



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



2009 - 2014

Delegation for relations with India

**VISIT OF THE DELEGATION
FOR RELATIONS WITH INDIA TO
DELHI - PATNA - MUMBAI
11-15 APRIL 2011**

REPORT

Introduction

The Conference of Presidents authorised the visit on 3 March 2011. A preparatory visit to Delhi was made by the Bureau on 13 to 14 March 2011 (separate report). On this occasion the outline of the programme was agreed. It was agreed to focus on the main themes of the EU-India summit: i.e. climate change and renewable energies; the EU-India Free Trade Agreement; and security and counter terrorism. It was also agreed in principle that the delegation should travel to Bihar and Mumbai.

The delegation held preparatory meetings on 22 March and 6 April 2011. There was also regular contact with the Indian embassy in Brussels. Mr Watson held a meeting on 6 April with Professor Moreira, Chair of the Committee on International Trade, to discuss latest developments in the negotiations on the EU-India Free Trade Agreement. Close contact was maintained with the Delegation of the European Union in New Delhi which played a fundamental role in the preparation of the visit.

Summary of the visit

The visit came at a time when the Indian government was being widely accused of a supine attitude towards the many cases of corruption that had been brought to public attention. Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, who had always enjoyed a reputation for competence and incorruptibility, was now under attack on charges of tolerating abuses and financial mismanagement. Many interlocutors pointed to a sense - particularly among the emergent middle classes - that "enough was enough". New technology enabled instances of corruption to be brought more easily to public attention. Demographic change meant that a younger generation was entering politics and many saw this as a hopeful sign.

India was undergoing a rapid economic expansion, with an average growth rate of around 6% in the first decade of the 21st century. However many interlocutors stressed the need to ensure that this growth was inclusive and that proper education and health opportunities were provided to the whole population.

The European Parliament delegation met with a significant number of politicians and ministers during its time in Delhi. The meetings enabled them to reinforce the contacts that they had established on previous visits. MEPs reiterated their strong desire for the Indian Parliament to re-establish a counterpart grouping to the EP Delegation - an India-Europe Friendship Group - which has not been set up following the Indian parliamentary elections of 2009. In the absence of a specific EU Friendship Group, the European Parliament has developed links with MPs through bodies such as the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).

The delegation repeated the invitation from President Buzek to Speaker Meira Kumar to hold a high level interparliamentary meeting in advance of the EU-India summit and pledged to continue to lobby for such a visit.

The huge potential for enhancing the relationship between the EU and India was underlined on many occasions, both in New Delhi and in the regions. In the past the relationship had been largely characterised by economic issues and the Indian side tended to concentrate on its bilateral relationships with members states.

Specific areas of cooperation included collaboration on developing renewable energies such as solar power technologies; as India has the greatest potential for solar-thermal power. Other areas for joint research projects included agriculture, biotechnology, pharmaceutical research and health care. One Indian speaker noted that a "knowledge partnership" would be even stronger than a "strategic partnership".

In addition to collaboration in the field of research the importance of the EU- India partnership in the global arena was also emphasised. MEPs stressed the growing political role of the European Union on the world stage following the Lisbon Treaty and the establishment of the European External Action Service. Cooperation in fighting terrorism was emphasised, including anti-piracy operations in the Indian Ocean under Operation Atalanta.

The EU-India FTA was a regular subject of meetings throughout the week. Meetings dealing exclusively with the FTA were held with the Trade Committee, as well as a group of NGOs that was vehemently opposed to the agreement.

The FTA was recognised by many as the most tangible expression of a deeper relationship. It was apparent that the Indian side had significant misgivings about the proposal to include a clause on sustainable development, as they did not view this as a trade issue. Other issues of concern included the influx of low cost cars, subsidised agricultural products, and restrictions on access to generic medicines through the imposition of stringent provisions on intellectual property rights.

Representatives of civil society complained that the negotiations on the agreement were taking place behind closed doors. The EP Delegation stressed that the issue was being debated openly in the European Parliament and underlined that there was a need for both a global economy and a global social contract, through recognition of the demands of social and environmental justice in the FTA. They pledged to ensure the

involvement of the delegation in the European Parliament's consideration of the agreement.

Following its time in New Delhi the delegation travelled to the state of Bihar. Bihar had suffered in the past from corruption and the deadening effect of caste-based politics, which had contributed to it being the poorest state in India until recently. The delegation met the Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, whose government has been widely credited with bringing about a transformation in the state since it came to office in 2005. Much development has focused on education and health and the government has done a great deal to tackle the problem of early marriage which has caused girls in particular to leave school early. The delegation visited an EU-funded project that supports these aims. It also visited a government funded re-afforestation project which had led to the planting of over six million poplar trees, resulting in the sequestration of 9.3 million tonnes of carbon from the atmosphere every year. .

The final leg of the visit was to Mumbai, the financial and business capital of India and its "gateway to the west". The great potential for collaboration in the field of research and education was particularly underlined during a meeting with the Strategic Foresight Group. The delegation met the Chief Minister who also underlined the great potential for EU investment in Maharashtra. A commemoration ceremony was held in the Taj Mahal hotel for the victims of the terrorist attacks in Mumbai in November 2008.

REPORT OF THE VISIT

Monday 11 April 2011 - Delhi

08.00 **Breakfast briefing with EU Delegation**
Venue : *Diwan I Khas Hall*
Taj Mahal Hotel

The members were given an overview of the current political situation in India. They were informed that it was characterised by a sense of public discontent ("enough is enough") following a constant stream of corruption scandals, including the mismanagement of the Commonwealth Games, the underselling of telecoms licences and the resignation of the head of the anti-corruption watchdog. The middle classes in particular were unhappy with their taxes being misdirected to enrich corrupt politicians and officials. It remained to be seen whether the momentum would be maintained but at present "there was a hint of jasmine in the air".

The country-wide desire for change had coalesced around Anna Hazare, an anti-corruption activist. Mr Hazare had been pushing for the committee drafting the anti-corruption (Jan Lokpal or "citizens' ombudsman") law to be co-chaired by a representative of civil society and for a 50-50 split between politicians and activists on the committee. Mr Hazare had gone on a short hunger strike, which he ended when the government acquiesced to all his demands. People had been inspired by the rediscovered potential of this Gandhian approach.

It was open to debate whether new laws on corruption were actually required or if it was more important to ensure effective enforcement and implementation of existing legislation.

Since the economic opening up of India in the early 1990s there had been significant economic growth and some reduction in poverty; however large numbers of people remained below the poverty level. Although there had been rapid advancement in the IT industry and some niche sectors, much of the workforce was still employed in low skill areas. India still relied a great deal on its exports of clothing and raw materials.

The Indian government was keen for the EU-India FTA to be rapidly finalised, although this should be on its own terms. The FTA was qualitatively more ambitious than agreements with Delhi's other trade partners. A chapter on sustainable development was seen by the Indian side as a non-trade issue and not appropriate for inclusion in the FTA..

EU development aid was focussing on technical assistance and the social sector. There was a positive relationship with the Indian government on development, although it was always important to pay attention to sensitivities.

09.00 Meeting with trade union representatives
Venue : Longchamp Hall
Taj Mahal Hotel

The speakers underlined that - although they were linked to the Congress Party - their first priority was to support the working class in all sectors of employment. They recognised the leading role of the Congress Party in the struggle for Indian independence and agreed with its fundamental philosophy. They received no financial support from the party. Special mention was made of the railway unions, which included 1.4 million members servicing 64,000 kilometres of track and over 7,000 stations, with 20 million passengers transported every day.

The trade unionists stressed that, under a democratic system, it took more time to get everyone "pulling in the same direction" but progress was being made. They strongly supported the fight against corruption and believed that honest citizens could bring pressure on the government.

There were significant problems faced by non-unionised workers and 400 million were in the unorganised sector. Women had made great progress and had overtaken men in the IT sector and other areas of skilled work. The unions supported the right of all children to have access to education.

The trade unions stressed the importance of protecting the rights of Indian workers and not allowing any elements in the EU-India FTA to undermine them. Mr Watson referred to the European Parliament resolution of 26 March 2009, which had emphasised the "need to ensure that investors respect core ILO standards, social and environmental covenants and international agreements, so as to ensure a balance between economic growth and higher social and environmental standards".

10.30 Meeting with Mr Prakash Javadekar, Spokesperson, BJP
(Bharatiya Janata Party)

**Venue : BJP HQ Office
11 Ashoka Road**

Mr Javadekar noted that the BJP was the main opposition party with 165 legislators in the two houses of parliament and that it was the ruling party in nine of the 28 states of India. It had been founded in 1980 and promoted a philosophy of "positive secularism and democracy". Unlike many political parties in India, the BJP (along with the Communist Party), was not a "family concern". Its slogan was "Nation first, party next, self last".

The BJP recognised the Muslim population as an integral part of the nation. It condemned the violence against Christians, which Mr Javadekar considered to be a local fight between scheduled tribes. The BJP considered that communal violence was declining and would "soon be a thing of the past". There was no wish to divide the country along religious lines and Mr Javadekar expressed shock at the ban on the burqa in France.

The key issues for the nation were tackling inflation and corruption. The BJP supported the joint committee to draft the anti-corruption law. On the issue of energy, the party had prepared comprehensive plans to develop renewable energy, including solar power. All developments on nuclear energy were on hold following the recent disaster in Japan.

Mr Javadekar noted that the EU-India FTA was being used as a means of bypassing the stalled multilateral trade route. He considered that there was not a level playing field on agriculture because of subsidies to the sector in Europe. Nevertheless, he stressed that trade could be a real creator of friendship and he underlined the need for the global economy to grow at a faster rate.. His party wanted the agreement to be ratified by the Indian Parliament. The EU Ambassador underlined that the EU's agriculture subsidies represented a decreasing proportion of the budget.

Mr Watson concluded by stressing that there was a need for regular parliamentary dialogue between India and the EU.

**11.15 Press Point - Mr Watson
Venue: Delegation of the European Union**

Mr Watson was interviewed by journalists from "The Asian Age" and "The Economic Times". He stressed the significant potential of an expansion of EU-India trade and the need for an ambitious FTA, with India currently having only 2.3% of the EU market. It was a "win-win" situation for both sides. He emphasised that the European Parliament's assent was required for the agreement to be endorsed on the EU side.

He underlined that there were clearly lessons to be learned from the Japan nuclear accident and noted that on 25 March 2011 the European Council had concluded that the safety of all EU nuclear plants should be reviewed, on the basis of comprehensive and transparent risk and safety assessments ('stress tests'). He emphasised the advantages of using thorium in nuclear reactors and considered that this was an area where there was a great opportunity for EU-India collaboration.

He expressed deep concern about climate change and the "Himalayan melt" which was occurring much more rapidly than anticipated. He referred to the report of the Potsdam Institute of November 2009, which had shown that the melting ice north of Norway and

Russia was pushing arctic air over Europe and resulting in lower temperatures further south.

He stressed that the Montreal Protocol had been a success and had led to a 90% cut in the use of 86 ozone depleting chemicals. He noted that the Protocol currently called for a complete phase-out of HCFCs by 2030, but did not place any restriction on HFCs - in his view they should be included. While welcoming the results of the Cancún summit, Mr Watson regretted the "failure" of the EU at Copenhagen and stressed the need for a "new Kyoto Treaty"

He commended the European Commission's "Road Map" for moving to a competitive low carbon economy in 2050. He also applauded China's 12th Five Year Plan that was "excellent" on climate change and suggested that Beijing might indeed take over the EU's leading role in the fight against global warming.

Mr Watson stressed that India and the EU should be developing a common agenda on climate change and underlined the importance of India in the production of renewable energy. He also emphasised the importance of joint research in such areas as solar power.

11.30-12.30 Meeting with Mr Neil Gough, Group Public Policy Director, Emerging Markets, Vodafone India
Venue : Longchamp Hall
Taj Mahal Hotel

The members were informed that there were currently around 650 to 700 million mobile telephone subscribers in India and that the market was expanding rapidly, with 15 million new subscribers every month. There was network coverage throughout the country. The 500 million people who did not have a mobile telephone offered huge potential for expansion. There was also significant potential to provide banking, educational, medical and other services in the vast, young and rapidly developing - but still largely rural - country. Vodafone had been successful in India through its aggressive investment policy and its joint ventures for infrastructure development

There was strong competition and in some cities there were up to 15 providers, resulting in price wars and low profit margins. The network was being built in a very short space of time and major investment was required. The market is extremely fragmented as there is relatively little spectrum space (wavelengths) available and too many players, as a result of large chunks of spectrum space being blocked by defence-related activities and other government institutions.

Although there was a level playing field in theory, in practice Indian state enterprises had an advantage in the allocation of spectrum space. Mr Gough stressed the need to place pressure on the Indian authorities to ensure the proper implementation of competition laws and regulations.

13.00 Lunch hosted by the Observer Research Foundation

Venue:20, Rouse Avenue Institutional Area
Urdu Ghar Road - Deen Dayal
Upadhyaya Marg
New Delhi 110 002

The Observer Research Foundation (ORF) was founded in 1990 as a private "not for profit" think tank to influence public policy formulation. Its members include leading academics, business leaders, politicians and social activists. Its foundation came at a time when India was switching from a planned to a market economy through a process of economic liberalisation. Since then it has broadened its areas of research to include issues such as international relations, security and resource management. The guests included MPs and representatives of think tanks

It was noted that the Indian middle class - now numbering between 300 and 400 million - had in recent years been increasingly finding its voice and becoming more articulate in its demands for change. This would have significant implications for the political establishment.

The rapid economic growth had not been balanced, with 37% of the population still living below the poverty line, and it was important that this growth should be more inclusive. Education was a means of lifting people out of poverty and there was universal primary provision; however the quality of this was very uneven. The growth in the population also had serious implications for the country's limited water resources.

There were concerns over the impact of the EU-India FTA on Indian agriculture, partly the threat of large scale import of processed and subsidised foods from the EU. There were also worries about new rules on intellectual property rights, particularly in the field of pharmaceuticals.

Most Indians were not deeply interested in foreign policy issues but there was a general feeling that the country should be playing a larger role in the global arena. In particular there was a need to overhaul the United Nations Security Council.

Asia was going through a state of major change, particularly as a result of the rise of China. It was essential to ensure peace and stability in the region by means of regional cooperation and development, with the full involvement of China in the framework to be established. .

India had a well-established policy of non-interference in internal affairs, which - inter alia - informed its approach to Africa. Nevertheless, Delhi saw great potential in cooperating with African countries and helping them to develop their enormous resource potential. This could also be an area of cooperation between the EU and India.

Mr Watson underlined the importance of EU-India cooperation, referring in particular to the collaboration in anti-piracy operations in the Indian Ocean. He also stressed the need for a proper legal framework for migration and to develop trade between the EU and developing countries - "If we don't import their goods we will import their people". He emphasised too the importance of ensuring that economic growth was inclusive and did not leave larger parts of the population in poverty.

15.15-16.00 **Meeting with the Standing Committee on Commerce**
Shri Shanta Kumar BJP, Chairman
Venue : Committee Room no. 63, first floor
Parliament House

The Trade Committee is drawn from members of both house of the Indian Parliament but the Parliament does not have the powers to approve or reject any deal that is reached.

Both sides agreed on the importance of strengthening cooperation between the EU and India, particularly in areas such as research and development and nuclear safety. .

The members of the European Parliament delegation acknowledged that there were differences within the Parliament and the EU as a whole on some aspects of the EU-India FTA. It was noted that those who lost out economically because of a trade agreement tended to blame the agreement but the reverse was not the case. It was essential that workers' rights should be protected.

The India side stressed that over 60% of the population of the sub-continent worked in the agriculture sector and that most farming was at subsistence level with Indian famers receiving negligible subsidies. An inflow of cheaper subsidised agricultural products from the EU as a result of the FTA could push more people below the poverty line and this issue needed to be addressed. The absence of subsidies meant that the export of Indian agricultural produce was not realistic. There was also concern that the FTA could lead to the influx of large European superstores which would drive the small "mom and pop" shops out of the market.

The India side also noted that there was also some scepticism in India about the imposition of reductions in carbon emissions on the country, as it still had a long way to go to develop.

16.15-17.00 **Meeting with *Mr Sachin Pilot*, Minister of State for
Communications and Information Technology**
Venue : *Electronics Niketan, first floor*
6 CGO Complex
Lodhi Road

Mr Pilot stressed that there was a real desire in the country for action to be taken to against those people who had been involved in corrupt practices. In the past politicians had tended to be more elderly, partly because of the Asian tradition of respect for age .However the changing demographics of India and a younger population had led inevitably to younger people reaching senior positions earlier. What was happening now was a "wake-up call" to the political establishment. Nonetheless, Mr Pilot stressed that India was a participative democracy and there were no parallels with the situation in the Middle East

He noted that India now had the world's second largest telecommunications industry, with 15 to 18 million users being added every month. Most areas of the country had between eight and ten private providers, although the poorer parts of the country were still not connected. Calls were extremely cheap and cost less than two cents per minute. There was a need to create "superhighways" for information flows and there was a target of extending broadband services to all villages within the next 18 months.

Other issues discussed included electronic voting, which was now used in all elections. Mr Pilot gave details of the right to information legislation in India and a comparison was made with equivalent laws in Europe.

Mr Watson argued that the current difficulties of the euro had represented a "stress test" of European solidarity and the EU had stuck together. He reiterated the importance of EU-India cooperation and drew parallels between the development of the European Union and the Union of India.

18.00 Meeting with the NGO Lawyers' Collective on the EU-India FTA

**Venue : Longchamp Hall
Taj Mahal Hotel**

The speakers were totally opposed to the EU-India FTA and called for a rethink of the relationship between the two sides. They argued that there was a lack of "social backing" for the agreement in India and complained that the negotiations on the FTA had been conducted in secrecy and they had not had an opportunity to give an input. There was a concern that a number of constitutional guarantees in India could no longer be taken for granted, as they would be overridden by clauses in the agreement.

There were significant concerns about the possible effect on Indian farmers of the influx of heavily subsidised and processed agro-industrial products from the EU. Brussels was also inclined to impose non-tariff barriers on imports from India, such as requirements on food standards, which prevented a level playing field. The speakers noted that over 70% of the Indian population lived in poverty and that 65% of farming was marginal.

Deep concern was expressed that IPR provisions would restrict access to generic medicines and reduce the availability of medicines, such as anti HIV/Aids and anti-cancer drugs.

The speakers argued that an investment chapter in the FTA could hamper the development of social welfare legislation. They cited a number of examples of American companies which had launched legal proceedings against national governments (in third countries) on issues such as patent rights, to the detriment of the population in general. These examples/case studies did not include any agreements entered into by the EU.

There was condemnation of EU proposals to include in the agreement elements such as requirements on biodiversity. They argued that the EU was trying to compete with the USA for access to emerging markets and that India was the "battlefield".

Some speakers on the European Parliament side acknowledged that there had been a great deal of secrecy in the negotiations. Nevertheless, Mr Watson stressed that the agreement would not be debated in secrecy in the European Parliament. He acknowledged that a resumption of the Doha Round would be preferable to bilateral agreements but - in the absence of progress on the multilateral path - it was important to explore mutually beneficial ways of expanding trade and investment. He concluded by underlining the need for both a global economy and a global social contract through recognition of the demands of social and environmental justice in the FTA.

20.00 **Dinner hosted by the EU Delegation**
Venue : EU Residence
A-25 West End
New Delhi

The Head of the EU Delegation in India hosted a dinner for the delegation. This was attended by diplomats from EU member states, politicians, academics and representatives of civil society.

Tuesday 12 April 2011 - Patna

The delegation travelled in the early morning to Patna, the capital of Bihar state. Bihar has a population of around 83 million which is the third highest in India. Nearly 85% of the population lives in rural areas and almost 58% are under 25 years of age - the highest in India. The literacy rate is 46.9% (Indian average 54.5%) and (according to the 2011 census) there are 916 females per 1000 males. Around 36.9 million people in Bihar live below the poverty line, making the state the second poorest in India after Uttar Pradesh.

Since November 2005 the state has been governed by the National Democratic Alliance, headed by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. Mr Kumar's government has received widespread praise for its policies of economic and political reform in what had been described by Transparency International in 2005 as India's most corrupt state. In previous years Bihar had been plagued by bad government and caste-based politics, in which the lower castes had been used as "vote banks".

10.00 **Visit to project on female empowerment**
Venue: Vaishali district

The delegation visited an EU-funded project on female empowerment in the Vaishali district (around 90 minutes drive from central Patna). On the journey to the project members commented on the good quality of the road surfaces and the fertility of the countryside. The main crops were rice, grain, maize, sugar, bananas, mango and tobacco.

The nation-wide project aims to "contribute to the reproductive health of young people aged 10 to 24 years old". In particular it aims to prevent early marriage and early pregnancies. According to UNICEF's "State of the World's Children-2009" report, 47% of India's women aged 20–24 were married before the legal age of 18 and that 40% of the world's child marriages occur in India.

The overall cost of the project is Euro 3.2 million from 2009 to 2013, of which 90% is provided by the EU. The local partner is MAMTA, a national level NGO that is "*committed to integrated health and development issues in the context of poverty, gender and rights*". The local affiliate is MANSI, which aims to promote integrated

rural development through active participation of the local community ("Mansi" means "thinking woman" in Hindi).

During the visit the delegation met young people and parents who were benefiting from the scheme, frontline government health workers, members of the local authority and members of the community. Some of the outreach workers whom they met had themselves been child brides.

They were told that Bihar had a very high rate of child marriage (defined as under 18 years of age for females) and early pregnancy; despite longstanding legislation to prevent child marriage (the Child Marriage Restraint Act dates from 1929). It was estimated that 66% of marriages in the district took place before the legal age. Indeed some child marriages took place at the age of ten "before children are deemed to be corrupted". In many cases children stay with their parents after marriage and live with their husbands later when the marriage is consummated. Early marriage is also considered to be a means of ensuring that the "disgrace" of a child outside wedlock is prevented. The median age for marriage was 17.5 years of age.

The project sought to encourage girls to stay at school and not to marry before the legal age. It was reported that much progress was being made. Bicycles were provided by the state as an incentive for the girls to stay at school in the locality as they were generally not allowed to travel far from their village to study. A sum of 2,000 rupees was also deposited by the state in a mutual fund account for each child. (The figures of the 2011 census that were released at the time of the delegation's visit bore this out and showed that the female literacy rate had increased from 33.12% in 2001 to 53.33% in 2011.

Members interviewed a number of children who had ambitions to learn English and to develop careers in areas such as engineering. There appeared to be pride in what they had achieved and recognition of the importance of education. The initial conclusion of the delegation was that the project represented real value for money as it was achieving a great deal with little. A significant merit was also that the EU-supported project was assisting in the implementation of government policy.

The district has a rich history, in particular its close associations with the Buddha and also Mahavira who established the central tenets of Jainism. Vaishali district had been the seat of the Republic of Vaji, which was credited with having been the world's first republic to have an elected assembly of representatives.

Following the project visit the delegation travelled to the neighbouring Ashoka Pillar - one of the columns built by King Ashoka in the 3rd century BC. The lion capital points north - the direction taken by the Buddha on his last journey. The delegation then returned to Patna.

Wednesday 13 April 2011 - Patna

09.30 Meeting with *Dr Sanjay Jaiswal*, MP (Lok Sabha), BJP from Paschim Champaran constituency (Bihar)
Venue : *Maurya Hotel*
Durbar II Hall

The BJP party is in coalition in the state of Bihar with the Janata Dal (United) (JDU) party within the framework of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). At the elections of

November 2010 the JDU had won 115 seats and the BJP had been successful in 91 seats out of a total of 246 seats in the assembly. The Congress Party had been virtually wiped out and had only four representatives.

Dr Jaiswal stated that Bihar had undergone a major decline since independence and had become the most backward state in India. This had largely been caused by caste-based politics. The political transformation had been helped by the powers of the Electoral Commission, which had ensured fair elections and also had the power to dismiss civil servants who acted in a partial manner.

The government was promoting a policy of development and industrialisation, although this was hampered to some extent by the lack of natural resources. He pointed to large-scale problems with the electricity supply and regular power cuts that led on occasions to mass protests against the Bihar Electricity Board. The control of water resources was also a significant issue as all major rivers had their source in Nepal. A major problem was that much of the water was underground and very hard to access.

There had been some work on renewable energy and bio-diversification but the main responsibility for this was at federal level. There were efforts to develop coal-fired power stations in the state to give a push-start to development. He noted that Gujarat had developed its own policy on renewable resources but that this had displeased Delhi as it had embarked on this policy before the central government. Dr Jaiswal was working to encourage schools and medical centres to cease to use diesel generators and to shift to solar photovoltaic energy generation.

There had been a number of attempts to increase the involvement of the private sector in development projects but there was some reluctance from business because of fear that the opposition might be returned at the next election and implement different policies.

There were close relations with Nepal and no visa was required to cross the border. Many citizens of Bihar had relations in Nepal. The armed Maoists in Bihar tended to come from the state of Jharkhand which lay to the south.

Since the advent to power of the current government in 2005 there had been large scale investment in education, which made up 25% of the state government budget. Nearly every school had a new building and free bicycles were provided to girls reaching class nine. Free books and clothes were also provided to schoolchildren. Further incentives to attend school included a free midday meal.

11.00 Meeting with *H.E. Mr Nitish Kumar, Chief Minister, Bihar*
Venue : *Samvad Bhavan*

The Chief Minister gave an overview of the economic situation of his state, underlining the lack of development in the past and the poor infrastructure. He noted that Bihar had traditionally been a state of emigration as its inhabitants left to find employment elsewhere because of a lack of opportunities at home. Along with many other interlocutors he stressed the importance of improving the highway system as a major factor in development.

Mr Kumar did not consider that the water supply situation was critical and that too much surface water was being used, although there had been some droughts. There was also

great potential for the development of hydro power but cooperation with Nepal was needed in this field. He recognised the potential offered by solar power in the generation of electricity, as it was cheaper in the long term. However he stressed the need to develop the necessary technology.

Mr Kumar emphasised that Bihar was self-sufficient in food but that 60% of the population was below the poverty line. According to his figures, over 70% of the population was dependent on agriculture and it was important to make the sector more remunerative and to introduce the appropriate technology. Members of the European Parliament delegation pointed to examples from other countries such as the cleaning of waste water by Israel. The Chief Minister noted that what was successful in one country was not necessarily going to work in another. He noted too that the Chinese model of development was not necessarily appropriate, as in India everything had to be debated before action was taken.

Like other speakers, the Chief Minister underlined the importance of education and he noted that only 2.5% of school age children were currently not studying, compared to 12.5% in 2005. He underlined the importance of focussing on human development and healthcare.

Mr Kumar underlined too the good relations that Bihar enjoyed with Nepal and the deep links of culture, language and family that bound the peoples. However he stressed that any political relationship with the neighbour to the north went via Delhi.

Income came from internal sources; borrowing of money; and central government support. Most taxes were collected by the central government. 70% of tax receipts in the state went to central government and 30% were allocated internally.

12.15 Meeting with Ms Kiran Ghai Sinha, Member of the Bihar Legislative Council and Chairperson of the Child Protection and Female Empowerment Committee
Venue: Vidhan Parishad (Legislative Council)

Ms Sinha argued that there had been a lack of political will in the past to tackle the issues of child protection and female empowerment. In recent years there had been a qualitative improvement and this was supported by the results of the 2011 census.

She outlined improvements in the education system and the state government initiatives to encourage children - and girls in particular - to stay in education, although there were still problems of illiteracy. She noted that the government was promoting the practice that would ensure that ten trees were planted when a girl was born. The government wanted to ensure the total elimination of child labour and an end to the 'social evils' of child marriages. Her committee worked in collaboration with NGOs and made unannounced visits to projects to monitor developments.

She noted that, according to the 2011 census Bihar now had a ratio of 916 females to 1000 males, a result of pre-natal diagnostics and female foeticide. There was also a significant problem of cross-border trafficking that was caused by poverty.

Ms Sinha's committee was calling for a minimum of 33% of representatives in state assemblies to be women. The number of women in employment was increasing but she did not wish to "hide the problem" and accepted that there were still many cases of

harassment in the workplace.. She commented on the irony that women traditionally held a place of respect in India culture but in practice they had many problems.

When asked about the influence of caste on the issue, Ms Sinha accepted that this could be a factor in early marriages and that the caste system added to the inferior situation of women. However, she stressed that this was not the only problem and that campaigners for gender equality could work to educate people - including religious leaders - on the issue and to dispel any misfounded notions.

Mr Watson commended the rich history of Bihar and its democratic traditions. He noted that a century ago there had still been child labour in the EU. The MEPs also briefed the Indian side on the situation of women in the EU, stressing that big differences remained between the member states.

14.00 Visit to re-afforestation project in Vaishali District

The delegation visited a community based forest management and protection scheme in Sheetal Bhakruhar village that is funded under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (Development and Reform Facility) of the Planning Commission and is run by the Government of Bihar.

The project - which is taking place on a pilot basis - aims to improve the forest cover by encouraging farmers to plant trees on their land. Currently only 6% of the state is covered by forest and the aim is to increase it to 15%. 7.42 million seedlings are being planted, of which around six million will be poplars. The choice of the tree species is finalised after obtaining the consent of the farmers who receive the seedlings at no cost. .

The project facilitates carbon sequestration and 9.3 million tonnes of carbon is being removed from the atmosphere per hectare per year. It also promotes enrichment of the soil. So far around 575 farmers have been involved and it is anticipated that farmers with more land will become active in the project. After seven years the trees will be felled and sold for plywood, thereby providing an income for the farmers. All the farmers whom the delegation met were positive about the scheme and related with pride how many trees they had planted. Children in the village also commented on the aesthetic benefits of more trees in and around their village.

19.30 Dinner with representatives of civil society, hosted by Mr Graham Watson **Venue : Hotel Maurya** **Durbar II Hall**

The delegation attended a dinner hosted by Mr Watson which was attended by representatives of civil society in Bihar, including a number who were involved in the projects visited.

Thursday 14 April 2011 - Mumbai

In the morning the delegation travelled to Mumbai. The third leg of the visit enabled the members to visit the business capital of India and the home of the central bank and stock

exchange. The city is the most populous in India and the fifth largest in the world. It has a population of 18 million and is a magnet for migrants from other regions of India.

Mumbai is located in Maharashtra, which is the second most populous state after Uttar Pradesh and the third largest state by area in India. It is the richest state in the country.

15.30 Ceremony for the victims of 26/11 Mumbai attacks
Venue : Memorial at Taj Mahal Hotel

The European Parliament delegation held a commemoration ceremony for those who had been killed on 26 November 2008 in the terrorist attacks which had led to the death of 173 people. Members of the Trade Committee of the European Parliament had been present in the hotel at the time of the attacks and a Socialist Group official who had been present on that occasion also accompanied the delegation during the current visit.

The ceremony was followed by a guided tour of Mumbai, which included a visit to the Gandhi Museum.

18.30 Meeting with the Strategic Foresight Group, Mr Sundeep Waslekar.

Venue : Mumbai Education Trust
MET Complex, Opposite Lilavati Hospital
Bandra Reclamation
Bandra (West) - Mumbai 400 050

The Strategic Foresight Group was established in 2002 to "*create new forms of intellectual capital. In a short span, it has created intellectual and political assets to draw input from all continents and deliver output to decision makers anywhere in the world*". 80% of its research students are female.

The meeting was chaired by the President of the Strategic Foresight group, Mr Sundeep Waslekar. It took place in the premises of the Mumbai Educational Trust (MET), which has a faculty of 300 academics and 3,500 students and "*seeks to offer world class learning systems*" to the youth of India to equip them to help build a "*resurgent India poised to conquer the global economy*". The meeting was attended by the Maharashtra Minister of Public Health, Mr Suresh Hirayenna Shetty and a number of other politicians and academics.

During the discussion the following points were made:

India and the USA had succeeded in building a real strategic relationship but the relationship between India and the EU was mainly economic and India's ambassadors to the EU often came from the Finance Ministry.

A "knowledge partnership" between the two sides would be stronger than a "strategic partnership". Global governance is highly fragmented and there is a need for a structure to respond to the increasingly interlinked nature of the challenges faced by the two sides and the world in general. Knowledge was a "supreme form of wealth" and in the past it had been developed in separate parts of the world such as China, Greece, Rome, Arab countries, Europe, the USA. It was now important for all parts of the globe to work together and to make the world a "joint venture". "A knowledge partnership in education would build the person of tomorrow".

Cooperation in the field of innovation could assist in reducing the costs. The strengths of the EU in the fields of science and technology were well known. The list of areas of actual or potential cooperation was extensive and included health, pharmaceutical research, shipping related infrastructure, education, agriculture, biotechnology, tackling climate change and developing renewable energies.

Indian speakers stressed the need to improve access to and information about research projects on both sides. The costs of research in India were much lower than in the EU and the USA. It was noted, for example, that research into onion and cauliflower growing had been carried out in India for a tenth of the cost in Europe.

In response to questions from MEPs about a sustainable development clause in the EU-India FTA, it was noted that this could be agreed easily enough at a "bureaucratic level" but it would be much more difficult to enforce any provisions on child labour in the 630,000 villages in India.

There were also sincere attempts at political level to tackle carbon emissions in India and an example of this response was the construction of the Delhi metro. However it was very difficult to carry out such projects in old and large cities such as Mumbai.

Mr Watson agreed that the EU-India relationship needed to extend far beyond economics. Supranational problems, such as climate change, migration flows, international organised crime or piracy in the Indian Ocean, required a supranational response. At present there was a global economy but no global social contract and India and the EU needed to work together on this.

He stressed that the EU was a union of values, rights and the rule of law. It was playing an increasingly significant role on the world stage, for example through its peace-keeping missions. It exemplified the interdependence of nations and the pooling of sovereignty for the common good.

He underlined the links in the fields of education and research that already existed between the EU and India, such as the Erasmus Mundus programme, the Jean Monnet Chair at the JNU University in Delhi and the India-EU Study Centres Programme. There were also deep links at national levels, such as the German Stiftungen. He also regretted that India still does not have an interparliamentary group for relations with the EU.

Among additional points made by the other members of the EP delegation was the contention that the political union in Europe was happening quicker than had been anticipated and the suggestion that the person who would become the first directly elected President of the EU was already in education.

Members also mentioned the importance of developing links between universities and student exchange programmes and common research establishments. The learning process needed to be two-way and it was important to have increased strategic and technological cooperation.

The discussion was followed by an informal dinner.

Friday 15 April 2011 - Mumbai

11.00

Meeting with Senior Executives of the Tata Group

**Venue : *Taj Mahal Hotel*
*Golden Room***

The delegation was given an overview of the wide range of activities undertaken by the Tata Group. The Company dated its origins to the foundation of a company trading in cotton in 1868. The Tata Group has operations in seven business sectors: information technology and communications; engineering; materials; services; energy consumer products; and chemicals. It is India's largest conglomerate with annual revenue of around \$75 billion and a market capitalisation of over \$100 billion. It employs 400,000 people.

Until 1995 it was largely an Indian company but 60% of its operations are now outside India. Nevertheless it maintains an annual growth rate in India of between 7 and 9%. Most of its expansion in recent years has been through acquisitions. Its employees in Europe total some 60,000 to 65,000. In the United Kingdom it is the largest industrial employer with a workforce of around 45,000 people and it owns Jaguar, Land Rover and Tetley. In the Netherlands it employs around 10,000 people. Problems with trade unions were greater in Europe than in India. (Tata Steel in India had not experienced a strike for 85 years).

Tata Steel had introduced an eight hour working day in 1912 and had brought in maternity benefits around 1920. It also had its own pension scheme for employees. Its pension scheme in the UK totalled some £13 billion.

Tata Steel had been reducing its workforce from 78,000 in 1992 to 30,000 at present. This reduction had been achieved through voluntary redundancy on generous terms; e.g. a 45 year old continued to receive his or her salary for the next 15 years. Training, such as an Entrepreneurship Development Programme, was also provided for former employees.

Other major areas of operation include China and parts of Africa. It was noted that access to the Chinese market was difficult as a result of restrictions on imports. India's imports from China were three times its exports to China. Indian companies generally needed to become larger than they were at present in order to benefit from the economies of scale enjoyed by the Chinese companies.

Tata Group places a strong emphasis on corporate social responsibility and improving the quality of life of its workers and the community. It spends \$250 million per annum on social welfare. The Group had an equal opportunities policy and was active in initiatives to promote employment of Dalits and inclusive growth.

The Tata Group speakers questioned whether the welfare state in the EU had worked and would be the correct model for India. They acknowledged social tensions in areas such as West Bengal and Orissa and underlined that the government had a responsibility to remove the root causes of social unrest and to tackle corruption.

The Indian government also needed to take steps to improve the skills of the workforce as there was often insufficient skilled labour available in a country of 1.2 billion people. India had some of the best universities in the world but there was inadequate education at the lower levels. In this field the EU could assist by sharing its experience of vocational training and certification of workers. There was already cooperation with Germany in field and much interest in India in the German "dual system" of vocational training.

It was suggested that "Europe has seen the heights of glory and had got a little tired". It seemed to have lost some of its passion for work and was more interested in comfort. The EP delegation was also cautioned on the EU's stance on climate change and reducing carbon emissions as this would make it less competitive and lead to the end of manufacturing. The Tata Group speakers argued that India had "taken a very good stance" as it would ensure growth but would control per capita emissions.

Finally there was a discussion of the likely results of the EU-India FTA: It was noted that EU tariffs were currently generally lower than the Indian equivalent. The Indian car industry was in particular worried about the mass inflow of cheaper small cars from Europe and also could not compete in the luxury car market. There were also concerns over the imposition of rules on IPR, particularly with regard to pharmaceuticals. In their view India was already meeting all its commitments on IPR. The European visa system remained a difficult issue and the interlocutors made a plea for the provision of a Schengen visa for Indian nationals.

14.00 Visit to Bombay Stock Exchange, meeting with Mr Madhu Kannan, MD & CEO
Venue : Corporate Communications
Bombay Stock Exchange Limited
P J Towers, Dalal Street
Mumbai 400 001

Mr Kannan informed the delegation that in past years the growth in India had been in selective pockets; however it was now more inclusive and encompassed the rural areas. 15 million more people entered the working population every year, which gave a big advantage to India. As Indians became wealthier they consumed more, which served to boost the economy.

India was building a financial infrastructure to complement the physical infrastructure. It was important to provide a business environment that would allow small entrepreneurs to get established and allow their talents to bloom. The aim of the Exchange was to "get the locusts out and the investors in". Most of the new employment would be generated by small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and there were significant benefits in listing SME stocks.

Mr Kannan then gave a detailed overview of the workings of the Stock Exchange. He informed MEPs that it was the oldest stock exchange in Asia and its origins could be back to the 1850s. It had the largest number of listed companies in the world with 4,090 listed in August 2010. It was currently the fourth largest stock exchange in Asia and the 11th largest in the world.

He noted that 12.5% was the basis point for buyer and seller. The state government had introduced a stamp duty and the central government had introduced a Securities Transaction Tax (STD), which raised \$2.billion. It was important not to raise the taxes too high as there was a risk that the market would shift to Singapore. Parallels were drawn by the European Parliament Delegation with the proposals for a Tobin Tax on currency transactions.

Corruption was already factored into the costs of doing business and operated as a "type of business tax". However, the advent of new technologies meant that corrupt practices

tended to be exposed more now than in the past and people had the opportunity to exercise their choices in elections.

15.30 Meeting with the Chief Minister, *H.E. Mr Prithviraj Chavan*

Mr Chavan gave an overview of the state of Maharashtra which was the second largest in India with a population of 112 million people. It was the most industrialised state and had the second highest per capita income. It was the financial capital of India and lay in a crucial time zone for international currency transactions. Maharashtra was particularly noted for its IT and automobile industries and the reputation of its many universities. The Chief Minister nevertheless, recognised that the state still had major problems of large slum areas and high housing costs for the poor. He noted too that, although 57% of the population still depended on agriculture for their livelihood, the availability of land per capita was only 10% of that of the USA:

He noted that the terrorist attacks in November 2008 had been very thoroughly planned. Since that event the security system had been strengthened both on land and along the 720 kilometre coast. He stressed that it was the government's intention that Mumbai should remain a cosmopolitan and multicultural city. The one survivor from the terrorist group that carried out the attacks would be tried in accordance with all legal norms - it would not be a "kangaroo court".

Mr Chavan underlined the growing role of the private sector in the development of the Indian economy since the early 1990s. He noted that the growth rate had been around 8% in the last six years. The increased tax revenue provided an opportunity to invest in health and education and to promote inclusive growth. A significant number of schemes had been launched, including a right to work for 100 days and a right to food. Among the government's goals were universal literacy and affordable housing. Growth would be based on innovation, knowledge and skills.

In response to a question from the delegation, Mr Chavan agreed that Mumbai was a "window to the west" for India and that sectors such as cruise tourism offered openings for development. He recognised, too, the need to modernise the state's ports.

Mr Chavan concluded by stressing that the EU-India FTA should provide a "win-win" result for both parties. He stressed the importance of investment from the EU. He reiterated many of the themes of previous interlocutors, underlining the "low cost and high quality" Indian workforce and the benefits of cooperation in the fields of science and technology. He looked forward to the opening of an EU office in Mumbai and ended by emphasising "let's work together".

Annexes : programme + list of participants



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



2009 - 2014

Delegation for relations with India

**VISIT OF THE DELEGATION
FOR RELATIONS WITH INDIA TO
DELHI - PATNA - MUMBAI
11-15 APRIL 2011**

FINAL PROGRAMME

**Saturday 9 April and
Sunday 10 April 2011**

INDIVIDUAL ARRIVALS OF MEMBERS AND STAFF.

*Taj Mahal Hotel
1 Mansingh Road
110001 New Delhi
tel. +91 11 230 261 62*

Sunday 10 April 2011 - Delhi

11.00 Meeting with hotel staff (secretariat only)
18.30 Informal meeting in hotel bar

Monday 11 April 2011 - Delhi

08.00 Breakfast briefing with EU Delegation
*Venue : Diman I Khas Hall
Taj Mahal Hotel*

09.00 Meeting with trade union representatives
*Venue : Longchamp Hall (rooftop)
Taj Mahal Hotel*

- 10.15 TRANSFER TO 11 ASHOKA ROAD
- 10.30 Meeting with **Mr Prakash Javadekar**, Spokesperson, BJP (Bharatiya Janata Party)
*Venue : BJP HQ Office
 11 Ashoka Road*
- 11.15 TRANSFER TO THE EU DELEGATION (Mr Watson - for press point)
 TRANSFER TO THE HOTEL (rest of delegation)
- 11.30-12.30 Meeting with **Mr Neil Grouch**, Group Public Policy Director, Emerging Markets, Vodafone India
*Venue : Longchamp Hall (rooftop)
 Taj Mahal Hotel*
- 12.40 TRANSFER TO THE OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION
- 13.00 Lunch hosted by the **Observer Research Foundation**
 Subject: India's internal political situation and foreign policies
 Invited guests include MPs and representatives of think tanks
*Venue: 20, Rouse Avenue Institutional Area
 (Behind Anuvrat Bhawan)
 Urdu Ghar Road - Deen Dayal
 Upadhyaya Marg
 New Delhi 110 002*
- 14.45 TRANSFER TO PARLIAMENT HOUSE
- 15.15-16.00 Meeting with the Standing Committee on Commerce
Shri Shanta Kumar BJP, Chairman
*Venue : Committee Room no. 63, first floor
 Parliament House*
- 16.00 TRANSFER TO ELECTRONICS NIKETAN
- 16.15-17.00 Meeting with **Mr Sachin Pilot**, Minister of State for Communications and Information Technology
*Venue : Electronics Niketan, first floor
 6 CGO Complex
 Lodhi Road*
- 17.00 RETURN TO THE HOTEL
- 18.00 Meeting with the NGO Lawyers' Collective on the EU-India FTA
*Venue : Longchamp Hall (rooftop)
 Taj Mahal Hotel*
- 19.30 TRANSFER TO

20.00 Dinner hosted by the EU Delegation
*Venue : EU Residence
A-25 West End
New Delhi*

23.30 RETURN TO THE HOTEL

Tuesday 12 April 2011 - Patna

05.00 TRANSFER TO THE AIRPORT

06.45 Travel to Patna on flight AI 409 - Arrival in Patna 08.05

TRANSFER TO

*Maurya Hotel
South Gandhi Maidan
Patna 800 001
Tel. +91 612 220 30 40
Fax +91 612 220 30 30*

10.00 DEPARTURE FROM THE HOTEL FOR A FIELD VISIT

- Visit to EU funded project on female empowerment in the Vaishali district, around 90 minutes drive from Patna
- **Visit the villages**, interact with young people/parents/elected representatives/religious leaders/frontline health officials and finish morning programme with a meeting with the Block officials
- Lunch organised by the project in the Public Works Department, Inspection Bungalow in Lalganj
- Visit of Ashoka Pillar (Cultural heritage site)

17.30 RETURN TO PATNA

Evening free

Wednesday 13 April 2011 - Patna

09.30 Meeting with **Dr Sanjay Jaiswal**, MP (Lok Sabha), BJP from Paschim Champaran constituency (Bihar)
*Venue : Maurya Hotel
Durbar II Hall*

- 10.30 TRANSFER TO SAMVAD BHAVAN FOR
- 11.00 Meeting with **H.E. Mr Nitish Kumar**, Chief Minister, Bihar
Venue : Samvad Bhavan
- 12.15 Meeting with **Ms Kiran Ghai Sinha**, Member of the Bihar Legislative Council and Chairperson of the Child Protection and Female Empowerment Committee
*Venue : Vidhan Parishad (Legislative Council)
Room 7, 1st floor*
- 13.30 RETURN TO HOTEL
- 14.00 TRANSFER TO FORESTRY PROJECT
- Visit a community-based integrated forest management and protection scheme funded under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (Development and reform facility) of the Planning Commission, run by the Government of Bihar.
- Visit of two forest plantation sites and interaction with farmers in Hajipur
- 18.00 RETURN TO HOTEL
- 19.30 Dinner with representatives of civil society, hosted by **Mr Graham Watson**
*Venue : Hotel Maurya
Durbar II Hall*

Thursday 14 April 2011 - Mumbai

- 08.00 TRANSFER TO THE AIRPORT
- 10.10 DEPARTURE FOR MUMBAI ON FLIGHT JET LITE S2-721
- 12.30 Arrival in Mumbai and transfer to
*The Taj Mahal Palace
Apollo Bunder
Mumbai 400 001
Tel. : +91 22 6665 3366
Fax : +91 22 6665 0323*
- 14.30 Arrival at hotel
- 14.45 Lunch hosted by **Mr Graham Watson**
*Venue : Shamiana Restaurant
Taj Mahal Hotel*
- 15.30-15.45 Ceremony for the victims of 26/11 Mumbai attacks

[signing of VIP book - lighting a candle - laying a wreath]

Venue : Memorial at Taj Mahal Hotel

- 16.00-17.00 Guided visit of Mumbai
- 17.00 TRANSFER TO BANDRA (WEST)
- 18.30 Meeting with the Strategic Foresight Group, **Mr Sundeep Waslekar**, followed by informal dinner.
Theme of the programme: "*Knowledge Partnership between EU and India*"
- Venue : Mumbai Education Trust
MET Complex, Opposite Lilavati Hospital
Bandra Reclamation
Bandra (West) - Mumbai 400 050*
- 22.30 TRANSFER TO HOTEL

Friday 15 April 2011 - Mumbai

- 09.00 Delegation meeting
- 11.00 Meeting with Senior Executives of Tata Group
- Mr B. Muthuraman, Vice Chairman, Tata Steel Ltd.
 - Tata Motors
 - Tata Consultancy Services
 - Tata Global Beverages
 - Tata Chemicals
- followed by lunch
- Venue : Taj Mahal Hotel
Golden Room*
- 13.45 TRANSFER TO STOCK EXCHANGE
- 14.00 Visit to Bombay Stock Exchange, meeting with **Mr Madhu Kannan**, MD & CEO
- Venue : Corporate Communications
Bombay Stock Exchange Limited
P J Towers, Dalal Street
Mumbai 400 001*
- 15.30 Meeting with the Chief Minister, **H.E: Mr Prithviraj Chavan**
- 16.15 RETURN TO HOTEL
- Evening INDIVIDUAL DEPARTURES OF MEMBERS AND STAFF



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



2009 - 2014

Delegation for relations with India

**VISIT OF THE
DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH INDIA TO
DELHI - PATNA - MUMBAI
11-15 APRIL 2011**

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBERS

Mr Graham WATSON, Chair	ALDE	United Kingdom
Mr Charalampos ANGOURAKIS, 1st Vice-Chair	GUE/NGL	Greece
Mr Harlem DESIR	S&D	France
Mr Bill NEWTON DUNN	ALDE	United Kingdom
Ms Franziska KELLER (until 13 April)	VERTS/ALE	Germany
Ms Anna ROSBACH	ECR	Denmark

SECRETARIAT

Mr Tim BODEN, Head of Secretariat
Ms Emma MOLLET, Administrative Assistant

POLITICAL GROUPS

Ms Arielle ROUBY, S&D
Ms Urša PONDELEK, ALDE
Mr Jannes DE JONG, ECR