

**Memorandum of Understanding
Between
The Republic of India
and
The United States of America
Concerning a Drug Policy Framework**

The United States of America and the Republic of India (herein jointly referred as the Participants and in singular as the Participant);

Recalling the India-US Joint Statement issued by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. on June 22, 2023, for committing to work towards a broader and deeper bilateral drug policy framework ("the Framework") for the 21st century;

Affirming their commitment to a holistic public health partnership to prevent and treat illicit drug use, address workforce shortages and skilling requirements, and showcase a secure, resilient, reliable, and growing pharmaceutical and chemical supply chain as a model for the world;

Emphasizing the importance of taking steps to enhance the availability of access to affordable medical facilities and treatment to their citizens;

Have reached the following understanding to develop, finalize, and implement the said drug policy Framework:

1. OBJECTIVE

The Participants, in accordance with the applicable laws, rules, regulations and policies of both the countries, desire to expand cooperation and collaboration to disrupt the illicit production and international trafficking of illicit drugs and chemicals of concern.

2. IMPLEMENTATION

2.1. The Participants intend to work together to develop and implement the following objectives, consistent with the Framework:

- a) Demonstrate global leadership in countering the illicit drug production, trafficking of drugs, their precursor chemicals of concern, and diversions thereof, in illicit drug production.
- b) Advance a sustainable and holistic public health partnership, including evidence-based drugs prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of drug users.

- c) Advance a secure and growing 21st century pharmaceutical supply chain as a model for the world.
- 2.2. The Participants will establish the necessary terms of reference to advance and operationalize the objectives of this MOU and the Framework with a focus on concrete and mutually beneficial outcomes.
- 2.3. The Participants will meet annually to review progress under the Framework, identify emerging issues, and work to ensure the mutually beneficial accomplishment of the Framework's objectives.

3. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

- 3.1. The Participants intend that this MOU does not create any rights or obligations arising either under international law or the law of the land of the respective Participants. In addition, implementation of the provisions of this MOU is within the discretion of the Participants and is not conditioned upon reciprocal actions by either.
- 3.2. Each Participant intends to engage in the development and implementation of the Framework and its cooperative activities consistent with the spirit and intent of the *Joint Statement from the United States and India* of June 22, 2023.
- 3.3. Activities that each Participant intends to undertake under this MOU will be in accordance with its respective national laws, regulations, and policies.
- 3.4. This MoU is not intended to affect the rights and obligations of the Participants arising from any other bilateral or multilateral international agreement to which both India and The United States are Participants.

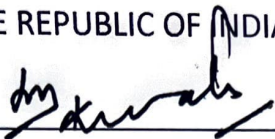
4. VALIDITY, MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION

- 4.1. This MOU becomes effective upon signature.
- 4.2. This MOU may be modified by mutual written decision of the Participants.
- 4.3. Either Participant may discontinue its participation or terminate this MOU at any time, and in such case should provide ninety (90) days advance written notice to the other Participant.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned being duly authorized thereto have signed this Memorandum of Understanding.

Signed at Washington, D.C., on the 19th of September of 2024, in two original texts, in the English and Hindi languages both texts being equally valid. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA:



Vinay Kwatra
Ambassador of India to the United States

FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:



Rahul Gupta MD, MPH, MBA
Director of National Drug Control Policy