in the Kyrgyz Republic in fields such as connectivity, energy, IT, healthcare, education, agriculture, etc.
41. India has extended technical assistance to the Kyrgyz Republic for the establishment of an IT center at the Kyrgyz State University of Construction, Transportation and Architecture, Bishkek; Potato processing plant at Talas; Language laboratory at the Diplomatic Academy, Bishkek; Tele-medicine links connecting six hospitals in Kyrgyzstan, and Bhabhatron-II equipment and Imaging simulator for treating cancer patients. India gifted IT equipment (PCs, Tablets and Notebooks) worth Rs. 27.40 lakhs to the Central Election Commission of Kyrgyz Republic for use during the Parliamentary elections held on October 4th, 2020.
42. India has, as assistance to the Kyrgyz Republic, to combat pandemic, donated thirty thousand tables of HydroxyChloroquine (HCQ). Kyrgyz government assisted in evacuation of nearly fourteen thousand Indian nationals (most of them medical students) to various destinations in India under the *Vande Bharat* Mission.
43. Nine diplomats from the Kyrgyz Republic participated in a customized course for young diplomats from the countries of Central Asia, including the Kyrgyz Republic, from 05-16 December 2022 at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS). This course was offered by India at the First India-Central Asia Summit held virtually on 27 January, 2022. The training programme included modules on India's foreign policy, India's relations with Central Asia, multilateral diplomacy & WTO, UN reforms, space diplomacy, India's perspectives on nuclear non-proliferation & disarmament, negotiation skills, water security, Gol's

economic initiatives and economic reforms, digital empowerment, India's pandemic response, women in diplomacy, INSTC etc. There were also sessions on Ayurveda and Yoga. As a part of their study tours in New Delhi, the diplomats undertook visits to Rashtrapati Bhavan, Election Commission of India, National Museum and the Gurgaon automobile plant of Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. They also undertook a day-long visit to Agra to see the Taj Mahal.

ITEC

44. India has allocated 100 slots for various courses under the ITEC programme to the Kyrgyz Republic. These programmes provide opportunities for capacity development of Kyrgyz nationals. There are nearly 1,500 ITEC alumni in the Kyrgyz Republic. Applicants from the Kyrgyz Republic are required to submit their application at the website: www.itecgoi.in.

Cultural Relations

45. There is appreciation of Indian culture in the Kyrgyz Republic. A Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP) between India and the Kyrgyz Republic for 2022-26 was signed in June 2022.
46. Minister of Culture, Tourism and Development of North Eastern Region Shri G. Kishan Reddy hosted the 1st India-Central Asia Culture Ministers' Meeting through video conferencing on 3rd April, 2023. The Culture Minister of Kyrgyz Republic Mr. Maksutov Altynbek Askarovich participated in the meeting virtually. The Ministers presented their perspective to take forward their leaders' commitment to further strengthening cultural cooperation in the region. In the meeting, Indian side proposed a Joint Statement in testimony, to which the participants agreed to convey their consent at the earliest to acknowledge the meeting and its continuance at regular intervals. Kyrgyz side has conveyed that they have no comments to offer on the draft Joint Statement. The Joint Statement will be issued upon its finalization
47. An India Study Centre has been set up in the prestigious National Library in Bishkek in November 2014.
48. On 12th May 2021, Mahatma Gandhi – Manas Library was officially

dedicated in a ceremony at Manas-Chingiz Aitmatov National Academy in Bishkek.

49. The 9th International Day of Yoga was held in the cities of Bishkek, Osh, Issyk-Kul, Jalalabad and Kant in the Kyrgyz Republic on the theme “Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam” which means “The World is One Family”. The curtain raiser event took place on 11th June, 2023 on the shores of the iconic Issyk-Kul Lake where nearly 100 persons performed Yoga Asanas.
50. As part of ongoing celebration of ‘Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav’ India@75, the Mission organised activities under the theme “India’s Rich Cultural Heritage” from 24 September to 2 October, 2021. ICCR sponsored an eleven member Kathak Bollywood Dance Group performed in Osh, Jalalabd and Bishkek.
51. For the promotion of yoga and ayurveda, Dhanvantari Ayurveda and Yoga Chariot conducted its tour to five cities of Osh, Jalalabad, Tokmok, Kant and Bishkek in October-November 2021. The conclusion of the Chariot was held at Asian Medical University Kant, where a lecture on Ayurveda was also delivered by Prof. Varsha Solanki from Ayush followed by Yoga demonstration by Yoga Acharya Mr. Hari.
52. The Mission organised a symposium on promotion of Kerala State Tourism wherein 12 Tour and Travel operators from Kerala and 15 from Bishkek participated in the symposium. A webinar cum symposium on North Eastern Region was held on 10th February, 2022 at KRSU University.
53. A 20-member youth delegation from the Kyrgyz Republic visited India from 17 to 23 November, 2022, under the rubric of the first India-Central Asia Summit held in January 2022. The delegation visited Delhi, Mumbai and Agra. While at Mumbai, the Delegation called on Shri Bhagat Singh Koshyari, Hon’ble Governor of Maharashtra and Shri Devendra Fadanvis, Hon’ble Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra. While in Delhi, the delegation called on Shri Anurag Thakur, Hon’ble Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports. The delegation visited PM Museum, India Gate, Taj Mahal, Tata Memorial Hospital, Infosys and Bollywood. The Delegation had an opportunity to witness first-hand understanding of India’s economy; its technological, industrial and research capabilities as well as India’s rich cultural heritage and diversity.

54. Yoga classes at Embassy premises also being held regularly. Many Yoga enthusiasts are learning Yoga at the Ayush Centre in the premises of Embassy of India, Bishkek.
55. Kathak dance classes are also being organized at the Ayush Centre in the premises of Embassy of India, Bishkek. The classes are being conducted by a qualified Kathak Dance Teacher from India.
56. The Mission observed the world Environment Day on 5 June, 2023 and undertook a week-long campaign from 5 to 9 June 2023 to promote the idea of LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment), which was introduced by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi at the United Nations Climate Change Conference at Glasgow on 1st November, 2021 to bring individual behavior at the forefront of the global climate action narrative.
57. As part of International Year of Millets 2023, The Mission organised a week-long events from 12-16 June, 2023 to promote the nutritional & health benefits of Millet consumption in the Kyrgyz Republic.

DEFENCE COOPERATION

58. Important facets of bilateral defence cooperation between India and the Kyrgyz Republic include training Kyrgyz personnel in Indian defence establishments, joint exercises, conduct of exchange programmes and joint research at the Kyrgyz-India Mountain Bio Medical Research Centre (KIMBMRC), Bishkek.
59. During PM's visit in June 2019, four MoUs were signed on bilateral defence cooperation, viz, MoUs between Indian National Security Guards and Kyrgyz National Guards, Indian High Altitude Warfare School, Gulmarg and Kyrgyz Combat Training Centre, Balykchi, Indian National Defence Academy and Kyrgyz Defence Academy and lastly, DRDO and National Centre of Cardiology and Internal Medicine, Bishkek.
60. An 18-member delegation from National Defence College (New Delhi) visited the Kyrgyz Republic from 10-17 October 2021.

61. An 18-member delegation from College of Defence Management (CDM), Secunderabad, Ministry of Defence, visited Kyrgyz Republic from 20-24 February 2023 to study Higher Defence Management practices and strategic security imperatives pertaining to Kyrgyz Republic. The delegation held discussion with Kyrgyz counterparts and called on Kyrgyz dignitaries.
62. A four-member delegation from Additional Directorate General of International Cooperation (Foreign Training Team), Ministry of Defence visited Kyrgyz Republic from 25 February to 01 March, 2023 to attend Mountain training for Kyrgyz Armed Forces personnel at Joint Mountaineering Training Centre (JMTC), Balykchy, Kyrgyz Republic. The training was a part of India-Kyrgyz Defence Cooperation Plan 2022-23.
63. An eight member team from Kyrgyz Army under Defence Cooperation Plan 2023 visited Ladakh, India for the 4th India-Kyrgyz Joint Mountaineering expedition to peak Stok-Kangri (6153 mtrs) from 27 February to 19 March, 2023.
64. A two-member delegation led by Chief of the Air Defence Forces of the Kyrgyz Republic (equivalent to Chief of Air Staff) participated in the 14th edition of AERO INDIA 2023 an Aerospace, Defence and Civil Aviation Exhibition from 13-17 February 2023 at Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bengaluru
65. The first ever Joint Working Group Meeting on Defence was held in Bishkek from March 6-7, 2023. Indian delegation was led by Shri Vishwesh Negi, Joint Secretary(IC), Ministry of Defence. Both sides discussed various issues of mutual interest to take forward the bilateral cooperation in the Defence area.
66. The 10th Edition of India-Kyrgyz Joint Special Forces Exercise "Khanjar-X" was conducted at Tokmok in Kyrgyz Republic from 07 to 18 March 2023. A total strength of 02 officers, 02 Junior Commissioned Officers and 16 Other Ranks from Indian side took part in this exercise. A two member observer delegation also witnessed the active phase of the exercise on 17-18 March 2023.

Consular Affairs

67. There are about 200 Non-Resident Indians and Persons of Indian Origin apart from 17,400 students (estimated) in Kyrgyzstan.

68. E-visa services are available for the citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic. The e-Visa system allows citizens of Kyrgyzstan to obtain Indian visa using Internet. There will not be any need to visit the Embassy in person if e-visa facility is being availed. The e-Visa has five sub-categories i.e., e-Tourist visa, e-Business visa, e-Medical visa, e-Medical attendant visa, and e-Conference visa.
69. The applicants are advised to only visit Government of India website with address <https://indianvisaonline.gov.in> for visa service or clarification. For any clarification or doubt, one can also send an email to indian-evisa@gov.in.

28 July, 2023