HUM1024 - INDIA AND CONTEMPRORARY WORLD

TRACING THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE DIPLOMACY IN INDIA

REVIEW 1

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# INTRODUCTION TO SCIENCE DIPLOMCY

Science Diplomacy refers to scientific collaborations among various nations to address common problems and to build constructive international partnerships/relations. It is a subcategory of “new diplomacy” and is an umbrella term for several formal or informal technical, research-based, academic, or engineering exchanges between various countries in the emerging field of global policymaking. Even though we say it’s a part of “new diplomacy”, forms of science diplomacy have been observed quite far in history. The great voyages of exploration and colonization had brought in science-based diplomacy as a form of diplomacy of influence. The emergence of political blocs during the Industrial Era also saw the use of technology to influence less developed countries. By the time we had the Cold War, ideological bloc-based science diplomacy had already taken root in the form of space exploration and the development of fission and fusion reactors and weapons.

The term “Science Diplomacy” was coined near the end of the Cold War to describe the need for new strategic partnerships at the country level to promote issues of global concern, like biosafety. This involved the development of scientific relations between all countries around the globe irrespective of their rivalries or friendships with the participating countries. It encouraged countries to cooperate to the extent that it would avoid diplomatic failures and reduce the risk of conflict.

# HISTORY OF SCIENCE DIPLOMACY

Strategic relations between individuals, city-states, and countries have forever been connected here and there to Science and Technology. Polynesian islanders created complex navigational frameworks that permit them to layout enormous organizations of island states. At the point when eight researchers were aggrieved by the Roman Emperor Justinian, they were invited to Persia for their logical commitments. The Silk Road extending from Asia to Europe worked with the trading of products including innovations like a Chinese papermaking framework. In the American Revolution, authorities of contradicting powers permitted US and British researchers to move back and forth across battlefronts.

Since World War 2 and the utilization of the nuclear bomb, science tact has become increasingly more to the front of both public and global stages. Science and Technology assumed a basic part not just in the result of World War two however in the ensuing contest between the superpowers during the Cold War. Perceiving the unequivocal linkage between science and diplomacy permits us to decisively saddle the force of science to address worldwide difficulties.

# IMPORTANCE OF SCIENCE DIPLOMACY

India is one of the world's leading countries in the field of scientific research, ranked as one of the top five in the field of exploration. Our scientists and engineers have played a very important role in strengthening our country's diplomacy. Scientific cooperation can improve international relations. It uses international scientific language to unite countries, strengthen relations, and defuse tensions in political contexts.

# SCIENCE DIPLOMACY BEFORE INDEPENDENCE

Science diplomacy in India and South Asia dates back to 1801 AD; when the Peace and Friendship Agreement between Nepal and the East-India Company allowed Scottish explorer Francis Buchanan-Hamilton to collect 2,500 species of plants and animals from Nepal, of which 1,100 were new to the west. science. Based on the Buchanan-Hamilton collection, David Don published the first book on Nepal plants, Prodromus Florae Nepalensis, in 1825. This was the first organized scientific work in India and Nepal based on agreement, a pillar of scientific communication.

# SCIENCE DIPLOMACY AFTER INDEPENDENCE

Today the most important problem between the US and China is about illegal and confidential access to technology. The denial of nuclear technology has prompted countries like India, Iran, North Korea, to form concerted efforts to accumulate this technology, or to realize the maximum amount secrecy as in Pakistan. As new technologies reach bent policy makers round the world and therefore the public sector will still face challenges.

International scientific cooperation is growing and there are many projects arising during this field. India has participated in projects like CERN, ITER, the 30-meter telescope, the square kilometre array, and LIGO. We missed the chance to participate within the Human Genome Project and therefore the international space platform. Now that India has prioritized exploration of human space first it's possible that we could participate in major international projects involving man-made spacecraft.

Other international projects during which India has taken action are the International solar Alliance (ISA) launched in 2015 with France as its major partners, and ICGEB launched in 1983 with Italy. ICGEB was intended to assist developing countries access the emerging field of gene-splicing and biotechnology and apply it to the challenges they face.