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BILATERAL RELATION BETWEEN INDIA AND THAILAND**DR. SHEETAL ARUN KHANDRE****RESEARCHER****NANDANVAN COLONY, PLOT NO. 260, BHUSINGPURA ROAD
AURANGABAD****ABSTRACT**

The purpose of the research is in the current year India and Thailand are celebrated the 70th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations. As such this paper aims to describe the trade relation between India and Thailand and to study of impact of FTA. Thailand is a key developing exporting country from Asia on the other hand, India is important its position with strong domestic and external demand, the developing countries considered are creation efforts to develop their exports during different paths with direct and indirect influence of government throughout innovative policies and trade liberalization programme. India has aimed to develop the relation and promote to increase a bilateral relation of India and Thailand. In 2016 PM Modi should tried to developed this relation that time the both countries PM was signed lot's of agreement and try to promote trade and cultural relationship.

KEYWORDS

FTA, bilateral.

INTRODUCTION

Like bilateral is an adjective that modifies interstate in general and phonologically hints at the number of parties involved. For example, in the realm of diplomatic relations, 'bilateral diplomacy' is defined as "the conduct of relations" or "communication limited to two parties at any one time". The term 'bilateralism', however stands for an organizing principle of bilateral conduct and, as postulated in political science literature, appears to have a more implicit meaning on institutional form than just 'relation involving two states or parties'. As Baumann indicated in the context of multilateralism, bilateralism may carry with it two generic sense first one refer to the pattern of relations among states in international relations while the second describes the orientation of state's foreign policy conduct.

In a more systematic way, according to Pasvolsky (1936), Diebold (1988) and later Ruggie (1993), there are basically at least two ways to define terms such as unilateralism, and pluri and multilateralism. The authors call this first version a 'formal' or 'nominal' definition whereby the number parties appear to be the primary criterion for categorization. Keohane (1990) offered a well – know definition of multilateralism "the practice of coordinating national policies in groups of three or more states, so that, analogous to this definition, bilateralism may also be defined as a parties of coordinating national policies between two states or parties. The second version is called a 'substantive' or 'qualitative' definition which takes into account the different 'kinds of relations' between any given number of players, stressing the qualitative dimension of institutional principle. Bilateralism is sharply differentiated from multilateralism in the second definition in terms of the operating principle of coordination such as 'specific' versus 'diffuse' reciprocity or 'discriminatory' versus 'nondiscriminatory' character.

The terms "New Bilateralism" began to increase in the late 1990s, especially in the field of international economic relations, as several bilateral trade negotiations have taken place on the 'side – line' of those at the multilateral level. The politics of 'new bilateralism' become leading economic policy trend, a number of countries in the Asia pacific region turned to it in the aftermath of so called 'trade institution failures' – especially after multilateral trade negotiations at the WTO slowed down and the IMF crisis management misconduct in the Asian Financial crisis was exposed. In response to these developments in the world economy, it would not be surprising to discover that, in an effort to push trade liberalization forward, a 'new bilateralism' has been pursued as an instrument of discriminatory preferential trading arrangement. With regard to the two definitions of bilateralism mention above, the term 'new bilateralism' clearly transcends the definition of 'formal bilateralism' moving towards a definition of 'substantive bilateralism' due to the relevance of the operating principles attached to bilateral free trading arrangements or the principle of specific reciprocity.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Lee and Liew (2007) also challenged to determine the impact of the then proposed India- ASEAN Free Trade Area (FTA). They used the Augmented Dickey-Fuller (ADF), and the Phillips and Perron (PP) test consequences to specify that India and ASEAN were comparatively incorporated with observe to goods and services markets; however, they establish that the Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) substantiation to be moderately weaker. Financial market incorporation, however, was found to be considerably incomplete. The major proposition of this judgment is that the impact of liberalization will be great on financial markets. Due to the weak PPP substantiation, the goods and services markets will also be understanding a considerable impact from liberalization. Therefore, it was recommended that the two regions can additional exploit their FTA partnership in their corresponding areas, for the most part in both the goods and services markets, and financial markets.

Sen, Asher and Rajan (2004) studied the then position and future scenario of India-ASEAN economic relationships, and recommended that significant prospective existed for superior economic collaboration between the two sides. However, their study was not base on any theoretical model- structure exercise.

Karmakar (2005) considered the opportunities in services trade that strength take place out of Indian-ASEAN economic collaboration, and evaluated the net increases that could arise from liberalization of the service sector. They considered the economic development in the Asia-Pacific region and took a macro indication of the trade conception potential of conformity on trade in services between India and the members of ASEAN. They recommended that, at least in the medium term, a great deal could be increased from a bilateral commitment between India and ASEAN in services, particularly as the concluding region remains comparatively closed to Foreign Service contributors. However, their study was also not based on any theoretical representation. Though some studies challenge to study the possible impact of the India-ASEAN FTA, hardly any were based on theoretical model- building.

OBJECTIVES

- 1) To study of the historical relationship between India and Thailand.
- 2) To analysis export and import of India and Thailand.
- 3) To study the FTA impact of International trade in India and Thailand.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Research Type: Descriptive Research

Type of Data / Data Source used: Secondary Data / Data source.

The present study is based on secondary data. Basically, the required information has been derived from

- 1) Various reference books
- 2) Articles from Newspapers, Magazines and Journals
- 3) From the various related web-sites which deal directly or indirectly with the topics related to FDI and Indian retail sector. After searching the important web-sites, relevant information was down loaded and analyzed to address the objectives of present study.

REASON FOR THE STUDY

The main and important reason of the study India and Thailand have enjoyed economic and cultural relation since time immemorial. That's reason I have to study the scenario of India and Thailand Bilateral Relationship.

- 1) Does the study of historical relation of India and Thailand and the similarity and differentiation social and culture of India and Thailand?
- 2) Does India and Thailand are Completed 70th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations so that's reason to analyze the actual situation of trade?
- 3) What is an export and import of India and Thailand?
- 4) Does analyze the India's global trade and India's total trade in Thailand?
- 5) How much trade is affected after FTA between India and Thailand?

HISTORICAL RELATION BETWEEN THAILAND AND INDIA

This close and cordial relationship between India and Thailand is rooted in centuries of continuous interaction. The importance of the influence of Indian culture on the development of Thai culture cannot be over emphasized. Thailand's relationship with India spans over a thousand years and understandably this resulted in an adaptation of Indian culture to suit the Thai environment. Evidence of strong religious, cultural and linguistic links abound.

The single most significant cultural contribution of India, for which Thailand is greatly indebted to India, is 'Buddhism'. Propagated in Thailand in the 3rd Century Buddhism Century (B.C.) by Buddhist monks sent by King Asoka, it was adopted as the state religion of Thailand and has ruled the hearts and minds of Thais ever since. Presently 58,000,000 Thais, an overwhelming 94% of the total Thai populace adheres to Buddhism. Due to King Asoka's missionary zeal Buddhism quickly spread out through the length and breadth of Asia particularly to China, Japan, Myanmar, Laos, Kampuchea, Vietnam and Thailand. Tradition credits the Indian Bhikkus Sona and Uttara sent by King Asoka with introducing Buddhism into Thailand.

Historically, the cultural and economic interaction between the two countries can be traced to roughly around the 6th Century B.C. However, direct contact can be said to have begun only in the 3rd Century B.C. when King Asoka sent Buddhist monks to propagate Buddhism in the Indo-Chinese peninsula. Besides Buddhism, Thailand has also adopted other typically Indian religious and cultural traditions. The ceremonies and rites especially as regards the 'Monarchy' evidence a strong Hindu.

Buddhism as a religion promotes liberty and freedom. It respects the rights of a person to his/her beliefs and practices. I believe India and Thailand are basically tolerant countries, partly because of the influence of Buddhism. Though Buddhism all but vanished from India, its best precepts have been adopted by and incorporated into Hinduism. Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of Ahimsa or Non-violence echoes the teachings of the Lord Buddha. It is interesting to note that though both countries have one religion, which is adhered to by an overwhelming majority of the total population, both permit and promote all religious communities and beliefs.

The Indians who moved into Thailand in the Sukhothai period (1275-1350) were either merchants who came to Siam or Thailand, for the purpose of trading or Brahmins who played an important role in the Siamese court as experts in astrology and in conducting ceremonies. The first group of Indian Brahmins who entered Siam before the founding of Sukhothai as the first capital of Siam (1275 – 1350) popularized Indian beliefs and traditions. During the Sukhothai period Brahman temples already existed. Brahmins conducted ceremonies in the court. The concepts of divine kingship and royal ceremonies are clear examples of the influence of Brahmanism.

The ceremonies of Coronation of Thai kings are practiced more or less in its original form even up to the present reign. The Thai idea that the king is a reincarnation of the Hindu deity Vishnu was adopted from Indian tradition. Though this belief no longer exists today, the tradition to call each Thai king of the present Chakri dynasty Rama (Rama is a reincarnation of Vishnu) with an ordinal number, such as Rama I, Rama II etc. is still in practice.

In the Ayutthaya period (1350-1767), more Indian merchants entered the South of the country by boat as evidenced by the statues of Hindu gods excavated in the South.

After the year 1855, the Indians who migrated to Thailand can be classified into three groups according to the religion they believed in, namely, Hinduism, Islam and Sikhism.

Those who practiced Hinduism came from the North and South of India and the Punjab. Few northern Hindus engaged in trade in Thailand. Some who were well educated worked in Indian or British companies while others worked as middlemen between Indian merchants and government agencies or as exporters and importers. The poorer and uneducated ones made a living by selling cow milk or newspapers or by working as servants and watchmen.

The Hindus from the South of India were mostly Tamilians. They became teachers and company officers in Thailand. Those with a good financial status did Jewelry and export business. The temple, which is the center of faith of Thai Hindus, is Maha Uma Devi Temple or Wat Khaek in Silom District in Bangkok.

Those from Punjab traded in textiles in Phahurat and Sampheng Districts. Their religious center is Devasathan or temple in the Giant Swing District, Bangkok. There are many sects in Brahmanism-Hinduism, each having a different supreme god but with the same highest goal to attain salvation. The religion teaches that 'karma', i.e. the totality of a person's actions in his or her former and present life, plays a significant role in the humans' fate, a belief very similar in content to Buddhism. According to this philosophy, both happiness and sorrow in the present life are a consequence of actions in one's past life.

Muslims from India are mixed with those from Persia, the Malay Peninsula and Khmer in Thailand. It is hard to distinguish them from one another. Muslims live mostly in the Southern province bordering Malaysia. Indian Muslims were engaged in trading and agriculture in Thailand. In Bangkok, they mostly inhabited Si Phraya District. Some merchants settled on the west Bank of the Chao Phraya River. Affluent Muslims owned jewelry, stationery and import & export business.

The Indian Sikhs migrated from Northwest India, Rajasthan, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Pakistan-occupied-Punjab. They went to Thailand with the hope of a commercially prosperous life. Today, many of them do textile business in Sampheng and Phahurat Districts. Their religious center is Guru Singh Sabha located in Phahurat. The Sikhs believe in one supreme God. According to Sikh tradition God's purpose in allowing us to be born into a human form is for the human being to return and become one with God.

Many Indian descendants still zealously retain their customs and traditions, adhering strictly to the religious tenets of their faith. According to the latest statistics of the department of Religious Affairs, there are 21, 125 Sikhs, Brahmins and Hindu in Thailand. Muslims are around 2,977,434 in number. It is unknown though, how many Thai Muslims are of Indian origin.

EXPORT - IMPORT ANALYSIS

Thailand is India's twenty – sixed major trading collaborator. The Thai government joint India's eastward looking policy with its have possession of looking west policy in 1996, signing a trade agreement with India under an Early Harvest Scheme in 2004. Under the Early Harvest Scheme agreement there are 82 items of mutual interest for which together side have assume tariff special consideration during 2004 – 06 in a phased manner. Bilateral trade increased six creases since 2000 and cross the US \$ 6 billion mark in 2010. As per the information "the bilateral trade has increased eight times since 2000 to reach US \$ 8.69 billion in 2013. During the period of January – October 2014, two-sided trade is US \$ 7.37 billion (export from India – US \$ 2.61 billion and export from Thailand is US \$ 4.76 billion).

Following Tables and Chart show the current trend in India and Thailand trade. Thus, a general tendency in the growth of exports and imports among India and Thailand illustrate that the growth in both exports and imports has been at quicker rate after the structure agreement was signed between the two countries.

TABLE 1: INDIA EXPORTS TO THAILAND (In US \$ Millions)

Year	India Export	Global Export	% Share	% Growth
2000 – 2001	449.56	36822.49	1.22	40.06
2001 – 2002	530.12	44560.29	1.18	17.91
2002 – 2003	633.13	43826.72	1.44	19.43
2003 – 2004	711.20	52719.43	1.34	12.33
2004 – 2005	831.68	63842.55	1.30	16.94
2005 – 2006	901.39	83535.94	1.07	8.38
2006 – 2007	1075.31	103090.53	1.04	19.29
2007 – 2008	1445.54	126414.05	1.14	34.43
2008 – 2009	1810.87	163832.18	1.11	25.27
2009 – 2010	1938.31	185295.36	1.04	7.04
2010 – 2011	1740.16	178751.43	0.97	-10.22
2011 – 2012	2274.21	249815.55	0.91	30.69
2012 – 2013	2961.01	305963.92	0.97	30.20
2013 – 2014	3733.17	300400.58	1.24	26.08
2014 – 2015	3703.27	314405.30	1.17	-6.44
2015 – 2016	3464.83	310338.48	1.11	-13.77

Source – Government of India Ministry of Commerce and Industry

The table of India’s Export of Thailand is show in 2000 - 2001 the India’s Global export (total export) is US \$ 36822.49 million and India’s total export of Thailand is US \$ 449.56 million, the share of India’s export of Thailand is 1.22 percent. Since the Thailand-India FTA frame was concluded in October 2004, two-sided trade between them has tripled. In 2004 - 2005 India’s total export of Thailand US \$ 831.68 million and the share is 1.30 percent and growth 16.94 percent. In 2015 - 2016 India’s total export is US \$ 310338.48 and the share is 1.11percent and growth is -13.77, the growth is negative because the total export of Thailand is decrease in US \$ - 238.44 million.

TABLE 2: INDIA IMPORTS TO THAILAND (In US \$ Millions)

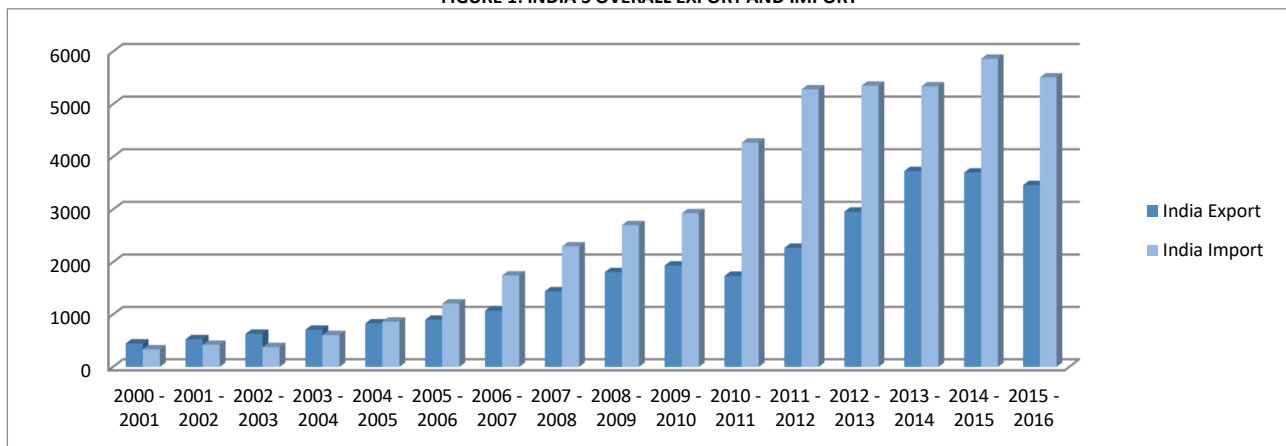
Year	India Import	Global Import	% Share	% Growth
2000 – 2001	337.92	50536.45	0.66	3.65
2001 – 2002	423.09	51413.28	0.82	25.20
2002 – 2003	379	61412.14	0.61	-10.42
2003 – 2004	609.05	78149.11	0.78	60.70
2004 – 2005	865.88	111517.43	0.78	42.17
2005 – 2006	1211.58	149165.73	0.81	39.93
2006 – 2007	1747.75	185735.24	0.94	44.25
2007 – 2008	2300.93	251654.01	0.91	31.65
2008 – 2009	2703.82	303696.31	0.89	17.51
2009 – 2010	2931.52	288372.88	1.02	8.42
2010 – 2011	4272.09	369769.13	1.15	45.73
2011 – 2012	5283.84	489319.49	1.08	23.68
2012 – 2013	5352.61	490736.65	1.09	1.30
2013 – 2014	5340.20	450199.79	1.18	-0.23
2014 – 2015	5865.88	448633.41	1.30	9.84
2015 – 2016	5510.16	381006.63	1.44	-6.06

Source – Government of India Ministry of Commerce and Industry

The table of India’s Import of Thailand is show in 2000 – 2001 the India’s Global import (total import) is US \$ 50536.45 million and India’s total import of Thailand is US \$ 337.92 million, the share of India’s import of Thailand is 0.66 percent. In 2015 – 2016 India’s total import of Thailand is US \$ 5510.16 million, the highest share in 1.44 percent.

Although it is seen that the current level of India – Thailand trade is low, it is increasing more than time. India’s total trade among Thailand has increased particularly since 2003 – 2004 during which the structure concurrence for a FTA between the bilateral was signed India and Thailand. Imports from Thailand have been increasing at a more rapidly rate than the increase in exports. India has benefit from a trade surplus since 2004 – 2005 after which imports have been largest. Thailand’s import demands are high and India has huge capability to meet export supply for a huge number of commodities of Thailand’s import demands. Thailand’s Ratio of exports to GDP is 30.8 and Ratio of imports to GDP is 30.3 in 2015.

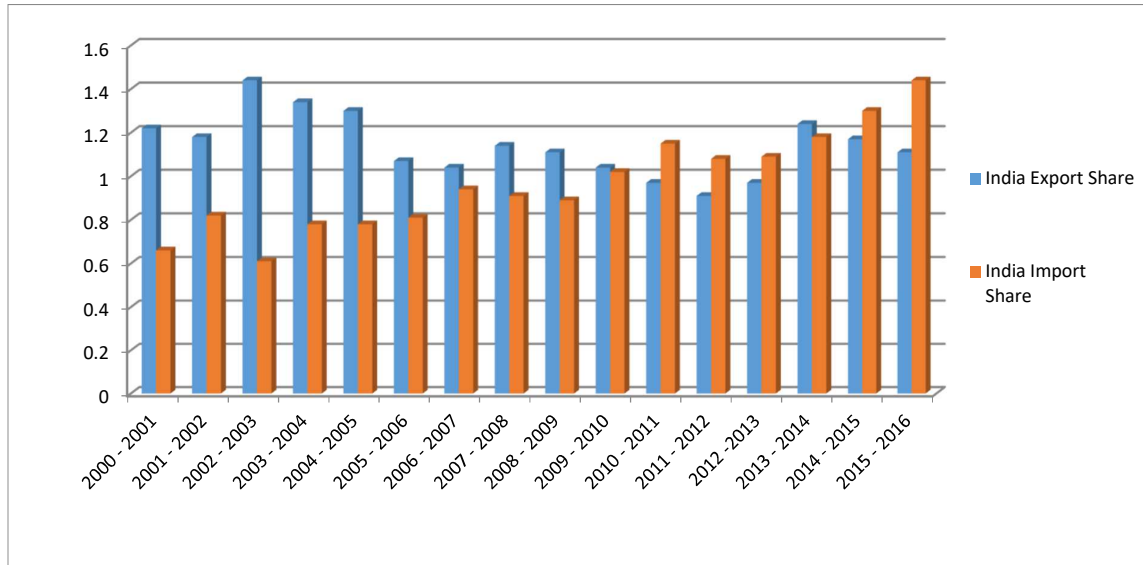
FIGURE 1: INDIA’S OVERALL EXPORT AND IMPORT



Source - Export Import Bank, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India

This Figure 1 India's overall Export and Import is showing the total export and import of Thailand. In the year 2013 – 2014 is India's total export of Thailand is the highest export US \$ 3733.17, but the compare of export import is rapidly.

FIGURE 2: INDIA'S EXPORT IMPORT SHARE



Source - Export Import Bank, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India

This Figure 2 India's Export Import Share clearly show the previous period the ratio among export and import is higher as the FTA progress it become to 0.65 increasing. This might be a reason Thailand investing more in India vis-a-vis India importing greater than the exports.

TABLE 3: INDIA'S RECENT TRADE PERFORMANCE (In US \$ Millions)

S. No	Year	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
1.	EXPORT	2,961.01	3,733.17	3,703.27	3,464.83	2,987.86
2.	%Growth		26.08	-0.80	-6.44	-13.77
3.	India's Total Export	305,963.92	300,400.58	314,405.30	310,338.48	262,290.13
4.	%Growth		-1.82	4.66	-1.29	-15.48
5.	%Share	0.97	1.24	1.18	1.12	1.14
6.	IMPORT	5,283.84	5,352.61	5,340.20	5,865.88	5,510.16
7.	%Growth		1.30	-0.23	9.84	-6.06
8.	India's Total Import	489,319.49	490,736.65	450,199.79	448,033.41	381,006.63
9.	%Growth		0.29	-8.26	-0.48	-14.96
10.	%Share	1.08	1.09	1.19	1.31	1.45
11.	TOTAL TRADE	8,244.85	9,085.78	9,043.47	9,330.71	8,498.03
12.	%Growth		10.20	-0.47	3.18	-8.92
13.	India's Total Trade	795,283.41	791,137.23	764,605.09	758,371.89	643,296.75
14.	%Growth		-0.52	-3.35	-0.82	-15.17
15.	%Share	1.04	1.15	1.18	1.23	1.32
16.	TRADE BALANCE					
17.	India's Trade Balance	-183,355.57	-190,336.07	-135,794.49	-137,694.93	-118,716.50

Source - Export Import Bank, Ministry of Commerce, Government of India

In this table India's Recent Trade Performance Show the India's Major sources of export and import in Thailand. During the period 2011 – 2012 and 2012 – 2013 the rate of growth of to India's export is increased by 26.08 percent and the other side, India's import share is 1.24 percent. In the last year 2015 – 2016 India's export growth rate is -13.77 percent and the import is -6.06 percent. India's export and import to Thailand show declining tendency.

These apprehensions are performing as barrier in the way of India – Thailand FTA negotiations. However, the discussions are still on the process, which is likely to be completed soon. The construction of India – Myanmar – Thailand trilateral highway is measured to be a progressive footstep en route for the negotiations, as it will make easier flow of good between India and Thailand.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND SOME IMPORTANT ISSUES IN INDIA AND THAILAND

H.E. General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, accompanied by his spouse Associate Professor Naraporn Chan-o-cha paid a State Visit to the Republic of India from 16 to 18th June 2016 at the invitation of H.E. Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India.

The India and Thailand Minister agreed to support more investments from both investors in India and Thailand. India and Thailand will also be renegotiating a new "Bilateral Investment Treaty". The PM of India welcomed Thai investments in India in the potential areas under the 'Make in India' initiative. The PM of Thailand invited Indian investments to Thailand under the cluster development policy, which is a newly – initiated program aimed at attractive investment in focused areas. The India and Thailand Prime Ministers is appreciated the recommendation presented by the first meeting of the India-Thailand Joint Business Forum and recommended the private sector of both countries to create the most of the established favorable climate to develop bilateral trade and investment and support business partnerships. They expressed the expectation that the Thailand-India Business Forum will prolong to facilitate the private sectors of the two countries.

The Indian and Thailand agreed to pursue discussions on the following MoUs/ Agreements.

- a) Memorandum of Understanding to Prevent/ Counter Smuggling and Circulation of Fake Indian Currency Notes
- b) Memorandum of Understanding on Combating Human Trafficking
- c) Memorandum of Understanding between India and Thailand on Cooperation in the fields of Information and Communications Technology and Electronics
- d) Memorandum of Understanding on White Shipping Information
- e) Memorandum of Understanding between Central Drug Standards Control Organization (CDSO) of India and Thai Food and Drug Administration

- f) Agreement between India and Thailand on Juridical and Judicial Cooperation in Civil and Commercial Matters for the Service of Summons, Judicial Documents, Commission, Execution of Judgments and Arbitral Awards (MLAT on Civil and Commercial Matters)
- g) Revision of Air Services Agreement
- h) Programme of Cooperation (PoC) on Science and Technology,
- i) India Thailand Free Trade Agreement
- j) Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT)
- k) Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation in Controlling Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances, their Precursors and Chemicals and Drugs Abuse
- l) MoU between Thailand's Computer Emergency Response Team (Thai CERT), Electronics Transaction Development Agency (ETDA) and the Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeiTY)

Together sides noted that the visit will give improve to the preparations for the 70th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations in present year. That time PM of India and PM of Thailand announced celebrate the "Festival of India" in Thailand and the "Festival of Thailand" in India, which are name "Sawasedee India Year" and "Namaste Thailand Year" respectively, will be held simultaneously in 2017 to commemorate this occasion, while several key events are to be held on 1st August to commemorate this auspicious occasion.

CONCLUSION

The research of study indicates the India has had a negative trade balance with Thailand. India's total export share of Thailand growth falling and import growth rising, so that's reason India's trade balance is negative. Negative trade balance strength has suggestion for India's overall trade balance and the current account of its balance of payments.

In the last year India and Thailand was signed a New Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) and also signed other agreements to improve the bilateral relation of India and Thailand. The construction of highway is measured to be a progressive footstep en route for the negotiations, as it will make easier flow of good between India and Thailand.

Also India and Thailand are try to developed their relation. In the current year they are celebrate the 70th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations. That's reason the India and Thailand relation and trade will definitely improve. Therefore, it's clear from above evaluation Thailand became an ideal trading partner for India to liberalize its economy and required to integrate itself into the global economy. On the other hand, Thailand recognized India's huge economic potential and eagerly engaged with India.

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