

**Ministry of External Affairs**  
**Policy Planning and Research Division**

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**Overview of Major Achievements during the month of September 2021**

**I. Diplomatic Engagements and other Interactions:**

1. Prime Minister (PM) paid an official working visit to the United States from September 22 - 25. This was his first visit abroad after his visit to Bangladesh in March, 2021. He was accompanied by EAM, NSA, and senior officials. PM met President Biden, Vice-President Harris, and his counterparts from Japan and Australia. He participated in the first in-person Quad Leaders' Summit in Washington D.C. on September 24.
2. PM also addressed the 76<sup>th</sup> UN General Assembly in New York on September 25.
3. PM spoke at the Eastern Economic Forum on September 3<sup>rd</sup>; virtually chaired the 13th BRICS Virtual Summit on September 9; virtually addressed the plenary of the 21st SCO Council of Heads of State Meeting and the Joint SCO-CSTO Outreach Session on Afghanistan on September 17; and delivered remarks at the Global Covid-19 Summit on September 22 2021.
4. PM held significant telephonic calls with Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi on September 3, Australian Prime Minister on September 15 and with the French President on September 21.
5. On September 8, Secretary of the Security Council of Russia called on the Prime Minister and expressed Russia's strong commitment to further deepen its 'Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership' with India. Earlier during the day, Secretary had met with EAM and NSA.
6. Australia's Foreign and Defence Ministers visited Delhi to attend the inaugural India-Australia 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue on September 11. The Indian side was led by EAM and Rakshamantri. Bilateral, regional and global issues were discussed. Thereafter, both Australian Ministers called on the Prime Minister on September 11.

7. The Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia visited India on September 19 2021. On September 20, he called on Prime Minister and discussed ongoing bilateral cooperation initiatives and the regional situation. He also met with EAM on September 19 and discussed India-Saudi bilateral cooperation, Afghanistan, Gulf and the Indo-Pacific.

8. On September 19-20, Foreign Minister of Serbia visited New Delhi. During his visit, he called upon the Vice President and had important discussions with EAM on September 19 2021.

9. EAM attended the high-level segment of the UNGA on September 21, which witnessed a resumption of personal attendance by world leaders, and met counterparts from various countries on the sidelines.

10. EAM travelled to Slovenia, Croatia and Denmark from September 2-5, Tajikistan on September 17 and Mexico on September 26-28 2021. He also spoke at the UN High-Level Meeting on the Humanitarian Situation in Afghanistan on September 13 2021.

11. On September 7, EAM met with Bangladesh Information and Broadcasting Minister and discussed media and bilateral cooperation.

12. EAM met with the US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate on September 13 in New Delhi. Both leaders continued discussions on climate action and climate justice.

13. EAM delivered the annual JG Crawford Oration at the Australian National University on September 6; addressed the Ambassadors of Romania at their annual conference and the Afghanistan conference, co-convened by US Secretary of State and the German Foreign Minister on September 8; participated at the Bicentennial Anniversary of Independence of Central American Countries- Guatemala, El Salvador & Costa Rica on September 15; addressed the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting on Afghanistan and the G4 Foreign Ministers meeting on September 23.

14. EAM conducted telephonic calls with his counterparts from Oman, UK, Canada, and Iran on September 1 and with France on September 18 2021.



15. MoS(VM) visited Algeria on September 15-17. He participated in the virtual interaction with Protectors of Emigrants at the 4th PoE Conference on September 10; Held a telephonic call with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Democratic Republic of Congo on September 13; participated in the inaugural session of India-Africa Agriculture & Food Processing Summit 2021 on September 14; virtually attended the inauguration of the First Girmitya Conference on September 17; and delivered a virtual address at the Diplomatic Conclave 2021, organised by Chandigarh University on September 30 2021.

16. MoS(ML) visited Colombia and New York from September 4-9, Portugal and Spain on September 12-17, Uzbekistan and Switzerland on September 23-30 2021. She spoke at the UNSC open debate on UN Peacekeeping Operations on September 8 2021. During the month, she exchanged views with the Irish Foreign & Defence Minister on September 10; met with the Foreign Minister of Serbia in Delhi on September 20; and welcomed the visiting delegation from SCO RATS on September 22 2021.

17. MoS(RRS) attended the celebrations of 76th Anniversary of Vietnamese Independence, hosted by the Embassy of Vietnam in New Delhi on September 1; participated in the interaction with ASEAN Heads of Mission on September 8; and interacted with the Resident Commissioners of the North Eastern States on September 10 2021.

18. Foreign Secretary travelled to Washington DC, where he called on US Secretary of State, Antony Blinken on September 2. He also had wide-ranging discussions with the Deputy Secretary of State, US Principal Deputy NSA, Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security. During the visit, he also interacted with the leading US companies and the strategic experts from prominent US think tanks.

19. Foreign Secretary attended the high level segment of the UNGA and addressed its high level meeting to commemorate the 'International Day for The Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons' on September 28. Earlier, he had addressed the UNSC meeting on "Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction: Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty" on September 27. *He also conducted a number of meetings including with the UK's Minister of State Foreign Commonwealth & Development Affairs on September 25.*



**20.** On September 6, Speaker of Lok Sabha Shri Om Birla attended the 5th World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, organised by the Austrian Parliament from September 7-8. He participated in Interactive General Debate on 'The global response to the COVID-19 pandemic challenges and multilateralism's ability to deliver for the people' at the Conference.

**21.** High level India-Russia Intergovernmental Consultations on Afghanistan and the Foreign Office Consultations with Chile, Costa Rica, and El Salvador took place during September

**22.** On September 14, Secretary (West) delivered India's statement at 48th UN Human Rights Council.

**23.** India continues to provide assistance to other countries to deal with the pandemic where it can. Assistance extended during September included 2 medical oxygen plants sent to Bangladesh on INS Savitri and oxygen concentrators sent to Thailand on INS Airavat. India also exported 150 tons of oxygen to Sri Lanka.

**24.** India continues to upgrade the maritime security capabilities of its partners under SAGAR. An Indian Navy Dornier airplane was leased to Mauritius which will also procure another Dornier airplane using the Indian Line of Credit.

**25.** MoS RRS and the Cambodian Rural Development Minister jointly presided over the virtual handing over ceremony of the final phase of the Project, for supply and installation of 1500 hand pumps for augmentation of Rural Water Supply, in Cambodia on September 27.

**26.** CAG of India was selected as the next External Auditor of the International Atomic Energy Agency, (IAEA) for a six-year term (2022-27).