



**KAMARAJ IAS ACADEMY**  
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# India-Russia relations

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**Why is in news?** With PM Narendra Modi skipping Russia for the annual summit for the second year in a row, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday reached Moscow on a five-day visit to meet the Russian leadership. Shortly after his arrival, Jaishankar tweeted, "Arrived in Moscow. Look forward to my engagements."

## About:

Bilateral ties with Russia are a key pillar of India's foreign policy.

India sees Russia as a longstanding and time-tested friend that has played a significant role in its economic development and security.

This longstanding and time-tested partnership is chiefly driven by shared interests of multilateralism, and global peace and prosperity.

It follows the principles of:

Mutual trust;

Respect for each other's territorial integrity and core national interests, and

Alignment of interests on the most critical international and regional issues of war and peace.

## Evolution of Ties:

The roots of India-Russia relationship can be **traced back to the early 20th century**, when India was **under British rule and the Tsars ruled Russia**.

The **Russian Revolution of 1905** inspired Indian freedom fighters, and figures like Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru were greatly influenced by the ideas emanating from Russia at that time.

The **official establishment of diplomatic relations** between India and the Soviet Union was announced even before India gained independence, **on April 13, 1947**.

The relationship between the two nations took on a truly strategic dimension during the Cold War era, with strong political, strategic, military, economic, and diplomatic ties.

However, India-Russia relations have faced challenges, particularly in the post-Covid scenario.

Issues related to Russia's close ties with China and Pakistan have contributed to a strain in the relationship, leading to geopolitical complexities for India.

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