

## **Indo-U.S. ties**

### **Whyin news?**

Recently the visit of external affairs minister to U.S. is expected to deepen the strategic partnership and synergy between the nations.

### **What is the history of ties between the nations?**

- During the Cold War, India and U.S. was ideologically divided which limited the possibilities for their international cooperation.
- After the Cold War, India rallied behind China and Russia on multilateral issues.
- The idea that multilateralism is a natural domain for India-China cooperation took a back seat when china blocked India's entry into the Nuclear Suppliers Group and permanent seat in the UNSC.
- It was the U.S. which ended India's nuclear isolation and India's default position of opposing the West on multilateral issues reduced.
- In the last couple of years, India has actively backed the European Alliance for Multilateralism and is open to positive engagement with U.S. on global issues.

### **What will the talks about?**

- One, is climate change which was the agenda when U.S. special envoy visited India last month.
- This will pave a way for the U.S. to support India's transition to green growth.
- Two, there exist serious differences on trade-related issues between the nations and there cannot be an unexpected convergence.
- But both the nations are convinced that overexposure to China has reduced their domestic manufacturing.
- Hence they will explore the possibilities for a new bilateral trade compact and potential cooperation to reform the global trading order.

### **What will be the other highlights of the talks?**

- The conversation will go beyond the bilateral issues and will have regional

and global dimensions.

- In the past, regional issues, including those in the subcontinent and broader Asia, were a major source of friction between the countries.
- The mechanism of the Quadrilateral Security Framework, which arose out of the India-US bilateral defence cooperation is emerging as instrument to shape the regional architecture in the east.
- U.S. has now embraced and reinforced the idea of an Indo-Pacific regional space which provides regional cooperation.
- India's principal national challenge today- combatting the virus through vaccination-is expected to be an important part of the talks.

### **How can both the nations engage in combatting the pandemic?**

- U.S. has facilitated the release of essential items for vaccine production and delivering significant relief supplies.
- Even before the virus began to surge in April, U.S. saw the partnership with India as a critical element in the regional effort.
- This was to expand the production of vaccines and deliver them across the Indo-Pacific.
- As the second wave begins to recede and India's vaccine production revives, Indian and U.S. interlocutors must now plan to reboot the strategy to vaccinate the Indo-Pacific.
- Both the nations can pool their resources and strategies in boosting the global resilience against the pandemic and frame new international norms to combat it.
- India has welcomed U.S. move to reverse the earlier decision to move out of the World Health Organisation.
- This, in turn, brings us to the emerging possibilities for expansive India-US cooperation in the multilateral domain.

**Source: The Indian Express**