

**TRADE AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE SYRIAN
ARAB REPUBLIC
New Delhi, 20 April 1978**

The Government of the Republic of INDIA

AND

The Government of the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC,
HEREINAFTER referred to as the Contracting Parties,

ANIMATED by the desire to develop and strengthen trade between the two countries and to promote closer economic relations between them,

HAVE AGREED as follows :

Article I

The Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic shall do their best to increase the volume of trade between the two countries in accordance with the existing laws and regulations in force in both countries.

Both Governments shall grant the required approval in connection with the deliveries of goods/commodities according to the general import-export regulations in force in each country during the validity of this Agreement.

Article II

Both Governments shall endeavour to expand the volume of trade between the two countries by facilitating the supply to each other of goods and services produced by them and are mutually advantageous to them and in particular with reference to articles mentioned in the two indicative lists² A and B, attached to this Agreement.

1. Came into force on 5 March 1979.

2. Not printed.

Article III

The Contracting Parties agree to grant each other reciprocally no less favourable treatment in the trade relations between the two countries than that applying to any country particularly as regards customs duties, charges of any kind and regulations governing the import and export of goods/commodities.

The above provision of this Article shall not, however, apply to the grant or continuance of any :

- (a) advantages accorded by either Contracting Party to contiguous countries for the purpose of facilitating frontier traffic;
- (b) preferences or advantages accorded by either Contracting Party to any country, as existing on the date of the conclusion of the present Agreement or in replacement of such preferences or advantages that existed prior to the 10th April, 1947;
- (c) any advantage or preference awarded under any scheme for expansion of trade and economic cooperation among developing countries which is open for participation by developing countries and to which either of the Governments is or may become a party;
- (d) advantages and preferences resulting from a customs union and/or free trade area of which either country is or may become a Party and
- (e) preferences which the Syrian Arab Republic has granted or may grant in future to any of the Arab countries.

Article IV

The Contracting Parties undertake to cooperate for mutual benefit with a view to strengthening economic relations between the two countries, and to furthering the interchange and use of scientific and technical knowledge particularly by affording opportunities for technical training and assistance wherever possible.

Article V

The Contracting Parties agree to explore possibilities for the establishment of joint ventures for their mutual benefit.

Article VI

The deliveries of goods and services within the framework of this Agreement shall be effected according to the contracts to be concluded between natural and juridical persons of the two countries authorised to carry out foreign trade activities.

Article VII

All payments relating to trade between the two countries shall be effected in freely convertible currencies acceptable to both Governments in accordance with the foreign exchange regulations in force in the two countries.

Article VIII

Subject to its respective laws and regulations, each Contracting Party shall allow the holding of permanent or temporary fairs, exhibitions and trade centres by the Other and shall extend to the other Contracting Party all facilities for holding such fairs, exhibitions and trade centres.

Article IX

Nationals of either Contracting Party shall be permitted to enter, sojourn, travel or reside in the territory of the other Contracting Party for the purpose of promoting trade between the two countries, provided that the enjoyment of the above right shall be subject to the laws and regulations of such other party as are generally applicable to all foreigners alike.

Article X

In order to facilitate the implementation of this Agreement and to further expand the trade relations between the two countries, the Contracting Parties agree on setting up a Committee composed of representatives of the two countries to be designated by the respective Governments. The Committee shall meet upon request of either Contracting Party in New Delhi and Damascus alternately. Within the purview of this Agreement, the Committee shall, *inter-alia* :

- (a) review and keep under consideration the implementation of the provisions of this Agreement;
- (b) examine measures for the solution of problems which may arise in the implementation of this Agreement or in the course of trade between the two countries; and
- (c) consider proposals made by either Contracting Party within the framework of this Agreement, aimed at progressive expansion, improve balance and diversification of trade between the two countries and projecting the levels of the anticipated trade for the ensuing year.

Article XI

This Agreement replaces the Trade Agreement signed between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic on the 9th October, 1969.¹

This Agreement shall come into force upon exchange of notes between the two Governments concerning their approval in accordance with their respective constitutional requirements and shall remain in force for a period of one year. Thereafter, it shall be automatically renewed for further periods of one year at a time, unless either Contracting Party notifies the other, in writing, of its intention to terminate the Agreement, ninety days prior to the expiry of any of the aforesaid periods of validity of the Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the representatives of the Contracting Parties duly empowered by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

DONE AND SIGNED at New Delhi on the Twentieth day of April, Nineteen Hundred Seventy Eight A.D. in two copies each in the Hindi, Arabic and English languages, all texts being equally authentic provided that, in case of doubt the English text shall prevail.

For the Government of the
Republic of India

For the Government of the
Syrian Arab Republic

Sd/-
MOHAN DHARIA
Minister of Commerce,
Civil Supplies & Cooperation

Sd/-
MOHAMMAD AL-IMADY
Minister of Economy and
Foreign Trade

1. IBTA Vol. 6 Doc. No. 412.