

Ministry of External Affairs

Major Achievements, Significant Developments and important events for the month of June 2019

I. Important policy decisions taken and major achievements during the month:

Australia:

1. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi held bilateral meeting with Australian PM Mr. Scott Morrison on the sidelines of G-20 Summit at Osaka on 29 June 2019 and had discussions on enhancing cooperation in sports, mining technology, defence and maritime cooperation and Indo-Pacific. PM Shri Modi tweeted that he was “stoked about the energy of our bilateral relationship.”
2. A 20-member delegation led by Shri Sudhanshu Pandey, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce is visiting Melbourne from 23 June to 3 July 2019 to participate in the 26th round of Trade Negotiating Committee (TNC) and related meetings of Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).
3. A 3-member delegation from Indian Navy led by Commodore Shri Pradeep Singh, visited Perth from 23 to 29 June 2019 to attend the 1st meeting of Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) Working Group on Information Sharing and Interoperability. India has assumed Chairmanship of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) Working Group and Australia is the co-chair.
4. A 18-member team from Indian Weightlifting federation visited Melbourne from 5 June to 5 July 2019 for preparatory training of athletes for 2019 Commonwealth Senior (Men & Women) Weightlifting Championship to be held in Samoa in July 2019.
5. A technical delegation on issues related to network security and 5G visited India from 27 to 29 June 2019 and held meetings at MEITY, Dept of Telecom and Ministry of Home Affairs

Bhutan:

Visit of EAM to Bhutan

6. External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar visited Bhutan on 7 & 8 June 2019. This was his first visit abroad as the EAM and reflected the importance that India attaches to its bilateral relationship with Bhutan, a close friend and neighbour. During the visit, EAM received audience with the King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, called on Prime Minister of Bhutan Lyonchhen Dr. Lotay Tshering, and met his counterpart Foreign Minister Lyonpo Dr. Tandi Dorji. The two sides discussed various areas of cooperation and exchange of high-level visits. The visit was in keeping with the tradition of regular high level exchange of visits between Bhutan and India.

Fifth India-Bhutan Friendship Tennis Tournament

7. On 2 July 2019, Ambassador of India to Bhutan, Smt Ruchira Kamboj, inaugurated the 5th India-Bhutan Tennis Tournament at the iconic Changlimithang Stadium in Thimphu. Over 70 players including 20 from India, 3 from Bangladesh and 5 from Nepal, are participating in the 6-day tournament that will end on 7 July 2019.

4th SAARC Agriculture Ministers' Meeting

8. Ambassador Smt Kamboj attended the 4th SAARC Agriculture Ministers' Meeting in Thimphu. During the meeting, she highlighted the strides made by India in the agriculture and allied sectors and conveyed the commitment of the Government of India towards food security with the key objective of ensuring food and nutrition security at affordable price in an eco friendly environment. Stressing the need to work together and share appropriate and reliable technologies in the agriculture sector, she conveyed the firm interest of the GOI to accelerate agricultural growth & productivity, and to assist and increase cooperation in the critical area of agriculture and allied sectors in order to make nations of the South Asian region food secure.

Celebration of International Day of Yoga

9. On 23 June 2019, the Nehru-Wangchuck Cultural Centre, Embassy of India, Thimphu organized a mass yoga session at the Changlimithang Stadium with the participation of over a 1000 school-children, yoga enthusiasts, and senior dignitaries from Bhutan. The PM of Bhutan, Lyonchhen Dr. Lotay Tshering, graced the occasion as Chief Guest.

Brunei:

10. The 7th Foreign Office Consultations (FOCs) between India and Brunei Darussalam was held in New Delhi on 24 June 2019. The Indian delegation was led by Smt. Vijay Thakur Singh, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and the Brunei delegation was led by Mrs. Hajah Dayang Siti Norishan binti Haji Awang Abdul Ghafor, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Brunei Darussalam.

Cambodia:

11. Ambassador to Cambodia Smt Manika Jain along with Mr. Try Meng, Secretary of State, Cambodia's Ministry of Rural Development and other dignitaries attended the handing over ceremony of 800 Afridev Hand Pumps constructed by WAPCOS to Government of Cambodia on 13 June 2019 at Tboung Khmum Province of Cambodia.

12. A delegation from All India Radio led by Shri F. Sheheryar, Director General visited Siem Reap, Cambodia to attend the 16th Asia Media Summit from 10 to 14 June 2019. Representatives from Delhi Doordarshan Kendra also participated in the summit.

13. A 2-member team from Vizara Technologies Pvt. Ltd; visited Siem Reap to participate in the 32nd Technical Session of the ICCR Angkor held on 13 June 2019. The team submitted a presentation in the session of ICC-Angkor about the cutting edge technologies.

14. A signing ceremony was held in Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Phnom Penh on 19 June 2019 during which 18 MOUs were signed for Quick Impact projects under the framework of Mekong Ganga Cooperation (MGC). Ambassador Smt Manika Jain signed MOUs on behalf of GoI.

Canada:

EAM's Meeting with High Commissioner

15. Canadian High Commissioner to India, Mr. Nadir Patel called on EAM Dr. Jaishankar on 18 June 2019. During the meeting, the two sides “discussed further deepening the strong and robust bilateral and commercial ties,” between India and Canada.

PM met PM Trudeau on the sidelines of G20 Summit

16. PM Shri Narendra Modi met PM of Canada, Mr. Justin Trudeau on the sidelines of G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan on 28 June 2019.

Meeting between Foreign Ministers in Osaka

17. EAM Dr. Jaishankar held a meeting with his Canadian counterpart Ms. Chrystia Freeland on the sidelines of G20 Summit on 28 June 2019. During the meeting, both sides discussed issues of mutual interest for further strengthening relationship between the two countries.

CIM Shri Goyal's Meeting with Mr. Jim Carr

18. Minister of Railways and Commerce & Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal met Minister of International Trade Diversification for Canada, Mr. James Gordon Carr on 9 June 2019. During the meeting, both sides discussed new avenues to bolster trade and economic cooperation by leveraging strong people-to-people and cultural ties between the two countries.

India urged Canada to relook at Work Visa Rules

19. As part of Canada's Trade Policy Review at the WTO in a statement on 12 June 2019, India said there is considerable potential to strengthen trade in services between India and Canada. However, the existing Temporary Foreign Workers Programme or Global Skills Strategy of Canada is unable to cater to the requirements of IT professionals and other services providers from India. It further said that addressing issues relating to mobility of skilled professionals from India to Canada, including the procedural delays in visa processing, and removing other restrictions in the temporary foreign workers programme will be of mutual benefit.

India-Canada Joint Committee in Nuclear Cooperation

20. The 6th meeting of the India-Canada Joint Committee in nuclear cooperation commenced in Ottawa on 6 June 2019.

HCI paid homage to the victims of 1985 Kanishka bombing

21. On 23 June 2019, High Commissioner of India Shri Vikas Swarup paid homage at the memorial in Ottawa to the 329 passengers and crew of Air India flight 182 (Kanishka air crash) who were killed on 23 June 1985 by explosion from a bomb planted by terrorists.

China:

22. The 6th round of India-China Bilateral Dialogue on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation was held in New Delhi on 3 June 2019. The Indian delegation was led by Additional Secretary (Disarmament & International Security Affairs), MEA and the Chinese delegation was led by Director General of Department of Arms Control of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The two sides exchanged views on issues of mutual interest related to disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control.

23. Mr. Li Xi, Member of Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and Secretary of the CPC Guangdong Provincial Committee accompanied by a business delegation visited India from 5-7 June 2019 as a part of an exchange programme between the MEA and the International Liaison Department of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China. Mr. Xi met with the EAM and Chief Minister of Gujarat Shri Vijay Rupani. He also attended China-India Economic and Trade Cooperation Conference in Gujarat.

24. The first batch of Kailash Manasarovar Yatra-2019 was flagged off by EAM Dr. Jaishankar on 11 June 2019 at the Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan in New Delhi.

25. A bilateral meeting between PM Shri Narendra Modi and President Mr. Xi Jinping took place on the sidelines of SCO Summit 2019 in Bishkek on 13 June 2019. The two leaders reviewed the progress made in India-China bilateral relations since the Wuhan Informal Summit in April 2018

and discussed regional and global issues of mutual interest. PM Shri Modi welcomed President Xi to visit India for the second informal summit.

26. The 12th Meeting of India-China Expert Level Mechanism on Trans-Border Rivers was held on 13 June 2019 at Ahmedabad, Gujarat. The Chinese delegation was led by Consul (Director General Level) of Department of International Cooperation, Science and Technology of the Chinese Ministry of Water Resources. The Indian delegation was led by Commissioner (Brahmaputra & Barak) of the Ministry of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation. Both sides agreed to continue exchange and cooperation on the provision of flood-season hydrological data for trans-border Rivers between India and China and their emergency management.

Indonesia:

27. PM Shri Narendra Modi had a bilateral meeting with President Mr. Joko Widodo on the sidelines of G-20 Summit in Osaka. The two leaders discussed expanding cooperation in trade & investment, defence, maritime, space and exchanged views on Indo-Pacific vision.

Japan:

28. PM Shri Narendra Modi visited Osaka, Japan for G-20 meetings from 27-29 June 2019. A bilateral Summit meeting was held with PM Mr. Abe Shinzo on 27 June 2019 on the margins of the event.

29. The 11th India-Japan Foreign Ministers Strategic Dialogue was held on 29 June 2019, at Osaka, Japan.

30. Minister of Health and Family Welfare Shri Harsh Vardhan visited Japan on 28 June 2019 to participate in the Joint Session of G-20 of Finance Ministers and Health Ministers.

31. Minister of State for MNRE visited Japan on 15 & 16 June 2019 to attend the G20 Energy Transition Leading Group meeting.

32. Finance Minister Smt Nirmala Sitharaman visited Japan from 8 & 9 June 2019 to attend the meeting of G-20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors in Fukuoka, Japan.

33. Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal led a 5-member delegation to Japan on 8 & 9 June 2019 for participating in the G-20 Ministerial Meeting on Trade and Digital Economy.

Latin America and Caribbean:

34. Congratulatory messages on the swearing in of the new government received from 12 countries from LAC Region.

35. Exim Bank and Inter-American Development Bank published a joint publication titled, “A Bridge between India and Latin America: Policy options for deeper Economic Cooperation,” on 11 June 2019. The publication was released during visit of a delegation from IDB headed by Mr. James Scriven, CEO, IDB Invest to New Delhi.

Laos:

36. Smt Viplove Thakur, MP Rajya Sabha visited Lao-PDR from 27 to 30 June 2019 to attend the Regional Parliamentarians Meeting on the Prevention of Violence against Women and Girls at Vientiane.

Maldives:

37. PM Shri Narendra Modi paid a state visit to Maldives on 8 & 9 June 2019 at the invitation of President of Maldives. This was the first overseas visit of the PM after his re-election. The visit was reflective of the new momentum in high-level exchanges between India and Maldives. The visit provided an important occasion to review the recent developments in bilateral relations and exchange views on issues of mutual interest with the objective of further strengthening the special relationship between the two countries. During the visit, six agreements in the areas of white shipping, hydrography, health cooperation, ferry and cargo services and cooperation in capacity building in customs and civil service were signed with Maldives.

Myanmar:

38. There have been some positive movements in the initiatives of launching coordinated bus service between Imphal and Mandalay. Bus operators meeting in June decided to launch the service latest by November 2019.

Nepal:

7th India-Nepal LOC Review Meeting

39. The 7th meeting of India-Nepal Bilateral Review on the GoI Lines of Credit was held on 3 June 2019 in New Delhi. The meeting was co-chaired by Advisor (Infrastructure), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India and by Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Government of Nepal.

3rd Comprehensive Review Meeting of India-Nepal Rail Services Agreement

40. The 3rd Comprehensive Review Meeting of India-Nepal Rail Services Agreement was held on 6 & 7 June 2019 in New Delhi. The meeting was co-chaired by Executive Director, TT (F), Ministry of Railways, Government of India and by Joint Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Commerce & Supplies, Government of Nepal.

10th meeting of the India-Nepal Survey Officials' Committee

41. The 10th meeting of the India-Nepal Survey Officials' Committee was held from 26 to 28 June 2019 in Kathmandu. The meeting was co-chaired by Director, UK & West UP GDC, Survey of India, Government of India and by Deputy Director General, Department of Survey, Government of Nepal.

Republic of Korea:

42. Korea International Trade Agency (KITA), a premier trade organisation of the ROK focused on global trade organized the Korea-Asean & India Business Week in Seoul, South Korea on 24 & 25 June 2019.

Singapore:

43. Mr. Ong Ye Kung, Education Minister of Singapore led an 11-member delegation to New Delhi on 6 & 7 June 2019. During the visit, he met EAM Dr. Jaishankar and Minister for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Shri Mahendra Nath Pandey. This was the first Ministerial visit from Singapore after formation of new Government.

44. Minister for Communications and Information and Minister-in-charge of Trade Relations of Singapore, Mr. S. Iswaran visited New Delhi on 19 & 20 June 2019. He met Finance Minister Smt. Nirmla Sitharaman, Minister of Housing & Urban Development and Civil Aviation Shri Hardeep Singh Puri and was hosted over a lunch by EAM. He discussed economic cooperation including in innovation and start-up. Mr. Iswaran also addressed Singapore Symposium, where Minister for Road Transport & Highways and MSME also addressed gathering.

45. PM Shri Narendra Modi had a pull aside meeting with PM of Singapore Mr. Lee Hsien Loong on the sidelines of G-20 Summit at Osaka.

Sri Lanka:

46. PM Shri Narendra Modi visited Sri Lanka on 9 June 2019 at the invitation of President of Sri Lanka Mr. Maithripala Sirisena. The purpose of the visit was to convey the solidarity of India with Sri Lanka in the aftermath of terror attacks. Discussions were held with Sri Lankan leadership to further strengthen the bilateral relationship. The visits to Maldives and Sri Lanka demonstrated the priority India attaches to its 'Neighbourhood-First Policy' and the SAGAR Doctrine.

Thailand:

47. PM Shri Narendra Modi had a pull aside meeting with Thailand PM Gen (retd) Prayut Chan-o-Cha on the sidelines of G-20 Summit in Osaka on 28 June 2019.

United States of America:

PM's meeting with President Trump on the Sidelines of G20 Summit

48. On 28 June 2019, PM Shri Narendra Modi met with US President Donald Trump on the sidelines of G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan. During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest including Iran, 5G communications networks, trade and defence relations. PM Shri Modi thanked President Trump for expressing his “love towards India” in a warm letter delivered by US Secretary of State, Mr. Mike Pompeo during his recent visit to India. On the other hand, President Trump congratulated PM on his recent election victory and said “It was a big victory, you deserve it, you have done a great job. We have big things to announce. In terms of trade, in terms of manufacturing, we would be discussing 5G.” President Trump further said, “We have become great friends and our countries have never been closer. I can say that with surety,” and expressed willingness to work together on many areas of mutual interest including military and trade.

Japan-America-India (JAI) Trilateral Meeting

49. Ahead of the formal opening of the G-20 Summit in Osaka, PM Shri Narendra Modi held a ‘productive’ trilateral meeting with President Trump and Japanese Premier Mr. Shinzo Abe on 28 June 2019. The three sides extensively discussed issues of the Indo-Pacific region, connectivity, infrastructure development, and ensuring peace and security. PM Shri Modi highlighted “the importance India attaches to” the trilateral grouping.

US Secretary of State Pompeo’s visit to India

50. US Secretary of State Mr. Michael Pompeo visited India from 25 to 27 June 2019 where he met with PM, EAM and NSA. During the visit, both sides discussed bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest for further strengthening the US-India strategic partnership. Secretary Pompeo also delivered a speech on the future of the US-India relationship and opportunities for cooperation on global issues of shared concern at the India International Centre, New Delhi on 26 June 2019.

US again becomes India’s Largest Goods Trading Partner

51. According to the Department of Commerce data, the US once again overtook China to become India’s top goods trading partner in the year 2018-19. The total trade with the US stood

at USD 87,956.24 million, while the figure was recorded at USD 87,069.14 million with China. India's trade surplus with the US also declined to USD 16.8 billion from USD 21.2 billion. And India's trade deficit with China dropped to USD 53 billion from USD 63 billion.

India Increases Tariffs on 28 US Goods

52. On 15 June 2019, the Central Board of Indirect taxes and Customs (CBIC) of India announced a hike in customs duties on 28 US products, including almond, pulses and walnut, in response to higher tariffs imposed by the US on Indian products like steel and aluminium. Amending its 30 June 2017, notification, the CBIC said the June 2019 notification will “implement the imposition of retaliatory duties on 28 specified goods originating in or exported from USA and preserving the existing MFN rate for all these goods for all countries other than USA.” The increased customs duties came into effect from 16 June 2019.

President Trump calls India's Tariff Hike as 'Unacceptable'

53. A day before meeting PM Shri Narendra Modi on the sidelines of G20 summit in Osaka, Japan, President Donald Trump said India's recent increased tariffs on 28 goods 'unacceptable'. President Trump tweeted on 27 June 2019: “I look forward to speaking with Prime Minister Modi about the fact that India, for years having put very high Tariffs against the United States, just recently increased the Tariffs even further. This is unacceptable and the Tariffs must be withdrawn!”

India won a Trade Dispute against the US at the WTO

54. On 27 June 2019, in a significant 100-page report, a three-member dispute settlement panel of the World Trade Organization (WTO) largely upheld India's claim that subsidies and local content requirement in 11 renewable energy programmes in eight US states - Washington, California, Montana, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Michigan, Delaware and Minnesota - violated core global trade rules of the Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMs) Agreement and Subsidies and Countervailing Measures Agreement. The panel urged the US to bring the eight states in conformity with US obligations under Article III: 4 of “national treatment”. Under the

national treatment provision, foreign producers must be treated on a par with domestic producers.

US State Department's International Religious Freedom Report

55. Secretary Pompeo released the State Department's 2018 International Religious Freedom Report on 21 June 2019. In his remarks at the release of the annual report, Mr. Pompeo said, "The Trump Administration has promoted religious freedom like never before in our foreign policy agenda." The annual report alleged that "mob attacks by violent extremist Hindu groups against minority communities, particularly Muslims, continued in India in 2018, amid rumours that victims had traded or killed cows for beef". It added, "Authorities often failed to prosecute perpetrators of 'cow vigilante' attacks, which included killings, mob violence, and intimidation." Rejecting the report's allegation of incidents of religious intolerance in India, the MEA Spokesperson Shri Raveesh Kumar in a statement on 23 June 2019 said that "India is proud of its secular credentials, its status as the largest democracy and a pluralistic society with a longstanding commitment to tolerance and inclusion. The Indian Constitution guarantees fundamental rights to all its citizens, including its minority communities." He further said, "It is widely acknowledged that India is a vibrant democracy where the Constitution provides protection of religious freedom, and where democratic governance and rule of law further promote and protect the fundamental rights. We see no locus standi for a foreign entity/government to pronounce on the state of our citizens' constitutionally protected rights." MEA on earlier occasions has stated that India does not recognize this report.

US Urges India to Look for Alternatives on the Issue of S-400s

56. A senior State Department official told reporters on 21 June 2019 that "with respect to S-400, I mean, we're urging all of our allies and partners, India included, to fore go transactions with Russia that risk triggering the CAATSA sanctions." The official said, the Trump "administration has taken great steps to enhance our military interoperability with India, to finalize groundbreaking enabling agreements that allow us to do more together militarily, and has also taken steps to enhance the quality and quantity of our defence technology relations." She added, "We've eased the process and granted India Strategic Trade Authorization Tier-1 status that gives

them the same license-free access to defense articles as our NATO allies, Japan, South Korea, and Australia. So I think this is the time where we will be encouraging India to look at alternatives.” India however feels that it meets the requirements for a waiver under the CAATSA – on the basis of which the US has opposed the deal.

Senator Menendez Urges USTR to Reinstate India’s GSP status

57. During a Congressional hearing on 18 June 2019, US Senator Mr. Robert Menendez urged US Trade Representative Mr. Robert Lighthizer to reinstate India into the Generalized System of Preference (GSP), which President Trump has terminated effective from 5 June 2019 after determining that India had not assured the US that it will provide “equitable and reasonable access to its markets.” Mr. Menendez said, “I hope we can work to solve our issues with India so they can be reinstated into the GSP.”

Proposed Amendment in the US Arms Control Export Act

58. Senators Mr. Mark Warner from the Democratic Party and Mr. John Cornyn from the Republican Party have moved a legislation in the Senate, seeking key amendment in the Arms Control Export Act to bring India at par with the US’ NATO allies – Israel, Australia, New Zealand and South Korea – when it comes to sale of high-tech military items. The necessary amendment to the US Arms Control Act if enacted will further institutionalise the recent designation of India as a major defence partner.

Uruguay

59. India and Uruguay signed bilateral Agreement on Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters on 26 June 2019 on the sidelines of World Customs Organization (WCO) meeting held in Brussels.

Vietnam

60. PM Shri Narendra Modi and PM of Vietnam Nguyen Xuan Phuc had a pull-aside meeting on the sidelines of G20 Summit in Osaka on 28 June 2019 during which they promised to further deepen economic, trade, energy, national defence-security, education-training, cultural exchange, tourism ties and aviation connectivity.

61. On the side lines of the 5th Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA) held in Dushanbe on 14 & 15 June 2019, EAM Dr. Jaishankar met with Mr Dang Thi Ngoc Thinh, Vice President of Vietnam.

62. Ambassador Shri P. Harish and Vice Chairman of People's Committee of Yen Bai province Mr. Duong Van Tien inaugurated a Jaipur Foot Artificial Limb Fitment Camp at Provincial General Hospital in Yen Bai under on 1 June 2019. Total 250 beneficiaries will get artificial limbs in the camp. This is the 4th Jaipur Foot Camp in Vietnam.

63. India's solar PV (photovoltaic) module manufacturer Waaree Energies announced that it has officially put into operation a 50 MW ground-mounted solar plant in Vietnam on 4 June 2019 and the project was developed for Song Giang Solar Power JSC in the central province of Khanh Hoa on EPC mode. The plant is designed to generate more than 78,600 MW of electricity per year.

Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) & South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC):

64. The first meeting of the BIMSTEC Sub-Group on the Cooperation on Countering Radicalization and Terrorism was held in New Delhi on 11 June 2019.

65. The 4th meeting of the BIMSTEC Network of National Centres on Coordination in Traditional Medicine (BNNCTM) was held on 16 & 17 June 2019 in Dhaka, Bangladesh

66. The 4th meeting of the SAARC Agriculture Ministers meeting was held in Thimphu, Bhutan from 24 to 27 June 2019, which was attended by ambassador to Bhutan Smt Ruchira Kamboj.

Counter-Terrorism Division:

India-Italy Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism

67. The 2nd meeting of the India-Italy Counter Terrorism Joint Working Group was held in New Delhi on 13 June 2019. The Working Groups deliberated upon measures to deepen bilateral cooperation for countering terrorism and transnational crimes through regular exchange of

information, mutual capacity building efforts, sharing of best practices and mutual legal assistance. Cooperation in multilateral fora was also discussed. The Working Group discussed threats posed by terrorist entities globally and in their respective regions including cross-border terrorism. They exchanged views on current counter-terrorism challenges including countering radicalization, terror financing and misuse of internet for terrorist purposes. They also discussed threats arising from transnational crimes and money laundering.

Financial Action Task Force (FATF)

68. The FATF Working Groups and the Plenary meeting held in Orlando from 16-21 June 2019 noted that Pakistan continued to be on the FATF grey list. The FATF in its final statement on Pakistan in the compliance document (grey list) noted that Pakistan had taken steps towards improving its AML/CFT regime, including the recent development of its Terror Funding risk assessment addendum; however, it did not demonstrate a proper understanding of transnational Terror Funding risk. The FATF expressed concern that not only did Pakistan fail to complete its action plan items with January deadlines but it also failed to complete its action plan items due May 2019. The FATF strongly urged Pakistan to swiftly complete its action plan by October 2019 when the last set of action plan items is set to expire. Otherwise, the FATF would decide the next step at that time for insufficient progress.

Consular, Passport and Visa Division (CPV)

69. A total of 13 melas were organized by various Passport Offices at the Passport Seva Kendras under their jurisdiction, in order to provide passport services during the weekends. A total of 6,371 applications were processed at these Melas. In total, 412 POPSK were functional as on 30 June 2019. In all 9,45,745 passport related applications were processed during the month by the Passport Offices in India.

Economic Diplomacy and States:

- The 16th meeting of the Group constituted regarding cartelization/hoarding of food items held on 6 June 2019 at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi
- IMG meeting with Ministry of Civil Aviation regarding India-Poland Air Services

Agreement was held on 10 June 2019.

- Ratification of Hong Kong Convention was done on 18 June 2019.
- Organised briefing for Foreign Missions on World Food India 2019 on 17 June 2019.
- ACC 3 validation to foreign airlines 20 June 2019.
- COD Meeting was held on 27 June 2019.
- EPCES CGC Meeting was held on 28 June 2019.
- The World Food India 2019, Apex Organising Committee meeting was held on 28 June 2019.
- The States Section conveyed no objection to the EW Division for the Sister City Agreement between Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh & Nottingham City Council 12 June 2019.
- Clearance was given to the Ministry of DONER for the Project Proposal –Strengthening Health System and Excellence of Medical Education in Assam on 24 June 2019.
- Sanctions were issued under the head-State Facilitation and Knowledge Support amounting Rs 5 lakhs to ASSOCHAM for organizing Global FAD-2018: “Technology-Investment-Safety.”

Foreign Service Institute (FSI):

- A pre-deployment Training Programme for Defence Attaches was conducted at FSI from 10-14 June 2019. The programme was attended by 15 participants.
- 1st Special Course for Egyptian Diplomats was conducted at FSI from 10 to 22 June 2019. The course was attended by 13 participants.
- A total of 20 Journalists/Editors from Afghanistan visited FSI for a familiarization programme on 21 June 2019.

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR):

- Organized a Yoga session for the employees of ICCR on the eve of 5th International Day of Yoga (IDY) on 20 June 2019. All the employees of ICCR led by DG/DDG participated in it under the guidance of Yoga Guru Shri Umesh.
- A Limited Departmental Competitive Examination was organized by ICCR in collaboration with CPV Division, Ministry of External Affairs through the services of EdCil India Ltd, a Mini Ratna Government of India Public Undertaking on 14 June 2019 to fill up seven posts at the Assistant Programme Officer level. This administrative measure was aimed to give a fillip to the process of timely and regular promotion(s) in the ICCR cadre.
- Organized 2nd International Yoga Conference in association with SVYASA (Bangalore) and Ministry of Ayush at The Nehru Centre, High Commission of India, London, UK on 22 June 2019.
- Published the Hindi bi-monthly magazine “Gagananchal” Vol.-42 No.1-2.
- A meeting of the Hindi Language Implementation Committee was organized on 24 June 2019 under the chairmanship of the Director General, ICCR.
- Organized a Hindi workshop on 28 June 2019 under the chairmanship of the Director General, ICCR.

Multilateral Economic Relations:

70. PM Shri Narendra Modi led India’s participation at the 14th G20 Summit held in Osaka on 28 & 29 June 2019. The summit comprised of Working Sessions on: Global Economy, including Finance, Taxation & Anti-corruption, Innovation, Addressing Inequalities; Realizing an inclusive and Sustainable World, Climate Change, Environment and Energy. In addition to the working sessions, Leaders’ side events were also held on digital economy and women’s empowerment. The G20 Leaders’ Declaration was issued at the summit. A separate standalone statement on

‘Preventing Exploitation of the Internet for Terrorism and Violent Extremism Conducive to Terrorism’ was also issued at the Summit.

Brazil, Russia, India, China & South Africa (BRICS) Leaders’ Informal Meeting:

71. A customary informal meeting of BRICS Leaders, chaired by the Brazilian President, was held on 28 June 2019 on the margins of the G20 Summit. PM Shri Narendra Modi, Russian President Mr. Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Mr. Xi Jinping, Brazilian President Mr. Jair Bolsonaro and South African President Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa participated in the meeting. The leaders held wide-ranging discussions on the G20 Summit Agenda and agreed to pursue issues of global and mutual interest to the BRICS countries at the G20. Besides, the agenda of the meeting comprised exchange of views on a wide range of global political, security, economic and global governance issues of importance and mutual concern. A Joint Media Statement was released at the Meeting.

G7 Sherpa Meeting

72. France being the current Chair of G7 has invited India to participate in the G7 Summit scheduled to be held in August 2019 in Biarritz. In this regard, on invitation from France, India also participated in the G7 Sherpa Meeting held on 14 June 2019 in Paris. Shri Suresh Prabhu (India’s Sherpa to G7) led the Indian delegation at the meeting. Draft documents on environment, biodiversity and oceans; and digital issues and democracy were discussed during the meeting.

Nalanda Division:

73. The 17th Governing Board Meeting of Nalanda University was held on 6 June 2019 at New Delhi.

Overseas Indian Affairs (OIA)-I:

74. An India-EU Seminar on Talent Mobility was organized by International Labour Organisation in partnership with India Center for Migration, a research think tank of the Ministry of External Affairs, on 14 & 15 June 2019 in Pune, Maharashtra. The seminar focused on three sectors (IT industry; automotive industry and start-ups) vis-à-vis mobility of

professionals, businesses and entrepreneurs along the India-EU corridor. In his keynote address Shri. Sanjiv Arora, Secretary (Consular, Passport, Visa and Overseas Indian Affairs) highlighted the need to strengthen and expand the scope of cooperation for enhancing mobility along the India-EU corridor. The seminar witnessed active participation from the several young entrepreneurs; professionals; European Member States; International Organisation for Migration (IOM); NASSCOM; local business chamber namely Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Division:

75. The Council of Heads of States of SCO Member States (Summit) was held in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan on 13 & 14 June 2019. The Indian delegation was led by PM Shri Narendra Modi. During the Summit outcome documents were signed including cooperation in the field of digitalisation of Information Technology and telecommunication technology; inter-regional cooperation; cooperation on environmental protection and anti-drug strategy implementation. Three documents were signed on the sidelines of the Summit: cooperation in the field of mass media; cooperation in physical education and sports and cooperation in healthcare.

76. On the sidelines of the SCO Summit, PM Shri Modi held meetings with President Mr. Xi Jinping of China, President Mr. Vladimir Putin of Russia and President Mr. Ashraf Ghani of Afghanistan. After the SCO Summit, PM Shri Modi and President Mr. Sooronbay Jeenbekov of the Kyrgyz Republic had a bilateral summit meeting. During this meeting there was in-depth exchange of views between India and Kyrgyzstan on bilateral relations, international and regional issues of mutual interest.
