Leaders at PAFI 13th Annual Forum Chart Next-Generation Roadmap for India–Europe Strategic Synergy

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PAFI 13th Annual Forum drafts the Next Chapter of India–Europe Economic and Sustainable Collaboration

Panel Focuses on Capitalising on Landmark FTAs, TEPA's $100 Billion Investment Commitment, and Resilient Supply Chains

New Delhi, September 24, 2026 — Highlighting the rapid growth of trade, FDI inf ows, and supply chain integration between India and European markets, Amb. Jawed Ashraf, Chairman, ITPO, and Amb. Rasmus Abildgaard Kristensen, Ambassador, Royal Danish Embassy, addressed a high-level panel discussion on deepening the India–Europe partnership, organized by the Public Af airs Forum of India (PAFI), India's premier organization focused on public policy, public af airs and advocacy, as part of its 13th Annual Forum in New Delhi.

Amb. Jawed Ashraf, Chairman, ITPO, stated, "Over the past decade, bilateral trade has increased by around 90%, while India's exports have increased by approximately 100%. If we look at the Indo-Pacif c as a whole, India and Taiwan have recorded some of the fastest growth in imports into the European Union. The investment f gures are equally signif cant. European FDI stock in India increased from around $80 billion to approximately $140 billion within four years. That is substantial growth. India and Taiwan have also recorded some of the fastest increases in FDI stock in the Indo-Pacif c. French investment alone increased by around 373% between 2015 and 2023."

Amb. Rasmus Abildgaard Kristensen, Ambassador, Royal Danish Embassy, observed, "The FTA should not be viewed solely as an opportunity for large companies, although large companies can play a signif cant role in driving investment and economic activity. In the Danish experience, large companies often act as locomotives for their wider business ecosystems. When they establish production facilities, manufacturing operations or make investments abroad, they frequently bring their suppliers and sub-suppliers with them. I believe we could see a similar trajectory develop in India."

The session was welcomed by Anandi Iyer, Director, Fraunhofer Of ice India, and moderated by Ajay Bisaria, Corporate Strategic Advisor and Former High Commissioner of India to Canada and Pakistan; and closing remarks were delivered by Vaishali Chopra, Head – Public Af airs and Communications, India, Yara South Asia.

Europe is entering a new chapter in its partnership with India following the conclusion of the landmark India–European Union Free Trade Agreement in January 2026 and the implementation of the India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) in October 2025. The EU FTA secures preferential access across 97% of EU tarif lines, while TEPA introduces an ambitious framework aiming for a $100 billion investment commitment over 15 years to create one million direct jobs in India. The panel discussed operationalising these agreements, aligningbarriers andic infrastructure and clean energy standards to reduce non-tarif barriers and supporting Indian MSMEs and tech enterprises in integrating into European value chains.

This session highlighted PAFI's commitment to decoding international trade agreements and facilitating strategic economic cooperation between India and key global partners.

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