Embassy of India Beirut

Bilateral:

- 1. India established diplomatic relations with Lebanon in 1954 and kept its Mission opened throughout despite the difficult phases in Lebanon including the civil war from 1975-90, etc. India has excellent relations with Lebanon.
- 2. India and Lebanon support each other regularly at various international fora.
- 3. Finance Minister of Lebanon H.E. Mr. Youssef Khalil virtually participated in the Finance Ministers' Session of the Voice of Global South Summit on 13 January 2023.
- 4. Industry Minister of Lebanon H.E. Mr. George Bouchikian travelled to India to attend World Food India Exhibition from 3-5 November 2023 and met Hon'ble Minister of Food Processing Industries Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras.
- 5. (i) Bilateral trade was US\$456 million in 2023-24, with India's imports from Lebanon at US\$112 million and India's exports to Lebanon at US\$344 million. India is 11th largest import source for Lebanon.
 - (ii) Embassy of India in Beirut regularly organises Business Seminars to promote bilateral commercial ties. In the Seminar held on 21 March 2024, it was attended by Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E. Dr Abdullah Bou Habib, Industry Minister H.E. Mr. George Bouchikian, Energy Minister H.E. Mr. Walid Fayad & Health Minister H.E. Dr Firas Abiad.
- 6. India regularly undertakes Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in various parts of Lebanon for the benefit of the Government and people of Lebanon.
- 7. India contributed \$1 million to Lebanon Humanitarian and Response Funds in 2014 and 2016.
- 8. Government of India-supported Artificial Limb Fitment Camp (Jaipur Foot) was held at Rafic Hariri Hospital, Beirut in January-February 2023 in which more than 300 handicapped persons were provided artificial limbs.
- 9. India sent 58 MT relief supply of medical, food, etc after Beirut Port Explosion in August 2020.
- 10. India donated two generator sets (45 KVA and 180 KVA) to Ministry of Foreign Affairs in December 2022 and November 2023 respectively.
- 11. India donated five motorbikes each to Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Beirut Governorate in October 2022.
- 12. India's participation at UNIFIL, with deployment of an Indian Army Battalion of about 900 personnel to perform peacekeeping duties in South Lebanon, completed 25 years in November 2023.
- 13. There are around 3000 Indian community members in Lebanon including about 1000 Indian nationals working in the new US Chancery Building Project.
- 14. <u>ITEC:</u> (i) India offers 75 (civil) slots and 21 (Defence) slots to Lebanon under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme for career building programme of Lebanese Government officials in various courses in reputed Institutes in India, by prosviding air tickets, accommodation etc., which are widely popular in Lebanon.
 - (ii) Embassy of India in Beirut organizes ITEC Day celebrations every year. Lebanon's Minister of Energy & Water H.E. Mr Walid Fayad, Minister of Economy & Trade H.E. Mr. Amin Salam and Minister of Education H.E. Mr. Abbas Halabi attended the ITEC Day celebration in Beirut on 20 September 2023.