## INDIA'S ISRAEL POLICY: FROM 'DIPLOMATIC NORMALISATION' TOWARDS 'STRATEGIC COOPERATION' (1992-2019)

# THESIS SUBMITTED FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF

### **DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ARTS**

AT

### JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY

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### INDIA

2022

#### Abstract

The academic studies on India's Israel policy have mostly approached the theme from the perspective of India's structural compulsions in foreign policy making. On the contrary, the thesis titled, "India's Israel Policy: From 'Diplomatic Normalisation' towards 'Strategic Cooperation' (1992 - 2019)", focuses on New Delhi's engagement with Israel with an approach to focus policy-makers' autonomy in the domain of foreign policy decision making. The research focuses on why and how India primarily engaged with Israel and gradually upgraded the relations towards 'Strategic Partnership'. The thesis is an effort to a multifactorial study that focuses on the interface of structural factors and the overall orientation of the decision-makers. The study also enquires on how the India-Israel relationship has impacted India's relations with global powers like the USA, the EU and China, along with India's engagement with the West Asian region and longstanding commitment to the Palestinian cause. The study concludes that India's core national interests in terms of Security has been a major imperative for New Delhi toward strategic cooperation with the Jewish state. Parallelly, India maintained a balance by extending rhetorical support to the Palestinian issue. The viability of India's 'strategic' cooperation with Israel has been extensively focused on and analysed with a contextualisation of the term 'Strategic'.